Impacts Of New Reef Project With USS Mohawk
by Michael Heider

Humans have been altering their environment since the time of the hunter-gatherers. For the most part, this activity has been undertaken for the purpose of making the world safer and to provide easier access to food. The idea of altering the environment to make it better for the environment’s sake is brand new in terms of human history.

There is a currently a general discussion about the ecological benefits of artificial structures in location with natural coral reefs. The notion is that they concentrate fish population in locations that are known to fishermen.

Since we do not have a natural reef in Lee County, the efforts to create artificial reefs creates truly new housing for marine life.

The USS Mohawk will provide a multi-level environment for numerous species. A wide variety of reef fish at the top, which starts at about 35 feet; a zone which still has enough natural sunlight to support...
When Frank B. Tippins took office as sheriff of Lee County in 1901, Southwest Florida was a wild and largely unsettled place. Not only that, but the county encompassed much more territory than it does now, including places such as the daunting Ten Thousand Islands.

But he was the man for the job. In his 32-year career as sheriff, he was known for winning with peace and shunning confrontation and violence. He fired only two shots in his career of eight consecutive four-year terms and was called “the law west of the Everglades.”

In the pre-World War I frontier days, when he had to handle cattlemen, cowboys, alligator hunters and adventurers, he did not even wear a gun or badge.

He had moved to Fort Myers as a boy with his mother in 1872 from DeSoto County. His first job was printer’s devil for SC Cleveland when he founded the Fort Myers Press in 1884.

After doing that for three and a half years, he became a cowboy and later a teacher at a school for Seminoles in Immokalee that the federal government established to teach useful trades such as carpentry.

Tippins then returned to town and ran a livery stable from 1896 to 1900 before becoming a lawman.

Whether he was bringing in rumrunners from the Bahamas in his own boat or tracking down in fugitives from the wilds of Florida, he operated with cool confidence and authority.

Apprehending aliens along the coastline was just one of many tasks he was responsible for. He took 450 into custody during his terms in office. Sometimes when an illegal came ashore, Tippins would be waiting on the beach.

One of his most memorable work experiences must have been the investigation of the murder of the infamous Edgar Watson in Chokoloskee in 1910.

He had only two breaks in his long career as sheriff, once to work for the Internal Revenue Service on breaking up moonshining rings and once for health reasons.

After retiring as sheriff in 1933, he went to Miami to be deputy U.S. marshal until his retirement in 1946. He maintained ties to Fort Myers until he died in 1948.

Walk down downtown and imagine that it’s your job to keep order on Saturday night in a cow town.

Then stroll a few blocks to the Southwest Florida Museum of History at 2031 Jackson Street to learn more about rowdy Fort Myers in the early days.

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

Then be sure to visit the Southwest Florida Historical Society, where you can indulge your curiosity about local history.

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

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

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

This westward view of First Street from Jackson was taken only a couple of years after Tippins became sheriff. From saloon brawls, to violent crimes, to chasing down fugitives – he handled it all.

Frank B. Tippins served as Lee County sheriff from 1901 to 1933 courtesy of the Southwest Florida Historical Society
In most places, parking garages blight rather than enhance urban environments, but Parallel Park has transformed the five-story Lee County Justice Center Parking Garage into a work of fine art that has first time visitors asking, “Is this the fine art museum?” But the 23 art panels that cover all four sides of the parking structure are more than decorative. They’re designed to screen the parked cars inside from public view.

The latter is a Fort Myers building code requirement. Architect Kevin Williams of BSSW Architects could have used lattice and bougainvillea, but decided the county should instead add to the city’s public art collection. He opted to use an open-weave fabric made of Kevlar and fiberglass for strength and durability.

“The sawtooth pattern of the tubular attachments holds the panels on even in high winds, facilitates air circulation and ventilation inside the structure, and permits people to view the artwork up close as well as from a distance,” Williams explained.

The project was running behind schedule by then, and it fell upon New York-based Marylyn Dintenfass to convert Williams’ maverick idea into a reality. Dintenfass is an abstract artist with pedigree. Not only can her paintings be found in the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York, she’d completed 26 other monumental public art installations. But Parallel Park would be her largest undertaking to date.

Her challenge was to take 10 35-square-inch paintings, digitize, drum scan and enlarge them to 10 times their original size without distorting the original images. That proved to be the easy part. More challenging was finding a way to print the images on fabric that contains quarter-inch holes to accommodate air flow and prevent ripping and tearing in high winds. Fortunately, printer Jerry Banks in Hickory, North Carolina found a way to get the job done.

But even viewers schooled in modern art are often left wondering what they’re supposed to make of all those brightly-colored circles and squiggles.

“[It’s about] the artist’s veneration of the car as an object [that symbolizes] freedom, identity and individual personality,” wrote Aliza Edelman, who recently penned a book on the making of Parallel Park. In Dintenfass-speak, circles mean tires, steering wheels and dash board instrumentation. And instead of squiggles, think on-ramps, roadways and AAA trip maps. They’re all apt similes given not only that the art panels cover a parking garage, but that the garage is located in a city where Henry Ford and Harvey Firestone once wintered.

Parallel Park is just one of nearly two dozen public artworks you’ll find scattered throughout the downtown Fort Myers River District.
Burroughs Home Tour Tickets Are Now Available

Tickets are still available for the special Burroughs Home tour on Saturday, June 23. The special living history tour of the Georgian Revival Mansion is at 11 a.m.

The historic Burroughs Home, located at 2505 First Street in Fort Myers, has come alive under the management of the Uncommon Friends Foundation. The guided tour includes a walk among live oaks and lush gardens, with an opportunity to relax in a rocking chair on the veranda while watching the Caloosahatchee River roll gently by.

Mona and Jetitte Burroughs will share the history and colorful tales of living in one of Fort Myers’ oldest homes. Built in 1901, the Burroughs Home was the scene of many social events that hosted the Fort Myers’ elite including the Edisons, Fords and Firestones. Antiques furnishings, historical artifacts and delightful tales of growing up as the privileged daughters of wealthy businessman Nelson Burroughs and his wife Adeline await visitors who want to take a step back in time.

Tour prices are $12 for adults and $5 for children ages 6 to 12; children under 6 are free. Groups and seniors may take the tour for $10. Appointments can be made for groups of eight or more. Reservations are suggested and may be made by contacting Christine@burroughs-home.com.

The Uncommon Friends Foundation, a not for profit 501(c)(3) organization established in 1993, is dedicated to lifelong character building among today’s youth and business leaders. Its mission is to promote character education in schools, business ethics in the workplace and historic preservation of the Burroughs Home and James Newton Archives.

For more information, call 337-9505 or visit www.uncommonfriends.org.

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Ladies’ Day Out With Shop Hop

Shop Hop is coming to Fort Myers this Saturday, June 23. Shabby chic, cottage-style home decor will be the theme from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. as retail merchants from downtown Fort Myers’ Historic River District to shops along the McGregor/College Parkway work together to present a ladies’ day out called Shop Hop.

One of the most popular home decor styles today, shabby chic, can be called cottage, English country or just plain romantic. Shabby chic accessories and distressed furniture can be found at the host shops during Shop Hop.

The host stores involved are Westera Tea Room, Forget Me Not, Linen Cottage, Redoux Cottage and The Nest Home and Garden.

Shop Hop customers will hop from shop to shop. The host shops will have a “passport” that will be validated at each retail location. Customers will be asked to leave the passport at their last stop. This will culminate in two drawings at the end of the day for a Shop Hop Boutique Bag containing a small gift from each shop involved and a $100 gift certificate redeemable at any of the Shop Hop locations.

For more information about Shop Hop, contact Patty McCoy at 225-9566.
MAKE YOUR PLANS FOR THE BEST FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION EVER!!!

NELLIE’S ROCK’N

4TH OF JULY

BBQ & FREE CONCERT NOON-9PM

FREE MARINA DOCKAGE with Dock Attendant’s Assistance

Lunch, Dinner and Snacks in Between

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ONE COUPON PER TABLE Can not be used with any other offer. 18% Gratuity may be added to bill before discount.

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Happy Hour All Day, Everyday

Nellie’s Upstairs Waterside Bar

WHERE EVERYONE GETS PRETTIER

with Live music too!
Reef Project
phytoplankton. Dropping down to 90 feet, it provides numerous and changing environments for a multitude of specialized marine life.

Within days of being sunk, tiny animals begin to attach themselves to the surface of the artificial reef. Small fish come to the reef to feed and lay their eggs, while larger fish migrate to the area to feed on the smaller fish – and so the food chain evolves. Over time, the biodiversity becomes larger and more complex attracting more marine life, on and around the ship. Adding to the already existing enclave, called Charlie’s Reef, which consists of railroad hopper cars and a sunken barge.

As Mike Campbell, Lee County natural resources senior environmental specialist, explained, “Even the chains and the extensions around the ship will not only hold the ship in place but also fish and schools of bait, which will bring bigger fish... but you know what bigger fish bring? Tourists. And what will they do once they are here? They are going to stay at your hotels and eat at your restaurants.”

“We have over 20 different sites of artificial reefs, and within those sites, we have a lot of different depth limits. We also have a lot of wrecks off shore that were not sunk on purpose. I think one was sunk by a U-boat, so we have a lot of wrecks out there that people can see. One of the problems is that they are so far out that they are difficult to get to. So this is going to be a midway point to get to between those far away wrecks and short reefs. It will be 28 nautical miles west of Redfish Pass near Charlie’s Reef.”

According to Joe Weatherby of Reef Makers, “Our plan for the Mohawk is to make it one of the world’s premier diving and fishing experiences. There’s a lot of different species that will gather out there due to the relief of the ship. Certainly, we anticipate a goliath grouper that we often see on wrecks, and for scuba divers, this will be a place you can go to see a really cool ship and have a big fish experience.”

“She already has an interesting history and looks quite different than some of the rusty old buckets of junk sometimes beingreeled. The others are fine, but this has something aesthetically more to offer the public. That’s why Lee County and Reef Makers have worked so hard together to get this particular ship.”

“The plan is to attach a WWII lifeboat and put replica guns back on the ship. The propeller, anchor, tackle, original decks and the stacks will all be intact, which will be great for diving.”

“This is going to be a reason for visitors to come to Fort Myers, Fort Myers Beach and Sanibel Island to go diving and fishing on this wreck,” noted Weatherby. The engine will be cleaned in kept intact and the cover removed so that divers can see the pistons.

“Get more people diving and put Fort Myers on the map as a diving destination. It also makes it worth it to go out 30 miles and combine the Mohawk experience with other dives,” said Ramiro Palma, a Cape Coral resident who owns ScubaVice Diving Center, located off McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. “It’ll be great for the economy and we are organizing frequent dive trips to see the Mohawk.”

“Rob Degenero, owner of Nervous Nellie’s Crazy Waterfront Eatery on Fort Myers Beach, was very excited about the news.

“This should give divers from the east coast a reason to finally dive the Gulf and jumpstart the Lee County diving industry, especially in the summer months when we Floridians go on vacation,” he said.

“As a piece of pure economic development – and it’s been awhile since Lee County has seen something that works as well as this – I think relative to the Vandenberg and the amount of scuba diving that goes on and the number of tourists that will come, I think this will be the same percentage impact,” said Weatherby.

The Vandenberg did $40 million in earned media the first year and three Emmys. It’s done $7 to $8 million in direct revenue per year. Were throwing off about $700,000 in tax revenue every year. That’s bed taxes as well as sales taxes. It has provided over 100 permanent jobs. We just got the Society...
of American Travel Writers Eco-Tourism Award, the Phoenix Award, the biggest one in the hemisphere. We know how to do this to get the revenue,” Weatherby stated proudly.

Studies in South Carolina indicated that reefs along the coast of that state accounted for 26 percent of total offshore fishing even though they made up less than 0.5 percent of total available sites. As early as 1992, South Carolina estimated the total current economic impact of artificial reefs at $17 million.

A 1991 survey of marine users from Texas, North Carolina and Florida reported that 54.2 percent of all diving trips were to artificial reefs – even though they represented a small fraction of total reef area – and that two-thirds of divers preferred ships to other artificial reef sites.

Given these figures, a $1.5 million price tag to secure a large ship reef that will increase tourism revenues for 70 years represents an incredible bargain for the host community.

Looking At The Key’s Wreck Trek As A Proven Record Of Success

Starting with the Speagle Grove in Key Largo up to the Vandenberg in Key West, the Keys have proven that you can attract a large amount of tourists who will come mainly for the incredible experience of diving unique shipwrecks. Combine this with the beautiful beaches that Fort Myers Beach, Sanibel and Captiva have to offer, it is upon this community to promote Lee County as one of the best diving destinations in Florida and to create an under appreciated industry to be heavily marketed in tourist media around the world.

Area Can Benefit From New Reef

by Jeff Lysak

When the USS Mohawk is sunk some 28 nautical miles west of Redfish Pass next month, it will join a system of more than 20 artificial reef sites in Lee County offshore and inshore waters. More than a dozen of those reefs lie within a 15-mile radius of Sanibel and Captiva, making the islands a very desirable destination for fishing, snorkeling and scuba diving.

Since news of the plan to transform the 77-year-old Mohawk into a veterans’ memorial reef broke in May, many local residents have spoken positively about the tremendous benefits – both economically and ecologically – that the historic ship will bring to Sanibel and Captiva.

“We’re excited about our future commemorative reef and are grateful for the donation from Miami’s Historical Maritime Museum, as well as the grant to pay for the event,” said Bridgit Stone-Badd, director of marketing for the Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce. “Not only will (the sinking of the Mohawk) create a buzz in the media and increase tourism to our islands and Lee County, it will also increase fishing and scuba diving around the veterans’ memorial reef.”

According to the chamber’s website, wrecks and man-made reefs help restock local waters with fish for the benefit of scuba divers and fishermen alike. One of the largest is the Edison Reef, created from the rubble of a former mainland bridge. It was built less than 15 nautical miles from the Sanibel Lighthouse in 42 feet of water.

Closer to home, the Belton Johnson Reef – approximately five nautical miles off Bowman’s Beach – was named for a well-known local fishing guide. A yellow and white marker shows the location of the reef, constructed of concrete culverts.

Prior to the anticipated July 2 sinking date for the Mohawk, the most recent artificial reef sunk in local waters – Peagus/Charlie’s Reef, installed in July 1999 – is located 28 miles due west of Redfish Pass. A large tugboat was added to several railroad hoppers that have drawn a wide variety of marine residents, including barracuda, cobia, nurse sharks, grouper, amberjack and moray eels.

Mark “Bird” Westall, former mayor of Sanibel and an environmental expert, also thinks that creating artificial reefs is good for the environment.

“The natural reefs can be easily overexploited and, therefore, the more artificial reefs there are, the more habitat there is,” said Westall. “I would much rather see the Mohawk continuing her service to America by providing a home for fish and a place for fishermen to fish than to see her rust away in a scrapyard or torn to pieces for her metal. In coming to Southwest Florida, she will still be doing her job.”

Jeff Combs, ranger at the JN “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge, Sanibel, agreed that the sinking of the Mohawk will have a great benefit.

“It will create a habitat for many species of fish and invertebrates, therefore improving fishing in the area. Artificial reefs such as this draw a diverse group of visitors to the islands that have an interest in diving, fishing and other recreational activities,” said Combs. “This new reef also allows researchers a chance to study and better understand the effects of artificial reefs in our area of the gulf. These iconic vessels act as monuments to those who served on them and continue to serve for the good of our country in a whole new way.”

Lee County has had an active artificial reef program since the early 1990s. County staff actively pursue grants from state, federal and private sources in an effort to create new artificial reefs. A grant from the West Coast Inland Navigation District is being used to cover the $1.3 million needed to prepare and sink the Mohawk.

Visit www.lee-county.com/naturalsources/artreef.htm for the current reef and wreck locations.

“The men (and perhaps, women) who served on the USS Mohawk can know that she is still protecting our coastline,” added Westall. “Her assignment has just changed a little.”
This snapping turtle was admitted to CROW after being hit by a car. On Tuesday, learn more about the freshwater and sea turtles that are treated at the Sanibel wildlife clinic.

T
this Saturday, June 23, the Ostego Bay Foundation Marine Science Center is hosting its first annual golf tournament fundraiser at Fort Myers Beach Golf Club. Proceeds benefit the Fourth of July Kids Fishing Tournament. The cost to participate is $55 per person and includes course fees, beverages and lunch. A shotgun start is at 8:30 a.m., followed by prizes, raffles and lunch at Bonita Bill’s Waterfront Cafe. The restaurant is located at 702 Fisherman’s Wharf in Fort Myers Beach, under the Sky Bridge. Call 463-2064 for more information.

On Saturday, June 30 from 9 a.m. to noon is the annual Fourth of July Kids Fishing Tournament. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and is open to kids 3 to 15 years of age. There is no fee to participate. It is held at Bonita Bill’s and sponsored by the Ostego Bay Foundation Marine Science Center. Donations for prizes are welcome.

Indian Princess departs from Fort Myers Beach and offers sightsenng tours and sunset cruises, along with special events like the upcoming Fourth of July Fireworks cruise.

Ostego Bay Foundation is located at 718 Fisherman’s Wharf, Fort Myers Beach. For more information, call Joanne Semmer at 765-8101 or 470-7993 or email her at info@ostegobay.com.

On Tuesday, June 26, the Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) presents CROW’s Aquatic Patients: Freshwater & Sea Turtles as part of its year-round Wonders Of Wildlife (WOW) series. The presentation begins at 11 a.m. and is led by Bev Ball and Jordan Donini.

The clinic’s sea turtle patients come from the coastal waters between Sarasota and Miami. The program focuses on the many variety of freshwater turtles that are found throughout Southwest Florida. Ball will discuss the reasons these wild animals are admitted to CROW.

CROW’s Healing Winds Visitor Education Center offers immersive, hands-on exhibits and live video footage focusing on wild animal stories that is exciting for guests of all ages. It is located at 3883 Sanibel Captiva Road, Sanibel. For a complete event schedule and additional information, call 472-3644, ext. 229 or go to www.crowclinic.org.

Now that summer vacation is upon us, take the entire family on a scenic boat trip with Captiva Cruises.

The dolphin watch and wildlife cruise is the perfect family adventure. There is nothing more exciting than seeing playful dolphins jumping in the wake of the boat. Captiva Cruises reports seeing dolphins on approximately 95 percent of their cruises. The trip runs from 4 to 5:30 p.m. and is narrated by volunteers from the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation. The cost is $24 per adult and $15 per child.

Captiva Cruises also offers sailing adventure cruises, sunset cruises and trips to Cayo Costa Beach, Cabbage Key, the Edison & Ford Winter Estates and Boca Grande. Prices vary and reservations are required.

Captiva Cruises is located at 11401 Andy Rosse Lane, Captiva Island. Call 472-5300 or go to www.captivacruises.com.

Step back in time as you travel the back bays of Fort Myers Beach or up the Calosahatchee on the Indian Princess, a double deck authentic paddle boat.

Today’s Indian Princess is an authentic replica of American steamships; a stern-wheeler capable of five to six knots, with a flat bottom and driving split rear paddles. Many modern paddle wheelers are driven by hidden underwater screws and the paddles simply spin idly in the flowing water. But the Indian Princess is truly paddle-driven, though for reasons of efficiency, weight and pollution the wood-burning boilers of yore have been replaced by clean-burning diesel engines.

The sightseeing cruise is an enjoyable two hour cruise along the back bay of Fort Myers Beach and Ostego Bay. Watch the local wildlife in their natural environment while sipping a cool beverage on the top deck. Cost is $20.

On the sunset cruise, sit on the top deck with good friends, good food and drinks while watching the sunset. What else do you need? Cost is $25.

Certain cruises offer catering services; event planning, including weddings; a DJ or live entertainment; full cash bar with high quality, top shelf liquor, beers and wines; Champagne toast; and soda, juice, coffee, tea and bottled water.

The Fort Myers Indian Princess departs from 2080 Main Street, Fort Myers Beach, before the Sky bridge. For reservations, call 765-8919 or go to www.indianprincessfortmyers.com.

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Senator Benacquisto Visits Child Development Center

Florida Senator Lizbeth Benacquisto learned more about issues facing child care centers during a visit to the PA Geraci Child Development Center in Fort Myers on June 6. Benacquisto spoke with Child Care of Southwest Florida executive director Beth Lobdell, operations director Nancy Coker and education specialist Deb McCarthy.

The PA Geraci Child Development Center, located at 3713 Canal Street, is one of six child care centers operated by Child Care of Southwest Florida.

“We were very happy that Sen. Benacquisto accepted our invitation to come to the center and hear our opinions about policies and legislation affecting early childhood education,” Lobdell said.

Among the topics they discussed was the low state reimbursement rate for centers that have earned Gold Seal status for exemplary programs. All of Child Care of Southwest Florida centers have earned Gold Seal status.

“Gold Seal status comes at a high cost to centers like ours. For example, the ratios of children to staff are quite a bit lower than licensing standards. This is a very expensive choice for us, but one that research shows is a definite quality indicator,” Lobdell added.

During her visit, Benacquisto also spent more than an hour interacting with the children. In the Preschool 4- and 5-year-old room, she planted watermelon seeds in cups and asked the children to let her know how her watermelon grows. She also read to children in the Toddler Room.

“Oh, I could do this all day,” she said several times.

Benacquisto was first elected to the Florida Legislature in 2010 representing the 27th district. This summer, she was named deputy majority leader of the Florida Senate, a notable leadership position for a freshman legislator. She sits on several significant committees, including Pre K-12 Education. She was recently named Children’s Advocate of the Year by the Boys and Girls Club of Lee County and PACE Center For Girls Senator of the Year.

The PA Geraci Child Development Center is licensed to care for 116 children from infancy to age 8. Enrollment is now open for the Voluntary Pre-K program, which begins this fall. The child care center is open Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

For more information about the PA Geraci Child Development Center, call 337-4995 or visit www.cswfl.org.

Great American Picnic On July 4th At Cape Harbour

Get an early start on your Fourth of July celebration at the Great American Picnic on Wednesday, July 4 from noon to 3:30 p.m. at the Marina at Cape Harbour.

The event is a traditional Cape Coral birthday salute to the nation. It begins with a patriotic acknowledgment to the troops accompanied by the Cape Coral VFW Post 8463 Color Guard. Caira Everly will kick off the event singing the national anthem, along with a medley of patriotic songs to get everyone in the spirit. It is a family-friendly day of activities for everyone featuring delicious foods, contests, live entertainment and music.

Again this year, the ever-popular Best Patriotic Pet Contest gets under way with our distinguished judge Lois Thorne, WINK-TV news anchor. She will take on the challenge of showcasing the adorable, sometimes comical and always entertaining pet contestants. Medals will be awarded and the grand prize is a gift basket from the Cape Harbour Merchants. There is no cost to enter. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. and the contest starts at 1 p.m.

This is the fifth year that members of the non-profit Adopt-A-Troop Foundation will be raising money to support our military. Be sure and write a personalized message on the large banner that will be sent to our heroes overseas.

Also on tap will be the traditional Apple Pie Baking Contest, hosted by Pignoli on the Harbour, as well as the Banana Split Eating Contest, hosted by Run Agrounds premium coffee, pastry and gelato shop. High Maintenance Salon & Spa and Divine Diva’s Boutique will adorn children and those young at heart with patriotic tattoos and firecracker ponytails. There will be an arts and crafts area where kids can create “Thank You” cards for our military as well as designing bandanas for themselves or for the troops.

Throughout the festival, Chris the DJ with Juke Box Hero will provide entertainment. The Farmers Market will also be on hand to help celebrate this special day. The Hot Flashz dance team will offer a patriotic production. Jeff Santella’s Martial Arts University will have a demonstration by the Street Defense team.

Runrunners, The Joint and Run Agrounds will entice guests with several menu choices, and Pignoli on the Harbour will be selling the customary Fourth of July fare of hot dogs and hamburgers along with their daily menu. Merchants along the Marina Promenade will have their doors open featuring holiday specials.

Admission and parking are free. For more details log onto www.capeharbour.com or call 945-6116.
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.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Worship, 7 p.m., Wednesday Prayer
Sunday Services: Bible study, 9:45 a.m.
Tradional Sunday service 10 a.m.
Nursery care for pre-school children
Children's Church for ages 5-12 available at each service.

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
8570 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers, 482-1258
8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday Traditional Service
9:30 a.m. Praise Service
Sunday School all times

FELLOWSHIP WORLD ORAL PATHOLOGY
611 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.
Nursery care for pre-school children
Children's Church for ages 5-12 available at each service.

LAMB OF GOD
LUTHERAN/EPSICopal CHURCH
Corner Cypress View Drive and Koreshan Estates
Fort Myers, 267-3525
Worship Gathering - Sunday 10 a.m.
Pastor: Alan Bondar

MESSIAH REFORMED CHURCH
12171 Iona Road, Fort Myers, off McGregor and north of Gladiolus.
489-3973, Rabbi Joseph Flexer.
Weekly Friday Meeting Meet & Greet: 6:30 p.m.
Hosts: Rabbi Eric Seidenfeld, Rabbi Shira Ornstein.

NEW BEGINNINGS CENTER
New Hope Baptist Church, 8505 Jenny Cauley Lane, Fort Myers, 239-656-0416
Worship: Weekly Mass, Evening Service & Greet: 8:30 p.m.
Kingdom Teaching: 7 p.m. Fellowship and refreshments after service.

THE RIVER - JUNE 22, 2012
continued on page 11
Heights Foundation Receives Check From FineMark National Bank And Trust

FineMark National Bank and Trust recently made a $25,000 donation to the building fund for The Heights Foundation’s Cultural Arts and Community Center. The gift is one of several recent donations that finish the capital campaign to complete construction of the $5.7 million building. Construction will resume in early July. When complete, The Heights Center will be a place for all residents of Harlem Heights to gather and grow. Education, opportunity, health and wellness, and access to the arts will create pathways for self-sufficiency and community development.

“Philanthropy and service to the community is an integral part of our company’s culture,” said Joe Catti, president and CEO of FineMark National Bank & Trust. “The Heights Foundation’s mission is to build strong self-sufficient families and FineMark recognizes its importance. We are fortunate to be in the position to help close out the capital campaign.

The Heights Foundation is a 501(c)3 grassroots organization that works to build strong, self-sufficient families in the Harlem Heights neighborhood. The Foundation’s mission is to promote family and community development, support education, health and wellness, and provide the benefits of enrichment, expressive and cultural arts.

“Because of the support of generous donors like FineMark, we are back on track to finish construction of The Heights Center,” said Kathryn Kelly, Heights Foundation founder and executive director.

Harlem Heights was originally settled as a rural agricultural community. Approximately 1,200 children live in a mixture of single-family homes and multi-family apartments. Families are not able to easily access family support services located in downtown Fort Myers, and benefit greatly from programs located within the neighborhood.
Fish The Beaches For Best Variety

by Capt. Matt Mitchell

Sight fishing for snook out along the beaches was a good bet this week. Strong east winds made the beach the calmest place to be once you made it out through the passes. Fishing from Blind Pass north to Johnson Shoals, schools of snook were easy to spot cruising right up against the sand. Live shiners thrown out in front of the cruising fish caught snook after snook. Most are around 24 inches and a blast to catch-and-release on light tackle.

Along with the snook on the beach there are also lots of keeper-size trout. Any place you find hangs, rocks, ledges and downed trees, you will catch fish. Often the snook and trout are mixed in together or at least close together. The very north end of Sanibel, basically just the last mile or so before Blind Pass, has been a good area to get in on the action from the shore.

Redfish action in the sound during the mid-morning high tides made for smiling faces most of the week. With the live shrimp of summer getting so small, I switched it up and bought a few five-pound blocks of frozen jumbo bait shrimp. After hitting a spot with cut bait and pinfish, it sometimes takes a shrimp to get that redfish bite going.

These shrimp are a little soft to fish whole, so I will pull the head and tail off them then hook the shrimp on a jig or popping cork set-up. Pulling a few heads and tails off at a time makes for great chum if you throw it up under the trees with a wiffle ball bat. Often these jumbo bait shrimp will fire off the redfish bite when nothing else will.

Tarpon fishing this week was all about covering lots of ground to find the fish. Most of my tarpon trips this week involved running to the beaches of Cayo Costa to find consistent numbers of these game fish. Tarpon in the bay have been very scattered, even though the water quality in the bay is 100 percent better than it was the previous week. It just seems to me we simply do not have all the bait in the bay that holds these tarpon in one place for long.

Once north of Boca Grande Pass out on the beaches at what is referred to as The Alamo, the water looked like the Keys with lots of rafts of threadfins and huge schools of daisy-chaining tarpon everywhere. This clear water had visibility to at least 12 feet and was a night and day difference compared to the water just at the northern tip of Cayo Costa.

These schools of tarpon in close to the beach on Gasparilla Island are almost impossible to get to eat a bait though as they are very close to spawning and not really interested in food at all. After following chains of fish for what seemed like hours, we still could not get one to eat. A mile or so east inside Boca Grande Pass, things where a little better. Huge schools of tarpon were all over “the hil,” coming up and rolling 50-plus fish at a time. Throwing live threadfins and crabs into these fish did give us a few hook-ups.

This area inside the pass does not get as congested as the popular holes in the pass. I very seldom make it this far up north to tarpon fish, but when the fish are there and not in the usual places to the south, it’s what you have to do. Running 60 miles on a tarpon charter this week was the norm.

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

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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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Local Waters/Local Charts Class
submitted by Cdr. 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 on Saturday, July 21 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, offered at a later date; check with the class instructor for details.

The cost of the class is $40 per person.

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 by calling 466-4040.

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CROW Case Of The Week:

Coyote Pup

by Patricia Molloy

On May 28, a male coyote pup (Canis latrans) was admitted to CROW. At approximately six week old, he was found alone, walking lamely through the lot at Sutherland Nissan in Fort Myers. Coyotes do exist in parts of Southwest Florida but tend to shy away from densely populated cities and coastal areas. As it is unnatural for a coyote pup to be separated from his pack, he was understandably very frightened to find himself in an unfamiliar urban environment.

CROW’s rescue team quickly responded by capturing and transporting the little pup to its Sanibel clinic. He arrived limping due to swelling near the joint of his left rear leg. Upon closer examination, Dr. Heather discovered multiple scabs and abrasions on all four limbs.

The cause of the scabs was determined to be Puppy impetigo, a bacterial infection that causes pus-filled blisters that may break and crust over. Typically, it is not a serious condition and can be treated with a topical ointment. Additionally, the young coyote had fleas and heartworms, which were immediately addressed with Advantage, a topical solution also used on domestic canines.

After all of the patient’s wounds were cleaned, blood was drawn for further analysis. He was immediately placed on a vaccine regiment with continuing supportive care. Initially, the pup refused to eat and drink water, but was eating well once he was placed in a quiet corner of the clinic.

According to the 2010 Annual Visitor Profile and Occupancy Analysis from the Clerk of Courts, tourists from around the world spend $2.5 billion dollars in Lee County in order to experience the wonders that the area’s rich sea and wildlife have to offer. Each year, CROW cares for more than 4,000 sick, injured and orphaned patients in its veterinary hospital, many cases caused by interaction with humans. The clinic’s staff of veterinarians, student interns and volunteers regularly work 12-hour days to care for these creatures so they can be released back into the wild.

Right now, Dr. Heather is working with the Fish & Wildlife network for placement of the young pup since he was found in a busy urban area with no sign of his pack. In order to provide housing, medication, food and diagnostic testing for patients, the non-profit clinic relies on public donations. Please help to “insure” our native sea and wildlife.

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 accepts patients seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mail donations to P.O. Box 150, Sanibel, FL 33957. Call 472-3644 or visit www.crowclinic.org.

Clean Vessel Act

20th Anniversary Celebrated

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced $11.4 million in grants to 24 states under the Clean Vessel Act (CVA) grant program. Since its creation in 1992, the CVA program has provided funds to states to construct, replace, renovate and maintain facilities that assist recreational boaters in properly disposing of on-board septic waste. The program also provides information and education on the importance, benefits, and availability of pumpouts. Funds for the CVA program are provided annually from the Sport Fish Restoration & Boating Trust Fund.

“It’s an honor to recognize 20 years of the Clean Vessel Act and helping to keep waters clean,” said service director Dan Ashe. “Over the past 20 years, the service’s Wildlife & Sport Fish Restoration Program has awarded almost $200 million in CVA grants. I am pleased that these efforts are put in place to benefit wildlife, sport fishing, recreational boating, and communities across America.”

In addition to traditional on-dock pumpouts, projects include pumpout boats that travel in designated harbors to make the sewage collection process more efficient and convenient. Some states also have begun installing floating restrooms in areas where boaters congregate and no restrooms are available.

“No group has a more direct interest in clean water than recreational boaters do today,” said Margaret Podlich, president of the Boat Owners Association of the United States. “That’s why we support the CVA grant program and all of the other programs that boaters and anglers pay for through the Sport Fish Restoration & Boating Trust Fund.”

For more information on the 2012 grant awards, visit http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/CVA/CVA2012Funding.pdf.

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THE RIVER - JUNE 22, 2012 | 13
Grievance is with commercial settings to pesticides to sprinkler systems. A billion dollar industry, from lawn mowers symbol of pride and wealth throughout times both. Healthy, green lawns were a dream in their front yards, back yards and some-where with millions of Americans planting sod in their yards of average homeowner. The trend took off, that could be grown and cared for by the average person. The grass seed to develop a residential lawn enterprises were working with different species of grass that covered properties around castles, large mansions and other affluent areas. These lawns survived with no added irrigation due to the mild, rainy climate. It was also during this time that golf courses throughout the United States were admired by spectators for their healthy, green appearance and feel. Soon thereafter, commercial enterprises were working with different species of grass seed to develop a residential lawn that could be grown and cared for by the average homeowner. The trend took off, with millions of Americans planting sod in their front yards, back yards and sometimes both. Healthy, green lawns were a symbol of pride and wealth throughout suburban America. These lawns created a billion dollar industry, from lawn mowers to pesticides to sprinkler systems. I believe a small area of lawn in the front or back yard is good. But my grievance is with commercial settings with acres and acres of greenbelt grass that serve no purpose other than to enrich the landscape companies that maintain them. Many homeowners use their lawns for family fun and entertainment. For possibly half the population of people who keep a lawn, it serves a function where kids play sports and pets can roam freely.

Compare the family lawn to the acres of grass planted around commercial buildings, public medians and retail stores. There are no children playing kickball, no dogs playfully wrestling, no one taking a nap or picnicking under a shady tree. If the only feet that make contact with your grass are the guys that mow it, it might be time to consider alternatives. I doubt there is a way to measure how many acres of silly strips are planted in grass, but if you spend any time in HOA neighborhoods, or the commercial areas of your town, or even drive through the local takeout restaurant and notice the stupid strip of grass in the planter, you wonder how it adds up in resources. Greenbelts are not green anymore. An adviser to a metropolitan water district once discovered that these parkways were designed on the East Coast in the 1800s for storing excess snow. Don’t you think it’s time to move on? Commercial building owners could save thousands per year in maintenance fees if they lost their lawns. The same goes for homeowners associations; shrubs and ground covers could be maintained once per month instead of weekly. Cities that need to cut expenses could lose the grass in purposeless places. These greenbelts are from a bygone era. Water, chemicals, runoff, excess fertilizer, green waste, herbicides, air pollution, fossil fuels used all add up to a big mistake in today’s era of using less resources and protecting the resources that we do have.

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

**Plant Smart**

**Papaya**

by Gerri Reaves

Papaya’s (Carica papaya) structure brings to mind the native cabbage palm: a crown of large leaves atop a tall smooth bare trunk. The flowers and fruit that cluster near the top amid the leaf umbrella are pear-shaped or spherical, smooth-skinned and green to dull yellow-orange in color. The wild fruit is much smaller than commercially grown fruit. Cultivars from Hawaii and Mexico are common in U.S. grocery stores.

Papaya flourishes as a weed in South Florida and actually is a large herb, not a tree. It is considered native by some plant scientists and naturalized by others.

It can reach more than 30 feet tall. The soft trunk contains a milky sap.

The beautiful evergreen leaves are up to two feet across and have an intricate shape, resembling large-scale lacework. Seven- or nine-lobed, they are deeply palmed – all veins radiating from the same point on the hollow stem. In turn, the lobes subdivided.

The funnel-shaped creamy flowers are about two inches long with five petals. They bloom all year round, so the plant produces the melon-like fruit throughout the year too.

To produce the best fruit, papaya needs sun, fertile well-drained soil, plenty of moisture, and protection from the cold. Plant this somewhat sensitive plant where it will usually occur only on bisexual or female plants.

A note of caution: The unripe fruit is said to be toxic, so cook it before consuming it.

This tropical fruit is a good source of vitamin A.


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

**Caring For Your Plants**

**All About Grass**

by Justen Dobbs

How did lawns originate in the United States? During the mid-20th century, Americans who visited the United Kingdom were taken by large carpets of green grass that covered properties around castles, large mansions and other affluent areas. These lawns survived with no added irrigation due to the mild, rainy climate. It was also during this time that golf courses throughout the United States were admired by spectators for their healthy, green appearance and feel.

Soon thereafter, commercial enterprises were working with different species of grass seed to develop a residential lawn that could be grown and cared for by the average homeowner. The trend took off, with millions of Americans planting sod in their front yards, back yards and sometimes both. Healthy, green lawns were a symbol of pride and wealth throughout suburban America. These lawns created a billion dollar industry, from lawn mowers to pesticides to sprinkler systems.

I believe a small area of lawn in the front or back yard is good. But my grievance is with commercial settings with acres and acres of greenbelt grass that serve no purpose other than to enrich the landscape companies that maintain them. Many homeowners use their lawns for family fun and entertainment. For possibly half the population of people who keep a lawn, it serves a function where kids play sports and pets can roam freely.

Compare the family lawn to the acres of grass planted around commercial buildings, public medians and retail stores. There are no children playing kickball, no dogs playfully wrestling, no one taking a nap or picnicking under a shady tree.

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Dobbs is a landscape architect in south Florida specializing in custom, upscale landscapes. He can be reached at seabreeze nurseries@gmail.com.
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Annual Arts For ACT Fundraiser Kick Off Gala

The 24th annual Arts for ACT fundraiser officially kicked off last night with an opening gala reception at Robb & Stucky International, located at 13170 S. Cleveland Avenue in Fort Myers.

More than 200 people attended the event, among them community leaders, engaged Fort Myers residents, Robb & Stucky designers and executives, and ACT directors and staff.

The Ron Delp Trio set the rhythm for the evening, which also included wine, hors d’oeuvres and lively conversation.

continued on page 17
Youth Concert Celebrates Independence Day

The Gulf Coast Symphony will perform a youth concert on Sunday, June 24 at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall in Fort Myers. Prior to the concert, beginning at 1 p.m., children and adults are invited to participate in a birthday party, complete with cake, games and favors, to celebrate the USA. Concert-goers are also invited to experience the Gulf Coast Symphony’s Musical Petting Zoo, where children are encouraged to meet and chat with the symphony musicians and play some of their instruments in order to learn more about the instruments they play.

At 2 p.m., the Gulf Coast Symphony will perform patriotic pieces to set the mood for the upcoming July 4th holiday. During the performance, children are invited to sit onstage, directly in front of the orchestra so that their visual experience with the symphony is as meaningful and engaging as the music they hear. Tickets are $10 for adults and $7 for children’s stage seats and $5 for children’s regular theater seats. Tickets can be purchased by calling the Barbara B. Mann Box Office at 481-4849 or online at www.gulfcoastsymphony.org.

Fuss In Boots Will Hit The Stage This Summer At Broadway Palm

This summer, Broadway Palm Children’s Theatre is proud to present Puss In Boots, hitting the stage on July 6, 7, 11, 13, 15, 19, 20, 21, 25, 27 and 29, and August 2, 3 and 4. This musical version of Charles Perrault’s tale of a sly cat who wins his master the lordship of a manor and the hand of a beautiful princess has audience interaction, delightful songs and enough action for every member of the family.

This fun-filled musical begins with three brothers inheriting their father’s estate. The youngest brother is very disappointed because all he receives is the family cat. Puss is a very clever cat though and promises his master that in exchange for a pair of boots, he can get him a life of luxury and adventure. Puss goes on to use his sly and clever ways to overcome an ogre, befriend a king and win the heart of a fair princess.

Broadway Palm Children’s Theatre presents full-scale productions for all ages. All performances begin with a buffet at noon and showtime at 1 pm. The chef’s special buffet includes children’s favorites like chicken nuggets, pizza, French fries, pasta and more.

A fun-filled musical adventure, Puss In Boots is playing selected matinees from July 6 through August 4 at Broadway Palm. Ticket prices for the buffet and the show are $15 for all ages. Group rates are available for parties of 20 or more. Tickets are now on sale and can be reserved by calling 278-4422, by visiting www.BroadwayPalm.com or by stopping by the box office at 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers.

* This production has replaced “Dora The Explorer’s Pirate Adventure”.

Film Festival Seeks Judges

Care to pick a Monday between September 10 and February 28 to be a judge for the TGIM (Thank God for Indie Mondays) Film Festival this year?

Season 3 dates have been announced. TGIM’s “Missed It Mondays” start on July 30. TGIM starts on September 10.

For more information, visit http://fortmyersfilmfestival.com/season3.html.

Open Mic Night At Lab Theater

The Laboratory Theater of Florida presents Open Mic Night In The Lab, to be held each Thursday night during the summer from 7 to 9 p.m. beginning on June 21.

Come spend your Thursday evenings with the newest and brightest talents in Southwest Florida. If you are 25 and under, and have a desire to showcase your talent, this is the place to shine. Come perform, grow, laugh, cry and learn the limits and the extent of your talent. Singers, actors, musicians and poets welcome. Admission is $5 and the doors open at 7 p.m.

For more information, call the Laboratory Theater at 218-0481. Lab Theater is located at 1634 Woodford Avenue in Fort Myers.
Galloway Captiva Tri Combines Families, Fun And Physical Fitness

With school out, families are looking for fun things to do together. Taking on an athletic challenge as a family can be a great way to spend the summer, with the added bonus of boosting everyone’s fitness. For many, a multi-sport event allows everyone to prepare and compete, but each working to the level that’s appropriate for their age and agility.

For Southwest Florida families, one fun fitness choice is the Galloway Captiva Tri, a two-day event that includes a children’s tri for ages 6 to 13 on Saturday, September 15, and an adult sprint tri on Sunday, September 16. Family members can compete in the morning and spend the rest of the day enjoying the beach and other amenities on Captiva.

With a triathlon, getting ready is half the fun. Over the summer, the families can swim, bike and run to build endurance and skills for the race. “The distances are short enough that they are doable,” said Kate Gooderham, one of the event’s two USA Triathlon-certified race directors.

The race for those ages 6 to 9 involves a 100 yard swim, a 1.5 mile bike ride and a 0.5 mile run. For the 10-to-13-year-olds, the distances are doubled to a 200 yard swim, a 3 mile bike ride and a 1 mile run.

“These are fun triathlons for the kids. It gives them an opportunity to have a good time without the pressure of winning,” said Angie Ferguson, also a USA-T certified race director as well as a long-time triathlete herself. “We want them to have the experience of the three events and the transition in a fun setting… and everyone who finishes gets a medal.”

“The great thing about kids triathlon is that it includes three things kids love to do – swim bike and run,” said Jim Dwyer, whose two sons will participate in the children’s events while he and his wife, Cindy, do the adult event the following day. “The best part is that they get cheered on the whole way and it is short enough that it doesn’t lose the fun factor.”

While fun, family and fitness are the goals of both getting ready for the tri and for participating, safety is also critical. The comparatively short distances are part of the overall safety plan, as is the extra effort made to sanction both events with USA Triathlon and to work closely with local public safety officials in advance of the races. Also, for the children’s events adult volunteers and lifeguards will line the swim course in shallow water, so the kids can either reach out to an adult or stand if they feel overwhelmed.

During the bicycle leg of the race, the road is closed to motor vehicles, and the goal is to have an adult visible to a child at all times while they are biking. The run portion takes place along the golf course with lots of adults in view and no vehicles.

“What we love is to be able for the kids to feel free to enjoy themselves and we don’t have to worry,” said Dwyer. “Our big worry is how we’ll do on the adult race on Sunday!”

Both adult and children athletes can register online at www.captivatri.org.

Community Cooperative Ministries, Inc. (CCMI) is the benefitting charity for the race, as it was last year. A portion of the proceeds raised at the event will go towards supporting CCMI’s School Backpack Program, providing emergency food more than 2,000 local children each school year. The program helps reduce child hunger and improves health and academic outcomes providing support for Lee County children and families in need.

For additional information, go to www.captivatri.org or find them on Facebook by searching for Captiva Tri.

WCI Offers Golfing Opportunity To Benefit Harry Chapin Food Bank

How does $25 per person sound to play a round of golf at three premiere golf clubs in Lee and Collier counties? WCI is donating rounds of golf for four people, including carts, at three of their golf clubs to anyone who donates at least $100 to the Harry Chapin Food Bank/United Way online at www.WCIGOLF.com. Foursome certificates are valid through September 30.

WCI participating clubs are Pelican Preserve Golf Club, Raptor Bay Golf Club, and The Colony Golf & Country Club. Tee times may be made two days in advance, based on availability for play after 10:30 a.m.

Donors may access the promotion via www.WCIGolf.com through September 14. Payment can be made with your PayPal account or by entering your credit card information and completing the form with name, mail address and email address.

Individuals may purchase up to two foursomes.

Additional information about the WCI golfing promotion may be obtained by contacting Connie Boyd at 498-8269 or Connie.Boyd@WCICommunities.com, or Joyce Jacobs at 334-7007 ext. 130 or joycejacobs@harrychapinfoodbank.org.

Not One But Two Professional Sports Championships Possible Here In 2012

by Ed Frank

It took 21 years before a local professional team won a league championship, but could this be the year that two titles come this way?

The Fort Myers Miracle have called Hammond Stadium in the Lee County Sports Complex home for 21 years, having never won a Florida State League Championship.

Just last month, however, the Florida Everblades captured their firstECHL Kelly Cup in the 14th year of their hockey franchise’s history.

And now, the upstairs Florida Tarpons of the Ultimate Indoor Football League enter post-season play as heavy favorites to win Ultimate Bowl II.

In their first year, the Tarpons recorded a perfect 11-0 record to grab the No. 1 seed and home field advantage at Germain Arena.

The Tarpons host the Lakeland Raiders on Monday at Germain, with the kickoff scheduled for 7:30 p.m. in the battle for the league’s Southern Conference title. The Tarpons already have beaten Lakeland three times in the regular season by scores of 62-45, 59-51 and 57-42.

Should the Tarpons defeat Lakeland for the fourth time, they will face the winner of the Marion-Erie game in the Northern Conference. For the first time in league history, the game will be played outdoors due to renovations of the Marion arena.

Should the Tarpons win their 12th game on Monday, as expected, they will host Ultimate Bowl II at Germain on Monday, July 2.

The strength of the Tarpons is evidenced by the fact that the team landed 10 players on the all-UIFL team, including Terrance Jones, defensive player of the year; Ross Gormall, special team’s player of the year; and Michael Taylor, coach of the year. Tickets for the playoff games are available at the Germain Arena ticket office or through ticketmaster.com.

Twins First Draft Pick Signs For $6.2 Million

Outfielder Byron Buxton, the No. 2 overall pick in baseball’s Major League Draft, was signed quickly by the Minnesota Twins for a hefty $6.2 million and will begin his professional career right here with the rookie-level Gulf Coast League Twins.

Just 18 years old, Buxton is considered a five-tool player and completed his senior year at Appling County High School in Georgia with a .513 batting average, leading his team to the school’s first state title.

Miracle End Season’s First Half With 27-38 Record

The Fort Myers Miracle began the season’s second-half Monday hoping to improve on their 27-38 first-half record that resulted in fifth-place in the Florida State League’s South Division.

But it wasn’t a winning start, losing 2-1 on the road to the Jupiter Hammerheads.

Fort Myers returns home to Hammond Stadium on Sunday for a four-game series against the Tampa Yankees starting at 4:05 p.m. The Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday games have 7:05 p.m. starts.

Tampa completed the first-half with a 29-36 record and a fourth-place standing in the North Division.

Yankees Vs. Rays Coach Trip

The Cape Coral Yacht Club has planned a bus trip to see the New York Yankees take on the Tampa Bay Rays on Monday, July 2.

Trip includes round trip transportation in a chartered bus from the Yacht Club Community Park, game ticket, parking and tolls, plus snacks and soft drinks during the bus trip.

Cost is $63 per person. Call 574-0806 for additional information.
Rock Shrimp And Blue Crab Bisque

2 tablespoons butter
4 tablespoons shallots, diced
1 10-ounce can cream of shrimp soup
1 cup half and half
1/3 cup dry sherry
1 teaspoon dry mustard
4 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese
Salt and pepper, to taste
1 pound rock shrimp, peeled and deveined
1 cup lump blue crab meat

Melt butter in a large saucepan over medium-high heat. Add shallots and sauté for 3 minutes until soft. Stir in soup, half and half, sherry, mustard, parmesan cheese and salt and pepper to taste. Reduce heat and simmer 10 minutes to blend flavors. Add shrimp and simmer over low heat for 5 minutes. Gently stir in crab meat; heat until warmed through and serve.

Yields four servings

Nutritional Value Per Serving
Calories 711, Calories From Fat 42,
Total Fat 42g, Saturated Fat 16g, Trans Fatty Acid 1g, Cholesterol 327mg, Total Carbohydrates 34g, Protein 45g, Omega 3 Fatty Acid 1g.

Read us online at IslandSunNews.com

Tee Time For Tots Event Raises $14,000 For Child Care Of SWFL

Child Care of Southwest Florida raised more than $14,000 at its third annual Tee Time For Tots Child Care Golf Tournament on June 9. A total of 80 golfers participated in the tournament at the Pelican Preserve Golf Club. Lee County Sheriff Mike Scott and his team of Ryan Bell, Morgan Bowden and Tom Schmidt took home the first place honors.

In second place was the BB&T Oswald Trippe and Co. team of Bob Bassett, David Owen, Ed Castner and Gray Davis.

Major sponsors of the tournament were UBS and Fort Myers Audi, which would have given an Audi6 to anyone who hit a hole-in-one during the tournament.

"Nobody won the car, but everybody had a good time knowing that their entry fees will be used to provide child care scholarships for children from low-income families," said Child Care of Southwest Florida Development Director Linda McNabb. "Many people don't realize that the cost of child care is the third largest expense in the family budget after housing and food. Many of our families simply cannot afford this necessary child care expense without some help. That's where this golf tournament assists families in need."

An awards luncheon and raffle followed the morning of golf.

Child Care of Southwest Florida, Inc. is a private non-profit organization dedicated to providing high quality child care services throughout Southwest Florida. The agency provides early education and child care for children from infancy through age eight at its six child care centers in Lee and Hendry counties. In addition, it offers training for early childhood professionals, and administers the federal food program for eligible centers and family child care homes in 14 Florida counties. The agency must rely on generous donations and volunteer efforts from members of the community, corporations and foundations to build and maintain programs that make a difference to low-income children. Child Care of Southwest Florida, Inc., is a United Way agency.

To learn more or to make a donation, visit www.ccsfl.org or call 278-1002.
Financial Focus

Consider These Financial Moves When Relocating

by Jennifer Basey

A

la most every- one would agree: Moving is a hassle. In addition to selling your current home and finding a new one, you may need to deal with a new school for your kids, a new doctor, a new dentist – the list goes on and on. But you’ll also need to consider the financial aspects of your move – specifically, your investments, insurance, taxes and even your estate plans.

How can you help make sure that your move doesn’t slow your progress toward your financial goals? Consider the following relocation checklist:

- Open new bank accounts, and set up automatic transfers. If your move requires you to change banks, open your new accounts as soon as possible. And if you had your previous bank automatically move money each month from a checking or savings account into an investment, set up a similar arrangement at your new banks.
- Decide what to do with your employer-sponsored retirement plan. If you are leaving your job, you’ll need to make some decisions about your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. For example, you might have the option of leaving your money in your former employer’s plan, or you may be able to roll the money over to a new employer’s plan. Alternatively, you could decide to transfer the assets into an Individual Retirement Account (IRA). Your financial advisor can help you make the choice that’s right for your situation.
- Discuss your situation with a tax professional. You may want to meet with your tax professional to consider the benefits or liabilities of any differences in tax laws between your new location and your old one. You may also need to address any implications resulting from moving and changing jobs.
- Review your financial goals. Some of your goals, such as those related to housing and where you want to retire, may have changed as a result of your move. So it’s a good idea to meet with your financial advisor to review your objectives.
- Evaluate your monthly budget. If you followed a budget detailing your expenses and cash flow before your move, you may need to update it after you’ve settled in to your new home. If you haven’t set up a budget in the past, you’ve now got a good reason to establish one – because a well-planned budget can help you avoid dipping into your long-term investments to pay for short-term needs.
- Update your insurance coverage.

Southwest Florida Community Foundation Starts 3-D Project

The Southwest Florida Community Foundation has embarked on a unique effort to address the needs of the five-county region to help and enhance local nonprofits.

The Southwest Florida Community Foundation’s 3-D project – which stands for data, dialogue and decisions – will establish a collaborative network and platform that will allow our region to create efficiencies, share resources, openly communicate and make informed decisions to strengthen our nonprofits. The project will give the community the means to identify challenges and opportunities and, as a cohesive unit, work together to mobilize citizens, nonprofits and the government to provide solutions strengthening the region.

“This project is important for our region and our foundation,” said Sarah Owen, CEO of the SWFLCF, which has made an initial investment of $100,000 to the project. “Southwest Florida was one of the hardest hit regions in the recent recession which naturally affected resources for nonprofits. We have found that our nonprofits could have attracted more grants and funds from outside our area if they had more collaboration and were given more support. This is why we are making a significant investment to build knowledge and develop an information tool that will connect our community.”

The data segment of the project will include a nonprofit mapping and assessment process of the five county area, as well as informational seminars, capacity surveys and round table follow-ups. Dialogue will include developing a regional collaboration, determining strategic partnerships and harnessing regional resources. Finally, decision represents the transformational and results-based philanthropy, sustainable and innovative initiatives and new streams of funding that are expected to develop.

The goals of the project are to:
- Identify the capacity and information needs of the nonprofit sector
- Strengthen the capacity of the existing nonprofit organizations and allow the nonprofits and citizens of the lower capacity counties access to the higher capacity resources in the other counties
- Provide data that will enable nonprofit leaders to make more informed decisions regarding their organizations and the allocation of their resources
- Provide data to enable government funders and individual donors to make more informed decisions regarding their expenditures and philanthropic investments
- Increase community participation in public policy conversations regarding social issues

Make sure your vehicles, stored possessions and new residence are covered during your move. And if your health insurance is changing, be aware of what’s covered under your new policy.
- Review your estate plans. If your move coincides with other important life events, such as marriage, divorce or remarriage, you may need to make some moves related to your estate plans, such as ensuring you have the correct beneficiary designations on any life insurance policies and your 401(k), IRA and other investment accounts. Check with your legal advisor to determine which steps make sense for your situation.
- Moving may require you to adjust many aspects of your life. Reviewing the items on this checklist can help you get your financial house in order when you move into your new home.

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

Spliman Makes Dean’s List At Cazenovia

Alexandra Spliman, a resident of Fort Myers, was named to the 2012 spring semester Dean’s List at Cazenovia College in Syracuse, New York. Spliman is a freshman majoring in management, specializing in fashion merchandising. She is a graduate of Carlbrook School in Halifax, Virginia.
ICAN Launches School Supply Drive

The Island Coast AIDS Network (ICAN) is collecting school supplies for its clients’ children and Power Purchasing has donated 75 backpacks to help them get ready for the school year.

Any donations of items such as pens, pencils, calculators, notebook paper, pocket folders, report covers, glue sticks, markers, etc. will be placed in the backpacks and given to children throughout Southwest Florida. Donations can be accepted at the ICAN Fort Myers office at 2231 McGregor Boulevard; at the ICAN Junction at the corner of US 41 and Pondella Road in North Fort Myers; and at the Naples ICAN office at 3400 Radio Road, Unit 108.

To arrange a pickup or for more information call Mitch Hailey at 337-2391 ext. 211, or email mhailey@icanswfl.org. ICAN is a United Way partner agency and provides vital support services such as food, transportation and case management to over 400 AIDS-infected individuals and their families in Southwest Florida. ICAN also provides a variety of HIV education and prevention programs. ☎️

School Smart

by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSP

Dear Shelley, I enjoy reading with my preschool children. I like to use both traditional books and e-readers with them. Is one type of book better than another for helping them appreciate books and learn from them?

Abigail, You have asked a fascinating question. There is no doubt that reading to your children is just about the single most beneficial activity that you can do. All sorts of studies have told us that children who are read to regularly do much better in school and go on to become better readers and have a much larger vocabulary.

Your question about which type of book to read to your children certainly points out the power of technology and a very current educational debate. Should children use one format or the other exclusively? Most people have chosen to expose their children to both book formats. It is important for children to learn how to use a traditional text as well as the e-reader format.

Joan Cooney Ganz, the founder of Sesame Street, is still highly involved in finding the best practices for teaching children. She has now founded a research center where they examine these issues. According to her center’s study about the differences between traditional texts versus e-readers, researchers reported that kids age 3 to 6 remembered more narrative details like “What happened in the story?” from print books than from enhanced e-books with multimedia features. But when kids were asked one plot question for each story, (i.e. “Why did X do Y?”), there was no difference between the print book readers and the enhanced e-book readers.

Cynthia Chiong, the lead author of this research, reported that researchers found that while the multimedia features of enhanced e-books grabbed children’s attention, those same features also distracted young readers and led more to “non-content related interactions.” Features like animation, sound effects, videos and games made it more difficult for some parents to keep kids focused on reading and diminished kids’ recall of the text. Parents continually had to tell their children not to turn the page or not to touch the tablets, according to Chiong.

What does this mean? Parents and teachers should choose print books or basic e-books over enhanced e-books, if they want a more literacy-focused co-reading experience with children. These types of books appear to encourage kids to be more verbal, and can lead to improved vocabulary and language development, the study states. These types of books help kids with questions that relate to the text, label, and name objects, and encourage kids to talk about the book’s content from their own perspective as well.

If the primary goal of reading is just to engage the child, then e-books and enhanced e-books may be the better choice. The study reported that in measuring “child-book” engagement, based on the child’s direct attention and touch, more children showed higher levels of engagement for the e-books than the print books, though a majority were equally engaged by both book types. Children also physically interacted with the enhanced e-book more than when reading either the print or basic e-book.

While this study was quite small and more research is needed, it does emphasize the importance of reading with our children and the benefits that come from it. So whether you choose a print book, an e-book, or an enhanced e-book, as long as you are reading to your children they will benefit.

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. ☎️

Members of the Canterbury School Class of 2012 wait to enter Murphy Sports Center for commencement.

$4.8M Offered To Canterbury Class

The 37 members of the Canterbury School’s Class of 2012 received a total of $4,867,292 in scholarships, grants and award offers. All students were accepted to four-year colleges and universities.

Canterbury students pursue rigorous college preparatory courses and balance with that significant commitment to school and community activities. “Canterbury also focuses upon the education of strong character. This character shines through in college and schol-
Dear Pharmacist:

I am suffering with Sjogren’s syndrome, it makes my skin, eyes and mouth so terribly dry. Even sex is painful. Do you have any suggestions that may work for me?

PW, Santa Rosa, California

Sjogren’s syndrome – or “SS” – mainly affects women and occurs, in part, when white blood cells attack the moisture-producing glands. Think dry eyes and mouth, vaginal dryness, dry skin, joint pain, persistent cough or harm to the kidneys, lungs, liver or GI tract can occur. Temporary relief comes from running humidifiers, taking medicine or using natural herbs. Prescriptions of either “placcapine” or esacox may help dry eyes/mouth as can inexpensive “artificial” tear eye drops. Immunosuppressant drugs calm a hyperactive immune system, in an attempt to balance a see-saw immune system that is severely tilted.

The symptoms of SS are mediated by cytokines (very mean compounds) driven by the “NF-kappa B” pathway, and excessive cytokines cause dryness, pain and inflammation. Some of the cytokines are known as “interleukins” and abbreviated as IL-1, IL-13 and IL-4 and so forth in the literature. High TNF alpha and prostaglandins are also part of the painful picture of autoimmune dysregulation. Excessive amounts of this stuff causes unspeakable misery, but I know ways to reduce these mean compounds. Soon, you will too. I realize this is complicated, but I insist you have some knowledge so you can research yourself and discuss my ideas with your physician.

A healthy immune system rocks like a see-saw, and it remains in balance with it’s two T-helper armies (Th1 and Th2). With SS, it’s dynamic, it changes and sways this way and that way. Often, the see-saw is tilted and the Th2 army dominates, thus producing a host to participate mean cytokines mentioned above. Other Th2 dominant conditions include eczema, BPH, Grave’s, cancer, asthma, infections, fibromyalgia, late Lyme’s, lupus and ulcerative colitis. Certain supplements can calm a TH2 dominant condition by strengthening the Th1 army (that’s usually what you want with SS, but not always). Ask your physician for approval, and carefully note your response. If symptoms worsen, stop immediately.

Green tea or EGCG supplements – Reduces many interleukins including IL-1

Wise Woman Herbals vaginal suppositories – They contain vitamin E, A and C and ulcerative colitis. Certain supplements can calm a Th2 dominant condition by strengthening the Th1 army (that’s usually what you want with SS, but not always). Ask your physician for approval, and carefully note your response. If symptoms worsen, stop immediately. Green tea or EGCG supplements – Reduces many interleukins including IL-1

Impaired” and the phone number for the Lee County Sheriff’s Office. Both the Dubin Alzheimer’s Resource Center and the Lee County Sheriff’s Office maintain records of enrolled persons’ application numbers and identifying information. Being able to look at a bracelet, make a phone call, and face-to-face to his/her home reduces the time memory impaired persons are away from their homes and saves police departments valuable effort. A brochure with an application to obtain a bracelet is included in each safety program packet.

The Dubin Alzheimer’s Resource Center’s office is located at 12468 Brantley Commons Court in Fort Myers. For more information about the Safety Program, or to find out more about the services offered by the Dubin Alzheimer’s Resource Center, call 437-3007.

Free Autism Screening For Young Children

The Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida, in partnership with the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida, offers a free monthly autism spectrum disorder screening for toddlers 18 months to 5 years of age.

The next screening will be held this Friday, June 22 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Family Health Center, 2256 Heitman Street in Fort Myers.

It is estimated that one in every 150 children is diagnosed with some form of Autism Spectrum Disorder, making it more common than childhood cancer, juvenile diabetes and pediatric AIDS combined.

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

The ASD screening is conducted by the Neurosciences Center at The Children’s Hospital, under the guidance of pediatric neurologist Jose Colon, MD, MPH. The screenings are administered by an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner, who has extensive training and experience in typical child development and developmental disorders.

A physician referral is not required. To schedule a screening, call 343-6838.

2012 Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive Collects More Than 70 Million Pounds

Thanks to the generosity of customers and employees, the 2012 Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive was a resounding success. Locally, Lee County netted 301,295 pounds of food and Collier County reported collections of 269,340 pounds.

Many local food pantries receive the donations that were collected. At one local pantry, a young boy was able to select a box of Pop Tarts and he excitedly told his mother, “Oh boy, now maybe my friends will come to my house.” Another child proclaimed, “Wow, look at all the food we have now” because his family had received some vegetables.

The Postal Service, the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC), Feeding America, the Campbell Soup Company and other partner organizations – including the National Rural Letter Carriers Association and other USPS employees – worked together and collected more than 70.5 million pounds of food during the nation’s largest single-day food drive.

This year marked the 20th anniversary of the Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive and was the ninth consecutive time donations totaled more than 70 million pounds. Since the program began in 1992, more than 1 billion pounds of food has been collected to help feed America’s hungry.

Recent statistics indicate that about 50 million Americans – including 17 million children – now live in families that lack sufficient food. These results will enable the food pantries across the country to help feed the 50 million Americans, one-third of them children, who live in families that lack sufficient food.

Follow the Postal Service on www.twitter.com/USPS and at www.facebook.com/USPS.
**Dr. Dave**

**Tendon Truths**

by Dr. Dave Hepburn

Thetis, a gorgeous Greek goddess of the sea, was courted by several high-ranking gods including Zeus, Poseidon and Gordo, son of Bacchus. But due to your basic Greek curse-de-jour, she was condemned—like most women—to marry a mere mortal man.

Not terribly pleased about this, Thetis made the life of her mortal hubby, poor Peleus, a living hades. Each time Peleus tried to hold Thetis, she had the irritating habit of transforming herself into a tree or fire or a tiger, earning her the title of goddess of PMS.

Finally, the odd couple did manage to have a little bouncing baby demigod, Achilles. Wanting him to be immortal, Thetis tried to hold Thetis, she had the irritating habit of transforming herself into a tree or fire or a tiger, earning her the title of goddess of PMS.

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Thetis, colitis, etc. all refer to swollen and inflamed organs. But tendons rarely get inflamed. Tendinitis, therefore, is as mythical as Thetis, Zeus or Bertuzzi. Instead, a sore tendon is commonly a tendinosis, a painful degeneration of the tendon caused by microtrauma, aging or poor blood flow. And anti-inflammatory pills do not help! But I guarantee that 8.7926 doctors out of 10 will recommend anti-inflammatory pills for what they perceive is tendinosis. Treatment, however, should be geared towards both preventing further collagen degeneration in the tendon as well as stimulating collagen synthesis.

Treatment includes specific strengthening, deep friction massage, laser, appropriate rest (may take months), surgery and—more recently—the use of Botox.

Five tendons that commonly get into trouble include the:

- Achilles Tendon—Achilles tendinitis refers to pain in the calf as a result of overuse, usually in runners. This is the only tendinosis that does not occur where the tendon attaches to the bone, but rather where the tendon connects to the muscle. Hence, pain is not at the heel but more towards the lower calf. If allowed to continue to degenerate, this tendon can rupture with devastating results.

Dear Mom & Me,

For some older individuals, living independently at home—even with in-home services—is not possible due to safety concerns. Some significant safety concerns are wandering out of the home, having days and nights confused and engaging in other unsafe behavior like using appliances unsafely.

If your parents return home, their home plan should include in home services 24 hours a day, seven days a week, which is very expensive. The other option is either independent housing with supportive services or assisted living. Begin by calling the Independent living and assisted living communities in your area.

The social worker at the rehab center is a great resource. She or he will be able to tell you your mother’s abilities, where the therapist and physicians think your mother should live and the different communities in the area to look at.

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

**Mom And Me**

by Lizzie and Pryce

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

**Dear Mom & Me,**

I have realized that my parents were unable to function in their own home, but my mother positively refused to move. She has been caring for my father, who has some form of memory loss.

The other morning at about 2 a.m., my father got up, went to the kitchen and started to cook. The smell of smoke awakened my mother and in the rush she fell and broke her hip. The fire trucks came, they called an ambulance and the whole neighborhood was awakened.

My father was also taken to the emergency department because at that time we had no other place for him to go. The house was severely damaged. My father is staying with relatives out of town and my mother is in rehabilitation after surgery.

I don’t know what to do next. Where do you suggest I start?

**Debra Newell**

"We are amazed at the response from the community already," said Debra Newell, event chair. "Many teams have registered, but we need more to join us in this fight against breast cancer."

If you are interested in starting a team, volunteering or becoming a sponsor, contact Debra Newell at 985-2664 or email her at debra.newell@iberiabank.com. You may also contact the Lee County American Cancer Society office at 936-1113.

**Making Strides Website Available**

For Team Enrollment, Fundraising

The Lee County American Cancer Society’s Making Strides Against Breast Cancer executive committee is calling for teams to participate in the Lee County’s Making Strides Against Breast Cancer event on Saturday, October 20 at Tanger Outlets in Fort Myers.

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer is a noncompetitive 5K walk uniting people of all ages with a common goal to fight breast cancer and save lives. Premiere Oncology is the presenting sponsor for this year’s event. This is the second year for Premiere as the presenting sponsor.

Individuals and teams are encouraged to register at www.putonyourpinkbra.com/leecounty. This enhanced, user-friendly website allows participants to easily and effectively raise funds online and stay connected with updated information on the event.

"We are amazed at the response from the community already," said Debra Newell, event chair. "Many teams have registered, but we need more to join us in this fight against breast cancer."

If you are interested in starting a team, volunteering or becoming a sponsor, contact Debra Newell at 985-2664 or email her at debra.newell@iberiabank.com. You may also contact the Lee County American Cancer Society office at 936-1113.
My Stars ★★★★★

FOR WEEK OF JUNE 25, 2012

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Information you need might be coming in sporadically, but at least what you’re getting is valuable. Continue to wait until more is available before acting on that career move.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You continue on an upbeat cycle, and with that strong Taurean energy you should see favorable results from your hard work. A pleasant surprise awaits you in your private life.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A misunderstanding needs more time to be worked out. Don’t give up on it just yet. Remain open to providing explanations, if called for. Another friend offers good advice.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Fast action can correct a seemingly minor problem that has taken on some unexpectedly difficult aspects. Stay with it until it’s resolved. News on a more positive note is due soon.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Some snags could cause delays in those plans you’re eager to see put into operation. But be patient. The Clever Cat will soon have good reason to celebrate a job well done.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Be certain not to let that Virgo sensitivity by dissuade you from being the headstrong realist you should be at this time. Your goals are in sight. Stay focused on them.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A more positive aspect opens up, allowing you to make some important changes in a personal situation. Remember to seek balance and avoid extremes as you proceed.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) This is a good week to get out and enjoy the fine times you missed while you were so deep in those workaday projects. Be sure to share it with that special person.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Work and play are in balance this week. However, expect news that could tip things toward the workplace for quite a while. But all to a good end.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) You’re more productive on the job than you have been in some time. That’s good. But be careful not to overlook some situations developing in your private life.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You’ve been doing a lot for others (as usual). But now it’s time to focus on your needs, including finally going on that long-delayed trip you’ve been hoping to make.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) It’s all a matter of timing, so you and that very special person in your life. But a collateral cause some disruption on the job that you might be called on to help settle.

BORN THIS WEEK: You are sensitive to the needs of others. But you’re no pushover. You would make a fine teacher, psychologist or minister.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

• On June 26, 1913, the Globe Theater, where most of Shakespeare’s plays debuted, burns down. The Globe was built in 1599 from the timbers of London’s very first permanent theater, Burbage’s Theater. The galleries could seat about 1,000 people, with room for another 2,000 “groundlings,” who could stand around the stage.

• On June 28, 1888, writer Robert Louis Stevenson and his family leave San Francisco for their first visit to the South Seas. Stevenson, an adventurous traveler plagued by tuberculosis, was seeking a healthier climate. His novel “Treasure Island” was published in 1883.

• On June 7, 1922, the American Library Association awards the first Newbery Medal, honoring the year’s best children’s book, to “The Story of Mankind” by Hendrik Willem van Loon. The Newbery Medal seeks to encourage originality and excellence in the field of children’s books.

• On June 26, 1948, in response to the Soviet blockade of land routes into West Berlin, the United States begins a massive airlift of food, water and medicine to the citizens of the besieged city. For nearly a year, supplies from American planes sustained the two million people in West Berlin.

• On June 25, 1956, the last Packard rolls off the production line at Packard’s plant in Detroit. The classic American luxury car used the famously enigmatic slogan “Ask the Man Who Owns One.”

• On June 30, 1962, Sandy Koufax strikes out 13 batters to walk five to lead the Brooklyn Dodgers over the New York Mets 5-0 with his first career no-hitter. Koufax went on to throw three more no-hitters, including a perfect game on Sept. 9, 1965, in which he allowed no hits and no walks.

• On July 1, 1979, the Sony Walkman -- the world’s first low-cost, portable music player -- goes on sale in Japan. The initial production run of 30,000 units looked to be too ambitious, as only 3,000 were sold at $150 apiece in the first month. Some 200 million sales later, Sony retired the cassette Walkman in 2010.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

• It is still not known who made the following sage observation: “Never attribute to malice what can be adequately explained by stupidity.”

• If you are an aficionado of the word game Scrabble, you probably know that there are only five words that can be played using a q but no u. In case you’re not in the know, those words are “faqi,” “qaid,” “qoph,” “qindar” and “qintar.”

In 1702, surveys in England marked off a parcel of land by mistake. The error was immortalized when the town that grew up on that land adopted the name Accidents.

• The English word “mistletoe” comes from an Anglo-Saxon phrase that means “dung on a twig.” It seems that the branches where mistletoe is often found have white splotches on them, which some say resemble bird droppings.

• The martial art that is known today as karate actually originated in Japan and spread to China before becoming popular in 17th-century Japan, where it was dubbed karate, which means “empty hand” in Japanese.

• These days you’ll rarely see an elected official with a beard, but facial hair wasn’t always considered to be a liability in politics. In fact, it’s been reported that Abraham Lincoln was inspired to grow a beard while he was running for president in 1860 because of a letter from an 11-year-old girl. Grace Bedell wrote to Lincoln that a beard would make him “look a great deal better, for your face is so thin. All the ladies like whiskers.”

• When the United States bought Alaska from Russia in 1867, the going price was 2 cents an acre.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

“Nothing gives an author so much pleasure as to find his works quoted by other learned authors.” — Benjamin Franklin

SPORTS QUIZ

1. Entering 2012, how many consecutive years had it been since the New York Yankees had a losing season?
2. Who is the only player to belt four home runs in two different World Series?
3. Name the last offensive rookie before center Maurkice Pouncey in 2010 to start every regular-season game for the Pittsburgh Steelers.
4. Who holds the record for most 3-point field goals made in the NCAA men’s basketball championship game?
5. Name two NHL goalies to have scored a goal in both a regular-season game and a playoff game.
6. When was the last time the U.S. won a gold medal in men’s track 5,000 meters?
7. Who held the record for biggest margin of victory in the LPGA Championship before Cristie Kerr won by 12 shots in 2010?

ANSWERS


PUZZLE ANSWERS

LeeTran Offers Trolley Service

LeeTran will operate trolley service with extended hours on Wednesday, July 4. Bus routes on the mainland will not run on the holiday.

Trolley service from Summerlin Square (Summerlin Road and San Carlos Blvd.) to Bowditch Park on Fort Myers Beach will run every 40 minutes from 7 a.m. until 11:55 p.m. Parking at Summerlin Square is free.

On the island, trolleys will run every 30 minutes between Bowditch Park at the north end, to Lovers Key State Park and back.

Adult trolley fare is 50 cents; seniors aged 65 and older, students, and disabled passengers with required ID can ride for 25 cents. An unlimited-ride All-Day Pass can be purchased from the driver for $1.50.

The extended trolley hours are supported by the Town of Fort Myers Beach, which launches an annual fireworks show from the Beach Pier at Lynn Hall Memorial Park. The show begins just after dusk on July 4.

For further information about bus or trolley service, call LeeTran at 533-8726 (LEE-TRAN) or visit www.rideleetran.com.

Voter Registration Deadline July 16

As part of its ongoing efforts to get out the vote, the League of Women Voters of Florida wants to remind voters that the deadline to register to vote in the August 14 primary election is July 16.

“Florida’s primary election has never been held this early. Given the changes in the state’s elections laws, the league encourages Florida voters to call their local supervisor of elections to check their voter registration status and, if necessary, update it,” said Charley Williams, LWVF voter services chair. “This is particularly important for voters who have recently moved or changed their name. If you plan to vote by mail, call your supervisor to renew your vote-by-mail request and make sure your ballot arrives in time for the election.

In addition to its BeReadyToVote.org website, LWVF has also partnered with Microsoft to offer smartphone users a quick and simple way to connect to their supervisor’s office. The league has created a unique smartphone tag that, when scanned, connects voters to a mobile website where they can access the Florida Division of Elections database to check their voter status.

For more information about the upcoming elections and voter registration, visit www.BeReadyToVote.org. Spanish speakers can visit www.VamosAVotar.org.

Taste Of Lee Fruit Festival Returns

Sponsored by the UF/IFAS Lee County Extension & Caloosa Rare Fruit Exchange, the Taste Of Lee Tropical Fruit Festival will be held on Saturday, June 30 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Fort Myers, 1735 Jackson Street in Fort Myers.

The event will feature free tasting tables of locally grown fruits and vegetables and freshly caught seafood. Lots of exotic fruits will be on display. Farmers and fishers will bring their edibles for sale including cheese, honey, herbs, fruits, vegetables and seafood. Tropical fruit trees and herbs will be offered for sale.

In addition, classes on food preservation, edible natives, growing tropical fruit trees and more activities will be a part of the festival.

Admission is $1 per person, with children under 12 free. The Speakers’ Series is an additional $1 per class. No pre-reg-
Animal Shelter In Need Of Canned Cat Food

Lee County Domestic Animal Services is in need of canned cat food to feed hundreds of cats currently housed at the shelter. The intake of cats during the summer increases from a monthly average of 286 to an average of 523 per month from May through October. The shelter is depending on the generosity of the community to get through kitten season with enough food to feed all of the cats.

Donations can be brought to the shelter at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers, located off Six Mile Cypress Parkway next to the Lee County Sheriff’s Office. Convenient drop off sites are also located in many Publix Supermarkets and other locations throughout Lee County. A list of sites is available online at www.LeeLostPets.com.

The shelter’s goal is to provide the best care possible for pets until they can be adopted into permanent, loving homes.

“Canned food is very important for growing kittens, as well as adult cats, that require extra nutrition to ensure a healthy weight to prepare them for adoption,” said Donna Ward, LCDAS director.

“Many of the cats and kittens that come through our shelter doors have not had proper nutrition or vaccinations placing them at risk for illness leading to loss of appetite. Canned cat food provides an extra incentive to get them back to a healthy weight. Providing the right type of food is critical to their well being and survival.”

Lee County Domestic Animal Services also encourages residents to spay and neuter their own felines in addition to taking advantage of the agency’s Trap, Neuter and Return program for feral (wild) outdoor cats by calling 533-9234 or via email at spay@leegov.com.

Visit Lee County Domestic Animal Services’ website for more information about programs and services, lost pets, and pets for adoption at www.LeeLostPets.com.

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PUZZLE ANSWERS

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SCRAMBLERS

Mystery word: AMBIANCE

solution

1. Blast; 2. Secret;
3. Grind; 4. Miasma

Today’s Word:
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Sanibel Consignments 472-5222.
Ellie Mae (ID #528953) is a year-and-a-half-old spaniel female black and tan hound mix. When Ellie Mae came to the shelter in February, she was in very poor condition and extremely underweight. She also suffered from an eye condition which caused her lashes to rub against her eyes. She has had surgery to fix her eye problems and has gained 15 pounds.

Ellie Mae loves kids and gets along great with other dogs and cats. She is an athletic girl and would do best in a home with a yard and an active family. Ellie Mae is also house trained and loves chew toys and bones. She is currently in a foster home, so if you are interested in meeting her, please send an email to kennel@leegov.com.

Her adoption fee is free (regularly $50) during Animal Services Construction Special.

Lucy (ID #524647) is a 3-year-old spaniel female black domestic short hair. She has been at the shelter since December. She came from a home with more than 70 cats, so individual care and attention is something she is hoping to find in her new forever home!

Lucy is affectionate and it’s no surprise that she gets along well with other cats. She and her sister Vera are the only cats from her former home that are still at the shelter. It would be great if they could stay together. How about adopting two?

Her adoption fee is free (regularly $50) during Animal Services Construction Special.

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

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

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

The adoption package is valued at $500.¥
NEW LISTING: BEST CAPTIVA GULF FRONT OPPORTUNITY IN YEARS
Priced to sell at Land Value, this property offers you multiple options, renovate the existing 2 bedroom beachfront cottage and guest house, for great rental potential, or use the guest house while you build your beachfront Dream Home. You can always build an all new guest house and main house or just hold the property for future market appreciation. This property has an added feature, a 71'2 foot right of use access to Roosevelt Channel, so bring your kayaks! Plans are available for a new main and Guest house or built to suite. Offered for $3,795,000. Contact George Kohlbrenner 239/565-8805.

YOU MUST SEE IT TO BELIEVE IT!
This elegantly appointed 3/4 pool home in Sanibel Estates was extensively remodeled in 2002 by Benchmark and no detail was spared! Home features Brazilian cherry wood floors, top floor master suite, 2 complete guest suites, rooftop sundeck with Bay views, coffer and tray ceilings, granite stone and marble surfaces, 3 floor elevator, media room, library, chef’s kitchen with Crystal cabinetry and MUCH more. The elevated pool is light w fiber optics and overlooks the gardens and canal. Accommodate your boat at this 65’ dock with 2-50 amp shore power available. $2,495,000. Contact Tracy Walters 239/994-7975 or Connie Walters 239/841-4540.

THE ULTIMATE FISHING RETREAT!
This charming three bedroom, two bath home is located on the very desirable East End on a canal. Enjoy the beautiful pool with three waterfalls & spa, the new large dock on the canal or lounge in the spacious screened in deck overlooking the pool and canal. Cathedral ceilings in the open family room directly off of the eat in kitchen. A large master suite with walk in closet & screened deck/sitting area. This home includes an oversized garage perfect for large boat and beach access just around the corner. This home provides Gulf access, beach access a huge dock and a tropical canal. Perfect for a fisherman! Offered for $579,000. Offered Contact Tracy “Mr. Listr” 239/994-7975 or Connie “Ms Listr” 239/841-4540.

COPACETIC ESTATE IS CAPTIVA LIFE AT IT’S FINEST.
The 4 Bedroom 6 ½ Bath Main house is both spacious and elegant yet the mood is tranquil and comforting. The top Floor Master Suite with expansive views of the Bay consists of a Master Bedroom, sizeable Private Office, separate Exercise or Training Room and 2 full baths. Main floor living area includes 3 additional oversize Bedrooms 3 ½ Baths, Living room with Fireplace, Formal Dining, large open Kitchen, oversize laundry, and screened porch overlooking the pool, outside entertainment area, roomy back yard, boat dock and Bay. Your company will never want to leave when they step into the Picture Perfect 4 Bedroom 3 ½ Bath Guest House surrounded in lush tropical landscaping, it’s own Private Pool and Gazebos, wrap around decks and easy private beach access. Both Homes Furnished! So much more to see and enjoy! Offered for $4,199,000. Contact George Kohlbrenner 239/565-8805.

DIRECTLY ON SAN CARLOS BAY!!
Views from almost every room. This remodeled home offers a pool with hot tub, two guest suites on 3rd level with a morning kitchen, entertainment area, large walk in closets, stunning balcony views of the bay. Master suite on main level and an office/4th bedroom.. Stone, tile, crown molding, impact glass on all windows and doors, over sized 2+ car garage. The wild life, dolphins, manatees and more can be enjoyed in this quiet & gorgeous home. This is a must see. Offered for $2,495,000. Contact Tracy “Mr. Listr” 239/994-7975 or Connie “Ms Listr” 239/841-4540.

TRADEWINDS
Wonderful 3 bedroom, 3 bath. Near beach home. Privacy is enhanced by white fenced yard, caged topaz pool and lush green tropical landscaping. Step inside and instantly you will see this property was designed with that calming easy-living island atmosphere in mind. Cozy but still spacious so your family can enjoy that relaxed beach home feeling. Tradewinds owners also benefit from an exclusive Beach Access with plenty of parking so you, your family and friends can enjoy the warm sun soaked sands and breathtaking Sanibel Sunsets. Peaceful surroundings, stellar sunsets, restful beaches, relaxed outdoors, easy maintenance. This home will make sure everyday feels like a day at the beach. Offered for $659,000. Contact George Kohlbrenner 239/565-8805.

LOGGERHEAD CAY #583
Amazing GULF VIEWS from this 3rd floor condo. This unit is FULLY FURNISHED and just steps away from the sandy white beaches. Loggerhead Cay is one of the Islands most popular condominium complexes as it has AMENITIES GALORE! Community grills, shuffleboard, tennis courts are just a few of the many amenities available. This unit is quiet and features an open floor plan. Offered for $549,000. Contact Tracy Walters “Mr. Listr” 239/994-7975 or Connie Walters “Ms. Listr” at 239/841-4540.

CROWN COLONY
Location is everything! One of the best location configurations in Crown Colony. Enjoy a sunrise view over the lake and golf course. A front sunset view over a beautifully landscaped area. Golf membership available but not required. Offered for $384,000 Contact Larry Hahn 239/898-8789.

OLD PELICAN BAY
Appreciate being in touch with native surroundings. This well maintained waterfront lot has many enhancements including fill, dock and manicured trees. An opportunity to purchase an undeveloped home site with such univalued view! Explore the potential of building your own custom home at this truly exceptional location within a quaint gated community. The impressive waterfront community offers direct access to the Gulf of Mexico and privacy overlooking preserve on this Cul de sac road Survey available upon request. OFFER欣赏FILING option upon mutually agreed terms and conditions. Offered for $319,500 Contact LeAne Taylor Suarez 239/872-1632.

BEAUTIFUL BUILDER’S PERSONAL CUSTOM HOME
Waterfront, designed with only the finest appointments, includes gourmet kitchen, family room, fireplace, custom shelving, detailed woodwork and ceiling work throughout. Outdoor kitchen with magnificent pool area. Boat lift, garage holds up to 10 cars. Superb workmanship, MUST SEE! Offered for $1,995,000. Contact Ralph Galiotti 239/826-5897 or Cathy Galietti 239/826-5807.

SANIBEL HARBOUR YACHT CLUB
Experience stress free boat ownership with a great dockaminium featuring 5 star restaurant, Concierge service, Deli and catering, unlimited boat launching, beach area with Tiki hut and BBQ grills, 24 hour security complete washdown and engine flush after each use. #29 $49,900 reduced!! $278 - $29,900 Contact Marianne Stewart 239/560-6420 $199 - $37,000 reduced! Contact Tracy Walters 239/994-7975