

FORT MYERS FLORIDA WEEKLY™

YOUR NEWS AND ENTERTAINMENT SOURCE

WEEK OF JULY 2-8, 2008

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“The war affects everyone.”
—David Mitchell, Fort Myers

WAR THOUGHTS ON INDEPENDENCE DAY

BY ROGER WILLIAMS

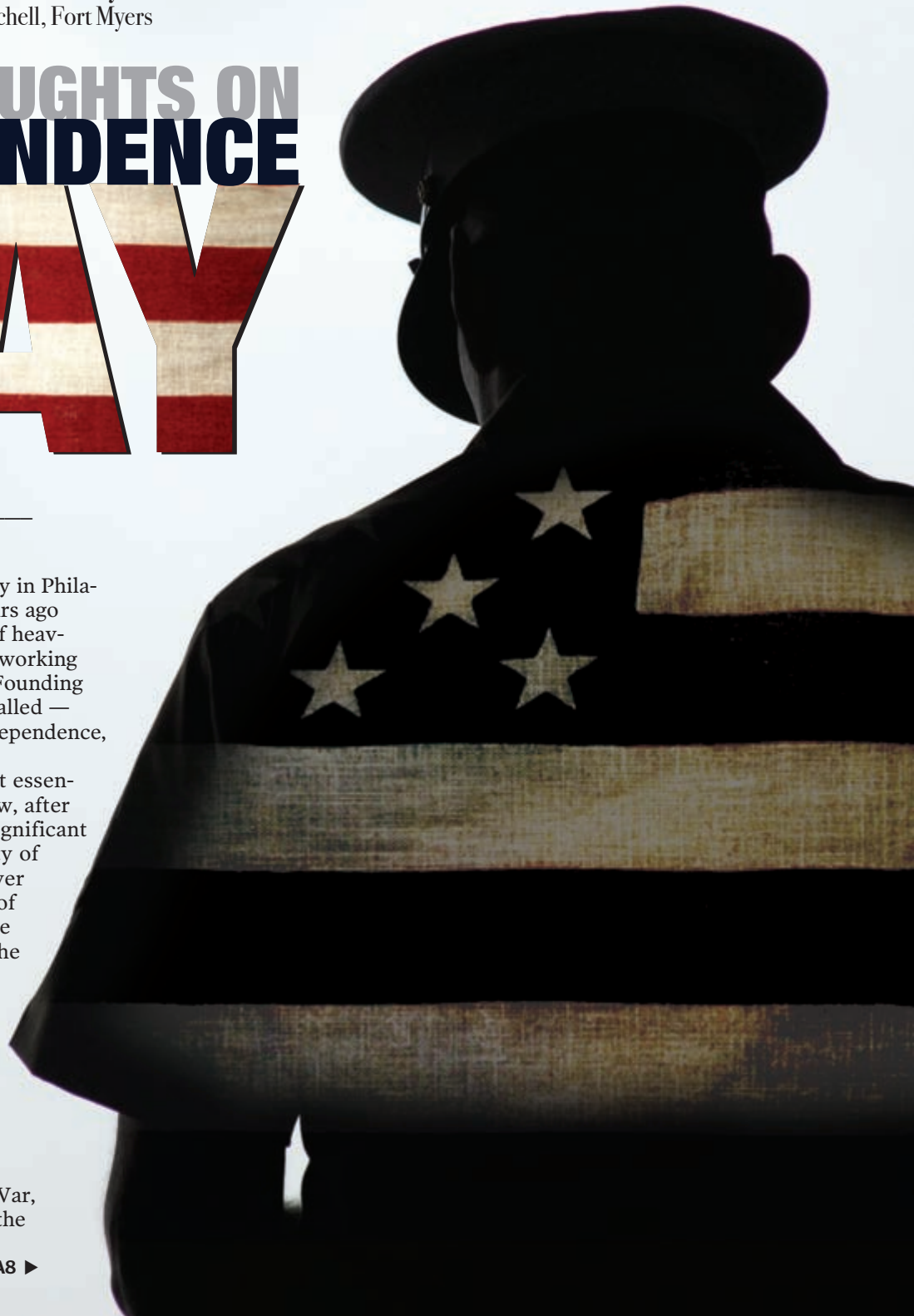
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On a hot summer's day in Philadelphia only 232 years ago this week, a group of heavily clothed and hardworking wig wearers — the Founding Fathers, as they're called — signed the Declaration of Independence, and jump-started the nation.

They did it in war, the first essentially American war. And now, after that war and 10 or 12 other significant wars, not to mention a variety of bloody engagements that never quite reached the definition of a major war, the nation is five years and four months into the Iraq War, and six years and nine months into the American-Afghan War.

For most of us, the other wars — the War of 1812, three Seminole Wars, a variety of additional Indian Wars, the Mexican-American War, the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II, the

SEE WAR, A8 ►



INSIDE



Dad and me

Author Bob Morris tells a funny tale of double dating with his newly widowed father. **C1** ►



Art Royale commercial

And other events in Fort Myers' society. **C19-21** ►



Red, White and Boom

Check out Florida Weekly's guide to what's happening around town on Independence Day. **A17** ►

Edison College ranked as top producer of Associate's Degrees

BY ARTIS HENDERSON

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Community College Week magazine named Edison College one of the nation's top producers of associate degrees in its June 16 issue. Among the 2,743 colleges offering associate degrees in the United States, Edison ranked 13th in nursing, 39th in health professions, 68th in all disciplines (non minority) and 90th in all disciplines.

Dr. Robert Beeson, Vice President of



the A.A. program and District Dean of Instruction, says the associate program is a focal point at Edison. Founded in 1961 as Edison Junior College, the school began offering baccalaureate degrees in addition to its associate degrees in 2000. Still, associate's degree seeking students make up two-thirds of the college's enrollment today. Of these, half are full time and half part time, with those numbers split equally between day and night time

SEE EDISON, A14 ►



People power

Business is booming for area bike shops as people dust off their old two-wheelers to save gas. **B1** ►

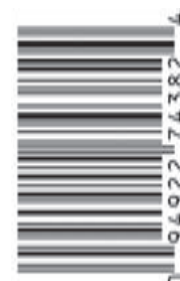
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ROGER WILLIAMS	A2	ON THE MOVE	B4	SOCIETY	C18-21
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SOCIETY	C18-21
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