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THE RIVER WEEKLY NEWS

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Vol. 11, No. 47

From the Beaches to the River District downtown Fort Myers

NOVEMBER 30, 2012



Florida Bluegrass Express

Palmgrass Bluegrass Festival Debuts

After presenting a series of sold out indoor concerts at the Alliance for the Arts, the Acoustic Music Society of Southwest Florida is now bringing bluegrass music to the outdoor amphitheater stage for a full day of great music during the inaugural Palmgrass Bluegrass Fest on Saturday, December 8 from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the gate. Children under 12 are free if accompanied by an adult.

The Palmgrass Bluegrass Fest features headliner NewTown. The daylong music



Swinging Bridge

schedule is rounded out by Bill Metts & Friends, Swinging Bridge, Ernie Evans & The Florida State Bluegrass Band, New River Boys, Bugtussle Ramblers and The Florida Bluegrass Express.

The Performance Schedule

10 to 10:40 a.m.
10:50 to 11:40 a.m.
11:50 a.m. to 12:40 p.m.
12:50 to 1:40 p.m.
1:50 to 2:40 p.m.
2:50 to 4:30 p.m.
4:40 to 5:30 p.m.

Bill Metts and Friends
Swinging Bridge
Ernie Evans & Florida State Bluegrass Band
New River Boys
Bugtussle Ramblers
Kati Penn & NewTown (extended set)
Keith Bass & Florida Bluegrass Express

The headliner NewTown features five artists demonstrating a vast array of acoustic music styling. Based out of Lexington, Kentucky, NewTown is able to journey into

continued on page 20

Opening Exhibit Artists Reception

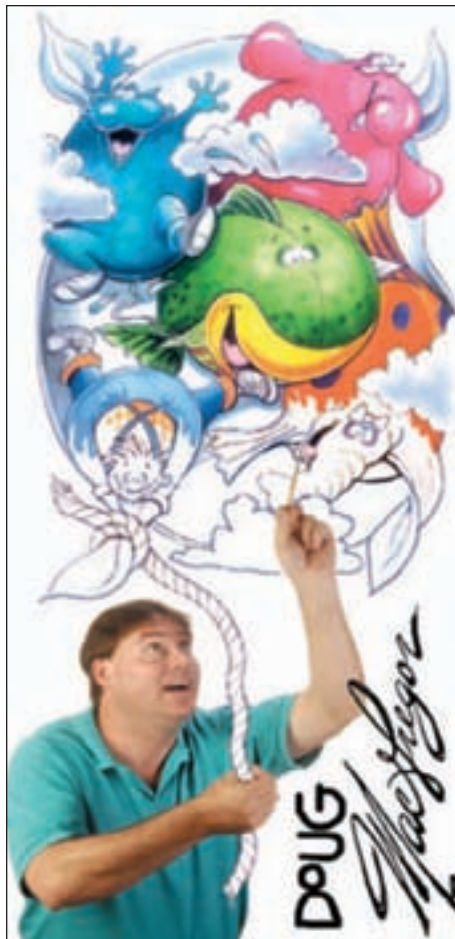
Arts for ACT Gallery will host an opening reception during Art Walk on Friday, December 7 from 6 to 10 p.m. ACT Gallery will feature abstract multi-dimensional works by Katherine Boren, figurative paintings by Ellen Sayet and the works of Doug MacGregor. Abstraction, Realism, and Cartoons will be showcased this month to close the year.

Originally, from New York, Katherine Boren studied at New York University and The New School, graduating from the State University of New York with a bachelor of fine arts in sculpture. Her work has been exhibited at solo, juried, group, and member shows in New York, California, and Florida.

Her current series of abstract work experiments with multiple mediums in two dimensions. By focusing on a monochromatic palette and utilizing a combination of non-traditional and found materials in unexpected ways, she emphasizes the reflection of light and the use of various textures, shapes, and different grades of color saturation.

To make original artwork more accessible to the public as well as to benefit ACT, the pieces in this exhibit are offered

continued on page 21



Doug MacGregor

Historic Trolleys Come To The River District

Historic trolleys will carry passengers around downtown Fort Myers thanks to two new trolley routes that started running on November 26.

Funded by the Florida Department of Transportation and the City of Fort Myers Community Redevelopment Agency, the service is free and will run during peak season, through April 17.

The two routes are designated Blue and Gold. The Blue Route serves central downtown between Monroe Street and Royal Palm Avenue. It runs every 15 minutes and will stop at any intersection for boarding and disembarking.

The Gold Route connects luxury highrises The Oasis, St. Tropez and the Riviera with downtown and continues to the Edison-Ford Estates. It runs every 35 to 40 minutes.

Both routes run from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and from 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

The City of Fort Myers commissioned a study to assess the need for transit in the downtown area and gathered public input on the best routes and times for service.

"We'll evaluate usage and get more



Downtown Fort Myers trolley

public input as we work to make this a success," said LeeTran Director Steve Myers. "Funding is in place for two seasons, which will give us time to grow ridership and hopefully make this service permanent."

continued on page 27

Historic Downtown Fort Myers, Then And Now:

Fort Myers Adjusts To World War II

by Gerri Reaves



October 30, 1940 was a day when everyone had a reason to study the local newspaper.

The momentous text of *Here's How The Boys Line Up* in the morning edition of the *Fort Myers News-Press* no doubt mesmerized readers who knew that the military draft numbers published that day would profoundly affect their lives.

On September 6, 1940, the U.S. Congress had passed the Selective Services Act, activating what is commonly called the military draft. It was the first peacetime conscription in U.S. history.

But war had already begun in Europe.

Men between the ages 21 and 30 were required to register with the local draft boards. Later the registration age was extended, and men up to the age of 45 became liable for service, with men up to 65 required to register.

However, once the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, many thousands of volunteers enlisted, irrespective of their draft numbers.

The first months after the U.S. entered the war, Fort Myers mobilized like the rest of the nation.

In late March 1942, it was announced that construction on Buckingham Army Air Force Base would soon start.

The feature *News About Servicemen* in the *News-Press* kept locals informed about friends and family serving in the military – tests passed, postings to training camps, departures for foreign lands, and excerpts from their letters home.

Draft board appeals and rejections were also published.

No citizen was untouched by the war effort. Alterations in daily life ensured that the entire population contributed to the struggle that was costing American lives.

The rationing of scarce wartime commodities, such as canned goods, meats, sugar, coffee, tires, and gas, was intended to help prevent price fixing, speculation, and inflation.

Households were issued ration books of stamps. Red and blue point OPA ration tokens were also issued from 1942 to 1945 by the Office of Price Administration.

Even buying an automobile tire was not an unquestioned right anymore. At a meeting on January 7, 1942, the Lee County Tire Rationing Board granted only a single permit for one tire and tube – and that was to a gasoline and oil dealer for a delivery truck.

The board rejected all other requests.

But what could have better signaled the drastic changes in local life than the U.S. Army's requisition of the *Islander*, the Kinzie Brothers' 100-foot automobile ferry that ran between Punta Rassa and Sanibel?

The company was forced to use its second-best ferry, the ironically named *Best*, while the *Islander* completed military service.

To conserve steel, the war production board ordered a halt to the manufacture of all lawn mowers after June 30, except those used to harvest crops. The war years would be a time to repair and make do.

On the lighter side, as service men and women flocked to Buckingham and Page Field, downtown saw new faces from all over the country. Restaurants, lounges, and stores appreciated the business.

In mid-April 1942 a Service Men's Club opened on the Pleasure Pier.

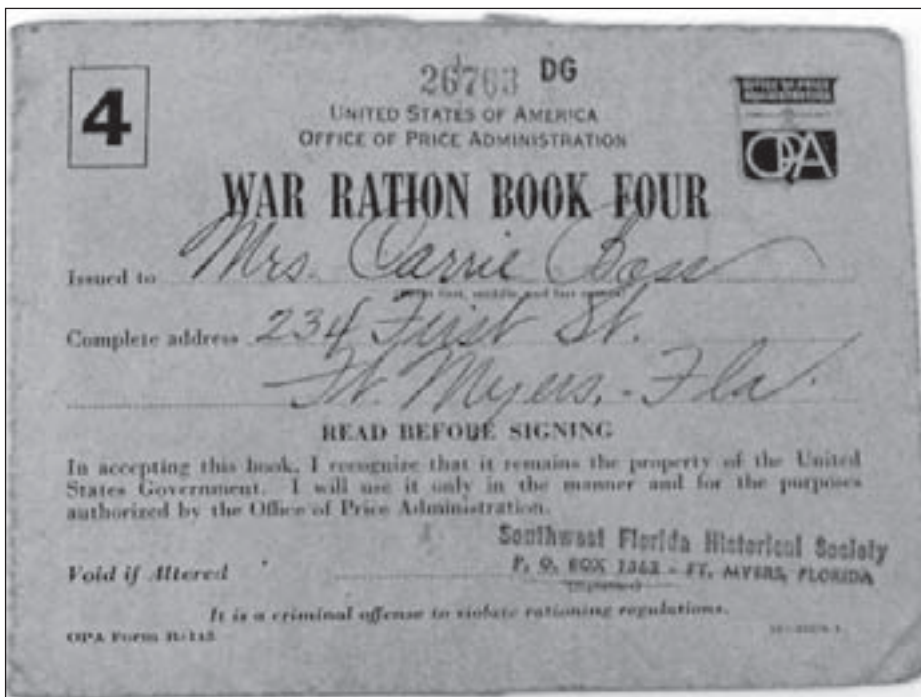
The 80 young women who accepted invitations to be hostesses at the first dance must have marveled at the changes war was bringing to their social life.

Visit historic downtown – on foot or on the new free River District Trolley – and imagine the transformations that World War II brought to Fort Myers.

Then stroll a few blocks south to the Southwest Florida Museum of History to see

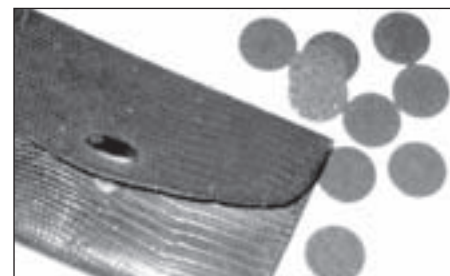


On October 30, 1940, Lee County's draft numbers were published. Interestingly, Indian and colored men were designated by separate symbols



These red point OPA rations tokens and ration book issued by the Office of Price Administration changed shopping habits in wartime. The ration book belonged to Carrie Bass, who lived on First Street east of Park Avenue.

photos of artifacts at the Southwest Florida Historical Society by Gerri Reaves



exhibits on Fort Myers' military bases.

For information, call 321-7430 or go to museumofhistory.org. Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

Be sure to visit one of the area's best research centers, the Southwest Florida Historical Society, where you can learn more about the many local men and women who served in World War II.

The all-volunteer non-profit organization is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard on the campus of the Lee County Alliance for the Arts.

Contact the society at 939-4044, or drop by on Wednesday or Saturday between 9 a.m. and noon.

Sources and acknowledgements: The archives of the Southwest Florida Historical Society, *Fort Myers News-Press*, and selectiveservice.us ✨



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Louise Nevelson's *Dawn's Forest* occupies the pre-security atrium between Concourses B and C at Southwest Florida International Airport

Fort Myers Public Art

Dawn's Forest

by Tom Hall



More than 4,000 airports dot the United States. In December Of 2010, CNN Travel writers Katherine Dorsett and LeTrine White singled out Denver, Sacramento, Miami, Hartsfield-

Jackson Atlanta and Philadelphia International as their top five airports with art worth seeing.

But with the recent addition of Louise Nevelson's *Dawn Forest*, Southwest Florida International Airport (RSW) is now in the discussion of airports with the most consequential masterpiece on display.

Dawn's Forest is that significant. It is Nevelson's last, largest and most complex sculptural environment. And if you're new to Nevelson, she was one of America's most important post-World War II sculptors and perhaps the most internationally-celebrated female artist of her time.

Not only is Nevelson's work contained in hundreds of museum and private collections spanning the globe, her work is so relevant that it has continued to inspire contemporary sculptors in the quarter-decade following her death in 1988.

Sought after for her large-scale sculp-

tural works, Nevelson was also one of the first artists, and the only woman, to become a central figure in the burgeoning public art revival of the 1960s. She created more than 22 public commissions in her lifetime.

Some of her more renowned public artworks include:

- *Sky Gate* – New York (1978) at the World Trade Center (destroyed in 2001).
- *Shadows and Flags* (1977) in lower Manhattan; Chapel of the Good Shepherd (1977) at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in New York.
- *Celebration* (1976-77) at Pepsico World Headquarters in Purchase, New York.
- *Bicentennial Dawn* (1976) at Bryne-Greene Federal Courthouse in Philadelphia.
- *Night Presence IV* (1972) on Park Avenue at 92nd Street in New York.
- *Atmosphere and Environment X* (1969) at Princeton University in New Jersey.

An arts advocate, Tom Hall guides weekly walking tours of the River District's public art collection in Fort Myers. For more information, go to www.trueetours.net.

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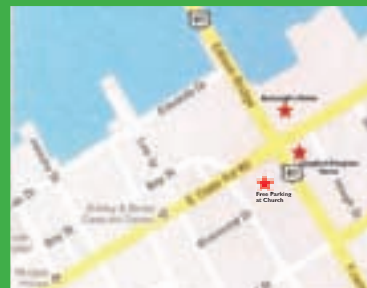
- Tour two festively decorated historic homes
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Free Beach Programs In Lee

Lee County Parks & Recreation invites the public to participate in its free shoreline offerings.

Lynn Hall Park

Laughter Yoga - Prescription Strength Laughter on Fort Myers Beach

Laughter is the best medicine and you don't need a doctor's prescription. Just open wide and say HA! Join hosts Meg Scott and Jeanette Bevilacqua for simple rhythmic clapping, mild stretching, deep breathing and laughter exercises just for the health of it. Lift your mood and laugh away your stress every Friday morning at 8 a.m. on Fort Myers Beach at Lynn Hall Park, 950 Estero Boulevard. Lighten up and learn to take yourself and life a little less seriously. No yoga experience needed. Bring a beach towel. There is a parking fee of \$2 per hour.

For more info visit www.laughteryoga.org.

Matanzas Pass Preserve

Holiday Mangrove Walk - November 29 through January 3

Take an educational and inspirational walk through Matanzas Pass Preserve. Learn about the diverse plant community including a maritime oak hammock, transitional wetlands and a mangrove forest. Walks are held each Thursday from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Parking is free, but space is limited. Meet at the entrance of Matanzas Pass Preserve, 199 Bay Road, Fort Myers Beach.

Bowditch Point Park

Barrier Islands Guided Walk

Follow a guide through Bowditch Point Park and learn the importance of the barrier islands, their unique ecosystem, and how they protect the mainland. Explore the beach front tropical hardwoods, coastal scrub, and wetland plant communities. These weekly walks take place each Tuesday from 9:30 to 11 a.m. and Friday from 1 to 2:30 p.m. through April. Parking is \$1 per hour or free with a valid Lee County Parks & Recreation parking sticker. Meet on the upper patio. Bowditch Point Park is located at the north tip of Estero Island, 50 Estero Boulevard, Fort Myers Beach.

Bunche Beach

Low Tide Loafing at Sunset - A Guided Exploration

Join a naturalist guide to leisurely explore the mud flats to see what mysteries the low tide uncovers while experiencing a beautiful Florida sunset. Bunche Beach is a wonderful place to explore and learn about the amazing variety of shore birds, shells and possibly spot a manatee or dolphin playing along the shore. Bring a camera, shoes that can get wet, bug spray and drinking water. The next walks are scheduled for Thursday, December 13 and 27 from 5 to 6 p.m. Bunche Beach Preserve is located at 18201 John Morris Road, Fort Myers Beach. Walkers meet at the picnic tables on the beach. Parking is \$1 per hour or free with a valid Lee County Parks & Recreation parking sticker.

Bird Patrol Tour

Bunche Beach is known as one of the best birding sites in Lee County.

Join a Lee County Bird Patrol volunteer to receive information on the contribution birds make to the delicate balance of our ecosystems. Bring binoculars, sun protection, shoes that can get wet, bug spray and drinking water. The next tour will take place on Saturday, December 15 from 8 to 10 a.m. Meet at the picnic tables on the beach. Bunche Beach Preserve is located at 18201 John Morris Road, Fort Myers Beach. Parking is \$1 per hour or free with a valid Lee County Parks & Recreation parking sticker.

Visit www.birdpatrol.org for more information on any of these programs or call 533-7444.*

Lee Republican Women's Club

The Lee Republican Women's Club (Chartered) will hold a dinner meeting at the Crowne Plaza Holiday Inn at 13051 Bell Tower Drive in Fort Myers on Tuesday, December 11. Social hour begins at 6 p.m., with dinner and the meeting program to follow at 6:30 p.m.

The Honorable Gary Lee, chairman of the Lee County Republican Committee, will be the featured speaker. His speech will focus on the Electoral College.

Members of the public and guests are welcome to attend. The cost of the dinner is \$20 per person. To make reservations or for more information, contact 574-2571.*

League Of Women Voters

The next monthly meeting of the League of Women Voters of Lee County Florida will be held on Saturday, December 1 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn, 12601 University Drive in Fort Myers (northeast corner of Summerlin and College Parkway).

The topic of this meeting will be Lee County Human Services and the featured guest speaker will be Ann Arnall, director for the Lee County Department of Human Services.

Cost to attend the meeting is \$15, which includes breakfast. Student rates are available. Participation is open to League members and the interested public. To make reservations, call 462-3444 or e-mail carolbf@centurylink.net.

For more information, contact Sandy Frank, League of Women Voters, Director-Program, at 415-7654.

The League of Women Voters of Lee County Florida (LWV Lee) is a non-partisan organization that promotes political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Information on the programs and issues of the League of Women Voters is available online at www.lwv.org, www.lwvfla.org and www.lwvlee.org. Call 278-1032 or e-mail lwvlee@yahoo.com for more details.*



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Edison & Ford Holiday Nights, which opens on Saturday, December 1, is a 37-year Southwest Florida holiday tradition photo by Mike Shapiro

Edison & Ford Holiday Nights 2012

The 37th annual Edison & Ford Holiday Nights at the Edison & Ford Winter Estates opens December 1 through 30 and is a “must see” holiday tradition in Southwest Florida. Holiday Nights received two awards from the American Bus Association and the Southeast Tourism Society as one of the Top 100 Events in the nation and a Top 20 Event for the month of December.

During the holidays, the homes and gardens of Thomas and Mina Edison and Henry and Clara Ford are seasonally decorated and visitors have the option of a self-guided tour or a guided tour with an Edison Ford site historian (6 and 7 p.m.). For the month-long event, the site remains open until 9 p.m. with beautifully decorated historic buildings and gardens and millions of colored lights.

Lakeside Country Bash Tickets Are Still Available

Tickets are still available to the Sam Galloway Ford Lakeside Country Bash at Lakes Regional Park on Friday, November 30 featuring Grammy Award-winning country music artist Alan Jackson. The gates open at 3 p.m., with the first performance beginning at 5 p.m. by country singer and actress Jana Kramer, also known for her role as Alex Dupre on the television series *One Tree Hill*. Country music recording artist David Nail takes the stage at 6 p.m., followed by country music artist and top male vocalist Rodney Atkins at 7:15 p.m. Headline performer Alan Jackson takes the stage at approximately 8:45 p.m. All performance times are approximate and subject to change.

The Lakeside Country Bash title sponsor is Sam Galloway Ford and the presenting sponsor is Budweiser. Tickets are \$45 for general admission and \$65 for limited quantity general seated admission and proceeds benefit the Lakes Park Enrichment Foundation. Tickets are available at Sam Galloway Ford, all area Hooters locations in Lee, Charlotte and Collier counties, Lakes Regional Park's ticket office and online at www.ticketmaster.com. Day-of tickets are sold at the gate for \$55 for general admission and \$75 for limited quantity general seated admission.

For sponsorship opportunities and additional information, call Vicki Baugh at 851-5294 or visit www.lakesidecountrybash.com and tune in to Cat Country



Alan Jackson

107.1.

The Lakes Park Enrichment Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable corporation established in 2004 by a group of Lee County business leaders and dedicated citizens who recognize Lakes Park as an extremely important green area in Lee County. The foundation's main focus is to assist Lee County Parks and Recreation in the continued implementation of the \$30 million Lakes Park Master Plan, enhancing the park's environmental aesthetics, wildlife habitat and recreational amenities for the community to enjoy for many years to come. Currently, the Lakes Park Enrichment Foundation is focusing its fundraising on creating a botanical garden at Lakes Park.

For more information about the foundation, visit www.LakesPark.org.

Edison & Ford Holiday Nights includes nightly entertainment by school and community groups, book signings and appearances by artists, and the “Children’s Tree Trail,” a forest of trees decorated by Lee County students. The Edison Ford Museum and Edison Botanic Research Lab will be open during the event.

Tickets for a self-guided tour are \$15 for adults and \$1 for children (6 to 12); guided tours are \$20 for adults and \$11 for children (6 to 12). Groups may schedule guided or unguided tours from 5 to 7 p.m. and receive a discounted group rate with advance reservations.

New this year is a Holiday Behind The Scene Tours with curators on Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Visitors will go inside the historic homes with staff and learn holiday traditions of the Edison and Ford families.

For additional information, call 334-7419 or visit www.edisonfordwinterestates.org.

VCB Reports Record-Breaking Tax Collections

The Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau (VCB) reports a second consecutive year of record-breaking tax collections, finishing with \$26.5 million in tourist tax on paid accommodations for fiscal year 2011-12, which ended on September 30.

Lee County tourism continues to be cornerstone of local economy.

The new record is a 9.2 percent increase over last year's record-breaking \$24.2 million in collections and a 21.2 percent rise from fiscal year 2008-09 collections of \$21.8 million.

“Our international marketing efforts to draw visitors to Lee County are more successful than ever and continue to make tourism the cornerstone of our local economy,” said VCB executive director Tamara Pigott. The industry has an eco-

nommic impact of \$2.7 billion annually and generates nearly \$146 million in local government revenues. It employs 52,313 residents, which accounts for one in five jobs in the county.

The VCB also reports positive results for several other tourism performance indicators for the destination. Visitation rose 1.8 percent from fiscal year 2010-11. Average occupancy increased 2.4 percent, and the average daily room rate climbed 4.1 percent. Average length of stay for visitors also finished 4 percent higher year-over-year.

Pigott attributed the destination's milestone results to ongoing teamwork with tourism industry partners, whom she praised for their outstanding marketing efforts and high level of customer service, and to the VCB's strategically targeted programs.

“We really honed our marketing efforts to more precisely reach potential visitors both geographically and psychographically,” said Pigott. “Tightening our focus

continued on page 29

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CARD OF THANKS



Dancing at the First Annual Fort Myers Beach Charity Beach Ball

On behalf of Fort Myers Beach Community Foundation, I would like to thank our generous community for supporting the First Annual Fort Myers Beach Charity Beach Ball. Your efforts in making this event a success are sincerely appreciated.

I want to thank our numerous attendees and business donors for their generous contributions to our event. The FMB Community Foundation is humbled by your benevolent donations and commitment to our cause. Your dollars go beyond fulfilling our goals as an organization – it shows that you care. The FMB Community Foundation thrives and survives through monetary donations and volunteerism, but it is also sustained by kindness, which we witnessed in abun-

dance last Saturday night.

The Fort Myers Beach Community Foundation is a charitable foundation dedicated to working cooperatively to improve the quality of life in Fort Myers Beach and surrounding communities. Our members raise funds and donate time to support programs for kids and education, the Beach School, scholarship programs, island history and resources, beach clean-ups and much more.

Last Saturday night, I was a witness to an experience that occurs often on our island: the joining together of many people in support of their community, with the goodwill and generosity that makes this island a great place to live. The Charity Beach Ball was a fabulous evening.



The Marc Vee Band provided music throughout the evening



Beach Ball guests survey the silent auction tables prior to placing their bids

Entertainment Nightly in "Sanibel's Social Scene"

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Winner of the Beach Ball 50/50

Starting with the attendees arriving impeccably dressed in their finest dresses and tuxedos. Santini Floral supplied beautiful arrangements for the tables and the beach balls suspended from the ceiling provided a festive backdrop. NBC-2's Senior Chief Meteorologist Robert Van Winkle was the perfect Master of Ceremonies. DiamondHead Resort offered a wonderful dinner service.

The Marc Vee Band provided great music and packed the dance floor with



Robert Van Winkle and guest

their first song. The Photo Booth was wildly popular. The silent auction tables were busy all evening, and everyone went home with a fun little bag full of goodies donated by local businesses.

The Charity Beach Ball was a huge success because of our extraordinary community, and we look forward to seeing you there next year.

*Dr. Nicole Bennett
President, FMB Community
Foundation**

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Greeters Club Luncheon

Looking to make new friends and join in monthly activities? Attend the next luncheon meeting of The Greeters Club of Greater Fort Myers on December 20 at Colonial Country Club, 9181 Independence Way in Fort Myers. There will be a member accessory auction for the holiday season.

Luncheon cost is \$20 and reservations are required. Contact Janet Gambuzza at 454-5750, Marie Gaither at 791-8966 or email: wmgaither@aol.com. Check Facebook at Greeters of Fort Myers for other activities.*

Volunteers Needed For Bird Count

Sanibel-Captiva Audubon will conduct its annual Christmas Bird Count (CBC) on Saturday, December 15. The results of the local count will be forwarded to the National Audubon Society for inclusion in the 113th National Christmas Bird Count. More than 50,000 observers participate each year in this census of early-winter bird populations. The results of their efforts are compiled into the longest running database in ornithology, representing over a century of unbroken data on trends of early-winter bird populations across the Americas. Simply put, the Christmas Bird Count – or CBC – is citizen science in action.

Prior to the turn of the 20th century, people engaged in a holiday tradition known as the Christmas Side Hunt. They would choose sides and go into the field with their guns; whoever brought in the biggest pile of feathered (and furred) quarry won. Conservation was in its infancy around the turn of the century, and many observers and scientist were becoming concerned about declining bird populations.

Beginning on Christmas Day 1900, ornithologist Frank Chapman, an early officer in the then budding Audubon Society, proposed a new holiday tradition, a “Christmas bird census” that

continued on page 26

HORTOONS



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Along The River



Billed as one of the funniest plays ever written, *The Nerd* is playing at the Foulds Theatre

Beginning Friday, November 30 and running through December 15, the Theatre Conspiracy presents *The Nerd* by Larry Shue at Alliance for the Art's Foulds Theatre.

One of the funniest plays ever written, this extraordinarily inventive, side-splitting comedy centers on the hilarious dilemma of a young architect who is visited by a man he's never met but who saved his life in Vietnam. Tickets are \$20 per person. Season subscriptions are also available.

Alliance for the Arts is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers, near the Colonial intersection. Call 936-3239 or go to www.theatreconspiracy.org.

One of South Fort Myers' best kept culinary secrets is Sandy Stillwell's **Sunshine Grille Wood Fired Steaks & Seafood**. Executive chef Roger Chastain brings more than three decades of professional culinary experience to the restaurant, having honed his craft at some of Southwest Florida's top restaurants, including the Blue Water Bistro, Ritz-Carlton of Naples and Chardonnay Restaurant.

A native of Indiana, Chef Roger – along with sous chef Miguel Vasquez – is excited to have created unique and innovative dishes for the restaurant's patrons.

"I put the same amount of attention into everything we do, whether it's a soup or a flatbread or a filet mignon," said Chastain. "Our top priority is to create a quality meal that is delicious and that everyone will enjoy."

Chef Roger studied at both Johnson and Wales and the Culinary Institute of America before launching his own business, Starfish Bay Catering, Inc. He enjoys experimenting with different styles and cultural influences, incorporating a variety of local, fresh seafood and produce into his dishes.

"I want our customers to feel comfortable with whatever they order," he added. "Most people are pretty conservative when it comes to dining out, and that's OK. But our menu gives them a lot of options. People should feel relaxed and at ease with whatever they order."

Sunshine Grille is located at 8700 Gladiolus Drive in Fort Myers. For operating hours or more information, call 489-2233.

Thursday, December 6 from 5 to 11 p.m. is the opening gala for downtown Fort Myers' **Holiday House** at the historic Burroughs Home and Gardens. This year's theme is Christmas Around The World. Tours of the Burroughs Home and Gardens are available December 7 to 23 from 5 to 9 p.m., courtesy of the Uncommon Friends Foundation. Admission is \$5 per person. Children 10 and younger are admitted free.

The house includes 11-foot ceilings, pine floors, burly pine wainscoting, quarter-sawn oak fireplaces and a winding grand staircase. The main floor has four main receiving rooms with fireplaces: a parlor,



Christmas Around The World is the theme for this year's Holiday House

music room, dining room, and library. Unusual for its time, the home included indoor plumbing and electricity. Electric bells throughout and an early version of an intercom in the kitchen were used to summon servants. Some select pieces from the Burroughs family including the dining room set, kitchen table, sleigh beds and art work remain in the house.

The second floor has four bedrooms, two with fireplaces, a study with a Palladian window, two full baths, trunk room and large landing.

The third floor, originally used as servants' quarters, features one large bathroom, three bedrooms and a sitting room.

The grounds contain a free-standing fountain, a grotto (the first one built in Fort Myers) fed by an artesian well, a secret garden with reflecting pool, gazebo, palm alley and tennis/dancing courts. The garden features many varieties of palm trees, elephant ears, century-old oaks, ficus, bougainvillea, bird of paradise and pothos. The site also contains a caretaker's/carrriage house and utility shed that were built to echo the home's architecture.

The Burroughs Home is on the corner of First Street and Fowler in downtown Fort Myers' historic River District. Call 337-0706 or go to www.burroughshome.com.

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The *Indian Princess*

View The Fort Myers Beach Boat Parade From The *Indian Princess*

The *Indian Princess* has been chosen as the "People's Choice" boat for the 23rd annual Fort Myers Beach Boat Parade on Saturday, December 1 from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m., and will be providing guests a unique way to view the boat parade from its open-air upper deck and vote for their favorite vessels.

Heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served, and a cash bar will be available.

Adult tickets for the event will be \$35 plus tax, while tickets for children - 4 to 11 years old - will be \$15 plus tax. Boarding will begin at 5 p.m.

In order for all guests to sit on the upper deck, capacity will be limited to 70 people. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 765-8919.

Guests are welcomed to park their vehicles at the *Indian Princess* and walk next door to enjoy the "Winner Circle" after party and awards ceremony at the Big Game

Garden Council To Celebrate Anniversaries

The Fort Myers-Lee County Garden Council will celebrate two anniversaries on Friday, December 7. It has been 55 years since they were founded and five years since they've been in their headquarters facility at 2166 Virginia Avenue in Fort Myers.

The Garden Council is inviting the public to help with the celebration, which will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. on December 7 at the Virginia Avenue address. Light refreshments will be served. No specific program is planned and reservations are not required.

The Garden Council is now a member of the American Public Gardens

Association. This affiliation allows the Council to be listed on the APGA website as a botanical garden. It also allows members to share information among members of affiliated councils. The gardens are open every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for tours.

The Fort Myers-Lee County Garden Council was formed in 1957 and now comprises various clubs, societies, and affiliate members in the area. Membership provides an opportunity to learn about floral design, growing plants suitable for our locale, and conservation methods. The Council assists in educating and beautifying the community, and improving the environment. A speakers bureau provides speakers for meetings and events.

For additional information about the Council, contact president Laura Jibben at 463-3690 or fmlcgpres@embarqmail.com.

Toys For Tots Letter Carrier Toy Drive And Operation Santa Mail

Letter Carriers will feel like Santa on Saturday, December 1. Residents in Lee and Charlotte counties are encouraged to place a new, unwrapped toy in or by their mail receptacle for collection by the letter carrier. This one day toy drive to benefit the Marine Corps League's Toys For Tots program yields the majority of the toys that will be shared with underprivileged children locally.

In Lee County for pick up of larger items, call 699-8121. Post Office lobbies as well as Walgreens stores in Lee County will have a donation container for toys. Monetary donations can be made by credit card at <http://fort-myers-fl.toysfortots.org>. Checks can be mailed to Toys For Tots, P.O. Box 150393, Cape Coral, FL 33915.

To help make sure Santa visits children who might not otherwise have any gifts to open at Christmas, join Operation Santa Mail. Here's how it works: Register for an opportunity to read letters to Santa from participating boys and girls. Select a letter and provide gifts for the writer.

Operation Santa observes its 100th anniversary in 2012. Although USPS began receiving letters addressed to Santa more than 100 years ago, it was in 1912 that Postmaster General Frank Hitchcock authorized local postmasters to allow postal employees and citizens to respond to the letters. This program became known as Operation Santa. Today, hundreds of thousands of elves across the country are helping Santa make his rounds.

For more information, call 573-9638 or email debra.j.mitchell@usps.com.

Bar & Grill, located at 2500 Main Street.

The *Indian Princess* paddleboat is air-conditioned and includes restrooms, a sound system and a state-of-the-art 48-inch flat screen TV capable of monitoring several areas of the boat and waterway. On the exterior top deck, guests can enjoy spectacular views of the back bays of Fort Myers Beach.

Unless reserved for a private charter, the *Indian Princess* offers afternoon sightseeing cruises as well as sunset cruises. Tickets start at \$20 for adults and \$10 for children for a two-hour cruise along the back bay of Fort Myers Beach and Ostego Bay. These cruises are popular for their wildlife sightseeing environment.

Located before the sky bridge next to the *Key West Express* at 2080 Main Street on Fort Myers Beach, the *Indian Princess* is also available for private rental for sightseeing and sunset cruises as well as weddings, corporate events and private parties.

For more information, call 765-8919 or visit www.indianprincessfortmyers.com.

Beaches Of Fort Myers & Sanibel Earns Top National Rankings

The Beaches of Fort Myers & Sanibel in Southwest Florida is making a splash. The area soared to the top of two national travel rankings.

TripAdvisor, the world's largest travel site, named Fort Myers as one of the top 10 favorite locales and honored the area with the 2012 Travelers' Choice Destinations on the Rise award. The award recognizes destinations that have seen the greatest increase in positive traveler feedback and traveler interest, year-over-year.

According to the TripAdvisor website, Fort Myers has something for everyone: "Most visitors go to Fort Myers for the deep-sea fishing, the golf courses and the famous white-sand beaches and islands that line the Gulf Coast. Attractions include the winter estates of Henry Ford and Thomas Edison, as well as nearby Naples and the islands of Sanibel and Captiva. For wildlife spotting, try Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve - TripAdvisor travelers love taking photos along the boardwalk trail."

Sanibel Island also earned its place in a top 10 ranking. It recently made *USA Today's* list of 10 great places for families to escape the snow.

USA Today detailed why Sanibel made the list: "You'll get a beach vacation, but so much more at this Gulf Coast island near Fort Myers. The island's location makes it one of the best places to find seashells in the country," said Kara Williams, a founder of *TheVacationGals.com* blog. "Who wouldn't love shelling on the beach and wading in the mellow, mellow waters? Biking's easy on the flat island, and so is kayaking at J.N. 'Ding' Darling National Wildlife Refuge."

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Kiwanis Club of Fort Myers South with Santa Doug Fowler at the 2011 Breakfast with Santa event

Kiwanis Collects Books For All Children's Outpatient Care

The Kiwanis Club of Fort Myers South is collecting new children's books for the All Children's Outpatient Care of Fort Myers patients and their siblings. The books will be distributed at the annual Breakfast with Santa holiday party that the club helps to organize. Ages of the children range from babies to middle school.

Donations can be dropped off at three Fort Myers locations:

- Priority Marketing, 8200 College Parkway Suite 201
 - Mills-Price & Associates, Inc., 12444 Brantley Commons Court
 - Bean, Whitaker, Lutz and Kareh, Inc., 13041 McGregor Boulevard.
- Final donations will be picked up on Thursday, December 13.

The event is planned for Saturday, December 15, and the club is expecting around 150 children to attend. Businesses committed to donating items or services include Gulf Shore Bakery, Sun Harvest Citrus and Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre.

The Kiwanis Club of Fort Myers South is looking for more service-minded individuals and business professionals who would like to make a direct impact on

Fort Myers-Edison Kiwanis Club Speaker Series

The Fort Myers-Edison Kiwanis Club will host a series of speakers during the month of December covering the diversity of the winter holiday season.

On Thursday, December 6, Imam Mohamed Al-Darsani of the Islamic Center for PEACE will speak about Ramadan and Islam. On Thursday, December 13, Rabbi Solomon Agin of Temple Shalom in Charlotte Harbor will

talk about Chanukah and Judaism.

On Thursday, December 20, Pastor Paul deJong of First Presbyterian Church in Fort Myers will discuss Christmas and Christianity. And on Thursday, December 27, Ms. Keesha Allen of Quality Life Center of Southwest Florida will talk about Kwaanza.

The weekly meetings of the club are held every Thursday from 8 to 9 a.m. at Kiwanis Hall, 1634 Woodford Avenue (at the corner of Woodford and Second Street) in Fort Myers. They are free and open to the public. An optional breakfast is available for \$7. Seating is limited, so reservations are suggested.

Call 939-4027 for more information and to reserve a seat.✳

Lee County Homeless Coalition Event Raises More Than \$15,000

The Lee County Homeless Coalition held their 8th annual Dinner and Silent Auction on November 10 at Faith Presbyterian Church in Cape Coral.

In addition to their Platinum Sponsor, Bireley Family Funds, the event had four Silver Sponsors and 10 Bronze Sponsors. There were 195 tickets sold, and over 100 gift baskets, paintings and gift certificates donated for the silent auction. The Lee County Homeless Coalition raised approximately \$15,595.

The Lee County Homeless Coalition would especially like to thank Bireley Family Funds, along with Representative Gary Aubuchon and Carrabba's Italian Grill, for their contributions to this event.

The Homeless Coalition appreciates the community coming together and supporting our efforts to end homelessness in Lee County, and making this event a success. Many thanks to all of you for your support and contributions!✳



Everett Shell and Kim Barrera make pancakes for the children and their families at the 2011 Breakfast with Santa

the community through volunteering. Meetings are held every Tuesday at 7:15 a.m. at Edison State College.

For details on joining the Kiwanis Club of Fort Myers South, call Kim Barrera at 656-1740 or e-mail her at KBarrera@GraphicsAll.com. The club can be found on Facebook or online at www.fmski-



Wanda Myers serves juice and coffee to the attendees

wanis.com. For more information on All Children's OutPatient Care of Fort Myers, visit www.allkids.org or call 931-5700.✳

Men's Club Pancake Breakfast



The monthly Bayside Men's Club pancake breakfast is held on Fort Myers Beach

On Sunday, December 9 from 8 to 11 a.m., the Bayside Men's Club hosts its monthly pancake breakfast. All-you-can-eat pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausages, coffee and orange juice are available for \$5. Breakfast is held in the Bayside Recreation Hall.

Bayside Estates is located 17601 San Carlos Boulevard, Fort Myers Beach just south of Pine Ridge Road. For more information, call Ken Westcoat at 609-226-9955.✳

Share your community news with us.
Call 395-1213, Fax: 395-2299
or email press@islandsunnews.com

Fort Myers Fifth Empty Bowls Event

The Fort Myers fifth annual Empty Bowls event will be held at the Alliance for the Arts, 10091 McGregor Blvd. in Fort Myers, on Saturday, December 1 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The public is invited to attend. The popular event will feature 700 handmade ceramic bowls created and donated by Lee County students in 18 schools.

Admission is a \$10 donation to the Harry Chapin Food Bank. This donation entitles the individual to select a bowl and receive a variety of soup selections from ten local restaurants. Not only would the selected bowl be a wonderful, useful item in the home, but the purchase of an additional bowl would also make an excellent gift.

In addition, those attending will be able to participate in a silent auction of special bowls provided by artisans. Panera Bread is the presenting sponsor of the event. Lehigh Senior High School art teacher Suzie Somogyi is serving again this year as the chair for the Empty Bowls committee.

MOAA Meeting

The next meeting of the Lee Coast Chapter of MOAA (Military Officers Association of America) will be held at Crown Colony Golf and Country Club at 6 p.m. Monday December 10.

The speaker will be former CIA director and U.S. representative, Porter Goss. Goss has been a fixture in the Sanibel and Lee County community since the early 1970s when he co-founded a local newspaper, served as the city's first mayor and served as chairman of the Lee County Commission before entering national politics.

Former, retired or active duty uniformed officers interested in joining MOAA can contact Joe Smaha at 395-0776 for membership information. ✨

World AIDS Day

A Community Service of Remembrance will be held on World AIDS Day on Saturday, December 1 at Fort Myers Congregational United Church of Christ, 8210 College Parkway in Fort Myers starting at 7 p.m. All people in the area are invited to this worship service remembering those we have lost to AIDS, supporting those living with AIDS, and pledging to work for those at risk for AIDS.

International World AIDS Day is always on December 1 focusing on getting to zero: "Zero new infections, zero AIDS-related deaths, zero discrimination." Last year, there were 21 AIDS-related deaths in Lee County and workers at the Fort Myers McGregor Clinic, a nonprofit healthcare clinic which targets its services to all HIV and AIDS clients in their service area, are concerned there may be more this year.

Joining in sponsoring the Fort Myers Community Remembrance Service are the following congregations: St John the Apostle Metropolitan Community Church, All Faiths Unitarian Church, Edison Congregational Church, Fort Myers Unitarian Universalist Church, Sanibel Congregational UCC, and Fort Myers Congregational UCC.


An offering will be collected to support McGregor Clinic and the Fort Myers Congregational United Church of Christ Open and Affirming committee will host a reception after the service.

For more information, call the church at 482-3133. ✨

Ten local restaurants to date will be providing tasty soups for the event and Panera Bread Café will offer hearty bread to accompany the soups. Early commitments include Jason's Deli, Vegetarian Vegetable; University Grill, Pasta Fagioli; Prawnbroker, Manhattan Clam Chowder; Panera Bread, Broccoli Cheddar; Oasis, Chicken Noodle; LaMotta's, Minestrone; Mel's Diner, Turkey Noodle; Christof's on McGregor, Acorn Squash; McGregor Café, Lentil; and Sweet Tomatoes, Chicken Pot Pie.

The soups will be served to the public by a variety of celebrities. Attendees will be entertained with performances by six student groups. Pottery demonstrations throughout the event will be provided by Chas Bean and Theresa West-Taylor. Also, Way Too Tall Torrie will be creating balloon animals for the children.


For additional information about or to contribute financially to the Harry Chapin Food Bank, call 334-7007 or visit www.harrychapinfoodbank.org. ✨



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River District Trolley

Free transportation in and around historic Fort Myers.
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Blue Route

City Center, Monroe St. to Royal Palm Ave.


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Two new River District trolley routes will run Monday through Saturday until April 17. There's no better way to explore the exciting new restaurants, shops and galleries than aboard a replica trolley. Hop on and off as often as you like, and never pay a fare. Visit www.ridelectran.com for more information.

The River District Trolley is supported by:



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www.ridelectran.com

Churches/ Temples

ALL FAITHS UNITARIAN CONGREGATION (UUA)

Where diversity is treasured
2756 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers
Starting November 4,
two Services: 9 am and 11 am.
Adult Education Ethics Workshop: 10 am.
Reverend Dr. Wayne Robinson, Minister
(final year) 239-266-0900.

www.allfaiths-uc.org

ALL SAINTS BYZANTINE RITE CATHOLIC CHURCH

10291 Bayshore Rd., N. Fort Myers
Divine Liturgy is on Sun. at 10:30 a.m.;
Rosary begins at 10 a.m.

Lenten services (Presanctified Liturgy)
will be on Wed. evenings at 6 p.m. start-
ing on Feb. 22. Administrator is Very Rev.
Peter Lickman, ph. 305-651-0991. We
are a Church of the Eastern Catholic or
Byzantine Rite, 1.5 mi. east of Int. 75.

ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

8210 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers
Reverend Fr. George P. Savas
Orthros Service Sunday 9 a.m.
Divine Liturgy Sunday 10 a.m.
www.annunciation.fl.goarch.org
239-481-2099

BETH SHILOH

MESSIANIC SYNAGOGUE

15675 McGregor Boulevard, 437-3171
Rabbi: Judah Hungerman
Friday Service, 8 p.m., Saturday Service,
11 a.m. Shabbat School Saturday Morning,
Adult Hebrew Classes.

Call for information on full program.

BREAD OF LIFE MINISTRIES CHURCH OF GOD

16581 McGregor Boulevard, 267-3166
Just past the Tanger Outlet Mall
Pastor: Barry Lentz, 281-3063
Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study, 7 p.m.

CHAPEL OF CYPRESS COVE

10200 Cypress Cove Circle Fort Myers
239-850-3943, Located at Cypress Cove
Retirement Center on HealthPark Campus
An ecumenical non-denominational com-
munity of believers.

Sunday Worship Service, 10 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study, 7 p.m.

Reverend Ted Althouse, Pastor
revtedalthouse@aol.com

CHURCH OF THE CROSS:

13500 Freshman Lane; 768-2188

Pastors: Jeff Moran and Michael Bulter;
A nondenominational church emphasizing
a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
Sunday Service: 9 a.m. Contemporary
10:45 a.m. Traditional.

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2439 McGregor Boulevard, 334-8937
Rev. Dr. Jeffrey DeYoe, Senior Pastor
Reverend David Dietzel, Pastor Emeritus.
Traditional Sunday service 10 a.m. Nursery
available

CYPRESS LAKE BAPTIST CHURCH

8400 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers,
481-5442 Randy A. Alston, Reverend.
Sunday Services: Bible study, 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m., Evening
Worship, 7 p.m., Wednesday Prayer
Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

CYPRESS LAKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8260 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers,
481-3233; Clint Cottrell, pastor
Sunday services: 8 and 11 a.m. Traditional;
9:30 a.m. Contemporary; 9:45 a.m.
Children's Church K4J Kids for Jesus

CYPRESS LAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

8570 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers,
482-1250

8 and 11 a.m. Sunday Traditional Service

9:30 a.m. Praise Service

Sunday School all times

FAITH FELLOWSHIP WORLD OUTREACH MINISTRIES

6111 South Pointe Boulevard, Fort Myers,
278-3638. Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m.;
Voice of Faith, WCRN 13.50 AM Radio,
Sunday, 1:30 p.m.; Thursday Service, 7:30
p.m.; Friday Youth Service, 7:30 p.m.

Nursery care for pre-school children and
Children's Church for ages 5-12 available
at each service.

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

15690 McGregor Boulevard

Fort Myers, 482-2030

Pastor: David Stauffer.

Traditional services 8:45 a.m.;

Contemporary, 10:30 a.m.

Go south on McGregor Boulevard. The
church is ½ mile past the intersection of
Gladiolus and San Carlos Boulevard on
the way to Sanibel.

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

2390 West First Street, next door to Edison
Estates.

Sunday Morning Service and Sunday
School, 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Evening
Testimony Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Child care
provided at all services. Visit our Reading
Room for quiet study at: 2281 First Street,
River District. www.time4thinkers.com,

www.christiansciencefortmyers.com,

www.christianscience.com

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

13545 American Colony Boulevard

off Daniels Parkway in the Colony,

Fort Myers, 936-2511

Pastor: Reverend Joey Brummett

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.; Morning

Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Evening, 6

p.m.; Wednesday Family Night, 7 p.m.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

in the Downtown Fort Myers River District

2466 First Street, Fort Myers, FL 33901

239-332-1152, www.fumcftmyers.org

Sunday: 9 a.m. Contemporary Worship

9 a.m. and 10 a.m. Sunday School

9:45 a.m. Coffee Fellowship

10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship

5 p.m. Youth Program

7 p.m. Spanish Worship

FORT MYERS CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) A STEPHEN MINISTRIES CONGREGATION

5916 Winkler Road, Fort Myers, 437-4330

Reverend Mark Condrey, Pastor

Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Church School: 9:15 a.m.

FORT MYERS CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST:

8210 College Parkway, Fort Myers,

482-3133. Philip White, pastor

Morning Worship: 10 a.m.

Church School: 10:15 a.m.

Adult Forum: 11:30 a.m.

HOLY THEOTOKOS MONASTERY

111 Evergreen Road, North Fort Myers,

997-2846 Eastern Orthodox men's mon-
astery. Liturgical services conducted in
the English, Greek and Church Slavonic
languages, following the Julian (Old)

Calendar. Liturgical Services: Sundays and
Holy Days: The Third and Sixth Hours at
8:30 a.m.; Divine Liturgy at 9 a.m.

Church School: 10:15 a.m.

Adult Forum: 11:30 a.m.

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Church School: 10:15 a.m.

Adult Forum: 11:30 a.m.

IONA-HOPE EPISCOPAL CONGREGATION

9650 Gladiolus Drive, Fort Myers 454-4778

The Reverend Dr. John S. Adler, pastor.

Weekly services:

Saturday 5 p.m., Eucharist with Healing

Sunday 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist, Rite One;

9:30 a.m., Family Eucharist with Healing

and Church School

Tuesday 9:30 a.m., Morning Prayer (in
Spanish); Wednesday 9:30 a.m., Eucharist
with Healing. Child care available at

Saturday 5 p.m. and Sunday 9:30 a.m.

services.

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881 Nuna Avenue, Fort Myers, 481-1143

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Sunday, 8 and 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

KINGDOM LIFE CHURCH

2154 McGregor Boulevard,

Fort Myers, 218-8343

Pastor Randy and Anita Thurman

10:30 a.m. Sunday Service

All are welcome.

LAMB OF GOD

LUTHERAN/EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Corner Cypress View Drive and Koreshan

Boulevard, Three Oaks area,

Fort Myers, 267-3525

Walter Fohs, pastor; Becky Robbins-

Penniman, associate pastor

Sunday worship services:

8 a.m. Early Grace Traditional

9 a.m. Awesome Grace Contemporary

10:30 a.m. Classic Grace Traditional

8:45 & 10 a.m. Sunday School God's

Group

MESSIAH REFORMED CHURCH

Worship Gathering - Sunday 10 a.m.

Pastor Alan Bondar.

Fort Myers Villas Civic Association Bldg.

2306 Sunrise Blvd. Fort Myers, 220-8519

website: messiahreformed.com

6:30 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study

noon Sunday Fellowship Lunch

Monthly Teen Events

see website for podcasts, special events,

ministries, calendar, blogs, etc.

NEW BEGINNINGS CENTER

New Home Church, 8505 Jenny Cae Lane,

North Fort Myers, 239-656-0416

Weekly Friday Meeting Meet & Greet: 6:30

p.m. Kingdom Teaching: 7 p.m. Fellowship

and refreshments after service. nbcmin-

istry@embarqmail.com, www.facebook.

com/nbcministry. Alex & Patricia Wiggins,

Ministers

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

OF FORT MYERS

16120 San Carlos Boulevard, Unit 10

239-985-8503

9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

11 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship.

7 p.m. Wednesday Evening Bible Study

NEW HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3825 McGregor Boulevard. Fort Myers

Pastors: Stu Austin and Howard Biddulph

8 & 9:30 a.m. Traditional Worship

11 a.m. Contemporary Worship

8, 9:30 & 11 a.m. Sunday School

Youth and Children's programming runs

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17625 Pine Ridge Road,

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Pastors Bruce Merton, Gail & RC Fleeman

Adult Discussion Classes: 9-10 AM

Countdown to Worship (praise music):

10:10 AM

Amazing Grace Worship: 10:30 AM

Phone 267-7400 Fax 267-7407

Web site: peacecommunitychurch.com

e-mail: peace1265@aol.com

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Saturday, Worship 5 p.m.

Sunday, Worship- 8 and 9:30 a.m.

Wednesdays during Lent soup dinner at

5:30 p.m., Compline Service at 7 p.m.

Peace is a member of the ELCA. We cele-
brate weekly communion with traditional
liturgy, organ and choir. 15840 McGregor

Blvd. Fort Myers, 437-2599, www.peaceft-

myers.com, peace@peaceftmyers.com

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

3950 Winkler Ext., Fort Myers, 274-0143

8:15 and 10:15 a.m. Sunday Services

Daily early learning center/day care

RIVER OF LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD

21580 River Ranch Rd, Estero

239-495-0400

Senior Pastor: Todd Weston

8 and 9:45 a.m. Services;

11:30 a.m. Legacy Service, multi-genera-

tional

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MeditationInFortMyers.org.

SOUTHWEST BAPTIST CHURCH

16940 McGregor Boulevard,

Fort Myers, 454-3336

Robert G. Kasten, Pastor

Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m.

Nursery available

9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

Junior Church grades one to five

Wee Church Pre-K to K

Evening Service 6 p.m.

Wednesday Service 6 p.m.

SAINT COLUMBKILLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

12171 Iona Road, Fort Myers, off

McGregor and north of Gladiolus.

489-3973 Father Joseph Clifford.

Weekly masses:

Monday through Saturday 8 a.m.

Weekend masses: Saturday 3 and 5 p.m.;

Sunday: 7, 9, 11, and 5:30 p.m.

Reconciliation is available at the church on

Saturdays at noon and by appointment

SAINT JOHN THE APOSTLE

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

3049 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers,

344-0012

From page 12

Churches/Temples

Affiliated: United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

THE CHABAD LUBAVITCH OF SW FLORIDA ORTHODOX

5620 Winkler Road, Fort Myers
Rabbi Yitzchok Minkowicz
433-7708, E-mail: rabbi@chabadswf.org
Web site: www.chabadswf.org
Services: Friday 6:30 p.m.; Saturday Kabbalah class 9 a.m.; Shacharit 10 a.m.; Kiddush at noon
Minyan: Monday and Thursday 7 a.m.

THE NEW CHURCH

The New Church of SWFL is located 10811 Sunset Plaza Circ. #401, behind Zoomers. Rev. Gabriella Cahaley officiates worship services on Sundays at 11 a.m. during the season. Other worship events are held on the beach in Fort Myers Beach. See our webpage <http://www.new-churchflorida.com/> or call for more information 239-481-5535.

THOMAS A. EDISON

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
1619 Llewellyn Drive Fort Myers
Just off McGregor across from the Edison/
Ford Winter Estates 334-4978
Senior Minister: Douglas Kelchner
Traditional Worship Sunday's 10:15 a.m.
Website: www.taecc.com

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH FORT MYERS

13411 Shire Lane (off Daniels Parkway one mile west of I-75)
Minister: The Reverend Allison Farnum
Sunday services and religious education at 10:30 a.m.
For information on all church events call 561-2700 or visit www.uucfm.org.

UNITY OF BONITA SPRINGS

Family Service 10 to 11 a.m.
Healing Circle 11 a.m.
Hospitality and Fellowship, 11 a.m.
Inspiring lesson, uplifting and dynamic music, meditation in a loving environment.
Service held at 28285 Imperial Street, Bonita Springs. Call 947-3100.

UNITY OF FORT MYERS

11120 Ranchette Road, Fort Myers
Summer services & Children's Hour 10 a.m. Sundays. Reverend Jim Rosemergy, minister. Our God is Love; our Race is Human; our Religion is Oneness.
www.unityoffortmyers.org or 239-278-1511

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9065 Ligon Court, Fort Myers, across from HealthPark Hospital, 481-2125
Senior Pastor: Robert Brunson
Sunday Service:
9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
11 a.m. Blended Worship
www.westminsterfortmyers.org

WORD OF LIFE CHURCH

2120 Collier Ave, Fort Myers, 274-8881;
Services: Sunday 10 a.m.;
Wednesday 7 p.m.

Bishop Gaspar and Michele Anastasi

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

7401 Winkler Road, Fort Myers,
481-4040, Interim Pastor Jim Eggert
Pastor Peter Weeks
Sunday Services: 8:30 a.m. Traditional;
10 a.m. Blended Traditional and Contemporary;
11:30 a.m. Contemporary.
Children's Sunday School, Adult /Teen Bible Classes, 10 a.m.*



The Village Church Choir & Festival Orchestra

The Many Moods Of Christmas At Village Church

The Village Church Choir & Festival Orchestra at Shell Point Retirement Community presents The Many Moods of Christmas on Sunday, December 16 at 6:15 p.m. This concert will take place in the Village Church Auditorium on The Island at Shell Point, and tickets are \$10 each.

The Village Church Choir (90-plus voices) at Shell Point Retirement Community, accompanied by a Festival Orchestra (comprised of 35 area symphony musicians), will present The Many Moods of Christmas. This masterwork alternates between the reflective and joyous which provides full expression for

meditation and celebration certain to instill the Christmas spirit in all of us.

"Christmas is such an amazing time of year, and we are overjoyed to offer this exquisite performance," said Pastor Randy Woods, minister of worship and music for The Village Church. "This is the second concert in our Season of Praise this year, and we are looking forward to this concert and the many others that will take place between now and the spring."

Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased on line at www.shellpoint.org/seasonofpraise. To receive additional information about the Season of Praise concert series, call 454-2147.*

Read us online at
IslandSunNews.com

Our email address is press@RiverWeekly.com

House Of Prayer Retreat, Spiritual Growth Center Invites Neighbors To Join 30th Anniversary Celebration

To close out the year, House of Prayer Retreat and Spiritual Growth Center on Cypress Creek Road near Alva extends a special invitation to the public for Music Under The Oaks on Sunday, December 2.

This event is a free afternoon of entertainment featuring live bluegrass/old time music and classic rock. The music of Fish 'n Tips is reminiscent of that from the movie *Oh, Brother, Where Art Thou*, while Mike Kennedy and Owen Feeney will intersperse classic '70s and '80s rock with Christmas carols and other surprises. Special guest MC Valerie Alker, reporter and host of WGCU's *All Things Considered*, will keep things lively.

Admission donations of non-perishable food items are requested for the Harry Chapin Food Bank. Parking is free. The music will play from 1 to 4 p.m. Nibbles and beverages will be available for sale. The public is welcome to bring their picnic lunch if they wish as well as a lawn chair or picnic blanket. Bring the family; this will be great fun for all ages.

Guests might choose to have their faces painted by Sandra Bates, program director at Alva Community Center. Or they could find the perfect Christmas gift created by a local artist or author. Several raffles will be held, with prizes including a hand-made quilt, a colorful pottery serving bowl, a hand-knit afghan and other surprises.

Mother of God House of Prayer has been serving the people of Southwest Florida since it opened its doors in 1982 and is not attached to, or supported by, a specific denomination. It was founded to provide a holy space where individuals might come "home" to themselves and "home" to God. People of all faiths who seek spiritual nourishment are welcome to attend specific programs and retreats or to schedule an afternoon or a weekend for quiet reflection at the center.

Stop by on Sunday, December 2 to enjoy the beautiful gardens and landscape and watch the waters of Cypress Creek roll by while some great musicians offer terrific entertainment.

For more information or directions, call 728-3760.*



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Cool Temperatures Mean Plenty Of Action For Anglers



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

Cooler mornings did little to slow the bite this week. Trips produced a great mixed bag of fish. Mornings were a little chilly when running from one place to another but with bright sunshine, once we anchored up and began fishing, things quickly warmed up.

Winter time live shrimp fishing is hard to beat for both variety and non-stop action. Redfish were the main target of most trips this week but lots of other species got in on the party. Everything that swims in our waters eats shrimp and though most fish are not trophies, you never know when you will hook into that monster on light tackle.

Most redfish I caught this week were all found close to home as I targeted areas in the southern sound. During higher water the redfish were caught under the mangrove shorelines on the east side of the sound along with potholes around oyster bars. During lower periods of the tide, deeper mangrove channels and shorelines in and around the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Refuge held redfish. Just about every spot I tried for redfish held at least a few, with some places generating non-stop action.

Though most of these redfish are blue-tailed and on the small side of the slot, they are basically our normal winter sized redfish. What they lacked in size they made up for in sheer numbers. Catching 20-plus redfish and coming home with a limit of slot sized fish up to 25 inches is never a bad thing. It seems the slot-sized fish are mixed in with these rat reds. If you're catching shorts, just stay put and, after four or five shorts, you will get a keeper. It's great to see so many redfish around and it's a good sign that our winter time redfish action will be very consistent.

Some of the biggest sheepshead so far this winter season were also caught on trips this week. Four-pounders and even a few closer to five pounds were caught in and around the passes and while targeting redfish along mangroves. Both live and small

pieces of shrimp rigged on a small sharp hook, light leader and just a big enough split shot to get the bait to the bottom was the rig of choice.

Either side of Redfish Pass was a good place to give these sheepshead a shot. Find structure, either downed trees, docks or rock jetties, and anchor up close enough to get a bait right down on it. Sheepshead hang tight to the structure, feeding on the barnacles. During clear water conditions, you will see the big schools of these black and white striped members of the porgy family. The colder conditions get, the better the sheepshead bite, with action usually peaking before they spawn around February. If you're looking for a real monster of five pounds plus, the nearshore wrecks and reefs are hard to beat.

The biggest sheepshead of the week on my boat was caught by Hunter Jolly of Sebring. While working a mangrove shoreline for redfish, Hunter landed one that was just short of five pounds. The same shoreline also produced a few smaller sheepshead, redfish, one nice sized flounder and even a few snook up to 26 inches, all within about 30 minutes.



Hunter Jolly from Sebring with his big sheepshead caught fishing with Capt. Matt Mitchell this week

Send Us Your Fish Tales

The *River Weekly* would like to hear from anglers about their catches. Send us details including tackle, bait and weather conditions, date of catch, species and weight, and include photographs with identification. Drop them at the *River Weekly*, 1609 Hendry Street, Suite 15, Fort Myers, Florida 33901, or email to press@riverweekly.com.

BOAT RENTALS

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Captiva Island

Local Waters/Local Charts Class

The San Carlos Bay Sail & Power Squadron, a unit of the United States Power Squadrons, will be offering the popular Local Waters/Local Charts class. The class will be held on Saturday, December 15 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

This class is directed towards new boaters and boaters new to the area as well as those wishing to learn chart reading. It will provide the boater with some of the basics of navigation, oriented to the Fort Myers area. Students will be using chart #11427, which must be brought to class. An optional On-The-Water training will also be offered at a later date; check with the class instructor for details.

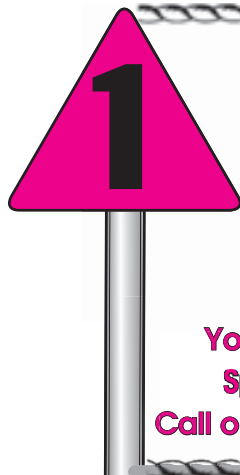
The cost of the class is \$40.

The class is being taught at the San Carlos Bay Sail & Power Squadron Classroom, located at 16048 San Carlos Blvd at the corner of Kelly Road (across from ACE Hardware). Students can register online at www.scbps.com or call 466-4040.*

With a colder than usual winter forecast, sheepshead will be a go-to species for us during cold periods. They are a great food fish as they only feed on crustaceans and have firm, white, mild meat. They are a favorite of many winter time anglers in Southwest Florida along with the fact that the bag limit on them is 15 per angler per day. Many of our winter time residents target sheepshead day in day out.

I enjoy fishing for them when a client requests it as they are something different and it takes a little finesse to catch them.

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



Image of three generations of seminoles, from the Florida Memory Collection

Tales From The Caloosahatchee Offered At 'Tween Waters Inn

The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation will present an Evening of Tales From The Caloosahatchee on Tuesday, December 4 starting at 7 p.m. at 'Tween Waters Inn on Captiva.

Author Amy Bennett Williams wrote, "Flowing 75 westerly miles from Florida's Lake Okeechobee to the Gulf of Mexico, the historic Caloosahatchee River has always been critically important to the region it traverses. As it makes its way past farm fields, quiet hamlets, and urban downtowns, manatees graze in its warm shallows, bass lurk in its shaded oxbows and alligators sun on its banks. Over the years, the river has attracted luminaries as well as colorful characters. Thomas Edison had a Caloosahatchee riverfront home, as did Henry Ford and telegrapher George Shulz, who created Florida's tarpon-fishing industry. Without the Caloosahatchee, the Southwest Florida that people know today would not exist. Without people, however, the river known as the Caloosahatchee would not exist either, since it was human effort and engineering



Seminole camp, from the State Archives Collection



Vintage aerial image of Cape Coral



Caloosahatchee highway to Florida's interior

that connected the river to the lake and made it navigable – changes that sometimes spelled disaster."

Along *The Caloosahatchee* is one of the series of books, *Images of America*. Williams, best known as the editor of *Tropicalia* magazine, tells river's story from mastodons, the 19th-century businessmen who stiffened and straightened its line, and the famous that soaked in its beauty and bounty. Her book contains more than 200 historical black-and-white images. Williams gives special thanks to SCCF's Rae Ann Wessel with helping provide vital information about the river."

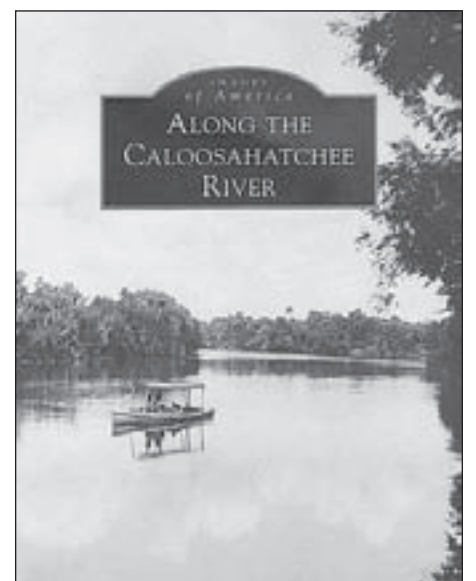
Woody Hanson, a fifth generation Fort Myers resident, also contributed knowledge and photos to Amy's heartfelt book of the river they love. His grandfather, Stanley Hanson (1883-1945) was known as the White Medicine Man to the Seminoles. Woody is the family's archivist and will bring artifacts and images rarely seen from the early 1900s taken with permission from tribal friends of Seminoles and Miccosukees.

On the evening of December 4, islanders will have a rare treat to have both Woody and Amy together. Their presentations dovetail well with Wessel's Oxbow and Riverlore Cruises, providing a more in-depth vision of the Caloosahatchee, past and present.

For more information, call 472-2329 or visit www.sccf.org.



Seminole, from the Florida archives





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First place winning sculpture by Joris Kivits

Sand Sculpting Championship Announces Singles Winners

With more than 1,000 tons of sand, sand sculpting masters have created 30 unbelievable works of art, all within the theme of "Winter Wonderland" and results are in.

The winners of the 26th Annual American Sand Sculpting Championship, the largest sand sculpting competition in Florida, are:

- First place – "Slide & Go With The Flow" by Joris Kivits
- Second place – "Twas The Night Before Christmas The Ref Was a Mouse" by Justin Gordon
- Third place – "Mined" by Brian Turnbough
- Fourth place – "Christmas Fantasy" by Michel Lipire

Southwest Florida residents and visitors alike will have a remarkable opportunity to see a collection of some of the world's top sand sculptors create master sculptures and

Holiday Sale At Beach Art Gallery

Fort Myers Beach Art Association artists have been busy gathering their work for the annual holiday sale which opens on Saturday, December 1 and runs through January 10. Art will all be original work by local artists and priced no higher than \$150. Included in the hundreds of pieces will be both framed and unframed works done in various media. The sought-after minis will be hung and ready for purchase. These small works of art have become collector's items. For \$10 you can buy a small painting and help support the art association as well. The gallery will be open during regular hours.

Jamie Cordero will be teaching a watercolor workshop January 28 through 31 on the pouring and layering process. She will lead participants through every aspect of planning, composition, stretching paper, masking, pouring, glazing, color layering, value lessons, use of darks, finishing and critique. The workshop is \$295 for members and \$335 for non-members plus a \$15 materials fee. For more information call Gretchen Johnson at 464-0278 or emailing gretjohn@embarqmail.com. Sign up now to ensure your space in the workshop. There will be a demonstration by Cordero on January 27 from 4 to 6 p.m. Fee is \$10.

February's workshop will be Eydi Lampasona teaching mixed media collage/semblage and paper making. Her workshop is \$310 for members and \$350 for non-members. More informa-

tion on workshops can be found on the web at www.fortmyersbeachart.com or by calling the gallery at 463-3909.

The working gallery on Donora and Shellmound, Fort Myers Beach, is open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and noon to 3 p.m. on Sunday. The gallery will be closed December 24, 25, and 31, and January 1.*

Wrap Me Up Christmas Vendor And Craft Show

The Fort Myers Beach Chamber announces the Key Estero Boulevard Shops Wrap Me Up Christmas Vendor And Craft Show on Sunday, December 9 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Located in the Key Estero Shops parking area, the event will feature local artisans, vendors and crafters from all parts of Florida. Make it a point to browse and shop for those unique gifts for everyone on your holiday list. Holiday music and gift wrapping will all add to the spirit of the holiday season.

Ragady Megaforceband will provide entertainment from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Key Estero Shops are located at 1661 Estero Boulevard in Fort Myers Beach.

For more information or to reserve a booth space, contact Darlene Grossman at 850-5933 or the Fort Myers Beach Chamber's website at www.fortmyersbeachchamber.com.*



Second place winner by Justin Gordon

compete for the title of American champion. The singles competitions will take place the first week, followed by the doubles competition in week two.

This much-anticipated event is presented and managed this year by local organizations; Big C Events, Pinchers Crab Shack, the Holiday Inn Fort Myers Beach and The Sand Lovers, all who are working in partnership with the Greater Fort Myers Beach Chamber of Commerce.

For more information, visit <http://fmbsandsculpting.com/>.*



Third place entry by Brian Turnbough



Michel Lipire's fourth place sculpture

Plant Smart

Twinberry

by Gerri Reaves

Twinberry (*Myrcianthes fragrans*) is a large shrub or small tree that is highly desirable for its ornamental beauty, wildlife friendliness, and low maintenance.

This Florida native is listed as threatened in the wild and also appears on Lee County's Protected Tree List, which protects it from "removal and abuse on subdivision, commercial and industrial development sites."

Fortunately, this lovely evergreen is available from native-plant nurseries.

A member of the myrtle family, it is also called Simpson's stopper. Found in hammocks and woodlands, it usually reaches no more than 20 feet high, sometimes stretching wider than its height. Specimens of up to 50 feet have been documented in South Florida.

The exfoliating smooth bark adds to the plant's ornamental value. Varying from gray to light reddish brown in color, it is reminiscent of guava tree bark.

The oval leaves of about one to two inches long have shiny surfaces.

Showy, fragrant white flowers appear throughout the year on stalked clusters, but flowering peaks in spring and summer. The fuzzy blooms eventually develop into the orange to red fleshy berries that are edible for both people and wildlife.

Twinberry is a moderate to slow grower that can thrive in nutrient poor



Twinberry's fragrant flowers bloom throughout the year, but peak in spring and summer

soil but requires some organic content to do well. To encourage dense foliage, give it full sun.

It is suitable for coastal areas if protected from salt spray, wind, and extended salt or brackish water flooding.

It is drought-tolerant once established and has few if any pests.

In a natural garden, no maintenance is required.

A row of twinberries works particularly well as a buffer or privacy hedge. However, repeated shearing will limit flowering and fruiting.



The food and cover provided by twinberry recommend it for planting near a birdbath or water garden

photos by Gerri Reaves

Add twinberry to your landscape and birds and other wildlife will appreciate the cover and berries. In addition, those starburst flowers and colorful fruit will bring joy all year.

Propagate it with seeds, which often self-sow.

Sources: ifas.ufl.edu, regionalconservation.org, .leegov.com, and *A Gardener's*

Guide to Florida's Native Plants by Rufino Osorio.

Plant Smart explores sustainable gardening practices that will help you create an environmentally responsible, low-maintenance South Florida landscape. ✨

Caring For Your Plants

Christmas Palms

by Justen Dobbs



If you're like most Americans, you will probably have a Christmas tree in your living room for the next six weeks. Did you know that there is a Christmas palm, too? If you live in Southwest Florida,

you have definitely seen many of them in your day to day travels.

The Christmas palm (*Adonidia merrillii*) is native to Manila in the Philippines and surrounding areas where it grows in lowland rainforest. Other common names include the Manila palm and the Adonidia palm. It is strictly a sub-tropical and tropical palm making it perfect for landscapes in south Florida, extreme south Texas and Hawaii. While not as ubiquitous as the Coconut Palm, it certainly rivals it in its tropical beauty and serene silhouette. The Christmas palm gets its name from bearing ripe and unripe fruits around December – unripe fruits are green and ripe fruits are bright red and the same size and shape as Christmas lights! Seeds germinate easily in two to three weeks and subsequent growth is fairly fast if given ample water, heat and humidity. You will often see these palms planted in doubles or triples to add to the tropical



Golden Christmas palm

effect. The palms are self-cleaning, grow in any well-drained soil and can handle full sun or shade at any age. This makes them very versatile and popular among landscapers and homeowners alike.

What most people don't know is that there are a few different cultivars of Christmas palms. A cultivar is a subspecies – a palm that has the same basic structure and growth habit as the typical species, but differs in color, leaf shape or overall appearance. One cultivar is the Golden Christmas palm, which has a bright yellow crownshaft (neck) and yellow new leaves open and then fade to green. This one is popular among col-

lectors and hard to find. Another cultivar is the Variegated Christmas palm, which has fine yellow stripes in the leaves and crownshaft. Some people find these cultivars to be unattractive or sick looking, but collectors appreciate them for their rarity and novelty.

For a long time, the Christmas palm has been considered to be a monotypic genus, meaning it is all along in its botanical classification and has no close relatives. However, a new species has recently been discovered in New Guinea, called *Adonidia matorbongsii*. This new species looks nothing like the Christmas palm, but had an almost identical flower-

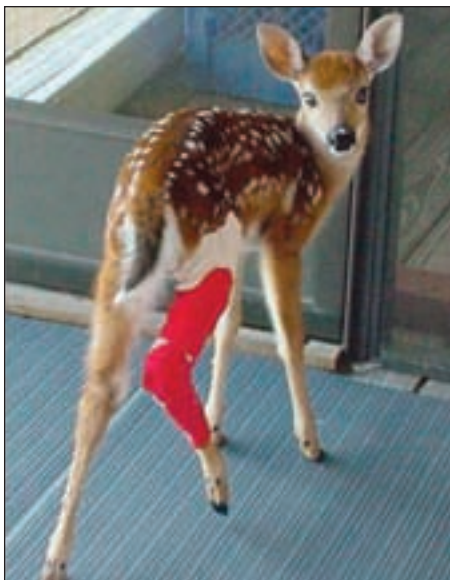


Variegated Christmas palm

ing structure, which is what the botanists base their description and classification on. It will likely be years before anyone in Florida has one of these growing in their garden since it is so new. Explorers are constantly finding new species of palm trees all over the world which is exciting for palm collectors, nurseries, botanical gardens and drug manufacturers alike. Could you have a new species lurking in your back yard? Probably not. But you never know.

Dobbs is a landscape architect in south Florida specializing in custom, upscale landscapes. He can be reached at seabreezenurseries@gmail.com. ✨

An Inside Look At Wildlife Recovery



Injured fawn with bandaged leg
photos courtesy of CROW

submitted by Claudia Burns

The CROW Picture Show offers an insider's look at why critters come to CROW, and features photos of the wild animals who wind up there.

Last year, CROW (Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife) cared for 4,253 sick, injured and orphaned animals. Of the 200 different species, 58 percent



Baby bobcat being fed

were birds, with 36 percent mammals and six percent reptiles/amphibians.

Due to restrictions imposed by governmental agencies, CROW cannot allow visitors to view patients in person. But in this 30-minute presentation, visitors see numerous photos of current and past patients, with commentary by Claudia Burns, a veteran clinic volunteer.

The CROW Picture Show is on Friday December 7 at 11 a.m. in the CROW Healing Winds Visitor Education Center at 3883 Sanibel-Captiva Road, across from The Sanibel School. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for teens, free for mem-



Baby fawn being fed

bers and children 12 and under.

The fee includes the presentation, plus the opportunity to explore the hospital's hands-on educational facility and become familiar with CROW's efforts to save wildlife through compassion, care and education.

For more information, call 472-3644, ext. 228.

To learn more about CROW, visit www.crowclinic.org.*



Baby bobcat sleeping

Jensen's Marina To Host Inaugural Mullet Festival

by Jeff Lysiak

This Saturday, December 1, the island of Captiva will be bustling with holiday activities of all sorts. From the raucous and rhythmic Junkanoo Parade to the breathtaking beauty of the Captiva Boat Parade, there will be something for everyone in the family to take part in.

The area in and around Jensen's Twin Palm Cottages & Marina, for the first time, will stage the inaugural Mullet Festival, an all-day celebration of all things mullet. From fine food to fine art, the legendary mullet – one of the most widely caught and consumed species of fish in Southwest Florida waters – is an icon which local fishermen like John Jensen admire and respect.

"The mullet has been a species that, for thousands of years, the Calusa Indians survived by living off of them," said Jensen. "But for some reason, mullet is considered sort of on the 'low end' of the food scale. We think that it needs more respect. It's a big part of our history."

In large part due to the beginning of another mullet fishing season, and in coordination with the ongoing Captiva Holiday Village schedule of events, the Jensen brothers (John, Jimmy and Dave) decided to pay tribute to the mullet by



Jimmy and John Jensen are excited to host their first annual Mullet Festival on Saturday, December 1 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

dedicating a day in its honor.

Starting at 11 a.m. on December 1, Jensen's Marina will host Mel Meo, an artist from Pine Island who will showcase some of her original paintings. Meo is also going to paint a new face on the Tiki Man icon located at the foot of Jensen's dock around 1 p.m.

Throughout the day, Mullet Festival activities will also include:

- Cast net fishing for mullet demon-

strations

- Mullet Wagon selling assorted fish dips, sandwiches and mullet-inspired foods

- Book signing with Captain Bob Sabatino

- Representatives from Penn Fishing Reels demonstrating their latest gear

- Boat rides (call for availability)
- In addition, live music – provided by members of The Troublestarters and spe-

cial guests – will be provided from 2 to 5 p.m. Around 5:30 p.m., Jensen's Marina will provide the perfect vantage point for viewing the Captiva Boat Parade, which will begin at dusk.

"We're hoping that the Mullet Festival becomes an annual event," added Jensen.

Jensen's Twin Palm Cottages & Marina is located at 15107 Captiva Drive. For more information, call 472-5800 or visit www.gocaptiva.com.*

CROW Case Of The Week:

White Pelican



by Patricia Molloy

Despite all efforts, the white pelican currently at CROW is a regular Houdini. He frequently slips out during his daily tub time for a leisurely stroll around the clinic. Fortunately

for the CROW staff, he leaves a trail of fine white feathers, making him easy to locate.

With a nine-foot wingspan, the American white pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) is one of the largest birds in North America. While their plumage is white, they have black flight feathers that are visible when their wings are extended.

Unlike the brown pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*), the white pelican does not dive into the water for its food. It floats on the water and scoops fish and water into its distensible gular (throat) pouch. It then holds its head up to drain out the water, allowing it to swallow the fish. Several white pelicans may fish together, moving in a circle to "herd" the fish toward the center.

When this white pelican arrived, he was obviously in great distress due to numerous health issues.

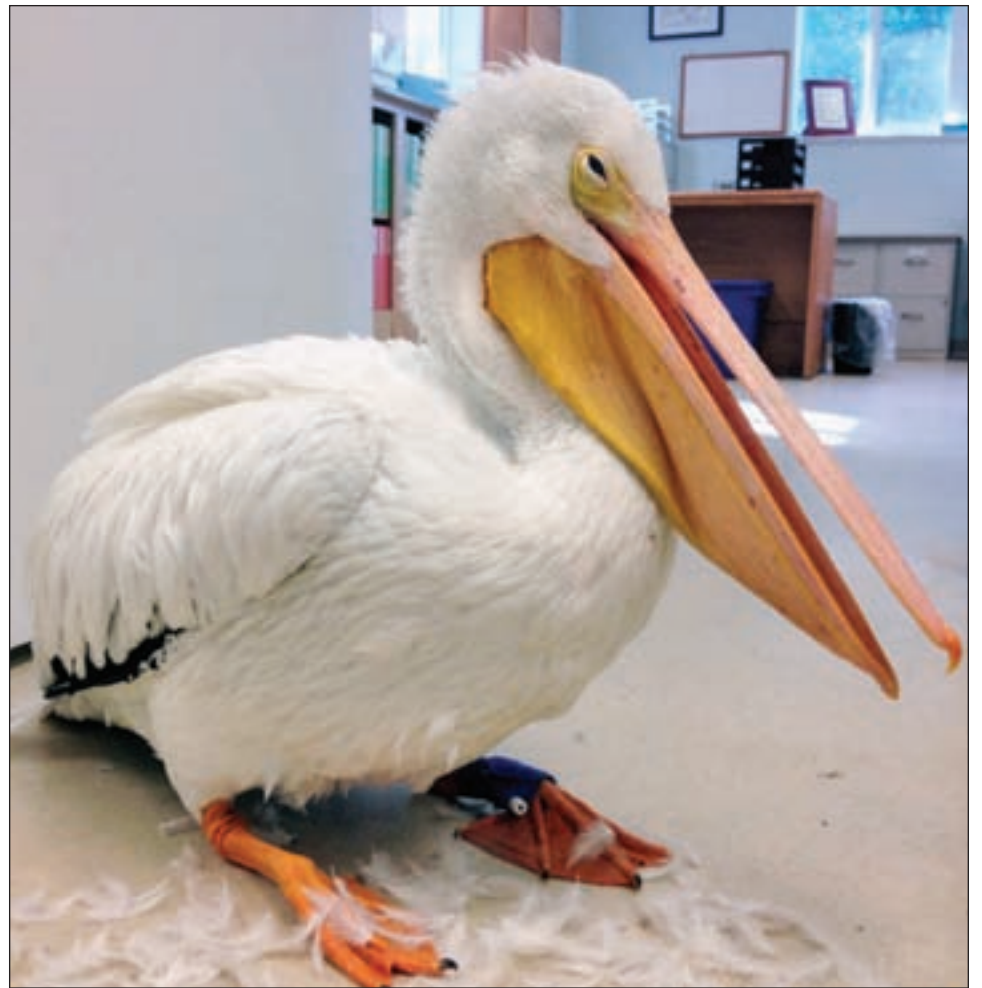
"He had what looked to me like an

infected vent area," noted Dr. Heather Barron. He also had round worms and was immediately dewormed, since they may have played a part in the extreme irritation. A blood test indicated that the pelican was also suffering from exposure to red tide. Additionally, "On his maxillary beak, he had a huge cavity filled with debris which I thoroughly cleaned," noted Dr. Aundria West, DVM intern.

His excessive shedding of feathers initially concerned the staff, as it was a possible indication of stress. "I'm not sure of the physiological aspect of this and why only certain birds drop feathers, because brown pelicans certainly don't. This is not the first time I have seen this with white pelicans," stated Dr. Heather. "It's an unusual phenomena particular to the species."

Patient #3196 is on a fluid drip for hydration, he takes daily baths in which he is fed his favorite fish and he rests at night in a heated cage covered in soft blankets. It will take a great deal of effort by the clinic staff before he is well enough to be transferred outside to the pelican complex and ultimately released.

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



Patient #3196 is a regular Houdini. Note the fluid drip line surgically inserted in his leg
photo courtesy of Jeana Harms



Nativity, namesake of the Old Captiva Mail Boat



Enjoy Lunch at the Historic Tarpon Lodge



Visit Calusa Indian Mounds at the Randell Archeological Site

Captiva Cruises Pine Island Cruise Nov 2012

Southwest Florida History Tours

Captiva Cruises' Discover Southwest Florida History tours focus on the fishing cultures in Pine Island Sound; a story of fascinating characters and traditions. The cruise departs from McCarthy's Marina on Captiva on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. and travels to Pineland on Pine Island. Get an up-close look at historic fish houses of Pine Island Sound and hear about the area's diverse fishing cultures – from the indigenous Calusa, to Spanish Cuban Ranchos, to the Punta Gorda Fish Company, to the spectacular tarpon and sport fishing of today.

Passengers will be greeted at The Tarpon Lodge and oriented to this family run business and its storied tradition of fishing within Pine Island Sound and Charlotte Harbor. Take in the old Florida charm of the 1926 Tarpon Lodge, where lunch will be served overlooking Pine Island Sound and the mangrove islands. After lunch, take a walk to The

Randell Research Center (RRC). The RRC, a program of the Florida Museum of Natural History, aims to establish and maintain, at the internationally significant Pineland archeological and historical site, a permanent facility dedicated to learning and teaching the archeology, history and ecology of Southwest Florida. An RRC educator will guide the group on The Calusa Heritage Trail to one of the pre-Columbian mounds of the ancient Calusa while elaborating on this unique fishing culture.

Captiva Cruises also offers cruises to Cabbage Key, Useppa Island, Boca Grande, The Edison & Ford Winter Estates, beach and shelling excursions to Cayo Costa State Park, sailing adventures, sunset cruises, and dolphin watch and wildlife adventures with The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation. These are great opportunities for families and neighbors to get together, spend a day out on the water and learn about the history of Southwest Florida.

For more information and reservations call 472-5300.

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From page 1

Palmgrass Bluegrass Festival



New River Boys

a realm of their own while still maintaining the spirit of the legendary bluegrass and “Newgrass” sounds created within the walls of Lexington’s Red Slipper Lounge during the mid-1970s.

Venice-based Swinging Bridge also features five members. Formed 12 years ago, the band performs regularly throughout the region, and has become a fixture at bluegrass festivals around Florida. Herb Washburn, president of the SWFL Bluegrass Association, said, “The Swinging Bridge Band has developed into the best band to come out of the Southwest Florida area in recent memory. Their great lead singing, tight harmonies, dazzling instrumental breaks, and dead-on timing puts them on a par with some of the foremost nationally known bands.”



Bill Metts

Ernie Evans and The Florida State Bluegrass Band represent what fans expect from bluegrass music today: an ability to bridge the gap between contemporary and traditional styles. Known for their strong lead vocals, classic hits, and ability to entertain their audiences, The Florida State Bluegrass Band is rapidly gaining a widespread fan base across the United States.

Bill Metts began playing in the coffee houses of the 1960s and 1970s. He’s done solo, duo, trio and the band thing as well. Metts has performed for the likes of Bruce Willis and Demi Moore, and says he’s been playing longer than he wants to tell. Bill plays mostly finger-style guitar now. His tunes include anything from Gershwin and Cole Porter to Mississippi John Hurt and early roots music. Bill’s infectious smile and attitude make his music fun and draws you in to his world.

The New River Boys are the Southeast Florida Coast’s most popular bluegrass band. The six-member group captures the fire and spirit of the music.

The Bugtussle Ramblers are Southwest Florida’s pre-eminent bluegrass band. They blend traditional style and songs with the inspirations that guide bluegrass today. Bob Shea’s guitar assisted good humor and Karen Batten’s banjo virtuosity and matched by Doug Gerdon’s creative mandolin, Doug Yeahrling’s solid bass and Zach Miller’s lyrical violin. Tight harmonies from their blended voices round out the band’s sound true to bluegrass tradition that will excite and entertain you.

Keith Bass is well known around the state of Florida for his clean, hard driving style of banjo. He started learning to play at the age of 12 and began playing festivals and private venues at 18. He was a member of the seven time Florida State Champion bluegrass band, “The Prospectors” which also competed at SPGMA in the early 1990s. Keith is joined by Shane Stuart on guitar, Katie Stuart on bass, Clint Dockery on mandolin and Jason Baker on fiddle.

Advance tickets are \$15 or \$20 at the gate. Lawn chairs and blankets are welcome, but coolers are not permitted. Food and beverages will also be available. Visit www.artinlee.org to purchase tickets or call 939-2787 for more information.

The Alliance for the Arts is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard, just south of Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers.✪



Kati Penn & NewTown



Bugtussle Ramblers



Ernie Evans & Florida State Bluegrass Band

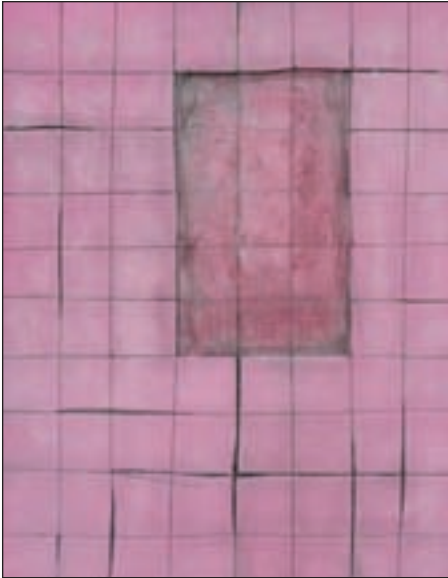
English Country Dancing

Learn the social dances of the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries on Tuesdays, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., year round at Wa-ke Hatchee Recreation Center, 16760 Bass Road in Fort Myers.

Dress is casual, and flat shoes with non-slip soles are recommended. Partners are not necessary and beginners are welcomed. The atmosphere is family friendly, with live music provided.

Lessons are free after a one-time payment of \$10, which covers lifetime membership to Wa-Ke Hatchee Recreation Center.

For more information, contact Gillian Carney at 603-9828 or email fortmyersdancers@hotmail.com.✪



Sunset caged by Katherine Boren

From page 1

Artists Reception

at reduced prices for the holiday season

See her work at www.katherineboren.com.

Ellen Sayet loves to sketch and paint but they took a secondary position between two successful careers. Now retired, the world of art has opened up as her primary focus. Self taught with an occasional drawing class, she enjoys painting realism with an edge.

Her figurative paintings are classic drawings with an inventive and creative side. Most important is producing works



Handy Apple by Ellen Sayet

of realism and figurative portraiture in oil and pastel, and capturing the mood, personality and inner soul of the subjects.

Doug MacGregor has been a professional cartoonist for over 32 years. Local readers have seen his artwork in *The News-Press* for over two decades. He is also a local artist, lecturer and plays a mean blues harmonica. Currently, MacGregor is Arts in Healthcare coordinator for Lee Memorial Health System, bringing art, music, storytelling and

humor to patients and families in the area.

A 1979 graduate of Syracuse University, MacGregor began his cartooning career drawing sports cartoons for the *Daily Orange* student newspaper. He holds a bachelor of fine arts degree in illustration from Syracuse. In 1980 he moved to eastern Connecticut and became editorial cartoonist for the *Norwich Bulletin*. In 1988 he moved to Southwest Florida and became full-time

editorial cartoonist for *The News-Press* until June of 2011. He has also won several state and national awards for his cartoons. He is a member of both the American Association of Editorial Cartoonists and the society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators.

MacGregor works in a variety of mediums. He uses watercolor pencils when he creates his cartoons and children's book illustrations. He also loves to paint in oil and acrylic for charity events and for leisure. He has self-published a number of children's books including his most recent, *Turtellini*, *The Turbo-Charged Turtle*, and *Rad Hair Day*. His *Get Creative, Turn On The Bright Side Of Your Brain* is also a popular favorite among the young and young at heart who need to stay creative. Visit www.dougcreates.com.

These exhibits continue through Wednesday, January 2.

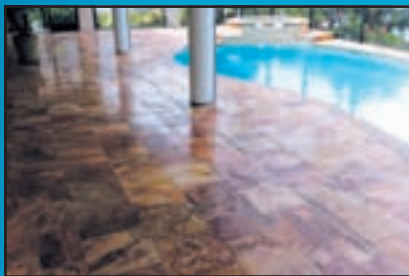
Arts for ACT Gallery is at 2265 First Street in downtown Fort Myers. ✨

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Lakes Regional Library Programs

Next month's roster of activities at Lakes Regional Library offers topics for all ages. The following activities are free to the public:

Adults

English Café

6 p.m. Mondays, December 3, 10 and 17

Practice your English with English Café, a free conversation session for adult ESOL and ESL students. Each 90-minute session provides adult learners an opportunity to practice speaking English with native speakers. Participants may start at any time. Advanced registration is not necessary.

Book Discussion: Ben Macintyre's *Double Cross*

2 p.m. Tuesday, December 11

We will discuss Ben Macintyre's *New York Times* bestselling book, *Double Cross*. The book depicts an improbable cast of double agents who mislead the Germans about the D-Day invasion time and place and their continued deception to mislead the Germans well after the invasion. Registration is required.

Family

Baby-Parent Rhyme Time

10 a.m. Mondays, December 3 and 10

Be prepared to tickle, jump and fly with your baby. These rhymes and songs are for infants, up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. This 20-minute program is filled with songs designed to introduce rhyming and movement to infants. Registration is required.

Toddler Storytime

10 a.m. Wednesdays, December 5 and 12

Children 2 years old and their caregivers participate in song, fingerplays and short stories. The success of this age group depends on adult participation and encouragement. Toddler storytime lasts approximately 30 minutes.

Family Storytime

11 a.m. Wednesdays, December 5 and 12

This program is for the whole family and lasts about 30 minutes. Registration is required.

Children

Preschool Storytime

11 a.m. Mondays, December 3 and 10

Preschoolers (ages 3 to 5) attend this storytime independently while parents or caregivers wait nearby in the library building. This storytime includes activities that require more participation and a longer attention span. Each preschool storytime lasts about 30 minutes. Registration is required.

Library 101 For Homeschoolers

11:30 a.m. Tuesday, December 4

Are you looking to introduce your kids to one of the greatest resources around? Join us for our Library 101. You'll take an official behind-the-scenes tour of the library, get a catalog and database demo and create a Dewey Decimal craft. For grades K to 5.

"R" Is For Robot

10:30 a.m. Thursday, December 6

Robots are so much more than just a bucket of bolts. We'll share stories, games and, of course, robot dancing. Everyone will make a special robot friend to take home. For ages 2 to 5. Sponsored by the Friends of Lakes Regional Library. Registration is required.

Kids Read Down Fines

4 to 5 p.m. Thursday, December 13

Children and teens can earn a \$2 coupon for every 15 minutes of reading, during the allotted time. A total of \$8 per day may be earned. For ages 18 and younger. Coupons may be applied to cards issued to patrons age 18 and under only. Please bring your library card.

Teens

Kids Read Down Fines

4 to 5 p.m. Thursday, December 13

Children and teens can earn a \$2 coupon for every 15 minutes of reading, during the allotted time. A total of \$8 per day may be earned. For ages 18 and younger. Coupons may be applied to cards issued to patrons age 18 and under only. Please bring your library card.

The Lakes Regional Library is located at 15290 Bass Road in Fort Myers. For more information about a program or to register, call the library at 533-4000. A sign language interpreter is available with five business days notice to library staff. Assistive listening system available; request at desk.

Check the Lee County Library System's website at www.leelibrary.net to find out about programs at other locations. Call the host library, or Telephone Reference at 479-INFO (4636), for more information about a specific program.✱

North Fort Myers Public Library Programs

Next month's roster of activities at North Fort Myers Public Library offers topics for all ages. The following activities are free to the public:

Adults

Books & Bites

10:30 a.m. Monday, December 3

Join our monthly social hour. We will discuss any books in any format, or movies that have piqued your interest. Whether you give it a rant or a rave, it will be fun to talk. We provide the coffee and refreshments, you provide your enthusiasm. Registration is required.

Miss Marple Monthly Knitters

2 p.m. Tuesdays, December 4 and 18

These sessions are for knitters and crocheters of all levels. You are invited to visit and share project and technique ideas.

Family

Family Storytime

10:30 a.m. Wednesdays, December 5 and 12

This program is for the whole family and lasts about 30 minutes. Registration is required.

Baby-Parent Rhyme Time

11 a.m. Thursday, December 13

Be prepared to tickle, jump and fly with your baby. These rhymes and songs are for infants, up to 24 months,

accompanied by an adult. This 20-minute program is filled with songs designed to introduce rhyming and movement to infants. Registration is required.

Children

Kids Read Down Fines

2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, December 1

Children and teens can earn a \$2 coupon for every 15 minutes of reading, during the allotted time. A total of \$8 per day may be earned. For ages 18 and younger. Coupons may be applied to cards issued to patrons age 18 and under only. Please bring your library card.

Holiday Gift Making

4 p.m. Wednesday, December 5

Make thoughtful, personalized gifts for your busy, hard-working parents or grandparents this holiday season. For ages 6 and up.

R.E.A.D. To Dogs

11:30 a.m. Saturday, December 8

Independent readers can practice reading in a fun way. A Reading Education Assistance Dog will be on hand to listen to you read. They're great listeners. For grades K and up.

Teens

Kids Read Down Fines

2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, December 1

Children and teens can earn a \$2 coupon for every 15 minutes of reading, during the allotted time. A total of \$8 per day may be earned. For ages 18 and younger. Coupons may be applied to cards issued to patrons age 18 and under only. Please bring your library card.

Ultimate Sports Challenge

2 p.m. Thursday, December 27

Join us for Playstation 3's Ultimate Sports Challenge. Work off those holiday pounds, challenge your friends and make new ones, playing Beach Volleyball, Gladiator Duel, Bocce and more. Middle school and high school students are welcome.

The North Fort Myers Public Library is located at 2001 N. Tamiami Trail NE in North Fort Myers. For more information about a program or to register, call the library at 533-4320. A sign language interpreter is available with five business days notice to library staff. Assistive listening system available; request at desk.

Check the Lee County Library System's website at www.leelibrary.net to find out about programs at other locations. Call the host library, or Telephone Reference at 479-INFO (4636), for more information about a specific program.✱

Date Change For Top Talent Competition

Auditions and event dates have changed to South Florida's Top Talent. The fourth consecutive South Florida's Top Talent has rescheduled auditions for February 2 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and February 23 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The main event will be held on March 9 at the Dolphin Room at the Shell Facility and Nature Park in North Fort Myers.

For the fourth consecutive year, the Southwest Florida Hispanic Chamber

of Commerce and CONRIC PR & Marketing have partnered to host the South Florida's Top Talent competition. Singers, dancers, musicians and entertainers with unique talent are invited to audition and compete for the coveted South Florida's Top Talent title.

"We are excited about rolling out our new dates, and attracting talent from cities such as Miami and Tampa to audition and compete right here in Southwest Florida," said Connie Ramos-Williams of CONRIC PR & Marketing.

The competition will be broken up into two age groups, under 18 years old and 18 years old and up. A panel of celebrity judges will select the top 10 winners in each age group. Those winners will then advance to compete in the South Florida's Top Talent competition on Saturday, March 9 from 6 to 11 p.m. at the Dolphin Room at the Shell Facility and Nature Park. Judges will score each contestant on their overall performance and select a top winner in each age group. The winners will be announced that evening, and receive cash, prizes and publicity.

Guests are invited to attend the South Florida's Top Talent competition on Saturday, March 9. The fee to attend is \$10, which includes admission, appetizers, meet-and-greet, and talent show competition. There is a \$45 registration fee to audition if you register prior to January 25. After January 25, participants will need to pay \$75 to audition.

The event is sponsored in part by CONRIC PR & Marketing, the Southwest Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and the Shell Facility and Nature Park.

To participate in the talent contest, become a sponsor, or for more detailed information regarding South Florida's Top Talent, call the Hispanic Chamber at 418-1441 or send an email to info@hispanicchamberflorida.org.✱

Holiday Dance With Southern Express

Come enjoy a traditional Holiday Dance with Southern Express on Friday, December 14 at the Lake Kennedy Center in Cape Coral.

It's time to show a bit of southern hospitality and give a big "Yee-Haw" for Southern Express as they take center stage. You'll be moving and grooving to the best country and rock songs from the 1940s to today. Join your friends for an exciting evening of high energy musical entertainment. Experience the sounds of this talented twosome sure to get you off your seat and feeling fancy free all with a southern flair.

Come and enjoy a fabulous meal with great entertainment brought to you by Osteoarthritis Centers of America. Pre-registration is required.

Cost to attend the Holiday Dance is \$18 for members and \$23 for non-members. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Lake Kennedy Center is located at 400 Santa Barbara Blvd. in Cape Coral. For more information or to make reservations, call 574-0575.✱



Zucchini Chips

- 1/4 cup dry bread crumbs
- 1/4 cup grated fresh Parmesan cheese
- 1/4 teaspoon seasoned salt
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/8 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 2 tablespoons fat-free milk
- 2 1/2 cups zucchini, sliced 1/4-inch thick
- Cooking spray

Preheat oven to 425 degrees F. Whisk together first five ingredients in a medium bowl. Pour milk into a shallow bowl. Place an ovenproof wire rack coated with cooking spray on a baking sheet. Dip zucchini slices in milk, and dredge in breadcrumb mixture. Put coated slices directly onto the prepared wire rack. Bake for 30 minutes or until browned and crisp. Serve immediately with Feta and Dill Dip.

Tip: To minimize cleanup, put aluminum foil on the baking sheet before placing the wire rack on it.

Feta and Dill Dip

- 1 cup plain low-fat yogurt
 - 1 tablespoon fresh dill, chopped
 - 1 tablespoon crumbled feta cheese
- Mix all ingredients together and serve.
Yields eight servings.*



Zucchini Chips

New Classes Beginning In December Offered At The Alliance For The Arts



The Alliance for the Arts 2012-13 education schedule continues in December with more classes beginning for artists of all ages and experience levels. Included in the adult lineup in December are Photography, Memoir Writing, Landscape Painting, Palm Art and even Legal Tips For Photographers. Youth offerings range from Ballet and Acting to the Amazing Science Of Art and Palm Art. There are even adult and youth Try It! Workshops for Pottery, Drawing and Guitar. The Try Its! are free for Alliance members, or just \$5 for nonmembers.

Visit the Alliance website for exact start dates and class times, or to download the adult and youth class catalogs. For more information, go to www.artinlee.org or call 239-939-2787.

The Alliance campus and galleries, open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays, are located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard, just south of Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers. Visit www.artinlee.org for additional details.*

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Famous British Actress Comes To The Strauss



by Di Saggau

Miriam Margolyes is a character actor that most everyone has seen at one time or another. The award-winning British actress is famous for numerous roles, including

those on BBC and in the *Harry Potter* movie series as Professor Sprout. She's coming to Sanibel and the BIG ARTS Herb Strauss Theater for a one-woman show December 4 through 9. Titled *Dickens' Women*, Margolyes will talk about Dickens and portray about 23 characters drawn from his novels.

I recently had the most delightful conversation with Margolyes, who was in Manhattan visiting friends. She told me that the idea for *Dickens' Women* was a long gestating thing, something she started thinking about when she was at Cambridge.

"I felt his life was so dramatic and extraordinary it needed to be presented in the theater, using his characters who were based on real people," she said.

The show premiered in Edinburgh in 1989 with her and a male actor. She said, "However, he got married and didn't want to go on the road, so in the end, I did it on my own."

I asked what she liked best about the women in Dickens' tales. She replied, "I think anybody who enjoys Dickens has to relish the characters. They are the life blood of his work. I enjoy the extremes of them. They're not like people you meet



Miriam Margolyes in *Dickens Women*

photo by Prudence Upton

on the street. Dickens creates a parallel world, richer, funnier and more tragic than most worlds. I enjoy inhabiting the extremes of that world."

Margolyes said we will learn a lot of surprising things about Charles Dickens.

"That's the whole idea of the show," she added. "I am genuinely telling the story of the man, trying to analyze him. His daughter said he was a very wicked man and I show some of the reasons why she said that."

When asked what she wants audience members to take with them after seeing the show, she said, "Obviously, I want them to think I am an astonishing actress and I also hope they go back and read the books."

These days, the attention span has decreased and people are not taking the effort to read a big book and they should. If not, they're missing out on a great



Miriam Margolyes with *Great Expectations* manuscript at Wisbech and Fenland Museum

experience."

Dickens' Women will be performed December 4, 5, 6 and 8 at 8 p.m. with a 3 p.m. matinee on December 9, which will include a post-performance Talkback with Margolyes. BIG ARTS Herb Strauss Theater is located at 2200 Periwinkle

Way. Tickets are \$42 for adults, and \$20 for children 17 and under. For tickets, stop by BIG ARTS, located at 900 Dunlop Road on Sanibel, log onto www.BIGARTS.org or call 395-0900.✪

Students Shine At Cypress Lake

by Di Saggau

Incredible. That sums up the talent shown on stage during *Ragtime* which showed recently at Cypress Lake Center for the Arts. I, along with the rest of the audience, were blown away by the singing, dancing, and theatrical professionalism shown by an amazing cast of over 40 young actors. As the middle school teacher seated in front of me said, "We knew them when." There's no doubt in my mind that several of these Cypress Lake High School students will go on to pursue their careers on the stage.

Ragtime is a monumental production for any theatre to produce. Jason Loete, Cypress Lake's head of theatre arts and director of the production, said, "We are lucky to have the quality, diversity and talent in our student population to even attempt this dynamic, epic undertaking."

Based on the EL Doctorow novel *Ragtime*, it tells the story of how many lives from diverse backgrounds parallel and intersect as they seek the American

Dream. They meet many historical figures along the way, including Henry Ford, Booker T. Washington, Harry Houdini and others.

Quinton Thomas plays Coalhouse Walker, Jr., a Harlem piano player. His voice is pure velvet, and when he sings *Make Them Hear You*, it sends an electric charge through the audience. Garrett Nowlin is Tateh, a Jewish immigrant from Latvia. His voice and presence on stage was a delight to behold.

The night I saw the show, Martina Long played Mother, and I was also impressed with her lovely voice. The role was shared with Erica Wagner.

Kiersten Benzing took the role of Evelyn Nesbit, who was immortalized as "The Girl On The Red Velvet Swing." She played the role to perfection. Emily Alvarado was Sarah, Walker's girlfriend, and their duet *Wheels of a Dream* was another highlight. Every featured player, in fact the entire cast, under the direction of Loete, put on a show about turn-of-the-century New York that will long be remembered.

Choreography by Patty Gair and an over 30-piece orchestra conducted by Gary Stroh were also exceptional. Scenic

design by Loete included a labyrinth staircase and balcony design on either side of the stage, allowing actors to go up and down and back and forth right on cue.

Next up is *As You Like It* running March 7 through 9, followed by *And The World Goes Round*, running April 4 through 7. Mark your calendars now

so you can enjoy these shows at Cypress Lake Center for the Arts, 6750 Panther Lane in Fort Myers. Here's another "heads-up:" Jason Loete will be starring as King Arthur in the Southwest Florida Premiere of *Monty Python's Spamalot*, opening January 11 at the BIG ARTS Herb Strauss Theater on Sanibel.✪

Community Band Christmas Concert

The Lee County Community Band will present a concert of Christmas music on December 9, the second of six monthly Sunday afternoon performances this season. Additional concert dates are January 13, February 10, March 10 and April 7. All programs will be at Cape Coral High School at 3 p.m. The events are free of charge, though donations are accepted.

Band members are musicians from all walks of life – career musicians, amateurs and folks renewing skills from years past – who reside in Lee, Collier and Charlotte counties. The band rehearses Thursdays from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Michael's Lutheran School in Fort Myers; new members are always welcome.

Band director Richard Bradstreet has selected a program of lively, familiar Christmas music – both sacred and secular – including *Christmas Music for Winds*, *Greensleeves*, *Brazilian Sleigh Bells*, *Christmas Sing-A-Long* and *Christmas 'a la' Big Band*.

Emcee and vocalist is Norman Jones. For more information, visit www.leecounty-band.org or phone Norman Jones at 995-2097.

Cape Coral High School is located at 2300 Santa Barbara Boulevard, just north of Veterans Parkway.✪

School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSLP

Dear Shelley, School was not so great for me, so I get very nervous when I have to go to a conference at my daughter's school. I have a conference

coming up soon. Do you have any ideas on how to make these conferences better for me?

Julia S., Cape Coral

Julia,

You are not alone in having some anxieties when facing a teacher conference. Many parents feel uncomfortable when attending school conferences. Remember that when you are invited to a conference, it doesn't mean your child is in trouble. Teachers try to meet with all parents. You and the teacher both want the very best for your child.

Teachers like to learn about students from their parents. No one knows your child better than you do. You can help the teacher by talking about what your child likes to do, events that may affect your child (such as a new baby, divorce or death) or special medical or learning needs.

Your child's teacher will probably talk about your child's grades, classwork,

homework and behavior. You will learn more about your child's classes, and find out if your child is having any problems.

If you have any scheduling issues make sure that the teacher knows ahead of the conference what times you are available. If you don't speak English, you have the right to request that an interpreter attend the conference. You can also bring a friend or relative to interpret. It is important that your child does not translate for you.

Here are some great checklists from the American Federation of Teachers to help you make the most of your time with the teacher and to help your child with any information you receive.

Before The Conference

- Ask your child how she feels about school.
- Ask your child if there is anything that he wants you to talk about with his teacher.
- Tell your child that you and the teacher are meeting to help her.
- Make a list of topics that you want to talk about with the teacher.
- Prepare a list of questions such as:
 1. What are my child's strongest and weakest subjects?
 2. Does my child hand homework in on time?
 3. Does my child participate in class?
 4. Does my child seem happy at school?
 5. What can I do at home to help?

During The Conference

- Be on time (or early) for the meeting.

- End the meeting on time. Other parents will probably have a conference after yours.

- Relax and be yourself.
- Stay calm during the conference.
- Ask the most important questions first.

- If your child receives special services such as English classes, ask about your child's progress in those classes.

- Ask for explanations of anything you don't understand
- Ask your child's teacher for ways that you can help your child at home.
- Thank the teacher.

After The Conference

- Talk about the conference with your child.
- Talk about the positive points, and be direct about problems.
- Tell your child about any plans you and the teacher created.
- Keep in touch with the teacher during the school year.

*Ms. Greggs is adjunct faculty at Edison State College where she teaches psychology and education courses. She is also Nationally Certified School Psychologist and consultant for School Consultation Services, a private educational consulting company. Questions for publication may be addressed to smgreggs@gmail.com. Not all questions submitted can be addressed through this publication.**

Nurse Remedial Program Offered

Edison State College is the only state-approved program in Southwest Florida to offer a state-required Nurse Remedial course. This is an intensive program of 96 hours of didactic and clinical experiences designed for the Registered Nurse and LPN reentering the work force and the Graduate Nurse in need of remediation.

Classes are held on Saturdays and clinical hours are scheduled on weekends. The 2013 classes begin on January 19 on the Collier campus and on February 2 on the Lee campus.

The curriculum includes a comprehensive review of anatomy, psychology, pathophysiology, pharmacology, the nursing process and current trends in nursing. Emphasis is placed on the National Patient Safety Goals and how these goals improve the delivery of safe patient care. Lectures, home studies, skills lab and acute hospital clinical experiences are all provided in a relaxed atmosphere to promote learning.

Edison State College has partnered with local hospital facilities to ensure the best possible learning experience in the clinical environments. All 96 required clinical hours are prescheduled and provide clinical experience in medical, surgical, obstetric, pediatric, geriatric nursing and psychiatric nursing.

This program provides theoretical instruction and clinical application in personal, family, and community health concepts; nutrition; human growth and development throughout the life span; body structure and function; interpersonal relationship skills; mental health concepts; pharmacology and administration of medications; and legal aspects of practice. This program also provides theoretical instruction and clinical application in interpersonal relationships and leadership skills; professional role and function; and health teaching and counseling skills.

For more information and to register, call Terry Grodzki at 433-6963.*

Entrepreneur's Law School

The Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at Florida Gulf Coast University hosts the 14th annual Entrepreneur's Law School from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, January 26 at FGCU's Cohen Center.

The five-hour workshop, sponsored by Pavese Law Firm, is an opportunity for small business owners to meet experts in the field of law. Attendees will have the opportunity to choose from tracks of 50 minutes each on subjects such as legal contracts, commercial leases, legal structures, business continuity, employment law, social media and the law, and more.

Cost to attend is \$99, which includes breakfast and lunch with the keynote speaker. Additional sponsors include Relevanza, Bank United, Gulf Coast Business Review, All American Printing and Sign-A-Rama Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.sbdc-lawschool.com or contact the SBDC main office at 745-3700.*



Youngsters taking part in a Miami Dolphins youth football clinic

Miami Dolphins Youth Football Clinic To Be Held December 4

As part of their support of the John Carrigan Rotary South All-Star Classic events, the Miami Dolphins will present a football clinic to area youth, ages six to 14 on Tuesday, December 4 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Fort Myers High School. There is no charge

to participate in the clinic.

The Dolphins' grassroots program emphasizes education, physical fitness and positive choices for youth in a safe and fun environment, encouraging the participants to become DolFit Kids.

Boys and girls are able to participate in both offensive and defensive drills featuring hurdles, knock-away dummies, ladder and halfback pads, identical to what Dolphins' players use. They may also choose to participate in a non-contact football obstacle course.

Every participant will receive a complimentary ticket to the John Carrigan Rotary South All-Star Classic football

game which will take place Wednesday, December 5 at 7:30 p.m. at Fort Myers High School. The game matches top Lee County high school senior football players in a north vs. south competition. Dolphins' alumni will attend the game, serving as honorary coaches, as well as providing stadium enhancements for the match-up.

To secure a child's spot in the clinic, a parent or guardian must submit an online waiver at <http://rotarysouthallstarclassic.org>.

For additional information, contact Roger Mercado at 822-6955.*

Twins, Red Sox Schedule 39 Spring Training Home Games In Lee County Starting In February



by Ed Frank

What seems like the never-ending baseball season – the World Series finale was little more than a month ago – both the Boston Red Sox and the Minnesota Twins recently announced their 2013 Spring Training schedules.

Because the World Baseball Classic is returning next year, the Twins and Red Sox will get an earlier than normal start, with Boston opening play on February 21 and Minnesota on February 23.

Boston will host 20 games in JetBlue Park at Fenway South, the state-of-the-art, \$79 million baseball complex that opened earlier this year on East Daniels Parkway. The Twins 2013

Grapefruit League schedule marks the 22nd year at Hammond Stadium in the Lee County Sports Complex.

Red Sox tickets will go on sale at 10 a.m. next Saturday, December 8 at the JetBlue Park box office, online at www.redsox.com or by calling 888-REDSOX6.

The Twins will not open single game ticket sales until January 12 at Hammond Stadium, online at www.twinsbaseball.com or by phone at 1-800-33-TWINS.

Minnesota's home Spring Training schedule opens February 24 against the Tampa Bay Rays. Their 19-game home slate includes four against cross-town rival Boston and three against the Baltimore Orioles. The American League Eastern Division Champion New York Yankees come to town on March 22, and the National League Central Division champion St. Louis Cardinals visit on March 25.

If past history is any indication, the Red Sox, Yankees and Cardinals games will be sellouts.

Another highlight of the Twins' 2013 Spring Training home schedule is a March 6 game versus the Puerto Rican World Baseball Classic team.

At JetBlue Park, where nearly every game was a sellout during the initial season, the Red Sox will host division rival Tampa Bay three times, the Twins four games, the Cardinals on February 26, the Yankees on March 3 and the Puerto Rican team on March 5.

Baseball Scouts Coming To Southwest Florida

For the second year, high school baseball players have the opportunity to showcase their talents for a gathering of professional baseball scouts and top college coaches at Pro's Select Collegiate Clinic on December 7, 8 and 9 at the Lee County Sports Complex in Fort Myers.

Pro's Select has commitments from at least 25 college coaches and professional baseball scouts for the 2012 clinic. Last year, 80 players participated, with two receiving scholarships and two making commitments. In total, 12 players received college letters as a result of participating in the clinic, according to John Cedarburg, clinic director.

Registration is \$495 per participant and includes check-in on Friday, full-day interactive clinics on Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., lunch both days and insurance for each of the players.

The clinic is an instructional program designed to improve the skill level of players while offering a unique opportunity to informally talk with coaches and scouts to better understand what is needed to play baseball after high school.

Scouts are committed from MLB's Phillies, Giants and Padres. College coach commitments include Florida Gulf Coast University, East Carolina University, University of Miami, Jacksonville University, Stetson University, Wake Forest University, Florida Southern College, High Point University, Florida Tech University, Flagler College,

Nova Southeastern University, Florida International University, Rhode Island College, Jacksonville State University, Georgia Southern University, Florida Atlantic University, Augusta State University, University of Central Florida, St. Leo University, Ave Maria University and Florida Memorial University.

For more information about the colleges and professional teams to be represented, as well as full registration information, visit Pro's Select Collegiate Clinic online at www.proselect.com. Registration is limited so players are encouraged to secure their positions no later than December 3.

Those with questions about the clinic may contact Cedarburg at 826-0039.✪

From page 7

Bird Count

would count birds in the holidays rather than hunt them. So began the Christmas Bird Count.

Thanks to the inspiration of Chapman and the enthusiasm of 27 dedicated birders, 25 Christmas Bird Counts were held that day. The locations ranged from Toronto, Ontario, to Pacific Grove, California with most counts in or near the population centers in northeastern North America. Those original 27 Christmas Bird Counters tallied a total of 90 species on all the counts combined.

Volunteers are needed for this year's CBC on Sanibel and Captiva. Birding skills are helpful but not necessary. If you would like to participate in this year's Sanibel-Captiva CBC, you can sign up or get more information by calling 395-3804.✪

Boston Red Sox

February 21 – Doubleheader: Northeastern & Boston College; 1:35 p.m.
February 23 – Tampa Bay; 1:35 p.m.
February 26 – St. Louis; 1:35 p.m.
March 1 – Pittsburgh; 7:05 p.m.
March 3 – New York Yankees; 1:35 p.m.
March 4 – Tampa Bay; 1:35 p.m.
March 5 – Team Puerto Rico; 7:05 p.m.
March 6 – Pittsburgh; 1:35 p.m.
March 8 – Minnesota; 7:05 p.m.
March 9 – Baltimore; 7:05 p.m.
March 12 – Toronto; 1:35 p.m.
March 15 – Minnesota; 7:05 p.m.
March 17 – Tampa Bay; 1:35 p.m.
March 19 – Baltimore; 1:35 p.m.
March 21 – Philadelphia; 7:05 p.m.
March 23 – Pittsburgh; 1:35 p.m.
March 27 – Miami; 1:35 p.m.
March 28 – Minnesota; 7:05 p.m.
March 30 – Minnesota; 1:35 p.m.

Minnesota

February 24 – Tampa Bay; 1:05 p.m.
February 25 – Pittsburgh; 1:05 p.m.
February 27 – Philadelphia; 1:05 p.m.
February 28 – Baltimore; 1:05 p.m.
March 2 – Boston; 1:05 p.m.
March 5 – Tampa Bay; 1:05 p.m.
March 6 – Puerto Rico; 1:05 p.m.
March 7 – Boston; 1:05 p.m.
March 10 – Pittsburgh; 1:05 p.m.
March 13 – Baltimore; 7:05 p.m.
March 14 – Boston; 1:05 p.m.
March 16 – Pittsburgh; 1:05 p.m.
March 18 – Miami; 1:05 p.m.
March 20 – Tampa Bay; 7:05 p.m.
March 22 – New York Yankees; 1:05 p.m.
March 24 – Toronto; 1:05 p.m.
March 25 – St. Louis; 1:05 p.m.
March 26 – Baltimore; 1:05 p.m.
March 29 – Boston; 1:05 p.m.
Everblades Home this Weekend against Greenville

Boston has scheduled seven night games at JetBlue Park.

The following are the complete Spring Training home schedules for both teams:

Everblades Return Home This Weekend

After dropping two of three games on the road last week to Colorado, the Florida Everblades return to home ice this weekend at Germain Arena facing Greenville. The puck drops at 7:30 p.m. tonight, Friday, and at 7 p.m. on Saturday.

Florida began the week with a 7-7 season record plus one overtime loss and three shootout losses for a total of 18 points, 11 points behind first-place Gwinnett in the ECHL South Division.

Saturday night's game features the traditional Teddy Bear Toss after the Everblades score their first goal. The stuffed animals will be donated to local children's charities.✪

All-Star Classic Banquet Tickets Now Available

Tickets for the John Carrigan Rotary South All-Star Classic banquet, featuring University of Florida's head football coach Will Muschamp, are now available online at <http://rotarysouthallstarclassic.org>.

The annual banquet, to be held on Monday, December 3 at Harborside Event Center, honors Lee County's top senior football players and cheerleaders. Doors open at 5 p.m. and general admission tickets are \$75 per person; a reserved table of eight is \$600; and a premium reserved table of eight is \$1,000.

"The All-Star Classic banquet is an ideal forum to motivate and inspire football players and cheerleaders as well as remind Rotarians and parents how football, education and personal choices make an impact in their lives," said Roger Mercado, Rotary South president elect and All-Star Classic co-chair. "This is a great opportunity to support the best of Lee County's football players and cheerleaders while raising money for future scholarships."

The John Carrigan Rotary South All-Star Classic was founded by Sanibel resident and football enthusiast John Carrigan in 1989 and was the first county-wide organized all-star football game in Florida. Under the continued leadership of the Rotary Club of Fort Myers South, proceeds from the event support college

continued on page 27

Sanibel T-Shirts

Available at these locations...

T-Shirt Hut 472-1415

Amy's Something Special 472-4421

Blue Giraffe Restaurant 472-2525

Pak-n-ship of Sanibel 395-1220

Macintosh Books 472-1447



HOOTON.COM



From page 1

Historic Trolleys

Trolley passengers who wish to connect with the LeeTran bus system can transfer to the Route 20 bus at several

locations along the routes.

"Downtown Fort Myers is the ideal environment for pedestrians and transit," explained Myers. "We hope to reduce vehicular traffic, which will add to the ambiance of the historic district."✱



Lincoln joins next year's ArtFest Fort Myers held in February

Lincoln Sponsors ArtFest Fort Myers

ArtFest Fort Myers is proud to announce Lincoln as the art festival's newest sponsor.

"The art festival is delighted to be supported by such a prestigious automobile brand as Lincoln, where good design combines beauty and performance," said Sharon McAllister, ArtFest Fort Myers executive director.

The Lincoln display will feature the all new 2013 Lincoln MKZ sedan, which will be available for test drives at the art festival.

ArtFest Fort Myers, Southwest Florida's premier art festival, will be held February 1 to 3 in downtown Fort Myers' River District along the Caloosahatchee.

For more information, go to www.ArtFestFortMyers.com. ✱

From page 26

Banquet Tickets

scholarships as well as grants for local community organizations. The 24th annual football game will be held on Wednesday, December 5 at Fort Myers High School; kickoff is at 7:30 p.m.

Sponsors for the banquet and football game are Fort Myers Toyota, BB&T-Oswald Trippe and Company, Culligan Water, Edison National Bank, Mutual of Omaha Bank, Miami Dolphins, Lamar Advertising, Waterman Broadcasting, Bell Tower Shops and Prestige Health Choice.

Rotary Club of Fort Myers South has more than 100 members who are among the 1.3 million Rotarians worldwide. Service Above Self is the motto of Rotary International, which has contributed more than \$1.2 billion and tens of thousands of volunteer hours toward polio eradication in addition to projects such as water quality, world peace and literacy. For more information on Rotary Club of Fort Myers South, visit www.rotarysouth.org.

For additional information, updates and sponsorship information, contact Roger Mercado at 822-6955. ✱

Fine And Performing Arts Concert Series To Feature Spanish Brass



Spanish Brass will perform on December 6 at Shell Point

Shell Point Retirement Community welcomes Spanish Brass on Thursday, December 6 as part of the 10th annual Fine and Performing Arts Concert Series. This concert will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Village Church auditorium located on The Island at Shell Point, and tickets are \$35 each.

Hear the delightful music of the Christmas season with Spanish Brass, a quintet comprised of two trumpets, a trombone, a French horn and a tuba. From classical to contemporary, Spanish Brass has spanned the globe performing eclectic musical programs from an elegant repertoire to the delight of audiences from Hong Kong to Brazil to New York and beyond.

Since capturing first prize in the 1996 Ville de Narbonne 6th International Competition for Brass Quintets (France), Spanish Brass has enthralled audiences at prestigious events such as the Great American Brass Band Festival, Festival de Musique de Radio (France), Granada International Festival of Music and Dance (Spain), Cheju Summer Festival (Korea), Kalavrita Festival (Greece) and many others. With impeccable phrasing and collaborative chemistry, Spanish Brass offers selections ranging from Bach and Mozart to flamboyant Hispanic works by Albeniz and Turina.

"We know that audience members will marvel at the dynamic range and rhythmic intensity of this award-winning quintet," said Dawn Boren, director of resident life.

Tickets for the concerts are \$35 each, or an additional ticket option is available which allows purchasers to pick three concerts out of the remaining four concerts for \$90. To purchase tickets, or receive more information, visit www.shellpoint.org/concerts or call 454-2067. ✱

Our email address is
press@riverweekly.com

Financial Focus

Battle Those Low Rates – With Three Types Of Income



by Jennifer Basey

If you depend on fixed-income investments for at least part of your income, you probably haven't been too happy in recent years, as interest rates have hit historic lows. Nonetheless, even

in a low-rate environment, you can broaden the income-producing potential of your investment portfolio.

However, before taking action, it's helpful to know what the near-term direction of interest rates may look like.

The Federal Reserve has stated that it plans to keep short-term rates at their current historic lows until at least mid-2015. The Fed doesn't control long-term rates, making them somewhat less predictable, but it's still likely that these rates will rise sooner than short-term ones.

In any case, rather than worry about something you can't control – that is, interest rate movements – try to focus on those things you can accomplish. And one achievable goal is to create an investment mix that includes three types of income: variable, reliable and rising.

- Variable income investments – Some variable income investments, such as certificates of deposit (CDs), offer significant protection of principal, and the value of your investment won't change with fluctuating interest rates, provided you hold your CD until maturity. Of course, current rates are quite low, which means CDs provide you with little income today, but their rates have the potential to rise along with short-term interest rates.

- Reliable income investments – When you purchase reliable income investments, which can include individual bonds, you have the opportunity to earn more income today, and more consistent income over time, than you'd typically get from variable income investments. However, you will likely also experience greater price fluctuations as interest rates change. Specifically, as interest rates rise, the price of your existing bonds typically will fall.

- Rising income investments – When investing for income, you'll want to keep at least one eye on inflation because if the interest rates paid on your CDs and individual bonds are lower than the annual inflation rate, you may lose purchasing power. If this gap persists over time, it could grow into a real problem for you.

Consequently, you'll want at least some of your investment income to come from rising income investments, such as dividend-paying stocks. Of course, not all stocks pay dividends, but with the help of your financial advisor, you can find companies that have paid – and even increased – their dividends for many years running. And if you don't actually need the dividends to supplement your cash flow, you can reinvest them to build your ownership stake in these stocks.

Keep in mind, though, that companies can reduce or discontinue dividends at any time. Also, remember that stock prices will constantly rise and fall, so the value of your principal could decline.

As you can see, all three types of income-producing investments – variable, reliable and rising – offer some benefits, along with some risks of which you need to be aware. But putting together a mix of these investments that's appropriate for your individual needs, goals and risk tolerance may help you boost the productivity of the "income" portion of your portfolio – no matter what's happening with interest rates.

*Jennifer Basey is a financial advisor in Fort Myers. She can be reached at jennifer.basey@edwardjones.com.**

Airport Reports October Traffic

During the month of October, 484,768 passengers traveled through Southwest Florida International Airport, an increase of 3.3 percent compared to October 2011. Year-to-date, passenger traffic is down 3.9 percent from the same period last year.

The traffic leader in October was Delta with 123,633 passengers traveling to and from Fort Myers. Rounding out the top five airlines were AirTran (81,620), Southwest (66,506), JetBlue (51,635) and US Airways (49,251).

Southwest Florida International Airport

had 5,209 aircraft movements (takeoffs and landings), a decrease of 1.9 percent compared to October 2011. Page Field saw 6,113 movements, a 3.7 percent increase from October 2011. In addition, nearly 2.7 million pounds of air freight moved through Southwest Florida International Airport in October 2012, an increase of 7.8 percent compared to October 2011.

Southwest Florida International Airport served more than 7.5 million passengers in 2011 and is one of the top 50 U.S. airports for passenger traffic. No ad valorem (property) taxes are used for airport operation or construction.

For more information, visit www.flylcpa.com.*

VCB Hires New Communications Manager

The Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau (VCB) welcomes a new member to its staff: Francesca Donlan, communications manager.

Donlan will work with the communication department to promote The Beaches of Fort Myers & Sanibel as a visitor destination in various worldwide media outlets including print, broadcast, online and social networking platforms. She will also assist in establishing and maintaining contact with travel writers worldwide, along with coordinating media research visits in order to facilitate editorial coverage of the destination. The position also involves maintenance of various databases, collateral distribution, and collecting media clips.

As a journalist for *The News-Press* for almost 10 years, Donlan reported on many issues facing Southwest Florida. Her most popular feature was the weekly

Up Beat column, which focused exclusively on good news stories. In this position, she worked on a variety of tourism-related stories including coverage of area hotels and attractions.

Most recently, Donlan served as campus coordinator marketing and college relations for Edison State College. She worked in the marketing department writing press releases, newsletters, internal and external communications and updating social media.

Donlan is the recipient of a variety of awards including The Best of Gannett, Associated Press, Society of Professional Journalists and the American Associated Sunday and Features Editors.

She also holds a bachelor's degree from Rutgers University and a master's degree in journalism from the University of Missouri.*

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The River Weekly News
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Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Development	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days on Market
Water Shadows	Sanibel	1986	3,124	1,150,000	1,060,000	570
Shell Harbor	Sanibel	1986	2,109	1,199,999	1,045,000	116
Idlewilde	Bonita Springs	2000	3,036	985,000	965,000	320
Palm Acres	Fort Myers	1992	3,096	649,900	630,000	265
Siesta Isles	Fort Myers Beach	1971	2,721	539,000	539,000	32
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2003	2,446	584,900	525,000	399
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2012	2,456	515,000	503,000	80
The Plantation	Fort Myers	2006	2,164	449,900	425,000	211
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2003	2,169	385,000	370,000	28
Natoma Park	Fort Myers	2006	3,204	384,900	367,000	203

Courtesy of Royal Shell Real Estate



Camp counselor works with children



Children at a Rainbow Trails Camp

Grieving Children Find Comfort At Hope's Rainbow Trails Camp

Hope HealthCare Services recently hosted 60 children during its two-day Rainbow Trails Camp for grieving children.

The free program offers assistance to youngsters ages 6-16 coping with the loss of a loved one.

The camp helps provide an understanding of the grief process, skills to cope with grief and loss, and an opportunity to memorialize



and say goodbye to a loved one.

Led by Hope professionals, school counselors, teachers and volunteers who have completed a special Rainbow Trails education series, camp festivities included creative, stress-reducing activities including crafts, swimming and singing.

For more information about Rainbow Trails Camp, contact Kay Kelly at 855-454-3104 or visit www.hopehospice.org/rainbowtrailscamp.✽



A finished project



Santa with Natalie and Nicholas Gavini

Operation Santa Mail

Kids – get those letters to Santa in the mail! Operation Santa Mail 2012 is up and running and Santa has several benefactors lined up to “adopt” families who could use some help this holiday season.

It's hard for Santa to know which Letters To Santa are from children whose families are struggling, so if mom or dad could add a P.S. to Santa, that will help him a lot.✽

From page 5

Tax Collections

allowed us to be more efficient and to achieve a tremendous return on investment.”

Given its success, Pigott said the VCB will stay the course in the coming fiscal year, with some adjustments and refinements to its marketing programs. The organization has introduced a new logo and is rolling out its new “Find Your Island” print advertising campaign that encourages consumers to come back to themselves by escaping to a destination that surrounds them with what matters most in their lives.

Pigott said the VCB remains committed to serving the broader interests of Lee County's economy by acting as an industry leader to market the entire area globally, facilitate travel to the destination, and preserve and protect the area's unique attributes for the continual benefit of its residents and visitors.

Tourist tax revenue – also known as the bed tax – funds three countywide functions: destination marketing; beach and shoreline renourishment, maintenance and enhancement projects; and stadium debt service and major maintenance for Lee County's spring training facilities. The countywide tax is authorized by Florida Statute 125.0104 to increase tourist-related business activities in Lee County.✽



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Publix Food For Sharing Holiday Promotion

Publix Supermarkets in Lee, Collier and Charlotte counties are again offering their Food For Sharing promotion, with all food being donated to the Harry Chapin Food Bank. The promotion, currently under way, lasts until December 31.

The holiday drive provides a simple way for customers to participate. No bulky bags are assembled in the stores, loaded into carts, and heaped for food bank pick up. Instead, to participate, customers can simply add a donation at checkout and the food will be delivered in bulk to the food bank. The food will then be distributed to the 160 Harry Chapin Food Bank participating agencies at no cost.

Customers can choose one of three grocery bags; each bag has a different cost and contains different selected food items, which will feed a family of four.

- The gold level, priced at \$15.04, contains Plumrose Ham, Publix Long Grain Rice, Star Kist Chunk Light Tuna, Publix Fruit Cocktail, Publix Green Beans, Publix Grape Jelly and Publix Creamy Peanut Butter.

- The silver level, priced at \$9.62, contains Dinty Moore Beef Stew, Idahoan



A Publix display promoting the three levels of groceries contained in the Food For Sharing promotion being held until December 31. Customers purchasing one of three grocery bag options will receive a reusable shopping bag

Original Mashed Potatoes, Publix Long Grain Rice 1 lb., Publix Macaroni & Cheese, Quaker Quick Grits, and Publix Cut Green Beans.

- The bronze level, priced at \$4.79, contains Star Kist Chunk Light Tuna, Publix Macaroni & Cheese, Quaker Quick Grits, and Publix Green Beans.

For additional information about or to contribute financially to the Harry Chapin Food Bank, call 334-7007 or visit www.harrychapinfoodbank.org.

Holiday Stamps And Ornaments

The United States Post Office Department issued its first Christmas stamp in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1962. Customers had requested such a stamp for years; the stamp would be the first in a series of Christmas stamps. Stamps that conveyed a holiday spirit had proved popular during the holidays in previous years, such as the 1958 Forest Conservation stamp showing a deer in a clearing in the woods and the 1960 stamp showing a stylized green tree resembling a fir, commemorating the 5th World Forest Congress.

This year's holiday stamps feature a new, four-stamp Santa and Sleigh Forever stamps and the Holy Family Forever stamp. These new holiday stamps are in addition to existing Eid, Madonna of the Candelabra, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and Holiday Baubles stamps.

Santa and Sleigh

The Santa and Sleigh Forever stamp, priced at 45 cents, is available in four designs in a pressure-sensitive adhesive booklet of 20 stamps. The holiday stamps feature a "classic" image of Santa and his reindeer circling around snow-covered rooftops. The scene is composed of four different stamp designs in two rows of two stamps each. These stamps celebrate the "Letters To Santa" program, the USPS program which for the past century has helped make children's holiday wishes come true. This is the first

time there has been a continuous picture across four Christmas stamps. 750 million stamps have been printed.

The Holy Family

The Holy Family Forever commemorative stamp, also priced at 45 cents, is available in one design in a pressure-sensitive booklet of 20 stamps. The stamp celebrates Christmas with a scene from the Nativity story that reminds us of the joys of the season: family, togetherness and the birth of Jesus. The stamp depicts Joseph leading a donkey that carries Mary and the baby, Jesus, guided by a star shining in the twilight of a desert sky. Four hundred million stamps have been printed.

These stamps are all on sale nationwide.

USPS Holiday Ornaments

The U.S. Postal Service is offering two new collectible holiday ornaments in post offices and at www.usps.com/shop.

The "Letters To Santa" holiday ornament features a metal image of the 2012 Santa and Sleigh Forever stamps and sells for \$14.99. The "2012 White House" holiday ornament honors William Howard Taft, the nation's 27th President. The ornament depicts the president, who introduced the automobile to the White House in 1909 and his wife driving in the White Motor Company's Model M car to deliver Christmas presents. The ornament, with its highly polished brass a coating of nickel finished in 24k gold, sells for \$24.99.

The holiday stamps and ornaments are available for purchase from most local post offices.*

Free Autism Screening For Young Children

Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, in partnership with the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida, offers a free monthly autism spectrum disorder screening for toddlers 18 months to five years of age.

The next screening will be held on Friday, December 7 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Dunbar Jupiter Hammon Public Library, 3095 Blount Street in Fort Myers.

It is estimated that one in every 88 children is diagnosed with some form of Autism Spectrum Disorder, making it more common than childhood cancer, juvenile diabetes and pediatric AIDS combined.

Medical consultants for the project stress that an early diagnosis can make a vast difference for toddlers and their families. They say early intensive behavioral intervention can make an immense difference not just in the development of the child, but in their families as well.

The ASD screening is conducted by Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida. The screenings are administered by an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner, who has extensive training and experience in typical child development and developmental disorders. A physician referral is not required. To schedule a screening, call 343-6838.*

The Nutcracker: Redefined

Quality Life Center's winter performance is *The Nutcracker: Redefined*. It will take place on Thursday, December 20 at 6 p.m. courtesy of hosting sponsor, Alliance for the Arts.

From African dance to jazz styles of the 1920's, *The Nutcracker: Redefined* takes audience members on a magical journey of culture. An adaptation of the classic holiday tale, this show is guaranteed to keep your spirits high through various styles of the performing arts.

Tickets are \$15 each and seating is limited. To purchase tickets, contact Angela at 334-2797.

Quality Life Center is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization transforming the community by developing the potential of underserved populations in southwest Florida with after-school, family services and job development training. For more than 20 years, the "Q" has been instilling values of discipline, integrity and self-sufficiency.

To learn more about Quality Life Center or to sign up for the next tour date, call Keesha at 334-2797 or visit www.qualitylifecenter.org.

Film Exposing Gender Bias To Be Screened

Gender bias and violence against women in South Asia are the focus of a documentary to be screened on Friday, November 30 beginning at noon in Reed Hall, Room 249 at Florida Gulf Coast University. Admission is free.

Trapped: Stories From Puppets Of Patriarchy, produced and directed by Assistant Professor Nairuti Jani of FGCU's Division of Social Work, explores how male-dominated societies in India and other Asian countries leave many women powerless and vulnerable to prostitution, sex trafficking and HIV exposure. The film is based on 10 years of research experience exploring the plight of South Asian women, who often face gender bias from birth.

"In certain tribes in rural India, daughters are donated into prostitution even before they are born," said Jani, who was born and raised in India. "For some, it is the only means of income."

Nothing short of dramatic change in the fabric of patriarchal societies will help break the cycle of discrimination and degradation, she believes.

Trapped: Stories From Puppets Of Patriarchy is based on conversations with dozens of victims of gender bias as well as social workers who deal with the repercussions. Although shot in India, the film also exposes discrimination against women in nearby countries such as Nepal, Bangladesh, Myanmar (Burma) and Sri Lanka. Many women Jani interviewed were so traumatized and fearful from their experiences that they would not agree to go on camera. Jani relates their stories to illustrate and comment on the persistence of patriarchal power that keeps girls uneducated and women exploited.

"It's my personal journey in the research," Jani said. "This film is an inspiring resource for academic learning and human-rights advocacy."

Jani will lead a discussion of the 47-minute film after the screening at FGCU.

For more information, contact Jani at 590-7828 or njani@fgcu.edu.

Share your community news with us.
Call 415-7732, Fax: 415-7702
or email press@riverweekly.com

Dr. Dave

Olympicophile

by Dr. Dave Hepburn



Being an Olympicophile, my jingoistic pride rolls down my cheeks whenever a Nigerian/Jamaican/Torontonian wins us a medal in synchronized trampoline skeet shooting. I bring out all those great Canadian phrases "See you in the repechage" or "No, no. You go ahead, please."

But 'tis not only Canada I root for. Behind every great athlete is a great entourage of massage therapists, doctors, physios, steroid injectors and chiropractors. A single athlete may have such an entourage unto himself. In 1996, I had the thrill of attending the Summer Games in Atlanta as team doctor for the team from Vanuatu and I experienced the games from a much different –

yet refreshing – perspective.

Vanuatu, where I had lived in 1995, is a primitive South Pacific nation, deprived of red lights, yellow cabs and golden arches. Chances of ever hearing it's anthem "Yes We Have Bananas" at an Olympic Games are rare, unless freestyle coconut husking while imbibing kava, moves from demonstration sport to the real thing.

We were entitled to bring four athletes to Atlanta. We brought the four fastest runners on the beach. These Ni-Vanuatu athletes may as well have landed on the Sea of Tranquility as arrived in Atlanta. In a very real state of culture shock, they seldom ventured out of the residence we had been assigned to on the campus of Georgia Tech. They all caught colds and thought they were going to die. On occasion, I would coax them to go for a stroll. Once, we ventured into the Olympic Square where a host of activities were always in full swing. In one quiet corner of the square, a group of children were singing to a near empty audience. "Olympic" athletes were not found in such an area. My Ni-Vanuatu not only sat reverently, listened attentively and applauded fervently, but were genuinely touched to know that the "pikininis" would actually sing for them.

Mary Estelle was the fastest girl in Vanuatu (to be read aloud in melodramatic NBC (need Bob Costas) tones). Unlike Bob's athletes, she did not suffer from a rare genetic crumbling kidney bean disease nor was she the only survivor of eight sets of sextuplets her Pepsi-addicted mother bore. She did suffer, however, from the shock of not being entered into the event she had trained for, the 400m. Incredibly, she was accidentally entered into the 400m hurdles!

We raced down to the event registrar to try and rectify this massive error. Too late,

dearPharmacist

Strange Causes For Seizure Disorders

by Suzy Cohen, RPh



Dear Pharmacist:

My brother suddenly developed seizures, at age 28, with no history. I've searched your website archives but can't find columns on this. I'd like to learn why he suddenly got this,

since he was so healthy until then. Today, he's on six medications!

JP, Sacramento, California

I haven't covered this topic extensively because it's complex, and I fear that people will not consult their physicians like I tell them to. One wrong move on your part, and you could experience a grand mal. So with my strict warning to ask your doctor about what you learn today, I'll highlight some strange causes of epilepsy, since I specialize in "strange." I'll also archive a more comprehensive version of this article at my website. Now, the short story since I'm allowed 500 words here:

Low thyroid – The autoimmune form of hypothyroidism is called Hashimoto's disease, and one rare complication is encephalopathy. Stay with me here

because your health (and life) depends on it. If you don't know about Hashimoto's Encephalopathy, you are likely to get diagnosed with a seizure disorder, or a stroke. Medications that treat seizures do nothing for you here, and you could die if you're misdiagnosed. High doses of prescription steroids work for this strange condition.

Vitamin D deficiency – Seizures may be your first sign. Check serum levels of vitamin D annually and shoot for 70 and 90 ng/ml. The strange part is that the very medications used to treat epilepsy are drug muggers of the active form of vitamin D, called "calcitriol." So yes, your medications might be reducing the threshold for, and increasing the risk of seizures, over time, in susceptible individuals; blood tests are imperative. Am I saying discontinue your meds? Heavens no, but if you take an anticonvulsant (phenytoin, carbamazepine, phenobarbital), I suggest some vitamin D3 every morning.

Too much MSG – This food additive – used to enhance flavor – is also known as "monosodium glutamate" and it goes by many aliases, making it hard to spot on food labels, and even harder to avoid because it's in practically everything! MSG is termed an "excitotoxin" and may be associated with neuronal degeneration and epilepsy, especially when exposure occurs as a fetus or young child.

Lyme disease – Yes, tick-borne diseases ferociously attack the brain. Been camping lately? Have a pet? The Borrelia bacteria, or a co-infection "Bartonella"

continued on page 32

the 400m had already been run. Now, she had to jump over small fences as she ran her race.

Race day came. Mary lined up on the track beside and behind Sandra Farmer-Patrick, an American hurdler of no small repute, no small sponsorship and no small fingernails. The gun sounded and Mary took off. By 200m, she had made up the stagger on the American. 200m later, Mary crossed the finish line in sixth position, hardly a blip on the Olympic screen. Then suddenly a message flashed across the large board in Olympic stadium, NEW OCEANIC RECORD, MARY ESTELLE. Suddenly, Australian media crowded in surrounding Mary in the pits. It was only sixth place in a heat, but it was our gold medal!

A few days later, we sat as a team at the finish line when American sprinter Michael Johnson set a world record in the 200m. As he peeled off his gold track shoes and triumphantly tossed them into the adoring crowd, the Ni-Vanuatu athletes were aghast that a runner would throw away a perfectly good pair of shoes. They clucked and fussed and were fit to be tied at the wanton waste they witnessed. Shoes were a luxury in most of Vanuatu. I assured them that he likely had another pair or two at home.

Now that the Atlanta Games are 16 years past, few recall – or care – who won the heptathlon or the 175m backstroke, but I recall the thrill of experiencing the culture shock of those who come from a shocking culture themselves... and of a medal we never won. At this moment, much to my wife's chagrin, my living room is bedecked in Olympic regalia and memorabilia of Atlanta, a life-sized cutout of Brian Williams I stole (I think it just moved... whoops!). Three a.m. and I'm deep into my kava watching Greco-Roman wrestling or a ping pong repechage, screaming "C'mon Canada/Vanuatu. Don't trip!"

Like the column? You'll LOVE the book the Doctor is In(sane), available at Sanibel Island Bookshop. Contact Dr. Dave or read more at www.wisequacks.org.

** Dr. Dave is returning to Africa on safari in September 2013. If interested in going with him, call 888-432-8344 to find out more. ** ✨

Read us online at IslandSunNews.com

Mom And Me



by Lizzie and Pryce

Lizzie and Pryce answer your questions and give advice about aging concerns from a two-generational perspective. A mother and daughter team, Lizzie is a retired RN and health educator, and Pryce is a licensed psychotherapist in private practice who specializes in the care of elders and people with chronic illnesses.

Dear Mom & Me,

We are in the market for another house. The real estate broker took us to a house yesterday and we saw something we had never seen before. On the beautifully finished lower level, there was a very large private room, completely set up like a mini-supermarket. Shelf after shelf of food stuffs, canned goods, dried foods, candy, bathroom stationary, paper towels, cleaning supplies and boxes and boxes of the contents of we did not see. There certainly was enough food for a family of four to last at least two years and maybe more.

We are interested in this house and when we talked to the owner, he said his wife had grown up with parents who had suffered greatly during the great financial depression. They never wanted to be without food again, so they had always had food on reserve.

When we married 25 years ago, my wife just kept doing what was her family's tradition. What is this all about?

Nora

Dear Nora,

Some religions expect their following to have at least one year supply of food in their home for themselves and for sharing with other families in case of famine or drought.

Food used to be very expensive as a part of the total family income, but times have changed. In modern America, because of our advanced technology, food is cheap as compared to other countries. It is in abundance everywhere, and it is no longer necessary to hoard.

I think it is wonderful for good traditions to be passed along to generations, but in this case I question this tradition. Canned goods and dried foods do have a shelf life and unless they are constantly cycled, they could lose their taste and nutritional value. Personally, I prefer to let the grocery stores do the storing.

Lizzie

Dear Nora,

The "depression" left very deep impressions on many people. To a much smaller degree, my family has been through some terrible weather. There are things we store in the house just "in case" so we do not re-experience what we have experienced in the past.

I am sure if you look at your life, there are things you do now that you do based on not wanting to have a repeat of a very bad time. I am convinced people carry AAA insurance based on not wanting to repeat a bad experience, for example, being broken down on the side of the road without assistance. These folks could also be wise consumers and shop in bulk.

Pryce

Lizzie and Pryce's email address is momandmeaging@hotmail.com ✨



Shell Point Pavilion staff

Shell Point's Skilled Nursing Center Rated Five Stars By National Agency

The Larsen Pavilion at Shell Point Retirement Community has earned a Five Star Rating from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), the national agency responsible for overseeing the quality ratings of skilled nursing facilities that participate in Medicare or Medicaid.

The Five Star Quality Rating System is used by CMS as part of the agency's "Nursing Home Compare" public reporting site, which ranks each nursing home by a set of criteria. The primary goal in providing this rating system is to provide residents and their families with an easy to understand assessment of nursing home quality, making meaningful distinctions between high and low performing nursing homes.

The rating system features an overall five-star rating based on facility performance for four types of performance measures, each of which has its own associated five-star rating. These domains are: Federal Health Inspections, Staffing Levels, Quality Measures, and Overall Rating.

The Larsen Pavilion received a coveted five out of five star Overall Rating, as well as five out of five stars in the categories of Quality Measures and Staffing, placing it in the top 20 percent of the best nursing facilities in Florida.

"We're obviously very thrilled," said Director of Long Term Care and Larsen Pavilion Administrator Sherry Brown. "The Five Star Overall Rating is a major achievement and one that is not easy to obtain; we're overjoyed that the CMS has given us this recognition."

More than one year ago, Shell Point completed a seven-year, \$32.3 million major renovation of the Larsen Pavilion that included the addition of a free standing state-of-the-art rehabilitation center, hair salon, activity spaces, waterfront walkway and deck, chapel, dining room, and reading area, administrative building, and remodeling of each residential room and bathroom.

However, Brown insists that it isn't just the newly modernized building that achieves these high standards. "I am extremely proud of our staff as well for the special effort they make each day to care for our residents," said Brown. "Our goal is to provide an individualized person-centered approach to patient care. We really look at the specific needs of each resident to create as much of a homelike setting as possible."

Shell Point's president, Peter Dys, echoed Brown's comments, adding, "Whether we're welcoming people from outside or inside our community, it's our philosophy to operate as if we're going to be inspected every day."

Shell Point opened in 1968 and the Larsen Pavilion is at the very heart of the community. According to Dys, Shell Point's lifestyle with lifecare approach provides a beautiful resort-style setting for more than 2,300 active and independent senior adults, with the assurance of quality care should they ever need it.

"The Larsen Pavilion has always provided our residents with a very unique peace of mind, that if they need to stay here – whether it's for a week or two to recover from surgery, or a long-term stay, they know the quality of care offered is the best available," said Brown.

"More than 60 percent of the Larsen Pavilion admissions are individuals who experience successful recoveries and are able to return to their homes in a relatively short period of time," she said. "Our goal is to welcome people, get them healthy, and get them back to the best quality of life possible, which ultimately means the most independence possible."

As such, the Larsen Pavilion's on-site medical facilities, rehabilitation center, and physical therapy programs have proven to be great successes.

The Larsen Pavilion also provides superior memory care, for conditions such as Alzheimer's or stroke-related dementia.



Peter Dys, Steve Minniear and Sherry Brown

"We dedicate multiple resources to this group," said Brown, "including an entire floor of our facility, a specialized activities staff, and an on-staff behavioral health team." Dr. Chris Votolato, director of behavioral health, is a psychologist who specializes in memory care and cognitive disorders and supports the memory care program for the Shell Point campus.

The Larsen Pavilion is located in the Waterside Medical Complex on The Island at Shell Point and is comprised of four floors with 219 beds. In addition to the Pavilion, the Waterside Medical Complex includes the J. Howard Wood Medical Center with five on-staff physicians and 2 ARNPs, a full service pharmacy, lab and X-ray facilities and much more. Two full time providers, one physician and one ARNP are solely dedicated to the Larsen Pavilion.

The Larsen Pavilion welcomes individuals from anywhere in Southwest Florida and is Medicare-approved. For information about admissions in the Larsen Pavilion or for out-patient services through Shell Point's Rehabilitation Center, contact the admissions department at 415-5432 for more information.*

From page 31

Seizure Disorders

are capable of triggering seizures and inflammation in the brain sparking many emotional/mood changes. Antibacterials or antiparasitics fight off the seizure-producing organisms.

Lithium deficiency – People assume this just causes bipolar disorder, but it may cause seizures without any mood swings! Sometimes a gentle, over-the-counter lithium supplement helps (lithium orotate) and, if not, there are strong medications available.

L-Serine deficiency – Serine is an amino acid that makes up your cell wall, especially in the brain. Deficiencies are tied to cerebral palsy, seizures and muscle stiffness or weakness. Visit www.DearPharmacist.com for the more comprehensive version of my column.

*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.dearpharmacist.com.**



Officers of Child Care of SWF include, from left, John Miller, secretary; Dale Korzec, vice-chair; Jack Eisenga, treasurer; and Karen Miller, chair

Child Care Accomplishments Celebrated At Annual Meeting

Child care workers, board members and community supporters gathered at the Joseph H. Messina Children's Center on November 13 to celebrate a year of accomplishment and success for Child Care of Southwest Florida, Inc.

CEO Beth Lobdell thanked donors and supporters for helping to provide early childhood education at the non-profit agency's six child care centers in Lee and Hendry counties.

Children from the Joseph H. Messina Children's Center in Fort Myers sang and danced for the audience, while parent Julie Kurszewski described how the agency came to her rescue when she faced 16 surgeries for Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis and Osteoarthritis and had no one to care for 18-month-old daughter, Layla.

Through a scholarship offered by Child Care of Southwest Florida at the Joseph H. Messina Children's Center, she was able to start on her many surgeries, knowing that her daughter would be cared for during her recovery.

"Without your donations, I don't know where I would be right now," said Kurszewski. "I know for a fact I wouldn't have been able to get my hip and knee replacements and I'd still be in a lot of pain and possibly unable to walk."

Appreciation also was expressed to former board chair Dale Korzec and former vice chair Scott Robertson for their years of service to Child Care of Southwest Florida.

Officers to serve for the coming year are: Karen Miller of HSA Engineers & Scientists in Fort Myers, chairman; Dale Korzec of BB&T Bank, vice chairman; John Miller of Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt, secretary; and Jack Eisenga, controller of HealthPark Florida in Fort



Julie Kurszewski of Cape Coral and her daughter, Layla



Outgoing Board Chair Dale Korzec of BB&T (Lehigh) receives special thanks from board chair Karen Miller of HSA Engineers & Scientists



Children of the Joseph H. Messina Children's Center entertain guests at the Child Care of SWF annual meeting

Myers, treasurer.

During 2011-12, Child Care of Southwest Florida, Inc.:

- Served 500 children in child care early learning centers;
- Operated six child care early learning centers, all of which are accredited by the National Accrediting Council;
- Conducted training for 1,200 early childhood teachers;
- Employed 105 people;
- Administered the federal food program in 160 child care homes and 92 child care early learning centers in 14 counties from Indian River on Florida's east coast to Collier County on the west coast.

Child Care of Southwest Florida, Inc., is a private non-profit organization that provides high quality child care for children from infancy through age eight at its six centers throughout Lee and Hendry counties.

In addition, the agency provides training for early childhood educators and administers the federal food program for child care early learning centers and family child care homes.

For more information, call 278-1002 in Fort Myers or visit www.ccsfwf.org.



Cynthia Duff-Detrick of Copy Lady and Marshall Howard



Scott Robertson of Scott Robertson Auctioneers, Child Care of Southwest Florida Executive Director Beth Lobdell, and John Miller of Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt, P.A.



Karen Miller of HSA Engineers & Scientists, Ken Buschle of Gora McGahey Architects, and Shernetta Atkinson of BB&T Oswald Tripppe

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BÖLTINOFF



FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS.

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PUZZLE ANSWERS

SUDOKU

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

SCRAMBLERS

solution

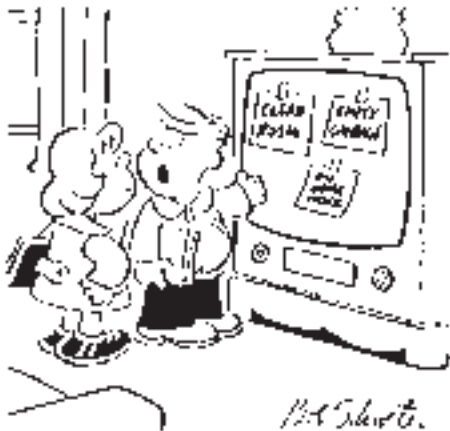
1. Secure;
2. Praise;
3. Amaze;
4. Catch

Today's Words:

SMART

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!



M. Schwartz

"Working mothers are _____.
You notice how Mom never makes the mistake of using the bulletin board."

Fasten
RESCUE

Cheer
ASPIRE

Shock
ZEAMA

Grab
CHACT

TODAY'S WORD

answer on page35

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*RS 10/14 CC TFN

ATRIUM CONDO RENTAL

2 bedroom/2 bath updated condo. Gulf Front, pool & tennis. Call on this rare offering Rentals Bi-weekly, monthly or Seasonal 239-633-9396 or DSears2007@aol.com
*RS 10/19 CC 12/7

VACATION RENTAL

FOR RENT

"FRITZ CARLTON" Steps from West Gulf Beach Access. 3BR, 3BA w/den, enclosed pool. Beautiful lake view! Non smoking, dog friendly. Monthly Minimum Seasonal Rental. 239-209-6500.
*RS 11/30 CC 11/30

ANNUAL RENTAL

ANNUAL RENTALS SANIBEL

CONDOMINIUMS

★Across from Beach, 2/2 F. Pool/tennis @ \$1,400/mo
★Gulf Front, 2/2+den, designer furnished Pool, tennis, Beach \$4,000/mo.
472-6747
Gulf Beach Properties, Inc.
Paul H. Zimmerman, Broker/Owner Serving The Islands Rental Needs Since 1975
*RS 11/30 BM TFN

RE/MAX OF THE ISLANDS

Putting owners and tenants together Call Dustyn Corace www.remax-of-theislands.com 239-472-2311
*RS 3/30 BM TFN

FOR RENT

1BR/1BA Fully Furnished, Updated. \$950/mo. 239-395-1742 703-914-9532.
*NS 10/26 CC TFN

ANNUAL RENTAL

2/2 UF condo with den. On canal, East End of Sanibel. W/D, boat dock, deeded beach access, covered parking. \$1,500/month. Sorry, no pets. Call 239-728-1920.
*RS 11/23 CC TFN

APARTMENT FOR RENT

Apartment for Rent Palm Ridge Road, Sanibel FL. One bedroom \$750 /month Newly renovated. No pets. Call 239-472-6543
*NS 11/16 CC TFN

FOR RENT

Home to Share. Large outside deck, carport, laundry room. Furnished \$500. + utilities, female. N/P, N/S. Call 239-699-5320
*NS 11/23 CC TFN

ANNUAL RENTAL

ANNUAL RENTAL

Apartment for lease on Sanibel, Mid Island, Furnished, 1B/1B \$895. per month. Call 734-761-7600 ext. 231.
*NS 11/23 CC TFN

ROOMMATE WANTED

Roommate to share beautiful home in the Dunes. Annual or Seasonal. \$700 plus half utilities. 239-321-1084.
*NS 11/30 CC TFN

FOR SALE

HUGE ESTATE/JEWELRY SALE

Largest collection of silver jewelry in SWFL! Art and jewelry consignments needed now. **NEW THIS WEEK** Original & Print Art by Rauschenburg Kettleborough Ikki Remington Buelle Whitehead wicker furniture & bedroom sets comforters golf clubs wine glasses Sanibel seashells baskets old lighters eye glasses eggs ashtrays boxes Come by daily and see The Silverneer & Silver Queen only at Sanibel Consignments 2431 Periwinkle Way 472-5222, www.sanibelauction.com
*RS 11/16 CC TFN

WANTED TO BUY

CASH PAID FOR MILITARY ITEMS

Cash Paid For Old Military Items. Medals, Swords, Uniforms, helmets, old guns, awards & more. Local Toll Free 1-866-440-3280
*RS 11/23 CC 1/11

CAR FOR SALE

1991 CORVETTE CONVERTIBLE

69,000 miles. Good condition, New Tires. \$6,500. or best offer. Call Ken at 239-472-3757.
*NS 11/2 CC TFN

TAXES & FINANCE

TAX THE RICH

End of the Year is Approaching!

Sec. 179 IRS. \$10,000 Tax deduction Deadline 12/31/2012

Buy valuable income producing assets \$9,750 minimum

2012 Tax Deductions

Rail Freight Deduct up to \$139,000

Energy Deduction up to \$250,000

High Income

800-588-4143

americansynergycapital.com
*RS 11/30 CC 11/30

BOATS - CANOES - KAYAKS

DOCKAGE

Hourly, Daily, Weekly and Monthly. Captiva Island 472-5800
*RS 1/30 NC TFN



GARAGE • MOVING • YARD SALES

GARAGE SALE

Saturday Dec 1. 8AM- Noon. Multiple family garage sale: toys, bikes, clothes, furniture, clothing, bags, shoes, treadmill. 600 E Rocks Drive.
*NS 11/30 CC 11/30

BIG GARAGE SALE

Jet Ski, Scuba Gear, Baby Items, Household Items, Sports Equipment, Pictures, etc. Saturday & Sunday December 1 & 2. 1290 Sand Castle Road, Sanibel.
*NS 11/30 CC 11/30

Kawai Grand Piano

Model KG2 PE

Serial #: 1916294

Production Year: 1989

Length: 5'10"

Finish: Gloss Ebony

Bench: Included

Interested parties please contact Bruce at

239.472.5555

Also for sale: Home Decor Items Art, Sculpture, Furniture



★ ★ ★ Read us online at islandnews.com ★ ★ ★

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

SUDOKU

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

answer on page 35

Pets Of The Week

Hello, my name is Fred and I am a 5-month-old male brown and white Florida Curr. I'm an adorable pup with a spunky little personality to match. In fact, I'm everything you'd expect a little puppy to be... so don't delay! Come meet me at the shelter and I could be home with you before the holidays!

My adoption fee is \$48 (regularly \$75) during Animal Services Home 4 The Holidays Adoption Promo.

My name is Olga and I am a 3-year-old spayed female black tabby and white domestic short hair. I came to Animal Services' Shelter with my litter of kittens back in July. We spent a couple of months in foster care until my kittens were old enough for adoption. They have all found homes and I'm hoping it will be my turn soon. I'm a bit shy and quiet but love to be lavished with attention. Please take the time to get to know me and I promise you'll see what a loving companion I can be.

My adoption fee is \$10 (regularly \$50) during Animal Services Home 4 The Holidays Adoption Promo.

For information about this week's pets, call 533-7387 (LEE-PETS) or log on to Animal Services' website at www.LeeLostPets.com. When calling, refer to the animal's ID number. The website updates every hour, so you will be able to see if these or any other pets are still available.

The shelter is open for adoptions from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The shelter is located at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers, next to the Lee County Sheriff's Office off Six Mile Cypress Parkway.

All adoptions include spay/neuter surgery, age-appropriate vaccinations, rabies vaccination and county license if three months or older, flea treatment, worming, heartworm test for dogs six months and over, feline AIDS and leukemia test for cats, training DVD, 10-day health guarantee, and a bag of Science Diet pet food.

The adoption package is valued at \$500.✪



Fred ID# 550001

photos by squaredogphoto.com



Olga ID# 543708



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
Ft. 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
Art of the Olympians Museum & Gallery.....	332-5055
Arts For ACT Gallery & Studio.....	337-5050
Art League Of Fort Myers.....	275-3970
Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall.....	481-4849
BIG ARTS.....	395-0900
Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre.....	278-4422
Cultural Park Theatre.....	772-5862
Edison Festival of Light.....	334-2999
Florida Repertory Theatre at the Arcade.....	332-4488
Florida West Arts.....	948-4427
Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers.....	472-0168
Gulf Coast Symphony.....	489-1800
Harmony Chorus, Charles Sutter, Pres.....	481-8059
Naples Philharmonic.....	239-597-1111
The Schoolhouse Theater.....	472-6862
S.W. Florida Symphony.....	418-0996
Theatre Conspiracy.....	936-3239
Young Artists Awards.....	574-9321
CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS	
Angel Flight.....	1-877-4AN-ANGEL
Animal Refuge Center.....	731-3535
American Business Women Association.....	357-6755
Audubon of SWFL.....	339-8046
Audubon Society.....	472-3156
Caloosahatchee Chapter DAR.....	482-1366
Caloosahatchee Folk Society.....	321-4620
Cape Chorale Barbershop Chorus.....	1-855-425-3631
Cape Coral Stamp Club.....	542-9153
duPont Company Retirees.....	454-1083
Edison Porcelain Artists.....	415-2484
Ft Myers UDC Chapter 2614.....	
(United Daughters of the Confederacy®).....	728-3743
Friendship Force Of SW FL.....	561-9164
The Horticulture and Tea Society.....	472-8334
Horticultural Society.....	472-6940
Lee County Genealogical Society.....	549-9625
Lee Trust for Historic Preservation.....	939-7278
NARFE(National Active & Retired Federal Employees.....	482-6713
Navy Seabees Veterans of America.....	731-1901
Paradise Iowa Club of SWFL.....	667-1354
Sons of Confederate Veterans.....	332-2408
Southwest Florida Fencing Academy.....	939-1338
Southwest Florida Music Association.....	561-2118
Kiwanis Clubs:	
Fort Myers Beach.....	765-4254 or 454-8090
Fort Myers Edison.....	694-1056
Fort Myers South.....	691-1405
Gateway to the Islands.....	415-3100
Iona-McGregor.....	482-0869
Lions Clubs:	
Fort Myers Beach.....	463-9738
Fort Myers High Noon.....	466-4228
Estero/South Fort Myers.....	898-1921
Notre Dame Club of Lee County.....	768-0417
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 Shell Museum.....	395-2233
Burrough's Home.....	337-9505
Calusa Nature Center & Planetarium.....	275-3435
Edison & Ford Winter Estates.....	334-3614
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
Ostego Bay Foundation Marine Science Center.....	765-8101
Skatium.....	321-7510
Southwest Florida Museum of History.....	321-7430
True Tours.....	945-0405

If you would like your club/organization listed in The River Calling Card, phone 415-7732



JOHN NAUMANN & ASSOCIATES

island real estate

John Naumann & Associates is pleased to act as a drop off location for St. Isabel's Toy Collection. We will be collecting unwrapped toys for ages 5-12. Please drop off your donations at any of our office locations and thank you for your generosity!

Serving the Islands Since 1975

NEW LISTING: ONE OF THE BEST LOCATIONS IN PALMETTO POINT

This home is in excellent condition with great curb appeal. Pool overlooks canal with a 90 foot One of the best locations in Palmetto Point. This home is in excellent condition with great curb appeal. Pool overlooks canal with a 90 foot concrete dock across from the Preserve. 3 large bedrooms all with full baths. Formal living and dining. Very private setting. Concrete dock across from the Preserve. 3 large bedrooms all with full baths. Formal living and dining. Very private setting. **Offered for \$799,000 Contact Ralph Galetti 239/826-5897 or Cathy Galietti 239/826-5807**



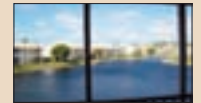
NEAR BEACH

3 Bedroom, 3 Bath home across the street from the beach located in Palm Lake Subdivision off of prestigious West Gulf Drive. This home has an open floor plan, wood burning fireplace, 2 car garage, extra Murphy beds, screened sundeck and a separate attached pod that can be used as a private office or a private guest bedroom with full bath. **Offered for \$529,000 Contact Connie Walters "Ms. Listr" 239/841-4540 or Tracy Walters "Mr. Listr" 239/994-7975**



SHORT SALE

Enjoy beautiful lake views from this 3 bedroom 2 bath coach home. 3rd bedroom has an open loft feel with pocket sliders and closet, ideal room for a den as well. This bright and open space with vaulted ceilings is the perfect full time residence or winter retreat. Spacious lanai with built in cabinets and outdoor grill. Separated laundry room and a large 2 car garage attached to your unit. Many amenities to include a beautiful clubhouse, pool and tennis courts. Offered for \$166,900. **Contact Connie Walters "Ms. Listr" 239/841-4540 or Tracy Walters "Mr. Listr" 239/994-7975**



NEW LISTING: ST CHARLES HARBOUR YACHT & RACQUET CLUB -15721 CHATFIELD

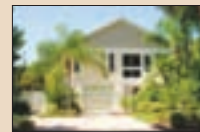
One of the best locations in Fort Myers for the serious boater. This former model home offers over 6400 sq ft of living area on the upper two levels while the lower level has an additional 1887 SF under air, 3 car garage plus additional storage. This must see home includes elevator, formal living and dining rooms, executive office, gourmet kitchen open to family room, butler's pantry, and beautiful heated pool. Top level is the master retreat that includes a large bedroom, wet bar, spacious walk in closets, exercise room, storage/gift wrapping room, a steam room, and an observation deck. Keep your boat at the central marina that is only steps away. St. Charles offers 24 hour guarded/gated security, full-time dock master, club house, restaurant, and tennis. Moments to Sanibel and FM Beach. **Offered for \$1,195,000. Contact Nancy Fincy 239/822-7825.**



OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY 12-3

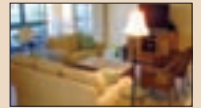
TRADEWINDS

Wonderful 3 Bedroom 3 Bath Tradewinds Near Beach Home. Privacy is enhanced by white fenced yard, caged topaz pool and lush green tropical landscaping. Step inside and instantly you will see this property was designed with that calming easy-living island atmosphere in mind. Cozy but still spacious so your family can enjoy that relaxed beach home feeling. Tradewinds owners also benefit from an exclusive Beach Access with plenty of parking so you, your family and friends can enjoy the warm sun soaked sands and breathtaking Sanibel Sunsets. Peaceful surroundings, stellar sunsets, restful beaches, relaxed outdoors, easy maintenance. This home will make sure everyday feels like a day at the beach. **Offered for \$595,000. Contact George Kohlbrenner 239/565-8805**



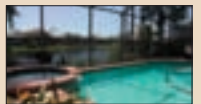
GULF HARBOUR

One of the very best locations in Mariposa with panoramic golf course and lake views and the community pool with picnic area and facilities conveniently located across the street. Easy access ground level with 3B/2BA, beautiful great room and adjacent oversized fully enclosed L shaped porch, laundry room, pantry and 2 car garage. This home comes with a sport membership offering all the incredible facilities that Gulf Harbour has to offer. **Offered for \$329,500. Contact Loretta Geiger 239/980-2298 or George Kohlbrenner 239/565-8805**



CROWN COLONY

This 2 level Kingfisher has been modified from 4 bedrooms to 2 master suites and a guest room. Upstairs master can be reconfigured to 2 bedroom layout. Pool and spa overlook lake with Southern exposure. This home is totally complete. Beautifully finished and furnished. Furniture is included (with few personal exceptions) and golf membership transfer is included but not required. There are too many details & extras to list, so call to see it soon! **Offered for \$414,900. Contact Larry Hahn 239/898-8789**



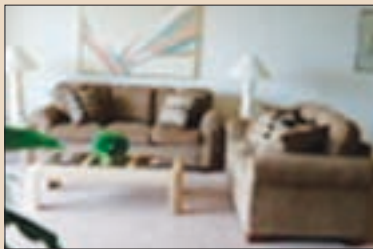
SANCTUARY VILLA

Spectacular 3 bedroom 3 1/2 bath furnished Villa Home in great location with lovely views of lake and 18th fairway of Sanctuary Golf Club. Courtyard entrance with separate mother-in-law suite. Dramatic great room featuring 15 ft. tray ceilings, crown molding, gas fireplace, & 8 ft. doors leading to brick terrace & pool area. Custom kitchen with granite island, 2 pantries, built in desk. Master suite features 11 ft. tray ceilings with crown molding, fire place, and oversized walk-in closet & luxurious marble master bath. 3rd bedroom is furnished as library. Offering carefree living with yard & pool maintained by association. Just steps to the clubhouse and tennis / fitness facility. **Offered for 995,000. Contact Toby Tolp 239/848-0433, Steve Harrell 239/565-1277 or Kasey Harrell 239/850-7602**



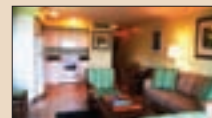
NEW LISTING: HISTORIC PUNTA RASSA

Priced to impress and looks great too! This immaculate condo features new neutral carpeting and new living room furniture, all new appliances, water heater, updated kitchen, wind rated hurricane windows. Inescapable beautiful describes the view from this wonderfully positioned home. Carefree enjoyment of the good life with magnificent sunset views with Sanibel Island in the distance. Social membership to the Sanibel Harbours Yacht Club and in addition, Punta Rassa residents have a special arrangement with the Sanibel Harbour Marriott to use their facilities. **Offered for \$269,900. Contact Marianne Stewart 239/560-6420**



SOUTH SEAS BAYSIDE VILLAS

For the early risers...enjoy the sunrise across the Sound. This end location offers additional side windows for the panoramic view. For the boaters...relax and enjoy the sailboats or other types pass by. For the naturalist...enjoy the enormous types of birds scoop up their last feeding. For the fisherman...abundance of fish with dolphin and manatee sightings! This 1 Bedroom, 2 Bath villa recently renovated with new living room furnishings, flat panel TVs, freshly painted and more. South Seas Island Resort "offers a quiet refuge with secluded luxury, exclusive amenities, and abundant nature." **Offered for \$339,500. Contact LeAne Taylor Suarez 239/872-1632**



JONATHAN HARBOUR BAY FRONT BUILDING SITE

17059 Marina Cove Lane. This lot has a great dock system with a lift and deep water, electric and water on dock. 140 feet of water frontage and only 10 minutes by water to the Gulf. Private gated community with pool, tennis, and clubhouse. Custom blueprints available for a home if purchaser is interested. **Offered for \$625,000 Contact Ralph or Cathy Galietti 239/826-5897 or 239/828-5807.**



SUNDIAL SPECIAL

Direct Gulf Front. Beautiful condominium at Sanibel Island's only resort. Two bedrooms, 2 baths and fully furnished with everything you need for a fabulous vacation residence. Currently doing extremely well in Sundial's on-site rental program. Sparkling second floor gulf views from the family room, kitchen and master bedroom with sliding glass doors to the screened in lanai. Has updated kitchen and baths and is the least expensive direct gulf residence in Sundial Resort. Enjoy glowing sunsets, walks on the beach or a dip in the pool just steps from your home. Don't miss out on this opportunity! **Offered for \$784,500 Contact Kelly Palmer Clark 239-634-7629**

