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THE RIVER WEEKLY NEWS

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VOL. 10, No. 48

From the Beaches to the River District downtown Fort Myers

DECEMBER 9, 2011



Shell Point Model Train Room

Model Train Room Attraction Open For Visitors

The Gulf Coast Model Railroad at Shell Point Retirement Community is now open for tours. Last year thousands of visitors toured the train room, and this year many new upgrades have been added.

Visitors from all over the Southwest Florida area are welcome to stop by and see this 40' x 40' model train display in the shape of the state of Florida. Some of its features include hundreds of recognizable geographic landmarks such as Tallahassee's old Capitol
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Lee County Black History Society Presents Holiday In The Park

The Lee County Black History Society will host a kick-off of Holiday in the Park on December 10 at 12 p.m. in Clemente Park. This is a fund raising event to benefit the Williams Academy Museum.

The kick off will include:

- Holiday Entertainment
- The Inaugural Williams Academy Rock-A-Thon Fundraiser
- Unveiling of A 1926 Christmas with Dr. Ella Piper Holiday House and Exhibit in the Williams Academy Museum

In 1915 Mrs. Sarah Williams, the mother of Dr. Ella Piper, hosted the first Christmas Toy Give Away drive for children in the Safety Hill (later known as Dunbar) community of Fort Myers. Mrs. Williams continued her initiative until her death in 1926. Her daughter, Dr. Ella Piper, took the reins of the Christmas toy giveaway initiative after her mother's death in 1926. The year 2011 marks the 96th consecutive year of the initiative.

The Lee County Black History Society will pay homage to the initiative, as well as the legacy of Dr. Piper's tireless altruistic drive to provide a sense of holiday spirit for children in the Dunbar community.

The society will turn back the hands of time, and convert the classroom space in the museum into a 1926-era parlor/living room during Christmas time.

"This event will really bring the spirit of Christmas to the park," said Harriet

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Dr. Ella Piper

Crumpet The Elf Is Back

by Di Saggau

For the third year, due to popular demand, Florida Repertory Studio Theatre is bringing back *Santaland Diaries*. The show is written by one of America's top humorists, David Sedaris, and it recounts his experiences working as an elf in Macy's Santaland. The bottom line is, "It's not easy being an elf."

Jason Parrish will again play the role of Crumpet, who is actually David Sedaris.

I spoke to him recently about the show and its continuing popularity. He said, "The show is expertly written and is sort of an antidote to the sweet saccharine Christmas shows we see so much. It appeals to people, like myself, who have a wicked sense of humor, who don't necessarily want to see something sweet at Christmas.

"It's more of a sour offering and allows people to laugh at themselves. This play holds up a mirror to the crazy things that

we all do in the name of holiday cheer."

Parrish has done over 60 performances so far and will do 30 more this year. He said the audience is important in keeping the material fresh.

"The audience is never the same. I talk to people directly in the front row. It's like they've been invited over for an evening. The audience is what I use to keep it fresh. The audience is my theme partner, the second character in the play. If it's a rowdy audience, which I love, then it's more fun to play with them."

Satire is what the show is all about. Parrish said, "Sedaris sees the crazy things that people do and rather than accepting them he writes them down and says, can you believe this? When he read the Macy's ad about being an elf, he didn't say are they kidding me with this ad copy, he took the job on a dare." From this experience he wrote *Santaland Diaries*, which has been delighting audiences around the country.

There is no improvisation in the show. Parrish said, "We stick to the script and tell the story that David Sedaris wrote for us. The performance adapts to each dif-

ferent audience. Last year I had a group of women who had been drinking and were definitely having a good time.

Because they were so rowdy and loving the show, it made for a much different and more enjoyable experience than the matinee earlier in the day. They were having a ball and the rest of the audience responded as well."

Having seen the show twice I can attest to Parrish's performance. He makes the most of the sharp material, not only with his expert delivery, but also with his gestures, expressions and body language. He also makes good use of the ingenious and colorful props.

If you are seeking something other than sweetness and sentiment, *Santaland Diaries* is the perfect show with its tart and caustic perspective on Christmas madness.

The show contains adult language and is not appropriate for children.

It runs December 14 through 31.

Florida Repertory Theatre, is located in the historic Arcade Theatre on Bay Street, between Jackson and Hendry streets. The Florida Rep Studio Theatre is just down the hall. For tickets call 332-4488.✪



Jason Parrish as Crumpet the Elf

Historic Downtown Fort Myers, Then And Now

Private Rabe O. Wilkison, World War I Hero

by Gerri Reaves



Not long before he went to war, Rabe Overstreet Wilkison visited the Rembrandt Studio in downtown Fort Myers and posed for this postcard photo taken. He had been notified that he was classified A-1 for immediate military service, so on June 26, 1918, the 22-year-old reported to the Lee County Draft Board in Fort Myers. Three months later, he would be dead. At the time of his enlistment, he reportedly said to Judge Nathan Stout: "I don't want to get into this thing, but now that I am to go I intend to give the Germans all that there is in me." Born in Immokalee, the young man was known for his courage

and friendly disposition.

He was sent to Camp Jackson, South Carolina and given dog tag number 3,281,988. First assigned to 156th depot brigade, he was later transferred to Company A, 324th Infantry.

On August 5, he departed for Europe, one of almost two million American doughboys sent to France. That was a month of fierce fighting on the front.

The new enlistee volunteered for a mission so hazardous that no one was compelled to take it. His captain told the men, "The chances are a hundred to one that you will not live to tell the story." They were told to consider their decision carefully and give an answer at morning roll call.

Wilkison made an immediate decision to accept the dangerous service. A fellow soldier tried to talk him out of it, but the next day he was transferred to the 167th Infantry.

Private Wilkison died in the battle at St. Mihiel on September 16, 1918, less than two months before Armistice Day.

He is buried in the St. Mihiel American Cemetery, Thiécourt-Meurthe-et-Moselle, France.

In 1963, he was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart and his brother, Franklin Wilkison, received it.

American Legion Post 38 in downtown Fort Myers is named for him.



Rabe O. Wilkison enlisted for military service in Fort Myers and died three months later in France during World War I

courtesy of the Southwest Florida Historical Society, American Legion Post 38 Collection



This memorial on the grounds of the Lee County Courthouse was dedicated on Veterans Day 1967 "in remembrance of those who gave their lives and as a tribute in honor of those from Lee County who served in the armed forces of the United States of America." Two names, Curtis P. Skelton and Rabe O. Wilkison, are listed for World War I.

photo by Gerri Reaves

See the memorial honoring Wilkison's sacrifice at the Lee County Courthouse. Read the many names of Lee Countians who died in wars far from home and contemplate the profound cost of conflict.

Then take a short walk to the Southwest Florida Museum of History at 2031 Jackson Street to see the World War I exhibits.

Don't forget to ask about the schedule of exciting Escorted Day Trips and see the exhibit, Learning from Modernism: A Celebration of Mid-Century Design, co-hosted by the American Institute of Architects, FLASW.

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

Continue your adventure with a visit to one of the area's best historical research centers, the Southwest Florida Historical Society at 10091 McGregor Boulevard, located

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Carole Green To Be Honored At GOP Luncheon

Carole Green, a past state legislator and current lobbyist, has been named to receive the annual GEM Award by the Fort Myers Republican Women's Club during the Tuesday, December 13 luncheon meeting. The GEM Award represents individuals who have shown Good leadership, Effort in establishing programs and policies, and being a Major contributor to the community through time and effort.

Green served four years on the Lee Memorial Hospital Board, beginning in 1994. She then served six years as District 75 Representative in the Florida House. Governor Jeb Bush then appointed her to serve on his Cabinet as the Secretary of the Department of Elder Affairs. During that time, she was also appointed by President George W. Bush to serve on his White House Council on Aging.

In 2006, she co-founded Capitol Strategies Consulting, a full-service lobbying and government consulting firm based in Tallahassee. During her public service years, she has received numerous awards and recognitions, including being named the seventh most effective legislator and the number one most effective female legislator by the *Miami Herald*. She was also the first woman from Lee County elected to the Florida Legislature.

Established six years ago, recipients of

the GEM Award have been Steve Russell, Sharon Harrington, Mike Scott, John Wiest and Elinor Scricca.

The public is invited to attend the luncheon and the program being held at The Helm Club, The Landings, South Fort Myers. A social hour begins at 11:15 a.m. The noon lunch, business meeting and program follow. The luncheon cost is \$16 per person. Reservations are required by Thursday, December 8, and may be made by contacting Tina Laurie at 489-4701.

The Fort Myers Republican Women's Club is affiliated with the Florida Federation of Republican Women and the National Federation of Republican Women. Additional information about the club may be obtained by contacting the president, Marilyn Stout, at 549-5629.✪

Lee Republican Women Federated

The December dinner meeting of Lee Republican Women Federated will take place on Monday, December 12. Social hour begins at 5:15 p.m. with dinner and program to follow. The meeting will be at the Hilton Garden Inn-Fort Myers, 12601 University Drive; price is \$20 all inclusive

For reservations, call 432-9389 or email cindylignelli222@gmail.com

The speaker will be Victor Dotres, candidate for Florida House of Representatives. Installation of 2012 officers will also take place.✪

Speed Limit Changes In City of Fort Myers

Effective Monday, December 5, 2011, city-wide speed limits on all local streets (unless otherwise posted) changes from 30 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour. Speed limit signs will be installed on all other roads where ordinance does not apply. A "25 Miles Per Hour Speed Limit On All Local Roads Unless Otherwise Posted" sign will be installed below all city limit signs at each city entry.

Speed limits improve safety by reducing the probability and severity of crashes. speed limit signs notify drivers of the maximum speed that is considered safe for favorable weather and visibility.

For questions concerning speed limit changes, please contact the City of Fort Myers Engineering Department at (239) 321-7445.✪

From page 1

Train Room Open

Building, Pensacola freight yards, the Gainesville Gator Bowl, Epcot and Disney World, Kennedy Space Center with an orbiting space shuttle, Miami's famous hotels, the Everglades and even Shell Point Retirement Community. The "Train Room," as it is called by the Shell Point residents, is located on The Island at Shell Point.

Some of the recent renovations include detailing and upgrades in the scenery, and a city street was added that allows the trains to run down the center of the road; it is completely hand-painted. The annual maintenance was done to make sure the miniature railroad stays in the most efficient operational condition. In addition to the features already mentioned, the display has several hundred buildings, automobiles, trucks, tractors, and people. Originally built in 1971 by a group of residents who enjoyed model railroads as a hobby, the Gulf Coast Model Railroad is operated and maintained by Shell Point resident volunteers. Up to nine trains run around the nearly 1,000 feet of track, and on about 100 turnouts, or switches. The switches and trains are motivated electronically from four console panels, and the self-operated children's layout features Thomas the Tank engine.

Visitors can stop by to see the Gulf Coast Model Railroad for free on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Special group tours larger than 10 people can be scheduled by calling 454-2152.✪



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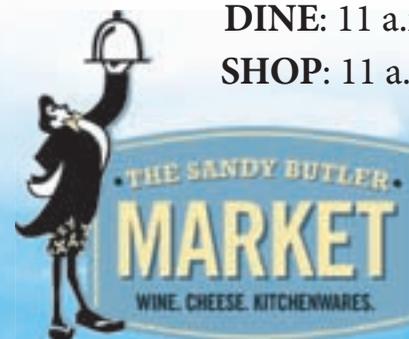
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HolidayLand Family Fun At The Imaginarium

Calling all families and holiday lovers of all ages!

Come to the HolidayLand Family Fun Event with Santa & Winter Holiday Activities at the Imaginarium Science Center.

This event will be held on Saturday, December 10 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with Special Activities held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Santa's first stop is HolidayLand at the Imaginarium. On Saturday, December 10, the Imaginarium offers festive family

fun with holiday flair, decorated for the season with twinkling lights. HolidayLand is guaranteed to be fun for all. The young and young-at-heart will enjoy visiting with Santa for photos, festive face painting, creating shrink-magic ornaments, and other activities exploring winter holidays around the world.

Don't miss the special Science of the Circus Show with Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. and Animal Encounters throughout the day.

11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Science of the Circus Show

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Meet Santa

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Festive Face Painting

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Visit Santa's Secret Workshop & Make A Gift



Santa

- Mail Santa a letter using our North Pole Express

- Create unique multicultural holiday projects and keepsakes

- Holiday Shrink-Magic Ornaments

- Winter Weather Polymer Snow

- Candy Cane Reindeer

- Stocking Stuffer Slime

During HolidayLand, start your holiday shopping with a 20 percent discount off unique items and merchandise in the Imaginarium Science & Discovery Store. The Imaginarium also offers gift certificates for admissions, and Museum memberships are a gift that will keep on giving all year long!

Museum admission is \$8 for students, \$10 for seniors (age 55 & up) and \$12 for adults, but, as our gift to you, enjoy one free child admission with each paid adult admission only during HolidayLand.



Elves

Museum members and children under the age of 3 are always admitted at no charge. The Imaginarium is located in historic Downtown Fort Myers at Cranford Avenue and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd and is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Mondays through Saturdays, and noon to 5 p.m. on Sundays.

For more information, call 239-321-7420 or visit online at www.imaginarium-fortmyers.com and 'Like' us on Facebook to stay up-to-date on all special exhibits, events and happenings.*

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SFCA Participates In New Guinness Record

Southwest Florida Christian Academy's (SFCA) grades kindergarten through five and one sixth-grade physical education class added 234 stackers to a world-wide effort to set a new Guinness World record for stacking. There were 26 countries, including all 50 states in the U.S., working to surpass the previous record of 316,736. The new Guinness world record is 409,600!

The number to beat was 316,736, and the SFCA kids sailed right past that on Friday afternoon, November 18. Thanks to the 250 stackers at West Dodge Station Elementary in Elkhorn, Nebraska for putting us over at exactly 4:19 pm (MST). The WSSA initially hoped to surpass the goal of 350,000 stackers.✱



Bryce Habuda trying to set the new world record for stacking



Mi'Kaia Brown added 234 stackers to the effort

Santa Reading Event And Book Collection

The Omni Club of Fort Myers is partnering with the Early Learning Coalition of Southwest Florida (ELC) to host a book collection and Santa reading event on Saturday, December 17 from 10 a.m. until noon. All books collected will go to local childcare centers participating in ELC's Literacy Buddies Program.

The Omni Club and ELC aspire to collect 150 new or gently used books for three- and four-year-olds (hard covers preferred). All guests will have the chance to register that day to become a Literacy Buddy. There will also be an opportunity to donate new and unwrapped gifts for Toys for Tots.

The event will include Story Time With Santa, cookies and milk, and a designated area for photos with Santa. Omni Club members and non-members are welcome. For more information, contact Robin Gretz at 210-6886 or robin.gretz@elcofswfl.org.

In existence for four years, the purpose of Literacy Buddies is to help young, pre-elementary-school aged children develop and excel in literacy. The purpose is to teach children about correspondence, communication and instill appreciation of reading. Literacy Buddies has direct, measurable results. In nearly every case the child's communication skills are positively impacted and visible via letters and verbal communication changes. For some children, this provides the only opportunity to have books of their own at home. For more information regarding Literacy Buddies visit <http://www.elcofswfl.org/>. For more information on the book drive, contact Robin Gretz at 210-6886 or robin.gretz@elcofswfl.org.

The Early Learning Coalition of Southwest Florida exists to enhance the quality of children's lives by providing families, early childhood educators, care-

givers and community partners in Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee counties, with opportunities to positively impact the future. For details on our many services or to donate, visit <http://www.elcofswfl.org> or call 267-4105.

The Omni Club offers a state-of-the-art gym along with the largest personal training staff and classes in the area. They are located at 1755 Boy Scout Drive in Fort Myers and can be reached by calling 931-6664 or online at <http://www.TheOmniClub.com>.✱

Santa Fest

Wa-Ke Hatchee Recreation Center is hosting the 5th Annual Santa Fest, Saturday December 10, from 10 a.m. to noon.

Join them for a fun-filled morning of holiday cheer, including holiday crafts, cookie decorating, snacks and a chance to see the jolly ol' man himself. Bring a camera for great photo opportunities. Admission is \$5 per child.

For more information, contact Doreen Baranski at 432-2154. Wa-Ke Hatchee Recreation Center is located at 16760 Bass Road in Fort Myers.✱

Alva Community Center Special Event

Cookies With Mr. Kris will be held on Saturday, December 10. This event, open to all ages, starts at 10 a.m. and ends at Noon.

Mr. Kris will be arriving at 10:30 a.m. Pre-registration is required and cost is \$5 per participant. Registration fee includes: cookies, hot cocoa and small gift from Mr. Kris. Bring your own camera and take photos with Mr. Kris.

For more information, call 239-728-2882.✱

Winter Magic Coming To CCYC

Santa Claus is coming to town... by boat! The winter is here and now is the time to celebrate Yacht Club style. Winter Magic, presented by the Cape Coral Parks & Recreation Department, invites families to come out and listen to holiday music with over 40 arts and crafts vendors in the Yacht Club Ballroom and sidewalk. There will also be kids' crafts, food and soft drinks for purchase and photo opportunities inside the main ballroom. Bring your camera and enjoy the magic! This is a free event open to the public.

Winter Magic will be held on Wednesday, December 14 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Cape Coral Yacht Club, located at 5819 Driftwood Parkway in Cape Coral.

For more information about the event, call Coby Palmer at 574-0806.✱

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Greeters Club

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 15 at Colonial Country Club on 9181 Independence Way in Fort Myers. Join Greeters for its festive Christmas luncheon and social gathering. Call today to join this group of women of Lee County. Luncheon costs \$18 with reservations required. Contact Janet Gambuzza at 454-5750 or Linda Fitzpatrick at 437-5653; via email at Greeters.Lunch@comcast.net.✱

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Rabe O. Wilkison

on the campus of the Lee County Alliance for the Arts.

See the special exhibit on World War II, on display through December.

Contact the all-volunteer non-profit organization at 939-4044. Or, drop by on Wednesday or Saturday between 9 a.m. and noon to peruse the fascinating archives.

Sources: The archives of the American Legion Post 38, the Southwest Florida Historical Society, floridamemory.com, and rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flswphs.✱

Island Zonta Club Joins Fort Myers Club For Benefit

Zontians from Sanibel and Fort Myers turned out in force at the recent MADE by US Fashion Show, Sale and Benefit held at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fort Myers. The well-attended event featured fashion designers, crafts people and women with small food and catering businesses. There were 22 vendors in all at the benefit.

After shopping, visitors were treated to a fashion show and speakers including Christa Hicks from Beauty from Ashes (a faith-based organization ministering to victims of the sex industry), Yaro Garcia from ACT (Abuse Counseling And Treatment Inc., a service provider for survivors of domestic violence), Dr. Genelle Grant from GRACE (Guatemalan Rural Adult and Children Education), and Nola Theiss from HTAP (Human Trafficking Awareness Partnership Inc.). HTAP combats human trafficking by educating young people, while GRACE is a UUCFM project dedicated to improving the lives of Guatemalan women and their families through education.

Marta Matias, a mother of three who cleans houses for a living, was one of more than a dozen vendors selling everything from crocheted and woven tops and shawls to hand-painted women's golf gloves. Matias was recently the subject of an article by Amy Bennett Williams in the *News Press* highlighting her Mayan crafts and fashion.

Canvasses painted by area students for HTAP's ARTREACH project were on display at the event. ARTREACH is designed to educate local children about the dangers of human trafficking through art and theater.

The event was the brainchild of Sanibel resident Gari Grant Lewis, who for years dreamed of putting on an event that showcased the talents of women. "It was always my intention to someday feature and showcase fashions designed and sewn by women," Grant Lewis said. Also featured was jewelry made by the PACE Center for Girls, another Zonta partner.

Grant Lewis and her sister, Dr. Genelle Grant, director for GRACE, had talked extensively about putting on an event that would raise awareness surrounding projects combating violence against women. The idea crystallized when she became a member of The Zonta Club of Sanibel/Captiva and a team member for the club's service partner, HTAP, Grant Lewis said. Both HTAP and GRACE are service projects funded by the Zonta Club of Sanibel/Captiva.

"All in all, it was a big success," Grant Lewis said. "We can give nice donations to GRACE and HTAP. The vendors did



Zontians Kris Riffs and Jan Alden, who helped PACE girls produce the jewelry, with PACE counselor Katelyn Uhler

well and sold items. The people who attended were able to buy some nice and unusual handmade holiday gifts. We are certain to make this an annual event."

The Zonta Club of Sanibel/Captiva is a service organization of professional women working to provide hands-on assistance, advocacy and funds to strengthen women's lives on the islands, in Lee County and around the world through Zonta

From page 1

Holiday In The Park

Myers, president of the Lee County Black History Society.

Gates will open At 12 p.m. Performances are 12:30 to 5 p.m.

Tickets are \$5 for adults and students 14 and older. They may be purchased



Gari Grant Lewis, show organizer and emcee, with vendor Marta Matias

International. For information, visit www.zontasancap.com.✱

from any member of the Lee County Black History Society or at the gate on the day of the event.

Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, beach umbrellas and blankets. There will be food and beverage vendors in the park. No coolers or pets.

Clemente Park is located at 1936 Henderson Avenue in Fort Myers.✱

Nervous Nellie's



Holiday spirit shines at Nellie's on Fort Myers Beach

Nervous Nellie's Crazy Waterfront Eatery is neurotic about good food and drink. The casual restaurant with the fun-loving staff boasts a large selection of appetizers, fresh seafood, sandwiches and entrées. While relaxing on the deck, swing to the beats of live reggae, rock and island music from the area's premier musical talent.

Just upstairs from Nellie's is Ugly's Waterside Bar, the place where everyone gets prettier. It's happy hour all day, every day at Ugly's. Drink specials include \$2.50 domestic bottles, \$3.95 well drinks, \$3.95 wine and daily draft specials. Ugly's also features live music nightly.

Nellie's offers the perfect backdrop for mixing business and pleasure at your office holiday party. Call ahead to reserve a spot in air-conditioned comfort or outside on the expansive waterfront patio. Nellie's staff will magically satisfy everyone with the very best food and drink without breaking the bank.



Blake Heuerman hiding behind one of Nellie's famous over-stuffed sandwiches



Dockside with Sandy Pusateri Hansen, Karen Como Cronk, unidentified, and Julie Roche



Great waterfront view from upstairs at Ugly's



The Oysters playing live on Nellie's patio

Whether you arrive by land or sea, parking for patrons of Nellie's and Ugly's is free. If you are traveling by boat, marine dockage is available at the Snug Harbour Marina with dock attendant's assistance. The GPS coordinates are 26°27'23.41" N • 81°57'15.18" W.

Nervous Nellie's Crazy Waterfront Eatery is located at 1131 First Street, Fort Myers Beach in the historic Baywalk District. It is open for lunch, dinner and snacks in between. Call 463-8077 or go to nervousnellies.net.

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JOIN US ON CHRISTMAS DAY!

Along The River



Sanibel's own Melinda Roy, center, is the artistic director of Gulfshore Ballet, which performs at BIG ARTS on December 10

photo courtesy of The New York Public Library

Friday, December 9 is opening night of *A Christmas Carol: The Haunting and Judgment of Ebenezer Scrooge* at **The Laboratory Theater**. The new staging by director Mike Carlip presents Charles Dickens' beloved classic as the ghost story Dickens intended it to be, highlighting the deeper consequences of Scrooge's miserly behavior. The show starts at 8 p.m. It runs through Sunday, December 18.

The Laboratory Theater is located at 1634 Woodford Avenue, downtown Fort Myers in the historic Kiwanis Hall. Ticket prices range from \$10 to \$20. Call 218-0481 or go to laboratorytheaterflorida.com.

On Saturday, December 10, the Gulfshore Ballet presents two performances of selections from *The Nutcracker Suites* at the Schein Performance Hall at **BIG ARTS**. Sanibel resident Melinda Roy, a former principal dancer with the New York



The Sandy Butler offers over 500 wines and 200 cheeses

City Ballet, is the artistic director of Gulfshore Ballet.

BIG ARTS is located at 900 Dunlop Road, Sanibel. Performances from *The Nutcracker Suites* are at 4 and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per adult and \$15 for students and children. Call 395-0900 or go to bigarts.org.

On Sunday, December 11 from noon to 6 p.m., enjoy live music and great food at Blues, Sweat & Cheers at **Alliance for the Arts**. Dana Paul and his eight-piece tribute band Spinning Wheel, along with national recording artist Seth Walker and Captiva's own TroubleStarters, will perform. The concert is a fundraiser for local musician Kenny Cox, 45, who needs a lifesaving kidney transplant.

Advance tickets can be purchased at The Rock for Hair and Nails, 12575 South Cleveland Avenue, Suite 8, Fort Myers. The price is \$25. Call 275-4144. Tickets are also available at the door.

Alliance for the Arts is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers near the Colonial intersection. Go to artinlee.org.

Celebrate the holidays with gourmet delights from **The Sandy Butler**.

The gourmet market's cheese and wine department has been meticulously stocked to offer the best of international foods. Whether its homemade mozzarella, Italian Parmigiano-Reggiano, Spanish Manchego or French Brie de Meaux, the experienced staff discerns the right amount of salt, sweetness, tanginess or dryness, affording you and your guests the best possible culinary experience.

The Sandy Butler believes in doing things like they used to. Madagascar bourbon vanilla, Valrhona chocolate, Turbinado sugar, heavy cream, fresh eggs, and double-zero flour are the typical ingredients found in the baker's pantry. Since no shortcuts are taken, the bakery offers the freshest products available. The Sandy Butler understands that good things come in small packages, so you will find some goodies in smaller portions. Stop by the bakery and see how sweet life can be.

Unlike the corporate chain of command others have to follow, The Sandy Butler has the freedom of offering its customers anything they want. Nowhere is that more prevalent than at the delicatessen. Choose from Italian San Daniele and Parma prosciutto, Mandrange French ham, Parmacotta Gypsy salami, Austrian Speck breola and Serrano ham from Spain. The Sandy Butler also offers in-house dry aged beef, aging its meat for 27 days or more. Increased aging adds to the shrinkage and trim loss due to drying.

Next door to The Sandy Butler Market is **Shoals Restaurant & Wine Bar**. The Scholl family welcomes you to experience flavorful, signature dishes created by Executive Chef Michael Ragusa, using ingredients sourced from the Shoal farm and grove and other local and regional purveyors. There's variety of menu options for lunch or dinner, daily, including unique appetizers, farm-fresh salads, just-caught seafood, delicious entrees and sumptuous desserts.

Enhance your dining experience with a choice selection from over 500 different wines, offered at retail pricing, to enhance your meal. Selections from the The Sandy Butler Market next door may be purchased and drunk in the dining room for a \$5 corkage fee, for a delicious and budget-friendly experience.

The Sandy Butler Market and Shoals Restaurant & Wine Bar are located at 17650 San Carlos Boulevard, Fort Myers. Both are open seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. For more information, call 482-6765 or go to sandybutler.com.*

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SFCA Participates In Operation Christmas Child

Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected 86 million shoe box gifts and hand-delivered them to impoverished children in more than 130 countries. This year, Operation Christmas Child hopes to collect another 8.5 million gift-filled shoe boxes. Southwest Florida Christian Academy (SFCA) students collected 581 boxes to help meet that need. McGregor Baptist Church joined the students' efforts this year and added another 661 to that number for a final count of 1,242 shoeboxes filled with hygienic items, toys and other treats. The boxes collected in Florida will go to Panama, Ukraine, Macedonia, Bahamas, Uganda, Lebanon, Kenya, Tanzania, Namibia, Seychelles, Togo, Benin, Belize, Ecuador, Madagascar and one undisclosed country. What joy it was for SFCA students to participate in this effort. This is not the first time the students have participated in this endeavor. SFCA has been an active member of this ministry since 1997.

Operation Christmas Child is a project of international Christian relief and evangelism organization Samaritan Purse, headed by Franklin Graham. While Samaritan Purse works to meet critical physical needs, such as clean water, health care and food. Operation Christmas Child addresses a need for which children are just as desperate the need to have hope and feel loved.✳



Calling All Students For Talent Show

Choir, dance, orchestra and theater groups as well as soloists and small groups in music, dance, vocal or theater are needed for the 2nd annual Learning for Life's Got Talent Show.

Only a limited number of openings are available. Application deadline is December 16. Special guest emcee will be Stacey Deffenbaugh of NBC-2 TV.

All performances must reflect a positive character connection and be no more than two to three minutes in length. All performers will receive a participant ribbon and trophies will be awarded for best performance in each category.

The show is open to Lee County Public School students.

It will take place in the Fort Myers High School Auditorium located at 2635 Cortez Boulevard, Fort Myers, on Friday, January 20 from 6 to 9 p.m.

General admission tickets at the door are \$5; children five years of age and under are admitted free.

All proceeds will benefit the Learning for Life character education program currently serving over 40 Lee County public schools.

To request an application, call 699-6938 or email Niska.Gazlay@PaulHomes.com.✳

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- Tuesdays - Fajitas & burritos are 1/2 price
- Wednesdays - "It's Back." The All-U-Can-Eat Grand Seafood Buffet featuring over 100 items \$17.⁹⁹
- Thursdays - New York Strip Steak Dinner served with potato & vegetable \$9.⁹⁹
- Fridays - All-U-Can-Eat Fish Fry served w/fries & cole slaw \$9.⁹⁹
- Sat & Sun - Whole Maine Lobster Dinner served w/fries & cole slaw \$16.⁹⁹



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Churches/Temples

ALL FAITHS UNITARIAN

CONGREGATION Member of UUA
2756 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers
Six blocks south of the Edison/Ford Winter
Estates; 2 miles N of Colonial Boulevard
Minister: Reverend Dr. Wayne Robinson
Sunday services: 9 and 11 a.m.
Unitarian Summer 2011: 11 a.m. Tapestry
of Faith Programs, child care provided
Adult workshops: 9:30 a.m. Faith Like a
River: Themes from UU History.
Phone: 226-0900

Email: allfaithsuc@embarqmail.com

Website: www.allfaiths-uc.org

ANNUNCIATION GREEK

ORTHODOX CHURCH

8210 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers
Reverend Fr. Athanasios Michalos
Orthros Service Sunday 9 a.m.
Divine Liturgy Sunday 10 a.m.
Fellowship Programs, Greek School,
Sunday School, Community Night
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. Please call for infor-
mation 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.

Rev. Ted Althouse, Pastor
revtedalthouse@aol.com

CHRIST THE KING

1188 Lake McGregor Drive, Fort Myers,
432-1724. Reverend N. Everett Keith II
An Old Catholic Community Liturgy
in English Sunday Mass at 9:30 a.m.

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. Kathleen Weller, Temporary
Supply Pastor. Reverend David Dietzel,
Pastor Emeritus. Traditional Sunday ser-
vice 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

Sunday Traditional Service: 8 and 11 a.m.,

Praise Service: 9:30 a.m.

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 W. First Street, River District

www.spirituality.com and www.christian-
science.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.

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.

JESUS THE WORKER

CATHOLIC CHURCH:

881 Nuna Avenue, Fort Myers, 481-1143

Masses Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m.;

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, 33907

Phone text: 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

& 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: Bill Stephens, Stu Austin and

Howard Biddulph, Associate Pastor

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

concurrent to Sunday services.

Nursery care provided at all services

For more information visit:

www.newhopefortmyers.org

PEACE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Meets at Ft. Myers Beach Masonic Lodge

17625 Pine Ridge Road,

Fort Myers Beach 267-7400.

Pastors Bruce Merton, Gail & RC Fleeman

Traditional Worship 9:45 a.m.

Contemporary Worship 11:15 a.m.

Phone: 267-7400 Fax: 267-7407

Web site: peacecommunitychurch.com

e-mail: peace1265@aol.com

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

15840 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers

Walter Still, Senior Pastor,

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

¾ mile south from the intersection of

McGregor, San Carlos and Gladiolus.

A congregation of the ELCA.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

3950 Winkler Extension,

Fort Myers, 274-0143

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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

Week Church Pre-K to K

Evening Service 6 p.m.

Wednesday Service 6 p.m.

ST. 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 Pastor Reverend Steve Filizzi

An Affirming & Inclusive Congregation

Sunday Services, 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Mid-Week Service, Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN

CHURCH & SCHOOL (LCMS)

3595 Broadway, Fort Myers

239-939-4711, www.smlcs.org

Wednesday Fellowship: 5:30 p.m.

Dinner \$5, 6:15 p.m. bible studies

Worship: Saturday, 5:30 p.m.,

Sunday 8 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. with 9:15

a.m. adult and children's Bible Study, plus

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on Thursdays from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

During Lent: Wednesday worship

noon and 6:15 p.m.

TEMPLE BETHEL SYNAGOGUE

16225 Winkler Rd. 433-0018.

Rabbi Jeremy Barras

Cantorial Soloists Joseph/Lynn Goldovitz

Shabbat Services, Friday, 7:30 p.m.

Torah Study, Saturday, 9:15 a.m.

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Services, Saturday,

10:30 a.m.</

From page 10

Churches/Temples

Senior Minister: Douglas Kelchner
Traditional Worship Sunday's 10:15 a.m.
Website: www.edisonchurch.org
**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CHURCH FORT MYERS**
13411 Shire Lane (off Daniels Parkway
one mile west of I-75)
Minister: The Rev. 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.
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music, meditation in a loving environment.
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Bonita Springs. Call 947-3100.
**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.*

Harpist Melody Anglin In Concert

Each United Methodist Church (BUMC) announces the second presentation of its acclaimed Hibiscus Series, The Melody Anglin Trio, on Thursday, December 15, beginning at 7:30 p.m. The program will be held in the Sanctuary of BUMC, 155 Bay Road (behind the library), with a reception following the concert to meet the artists. This is a return engagement for the talented Melody Anglin, having last appeared in 2009.

Anglin is an international concert harpist, soprano and composer who has performed in Ireland, Europe, England, Austria, South America and across the United States. Featured with several major orchestras throughout the U.S. and abroad, she has also performed with Dave Brubeck, American composers David Diamond, Jacob Druckman, Franco Auteri, and is presently collaborating with concert pianist and composer Oksana Kolesnikova to create a recording of his works. The world premiere of one of their collaborations, *Aurora: Fantasy in E minor*, will be presented at the concert.

Joining Anglin is Russian violinist and concert artist Zoriy Zinger, who has soloed with the Russian Symphony Orchestra and at Lincoln Center, as well as cellist Jonathan David Anglin. On select compositions, bass baritone Douglas Renfroe will join the Melody Anglin Trio. Renfroe is the Director of music and fine arts for BUMC, and is the creator of the Hibiscus Series which is



Melody Anglin Trio

beginning its fourth full season.

The program will feature traditional classical compositions for harp as well as many of your favorite holiday selec-

tions. The concert is open to the public with a free will offering collected to offset expenses. For additional information, contact the BUMC office at 463-9656.*

Church Christmas Concert

Covenant's Christmas Concert, "Rejoice And Be Merry!" will be presented by Covenant Presbyterian Church's Concert Choir, Soloists, Orchestra and Jubilate Ringers on Friday, December 9 starting at 7:30 p.m.

This event is free to the public. Covenant Presbyterian Church is located at 2439 McGregor Blvd. in Fort Myers.

For more information, call 239-334-8937.*

Community Lecture Series

The 11th Annual Wednesday Morning Live lecture series at Covenant Presbyterian Church begins on January 4. These lectures are free of charge and open to the public. Speakers will delve into subjects including elderly scamming, theater, human trafficking, justice and health.

The schedule is:

January 4: Treasures of Covenant, Rev. David Dietzel

January 11: Why I Do What I Do, Sam Cook, Columnist, *The News-Press*

January 18: For Theater Lovers, Bob Cacioppo, producing artistic director, Florida Repertory Theatre

January 25: Human Trafficking, Nola Theiss, executive director, Human Trafficking Awareness Partnership (HTAP)

February 1: It's That Time Again, Sharon Harrington, Lee County supervisor of elections

February 8: Scamming Our Elders, Beth Schnell, Lee County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention Unit

February 15: Getting It All Together, Rev. Dr. William Glover, Mount Hermon Ministries

February 22: A Safe Haven, Samira Beckwith, executive director, Hope Hospice of SWFL

February 29: An Author's Life, Robert

Macomber, maritime author, lecturer and TV commentator

The one-hour lectures begin at 10 a.m. preceded by coffee and snacks at 9:30. No advance registration is required. The lectures will be held at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 2439 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. For additional information, call 334-8937 or email info@covpcfm.com.*

Bridge Youth Center Seeks New Location

The Bridge Youth Center, a non-profit organization in Fort Myers, is seeking a new location for its center. The current lease will expire in January at their location at the foot of the Caloosahatchee Bridge.

"We have located a potential new building on Fowler Street that would accommodate the needs of the center but lack the funding to proceed," said Gray Foshee, executive director for The Bridge.

"Fowler Street is an ideal location to continue our mission in assisting the inner city youth in our community. Many of the youth who come to the center either walk or ride their bikes and we need to be in the epicenter of where they are. We have been blessed that several donors have

stepped up to assist us financially but we are still dealing with a shortfall that would prevent us from moving forward."

The center reaches out to inner city "at risk" teens who are currently enrolled in school and are in the sixth through the 12th grades, offering after-school tutoring, self-defense/violence prevention classes, music classes, archery, as well as a Friday night gathering. They are also creating a culinary program to teach both male and female youth a basic life skill.

The purpose of the culinary program is to not only teach the youth to learn to cook for their basic needs but to learn how to prepare meals to assist in feeding the hungry in the community.

Another significant role of the center is its mentoring program which includes life coaching, discussing life situations and experiences and being an extended family to the teen. "This is an opportunity for us to be a father to the fatherless," said Foshee. "We want to continue to mentor the youth by bridging the gap and building a foundation but we cannot do this without the community's help. The center will need additional donors in order to make this dream a reality."

The Bridge Youth Center is located at 2128 Cleveland Avenue in Fort Myers. The Friday Night Live gathering is from 7 to 10 p.m. and includes a game room, computers, concessions, weight room, outside basketball and an opportunity to hear a brief life lesson.*

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Against All Odds



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

The local TV news this week was full of reports of the worst red tide in six years in our area. From what I saw out on the water, Pine Island Sound is not affected

at all by the fish-killing algae bloom. Running the sound from Captiva Pass at the north end all the way south to the Sanibel Causeway this week, I saw less than a dozen dead mullet floating in the very southern end of the bay and this was at the start of the week when winds were northwesterly. Later in the week there was not a dead fish to be spotted in the sound.

Now that we are back on a northeast wind pattern, the red tide should stay well offshore and out of the sound.

Fishing expectations were low this week with the strong winds, red tide reports, low daytime tides and the strong cold front that brought us the chilliest temperatures since March. Despite all these factors working against catching fish, I was amazed at how great the action was. I caught and released more snook than I have in a one-week period since the summer. This shows that even when you think action will be slow, you never really know until you put a line in the water and give it a shot.

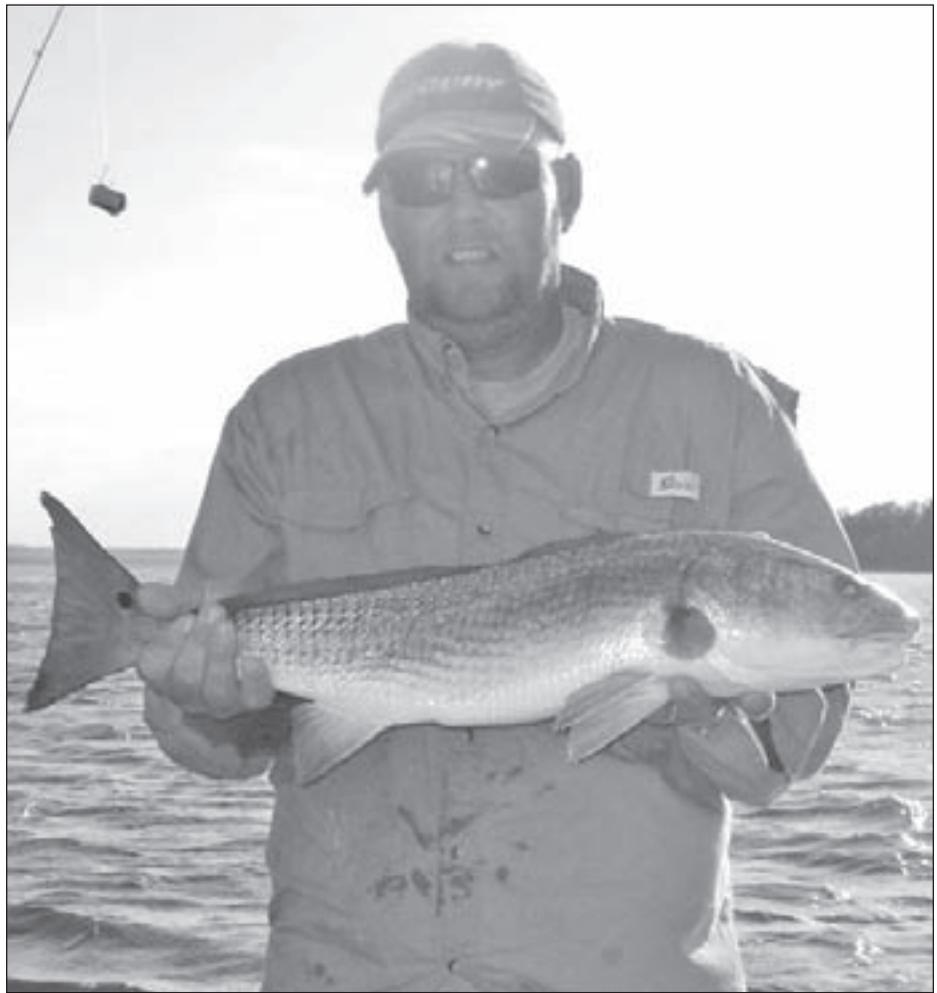
Right as this last cold front was passing, the snook fishing really heated up, which is not unusual with low pressure before the front moves through. What was unusual was that when I returned to these same pre-front hot spots after the front had passed and during the cold windy conditions that followed, I was still catching snook.

Though most of the snook caught this week were less than 26 inches, we did hook a few over the 30-inch mark, which is great to see after the snook fishing drought I seem to have been in for the last few months.

Along with snook, the species count for this week was just on fire as it rose higher and higher. Redfish, black drum, sheepshead, flounder and grouper were just a few of the many species caught. The super low tides we had really bunched up all the fish in the deeper channels. Not knowing what species of fish you will catch on your next cast is never a bad thing as long as they are not catfish and you are hooking a fish just about every cast.

Finding your own winter fishing oases can be as easy as spending some quality time with a detailed chart of the sound. Look for a large grassy area or flat that is high and dry on a low tide with a deeper, four-foot plus channel cut through it or right next to it. These channels funnel the tide and really bunch up the fish. All the fish that would usually be out on the flat will have to fall off into the channel on low water. Fish these channels at the very end of an outgoing tide or the start of an incoming tide. Plan on fishing it on a minus tide so you can really see how it's laid out.

Depending on the wind direction and tide, these fish-holding channels are located all over the sound. The deeper and narrower the channel during cold weather periods generally the better it can be. A couple of the better known areas that fall into this category are the Chino Island channel, Flamingo Bay channel and the Demiere Key channel.



Capt Matt Mitchell with a 29-inch redfish caught this week

When fishing these channels during the colder periods of winter, concentrate in the bottom of the water column. When air temperatures are cold, deeper water will always stay warmer longer than shallow water and fish will hang close to if not right on the bottom.

Getting your live bait on the bottom can be done by the use of a split shot, sliding egg sinker or my personal favorite, a jig head. The advantage of the jig head is it gets your bait right against the

bottom and can be slowly bounced back on the retrieval, which will often trigger a bite.

After living in Southwest Florida for 30-plus years, I simply do not like cold weather, you can give me our sticky summer heat over mornings in the 40s anytime. Clients often ask me, "How is it living somewhere without seasons?" Although not as extreme as northern seasons, we certainly do have seasons. The one thing I do really like about winter in the tropics though is the huge variety of fish you can catch without having to travel very far.

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

CROW Case Of The Week:

Marsh Rabbit



by Emilie Alfino

This adult marsh rabbit was found at Sea Oats, a community located off West Gulf Drive, north of Rabbit Road.

Local Wendy Schnapp, manager of Tarpon Bay

Explorers and co-owner of George & Wendy's Corner Grill, found the rabbit in a friend's pool on October 30. "That sounds really scary but marsh rabbits do know how to swim for short periods of time, unlike other rabbits," said Robin Bast, CROW wildlife rehabilitator.

"That being said, when we got this marsh rabbit, she was cold, wet, dull, and depressed – she was probably just exhausted from trying to get out of the pool," Bast explained.

The rabbit's lungs were clear, so she hadn't gotten fluid in them; this was great news because that could have caused other issues, like pneumonia. She did have a big open wound on her back. "There are several different possibilities for how she got that wound," Bast said. "She could have been attacked by a predator and somehow got in the pool to escape. More likely she got the wound while trying to get herself out of the pool."



Marsh rabbit

The rabbit weighed about 300 grams and was the size of small guinea pig. Bast said an interesting thing about rabbits is that their skin is really thin and tears easily. "This sounds like a really bad idea but actually they have evolved that way because if a predator gets them, the skin will tear away and they can get away. They'll have a wound, but that usually will heal," explained Bast.

CROW staff took X-rays and found no broken bones, no fluid in the lungs – all good news. They cleaned and flushed the wound really well and applied SSD – silver sulfadiazine – a topical antibiotic cream. They also put her on oral antibiotics to prevent that wound from getting infected. Different antibiotics are used in different cases. "Some antibiotics cause stomach upset and usually we can tell with wildlife if they stop eating or regurgitate. In that case, depending on the infection, you can switch to another antibiotic.

"You have to be careful with rabbits; penicillin and other antibiotics can inter-

fere with bacteria in their gut and cause a number of problems by destroying that good bacteria and leaving room for bad bacteria to take its place," said Bast. "It can even result in death."

Also when determining how to proceed with treatment, Bast had to take into account that rabbits in general are very high stress. She chose to dose the rabbit in such a way so she only received treatment once a day but with a stronger dose. "The less you handle these guys, the better," Bast said.

The recuperating marsh rabbit was kept in a carrier rather than a hutch because it made it easier to handle the animal for treatment and the staff didn't have to upset her by chasing her around a hutch.

By November 2 there was no longer any discharge from the wound and a scab was starting to form. Luckily, the rabbit was eating really well on her own. "We feed them fresh greens and Timothy hay. You have to be careful to be sure the greens are fresh; rabbits have sensitive digestive tracts. Slimy greens can actually kill them, as there are bacteria on decomposing leaves. It causes diarrhea, which can kill them quickly," Bast explained. "In the wild they are picky and choosy, but in captivity they're hungry and eat what they're given." CROW also gives rabbits soaked monkey biscuits; soaking them fluffs them up, making it easier for rabbits to eat. "The rabbits really love it with applesauce and banana baby food frosted over the top. Otherwise they won't touch a monkey biscuit," Bast laughed. "If we have a lot, I feel like I'm frosting cakes."

On November 7, Bast walked into the rabbit room to get her patient out for treatment and saw she had chewed the corner of her carrier, making a hole about the size of... a rabbit. And she wasn't there. "Sometimes they do that when they don't want to be there," Bast said. "I looked all around the rabbit room, under boxes, behind the towel rack – the rabbit was nowhere to be found. Peninsula cooters are also out there and they dig burrows. I thought there was no way she'd be hanging out with water turtles. When I picked up the burrow, though, there were two full-grown water turtles side by side with the marsh rabbit just sitting in between them. She wasn't injured or anything – she was just hanging out."

After that, staff had no choice but to move the rabbit to a hutch so she couldn't chew out of it.

Treatment continued until November 10, when she no longer needed oral antibiotics or topical antibiotics, and there was a good scab on her wound. "We planned to monitor her for about five more days but we ended up keeping her longer to make sure her wound didn't get infected after the antibiotics were stopped," Bast said.

The rabbit was still pretty high stressed on November 19, at which point her wound was pretty much sealed over and the scab looked like it would fall off soon. Bast decided it was time to release her.

"Not anywhere near a pool, but in a site

continued on page 31

CANTORS: A Faith in Song

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Plant Smart

Avocado

by Gerri Reaves

The avocado tree (*Persea americana*) that many people call Florida avocado can reach up to 60 feet high, although residential trees usually climb only to about 40.

A member of the laurel family and native to the tropics and subtropics, it is commonly cultivated in groves and yards for the pear-shaped smooth-skinned fruit. Bitter in flavor, the fruit can weigh up to two pounds.

The large size and smooth skin of the West Indian type common in Florida, distinguishes it from the smaller, bumpy-skinned avocado seen in grocery stores, which are usually grown in California or Mexico.

The Florida-grown fruit has moister flesh and fewer calories than those native to Mexico or Guatemala. About eight varieties are commercially cultivated in the state. Also known as alligator pear, the avocado tree has shiny green leaves of up to 10 inches long.

In spring, the tree produces inflorescences of inconspicuous greenish or cream-colored flowers that have a very unusual strategy to avoid self-pollination. The female part of the flower ripens, opens, and then closes, only to reopen about 24 hours later so the ripe stamens can release their pollen.

It's difficult to know when to pick the fruit, for the flowers and fruit on one tree vary in stages of development. Therefore, going by size alone doesn't work. The safest bet is to pick the largest "pear" first or wait for the most mature ones to fall – if you can get to them before the squirrels and birds do.



This tree is valued for its large nutrient-packed fruit with a buttery flavor photos by Gerri Reaves

There are lots of reasons to plant an avocado tree in your yard besides a love of guacamole or a good shade tree. The fruit is high in nutrients such as vitamin A, carotenoids, and potassium. It is cholesterol-free but loaded with the kind of fat that promotes HDL, the good cholesterol.

Plant the tree in full sun in well-drained soil. Use the fallen leaves as mulch and avoid letting lawn grass grow around the trunk.

Who hasn't tried propagating the large avocado seed by placing the base in a glass of water, the seed suspended with three or four toothpicks?

If you start your tree from that sprouted seed, it will be an eight- to twelve-year wait for fruit.

Sources: virtual-herbarium.org, floridata.com, and edis.ifas.ufl.edu.

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



The avocado tree commonly seen in South Florida is native to the West Indies



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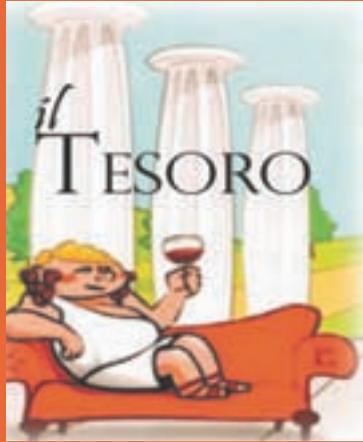


Rain Barrel Workshop

Take a Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Rain Barrel Workshop and learn how rain barrels can collect water from your roof. Just one-quarter inch of rain on a typical roof will create over 600 gallons of water. Our 55-gallon recycled barrels will be transformed into a rain barrel during the class that students can take home. You can conserve water, prevent storm water run-off, and save money!

The workshop is Saturday, December 10 from 9 to 11 a.m. at 6940 South Pointe Boulevard in Fort Myers. Cost is \$45.00 per rain barrel

Participants must register in advance to attend the class and reserve their barrel(s). Go to <http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu> and scroll down and click on icon WebTRAC. For more information call 533-7514.*



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Free Superfoods Workshop At Alliance GreenMarket



Andrea Guerrero of Heartland Gardens at a previous GreenMarket presentation

The Alliance for the Arts GreenMarket continues its series of free classes and workshops on Saturday, December 10 with Don Anthony. He is a master yoga instructor and coach at Lee Memorial Health System. His free workshop, Superfoods, will focus on foods with high concentrations of natural nutrients that can boost the immune system and provide numerous health benefits. Anthony has been practicing and teaching a variety of yoga asanas and experimenting with various mediation techniques for 20 years. His presentation begins at 10 a.m. and is free, but voluntary donations will be accepted. Reservations are not required.

At noon, the GreenMarket will host the grassroots organization Backyard Chickens of Lee County for its monthly meeting, which is open to the public. They'll discuss ongoing efforts to allow keeping chickens and other poultry in most residential areas in Lee County. Andrea Guerrero, director of Heartland Gardens, will be the guest speaker.

Mangrove Marathon Festival

Florida's newest and most exciting distance festival is back. Cape Coral's Mangrove Distance Festival, a two-day family event that has a race for all ability levels and ages, will take place this weekend at Cape Harbour, a fantastic hub featuring shopping and dining opportunities.

On Friday, December 9 starting at 6 p.m., participants - along with their family and friends - will be welcomed with live music between the towers and a mini expo. Runners may also pick up their race packets.

Then on Sunday, December 11 starting at 6:30 a.m., the race begins for runners participating in the Marathon, Half Marathon, Mini Marathon, and Marathon Relay. At 7 a.m., the Kids Half-Mile Run begins.

The starting line for all races will be located at the entrance to the Funky Fish Houses, the same location as last year's race. Professional timing services for these certified events will be provided by 3D Racing. An Awards Ceremony will be held at the finish line at 12:30 pm.

This is a fun and challenging event, with a portion of the proceeds going to The Fallen Heroes Fund.

Online registration is available at www.Active.com or print and complete the registration form and fax to 239-236-0307, or mail to 13650 Fiddlesticks Blvd., Suite 202-285, Fort Myers, FL 33912.

Registration is also available at The Run Shoppe, located at 3512 Del Prado Blvd. Suite 107 in Cape Coral

The course is USATF certified, and can be used as a qualifier for the Boston Marathon. For more details, visit www.mangrovermarathon.com.

Florida Yards And Neighborhoods Introductory Class

Take part in a Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Introductory Class and learn the nine principles that guide Florida-friendly landscaping in Lee County. Taught by Lee County Extension Master Gardeners, each principle is explored in class, so you can apply what you learn to your own yard. Plant selection and placement, efficient irrigation, proper mulching, and techniques to obtain a beautiful and healthy yard will be discussed!

The class is Wednesday, December 14, from 9 to noon at the Eco-Living Center at Rutenberg Park, 6490 South Pointe Boulevard, Fort Myers. The cost is \$8 per household

To register go to <http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu> and scroll down and click on icon WebTRAC.

For more information call 533-7514 Sponsored by Lee County Extension and the Florida Yards & Neighborhoods Program.

There will be live music at the market on Saturday, December 17 and 24. GreenMarket will be open on Saturday, December 24, allowing for last-minute holiday shopping for fresh, local dinner ingredients and one-of-a-kind gifts. The market will be closed on Saturday, December 31.

More information is available at www.ArtInLee.org or you can call 939-2787.

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

Morning Meander At Prairie Pines

A Guided Nature Walk along a Quarter-Mile Loop Boardwalk will take place on Saturday, December 17 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at Prairie Pines Preserve. Participants should meet in the parking lot at 18400 N. Tamiami Trail, North Fort Myers

From an ADA-compliant boardwalk, this hour-long stroll will traverse a seasonal marsh while learning more about the birds, butterflies and plants that call it home. Visit one small section of a 2654-acre Conservation 20/20 wilderness oasis that includes nature trails, wildlife observation areas and equestrian trails. Restroom facilities are available.

For more information, call 533-7455

This tour is provided in cooperation with Lee County Parks and Recreation and is a free program.

Additional details are available at www.birdpatrol.org.



Queen butterfly



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CROW Thanks *The River Weekly*



Left, Steve Greenstein, executive director of the Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW), thanks Lorin Arundel and Ken Rasi, co-publishers of the *Island Sun* and *River Weekly* newspapers, for helping with promotion and public relations to help insure the care and feeding of patients at CROW

Six Mile Cypress Slough Programs

Immerse yourself in nature this fall at the Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve. Staff and volunteers will offer a wide variety of programs for the public. Opportunities to explore nature on the boardwalk

include daily guided walks, monthly moon walks, a native plant uses walk, and an introduction to birding walk. Other activities include a photo contest, a tracking club and an alligator detectives program. Here are more details:

Native Plant Uses (New)

Tuesday, December 13, 10 a.m. to noon. Discover the many uses of Florida's native plants during this hands-on program. The fee is \$3 per person (adults only). Reservations are required by calling 533-7440 or online at www.leeparks.org

The Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve is a Lee County Parks and Recreation wetland preserve with a raised boardwalk open to the public seven days a week from dawn until dusk. The trail is fully accessible and consists of a 3/4-mile lower loop; the entire trail is 1.2 miles long. Visitors to this site will see examples of old Florida in the plants and animals that live there. This natural setting provides the perfect backdrop for Florida wildlife such as wading birds, turtles, alligators, otters, squirrels, woodpeckers, butterflies, dragonflies and more. Opportunities to see wildlife are plentiful whether walking on the trail or sitting at a pond overlook.

For more information, visit www.leeparks.org or contact Heather Gienapp at 533-7556.*

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so hard,
he fell
out of
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Tour To The Tarpon Lodge And Calusa Heritage Trail Resumes

Captiva Cruises' newest expedition in its Discover Southwest Florida History tours will focus on the fishing cultures in Pine Island Sound; a story of fascinating characters and traditions. This cruise will depart from McCarthy's Marina on Captiva and travel to Pineland on Pine Island. Along the way, you will get an up-close look at historic fish houses of Pine Island Sound and hear about commercial fishing, fishing cultures from the indigenous Calusa, to Spanish Cuban Ranchos, to the Punta Gorda Fish Company, and



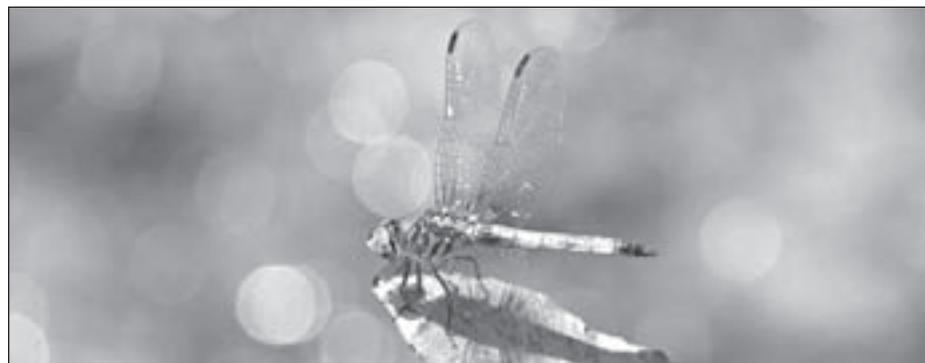
Fish house

the spectacular tarpon and sport fishing of today. Passengers will be greeted at The Tarpon Lodge and will be oriented to this spectacular location, the family run business and their tradition of fishing within Pine Island Sound and Charlotte Harbor. Relax and enjoy the old Florida charm of the 1926 lodge and have lunch overlooking Pine Island Sound and the mangrove islands. After lunch, walk to The Randall Research Center (RRC), located across the street from The Tarpon Lodge. 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.

This cruise will depart at 10 a.m. from McCarthy's Marina on Captiva. Captiva Cruises has established Discover Southwest Florida History cruises to Cabbage Key, Useppa Island, Boca Grande and has recently added cruises to The Edison & Ford Winter Estates on the Caloosahatchee as well as the cruise to Pine Island. These are excellent opportunities for families and neighborhoods to get together and learn about the history of Southwest Florida while enjoying a day out on the water.

For more information, cruise dates or reservations, call Captiva Cruises at 472-5300.*

Lee County Guided Nature Walks



Blue Dasher

Lee County Bird Patrol (in cooperation with Lee County Parks and Recreation) presents:

- **Experience One Of The Best Birding Sites In Lee County.** Experience the beautiful birds of Bunche Beach with a bird patrol guide on Saturday, December 10 from 8 to 10 a.m. Meet in the parking lot at Bunche Beach. Located in South Fort Myers off Summerlin Road; drive south of John Morris Road until it deadends. Bunche Beach is excellent for both migrant and resident waders and shorebirds working the mudflats at low tide due to the diversity of micro-invertebrates. Also waterfowl, raptors, and warblers. More information call 707-3015. This event is free with parking fee and provided in cooperation with Lee County Parks and Recreation. Restrooms are available. Bring binoculars, sun protection, shoes that can get wet, and a bottle of drinking water.

- **Morning Stroll in the Woods.** Guided nature walk on 1/4-mile live oak loop on Saturday, December 10, 9 to 10:30 a.m. at Caloosahatchee Creeks Preserve, East Entrance, 10130 Bayshore Road, North Fort Myers. Meet in the parking lot. Traverse wetland, oak hammock, and pine flatwoods on ADA-compliant boardwalk and trail while learning more about the birds, butterflies, and plants that call this home. Visit one small section of a 1,290-acre Conservation 20/20 wilderness oasis with nature trails, scenic observation areas, and picnic pavilions. For more information, call 533-7455. This tour is provided in cooperation with Lee County Parks and Recreation. It's free; restrooms available.*

AAUW Celebrates 50 Years

The AAUW Branch of Fort Myers/ Lee County celebrated 50 years of making a difference for young women in Lee County at their annual fashion show on December 3. More than 150 women dined at the Royal Palm Yacht Club and enjoyed the fashions from Razzle Dazzle of Cape Coral. Moneys raised at the event will benefit many young women in their pursuit of higher education. A Ride-Along with a sheriff in Lee County was donated and Officer Vaughn came to the event to take part in the auction.*



Deputy Vaughn and Sherry Magness



Joan Sorenson and Shelley Siriano



Marie Glasgow and Norton Sims



Jackie Howard, Barbara Lowery and Marlene Sherman



Mary Randell, Carol Munsell and Jackie Album



Nancy Karchunas and Jean Kohart



Moya Schrieber, Judy TeKatch and Faye Trask



Colette Sonefeld and Tina Hoegler

Girl Scouts In Need Of Volunteers

This year, Girl Scouts is celebrating 100 years of leadership. As the scouts celebrate this milestone, more adult volunteers are needed to start new troops and share the Girl Scout Leadership Experience with more girls in the community. Anyone inter-

ested in inspiring girls to do great things through becoming a troop leader or volunteering in another capacity, contact Amanda Jacob, director of Volunteer Management at 800-232-4475 ext. 406 or amandaj@gsgcf.org.

Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place. Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida Inc. is chartered by Girl Scouts of the USA and serves over 10,500 girls in 10 counties including Manatee, Hardee, Highlands, Sarasota, DeSoto, Charlotte, Glades, Lee, Hendry,

and Collier. For more information about the Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida, visit www.gsgcf.org*

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Presenting A Special Holiday Concert, *Cantors: A Faith In Song*



Cantors: A Faith In Song returns to Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall

The Gulf Coast Symphony presents a special holiday benefit concert: the long-awaited return of *Cantors: A Faith in Song*. The cantors are sure to warm the hearts of all faiths at their one-night-only performance on Thursday, December 15, at 8 p.m. at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall. This will be the cantors' only Florida performance for the 2011-2012 performance season. Tickets to *Cantors: A Faith in Song* cost \$37, \$42.50 and \$52. Special VIP tickets are available for \$102, which include a benefit pre-concert reception featuring a selection of assorted Kosher foods, desserts and beverages and a klezmer band performance, beginning at 6:30 p.m., and premiere concert seating. Tickets can be purchased at www.gulfcoastsymphony.org, or by calling 481-4849, or at the box office one hour prior to the concert. For more information, email info@gulfcoastsymphony.org. Net proceeds will benefit the Maimonides Hebrew Day School,

Lab Theater Debuts New Version Of *A Christmas Carol*

Mike Carlip, the director of Lab Theater's *A Christmas Carol: The Haunting and Judgment of Ebenezer Scrooge*, explains what makes this production of *A Christmas Carol* different from others:

"This is a telling of a haunting, that happens to take place during Christmas. It is not a happy tale nor does it ultimately have to be one of absolute redemption. This is a dark tale told during the darkest time of the year. When you enter the theater space to see this production, you entire the world separate from our own. It is not a comfortable world, but one that exists for all of us in the shadow. These are the ideas at the heart of this production.

The players are on stage the entire show, all moving set pieces, setting props, and existing in this world of their own construction.

Each audience member will take something unique from this show. No

two people will have the same thoughts or ideas of what they have seen. Perhaps the audience should take some time to watch each other during the show."

Mike Carlip received his undergraduate training at Bennington College. Upon graduation he began training with Bill Reichblum and Kadmus Theatre Studio. While with KTS, he received additional training from Włodzimierz Staniewski and The Association of Theatrical Practices Gardzienice. He notes that this is not a show for small children. This is a show for people who want to experience an old story in a new way.

A Christmas Carol: The Haunting and Judgment of Ebenezer Scrooge will play at The Laboratory Theater of Florida, located on the corner of Second Street and Woodford in the Fort Myers River District (1634 Woodford Avenue, Fort Myers, FL 33901).

Showtime is at 8 p.m. on December 9, 10, 14, 15, 16 and 17, and at 2 p.m. on Sunday, December 18. Tickets are \$10 for students and \$20 for adults. For more information on the show, visit the Lab Theater website at www.laboratory-theaterflorida.com. Links on the site will take you to the ticket purchasing page, or you can go directly to www.brownpapertickets.com to purchase tickets online. Call 218-0481 with questions.*

located in Fort Myers and Gulf Coast Symphony youth programs.

On September 10 and 11, 2003, a historic concert of cantorial music was taped in the revered Portuguese Synagogue in Amsterdam. In the magnificent candlelit setting of this 17th century synagogue, the three leading Jewish cantors of our time performed an evening of popular and religious Jewish song arranged by composer Benedict Weisser. Cantors Alberto Mizrahi, Naftali Herstik and Benzion Miller were accompanied by the Netherlands Theater Orchestra, London's Ne'imah Singers, and conducted by Jules van Hessen. For centuries classical Jewish liturgical music has been a constant element in the synagogue service and the role of the cantor is not only to lead this vocal music, but also to pass on the traditional melodies from generation to generation. Already a favorite musical offering by most PBS stations in the U.S., *Cantors: A Faith In Song* is also released on CD, DVD, and video.

On January 20, 2008, the Gulf Coast Symphony presented the U.S. debut of the full production, with music never before seen on TV. Now, by popular demand, the three cantors return to Fort Myers for an encore performance. Enjoy both the classic moments heard in 2008 and new arrangements created for this performance.

Some of the the Gulf Coast Symphony's 2011-12 season sponsors include the Southwest Florida Community Foundation, the Cape Coral Community Foundation, The Bireley Family Arts Fund, Shierling Family Dental, Fred's Award World, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Skogebo, Drs. Peter and Eleanor Blitzer, the City of Fort Myers, Advanced Pain Management and Spine Specialists, Dr. Jacob H. Goldberger and Margarita Suarez and family, 21st Century Oncology, Mayer Family Dental The Butterfly Estates and The Crestwell School.*

Sidney Berne Upcoming Events

Save the Date for Dinners with Berne! Travel with Berne around the world without leaving the Davis. The Dinners with Berne Series continues to explore international cuisine and world-class entertainment this season. Proceeds from the Dinners with Berne series benefit the Davis.

An Evening in Vienna

Join Berne Davis and savor traditional Viennese cuisine prepared by Chef Carlo Rao of Mastello's and hear music by Mozart, Stauss, and Lehár performed by world-class musicians. Be transported to the Orangery of the Schoenbrunn during An Evening in Vienna. Chaired by Alexandra Bremner, Saturday, December 10, 6 to 9 p.m.; \$175

An Evening in Japan

Explore exotic Japanese fare and enjoy the music from Puccini's *Madame Butterfly*, presented by Opera Naples at An Evening in Japan. Chaired by Friedrich & Daniela Jaeger, Tuesday, February 14, 6 to 9 p.m.; \$175

An Evening in New York

Experience the best of Broadway entertainment and Big Apple cuisine with An Evening in New York. Chaired by Andi Horowitz Saturday, March 17, 6 to 9 p.m.; \$175

An Evening at the Kentucky Derby

The final dinner marks the return of the popular event An Evening at the Kentucky Derby. Enjoy the thrill of the horse race and the jazz music of Wycliffe Gordon. Chaired by Pamela Templeton and Janice Kemp, Saturday, May 5, 5:30 to 9 p.m.; \$175

Tickets available at www.sbdac.com.

All Performances take place on the Gannett Foundation/News-Press Stage.

Calling All Art Lovers!

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center needs your help! Please consider volunteering at any of our exciting events this season. There are numerous volunteer rewards.

The 2011-2012 Season is sponsored in part by The Holiday Inn in Fort Myers' downtown historic district.*

Saddle Up For The Cattle Barons' Ball

Brand your calendar for January 21! You won't want to miss the boot-stompin' good time that is planned for the 2012 Cattle Barons' Ball, the annual signature fund-raising event for the American Cancer Society of Lee County.

This year's theme is "Saddle Up... It's Round Up Time!" and Southwest Florida companies are lassoing their resources to make the 2012 Cattle Barons' Ball the most successful yet. In addition to Presenting Sponsor Specialists in Urology, other sponsors on board are: Suncoast Beverage Sales, LeeSar, 21st Century Oncology, White Rock Distilleries, Norman Love Confections, VIP Realtors, Ameriprise, Chico's, Enterprise Holdings, Radiology Regional Center and ThirtyOne Gifts/Heidi Gray. Table and other sponsorships are still available, ranging from \$3,000 to \$25,000. VIP tickets are \$1,000 per couple.

The event will feature a Wild West-themed night of gaming, silent and live auctions, gourmet "grub" from Ruth's Chris Steakhouse, and dancing to the great country sounds of One Night Rodeo.

Now in its ninth year, the event has raised more than \$3 million for research and services to survivors and their families. A portion of the proceeds is dedicated specifically for ROCK (Reaching Out to Cancer Kids) programs.

More information about the Cattle Barons' Ball and the American Cancer Society is available by emailing beth.hayes@cancer.org or by calling 936-1113 ext. 3909.*

To advertise in
The River Weekly News
Call 415-7732

Our E-Mail address is press@RiverWeekly.com

Applicants Sought For Shrimp Festival Queen

The Fort Myers Beach Lions Foundation is looking for queen contestants for the 54th annual pageant. The contestants must be 16 to 20 years of age and single.

The 2012 queen and the princesses will ride in the Shrimp Festival Parade on Saturday March 10.

The queen pageant will start at 1 p.m. at Lynn Hall Park.

For an application, visit http://www.fortmyersbeachshrimpfestival.com/QUEEN_APPLICATION.html Deadline for applications is January 6.

The Queen's Ball will be held in February and other events will be announced with contestant appearances and preliminary judging.

This year's festival queen is Devin McDaniel, sponsored by Moss Marine. The first runner-up is Jamie Costa, second runner-up Katy Bonkowski and online favorite Miranda Conidaris. Pictures and video of the 2011 Festival and contest are available online at fortmyersbeachshrimpfestival.com.

The 2012 festival will be held in Lynn Hall Beach Park and Crescent Family Beach Park on March 10 and 11. Each year for 53 years, 100 percent of festival profits have been used for Fort Myers Beach Lions charities. They include:

- Beach Lions We Serve Scholarships
- Campership Fund For Lee County Sight Impaired Campers



The 2011 Shrimp Festival Queen Devin McDaniel

- Florida Lions Foundation For The Blind
- Lions Clubs International Foundation
- Conklyn Center For The Blind
- Southeast Guide Dogs
- Lions Leader Dogs For The Blind
- Fort Myers Beach Elementary School
- Fort Myers Beach Library Large Print Books And Audio Books
- WGPU Radio Reading Service
- Immokalee Child Care Center
- Lee County Cert Program, Fort Myers Beach
- Food Donation Funds Nations Association
- Guide Dogs For The Deaf
- Local Eye Sight Cases
- Cypress Lake High School Teams
- The Fort Myers Beach Lions Foundation



Pageant contestants from 2011

is a 501c3 not for Profit Corporation. The Shrimp Festival is the Lions major fundraiser for the year and the Islands largest

Festival. All proceeds go to Beach Lions Charities and local community projects. ✨

Calling All Students For Talent Show

Choir, dance, orchestra and theater groups as well as soloists and small groups in music, dance, vocal or theater are needed for the 2nd annual Learning for Life's Got Talent Show.

Only a limited number of openings are available. Application deadline is December 16. Special guest emcee will be Stacey Deffenbaugh of NBC-2 TV.

All performances must reflect a positive character connection and be no more than two to three minutes in length. All perform-

ers will receive a participant ribbon and trophies will be awarded for best performance in each category.

The show is open to Lee County Public School students.

It will take place in the Fort Myers High School Auditorium located at 2635 Cortez Boulevard, Fort Myers, on Friday, January 20 from 6 to 9 p.m.

General admission tickets at the door are \$5; children five years of age and under are admitted free.

All proceeds will benefit the Learning for Life character education program currently serving over 40 Lee County public schools.

To request an application, call 699-6938 or email Niska.Gazlay@PaulHomes.com. ✨

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Winter Wonderettes At Strauss Theater Is Perfect Holiday Show



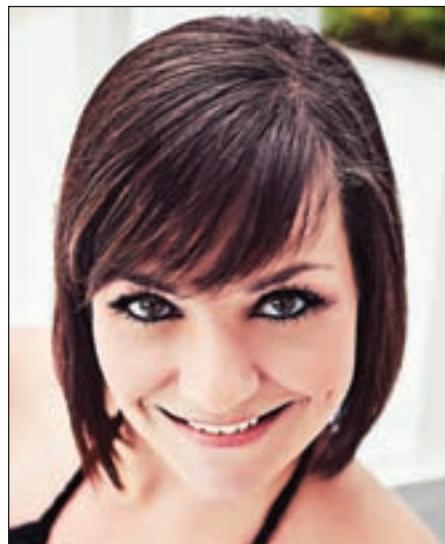
Anne Chamberlain



Annie Freres

The critically-acclaimed musical *Winter Wonderettes* will play this holiday season at BIG ARTS Herb Strauss Theater, 2200 Periwinkle Way. Tickets are \$42 for adults and \$20 for children. Single event tickets as well as series and subscription tickets are available for purchase online through the BIG ARTS website. Season series tickets are \$108 for three shows. *Winter Wonderettes* runs Monday through Saturday, December 15 to 31. All shows begin at 8 p.m.

The musical is set in the fictional town of Springfield, where the all-girl musical group The Marvelous Wonderettes is preparing for a special holiday revue at Harper's



Samantha Rotella



Cassandra Nuss

Hardware. But when Santa mysteriously goes missing on the night of their performance, the Wonderettes must combine their talent and spontaneity to distract from the absence of the jolly big guy in red. Festive tunes such as *Santa Baby*, *Jingle Bell Rock* and *It's a Marshmallow World* quickly warm the crowd, but when the chilling details explaining Santa's sudden disappearance are discovered, the pressure is on for the girls to keep the Christmas spirit alive.

LA Weekly calls *Winter Wonderettes*, "The perfect Christmas revue... the musical numbers crackle with energy and joy."

There will be a special New Year's Eve performance Saturday, December 31, which will include a champagne reception and toast with the cast of the show. Tickets are \$75. Show begins at 9 p.m.

Winter Wonderettes is supported by Herb Strauss Theater Season Sponsor The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company and Show Sponsor The Royal Shell Companies.

To purchase tickets and learn more about upcoming shows at BIG ARTS Herb Strauss Theater, call the box office at 472-6862 or 395-0900; e-mail info@BIGARTS.org; or log on to www.BIGARTS.org.✧

Soloists Headline Messiah Concert At Mann Hall

by Jim George

Four nationally known soloists will be featured in the *Messiah* concert at Barbara B. Mann Hall December 16 at 8 p.m. This traditional holiday classic will be presented by the Symphonic Chorale of Southwest Florida, making its debut as an independent chorus. The chorale was formerly the Southwest Florida Symphony Chorus that, after almost 50 years severed ties with the Southwest Florida Symphony Orchestra for budgetary reasons. This will be the first major public concert for the 80-voice group under its new name. In an innovative approach the chorale is inviting members of area choirs to join them on stage for the final *Hallelujah Chorus*. A rehearsal for individuals from area choirs will be held on Thursday night, December, 15 at 7 p.m. at South Fort Myers High School on Plantation Boulevard.

The chorus will be accompanied by the Southwest Florida Symphony Orchestra under the baton of the chorale's Artistic Director Timothy McDonnell. According to Tonya Player, chorus manager, the two organizations will continue to collaborate in the future but will function as separate organizations.

Jennifer Paulino, soprano, was praised by the *San Francisco Classical Voice* for her "warm, vibrant, glowing, and limpid" voice. Paulino is a standout among Baroque soloists and has performed extensively both nationally and internationally.

Mezzo soprano Sandra Carney resides in Philadelphia, where she is an active performer and teacher. She has performed across the United States, as well as Italy, Scotland, Canada, and Japan.

Tenor James Barbato most recently completed a residency with Florida Grand Opera's young artist program. His previous concert engagements have included Handel's *Messiah* with Boston's Trinity Church, Mozart's *Mass in C minor* with Boston University, and Beethoven's *Choral Fantasy* with the Marlboro Music Festival.

Stephen Mumbert, baritone, is quickly gaining attention on the concert and opera stage throughout the United States and England. He was recently praised for being "vocally, the most promising singer" and for "possessing an assured and stylish technique" for his interpretation of the title role in Mozart's *Don Giovanni* at the Aldeburgh Festival in England.

Tickets are available through the Symphonic Chorale at 560-5695, Chorale Members, and The Southwest Florida Symphony Box Office at 418-1500.✧



Jennifer Paulino



Sandra Carney



James Barbato



Stephen Mumbert

Art Divine Holiday Sale Opens 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 10 and runs through January 12. Art will all be original work by local artists and priced no higher than \$99. Favorite artist's work will fly out the doors! Included in the hundreds of pieces will be both framed and unframed works done in various media for really great prices. The sought-after minis will be hung and ready for purchase. These small works of art have become collectors items locally and are eagerly awaited each season. For \$10, you can buy a small painting and help support the art association as well. A framed watercolor painting by the famous artist Jerry McLish has been donated to the Art Association, which will be raffling off the painting starting the 10th. Drawing for the winner will be at the Open House on January 12, and proceeds will benefit the scholarship fund. The gallery will be open during regular hours listed below.

Rose Edin, TWSA NWS, will be teaching a workshop at the Fort Myers Beach Art Association January 16-20 in the Wonderful World of Color. She is a watercolor instructor, author and well known fine watercolor artist. The work-

shop is \$300 for members and \$330 for non-members and more information can be found by calling Karen Borden at 239-463-0343. Sign up now to insure your space in the workshop. February's workshop will be led by Carol Frye NWS ISEA, a Florida artist who works in multimedia, intuitive methods. Her workshop is \$285 for members and \$315 for non-members. More information on workshops can be found on the web at www.fortmyersbeachart.com or by calling the gallery at 463-3909. Don't miss these famous artists who are brought to the beach to teach at a very reasonable cost.

The Art Association also sponsors our local artists teaching short workshops here on the beach. Sue Pink will be teaching "Collage" on February 2 and 3. These classes will cost only \$50 per day for expert instruction. Neil Walling will again teach his "Plein Air Painting" for three mornings on February 23, 24 and 25 for only \$20 each. For the first time, Patty O'Kane will offer "Introduction to Drawing and Dry Media Exposure," an introductory level/refresher course using various materials and techniques in a series of four evening classes from 6 to 9 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, January 25 and 26 and Tuesday and Wednesday, January 31 and February 1.

Cost is \$100 for the series, or \$25 for each class (contact instructor)*Materials will be provided. We are very fortunate to have such highly qualified instructors here on the beach.

The working gallery on Donora and Shellmound, Fort Myers Beach, is open



Some mini paintings

photo by Michele Buelow

during the hours of 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 3 p.m. on Sunday. Gallery will be closed December 24, 25 and 31 and January 1. For more information on shows or

classes, please call the gallery at 239-463-3909 or visit our website at www.fortmyersbeachart.com.*

Read us online at IslandSunNews.com

The Golden Age Of Radio At Florida Rep

by Di Saggau



The Holiday Classic *It's a Wonderful*

Life is now showing at Florida Repertory Theatre, reimagined as a live radio play. The action begins a half hour before show time when

the audience is treated to roaming telegraph boys and cigarette girls in period costumes and a trio of screaming young girls who would be called "groupies" in today's terminology. It's a clever way to get the audience ready for the staged 1946 live radio broadcast of the beloved story on station WFRT.

The old time On Air and Applause signs light up at appropriate moments, and a lot of the old-time singing commercials take place adding to the evening's nostalgia. The show is touching and poignant, with performances that evoke laughter and tears.

Chris Kipiniak plays George Bailey, a dreamer and unsung hero, who never quite makes it out of his hometown of Bedford Falls. Claire K. Guy is his wife Mary. They both do a fine job showing a



The main cast members

complex range of emotions throughout the play.

In multiple roles are Peter Thomasson, Carrie Lund and Brad DePlanche.

All are great in their roles but I especially enjoyed DePlanche's characters which include Clarence the angel who has not yet earned his wings. His many facial expressions were a joy to watch.

The story is timely today considering it deals with the possible closing of a financial institution, a family savings and loan business.

When faced with a dilemma that could mean ultimate ruin, George considers suicide, but through the intercession of his guardian angel Clarence, he comes to see that his life is too precious to be thrown

away.

Watching the behind-the-mike antics of the cast and the technical intricacies of putting on a radio program, especially the sound effects, makes for a very interesting experience.

Mark Chambers as the Foley Artist, is in charge of all the sound effects which range from footsteps, to cracking ice and everything in between. He throws himself into his role in true comedic fashion.

Every now and then I closed my eyes and listened to everything as if it were a live radio broadcast. It brought back memories from my childhood, the pre-television era when live radio was in its heyday.

While watching a live radio show re-



Mark Chambers the Foley Artist

enactment is not quite as warm and fuzzy as the beloved classic movie, it does make for a very enjoyable evening, creating an inviting atmosphere that celebrates the spirit of the season.

It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play runs through December 18 at Florida Repertory Theatre, located in the Historic Arcade Theatre on Bay Street between Jackson and Hendry. Tickets are available at floridarep.org or by calling 332-4488. The show runs about 90 minutes without an intermission.

One more thing. Opening night, following the final curtain call, there was a very special event that took place. Chris Simpson, technical director, came on stage and proposed to his girlfriend of six years, Claire Guy. She accepted, they embraced, and we all wish them a wonderful life together.*

The Christmas Toyshop At Firehouse Theatre

The Firehouse Community Theatre will present *The Christmas Toyshop* by Michele L. Vacca, directed by Mike Shough and featuring the music of the Firehouse Singers.

The Christmas Toyshop is a touching, humorous story depicting wide eyed amazement as the characters discover the enchantment of Christmas.

The Firehouse Singers will present several holiday favorite songs under the direction of Nick Fidanza.

Showtimes are December 2, 3, 9 and 10 at 7 p.m. and December 4 and 11 at 2 p.m.

For advance ticket sales, call the box office at (863) 675-3066 or email us at infor@firehousecommunitytheatre.com.

The Firehouse Community Theatre is located at 241 North Bridge Street in downtown LaBelle. For more info about



Santa, played by Timmy Smith, checks his list as the Gypsy Doll, played by Mickey Shock, and the Swedish Doll, played by Rita Eder-Lunsmann, look into the crystal ball to see where they will be on Christmas mornin!

the theater, visit www.firehousecommunitytheatre.com.✪

Southwest Florida Symphony Annual Holiday Pops – Timeless Treasures

The Southwest Florida Symphony will present the annual Holiday Pops Concert on Saturday, December 17, at 8 p.m. at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall.

Composer/Arranger/Conductor Jim Stephenson brings his fresh take on Timeless Treasures of the Holiday Season, featuring many of his own arrangements created especially for and featuring members of the Southwest Florida Symphony. Vocalist Sara Dell'Omo, the first female featured soloist with the President's Own Marine Band, joins the orchestra in swinging versions of popular holiday favorites. The Southwest Florida Youth Symphony will take the stage side-by-side with the professional orchestra for two works by Rimsky-Korsakov.

The program will feature arrangements by Stephenson to include: *Bassoon It Will Be Christmas*, *Deck the Horns*, *I Wonder As I Wander* (featuring Brass Quintet), *Caribbean Christmas* and a variety of traditional holiday favorites.

Jim Stephenson is in demand as an orchestral and chamber music composer, maintaining a busy schedule fulfilling commissions, attending premieres, and conducting his music. With more than 150 works already to his credit as well as many notable performances, Stephenson has earned the respect of performers, audiences, and the press. Southwest Florida audiences enthusiastically received the premiere of his flute concerto at the final concert of the symphony orchestra's 2010-11 Season. Also in demand as a clinician and educator, Stephenson has served as composer-in-residence for festivals in Nevada, Massachusetts, and Illinois.

A multi-talented musician, Stephenson began his career as a performer, playing 17 seasons with the Naples Philharmonic

in Florida. As a seasoned orchestra member, he became attuned to the possibilities of all the instruments and early on developed a career as an arranger, an avenue he continues to pursue today. In this capacity, Stephenson's work can be heard on four recordings with Erich Kunzel and the Cincinnati Pops and was featured by Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops on a nation-wide Fourth of July telecast. Stephenson's arrangements have been performed/recorded/broadcast by virtually every major orchestra in the country.

Sara Dell'Omo, mezzo-soprano, is a native of Jacksonville, Texas. She joined The President's Own United States Marine Band in May 2005, becoming the first featured female vocal soloist in the Marine Band's 206-year history. As soloist and concert moderator, she performs regularly in the Washington DC area and across the country during the band's annual concert tour. Her most memorable performances include entertaining the President and First Lady during the Christmas holidays at the White House, providing music for the annual September 11 Memorial Service held at Arlington Cemetery, and musically supporting the Presidential funerals of President Reagan and Ford. Prior to joining The President's Own, Staff Sergeant Dell'Omo was a member of the U.S. Army Chorale at Fort Myer in Arlington, Virginia. In addition to her military service, Dell'Omo has been featured as guest alto soloist with the Harrisburg Chorale Society of Pennsylvania, in the Ashville Chorale Society of North Carolina as well as the Oratorio Society of Charlottesville, Virginia. She recently performed with the Washington National Opera Orchestra at the Kennedy Center as the alto soloist in Handel's *Messiah*. She earned her Bachelor of Music in Performance from

the University of North Texas, and is continuing her graduate work at George Mason University.

Tickets for the December 17 Holiday Pops at Barbara B. Mann are on sale. Patrons may order online at www.swflso.org or call the box office at 418-1500. Ticket prices are \$22 to \$62 and a special family package is available, four tickets for \$99.

The Holiday Pops Concert will be repeated (without the youth orchestra side-by-side) at the Village Church at Shell Point on Monday, December 19 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets for the Shell Point performance are \$25.

Join the Lee County's professional orchestra and celebrate the holidays.✪

Cabaret And Auction At FGCU

FGCU theatre students will host Thistletoe Cabaret and Silent Night Auction in the Florida Gulf Coast University Theatre Lab. It will be open to the public

It will be an evening of seasonal cheer and will include a reception of wine and heavy hors d'oeuvres where silent auction items can be viewed at 7 p.m. Following the reception, attendees will be entertained by the theatre students with holiday themed songs and acts in Thistletoe Cabaret at 8 p.m.

Proceeds will go directly to help FGCU theatre students take an original production to the Fringe Festival in Scotland, the world's largest and most significant performance festival.

Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased at theatrelab.fgcu.edu or by calling 590-7268.

Contact Professor and Director of FGCU Theatre Lab Barry Cavin at 590-7183.✪

Community Band Presents A Very Merry Christmas

The Lee County Community Band will present A Very Merry Christmas at Cape Coral High School on Sunday, December 11 at 3 p.m.

This annual free concert features carols, old favorites, and light classical pieces topped off by a sing-along and a special appearance by Santa Claus.

The program includes *Sleigh Ride* by Leroy Anderson, *March of the Toys* from Victor Herbert's *Babes in Toyland*, a portion of Handel's *Messiah* and *O Holy Night*.

Additional concerts this season are set for January 15, February 12, March 11, and April 1.

The band is directed by Richard Bradstreet; emcee and vocalist is Norman Jones.

For more information, visit www.leecountyband.org or phone Norman Jones at 995-2097.

Cape Coral High School is at 2300 Santa Barbara Boulevard.✪

English Country Dancing

Learn the social dances of the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. (year-round), at the Wa-ke Hatchee Recreation Center, 16760 Bass Road, Fort Myers, 432-2154. Dress is casual – wear flat shoes with non-slip soles and no flip-flops. Partners are not necessary and beginners welcome. The music is live and the evening is family-friendly.

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

Contact Gillian Carney, 603-9828, or email fortmyersdancers@hotmail.com.✪

Our email address is
press@riverweekly.com

Winners Of World Championship Of Sand Sculpting

The World Championship of Sand Sculpting winners for the solo division competition on Fort Myers Beach have been announced. They are:

- First Place – *Fallen Empire* by Damon Langlois of Victoria, British Columbia
- Second Place – *Post Traumatic Stress Disorder* by Brad Goll of Texas
- Third Place – *Stretched Too Thin* by Carl Jara of Ohio
- Fourth Place – *Bask* by Fergus Mulvaney of Ireland
- Fifth Place and Sculptor's Choice Award winner – *Dancing Dragon* by Joo Heng Tan of Singapore

The Sculptor's Choice Award is one of the most prized, as it is an award given by the sculptor's peers. It signifies distinct creativity and skill demonstration.

Charlie Beaulieu, event director and a World Championship winner 12 times, said, "This is the best venue the World Championship event has ever been held at. The sculptures are amazing which makes the judging very difficult." ❄️❄️



Fallen Empire by Damon Langlois



Post Traumatic Stress Disorder by Brad Goll



Sculptor Walter McDonald



Spectators at Quick Sand competition



Flying Colors by John Gowdy

Rotary's Cape Coral Festival Of The Arts

The Rotary Club of Cape Coral is excited to announce its 27th Annual Cape Coral Festival of the Arts on Saturday and Sunday, January 14 and 15 from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. rain or shine.

As one of Southwest Florida's largest art shows, the event showcases the works of over 300 juried artists and artisans featuring fine art, sculpture, pottery, jewelry, photography, metal works, mixed media and much more.

The festival takes place on Cape Coral Parkway in downtown Cape Coral between Del Prado Boulevard and Vincennes. Free admission and parking will be provided along with the area's largest collection of art, food and fun for the whole family.

The festival is produced by The Rotary Club of Cape Coral, Cape South and the City of Cape Coral. Event sponsors include Cape Coral Community Redevelopment Agency, Realmark Development, Artist Dream Gallery, Direct Impressions, News-Press Media Group, NBC-2, WINK-FM and *Happenings Arts & Entertainment Magazine*.

For more information, call 549-5615 or visit www.capecoralfestival.com. ❄️❄️



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Red Sunset Clam Chowder

- 2 slices bacon, cut into half-inch squares
- 1/3 cup onion, chopped
- 3 tablespoons green bell pepper, diced
- 3 tablespoons celery, diced
- 2/3 cup potato, peeled and diced
- 1 8-oz bottle clam juice
- 1 cup canned, diced tomatoes, with juice
- 1½ dozen littleneck clams, rinsed well
- 2 tablespoons fresh parsley, chopped
- salt and pepper to taste

Cook bacon in a three-quart heavy saucepan over medium heat until golden. Reduce heat to low. Add onion, bell pepper, and celery and cook until softened, about five minutes. Stir in potato, clam juice, and tomatoes; cover and simmer 10 minutes. Add clams; cover and simmer 8 to 10 minutes, stirring occasionally, until clams open. Discard any clams not open after 10 minutes. Move pan off heat. Remove clams with tongs reserving a few clams in the shell for garnish. Detach clam meat from remaining shells and return meat to chowder. Stir in parsley, salt and pepper to taste. Note: The chowder (without the clams and parsley) can be made one day ahead. Bring chowder to a simmer then add clams and



Red Sunset Clam Chowder

proceed as directed.

Yield 4 servings

Nutritional Value Per Serving

Calories 308, Calories From Fat 99, Total Fat 11g, Saturated Fat 3g, Trans Fatty Acid 0, Cholesterol 90mg, Total

Carbohydrates 19g, Protein 33g, Omega 3 Fatty Acid 0.39g

Look for Fresh from Florida ingredients at your grocery store.*

Programs At Northwest Regional Library

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

Adults

- English Café, 10:30 a.m. Thursdays, December 1, 8, 15
- 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.
- Holiday Town Square Exhibit: Musical Performances
 - 3 p.m. Saturday, December 3: Sun-Sations Barbershop Quartet
 - 1 p.m. Monday, December 10: Dulcimer, Autoharps and Fiddles with Frank and Connie Dennis
 - 11 a.m. Saturday, December 17: Calendar Girls Dance Troup
 - Enjoy these live musical performances featuring holiday music.
 - Holiday Town Square Exhibit
 - From Page to Stage: Florida Repertory Theatre presents *Santaland Diaries* by David Sedaris, 3 p.m. Saturday, December 8
 - Santaland Diaries* is the story of the author's experiences working as an elf

at Macy's Department store. The Florida Rep actors will perform an excerpt from *Santaland Diaries*. Join in the discussion by reading the play and catch one of the performances of the play December 14 through 31 at the Arcade Theatre. The actors will be on hand after the performance to discuss the play and answer questions.

- Nibbles and Novels, 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, December 14. Chat about books. Discover new favorites. Enjoy a snack. Meet other book lovers.

- Holiday Town Square Exhibit: Readers Theatre, 4 p.m. Tuesday, December 20. Enjoy a holiday-themed readers theatre in our exhibit area.

Family

- Family Storytime, 10:30 a.m. Thursdays, December 1, 8. This program is for the whole family and lasts about 30 minutes. Registration is required.

- Holiday Town Square Exhibit: Musical Performances

- 3 p.m. Saturday, December 3: Sun-Sations Barbershop Quartet

- 1 p.m. Monday, December 10: Dulcimer, Autoharps and Fiddles with Frank and Connie Dennis

- 11 a.m. Saturday, December 17: Calendar Girls Dance Troup
- Enjoy these live musical performances featuring holiday music.

- Baby-Parent Rhyme Time, 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, December 7

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.

- Holiday Town Square Exhibit, From Page to Stage: Florida Repertory Theatre presents *Santaland Diaries* by David Sedaris, 3 p.m. Saturday, December 8

Santaland Diaries is the story of the author's experiences working as an elf at Macy's Department store. The Florida Rep actors will perform an excerpt from *Santaland Diaries*. Join in the discussion by reading the play and catch one of the performances of the play December 14 through 31 at the Arcade Theatre. The actors will be on hand after the performance to discuss the play and answer questions.

- Holiday Town Square Exhibit: Readers Theatre, 4 p.m. Tuesday, December 20. Enjoy a special, holiday-theme readers theatre in our exhibit area.

Children

- Kids Read Down Fines, 5 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, December 13

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

- Snowflake Storytime and Fun!, 6 p.m. Tuesday, December 20

Kids, head to the library for a special holiday storytime and craft. For ages three to eight. Registration is required and begins December 5.

- Vintage Video Gaming – Super Mario Brothers, 2 p.m. Wednesday, December 21. Play vintage video games from the 90s! For ages five to 12. Registration is required.

Teens

- December Trivia for Teens, December 1 through 15

Available during normal library operating hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesday: noon to 8 p.m.; Friday, Saturday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

How well do you know your December trivia? Complete and submit the trivia quiz, located at the teen reference desk between December 1 and December 15. A winner will be selected from the correct answers on December 16 at 4 p.m. The prize will be a \$25 gift certificate. Sponsored by Friends of the Northwest Regional Library.

- Yu-Gi-Oh Card Gaming, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, December 3. Gather with like minded Yu-Gi-Oh card players in the Teen Café. Play for fun and share strategies. This is not a tournament.

- Kids Read Down Fines, 5 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, December 13

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

- Cool Stuff, 6 p.m. Tuesday, December 13

For tweens ages 10 through 12, Cool Stuff will feature activities in science,

continued on page 33

24 Top Pros Compete Here This Weekend For \$3 Million In Greg Norman's Popular Shark Shootout



by Ed Frank

The premier PGA Tour post-season event – Greg Norman's Shark Shootout – gets underway this weekend at Naples' Tiburon Golf Club where 24 of the top golfers in the world compete for the \$3 million purse.

This is the 23rd edition of the popular event and Norman has paired the group into 12 two-man teams with the winning duo sharing the \$750,000 first-place prize.

The field includes the 2011 PGA Champion Keegan Bradley, Player of the Year candidate Webb Simpson, the colorful Rickie Fowler and Steve Stricker, ranked No. 5 in the world.

Twelve of the 24 players combined for 15 titles just this year and, as a group, have amassed 130 PGA Tour victories, including nine major championships.

The three-day shootout starts today, Friday, with a modified alternate-shot format, a better ball Saturday, and Sunday's final round scramble. The Golf Channel will carry Friday's round and NBC will telecast the weekend competition.

Here are the teams:

Scott McCarron and Greg Norman; Jerry Kelley and Steve Stricker; Keegan Bradley and Brendan Steele; Charles Howell III and Justin Leonard; Rickie Fowler and Camilo Villegas; Anthony Kim and Webb Simpson; Stewart Cink and Bo Van Pelt; Jason Dufner and Sean O'Hair; Chad Campbell and Chris DiMarco; Rory Sabbatini and Jhonattan Vegas; Mark Calcavecchia and Nick Price; and JB Holmes and Kenny Perry.

Kelly and Stricker were the 2009 shootout champions.

This will mark the 11th consecutive year that Norman has brought his tournament to the Tiburon course – evidence of the strong fan support in this area.

Bobby Valentine Surprise Pick for New Red Sox Manager

The outspoken Bobby Valentine, who last managed in the Major Leagues back in 2002, last week was named the 45th manager of the Boston Red Sox.

Valentine replaces Terry Francona who managed the Red Sox to two World Series titles in his seven-year span, but was ousted following this season's historic

September collapse.

Valentine compiled a 1,117-1,072 record in a 15-year managing career with Texas and the New York Mets. He took the Mets to the World Series in 2000 and won a Japanese championship in 2005 while managing overseas.

His first order of business after being named to the Red Sox job was flying to the Dominican Republic to meet with slugger David Ortiz who is a free agent.

The Red Sox have said repeatedly that they want to resign the popular Ortiz who has been a mainstay for Boston for the last nine seasons during which he hit 320 home runs and drove in 1028 runs.

Everblades Win Two of Three Last Weekend from First-Place Gwinnett

The Florida Everblades moved within three points of first-place Gwinnett by winning two of three games last week by identical 4-3 scores, both in overtime.

Florida began the week with a season record of 11-9-1-1 for a total of 24 points to Gwinnett's 27 points in the ECHL South Division.

The Everblades continue their home stand this weekend at Germain Arena with Friday and Saturday night contests against the 12-9 Elmira Jackals who hold the first-place spot in the Atlantic Division.*

Minnesota Twins Announce 2012 Spring Training Schedule

The Minnesota Twins will play a 17-game home Grapefruit League schedule next year – the 22d season that the Twins have trained at the Lee County Sports Complex in Fort Myers.

The season opener is March 3 against Tampa Bay and concludes April 4 against the Fort Myers Miracle, the Twins' Class A farm team.

The World Champion St. Louis Cardinals visit on March 9 and the New York Yankees follow on March 11.

Pitchers and catchers are scheduled to report February 19 with the remainder of the team due on February 23.

The complete home schedule:

March 3 – Tampa Bay 1:05 p.m.

March 5 – Boston 7:05 p.m.

March 8 – Tampa Bay 1:05 p.m.

March 9 – St. Louis 1:05 p.m.

March 11 – New York Yankees 1:05 p.m.

March 13 – Toronto 1:05 p.m.

March 15 – Pittsburgh 1:05 p.m.

March 16 – Baltimore 1:05 p.m.

March 18 – Pittsburgh 1:05 p.m.

March 22 – Baltimore 1:05 p.m.

March 24 – Tampa Bay 3:05 p.m.

March 26 – Tampa Bay 1:05 p.m.

March 28 – Philadelphia 1:05 p.m.

March 30 – Boston 1:05 p.m.

March 31 – Pittsburgh 1:05 p.m.

April 3 – Tampa Bay 1:05 p.m.

April 4 – Fort Myers Miracle 1:05 p.m.

Spring Training season and group tickets are now on sale and single-game tickets will begin January 14.*

New Junior Achievement Executive Named



Anne Frazier

The executive committee serving Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida Inc. (JA) unanimously voted to hire Anne Frazier as the next president and CEO for the nonprofit organization. Junior Achievement, through a dedicated volunteer network, provides in-school and after-school programs for students in Collier, Lee

and Charlotte counties that focus on three content areas: work readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy. Frazier officially started the position on November 14 and is training with outgoing president Victoria Stephan.

"It is so exciting to take the reins at Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida at this point in history," said Frazier. "The mission of providing young people with lessons in economics, free enterprise and financial literacy is more relevant than ever. The organization is at the top of its game, reaching more than 10,000 students in Southwest Florida with its programs, yet there is so much potential for further growth. I am honored to join this amazing team and know we'll reach some exciting goals together."

"We are really excited to have someone of Anne's caliber and expertise joining JA," said David Hall, chair of the 2011-2012 board of directors for JA. "She has a long history of nonprofit leadership and a passion for serving youth. She's a great addition to the JA team."

Frazier brings more than 12 years of experience in nonprofit leadership to the position, and her career shows a dedication to youth and education. Frazier replaces Victoria Stephan, who has served as president of Junior Achievement for 12 years. Stephan will retire from the position December 2.

For more information, contact the Southwest Florida office at 225-2590 or visit www.JASWFL.org.*

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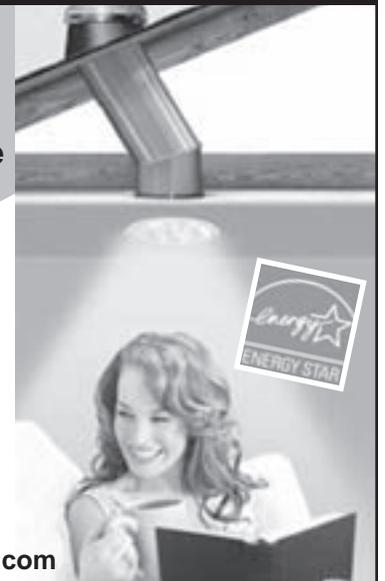


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School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSP

Dear Readers, Is it possible that there are just a few simple activities that you can do with your child that could increase their academic success?

Well, in fact, the answer is yes as recently documented by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). This is what their research revealed.

Every three years the OECD tests 15 year old students in the world's leading industrialized nations on their reading comprehension and their ability to apply what they have learned in math and science by asking them to solve real problems. American students have not been performing very well on these exams lately. So in an effort to find out why some students perform better than others, an extensive survey of parent practices were initiated in 2006. Eventually by 2009 the parents of 5,000 students who took these specialized tests, known as PISA (Program for International Student Assessment) were interviewed.

They found that the parents who read frequently (almost daily) to their children in primary (elementary) school as compared to reading infrequently or not at all produced much higher student test scores. And this advantage was seen across socio-economic levels as well. The researchers reported that they found a 25-point higher score with the students whose parents had read frequently to them. They indicated that this point difference was the equivalent of well over half a school year.

Parental involvement has often been reported as an important way for parents to help their children do well in school. Another study, this one conducted by the National School Board Association for Public Education, looked at different types of parental involvement and it's impact on student performance. They found that some parent activities impacted student performance significantly more than others. According to Patte Barth, the Director of the National School Board's Association's for Public Education, "parent involvement such as monitoring homework, making sure their children get to school, reward efforts and talking up the idea of going to college have been linked to better attendance, grades, test scores and preparation for college." She reported that "children's learning at home is a more powerful driver of achievement than parents attending PTA meetings, participating in fund raising and going to back-to-school nights."

Clearly the message from these studies is that parents must be involved with their children's learning. Reading a book to your children, asking about homework, and rewarding your children's efforts are activities that all parents can do regardless of education, economic or social background. These simple activities could make a very real difference in your child's success at school. So read a book with them, ask to see their homework, discuss it with them, and encourage their efforts to learn. You will be glad you did.

*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.**



Student Services Building

courtesy Edison State College Collier Campus

College Campus' Student Services Building Opens

Edison State College Collier Campus students now have a one-stop location for their needs. The new, 23,700 square-foot Student Services building is open and ready.

"It's a beautiful, energy-efficient building that gives our students a single location for our students, from admission, testing, records and advising to the cashier's office and our new, expanded

bookstore," said Dr. Robert R. Jones, Interim Campus President.

The Student Services Building also has administrative offices and a community room on the second floor. Visitor parking to the building is available off the west entrance to the campus on Grand Lely Drive.

The Allen & Marla Weiss Health Sciences Hall is nearing construction completion and is scheduled to open in early 2012.

The Edison State College Collier Campus, 7007 Lely Cultural Parkway, is located off Collier Boulevard, three miles north of Tamiami Trail East.*

Edison College Names Acting District President

The Edison State College Board of Trustees has appointed Dr. Patricia Land to acting district president, effective Thursday, November 30.

Dr. Land has served as the Charlotte campus president since November 2002 and previously as district administrator in charge for extended periods of time. She has worked in various levels of higher education since 1978.

The board's decision followed a 7-1 vote during the November 28 meeting to place former District President Dr. Kenneth Walker on paid administrative leave pending an investigation to terminate with cause. The Board also moved to contact Randy Hanna, Division of Florida Colleges chancellor, to assist with the search for an interim president and to begin a national search for a permanent district president within 60 days.*



Dr Patricia Land

Annual FGCU Invitational Math Competition

Florida Gulf Coast University hosts the ninth annual FGCU Mathematics Competition for more than 900 middle and high school students from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 8 beginning in Whitaker Hall.

FGCU will host over 40 different schools from Southwest Florida as well as multiple schools from all over the state. The contest has grown to the largest mathematics competition in Florida.

Participation is open to all middle school, junior high school and senior high school students and is divided into six divisions: algebra I, algebra II, geometry, statistics, pre-calculus and calculus. Students can participate in individual and team rounds for each division. This year, a special section in chemistry will be offered as a pilot for the new STEM contest coming soon.

There will be prizes for the top 12 finishers in each of the six individual subject tests. The top eight teams will receive team trophies, and there will be sweepstakes trophies for the top five schools and door prizes. Each student will receive a certificate of participation by mail. An answer guide to each exam will be provided to each coach at the conclusion of the testing.

The top finisher in each of the six individual subject tests will receive a scholarship to FGCU.

This year, Baylor University's Vice Provost for Strategic Educational Initiatives, Edward Burger, will be the featured speaker.

Burger is also Lissack Professor for Social Responsibility and Personal Ethics at Williams College, and is winner of the 2010 Robert Foster Cherry Professor for Great Teaching, Baylor University. For more information on Burger, visit his web page at <http://web.williams.edu/go/math/eburger/>.

Detailed schedules, contest rules and registration forms are available at www.fgcu.edu/events/mathcompetition/.

For more information, contact Jerry Ellis, professor of mathematics and contest director, at 239-590-7253.*

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Re-Imagining The American Dream

by Andrew Stansell

Florida Gulf Coast University was recently represented at the 2011 National Humanities Conference in St. Petersburg, Florida by Jim Wohlpart, professor and associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at FGCU, and Peter Blaze Corcoran, director of the Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education.

Wohlpart and Corcoran attended the conference on Friday, November 4. The event hosted over 300 participants from all 50 states and several U.S. territories that were brought together to discuss what The American Dream means to the citizens of our nation. Renowned author, poet and center board member Terry Tempest Williams was selected to be this year's Walter Capps Memorial Lecturer. She passionately addressed how the American Dream should be re-imagined as a dream of Earth.

According to the Federation of State Humanities Councils, the conference was intended to inspire participants to challenge how the humanities might help us to sustain ideals, inspire civility, rekindle hope, and re-envision the American Dream.

Wohlpart and Corcoran led an Earth Charter Workshop at the conference. They worked with educators and humanities scholars on the use of the Earth Charter in their work. They challenged participants to embrace its guiding principles in their re-imag-



Jim Wohlpart and Peter Blaze Corcoran with Florida Humanities Council panelists

ination of the American Dream. Corcoran said, "We were pleased to find so many professional staff of state humanities councils who were eager to use the Earth Charter to create programs for teachers in their states."

For more information about the Florida Humanities Council or the work of the Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education email cese@fgcu.edu or visit the website at www.fgcu.edu/cese.

Locals Named To SCAD Dean's List

Several local residents have been named to the Dean's List at the Savannah College of Art and Design for the fall quarter 2011. Full-time undergraduate students who earn a grade point average of 3.5 or above for the quarter receive recognition on the Dean's List.

Local residents include:

Katherine Knowlton of Fort Myers

Jayleen Jackson of Fort Myers

Max Phillips of North Fort Myers

Hillary Gunder of Fort Myers

Adeshola Adigun of Cape Coral

The Savannah College of Art and Design is a private, non-profit, accredited institution conferring bachelor's and master's degrees at distinctive locations and online to prepare talented students for professional careers. SCAD offers degrees in more than 40 areas of study, as well as minors in nearly 60 disciplines

in Savannah and Atlanta, Georgia; in Hong Kong; in Lacoste, France; and online through SCAD eLearning.

SCAD has more than 20,000 alumni and offers an exceptional education and unparalleled career preparation. The diverse student body, consisting of more than 11,000 students, comes from all 50 United States and more than 100 countries worldwide. Each student is nurtured and motivated by a faculty of more than 700 professors with extraordinary academic credentials and valuable professional experience. These professors emphasize learning through individual attention in an inspiring university environment. SCAD's innovative curriculum is enhanced by advanced, professional-level technology, equipment and learning resources and has garnered acclaim from respected organizations and publications, including 3D World, American Institute of Architects, BusinessWeek, DesignIntelligence, U.S. News & World Report and the Los Angeles Times.

For more information, visit www.scad.edu.

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Dr. Dave

Walls Of My Heart



by Dr. Dave Hepburn

I could always tell when Bill was in the waiting room. His telltale bullhorn honk and blow preceded a loud guttural reach into the bottom of his lungs in order to expectorate that

last piece of inhaled microbial mass. This would usually garner stares of revulsion and comments of utter disgust, primarily from his wife. Bill had a few ongoing medical problems. In addition to a chronic cough, he battled depression but one would never have known given his upbeat jovial demeanor and backslapping as he entered the exam room. I would slap his back in return, partly hoping to dislodge the alien that appeared to be jammed somewhere deep in the roots of his bronchial tree. His appointment was always punctuated with, "Doc, you're the greatest" a couple of times each visit. Before he left there was a quick yet manly, "How about a hug doc, you're the greatest". Bill was good for the ego

and soothing to the soul. Bill was poor. Dirt poor. Can't-buy-new-socks poor. Formerly he was a galley slave, a navy cook who now couldn't get work doing what he loved but rather ended up cleaning kitchens all night long so the working cooks could come in and prepare food in ways that Bill never approved of. He was a little bitter about that. His three teenage sons were a concern to him as he didn't want them to feel poor. But every second visit Bill would bring me a gift. A ball cap he had found on a bus, a coupon from one of the restaurants he cleaned, a belt or a tie. He had no money. I have always recalled the words of an accountant who commented that he had clients who made small fortunes yet contributed little if anything to charity. Little money or little thought. They hoard their gains and will clutch onto them until they die, if not longer.

That cough turned into lung cancer, years of smoking in the galleys of the navy ships, ashes spilling from his cigarette into the soup of the day, cream of Marlboro. The day I revealed this to him I was met with the expected flood of tears from his wife. Bill, initially stunned, recovered quickly with, "I knew you'd find out what was wrong with me."

"You're the best doc."

Ya, sure Bill, I did a great job.

"Doc how long do I have?"

Not long.

The next week he returned with his Disneyland-bound sisters who decided they would take him to his heaven on earth before he was taken to his heaven off earth.

"I've always wanted to go to Disneyland doc. Can I go?"

Sure, Bill, but don't delay.

"I won't take any really long rides doc. How about a hug."

The cancer did the usual lung cancer thing and spread voraciously. It was killing Bill too quickly. There is no miracle cure for lung cancer. Bill died. People wept. I am a people. I thought of how poor, impoverished Bill now has the same amount of money in his pocket as the kazzillionaire who inevitably dies ... bupkiss.

Back at the office there was a gift waiting for me. It was from Bill, a beautiful expensive mahogany-framed picture. This gorgeous Disneyland memento adorns my wall and the wall of my heart to this day. It is a pencil sketch of one of the seven dwarfs. You guessed it... Doc.

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.

dearPharmacist

Understanding Pancreatitis And Pancreatic Cancer



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

Dear Pharmacist: I've been very sick with pancreatitis. Do you have any treatment regimens or vitamin recommendations that could stop this problem?

JM, Tulsa, Oklahoma

I believe so, but it stuns me that most people reading today's column aren't interested in pancreatitis. They think it won't ever happen to them but the sad reality is there are a few things on pretty much every one's lunch and dinner table nowadays that dramatically increase the risk for pancreatic problems and digestive disorders. If you don't know anyone with pancreatic problems, think again. Diabetes and even certain digestive problems are huge clues that your pancreas needs help.

I assume you are seeing a specialist, as pancreatitis is not something you should self treat. Most people hardly realize they even have a pancreas until it gets overworked, which isn't hard to do with the standard American diet, and overgrowth of micro-organisms in the gut. The pancreas just quietly goes about its business of secreting essential hormones to help you digest your food. Once inflamed, termed 'pancreatiti,' the pancreatic enzymes literally start digesting the pancreas itself.

This causes pancreatic insufficiency,

hallmarked by pale, bulky or malodorous stools, as well as undigested food/fat that is easily visible in the stool. It can cause incredible pain, usually left-sided or radiating to the back. A diet of processed foods and high-fat or fried foods can increase your risk for pancreatic complications. So can certain popular medications known to harm the pancreas.

I've covered everything you need to know about this in my ebook, *Understanding Pancreatitis and Pancreatic Cancer* which was just released in November, National Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month.

It will shock most people to learn that a very popular, supposed healthy beverage is actually destroying your pancreas! Contrary to what some physicians say, I have researched and found natural dietary supplements (herbals) that eliminate, or at least reduce the intensity of pain. You will learn how eating one certain vegetable every day can support digestive health, and at the same lower blood pressure. I'll teach you about two metabolic pathways that are hyperactive in people with cancer, and exactly which foods and supplements turn off these pathways.

Why would I spend two years to write a book that affects a small percentage of people? Because pancreatitis sufferers have so few options, the pain is disabling, and incidence is on the rise. My book is one of a kind and prints out to 120 pages. It elaborates on dozens of natural dietary supplements including dandelion, chamomile, resveratrol,

peppermint, glutamine, vitamin E and astaxanthin among others. I have worldwide readership, so there are herbal options from the Chinese and Ayurvedic perspective. I'm so proud of this ebook, it will help ease suffering, and hopefully, prevent some of you from getting it.

Understanding Pancreatitis and Pancreatic Cancer is now available for purchase on Kindles from Amazon.com, and from my website SuzyCohen.com as an ebook.

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.

Special Equestrians Benefit Dinner

The Taste of Love 9 benefit for Special Equestrians' Therapeutic Riding Program is scheduled for Sunday, March 4 at 5 p.m. at The Design Studio by Raymond in Fort Myers. The annual extravaganza features cuisine by 10 local chefs, wine parings, live and silent auctions and live entertainment.

Tickets are \$100 per person and may be reserved by calling 226-1221, 565-3792 or 851-7070.

The Design Studio by Raymond is at 13830 Jetport Commerce Parkway.

For more information about Special Equestrians visit www.specialequestrians.net.

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,

My dear friend of many, many years is dying from what I think is a preventable condition. I am going to miss her terribly and feel that she has been betrayed by her national health insurance.

It appears in order to save money the doctors did not order an expensive diagnostic procedure and only ordered the procedure when symptoms developed. And by that time it was too late. The final costs for tests, treatment and terminal care far, far exceeds the cost of the diagnostic procedure, when her condition could have been diagnosed at a curable stage if only it had been done.

Please tell your readers that national health insurance does have problems, and they economize and prioritize in order to keep cost down. Do you have an opinion on this?

Delia

Dear Delia,

It is not just health insurance; it is health maintenance organizations and health insurance in general. Insurance models are built on a medical model of treating illness versus preventing illness. It is only recently that insurance models have recognized the value of preventive medicine, and still not all preventive tests and procedures are covered.

Pryce

Dear Delia,

Our health care has its faults for sure, but I am very grateful that my insurance paid for a diagnostic procedure that I am sure prevented a long-term problem and death.

I am a strong believer in prevention e.g. diet, exercise and lifestyle changes – with the goal not to be living to be 110 but to enjoy the best quality time for as long as possible.

Lizzie

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

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- Do your eyelids close while you are reading?
- When you play tennis, do you have trouble serving?
- Do your eyelids feel heavy?



Natasha Larson, COA

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Before



After



Concert To Help Local Man In Need Of Kidney Transplant

Kenny Cox needs a kidney transplant, but the costs are overwhelming. Volunteers are planning a concert to help offset his expenses.

In the mid-90s, Cox was diagnosed with renal reflux, which has caused irreversible damage to his kidneys. His left kidney currently functions at just 20 percent, and his right kidney has completely failed. Doctors say a kidney transplant is critical to his survival.

Despite his health challenges, Cox, 46, is very optimistic and focuses on the positive things in his life, such as his girlfriend and his family and friends. He is surrounded by a strong support system of loved ones who will undergo testing to see if they are suitable kidney donors, and he's very grateful. A painter and musician, Cox loves using his artistic abilities and spending time outdoors camping. He hopes to resume his normal lifestyle once he receives his new kidney.

A kidney transplant costs approximately \$250,000. Even with health insurance, Cox faces significant medical expenses related to his transplant. For the rest of his life, he will need follow-up care and daily anti-rejection medications. The cost of post-transplant medications can range from \$2,000 to \$5,000 per month, and they are as critical to his survival as the transplant itself.

To overcome these financial challenges, Cox turned to the National Foundation for Transplants (NFT) for assistance. NFT is a nonprofit organization that helps transplant patients raise funds to pay for transplant-related expenses.

"Kenny has battled health complications for years," said Lauren Wilmer, NFT fundraising consultant, "but he manages to maintain a good attitude, and he's an inspiration to many. At NFT, we're helping Kenny raise the necessary funds so he can keep concentrating on his health without having to constantly worry about his medical bills."

Friends and family are planning an outdoor concert called "Blues, Sweat and Cheers" Sunday, December 11 from noon to 6 p.m. at Alliance for the Arts, 10091 McGregor Boulevard. Tickets are \$25, with free admission for children 12 and younger. The concert will feature local band The Troubadasters, Nashville recording blues artist Seth Walker and international recording artist Dana Paul and Spinning Wheel, his nine-piece tribute band to Blood, Sweat and Tears.

Admission includes one raffle ticket, with opportunities to purchase additional tickets. Raffle prizes include diamond jewelry, restaurant and hotel gift certificates, fishing trips, sporting event tickets, and golf outings. Refreshments are available for purchase. Attendees are invited to bring blankets or chairs to use on the lawn, but no outside food and drinks are permitted.

Paul is donating his performance to maximize the proceeds available for Cox's transplant expenses.

"This is for our special, beautiful brother Kenny," said Paul. "He's amazingly talented and has a kind heart, and I'm thrilled to be part of this day to help him. I hope many people will come out to enjoy the concert. It's a win-win for everyone!"

For information, contact Kelly Pohler at kellypohler@yahoo.com or 691-7455.

To make a donation in honor of Cox, mail a tax-deductible gift to the NFT Florida Kidney Fund, 5350 Poplar Avenue, Suite 430, Memphis, TN 38119. Be sure to write "in honor of Kenny Cox" in the memo line. Secure donations also can be made online at www.transplants.org. Donors should click on "Patients We Help" to locate Cox.

NFT is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization based in Memphis, Tennessee that has been helping transplant patients overcome financial obstacles since 1983. NFT provides fundraising expertise and advocacy to transplant patients by organizing fundraising campaigns in the patients' own communities. In the past 27 years, NFT has helped generate nearly \$59 million to assist patients with their expenses.

NFT assists more than 1,200 transplant candidates and recipients nationwide. For more information about NFT, call 800-489-3863 or visit www.transplants.org.

Bank Employees Volunteer At Harry Chapin United Way Day Of Caring



Fifth Third employees volunteering at the Harry Chapin Food Bank. From left: Jim Marcelak, Diane Williams, Ashley Reites, Brandon Johnson, Ryan Dixon, David Petrsek; front row from left: Lori Noel, Patrick Amoaku, Mike Bailey

Employees of Fifth Third Bank participated in a United Way Day of Caring project at the Harry Chapin Food Bank. The group of employees inspected and sorted food donated to the food bank, readying it for distribution in the

local community.

The United Way Day of Caring project was a partnership among Fifth Third Bank, the United Way Volunteer Center and Harry Chapin Food Bank.

Jim Marcelak, vice president for business banking at Fifth Third, was excited about the experience at Harry Chapin Food Bank. "As part of our ongoing commitment to volunteer and provide support in the communities we serve, the Fifth Third Business Banking team was delighted to have the opportunity to assist at the Harry Chapin Food Bank. Our team learned about the process as well as the amount of donations and hard work that is required to allow the Food Bank to assist the residents in our community in their time of need. On behalf of all Fifth Third employees, thank you for the opportunity to partner in the community."

The United Way's Days of Caring is a year-round program that connects businesses with nonprofit agencies in need of assistance. Businesses have many choices as they select projects as needed by the agencies, including the type of project, location in our community, degree of physical labor, and time commitment.

"The volunteer spirit is very much alive in our community," said Cliff Smith, president, United Way of Lee, Hendry, and Glades. "We are very thankful for the help that Fifth Third Bank and its employees give to the United Way and our partners like Harry Chapin Food Bank. Volunteers make it possible for agencies to accomplish much more than otherwise possible."

The United Way Volunteer Center, the designated Volunteer Center for Lee, Hendry and Glades, creates connections among volunteer opportunities and individuals, families, businesses and groups to help them serve their community. You can reach The United Way Volunteer Center by calling 433-2000.

Lecture On End Of Life Care

Florida Gulf Coast University's Continuing Education and Off Campus Programs, in collaboration with 21st Century CARE and the Fort Myers Ministerial Association, presents Ethical Dilemmas at End of Life lecture and luncheon for faith leaders, health-care professionals, caregivers, and those involved or interested in palliative care.

The lecture will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, January 18 at The Atrium, 8695 College Parkway, Suite 1181, in Fort Myers. Registration begins at 11a.m. A buffet luncheon will be provided by Dignity Memorial.

There is no cost for the lecture; however, for clergy or healthcare professionals desiring a Certificate of Attendance the cost is \$10. Contact hours through State of Florida's CE Broker for most healthcare professions are available; cost for contact hours is \$15.

Seating is limited to 75, and reserva-

tions are required by January 6 by calling 938-9301.

Participants will learn about the process of ethical decision-making and the four principles of bio-medical ethics. End of life ethical dilemmas such as disclosure and communication, decision-making, artificial nutrition and hydration, palliative sedation and assisted suicide will be discussed in addition to complicating factors such as when patients are children or adolescents. Attendees will also learn about the ways that cultural values and beliefs may influence ethical decisions at

the end of life, and the ways that ethical issues can create moral distress and influence the grief reactions of families, hospice and palliative staff and volunteers.

Kenneth J. Doka, professor of gerontology at The College of New Rochelle and senior consultant to the Hospice Foundation of America, is keynote speaker. Doka has written numerous books on end of life care, and published journal articles dealing with grief and loss issues.

For further information, contact Christina Gallagher at 425-3277.

10th Annual Hope Gala To Feature Exclusive Auction Items



Hope HealthCare Services President and CEO Samira K. Beckwith (center) joins co-chairs Karen Hartley (left) and Connie Lummis to plan for the 10th Annual Hope Gala

From Africa to Paris, the Super Bowl to the Final Four, from behind the ropes to courtside and into the wild blue yonder, the 10th Annual Hope Gala promises once-in-a-lifetime experiences, most of them not available for purchase anywhere at any price.

Hope Gala co-chairs Connie Lummis and Karen Hartley said the 10th anniversary of the event offered the perfect opportunity to turn up the energy on a night that will wow guests from the time they arrive to the time they take off their dancing shoes. "February 11, 2012 will be a night to remember in Southwest Florida," stated Lummis, who said the ballroom at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort & Spa in Bonita Springs will be transformed into another world befitting the event theme, Out of Africa.

Proceeds from the event, presented by the Women's Committee for Hope Hospice in Bonita Springs, benefit Joanne's House, the city's inpatient hospice-care facility. "This event has a long tradition of support for Joanne's House," said Hartley, "and that provides us with the chance to pull out all the stops in making this year's gala truly unique."

Here is a sampling of the one-of-a-kind auction items:

- A professionally guided African photo safari, with visits to the remote, breathtaking and awe-inspiring habitats of Africa's most beautiful – and feared – members of the wild kingdom;
- A three-hour private flight on a Top Gun fighter jet, featuring loops, dives, rolls and thrills unlike any other in-flight experience; and
- Inside the ropes at the 2012 Tavistock Cup, one of the world's most private and prestigious golf club championships, featuring many of the world's greatest golfers. Two winners will spend the day at Lake Nona Golf & Country Club with Golf Channel's Rich Lerner as he covers this unique club championship.

Hope Gala organizers also are offering a pre-event prize drawing: a one-week stay at the Charm House on Captiva island, donated by Royal Shell Vacations and valued at \$7,000. Tickets are \$50 for each chance in the drawing, and the winning name will be selected February 1. Visit www.HopeHospice.org/GalaDrawing for more information.

Hartley and Lummis plan to announce other exclusive auction items in the coming weeks. "This is only the beginning of the incredible live and silent auction items we're making available this year," said Lummis. "We've been so fortunate to get our hands on a long list of items that are simply not available anywhere else."

The event committee is working with award-winning party planner Mike Sipe, producer of events for corporate clients including American Express and Verizon and for celebrity and sports stars including Elton John, Emeril Lagasse and Chris Evert.

Professional comedienne and auctioneer Cindy Banks will join Emmy Award-winning producer Geoffrey Mason in hosting the evening's festivities. They will be joined by musical guest Shelina.

Individual tickets are \$275 per person, and sponsorships start at \$1,000. Current major event sponsors, known as "Lions," include Willow Street Advisors LLC - A Private Wealth Management Company, Pinnacle Vodka and Royal Shell Real Estate Sales/Vacation and Seasonal Rentals.

"We're so grateful for the tireless efforts of the Hope Gala committee and the entire women's committee," said Samira K. Beckwith, president and CEO of Hope HealthCare Services. "This world-class event for the 10th anniversary will benefit so many people in our care."

For more information, visit www.HopeHospice.org/Gala, call Lummis at 289-3543 or Hartley at 724-822-7519.*

New Assisted Living Facility Welcomes First Resident

The management of Shell Point Retirement Community welcomes the first resident reservation for The Springs, the community's newest assisted living facility (ALF). The community recently announced its decision to convert the former Country Inn & Suites hotel located at the entrance to the community into The Springs, which will be their newest assisted living facility (AHCA licensure pending).

On November 16, Whitney J. Miskell reserved the first unit in The Springs at Shell Point. This new ALF has an anticipated opening of February, and the building is currently under construction to modify the spaces to create more community and activity areas.

"The more we investigated, the more we became convinced that Shell Point is the "Cadillac" retirement community in the greater Fort Myers area," said Miskell. "I am particularly attracted to its crafts facilities and to its boating opportunities as I grew up on Lake Erie and love to be on the water. You know, when we first visited Fort Myers back in 2004, we stayed at what was then The Country Inn & Suites hotel, so we have a special affection for its new incarnation as the newest addition to the Shell Point family, The Springs at Shell Point. I was so happy to get my first choice of residence, a suite, which there are only six of these in the entire building! The floor plan is open yet well-defined, its western exposure provides the afternoon sunlight that I prefer, and the expansive view just knocks my socks off. I can't wait for February to get here so I can move in."

"Shell Point has always prided itself on providing the best in healthcare and retirement, and as baby boomers continue to retire in Southwest Florida we want to make sure that we have the accommodations they may look for in the future," said Rita Southern, director of assisted living and resident support services for the community.

"Since opening, the King's Crown and The Arbor have been able to accommodate the residents of our community as well as offer a limited number of residences to the public. The Springs will be a new concept for our community in that it will primarily serve individuals from the public who were not previously residents of Shell Point."

The anticipated cost of the facility's conversion is estimated at \$2 million, and when complete, the new ALF will offer 105 units.

For more information or to request a brochure, call 454-2077, email thesprings@shellpoint.org, or visit www.shellpoint.org/assistedliving.

Shell Point Retirement Community is in Fort Myers just off McGregor Boulevard and Summerlin Road, two miles before the Sanibel Causeway.*



Mr. and Mrs. Miskell with McKenzie Millis, assisted living healthcare marketing specialist for Shell Point

From page 13

Marsh Rabbit

in Fort Myers with nice marsh habitat," said Bast. "There are marsh rabbits on Sanibel, but this was a really nice location and we decided to release her there."

CROW (Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife, Inc.) is a nonprofit wildlife hospital providing veterinary care for native and migratory wildlife from the Gulf Coast of Florida. 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. Visit www.crowclinic.org or call 472-3644.*

DID YOU KNOW

TRIVIA TEST

1. **GEOGRAPHY:** What is the third longest river system in the world?
2. **ANIMAL KINGDOM:** What is another name for totipalmate feet?
3. **MUSIC:** Who is the vocalist for the pop band "Blondie"?
4. **U.S. STATES:** What state's motto is, If you seek a pleasant peninsula, look about you?
5. **BUSINESS:** What is the currency of South Africa?
6. **LITERATURE:** What was the first land Gulliver encountered in the satirical novel Gulliver's Travels?
7. **TELEVISION:** How many years was the Western drama Gunsmoke on the air?
8. **U.S. PRESIDENTS:** Who was Dwight Eisenhower's vice president?
9. **SCIENCE:** What does beta carotene add to food?
10. **MOVIES:** What animated film featured the theme song Circle of Life?

ANSWERS

1. Mississippi 2. Webbed 3. Deborah Harry 4. Michigan 5. The rand 6. Lilliput 7. 20 years 8. Rich-
ard Nixon 9. Color 10. The Lion King

SPORTS QUIZ

1. The past two times the Cincinnati Reds made the playoffs (1995, 2010), they did so despite having only two pitchers win 10-plus games each time. Name two of the four pitchers.
2. When was the last time a pitcher captured the A.L. Cy Young Award with 16 or fewer wins in a season before Zack Greinke in 2009?
3. In 2010, Baltimore's Anquan Boldin became the fastest NFL receiver to 600 career receptions (98 games). Who had been the fastest?
4. When was the last time the Atlantic 10 Conference had five teams make the NCAA Tournament in men's basketball?
5. Name the person who was the first general manager of both the Philadelphia Flyers (1967) and the Vancouver Canucks (1970).
6. In 2011, Uruguay won the men's soccer COPA America for a record 15th time. What country had been tied with Uruguay at 14?
7. In 1988, two boxers, within three days of one another, became the first two to win five world titles in five different weight divisions. Name them.

ANSWERS

1. Pete Schourek (18) and John Smiley (12) in 1995; Bronson Arroyo (17) and Johnny Cueto (12) in 2010. 2. Colis Marvin Harrison accomplished it in 102 games. 4. It was 1998 (George Washington, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Temple and Xavier). 5. Bud Poile. 6. Bud Poile. 7. Thomas "Hitman" Hearns and Sugar Ray Leonard. Kansas City's David Cone was 16-5 when he won the A.L. Cy Young Award in the shortened 1994 season. 3. The

My Stars ★★★

FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 12, 2011

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Make your holiday preparations one step at a time in order to avoid being overwhelmed and leaving things undone. That confusing family situation continues to work itself out.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Ease this year's holiday money pressures by letting your thrifty side guide you as you look for those perfect gifts that typically reflect your good taste and love of beauty.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You'll have a good handle on potential holiday problems if you delegate tasks to family members, friends or co-workers -- most of whom will be more than happy to help out.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Right now you are especially vulnerable to holiday scams that seek to take advantage of your generosity. Best advice: Check them out before you send out your checks.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) The upcoming holiday season gives the Big Cat much to purr about. Relationships grow stronger, and new opportunities loom on the horizon, just waiting to be pounced on.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A changing situation brings conflicting advice about how to go forward with your holiday plans. Your best bet: Make the decision you feel most comfortable with.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Holiday plans get back on track after some confusion about the direction you expected to take. A potentially troublesome money matter needs your immediate attention.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your holiday preparations are on track. But you need to confront a personal situation while you can still keep it from overwhelming everything else.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Tight financial matters ease a bit during this holiday season. But the sagacious Sagittarian is well-advised to keep a tight hold on the reins while shopping for gifts.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Don't put off making decisions about this year's holiday celebrations, despite the negative comments you've been getting from several quarters. Do it NOW!

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) The holidays will bring new friends and new

opportunities. Meanwhile, be careful to use your energy wisely as you go about making holiday preparations.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) There's good news coming from a most unlikely source. And it could turn out to be one of the best holiday gifts you have had in years. Remember to stay positive.

BORN THIS WEEK: You are respected for your honesty and loyalty. You make friends slowly -- but with rare exceptions, they're in your life forever.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

- On Dec. 18, 1620, the Mayflower docks at what today is Plymouth, Mass., and its passengers disembarked to begin their new settlement, Plymouth Colony. The winter of 1620-1621 was brutal, and by spring, only 52 of the original 102 Mayflower passengers were still alive.

- On Dec. 16, 1773, in Boston Harbor, a group of Massachusetts colonists disguised as Mohawk Indians board three British tea ships and dump 342 chests of tea into the harbor in protest of the British Parliament's Tea Act of 1773. The value of the tea was more than \$700,000 in today's currency.

- On Dec. 14, 1909, workers place the last of the 3.2 million 10-pound bricks that pave the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in Indiana. Since then, all but a 1-yard-wide strip at the start-finish line has been buried under asphalt. Kissing those bricks after a successful race remains a tradition among Indy drivers.

- On Dec. 13, 1916, a powerful avalanche kills hundreds of Austrian soldiers in barracks near Italy's Mount Marmolada. Over a period of several weeks, avalanches killed an estimated 10,000 Austrian and Italian soldiers.

- On Dec. 17, 1961, a fire at a filled-to-capacity circus in Brazil kills more than 300 people and severely burns 500 more. The cause of the fire was never conclusively determined, but it may have been the result of sparks from a train passing nearby.

- On Dec. 15, 1973, Jean Paul Getty III, the grandson of American billionaire J. Paul Getty, is found alive near Naples, five months after his kidnapping by an Italian gang. Getty had initially refused to pay his 16-year-old grandson's \$17 million ransom, but finally agreed after the boy's severed right ear was sent to a newspaper in Rome.

- On Dec. 12, 1980, American oil tycoon Armand Hammer pays \$5,126,000 at auc-

tion for a notebook containing writings by the legendary artist Leonardo da Vinci. The manuscript, written around 1508, contained 72 loose pages featuring some 300 notes and detailed drawings, all relating to the common theme of water and how it moved.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

- It was English biologist Thomas Henry Huxley who made the following sage observation: "Irrationally held truths may be more harmful than reasoned errors."

- If you put your rubber bands in the refrigerator, they'll last longer.

- It's not just the tiger's fur that has stripes; its skin is striped, too.

- You probably know that the iconic film "Rocky" starred Sylvester Stallone in the leading role, but you might not be aware of the fact that he wrote the script, as well. The sale of the rights to the script came just in time; he had a total of \$106 in his bank account and was trying to sell his dog for lack of the means to feed it.

- In the winter of 1932, Niagara Falls froze solid.
- Madame Tussaud started creating her famous wax figures in 1777 and created many models during the French Revolution. She traveled around Europe displaying wax figures (both the ones she created and ones she inherited from her mentor), and she opened her first museum in London in 1831. Today there are branches located in the United Kingdom, Amsterdam, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Vienna, Moscow, Bangkok, Dubai, Berlin and Hamburg, plus five U.S. locations. It's appropriate that there are more locations in American than in any other country, since so many Hollywood celebrities are recreated in the museums. In fact, in 2006, Shiloh, Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie's baby, became the first infant to be memorialized in wax for Madame Tussauds.

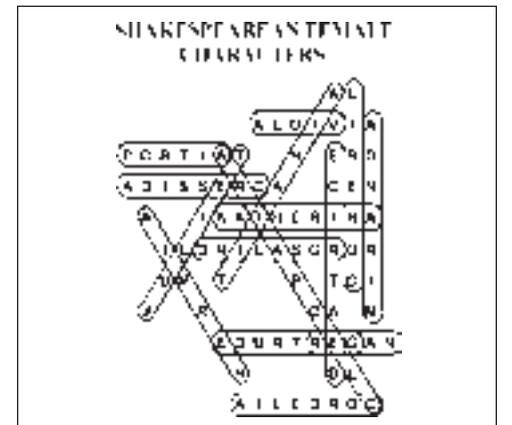
- Those who study such things say that apples are more effective than caffeine at waking you up in the morning.

- It's not clear why, but a duck's quack doesn't create echoes.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"The trouble with being punctual is that nobody's there to appreciate it." -- Franklin P. Jones

PUZZLE ANSWERS





Chalew

Chalew's Story

by Scott Martell

Chalew, 4, has a smile that breaks your heart. He has a story that shatters it into microscopic pieces.

Chalew grew up on the streets, with a mentally ill mother who never let the little boy off her back, where he was strapped in with a dirty blanket. People in Butajira wondered if Chalew could even walk. The mother also was a heavy user of "chat." Chat is a green leaf that gives users a feeling similar to cocaine. It is commonly used in Butajira, with some, like Chalew's mother, becoming addicted.

City officials took Chalew away from the mother after hearing reports that she was frequently feeding the boy the chat leaves as he hung on her back. He came to Ethiopia Hope Village in August, 2011. When asked what he wanted to do with his life, he surprisingly shouted, "Go to school!" Today, he's in preschool and walks like any normal boy (in other words has a tendency to want to run!).

Please help us help these precious children. Ethiopia Hope Village is attending to the most desperate orphans of Butajira, Ethiopia. You can make a difference! Help us care for these children with a monthly online donation through www.nmsi.org. Twenty-five people willing to help with \$40 a month will allow us to reach our minimum budget of \$1,000 a month. This provides shelter, food, education, medical, clothing, counseling, and staff for the house and outreach.

Or please considering helping us build the first stage of the Village – a residence for the kids. New Mission Systems International has the highest Charity Navigator rating, and is a member of the ECFA. If you prefer to use a check, please write them to "NMSI" and mail them to NMSI, 2701 Cleveland, Avenue, Suite 7, Fort Myers, FL 33901, and put Ethiopia Hope Village/Building or Ethiopia Hope Village/monthly children support, in the memo line.

Scott Martell moved to Sanibel in 1983 to work as a newspaper reporter. He's been a writer/editor since that time with various organizations, including the Island newspapers, the News-Press, and WGCU Public Media. He has served on a variety of local boards, including CROW, Sanibel Elementary

School, Sanibel Community Association, Pirate Playhouse, and Gulf Coast Symphony. He was called to Ethiopia to work for Project Mercy in 2006, and now is affiliated with New

Mission Systems International.

*Note: NMSI honors preferences of gifts solicited, and in accordance with IRS regulations, retains discretion and control over their use.**

From page 24

Library Programs

technology and fun for the creative mind. Sponsored by Friends of the Northwest Regional Library. Registration required.

The Northwest Regional Library is located at 519 Chiquita Boulevard North in Cape Coral. For more information about a program or to register, call the library at 533-4700. 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.lee-county.com/library, or pick up an events calendar on your next visit, 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.*

DOUBLE YOUR DONATION

The Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) announces "The Boyd Challenge Grant"



Through the generosity of Linda and Wayne Boyd, long-time supporters of CROW, donations made to CROW between now and the end of the year will be matched up to \$50,000.

This is a tremendous opportunity to make a year-end contribution and then have it doubled, further benefitting the thousands of wildlife patients treated by CROW each year.

Please mail checks to:

CROW

PO Box 150

Sanibel, FL 33957

(be sure to write "Boyd Challenge Grant" on the reference line of the check)

Donations can also be made online at www.crowclinic.org
Look for the "Boyd Challenge Grant" link on our home page.

Pets Of The Week

My name is Chuggles and I'm a four-year-old fawn male Puggle.

I'm Chuggles the Puggle! I have a funny name but I guess it fits my personality because I'm a funny little dog. I could be a loyal companion for you and your family. We'll have lots of fun together. I promise!

My adoption fee is just \$30 during December's Home 4 The Holidays Adoption Promotion.

My name is Bailey and I'm a four-year-old brown tiger, domestic short hair female with white paws and chest.

I'm a very playful kitty. My favorite toys are the ones with feathers! I love playing with all the other cats here at the shelter but it would be great to be a part of your family.

My adoption fee is \$50 (adopt a second cat or kitten free).

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 at 5600 Banner Drive, Fort Myers, next to the Lee County Sheriff's Office, off Six Mile Cypress Parkway.



Chuggles ID #512791

photos by squaredogphoto.com



Bailey ID #513785

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.*

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Animal Services Offers Online Adoption Forms

The process of adopting a pet from Lee County Domestic Animal Services is now more convenient. Animal Services has created an electronic application that can be filled out and submitted online for approval before coming to the shelter to pick out your new best friend.

To access the application, click on the link on Animal Services' website at www.LeeLostPets.com.

"Instead of spending time filling out paperwork and waiting for approval, adopters can spend their time at the shelter visiting with the pets and finding the one that is just right for them," says Ria Brown, LCDAS Public Information Officer. "Selecting a companion should be a special event in someone's life and the online adoption process will allow the adopter to focus on the pet and not the paperwork when they are here," she adds.

The goal is to place companion animals with responsible owners wishing to make a life-long commitment. The process of matching potential owners with a pet suited to their lifestyle begins with the adoption application. Applicants will be contacted the next business day. Once approved potential adopters may visit with animals they are interested in adopting with the assistance of a trained volunteer or staff member.

All pets adopted receive spay/neuter surgery, age-appropriate vaccinations, flea treatment, worming, training DVD, access to a Behavior Helpline, Microchip Pet ID, Hill's Science Diet pet food, and a 10-day health guarantee. Dogs six months and older are tested for heartworms, cats are tested for feline aids and leukemia, and all pets three months or older receive a county pet license. The total adoption package is valued at more than \$500.

Applications still will be available at the shelter for those who prefer the traditional method.

Adoption hours at Lee County Domestic Animal Services are 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The shelter is located at 5600 Banner Drive, Fort Myers, next to the Lee County Sheriff's Office off Six Mile Cypress Parkway.✱

To advertise in
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PUZZLE ANSWERS

SUDOKU

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

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Rogue; 2. Accept;
3. March; 4. Entire

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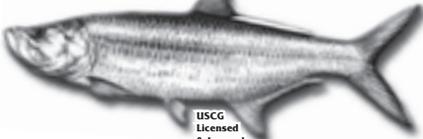
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*NR 9/2 BM TFN

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SR 1/30 B TFN

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Cash Paid For Old Military Items.
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*RS 6/17 BM TFN

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clean, appliances, garden area, paver
parking. Reduced price. Motivated to sell.
727-207-5787. Paradise!
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2008 MOBILE HOME**

AT PERIWINKLE PARK
1 Bed room new queen bed. LR with
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Full vinyl deck. Pavers. Oodles of space.
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Ground rent \$5,800/yr. 239-209-1869 or
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Tennisplace Condo, 2 Bed/Bath.
Clean and fully furnished.
High Amenities, Low Fees.
Asking \$245,000.
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Super, well maintained house, great
neighbors, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms,
adjacent tennis courts and pool, near
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Week 51/unit 113 (12/23/11-12/30/11) for
rent \$1,200- 2 bedroom, 2 baths directly
on the beach, accommodates 6 - nicest
timeshare resort on Sanibel.
Call 518-364-0130
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in quiet Sanibel neighborhood. Seasonal
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ANNUAL RENTAL

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Very clean & bright. Pool & tennis.
No smoking, no pets. \$800 per month
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1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Washer/dryer;
modern kitchen includes dishwasher,
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street. \$1,025/month includes all utilities
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MARINER POINTE TOWNHOUSE

Unfurnished-ground level; 2 BR 2-1/2 BA;
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Canal Home, 3/2/den/pool/dock
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**GARAGE •
MOVING • YARD
SALES**

YARD SALE

Saturday, December 10, 9-?
Pre-moving sale. Household items, art,
books, more. Rain date Sunday.
1429 Jamaica Drive, off San-Cap Road.
*NR 12/9 CC 12/9

GARAGE SALE

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1036 Sand Castle Rd. the Dunes.
Household goods, books,
baby items, furniture.
*NS 12/9 PC 12/9

The River EMAIL:

Ads@RiverWeekly.com

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

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

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINGOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Banner is diagonal & bowtie is missing. 2. Bowtie has been added. 3. Cup is now in the foreground. 4. Bottle has been added. 5. The man's hat is on the counter. 6. The man is holding a box of candy.



"You're lovely, rich ... well, look at this ... the computer picked me as your date!"

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 quest.

Outline

GOURE

Agree

PACCET

Walk

CHRAM

Total

RENITE

TODAY'S WORD

answer on page 35



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
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 Folk Society.....	321-4620
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
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:

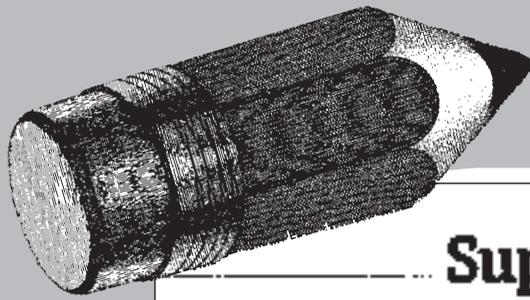
Fort Myers Beach.....	463-9738
Fort Myers High Noon.....	466-4228
Estero/South Fort Myers.....	898-1921
Notre Dame Club of Lee County.....	768-0417
POLO Club of Lee County.....	477-4906
Rotary Club of Fort Myers.....	332-8158
Sanibel-Captiva Orchid Society.....	472-6940
United Way of Lee County.....	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

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BEACH CHAIR PASTIME

Answers on page 32

Super Crossword

WAIST OF MONEY

- | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 50 New York university | 96 "Saturn" character | DOWN | 43 Female Love Trouble | 83 Thackeray's "Robust" character |
| 1 Meat cut | 52 "Butterfly" author | 97 Like some paper | 1 Speech problem | 44 Strauss aristocrat | 84 Kahlil Gibran |
| 5 "You Rahn" (1964 song) | 54 Reuse | 98 Covenant | 2 Neighbor of McOlan | 45 Common condition | 85 Surrenders |
| 9 Summer material | 56 Singer Play'n | 100 Opie's aunt | 3 Violent Drexler | 46 Chutney ingredient | 88 In-your-face item |
| 14 Chaquinet | 58 Part of season | 102 Archie's preparation | 4 Playwright Coward | 49 M' muscles | 89 Guinness or Baldwin |
| 19 Omelette | 59 Part of partner | 103 Conductor Culler | 5 Spectrum shade | 51 Reptile name | 91 Sport |
| 20 — controllable | 60 Becomes a prune | 105 Snake sound | 6 Dusk | 53 Israeli dance | 93 Does little work |
| 21 What the nose knows | 61 Islands instrument | 107 Part of remark | 7 Auto pencil | 55 Tolkien creation | 95 Propaganda |
| 22 Greene of M'chaels | 62 Baby Like | 111 Slalom curve | 8 Paine poem | 56 Japanese volcano | 99 Most "methodical" |
| 23 Bit of bubble gum | 64 Like Hercules | 113 Ruby of "A" director | 9 Prepares on ons | 57 Rubber the wrong way | 104 Jacket fabric |
| 24 Blast of a trumpet by James Darr | 65 "Malcolm X" director | 114 Link | 10 "Baby on the..." | 58 Garage supply | 106 Hardly "hyper" |
| 27 Appropriates | 66 "Mahar" (1964 film) | 115 Sink | 11 Finuala | 59 Runners carry it | 108 Small shrub |
| 29 Dutch artist Jan | 68 Monogram | 116 Dual | 12 Improve | 60 Crooked | 109 Foam |
| 30 Lark | 69 Part of remark | 118 Dual | 13 Musical instrument | 61 Crooked | 110 Choose with "for" |
| 31 Rep | 70 Part of remark | 121 — scissor | 14 Funk of quirk | 62 Crooked | 112 Face in? |
| 32 Speakeasy patron | 75 Amish man | 126 End of remark | 15 Pindaric character | 63 Crooked | 115 What Market? |
| 33 Hoover for one | 80 Ripped | 128 Peace of mind | 16 Pluck | 64 Crooked | 116 Carving |
| 35 Part 2 of remark | 81 "Kodomo" (1997 film) | 130 Sweet cooperative | 17 Fairy-tale start | 65 Crooked | 117 WWI gun |
| 40 Beginning on | 82 Bad | 131 "His" making | 18 Guller's gadget | 66 Crooked | 118 Tropical soil |
| 42 "22" Michael Jackson smash | 86 Highlights tongue | 132 Evillike waterfront | 25 Daring user | 67 Crooked | 120 Handel's "and Calan" |
| 44 Impact sound | 88 Neoblast | 133 Jocular Johnson | 26 Tom, Dick, or Harry | 68 Crooked | 121 Sexless "of the Car" (1977 hit) |
| 47 Comedy in "Touched by an Angel" | 89 Octavo | 134 O'connor George | 28 No Einstein | 69 Crooked | 122 — of the "Car" (1977 hit) |
| 48 Woodworking tool | 90 Man from Malmo | 135 "Beau" (1991 film) | 34 Encourage a culture | 70 Crooked | 123 Reduce with "down" |
| | 92 He's say selling | 137 Actor Walredo | 35 Go fishing | 71 Asara | 124 — Spumante |
| | 93 They may be persona | | 36 Long oil barrel | 72 Street of stamps | 125 Poverty |
| | 94 Ornamental mat | | 37 Slush | 73 Give a canyon | 126 Caspa's "Ripoff" |
| | | | 38 Daily receipts | 74 Fun turn wood | 127 Witty one |
| | | | 39 TV's "Shadows" | | 128 Foster or Tilly |

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King Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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							134					135					
							136					137					

ACROSS

19. What's on the wall?

23. Manners of an animal

27. Dutch cheese

35. Section of a book

37. Medical condition

39. With point of view

41. Zine

43. Reptile name

45. Southern speech

47. Name for a bird

49. Changed article

51. Common reference

53. Name of a bird

55. Part of a speech

57. Part of a speech

59. Dutch artist Jan

61. Lark

63. Rep

65. Speakeasy patron

67. Hoover for one

69. Part 2 of remark

71. Beginning on

73. "22" Michael Jackson smash

75. Impact sound

77. Comedy in "Touched by an Angel"

79. Woodworking tool

81. Landmark

83. What's on the wall?

85. Name of a bird

87. Part of a speech

89. Dutch artist Jan

91. Lark

93. Rep

95. Speakeasy patron

97. Hoover for one

99. Part 2 of remark

101. Beginning on

103. "22" Michael Jackson smash

105. Impact sound

107. Comedy in "Touched by an Angel"

109. Woodworking tool

111. Landmark

113. What's on the wall?

115. Name of a bird

117. Part of a speech

119. Dutch artist Jan

121. Lark

123. Rep

125. Speakeasy patron

127. Hoover for one

129. Part 2 of remark

131. Beginning on

133. "22" Michael Jackson smash

135. Impact sound

DOWN

20. Name of a bird

24. Name of a bird

28. Name of a bird

30. Name of a bird

32. Name of a bird

34. Name of a bird

36. Name of a bird

38. Name of a bird

40. Name of a bird

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76. Name of a bird

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SHAKESPEAREAN FEMALE CHARACTERS

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 H E I I D N I E A S O R O R C
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| Beatrice | Gertrude | Katherine | Rosalind |
| Cleopatra | Goose | Miranda | Titania |
| Cressida | Hermia | Portia | Viola |
| | Juliet | Regan | |



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Please bring unwrapped toys to our office for distribution to children in need by the St. Isabel's Women Guild.

Please drop an unwrapped toy at our office at 1149 Periwinkle Way.

Open House Thursday, December 8 11-3

Great East End Location 1120 Junonia

Near beach...very secluded on the end of a quiet street. Launch your kayak or canoe from the dock on the Sanibel River and explore the amazing wildlife. You'll find lots of storage in this 3+car garage, 3 bedroom/2 bath home featuring beamed ceilings, wide plank pine floors, fireplace, French doors opening to screened porch, with sauna, and overlooking beautiful pool area. A very comfortable, near beach home in very nice condition. **Offered for \$699,000. Contact Bob Berning 239/699-9597 or Ken Colter 239/851-1357**



Kelly Greens Condo

Location is always important, even in Kelly Greens. This 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with den has a commanding view of 2 lakes and 2 golf holes. Fully furnished in a British West Indies style, it is in impeccable condition and fully turnkey. Two screened lanais, vaulted ceilings and private garage, just steps away from this condo make this home easy to enjoy. **Offered at \$255,000. Contact Larry Hahn 239-898-8789**



Jonathan Harbour

17045 Marina Cove Lane
Beautiful remodeled contemporary home with 4 bedrooms and 2 baths. Exceptional water views from every room. Includes private dock. **Offered for \$1,900,000. Contact Ralph or Cathy Galietti 239.826-5897 or Nancy Finch 239/822-7825**



Sanibel Arms West

This 1st floor unit offers 2 bedroom, 2 bath and 2 lanai. Located just steps from the beach and overlooks the pool. Unit has been completely remodeled and cheerfully decorated. Comes fully furnished. Complex offers; on-site rentals, roof top sundeck, caged pool, BBQ grills, laundry room, tennis courts also bike and movie rentals. **Offered for \$459,000. Contact Cathy or Ralph Galietti at 239/826-5897 or Nancy Finch at 239/822-7825.**



Open House Saturday December, 10 from 12 - 3 Exclusive Riverfront Estate

15750 Waite Island Drive
Located in St Charles Harbour this 6400+ square foot home offers outstanding river views, private 80 ft. pier, 4 car garage, 2 fireplaces, huge pool area with outdoor kitchen, private guest suite, 2 laundry rooms, butler pantry, whole house generator. Additional dock available in central marina, **MUST See. Priced reduced to \$3,250,000. Contact Nancy Finch 239/822-7825.**



Location is Everything!

One of the best location configurations in Crown Colony. Enjoy a sunrise view over the lake and golf course. A front sunset view over a beautifully landscaped area. Golf membership available but not required. **Offered for \$398,000. Contact Larry Hahn 239/898-8789.**



Tennis Place

Waterfront beauty with spectacular views. Remodeled kitchen with stainless steel sink and faucet, new built-in cabinets in dining area with lighted frosted glass, great storage. new bath with jacuzzi tub. boater's delight. Dockage available - \$400.00 year rental. Direct access canal to Gulf, near beach. Enjoy easy access to Sanibel Causeway. Under building assigned parking and storage. BBQ, picnic area, canoe/kayak/bicycle storage. Tennis courts, laundry facility. Fabulous pool only a few steps away. Enjoy the outside porch. **Offered for \$269,900. Contact Marianne Stewart 239/560-6420**



Sanibel Harbour Yacht Club

Experience stress free boat ownership with a great dockaminium featuring 5 star restaurant, Concierge service, Deli and catering, unlimited boat launching, beach area with Tiki hut and BBQ grills, 24 hour security complete washdown and engine flush after each use.
#475 - Offered for \$29,900
#259 - Offered for \$74,900
#312 - Offered for \$89,900
Contact Marianne Stewart at 239/560-6420.



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