CaluSUP Races Planned For Paddleboarders

The Body Glove CaluSUP Race is a World Paddle Association-sanctioned, elite seven-mile Stand-Up Paddleboard race in the Gulf of Mexico. Slated for Saturday, May 5, the CaluSUP will draw stand up paddlers to Fort Myers Beach’s newest watersport event.

The one-day event, which will benefit Lee County Special Olympics, includes a one-mile recreational race, a family fun race, free demonstrations for the public and paddleboard activities. Festivities run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Crescent Beach Family Park, located at 1100 Estero Boulevard in Fort Myers Beach.

The Body Glove CaluSUP Race is inspired by the Calusa Indians that once thrived throughout Southwest Florida’s coastal waters. Known as “the shell people,” the Calusa waterman skills were essential to their daily activities until their extinction in the late 1700s. This event celebrates the fast-growing water sport of Stand-Up Paddleboarding as well as Lee County’s 190-mile canoe, kayak and SUP trail in the Great Calusa Blueway. The Southwest Florida SUP Club is organizing the event, partnering with Body Glove and Lee County Parks & Recreation, with 60 percent of all proceeds benefitting the Lee County Special Olympics.

The Body Glove CaluSUP Race is held in conjunction with Fort Myers Based Body Glove Footwear’s launch of the 3tbarefoot, their newest innovation in water sports footwear. Racers of all abilities are welcome. The entry fee is $15 for club members, $30 for the public (before April 24) and $40 on race day. Special Olympic athletes can compete for free by contacting Dorothy Barilla at 432-2031.

Earth Day At The Refuge Next Saturday

Trash-talking, plarn, and Bagzilla? These are just a few highlights of the adult and children’s activities at JN “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Earth Day Saturday, April 21.

The refuge will celebrate the 42nd anniversary of Earth Day in partnership with “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) and Tarpon Bay Explorers (TBE).

“We are gearing our activities for all ages,” said ranger Becky Wolff, refuge education specialist. “We’ll bring back our disposable bag-costumed Bagzilla character, and teach people how to make yarn out of plastic bags to weave into their own sturdy, reusable shopping bags.”

The schedule for earth-friendly fun:
Note: *Regular tram tour fees apply.
7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wildlife Drive is open free to bikers and hikers
8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free bike rentals from Tarpon Bay Explorers’ site (returns by 6 p.m.)
10 a.m. – The first 200 visitors to the refuge will receive a free reusable shopping bag, courtesy of DDWS.
10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ongoing Earth crafts in the Education Center Education Lab
  * Make your own Mother Earth ornament
  * Create a pop-bottle butterfly or jellyfish
  * Learn from a pollinator and mind your own beeswax (candle that is)
  * Create your own bracelet out of plarn (plastic bag yarn)
  * Meet and greet refuge educator Bagzilla, costumed in a year’s worth of an average person’s disposable bag consumption
10 to 11 a.m. Guided native plant walk along Indigo Trail
  * 10 to 11:30 a.m. Narrated refuge tram tour
11:30 a.m. to noon. Let’s Talk Trash – Marine timeline competition for kids. How long does it take that trash to biodegrade in a marine environment? (Education Center auditorium)
*11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Narrated refuge tram tour
Lunch on your own
Lunch on your own
1 to 2:30 p.m. Narrated refuge tram tour
1:30 to 2 p.m. Climate Change 101 – Learn the basics of climate change and what you can do to help. (Education Center auditorium)
2:30 to 3 p.m. Make your own plarn. Plastic bag overload? Learn how to make plarn (plastic bag yarn) and weave reusable shopping bags that are 10 times stronger than other plastic bags. (Education Center auditorium)
*2:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Narrated refuge tram tour
4 to 5:30 p.m. Narrated refuge tram tour

Rotary Club 90th Anniversary Gala

On Saturday, April 28, the Rotary Club of Fort Myers will celebrate its 90th anniversary of service to the community by hosting a gala at Harborside Convention Center.

Chartered in 1922, the Rotary Club of Fort Myers is the area’s largest and...
Morgan Hotel, The Later Years

by Gerri Reaves

Part II of II

During World War II, an unnamed airman from Buckingham Army Air Force Base (BAAF) took a photo of the northeast corner of First and Dean, capturing the feel of wartime downtown against the backdrop of the Morgan Hotel.

Note several soldiers hanging out and taking in the sights of a business district beginning to thrive again after the years of the Great Depression. Sharing the block are the Western Auto store and, down on the corner at Hendry Street, Heitman-Evans Hardware.

Special bus service for BAAF and Page Field made it easy for soldiers to travel to downtown and to Fort Myers Beach. Dances and a host of other activities at the Yacht Basin’s Service Club provided incentive to get downtown, and merchants, restaurants, and hotels made efforts to accommodate and cater to the welcome influx of military personnel.

At the close of the war in 1945, Geneva McAuley ran a children’s clothing shop in the Morgan’s corner storefront, perhaps a sign that as the war came to a close that attention was turning to things domestic rather than foreign and military.

As the postwar boom started in earnest, Ragsdale & Guthrie real estate took up residence, as seen in the circa-1950 photo.

continued on page 9
Audio Tour Now Available In French And Spanish At Edison & Ford Estates

The Edison & Ford Winter Estates have added French and Spanish language audio tours expanding the interpretive experience for French and Spanish speaking visitors. The Audio Tour program at the Edison Ford began in 2007 and was offered in English and German.

"Audio tours have been a huge success with our English and German speaking visitors," said Edison Ford president & CEO Chris Pendleton. "We have seen an increase in French visitors for several years and anticipate the Spanish language market to grow. Now was the time to start offering two additional languages to the Edison Ford program."

The Audio Tour program encompasses the historic homes and buildings, the gardens, the Edison Botanic Research Laboratory and the museum and includes maps in English, German, French and Spanish.

More than 1,200 cultural sites and institutions have enriched their visitor experience with audio tours including the Louvre, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Stonehenge and the Edison & Ford Winter Estates.

The cost of an Audio Tour at the Edison Ford is $20 for adults, $11 for children ages 6 to 12. For additional information, call 334-7419 or visit www.edisonfordwinterestates.org.

NanoDays 2012 At Imaginarium Science Center

The Imaginarium Science Center hosts NanoDays on Saturday, April 14 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with a variety of activities designed to explore this science that highlights the ‘too small to see!’

NanoDays at the Imaginarium is part of a nationwide festival of educational programs about nanoscale science and engineering. Organized by the Nanoscale Informal Science Education Network (NISE Net), this community-based event held every spring is the largest public outreach effort in nanoscale informal science education and involves science museums, research centers, and universities from Puerto Rico to Alaska.

On April 14, guests at the Imaginarium will explore the new Nano Lab, enjoy NanoScience hands on technology demonstrations at 20 stations throughout the Imaginarium and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., see Special NanoScience Presentations in the Wells Fargo Education Center.

The day’s many activities include: Nano Gold, Static Electricity, DNA and more. Nano “Exploring Materials – Nano Gold” is a hands-on activity in which visitors discover that nanoparticles of gold can appear red, orange or even blue. They learn that a material can act differently when it’s nanometer-sized.

“Exploring Forces – Static Electricity” is an interactive experience in which visitors discover that electrostatic forces cause smaller balls to be suspended in a tube while larger ones fall to the bottom. Guests will be amazed to learn that size can affect the way a material behaves.

“Exploring Structures – DNA” allows visitors to create a necklace of wheat germ DNA in which they learn that self-assembly is a process by which molecules and cells form themselves into functional structures.

This NanoDays event is open to the public and free with Imaginarium Science Center admission. Imaginarium members are always free. The Imaginarium is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

Visit www.imaginariumfortmyers.com to learn more about NanoScience or call 321-7420.

Lobster Fest Every Thursday at 5

1-1/4 POUND MAINE LOBSTER
Cole Slaw and Fries
$14.95
Until they’re gone!

The Edison’s Almost Famous
HAPPY HOUR 11am-8pm
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wine tasting & tapas
a selection of exquisite wines
creatively paired with tapas
Tuesday, April 17th
6pm to 8pm

Reservations Recommended:
239 337-3377
Junior League Of Fort Myers Feeds Hungry Families

On March 24 the Junior League of Fort Myers held its annual Kids in the Kitchen event at the Harlem Heights Community Park from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Not only did the Fort Myers Junior League feed hungry families, but community volunteers taught families about nutrition, fitness and safety. Throughout the sunny afternoon, Michelle Berke taught youngsters about healthy eating and what should be on their plates. Diane Piercy, PE teacher from Allen Park Elementary, taught bike safety and fitted the children with donated bike helmets. United Martial Arts Center demonstrated self-defense and First Serve Tennis taught tennis basics. Publix helped the children make healthy yogurt parfaits. Costco donated items for them to make their own trail mix. Snyderman Shoes donated gift cards to the top girl and boy winners of the Fun Run. The students learned how to make exercise fun with a climbing wall, bounce house, bicycles and obstacle course. The children were given backpacks to hold their Junior League coloring cookbooks, aprons, chef hats, measuring spoons, and other goodies donated by the league and its partners.

“We had kids from over 70 local schools (preschool and elementary) and over 270 kids in attendance,” said Kids in the Kitchen chair Kelly Welborn. The Junior League of Fort Myers, Inc., a member of the Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc., is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable. For more information about the Junior League, call 277-1197 or visit www.jlfm.org.

Youngsters take part in one of the many activities

Yoga Class At Centennial Park

Becky Lang, a registered yoga instructor, will host an invigorating hour of yoga at Centennial Park in downtown Fort Myers. Saturday classes will be held from 9 to 10 a.m. on April 14, April 21 and May 19 (weather permitting).

Participants will meet along the Caloosahatchee River near the pavilion. This will be a Level 1 Vinyasa/Flow Yoga class and all levels – including beginners – are welcome to attend.

There is no cost to participate, but donations are appreciated. Participants will need to bring a yoga mat, water, a small towel and any yoga props they may need for their practice (block, blanket, etc).

For more information or to check on the status of a class in the event of inclement weather, contact Becky Lang at 791-6538 or beckyzumba@comcast.net. To learn more about Zumba with Becky, visit www.zumbawithbecky.com.

AAUW Hosts Cartoonist Doug MacGregor

submitted by Pat Allen

Political cartoonist Doug MacGregor will be the speaker at the American Association of University Women’s luncheon meeting at 11:30 a.m. on April 21 at Royal Palm Yacht Club, West First Street, Fort Myers.

Whether roasting Congress over annual pork-barrel legislation, calling out lawmakers in Tallahassee over partisan politics, or criticizing county commissioners for caving in to special interest, he has covered it.


MacGregor has published four collections of his cartoons. The most recent is called Get Creative, Turn On the Bright Side of Your Brain. His AAUW program will include a power point presentation of his work.

Admission is $18. For reservations call Sondra Marshall at 437-4570.

Life is for the Raw

If our seafood were any fresher, we would be serving it under water

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Edison & Ford Winter Estates April Programs

In addition to tours and regular activities at the Edison & Ford Winter Estates, there are special programs and activities to engage both visitors and residents throughout the week. The month of April is highlighted with the last Director’s Tour of the season to Bok Tower Gardens/Pinewood Estate/Lake Wales Museum; the opening of the Foundation of Lee County Public School’s Educational Outreach Program, Edison Ford Education Center, located in the neo-gothic art deco singing tower carillon building, and a tour of the Pinewood Estate.

Edison Ford Inventor’s Summer Camp – Registration is now open for Edison Ford Inventor’s Summer Camp that begins on May 29 and runs through August 3 in science, art and nature. Camps are separated by grade levels (first to third and fourth to sixth); students in the seventh grade and above can qualify as Summer Camp counselors. Cost to Edison Ford members is $200; non members are $230.

Weekly camp themes include: May 29 to June 1 – Super Solar Scientists

June 4 to 8 – Space & Rockets
June 11 to 15 – Kitchen Chemistry
June 18 to 22 – Animation
June 25 to 29 – Movie Making Magic
July 9 to 13 – Eager Engineers
July 16 to 20 – Time Travelers
July 23 to 27 – Physics In Motion
July 30 to August 3 – Smarts In Arts

Emerging Inventors Early Learners (April 19 from 9 to 11 a.m.) – This class is a child and parent learning class for children ages 1 to 3 years. Each class includes first-hand learning on the historical site as well as changing seasonal themes combining science, invention, reading and hands-on activities. Cost to Edison Ford members is $5, non-members are $15 (one adult, one child); additional $5 per child.

Annual Volunteer Appreciation Ceremony (April 10 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Royal Palm Yacht Club) – Edison Ford volunteers are invited to join staff and trustees of the Edison & Ford Winter Estates at the annual award ceremony with entertainment, refreshments and presentation honoring and thanking volunteers. Reservations are required and participants must be active Edison & Ford Winter Estates volunteers in order to attend.

Director’s Tour: Bok Tower Gardens, Pinewood Estate and Lake Wales Museum (April 14 at 8 a.m.) – Tour the beautiful gardens designed by landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted Jr., the neo-gothic art deco singing tower carillon as well as a tour of the Pinewood Estate, an early 1900s Mediterranean-style mansion full of antiques. Participants will also enjoy a private tour of the Lake Wales Museum led by historian and director, Mimi Hardmen.

Registration required. Cost to Edison Ford members is $90, volunteers are $85 and non-members are $95. Price includes transportation, lunch, behind-the-scenes tours and refreshments.

Celebration of Helen Hendry (April 15 at 3 p.m.) – Premiere of a series of oral history programs celebrating the people of Southwest Florida who have made an impact and have played a part in the Edison and Ford legacies. Helen Hendry will be celebrated with a special exhibit highlighting her work and contributions in the landscape design field. Her lifelong accomplishments have also been recorded in an oral history presentation that will be shown at 4 p.m. in the Edison Ford Education Center, located in the Edison Caretaker’s House. Reservations are required.

Art In The Gardens “Snakes, Lizards & Turtles” Exhibit (Opening reception on April 15 at 4 p.m.) – In the heritage gardens at the Edison & Ford Winter Estates, Lee County students create an environmentally interactive artwork exhibit using recycled materials to make life-like garden art. The exhibit is sponsored by The Foundation of Lee County Public Schools and Truly Nolen. The exhibit is free and open to the public.

HomeSchool: Ecosystems (April 16 from 1 to 3 p.m.) – Homeschool students will learn about the environment as they investigate different ecosystems. Students and their parents can enroll in a two-hour program with curriculum that follows the Next Generation Florida Sunshine State Standards. Pre-visit curriculum materials will be mailed to registered families. Registration required. Program recommended for grades one to six.

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

New For Summer Edison Ford Tour, Lunch, & River Cruise (Wednesdays and Thursdays beginning April 25 and 26) – Visitors to the Edison Ford will enjoy an audio tour of the historic homes, gardens, museum and lab; boat cruise on the Caloosahatchee River as well as tour of the river with naturalist commentary; and buffet lunch at the Royal Palm Yacht, a private club overlooking the river. Cost for adults is $45, children 12 and under are $35. Reservations are requested by calling 334-7419.

Free Day For Educators, Kids & School Support Staff (April 29 from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.) – Teachers and students will receive free admission throughout the day at the Edison Ford. Teachers can register for special tours highlighting the many educational opportunities for their students. Registration is recommended by calling the Education Department at 334-7419. Teachers and school staff must present a school-issued identification badge to receive free admission and children must be accompanied by a paid adult.

For additional information, call 334-7419 or visit www.edisonfordwinterestates.org.
Celebrity Pets Up For Adoption

Lee County is rolling out the red carpet for celebrity pets during the month of April. Some famous felines and canines have taken up residence at Animal Services’ Shelter and the public will be able to adopt a celebrity canine for only $35 or a famous feline for just $25. Child stars (puppies and kittens) will be just $20. Among the stars are Grace Kelly, Elton John, Jack Black, and Willie Nelson.

The reduced adoption fee will include a celebrity gift pack of services consisting of sterilization, age appropriate vaccinations, county license, microchip ID, de-worming, flea treatment, a heartworm test for dogs, feline AIDS and leukemia test for cats, 10-day health guarantee, and a bag of Hill’s Science Diet dog or cat food. The adoption package is valued at over $500.

The famous line-up of pets waiting to be adopted can be viewed online at www.LeeLostPets.com or visit the shelter at 5600 Banner Drive, Fort Myers next to the Lee County Sheriff’s Office off Six Mile Cypress Parkway. Celebrity viewing hours are Monday through Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. You can submit your adoption application online before you come to the shelter.

Volunteers and staff are available to help you find the pet star that is best suited for you and your lifestyle. For more information call 533-7387 (LEE-PETS). If you are inquiring about a pet you have seen online, please have the animal ID number ready for faster assistance.

Cape Coral To Host Largest Rummage Sale

If you are looking for those hidden treasures or trying to clear out the garage, then join the largest rummage sale on the beach in Cape Coral. This event is open to the public and will be held in the pavilion at Yacht Club Community Park.

The rummage sale will be held on Saturday, April 14 from 8 to 11 a.m. Vendors are wanted to sell their goods. The fee is $20 plus tax per table. The public is free to attend and shop.

For more information, call 574-0806.

Kayak Fishing Class In Cape

Kayak fishing is becoming one of the fastest growing water activities in Florida. In this class, participants will learn about kayaking safety, proper strokes and fishing procedures from the kayak.

The class is open to families and is slated for Saturday, April 21 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Cape Coral Yacht Club. The fee is $25 for adults, $15 for children. Call 542-5329 to register.

Lee Republican Women Lunch

The May luncheon meeting of Lee Republican Women Federated will be Monday, May 14. Social hour begins at 11:15 a.m. with lunch and program to follow. Speakers will be Chris Bernardi and Dane Eagle. The meeting will be held at Hilton Garden Inn, 12601 University Drive, Fort Myers. Cost is $16. RSVP by calling 432-9389 or email cin-dylignelli222@gmail.com.
Meet Candidates For Constitutional Offices April 17

Republican candidates for constitutional offices in Lee County have been invited to participate in the Fort Myers Republican Women’s Club monthly luncheon program on Tuesday, April 17. Sheriff candidates will be presenting their qualifications and answering questions. Linda Doggett, Clerk of the Circuit Court; and Ken Wilkinson, Property Appraiser, currently have no opponents.

Union President Will Speak To Lee Democrats

FL-CIO President Mike Williams will be the featured speaker at the Red, White and Blue Celebration annual spring gala and silent auction for the Lee County Democratic Party. The gala will be held Sunday, April 22 and Crowne Plaza Hotel at Bell Tower. Williams’ topic will be United We Stand. Dave Aronberg, former state senator and current candidate for state attorney for Palm Beach County, will host the gala.

The reception and silent auction begin at 11:15 a.m. The noon lunch, business meeting, and candidate forum follow. The luncheon cost is $16. Reservations are required by Thursday, April 12 and may be made by contacting Tina Laurie at 489-4701.

The Fort Myers Republican Women’s Club is affiliated with the Florida Federation of Republican Women and the National Federation of Republican Women. Additional information about the club may be obtained by contacting the president, Gaile Anthony, at 292-5212.

106 Years Old And Going Strong

A very special occasion marked the April meeting of Continental Women’s Club. They celebrated the 106th birthday of member Jennie Truncale.

She was presented a birthday cake and everyone joined in singing Happy Birthday. In honor of the occasion, the board of directors appointed Truncale as official ambassador of Continental Women’s Club. They cited her optimistic attitude and the way she lights up the room when she enters.

Truncale thanked everyone and said, “God bless you all.” I asked her to share the secret to her longevity and she replied, “Don’t drink. Don’t smoke. Walk the straight line.”

Carrie Blair and her mother Jennie Truncale
On Saturday, April 14, the Alliance for the Arts invites the public to An Evening of Stories and Song beginning at 8 p.m. Enjoy stories written exclusively for this intimate event punctuated by musical performances by members of the Gulf Coast Symphony. Following the performance, join musicians and storytellers for dessert and wine in the Alliance for the Arts gallery. Seating to this event is limited to 150 guests.

Tickets are $50, VIP tickets are $100 and include an autographed copy of Amy Bennett-Williams’ recent book, Images of America: Along The Caloosahatchee River.

Arcadia Publishing describes her book as “the story of the ancient mastodons that once roamed its shores, the 19th century entrepreneurs who bent it to their wills, and the celebrities (including Thomas Edison and Henry Ford) who have relaxed on its waters. Richly illustrated with historical images and observations, Along the Caloosahatchee River chronicles the life of the singular waterway that joins the heart of Southwest Florida to the Gulf of Mexico and beyond.”

Alliance for the Arts is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers, near the Colonial Blvd. intersection. Call 939-2787 or go to www.artinlee.org.

Shoals Restaurant and Wine Bar, adjacent to The Sandy Butler Market, is offering a special tomato tasting menu throughout the month of April in honor of National Tomato Month.

Guests are invited to sample delicious fresh tomatoes direct from the Scholl Family Grove in Southwest Florida. The Scholl Family are the owners of The Sandy Butler Market and Shoals Restaurant and Wine Bar. Special menu items include bruschetta, Butler’s Grove creamy tomato soup, tomato gazpacho, caprese, heirloom tomato salad and fresh Bloody Marys.

The Sandy Butler Market is also offer slices of fresh tomatoes for sampling each day.

The Sandy Butler Market a wide variety of dry goods, fresh domestic and imported cheese, a charcuterie (or meat market), 500 wines, freshly roasted coffee, Florida fresh tomatoes, homemade mozzarella cheese, freshly squeezed orange juice and a full selection of gifts for cooks.

Shoals Restaurant and Wine Bar and The Sandy Butler Market are located at 17650 San Carlos Boulevard, Fort Myers. The restaurant is open daily for lunch and dinner from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. The gourmet market is open daily from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Call 482-6765 or go to www.sandybutler.com.

When in comes to catering, The Morgan House Restaurant is fully licensed and insured for catering events anywhere. For information, contact Laura Williams at 284-3721 Monday through Friday between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. or at morganhousecatering@gmail.com.

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Morgan Hotel

In the early 1950s, the hotel advertisements stressed amenities, safety, and modernization: a cocktail lounge, dining room, elegant service, “excellent food at coffee shop prices,” plus an elevator, sprinkler system, modern brick construction, and large comfortable rooms, each with private bath. It was open year-round. In 1955, the hotel touted its location as “the center of downtown.”

In the early 1960s, as the age of the mall and suburban flight got underway, Sam Johnston, Jr. purchased the hotel with plans for an insurance company on the ground floor and changed the name to Hotel Dean.

The circa 1963 postcard showcases the lounge in the completely renovated hotel. To the contemporary eye, the style is pure early-1960s kitsch, accented with suspended globe lights with sparkling surfaces.

Other alluring hotel features? “Near everything, Quiet!”, beautifully appointed rooms, luxury, and “complete service at competitive rates.”

Also signs of the times were that American Express was welcome and the hotel was a AAA affiliate.

In the succeeding years, the stylish 1924 hotel had its ups and downs – with the downs including being vacant in the early 1990s, for example.

The look of the historic building has changed much in the last nine decades, with the disappearance of some Mediterranean-Revivalist architectural features, including the original serpentine columns above the main entrance and distinctive corner arches, among others. However, it’s been thriving the last few years, first as the Morgan House Restaurant (now relocated to the historic Patio de Leon) and currently Ford’s Garage.

Walk down to the corner of First and Dean to see a 1920s hotel that keeps reinventing itself.

Then stroll the short distance to the Southwest Florida Museum of History at 2031 Jackson Street to learn more about what happened to the hotel industry in post-World War II downtown once the soldiers were gone.

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

Visit one of the area’s best research centers, the Southwest Florida Historical Society, where you learn more about the evolution of the business district.

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

Sources: The archives of the Southwest Florida Historical Society and Historic Fort Myers by Prudy Taylor Board and Esther B. Colcord.

Try Transit Day

To celebrate Earth Day, LeeTran will once again offer free rides on Thursday, April 19 throughout Lee County.

Try Transit Day is part of a month-long, 12-county initiative called “Taking It To The Street.” Cities, counties, transit agencies and private employers are challenging citizens to find an alternative to driving a private automobile. Options such as biking, walking, carpooling, transit and teleworking can all save money, conserve fuel, and reduce congestion and pollution.

Participants who reduce their driving during the month have an opportunity to win prizes by registering at www.CommuterServicesFL.com and tracking their alternative travel.

Residents who are interested in bus travel can visit rideleetran.com and use its Transit Savings Calculator to determine how much money they can save by commuting on LeeTran.

The LeeTran site also has a Carbon Savings Calculator that shows passengers how much their alternative travel is reducing pollution.

LeeTran experienced a ridership increase of nearly 50 percent on last year’s Try Transit Day. “It’s the perfect opportunity for someone who has never ridden a bus before to give us a try,” said Transit Director Steve Myers. “They can just enjoy a stress-free ride without having to handle money.”

First-time riders can find route maps and schedules at www.rideleetran.com or call LeeTran customer service at 533-8726 (LEE-TRAN), option 1, for help in planning their travel.

Sunshine Seafood Cafe has a new home... Right next door!

Serving 11:00 am - 10 pm seven days a week. Happy hour daily with a special bar menu and Live music

Reservations accepted. Party rooms for private functions. 239-489-2233.

Sunshine Grille

WOOD FIRED STEAKS & SEAFOOD

8700 Gladiolus Drive. (Winkler and Gladiolus) across the street from Sweet Bay.
Churches/Temperos

ALL FAITHS UNITARIAN CONGREGATION Member of UUA 2768 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers Six blocks south of the Edison/Ford Winter Estates; 2 miles N of Colonial Boulevard Minister: Reverend Dr. Wayne Robinson Sunday services: 9 and 11 a.m. Sunday: 11 a.m. KIds Intangible Gifts sessions, kindergarten through sixth grade Unitarian Summer: 11 a.m. Tapestry of Faith Programs, child care provided Adult worship: 9:30 a.m. Faith Like a River: Themes from UI History. 226-0900, Email: allfaithsuc@embarqmail.com, Website: www.allfaiths-uc.org

ALL SAINTS BYZANTINE RITE CATHOLIC CHURCH 10291 Bayshore Rd., N. Fort Myers Divine Liturgy is on Sun. at 10:30 a.m.; Rosary begins at 10 a.m. Evening services (Presanctified Liturgy) will be on Wed. evenings at 6 p.m. starting on Feb. 22. Administrator is Very Rev. Peter Lickman, ph. 305-651-0991. We are a Church of the Eastern Catholic or Byzantine Rite, 1.5 mi. east of Int. 75.

ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH 8210 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers Reverend Fr. Athanasios Michalos Orthros Service Sunday 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy Sunday Fort Myers 10 a.m. Fellowship Programs, Greek School, Sunday School, Community Night 239-481-2099

BETH SHILOH MESSENIAN SYNAGOGUE 15675 McGregor Boulevard, 437-3171 Rabbi: Judah Hungerman Friday: 8:15 p.m., Saturday Service, 11 a.m. Shabbat School Saturday Morning, Adult Hebrew Classes. Call for information on full program.

BREATH OF LIFE MINISTRIES CHURCH OF GOD 16581 McGregor Boulevard, 267-3166 Just past the Tanger Outlet Mall Pastor: Barry Lenz, 281-3063 Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study, 7 p.m.

CHAPEL OF CYPPRESS COVE 10200 Cypress Cove Circle Fort Myers 239-850-3943, Located at Cypress Cove Retirement Center on HealthPark Campus. An ecumenical non-denominational community of believers. Sunday Worship Service, 10 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study, 7 p.m. Reverend Ted Allhouse, Pastor revetdalthouse@aol.com

CHURCH OF THE CROSS: 13500 Freshman Lane; 768-2188 Pastors: Bob Moran and Michael Buttler; A nondenominational church emphasizing a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Sunday Service: 9 a.m. Contemporary 10 a.m. Traditional.

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 2439 McGregor Boulevard, 334-8937 Rev. Dr. Jeffrey DeYoe, Senior Pastor Supply Pastor. Reverend David Dietzcl, Elders: Dorothy, Rev. Bob, Tonya. Tuesday Sunday service 10 a.m. Nursery available

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

CYPRUS LAKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 8260 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers, 481-3233; Clint Cottrell, pastor Sunday services: 8 and 11 a.m. Traditional;

CYPRUS LYNX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 9650 Gladiolus Drive, Fort Myers 454-4778 The Reverend Dr. John S. Adler, pastor. Weekly services: Saturday 5 p.m., Eucharist with Healing Sunday 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist, Rite One; 9:30 a.m., Family Eucharist with Healing and Children’s Church; Tuesday 9:30 a.m., Morning Prayer (in Spanish); Wednesday 9:30 a.m., Eucharist with Healing. Child care available at Saturday 5 p.m. and Sunday 9:30 a.m. services.

JESUS THE WORKER CATHOLIC CHURCH: 811 Nuna Avenue, Fort Myers, 481-1143 Masses Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m.; Sunday 8 and 10 a.m. (Old and New) Day.

KINGDOM LIFE CHURCH 2154 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers, 218-8343 Pastor Robert and Anita Thurman 10:30 a.m. Sunday Service All are welcome.

LAMB OF GOD LUTHERAN/EPISCOPAL CHURCH Corner Cypress View Drive and Koreshan Boulevard, Three Oaks area, Fort Myers, 267-3525 Walter Fols, pastor; Becky Robbins-Penniman, associate pastor Sunday Worship services: 8 a.m. Early Grace Traditional 9 a.m. Awesome Grace Contemporary 10:30 a.m. Classic Grace Traditional 6:30 p.m. Contemporary 8:45 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Forum; 10:30 a.m. Sunday School's God's Group

MESSIAH REFORMED CHURCH Worship Gathering - Sunday 10 a.m. Pastor Alan Bondon Fort Myers 239-893-7882 Rabbi: Rabbi Elyssa Auster 14486 A&W Bulb Road, Fort Myers, 239-985-8503 website: messiahreformed.com 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study noon Sunday Fellowship Lunch Monday Teen Events see website for podcasts, special events, ministries, calendar, blogs, etc.

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH OF FORT MYERS 16120 San Carlos Boulevard, Unit 10 239-985-8503 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages 11 a.m. Adult Worship 7 p.m. Wednesday Evening Bible Study

NEW HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 3825 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers Pastors: Stu Austin and Howard Biddulph 8 & 9:30 a.m. Traditional Worship 11 a.m. Contemporary Worship 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m. Sunday School Youth and Children’s programming runs concurrent to Sunday services. Nursery care provided at all services 274-1230. For more information visit: www.newhopefortmyers.org

PEACE COMMUNITY CHURCH Meets at Ft. Myers Beach Masonic Lodge 17625 Pine Ridge Road, Fort Myers Beach 267-7400. Pastors Bruce Merton, Gail & RC Fleeman 9:45 a.m. Traditional Worship 11 a.m. Contemporary Worship Phone 267-7400 Fax 267-7407 Web site: peacecommunitychurch.com e-mail: peace1265@aol.com

PEACE CHRISTIAN CHURCH Saturday, Worship 5 p.m. Sunday, Worship - 8 and 9:30 a.m. Wednesdays during Lent soup dinner at 5:30 p.m., Compassion at 7 p.m. Pastor: Reverend Jenifer Ink. The PEACE LA. We celebrate weekly communion with traditional liturgy, organ and choir. 15840 McGregor Blvd, Fort Myers, 481-2599, www.peacecft.org, peacecft@comcast.net

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH 3950 Winkler Ext., Fort Myers, 274-0143 8:15 and 10:15 a.m. Sunday Services Daily early lectionary care.

RIVER OF LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD 21580 River Ranch Rd, Estero 239-495-0400 Senior Pastor: Todd Weston 8:15 & 10:45 a.m. 11:30 a.m. Legacy Service, multi-generational

SAMUDRABADRA BUDDHIST CENTER Meditation center for all buddhists. Guided meditations offering many methods for relaxing the body and focusing the mind on virtuous objects to bring increasing peace and happiness into daily activity. For information, class times and locations call 567-9739 or visit www.MeditationFortMyers.org.

SOUTHWEST BAPTIST CHURCH 16940 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers, 482-8216 Robert G. Kasten, Pastor Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m. Nursery available 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages Junior Church grades one to five

ST. COLUMBAN CATHOLIC CHURCH 12171 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 5:30 p.m. Reconciliation is available at the church on Saturdays at noon and by appointment

ST. JOHN THE APOSTLE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH 3049 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers, 344-0012 Pastor Reverend Steve Fillizzi An Affirming & Inclusive Congregation Sunday Services, 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Mid-Week Service, Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

ST. MICHAEL’S CHURCH & SCHOOL (LCMS) 3595 Broadway, Fort Myers 239-939-4711, www.smlcs.org Tuesday Campus Ministry: 3:30 p.m. Wednesday: Worship Service, 9:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Wednesday night: 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 BETH SYNOAGOGUE 16225 Winkler Avenue, 339-0018. Rabbi Jeremy Barras E-mail: rabbi.barras@templebethel.com Cantorial soloist: Lawrence Dermer Temple educator: Dale Cohen, MaEd, RJE Shabbat Services: Saturday 5:30 p.m. Torah Study, Saturday, 9:15 a.m. Religious Education; Sunday School and Midweek classes, Preschool Classes, Monday through Friday Web site: www.templebethel.com Affiliated: Union for Reform Judaism

TEMPLE JUDAEE (CONSERVATIVE) 14486 A&W Bulb Road, Fort Myers, 437-3171 Rabbi: Rabbi Elyssa Auster President: Keith Grossman Minyan: Monday and Thursday at 9 a.m. Services: Friday night at 7:30 p.m. and continued on page 11
Israel Fest Returns

Israel Fest, sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Lee and Charlotte counties, is a celebration of Israeli Independence Day through Israeli arts, food, and music. In 2012, Israel Fest will be held on Sunday, April 22 from 12:30 to 4 p.m. at the Jewish Federation, 9701 Commerce Center Court in Fort Myers.

Israel Fest will be different this year, including a shaded place (with chairs) to sit and enjoy the delicious fresh food prepared by Chef Dalia Hemed and listen to the live musical program featuring Lynn and Joe Goldovitz. The synagogues will have booths with various items to sell and guests may stock up on gifts and jewelry from the vendors or cool off with a Rita’s Italian ice.

Also, there will be adults and children from Temple Beth El and Temple Judea performing on stage. Lynn and Joe Goldovitz will perform Israeli and Jewish folk music. The Shalom Dancers will perform and also teach Israeli dances to all who would like to join in.

The Jewish Federation Young Adult Division will sponsor a craft booth where of kids all ages can make arts and crafts free of charge. Kids will also be able to create a t-shirt with their name in Hebrew for a nominal fee. The popular Archaeology Dig will be back and everyone can learn about Israel’s history.

Women’s Philanthropy will be showcasing a 10-foot by 60-foot display depicting Israel’s history and the history of Jews in Florida.

Many local Temples and Jewish organizations will have booths to inform the community about their programs and functions. It will be a day of wholesome fun for the entire family.

The entrance fee is $2 for anyone over the age of 12. All proceeds will benefit our local Jewish Family Services. For more information about Israel Fest, visit www.jewishfederationflcc.org.

SWFL Christian Academy Teacher Nominated For Golden Halo Award

Susie Kackley, a second grade teacher at Southwest Florida Christian Academy, was nominated to receive the Golden Halo Award for the 2011-12 school year. Mrs. Kackley was nominated by Madison and Mackenzie Thomas, twins who are students in her class.

Ten teachers will be honored on April 21 at the annual dinner that will be held at Spanish Wells in Bonita Springs. The Christian Chamber of Southwest Florida recognizes outstanding teachers in Lee, Collier and Hendry counties. The Golden Halo Award is the Christian school equivalent to the Golden Apple Award.

Thomas Sievert, a senior at Southwest Florida Christian Academy, recently received an Excellent rating on a grade 7 piano solo at the Florida Bandmasters Association State Music Performance Assessment. A grade 7 is the most difficult level to receive at the high school level. The event was held on March 30 and 31 at Broward College’s Central Campus in Davie, Florida.

Send your editorial copy to:
press@riverweekly.com
The scene at CROW on April 6 was chaotic. A juvenile bald eagle had just arrived in critical condition. It was found sitting in the parking lot of the Dairy Queen on Sanibel, unable to move because a long string was wrapped around its body. CROW volunteer Paul Paglia immediately picked up the avian and drove him to the clinic. Upon arrival, a shot of Butorphanol tartrate was administered for pain management and the patient was promptly taken to the operating room.

Once on the table, the eagle was given the anesthetic gas isoflurane through a small mask and was carefully monitored for respiratory reactions while the sound of his amplified heartbeat filled the room. The surgical team of three – supervised by Dr. Heather – began the monumental task of removing the material with suture scissors. It became evident that the bird had been incumbered by the unidentified string (possibly a kite line) for some time as it had begun to granulate into its tissue. As the examination continued, more and more constriction injuries were discovered on its legs, wings and body.

Young bald eagle above Dairy Queen

The operation to remove the string and clean its extensive wounds was long and grueling: one person announced they were running a line and hanging a bag of fluids to keep the bird hydrated; another gave it a shot of septazine (a synthetic antibiotic); Dr. Heather administered meloxicam (similar to aspirin) to relieve pain and swelling while another person repeatedly dodged surgical tubing to change the lice covered towels.

The prognosis was not good, said Dr. Heather. “Our concern here is the condition of what we call the ‘wing web,’ which is the muscle that allows these birds to fly and glide. It may look like a minor injury, but it’s actually the most serious. What happens with severe line entanglements like this is that it scars down and contracts so the birds can no longer fully spread their wings.” After hours in surgery, the eagle was taken to the clinic’s radiology machine for X-ray imaging. Once it was positioned properly, the room was evacuated and a loud warning call of “Shooting!” could be heard throughout the floor of the clinic.

The images clearly showed that the eagle had suffered several bone fractures. External coaptation was ordered to stabilize the fractures with the use of casts and bandages. While Dr. Heather was hopeful that the bones will heal, she was gravely concerned about the patient’s devitalized skin and compromised blood flow.

Dr. Heather continued to treat the young eagle for his broken bones and damaged wing muscles caused by the entanglement. With physical therapy, they hope the bird will regain its ability to fly and glide so that it can be reunited with its sibling and parents on Sanibel. Let’s keep our fingers crossed for this young symbol of our great nation.

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

Captiva Cruises has established Discover Southwest Florida History cruises to Cabbage Key, Useppa Island, Boca Grande and has recently added cruises to The Edison & Ford Winter Estates on the Caloosahatchee as well as this cruise to Pine Island.

For more information and reservations call 472-5300.

America’s Boating Course Offered

The San Carlos Bay Sail & Power Squadron, a unit of the United States Power Squadrons, will be offering America’s Boating Course on Saturday, April 21 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This course is recognized by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators.

The State of Florida recently passed legislation requiring anyone born after January 1, 1988 to have passed a safe boating course and obtain a Boating Safety Education ID card, which is valid for life, in order to operate a boat with more than 10 HP. Each student will receive a card/certificate from the Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission upon completion of the class. The course consists of two sessions on consecutive Saturdays. The second session will be held on Saturday, April 28 also from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Topics covered include hull design, docking, anchoring, handling boating emergencies, reading channel markers and many other topics to make each boating experience safer and more enjoyable. Successful completion of this course entitles the boater to six months free membership in a United States Power Squadron.

The cost of the course is $40, with a $20 cost for a second person sharing the instruction materials.

The course is being taught at the San Carlos Bay Sail & Power Squadron classroom, located at 16048 San Carlos Blvd. at the corner of Kelly Road (across from ACE Hardware) in Fort Myers.

Students can register online at www.scbps.com or call 466-4040 for more information.
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.

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Daily 11am presentations about our area’s native and migratory wildlife
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Please thank our Case of the Week ad sponsor for supporting CROW:

thanks
Whether your landscape needs a butterfly attractor, a touch of violet, a low-maintenance groundcover—or all of the above—Florida ruellia (Ruellia caroliniensis) might be the perfect choice.

Virtually year-round, this highly drought-tolerant wildflower produces stalkless blue or violet flowers that appear in clusters of two to four.

Funnel-shaped and five-lobed, they measure about two inches across, lasting as little as one morning before dropping.

In the wild, Florida ruellia is found in woodlands, often in shade. The leaves are oblong and evergreen, the stems semi-woody and sometimes hairy.

The plant provides nectar for a number of butterfly species and is the larval host plant for the native common buckeye butterfly.

A moderate grower, it usually reaches six to 18 inches high. Use it as a low-maintenance groundcover, a walkway border, or even as a hanging plant.

Exceptionally adaptable and hardy, it can be planted in full or partial shade, but will thrive even in nutrient-poor soil and full sun. It spreads via suckers and by explosive seed capsules, but isn’t invasive.

Pest-resistant and highly drought-tolerant as well, it does best in well-drained soil.

Given its low tolerance for salt water, wind, and spray, it is not suited for coastal landscapes.

Propagate Florida ruellia with seeds or cuttings.

A cautionary note: If you’re considering the Mexican petunia (Ruellia tweediana or Ruellia brittoniana) to add a touch of blue to the garden, make the effort to find Florida ruellia instead. The Mexican petunia is listed by the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council as a category 1 exotic pest species.

Sources: hort.ufl.edu, fnpschapters.org, regionalconservation.org, and National Audubon Society Field Guide to Florida.

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

Caring For Your Plants

Pool Cage Palms

I find a lot of homes in Fort Myers have screened in lanais with trees that have become way overgrown. Maybe this is you? Most landscapers and homebuilders install palms or trees in pool cages not knowing their eventual height. Some of these palms include Christmas palms (Adonidia merrillii), Areca palms (Dypsis lutescens) and Solitaire palms (Pachysperma elegans).

These palms look nice when first planted and while the homebuilder or landscaper has long since been paid and left; years later, the trees begin to grow through the mosquito screen above. In other words, the original landscapers basically didn’t care what the palms or trees would grow up to down the line. This can become a costly dilemma for you, the homeowner.

So, what can you do? Or what if it’s too late? Typically, you can have a knowledgeable local landscaper come in and transplant the tree to your yard where it will have a chance to reach its full potential (make sure it is planted in the right amount of sunlight—too much full sun and it may burn, too little and it may stretch for light). This knowledgeable landscaper can then plant a new palm

Native, low-maintenance, and adaptable Florida ruellia... a superb ground cover

Pool Cage Palms

Lady palms produce multiple canes and neat leaves with fingers. Notice the colorful bromeliads underneath.

Ruffled fan palms have an exotic circular leaf and stay fairly short

Staying with a palm tree because hard-wood trees and bushes require trimming and drop dead leaves, which may fall into your pool or decompose on your pool deck causing stains. I recommend the following palm trees because they are bushy, lush, tropical-looking, clumping, dwarf and low maintenance:

- Lady palm (Rhapis excelsa)
- Bamboo palm (Chamaedorea seifrizii)
- Cat palm (Chamaedorea cataracta-rum)
- Bottle palm (Hyophorbe lagenaculis)
- Pigmy date palm (Phoenix roebellini) – male specimen, if possible
- Ruffled fan palm (Licuala spinosa)
- Dioon cycad – not a palm, but looks similar

If your pool-side planters do not have irrigation in place, any of the above palms will still work, but you will have to continued on page 16.
You feel good about yourself when you volunteer and give back,” said Jim Sprankle at the April 6 dedication ceremony for the touch screen that enhances his duck decoy exhibit. Sprankle donated his decoy collection to the JN “Ding” Darling Education Center. Sprankle is one of the best known wildfowl wood sculptors in the world. His early age adventures in wildfowl hunting combined with a family background in wood working and taxidermy helped him hone his skills for creating life-like sculptures. Sprankle was offered many opportunities to donate his collection to some world class exhibits – like the Smithsonian Institute – but chose to give the collection to the “Ding” Darling Education Center. The exhibit is titled Folk Art to Fine Art – The Evolution of Native American Decoys to Contemporary Decorative Sculptures.

Sprankle and his wife Patty moved to Sanibel in 1994 and have been involved with the “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society since 1995. He was president for five years.

“I’m so honored to have my decoys here on permanent display in the “Ding” Darling Wildlife Education Center,” said Sprankle. Many Sanibel residents have sponsored the 46 decoys in the exhibit, including Chip and Sheryl Lesch and Al and Sally Hanser from The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company.

The Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education at Florida Gulf Coast University would like to thank all of its island supporters who helped make this year one of the most successful in its history. The center truly appreciates all who offered their ongoing support.

The center is especially grateful for the dedicated support it received during its annual Rachel Carson Distinguished Lecture Weekend. With the unexpected challenges that arose from the news of Mary Oliver’s serious illness, the center is honored to be working with such an understanding and caring community.

The center would also like to extend a special thank you to all of those who made contributions in memory of Helen Moe, and to meet the Haffenreffer Challenge.

Sincerely,
Staff of the Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education.

Dining For Wildlife kicks off on April 22 and runs through May 17. To participate, diners must visit www.conservancy.org/dining where they will choose the time period when they would like to dine, select from participating restaurants and price points, and purchase dining certificates. Once the certificate is purchased online, a copy will be sent via e-mail. The diner must make a reservation at the restaurant accordingly and bring their printed certificate(s) to the restaurant.

Additional terms and conditions are available online.

For more information or questions, e-mail nikkied@conservancy.org or call the Dining For Wildlife Hotline at 325-2666.

Dining For Wildlife participating restaurants include Alexander’s of Naples, Barbatella, Bayside Seafood Grill & Bar, Bistro 821, Bleu Provence, Café Lurcat, Campiello, ChezBoet, Ciao Ristorante, HB’s on the Gulf at The Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club, M Waterfront Grille, Pagelli’s Rustic Tuscan Grill, Preston’s Steakhouse, Ridgway Bar & Grill, Sam Sneads Oak Grill & Tavern at Lely Resort, Sea Salt, Season’s 52, St. George & The Dragon, The Bay House Restaurant, The Dock at Grayton Cove, The Real Macaw Restaurant, The Turtle Club and Vergina Restaurant.

Decoy sponsored by Chip and Sheryl Lesch

Chip Lesch introduced Sprankle and thanked everyone for attending. He said, “The trust company is honored to be a sponsor of the Sprankle duck decoy exhibit. The ‘Ding’ Darling Society, Jim and Patty Sprankle and the refuge staff have done so much for so many, and this exhibit only enhances the world class reputation of the ‘Ding’ Darling Refuge.”

CARD OF THANKS

Chip Lesch of the Sanibel Captiva Trust Company; Jim Sprankle, wildfowl sculptor; and Paul Tritalk, refuge manager

Dedication Ceremony At Refuge Education Center
submitted by Kathleen McClanahan-Gruhl

Dine Out To Support Wildlife

Local restaurants participating in Dining For Wildlife are dishing out proceeds to support the care and rehabilitation of animals at the Conservancy of Southwest Florida Wildlife Clinic.

On select dates in April and May, the restaurants will donate half of the proceeds from special “Dining For Wildlife” certificates to the Conservancy of Southwest Florida Wildlife Clinic. The clinic treats more than 2,400 injured, sick and orphaned animals are treated annually and approximately half of those animals treated are released back into their native habitats.

Patrons can choose from fixed-price meals at $40, $60 or $80 per person. The price includes a three course meal, non-alcoholic beverage and sales tax. Alcoholic beverages and gratuity are not included.

Entertainment Nightly in “Sanibel’s Social Scene”

The

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1223 PERIWINKLE WAY, SANIBEL 472-1771
Edison & Ford Winter Estates Now Offering Garden And Estates Tour

The Edison & Ford Winter Estates is offering a new Garden And Estates Tour to answer the interest of visitors and community members who are interested in practical home gardening and in learning from the expertise from the horticulturalists at Edison Ford as well as the historic garden tips from the original families – the Edisons and Fords – who used the site very effectively 100 years ago.

The new Garden And Estates Tour will be available rain or shine every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. and includes the new organic garden areas, the propagating nursery, Garden Shoppe and, of course, 20 acres of historic gardens and homes on the river. The gardens were recognized with the top award from the National Garden Clubs, Inc. for restoration as well as gardening expertise. The horticulturalists at Edison Ford are also UF Master Gardeners and teachers. The tour will include historic information and advice on planting and care, seed selection, home “victory” gardens and sustainability and environmental concerns.

In the past few years, there has been a 20 percent increase in home gardening with a return to using vegetables, herbs and other edible plants in ornamental landscapes as well as installing family and community gardens to provide consumers with home grown food ready for the table.

“We notice more and more that our visitors want to know how to grow the same edible foods they see here at home. They are interested in heritage seeds, organic substitutes for fertilizer and insect control, and practical growing tips that are ageless,” said Todd Roy, master gardener and Garden Shoppe manager. The Garden Shoppe is stocked with many proven varieties of plants that grow easily.

Both Edison and Ford also cultivated an edible landscape at their estates in Fort Myers including citrus, tropical fruits, vegetables and even a truck garden area. Today, many of their larger trees still remain and are still bearing crops while others have been reintroduced throughout the site. Visitors will be introduced to the bananas used as landscape barriers and used as a great food source, dozens of varieties of mangoes both historical and new varieties, as well as a great variety of citrus that characterize the estates.

In addition to the historical gardens, the tour will also include useful areas like herb mounds, container and raised bed gardens. Rain barrels, drip systems, worm castings, crab shell soil amendments and unique mulch techniques will be seen throughout the site and many date back to practices of the two inventors and their families.

The garden and estates walking tour is about two hours in length and participants can also extend their tour with the audio wand tour of the property (available in English, German, French and Spanish). Registration is not required.

Cost of the Garden and Estates Tour is $40 (groups may preregister for special times and fees) and Edison Ford Members are free. The ticket includes the audio wand.

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

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Call 415-7732, Fax: 415-7702 or email press@riverweekly.com
The Tarpon Are Here

by Capt. Matt Mitchell

My personal favorite fish, the tarpon, are really flooding into the sound in huge numbers and will offer anglers the chance to do battle with the ultimate shallow water gamefish for the next few months. If you have never hooked into one of these incredible fish, now is your chance.

This week marked my first tarpon trips of the season. After finding lots of fish in the middle sound mid-week, I did not land a tarpon on either trip. On the first outing, we jumped two fish. Then, the very next day, we jumped three more in an hour before conditions got too rough and we had to switch gears and go for redfish.

Seeing such large numbers of tarpon in slick calm water the first day was a sight to behold. Tarpon were all over the place, free-jumping, rolling and just milling around. With windy conditions at the end of the week, spotting tarpon was next to impossible so it was back to mangrove fishing and dreaming of tarpon for at least a few more days.

After a long winter of light tackle fishing, getting into the spring tarpon mode again is always a great time of year for me. The spring schedule of extra early starts to be the first boat on the fish at sunrise, having an assortment of cut baits and live baits ready to go the night before and switching out to the big spinning rods required to get the job done are all part of the change of season.

After one of the worst tarpon seasons I can remember last year, I really have my fingers crossed that this year things will be back to normal. The huge amounts of threadfin in the sound already is one good sign that the tarpon should hang out for a while.

Conditions for sight-fishing tarpon were perfect a few mornings this week. Drifting through and slowly troll-motoring around rolling fish while pitching live baits out in front of them is my favorite way to fish these silver kings. Later in the morning when the fish are not showing as much and the sea breeze begins to kick up, I like to set up on the anchor and add some cut baits to my live bait spread. Tarpon this week ate both live and cut baits. A little cold front passing through dropped the humidity and brought stronger winds that might just slow the tarpon party down a little bit for a few days, but only time will tell.

Big mid-day high tides made for the perfect redfish set-up. Action was very consistent, although some days it took more moving around to locate the feeding reds. Both cut baits and live shiners fished under a popping cork caught redfish under the trees and on oyster bars. The mangrove islands in the no-motor zone in Wulfert Keys produced keeper-size reds for me every time in there this week. Some days, picking the wind-blown shorelines and working every nook, cran-ny and point seemed like the only way to find them. Each move would only produce one or two fish. The next day, one mangrove hole would produce a dozen or more reds of all sizes. Guess that’s redfish fishing.

Shark fishing was also a good bite this week even though we did not get into any sharks over about four feet. Rocky Channel and water in the seven- to eight-foot range in the middle sound was loaded with two- to four-foot blacktips. Cut mullet and ladyfish worked well along with live pinfish under a float. Using the lighter spinning tackle, we had a blast with these hard-fighting sharks. Packs of these little blacktips – once they started to feed – made for non-stop action, and they even hit live baits right on the surface.

Limits of seatrout where still easy to come by without spending too much time out on the shallower flats. Sandy potholes in the two- to four-foot range held trout to 24 inches.

Out along the beaches, the Spanish mackerel bite has been going off and there have been some kings in the mix, too.

Spring is without a doubt one of the best times to fish our local waters, with a huge variety of fishing opportunities close at hand.

Capt. Matt Mitchell has been fishing local waters since he moved to Sanibel in 1980. He now lives in St. James City and works as a back country fishing guide. If you have comments or questions e-mail captmattmitchell@aol.com.
Dance Company
And Choral Group To Perform

Dance Alliance, the Alliance for the Arts’ resident dance company, is celebrating its third season with an ambitious program fusing dance, live music and spoken word. Two performances will be held in the Foulds Theatre at the Alliance for the Arts on Saturday, April 20 and Sunday, April 21 at 8 p.m.

The eight-member company is teaming up with Vocal Artistry, a premiere local choral group, to perform excerpts of Karl Jenkins’ *Requiem*, a series of thought-provoking melodies that blend the concept of a traditional Latin mass with Japanese haiku poems. The company also welcomes guest performer Dr. Jim Brock, a poet and Florida Gulf Coast University professor, whose rhythmic and musical verses serve as the inspiration for Dance Alliance choreographers. Guest choreographer Donna K. Frogge reunites with Dance Alliance for the second time, bringing her interpretation of the Biblical tale of the Tower of Babel to the Alliance stage.

Performances on both nights will be followed by a reception. A $10 donation is suggested; seating is general admission. Email leedancealliance@gmail.com or call 939-2787 for more information.

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

Symphony To Present
*Cirque de la Symphonie!*

The Gulf Coast Symphony, Southwest Florida’s premier community orchestra, offers thrills for all ages when they present *Cirque de la Symphonie!* on Saturday, April 21 at 7:30 p.m. This show features acrobats, dancers, aerial fliers, strongmen and tightrope walkers performing onstage with or above the Gulf Coast Symphony.

“This performance is not to be missed!” said Gulf Coast Symphony music director, Andrew Kurtz. “It’s such a unique program, unlike anything we’ve ever done before.”

*Cirque de la Symphonie* is a new production created to bring the magic of cirque to the music hall. It is an exciting adaptation of artistic performances widely seen in theaters and arenas everywhere. Artists include the most amazing veterans of exceptional cirque programs throughout the world. Their performances are uniquely adapted to stage accommodations shared by symphonies, and each artist’s performance is professionally choreographed to classical masterpieces and popular contemporary music in collaboration with the maestro.

This concert is sponsored in part by Mayer Family Dental. *Cirque de la Symphonie!* takes place at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall. Single tickets cost $42, $47, $52 and $62 and can be purchased at www.gulfcoastsymphony.org, by calling 481-4849 or at the box office one hour prior to the concert.

For more information, e-mail amy@gulfcoastsymphony.org.

Vladimir Tsarkov with rings
Hoop performer Aloysia Gavre
Craft Fair On Fort Myers Beach

The Fort Myers Beach Chamber of Commerce announces the Key Estero Boulevard Shops Vendor & Craft Fair. The craft show will be held on Sunday, April 15 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Key Estero Shops, located at 1661 Estero Boulevard on Fort Myers Beach. Ragady Megaforceband will provide live entertainment from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Cooled by the gentle breezes of the Gulf of Mexico, the Vendor & Craft Show – located in the Key Estero Shops parking area – will feature local artisans, vendors and crafters from all parts of Florida. Make it a point to browse and view the unique gifts, keepsakes for your home or that one of a kind piece of jewelry to enhance your wardrobe.

“We held a similar show in February, and it was such a success that we scheduled another which promises to be even better,” said Darlene Grossman, event chairperson. “The Chamber continuously looks for new ways to promote the businesses in our community. This is just the tip of the iceberg. We would like to expand our craft shows and hold them at various locations in the future.”

For more information or to reserve a booth space, contact Darlene Grossman at 850-5933 or visit www.fortmyersbeachchamber.org.

Shell Museum Participating In Reciprocal Membership Program

There are now another 100 reasons why membership in The Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum has become more valuable than ever. Along with its recent inclusion into the North American Reciprocal Museums program, the museum announces its participation in the Southeastern Reciprocal Membership (SERM) program.

If you join the museum at the $50 level or above, you automatically become a member of SERM, which entitles you to free admission as well as program, lecture, and store discounts and other benefits at nearly 100 museums in 15 states.

Some of the participating Florida institutions include Art Center Sarasota, the Orlando Museum of Art and the Tampa Museum of Art.

Museums may restrict benefits, so contact the institution prior to your visit for more information. To see a list of participating museums, visit the museum website’s Membership page at www.shellmuseum.org.

To join The Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum and to learn more about the reciprocal membership program, contact John Suau at 395-2233, or email jsuau@shellmuseum.org.

Touring Matlacha

Browse through goods from local artists, vendors and crafters from around Florida

Carina Baur, new team assistant with Engel & Völkers on Sanibel, and Isabella Rasi, realtor for the firm, visited their customer Leoma Lovegrove and took part in her Matlacha walking tour last Friday.

Baur is responsible for marketing the international real estate business. She stayed in Cape Town, South Africa after her A-Levels and received her law degree at the University Regensburg, Germany in 2011.

Rasi and Baur were impressed with Lovegrove’s colorful garden, gallery and the unique home on the waterfront. During the walking tour, they were able to experience Matlacha from its roots as a thriving fishing village to an artists’ community.
L. ee County Commissioner Tammy Hall is supporting local artists by giving them an opportunity to display their artwork in her Fort Myers office.

For the next several weeks, four local photographers and one local wood carver, will display their work in the District 4 Office, located at the Old County Courthouse in downtown Fort Myers. The display includes framed artistic photography of nature and wood carvings of area wild life.

Photographer Eric Levin, originally from South America, has lived in Bolivia and Trinidad before settling in the United States. Levin’s work includes framed artistic photographs of nature and wood carvings of area wild life.

“I find that when I shoot, my attention is not necessarily on the end result (the final print), but on enjoying the experience of being in nature,” said Levin. “The end result will take care of itself.”

A 1978 graduate of the Art Institute of Philadelphia, Allen Tiller launched a career doing magazine illustrations. Soon unable to paint or draw due to multiple sclerosis, Tiller honed his photographic skills.

“It is my desire to share with the viewer the beauty that I see in the world, and to take them to details that might otherwise be overlooked,” he stated.

Richard Sherman knew that photography would be a part of his life since his dad gave him a Time-Life magazine on photography and a Minolta SLR camera.

“I hope you enjoy the photographs and that you find peace and tranquility in the images,” said Sherman.

Jay Gilliford currently lives and produces his wood carvings at his home in Fort Myers. He has always had a passion for nature, particularly for birds and bird watching.

In combination with his interest in wood and wood carving, his passion for birds has led him to become quite skilled in bird carving and to produce the many beautiful projects that are showcased on his wood carving website. www.jaygillifordwoodcarving.com.

The work will be on display until May 11. The public is welcome to stop by and view the work and learn more about the artists. Call 533-2226 to confirm office hours for viewing the artwork.

The arts are an important part of the cultural and development of our community” said Hall. “I believe that government can play an important role in public awareness, developing the use of public spaces for display and interaction of art, and for the encouragement and commitment of continued financial support both public and private of all the arts.”

Commissioner Hall’s office is on the first floor of the Old County Courthouse, 2120 Main Street in downtown Fort Myers.

**College Offers Free Concerts At Mann Hall**

For many years, Edison State College has presented a series of concerts to the general public for free. It’s that time again.

“It’s an opportunity to enjoy three nights of outstanding music,” said Dr. Thomas Smith, musical director. “Talented musicians will perform Broadway show tunes; American concert band music; innovative works for big band and small group jazz; and some of the most memorable compositions ever written for the symphony orchestra.”

The following shows are free and open to the public:

- **April 17**
  - Edison State College Symphony Orchestra and Edison State College Choir Combined Concert, 7:30 p.m.

- **April 21**
  - Edison State College Symphony, under the direction of Dr. Thomas Smith, will perform some of the best loved orchestral works ever written: The Hebrides Overture (Fingal’s Cave) by Felix Mendelssohn, The Pulcinella Suite by Igor Stravinsky, Quiet City by Aaron Copland, featuring student soloists Jayla Gillaspie (English horn), and Tito Alvarens (trumpet).

- **April 24**
  - Edison State College Jazz Ensemble, directed by Dr. Tom Smith, 7:30 p.m.

  This 20-piece jazz big band, comprised of some of the finest musicians in Florida, will be swingin’ the night away as they perform both new and traditional big band jazz. Featured on the program will be works by Gordon Goodwin, Bob Brookmeyer, Duke Ellington, Thelonious Monk and others.

- **April 30**
  - Edison State College Concert Band, directed by Dr. Tom Smith, 7:30 p.m.

  The band’s spring concert will be an eclectic mix of classic band and wind ensemble favorites. Included on the program will be First Suite In Eb (Gustav Holst); Suite of Old American Dances (Robert Russell Bennett); The Cowboys (John Williams); Sammy Nestico’s Persuasion featuring alto saxophone soloist Zach Deeter; and The Carnival of Venice (J.B. Arban), featuring trumpet soloist Antonio Castillo.

Wine Trail And Beyond Returns

The Downtown Fort Myers Wine Trail and Beyond continues to gain popularity with both locals and visitors, and will return again this Saturday, April 14 from 7 to 10 p.m.

The ever-growing popularity of the River District gets a huge boost on the second Saturday of every month with Wine Trail and Beyond. This event attracts a fantastic group of guests that celebrate the best wine, spirits, beer and seminars, top local restaurant paired lunches and dinners, food tastings, chef demos and live music, with local galleries and retailers. Enthusiastic participants enjoy live entertainment throughout the event at the Patio De Leon.

This month’s live music will feature Renee Hose on the Patio from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Pre-register and pick up your tickets starting at 6 p.m. on the day of the event or buy online before the crowds arrive.

Go to www.WineTrailandBeyond.com or on Facebook.com/FortMyersWineTrail. Call 265-1948 or 561-289-3426 for more information.

Send your editorial copy to: press@islandsunnews.com
Going Blonde At Broadway Palm

by Di Saggau

I had no idea I was going to totally enjoy Legally Blonde at Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre. I did not see the movie, knowing it was not my cup of tea, but the musical has everything to make it work. The show knows it is cute and silly and celebrates the fact with a lot of wit and tongue-in-cheek throughout. I had a ball starting with the first musical number Omigod You Guys. Everyone in the large cast is exceptional.

The plot involves a popular sorority girl, Elle Woods (Maris Fernandes), an underestimated blonde who is studying “fashion merchandising” at UCLA. Elle’s boyfriend Warner (Billy Casey) has his future all planned and it no longer includes Elle. Feeling rejected, Elle points out “I’m from Malibu, I’m not exactly trailer trash. Richard Simmons is our neighbor.” Warner just doesn’t know a good thing when he sees it. Casey plays the part well, meaning you want to punch him.

Elle follows her ex-boyfriend to Harvard to try and win him back. She brings along Bruiser (Morgan Springer), a Celtic romantic who has a great voice. She is rescued by a stud-like UPS man (Drew Stark), who show-stoppingly announces: “I’ve got a package.” Elle ends up in Professor Callahan’s law class and proves she has the right stuff. Jesse Berger as Callahan exudes cold-hearted authority with an air of sophistication. Also in the class are Warner and his girlfriend Vivienne (Kate Marshall), someone who wears black even when no one is dead. There are interesting character changes as the show progresses.

Choreography by Amy Marie Cleary really gives the show a lift and keeps it moving. There are some terrific dance routines. Director Seth Reines makes the show light, fast, fun and frothy.

Laurence O’Keefe and Nell Benjamin’s score is enjoyable, with no one number that brings the house down and lingers in the memory, but there are some enjoy-able shafts of wit in the lyrics. I especially enjoyed The Harvard Variations, Blood in the Water and the courtroom scene with There! Right There! As far as feel good musicals go Legally Blonde is right up there with Mamma Mia and “Hairspray.” If you’re a guy and your wife or girlfriend wants to drag you along, give in, you’ll be glad you did.

The show plays through May 13 at Broadway Palm, 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers. For tickets call 278-4422, visit www.BroadwayPalm.com or stop by the box office.

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First Accounts
From The Titanic

by Max Friedersdorf

One hundred years ago, near midnight on Sunday, April 14, 1912, the world’s largest passenger liner was plowing through the North Atlantic at top speed despite receiving six wireless warnings of dangerous pack ice and icebergs in the vicinity.

The Titanic was on its maiden voyage from Southampton to New York with 2,200 passengers and crew aboard, including some of the wealthiest people on earth, as well as hundreds of steerage class immigrants hoping for a better life in America.

The huge ship was nearly the length of three football fields and required 37 seconds to elapse before the rudder could effect a change of course. This was not nearly enough time when a huge berg was spotted dead ahead. Moving at 25 mph, the 45,000-ton Titanic (irresistible force) struck the mammoth berg (immovable object) a glancing blow that sliced a 100-yard gash in the ship’s side below the water line. Promoted as “unsinkable,” most passengers and crew did not take the collision seriously at first, despite the stopped engines and listing. But within minutes, the captain, architect and owner knew the ship was doomed as sea water was flooding the baggage and mail rooms, the squash court and – more ominously – the boiler and engine areas.

Within half an hour, desperate wireless signals were piercing the air calling for assistance and the first lifeboats were being lowered. Most passengers still had faith in the Titanic staying afloat and preferred remaining on board to being lowered 80 feet into a lifeboat in the middle of the Atlantic, 1,000 miles east of Boston.

The ship was carrying 20 lifeboats, enough room for about one-third of the souls on board the Titanic. As the minutes ticked away and it became obvious the ship was going down, officers allowed only women and children in the lifeboats while husbands, fathers, sons and brothers were refused seats. It was now life or death to get a seat and the captain told the staff to go down along with themselves while choosing himself to go down with the ship. (The architect also perished; the owner survived in a lifeboat.)

When the Titanic finally foundered at 2:20 a.m. 1,514 passengers and crew were thrown into the icy 28 degree ocean and either drowned or froze to death. The 793 lifeboat survivors rowed and drifted until 4 a.m. when they were rescued by the arrival of the Carpathian, a smaller passenger liner that had picked up the distress call and raced 58 miles to the stricken vessel.

The 100th anniversary of the historic maritime tragedy has prompted the publication of many new books about an event that still holds great interest and fascination. Every facet of human nature is on magnified display. There is heroism, arrogance, selflessness, cowardice; but this was also heroism, sacrifice, bravery and love.

I highly recommend two new books on the Titanic saga. Titanic First Accounts is a compilation of eyewitness accounts by the surviving passengers and crew who were interviewed shortly after their rescue or testified before hearings in New York and London. The book also contains excerpts from memoirs of passengers and crew who survived that incredible night.

Another strong recommendation is Titanic Tragedy, A New Look At The Lost Liner by John Maxtone-Graham, a maritime historian. This book, available at the Sanibel Public Library, offers a contemporary assessment of the century-old tragedy. The author interviewed many of the survivors over the years, including Violet Jessop, a young Irish girl serving as a stewardess on the Titanic. Violet was given a seat on one of the last lifeboats. A young mother tossed down an infant that Violet caught and kept tightly embraced in her arms throughout the night until hauled aboard the Carpathian.

Maxtone-Graham also provides a clear, but unforgiving explanation for the failure of the nearby merchant ship Californian to come to the rescue despite being within sight of the frantic distress signals and rockets from the sinking Titanic.

Titanic First Accounts by Tim Maltin.


Titanic Tragedy, A New Look At The Lost Liner by John Maxtone-Graham.


Writer Lee Bennett Hopkins To Speak At Edison College

Name sake of Edison State College’s Lee Bennett Hopkins Writing Institute, Lee Bennett Hopkins, will take part in the 50th Anniversary Distinguished Speaker’s Series 2012.

A reception will take place on April 19 at 5:30 p.m. followed by the presentation at 6 p.m.

Light hors d’oeuvres and wine will be served for this third (and final) event.

Hopkins will speak on Celebrity Encounters In Writing. For more information, visit www.edison.edu/foundation.

Hopkins is one of the nation’s most sought-after speakers on the subject of children’s literature. He has written and edited numerous award-winning books for children and young adults, as well as professional texts and curriculum materials. He has taught elementary school and served as a consultant to school systems throughout the country.

Hopkins graduated from Kean University, Bank Street College of Educa-tion, and holds a Professional Diploma in Educational Supervision and Administration from Hunter College. In 1980 he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Keansburg University. In 1989 he received the University of Southern Mississipi Medallion for outstanding contributions to the field of children’s literature in recognition of his work; 2009 brought him the National Council of Teachers of English Excellence in Poetry for Children, recognizing his aggregate body of work.

In 2010 he received the Florida Libraries’ Lifetime Achievement Award. At the heart of all his writing is the dedication to bringing children and books together. “You must teach children to love books,” he insists. “We spend too much time teaching children to read and not enough time teaching them to love to read.” To encourage the recognition of poetry, he has established two major awards: the Lee Bennett Hopkins Poetry Award, presented annually by Penn State University for a single volume of poetry, and the Lee Bennett Hopkins/International Reading Association Promising Poet Award, presented every three years by IRA.

Events are free but registration is required. Seating is limited.

To reserve a place, contact Danessa Stevens at 489-9210.

East Of The Sun: A Memoir

by Noha Shaath Ismail

A coming-of-age tale, family saga and nostalgic view of the fifties and sixties, Noha Shaath Ismail’s memoirs describe her formative years in Alexandria, Egypt, and the personal journey that led her to the United States in 1970.

International in scope and universal in outlook, her story is set against the backdrop of political and social upheaval. She writes about the loss of her homeland in Palestine, Nasser’s Egypt and the tumultuous 1970s in Alexandria with insightful reminiscences about her family and her rapidly changing world.

Read about Ismail’s Palestinian father, Lebanese mother, Egyptian husband, and American sons, and be touched by a country engaged in war with itself at the same time (beer, fame, pride, love, sadness and yearning).

Here is an immigrant’s tale with stories about family, Muslim traditions, courting habits and a way of life that has since disappeared. There are also recollections of a world traveler spurred by View-Master and the desire to try and see new places, to “live” the adventures of others, to experience the world through books and film. She says “I loved the feeling of being in two worlds, the United States and Egypt, being pulled in two directions, the East and the West.”

Her memoirs are a reflection of one woman’s search for identity, and one family’s struggle to adjust to a new world (a world torn by war and violence).

This warm book is a gift not just to the author’s grandchildren as intended, but to all who care about family, history and justice, and who believe in fostering possibility and creativity in a world beset by violence.

Noha Shaath Ismail was born in Palestine in 1942 and spent her childhood and formative years in Alexandria, Egypt. She attended British schools in Alexandria, and graduated from the University of Alexandria with a degree in English Literature. She came to the United States for graduate study in 1963 where she earned a Master’s degree in Library Science from Drexel University in Philadelphia. Ms. Ismail immigrated to the U.S. with her husband and two young children in 1970, and spent her professional career with the Hennepin County Library System in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She is currently retired and lives with her husband in Fort Myers.

East Of The Sun: A Memoir is published by Author House in October 2011 and available from online retailers BarnesandNoble.com or Amazon.com. Also available in E-book format for the Nook and Kindle as well as for the iPad through iTunes.
Curry Spiced Mackerel with Oven Roasted Carrots

- 4 to 6 seven-ounce mackerel fillets
- 1/4 cup plain yogurt
- 1 teaspoon curry powder
- Kosher salt, to taste
- Fresh ground pepper, to taste
- 1 pound carrots, peeled and sliced into sticks
- 1 yellow bell pepper, sliced
- 1 red bell pepper, sliced
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 tablespoons fresh parsley, chopped

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. In a bowl, mix carrots, peppers, garlic and 1 tablespoon olive oil. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Place carrot mixture on a sheet pan and place in the oven. Cook for 12 to 15 minutes or until golden brown and crisp tender. Evenly coat mackerel fillets with yogurt and season with curry powder. Lightly season with salt and pepper. Preheat a medium sized sauté pan over medium high heat. Place coated and seasoned fillets in pan with 1 tablespoon of olive oil. Cook fillets until golden brown and cooked throughout. Serve fillets over oven roasted carrots.

Yields four to six servings

Look for “Fresh from Florida” ingredients at your grocery store.

Body Glove CaluSUP Races

All others should contact Southwest Florida’s SUP Club via e-mail at info@swflsupclub.org or by calling 404-7453. Complete details can be found online at www.swflsupclub.org. Paddling trail maps and information are available at www.calusableway.com.

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Our email address is press@riverweekly.com

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Blind Blast From The Woods Adds To Masters Lore

by Ed Frank

T

here have been many great moments in the history of golf and the improbable snap hook by Bubba Watson from deep in the woods that landed just 10 feet from the pin to cement his Masters victory last Sunday could be one of them.

Let’s recall some of those glorious moments by golfing legends and then you decide whether Watson’s gap wedge blast off the pine straw that hooked some 40 yards onto the second playoff green deserves a high ranking in golf history.

Here are my four top moments in golf:

At 46 years old, Jack Nicklaus won the 1986 Masters for his sixth Masters title. He had entered the tournament 160th on the year’s money list and hadn’t won a Major in his last 20 starts. The 1986 victory was his 18th Major triumph, a record that remains.

Arnold Palmer was seven shots back starting the final round of the 1960 U.S. Open at Cherry Hills. But he blasted to a 65 in those last 18 holes to defeat a young Jack Nicklaus (20 years old) by two strokes. Six birdies on the first seven holes set up his historic win.

Finally, the Duel in the Sun by Tom Watson and Jack Nicklaus in the 1977 British Open is my No. 4 ranking. In that clash, these two Hall of Famers battled head-to-head that warm day at Turnberry, coming to the 16th hole dead even. A birdie on 17 gave Watson a one-stroke lead but the drama was just beginning.

Watson stuck a seven-iron two feet from the 18th pin on his second shot and Nicklaus slashed an eight-iron from deep in the rough onto the green and proceeded to hole a 35-foot birdie putt. But Watson tapped in his two-footer for victory. The dueling sportsmen left the green arm-in-arm.

Obviously, any historic ranking is open to argument and time will tell whether Bubba Watson’s playoff championship last Sunday will rank high in the record books. But what a victory it was!

Just as Nicklaus showed great sportsmanship in his 1977 British Open loss, the same is true for this year’s Masters runner-up, Louis Oosthuizen of South Africa.

“He (Watson) hit an unbelievable shot there. Hats off to him; he deserves it,” he said.

Oosthuizen made history himself last Sunday when he recorded an eagle two on the second hole, the only fourth eagle in Masters history and the first on that hole.

The Masters is revered by many as “the tournament” on the golfing circuit. Last Sunday’s near-unbelievable win by the lefty Watson sure won’t diminish that reputation.

Florida Tarpons Remain Undefeated in Indoor Football League

Four victories in four games – that’s the record of the new Florida Tarpons of the Ultimate Indoor Football League. The Tarpons destroyed the Rome Rampage 60-7 last weekend at Germain Arena before 4,174 fans. The victory was the homecoming of quarterback Chris Wallace who played eight seasons for the old Florida Firecats of the now-defunct arenafootball2.

In his first game under center for the Tarpons, Wallace completed 17 of 31 passes for 307 yards and eight touchdowns.

The Tarpons travel to Lakeland Saturday to oppose the Lakeland Raiders.

Miracle go 0-3 in Season Start

Losing their first three games of the new season wasn’t what Manager Jake Mauer envisioned as he began his third year directing the fortunes of the Fort Myers Class A baseball team.
St. Andrew’s Society Establishes FGCU Study Abroad Scholarship Fund

The St. Andrew’s Society of Southwest Florida, Inc., headquartered in Naples, has created a study abroad scholarship fund at Florida Gulf Coast University, to further develop the Society’s scholarship efforts that support students studying in Scotland.

The St. Andrew’s Society of Southwest Florida Scholarship at FGCU has become the organization’s highest priority community program and has the interest of its members. The group hosted a fundraising event on March 23 in support of this scholarship.

Since 2009, the Society’s support has enabled FGCU to award significant scholarships to three students to study in Scotland and learn firsthand about the country and develop an appreciation for its history, people and culture.

“Our relationship with FGCU has been invaluable in two respects: identification of qualified students, and management of our funds,” said scholarship chairman William Paterson. “We have been very impressed with the professionalism of our FGCU contacts.”

The scholarship application and selection process is coordinated by FGCU International Services.

“The generosity of the St. Andrew’s Society has been significant in making study experiences in Scotland financially possible for students, immersing them into the culture, history, customs and contemporary experiences of the Scottish people,” said Elaine Hozdik, director of FGCU International Services. “We encourage our students to incorporate academic programs abroad as an educational component of completing their degrees at FGCU. This expands their professional knowledge and world views. It opens up global relationships, strengthens their career options, and will make them better students and better citizens. The St. Andrew’s Society scholarship has put Scotland on the destination list of our students who may not have considered studying in this academically, historically and culturally rich destination.”

To make contributions to the fund or for more information, contact Judie Cassidy, senior director of advancement, at 590-1058.

Kiwanis To Sponsor Learning For Life Recognition Dinner

The Cape Coral Kiwanis Club has announced it will sponsor the Learning for Life eighth annual recognition dinner at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theater in Fort Myers on Monday, May 7 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The dinner will honor six outstanding educators for implementing the Learning for Life character education program. These educators were selected from the 42 schools that Learning for Life services. Recognition dinner tickets are available until April 20 for $25 per person.

The event, which is also sponsored by Bee Authentic, Inc., will be hosted by NBC-2 news anchor Clay Miller, and will showcase students demonstrating character through the arts and testimonials.

Learning for Life is currently seeking table sponsors and silent auction donations to help ensure the evening is a success. For more event information and tickets, e-mail Tina Pegler at tpegler@lflmail.org or call 936-9072.

School Smart

by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSP

Dear Shelley,

My preschool daughter lied to her teachers twice last week. We discussed this with her and told her that lying is wrong, but I am concerned that there is something wrong. Her teachers said that lying at this age is generally not a problem. Is this true? 

Justin R., Cape Coral

Lying can become a bad habit if it goes unchecked. It can also indicate malicious behavior or emotional problems. Children may lie to get attention from peers or adults, to deal with daily demands or to cover up a serious problem such as substance abuse.

If you find that your child has lied to you, you should take that opportunity to talk about their behavior. Parents are the most important role models for children and honesty is learned at home. The importance of honesty at home and in their community should be discussed, as should alternatives to lying. In other words, giving your child different ways to cope and meet their needs without lying. Of course with the younger children, it is also important to review the difference between make believe and reality.

If as a parent you do see a maladaptive pattern of lying with your child that is serious and repetitive, it may be time to seek professional help. An evaluation by a professional child/adolescent counselor could help both the child and parent understand and remediate this behavior.

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

VCB Hosts Tourism Ambassador Appreciation Feast

The Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau (VCB) recently honored its 111 volunteers at the 22nd Annual Tourism Ambassador Appreciation Feast at Harborside Event Center in downtown Fort Myers. This year’s theme was Our Knights and Ladies in Shining Armor.

The annual luncheon is a celebration of the Visitor Services volunteer program, which started with one staff person and 24 volunteers on October 1, 1990 in two welcome booths at the Southwest Florida Regional Airport on Chamberlin Parkway. Two of the original volunteers are still with the program – Maureen Charlebois and Rosie Kershaw.

Since 1990, the volunteers have donated 289,276 hours of service, saving Lee County more than $4.7 million in wages. Volunteers have taken nearly 200 familiarization trips to hotels and attractions to better assist visitors with their questions about the area, and have helped with dozens of special projects, conferences, meetings, consumer shows, sports and community events, festivals, as well as work at state welcome centers since the program began.

“Our thanks to the hundreds of volunteers who have aided our visitors over the past 20 plus years, serving as the welcome face of our community,” said Tamara Pigott, VCB executive director. “These ambassadors are one of the best assets of the Southwest Florida tourism community.”

The program has grown over time, serving a few thousand Lee County visitors the first year to more than 260,000 last year. The program has assisted close to 1.9 million since 2004.

Our dedicated volunteers have always stepped up to the occasion whenever and wherever they were needed,” said Judi Durant, VCB Visitor Services director. “We are very fortunate to have great people who are willing to give back to the community by welcoming our guests.”

For information on joining the Visitor Services volunteer program, call 590-4855.

THE RIVER - APRIL 13, 2012 | 25
protein is known as the Housing for Older Persons Act (HOPA), are exempt from the provisions of amendments to the Fair Housing Act that were adopted in 1995, originally known as the Housing for Older Persons Development (HUD) regulations regarding occupancy status and record keeping, with its attorney. DeBoest recently co-authored a chapter in Florida Condominium and Community Association Law published by The Florida Bar and he regularly speaks and writes on community association law topics. He can be contacted at inquiry@condoandholawgroup.com.

Email your editorial copy to: press@islandsunnews.com
If you're relatively young and have been investing only a few years, you possess an asset that is invaluable and cannot be replaced: time. And the more time you spend contributing to tax-advantaged investments, the better off you may be.

As an investor, time is your ally for two reasons. First, the more time you give to your growth-oriented investments, the greater their growth potential. And second, the effects of market volatility have tended to decrease over time, though as you no doubt have heard, past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Clearly, it pays to put time on your side. And when you're investing in tax-advantaged vehicles, time becomes an even more critical component of investment success, especially when you are young and have several decades ahead of you before you retire.

Suppose, for example, that you put $200 per month into an investment on which you paid taxes every year. If you earned a hypothetical 7 percent return on this investment, you'd end up with about $324,000 after 40 years. But if you put that same $200 per month into a tax-deferred investment, such as a traditional Individual Retirement Account (IRA), and you earned that same 7 percent return, you'd wind up with about $513,000 after 40 years.

Of course, once you starting taking withdrawals, presumably when you're retired, you'll have to pay taxes on your earnings, so your after-tax accumulation would be about $385,000, assuming you took your IRA in a lump sum (which most people don't) and also assuming you were in the 25 percent tax bracket. However, by the time you retire, you may be in a lower bracket. Plus, you have some control over how much you withdraw each year, so you may be able to affect the taxes you'll pay.

Furthermore, depending on your income level, your contributions to a traditional IRA may be tax-deductible in the years in which you make the contributions. (Keep in mind that this hypothetical example is for illustrative purposes only and does not represent a specific investment or investment strategy.)

While tax deferral is obviously a nice feature for an investment, tax-free may be even better. If you meet the income requirements, you might want to consider investing in a Roth IRA, which provides tax-free earnings withdrawals, provided you've held your account for at least five years and you don't start taking withdrawals until you're at least age 59 and a half. This means that, in the above example, you'd have accumulated that same $513,000 – but you won't have to pay taxes on your withdrawals.

Generally speaking, the Roth IRA may make more financial sense for those who are eligible, but if you think you'll be in a lower tax bracket when you retire, and your income level permits you to deduct some of your contributions, you may want to consider a traditional IRA. Consult with your tax advisor for guidance on the most appropriate approach for your situation.

When it comes to building resources for retirement, it's almost impossible to save and invest "too much." So take full advantage of both time and tax-advantaged investments. By putting these investments to work for you, and by keeping them at work, you'll be putting time on your side as you work toward your financial goals.

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

Over 250 people filled the Cohen Center at Florida Gulf Coast University to celebrate Quality Life Center’s 21 years of service to the community at its annual Q fundraiser gala luncheon on March 27. Community leaders came together to honor three of its key partners in bringing awareness, assistance, and services to the Dunbar community: FGCU President Wilson Bradshaw, Lee Memorial Health System President Jim Nathan, and The News-Press Media Group Publisher Mei-Mei Chan.

Co-chairs Cia Sherman and Marie Accord, together with title sponsor Ted Sottong, president of Studio+ Architecture, reported that the event was the most successful fundraiser in the history of Quality Life Center and that it raised over $45,000 to benefit children and families. Gold sponsors were Florida Gulf Coast University, Lee County Sheriff’s Department, and The News-Press Media Group.

Other major sponsors included We Can’t Have That Foundation, Children’s Network, Lee Memorial Health System, FineMark National Bank & Trust, Scott Fischer Enterprises, Hodges University, Lee Pitts Live, Entech, Carrabba’s Italian Grill and Christine Rahming.

“We were thrilled with the results and the opportunity to come together with all of our community partners who passionately support our mission,” said Quality Life Center’s executive director, Abdul’Haq Muhammed. “We deeply appreciate all of our community partners and dedicated volunteers for their commitment to this labor of love to help us continue to move forward.”

Founded by Abdul’Haq Muhammed, Quality Life Center has been providing services through private donations and grant funding for over 21 years in education, youth enrichment, personal and community development, and social services for at-risk youth and families in the Dunbar area of Fort Myers. Services include hot meals and after-school and youth programs such as tutoring and help with homework, martial arts, dance, media arts, sports, and music enrichment for children aged four to 18. Other programs help adults prepare for and seek jobs, while summer camps serve more than 300 children.

Quality Life Center is located at 3210 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Fort Myers. For more information, visit http://www.qualitylifecenter.org or call 333-2100.

Airport Concessionaire Helps Food Bank

On Wednesday, April 18, MBA Airport Transportation is giving back to the community and will donate $25 of each fare to the Harry Chapin Food Bank through its Drive Hunger out of Southwest Florida promotion. MBA Airport Transportation, LLC is the taxi concessionaire for the Southwest Florida International Airport. MBA Airport Transportation, LLC is a DBE joint venture whose partner members are John J. Poelker, Jr., Mary Poelker, and Judith Griffin.

Poelker was a personal friend of Harry Chapin and is also a co-founder of the Harry Chapin Food Bank of Southwest Florida, serving as the president of the board of directors from 1989 through 1995. MBA believes that by bringing awareness to visitors and residents alike hopefully it can be part of the larger cooperative effort to overcome hunger in Southwest Florida. Harry Chapin was quoted as saying, “To know is to care; to care is to act; to act is to make a difference.”

Signs at Southwest Florida Airport will direct you to the taxi booth, where passengers are greeted by professionally attired staff and receive a complimentary newspaper and bottle of water.

From more information about club meetings, held every Tuesday.

Restaurants Pass On Savings, Assist Children’s Charity

The Kiwanis Club of Fort Myers Gateway to the Islands has recruited 56 restaurants in Lee County to offer BOGO (buy one, get one) dining discounts that are on sale now for twenty dollars. Discounts are valid only on April 15 through November 15, with all the profits from the book going to help local children and the local community.

A few of the restaurants featured in the Delicious Dining Discounts book include La Fontanella, Molino’s, Azucar, Paradise Pizza, Ballorney, Bratta’s, Il Pomodoro, Sunshine Grille, Charley’s Boat House Grill, Doc Ford’s Rum Bar & Grill, Nauti Turtle, Nervous Nellie’s, Parrot Key, Bianca’s and Firehouse Sports Grill.

“So many restaurants are very community minded and their participation in the dining book expresses that caring to patrons who might not otherwise know,” said Terry Luster, chairman of the Gateway to the Islands Kiwanis Club project. “This endeavor brings diners and restaurateurs together during the off-season to support the local community and children.”

To purchase a Delicious Dining Discount book, contact Gateway to the Islands Kiwanis Club at 415-3100 or KiwanisGTTI.Dining@gmail.com. Books may also be purchased on line by clicking on the dining icon at www.kiwanisgti.com. The website also lists the 56 participating restaurants.

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. Call 415-3100 for more information about club meetings, held every Tuesday.

From page 1

Rotary Club Gala

oldest Rotary Club with over 180 members. Rotary is an organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world.

The Rotary Club of Fort Myers has been the most influential service organization in Southwest Florida and the members have been responsible for a variety of projects that have been vital to the area.

Projects include:

- The extension of I-75 through Southwest Florida much earlier than the original scheduled completion date of 2006
- The bike paths and royal palms along McGregor Boulevard
- Initial funding for Edison Community College and the nursing program
- $384,000 funding to date for The Children’s Hospital
- Spearheading the effort to keep the Boston Red Sox in Lee County.

Tickets for gala are $50 per person and include dinner, followed by entertainment featuring Alter Ego. Many community leaders will in attendance to recognize the occasion. This is a black tie affair. Call 332-8158 for tickets.

Mom And Me

Harry and Mary

Dear Harry and Mary,

Professionally done manicures and pedicures now seem to be a necessity for many of the boomer generation and even for some of their 10-year-old-daughters. These procedures do not come cheap and I am amazed to see how many men and young girls line up outside these special salons waiting to get in on a Saturday.

That being said, when you give a gift of money it belongs to the recipients and rarely comes with a manual of special instructions as to how the money is to be spent.

You may not approve of their choice, but this is just a perfect example of the many differences between the generations.

Dear Harry and Mary,

I am sorry you feel the money gift you gave is being squandered. However, how the gift is spent is not about you, it is about the receiver – your daughter – and what she wants to do with the money.

Manicures and pedicures fall into the same category as day spas, massages, facials and eyebrow plucking. All of these services pamper and make one feel special. I believe that it is a great gift to give any loved one.

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

by Lizzie and Pryce
Dear Pharmacist:

I had such a bad reaction to eating hazelnuts that I required a shot, and some steroids. I don’t eat much nuts, sometimes cashews. Do you think I’m allergic to all nuts?

C.D., Coral Springs

You should avoid other nuts, too. I’ll tell you which in a minute. Luckily, you didn’t have full-blown anaphylaxis which occurs in about one-third of all tree nut ingestions, especially with peanuts, which by the way are actually legumes. It shocks me that airlines still serve peanuts to passengers—hundreds of people at a time—when there is such an incredibly high sensitivity rate.

The allergic response is triggered by the proteins found in the nuts, which do not break down with heat, meaning you can’t cook them out. Nuts are often “hidden,” too, so they may only get honorable mention in popular foods such as cookies, protein bars, cakes, cereals, nut spreads, praline and other desserts. Also, if the label says, “This product was manufactured in a facility that also uses nuts...”—that’s your cue to put the product back because there are traces of nut proteins that may have blown around the facility and made it into your particular food during handling or manufacturing.

Some folks only experience a mild problem with nuts, and it’s limited to irritations of the mouth, lips, tongue or throat. This is called “OAS” for oral allergy syndrome, or sometimes “Pollen Food Allergy.” Clinically, we see this most frequently in people allergic to weeds because the body sees the pollen traces in the nut. Birch pollens are sometimes to blame in OAS, which can occur any time of the year, but usually during pollen season. The cross sensitivity can occur between birch and other nuts as well as plums, pears, cherries, apples, carrots, peas and sunflower seeds.

I found a study that measured human IgE antibodies in order to evaluate cross-sensitivities. Among tree nuts, there is a strong cross reaction between walnuts, pecans and hazelnuts. So, none of those for you. There’s a moderate cross reaction among these: pistachio, almonds, hazelnuts, cashews and Brazil nuts. Of the bunch, cashews and pistachios are pretty tightly correlated, so if you’re allergic to one, definitely stay away from the other. I’d avoid the bunch, honestly, and consider a blood test to determine food allergies.

One more warning, about my favorite “nut” which I hardly ever eat but still fantasize about. Cashews, they are really seeds, not nuts. If you’re highly allergic to poison ivy, stay away from these guys. Even the “raw cashews” you see at health food stores are not truly raw. You simply cannot eat a raw cashew; it must be separated from it’s double-shell. In a pain-staking process, it’s steamed and/or boiled. But the outer shell contains urushiol, a toxic resin that sparks the familiar skin rash after exposure to poison ivy, oak and sumac. If you have a severe allergy to poison ivy, raw cashews should probably not be consumed. Otherwise, eat one for me!

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

Minimizing Allergies To Nuts And Fruits

by Suzy Cohen, RPh

You should avoid other nuts, too. I’ll tell you which in a minute. Luckily, you didn’t have full-blown anaphylaxis which occurs in about one-third of all tree nut ingestions, especially with peanuts, which by the way are actually legumes. It shocks me that airlines still serve peanuts to passengers—hundreds of people at a time—when there is such an incredibly high sensitivity rate.

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

Over 65? Think eyelid surgery is not affordable? Medicare STILL 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, COA.

Screening candidates receive a $25 movie gift card.

We are conveniently located on the corner of Summerlin and Winkler.

Elderly Resident Comes To Aid Of Elderly Resident

Letter Carrier Melanie Pierce was delivering mail in the 3600 block of SE 12th Avenue in Cape Coral on Monday, April 2 when she heard a faint cry for help. Pierce found an elderly resident in the bushes who had fallen and was in need of assistance. She called 911 and remained until emergency responders arrived.

Pierce is a dedicated letter carrier who well represents the service provided by the United States Postal Service employees.

To advertise in The River Weekly News
Call 415-7732

www.EyelidsOnly.com

Plastic & Reconstructive Eyelid Surgery

Dean W. Larson, M.D.

Dean W. Larson, M.D.

• Board Certified Eyelid Surgeon since 1990
• Diplomat of The American Board of Ophthalmology
• Over 15,000 surgeries performed successfully
• Serving Lee, Charlotte & Hendry County patients for over 19 years

Before

After

Before

After

Before

After

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Prostate Problems

by Dr. Dave Hepburn

I have hovered over and sashayed up to many a urinal over the years. I used to clean them when I was a teenager working at Mohawk Trailer Park in New Brunswick.

"David," the owner admonished, "by cleaning these every day, you will appreciate the work required to keep them clean and you will not end up being one of these guys who doesn't care if he hits or misses in here."

I would like to say he was right and so I will, given that I am the sole contributor to this column and I can write what I want and nobody will ever check.

Now sometimes a urinal is just a pretty piece of perched porcelain pottery; at other times, it's an art gallery where piddling Picassos attempt to demonstrate their skills, some with surprising accuracy in their anatomical if not political correctness. The prostate has narrowed the passageway to the point that the stream is slow, weak, unreliable and has to be used more frequently i.e., in what once was the still of the night.

There are several procedures and medication treatment options that can help alleviate these lower urinary tract symptoms (LUTS). We once had high hopes for saw palmetto, but that petered out. One that works surprisingly well is the ED (erectile dysfunction) drug Cialis. Cialis treats ED, alleviates LUTS, lowers blood pressure, helps Raynaud's disease and possibly even helps jet lag. All via its positive effect on our arterial nitric oxide (NO), a gaseous molecule that relaxes arteries allowing all of these good things to happen. We are discovering that this natural relaxant is actually quite vital to our good vascular health. So just say no to missing the urinal, and start writing in the snow like the young, immature man that is still deep within you. Stop getting during the night, or more importantly during the day, especially when Ben is playing.

"Like the column? You'll LOVE the

3,400 hospice and palliative care providers.

Beckwith is a founding member of the NHF's Board Of Directors And Executive Committee, serving in numerous leadership roles since 1994.

"We are delighted to have Samira serving as our board chair. She is experienced and nationally respected leader who is strongly committed to our vision of a world where individuals and families facing serious illness and grief will experience the best that humankind can offer."

Founded in 1992, the NHF is headquarter in Alexandria, Virginia. ✔

To advertise in
The River Weekly News
Call 415-7732

Income Tax Procrastinators And Late Mailing

Income Tax Night comes once a year without fail. The U.S. Postal Service delivers your tax dollars—it doesn't spend them. Income tax procrastinators need to be aware that there will be limited availability for mailing those last-minute tax forms on Income Tax Day, which this year falls on Tuesday, April 17. Post Offices in Lee and Collier counties will not have extended hours of operation. Those individuals who wish to send their income tax forms late that day must take their pre-stamped envelopes to the Fort Myers Processing & Distribution Center, 14080 Jetport Loop Road in Fort Myers. The outside blue collection boxes at that location will have a last pickup at midnight. For information on postal locations and hours for your zip code visit usps.com or call 1-800-ASK-USPS.

Self Service Shipping and Mailing Centers are located at Page Field Post Office in Fort Myers; Cape Coral Central Post Office in Cape Coral; Estero Post Office, Bonita Springs Post Office, Cocoa River Post Office and Naples Main Post Office in Naples. Addresses for these locations can be obtained from www.usps.com or by calling 1-800-275-8777. Self Service Shipping and Mailing Centers sell postage and offer Certified Mail service for your tax night needs. Payment can be made with a debit or credit card; no cash sales. Priority or Express Mail postage labels can be printed from usps.com using the Click-N-Ship program. ✔
Shell Point Partners With Local Agencies To Offer Tips & Tea

Shell Point Retirement Community is partnering with the Alzheimer’s Association – Florida Gulf Coast Chapter and Senior Friendship Centers to host Tips & Tea, a special event for family caregivers on Saturday, April 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Family caregivers are welcome to attend and enjoy an afternoon focused on education, relaxation and community resources to help offer a break from the normal routine of caregiving.

Attendees at this event will learn more about community resources available to them, including the Senior Friendship Centers adult day program; Shell Point’s assisted living, memory care, skilled nursing and rehabilitation services; and the many resources available through the Alzheimer’s Association.

Activities will include the Alzheimer’s Association Memory Mobile offering free memory screenings from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., helpful community resource information, tours of the Senior Friendship Centers Adult day center, refreshments provided by Shell Point and door prizes.

Emily Reese, Program Specialist for the Alzheimer’s Association – Florida Gulf Coast Chapter, will offer presentations at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. providing helpful tips for caregivers regarding stress.

“The Tips & Tea event will give Lee County’s aging population and caregivers a great opportunity to learn about the myriad of services available to assist them, while also enjoying an afternoon of educational and social activities,” said McKenzie Mills, Assisted Living Healthcare Marketing Specialist. “Social support, and staying connected, is essential to everyone’s good health and wellness no matter your age, and many times caregivers often neglect their own needs as they become consumed with caregiving duties.”

The event will take place at the Senior Friendship Centers, located at 5272 Summerlin Commons Way, Suite 601 in Fort Myers. This event is free and open to the public. Space is limited, so RSVP’s are required.

The Alzheimer’s Association is the world’s leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer care, support and research. Their mission is to eliminate Alzheimer’s disease through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all who are affected by Alzheimer’s disease; and to reduce the risk and impact of dementia through the promotion of brain health. Their vision is a world without Alzheimer’s.

For more information, visit www.alz.org.

The League Club Nominated Monthly Autism Advocate

Eeden Autism Services Florida has recognized The League Club as recipients of the Autism Advocate of the Month award. The award recognizes people or organizations who are advocates for autism by increasing awareness, raising funds or providing leadership in support of autism.

The League Club, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization of women in Southwest Florida strengthening communities through fellowship, education, volunteerism and philanthropy. The club is open to women who have been or still are active members of a Junior League that is a member of the Association of Junior Leagues International. Since 1986, The League Club has distributed more than $2,300,000 to non-profit causes making a valuable impact in Collier and Lee counties.

“We are grateful to The League Club for their support of Eeden and many other non-profit agencies. The League Club strengthens our community and raises the quality of life for residents in Collier and Lee counties,” said Susan Suarez, Director of Eeden Autism Services Florida operations. “They have helped Eeden through numerous grants that support our children in academic and recreational settings. We are indebted to the League Club for their ongoing commitment to help individuals with autism.”

Eeden’s Advocate of the Month receives a certificate of appreciation and will be invited to an annual reception. To nominate an advocate for autism, who exemplifies Action in Autism, submit your nomination including person’s name, contact information and a 50 word summary of why he or she should be selected to Taire.Malloy@edenautism.org or call 992-4680 ext. 5014.

Free Diabetes Education Event

Lee Memorial Health System, a participant in the 21st Century Community Health Services Program Committee, is sponsoring a free information seminar on diabetes education on Saturday, April 28 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Quality Life Center/Cornerstone Ministries, 3210 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. in Fort Myers.

The focus of this free community event is diabetes education and attendees will be able to receive a free glucose test. In addition, Harry Chapin Food Bank will be distributing groceries for the first 300 households who register. Bring reusable shopping bags or a box to carry the food. Dr. Sal Lacagnina, vice president of Health and Wellness as well as certified diabetes educators from Lee Diabetes Care, will be on hand to discuss:

• How to avoid the disease and stay healthy with diet and exercise
• What foods help you manage your diabetes
• How to avoid “sugar crash” – important for your safety and others as you drive and go about your daily activities

Physician referrals for care as needed

For more information, call 334-2797.

Free Car Safety Seat Inspection

The Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida and Kohl’s Kids Safety Program are providing free car seat safety inspections on Saturday, April 14 from 9 a.m. to noon at the LaBelle Health Department, 1140 Pratt Blvd. in LaBelle.

Research shows that an estimated 30 percent of children still continue to ride unrestrained and 80 percent of all car seats are used incorrectly. More than 1,700 children have been saved since 1996 just because they were riding in a properly fitted car seat and in the back seat.

Education and information to improve these numbers is of critical need in our community. According to Safe Kids and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, a correctly used safety seat reduces fatality risk by 71 percent and serious injury risk by 67 percent.

Car seats will be available at a reduced price if your car seat is part of a recall, out dated or not the appropriate car seat for the child.

Bilingual fitting technicians will be available. Appointments are strongly encouraged and may be made by calling 343-5224 for a time that’s convenient for you.

Send your editorial copy to: press@islandsunnews.com
TRIVIA TEST

1. FAMOUS QUOTATIONS: Who once said, “He who laughs last has not yet heard the bad news”?
2. MONEY: What is the basic unit of currency in India?
3. LANGUAGE: What does the Latin term “gratis” mean?
4. MEASUREMENTS: A year must be divisible by what number to be a leap year?
5. GOVERNMENT: Who was the first black female U.S. senator?
6. EXPLORATION: Who was the first European explorer to see the eastern part of the Pacific Ocean (1513), after crossing the Isthmus of Panama?
7. ANCIENT WORLD: What were the common people of ancient Rome called?
8. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Lithuania?
9. SCIENCE: What is the name of the historical period in which dinosaurs lived?
10. MYTHOLOGY: What was Pygmalion’s profession?

ANSWERS

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

SPORTS QUIZ

1. In 2011, Minnesota’s Francisco Liriano became the fifth pitcher from the Dominican Republic to toss a no-hitter. Name three of the other four who did it.
2. Alex Rodríguez holds the record for most home runs by a third baseman for a season (52). Which two players tied for the second-highest mark?
3. Tom Landry was the first head coach of the Dallas Cowboys and stayed in that position for 29 years. How many head coaches has Dallas had since?
4. Entering the 2011-12 season, how many times had the Marquette men’s basketball team been in the Final Four?
5. In 2009, the Chicago Blackhawks matched the biggest comeback in NHL history, rallying from a 5-0 deficit to beat Calgary, 6-5. What other team had a similar comeback?
6. Who was the first coach to win three Major League Soccer titles?
7. Name two of the last three opponents in heavyweight boxers Vitali Klitschko’s WBC title defenses.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

S C O R T S  R I O U B
S C R A W L I O N A N
T A T T O O  V O O D O O
C R E S T O U T  A B E
M A G S  H A L V I A L
A B A T E  R E V E R B S
E L M  T I N
S T A L K E D  M O S E Y
C O N E  T A U  M I R O
A R E  P H Y L A C H R Y
B A N M O C U C K D O
S H I E L D  E T H E R S
S A L E S  R O A N

THE RIVER • APRIL 13, 2012
American Classic At Gulfshore Playhouse
by Di Saggau

Tennessee Williams’ classic play A Streetcar Named Desire is now playing at Gulfshe Playhouse in Naples. If you’ve only seen the 1951 film version with Marlon Brando, Vivien Leigh and Kim Hunter, this production might surprise. As director Kristen Koury says, “The one drawback about live theater is that you can’t preserve it and take it out and share it with people, like a photo album of days gone by. It is here, it lives, and then it is gone.” Gulfshe’s production will stay with you for a long time.

As you walk into the theater you are met with a set in muted shades that embodies a ground floor flat in the French Quarter, New Orleans 1947. Wrought iron stairs, vintage rattan furniture, iron frame beds and toe-tapping Preservation Hall Jazz playing that makes you almost see the parade passing by. Of course, the real music here is by the way of Williams’ language. For example, Blanche saying, “I don’t want realism. I want magic. Yes, yes, magic. I try to give that to people. I do misrepresent things. I want magic. Yes, yes, magic. I try to give that to people. I do misrepresent things. I don’t tell truths. I tell what ought to be truth.”

Tennessee Williams understood southern women and he could be brutally frank. When Blanche DuBois (Claire Brownell) comes to visit her sister Stella Kowalski (Gwen Ellis) and her husband Stanley (Adam McNulty), tension mounts as the verbal sparring takes place. Two of her lines resonate with me, “Deliberate cruelty is unforgivable and the one thing of which I have never, ever been guilty of.” The other, “I have survived on the kindness of strangers,” could serve as a mantra for many.

Blanche is outstanding as the fragile, fading southern belle. She fumes as she insists it isn’t her fault that the old family estate has been lost. She oozes southern charm on every man she meets. It doesn’t work on Stanley. McNulty plays Stanley, brimming with raw masculine energy, which is exactly what the script requires. His Hey Stella scene delivers the intended emotional impact without going overboard.

Ellis plays the docile Stella with love, strength and naiveté. Jed Aicher plays Mitch with both sensitivit and cowardice. The relationship between Mitch and Blanche fleshes out Blanche’s past and the characters that haunt her. Also in the cast are Jessica Lefkow, Ken Forman, Ruben Ortiz, Mark Della Ventura and James Heffernan.

This smartly honed show lays bare our tragic flaws, both as individuals and as a people; our impatience with vulnerability, our belief that things will be fine if only we can go back to a better time or get rid of those people who are keeping us from our true destiny. Streetcar is a dark, unsettling play, but it’s very impres-
Informational Meetings At Shell Point

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

The informational meetings will be held at 10 a.m. on the following dates in the main Commons located in The Woodlands neighborhood at Shell Point:
- May 2, 8, 16 and 30
- June 5, 13, 19 and 27
- July 3, 11, 17, 25 and 31
- August 8, 14, 22 and 28

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

Admission is free; however, seating is limited. RSVP by calling Maureen Thomson at 466-1131 or 1-800-780-1131.

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

Read Us Online At IslandSunNews.com
HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF

CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? These are at least 12 different errors in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below.

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

Lavish
SHLUP
__ _ __

Name
EQUIN
__ _ _

Bend
KEWS
__ _

 Require
MADDEN
__

TODAY’S WORD

“You _______ ______, sir?”

answer on page 35

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SCRAMBLERS

solution
1. Plush; 2. Unique;
3. Skew; 4. Demand

Today’s Word:
SQUAWKED
### Help Wanted

**Sanibel Family Seeking a HS student or older for after school and/or weekend help for 2 grade school students, homework school organization. Seeking dependable student who is strong in academics. $12 hr. Call 1-339-832-4326 mom’s cell.**

**Bob Adams**

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(Carpentry, maintenance - sinks, faucets, clogged tubs, sliding doors, drapes, etc.)

768-0569 or Cell 464-6460

**FRONT OFFICE AGENT**

3-11PM SHIFT F/T

West Wind Inn - Sanibel Island, FL

Responsible for welcoming & serving guests in a courteous, efficient and friendly manner, both face-to-face & on the phone. Individual is required to demonstrate good computer skills, make telephone reservations, follow check-in/check-out procedures & insuring a pleasant guest experience. Call Bob: 239-472-1541 or email resume to bobguzzo@comcast.net.

**SUNGLASS RETAIL POSITION**

We are seeking a fun/personable/professional sales associate and/or Asst. Manager in our Sanibel store. Please email resumes to Kenwyn@sunbeltsglasscompany.com.

### Services Offered

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Sanibel-Captiva Care and Companion Service, LLC Medical appointments, general transportation, shopping, light meal preparations, and light cleaning. Our services are customized to meet our clients needs. Call 239-385-3919, or for an emergency call 239-472-0556.

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Large entertainment center; large bedroom armoire; and living room couch with carved wooden frame. Call 470-1516

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**998 22’ DECK BOAT**

2002 MERC OB SANIBEL NO TRAILER

Call: 513-236-1957 or 239-472-2810

**CHARMING 1920s COTTAGE**

For Sale: 1975 MB 450-SL

Excellent condition, everything original except new top & tires. 58,000 miles, separate hard top, garage kept. $14,500. Call 472-3410.

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**FOR SALE**

Charming 1920s cottage

Perfect store, office, restaurant, gallery, located within walking distance of trendy River District. Ample Parking, 239-889-1194

$25+ per month plus utilities

**AUTO FOR SALE**

**2005 HYUNDAI ELANTRA**

Bright red GLS Hatchback with 55k miles, 5-speed manual, split folding rear seats, am-fm/6cd, ice cold air, new tires, wipers and battery. Asking $5,800. Call 565-0073

## Volunteer opportunities

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

At The Sanibel School
Call Michelle Wesley
239-910-8000

**HEAD CUSTODIAN**

At The Sanibel School
Full benefits.
Tolls paid.
Call Maureen at 472-1617.

**Business Opportunities**

Attention Final Expense Agents: Prequalified leads to market final expense insurance. $100k a year agency building opportunity.

We need volunteers for:
- Visitor education center greeters and gift shop cashiers
- Papa G’s Restaurant, Sanibel Island.
- Sanibel-Captiva Care and Companion Service, LLC.9112 Lee Co. Lic. #051047
- Sanibel & Captiva Property Management.

**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

Attention Final Expense Agents: Top rated IMO expanding. Opportunities exist throughout the southeast. We are looking for agents and managers. Great commissions and an outstanding lead program. Attention Insurance Agents - Prequalified leads to market final expense insurance. $100k a year agency building opportunity. Attention Insurance Agents - Prequalified leads to market insurance to the senior market. $100k a year opportunity.

Call John at 203-763-9534.

**PART TIME CLERK/TYPIST**

At The Sanibel School
Tolls paid.
Call Maureen at 472-1617.

**HELP WANTED**

Part-time year round help needed in Laundry. Must be able to lift 30 + lbs. Apply in person at 2341 Palm Ridge Road, Sanibel, FL

**MUSIC INSTRUCTIONS**

In piano, saxophone, flute. On Sanibel/Captiva or South Fort Myers. Qualified, experienced teacher. Call 239-989-7799

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AFFORDABLE LIVING ON BEAUTIFUL SANIBEL ISLAND!
Periwinkle Park-Original 35Z, Prowler Regal, central air conditioning/heating (2011) and electric hot water. 9.5’ wide by 35’ addition w/bedroom, 7’ closets, living/dining area. Also, office/computer room, a dinette area, family/TV room. Fully furnished w/professional window treatments and new screens. Outside lighting. Lot rent is $9,500/year including water and sewer. Secure your place in paradise today! Only $82,000. 239-395-2630.

OPEN HOUSE BY OWNER
$36,900
Saturday April 14, 1 to 4 p.m.
1315 Kings Point Drive Unit 9A, Fort Myers, Florida 33919

BEDS: 2
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Sanibel

Sanibel Schools and the sunshine will be with you every day.

FOR SALE AT PERIWINKLE PARK
Ideal arrangement, bedroom/bath at each end of a 60 foot mobile home. FL room with dining area added later giving an open concept of LR and kitchen, plus bedrooms and baths. Two sofa beds and stacked washer & dryer. A delightful deck with a big presiding frog and storage Bldg. in back and carport in front. $120,000. 5 E Street, unit 314. Call 317-439-5514 or email LMSRealtor@aol.com.

GARAGE SALE
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NEAR BEACH PRIVATE HOME
3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH
3 bedroom, 2 bath Home with heated pool, in quiet Sanibel neighborhood. Seasonal and monthly rentals. 239-472-0692 or www.4sanibel.com.

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FOR RENT
Pleasant one-bedroom furnished apartment on Sanibel, near Gulf beach and causeway. Florida room and deck, ground level, natural setting, carport, w/d. Available April-December. $750/month. All utilities furnished. Rent includes cable, internet, garbage, and water service. Call owner at 859-749-7574.

FOR SALE
Sanibel

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH
Unfurnished-ground level; 2 BR 1-1/2 BA; 2 encl porches; Bay/Canal views; fishing pier; Lease includes Cable TV, water, pest control, refuse collection. Boat dock lease available. No pets. 239-395-1766.

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Sanibel Island, FL

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ANNUAL RENTAL WANTED
Long-term, responsible and EASY-to-rent to family. We are relocating to Sanibel, Sanibel Schools and the sunshine from Wisconsin. We can pay last, first, and security deposit NOW. Move-in now or anytime by August 1st. Call or text Dale at 608-575-5511 OR EMAIL: dalesuslick@gmail.com

FOR RENT
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2 BED/1 BATH UNFURNISHED
Walk to restaurant and shopping, bike to beach. $1,100 a month includes sewer, garbage and lawn service. 239-472-8854.

ANNUAL RENTAL WANTED
Island professionals looking for annual rental on Sanibel. No smoking, no pets. Call 472-5187, ext. 291.

ANNUAL RENTAL WANTED
Sanibel

FOR RENT
Sanibel

69,900. Ground rental $541.66/mo. Key sofabed, kitchen, refrigerator icemaker, dishwasher. Trane A/C with Pro 4000 space, County: Lee, Condo fee for 9A: $2008 annual. First month and security deposit NOW.

FOR RENT
Sanibel

Sanibel

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My name is Bon Jovi (ID# 530133) and I am a 3-year-old male brown American Staffordshire terrier mix. Like my namesake, I’m just “livin’ on a prayer” and I hope that means I’ll get a home soon. Do you think I could fit in with you and your family? I get along with cats and other dogs. I’m very smart and a quick learner. My foster mom says I eat like a pig but I have great manners. I’m housetrained, sleep through the night and can entertain myself with a chewy rawhide.

My adoption fee is $35 during Animal Services Famous Felines and Celebrity Canines Adoption Promotion.

My name is Vera Wang (ID# 524686) and I am a 2-year-old spayed female black and white domestic short hair. I’m a very fashionable feline, but don’t let my formal black and white attire fool you – I’m really a down-to-earth girl. I get along fine with other pets, especially cats since I was raised in a home with lots of them. My dream is to live with a family who has a few pets to play with and will love me and treat me like the special kitty I am.

My adoption fee is $25 during Animal Services Famous Felines and Celebrity Canines Adoption Promotion.

Pets Of The Week

SUDOKU

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

The answer is on page 35

*** Read us online at islandsunnews.com ***
New Listing
LOCATION-LOCATION
Wow! You’ll love this large, gorgeous direct Gulf access Sanibel home across from San Carlos Bay. Over 2500 square feet of living space. 2 BR, 2 1/2 bath; (with bonus space you must see). Mid-Island deep water canal only 1000 ft to San Carlos Bay. This home boasts a beautiful kitchen with custom wood cabinetry, wet bar, plus a wood burning fireplace in the great room with soaring cathedral ceiling and wonderful wood floors. Very private pool area, with nicely maintained lush landscaping that leads you to your private dock. Multiple porches, great views from every room including views of THE BAY from LR and front porch. A TRUE must see, soon, it won’t last. True Sanibel Living. Offered for $999,000. Call Nancy Finch 239/822-7825.

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

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

TIDEWATER ISLAND
Beautiful old Florida style home in the private, secluded, gated community of Tidewater Island. Etched glass front door, crown molding in kitchen and great room, fourteen foot ceilings, Chippendale style woodwork on lanai and front entry, rosette and fluted trim in great room around triple sliding glass doors to lanai. Seen is being, is sure to see this home. Furnishings negotiable. Offered for $399,000 Contact Bob Berning 239/699-9597 or Ken Colter 239/851-1357.

PUNTA RASSA #302
This elegantly appointed home has been completed renovated. Top of the line granite in kitchen and baths. Unique master bath & dressing area, design award, wood floors, dry bar, stainless steel appliances. Sun drenched with magnificent sunsets and views of Sanibel Island enhanced by hurricane glass enclosed lanai, hurricane glass on all windows. Social membership to Sanibel Harbour included. Turnkey and ready! Offered for $399,990. Contact Marianne Stewart 239/56-6420.

New Listing
HOME/LOT PACKAGE ON EAST END OF SANIBEL
1800 sq ft beach house, less than 4 minute walk to private beach access! Buyer may pick all selections or design a custom home. Rare opportunity to build your dream home on the east end. Offered for $725,000. Contact Bob Berning 239/699-9597.

3/4 ACRE ON CLAM BAYOU
Outstanding Value, priced 30% less than the most recent Vacant Land Sale on the Bayou in Herons Landing. This is Not a Short Sale located on a cul-de-sac in this popular community, offering a community boat dock, pristine tennis courts, pool and pool area with outdoor kitchen and deeded beach access. Develop the perfect homestead and create your own Gulf of Mexico views from this Bayou location and enjoy the tranquility of the Sanibel Lifestyle. It’s Just Beautiful! Offered for $379,000 Contact Tracy Walters 239/994-7975.

SOUTH SEAS BAYSIDE VILLAS
Welcome to the Islands! This bay front condominium located in South Seas Island Resort. Renovated and updated, waterfront views. With the investors or vacation home in mind, these condominiums offer a great rental income. The water’s edge Bayside Villa community has under building parking, pool, spa, bbq’s along with separate storage lockers. #5134 Offered $285,000 1 bedroom/1 bath #4118 Offered $395,000 1 bedroom/2 bath #4301-02 Offered $635,000 3 bedroom/2 bath #5344 Offered $699,000 3 bedroom/3 bath Contact LeAne Taylor Suarez 239/872-1632.

EXCEPTIONAL HOME ON ALMOST 1 ACRE!
This 4 BR (could be 5 or 6), 4 1/2 bath home has too many new upgrades to mention all. 1st floor master has new Master Bath ‘10. Custom Vanities, Kohler Jacuzzi, walkin Rain Shower, closest built-ins. New A/C’s ‘10. New Roof ‘04. Many new Hurr. rated windows. Custom wood and marble floors, Spanish tile. The yard is big (almost an acre) and beautiful! The back is completely fenced, and the property extends approx 20-30’ beyond the back fence and was left natural for a very private setting. Garage has extra storage rm/ workshop. Pinehurst is a great community, all larger homesites, tucked off of the popular Daniels Rd. corridor - convenient to shops, restaurants, hospital/ medical, SWFL Reg Airport, Twins training stadium. Offered for $699,000. Contact Nancy Finch at 239/822-7825.

CORAL DR- SOUTH FT. MYERS
This 5 Bed, 4.5 Bath FAMILY HOME is the best kept secret is where pleasing curb appeal & privacy are married in perfect union! Sprawling front staircase over looks lush landscaping. The ambiance of this supremely crafted home hosts a formal dining room, or linger into the library with Birch wood built-ins. Celebrate culinary skills in the gourmet kitchen with granite counter tops & stainless steel appliances, LivingRoom offers designated media area with fireplace. Master bedroom suite is situated on main level with an open loggia overlooking pool. Upper level comprises of 3 bedrooms admired for their stylish design. Lower Level: 5th bedroom, media, wine, billiard-game, exercise & office. Offered for $844,900 Contact LeAne Taylor Suarez 239/872-1632.

If you are interested in listing your island property, contact the island’s oldest and most prominent real estate company. We get results!

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