

NEWS BRIEFS

Williams honored



WILLIAMS

American Water Works Association, Florida section, has named Rep. Trudi Williams, R-Fort Myers, its Legislator of the Year.

The award recognizes leadership and dedication in developing water supply legislation for the people of Florida. Williams is the chief executive officer of TKW Consulting Engineers, a civil engineering firm she founded in 1989 and a former member of the South Florida Water Management District governing board.

"Protecting Florida's waterways and water supply has been a major focus of my work for many years," Williams said. "I am thrilled to receive this award, which reflects not only my dedication to this issue, but also that of the AWWA and many Floridians across the state." ■

Water award



Carla Palmer is presented with the Dean Award by Rick Barber, chairman of the Water Enhancement & Restoration Coalition.

The Water Enhancement & Restoration Coalition recently presented the Dean Award to Carla Palmer, director of stormwater management at the South Florida Water Management District.

Palmer, a professional engineer, retired from the district at the end of March.

The Dean Award, named for Henry Dean, SFWMD's former executive director, honors Palmer for her "unwavering commitment to improving the water quality of Southwest Florida."

"During her career, Carla has developed innovations in stormwater management, helped establish stormwater utilities and designed wetland restoration projects," said Rick Barber, chief executive officer of Agnoli, Barber & Brundage Inc. and chairman of WERC's board of directors. ■



Students support local charities

Cherie Gluhm, head of Lower School at Canterbury, announced \$9,434 each was given to the Children's Home Society of Florida and to The Children's Hospital of SW Florida. The money was raised at the school marathon held earlier in the year.

This is the 23rd year Canterbury School students have supported local charities with money raised at the marathon, and it is the sixth year students have supported Children's Home Society and Children's Hospital. ■

COURTESY PHOTO

Canterbury School fourth graders Carson Burton, left, and Grace Garramone, right, present a ceremonial check to Jacqueline House Hagan, director of development for the Children's Home Society. The money represents half the total donated by the students at the school's annual marathon. A like amount was donated to The Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida.

Child care gets big award

Child Care of Southwest Florida, Inc., has been awarded \$250,000 from the Naples Children & Education Foundation as a beneficiary of the Naples Winter Wine Festival.

The funds will be used by the Naples office of Child Care of Southwest Florida, Inc., to purchase three child care resource vans, learning materials and fund professional staffing for the vans.

The new vans will take books, equipment, toys, and other materials to family child care homes in Collier County that might not otherwise have an opportunity to visit the Naples office of Child Care of Southwest Florida. ■

Child care hosts open house

Child care centers throughout Lee, Charlotte, Glades and Hendry counties are hosting open houses in April in honor of the 40th anniversary of Child Care of Southwest Florida, Inc.

Visitors will be able to tour the child care facilities, enjoy refreshments, and hear more about the activities offered at the centers and by Child Care of Southwest Florida, Inc.

- Centers offering open houses are:
- Community Children's Center, 11 Beth Stacey Blvd., Lehigh Acres - Mon., April 16, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
 - Edison College Child Care Center (Fort Myers campus), 13311 Edison Lane, Fort Myers - Wed., April 18, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
 - Harlem Academy Day Care Center, 944 Harlem Academy Avenue, Clewiston - Fri., April 20, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
 - P.A. Geraci Child Development Center, 3713 Canal Street, Fort Myers - Thurs., April 26, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
 - Joseph H. Messina Children's Center, 4650 Fowler Street, Fort Myers - Fri., April 27, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
 - Glades County Child Development Center, 1240 Hendrix St. NW, Moore Haven - Tues., April 24, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
 - Children's Garden of LaBelle, 745 Highway 80, LaBelle - Mon., April 23 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
 - Edison Early Childhood Center (Charlotte or Punta Gorda campus - it's in PG), 26300 Airport Road, Punta Gorda - Tues., April 17, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
 - Sunshine After School Program, 601 Sara Ave., Lehigh Acres - Mon., April 30, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. ■

Top cop



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From left to right: Lee County Sheriff's Deputy Bobby Black, Rotary South President Ryan Shute, and Chief Deputy Charles Ferrante.

The Fort Myers Rotary South named Cpl. Bobby Black Lee County Sheriff's Deputy of the Month for March.

Black works with the Dunbar community policing unit.

Earlier this year, he investigated a murder case and, during a traffic stop, found the alleged shooter in the trunk of a car. The suspect was arrested and awaits trial. ■

Rusty Robson honored



Rusty Robson's widow, Cherry Robson, second from the right, is presented with a Boston Red Sox team jersey at the team's final home game of the 2007 spring training season. Rusty worked at Red Sox games for 15 years. From the left are Red Sox Florida Coordinator Todd Stephenson, Eva Robson, Cherry Robson, and Gary Green president of the Fort Myers Rotary Club.

The Boston Red Sox and the Rotary Club of Fort Myers honored the late Evans "Rusty" Robson with an official game jersey for more than 15 years of service to both clubs.

Robson's widow Cherry Robson was given a Red Sox jersey with the number "50," representing Rusty's 50 years of service in Rotary.

The Rotary Club has handled parking duties for Red Sox home games in Fort

Myers for the past 15 years. All of the proceeds obtained by the Rotary Club have been reinvested into the local community.

And Rusty was there for every single game and every single event until he died last fall. He never missed a game; his friends and mates from Rotary said. From the spring of 1993, he was at every baseball game for a total of 305. He was truly the "Iron Horse" of Red Sox parking. ■