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INSIDE

WEEK OF MAY 3-9, 2012

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OF 2012

ERIC RADDATZ / FLORIDA WEEKLY



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Southwest Florida's vanishing pay telephones are an endangered species

BY ROGER WILLIAMS
rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

Tom Cameron had it good back in the day — back when he actually paid business owners a commission to install his pay telephones for their customers.

That was a different country, the United States in the second half of the 20th century.

Then, more than 2 million pay tele-

phones were sewn into the culture, studying the fabric of American roads and shops, of public and private buildings, city street corners and country rest stops like decorative beads that could provide an essential if colorful use — instant communication away from home.

Even owning a single payphone in a high-volume neighborhood once could net Mr. Cameron \$500 to \$600 a month, he recalls. And the more the merrier. Many owners maintained scores or

even hundreds of them.

“Now if somebody wants a payphone at their place of business, they gotta pay for it themselves,” he says.

But not many business owners do that.

About 75 percent of the payphones that once populated the American landscape are gone, industry officials say. Payphones, especially those operated with coins and not credit cards, are all

SEE PHONES, **A8** ▶

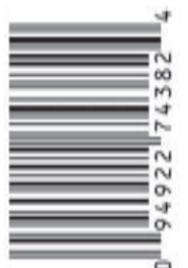
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COMMENTARY

What is a good cop?



rogerWILLIAMS

rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

John Peterson and I decided to become cops because of Frank Nelick.

A tenured English professor at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Mr. Nelick was universally known as the coolest man who ever lived. He was also, paradoxically, a friend of the state's top cop, Vern Miller, the scrappy attorney general. Mr. Miller agreed to open the doors for us to the Kansas State Police Academy on the prairie outside Hutchinson through a single month in the summer of 1972.

That's what it took then to get certified or recertified as a cop: 30 days on a deserted airbase with veteran Kansas police officers wielding .38 pistols and a strong mistrust of flowered VW vans. One of the instructors warned us vehemently against any we saw passing through our towns. We were to stop them whenever we saw them because their occupants would corrupt the town, the state and the nation with drugs, illicit sex (whatever that is, as Keith Richards says), and rock 'n' roll. It was hippy profiling at its most unapologetic.

A Texan by birth and upbringing, Mr. Nelick had flown light bombers off aircraft carriers in the Pacific during World War II. Later, he'd converted to the Catholic Church, which did nothing to restrain his colorful behavior except require his attendance at mass and confession. He habitu-

ally tapped the ashes from his cigars into his cowboy boots while lecturing on John Milton's "Paradise Lost," for example.

"The mind is its own place, and in itself can make a heaven of hell, or a hell of heaven," Mr. Nelick intoned grandly. We were entirely seduced into believing it, even though he pointed out cheerfully that Milton had put those words in the devil's mouth.

He had other cool habits, too, like driving his red 1964 Corvette Stingray around Lawrence in the middle of the night with a bottle of vodka wedged into the tiny space behind the gear shift, while clutching a small book of verse in one hand.

He would intervene to help someone on the street in the blink of an eye, a man on a quest to right wrongs, as we saw it.

One morning he found Sally Schibler and me standing vacantly on the curb in front of a deserted Student Union at 6 a.m. Gallantly, he stopped, ushered us together into the single passenger seat of his red rocket, and took us out in the country north of town. There, he flew his machine up to 110 miles per hour on the well-graded dirt roads, slicing through cornfields like a bullet, the trademark cigar clenched in his teeth. His bottle was half full, and he never offered us a drop.

Occasionally he went to jail for getting in bar fights with Indians from the Haskell Institute, across town, which didn't hurt his reputation with us in the least, either.

But for all his spotty trouble with the law, Mr. Nelick was a cop lover — of good cops, not bad cops, he told us. Cops who treated each person fairly, regardless of race, creed, color or crime, but applied

some mercy to their exercise in justice, when appropriate.

"Therefore Jew," he would say, quoting Shakespeare's play, "The Merchant of Venice," "though justice be thy plea, consider this: that in the course of justice, none of us should see salvation. We do pray for mercy, and that same prayer doth teach us all to render the deeds of mercy."

I've never forgotten the good-cop distinction because it seems decent but touchy. How far can a cop carry that notion without becoming a one-man, one-woman judge and jury?

The cop's job, after all, is the law — not The Truth. Isn't it? But Truth has a funny way of showing up at every scene, innocent or guilty, facts or no facts.

It happened just the other day, when my sister-in-law, Gwen, arrived to visit with her 16-year-old daughter. They came in a big clean cream sedan with sparkling silver hubcaps and slightly shaded windows — two good-looking white women in the back seat of a fancy ride piloted by two good-looking black men.

The driver was Genese Vertus, pastor of Tabernacle of Worship, Gwen's fiancé. He brought his cousin, a civil engineer visiting from Haiti.

I'm sure that had nothing to do with the fact that a Lee sheriff's deputy (I won't mention his name) pulled the car over even though he saw no driving infraction, then administered the third degree, questioning the men about drugs in the car and detaining them for a few minutes. The deputy finally left them with a signed warning to wear their seatbelts.

Here's one possible truth of that non-

crime: a racist cop profiled two men for the color of their skin and the look of their ride.

That's not what Mr. Nelick had in mind.

One day, he described some Harvard men who had decided to join the New York City Police Department in a new program that required them to walk the beat. Get to know everybody on a single block. Show them how to embrace the American dream, by tempering justice with mercy and understanding, thus ending crime and unhappiness forever.

Dazzled by this approach to saving the world block by block with nothing more than a liberal arts degree, a badge, and palaver, we signed on.

When we came back to campus from the police academy in the fall, we even worked as night dispatchers for campus security for a few months — a less-than-compelling experience.

Eventually, we gave up. Some of our best friends drove flowered vans, after all, and we hadn't been too impressed with the cops we saw in the first place. John went on to law school, I went on to a career singing "kumbaya" for small change, and all of it vanished.

Except that persistent question: What is a good cop?

I've seen some in the intervening years, and I still can't answer it. But every one of them displays independence, courage, humility, some wit, grace under pressure, an instinct for protecting the weak, and good sense — along with a devotion to justice for all, tempered by mercy for the human condition. ■

* This column originally ran on May 4, 2011.

Women's Health

Dr. Nicholas Franco, Board Certified Urologist

Question: I had a sling for bladder control problems six months ago, but I still have urinary leakage. What can I do?

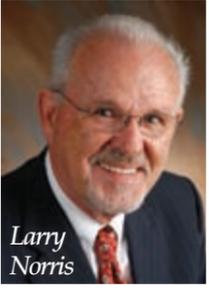
Answer: Although technical or healing issues can play a role, other factors may have been involved with your leakage in the first place. A careful history and examination as well as computerized urodynamic tests and cystoscopy will help to determine if you have an underlying bladder condition. Technical issues related to the sling procedure can also be determined and often a minor adjustment of the sling, addition of a medication, local injection of a urethral bulking agent or even Botox will resolve such a problem.



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OPINION

Conrad the scrivener



richLOWRY

Special to Florida Weekly

Sen. Kent Conrad of North Dakota is the chairman of the Senate Budget Committee. That means he's the Democratic point man for the absolutely essential work of not coming up with a budget.

Conrad has occasionally gone wobbly. Sometimes he has sounded dangerously close to betraying the cause that his party has entrusted to him. Last month, the senator went on national TV to say he was going to have his committee "mark up" what he called a "10-year plan" — i.e., a budget. After briefly flirting with this treachery, Conrad came back to his senses and recommitted himself to his duty to remain resolutely budget-less.

He didn't hold a markup at all, which is the time-honored process by which a bill is debated, amended and voted on. Conrad dispensed with all such fluff and minutiae. He offered his own plan, loosely based on the work of the Bowles-Simpson deficit-reduction commission, shot down any foolishness about amending or voting, and pronounced himself well-pleased. Conrad

had delivered yet again, by not delivering a budget.

If this seems an easy, almost no-show job to you, think again. There are two varieties of budgetary boldness. There's bold like Republican House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan. This involves passing out of committee detailed budget resolutions that go on to pass the entire chamber and to spark a full and frank debate about the nation's fiscal future. Then there's Kent Conrad boldness. This involves having the fortitude to defend doing nothing with threadbare rationalizations and weaselly misdirections.

Fresh from his stalwart act of non-budgeting, Sen. Conrad said it was too hard to pass a budget in an election year. But Senate Democrats hadn't passed one in 2011 or 2010, either. This year is a presidential election year, 2011 was an off-year, and 2010 was a midterm election year. That covers every kind of year there is in Washington. By this standard, the Senate will have an annual excuse not to pass a budget resolution for the rest of time.

The 1974 Budget Act says that, as a matter of law, the Senate Budget Committee is to pass a resolution by April 1 and Congress as a whole to pass one by April 15. No matter. Kent Conrad is the Bartleby the Scrivener of budgeting: He

prefers not to.

The chairman's exertions, such as they are, serve the political interests of his master, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid. The leader doesn't want the fingerprints of Senate Democrats on a budget.

What possible upside is there in telling the public, in some detail, how they will address the country's grave fiscal challenges? This gambit, a running charade for years now, betrays the intellectual exhaustion of the last remaining Democratic majority on Capitol Hill — too scared and too cynical to undertake even a rudimentary gesture toward governing.

As for Sen. Kent Conrad, he is retiring at the end of the year. As a private citizen, he will be able to look back fondly at the extraordinary capstone of his 25-year career, when he literally set a new standard for success for chairmen of the Senate Budget Committee. Bravo, Mr. Chairman, bravo. ■

— Rich Lowry is editor of the *National Review*.



Conrad

The NSA is watching you



amyGOODMAN

Special to Florida Weekly

Three targeted Americans: A career government intelligence official, a filmmaker and a hacker. None of these U.S. citizens was charged with a crime, but they have been tracked, surveilled, detained — sometimes at gunpoint — and interrogated, with no access to a lawyer. Each remains resolute in standing up to the increasing government crackdown on dissent.

The intelligence official: William Binney worked for almost 40 years at the secretive National Security Agency (NSA), the U.S. spy agency that dwarfs the CIA. As technical director of the NSA's World Geopolitical and Military Analysis Reporting Group, Binney told me, he was tasked to "see how we could solve collection, analysis and reporting on military and geopolitical issues all around the world, every country in the world." Throughout the 1990s, the NSA developed a massive eavesdropping system code-named ThinThread, which, Binney says, maintained crucial protections on the privacy of U.S. citizens demanded by the U.S. Constitution. He recalled, "After 9/11, all the wraps came off for NSA," as massive domestic spying became the norm. He resigned on Oct. 31, 2001.

Along with several other NSA officials, Binney reported his concerns to Congress and to the Department of Defense. Then, in 2007, as then-Attorney General Alberto Gonzales was being questioned on Capitol Hill about the very domestic spying to which Binney objected, a dozen FBI agents charged into his house, guns drawn. They forced aside his son and found Binney, a diabetic amputee, in the shower. They pointed their guns at his head, then led him to his back porch and interrogated him.

Three others were raided that morning. Binney called the FBI raid "retribution and intimidation so we didn't go to the Judiciary Committee in the Senate and tell them, 'Well, here's what Gonzales didn't tell you, OK.'" Binney was never charged with any crime.

The filmmaker: Laura Poitras is an Academy Award-nominated documentary filmmaker, whose recent films include "My Country, My Country," about the U.S. occupation of Iraq, and "The Oath," which was filmed in Yemen. Since 2006, Poitras has been detained and questioned at airports at least 40 times. She has had her computer and reporter's notebooks confiscated and presumably copied, without a warrant. The most recent time, April 5, she took notes during her detention. The agents told her to stop, as they considered her pen a weapon.

She told me: "I feel like I can't talk about the work that I do in my home, in my place of work, on my telephone, and sometimes in my country. So the chilling effect is huge. It's enormous."

The hacker: Jacob Appelbaum works as a computer security researcher for the nonprofit organization the Tor Project (torproject.org), which is a free software package that allows people to browse the Internet anonymously, evading government surveillance. Tor was actually created by the U.S. Navy, and is now developed and maintained by Appelbaum and his colleagues. Tor is used by dissidents around the world to communicate over the Internet. Tor also serves as the main way that the controversial WikiLeaks website protects those who release documents to it. Appelbaum has volunteered for WikiLeaks, leading to intense U.S. government surveillance.

Appelbaum spoke in place of Julian Assange, the WikiLeaks founder, at a conference called Hackers on Planet Earth, or HOPE, as people feared Assange

would be arrested. He started his talk by saying: "Hello to all my friends and fans in domestic and international surveillance. I'm here today because I believe that we can make a better world." He has been detained at least a dozen times at airports: "I was put into a special room, where they frisked me, put me up against the wall. ... Another one held my wrists. ... They implied that if I didn't make a deal with them, that I'd be sexually assaulted in prison. ... They took my cellphones, they took my laptop. They wanted, essentially, to ask me questions about the Iraq War, the Afghan War, what I thought politically."

I asked Binney if he felt that the NSA has copies of every email sent in the U.S. He replied, "I believe they have most of them, yes."

Binney said two senators, Ron Wyden and Mark Udall, have expressed concern, but have not spoken out, as, Binney says, they would lose their seats on the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. Meanwhile, Congress is set to vote on the Cyber Intelligence Sharing and Protection Act, or CISPA. Proponents of Internet freedom are fighting the bill, which they say will legalize what the NSA is secretly doing already.

Members of Congress, fond of quoting the country's founders, should recall these words of Benjamin Franklin before voting on CISPA: "They who can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety." ■

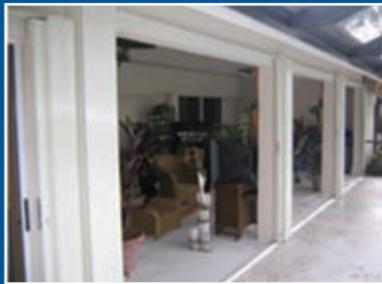
— Denis Moynihan contributed research to this column.

— Amy Goodman is the host of "Democracy Now!," a daily international TV/radio news hour airing on more than 1,000 stations in North America. She is the author of "Breaking the Sound Barrier," recently released in paperback and now a New York Times best-seller.

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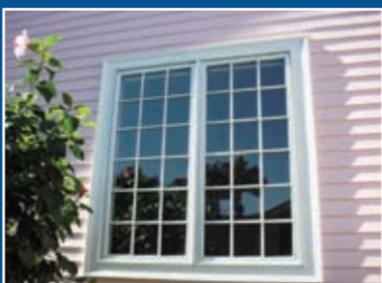
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PROFILES IN PARADISE

Relishing a lifetime of adventures in food



Sharon Kenny, the author of "Where Should We Eat? A Food Lover's Recommended Places to Eat and Drink in the Naples Area," has been a weekly guest on my show for several years. Not only does she share her expertise about dining establishments with our listeners, but she understands and promotes community events as well.

Sharon was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, into an extended family of farmers, which gave her an early appreciation of fresh vegetables and fruit grown on their land. Dining out, she recalls, was limited to the rare visit to a Chinese restaurant or "a place that grilled split hot dogs and shoestring fries — that was a real treat!"

She was 14 when she went to her first Polynesian restaurant. "I remember having to cross a little bridge over a stream to get to our table. And the food! Sweet, tender bites of meat on a stick, something flaming... I never knew food could taste like that or that a restaurant could transport you to another world."

She's been exploring restaurants of all kinds ever since. And she worked in restaurants while studying French translation at the University of Manitoba and the University of Toronto.

"My last year in Toronto was an exploration of food from as many places I could

afford — especially dim sum, Greek and Thai," she says. "Every weekend I'd buy a selection of cheeses and unusual fruits and vegetables to try, things I'd never seen before."

After college, she worked in the Northwest Territories and in Saskatchewan. Because food adventures were very limited, she had to learn to cook the exotic meals she missed so much.

Sharon and her husband, Sean (also a food lover), moved to St. Louis in 1989 and spent several years there. Although they found the food somewhat conservative for their adventuresome palates, that's where Sharon gained experience writing food reviews for the college paper while she was earning a master's degree in art history.

When they moved to the Paradise Coast, Sharon became involved with the city's advisory committee on art in public places and chaired the committee for more than 10 years. She also continued her pursuit of great dining experiences (the photo accompanying was taken last summer when Sharon was visiting the Domaine Chandon Vineyard in the Napa Valley). Soon she had a list of local places she could readily recommend to anyone who asked for advice on where to eat. And eventually, she published her guide (the fourth edition of which lists 114 restaurants, markets and bars throughout the area).

Sharon does not rate restaurants; she only recommends them. For inclusion, a dining establishment must be locally owned and have a unique atmosphere, a

Talking points with Sharon Kenny

Something that's been on your mind: My next volunteer project.

Something your mother was always right about: When you decide to be a nice girl, you can come out of your room.

What would you be doing if you weren't doing this? Teaching art history.

What makes you laugh? My dogs and the online comments in the *Naples Daily News*.

Last book you read: "Japanese in Ten Minutes a Day."

Next vacation destination: Japan.

Something you'll never understand: Japanese!

As a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up? A world traveler.

First job: From age 14-17, I worked as a page shelving books in the public library in Winnipeg, Manitoba. I was already a reader, but this job exposed me to people who read a huge variety of subjects, plus I worked with lots of really smart people. It made me hunger to learn more and become smarter myself. I'm from the first generation in my family to graduate high school, let alone go to college, and I didn't know anything

about being smart or how to get ahead in life through education. I think I thought you were just born smart or not. But working in the library helped me realize that you could work hard and read and make yourself smart. I still love libraries!

Hidden talent: I'm a sculptor.

Skill or talent you wish you had: I wish I could sing.

Guilty pleasure: Ketchup-flavored potato chips (Canadians will understand).

Pet peeve: Rude and impatient people in restaurants — or anywhere, really.

What are you most proud of? My work to help establish the Naples Public Art Ordinance.

What the Paradise Coast really needs: More public art.

Favorite thing about the Paradise Coast: The small town-feel of Naples.

What I miss about the Paradise Coast when I'm away: The safety and ease of life here.



nice view and good food.

"In all the good restaurants, you can tell that someone cares," she says. "I'm glad to be able to help those people who put heart and soul into their restaurant. And I'm happy that I can help visitors and residents enjoy Naples a bit more." ■

— Bob Harden is the producer and host of "The Bob Harden Show," airing from 7-8 a.m. weekdays at www.bobharden.com. The show is archived for listeners' convenience.

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Help postal workers 'Stamp Out Hunger' on May 12

Letter carriers in Collier and Lee counties are gearing up for the 20th annual National Letter Carrier Food Drive. The country's largest single-day drive to help "Stamp Out Hunger" in America takes place Saturday, May 12. More than 10,000 communities across the country participate.

Area residents are asked to leave donations of non-perishable food at their mailboxes for pick-up.

Northerners who are returning home prior to May 12 can drop off their contributions at any U.S. Post Office; the items will be saved and added to the May 12 contributions. Businesses can set up collection boxes for employees and customers who for whatever reason cannot leave food by their mailboxes on May 12.

Foods high on the list of suitable donations include peanut butter and jelly; canned tuna, soups, vegetables and fruit; rice; beans. Donations must be in unbreakable and unopened containers.

All food collected in Collier County goes to Collier Harvest for distribution; Lee County items go to the Harry Chapin Food Bank.

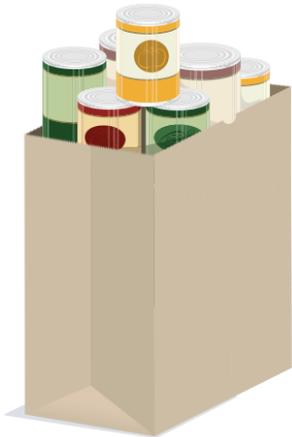
Local residents are needed to assist with the collection effort in two ways:

- Driving behind letter carriers along their routes to help collect and transport food donations; or

- Helping sort items as donations arrive at the main collection site.

To assist a letter carrier in Collier County, call Jesse Costin at 643-4716; to help sort donations for Collier Harvest, call 455-3663.

To assist a letter carrier in Lee County, call 573-9638; to help sort donations for the Harry Chapin Food Bank, call 334-7007. ■



KeyBank forum set for women business leaders

KeyBank's 2012 Key4Women Forum, a benefit for PACE Center for Girls-Collier at Immokalee, takes place from 7-10 a.m. Friday, May 11, at the Hilton Naples. The session will highlight essential communication shifts that women in business — owners, managers and other decision makers, including those in the nonprofit sector — must understand in order to remain competitive.

Guest speakers Debra Jasper and Betsy Hubbard of Mindset Digital will discuss how organizations can assess their digital footprints and leverage social media channels such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Pinterest. They will discuss how a "Facebook world" is dramatically changing customer expectations.

Admission is \$20. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 466-2518 or visiting www.key.com/womensforum. ■

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May 2012



May 7 The Arab Spring

– One Year Later from 6:45pm to 8:15pm. Professor Adrian Kerr offers an in-depth look at the History of the Middle



East to help us understand what led to the uprisings in the spring of 2011, and the issues of today in this troubled region of

the world. Tickets are \$10.

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May 8, 15, 22

Three Great Seventeenth Century Dutch Masters

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session costs \$10. Call (239) 489-8472 to reserve your place.

May 8 Session 1, Rembrandt

from 2:00pm to 4:00 pm

May 15

Session 2, Vermeer from 2:00pm to 4:00 pm



May 22

Session 3, Hals from 2:00pm to 4:00 pm



May 30

Your Eyes Don't Have to Act Their Age

at 3:30 pm. Dr. Michael J. Collins, board certified Ophthalmologist will speak about exciting new advances in cataract surgery, and how you can customize it to fit your lifestyle. This event is free. Call (239) 489-8472 to reserve your space.

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PHONES

From page 1

but forgotten relics of another era.

"I used to see them in the front of Walmart or Total Wine or occasionally by a bus stop," observes Jill Haughie, a Neapolitan and organizer of the Unite Women March set to take place Saturday, April 28, in Naples.

One of scores organized in cities across the U.S. that day, Unite Women Naples protests the fact that American women continue to be underpaid and over-regulated when it comes to salaries and their bodies and health.

But nobody will be calling home from a payphone along the march route to describe it, says Ms. Haughie.

"Now all that remains (where the payphones used to be) is the outer shell — the stands that used to contain them. Maybe with a little gang graffiti, and maybe just the hanging receiver or the cord.

"There was one near the Beall's and a mailbox, I remember. I just assume someone tore it off to get the quarters... maybe Superman's drunk brother."

Even the Florida Public Service Commission has gone to sleep at the wheel — or the receiver, if you will — when it comes to payphones.

The PSC's impressive web site announces that this branch of government regulates 470 owners of more than 51,000 payphones in Florida, requiring that they comply with a long list of standards: clear sound, access for all users to emergency and 800 numbers, that kind of thing.

Problem is, there aren't 51,000 pay phones left in Florida.

"I hope you were looking at our latest (report)," cautions Cynthia Muir, a Florida Public Service Commission spokeswoman.

Well, no, the reporter looked at the first site to come up when he googled "Florida Public Service Commission payphones." There it says "51,000," in black electronic numerals.

"There are more like 15,000," Ms. Muir corrects.

Or not.

As of last year, there were about 7,000 payphones left in Florida, according to a spokesman for the Florida Public Telecommunications Association, who was quoted in an August, 2011 wire story.

As for regulating them, fudgetaboutit, as people used to say into their sticky receivers.

"I talked with our folks this morning about how they are inspected, and actually at this point in time there is minimal time being dedicated to payphones," admits Ms. Muir.

"Generally, it's only in response to complaints,"

she says. "And if it's determined that the payphones need on-site visits it would be done in conjunction with other travel needs that the PSC has."

In other words, even if you complain, nothing will happen just because you complained about a bad payphone.

But not to worry: First, you have to find a pay phone before you can complain about a bad one.

"No, we do not have any pay phones here — I don't think we've had them in years," says Michelle Ritter, a spokeswoman at Fawcett Memorial Hospital in Port Charlotte.

Ditto at Naples Community Hospital and at Lee Memorial Health Services, with four acute care hospitals, one of the largest public systems in Florida: no public pay telephones.

"We have courtesy phones," explains Mary Briggs, the spokeswoman at Lee Memorial Heath. They're landlines too, like pay telephones. And like payphones, they're capable of functioning if the cell tower goes down.

The same is true at all other hospitals in the region.

So now, if you don't have a cell phone you can call for free.

But these days cell phones are a lot less expensive than they used to be and cell towers are a lot more dependable, so 90 percent of Americans now have cell phones and use them, communications officials say.

That has spelled the death knell of a robust pay telephone culture.

"Cell phones killed them," says Mr. Cameron bluntly.

And now the retired telephone company man who worked himself up from lineman to executive in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, then to independent payphone owner even after he retired to Southwest Florida, is down to two pay telephones. Both are installed in

the clubhouse of a local golf club.

"They're the fancy built-in-to-the-wall type with only the stainless steel faceplates and the dial pads showing — and the place you put in the money," he says.

But nobody's putting in any money.

"I let the numbers go so they don't work any longer," he confesses. "The only reason I left the phones in there was because I didn't want to have to rip a hole in their wall to get them out."

Almost without our noticing, the once-insistent culture of pay telephones that crossed all cultural and economic boundaries has slipped away.

No more pocketfuls of change for that crucial call. No more saying, "I'd like to make a collect call, please, operator." No more operators to put the collect call through.

"The is the Bell Telephone operator. Would you accept a collect call from Roger?"

"Hell, no."

And no more attempts to secure international fame if not fortune by stuffing the most breathing humans into a single phone booth, like a herd of St. Mary's College students did one fine day in 1959.

While Life Magazine photographer Joe Munroe kept his camera clicking, 22 students fit all or parts of themselves into the booth.

That may or may not be a world record (it's not listed in the Guinness Book of World Records), but Mr. Munroe certainly took the most famous shot.

People understood: Payphones-Were-Us, and we were a lot of fun.

So where can you find a pay telephone these days, except in Seedy-ville on the side of a gas-and-quick-food franchise?

Oddly enough, the answer to that

question is this: you can find some decent pay phones in the highest-tech transportation center in the region.

"We still have 65," notes Vicki Moreland, spokeswoman for Southwest Florida International Airport.

They're owned by CenturyLink, whose spokesman didn't return a call asking why the company maintains them, and how much they make the company.

But Ms. Moreland is willing to share some information.

First, CenturyLink does it the old-fashioned way, paying Southwest Florida International a commission based on use.

Last month, SWFIA took in a robust \$320 from the pay phone business.

Not only that, but between March 1 and March 31, 1,409 calls were made from the payphones, but only 75 of them long distance.

That averaged about 21 calls per phone, "but it's more spread out than that," she says.

"Half of these calls were direct dial calls, when somebody put in 50 cents and started calling."

That's old school, but you'd have to look quick to see it.

In March alone, more than 1 million travelers passed through the airport, which means .0014 made phone calls, only half of them with actual coins minted in the U.S. of A.

Sure, Ms. Moreland conjectures, sometimes grandma and grandpa show up to see the grandkids, and they don't have cell phones because they don't believe in that newfangled nonsense. So they appreciate getting to use the payphone.

But sometimes it's probably a sophisticated traveler from Dusseldorf or Vienna or somewhere.

Whip out your cell phone when you're overseas, they've learned, and it could cost you big. Especially if you're trying to get data — maybe download a map or a restaurant review with information you could just as easily get from a quick 50 cent CenturyLink phone call, by coin or credit card.

"Data plans have become a more expensive travel gotcha than expensive voice-call rates overseas — as high as \$5 or more per minute. Even if your phone checks the local temperature, that'll cost you. AT&T and Verizon charge up to \$20 per megabyte, so uploading a few photos, downloading a few attachments or watching three minutes of YouTube video can easily cost \$100; watching a full-length feature movie through an Internet-based service can be an \$18,000 show ticket," according to the *Wall Street Journal*, reporting a story about Americans who ran up \$10,000 bills on their cell phones, last week.

Besides, with a pay phone you could always charge somebody else.

"Ah, for the days of payphones," acknowledges Ms. Haughie.

"Yes, operator, I'd like to make a collect call."

"What is the area code please?" ■





Special glasses let walkers experience different kinds of vision impairment.

Walkers gain eye-opening insight about life with vision impairment

Participants in Lighthouse of Collier's recent "Walk A Mile in Our Shoes" event wore special glasses that let them experience vision impairment as they set out on the 1-mile course around Bayfront.

Walker Prudence Demmler described the experience as a real "eye-opener." "It made me realize how balance and depth perception are affected," Ms. Demmler said about the glasses that simulated glaucoma, macular degeneration, cataracts and diabetic retinopathy. "It was very hard to keep stable while stepping."

In addition to raising their own awareness of vision impairments, the participants, along with numerous sponsors from the community, raised \$6,550 for Lighthouse of Collier Center

for Blindness and Vision Loss.

The mission of the Lighthouse of Collier is to promote the development, implementation and on-going evaluation of programs and services that foster independence and enhance the quality of life for the blind, visually impaired and their caregivers.

The agency celebrates its third birthday with an open house from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, May 3, at its donated space at 424 Bayfront Place. Brad Marquardt of Magnifying Selections and Optelec are sponsoring the celebration; EJ's Cafe at Bayfront and Eat Your Art Out have donated refreshments. All are welcome.

To learn more about the programs and services offered, call 430-3934 or visit www.lighthouseofcollier.org. ■

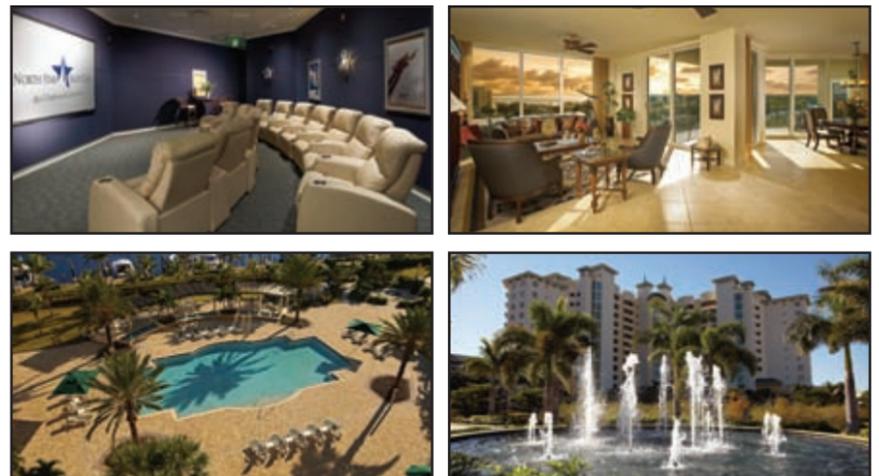
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Building the Trail took blood, sweat and mosquitoes

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For most of us, the Tamiami Trail — the 275-mile stretch of highway that runs through Hillsborough, Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, Collier and Miami-Dade counties — has been in existence as long as we have, or at least as long as we've lived here in Southwest Florida; however, that wasn't always the case.

In fact, the 84th anniversary of the completion of today's much-traveled Trail was celebrated recently in Everglades City, Collier County's former governing center.

In the early 1900s, the idea of connecting the east coast of Florida with the west coast by road was but a pipe dream of Capt. James Franklin Jaudon, a Miami tax assessor who had purchased quite a bit of land in Monroe County. Capt. Jaudon initially proposed the road with hopes of further developing his own properties with the Chevalier Company.

By 1915, the Trail reached from Tampa down to Fort Myers, before coming to a screeching halt, due to a lack of financing. Enter Nashville-born streetcar advertising magnate Barron Gift Collier. A man with a vision, Mr. Collier set out to complete the final 110-mile stretch of the Trail that would connect Naples to



Everglades City was abuzz with excitement on April 26, 1928, at the official opening of the Tamiami Trail connecting this side of the state with Miami. This final link in the completion of the Tamiami Trail would forever change the Florida landscape. Shown in the distance at the left is the old train station, now the Seafood Depot.

THE COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUM / COURTESY PHOTOS

Miami, at his own considerable expense. The massive undertaking was often compared to the construction of the Panama Canal, and the working conditions were unimaginable: swamp lands infested with scores of mosquitoes, hun-

dreds of snakes and alligators, thousands of horseflies that would take a hunk out of their unsuspecting target. The men labored in unbearable heat and endless waist-deep water, which often resulted in swamp rot afflicting their feet.

Policing the Trail, back then

While the construction of the Trail was ongoing, Mr. Collier needed to patrol his 1,276,160 acres that stretched from the Miami-Dade line eastward

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over to the agricultural community of Immokalee, and north to the Bonita Springs line. Dubbed the "Last Frontier" because of its sheer remoteness and proximity to the Ten Thousand Islands, this was a natural place for those hiding from the law.

Mr. Collier hired husband-and-wife teams to maintain law and order along the Trail. Way stations similar to our rest areas today were built roughly 10-20 miles apart, beginning at what today is the intersection of Collier Boule-

vard and Tamiami Trail in East Naples. While the wives manned the stations, offering refreshment and hospitality to travelers, the husbands, known as the Southwest Mounted Police (Mr. Collier was enthralled by the uniforms of the Canadian Mounties and dressed his own police in the same manner), rode Harley-Davidson motorcycles along designated areas of the Trail, offering assistance to motorists in trouble, clearing debris from the road and also apprehending poachers. Keep in mind, the



In the early phases of clearing the way for the Tamiami Trail between Naples and Miami, teams of oxen were used for hauling the necessary supplies of gasoline, fuel oil and dynamite.



Workers hauled dynamite amid endless mosquitoes, snakes and horseflies during construction of the Trail in the mid-1920s.

very rough gravel roads were wide open and not heavily trafficked yet, and wild animals were also known to roam freely.

The six way stations along the Trail were Belle Meade (at Collier Boulevard), Royal Palm Hammock (at County Road 92, next to Collier-Seminole State Park), Weaver Station (renamed Big Cypress Bend Station, across from the Fakahatchee Strand boardwalk; it was demolished by Hurricane Andrew in 1992), Turner River (near Ochopee), Monroe Station (listed on the National Register of Historic Places and currently moved back away from the road in Ochopee and boarded up) and the Paolita Station (at the Miami-Dade County line). The Big Cypress National Preserve has ownership of the Monroe Station and plans to restore it to an interpretive museum.

From 1925 until 1928, Mr. Collier's crews worked round-the-clock to complete the Naples-Miami link that would open Southwest Florida to the masses.

The entire Tamiami Trail took 13 years to complete, at a staggering cost, for the times, of \$8 million (half of which was for the purchase of dynamite).

Celebrating the Trail, then and now

The morning of April 26, 1928, dawned a glorious day for celebrating. Various local newspapers reported that a cavalcade with 500 cars had formed in Tampa to make the trek over to Miami with

numerous celebrations along the way, including one at Everglades City, Mr. Collier's own company town. He and Gov. John Wellborn Martin led the motorcade down to Everglades City where a grand parade was held. They passed through the former grandiose stone archway at the Miami-Dade County line later that afternoon, en route to Miami.

Fast forward 84 years, to a breezy, overcast day in late April 2012. More than 100 people attended the small anniversary celebration in Everglades City that began with a motorcade of antique cars, coming to rest outside the Museum of the Everglades.

"It's hard to believe that just 84 years ago they were just starting to carve this area out of the wilderness," Joy Willard, a visitor from New York, marveled. In addition to hot dogs and cake, those in attendance were entertained by the sounds of Nate Augustus of the Gladezmen throughout the celebration. ■

— *Maureen Sullivan-Hartung arrived in Naples in 1981. Following a year's stint as a reporter for the former weekly Everglades Echo newspaper, she began freelancing. Her first book, "The Hidden History of Everglades City & Points Nearby," was published in 2010 by The History Press in South Carolina. Starting this week, look for her Undercover Historian column every other week in Florida Weekly. Learn more about Ms. Sullivan-Hartung at www.maureenwrites.com.*



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Have a heart for 'Go Red' annual luncheon

The American Heart Association's 2012 Southwest Florida "Go Red For Women" luncheon is set for Wednesday, May 23, at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort & Spa in Bonita Springs. Keynote speaker Dr. Jennifer Mieres is one of the world's leading experts and patient advocates in

the fields of nuclear cardiology and cardiovascular disease in women.

Luncheon tickets are \$125 per person, and sponsorships are available. For tickets or more information, call Monica Seif at 495-4903 or e-mail monica.seif@heart.org. ■

Help 'Make Strides' in the fight against breast cancer

Anyone who wants to get involved with the American Cancer Society's next "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" 5K walk is invited to learn more at a "Put on Your Pink Bra" committee rally from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 10, at Clive Daniel Home, 2777 Tamiami Trail N. in Naples. Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served.

Friends, supporters, family members, caregivers, survivors and all whose lives have been touched by breast cancer are welcome.

In the months leading up to the walk, volunteers are needed to help with team development, to solicit sponsorships and to encourage survivor involvement in the event. Volunteers will be needed in various capacities on the day of the walk as well.

The "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" walk is set for Saturday morning, Oct. 20, at Cambier Park.

For more information about the May 10 meeting, call Janet Brune at 216-1123 or e-mail janet_brune@yahoo.com. ■

Experts offer free advice on how to prevent foreclosure

The Housing Development Corp. of Southwest Florida Inc. and Goodwill Industries Job-Link Services present "Understanding Your Mortgage Options," a free program about preventing foreclosure, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, May 4, at the United Way House at 26820 Old 41 Road, Bonita Springs.

Representatives from Fannie Mae, Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Bank of America, Chase, GMAC and Fifth Third

Bank will be on-site to meet with homeowners.

In addition, certified housing counselors from the Housing Development Corp. of Southwest Florida will be available to discuss the State Hardest Hit Fund program and other foreclosure prevention options. And Goodwill Job-Link Services will have staff and materials available to assist homeowners who are seeking employment. ■

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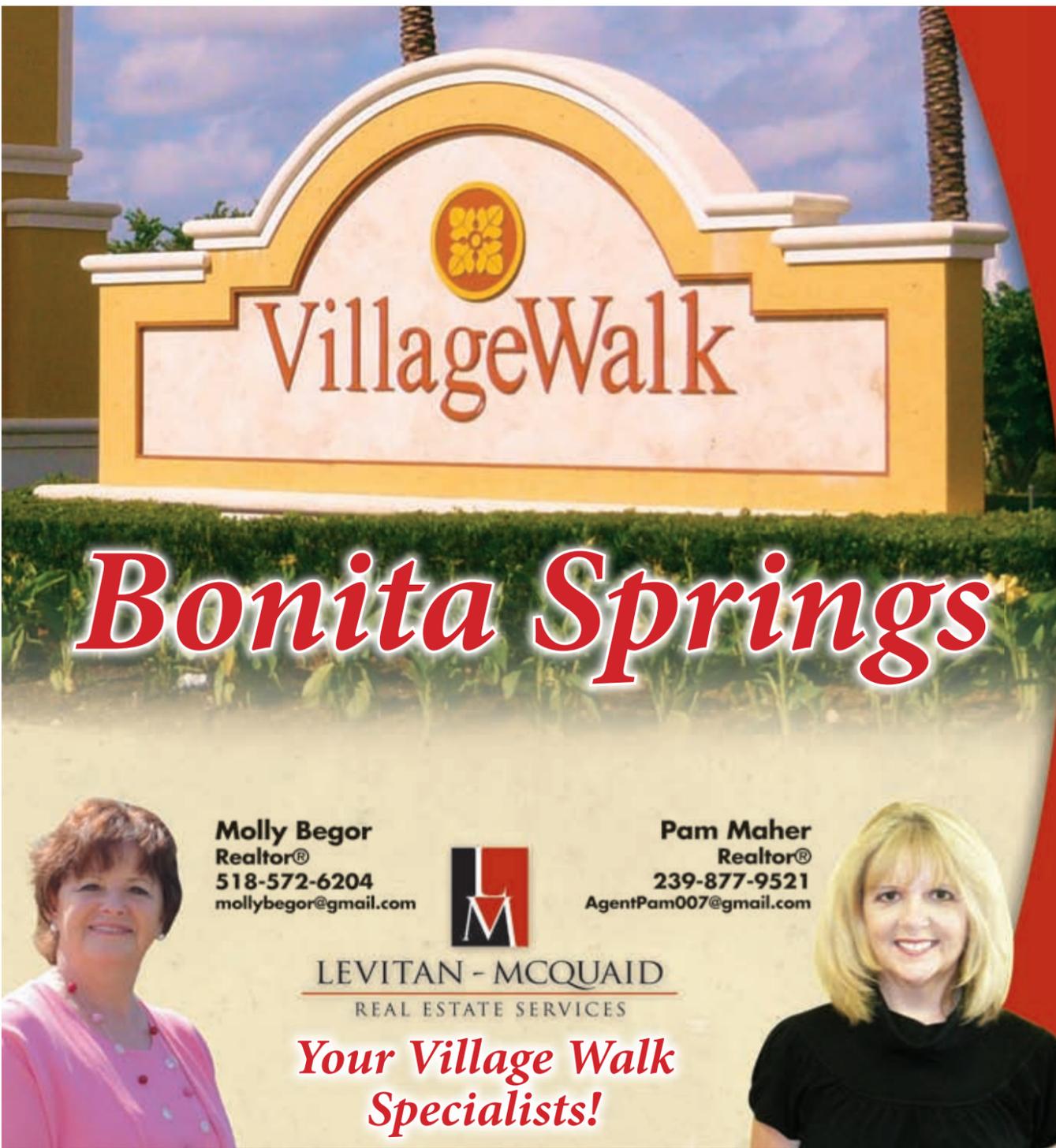
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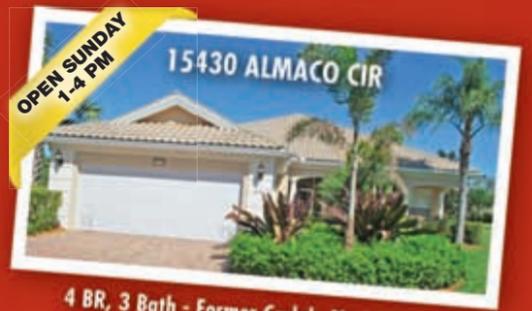
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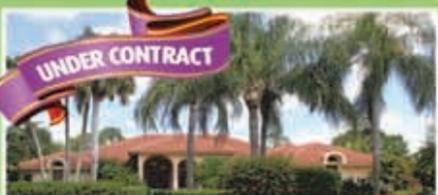
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HIT THE LINKS FOR AREA CHARITIES

Here are some charity tournaments coming up for golfers on area greens:

■ The **Titan Gridiron Club at Golden Gate High School** holds its second annual golf scramble Saturday, May 5, at Naples Lakes Country Club. The shotgun start is at 8 a.m. and the game is followed by lunch and live and silent auctions.

Registration is \$125 per person or \$400 for a foursome. For a registration form or more information, contact Barb Anderson by calling 564-9440 or e-mailing balpkrfan@aol.com.

■ Pack your putter and two other clubs of your choice and have fun at **"Three Sticks for Kicks"** on Saturday,

May 5, at Vi at Bentley Village. The non-traditional tournament will benefit Charity for Change and its School "Giver" Program at local elementary schools. The best ball competition will include games, obstacles and other on-course surprises.

The day begins at 8 a.m. with poolside continental breakfast and includes beer on the course, a lunch buffet and awards ceremony, plus a bucket raffle for items such as a Norman Love Confections chocolate basket and a 50/50 drawing. Awards for lowest scoring and "Most Honest" foursomes will include golfing certificates for Hideout Golf Club and Vineyards Country Club, among other courses.

Cost is \$100 per golfer. To register, call 592-6787 or visit www.charityforchange.org.

■ The second annual **Harry Chapin Food Bank Classic** is set for Wednesday afternoon, May 9, at Grandezza Golf & Country Club. Registration is \$125 and includes dinner after the tournament.

To sign up or to learn about volunteering, donating silent auction items or becoming a sponsor, call 334-7007, e-mail Chris Robinson at chrisrobinson@harrychapinfoodbank.org or visit www.harrychapinfoodbank.org.

■ The **Collier Building Industry Association** and **Hill, Barth & King**

host a tournament on Friday, May 11, at Vasari. Competition includes a putting contest and a long drive contest. Admission includes cart and green fees, three mulligans, 10 raffle tickets, three complimentary drinks on the course and lunch following the tournament.

For registration or more information, call the CBIA office at 436-6100 or visit www.cbia.net.

■ **First Baptist Academy** tees up its 10th annual golf tournament on Saturday morning, May 12, at Windstar on Naples Bay. Cost is \$150 per person. Sponsorship opportunities are available.

For more information, call 597-2233 or e-mail faa@fbalions.org. ■

Founders Fund increases annual scholarship amount

The Founders Fund Inc. raised more than \$340,000 at the 2012 Ed Brennan Memorial Golf Tournament and banquet earlier this month at the Club Pelican Bay. The event's success means 25 Collier County high-school seniors will receive a \$2,500, four-year renewable scholarship for their higher education, whereas previous Founders Fund scholarships have been \$2,000.

The Founders Fund grants approximately 25 new scholarships every year. The total number of scholarships to be funded in 2012-13 is 100, which includes those already in the scholarship program from the past three years. Over the past 20 years, the fund has granted more than \$2 million to deserving students. Awards are based on academic

and extra-curricular performance and financial need.

Golf tournament and banquet sponsors this year were MorganStanley Smith Barney, M&I Wealth Management, Mercedes-Benz of Naples, Northern Trust, PNC, Preferred Travel, Victoria Harrison P.A., Fifth Third Bank, Bigham Jewelers, Occasions of Naples, My Shower Door, William C. Huff Companies and a generous anonymous donor. Annual benefactors, donors and the Club Pelican Bay also played a key role in the event.

For more information about scholarships, sponsorships or becoming a part of the Founders Fund, contact Sue Davenport at 593-0124 or 597-2244 or visit www.thefoundersfundinc.org. ■



Jane Kerr, Lea Smith, Kay Dorlet and Mary Osborn

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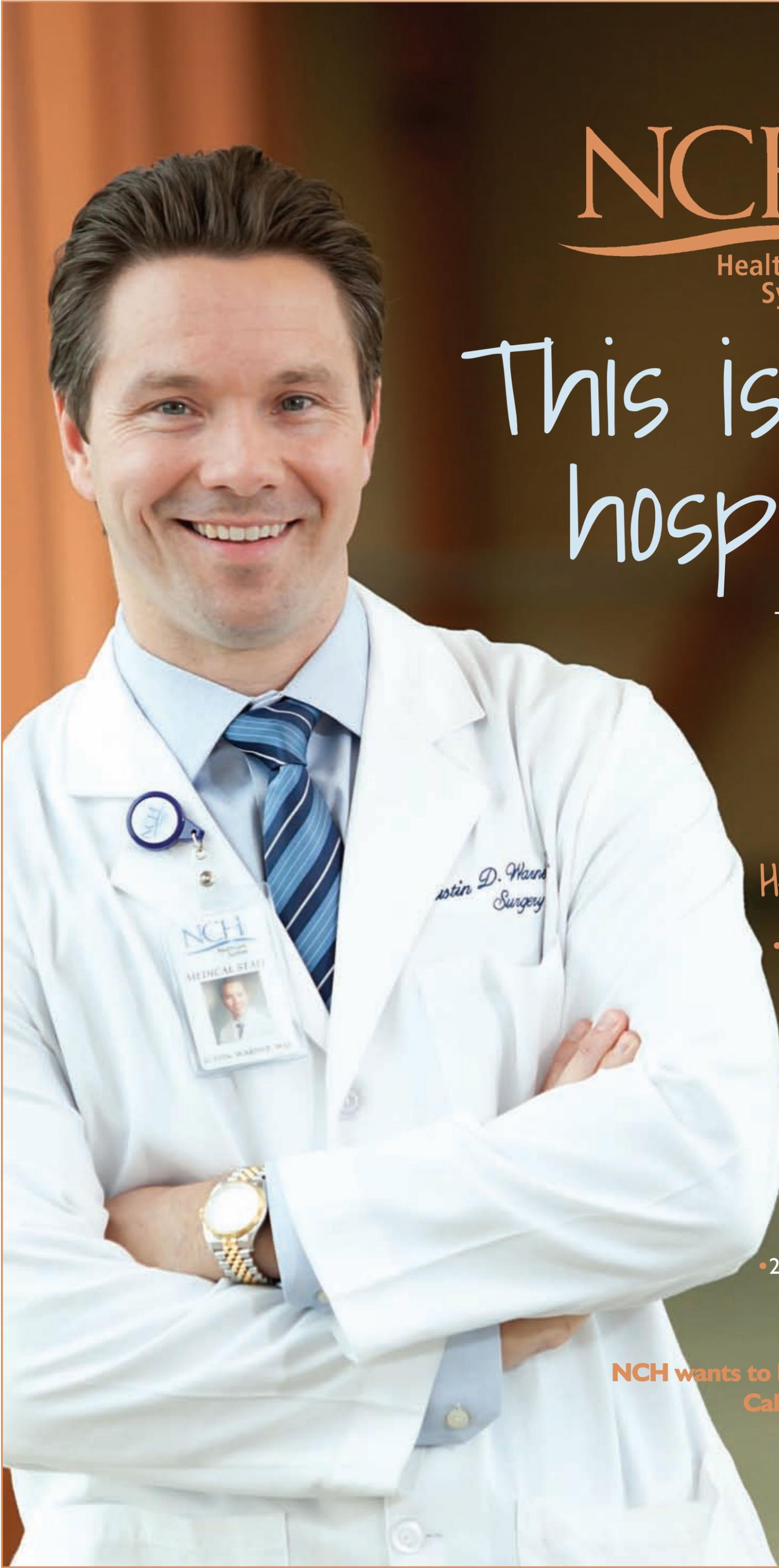
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Salvation Army tennis tourney rescheduled

Inclement weather on April 21 forced the eighth annual "Rackets Up!" tennis tournament to benefit the Salvation Army Naples Corps Child Care Center to be rescheduled for Saturday, May 26, at the Arthur L. Allen Tennis Center at Cambier Park. Check-in will begin at 10:30 a.m. and round robin competition begins at 11:15 a.m.

Registration is \$35 and includes lunch catered by Jason's Deli and a tournament T-shirt.

For registration or more information, call Kevin Walker at 213-3060 or e-mail napestennis@naplesgov.com (subject: Salvation Army tennis fundraiser). ■

Turtle Trot 5K set for Lovers Key

Friends of Lovers Key are setting the pace for the seventh annual Turtle Trot 5K on Saturday, May 12. Proceeds will go toward the Friends of Lovers Key fund for building a visitor center at the park. Runners, joggers and walkers will trek along Black Island Trail, run up a 38-foot hill and cross two bridges as they make for the finish line at the beach.

Breakfast will be provided by signature sponsor Whole Foods. Registration is \$25 if completed before May 6 and \$30 after that. Sign up at www.friendsoflovesskey.org or stop by the park for a registration form.

For more information, call 463-4588 or e-mail president@friendsoflovesskey.org. ■

Bicycle race part of CityFest fun

The inaugural Orange Blossom Special, a bicycle criterium race on two, 1-mile circuit courses in Old Naples, will take place as part of Naples CityFest activities Saturday and Sunday, May 5-6.



Bicyclists from around the state are expected to vie for \$7,500 in cash and prizes. Volkswagen of Naples is the

title sponsor.

For registration and more information, including race maps, visit www.orangeblossomnaples.com. ■

Stand up and paddle for Special Olympics

The third annual Stand Up Paddleboard Luau Races to benefit Special Olympics Collier County will make a splash from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 5, at Bayfront on Naples Bay.

Three SUP division races will take place: for ages 10-16, boys and girls; the women's open and the men's open.

Paddlers can register in advance at Noodles Italian Café & Sushi Bar and at Shane's Cabana Bar; day-of registration will begin at 9 a.m. Registration fee is \$25. Paddlers should bring their own boards, although some boards will be available at no charge from Naples Kiteboarding and True Water Sports. ■



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HATS OFF TO SPRING



The Big Cypress Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution celebrated the season at a spring hat luncheon with guest speaker Jerry Sanford of the Collier County Freedom Memorial.

1. Top view of Nancy Alden's chapeaux (see No. 8)
2. Madonna Crame, Sue Huff, Jerry Sanford and Brigitte van den Hove-Smith
3. Beth Selbey and Marilyn Shields
4. Dolores Markgraf and Sara Clay Medeiros
5. Barbara Keating and Virginia Browning
6. Edith Sachs, Ruth McGarity and Penny Wainwright
7. Art Garrison with Trudy and Rob Withey
8. Nancy Alden, winner, Fun Hat

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CLUB NOTES

■ The **Ohio State Alumni Club** of Naples hold its monthly happy hour social from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, May 17, at The Pub in Mercato. RSVP by calling 248-7408 or e-mailing jimdebs@comcast.net.

■ The Southwest Florida chapter of the **Kiwi Club**, a social and charitable organization of present and former flight attendants of American Airlines, TWA and other airlines acquired by or merged with American Airlines, meets for its monthly luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, May 26, in a private home. For reservations or more information, call Eileen Martino at 595-1761 or e-mail elmartino@gmail.com.

The local chapter supports Pace Center for Girls-Collier at Immokalee and the Collier County Hunger & Homeless Coalition. New members are always welcome. For membership information, call Jeanne Preston-Horvath at 596-0260 or e-mail Jeanne.preston@yahoo.com.

■ The **Zonta Club of Naples** held its seventh annual fashion show on March 30 at the Club at the Strand. More than 150 members and guests attended the benefit for PACE Center for Girls-Collier at Immokalee, the Naples & Immokalee Teenage Parenting Program, the club's scholarship fund and Zonta International's Amelia Earhart Scholarship Fund.

The Naples chapter of Zonta International has a luncheon meeting on the first Tuesday of every month. Cost is \$17 and reservations are required. For more information, call 572-4343, e-mail info@zonta-naples.org or visit www.zonta-naples.org.

■ In **Inbetweeners**, a social group for singles ages 40-65, welcomes newcomers and regulars at gatherings from 4-7 p.m. every Wednesday. The May 9 meeting place is AZN in Mercato; May 16, 23 and 30 gatherings are set for Noodle's Italian Café and Sushi Bar.

For more information, visit www.meetup.com/inbetweeners or e-mail naplesinbetweeners@gmail.com.

■ The **Naples Newcomers Club** welcomes women who have been permanent residents of Naples for no more than five years and who want to meet others who are new to the area.

The club meets for lunch at 11:30 a.m. on the second Thursday of every month at country clubs throughout the area. In addition, groups within the club plan outings and dates to share varied interests, such as mah-jongg and duplicate bridge, gourmet cooking and discussions about philosophy.

Prospective members are invited to coffee at 10 a.m. on the first Thursday of each month. For meeting locations and more information, call 298-4083 or visit www.naplesnewcomers.com.

■ Membership in the **Social Butterflies**, a new group for women, is open to all who want to cultivate friendships, support one another's career and personal efforts and also help local charities. For more information, call Nicole Forbis at 784-7987 or look for Social Butterflies Naples on Facebook.

■ The **Bonita Springs Newcomers Club** welcomes women who have lived in Bonita for less than three years. Luncheons are held at area country clubs on the third Thursday of every month (December meeting is on the second Thursday).

Members must attend five luncheons a year and pay annual dues of \$40. For more information, e-mail bonitanewcomers@gmail.com or visit www.bonitaspringnewcomersclub.com.



■ A new **Women's Traveling Club** is taking shape for women who want to learn about world destinations and tips for traveling and who want to make new friends with similar interests. Monthly meetings will take place at various locations around Naples.

For more information, contact Tracy Ball at MAD Travel by calling 961-3248 or e-mailing womenstravelclub@madtravel.com.



■ **Naples Ship Modelers** is an informal group dedicated to the hobby of building wooden ship models. Members share their skills, knowledge and ship-building techniques with one another at Saturday morning meetings twice a month and welcome new members.

For more information, call Dick Ritchie at 594-0868 or e-mail dcritchie@comcast.net.

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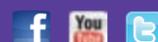


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Bend and stretch on the beach under a full moon

Take a deep breath, bend, stretch and relax in the incomparable setting of the Naples beach under a full moon starting at 11 p.m. Saturday, May 5, on the beach at the Eighth Avenue South public access.

Join the Leapfrog fitness community and an instructor from Bala Vinyasa Yoga for the free class sponsored by lululemon athletica.

There's no on-street parking at the beach access, so arrive early for direction to a parking spot. Bring your yoga mat and some bug spray. And after class, head to Café Lurcat on Fifth Avenue South for more camaraderie.

For more information, follow the Leapfrog fitness community on Facebook or e-mail coach@leapfrogrunning.com.

Free lecture gives glimpse into what babies see

The Vision Sciences Society and the Renaissance Academy at Florida Gulf Coast University present "What Babies See," a free lecture from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 12, at the Naples Center of FGCU.

Instructor Terri Lewis, a professor of psychology, neuroscience and behavior at McMaster University in Ontario, will dispel the myths, describe the facts and uncover surprises surrounding the amazing visual world of babies. Find out how to "ask" babies what they see and learn how, with special eye charts, researchers can discern the finest detail that infants can see, how well they can see color and motion and even the age at which they might recognize their parents and grandparents.

The Naples Center of FGUC is at 1010 Fifth Ave. S.

Lecture attendance is free, but registration is appreciated. Sign up at www.registerra@fgcu.edu. For more information, call 425-3272.

Voice aerobics class offered for Parkinson's patients

The Parkinson Association of Southwest Florida Inc. offers a class in voice aerobics beginning at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 8, at PASFi headquarters in Naples.

The association holds exercise, speech, dance and art therapy classes at locations in Naples and Bonita Springs for those who suffer from Parkinson's disease. Support programs for families and caregivers are also offered, and various opportunities are available for volunteers at PASFi headquarters. To sign up for the new voice aerobics class or for more information about services and programs offered by PASFi, call Executive Director Ruth Hubing at 417-3465, e-mail pasfied@aol.com or visit www.PASFi.org.

PASFi headquarters have recently moved into new office space at 1048 Goodlette Road, Suite 201. ■

Alzheimer's report reveals some unexpected findings

Every 68 seconds, someone in the United States develops Alzheimer's disease. That's just one of the statistics in the 2012 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures report recently released by the Alzheimer's Association.

An estimated 5.4 million people have Alzheimer's today, including 200,000 people under the age of 65. By 2025, there will be as many as 6.7 million people with Alzheimer's. More than 450,000 Floridians are afflicted today.

Here are some more findings:

■ **One out of seven people with Alzheimer's lives alone.** There are an estimated 800,000 people in the United States who have Alzheimer's and live alone. People with dementia who live alone are at greater risk of jeopardized health than those who live with others. These risks include missed or delayed diagnosis, self-neglect, malnutrition and untreated medical conditions. Those living alone are also at increased risk of wandering away unattended and of accidental death.

Compounding these issues is the fact that many are in denial about the seriousness of cognitive impairment and refusal to seek help.

"Advance planning for the individual with Alzheimer's or another dementia who lives alone is absolutely critical," says Gloria Smith, president and CEO of the Florida Gulf Coast Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. "Alzheimer's and other dementias take individuals through unfamiliar territory," she adds. "Planning in the early stages of the disease allows individuals to build a care team, make financial plans and prepare for future safety concerns, while they are still cognitively able to do so."

■ **Florida is among the top four states in which caregivers are unpaid.** There are 15.2 million friends and family members providing care for individuals with Alzheimer's and other dementias, including 999,000 caregivers in Florida (along with California, New York and Texas, Florida tops the chart in the number of unpaid caregivers looking after loved ones with Alzheimer's and other dementias). In 2011, caregivers provided \$210 billion dollars of unpaid care nationally — \$13.7 billion of it in Florida.

Caregivers take on a tremendous financial, physical and emotional toll to help care for a loved one with Alzheimer's. Sixty-one percent of family caregivers of people with Alzheimer's and



other dementias rated their emotional stress of care giving as high or very high. That physical and emotional impact is estimated to result in nearly \$9 billion in increased health-care costs in the United States, including \$594,293,482 for caregivers in Florida.

■ **People with Alzheimer's and other dementias cost Medicaid 19 times more than seniors without the conditions.** Individuals with Alzheimer's or other dementias are high consumers of hospital, nursing home and long-term care services, translating into high costs for Medicare, Medicaid and families.

Caring for people with Alzheimer's and other dementias will cost the U.S. an estimated \$200 billion in 2012, including \$35 billion by Medicaid. Costs will soar from \$200 billion in 2012 to an estimated \$1.1 trillion per year by mid-century.

■ **Alzheimer's has profound implications for the nation.** "Alzheimer's has a significant impact on the individual who lives alone, for those who have the disease and live with their families, and for all levels of government," said Ms. Smith. "This is why the Alzheimer's Association supports federal efforts under way to create the first ever National Alzheimer's Plan and the local effort recently passed by the Florida Legislature to create a Florida Alzheimer's Plan."

■ **The future is now.** State Alzheimer's plans assess the current impact of the disease and determine needed steps to support the growing number of families affected by the disease. The Florida Gulf Coast Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association spearheaded the state legislature's effort to create an Alzheimer's plan.

State Rep. Matt Hudson and State Sen. Garrett Richter, both of Naples, sponsored legislation that creates a Purple Ribbon Task Force directed to develop an Alzheimer's Plan and submit policy recommendations to the governor, speaker of the House of Representatives and Senate president by August 2013. Gov. Rick Scott is currently reviewing the approved legislation for final consideration.

The full text of the Alzheimer's Association's 2012 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures report can be found at www.alz.org. ■

— *Since it was formed in 1980, the Alzheimer's Association has been the world's leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's care, support and research. The organization provides services to those affected by Alzheimer's and other dementias; advocates for policy change and research funding; and advances research toward prevention, treatment and cure. For more information, visit www.alz.org.*

Laboratory medicine provides the backbone of health care



Last week was National Lab Week, and as we celebrated at NCH we all agreed with Gerry Mendola, lead technologist in our North Naples blood bank, when he reflected that, "We have everything to do our job, especially great people."

The backbone of our hospital system and health care in general is laboratory medicine. So in honor of National Lab Week, I had the pleasure of touring the Karl and Helga Brand Laboratory at our North Naples campus. Nancy Schafer, laboratory director, led the tour along with lab supervisor Cheryl Sacks and phlebotomy and processing supervisor Kim Ingle (I've known Ms. Ingle for 25 years, ever since I was in private practice and used the lab services extensively).

We followed a sample through the lab, starting with in-processing — the clearinghouse that typically collects more than 200 labs and has results available every day by 7 a.m. for up to 325 in-patients. Narline Fontilme, Lulianne Joseph and Helene Fleurival supervise this meticulous process, utilizing bar codes, collection times and specific tests ordered and organized for prompt and precise results.

Getting the right patient the right

SEE WEISS, A23 ►

WEISS

From page 22

test at the right time is critical, and 90 percent of the time at NCH, we have results available within 30 minutes of the specimen entering the lab by tube system or courier. Large flat-screen monitors notify technologists when a specimen is approaching the 30-minute mark, so extra effort can be directed toward accelerating analysis.

Some specific tests — sedimentation rates, HIV screens, MRSA determination, urine analysis and abnormal platelet counts — need to be performed manually. Angel Kupiec, NCH Laboratory Technologist of the Year two years ago and a 15-year NCH employee, is on the case in these special instances.

Both hospital labs are supervised by administrative director Jodi Cooper and are supported by histology labs that receive samples of body tissue and fluids to be tested for the operating rooms, endoscopy and outpatient surgery procedure. Pathology assistant Ron Hobbs handles these specimens, performing a complete examination and precisely cutting sections for the pathologists to make their final diagnoses.

Downtown histology supervisor Robin Swanson and laboratory assistant Michelle Gooley and their team handle an average of 175 to 200 blocks of tissue and frozen specimens per day from the operating room. Surgeons receive lab results in 20



minutes or less, which can potentially help determine the course of treatment for the patient.

Advanced technology, such as immunofluorescence, has progressed remarkably since I was a medical student. This is particularly true in our in-house microbiology division, which is led by Robin Williams and her team of Ana Alvarez, Deb Ault, Cindy Powell and Joe Kyle, who have been working together for decades.

Our in-house lab has allowed us to improve culture turnaround times, particularly our pediatric cultures.

In all, 88 colleagues downtown, 41 in North Naples and 15 members of the NCH Healthcare Group (including Luis Trujillo, a patient favorite

phlebotomist at Edison Village) handle about 4,500 specimens per day.

Each year, three specialists at each campus are recognized by their colleagues for outstanding performance and service. This year's honorees are:

■ Downtown: Esmeralda Pierre (technical), Nancy Thompson (support) and Melissa Miller (customer service)

■ North Naples: Peter Kubetschek (technical), Aylet Quintero (support) and Alfaquenia Perez (customer service).

Our labs are perfect examples of how a highly competent health-care team can produce consistently high-quality results to benefit an entire community. At NCH, in fact, every week is "Lab Week." ■

— Dr. Allen Weiss is president and CEO of NCH Healthcare System.

21st Century Oncology participates in SAVI breast cancer radiation study

Dr. Constantine Mantz, chief medical officer at 21st Century Oncology, was part of a collaborative group of physicians who presented their studies regarding advanced therapy for breast cancer treatment at the 36th annual Symposium of the American Society of Breast Disease last month in Dallas. The studies demonstrated the cosmetic advantages and precise radiation capabilities of the SAVI breast brachytherapy applicator for treatment of early-stage breast cancer. Researchers examined the initial and longer-term effects of the SAVI treatment in a group of 909 women at 12 research centers in the United States.



Mantz

21st Century Oncology is one of the centers participating in the SAVI Collaborative Research Group and contributing to ongoing research into the SAVI applicator. Dr. Mantz explains that the SAVI treatment is used in conjunction with breast conservation therapy where the tumor and surrounding tissue are removed (lumpectomy), and the surgery is followed with

a course of radiation. Traditionally, radiation treatment is delivered five days a week for six weeks following surgery, and the entire breast is radiated. With SAVI, the radiation is delivered far more precisely and over a course of just five days, he says.

"We've had excellent success rates with this treatment, and very few side effects," Dr. Mantz adds.

The SAVI device allows physicians to sculpt radiation based on patient-specific anatomy, which increases the number of women who can benefit from accelerated partial breast irradiation.

21st Century Oncology LLC is a leading developer and operator of radiation therapy centers in the United States. The company employs more than 113 radiation oncologists and more than 138 specialists, including urologists, surgeons, pathologists and primary care physicians. The company operates 94 facilities in 16 states and has 27 international facilities. ■

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Taking stock in local students proves a solid investment

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The Education Foundation of Collier County honored the 26 graduates of its 2012 Take Stock in Children scholarship and mentoring program during a celebratory dinner at Moorings Park on April 26.

The program identifies students in the eighth grade who are economically challenged and who promise to maintain a 2.5 grade point average, meet weekly with a mentor and remain drug-and crime-free. Those who successfully complete all requirements are awarded a scholarship to a Florida state college or university of their choice. Many participants excel above these requisites by maintaining honor roll grades, participating in clubs and community service and holding down part-time jobs through high school.

The Education Foundation also provides them with college preparatory activities and the opportunities to practice life skills, employment skills and leadership skills to help ensure their bright future.

This year's graduating class was named for Phil McCabe, who has supported 48 Take Stock in Children students over the years.

Lenore Matoff, who has mentored three students over the past 10 years, was honored as Volunteer of the Year.

In addition to Moorings Park, the celebration dinner was sponsored by



First row: Rosaura Santiago, Marisa Anguilano, Mileisy Rodriguez, Jahaira Perez, David Diaz, Duckinson Lene, Kiara Gonzalez-Duran, Cassandra Gancedo and Jane Dinova

Second row: Jonathan Franco, Cassandra Dorillas, Eunice Paul and Prichelle Morrison

Third row: Juliana Santucci, Elizabeth Hernandez, Talitha Milton, Fabian Meza, Kentavius Means, Michael Jean-Baptiste, Kimberly Leandre, Revenel Metayer, Yuzellie Garcia, Daniella Loria and Veronica Perez

Back row: Armando Flores, Alan Korest, Steve Brinkert, Phil McCabe, Brad Galbraith, Thomas Wagor, Rosemary Thomas and Josiah Mendez

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AUCTION

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Take stock in the future

The Education Foundation has the opportunity to purchase 20 four-year college scholarships for \$8,000 each through the Florida Prepaid Foundation's Stanley Tate Project STARS Matching Fund. The matching dollars will be distributed to other Florida counties unless the Education Foundation purchases them for Collier County students by June 1. Any contribution toward this local investment will help a local student.

Since 1999, nearly 400 Collier County students have gone through the Education Foundation's Take Stock in Children program; there are 122 students

currently enrolled, including this year's soon-to-be graduates. According to the foundation, data collected over the past 13 years shows that:

■ 90 percent of participants complete the program and earn the four-year scholarship.

■ 95 percent graduate from high school (in Collier County, the average graduation rate is 80 percent).

■ 88 percent have earned a post-secondary degree or are presently utilizing their Take Stock in Children scholarship.

For information about becoming a mentor or otherwise supporting Take Stock in Children through the Education Foundation of Collier County, call 643-4755 or visit www.GetOnTheBus-Collier.org.



Bryan Kenzie and Thomas Wager



Gordon and Marti Watson



Debra and Jim Wallace with Fermin Diaz



Charlie and Lenor Matoff

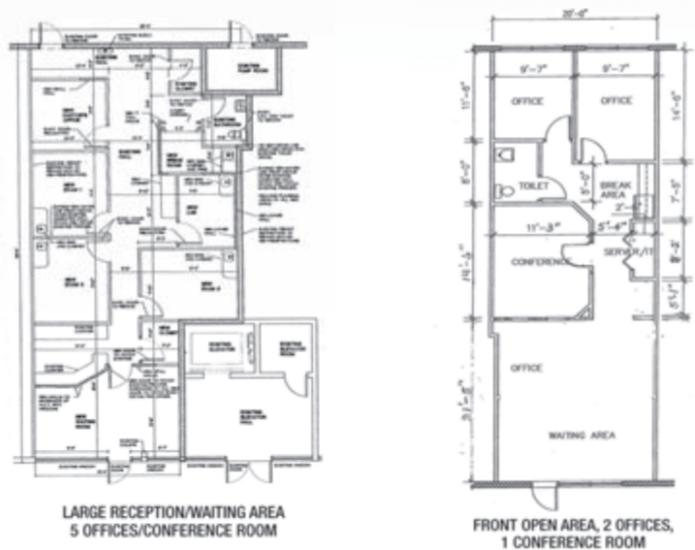
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Fastest Growing Area in the County

In close proximity to the new Arthrex Laboratory, Riverstone and Twin Eagles housing developments and a planned assisted living community less than 1,000 feet away. The new Arthrex Laboratory facility is now in construction and estimates to hire between 400-500 people in the near future. Riverstone and Twin Eagle are building more houses. This area is growing fast.

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PET TALES

Mixing plants and pets

Good planning and good fences can keep everyone safe and happy

BY GINA SPADAFORI
Universal Uclick

Animals and plants are always near me, by choice. But some plants are poisonous, and even those animals who don't eat plants seem just as intent on otherwise destroying them by sleeping on them or digging them up. That means I have spent a great deal of time protecting plants from animals, and vice versa.

This month, I'm giving up a suburban home for a very small farm, with room (and more important, zoning) for my two boarded horses, my chickens and ducks, as well as three dogs and a cat. There will be approved plants for eating — pasture! — and plans for a massive veggie garden as well.

Right now, it's all raw dirt and broken-down fences. Both are going to change, and soon.

Fortunately, I've spent years balancing the needs and safety of animals and plants, so I know what to do. Fencing is a big part of the equation, but that's not all of it. And since most people just want their dog to leave the landscaping alone, here are the tips that can help make that happen for everyone, no matter how big your yard:

Exercise your dog

Dogs who don't get daily exercise are likely to expend that energy and cure their boredom by doing things people don't like — digging, chewing and barking. Dogs who are well-exercised are



Many dogs like vegetables enough to eat them, and those who don't still may like digging in the beds. Attractive fences may help solve both problems.

more likely to sleep while you are gone. When you leave, you should also offer your dog alternatives to choosing his own amusements: Provide him with a chew toy, such as a Kong — stuffed with something delicious, like peanut butter.

Work with your dog's habits

Observe how your dog uses your yard, and plan accordingly. For instance, many dogs consider it their duty to run the fence line, leaving a well-worn trail where many people hope to put flowers. Instead of fighting with your dog, go with his natural instincts. Place your beds and plantings away from the fence line, and let him do his guard-dog patrolling behind those plants.

Give the dog his own yard

A side "relief" yard where messes and digging aren't ever a problem can allow your dog to be a dog, especially when you're not around to supervise.

Redirect digging

You can keep many dogs from digging if you keep them exercised, limit their access to dirt, and make the digging experience unpleasant. Sometimes, putting the dog's own stools in the hole and covering them with dirt will deter him. Many dogs won't dig if their own mess is under the surface. Another option is giving your dog a dig zone. While hardly clean fun, it is good fun, especially for dogs who are happiest with their noses in the dirt and their paws flying.

Put special plants in safer places

Raised beds and hanging planters are the place to put your most precious plants. In borders, put the plants that can take being stepped on in front. Want a good dog-friendly plant? Mint is perfect. This plant is nearly indestructible and greets each assault with a wave of fresh mint smell.

Fences are your friend

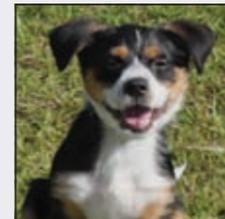
While there's a lot you can do with yard layout and plant selection, if you're planning a dedicated veggie garden, pick a pretty fence to go around it. At my current home, a four-foot fence that wouldn't be enough to contain my large dogs safely on the property is plenty high enough to keep them out of the tomatoes.

It'll be a long, long time before my new home has the gardens and plants I dream of. But with some basic guidelines in my head, there will be happier animals and fewer setbacks along the way. ■

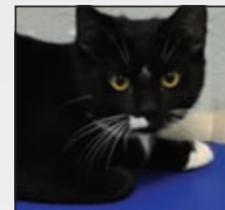
Pets of the Week



>>Lilac is a 3-month-old Labrador retriever mix. She's alert, playful, affectionate and friendly. She likes belly rubs and being petted, and she's good with cats and other dogs.



>>Nolan is a 4-month-old male tricolor fox terrier mix. A handsome puppy who likes people, cats and other dogs, he's very sweet and plenty of energy to play.



>>Slate is a 5-month-old domestic shorthair tuxedo who gets along very well with his feline roommates. He purrs to the touch, loves to be petted and has an awesome personality.



>>Tabitha is a beautiful domestic shorthair tortie who's about 2 years old and has double paws. She's a well-behaved sweetie who likes the company of people and other cats, too.

To adopt or foster a pet

—This week's pets are from Collier County Domestic Animal Services. Adoption fees for cats are \$60 and dogs are \$85 and include sterilization surgery, vaccinations, pet license, ID microchip and a bag of food. Visit DAS at 7610 Davis Blvd. from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Saturday. For more information, call 252-7387 or visit www.colliergov.net/pets.



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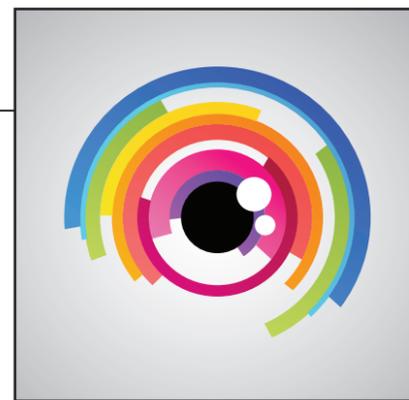
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MUSINGS

Mockumentary



“Please let me love you. Let me give my life to you. Let me drown in your laughter. Let me die in your arms. Let me lie down beside you. Let me always be with you. You fill up my senses. Come fill me again.”

— John Denver, “Annie’s Song”

“Do your work as though you had a thousand years to live and as if you were to die tomorrow.”

— Ann Lee, founding teacher of the Shakers

“Live as if you were already dead.”

— Zen aphorism

“You could take every other sentence out without changing the sense of an article. I guess he was one of the most dreadful writers who ever existed.”

— Wolcott Gibbs, about editing Alexander Humphreys Woollcott’s writing

“Act in hallways! Sing in doorways! Dance in cellars!... Hello, repulsive.”

— Alexander Humphreys Woollcott, greeting friends

By the creek named for Billy Bowlegs’ surrender in the heart of the Fort town of Myers one might have occasion to look up. One might see a full moon there unlike any other. This moon does not sport a man’s face or a rabbit making tofu. And this moon is always full. It’s an eye full.

This sight for eyes that soar above the dust of the daze is the iconic tower of WINK-TV. It sports a spherical rendering of The Eyemark, the logo of CBS Television Networks, the “sign of good television.”

This broadcasting television network is second in size only to the BBC. Its logo is seen, most often in pixilated form, by millions each day. And the logo has been copied by networks in Austria, Peru, Japan, and Brazil.

The original logo was created by William Golden. But it did not appear fully formed like Athena out of

Zeus’ head. Some say the inspiration may have come from Pennsylvania Dutch hex signs, which some say are talismanic. And some say are “chust for nice.”

Some say the eye fabrication comes from a Shaker drawing. The Shakers, the United Society of Believers in Christ’s Second Appearing, have been so called because of their ecstatic, charismatic worship. In Shaker theology God is seen as dualism of male and female. Jesus, the son of a Jewish carpenter, is seen as the male manifestation while Mother Ann, daughter of an English blacksmith, was the female manifestation. Ann, the Mother Founder, was seen as Bride for Bridegroom, the

fulfillment of the promise of the Second Coming. The community believed in four highest virtues: social communism, confession of sin, separation from the world, and celibate purity. In 1840, there were 6000 members. In 2009, there were three.

The thusly inspired Eyemark proclaims a CBS which has its own history. Odd that the whole enterprise starting out only hearing, hearing only as radio network. Then the seeing, seeing as television network.

And in the late ‘80s the message emerged in another sense: television you can feel, “You Can Feel It On CBS.” What next?

So far, the eye just stares. But there is another bit of urban legend tripping. Have you played?

Meaning the game “Wink.” Or sometimes it is called “Wink Murder.” Like all games, it has endless variations. The basic rule is that someone is the murderer, and the rest are potential victims and detectives. The murderer stealthily winks, and the one seeing this dies while the others try to figure out who that murderer is before they themselves are killed.

The game is not merely played by kids and Facebookers. For instance, Harpo Marx was the wink-murderer in the home of Alexander Woollcott. His grade school drop-out writing on the t.p. — “you are ded” — quickly led to his being smoked out in a gathering of intelligentsia. But some things are not so easily identified. Like death itself, which can only be defined in contrast to diaphanous life. There is this definitional difficulty even though all

metazoa die.

That is, except this immortal jelly fish, turriopsis nutricula. Unlike other metazoa that began to emerge from the Cambrian explosion 500 million years ago, their body plan does not become fixed. Instead they are capable of transdifferentiation. This process is a type of metaplasia, a response of change in an original cell that is not robust to the existent environment. The immortal jelly can, after reaching a singular sexually mature adult form, return to a communal polyp state. This can occur any number of times, with death occurring only through accident or predation, not senescence. (Wink, wink.)

What’s in a wink? Solidarity, intimacy, conspiracy, approval, Latin flirtation, Chinese offense, West African signal for children to leave? Who can say?

One eye. Brief closure. What a difference a wink makes. ■

— Rx is the FloridaWeekly muse who hopes to inspire profound mutiny in all those who care to read. Our Rx may be wearing a pirate cloak of invisibility, but emanating from within this shadow is hope that readers will feel free to respond. Who knows: You may even inspire the muse. Make contact if you dare.

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Frederick Buechel, Jr., M.D.
Hospital Lobby
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Weight Loss Surgery Options

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**Tuesday, May 15
6:00 p.m.**
Thomas Bass M.D.
Hospital Lobby
6101 Pine Ridge Road
RSVP: 348-4180



Arthritis Update 2012

Arthritis can be a painful and debilitating condition. Learn more about the symptoms, and how you can take control over this condition and improve your quality of life.

**Thursday, May 3
4:00 p.m.**
Allan Goodwin, M.D.
Hospital Cafeteria
6101 Pine Ridge Road
RSVP: 348-4180



Urinary Incontinence and Voiding Dysfunction in Men & Women

Urinary incontinence can be an embarrassing problem. Learn about the surgical and non-surgical solutions available to treat this issue and improve your quality of life.

**Thursday, May 17
6:00 p.m.**
Jonathan Jay, M.D.
Hospital Lobby
6101 Pine Ridge Road
RSVP: 348-4180



Brain Attack: Treatment Options

Join these world-class physicians to learn the latest innovative treatment options for acute stroke, brain aneurysms and other brain and carotid artery diseases. **Free Brain Attack Screenings will be offered.**

**Thursday, May 3
6:00 p.m.**
Eric Eskioglu, M.D.
Brian Mason, M.D.
Richard Juda, M.D.
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6101 Pine Ridge Road
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New Vein Treatment Options

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**Tuesday, May 22
5:00 p.m.**
Richard Gelb, M.D.
Education Room
8300 Collier Boulevard
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Robotic Arm Knee Surgery & Other Joint Reconstruction Advances

Learn about the many advances and minimally invasive options for knee, hip and shoulder replacements, including robotic arm knee surgery, that result in less pain and faster recovery. **Exclusively at Physicians Regional.**

**Tuesday, May 8
6:00 p.m.**
George Markovich, M.D.
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MAKOplasty Robotic Hip & Knee Surgery

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**Tuesday, May 22
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Jon Douchis, M.D.
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Is It Acid Reflux or GERD?

Learn about the causes and symptoms of acid reflux and GERD. Dr. Cohen will also provide an update on the current medications available to treat these conditions and their side effects.

**Wednesday, May 9
6:00 p.m.**
Michael Cohen, M.D.
Hospital Lobby
6101 Pine Ridge Road
RSVP: 348-4180



Eyelid Rejuvenation and Eyelid Health

Join Dr. Laquis for an eye opening experience. Learn about the latest techniques for eyelid rejuvenation, including blepharoplasty, brow lifts and dermal fillers, as well as several other topics on eyelid health.

**Wednesday, May 23
4:00 p.m.**
Stephen Laquis, M.D.
Hospital Cafeteria
6101 Pine Ridge Road
RSVP: 348-4180



What's New and What Works for Painful Knees and Hips

Learn about the many innovative procedures available for knees and hips, including Direct Anterior Total Hip, MRI-Directed Custom Aligned Total Knee, Oxford Unicompartmental Knee and the Rapid Recovery Program.

**Thursday, May 10
6:00 p.m.**
Robert Zehr, M.D.
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BUSINESS & REAL ESTATE

WEEK OF MAY 3-9, 2012

A GUIDE TO THE LOCAL BUSINESS & REAL ESTATE INDUSTRIES



BOOSTING BUSINESS THROUGH STORIES

BY ATHENA PONUSHIS

aponushis@floridaweekly.com

Lee County Manager Karen Hawes says the best piece of business advice she ever received has become the business advice she hears herself sharing the most, "Don't lead with your ego."

Ms. Hawes shared this tidbit with business coach Betsy Allen.

Ms. Allen put it in her book.

Eager to meet the business leaders of Southwest Florida, Ms. Allen interviewed them. She wanted to know them, learn from them and spread their strategies. Simultaneously, she wanted to introduce herself — executive coach, speaker, author — and expand her own business, so considering all of the

SEE BUSINESS, B5 ►

INSIDE

**Medical tourism**

Arthrex hosts the Lodging & Tourism Alliance of Collier County, and more important events. **B7-8** ►

**The Fool knows**

How can a \$10 stock be considered more expensive than a \$50 stock? **B6** ►

**House Hunting**

Custom canal home has it all in Vanderbilt Beach area. **B9** ►

UF survey: Consumer confidence falls for third month

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY
The University of Florida

Consumer confidence among Floridians fell two points in April to 73 from the previous month's revised figure of 75, marking a three-month decline, according to a monthly University of Florida survey. All five categories measured by the survey dropped.

Respondents' overall assessment that their personal finances are stronger now than they were a year ago fell three points to 59. Their expectations

of being better off financially a year from now fell four points to 78.

Respondents were modestly pessimistic over the economy. Their perceptions that the nation's economy will improve in the coming year dropped one point to 72. Meanwhile, their confidence in U.S. economic conditions over the next five years also declined, dropping two points to 77.

Finally, perceptions, especially among those over 60, that now is a good time to buy big-ticket items, such as computers and automobiles,

fell one point to 78.

This latest drop in consumer confidence was expected, according to Chris McCarty, director of UF's Survey Research Center in the Bureau of Economic and Business Research.

"While we are in many ways repeating the pattern from last year, the levels of consumer confidence among Floridians are higher overall," he says. "This time last year the index was at 68 compared with 73 this month. All five of the index components are higher than they were last year, although lower than last month."

Income levels seem to have played a role in how survey takers responded in April. For example, confidence among those earning \$30,000 or more a year dropped five points to 74. In contrast, those making less were optimistic; their confidence level jumped up five points to 73.

The economic data that explains these differing results is mixed, Mr. McCarty says. For instance, unemployment declined by 0.4 percent between February and March to 9 percent, which closed the gap between Florida's and the nation's unemployment-

SEE CONSUMER, B4 ►

MONEY & INVESTING

Understanding China



China is important. Understanding (or at least attempting to understand) the ways of the Chinese when it comes to business should be a big priority for any U.S. investor. China is expected to surpass the U.S. as the world's dominant economic power 20 years from now.

But understanding China is sometimes very difficult... so difficult, in fact, that accepting that you don't understand them at times, accepting the inscrutable ways of the Chinese, is equally as important. The old sayings of, "Know what you don't know" or "It ain't what they say; it's what they don't say" both apply here.

Their economic communications are interplay of their language, culture and their strategies.

Chinese verbal communication is vastly different than our own western speech, not just in the letters and sounds we make, but in meaning and clarity. Our English language is open and specific; largely, it invites a response and suggests dialogue.

However, from China comes the expression "reading the tea leaves." And we all know that swirls in a tea cup are more complicated than alphabet soup... and try reading that!

So being inscrutable is not a selective fashioning of communication by the Chinese for the non-Chinese world; rather,

it is a reflection of their own several thousand-year culture and their domestic dialogue.

Sometimes, determining just what the other party wants in a negotiation or what is the economic reality in a conversation can be difficult. In Mandarin, there is no statement of plural... such as, "I have cows." Rather, Mandarin allows a response of, "I have cow," which leaves the listener clueless as to how many cows. If the speaker wishes to disclose how many cows he or she has, then a number is given, such as, "I have 100 cows." So, even among themselves, their language directs the listener to an inner courtyard or outer courtyard. For many Americans, this is a contrived and posturing form of speech that can prove frustrating for the uninitiated. For the Chinese, this is their normal communication interplay.

Agendas also influence communications. The U.S. business world is run with a capitalist mentality, where we compete, take risks and fight to win. However, our government's fiscal and monetary policies are increasingly run under "non-capitalist" thinking. Within and outside our borders, the U.S. pursues policies without figuring out how we will win or having it as a goal. For example, the U.S. Federal Reserve is deeply embroiled in helping other countries out of their sovereign debt morass... and contrary to a pure capitalist agenda, giving help without extracting a pound of flesh. From my perspective, China approaches the sovereign debt problem with a capitalist viewpoint and game plan: "You need my help. I will

give it and what do I get in return?"

China, on the other hand, is playing to win and intends to become the dominant world power. These are not new concepts for the brain of U.S. citizens to process but I think we reject them when coming out of China.

So, China has a culture/language that is clearly different from ours and it has a game plan that we as U.S. citizens and businesses (not government) want for ourselves... but not for anyone else.

Here are some examples of the interplay of communication and agenda:

Sometimes, China makes major statements that it chooses to release to the world as news — even better when it gets coverage on the first page of the world's leading newspapers (e.g., China tightening or loosening monetary policy).

Other times, it just goes about doing exactly as it plans without fanfare but not hiding the facts of its actions. For instance, China attends BRIC (Brazil, Russia, India and China) summits. Everyone knows that a key element of those summits is discussing an alternative to the U.S. dollar as a reserve currency.

Sometimes the Chinese purposely do not disclose items of import, even though such disclosure would be the ordinary and expected conduct of a major GDP nation. For instance, it is assumed to be proper and good conduct by the world's top users of natural and agricultural resources to make disclosure about their need for critical resources and their stockpile of such resources. But China does not disclose this to the world, at least with any regular-

ity... sometimes the wait is several years for inventory updates on its central bank's precious metals holdings.

Sometimes it draws a lot of attention to a small issue and fully flexes its muscles so that the world makes great note of it. For instance, there was recently an issue in the South China seas as Chinese fishermen were being robbed and accosted by Philipinos. So China sent its military fleet to the region.

Maybe it was needed; maybe it was a time to show that it will defend itself and that it now has the beginnings of naval might.

Investment suggestion? China ain't switchin' from tea leaves to tea bags any time soon. Those who are avid readers of mainstream newspapers might want to add a dosage of some Chinese Internet news. (I am not suggesting reading Mandarin characters.) Sure, take their news with a shaker of salt, read between the lines and definitely try to picture their world. ■

— *There is a substantial risk of loss in trading futures and options on futures contracts. Past performance is not indicative of future results. This article is provided for informational purposes only. No statement in this article should be construed as a recommendation to buy/sell a futures/options contract or to provide investment advice.*

— *Jeannette Showalter, CFA is a commodities broker with Worldwide Futures Systems, 571-8896. For mid-week commentaries, write to showalter@wwfscsystems.com.*

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Unique vistas are had from the main living areas and sizable bedrooms of this beautifully updated Admiralty Point II condominium. Admiralty Point's unique setting along the North bank of Doctor's Pass and its on-site amenities are among the finest in the Moorings. \$674,000

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Don't let your income tax refund go to waste

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The Better Business Bureau

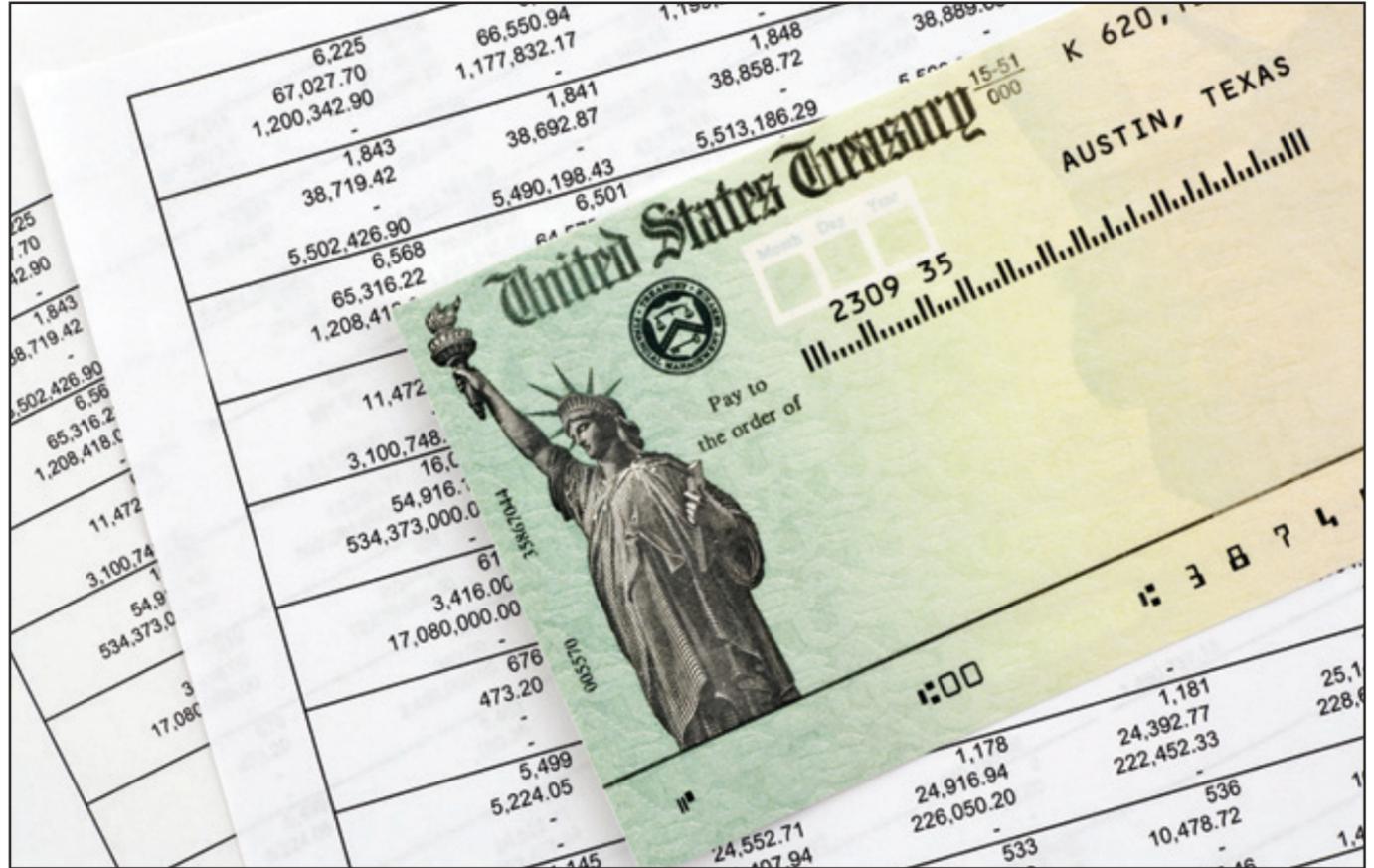
Do you spend weeks each spring eagerly anticipating your income tax refund? When the money finally comes in, is it gone tomorrow? You're not alone. Many consumers view tax refunds as unplanned bonuses, but it makes more sense to plan for that chunk of change so it doesn't go to waste.

The Better Business Bureau Serving West Florida and Clear Point Credit Counseling Solutions recommend the following tips to tax refund recipients:

■ **Pay down your debt.** If you have an outstanding balance on more than one credit card, you can either try to pay off the lowest balance card first (good for motivation) or direct the funds toward the card carrying the highest interest rate (wiser from financial perspective). Or, apply your refund toward other debts, like a car loan or a home equity loan.

■ **Consider your financial goals.** Are you trying to save for a down payment on a house or car? Do you hope to contribute to your child's college tuition one day? Consider applying your tax refund toward these goals. If you don't yet have a set of short-term and long-term financial goals, put one together. You'll be more conscientious about how you spend your tax refund and any other extra money that comes your way.

■ **Save it for a rainy day.** Give yourself an even bigger return on your tax refund by putting the money into a



savings account, a CD or retirement fund.

■ **Keep things in perspective.** Working your way out of debt can seem like a daunting task. Perhaps you assume that a small tax refund check won't make enough of a dent in your debt. Think again. Every little bit helps.

■ **If debt is a continuing problem, consider a credit counselor.** Certified consumer credit counseling agencies

can help. BBB has information on more than 2,000 credit and debt counseling firms.

■ **Consider investing in your home or in others.** Use the money to spruce up your home or make it more energy-efficient. Improve your career opportunities by taking a class or training course. Use your refund to teach your older children how to handle money.

Give them a portion of the refund and help them budget for school, clothing and entertainment expenses and savings. Finally, you might want to donate your tax refund to a charitable organization. You'll help improve the lives of others, and your charitable gift may reduce next year's tax burden.

For more information, visit www.bbb.org. ■

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CONSUMER

From page 1

ment level of 8.2 percent.

"Although some of this decline was due to a decrease in the labor force, most of it comes from the addition of jobs," he says.

The sectors receiving the biggest recent employment gains are trade, transportation and utilities instead of leisure and hospitality, which led hiring at the same time last year.

Another encouraging trend is that the median price of a single-family home rose in March to \$139,000, an increase of \$5,000 over February. In

addition, although the stock market is down from last month's highs, it is still holding onto gains since the beginning of the year.

However, rising gas prices might be discouraging Floridians. They rose over the past month by nearly 15 cents per gallon in Florida but fell three cents in the past week.

"If gas prices continue to rise through the summer as they normally would, prices of other goods will ultimately go up as well as businesses will not be able to absorb the rising cost of manufacturing and transportation," Mr. McCarty says.

Despite rising fuel costs, there are trends in Florida that could lift sagging confidence, he adds. "If the employment situation continues to improve, that will raise confidence for a large number of Floridians. And continued

gains in housing will also bolster confidence, although increased foreclosures and short sales may result in a decline in upcoming months."

Any boost to confidence, however, could be offset in November, as Floridians focus on the elections.

"As we near the end of the year, the economy will be front and center, and discussions of deficit-reduction will be rekindled," he says. "This will negatively impact many Floridians, particularly seniors."

The index used by UF researchers is benchmarked to 1966, which means a value of 100 represents the same level of confidence for that year. The lowest index possible is a 2; the highest is 150.

The UF survey was conducted April 12-19 and reflects the responses of 400 individuals statewide. ■

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BUSINESS

From page 1

above, she bound their insights in a book, "Got Results, Respect, Revenue?"

Ms. Allen says the title of her book holds purpose. Results are the key to respect, "results show that you do what you say you will do," thereby, gain results, gain respect, gain revenue.



ALLEN

Consulting non-profit leaders, government leaders and many a CEO, Ms. Allen shares the innovative strategies of more than 60 Southwest Florida leaders — leaders the likes of Mary Love, owner of Norman Love Confections,

or Wilson Bradshaw, president of Florida Gulf Coast University.

By sharing their business stories, Ms. Allen hopes to boost the business of others, as she has been able to boost her own. And since she's done all the legwork, her leaders are not only willing to contribute, but anxious to read.



GAMMONS

"It's an opportunity to learn what 60 successful business leaders in Southwest Florida have done to take their business to the next level. Why wouldn't you read it?" asks Joe Gammons, owner of Office Furniture and Design Concepts.

"It's knowledge. It's the stuff you can't buy, the stuff you can't get without experience, without making the mistakes."

And it all started amidst economic distress. "It occurred to me, the people succeeding in the downslide of the economy were wired differently," Ms. Allen says. "I knew I could prove this."

So she had her leaders complete an axiology profile — a science Ms. Allen defines as a hard science, more like biology or chemistry than philosophy, a science based on numbers.

Numerically measuring how her leaders make decisions and solve problems, she found her leaders to be "better developed thinkers." And by collecting an anthology of 'better developed business thought,' change thoughts toward business.

"Why we need to read Betsy's book is because we need more positive thinking," county manager Ms. Hawes says. "We hear things every day that are so negative. And as humans, we tend to dwell on the negative, rather than the positive things

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we're doing.

"Negative gets a lot of attention and gets blown out of proportion. We need to think more pro-actively, more positively and start recognizing what we're accomplishing."

As far as articulating the purpose of her book, Ms. Allen points to her introduction, something she took time crafting, rather than speaking off-the-cuff.

"The purpose of this book is not to bore but to baffle, not to put you to sleep but to wake you up, not 'been-there-done-that' but 'new to you' or 'ready to use,'" she writes, before sharing the lessons of leaders such as Mr. Gammons.

Mr. Gammons sells office furniture. But in order to be successful, he says he has to be the consultative expert in his field.

"You can buy office furniture online, if you just want to buy it," says Mr. Gammons, Office Furniture and Design Concepts owner. "But if you're looking for experts in interior design and flow throughout your work space, we're the place to come to."

Next to salaries, Mr. Gammons considers space the largest cost to an organization. He says people pay for their space and they want to maximize it. He says employers are concerned with attracting and retaining employees, as well as giving them an efficient and aesthetic place to work.

"The other element that has really come into focus," Mr. Gammons says, "Collaboration happens in every business, so how do you lay out your office space to promote collaboration?"

By sharing his conclusions with Ms. Allen, she can print his business story, leaving readers to question, "How do I become the expert in my field?" or "How do I promote collaboration?"

Mr. Gammons says he intends to read the book, "Because it's a way to learn. The day you quit trying to learn is the end." And he's curious to know what interesting things local leaders have done, "little nuggets I can take away and say, 'That's a great idea, I'm going to do that.'"

Ms. Allen says that's the novel thing

about her book — "little nuggets" — how she writes about her leaders in one-page, profile sound-bites. Her template looks almost comic-book like, not because of content, but because of thought bubbles. It nearly reads like *USA Today* — there's a main bar, a sidebar labeled "Betsy's Bonus," a pulled quote from some artist, politician or Oprah, then an information box of bullet points under the heading "Conversational Catalysts."

Ms. Allen describes her "Conversational Catalysts" as trigger questions, "designed to get people to think differently, where at least one action is outlined for the team," she says, because she designed her book to be an interactive book, "not just a boring read."

To illustrate, here are snippets from Gail Markham, founding partner of Markham Norton Mosteller Wright & Company, P.A., certified public accountants/consultants. Ms. Markham tells of how every year her team goes off-site to plan without the partners.

"Together, they decide what is working and what isn't. They brainstorm solutions and insights. Then they present us all the things they think need to be improved and why," Ms. Markham is quoted as saying.

"Planning from the client to team members to partners is unusual for a CPA firm," she continues. "We feel this is non-negotiable. Our team is the front line for our clients. They often discover issues and opportunities we may miss."

Ms. Markham says this strategy keeps her firm on the cutting edge. So in her "Conversational Catalysts," Ms. Allen asks, "When was the last time you reached out to see what your employees think should be dropped or added? When will you again?"

Ms. Allen sees the business climate in Southwest Florida exploding, "At least that's what my book is doing," she says, "So I have every reason to believe more and more people are seeing a turn."

Ms. Allen's book will be available in May through www.GainingResults.com. Enter the code PACE when ordering and 20 percent will be donated to the PACE Center for Girls.

Ms. Allen's book launch will be May 11 at Cypress Lake Country Club. "It's going to be a hoot," she says, as she has planned for Shakespearean actors to engage the crowd in conversation. "Plus, there will be a lot of networking," she adds, "Lots of business people mingling."

To make a reservation for the book launch, e-mail Suzanne@gainingresults.com. ■

correction

Osprey Realty Group Inc. is the name of the company in Collier County that was mentioned in the story titled "Landlord's Market" in the April 11 edition of this paper. The name that appeared in the article was incorrect.

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The sales pitch will often sound too good to be true. (Some salespeople earn commissions of 12 percent selling you on these.) You may be told you can get the return of the stock market index without the risk of loss. Usually, there is a "guaranteed" rate of return. Your yield is typically based on an index, usually the S&P 500. But there is a "participation rate" that will lower your gain. For example, if your participation rate is 80 percent and the index returns 10 percent, your gain is only 8 percent (80 percent of 10 percent).

There are also caps that limit any growth to a predetermined point. For example, if the S&P 500 gains 25 percent in one year, many EIA investors may earn no more than 10 percent. Also, while the S&P 500's growth rate includes

dividends, many EIAs exclude dividend returns from the rate on which they base your payment.

With an EIA, your money can be locked up and inaccessible to you for many years, with early withdrawal penalties as high as 15 percent. EIAs are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. (FDIC), either. If the issuing company fails, you may be out of luck.

Meanwhile, when you buy an EIA, you forgo the now-favorable tax rate for long-term gains. Any gain in an annuity is taxed as ordinary income. A guarantee that many investors unexpectedly receive is that they will be paying the maximum tax rate with an EIA.

A good annuity can provide a lifetime income stream and can be a sound investment choice under the right circumstances. But there are many kinds of annuities, and equity-indexed annuities seem to serve those who are selling them more than those who buy them.

Learn all about annuities (including the potentially good kinds) at fool.com/retirement/annuities/annuities.htm. ■

My Smartest Investment

Sold Cisco Too Soon

Back in the late 1980s, I bought some shares of networking giant Cisco Systems when the price dropped from about \$9 per share to \$4. It immediately dropped further, to \$2 per share, and I sold in order to preserve my capital. Then Cisco went on a tear, with its stock price surging and splitting about eight times over the next 10 years. I could have retired on that stock had I held on.

— C.P. Henderson, Nev.

The Fool Responds: It's important to not just look at numbers. Any stock plunging can keep plunging — or it could rebound sharply. It all depends on what the company does, its business model, its competitive position, its financial health and the skill of its management, among other things.

When a stock drops, determine whether it's facing a short-term problem (it was overvalued, for example, or posted poor earnings due to oversupply) or a long-term one (its technology has been eclipsed by a competitor's or has become obsolete). Look for great companies and aim to buy them when they're undervalued. (The Motley Fool owns shares of Cisco.) ■



Do you have an embarrassing lesson learned the hard way? Boil it down to 100 words (or less) and send it to *The Motley Fool* c/o *My Dumbest Investment*. Got one that worked? Submit to *My Smartest Investment*. If we print yours, you'll win a Fool's cap!

Last week's trivia answer

In San Diego in 1953, the three employees of the Rocket Chemical Co. tried 40 times to develop a Water Displacing formula for rust-prevention solvents and degreasers. Their winning formula was first used by the aviation industry and is now found in most homes. There are more than 2,000 uses for my flagship product, which shares my name. It has kept pigeons off balconies, freed a naked burglar stuck in a vent and removed a python from a bus. My other brands include 3-IN-ONE, Lava, X-14, Solvol, 2000 Flushes, Carpet Fresh and Spot Shot. Who am I? (Answer: WD-40 Co.) ■



Write to Us! Send questions for *Ask the Fool*, *Dumbest (or Smartest) Investments* (up to 100 words), and your *Trivia* entries to Fool@fool.com or via regular mail c/o this newspaper, attn: *The Motley Fool*. Sorry, we can't provide individual financial advice.

What Is This Thing Called The Motley Fool?

Remember Shakespeare? Remember "As You Like It"? In Elizabethan days, Fools were the only people who could get away with telling the truth to the King or Queen. The Motley Fool tells the truth about investing, and hopes you'll laugh all the way to the bank.

Ask the Fool

Value Confusion

Q How can a \$10 stock be considered more expensive than a \$50 stock? I don't get it.
— P.L., Watertown, S.D.

A It's because a stock's price alone is close to meaningless. To draw useful conclusions, you need to compare it to something else, such as sales, earnings, cash flow, etc.

Imagine shares of two companies, called Joanie and Chachi, each trading for \$20 per share. If Joanie's earnings per share (EPS) for the past 12 months is \$1 and Chachi's is \$2, then Joanie's price-to-earnings ratio (or P/E, representing price divided by EPS) is 20 while Chachi's is 10.

You'd have to pay \$20 for each dollar of Joanie's earnings, versus just \$10 for Chachi's. Already, Chachi looks cheaper.

For a company's size, look at its market capitalization, not its stock price. Market cap is the current share price multiplied by the number of shares outstanding, reflecting the total price tag the market is placing on a company right now. If Joanie sports 10 million shares and Chachi has 2 billion, then Joanie's market cap is \$200 million and Chachi's is \$40 billion. Despite the same stock price, Chachi is a much bigger company.

When studying a company, evaluate its quality and how inexpensive its stock may be, looking at debt and cash levels, growth rates of sales and earnings, trends in profit margins and return on equity, and competitive strengths.

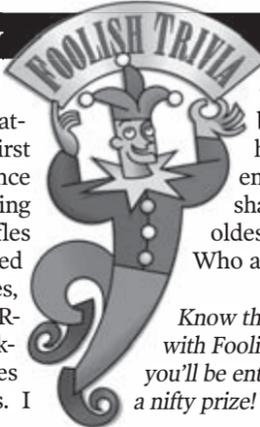
Q How can I find out if my company is covered by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp. (PBGC)?
— R.G., Tarentum, Pa.

A The PBGC is a federal agency insuring pension benefits in private traditional pension plans (not defined contribution plans, such as 401(k)s). Visit it to learn more at pbgc.gov, or call 800-400-7242. ■

Got a question for the Fool? Send it in — see *Write to Us*.

Name That Company

More than 100 years old, I trace my roots back to the Computing-Tabulating-Recording Co. I was one of the first employers to provide group life insurance (in 1934) and paid vacations (1937). During World War II, I made bombsights, rifles and engine parts. In the 1940s, I introduced several large digital calculating machines, and in 1957, the computer language FORTRAN. I made early supermarket check-out stations, automatic teller machines and test-scoring machines for schools. I



take in more than \$100 billion annually, and have more than 400,000 employees and 500,000 shareholders. One of my oldest mottos is "THINK." Who am I? ■

Know the answer? Send it to us with *Foolish Trivia* on the top and you'll be entered into a drawing for a nifty prize!

The Motley Fool Take

A Promising Silver Dividend

Silver Wheaton (NYSE: SLW) is relatively new to paying dividends, and its recent yield, near 1.1 percent, isn't the most compelling. But the company has a solid chance of upping it considerably.

Mining companies are one of the last sectors you'd think of when it comes to dividends and value, but Silver Wheaton can give you a hefty dose of both. It isn't a traditional miner. Instead, it enters into long-term contracts with silver miners, agrees to purchase their silver at a discounted rate, and then pockets the difference. Nearly all of Silver Wheaton's contracts have the company paying between \$4 and \$5 per ounce, which allowed it to

crank out gross profit margins in excess of 80 percent last year.

While many love gold, silver has more practical uses. It's an essential component in many of today's popular electronic products, and is also a crucial element in jewelry, superconductivity and water purification.

Silver Wheaton has almost double what its closest peers have in proven and probable reserves, with 798 million ounces. Based on recent silver prices, the company is sitting on roughly \$25 billion worth of reserves.

The company tied its dividend to its operating cash flow last year and tripled its previous quarterly stipend from \$0.03 to \$0.09. With its costs fairly predictable, Silver Wheaton's dividend should continue to move significantly higher. ■

BUSINESS MEETINGS

■ A **Job Search Support Group** meets from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Mondays at the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce. Contact Karen Klukiewicz at kluk77@comcast.net or visit www.napleschamber.org.

■ The program at the next **Wake Up Naples** for members and guests of the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce will consist of a review of the recent Florida legislative session. Breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 8, at the Hilton Naples. Waste Management of Florida is this month's sponsor. For reservations, visit www.napleschamber.org/events.

■ The **Marco Island Area Chamber of Commerce** invites members and guests

to **Business After Five** from 5:30-7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month. The location changes from month to month. The May 16 location is CJs on the Bay. For more information, e-mail Katie@marcoislandchamber.org.

■ The **Collier Building Industry Association** and **NABOR** hosts the 2012 Southwest Florida Real Estate Industry Panel starting with a reception at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, May 17, at Olde Cypress, 7165 Treeline Drive. Sponsored by B-Squared Advertising, the panel will include David Gordley of Iberiabank; Chris Hall, Luxury Home Solutions; Mike Hughes, NABOR; Richard McCormick, Pulte Homes; Pat Neal, Neal Communities; and Craig Perry,

Centerline Homes. Moderator will be Al Zichella of KD Merick and Co., a past president of the Florida Home Builders Association. For reservations or more information, call 463-6100 or visit www.cbia.net.

■ **Business After Five** for members and guests of the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce takes place from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 17, at Edison State College-Collier Campus, 7007 Lely Cultural Parkway. Sign up at www.napleschamber.org/events.

■ The **Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce** holds its annual meeting and dinner beginning at 6:30 p.m. Friday, May 18, at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort. Tickets

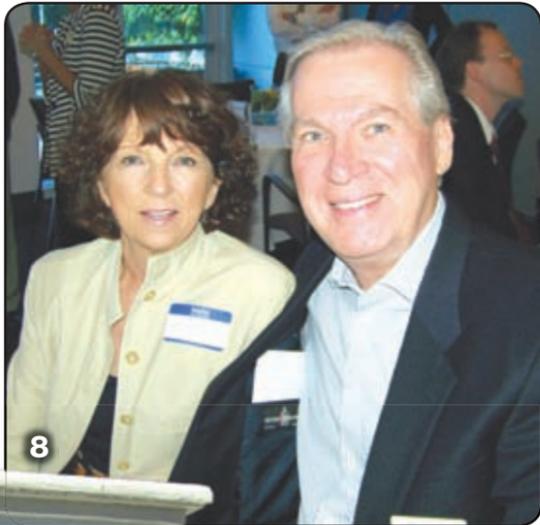
are \$160 per person. For reservations, visit www.napleschamber.org/events.

■ The **East Naples Merchants Association** meets for Business After Business at 5:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month. For location and more information, call 435-9410 or 643-3600.

■ **Partner 4 Performance**, a networking group for small business owners, meets from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the second Thursday and from 8:30-10 a.m. on the fourth Thursday of every month at Patric's in Mission West Plaza. Cost is \$10, plus \$12 for the lunch meeting. For more information, call 948-0050 or visit www.partner4performance.com. ■

NETWORKING

Arthrex hosts the Lodging and Tourism Alliance of Collier County



1. Courtney Herrell, David Tetzlaff and Pam Krol
2. Liz Morris and Trish Williams
3. Beckie Reeves and Lavigne Kirkpatrick
4. Kyle Bohsancurt, Nicole Heine and Gordon Glover
5. Kelly Capolino and Marisa Chase
6. Lisa Gardiner and Donna Brown
7. Reinhold Schmeiding, Julie Schmelzle and Clay Cone
8. Gisele and David Atkinson
9. Pam Colore, Stephen Cosgrove and Lisa Carney
10. Jean Gruss, Mike Kitchen and Steve Adelman

BERNADETTE LA PAGLIA / FLORIDA WEEKLY



We take more society and networking photos at area events than we can fit in the newspaper. So, if you think we missed you or one of your friends, go to www.floridaweekly.com and view the photo albums from the many events we cover. You can purchase any of the photos too. Send us your society and networking photos. Include the names of everyone in the picture. E-mail them to society@floridaweekly.com.

NETWORKING

Leadership Collier Class of 2012 graduation celebration at C'Mon



1. The Leadership Collier Class of 2012
2. Bob De Benedetto, Joan Larson and Marilee Vantine
3. Tessa Bradley and Todd Bradley
4. Julie and Clark Hill with Lisa Vinciguerra
5. Graduate Cyndee Woolley gets a congratulatory hug
6. Andrea Marsh, Kevin Rambosk and Stephanie Spell
7. Cyndee Woolley and Aysegul Timur
8. Michael McComas, Mike Reagen and Russell Bud

BOB RAYMOND / FLORIDA WEEKLY

The Membership Directors Association of SWF at The Quarry



1. Karen Gross and Kimberly Doerseln
2. Melody Kappauf, Max Passino and Melissa Shannahan
3. Joan Bilson and Laura Young
4. Liz Landry, Adria Starkey and Bobbye Drobnik
5. Sue Weber and Alesia Mata

CHARLIE MCDONALD / FLORIDA WEEKLY

We take more society and networking photos at area events than we can fit in the newspaper. So, if you think we missed you or one of your friends, go to www.floridaweekly.com and view the photo albums from the many events we cover. You can purchase any of the photos too. Send us your society and networking photos. Include the names of everyone in the picture. E-mail them to society@floridaweekly.com.

REAL ESTATE

WEEK OF MAY 3-9, 2012

A GUIDE TO THE REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY

B9



COURTESY PHOTOS

House Hunting:

239 Channel Drive

Elegance and sophistication describe this two-story canal-front home in the Connors/Vanderbilt Beach area. Built in 2000 by LaGrasta Custom Builders, the four-bedroom, four-bath residence has 4,050 square feet under air.

A circular drive, stately pillars and massive double doors dramatize the reception to this majestic home. Formal dining and living rooms provide the perfect setting for gracious entertaining. The kitchen has wood cabinetry, granite countertops,

a formal island and a breakfast bar, and the luxurious master suite has a marble bathroom and a balcony overlooking the canal and pool.

The generous lanai overlooks the pool and the palm-lined canal, and the private boat dock with lift has canal access to the Gulf of Mexico. The dock also has a spacious sitting area for enjoying breezy Florida evenings on the water. Finally, all this luxury is just a short walk to beautiful Vanderbilt Beach and Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park.

Cheryl Turner of John R. Wood Realtors has this listing. For more information, call 250-3311. ■

DWA

DAVID WILLIAM AUSTON, PA

Representing Sellers and Buyers of
Naples Luxury Real Estate

FEATURING

MEDITERRA



4,329 sq ft. 4+Den/5bath. Premium home site in Savona. Expansive golf course views yet landscape provides for privacy. Elegant upgrades throughout.
\$2,799,000

MORAYA BAY



Naples newest beachfront condos. Elegantly designed floor plans from 3,900 to 4,500 living sq ft. 3 to 4 bedrooms 3.5 baths.
\$2,700,000 and up.



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239.280.5433

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\$5,950,000 |
| 2 | 282 Little Harbour Lane
Michael G. Lawler
premiersir.com/id/212001986 | Port Royal Area
239.213.7475
\$7,995,000 |
| 3 | 7234 Tory Lane
Dorcas Briscoe
premiersir.com/id/212007065 | Bay Colony Shores
239.860.6985
\$6,995,000 |
| 4 | 198 Beach Drive South
Jim/Nikki Prange-Carroll
premiersir.com/id/212007122 | Marco Island
239.642.2222
\$4,500,000 |
| 5 | Le Jardin #1802
Marion Bethea/Anne Killilea
premiersir.com/id/212002173 | Park Shore
239.261.6200
\$3,875,000 |



Port Royal



1231 Galleon Drive
Phil Collins
premiersir.com/211522585

239.404.6800
\$11,950,000



3130 Gin Lane
Karen Van Arsdale
premiersir.com/208048252

239.860.0894
\$9,950,000



3430 Gin Lane
Frank Sajtar
premiersir.com/212008448

239.776.8382
\$9,400,000



1145 Galleon Drive
Michael G. Lawler
premiersir.com/211016493

239.213.7475
\$8,995,000



1900 Galleon Drive
Michael G. Lawler
premiersir.com/211507711

239.213.7475
\$8,995,000



3999 Rum Row
Karen Van Arsdale
premiersir.com/211007161

239.860.0894
\$6,500,000



3060 Green Dolphin Lane
Karen Van Arsdale
premiersir.com/210027761

239.860.0894
\$4,500,000



2800 Treasure Lane
Phil Collins
premiersir.com/211504333

239.404.6800
\$2,195,000



2550 Half Moon Walk
Ruth Trettis
premiersir.com/209030565

239.403.4529
\$1,995,000



130 32nd Avenue South
Phil Collins
premiersir.com/211504369

239.404.6800
\$1,895,000

Old Naples



120 5th Avenue South
Cindy Thompson
premiersir.com/212001031

239.860.6513
\$2,395,000



145 6th Street North
Karen Van Arsdale
premiersir.com/211521719

239.860.0894
\$1,795,000



Chatham Place #14
Marty/Debbi McDermott
premiersir.com/212014282

239.564.4231
\$1,695,000



1025 5th Street South
Virginia/Randy Wilson
premiersir.com/212007571

239.450.9091
\$1,629,000



295 6th Street North
Karen Van Arsdale
premiersir.com/212005397

239.860.0894
\$1,410,000



Naples Bay Resort - The Residences #C-209
Michael G. Lawler
premiersir.com/210040293

239.213.7475
\$1,195,000



Villa Verona #103
Marty/Debbi McDermott
premiersir.com/210038568

239.564.4231
\$1,150,000



Mariners Cove #A-204
Steve Smiley
premiersir.com/212010379

239.298.4327
\$425,000



Town Manor Club #102
Marty/Debbi McDermott
premiersir.com/210004769

239.564.4231
\$279,000



Heron Club #H464
Tess McCarthy
premiersir.com/211520071

239.207.0118
\$228,900

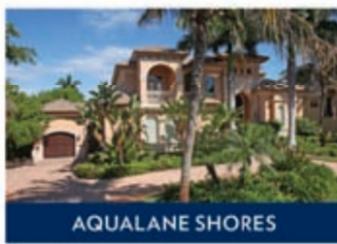
Aqualane Shores / Royal Harbor



ROYAL HARBOR

2325 Tarpon Road
Virginia/Randy Wilson
premiersir.com/212006250

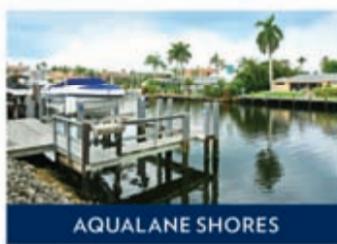
239.450.9091
\$3,280,000



AQUALANE SHORES

533 15th Avenue South
Karen Van Arsdale
premiersir.com/211520951

239.860.0894
\$2,995,000



AQUALANE SHORES

1990 6th Street South
Marty/Debbi McDermott
premiersir.com/210024499

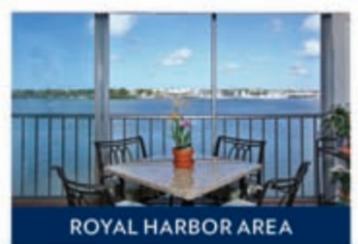
239.564.4231
\$2,695,000



ROYAL HARBOR AREA

1311 Chesapeake Avenue
Chris Yanson
premiersir.com/211522000

239.450.7584
\$645,000



ROYAL HARBOR AREA

1120 Little Neck Court
Kathy Morris
premiersir.com/212003720

239.777.8654
\$449,000

Coquina Sands



1748 Gulfshore Blvd. North
Tom Gasbarro
premiersir.com/210003285

239.404.4883
\$3,360,000



1744 Gulf Shore Blvd. North
Heather Hobrock
premiersir.com/210003304

239.370.3944
\$3,295,000



1779 Crayton Road
Michael G. Lawler
premiersir.com/211503982

239.213.7475
\$2,195,000



266 Yucca Road
Linda Perry/Judy Perry
premiersir.com/207026310

239.404.7052
\$1,399,500



Embassy Club #802
Lodge McKee
premiersir.com/212013764

239.261.0053
\$685,000

Park Shore



Regent #6-N
Barbi Lowe/Trish Lowe Soars
premiersir.com/211508440

239.216.1973
\$6,500,000



Aria #PH-1502
Marion Bethea/Anne Killilea
premiersir.com/212014216

239.261.6200
\$4,495,000



Provence #1101
Michael G. Lawler
premiersir.com/212013826

239.213.7475
\$2,495,000



Le Parc #1002
Ed Cox/Jeff Cox
premiersir.com/211512115

239.860.8806
\$2,475,000



La Mer #204
Angela R. Allen
premiersir.com/212014281

239.825.8494
\$1,795,000



Brittany #1504
Angela R. Allen
premiersir.com/211516022

239.825.8494
\$1,695,000



Park Shore Tower #PH-C
Angela R. Allen
premiersir.com/211517223

239.825.8494
\$1,695,000



Park Shore Tower #11-C
Angela R. Allen
premiersir.com/211517489

239.825.8494
\$1,579,000



The Savoy #103
Gary Blaine
premiersir.com/211515238

239.595.2912
\$850,000



Terraces #1103
Susan Barton
premiersir.com/211513555

239.860.1412
\$550,000

Pelican Bay / Pelican Marsh



PELICAN BAY

Trieste #1104
Carol Gilman
premiersir.com/212014368

239.404.3253
\$2,495,000



PELICAN MARSH

8703 Purslane Drive
Mary Catherine White
premiersir.com/209040697

239.287.2818
\$1,769,000



PELICAN BAY

Marquesa #703
Ray Couret/Leah Ritchey
premiersir.com/212014130

239.293.5899
\$1,525,000



PELICAN BAY

Mansion La Palma #503
Dorcas Briscoe
premiersir.com/212014127

239.860.6985
\$1,295,000



PELICAN MARSH

8791 Muirfield Drive
S. Kaltenborn/T. Moellers
premiersir.com/210024488

239.248.1964
\$1,149,000



PELICAN BAY

Claridge #15B
Larry Roorda
premiersir.com/212014220

239.860.2534
\$749,000



PELICAN BAY

6633 Trident Way
Phyllis/Patrick O'Donnell
premiersir.com/211523693

239.269.6161
\$575,000



PELICAN BAY

Valencia #D-101
Jeannie McGarty
premiersir.com/212014062

239.248.4333
\$449,000



PELICAN BAY

Pebble Creek #302
Jane Darling
premiersir.com/212014223

239.290.3112
\$449,000



PELICAN MARSH

Clermont #202
Tess McCarthy
premiersir.com/211502994

239.207.0118
\$295,011

Bay Colony



9766 Bentgrass Bend
Michael G. Lawler
premiersir.com/211521265

239.213.7475
\$6,900,000



7198 Tory Lane
Leah Ritchey/Ray Couret
premiersir.com/211513401

239.289.0433
\$4,495,000



Trieste #1401
Amy Becker
premiersir.com/212010423

239.272.3229
\$3,595,000



Marquesa #602
Carol Gilman
premiersir.com/212008665

239.404.3253
\$1,295,000



Marquesa #502
Leah Ritchey/Ray Couret
premiersir.com/212009037

239.289.0433
\$1,195,000

Moorings



384 Mooringline Drive
Michael G. Lawler
premiersir.com/212003616

239.213.7475
\$3,795,000



Westgate #W-3
Ruth Trettis
premiersir.com/211519421

239.403.4529
\$1,625,000



Westgate #N3S
Michael G. Lawler
premiersir.com/212000250

239.213.7475
\$1,295,000



Lausanne #612S
Michael Jordan
premiersir.com/211521391

239.777.3745
\$739,000



Orleans #310
Larry Roorda
premiersir.com/212001206

239.860.2534
\$399,000

Naples / North Naples



NAPLES CAY

The Seasons #1903
Carol Gilman 239.404.3253
premiersir.com/211516035 \$5,995,000



GOLDEN GATE ESTATES

2495 Jenkins Way
Kathryn Tout 239.250.3583
premiersir.com/212010128 \$2,500,000



PINE RIDGE

696 Hickory Road
Michael G. Lawler 239.213.7475
premiersir.com/211520415 \$1,895,000



THE DUNES

Grande Preserve - Grande Geneva #905
Adrienne Young 239.825.5369
premiersir.com/212006176 \$1,350,000



PINE RIDGE

181 Caribbean Road
Sue Black 239.250.5611
premiersir.com/212009134 \$1,050,000



THE DUNES

Grande Preserve - Grande Dominica #401
Jennifer/Dave Urness 239.273.7731
premiersir.com/212006571 \$998,000



VILLAGES OF MONTEREY

2028 Mission Drive
Dave/Ann Renner 239.784.5552
premiersir.com/212008650 \$699,000



AUTUMN WOODS

6506 Autumn Woods Blvd.
Rod Soars 239.290.2448
premiersir.com/212001479 \$495,000



NAPLES

1360 Bald Eagle Drive
Pat Duggan 239.216.1980
premiersir.com/212006784 \$495,000



WILSHIRE LAKES

6096 Shallows Way
Patrick O'Connor 239.293.9411
premiersir.com/211506373 \$349,000

Marco Island



881 Eubanks Court
Jim/Nikki Prange-Carroll 239.642.2222
premiersir.com/210038200 \$3,995,000



1571 Jamaica Court
Laura/Chris Adams 239.404.4766
premiersir.com/212014186 \$1,425,000



Prince #803
Dave Flowers 239.404.0493
premiersir.com/212013836 \$899,000



1389 Bayport Avenue
Roe Tamagni 239.398.1222
premiersir.com/210030707 \$799,000



Somerset #510
Darlene Roddy 239.404.0685
premiersir.com/211001988 \$699,000



Gulfview Apartments #1808
Darlene Roddy 239.404.0685
premiersir.com/210036974 \$695,000



374 Red Bay Lane
Jim/Nikki Prange-Carroll 239.642.2222
premiersir.com/210040124 \$675,000



Sandcastle II #107
Dave Flowers 239.404.0493
premiersir.com/210022945 \$599,000



Royal Marco Point III #246
Jim/Nikki Prange-Carroll 239.642.2222
premiersir.com/210002999 \$515,000



620 Diplomat Court
Brock/Julie Wilson 239.595.5983
premiersir.com/210035778 \$413,700

Vanderbilt Beach



169 Conners Avenue
Michael G. Lawler 239.213.7475
premiersir.com/211521591 \$2,495,000



291 Oak Avenue
Susan Barton 239.860.1412
premiersir.com/211521519 \$1,997,000



Manatee Resort #PH02
Pat Callis 239.250.0562
premiersir.com/211523075 \$1,590,000



Regatta III #501
Scott Pearson 612.282.3000
premiersir.com/212001132 \$529,000



388 Pine Avenue
Mary Catherine White 239.287.2818
premiersir.com/211523083 \$474,000

Grey Oaks



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Lynn Anderson 239.290.6674
premiersir.com/212014420 \$3,998,000



1482 Anhinga Pointe
Sam Heitman 239.537.2018
premiersir.com/207010251 \$3,575,000



2951 Bellflower Lane
Lynn Anderson 239.290.6674
premiersir.com/211519490 \$3,450,000



2249 Miramonte Court
V.K. Melhado 239.216.6400
premiersir.com/211516196 \$1,755,000



Terra Verde #2396
Jutta V. Lopez/Al Lopez 239.571.5339
premiersir.com/211522083 \$595,000

OLDE NAPLES



GULF SHORE BLVD S. 19- ROOM ESTATE

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- 10,000 S.F. Custom Estate
- 3 Fireplaces, Wine Cellar, Elevator & Theater
- Beautiful Pool & Fountains
- \$7,400,000 MLS 212008187
- Michael & Lauren Taranto 239.572.0066

MEDITERRA



SPECTACULAR FURNISHED MODEL HOME

- 5 Bedrooms, + Den, 5.5-Baths
- Huge Outdoor Kitchen
- Courtyard Lanai w/Pool & Spa
- 2-Story Guest House
- \$2,199,000 MLS 212003384
- Kristin Cavella-Whorral 239.821.6330

PELICAN BAY



MARBELLA AT PELICAN BAY

- 3 Bedrooms, 3-Baths
- Extensively Upgraded
- Beautiful Custom Hard Wood Built-ins
- Stunning Spacious Kitchen
- \$1,195,000 MLS 211506186
- Steve Suddeth & Jordan Delaney 239.784.0693

MEDITERRA



ULTIMATE LOCATION FOR PRIVACY

- 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 3-Baths
- Surrounded by 3 Lakes
- Professionally Designed Gourmet Kitchen
- Private Wood Paneled Elevator
- \$739,000 MLS 212009472
- Kristin Cavella-Whorral 239.821.6330

PELICAN MARSH



GOLF COURSE & LAKE VIEWS

- 2 Bedrooms + Den, 2-Baths
- Open Floor Plan w/Great Style
- Beautiful Kitchen & Nook
- Designer Furnishings are Negotiable
- \$250,000 MLS 212012404
- Denny Grimes 239.489.4663

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- 4 Bedrooms, + Den, 4 Full & 3-Half Baths
- Stunning, True Chef's Kitchen
- Opulent Master Suite & Bath
- 2 Level Lagoon Pool w/Spillover Spa
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- Martinovich & Nulf 239.564.5717

MEDITERRA



TUSCAN INSPIRED PRIVATE ENCLAVE

- 4 Bedrooms, + Den, 4.5-Baths
- Side Load 4-Car Garage
- Covered Loggia w/Pool and Spa
- Beautiful Lake & Preserve Views
- \$2,100,000 MLS 212001463
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SHADOW WOOD



SWEET BAY

- 3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths, West View
- Courtyard, Guest Cabana
- Lake and Golf View
- Private Beach Club Available
- \$998,000 MLS 211514089
- Greg Lewis, The Lewis Team 239.287.1158

MEDITERRA



CUSTOM DESIGNED COACH HOME

- 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 3-Baths
- Situated Overlooking the Lake
- Numerous Upgrades, Rosewood Flooring
- Western Sunset Views
- \$699,000 MLS 211520639
- Martinovich & Nulf 239.564.5717

FIDDLER'S CREEK



DEER CROSSING

- 3 Bedrooms, 2-Baths
- Expansive Wrap Around Lanai
- Dramatic Volume Ceilings
- Award Winning Club & Spa
- \$229,000 MLS 211519181
- Carolyn Rzaca 239.877.1006

BONITA BAY



MARINA POINTE

- Masterfully Appointed Harwick Home
- Panoramic River Lot with 5 Bedrooms/6.5 Baths
- Southern Exposure w/Private Dock & Lift
- Stunning in Every Sense
- \$3,900,000 MLS 211515661
- The Lummis Team 239.289.3543

PINE RIDGE



INCREDIBLE HOME ON PRIME HOMESITE

- 4 Bedrooms, + Den, 4.5-Baths
- Wood & Satamia Marble Floors Throughout
- Deluxe Kitchen w/Huge Island
- Faux Finishes & Soaring Ceilings
- \$1,850,000 MLS 212007630
- Michael & Lauren Taranto 239.572.3078

MEDITERRA



STUNNING CUSTOM DESIGNED HOME

- 3 Bedrooms, 3-Baths
- Tropical Lanai w/Heated Pool
- Natural Stone & Wood Floors
- Spectacular Lake Views
- \$895,000 MLS 211000587
- Kristin Cavella-Whorral 239.821.6330

REGATA AT VANDERBILT BEACH



BOAT DOCK INCLUDED

- 3 Bedrooms, 3-Baths
- Spectacular View of Vanderbilt Lagoon
- Offered w/the Designer Furnishings
- Walk to Vanderbilt Beach
- \$695,000 MLS 212012319
- Annette Villano 239.248.6798

WIGGINS BAY



COLONY AT WIGGINS BAY

- Charming 2 Bedrooms, 2-Baths
- Preserve and Lake Views
- Beautiful Updated Tile Throughout
- Beach Access
- \$175,000 MLS 212004081
- Debbie Dekevich 239.877.4194

MEDITERRA



IL TREBBIO AT MEDITERRA

- 4 Bedrooms, + Den, 4.5-Baths
- Beautiful Courtyard w/Fountain & Fireplace
- 70' Lanai w/ Custom Pool & Spa
- In Home Massage Room & Retreat
- \$3,650,000 MLS 211518573
- Martinovich & Nulf 239.398.3929

BONITA BAY



ROOKERY LAKE

- 3 Bedrooms + Den, 3.5 Baths
- Beautiful Curb Appeal w/Circular Drive
- Living/Dining Room w/Fireplaces
- Gourmet Open Kitchen
- \$1,849,000 MLS 211521962
- The Lummis Team 239.289.3543

SHADOW WOOD



IDLEWILDE

- 3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths
- 2,853 S.F. of Living Space
- Open Great Room Design
- Water and Golf View
- \$875,000 MLS 212005136
- Greg Lewis, The Lewis Team 239.287.1158

MEDITERRA



PROFESSIONALLY DECORATED COACH HOME

- 3 Bedrooms, +Den, 3-Baths
- Soaring Ceilings & Walnut Flooring
- Designer Finishes Throughout
- Private Preserve Views
- \$619,900 MLS 211016485
- Martinovich & Nulf 239.564.1266

IBIS COVE



SITUATED ON A LAKEFRONT HOMESITE

- 2 Bedrooms, + Den, 2-Baths
- Vaulted Ceilings
- Eat-in Kitchen
- Beautiful Views of the Lake
- \$170,000 MLS 212013434
- The Fischer Group 239.777.7500

MEDITERRA



STUNNING FORMER

- 4 Bedrooms, +Den, 5
- Exquisite Details Th
- Unbelievable Mast
- 2 Grand Pools, Spa
- \$2,997,000 MLS
- Kristin Cavella-W

BAREFOOT



BAREFOOT BEACH

- 4 Bedrooms + Den
- 22' Soaring Ceiling
- Breathtaking Rotun
- Spacious Outdoor
- \$1,775,000 MLS
- Michael & Lauren Ta

BONITA



RIVERWALK

- 3 Bedrooms + Den
- 3,410 Sq. Ft of Livin
- Open Floor Plan w
- Southern Exposure
- \$849,000 MLS 2
- The Lummis Team

BEAR'S



BEAR'S PAW VIL

- 3 Bedrooms, 2-Bat
- Exceptional Preser
- Renovated Interior w
- Stunning Imported
- \$599,900 MLS 2
- Jo Ellen Nash 239

PARK S



HIGH RISE AT PA

- 3 Bedrooms, 3-Bat
- Rich Wood Floorin
- Full Gulf & City Vie
- Situated on the 16
- \$6,000 / Month M
- Marjorie Working

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Bonita Springs, FL 34134
239.992.9100

SANIBEL ISLAND
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Sanibel, FL 33957
239.472.0078

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1997 Periwinkle Way
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239.472.0078

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Real Estate

WINDY HILLS



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Mountain & Fireplace
Pool & Spa
Room & Retreat
1518573
39.398.3929

BONITA BAY



5 Baths
w/Circular Drive
Fireplaces
1521962
39.289.3543

WOOD



face
sign
05136
am 239.287.1158

WINDY HILLS



WINDY HILLS
Baths
Inut Flooring
throughout
16485
39.564.1266

WINDY HILLS



WINDY HILLS
Baths
Lake
13434
39.777.7500

MEDITERRA



STUNNING FORMER MODEL HOME
• 4 Bedrooms, +Den, 5-Full & 2-Half Baths
• Exquisite Details Throughout
• Unbelievable Master Suite & Bath
• 2 Grand Pools, Spa and Fireplace
• \$2,997,000 MLS 211001986
• Kristin Cavella-Whorral 239.821.6330

BAREFOOT BEACH



BAREFOOT BEACH ESTATE
• 4 Bedrooms + Den, 4.5-Baths
• 22' Soaring Ceilings & Private Elevator
• Breathtaking Rotunda Foyer
• Spacious Outdoor Living Area & Pool
• \$1,775,000 MLS 211512671
• Michael & Lauren Taranto 239.572.0066

BONITA BAY



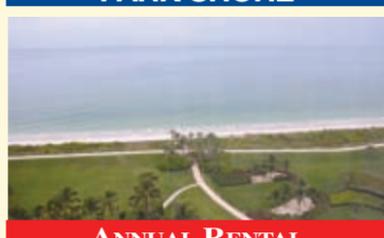
RIVERWALK
• 3 Bedrooms + Den, 3.5 Baths
• 3,410 Sq. Ft of Living Space
• Open Floor Plan with Updated Kitchen
• Southern Exposure with Upgrades
• \$849,000 MLS 211516808
• The Lummis Team 239.289.3543

BEAR'S PAW



BEAR'S PAW VILLAS
• 3 Bedrooms, 2-Baths
• Exceptional Preserve & Golf Views
• Renovated Interior w/Hardwood Flooring
• Stunning Imported Fixtures
• \$599,900 MLS 212003006
• Jo Ellen Nash 239.537.4785

PARK SHORE



HIGH RISE AT PARK SHORE
• 3 Bedrooms, 3-Baths
• Rich Wood Flooring Throughout
• Full Gulf & City Views
• Situated on the 16th Floor
• \$6,000 / Month MLS 211510190
• Marjorie Workinger 239.325.3516

PELICAN MARSH



LAKE FRONT ESTATE HOME
• 4 Bedrooms+ Den, 4.5-Baths
• Exquisite Marble Floors & Finishes
• Game Room, Elevator & Open Balconies
• Absolutely Stunning Lanai w/Gigantic Pool & Spillover Spa
• \$2,700,000 MLS 212008794
• Lauren Taranto 239.572.0078/Linda Hinds 239.404.0334

BONITA BAY



HORIZONS AT BONITA BAY
• 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 3.5-Baths
• 4 Terraces w/ Gulf and Bay Views
• Timeless Elegance Offered Fully Furnished
• Stunning Appointments Throughout
• \$1,695,000 MLS 212003728
• Martinovich & Nulf 239.564.1266

AUDUBON COUNTRY CLUB



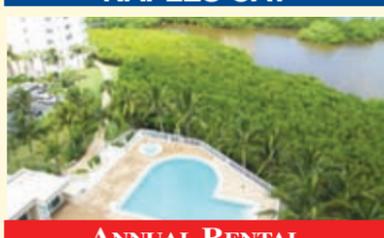
ONE OF THE FINEST HOMES IN AUDUBON
• 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 3.5-Baths
• Gorgeous Island Kitchen
• Beautiful Appointments Throughout
• Overlooking the 9th Fairway
• \$829,000 MLS 211516713
• Martinovich & Nulf 239.564.5717

WILSHIRE LAKES



BEAUTIFUL POOL HOME
• 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 3-Baths
• Porcelain Tile & Wood Flooring
• Pristine Upgrades Throughout
• Beautiful Lanai w/ Pool & Spillover Spa
• \$550,000 MLS 212003871
• Debbie Dekevich 239.877.4194

NAPLES CAY



BAY POINTE CONDO
• 2 Bedrooms, + Den, 3-Baths
• Volume Ceilings & Fully Furnished
• Just Steps to the Beach
• Gulf of Mexico Views & Gorgeous Sunsets
• \$4,500 / Month MLS 212009013
• Maria Metzger 239.564.8483

BONITA BAY



BEAUTIFUL LUXURY HIGH RISE
• 3 Bedrooms, Plus Den, 3.5-Baths
• Luxury Corner Residence
• Private Elevator Foyer
• 270 Degree Water Views
• \$2,475,000 MLS 210039372
• Martinovich & Nulf 239.564.5717

PELICAN LANDING



BAY CREEK
• Price Reduced - Motivated
• Best Value in Pelican Landing
• 5 Bedrooms Plus Den, 4.5 Baths
• Custom Estate-Large Lot 4,564 Sq. Ft. Living Space
• \$1,599,000 MLS 211513722
• Dotti Fagan, The Fagan Team 239.272.4946

BRENDAN COVE



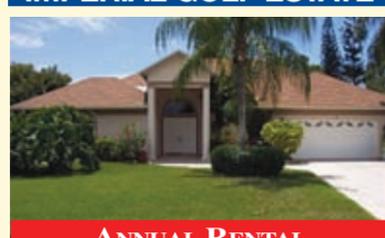
GULF ACCESS & WATER VIEWS
• 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 2.5-Baths
• Situated on the Imperial River
• Dock w/ 7,000 lb. Boat Lift
• Private Elevator
• \$829,000 MLS 211521187
• Martinovich & Nulf 239.398.3929

WILSHIRE LAKES



IMMACULATE CUSTOM BUILT HOME
• 4 Bedrooms, + Den, 3-Baths
• Open Floor Plan w/Soaring Ceilings
• Large Master Suite w/Coffered Ceiling
• Expansive Screened Lanai
• \$475,000 MLS 212004842
• The Fischer Group 239.777.7500

IMPERIAL GOLF ESTATE



IMMACULATE POOL HOME
• 3 Bedrooms, 2-Baths
• Open Floor Plan w/Soaring Ceilings
• Screened Lanai w/Heated Pool
• Convenient North Naples Location
• \$2,900 / Month MLS 212013944
• Jeff Windland 239.325.3519

BONITA BAY



AZURE AT BONITA BAY
• 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 4-Baths
• Sweeping Views of The Gulf and Bay
• Exquisite Kitchen w/ Wine & Beverage Refrigerators
• Multiple Terraces & Summer Kitchen
• \$2,289,000 MLS 212003759
• Martonvich & Nulf 239.564.1266

BONITA BAY



MARINA ISLE
• Includes 2 Deeded Boat Slips w/Lifts
• 4 Bedrooms + Den, 4.5 Baths
• Offered Impeccably Furnished
• Private Gated Enclave of 14 Homes
• \$1,495,000 MLS 211514097
• Sandy Kass, The Fagan Team 239.292.4044

SHADOW WOOD



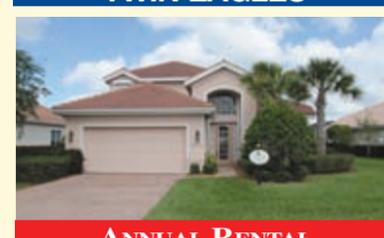
CEDAR GLEN IN SHADOW WOOD
• 4 Bedrooms, 3 Baths, Formal Dining Room, Den
• Expanded Lanai and Pool Deck
• Being Offered Furnished
• Highly Upgraded Throughout
• \$748,500 MLS 212007524
• Bob Nemecek 239.273.2556

MOORINGS



BOATING BEACH LOCATION
• 2 Bedrooms, 2-Baths
• Completely Renovated
• Boat Slip & Lift Included
• Short Boat Ride to the Gulf
• \$349,900 MLS 212013690
• Steve Suddeth & Jordan Delaney 239.404.3070

TWIN EAGLES



BRAMBLE POINTE
• 3 Bedrooms, 3-Baths
• Beautiful Golf Course Views
• Open & Spacious Floor Plan
• Screened Lanai w/Heated Pool
• \$2,500 / Month MLS 212011029
• Kristin Porter 239.253.2099

WINDY HILLS

133957
0078

CAPTIVA ISLAND

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CAPTIVA ISLAND

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PENDING

WATERFRONT IN THE MOORINGS 210 SPRINGLINE DRIVE

JUST REDUCED \$275K! Minutes from Doctor's Pass & the Gulf. 3BR+Den, 3.5BA pool home on .45 acre lot with 167' of waterfront living, 2 boat docks one with a 20lb. lift. Offered at **\$1,950,000.**
Text T326801 to 85377



REDUCED

MERIDIAN CLUB IN PARK SHORE 4901 GULF SHORE BLVD. #1203

Tastefully updated beachfront 2+Den/3BA with fabulous views of the Gulf, Bay & City with impact windows. Offered at **\$1,074,000.**
Text T327038 to 85377



MARTINIQUE CLUB IN MOORINGS 3003 GULF SHORE BLVD N, #201

Panoramic view over swaying palms, sandy beach and Gulf from this 3BR/3BA unit on the 2nd floor. Direct beach access, pool and more! Offered at **\$995,000.**



CROWN POINTE EAST 2078 CROWN POINTE BLVD E

Spectacular lake views! Contemporary style pool home with over 2900 sq. ft. This well kept 2+DEN/3BA home offers 22ft. of soaring ceilings, newer A/C, carpet in the bedrooms & more. Offered at **\$347,900** Kay Miller 239-896-3693.



PENDING

EMERALD LAKES 7156 MILL POND CIRCLE

Incredibly priced 3BR/2BA residence with southern exposure, 11' ceilings, granite counters & tile throughout with room for pool. Offered at **\$229,500.**
Text T327122 to 85377



HIGH POINT COUNTY CLUB 5 HIGHPOINT CIR. W #312

Rarely available 2BR/2BA residence with triple sized lanai offered turnkey furnished in a bundled golf community only 1 mile from the beach. Offered at **\$132,000.** Kay Miller 239-898-3693.



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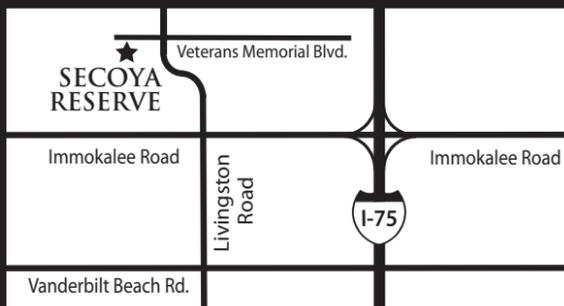


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Villa Vistana at The Vineyards Attached villa is open and spacious. Large kitchen, living room, master bedroom and screen lanai all have pretty lake views. 3BD+Den 2.5BA 2GA \$299,000.



Horizons at Bonita Bay Beautiful 21st floor unit overlooks the golf course, lakes, Estero Bay and the Gulf of Mexico from three large balconies and living area. Luxuriously furnished. 2BD+Den 4BA 2GA \$1,795,000.



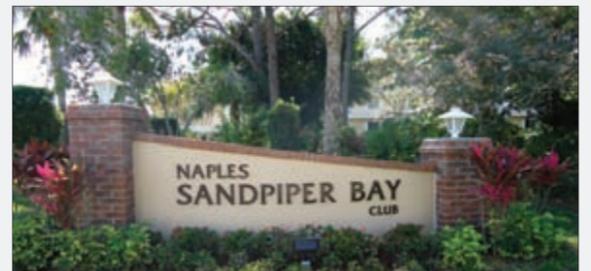
Quail Creek Estates Beautifully maintained family home offers golf course, lake and sunset views! Many recent updates throughout the home. 3BD+Den 4BA 3GA \$865,000.



Wildcat Cove at Sterling Oaks Beautiful detached 2-story home has huge loft that could be 4th bedroom, office or game room. Community offers great tennis program. 3BD+Den, 3 BA 2GA \$234,900.



Gulf Shore Blvd, Naples Make this gulf-front luxury condominium your own with the \$40,000 decorating allowance! Wonderful sunset views! 2BD+Den 2BA 1GA \$639,000



Sandpiper Bay Club, Naples Great location with beaches, restaurants, and shops close at hand. Community has dockage for sale or lease and is pet friendly. 2BD 2BA \$155,000.

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ENGEL & VÖLKERS®

Stock set to begin construction in Fiddler's Creek

Stock Construction has announced plans to build Mahogany Bend, a village of single-family homes within Fiddler's Creek in Naples off Collier Boulevard on the way to Marco Island. Four floor plans are available:

■ **The Riviera II**, a one-story residence with 3,174 square feet under air and four bedrooms, 4½ baths. Base price is \$694,990.

■ **The Muirfield II**, is a one-story home with 3,202 air-conditioned square feet and four bedrooms, 3½ baths. Base price is \$699,990.

■ **The Seapines II**, a one-story courtyard residence with 3,346 air-conditioned square feet and three bedrooms, 2½ baths and a separate cabana bedroom with bath. Base price is \$744,990.

■ **The Ponte Vedra II**, a one-story residence with 3,490 square feet under air and four bedrooms, 4½ baths. Base price is \$749,990.

Each residence has three front elevations to choose from and standard interior features including wood cabinetry, granite kitchen countertops and bath vanities, deep soaker tubs in the master bath and designer bath fixtures. Specialty items include brick paver driveways and walkways, wood shelving throughout and pre-wiring for security systems.

Mahogany Bend is the second of three neighborhoods to be built by Stock Construction at Fiddler's Creek. For more information, call 732-9300, stop by the Fiddler's Creek sales center at 8152 Fiddler's Creek Parkway or visit www.fiddlerscreek.com. ■

Gulfshore Homes has new plans for Miromar Lakes

Gulfshore Homes has introduced new single-family floor plans in the waterfront Murano neighborhood in The Peninsula at Miromar Lakes Beach & Golf Club.

The plans range in size from a three-bedroom home with 3,567 air-conditioned square feet to an expansive two-story, four-bedroom home with 5,174 air-conditioned square feet. Details throughout each new Gulfshore Homes residence built in Murano include granite, marble and crown molding, stainless steel Viking appliances and

a choice of pool design as well as an extensive list of additional luxurious specifications.

Gulfshore Homes has been building distinctive custom estate homes in South Florida for decades and is recognized on both Florida coasts for award-winning, innovative, custom designs.

Miromar Lakes Beach & Golf Club is an 1,800-acre resort-style community with a 700-acre freshwater lake. For more information, contact the sales center at 425-2340 or visit www.MiromarLakes.com. ■



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PENDING IN 3 WEEKS



Eaglewood – Lely Area
\$119,900

2 BR/ 2 BA well cared for corner unit. Golf course view. New a/c, tile, counters & more.

NO MANDATORY FEES



Mystic Greens-Lely
\$323,900

Soaring ceilings w/abundant windows. 2 BR/ 2 BA + den. Magazine perfect décor. Bonus Room.

NO CLUB FEES



8836 Lely Island Circle
Lely Resort

Excellent price for 3 BR/3 BA plus den built in 2000. Private lot, extended lanai. Large kitchen.



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Residences of Pelican Isle

 <p>Pelican Isle III #803: Expansive water views, turnkey furnished, 2428SF. \$759,000</p>	 <p>Pelican Isle III #601: 3050SF, end unit, 2 lg. wrap around lanais, Views! \$989,000</p>	 <p>Pelican Isle III #602: Waterfront! Marble floors, new decor, 2 lanais, 2677SF. \$799,000</p>	 <p>Pelican Isle II #402: Granite kit, wood/tile flrs, Gulf of Mexico views, 3/3 2677SF. \$839,000</p>
 <p>Pelican Isle II #302: 2677SF, wood flrs, Gulf views, LaPlaya membership avail. \$729,000</p>	 <p>Pelican Isle II #303: Walk into breathtaking views, wood flrs, granite kit, furnished. \$829,000</p>	 <p>Pelican Isle II #404: Waterfront, amazing views, furnished, 4/3.5Ba., end unit. \$1,099,000</p>	<p>PENDING</p>  <p>Pelican Isle II #702: New A/C units & water heater, W. views of the Gulf of Mexico. \$899,000</p>

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What \$400,000 will buy in Southwest Florida

25608 STILLWELL PARKWAY, BONITA SPRINGS

San Carlos Estates offers the comforts of country living.

This home, with 3,146 square feet of living area, is on a lot with more than an acre of fencing, affording plenty of privacy.

The home, which features beautiful flooring, has four bedrooms and three bathrooms. Two of the bedrooms are master suites, the second one of which has an extended walk-in closet, wet bar, wine cooler and private lanai. The spacious kitchen features a double oven, General Electric Advantium microwave, a long island, granite countertops and abundant cabinetry. Bamboo flooring is featured in a separate dining room.

The sprawling grounds are adorned by a large deck, oversized pool and storage room for pool supplies. An octagonal fire pit with tiled area for ample seating is close to the outdoor kitchen with grill, sink and granite countertops. A four-car garage has attached air-conditioned quarters. The community of oversized lots is conveniently located to beaches, shopping, dining and entertainment.

The home is listed at \$399,999. Contact listing agent Anne Butcher of RE/MAX Realty Group at 872-1574. ■



4321 GARDNER DRIVE, PORT CHARLOTTE

For those who want to be near the water, this Tim Towles residence is a must see.

The 2006 construction is on a lot along a saltwater canal and just 15 lots from the harbor. The property includes a concrete dock and 10,000-pound boat lift.

On a dead-end street, the home features 2,076 square feet under air, with three bedrooms and two bathrooms. A spacious great room opens to the dining area and gourmet kitchen, which features built-in oven and microwave, cook top stove with decorator hood vent, crown molding on the cabinets, Corian countertops and stainless steel appliances.

Upgrades include a solid steel beam above the lanai, hurricane-impact windows, steel roof, Manabloc plumbing and plantation blinds.

The lanai is set up to accommodate a pool, with half-bathroom plumbing and a storage closet for pool equipment.

The home is listed at \$400,000. Contact listing agent Vicky McPhee of Keller Williams Peace River Partners Realty at (941) 815-8064. ■



7730 KNIGHTWING CIRCLE, FORT MYERS

This spacious home is in the quiet Arthur Rutenberg gated Blackhawk community. With 2,652 square feet of living area, the residence has three bedrooms, three bathrooms and a den. Off the master suite is a separate retreat with a bathroom, walk-in closet and electric fireplace.

The bathrooms have Travertine floors, with separate vanities and a jetted tub in the master bath.

Among the interior's distinctive features are custom built-in cabinetry, rosewood flooring, 11-foot ceilings with crown molding and stained cypress ceilings in the den and lanai. The kitchen features granite countertops and stainless steel appliances.

A paver driveway leads to the home. Side garage entrance creates great curb appeal and extra storage. The property has lush, mature and meticulously maintained landscaping. The oversized back yard is large enough to accommodate a pool and play area. The brick lanai has a built-in grill. The home is listed at \$400,000. For more information, contact listing agent Jeanne Risher of RE/MAX of The Islands at 464-1834. ■



2101 OUTRIGGER LANE, NAPLES

This old Florida-style home is in Naples' River Ranch subdivision on an oversized lot with mature landscaping. The residence has plenty of space and privacy, but is conveniently located to the beaches. The home has a three-car attached garage underneath, allowing for additional storage.

The home's 2,229 square feet under air features an open floor plan. The spacious kitchen, which includes a long island, has custom cabinetry, granite counters and ample storage space. A breakfast nook off the kitchen seats 12.

The master bedroom has walk-in closets and French doors leading to a screen-covered lanai wrapping around the rear of the home. The master bathroom has a tiled shower and dual sinks. The second bathroom features dual sinks, as well.

With gulf access by way of the Gordon River from the community's private boat ramp, the home is listed at \$400,000. To learn more, contact Doug Haughey of Royal Shell Real Estate at 961-1561. ■



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Saturnia Lakes



1459 Palma Blanca Court. \$700,000
4 Bed + Loft, 3.5 Bath, 3 Car, 3773 Sq Ft.



1394 King Sago Court. \$615,000
4 Bed + Loft, 3.5 Bath, 3 Car, 3773 Sq Ft.



1414 King Sago Court. \$499,000
4 Bed, 3 Bath, 3 Car, 2616 Sq Ft.



1845 Senegal Date Drive. \$485,000
5 Bed, 3 Bath, 3 Car, 3338 Sq Ft.



2230 Campestre Terrace. \$325,000
4 Bed, 2.5 Bath, 2719 Sq Ft.



2399 Butterfly Palm Drive - \$375,000
5 Bed, 3 Bath, 3 Car, 2904 Sq Ft.



2159 Khasia Pointe - \$359,900
2+den, 2 bath, 2098 Sq Ft.



2201 Canary Island Cove - \$497,500
4 Bed, 3 Bath, 2735 Sq Ft.

Saturnia Lakes is an amenity rich, gated, resort-style living community with Clubhouse featuring 3 Pools, Jacuzzi, Gym, Dance Studio, Massage rooms, saunas, Billiards room, Card room, Grande Ballroom, 4 Clay Tennis Courts, Playground and Basketball courts.

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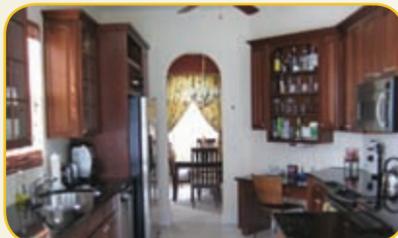


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VILLAGE WALK VANDERBILT BEACH LOCATION



Oakmont 3BR,2.5 BA with custom kitchen and custom pool, east facing lanai, quick closing available. **\$399,000**



Style and value in one package! 4BR,3BA plus den, Windsor model offers formal dining and living room, updated kitchen,granite, newer appliances, large tile in living areas, large screened lanai with private pool and lake views! **\$480,000**



The Manor, only 18 of these beauties were built in Village Walk. 4 plus den, 3 1/2 baths, 3 car, with pool. **\$518,000**



Capri villa 2 BR,2BA with new custom kitchen, 20 inch tile on diagonal, full hurricane protection, views of 3 bridges!! Furnishings Available. **\$289,900**



Popular Capri floor plan features **2BR, 2BA, 2-Car attached garage**, and is just perfect for a full time residence or occasional vacation home! The villa offers tile in all living areas, built-in entertainment center, full hurricane protection, and a large screened lanai with private heated pool and lake views! **\$254,000**



Capri with pool. 2 bedroom, 2 baths, 2 car and bridge views from pool area. **\$244,000**

ISLAND WALK VANDERBILT BEACH LOCATION



Pristine Pool Home! Pristine 4BR,3.5BA Carlyle with Southern exposure, features plenty of windows to let in the natural light! Cherry, bright neutral interior, upgraded throughout, screened lanai with lake views and heated pool. **OWNER WILL CONSIDER ALL REASONABLE OFFERS. \$465,000**



OTHER FINE NAPLES LOCATIONS



Tarpon Bay Condo—1st floor 2/2, furniture available. Excellent amenities—pool, tennis, fitness, b-ball, more. **\$159,000**



Under 100k!!! Small condo community with pool. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo—furnished for **\$89,000!!!**

Florida Weekly's Open Houses

Open Houses are Sunday 1-4, unless otherwise marked

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2 • FORT MYERS BEACH • 281 Lenell Road 7B • \$389,900 • Engel & Voelkers • Matthias Wolf • 239.322.8345 • Saturday 1-4pm

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3 • MERCATO - THE STRADA • 9123 Strada Place • From \$400,000 • PSIR • Call 239.594.9400 • Monday-Saturday 10am-8pm & Sunday 12-8pm

4 • LEMURIA • 7172 Lemuria Circle #1602 • From \$400,000 • PSIR • Tom Gasbarro • 239.404.4883 • Sunday 12-4pm

5 • GRANDEZZA - SAVONA • 12555 Grandezza Circle • \$489,000 • PSIR • Vivienne Sinkow • 239.405.0638

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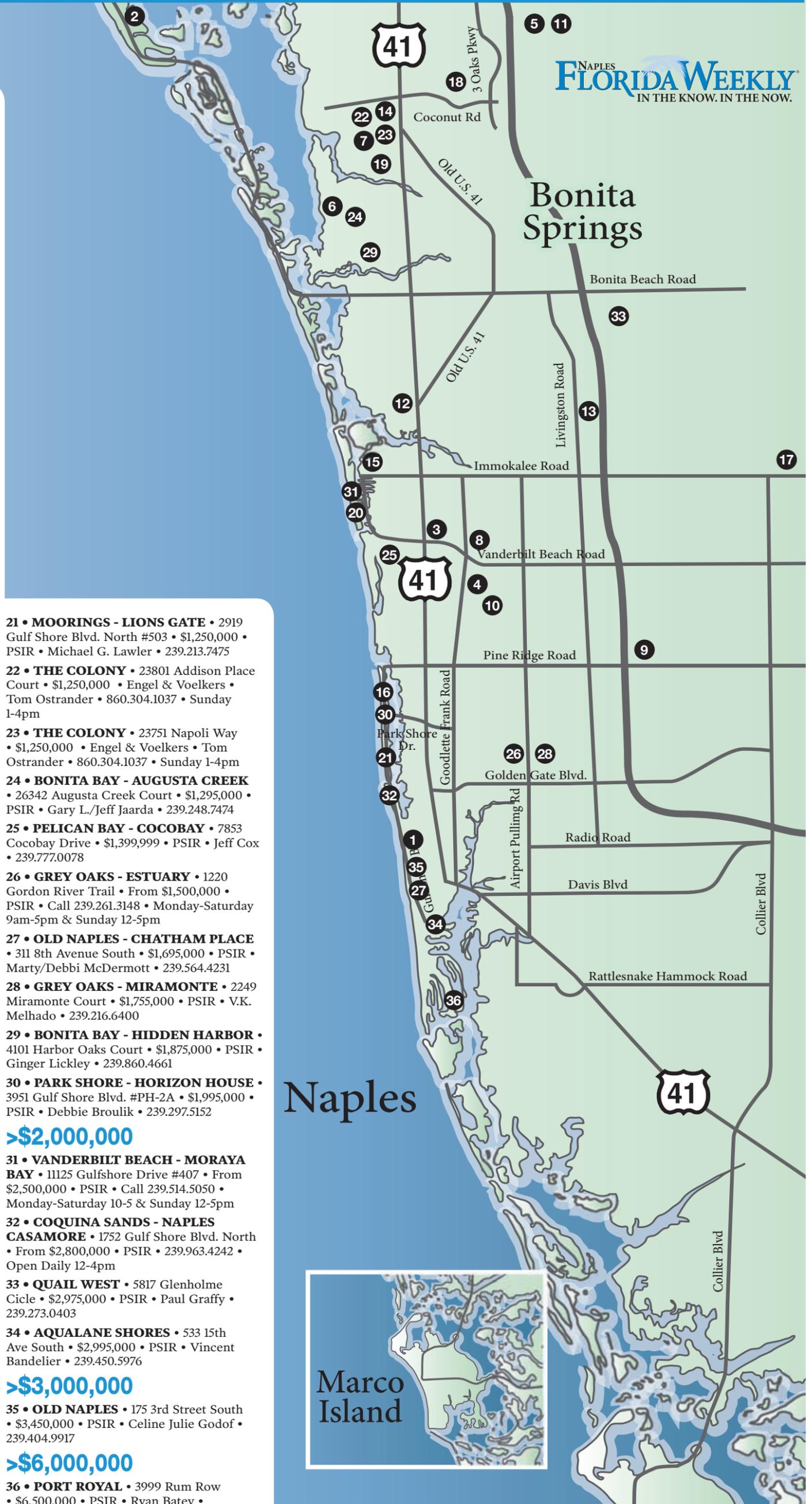
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

C
SECTION

WEEK OF MAY 3-9, 2012

A GUIDE TO THE LOCAL ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SCENE



BY ALAN SCULLEY
Florida Weekly Correspondent

THE TITLE OF THE LATEST RELEASE FROM THE A CAPPELLA GROUP STRAIGHT NO CHASER — “Six Pack: Vol. II” — reveals two things. As the “Vol. II” suggests, it follows a 2008 EP called “Six Pack.” And as “Six Pack” suggests, both releases consist of six songs. While the group’s Randy Stine says a full-length CD would

have been nice, a busy schedule caused the men to think in terms of a “Six Pack” sequel. “We haven’t had a whole lot of time just to sit down and record another full-length album,” Mr. Stine says of the group that performs at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts on Wednesday, May 9, but, “We wanted to get something out there new for the fans who’ve been so patiently waiting.” So the solution was to go the “Six Pack” route, which Mr. Stine

says ended up working well. “Six Pack: Vol. II,” he adds, turned out to also mirror the first one in a couple of ways.

Straight No Chaser
 >> **What:** A 10-man a cappella group
 >> **When:** 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 9
 >> **Where:** The Philharmonic Center for the Arts
 >> **Tickets:** \$49 and \$59
 >> **Info:** 597-1900 or www.thephil.org

SEE STRAIGHT, C4 ▶

Local art beautifies downtown construction site

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The Naples Art Association at The von Liebig Art Center seeks creative ways to raise money to support educational programs. Art instructors and artist members recently joined the effort when a new opportunity arose.

The Inn on Fifth invited NAA to provide artwork to beautify Fifth Ave South while construction is going on. The temporary wall facing the inn has become a public mural, with nine pieces of artwork by eight NAA member artists, most of whom are instructors at the art center.

“We provided the canvases and they provided the talent. It’s kind of the same way they add to our organization — we provide the class times, and they share their energy, passion and skill with students and art lovers,” Aimee Schlehr, the center’s COO/CFO, says about the effort. She adds the mural is a new way to showcase artists and instruc-

tors at the same time as improving the look and appeal of downtown Naples in the midst of construction.

The artwork is painted onto a 4-by-4-foot canvas using weather-resistant materials. Passers-by can learn more about the artists by statements mounted near each artist’s piece. More information can be found on the art center’s Facebook page, talking about each artist’s inspirations, process, expertise and

SEE MURAL, C4 ▶



Lady and Rose by Jane Mjolsness

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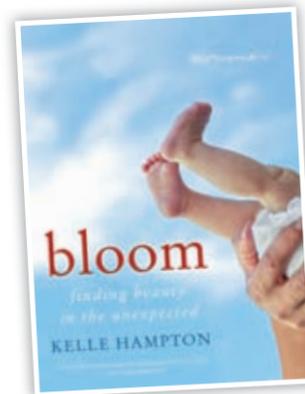
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INTERNATIONAL REALTY

INSIDE



Celebrating Russia

The inaugural ArtsNaples World Festival showcases Russian music, art and films. **C14-15 ▶**



A purposeful life

Naples mother pens powerful memoir about holding “the hot potato of hurt” and choosing to “live big.” **C16-17 ▶**

North meets South

From lobster rolls to stone crab claws, it’s all fresh and flavorful at Swan River Seafood. **C27 ▶**



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The Strada at Mercato	594-9400
The Village	261-6161
The Gallery	659-0099
Old Naples	434-2424
North Naples	594-9494
The Promenade	948-4000
Fifth Avenue	434-8770
Marco Island	642-2222
Rentals	262-4242

SANDY DAYS, SALTY NIGHTS

Heels, baby



Call me Imelda. Nothing gets me going like a pair of shoes. I love the materials, the patent leather and that silk and faux python; I love the colors, the taupe and cerulean and magenta; and I love the styles, the peep toes and gladiators and t-straps. I love boots, sandals and espadrilles.

But there's one style of shoe I can't handle: high heels.

How can a shoe lover not like heels? The truth — they're insufferable. They cramp my feet. Crimp my toes. Rub blisters on the back of my ankles. When I stand in a pair of heels I feel 7 feet tall. I'm already long-limbed and knob-kneed, and when you put me in a pair of stilettos I look like a praying mantis. I don't know how other women do it.

On a recent trip to Japan, my travel companions and I remarked on the perfectly manicured Japanese women. They were impeccably coiffed and styled with flawless makeup and outfits. Their shoes were always top-notch, and they often wore heels. Not tiny kitten heels. Not wedges with a little lift. Full-on, toe-cramping, arch-hurting, ankle-blistering heels. One of my friends asked a young Japanese woman how she managed it.

The woman smiled demurely.

"You American women," she said, "are just lazy."

I had this comment in my mind on a recent Saturday morning as I dressed for brunch. I eyeballed a pair of high-heeled sandals I'd bought the week before. As much as I hate to admit it, I'd like to be the kind of woman who's confident in heels. So I stepped out of the ballet flats I had planned to wear and into the pair of new shoes. I was 3 inches taller. I wobbled on my feet. In the mirror I looked the same, only shakier.

But a funny thing happened on the way to brunch. The first man I passed gave me a long look and smiled. I smiled back. Surely, I thought, he was just being friendly. And that whistle from across the street? No way that was for me.

A construction crew was working on a strip of road I had to cross and the flag-holder said hello as I passed.

"Looking good, baby," he said. "Love those shoes."

I looked down at my feet, at the high-heels that were already raising red welts on my ankles, and I had to laugh. Could heels really make that much of a difference?

A block up, I had to stop to put a Band-Aid on my right foot. When I was bandaged and on

my way, I passed two older men leaning against the bumper of a car. They stopped talking as I walked in front of them.

"You are a beautiful woman," one said. "A spectacular human being."

I had to laugh. No one had ever called me beautiful in flats.

As I made my way up the street, I remembered a piece of advice from Steve Harvey's "Act Like a Lady, Think Like a Man." In the back of the book, he answers questions from women readers.

"Do men prefer flats or heels?" one woman asks.

Mr. Harvey's answer? "Heels, baby. Heels." ■



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Spring CityFest begins with 'Sip of Fifth'

The 10-day Naples Spring CityFest celebration kicks off with "Sip of Fifth" along Fifth Avenue South on Friday evening, May 4. Mayor John Sorey will preside over the official opening ceremony at 6 p.m., and the evening's street festival will follow, with six craft beer tasting stations, six wine tasting stations, antique cars, a tango demonstration, fashion shows (people and pups), live music and dancing until 10 p.m.

Live bands on the program are Uptown Express, Mudbone, Sound Check, Mr. & Mrs. Five, Tim Poindexter and Tres Amigos.

Tickets for \$55 per person include a complimentary wine glass and charm and can be purchased online at www.FifthAvenueSouth.com or at any of the following merchants: Blue Mussel, Random Acts of Art, The Name Game and Vergina, all on Fifth Avenue South, and at Kari's Kreations at the Village on Venetian Bay.

The following Fifth Avenue South restaurants will offer discounts to "Sip of Fifth" attendees after 9 p.m.: Abbott's Custard & Mon "Key" Bread Factory, Altins, Bellini, Bice, Bistro 821, Café Luna, Café Lurcat, Chops, Citrus, Mangrove Café, McCabe's Irish Pub, Osetra, Paddy Murphy's, Pazzo!, Rossopomodoro, Vergina and Yabba's.

CityFest celebrations take place in May and October throughout the five downtown Naples districts: Fifth Avenue South, Third Street, The Waterfront District, Crayton Cove and the Tenth Street Design District.

More CityFest fun

Also on the Spring 2012 CityFest calendar of events:

■ **Tin City Sand-Sculpting Festival:** Friday-Sunday, May 4-6, in the covered parking at Tin City. Free; 262-4200 or www.tin-city.com.

■ **Wines Around the World:** Friday-Sunday, May-6, at Tin City. \$10 per person; 262-4200 or www.tin-city.com.

■ **The 239 Music Festival:** Saturday, May 5, at Bayfront. Local bands (The Young Kings, Freedom Hall, The Loopcats, Gabriela Rose, Katy Schirard, Devon Meyers, Molly Bird, Raygun

& the Zombie Killers, Frankie Colt & The .45s, Jahgape, The Gladezmen, The Wholetones and Us vs. Them) will perform from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Headline acts Andy Grammer and Mayday parade will begin at 4 p.m. Don't miss the texting competition and the Xbox showdown at the Innovation Café. \$30 in advance, \$40 at the gate; 594-2978.



■ **Fine Art & Folk Festival:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, May 5-6, at the Naples Depot Museum, 1051 Fifth Ave. S. In addition

to work by more than 40 artists in all media, you'll find orchid vendors, hand-churned ice cream and demonstrations by ceramic artists, painters, jewelers and others. 262-6525 or www.boulderbrook.net.

■ **The Tropicool 5K:** Registration begins at 6:30 a.m. Sunday, May 6, at Broad Avenue South and Third Street South. 434-9786 or www.gcrunners.org.

■ **The 29th annual Taste of Collier:** Noon-4 p.m. Sunday, May 6, at Bayfront. \$5 per person; tasting portions from \$3 to \$5.

■ **Palette to Palate:** 5:30-9 p.m. Wednesday, May 9, at Crayton Cove galleries and restaurants. Six studio galleries welcome visitors and Bleu Provence, Chez Boet and the Dock restaurants offer special menus for the evening.

■ **The 36th running of the Great Dock Canoe Race:** 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 12, at Crayton Cove. www.greatdockcanoerace.com.

■ **The Design District Dash:** 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, May 12. This family-friendly scavenger hunt starts at Auctions Neapolitan, 1100 First Ave. S., and wraps up at the Shady Palm Pub, 210 Tamiami Trail N. Smart phones will come in handy as participants explore the neighborhood in a quest for treasures donated by local businesses. www.auctionsN.com/thedash.

■ **Art After Dark:** 6-9 p.m. Saturday, May 12, at Crayton Cover. Ten galleries and art-related businesses stay open late. Live music by Capt. Richard at the Phil Fisher Gallery. 659-2787. ■



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STRAIGHT

From page 1

Like the first “Six Pack,” the second includes two fan favorites Straight No Chaser had been performing throughout the year (a medley of Michael Jackson’s “Billie Jean” and Bell Biv Devoe’s “Poison,” and Madonna’s “Like A Prayer”). It also includes a couple of songs the group added to its set this past summer (The Temptations’ “Get Ready” and Marvin Gaye’s “Let’s Get It On,”) and two numbers that are new to the group’s show (Weezer’s “Buddy Holly” and the medley of the Plain White T’s “Rhythm Of Love” and Elvis Presley’s “Can’t Help Falling In Love”).

“It (the first “Six Pack” EP) was a good mix of different songs, different genres, different decades — and that’s what this is as well,” Mr. Stine said of the new release.

In other words, Straight No Chaser is giving its audience more of what has attracted fans to the group in the first place. And why not? This

10-member all-vocal ensemble has become one of music’s more unusual success stories.

Today’s Straight No Chaser has its roots in an a cappella group of the same name that formed in 1996 at the University of Indiana in Bloomington.

Several of the singers in the group today were in that inaugural ensemble. They fully expected graduation would mean the last of their singing days together.

Diplomas in hand, they went their separate ways, with a few remaining in music. Walter Chase, for instance, performed in a band on the East Coast, while Ryan Ahlwardt started a singing career that included releasing three CDs on iTunes. Don Nottingham, on the other hand, became a district attorney in Denver.

Lives might have continued on those paths had it not been for a decision by UI to have a 10-year reunion of the group in 2006.

To mark the occasion, Mr. Stine posted a video on YouTube of a 1998 concert that included the group’s wacky rendition of “The 12 Days Of Christmas.”

To everyone’s surprise, the video went viral and by December had 7 million views.

One of those who tuned in was Craig Kallman, CEO of Atlantic Records, who called Mr. Stine to discuss a record deal. Soon former members of the original UI Straight No Chaser were meeting with Atlantic and signing a record deal.

Because of the success of the “12 Days Of Christmas” video, Atlantic had Straight No Chaser debut with a Christmas album. “Holiday Spirits” came out in 2008 and featured the group’s inventive versions of classics like “The Christmas Song,” “Carol of the Bells” and, of course, “The 12 Days Of Christmas.” Straight No Chaser was now off and running.

In the fall of 2009, the group released a holiday sequel, “Christmas Cheers.” Sandwiched between it and “Holiday Spirits,” the first “Six Pack” EP served as something of a teaser for the first full-length pop CD, “With A Twist,” which arrived in 2010.

Now “Six Pack: Vol. II” figures to further establish that Straight No Chaser’s main priority is not Christ-

mas music, but rather recasting pop songs into its unique style of a cappella which, in addition to layered vocals, often features bass lines — beats that, to the amazement of most first-time listeners, are created vocally by Tyler Trepp, Seggie Isho and Dave Roberts, with occasional contributions from Mr. Stine and Mr. Chase. In addition to Mr. Nottingham (the former district attorney), other members are Ryan Ahlwardt, Jerome Collins, Michael Luginbill and Charlie Mechling.

On this spring’s tour, fans can expect to see Straight No Chaser perform favorites from “With A Twist” and “Six Pack,” a few tunes the group developed for its three-month run this past summer at Harrah’s Casino in Atlantic City, plus some material from “Six Pack: Vol. II.”

“This is probably our most diverse, I think, musically and most visual tour we’ve done yet so far,” Mr. Stine says. “We have the movie lights and light trusses and even some video elements in the show. There’s a lot more to look at on this tour than there has been before.” ■

MURAL

From page 1

goals. Organizers see this as a chance to share stories of why art matters and how it has impacted artists and students in the community.

The mural will remain on display through October and are up for silent auction bid (forms available at The von Liebig Art Center). The highest bidder will be revealed in the fall.

The featured artists are:

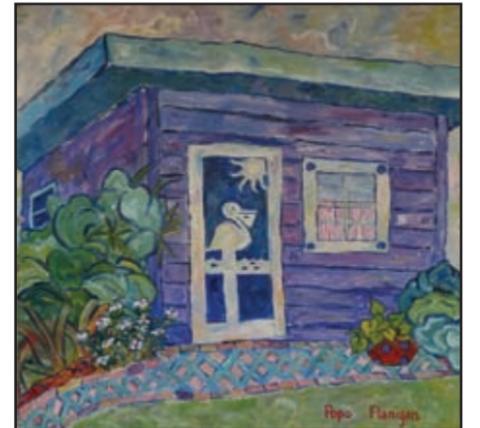
- Sam Platt, instructor of drawing and acrylic painting classes
- Jane Mjolsness, summer children’s ARTScool instructor
- Kelly Hollingsworth, ARTScool instructor
- PoPo Flanigan, member artist
- Judy Chinski, instructor of water-color painting
- David Hammel, instructor of clay
- Susan Champion, member artist
- Marie Kinnear, member artist and art center staff member ■



A Place of Inspiration by Marie Kinnear



Tribute to Betty LaDuke by Susan Champion



Cottage by Popo Flanigan



Thirst by David Hammel



Untitled by Kelly Hollingsworth



Purple Sky by Judy Chinski



Rose, Pot, Cup by David Hammel



Untitled by Kelly Hollingsworth



Tree of Life by Sam Platt



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WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Theater

■ **The Boy Friend** – By Theatrezone through May 13 at the G&L Theatre. (888) 966-3352 or theatrezone-florida.com.

■ **The Mystery of Irma Vep** – At Florida Repertory Theatre through May 20, downtown Fort Myers. 332-4488 or www.floridarep.org.

■ **Steel Magnolias** – By The Naples Players through May 12 at the Sugden Community Theatre. 263-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org. See review on page C8.

■ **Schoolhouse Rock** – At the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre, Fort Myers, through May 11. 278-4422 or www.broadwaypalm.com.

■ **Legally Blonde the Musical** – At the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre through May 13. 278-4422 or www.BroadwayPalm.com.

Thursday, May 3

■ **Happy Birthday!** – Lighthouse of Collier Inc. Center for Blindness and Vision Loss celebrates its third birthday from 5-7 p.m. at 424 Bayfront Place. 430-3934 or www.lighthouseofcollier.org.

■ **Art, Wine & Food** – The Center for the Arts of Bonita Springs hosts “Alla Prima, Alla Fun (Pears)” from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Painter Patty Kane walks guests through the painting process. \$42 includes canvas, paint, brushes, wine dinner and guidance. 26100 Old 41 Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

■ **Bach Ensemble** – The Erich Kunzel Community Concert Series presents The Bach Ensemble Troubadours at 7 p.m. at Edison State College, 7007 Lely Cultural Pkwy. \$10 adults; \$5 students. 775-2800 or ww.bayshorecapa.org.

■ **Symphony Pops** – The Naples Philharmonic Orchestra joins Dave Bennett’s Clarinet Swing Kings! at 8 p.m. at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. Take a sentimental journey back in time with a full-length symphony pops show. Tickets start at \$28. 597-1900 or www.ThePhil.org.

Friday, May 4

■ **Cinco de Meow** – The Old Naples Pub hosts “Cinco de Meow” for Humane Society Naples from 5-7 p.m. The feline fiesta happy hour will feature \$3 Coronas and a raffle. 643-1880, ext. 18, or events@HSNaples.org.

■ **Sip of Fifth** – Naples CityFest for Spring 2012 kicks off along Fifth Avenue South with “Sip of Fifth” from 6-10 p.m. Enjoy wine and craft beer tastings, live music and dancing in the street. Tasting tickets are \$55. www.FifthAvenueSouth.com. See story on page C3.

■ **Poker Fundraiser** – Former NFL fullback and Naples High School graduate Fred McCrary hosts a Texas Hold ‘em tournament beginning at 7 p.m. at Seminole Casino Immokalee as part of the seventh annual poker and golf fundraiser. The event benefits the 44 Ways Foundation for underprivileged children. Current and former NFL players will play poker, sign autographs and pose for photos with fans. Sports memorabilia will be auction off as well. \$75 plus \$75 charity re-buy. (800) 218-0007, www.seminoleimmokaleecasino.com or www.44ways.org.



Naples City Improv ad libs its last show of the season starting at 8 p.m. May 4 at The Norris Center. \$15. 595-0752 or naplescityimprov@yahoo.com. See story on page C9.

■ **Student Art** – The Center for the Arts of Bonita Springs hosts an opening reception for the Student Showcase Exhibition from 6-8 p.m. During the event, college tuition scholarships will be awarded to several students who have shown extraordinary talent and achievement with their pieces. 26100 Old 41 Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Saturday, May 5

■ **Remember the Titanic** – “Ship to Shore,” a exhibit commemorating the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic, opens today and runs through June 30 at the Patty & Jay Baker Naples Museum of Art. On display are paintings, drawings, prints, photographs, sculptures and scale models exploring a wide range of oceanic and nautical themes. The centerpiece of the exhibition is outsider artist Wayne Kusy’s nationally acclaimed “Titanic” (1985), a 10-foot-long model constructed of 75,000 toothpicks. Museum hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and noon-4 p.m. Sunday. \$8 for adults, \$4 for students. 597-1900 or www.thephil.org.

■ **Magic Carpet Concert** – “Over the Rainbow,” a Magic Carpet Concert by members of the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra, starts at 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. \$8. 597-1900 or www.ThePhil.org.

■ **Folk Art** – The Naples Fine Art and Folk Festival takes place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and Sunday on the grounds of the Naples Depot at the Collier County Museum, 1051 Fifth Ave. S. See works by 45 artists working in a variety of media and enjoy art demos. www.boulderbrook.net.

■ **Natural Wonders** – The Naples Botanical Garden hosts a day of W.O.N.D.E.R. from 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday through May. Bring the family to Walk, Observe, Navigate, Draw, Explore and Read. Regular admission applies. www.naplesgarden.org.

■ **Cinco de Mayo on Marco** – Celebrate Cinco de Mayo from 5-10 p.m. in the courtyard at the Shops at Olde Marco, Marco Island. Enjoy vintage rock ‘n’ roll by the band Radio Flyer at 6:30 p.m. Fill up on fish tacos, quesadillas, Coronas and margaritas and “Cupcakes Caliente.” 389-0981.

■ **Free Music** – Gulf Coast Town Center presents salsa and merengue music by Batay outdoors in Market Plaza from 8-10 p.m. 267-0783 or www.gulfcoasttowncenter.com.

■ **Family Fun** – The Center for the Arts of Bonita Springs hosts a free family activity day in conjunction with the “ZAP! POW! BAM!” comics exhibition from 1-3 p.m. Kids and parents join instructors for a quick tour of the show and then spend time creating their own artwork. Pre-registration is required. 26100 Old 41 Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

■ **Comedy Show** – Jarrod Harris from Comedy Central headlines a stand-up comedy show beginning at 9 p.m. at Fred’s Food, Fun & Spirits. \$8 in advance or \$12 at the door. 2700 Immokalee Road. 431-7928 or www.mosquitobus.com.

Sunday, May 6



Hope Frasier, who describes her art as “the ultimate in recycling,” will have comics vases like the one shown here and numerous other pieces created using bits of old fabric, newspapers, paper bags, cardboard and wood on display and for sale at the Naples Fine Art & Folk Festival from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, May 5-6, at the Naples Depot Museum, 1051 Fifth Ave. S. Several artists will demonstrate their craft, including Howard Hartke of North Port, who will sit at his potter’s wheel and throw pots as festival guests watch. 262-6525 or www.boulderbrook.net.

■ **Foreign Film** – The FGCU Renaissance Academy presents a screening and discussion of “After the Wedding” (Denmark, 2007) from 1-4 p.m. \$4 members, \$5 non-members. www.registera@fgcu.edu or 434-4737.

■ **Family Fare** – The Naples Philharmonic Orchestra presents “Take A Spin on the Wild Side,” its last Family Fare concert of the season, at 3 p.m. at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. Tickets start at \$15 for adults. 597-1900 or www.ThePhil.org.

■ **Music Jam** – Fred’s Food, Fun & Spirits hosts a singer/songwriter workshop and jam from 5-6:30 p.m. with local musicians Lucia and Bob. After the jam, the Notorious Band of Misfits perform from 7-10 p.m. 2700 Immokalee Road. 431-7928.

Monday, May 7

■ **New Exhibit** – The “Gallery of the Endangered,” a juried art show, is the featured exhibit in the Lauritzen and Rush Galleries at the Marco Island Center for the Arts today through May 31. The exhibit features endangered plants and animals. An opening reception will be held from 5:30-7 p.m. May 15. 1010 Winterberry Drive. 394-4221 or www.marcoislandart.org.

■ **One More B-I-N-G-O** – Bingo season at the Jewish Congregation of Marco Island concludes today. The doors at 991 Winterberry Drive open at 5:30 p.m. for a free kosher hot dog supper, and the first game is called at 7 p.m. 642-0800.

Wednesday, May 9

■ **A Capella Group** – Straight No Chaser, a 10-man a capella group, performs at 8 p.m. at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. Tickets start at \$49. 597-1900 or www.ThePhil.org. See story on page C1.

Upcoming Events

■ **Funny Guy** – Pauly Shore “The Weasel” performs May 10-13 at the Off the Hook Comedy Club, 599 S. Collier Blvd., Marco Island. 389-6900 or www.orrthehookcomedy.com.

■ **Cancer Rally** – A “Put On Your Pink Bra” committee rally is set for 5:30-7:30 p.m. May 10 at Clive Daniel Home, 2777 Tamiami Trl. N. The American Cancer Society event is for those who would like to get involved in the Oct. 20 “Making Strides Against Breast Cancer” 5K Walk. The rally includes door prizes, wine and hors d’oeuvres. 216-1123 or Janet_Brune@yahoo.com.

■ **Mom’s Night Out** – Coconut Point hosts National Mom’s Night Out from 5-8 p.m. May 10. Enjoy a mom makeovers, a Price is Right game, vendor booths and more. 992-9966.

■ **The Plague** – By Laboratory Theater of Florida May 11-26 at Kiwanis Hall, 1634 Woodford Ave., Fort Myers. 218-0481 or www.laboratorytheater-florida.com.

■ **Classical Concert** – The Naples Philharmonic Orchestra presents “Tchaikovsky’s Fourth,” the final classical concert of the season, at 8 p.m. May 11-12 at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. Guest conductor Mei-Ann Chen leads the concerts. Tickets start at \$22. 597-1900 or www.ThePhil.org.

■ **Game Show** – “The Price Is Right Live” comes to Seminole Casino Immokalee May 11-June 18. This traveling version of America’s longest-running TV game show is hosted by Todd Newton of the Game Show Network and Whammy. \$25. (800) 218-0007.

■ **Hot Dog!** – Nathan’s Famous Hot Dog Eating Contest, featuring major league eaters Adrian Morgan and Bam Martinez, starts at 1 p.m. May 12 at Mercato. www.mercatoshops.com.

WHAT TO DO



The Erich Kunzel Community Concert Series presents The Bach Ensemble Troubadours at 7 p.m. May 3 at Edison State College, 7007 Lely Cultural Pkwy. \$10 adults; \$5 students. 775-2800 or www.bayshorecapa.org.

■ **Art After Dark** – The Galleries of Crayton Cove host Art After Dark from 6-9 p.m. May 12. Visit 10 galleries and art-related businesses and enjoy art-work and refreshments. 659-2787.

■ **A Wild Time** – The Center for the Arts of Bonita Springs presents An Affair of the Arts, “Up Close, Personal and Wild!” from 2-4 p.m. May 12. Get up close and personal with a variety of arachnids, amphibians, reptiles, birds and animals. \$35 adults, \$15 youth. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

■ **Acoustic Show** – Chris Cornell takes the stage at 7:30 p.m. May 15 at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, Fort Myers. \$29-\$66. 481-4849 or www.bbmah.com.

— Submit calendar listings and high-resolution photos to events@floridaweekly.com. E-mail text, jpegs or Word documents are accepted. No pdfs or photos of flyers. The deadline for calendar submissions is noon Sunday.

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THEATER REVIEW

Laughing through the tears with six strong Southern women

nancySTETSON
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Kathleen Gravatt, Erin Laughlin, Lucy Harris, Ann Hoover and Carol Fox star in The Naples Players' production of "Steel Magnolias."

COURTESY PHOTO

Life has a way of throwing curve balls. Somehow, you survive the things you think will destroy you, only to get knocked off your feet by something you didn't even see coming.

"Steel Magnolias," playing at the Sugden Community Theatre in Naples, looks at how six Southern women cope with life's curve balls. They survive bad marriages, headstrong children, dying husbands and serious illness.

A sassy and twangy play saturated with heavy doses of hairspray and gossip, it's set in Truvy's Beauty Shop in Chinquapin, La., where these upper-class women gather regularly to get their hair done and talk.

Any woman knows that a hair salon is often a place where women let their hair down, literally and figuratively. The talking is as important as the hairstyling.

"Steel Magnolias" began its life off-Broadway in March 1987, running for almost three years with 1,126 performances. It was made into a movie in 1989 with Shirley McLaine, Dolly Parton, Olympia Dukakis, Sally Fields, Daryl Hannah and a young Julia Roberts.

When the play opened on Broadway in 2005, it wasn't quite as successful as it was off-Broadway, playing only 23 previews and 136 performances.

Yet, it's a part of our pop culture. For example, it was recently referenced on the TV sit-com "Best Friends Forever," in an episode in which a somewhat dim-witted live-in boyfriend joins his girlfriend and her best friend in watching the movie, referring to it as "Steel Mags." And Lifetime TV is filming an African-American version with Queen Latifah, Alfre Woodard and Jill Scott.

The play is known for being a weepie, as one of the main characters dies. Playwright Robert Harling wrote "Steel Magnolias" in honor of his sister, a diabetic who died young.

The Naples Players' production starts a little slowly. It would be easy in the beginning to think all this play's going to be about is hair and nail polish and shoes — girly, surface stuff.

I was also scared it was going to be one of those plays where the actors talk in exaggerated Southern accents and use quaint but not-that-funny phrases like "I feel like a one-armed wallpaper hanger"

and "nervous as a cat in a roomful of rocking chairs."

But after a while, it began to gel, with the entrance of Ann Hoover as Ouiser, the town's eccentric and richest woman, especially livening up the action.

In the wrong hands, "Steel Magnolias" can be maudlin and mawkish. But director Paul Graffy has steered The Naples Players clear of that. He's picked an excellent cast and guided them well, away from the pitfalls of sentimentality on one hand and melodrama on the other.

Erin Laughlin is saucy as Truvy, the beauty parlor owner, delivering one-liners and gossiping as she does the women's hair. She's the pillar of the community — and of the play. Ms. Laughlin delivers her lines with a gleam in her eye. This play is especially meaningful to her, as the actor recently donated a kidney to her sister.

Lucy Harris plays Annelle, Truvy's her new assistant in the salon, a somewhat woebegone young woman with a mysterious background who finds God and becomes smugly pious.

Kathleen Gravatt and Jessica Walck are mother and daughter M'Lynn and Shelby, bickering and sniping at each other. It's Shelby's wedding day, and she's insisted that everything be pink, her favorite color, including all the flowers in the church, the runner and the nine bridesmaids' dresses.

Everything is so pink that, "The sanctuary looks as if it were hosed down with Pepto-Bismol," as M'Lynn dryly puts it.

(Playwright Robert Harling has plenty of great lines like that, and the laughs are consistent throughout the play, sometimes seemingly coming out of left field and surprising you with their wit.)

Though M'Lynn and Shelby have their disagreements, the love between them is undeniable.

Ms. Walck's character is headstrong and somewhat naïve. She has the wedding she wants, but discovers that the marriage is not all she's dreamed. Although doctors have strongly advised against it because of her poor health, she decides to have a baby in hopes of holding the marriage together.

Ms. Gravatt's character grows on you as the play goes along. At first, she just seems someone for Shelby to push against, but she soon grows into her own. And her dramatic moment near the end of the play moved some in the audience to tears.

But it is the more mature characters who steal the play: Carol Fox as Clairee, the widow of the former mayor, and Ms. Hoover as Ouiser. Ms. Fox delivers her quips with the casual ease of a stand-up comic, saying things such as, "The only thing that separates us from the animals is our ability to accessorize." And when another character is accused of playing hard to get, she rejoins, "At her age, she should be playin' 'Beat the Clock.'"

And the role of Ouiser seems tailor-made for Ms. Hoover. Though prickly and ornery, you can't help but love her. When she's accused of never having done a religious thing in her life, she's insulted. "That's not true!" she insists. "When I was in school, a bunch of my friends and I used to dress up as nuns and go bar-hoppin'!"

And the Sugden audience, not above doing a little nodding out themselves from time to time, roared with laughter when she declared, "I do not see plays, because I can nap at home for free!"

There isn't a line that Ms. Hoover doesn't deliver like a pro.

She made me laugh so much, I wound up writing in my notes: "I love Ann Hoover."

As the play is set in a beauty parlor, the two actors playing Truvy and Annelle have to actually do hair. They wash and curl and tease and dry. And then top it all off with hairspray. Tons of hairspray. I felt bad for the people in the front rows. They must have been so high from the fumes that they flew home after the curtain call.

These six women form a small support group within a community that's none too large itself. And this ensemble falls together naturally.

Rick Foreman's costumes perfectly reflect not only the '80s, but each character's age and status. His costumes for Ms. Hoover are especially inspired. (She spends an entire scene in a plastic streaking cap with a scarf around her neck.)

The incidental music, by the Goat Rodeo Sessions, is perfect, because it's Americana music, yet sophisticated, with Yo-Yo Ma on the cello.

Matt Flynn's two-level set — Truvy's hair salon, complete with work space and a waiting area — is one of the more impressive sets I've seen at the Sugden. I was especially impressed with the backdrop outside the picture window: a scenic view of trees that changes with the seasons.

And the passing seasons of life is what "Steel Magnolias" is all about: celebrating new life, but also facing death. Just as surely as winter follows autumn, death is inevitable.

Knowing this, Clairee, a widow, decides not to waste away during however many years she had left. She embraces life, throwing herself into new ventures, traveling to New York City to see theater, flying to France... just because she's always wanted to.

And Ouiser lives her life on her own terms, too.

As Shelby says, "I would rather have 30 minutes of wonderful than a lifetime of nothing special."

As these six women know — and demonstrate — it's living life with those we love that makes every minute wonderful. ■

in the know

"Steel Magnolias" by The Naples Players

- >>When: through May 12
- >>Where: The Sugden Community Theatre
- >>Cost: \$35; \$10 for students 18 and younger
- >>Info: 263-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org

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Naples City Improv winds down another season of ad-libbing

Naples City Improv performs its last show of the season beginning at 8 p.m. Friday, May 4, at The Norris Center. This will be the last time to see Scotty Sutton before he moves to Los Angeles to further his ambitions. Also featured will be NCI's newest players, Alexis Kuchins and Rosie Spinosa.



culminating in a one-night stand of comedy and standup in early July 2008. Several of those players wanted to continue as a group and everything evolved from there. Other performance venues since then have included The English Pub most recently this season and numerous private clubs and communities in the area.

NCI recently celebrated its 100th performance in Collier County with a nearly sold-out show at The Norris Center. The group arose from a series of one-event dates in the spring of 2008,

Tickets are \$15. For reservations, call 213-3049. For more information about the troupe, visit www.naplescityimprov.com. ■

PUZZLE ANSWERS

A	J	A	R	G	A	E	L	S	H	E	D	R	E	E	D	S		
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7	4	8	1	3	9	5	2	6
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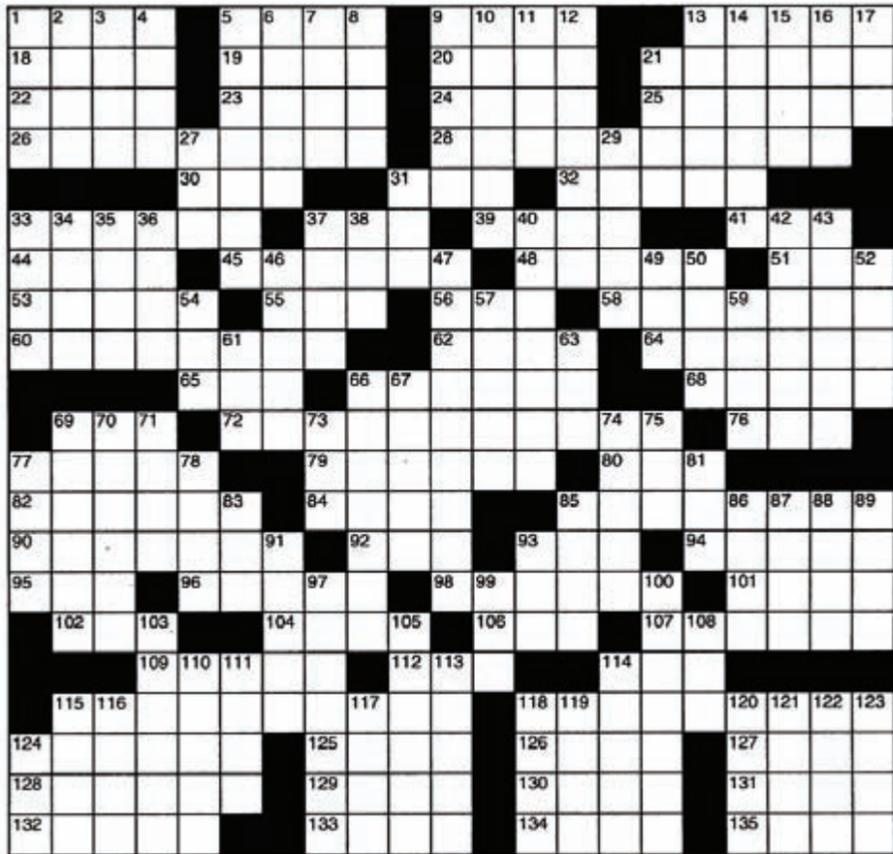
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FAUXCATIONS!



- ACROSS**
- 1 Slightly open
 - 5 Celt
 - 9 Lose one's fur
 - 13 Orchestra section
 - 18 Ahmedabad attire
 - 19 Voice type
 - 20 Munich mister
 - 21 Proof-of-purchase, often
 - 22 Skip
 - 23 Skeleton part
 - 24 Proficient
 - 25 Second
 - 26 Soda jerk?
 - 28 Laundry CEO?
 - 30 Revolutionary
 - 31 Opie's aunt
 - 32 Drawing room
 - 33 "NYPD Blue" creator
 - 37 — sauce
 - 39 Dandelion or dandel
 - 41 Neutral color
 - 44 Soap additive
 - 45 Charlotte, for one
 - 48 Sacred song
 - 51 Swell place?
 - 53 Psychedelic
 - 55 Wharton's
 - 56 Gram
 - 58 Golf instructor?
 - 60 Deli worker?
 - 62 Shoot down
 - 64 Tristan's tootsie
 - 65 Qty.
 - 66 Gimpel and Jong
 - 68 Writer Rogers
 - 69 Existed
 - 72 Gas station attendant?
 - 76 Hook's mate
 - 77 Criticizes
 - 79 Mischievous
 - 80 Mauna —
 - 82 Dental appointment, e.g.
 - 84 Manuscript imperative
 - 85 Yacht peddler?
 - 90 Roller coaster operator?
 - 92 — Dawn
 - 93 Baby beaver
 - 94 Record player
 - 95 Actor Chaney
 - 96 Attract the IRS?
 - 98 Minnie of "Circle of Friends"
 - 101 Sturdy trees
 - 102 Inc., in England
 - 104 Spare fare
 - 106 Mrs. McKinley
 - 107 Unrefined
 - 109 "Midnight at the —"
 - 112 Joplin composition
 - 114 Good buddy
 - 115 Herpetologist?
 - 118 Phrenologist?
 - 124 Fiesta target
 - 125 Bring to ruin
 - 126 Austin or Garr
 - 127 Fancy fabric
 - 128 Starting point
 - 129 Sentence pt.
 - 130 Orner
 - 131 Olympian
 - 132 Prevent
 - 133 It may be spare
 - 134 Writer Harte
 - 135 Guarded
- DOWN**
- 1 Beginning
 - 2 Actress Gertz
 - 3 Neighbor of Cal.
 - 4 "Puttin' on the —"
 - 5 South American cowboys
 - 6 TV's "Kate & —"
 - 7 Italian rumbler
 - 8 Bank offering
 - 9 Contour
 - 10 Semitic tongue
 - 11 Perry's creator
 - 12 Dons one's duds
 - 13 Sonata movement
 - 14 Range
 - 15 College collar
 - 16 "Stop!"
 - 17 Sneak a peek
 - 21 It's often jumped
 - 27 Travel agcy.?
 - 29 Egyptian statesman
 - 31 "Later!"
 - 33 Cinderella's soiree
 - 34 Spread in a tub
 - 35 Nag subtly
 - 36 Towel word
 - 37 Regret audibly
 - 38 Wordsworth work
 - 40 Certain inscription
 - 42 One of the Juds
 - 43 It's in the groove
 - 46 Page or LaBelle
 - 47 Waugh's "Brideshead —"
 - 49 Fragrant neckwear
 - 50 Butte
 - 52 Surface measurement
 - 54 Singer Sumac
 - 57 Texas river
 - 59 Cryptanalyst's concern
 - 61 UN agency
 - 63 City in Kyrgyzstan
 - 66 New Haven hardwood
 - 67 — -dope (All tactic)
 - 69 Pop Art pioneer
 - 70 Impassioned
 - 71 "Graf —"
 - 73 Fleur-de—
 - 74 Raise spirits?
 - 75 Parisian potentate
 - 77 Monastery garb
 - 78 Computer command
 - 81 Matterhorn, e.g.
 - 83 Potok's "My Name Is Asher —"
 - 85 Hindu deity
 - 86 Restaurateur Toots
 - 87 Ditch under a drawbridge
 - 88 Egyptian symbol
 - 89 Investigative
 - 91 Chatter box?
 - 93 Baby butter
 - 97 Cause confusion
 - 99 Fix a fight
 - 100 Courbet, e.g.
 - 103 Pharmacist's concern
 - 105 Wall Street figure
 - 108 Half and half?
 - 110 Moving
 - 111 Mikita of hockey
 - 113 Battery part
 - 114 Kind of soup
 - 115 TV's "Spenser: For —"
 - 116 "What's — for me?"
 - 117 Cross inscription
 - 118 Use a dagger
 - 119 Gourmet
 - 120 Deere thing
 - 121 Skater
 - 122 Epps or Sharif
 - 123 Bank (on)
 - 124 Seal school

SEE ANSWERS, C9

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HOROSCOPES

■ **TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** It's time for the bold and beautiful Bovine to shake off the dust of the past and shape up with new ideas for the future. This could surprise some folks, but they'll soon adjust.

■ **GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)** Those nagging new doubts about an upcoming decision should alert you to step back (at least temporarily) so you can reassess its potential impact from a new perspective.

■ **CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** That unpleasant situation you hoped would go away by itself needs immediate attention before it affects an upcoming decision. Expect your supporters to rally around your cause.

■ **LEO (July 23 to August 22)** You're moving up and away from that recent setback. But remain cautious about finances. An exercise in thrift today helps cushion a possible end-of-the-month money squeeze.

■ **VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)** You're still dealing with overtones of pessimism that cause you to doubt your ability to make some needed changes. But the negative pressures will ease up by week's end.

■ **LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)** There could be some fallout from the way you handled a recent family problem. But those who know that you were in the right won't hesitate to step in on your behalf.

■ **SCORPIO (October 23 to Novem-**

ber 21) Financial strains ease by week's end. Meanwhile, focus on cultivating that new relationship if you hope to have it blossom into something more meaningful.

■ **SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)** Health matters once again dominate the week. Be careful not to ignore recurrences of an old problem. An almost-forgotten commitment resurfaces.

■ **CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)** The emergence of an unusual selfish streak could dismay those close to you. Defy it -- don't justify it -- so you can become your gracious self again.

■ **AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)** Reassess your decision to stay with the status quo. It might seem like the sensible thing to do right now, but changes around you could make that choice a risky one.

■ **PISCES (February 19 to March 20)** Move decisively but cautiously when dealing with a delicate personal matter. The fewer mistakes you make now, the less likely it is that the problem will recur later on.

■ **ARIES (March 21 to April 19)** You Ewes and Rams will find your ideas cheered by a mostly receptive flock. Those few dissenters could well be turned around by your charm and powers of persuasion.

■ **BORN THIS WEEK:** You can find beauty where many cannot. And you enjoy sharing your discovery with others. ■

By Linda Thistle

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		9		6	1	2
4			9		5	3
		2		1		9
3	8				4	2
1				6	7	
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7	4				9	
		5	2		4	3

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Puzzle Difficulty this week:



Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ Expert

SEE ANSWERS, C9

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LATEST FILMS

Summer movie preview



Ahhhh, summer. Picnics, beaches, sun — and massive explosions that'll make your head numb.

In fairness, the summer movie season is shaping up to be quite good (we hope). Here's a lighthearted look at what I'm keeping an eye on for the next four months.

■ **"The Avengers"** (May 4) - Geek boys, rejoice: All your favorite Marvel heroes (except Spider-Man & Wolverine) in one CGI-filled package.

■ **"Dark Shadows"** (May 11) - Stop reading when you've heard it before: Johnny Depp plays a weirdo freak in this TV adaptation directed by Tim Burton. Yeah, I knew you wouldn't get this far.

■ **"The Dictator"** (May 16) - Sacha Baron Cohen is at his best when ridiculing American conventions (think "Borat"). Trailers for this one show him doing just that, which is reason for excitement. I hope Ryan Seacrest covers the premiere.

■ **"Battleship"** (May 18) - So help me if this potential disaster hurts plans to make Monopoly, Ouija and Candy Land movies.

■ **"What to Expect When You're Expecting"** (May 18) - Not much.

■ **"Men in Black III"** (May 25) - Remember how awful "Men in Black II" was?

■ **"Moonrise Kingdom"** (May 25) - Another quirky Wes Anderson ("Rushmore") movie with Bill Murray that everyone else will love and I, inevitably, will hate.

■ **"Snow White and the Huntsman"** (June 1) - Kristen Stewart, please don't ruin this too.

■ **"Piranha 3DD"** (June 1) - Sometimes all you need is the title.

■ **"Prometheus"** (June 8) - Is it a prequel to "Alien" or isn't it? Does anyone else agree with me that "Alien" isn't that good in the first place?

■ **"Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted"** (June 8) - By this point, I don't care if they get home or not.

■ **"Rock of Ages"** (June 15) - Tom Cruise sings '80s pop rock ballads, Alec Baldwin has long hair, and we're reminded that stars of the '80s can still exist today.

■ **"That's My Boy"** (June 15) - Adam Sandler and Andy Samberg play father and son in this comedy. But all that really matters is Vanilla Ice plays himself.

■ **"Brave"** (June 22) - Pixar focuses on a female heroine for the first time. Let's hope this is better received than when Disney tried to give African-American

princesses their due ("The Princess and the Frog").

■ **"Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter"** (June 22) - Freed the slaves, united the country, slayed vampires. Was there anything Mr. Lincoln didn't do?

■ **"To Rome With Love"** (June 22) - Woody Allen continues his European tour of love, this time with Jesse Eisenberg, Ellen Paige and more.

■ **"G.I. Joe: Retaliation"** (June 29) - If anyone wants to borrow my brain while I'm watching this, I won't be needing it.

■ **"Magic Mike"** (June 29) - In which Channing Tatum relives his early days as a male stripper. Bachelorette parties just found a way to save some cash!

■ **"The Amazing Spider-Man"** (July 3) - Simply making its release date will be an upgrade from the disastrous "Spider-Man" show on Broadway.

■ **"Savages"** (July 6) - Imagine the same plot as Will Ferrell's "Casa de mi Padre" (one hottie girl, heroes vs. a drug cartel, etc.) — only this time it's serious and directed by Oliver Stone.

■ **"Ted"** (July 13) - "Family Guy" creator Seth MacFarlane voices a foul-mouthed teddy bear that won't leave Mark Wahlberg alone. They had me at "Family Guy."

■ **"Ice Age: Continental Drift"** (July 13) - Could these annoying critters die from global warming already?

■ **"The Dark Knight Rises"** (July 20) - For as much as I don't want it to end, I can't wait to see how it ends.

■ **"Neighborhood Watch"** (July 27) - Suburban dads form a neighborhood watch group and fight aliens. Ben Stiller is never funny, but Vince Vaughn and Jonah Hill often are.

■ **"The Bourne Legacy"** (Aug. 3) - Jeremy Renner takes the franchise on a tangential spin that may or may not include Matt Damon in the future. The "Bourne" movies have been so good that this is worth a shot.

■ **"Total Recall"** (Aug. 3) - "Get to the choppah!" Wait, wrong Arnold movie. Oh, hell, who cares? They're all the same anyway.

■ **"The Campaign"** (Aug. 10) - Will Ferrell and Zach Galifianakis are political opponents in this satire a la "The Ides of March."

■ **"Hope Springs"** (Aug. 10) - Meryl Streep and Tommy Lee Jones play an old married couple, and Steve Carell is their therapist. Great casting!

■ **"Sparkle"** (Aug. 10) - Notable only because it's Whitney's last film.

■ **"The Expendables 2"** (Aug. 17) - Just the thought of it makes me want to give out a big-man yell and then punch something. ■



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12:00 - 8:00	CORN HOLE/KIDS LIMBO/PIÑATAS/GAMES
12:00 - 8:00	RYAN THE MAGICIAN /FACE PAINTING
1:30 & 6:00	DEVIN BARNES THE COMEDIAN
12:00 - 2:00	LIVE RADIO REMOTE: ZITO & GARRETT 96 KROC
12:00 - 3:00	BAND : LOS YOUNGSTERS
12:00 - 2:00	COINTREAU GIRLS & GIVEAWAYS
2:00 - 4:00	CAZADORES GIRLS & GIVEAWAYS
3:00 - 5:00	NEGRA MODELO GIRLS & GIVEAWAYS
2:00 - 5:00	THE GAME GUYS: GUITAR HERO/WII, LIVE RADIO REMOTE: GINA BIRCH
4:00 - 6:00	96.9 WINK
3:00 - 3:30	FRED ASTAIRE DANCE STUDIO SALSA EXHIBITION
3:30 - 6:00	BAND: MAMBO BROTHERS
TBA	AGAVE PASSPORT PLAQUE PRESENTATION
5:00 - 7:00	HERRADURA GIRLS & GIVEAWAYS
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■ **"Family Fare" with the NPO**
3 p.m. Sunday, May 6

The NPO ends its season of "Family Fare" concerts with guest conductor Paul Hostetter leading the musicians in "Take A Spin on the Wild Side." On the program are selections sure to please from "Spiderman" and "Harry Potter."

Family Fare concerts are approximately 75 minutes long and presented without an intermission. Tickets start at \$15 for adults and \$12 for students.

■ **"Tchaikovsky's Fourth"**
The NPO

8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, May 11-12
The NPO presents "Tchaikovsky's Fourth" as the final concert in its Classical Series this season, with guest conductor Mei-Ann Chen, the first woman to win the Malko International Conductor's Competition. In addition to Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony, the program includes Brahms' Violin Concerto, which will be performed by Augustin Hadelich, 2009 winner of the Avery Fisher Career Grant award.

Tickets start at \$22 for adults and \$20 for students.

■ **ABBA and the NPO**
8 p.m. Friday, May 18

An acclaimed ABBA tribute band, with two original members of the ABBA rhythm section, joins the NPO for a concert of timeless ABBA hits, including "Dancing Queen," "Waterloo," "S.O.S." and "The Winner Takes All."

Tickets start at \$69.

■ **"Brahms to Bax"**
The Naples Philharmonic Chamber Ensemble

8 p.m. Tuesday, May 22
Judy Christy, oboe, joins the Naples Philharmonic Chamber Ensemble for "Brahms to Bax," the final program in the season's Chamber Series. On the program are classical masterworks from British, Russian and German composers, including Brahms' String Sextet No. 1 and Sir Arnold Bax's Quintet for Oboe and Strings, known for its lively, rapturous folk-like melodies and rhythms.

Tickets start at \$34 for adults and \$14 for students. ■

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For Ages 6-12 | Mon-Fri, June 11-29, 2012
9:00am-1:00pm | Cost: \$450

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For Ages 13-18 | Mon-Fri, July 9-27, 2012
9:00am-1:00pm | Cost: \$450

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Inaugural ArtsNaples World Festival celebrates Russian art and culture

Opening night of the inaugural ArtsNaples World Festival, a weeklong celebration of Russian culture, will feature the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra with Mei-Ann Chen, conductor, and guest violinist Augustin Hadelich at 8 p.m. Saturday, May 12, at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts.

Ms. Chen is the recently named music director of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra and the first woman to win the Malko International Conductors Competition. Mr. Hadelich is the 2009 winner of the Avery Fisher Career Grant award.

The ArtsNaples World Festival continues as follows:

■ **2 p.m. Sunday, May 13, at The von Liebig Art Center:** The Declassified, an instrumental ensemble of alumni from The Juilliard School, The Academy at Carnegie Hall and the Weill Music Institute, presents a concert/story based on a Russian folktale about a deserting soldier and the Devil who eventually possesses his soul.

■ **7 p.m. Sunday, May 13:** A Russian Imperial dinner at The Ritz-Carlton, Naples (by invitation only), hosted by His Excellency, Sergey Kislyak, Ambassador of the Russian Federation to the United States of America.

■ **Noon Monday, May 14, at The von Liebig Art Center:** Pianist Pavel Nersessian in recital.

■ **2 p.m. Tuesday, May 15:** The Declassified string quartet performs music by Prokofiev and Tchaikovsky.

■ **8 p.m. Tuesday, May 15, at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts:** William Noll conducts the ArtsNaples World Festival Chamber Orchestra with guest pianists Philipp Kopachevsky, Michael Berkovsky and Pavel Nersessian. Three Bosendorfer concert grand pianos will grace the stage.

■ **2 p.m. Wednesday, May 16, at The von Liebig Art Center:** Pianist Michael Berkovsky in recital.

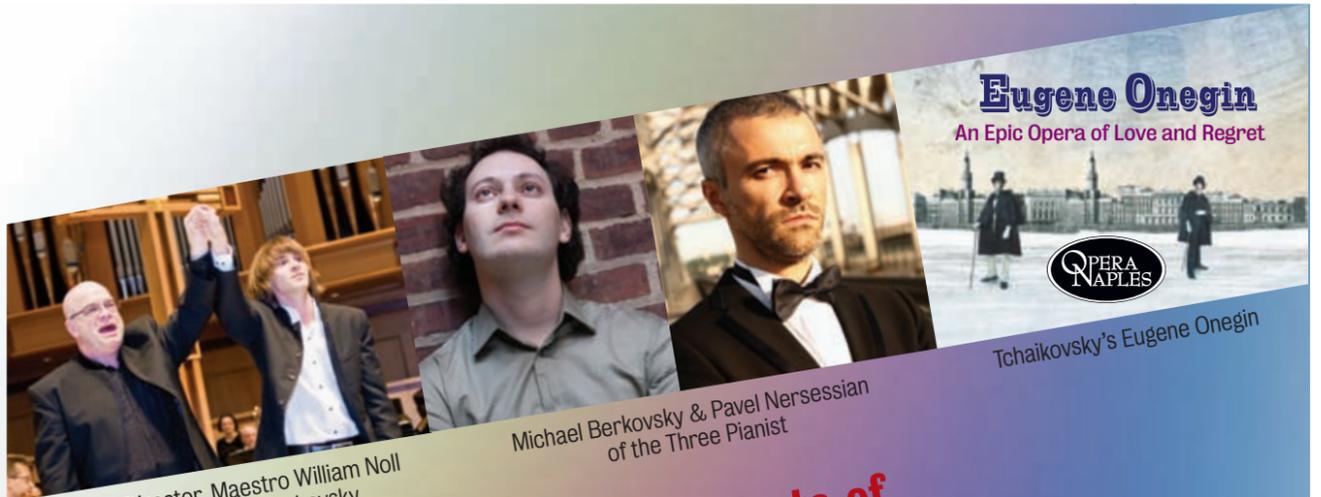
■ **8 p.m. Wednesday, May 16; 3:30 p.m. Thursday, May 17; and 8 p.m. Friday, May 18, at the Sugden Community Theatre:** "The Government Inspector," a witty satirical play written by Nikolai Gogol and made famous in the United States through a film starring Danny Kaye.

■ **2 p.m. Thursday, May 17 at The von Liebig Art Center:** The Declassified chamber ensemble and guest pianist Pavel Nersessian play the Shostakovich Piano Quintet.

■ **8 p.m. Thursday, May 17, at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts:** A concert version of Tchaikovsky's "Eugene Onegin" presented in association with Opera Naples and the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Vladimir Lande. Presented in Russian with English super-titles.

■ **2 p.m. Friday, May 18, at The von Liebig Art Center:** Pianist Philipp Kopachevsky in recital.

For tickets and more information, call 390-2788 or visit www.ArtsNaples-WorldFestival.org.



Artistic Director, Maestro William Noll
Pianist, Philipp Kopachevsky

Michael Berkovsky & Pavel Nersessian
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Theatre box office 239-263-7990

"EUGENE ONEGIN" MAY 17
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Judy Sproul



ArtsNaples World Festival includes screenings of four Russian films

The Naples International Film Festival presents a series of four Russian films as part of ArtsNaples World Festival. Sip a vodka cocktail, sample Russian treats and join NIFF for a unique film experience at the luxurious Silverspot Cinema.

■ **7 p.m. Monday, May 14:** **“Vysotsky: Thank God I Am Alive”** – One of the highest grossing films in Russian history, this movie takes a look at the life of the iconic actor, poet and prolific singer/songwriter Vladimir Vysotsky, one of the Soviet Union’s most influential artists.

■ **2:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 16:** **“The Vanished Empire”** –Sergey is a cocky university student in 1973 Moscow who is more interested in British rock ‘n’ roll, pawning his family’s prized books to buy blue jeans and courting the beautiful Lyuda than in his studies. Against a backdrop of the black market and disaffected youth, Sergey is forced to grow up and accept responsibility for his family, his future and, ultimately, himself.

■ **5 p.m. Wednesday, May 15:** **“Moscow Does Not Believe in**



Tears” – The 1980 Academy Award winner for Best Foreign Language Film, this movie follows three optimistic young women who leave the countryside in search of a better future in the big city. Each one has a different dream of life in Moscow: marriage, education, climbing up the social ladder. Though things don’t always go as planned, they support each other over the decades through the ups and downs of life, from love, marriage and motherhood to heartbreak and, when least expected, love once more.

■ **7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 17:** **“Elena”** – The 2011 winner of a Special Jury Prize at the Cannes Film Festival, this film is about Vladimir and Elena, spouses in their 60s who uneasily share his palatial Moscow apartment: He’s a virile, wealthy businessman; she’s his dowdy former nurse who has clearly “married up.”

None of the above films has been rated. Tickets are available at the Silverspot Cinema box office or online at www.Silverspotcinema.com. ■



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MOTHER'S DAY
MAY 13, 2012

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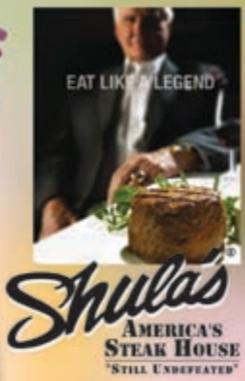
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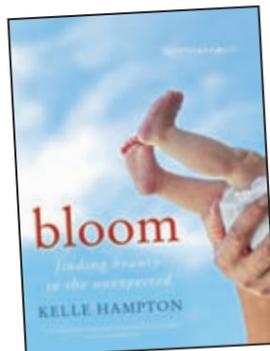
Finding new directions in blocked expectations

philJASON
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■ **“Bloom: Finding Beauty in the Unexpected – a Memoir” by Kelle Hampton. William Morrow. 288 pages. \$24.99.**

Naples resident Kelle Hampton relates with courage and exhilaration a story of how life gets in the way of the dreams and values we create for ourselves. The white picket fence lifestyle of her imagination, fed by a habitually rose-colored memory of her childhood, confronts the big fact that doesn't fit. There is no place in the storybook life she imagines she is leading for a Down syndrome daughter.



But when Nella is born, Ms. Hampton has to learn how to deal with reality and re-write the book. In the process, she makes important discoveries about herself and opening up to change.

The journey is arduous, and the road is filled with boulders and false trails.

She has to figure out how to process the immeasurable and unconditional love she feels for her second child as well as the initial disappointment that she can't deny. Raising Nella will mean disappointing 2-year-old Lainey, protecting Nella from the mocking cruelty and hurtful judgments of others and dealing with the full range of Down syndrome's medical and developmental issues.

One of the first things Ms. Hampton learns is that Lainey has better equipment for coping with Nella than she does. Her firstborn's innocence is her protection, her lack of expectations a blessing. Lainey relates to Nella immediately and positively. Is it that she doesn't know any better, or that she knows (feels) what's really important?

Shame, guilt, inadequacy, helplessness. These are among the feelings roiling within Ms. Hampton in the aftermath of Nella's birth. To allay these feelings, she not only has to tap deeply into her inner resources, but she also has to learn to seek and accept the

emotional support that friends and family can offer. She had already led her life in a way that had created strong bonds. She had long practiced active friendship. Her independent streak had always been tempered by a sense of community.

Choosing to “live big,” Ms. Hampton

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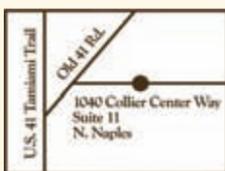


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knew how to choose occasions for celebration, which meant investing the occasion with meaning, vitality and shared future memories. She calls herself a “ceremonialist,” and it’s no coincidence that she is also a photographer — someone who saves the occasion for future use. All of these talents served her well, and they continue to do.

The basic timeline of the book is the first year of Nella’s life and all of the turmoil, adaptation and growth that accompanied it. However, many of the chapters are structured to provide background and context. Readers learn about Ms. Hampton’s own childhood, both its idyllic aspects and its fracture when her parents were divorced after her father, a clergyman, admitted to being gay. Readers discover her slow self-making as a teen, a college student and a young professional. We share her sense of good fortune in meeting Brett, the divorced, somewhat older man with two sons who became her husband and the father of Lainey and Nella. We enjoy their exquisite bonding into one family.

“Part of facing your fears,” she writes, “is going there. You have to go there — to the deepest pain of what you fear. You have to feel it — to hold the hot potato of hurt and know that even if life takes you to that place, you will get through it. And knowing that not only allows you to let the fear go, but it fuels you with a passion to make the best out of what you have, to grab the reins and purposefully steer yourself where you want to go.”

So, “Bloom” is not only about a particular young mother working through the place of hurt that she was taken to when she gave birth to a Down syndrome child. It is about all of us.

Ms. Hampton is careful about keeping the specific facts and the universal truths in balance in her inspirational book. Her

A conversation with the author



Phil Jason: What’s the relationship between your blog (www.kellehampton.com) and your book?

Kelle Hampton: The blog offers vignettes of our life today, presented in stories and photos and ranging from stream-of-consciousness writing to more structured essays. The book is an in-depth account of the first year with Nella, beginning with her birth story (as written on the blog).

PJ: What did you find most difficult in creating the book?

KH: The biggest challenge for me was narrowing down both a year’s worth of events and experiences from the past and selecting only the most important ones to write about. There are so many other stories I could have included, even in the short time frame of one year, that affected my perspective and/or that powerfully impacted me.

PJ: The shock of Nella’s differentness could have led you to see a need to “live small” rather than “live big.” How were you able to choose “living big”?

KH: I think a lot of people who face challenges will tell you there is something incredibly inspiring about recognizing your own strengths through them. Once I embraced this thing I had always thought would be so heartbreaking, so awful, and allowed myself to move forward, I felt incredibly empowered. “What else am I capable of?” I wondered. “Living big” for me represents not only seizing opportunities to live purposefully, but actively pursuing them.

prose is full-color, just like the 237 gorgeous photographs that adorn her story, a story that is really a powerful meditation on loss, perspective, challenge and opportunity. Give it to anyone you know who is hurting. ■

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KOVELS: ANTIQUES

Door stops become show-stopping antiques

terryKOVEL

news@floridaweekly.com



Iron doorstops are among today's top-selling collectibles. They are probably not propped against a door to keep it open but are instead displayed like rare porcelain figurines on a prominent shelf. The clever, colorful and often humorous doorstops favored today are made of painted cast iron. They were first popular in the late 19th century. Flower baskets, cottages, animals and people were the most common doorstop shapes. More than 1,000 American-made doorstops are known, and there are at least 35 different doorstops that look like Boston Terriers. A new doorstop in 1920 cost 25 cents. Today a rare doorstop sells for more than \$10,000. But most doorstops in average condition cost about \$100. Original paint is important and repainting a doorstop, no matter how battered, lowers the price. A broken or badly damaged piece has almost no value. Many reproductions of old doorstops have been made, most of them since the 1980s. That's when new collectors started searching for pieces for their collections.

Reproductions start out with overly bright paint, and any rust that develops

on them is bright orange, not dark brown.

One unusual vintage cast-iron doorstop is a clownish boy wearing a checkered shirt. He is standing with his legs and arms crossed. At his feet are piles of books and pamphlets. It may have been made to commemorate the *New York Times* Crossword Puzzle. Since the *Times* didn't publish its first crossword puzzle until 1942, the doorstop wasn't made before then. One sold in 2008 for \$4,025. In 2011 another one sold for \$1,725.

Q: My old child's rocking chair has a music box attached to one of the rockers. A short rod extends from the music box to the floor so that when the chair rocks, the music box plays. Unfortunately, the music box no longer works. What can you tell me about the chair? Do you know anyone who repairs something like this?

A: In the mid-20th century, a few companies made children's rocking chairs with music boxes. The mechanism on your chair was a feature of little rockers made by the N.D. Cass Co. of Athol, Mass. See if you can find a Cass Toys label or mark on the chair. Anyone who repairs music boxes should be able to repair the box on your chair. We list a few in the free directory on our website, Kovels.com.

Q: Please tell me what my World War II poster is worth. My father got the poster from his bank in 1942, which is

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why I know it's an original. It's 39 by 60 inches and pictures a close-up of a pilot. The wording on it is: "You Buy 'Em, We'll Fly 'Em, Defense Bonds, Stamps." The poster is in excellent condition and I have kept it framed under glass.

A: World War II patriotic posters interest many collectors. Your poster, featuring art by Norman Wilkinson, was made in at least three sizes. Yours is the largest. We have seen a small one sell for \$100, so yours would sell for more.

Q: I have owned an old heating stove for years. The name on it is "Warm Morning." Can you give me any history?

A: "Warm Morning" was a trade name for heaters made by the Locke Stove Co. of Kansas City, Mo. The heaters were first sold in the early 1930s and remained popular through the '40s. They were made to burn different fuels — wood, coal, gas or oil.

Q: More than 50 years ago, my husband and I bought a silver-plated melon-shaped serving piece with a removable silver insert and a second pierced silver insert below it. The dish is 15 inches high by 8 inches in diameter. The top rolls back and is decorated with an ornate coat of arms. The bottom is marked "Mappin & Webb, 7577 & 78 Oxford Street, Building City, London." Can you tell me the history of this piece and its value?

A: You have what probably was mar-

keted as a "bun warmer" or "breakfast warmer" designed to keep rolls or other food warm on the table or buffet. Mappin & Webb is still in business. It's one of England's oldest jewelry retailers and is known for its high-quality silver. The firm dates back to 1774, when Jonathan Mappin founded his own silversmith workshop in Sheffield, England. George Webb joined the Mappin family in the business in 1858 and the company's name was changed to Mappin & Webb. A Mappin & Webb silver-plated warmer like yours sold at auction last summer for \$85.

Tip: Valuable old wicker should never be painted. It should be misted once a month. Vacuum and dust it regularly. Once a year, wash it with a natural soap. ■

— Terry Kovel answers as many questions as possible through the column.

By sending a letter with a question, you give full permission for use in the column or any other Kovel forum. Names, addresses or e-mail addresses will not be published. We cannot guarantee the return of any photograph, but if a stamped envelope is included, we will try. The volume of mail makes personal answers or appraisals impossible. Write to Kovel's (Florida Weekly), King Features Syndicate, 300 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019.



This "Crossed Out" figural doorstop in pristine condition sold for \$1,725 at a 2011 Bertoia auction in Vineland, N.J.

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4. Domenic and Leslie Colantonio with Sandra Buxton
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6. Tony Orr and Theresa Shaw

CHARLIE MCDONALD / FLORIDA WEEKLY

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5. Kathleen Scanlon, Doug Morrison, Polly Whiteside and Margo Vincent
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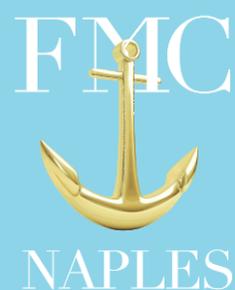
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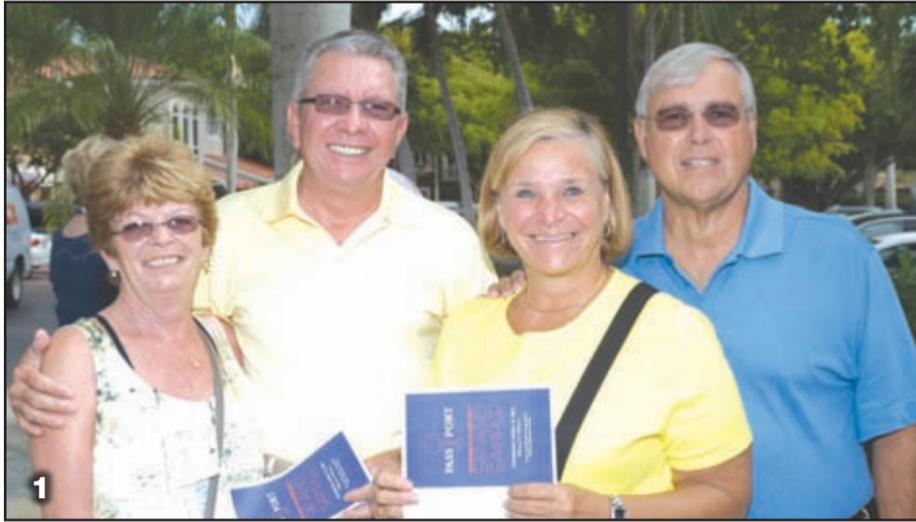
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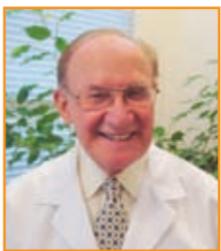
1. Lydia and John Gibbons, Barb and Fred Boggan
2. Amanda Rivera
3. Nicola Weston and Eric Lutgert
4. Marlene and Patrick Boom
5. Karen and Harvey Loe
6. Dan Roins and Dottie Foland
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BERNADETTE LA PAGLIA / FLORIDA WEEKLY

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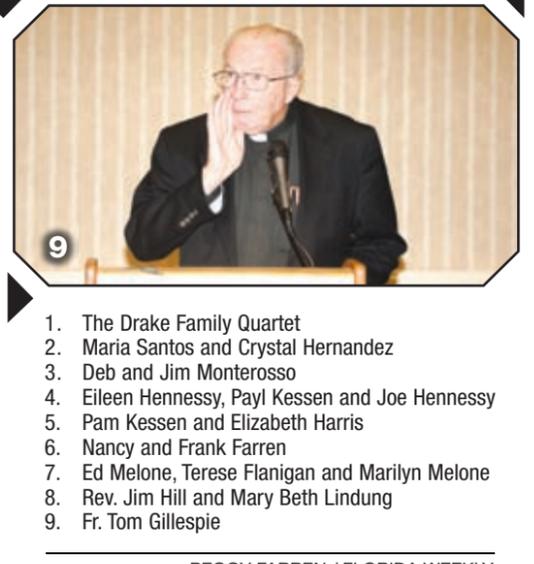
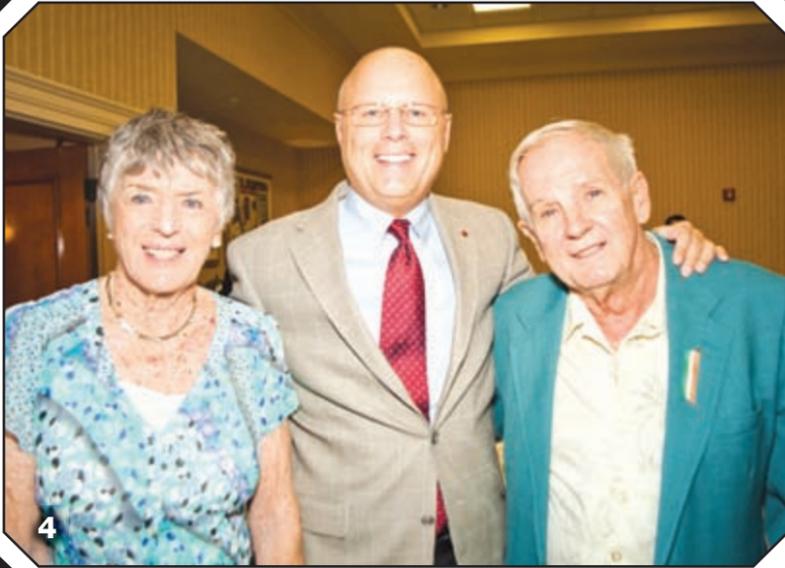


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8. Rev. Jim Hill and Mary Beth Lindung
9. Fr. Tom Gillespie

PEGGY FARREN / FLORIDA WEEKLY

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For general wine information, sign up for e-mails from the British publication, Decanter Magazine, as well as Wine Spectator and eWallstreeter.com's wine list. Decanter Magazine covers wines from around the world but with more of a focus on European, Australian and South African wines, probably due to its proximity and the lack of a large domestic wine business. Wine Spectator is well known for insightful articles and business trends as well as voluminous reviews, while eWallstreeter.com is an email service that updates twice daily with interesting tidbits about wines.

Sign up with your favorite wineries for e-mail notifications about upcoming events and new releases. Join a winery's wine club and you'll likely receive offers not available to the general public. Recently, for example, Krupp Brothers in California released a syrah with three years ageing in

special French oak casks, available only to their wine club members. There are some wineries that only sell online to their club members, and there can be quite a wait just to get on the list to purchase from Screaming Eagle or Harlan Estate.

Facebook is another way to stay connected. "Like" your favorite wineries and get updates through Facebook and connect with others who enjoy the same wines you do. This is a good way to find local events involving wines you like.

If you haven't used Twitter, signing up is free. There is a very diverse Twitter-universe out there, and if you sign up to lots of accounts you might drown in the flood of tweets every day. If you search 'wine' on Twitter you will find thousands of opportunities to get the latest wine-blurb, ranging from mainstream to unusual. Who knew there is an English Wine Producers tweet? It seems every region, country and mass retailer has their own tweets, and some are extremely prolific. Wines of Argentina, Wine Australia, Oregon Wine, and Total Wine show up every day multiple times on my Twitter feed, featuring tips, tasting notes, events and news. Search for your own favorites.

Or maybe you just want the latest and best deal. There are two sites I recently joined that showcase wines in limited quantities but great prices.

WTSO — WineTilSoldOut — is the online site for a south New Jersey retailer that features great prices for small lots. Most selections require a three- or four-bottle purchase and include free shipping. Last Call Wines, another New Jersey retailer, also sends out daily updates and lists its

available inventory. Be prepared for multiple daily updates, as they sell through their inventory and replace it with new options. Recent offerings include Dog Point NZ Chardonnay, Mer Soleil Chardonnay and Freemark Abbey Bosche Estate Cabernet Sauvignon. These are all gone now, but the pipelines are full of selections from around the world.

Staying connected digitally is an effortless way to be in the know about your wine favorites. The hardest part is limiting yourself so you don't get overloaded with Facebook updates and tweets.

Interesting tweets to help stay connected:

@jancisrobinson

For a distinctively British connection I enjoy Jancis Robinson, the well known wine authority and wine writer for the Financial Times of London. She has her ear to the ground and links her tweets back to her web site for in depth appraisals of wine topics around the world. Recent articles have covered topics ranging from the Bordeaux 2011 vintage, a fine article about wine fraud involving big name French wines, and a comparison of restaurants of Languedoc versus Catalunya.

@wine594

I just like this one because it covers events around the continent, and some of the tweets and articles are not picked up by other tweets or news agencies. Who knew there was a Portuguese water dog named Rafa that is helping raise \$10,000 for the local humane society in Edmonton Alberta? His owner runs a wine shop and sells a

Sonoma County Red 2007 for fundraising with Rafa's picture on the label.

@RandallGraham

The quixotic winemaker of Bonny Doon Vineyard is one of the original Rhone Rangers in California. Look up Rhone Rangers (wineries using rhone grapes) in Wikipedia and it shows his picture. Interesting, deep, and extremely prolific, he covers 30 topics a day, or more. Be warned that you will receive a lot of tweets here, but some are very insightful. One recent tweet about the restaurant at his winery reveals "Incumbent upon me 2 work at least a few nights a week @CigareVolantBDV as a sommelier. I've bought these strange wines, I need to sell them." ■



Jancis Robinson's Twitter feed provides a distinctively British perspective.

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CUISINE

Swan River's seafood fresh and refreshingly simple

drewSTERWALD
pgnews@floridaweekly.com



North meets South at Swan River Seafood Restaurant, which has been serving the best of New England's catch beside the treasures of Southwest Florida waters for more than 10 years.

The original Swan River Seafood was founded on the shores of Nantucket Sound on Cape Cod more than 60 years ago by a retired sea captain. The Southern outpost certainly captures the spirit of the Cape, with its nautical blue and white interior, oars on the walls and menu offerings of whole belly clams, broiled scrod and lobster rolls. But it's complemented by Florida stone crab claws (in season), Gulf grouper and Southern oysters.

Based on the constant flow of diners on an off-season weeknight and on the consistent quality of the food and service, it's a winning combination.

Like so many Southwest Florida restaurants, Swan River is in a nondescript strip shopping plaza. The generic exterior is forgotten immediately upon stepping inside, however. Suddenly, you could be walking into a restaurant in Wellfleet, Provincetown or any of the Cape's other charming seaside communities.

The restaurant and market buy seafood directly from boats that fish off Georges Bank, the most westward of the great Atlantic fishing banks, between Cape Cod and Nova Scotia. "The scrod, haddock and striped bass are all caught by hook-fishing, the most ecologically sound method of producing the best possible product," according to the website. "Local fishermen pull the lobster and shellfish from the icy waters of the Atlantic daily."

Now that we've established how fresh the product is, let's get down to the eating.

We'd barely sat down when a bread basket arrived. The white dinner rolls were bland and a bit tough, but their swift appearance foretold of the prompt service that would be standard for the evening.

About two dozen reasonably priced wines are available by glass and bottle, mostly fine but fairly common names like Hess, Kendall-Jackson and Murphy-Goode. My Villa Maria Sauvignon Blanc from New Zealand (\$7.75) was lightly tart and well chilled.

The menu includes all manner of raw and cooked seafood combinations as

appetizers and entrees, which is nice if you want to sample an array (there also are steaks, ribs, chicken piccata and liver and onions for those whose tastes lie elsewhere).

We started with fried oysters (\$10.99) and steamed littleneck clams (\$12.99). The former were lightly coated in corn flour and crisply fried, the briny morsels within melting in unctuous bursts on the tongue. The accompanying dip, described as Louisiana sauce, was like a zesty remoulade — creamy and slightly spicy, a nice counterpoint to the crunchy oysters.

DREW STERWALD / FLORIDA WEEKLY
Above: Maine gray sole is simply broiled with white wine, lemon and butter.

Right: Frozen kumquat pie adds a touch of Florida to Swan River's Cape Cod cuisine.

The dozen clams were quickly steamed just before serving; we could tell by their pearly color and tenderness that they hadn't been sitting for long. Their salty liquor struck a delicate, perfect balance with the white wine, butter and garlic they were steamed in. The resulting broth was so tasty that we wished for good bread to sop it up with; the dinner rolls were not up to the task.

The appetizer dishes were promptly whisked away by the quietly efficient staff, which maintained its cool even as the dining room grew busier and busier. Clearly, Swan River has a devoted following to be bustling this time of year.

Choosing entrées is no easy task when

fish dishes alone amount to a full dozen. We finally settled on the Maine gray sole (\$26.99), which is a variety seldom seen in these parts. It was broiled to perfection — lightly browned yet supremely moist. With only white wine, lemon and butter in the preparation, nothing competed with the delicate flavor of the fish. At Swan River, you won't find food buried under piles of fruity salsas and painted with garish drizzles of infused oil or creamy coulis. It's seafood cooked simply in order to showcase the quality of the main ingredient.

Most entrees come with two

alongside our other entrée, the bouillabaisse (\$24.99), a good portion of which ended up going home with us. The Mediterranean classic was chock-full of seafood — clams, mussels, shrimp, fish and huge scallops. The broth was a flawless marriage of tomatoes, garlic and a variety of herbs. Again, we wished for bread to soak it up with.

Choices for dessert were no less diverse. We loved the zesty kumquat freezer pie with graham-cracker-crumbed crust (\$6.50) — no way that came off of a Sysco truck. The bread pudding (\$5.50) was equally good — warm, super-moist and not overly sweet.

Whether you're longing for a taste of New England seafood or Florida's own, the fishing is good at Swan River. ■



Below: Bread pudding is served warm and drizzled with caramel.

in the know

Swan River Seafood Restaurant and Fish Market

3741 Tamiami Trail N., Naples; 403-7000

Ratings:
Food: ★★★★★
Service: ★★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★★

- >> **Hours:** 11 a.m.-3 p.m. and 4:30-9 p.m. daily
- >> **Reservations:** For parties of six or more
- >> **Credit cards:** Accepted
- >> **Price range:** Appetizers, \$9.99-\$14.99; entrees, \$15.99-\$52.99
- >> **Beverages:** Full bar
- >> **Specialties of the house:** Seafood, naturally
- >> **Volume:** Moderate
- >> **Parking:** Plaza lot
- >> **Website:** www.swanriverseafood.com

★★★★★ Superb
★★★★ Noteworthy
★★★ Good
★★ Fair
★ Poor

sides, and the dozen options include spinach, salad, applesauce, various starches and pickled beets. The cole slaw here is noteworthy for the same simplicity we enjoyed with the sole; it tastes like it's nothing more than cabbage and sweetened white or rice vinegar. (I later found the recipe online and I was only off by a few basic ingredients). The potato salad and parsley red potatoes needed a touch of seasoning, but potatoes always do.

Two side dishes proved too generous

food & wine CALENDAR

- > **Thursday, May 3, 7 p.m.,** Caffè dell'Amore: Savor a six-course dinner featuring the Sicilian wines of Tasca d'Almerita Vineyards, along with delicacies such as seafood salad, eggplant gnocchi and shrimp in marsala; \$89, 1400 Gulf Shore Blvd., Naples; 261-1389. Reservations required.
- > **Friday, May 4, 6-10 p.m.,** Fifth Ave. S.: Sip of Fifth features tastings of wines and craft beer all along the avenue; \$55 (includes complimentary glass); 692-8436. See story on page C3.
- > **Saturday, May 5, 11:30 a.m.-8 p.m.,** Agave Southwestern Grill: Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with tequila and mezcal specials, live entertainment and dance exhibitions, giveaways and raffles as well as food and

- drink specials; \$15, 2380 Vanderbilt Beach Road, Naples; 598-3473.
- > **Sunday, May 6, noon-4 p.m.,** Bayfront: The 29th Taste of Collier features food from 30 local restaurants, an Iron Chef competition, ice-carving contest and more to benefit local charities; \$5 (children 5 and younger admitted free), with tasting portion running \$3-\$5, Goodlette-Frank Road and 5th Ave. S., Naples; 272-1907.
- > **Tuesday, May 8, 6-7 p.m.,** Decanted Wines: Using a smell/aroma kit, learn how to identify the subtle aromas in wine (appetizers will accompany tasting); \$20, 1410 Pine Ridge Road, Naples; (800) 980-5766. Reservations required.
- > **Wednesday, May 9, 5-7 p.m.,**

- Decanted Wines: Learn how to pair cupcakes and wines for an inventive Mother's Day treat; \$15, 1410 Pine Ridge Road, Naples; (800) 980-5766. Reservations required.
- Farmers markets**
- > **Wednesday, 1:30-5:30 p.m.,** St. Monica's Episcopal Church, 7070 Immokalee Road; 591-4550.
- > **Wednesday, 7:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.,** the Marco Island Farmers Market, Veterans Community Park, Marco Island.
- > **Friday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.,** the Government Complex farmers market, 3335 U.S. 41 E.
- > **Saturday, 7:30-11:30 a.m.,** Third Street South, behind Tommy Bahama's

- between Third Street and Gordon Drive.
- > **Saturday, 7 a.m.-noon,** Bonita Springs Lions Club farm market, The Promenade, 26851 South Bay Drive, Bonita Springs.
- > **Saturday, 8 a.m.-noon,** St. Paul's Episcopal Church farm market, 3901 Davis Blvd., Naples.
- > **Saturday, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.,** North Naples Green Market at the Galleria Shoppes at Vanderbilt, off Airport Pulling and Vanderbilt Beach roads.
- > **Sunday, 8 a.m.-noon,** Freedom Park farmers market, 151 Golden Gate Parkway. ■

— Send items to cuisine@floridaweekly.com.



Jag



Profile by Gottex



Vix



Jantzen



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Betsey Johnson

BEST



OF 2012

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Welcome to
Florida Weekly's Best
special section

Typical "Best of" sections in local newspapers require merchants to buy ads to have their names placed on the ballot. No ad, no chance to win.

That's not our style here at *Florida Weekly*.

We wanted to create a Best of Collier County that was fun, entertaining and untainted (for the most part) by commerce. We set out to create a list that captured the character of our unique area with the kind of flair you've come to expect from this publication. Instead of focusing on local merchants, we spotlight the people, places and events that make Southwest Florida special. If someone did advertise, however, we thanked them by including them as a best.

At least we're honest.

And, instead of having readers vote, which is a process rife with skullduggery, we sent our award-winning writers and editors out to scour Collier County for the Best.

LOCAL COLOR:

What makes us unique

>> Best place to last, Best send-off, Best bait and switch, Best May-December romance, Best proposal, Best legs in a skirt and more.

D5

DOWN TIME:

Relaxing and having fun

D20 >> Best place to take the kids, grandkids, stepkids and the neighbor's kids, Best place for a cheap senior date, Best place for a power breakfast, Best draft pick and more.

FRESH AIR:

The great outdoors

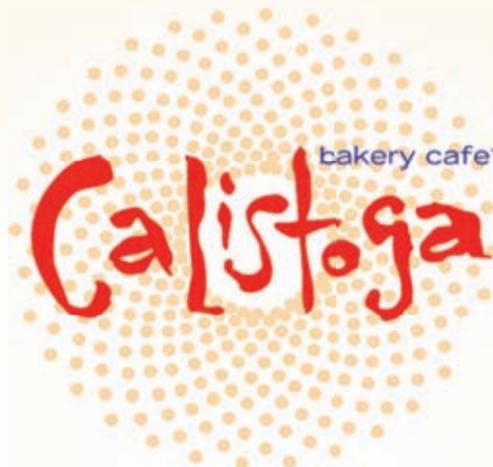
>> Best uphill battle, Best old-school park, place to camp, Best place to canoe/kayak, Best park for picnicking,

D25

GOODS AND SERVICES:

What we buy

D26 >> Best place to stretch a dollar, Best place for beach-bound legs, Best travel companion, Best place to age gracefully and more.



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Ciabatta Bruschetta | BBQ Shrimp | Blackened Beef Tips
Tempura Asparagus Fries | Seared Ahi Tuna

- LUNCH SALADS -

Large Caesar Salad | Southwest Salad
Asian Salad | Cobb Salad

**Add your choice to the above salads; Three Grilled Shrimp | Four Blackened Beef Tips | Grilled Chicken Breast | 10 oz. Grilled Salmon Steak & Gorgonzola Salad | Hawaiian Chicken Salad*

- KNIFE & FORK SANDWICHES -

French Dip Au Jus | BBQ Beef Sandwich | Buffalo Chicken Tender Sandwich | Cuban Sandwich
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BBQ Pork Sandwich | Turkey Wrap | Sandwiches served with your choice of Steak Fries, Sweet Potato Fries or Potato Salad

- LUNCH ENTREES -

Prime Rib | Seared Atlantic Salmon Filet | Beef Tortellacci
Pan Seared Chicken | Gamelli Pasta (Add Grilled Chicken Breast)

- THE SHULA CUT® -

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24 oz. Porterhouse | 48 oz. Porterhouse

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1/2 Doz. Blue Point Oysters (On the Half Shell)
Jumbo Lump Crab Cake | Stone Crabs (Seasonal)
Flash Fried Lobster Tail | Cold Water Lobster Tail
Lobster Cocktail | Blackened Tenderloin Tips

- SALADS -

Beefsteak Tomato & Gorgonzola Salad
The Wedge | Traditional Caesar w/Herbed Croutons
Tomato & Fresh Mozzarella Chop Salad

- SIDES -

Creamed or Sautéed Spinach
Broccoli w/Hollandaise Sauce
Fresh Asparagus Steamed or Grilled
Baked Potato | Hash Brown Potatoes
Lobster Mashed Potatoes | Grilled Onions
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10 oz. Mahi Mahi | 10 oz. Norwegian Salmon
16 oz. French Cut Chicken Breast | 22 oz. Lamp Loin Chops
Stone Crabs (Seasonal) | Twin Tails (2) 9 oz. Lobster Tails
Surf & Turf - 8 oz. Filet Mignon/9 oz. Lobster Tail

- DESSERTS -

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LOCAL COLOR:

What makes us unique

BEST PLACE TO LAST

>> Collier County

A study published in Population Health Metrics says the average life expectancy for Collier County women is 86 years, the highest in the United States. Collier men, at 80, live longer than any others in Florida. That comes as no surprise to those of us who for years have been taking greedy gulps from Collier's fountain of youth. Access to good health care is an obvious contributor, but might the longer living also come because of all the spa treatments offered and consumed? All the wonderful restaurants? All the warm weather and gulf sunsets? We'd like to think that this Collier County "best" comes as a result of the combination of all the "Best" things we celebrate in this issue. After all, living long is only worthwhile when you're living in a place worth living long in.

BEST BOB DYLAN MOMENT (I.E. "HOW DOES IT FEE-EE-EL?")

>> Todd Allen vs. Bank of America

It was, at first appearance, a familiar story: One party failed to pay what it owed, the aggrieved party foreclosed and the repo-folks showed up to take the furniture. Except in this case, the party owing the money was a bank, the foreclosing was done by a Naples couple's attorney and the furniture being taken was from inside the institution. Some quick

financial action by Bank of America settled the debt and kept the furniture in place, but did nothing to remove the frittata's worth of egg from its corporate face. Attorney Todd Allen's action demonstrates both that given the right motivation, banks are still capable of speedy decisions, and that furniture from a bank lobby really only works in a bank lobby.

BEST SEND-OFF

>> Thank You Myra Days

When some people retire, they get a nice luncheon in their honor. Or they'll get together with colleagues and friends at the local bar and toss down some beers. Myra Janco Daniels, the founder and first CEO of the Philharmonic Center for the Arts, had a two-day celebration at the venue. A Saturday night gala included Brian Stokes Mitchell CK Kelli O'Hara, Harolyn Blackwell, and Michael Feinstein, as well as Keith Lockhart conducting the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra and dancers from the Miami City Ballet. Celebrities such as Bill Cosby and Neil Sedaka delivered pre-recorded messages.



BEST NEW KID IN TOWN

>> Kathleen van Bergen

Philharmonic Center for the Arts CEO and President Kathleen van Bergen quickly set about making friends the minute she moved into her new position as successor to Mrs. Daniels (see

above). She's established partnerships with Gulfshore

Playhouse and Opera Naples, among others, earning her a virtual "standing ovation" for her overtures.

BEST REASON TO CALL THE CARPET CLEANER

>> Craig Wolf

We learned earlier this year that NBC-2 might have lost Craig Wolf, its lead male anchor for nearly 18 years, not to disputes over money or bad behavior, but because of alleged dirty carpets. Mr. Wolf filed a whistleblower lawsuit against his former employer, claiming he was fired in retaliation for complaining to regulators about unsanitary conditions that he says damaged his health. The case is working its way through the courthouse, where, as far as we know, the linoleum tile is swept and polished daily.



BEST BAIT AND SWITCH

>> Trey Radel's website shenanigans

Republican candidate for U.S. House Trey Radel pulled the ultimate sneak attack by purchasing websites linked to the names of three of his rivals: Gary Aubuchon, Chauncey Goss and Paige Kreegel. Mr. Radel says he's using the sites to highlight the liberal, big-spending faults of his competitors vying for the District 19 seat. His political foes, worried unsuspecting Googlers will navigate to these bogus sites, compare the move to identity theft and Washington-worthy campaign warfare. Is it sheer marketing genius, or just plain old dirty politics?

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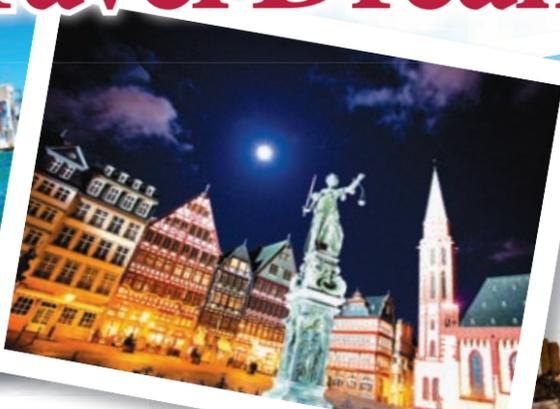
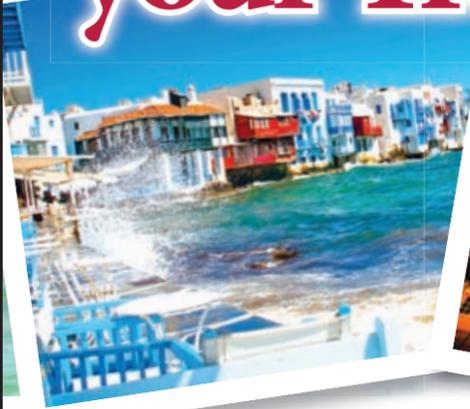
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BEST UNSUNG HERO

>> Cynthia Rodriguez-Schweisthal

As the liaison for homeless education for Collier County schools, Ms. Rodriguez-Schweisthal meets children who do their homework to the interior lights of parked cars and who wash up at gas stations and fall asleep at their desks. She helps these children with transportation, free lunch, tutoring sessions, health physicals, counseling, school supplies — but only as much as her funding will allow, for her position rests on a competitive grant of \$90,000 to cover her salary and the services she provides. Meager as her means may be, she still delivers soap and towels to homeless shelters, she still finds bus passes for high school students who move from friend to friend, couch to couch. As of April, Ms. Rodriguez-Schweisthal has identified more than 1,000 homeless students in Collier County. We call her hero; these students might better call her saint.

Compelled to donate or volunteer? Please call 377-0505.

BEST MAY-DECEMBER ROMANCE

>> Tony Marino and Shannon Livingston



Mr. Marino (at 70, the December in this pairing) and Shannon Livingston (she's May, at 39) have a 31-year age difference, but the relationship seems to work just fine. Tony says if Shannon can't keep up

that's her issue, because he's not slowing down.

BEST PROPOSAL

>> At the finish line

After the Marco Island Bridge Run, a half-marathon back in March, Naples triathlete Andy Holland dropped to one knee and proposed to Allyson Swanson, also a race competitor and triathlete. With a crowd of tired, sweaty runners cheering her on, she happily said "Yes!" — and we were reminded that true love is meant to be a marathon, not a sprint.

BEST COMEBACK

>> Chief James Billie



Chief James Billie has come a long way from being born next to the Chimpanzee Farm in Dania and escaping the deadly intent of a medicine man who took issue with little James' mixed heritage. Mr. Billie, who was forced from his position as head of the Florida

Seminole nearly a decade ago, won 58.4 percent of the 1,757 ballots that were cast in an election last year and regained chairmanship of the Seminole Tribe of Florida. In doing so, he defeated two-term Chairman Mitchell Cypress, who was regarded as the favorite in the contest. Mr. Billie's 22-year reign as chief of the Seminoles (1979-2001) was marked by flamboyance and controversy. A battle-hardened veteran of the Vietnam War and an alligator wrestler of wide renown, he piloted airplanes and helicopters owned by the tribe and generally conducted himself in a

fashion that was guaranteed to attract attention. The signal accomplishment of his tenure was the establishment of Indian gambling facilities that have been emulated by tribes across the United States.

BEST DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDREL, AKA "GOLIATH"

>> Florida Georgia Grove LLC

This is the developer who bulldozed Mamie Street, the only road to the century-old National Historic Register Smallwood Store and Indian trading post on Chokoloskee Island. FGG put up a fence, blocked the only land access and forced Smallwood supporters to gather grass-roots support and sue.

BEST GRASSROOTS SLINGSHOT HIT, AKA "DAVID"

>> Lynn Smallwood McMillim

Ms. McMillim is director of the Ted Smallwood Store Inc., the nonprofit group dedicated to restoring Mamie Street (see above). After missing deadlines and twice being found in contempt of court, Florida Georgia Grove LLC agreed to comply with a court order to remove the fence and pave Mamie Street, a road that had been open 70 years when FGG decided to bulldoze it.

BEST WEIRD PRESS RELEASE PHOTO

>> Kat Epple

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Ms. Epple is one of our favorite and most creative local musicians, but we have no idea what's going on in this photo of her and keyboardist Chuck Grinnell that was part of a press release about a March performance. It looks like they went to Where the Wild Things Are — but in an alternate universe — and while there, found a cardboard box with a cloud stuffed inside it. We love it. And it makes us want to hear and see them play. www.katepple.com.



BEST HEADLINE

>> Man Accused of Attacking Woman with Swim Noodle over Watermelon Dispute – Naples Daily News

Thank goodness we still have daily newspapers to provide needed perspective on conflict in our changing world. In this analysis of an incident at Lowdermilk Park, the schism began with strong diplomatic language over the resting place of a rotting melon carcass (on-shore vs. off-), escalated to weaponry (as one party dumped on the other the bilge water from the barrel of a swim noodle) and ended with close-quarters combat (and, according to law enforcement, a punch to the cheek). With the arrest of an East Naples man, police have now reclaimed Lowdermilk Park as part of the Collier County DMZ.

BEST STYLE (HIM)

>> Joe-Jo Jennings



Some would say it's the pocket square. Others would insist it's the bow tie. We'd agree it's both those things, plus his John Craig wardrobe, that give Neapolitan Joe-Jo Jennings his characteristic fashion panache. But there's something else, too. Whenever we think of Mr. Jennings, we're reminded of that old song, "You're never fully dressed without a smile." It still remains his

most fabulous accessory.



BEST STYLE (HER)

>> Brenda O'Connor

The senior vice president of the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce says style for her means "playing dress up" every day. Mrs. O'Connor uses her imagination to create new looks for business, casual, "Naples Chic" or black tie. And she also relies on her great rapport with the salespeople in her favorite store, Nordstrom.

BEST LEGS IN A SKIRT

>> Dave Wallace



The proud president of the St. Andrews Society of Southwest Florida has been photographed more times in his kilt than any other man in Naples. Sorry, girls, but the senior commercial broker associate with CRE Consultants is married to the lovely Suzanne Wallace and the photo here is actually from their wedding.

BEST MEN IN HEELS

>> The Stiletto Sprint



A light-hearted, 500-yard race with a serious purpose — to raise funds and awareness during National Breast Cancer Awareness Month every October — the Stiletto Sprint draws bold women and even bolder men out to make a daring dash down Fifth Avenue South while wearing heels (the higher the better). Most participants use the sprint as an opportunity to get decked out in pink from head to toe as a sign of their support for the Garden of Hope and Courage at NCH and for Susan G. Komen for the Cure-Southwest Florida.

Lawrence Perillo at the Stiletto Sprint

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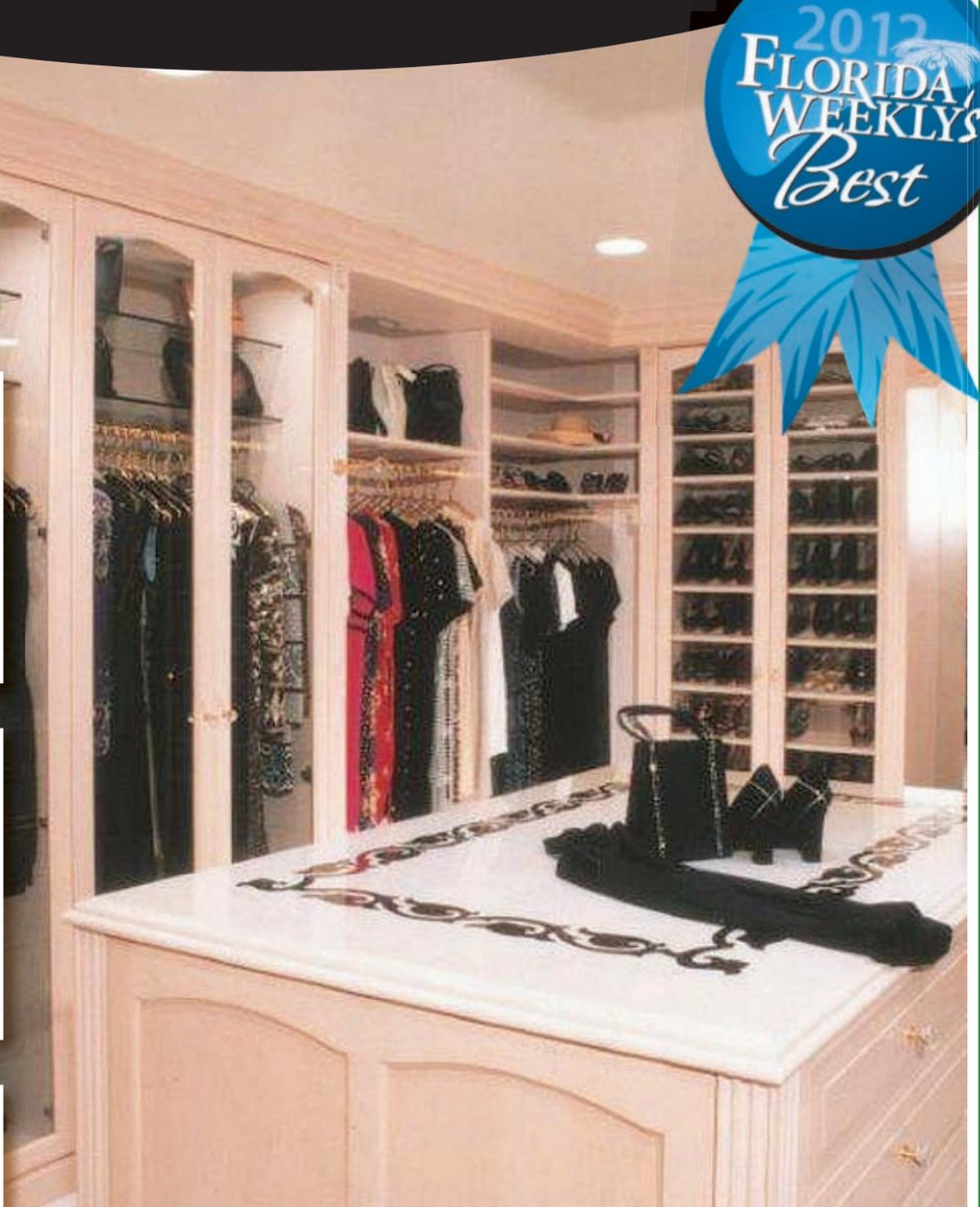
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BEST EXTREME HOME MAKEOVER

>> The David Lawrence Center

The kitchen and multi-purpose room in the Substance Abuse Services Center at the David Lawrence Center were in dire need of a makeover when professional organizer Marla Ottenstein donated her time and talent to make the spaces more functional and attractive. She applied her no-nonsense approach to cleaning out clutter, rearranged what was left and added much-needed touches, from a tile backsplash in the kitchen (which Ms. Ottenstein secured as a donation from Creative Tile & Hardwood Floors) to coordinating containers for condiments and supplies.

BEST REASON TO CLEAN OUT YOUR CLOSET

>> Love That Dress!

Donate a dress. Buy a dress. Help a young girl twice. Love That Dress! is a night with the girls, for the girls. Fashionistas sip on wine, snack on hors d'oeuvres and feel good about their snazzy new find, knowing the money they spend goes to PACE Center for Girls-Collier at Immokalee. PACE helps at-risk girls find their path to a brighter future through education, counseling, training and advocacy. In the weeks leading up to the event, dress donation parties take place all around town, hosted by businesses and individuals who believe in the cause. And the day after the big event, the young ladies of PACE peruse the remaining inventory, picking out a dress or two or five for themselves, bringing it back to what it's all about. This year's Love That Dress! is set for Wednesday, Aug. 29, at the Waldorf Astoria Naples. Be there! www.pacecenter.org/collier.

BEST REASON FOR A TRIP TO THE MALL

>> To shop for a pet

Talk about a purrrrr-fect pairing. Humane Society Naples and Coastland Center teamed up last fall to open a satellite center for the animal welfare group, allowing pet lovers a convenient spot in which to adopt dogs, cats and other homeless creatures. It's even open during conventional mall hours much of the week, which mean potential pet owners don't have to leave work early in order to find and fall in love with a friendly furry face to take home. Making it easier for people to adopt pets is a concept worth barking for joy over. www.humanesocietynaples.com.



BEST HAIR (HER)

>> Kelly Capolino

Real estate professional and founder of the Diamond Volunteer Program, Ms. Capolino says her white highlights are God-given and her spiked cut is by Abby at Roberts of Philadelphia. With her busy schedule, she likes a cut

that she can style in a few minutes, and that she can spike even more with a few dabs of gel when the occasion calls for a more playful look.

BEST HAIR (HIM)

>> Craig Bamberg

If imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, then it just might



be that Justin Bieber's do can be traced back to its origin right here in Naples on the head of Craig Bamberg (although Mr. Bamberg's look is more "tailored mod GQ" than "rebel hip-hop teen"). He's a favorite among local paparazzi as easily spotted at events all around town. The senior director of corporate communications for ASG Software tells us his must-have hair elixir is LA Looks #10.

BEST FACIAL HAIR (JUST HIM)

>> Frank O'Neill

We snapped a photo of Mr. O'Neill and his remarkable mustache and beard at the annual CREW concert at Riverside Park in Bonita Springs. Although we caught him chilling out, he's a busy man who has served as interim building official for Collier County and chief building inspector for Lee County and now owns and operates Full Service Green, an environmental consulting company.



BEST SPECS (HER)

>> Kathleen van Bergen

We've already mentioned her as the Best New Kid in Town, but Kathleen van Bergen gets another nod as the woman about town who wears great eye-glasses. She tells us she's been wearing specs since her college days and has four pair in her current collection. Here she is



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in her favorite "dressy" pair, "oldies but goodies" she bought several years ago in Germany while there playing violin at a music festival in Heidelberg; as Best New Kid in Town (see page D5), the president and CEO of the Phil is wearing more business-friendly frames by Lafont.



BEST SPECS (HIM)

>> Karl Gibbons

Mr. Gibbons says he buys eyeglasses like women buy shoes. When asked how many pairs he owns, the president of Third Eye Management says not enough and certainly not as many as Sir Elton John. He's shown here in frames by Roberto Cavalli.

BEST SPECS (THEM)

>> Gayle and Scott Campbell

Our third annual Best edition has a first-time category for a couple who both wear great glasses. When we noticed Gayle and Scott Campbell (he's CEO of Physicians Regional-Collier Boulevard) kept showing up in our Society photos looking equally fabulous in a variety of frames, we had to find out more. Turns out she has "maybe a dozen?" pair by designers from Armani, Chanel and Kate Spade to Jean Lafont and Alain Mikli (her favorite). He favors frames from Marc Ecko, Gant and Ermenegildo Zegna. Shown here at the Dream Gala for the Golisano Children's Museum of Naples, she's wearing a pair by Kate Spade and he's in Marc Ecko. What a pair!



BEST SMILE

>> Peggy Farren

The effervescent owner of Understand Photography and Avant-Garde Images is always beaming (and usually laughing). She says she smiles and laughs because life is good and most people are interesting and fun to be around. She certainly sets the standard on that account.

BEST PLACE TO MAIL A POSTCARD HOME

>> Ochopee Post Office

At a whopping 7-by-8 feet, this fully functioning U. S. Post Office is the smallest in the Country and a tourist attraction in its own right. Ochopee boasts a population of about one dozen. The tiny ghost town sits alongside the Tamiami Trail, about 35 picturesque miles east of Naples and about one mile west of the Skunk Ape Research Headquarters (see below).



BEST SKUNK APE SCOOP

>> Skunk Ape Research Headquarters

If huge, hairy, smelly, mysterious creatures interest you, don't miss this kitschy attraction. It's about as far removed from glitzy Fifth Avenue South as the Moon is from Mars, but you might just remember it longer. And if you're here in October, there's always "Skunktoberfest." Find it at Trail Lakes Campground, 36 miles east of Naples on U.S. 41 in Ochopee. Write a postcard home while you're there (see above).

BEST GIVEAWAY

>> Gasoline from IberiaBank

Imagine the surprise of motorists who stopped to fill 'er up on Wednesday, March 14, and learned they had been chosen at random to get \$12.50 worth of gas for free, compliments of IberiaBank. As part of its 125th year celebration, the bank master-minded random acts of kindness at two gas stations in Naples, one on Marco Island and four in Lee County. Companywide that day, IberiaBank representatives pumped \$12,500 worth of free fuel.

BEST LOCAL PIPELINE

>> Gas at Costco

If you can't get it for free, the least expensive gas in town is often found at Costco on Naples Boulevard. But the crowds are often found there, too. The fourth line of pumps installed this spring helps, but if you really want to beat the wait, the pumps open at 6 a.m. and there's hardly ever a line then.

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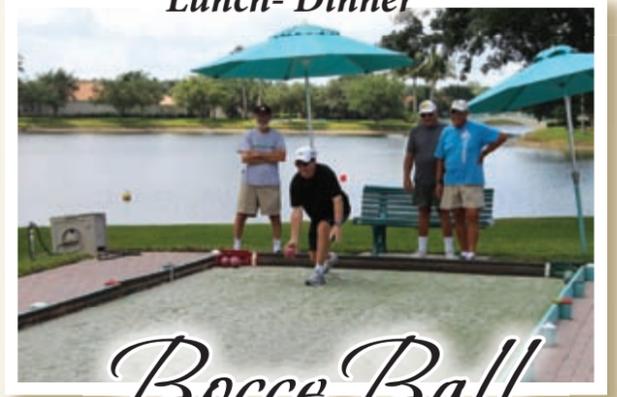
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Susan Valentine

Senior Travel Specialist, over 25 years experience

I have traveled extensively around the world. I recently sailed on the new Silver Spirit and was amazed at the high level of quality service and was genuinely impressed by the entire staff onboard. I LOVED the Butler service for every suite!



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I recently sailed on AmaWaterway's Christmas Markets cruise from Nuremberg to Budapest. The level of service was excellent and very friendly with great attention to detail. I highly recommend the AMA experience and cannot wait to sail again!



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Donna Christensen, CTA, DS

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I attended A&K's by invitation only - 100 Club Top Producer meeting in April. I have the inside track on the latest information on new destinations, trips and special offers for clients.



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Connie Moody

Senior Travel Specialist & eBella contributing travel writer, over 20 years experience

I've just returned from my 26th Regent cruise. I celebrated 365 days sailed on Regent when I hosted my annual cruise to the Colonial South and Bermuda in April. My number one all time favorite cruise was to Singapore and Indonesia.



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Karen Berger

Senior Travel Specialist, over 30 years experience

My extensive travel has taken me to 6 continents and over 30 countries. My favorites are Botswana and South Africa. My expertise in custom travel and attention to detail will ensure you enjoy the trip of a lifetime.



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John Burgess

Manager Leisure Division, Senior Travel Specialist, over 20 years experience

My clients agree that Lakani redefines luxury travel. It was no surprise they said it was the finest trip they'd ever taken. And since they've been almost everywhere and done almost everything, it's very high praise indeed!



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Debby Denham, CTC, DS, ACC

Senior Travel Specialist, over 20 years experience

I have sailed on Oceania numerous times and love it. They have the best food at sea thanks to the culinary genius of Master Chef Jacques Pépin. The warm, caring attitude and high level of personal service is wonderful.



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Bo Gover

Senior Travel Specialist, over 25 years experience

My clients love the all inclusive value, high level of service and world class restaurants. The really enjoy the unique itineraries and wonderful ports the small ships can sail right in to.



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Suzanne Dennis

Senior Travel Specialist, over 30 years experience

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BEST NEW HELPLINE

>> Collier 211

You've got questions, 211 has answers. The new non-emergency information and referral service from the Community Foundation of Collier County helps callers find help and information about hundreds of community nonprofits, government and for-profit service providers. One call to Collier 211 can help eliminate confusion about who to call for help and also reduces inappropriate calls to 911. Dial 211 or 263-4211, or visit www.collier211.org.



BEST CHURCH MARQUEE

>> East Naples Baptist Church

"Heaven. Don't miss it for the world." "You're not saved by service but saved for service." It's no wonder that when it comes to witticisms of an ecclesiastical nature, the marquee at East Naples Baptist Church has earned a reputation for repartee. From snappy sayings to thoughtful reflections on the nature of spirituality, this marquee is sure to put a little prayer in your drive time.

BEST BAPTISMAL POOL

>> Waypoint Community Church

It's Olympic! About a year and a half ago, Waypoint Community Church purchased the Collier Athletic Club property and began holding services there. It's perhaps the only churches in town complete with pool, tennis courts and bar (now known as Believers And Refreshments). Pastor JD Mallory says everyone is welcome, and if you feel like taking a dip after worshipping, just bring your suit.

BEST NEW APP

>> Savory "lollipops"

Butternut squash rounds filled with boursin cheese and leeks, pinwheels of smoked salmon, stuffed mushroom caps, perfectly round melon balls — all in bite-size portions and presented on lollipop sticks, perfect for plucking from an imaginative display and popping into your mouth with nary a need for a napkin. These newest apps, the delightfully delicious creations of Carol and Henry Dinardo of the Washington, D.C.-based Windows Catering Co., whet our appetite at Magic Under the Mangroves, the annual gala for the Conservancy of Southwest Florida, but we suspect the inventive nibblies will soon be "popping up" at all the cool cocktail parties and receptions around town.

BEST DO-GOODER

>> John Bunch

Fishing guide and Capt. John "Giddy-up" Bunch's seven-year effort to give troops returning from Iraq and Afghanistan weddings, honeymoons, vacations, fish-

ing trips and joy at no charge — a form of thanks — is unprecedented. Also a licensed pastor, Capt. Bunch performs weddings by land, air and sea (and why not? He's a former Marine Corps officer, after all). More than 150 businesses throughout Southwest Florida support his effort, but more support is always better support. Find out how you can help at www.operationopenarms.org.

BEST VANITY PLATE

>> "Piranha"

So, how did the man driving the blue Lamborghini Gallardo with the vanity plates that read "Piranha" make his money? We doubt it was by importing exotic fish. Spotted at the corner of Golden Gate Parkway and Livingston Road, he might not have been fishing for our attention — but he certainly caught it.

BEST PERSON WE ALL MISS

>> Peg Longstreth



At more than 6 feet tall and with a booming voice and strong opinions, Peg Longstreth was difficult to overlook. She knew the visual arts. She knew opera. She knew classical music. She knew a lot about a wide range of things. And she wrote about them for Florida Weekly. She opened an art gallery and filled it with artwork that'd be more at home in a more progressive metropolitan area. She loved cats and could never turn away any stray that was smart enough to find his or her way to her door. She died suddenly in February, and everyone who knows her is still reeling from the loss.

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BEST OF 2012



DOWN TIME:

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BEST PLACE TO TAKE THE KIDS, GRANDKIDS, STEPKIDS, THE NEIGHBOR'S KIDS

>> The Golisano Children's Museum of Naples

C'Mon! Climb a tree, rake fall leaves, step into an igloo. At Naples' newest museum kids can cast magnets to fish for stuffed animals from blue-painted turntables and then measure their catch to make sure it's a keeper. They can traverse the Everglades by boardwalk, above a mangrove maze where a 19-foot gator (not a real one) makes his home. There's also a 45-foot-tall banyan tree to climb and a 22-foot-wide nautica shell to explore. www.cmon.org.

BEST EVENT MASCOT

>> The Green Flash Fairy

For the past two years, Kaye Klug has dressed up as the Green Flash Fairy to welcome guests at the Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park beach fundraiser, the "Green Flash Sunset Celebration." Catch her colorful act at the third annual celebration in November.



BEST PLACE TO GET DOWN AND DIRTY

>> The "World Famous" Swamp Buggy Races

Three times a year, the "World Famous" Naples Swamp Buggy Races provide an opportunity to witness what must rank as one of the strangest vehicle spectacles in the world. Buggies shaped like submarines and airplanes, on skids and skis and painted Skittles colors, plow through and over muddy water. It's a roaring-loud place to spend a day with the family and maybe shock-and-awe some out-of-town guests. The first King of the Swamp was Johnny Jones, crowned in 1949. This year's Spring Classic Champion was a SHE — Lorrie Johns, crowned Queen of the Swamp in her buggy "Lady Liberty." Your next chance to catch a race will be Oct. 27-28 at the Florida Sports Park. Check it out. These definitely ain't your Granddaddy's buggy races! www.swampbuggy.com.

BEST PLACE FOR A SENIOR DATE

>> Showtime at the Pavilion

The Pavilion Cinema 10 in the Pavilion Shopping

Center at the corner of Tamiami Trail North and Vanderbilt Beach Road is a bargain for anyone over 55; you can impress your date with a first-run movie and still have enough money for popcorn. Even though it's hard to ask for the senior ticket the first time, for \$6 it's well worth it. And as far as we can tell, they never ask for I.D. (a bit disheartening for those of us who think we still look 40-something, but hey, we gotta love the savings). www.fandango.com/pavilioncinema10.

BEST PLACE FOR A CHEAP DATE AT ANY AGE

>> Bravo! Cucina Italiana

After you've dazzled your date with your good looks, be sure to impress her with your financial smarts. Visit Bravo! Cucina Italiana at Mercato for the "Bar Bites" menu and choose from an array of hearty appetizers, all for a mere \$2.95. Offered from 3:30-6:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. to close, Monday to Friday. And if you think this romance might last, don't miss \$5 martini Wednesdays. www.bravoitalian.com.

BEST FREE CONCERTS

>> Gulf Coast Town Center

Whether you're plopped down on the grass in front of the stage, bar hopping or ducking in and out of all the shops, live music from the market plaza stage fills the air and sets a celebratory tone every weekend at Gulf Coast Town Center. Coming up in May: Batey (salsa and meringue, May 5), Mike & the Blues Rockers (acoustic rock, May 12), The Drunk Monkeys (acoustic rock, May 19) and Chicago Mob (jazz and blues, May 26). www.gulfcoasttowncenter.com.



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FLORIDA WEEKLY
IN THE KNOW, IN THE NOW

BEST OF 2012



BEST WAY TO NIBBLE YOUR WAY THROUGH THE AFTERNOON

>> Naples Food tours

Naples Food Tours arrived on the scene in January, giving visitors and residents the opportunity to spend an afternoon nibbling their way through a variety of Naples eateries. The three-hour tour sets out from 2-5 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays and takes in five to six tasting stops. www.naplesfoodtours.com.

BEST PLACE FOR A POWER BREAKFAST

>> Fit & Fuel Café

Banish the early morning blahs with an energy infusion from Fit & Fuel Café next to Naples Cyclery at the Pavilion Shopping Center. With yummy smoothies, bakery treats, crispy bagels and handcrafted coffee drinks from Miami-based specialty roaster Panther Coffee, this casual eatery will amp up your morning. And don't forget to grab a Roadster cookie to ward off the dreaded afternoon slump. 514-3333.

BEST PLACE TO IMPRESS A CLIENT AT LUNCH

>> Shula's

Maybe you're closing a whale of a deal, or maybe you're celebrating the success of a long business relationship. Whichever, you'll chalk up the intended points with a business lunch at Shula's: America's Steakhouse at the Hilton Naples. Your clients have probably already been there for dinner; imagine how happy

they'll be with an invitation to one of the nation's best steakhouses — for lunch! A Premium Black Angus Steak and Shula's Steakhouse Sides in the middle of the day and the evening is still theirs. Which should put you well on your way to the next big deal and relationship. 430-4999; www.donshula.com.

BEST PLACE TO GET TEQUILA INSPIRED

>> Agave Southwestern Grill

With more than 200 tequilas and mezcals, awesome bartenders and creators making guacamole, Agave has quickly become "the" place to be in North Naples. A full bar with a 12-foot tequila tower and glass-enclosed tequila room, award-winning cuisine, fabulous lunch guaranteed served fresh in 30 minutes and the best margaritas in town — you'll be sure to get your inspiration on! Pass the salt and limes, please! 598-3473; www.agavenaples.com.

BEST GLUTEN-FREE MENU (AND IT'S DELICIOUS, TOO!)

>> Jason's Deli

Big stacked deli sandwiches and homemade toppings are staples at Jason's along with a focus on health and well-being. That why there's also have a gluten-free menu with a full line of dressings, soups, breads, potatoes, kids meals and more. That's what helped earn Jason's the vote for Best Restaurant Chain in America by Parent's Magazine in 2011. And of course, if it comes from Jason's kitchen, there's no high fructose corn syrup, no artificial trans fats and no MSG. All that healthy goodness goes so much bet-

ter with the free soft-serve ice cream that finishes up every Jason's meal. 593-9499; www.jasonsdeli.com.

BEST NOT-SO-FAUX BAND

>> Fake Problems

Fake Problems is the name of a four-piece Indie rock band from Naples that's currently on tour with Say Anything. Two of Fake Problems' songs are featured on the latest Taco Bell commercials. Watch for them; they just might inspire you to make a taco run for the border. Band members are Chris Farren, Derek Perry, Sean Stevenson and Brian Blount. Find Fake Problems — the real thing — on Facebook and YouTube.

BEST PLACE TO TAKE OUT-OF-TOWN GUESTS

>> Mercato

Remember when you used to feel the need to take visitors to a certain theme park near Orlando? Those days are gone with the advent of the Mercato Shops. Why settle for a Small World when Mercato brings you a big world that includes Silverspot Cinema, Sur la Table and Charming Charlies? Who needs Tomorrowland when today at Mercato brings Whole Foods Market, Pandora and Bio? And why settle for a frozen banana when Mercato has Yogurbella, McCormick and Schmick's and Blue Martini? For visiting guests, the Mercato can be your personal Magic Kingdom. www.mercatoshops.com.

BEST VOICE ON HIGH

>> Patricia Racette at Moorings Presbyterian Church

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Opera Naples hit a hit note in fundraisers with the engagement of Metropolitan Opera soprano Patricia Racette to perform with her pianist, Dan Gettinger, in the acoustically amazing sanctuary at Moorings Presbyterian Church. The evening wasn't all Puccini and Verdi, however; after a set of opera classics and a brief break, she delighted the audience with numbers from the Great American Songbook, an Edith Piaf torch classic and Judy Garland's "The Man That Got Away." We didn't know whether to shout "Encore!" or "Amen!"

BEST ROBERT PARKER POINT SPREAD

>> Naples Winter Wine Fest (\$14 million) and Two Buck Chuck at Trader Joe's

It's fitting that we're home to both the Naples Winter Wine Festival and a Trader Joe's, grocery purveyor of the near-cult-status Charles Shaw wine known as Two Buck Chuck. That the wine fest's latest charitable bonanza of \$12.2 million could buy more than 4 million bottles of the lesser juice (it's actually \$2.99 a bottle) — enough to fill an Olympic swimming pool plus dozens of hot tubs — is not lost on those who appreciate both the finer things in life AND a good buy on a drinkable bottle for the patio instead of the wine room.

BEST DRAFT PICK

>> The inaugural Naples Craft Beer Fest

While we are blessed to live in an area that already boasts a multi-million-dollar charity festival based on wine (see above), there are other beverages not yet mined for their donor-draw. That list no longer includes craft beers, as they've been picked up by

area Rotarians for their hoppy, heady and handcrafted appeal. Sponsored by the Naples North Rotary Foundation, the inaugural Naples Craft Beer Fest in March featured 60 lagers and ales, most on-tap and craft-brewed. With this event's successful launch, we're predicting future fundraising festivals for vodka, tea and sports drinks.

BEST GUYS' KIND OF GALA

>> The Naples Music Festival

The cost of admission mirrors the most glamorous galas in town, but the dress code makes the Naples Music Festival a fundraiser that even the guys don't mind getting ready for. The bi-annual benefit for the Garden of Hope & Courage fills the historic Third Street South district with live bands and great food and drink. There are lots of studs, too, but none of the kind required to accessorize a tuxedo.

BEST COSTUME PARADE

>> Strut Your Mutt

The human Halloween costume parade down Fifth Avenue South is always a sight to behold, but we think Humane Society Naples' annual Strut Your Mutt pet parade is even



more fun to see. It's amazing the lengths pet owners will go to (and what some dogs will tolerate) in hopes of capturing the title of Scariest, Funniest, Most Original or Best Celebrity Lookalike for their canine companion.

NEXT BEST COSTUME PARADE

>> "Hello, Dolly!"

It was a masterful staging idea, and truly unexpected: In the middle of The Naples Players' production of "Hello, Dolly!" during the song "Put on Your Sunday Clothes," the entire cast strutted off the stage and paraded across the center aisle at the Sugden Community Theatre in their early 20th century finery. If you were sitting in an aisle seat, you got a great close-up view of the fancy costumes.

BEST LOITERING LUNCH

>> Calistoga Cafe

This artisan sandwich shop and bakery also has great gourmet coffee and espresso, a laid-back atmosphere and, an extra bonus, free Wi-Fi, which means that you can even hang out after eating and fire up the iPad or laptop. Lunch, however, is one of our favorite reasons to head to Calistoga. It's quick, but it's not fast food. There's no fryer, and the sandwiches, soups and salads are loaded with fresh and flavorful veggies, nuts, grains, spices and herbs. Which makes Calistoga better — simply better. Three locations in Southwest Florida: Coastland Center Mall and 7941 Airport-Pulling Road, Naples; and Gulf Coast Town Center, Fort Myers. www.calistogacafe.com.

Where Real Estate's A Breeze

Judy Hansen I am originally from Indianapolis, Indiana where I graduated from Butler University with dual degrees in Public Relations and Spanish. I worked as a licensed Optician for 10 years before getting my license to sell mutual funds where I worked for First Investors out of New York. I was married to a German National where I worked for the U.S. Army for 2 years in Stuttgart, Germany. In 1992 I moved to Naples and traveled the U.S. and Germany opening new stores for TGI Friday's before getting my Real Estate License. I am a sailing enthusiast, have owned, captained and raced my own sailboat, a Catalina 28' and am now crewing on other race boats. I chaired the SW Florida Charity Regatta in 2001 and 2002 and the 'Hospice Regatta' in 2004 all in Naples. After being widowed, I recently married a fellow sailor in May of '04. My goal is to bring expertise in the marketing of luxury real estate to assist the discriminating seller as well as showcasing homes that meet the lifestyle requirements of the knowledgeable buyer. www.GulfCoastSailingClub.org

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BEST LADIES' ROOM

>> Calistoga at Coastland Center

We know you go there for the food, but Calistoga Bakery and Café at Coastland Center also gets a *Florida Weekly* Best for its ladies' room. If you've ever tried to fit into a restroom stall with your big purse or a bulging shopping bag, then you know what it's like. You sometimes have to make a decision: Me or my purse? Both just won't fit. Not so at this Calistoga, where the women's restroom stalls are so big and roomy that you could even take in a suitcase. Finally, a restaurant that understands a woman's needs.

BEST MEN'S ROOM

>> Who cares?

BEST BOUTIQUE GROCERY BUYS

>> Per: Eating Well

While it's nice to finally have a choice between Whole Foods and Trader Joe's, we pay just a wee bit more when we get everything we need at either. Despite the sinking balance feeling on our debit card, our friends at the Eating Well blog point to some values at each. They note Trader Joe's cheese (Comte and Chevre), staples (olive oil, almonds, granola and wild rice) frozen foods (smoked salmon and scallops) and wine. Whole Foods gets value marks for local fruits and vegetables, sustainable fish and seafood, bulk foods and store-brand products (365 Everyday Value and WFM). But value or not, we're still going to pick up something chocolate-covered, wasabi-scented or herb-mixed, no matter whose cart we're pushing. www.eatingwell.com.

BEST STRAIGHT TALK ABOUT RACE

>> "Race"

Gulfshore Playhouse's production of David Mamet's "Race" was a no-holds-barred look at race in America: our prejudices, our assumptions, our fears. It was provocative, audacious, brutally honest. And it laid it all out in some pretty explicit language. It was incredibly compelling theater. And it was a hell of a gutsy move for Producing Artistic Director Kristen Coury to stage this play in Naples, which is not exactly known for being open-minded and progressive, especially in matters of race.

BEST DANCE ADVICE

>> Charo

Charo's show in the Daniels Pavilion at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts contained many highlights: shimmying in her low-cut mini-dress, going into the audience and pulling a man's head into her cleavage, astounding us with her considerable skill on the classical guitar. (She's a former student of Andre Segovia.) Yes, she sang her latest hit, "Sexy Sexy Sexy." But one of our favorite moments was when she gave advice about the tango. "You have to be careful when you dance the tango," she warned in her heavily accented/mangled English. "It can be a very dangerous dance, because you have to get very close, like you're spooning. And everyone knows that too much spooning can lead to forking."

BEST SUMMER READING LIST

>>The Critic's Choice

Year after year, it's the most widely anticipated summer reading list around, offered up by Elaine Newton of "The Critic's Choice" series of book lectures at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. Dr. Newton has a knack for picking interesting, literary novels. Every April, at her last lecture, she hands out her summer reading list. This year's 38 titles include: "The Dressmaker" by Kate Alcott, "The Marriage Plot" by Jeffrey Eugenides, "The Art of Fielding" by Chad Harbach, "The Stranger's Child" by Alan Hollingshurst, "The Night Circus" by Erin Morgenstern, "The Submission" by Amy Waldman and "An Available Man" by Hilma Wolitzer. From those titles, she'll pick six to lecture about next season. Find the entire list at www.thephil.org.

BEST WAY TO TIE ONE ON

>> The Coquito Mojito



Here's to the new Naples Original, aka the Coquito Mojito, the cocktail that won a taste contest sponsored by the Naples Originals, the organization that promotes local, independent restaurants. Should you wish to tie one on in a liquid manner, here's the recipe: .75-ounce Dancing Pine Oak Cask Rum, .75-ounce coconut-flavored rum, .75-ounce fresh squeezed lime juice, .75-ounce Coco Popez Coconut Cream, a splash of club soda and three sprigs of fresh mint (plus one for garnish), lime wheel garnish and coquitos (marble-sized coconuts for garnish, optional). In a cocktail shaker, lightly muddle the mint in

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the coconut cream. Add lime juice and rums, fill with ice and give a long hard shake. Pour through strainer into a glass over ice. Add a splash of club soda. Garnish with mint, lime wheel and coquito. Serves one. Cheers!

BEST SOUNDS-GROSS-TASTES-GREAT

>> Bacon for dessert

It's hard to imagine, but bacon's the newest dessert staple. Tierney's Tavern at the Bay House takes it uptown with the Southern Decadence, a sweet bourbon pecan tart with sugar cane ice cream, mousse-like sweet potato cremeaux, corn-liquor gelee and chunks of salty, crunchy bacon. Don't knock it until you've tried it. 591-3837.

BEST OLYMPIC CONNECTION

>> The English Pub

Just in time for the Olympic Games to move to London this summer, Naples' original English Pub has moved to the East Trail to be ready for you. As your favorite Olympic competitions await their new London location, so too, do your favorite foods, favorite staff and favorite publicans await at the Pub's new address, 5047 Tamiami Trail E. 775-3727; www.naplesenglishpub.com.

BEST TRAVEL PLANNERS WHEN PERFECTION IS PREFERRED

>> Preferred Travel of Naples

Preferred Travel of Naples continues to grow and

expand by adding even more expert travel consultants to its 7,000-plus-square-foot office. Preferred Travel owner Wilma Boyd is recognized as one of the best bosses in Southwest Florida and is recognized by national industry magazines, which makes it no surprise that Preferred Travel continues to be named as one of Southwest Florida's top companies. Best people, best management and best company: When it comes to help making your travel plans, isn't that the kind of perfection you'd prefer? 261-1177; www.preferrednaples.com.

FRESH AIR:

The great outdoors

BEST OLD-SCHOOL PARK

>> Cambier Park

Tucked close to Fifth Avenue South at 755 Eighth Ave. S., this iconic park boasts lots of treed shade, a band shell, shuffleboard and bocce courts, tennis, a playground, pavilion and, best of all, serenity.

BEST OLD-FLORIDA RANCH ROMP

>> Immokalee Pioneer Museum at Roberts Ranch

Part of the Collier County Museum system, this 15-acre living history museum consists of 20 pre-

served buildings. Museum programs include ranch tours and events with historical characters as well as an annual Old Florida Festival. Anytime you decide to go, it's a 44-mile trip back in time to the un-beached Florida, the one peopled by cow-hunters, ranchers and Indians. www.colliermuseums.com.

BEST PLACE TO GET GREEN

>> Naples Grande Golf Club

Regardless of your interpretation, you'll find "green" all over Naples Grande Golf Club. If green to you is lush or rich, you'll find an abundance of both, from the verdant fairways to the brand new greens. If a green is something you're trying to reach in as few strokes of a club as possible, well, 18 of them are what Naples Grande Golf Club is all about. Or, if Shakespeare's "green-eyed monster" of jealousy refers to the way you look upon members here, Marc Freiburg will be glad to get you on the other side of that membership equation (including a \$69 member-for-a-day with unlimited afternoon golf). www.waldorfstarianaples.com.

BEST UPHILL BATTLE

>> The bridge to Marco Island

A sidewalk/bike path is included in the new two-lane span of the Jolley Bridge that provides south-bound travel from Naples onto Marco Island. We can thank our federal stimulus dollars and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 for newly improved access.

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BEST PLACE TO DUCK OUT OF SIGHT

>> Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park

This beachfront park at the end of Immokalee/111th Street has plenty of places to hide from the pressures of everyday life, whether it's for lunch hour while you're on the job or for a break from the kids and laundry duty on a weekend afternoon. And if you want to bring a party with you, there are picnic tables, grills, restrooms and showers. The 166-acre park is a tropical paradise for beach lovers, boaters and divers.

BEST WALK ON WATER

>> Naples Municipal Beach & Fishing Pier

The Naples Pier is one of the most photographed landmarks in the area for a reason. It's a spectacular place to walk on water without getting your feet wet. Go, stroll, saunter, sashay, wander or ramble and enjoy Naples and the Gulf of Mexico from a vantage like no other. www.naplespier.com.

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>> Naples Princess Cruises

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BEST MANGROVE STROLL

>> Clam Pass Park

Enjoy a ¾-mile boardwalk stroll through a primeval mangrove tunnel. A free tram runs during daylight hours to take you comfortably from parking lot to beach. Skittering fiddler crabs, water birds and raccoon sightings included free. Parking is at the end of Seagate Drive.

BEST WALK IN THE SWAMP

>> Clyde Butcher's Saturday Swamp Walk

Join a swamp slog, organized by legendary photographer and Florida icon Clyde Butcher. Every Saturday from September through March, intrepid souls have a chance to rub shoulders with genius, and maybe even snap their own masterpiece pictures in the Big Cypress Swamp. www.clydebutchersbigcypressgallery.com.

BEST SLEEP IN THE SWAMP

>> Weekend in Clyde Butcher's Bungalow or Swamp Cottage

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What we buy

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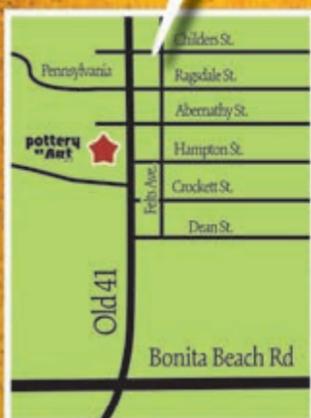
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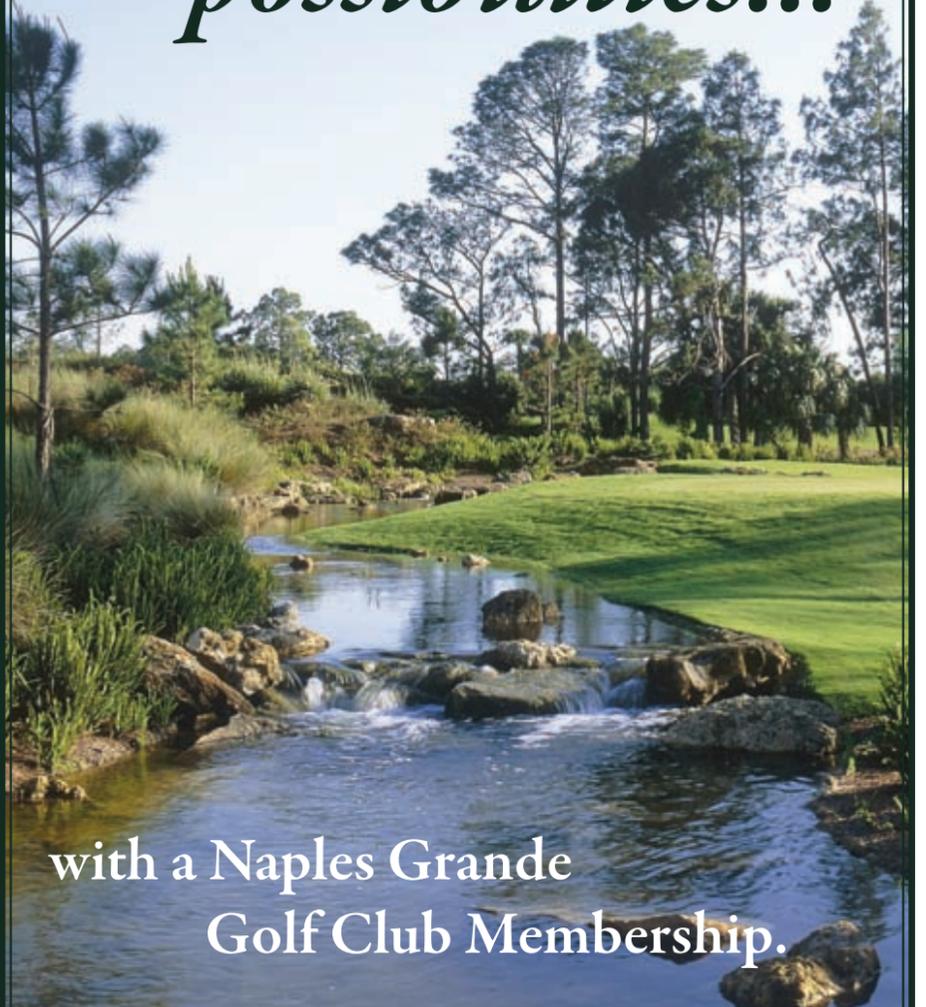


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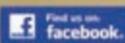
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