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Today On News-press.com

Looking for something to do this weekend?

By news-press.com

Originally posted on December 08, 2006

Saturday: 2006 Lee County Heart Walk

Proceeds fund research and educational programs. Registration for the walk in Centennial Park on Edwards Drive begins at 8 a.m., and the walk starts at 9 a.m. Call for information at 498-9288 or visit americanheart.org/leewalk. The park is in downtown Fort Myers.

All weekend: Dec. 8-10

• **Southwest Florida Christmas Pageant:** The full life of Christ will be presented through the Resurrection in a two-hour performance featuring a cast of about 300, plus a choir, orchestra members and live animals. Performances are at 7 p.m. Friday, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, at McGregor Baptist Church, 3750 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers. Tickets are \$5, \$7 and \$10. Additional performances will be held Dec. 16-17.

• **Nutcracker Concert:** The Camerata Symphony Orchestra accompanies the Cypress Lake Dance Department as members perform Tchaikowsky's "Nutcracker" Ballet at 7 p.m., \$5. Cypress Lake High School Center for the Arts, 6750 Panther Lane, Fort Myers. 481-2233 ext. 6711.

Saturday, Dec. 9

• **Family Christmas Event:** Local skaters perform a modern day "Rolling Nativity," and Santa will arrive on roller skates. Sip hot cocoa and cider and participate in games with prizes from 4-7 p.m. and 7:30-10 p.m. Tickets are \$5, includes skating. Non-skating parents and grandparents get in free. Roller Skating the Net, 4848 Palm Beach Blvd., Fort Myers. 694-2437 or rollerskatingthenet.com.

• **Holiday Stars:** Star light, star bright...celebrate the season by listening to a star-filled story and creating a holiday star mask. For children ages 6 and older, 11 a.m. Event is free, but registration requested. Lakes Regional Library, 15290 Bass Road, Fort Myers. 533-4000.

• **Gift Wrap by Girl Scouts:** The Scouts are hosting a booth to wrap gifts from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., in return for a donation. They want to raise funds for a trip to Scotland in the summer of 2007, as part of a cultural exchange program. Gift boxes will be available at the booth at Books-A-Million, 5007 S. Cleveland Ave., Fort Myers. Open to the public.

Sunday, Dec. 10

• **Annual Holiday Canned Food Drive for the Hungry:** The Yard Dogs perform to benefit the Community Cooperative Ministries from 3-6 p.m. Bring canned food or cash donations. Pinchers Crab Shack, 18100 San Carlos Blvd., South Fort Myers. 652-1313.

• **Bach Ensemble Holiday Program:** This is a Baroque concert and reception featuring the 40-voice Bach Ensemble. Highlights of the program are excerpts from Handel's "Messiah," French, German and Spanish carols arranged by John Rutter, "Courtney's Musicological Journey Through the 12 Days of Christmas," plus holiday music by Bach, and Vivaldi. Prelude by Donald Doiron, conductor of the Ensemble, at 2:30 p.m. Concert at 3 p.m. Reception to follow. Tickets \$30 for adults and \$20 for children ages 12-18. Naples United Church of Christ, 5200 Creighton Road, Naples. 732-1055 or thebachensemble.org.

• **Chanukah Party:** Festivities include music, a magician, a balloon artist and art projects for the kids from 1 to 3 p.m. Koshers doughnuts and refreshments will be served. Chanukah and Judaica gifts and jewelry will be available. Tickets are \$5 per adults, \$10 per child over age 3. Jewish Federation of Lee & Charlotte Counties, 6237 Presidential Court, Suite E, Fort Myers. 481-4449.

Concerts

Tony Bennett

- When: 7:30 p.m. Sunday
- Where: Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, 13350 Edison Parkway, Fort Myers

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Trace Adkins with opening acts Jason Aldean and Billy Currington

- When: 8 p.m. Saturday
- Where: Germain Arena, 10900 Everblades Parkway, Estero
- Tickets: \$39.50
- Call: 334-3309. Tickets also are available at Ticketmaster outlets and the box office.

Janelle McCoy

Mezzo Soprano Janelle McCoy will be the soloist with the Gulf Coast Symphony at Saturday's 7:30 p.m. Holiday Festival Concert at Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall. The concert opens the symphony's season. Tickets start at \$25, with \$10 tickets for children under 18. Call 481-4849.

Kathy Mattea Christmas: Saturday, Dec. 9, Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts

Arts, etc.

Bonita Springs Charity Fine Arts & Crafts Fair

- When: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday
- Where: Riverside Park, near Pennsylvania Avenue on Old U.S. 41 Road, Bonita Springs
- Admission: \$3 (which goes to local charities)
- Parking: Free
- Information: Call 777-8651

•**December Exhibit:** Cape Coral Arts Studio opens its biennial faculty exhibition with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday at the studio, 4533 Coronado Parkway. The exhibition runs through Dec. 29. Hours are 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday and Saturday when classes are in session (closed Christmas Day). Call 574-0802.

•**Holiday Highlights Exhibition:** Meet the artists exhibiting in the holiday exhibit judged by Sandra K. Jackoboicoe of the Pastel Society, 6-7:30 p.m., free and open to the public. The Art League of Fort Myers, 1451 Monroe St., Fort Myers. 275-3970.

•**Annual Men's Show:** The Cape Coral Art League presents "Boys Night Out," through Dec. 29 showcasing the work of the League's male artists. A free wine and cheese reception to meet the artists will be held from 5-7 p.m. Friday. Gallery hours are 1-4 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and Friday-Sunday (closed Thursdays and Christmas Day), Cape Coral Art League, 516 Cultural Park Blvd., Cape Coral. 772-5657.

Friday

•**Off the Walls:** A fundraiser where everyone goes home with an artwork worth more than the price of entry. An evening of food and fun to benefit the Art League of Bonita Springs. The Art League's scholarship program benefits from ticket sales, 6-8 p.m., \$125 per person. Center For The Arts, 26100 Old 41 Road, Bonita Springs. 495-8989 or artcenterbonita.org.

•**Fashion Show in Matlacha:** Hand-painted silk designs by Deborah Zwetsch of Zwear will be displayed as well as jewelry designs from several local jewelry artists and handcrafted leather designs by Suzanne Wu of Wu2 Designs. DJ Dubble 8 will provide music for the event, which is part of the second Art Night of the season at several Pine Island art and gift galleries, 4-9 p.m., free. Julia's Arts, 4574 Pine Island Road, Matlacha. 283-0831 or JuliasArt.com

•**Sweet Surprises:** Queenie's homemade candy cane ice cream and other sweet surprises will be served during Art Night. All of the artists represented by the gallery will be featured, and a glass blowing demonstration will also be held. The Trouble Starters Band will play holiday music, 4-9 p.m., Matlacha Art Gallery, 4637 Pine Island Road N.W., Matlacha. 283-6453.

•**Art Night Event:** Tarot card readings by Christopher, massage by Phyllis McCormick, licensed massage therapist, and psychic transmissions via automatic writing from Linda White Crow, 4-9 p.m., Wind and Water Inspirational Gifts, Pine Island Center in Subway Plaza, 5509 Pine Island Road, Bokeelia. 283-5512.

Saturday

•**Meet 3D Artists:** Meet Andrea Perisho, Paul David, Gail Jones and Lois Johnston who work in raku, ceramics, wire art, jewelry and more. Refreshments and free holiday gift wrapping, 4-7 p.m., Le Swisse Fine Art Gallery, 1113 S.E. 47th Terrace, Cape Coral. 540-5656 or 470-2961.

•**Annual Holiday Open House Art Show:** With basketry and painting demonstrations. Many pieces available to purchase in time for the holidays, 2-4 p.m., open to public. Summerville at Bonita Bay, 26850 S. Bay Drive, Bonita Springs. 948-2600

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