

NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY®

IN THE KNOW. IN THE NOW.

WEEK OF DECEMBER 8-14, 2016

www.FloridaWeekly.com

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Population in 5-county area **1.8M** BY 2040

80% OF PERMITS were for new homes priced at or below \$250,000

10% SEPTEMBER DROP in home sales in 3 counties

REAL ESTATE'S MANY CURRENTS

FGCU study shows confidence in market in five-county area

BY ROGER WILLIAMS
rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

WAYNE SALLADE, THE RETIRING EMERGENCY operations manager for Charlotte County and west coast weather guru, may be the only human left in the region who's seized a real estate opportunity with money from the now decade-old, pre-recession boom — the one that led to the crash, which in turn led to the energetic market growth of the last six years, which finally brought us to a “flattened” or slightly diminished 2016 market from Naples to Port Charlotte.

“For 11 years, I never touched the money from (a house sale) in 2005 — we just sat on

SEE HOUSING, A8 ▶

Naples man is friend of the last of Doolittle's Raiders

BY ROGER WILLIAMS

rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

Retrospect is a great trivializer for many, but not for Fred Valentine, at 94 a vibrant Neapolitan still young enough to celebrate a living hero, the last of 80.

He's still struck to his core by what those men did starting 75 years ago this week, he says: In 132 days between Dec. 7, when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, and April 18, 1942 — led by Lt. Col. James Doolittle and his co-pilot, Lt. Richard Cole — they traded comfortable flatland lives on stateside Army airbases for the heav-

ing deck of the U.S.S. Hornet deep in the western Pacific Ocean, sailing eastward in great peril.

Mr. Valentine, a veteran himself, befriended Mr. Cole, the last of Doolittle's Raiders, and flew to Comfort, Texas, to visit him in August.

“None of them knew if they would come back,” he says simply, a man awed not only by their courage in embarking, but by the sheer audacity of the feat.

Retired as a lieutenant colonel from a 30-year Air Force career, Mr. Cole, now



COURTESY PHOTO

Fred Valentine, left, of Naples, calls Richard Cole, 101, a friend and a hero.

SEE RAIDERS, A11 ▶

INSIDE



Arts & Entertainment

Meet Bryce Alexander — the new artistic director at The Naples Players. **C1** ▶



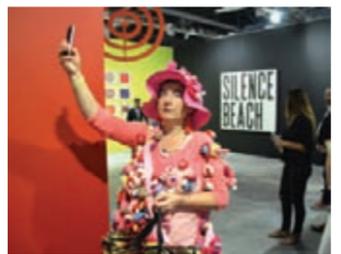
The company party

How to celebrate the holidays with your bosses and colleagues. **B1** ▶



Networking

Realtors meet-and-greet at Naples Reserve. **B7** ▶



Art Basel

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BILL CORNWELL A2
PROFILE IN PARADISE A6
NEWS OF THE WEIRD A14
CLUB NOTES A21

MONEY & INVESTING B5
MOTELY FOOL B6
REAL ESTATE B9
OPEN HOUSE MAP B18

FLORIDA WRITERS C2
PUZZLES C12
ANTIQUES C19
VINO C34

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COMMENTARY

It is a good day to die!



The government of the United States is not known for its efficiency. But it functions as a well-oiled machine when it comes to the unrelenting screwing of our Native American population.

The government has been shafting Native Americans for so long that it has almost become second nature. So routine is this institutionalized mistreatment that most of us give it little thought.

Our history is befouled by the brutalization and displacement of Native Americans, which began shortly after the first Europeans arrived. From there it was a short hop to the Trail of Tears, the establishment of a "Permanent Indian Frontier" (which was scandalously short-lived), the Indian Wars, countless broken promises and treaties and the establishment of reservations that remain a source of national disgrace.

Andrew Jackson, the architect of the Trail of Tears, was hailed by Americans of European descent for his harsh dealings with Native Americans.

When gold was discovered in California in 1848, the idea of a Permanent Indian Frontier in the West — a tenuous concept from the get-go — went out the window forever. The unfet-

tered presence of "savages" would deter whites who were poised to stream en masse toward riches on the West Coast. Washington had assured Native Americans that the Permanent Indian Frontier was a solemn pact — one that would never, ever be broken. But, in a tradition that continues to this day, greed trumped principle.

The government early on attempted to justify its duplicitous treatment of Native Americans as something that was divinely inspired. Thus, Manifest Destiny was born. As Dee Brown wrote in his 1970 classic, "Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee," "policy makers in Washington invented Manifest Destiny, a term which lifted land hunger to a lofty plane."

Mr. Brown explained the thinking behind Manifest Destiny: "The Europeans and their descendants were ordained by destiny to rule all of America. They were the dominant race and therefore responsible for the Indians — along with their lands, their forests and their mineral wealth."

This blatantly racist theory still infects the government's policies toward Native Americans.

Such is the case now in North Dakota, where Native Americans are protesting a pipeline that would carry North Dakota oil to a shipping point in Illinois. Proponents of the \$3.8 billion, 1,170-mile

pipeline say it will be safe.

The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and other Native American tribes aren't convinced. The tribes believe the pipeline has the potential to pollute the Missouri River — and their drinking water — and desecrate sacred burial grounds and cultural lands.

"The legal and ethical argument is about tribal sovereignty and the protection of natural resources," *The New York Times* has observed.

Native Americans have been physically protesting the pipeline, and it has turned ugly. North Dakota law enforcement agencies have dealt harshly with the protesters. To quell demonstrations, authorities have employed sound cannons, tear gas grenades and rubber bullets. They also used a skin-peeling, high-pressure, hypothermia-inducing water cannon on the crowd in sub-freezing temperatures.

According to a lawsuit filed late last month, some 200 protesters have been injured. Their injuries included seizures, facial burns, broken bones, bruising and eye damage. One woman, the suit claims, nearly lost her arm.

It is excruciatingly sad that so little attention has been paid to this affair. Had this sort of ferocious treatment been unleashed on other oppressed minorities — African Americans, Lati-

nos, members of the LGBT community, Muslims, to name a few — the outrage would have been overwhelming.

It is mildly encouraging that not everyone is turning a blind eye. Some 2,000 military veterans were converging on North Dakota, vowing to act as "human shields" for the protesters. Tulsi Gabbard, an iconoclastic congresswoman from Hawaii, has joined the fray. The vets and Ms. Gabbard are true heroes.

The media will pay close attention only if the violence escalates to horrific levels. Otherwise, this will be just a curious little story about Native Americans raising hell in North Dakota.

The odds are stacked against the tribes, for sure, but they persist, unafraid and undaunted. They live in the grand tradition of Crazy Horse, the fierce Lakota warrior of the plains, whose call to battle was "hoka hey." Hoka hey, when loosely translated, means "It is a good day to die!"

Ominously, given the officially sanctioned violence that has occurred so far, hoka hey might be an appropriate rallying cry for those brave souls who seek justice for Native Americans in the frozen wastelands of North Dakota.

Note: The Army Corps of Engineers on Sunday denied permission for the Dakota Access pipeline to cross under a section of the Missouri River, handing at least a temporary victory to the Standing Rock Sioux tribe and its supporters. ■



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OPINION

Bitter harvest



leslieLILLY

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After the most divisive presidential campaign in modern history, Donald Trump is poised to become the 45th President of the United States. He will place his right hand presumably on a Bible (although a Bible is not required) and swear before almighty God to defend and protect the Constitution of the United States. Good luck with that.

It is hard to imagine a more demoralizing prospect. The man has little regard for the self-evident truths he will swear to uphold. Civic lessons could prove helpful. For instance, the values and principles embodied in the president's oath of office are enshrined collectively in what historians call the nation's Charters of Freedom. It includes the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, documents foundational to our democracy. They have guaranteed the rights and freedoms of all Americans for more than 200 years.

Their prologue is a revolutionary principle unique to the United States and its form of democratic governance. It states "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." This is the American creed, the fundamental principle through which government is granted the consent of the governed. The Founding Fathers intended it so.

Adherence to the creed is a true measure of the democratic republic for which it stands. It is the standard by which Americans hold government accountable for its task of governing. The guarantee of equal protection under the law ensures the rights and responsibilities of citizenship are broadly shared.

The Founding Fathers planted their flag on the highest of grounds. But they knew the creed was aspirational. They were no strangers to human bondage and the many forms it takes. But moral purpose was their construct. It was the rock upon which to build a young nation toward a transformative form of self-government found nowhere else in the world. This was the toughest of tough love. It was the founding parents' plan of discipline for future generations, in its most instructive, democratic, hopeful form.

President-elect Trump repudiates this vision. He vows to abrogate the creed with an authoritarian form of government that is antithetical to democracy. He de-legitimizes at every opportunity our democratic institutions.

He falsely claims the nation's electoral system is rigged. Like Nixon, he ventures immunity for criminal wrongdoing, i.e., if the president does it, it can't be illegal. He believes he can mete out extrajudicial punishments at will.

He thinks personal enrichment at the expense of the nation is a perk of the Oval Office. He is a serial liar, perverting fact and truth with impunity. He makes personal attacks on his critics and those with whom he disagrees. All this and the guy isn't even in office yet.

Meanwhile, liberals are licking their wounds and publicly shamed. Self-recriminations proliferate as the sum of failures total up to Republican-controlled everything. The most-of repeated narrative? The vote for Trump was the primal scream of hard-working (white) Americans tired of being on the losing side of economic prosperity.

Voting for a racist, xenophobic, sexual predator was therefore justifiable. So, shame on everyone who didn't feel the pain and fear of the (white) working class. A vote for Trump was their cry for help. And, oh, yes. Not all people who voted for Trump are racist (sexist or xenophobic).

I get it. But it doesn't change the fact decent people voted for someone who is all those things. This isn't a figment

of the liberal imagination.

The Ku Klux Klan endorses Trump. Trump is a hero to extremist, right-wing groups advocating for a white supremacist state. Trump's "chief strategist and senior counselor," Steve Bannon, is on record for encouraging conspiracy theories and anti-Semitic, racist and misogynistic hate speech. He is the white nationalists' desk in the White House.

The yield of nativist, racist spawn is violence and oppression of people perceived as "different." And sorry. Being "white" won't make you safe. To become a target, you need only commit a transgression of difference while breathing.

This is a lesson in tyranny hard to miss when enforced and sanctioned by both faith-based institutions and government — as it was in the segregated South. Its most horrific yield was lynched black bodies.

Billie Holiday sang of the trees that bore this strange fruit, and of "blood on the trees and blood on the root."

Trump will take the nation to lowest of these latitudes, where moral failures left the stain of hypocrisy on the faith community, where government sanctioned civil wrongs in opposition to civil rights and where the Ku Klux Klan last lynched an African-American in an Alabama community.

"Great again" is a promised return to a troubled past, and Trump is the symbol of its resurrection.

It is a "strange and bitter crop" that awaits the nation's harvest. ■

— Leslie Lilly is a native Floridian. Her professional career spans more than 25 years leading major philanthropic institutions in the South and Appalachia. She writes frequently on issues of politics, public policy, and philanthropy, earning national recognition for her leadership in the charitable sector. She resides with her family and pugs in Jupiter. Email her at lilly@floridaweekly.com and read past blog posts on Tumblr at lilly15.Tumblr.com.

History strikes back



richLOWRY

Special to Florida Weekly

President Barack Obama won't explicitly say that Donald Trump is on the wrong side of history, but surely he believes it.

The president basically thinks anyone who gets in his way is transgressing the larger forces of history with a capital "H." In 2008, he declared John McCain "on the wrong side of history right now" (the "right now" was a generous touch — allowing for the possibility that McCain might get right with History at some future date).

Obama has returned to this phrase and argument obsessively. It is deeply embedded in his, and the larger progressive, mind — and indirectly contributed to the left's catastrophic defeat on Nov. 8.

For the left, History is not a vast, unpredictable, untamable force, but has all the characteristics of a stereotypical Whole Foods shopper. History reads The Huffington Post, and follows Lena Dunham on Twitter. It really cares whether transgender people get to use the appropriate bathroom. History was probably hanging

out at the Javits Center on election night, and collapsed into a puddle of tears right around the time Wisconsin was called.

The political dangers of this point of view should now be obvious:

It assumes that certain classes of people are retrograde. Why would Democrats bother to try to appeal to working-class white voters if they are stamped with the disapproval of History? It becomes a warrant for all manner of overreach. History evidently favored trying to get nuns to sign up for contraceptives they didn't want and forcing small business to bake cakes for gay weddings.

And, if History is thought to have an ascendant electoral coalition (and a hell of a data operation), it creates an unjustified sense of political inevitability. This is what the theorists of the "emerging Democratic majority," and most pundits on the left, bought into.

All that said, the evidence was pretty good for the proposition that welfare-state programs, once ensconced, could never be reversed and therefore must enjoy the approval of History. This assumption pervaded the Obamacare debate. Sen. Harry Reid lambasted Republicans for not "joining us on the right side of history" and compared them — of course — to defend-

ers of slavery.

In retrospect, History might not have been so enamored of sprawling legislation based on faulty economic premises. When Republicans pass a repeal bill, it will constitute the most significant rollback of the welfare state ever.

Another progressive assumption is that the nation-state is bound to decline, as supranational institutions like the European Union grow and cross-border migrations increase. In a trip to Germany in April, President Obama deemed Angela Merkel's policy of welcoming a massive wave of migrants as "on the right side of history." Never mind that its recklessness has caused a backlash that is still brewing. Obama believed the same of his own latitudinarian views on immigration, apparently never imagining people might consider it progress to tighten our borders rather than render them more porous.

Now, a president who so confidently associated himself and his cause with the tide of the future has presided over a political wipeout that will send much of his legacy into the dustbin. If nothing else, History has a keen sense of humor. ■

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

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PROFILE IN PARADISE

Karen Conley, always giving back

bobHARDEN

bobharden@hotmail.com



Karen Conley is the founder, president and CEO of Charity for Change, a nonprofit organization currently serving 10,000 afterschool, summer school and in-school K-5 students with its animated community service, math and character education Giver Program (see www.charityforchange.org).

In existence for nine years now, Charity for Change is best known for its Giver Program — which has reached more than 10,000 children weekly in the 2014-15 school year.

Providing a weekly curriculum, the Giver Program engages elementary school children in standards based on math, supporting STEM and aligning with what the students are learning in the school day. An interactive program, it provides teachers and parents with support, is fun, engaging and helps children learn 19 character traits that will help them succeed in school and life: respect, responsibility, cooperation, self-control, etc.

Much of this is learned through support of local charities — helping raise funds for charities the students/classrooms select (vetted in advance by Charity for Change) and volunteering their time while learning more about the nonprofits.

Her previous experience includes eight years as manager of Second Chance Foun-

Talking points with Karen Conley

Mentor: Bruce Conley (no relation). His wisdom in seeing the hidden potential in everyone inspires me. His critical thinking ability to look for the other perspective has helped me to learn to pause and wait for my second thought.

Where did you grow up? Norwalk, a small town in northern Ohio.

When and why did you first come to Naples/ Collier County, and what was your first impression? I arrived in Naples in 1972. I grew up knowing I wanted to live in sunny Florida to escape the grey of Ohio. With my parents' blessing, I packed my car and drove south not knowing a single person in Florida. I drove down the east coast looking for a place to call home. Then I came across Alligator Alley. Naples was an oasis.

As a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up? A horse trainer. I begged my parents for a horse without success. When I showed them I could earn enough money to buy and take care of one, they agreed. I was in the sixth grade.

What would you be doing if you weren't doing this? Something identical.

Guilty pleasures: Staying up past 9 p.m. My husband and I are up at 4 a.m.

Next (or most recent) vacation destination: Somewhere with mountains, trees and snow.

ation LLC, managing grants and afterschool tutoring programs.

Karen's prior community service includes co-founding Naples Equestrian Challenge; Board of Directors of Senior Friendship Centers; Grant Committees of Community Foundation of Collier

One thing on your bucket list: Our Charity for Change mascot, Giver, as a household name.

Skill or talent you wish you had: Marketing and playing the piano.

Advice for someone just starting in your line of work: Learn everything you can about marketing and building and maintaining relationships.

Trait you most admire in your best friend. My husband, unconditional love and support.

Favorite app: Kindle.

Something that's been on your mind: I'm saddened by the violence and disrespect that has evolved into our entertainment.

What your mother was always right about: Always take the high road.

Must-see place to take first-time visitors: Lunch at the Ritz on the beach.

Something that makes you laugh: Babies and young animals.

Last book you read: "Traction," by Gino Wickman

All-time favorite movie: "Sixth Sense," because the ending surprised me.

Something you'll never understand: How people can abuse children, animals, women and the elderly.

Something you wish could go back to the way it once was: Character and values of the greatest generation.

Pet peeve: Being late.

Something people would be surprised to find out about you — or, hidden talent: I used to paint and write greeting cards.

What are you most proud of? Accomplishments of the 10,000 children in the Charity for Change Giver Program.

First job (please also say where/what town): K&H Drug Store when I was in High School in Norwalk, Ohio.

Something the Paradise Coast really needs: Resources to help all of our children achieve their full potential.

Favorite thing about the Paradise Coast: Sunny, clean, safe and beautiful!

What do you miss about the Paradise Coast when you go away? Ditto...



University Women. ■

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

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December 2016

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“We’ve been through six years of double-digit recovery — positive permitted growth — and this is the first year where we saw it not only level off, but we saw a slight decrease in building permits pulled in the three-county area, for multi-family and single-family construction. So there’s no clear crystal ball for 2017 and 2018, and so many changing dynamics.”

— Randy Thibault, a long-time analyst and the owner and founder of Land Solutions Inc.

HOUSING

From page 1

it and grew the interest,” he explains. “So we never got upside down.”

And now he’s using that money from the Florida of a different time to move to the western slope of Colorado. There, he just bought a sizeable, nearly new home with 270 degrees of mountain views for a price that suggests the Florida coast circa 2010 or 2011: just over \$160,000.

That’s one way to do Florida real estate, but there’s a problem (not from Mr. or Mrs. Sallade’s point of view, however): no beach, it’s far from the madding crowd, and there’s a lot of snow in the Rocky Mountains.

That’s not what’s hot in Florida.

The Gulf Coast market he’s departing may face challenges — a new untested president in Washington, periodic water pollution, increasing pressure on infrastructure from new residents — but it continues to draw willing home buyers who want the extraordinary regional benefits: sunshine, water, easy outdoor lifestyles and an increasingly sophisticated cultural life.

What’s hot here — where the good deals exist — may lie in niche markets or price points that broad statistics don’t show.

And broadly speaking the statistics look pretty good, which creates optimism.

Regional economic indicators assembled and published by FGCU’s Regional Economic Research Institute reflect both indirectly and directly on the real estate market here. They not only cite employment numbers, tax figures and visitor numbers, but they also provide a solid look at real estate trends county by county.

“The FGCU study tells me that people are more confident about the economy in the future,” says Tom Weekes, a principal with his wife, Gay Weekes, at Keller Williams Peace River Partners in Punta Gorda.

“People are feeling less stress about not having assets in reserve, so they’re willing to risk something. Because you’re always betting on the future. And I expect the market to get better in the next couple of years, even though sales numbers are down from 2015 and the prices are up.”

The FGCU study, for example, shows passenger activity at Southwest Florida International Airport up more than ever before, reaching almost 1.3 million arrivals and departures last March and likely to number more than 800,000 this month. In the eyes of optimists such as Mr. Weekes, tourists now mean residents later.

Tax revenues in the three coastal counties dipped a few percentage points in 2016, but taxable sales were up in all five counties (Collier, Lee, Charlotte, Hendry and Glades). The unemployment rate rose slightly in the three coastal counties but remained below 5 percent, while the state’s unemployment rate dropped from 5.1 percent a year earlier to 4.7 percent in September — and all of those patterns reflect well on the real estate market.

So does this extraordinary prediction: Demographers now estimate a growth rate in the region going forward of about 1.6 percent per year, down from an

annual average of 2.7 percent from 1990 to 2015. But that means the real estate market is likely to welcome 47 percent more people — for a total of more than 1.8 million residents in the five counties — by 2040, a mere 23 years away.

The smarter buyers

In light of those figures and increasing pressure on the market, buyers now — much more sophisticated than they were a decade ago, Realtors say — would also like a good deal along with their piece of the regional pie, while they can still find one.

But depending on a buyer’s price point, that’s increasingly hard to come across on the beach side, or west, of I-75 in any coastal county — Collier, Lee or Charlotte, the experts say.

In Collier County, for example, “there is not one new construction community that has a house under \$300,000, and all those new communities building so far past 951 — very far east of I-75? In a new construction home you still won’t get anything under \$300,000,” says Inga Wilson, a Naples broker and vice president of sales and marketing for Wilson & Associates at Kalea Bay.

“Anything between \$500,000 and \$700,000 west of U.S. 41 will be gone in two seconds,” she adds.

“At the higher end, though, instead of having 10 homes at \$5 million available, they’ll now have 11. If you went down to south Naples now there’s an oversupply of \$3 million homes and up. So the numbers don’t paint an accurate picture of the market.”

The bargains lie in the north and the east, agrees Jim Green, owner of Jim Green Realty based in Alva, who points to MLS figures listing the average price per square foot in the region: in Naples, \$392; Bonita and Estero, \$363; Greater Fort Myers, \$195; Cape Coral, \$184; and Lee County east of I-75, \$129.

“Pick your home, villa, residential lot, waterfront property, commercial or agricultural land, it’s difficult to beat,” he says.

For example, 1.5-acre lots on the Caloosahatchee riverfront will sell now for \$100,000 — lots that might have gone for \$350,000 in Wayne Sallade’s heyday a decade ago.

“This market subset has remained soft while off-water land parcels have been strong with increasing sales prices,” Mr. Green notes.

But still the market is slightly diminished.

Single-family home sales by Realtors dropped 10 percent across the three coastal counties in September, according to the FGCU report, but median prices increased by \$15,164 to \$225,164 in Lee; by \$3,000 to \$378,000 in Collier; and by \$35,200 to \$195,000 in Charlotte County.

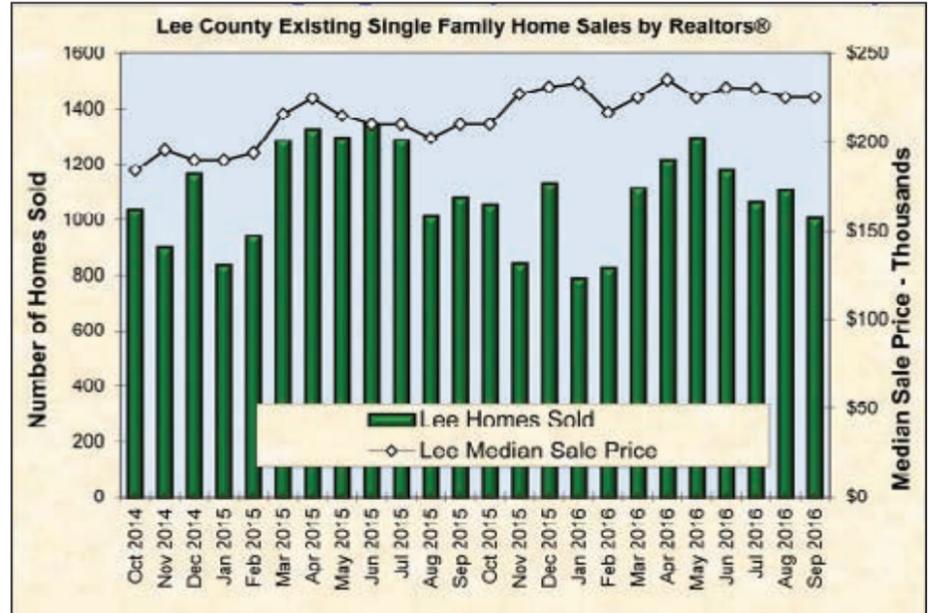
Although 2016 home sales have dipped below the 2015 levels and prices have risen, most Realtors and analysts are heartened by the flattening, and



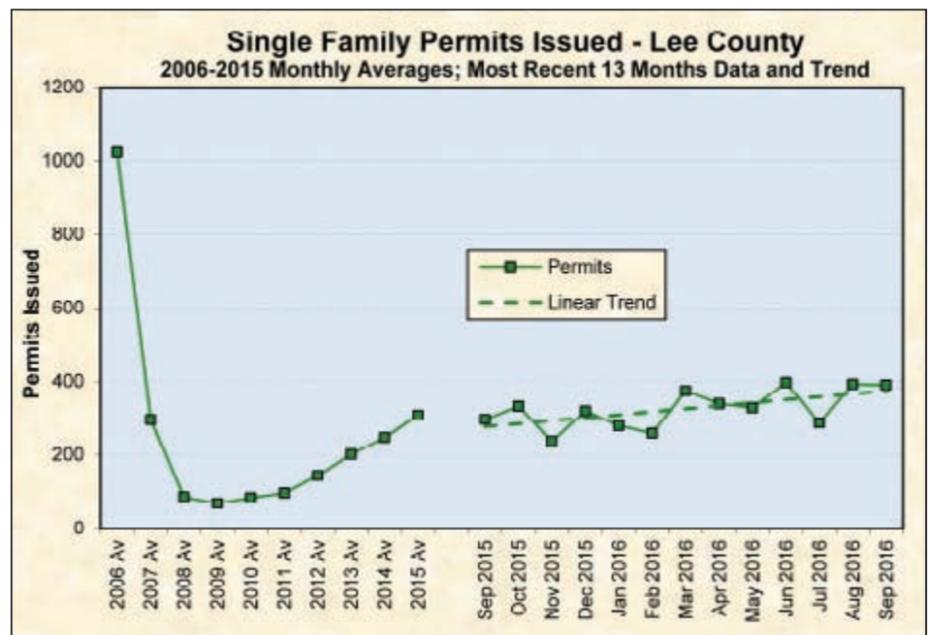
WILSON



GREEN



SOURCE: REALTOR ASSOCIATION OF GREAT FORT MYERS AND THE BEACH INC.



SOURCE: LOCAL BUILDING AND ZONING DEPARTMENTS, INCLUDING FORT MYERS, CAPE CORAL, UNINCORPORATED LEE COUNTY, BONITA SPRINGS AND FORT MYERS BEACH PERMITS. DATA EXCLUDES ESTERO

optimistic about the market in future.

Ms. Wilson, in Naples, puts it this way: “The market has leveled off.

“Some people may look at this as a negative thing, but that’s what we want. The last thing we want is a market going to double-digit increases, like it once did. A 6- to 7-percent increase is more than average, and that’s where we want to be, it’s the best-case scenario.”

Softening in the market sometimes results from great expectations in sellers, she suggests.

“Sometimes sellers are not realistic,” she explains. “Sellers may think the 20-year-old home is worth a new-built but usually that’s not the case. If your house is priced at market, it will sell very quickly. But if you’re thinking your dollar-per-square-foot is the same as the property of a person who just built a new home down the street, no.”

Part of pricing is taste in style, as well, she points out — especially in high-end homes. And tastes have changed.

In effect, the Mediterranean styles of a decade or more ago, along with communities that include several golf courses and required fees, may be less popular now.

In terms of pricing, “you can’t have a home that’s the old style Mediterranean home and compare it to the new designs, because they’ve completely changed,” explains Ms. Wilson. “Now, people don’t want small, closed-off rooms, they want outdoors coming in. They want that open feeling.”

And they’ll pay for it.

In depth

Randy Thibault, a long-time analyst and the owner and founder of Land Solutions Inc., offers an in depth look at how the real estate market is changing by raising a first significant question asked by developers and builders themselves, he says: Which way do we go from here?

“We’ve been through six years of double-digit recovery — positive permitted growth — and this is the first year where we saw it not only level off, but we saw a slight decrease in building permits pulled in the three-county area, for multi-family and single-family construction. So there’s no clear crystal ball for 2017 and 2018, and so many changing dynamics.”

He names three right off the bat.

“One: the (effect of) a new president, the attitude of the markets, and how that will play out — that has to be determined.

“Two: interest rates. They’ll rise, and that has a significant effect on people home buying and moving here.

“Three: a flattening or decrease in overall permits over the prior year. There are no alarm bells sounding from this, but careful consideration shows that we’re not in a full recovery in our market. If we were in a healthy boom market we would see around 15,000 to 20,000 building permits — the peak in 2005 was over 40,000. And

if we were continuing to grow like the last six years, we'd be in the 15,000 range by year's end."

But that isn't going to happen. His team estimates a year-closing 12,000 to 13,000 permits.

Among the factors lying below the surface of most analyses but affecting the market, he adds, are first time buyers, boomerang buyers — people who lost homes, credit and down payments in the past but are coming back — and apartments.

"So where did the decrease come from?" he asks.

"A lot of apartments, multi-family apartments in our market — they were the hot tickets. You'd see these apartment buildings grow and it was a hot market. People had been forced out of their homes in the past, or they were millennials who are not pulling the trigger on buying new homes as quickly as baby-boomers or generation Xers.

"So we saw permit levels go up in 2015. A lot of permits were pulled in '15 that showed up in '16, so the market kind of flattened. We expect 2017 will be the same."

This year, he says, about 80 percent of pulled permits were for new homes priced at or below \$250,000.

"That's a strong indicator of the sweet spot in our market: first move up (from apartment to home), or the second move up."

Jim Green points to several opportunities in that price range in east Lee County, homes likely to compete with the up and coming Babcock Ranch community to the north, in Charlotte County.

At River Hall, he says, D.R. Horton offers \$200,000-plus homes with low HOA fees for the over-55 set, and buyers can pick up villas on a golf course for

\$160,000. "It's a good deal if you are a golfer, otherwise the fees make it unattractive," Mr. Green says.

"The problem is we're running out of those homes," notes Mr. Thibault. "The cost has risen so much in the last five years, they're getting hard to produce.

"And we're seeing a shift in the paradigm because of the boomerang buyer."

Such buyers look for homes in south Charlotte County, the north Cape, North Fort Myers or Lehigh Acres, Mr. Thibault says — but there's another factor at work, too: interest rates.

"Think of it this way: For every one percent of increase in interest rates, that's \$20,000 less buying power the buyer has.

"So if a buyer can qualify for a \$275,000 house and the interest rate goes up even one percent, that drops that buyer to a \$255,000 qualification. When the millennial or the boomerang buyer enters the market and decides to buy — and that sometimes happen when they get married or there's a birth event — they're affected by interest rate increases."

But there's a yin and a yang in the interest-rate conundrum, he explains: "Buyers moving down from the northeast and Midwest, maybe for retirements, their earnings have not kept up with their expenses after five or six years of low interest rates. So now they're coming to our sunshine with less buying power. But if the interest rates go up, there will be a lag time, maybe two or three years, but they'll have more buying power."

Meanwhile, to find the best deals at the sweet spot, look east, he suggests, and north. "All that is where for the next 24 months the meat of the market will lie." ■



COURTESY OF BABCOCK RANCH

Babcock Ranch in southern Charlotte County is zoned for 19,000 new homes.

Randy Thibault looks at Babcock Ranch

BY ROGER WILLIAMS

rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

Babcock Ranch in southern Charlotte County is zoned for 19,000 new homes. How will it affect the real estate market nearby?

"Syd Kitson is creating a longer vision for the decades to come, as far as where growth is going to go," offers Randy Thibault, a long-time market analyst. "In the meantime, it's fortunate he has a long-term vision and the staying power because the seeding of that large a community takes time. And it will take three to five more years to see the fruits of all that labor and to test the success of his vision because there is so much work to be done to create so big a project.

"In the meantime, some of his challenges will be other projects: the tran-



THIBAUT

sitional market between infill and outlying suburban areas all the way to LaBelle.

"What we're seeing come to life and where there are new-home increases and permit values in places like

River Hall and Portico, you have an inventory of existing communities that have infrastructure, shopping, they're close to I-75 — so for the next two to three years they will absorb buyers, and Babcock Ranch will be competing with them.

"Beyond the next two, three or four years: Those projects will get sold out, and Kitson will be in the meat of the market." ■

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Holocaust movie hosted by Italian American Foundation

GenShoah of Southwest Florida and the Naples Italian American Foundation host a screening of the award-winning documentary "My Italian Secret" at 7 p.m. Thursday Dec. 8, at the NIAF, 7035 Airport-Pulling Road.

GenShoah is an organization of children of Holocaust survivors and others interested in preserving the history of the Holocaust, connecting the second generation with one another and supporting the Naples-based Holocaust Museum & Education Center of Southwest Florida.

With narration by Isabella Rossellini, "My Italian Secret" tells the story of cycling idol Gino Bartali, Dr. Giovanni Borromeo and other Italians who risked their lives to carry out ingenious schemes to rescue Jews, partisans and refugees from Nazi-occupied Italy. As an entire continent was engulfed



in genocide, more than 80 percent of Italy's Jews survived. Oscar-nominated director Oren Jacoby reveals the stories of a secret underground that has remained largely unknown until now.

Admission is free, but reservations are required. Call 579-5210 or email gen-shoahswfl@icloud.com. ■

Conservancy welcome kids for winter camp

The Conservancy of Southwest Florida is taking reservations for its 2016 Winter Camp for kids in grades two through five. Sessions from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 28-29, combine outdoor adventures, live animal encounters and engaging nature-based activities for the budding environmentalist.

Campers will venture into

the unique habitats of Southwest Florida, including cypress swamps and mangrove estuaries, in search of alligators, turtles, wading birds and other wondrous wildlife.

Cost is \$60 per day for children of Conservancy members, \$80 for others. Space is limited. Sign up at www.Conservancy.org/Camps. ■



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RAIDERS

From page 1

101, became a Texas citrus farmer in his later life.

"His eyesight is great, his hearing is great, he walks without a cane — and this week he's in Pearl Harbor (for the 75th anniversary of the Japanese attack)," Mr. Valentine notes, shaking his head in admiration of his hero and friend.

A lucky thing, too, by any measure — lucky that Mr. Cole even survived his first combat mission, let alone the rest of the war when he was frequently in great danger.

On Saturday morning, April 18, 1942, the Hornet found itself loaded with 16 B-25B Mitchell medium bombers, each with a crew of five who were now deep in the western Pacific surrounded by a small task force, headed toward Japan.

Few or none, Americans or Japanese alike, imagined they could accomplish or would even attempt what they were about to do.

Unfortunately for the Americans, shortly after 7:30 a.m. the Hornet was spotted by a Japanese scout boat more than 250 miles shy of the planned launch coordinates, and still more than 600 miles from the Japanese coast. Their cover was blown.

Navy gunners sunk the boat, but almost immediately Doolittle ordered his crews to man their bombers. The B-25s had been designed only to operate from long concrete runways, and each plane was equipped with extra bombs and fuel — which now wasn't going to be enough to get them to airstrips in China where they'd hoped to land.

The mission launched in gale-force



Doolittle Raid, April 18, 1942. An Army B-25 bomber takes off from the USS HORNET in the first U.S. air raid on Japan led by Gen. James Doolittle during World War II.

EVERETT HISTORICAL

winds and seas cresting at 30 feet, with the green Pacific sluicing over the deck.

No man among them had ever flown off the deck of a carrier in a B-25 or most in anything else — only two stripped down B-25s had done it once in a good-weather, good-wind test off Norfolk, Va.

Doolittle's Raiders themselves, including former stunt and test pilot Jimmy Doolittle, had merely practiced on concrete strips, mostly in Florida.

One of the pilots, retired Col. Jack Sims, a Neapolitan like Mr. Valentine who died in 2007, described their training this way in a conversation with a historian: "We practiced, over and over, ramming the engines at full power, taking off at 65 miles per hour in a 500-foot run. It could be done, as long as an engine didn't skip a beat."

But since Doolittle and Richard Cole were in the lead aircraft, they had only 470 feet of flight deck to get into the air. They were also loaded to capacity. But they did it, and so did every crew behind them.

"I flew as a crew member in a B-25," says Mr. Valentine, recalling the day he

met the last Raider, "and now I'm sitting in a café for 2½ hours with Cole, a real hero — I was so thrilled."

Hosting a visitor in his sunny living room near an end-table model of a B-25 and a portrait of his late, beloved wife last week, Mr. Valentine is loathe to talk about his own experiences.

For the most part so is Mr. Cole, he says, describing him as friendly and unassuming, a man who only agreed in recent years to let writer Dennis Okerstrom tell his story in the 2015 book, "Dick Cole's War: Doolittle Raider, Hump Pilot, Air Commando," a title that suggests how lucky Cole was just to live through the war.

Although 73 of Doolittle's Raiders survived that first combat mission, 10 more were later killed in the war and several captured by either the Japanese (who tortured them, executing three of the lost Raiders) or the Germans. Although no Raider was shot down by the Japanese, every plane was lost — either ditched

at sea, abandoned in the air by its crew, crash-landed in China, or in one case landed on a strip in the Soviet Union and confiscated.

Mr. Valentine is describing his conversation with Mr. Cole: "I asked him, 'Were you scared?'"

"He said, 'I was scared all the time.'"

"So I asked him, 'Was there one time when you were the most scared?'"

"He said it was after they bombed Japan — there were thunderstorms and weather. 'Doolittle said we were going to run out of gas, we were going to have to abandon the aircraft,' he told me. 'When we opened the hatch to bail out and I looked down into that black hole — that's the most scared I've ever been,' he said.

"Dick landed in a tree and stayed there all night. It was in Japanese territory."

Most historians now acknowledge that the mission — which only did minimal damage to the Japanese military and industrial targets Doolittle's Raiders attacked — had an immense psychic impact, boosting the morale of Americans and putting the Japanese on notice: the United States was coming.

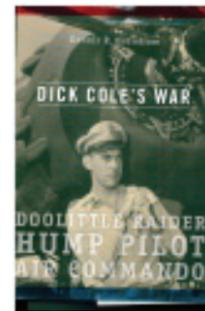
Following the war, Doolittle's Raiders gathered annually for a toast to the crews and the mission, each man drinking from his own cup and all of them vowing to continue to the last man.

"As they passed," explains Mr. Valentine, "their cups would be turned upside down. They finally had to stop after 2013."

There were still four at the time, but three weren't well enough to make the trip.

Time, like all things, passes.

"It's ironic," says Mr. Valentine, quietly: "Cole was the first off the deck. And now he's the last Raider alive." ■



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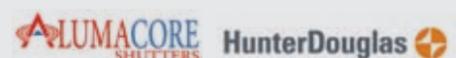
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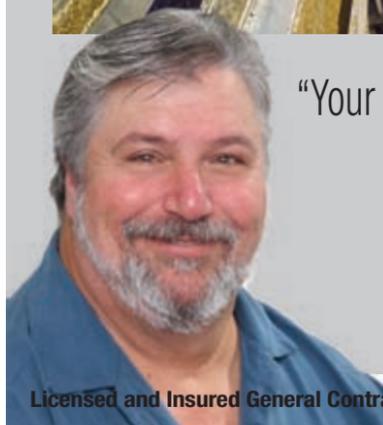
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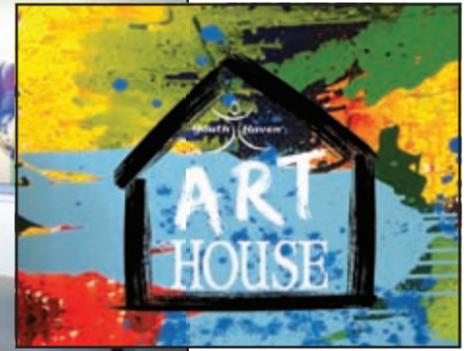
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Youth art on exhibit, orchid advice available

Here are some good things to have on your radar in the next couple of weeks:

■ Thomas Riley Studio hosts the opening reception for **“Art House: Open Windows,”** an exhibit of works by young residents and clients of Youth Haven, from 5-8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8, at the gallery and design atelier at 26 10th St. S. The new Youth Haven Art House is a freestanding sculpture designed and constructed in collaboration with Thomas Riley artisans. It displays many small, individual mixed media paintings made by the Youth Haven children and teens. Light hors d’oeuvres and refreshments will be served at the opening, and the children’s art will be for sale with 100 percent of the proceeds benefiting the art program at Youth Haven. The “Art House: Open Windows” exhibit will remain at Thomas Riley Studio for the week following the opening. Admission to the reception is free. RSVPs are appreciated and can be made by calling Youth Haven at 687-5155.



MARK POUCHER / COURTESY PHOTOS
Above: The Youth Haven Art House display at Thomas Riley Studio. Right: Visitors to the Thomas Riley Studio admire artwork by children who are clients of Youth Haven.



■ From 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at **Naples Botanical Garden**, veteran members of the Naples Orchid Society will dispense free advice for those with suffering orchids. The “orchid doctor” will be available from 1-4 p.m. every other Saturday through March 18 to help remedy orchid pest problems and recommend best care techniques. To ensure the best advice, bring your ailing orchid or a picture of it.

chidsociety.org.

This month’s dates are Dec. 3 and 17 (the doctor will not be in Dec. 31). No appointment or co-pay required. For more information, visit www.naplesor-

■ The **Armenian Church of Southwest Florida**, a mission parish organized in 2001, continues its seasonal services led by visiting clergy at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 8, at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 3901 Davis Blvd. Services will also be held on Sundays, Feb. 12 and 26 (with the archbishop of the diocese as honored guest), and March 12. For more information, call 213-0246 or email www.armenianchurchswfl@gmail.com. ■

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD

Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

Even baking soda could land you in jail

Almost all law enforcement agencies in America use the Scott Reagent field test when they discover powder that looks like cocaine, but the several agencies that have actually conducted tests for “false positives” say they happen up to half the time. In October, the latest victims (husband-and-wife truck drivers with spotless records and Pentagon

clearances) were finally released after 75 days in jail awaiting trial — for baking soda that tested “positive” three times by Arkansas troopers (but, eventually, “negative” by a state crime lab). (Why do police love the test? It costs \$2.) The truck drivers had to struggle to get their truck back and are still fighting to be re-cleared to drive military explosives.

Unclear on the concept

Activists told Vice Media in November that 100,000 people worldwide identify as “ecosexuals,” ranging from those who campaign for “sustainable”-ingredient sex toys to those who claim to have intercourse with trees (but sanding the bark for comfort might provoke concern about being “abusive”). A University of Nevada, Las Vegas professor studies the phenomenon and knows, for example,

of humans who “marry” the Earth or prefer sex while rolling in potting soil or under a waterfall. On one “arborphilia” support blog, a female poster regretted her choice to have “convenient” sex with the sycamore outside her bedroom window instead of the sturdy redwood she actually covets. (Yes, some “mainstream” environmentalists somehow are not completely supportive.)

If you see something, say something

Ricky Berry and his roommate walked in to a CVS store in Richmond, Va., in November to ask if it carried sliced cheese but were told no. Minutes later, all the employees walked to the back of the store, hid in a locked room, and called the police. Berry and pal, and a third customer (with a toothache and desperately needing Orajel),

were bewildered by the empty store until a Richmond police officer arrived. After observing that the three customers appeared nonthreatening, he mused along with Berry that “this is how weird, apocalyptic movies start.” WRIC-TV reported later that the employee who panicked and called police will “possibly” need retraining.

Groundbreaking legal work

In October, a court in Australia’s Victoria state began considering an appeal on whether three deaf people might be too intellectually challenged to have planned a murder. The prosecutor

offered surveillance video of the three in a lobby planning the murder’s details via sign language as they waited for an elevator to take them up to the eventual crime scene.

Questionable judgments

The Schlitterbahn Waterpark in Kansas City, Kan., got the message in November and shut down its “world’s tallest waterslide” (17 stories; riders reaching speeds of 60 mph) after the neck-injury death of a 10-year-old rider in August. But comparably altitude-obsessed architects in Tokyo said in November that they were moving ahead with proposals for “Next Tokyo 2045”

to include a one-mile-high residential complex (twice as tall as the currently highest skyscraper). A spokesperson for principal architects Kohn Pedersen Fox said he realizes that coastal Tokyo, currently in earthquake, typhoon and tsunami zones, would present a climate-change challenge (and especially since the building would be on land once reclaimed from Tokyo Bay).

Ironies

■ San Diego police officer Christine Garcia, who identifies as transgender, was turned away in November as she attempted to enter the Transgender Day of Remembrance at the city’s LGBT Community Center — because organizers thought the sight of a police uniform might upset some people. (Garcia herself was one of the event’s organizers.)

■ Gary Zerola was arraigned in Boston in November on two counts of rape. He is a defense lawyer, former prosecutor, one-time “Most Eligible Bachelor” winner, and was a finalist in the first season of ABC-TV’s “The Bachelor.” He was also accused of two counts of rape in 2006 (but acquitted at trial) and another in 2007 (but the charge was dropped).

Perspective

It was only a quarter-million-dollar grant by the National Institutes of Health, but what it bought, according to budget scrutiny by *The Washington Free Beacon* in November, was the development of a multiplayer computer game (inevitably competing for attention in an overstuffed commercial market) hoping to teach good

reproductive health habits. “Caduceus Quest” employs role-playing as “doctors, policymakers, researchers, youth advocates” and others to “solve medical mysteries and epidemiologic crises.” The target, according to the University of Chicago grant proposal, is African-American and Latino teenagers around Chicago.

How to tell if you’re too drunk

■ On Nov. 16, Richard Rusin, 34, was charged with DUI in St. Charles, Ill., after he drove off of a street, going airborne, hitting close to the top of one house, rebounding off of another, uprooting a

tree (sending it onto a roof), and knocking out electricity to the neighborhood when the car clipped a utility pole guide wire — and his car landed upside down in a driveway. He was hospitalized. ■

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NAPLES FT. MYERS BONITA SPRINGS CAPE CORAL ESTERO MARCO ISLAND

Historic Palm Cottage returns to its roots for the holiday season

The oldest house in Naples unveils a more refined holiday house décor to complement the sophisticated holiday style of its neighbors in downtown Naples for the annual Christmas at Palm Cottage.

“Less is more this year,” Elaine Reed, president and CEO of the Naples Historical Society, says about the cottage decorations. “Instead of a highway of twinkling lights streaming across the front entryway and porch, the house focuses on small, period-relevant holiday items for a more simple traditional Christmas theme.”

Constructed in 1895 of tabby mortar (a handmade concrete consisting of sand, shells and water), the two-story cottage was built by Walter Haldeman and boasts 3,500 square feet of original and donated artwork, furnishings and tools spanning more than 100 years.

In response to the success of the new

online tour booking system that allows guests to secure individual and group tours of Historic Palm Cottage months in advance, the society has extended the hours of Christmas at Palm Cottage to accommodate more visitors.

The cottage is at 137 12th Ave. S., one block east of the Naples Pier. Admission is \$13 (free for NHS members). Reservations can be made at www.napleshistoricalsociety.org. Here’s the schedule through Saturday, Dec. 31:

■ Tuesday-Friday: Reservations required for Christmas at Palm Cottage tours at noon and 1, 2 and 3 p.m.

■ Thursday-Friday: No reservations required for extended hours from 4-8 p.m.

■ Saturday: No reservations required for tours between 1-8 p.m.

Historic Palm Cottage will be closed to the public. For more information, visit the website or call 261-8164. ■

Holiday open house on tap

Naples Preserve will be transformed into a holiday wonderland for its annual Holiday Spirit Open House from 4:30-6 p.m. Friday through Sunday, Dec. 9-11. Visitors will meet live animal ambassadors from several local organizations, including Trouper, the blind raccoon from Wildlife Education Project who was featured on Nat Geo WILD channel’s “Unlikely Animal Friends” this spring. Rabbits from Southwest Florida House Rabbit Rescue and other animal ambassadors will be there, too.

A child-sized gopher tortoise burrow

replica will provide kids a fun place to explore while learning about this environmentally critical species that calls the Naples Preserve home. Story time will entertain the youngest visitors and older children as well, and special guest “The Litter Critter” mascot will be available for photo opportunities as he teaches children about the importance of recycling.

Entrance to the preserve is at 1690 Tamiami Trail N. Admission is free. For more information, call 261-4290 or follow Friends of the Naples Preserve on Facebook. ■

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How to help during this holiday season

Churches, clubs, nonprofits, business offices and groups of all kinds conduct holiday toy and food drives all around town. Here are some that will appreciate your donations:

■ Sue Huff of E. Sue Huff & Associates, Inc. is helping coordinate a toy drive with First Assembly Ministries of Immokalee. Individuals can donate new, unwrapped toys now through noon Wednesday, Dec. 14, at multiple locations throughout Naples.

The goal of the toy drive is to collect at least 200 toys for girls and boys ages of 1-12. Toys will be distributed to children in the downtown Immokalee community on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 18, immediately following the morning service at First Assembly in Immokalee.

“Many of these children will go without toys this holiday season because their families just can’t afford to purchase them,” says Arnie Coones, pastor at First Assembly Ministries. “We want to reach out to the community around us and try to show love and compassion to those who are among the poorest of the poor.”

Any toys leftover after the distribution will be delivered to the homes of children in the community immediately surrounding the church facility on Tuesday, Dec. 20.

Drop off locations for the Children of Immokalee Toy Drive are:

KGT Remodeling, 1045 Collier Center Way

Ooh La La Jewels Du Jour, 900 Neapolitan Way

William C. Huff Companies, 4227 Progress Ave.

For more information, call Ms. Huff at 596-7790 or visit www.esuehuff.com.

■ MarineMax Naples has partnered with The Salvation Army of Collier County to “Fill the Boat” with toys and food for the less fortunate this holiday season.

A Boston Whaler Outrage has been

designated as the collection vessel for new, unwrapped toys that will be distributed through the Toys for Tots campaign. Donations are welcome through Monday, Dec. 12, at the yacht center next to Tin City.

Customers who contribute a new, unwrapped toy valued at \$10 or more will receive 10 percent off a purchase in the MarineMax Naples Parts and Service Department or \$500 off the purchase of a new boat.

The center holds a holiday open house from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, complete with seasonal music, hamburgers and hot dogs and the final push to fill the Boston Whaler with toys.

For more information about the toy and food drive, call Jennifer Miller at 262-1000 or email Jennifer.Miller@marinemax.com.

■ The Shelter for Abused Women & Children is collecting holiday food items for survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking. All donations will be distributed to residents of the Shelter’s emergency shelter or participants in its outreach programs.

Turkeys, hams, gravy, stuffing, potatoes, yams/sweet potatoes, corn, onions, green beans, cranberry sauce, apples, pies, dinner rolls and aluminum and foil pans can be dropped off at The Shelter Options Shoppe, 968 Second Ave. N. For more information, call 775-3862.

■ For the 33rd year, the Northside Naples Kiwanis Club will serve more than 3,000 holiday dinners to Immokalee residents on Christmas Day. To make Christmas in Immokalee complete, Santa will hand out toys for the children and gloves, socks and bandanas for the adults.

Donations of food and presents from general businesses help make the event possible, as do financial gifts from individuals. If you would like to contribute, call 591-2831 or email joezaks@aol.com. ■



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Two service organizations join forces to stabilize Lovers Key

Lovers Key State Park beach is now a safer place, thanks to a joint service project conducted by The Urban Land Institute of Southwest Florida and Keep Lee County Beautiful. This safety project did not involve security or surveillance systems. Rather, more than 40 volunteers participated in planting more than 2,400 sea oats 150 to 200 feet inland from the Gulf of Mexico's mean high tide line.

"Sea oats are very valuable as a dune builder and stabilizer during Florida's hurricane season and provide protection for sea turtle nests," explains Katie Moses, who was the park services specialist at Lovers Key State Park and

now serves as assistant park manager at Koreshan State Historic Site. "To have such a large group of motivated volunteers help plant over 2,400 sea oats is incredible," she said.

Project sponsors included Black Business Solutions, Friends of Lovers Key, Kimley-Horn, Miromar Development Corp., Morris-Depew Associates, and Pavese Law Firm.

The Urban Land Institute, or ULI, is a member-supported global nonprofit education and research institute with a mission to provide leadership in the responsible use of land and in sustaining and creating thriving communities. ULI was established in 1936 and has



The Urban Land Institute-Southwest Florida and Keep Lee County Beautiful hosted a joint service project at Lovers Key State Park beach.

about 36,000 members who represent all aspects of land use and development disciplines. It sponsors educa-

tional forums and events, including conferences on trends, project tours and programs on transportation and housing.

Keep Lee County Beautiful is a nonprofit that brings people together to build and sustain vibrant communities. With a network of individuals, businesses, civic, environmental and governmental organizations, it works with thousands of volunteers to take action in their communities by offering solutions that create clean, beautiful public places, reduce waste and increase recycling, generate positive impact on local economies, and inspire generations of environmental stewards. ■

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BEHIND THE WHEEL

Honda Ridgeline: the practical party pickup



Honda has always been good at identifying practical needs, and then creating a product around this sensible list. But often our choice of vehicle comes from the heart just as much as it comes from the head. There's no better example than the truck market. After all, we may never need three feet of ground clearance and wide off-road tires, but we sure do lust after it enough to put it in our driveways.

So what happens when the realistic minds at Honda go after the emotional truck market? The new Ridgeline is the answer.

The redesigned 2017 model is Honda's second generation of the pickup, and it tells a lot about their lessons learned. The exterior carries the latest design lines shared with Honda's crossovers, but the rear bed is unique to the Ridgeline, and it is quite a change from the previous model.

The old truck's silhouette had a flying buttress to gradually separate the cab from the bed. It appeared to want to flaunt how the vehicle was one seamless construction. The new Ridgeline does not. There is an abrupt 90-degree cut at the end of the passenger area, and even the sheet metal has a crease to create the allusion of separation between the cab and the bed. This dividing line is the Ridgeline's effort to hide its difference from traditional pickups.

Conventional trucks use a ladder frame construction. It acts like a Lego set where one platform specifically engineered for hauling has different cabs and beds that can be easily locked into place. These separate components create a pleat where they meet. The unibody Ridgeline doesn't need this wrinkle, but the new one adds it just to appear like the rest of the trucks out there.

Honda does reinforce the body so that towing and hauling is in-line with mainstream midsize pickups, but this one was not built for the industrial crowd. The Ridgeline's bed is shallower than the competition, and thus, the cargo volume is a few cubic-feet less. For those who don't mind the last few bags of mulch hanging above the tailgate line, there are some nice benefits.

The new Ridgeline continues to have a genuine lockable trunk beneath the bed. This is more than just an area to store tools. With over seven cubic feet of



volume, it's deep enough to give luggage watertight storage outside of the passenger cabin. There's even a drain plug, so this could be filled with ice and be the ultimate tailgate party cooler.

In fact, the Ridgeline seems to be squarely aimed at those who love to entertain on the weekends. There are a host of features aimed at the party time crowd, and at the top of the list is the built-in exterior audio system. There are weatherproof "exciters" that can broadcast the equivalent of a 540-watt stereo system all through the truck bed. This can be operated via Bluetooth, so the DJ doesn't have to be near the truck to control it. This feature isn't available on the \$30,375 base model, but the \$43K upper level trims come with every option box

checked, including the in-bed audio.

When the party is over, the Ridgeline can return back to a staid and stable Honda. The interior is quite similar to the Pilot crossover that it shares an assembly plant with in Alabama. That means there are plenty of options available to make the Ridgeline just as comfortable as any family hauler.

The Ridgeline further rebels against more of the traditional truck crowd by offering a fully independent suspension. This helps with its commuter image, but takes away from the off-road scene. The optional all-wheel drive is a similar level of capability where it is great for muddy roads, but it might not be the first one to blaze a new trail.

In the end, the practical minds at



Honda have once again rationalized their way through truck design. The 2017 Ridgeline might not have all the right features for real truck people, but it has a host of exclusive amenities that work well in real life. ■

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If the stress of daily living and family and global tensions are weighing you down, don't despair. Here's an oasis. Registration is underway for the next six-week spiritual intensive meditation program based on the teachings of Eckart Holle.

Sessions meet from 6:30-8 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 19-Feb. 23, at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Greater Naples. Cost for all six sessions is \$35. The registration deadline is Jan. 12. Participation is limited to 50 people.

This is not a discussion group. Facilitator Linda Allen has been a student of Eckhart Tolle for 16 years and has led intensives in Wisconsin for several years and in Southwest Florida since mid-2013. She has practiced the art of meditation for more than 40 years.

To sign up or for more information, call Donna Carty at 784-7734 or email journeypresence@gmail.com. ■

Conference experts will offer insights for Chron's disease, colitis sufferers

Managing inflammatory bowel disease is an issue for more than 1.6 million Americans. To help guide those affected by IBD, the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America presents seminars from physician experts and health-care professionals on topics important to IBD patients, families and caregivers from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14, at Naples Regional Library.

Guest speakers and their topics are: Dr. Raymond Phillips, biosimilars; Dawn Gray, nutrition; Paula Allain, clinical studies; and Dr. Sandra Jara, alternative approaches.

Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis are painful, medically incurable illnesses that attack the digestive system. Symptoms can include abdominal pain, persistent diarrhea, rectal bleeding, fever and weight loss. Many patients require hospitalization and surgery. These illnesses can cause severe complications, including colon cancer in patients with long-term disease. Most people develop the diseases between the ages of 15 and 35.

Admission to the conference for \$5 includes breakfast and a chance to win a one-hour massage at a local spa. Reservations are suggested, as seating is limited. Call Jamie Diaz at (561) 218-2929 (option 1, ext. 8) or visit www.ccfa.org/chapters/florida. ■

Wine & Food Fest proceeds benefit children's behavioral health

SWFL Children's Charities Inc.'s annual signature fundraiser is the Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest. The festival has raised \$16 million in eight years, making it the most successful fundraising event in Lee County and one of the top-grossing wine fests in the country.

The nonprofit SWFL Children's Charities Inc. donates 100 percent of the event proceeds to three local beneficiaries, including Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, the event's primary beneficiary. This year, those dollars will be dedicated to the pediatric behavioral health initiative at Golisano, giving area children access to quality mental health care services, as there is a lack of resources for children in need of mental health care.

About 1 in 5 young people ages 13-18 — 21.4 percent — experience a severe mental disorder at some point in their lives, reports the National Alliance on Mental Illness, and “for children ages 8-15, the estimate is 13 percent.”

“It's no longer a taboo subject,” said Christin Collins, co-chair, Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest. “Children's behavioral and mental health care is complex, and it's heartbreaking for the children and families who are suffering. This need is underserved and has reached a crisis point,” she said. “Mental health care must become a priority for children in our community. The mission of the SWFL Children's Charities is to advance health care services available to children in our region, and we have a huge responsibility to lead the way for improving access to care for children and families who are suffering with mental illness in Southwest Florida.”

In Southwest Florida, more than two-thirds of pediatric patients are on Medicaid and are considered low income. Reimbursement rates for behavioral and mental health make it difficult for health-care providers to meet the current and growing demands for services, and an estimated 46,000 children have or have had a debilitating mental disorder.

“The pediatric behavioral health initiative at Golisano Children's Hospital is building a foundation for excellence in care for the mental health needs for the children and families of our area,” said Dr. Denise Dutchak-Parmenter of Golisano Children's Hospital. “The support of SWFL Children's Charities Inc. will bring tremendous resources to boost our efforts.”

Dr. Dutchak-Parmenter emphasized that “mental illness crosses all bound-



“The mission of the SWFL Children's Charities is to advance health care services available to children in our region, and we have a huge responsibility to lead the way for improving access to care for children and families who are suffering with mental illness in Southwest Florida.”

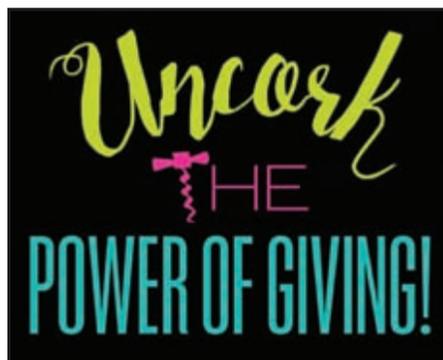
— Christin Collins, co-chair, Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest

aries and affects every aspect of a child's functioning, whether it's a complex medical condition, their school performance or their family and friends. Our goal is to allow patients to access a multi-layered

approach through individual group and family therapies, coordination with schools and their primary care doctors to promote the patient's best and optimal functioning now and for their lifetime. As our patient population grows, we anticipate the addition of providers and services

organizations like Golisano Children's Hospital will be able to create and sustain programs and services to support the needs of children in our community with behavior and mental disorders,” Ms. Collins said. “Donations to the auction's fund-a-cause will support the establishment of this region's first comprehensive behavioral and mental health counseling program, as well as patient and family navigation programs.”

In addition to providing funds for the new state-of-the-art Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, SWFL Children's Charities grants funds to Florida SouthWestern State College and Florida Gulf Coast University to provide scholarships and equipment to educate the community's next generation of pediatric health care professionals. ■



dedicated to the advancement of mental health care in our community,” Dr. Dutchak-Parmenter said.

The pediatric behavioral health initiative at Golisano Children's Hospital is dedicated to treating the wide spectrum of behavioral and mental health needs, including psychiatric diagnoses that may include ADHD, anxiety and mood disorders, autism and psychosis.

“Philanthropy will be the only way

in the know

The Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest includes private Chef Vintner Dinners on Friday, Feb. 24, and The Grand Tasting and Live Auction on Saturday, Feb. 25, at Miramar Lakes Beach & Golf Club. For more information, visit www.swflwinefest.org.



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CLUB NOTES

■ **Pilot Club of Naples/Naples Pilot Foundation** meets at 6 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month at Perkins on Pine Ridge Road. The next meeting is Dec. 8. Guests and new members are always welcome. Reservations are not required. Attendees order from the menu and pay for their meals. Pilot International focuses its charitable and educational efforts on brain-related disorders and disabilities, including traumatic brain injuries, dementia and autism. For more information, call Sue Lester 289-8268.



■ **The DPI-SIG Naples Digital Photography Club** meets from 7-9 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month at Florida SouthWestern State College, 7505 Grand Lely Drive. Meetings are open to the public, and all levels of photographers are welcome. The next meeting is Dec. 8. For more information, visit www.dpi-sig.org.

■ **Kappa Alpha Theta** alumnae in Naples, Marco Island & Bonita Springs holds their holiday party the evening of Sunday, Dec. 11, at the Club at Olde Cypress. For reservations, call Betsy Penzo at 404-3075 or email penzob@aol.com. For more information about additional chapter activities, visit www.Naples.KappaAlphaTheta.org.

■ **Alumnae of Gamma Phi Beta** in the Naples area meet for lunch and conversation on the second Monday of each month. The next meeting is Dec. 12. For more information, call Lynne Nordhoff at 594-8420 or email lynnecordhoff@gmail.com.

■ **The National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution Naples-on-the-Gulf** chapter meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of the month in North Naples. Meetings begin with a program related to the mission of DAR: historical preservation, promotion of education and encouragement of patriotic endeavor. On Dec. 12, members will hear about The Immokalee Foundation from staff members Noemi Perez, program services director, and Laura Krauth, stewardship and donor relations director. Any woman 18 years or older who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution is eligible for membership. For more information or to make a reservation, call Juliana Meek at 262-2699 or email julianadar@comcast.net.



■ **The Genealogical Society of Collier County** meets at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13, at Faith Lutheran Church, 4150 Goodlette-Frank Road. In "Journals and Jewels," Gary Johnson will discuss how journals, diaries and heirlooms can bring vivid pictures of our ancestors to light. New officers will also be installed. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Attendance

is free, and all are welcome. For more information, call Madonna Crame at 455-7295 or visit www.thegscc.org.

■ **The Florida Native Plant Society-Naples** meets at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13, at Naples Botanical Garden. Presenters Savannah Grant and Alex Miranda of Florida Gulf Coast University will discuss the "Economic Value of Annual Carbon Sequestration in Southwest Florida State Parks, and Expedition Tree Core: Climate Change and the Phoenix Islands." Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free and all are welcome. Bring a snack to share if you can. For more information, follow the Naples Chapter of FNPS on Facebook.

■ **The PCBUG** computer and technology club invites all those interested in learning more about computers and mobile devices to its meeting at 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, at Naples Regional Library, 650 Central Ave. For more information call J. Burke at 659-0659 or email paddyeb@hotmail.com.

■ **The Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance** meets from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, at 1455 Pine Ridge Road. Admission is free, and all are welcome. Jerry Steele will share his best practices for growing cattleyas and will have some of his new hybrids and old favorites for sale. The alliance welcomes donations of out-of-bloom or unwanted orchids, which members use for educational purposes. Free pick up is available and can be arranged by calling 498-9741. For more information about the alliance, call 649-4145 or visit www.gulfcoastorchidalliance.com.



■ **The Naples chapter of PFLAG**, Parents Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, a support, education and advocacy group for families with gay or transgender members, meets at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, at Naples United Church of Christ, 5200 Crayton Road. For more information, call 963-4670 or visit www.pflagnaples.org.

■ **Naples Ship Modelers** is an informal group dedicated to building wooden ship models. Members meet at 9:30 a.m. on the first and third Saturday of the month at the Landmark Naples community in North Naples. The next meetings are Dec. 17 and Jan 7. Members should bring their works in progress and be prepared to share techniques and tips. All are invited to enjoy lunch afterward at Fitzgerald's. For more information, call Dick Ritchie at 594-0868 or email dcritchie@comcast.net.

■ **The Naples base of the U.S. Submarine Veterans (USSVI)** meets at 7 p.m. on the third Monday of every month at the VFW Post 7721, 800 Neffs Way in Naples. The next meeting is Dec. 19. Membership is open to active duty and retired submariners who have earned the Qualified in Submarines designation. The local USSVI base commander is Jack Hogan of Naples. For more information, visit www.ussvi.org/base/naples.asp.

— Email club news to Cindy Pierce at pierce@floridaweekly.com.



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PET TALES

Three new books answer your questions about cats

BY DR. MARTY BECKER,
KIM CAMPBELL THORNTON
AND MIKKEL BECKER

Universal Uclick

We at Pet Connection have always suspected that cats are aliens who have enslaved us to do their furry bidding. They train us to feed them, scoop their litter boxes and be their sidekicks — when they want us to be.

Cats are the most popular pets in the United States, with between 74 and 96 million of them sharing our homes. More than half a billion have colonized the world. And yet, they are still alien to many people. Fortunately, three authors have taken on the challenge of revealing the secrets of cats in all their infinite variety.

Abigail Tucker grew up with cats, but it wasn't until she became a mother herself that the science writer began to explore the lure of the cat, struck by her daughters' absorption with them. With her cat Cheetoh as muse, she explores feline natural history, behavior and relationships with humans in her book "The Lion in the Living Room."

There are lots of theories about why cats and people joined forces. Usually, it's related to cats protecting food from vermin. But when cats came indoors as companions, it was a real game-changer. Tucker's exploration of the results of that move, in the chapter "Pandora's Litter Box," is both funny and fascinating. Other chapters address wild cats, feline evolution, the war between cats and birders, feline genetics, exotic cat breeds



Cats are complex and sensitive, with many special needs.

and more.

Whereas Tucker gives an overarching view of the little hypercarnivores, cat expert Ramona Marek has written a guide to living with them successfully. Marek says the biggest mistake people make with cats is believing the myth that they are self-sufficient, aloof and solitary.

"This notion leads to cats being thought of as 'disposable' or able to survive on their own," she says. "Cats are domesticated companion animals who depend on us for food, social interaction and health care. We need to uphold our end of the domestication process."

In "Cats for the GENIUS," Marek offers readers the opportunity to "create a paw-sitive relationship with your cat from the start!" With advice on everything from A (acquisition) to V (vocalizations), she educates new owners about cat habits and needs they might never have considered. For instance, she says people are often surprised to learn

that cats prefer to have food and water in different areas. They don't know that cats are true carnivores with specific nutritional requirements. "Catification hacks" help them set up their homes in ways cats will like.

"By recognizing normal feline behavior, we can accommodate the home environment to fit their needs, which helps build a stronger, positive human-animal bond, keeping more cats in homes and out of shelters," she says.

For a more specialized take on feline foibles, award-winning author Dusty Rainbolt talks to veterinarians, veterinary behaviorists and cat consultants about the No. 1 — and No. 2 — cat behavior problem: inappropriate elimination. In other words, not using the litter box.

In "Cat Scene Investigator: Solve Your Cat's Litter Box Mystery," Rainbolt takes readers through the detective work necessary to figure out which cat is the culprit in a multi-pet home, why he's breaking cat law by peeing or pooping outside the box and how to send him to rehab instead of death row. Often, he's not misbehaving at all, but reacting to a treatable medical problem or a conflict with a person or other pet. Rainbolt's tips address how to identify and resolve issues and, best of all, how to get rid of the stain and stink.

"Litter box behavior is complicated," Rainbolt says. "It's like a mile-long mathematical equation. There are a lot of potential variables. But once you figure out what the variables are, you can solve the problem." ■

Pets of the Week



>> **Mikey** is an approximately 8-month-old male brown tabby domestic short-hair.



>> **Radar** is a 1-year-old male chocolate Labrador retriever mix. He weighs about 51 pounds, is handsome, sweet and friendly.



>> **Stardust** is an 8-month-old female brown tabby domestic shorthair. She has a pretty coat and big bronze eyes.



>> **Willa** is a 2-year-old female brown brindle and white terrier bully mix. She's friendly, affectionate and beautiful.

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. Adoptable dogs and cats from DAS are also at For Footed Friends in Marquessa Plaza on Livingston Road from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. the first Saturday of every month. For more information, call 252-7387 or visit www.colliergov.net/pets. ■

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COLLECTOR'S CORNER

Images reflect another time in our racial history



It was 1946 or so, and Uncle Thurmond, Aunt Frances and my grandmother Dorothy returned to find the house they were renting in Mount Dora surrounded by sheriff's deputies.

It seemed Thurmond's maid, Florine, had been in town, seen her husband with another woman and had shot the cheating man with Thurmond's pistol.

My grandmother walked into the house and found Florine cowering in the closet.

"You'll have to go with the sheriff. We can figure something out," my grandmother told her.

The deputies arrested Florine and took her back to jail. Her husband later died from his wounds.

My grandmother and Aunt Frances returned home to Pahokee, and Thurmond stayed behind in Mount Dora, where he was brokering the Zellwood sweet corn crop.

Back then, Mount Dora was an even smaller town than today, and Thurmond heard that the sheriff was taking Florine home with him at night to cook and clean.

Thurmond called on the sheriff and asked what it would take to get his maid back.

According to family lore, he paid the sheriff \$1,000.

Florine came home to the Glades and took care of my cousins.

For better or for worse, that was racial justice in Florida in the 1940s, and a reflection of cultural norms of the day.

I think of those days in Mount Dora whenever I see photos of Al Jolson in blackface or remember how Hattie McDaniel was refused entrance to the Atlanta premiere of "Gone With the Wind." She went on to win an Oscar for her portrayal of Mammy in the movie.

It seems like another world, yet it was not that long ago.

One hopes we have changed, but I sense we still have far to go. ■



THE FIND:

78 RPM record of children's music

Bought: Stuart Antique Show, Martin County Fairgrounds, 2616 SE Dixie Highway, Stuart. Next show is Jan. 14-15. www.floridaantiqueshows.com.

Cost: \$20

The skinny: I saw this 7-inch 78 RPM record and was smitten with the graphics, with their bold primary colors.

The record, issued in 1948 by Voco Records, includes recordings of the songs "Oh Susanna" and "Chicken Chatter," performed by Bob Kennedy in a country-swing style.

It's of cardboard with a grooved plastic playing surface on each side.

The side featuring the Stephen Foster song, "Oh Susanna," portrays two children in blackface.

It's shocking to see those images on a children's record, but black memorabilia of that era is popular among African-American collectors, who see these messages as part of their heritage.

I see it as an opportunity to learn, regardless of the price. ■

SCOTT SIMMONS / FLORIDA WEEKLY

This children's record is dated 1948 and has colorful illustrations, including one that is decidedly outdated.

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SECTION B

“Something we do here that’s really nice is each office picks a charity to make a donation to.”

— Jessica Catti, FineMark’s marketing director



COURTESY PHOTO

Booze-heavy blowouts of Christmas parties past have become less common at office parties. But companies say the emphasis is still on fun.

The company party

How to celebrate the holidays with your bosses and colleagues

BY DON MANLEY

Florida Weekly Correspondent

’Tis the season for Herculean shopping, holiday decorations, sharing time with loved ones and another yuletide staple: the company Christmas party.

Businesses traditionally close out the year with a festive gathering for employees, whether at the office or off-

site, during working hours or after the workday’s end. While the booze-heavy blowouts of Christmas parties past have become less common over the years, companies still keep the accent on fun at the parties, in some cases marrying them to local charitable causes.

Fort Myers-based FineMark National Bank and Trust is among the companies that incorporate giving into their Christmas celebration. The bank has branches in Southwest Florida, Palm Beach, Arizona and South Carolina.

“Something we do here that’s really nice is each office picks a charity to make a donation to,” said Jessica Catti, FineMark’s marketing director.



CATTI

“Also, our associates collect money among themselves and adopt families through United Way. So every year we have six families that we buy gifts for, children and parents.”

FineMark’s expansion over the last

SEE PARTY, B4 ▶

INSIDE



Networking

The Membership Directors Association of Southwest Florida. **B7-8** ▶



Hot homes

Vanilla Ice home a hot resale. **B12** ▶



House Hunting

A Spanish beauty in Marsh Cove. **B9** ▶

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REAL ESTATE



Bill Raveis, Chairman and CEO, William Raveis Real Estate with Christopher A. Braun, Broker Associate

November 27th - Molly Lane, Senior Vice President / General Manager of William Raveis Real Estate Florida is pleased to announce that Christopher A. Braun has joined the William Raveis team located at 792 Broad Avenue South in Naples.

“We are very excited to have Chris join our company, he has an exceptional track record and is a true professional,” said Lane. “Chris was the #1 sales associate with his former office, and we couldn’t be happier to welcome him to the Raveis family.”

Originally from Bergen County, New Jersey, Chris graduated from Naples High School and went on to obtain his undergraduate degree from Furman University. Chris and his wife Julia are blessed with 5 children, 3 boys and 2 girls. Chris is an active parishioner at St. Ann’s Catholic Church in the Olde Naples area whose personal passions include spending time with his family, back country spin-cast and fly fishing, writing, music, woodworking, attending athletic and music events, and exercising / boxing. Chris is competitive and deeply committed to the highest levels of ethics and integrity within both his personal and professional pursuits.

Chris’ professional achievements are numerous. Chris has received the highest awards of distinction that the Naples Area Board of Realtors (“NABOR”) NABOR has to bestow upon a Realtor member for overall exemplary service as well as commitment above and beyond to the Realtor profession and Code of Ethics including Realtor of the Year and induction into the highly select NABOR Hall of Fame. He served as the President of NABOR in 1998, and was named Best Realtor in Southwest Florida by the Naples Daily News Reader’s Choice Award in both 2012 & 2014. He was the #1 Realtor company-wide at the firm of his prior affiliation and received a legion of other awards during his 22 year tenure there. “Having been a full time Realtor here in Naples for the past 32+ years, the decision to join the professionals at William Raveis is compelling on behalf of my clientele for a host of reasons. This is a long range decision based upon Raveis’ truly national and international tools and services to deploy particularly for my many clients who are sellers both now and in the future. As the 8th largest brokerage in the United States, Raveis’ commitment to the Naples community and their Florida operations raises the bar for our brokerage industry and I am excited to be a part of that. I look forward to all my seller and buyer clients experiencing the expanding services and results that will follow because fundamentally great brokerage is about trust and great performance ... and both Raveis and I are philosophically as well as practically deeply committed to both.”

William Raveis Real Estate was founded in 1974 in Connecticut, and has since expanded to be the largest family-owned real estate company in the Northeast, with offices in Connecticut, Florida, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

The company prides itself on its unique approach to the real estate industry by focusing on its sales associates, providing them unique tools and the leading technology so they can build their own businesses within the company. “Our sales associates are our customers. Our management team mentors and empowers our agents to innovate and grow their businesses,” said Bill Raveis. “We continue to have an overwhelmingly positive response to our business model here in Naples. William Raveis Real Estate plans to open 30 offices in Florida over the next 10 years.”

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William Raveis Real Estate, Mortgage & Insurance is the No. 1 family-owned real estate company in the Northeast and the No. 8 real estate company in the country, according to REAL Trends 2015. With \$9 billion in real estate sales annually, \$1 billion in mortgages annually, and more than 6,000 insurance customers, William Raveis’ Real Estate, Mortgage and Insurance divisions have been awarded the Gold Medal distinction by the Commercial Record and by Banker & Tradesman. The firm was named the Most Innovative Brokerage by Inman News, and has consistently been ranked the best place to work by Fox CT, Hearst Connecticut and the Boston Business Journal. William Raveis has over 4,000 highly trained sales professionals in 120 offices from Florida to Maine. For more information, visit the best website in real estate, raveis.com, or blog.raveis.com.



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These are a selection of closed sales that occurred with Christopher A. Braun as the Listing Realtor prior to his affiliation with William Raveis Real Estate.



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Clive Daniel Home named National Furnishings winner

Furniture Today, a national communications company serving the home furnishings industry, recently named Clive Daniel Home the national winner in its inaugural Furniture Industry Leadership Awards program. The national program recognized best-in-class retail organizations at three sales volume levels with nominees selected by retailers, manufacturers and consumers.

Clive Daniel Home was honored as the nation's number one furnishings retailer with sales under \$50 million in the Peer Honors category, selected by a survey of industry retailers.

Clive Lubner, chairman of Clive Daniel Home, was on hand to proudly accept the prestigious national award reflecting their recognition by industry peers. The

awards were presented at the Leadership Conference Awards Dinner in Orlando on Wednesday, Nov. 30.

The 85,000-square-foot flagship Clive Daniel Home showroom, located on U.S. 41 in Naples, opened in April 2011 by innovative retailers Clive and Daniel Lubner. The company continues to receive awards for design excellence, amassing 167 national and regional awards since its opening. A second Clive Daniel Home is located in Boca Raton. ■

COURTESY PHOTO

Back row: Designers Rhett Josey, Jackie Nelson, Jean Losier, Mollie Martin, Charlie Hansen, Nancy Woodhouse and Thomas Riker. Front row: Christina Rosolia, Wilfredo Emanuel, Rebekah Errett-Pikosky and Michael Scott.



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· 2 Blocks to Downtown 5th Ave South, 4 blocks to beach
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Office party Ps and Qs

BY SUSAN BRYANT

www.monster.com

Your company's holiday gathering is just around the corner.

Time to let loose and party with your co-workers after a long year, right?

Wrong.

According to business etiquette expert Hilka Klinkenberg, the cardinal rule is to remember that no matter how festive the occasion, it's still about business. Don't fall off the fast track to success or risk damaging your professional reputation in one night of inadvertent blunders.

Ms. Klinkenberg offers the following advice to ensure a smooth, enjoyable evening.

■ **Before party time, find out who can come to the event.** Spouses and significant others are not always on the guest list. Ask ahead of time to ensure avoiding anything uncomfortable.

■ **Eat, drink and be merry — but in moderation.** Where else but the office party can you find the CEO and the mailroom clerk bellied up to the bar together? But remember: Alcohol plus you and your boss can add up to "I can't believe I said that" come Monday morning. If you choose to drink, do so minimally.

■ **Dress appropriately for the occasion.** Ms. Klinkenberg says this rule especially applies to women who sometimes use company parties to strut



their stuff. Leave anything short, tight or revealing in the closet. You've worked hard to create a professional image, and revealing clothes can alter your coworkers' and manager's perception of you as a competent professional.

■ **The company party might be the only time you see the president, CEO or vice presidents in person. Introduce yourself.** This is a great opportunity to become visible to your organization's higher-ups.

■ **At the very least, don't spend the entire evening with your regular office buddies.** Get in the holiday spirit and mingle with people from other departments.

■ **If you've been a star performer in your organization, you might be honored with a toast.** Accept the honor gracefully, but don't drink to yourself or clap when others are applauding you. Also, make a toast to the person who toasted you, thanking him for the recognition.

■ **Pay attention to the time you arrive and when you leave.** Even if you don't really want to attend, avoid arriving 20 minutes before the end just to make an appearance. On the flip side, don't party into the wee hours either. Co-workers and managers will notice both errors in judgment.

■ **Be sure to thank those who coor-**

inated the party. They likely put in a great deal of effort hoping you would have a good time. Not only is saying thank you the nice thing to do, but it also makes you stand out from the many employees who don't.

On the planning side

If you're in charge of planning the company party, here are a few reminders:

■ **Consider the diversity of everyone who works for the company.** A Christmas party may alienate some staff. A holiday party is more inclusive.

■ **Is a daytime or evening party more convenient for most attendees?** For employees with children, arranging childcare for an evening event may be an issue. If you plan a party during office hours, however, make sure everyone can attend.

■ **Clearly convey to employees who is invited to the party.** If spouses or children are not included, say so.

■ **Plan an event that reflects well on the company.** Choose an appropriate location, control the alcohol flow and take your employees' interests into consideration. ■

— Susan Bryant is a contributing writer at www.Monster.com, a global online employment solution for people seeking jobs and the employers who need great people.

PARTY

From page 1

few years first necessitated a change in Christmas party locations from the bank's headquarters to the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center in downtown Fort Myers. Today, each branch holds its own party so that employees don't have to travel.

Ms. Catti said the parties make for a nice conclusion to each year, and enable the bank to thank employees and foster camaraderie, even though everyone no longer gathers in a single location.

"If there's one bad thing about not having one party it's that we don't get to see everybody," she added. "When you're with people, but not in your working environment, it's a different situation. I think it's important to be with each other when you're not just in work mode."

At Priority Marketing in Fort Myers, holiday parties are not a static affair.

"Traditionally we do a holiday party for our employees and their significant others," said Holly Boldrin, director of



BOLDRIN

public relations. "It's generally different every year. In the past, we've done restaurants. Last year, we did it at my house and had it catered. The idea is to bring everyone together. Everyone works so hard throughout the year and the holidays are the time to celebrate our friendship."

An ugly sweater contest is also part of the fun for the company's roughly 30 employees, as are a Secret Santa gift exchange and gift cards for local restaurants or for one of the company's clients, Norman Love Confections.

Priority Marketing employees also raise money during the Christmas season to buy gifts for a needy family or to donate to a charity, such as a Kiwanis Club party for special needs children.

Company luncheons are the holiday party option of choice for many offices, including Marco Island's Condee Cooling and Electric.

After-work gatherings are difficult to schedule for companies that offer

24-hours service, explained Erik Condee, vice-president and operations manager of the family-owned business. So the company treats its staff of 60 to an on-site, steak luncheon on the Friday before Christmas, with the managers



CONDEE

doing the cooking. There are also giveaways of tools and a gift box containing a 5-pound ham, premium cheeses and more

"We turn the phones over to the answering service so everyone can participate," said Mr. Condee.

A luncheon at Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar is this year's option for the Naples law firm of Grant Fridken Pearson. Off-site is a tradition, but the timing of the celebration can shift from year to year, said the firm's office manager, Judy Wright.

"We take a poll to see what our staff prefers," Ms. Wright said. "Sometimes we do luncheons. Sometimes do dinners. But we always do an event for the holidays."

At the Fort Myers headquarters of

Chico's FAS, the annual holiday party can be a breakfast or an afternoon event for the campus' approximately 1,200 employees. The festivities include raffles and contests in which groups compete by decorating a holiday sweater or snowman, something the fashion design and creative teams love, said Jessica Wells, vice president of public relations and corporate communications. There is also a charitable aspect to the celebration through the company's association with the Page Park Association and the Children's Home Society. Each year, Ms. Wells said, employees collect gifts for more than 200 children.



WELLS

When thoughtfully planned by those in charge and approached responsibly and in the right spirit by all who attend, company holiday parties can blend together three of the holiday season's most essential elements: fun, camaraderie and providing a vital lifting of the spirits for those in need. ■

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MONEY & INVESTING

What's the future of OPEC and oil prices?

ericBRETAN

estaterick@gmail.com



One of my favorite lines from one of my favorite movies is during a tense battle sequence in "The Hunt For Red October" when Captain Mancuso calmly states, "The hard part of playing chicken is knowing when to flinch" before he skillfully destroys the enemy sub. Well, last week the game of chicken that OPEC and Russia were playing with U.S. shale and alternate energy producers came to an abrupt end as the largest oil producers backed away from letting the market dictate oil prices. Instead, after eight years, the oil cartel went back to the days of capping supply to drive up prices. So what can we learn from this grand experiment and what does the future hold for OPEC and oil prices?

First, OPEC's decision validates James Carville's saying, "It's the economy, stupid!" Meaning economics trump almost everything else. Many believed that political or religious differences between Saudi Arabia, Iran and Iraq would make it impossible for OPEC to form a cohesive agreement. But when the Saudi Royal Family was forced to start selling the kingdom's royal jewels, both literally and figuratively, I guess those things didn't matter so much any more and cooperation ensued. Maybe there is hope for this world after all.

Second, the cartel's decision confirms another great expression, "Pigs get fat but hogs get slaughtered." For decades, oil producers greatly profited off of high energy prices while keeping a balance of supply and demand. But non-OPEC Russia and the U.S. started to ramp of their production, OPEC became greedy and rather than share the oil wealth it



strived to drive their competition out of business by pushing prices down and grabbing market share any way it could. And while prices did plummet and some oil companies did go bankrupt, it was the OPEC countries that relied on huge oil revenues to fund their welfare states that hurt the most.

Third, OPEC is learning the hard way, "Not to put all of your eggs in one basket." It is true that for decades these oil-producing countries made billions of dollars supplying the world with oil. But they then became complacent and assumed that this would continue indefinitely into the future. But then shale drilling started. And then Russia modernized its infrastructure. What if tomorrow some scientist invents cold fusion? Countries like Saudi Arabia are starting to diversify their economic base but this

process should have started decades ago.

Finally, the oil-producing countries finally understood that, "Perception is more important than reality." The day OPEC and Russia announced their production cuts, oil prices shot up 10 percent. But after looking at the details of the agreement, many analysts questioned whether the price increase was justified. The production cuts were minor, many doubt that Russia could cut production even if it wanted to as oil has to flow from its cold weather pumps or they will freeze, Libya and Nigeria were exempt from the agreement, Iran was given special consideration as it ramps up production after decades of sanctions, and most OPEC members cheat on their quotas anyway. But just the perception of a production cut added billions of dollars to oil-producing economies.

So what is in store for oil prices down the road? As prices rise, the shale oil producers here in the U.S. will once again ramp up production. And while oil demand is expected to rise again next year, alternative energies and more efficient uses of energy are not positive for energy prices in the long-term. So most analysts believe that we will see higher prices in the short run, but once again lower prices in the years ahead. But I always remind myself, "Prediction is very difficult, especially if it's about the future." ■

— Eric Bretan, the co-owner of Rick's Estate & Jewelry Buyers in Punta Gorda, was a senior derivatives marketer and investment banker for more than 15 years at several global banks.

GET OUT FOR A GOOD CAUSE

■ Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve hosts its 2016 **Rookery Bay Adventure Race** at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 10. Participants complete a 3K kayak paddle on Henderson Bay and a 4K trail run on the organization's property. Registration includes a T-shirt, post-race refreshments, water bottle and free admission to the Environmental Learning Center. Awards will be presented to the top finishers in several categories. \$41 through Nov. 21. For more information or to register, call 530-5940 or visit www.rookerybay.org.

■ Girls on the Run of Collier County holds its annual **Reindeer Run 5K** setting out at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 17, at Community School of Naples. Participants are encouraged to fundraise ahead of the event and show up in festive attire. Registration is \$15-\$35. Kids under 5 can register for the Santa Sprint for \$5. For more information or to register, call 777-3720 or visit www.gotccc.org.

■ The ninth annual WINK News **Feeds Families Hunger Walk** takes place at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 21, at Miromar Outlets to benefit Harry Chapin Food Bank. The 2-mile, non-competitive family and pet-friendly walk is the organization's biggest fundraiser to help feed children, families, seniors and others through the food bank's network of 150 partner agencies. Supporters are encouraged to form teams to raise money for the cause. Same-day



registration is at 8:30 a.m. For more information or to register, call 334-7007 or visit www.harrychapinfoodbank.org.

■ Baby Basics of Collier County holds its eighth annual **Walking Challenge** at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 21, at North Collier Regional Park. Participants can walk from 1½ miles to 6 miles to raise funds to help the organization provide diapers for low-income, working families. For more information, visit www.babybasicscollier.org.

■ Humane Society of Naples hosts its 11th annual **Race for the Paws 5K**

Walk/Run at 8 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 28, at Naples Municipal Airport. Early registration is \$20 through Dec. 31. Same-day registration ends at 7:45 a.m. To sign up or for more information, call 643-1555 or visit www.hsnaples.org.

■ The second annual Boston Red Sox **Celebrity Classic** to benefit Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida tees off Tuesday, Feb. 21, at The Forest Country Club in south Fort Myers. Registration is \$400. For more information, visit www.leehealth.org.

■ Friends of the National Alliance on

Mental Illness-Collier County step out for the 14th annual **Walk for NAMI-Collier** on Saturday morning, Feb. 27, at Cambier Park. To form a team or for information about sponsorship and volunteer opportunities, email jacquelyn@namicollier.org.

■ The 11th annual Southwest Florida **Komen Race for the Cure** takes place Saturday, March 4, at Coconut Point in Estero to raise awareness about and funds to fight breast cancer. For registration details, visit www.komenswfl.org.

■ Naples Pathways Coalition hosts its **Naples Bike Brunch & Family Festival** at 7 a.m. Sunday, March 5, at Lowdermilk Park. Guests should bring their bikes, kids and pets for a day of outdoor fun. \$40. For more information or to register, call 777-7718 or visit www.naplespathways.org.

■ Redlands Christian Migrant Association hosts its 2016 **Lipman Golf Classic** at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, May 6, at Naples Heritage Golf Club. Same-day registration begins at 7:30 a.m. and participation includes breakfast, a post-game buffet and prizes. Registration is \$225 and benefits Immokalee migrant farm workers. For more information, call (800) 282-6540 or visit www.rcma.org.

— Email items to lnesmith@floridaweekly.com.



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Learning From Phil Fisher

You may not know the name Phil Fisher, but if you want to make money in stocks, you'd do well to learn about him. A renowned investment thinker, he penned the classic book "Common Stocks and Uncommon Profits" (Wiley, \$25). Below are some of his key principles:

(1) Buy stock in companies with disciplined plans for achieving dramatic long-term growth in both revenue and profits. They must also have competitive advantages that make it hard for new competitors to share in such growth (such as economies of scale or strong brands).

(2) Aim to find such companies when they are out of favor — when market conditions are not favorable or the financial community does not properly see their true worth. (That's when you can buy them at attractive prices.)

(3) Hold on to the stocks until there has been either a fundamental change in the company's condition or it has grown to a point where its growth is likely to lag that of the overall economy. Don't sell your most promising stocks for short-term reasons.

(4) Be willing to look beyond dividends for great growers, as some don't pay any dividends at all.

(5) Know that mistakes are inevitable. Learn from them so you don't repeat them. Be prepared to take losses in some stocks while letting profits keep growing in your more promising stocks.

(6) Understand that there are relatively few truly outstanding companies. Concentrate your money in the most desirable opportunities. Holding more than 20 companies is unmanageable (and "a sign of financial incompetence").

(7) Don't blindly follow the crowd. Have more knowledge than others, and apply your judgment after thoroughly assessing specific situations. You'll need courage to follow your convictions.

(8) Your success will depend largely on a combination of hard work, intelligence and honesty.

Next week we'll cover how Fisher evaluates companies. ■

My Dumbest Investment

ETFs Would Have Been Better

I got into investing when a business professor said he didn't care if the price of gas went up or down because he owned stock in the gas company and collected his dividend regardless. I repeatedly saw new investors encouraged to buy just one stock and get some skin in the game.

I would have preferred to have been encouraged to buy exchange-traded funds (ETFs) when I had limited funds, especially since I can buy and sell them for free through my brokerage if I hold for more than 30 days. That is a really great way to get some skin in the game. I am a believer in ETFs that charge low fees, as that has helped my portfolio's performance.

— F.D., online

The Fool Responds: You're smart to seek out low fees, as that can make a big difference in your results over long periods. The advice to start by buying into one stock isn't necessarily bad. You might find it much more interesting and motivating to be invested in a certain company you like and believe in than a fund made up of dozens or hundreds of companies.

A fund does offer diversification, though, which is a plus. (ETFs are often based on broad indexes such as the S&P 500.) You can do very well sticking just with ETFs, but carefully selecting some individual stocks can be profitable, too — ideally via a low-cost brokerage. ■

Last week's trivia answer

I trace my roots back to 1946, when my founder introduced plastic household products, some of which became known for seeming to have indigestion. Business took off once sales reps began demonstrating my wares' airtight seals in homes — thanks to the leadership of my visionary vice president, Brownie Wise. Today, based in Orlando, Florida, and with a market value near \$3 billion, I'm a relationship-based selling giant, with an independent sales force of nearly 3 million people. My brands include my own name as well as Avroy Shlain, BeautiControl, Fuller Cosmetics, NaturCare, Nutrimerics and Nuvo. Who am I? (Answer: Tupperware Brands) ■



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 Florida Weekly, attn: The Motley Fool. Sorry, we can't provide individual financial advice.

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Ask the Fool

Signs of a Good Stock

Q How can I spot signs of a good stock? Does the economic environment matter?

— T.B., Janesville, Wisconsin

A Contrary to what many think, a struggling economy can be good for buying stocks, as it typically features more bargains than an economy firing on all cylinders. People are often eager to buy when the market is booming, but many stocks are overvalued then.

The small picture matters more, though. With any stock you're considering, you need to get to know the underlying company very well, since you'll be buying a piece of it and its future. Examine its annual and quarterly reports, evaluating factors such as its debt load, profit margins, free cash flow and growth rates.

Superinvestor Warren Buffett says that he looks for (1) businesses we can understand, (2) with favorable long-term prospects, (3) operated by honest and competent people and (4) priced very attractively." It's hard to beat that formula.

Q What distinguishes a public company from a private one?

— P.A., Slaton, Texas

A public company has sold some shares of itself to the public and is generally required to file quarterly earnings reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission, detailing revenue, expenses, taxes, debt loads, cash levels, income or losses and much more. These reports are available to the public.

Privately held companies don't have shares available for the public to buy, and they don't have to reveal much. According to Forbes, the 100 biggest private companies in America include Cargill, Koch Industries, Albertsons, Dell, Mars, Publix, Deloitte, Bechtel, Enterprise, Fidelity Investments, Toys R Us, SC Johnson & Son, Amway, Bloomberg, Petsmart, Perdue, Kohler, Dole Food and Levi Strauss. Outside the U.S., IKEA, Bosch and Aldi are private giants, too. ■

Want more information about stocks? Send us an email to foolnews@fool.com.

Name That Company

I trace my roots back to 1958, when Bank of America introduced the first general-use credit card: BankAmericard. It grew rapidly in the U.S. and abroad, morphing into an interbank card association, with dozens of participating banks. In 1976, I got my current name. Today, while I'm not a bank and don't issue credit cards or extend credit, I'm a global payments giant with a market value near \$170 billion. My processing



network can handle more than 65,000 transaction messages a second. Based in Foster City, California, I rake in more than \$14 billion annually. Who am I?

Think you know the answer? We'll announce it in next week's edition. ■

The Motley Fool Take

Take to the Sky

Skyworks Solutions (Nasdaq: SWKS) is a major supplier of chips to smartphone giants such as Apple and Samsung, with the growth of mobile devices and wearables driving revenues from \$1.5 billion to \$3.2 billion in just three years.

Skyworks' management is aiming to broaden its revenue base. In addition to supplying RF (radio frequency) chips for smartphones, it also sells analog semiconductors for wireless infrastructure, broadband applications, and the automotive, medical and military markets, among others. The company is also well positioned to supply chips for a rapidly expanding global 4G LTE network.

Skyworks is a play on the future of the Internet of Things (IoT), too — where a

wide range of products (such as thermostats, cars, heart implants and oil rigs) connect to the internet and one another via sensors. Unfortunately, that's the long-term case for Skyworks, and Wall Street, with its short-term mindset, has sold off shares due to worries about slowing smartphone sales and the company's slowing revenue growth.

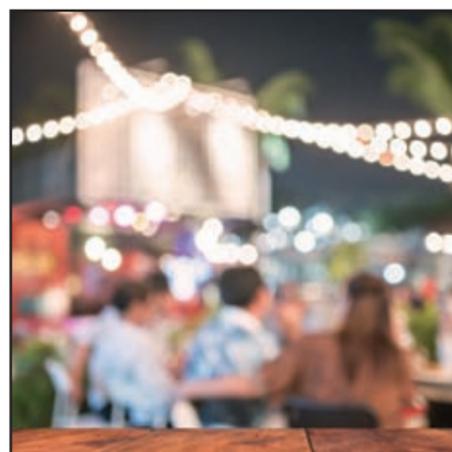
If Skyworks can get its RF chips into many devices accessing a rapidly expanding 4G LTE network, lessen its dependence on Apple for top- and bottom-line success, and expand into more IoT categories, this stock could be a big winner over the next decade. Give it a closer look. (The Motley Fool owns shares of and has recommended Skyworks Solutions.) ■

BUSINESS MEETINGS

■ The **Above Board Chamber** holds its holiday party from 5-8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8, at Arlington of Naples. Guests are asked to bring an item of non-perishable food for donation to a local nonprofit organization. To sign up or for more information, visit aboveboardchamber.com.

■ A "Jingle & Mingle" holiday party for members and guests of the Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce takes place from 5-8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8, at Embassy Suites, 10450 Corkscrew Commons, Estero. \$65. Call 992-2943 or visit www.bonitaspringschamber.com.

■ **Young Professionals of the Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce** holds their holiday party from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14, at



Teatro Ristorante in the new Southwest Florida Performing Arts Center in Bonita. RSVP by Dec. 12. Call 992-2943 or

visit www.bonitaspringschamber.com.

■ Members of the **Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce** celebrate the holidays from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14, at the Hilton Naples. RSVP by Dec. 12 at www.napleschamber.org/events.

■ The **Collier Building Industry Association** holds its Holiday Happening and buffet dinner at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, at Olde Cypress Country Club. Tickets are \$50. Reservations required by Dec. 9. Call 436-3878 or email nancy@cbia.net.

■ A **Job Search Support Group** meets from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Mondays at the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce. Contact Karen Klukiewicz at

kluk77@comcast.net or visit www.napleschamber.org.

■ **Consultants from the Small Business Development Center at Florida Gulf Coast University** are available at the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce, 2390 Tamiami Trail N., every Thursday. To make an appointment for a free session, call Suzanne Specht at 745-3704.

■ **BNI Downtown Naples Networkers** meet at 7:30 a.m. every Thursday at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 777 Mooring Line Drive. Call Jamie Bergen at 572-3720 for more information. ■

— Email business meeting announcements to cpierce@floridaweekly.com.

NETWORKING

Realtors meet-and-greet at Naples Reserve



1. Kim Hamilton, Maribel Ortiz, Valerie Gutteridge and Margaret Lawless
 2. Dorothy Gora and Marta Fischer
 3. Around the Island Club fire pit at Naples Reserve
 4. The Island Club at Naples Reserve
 5. Jill Meeks and Paul Miller

COURTESY PHOTOS

Naples Restaurant Week Media Day



1. Guy Clarke and Rafael Feliciano
 2. Healy Yoa, Chef Tim Yoa and Becky Dewald
 3. Chef Ramiro Ruiz and Barry Wolff
 4. Ryan Quisenberry and Emily Yarnell
 5. Dimitrios Settos and Walter Zerbini
 6. Caroline Ridgway and John Everding



COURTESY PHOTOS

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 (239) 772-5400

NETWORKING

The Membership Directors Association of Southwest Florida



1. Donald Sawin, Ken McMaster, Danita Osborn, Richard Crisanti, Gregg Osborn, Les Johns, Tony D'Errico, Melissa Hansen, Renee Easley and Daniela Jacob
 2. Niki Dutton and Stephanie Glasco
 3. Joseph Elwell and Nancy Dagher

4. Daniella Jacob and Danita Osborn
 5. Sandy Cotter and Brian Washek
 6. Katie Fordon and Pat Schulz
 7. Pat Schulz, Kathie Pedit and Holly Stephens
 8. Debbie Lohan and Donald Sawin
 9. Melissa Hansen and Stephanie Glasco

VICKI BAKER / FLORIDA WEEKLY



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REAL ESTATE



COURTESY PHOTOS

House Hunting: A Spanish beauty in Marsh Cove



Overlooking the golf course and lake, this stunning home in Marsh Cove of Fiddler's Creek displays a delightful Spanish flair. There are three bedrooms, a den, three full baths and one-half bath, two fireplaces and a wrought iron staircase with wood handrails and Mexican tile risers. Underscoring the Spanish feel, dark wood flooring and window accents are set off by white backgrounds

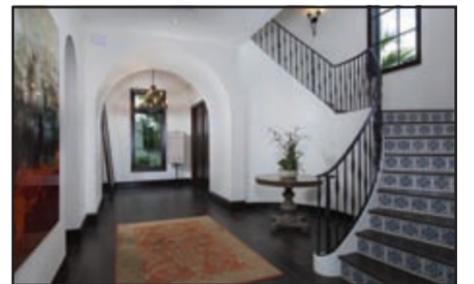
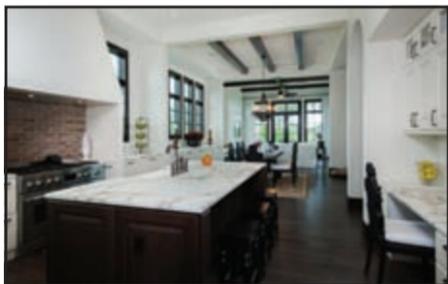
and furnishings throughout the home.

The gourmet kitchen boasts marble countertops, marble topped island, brick backsplash and stainless steel appliances. Expansive floor-to-ceiling windows allow for bountiful natural light. The master bath has a claw foot soaker tub, dual sided walk-in shower and numerous cabinets with marble countertops.

There is no shortage of spaces to enjoy

the view and meticulously groomed grounds. The open pool area offers a fantastic Hemingway-style pool with fountain features and stone deck with grass inlay overlooking the golf course.

Offered at \$2,224,999, 3259 Tavolara Lane, Naples, For information, contact Michelle Thomas, Michelle.thomas@sothebysrealty.com, 860-7176, Premier Sotheby's International Realty ■



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AVE MARIA



Maples Ridge - 5351 Ferrari Ave
3BR/2½BA \$359,999

HAWTHORNE



Hawthorne - 26351 Stonewall Ln
3BR/2BA \$319,999

CYPRESS WOODS



Cypress Trace - 2770 Cypress Trace Cir 2414
2BR+Den/2BA \$224,999

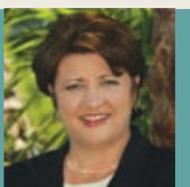
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 Gary, Jeff & Becky Jaarda 239.273.4596



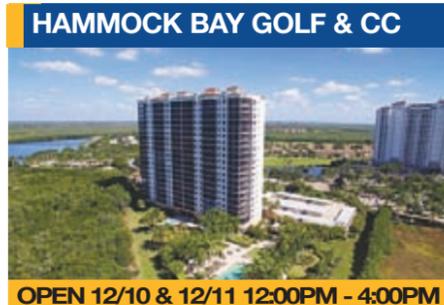
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 Jim Hiester 239.919.9508



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 Liz Appling 239.272.7201



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 • \$279,000 MLS 216043468
 Dodona Roboci, The Roboci Team 239.776.8124



IMPERIAL GOLF ESTATES

NAPLES
 • Newly Remodeled 2 BR, 2 BA Condo
 • Best Views of Lake & Golf Course
 • \$271,000 MLS 216059835
 The Taranto Team 239.572.3078



MOON LAKE

NAPLES
 • 2-Story Home, Private Backyard, Needs Updating
 • 3 Bedrooms, 2.5 Bathrooms, 2-Car Garage
 • \$259,000 MLS 215061225
 Liz Appling 239.272.7201



SHADOW WOOD AT THE BROOKS

WOODSEDGE
 • Million Dollar View Overlooking 12th Fairway
 • Beautifully Appointed 4 BR + Den, 4.5 BA
 • \$1,650,000 MLS 216068405
 Gary Ryan 239.273.6796



WEST BAY CLUB

NEW PRICE

OPEN 12/11 1:00PM - 4:00PM

19871 CHAPEL TRACE, ESTERO
 • Extra Large, Deep Lot Backing Up to Preserve/River
 • 3 Bedrooms + Den, 4 Bathrooms & 3-Car Garage
 • \$975,000 MLS 216062651
 Gabe Mellein 239.825.2234



BONITA BAY

OPEN 12/11 1:00PM - 4:00PM

4951 BONITA BAY BLVD. #1205, BONITA
 • 3 BR, 3 Full BA, 2,200 S.F.
 • 12th Floor, End Unit
 • \$929,000 MLS 216058384
 Corye Reiter, The Lummis Team 239.273.3722



BONITA BAY

PELICAN LANDING
 • 4 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms, Built in 2001
 • 3,000 S.F. Under Air, 5,236 S.F. Total
 • \$800,000 MLS 216068092
 Larry Bell 239.919.4404



GRANDEZZA

OPEN 12/11 1:00PM - 4:00PM

12510 GRANDEZZA CIR., ESTERO
 • Turnkey, 3 BR + Den, 3 BA, Pool Home
 • Beautiful Lake View, Golf Course Community
 • \$550,000 MLS 216056048
 Corye Reiter, The Lummis Team 239.273.3722



LAKE CLUB AT SPANISH WELLS

NEW LISTING

BONITA
 • 3 BR, 3 BA Courtyard Pool Home
 • Spacious 2,814 S.F. Under Air
 • \$499,000 MLS 216072634
 The Boeglin Team 239.287.6414



WEST BAY BEACH & GOLF CLUB

INDIGO SHORES
 • 3 Bedrooms + Den, Office
 • New SS Appliances, Plantation Shutters
 • \$489,000 MLS 216066332
 Pam Olsen 239.464.6874



BONITA BAY

OPEN 12/11 1:00PM - 4:00PM

26995 WYNDHURST CT. #101, BONITA
 • 3 BR, 2 BA, 2-Car Garage Coach Home
 • Turnkey Furnished
 • \$465,000 MLS 216064765
 Dotti Fagan, The Fagan Team 239.272.4946

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TALIS PARK

OPEN 12/11 1:00PM - 4:00PM

16687 PISTOIA WAY, NAPLES
 • 3 BR + Den, 3 Full BA, 2 Half BA, 3,557 S.F.
 • Custom Built Home with Every Luxury Detail
 • **\$1,699,000** MLS 216062218
 Connie Lummis, The Lummis Team 239.289.3543

HEMINGWAY PLACE

NAPLES
 • 2-Story Victorian Charmer w/New Refreshed Look
 • 4 Bedrooms + Bonus Room, 4.5 Bathrooms
 • **\$1,685,000** MLS 216066094
 The Taranto Team 239.572.3078

HEMINGWAY PLACE

NAPLES
 • Private, Gated, Luxury Community
 • Remodeled Kitchen, Soaring Ceilings, Open Floor Plan
 • **\$1,579,000** MLS 216062883
 Liz Biswurm 239.370.0312

GOLDEN SHORES

NAPLES
 • 3 BR, 3.5 BA Waterfront Townhouse
 • Investors: Existing One Year Lease at \$3,000/Mo.
 • **\$820,000** MLS 214030966
 Steve Suddeth & Jenn Nicolai 239.784.0693

GOLDEN SHORES

NAPLES
 • 2-Story Waterfront Villa
 • 3 Suites, 3.5 Bathrooms
 • **\$739,000** MLS 216018642
 The Taranto Team 239.572.3078

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EVERGLADES CITY
 • Gateway to the 10,000 Islands
 • Building & Land Suitable for Restaurant
 • **\$699,000** MLS 216047741
 Kurt Petersen 239.777.0408

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NEW PRICE

NAPLES
 • Completely Remodeled 4 BR, 4 BA
 • Spacious Lot
 • **\$449,900** MLS 216047734
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NAPLES CLUB ESTATES

NAPLES
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 Roger Stening 239.770.4707

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 • Beautiful Long Lake Views
 • 3 BR, 2 BA, Screened-In Lanai
 • **\$350,000** MLS 216068134
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PELICAN RIDGE

NAPLES
 • 2-Story Villa with Large Loft, 2 BR, 2.5 BA
 • Less Than 1 Mile to the Beach & Mercato
 • **\$350,000** MLS 216020353
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BONITA BAY

OPEN 12/11 1:00PM - 4:00PM

3481 CREEKVIEW DR., BONITA
 • Visit 3481Creekview.com for Details
 • Unmatched Lake & Golf Course Setting
 • **\$2,495,000** MLS 216032097
 Gary, Jeff & Becky Jaarda 239.273.4596

BONITA BAY

CREEKSIDE
 • A Must See, Exquisite & Modern Lake View Home
 • 4 BR + Den, 4.5 BA, 5,342 S.F., Upstairs Bonus Room
 • **\$2,350,000** MLS 216071271
 Linda Ramsey 239.405.3054

BONITA BAY

OPEN 12/11 1:00PM - 4:00PM

26128 FAWNWOOD CT., BONITA
 • 4 BR, 4.5 BA, Courtyard Pool Home, Golf Course View
 • Superior Finishes & Intricate Detailing Throughout
 • **\$1,999,000** MLS 216062210
 Connie Lummis, The Lummis Team 239.289.3543

BONITA BAY

OPEN 12/11 1:00PM - 4:00PM

26060 FAWNWOOD CT., BONITA
 • Elegant Brick-Front Estate Home
 • Circular Driveway, Gracious Entry
 • **\$1,700,000** MLS 216069692
 Dotti Fagan, The Fagan Team 239.272.4946

SHADOW WOOD AT THE BROOKS
NEW PRICE

TAMARIND TRACE
 • Quiet Wooded Lot with Park Next Door
 • Private Pool/Spa Surrounded by Lush Vegetation
 • **\$775,000** MLS 216051235
 Gary Ryan 239.273.6796

BONITA LAKES

OPEN 12/11 1:00PM - 4:00PM

23080 SANABRIA LP., BONITA
 • Best Value in Bonita Lakes
 • Beautiful Wooded View
 • **\$755,000** MLS 216015753
 Joy Gugliuzza, Team LaVita 239.600.0900

WEST BAY CLUB

ESTERO
 • 3 BR, 3 BA, 16th Floor Residence
 • Extra Large Lanai, Phenomenal Views
 • **\$669,000** MLS 216066715
 Katie Brady Rigby 239.770.6061

BONITA BAY

OPEN 12/11 1:00PM - 4:00PM

26691 EGRETS LANDING DR. #202, BONITA
 • 3 BR + Den, 3 BA w/Private Elevator
 • Large Great Room & Dining Room
 • **\$595,000** MLS 216071295
 Dotti Fagan, The Fagan Team 239.272.4946

MARBELLA AT SPANISH WELLS

BONITA
 • 1st Floor 3 BR, 2 BA Coach Home, 2-Car Garage
 • Lovely Golf Course & Preserve Views
 • **\$289,000** MLS 216057662
 Jim Griffith, Boeglin Team 239.322.2409

RAPALLO

ESTERO
 • Immaculately Kept 2 BR + Den, 2 BA Condo
 • Outstanding Lake & Sunset Views
 • **\$285,000** MLS 216062391
 Fred Cuthbertson, Boeglin Team 239.776.9083

HIDDEN HARBOR ON THE BAY

OPEN 12/10 & 12/11 1:00PM - 4:00PM

830 SAN CARLOS DR, FT. MYERS BEACH
 • New Construction
 • 4 BR, 4 BA, 2,651 S.F. Living Area
 • **\$984,000** MLS 216070217
 Katie Brady Rigby 239.770.6061

ISLAND BEACH CLUB
NEW PRICE

OPEN 12/11 1:00PM - 4:00PM

8751 ESTERO BLVD. #104, FT. MYERS
 • 2 BR, 2 BA, 1,450 S.F. Under Air
 • Lanai w/Water Views
 • **\$429,900** MLS 216031502
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Rapper home a hot resale

Hot property, hot celebrity builder and hot location?

Back in the 1990s, who knew that international rap star Vanilla Ice would become a premier renovator and designer of sexy, contemporary mansions that check all the boxes on everyone's dream list, making him an undisputed star in two very different and very competitive businesses.

Always one who liked to make things, Rob Van Winkle's foray into the construction/renovation business came about by accident, when after finishing a music tour, took a look at the California and New York properties he had purchased earlier in case he needed a pad to crash and realized neither had ever been used. He decided to sell and was stunned at the profits he made. He turned to renovating and flipping homes around his hometown of Palm Beach. Also quite talented in selling himself, this parlayed into the popular HGTV program, the "Vanilla Ice Project," where viewers get the chance to watch him in action.

One of his most glamorous projects



is now on the market giving some lucky person the opportunity not only to live in one of Vanilla Ice's creations, but also a guarantee of cocktail conversation for

years to come. Located in Lighthouse Point, near the Hillsborough Inlet and sited on a canal, tropical views of the canal across the pool terrace is not

only great viewing but at the end of the dock is a 21-foot SeaRay boat included in the sale. Be on the ocean for fishing in no time or enjoy shrimping in the inlet when the night tide is coming in and shrimp eyes glow in your spotlight. If that sounds like magic, the home's interior is designed to please the contemporary buyer looking for high style. Seamlessly awash in white and framing the water view, it's a sleek blank slate acting as a neutral background against which contemporary decor, art and collections take center stage. Forward thinking design in kitchen and baths create a cohesive show house for the perfectionist. At 4,051 square feet, the house has four bedrooms, four baths and a spacious open plan for entertaining that spills out onto the pool terrace and dock.

Live like a celebrity in the house designed and executed by Rob Van Winkle of the Vanilla Ice Project fame. Priced at \$2.395 million.

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Naples - 1595 SF, 3 bedroom, 2 bath single-family home located at Lakeside. Wine cooler, granite counters, 10' ceilings, tile & bamboo floors, crown molding, chair rail, walk-in tile shower, whirlpool tub, 280 SF covered & screened Lanai, plus guest patio. Lakeside is a premium gated community with a 40 acre boating lake, swimming pools, tennis court, clubhouse, basketball court, shuffleboard & scenic walking paths.

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Alva - 2125 SF, 4 bedroom 2 bath single-family home on 5 acres, completely renovated. Granite counters, Cherry cabinets, stainless appliances, chair rail, double bathroom sinks and metal roof. The land is perimeter fenced, landscaped and has a pond, barn with stalls, and oversized tack shed.

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Open floor plan with 5 bedrooms and 3 baths. Master bedroom, 3 spacious bedrooms and an additional bonus room are all upstairs to guarantee privacy with open loft area; 1 room downstairs perfect for guests or home office with bath. Plenty of storage space, 3 linen closets and storage under stairs. Formal living and dining room provides plenty of space to entertain guests. Kitchen and breakfast nook look out onto private lanai. Crown molding, 18"x18" tile; open floor plan.

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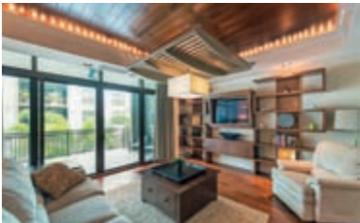
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Web ID 216032197 \$1,650,000



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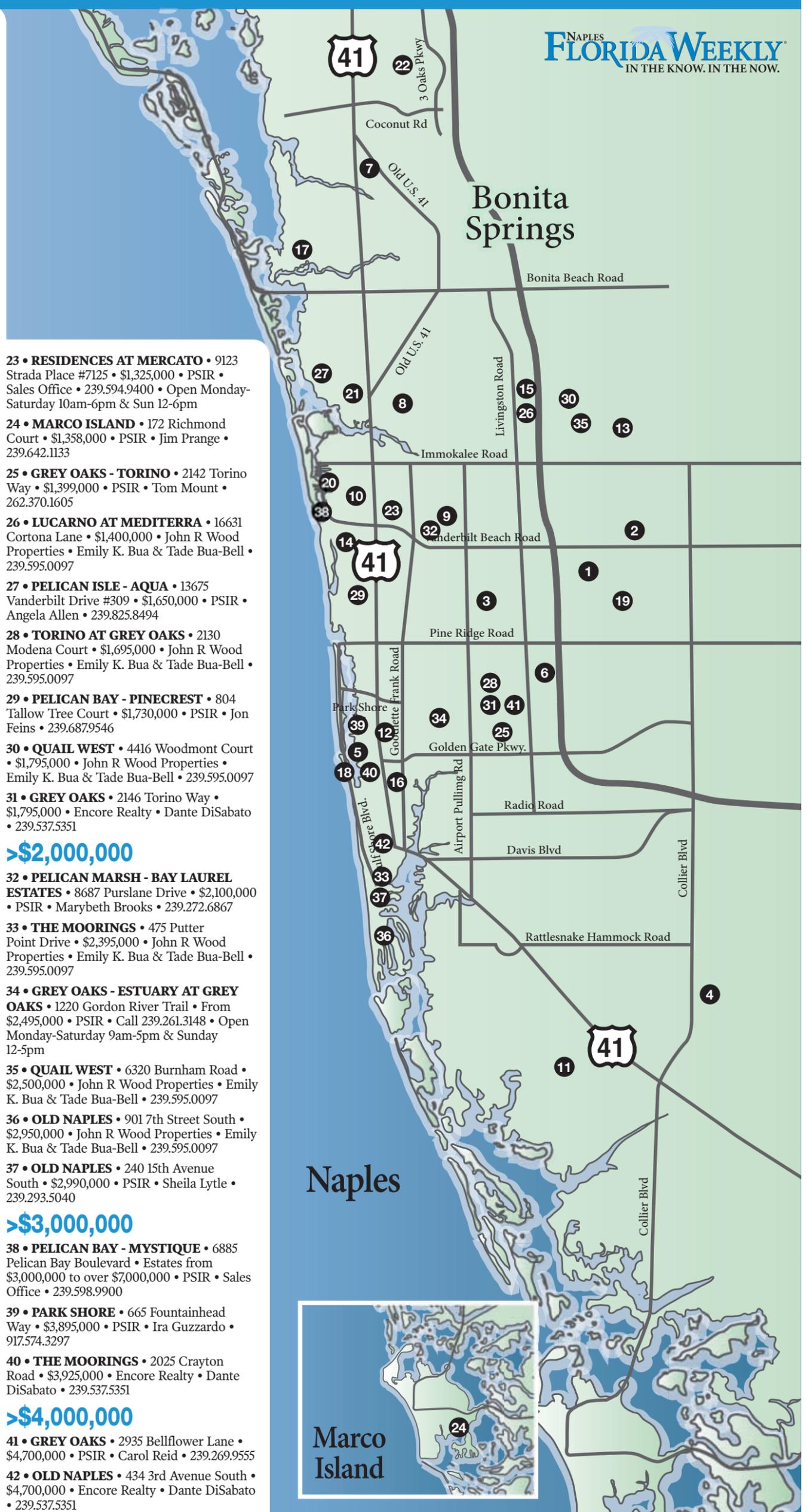
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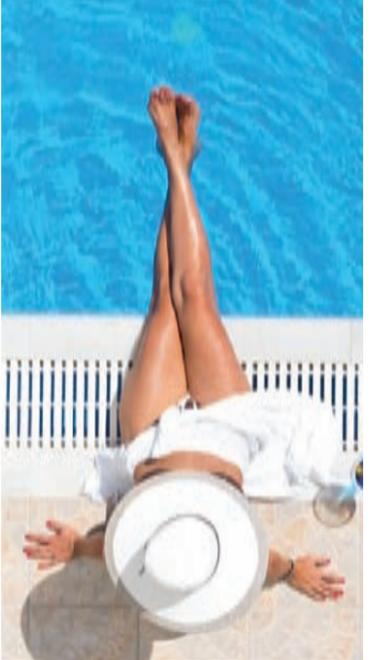


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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

WEEK OF DECEMBER 8-14, 2016

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| SECTION C

“I think for so many years (we’ve) been the go-to place for theater in Naples that we have rested on our laurels a bit in serving the community to the fullest.”

— Bryce Alexander, artistic director at The Naples Players



VANDY MAJOR / FLORIDA WEEKLY

Meet Bryce Alexander

A talk with the new artistic director at The Naples Players

BY NANCY STETSON

nstetson@floridaweekly.com

His office is bare, like an empty stage awaiting the sets and props of a new show.

“My office is completely empty,” says Bryce Alexander, The Naples Players new artistic director. “Right now, it’s

pretty stark. All my stuff is still in a box, on the way from Denver.”

He does have a couple of important things pinned to his bulletin board, though, reflecting his current focus: a photograph of The Naples Players staff and a list of all the nonprofits in Collier County.

“That’s so I can think through how I’m going to engage,” he says.

Mr. Alexander joined TNP in early October. Former artistic director Dallas Dunnagan stayed for the next month to

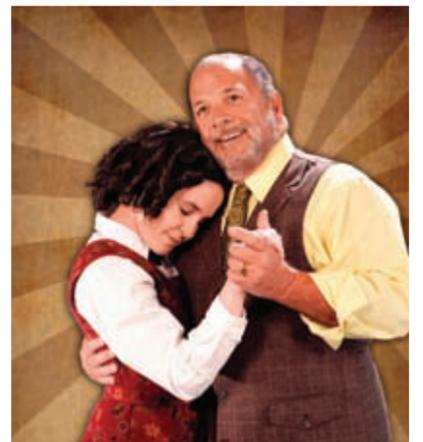
SEE DIRECTOR, C4 ▶

INSIDE



Latest films

“Man Down” has three intersecting storylines, and each is compelling in its own way. C15 ▶



Arts commentary

Oy! “Coney Island Christmas” at the Sugden. C10 ▶



Lots to do

We have top picks for things to do in town — and a short drive away. C6-9 ▶

Take advantage of Naples Restaurant Week deals

BY LINDSEY NESMITH

lnesmith@floridaweekly.com

So are you going to wait until season heats up to visit the good restaurants? Don’t, unless you like waiting for your dinner. As it happens, Naples Restaurant Week continues until Dec. 11 and offers steals at 25 local spots with three-course, prix-fixe menus for \$35 (you’ll even find the occasional \$25 lunch spe-

cial, too). It’s the perfect time to save some cash and easily snag a seat while restaurants have their game face on and guests aren’t arriving with their elbows out. After Jan. 1, local diners will have to deal with the crowds or wait until the off-season when all those fancy chefs close shop for some needed rest and relaxation.

And it’s always nice to support local restaurants, especially through the holi-

days when hostesses find their smiles cracking because the recently swinging doors seem shut tight.

“Because restaurants have that lull after Thanksgiving, if the locals wanted to get out and eat that would be the best time to go before season starts,” said organizer Guy Clarke. “Let the leftovers sit for an extra day.”

SEE DEALS, C24 ▶

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FLORIDA WRITERS

Threat of bird flu epidemic sets canine-aided security force into action

philJASON
philjreviews@gmail.com



■ **“Reckless Creed” by Alex Kava.** G.P. Putnam’s Sons. 336 pages. Hardcover, \$27.

Alex Kava’s highly original Ryder Creed series gets better and better as the title character gains in complexity. His interaction with FBI Agent Maggie O’Dell allows fresh challenges for this fine title character of the author’s earlier series. The originality of the Creed series lies in the occupation of its protagonist; the former marine is now an established, sought-after trainer of search-and-rescue dogs. He has a thriving facility on the Florida panhandle.



KAVA

The plot concerns a bird flu contagion that might have been manipulated, if not an unintended consequence of radical experimentation under the wraps of government agencies. How do you test an antidote without developing victims to catch and carry the disease? Among the alphabet soup of government medical research operations, something sinister is going on. Is there a chance that some rogue group is working to turn bird flu

into a weapon?

Birds are falling out of the sky. Are infected birds, living or dead, a threat to humans? Can the disease evolve or be engineered to that end? Is it an air-borne virus or is it conveyed by touch or by exposure to infected bodily fluids?

Such questions energize this red-hot thriller and, as we might expect, canine abilities come into play.

As usual, Ms. Kava masterfully employs the alternation of terse, vivid scenes to build a plot as much spatial as it is temporal. In Chicago, Tony, a long-time friend of Creed’s assistant Jason, is extremely sick. He’s being paid to touch as many surfaces as possible. Followers report his progress. He’s coughing up blood, feverish and nauseated.

Then he steps out onto the balcony of his 19th floor hotel room for some fresh air and is pushed over the railing, plunging to his death.

In New York, ailing yet determined Christina Lomax leads a marginal life in a similar employ. She plays the role of a tourist, disguising her actions as a player in an experiment. She too has handlers and followers.

In southern Alabama, Ryder Creed’s favorite search dog, Grace, discovers a

young woman drowned in a river with rocks in her pockets. In Nebraska, Maggie O’Dell sees redwing blackbirds falling from the sky.

Bird flu is the link, and Creed’s dogs are the hoped-for solution.

Can they be trained to sniff out bird flu contamination? And can they do so without becoming sick or dying? If so, such dogs and their handlers could be instrumental in stopping an epidemic.

In following this plot thread, the author once again allows us to enjoy the canine-human relationships her series has already put stage center. Creed’s training of and partnership with Grace and his other dogs provides readers with the privilege of entering a special world of unexpected feeling and understanding. This uplifting experience has a bold spiritual dimension.

The effort to uncover the contamination source and the responsible individuals who are either deranged by uncurbed science or addicted to the power it fosters finds Creed and Maggie in major roles. Government agency turf wars, as ever, complicate the coordination needed to deal with the problem. Oversized egos abound.

However, it becomes more and more

apparent that a government scientist missing since a mudslide catastrophe in North Carolina (the center of a recent disaster case in which Creed and Maggie were involved) might be the one to meet the threat. The scientist had been working on dealing with such viruses before she disappeared.

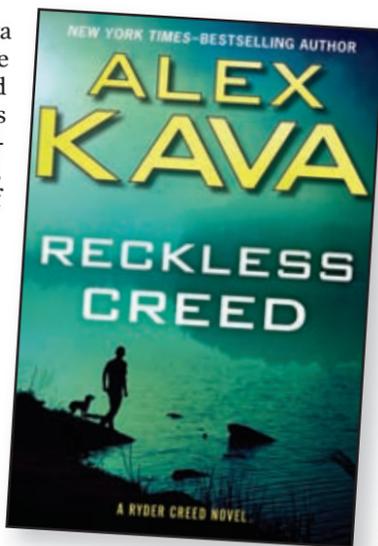
Flitting around on the edge of the action is a mysterious character named Stephen Bishop. He moves furtively, exhibiting a nervous edge. Readers understand that he fits into this puzzle somehow, perhaps in a big way.

One of Ms. Kava’s challenges is to bring specialized scientific information and informed brainstorming about the feared crisis into the story without stopping the action. She needs to keep a proper balance of exposition and action — of telling and showing — that favors the showing.

Moreover, fact-laden conversation cannot be presented as if it existed to inform the reader; it must ring true to the needs and situations of the characters. Like every other challenge she has set for herself in this novel, she meets this one smoothly and effectively.

“Reckless Creed” is another winner from a writer whose savvy thriller-craft goes from strength to strength. ■

— Phil Jason, Ph.D., United States Naval Academy professor emeritus of English, is a poet, critic and freelance writer with 20 books to his credit, including several studies of war literature and a creative writing text.



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Top authors to join Florida Celebration of Reading Feb. 17

Best-selling authors Chris Gardner, Elin Hilderbrand, Candice Millard and Laura Numeroff will join the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy for the 17th annual Florida Celebration of Reading on Friday, Feb. 17, at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort and Spa in Bonita Springs.

The Florida Celebration of Reading was founded in 2001 by former Gov. Jeb Bush and his wife, Columba. The annual event features guest appearances by members of the Bush family, including Jeb Bush Jr., who will serve as the event's honorary chair, and best-selling authors who read from their works during the event.

Mr. Gardner's autobiography, "The Pursuit of Happiness," was on the *New York Times* best-sellers list for more than 20 weeks and was the inspiration for the movie of the same title that starred Will Smith. Mr. Smith received numerous Golden Globe, Screen Actors Guild and Academy Award nominations for his performance as Mr. Gardner in the 2006 film.

Ms. Hilderbrand is the *New York Times* best-selling author of 17 novels, including "Winter Street" and "Here's to Us." "Winter Storms," her 18th and most recent novel, is the third and final book in the

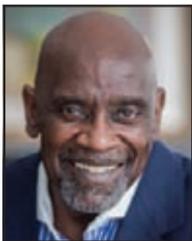
Winter Street trilogy.

A former editor and writer for National Geographic magazine, Candice Millard is the author of the *New York Times* best-sellers "The River of Doubt" and "Destiny of the Republic." Her work has also appeared in Time magazine, Washington Post Book World and the New York Times Book Review. Ms. Millard's most recent book, "Hero of the Empire," is based on Winston Churchill's little-known exploits during the Boer War.

Author Laura Numeroff wrote the children's book "If You Give a Mouse a Cookie," which was followed by a series of related 16 titles that sold more than 15 million copies worldwide. Her recent book, "Raising a Hero," is the first of the Work for Biscuits illustrated series for children. The book supports Canine Companions for Independence, a nonprofit organization providing assistance dogs to children, adults and veterans with disabilities.

Proceeds from Florida Celebration of Reading support Barbara Bush Foundation literacy programs. Individual tickets are \$250 and include the reading program and dinner.

See www.BarbaraBush.org/events. ■



GARDNER



HILDERBRAND



MILLARD



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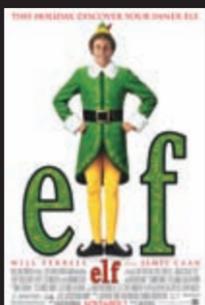


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f t i

Movies on the Lawn

Tuesday, December 20th, 5:45p



Elf

starring Will Ferrell and James Caan

DIRECTOR

From page 1

help show him the ropes.

On his first day, he says, he walked in, put his stuff on his desk and got to work. He worked through the evening, as it was the first night of rehearsal for "Coney Island Christmas." The first show he's directed for TNP, it runs through Dec. 18 at the Sugden Community Theatre.

His first day on the new job didn't end until 10 p.m.

"I'm a glutton for punishment," he jokes.

Mr. Alexander moved here from Denver, Colo., with his wife Katie, who is an Equity actress. "She grew up in Colorado and was ready to never see snow ever again," he says. "It was time for a journey to a new organization. I thought we could do a lot of good for the community."

Though Mr. Alexander had visited Florida in the past, he'd never been to Naples.

He was happy to move from a seller's market to a buyer's market, he says, and to "a slower pace of life."

The 28-year-old comes from The Phamaly Theater Company, based in Englewood, Colo., just outside of Denver. The venue (pronounced "family") is comprised of professional actors with disabilities.

"If you were a working actor who acquired a disability, it would be hard for you to work anywhere about the country," he says. "Serving that community, we became nationally known. We are the go-to connection to the community, regardless of disabilities. We were known for our hard work in making the arts accessible."

He joined the company in 2007 and became artistic director there in February 2015. During his time there, he doubled the staff, increased funding and instituted year-round programming. He also took the troupe on its first international tour, traveling to Osaka, Japan.

Prior to that, he received a graduate degree from the University of Colorado-Boulder in theater performance. In school, he says, he "made great connections with the regional theater in Colorado ... I was mentored by Kent Thompson, the leading producing artistic director at the Denver Centre Theatre Company."

He was also an intern director at the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis and worked with artistic director Joe Dowling on one of his last shows.

"I was fortunate to see these two massive men of artistic direction in my life at a very young age, and be able to reference their work," he says, adding they helped shape how we would eventually run the Phamaly.

When he heard about the opening for the artistic director at TNP and looked into the position, Mr. Alexander says, he was encouraged and motivated by all the resources available here.

Now in its 63rd year, TNP is considered one of the nation's top community theaters. It's been cited by CNN, Money Magazine and Smithsonian Magazine in articles written about Naples being one of the best small towns in America.

So what does Mr. Alexander see as the strengths and weaknesses of his new company?

"Their strengths are in quality and motivation as a professional staff," he says. "You have facilities here, you have a professional staff here, and you have motivation here that is not found in most theaters of this size around the



VANDY MAJOR / FLORIDA WEEKLY

Bryce Alexander is the new artistic director for The Naples Players.

country. You have a staff that wants to engage the community and want to do good art at the same time, which is not always easy. No doubt The Naples Players want to be the jewel of Naples, and not just our building."

As for weaknesses?

"I think for so many years (we've) been the go-to place for theater in Naples that we have rested on our laurels a bit in serving the community to the fullest," he says.

He wants to make some renovations to the building "to make it more relevant to the community," he says, adding, "It doesn't have that appeal that would make it feel like a welcoming, warm space to come explore art."

He envisions "a true space where someone could walk into the front doors of the business side of our theater and understand that they are welcome here ... As long as there are people who walk down Fifth Avenue and look at the

building and think it's a library, we're not engaging the community enough. We want them to understand: This is a place they are welcome."

Mr. Alexander's plans to make the theater "more welcoming" also include marketing directly to a younger audience, performing Shakespeare on the front plaza for free and selling a better quality of wine and allowing patrons to bring it into the theater with them.

"I think audiences will notice how much friendlier and accessible the building is and our policies are," he says.

He wants to have sensory-friendly performances, for people with autism or older people with Alzheimer's, "who need less stimulation or a more formal environment. We want to make sure we're opening our doors not only to a traditional theater audience, but to other areas of our community as well."

Ideally, he says, every production next season will have a community partner — "not a sponsor. We'll take a thematic element of the play and link it to their own community."

He also wants to talk with local res-

taurants, shops and galleries and persuade more of them to stay open later so people can go out and eat after seeing a show.

As far as appealing to a younger audience, "We want to demonstrate that the arts are accessible to them," he says. "Walk down Third Avenue South or Fifth Avenue South and you see lots of young people; they're everywhere in Naples. We want to make it clear that ... they can look forward to seeing not only the classics but the more exciting recent Broadway hits available here, as well as material that you could find in any major city around the country."

When asked for examples, he lists "Hedwig and the Angry Inch" and classics such as "White Christmas."

Immediately next on his agenda: directing "Dead Accounts," a 2012 play by Theresa Rebeck that opens at the Sugden on Feb. 1. "It's a great play, a modern look at family," he says.

He's settling into his new home. "I feel extraordinarily fortunate," he says. "It's a wonderful place to be, a great creative home." ■

ANTIQUES

Jones' punch bowls are rare and exquisite finds

BY TERRY KOVEL AND KIM KOVEL

If you were getting ready for the traditional Christmas party in 1860s England, you might have been searching the storage cupboards for the holiday punch bowl. Colorful, decorative majolica serving pieces were popular then, and George Jones made some of the best. Starting in 1866, he made covered dishes for cheese, game pie and even sardines. Special dishes were made for honey, cake, oysters, butter, berries, biscuits or other foods. All were decorated with raised flowers, leaves or figures glazed in bright colors. Jones was joined by his sons in 1873 and the company name was changed to "George Jones & Sons." George died in 1893, the company was sold in 1929 and the name was changed by 1951. Early pieces are marked with the overlapping letters "GJ" in a circle until 1873, when a crescent with "& sons" was added. Majolica lost favor and was considered "kitsch" until about 1970 when it began to be used by decorators on the east coast. Today, George Jones majolica is expensive. The amusing Christmas punch bowl that is decorated with holly and held by the famous puppet character Punch auctioned at Skinner's in Boston for \$3,075.

Terry and Kim Kovel answer your questions:

Q: I have a cube puzzle titled "The Night Before Christmas" made by McLoughlin Brothers in New York. It consists of 20 cubes, 2 1/2 inches on an edge, that depict various Christmas scenes based on Clement Moore's poem. Santa is shown in a green coat with a red belt and fur trim. The puzzle is 4 cubes by 5 cubes. The copyright date reads "18--." The last two digits are obscured. What is the copyright date? The puzzle has been enjoyed by four generations of children and it shows. It's in good enough condition so that all six scenes are shown in detail. What is the approximate value?

A: The copyright date is 1889. The pictures made by assembling the cubes are from the children's book, "The Night Before Christmas," published by McLoughlin Brothers. This Santa Claus cube puzzle sells for over \$2,000 in almost perfect condition.



COURTESY PHOTO
Of course this is a punch bowl, and the George Jones company cleverly used a three-dimensional figure of the character Punch to hold it. The 1870 bowl is 13 inches in diameter, decorated for Christmas with raised holly leaves. It sold for \$3,075.

Q: While preparing for home renovations, we found a few dozen vintage beer cans carefully preserved in our attic. Many of the cans were opened from the bottom, preserving the "pop top." They are all cans from mid-1900s. How can we determine the value and best venue for selling?

A: Beer cans with aluminum pull tops were first made in 1962. Iron City Beer was the first beer in cans with ring-type pull tabs. The ring tabs came completely off the can and were discarded. The Sta-Tab was invented in 1975 and was first used on cans of Falls City beer. The price of old beer cans varies from under a dollar to several hundred or more for a rare and desirable can. There are several sites online that list beer cans and their value, although most of them are sites that are selling beer cans, so the prices will be higher than what you can expect to get. By checking several sites, you can get an idea of value. If there is an advertising or breweriana show in your area, you can check out prices there and perhaps can sell them to a dealer. Check out Brewery Collectibles Club of America (bccca.com) for a list of events.

Q: I inherited my grandparents' table, buffet and bookcase. I think they're walnut and they haven't been refinished. They were in my mother's basement for over 40 years and there is some mold on them. What is the best way to treat these pieces without damaging them?

A: To avoid breathing mold spores, be sure to wear a dust mask and safety

goggles. Use a vacuum with a HEPA filter and brush attachment to remove any loose mold. Then, clean the surface with a solution of dishwashing detergent and warm water. Scrub gently with a sponge, cloth or brush, being careful not to soak the wood. You can use bleach or a mold killer, but be sure to test it on an inconspicuous place on the furniture before using it. Rinse with a clean cloth dipped in water and wrung out. Dry the furniture with another clean cloth. If mold remains, the spot may need to be sanded. A combination vacuum-sander should be used. After the wood is completely dry, you can polish it.

Q: How much is a book called "National Encyclopedia of Business and Social Forms" worth? It was published in Chicago by G.W. Borland & Co. in 1882. The book has a leather cover.

A: You can buy an 1880 edition of this book for \$30-\$85. The 1882 edition with hard cover, not leather, sells for \$15-\$37.

Tip: Most old majolica pieces have a colored bottom. The newer pieces have white bottoms. ■

— Terry Kovel and Kim Kovel answer questions sent to the column. We cannot guarantee the return of photographs, but if a stamped envelope is included, we will try. The amount of mail makes personal answers or appraisals impossible. Write to Kovels, (Florida Weekly), King Features Syndicate, 300 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019.

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WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

THEATER

My Fair Lady – By Gulfshore Playhouse through Dec. 11 at The Norris Center. 755 Eighth St. S. (866) 811-4111 or www.gulfshoreplayhouse.org.

A Christmas Cactus – By The Marco Players through Dec. 18 at The Marco Players Theater. 1089 N. Collier Blvd. 642-7270 or www.themarcoplayers.com.

Coney Island Christmas – By The Naples Players through Dec. 18 at Sugden Community Theater. 263-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org.

Another Night Before Christmas – By Off Broadway Palm Theatre through Dec. 25. 1380 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers. 278-4422 or www.broadwaypalm.com.

The Most Famous Reindeer of All – By Broadway Palm Children's Theatre on select dates through Dec. 24. 1380 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers. 278-4422 or www.broadwaypalm.com.

White Christmas – By Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre through Dec. 25. 1380 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers. 278-4422 or www.broadwaypalm.com.

The Best of Enemies – By Florida Repertory Theatre through Dec. 18 in the ArtStage Studio Theatre. 2268 Bay St. 332-4488 or www.floridarep.org.

Agatha Christie's The Mousetrap – By Florida Repertory Theatre through Dec. 18. 2269 Bay St., Fort Myers. 332-4488 or www.floridarep.org.

The Country Wife – By Theatre Conspiracy through Dec. 17 at the Alliance of the Arts, Fort Myers. 936-3239 or www.theatreconspiracy.org.

THURSDAY 12.8

Get Outta Here – FGCU's Renaissance Academy hosts a field trip to Palm Beach's Flagler Mansion that includes a Gilded Age tea lunch that departs from the university's Naples campus at 6:05 a.m. \$95 for members, \$115 for others. 1010 Fifth Ave. S. 434-4737 or www.fgcu.edu.

Walking Trees – Take a walk through the mangroves at Delnor-Wiggins State Park and learn how they are vital to the health of the ecosystem at 9:30 a.m. Free with park entry. 597-6916 or www.floridastateparks.org.

Critic's Choice – Literary critic Elaine Newton leads a discussion of Karen Mahajan's "The Association of Small Bombs" at 10 a.m. at Artis-Naples. \$48. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Field Trip – Hodges University hosts an excursion to Southern Fresh Farms that includes a tour and lunch from 10 a.m. to noon. \$20, reservations required by Dec. 1. 2647 Professional Way. 598-6143 or www.hodges.edu.

Kids' Art – Youth Haven hosts its second annual Art House showcasing artwork created by the organization's children with music, hors d'oeuvres and cocktails from 5-8 p.m. at Thomas Riley Studio. The works are available for purchase to benefit the organization's programs for local youth. Free, but reservations required. 26 10th St. S. 687-5155 or www.youthhavenswfl.org.

Masterworks – Violinist Joshua Bell performs works by Tchaikovsky, Bach and Shostakovich with the Naples Philharmonic at 8 p.m. today through Saturday, Dec. 10, at Artis-Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.



The perfect antidote to holiday cheer, oddball funk-rock band Here Come the Mummies perform at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, at Seminole Immokalee Casino. — www.moreinparadise.com

Art Talk – South Regional Library hosts a lecture about famed glass artist Louis Comfort Tiffany at 2 p.m. 8065 Lely Cultural Blvd. 252-7542 or www.collierlibrary.org.

FRIDAY 12.9

Book Talk – Hodges University philosophy professor William Cooney hosts a discussion about his new book, "Wild Longing of the Human Heart," 1-2:30 p.m. at the university's Naples campus. \$25. 2647 Professional Way. 598-6143 or www.hodges.edu.

Open House – Naples Preserve transforms into a winter wonderland and provides seasonal refreshments, live music, educational exhibits, Christmas trees and more from 4-6:30 p.m. Free. 1690 Tamiami Trail N. 261-4290 or www.naplesgov.com.

Light the Way – The Bonita Springs Historical Society hosts carolers, live jazz, food and more to benefit renovations at the historic McSwain Home from 5-9 p.m. at Liles Hotel Plaza. \$90. 27300 Old 41 Road. 992-6997 or info@bonitaspringshistoricalsociety.org.

Art Reception – Naples Art Association previews two upcoming exhibitions, "Passionately Repurposed" and "There Is A Song in My Art," from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Free for members, \$10 for others. 585 Park St. 262-6517 or www.naplesart.org.

Wizards' Ball – Barnes & Noble invites guests to dress as their favorite Harry Potter character and enjoy music, dancing and activities at 7 p.m. Free. 598-5200 or www.bn.com.

Lydia Oh Lydia – Centers for the Arts Bonita Screens presents "An Evening with Groucho" starring Frank Ferrante at 8 p.m. \$35-\$40. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

SATURDAY 12.10

Arts & Crafts – Members of Naples Artcrafters display and sell their works from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Cambier Park. www.naplesartcrafters.org.

Youth Concert – Members of the Naples Philharmonic Youth Symphonia perform at 11 a.m. at Artis-Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Boat Parade – The Bonita Springs Christmas Boat Parade kicks off at 5 p.m. and travels the Imperial River. 495-0455 or www.bonitaboatparade.com.

Boats on Parade – The Naples Boat Parade floats through Naples Bay from 6:15-8:30 p.m. Enjoy the view from Pincher's Crab Shack, Riverwalk Restaurant, Naples City Dock, Naples Landing, Kelly's Fish House, The Boathouse Restaurant and Bayview Park. www.miacc.org.

Holiday Memories – Naples Orchestra and Chorus presents a concert with soprano Karin White and mezzo-soprano Abigail Peterson at 7 p.m. today and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11, at Golden Gate High School. \$18 in advance, \$20 at the door. 2925 Titan Way. 298-7911 or www.naplesorchestraandchorus.com.

All Wrapped Up – Here Come the Mummies brings its signature funk sound to Seminole Casino Immokalee at 8 p.m. \$30. (800) 218-0007 or www.moreinparadise.com.

SUNDAY 12.11

All Green Thumbs – Stock up on native plants and local produce from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Koreshan State Historic Site off U.S. 41 in Estero. 273-8945 or www.fnpscoccoloba.org.

Free Concert – Gulf Coast Big Band performs at 2 p.m. at Cambier Park. 877-6090 or www.gulfcoastbigband.com.

Holiday Film – Silverspot Cinema screens "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" (1989) at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. The Griswold's plans for a big family Christmas go predictably awry. \$9-\$16. 592-0300 or www.silverspot.net.

Holiday Party – Naples Music Club hosts a cocktail party and dinner with performances by its student scholarship winners at 5:30 p.m. at Bonita Bay Club. \$60. 26660 Country Club Drive. 498-6366 or www.naplesmusicclub.org.

Judy Blue Eyes – Singer/songwriter Judy Collins performs at 7 p.m. at Southwest Florida Performing Arts Center. \$35-\$55. 11515 Bonita Beach Road. 389-6901 or www.swflpac.com.

MONDAY 12.12

Foreign Policy – Naples Regional Library hosts a lecture about Saudia Arabia and the ruling Saud family at 2 p.m. Free, but reservations recommended. 650 Central Ave. 262-4130 or www.collierlibrary.org.

Sunset Yoga – Stretch and breathe with an instructor from Green Monkey Yoga from 4:45-5:45 p.m. on the beach at Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park. Bring yoga mat, water, towel and bug spray. \$5 plus park entry fee. 598-1938 or www.greenmonkey.com.

Foreign Film – Italian Cultural Society screens "Il Peggior Natale della Mia Vita" (Italy, 2012) at 6:45 p.m. at The Norris Center. \$5. 755 Eighth Ave. S. 434-3323 or www.italianculturalsociety.com.

Films for Film Lovers – Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs screens "The Lunchbox" (2013) at 7 p.m. A mistaken delivery in Mumbai's famously efficient lunchbox delivery system connects a young housewife to an older man through notes in the lunchbox. \$10. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

TUESDAY 12.13

Art Talk – Hodges University hosts a lecture about how crises have shaped art through the ages from 1-2:30 p.m. at the university's Naples campus. \$25. 2647 Professional Way. 598-6143 or www.hodges.edu.

WEDNESDAY 12.14

Namaste – Instructors from Green Monkey Yoga lead a beach session from 9-10 a.m. at Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park. \$5 plus park admission. Reservations required. 598-1938 or www.greenmonkey.com.

Immigrant Nation – Hodges University hosts a presentation about the American immigration through Ellis Island from 1-2:30 p.m. at the school's Naples Campus. \$25. 2647 Professional Way. 598-6143 or www.hodges.edu.

Free Film – South Regional Library screens "The Danish Girl" (2014) at 2 p.m. A fictitious love story loosely inspired by the lives of Danish artists Lili Elbe and Gerda Wegener. Lili and Gerda's marriage and work evolve as they navigate Lili's groundbreaking journey as a transgender pioneer. Free, but reservations recommended. 8065 Lely Cultural Blvd. 252-7542 or www.collierlibrary.org.

Night Lights – Naples Botanical Garden brings back its holiday light show, Night Lights in the Garden, on select dates from 6-9 p.m. tonight through Jan. 4. This year's display highlights 25 origami sculptures staged throughout the garden while guests enjoy music, festive sweet treats and family activities after dark. \$5-\$20. 643-7275 or www.naplesgarden.org.

Evening Song – The Arlington of Naples invites the public to participate in Advent vespers from 7:30-8 p.m. Free. 7900 Arlington Cir. (866) 986-9690 or www.arlingtonnaples.org.

Hearth Notes – Heartland humorist Garrison Keillor performs at 8 p.m. at Artis-Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

COMING UP

One Fish, Two Fish – Delnor-Wiggins State Park teaches anglers how to cast net for bait at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 15. Free with park entry fee, but reservations required. 597-6916 or www.floridastateparks.org.

Marketplace – Hodges University hosts a lecture about how financial markets and presidential elections collide from 1-2:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15. \$25. 2647 Professional Way. 598-6143 or www.hodges.edu.

Holiday Pops – Naples Philharmonic performs holiday favorites with vocalists Nick Ziobro and Julia Goodwin Thursday through Sunday, Dec. 15-18, at Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or www.artis-naples.org.

Holiday Pups – Santa Claus takes photos with four-footed friends from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, at Venetian Village. 261-6100 or www.venetianvillage.com.

Dinner with the Artist – Naples Art Association pairs glass artist Conrad Williams and Creative Catering's executive chef Bob Shultz for an unforgettable dinner from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, at the organization's headquarters. \$125. 585 Park St. 262-6517 or www.naplesart.org.

All About That Bass – Fifth Avenue South hosts its 20th annual tuba Christmas concert from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, at Sugden Plaza. Free. 692-8436 or www.fifthavenuesouth.com.

Strings Sing – Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs hosts a "mostly Mozart" chamber concert featuring the flute, violin, viola and cello from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15. \$25. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Cool Winter Nights – Collier County Sheriff's Office hosts a family fun night with a bounce house, rock climbing, video games on an inflatable screen and more from 6-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16, at Corkscrew Middle School. Free. 1165 C.R. 868. 774-4434 or www.colliersheriff.org.

Choir Concert – The Voice of Unity Choir and the Seacrest Country Day School high school choir perform a holiday concert with FGCU musicians Noelle Aparte and Simmy Shim at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16, at Unity of Naples. 2000 Unity Way. 775-3009 or unitynaples.org.

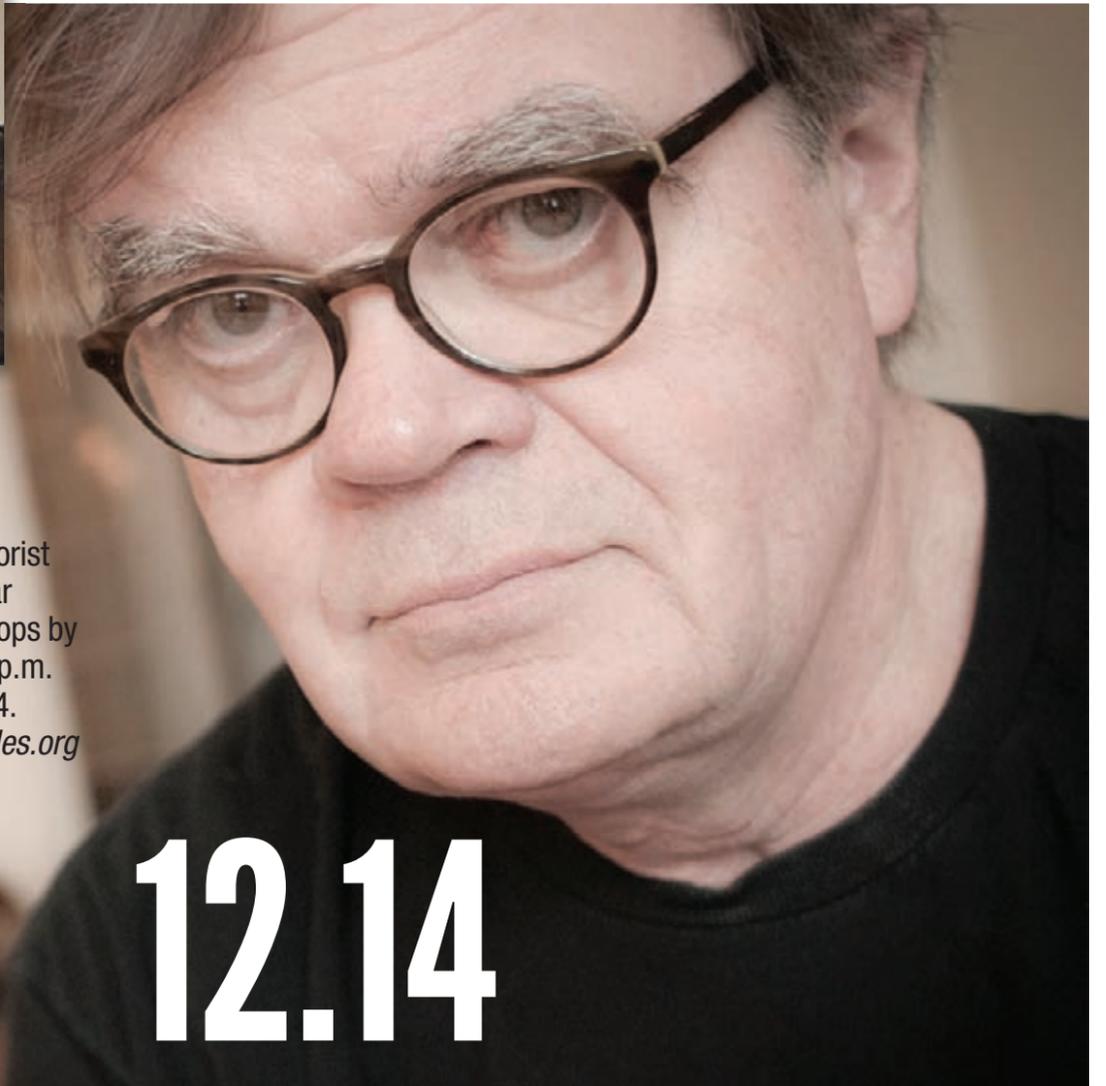
Santa Sighting – Santa Claus visits Waterside Shops from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 17-18. 598-1605 or www.watersideshops.com.

Love A Parade – Marco Island's annual Christmas Island Style parade marches down San Marco Road at 6:30 p.m. 394-7549 or www.marcoisland-chamber.org.

Funk You Up – Uptown Express performs from 7-9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17, at the Norris Center. \$22. 213-3049 or www.naplesgov.com.

Wonderful – Jeremy Kendall brings to life more than 30 characters in the one-man show "This Wonderful Life" at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17, at the Centers for the Performing Arts Bonita Springs \$20-\$25. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Vocal Concert – Tenor John Osborn and soprano Lynette Tapia perform at 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 18, at the David and Cecile Wang Opera Center. \$45-\$95. 2408 Linwood Ave. 963-9050 or www.operanaples.org.



■ Homespun humorist and public radio star **Garrison Keillor** stops by Artis—Naples at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14.
— www.artisnaples.org

12.14

■ **The Beach Boys** – 50 years of Good Vibrations – Christmas & Hits takes the stage at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall at 4 and 7:30 p.m. Dec. 14.

— bbmanna.com



12.14

■ **Martina McBride** brings her all new Love Unleashed Tour to the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall at FSW at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 8.

— bbmannpah.com

12.11



12.8



■ **Judy Collins** performs at 7 p.m. Dec. 11 at the SanJan Theater at the Southwest Florida Performing Arts Center. 11515 Bonita Beach Rd. \$35-\$55.

— swflpac.com

■ **Pauly Shore** performs tonight though Sunday at Off the Hook Comedy Club. Show times vary

— www.offthehookcomedy.com



12.8

■ **"An Evening with Groucho"** starring Frank Ferrante at 8 p.m. Dec. 9 at the Center for Performing Arts.

— artcenterbonita.org

12.9



WHAT TO DO

Holiday OPEN HOUSE

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Santa in the Sand – Santa presides over a toy drive along with lunch, games and prizes on the beach at Lovers Key State Park from 1-4 p.m. Monday, Dec. 19. Park admission fee and one unwrapped toy required for participation. Registration required. (708) 359-0466 or fgreenwood@gmail.com.

Caroling – Naples Carolers perform Monday, Dec. 19, in Victorian costume from 5-6:30 p.m. at The Arlington of Naples. Free. 7900 Arlington Cir. (866) 986-9690 or www.arlingtonnaples.org.

Films for Film Lovers – Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs screens “Mrs. Henderson Presents” at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 19. Laura Henderson buys an old London theater and opens it up as the Windmill, a performance hall that becomes known for its all-nude revues. \$10. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Chamber Concert – The Peliska Borthers perform works by Handel, Vivaldi and Mozart at 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 19, at Sugden Community Theater. \$60. 434-8505 or www.classicchamberconcerts.org.

String Superstar – Itzhak Perlman performs with the Naples Philharmonic at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 20, at Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

History Chat – Everglades Wonder Gardens hosts a lecture about the Calusa Indians from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 21. Free with regular admission. 27180 Old 41 Road. 992-2591 or www.evergladeswondergardens.com.

Tortoise Talk – Delnor-Wiggins State Park hosts a talk about gopher tortoises at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 22. Free with park entry fee, but reservations recommended. 597-6916 or www.floridastateparks.org.

Sacred Music – Pastor Don Hinchey leads a discussion about the songs of Christmas at 10 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 22, at The Arlington of Naples. Free. 7900 Arlington Cir. (866) 986-9690 or www.arlingtonnaples.org.

Sensorily Speaking – Paragon Theaters at Pavilion Shopping Center presents a sensory-friendly screening of “Sing” at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 24. 833 Vanderbilt Beach Road. Regular price of admission applies. 596-0008 or www.paragontheaters.com.

Films for Film Lovers – Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs screens “A Simple Life” at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 26. After suffering a stroke, an altruistic maid announces that she wants to quit her job and move into an old people’s home. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. \$10. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Pretty Lady – The Broadway production of “42nd Street” stops at Artis—Naples for performances at Monday through Thursday, Dec. 26-29. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Marco’s Got Talent – Marco Island kids ages 6-18 are invited to participate in a talent show at Marco Island Center for the Arts from 5:30-7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 28. \$5. 1010 Winterberry Drive. 394-4221 or www.marcoislandarts.org.

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WHERE TO GO



Naples Art Association pairs glass artist **Conrad Williams** and **Creative Catering's** executive chef **Bob Shultz** for an unforgettable dinner from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, at the organization's headquarters. \$125. 585 Park St. 262-6517 or www.naplesart.org.

Turtle Time - Learn all about loggerheads at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 29, at Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park. Free with park entry, but reservations recommended. 597-6916 or www.floridastateparks.org.

Like it Loud - Butch Trucks, legendary drummer and founding members of The Allman Brothers Band, performs with The Freight Train Band at 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 30, at the Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs. \$40-\$50. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Tickling the Ivories - Concert pianist Richard Dowling performs pieces by Beethoven, Rachmaninoff and Chopin at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 3, at Center for the Performing Arts Bonita Springs' Hinman Auditorium. \$20-\$30. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Songwriter Expo - Friends of Lovers Key showcases the talents of local singer/songwriters Alan Bradford, Dave Clayton and Bill Veach from 3:45 p.m. to sunset Thursday, Jan. 5, at the Lovers Key gazebo. Free with park entry fee. 463-4588 or www.friendsofloversonkey.org.

Masterworks - Pianist H el ene Grimaud joins the Naples Philharmonic in a program of works featuring Brahms, Mendelssohn and Schuman at 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Jan. 5-6, at Artis-Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Artistic Weekend - Naples Art Association hosts the 21st annual Naples New Year's Art Fair from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 7-8, at Cambier Park. 262-6517 or www.naplesart.org.

Soul Provider - Multiple Grammy Award-winning singer/songwriter Michael Bolton performs at 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 7, at Artis-Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Spoof-tastic - Forbidden Broadway presents a spoof on today's biggest musicals at 6 and 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 7, at Artis-Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

- Email calendar listings and high-resolution photos to [Lindsey Nesmith at lnesmith@floridaweekly.com](mailto:lnesmith@floridaweekly.com). Please send Word or text documents and jpgs with time, date, location, cost and contact information. No pdfs or photos of fliers. Deadline for calendar submissions is noon Monday. No phone calls, please.

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ARTS COMMENTARY

Oy! 'Coney Island Christmas' at the Sugden



One of my favorite family stories revolves around my mother and her sister acting in a play, "Mr. McGregor's Garden," when they were young.

My mom played a string bean, and many of her friends were also vegetables.

But my Aunt Hazel was a rabbit — Flopsy or Mopsy Cottontail, I believe. The photo is priceless: there's my aunt in a white bunny outfit and round wire-rim glasses, looking like French philosopher Simone Weil in a bunny suit.

"They chose me because they said I could project," she always said proudly. "That meant I was loud."

Shirley Abramowitz in "Coney Island Christmas" (Sugden Community Theatre, through Dec. 18) has the same gift: a loud voice. For that reason, she's chosen to be the lead of her grade school's Christmas play in 1930's Brooklyn.

The only problem is: she's chosen to play Jesus Christ. And she's Jewish.

Her mother has a fit when she learns about it and forbids her to participate.

But her father tells her she can go if she still fulfills her responsibilities at home. But, on the first night of Hanukkah, she fails to get home by sundown and misses out on lighting the menorah. And her mother discovers she's still rehearsing for the school play.

I'm not really revealing any spoilers here, as the play is so obvious, you could predict what's going to happen way before the characters themselves know.

Watching "Coney Island Christmas" helped me empathize with people who hate Christmas-themed shows.

I get it. They can be mawkish, overly sentimental, too obvious and predictable.

As Mrs. Abramowitz would shriek, "Oy!"

I was really surprised. The work's written by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Donald Margulies, who's given us gems such as "Dinner With Friends" and "Shipwrecked: An Entertainment." I greatly admire his work.

And it's based on "The Loudest Voice," a short story by Grace Paley.

I also grew up in Brooklyn and attended an experimental high school right near Coney Island, where the action takes place.

So I was very much looking forward to seeing this play.



JESSICA WALCK / COURTESY PHOTO
Young Shirley Abramowitz (Kylie Campbell) dances with her immigrant father (Brad Brenner) in "Coney Island Christmas."

The inimitable Ann Hoover plays Shirley in current times, now a grandmother living in Florida.

"Thirty years since I left New York, and still this place makes no sense!" she grouches about the Sunshine State.

Ms. Hoover can get a laugh from just saying, "Shut up!" ... and that sneaky, self-satisfied smile she gives after she says it.

Ms. Hoover makes the most of the lines she's given, but with a few exceptions, the script doesn't exactly sparkle with wit. At times, it can be as didactic and wooden as an After School Special.

It opens with the mature Shirley telling her granddaughter, Clara (Ashley Gurwell), about the time she was chosen to play Jesus in the school Christmas play. (This is in the 1930s, when it was assumed everyone was Christian and students actually sang hymns and prayed in public school.)

As she talks of her childhood, we begin to see it unfolding onstage.

Surprisingly, many of the children act like stereotypes of children — how adults *think* they would act. A lot of the taunting and acting up feels scripted, not natural.

Kyle Campbell does a good job as the young Shirley, and yes, she can project as well as act and sing. Thomas Richardson plays the class heart-throb and Daniel Rosales is a natural cut-up, drawing laughs in his various roles as the angel Gabriel and Santa Claus (yes, in the very same Nativity play.) But those much-needed laughs come late in the second act.

While the small rooms stage right and left appear to be of shaky construction, the row of buildings on a Coney Island street (with the hint of a roller coaster behind them) were very realistic.

Unfortunately, someone was not doing his or her job and behind that roller coaster you could see two rows of blue plastic bins stacked on shelves, in which

the Naples Players store props and other items. It was very disconcerting and definitely took you out of the play. (About 15 minutes into the play, someone finally lowered a backdrop.)

Also puzzling was the inclusion of what looked like an adult with a moustache in the children's cast.

The best part of the play takes place when we actually get to see the kids' Christmas pageant. It's a strange mash-up with an adult Jesus, Santa Claus, Tiny Tim and Scrooge all appearing, angels who flutter their arms as if they're wings, and hand gestures the students are forced to use while they sing.

Anyone who's ever acted in or suffered through a school play will instantly recognize these scenes. It provides some much-needed laughs, as it grows more and more absurd, but this doesn't take place until the second act.

It also contains a couple of pretty songs, including an a cappella version of "Silver Bells."

Brad Brenner, as Shirley's father, plays his role with kindness. Along with Ms. Hoover, he's one of the play's highlights, though at one point he gives a strange little speech about how Christmas and Hanukkah aren't really religious holidays but based on pagan rituals.

I just wish director Bryce Alexander, who inherited this play from the previous administration, had insisted on more depth from his actors. Many of them, unfortunately, verge on caricature or stereotype, and playing them more fully would've provided more humor and more depth. The humor is too broad and doesn't elicit that many laughs.

"Coney Island Christmas" doesn't tug on your heartstrings as much as it makes you want to roll your eyes like an exasperated teenager.

It attempts to show that what some see as a drawback can actually be a gift, but the play's so heavy-handed it made me feel more "bah humbug" than "ho, ho, ho." And that's not a good thing when you want to get into the holiday spirit. ■

in the know

'Coney Island Christmas'

>> **When:** Through Dec. 18

>> **Where:** Sugden Community Theatre, 701 5th Ave. South, Naples

>> **Cost:** \$35 (\$10 for students 21 and younger)

>> **Information:** 263-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org

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2	7	9	5	4	3	8	6	1
8	4	6	7	1	9	3	2	5
7	1	3	2	5	8	4	9	6
4	6	2	1	9	7	5	3	8
5	9	8	4	3	6	2	1	7
3	8	1	9	7	4	6	5	2
6	5	4	3	2	1	7	8	9
9	2	7	8	6	5	1	4	3

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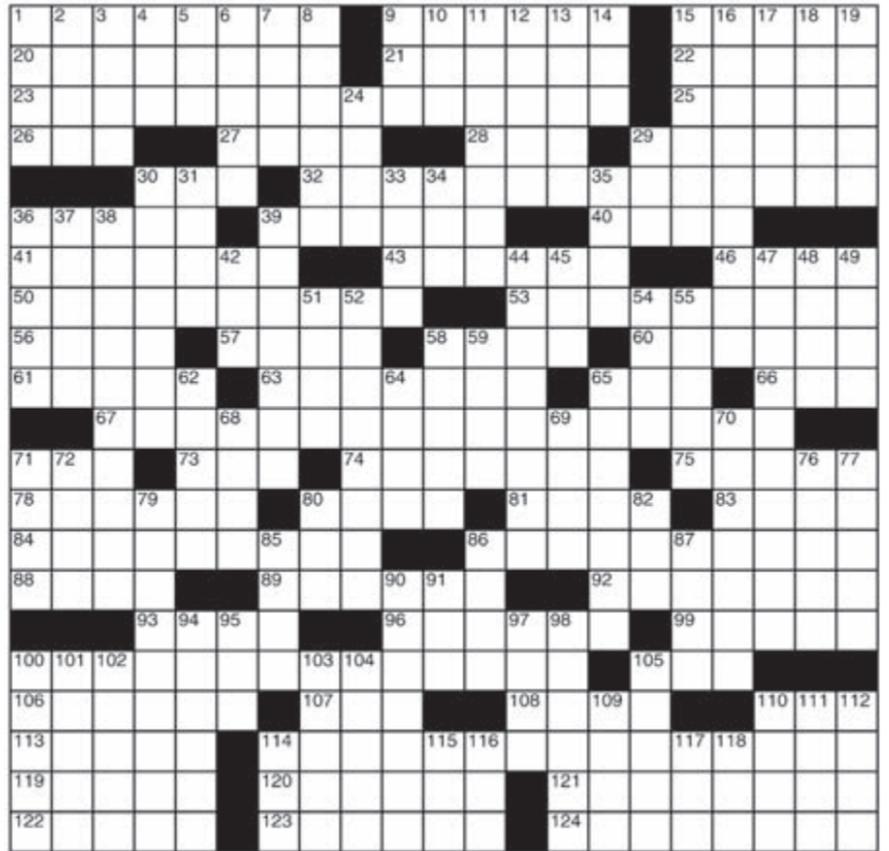
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PUZZLES

AS THE SAVING GOES

- ACROSS**
- 1 Capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina
 - 9 Super deals
 - 15 Stage backdrop
 - 20 Aired in installments
 - 21 Martial arts instructor
 - 22 City near Dallas
 - 23 Focus applied when covering a surface with concrete?
 - 25 Styx setting
 - 26 Ill, to Italians
 - 27 Jai —
 - 28 Solo in sci-fi
 - 29 Hanker for
 - 30 Prefix for tax or charge
 - 32 College between two hills?
 - 36 Suggest
 - 39 Puts forward as fact
 - 40 Bakery decorator
 - 41 Try to be like
 - 43 "Pinball Wizard" band
 - 46 Shrek is one
 - 50 Great review from the wife of George Washington?
 - 53 Scandianavian king's lubricant?
 - 56 Certain iPad
 - 57 German coin
 - 58 Harvest yield
 - 60 Crooner Vic
 - 61 Tailor, e.g.
 - 63 Cut, as a 58-Across
 - 65 Hitler Gehrig
 - 66 Cause trouble to
 - 67 Question to an animal doc at an amusement park?
 - 71 Star, e.g.
 - 73 "Illmatic" rapper
 - 74 Drop-leaf table
 - 78 Butlers
 - 80 Ruby and scarlet
 - 81 See 31-Down
 - 83 Crooner
 - 84 Caesar's hail to a mariner?
 - 86 Buck that's toiling away?
 - 88 Enumeration
 - 89 Loafer liner
 - 92 Grand Slam tennis events
 - 93 Completely engrossed
 - 96 President before Bush
 - 99 — lance (pit viper variety)
 - 100 Seamstress who was Adam's mate?
 - 105 Downed
 - 106 Italian cry at a dinner table
 - 107 Canon — (camera line)
 - 108 Caspian Sea feeder
 - 110 "Attack, mutt!"
 - 113 Not as young
 - 114 Tennis great Rod who keeps everyone safe?
 - 119 Pixar figures
 - 120 "In this way"
 - 121 1970s-90s carrier to Lima
 - 122 Collagist Max
 - 123 Positive responses
 - 124 Eased up on
- DOWN**
- 1 Month after Aug.
 - 2 On — with (equal to)
 - 3 Paris' — Gauche
 - 4 "— already said ..."
 - 5 Actor Voight
 - 6 First name of Poe
 - 7 Perfumery bottle
 - 8 6x9-inch book size
 - 9 One-eighty from NNW
 - 10 "X" amount
 - 11 Psych up
 - 12 Like a Thai
 - 13 Téa on TV
 - 14 Moral error
 - 15 Ball
 - 16 School unit
 - 17 Arm bones
 - 18 Nonreactive
 - 19 Amble along
 - 24 Aunts, in Baja
 - 29 Month after Nov.
 - 30 More briny
 - 31 With 81-Across, Beehive State NCAA team
 - 33 Lo-fat
 - 34 Suffix of ordinals
 - 35 Cello forerunner
 - 36 "Byzantium" actress
 - 37 AOL letter
 - 38 Hip-hop DJ's equipment
 - 39 Scrutinizes
 - 42 — kwon do (martial art)
 - 44 Carpenter's adhesive
 - 45 Clued in
 - 47 Is a little too proud of
 - 48 Queen in a sari
 - 49 Stunt master
 - 51 Boot part
 - 52 Sailors, say
 - 54 Take too much of, for short
 - 55 Member of an early-1900s art movement
 - 58 Debt memos
 - 59 Director Clair
 - 62 "— -Cop" (1988 film)
 - 64 Commercial on the tube
 - 65 Olympic sled course
 - 68 "How — to know?"
 - 69 Celebration
 - 70 Jailbreaker
 - 71 Indy path
 - 72 Shankar on the sitar
 - 76 Edit, as text
 - 77 Scandianavian
 - 79 Hormones in some replacement therapies
 - 80 Harry Potter pal Weasley
 - 82 Draft inits.
 - 85 Its cap. is Vilnius
 - 86 Kaput
 - 87 Toss high up
 - 90 Brother of Iphigenia
 - 91 Director Ang
 - 94 Something novel
 - 95 Sch. org.
 - 97 Supply that's too abundant
 - 98 Operating skyward
 - 100 Theatricalize
 - 101 Courage
 - 102 Finish with
 - 103 Weird
 - 104 Out-of-the-way corners
 - 105 Bygone Olds
 - 109 Bygone Chevy
 - 110 Swedish film shooter
 - 111 French noun suffix
 - 112 Gunky stuff
 - 114 Use skillfully
 - 115 Ending for Brooklyn
 - 116 Abbr. in trig
 - 117 Part of L.A.
 - 118 Lemur cousin



SEE ANSWERS, C11

HOROSCOPES

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) All signs point to a bright holiday, with all of those pesky problems finally resolved in your favor. Share the good times with people you love and, of course, who love you.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Your plans should not be set in stone and cemented over. Leave some openings in case you need to make changes. Spend the holidays with your nearest and dearest.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Surprise! This holiday finds you on the receiving end of the generosity of those who are usually the recipients of so much that you give so freely and lovingly.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) That piece of good news assures that you'll be swimming in clearer, calmer waters this holiday season. There might be a storm or two ahead, but you'll weather it all in fine style.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) I

know, dear Lamb, that you don't like anyone trying to take charge of one of your projects, but try to be a bit more flexible. A new idea could help hasten a positive result.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) I'm sure, like the time-thrifty Taurus that you are, that you've done much of your holiday shopping. But don't relax yet. Wrap those gifts now to save yourself lots of unwanted pressure.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Be receptive when a family member or friend asks to confide in you. Your positive reaction could ensure that he or she will have a happy holiday experience.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Don't be rushed into wrapping up that workplace problem. Consider leaving it until after the holidays. This way you'll have the facts you need to reach the right resolution.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) You'll get news that will make you glow

brighter than the lights of the holiday season. Be sure to use what you learn both carefully and kindly, to avoid giving the wrong impression.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) That frayed relationship could be mended in time for the holidays if you were more flexible. Give a little, and you could get back a lot more.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Things might not seem to be settling down as quickly as you would prefer. But it might be just a little holiday time flutter. You'll soon get news that will lead to more stability.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Stop getting so involved in everyone's personal problems that you lose time with loved ones. Remember, even the Supreme Court closes for the holidays.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a flair for seeing things as you'd like them to be, as well as a gift for turning your perceptions into reality. ■

By Linda Thistle

1			8	9		
	9		3	6		
4	7					5
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5		4			1	
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	4	3			8	
9			6	1		

Difficulty level:



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CONTRACT BRIDGE

First things first

BY STEVE BECKER

Whenever declarer is playing a suit contract, he is faced with the questions of whether or not to draw trumps, whether or not to take certain finesses, whether to try to establish a long suit, and so on.

Some or all of these things might have to be done, but the order in which they take place is usually of prime importance. Timing often spells the difference between the success or failure of a contract.

Take this case where South was in four hearts and West led a spade. He won with the ace and immediately led the jack of trumps and finessed, losing to the queen. Back came a spade to South's king. Eventually, he lost four tricks — a spade, two hearts and a diamond — and went down one.

Declarer failed to make the contract because he did not get his priorities in order. By tackling trumps at once, he in essence pinned all his hopes on limiting himself to one trump loser.

South should have seen that he could afford to lose two heart tricks and still make the contract, provided he escaped the loss of a spade. This could have been achieved by leading the king of diamonds at trick two. After the defense took the ace, dummy's third diamond would provide a parking place for South's spade loser.

Even if the king of diamonds was allowed to win, a diamond continuation

South dealer.

North-South vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ 8 7 4
♥ K 9 5 2
♦ Q J 3
♣ Q J 4

WEST

♠ Q J 10 5
♥ 7 4
♦ 10 9 6 5
♣ 8 7 2

EAST

♠ 9 6 2
♥ A Q
♦ A 8 4 2
♣ 10 6 5 3

SOUTH

♠ A K 3
♥ J 10 8 6 3
♦ K 7
♣ A K 9

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♥			

Opening lead — queen of spades.

would establish dummy's third diamond as a trick. In that case, the jack of clubs would serve as the entry to dummy for the discard.

In most suit contracts, declarer plays trumps at once. But when there is more urgent work to be done, as in this deal, declarer should delay trump extraction until a more propitious time. ■

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FILM CAPSULES

Bleed For This ★★1/2

(Miles Teller, Aaron Eckhart, Katey Sagal) Boxer Vinny Pazienza (Mr. Teller) is a world champion when he breaks his neck in a horrific car accident. The story of his road to recovery, with his trainer (Mr. Eckhart) by his side, is inspirational — in spite of the standard boxing movie plot points it includes. Rated R.

Nocturnal Animals ★★★1/2

(Amy Adams, Jake Gyllenhaal, Michael Shannon) An art gallery owner (Ms. Adams) reads a manuscript from her novelist ex-husband (Mr. Gyllenhaal) that hits close to home. It's a three-tiered and densely complex story, and a stellar one at that. Ms. Adams and Mr. Gyllenhaal are terrific. Rated R.

Arrival ★★★

(Amy Adams, Jeremy Renner, Forest Whitaker) When aliens land in 12 cities across the globe, linguist Louise (Ms. Adams) and scientist Ian (Mr. Renner) attempt to communicate with the new arrivals. Although slow at times, it skillfully captures an existential concept in an extraordinary way. Rated PG-13.

Loving ★★★

(Joel Edgerton, Ruth Negga, Will Dalton) Richard (Mr. Edgerton) and Mildred (Ms. Negga) Loving are happily married in late 1950s Virginia. But it's illegal for white Richard to be married to the black Mildred, which prompts a legal case that goes to the Supreme Court. Strong performances from Mr.

Edgerton and Ms. Negga propel the sometimes slow-moving narrative forward. Ultimately, it's too important and timely a story to pass up. Rated PG-13.

Doctor Strange ★★★1/2

(Benedict Cumberbatch, Tilda Swinton, Rachel McAdams) Arrogant neurosurgeon Stephen Strange (Mr. Cumberbatch) seeks help from the mystical The Ancient One (Ms. Swinton) after he loses control of his hands. The visual effects are spectacular and the story holds up well enough, making it yet another strong entry in the Marvel Cinematic Universe. Rated PG-13.

Trolls ★★★

(Voices of Anna Kendrick, Justin Timberlake, Zoey Deschanel) Trolls Poppy (Ms. Kendrick) and Branch (Mr. Timberlake) try to save fellow trolls from being eaten by the bigger, badder Bergens. The animation isn't impressive, but the mash-ups of pop hits and the strong message of finding one's own happiness are enough to make this worth recommending. Rated PG.

Inferno ★★★

(Tom Hanks, Felicity Jones, Omar Sy) Robert Langdon (Mr. Hanks) wakes in Florence, Italy, with no memory of how he got there, but soon is thrust into stopping a deadly virus that could wipe out half the world's population. Director Ron Howard's ("A Beautiful Mind") pace is brisk and the story is a fun puzzle to piece together. Rated PG-13. ■

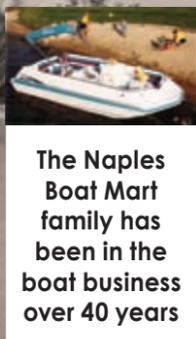


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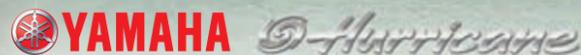
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'Man Down'

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★ ★ 1/2

Is it worth \$10? Yes

"Man Down" doesn't start well. Soldier Gabe Drummer (Shia LaBeouf) is seen rescuing his captive son in an abandoned building as helicopters fly overhead. Why he has to rescue his son, why there's danger and the identity of the antagonists are all unknown — which means it's an action scene without context, which means it's pointless. And no, it's not so expertly staged and executed that it's good enough to exist on its own.

Thankfully, director Dito Montiel's ("Empire State") film gets progressively better as it goes, culminating in a substantial ending that is good enough to make the movie worth recommending.

"Man Down" has three intersecting storylines, and each is compelling in its own way: The first tells of Marine Corps grunt Gabe as he survives basic training with his best friend Devin (Jai Courtney) and goes to Afghanistan. The second features Gabe speaking to a military shrink (Gary Oldman) about the horrible events he experiences. And the third chronicles Gabe's search for his wife (Kate Mara) and son (Charlie Shotwell) after a virus wipes out most of mankind. Any of these plotlines on their own would've made for an interesting narrative; all three create a jumbled, incohesive mess.

Yet by the end it all comes together, in part because everything — including the aforementioned out-of-context opening scene — is explained with saddening clar-

ity. This is not an accomplishment of proper pacing, as there are far too many scenes that should have been excised, including at least five minutes worth of Marine Corps basic training that amount to nothing. At 92 minutes it's hard to say the film is too long, but it is; if co-writers Mr. Montiel and Adam G. Simon could have gotten to the heart of the action and told the story with precision, their film would have been imminently more enjoyable.

It's interesting that given Mr. LaBeouf's reported off-screen antics he's recently chosen roles, both here and in last summer's "American Honey," in which his characters are a bit cuckoo. In both cases, however, they should not be laughed at. In "American Honey" his character represents the degradation of the American dream to its most primal level, and Gabe is a soldier who doesn't know how to cope with his life being torn apart. These are intense, complex roles that Mr. LaBeouf handles well; mind you his talent was never an issue, so if what he's doing can get people to work with him again, mission accomplished.

One thing "Man Down" does well by the end is showcase the terrors of military veterans' PTSD, and in doing so it suggests it's a much bigger problem than most people realize. Beyond identifying the problem, though, is the larger issue of how to help the veterans suffering from it. "Man Down" might help in that regard, but the film is unlikely to be embraced on a large enough scale to make a significant difference. ■

in the know

>> **Shia LaBeouf** previously worked with Dito Montiel on "A Guide to Recognizing Your Saints" (2006), which also starred Robert Downey Jr., Channing Tatum and Rosario Dawson.



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Miami transforms into the art capitol of the world during Art Basel

BY ERIC RADDATZ
eraddatz@floridaweekly.com

Miami transforms into the art capitol of the world during Art Basel, with overwhelming, exciting and brilliant curations that set it ahead of any of the finest museums on the planet for one full week. It also makes my personal top five events to attend of all time.

Now in its 15th year and always scheduled for the last few days in November and the first weekend in December, it has become the destination for hundreds of thousands of art aficionados, celebrities, party-goers and investors who flavor the event — uniquely set in the American Riviera — with a particular panache.

With over 289 galleries from all over the world bringing their A-game — over 4,000 on display at the Convention Center alone — there is now way to see



ERIC RADDATZ / FLORIDA WEEKLY
Alexandra Holownia selfies in front of David Austen's "Silence Beach" at Art Basel, Miami Beach 2016.

everything. Surrounding the epicenter are other private and public exhibits of collections at Art Miami, Scope, Design Miami, Satellite, NADA, Wynwood, Pulse, Untitled and more.

This year at the Convention Center, masterpieces were not that evident. Of course, that depends on who you ask. While many of the galleries brought mesmerizing and expensive, classically recognizable pieces, many brought pieces I found less than exciting, with accompanying prices that seemed laughable.

It often seemed the exact opposite while at the satellite fairs, like Scope, for example, where you walk into galleries with younger, experimental, less expensive and fresher pieces by up-and-comers (with galleries and artists paying much less in rent space.)



The crowd at Art Basel, Miami Beach 2016.

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But art is subjective so I really will not attempt to say anything other than there is something for everyone. And yes, maybe I just DON'T GET IT. This was reiterated as I walked past Jose Arellano, who asked if I would take a picture of him and his friend in front of a smaller 2-D black-and-white piece of what appeared to be a Q-bert inspired upside down pyramid.

"Full length, three quarter or bust?" I asked. "Horizontal or vertical?" I am pretty conscientious when it comes to snapping a stranger's shot, and I peppered off a dozen while saying, "One. Two. Three."

"Do you like the piece?" the gentleman asked. "Oh, is this yours?" "Yes." I had an easy time being honest about not really liking the piece. Still I found nice things about it.

"Well, it is simple and understated, which I generally like. It reminds me a bit of Q-Bert, the old arcade game, except with a more limited palette, which I also generally enjoy. I would say, though, surrounded by such colorful and provocative pieces I'm afraid I would not have paid this much attention as it seems somewhat, well, dull and less than visually inviting."

Yes, I was honest, rude even. But I really believe honesty in art perspective yields satisfaction and growth at unmeasured levels.

He looked at me, without any sense of offense, and simply asked me to step back a few steps, which I did.

"Now stare at the center and walk slowly to your right." I did this. As I did, the upside-down pyramid in boring blacks, whites and grays started to move and writhe before my eyes.

I was fascinated. "Whoaaa," I said, with great excitement. I've never tripped on acid but I'm sure this is what it is like. Lines on the



Jose Arellano poses in front of his moving piece at Scope, Miami Beach 2016.

painting started changing, moving, swirling and coming to life. The artist smiled. He created a virtual reality experience I almost missed entirely.

After an apology for not really "getting" it at first, I explained what I've learned about myself for years. I am often wrong about things and quicker than ever to accept when I am.

The artist, like many others at the exhibits, I'm sure, has deeper meanings, stories and points of view if you just take an extra minute to explore and discuss them. Which reminded me of what makes this one of the best events of all time. ■

—Eric Raddatz is the presentation editor for Florida Weekly, the director of the Fort Myers Film Festival and curator at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center. Follow him at twitter.com/ericraddatz.



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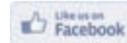
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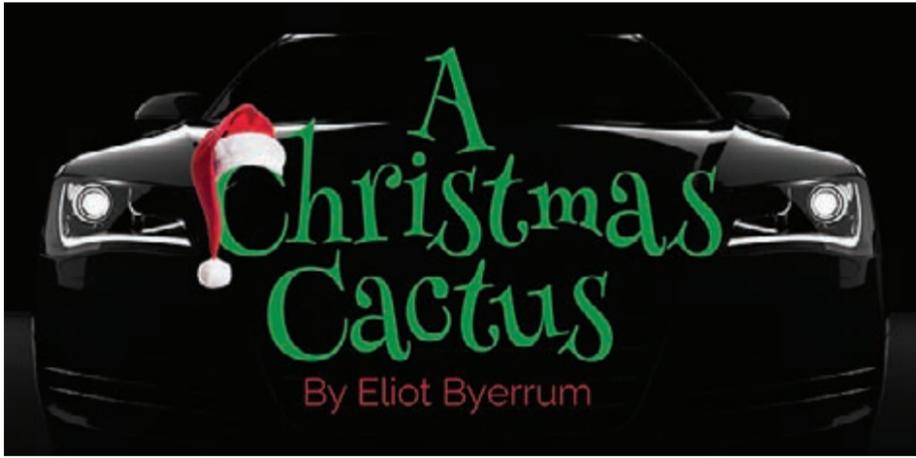


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The Marco Players' 42nd season continues with "A Christmas Cactus" on select dates through Dec. 18 at Marco Town Center Mall. Showtime is 8 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday.

Comedy, mystery and romance converge on Christmas Eve for private investigator Cactus O'Riley. Annie Rosemond directs playwright Eliot Byerrum's story about the sassy PI who's suffering the holiday blues as she solves mysteries, delivers small miracles and takes a second chance on love and sleuthing. As might be expected, goodwill and justice triumph.

Shelley Gothard stars as Cactus. Erik Olson, Marilyn Hilbert, Alex Costello and Kevin Kenneally round out the cast.

The Marco Players' season continues with:

■ Jan. 4-22: "The Second Time Around" by Henry Denker - Two senior citizens plan to live together without

marrying, sending their adult children into nervous fits.

■ Feb. 8-25: "Cookin' with Gus" by Jim Brochu - A comedy about a food columnist and cookbook author who is offered her own daily network TV show.

■ March 15-April 2: "Driving Miss Daisy" by Alfred Uhry - Beverly Dahlstrom will direct this perennial favorite.

■ April 19-May 7: "Heaven Help Me" by Joseph Simonelli - A haunting comedy about a family whose string of restaurants is falling apart. Auditions are Saturday, Dec. 17 (for information about trying out, call 404-5198 or email info@themarcoplayers.com).

Tickets are \$28 and \$30. Visit the box office in Marco Town Center Mall, call 642-7270 or go to www.themarcoplayers.com. Visit the website and join the mailing list or follow the company on Facebook to keep up with the latest from behind the curtain. ■

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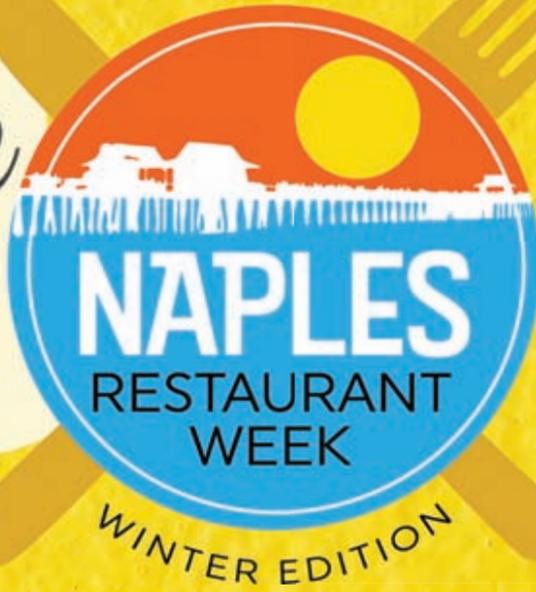


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Packages that don't make it by Friday might not see delivery until Dec. 27, as Monday, Dec. 26, is an additional non-shipping day.

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COURTESY PHOTOS

Featured dishes from restaurants participating in Naples Restaurant Week include chicken and waffles served with maple gastrique and pickled peaches from 1500 South and a black trumpet encrusted filet with foie gras and Brussels sprouts from The Catch of the Pelican at Naples Grande Beach Resort.



DEALS

From page 1

Each restaurant created a custom menu that highlights the chef's best offerings and often includes luxe items like the filet and foie gras plate at Naples Grande Beach Resort's signature restaurant, Catch of the Pelican. Mr. Clarke and his partner, Rafael Feliciano, asked participating chefs to showcase the best their establishment offers to diners taking advantage of Naples Restaurant Week, and it seems to have paid off.

"We tell every restaurant that it's their opportunity to expose their signature dishes and their restaurants soul to new diners," Mr. Clarke said. "We ask them

to really push the limits of the sizes, the proteins and main ingredients."

Many restaurants have included a few extras to help customers get even more bang for their buck. For example, T-Michael's Steak & Lobster House allows diners to choose among a seven-ounce lobster tail, an 8-ounce New York strip steak, Scottish salmon or Milanese pork chop as an entrée, with \$55 upgrades available that include a 10-ounce filet mignon, 14-ounce prime rib and a seafood trio that includes lobster tail, scallops and shrimp. La Morga tosses in a complimentary amuse-bouche before the first course.

New restaurants like French spot Tartine & Tartelette, which opened earlier this year, and El Gaucho Inca, which made its Naples debut in November, are jumping on the chance to show

Naples what they got. According to an OpenTable survey, 80 percent of restaurant week diners return to spots they enjoyed during the promotion.

"We are very new. We opened just one year ago," said Axelle Bechu, who owns Tartine & Tartelette with her husband, Jean. "It's good for us because people come and try the restaurant and they come back."

To take advantage of the deals, customers can visit the promotion's website to select a participating restaurant and tell the hostess while making a reservation or upon arrival they would like to see its Naples Restaurant Week menu. Several spots provide a glass of wine or beverage options with their selections. For more information about Naples Restaurant Week, visit its website at www.naplesrestaurantweek.com. ■

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Naples Restaurant Week Menu

Campiello Ristorante & Bar 1177 Third. St. S.	Chopped Salad Sopressata, ceci beans, pepperoncini and provolone	tomato and Tuscan kale Grilled Organic Scottish Salmon Brussels sprouts, pancetta and blood orange
>> First Course Campiello House Salad Tomatoes, black olives, feta and red wine vinaigrette	>> Second Course Cavatelli with Molise Country Pork Ragu	>> Third Course Dark Chocolate Tiramisu Tart with fresh berries
Campiello Meatballs Marinara and Pecorino Romano	Garganelli Pulled chicken, prosciutto and peas	Vanilla and Cranberry Panna Cotta with almond crumble
Bruschetta Tomatoes, basil and extra virgin olive oil	Pancetta-Wrapped Pork Tenderloin Cannellini beans, roasted	

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■ **CAPA Cultural and Performing Arts Center** hosts its 10th annual gala, "Decade of CAPAbilities ... A Celebration of the Arts," Tuesday, Dec. 13, at the Naples Sailing & Yacht Club. Tickets for \$295 include a cocktail reception, entertainment by the Naples Carolers led by vocalist Rebecca Richardson, dinner and a live auction. For reservations or more information, call 775-2800 or visit www.capacenter.org.

■ **The Holocaust Museum & Education Center of Southwest Florida** holds its third annual ladies luncheon on Thursday, Dec. 15, at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort. Keynote speaker Louise Borden is the author of "The Journey that Saved Curious George: The True Wartime Escape of H.A. and Margret Rey." For more information, call Tim Morrison at 263-9200 or email Tim@holocaustmuseumsfwl.org.

■ The fourth annual **Visionaries of the Visual Arts** awards and benefit dinner presented by the Harmon-Meek Gallery takes place Tuesday, Jan. 10,

at the Naples Sailing and Yacht Club. Featured artist will be internationally acclaimed watercolorist Gary Bukovnik, who is creating floral paintings for the centerpieces. Three individuals will be honored for their contributions to bringing the visual arts to children.

Tickets are \$175 or \$1,500 for a patron table for eight. The event is entirely underwritten by the gallery, with 100 percent of contributions from tickets, table patrons and program advertising benefitting at-risk youth and children's art programs in Southwest Florida through the Harmon-Meek Gallery Fund at the Southwest Florida Com-



munity Foundation. For more information, email Kristine Meek at kmeek@harmonmeek.com.

■ Shine up your dancing shoes for the David Lawrence Center's "**Magical Musical Tour: Dancing Through the Decades**," from 6-11 p.m. Friday, Jan. 13, at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort. The signature event promises a memorable evening of dining, dancing and fundraising in celebration of the center's five decades of serving the mental health



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and substance abuse needs of our community. The gala committee promises a world-famous band and live entertainment inspired by the 1960s to today, from swing and Motown to rock and disco. Decade-inspired cocktail attire is encouraged.

Tickets are \$550 (\$1,500 for patron tickets that include the patrons party at an Old Naples beachfront home). For more information, call Jennifer Denike at 304-3505 or email jenniferde@dlcmch.com.

■ **“An Evening in Paris,”** the 11th annual **Wishmaker’s Ball** to benefit Make-A-Wish Southern Florida, takes place Saturday, Jan. 14, at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort. Rick and Brenda Brown are co-chairing the gala; honorary chairs are Dr. Thomas and Amy Hale. The affair begins with cocktails and hors d’oeuvres in the Court of Palms and continues in the ballroom with dinner, a live auction and dancing to The Chase Band. Tickets are \$350. Sponsorship packages start at \$5,000. For more information, visit www.wishmakersball.net.

■ **The Friends of Opera Naples** host “An Evening in Monte Carlo by Renata Scotto” Friday, Jan. 20, at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort. A world-renowned soprano, stage director and teacher, Ms. Scotto performed on the



SCOTTO

stages of the world’s greatest opera houses for 40 years. Her repertoire included more than 60 roles, and she has a wealth of awards as well as a substantial catalogue of recordings. She performed 26 roles with the Metropolitan Opera and inaugurated the “Live from the Met” telecast opposite Luciano Pavarotti.

With a mix of Princess Grace Kelly’s glamorous sophistication and Monte Carlo’s prestigious casinos, the black-tie gala for Opera Naples will offer ticket holders the opportunity to “game” for luxurious prizes, dine on fine cuisine and enjoy an evening of opera performances.

Individual and table reservations range from \$350 to \$5,000. For more information, call Signe Larson at 963-9050, email info@operanaples.org or visit www.operanaples.org.

■ **The Shelter for Abused Women & Children’s Gentle’men Against Domestic Violence** hold their annual Tailgate Party: “Casino Royale” starting at 4:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 23, at Bay Colony Golf Club. Chaired by Bill Villafranco with co-chairs Ron Ciesla and John Jordan, this year’s event will include Vegas-style casino games as well as the traditional golf contests, cocktails, live music and dinner followed by a cigar and scotch lounge.

Tickets for \$250 can be purchased at www.naplesshelter/tailgate.org. For information about sponsorships, call Tamika Seaton at 775-3862, ext. 217, or email tseaton@naplesshelter.org.



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SAVE THE DATE

■ **The Parkinson Association of SWFL** welcomes Rasheda Ali, the daughter of Muhammad Ali, who suffered from Parkinson's disease, as guest speaker at a luncheon Tuesday, Jan. 24, at LaPlaya Beach and Golf Resort. Ms. Ali's book, "I'll Hold Your Hand So You Won't Fall," was inspired by her father and has been praised by influential sources including Dr. Timothy Johnson, medical editor for ABC News, and Parkinson's advocate Michael J. Fox.



ALI

Luncheon tickets are \$125. For reservations or more information, visit www.pasfi.org/speaker_lunch.

■ **Champions for Learning** honors community leaders for their support of public education at the annual Night of Champions set for Thursday, Feb. 2, at the Naples Grande Beach Resort. Honorees are recognized for their their impact on the lives of students through mentoring, leadership, collaboration and community involvement with educators and students.

The 2016-2017 Night of Champions honorees are: MJ Adams, Della Burt-Bradley, Theo Etzel, Kaleigh Grover, Cindy Helton, Thelma Hodges, Claudine Léger-Wetzel, Andrea and Felix Lluberes, Susan and Wayne Mullican, Sen. Garrett Richter, Joan and Jack Toren, Sharon and Dolph von Arx and

Michael Wynn. Tickets are \$250, with proceeds benefiting the student programs of Champions For Learning, such as: Take Stock In Children and the Real World Learning Model. Table and event sponsorships are also available. For more information, call Jason Kurek at 643-4755 or email JKurek@ChampionsForLearning.org.

■ **The 2017 American Cancer Society Imagination Ball: "Glitz, Glamour & Giving"** takes place Saturday, Feb. 4, at the Marco Island Marriott Beach Pavilion. BMO Private Bank returns as presenting sponsor for the fourth year.

Marco resident Debra Shanahan, whose husband, Dick, died earlier this year of hepatobiliary cancer, is the event chair. New treatments for the type of cancer Mr. Shanahan had are direct results of research funded by the American Cancer Society.

The evening will include a cocktail reception, dinner and dancing to music by the Stacey Allison Band along with silent and live auctions. The annual Grado Award will be presented to Jim and Allyson Richards in honor of their contributions to the fight against cancer.

For tickets or more information, call 642-8800 or email sue.olszak@cancer.org.

— Email details about your charity gala or fundraising soiree to Cindy Pierce at cpierce@floridaweekly.com.

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- Open Faced Roast Pork Sandwich \$9
Topped with gravy and served with mashed potatoes and veggies
- Blackened Chicken Caesar Salad \$9

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SOCIETY

Country Club of Naples celebrates a new clubhouse



1. Tim Lynch, Bob Hughes and Chuck Feeny
2. Betsy Grant, Dick Singleton and Catharine Singleto
3. Ellie Andrews, Bob Andrews, Doris Nemore, Chuck Feeny and David Nemore
4. Roger Knoll, Chris Knoll, Karen Cosner and Reath Cosner
5. Jan Ward, Will Ward, Brooke Garrett Selvidio, Migena Gace and John Granholm
6. Sharon Rees, Jan Feeny, Joan O'Connor, Susa Strunk, Monica Hughes and Louise Kangisser

CLAY CONE / COURTESY PHOTOS

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SOCIETY

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3. Muffy Clark Gill, Warren Gill and Kathleen Passidomo
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5. Donna Reiley, Cindy Crane and Betty Newman
6. Pat Rutledge and Rick Medwedeff
7. Garrett Richter, Diana Richter, Tom Wagor, Betty Newman and Alex Parker
8. Linda Sandlin and Sonja Laidig
9. Pat Kaufman, John Agnew and Scot Kaufman
10. David Everitt and Ellie Everitt
11. Barb Madden, Roger Withers and Sharon Hood
12. Krista Popoff and Jarrett Stinchcomb



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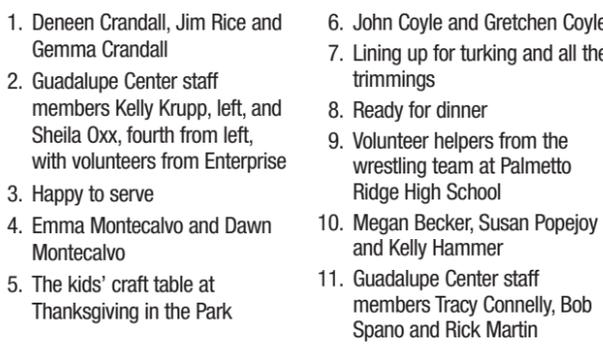
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SOCIETY

Guadalupe Center's 35th annual Thanksgiving in the Park in Immokalee



1. Deneen Crandall, Jim Rice and Gemma Crandall
2. Guadalupe Center staff members Kelly Krupp, left, and Sheila Oxx, fourth from left, with volunteers from Enterprise
3. Happy to serve
4. Emma Montecalvo and Dawn Montecalvo
5. The kids' craft table at Thanksgiving in the Park
6. John Coyle and Gretchen Coyle
7. Lining up for turking and all the trimmings
8. Ready for dinner
9. Volunteer helpers from the wrestling team at Palmetto Ridge High School
10. Megan Becker, Susan Popejoy and Kelly Hammer
11. Guadalupe Center staff members Tracy Connelly, Bob Spano and Rick Martin

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CUISINE NEWS

Brooks Burgers

in Gordon Ramsey's London Hotel in Los Angeles, as well as several Michelin-starred spots around the country.

"I'm not eager to chase Michelin stars, just eager to share what I've learned growing up with this multicultural background," he said.

While Chef Hyde won't disclose details of filming, he did say that Guy Fieri's high-energy personality is totally authentic.

"Guy Fieri is hilarious. He's definitely the guy he portrays on television," he said.

The chef remaining at the end of the tournament will win \$10,000 and the opportunity to double their money when they compete against "Dinner: Impossible" host Robert Irvine. For more information about "Guys Grocery Games: Impossible," visit www.foodnetwork.com.

■ **Brook's Gourmet Burgers & Dogs** recently opened second location at Pavilion Shopping Center in North Naples. Located at the corner of Vanderbilt Road and Tamiami Trail, the new spot takes the place of Kitchen 845 next to the Paragon Pavilion movie theater and showcases a classic car theme in the décor.

"We are very happy to finally be open. It has been long months of planning and remodeling but I believe our customers will love the ambiance of our new spot," said owner Todd Brooks.

Brook's Gourmet Burgers & Dogs is also located at 330 Ninth S. South in downtown Naples. For more information about the restaurant, call 262-1127 or visit www.brooksburgers.com.



IVAN SELIGMAN / COURTESY PHOTO

Naples' Chef Andy Hyde competes on an upcoming episode of The Food Network's "Guy's Grocery Games: Impossible" at 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11.

■ People anxious to see Naples' culinary scene represented on the national stage should look no further than The Food Network at 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11, when it airs an episode of "Guy's Grocery Games: Impossible" featuring local chef Andy Hyde as a competitor. The tournament-style games are staged over three episodes with Chef Hyde entering in the second round to shop and prepare a steakhouse-style meal in thirty minutes.

Mr. Fieri imposed a 6-pound limit on the groceries Chef Hyde and his co-competitors could place in their cart.

"The 30 minutes is real time, so six pounds is really a challenge," Chef Hyde said. "It was one of the most intense experiences of my life. It was like my graduation and first job hire all at one time."

Locals will recognize Chef Hyde as a private chef who often works out of his business, Chef Hyde Catering, to provide services to diners in Naples. He describes his culinary style as "intercontinental," often blending European techniques and flavors with dishes and ingredients from his Ghanaian background. He has worked

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CUISINE NEWS

Take Note:

■ **Whole Foods** in Mercato hosts a gingerbread house workshop from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 10. Bakery experts will be on hand to help offer tips and tricks to participants, who will build their masterpieces from a pre-constructed house and supplies. \$20. 552-5100 or www.wholefoodsmarket.com.

■ **Sea Salt** hosts a wine dinner featuring vintages from Montenidoli at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 12. Guests will enjoy dishes like veal sweetbreads and duck breast while founder Elizabetta Fagioli recounts the winery's history and mission. \$189. 1186 Third St. S. 434-7528 or www.seasaltnaples.com.

■ **Naples Art Association** pairs glass sculptor Conrad Williams with decorated Chef Bob Schultz for an evening of art with fine dining starting at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13, at NAA headquarters at 585 Park St. Cost is \$125. 262-6517 or www.naplesart.org.

■ **Whole Foods Market** in Mercato hosts a nutrition workshop with chiropractor Cade Copeland from 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14. \$20. 552-5100 or www.wholefoodsmarket.com.

■ **The Catch of the Pelican**, Naples Grande Beach Resort's signature restaurant, hosts an extravagant Christmas feast with several seatings starting at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 25. Guests will enjoy a seafood bar, antipasti, a salad station, a meat selections that include prime rib and Frenched pork loin roast, small plates like pumpkin ravioli and duck confit and

a decadent dessert buffet. \$59 per person, \$30 for children who would like to enjoy the kids' buffet. 227-2182 or www.naples-grande.com.

■ **Bleu Provence** now serves brunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Sunday, with an a la carte menu featuring fresh fruit-vegetable juice blends, sophisticated egg dishes, cheese plates, traditional French entrees and more. 1234 Eighth St. S. 261-8239 or www.bleuprovincenaples.com.

■ **BurgerFi** currently offers a Grilled Cheese Burger Melt through Jan. 29, to extend its celebration of National Comfort Food Day. The burger includes two natural angus patties, caramelized onions, Swiss cheese and American cheese on three grilled buns. 1514 Immokalee Road. 631-8227 or www.burgerfi.com.

■ **Osteria Tulia** currently hosts its third annual Truffletopia! and guests are invited to supplement their entrees with fresh white or black truffles though the end of truffle season. The add-ons are priced separately at \$25 for black truffles and \$45 for white truffles. 466 Fifth Ave. S. 213-2073 or www.tulianaples.com.

■ Want to work on your skills in the kitchen? Here are some cooking classes on the front burner:

The Good Life of Naples, 2355 Vanderbilt Beach Road; 514-4663 or www.goodlif-enaples.com - (\$75); Holiday Appetizers: Thursday, Dec. 8 (\$75); New Year's Tapas: Wednesday, Dec. 28 (\$75); Greek Night: Thursday, Jan. 5 (\$69); Pizza Scfincion: Wednesday, Jan. 11 (\$69) ■

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VINO

Catching Up With the Mad Blender



In my experience there are two kinds of winemakers: those who are bound by respect for the traditions of their regions, and those who purposely go in exactly the opposite direction. Back in the day, winemakers from Old World countries like Spain, France, Italy and Germany made wines the way their grandfathers did, and any new techniques or ideas were actively — sometimes violently — discouraged. A winemaker in Bordeaux, for instance, would never consider using any grapes but the five that are dictated by centuries of custom and convention.

However, there's one winemaker who takes the whole blending thing way over the top. I wrote about Dave Phinney in this space about two years ago, but he's worth a revisit, and I recently had the chance to chat with him about his (very) unique and unconventional approach to blending.

In his new enterprise, which he calls "Locations," Mr. Phinney takes a wide variety of grapes from diverse areas of the world, pours them all together, shakes them up, and creates a line of bistro-style wines that get glowing reviews.

The hallmark of Mr. Phinney's winemaking style is his unconventional (to say the least) approach to blending not

only widely different varietals, but also grapes from widespread regions.

"The first winemaker I worked with once told me that if have a bunch of good wines and you put them together, you can get one great wine. It works. Most of the time."

His foray into unorthodox blending started in 2000. "I had some Zinfandel with high residual sugar, a Cabernet that didn't meet my expectations, and some small lots of Syrah. I didn't want to bottle them separately, so I mixed

them together." The result? A wine he called The Prisoner... and it put him on the charts.

"The success of my first wine gave me a lot of encouragement. I like to experiment with different varietals. Of course, it doesn't always work out, but look at it this way. Imagine if a chef used only one ingredient — the food wouldn't be very interesting. So for me there are no rules, no vintages, no appellations. I'll consider any grape from any region, though in my blends one varietal is usually predominant."

Like many winemakers, Mr. Phinney has mixed feelings about critics' wine ratings. "If you get a good rating, read it once, then throw it away. If you get a bad rating, read it once, then throw it away." He does believe, however, that ratings can be a guide for consumers who are not well versed, or are new to the wine world. "There are so many wines, and so many regions. Nobody can know them all."

It's apparent that Dave knows a lot. Some recent additions to his wine lineup include...

Locations CA 4 (\$20) – A California blend of Petite Sirah, Barbera, Tempranillo, Syrah and Grenache (whew!). Intense red and black fruit flavors, smoke, and notes of oak. Even though it weighs in at 15.5 percent alcohol, you'd never know it. Very lush. WW 93.

Locations OR 4 (\$24) – A bit of a departure, here... 100 percent Pinot Noir. This Oregon wine is from the famous

Willamette Valley, and offers generous flavors of cherry, rose and strawberry. The alcohol is a stiff 15 percent, which is high for a Pinot, but Phinney keeps the balance. WW 93.

Locations WA 4 (\$20) – Black plum, raspberry, and spices accent this somewhat more traditional blend of Washington State Syrah, Merlot and Petite Sirah. The tannins are very soft, considering these bold varietals, so you can enjoy this wine the day you buy it. WW 92.

Ask the Wine Whisperer

Q: I've noticed that there are a lot more boxed wines in stores than I've seen in the past. Why are they getting so popular?

— Caroline L., Port St. Lucie

A: I've noticed the same thing. Every day, there seems to be an ever-widening selection of boxed wine brands and varietals. Many of them are improving somewhat in quality and value. While some consumers fear that boxed wines are loaded with sugar, that's not always the case, though many are made sweeter because it's a popular style. Most boxed wines are meant to be consumed right away, because the plastic bag inside admits a bit of oxygen, and the wine will start to fade after about a year. ■

— Jerry Greenfield is *The Wine Whisperer*. He is creative director of Greenfield Advertising Group, and his book, "Secrets of the Wine Whisperer," is now available through his website or on Amazon. Read his other writings on his website, www.winewhisperer.com.

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CHEF Q&A

Chef Mike Mueller

BY LINDSEY NESMITH
lnesmith@floridaweekly.com

Few culinary sensibilities are as well represented in Naples as that of D'Amico & Partners, which has five properties in Naples. We're going to talk to Chef Mike Mueller, executive chef at Café Lurcat on Fifth Avenue, who has worked with the company for several years after coming out of the high stakes restaurant game in New York City. Recently promoted to executive chef of D'Amico's American restaurants, Chef Mueller tells us about his dedication to the culinary arts and how his glittery resume contributes to the dining scene in Naples.

Q: What is your culinary background?

A: I have always held cooking and restaurant-related jobs. I grew up in Minnesota and started out waiting and bussing tables in restaurants in the Twin Cities, then moved into entry level kitchen roles to work my way through college in Duluth.

How were you inspired to become a chef?

Q: What inspired you to become a chef?

A: My parents are great cooks who frequently hosted dinner parties. Even as a young child, I invariably ended up in the kitchen with them. I even dressed as a chef one year for Halloween when I was about 8.

Q: What brought you to Naples?

A: After four years of working insane hours in New York restaurants and working my way up the culinary food chain, I really needed a change and felt like I was ready to move to the next level. I had worked in various D'Amico properties in Minnesota during college and the organization has a great reputation for developing chefs. A sous chef role was open at Café and Bar Lurcat in Naples and I thought this would be a perfect opportunity for me to grow in the D'Amico "famiglia."

Q: Your first taste of food service included cooking 300 chickens outdoors at a farm in Minnesota at age thirteen. Could you tell us a little more about that unusual experience and whether it influenced you?

A: It was for a property in New Prague, Minnesota called Cedar Lake Farms and they did company picnics.



They basically had chain link fence suspended on cement blocks with hundreds of pounds of charcoal beneath. At that point of my life, it was more about making money to buy baseball cards and gas for my little boat. However I loved the heat, the smells, and the rush of the whole experience.

Q: After earning a business degree from University of Minnesota — Duluth, you studied at the Culinary Institute of America in New York. Was it your plan to marry the two fields or was becoming a chef a departure for you?

A: Yes, for sure! I originally tried to create a degree with the university's help that was a balance of business, nutrition and communication courses. I had planned all along to go to the CIA after graduation. I felt it was important to understand the management aspects of running a successful business because that's essential to having a successful restaurant.

Q: What was it like working at Jean-George and other hot spots in New York City? How did it pay off professionally?

A: Working in NYC is so unlike anywhere else you go. It doesn't matter whether you're a banker, a doctor or in real estate — the best of the best battle it out in New York City and the competition was fierce. Many cooks there, including myself, worked a ton for free and it was what we signed up for. Jean-Georges was such an eye-opening experience, as is any Michelin three-star restaurant. Working in the Trump building on Columbus circle was surreal. My greatest schooling was with Andrew Carmellini and his crew at A Voce. Funny story — he actually fired me after I had accepted the job to come to Naples. It's public knowledge he fired David Chang as well and we all know how that turned out!

Q: Which dishes are you particularly

proud of?

A: At this point in my career, I am most proud of the great dishes that my team develops. Giving them a little direction and watching them run with a dish is very fulfilling. With Lurcat's ever-changing Voyage concept (a section of our menu that changes to highlight world or U.S. cuisine) it's whatever is relevant after 60 days. As we transition out of the fall Voyage menu, which featured Low Country cuisine, and into the early winter menu that will feature modern India, we are ecstatic about all of the new dishes.

Q: What do you find challenging?

A: Without question it's the seasonality aspect with our geographical location. Creating, motivating, and managing are ancillary to adjusting in and out of season.

Q: Who or what are your greatest culinary influences?

A: Richard D'Amico; Instagram; Chef's Table (a Netflix documentary series); many great chefs including my colleagues Andrew Wicklander (chef at The Continental), Roel Mesta (chef at Masa), my former D'Amico mentor Jay Sparks, Andrew Carmellini, Greg Brainin, Vincenzo Betulia, Jean-Georges Vongerichten, John Ochiatto, Ron Gallo, Luke Ostrom, Matt Greco; my sous chefs and my parents.

Q: What has been one of your favorite culinary experiences?

A: Some of philanthropy work has been incredibly rewarding. Working with great organizations and events like Naples Community Hospital, City Meals at Rockefeller Center, Grape Escape, St. Mathew's House, Naples Wine Festival, SWFL Food and Wine Festival, Little Black Dress, etc. has been wonderful. Also, eating my way through Vietnam and Italy with my wife was a couple of life-changing experiences.

Q: What are your favorite culinary resources (books, blogs, etc.)? How do you keep your dishes relevant?

A: I read everything, listen to others, follow Instagram, and watch Chef's Table and Mind of a Chef. Most importantly, I collaborate with colleagues. We meet literally every single day to dissect dishes. ■

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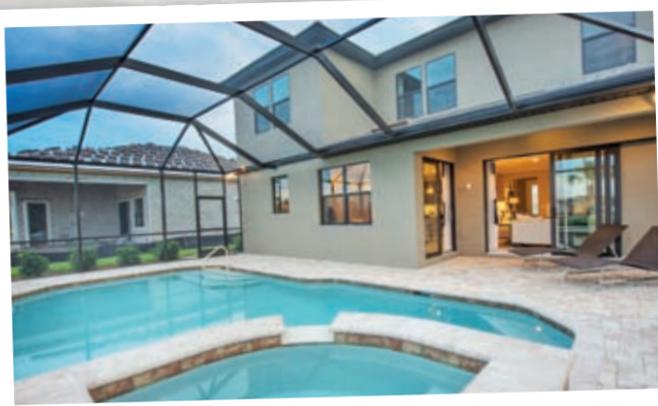
Ave Maria offers more than 40 floor plans from three builders in every price range. Several move-in ready homes are available now! Make plans to visit Ave Maria this season and tour 22 decorated model homes. Named Collier County's Community of the Year in both 2016 and 2015, Ave Maria has sold over 300 new homes this year alone—more than any other new home community in both Collier and Lee counties. New home buyers recognize the incredible value and high quality of life while still enjoying the close proximity to Naples' beaches and culture. Ave Maria has something for everyone including young couples, growing families, and active retirees.

■ Amenities for an Active Lifestyle

Ave Maria has amenities for all ages. Panther Run Golf Club at Del Webb, the on-site 18 hole course designed by Gordon G Lewis, offers challenging play alongside natural beauty and wildlife. Ave Maria's water park, open exclusively to residents, features two waterslides, interactive water adventure playground, resort and lap pools, spa, and beach volleyball. The North Park boasts a playground, baseball, basketball, and soccer fields. The South Park is a great spot to walk your four-legged friend at dog park or play bocce. Pack a picnic and relax at the covered outdoor pavilion.

■ Quality of Life

In Ave Maria, homeowners realize the importance of quality of life. Top notch education is available to all children whether it's from our highly-rated Collier County Public Schools, the private K-12 Donahue Academy or Ave Maria University. The preferred method of transportation in town? A golf cart! Nothing beats zipping to Publix or to the pub on your golf cart. Best of all, new friends are easily made in Ave Maria with so many opportunities through the calendar of events hosted



Offering the best in design, style and price, Ave Maria presents over 40 floor plans from 3 builders with prices from the high \$100s.

by the Master Association as well as the natural gathering spots of the coffee shop, pub, and outdoor patios of our town center restaurants. Life—made simple.

■ CC Homes

CC Homes, presents 3-6 bedroom homes in one and two-story floor plans ranging in size from 1,133 to over 5,000 square feet and priced from the high \$100s. Homes are offered in three neighborhoods: Maple Ridge, Maple Ridge Reserve, and Coquina at Maple Ridge. Customize your dream home with several options including outdoor oasis with pool, kitchen, and cabana bathroom or an extra bedroom or flex room above the garage.

Visit the on-site sales center and tour 14 model homes open daily. Ask about several move-in ready homes.

■ Del Webb Naples

Del Webb Naples is the smart choice for active adults desiring a well-rounded southwest Florida lifestyle. Del Webb Naples offers ten floor plans from 1,133 to over 2,500 square feet, with 2-5 bedrooms

and prices from the high \$100s. Choose from golf course, lake or preserve view when selecting your home site from the nation's highly awarded home builder.

The on-site Oasis Club at Del Webb Naples features over 12,000 square feet of resort and lap pools, tennis courts, bocce and pickleball, fitness center, library, café, fire pit, arts & crafts studio, and library. Dine at the brand new Rusty Putter for breakfast, lunch or afternoon bites. Visit an on-site sales representative to learn more about the Del Webb lifestyle. 5 model homes open daily.

■ Pulte Homes

With 17 popular single-family home designs in Hampton Village, Emerson Park, and Avalon Park priced from the

high \$100s, Pulte Homes offers quality construction home buyers can trust. These neighborhoods are located near the Town Center, private schools, and outdoor recreation. A well-known and respected name in home building, Pulte Homes features Life Tested® features in their home designs built for life and how you live it. Two models open daily in Avalon Park.

■ Visit Us

For more information visit Ave Maria at 5076 Annunciation Circle # 104, ave-maria.com or by calling 239-352-3903. Follow us on social media to be the first to learn about specials and incentives. Take Immokalee Rd. east; turn right onto Oil Well Rd; then left into the main Ave Maria entrance. ■

Kalea Bay's community amenities popular with buyers

Tower residences priced from \$1.3 million

If the clubhouse is the social and recreational centerpiece of a community then Kalea Bay's will surely be one of the busiest places in the gated, luxury residential high-rise community located on Vanderbilt Drive in North Naples.

"There are several reasons buyers have decided to purchase at Kalea Bay," said Inga Wilson, Vice President of Sales & Marketing for Kalea Bay. "The first is the beautifully designed three-bedroom plus den/three-and-a-half-bath and four-bedroom/four-bath tower residences with Gulf views. The other is our spectacular community clubhouse. Not only will it be a dramatic sight as residents and visitors drive into the community, but it will also be the envy of every community in the Naples' area."

Kalea Bay's 88,000-square-foot clubhouse is located on the north side of the large lake at the community's entrance.

The clubhouse, which is currently under construction, will feature three individual pools, including a resort pool, an adults-only pool and a children's pool, plus an expansive pool deck, an open air bar, an indoor/outdoor restaurant, a snack bar, an Internet cafe and a gifts and sundries shop.

"All three pools will overlook the lake and provide a multitude of recreational options for everyone who lives and visits here," said Wilson.

Expansive sun decks with lounge chairs and native, tropical plants separate each of the three pools for the ultimate in privacy.

If basking in the sun or taking a refreshing dip in the pool isn't on a resident's schedule, perhaps meeting friends for lunch, dinner or drinks is.

"We have the perfect place for all three," said Wilson. "The indoor/outdoor restaurant will serve phenomenal meals throughout the day. And what better way to celebrate the good life in Florida than meeting family and friends for drinks while watching the sun set over the Gulf of Mexico. This is what living in Florida is supposed to be."

Just a short walk from the clubhouse will be the tennis pavilion with six lighted Har-Tru tennis courts. Nearby are 24 guest suites to accommodate overnight guests and family members.

"Having that number of guest suites is unusual for a luxury high-rise community, but it's an amenity many of our residents are excited about especially when they have extended family visiting," said Wilson. "Rather than putting their guests up in hotels throughout the Naples and Bonita Springs area, they can vacation within the community. It's a real convenience."

There will also be a shuttle service, originating from the clubhouse, to the beach.

"Two of the top rated beaches in the country are only minutes away from Kalea Bay," stated Wilson.

Construction on the clubhouse is slated for completion in the fall of next year and will coincide with the anticipated move-in of the residents in the first tower.

The 22-story tower, with 120 residences, has 20 floors of residences over two floors of parking. In late September the tower hit a milestone in its construction phase - its topping off.

Six floor plans are available at Kalea Bay with prices currently starting at \$1.3 million.

Residences 1 and 6 are 4-bedroom/4-bath plans with 3,755 total square feet. Residences 2 and 5, with three-bedrooms plus den and three-and-a-half baths, have 3,835 total square feet. Residences 3 and 4 are four-bedroom/four-bath plans with 3,921 total square feet.

All residents of Kalea Bay will revel in Gulf views, open floor plans, a private elevator leading directly into their resi-



Above: This recent aerial of Kalea Bay shows the first tower reaching skyward. Below: The 88,000-square-foot clubhouse features three separate pools. One of the three pools at the Kalea Bay clubhouse (on right) is for adults only. Kalea Bay residents will enjoy their clubhouse day and night. Kalea Bay's first tower was designed with rooftop amenities, including a sky lounge, spectacular pool and open-air fitness center.



dence, and wood floors throughout.

The custom kitchens have Wolf and Sub-Zero appliances, a natural gas range, Downs-view cabinetry, quartz countertops, a Butler's pantry and oversized island.

"Our kitchens feature an open design we call 'Lifestyle Designs' that blends the kitchen seamlessly into the living and dining rooms, perfect for today's hosts and hostesses," said Wilson. "The layout of the kitchen can be experienced firsthand through a replica of one in our sales center."

The master bedroom includes an oversized walk-in closet while the master bath has his and hers vanities, quartz countertops, luxury cabinetry, a soaking tub and separate glass-enclosed shower.

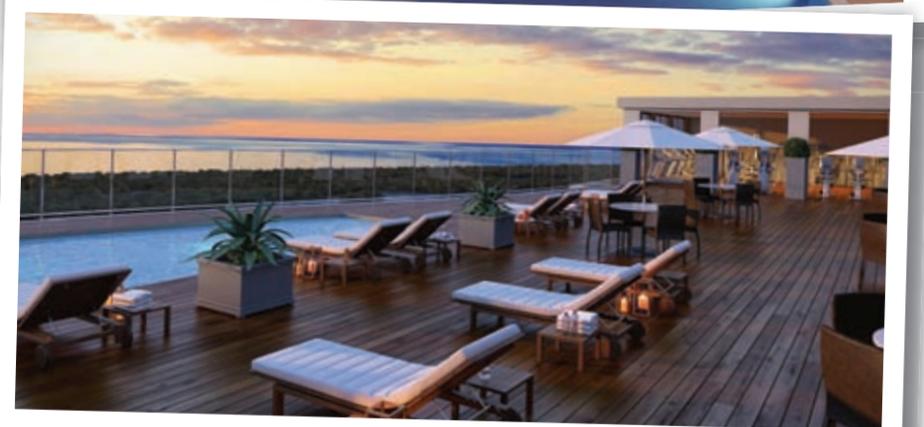
"All master suites, kitchens and main living areas have direct views to the water and preserve," stated Wilson. "That means all of our residents have front row seats for our spectacular sunsets."

Additional residential features include floor-to-ceiling windows and doors that open to large lanais with transparent glass rails. High-tech wiring and fully equipped laundry rooms round out the list of features.

Wilson said spectacular views are available to every resident, no matter which floor they live on. That's because the tower's amenities are located on the rooftop, including the sky lounge, pool and open-air fitness center.

"From the rooftop our residents can enjoy daily views of the Gulf of Mexico, the nature preserves that surround us, and of course, the beaches," said Wilson.

For more information regarding Kalea Bay visit the on-site sales center. Due to bridge closings in the North Naples' area, take US 41 to Wiggins Pass Road, then right on Vanderbilt Drive, two-tenths of a mile. Additional information is available by calling (239) 793-0110 or online at KaleaBay.com. ■



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Ronto offers limited opportunity to customize residences at Seaglass



With nearly \$109 million in sales contracts already processed, and the building 50% sold, the award-winning Ronto Group announced it is making a limited opportunity available to purchasers of residences on the 20th through 23rd floors of the 26-floor, 120-unit Seaglass at Bonita Bay high-rise tower within the Bonita Bay community. Ronto is offering homebuyers an opportunity to join two upper units together to create a luxurious 6,200 square foot residence with scintillating views of the Gulf of Mexico. Each of the expanded residences will come with four protected access under-building parking spaces.

With construction of the highly anticipated Seaglass tower well underway and on schedule for completion in just 18 months, opportunities for future residents to customize their residences and to specify preferred finishes will become increasingly limited. The designer-selected finishes on display at the Seaglass Design Studio and Sales Center at 26951 Country Club Drive within Bonita Bay are suited to the open concept living spaces at Seaglass. In addition to the selections available through Ronto's innovative Finishing Touches Program, future residents may also specify finishes from other sources. Prospective homebuyers are encouraged to make their buying decisions and finish selections promptly.

Seaglass will feature fully-completed, ready for occupancy residences with designer-selected premium finishes, including flooring, paint, and trim. Each residence will come with two protected access under-building parking spaces. Private enclosed two-car garages will be available. With the combination of the building's captivating tower floor plan choices, various Bonita Bay Club membership opportunities, and Bonita Bay's amenity-rich lifestyle, Seaglass is redefining the luxury high-rise living experience in Southwest Florida.

Recognized as one of the ten healthiest clubs in America by Prevo Health Solutions, Bonita Bay's amenities include a 60,000 square foot Lifestyle Center, five championship golf courses,

The Ronto Group's Seaglass at Bonita Bay high-rise tower is 50% sold and on schedule for completion in just 18 months. Bonita Bay's legendary golf experience includes three on-property courses designed by Arthur Hills and two Tom Fazio designed courses at the nearby Bonita Bay Club Naples. The Ronto Group is offering homebuyers a limited opportunity to join two units on the 20th through 23rd floors of the 26-floor Seaglass high-rise tower at Bonita Bay together to create a luxurious 6,200 square foot residence with scintillating views of the Gulf of Mexico.

expanded tennis facilities, a full-service marina, numerous dining venues, a residents only private beach park, and on-property hiking and biking trails. The three-story Lifestyle Center includes a nearly 20,000 square foot world-class Fitness Center, a 9,000 square foot spa and salon, and the WAVE Café that serves healthy fast food, freshly made organic juices, and smoothies that can be enjoyed on-site or prepared to go.

Three on-property Bonita Bay West courses were designed by Arthur Hills. The three courses achieved Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary status in 1995. Two Tom Fazio designed courses at the nearby Bonita Bay Club Naples provide a pure golf experience on over 1,000 acres that includes preserved wetlands but no residential development. It was the first private 36-hole club in the world to achieve certification through the Audubon International's Signature Program and has been designated as a Certified Signature Sanctuary since 1998.

A recent expansion of Bonita Bay's 18-court tennis complex included the addition of an exhibition court and two oversized courts. The 10,000 square foot building that formerly housed the community's fitness center and spa will be transformed into a tennis clubhouse with casual dining and an indoor/outdoor bar. The space will include a tennis pro shop, locker rooms, a stretching room, multi-

function rooms, and a relaxing lobby area. Nano doors will open the entire space to the outdoors and the exhibition court.

A full-service on-site marina with direct access to the Gulf of Mexico provides wet slips and dry boat storage, as well as on-site fueling and light mechanical services. The Marina accommodates watercraft with a maximum draft of thirty-six inches. Charts, bait, tackle, and other items are available at the Ships Store.

The Bonita Bay Club redesigned the kitchen and traditional dining areas in the clubhouse and incorporated a 40-foot long buffet station in the dining space. The former golf pro shop was transformed into the 55th Hole, an approximately 3,500 square foot high-end casual bar experience. The design capitalizes on both the interior space and the immediately surrounding areas to create a captivating indoor/outdoor venue. Backwater Jack's, a relaxing waterfront dining and lounge experience at the Bonita Bay Marina, is a favored gathering place for the community's boater enthusiasts. Bonita Bay's Naples Club facility on Immokalee Road includes a Club Room within the clubhouse that offers additional dining options.

Located on the Gulf of Mexico, Bonita Bay's residents-only private beach park is on Little Hickory Island, just 10 to 15 minutes from the community.

Picnic pavilions, grills, beach chair and umbrella service, showers, and restrooms equipped with infant changing stations are provided for residents in a setting landscaped with native beachfront vegetation. Personal chairs, umbrellas, and other beach items are welcomed. Residents also enjoy Bonita Bay's network of biking and hiking paths that weave through the community's lush tropical setting. A kayaking and canoeing lodge offers additional recreational possibilities.

A choice selection of tower residences remains available at Seaglass. Three tower residence great room floor plans range from 2,889 to 3,421 square feet under air and are priced from just over \$1 million. The tower residences will include dual private elevator grand foyers, island kitchens, three bedrooms and three-and-a-half baths, or three bedrooms plus a den or fourth bedroom and three-and-a-half baths, walk-in closets in the owner's suite, and sliders opening to multiple outdoor spaces that include a gas grill. Ten-foot ceilings are included per plan. Three furnished tower residence models will be available for viewing upon completion of construction.

Visit the Seaglass Design Studio and Sales Center from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and Sundays from noon to 5:00 p.m. Visit Seaglass online at www.seaglassatbonitabay.com. ■

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Stock Signature Homes to start second model on Marco Island

Stock Signature Homes announced it is poised to begin construction of its 3,629 square foot, two-story furnished Malibu model on Marco Island. The Malibu will be the award-winning homebuilder's second residence on Marco Island and will join the 3,903 square foot, two-story Polynesia model that is under construction and slated for completion in late May.

The Malibu model will showcase an interior designed by Vogue Interiors' award-winning designer, Sheila Corasaniti, IDS, who has infused the home's open-concept floor plan with an air of casual, easy living that speaks to Marco relaxed island lifestyle. The great room plan includes a spacious island kitchen, formal dining room, study, five bedrooms, five-and-a-half baths, a first floor outdoor living area with a summer kitchen, pool, and spa, a covered outdoor terrace on the second floor that can be accessed by two of the three upstairs bedrooms, and a three car garage.

Inspired by the scenic Marco Island location and the wild beauty of the nearby tropical Ten Thousand Islands, Corasaniti envisions the Malibu model as a casual, relaxed island lifestyle home filled with multi-textured natural materials set against a sea-inspired watercolor palette of off-white, soft aqua and palm green. The main flooring will be a highly polished 24 by 24-inch off white porcelain and all main area walls will be painted in a calming soft sand dune tone. Window treatments throughout the house will be custom island style white panels designed to catch the coastal breezes.

In the expansive welcoming foyer, a huge natural sea shell chandelier will hang in the weathered wood open stairwell. Across from the stairwell, a sculptural live edge console fashioned from an exotic multi-toned wood with a swirling grain will sit on the opposite wall. A vibrant original coastal inspired oil painting will hang above the console to provide an introductory pop of color to the rest of the home.

The dramatic two-story great room will open to a covered lanai. The custom designed media wall will feature a floor-to-ceiling four-piece framed mural mounted on an LED backlit wall above the television console. The television console will appear to float in front of the softly glowing wall. A large sofa and two club chairs will be upholstered in a natural off-white linen. Accent pillows will bring in the lively island color palette with fabrics in a flecked blue and green watercolor print, a saturated tropical floral, and an intense palm green.

Two large hammered chrome pendants will sit over the expansive kitchen island where weathered wood saddle seat counter stools will pull up for casual entertaining. All perimeter cabinets will be finished in a soft off-white and the island cabinetry will be done in a subtle sand finish. Countertops will be topped in quartz with a Carrara marble design and the horizontal glass brick backsplash will be the same soft sandy color of the island cabinets.

In the dining room, two contemporary wing chairs upholstered in hemp and white linen will sit at the head and foot of the weathered oak dining table. Driftwood side chairs will be upholstered with soft green linen seat cushions and over the table will be an amazing chrome beaded chandelier with five hand-crafted chrome jellyfish hanging down. A hand-carved console with seaglass doors will sit below a mirror reflecting the chandelier.

With a calming color palette of soothing sand and off-white, the master suite will



Above: Stock Signature Homes now has furnished models that are completed, under construction, or poised to begin construction in communities and neighborhoods from Marco Island north to Bradenton, including this completed residence at 3750 Fountainhead Lane in Naples' Park Shore neighborhood.



Above: Stock Signature Homes announced it is poised to begin construction of its 3,629 square foot, two-story furnished Malibu model on Marco Island. The Malibu will be the award-winning homebuilder's second residence on Marco Island. Left: Stock Signature Homes' Polynesia model is under construction on Marco Island and slated for completion in late May.

be a serene private space. The only vibrant tropical colors in the room will appear in the original framed artwork. Nightstands and a dresser finished in a soft gray will all sport chrome hardware. A romantic multi-tiered antique silver pin shell chandelier will hang over the bed. Two rattan club chairs with white linen cushions will provide a quiet reading nook.

In the master bath, the countertops will be done in off-white quartz with a neutral tone swirl and cabinetry will be in a light off-white finish. A tone-on-tone stone chevron pattern will provide a dramatic accent wall of tile in the shower. The master bath chrome hardware will repeat the theme carried throughout the home in its chrome lighting fixtures, fur-

niture accents and cabinetry hardware.

The outdoor living area will feature a covered lanai off the great room and another off the kitchen. In the fully equipped outdoor kitchen, weathered gray faux wood cabinetry will pair with quartz countertops and a matching backsplash of aqua glass and stone elongated hexagons. The shell stone pool deck will be defined by an aqua brick pattern waterline tile. Outdoor seating will be provided by a sofa and club chairs in off-white canvas slip-covered upholstery with strong pops of color introduced by accent pillows. A vibrant aqua and palm green area rug will anchor the spacious seating area. Serpentine shaped teak chaise lounges will be set by the pool and classic slatted teak chairs

will surround the concrete dining table. The spacious upstairs lanai will look down on the pool and have bar table seating and sleek teak benches for relaxing.

The furnished Polynesia model will feature a family friendly interior by Soco Interiors' Daniel Kilgore. The open concept plan includes a great room, dining area, and island kitchen, a study, four bedrooms, four full baths and two half baths, an upstairs loft, a three-car garage, and an outdoor living area with a summer kitchen, fireplace, pool and spa.

For information about residences by Stock Signature Homes on Marco Island and in prestigious communities and neighborhoods throughout Southwest Florida, visit stockdevelopment.com. ■

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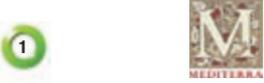


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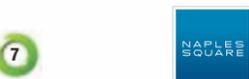
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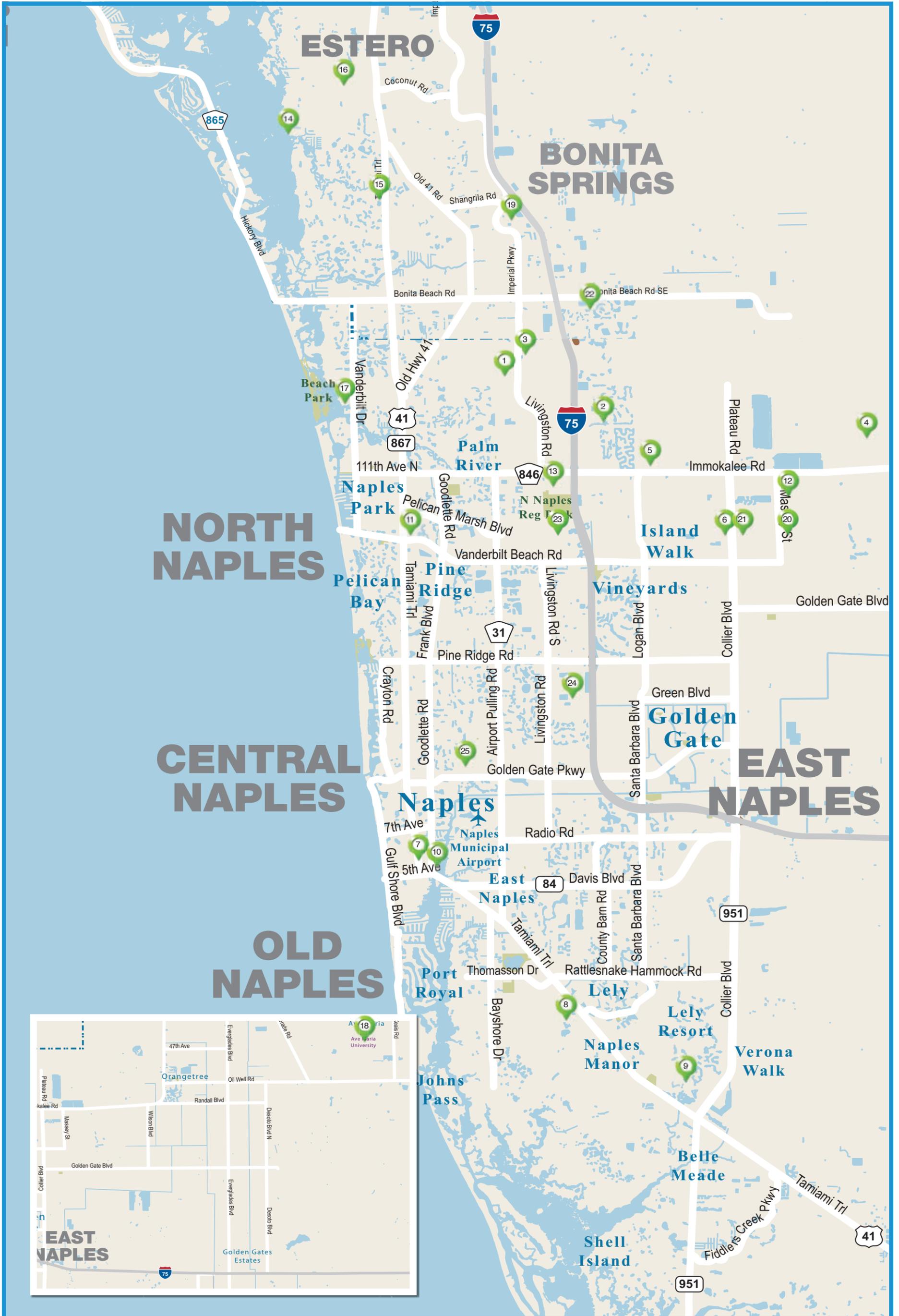
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Move-in ready homes & new amenities available at Lely Resort

Stock Development and Lely Resort are synonymous with beautiful residences and amazing lifestyle amenities. For more than a decade, Lely has been one of the Naples real estate market's biggest success stories.

As sell out of the community nears, Stock continues to improve the community with additional lifestyle amenities. The company is also building additional move-in ready homes.

The Players Room is the latest addition to The Players Club & Spa. This multi-purpose building is located adjacent to the main clubhouse. It offers a Movie Theater with seating for 72. There is also a kitchenette, bathrooms and ten tables for card play and games. The lobby features elegant banquet seating.

"We pride ourselves on addressing the changing needs of our residents and providing them with the best possible amenities," said Brian Stock, CEO of Stock Development, the developer of Lely Resort Stock. The Players Room is a wonderful addition to an amenity complex that has won numerous Best Clubhouse Awards over the past decade."

Homebuyers also have a tremendous number of multi-family and single-family residences to choose from at Lely Resort.

Stunning coach homes are also available in Signature Club and Cipriani. The new coach home sales division has opened on-site in the Signature Club where they are showcasing the coach home residences of both neighborhoods. Furnished models are open.

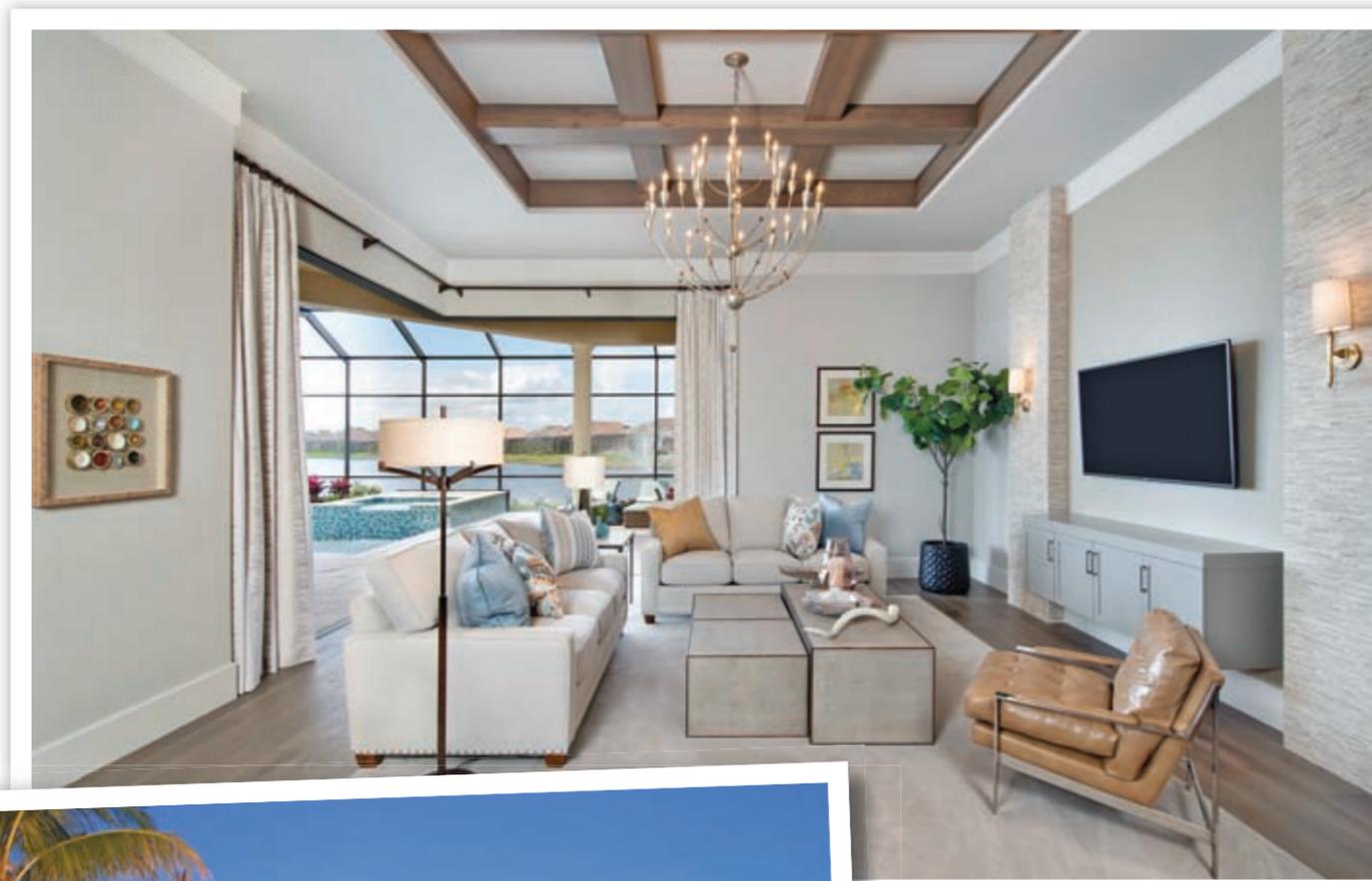
Signature Club has a beautiful private, gated entry with water features, beautiful landscaping and a stone entry monument. Each coach home building at Signature Club offers four residences. The neighborhood features a selection of amazing lake and golf course views across The Classics Championship Golf Course. Prices start at \$471,645.

Cipriani is within The Classics, a stunning gated enclave along one of Lely's three championship golf courses. The neighborhood also features an array of beautiful lake and nature views along The Classics Championship Golf Course. Each coach home building at Cipriani offers four luxurious residences with the spacious feel of single-family homes. Prices begin at just \$418,100.

Lely also has amazing single-family homes. In Lakoya, Stock offers a wide variety of single-family homes and twin villas from its existing sales center. This exclusive 242-acre enclave has a private guarded and gated entrance, sculptured landscaping, classical gardens, spectacularly choreographed fountains and elegant paved walking paths. Beautifully furnished models are open in the neighborhood and these floor plans have exceptional standard features packages.

The exquisitely designed and beautifully furnished Majestic II model is perfectly suited to take advantage of The Lakoya neighborhood with its extraordinary lakes and fairway views along the Gary Player-designed Classics championship golf.

This four-bedroom, four-bath home offers 3,843 square feet under air and a total of 5,735 square feet. The spacious floor plan features a formal living room and an informal family room, both of which provide direct access to the covered lanai via stacked sliding glass doors. The home melds the outdoors and indoor living areas to provide



Above: Majestic II Lakoya family room. Left: Lely pool. Below: Cipriani exterior, St. Andrews living room.



homeowners with a large, open environment for entertaining. An outdoor kitchen and an elaborate pool and spa package complete the idyllic scene.

Raised tray ceilings throughout the living areas add to the homes spacious feel. There is a large island style kitchen, and a formal study with French doors. Stunning Interiors by Beasley & Henley add to the appeal. The attached three-car garage offers an air-conditioned storage area. It is priced at \$1,849,990, fully furnished.

Lely Resort has three championship golf courses and a spectacular club facility. The Player's Club & Spa is an amazing 30,000 square foot club that is both elegant and highly functional for

its members. It has earned a Sand Dollar Award for best clubhouse.

The expanded Tiki Bar by the resort-style pool has twelve foot awnings around all sides, six new plasma TVs, a larger brick paver seating area and new lighting.

The 6,000 square foot Fitness Center now includes a spectacular second exercise room with state-of-the-art equipment, a huge aerobics studio that has nearly tripled in size and a "spin" room. Personal training is available, as is onsite physical therapy treatment.

The beautiful Spa Wing includes four treatment rooms, a relaxation room, a manicure and pedicure salon, facial

and skin care treatment rooms, as well as opulent shower and changing rooms.

Outside, a second free-form pool has been built, dramatically increasing the number of people who can be accommodated by these extraordinary resort-style amenities at any time.

The tennis facility's thirteen state-of-the-art tennis courts are open for play on a spacious 4-acre site that includes an outdoor café.

Don't miss your chance to everything that is new at legendary Lely Resort!

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Quail West's legacy of luxury continues to expand in 2016



Since completing its purchase of the 234 remaining home sites at Quail West on May 25, 2012, Stock Development has furthered the community's legacy of providing one of Southwest Florida's most compelling luxury lifestyles. Celebrating its 15th year as Southwest Florida's leading developer and luxury homebuilder, Stock Development has been nationally ranked in Builder Magazine's BUILDER 100 for four consecutive years and was recently recognized as the Best Residential Builder in Gulfshore Business Magazine's 2016 Best of Business Awards. Stock's unique brand of excellence is especially evident at Quail West, a gated golf course community in North Naples that provides a refined country club living experience.

Stock's success at Quail West has been the result of new product introductions that have diversified the community's residential choices and a commitment to providing luxury homebuyers with a readily available supply of completed and soon to be completed residences in all product categories. There are now 507 completed homes at Quail West, 61 of which were completed in 2016. An additional 43 residences started construction this year. Quail West's Preferred Builders are offering 37 furnished models and unfurnished move-in ready homes that are completed or scheduled for completion during the 2017 winter season. Product choices range from single-family villa homes, to luxurious one and two-story single-family homes, and estate residences that are continuing Quail West's legacy of providing Southwest Florida's finest estate lifestyle experience. A choice selection of home sites, furnished models, and unfurnished move-in ready residences are available in all product categories for discerning homebuyers who value a lushly landscaped setting, residences offering elegance and an exceptional level of livability, and an array of world-class amenities that includes two championship golf courses.

Designed to meet the needs of Quail West's growing membership and the changing lifestyle characteristics of the community's members, a substantial two-phase renovation of the community's clubhouse and two golf

courses budgeted at a cost of approximately \$30 million began in 2016. The improvements will provide the latest in physical facilities and state of the art technology while further solidifying Quail West's position as Southwest Florida's leading golf course community. To avoid the disjointed building configuration prevalent at other clubs, the renovation design is focused on providing an integrated club experience in a single location. The renovation of the 70,000 square foot clubhouse complex will feature a new 12,000 square foot dedicated fitness and wellness building; enlarged and redesigned pre-function spaces to enhance the members' experience during events; enhancements to the casual dining facilities and outdoor dining areas; an Internet Café with grab and go service; and a complete renovation of the kitchens to improve food preparation and service in all dining venues in the Club.

The design of the improved clubhouse spaces has been a cooperative effort of Quail West's members, Humphrey Rosal Architects, and Clive Daniel Home. Their design concept is intended to enhance the club's current high-end finishes while incorporating new design elements consistent with the new building additions. Phase 1 of the clubhouse enhancements is expected to be completed in early 2017, including the redesigned lobby and gathering places, the renovation of the upstairs banquet

kitchen, and the two-story dedicated fitness and wellness center building.

Quail West has long been acknowledged for providing one of Southwest Florida's finest pure golf experiences. The club's amenity enhancement initiative will further that legacy. While the original design and character of the Preserve and Lakes courses designed by golf course architect Arthur Hills will remain essentially intact, the renovation initiative is focused on improving the playability of both courses for all golfers. The renovations will address enhancements to the irrigation systems, green complexes, the adjacent bunker, fringe, and grass areas, and the fairways. New irrigation technologies will be introduced to embrace best water conservation practices and to reduce overall operating costs.

The golf course enhancements are being overseen by J. Drew Rogers, a member of the American Society of Golf Course Architects who is highly regarded for his ability to undertake golf course renovation projects. Rogers is familiar with Quail West's golf courses, having worked with Arthur Hills to

Above: The Estates of Excellence Home Tour in March will showcase Quail West's collection of furnished estate residences situated on sites featuring the community's long-range water, fairway, and preserve views. Left: Quail West has long been acknowledged for providing one of Southwest Florida's finest pure golf experiences. The club's amenity enhancement initiative will further that legacy. Improvements to the Preserve course are underway. The course is expected to reopen in early 2017. Below: Since completing its purchase of the 234 remaining home sites at Quail West on May 25, 2012, Stock Development has furthered the community's legacy of providing one of Southwest Florida's most compelling luxury lifestyles.

design two nine-hole layouts that would later comprise the Lakes Course.

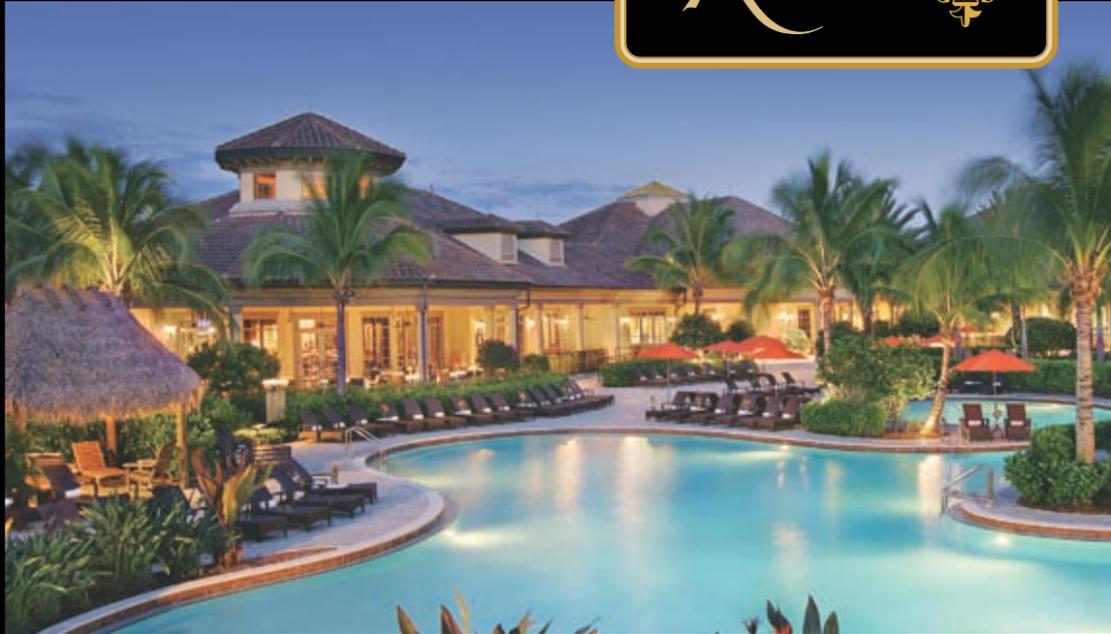
Improvements to the Preserve course are underway. The course is expected to reopen in early 2017. Improvements to the Lakes course will begin in spring, 2017 with completion anticipated by December 2017.

Luxury homebuyers will have an opportunity to experience Quail West's refined lifestyle and exquisite residences during the community's Estates of Excellence

Home Tour in March. The Tour will showcase Quail West's collection of furnished estate residences situated on sites featuring the community's water, fairway, and preserve views. The Tour will feature eight completed furnished estate residences by award-winning homebuilders Stock Signature Homes, Seagate Development Group, LLC, McGarvey Custom Homes, Diamond Custom Homes, Fox Custom Builders, Florida Lifestyle Homes, and London Bay Homes. The residences showcase architectural and interior designs by Southwest Florida's leading architects and interior designers. In addition to the residences included on the Tour, estate homes are under construction and scheduled for completion throughout the 2017 winter season. Estate home and home site packages are priced from \$2.5 million to over \$7 million.

Quail West is located east of Interstate 75, one mile south of Bonita Beach Road. Take Exit 116 (Bonita Beach Road) east. Turn right on Bonita Grande Drive and follow the signs to the sales center. Call 239.592.1010. Visit Quail West online at www.QuailWest.com. ■

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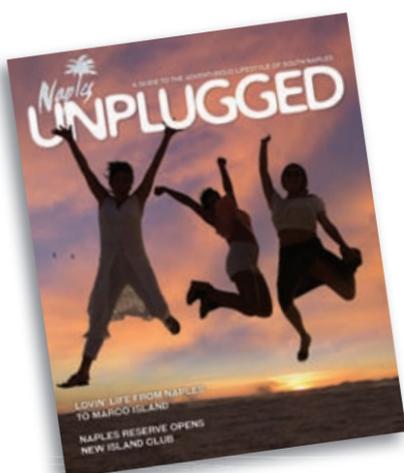


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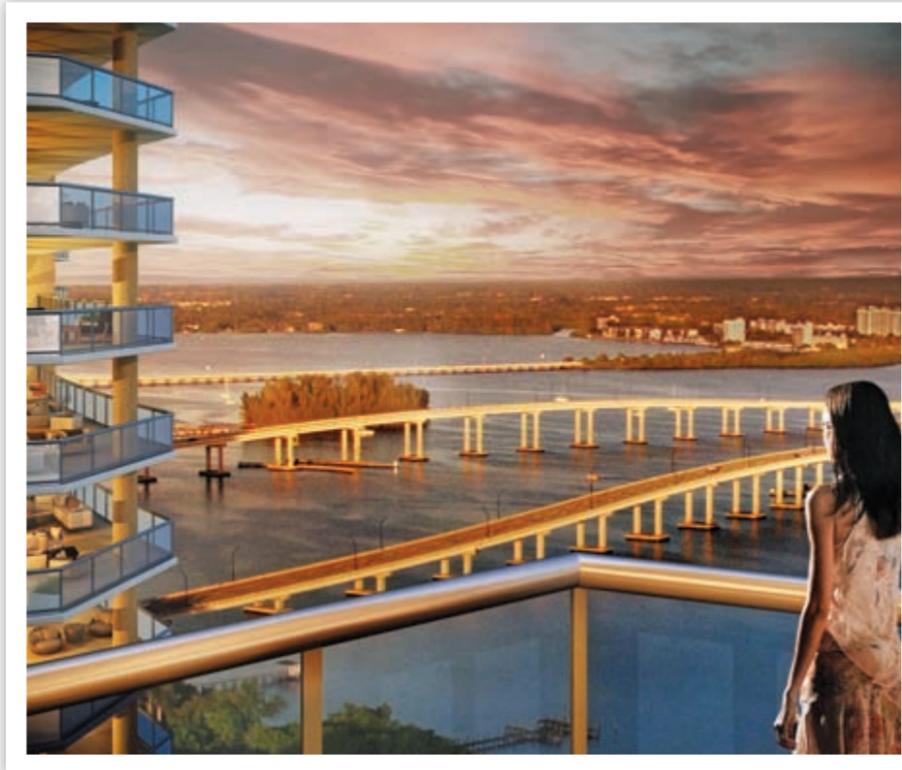


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The perfect sunset is one of life's simple pleasures; all that is required are two basic elements: the sun, and a vantage point from where to admire it. At ALLURE, the new, luxury condominium to rise 32-stories over the glistening Caloosahatchee River in Historic Downtown Fort Myers, perfect sunsets are standard.

When complete, the "Amazing" residence layout of this architecturally-stunning building will have a northwest exposure, with unobstructed views of the tranquil sinking sun. In addition, this floorplan is designed as a pass-through home that also offers southeast views, which means residents can see both sunsets and sunrises from the comfort of their homes.

More than breathtaking views, each of these residences offers an incredible amount of living space. The "Amazing" layout features three bedrooms and three baths, and measures a generous 2,322 square feet in total interior space, with an additional spacious, 524-square foot terrace.

The "Unique" residence is a three-bedroom plus den, three-bath floorplan that spans 2,935 square feet with an additional 584-square foot terrace that runs 80 linear feet along the side of the entire home, offering its residents a continuous view through floor-to-ceiling glass windows from its every room over the river toward the sunset.

"The width of these units is extraordinary," explains ALLURE Sales and Marketing Director Barbara Bengochea-Perez. "Measuring anywhere from 41 to 80 feet wide, these residences are much wider than the ordinary units in the market, which average anywhere from

27 to 37 feet in width."

Enviably, residence features at ALLURE include porcelain flooring, natural gas ranges, double oven, and quartz countertops in chef-inspired kitchens. All residences feature private entrance elevators, and these two floorplans also include two assigned spaces in a covered garage with 24-hour controlled access.

When complete, the "Amazing" residence layout of this architecturally-stunning building will have a northwest exposure, with unobstructed views of the tranquil sinking sun. In addition, this floorplan is designed as a pass-through home that also offers southeast views, which means residents can see both sunsets and sunrises from the comfort of their homes.

ALLURE also boasts an array of resort-style building amenities: a riverfront promenade; private screening room with theater-style seating; state-of-the-art gym; pool deck with heated cascading infinity-edge pool overlooking the water; rooftop gardens; social gathering rooms with fireplace, billiards, game tables; Bocce Ball and barbecue grills on the rooftop, Pickleball by the pool, and many other luxury features.

ALLURE's prime location in the Historic River District provides residents easy access to over 50 cafes, bars and restaurants. The pedestrian and pet-friendly downtown offers unlimited options for dining and nightlife to suit any taste. Arts and culture abound in the River District where the cobblestone-streets are lined with eclectic boutiques and art galleries, historic landmarks and architecture, museums, and even a professional theater.

A variety of thoughtfully-designed, open floor plans are available including one, two and three-bedroom residences. Prices start from the \$300,000's to over \$1 million. To learn more about ALLURE, call (239) 500-JAXI (5294), Ext. 2 or visit the sales gallery at 1300 Hendry Street in historic downtown. Online at www.AllureLuxuryCondominiums.com. ■

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DECEMBER 2016

THE NAPLES LUXURY HOME REDEFINED

The **HIGH** *life*

Aqua at Pelican Isle penthouse takes owners to new heights

Page 4 ▶



COLLINS & DUPONT / COURTESY PHOTO



Makeover

French country goes bachelor chic

10 ▶



Designer Q&A

Ed Jordan and Dorry Christy of Gary David Designs

2 ▶



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ED JORDAN and DORRY CHRISTY

...of Gary David Designs bring luxury and livability to Southwest Florida

Luxe Living's Michael Korb asks designers Ed Jordan and Dorry Christy of Gary David Designs about their work, their style and their ability to create warm, livable spaces that clients love.

Q: What was one of the first moments you knew you wanted to be an interior designer?

Dorry: I am the product of a long line of Southern women who had as a main priority in life creating a beautiful home for their family. As a child I heard my grandmother talking about having "the decorator" come to her home in Macon, Ga., and I remember my mother working with designers doing beautiful draperies and matching slipcovers and lovely wall coverings in our home in Jacksonville. I was always intrigued by that activity as a child.

Ed: As a child and young adult I was always interested in architecture and art. In my travels I always admired the way beautiful rooms made me feel special. I think that's what drew me to this profession.

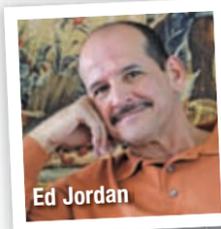
Q: How do you describe your design style/aesthetic?

Dorry: I adore any and all things that have been beautifully designed, from an



Neutral walls, upholstery and window treatments contrast with pops of color from the area rug, accent pillows and wall art. Walnut stained wood flooring adds warmth to the space.

antique cherry chest of drawers to a contemporary Barcelona chair. It's all about knowing how to put items of good taste together in order to meld them so that they



Ed Jordan



Dorry Christy

SEE Q&A, PAGE 16 ▶

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The HIGH *life*

Aqua at Pelican Isle penthouse takes owners to new heights

BY MICHAEL KORB

Florida Weekly Correspondent

There comes a time in most people's lives when they want to simplify. Perhaps they clean out their closets, donate a piece of furniture to Goodwill or sell a car they don't use.

Roma and Bob Michnal went a step further. They sold off a gorgeous beachfront home in Stuart, a large home in Atlanta and a condo in Michigan. Then they sold their 14,000-square-foot home in Mediterra and downsized to a 6,000-square-foot penthouse in Aqua at Pelican Isle, off Vanderbilt Drive in North Naples. You know, to simplify things. And they're loving every minute of it.

"We wanted to be able to travel, so we'd looked at every condo building down here but never found anything that we really, really liked," Mrs. Michnal says. "And then once this building was built and the penthouse was available, we knew this was it."

Thanks to the move, their life is leaner. And in a way, they've come full circle. Before they were married 35 years ago, the duo started a mail-order supplement business from their kitchen table. True, that one-bedroom apartment in Atlanta was a far cry from the literal heights they're experiencing now, but owning and maintaining just one place feels like simpler times.

Yet, the penthouse at Aqua is a three-bedroom, 3½ bath beauty that exudes a warmth and sense of organics you don't see a lot of in Naples. In fact, if not for its stunning views of the Gulf of Mexico,

SEE HIGH LIFE, PAGE 6 ►



The foyer of the penthouse at Aqua at Pelican Isle invites guest to appreciate things as soon as they get off the elevator. A shiplap-covered dropped ceiling floats above, giving a visual cue that directs the eye towards just one of the many spectacular views from the 11th floor. The entryway also features a checkerboard wall that is backlit and seamlessly hides a secret door that leads to the service elevator.



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HIGH LIFE

From page 10

you'd think this place might be in Telluride or Aspen or Squaw Valley. It's a welcome respite from the traditional Mediterranean feel that still has a grip on this area.

"They actually had stacking stone walls at their home in Mediterra," says interior designer Sherri DuPont of Collins & DuPont Design Group, who not only handled the design of this penthouse but also the Michnals' home in Mediterra. "And they wanted to carry that element over, although a lot of those elements — the wood and stone — were mainly used outside at Mediterra. So it's a little different feel. A bit more Polynesian or Californian."

Those elements give the space a glow and natural feel that belies its physical location, some 11 stories above the ground. Even more impressive is that the unit was basically an empty shell when they purchased it a couple of years ago. Aside from cabinetry in the baths, kitchen and laundry, it was a blank slate.

Ms. DuPont worked off of the tones of the existing cabinetry and created nooks and gems just about everywhere — even the 11-foot ceiling.

"Throughout I let the architecture of the space speak to me," the designer says. "Like the ceiling that you see in the living room actually drew from the shape of the room. I added the wood — it's shiplap — in the ceiling to accent the shape and make it a little more casual and keep it grounded. The wood was installed directly onto the slab of the ceiling and we boxed in around it in order to give it more dimension."

In the foyer she used a dropped ceiling that's illuminated from above, creating a dramatic entry featuring glass fire doors.



Sherri DuPont of Collins & DuPont Design Group added floor-to-ceiling cabinets in the master bathroom, above, and had the sheetrock columns behind the tub faux painted to match the surrounding marble. She also designed swooping feature walls to help showcase the owners' marine life bronzes, left. The study, right, was enlarged to include a trophy wall.



In fact, when you arrive at the penthouse and the elevator doors open, you're greeted by a gorgeous backlit checkerboard wall that hides a secret door to the fire staircase and service elevator.

"Trust me, (before) it was the ugliest door you've ever seen," Mr. Michnal says. "So when I saw this feature in a magazine, I said, 'Let's do it.'" And now the foyer is unlike anything else in the building.

And before we get off the ceiling, it should be noted that the wooden beams that you see following the curvature of the building's exterior are actually just boxed out sheetrock that has been faux painted to look like wood. That masterful artistry also took place in the master bathroom. The marble columns that ground the standalone tub are again faux-painted portions of sheetrock. It turns out that when Ms. DuPont wanted to continue the marble up the columns, it was no longer available, forcing the faux paint artist back into action.

Structural changes were kept to a minimum, but because Mr. Michnal wanted a fireplace in the living room, Ms. DuPont moved the wall it would be on in order to have it face the seating area a bit better. That move gave more space in the study. And because there were no gas lines in the living room, Ms. DuPont used a hologram fireplace, which is the very definition of slick. "They're quite nice now," she says.

So now the Michnals can sit back and relax in the living room, enjoying the glow of the fireplace and still glance out at the lights of the marina below. "You know, that's the thing we really didn't like about living on the beach — at night it's pitch black out there," Mrs. Michnal says.

"But here, we see the lights of the marina and waterway below," Mr. Michnal adds. "It's just beautiful."

"There is absolutely nothing in this condo that we would change," he adds. "We love every inch of it." ■

— Collins & DuPont Design Group
296 14th Ave. S., Naples
948-2400; www.collins-dupont.com

—Aqua at Pelican Isle
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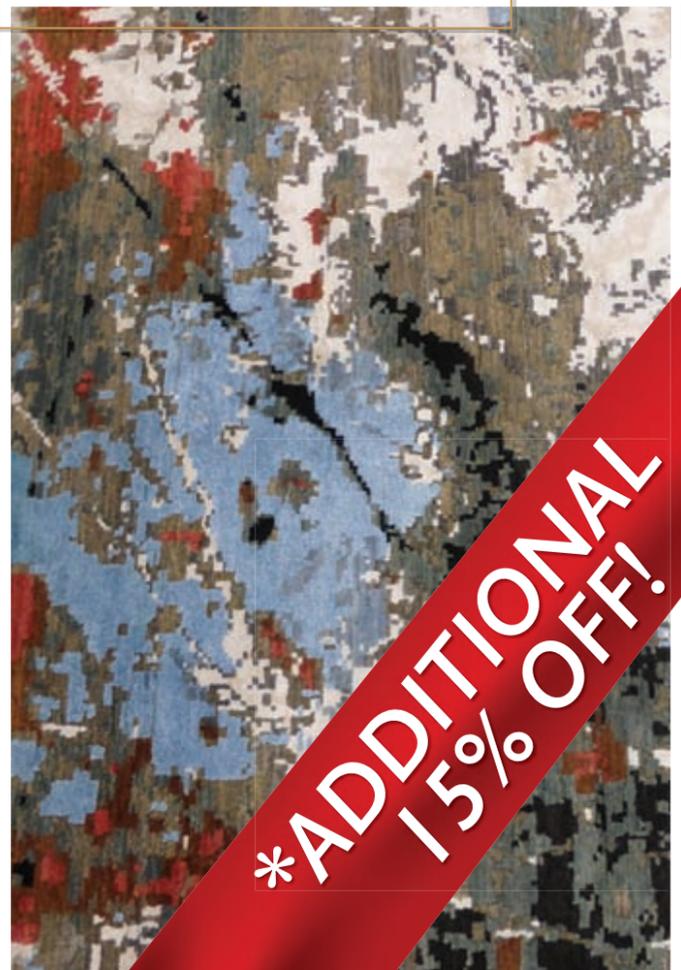
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A study in contrasts

Little Palm Design Group helps turn a French country traditional into an awesome, rockin' bachelor pad

BY MICHAEL KORB

Florida Weekly Correspondent

Black/white. North/south. Conservative/liberal. These are widely held notions of opposites. We might want to add the complete transformation of this single-family home on Neapolitan Way to the mix.

When the home was purchased a couple of years ago fully furnished, its interior design was euphemistically French country — replete with rooster statuary. But when the owner, a newly divorced businessman in his mid-50s from Ohio, decided to renovate, he called custom homebuilder 41 West, who promptly called Little Palm Design Group.

His request? Make it awesome. And did they ever.

"It was very dated," says interior designer Kirsten Workinger, who works with principal designer Dawn Harmon on Little Palm. "Seriously, there were a lot of roosters and French country antique furniture all over. ... We believe at some point there was an addition that made it feel very choppy. In fact, the whole home needed remodeling."

Other than one guest bedroom and the travertine flooring, everything got changed. It is now unashamedly one of the premier bachelor pads in town.

"It's definitely geared toward 'guy,'" Ms. Workinger says. "He wanted it very contemporary. He wanted it to have a lot of contrast. He liked the idea of light floors with dark wood, and he is very much into chrome and bubbly champagne. He wanted it to be sexy and chic

... a very cool spot to entertain, which he does a lot."

The design concept began taking shape while picking tile. The owner spotted the blue tile that now makes up the focal wall of the powder room. He told Ms. Workinger he loved it and to figure out where they could use it.

The porcelain tile with a gemstone print onto it comes in four different 36-inch by 72-inch panels. "We literally used all four panels to do the wall, so it looks like you have a real type of precious stone on your wall, but it's not," says Ms. Workinger. The mirror floats in front of it and is backlit.

It makes the powder room feel like a jewel box. And that vibe carries into the kitchen, which, if you can believe, was once very traditional with yellow walls, dark cabinets and granite.

SEE MAKEOVER, PAGE 12 ►

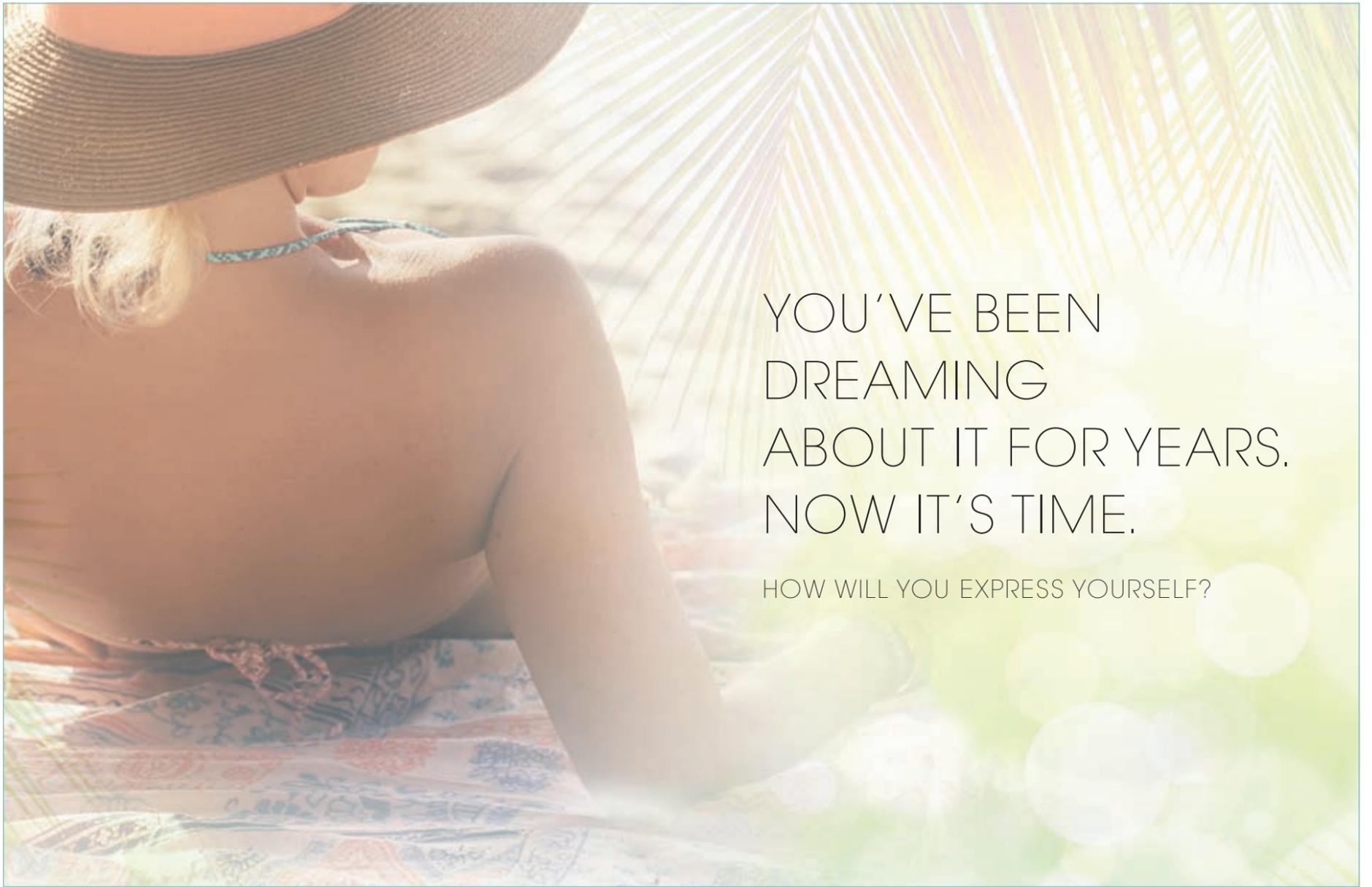


Above: Overlooking Venetian Village, the living room previously embraced a relaxed French country vibe. The recently-single homeowner, a bachelor, asked Little Palm Design Group to make it sexy and chic. Plenty of chrome and luxurious textures now make it perfect for entertaining.



Right: The powder room off the living room used to be forgettable. But when the homeowner found this gemstone print porcelain tile, it not only made the room a showstopper, it set the tone for the entire house.





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MAKEOVER

From page 10

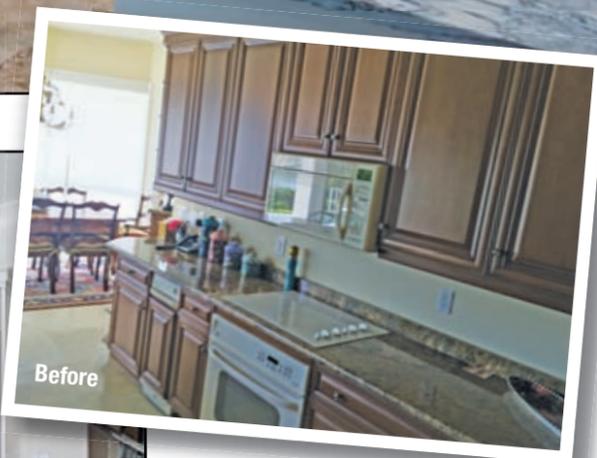
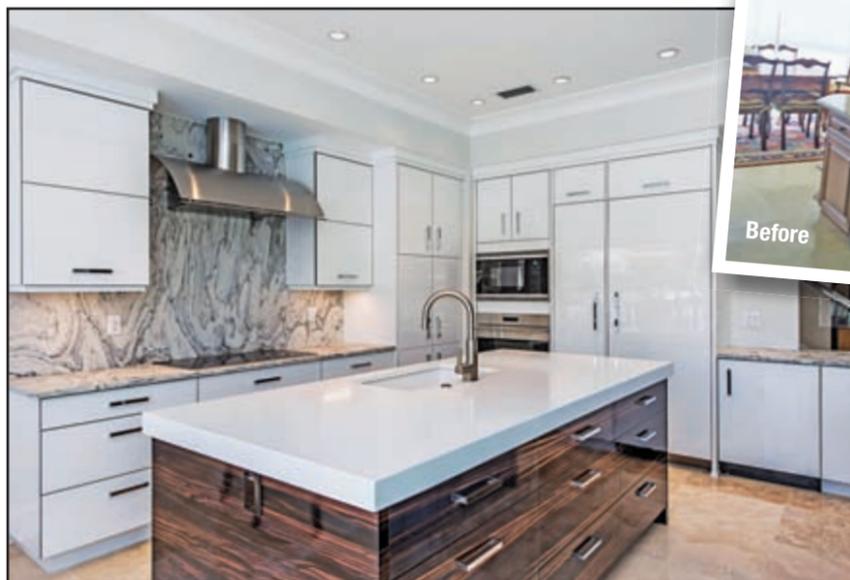
“With roosters,” Ms. Workinger adds. “Then we had this idea to do an interesting wood veneer on the islands, again creating that contrast he likes. 41 West’s woodworking shop had a zebra wood that when stained with a clear coat gives you that line effect that has a lot of movement and character.”

The trend continues into the expansive living room, where texture rules. The old arches and fireplace were removed and upgraded to a plaster modular panel fitted with a 72-inch linear fireplace flanked by niches upholstered with a navy blue wallpaper that sparkles when light hits it.

“I think with everything said and done, it turned out exactly as we imagined,” the designer says. “It’s very with the times, but also classic. I think he can easily live with this for 10 to 15 years.” ■

— Little Palm Design Group
9051 N. Tamiami Trail, No. 102
598-2001
www.littlepalmdesigngroup.com

— 41 West
1250 Ninth St. N., Unit 201
208-6530; www.41west.com



Above: Talk about going from bland to bling. The kitchen was a pale yellow being swallowed by a sea of brown cabinets and granite. Now it features two islands wrapped in high gloss zebra wood veneer and topped with white quartz surfaces. The high-gloss cabinets work perfectly against the leathered granite backsplash.

COURTESY PHOTOS



What was a very traditional fireplace built-in with dated arches, above, became a streamlined conversation piece with plastered modular paneling surrounding a 72-inch linear fireplace, right. The balanced niches feature navy wallpaper that sparkles under light.



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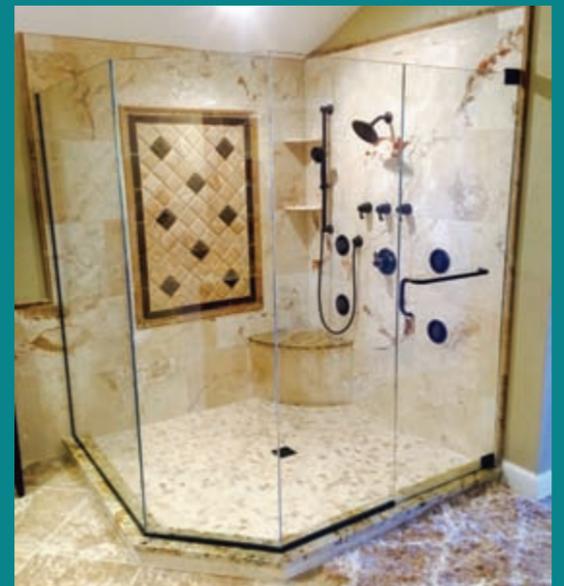
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MH2G brings clean lines, modern look to Southwest Florida

BY MICHAEL KORB

Florida Weekly Correspondent

When you think of Naples, “modern” is not the first word to come to mind. After all, for what seems like an eternity we’ve romanticized Mediterranean and traditional furnishings above all others. And only recently have we begun to embrace coastal contemporary.

But the times they are a-changin’ and the modernist vibe so firmly rooted on the east coast has started to sprout locally with the arrival of Modern Home 2 Go (MH2G). If you have a penchant for sleek, clean, minimalist lines, this is a store you need to check out.

“We believe that modern doesn’t have to be super expensive or that you should have to wait 16 weeks for pieces to come from all over the world,” says store manager Brett Cary. About 75 percent of the showroom’s offerings are in stock, which means delivery time on average for Naples is about a week, he adds. The warehouse and outlet is in Miami Gardens, but the store also has locations in the design districts in

Miami, Fort Lauderdale and Doral.

Inventory runs the gamut from mid-century pieces to Italian-style sofas and even live-edge natural wood pieces that are juxtaposed with stainless steel and glass, bending the genre from rustic to modern.

“It’s not all that sleek, cold modern,” Mr. Cary says. “We’ve warmed it up a bit.”

The Naples store itself is set up in little vignettes so it doesn’t feel crowded or cold. The staff offers espresso or water to visitors as soon as they walk in. Mr. Cary says it’s like “walking into the house of a good friend” — albeit one whose furniture still has price tags on it.

“We also offer very competitive design services,” Mr. Cary adds. “It can be as simple as you bring in a floor plan and we sit and help you figure out the layout for the room.

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The furniture is almost exclusively MH2G design private label. With a few



One of MH2G’s more popular dining tables is the Osimo. A conversation piece unto itself, it incorporates a mass of small pieces of driftwood under a glass top, supported by stainless steel legs.



exceptions, you’re not going to see these pieces at other stores.

“Our version of the Barcelona chair (the Catalunya) is priced very well and sells rapidly,” Mr. Cary says, adding the chair is “a staple piece for any modern company.”

One of the company’s most interesting dining tables, the Osimo, is made out of driftwood with stainless steel legs and a glass top. “It’s been a big seller since we introduced it 2½ years ago.”

Overall, it’s safe to say MH2G is glad to be in Naples.

“The whole reason we came over is that we were getting so many people driving over to our other stores from Naples saying, ‘There’s no modern in Naples,’” Mr. Cary says.

Well, no longer. It looks like we’ve finally embraced the modern. ■

Modern design has finally moved to the west coast. MH2G has added a store in Naples, top, to compliment its three east coast locations. The attractive Savelli modern outdoor sofa set, above, features a contrasting wide-band woven wicker design that is made of eco-friendly polyethylene and reinforced with aluminum tubular frame. Its fabric cushions are water resistant and washable.

— MH2G

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Q&A

From page 2

compliment each other. That is my calling card: tasteful, timeless, beautiful interiors. It takes a skilled hand and a discerning eye. And that’s what you get when you hire a capable designer.

Ed: Actually, my goal has always been to try to avoid having a specific style. Of course, it’s impossible to avoid having a certain influence in the look of a finished project, but I prefer to interpret what my clients envision in my work.

Q: What do you look for when you first walk into a home?

Dorry: The openness of the rooms, the light, the ceiling height and any features that might be able to be used to play an integral part. As a designer, I always, first and foremost, consider the likes and dislikes of my client ... When all is said and done, my job is to make sure that they love their interior.

Ed: Some jobs involve going into a home that is already furnished but that



Sleek custom-designed cabinets in cream lacquer beautifully contrast with the split face travertine that covers the fireplace feature wall.

the clients want to complete or update. Once I understand the scope of the work, I determine what improvements are required and make suggestions about what elements need to be replaced.

Q: Talk a little about your background. How long have you been a designer?

Dorry: I graduated from FSU in 1974 with a bachelor of arts in interior design. In 1978 I passed the NCIDQ (National Council for Interior Design Qualification), making me eligible to become a Professional Member of American Society of Interior Designers. I guess that puts me at four decades of interior design work. Believe me, it’s flown by.

Ed: My background is in art history and the romance languages. This is tied to my love of travel, architecture and fine art. I’ve been a licensed interior designer working in Southwest Florida for more than 30 years.

— Gary David Designs

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NAPLES



Gorgeous Golf Course Condo
Beautiful 3rd floor, end-unit at Forest Glen in Naples. From this unit, you can sit in your screened lanai to enjoy.
\$229,900
1-866-657-2300 800FM072388.

FORT MYERS



Golf Condo
2 bedroom 2 bath in condo in Fort Myers.
\$225,000
1-866-657-2300 800FM066217.

CAPE CORAL



4/4 Duplex
Great investment opportunity just minutes away from downtown Cape Coral.
\$225,000
1-866-657-2300 800CC065748.

LEHIGH ACRES



Spacious Newly Renovated Pool Home
This spacious pool home is tiled throughout with new carpet in the bedrooms.
\$219,900
1-866-657-2300 890LE072673.

CAPE CORAL



Direct Gulf Access 3/2 Condo
Rare 3/2 Condo, 1 car garage with extra room for storage, over 1600 sqft. Walking distance to Jaycee Park.
\$219,900
1-866-657-2300 800CC041119.

CAPE CORAL



Cape Coral
Upgrades & unique amenities! 2 master suites, fireplace, brand new in-ground pool, lanai, newer roof.
\$219,900
1-866-657-2300 800CC073857.

LEHIGH ACRES



Golfers Dream
Golfers dream-location-location beautiful 3 bed home just under 1800 sqft, upgraded laminate, tile floors carpet in bedrooms.
\$214,900
1-866-657-2300 890LE037906.

PORT CHARLOTTE



Nice Single Family 2/2
Very nice Suncoast Lakes community with nice peaceful view of big lake. Pool home with screened lanai.
\$209,900
1-866-657-2300 800CH228529.

SERVING THESE LOCATIONS: BURNT STORE MARINA • CAPE CORAL • CHARLOTTE HARBOR
FORT MYERS • LEHIGH ACRES • PINE ISLAND • BONITA • NAPLES

VISIT WWW.C21SUNBELT.COM TO VIEW ALL AVAILABLE LISTINGS!



Call 866-657-2300



LEHIGH ACRES



Beautiful New 2016 Home 3+ Den/2/2
Are you looking for that dream home? Nothing beats brand new. You will be this home's first owner!
\$209,500
850LE069732.
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



Beautiful 3 Bed 2 Bath 2 Car Garage
Beautiful 3 bed 2 bath 2 car garage home located in central Cape Coral. Quiet Location, Great location.
\$199,000
800CC064320.
1-866-657-2300

LEHIGH ACRES



Half Acre 3+Den Home in Lehigh Acres
Half acre 3+ den home in Lehigh Acres. Over 2,000 sqft.
\$199,000
800CC067850.
1-866-657-2300

LEHIGH ACRES



Best location in Lehigh Acres
Best location in Lehigh Acres! It offers three bedrooms, two baths. This home has two living rooms.
\$195,000
800FM060768.
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



Concordia Condo Living at it's Best
Beautiful Concordia 3/2 condo w/many upgrades and well maintained located in well sought after complex. Low maintenance fees.
\$192,500
800CC046187.
1-866-657-2300

LEHIGH ACRES



4 Bedrooms in West Lehigh
Lovely 4 bedroom 2 bath home with 2 car garage. All tile floors and brand new kitchen cabinets and counter tops.
\$189,900
890LE056226.
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



Cape Coral
Sought-after "Sandoval" 1st floor end unit. Condo overlooking Lake! 2 bed + den, 2 bath, garage & Lanai, fabulous resort-style.
\$182,900
800CC065838.
1-866-657-2300

NAPLES



Executive Condo in Positano Place
1/1 Ground floor unit is fully furnished and ready to go. Pool, clubhouse, & lake views. Gorgeous decor! Low fees.
\$178,900
890NA012562.
1-866-657-2300

NAPLES



2 Bed 2 Bath In Desirable North Naples
Gorgeous lake and pool view 2/2 light, bright, updated and immaculately clean. Being sold turnkey.
\$175,000
800NA023727.
1-866-657-2300

ESTERO



Bella Terra 2+1/2 with Carport and Storage
Bella Terra 2+1/2 with carport and storage.
\$175,000
800BS064194.
1-866-657-2300

FORT MYERS



Stunning Whiskey Creek Villa
This is a must see 3 bedroom/2 bath/1 car garage villa. Rarely available, but here it is! 1848 sqft.
\$175,000
800FM068988.
1-866-657-2300

FORT MYERS



1st Floor Veranda with Great Lakeview
Kelly Greens 2/2 Veranda condo with garage on lake with great view!
\$174,900
800FM072489.
1-866-657-2300

LEHIGH ACRES



Great 3/2 + Den Home in Lehigh Acres
Spacious 3/2 + den in a desirable area of Lehigh Acres in Mirror Lakes Subdivision. Home has tile throughout.
\$169,000
800CC059590.
1-866-657-2300

OPEN SAT & SUN 10-2PM

382 Claridge Cir

CAPE CORAL



Well Maintained Furnished 2/2
Well cared for 2 bedroom, 2 bath centrally located Cape Coral home. Mostly furnished. Landscaped fenced yard w/fruit trees.
\$159,900
800CC067687.
1-866-657-2300

FORT MYERS



2 Bed/2 Bath Single Family Home off McGregor
Quaint 2 bed/2 bath home with good bones. Gorgeous Royal Palms in front yard. Located just off McGregor.
\$150,000
800FM070148.
1-866-657-2300

LEHIGH ACRES



Calling all Investors!!
This well-maintained 3/2/2 is just steps away from Harns Marsh Elementary, close to Sunshine and Sunniland.
\$149,000
800LE010164.
1-866-657-2300

LEHIGH ACRES



Great Listing-3 Bedroom 2 Bath Home
Screen porch, security system, 2 car garage. Close to 82. 3 bed, 2 bath unit for the perfect home owner to move in.
\$145,000
800LE064697.
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



Salt Water Access in a Great Neighborhood
Located in a over 55, well maintained complex on a quiet street, this 2 bed, bath condo offers all the amenities you expect.
\$140,000
800CC064262.
1-866-657-2300

FORT MYERS



Up-to-date Condo
2 bedroom 2 bath + Den. Golf view!
1-866-657-2300
\$139,450
800FM067291.

NORTH FORT MYERS



Affordable Condo in North Ft Myers
Newly updated 2 bed 2 bath condo. Active neighborhood with walking trails. Convenient location to downtown and shopping.
\$124,500
800CC067140.
1-866-657-2300

PORT CHARLOTTE



Beautiful 2/2/ Home on Dorchester Waterway
Fish from your own backyard in this cute 2 bed 2 bath 1 car garage home on the Dorchester Waterway! New roof, a/c.
\$121,900
800CH230981.
1-866-657-2300

LEHIGH ACRES



Spacious 2 Bed 2 Bath in Central Lehigh
This spacious 2/2/1 home has tons to offer. Property has screened foyer to front door, split bedrooms, back lanai.
\$120,000
800LE050457.
1-866-657-2300

SERVING THESE LOCATIONS: BURNT STORE MARINA • CAPE CORAL • CHARLOTTE HARBOR
FORT MYERS • LEHIGH ACRES • PINE ISLAND • BONITA • NAPLES

CALL 866-657-2300 TO SCHEDULE YOUR SHOWING!



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PORT CHARLOTTE



Beautiful Condo in Port Charlotte
Beautiful 3 bedroom & 2 bath condo with 2 under building parking places. Turnkey furnished come see it!
\$115,000
1-866-657-2300 800CH228167.

LEHIGH ACRES



Lehigh Acres
Great starter home for a first time buyer or perfect opportunity for an investor. Home has been completely renovated.
\$104,500
1-866-657-2300 800BS062766.

PORT CHARLOTTE



2/1 Waterfront Home in Port Charlotte
Five minutes to the open water of the Myakka and Charlotte Harbor. Furnished, with appliances.
\$89,900
1-866-657-2300 800CH229396.

NORTH FORT MYERS



Affordable Opportunity
For the 55 and over crowd.
\$79,900
1-866-657-2300 800FM054954.

FORT MYERS



Great Fort Myers Location
Ground floor unit, across the parking lot from the community pool. Convenient to shopping and the beaches.
\$69,990
1-866-657-2300 800CC057566.

PORT CHARLOTTE



2/2 Condominium in Port Charlotte
This 1st floor 2 bedroom 2 bath condo has so much to offer. Laminate wood flooring. Come see it!
\$69,900
1-866-657-2300 800CH232813.

FORT MYERS



Winkler Ave Area Condo
Freshly painted 2 bedroom 2 bath condo in a convenient area close to the corner of Winkler and Metro.
\$62,900
1-866-657-2300 800FM003985.

NORTH FORT MYERS



2/2 Furnished/Turn Key
Affordable retirement or second home. 55+ Community where you own the land. Low maintenance fees and well maintained.
\$48,900
1-866-657-2300 800CC048247.

Southwest Florida Signature Collection >

A SELECTION OF EXEMPLARY HOMES.

VIEW ALL OUR LUXURY HOMES INCLUDING PHOTO GALLERIES AT **C21SUNBELT.COM**

FORT MYERS BEACH



Ft. Myers Beach Bayfront Home
Over 5,000 sqft with a private boat dock! One of a kind home on the bay.
\$1,799,000
1-866-657-2300 800FM033960.

FORT MYERS



Ft. Myers Contemporary Estate Home
This is a two story estate home has been totally remodeled.
\$1,699,000
1-866-657-2300 800FM022494.

CAPE CORAL



Better Than New Construction
Gorgeous gulf access home located on 200+ ft canal in popular neighborhood south of Cape Coral Pkwy. Stunning views!
\$899,900
1-866-657-2300 800CC065142.

CAPE CORAL



Gorgeous 4+ Den 3 Bath 3 Car Garage
Spacious custom pool home 4 bed + den 3.5 baths 3 car garage canal gulf access.
\$799,900
1-866-657-2300 800FM063531.

CAPE CORAL



Direct Sailboat Access Home Across From Cape Harbour
Better than new construction!! This home is located in the most desirable neighborhood of Cape Coral.
\$799,000
1-866-657-2300 800CC019327.

CAPE CORAL



Views! Views! Views!
Exceptional opportunity to purchase a corner cul-de-sac home with wide intersecting canal views, a boater's dream.
\$795,000
1-866-657-2300 800BS071278.

FORT MYERS



Riverfront Equestrian Estate
Located on the Orange River with 2 homes, barn, dressage facilities with the equestrian in mind. You will fall in love!
\$780,000
1-866-657-2300 800FM031273.

PORT CHARLOTTE



Colonial Style Home on Sailboat Water in Port Charlotte
Immaculate 2 story colonial designed home on sailboat water in Port Charlotte. Sailboat frontage and beach access!
\$575,000
1-866-657-2300 800CH232214.

CAPE CORAL



Exquisite Gulf Access Pool Home
This gorgeous 2 story home offers 2251 sqft of paradise living with 3 bed 3 bath 3 car garage + bonus room!
\$569,000
1-866-657-2300 800CC062342.

CAPE CORAL



Beautiful Southern Exposure Gulf Access
Beautiful 3/2 + den, pool home located in unit 69. Cape Harbour, dining & shopping, and turnkey.
\$549,000
1-866-657-2300 800CC038865.

CAPE CORAL



5781 Cape Harbour Dr #1509
Penthouse Corner Unit in Cape Harbour
Spectacular view. Wide open floor plan. 2 bedroom professionally furnished and decorated and ready to move in.
\$534,900
1-866-657-2300 800CC068457.

FORT MYERS



Carillon Woods
Sprawling home with 4 bed/4 bath/2 car oversized garage & caged pool. 2861 sqft under air! Many new updates.
\$519,900
1-866-657-2300 800FM067288.



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A NAME YOU CAN TRUST TO SELL YOUR HOME
BARBARA M. WATT FOUNDED CENTURY 21 SUNBELT REALTY IN 1984

BARBARA M. WATT
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CORNERSTONE

Exceeding Expectations
SINCE 1988

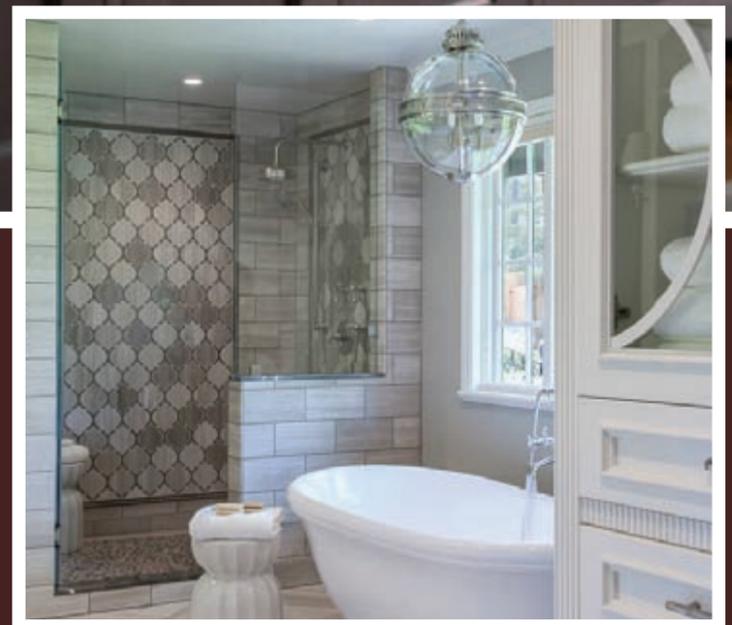
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GIVE US THE OPPORTUNITY TO

WOW You!



DREAM KITCHENS | LUXURIOUS BATHROOMS
COMPLETE REMODEL | FLOORING | CABINETS



TONY, SR.
Owner

OUR PROMISE

From kitchen and bath remodeling to custom closets and cabinetry to complete home remodeling, Cornerstone Builders of Southwest Florida can turn the vision for your home into reality.

No Deposit Ever Required to start your project and you receive a lifetime material warranty on all products we manufacture, for as long as you own your home.

CORNERSTONE EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS

THE PERFECT COUNTERTOP IS THE FINAL TOUCH



KITCHEN
HEART OF EVERY HOUSEHOLD

Granite | Quartz | Solid Surface

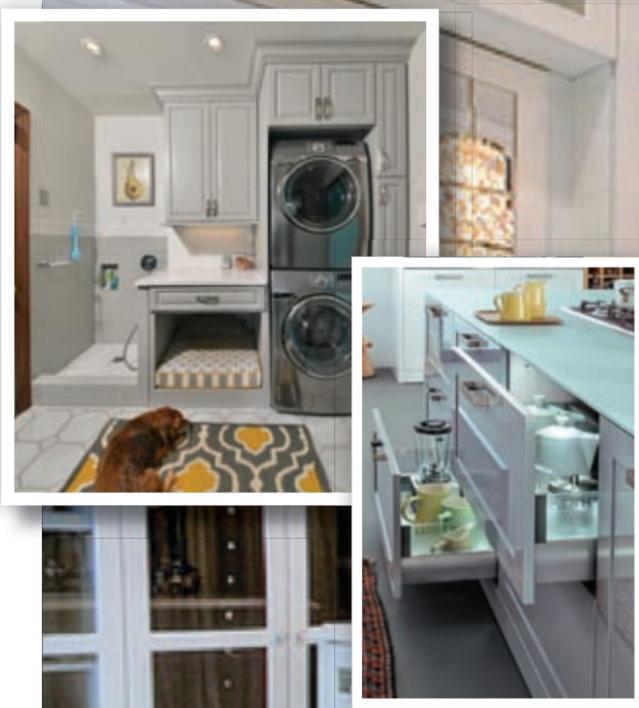
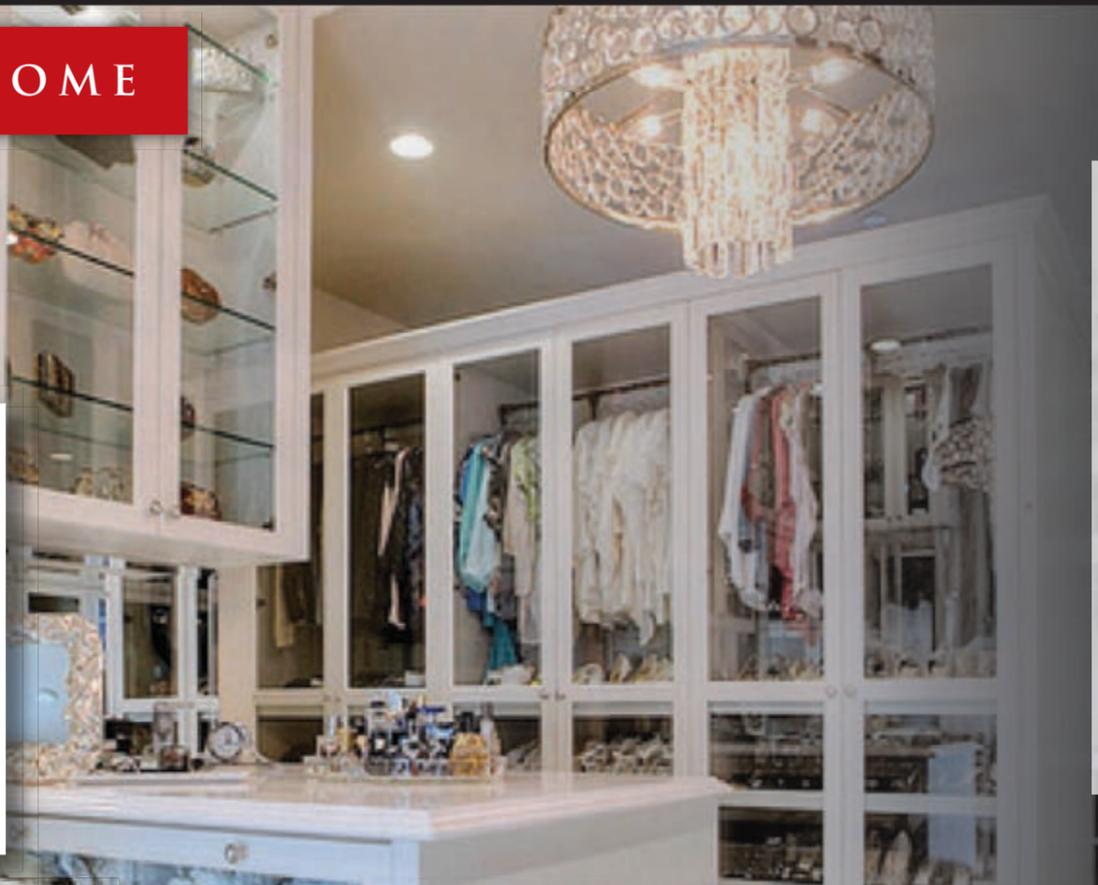
GRANITE has thousands of years. Granite protects against scratches, stains and an endless variety of textures. Each slab is unique, a masterpiece.

QUARTZ countertop is a stone formed by combining natural stone, polymers and pigments. It's a durable surface.

SOLID SURFACE offers a wide range of colors and patterns, many of which are found in granite or quartz. It's a beautiful alternative to natural stone with low maintenance.

THERE IS NOT ONE SOLUTION FOR ONE SIZE FITS ALL

ORGANIZE YOUR HOME



KITCHEN Transform your kitchen to create a multifunctional space.

LIVING SPACE Enhance your living space with architectural presence.

OFFICE It's easy to create an office. Get control of your space and create a welcoming environment.

MULTI-USE Transform your bedroom into a multi-use space by creating a laundry room or a closet providing multiple functions.

CLOSETS Get the most out of your closet with our collaboration with our designers.

3 Decades OF REMODELING EXPERIENCE ENABLES US

TATIONS

Since 1988!



has been used as a building material for decades. Its surface is diamond-hard. It is resistant to mold and mildew, resists heat, stains, and acids and is very durable. There are many textures, colors and patterns. Each granite is a masterpiece of nature.

Countertops are man-made engineered surfaces combining 94% ground quartz with resins, pigments, and dyes. This forms a hard, granite-like surface.

FACE Available in many colors and patterns, some of which are modeled on the patterns of natural marble. A solid surface countertop is a great alternative to pricier materials and require less maintenance.



IS REFACING THE BEST SOLUTION FOR YOU?

REFACING

WHAT IS REFACING?

All Old Doors, Drawer Fronts and Hinges are Removed.

New Custom Doors, Drawer Fronts, Hinges and Hardware are Installed.

All of the Existing Cabinets are Laminated to Match Your New Color Selection



LIFETIME WARRANTY ON ALL PRODUCTS THAT CORNERSTONE BUILDERS OF SW FLORIDA MANUFACTURE AS LONG AS YOU OWN YOUR HOME

SPACE BUT A MULTITUDE OF POSSIBILITIES

REMODEL

MAKE A FRESH START WITH OUR TEAM

The best kitchens have smart planning and are functional, efficient and aesthetically exciting.

SPACE Invest in built-ins to give your home more space as well as an organized appearance.

Don't let papers pile up in your home or clutter your space with an efficient space planning solution.

LAUNDRY Turn your laundry room into a space! Our designers are experts on creating a room that is an efficient and well designed space with multiple solutions.

It started with one-on-one closet design and has evolved into our experienced design team.



Electrical | Flooring | Carpentry | Plumbing | Design

TO PROVIDE THE BEST SERVICE AND CRAFTSMENSHIP IN SWFL!

Q & A

THE CORNERSTONE HOME REMODEL

Frequently asked home remodeling questions and answers put together to help you in your remodel planning.

Our focus is to make this process painless for our remodeling clients.

Can I meet with one of your designers for a free estimate and to discuss my remodeling project?

One of our designers would be happy to meet with you to discuss your project at your home or at one of our Design Center Showrooms. During that meeting our designer will share preliminary ideas for your remodel and give you an estimate of the budget range.

How do you begin planning the remodel?

To ensure the best remodel with the fewest issues we begin with a design phase. By investing the time to consider all of the details, including the impact on your project's budget, it greatly reduces the likelihood of costly surprises. We always start with our design phase to ensure that we create the best overall plan that works for our clients.

What goes into the design phase?

We start by asking you questions about how you and your family use your kitchen, bathroom or other living space you want to remodel. We need to know what is important to you. If you have a wish list, please share that. For example, if you have gathered photos of kitchens or a master bedroom suite you admire, we would like to see them. We want to see your home and your project through your eyes so that we can add our expertise to the mix and develop the best design for you.

What is the Florida Regulations of Contractors and why is it important to hire a licensed contractor?

The State of Florida construction licensing regulatory agency is Per Florida State Statute, all contractors must be licensed to perform any type of construction work. A business license is not the same as a contracting license. By not hiring a licensed contractor, you run the risk of being scammed and not having recourse should there be a problem with your project. Cornerstone Builders of Southwest Florida is appropriately licensed and carries



the required insurance workers compensation and bonds.

Can you provide references?

Upon request we will provide contact information for clients who have had similar projects completed.

Do I need to board my pets while my home is being remodeled?

It depends on whether your pets can handle the disruption of their favorite napping spots and on the size and length of your project. We have found that most of our clients do not need to board their pets.

How much will my home life be disrupted during the process?

Most of our clients remain in their homes during the

process. We do all we can to minimize disrupting your life as much as possible.

How early in the morning does the crew work?

We can accommodate most schedules. We typically start the day between 7:00 am and 8:00 am.

Does someone need to be home at all times during construction?

No. Being present during the remodel is not necessary. We remodel homes for people whose primary residences are out of state. We can keep you apprised of the progress of your project via videos and photos.



ABOUT US

Our team of designers and construction managers carefully determine the full

scope of each project, providing space planning and utilizing our 28 years of experience to ensure that each client's lifestyle is blended with the newest technology and design available.

Cornerstone Builders of Southwest Florida provides solutions that align with your goals and budget.

We require **NO Deposit** to began the job and provide a lifetime warranty on materials we manufacture as long as you own your home.

GIVE US THE
OPPORTUNITY TO
WOW You!
Over 20,000
Satisfied Clients!

INTERESTED IN SCHEDULING A FREE IN-HOME CONSULTATION?

Just let us know, and we will schedule a consultation with one of our design specialists.

FORT MYERS SHOWROOM

239.332.3020 14680 S. Tamiami Trail

Monday-Saturday 9:00am to 5:00pm • Evening Appts Available

NAPLES SHOWROOM

239.332.3020 7700 Trail Blvd. N.

Monday-Saturday 10:00am to 4:00pm • Evening Appts Available

Coming Soon!

MARCO ISLAND SHOWROOM

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