Experience One Of The Best Birding Sites In Lee County

On Mother’s Day, Sunday, May 9, bring Mom to see the sunset and the beautiful birds of Bunche Beach from 6 to 8 p.m. Meet in the parking lot at Bunche Beach, off Summerlin Road (drive south on John Morris Road until it dead-ends). Birding at Bunche Beach is excellent for both migrant and resident wading and shorebirds working the mudflats at low tide due to the diversity of micro-invertebrates. Continued on page 4

Visions Opens At Davis Art Center

Visions will open May 7 through 27, showcasing artists from around the world represented by Maria Kann at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center in Fort Myers. The international art show features Otto von Kotzebue of Germany, Patricia Mulko of France, Gloria Audo of Argentina, and Sandi Badash of the United States.

The opening reception starts at 6 p.m. May 7 during the downtown Fort Myers’ Art Walk. Exhibit hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

• Gloria Audo studied with the masters in her native Argentina, Ponciano Cardenas and Carlos Canas. She has illustrated books, painted murals, and exhibited around the world. Continued on page 20

Downtown Fort Myers Celebrates Cinco De Mayo

The merchants of Downtown Fort Myers, also known as the River District Alliance, announce the biggest party of the year for Cinco de Mayo to celebrate the fact that 4,000 Mexican soldiers smashed the French and traitor Mexican army of 8,000 at Puebla, Mexico, 100 miles east of Mexico City on the morning of May 5, 1862. In celebration of the underdog defeating the French, the Downtown River District is hosting a huge celebration on Wednesday, May 5.

There will be five or more stages of live music throughout the night, five blocks of entertainment and dancing, five specialty beers served all night long and five hours of fiesta starting at 6 p.m.

There will be free parking, no admissions charges and give-away prizes throughout the night.

The River District Alliance is a group of Downtown Fort Myers merchants, residents and concerned citizens who, with the support of sponsors and the Downtown Redevelopment Agency, promote events and culture that complement the City of Fort Myers and enhance life in the River District. To learn more about becoming a sponsor or to volunteer, contact Michael Piggott at 344-1621 or Susan Lewis at 826-0356.

Kanzius Project Leads In Pepsi Competition

The Kanzius Cancer Research Foundation moved into first place last Sunday in Pepsi’s online competition for a $250,000 grant. If the foundation still holds one of the top two spots at the end of April, which is Friday, it will get the grant from the soft-drink manufacturer.

Arts For ACT Exhibit Opening And Reception

Arts For ACT Gallery will hold an opening reception and art walk for May featured artists Beth Everhart, Andrea Cambio and Africa Valdez on Friday, May 7 from 6 to 10 p.m.

Everhart is a photographic artist working in Fort Myers. Currently, she teaches visual arts at Island Coast High School in Cape Coral. She is also an instructor in fine arts/digital photography at Barry University’s Adult Education Program.

She received her MFA degree from Hunter College of the City University of New York in 1989, and has been teaching since. Before relocating to Florida, she taught...
The Fort Myers Public Library
On Bay Street

by Gerri Reaves

This 1930s photo shows the Fort Myers Public Library when it was located near the northeast corner of Bay and Jackson Streets.

In those days, Jackson led to the City Dock and the Caloosahatchee River approached Bay Street.

Margie Kelly Johnson remembers the Bay Street library very well. Her father, Silas Kelly, ran Kelly’s Seafood Market just across Jackson Street. The market is clearly visible to the library’s left in the photo.

That intersection was the second location for the seafood business, which had started in East Fort Myers in 1928.

Margie says that she and her brother James spent a lot of time exploring that corner of downtown. They used to sit and read in the rocking chairs on the library’s back porch.

The public library began in 1900 as a public reading room and moved often in its first three decades. However, when it moved to Bay Street in 1926, it had a long run in what was then the oldest structure in town, the former staff headquarters of the old U.S. Army Fort Myers.

It was built sometime between 1841 and 1850, either during the Seminole Indian Wars, when the fort was named Fort Harvie, or later, when the fort was reestablished after being abandoned for several years.

It originally stood facing First Street at Jackson amid lush foliage, where the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center is today.

Many early settlers resided in the house over the decades, the last being Harvie Heitman, who died in 1922. The Heitman estate planned to build a 250-room luxury hotel on the site.

However, the economic woes delivered by the hurricane of 1926 and the stock market crash of 1929 intervened, so the project never materialized.

Instead, the estate sold the land and the old Heitman house was moved back, across Bay Street and the public library moved into it.

As for the old fort site, the Works Project Administration built a post office there, which opened in 1933. The structure has been an architectural jewel ever since.

In January 1939, as preparations for the construction of the yacht basin got underway, the public library moved to the American Legion Building on East First Street.

The old fort headquarters that had been home to so many people was demolished, taking a chunk of Fort Myers history with it.

Walk down to Bay and Jackson Street, once the scene of riverfront business, serious reading at the library, and childhood play.

Then head to the Southwest Florida Museum of History at 2031 Jackson Street to learn more about the public library’s early history.

Ask about the museum’s Evenings with an Egyptologist lecture series, a perfect complement to the ongoing Tutankhamun exhibit.

For information, call 321-7430 or go to swflmuseumofhistory.com. The museum’s hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

When researching local history or doing genealogical research, be sure to check out the Southwest Florida Historical Society at 10091 McGregor Boulevard.

The society would appreciate your help in completing its collection of the Fort Myers High School yearbook, The Caloosahatchian. Check your shelves and closets for years 1986 to 2005. Call 939-4044 or drop by on Wednesday or Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon.

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

During the 1930s, the Fort Myers Public Library was located near the northeast corner of Bay and Jackson streets. Kelly’s Seafood Market, to the left of the library, faced Jackson Street.

courtesy of the Southwest Florida Historical Society

Neither the public library nor the City Dock still exists at Jackson and Bay, but a new library complex is coming soon just a couple of blocks away

by Gerri Reaves

photo by Gerri Reaves
Kanzius Project Leads In Competition

The foundation will use the grant to hire a molecular biologist and a physicist. The money also would help publicize the progress being made on an invention that could treat and detect cancer without side effects.

The competition has been going on for a month. Votes are cast online and the competition for the money has been fierce.

Voting is easy.

- Log on to www.RefreshEverything.com/KanziusCancerResearch
- Click on the “vote for this idea” button. (If it is your first time on the site, follow the simple steps to register.)
- Be sure to click “vote for this idea” after you register.

Hodges University Hunger Summit

The third annual Hunger Summit, sponsored by the Harry Chapin Food Bank, will be held Friday, April 30 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Hodges University, Colonial Boulevard, Fort Myers. The all-day event will be attended by 130 people from area agencies providing food to families in need and other members of the community who are interested in fighting hunger.

The annual event will feature a Hunger Study Report, Hunger Task Force update, major issues, and reports from various groups. A special presentation will be made by John Arnold, executive director, Second Harvest Gleaners Food Bank of West Michigan, since 1989. This agency provides 1,150 charity agencies in 40 Michigan counties about 68,000 pounds of food per day.

Several years later, the food bank launched its widely copied mobile food pantry program. Arnold’s handbook, titled Charity Food Programs That Can End Hunger In America, and Web site, endhungerinamerica.org, is the food bank’s blueprint for ending hunger and is one of the results of the Waste Not Want Not Project Research. The research won the International City/County Management Association Award for Programs for the Disadvantaged.

Four workshops will be held in the afternoon. Workshop presenters include Ian Connell, OMC, community partner liaison, Department of Children and Families; Celia B. Hill, Lee County Extension Director, University of Florida; Christine Nolan, MSW district director, Catholic Charities of Lee, Hendry, and Glades counties; and Anne Douglas, director of Programs, Community Foundation of Southwest Florida.

Reservations for the Hunger Summit are required for attendance and may be made by contacting Suzanne Foster at 334-7007, ext. 29.

For additional information about the Harry Chapin Food Bank, call 334-7007 or go to harrychapinfoodbank.org.

EXPERIENCE GOURMET on MOTHER’S DAY

Share an amazing gourmet brunch or dinner with the special women in your life. The extravagant four-course brunch includes complimentary bellinis or mimosas and a rose for each mother at the table.

Show your appreciation on Mother’s Day with gifts from The Sandy Butler. Create personalized gift baskets from items in the gourmet market or treat the special women in your life to gift cards.

SUNDAY, MAY 9

Gourmet Brunch
$30. per person
10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Gourmet Dinner
5:00 - 9:00 P.M.

RESERVATIONS & DIRECTIONS:
239 482-6765 Ext. 1

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www.SandyButler.com

For up-to-date information on local beaches
Lee Genealogy Society Meeting

The Lee County Genealogy Society will be holding its monthly meeting on Thursday, May 20. The meeting will take place from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church, located at 4141 Deleon Street in Fort Myers.

The meeting is open to the public. There is no admission fee and refreshments will be served. For more information email GenHelp@LCGSFL.org.

Support Your Celebrity Waiters

The Edison Restaurant is hosting a Celebrity Waiter event on May 13 from 5 to 7 p.m. There will be free drinks and appetizers in addition to the celebrity waiters. All tips will go to Voices For Kids of Southwest Florida. All are invited. The Edison Restaurant is on McGregor Boulevard at Fort Myers Country Club.

Best Birding Sites

For more information call 707-3015 or log onto www.birdpatrol.org. This event is free and provided in cooperation with Lee County Parks and Recreation.

Bring binoculars, sun protection, shoes that can get wet, a bottle of drinking water, your curiosity and love of nature.

Kiwanis News

The Gateway to the Islands Kiwanis Club has recruited 47 restaurants in Lee County to offer dining discounts in a buy-one-get-one-free book that is available for $20. All discounts are valid now through November 15. All the profits from the book will go back to help local children and the community.

A few of the restaurants featured in the Delicious Dining Discounts book include Big Hickory, Bella Sera, Cantina Captiva, Waterside Seafood Grille, Buon Appetito, Luna Rossa and Coconuts.

“It is amazing that in such hard economic times these restaurants are still willing to help out,” said Viki Luster of the Gateway to the Islands Kiwanis Club. “We hope to get the community to respond in return. It is a win-win thing for everyone.”

To purchase a Delicious Dining Discount book, contact Gateway to the Islands Kiwanis Club at 494-5086. For the participating restaurants, go to the Web site www.kiwanisggti.com and click on the “Events” page.

Kiwanis is a global service organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time. The club is looking for more service-minded individuals and business professionals who would like to make a direct impact on the community through volunteering. Meetings are held every Tuesday at 11:45 a.m. call 415-3100 for information.

CINCO DE FIESTA!

Wednesday May 5

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5% OFF SHIPPING Please bring this ad in. Expires May 30, 2010
Adventure Camps Offer Hands-On Summer Fun

The Imaginarium Hands-On Museum & Aquarium and the Southwest Florida Museum of History will host a variety of summer camps again this year packed with interactive experiences, educational hands-on activities, special guests, demonstrations and exhibit exploration.

Camp Imaginarium & Fun at the Fort are offered Monday to Friday June 21 through August 20.

Weekly camp themes include Super Slime, Animal Adventures, Raucous Rockets, Gadgets & Gizmos, Architecture Adventure, Super Hero Science, Mythbusters, Under the Sea, Treasure Hunters, Dino Dig, Dig up the Past, Radical Robots and Magical Mysteries. The camps use an innovative curriculum integrating science, the arts, and humanities, to inspire the imagination and encourage a love of learning!

Both museums provide a positive and supportive learning environment with a high level of personal attention for each camper by museum education staff, certified teachers, and specially trained junior camp assistants. Campers are grouped by their upcoming grade level, which allows the staff to design appropriate academic curricula based on the Sunshine State Standards, and promotes, healthy social experiences for all campers.

Camp sessions for rising K-7th graders begin at 9 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. Pre-campers may be signed in as early as 8 a.m. Post-campers must be signed out by 5:30 p.m. Camp registration is on a first come first served basis and must be done in advance. Early registration and sibling discounts are available. Register at www.imaginariumfortmyers.com/camps or call 321-7410.

Conference On Early Childhood Education

Earl Child

child

hood educators, child care center directors and parents who want to learn more about early childhood education have until Friday, May 14 to register for the 15th annual Circles of Care Conference set for Saturday, May 22 at the Fort Myers campus of Edison State College.

The conference is presented by Child Care of Southwest Florida, Inc., in cooperation with Edison State College.

Motivational speaker Lee Knapp of Knapp Consultants in Fort Myers will be the keynote speaker. Knapp helps companies bring out the best in their employees. She has worked with Fortune 500 companies as a business coach and training specialist and specializes in people development.

Hands-on workshops are planned throughout the day to interest teachers working with all ages, from infants through school-age children. Other presenters include Jennifer Faber, who conducts school-age trainings throughout Florida, and Mar Harmon from Music with Mar.

Alva Community Center To Hold Summer Camp

Summer Camp at Alva Community Center offers a full day of excitement. Camp is for children ages six to 13 and begins at 7:30 a.m. and ends at 6 p.m. Day camp activities include arts and crafts, sports, organized games, quiet play, educational speakers, water activities, outdoor activities, field trips, skating, and swimming. To ensure your child’s safest experience possible, each carefully chosen camp counselor has passed a background check, and has undergone training in CPR/first aid.

Regular registration is $67 per week per child. Register online for 10 percent off per week ($60) at www.leeparks.org. Breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack are provided.

For more information call 728-2882. Only 60 spots are available per week. The Alva Community Center is at 21471 North River Road.
Sanibel And Captiva Residents Raise Over $231,000 For United Way

The Sanibel-Captiva volunteer campaign committee for the 2009-2010 United Way Campaign of Lee, Hendry and Glades announced that residents contributed $231,208 to the campaign. The announcement was made at a celebration held at ‘Tween Waters Inn on April 22.

Campaign committee members include co-chairs Tony Lapi and Bob Wigley and committee members Dick and Debbie Riley, and Tom and Linda Uhler who organized the volunteer effort. The Sanibel-Captiva campaign included 10 Alexis de Tocqueville members who give $10,000 or more annually, and 44 Keel Club Members who give $1,000 to $9,999 each year. The combined total of the money raised in Lee, Hendry and Glades counties was $8,022,330. Approximately 65 Sanibel and Captiva residents attended the hog roast at ‘Tween Waters Inn, which honored the Alexis de Tocqueville Society and Keel Club Members.

“Sanibel and Captiva residents dug deep when it was greatly needed. The United Way and its 72 partner agencies will help thousands of people because of the generosity of our islands. A successful campaign directly benefits our islands through the services provided by Sanibel FISH and agencies located in the Sanibel United Way House,” said Lapi.

“We are very proud to be part of a caring and generous community,” said Cliff Smith, president of United Way of Lee, Hendry and Glades. “We are pleased that we will be able to fully fund our 72 partner agencies. With the very difficult economy, more children, and families than ever before are in need of agency services. A heartfelt thank you to all of the contributors and volunteers who are active in the campaign and who support the United Way.”

In addition to raising funds for human service organizations in our community, the United Way promotes partnerships and collaborations among agencies and initiatives, helping them to work together focusing on issues and solutions that continue to improve lives.

The United Way of Lee, Hendry and Glades was established in 1957. For more information call 433-2000 or visit www.unitedwaylee.org.

Read us online at IslandSunNews.com

Letter Carrier Food Drive In Lee And Collier

Residents of Lee and Collier counties are encouraged to participate in the National Letter Carrier Food drive on Saturday, May 8. The Stamp Out Hunger drive is a tradition entering its 18th year of success and has become the largest one-day food drive in the country. The U.S. Postal Service is supporting the National Association of Letter Carriers food drive. Food collected in Lee County will be donated to the Harry Chapin Food Bank; Collier County’s food will go to Collier Harvest.

With current economic conditions, even more area citizens are struggling to provide the essentials for their families. This drive is especially important this year to those who have lost their jobs and to the millions more who face economic uncertainty. Over the past few months, more and more people are turning to food banks for assistance.

“Sanibel and Captiva residents dug deep when it was greatly needed. The United Way and its 72 partner agencies will help thousands of people because of the generosity of our islands. A successful campaign directly benefits our islands through the services provided by Sanibel FISH and agencies located in the Sanibel United Way House,” said Lapi.

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You’re Invited ... FREE Seminar

Roth IRA’s - Retirement can be Less Taxing!

A new tax law change makes 2010 a particularly good time to consider converting from a traditional, SEP or SIMPLE IRA to a Roth IRA.

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Please contact a qualified tax or legal professional regarding your situation.

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Date: Tuesday, May 4, 2010
Time: 12:00 - 1:00 pm
Location: 1952-2 Park Meadows Dr
Fort Myers, FL 33907
RSVP: RSVP to Jenn Moss at 239-5900

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15690 McGregor Boulevard
Fort Myers, 482-2030
Pastor: David Staton
Traditional services 9:00 a.m.;
Contemporary, 10:30 a.m.
Go south on McGregor Boulevard. The church is 1/2 mile past the intersection of
Glorieta and San Carlos Boulevard on the way to Sanibel.

FIRST CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST:
2390 West First Street, next door to Edison
Estates
Sunday Morning Service and Sunday
School, 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Evening Testimony Meeting,
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Child care provided at all services.
Visit our Reading Room for quiet study at:
2281 W. First Street, River District
www.spirituality.com and www.christian-science.com

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE:
13545 American Colony Boulevard (off
Daniels Parkway in the Colony),
Fort Myers, 936-2511
Pastor: Rev. Joey Brummert
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.; Morning
Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Evening, 6 p.m.
Pastors: Rev. Carl and Michael Butler;
A nondenominational church emphasizing
a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
Sunday Service: 9 a.m. Contemporary
10:45 a.m. Traditional

CHRIST THE KING
1188 Lake McGregor Drive, Fort Myers,
432-1724. Reverend N. Everett Keith II;
An Old Catholic Community, Liturgy in
English.
COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH:
2439 McGregor Boulevard, 334-8937
Rev. Dan Hageman, pastor
Traditional Sunday service 10 a.m.
Nursery available

CYPRUS LAKE BAPTIST CHURCH:
8400 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers,
481-2642
Danny Harvey, pastor
Sunday Services: Bible study, 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.
Wednesday Worship Meeting, 7 p.m.

CYPRUS LAKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH:
8280 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers,
481-3253.
Pastor: Dr. John St. Croix
Sunday services:
Traditional, 8 and 11 a.m.;
Contemporary, 9:30 a.m.
Children’s Church K4U (Kids for Jesus)
9:45 a.m.

CYPRUS LAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:
8570 Cypress Lake Drive,
Fort Myers, 482-1250
Sunday Traditional Service: 8 and
11 a.m., Praise Service: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School: All times

FAITH FELLOWSHIP WORLD OUTREACH MINISTRIES:
6111 South Pointe Boulevard, Fort Myers,
279-3638. Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m.;
“Voice of Faith” 15.3 FM Radio, Sunday,
1:30 p.m.
Thursday Service, 7:30 p.m.
Friday Youth Service, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday worship services:
Early Grace Traditional, 8 a.m.
Classic Grace Traditional, 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School God’s Group, 8:45 and
10 a.m.

MECKLENBURG REFORMED CHURCH:
Worship Gathering - Sunday 10 a.m.
Pastor Alan Bondar
Fort Myers Villas Civic Association Bldg.
2306 S. Fort Myers, 539-097
Phone/text: 220-8519
website: mecklenburgreformed.com
Bible Study - Wednesday 6:30 p.m.
Fellowship Lunch - Sunday noon
Microwave, Afternoon Tea - Tuesday 6:30 p.m.
c/website for podcasts, special events, mini-
steries, calendar, blogs, etc.

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH:
16120 San Carlos Boulevard, Unit 10B
791-6908
Tom Richards, Pastor
Sunday School for all ages 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7 p.m.
Sunday Evening Wednesday Project
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.; 10:45 a.m.
For more information visit: www.newhopefortmyers.org

PEACE COMMUNITY CHURCH:
(Meets at Ft. Myers Beach Masonic Lodge)
1725 Fifth Street, Fort Myers Beach
267-7400
Pastors: Bruce Merton, Gail and RC
Fleeman
Church School: 9:45 a.m.
Contemporary Worship 9:45 a.m.:
Contemporary Worship 11:15 a.m.
Phone: 267-7400 Fax: 267-7407
Web site: peacemunitychurch.com
email: peace1265@safe-mail.net

PRINCE OF PEACE: WORLD MISSIONS
15840 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers
Walter Still, Senior Pastor,
Sunday Worship: 8 and 9:30 a.m.
3/4 mile west of McGregor, San Carlos and Gladiolus.
A congregation of the ELCA.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH:
3950 Wellington Road, Fort Myers Beach
267-7400
Pastors: Bruce Merton, Gail and RC
Fleeman
Church School: 9:45 a.m.
Contemporary Worship 9:45 a.m.:
Contemporary Worship 11:15 a.m.
Phone: 267-7400 Fax: 267-7407
Web site: peacemunitychurch.com
email: peace1265@safe-mail.net

ST. COLUMBANUS CATHOLIC CHURCH:
12711 Iona Road, Fort Myers, off
McGregor and north of Gladiolus.
489-3973
Father Joseph Clifford.
Weekly mass:
Monday through Saturday 8 a.m.
Weekend masses: Saturday 3 and 5 p.m.;
Sunday: 7, 9, 11, and 5 p.m.
Reconciliation is available at the church on
Saturdays at noon and by appointment
SAINT JOHN THE APOSTLE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH:
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344-0112
Pastor Rev. Steve Filizzi
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Mid-Week Service, Wednesday 6:30 p.m.
ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL (LCMS):
3595 Broadway, Fort Myers
239-539-4717.
web: www.stmichaelftmyers.org
Wednesday Fellowship: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner $5, 6:15 p.m. bible studies
Worship, Saturday, 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 8 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. with 9:15 a.m.
adult and children’s Bible Study, plus
marriage enrichment studies, Divorce Care
on Thursdays from 7 to 8:30 p.m.
During Lent: Wednesday worship
noon and 6:15 p.m.

TEMPLE BELTHY SYNAGOGUE:
16225 Winkler Rd. 433-0018.
Rabbi Jeremy Barras
Consultant: Rabbi Joseph/Lynn Goldovitz
Shabbat Services, Friday, 7:30 p.m.
Torah Study, Saturday, 9:15 a.m.
Bar/Bat Mitzvah Services, Saturday,
10:30 a.m.
Religious Education Classes, Midweek.
Grades 2-7, Wednesday, 5:00-6:30 p.m.
Preschool Classes, Monday through Friday
Confirmation Classes, Wednesday,
5:30-6:30 p.m.
Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. to noon

TEMPLE JUDEA (CONSERVATIVE):
12050 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers,
433-0201.
Rabbi: Benjamin S. Sendrow,
Cantor: I. Victor Geigner.
Weekly services: Monday and Thursday,
9 a.m.; Friday, 6 p.m.
Saturday, 9 a.m.
Religious school Sunday, 9 a.m. to noon,
and Wednesday, 4:30 to 6 p.m.
Family Mizrach services on the first and
third Saturdays of the month.
Pre bar/bat mitzvah class Monday, 5:30 to
7 p.m., followed by confirmation class from
7:30 to 9 p.m.
For information on early childhood educa-
tion/preschool, phone 482-1121.

THE NEW CHURCH:
The New Church of SWFL is located at
10811 Sunset Plaza Circle, by Summerlin
and Pine Ridge Roads, behind Zoomers
and the ponds.
Reverend Nadine
Spiritual Recovery, Wednesdays 10 a.m.
Healing Service, Wednesdays 11 a.m.
Sundays.
For information call: 482-1121.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH FORT MYERS:
13411 Shire Lane (off Daniels Parkway one
mile west of I-75)
Monsignor: The Rev. Allson Farnum
Sunday services and religious education at
10:30 a.m.
For information on all church events call
567-9739 or visit www.newchurchfortmyers.org

UNITY OF BONITA SPRINGS CHURCH:
Family Service 10 to 11 a.m.
Healing Circle 11 a.m.
Hospitality and fellowship, 11 a.m.
Inspiring lesson, uplifting and dynamic
music, meditation in a loving environment.
Service held at 22825 Imperial Street,
Bonita Springs. Call 947-3100.
Lee County Public Education Foundation, a member of the board of directors of the Southwest Florida Community Foundation, and of the founding trustees of the Jewish Education Foundation. Catti is also trustee of the Horizon Council efforts in furthering education interests, was a member of the Constitutional Accountability Commission and is the current chairman of Good Works. Shimp is also credited with initiating the Lee County Schools Work Skills program.

In addition, he has been honored with the Distinguished Citizen of the Year Award by the Cape Coral Jaycees, the Richard McGlaughlin Award from the Florida Economic Development Council in 2005 and the Business Leadership Hall of Fame Laureate from Junior Achievement in 2005. Shimp founded Owen-Ames-Kimball Company in 1982.

Whitesman is an attorney and stockholder with Henderson Franklin Attorneys at Law. He will be chair of the tax section of The Florida Bar for the 2010-11 year beginning July 1, is board certified in tax law and has served as chairman of the Tax Law Certification Committee, which oversees the board certification process. Whitesman is also chair of Henderson Franklin’s Business Organizations & Planning, Tax, and Intellectual Property practice areas. For four consecutive years, he has been named by Florida Super Lawyers magazine as one of the top attorneys in Florida. He currently serves as trustee for the Southwest Florida Community Foundation and Edison-Ford Winter Estates Foundation, director of the Edison Pageant of Light Inc. and is one of the founding trustees of the Jewish Community Foundation of Southwest Florida. He is also trustee Emeritus of the Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium, past president of the Rotary Club of Fort Myers South and past president of the Jewish Federation of Lee County. He received his undergraduate and juris doctorate degrees from the University of Michigan and his L.L. M. in taxation from the University of Florida. He was admitted to The Florida Bar in 1981.

For more information, call 332-7687 or visit www.cmileeecounty.com.

From page 8

Chances/Temples

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH:
9065 Ligon Court, Fort Myers, across from HealthPark Hospital, 481-2125
Pastor: Interim Pastor Dr. Luder Whitlock
Sunday Service: 9:30 a.m., Contemporary; Worship and Adult Classes 11 a.m., Blended Worship
WORD OF LIFE CHURCH:
2120 Collier Ave, Fort Myers, 274-8881; Services; Sunday 10 a.m.; Wednesday 7 p.m.
DINOSAURS Gaspar and Michele Anastasi
ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH:
7401 Winkler Road, Fort Myers, 481-4040, Pastor, Steve Hess
Sunday Services: 8 a.m. traditional; 9:30 a.m. contemporary; 11 a.m. blendings.

CCMI Adds New Board Members

Steve Shimp Guy Whitesman

Three new members have been appointed to the board of directors for Community Cooperative Ministries Inc. CCMI is the umbrella agency for the Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry, Meals on Wheels, Senior Transportation, Montessori Preschool and Social and Homeless Services. Bank president Joe Catti, retired construction company president Steve Shimp and attorney Guy Whitesman recently joined CCMI’s board.

Catti is a director, president and CEO of FineMark Holdings Inc., and president and CEO of FineMark National Bank & Trust. A Florida native and graduate of Florida International University, he has 25 years of banking experience in Florida. Since moving to Fort Myers in 1992 he has been extensively involved in the Lee County community. He currently serves on the finance committee of the Lee Memorial Health System’s publicly-elected board of directors, is an executive and finance committee member of Lee Memorial Health System Foundation, and is a member and past chairman of Florida Gulf Coast University Foundation. Catti is a member of the Board of Directors of the Southwest Florida Community Foundation, as well as a member of the board of directors of the following institutions and organizations: Lee County Public Education Foundation, Cypress Cove, The Salvation Army, Abuse Counseling and Treatment, Lee Health Care Resources, and finance committee chairperson of the Edison Ford Winter Estates Foundation.

In 2005, he received the Lee County Philanthropist of the Year Award in the area of fundraising. Catti was also recognized by the Boys Scouts of America Distinguished Citizen of the Year Award for Lee and Collier counties in 2009. He was also campaign chairman for United Way of Lee, Hendry and Glades and served on the board of directors from 1999-2010.

Shimp, former president of Owen-Ames-Kimball Company, holds a bachelor’s degree from Dartmouth University, a Bachelor of Civil Engineering from Ohio State University and a Master of Science with a construction management emphasis. His military service encompasses assignments in the Officer Candidate Schools of the Ohio and Wisconsin Army National Guard. Shimp is well known for his many volunteer activities and for his support of educational initiatives. He has chaired the Foundation for Lee County Public Schools, Edison Community College’s Foundation and various Horizon Council efforts in furthering education interests, was a member of the Constitutional Accountability Commission and is the current chairman of Good Wheels. Shimp is also credited with initiating the Lee County Schools Work Skills program.

T"
Celebrate Cinco de Mayo at an all day fiesta at The Bar Association Bistro and Lounge.

Cinco de Mayo, which means the fifth of May in Spanish, commemorates the victory of the Mexican Militia over the French Army at the Battle of Puebla in 1862. It is a celebration of freedom and liberty that includes traditional food, music and dancing.

The Bar Association opens its doors at 11 a.m. on Wednesday for a day-long celebration of Mexican food, fun and music. Ample parking is available in the lot across from the restaurant and all over downtown. Beginning at 6 p.m., a block party organized by several of the River District’s businesses, including The Bar Association, gets underway.

Directions: from McGregor Boulevard, continue straight through the intersection at Cleveland Avenue, where McGregor turns into Martin Luther King Boulevard. Make a left onto Hendry Street. The parking lot is on Hendry between Second Street and Main.

Along The River

Treat your mother to a gourmet Mother’s Day brunch or dinner at The Sandy Butler.

The Sandy Butler is located at 1609 Hendry Street, Fort Myers in the historic Peeples Courtyard. It opens at 11 a.m. Tuesday through Sunday. Call 334-8080.

Treat your mother to an exquisite gourmet meal at The Sandy Butler Restaurant this Mother’s Day. On Sunday, May 9, the restaurant offers a four course brunch from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. which is served with a complimentary Bellini or Mimosa.

First Course: Mixed berry Parfait with Mascarpone cream or Poached Pear with Amaretto and Vanilla Bean Mousse.

Second Course: Chocolate Chip Pancake or Blueberry Waffle.

Third Course: Smoked Salmon and Chive Omelet topped with Boursin cream Sauce, Quiche Lorraine or Oscar Benedict.

Forth Course: Chicken Pot Pie, Sole Amandine or Beef Burgundy over Pappardelle pasta.

The Sandy Butler Restaurant is also serving a gourmet Mother’s Day dinner from 5 to 9 p.m.

The Sandy Butler Gourmet Market and Restaurant is located at 17650 San Carlos Boulevard, Fort Myers. For reservations and directions, call 463-6765.

Ugly’s Waterside Bar, the place “where everybody gets prettier,” features happy hour with live music from 6 to 10 p.m. The waterside bar is located at Nervous Nellie’s Crazy Waterfront Eatery on Fort Myers Beach and is open all day.

Friday, April 30 features Vytas Vibe; on Saturday, Mark Kobie; on Sunday, The Oysters; on Tuesday, Chucky from Kentucky; on Wednesday, the Hightide Band; and on Thursday, The Oysters. Nervous Nellie’s features regga with No Way Jose every Sunday for brunch/lunch.

Directions to Nellie’s: after crossing the bridge to Fort Myers Beach, take your first two right turns and follow First Street to the waterfront. You can’t miss it!

Nervous Nellie’s Crazy Waterfront Eatery is open for Sunday brunch, lunch, dinner and snacks in between. Call 463-8077 or go to www.nervousnells.net.

If you are too tired to drive after a day or night out in Fort Myers Beach, call Errol’s Taxi for a safe ride home. The 24-hour taxi service offers transportation all around Southwest Florida, including Fort Myers Beach, Sanibel and Captiva Islands. Call 770-3333.

Art Center’s Annual Gala

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center’s (SBDAC) annual gala is scheduled for November 6. Proceeds will benefit the restoration of the art center’s historic building located in the downtown historic River District of Fort Myers. The theme for the event is Illuminating an Era of Art III.

Designed by prominent Florida architect Nat Gaillard Walker, the Old Post Office opened in 1933 as one of the nation’s finest neoclassical revival structures. It was converted to a federal courthouse in 1965 and later vacated in 1998. Many of its original fixtures were removed or destroyed and the building fell into disrepair until the art center took over it, dedicated to its preservation with the creation of a community cultural center.

The final restoration phase will stop deterioration of the building’s historic elements, preserve this community gem, and complete the transformation of a once-abandoned building into a modern arts facility.

The art center has been under renovations since 2003 and, upon completion, will feature 23,000 square feet of studio, performance, classroom, and community event space.

Volunteers are needed for seasonal events and programming. Contact Kathy Robinson at 333-1933 for more information or go to www.sbdac.com.
Sanibel Residents Give Scholarship For Environment

Sheryl and Donald “Chip” Lesch

The Florida Gulf Coast University Foundation recently received a generous gift from Sanibel residents Donald and Sheryl Lesch to establish a scholarship fund that will benefit students who plan careers in environmental science.

The couple donated $15,000 to create the Sheryl and Donald A. Lesch Scholarship Endowed Fund, proceeds of which will provide scholarships to undergraduate or graduate students majoring in environmental studies or environmental science. Preference will be given to employees and family members of JN “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge, Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife and Sanibel-Captiva Land and Wildlife Conservation.

Donald Lesch serves as vice chairperson of the FGCU Foundation. He and his wife were motivated to give, he says, because “We realized FGCU is the epicenter of community life, culturally and educationally. The university has done so much for the community. There is not an area the university does not touch,” he said. “It is a good time to give and we expect that the scholarship will pay many benefits over the years. We hope that others will be inspired to join us in doing something for the university, too,” Lesch added.

New Marine Enhancement Center In Volusia

A $900,000 project to convert a former Volusia County high school to the Mosquito Lagoon Marine Enhancement Center is good to go. Funding is in place to begin construction this summer.

The Wildlife Foundation of Florida spearheaded organizing public and private partners, including approach-

John Naumann & Associates
island real estate

Exclusive Riverfront Estate
Located in St Charles Harbour, this 6400+ square foot home offers outstanding river views, private 80 ft. pier, 4 car garage, 2 fireplaces, huge pool area with outdoor kitchen, private guest suite, 2 laundry rooms, butler pantry, whole house generator. Additional dock available in central marina. MUST See. Priced reduced to $4,595,000.

Private Yachting Community Courtyard Estate
Located in the private Yachting Community of St. Charles Harbour, this 2 story courtyard estate features 4 bedroom suites, a walk-in wine cooler, game room, exercise room and private courtyard with a summer kitchen and heated pool/spa. Priced reduced $100,000 - $1,795,000

Villa Lot or House/Lot Combo
The last remaining Villa lot in St. Charles Harbour Expansive views of the Marina and down the canal. Buy the lot and build your own dream home or purchase a completed Villa. Plans available for review. Lot only $565,000 Villa/Lot $1,395,000

SOLD Properties for week of 4/19
Heron at The Sanctuary Condominium - Sanibel
Seawinds Condominium - Sanibel
Single Family Home - New Castle/Crown Colony - Ft. Myers
Single Family Home - SE Cape Coral
Single Family Home - NE Cape Coral

Periwinkle Office Condominiums
2 Office Condominiums available in high profile office building on Periwinkle (each is over 1200 s.f.) Each features a reception area, multiple offices and central work area, wood floors, new carpet, built-ins. Great location, easy off and on the island Suite A $340,000 Suite C $365,000

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Our E-Mail address is press@RiverWeekly.com
Tourney A Test Of Snook Recovery
by Capt. Matt Mitchell

For the first time in months I spent time fishing and scouting for snook for the Cabbage Key 2010 Fingers O’Bannon Memorial Snook Tournament last week. With some of the best snook anglers in town entered it was going to be a good indication of how our snook stocks hold up after the freeze. In general there were more quality fish caught than I expected. Even though the bite was pretty slow with 15 of the 46 teams entered not catching a snook of any size on the first day, there were still good numbers of fish over the 33-inch slot caught and released.

The tournament format was all catch and release with one fish per day per team to be measured, photographed and carefully released unharmed. The most total inches for two fish over the two days of fishing was the winner. The usual format of this tournament is to bring in two-slot sized fish per day which are weighed and then released, but with the emergency closure of our spring snook season, the format had to be changed.

Day one of the tournament we got on a pretty good bite catching five snook within a half hour of pulling up at our first spot. Over the two days we caught three slot sized fish and only seven snook total. Our biggest fish measured only 32 inches. Fishing was not on fire by any means. I did see good numbers of snook when I was out scouting but the fish seemed to be very spread out and were on the move. Though not in the big numbers of previous years, I still saw more snook than I expected scattered all over our area.

Congratulations to Team Lake and Bay Boats which won the tournament with a total of 78 inches. Day One they measured a 37-inch, then a monster 41-inch on day two that turned out to be the biggest fish caught over the two-day tournament. Thanks again to the Wells family for another great time at Cabbage Key.

Trotting remains the best I have seen in years with some real “gator trout” all over the area. While trying to catch snook over the last few days we caught many big trout all of the 23-inch-plus variety. The trout are simply all over, from mangroves and flats to the passes and the beach snags. Use live baits including big live shiners and medium-small pilchifish if you’re looking for the really big ones. Both freeline and fishing under a float work depending on the depth of water you are targeting them in.

Tarpon fever is starting to heat up with reports of fish both gulfside and in the bay. While I was running around the sound this week searching for snook I saw quite a few free-jumping fish. Reports from other fishing guides were of good numbers of tarpon in all the usual places though the majority of the fish reported were in the south end of the sound and down south between Knapp’s Point and Fort Myers Beach. With the water temperature at least five degrees cooler than it was this time last year I am surprised there are so many tarpon around already. I am very excited about changing it up and chasing tarpon this week.

After months of trout, redfish and sheepshead, my favorite type of fishing of the year is about to be in full swing.

Capt. Matt Mitchell moved to Sanibel in 1980 and has fished local waters for more than 25 years. He now lives in St. James City and has worked as a back country fishing guide for more than 10 years. If you have comments or questions email captmattmitchell@aol.com.
Tyler Haisman was riding his scooter in his yard in Fort Myers on April 7 when he heard a “squeak” come from the grass.

He went over to his mother, Tina, and said, “Mom, I think I found a mouse.”

They walked over together and found a little eastern cottontail. “He was buried in the grass, and we dug him out,” said Tina, who noticed one of his back legs didn’t quite look right. “You can’t imagine how tiny he was – he really fit in the palm of my hand.”

She went online to research rabbits and also put in a call to CROW.

In the morning the 65-gram creature was in the same place, and so Tina took him to the vet clinic at Miracle Mile, a CROW drop-off site.

At CROW it was determined that he had fractures in a front leg as well as a back leg. “That’s pretty significant when you weigh about two ounces,” said Veterinarian Dr. PJ Deitschel. “Needless to say, the first thing we did was get him pain medication.”

Staff gave him Rebound, an electrolyte solution which quickly rehydrates the body, as well as Rescue Remedy (with Bach Flowers) to calm the panic.

On Day 3, after giving him time to stabilize, Dr. Amber McNamara put him under anesthesia and took a radiograph. Looking at the x-ray, they could see that the front fracture was so displaced that it required a splint.

The back fracture was in an area that made it impractical to splint, but they felt confident, from past cases, that it would heal well by itself.

The key to recovery would be providing the right type of supportive care. Success rates with rabbits tend to be less than with other animals in many wildlife hospitals around the U.S. because these creatures are so high stress; they don’t feel very relaxed sitting in a cage when there is a hawk across the aisle, and a raccoon, perhaps, ambling around on the floor above.

Over the years Dr. PJ and the CROW staff have developed a system that improves the recovery rate, and CROW has become a model for other organizations in Southwest Florida.

“The key is good husbandry,” Dr. PJ said. “It’s important to provide the right food and the right environment. That’s good medicine.”

In the new hospital at CROW there is a private and quiet Rabbit Room removed from the other animals. They use a milk formulated especially for cottontails, and a salad-blend hay from Oxbow, among other custom-designed features.

By Day 7 the rabbit was “eating everything” in sight, including monkey biscuits, greens, and hay. They discontinued the pain medication and put him in a minimal handling hutch.

On Day 10 they took another radiograph, which revealed healing bones. A callus had formed to stabilize the fractured areas.

The very next day the cottontail was sitting happily on top of his hide box in his hutch. “It was unbelievable to see him jumping around in such a short time,” said Dr. PJ.

Meanwhile Tina and Tyler called in for updates, and Drs. PJ and Amber were able to give them favorable news.

On April 25 CROW released the rabbit back to Fort Myers. “They let you know when they’re ready,” Dr. PJ said. “If you keep them too long, they can hurt themselves.”

“I am a huge blessing,” said Tina. “We are so grateful. They love the animals enough that the vet was able to get on the phone and talk, which is a special learning experience about caring for animals.”

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 PO Box 150, Sanibel, FL 33957. Call 472-3644 or visit: www.crowclinic.org.

“Best of the Best, 2003
- New York Times

“Best of the Islands Awards 2009
- Time Out, New York
- Naples Daily News

“BEST CHEF” Best Of The Islands Awards 2009
“MOST ROMANTIC” RESTAURANT - Best Of The Islands Awards 2009

~ Specials Prepared Daily ~

“Fresh ingredients, simplicity, love... the recipe for a treasured dining experience” - Chef AJ

751 Tarpon Bay Rd, Sanibel
Reservations ~ 395-4022
www.itTesoro.net
Marsh-Pink

by Gerri Reaves

Marsh-pink (*Sabatia stellaris*) is a star-shaped member of the gentian family whose blooms can be seen throughout the year in south Florida. Keep an eye out for this lovely wildflower in freshwater wetlands, coastal marshes, and even undeveloped lots around town.

Also called rose-of-Plymouth, its flowering peaks in summer.

The flowers are one to one and one-half inch across and have five to six petals. They range in color from pink to white, appearing on delicate erect stems that reach one to two feet tall.

One of the flower’s most striking features is the red jagged line that borders the yellow center. The lance-shaped smooth leaves grow at right angles to one another.

This hardy no-maintenance flower will grow well in a moist wildflower garden with rich soil. Plant it in full sun to create a landscape dotted with pink stars all year.

South Florida Marsh-pink blooms sporadically throughout the year in South Florida photos by Gerri Reaves

Captive Cruises Environmental Education

Science at Sea Cruise

Be a marine biologist during this 90-minute hands-on scientific inquiry. Crab traps and plankton nets will be hauled for a look at some of the components of the food chains. Use compasses for navigational aids and magnifying viewers to see the things we can’t usually see.

Take part in actual scientific research that will be utilized by The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation’s Marine Lab.

Shoreline Discovery Cruise

Travel to a secluded beach for a guided shoreline walk to discuss coastal sea life and beach dynamics. Explore mudflats and use nets within the shallow sea grass beds for an up-close look at some of the smaller yet amazing inhabitants of the back bay estuary ecosystem. Bring wading shoes and your sense of adventure for this hands-on sea life encounter.

Sailing Under The Stars Cruise

Watch the sunset, experience day turning into night, linger out on the water and sail under the stars. Planets, stars and constellations will be identified along the way. Mythology, mysteries and features of our Milky Way Galaxy, as well as the greater universe, will be appreciated under the magic of the night sky.

Additional information can be obtained at www.captivacruises.com. Reservations are required.

Encouraging News For The Florida Panther

With spring in full bloom, some positive signs have emerged about Florida’s endangered panther. Biologists with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and Big Cypress National Preserve (BCNP) have been busy documenting active Florida panther dens filled with kittens.

A total of four dens, with three kittens apiece, have been documented so far in 2010. These particular dens were found in palmetto thickets in Picayune Strand State Forest and BCNP in Collier County. The kittens stay in the den for about two months, after which they begin following their mother to kills and begin the weaning process. Kittens stay with their mother for about 14 months. Males disperse away from their natal range, sometimes covering hundreds of miles before settling into their own home range.

It’s quite rewarding when we can follow Florida panthers throughout their lives,” said FWC panther biologist Mark Lotz. “Active dens are tangible evidence that the Florida panther is reproducing. We learn so much about Panthers when we track them from birth through adulthood.”

Details on this year’s births can be found at www.FloridaPantherNet.org; click on “Panther Pulse.”

State funding for panther research and monitoring comes from fees collected when Florida residents purchase panther specialty license plates. Visit www.buyaplate.com for more information.

To report dead or injured panthers call the Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-3922.

Read us online at IslandSunNews.com
Fish Caught

Lauren Tucker of Columbus, Indiana fought what turned out to be a seven-foot sand shark with Captain Jimmy Burnsed. The shark was caught during Lauren’s spring break.

Captain Jim charters out of Jensen’s Twin Palms Marina.

The catch was made near Blind Pass, fishing on the bottom with cut lady fish.

Tarpon Bay Tour Schedule Changes

With season officially over, Tarpon Bay Explorers has changed its tour schedule as follows:

- Kayak Trail Tour: Daily 8:30 and 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- Sunset Rookery Paddle: Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6 p.m.
- Breakfast Cruise: Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8:30 a.m.
- Nature and Sea Life Cruise: Daily 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
- Evening Cruise: Daily 6 p.m.
- Aquarium and Touch Tank: Daily 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. and Monday through Friday, 3 p.m.
- Refuge Tram Tour: Daily (except Friday) 10 a.m., 11 a.m., noon, 2, 3 and 4 p.m.

Ostego Bay Marine Science Camps

The Ostego Bay Foundation Marine Science Center has finalized plans for the 2010 Marine Summer Camp. The center is offering another season of camps for children ages six and up. All instructional materials will be provided and a graduation luncheon will be held on Fridays.

Children can explore the beautiful barrier Islands and the waters of Estero Bay. Field and beach trips will introduce campers to sea grass communities, plankton populations, mangrove tangles and bird nesting areas. The staff of state-certified teachers offers a wide diversity of expertise providing highly personalized instruction. Camp runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Dates:
- Sea Stars Camp: (finished K to eight years) June 28 to July 2
- Tiger Sharks Camp: (ages 11 and up) July 12-16
- Loggerheads Camp: (ages nine to 11) July 19-23
- Sea Stars Camp: (Finished K to eight years) July 26 to 30
- Loggerheads Camp: (ages nine to 11) August 2-6
- Adult Surfrun Camp, minimum of five participants, reservations are required.

For an application, call 765-0181 or log onto www.ostegobay.org.

BOAT RENTALS

Fishing • Cabbage Key
Dolphin Watching
Captains Available

472-5800
Jensen’s Marina
Captiva Island
Under The Influence: Daniel Calvert, Joshua Myers And Paul Rodino

In May, the Alliance for the Arts presents a photography exhibition featuring three local artists' exploration of various photographic techniques. Under the Influence: Daniel Calvert, Joshua Myers and Paul Rodino opens on May 7 with a special opening reception from 5 to 7:30 p.m. The exhibition will be on display May 7-29 at the Alliance for the Arts, on the corner of Colonial and McGrego boulevards, Fort Myers.

Under the Influence encompasses three artists' work concentrating on the photographic image. Calvert, Myers and Rodino initiate their artistic process with a single digital image then apply manipulation, layers and rendering to further represent their vision.

Daniel Calvert was introduced to the art of photography growing up a block away from Des Moines Art Center where work from artist such as Hopper, Wood, Bresson and Rauschenberg regularly adorned the gallery walls. His largest influence and formal training occurred under photographer Archie Lieberman. Today, Calvert lives blocks away from downtown Fort Myers where he is inspired by the aesthetically and philosophically pleasing subjects and landscapes of the area.

An artist living in the Fort Myers, Joshua Myers is best known for his photography which has been published in magazines and displayed in galleries around Florida and the US. Myers received the Merit Award from Black & White magazine’s Single Image Contests in 2005 and 2009 and has received additional awards in gallery competitions around the state. He currently serves on the board of directors of two local art organizations and is passionate about donating time and artwork to local charitable events and causes, notably those that support cancer research and treatments.

Paul Rodino explains his work as, “A sum of all the individual items, colors, shapes and experiences I’ve witnessed up till now and represent the magic I find in the everyday.” His past influences span from pop culture during the Beatles era to the introduction of the Walkman, Kodak Instamatic and Polaroid camera. He describes his inspiration with photography as, “Collecting moments in everyday life. Each one becoming its own keepsake, these slices of time are what I hold dear in my ever-expanding cabinet of photography.”

The opening reception will be catered by LaMotta’s Italian Restaurant & Pizza.

To find out more about these artists and upcoming exhibits visit www.ArtInLee.org or call 939-2787.

May Programs At Lakes Regional Library

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

**Adults**

**English Café**
6 p.m., Mondays, May 3, 10, 17, 24
Practice your English with English Cafe, a free, conversation session for adult ESOL and ESL students. Each 90-minute session provides adult learners an opportunity to practice speaking English with native speakers.

**Book Discussion: Sarah Shin-Lien Bynum’s Ms. Hempel Chronicles**
2 p.m., Tuesday, May 18
Ms. Beatrice Hempel, teacher of seventh grade, is new – new to teaching, new to the school, newly engaged, and newly bereft of her idiosyncratic father. Grappling awkwardly with her newness, she struggles to figure out what is expected of her in life and at work. Registration is required.

**Wii Bowling for Adults**
10 a.m., Thursday, May 27
Have fun bowling on the big screen with the Wii gaming system. No heavy balls to lift, and just as much fun. Sponsored by the Friends of Lakes Regional Library. Registration is required.

**Family Storytime**
11 a.m. Wednesdays, May 5, 12
This program is for the whole family and lasts about 30 minutes. Registration is required.

**Children**

**Preschool Storytime**
11 a.m. Tuesdays, May 4, 11
Preschoolers (ages 3-5) attend this 30-minute storytime independently while parents or caregivers wait nearby in the library building.

**Kids Read Down Fines**
2 - 3 p.m., Saturday, May 15
Children and teens can earn a $2 coupon for every 15 minutes of reading during the allotted time in the designated area of the library. For ages 18 and younger. Coupons may be applied to cards issued to patrons age 18 and under only.

**Angelina Ballerina**
10:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 18
Angelina Ballerina is a little dancer with a big heart. Celebrate her adventures with stories, games and a special craft. Come dressed in your tutu if you wish. For ages 2-5. Registration is required.

**Meet Frog and Toad**
10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 22
10:30 a.m. Monday, May 24
10:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 25
Frog and Toad are best friends, and they’re coming to Lakes Regional Library.

May Programs at Fort Myers Library

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

**Adults**

**Card Stitching - Easy and Elegant**
10 a.m., Tuesday, May 4
Learn the basics of traditional card stitching and make a beautiful piece for greeting cards or framing.

**Book Discussion: Cornelia Read’s Crazy School**
Noon, Wednesday, May 19
Second Helpings – The books to be read this year are the second novels of debut novelists tread in this book discussion group during the past several years.

**Small Business Series: Understanding Financial Statements**
2 p.m. Monday, May 24
Topic: Profit & Loss Statement, Balance Sheets, Cash Flow, Breakeven and Forecasting and how to use them. Registration is requested.

**Preparing for Genealogical Searches on the Internet**
10 a.m. Saturday, May 29
The Internet is a wonderful research tool for locating ancestors, as long as you know its limitations. Success depends on how much time is spent gathering relevant data about your family and knowing what pre-search strategies to follow. This seminar will focus on the steps necessary to facilitate a successful search and suggest ways to get around the inevitable brick walls that develop when you don’t always find ancestors where they are supposed to be.

**Family Storytime**
10:30 a.m. Wednesdays, May 5, 12
This program is for the whole family and lasts about 30 minutes. Registration is required.

**Baby-Parent Rhyme Time**
2 - 3 p.m., Monday, May 3
Songs designed to introduce rhyming and movement to infants. Registration is required.

**Kids Read Down Fines**
5-6 p.m. Wednesday, May 12
Children and teens can earn a $2 coupon for every 15 minutes of reading during the allotted time in the designated area of the library.

**Wacky Wednesday: Suncatcher Craft**
4:45 p.m. Wednesday, May 19
Make a beautiful crystal suncatcher to dress up your kitchen or bedroom window or give it as a gift to someone special. For ages 6-12. Registration is required.

**Teens**

**Papier Maché African Mask**
5 p.m. Wednesday, May 5
Book Review

Buell Lee Whitehead: Printmaker, Lithographer, Artist, A True Southern Treasure

by Priscilla Friedersdorf

A uthor and collector Ronald Newsom has compiled a fine tribute to artist Buell Lee Whitehead. This book, Buell Lee Whitehead, A True Southern Treasure, contains exquisite color reproductions of the artist’s work which spans 50 years.

Newsom writes, “He (Whitehead) excelled in charcoal, oil, pastels ‘and engravings to name a few, however his love was lithographs…”

The book, in representing the artist’s works, also traces his life; he was born in the Florida panhandle town of Panama City in 1919 and very early on his family migrated to a little farm near Fort Myers. Buell and his family suffered many setbacks: a hurricane destroyed their home; work was hard: and hard to come by during the Depression; and he nearly died from a farm accident. Possibly his long recuperation during childhood enabled him to develop artistic powers of observation. These were fostered during his teen years in the Fort Myers school system.

The author, Ronald Newsom, began collecting the artist’s work when he found a print of Pig Snatcher at a Fort Myers garage sale. “My love for art and the old south helped me realize the true quality of Buell’s work,” he says.

Buell’s art was not static or predictable like the work of many famous artists; he was continually exploring different techniques and representations. This is what makes this book such a treasure. It is hard to believe that the same artist in the year 1946 created such disparate painting styles: pale ghostly images of Seminole Family contrast with Wood Choppers, which has a George Bellows ruggedness, and his Western lithographs are reminiscent of Georgia O’Keele.

Travelling the country, he began selling his work door to door and Newsom documents his emergence as a successful and well known artist whose lithographs were displayed in galleries and purchased by major hotels. Nevertheless he continued his cross-country sales route.

“At the age of 32 he had sold more pictures than any other artist his age in the United States.”

Buell’s life as so carefully researched by Newsom is a fascinating-story of man from humble beginnings who attained nearly everything he sought in life: artistic excellence and education in our country’s finest universities and art academies. He was the first graduate from the University of Florida to earn a Masters of Fine Arts. However, his campaign to become a Lee County judge was his last attempt at public office.

This very readable and beautifully illustrated book by Ronald Newsom will be enjoyed by artists, historians and those of us who appreciate a well written and carefully researched biography.
As Red Sox Falter, Rumors Abound That Ortiz May Be On Trading Bloc

by Ed Frank

Struggling, falling six games out of first place after just 19 games into the new season, the Boston Red Sox appear in desperate straits.

So don’t be surprised if the Red Sox part ways with David Ortiz if a trade can be made for the big slugger who began the week batting a measly .160 with only one home run and four RBIs.

Big Papi, once a hero in the Red Sox Nation with those monstrous home runs, is in the final year of a four-year deal that pays him $12.5 million a year with a club option of another $12.5 million in 2011.

It’s a foregone conclusion that Boston will not exercise that option. More likely, they will seek a trade for the big man this year. But with that big salary, and unless Ortiz starts hitting, his value is questionable.

There were reports last week that the Red Sox were shopping for a catcher after allowing 38 of 39 attempted stolen bases. That includes 14 in a three-game series against the Texas Rangers.

As the week began, the Red Sox had an 8-11 record, six games behind the Tampa Bay Rays who owned the best record in baseball at 14-5. They also trailed arch-rival New York by 4-1/2 games in the American League Eastern Division.

Perhaps it’s too early in the season to drop the curtain on Ortiz as he started poorly last year, but ended the season batting .238 with 99 RBIs and 28 home runs. That type of run production cannot be ignored.

However, his slumping start this year caused Red Sox manager Terry Francona to pinch-hit for him last week when the game was on the line. Then, with the Rangers throwing left-handed pitching the next two games, Ortiz wasn’t in the lineup.

He admitted that being pinch-hit for was a tough blow. He told MLB.com that it was the first time it had happened since he came to the Red Sox in 2003.

“It was my first embarrassing moment wearing this uniform. We were looking for a win and I wasn’t swinging the bat very good. The manager sometimes has to make a decision,” he said.

Big Papi came to the Red Sox when the Minnesota Twins let him go after the 2002 season. Former Twins general manager Terry Ryan admitted later that it was a mistake.

Ortiz came up through the Twins organization and played here in 1997 for the Fort Myers Miracle when he advanced all the way to the majors in that single season.

His booming bat was a major factor in the Red Sox World Series titles in 2004 and 2007. From 2003 through last season, Ortiz hit a total of 259 home runs and knocked in 713 runs.

But those figures are yesterday’s news. The Red Sox need help today, and it will come as no surprise if Big Papi is traded.

**Miracle Continue to Struggle**

The Fort Myers Miracle started this week with a 5-11 season record after a tough weekend series at home when they lost two straight to the Palm Beach Cardinals.

The lack of hitting has been the principal problem for the Miracle in this young season.

After completing a nine-game home stand Monday, the team is on the road this week, returning to Hammond Stadium next Monday for six games – three against Jupiter and three against St. Lucie. All are 7:05 p.m. starts.

Our E-Mail address is press@RiverWeekly.com
Take A Run On Memorial Day

Join the Fort Myers Recreation Division, in partnership with the Fort Myers Track Club, for the 5K Memorial Day Run on the Green which will be held at Eastwood Golf Course and located beside the Calusa Nature Center at 4600 Bruce Herd Lane in Fort Myers just off of Ortiz Boulevard. Here’s your opportunity for a one-of-a-kind trip through one of the city’s finest golf courses. The route will take you through the back 9 and finish at the clubhouse. Medals will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finish in each age group.

Registrants will receive a race T-shirt, race course map, post-race refreshments and be eligible for door prizes if present after the race.

The run will be on Monday, May 31, check in at 6:30 a.m. start time 7:30 a.m. Entry fee is $20 prior to May 25. Fee is $25 on race day. Register online at www.ftmyerstrackclub.com.

Annual Parkinson Golf Challenge

The 12th annual Parkinson Association of Southwest Florida, Inc. (PASFI) Golf Challenge will be held Saturday, May 8 at the Club at Mediterra. Registration is at 8 a.m. and the shotgun start is at 9 a.m.

The cost is $225 per golfer or $800 for a team of four players. This includes continental breakfast and luncheon buffet. The Golf Committee is challenging the Southwest Florida community to help raise $50,000 for programs and services that will improve the quality of life for residents with Parkinson disease and their care partners.

The Parkinson Association of Southwest Florida, Inc. (PASFI) is a predominately volunteer organization providing most programs and services free of charge to over 1,000 families.

Call 254-7791 or visit www.pasfi.org for a registration form. For more information call Curt Edwards, Golf Challenge chairman, 596-7154.

Cape Coral Sprint Triathlon

The Cape Coral Parks & Recreation triathlon will travel through the beautiful historic part of Cape Coral. Check-in will be at 6:15 a.m. on Saturday, May 15 and the race will begin at 7 a.m. The event will include a 1/4-mile swim in the river, biking 12 miles and a 5K run. An awards ceremony and music will follow the event.

To register visit Active.com or call Cape Coral Yacht Club at 574-086.

Cost for adults is $45 and $25 for ages 10 to 17. Registrations for Cape Coral Yacht Pavilion and Beach, Yacht Club Community Park, 5819 Driftwood Parkway. Call 574-0806.

Chocolate Gala Benefit For Alzheimer Center

Sweet Memories: Pirates, Pearls & Paradise will be held May 1 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. to benefit the Dubin Alzheimer’s Resource Center. The gala will be held at Heritage Palms Golf & Country Club, 10420 Washingtonia Palm Way in Fort Myers.

This event will offer an opportunity to sample delectable chocolate creations by area chefs and bakers, including Cypress Lake Country Club, Heritage Palms Country Club, Irresistible Confections, and The Flying Pig.

Participants can bid on an array of items and beautiful baskets donated by local shops and businesses at the silent auction and live auctions to benefit Alzheimer’s programs in Lee County. Ticket contributions also includes lavish hors d’oeuvres throughout the evening.

Len Jennings and Stacey Deffenbaugh, ABC 7 news anchors, will serve as hosts for the evening. The gala is sponsored by Arden Courts Alzheimer’s Assisted Living and The Palms.

Tickets are $75 per person. Sponsorship opportunities are available, including table sponsors of $1,000 which includes a table for eight. Fun attire to complement the pirates, pearls, and paradise theme is suggested.

The Dubin Alzheimer’s Resource Center, a United Way partner agency, provides a variety of services including support groups, a quarterly newsletter, a lending library of books and resource materials, a Safety Program, educational seminars, and training programs for professionals as well as family caregivers.

All funds raised to benefit the Dubin Alzheimer’s Resource Center are used to provide services in the local Lee County area.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 437-3007.

High Tech Central Students Win At SkillsUSA State Championships

The following students from Lee County High Tech Center Central won gold medals at the Florida SkillsUSA Skills Championships held in Bradenton April 19-21.

The first place students were: Jay Caruthers, electronic technology, post-secondary; Joe Johnson, carpentry, High School; Will Jewel, carpentry, post-secondary; and Jennifer Meyers, American Spirit Contest, post-secondary.

They will represent High Tech Central and the State of Florida at the national championships to be held in Kansas City, Missouri, June 20-25.

SkillsUSA is a national career and technical student organization serving a quarter million high school and post-secondary students who are enrolled in technical, skilled, and service occupations schools throughout the country.

The SkillsUSA Championships are designed to evaluate a student’s ability in his/her chosen field of study and urges them to take pride in their work. It also provides prospective employers with an opportunity to see dedicated, motivated potential employees at work.

Dodgeball At Bay Oaks

Beginning on May 12, Bay Oaks Recreation Campus on Fort Myers Beach will be hosting a dodgeball league. The league will be an adult coed league, 6 on 6. The cost is $200 per team and that includes league fees and team shirt.

Registration ends on May 3. For more information or to sign up call 560-8989.

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Happy Apps $5.95

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The RIVER APRIL 30, 2010 | 19
Visions Opens At Davis Art Center

• Sandi Badash has done one-woman shows around the country in California, Connecticut, New York, and Arizona, as well as in Cambridge, England.
• Patricia Mulko, of France, has had exhibits all over Europe, at Agora Gallery in New York, and Sweet Art Gallery in Naples, Florida.
• Otto von Kotzebue’s exhibitions took him to Italy, France, Germany, and all over the United States. His work shows his special love for American cities like New York and Chicago and more rural landscapes like the plains of the West.

Volunteers are needed for the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center to assist with the 2010 Gala, Race 2 the Finish, and other scheduled seasonal events. Contact Kathy Robinson at 333-1933 for more information.

Greece by Gloria Audo, oil on canvas

Student Scholarship Show Winners

At a reception on Sunday, the Fort Myers Beach Art Association with support from the Town of Fort Myers Beach, announced the winners of its annual student scholarships. These tuition scholarships are given to senior art students from Cypress Lake High School and Cypress Lake School for the Arts who intend to study art and design at the secondary education level. Cypress Lake Middle School art students also had work shown and were awarded prizes.

Senior high winners:
1st place Inga Charlamova
2nd place Tabia Lees
3rd place Jordan Alejandro
Cypress Lake Middle School winners:
1st place Emily Logelin
2nd place Sophia Urson
3rd place Sanissa Xayamournkhoun

The gallery is on Donora Street and is open May 1 until October 26 on Wednesdays and Thursdays 9 a.m. to noon. For more information on any FMBAA activity log onto www.fortmyersbeachart.com or call the gallery at 463-3909.

A Call To Artists

A call to artists from Arts for ACT Gallery is for the Open Themed Juried Group Exhibit for July. This year artists will have a choice of two themes:

Spoked and Take a Walk on the Wild Side. The artist should use his own judgment to interpret the themes.

The judge will be Britney Traucht, a 2009 Art History graduate of Florida Atlantic University.
Cash prizes: 1st place, $100; 2nd place, $75; and 3rd place, $50.
Art will be received Monday, June 21 through Saturday June 26 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Artists may submit up to six pieces of original work for each theme. All wall artwork must be wired and ready to hang. There are no size limits. Both two- and three-dimensional media are acceptable.
Art can not have previously exhibited at Arts for ACT Gallery. Art must be labeled on the back.
Entry fee is $8 for one piece, $15 for two and $20 for three, payable in cash/check or credit card. If the piece sells while on exhibit the artist will retain 60 percent of the sale with 40 percent going to benefit ACT, the domestic violence and sexual assault center serving Lee County.
The gallery is located at 2265 First Street in downtown Fort Myers.

The River 
APRIL 30, 2010
Valdez was born in Venezuela into a family that was highly involved in the arts. She learned about art appreciation from birth rather than a course at the undergraduate level. She attained a degree in fashion design in her native country of Venezuela with an emphasis in art. She also received a certificate of completion at the Art Instruction School in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Although portrait and traditional painting is her focus, her repertoire includes a love for mixing abstract art with realism to produce a unique and special meaning and feeling to every painting, she creates. Valdez is a rare tri-cultural artist. She blends her native South American art with the European old world establishment art of Italy. To add additional flavor she has added the influence the North American modern style.

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

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**Mastersingers Selected To Sing Star Wars Event At Germain Arena**

Known as the greatest film saga of all time, Star Wars will be shown in concert at Germain Arena on May 13 and will feature the Fort Myers Mastersingers.

The local group was selected by the producers of the show, which is on a worldwide tour and will be coming to the United States for a 15-city tour, with Fort Myers being the first stop.

"Star Wars in concert is a unique event that combines John Williams’ unforgettable music performed by symphony orchestra and chorus with specially edited footage from all six Star Wars movies. Through each piece audiences will experience the key themes, characters and story elements of the epic Star Wars saga from a new perspective. The editors of Lucasfilm have created an original montage on a giant multi-media screen to accompany each of the musical sections."

"The Mastersingers are already in rehearsals for the show," said Jeff Faux, artistic director for the group. "We’ll be ready. Our singers are experienced enough to handle this engagement and we look forward to it with excitement."

"It’s a huge honor to be selected to participate in a production of this magnitude," said Jim George, president of the Mastersingers. "It will be a once-in-a-lifetime experience for our group. This past season we sang in languages as diverse as Russian, French, German and Italian, and now we’ll be doing alien.

The 70-voice Mastersingers are known for their versatility and innovative programming which was a key factor, according to the producers of the show. The group appeared with the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra in October and recently staged two opera-in-concert performances in Naples and Fort Myers.

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**Arts For ACT Exhibit**

Photography and digital imaging courses at a number of New York City colleges and universities. Additionally, she photographed artwork for publication for galleries, museums and artists. Her photography uses a variety of camera formats such as pinhole, and older medium format box cameras (circa 1950s and 1960s), and is usually printed in black and white. Her work has been shown most recently in a one-person exhibit at Snug Harbor Cultural Center on Staten Island. Everhart was the recipient of a grant from the Brooklyn Arts Council.

Essentially self-taught, Cambio was born in New York City. Her fascination with science and art was conceived early on in her youth. Both chemistry-set experiments and art was considered natural to her. She was taught by her father, a jewelry designer, that there is no correct way to hold a paintbrush. From an early age, she began to freely interpret life on a canvas. She has chosen a career in dermatology because it is a natural combination of medicine and the visual arts. By clinically applying her “eye” to patients, she continues to strengthen and sharpen her gift of observation – a key element in the creation of her art. Cambio has had multiple exhibits of her painting in the New York City area. Her work can also be found in private collections throughout the world. When not painting, she can be found practicing medicine in Southwest Florida, as well as spending time with her husband and two daughters. Working primarily in acrylic and oil bar on canvas, her subject matter includes historical, cultural and religious icons.

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Andouille Sausage and Eggs • Garden Omelette
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And much much more!

Treat Mom right...After all she deserves it.

**RIVER APRIL 30, 2010**
FGCU Inducts Students Into Hall Of Fame

Seated from left: Kathleen Equite, Ysaitz Pinero, Casey Smith, Cady Walker, Emily Hennessey; Standing from left: Dr. J. Michael Rollo, VP for Student Affairs; Jomayra Cestero, Michael Nachel, Andrea McCravy, Frank Losada, Jarrett Yingling, Dr. Wilson G. Bradshaw, president

Florida Gulf Coast University students were honored during a recent induction ceremony to the FGCU Hall of Fame. Jomayra Cestero, Kathleen Equite, Emily Hennessey, Frank Losada, Andrea McCravy, Michael Nachel, Ysaitz Pinero, Casey Smith, Cady Walker, and Jarrett Yingling accepted membership in the 2010 FGCU Hall of Fame hosted by the Division of Student Affairs.

The FGCU Hall of Fame is the highest recognition given to student leaders at the university. It is reserved for students with demonstrated superior leadership, integrity and achievement through leadership activities, service and scholarship while members of the FGCU community. It is limited to 10 students per academic year.

“Induction into the Hall of Fame is part of the student leadership experience at FGCU,” said President Wilson G. Bradshaw. “As a result of their exceptional impact on the campus community, these student leaders have distinguished themselves from many other outstanding students.”

For additional information, visit the Student Affairs’ Web page at studentservices.fgcu.edu or call 239-590-7900.

Bower School Of Music Graduation

Florida Gulf Coast University’s Bower School of Music will graduate its first class during spring commencement exercises at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 2 at Germain Arena in Estero.

Through specialized curricula and extensive general education offerings, the Bower School of Music seeks to prepare professionals for service in music education, music performance and pedagogy. The school also provides rich musical opportunities for students majoring in other disciplines and furnishes cultural enrichment for the Southwest Florida community and beyond.

In addition to meeting the university’s general education requirements, members of the graduating class have pursued extensive course work in music ministry, history and literature, as well as participation in large and small ensembles and applied lessons.

The graduates are Katherine Abbott, Bradenton; Francesca Da Silva; Justin Goff; Satoko Hayami, Wakayama, Japan; Edward Rizo, Miami; Anthony Schons, Cedar Falls, Iowa; Jamie Spagnola, Fort Myers.

The Bower School of Music accepted its first class of music majors in fall 2006. The school has grown significantly in the four years since the first class was admitted, and expects to see more than 100 music majors enrolled by fall 2010.

The school offers two degree programs – bachelor of arts in music (education) and bachelor of arts in music (performance). The latter prepares students, through the state of Florida’s Alternative Certification Program, to teach music in public and private schools. This degree can also help prepare students to develop a private instrumental or vocal teaching studio. Students in this degree track choose a choral, instrumental or general music education track, and many also pursue a minor in general education.

The bachelor of arts in music (performance) serves students who seek careers in music performance. This degree program is also appropriate for those planning to specialize in private applied performance teaching at all levels.

The Bower School of Music was established with the support of a gift from Alan and Marilyn Forest in memory of Edwin H. Bower, Marilyn’s father and a well-loved Naples philanthropist. For more information go to www.fgcu.edu/cas/bsm.

Middle School Students Qualify In Duke’s Talent Identification Program

Duke University has released the results of its 2009/10 talent search, known as the Talent Identification Program (TIP). Duke University conducts the program, which seeks to identify academically talented middle school students in a 16-state area.

One aspect of TIP is giving middle school students the opportunity to take the SAT or ACT, tests that are normally for advanced high school students. This year, 178 7th-graders in middle schools across the county took the SAT or ACT test while still in the 7th grade. When the final results were tallied, 60 Lee County students earned State Recognition. This is the highest total in recent history. In addition, two students earned the prestigious Grand Recognition designation. The 2009/10 students are:
- Bonita Springs Middle: Brian Benton and Elisa Parrish;
- Challenger Middle: McKenzie Schultz and Margaret Yui;
- Cypress Lake Middle: Samuel Buckner, Alexandra Bueno, Sydney Eskin, Danie Etienne, Amelia Green, Cameron Green, Kenneth Harwood, Noah Hendry, Zoey Massie, Alexandra Neal, Courtney Oleksa, Andrew Ratz, Alyssa Taylor, Alexander Van Duijn and Brianna Williamson;
- Dunbar Middle: Sarah Bura, Cassidy Cerami, Benjamin Engstrom, Jose Gress, Kamryn Lewis, Rachel McGuire, Alexander Matasa, Jonathan Nguyen, Michael Santucci, Ian Sexton, Jay Swami, Kyle Tan Kyi and Francesca Whitt;
- Fort Myers Middle Academy: Andrew Suh;
- Gulf Middle: Lissie Gil, Jamal Gonzalez and Daniel Ruiz;
- Lehigh Acres Middle: Tyler Colmery*, Matthew Evans, Colton Sacks and John Trujillo;
- Lexington Middle: Sophia Angeletti, Andrea Berrian, Punith Kumar Chilakala, Grant Goodman*, Shane Heindl, Gabrielle Jones, Haley Tingle and Michael Weber;
- North Fort Myers Academy for the Arts: Alyssa Dempsey and Anastasia Petrlik;
- The Sanibel School: Casey Wexler;
- Trafalgar Middle: Devin Keith, Meagan McBride and Rebecca Watson;
- Three Oaks Middle: Paige Harris, Katherine Schultz and Erzo Stacey;
- Varsity Lakes Middle: Mason Andrew, Sophia Borghese and Beatriz Gonzales.
* Denotes Grand Recognition winners

This program identifies academically talented 7th-graders based on standardized test scores achieved while attending elementary or middle school. Scores in the 95th percentile on the national norms of a standardized achievement, aptitude or mental ability test qualify for the program. Candidates are identified and invited to complete either the SAT Reasoning Test or the ACT Assessment college entrance examination.

Duke TIP provides all participants with comparative information concerning their academic abilities and resources for unique educational opportunities. The goal is to assist young people with excellent mathematical or verbal aptitude. Students are provided with information about their abilities and introduced to a network of services and programs. Students are encouraged to enroll for several reasons:
- To pursue an above-level testing experience, which will provide them with more information about their academic abilities; this information can help teachers, parents, and students plan effectively for the coming high school years;
- To learn more about their academic abilities and be able to compare the results with other academically able youth;
- To learn more about educational opportunities and options for the future;
- To receive recognition of their outstanding achievements.

FGCU Graduates

Over 1,100 students will graduate from Florida Gulf Coast University at 2 p.m. May 2 at Germain Arena.

Germain Arena is located at 11000 Everblades Parkway, in Estero.

Tickets will be required of all guests. Participating graduates have been allocated tickets for their guests.
- FGCU alumni Dr. John Little will deliver the commencement address to graduates and over 5,800 family members and guests.

Little earned an executive MBA from FGCU in 2003. He serves on the FGCU Foundation Board of Directors. He was the inaugural chair of the FGCU Alumni Association Board of Directors, and was honored as the 2004 Alumnus of Distinction.

Commencement ceremonies are held twice a year, in May and December.

The commencement ceremony will be viewable via Webcast at the following link: www.fgcu.edu beginning at 2 p.m.

For more information, contact interim University Registrar Susan Byars at 239-590-7924.

For additional background information, please visit the Student Affairs’ Web page at studentservices.fgcu.edu.
Country Mullet Chowder

1 ½ pounds mullet fillets, skin off
4 strips bacon, chopped
1 cup onion, chopped
1 cup celery, diced
3 cloves garlic, chopped
1 10½-ounce can of cream of potato soup
1 cup bottled clam juice
1 cup milk
2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
1 teaspoon liquid hot pepper sauce
2 teaspoons black pepper
1 tablespoon salt
1 cup white potatoes, cooked and diced
1 15¼-ounce can whole kernel corn, drained
parsley, chopped

Cut mullet fillets into chunks; set aside. In a large Dutch oven, fry bacon over medium heat until light brown. Add onions and cook until onions are soft. Add celery, garlic and cook for 5 minutes. Stir in soup, clam juice, milk, Worcestershire sauce, hot pepper sauce, salt and pepper. Add potatoes and corn then add mullet. Bring to a boil and simmer until the fish flakes easily when tested with a fork. Serve sprinkled with parsley.

Yield six servings
Nutritional value per serving: calories 349, calories from fat 129, total fat 14g, saturated fat 5g, trans fatty acid 0, cholesterol 66mg, total carbohydrates 26g, protein 25g, omega 3 fatty acid 0.5g

Look for Fresh from Florida ingredients at your grocery store.

Student Wins College Scholarship

The prestigious Young Epidemiology Scholars (YES) Competition, the nation’s leading public health competition for high school students, has awarded a $15,000 scholarship to a student from Fort Myers. Carl Nist-Lund was chosen for his project on the emerging threats of mosquito-borne diseases in Southwest Florida.

In total, 12 national finalists were announced. They presented their projects to a panel of judges comprised of leading epidemiologists and public health experts. Two students will each receive the $50,000 top prize, two will receive $35,000 scholarships, two will receive $20,000 scholarships, and six students, including Carl, will each receive $15,000.

Carl, who attends Canterbury School in Fort Myers, researched Emerging Threats of Mosquito-Borne Diseases in Southwest Florida, Specifically Dengue Fever and Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever.

After hearing about the recent cases of dengue fever in Key West, the first U.S. cases of endemic dengue in 40 years, Carl decided to focus his project on mosquito-borne diseases and center his study around Southwest Florida. He was surprised that “to a statistically significant degree, types of larval habitats were related and dependent on the local neighborhoods of Lee County in which they were found.”

He hopes that the information from his study could be used to craft public health messages about how to eliminate or reduce potential habitats for these mosquitoes. Finalists’ presentations to judges took place on Sunday, April 26 at Renaissance Mayflower Hotel in Washington, D.C.

To date, YES has awarded more than $3 million in scholarships. With America facing a shortfall of more than 250,000 public health workers by 2020, according to the ASPH, these scholars represent the next generation of public health talent.

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SanCap One Source Realty
Abby Neill, a 7th grader, received a third place plaque for her behavioral and social sciences research entitled The Effects of Positive and Negative Persuasion on Readers. Abby is the daughter of Bruce and Evelyn Neill of Sanibel.

Irina Ahmad, also a 7th grader, received a fourth place award for her botany sciences work, The Effects of UV Radiation on the Germination of Rapid Radishes. Irina is the daughter of Imtiaz and Nitol Ahmad of Fort Myers.

Senior Division
Jacob Dufault, an 11th grader, received third place in the computer science division for his work, Examining the Effects of Different Random Number Generators on Perlin Noise With Different Number Distributions. Jacob will continue on to the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair where he will compete with the world’s brightest young scientists for scholarships and prizes.

Joshua Liebowitz, a 10th grader, received special recognition in behavioral and social sciences for his work on the Effect of Pain-induced Stress on Lymphocyte Count. Joshua is the son of Fred and Robin Liebowitz of Fort Myers.

Essay Contest Winner
Rebecca Mann, a fourth grader at Summit Christian School in Fort Myers, beat out over 9,000 entrants to take first place in the south-east division of an essay contest.

Bic challenged students to pen a 100-word essay explaining what super power they would like to have and why.

Rebecca wished for the power to transform landfills and garbage into healthy food and polluted rivers into clean drinking water. She explained how her super power would help the Haitian earthquake survivors as well as others around the globe. Just for fun, she would also create some ice cream mountains and rivers of chocolate syrup!

Rebecca will receive an award of $500 plus $100 for her classroom.

Library Programs
African masks are dramatic portraits of spirit beings, departed ancestors, and invisible powers of social control. Each mask is created according to traditional style. Make your own papier maché African mask. Supplies are provided and space is limited. For grades 6-12. Registration is required.

Tiki Tapa Bookmarks for Teens
5 p.m. Wednesday, May 26
Make your own Tahitian bookmark.
The pattern and design is inspired by the native art of Tahiti. All supplies are provided. For grades 6-12. Registration is required.

The Fort Myers-Lee County Public Library is located at 2050 Central Avenue in Fort Myers. For more information about a program or to register, call the library at 533-4600.

Email editorial copy to: press@riverweekly.com
Brettholtz Appointed To Museum Foundation Board

Steve Brettholtz, president and shareholder of Myers, Brettholtz & Company, PA, Certified Public Accountants & Business Consultants, has been appointed to the board of directors of the Southwest Florida Museum of History Foundation.

Brettholtz recently volunteered for the museum’s committee that oversees nominations for the History Maker of the Year Award. He holds a bachelor’s degree from the University of Miami. His years of accounting experience include numerous assignments in all phases of common interest realty association development and administration, nonprofit organizations and various business entities. A past chair of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants Common Interest Realty Association Committee, he also is a member of the American Resort Development Association and serves on its Federal Issues and Resort Management Committees and is a past National Trustee for Community Association Institute.

In addition to being a frequent lecturer for both local and national organizations, he is also recognized as an accredited provider of continuing education courses for the State of Florida Licensed Community Association Managers. He is a member of the Florida, California, Hawaii, Nevada, New York and American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and an associate member of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners.

The Southwest Florida Museum of History is dedicated to the collection, preservation and interpretation of history and traditions, with particular emphasis on Fort Myers and Southwest Florida. It is located at 2031 Jackson Street in historic downtown Fort Myers, in the former Atlantic Coastline Railroad depot.

Silent Auction Benefits Junior Achievement

Savvy shoppers recently attended the Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida’s third annual Young Chicks, Old Bags silent auction at Bell Tower Shops. The night under the stars featured more than 180 fabulous designer purses, some new and others previously loved, as well as raffle prizes, live entertainment and goodies. The event raised more than $4,600 to benefit Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida, to help teach young people the economics of life.

Financial Focus

Declare Your Own Financial Arbor Day

by Jennifer Basey

The national celebration of Arbor Day happens on the last Friday of April, although some states have designated different dates for their own Arbor Day observances. Over the years, Americans have planted millions of trees on this day, improving the environment, reducing erosion and leaving an invaluable gift to future generations. But the concepts behind Arbor Day can also be transferred to other realms – such as investing. So this year, why not take steps to establish your own Financial Arbor Day?

Here are some ideas to consider:

- Plant some “seeds.” Even the mightiest trees started out small – and the same is true of the investment portfolios of many successful investors. If you’re just beginning to invest, put whatever you can afford, however minimal, into an IRA and/or employer-sponsored retirement plan. If you’ve been investing for a while but still need to move closer toward your goals, you may have to seek out some new fields of opportunity and invest in them.

- Nurture the “roots.” To grow, tree roots need to be fed through water, oxygen and minerals. And once you’ve planted the seeds of your investments, they need to be nourished, too. So, for example, once you’ve opened your 401(k), boost your contributions whenever you get a salary increase. Also consider fully funding your IRA until you’ve reached the annual limits.

- Seek out variety. If you look around your neighborhood, you will likely find many different types of trees. And that’s a good thing, because when Dutch elm disease or some other ailment strikes one type of tree, you and your neighbors still have others that can thrive. And the same principle applies to investing. If an economic downturn or some other event primarily strikes one type of asset, and most of your money is tied up in that asset, you could run into trouble. That’s why you need to diversify your investment dollars among stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit (CDs), Treasury bills and other securities. While diversification by itself cannot guarantee a profit or protect against a loss, it can help reduce the effects of volatility on your portfolio.

- Be patient. When you plant a seed, you know it will take many years for your efforts to reach fruition. Over time, your tree will lose some branches and bark, and it will be buffeted by heavy winds, scorching sun and driving rains. However, if it has a strong set of roots, it can survive and grow. You need to show the same patience with your investment portfolio, because it, too, will face a variety of challenges over the years, and at times it may appear beaten down.

But if you follow a consistent strategy, supported by a mix of quality investments that reflects your risk tolerance, time horizon and long-term goals, and if you have the patience and discipline to ride out downturns, you can help yourself reach your objectives.

When people use their shovels and hoes on Arbor Day, they create something that will literally last a lifetime. And the same thing can happen when you declare your own Financial Arbor Day – so get out your investment “tools” and get to work.

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

Chrysalis Awards Luncheon

The Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau (VCB) and the Greater Fort Myers Council of Commerce Inc. are busy judging 60 entries in their first annual Chrysalis Awards to honor businesses and individuals who have positively impacted the local community.

Any local business could nominate itself or others, regardless of whether the nominees are directly a part of the tourism industry. Award recipients will be announced at a jointly hosted Celebration of Business & Tourism Awards Luncheon and Trade Show on May 20, from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Harborside Event Center in downtown Fort Myers.

Nominees include area attractions, accommodations, retail stores, educational institutions, arts and cultural organizations, transportation companies, and other local businesses in the six categories of business development, eco-innovation, cultural achievement, education, sports and sales & marketing. The new awards are designed to foster a stronger alliance between the tourism industry and the county’s business community. A seventh award category is the VCB’s long-standing Junonia Award, created to recognize those individuals who have positively impacted the local tourism community by demonstrating unique capabilities, leadership, commitment, and dedication.

The event, also sponsored by the Hotel Indigo and the Butterfly Estates, will celebrate the value of tourism and the community teamwork involved in maintaining and enhancing tourism as a major economic engine for the county. It is being held to commemorate National Travel and Tourism Week as part of the VCB’s year-round Team Tourism Informational program to strengthen destination teamwork.

A panel of local business community leaders is judging nominations and will select one award recipient in each of the six categories; and, as in past years, the Junonia will only be awarded at the sole discretion of the VCB. Businesses and individuals nominated for the six Chrysalis Awards are being judged on their innovation in their respective category, how they have distinguished themselves in the continued on page 40
Publix Super Markets presented a check for $475,500 to the United Way of Lee, Hendry, and Glades for the corporate contribution to the 2009-10 United Way Campaign. Publix’s employees contribute to the campaign and the employee gifts plus the corporate gift totaled $1,133,777.

Publix District Managers Mike Kot, Ron Tennant and David Barth presented the check to United Way Campaign Chair Joe Catti and United Way Board Chair Larry Hart at a recent United Way board meeting.

“Publix has been a phenomenal United Way partner for many years,” said Cliff Smith, president of United Way. The employees have been very supportive through their own gifts, and the corporation has shown its commitment to our community through its continual support.”

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Dear Pharmacist

Your Tongue Tells A Story

by Suzy Cohen, RPh

Dear Pharmacist:

Sometimes my tongue gets bald, red patches, or thick yellowish coatings on it. I can’t figure out why this happens, or what it means. My doctor says that it’s nothing to worry about. Do you agree?

AP, Ocala, Florida

I agree, don’t worry because worrying is a useless emotion that may actually attract to you the very thing you focus your attention on. Your time is better spent on finding out why this keeps happening, and then preventing episodes.

You describe what is termed “geographic tongue” because it looks like a map. The smooth, red patches are surrounded by grayish white areas; it’s freaky that the patchy areas can change location from day to day. The tiny bumps on the tongue called “papillae” fall off, that’s why you see the patches, but they are able to grow back.

Acupuncturists and Chinese Medicine doctors would never dismiss your tongue. It’s the first thing they want to see because it assists them in their diagnosis.

Hey, I’d rather stick out my tongue and say ahh, than get needled for blood and biopsies, wouldn’t you? And yes, I’ve had a tongue reading myself, just for fun.

To find a solution, you have to determine the cause. Geographic tongue may indicate a hormonal imbalance, low thyroid, liver disease, yeast overgrowth or a weakened immune system. Poor intestinal health, antibiotic use, liver disease, a bile disorder and digestive disorders (like Celiac, Crohn’s, IBS) all impact the color and texture of your tongue. People with methylcobalamin (B12) deficiencies, and other B vitamin deficiencies have tongue issues. Let me tell you, there are hundreds of drug muggers of B vitamins. Among them are antibiotics, antifungals, antacids, heartburn medications, certain blood pressure pills, female hormones and most anti-inflammatories. Geographic tongue is not the only situation of the tongue. Read below, and if you are curious, visit my Web site to see actual photographs:

Scallop tongue – It’s usually thick or swollen and has a scallop design around the outer edge. This is usually related to sluggish spleen or thyroid function.

Pale Tongue – This could be tied to pernicious anemia, or iron deficiency anemia.

Vertical Crack – May signify difficulties in the stomach or heart. If the crack extends down the middle, but doesn’t reach the very tip, it’s most likely related to digestion.

Black Hairy Tongue – Dark-colored bacteria/fungus build up on the papillae and instead of shedding, they grow longer creating the hairy appearance. The “hair” color may be white, yellow, green or brown colors depending on the color of your invading organism.

Glossopyrosis – Also called Burning Tongue Syndrome, it may be related to Candida albicans overgrowth, B12, riboflavin or folic acid deficiency, insufficient probiotics and imbalanced hormones.

You may be able to prevent episodes by supplementing with high-quality immune-boosting supplements, probiotics, activated B complex, in particular methylcobalamin and 5-MTHF and digestive enzymes.

DID YOU KNOW:

If you are allergic to lactose, you should avoid anything with caramel color.

This information is not intended to treat, cure or diagnose your condition. Suzy Cohen is the author of The 24-Hour Pharmacist and is a registered pharmacist. To contact her, visit www.dearpharmacist.com.

Alzheimer’s Support Group

A support group specifically for adults who have a parent with Alzheimer’s disease or a related disorder will meet at the Dubin Alzheimer’s Resource Center, 10051 McGregor Boulevard, Suite 101, Fort Myers. Interested caregivers can attend on Tuesday, May 4, at 6:15 p.m.

Meetings are held each month on the first Tuesday at 6:15 p.m. The meetings are sponsored by the Dubin Alzheimer’s Resource Center.

The focus of this support group meeting is issues, concerns, and questions adult children face as they provide care to a parent with memory loss or strive to learn more about Alzheimer’s disease. The group is open to all interested individuals at no charge.

For more information, call 437-3007.

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 guess I am very old fashioned but when I give a gift am I out of touch with reality to expect a thank you?

I tried to teach my adult children to send thank you notes, but one son never learned. I tried all kinds of ways to improve his behavior, but nothing works. He even told me that he is so appreciative that his in-laws never expect a thank you, so I guess I will wait a long time.

He is also going to wait a long time because I plan to leave my wealth to more appreciative people. Your comments, please.

Harvey

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

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Dear Harvey,

It would appear for many people that a common thank you is beyond their ability.

I was once in charge of a program for elderly women who knitted scarves and mittens all year and gave them to local churches at Christmas time.

One year the women waited and waited but no thank you ever came. Come March I realized that their adult children were wondering if I had secretly sold these items, so I approached the local priest.

He told me that the women and I were expecting far too much to be thanked and they should be satisfied with their “very act of giving.” I was embarrassed when I had to tell the ladies what the priest had said and I cancelled their wonderful program.

Lizzie

Dear Harvey,

I know showing appreciation for gifts of all sorts is very important. I am sorry your adult children have disappointed you in this regard. It appears that this issue is so important to you that you think about it a lot. If their unappreciative ways are one of many disappointing behaviors, I can understand your concern and your decisions. If your adult children are otherwise good, loving and supportive, I encourage you to revisit how important the thank you note is to your overall relationship.

We all have our warts and behaviors that need to be improved.

Pryce

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

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Over 65?
Think eyelid surgery is not affordable?
Medicare pays!

**Eyelid Quiz**

- Can you see your eyelids?
- Do you have to raise your eyebrows to see more clearly?
- Have you hit your head on a cabinet door while open?
- Is it difficult to see beside you without turning your head left or right?
- Do your eyelids close while you are reading?
- When you play tennis, do you have trouble serving?
- Do your eyelids feel heavy?

If you answered “yes” to one or more of these questions, you qualify for a **FREE**, no obligation eyelid screening performed by Natasha Larson, COA.

*Screening candidates receive a $50 gift certificate to your choice of one of five Prawnbroker Restaurant Group establishments in Ft. Myers and Sanibel.*

**WE OFFER**

- One-surgeon practice -- you always see the same doctor
- No assembly-line surgery - you’re the only one
- Personalized post-operative attention
- Specialty-trained nursing staff
- Catered, accommodating care, tailored to your needs

*NO DOCTOR REFERRAL NEEDED*
Cowboys Of The Silver Screen

Four legends of the silver screen get their first-class stamps of approval tomorrow when the postal service issues the Cowboys of the Silver Screen stamps and stamped postal cards. The stamps honor four extraordinary performers who helped make American Westerns a popular form of entertainment: Gene Autry, William S. Hart, Tom Mix and Roy Rogers.

The dedication ceremony took place at the National Cowboy & Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, when the 44-cent first-class stamps and 28-cent stamped postal cards went on sale nationwide April 17. The ceremony coincided with the museum’s 2010 Western Heritage Awards Weekend, honoring the legacy of those whose works in literature, music, television and film reflect the significant stories of the American West.

Stamp artist Robert Rodriguez of Los Angeles, California, created the artwork under the direction of art director Carl Herrman of North Las Vegas, NV.

Relatives of Tom Mix and Roy Rogers attended the dedication.

Have a stamp idea? Visit this link to learn the criteria for submitting your ideas in writing.

The postal service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

Customers have 60 days to obtain the first-day-of-issue postmark by mail. They may purchase new stamps at local post offices, at The Postal Store Web site at www.usps.com/shop, or by calling 800-STAMP-24. They should affix the stamps to envelopes of their choice, address the envelopes to themselves or others, and place them in a larger envelope addressed to:

Cowboys of the Silver Screen Stamp, c/o Postmaster, 4025 West Reno Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK 73125-9998.

After applying the first-day-of-issue postmark, the postal service will return the envelopes through the mail. There is no charge for the postmark. All orders must be postmarked by June 17.

Alzheimer’s Support Meetings

The Alvin A. Dubin Alzheimer’s Resource Center offers monthly support group meetings for caregivers throughout Lee County. The May schedule is as follows:

Sanibel
- Wednesday, May 26, 1:30 p.m., Sanibel Congregational United, Church of Christ, 2050 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, 437-3007.

Fort Myers
- Tuesday, May 11, 2 p.m., Senior Friendship Centers, 3600 Evans Avenue (Carroll Corners) 437-3007.
- Wednesday, May 12, 9:45 a.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, 9065 Ligon Court, 437-3007.
- Wednesday, May 26, 9:45 a.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, 9065 Ligon Court, 437-3007.

Pine Island
- Thursday, May 6, 10:30 a.m., Pine Island United Methodist, 5701 Pine Island Rd., Bokelia, 437-3007.

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Financial Focus

of challenges over the years, and at times it may appear beaten down. But if you follow a consistent strategy, supported by a mix of quality investments that reflects your risk tolerance, time horizon and long-term goals, and if you have the patience and discipline to ride out downturns, you can help yourself reach your objectives.

When people use their shovels and hoes on Arbor Day, they create something that will literally last a lifetime. And the same thing can happen when you declare your own Financial Arbor Day – go out your investment “tools” and get to work.

Jennifer Basey is a financial advisor in Fort Myers. She can be reached at jennifer.basey@edwardjones.com.
S
ince the late 1800s, Florida has been a haven for spiritual pioneers searching for the “ideal life” in what many consider the ideal communal environment. From the Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp in Central Florida to Koreshan Unity in Estero to Kashi Ashram in Sebastian to Collier County’s Ave Maria, WGCU’s one-hour program Florida: Heaven on Earth? explores the ideas behind each of these spiritual communities and attempts to answer the question: Did followers of these individual spiritual communities find heaven on earth? The program premieres Thursday, May 13 at 8 p.m. on WGCU TV.

Florida: Heaven on Earth? was produced by award-winning Naples-based writer and producer, Lynne Howard Frazer and funded through a grant from the Florida Humanities Council with funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities. “Our goal with this program,” said Frazer, “was to examine the importance of a common ideology in the formation of successful communities.”

In the film, Stetson University Professor of Religious Studies Phillip Charles Lucas, PhD, who served as a humanities scholar to help guide the project, describes why Florida is conducive to spiritual communities: “It’s a place where people come to retire. It’s a place where people have a vision of a kind of ideal life, so people are drawn to Florida for that reason.”

Spiritualists were drawn to Central Florida in 1894 by “spirit guides” to establish the Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp. Now considered the oldest continuously active spiritualist center in the southern United States, Cassadaga’s core belief is in the continuity of life and that those who pass into the “spirit world” can communicate with the living. The camp has survived for more than 100 years and is functioning in the 21st century with what Lucas calls “new age spirituality that’s very eclectic.”

Through two world wars, a depression and the current economic downturn, Cassadaga has adapted to meet the needs of its followers. The same cannot be said of the once-thriving Koreshan Unity in Estero. In the late 1800s, Cyrus “Koresh” Teed envisioned a “New Jerusalem, a city of ten million that would usher in a new world order.” The Koreshan lifestyle was based on Teed’s belief that we lived inside the earth and that God was both male and female. He and his followers believed in celibacy, communism and equal rights for women.

For more than 40 years, the Koreshans lived along the Estero River developing their community to include a machine shop, boat-building operation and bakery. As Teed worked to incorporate his Koreshan community, he found himself embroiled in the politics of Lee County from disagreements over taxes to accusations of block voting. Tensions grew and as a result of a political fist fight, Teed was injured and eventually died. The community survived Teed’s death and remained a vibrant – but stagnant – commune for another 30 years. In the documentary, Lynn Rainard, PhD professor of history at Tidewater Community College, says there are lessons to be learned from the Koreshans. “Other communities can learn from them. Both the mistakes they made … and the things they did right.”

While the Koreshans believed that we live inside the earth, a group in Sebastian, Florida, known as Kashi Ashram, believes that the only religion is a religion of kindness. Founded in the mid-1970s by a Jewish homemaker from Brooklyn, New York, who received a visit from Jesus Christ who told her to “Teach all ways, for all ways are mine,” this 80-acre community is home to more than 70 believers. Kashi’s focus on service recently inspired a partnership with the state of Florida to create an independent living center for low-income seniors known as By the River. In WGCU’s documentary, Lucas says, “I think what By the River is doing is very important because I think baby boomers want something they believe in, something that makes a difference in the world.”

Known for their work with the elderly, homeless and hungry, and as a meditation and yoga center, Kashi’s future will be dependent on how closely the community ties itself to its founder, the former Joyce Green who goes by the name Ma Jaya Sati Bhagavati, and more importantly, if the community is strong enough to sustain itself after she’s gone.

The inspiration of one person’s vision was the impetus behind south Florida’s newest spiritual community: the town of Ave Maria in Collier County. In 2002, Tom Monaghan, founder of Domino’s Pizza, was searching for a new home for a Catholic college when the Barron Collier Development Company offered to give him 750 acres and in return, the company would build a residential and commercial development around the new university. “I think it’s God’s will to do this,” said Monaghan.

As the university began to build and the town around it took shape, Monaghan’s vision was questioned. Florida: Heaven on Earth? explores those who questioned Monaghan’s idea of a “Catholic community” and those who envision living in a community based on conservative Catholic teachings. Glenn Whitehouse, professor of religion and philosophy at Florida Gulf Coast University, describes the Ave Maria community as “a community for like-minded people of a certain Catholic bent.”

What happens when the desires of those like-minded people to live in a spiritual community come up against the laws of the land, including fair housing and civil rights, is explored in Florida: Heaven on Earth?

Since the 1800s, people have come to Florida to find their “Utopia.” For some, that utopia is based on their spiritual beliefs. Florida: Heaven on Earth? explores the development of four spiritual communities, providing a look into what draws people to them and their impact on the state of Florida.

The program is part of the statewide project examining community in Florida and is funded by the Florida Humanities Council. WGCU-TV will air all of the Florida public television community programs on Sunday, May 16 beginning at 3:30 p.m. with Imagining a New Florida; 4:30 p.m. Jacksonville Beach: Against the Tide; 5 p.m. St. Petersburg: New Place in the Sun; 5:30 p.m. Venice, Florida: Moving Forward by Looking Back; and at 6 p.m. Florida: Heaven on Earth?
New Consumer Web Site For Local Beaches

The Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau (VCB) launched a next-generation consumer Web site at www.FortMyers-Sanibel.com on April 13 that optimizes the visitor’s experience by bringing the destination to life online.

The new site aligns what prospective visitors find important in their online information needs related to destination decision-making, as well as trip planning and booking once the destination has been solidified. By evolving its current site, the VCB hopes to better offer prospective visitors access to content that is focused on what they care about and look for in a leisure destination Web site. The organization markets the destination internationally to leisure and meetings travelers as The Beaches of Fort Myers & Sanibel.

“We’ve created this new leading-edge site to immerse visitors in our brand in a visually-charged environment that engages them in the way they use the Internet today,” said Tamara Pigott, VCB executive director. “We’ve embraced the future with new technology, and we’ve incorporated social media features to maximize the site’s relevance, including consumer ratings of our content and multiple avenues for sharing that content with friends and family.”

The VCB created the site in partnership with its integrated marketing agency bvk, which enlisted help from digital marketing partner Miles Media; and, as part of the site development, the VCB conducted two rounds of usability testing with consumers to guide the content, design and execution of the new site.

Since the destination’s Web site oftentimes is the first encounter potential visitors have with the brand, the VCB incorporated enhanced features, content and navigation to immerse potential vacationers in the destination’s unspoiled island sanctuary. Heavy use of vivid, compelling photography immediately communicates to users the breadth of the destination’s offerings. Key features of the new site are: interactive user interfaces, content ratings, social sharing, multiple paths to access content, full-screen videos, immersive maps, large backgrounds, and booking and planning tools.

Pigott said the VCB was mindful of current Internet trends when developing the new site, including the facts that 80 percent of U.S. adults are online, most with high-speed access; and 78 percent of consumers consult the Web for travel information. She said social media has shifted travel behavior, with people sharing their thoughts and experiences on line by writing reviews, tagging photos, and uploading videos.

“It was important to bring our destination to life through these and other interactive functions to capture and sustain consumer interest in visiting us,” said Pigott.

Visitors who access the new site will view a 12-second introductory video that opens onto the home page, featuring two main ways to access information. The experiential/left navigation returns featured experiences and destination highlights through articles and videos; while the “Plan Your Trip”/right navigation returns comprehensive, detailed drill-down information on specific properties, activities or dining options. There also are links along the bottom of the home page that offer quicker access to the same information for visitors who already are familiar with the destination and know the specific details they need for vacation planning.

Those who access articles on the experiential/left navigation can post comments about them, rate them using a five-shell rating system, and share them with others via a variety of avenues, including Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Flicker. Visitors also can sort the content by most recent, most favorited and most commented articles.

The usability testing reported that users found the site to be comprehensive and robust, with tons of information. They also left with a good impression of the destination, with descriptions that captured many of the desired and intended brand imagery characteristics that included: beachy, very Florida, fun, clean, natural, uncrowded, upscale, and a place with lots to do. Furthermore, the site enticed people, making them want to learn more and visit the area.

“We’re very encouraged by the positive reviews our usability testing garnered for our new Web site, and we’ve made quite a few changes to the design and content to further enhance the visitor experience based on our testing results,” said Pigott. “We’re definitely going to a whole new level online.”

Part of the new VCB Web Site

BEACH CONDITIONS REPORT

Go to: www.IslandSunNews.com & Click on Beach Conditions.
For up-to-date information on local beaches.

Lee County Domestic Animal Services

May Madness!
All Pet Adoptions 1/2 Off During May!

All adoptions include spay/neuter surgery, age appropriate vaccinations, and many other veterinary services valued at over $500!

View all pets available for adoption at www.LeeLostPets.com

Lee County Domestic Animal Services
5600 Banner Drive, Fort Myers, FL 33912 · (239) 533 7387 (LEE-PETS)
Simply go to IslandSunNews.com
and click on to read

Link Up
With The Best
Community Newspapers in the Area!

Links are now available to any business or organization in our area:
Call 395-1213 on Island, or 415-7732 Along the River.
Less Than $6 Per Week!
From page 26

Publix Gives To United Way

All money raised in the United Way campaign stays in the local community to help support the local human service network of 72 partner agencies and 160 programs. United Way partner agencies including the Alvin A. Dubin Alzheimer’s Resource Center, Boys and Girls Clubs, Harry Chapin Food Banks, Children’s Advocacy Center, and United Way 211 serve a diverse range of needs in our community such as nurturing children and youth, strengthening families, meeting critical needs such as helping the elderly and disabled live independently, and empowering communities by bringing health and human services to neighborhoods. West.
Pets Of The Week

Hi, I’m Jimmy, a one-year-old border collie mix. It may be May Madness month but there’s nothing crazy or mad about adopting a great, young, family dog. I’m very smart and already know some commands. I love people and like to play. That’s why I will make a great pet for the family lucky enough to take me home. My adoption fee is only $37.50 (half off the regular adoption fee of $75 during the May Madness Adoption Promotion).

I’m Madison, I’m two years old and already neutered. The word from the volunteers who play and socialize with us cats at the shelter is that I am a shy boy but very loving. In fact, I love to cuddle up and I even like to be brushed. Right now I have a lion’s cut so my head and chest are in full coat but the rest of me is shaved. When my fur grows back I won’t mind it all when you groom me.

My adoption fee is only $25 (half off during the May Madness adoption promotion).

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

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

All adoptions include spay/neuter surgery, age-appropriate vaccinations, rabies vaccination and county license if three months or older, flea treatment, worming, heartworm test for dogs six months and over, feline AIDS and leukemia test for cats, training DVD, 10-day health guarantee, and a bag of Science Diet pet food. The adoption package is valued at $500.∞

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TRIVIA TEST

1. GEOGRAPHY: The country of Belize is located in what part of the world?
2. HISTORY: In what country did the 1606 Sharpeville massacre occur?
3. LITERATURE: In what city and state did poet Emily Dickinson live almost her entire life?
4. MEDICAL: What part of the body does Bell’s palsy affect?
5. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: A strong, cool wind called the Mistral is associated with which country?
6. MYTHOLOGY: What kind of creature was a griffin?
7. TELEVISION: Which character on “The Addams Family” spoke the catchphrase “you rang?”?
8. THEATER: Which play’s title character was nicknamed “The Demon Barber of Fleet Street”?
9. LANGUAGE: What is a ewer?
10. MOVIES: In the Disney movie “Aladdin,” how long was the genie inside the lamp before Aladdin released him?

ANSWERS

SPORTS QUIZ

1. Who was the last San Francisco Giants pitcher before Jonathan Sanchez in 2009 to toss a no-hitter?
2. Name the last National League team before the Los Angeles Dodgers in 2009 to start a season 10-0 at home.
3. What is the highest touchdown total for a season for NFL wide receiver Terrell Owens?
4. Name the coach who led the Kansas Jayhawks men’s basketball team to its first NCAA championship.
5. In what year did Lou Lamoriello become general manager of the New Jersey Devils?
6. In 2010, Lance Mackey became the first musher to win the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race four consecutive times. How many others won three in a row?
7. Who was the first bowler to have a perfect 300 game in a televised PBA event?

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PUZZLE ANSWERS

SPOKEN WORDS

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A new series of non-credit legal studies courses, including Paralegal and Advanced Paralegal, Legal Nurse Consultant and Legal Secretary certificate programs, will begin this summer through Florida Gulf Coast University’s Office of Continuing Education.

The Paralegal Certificate Course consists of 84 hours of instruction offered in both live and online formats. For the Advanced Paralegal Certificate course, students will complete six advanced paralegal topics, including constitutional, criminal, family, bankruptcy, and immigration law. The Legal Nurse Consultant Training Course prepares medical professionals for a career in the legal field as a legal nurse consultant. The course prepares students for a career in the legal field as a legal Nurse Consultant. Courses include paralegal training, test preparation and many other courses in the legal studies field. Students can choose to take courses online, independent study or in a live lecture setting.

“We are extremely pleased to bring affordable non-credit legal studies training to Florida in partnership with FGCU, and look forward to doing our part to assist anyone who wishes to gain entry into the legal field in the most cost and time effective manner possible,” said Gary Knippa, president of The Center for Legal Studies.

The Paralegal Certificate Course can be completed in as short as six weeks for $1,089. Students interested in gaining more information about non-credit paralegal training and other programs offered by FGCU and The Center for Legal Studies can visit www.legalstudies.com or call 1-800-522-7737 for immediate assistance.

For more information contact John Guerra, director for Continuing Education and The Renaissance Academy at 434-4838 or jguerra@fgcu.edu.
New Opportunities at Shell Point

The public is invited and many of these events are FREE!

Shell Point Tour & Presentation
May 4, 11, 18, 26 at 1:30 p.m. • May 5, 12, 19, 25 at 9:15 a.m.
Join us for one of these group presentations about the Lifestyle and Lifecare available at Shell Point followed by a narrated bus tour of the community. Light refreshments. Space is limited, so call 466-1131 to reserve your place.

Mother’s Day at the Palm Grill
May 9 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. • The Woodlands at Shell Point
As a special treat for Mom, plan on having Mother’s Day at the Palm Grill. The Palm Grill will be serving a special menu featuring Shrimp Cocktail or the popular Palm Grill Lobster Bisque. For entrees, choose from: twin Tournedos of Beef Tenderloin, Florida Snapper, Chilean Sea Bass and Gulf Shrimp Scampi, or Woodsong Chicken. The Palm Grill will also feature homemade desserts. Reservations are not accepted. Call 454-2059 for information.

Korean Children’s Choir in Concert
Sunday, May 16 at 6:15 p.m. • The Island at Shell Point
Colorful costumes and traditional dances will add to the excitement and pageantry as the Korean Children’s Choir presents their inspirational concert. With members ranging in ages from seven to thirteen, the Children’s Choir was organized as a ministry of the Far East Broadcasting Company in Korea. Cheerful adaptations, warm smiles and thorough professionalism characterize the performances. Tickets $10, call 454-2147.

Signature Style Event - Outdoor Spaces
FREE!
Tuesday, May 25 at 1:30 p.m.
The Woodlands at Shell Point
Take advantage of your outdoor living space by extending your interior design to the outdoors. Join Robb & Stucky licensed Interior Designer Domnick Minella and Patio General Manager Kim Southner as they share the latest trends in beautiful fabric and furnishings that can be used in the home or outdoors. This event is free, but seating is limited and reservations are required. Call 454-2054.

Sunset Cookout
FREE!
Tuesday, May 25 at 5 p.m.
King’s Crown Assisted Living on The Island at Shell Point
Kick off summer with a relaxing cook out as you enjoy a presentation about Shell Point’s Assisted Living options presented by Rita Southern, Director of Assisted Living. The presentation will be followed by a tour of the award-winning facility. It’s a relaxing way to start your summer the Shell Point way! The event is FREE, but seating is limited. To reserve your seat, call McKenzie Boren at 454-2077.

Awards Luncheon
community, the results of their efforts to promote the destination, their contributions to business and tourism partnerships for the overall benefit of the county, and their work to foster growth and sustainability. Honorees will be recognized for their commitment to excellence in improving community growth, creating job opportunities for the citizens of Lee County, and encouraging more vacationers to the destination.

“...”

To have 60 nominations from a broad cross-section of our community in the first year of this awards program is very encouraging. Selecting just six honorees will be a tough challenge, since we have very high quality entrants,” said Tamara Pigott, VCB executive director. “The level of participation fosters our goal of helping the business community gain greater awareness of the tourism industry’s role in our economic livelihood, while helping tourism partners better understand the needs and role of the larger business community.”

Pigott said the awards committee chose the name Chrysalis for the new program because it signifies the final stage before a butterfly emerges from its cocoon, the metamorphosis in which its growth and differentiation occur. Committee members see it as an appropriate symbol of the desire to build and foster a stronger strategic partnership between tourism and the larger business community.

While the VCB has always pooled its resources with those of local chambers for the common good of the destination, this is the first such alliance between the VCB and a local chamber. In addition, all local chambers are involved with the new program. The Celebration of Business & Tourism Awards Luncheon and Trade Show where the awards will be announced will feature a trade show from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., and the awards luncheon will take place from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Cost to attend the event are $25 for a single admission and $250 for a reserved table for eight attendees. Those who wish to exhibit in the trade show will pay $120 for a booth, which includes two admission tickets. The event is projected to attract about 300 attendees.

Those who wish to register to attend the luncheon and trade show or exhibit there can do so through a link to the Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce Web site at www.fortmyers.org. For questions or further event details, contact either Christine Davlin at the VCB at cdavlin@leevcb.com or at 338-3500, Glee Ann Agius at the Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce at GleeanAgius@fortmyers.org or at 332-2930, ext. 211, or Colleen DePasquale, event chairperson, at Colleen.DePasquale@hilton.com or at 790-3500.5

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