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APRIL/MAY VOLUME 21 // ISSUE 04

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1A

Easter Egg Hunt Matlacha Island Style!

Submitted By: Maryjean Sage

Hop, Shuffle, & Dance into Matlacha this Easter, all for a good cause

Have some Easter Egg-citement! Lovegrove Gallery & Gardens has partnered with Lee County's entertainment troupe, the Hot Flashz for their 8th Annual Bunny Hop Easter Egg Hunt. The event will be held on Saturday, April 20th from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at Lovegrove Gallery & Gardens, 4637 Pine Island Road, NW on Matlacha Island. More than 2,000 eggs will be hidden.

The Hot Flashz choreographer, Darcy Kuenzel will be there leading the kids in various fun dances. They will also have raffles for items and gift certificates from many area businesses. Pre-raffle tickets will be sold at LaFrance Cleaners, 106 Hancock Bridge W, Cape Coral and BB&T Bank, 2510 Santa Barbara Blvd., Cape Coral. The event is FREE and space is limited so come early. The garden gates will open promptly at 8:30 a.m. Hunt limited to children ten and under. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Why They Dance

The Hot Flashz raise money to help support their primary charities, Camp Boggy Creek, founded by the late Paul Newman and General H. Norman Schwarzkopf. This is a Florida camp for children with life-threatening illnesses. They also support Special Operations Warrior Foundation. This organization is located in Tampa and provides full college scholarship grants as well as education and family counseling to the children of military personnel who die in service. They also provide immediate financial assistance to severely wounded military and their families. The Hot Flashz perform a highly entertaining show. The audience is dazzled by their charm and delivery. When you hire or donate to the Hot Flashz, you can be assured that your money is going to the kids. The Hot Flashz cast personally pay for all of their costumes!

Hop Down the Bunny Trail

To raise funds for Camp Boggy Creek and Special Operations Warrior Foundation the Hot Flashz will have the following public events in May:

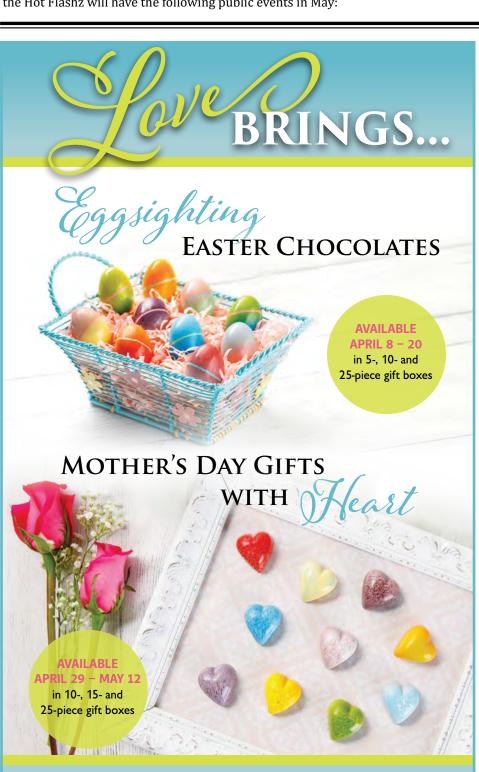


ABOVE: Members of Hot Flashz celebrate Easter 2018 island-style in Matlacha, Florida Photo Courtesy: Maryjean Sage / Hot Flashz

May 11, Saturday, 7th Annual Key Lime Festival, Fishermen's Village, 1200 W. Retta Esplanade, Punta Gorda, perform 2:30 p.m.

May 27, Monday, Memorial Day at SWFL Military Museum, 4820 Leonard Street, Cape Coral, Perform 12:30 p.m.

Interested in becoming a member of the Hot Flashz cast, call Marjean at 239-482-6252 for more information.berg, who also serves as the rescue's international rescue coordinator. "There are families here waiting and wanting to give these pups a second chance at a happy life. GRRSWF's volunteers are excited every time they can welcome one to Southwest Florida."



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collections, which are each available for a limited time. Shop online and in

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DANIELS

Celebrate Mom with a Free Mother's Day Cruise with

Pure Florida | Submitted By: Merry Coffman Director of Marketing, Pure Florida



ABOVE: A full Pure Florida sets sail in Southwest Florida to take in the stunning sunset views. Photo Courtesy: Pure Florida

FORT MYERS & NAPLES, FL - Pure Florida's Fort Myers location will celebrate Mother's Day Sunday, May 12 by offering moms free cruises aboard all sightseeing cruises when accompanied by a full-fare paid adult or child admission.

Guests departing from Fort Myers will cruise the Caloosahatchee River aboard the M/V Edison Explorer which departs from The Marina at Edison Ford, located at 2360 W. First St. in Fort Myers. Fort Myers cruises depart at noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Adult admission is \$32.50 and children's admission is \$16.25. Visitors to Pure Florida's Naples location will embark the M/V Double Sunshine departing from Tin City at 1200 5th Ave. S. and cruising along the Gordon River out to the Gulf of Mexico. Reservations are required. Naples cruises will depart at 10 a.m., noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Adult admission is \$39 and children's admission is \$19.50.

Mother's Day cruises cannot be combined with any other discounted offer. Refreshments are available for purchase on-board. For more information on Pure Florida, or to register for a Mother's Day cruise, visit www.PureFL.com or call Pure Florida's Fort Myers location at (239) 919-2965 or Naples location at (239) 263-4949.

Narration on local history, wildlife and ecology is provided by Coast Guard certified captains. Aboard the vessels, guests are invited to relax and enjoy the natural beauty of Southwest Florida and observe the wildlife native to the region. While Pure Florida cannot guarantee animal sightings in the wild, the captain will alert passengers to wildlife such as dolphins, eagles, manatee, native birds and more.

About Pure Florida

As the fourth and fifth generation working within the maritime industry, Lance and Harry Julian enjoy sharing their passion and expertise with fellow adventurers in the Southwest Florida area. For more information, visit www.PureFL.com or call its Naples location at 239-263-4949.

VOLUME 21 // ISSUE 04

Joint Replacement... Is It Really Necessary?

Chronic joint pain without obvious trauma sends us searching answers



Darin W. Stokke, DC, currently of Lifestyles Healthcare Group, originally found personal pain relief from chiropractic adjustments after a high school football game left him injured with neck pain and severe headaches.

Photo Courtesy: Dr. Darin Stokke Our joints are amazingly designed points of movement in our body that allow us to stand, walk, bend, talk, lift, hug, and even take a breath of air. Incredibly, there are a total of 360 joints in our human body with 86 joints in the skull alone. So what happens in these joints during our lifetime to cause them to break down or create pain and is replacing the joint with an artificial joint the best course of action in most cases?

A joint is comprised of two bones coming together and separated by a space filled with cartilage. For example, in the case of the hip this cartilage is called the labrum and in the knee it's called the meniscus. This joint space is maintained so that the bones can smoothly glide over one another during necessary movements allowing the joint to move through its full range of motion. Surrounding the joint are ligaments located at stress points to create stability and keep the joint from dislocating as well as muscles crossing over the joint to contract and relax causing the joint to move and to remain stable in different postures. When a joint is pushed beyond its normal limits due to a trauma such as a sports injury or car accident, we typically will feel acute pain caused from trauma to

one or more of these tissues in the joint. A sprain involves a ligament stretched too far causing tissue damage. Likewise, a strain involves a muscle stretched too far. Cartilage can also tear due to traumatic forces. These are acute injuries that cause short term pain and swelling to the area traumatized. But what about chronic pain that seems to come out of nowhere and progressively worsens?

Chronic progressive joint pain without obvious trauma is what most often sends us searching for an answer. It may start with taking pain relievers (NSAIDs) every day to get us through a round a golf and up the stairs without pain. Next, we may try steroid injections in the hope it will give us a few months of relief before we need another shot. Finally, when all else fails to relieve the pain, we believe our only option will likely be joint replacement surgery and we go in for an x-ray or MRI scan. This is the day we lose hope of ever managing this conservatively again. It's the day when we are told by our medical provider that our x-rays or MRI show the joint is "bone on bone" and that this is ultimately the cause of our pain. The solution is to get an artificial joint replacement for the faulty joint. It seems logical enough. In fact, statistics show that more and more people are opting for joint replacement surgeries. According to the CDC National Center for Health Statistics Data, hip replacement surgeries alone have increased at a rate of 250% over just a 10 year period. It's estimated that by 2030, the number of primary hip replacements carried out in the



visit them online at www.LifestylesChiro.com or view their ad on the back cover of this month's The Corridor.

Photo Courtesy: TOP: Freepik

INSET: Lifestyles Healthcare Group

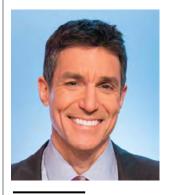
US alone is projected to grow by another 171%. However, have we ever considered that most of these joints diagnosed as "bone on bone" may not really be "bone on bone?" Have we ever wondered if the pain began some time ago and the joint wasn't bone on bone then, then why is that now considered the cause of pain?

In a 2005 study from the Boston University School of Medicine, researchers found that only 16 percent of people with hip pain had x-rays that truly confirmed osteoarthritis and "bone on bone" findings. So what was really causing the pain and which came first, the pain or the degeneration of the joint? Consider that structural variations are likely caused by a breakdown in joint alignment and the movement patterns of the muscles involving that joint. We have found that most joint pain is not the result of osteoarthritis but rather of the constant micro-trauma of the soft tissues due to muscle imbalances creating poor posture and faulty movement patterns. Over time the result is the joint tissues break down, but the pain and stiffness were there long before the joint degenerated. Because of this, no matter how long you've had the joint pain, there is tremendous hope that joint replacements can be avoided altogether. We have found that combining the new science of regenerative medicine along with the necessary retraining of the whole body movement patterns, alignment of the joints, getting nutrients for joint health, and balancing the postural muscles, joint pain can be eliminated for good without risky surgery. As always, look for the true cause and the best solution for a long term high quality of life!

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National Speaker Series: David Katz, MD The Truth About Food – Why

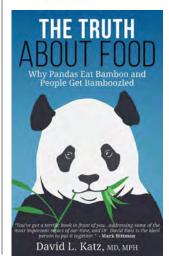
Pandas eat bamboo and people get bamboozled! Submitted By: Steve Doane Communication Specialist, Lee Health



ABOVE: Dr. David Katz, MD, MH, FACPM, FACP, FACLM. Photo Courtesy: Lee Health

BELOW: His book by the same title as his upcoming presentation "... uniquely empowers readers to benefit from what's fundamentally and reliably true - while setting us all free from fads, false claims, and distractions by showing how to differentiate truth from the exploitative "lies" that abound. "

Photo Courtesy: Book Cover / Dr. David Katz



FORT MYERS, FL - As part of the National Speakers' Series, Lee Health is pleased to present David Katz, MD, MH, FACPM, FACP, FACLM, who will present The Truth About Food – Why Pandas eat hamboo and people get hamboozled!

Dr. Katz is the founding director of Yale University's Yale-Griffin Prevention Research Center; Past-President of the American College of Lifestyle Medicine, and Founder/President of the True Health Initiative.

He is globally recognized for his expertise in nutrition, weight management and the prevention of chronic disease. He has served as one of the expert judges for the annual rankings of diets by U.S. News & World Report for much of the past decade. He reaches a social media following of nearly one million.

The free talk is open to the public and will be held on Tuesday, May 7 at 6 p.m. at the First Christian Church, 2061 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers.

Please register for this event at *www.LeeHealth. org/classes*. If you have questions or want more information, please call 239-424-3234.

About Lee Health

Since the opening of the first hospital in 1916, Lee Health has been a health care leader in Southwest Florida, constantly evolving to meet the needs of the community. A non-profit, integrated health care services organization, Lee Health is committed to the well-being of every individual served, focused on healthy living and maintaining good health. Staffed by caring people, inspiring health, services are conveniently located throughout the community in four acute care hospitals, two specialty hospitals, outpatient centers, walk-in medical centers, primary care and specialty physician practices and other services across the continuum of care. Learn more at www.LeeHealth.org.

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- Landscape Design Seasonal Planting
- Sodding



What Landscape is Right for You | Submitted By: Lee Lawn & Tree

When it comes to designing your outdoor space, it's all about personal style and what works well with the architect of your home or business. Some questions to ask yourself are you looking for something simple, easy to maintain or do you want to make a statement with a focus feature? Maybe your wondering how to pick the best plants for your location and how to maintain them for years of enjoyment.

Below are some tips to consider as you research landscape ideas:

- Determine the best location for plants sun, shade, or partial sun/shade.
- Considering picking native plants that adapt well to the sandy soil.
- Use a root stabilizer to help with transplanting and avoiding root shock to your new plants.
- Consider the mature size of the plant before choosing location to avoid over
- Apply fresh much to hinder weed growth cool soil temperature and retain moisture. When installing mulch, don't apply to plant stems or roots as this can lead to root rot.
- Avoid overwatering. This can cause plants to become more susceptible to disease.
- Install rain sensor to help manage overwatering.
- Avoid planting in compacted soil with rocks or shells that don't drain properly. Proper drainage is essential to plant survival as most of our plants need "dry feet" to survive.

Following these tips can help you choose the right plants, trees, or shrubs that will help bring your outdoor space concept to life. The key is to determine how you will use the outdoor space then create a design that matches your intended use. By doing your research on the type of plants that would work best for your space, you'll create a successful extension of your home.



LEFT & BELOW: Let your outdoor space, at home or business, be an extension of your personal style!

Photo Courtesy: Lee Lawn & Tree



Cash Out to Cash In

Financing Home Repairs with Cash-Out Refinancing

By: Debbie Martin

Senior Loan Officer, Florida Mortgage Funding Group, LLC

Did you buy a home that was built decades ago and still have that same tired looking kitchen and bathroom? Have you tried saving up for those oh-so-needed updates but can't seem tomeet your goal? Cash-out refinancing may be the answ to your well-deserved home repairs.

The equity in your home is a savings account just waiting to be tapped into for home renovations. To put it simply, a cashout refinance option will allow you to snag cash from your home's equity by borrowing more than you owe on your preexisting mortgage.

Ready to get started? One of the first steps to get started on your cashout refinancing journey is a home appraisal. The appraisal will provide your household with an idea of how much your home is currently worth. Once you are aware of your home's current value, you will need to revisit your current mortgage balance and figure out how much you would like to borrow.

Once a lender is secured, expect to receive a cashout refinance loan for up to 80



LEFT: Whether it's the dream-D.I.Y. project or a full blown hire-out kind of job, it might be time to find out if a cash-out loan is the right move for you!

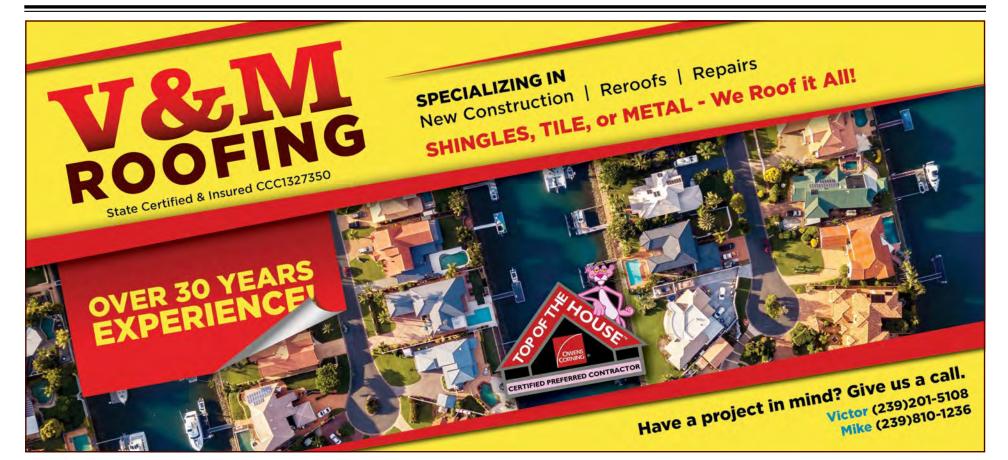
Find more about Debbie Martin & the Florida Mortgage Funding Group on page 7A of this month's The Corridor.

Photo Courtesy: rawpixel.com

percent of your home's value, though that number may vary depending on several factors including credit score. If you are eligible to apply for a VA-backed cashout refinance loan, you may be able to receive up to 100 percent.

Cash-out loans provide several benefits including the ability to obtain a large sum of money at once while increasing your credit score and consolidating debt.

Don't forget, a cashout refinance loan does come with closing costs. These closing costs are similar to what you would expect from a regular home sale and typically run from 0.8 to 1.3 percent. Cashout refinancing is not for everyone. Learn more about your eligibility for obtaining a cash-out refinance loan to turn that dusty linoleum into glimmering hardwood.





Lani Kai hosts elegantly affordable Easter Brunch Buffet in the award-winning Island View restaurant

Submitted By: Melissa Schneider Marketing Director, Lani Kai Island Resort

The Lani Kai Island Resort family is proud to offer its annual Easter Brunch on the Beach spread atop our award-winning Island View restaurant Sunday, April 21, with seating available between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

This beautiful and bountiful Easter Brunch Buffet is perfect for the entire family, featuring breakfast items, a chef's omelet station, carving station, entreés and side dishes, assorted salads and desserts. This is a family fun gathering that is sure to be the golden egg topper of your bountiful Easter basket!

Seating is between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. that day, and the cost remains the same as years past, \$29.95 per person, \$14.95 for children ages 5 to 12, and free for children 4 and under. Please be sure to RSVP to ensure your spot in this beautiful Easter brunch in paradise, 239-463-5550, 239-463-3111, or visit www.IslandViewFMB. com.

Breakfast Items

Mini danish and assorted sweet rolls, Applewood smoked bacon, Sausage links French toast, Hashbrowns, Pancakes, Fritte (Italian Quiche).

Chef's Omelet Station

Featuring chopped ham, Chorizo, diced chicken, peppers, jalapenos, tomatoes, onions, mushrooms, fresh spinach, zucchini, feta, sharp cheddar and mozzarella cheese.

Salad

Mixed green salad with assorted dressings, Pasta salad, Cucumber tomato onion salad, Three-Bean salad. Additional condiments: beets, tomatoes, Bleu cheese, nuts, croutons, olives, cucumbers, red onions, bacon and corn.

Carving Station

Lemon pineapple glazed ham and London Broil charred flank steak (marinated in lemon and spices, house Tzatziki sauce and chicago style au jus).

Entrees & Side Dishes

Roasted Cod Vesuvio (gluten free), Chicken Piccata





ABOVE: Fresh fruits, salads, pastries and peel-and-eat shrimp grace some of the many bountiful Easter Brunch Buffet items on the Island View's buffet tables.

Photo Courtesy: Melissa Schneider

Baked Ziti, Peel & Eat shrimp, Whipped potatoes, Green beans.

Dessert

 $\label{thm:minimum} \mbox{Mini cannoli, chocolate-covered strawberries, mini tiramisu, carrot cake, turtle brownies and fresh seasonal fruit display. \\$

About the Lani Kai Island Resort

The Lani Kai Island Resort is a true staple of life on Fort Myers Beach, now celebrating 40 years in operation, at 1400 Estero Blvd. With a number of fantastically unique amenities, it truly offers something for everyone. Choose from a delicious selection of restaurants, cafés and eateries on site, including the award-winning Island View restaurant. Comfortably perched on the top floor of the resort, this casually upscale restaurant with private glass elevator entrance serves signature dishes by Executive Chef Angel, offering traditional dishes with Italian flair and the freshest seafood around.



Annual Letter Carrier Food Drive set for May 11



Submitted By: George Sciascia Letter Carriers' Food Drive Coordinator

As summer approaches and school will be out, the nation's largest single-day food drive, "Stamp Out Hunger," will be held on Saturday, May 11. This is the one day when letter carriers collect non-perishable food that has been left by mailboxes. The food collected in Lee County will be distributed through participating food banks in the county. All food collected in food drives is distributed to participating agencies at no cost.

Virtually any kind of food may be donated in unopened, non-breakable containers. Items especially in need are peanut butter, tuna, rice, beans, and canned meats, fruits, vegetables, and soups.

Volunteers are needed to both help letter carriers collect the food and to help sort the food once it has been collected. Volunteers wishing to assist letter carriers with their preliminary food sorting should contact the Harry Chapin Food Bank, 239-334-7007; those wishing to volunteer to assist drivers in picking up food should contact Kim Berghs at the United Way, 239-822-8415.

Additional information about the letter carrier food drive and early food drop-off may be obtained by contacting George Sciascia, Letter Carriers' Food Drive coordinator, at gsciascia@comcast.net, phone 239-218-1147.



LEFT: A super simple way to give back to your community without even having to leave your property; The "Stamp out Hunger" letter carrier food drive! If you're interested in doing more than just donating, contact The Harry Chapin Food Bank at (239) 334-7007 for volunteering information.

Photo Courtesy: USPS.com



Take Part: The DEA's National Takeback

Submitted By: The Lee County Coalition for a Drug-Free Southwest Florida

On Saturday, April 27, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Med Safe USA, LLC, the Lee County Coalition for a Drug-Free Southwest Florida and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration will give the public the opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring your pills for disposal at Lee County's Safe Kids Day Celebration at Page Field, 4700 Terminal Drive. Sites cannot accept liquids, needles, or sharps - only pills or patches. The service is free and anonymous - no questions asked.

Last fall, Americans turned in nearly 460 tons of prescription drugs at more than 5,800 take back sites.

After you drop off your prescription drugs, plan to enjoy the more than 30 exhibits and tables at Safe Kids Day!

On behalf of the citizens of Lee County, thank you to Med Safe USA, LLC for making this important community service a reality.

Can't come to Page Field? You can drop your unused and expired prescriptions off at any law enforcement station in Lee County, and at the following Walgreen's locations: 4204 Palm Beach Boulevard, Fort Myers, 12749 South Cleveland, Fort Myers, and 805 Cape Coral Drive East, Cape Coral.

Have an ARTrageous adventure at the Alliance!

Submitted By: The Alliance for The Arts

We're shaking things up this summer and taking you through time and around the world on a spectacular summer arts camp adventure! Explore a vast universe of art, culture and performance during eight different weekly sessions for an exciting summer experience.

Fill the summer with color, art, theatre and music through an eclectic mix of activities like storytelling, improv games and stage combat. Follow the masters with sketching, mixed media, collage and more. Paint a mural, choreograph a dance, sing in a spectacular musical, get lost in the world of surrealism or collaborate to build a unique structure from found objects in a creative, fun, small-class environment.

Kids will love creating one-of-a-kind masterpieces, making new friends, exploring our galleries, learning from special guests and so much more. Our summer arts camp is an imaginative mash-up of visual and performing arts, with an art exhibit and performance each Friday afternoon.

Limited spots available - enroll today!

Alliance member registration opened February 11 and is \$160 per week.

Non-member registration opened February 25 and is \$200 per week.

Become a member and receive 20% off camps!

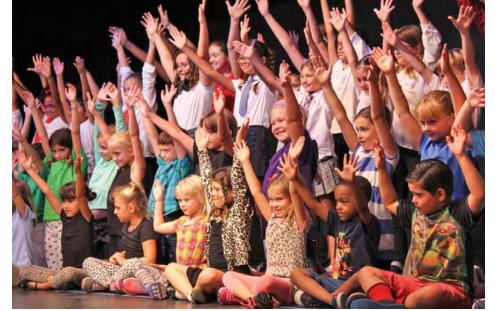
Details

The Alliance Summer Arts Camp offers a unique blend of visual arts, theater, voice and dance instruction for grades 1 - 6. There is an art exhibition and final stage performance each Friday afternoon. Camp runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with extended care available from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.for a fee. Limited spots available - enroll today! Alliance member registration opens February 11 and is \$160 per week. Non-member registration opens February 25 and is \$200 per week.

Summer Camp Weeks And Themes

June 3 - June 7: Dali In Wonderland

Venture down the rabbit hole, through the looking glass and into the world of surrealism Enjoy a whimsical week of dilly-dallying with Salvador Dali and share the stage with madcap characters as we journey to Wonderland!



ABOVE: Last summer plenty of children had an ARTrageous time on & off the stage! Help keep your kids busy & active this summer by engaging the arts. Photo Courtesy: The Alliance for The Arts / www.artinlee.org

June 10 - June 14: Greek Lightening and Roman Rumble

You Odyssey this week! Spend the week in ancient Rome and Greece creating spectacular art inspired by magical places and myths. Step on stage and release the Kraken as you bring to life the world's first superheroes.

June 17 - June 21: Once Upon a Starry Night

Ready, set, Gogh! Reach beyond the stars and discover a world of movement through dance and swirling brush strokes. Experiment with materials in unexpected ways and slide onto the stage for a stellar show!

June 24 - June 28: Glitz and Gritty in the City

ARTS - Continued on 11A

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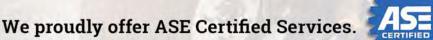
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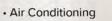


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VOLUME 21 // ISSUE 04

21ST Century C.A.R.E. Foundation Hosting "Race Against Head And Neck Cancer" 5K Run/Walk on April 27 | Submitted By: Samantha Scott APR

FORT MYERS, FL - April 9, 2019 –21st Century C.A.R.E., the independent charitable foundation of the nation's largest integrated cancer provider, 21st Century Oncology, is hosting its 7th Annual "Race Against Head and Neck Cancer" 5K Run/2-Mile Walk on Saturday, April 27. The race will start at 8 a.m. at Century Link Sports Complex at Hammond Stadium (14100 Six Mile Cypress Parkway, Fort My-

All of the funds raised will be used locally to provide financial assistance to head and neck cancer patients in need, as well as to conduct head and neck cancer screenings throughout Southwest Florida.

"Every year, there are more than 50,000 new cases of head and neck cancer diagnosed in the U.S. However, given the proper resources, head and neck cancer is preventable and treatable," said Kathy Tolentino, Director of 21st Century C.A.R.E. "This is a fun and meaningful event that a lot of people in the community graciously support, and the funds raised really go a long way in protecting and treating a lot of people in southern Florida."

Registration through April 13 is \$25 for adults (ages 18+) and \$15 for youth (ages 17 and under). After April 13, the cost of registration increases to \$30 for

adults and \$20 for youth. Children under the age of five can participate in the event for free. The first 100 people to register will receive a complimentary race t-shirt and gift bag. Refreshments will be provided. Participants can also enjoy awards and chance drawings after the race.

For more information, to register, or to donate visit https://21stcenturycare.org/ event/7th-annual-5k-run-2-mile-walk-to-support-head-neck-cancer-patients/ or call (239) 936-3756.

About 21st Century C.A.R.E.

21st Century C.A.R.E. - Care Assistance Research Education - is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to providing assistance to cancer patients in need. The foundation sponsors educational programs for cancer patients, the general public, physicians and other health care practitioners, as well as holds support groups and conducts cancer screenings. Supported by donations and fundraising events, 21st Century C.A.R.E. assures that all funds remain local to the area in which they were raised. The foundation was established in 1996 by Dr. Charles Thomas. Headquartered in Ft. Myers, Florida. For more information visit www.21stcenturycare.org

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Publix Serves Day A United Way Day Of Caring

Submitted By: Cliff Smith President, United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades, and Okeechobee



FORT MYERS, FL - One-Hundred and Twenty Publix associates from several local stores volunteered at LARC, Bonita Springs YMCA, and Habitat for Humanity on Publix Serves Day. Sixty of the Publix associates at LARC's 5 acre campus in Fort Myers, performed major maintenance and landscape tasks as a United Way Day of Caring in conjunction with Publix Serves Day. The United Way Volunteer Center worked with LARC to organize the volunteer event.

Publix Serves Day is a company-wide effort that involves their associates in a variety of volunteer work. While Publix associates give back individually throughout the year, associates look forward to helping their communities and team building with fellow associates within their respective districts to help to change lives.

LARC, Inc. is a United Way Partner Agency with the mission to empower and support individuals with disabilities and their families to reach their full potential. LARC accomplishes this mission by providing vocational training and community residential services to help people with disabilities live happier, fuller, and more productive lives in the community, as independently as each is able.

Because LARC has a large campus with multiple buildings for their woodshop, administrative offices and training rooms, the buildings and landscape require a lot of maintenance. Publix associates painted the inside and outside of the woodshop, washed the windows of the administrative building, laid landscape fabric to prevent weeds, and put down lava rock to minimize future maintenance.

Publix Serves Day honors Publix founder George Jenkins who fervently believed in giving back to the community, and Publix employees are still carrying on the tradition. Brian West, Publix spokesperson, said, "We have the greatest associates. Every day, they give back to their communities in so many great ways. Publix Serves Day is an opportunity for them to do something together, and meet the needs of organizations in a big way."

"Publix and their associates live their founder's belief of giving back to the community. Publix volunteers make a difference in the lives of thousands of people in our community by volunteering for projects like these and others at our United Way Partner Agencies. Thank you Publix for giving back to our community through Publix Serves Day and United Way Days of Caring," said Cliff Smith, President of the United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades, and Okeechobee.

About The United Way

The United Way's Day of Caring is a year-round program, coordinated by the United Way Volunteer Center which matches businesses' desire to help with the needs of the community. Many local groups and companies have participated such as Lee Health, Chico's, and FineMark National Bank. The United Way Volunteer Center connects individuals and companies to volunteer opportunities throughout our community. The United Way Volunteer Center also manages the Family Mentor Program, ReadingPals, and VITA. You can reach the United Way Volunteer Center by calling (239) 433-7567, or by visiting the United Way website at www.United-WayLee.org.

> TOP & LEFT: A huge turn out of Publix employees volunteering United Way on Publix Serves Day at LARC in Fort Myers.

Photo Courtesy: Publix / The United Way of of Lee, Hendry, Glades, and

Builder of the Year, sixth consecutive year | Submitted By: Neal Communities

BONITA SPRINGS, FL - For the sixth consecutive year, Neal Communities, southwest Florida's premier, private homebuilder, has earned the Builder of the Year award from the Florida Green Building Coalition (FGBC).

Neal Communities bested four other builders and was named the leader for the most single-family homes certified with 282.

Drew Smith, Florida Building Commissioner - Green Building and founder of Two Trails Green Building Consulting, accepted the award on behalf of the builder at the March 6 ceremony in Orlando, Fla.

"Neal Communities' green initiatives across our building footprint is a point of distinction that stands out among the rest," said Michael Greenberg, southwest Florida regional president for Neal Communities. "It is one more way that we strive to provide the best quality, value and benefits of green and energy-efficient living in the distinctive communities we create for our homeowners."

The FGBC is the leading certifier of green projects in Florida. To date, it has 15,000 residential properties, more than 24 million square feet of commercial and high-rise projects, 53 land developments and 86 local governments participating in its certification programs. FGBC certification programs are the only standards developed with climate specific criteria to address issues caused by Florida's hot-humid environment and natural disasters.

FGBC certified homes complete a technically rigorous building assessment and construction process to promote design and construction practices that reduce the negative environmental impacts of the building, improve occupant health and well-being and reduce operating costs for the owner.

Founded in 2000, the nonprofit is dedicated to improving the built environment and seeks to lead and promote sustainability with environmental, economic and social benefits through regional education and certification programs.



ABOVE: from left to right: Chris Clark, Elise Sturgeon, Danielle Boyers, Cathy Engels and Carlos Puente with the award. Photo Courtesy: Neal Communities



ABOVE: An archive photo boasting similar wins for Page Field featuring an aerial shot of the local airport. Photo Courtesy: www.baseoperationsfmy.com

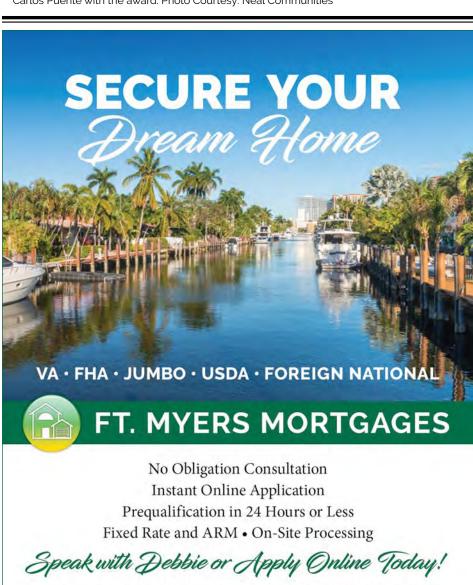
Base Operations at Page Field voted among the best FBOs in the Americas | Submitted By: Victoria B. Moreland Director of Marketing, Lee County Port Authority

FORT MYERS, FL - Base Operations at Page Field has been ranked in the top 10 percent of fixed-base operators in an international survey conducted by Aviation International News (AIN). This is the seventh consecutive year Base Operations at Page Field has been named a top fixed-base operator by AIN. Base Operations ranked first in the Fort Myers/Naples area, had the third-best score in the facilities category and landed in the top 20 overall for FBOs in the Americas. The FBO Survey is conducted annually and asks pilots, flight attendants and dispatchers to provide feedback on the level of customer care at individual business and general aviation service providers throughout the U.S., Canada, Mexico, South and Central America and the Caribbean.

AIN conducts the survey year-round online and calculated cumulative averages from 2013 to present for this year's results. The survey asked qualified subscribers to evaluate FBOs they visited the previous year in five categories: line service, passenger amenities, pilot amenities, facilities and customer service representatives.

Aviation International News (AIN) is a monthly trade publication focusing on the business aviation market and covers news, features, special reports and survey results. AIN is delivered in print and digital format to more than 38,000 qualified readers around the world. AIN has been conducting surveys and providing industry reports on service since 1981.

The Lee County Port Authority operates Southwest Florida International Airport and Page Field in Fort Myers. Page Field provides services to corporate, commercial and private aviators through their business arm, Base Operations at Page Field. For more information, please visit www.BaseOperationsFMY.com.



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Voices of Popular Resistance: Reflections on the **April 19 Student Movement in Nicaragua**



FORT MYERS, FL - Former President of Costa Rica, Luis Guillermo Solis, will appear at Florida SouthWestern State College (FSW) as part of "Voices of Popular Resistance: Reflections on the April 19 Student Movement in Nicaragua," from 11 a.m.- 5

p.m. on Wednesday, April 17, in the Rush Auditorium, Building J-103, FSW Thomas Edison Campus. Exiled Nicaraguan student opposition leaders, Lesther Alaman and Jeancarlo Lopez will also appear.

On April 19, 2018, while administrators from FSW and Polytechnic University of Nicaragua (UPOLI) were in the process of creating a partnership between the two institutions, government opposition protests erupted in Nicaragua. UPOLI students participated in the protests, barricading themselves inside the university's buildings for days, and FSW faculty found themselves caught in the midst of the protests. Guests from UPOLI and the Coalicion Universitara de Nicaragua and FSW faculty will share their experiences in Nicaragua during this time of unrest.

Presentation Schedule:

11:00 am - Welcome

11:15 am - Nine Days in Nicaragua: Voicing Narratives of Crisis in Homogenous, Empty Time with Dr. Eileen DeLuca, interim provost, FSW

12:30 pm - The April 19th Movement: The Student Voice with Nicaraguan student opposition leaders Lesther Aleman and Jeancarlo Manuel Lopez

2:00 pm - Voices on Central American Democracy Panel: President Luis Guillermo Solis; Dr. Yulia Vorobyeva, junior fellow, United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute; and Lesther Aleman, student activist

3:30 pm - Echoes in the Chamber: A Cross-Institutional Year in Reflection with Dr. Bruno Baltodano, professor, comparative politics, FSW



ABOVE: Former President of Costa Rica, Luis Guillermo Solis

BEETHOVEN V. COLDPLAY: A Stereo Hideout Fusion

Submitted By: The Southwest Florida Symphony

FORT MYERS, FL - A merging of musical giants, Beethoven V. Coldplay pairs two composer/artists that deal with universal and humanist themes in their music, and asks the musical question- would Beethoven have found meaning in the music of Coldplay? That notion, perhaps odd-sounding at first, becomes much more compelling when considering the events surrounding Beethoven's creation of the Eroica Symphony- an artist desperate to solidify his position as the reigning musical genius in Vienna, but yet still misunderstood and criticized, and a young man in his thirties faced with the reality that he would indeed soon be completely deaf. How, then, would Beethoven have reacted to the Coldplay lyrics 'Nobody said it was easy?' or 'When you lose something you can't replace.... could it be worse?'

Beethoven V. Coldplay transforms the Eroica into an oratorio, weaving the melodies and lyrics of Coldplay into the original Beethoven, pairing them together based on content and context. It is the alternate Eroica Beethoven may have created had he known the music of Coldplay at the time. Three vocalists join the full symphony; many of Coldplay's most well-known songs are interpolated, including 'Yellow', 'Viva La Vida' and 'The Scientist'.

Looking For Tickets?

Before a weekend concert, ticket sales end at 4 PM on Friday at our website and box office. You may still purchase tickets at the door or via phone at Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall at their box office when it opens at 10 a.m. on Saturday morn-

Performed by Southwest Florida Symphony

Conducted by Composer/Arranger: Steve Hackman

Happy Hour 6:30 pm followed by Concert 7:30 pm

Tickets \$25, \$35 and \$105

RIGHT, TOP: Beethoven V. Coldplay pairs two composer/artists that deal with universal and humanist themes in their music - Watch it live, May 4th, 2019. RIGHT, BOTTOM: Composer, Arranger Steve Hackman leads The Southwest Florida Symphony in this fun & thoughtprovoking performance.

Photo Courtesys: The Southwest Florida Symphony





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Community Concert Association Announces 2020 Season Tickets on Sale for Five Rare Performances! | Submitted By: Susan Bennett Susan Bennett Marketing & Media, L.C.

FORT MYERS, FL - World-renowned artists from throughout Europe, Russia, Siberia and Poland will travel to Fort Myers in 2020 to perform for the Fort Myers Community Concert Association in its 71st annual concert series.

Tickets are now on sale for the five performances, which organizers say bring the best in classical opera, ballet, and symphony performances to Southwest Florida. All performances will be at the Barbara B. Mann Hall on the Florida SouthWestern State College campus in Fort Myers.

"We anticipate that we'll be sold out by the time the series begins in January," said Community Concert Association President Mary Lee Mann. "Where else can you see not one, but five performances for what you would expect to pay for just one?"

All five concerts are included in one ticket price, which ranges from \$165 for prime orchestra and mezzanine seats to \$155 for other orchestra and mezzanine seats, \$85 for lower balcony seating and just \$65 for upper balcony. Most mezzanine seating already is sold out, Mann said.

For tickets and membership information, visit www.fortmyerscommunityconcerts.org or call 239-693-4849. Tickets to individual performances are not available at this time.

"We have been fortunate this year to attract some of the most outstanding artists in the world today, thanks to the generosity of our major underwriters and supporters," Mann said.

The five performances all begin at 7:30 p.m.:

The Wroclaw Philharmonic Orchestra - January 10, 2020

The Wroclaw Philharmonic Orchestra was founded in 1945 and officially became the State Orchestra of Wroclaw, Poland in 1949. The orchestra was renamed the Wroclaw Philharmonic in 2015 when the orchestra moved into its new home, the National Forum of Music, where it is has performed for nearly 100,000 attendees in its first two seasons. It is widely considered to be the premier venue of its type in Poland.

The Siberian State Symphony Orchestra – January 27, 2020

Direct from Krasnoyarsk, Russia, the Siberian State Symphony Orchestra embarks on an eight-week U.S. tour in January, 2020. Founded in 1977, the orchestra quickly won a reputation as one of the best orchestras from Russia. The orchestra plays the great Russian classics and has made numerous recordings.

Teatro Lirico D'Europa performing Verdi's "La Traviata" - February 3, 2020

La Traviata is the classic tale of unrequited love taking place in and around Paris during the 1840s. Teatro Lirico D'Europa is the most successful opera touring company in Europe and the U.S. and travels with a full orchestra of 47 to 50 members and a chorus of 40 singers.

Russian State Symphony Orchestra -February 10, 2020

The Russian State Symphony Orchestra, known for its rich sound, nobility of





ABOVE, LEFT: Two opera performers take stage in Verdi's "La Traviata", when live, they are joined by a 50 piece orchestra and an accompanying choir of 40 singers

ABOVE, RIGHT: The Siberian State Symphony Orchestra being lead by Vladimir Lande, Music Director and Chief Conductor of the orchestra.

Photo Courtesy: The Fort Myers Community Concert Association

expression and skillfully balanced sound presents Glinka: Rusian and Ludmila Overture; Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 4 and Grieg: Piano Concerto with pianist Pavel Nessessia, one of the most remarkable Russian pianists of his generation.

Russian National Ballet - March 2, 2020

The Russian National Ballet performs the timeless "Sleeping Beauty." Luminous costumes and elaborate sets complement one of Moscow's finest ballet companies. The Russian National Ballet Theatre was founded with the support of the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation and invigorates the tradition of classical Russian ballet with developments in dance from around the world.

The Fort Myers Community Concert Association, now in its 71st concert season, is an all-volunteer not-for-profit organization founded by the legendary Barbara B. Mann in 1949 to bring world-class entertainment to Southwest Florida at affordable prices. The association consists of more than 1,700 members, underwriters and sponsors. Performers brought to Fort Myers in the past by the association include The Israel Ballet, Violinist Itzhak Perlman, The Boston Brass, Minnesota Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, Vienna Boys Choir, Pianist Andre Watts, Violinist Joshua Bell with the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields and many others.





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CALENDAR

APRIL 21

Easter Brunch Buffet at The Lani Kai

This beautiful and bountiful Easter Brunch Buffet is perfect for the entire family, featuring breakfast items, a chef's omelet station, carving station, entreés and side dishes, assorted salads and desserts. This is a family fun gathering that is sure to be the golden egg topper of your bountiful Easter basket! View the menu on page 4A. Reservations are required!

WHERE: Lani Kai Island Resort

1400 Estero Blvd | Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

COST: Adults \$29.95 / Children 5-12 \$14.95 / Children under 4 Free!

MORE INFO: www.LaniKaiIslandResort.com

APRIL 24-28

The Fort Myers Beach International Film Festival

The Fort Myers Beach International Film Festival is back for its 13th year, attracting independent film fans, filmmakers, and distributors to spend five fabulous days and nights on the Gulf beaches of Fort Myers Beach, Florida. Attendees come from all over the world to exchange ideas, make new contacts, and enjoy some compelling and interesting films encompassing a wide range of tastes. This year's festival runs from April 24 – 28 with events for all ages.

WHERE: Several locations all across Fort Myers Beach

COST: Weekend Passes Start at \$70 / Inidividual Film Tickets are \$8 General Admission to the Award Ceremony is Free!

MORE INFO: www.fmbifilmfest.com

APRIL 26-27

Smoke on the Water Barbecue and Music Festival

Smoke on the Water Barbecue Competition and Music Festival returns to downtown Fort Myers on April 26th and 27th! Enjoy tasty barbecue, rocking tunes, and fun for the whole family! Don't miss this Florida Barbecue Associate sanctioned event, featuring cook teams from all over the South competing for a chance to win.

WHERE: Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center

2301 First Street | Fort Myers, FL 33901

COST: \$1 General Admission / \$75 VIP

MORE INFO: Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center Box Office (239)333-1933

www.sbdac.com/smoke-on-the-water-fort-myers

MAY 4

Steve Hackman's Beethoven v. Coldplay

Beethoven V. Coldplay transforms the Eroica into an oratorio, weaving the melodies and lyrics of Coldplay into the original Beethoven, pairing them together based on content and context. It is the alternate Eroica Beethoven may have created had he known the music of Coldplay at the time. Three vocalists join the full symphony; many of Coldplay's most well-known songs are interpolated, including 'Yellow', 'Viva La Vida' and 'The Scientist'.

WHERE: Barabara . Mann Performing Arts Hall at FSW

13350 FSW Pkwy | Fort Myers, FL 33919

COST: Tickets range from \$25-\$105 **MORE INFO:** www.bbmannpah.com/events

MAY 5

24th Annual Taste of the Beach

Join us on Fort Myers Beach to enjoy tasty samples from local area restaurants as well as great live entertainment at the Taste of the Beach! The 24th Annual Taste of the Beach will be held Sunday, May 5, 2019 on Old San Carlos Blvd. just down the street from Times Square. Food will be served until it runs out or at 4.00 n m

WHERE: Time Square on Fort Myers Beach

Old San Carlos Blvd | Fort Myers Beach, Flordia 33931

COST: Admission for Adults \$5 / Children under 12 are Free!

Food tickets are \$1 each

MORE INFO: www.fortmyers-sanibel.com Or call (239)454-7500

MAY 11

The 27th annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive

Letter carriers in Lee County are gearing up for the 27th annual National Letter Carriers Food Drive. The nation's largest single-day food drive, "Stamp Out Hunger," will be held on Saturday, May 11. If you're a winter resident headed up north before May 11, you can help! When you empty your pantry before you leave, just drop off unopened, non-perishable food items in the lobby of the post office near your home.

WHERE: Your mailbox!

COST: However much you feel like donating - Read all about it on page 5A **MORE INFO:** www.harrychapinfoodbank.org

MAY 11

Fort Myers Bike Night

Six Bends Harley Davidson invites you to enjoy the sights of hundreds of motorcycles displayed along the downtown streets while listening to live bands from 6:00-10:00 pm. Free to the public with many venues featuring specials.

WHERE: Downtown Fort Myers

Near the intersection of Second Street & Hendry Street

COST: Free!

MAY 12

Free Mother's Day Cruise with Pure Florida

Celebrate Mother's Day with a free sightseeing cruise for moms when accompanied by a full-fare paid adult or child admission. Narration on local history, wildlife and ecology is provided by Coast Guard certified captains. Read more on page 1A!

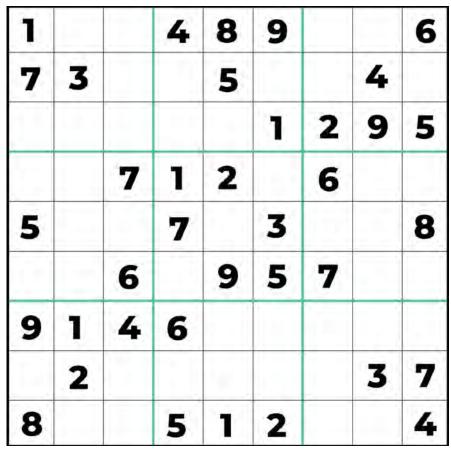
WHERE: Both Pure Florida locations.

COST: Adult Admission is \$39
Child Admission is \$19.50

MORE INFO: www.purefl.com

APR/MAY 2019 -Sudoku Solution

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S	6	2	L	4	٤	8	9	7
L	7	8	9	5	7	6	٤	L
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Solution at bottom of page 10F

MORE TO CELEBRATE!

Dates & descriptions provided by www.holidayinsights.com

The Spring season is upon us - Break out the antihistamines & Easter eggs!

APRIL 22

National Jelly Bean Day

National Jelly Bean Day is a time to enjoy gobs and gobs of jelly beans. Anyone who loves jelly beans, knows they are not just for Easter. Sure, they are very popular at Easter. But, they are also enjoyed year round. The flavors are limited only by the imagination of candy makers. If you've never enjoyed the multitude of flavors in a box of gourmet jelly beans, the we suggest you head right out to the store and buy some. Jelly beans date back to at least the 1860's. Advertisements promoted sending jelly beans to Union troops fighting in the Civil War. The original candy maker is unknown.

APRIL 30

National Honesty Day

M. Hirsh Goldberg, former press secretary to a governor of Maryland and author of five books, created National Honesty Day in the early 1990s after spending four years researching and writing *The Book of Lies*. Goldberg created this day, because he felt that the month of April, which begins with a big day of lying (April Fools Day), should end on a higher moral note. Celebrate National Honesty Day in a completely open and honest way. To be totally honest, there are few rules for this special day... just be honest.

MAY 4

Star Wars Day

It's all because of a play on words! Star Wars Day is May the Fourth, because of a famous quote from the hugely popular science fiction series blockbuster is "May the Force (Fourth) be with you". While we are so glad that this day exists, its creation was a fluke. In 2005, a German News Tv channel N24 interview erroneously translated this famous Star Wars quote. In German, "May the force be with you", was incorrectly interpreted as "We are with you on May 4th". We do believe, that if this error had not occurred, someone, somewhere would have created this day.

MAY 12 (Every Second Sunday in May)

Lilac Sunday

Lilac Sunday is celebrated on the same day as Mother's Day. Was this out of design, or coincidence? The date of Lilac Sunday is established to ideally occur when the flowers are in full bloom. Even by moving the date up, Mother Nature does not always deliver on schedule. Sometimes, the lilacs hit their peak before or after the second Sunday in May more special.



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AH-TAH-THI-KI Museum to Present Earth Day Celebration

Submitted By: Alina Maria Quintana Production Manager Bitner Group

BIG CYPRESS, FL - The Seminole Tribe of Florida's Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum is pleased to announce its Earth Day Celebration on Monday, April 22, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Earth Day program provides a perfect opportunity for visitors to discover more about the importance of the Everglades to Seminole people and to learn about taking



care of our planet. Friends and family can come together to explore Seminole traditions and enjoy a full-day of immersive and hands-on activities.

Visitors can start the morning with yoga in the peaceful setting of the museum's boardwalk and explore the Everglades with a boardwalk scavenger hunt. Learn about Seminole hunting traditions by meeting Daniel Tommie in the hunting camp; try your hand at archery with Jake Osceola; or watch a canoe carving demonstration first-hand with Pedro Zepeda. Guests can also be inspired to make earth-friendly changes at home by learning about composting and DIY home and beauty products. Raffles with earth-friendly products and other craft activities will round out the day.

Earth Day Celebration activities are included in the cost of admission. Please visit the museum's website - www.ahtahthiki.com/programs - for the most up-to-date information or call Education Coordinator Alyssa Boge at (863) 902-1113, ext. 12225.



LEFT: While celebrating Earth Day, don't forget to enjoy Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum's mile long boardwalk through Florida's Big Cypress Reservation!

Photo Courtesy: Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum www.ahtahthiki.com

ARTS Continued from 5A

Hop aboard a New York train because this week is all about spotlights and sightseeing! The Alliance is your backstage pass to creative, colorful street art and the bright lights of Broadway. Pave your way to 42nd Street and make your mark onstage and off.

July 8 – July 12: Knights of the Renaissance Table

You might know The Ninja Turtles, but do you know who Leonardo, Donatello, Raphael and Michelangelo really are? Adventure into the Renaissance and be brilliant at everything like the superheroes of painting! Make a modern Mona Lisa, work with friends to build a new Leaning Tower of Pisa and storm the set as a Knight from the Round Table!

July 15 – July 19: Enchanted Sands, Enchanted Lands

Float away on a magic carpet ride to a land of color, dance and mystery. Create misty landscapes, soar onto the stage and shine and shimmer with the Arabian Sun as your spotlight!

July 22 - July 26: Show Me the Monet

Leap across lily pads and into the sunset of Paris as you share a few moments with Monet during the post-impressionist movement! Get lost in the spectacle of light and take your place center stage.

July 29 – August 2: ARTlantis

Make a splash in the Lost City of ARTlantis! Dive beneath the waves to explore the magic of water and get inspired by what's found under the sea, from real and imagined ocean wildlife, to submarines and shipwrecks. Swim on to center stage for an aqua adventure unlike any other!



LEFT: Registration is still open! Save your kid(s) a spot now by www.artinlee.org/education/

Photo Courtesy: The Alliance for The Arts / www.artinlee.org

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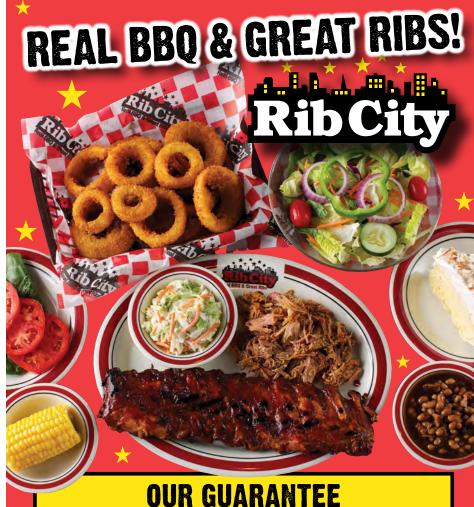
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Physicians' Primary Care Physicians Named Castle Connolly Top Doctors

Submitted By: Susan Bennett Susan Bennett Marketing & Media, L.C.

Physicians' Primary Carexxx

FORT MYERS, FL - Two physicians with Physicians' Primary Care of Southwest Florida have been named "Top Doctors" by Castle Connolly Medical Ltd. in New York.

Family Medicine physician Charles Curtis, M.D., and Pediatrician Georgia Rocha-Rodriguez, M.D., will be featured in the June issue of Gulf-

shore Life magazine. Dr. Curtis is a six-time repeat winner from 2013 to 2018. Dr. Rocha-Rodriguez is a three-time repeat winner from 2016 to 2018.

Dr. Curtis sees patients at the Physicians' Primary Care family medicine office in Cape Coral at 1255 Viscaya Parkway. Dr. Rocha Rodriguez sees patients at the Fort Myers pediatrics office at 9350 Camelot Drive and the Lehigh office at 5700 Lee Boulevard at the Olympia Pointe entrance.

Selections are made through a national survey of physicians and hospital administrators conducted by Castle Connolly, an independent research and information company that is the nation's leading provider of information on top physicians. After the votes are tallied, Castle Connolly ensures that the physicians meet the company's criteria, which include board certification, years of experience in their specialties, and a clean disciplinary record.

"Castle Connolly is widely recognized for its extensive research of the medical profession. This demonstrates to our patients that we have been evaluated and meet their highest standards," said Dr. Mary Yankaskas, managing physician of Phy-





ABOVE, LEFT: Georgia Rocha-Rodriguez, M.D. moved to the US from Brazil to continue her study in medicine, and is currently practicing pediatrics in Lehigh Acres, Florida.

ABOVE, RIGHT: Charles H. Curtis, M.D., a native of South Carolina & avid Parrotthead, is currently in Family Practice in Cape Coral, Florida.

Photo Courtesy: Physicians' Primary Care of Southwest Florida

sicians' Primary Care of Southwest Florida.

The physicians will be honored by Gulfshore Life magazine at an awards banquet.

Physicians' Primary Care of Southwest Florida, a physician-owned and operated medical practice, was formed in 1996 by many long practicing local physicians and has grown to become the largest physician-owned multi-specialty primary care practice in Southwest Florida.

Medical specialties include family practice, internal medicine and pediatrics. PPC's offices are conveniently located in Fort Myers, Cape Coral and Lehigh Acres. For more information, visit www.ppcswfl.com

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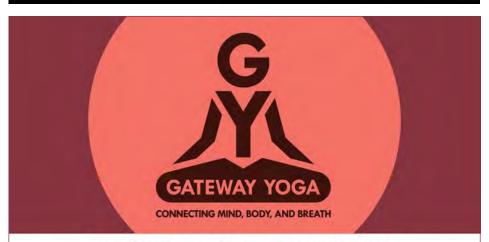


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THURSDAY

9:30-10:30am All Levels Flow 1:15-2:30pm Gentle Yoga

FRIDAY

8:30-9:45am Restorative 10:30-11:30am Chair Yoga

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The Laboratory Theater of Florida is presenting Festival of Tens

Is ten minutes enough to experience a full story? They say yes

Submitted By: Paula Sisk PR, The Laboratory Theater

FORT MYERS, FL - The Laboratory Theater of Florida is excited to present a festival of ten-minute plays to be held at 8 pm on April 26, 27, and 2pm on April 28th.

The ten minute play form has taken the theater world by storm. "Short" in this case does not mean "easy." Ten minute plays are creative, experimental, and complex. They deal with one critical moment in a character's life and, in a few words, cut through exposition to conflict and change. They can be rip-roaringly funny, romantic, touching, or serious, and they are always a surprise. They're like well-written poems that capture vignettes of life and make us say, "Of course! That's what it's like." And they give audiences a chance to hear many different theater voices and experience a range of moods.

The Festival of Tens will showcase the work of five adult students who have studied with Lab Theater playwright Louise Wigglesworth for several years. Melanie Payne, Linda Saether, Candice Sanzari, Patrick Erhardt, and Nancy Stetson offer a quick-moving evening of plays that will entertain and provoke thought. Some of the plays have had professional productions and staged readings in other cities; some are in the spotlight for the first time.

Melanie Payne comments, "I've been a journalist for most of my adult life and one of the challenges in writing for a newspaper is 'writing tight.' A 10-inch article is often more difficult to construct than a 30-inch one. I've found the same thing is true with the 10-minute play. It's a challenge to get all you want to say into so few words."

"Writing a ten-minute play is letting your creativity take flight. An idea becomes an outline that develops wings on paper then lifts off as a script soaring out for all to enjoy," says Patrick Erhardt.

Candice Sanzari says," Writing a ten-minute play has been creatively challenging, yet ultimately rewarding. There's no better satisfaction than finally getting to the heart of what your characters had in mind for you, as a writer, and expressing that not only concisely, but effectively. Being able to see a play of my own produced



LEFT: Festival of Tens Playwrights (L-R) Melanie Payne, Louise Wigglesworth, Nancy Stetson, Linda Festival of Tens Playwrights Melanie Payne, Louise Wigglesworth, Nancy Stetson, Linda Saether (Not pictured Patrick Erhardt and Candice Sanzari)

Photo Courtesy: Paula Sisk

is something I'll always cherish and be proud of. I can't wait to see how audiences respond to what each of us has created."

The Festival of Tens will be offered at 8 pm April 26, 27, and at 2pm on the 28th only, and only at the Laboratory Theater of Florida.

Tickets are available to purchase on Brownpapertickets.com or by calling the box office at 239-218-0481.

The Festival of Tens is graciously sponsored by Gail Rothenberg and John Levy.

About The Laboratory Theater Of Florida

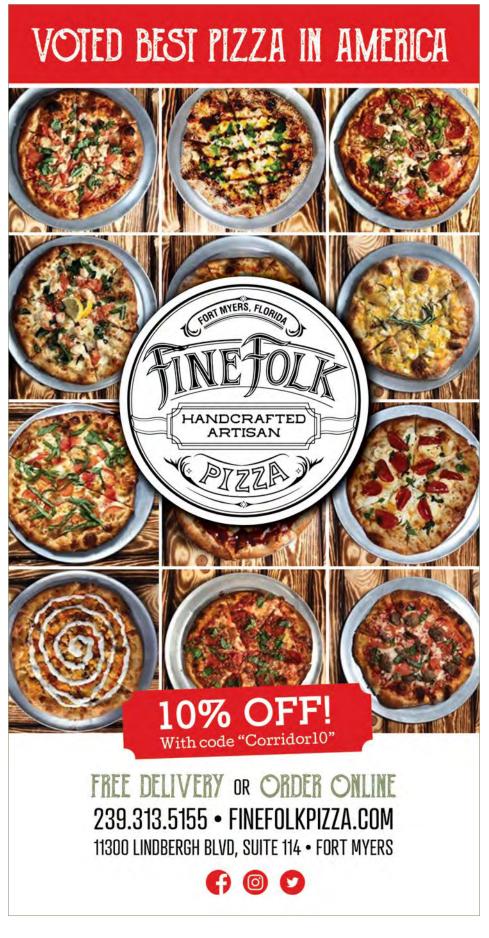
The Laboratory Theater of Florida, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, is dedicated to the promotion of the performing arts, through live performance, education, outreach, experimentation, and the development of ensemble work. The company features ensemble productions, produces classic works, takes artistic risks, which both feature and challenge local performers. For more information visit www.LaboratoryTheaterFlorida.com or the physical location at 1634 Woodford Avenue, in the Fort Myers River District.

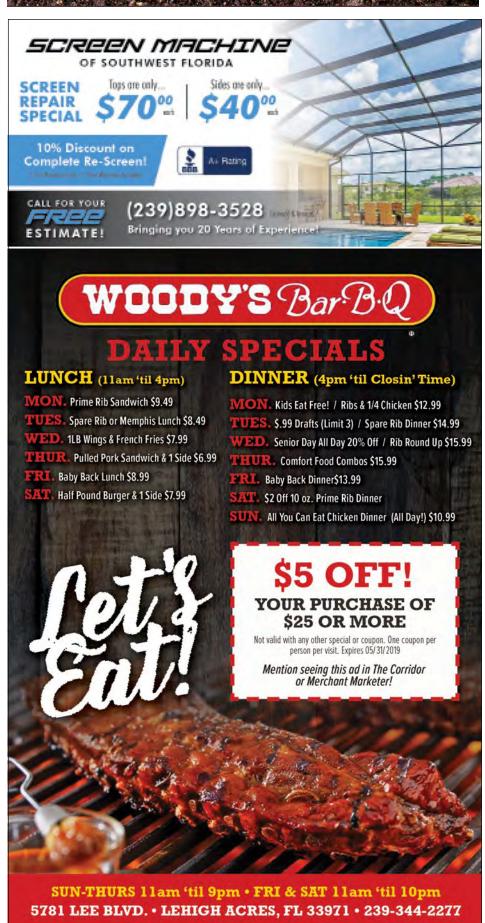
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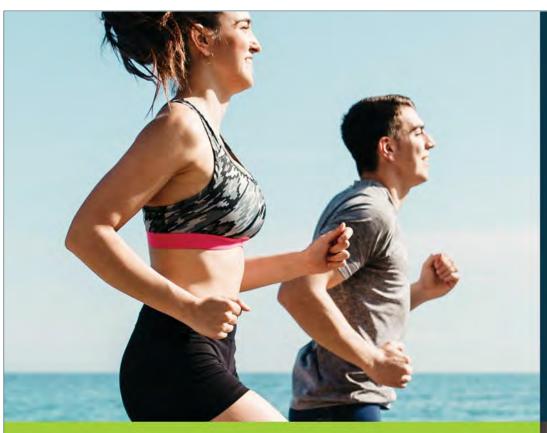
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Christin W.

I found Lifestyles through my health insurance, and I am so glad I ended up getting my chiropractic services there. Everyone is very professional, and friendly. I definitely recommend it, as their approach is based more on wellness, than just the typical "adjustment" you get in some places. My lower back is greatly thanking of all of you guys.

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