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THE RIVER WEEKLY NEWS

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VOL. 10, No. 51

From the Beaches to the River District downtown Fort Myers

DECEMBER 30, 2011

Human-Size Cancer Killing Machine Ready

by Jim George

It's been a long time coming, seven years to be exact, but a device large enough to accommodate a human patient has been the latest in a series of new developments in the John Kanzius Cancer Research project.

Kanzius' radio frequency device works by emitting radio waves that heat and kill cancer cells targeted with nanoparticles, microscopic pieces of gold and other metals that are injected into the bloodstream. The device has proven to kill pancreatic cancer cells in live mice without harming healthy tissue but a larger device was needed before Kanzius' invention could be tested on humans. The earlier devices can

only accommodate petri dishes and small animals like mice and rabbits.

The announcement of the larger device was made in Erie, Pennsylvania last week by Marianne Kanzius, widow of islander John Kanzius who died two years ago of a rare form of leukemia. Marianne Kanzius is managing partner of Thermed LLC, the company formed by John Kanzius to develop the technology. The new machine is a fifth generation model. Development of the larger machine is necessary before the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) can approve human trials for the device.

"It can support up to 800 pounds," said Charlie Rutkowski, plant manager at Industrial Sales & Manufacturing, the Millcreek, Pennsylvania company that manufactures the Kanzius devices.

Besides being large enough to treat large animals and humans, the newest Kanzius device is also easier to operate. Earlier versions must be fine-tuned

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left) Mike Nelson, co-chief executive of Red Wind Innovations; Marianne Kanzius, managing partner, Thermed, LLC; Charles Rutkowski, president, Industrial Sales and Manufacturing, with new RF device

photo courtesy of Erie Times



First and Dean Streets during ZOMBICON 2011

Photo by Sid Graves

Did Fort Myers Break The World Record For The Largest Gathering Of Zombies?

According to the Guinness Book of World Records, the largest gathering of zombies ever was held on October 30, 2010 when 4,093 participants gathered on the boardwalk in Asbury Park, New Jersey. But on October 15 of this year, more than 20,000 zombies descended on downtown Fort Myers for ZOMBICON 2011, unofficially shattering the world record.

Convincing Guinness, however, may prove to be more difficult than amassing a horde of zombies which constituted the largest event to take place on the streets of the River District in history.

To satisfy the Guinness requirements, ZOMBICON organizers – known as The Z-Core – collected names and signatures of 5,786 people in zombie makeup on the night of the event. At exactly 9 p.m., First

Street (between Broadway and Jackson) was cleared by The ZOMBICON Goon Squad. Using barricades, construction fencing and red caution tape, they created an enclosure referred to as the Red Zone. All registered zombies were called to the Red Zone, while all non-infected "survivors" (those without the minimum required makeup) were ushered onto the adjoining sidewalks.

Downtown Countdown 2011

The streets of downtown Fort Myers come alive to celebrate the beginning of a New Year on Saturday, December 31 as the River District Alliance will host Downtown Countdown 2011.

The evening will feature live entertainment on six stages, food and drink specials throughout the local businesses and a mid-night ball drop with fireworks.

The New Year's festivities begin at 8 p.m. Gentry Thomas, the New Year's Eve emcee, will lead the countdown to the ball drop and fireworks.

Live music will feature Beatlemaniax, Geek Squad, Ben Hammond, Brad Connor Longshot Band, Memphis 56, Drunk Monkeys and No Way Jose.

Businesses will be ringing in the New Year in style with specials on food and drink throughout the downtown River District. From live entertainment to drink specials to vendors, there will be something for everyone.

Downtown Countdown 2011 is presented by the River District Alliance and Fort Myers Community Redelopment Agency, and sponsored by Chico's FAS, Inc. and JetBlue, along with many downtown businesses.

For general information, visit www.riverdistrictevents.com.

Once this area was cordoned off and filled with all registered zombies, an air horn sounded from atop the 30-foot tall "zombie tower," constructed on the corner of First and Hendry streets just for the

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Seated in the wagon with the hunting dog is Harry A. Laycock, long-serving chief of the Volunteer Fire Department, circa 1908. Notice the livery stable in the center background and the predominance of fire-vulnerable buildings on First Street
courtesy of the Southwest Florida Historical Society



By 1914, wooden buildings had vanished from this block and the modern look of today was in place

photo by Gerri Reaves

Historic Downtown Fort Myers, Then And Now

The Volunteer Fire Department

by Gerri Reaves



After several devastating fires just after the turn of the 20th century, Fort Myers decided it needed to organize a fire-fighting team. No longer would a bucket brigade suffice, when a city block of wooden structures could be destroyed in an afternoon.

Thus, the Fort Myers Volunteer Fire Department was organized, with Guy B. Reynolds as president. Donations funded a hand-operated pump and other equipment.

In 1905, things took a definite turn toward the professional, when Harry A. Laycock became chief and convinced the town council to buy a Watrous gasoline fire-engine and 1,000 feet of

hose for \$2,200.

Horses or volunteers heaved the cart-mounted engine through the streets. Water was supplied by artesian wells, the river or cisterns. A bell near the corner of Hendry and Oak (now Main) streets summoned firefighters to emergencies.

Laycock's background in technology no doubt made him a good candidate for the job. He had come to Fort Myers in 1903 to sell electrical machinery to the Seminole Power & Ice Co., only to become manager of plant.

He had studied at the University of Florida and later completed a two-year course in electrical studies. He then worked for the Florida Electric Company of Jacksonville installing telephone systems in cities around the state.

Laycock would continue as unpaid chief until 1916 and steadily worked to upgrade fire-fighting equipment.

Walk down First Street – where fires of a century ago more than devastated the town – and consider the valiant efforts of the town's first firefighters who laid the groundwork for today's state-of-the-art fire protection.

Then travel a couple of blocks to the Southwest Florida Museum of History at 2031 Jackson Street to see one of the town's first modern fire engines. Be sure to see the exhibit on local Mid-Century Modernist architecture.

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

Follow-up with a visit to the Southwest Florida Historical Society, one of the area's best research centers for local history.

The society is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard, on the campus of the Lee County Alliance for the Arts. Contact the all-volunteer, non-profit organization at 939-4044. Or drop by on Wednesday or Saturday between 9 a.m. and noon to explore the fascinating archives.

Sources: The archives of the Southwest Florida Historical Society and *The Story of Fort Myers* by Karl H. Grismer.*



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Edison & Ford Winter Estates January Programs

January at the Edison & Ford Winter Estates is highlighted with the return of the *Edison Ford Tropical Florida Bridal Fair*, a *Thomas Edison, Lewis Latimer & The Light Bulb* exhibit opening and a *Director's Tour To Palm Beach* as well as a variety of other special programs and activities throughout the month.

The January schedule of programs and events include:

- Registration for the Edison Ford Inventor's Summer Camp opens on January 2. Week-long camps begin on May 28 and continue through August 3, with a variety of topics in science, art and nature. Camps are separated by grade levels, 1st - 3rd and 4th - 6th. Cost: Edison Ford Members, \$200; non members \$230.

To register or for more information call the Edison Ford Education Department at 334-7419.

- May 28 to June 1 - *Super Solar Scientists*
- June 4 to 8 - *Space & Rockets*
- June 11 to 15 - *Kitchen Chemistry*
- June 18 to 22 - *Animation*
- June 25 to 29 - *Movie Making Magic*
- July 9 to 13 - *Eager Engineers*
- July 16 to 20 - *Time Travelers*
- July 23 to 27 - *Physics In Motion*



Annual Edison Ford Tropical Bridal Fair on January 22

- July 30 to August 3 - *Smarts In Arts*
- *Emerging Inventors Early Learners* will be held on January 5 and 19 from 9 to 11 a.m.

This class is a child and parent learning activity for children ages 1 to 3 years. The class includes immersion into the buildings, museum and gardens. Each program is theme based and combines early science, invention, story book reading and hands-on activities. Cost

for Edison Ford members is \$5, non-members are \$15 (one adult, one child); additional \$5 per child.

- Monthly volunteer meeting and new volunteer orientation will be held on January 10 at 9:30 a.m.

Charles LeBuff, author of *J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge, Images of America* and *Sanybel Light: An Historical Autobiography*, has been a resident of Sanibel Island for 47 years. LeBuff is a noted sea turtle conserva-



Botanical Illustrations with Megan Kissinger begin January 13

tionist and served as refuge biologist at "Ding" Darling for 32 years. LeBuff will discuss his books and adventures on the Island. This is a regular monthly volunteer meeting and mandatory training for all new Edison Ford volunteers but potential volunteers are also welcome.

- *Drawing In The Gardens: An Introduction to Botanical Illustrations* with artist Megan Kissinger will be held on January 13 from 5 to 7 p.m. and on January 14 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The two-day workshop begins with a guided botanical tour with the Edison

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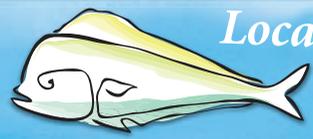


Deejay and dancing to celebrate the New Year!

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Mashed Potatoes & Garden Vegetables \$25

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From page 3

Winter Estates January Programs

Ford horticultural staff to familiarize participants with the blooming fruits and flowers. Day two is instruction with artist Megan Kissinger in the Edison Ford gardens. Cost for Edison Ford members is \$50, non-members are \$60; as well as \$10 for essential supplies. Registration required.

- **Edison Ford Garden Talks:** *Seasonal Winter Plants* will be held on January 14 at 9 a.m.

The Edison and Ford families grew many varieties of vegetables, plants and herbs in their gardens when they wintered each year in Southwest Florida. Edison Ford horticulturists will teach participants the basics of seasonal winter plants and which vegetables will thrive during the season. Edison Ford members are admitted free, non-members cost \$5; all participants will receive 20 percent off in the Edison Ford Garden Shoppe.

- **Thomas Edison, Lewis Latimer & The Light Bulb** exhibit opening on January 16

An exhibit celebrating the life and work of African-American inventor and Edison employee Lewis Latimer opens on January 16 in the Edison Ford Inventor's Museum and at the Black History Museum in Fort Myers.

- **Homeschool: Matter Matters** will be held on January 18 from 1 to 3 p.m. and on January 20 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. or from 1 to 3 p.m.

Homeschool students will explore the



Edison Ford Inventor's Summer Camp registration begins January 2

building blocks of the universe as the Edison Ford's Wild Wizards discuss atoms, molecules and elements with a focus on solids, liquids and gases. Students and their parents can enroll in a two-hour program with curriculum that follows the Next Generation Florida Sunshine State Standards. Pre-visit curriculum materials will be mailed to registered families. Registration required. Program recommended for grades 1 through 6. Edison Ford members cost \$5; non-members are \$15 (one adult, one child); additional \$5 per child.

- **Director's Tour To Palm Beach** will be held on January 21 from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Palm Beach in season has been a winter tour destination since Henry Flagler brought the railroad there a century ago. The tour begins at the Flagler Museum and Whitehall Estate, which has recently expanded to include the Henry Flagler railroad car and new gallery areas. After

lunch, the tour will move to the historic Society of the Four Arts Gardens and the adjacent Hulitar Sculpture Gardens. *Directors Tours* include transportation, snacks, tours and lunch. Registration required. Cost for Edison Ford members is \$90, Edison Ford volunteers are \$85 and non-members are \$95.

Additional *Directors Tours* include (February 25) St. Petersburg – Dali Museum and Chihuly Gallery; (March 17) Clewiston – Museum and behind-the-scenes driving tour; and (April 14) Lake Wales – Bok Tower

- **Edison Ford Tropical Florida Bridal Fair** will be held on January 22 from 1 to 4 p.m.

The fourth annual fair will be held on the beautiful grounds of the Ford Estate, Southwest Florida's premier wedding location. With breathtaking water views, historic gardens and romantic sunsets the Edison Ford is a perfect location for your special day. Over 40 wedding profession-

als will be available to assist you as well as a bridal fashion show, prizes, catering showcase and much more. Cost is \$5, or free to brides. Event is sponsored by Edison & Ford Winter Estates and Creative Events/Taylor Rental in Fort Myers.

The Edison Ford is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. For additional information, call 334-7419 or visit www.edison-fordwinterestates.org.

City Of Fort Myers Observes New Year's Day

The City of Fort Myers will observe the New Year's Day holiday on Monday, January 2. All city government offices, including solid waste and utility billing, will be closed on that date.

There will be no change in garbage, recycling, horticultural brush, yard waste, junk and appliance collection for residential customers.

Disposal of Christmas trees, including those that are flocked, will be available for pickup up to and including January 31. Please remove all tree stands and decorations. Christmas paper is a recyclable material and may be placed in your recycling container. Plastic ribbons are not recyclable and must be disposed in your regular trash receptacle.

If you have any questions concerning your service, call the City of Fort Myers solid waste division at 321-8100.

New Year's Eve

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New Year's Eve Dinner

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Entertainment by Saxophonist Jim Blackburn in The Edison Room

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Out of the Jar III Olives by Janet Mach Dutton

Call To Artists For BIG ARTS Multiples Exhibit

BIG ARTS invites artists to submit entries for its juried Multiples Exhibit, which will run from Thursday, January 19 through Monday, February 27. Entries may be delivered to BIG ARTS on Tuesday, January 17, from 9 a.m. to noon only and can-

not be accepted prior to this receiving date and time. Juror is Lynn Loscutt, author, artist and teacher, from Naples and Gloucester, Massachusetts. More information about this exhibit, including its prospectus, is available at BIG ARTS, located at 900 Dunlop Road, or online at www.BIGARTS.org.

There will be a Juror's Talk held on Tuesday, January 17 at 2:30 p.m. A reception and awards ceremony will take place on Saturday, January 21 from 5:30 to 7 p.m.



Out of the Jar VI Loose Change by Janet Mach Dutton

All entries must include multiples of objects, subjects or images in one piece or connected pieces not exceeding 50 inches in any direction. An artist may submit up to two entries for consideration, and all work must be original and may not have been previously shown at BIG ARTS. Mechanically produced reproductions do not qualify. Wall art must be ready for hanging.

The fee to enter up to two entries is \$25 for BIG ARTS members and \$35 for non-members. All work must be for sale.

BIG ARTS retains 30 percent of proceeds of each sale, and artists are responsible for all applicable income taxes. No work shall be removed until the close of the show.

Multiples Exhibit is supported by Visual Arts Patron Season Sponsors June Rosner and Russ Bilgore.

For additional information about this exhibit, BIG ARTS events and membership, or to sign up for workshops, stop by BIG ARTS, e-mail info@BIGARTS.org or log on to www.BIGARTS.org.✧

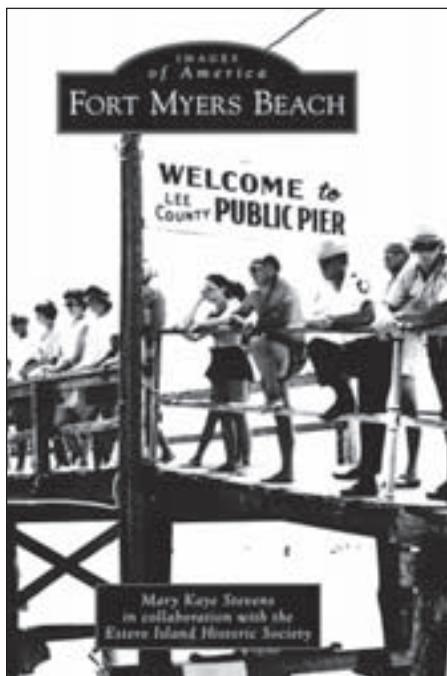
History Of Fort Myers Beach Told Through Photographs

The newest addition to Arcadia Publishing's popular *Images of America* series is *Fort Myers Beach* from local author Mary Kaye Stevens, in collaboration with the Estero Island Historic Society. The book boasts more than 200 vintage images and memories of days gone by.

The once sleepy barrier island labeled Estero Island on navigational charts was dubbed Fort Myers Beach in the early part of the 20th century by city folks who spent their weekends on its wide, sandy beaches. Centuries earlier, an abundance of fish and other seafood made the 6.5-mile-long island attractive to its earliest inhabitants, the Calusa, as well as explorers, fisherfolk and a pirate or two.

In the late 19th century, early homesteaders were lured by stories of free tillable soil in a balmy climate surrounded by warm waters and ankle-deep shells. When pink shrimp – labeled "Pink Gold" – were found in nearby waters, another influx of residents arrived. Today, the island is best known as an energetic resort community, but it retains the influence and charm of its remarkable past.

Since its inception in 1993, the *Images of America* series has preserved and shared the history of hundreds of



individual communities throughout the country. Each title records a town or city's unique story through more than two hundred historic images. Due to the popularity of this series, it has expanded over time to include worthy local and regional historical topics including the examination and celebration of transportation, industry, architecture, ethnic groups and more.

Available at area bookstores, independent retailers and online retailers, or through Arcadia Publishing at www.arcadiapublishing.com or 888-313-2665.✧

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Alva Community Center Special Events, Activities

The Alva Community Center announces a number of special events and activities to launch 2012:

Club Rec

Are you looking for an afterschool program? Participants will learn the benefits of recreation, healthy lifestyles, teamwork, caring for and understanding nature, organized games, activities, clubs, homework time, reading, sports, arts and crafts along with inside/outside activities.

Open to ages second grade to 12 years, Club Rec is offered only on days when school is in session that are not county holidays.

Session II runs from January 5 to May 24. Cost is \$100 per session/participant. Camp runs from 2:30 to 6 p.m.

Home School PE

Looking for an opportunity for your home school child/children to get out and make new friends, as well enjoy numerous physical activities? Home School PE is an all-around good time in a non-competitive environment.

Open to ages 5 to 15 years old, this session starts on Tuesday, January 17.

Registration fee is \$10 per five weeks session, which takes place on Tuesdays from 1 to 2 p.m.

Participants should bring their own water bottle, wear tennis shoes, sun-

screen lotion and hats/shades to protect them from the sun. Participants expect to be outdoors for this program.

Dance Gymnastic, Baton & Jazz with Susan Katz

Sessions start January 12 and is open to ages 5 to 15 years old.

Baton & Jazz - Thursdays 6 to 6:45 p.m. Cost is \$35.

Dance Gymnastic - Thursdays 6:45 to 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$35.

For more information, call Susan Katz (instructor) at 369-0404.

Fun Days

Come spend your teacher in-service day having fun with friends. Activities may include games, swimming, crafts, music or a field trip.

Open to ages 6 to 13 years old, participants should bring a bagged lunch/snacks and wear tennis shoes.

Fun Days will run Monday and Tuesday, February 20 and 21 from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Cost is \$15 per day; Price does not include trip cost (when applicable).

Call the center for more information.

First Annual Craft Show

Alva Community Center is looking for craft vendors for our upcoming Craft Show to be held on Saturday, February 4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Alva Community Park, located at 21471 North River Road. Spaces are available for a nominal fee of \$10. Tables, tents, chairs, etc. are not provided. Public admission for the show will be free.

For more information on this event or to become a vendor, contact Sandra

Greeters Club To Host Spring Fashion Show

Kick off the new year with a Spring Fashion Show. Attend the next luncheon meeting of The Greeters Club of Greater Fort Myers on Thursday, January 19 at Colonial County Club on 9181 Independence Way in Fort Myers.

Call today to join this dynamic group of women of Lee County. Attending the luncheon costs \$18, with advance reservations required.

For more information, call Janet Gambuzza at 454-5750 or Linda Fitzpatrick at 437-5653, e-mail Greeters.Lunch@comcast.net or check us out on Facebook at Greeters of Fort Myers.✱

Alva Craft Show

Alva Community Center is looking for craft vendors for our upcoming Craft Show that will be held on Saturday, February 4. The show will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 pm at Alva Community Park, located at 21471 North River Road in Alva.

Vendor spaces are currently available for a nominal fee of \$10. (Tables, tents, chairs, etc. are not provided). Public admission to the show will be free.

For further information about this event or to become a vendor, contact Sandra Bates at 239-728-2882 or BatesSW@leegov.com.✱

Bates at 728-2882 or BatesSW@leegov.com.

For additional information, visit www.leeparks.org.✱

AAUW Meeting

The next meeting of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will be held on Saturday, January 21 at 11:30 a.m. at the Royal Palm Yacht Club in Fort Myers.

The guest speaker at the monthly luncheon will be Dr. Donna Price Henry, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Florida Gulf Coast University. Her topic will be STEM: science, technology engineering and math.

Tickets are \$18 each. To make reservations, call Sondra Marshall at 437-4570.✱

Send your editorial copy to:
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Celebrity Waiter Dinner Serves Up Fun To Benefit Heights Foundation



Roadhouse Café owners Marc and Sheri Neeley with celebrity waiters Neil LeClair, Pam Beckman, Daniel Zeugin, Elaine Hawkins and Victor Mayeron

Local "celebrity" waiters were loud, unruly, and even outlandish at times, but they did the job serving up food and fun at the Heights Foundation's Celebrity Waiter Dinner hosted by The Roadhouse Café on December 5 in Fort Myers. The event raised more than \$17,000 to benefit the School Success programs and annual fund of The Heights Foundation.

Local community leaders filled in as wait staff in costumes and competed for tips

with offers to perform silly acts, pose for photos, sing solos, dance and more. They inspired bidding wars among guests to raise funds for the foundation's programs, including School Success that provides academic tutoring, after school and summer camp programs, college scholarship and support program connections, school supplies, tuition support and Sports & Scouts for the families of the Harlem Heights community.

The event featured the antics of Neil LeClair, Pam Beckman, Elaine Hawkins, Daniel Zeugin and Victor Mayeron. All added their personalities and creative table service to the fun. Roadhouse proprietors and hosts Marc and Sheri Neeley donated dinner proceeds and coordinated auction items provided by friends and fans of Roadhouse Café. The Joe Delaney Trio provided live jazz entertainment.

"Families in Harlem Heights live in poverty at a rate significantly higher than the rest of Lee County," said Kathryn Kelly, executive director of the Heights Foundation. "Our mission is to break the cycle of poverty in the Harlem Heights neighborhood through programs geared toward families, and the support of our friends and neighbors help us to continue to do our work."

For more information about how to get involved, call 239-482-7706 or visit the foundation online at www.heightsfoundation.org.

Sample Upcoming Classes At The Alliance For The Arts

The Alliance for the Arts just released its new Winter/Spring Catalog featuring more than 75 class offerings and it includes more than 15 Try It Workshops, beginning with Fun With Improv on Thursday, January 5 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Here's your chance to sample everything from painting and glass art to yoga and meditation. Each Try It Workshop corresponds to an upcoming class at the Alliance, so you can decide in advance whether it's something you find engaging. They are free for Alliance members and \$5 for non-members. Benefits of \$50 individual Alliance memberships include discounts on all classes and workshops, special event prices, gift shop discounts, and exhibition opportunities throughout the year. Go to www.artinlee.org to see a complete list, or to download the new Winter/Spring Catalog.

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

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Along The River



Have a jolly Roger of a good time on a New Year's Eve fireworks cruise aboard *Pieces of Eight* pirate ship

Celebrate the coming of the New Year at **Downtown Countdown 2011** in Fort Myers. The historic River District will be transformed into the ultimate party environment featuring great fun, good food and live music on five stages. The event runs from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. and is hosted by the River District Alliance. Admission is free.

Entertainment will be provided by Beatlemaniax, Geek Squad, Ben Hammond, Brad Connor Longshot Band, Memphis 56, Drunk Monkeys, and No Way José. Food and drink specials are offered by downtown businesses along with a midnight ball drop. Master of Ceremonies Gentry Thomas will lead the countdown to the ball drop while fireworks light up the sky.

For information, go to riverdistrictevents.com.

Prefer to ring in the New Year at the beach? Drive your car or boat to the 16th annual **Fort Myers Beach Birthday Party and New Year's Eve Celebration**.



Nervous Nellie's features live music from Bobby O'Donovan of Jimmy Buffett fame

The town's annual birthday celebration takes place from 1 to 3 p.m. and includes live music and free refreshments. For the New Year's party, local bands play live music from 7 p.m. to midnight, at which time there is a ball drop and fireworks launched from the pier.

Trolley service is provided until 2 a.m. Trolleys run to and from Estero Island, transporting partygoers to off-island parking lots. Parking is free, but the trolleys are 50 cents.

The Fort Myers Beach Birthday Party and New Year's Eve Celebration is held at Times Square, 1021 Estero Boulevard. For information, call the Town of Fort Myers Beach at 765-0202.

Party like a pirate on an exclusive New Year's Eve Fireworks Cruise aboard the *Pieces of Eight*. The 65-foot replica of a Spanish galleon ship departs at 11 p.m. from Salty Sam's Marina. Enjoy a swashbuckling pirate show while sailing through Matanzas Pass and around Bowditch Point to the fishing pier. As the clock strikes midnight, toast the New Year with buccaneers young and old as the fireworks erupt over Fort Myers Beach.

Tickets for the 90-minute New Year's Eve Fireworks Cruise are \$20 and there is a full bar on the ship. Parking is free. Reservations are required and coupons will not be accepted for this special cruise. Boarding begins at 10:30 p.m. and *Pieces of Eight* leaves promptly at 11 p.m.

Salty Sam's Marina is located at 2500 Main Street, Fort Myers Beach. For reservations, call 765-7272.

Take a romantic getaway to exclusive Captiva Island. Have cocktails and watch the sunset on the beach at **The Mucky Duck**. Afterwards, walk down the street for a bite to eat and listen to the live music at the lounge at **Key Lime Bistro**. Finally, collapse into a comfortable bed next door at the **Captiva Island Inn**.

Captiva Island Inn is located at 11509 Andy Rosse Lane. For reservations, call 395-0882 or go to captivaislandinn.com.

If you prefer to spend the evening at home – with your own New Year's Eve party celebration with friends and loved ones – **First Street Liquors** can help make it fun and creative. Conveniently located near Publix off of McGregor Boulevard, the package store carries a vast array of beer, wine, quality spirits, and of course, champagne.

First Street Liquors is located at 2023 Altamont Avenue, Suite 107 in the First Street Village shops, Fort Myers. It is open Monday through Thursday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Call 332-3945.

More things to do on New Year's Eve:

Buster's Sports Tavern, Fort Myers: Grand Seafood Buffet from 4 to 9 p.m. New Year's Eve party with DJ and happy hour specials from 2 p.m. to close. Call 466-4144.

Morgan House, Fort Myers River District: Outdoor dining under the stars. Special VIP packages. Live music. Reservations suggested. Call 337-3377.

Nervous Nellie's Crazy Waterfront Eatery, Fort Myers Beach: New Year's Eve bash on the water. Live music from Bobby O'Donovan. Starts at 7 p.m. Call 463-8077.

Shoal's Restaurant & Wine Bar, Fort Myers: Special New Year's Eve menu featuring prime rib, rack of lamb and roasted turkey. Dancing, DJ providing music and a champagne toast, 5 p.m. to midnight. Reservations suggested. Call 482-6765, ext. 1.✳

Republican Women's Lunch

The Lee County Republican Women's Club (chartered) will hold its monthly luncheon at the Crown Plaza Holiday Inn, located at 13052 Bell Tower Drive in Fort Myers, on Tuesday, January 10. Social hour will begin at 11:30 a.m., with the luncheon to follow at noon.

Featured speakers at the meeting will be Karen Harrington, U.S. House of Representatives candidate for Florida District #20, and Javier Manjarres, editor of the conservative blog *The Shark Tank*.

For more information or to make reservations, call 574-2571.✳

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Shell Point's Gift Shop Will Be Open Longer For The Public To Shop



Some items available at the Shell Point Gift Shop



Shell Point's Gift Shop is filled with hand-crafted items

Residents of Shell Point Retirement Community have many talents, and many of these residents use their talents to create unique items that are sold in the Shell Point Gift Shop.

The Gift Shop is open to the public for anyone who is searching for unique handcrafted gifts. The shop is located on The Island at Shell Point next to the Guest House and from October 1 to May 31 the hours are from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

"The crafts created by the Shell Point resident artisans span the creative continuum from jewelry to woodworking, to fine needlework. Some of the painting and photography is represented in one-of-a-kind greeting cards," said Teri Kollath, manager of The Academy of Lifelong Learning and Volunteer Services for Shell Point. "A lot of time and dedication goes into each item sold there, and additionally the entire Gift Shop is operated by resident volunteers. Many items are created in our resident woodshop, pottery studio, stained glass and lapidary studio, painting studio and even books from resident authors are represented."

All of the items in the Gift Shop are hand-crafted by the residents of Shell Point, and include holiday wreaths, shell art, handbags, wood carvings, jewelry, pottery, paintings, books, floral arrangements and more. For more information, call 466-1111 ext. 7534.

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



More Gift Shop items

BUSTER'S

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"It's not your typical bar food"

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NEW YEAR'S EVE GRAND SEAFOOD BUFFET 4 - 9 PM

\$17.99 - Adults \$9.00 - children under 10

Go back for 2nds, 3rds, 4ths, 5ths. Eat all you want - "Make me cry!"

Alaskan Snow Crab Legs, Roast Beef, Baked Ham, Pork Loin, Turkey, Gulf Shrimp, Chicken Specialties, BBQ Spareribs, Fried Shrimp, Steamed Clams & Mussels, Beer Batter Fish, Italian Specialties, Potato, Fresh Vegetables & Seafood Specialties, Raw Bar - Oysters, Clams, Peel-n-Eat Shrimp, Carving Station, Fruit & Salad Bar, Dessert Bar - assorted cakes, pies & cheesecakes, and much, much more!

It's Great!!! It's Enormous!!! It's Reasonable!!! It's Delicious!!!

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

Happy Hour 2 pm - close
DJ, hats, noisemakers
& much more!

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Bloodys & Momosas \$2.99
Eye-opener breakfast menu
10 am - 2 pm

DAILY FEATURES

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

Sports Tavern & Family Eatery

16681 McGregor Blvd, Fort Myers • Near Sanibel • 466-4144 www.busterseatery.com



New Year's Eve At The Edison



Start with dinner in the elegant Edison Room

Make your final meal of the year one to remember at The Edison Restaurant & Bar. The restaurant is a tribute to one of Fort Myers' most famous past residents, Thomas Edison. It is a majestic relic of a long lost era of glamour and intrigue that marks The Edison as one of Florida's most unique dining experiences.

Surround yourself with family and friends while dining on the special à la carte menu created by executive chef Brian McElhiney. The New Year's Eve dinner is served in the Edison Room from 6 to 11 p.m., The dining room is complemented by dramatic golf course views, hardwood floors, vaulted ceilings and a full private bar. Dinner is highlighted by a performance by saxophonist Jim Blackburn.

Begin your dining experience with a butternut bisque with nutmeg crème, arugula fennel salad, lobster and shrimp cocktail or scallops with bacon jam. Featured entrées include lobster pappadelle, roasted chicken, pistachio encrusted rack of lamb and Ford's filet mignon. Reservations are suggested.

After dinner, ring in the new year with live music by DJ Manny C in the Chandelier Bar, library, spacious outdoor porch and terrace. The New Year's Eve bash runs from



Ring out the old, ring in the new with a champagne toast on the terrace

8 p.m. to 2 a.m. and includes a traditional champagne count-down, cash bar, party hats and noise makers. Watch the ball drop from Times Square on The Edison's numerous large screen TVs. Valet parking and taxi services are available.

The Edison Restaurant & Bar is open seven days a week for lunch, dinner and cocktails. It is located at 3583 McGregor Boulevard, overlooking the historic Fort Myers Country Club. Call 936-9348 or go to edisonfl.com.*



Il Cielo Brings International Presence To Island

World-class chefs Loretta Paganini and Marco Corricelli cook across the globe and soon for island diners

From Tuscany and Milan to London and Paris, the culinary team heading up Sanibel's newest dining establishment has traveled and cooked around the world.

Meaning "The Sky" in Italian, Il Cielo is a definitive Italian dining experience that will open to the public for dinner in January. Paganini, host of *Simply Gourmet* on the Discovery Channel and proprietor of the International Culinary Arts & Sciences Institute, and Corricelli are the gourmet masterminds behind Il Cielo's Italian offerings.

Born in Bologna, Italy, Paganini is director of ICASI, a state-of-the-art teaching center with five professional kitchens, a library, lecture hall and gardens. She is also founder of the Loretta Paganini School of Cooking in Cleveland and the author of *Bologna Mia*. Paganini is a frequent guest on Cleveland's NBC affiliate WKYC's *Good Company*, the CBS Early Show and other national programs. In addition to regular visits, she resides on Sanibel for one month per year.

"I was born in Bologna, which is often called 'The Kitchen of Italy,' and my childhood was spent in the professional

kitchen of my mother, whose Pasticceria (pastry shop) was renowned," Paganini said. "It was from my grandmother that I learned how to make beautiful meals that bring people together."

Paganini trained at Cordon Bleu in Paris, where she became involved in teaching and had the opportunity to assist famous chefs including Jack Pepin, Paul Prudhomme and Martin Yan. She believes in sharing her knowledge and recipes, which led her to establish her cooking school in 1989.

She also conducts personal tours of her homeland each year for her students, aspiring chefs and passionate foodies. The "Gastronomic Tour of Italy," as she calls it, runs from March to September and includes a week of stunning landscapes, architecture, art and – of course – food.

With the opening of Il Cielo, she plans to share some of her delicious recipes for island diners as well as a series of cooking classes throughout the year.

"Sanibel and Captiva are such special islands, with residents and visitors from all over the world, they will really enjoy our wonderful, Mediterranean cuisine," Paganini added.

Corricelli began his career at the Amerigo Vespucci Institute of Culinary Arts in Milan and made his early reputation in renowned kitchens across Amsterdam, London and Paris. He is fluent in Italian, English and Spanish and has served as chef at Las Dunas Palace in Spain, Lenotre Marbella, a crown jewel

in the culinary empire of French legend Gaston Lenotre and La Zagaleta Country Club in Andalucia, Spain. He has also served as a private chef for European government leaders and Hollywood's elite.

While living in the U.S. from 1999 to 2004, Corricelli worked as chef for a number of upscale restaurants in the west including Ristorante Allegeria in Malibu and Canaletto Ristorante Veneto at the Venetian Resort Hotel and Casino and Panevio Ristorante in Las Vegas. In 2004, he opened his own restaurant in Las Vegas and served as private chef for Las Vegas' VIPs and executives.

According to Paganini and Corricelli, Il Cielo will use fresh, local products for uniquely flavorful dishes. Menu selections will range from lighter fare, soups, salads and antipasti to main selections including pasta, seafood, meat and poultry specialties. Bar and dessert menus with a selection of cheeses will also be available. In order to keep the menu as fresh

as possible, Paganini and Corricelli plan to change entrees and desserts in accordance with the seasons.

The Il Cielo experience will include an extensive wine list of perennial favorites and surprising alternatives personally selected by Master Sommelier Ron Edwards.

The proprietors also plan to have live music and a full range of cocktails. The restaurant will be open for dinner seven days a week from 5 to 10 p.m., and happy hour will be served daily from 4 to 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. to closing.

Il Cielo is located at 1244 Periwinkle Way.

According to general manager Chris Carrasco, staffing for the restaurant is underway. Approximately 25 service professionals – including kitchen staff, cooks, wait staff and hostesses – will be hired to run Il Cielo.

For more information, call 472-5555 or visit www.ilcielosanibel.com.*

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Saturday Art Fair In Downtown Fort Myers



Country Sweet

All are welcome to downtown Fort Myers on Saturday, January 7 for Saturday Art Fair in The River District.

More than 40 local vendors will be set up on the sidewalks of First Street selling their artwork. Painters, potters, weavers, jewelry makers, photographers, stained and fused glass artisans will be selling the works they created.

This event, scheduled to take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., is free and open to the public.

Contact Claudia at 939-2553 or cgoode@actabuse.com for more information on this event.

This event is approved by The River District Alliance and the City of Fort Myers.*



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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.

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. nbcm-

istry@embarqmail.com, www.facebook.

com/nbcmministry. 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

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A congregation of the ELCA.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Guided meditations offering many meth-

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the mind on virtuous objects to bring

increasing peace and happiness into

daily activity. For information, class times

and locations call 567-9739 or visit www.
MeditationInFortMyers.org.

SOUTHWEST BAPTIST CHURCH

16940 McGregor Boulevard,
Fort Myers, 454-3336

Robert G. Kasten, Pastor

Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m.

Nursery available

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

Junior Church grades one to five

Wee Church Pre-K to K

Evening Service 6 p.m.

Wednesday Service 6 p.m.

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.

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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

marriage enrichment studies. Divorce Care

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

During Lent: Wednesday worship

noon and 6:15 p.m.

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16225 Winkler Rd. 433-0018.

Rabbi Jeremy Barras

E-mail: rabbi.barras@templebethel.com

Cantorial soloist: Lawrence Dermer

Temple educator: Dale Cohen, Ma.Ed.,

R.J.E

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

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

Religious Education; Sunday School and

Midweek classes,

Preschool Classes, Monday through Friday

Web site: www.templebethel.com

Affiliated: Union for Reform Judaism

TEMPLE JUDEA (CONSERVATIVE)

14486 A&W Bulb Road, Fort Myers,

433-0201,

Rabbi: Rabbi Elyssa Auster

President: Keith Grossman

Minyan: Monday & Thursday at 9 a.m.

Services: Friday night at 7:30 p.m. and

Saturday morning at 9 a.m.

Religious School Sunday morning

Web site: www.tjswfl.org

Preschool director: JoAnn Goldman

email templejudeapreschool@gmail.com

433-0201, Web site: www.tjswfl.org

Affiliated: United Synagogue of

Conservative Judaism

From page 12

Churches/Temples

Reverend Nadine
Spiritual Recovery, Wednesdays 10 a.m.
Healing Service, Wednesdays 11 a.m. and
Fridays 6:30 p.m.
Sunday Worship Services, 11 a.m.
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For more information or to register,
call 481-0777 or e-mail [HOPEoffice@
hopebiblicalcounseling.org](mailto:HOPEoffice@hopebiblicalcounseling.org).*

Epiphany Service

Peace Lutheran Church, St.
Columbkille Catholic Parish and
Faith United Methodist Church
invite the public to an Epiphany Service
on January 6 at 7 p.m. The service
will be held at Peace Lutheran Church,
15840 McGregor Boulevard.

Epiphany of Our Lord is the 12th
day of Christmas. It recalls the visit of
the Wise Men; Melchior, Caspar, and
Balthazar to Bethlehem to worship Jesus.
Evening prayer will be sung for the ser-
vice. There will be a time of fellowship
following the service with King's Cake.

For more information call 437-2599
or visit www.peaceftmyers.com.*

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February 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and is open to all ages. It is a great hands-on
learning experience for the whole family. Reservations are encouraged but not
required; to reserve a timeslot email vlittle@leegov.com.

This free event is sponsored by the Friends of Matanzas Pass Preserve, Red
Coconut RV Resort, Estero Island Historic Society, Calusa Ghost Tours/Paddlesports,
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Preserve is located at 199 Bay Road on Fort Myers Beach. Visit www.leeparks.org or
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Fall-Like Weather Brings Plenty Of Action



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

With our winter heatwave still going strong as I write this, conditions on the water could not be better this week. Usually by this time of year surface activity in the bay has slowed

a little and it's all about fishing the bottom in sheltered creeks and deeper channels, finding the fish that are hunkered down for winter.

All over the sound this week it felt more like fall out there with schools of ladyfish and mackerel feeding on glass minnows on the deeper flats, making an easy target and quick action. These schools also had good numbers of soon-

to-be keeper-size trout on them. Fishing one school of surface-feeding fish just north of Chino Island this week I even saw a couple of rolling tarpon in the mix.

Trout season finally reopens January 1. Trout are one of the go-to species for us all winter long. For anglers looking for an easy meal, the bag limit of four per angler makes bringing home a fish dinner a no-brainer. Depending on weather conditions, trout can be found all over the sound. On warm sunny days, shallow grass flats in the three-foot range are the place to target these fish. When conditions are cool, deeper channels and basins five feet or deeper are the place to be. The bait that never fails for trout this time of year is live shrimp. The colder the temperatures the slower and closer to the bottom the live shrimp needs to be. On sunny warm days a shrimp rigged on a popping cork is hard to beat. On a cold day a shrimp slow-bounced on a jig head is the way to go.

Redfish action remains good with the average size of the fish getting smaller and smaller as it does every winter. Non-stop action on rat reds this week was found in the deeper tidal creeks on the lower stages of the tide, and out around



Hunter Jolly with a redfish caught in Captiva Pass with Capt. Matt Mitchell

mangrove keys in open water during the higher tides. The south wind we had for a few days pushed the tide up much higher than the tide chart had forecast and really had the redfish fired up.

While working mangrove keys on the higher stages of the tide we also caught a few snook. Though most of them were on the small side, we did lose one by the boat around the 30-inch mark.

If you're chasing a bigger redfish you can go one of two ways: shallow water or deeper water. Docks around the passes held a few slot-size reds for me this week. During strong tides use enough weight around these docks to hold your bait on the bottom. Small pinfish or live shrimp will get the job done. Bigger slot size redfish can also be located out on the shallow flats sunning themselves. Flats within a mile or so of the passes seem to be the best bet. The shallow water redfish are best fished on the lower stages of the tide and can often be spotted tailing or pushing water. They are often very spooky and need to be approached either in stealth mode by quietly poling or waiting for them to get close enough to you that you can present a bait.

The inshore catch-and-release gag grouper bite is still going off and makes for great light tackle action. Any place in the sound where you can find structure, there might be a grouper. I have been fishing some concrete culverts in about five feet of water in the northern sound and it's been a blast. Live pinfish either on a jig head or a knocker rig get slammed almost every cast. Pulling these

hard-hitting fish away from the structure takes some skill and it is often worth bringing along a larger spinning rod. Gag grouper season is closed until the end of March.

Sheepshead fishing has been a little slow with the unseasonably warm weather. Most of the larger fish seem to be still schooled up on near-shore wrecks and reefs and have not made the move to the bay yet. Rock jetties and docks around the passes are holding sheepshead up to around four pounds, although our deeper mangrove creeks are holding very few. Shrimp pieces and fiddler crabs fished with just enough weight to get the bait to the bottom are the rigs of choice.

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.

Send Us Your Fish Tales

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



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CROW Case Of The Week:**Year In Review**

by Patricia Molloy

This year was a very busy one for CROW's staff; they treated more than 4,150 injured wild animals in 2011. That's up from the 4,111 patients in 2010.

With more than 80 percent of patients arriving from off-island locations each year, the wildlife facility has partnered with local domestic veterinarian clinics to offer nine drop-off points in Lee County. CROW volunteers make daily pick-up excursions.

Just a few of the 2011 success stories:

A baby Cooper's hawk arrived in May weighing a mere 200 grams. She had a fracture of the right tibiotarsus, which is between the knee and ankle. After receiving pain medication, the tiny hawk was given some fluids and a splint was put on her leg.

Once her leg healed and she was eating seven or eight mice a day, her feathers were developed enough that she began flying. The little hawk was released in Fort Myers in June.

An adult female Peninsula cooter arrived in July after being hit by a car near the Southwest Florida International Airport. The cooter was given pain medi-

cation right away. The staff cleaned her up with saline solution and applied antibiotic cream and a bandage.

After recovering from her injuries, the Peninsula cooter, CROW patient number 2846, was released in one of the ponds in the Bailey Tract.

An adult male Virginia opossum was delivered in October to one of CROW's drop-off sites after being shot eight times with a BB gun. "A lot of people see opossums as pests - they're going to scavenge and they're going to dig - but people don't understand every animal has a place in the ecosystem and that it has an effect if one is removed," CROW Senior Rehabilitator Robin Bast stressed. He was sedated and most of the BBs were successfully removed.

CROW's patient was soon eating solid food on his own - soaked kitten chow with fruit and mouse bits. Five days later all of his wounds were starting to scab over properly and were healing well on their own, as the infection had cleared up. On the 12th day, he was finished with his round of antibiotics and was a normal adult opossum again. The opossum was released the next day at a site in Alva.

On January 1, 2012, CROW welcomes Dr. Heather Barron as its new clinic director.

Happy New Year!

CROW (Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife, Inc.) is a non-profit wildlife hospital providing veterinary care for native and migratory wildlife from the Gulf Coast of Florida. The hospital



Thirty six percent of patients are mammals, like these orphaned raccoons currently at the clinic



Reptiles make up more than six percent of patients treated, like this land-dwelling tortoise

accepts patients seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mail donations to PO Box 150, Sanibel, FL 33957.



Less than one percent are amphibians, like this baby American alligator. The species is only found in the southeastern U.S.



Nearly 58 percent are avians, like the double-crested cormorant and brown pelican

Call 472-3644 or visit: www.crowclinic.org.

Caloosahatchee Oxbow And Riverlore Cruise

Join the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) Sunday, January 22 for a riverboat adventure on the Oxbow and Riverlore Cruise along the Caloosahatchee. This guided monthly cruise explores the meanders of the historic upriver Caloosahatchee. Follow the river back to a time when a waterfall served as the headwaters of the Caloosahatchee and settlers braved living amongst the wilderness.

The two-and-a-half-hour adventure begins at the WP Franklin Lock in Olga. Heading east toward Alva, enter the historic bends of the river and revisit the activities of the pioneers who traveled the same river to find paradise. Stories of the settlers and their adventures are blended with an understanding of the river's oxbows, the wild creatures that call it home and the challenges the river faces.

The tour is guided by Rae Ann Wessel, a river researcher, long-time river advocate, historian and SCCF natural resource policy director. The vessel is the spacious 47-passenger *Manatee Rover* pontoon boat that runs daily manatee tours. All seats have a great view for photographs and bird watching.

Cruises depart at 1 p.m. from the WP Franklin Lock & Dam off SR 80 in Olga. Cruise dates in 2012 are: January 22,

February 12, March 11, April 15, and Mothers Day, May 13.

Cruises return by 3:30 p.m. Tickets are \$40 per person, with payment due at time of reservation. Call SCCF at 472-2329. Reservations must be made by Friday, January 20 for the January 22 cruise. Space is limited.*

Bird Patrol At Lakes Park

Take a nature walk with a bird patrol guide on Saturday, January 7 starting at 8:30 a.m. at Lakes Regional Park.

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

Please arrive a few minutes after 8 a.m. for a brief introduction and to sign waivers. Tours start promptly at 8:30 a.m. Please wear comfortable shoes and dress to be outside. Bring water, sunscreen and binoculars.

Participants will meet at Shelter A7 at Lakes Regional Park, located at 7330 Gladiolus Drive in Fort Myers. Enter Lakes Park gate from Gladiolus and turn right. Drive to the end of the road and continue through the parking lot. Shelter A7 is located near the Train Station.

For more information, call 533-7580 or 533-7576

This tour is provided in cooperation with Lee County Parks and Recreation. Admission is free with paid parking. Parking is \$1 per hour or \$5 for all day.

For additional details, visit www.birdpatrol.org.

Local Waters/Local Charts Class

Offered by the San Carlos Bay Sail & Power Squadron Cmdr. Mary Smelter, The San Carlos Bay Sail & Power Squadron, a unit of the United States Power Squadrons, will be offering the popular *Local Waters/Local Charts* class. The class will be held on Saturday, February 4 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The class is directed towards new boaters and boaters new to the area, as well as those wishing to learn chart reading. It will provide the boater with some of the basics of navigation, oriented to the Fort Myers area.

Students will be using chart #11427 and you must bring this chart to class. Optional On-The-Water training is also offered at a later date. Please check with the class instructor for more details.

The cost of the class is \$40.

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



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Wonderettes Sizzle At The Strauss Theater



by Di Saggau

Talk about a fun holiday musical revue, *Winter Wonderettes* is the perfect example. It's showing now at The Herb Strauss Theater on Sanibel, and believe me you don't want to miss

it. The cast consists of four dynamic singers with distinct personalities and voices who harmonize like a quartet of angels. They sing and dance and never stop moving for 90 minutes and have the audience laughing out loud as they win our hearts. During intermission, chatting with Artistic Director Justin Cowan, he confirmed that this is a personality driven show.

You're going to love 'em.

Cast members are Cassandra Nuss, Samantha Rotella, Anne Chamberlain and Annie Freres. They play employees of Harper's Hardware putting on a musical holiday happening for the entire staff. Their harmony renditions of *Snowfall* and *Winter Wonderland* are absolutely beautiful. Freres seduces with *What Are You Doing New Year's Eve?*, and wins



Annie Freres, Anne Chamberlain, Samantha Rotella and Cassandra Nuss

photo by Nick Adams

our hearts with *Christmas Will Be Just Another Lonely Day*.

Chamberlain is a scream with *Suzy Snowflake* and *Donde Esta Santa Claus?* Rotella lends her rich voice to *All Those Christmas Cliches* and Nuss has a memorable version of *This Christmas*. The gals are excellent singers and delightful comics.

The cast has fun bringing audience members on stage, including a man they call "Bob" from the store's plumbing department. Freres shamelessly flirts with him throughout the show. Other unsuspecting theater-goers end up ringing bells and one man sits in for Santa. It's a lot of fun.

Winter Wonderettes is a bright, shiny,

clever Christmas present that opens to reveal 25 endearing holiday tunes delivered by a sparkling cast. There's even a snowfall that, in spite of its beauty, reminds everyone why they love sunny Florida.

Director Michael Stanek is also the choreographer and he deserves a big hand for a show that is fast paced and fantastic. The colorful sets, costumes and impressive lighting add a great deal of pizzazz. I'm sure you have figured out by now that I truly loved this show. If it doesn't get you in the holiday spirit, nothing will.

Winter Wonderettes is a joyous experience and it plays through December 31 at BIG ARTS Herb Strauss Theater, 2200 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel. For tickets log on to www.BIGARTS.org or call 472-6862 or 395-0900. Tickets are \$42 for adults and \$20 for children. If you're wondering what to do New Year's Eve, there is a special performance Saturday, December 31, which starts with refreshments on the patio before the show, appetizers during intermission, and a champagne toast and singing of *Auld Lang Syne* with the cast of the show. Tickets are \$75 for this performance and it begins at 9 p.m.

Here's a "heads up" for you. Next at The Strauss is the Tony Award Winning Musical *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, starting January 13, followed by *Das Barbecu*, a witty Texas fable based on epic Wagnerian Opera, February 17, and the heartwarming comedy *Over The Tavern* March 23. Mark your calendars now.*

Sunset Celebration On The Pier

Come celebrate the sunset Florida style at the Cape Coral Yacht Club on Wednesday, January 4. Listen to live music by Michael Hirst. There will be food and drink specials at KC's Riverstop, a classic car cruise-in with over 25 cars from the '30s to '80s, and over 60 vendors selling their arts and crafts, jewelry, and gift items.

The sunset celebration is free and open to the public. A free shuttle bus will be available every 15 minutes from Club Square to the yacht club, 5819 Driftwood

Parkway. This service will run from 3:45 to 7:15 p.m. For more information call 574-0806.*

Guided Walks

Lee County Parks & Recreation invites visitors and residents to explore the ecosystem and wildlife at the beach parks, preserves and shorelines with the following programs and activities:

Barrier Islands Guided Walk
Bowditch Point Park, 50 Estero Blvd. in Fort Myers Beach

Join a Florida Master Naturalist as they lead you through Bowditch Point Park. Learn the importance of the barrier

islands, their unique ecosystem and how they protect the mainland. Explore the beachfront tropical hardwoods, coastal scrub and wetland plant communities. Walks are held every Tuesday from 9:30 to 11 a.m. and every Friday from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Parking is \$1 per hour or free with a valid Lee County Parks & Recreation parking sticker. Meet on the upper patio for this free walk. Bowditch Point Park is at the north tip of Estero Island. Visit www.leeparks.org or call 533-7444 for more information.

Low Tide Loafing at Sunset
Bunche Beach, 18201 John Morris Road in Fort Myers Beach

Join a naturalist and leisurely explore the mud flats to see what mysteries the low tide uncovers, and enjoy a beautiful Florida sunset as well. Bring a camera, sun protection, shoes that can get wet, bug spray and drinking water. The next walks are scheduled for Tuesday, January 10 and January 24 from 5 to 6 p.m. Parking is \$1 per hour or free with a valid Lee County Parks & Recreation parking sticker. Meet at the picnic tables on the beach for this free guided walk. Visit www.leeparks.org or call 533-7444 for more information.

Mangrove Walk
Matanzas Pass Preserve, 199 Bay Road in Fort Myers Beach

Take an educational and inspirational walk through Matanzas Pass Preserve out to the Estero Bay. Learn about the diverse plant community including a maritime oak hammock, transitional wetlands and a mangrove forest. Walks are held

each Thursday from 9:30 to 11 a.m. This is a free walk and parking is free, but space is limited so come early. Meet at the entrance of Matanzas Pass Preserve, behind the Beach library and school. Visit www.leeparks.org or call 533-7444 for more information.

Exploring Ethnobotany (Matanzas Pass Preserve)

Learn how indigenous plants can be used for such things as food, shelter, medicine and clothing. Find out about the historical importance of some of Florida's plants to humans. This program is offered the fourth Wednesday of every month from 9:30 to 11 a.m. The next program is scheduled for January 25. This is a free walk and parking is free, but space is limited so come early. Meet at the entrance to Matanzas Pass Preserve, located behind the Beach library and school. For more information visit our website at www.leeparks.org or call 533-7444.*

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Plant Smart

Thryallis

by Gerri Reaves

Thryallis (*Galphimia gracilis*) is a dense evergreen shrub loved for its bright yellow flowers. Another common name, slender goldshower, derives from the term *gracilia*, which means slender.

Although not native to the state, it is deemed Florida-friendly.

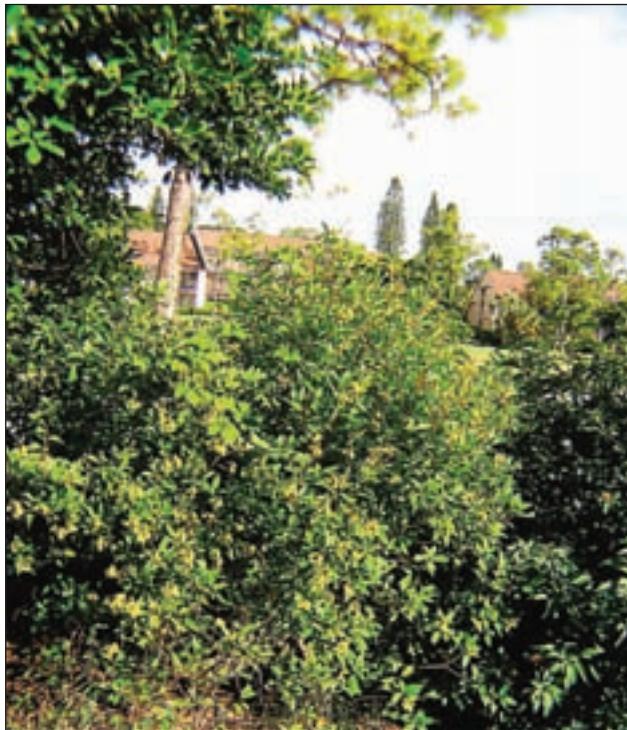
A member of the Barbados cherry family, thryallis is loved for its bright-yellow star-shaped flowers. They appear in clusters of four to six and are about three-fourths of an inch across.

Semi-woody with elliptical leaves, this shrub has compact, twiggy growth. The slender stems are reddish when young.

Thryallis prefers full sun but will tolerate some shade. A moderate to fast grower, it usually reaches five to six feet tall.

For gardeners who typically flat-top hedges, it is likely not suitable because it grows fairly fast and becomes bare at the base. The shearing will take off all the profusion of flowers that make this a desirable plant in the first place.

Plant thryallis where it can assume its natural shape and keep the delicate branches, such as in a mass planting. However, it might require expert pruning to avoid becoming leggy.



Thryallis thrives best when allowed to assume a natural form photos by Gerri Reaves

Adaptable and moderately drought tolerant, thryallis requires well-drained soil, and attracts bees, butterflies, and birds.

Propagate with the seeds in the capsule or with soft-wood cuttings. It can be used as a container plant and blooms almost all year.

Sources: Florida, My Eden by Frederic B. Stresau, plant-book.org; floridasnature.com.

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This Florida-friendly plant is also called slender goldshower because of clusters of star-like yellow flowers

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Winter 2012 Gallery Exhibitions At The Alliance

The Alliance for the Arts announces its lineup of Winter Season exhibitions. A joint exhibit featuring sculptor Jud Nelson and mixed media artist Kevin Costello opens Friday, January 6 at 5 p.m. Mixed media artist Michelle Sales' show opens February 3 and then another joint show, "Organica," opens on March 2, featuring painter Robert Patrick and Regina Jestrow, whose work takes a fine art approach to quilting.

Since the early 1970s, Jud Nelson has been creating impeccably crafted sculptures, described as "dazzling" in their technical accomplishment. His exactly carved pieces are life-sized recreations of common objects, like corks, bars of Ivory soap, sunglasses and fishing sinkers.

Kevin Costello is a graduate of the Chelsea School of Art and Goldsmith's College, University of London. After emigrating to the U.S. he taught visual arts and art history at the San Francisco Academy of Art, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and worked as a carousel wood carver for the San Francisco Art Commission. Currently, Mr. Costello is an Instructor in Advanced Drawing in the Fine Arts Department at the Ringling College of Art and Design, as well as Ringling's Continuing Studies & Special Programs. Nelson and Costello's opening reception is Friday, January 6 from 5 to



Vita by Robert Patrick

7:30 p.m. Their joint exhibit will remain on display in the Alliance Main Gallery through January 28.

The Michelle Sales exhibit goes up February 3 with an opening reception on Friday, February 10. Ms. Sales has been expressing herself forcefully with pigment and mixed media since childhood. Her early work was as a painter, but sculpture soon became her main focus. Ms. Sales currently works in two- and three-dimensional media. Her work has won awards and recognition in both national and international exhibitions and was recently featured at The Busan International Art Exhibition in South Korea. Her exhibition



Titania by Michelle Sales

runs through February 25.

The exhibition "Organica: Robert Patrick & Regina Jestrow" opens on Friday, March 2 and runs through March 28. Patrick received an MFA in painting from the University of Minnesota in 1979 Patrick and he was awarded

continued on page 20



Lilies by Regina Jestrow



Sunglasses by Jud Nelson

Symphony At Sunset Concert

The Gulf Coast Symphony, Southwest Florida's premier community orchestra, presents its much anticipated free outdoor *Symphony At Sunset* concert on Sunday, January 8 at Four Freedoms Park, located at 4818 Tarpon Court in Cape Coral's CRA District.

The Gulf Coast Symphony's performance begins at 4 p.m. This concert is free and open to the public. No tickets or advanced reservations are required.

The theme of this year's *Symphony At Sunset* concert is *Sounds of the Silver Screen*, featuring the music from popular contemporary movies. Concertgoers are encouraged to bring the whole family, lawn chairs, blankets and picnic baskets and spend the afternoon surrounded by Southwest Florida's beautiful winter weather and the great music that Southwest Florida has to offer.

Prior to the performance, we encourage families to stroll through Four Freedoms Park to experience what the Cape Coral CRA arts scene has to offer. Bring picnic baskets, blankets and lawn chairs, take advantage of the Four Freedoms Park playground and arrive by car or boat, with ample free parking for both. Meet and view the work of local visual artists who work in a variety of media and watch them in action as they offer demonstrations of works in progress.



The Gulf Coast Symphony will perform at Four Freedoms Park in Cape Coral on January 8

The Gulf Coast Symphony is Southwest Florida's premier community orchestra. Its 17th season features its highly popular *Symphonic Sensations* concert series at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall (*Broadway Heroes* on January 22; *AMERICA!* featuring Chris and Dave Brubeck's *Ansel Adams: America* on February 26; *Richard Rodgers Songbook* on March 18; *Cirque de la Symphonie* on April 21), *Classical ACCESS* concerts at at Bishop Verot's Anderson Theater (February 12 and May 6), outdoor pops concerts at

Riverside Park in Bonita Springs (April 1) and Cape Coral's Four Freedoms Park (January 8), youth concerts on October 30 and June 24 and other Gulf Coast Symphony ensemble performances throughout Southwest Florida. The Gulf Coast Symphony sponsors a comprehensive arts education program, *Musical*

Gateways, dedicated to providing ongoing educational opportunities for adult and youth alike, that includes in depth artist residencies for its partner schools and the entire community. The Gulf Coast Symphony rehearses weekly from October through June.

For more information on orchestra membership call the Gulf Coast Symphony office at 277-1700 or e-mail us at info@gulfcoastsymphony.org

Dr. Andrew M. Kurtz enters his 17th season as music and executive director and conductor of the Gulf Coast Symphony. He was the winner of the prestigious 2007 "Performing Artist of the Year" Angel of the Arts Award and the first prize winner of the Accademia Dell'Arte di Firenze International Conducting Competition. Kurtz is also general and artistic director and founder of the Center City Opera Theater, a professional opera company in Philadelphia, where he has led over four dozen productions, including multiple world and regional premieres and has led workshops of a half dozen other new operas currently in development as part of their New Opera Creative Development project.

Kurtz is the international tour conductor of *Cantors: A Faith In Song*, featuring three of the world's leading cantors.*

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

Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center Begins Musical Instrument Drive



Marty Pulner, Cierra White, Jim Griffith and Tom Kracmer



Abdul'Haq Muhammed, Marty Pulner, Cierra White, Jim Griffith, Tom Kracmer and Forrest Banks



Cierra White



Cierra tries out her new clarinet



Jim Griffith and Marty Pulner



Marty Pulner

The Sidney and Berne Davis Art Center (SBDAC) announced the Fort Myers Music Exchange, a new ongoing musical instrument donation drive in partnership with the Quality Life Center, at SBDAC on Tuesday, December 20 with the presentation of a clarinet to Cierra White.

Music is a passion for White, 16, who does not go a day without playing an instrument or singing. Since the sixth grade, Cierra has been playing the clarinet. But her musical talent can also be seen when her fingers meet the likes of the bass clarinet, the tenor and alto saxophones, the piano, the guitar and the snare drum.

"I want to be a well-rounded musician," Cierra says. "One day I am going to be able to write and sing my own music. I'd like to play my own instruments on my own tracks. I'm just waiting for my big break!"

You can catch Cierra performing at different local events throughout the area. Cierra would like to thank her family, Quality Life Center, the Sidney and Berne Davis Music Center and Cadence Music for her new clarinet.

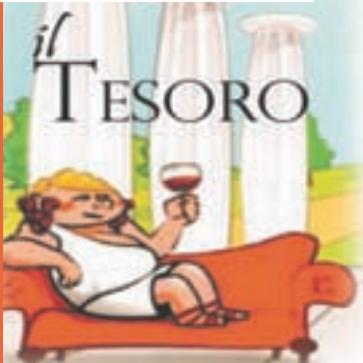
Marty Pulner, of Fort Myers, started this donation drive with the gift of a clarinet to be placed with a child in need. Pulner is a member of the SBDAC Board of Directors. Cadence Music of Fort Myers restored the clarinet. Pulner and his family, Tom Kracmer of Cadence Music, Fort Myers City Councilman Forrest Banks, Abdul'Haq Muhammed, executive director of the Quality Life Center, Cierra's aunt, and members of the SBDAC Board of Directors looked on as Cierra played the first few notes on her new clarinet.

Quality Life Center has been providing educational tutoring and mentoring services to children since 1992. Through a holistic approach they strive to help the children and the family to manage their day-to-day challenges and to help those in need to gain a better quality life.

If you would like to donate to the Fort Myers Music Exchange, you can bring your gently used musical instruments to the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center, 2301 First Street, Fort Myers, FL 33901. Monetary donations are also appreciated to support the refurbishment of donated instruments.

Volunteers are needed for the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center to assist in the office and with regularly scheduled seasonal events. Contact Sally Joslyn at 333-1933 or sally.sbdac@gmail.com for more information.*

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Navarro Awarded 2011 BIG Arts Classical Music Scholarship



Priscila Navarro

On Sunday, December 11, the winner of the 2011 BIG Arts/Kenneth L. Nees Classical Music Scholarship Award, Priscila Navarro, was announced.

A 17-year-old sophomore studying piano performance at the Florida Gulf Coast University Bower School of Music, Navarro is also the winner of the 2011 International Chopin Competition of South America. Navarro received a full scholarship to study at the Tanglewood Festival in Massachusetts in summer 2011, has performed with the National Orchestra of Perú, and has also been selected to perform at the 2012 Corsi Internazionali di Musica in Perugia, Italy. She is a top academic scholar and was valedictorian of her high school graduating class in Perú.

The major goal of the BIG Arts/Kenneth L. Nees Classical Music Scholarship is to provide scholarships to highly talented high school and college students who plan to continue their classical music training. Students who study any classical musical instru-

ment, composition, conducting or teaching are eligible. Applications for this classical music scholarship are due in September and more information is available online at www.BIGARTS.org.

Ken Nees is a BIG Arts volunteer who not only works in the office every day, but is also the chair of the Workshop/Classes Committee. He also has served several terms on the Board of Directors. He is a fan of classical music and is devoted to helping talented young musicians continue to develop their musical talents.

If you have benefited from arts education, and are inspired to make these opportunities available for others, BIG Arts has several scholarship programs that are supported by generous donors.

To learn more about establishing a scholarship fund to support your passion, and make a difference in the lives of others, contact Development Coordinator Kara Minoui at 472-9700.✧

Artwork In Commissioner Hall's Office

Commissioner Tammy Hall's office is looking for local artists willing to show their work in her Fort Myers office during 2012. The space can hold 11 or 12 medium to large size pieces. All pieces should be ready to hang. There are some flat surfaces to display ceramic and 3D work. Artwork will be on display for six weeks.

Each month will feature a theme. If you are interested in displaying your work, call 533-2226 or e-mail dist4@leegov.com and include the dates your available and a link or example of your work. Preference will be given to first time displayers.

Themes For 2012

January 1 through February 10 – Theme pending

February 13 through March 30 – Black History Month and International Women's Day

April 2 through May 11 – Earth Day and National Photography Month.

May 14 through June 29 – Theme pending

July 30 through August 31 – Dog Days of Summer or local scenes

September 3 through October 17 – Hispanic Heritage Month.

October 19 through November 30 – Theme pending

December 3 through January 11, 2013 – 125 Years of Lee County.✧

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From page 18

Winter Exhibitions

a \$25,000 McKnight Foundation Fellowship in 2003-04. His exhibition record includes numerous solo and group shows, and gallery representation at Anderson & Anderson in Minneapolis, Klein Gallery in Chicago, Dietrich Contemporary in New York and Au Temps Qui Passe Galerie in Genolier, Switzerland. He lives and paints in White Bear, Minnesota.



A Fool's Paradise by Kevin Costello

Jestrow, originally from Queens, New York, graduated from High School of Art & Design, and attended Fashion Institute of Technology. She started quilting in 2001, and started showing her work at galleries in 2007 and was a resident artist at The Bakehouse Art Complex from 2009 through 2011. For more information on all the upcoming exhibitions coming in the 2012 season, visit www.artinlee.org or call 239-939-2787.

The Alliance for the Arts proudly supports artists and arts organizations in Southwest Florida as the state designated Local Arts Agency for Lee County. The Alliance for the Arts' galleries are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays. They are located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard, just south of Colonial Boulevard, in Fort Myers.✧



Kevin Costello's *Rain on the Lake*, acrylic on canvas, 2008

Costello, Nelson Featured At Next Alliance Exhibition

The Alliance for the Arts announces its next gallery exhibition, featuring mixed media artist Kevin Costello and sculptor Jud Nelson, which opens Friday, January 6 with a reception at 5 p.m. Both artists have garnered wide acclaim over many decades for their work and devotion to the arts.

Sarasota artist and lecturer Kevin Costello is a graduate of the Chelsea School of Art and Goldsmith's College, University of London. He emigrated to the United States in 1973 and taught visual arts and art history at the San Francisco Academy of Art and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. After moving to Florida in 1981, Costello was the Florida State School Arts Program Manager, administered by the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota. He is currently an instructor in landscape painting, figure and conceptual drawing at the Ringling College of Art and Design Continuing Studies & Special Programs Department and lecturer in contemporary art history in the Elderhostel Program at Stetson University. He also spent six years as art correspondent for the *Sarasota Herald Tribune* and is an active member of the City of Sarasota Public Art Committee. Nelson was the juror for the 2011 All Florida Juried Exhibition, held at the Alliance over the summer and he will teach a drawing class there in November 2012.

Fort Myers sculptor Jud Nelson has been creating impeccably crafted pieces since the early 1970s. His work is often described as "dazzling" in its technical accomplishment and precision. His exactly carved sculptures are actual-sized recreations of everyday objects, like rolls of toilet paper, bars of soap, aspirin tablets, sunglasses and even light bulbs. Nelson's carved objects reach across time through his use of traditional artistic methods. He received a BA from Bethel

College in 1966 and an MFA from the University of Minnesota in 1968. His work is held in numerous public collections including the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York, the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis and the Gerald R. Ford Museum in Grand Rapids, Michigan and the United States Capitol in Washington, D.C.

Nelson and Costello's opening reception is Friday, January 6 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Their joint exhibit will remain on display in the Alliance Main Gallery through January 28. Costello will lead a gallery Walk & Talk on Saturday, January 7 from 10 to 11 a.m. Nelson's Walk & Talk is Thursday, January 12 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. An exhibit called *Artistic Collaborations*, featuring the work of Alliance instructors and their students, will be on display in the Member Gallery. Fort Myers painter Pat Levine will be featured in the Theater Gallery.

For more information on upcoming exhibitions during the 2012 season, visit www.artinlee.org or call 239-939-2787.

The Alliance for the Arts is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers.✪

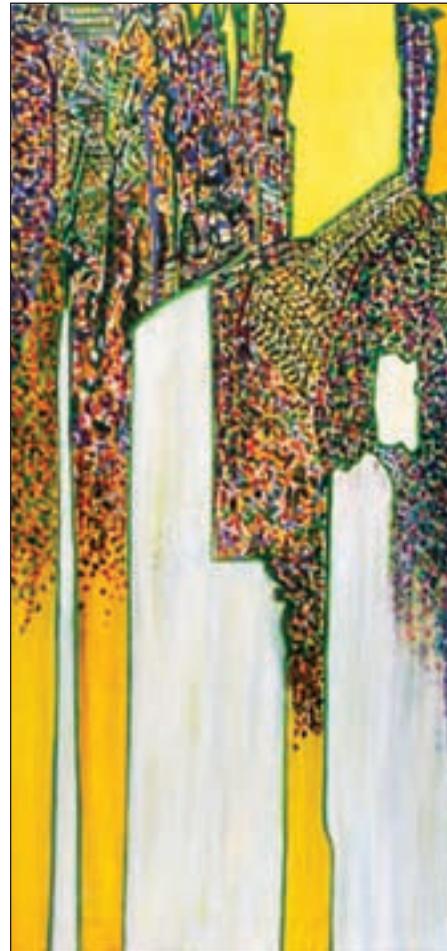
Storytime With Darrell House

Cape Coral Yacht Club will host children's singer-songwriter, musician and storyteller for kids and families Darrell House, who will entertain the entire family on Sunday, January 15 from 1 to 3 p.m.

House is the winner of 2010 Parents' Choice Gold Award for his CD of original, humorous poetry for kids and families.

Doors open at 1 p.m. for free children's crafts and activities plus hot dogs, snacks and soft drinks for purchase. The show starts at 2 p.m.

Call the Cape Coral Parks & Recreation Department at 574-0806 to purchase tickets, priced at \$5 each, or for more information about this event.✪



Kevin Costello's *When Feeling Low, Drive to Tennessee and Park Your Car*

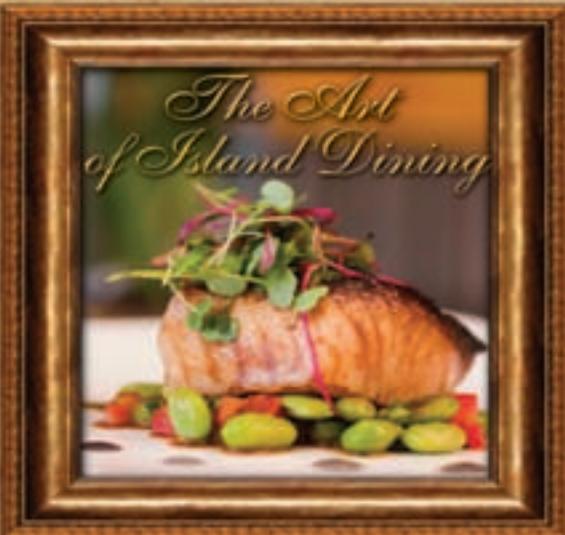


Jud Nelson *Lightbulb*



Jud Nelson's *Mousetrap*

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Oysters Rockefeller

36 oysters, shucked, on the half shell
 Rock salt
 2 cups spinach, cooked and drained
 1/4 cup onion, chopped
 2 fresh bay leaves
 2 tablespoons celery, chopped
 1 teaspoon parsley, chopped
 1/2 teaspoon salt
 1/4 teaspoon hot pepper sauce
 1/3 cup butter
 1/2 cup dry breadcrumbs
 1 tablespoon lemon juice
 Preheat oven to 400 degrees F.

Arrange oysters in shells on rock salt in a baking dish. Process spinach, onion, bay leaves, celery, parsley and seasonings in a food processor until smooth. In a saucepan, cook spinach mixture in butter for 5 minutes. Add breadcrumbs and lemon juice, mixing well. Spoon the spinach mixture on top of oysters and bake at 400 degrees F until oyster edges curl.

Yields six servings

Nutritional Value Per Serving:

Calories 203, Calories From Fat 113, Total Fat 13g, Saturated Fat 8g, Trans Fatty Acid 0, Cholesterol 71mg, Total Carbohydrate 13g, Protein 9g, Omega 3 Fatty Acid 0.56g



Oysters Rockefeller

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

Lakes Regional Library Programs

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

Adults

English Café

6 p.m. Mondays, January 9, 23 and 30

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

Book Discussion: Tayari Jones' *Silver Sparrow*

2 p.m. Tuesday, January 17

Read and discuss Tayari Jones' breathtaking story about a man's deception, a family's complicity, and two teenage girls caught in the middle. Set in a middle-class neighborhood in Atlanta in the 1980s, the novel revolves around James Witherspoon's two families - the public one and the secret one. When the daughters from each family meet and form a friendship, only one of them knows they are sisters. It is a relationship destined to explode when secrets are revealed and illusions shattered. Registration is required.

Fitness On the Go: Kickoff Party

4 p.m. Tuesday, January 17

"Fitness on the Go" is a multigenera-

tional initiative to help you get healthy and discover our library resources. Did you make a New Year's resolution to get fit? The library is here to help! Find out what "Fitness on the Go" is all about and kick start your goals. For all ages, from toddlers to seniors. Sponsored by the Friends of the Lakes Regional Library. Registration is required.

Master Gardener Series: Bromeliads

2 p.m. Thursday, January 19

Master Gardener Kelly Bishop will present a program on bromeliads for the garden and patio. Registration is required.

Ida Tarbell: *The Mind Must Be Convinced*

2 p.m. Thursday, January 26

Janina Birtolo continues her exploration of the lives of fascinating historical women with *The Mind Must Be Convinced*, an original one-woman play about Ida Tarbell, the investigative journalist whose work helped break up the Standard Oil Company. Sponsored by the Friends of Lakes Regional Library. Registration is required.

Family

Baby-Parent Rhyme Time

10 a.m. Mondays, January 9, 23 and 30

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

Toddler Storytime

10 a.m. Wednesdays, January 11, 18

and 25

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

Family Storytime

11 a.m. Wednesdays, January 11, 18 and 25

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

Fitness On The Go: Kickoff Party

4 p.m. Tuesday, January 17

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Children

Preschool Storytime

11 a.m. Mondays, January 9, 23, 30

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

Kids Read Down Fines

4 to 5 p.m. Thursday, January 19

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.

Fitness On The Go: Parachute Playtime

10:30 a.m. Thursday, January 26

"Fitness On The Go" is a multigenerational initiative to help you get healthy and discover our library resources. The parachute is one of our favorite activities in storytime! We'll explore movement and motion in this special fitness program for little ones ages 2 and up and their loved ones. Registration is required.

Teens

Fitness On The Go: Kickoff Party

4 p.m. Tuesday, January 17

"Fitness On The Go" is a multigenerational initiative to help you get healthy and discover our library resources. Did you make a New Year's resolution to get fit? The library is here to help! Find out what "Fitness On The Go" is all about and kick start your goals. For all ages, from toddlers to seniors. Sponsored by the Friends of the Lakes Regional Library. Registration is required.

Kids Read Down Fines

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Opening Exhibit Artists Reception At ACT Gallery



Dawn of a New Day, Jef Hernandez



Shell Series Strawberry Strombus, Alicia Schmidt

tures, developing a method to create conceptual pieces that portray a deeper understanding of human nature. Using hand carved resin on steel armature, he creates the most delightful sculptures that are unexpectedly light in weight, but with a bronzed effect and wonderful patina. His "Tiny Dancers" series is an all time favorite of ACT Gallery and all who view them.

David Belling went from being a barn painter, to a highly collectible watercolorist. Belling's subjects of fishing shanties, shrimp boats, structures and people are much admired by the art lover's of all who enter ACT Gallery. Belling resides in Cape Coral, where his studio overlooks the Caloosahatchee River. His original watercolors and prints of landmarks decorate homes and businesses in Southwest Florida and beyond.

Jo Anne Bedient has been a premier clay artist in Southwest Florida for some time. She is best known for her ceramic and raku shoes, she blends realism and fantasy into her creatively whimsical designs. Bedient has maintained her preference for hand-building pieces and raku firing revolutionized her work. Bedient is a member artist of Sanibel's Tower Gallery, we loved that she has agreed to exhibit at ACT Gallery, where she has always been much admired and highly collected in past gallery exhibits.

Stephen Gray-Blancett was honored as the 2011 Visual artists of the year by the Lee County Alliance for the Arts. Gray-Blancett's paintings are fun, contemporary, colorful and sometimes sexy. He has the honor of being the artist that made the most money for ACT Gallery in one month at his first solo exhibit several years ago. He is also the owner of Coloring the World gallery in

Join Arts for ACT Gallery, located at 2265 First Street in downtown Fort Myers, on Friday, January 6 from 6 to 10 p.m. for the opening reception and art walk for January 2012. This month, ACT Gallery will feature 12 artists in its three featured gallery rooms. The Main Gallery will have the "Favorite Artists of ACT Gallery," a group show featuring David Acevedo, Todd Babb, David Belling, JoAnne Bedient, Stephen Gray-Blancett, Christina Jarmolinski, Leo Johnson, Mel Meo, George Mitchell and Paul Rodino. Alicia Schmidt will be in the office gallery exhibiting her "Shell Series" and pop artist Jef Hernandez will exhibit in the middle gallery room.

"Favorite Artists of ACT Gallery" is a group exhibit showcasing the art of 10 professional artists, including David Acevedo, Todd Babb, David Belling, Jo Anne Bedient, Stephen Gray-Blancett, Christine Jarmolinski, Leo Johnson, Mel Meo, George Mitchell and Paul Rodino. These artists will bring a diversity of art styles and mediums to ACT Gallery, including watercolor, painting, mixed media, collage, raku, hand-carved resin on steel armature sculpture, hand-painted furniture, encaustic, photography and more.

David Acevedo, born in Puerto Rico now resides in Cape Coral. He is the owner and director of daas gallery in downtown Fort Myers. Acevedo is an accomplished artist, master artisan and designer of custom jewelry, hand-made paper goods and a variety of other fine crafts. His semi-abstract expressionist acrylic paintings have long been a favorite of ACT Gallery. Acevedo's use of vibrant colors draws an individual to his paintings. His art is highly valued and sought by collectors.

Todd Andrew Babb's natural ability to sculpt and paint has enabled him to be a favorite of ACT Gallery. He is a generous artist, who is always willing to help his community. Since 2007, Babb has focused exclusively on his scul-



Farmers Market, David Belling

downtown Fort Myers. His paintings are both compelling and mood evoking. He says, "Personal feelings, imagination and dreams are the platform for his art. Painting gives me fuel and freedom to express myself, my feelings, and my individuality." ACT Gallery is proud to have the pleasure of exhibiting this highly collectible artist.

Christina Jarmolinski returned to Southwest Florida three years ago and resides in Cape Coral, after living in Europe and traveling Asia for many years. She was a co-owner of the recently closed downtown gallery, SyZyGy, which is now an on-line gallery. Art is Christina's life; she is constantly creating a painting, jewelry or decorative item of some type. Jarmolinski has had several exhibits in the past at ACT Gallery and is a long-time supporter of ACT. Her paint-

ings range from abstract to semi-abstract and are expressionist. She enjoys painting everything for tropical to funky pop art. Her paintings make you smile and you will want to bring them home with you.

Leo Johnson is a Cuban-Sicilian artist whose paintings reflect the human spirit. The agonies, joys, exuberance, peaks and valleys of everyday life are in his works. This Fort Myers' artist is much admired for his techniques and is highly collected in the states and abroad. He is active in the community, gives lectures and teaches painting to many children including the under-privileged, disabled and the at-risk. His style is unique, personal and captivating.

Mel Meo, artist and our very dear friend from Pine Island will be joining us. She has had numerous exhibits at ACT

continued on page 25

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Very VIP Auction Items Offered At 2012 Hope Gala

The auction items available at the 10th annual Hope Gala bring a whole new meaning to the term “red carpet treatment.”

With backstage passes, personal introductions, behind-the-scenes access and private parties, many of the Hope Gala experiences simply aren't available for purchase in any other venue.

Individual tickets to the February 11 Hope Gala – which benefits Joanne's House at Hope Hospice in Bonita Springs – are available to the public, so dream vacations and once-in-a-lifetime experiences are just a high-bid away.

“We know Southwest Florida hosts many events with great auctions,” said Hope Gala co-chair and Bonita Bay resident Karen Hartley. “We wanted our 10th anniversary event to be truly unique, so our committee members reached out to contacts and friends around the world to help secure experiences that simply can't be bought anywhere else.”

One of the pivotal contacts for the 2012 Hope Gala is Emmy Award-winning producer and Sports Broadcasting Hall of Fame member Geoffrey Mason, also a Bonita Bay resident. Mason has produced sports events across the globe for major broadcast networks and sports juggernaut ESPN, providing unparalleled access to exclusive experiences.

Sports: Sidelines, Courtside and Inside the Ropes

Go Inside the Ropes at the 2012 Tavistock Cup at Lake Nona Golf & Country Club in Orlando, where four lucky winners will spend a day with Golf Channel host Rich Lerner as he covers this unique club championship that features many of the top golfers in the world. Tickets are not available to this club tournament; attendance is limited only to club members, their guests and corporate sponsors, making it one of the most private and prestigious events in the world of golf.

ESPN Unplugged: A Day in the Life of SportsCenter allows four guests to spend a day behind the scenes at the worldwide



Tavistock Cup at Lake Nona Golf & Country Club

leader in sports. Winners will tour the studios in Bristol, Conn. meet broadcast and sports personalities, and observe how shows are conceived, planned, directed and produced.

Courtside at the U.S. Open on Opening Day includes VIP access and tour of the Arthur Ashe Tennis Center, Players Lounge and ESPN broadcast center, including a chat with ESPN analyst and former champion Pam Shriver. Two winners will then join New York's glitterati in courtside box seats.

Very VIP at the 2013 Super Bowl takes two winners to the invitation-only NFL Commissioner's Party, NFL Experience, NFL Tailgate Party and behind-the-scenes tours of the CBS and ESPN television broadcast centers – plus great seats for kickoff at the Louisiana Superdome.

Prime Time at the 2012 NCAA Final Four includes pre-parties and the Final Four concert as well as tickets to the Saturday semi-finals and the prime-time championship game on Monday in New Orleans.

Other sports packages to be offered: Red Sox Opening Day at JetBlue Park; PGA Tour Experience at The Players Championship; and 360-Degree View at the Daytona 500 as ESPN's special guest.

If Sports Isn't Your Game...



Geoffrey Mason

Connie Lummis, who serves as co-chair for the 2012 Hope Gala with Hartley, said that while event organizers from the Women's Committee for Hope Hospice in Bonita Springs know the sports events will be hot sellers, the auction list is full of world-class experiences in travel, pampering, Hollywood, cooking and more.

Given that this year's event theme is Out of Africa, one might guess at the featured travel item – an all-expenses-paid trip to an African Safari.

Join in the experience at two of the most popular TV shows in America where the winning bid includes seats at *Dancing With The Stars* and *The X Factor*.

Pamper yourself and a guest with a luxurious, ultimate spa getaway at The Lodge at Woodloch in the Pocono Mountains, one of the top 10 destination spas in the world.

One bidder will spend three hours on the open road in six ultra-exotic luxury vehicles. Bring along a friend as you take in the thrills of all 120 miles.

Loops, dives and rolls combine with the adrenaline rush of a lifetime on a Top Gun fighter jet, with pre-flight training and post-flight analysis of your three-hour private thrill ride.

Learn from the masters with culinary lessons at the internationally-acclaimed Le Cordon Bleu, with five nights at the four-star Hotel Ampère in the heart of Paris.

Golf enthusiasts, take note: Also available to the highest bidder are two exceptional golf experiences. Enjoy three nights at The Inn Bandon Dunes on the southern Oregon Coast, with three rounds at *Golf Digest's* No. 2 Best Golf Course Resort in North America. Play three rounds on a course that has hosted the PGA Championship and U.S. Senior Open at the Kohler Golf Resort in Kohler, Wisconsin, ranked among the best in the country. The package includes three nights at the Forbes five-star resort hotel, The American Club.

And that's not all!

Auction committee co-chairs Chris Mason and Tiffany Coletta emphasize that a wide range of additional live and silent auction items will be available at the February 11 event and cater to interests and tastes for bidders of all ages.

“There is already a buzz about these

auction items, and we hope people will come to have a great time in support of our mission,” said Samira K. Beckwith, president and CEO of Hope HealthCare Services. “This event is really a celebration of all the work that has been done, and we're very grateful for the hard work and dedication of so many people.”

The Hope Gala includes a gourmet dinner, entertainment by professional comedienne and auctioneer Cindy Banks and co-host Geoffrey Mason, and dancing with musical guest Shelina.

For more information about the Hope Gala, visit www.HopeHospice.org/Gala or call Lummis at 239-289-3543 or Hartley at 724-822-7519.*

From page 22

Library Programs

The Lakes Regional Library is located at 15290 Bass Road in Fort Myers. For more information about a program or to register, please call the library at 239-533-4000. A sign language interpreter is available with five business days notice to library staff. An assistive listening system is 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 239-479-INFO (4636), for more information about a specific program.*

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The Future Of Women's Professional Golf Could Ride On The Shoulders Of This Sensational Florida Teenager



by Ed Frank

An amazing young Florida teenager could do for the women's professional golf tour what Tiger Woods once did for the PGA Tour.

Lexi Thompson of Coral Springs, who won't turn 17 until next February, became the youngest winner ever on the LPGA Tour when she captured the Navistar Classic last September. And then, just two weeks later, she won the Dubai Ladies Masters to become the youngest to win on the Ladies European Tour.

She recorded scores of 70-66-70-67, 15 under par, winning by four strokes over a field that included several Solheim Cup

members from both Europe and the United States.

Although LPGA rules stipulate that tour members must be 18 years old, Commissioner Michael Whan wisely made an exception to allow her membership. The talented youngster could be just what the LPGA needs to restore its prominence.

The homeschooled Thompson comes from a family rich in golf talent. Half-brother Nicholas Thompson plays on the PGA Tour and Curtis Thompson competes on the Louisiana State University golf team. Her father Scott serves as her caddie.

In 2007, as a 12-year-old, she became the youngest player to qualify for the U.S. Women's Open although she failed to make the cut. Also in 2007, she won the Aldila Junior Classic and the Westfield Junior PGA Championship, again the youngest in history.

When she turned pro last year, she quickly signed lucrative sponsorships with

Cobra-Puma Golf and Red Bull.

The six-foot Thompson played qualifiers last year in Florida to gain entry into the U.S. Women's Open where she finished nine shots behind winner Paula Creamer to collect her first professional check for \$72,131.

Two weeks later at the Evian Masters playing on a sponsors' exemption, Thompson pocketed \$242,711 in second place just one shot off the winning score. After three professional events in 2010, her earnings were \$314,842 which would have ranked her 18th on the LPGA money list if she had been an official member.

In just 18 months since turning professional, Thompson has won \$661,992 – not bad for a 15- and 16-year-old.

The future is limitless for this golfing prodigy who says she plans to complete her high school education while playing on tour.

But there probably won't be many Friday night football games and high school proms as she rides the LPGA on her shoulders.

Everblades Win Two at Home last Weekend over Trenton

Sweeping Trenton last weekend on home ice by scores of 3-2 and 6-3, the Florida Everblades improved their season record to 14-13-2, five points out of first place in the ECHL South Division.

Florida closes out 2011 this weekend with three games in three nights against three different opponents – Thursday at Greenville, Friday at Gwinnett and Saturday at South Carolina – all division opponents.

The local hockey team does not return home to Germain Arena until January 11, 13, and 14 when they host the expansion Chicago Express.

New Florida Tarpons Sign Veteran Quarterback Chris Wallace

The upstart Florida Tarpons of the Ultimate Indoor Football League will not begin their first season until March 9, but they recently announced the signing of veteran quarterback Chris Wallace who is no stranger to Southwest Florida.

In eight seasons with the now-defunct Florida Firecats, Wallace passed for more than 22,000 yards. He will be entering his 11th season of indoor football.

The Tarpons also signed 6-foot, 7-inch Carlos Singleton as wide receiver, a graduate of the University of Memphis. Singleton had once played for the Cincinnati Bengals of the NFL.✱

From page 23

Opening Exhibit Artists Reception

Gallery and is our second highest money-maker for a solo exhibit selling \$13,000 in one month; none of her pieces were priced higher than \$250. That's selling a lot of art! Meo paints anything you can put paint on: furniture, bowls, suitcases, fabric, canvases and more... all with an island tropical feel to them. She is self-trained and her works embrace her peaceful Pine Island. Meo is an eclectic and exuberant painter who paints from dreams or a theme that springs from an inner journey within her. ACT Gallery cannot wait to see her newest artwork.

George Mitchell, professional photographer and author began making professional photographs in 1967. He began photographing traditional blues artists with a Kodak Instamatic camera, and then the University of Minnesota School of Mass Communication and Journalism lent him a camera. This led to a summer in Mississippi photographing and interviewing traditional blues musicians, resulting in a Master of Arts paper and his first book, *Blow My Blues Away*. Mitchell is living in Fort Myers now and has been photographing our local people and area.

Paul Rodino received his photography training at the Colorado Institute of Art. He has been an Art Director for various ad agencies. He is the curator and owner of "In One Instant" the photography gallery in downtown Fort Myers on Jackson Street. He finds relaxation in capturing little moments of time on film. ACT Gallery loves his mixed media encaustic photography from past exhibits. Rodino is collected widely by residents and tourists alike.

Alicia Schmidt will be shown in the office gallery. She is known primarily as a minimalist abstract painter. She works in deep saturations of color and creates sparsely designed compositions. While visiting the Albright-Know Gallery in Buffalo, New York, Schmidt's greatest inspiration came from viewing the work of Clyfford Still. This inspired her understanding of minimal, spatial compositions. Her paintings have evolved from large monolithic shapes, to a line with a few small shapes, then to shaped canvases and finally, to interpreting a subject through simple geometric and organic shapes. She received her AA degree from Edison Community College in 1968, attended Florida State University and receiving a BFA from Ringling School of Art in Sarasota in 1972, and her MFA from the Instituto Allende in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico in 1973. Schmidt has been a resident of Cape Coral since 1966. This exhibit presents a series of works in pastel with shells as the theme. Snails, Cowries and others were recreated in abstracted design and form with the subject simplified to its essence.

Jef Hernandez will exhibit in the middle gallery room. He is a visionary Pop Artist born in Labelle, gained access to the New York art scene in the early 1990s and now lives in Miami. His art has evolved into a new medium dealing with metaphysics and spirituality. He has intertwined religion into his pop art with a focus on the movement and expression of the soul. His unique style can be seen on everything from canvases, promotional materials, murals to hand painted fashions and entire nightclub installations. Designing and fabricating, visual decor, props and stage sets for special events, photography, stage and film sets. He has also been a Freelance Artist, Art Director, Event Designer and Production Designer

on a number of TV commercials, music videos and film projects. One important and guiding principle to his works is to reach out beyond the boundaries of fine art and connect to popular culture spiritually through his art. As an artist, he believes he has a social responsibility to engage others in a thought process that ultimately brings the creative process into everyday life, thereby enhancing the quality of your experience. Jef Hernandez is now a big part of the thriving art scene of downtown Miami's Wynwood District. Now ACT Gallery will host his signature "spirits" and their positive message.

These exhibits continue through Monday, January 31.

Arts for ACT Gallery provides a

quality, contemporary exhibition gallery featuring original art, limited edition prints, giclees, hand-crafted fine crafts, tee shirts, silver and glass bead jewelry, gourd art, raku, clay, and art cards. It is a "must see" destination for all art lovers and collectors, providing a unique opportunity for everyone to learn and enjoy art. Highlighting the art of the current featured artist, the front gallery, reminiscent of galleries in SoHo, has 12 to 16 foot high ceilings, distressed brick walls, and warm wooden floors. It is a great opportunity to meet the gallery's featured artists, enjoy some local food and have a glass of wine and engage in lively artful discussions.✱

Red Sox Children's Hospital Celebrity Classic Returns

Last week, Lee Memorial Health System Foundation announced that its 19th annual Boston Red Sox Children's Hospital Celebrity Classic will take place on Monday, February 27 at The Forest Country Club in South Fort Myers. The shotgun start is at 1 p.m.

The Boston Red Sox Children's Hospital Celebrity Classic is strengthened by a dollar-for-dollar match to all funds raised and will support construction of a new 136-bed children's hospital to provide state-of-the-art lifesaving care for the children of Southwest Florida.

The golf event is preceded the evening before (on Sunday, February 26) by the Boston Red Sox Children's Hospital "Tee Party." This year's "Tee Party" features a *Winter Wonderland* theme and includes heavy hors d'oeuvres, cocktails and spirit-

ed silent and live auctions. Bidding opportunities include one-of-a-kind hand-signed memorabilia from the world of sports and entertainment, luxurious spa and jewelry items, a seven-day cruise, a fun-filled trip to Fenway Park in Boston and a luxury trip to New York City.

Now in its 19th year, the event gives fans the opportunity to hit the links alongside some of the biggest stars and legends in Major League Baseball. Past participants include Josh Beckett, Jason Varitek, Jacoby Ellsbury, Clay Buchholz, Louis Tiant, Hall of Famer Jim Rice and many more.

"We are honored to partner with the outstanding Boston Red Sox organization. The Red Sox bring awareness to the health and wellness issues of our young patients," said tournament director Ken Shoriak. "We are also grateful for the support of The Forest Country Club in helping us to achieve success. It is our mission to ensure our community's children receive the highest quality medical care."

continued on page 26

School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSP

Dear Shelley, Is it true that special needs children have weight issues? My daughter is in a special needs class and almost all of her classmates are overweight. Is

there something about special needs kids that makes them overweight?

Kayla B., Fort Myers, Florida

Kayla,

Obesity rates for all children have risen dramatically in the past few years. The rate of obesity among adolescents ages 12 to 19 years has more than tripled over the past three decades, and the rate among children ages 6 to 11 years has more than doubled.

A report released last week from the federal Health Resources and Services Administration found that 30 percent of children aged 10-17 could be considered overweight or obese. They also found that more than 36 percent of children with disabilities and special health care needs in that same age range are overweight or obese and the long term prognosis is not good in that the struggle with weight appears to increase with the severity of the child's condition. Children and adolescents with special needs may often

be constrained by their disabilities and the consequences of being overweight are often more serious than for healthy children.

The National Center on Physical Activity and Disabilities reported that children with disabilities are at an even greater risk for obesity today because of our current sedentary lifestyle with most kids now spending a minimum of at least four hours a day with some type of electronic media. Also many parents of disabled children believe that their children cannot be physically active, due to their disability, which is not always the case. This lack of physical activity may not only lead to obesity, but to many other numerous health problems as well.

In general, there are some social, psychological, and physical difficulties associated with disabilities that include social isolation, restricted mobility, and depression. These problems are often made worse by being overweight, and by further reducing the child's independence.

Current research based interventions and approaches for the prevention and reduction of non-disabled obese children and adolescents are of little or no use for overweight and obese disabled children because the disabled population has been excluded, as participants in most of these studies thus the findings cannot really be applied to them. What research has

found, however, is that children with disabilities can be assisted in losing weight if they are instructed individually about the importance of nutrition and exercise and are helped in reducing barriers that restrict their mobility.

I direct you to The National Center on Physical Activity and Disabilities' website – www.ncpad.org – for outstanding information, videos, research and guides on how to increase the physical activity of children (and adults) with disabilities. Special features of this site include guides to discovering leisure activities, camp resources, disability products, finding an accessible park, accessible gardening, and many other outstanding resources. This site and this organization is to an excellent place to get great ideas on how to increase appropriate physical activities for our children with disabilities and put them on a path to a healthier life.

*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.**

Cattanach Named To Dean's List

Emily Cattanach has been named to the Fall 2011 Dean's List at Armstrong Atlantic State University. Cattanach is a rehabilitation sciences major from Fort Myers.

In order to make the Dean's List, students must be enrolled in at least nine semester hours of course work and earn a grade point average of at least 3.6.*

From page 25

Red Sox Classic Returns

Volunteer committee members invite you to visit www.facebook.com/RedSoxCelebrityClassic for updated information, event photos and more.

To join the Boston Red Sox on the course, or to purchase tickets to the evening-prior "Tee Party," call 343-6950 or e-mail BostonGolf@LeeMemorial.org. Corporate sponsorship opportunities are currently available. To inquire, call 343-6950.*

From page 1

Kanzius Machine Ready

constantly. The fifth-generation device is more automated. Rutkowski said work is already underway on a sixth generation device.

Tests must be performed on larger animals before the FDA approves clinical trials for humans. Thermed has not formally approached the FDA to request clinical trials.

Lee Memorial Health System is one of five designated locations for human trials.

Stephen Curley of the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston said last week, "This (larger machine) will mean we can begin large animal modeling studies that will be necessary to understand the RF (radio frequency) dosing and treatment times in human patients." He could not comment on the time to human clinical trials indicating they are bound by FDA guidelines but human trials are estimated to be at least two to three years away.

In an interview last week with The *Erie Times* Marianne Kanzius said Thermed has reached a research contract with one major research center and is negotiating with two others.

"This is the business end of John's dream," she said. "I know John would be pleased with how things are going."

Kanzius began working on the technology after he was diagnosed with cancer. His death two years ago threatened to derail the project but the positive results of research have kept it alive and thriving.*

To advertise in *The River Weekly News* Call 415-7732



Esther and Harry Casimir at FGCU Alumni Weekend 2011

FGCU Alumni Host Annual Alumni Weekend

Florida Gulf Coast University's Alumni Association will host the annual Alumni Weekend at the FGCU campus from Thursday, February 9 through Saturday, February 11.

The public is invited to join FGCU alumni, faculty, staff and friends of the university for a host of events that celebrate FGCU's growth and success. The weekend pays tribute to more than 14,000 alumni who have devoted time

and effort to the university, excelled in their careers and demonstrated service to the community. Last year's event raised more than \$3,000 to support the university's alumni programs and scholarship efforts.

The weekend events include an art gallery exhibit of *You Call This Art*; an etiquette class instructed by Nonnie Owens, author of *Dining With Civility*; Eagle Night Out at Bar Louie; Green & Blue Barbecue with men's and women's basketball games; as well as an alumni basketball game and campus bus and walking tours.

Event sponsorships are available from \$250 to \$1,000. Registration for each



Future Eagles at FGCU Alumni Weekend 2011

event is \$5 to \$10 for adults. Children 7 and younger qualify for discounted rates. For additional fees, participants may bid in the Green & Blue Barbecue silent auction.

For more information, call 590-1087 or register online at www.fgcu.edu/alumni.

The FGCU Alumni Association strives to build an enduring relationship between alumni and the university community through meaningful programs and by encouraging alumni to contribute their time, talents and financial support to FGCU.*

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Makes A Difference In People's Lives



A volunteer preparing a tax return at the Estero-San Carlos United Way House

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) services will be available beginning on Saturday, January 14. VITA is a free tax filing service available to individuals and families making \$50,000 or less. A partnership among CredAbility, the IRS and United Way of Lee, Hendry, and Glades makes the free service available at United Way Neighborhood Houses and other locations in Lee, Hendry and Glades counties.

Volunteers at the United Way Houses have prepared thousands of tax returns for area residents in the last three years. Volunteer tax preparers come from many walks of life and include college students, retired accountants and others who all receive training and certification from the IRS.

Why would a family not file their income taxes for three years? Not having money to pay taxes, being unemployed, a person feeling unable to file on his own, not having money to pay for a tax filing service are some of the basic reasons.

One family that included three children came to a United Way House last year for VITA services. They had not filed their income taxes for three years. They couldn't afford a tax service and were afraid that they owed money to the IRS. The mother was

self-employed, and the father had been unemployed for a period of time.

Nancy Martin, United Way House coordinator, said, "The mother really wanted to get their tax situation straightened out. I sent her home to get her mileage and other records from her self-employment. When I figured their taxes, they were owed \$3,775 for 2008, \$7,327 for 2009 and \$4,513 for 2010. That's a total of \$15,615 that the IRS refunded to them. That refund made a huge difference to this family."

"We are about to begin the fourth year of VITA service through the CredAbility and United Way partnership. Taxes are e-filed and returns arrive quickly. Last year, the average refund to VITA participants was over \$2,000, which may have prevented the foreclosure of someone's home, or purchased groceries for a family for several months," said Roger Mercado, Director of Allocations and Community Planning for the United Way.

Dawn Russell, the CredAbility staff person responsible for VITA, added, "A prime goal of the free service is to help tax payers who qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and other similar credits to receive them. A large number of taxpayers who could qualify for the EITC do not claim the credit because they don't know about it."

For more information about VITA, such as times and locations, call United Way 211 by dialing 211 or 239-433-3900.✱

Informational Meetings At Shell Point

Residents of Southwest Florida who would like to learn about resort style retirement options and lifecare, are invited to attend one of several informational meetings at Shell Point Retirement Community. One of Shell Point's experienced retirement counselors will explain the numerous benefits received when becoming a resident.

The meetings will be held at 10 a.m. in the main Commons located in The Woodlands neighborhood at Shell Point. The presentations will take place on the following dates:

January 10, 18, and 24
February 1, 7, 15, and 28
March 7, 13, 21, and 27
April 4, 10, 18, and 24

A brief presentation will be given on the benefits of lifecare at Shell Point during the casually-structured meeting, where guests will learn about the numerous retirement options available at Shell Point. Included in the visit is a tour of all three neighborhoods: The Island, The Woodlands, and Eagles Preserve, as well as information on the many amenities that are available to residents.

Admission is free; however, seating is limited, so reservations are required and may be made by calling Maureen Thomson at 466-1131 or 1-800-780-1131.

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

Financial Focus

Time For New Year's Financial Resolutions



by Jennifer Basey

Once again, it's time to make some New Year's resolutions. This year, in addition to hitting the gym, learning that second language and getting better organized, why not also consider a few financial resolutions?

What types of resolutions might you consider? Here are a few suggestions:

- Contribute more to your retirement accounts. The new year means that you are one year closer to retirement. To help yourself build resources for the lifestyle you've envisioned as a retiree, try to boost your contributions to your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. You can do this if you get a salary increase and devote at least part of it to your 401(k). At the same time, try to "max out" on your Individual Retirement Account (IRA). For 2012, you can

contribute up to \$5,000 to an IRA, or \$6,000 if you're 50 or older.

- Reduce your debts. Look for ways to cut down or consolidate your debts. It may not be easy, but it's worth the effort because the lower your debt load, the more money you'll have available to invest for the future.

- Build an emergency fund. If you don't already have an emergency fund containing between six and 12 months' worth of living expenses, start building one soon. Keep the money in a liquid vehicle – one that's separate from your everyday checking and savings accounts. Without such an emergency fund, you may be forced to dip into your long-term investments to pay for unexpected costs, such as a major car repair, a new furnace or a large medical bill.

- Don't overreact to volatility. In 2011, the financial markets have been volatile, with big gains followed by big drops followed by big gains – a true roller-coaster pattern. Try not to let large, short-term price movements influence your investment decisions. Many of the factors that cause jumps or declines are not that relevant to long-term results – and as an investor, you want to focus on the long term. Concentrate on building a portfolio that's suitable for your individual goals and risk tolerance.

- Be aware of different types of risk. For many investors, "investment risk"

strictly means the possibility of losing principal when the value of an investment drops. Consequently, to cut back on their risk in the face of a volatile market, they may sell off stocks and load up on certificates of deposit (CDs), bonds and other so-called "safer" investments. But each investment actually carries its own type of risk. For example, if you own CDs that pay a 2 percent return, and the inflation rate is 3 percent, you will lose purchasing power over time. And if you wanted to sell your bonds before they had matured, you'd have to sell them at a discount if the market interest rate had risen above

the "coupon" rate of your bond because no one would pay you full price for them. Just be aware that no investment is "risk-free," and try to build a diversified portfolio that can lessen the impact of one specific type of risk.

By following these suggestions, you can go a long way toward making 2012 a good year in which to make progress toward your important financial goals. So plan ahead – and make the right moves.

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

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dearPharmacist

Kiss Your Problems Goodbye With Mistletoe

by Suzy Cohen, RPh



Dear Readers: I wish you all a happy, restful holiday. At this time of year, I'd like to write about the most romantic plant on Earth – mistletoe. It has allowed more men to steal a kiss than anything else!

Mistletoe, a traditional symbol of love, is literally a parasite, receiving no nourishment from the soil. It offers some of the most impressive health benefits of any plant for a variety of conditions.

Like all botanicals, there are different varieties. American mistletoe, used as a Christmas decoration, is not the same as the European or Korean sort which have all the medicinal properties. For ease, I'm just going to say mistletoe from now on, but I am referring to European (*Viscum album*) or Korean (*Viscum album coloratum* or "KML") varieties.

You may not want to smooch if you are exhausted, anxious, irritable or suf-

fering with high blood pressure and headaches. Those conditions may be relieved from what you think of as the kissing flower. Even more exciting, are mistletoe's immune-enhancing benefits. Many of you have heard of celebrity and author Suzanne Somers, who used European mistletoe when she was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2000. A study in October 2007 *Archives of Pharmacal Research*, and another in November 2011 *Phytotherapy Research* confirmed some anti-cancer benefits.

Chinese medicine herbalists have used mistletoe for centuries to support the female reproductive system; it seems to improve libido, fertility, uterine bleeding and erratic (or absent) menstruation. A research brief was published in *Fertility and Sterility* (2002) indicating that mistletoe extracts resulted in pain reduction of post-hysterectomy patients with endometriosis. Apparently, mistletoe inspires more than the urge to kiss in men, as studies suggest it can improve libido and erectile dysfunction.

Don't eat your Christmas decoration; that is harmful. You can buy purified commercial dietary supplements of European mistletoe in the United States. It's sold as a liquid extract at health food stores nationwide and you just mix the drops in water. There are oral supplements sold at health food stores. It may be slightly relaxing or sedating. If you are reading my translated column overseas, I should tell you mistletoe goes by

continued on page 31

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,

I read your column quite regularly. I am a retired gerontologist living in an over 55 community and I must say I disagree strongly with your advice to Freda.

I do not see Freda as intimidated but annoyed at young people who belittle her and are "mean." It is not easy to ignore such behavior. It often translates into a situation where the old person with a legitimate concern is bullied into believing they are stupid. Pryce's comment regarding computers and new technologies are

not solutions either. I consider myself well able to use them but the rapidly increasing technologies boggle my mind. I feel at my age, I should be able to use a telephone book and/or get information by telephone or in person rather than spending an inordinate amount of the few years I have left on earth to figure out why my password is invalid or why Comcast has "lost" my signal again.

I sense it is okay not to criticize younger folks starting in preschool for fear that we will hurt their self esteem and shatter their egos. Don't people of age deserve the same consideration?

Bottom line, instead of accepting verbal abuse and other ageisms, wouldn't it be better to resurrect and teach youngsters the old fashioned "virtues" as respect for one's elders and/or the notion that the customer is always right?

Thanks for listening.

Loretta C. Buffer, PhD,
Fort Myers

Dear Loretta,

I have recently read in some published literature that the more a country is technologically advanced the less that society values their aged population. Computer and technologies are here to stay. You and I grew up in a more gentle society but to survive we have to keep up to date with change.

Lizzie

Lizzie and Pryce's e-mail address is
momandmeaging@hotmail.com.*

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Dr. Dave

A Seedy Story

by Dr. Dave
Hepburn

"Some cause happiness wherever they go; others... whenever they go." – Oscar Wilde

When a doctor walks into an exam room, the opening greeting is important in establishing the length, quality and potential pain of that visit.

"How are you?" I ask.

"I'm in a doctors office, what do you think?"

"Right. Well, what brings you here today?"

"The bus." And so on.

And if your opening gambit is "I'm not a hypochondriac, doctor, but I think a seed or a cedar is stuck in my..." we reflexively think "Yes you are. It appears as though you're familiar with that diagnosis."

"Hello, Melissa. I'm Dr. Hepburn. How are you?"

"Pretty good. How are you, doctor?"

"Well..." I conceded in my usual schtick in order to inject a little disarming disarmament into the visit and basically entertain myself "... my stocks are down, my hemorrhoids are up, my knee

is sore, my wife is sore, my dog threw up, my hairline is receding rather than reseeded, my son is driving again..." By this time, most patients get that I'm not really serious and some get that I'm not really a doctor.

"Sorry to hear that..." replied Melissa. "You're obviously having a bad day."

Melissa, 28, had suffered a stroke earlier in the year. Usually, 28-year-olds don't suffer strokes, they suffer from diseases like acne emergencies on a Friday night (two fresh pimples constitute a full on calamity), cold sores in hot spots and the occasional outbreak of pregnancy. But unbeknownst to Melissa, a congenital malformation had formed in her brain when she was a congenital. It burst at age 28. Fortunately, she did well and seemed to suffer no real ill consequences. She said her memory was affected a little and she couldn't move an arm quite as well and that her memory was affected and, if I recall, she wasn't moving her arm, I think, quite as well, but otherwise she was OK. And apparently her memory was affected, poor thing.

She sat in the office with a plastic grocery bag, The Market on Yates, bulging with bananas and Arabian coffee and crackers and stuff. She was also holding a gorgeous, gigantic sunflower with a mass of impressive seeds and a four foot stem.

"Heck of a flower you got there miss, don't turn your back on it or your groceries will be gone."

"You know, doctor, I get a sunflower whenever I need a little boost because for some reason they just seem to brighten

my day."

I don't recall what her visit was about, specifically, and I continued on with my day of stamping out Victoria's diseases, one bad seed at a time. A couple of hours later, Whitley, one of my ultra attractive (my birthday is coming up) staff, came traipsing around the corner, arm extended. "Dr Dave, this is for you." In her hand she had – you guessed it – a giant sunflower, bigger than a Whitley.

Melissa, wherever you are, I hope you're having a good day because really, my dog didn't throw up over my stocks, wife, knee or any other body part. I wasn't having a bad day at all. But now I was having a very good day, thanks to you.

I must admit that later on that day I gave away that sunflower to someone who really wasn't having a good time of things. A re-gifted sunflower. But you planted the seeds.

I can't help but wonder if this is how you always were or if this is the actions of someone who sustained a stroke to the unpleasant dandelion lobe of the brain (the cerebellas lindsaylohanus). If the latter is the case, Melissa, then it was a stroke of good luck for those whose lives you enter. If enriching the moment and bringing a smile to the faces of those you encounter is now what you enjoy... you've suc-seeded.

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.wiseguacks.org.*



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Natasha Larson, COA

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After



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Before



After



www.EyelidsOnly.com

Eden Autism Advocates Of The Month Award

Eden Autism Services Florida has recognized Bruce and Cheryl Scheiner as recipients of the Autism Advocate of the Month award. The award recognizes people who are advocates for autism by increasing awareness, raising funds or providing leadership in support of autism.

The Scheiners have built one of the largest legal practices in South Florida with over 50 professionals serving clients in Fort Myers, Naples, Port Charlotte, Sebring and Cape Coral.

Southwest Florida has been home to the Scheiners for almost four decades and it is where they give back to the community. The firm is at the forefront in supporting numerous worthwhile causes, including the Naples Invitational Art Fest, benefiting Eden Autism Services.

"The Scheiners and their staff have incredibly generous to Eden Autism Services for many years," said Susan Suarez, Director of Eden Autism Services Florida operations. "They have given their time by volunteering for the Naples Invitational Art Fest, promoted the Art Fest in their advertising, and supported Eden financially. We are indebted to the Scheiners for their ongoing commitment to help individuals with autism."

Eden's Advocate of the Month receives a certificate of appreciation and will be invited to an annual reception.

To nominate an advocate for autism who exemplifies Action in Autism, please submit your nomination including person's name, contact information and a 50 word summary of why he or she should be selected to Taire.Malloy@edenautism.org or call 239-992-4680 ext. 5014.

The juried art shows, to be held January 28-29 and March 17-18 at Fleischmann Park, located at 1600 Fleischmann Blvd. in Naples, benefit Eden Autism Services.

For more information, contact Susan Suarez at 992-4680 ext. 5010 or Eden.florida@edenautism.org.*

Old Cell Phones End Domestic Violence

Did you know that donating your old, used or even broken cell phone could potentially save a life?

Having access to a phone is something most of us take for granted, but wireless phones can serve as a vital link to emergency or support services in a time of crisis, or as a reliable, safe connection to employers, family and friends, as survivors rebuild their lives.

The importance of a victim of domestic violence having access to a phone becomes clear once you understand that nearly one-third of women murdered in the United States are killed by a current or former intimate partner.

Old, used and even broken cell phones, donated to A.C.T. are also recycled through the shelter alliance program to raise much-needed funds to support the life-saving programs and services A.C.T. provides to more than 9,000 women, children and men annually.

Throughout the month of January, Iberia Bank and Abuse Counseling & Treatment, Inc. will be holding a post-holiday cell phone collection drive and are asking that you please consider donating any old, used or broken cell phones to help in our efforts to end domestic violence.

Cell phone donations can be dropped off at any Iberia Bank branch in Lee County during business hours or at the Second ACT Thrift Store, at 12519 S. Cleveland Avenue, Monday through Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. or Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information on donating used cell phones or inquiring on how your company, civic group or organization can hold a cell phone collection drive to benefit victims of domestic violence, call 939-2553.

If you or someone you know is in an abusive relationship please call A.C.T.'s 24-hour hotline at 939-3112.*

Feeling Stretched As A Caregiver?

Powerful Tools For Caregivers is an educational series designed to provide you with the tools you need to take care of yourself.

This program helps family caregivers reduce stress, improve self-confidence, communicate feelings better, balance their lives, increase their ability to make tough decisions and locate helpful resources.

Classes consist of six sessions held once a week. Two experienced class leaders conduct the series (many are experienced caregivers themselves, who have successfully applied the techniques they teach). Interactive lessons, discussions and brainstorming will help you take the "tools" you choose and put them into action for your life.

You will receive a book, *The Caregiver Helpbook*, developed specifically for the class. A donation of \$25 to help defray the cost of the book is suggested, but not required to attend the class.

Classes will be held at Chapel by the Sea, located at 100 Chapel Street (in the 2500 block of Estero Blvd.) in Fort Myers Beach, from January 18 to February 22. Sessions are held every Wednesday from 9 a.m. until noon.

For more information or to register, call Danielle at 343-2751. Class size is limited and pre-registration is required.*

Golden Dragon Acrobats Coming To BIG Arts Stage



Golden Dragon Acrobats

Loli Kantor photography

The Golden Dragon Acrobats take the stage on Sanibel at BIG Arts on Saturday, January 7 for an evening of family entertainment and impressive acrobatic performance. General admission is \$42, loge seats are \$47 and children are \$15. The show begins at 7:30 p.m. in BIG Arts Schein Performance Hall, located at 900



Golden Dragon Acrobats Tower of Chairs Dunlop Road.

Hailed as an "international marvel" by *The Gettysburg Times*, the Golden Dragons have visited more than 65 countries to perform sold-out shows and remain the only Chinese acrobatic company to tour the United States year-round, having done so continuously for the past 30 years.

Members of the current touring company hail from Hebei, China and are solidly rooted in a commitment to the highest level of production value and attention to artistic detail. World-renowned impresario Danny Chang and choreographer Angela Chang combine award-winning acrobatics, traditional dance, spectacular costumes, ancient and contemporary



Golden Dragon Acrobats plates sticks

music, and theatrical technique to present a show of breath-taking skill and spell-binding beauty.

In 2005, the Golden Dragons made their Broadway debut to a sold-out audience at the New Victory Theater and their show's six-week run garnered adoration from audiences of all ages and universal critical acclaim from New York City press. *The New York Times* said, "A visit from The Golden Dragon Acrobats is something special." The run's success culminated in nominations for two New York Drama Desk Awards, one for Unique Theatrical Experience for Danny Chang, and a second for Best Choreography for Angela Chang.

If you're looking for an evening of fun

for the whole family, then turn yourself over to the excitement and wonder of this special performance by The Golden Dragon Acrobats.

Patron Sponsor is Congress Jewelers and Sponsor is Periwinkle Place.

Visit www.BIGARTS.org for more event information, links to artists' websites and to purchase tickets. Tickets may also be purchased at BIG Arts or by calling the Marks Box Office at 395-0900.*

Donate Blood, Eat For Free

Lee Memorial Blood Centers and Sweet Tomatoes have joined together and will be holding a blood drive on Saturday, December 31 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 14084 S. Tamiami Trail in Fort Myers.

As a thank you, all donors will receive a coupon for a free Sweet Tomatoes' meal and a Blood Center t-shirt.

All blood collected remains in the Lee Memorial Health System to serve your community. Lee Memorial Health System uses 800-plus units of blood each week. With both the Children's Hospital and the only trauma center within a five-county area, the need for blood locally remains constant, and needs to be replenished daily. All blood types are currently needed.

The requirements to give blood are:
Age - At least 17 years old (16 with written parental consent) and in good general health. There is no upper age limit.

continued on page 35

Children's Hospital Receives \$87,850 From Pelican Landing Golf Outing



A few of the committee members responsible for planning the event at Pelican Landing. Front row from left is Patricia Smart, Charleen McPherson, Gail Hansen and David Gillespie. Back row from left is Roger Morgan, Larry McPherson and Roger Liddicoat

Pelican Landing recently presented a check in the amount of \$87,850 to the Lee Memorial Health System Foundation to support the Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida Capital Campaign.

The check represents proceeds from the second annual Children's Hospital Golf Classic, held at Pelican's Nest Golf Club on November 14. Pelican Landing has

Race For The Cure Gains Momentum

Team rallies in early January kick off the 2012 Southwest Florida Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure efforts bringing together team captains and those interested in learning about leading a team in the fight against breast cancer.

Team rallies will take place at Sam Galloway Ford on Thursday, January 5 at 6 p.m. and Coconut Ford on Friday, January 6 at 8:30 a.m. in preparation for Race for the Cure, the largest fundraising event in Southwest Florida supporting the fight against breast cancer.

During the rallies, team leaders representing corporate, community and survivor support groups learn how to build a Race for the Cure team, ways to motivate team members, how to use the organization's website tools and ideas for successful fundraising. The event will feature local Race for the Cure supporters who will motivate and inspire current and potential team leaders.

NBC-2 anchor Heather Turco and Carol Conway, president of CRS Consultants and Race for the Cure co-chair, will lead the effort at the Sam Galloway Ford location in Fort Myers. Southwest Florida Susan G. Komen Board President Mariann McDonald and Race for the Cure co-chair Bob McDonald will rally team members at the Coconut Point event in Estero.

With motivation and information from the rallies, teams will hold fundraising events and work to increase participation in the 2012 Race for the Cure on March 10 at 8 a.m. at Coconut Point Mall in Estero. Prizes and incentives are provided for teams in various categories. To find out more about forming a team for Race for the Cure and attend either rally, RSVP via e-mail to raceinfo@komenswfl.org.

"We encourage friendly competition between teams," noted Miriam Ross, executive director for Susan G. Komen for the Cure, Southwest Florida. "They play a major role in our fundraising success. It's exciting to see these teams on Race day as each one takes on its own personality."

Race for the Cure is a sanctioned 5K event that also includes a non-competitive 5K run/walk and a one-mile fun run/walk. More than 12,000 supporters attended the 2011 Southwest Florida Race for the Cure. Proceeds from Race for the Cure allowed the Southwest Florida affiliate to make grants totaling \$1,015,235 to 13 local non-profit agencies that provide breast cancer education, screening, treatment and support in Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Hendry and Glades counties. Seventy-five percent of all net proceeds stays in Southwest Florida and 25 percent funds groundbreaking national research.

For more information on team participation or Race for the Cure, call 239-498-0016 or visit www.KomenSWFL.org.

made a pledge of \$500,000 to name four rooms in the new Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida which will be built on the grounds of HealthPark Medical Center in South Fort Myers. The new hospital will contain 136 beds and additional pediatric specialty services not presently available.

Lee Memorial Health System Foundation is successfully leading a \$125 million campaign to offset the cost of the new hospital and is working with various communities and individuals to help raise the necessary funds.*

Homeless Continuum Of Care Awarded \$2.1 Million For 11 Projects

The Lee County Homeless Continuum of Care, comprised of local government agencies and non-profit and faith-based organizations, has been awarded \$2,141,034 in federal funding to continue 11 projects that serve Lee County residents who are homeless.

Under the Shelter Plus Care program, which provides rent subsidies for people who are homeless, three programs totaling \$243,444 were funded for two agencies, Lee Mental Health, Inc. and Community Assisted and Supported Living, Inc.

Additionally, Supportive Housing Program renewals for a variety of capital improvements and services for the homeless were funded. These included \$300,232 to the Lee County Department of Human Services for database management and services for the homeless, \$1,286,206 to The Salvation Army, Inc. for services for the homeless, \$66,103 to Renaissance Manor, Inc. for permanent supportive housing programs, and \$245,049 to Southwest Florida Addiction Services, Inc. for transitional and permanent housing programs.

Funding for local Continuums of Care is provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and is awarded following a national competitive application process. The 2011 awards totaling over \$1.5 billion were released by HUD in an expedited manner, aimed at providing uninterrupted services for the homeless that are already served by these programs.*

From page 28

Kiss Your Problems Goodbye

the brand name Helixor and Iscador, and is usually given via injection by oncologists.

The German Commission E (German equivalent of our FDA) has approved European mistletoe as a treatment for degenerative and inflamed joints (think arthritis) and also for for malignant growths like cancer. German physicians have read various animal and human studies that show how mistletoe increas-

es our NK (natural killer) cells which go after viruses and tumor cells. Mistletoe extracts stimulate activity of T cells (which are your bodies policemen) and increase cytokines, a good thing because these build up red and white blood cells, especially in the bone marrow. If you have cancer, I would not self-treat; seek a physician who uses mistletoe routinely and knows how to treat you.

*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.**

Lee Memorial Home Health Employee Receives Recognition

Lee Memorial Home Health has been recognized for its quality home and community based care by the Community Health Accreditation Program (CHAP).

Eileen Hagenbrock, RN, B.S., Quality Improvement Resource Analyst, has been appointed by the CHAP Board of Directors to a three-year term on CHAP's Board of Review (BOR). BOR members are selected from organizations who have achieved CHAP accreditation with no or minimal deficiencies throughout at least two accreditation cycles.

"Eileen's status puts us on a national level," said Cynthia Christman, RN, System Director at Lee Memorial Home Health. "This official recognition reinforces our mission 'to have a positive impact on the lives of our patients, their families, and our health care partners throughout the continuum of care.'"

Responsibilities of the BOR include reviewing accreditation related reports, analyzing data for relevance to CHAP Standards and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Standards and Conditions for home health, hospice and durable medical equipment, and making objective accreditation decisions. In addition, the BOR makes recommendations to the CHAP Board of Directors and/or the CHAP Administration regarding accreditation policies, procedures, and practices, including updates to the Standards of Excellence.

Visit www.leememorial.org for more information.*

DID YOU KNOW

TRIVIA TEST

1. LANGUAGE: From what language are all the modern Romance languages derived?
2. SCIENCE: What term describes the lowest point in a satellite orbiting the Earth?
3. HISTORY: When did Labor Day become a federal holiday in the United States?
4. INVENTIONS: What was Eli Whitney's most famous invention?
5. GOVERNMENT: In what year was the U.S. Constitution ratified?
6. GEOGRAPHY: What nation calls itself Espana in its native tongue?
7. ANCIENT WORLD: Where did the Minoan culture flourish?
8. POETRY: Who wrote the poem called "The Waste Land"?
9. MUSIC: What Beatles' album features the songs "Rocky Raccoon" and "Helter Skelter"?
10. MEASUREMENTS: How many pints are in a quart?

ANSWERS

1. Latin 2. Perigee 3. 1894 4. Cotton gin 5. 1789 6. Spain 7. Crete 8. T.S. Eliot 9. "The Beatles" 10. Two

SPORTS QUIZ

1. In 2009, Philadelphia's Chase Utley became the second player to hit five home runs in a World Series. Who was the first?
2. Who was the oldest player to steal a base in the major leagues?
3. Name the first college football Division I player to have 1,500 yards rushing and 1,500 yards passing in the same season.
4. In the 2009-10 season, Sacramento guard Tyreke Evans became the fourth rookie in NBA history to average at least 20 points, five rebounds and five assists per game. Name two of the first three to do it.
5. Entering the 2011-12 season, how many times had Jaromir Jagr tallied 40-plus goals in an NHL season?
6. Northwestern has won the women's lacrosse national championship six times in the past seven seasons (2005-11). Name the only other school to win a title during that time.
7. Who was the first mixed martial-arts fighter to win major titles in two weight classes?

ANSWERS

1. Reggie Jackson of the New York Yankees, in 1977. 2. Artie Latham was 49 years old when he stole a base for the 1909 New York Giants. 3. Michigan quarterback Denard Robinson, in 2010. 4. Oscar Robertson, in 1977. 5. Six times. 6. Maryland beat Northwestern in 2010. 7. Randy Couture.

My Stars ★★

FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 2, 2012

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) The New Year brings challenges that can change many things in your life. You need to be prepared not only to confront them, but also to deal with what happens afterward.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You have what it takes to set your goals quite a bit higher this year. Learn what you need to know and put what you learn into your efforts. A partner offers loving support.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) In true Gemini Twin fashion, you're conflicted about a decision you know you'll have to make in this New Year. Best advice: Get the facts before you make any commitment.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A friend offers you an exciting opportunity for the New Year. Although your positive aspects are strong in most respects, caution is advised. Investigate before you invest.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) You can make this New Year a roaring success. Start by readjusting your goals to reflect the changes in the economy. Your den-mate offers both wise and loving support.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) The New Year brings new opportunities for change. But you need to be ready to move from the comfortable status quo to the challenging unknown. It's up to you.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your most important New Year's resolution should be to work out problems with a family member in order to avoid continued misunderstandings. Do it soon, for both of your sakes.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) The New Year has much to offer the intensely determined Scorpion, who isn't afraid to take on challenges and stay with them until they surrender their rewards.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) You'll have many fine opportunities in this New Year. But be warned: Reject offers of "help." You work best when you're free to be your own creative self.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) The New Year offers changes that you might feel you're not quite ready for. Best advice: Deal with them one step at a time, until you've built up your self-confidence.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Travel is a dominant aspect of the New Year. This could mean relocating to another city (or

even another country) in connection with your education or your career.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) This New Year brings news about a change you've been anticipating. You might have a problem persuading a loved one about your new plans, but he or she will soon go along with them.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a gift for making people feel safe and protected. You would make an excellent youth counselor.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

- On Jan. 5, 1643, in the first record of a legal divorce in the American colonies, Anne Clarke of the Massachusetts Bay Colony is granted a divorce from her absent and adulterous husband, Denis Clarke, by the Quarter Court of Boston.

- On Jan. 7, 1785, Frenchman Jean-Pierre Blanchard and American John Jeffries travel from Dover, England, to Calais, France, in a gas balloon, making the first crossing of the English Channel by air. After almost crashing, the two men were forced to throw nearly everything out of the balloon to lighten the ship.

- On Jan. 4, 1847, Samuel Colt rescues the future of his faltering gun company by winning a contract to provide the U.S. government with 1,000 of his .44 caliber revolvers. Though never cheap, by the early 1850s, Colt revolvers were inexpensive enough to be a favorite with Americans headed westward during the California Gold Rush.

- On Jan 8, 1877, Crazy Horse and his warriors -- outnumbered, low on ammunition and forced to use outdated weapons -- fight their final losing battle against the U.S. Cavalry in Montana. On May 6, Crazy Horse led approximately 1,100 Indians to the Red Cloud reservation near Nebraska's Fort Robinson and surrendered.

- On Jan. 6, 1925, in Madison Square Garden, Finnish long-distance runner Paavo Nurmi sets a new indoor world record, running a mile in 4:13.5. In the 5,000-meter race, the "Flying Finn" broke another indoor world record in 14:44.6. Nurmi often ran holding a stopwatch to pace himself, an innovation he developed.

- On Jan. 3, 1961, President Dwight Eisenhower closes the American embassy in Havana and severs diplomatic relations between the United States and Fidel Castro's government in Cuba. The action signaled that the United States was prepared to take extreme measures to oppose Castro's regime.

- On Jan. 2, 1971, 66 football (soccer) fans are killed in a stampede at a stadium in Glasgow, Scotland, as they attempt to leave a game. The tragedy was caused by the crush of spectators all leaving at the same time on the same stairway

STRANGE BUT TRUE

- It was American journalist and satirist Ambrose Bierce who made the following sage observation: "There is nothing new under the sun but there are lots of old things we don't know."

- Those who study such things say that when a ladybug is frightened, it squirts a foul-smelling goo from its knees.

- You might be surprised to learn that approximately 40 percent of the oxygen in the world's atmosphere is provided by the verdant plant growth of South America's Amazon River basin.

- Mayan artwork dating back as far as 700 A.D. shows people preparing chocolate beverages. Chocolate was so valued by the natives of the Americas, the Maya even used cacao beans as currency.

- For reasons that aren't quite clear, in 1960 Macy's department store introduced a vending machine that dispensed men's underwear. After an initial flurry of shoppers coming to see the new contraption, the machine was doomed to obscurity due to lack of interest.

- Here's a question for the ladies: Are you a philematophobe? If you're a woman who hates to be kissed, you are.

- In 1958, then-Vice President Richard Nixon made a state visit to Venezuela. It seems he wasn't terribly popular there, and one of the protesters spit on him. The Secret Service detained the man, and an irate Nixon kicked him in the shins.

- Only about 37 percent of the newspapers published in the United States are recycled.

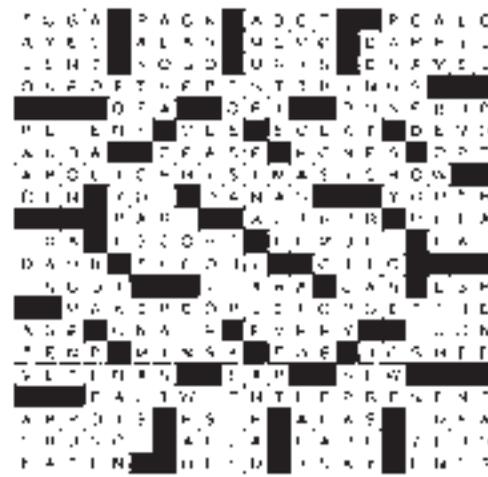
- The next time you're thinking about getting a new pet, consider this: Animal behaviorists say that a puppy can't hold a memory for more than 45 seconds.

- Researchers at Yale University have determined that people think more efficiently in the winter than in the summer.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"A bore is a man who deprives you of solitude without providing you with company."
-- Gian Vincenzo Gravina

PUZZLE ANSWERS



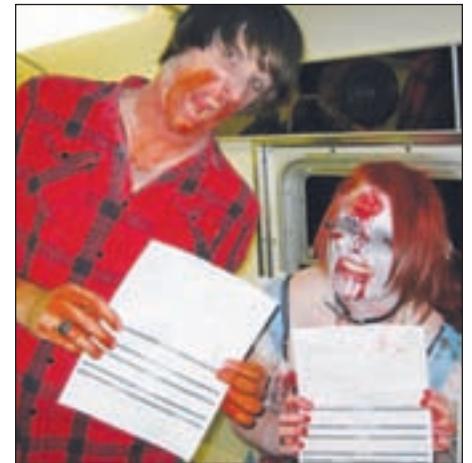
BASKET





A zombie gives blood during ZOMBICON

Photo by Mark Zou



Blood donors at the Lee Memorial Blood Center's Bloodmobile

Photo by Gloria Bonventre

From page 1

Zombicon Results

occasion. Upon hearing the signal, members of the Fort Myers Fire Department – who served as official timekeepers – started the clock. According to regulations, all zombies must remain within the designated area for at least 10 minutes.

As the clock ticked, excitement on the street reached a fever pitch. A second blast from the air horn signaled the fulfillment of the time requirement. The Red Zone was dismantled, uninfected humans and zombies mixed, mingled and the party continued.

Since the night of ZOMBICON, members of the Z-Core have set about collecting evidence of the attempt, which includes video footage, photographs and notarized statements from officials. Beyond those who actually registered, the number of people in zombie makeup easily exceeded 15,000 people (more than three times the official record), according to eyewitnesses. A map created by Parker, Mudgett & Smith Architects depicts the Red Zone with an overlaying grid, which demonstrates how many people could potentially fit into the designated space. The corresponding photographs show this area completely packed with people during the attempt. All of this data has been carefully compiled and sent to Ireland for consideration as Fort Myers awaits the answer.

In the meantime, other records were broken on the night of ZOMBICON, which were easier to prove. According to Eric Olsen, manager of the World Famous Cigar Bar, "In 15 years downtown, we had our best night ever." Many other downtown bars and restaurants also reported record numbers.

Gloria Bonventre, head of the Lee Memorial Blood Center, confirmed that 128 units of blood were donated, which have the potential of saving up to 256 lives. This is more than three times the number from the previous year, a record for the most blood collected at a special event. And for the first time, the Renal Transplant Center and the "Be The Match" bone marrow registry recruited donors at the event. Also, a record 3,786 pounds of food was gathered for The Harry Chapin Food Bank of Southwest Florida, the most ever collected at a nighttime event.*



The corner of First and Hendry streets during the world record attempt

Photo by J K Maxwell



Red Zone Map of World Record attempt

Drawn by Jeff Mudgett (Parker, Mudgett, Smith Architects, Inc.)

Pets Of The Week



Charlotte ID #370547

photos by squaredogphoto.com

My name is Charlotte and I'm a 5-year-old spayed female brown lab mix. I'm a super happy, friendly dog and my needs are simple. I just want a forever home with a family that will love me like I love them. A backyard to play in and a few toys wouldn't be bad either!

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

Hello! My name is Marshmallow and I'm an 8-year-old male white and orange domestic short hair.

I guess I got my name because I'm soft and squishy like a marshmallow. There's plenty of me to love and I promise to love you back. I won't be a lot of trouble, either. My favorite pastime is power-napping!

My adoption fee is \$25 (adopt a second cat or kitten free).



Marshmallow ID #519840

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

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

All adoptions include spay/neuter surgery, age-appropriate vaccinations, rabies vaccination and county license if 3 months or older, flea treatment, worming, heartworm test for dogs 6 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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Vendors Sought For Pet Expo

Grace Community Center will host a Pet Expo on Saturday, February 25 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Vendors are being sought for this first annual event, with booths starting at \$45. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Grace Community Center and its pet ministries including Feed The Pack and PAWS.

"We are thrilled to offer this type of event to our community," said Carol Musselman, event chair. "We are seeking pet vendors of all types to ensure we provide great value to our guests."

If you are interested in being a vendor, contact Carol Musselman by phone at 574-7161 or e-mail her at musselman@egracechurch.com.

Grace Community Center is a hub for the community, providing a path so that its neighbors can live lives of freedom and dignity. This 56,000-square-foot facility and its ministries greatly impact the Cape Coral/North Fort Myers area and the Route 41 corridor between Tampa and Naples. Teams feed the hungry, clothe the needy, heal the sick and educate the uneducated.

For more information on Grace Community Center, call 244-1818 or visit www.egracecenter.org.

From page 30

Donate Blood

Weight – Minimum of 115 pounds.
Identification – Must provide photo ID with date of birth.

Food – Eat a good meal before giving and drink plenty of fluids.

Medications – Many medications such as insulin, blood pressure, thyroid, cholesterol, aspirin, antidepressants and hormone replacement do not necessarily prevent someone from giving blood.

Call 343-2333 for more information.✱

Share your community news with us.

Call 415-7732,

Fax: 415-7702

or email

press@riverweekly.com

PUZZLE ANSWERS

SUDOKU

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

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Nimble; 2. Smart;
3. Crash; 4. Fealty

Today's Word:

SMALLEST

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Lekan Selective Home Watch

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Joseph & Mary

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*RS 10/28 NC TFN

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239-910-8000

*RS 12/16 NC 1/6

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It's parked in front of
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SR 1/30 B TFN

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*NS 12/9 PC 12/30

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**Elegant, Sanibel East End
Canal Front Home with Boat
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ASKING \$1,795,000**

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*RS 6/17 BM TFN

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Pfeifer Realty Group
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*NS 12/9 CC 12/30

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150' Bayfront. Nearly 1/2 acre on island's most prestigious drive. Over 4000 sq. feet. 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 bath, den, fam room w/stone fireplace, nanny quarters, formal dining. Walls of windows with bay front pool enhancing perfect water views.

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Glenn Carretta
Broker Associate
John R. Wood Island Real Estate Inc.
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*NR 12/30 BM 12/30

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Great Monthly rates!
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Charming old Sanibel style
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SANIBEL**

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*NS 12/30 PC 12/30

The River

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Ads@RiverWeekly.com

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

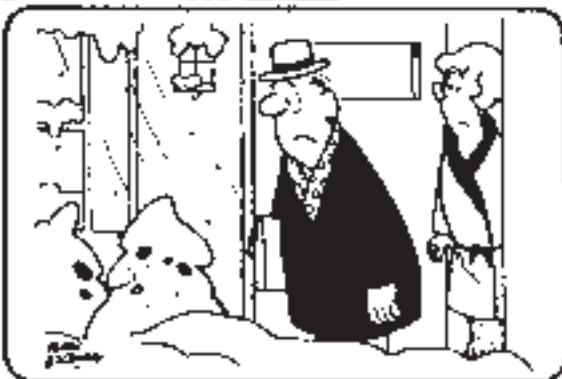
SUDOKU

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.

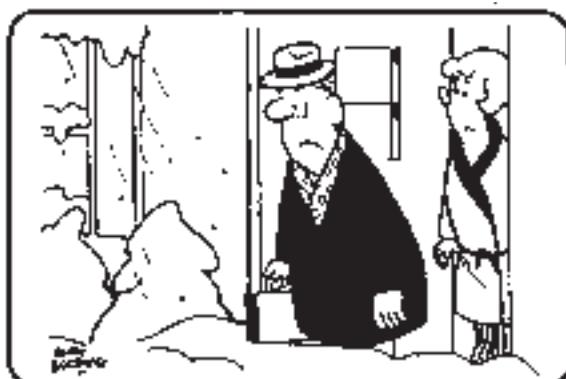
answer on page 35

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINGOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Nightgown is striped 2. Hat is different 3. Spots on bushes are green 4. Light fixture is different 5. Window is different 6. Birdcage is different

SCRAMBLERS

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



"He grants her _____ wish—provided it's small enough."

Quick
MELBIN

Clever
TRAMS

Slam
SCRAH

Faith
FALTEY

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:

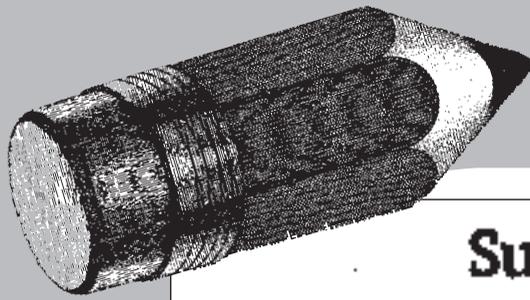
Fort Myers Beach.....	463-9738
Fort Myers High Noon.....	466-4228
Estero/South Fort Myers.....	898-1921
Notre Dame Club of Lee County.....	768-0417
POLO Club of Lee County.....	477-4906
Rotary Club of Fort Myers.....	332-8158
Sanibel-Captiva Orchid Society.....	472-6940
United Way of Lee County.....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

- ACROSS**
- 1 Forum wear
 - 3 Wo' gang?
 - 9 Drive the getaway car
 - 13 Positive thinker
 - 18 I pinkie-swear
 - 19 Doozy Fried
 - 20 Interoffice communique
 - 21 Hickman or Strawberry
 - 22 Canadian coin
 - 23 Ordinary author
 - 24 'Tomb' author
 - 25 Kind of paint
 - 26 Start of a remark by Don Marquis
 - 30 Names' ring
 - 31 'Agnus —'
 - 32 Cinema sled
 - 36 Lineman's tool
 - 40 Seville shout
 - 42 Renown recording
 - 45 Decur
 - 46 Atmosphere
 - 47 Stipend due
 - 49 Sharpens a scal.
 - 51 Chosen 'with honor'
 - 52 Part 2 of remark
 - 57 Garage car on
 - 58 Part 3 of remark
 - 59 Delany, and Wyler
 - 60 Time of your life
 - 63 Head line?
 - 65 Susanna or Shaker-speare
 - 69 Entirely
 - 70 Mrs. Eddie Cantor
 - 73 From date
 - 78 Gullivers' first name
 - 78 Perky
 - 79 World's partner
 - 81 Speculation
 - 83 Conductor Klemperer
 - 84 God trick?
 - 86 Pigeon's poop
 - 89 Part 4 of remark
 - 90 Sixth sense
 - 90 Part 5 of remark
 - 99 Meadow
 - 101 Studio sign
 - 102 'Shawn You Take?'
 - 103 Can't enter image
 - 104 Mar the bar
 - 105 Derision city
 - 106 One cure
 - 109 Battered
 - 111 November 11th
 - 113 Honor
 - 113 Startup site
 - 115 Create a promise
 - 116 End of remark
 - 125 Monastery bopps
 - 128 Fred's Vibe
 - 129 Neighbor of Can.
 - 130 Concept
 - 131 He had things done by Friday
 - 132 prove
 - 133 Unusual
 - 134 It's nothing
 - 135 Off the plate
 - 136 Basketball's Vibe
 - 137 Back
 - 138 Swain's son
- DOWN**
- 1 Baja title
 - 2 The yoko's on them
 - 3 Passed-on item
 - 4 Choir member
 - 5 Whales
 - 6 Man's greeting
 - 7 Phoenix's common
 - 8 Handle
 - 8 Tickle
 - 10 Wade's house
 - 11 Woodie Wooster
 - 11 Seed oil
 - 12 Peter of ragga
 - 13 Diolo's a scientist
 - 14 Cleaned the globe
 - 15 Care-gan part
 - 16 Pope cleave?
 - 17 Banging wing
 - 21 Signifies
 - 27 HST's predecessor
 - 28 Crusader knight
 - 29 Polit. an. presendy
 - 33 Early op. c.
 - 34 Re'
 - 35 Speck
 - 36 Talk-show pioneer
 - 37 Mechanics offering
 - 38 Press up need
 - 39 — de Co-oppe
 - 40 Above, to Ann'd
 - 41 Installed for
 - 43 Unsold
 - 44 — Galos, CA
 - 47 Basil ca
 - 48 Italian rumbler
 - 50 Diffident
 - 53 Kind
 - 54 Use a hobgoblin harshly
 - 55 Handle harshly
 - 56 'Aley —'
 - 61 Indian export
 - 62 Tanager's topee
 - 64 Piggy
 - 65 Medical sip
 - 67 Uproar
 - 68 Price twice
 - 70 Intimate Amin
 - 71 Singer Seals
 - 72 Enhance
 - 74 Generator parts
 - 75 Stumble
 - 77 Isolated
 - 80 Tropical snake
 - 82 Connecticut campus
 - 85 Sports stat
 - 87 Got back
 - 88 — Good Man? (52 film)
 - 90 Decorate glass
 - 91 Oxford exp.
 - 92 Await judgment
 - 94 As a group
 - 95 Carwas cover?
 - 96 Nuremberg number's
 - 97 Constat, for instance
 - 98 — the season
 - 99 Wildness
 - 100 'Holy smoke!'
 - 105 Unseal
 - 107 Poi
 - 109 Dairy cow
 - 110 Sn obigated
 - 112 Boca, FL
 - 114 Winning
 - 115 Burning in
 - 117 Have on
 - 118 Prisque —, ME
 - 118 Mula —
 - 120 Dash
 - 121 — up (evaluator)
 - 122 Actress Barbara
 - 123 South Wales
 - 124 New Mexico resort
 - 125 Parker of football
 - 126 It may be padded
 - 127 Exact!

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17				
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111				112					113	114				115						
				116					117	118				119	120		121	122	123	124
125	126	127							128								130			
131									132								134			
135									136								138			

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Neck
- Band's equipment
- One of the Seven Dwarfs
- Mr. Aspin's pet
- Ladyfinger dessert
- Of planes and soil
- Place
- How to fly
- Human's
- Age
- Farred birds
- Enchan medium
- Amo, the
- Meaning
- constant
- 15. What's called Bud's name
- 16 Stock and
- Study of
- with Miss
- 18 Dancer
- 19 What's the name for a
- 20 Fugate's
- 21 Gentlemen's address
- 22 Jan —
- 23 Name
- World War I
- number
- 47 Desolate
- 48 Mandrake's need
- 49 Chameleon
- 50 — Anu
- 51 Protection
- 24 Actor's
- 25 Meaning
- 26 What's called Bud's name
- 27 Stock and
- 28 Study of
- 29 Dancer
- 30 What's the name for a
- 31 Fugate's
- 32 Gentlemen's address
- 33 Jan —
- 34 Name
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- 30 What's the name for a
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*Wishing you all a
Happy, Healthy and
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New Listing:

East End Island

Living at it's FINEST!

This 3/2 pool home is located on a direct access canal and is truly a must see! This Island home features high ceilings, hardwood floors throughout, over sized kitchen with stainless appliances, upgraded fixtures, granite surfaces, pantry and center island with plenty of cupboard space. Home also has a wood burning fireplace for the cool Island nights, 2 stage A/C systems (5 and 3 ton) for the hot Island days, fire pit aream 10 thousand pound boat lift, sparkling pool, deeded beach access and lush landscaping all situated on a private road. Take a leisurely stroll to the Sanibel marina and enjoy the fresh seafood at Grandma Dots restaurant. **Offered for \$959,000. Contact Tracy Walters "Mr. Listr" 239/994-7975 or Connie Walters "Ms Listr" 239/841-4540.**



Punta Rassa #106

Lowest Price in Development! Priced for quick sale ! This very attractive unit features all the beauty of this paradise surrounded by San Carlos Bay and direct access to Gulf of Mexico. All hurricane windows, easy access to renovated pool and spa area. Complex has been totally resurfaced with new asphalt. Includes social membership to Sanibel Harbour Yacht Club, new gas BBQs, tennis courts, and shuffle board. Excellent Management! **Offered for \$169,900 Contact Marianne Stewart 239/560-6420**



6190 Henderson Rd.

With almost 380 feet of unobstructed waterfront this property is as unique as they come. This is a corner property with bayou on the front and canal on the side, new wood seawall and dock and direct boating access..Near the Sanctuary golf course and Captiva.



This 3 bedroom, 2 bath home has been recently renovated. Wake up every morning with the dolphins, manatee and otters that use Dinkins Bayou as their playground and end every day with unsurpassed sunsets. **Offered for \$1,399,000 Contact Lorretta Geiger 239/980-2298**

Build your Dream Home in Gulf Ridge

Beautifully vegetated lot very close to beach in prestigious Gulf Ridge. Last lot on right before Joewood, with adjacent community pool and tennis. Just steps from deeded beach access. Over one acre of land. **Offered for \$495,000 Contact Loretta Geiger 239/980-2298.**



Sleek Upscale Gated Community in South Ft. Myers

6801 Stony Run has it all and more. Peaceful serene oversize lake front lot with room to stretch out, relax and enjoy Florida at its best. Tennis, boating, shaded family outings and golf all within easy access. Enjoy your private pool/hot tub while you watch eagles fly overhead. This spacious one floor 3 bedroom 3 1/2 bath home is professionally designed to flow from the family room, to the oversize eat in kitchen, formal dining room, office, den, king-size master bedroom and bath all surround by the sheltered screened enclosed pool and entertainment center. All this comfort and privacy, yet minutes from all Ft Myers has to offer. **Contact George Kohlbrenner 239/565-8805.**



The Perfect Sanibel Getaway at the Perfect Price

Quiet central location, this ground level home has been impeccably maintained. Range, refrigerator, water heater, washer, roof and garbage disposal all new in the last five years. New AC in 2010, new plumbing in 2004. Mature foliage, well maintained yard with fenced back yard and storage shed. **Offered for \$329,000. Contact Ken Colter 239/851-1357 or Bob Berning 239/699-9597.**



Blind Pass Condo

This well established, desirable, well maintained Blind Pass condo is a must see! This unit is steps away from one of the best shelling locations and secluded beaches on the Islands. This unit has great rental income and has remodeled kitchens and bathrooms. Don't miss your opportunity with this one! **Offered for \$499,000. Contact the Walters Team, Tracy " Mr. Listr" 239/ 994-7975 or Connie "Ms Listr" 239/841-4540.**



Great Opportunity

Authentic Florida Honky Tonk. Live Music Daily. Three parcels and two buildings combined with a thriving restaurant and bar business. The Cracker Box is known for its great live music which reigns six nights a week, fresh seafood and homemade recipes. Take over the lucrative business or put in your own restaurant, bar or retail business. A great opportunity. Adjoining lots included in the sale. **Offered for \$795,000. Contact the Walters Team: Tracy "Mr. Listr" 239/994-7975 or Connie "Ms Listr" 239/841-4540**



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