

# 'Power Grid' solves secret of the ages

By **KIM COOL**  
FEATURES EDITOR

In his second novel, "Power Grid," Florida author Art Adkins takes inspiration from the Great Pyramids in Egypt, Stonehenge in England and The Coral Castle in Homestead.

A catfish farmer/tinkerer accidentally discovered the secret most likely used thousands of years ago to lift the heavy rocks into place to build the pyramids and Stonehenge. The secret may also have been employed by Ed Leedskalnin when he single-handedly built his Coral Castle at Homestead.

The story's hero, retired police detective Slade Lockwood becomes involved because of his reputation for good works. Fearing that the secret will fall into the wrong hands and be used militarily, the fish farmer disposes of all his paperwork

about his discover, leaves a mysterious letter for Slade and then leaves one final clue at the bottom of his lake, just before he dies from Lou Gehrig's disease. Then the hunt begins, involving agents and representatives of the governments of Iran, America, China and more. Some are working together and some not, in the race to gain control of whatever secret the fish farmer left behind. A wealthy widow, two retired guys who come to Slade's rescue more than once, the president of the United States, a good general and plenty of bad guys keep readers on the edge of their chairs wondering what will happen next as the action literally moves all over the world to such places as England, Germany, the Himalayas and even Easter Island. Not to be ignored is the Lost Kingdom of Atlantis.

"Power Grid," published by Ambassador International Publishing, 2010, 400 pages, ISBN: 978-1-0355-0731-4, paperback, \$14.99.



**REAL ESTATE EXPO 2010**

## SW Florida Real Estate & Home Expo

**October 30, 2010**  
9:00-5:30  
Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center  
www.SWFEExpo.com  
239-464-5163

**Educational Seminars All Day by Experts on Current Real Estate Issues**

9:30	Mortgages (Good Faith Estimates & Closings)
10:30	Other Funds (Reverse Mortgage, 203 K, IRA)
11:30	Real Estate Auction
12:30	Selling In Today's Market (Short Sales/Forclosures)
1:30	Buying In Today's Market (REOs/Distressed Properties)
2:30	Ecological Issues (Scrub Jays/Gopher Tortoises/Wetlands)
3:30	Home Inspections (Chinese drywall/mold)
4:30	FSBO (Selling On Your Own)

**Live Real Estate Auction**

Area Marketing Information  
Most Active Areas  
Best Deals  
Financing Options  
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Hud Homes  
New Homes  
Foreclosures  
Short Sales

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Open Wed.-Fri. 4:30 Last Seating 8:30, Sat 11:30  
Last Seating 8:30, Sun 11:30 Last Seating 7:30, Closed Mon & Tues.

(941) 639-2633 • Arrive by boat (marker 28), dock & dine or off US 41 turn on Rio Villa Dr., 1 mile left on Deltona Drive to the end.

## Calendar Extras

### Arts & Humanities Council announces newest Art in Public Places Site

The Arts & Humanities Council's newest Art in Public Places site opened this month in Florida Gulf Coast University's Herald Court Centre in downtown Punta Gorda. Artist Mary Taglieri is exhibiting her work through Nov. 30. The office is located in the Herald Court Parking Garage Building, 117 Herald Court, Suite 211., Punta Gorda. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The public is invited to visit the free exhibit. More of Taglieri work can also be viewed right around the corner at Sunart Gallery, 307 Taylor St., Punta Gorda. Art in Public Places is a program of the Arts & Humanities Council. The program arranges for local artists to exhibit (and sell) in twenty four sites around the county. Locations range from the Charlotte Technical Center in Murdock to the Edward Jones Investments office, 3941 Tamiami Trail, Suite 3173, Punta Gorda. All exhibits are free and open to the public. For a complete list of exhibit sites, go to [www.charlottearts.org](http://www.charlottearts.org). For information on becoming an exhibiting artist, contact 941-764-8100 or [charlottearts@daystar.net](mailto:charlottearts@daystar.net).

### Oktoberfest

The Cultural Center is holding an Oktoberfest Luncheon from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 13 in the Conference Center at The Cultural Center. This afternoon of fun will feature many of your German favorites served buffet style. Dishes include sweet and sour cabbage soup, pumpernickel bread, marinated beets, knockwurst and sauerkraut, pork schnitzel, sauerbraten, hot potato salad, potato pancakes and dessert. A cash bar featuring beer and wine will be available. Entertainment will be provided by local polka band, The Stein Swingers and there will be a silent auction and raffles throughout the afternoon. Tickets are \$13. Call 941-625-4175 ext. 212 to place an order over the phone.

### Fashion Show/luncheon fundraiser

Fashion Show/luncheon fundraiser hosted by Friends of the Library of North Port Area, Inc. and with Fashions from Contessa Couture of Venice will be held at 11 a.m., Oct. 14. Doors open at 10 a.m. at the Heron Creek Golf and Country Club, 3401 South Sumter Blvd, North Port. Tickets are \$28. For more information, call 941-426-7339.

### 'Bats!'

On Oct. 16, People for Trees, Inc. will present "Bats!" for their next Eco-Kids Club program. Denise Tomlinson of Bat World Everglades will showcase a variety of live bats during her presentation at the Myakkahatchee Creek Environmental Park beginning at 10 a.m. Children will learn just how beneficial these often misunderstood creatures are and what can be done to help them. After the bat program, children will be invited to take part in a number of bat activities and games until noon. The Eco-Kids Club is a monthly environmental club open to all children. Advance registration is not required. Suggested donation is \$1 per child. Since 1997, People for Trees, Inc. has been striving to create awareness about the importance of maintaining our native tree canopy. Directions to the park: North on Sumter Blvd. to Tropicaire. Turn left and follow the signs to the park. For more information, call 941-426-9752.

### Fall Festival

The annual Fall Festival at Pilgrim Church, 24515 Rampart Blvd., Port Charlotte is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 16. There will be games, face painting, crafts, a three activity bounce house, our pumpkin patch, a pumpkin walk, bake sale and food. For more information, call 941-629-2633.

### Isles Yacht Club "TEAM" Sunday

Join us at the Isles Yacht Club - 1780 West Marion Avenue, Punta Gorda, as we host a Team Sunday and open house from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 17. Come in for a free hot dog and soda and watch your favorite sports team in our comfortable and friendly Sports Bar. Our team members will fill you in on our trial, seasonal, full-time, and business membership opportunities. Special dockage incentives and reduced memberships fees are available. The Isles is a great place to meet new friends and enjoy a variety of recreational activities with a beautiful heated pool, full fitness center, billiards, cards and games. Play on the best tennis courts in Charlotte County in the morning and then enjoy lunch in our casual grille or our outdoor lanai. Or you can come to happy hour with live music, dancing and gourmet dinners in our formal dining room. Kids will have fun learning tennis, sailing and kayaking at our summer camps. We have a full service marina.... but you don't need a boat to be a part of the fun! This event is open to the public and provides families and individuals an opportunity to tour our facilities, enter a drawing for free Sunday breakfast brunch, and meet the friendliest "team" in Southwest Florida. Call 941-639-7551 for more information.

### Fiber and Fashion

The new exhibition at the Mitchell Gallery at the Englewood Art Center, Oct. 18 - Nov. 18, 2010 will present Susan L. Stark. The main media she is using in her fiber art work is dupioni silk and silk organza. These fabrics are cut, mixed for color depth, and sewn onto a backing. The material and process parallels her longtime fascination with fabrics.

Nature is the basic inspiration for her art work. In conjunction with Susan Srarcks's Fiber Exhibition, Nicholas Hartman, the Venice Theatre Costume Designer, will display his theatre costumes.

Reception will be from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 14. For information call the Englewood Art Center 941-474-5548. The Englewood Art Center is located at 350 S McCall Road, Englewood.