

## OFFICERS

President: Doris Cortese  
1st VP: Rosemary Lewis  
2nd VP: Carmen Salomé  
Treasurer: Barbara Koeplinger  
Asst. Treas: Sharon Gibson  
Recording Sec: Marj Tyrer  
Corresponding Sec: Clara Callahan

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Americanism: Margaret Windhausen  
Achievement Awards: Carol Beaumont  
Book Chat/MELP: Cheryl Harris  
Bylaws: Kerri Tonkin  
Campaigns/Elections: Kerri Tonkin  
Caring for America: Renie Frank, Anita Diamond  
Community Engagement: Jeanie Dozier  
Fundraising: Rosemary Lewis  
Hospitality: Maria Kernan  
Legislation: Donna Clarke  
Membership: Sharon Gibson  
Newsletter: Mary Snyder  
Parliamentarian: Shirley O'Donnell/Kerri Tonkin  
Programs: Carmen Salomé  
Publicity: Gail Langner  
Reservations: Mary Ann Hansen  
Web Site: Missi Lastra

# THE MAHOUT

## The Keeper and Driver of the Elephant

JUNE 2015

*Strong Women  
for a Strong America*



### KEEP THEM IN YOUR HEARTS

*Our new Caring for America  
project..keep them  
in your hearts.*

Lifeline Family Center  
offers a positive alternative  
to abortion, giving both mother  
and baby hope for the future.

*A Place Where Shattered Dreams  
Can Be Changed  
to a Promising Future.*



### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

*"I predict future happiness for  
Americans if they can prevent the  
government from wasting the labors  
of the people under the pretense  
of taking care of them."*

*Thomas Jefferson*

### LRWF MONTHLY MEETING

Meet with us on Monday, June 8th, at the Edison Restaurant. The keynote speaker will be Cynthia Henderson, President of the Florida Federation of Republican Women (FFRW).

The dinner menu will be roast pork loin with apple cider gravy, or roasted chicken with herbs and olive oil. Both served with a salad, garlic mashed potatoes and seasonal vegetables. Cinnamon rice pudding will be served for dessert.

- \$22 inclusive
- 5:15 PM Social Time /Dinner and Program following
- Reservation Deadline 6/2/15

*Make reservations with Mary Ann Hansen by calling 239-432-9389 or emailing RMH738@aol.com*

*Or make your reservation by going to the LRWF website at <http://www.leerepublicanwomen.com/events/reservations/>*

*You may also pay online with credit card by going to <http://mkt.com/lee-republican-women-federated>.*

*Remember, a reservation made is a reservation paid!*

### Next Month's Speaker:

*Matt Caldwell*

*State Representative*

*Speaking on Session Updates*



*Cynthia Henderson,  
President FFRW*

### CYNTHIA HENDERSON

Lawyer, lobbyist and proud mother of 2 fabulous children, Cynthia Henderson currently serves as President of FFRW. She is the past president of the Tallahassee Republican Women's Club Federated and State Committeewomen from Leon County. Cynthia practiced land use and environmental law throughout the State of Florida before she was honored to serve in Governor Jeb Bush's cabinet as Secretary of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation then Secretary of the Department of Management Services. Cynthia is active in community interests and organizations such as Dress for Success and the Carson Springs Wildlife Foundation. Cynthia's affiliates past and present are

the Florida Bar, American Bar Association, Hillsborough County Bar Association, Admitted to practice before U. S. District Court for Florida's Middle District, Stetson University Alumni Board of Directors, Arbitrator for the National Association of Securities Dealers and the American Arbitration Association, Board of Directors for Foundation for Florida's Future, Board of Directors for the Association of Florida Community Developers, Florida Bar Continuing Legal Education Board, Board of Directors for National Association of Industrial and Office Properties (NAIOP), NAIOP National Environmental Subcommittee, Vice President and Public Affairs Chairperson for Tampa Chapter of NAIOP, Tampa Chamber of Commerce, Republican Party of Florida-State Committeewoman, Leon County Republican Executive Committee, Bush/Brogan Campaign 1998/2002, Bush/Brogan Transition Team 1998, Bush/Cheney Campaign 2000, Speaker at 2000 Republican National Convention, Board of Supervisors/special taxing district, and the Cable Advisory Committee/City of Tampa.

### NEWSLETTER OF LEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN FEDERATED

*Associated with the Florida Federation of Republican Women and the National Federation of Republican Women.*

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



*Doris Cortese  
LRWF President*

July 1, 2015 to December 31, 2016 is one of the most exciting times for Lee Republican Women, including an entire reworking of our outdated website. I know you're going to be thrilled when you see it up and running, putting our best foot forward, not only in the community, but in the state. The website is just one of the expenses that is in our current budget, so we find ourselves in a position to get our heads together and brainstorm about some creative fundraising ideas.

The committee chairwomen have come up with great ideas to raise money. However, we know that you have each done some sort of fundraising in the past and have a wealth of knowledge.

Would you do me a favor? Would you please contact me with any ideas that you might have for raising funds or adding membership? And if you aren't currently serving on a committee, would you please look at the list of committees in the newsletter and sign up for a project that you feel called to volunteer for? We are such a talented group of leaders and have so much to offer! I look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible. When we all work together as a team our dream of doing so much for so many will come to fruition!

*"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more,  
do more and become more, you are a leader." -- John Quincy Adams*

Respectfully,

Doris Cortese,  
LRWF President



## MEMBER OF THE MONTH

Carol was born in Bismarck, North Dakota. She also lived in St. Paul, Minnesota and moved from there to Indianapolis, Indiana. She graduated from St. Agnes Academy for Girls in Houston, Texas.

After getting her education, she worked as a secretary for the Inspector of Naval Material and the Fort Harrison Army Procurement Department.

Carol married a wonderful, handsome man and started a family right away. Carol and her husband decided that she would become a "stay at home mom" so she could concentrate all of her energies on raising their children.

Carol has three wonderful children named Robert, Patricia and William. She also has four grandchildren and one delightful great grand baby!

She has volunteered for the Republican party in an effort to get Richard Lugar elected as a senator in Indiana. Since Carol was successful in her efforts with Richard, she has joined LRWF and has decided that she would do all that she could do to support our Republican candidates in the upcoming elections.

*Thanks Carol for helping us "Paint the State Red!"*



*Carol Beaumont  
LRWF Achievement Awards Chairman*

## MEMBERSHIP

There will be a LRWF membership orientation meeting on Monday, October 19, 2015, at Crown Colony Country Club from 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM. All members that have joined after September 2014 will be issued a written invitation to the event. Our theme will be... *Celebrate the Past...Looking Forward to the Next Thirty!* Board members will inform the group of some of our past successful projects in our departments. The guests will be given an opportunity to ask questions of our officers. **MARK YOUR CALENDAR.**

We still have membership directories for 2015 available. If you have not received your copy, please see me at the general meeting.

Newer members to the club will have reserved seating at the June 8th meeting. I will be watching for you and get you to the correct table. This will be an opportunity for our group to get to know each other and to come up with some new member projects during the next few months. Board members are asked to come over to meet and greet the ladies at our table.

If you would like to be a club mentor for a new member, please let me know. Your responsibility would be to contact the new member prior to the meeting, see and/or sit with her at the general meeting, and be available for questions.

At the June 8th meeting, our members will be given a copy of the new club brochure. You are being challenged to read it, and then give it to a prospective member such as a friend or your neighbor.

Remember, our EACH ONE, ASK ONE campaign continues until December when we will draw from the names of the recruiters of received members from 12/14 to 12/15.

Sharon Gibson  
Membership Chair 2015  
239-362-3042  
gibsonsharon@comcast.net

### NEW FULL MEMBER

Margaret (Peg) L. Love  
24417 Baltic Avenue  
#1104  
Punta Gorda, FL 33955-4602  
941-740-0228  
peglove810@gmail.com

### CURRENT TOTALS

131 full members  
29 associate members  
2 student members

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP – 162 Members

### DIRECTORY CORRECTION

Cathy Ancefsky - new email address  
cancefsky@cornerstonecoastal.com



Ladies of LRWF met at the home of Rosemary Lewis on Wednesday, May 27 to discuss Scott Walker's book, *Unintimidated*. Good discussion about how Walker was able to reign in the state spending by offering viable solutions to age old union demands. He saved jobs, lowered taxes and turned a 3.6 billion dollar deficit into a state surplus. The money then went back to the tax payers.

This was all done in a blue state that even voted heavily for President Obama in 2008. The next Book Chat will be held at the home of Doris Cortese on June 24th. We will be reading Ted Cruz's book, *A Time For The Truth*. The newsletter says we will read Rand Paul's book, *Taking a Stand*. We chose to switch the order in which we read them. Please join us for like minded conversation and fun. We would love to hear your input.

If you plan to attend, please let us know so we may plan accordingly.

For a map, [CLICK HERE](#). We look forward to seeing you!

You may call or email Mindy Moran or Cheryl Harris for confirmation. We look forward to seeing you in June. Thanks.

Cheryl and Mindy

Mindy Moran  
239-288-7130  
mindy7156@yahoo.com

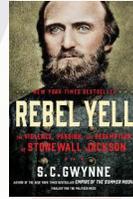
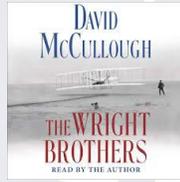
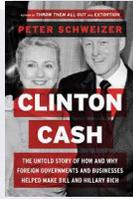
Cheryl Harris  
239-225-7390  
timcherylharris@aol.com

Doris Cortese  
239-505-0646  
vkdw@aol.com

## SPECIAL AUCTION

For all “inquiring minds” at June’s meeting there will be a special auction on a basket containing three new books listed on the NY Times bestseller list: “Clinton Cash” by Peter Schweizer, “The Wright Brothers” by David McCullough and “Rebel Yell, The Violence, Passion and Redemption of Stonewall Jackson” by S.C. Gwynne. Four Marquis by Waterford wine glasses will be included in the basket. Thanks to Judy O’Donnell for this donation to our fundraising!

Rosemary Lewis, Fundraising Chair



## NEWS PRESS ARTICLE QUOTES LRWF MEMBERS

*Submitted by Donna Clarke, Legislative Chair*

The following is an excerpt from the News Press published on Saturday, May 22nd:

Some of GOP Gov. Rick Scott’s recent actions regarding health care funding and potential impacts of the upcoming special session - required to pass a state budget, which did not happen in regular session largely because of the health care matter - have even his Republican supporters scratching their heads.

If there’s no budget by July 1, state government could shut down, a scenario that’s never happened in modern history.

Legislators have been adamant that will not happen. They vow a budget will get done. But Scott’s request for agencies to prepre a shut-down plan or suggest how they might proceed without a budget, didn’t help matters, they said.

I think it makes people nervous, and that’s not helpful,” said Carole Green, a former legislator and now president of one of Lee County’s Republican clubs.

Benacquisto said she does not envision any scenario where legislators don’t pass a budget. A shutdown “is something we should not acknowledge or anticipate.”

Scott’s suggestion that hospitals share their profits, with the more financially successful handling over dollars to those less so, to get through the budget crisis also failed to generate enthusiasm at some Republican gatherings this week.

State Rep. Dane Eagle, R-Cape Coral, said the idea came as a surprise to many members.

And some Lee Memorial Health System board members signaled they didn’t think much of it.

“We’ve been good stewards of our money, money we use to help our community,” said LMHS board member Therese Everly.

“And now we’re being asked by our Governor to share the wealth with others?”

Another board member, Donna Clarke, a former legislator, took issue with the Governor’s reference to hospitals sharing tax money. “We do not have taxpayer money to share,” she said, “We do not levy taxes.”

## CHARTER REVIEW BOARD PUBLIC MEETING

*By Donna Clarke, Legislative Chair*

Lee County Charter Review Commission comprises 15 members appointed by Lee County Commissioners. They serve for 18 months with the purpose of reviewing the Home Rule Charter and proposing any amendments or revisions, which may be placed on the general election ballot.

Find more information at [www.leegov.com/charterreview/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.leegov.com/charterreview/Pages/default.aspx).

Or Contact: Ed Volz, Chairman, Charter Review Commission. c/o Lee County Attorney’s Office, 239-533-2236, email: [charter@leegov.com](mailto:charter@leegov.com)

Purpose: To review the Home Rule Charter and propose amendments or revisions that may be placed on the general election ballot.

The Charter Review Commission will be meeting approximately 18 months to produce proposed amendments to the Charter.

The final product developed by the Charter Review Commission will need to be in place by the end of May 2016 for transmittal.

Any proposed Charter amendment or revision that receives an affirmative vote of three-fifths approval of the entire membership of the entire Charter Review Commission shall be submitted to the County Commission for its consideration for placement on the November 2016 ballot. Any proposed Charter amendment or revision that receives four-fifths (4/5) approval of the entire membership of the Charter Review Commission shall be placed directly onto the November 2016 ballot by the County Commission.

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June 25th, 2015  
6:00-8:00pm  
Location:  
Estero High School  
21900 River Ranch  
Road  
Estero, FL 33928

July 23rd, 2015  
6:00-8:00pm  
Location:  
Mariner High School  
701 Chiquita Blvd.  
Cape Coral, FL 33993

August 27th, 2015  
6:00-8:00pm  
Location:  
East Lee County High  
School  
715 Thomas Sherwin Ave.  
Lehigh Acres, FL 33974

## IN HONOR OF OUR FLAG

By Margaret Windhausen

The national flag of the United States of America, often referred to as the American flag, consists of thirteen equal horizontal stripes of red (top and bottom) alternating with white, with a blue rectangle in the canton (referred to specifically as the "union") bearing fifty small, white, five-pointed stars arranged in nine offset horizontal rows of six stars (top and bottom) alternating with rows of five stars. The 50 stars on the flag represent the 50 states of the United States of America and the 13 stripes represent the thirteen British colonies that declared independence from the Kingdom of Great Britain becoming the first states in the Union. Nicknames for the flag include the "Stars and Stripes", "Old Glory", and "The Star-Spangled Banner."

## I AM THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

By Howard Schnauber

I am the flag of the United States of America.  
My name is "Old Glory."

I fly atop the world's tallest buildings.  
I stand watch in America's halls of justice.  
I fly majestically over institutions of learning.  
I stand guard with power in the world.  
Look up and see me.

I stand for peace, honor, truth and justice.  
I stand for freedom.  
I am confident.  
I am arrogant.  
I am proud.

When I am flown with my fellow banners,  
My head is a little higher,  
My colors a little truer.

I bow to no one!  
I am recognized all over the world.  
I am worshipped -- I am saluted.  
I am loved -- I am revered.  
I am respected -- and I am feared.

I have fought in every battle of every war  
for more than 200 years.  
I was flown at Valley Forge, Gettysburg,  
Shiloh and Appomattox.

## HOW TO CONTACT YOUR NATIONAL LEGISLATURE

Click on the links below to contact your senators and representative in Washington. You must fill in your name and address before your message. They all have multiple offices and phone numbers.

<http://www.rubio.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/contact>

<http://www.billnelson.senate.gov/contact-bill>

<http://clawson.house.gov/contact/>

## HOW TO CONTACT YOUR STATE LEGISLATURE

You can easily email any state representative by going to [www.myfloridahouse.gov](http://www.myfloridahouse.gov)  
Lee County's Delegation:

<b>Matt Caldwell</b>	<a href="mailto:Matt.caldwell@myfloridahouse.gov">Matt.caldwell@myfloridahouse.gov</a>
<b>Dane Eagle</b>	<a href="mailto:Dane.eagle@myfloridahouse.gov">Dane.eagle@myfloridahouse.gov</a>
<b>Heather Fitzenhagen</b>	<a href="mailto:Heather.fitzenhagen@myfloridahouse.gov">Heather.fitzenhagen@myfloridahouse.gov</a>
<b>Ray Rodrigues</b>	<a href="mailto:Ray.rodrigues@myfloridahouse.gov">Ray.rodrigues@myfloridahouse.gov</a>

You can easily email any state Senator by going to [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

<b>Lizbeth Benaquisto</b>	<a href="mailto:Benacquisto.lizbeth.web@flsenate.gov">Benacquisto.lizbeth.web@flsenate.gov</a>
<b>Garrett Richter</b>	<a href="mailto:Richter.garrett.web@flsenate.gov">Richter.garrett.web@flsenate.gov</a>

***Thank our Senators for supporting funding for hospitals!***

You can easily email your Governor by going to [www.flgov.com/contact-governor](http://www.flgov.com/contact-governor)

**Governor Rick Scott**     [Scott@myflorida.com](mailto:Scott@myflorida.com)

Chair of the Health Care Appropriations subcommittee is Speaker Pro Temp Matt Hudson

**Matt Hudson**     [matt.hudson@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:matt.hudson@myfloridahouse.gov)

## LRWF'S LINDA DOGGETT IS RECOGNIZED IN MAY EDITION GRANDEUR MAGAZINE

As a little girl riding horses in LaBelle, Linda Doggett never imagined that one day she would oversee hundreds of employees and represent more than half a million residents as the powerful Lee County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller.

The lover of all things outdoors, found an unlikely home in technology when a high school guidance counselor suggested she use her scholarship to Edison Community College to jump into the emerging field. Doggett remembers, "It was pretty funny, at the time I had no idea what technology was." In the late '80s it was big mainframe computers and tedious program codes. But she did like the process of problem solving. Taking a job with Lee County after getting her degree, Doggett thought it would be a "good place to get experience" and what an experience it has been.

For 28-years, she was perfectly happy in her various leadership roles within the clerk's office, always with a goal of improving technology and better serving the public. She even went back to school for a degree in Management Information Systems from Hodges University. Pleased with the technological advancements she was helping to initiate, Doggett never had a desire to run for public office. Then her boss, Charlie Greene, decided to retire. She recalls, "Charlie had been talking to me about running and I thought about it for a good year before I actually filed." She continues, "I really enjoyed what I was doing but when Charlie retired I wanted to continue all the great things we had developed."

Sworn into office January 2013, it has been a whirlwind ever since. Even if you don't follow local politics, it's likely you saw Doggett's name in the press during the gay marriage debut at the start of the year. It began when a federal judge ruled that Florida's ban on gay marriage was unconstitutional. Then a lawyer for the Florida's Association of Clerks said the ruling was only binding in the county where the case originated, an opinion leaving local leaders in limbo. Doggett says, "I didn't agree with the attorney, I didn't think it was a solid opinion, so I got a second and third opinion." Both of which were different. She says, "I think its time had come." Adding however, "If it's not legal we can't do it, in the end we have to follow the law, no matter what our opinion is." She was right, and gay couples lined up at the clerk's office to make their commitment legal. Weddings are one of the more enjoyable events that occur under her umbrella, a break from traffic tickets, criminal cases and divorces, where Doggett declares, "almost no one is happy." When her staff suggested creating a partitioned off "wedding room" in one corner, she was all for it. The Clerk says, "People come to the courthouse to get married, they are dressed up, nice suits and dresses and they come in and just stand at the counter and say vows. It seemed nice to have a nice little setting and a mini ceremony."

The new job has taken up a lot of Doggett's free time. She says, "I am one of those people who put too much time and effort into work. My husband is good at dragging me out of work mode and into family mode everyday." The two met 15 years ago at Toastmasters. Together, with their 11- and 13-year-old daughters, the family spends as much time as possible in the great outdoors. "We love to boat, love to kayak and tent camp, although I don't get to do as much now that I'm Clerk." Truly happy in her work, she concludes, "The thing I love about the clerk's office, it gives me a great opportunity to tie technology and information into something that makes a difference in our community."



Linda Doggett

Lee County Clerk of Courts and LRWF Member

## SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL CLUB

Purchase your Republican jewelry, tote bags and pepper spray. To purchase contact Rosemary Lewis at 239-284-6477.



READ ABOUT OUR LATEST FUND RAISER.  
IF YOU HAVE A HOME BASED BUSINESS...JOIN US! IF YOU LIKE TO SHOP...PATRONIZE US!  
(To join us, print and fill out the application below and return to Rosemary Lewis.)



# Lee Republican Women Federated

**Everybody Wins!**

*Strong Women for a Strong America*



MARY KAY



WORLDVENTURES

➤ SILPADA®  
*find yourself in it.*

Premier Designs

**Everybody Wins** is an amazing year-round fundraiser where members, member-vendors and the club all benefit. Our members purchase products they are already using from fellow LRWF members, knowing the profits go to the club's general fund.

Benefits of program:

- Members with home-based businesses get valuable visibility, direct sales volume, referrals and home party opportunities.
- The club receives year-round profit sharing from those purchases.
- Members get accessibility on the LRWF website within 30 days of application receipt.

How this works:

- Any full members with a home-based business can participate.
- There is no up-front cost for member-vendors to participate.
- Member-vendors will have a link to their business website on the LRWF website.
- Member-vendors will commit to donating a portion of their net profits from direct member-to-member sales to the club monthly.
- Member-vendors can only have one business represented on the LRWF website.
- All vendor party purchases and referrals to non-members originating from the club are not subject to profit donation.
- Member-vendors will be held to the highest standard of customer service to their fellow members to remain in the program.
- Member-vendors who leave the club or fail to renew their membership will be removed from the program.

(Questions about this opportunity may be directed to Missi Lastra at [missimc@me.com](mailto:missimc@me.com))

*So simple, and everybody wins!*

## APPLICATION FORM

Member name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Business/company name: \_\_\_\_\_ Length of time in business: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of products and/or services: \_\_\_\_\_

Business phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Website url: \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (print name) agree to participate in LRWF's *Everybody Wins* fundraiser by donating a minimum 25% of net profits from member-to-member sales to the club each month. I will deliver a superior customer experience to all members who choose to purchase my products and/or services. I understand that all home parties and non-member referrals generated from club members are not subject to profit donation. All checks will be made out to the LRWF General Fund and presented to the Chairperson of the Fundraising Committee.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

THE PAST MONTH IN PICTURES  
MAY 2015



Photo by Jessica

Mary Ann Hansen, Reservations Chair, checks people in with a great big smile!



Photo by Jessica

Our new student member and club photographer, Jessica Armstrong, takes a "selfie" with Membership Chair, Sharon Gibson.



John Fernandez Photography

LRWF guest Raquel Torres (left) visits with Cindy Larosa, Doris Cortese's granddaughter from the Phillipines.



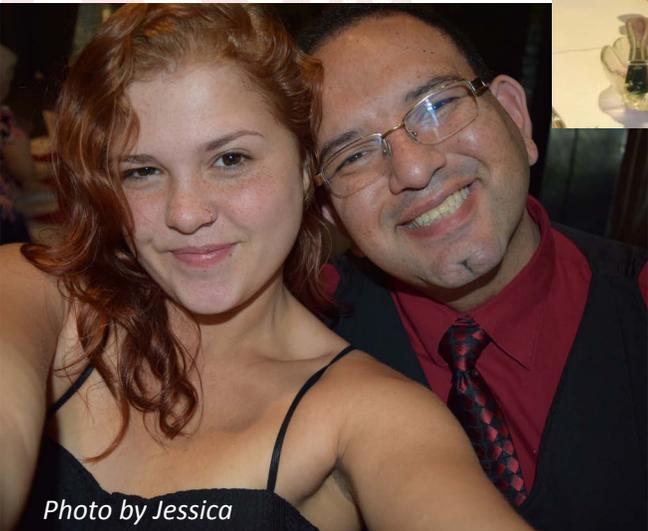
*John Fernandez Photography*

*Michel Daughtery chats with Ita Neymotin,  
Regional Counsel Second District Court of Appeals*



*Photo by Jessica*

*Cheryl Harris, Book Chat Chair, is enjoying a wonderful lunch!*



*Photo by Jessica*

*Photographer Jessica Armstrong takes another "selfie" with  
photographer, John Hernandez.*



*John Fernandez Photography*

*LRWF new member Whitney Pope with Sharon Gibson, Membership Chair.*



*John Fernandez Photography*

*Angelina Spencer tells us how human trafficking in Southwest Florida is in epidemic proportions.*



*Photo by Jessica*

*Gaile Anthony speaks to us about her candidacy for the Forty Myers City Council.*



John Fernandez Photography

Kirk Lagrasta, Candidate for Cape Coral City Council, talks to us about his plans for the city.

IF YOU MISSED  
ALL OF THIS FUN...  
MAKE SURE YOU  
GO TO THE NEXT  
DINNER MEETING  
ON JUNE 8TH

SEE OUR QUILT THAT  
SOME OF OUR PREVIOUS  
MEMBERS MADE YEARS AGO.

IT WILL BE ON DISPLAY AT ALL  
OF OUR MEETINGS FROM NOW ON!

