

March events and programs

Step into History (Digital Edition): Thomas and Mina Edison's Impact on Fort Myers History March 1, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd, Ft. Myers

On the first Wednesday of each month, an Edison Ford Historian will step into history. This discussion will highlight Thomas and Mina Edison's impact on Fort Myers history, culture and economy. Join lead historian, Tim Snyder, for this free virtual lecture. This is a free Digital Discussion. Register online at edisonford.org.

239-334-7419

Rhythm on the River- Come Monday (Jimmy Buffet Tribute) March 10, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd, Ft. Myers

Calling all parrot heads! Join us on the Ford lawn for an exciting performance of the Caribbean Chillers – a Jimmy Buffet tribute band. Guests will get to hear many of Buffett's top hits and crowd favorites for an authentic show. Gates open at 6 p.m. and the concert starts at 6:30 p.m.

Guests can take in a beautiful river view and possibly see a spectacular sunset. Food and beverages will be available for purchase. Ticket holders should bring a folding chair and a sweater if the weather is chilly. No coolers are permitted. Free parking is available in the main Edison Ford parking lot at 2350 McGregor Boulevard.

Tickets may be purchased online at edisonford.org or at the ticket counter. Individual tickets purchased in advance are \$20 for Edison Ford members and \$25 for non-members. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door for \$30. A VIP seating area will be open and may be reserved by the table for \$225.

239-334-7419

Silk Scarf Painting Class with Marie Dyer March 11, 2023 at 9 a.m.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd, Ft. Myers

If you need some time to relax and unwind, join us for a silk scarf painting class with Marie Dyer along the Caloosahatchee River. Bring a friend with you and make a silk scarf that can be worn or hung as a

piece of artwork. All materials are included in the fee. No experience is required. E-tickets can be redeemed at the ticket counter for a wristband. Register online at edisonford.org.

Edison Ford members: \$90; non-members: \$100

239-334-7419

Garden Talk – Beguiling Begonias
March 11, 2023 at 10 a.m.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd, Ft. Myers

Looking for some interesting additions to your potted plant collection? Come learn about some truly amazing begonias that simply thrive the humid, shady corners of the garden. We will explore rhizomatous begonias and cane begonias in particular and show you how to propagate them. Take a tour of the new begonia and fern garden to understand the best growing conditions.

All participants will receive a 20% off coupon toward garden shop purchases.

Edison Ford members: \$10; non-members: \$15

239-334-7419

Wedding Flowers for the DIY Bride
March 12, 2023 at 10 a.m.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd, Ft. Myers

Join Floral Designer, Anita Singh and learn how to select and care for your wedding flowers so they are easy to work with and stay fresh. Participants will also learn how to design hand-tied bouquets and tips elegantly wrapping the stems. All materials including an apron, refreshments, and flower arrangements will be provided.

Each member of the class will design their own bouquet to take home and enjoy with friends and family.

Space is limited. Register online at edisonford.org.

Edison Ford members: \$115; non-members: \$125

239-334-7419

Digital Discussion: Helen Keller's Life and Legacy
March 14, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd, Ft. Myers

Discover the life story of Helen Keller and her remarkable accomplishments that changed the world. Her close friendship with Thomas Edison and other prominent figures in history will be covered. Join Program Manager, Holly Shaffer, for this free virtual lecture.

Register online at edisonford.org.

239-334-7419

Floral Still Life Painting with Marie Dyer
March 18, 2023 at 9 a.m.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd, Ft. Myers

Impressionist painter, Marie Dyer, will explain color mixing, effect design, impressionistic techniques, shading and effective color contrast to create mood. This acrylic on canvas painting workshop is for any experience level. Capacity is limited and registration is required. Register online at edisonford.org.

Edison Ford members: \$90; non-members: \$100

239-334-7419

Growing Tropical Fruit
March 21, 2023 at 1:30 p.m., or March 25, 2023 at 10 a.m.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd, Ft. Myers

Thomas Edison and Henry Ford grew a plethora of fruit in Southwest Florida, including citrus, pineapple, mangoes and more! While growing citrus in Florida is possible for the at-home gardener, today citrus greening presents many challenges. This class will highlight citrus and tropical fruits that thrive in our climate and best growing practices for these tropical wonders. In addition, participants will discover some over-looked fruits from around the world that might find a home in the garden. Other topics that will be covered include pest management, pruning for success and selecting fruits based on desired harvest time.

Please bring a notebook, pencil and drinking water. The class will be held at the Garden Council Building, located across the street from the Edison Ford parking lot (on Larchmont Avenue). Advance registration is required. Register online at edisonford.org.

Edison Ford members: \$45; non-members: \$55

Baseball Presentation
March 24 and 25, 2023 at 11 a.m.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd, Ft. Myers

For baseball enthusiasts who want to learn about the history of spring training and the baseball legends that played in Fort Myers, join program manager, Holly Shaffer for a special presentation. This talk is included with general admission to the site.

239-334-7419

**Vintage Base Ball Game at Terry Park
March 26, 2023 at 10 a.m.**

Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd, Ft. Myers

Soak up some sunshine at the annual Vintage "Base Ball" at historic Terry Park in Fort Myers. The teams will play several consecutive games throughout the day in a small tournament format. The gates will open at 9:30 a.m. with the first game starting at 10 a.m.

The vintage roster to date includes the Awkwards Vintage Base Ball of Central Florida, Bradenton Shamrocks Vintage Base Ball Club, the Early Riser BBC of Detroit, Vagabonds Base Ball Club (Fort Myers home team), and the Wyandotte Stars BBC (Michigan). Admission to the tournament will be \$5 for adults; kids 18 and under will be admitted free.

239-334-7419

**Rhythm on the River – Appalachian Road Show
March 31, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.**

Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd, Ft. Myers

Enjoy listening to bluegrass music in a beautiful setting during this special concert! The event will take place along the Ford lawn, along the Caloosahatchee River. Gates open at 6 p.m. and the concert starts at 6:30 p.m.

The group's music tells stories from the mountains and valleys of North Carolina and Virginia and the coal mines of West Virginia and Kentucky. Those stories include topics of logging, coal mining, trains, and lost love in their hit songs such as "I am just a Pilgrim," "Little Black Train," "Dance, Dance, Dance," and the ballad of love and loss in "Anna Lee."

Food and beverage vendors will have refreshments available for purchase. Please bring a chair and a sweater in case the weather gets chilly. No coolers or picnic baskets will be permitted. Free parking is available in the main Edison Ford parking lot at 2350 McGregor Blvd.

Tickets may be purchased online or at the ticket counter. Individual tickets purchased in advance are \$30 for Edison Ford members or \$35 for non-members; tickets at the door will be \$40. Individual ticket holders should bring a lawn chair. A VIP seating area may be reserved by the table \$225.

239-334-7419

Education Programs and Events:

Homeschool Science Scholars: Engineering Systems

Grades 1-3: March 16, 2023 at 10 a.m.

Grades 4-6: March 15, 2023 at 10 a.m.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd, Ft Myers

Homeschool Science Programs are designed for children in grades 1-6 and typically held in an outdoor classroom environment (weather permitting). Our education staff, called "Wild Wizards" will challenge a student's minds and foster collaboration in this science and engineering series. In this session, students will solve problems by creating and iterating a system of technology. Register online at edisonford.org.

Edison Ford members: \$15; non-members: \$25

239-334-7419

School Break Camp: Creative Coding

March 20-24 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd, Ft. Myers

This school break camp is only for grades second through fifth, as it requires basic literary skills. Students will learn Scratch and other "word block" coding. Essentially, this is a code crash course. Campers will work to create a finished program that can be a story, game or an interactive card to a family member or friend. Campers will learn the basics, such as "if/else" statements, with the main focus on learning how to use variables. Register online at edisonford.org.

Edison Ford members: \$200; non-members: \$230

Ongoing Programs:

Yoga in the River Pavilion

Every Monday at 10 a.m.

Edison and Ford and Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd, Ft. Myers

This one 1-hour yoga class allows you to step away from all the 21st century gadgets and focus on the moment. All skill levels are welcome. The class is taught by Bonnie D'Angelo, a certified yoga instructor. She is RYT200 certified with Yoga Alliance and working toward RYT300. She is certified in Reiki 1 and Reiki 2 and will continue the path towards Reiki Master & Energy Worker. Purchase tickets at edisonford.org or at the ticket counter. Bring a yoga mat, water, and towel. Admission to the site is not included.

Edison Ford members: \$15; non-members: \$20

239-334-7419

Special Historian-led Presentations
Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd, Ft. Myers

Each week, Edison Ford Historians present an in-depth look at a topic related to our site. This program is held in the 15,000-square-foot museum. Included with admission: reservations are not required.

239-334-7419

Piano Performance
Every other Wednesday starting on March 8 at 10 a.m.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd, Ft. Myers

Every other Wednesday 10 a.m., Site Historian, Chet will play Mina Edison's 1932 George Steck Piano in the Edison Guest House. Mina was an accomplished pianist who attended a ladies seminary, a finishing school for high-society women to prepare them for marriage and sometimes higher education. Mina's children, Charles, Madeleine, and Theodore also had a formal education and were taught how to play the piano by Edison's long-time employee, Lucy Bogue.