

NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY®

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WEEK OF APRIL 27-MAY 3, 2017

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INSIDE: The 10 top attorneys filing AOB lawsuits in Florida. **A8**

6,863

Percentage increase of assignment of benefits lawsuits in Florida from 2006 to 2016.

10

The average percent homeowners' premiums could rise each year due to assignment of benefits.

28,200

Assignment of benefits lawsuits in Florida in 2016. In 2006, there were 405.

A Florida law grants license to STEAL

Attorneys and contractors are using the law to squeeze inflated homeowners insurance claims from insurance companies, causing premiums to surge and endangering the state's catastrophic insurer. For years now, lawmakers have been unable to agree on a fix while the state Office of Insurance Regulation warns the problem continues to get worse.

BY EVAN WILLIAMS
ewilliams@floridaweekly.com

THE COST OF HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE in Florida, already about twice the national average, will continue to rise thanks to plaintiffs' attorneys who work with contractors to exploit loopholes in laws that allows them to cash in on inflated claims, the state Office of Insurance Regulation has found.

Meanwhile, lawmakers in Tallahassee who have been aware of the problem for several years have so far failed to pass legislation to stop it.

"The unscrupulous guys are turning a small water leak under a kitchen cabinet into a \$30,000 kitchen for people," said Robert Norberg, vice president of Lantana-based Arden Insurance Associates and president of Independent Insur-

SEE FRAUD, **A8** ▶

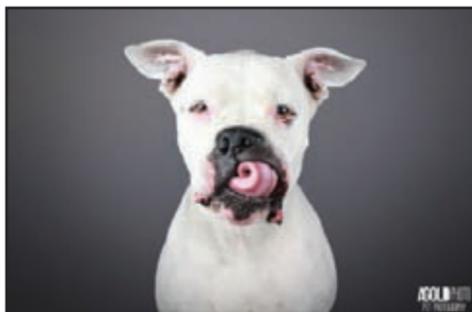
Photographer goes to the dogs for Humane Society Naples

BY LINDSEY NESMITH
lnesmith@floridaweekly.com

All dog owners do it. We get nose-to-nose with our four-legged best friend and in that special "dog talk" voice beg the question: "Who's the best boy in the world?"

Wouldn't you love to have a portrait of that extreme close-up of your canine companion's wet snout, wide eyes and goofy face just bursting with love and admiration for you?

And wouldn't you love it even more if acquiring such a fun picture of your furry friend would help Humane Society Naples in its mission to find forever homes for hundreds of abandoned or stray animals every year?



ADAM GOLDBERG / COURTESY PHOTO

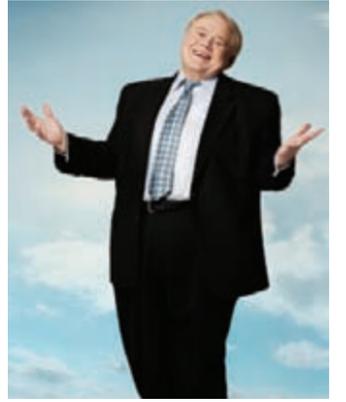
HSN makes it easy for you to make that happen by bringing pet photographer Adam Goldberg to Momentum Brewhouse for por-

trait sessions from 1-5 p.m. Sunday, May 7. For \$125 — 50 percent of which he'll donate to HSN — Mr. Goldberg will employ barking noises and peanut butter as he comes camera lens-to-snout with your pooch to capture five frames of the furry face you love.

Mr. Goldberg came to pet photography after he was hired to manage the website for Humane Society of Broward County. He had no photography experience, but his duties required him to take kennel photos of shelter animals to entice people to adopt them. The "crazy demon eyes" that flash photography tended to produce didn't show the adoptable animals in the best light, so he trained himself to take more flattering photos to post on the

SEE DOGS, **A12** ▶

INSIDE



What he does best

Louie Anderson brings his stand-up act to Off the Hook. **C1** ▶



Here to help

Collier Resource Center connects people with needed services, and more Networking photos. **B7-8** ▶



Free admission

Visit Historic Palm Cottage and The Norris Gardens on Saturday, April 29. **A6** ▶



Credit reality check?

Big change in reporting likely will affect your score. **B1** ▶

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COMMENTARY

Losing Bill Cornwell



rogerWILLIAMS
rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

Like a gunfighter who could shoot with both hands, Bill Cornwell mastered the two most coveted skills in writing: On the one hand, he gave you clarity, simplicity and telling detail harnessed effortlessly to a compelling story. On the other, he served up an intimate charm and wit typically associated with great conversationalists, somehow magically conveyed in print.

Southern writers don't own those tandem skills. But a conversational eloquence impossible without them frequently appears in the words of the best Southern writers.

So it was with Bill, our maverick friend and colleague. He stepped out of the world at 68 last week, departing his native Georgia without so much as a by-your-leave. His death was sudden and natural, his family said. So was the trail of tears and broken hearts he left behind.

Bill was one of the best in a generation of good and even great writing journalists. Why wasn't he more famous? I don't know. But Thomas Gray's 18th century poem, "Elegy in a Country Churchyard," offers one explanation: "Full many a flower is born to blush unseen and waste its sweetness on

the desert air."

In truth that's not what happened to Bill, at least not in American newsrooms dating from the 1970s. He was celebrated by many who worked with him at various newspapers as the finest they ever knew in journalism.

"I sat next to Bill at the *St. Pete Times* in the early 1980s," recalled Ardith Hilliard in a Facebook post last week. "We were friends from then on. He wasn't easy but he was worth it. One of the great Southern writers who could put all of us to shame on any day of the week. He once told me he liked a story of mine so much that he'd wished he'd written it. To this day that is the most cherished comment of my career."

When you read Bill Cornwell you might as well be communing with him over a glass of apple juice or a tumbler of whiskey, an experience the Rev. Jesse Jackson lucked into on his presidential campaign trail in 1983. At the time, Bill had been assigned to follow Jackson for 17 days, a duty he recounted in a February 2016, story, "Southern Raised." (http://fortmyers.floridaweekly.com/news/2016-02-10/Top_News/Southern_Raised.html).

His editors put a white Southern storyteller on the trail of a black Southern politician. Both men had been fired like artillery shells from the cannons of their shared history — the South. That fact proved both a burden and a vestment each wore proudly, a thing inescapable, like mortality.



BILL CORNWELL

Now, Bill has stepped into the lexicon of living we call "The Past," characterized this way by another Southern writer, William Faulkner: "The past is never dead. It's not even past."

His past included war heroes and die-hard Southerners dating back to a time before the Civil War. Bill carried both grace and courage like his forebears, but perhaps with more modesty; he would have been mortified by such praise spoken in his presence.

His great-grandfather served the Confederacy with bloody valor, passing down his sword to generations of family scions. Bill's son, William Cornwell, a professor of philosophy at Salem State University in Massachusetts, now owns it.

Bill's father, meanwhile, a retired Army colonel, was a World War II hero and Atlanta banker at once brilliant, gallant and unrepentant about the history of the South, Bill told us.

Here's how he once described his beloved parents and the heritage that enlisted him at birth:

"A word about my mother, Mildred Estell Hall Cornwell, a lover of poetry and language who died in 1968 at the age of 58. She came from a sensible Southern family. Her father was a doctor in Atlanta who pioneered the use of radium in treating cancer. She shared little of my father's Confederate zeal and seemed to view his effusions with a mixture of bemusement and good-natured indignation. Shortly before their marriage, her future mother-in-law, my grandmother, told her: 'You've got to understand one thing about the Cornwell men: They're peculiar.'"

Bill's courage always required this of him, first: To love the truth about anything, peculiar or not, and to stand up for it. The truth about politicians or history. About people either arrogant, angry, rich or poor. About the lynching of 11 black men and women by whites near Monticello, Ga., his father's hometown, between 1885 and 1920. About the demons he faced in his personal life and what they did to him.

He loved the truth more than he loved clannish loyalties, proud traditions and carefully coiffed appearances, including

SEE BILL, A14 ►

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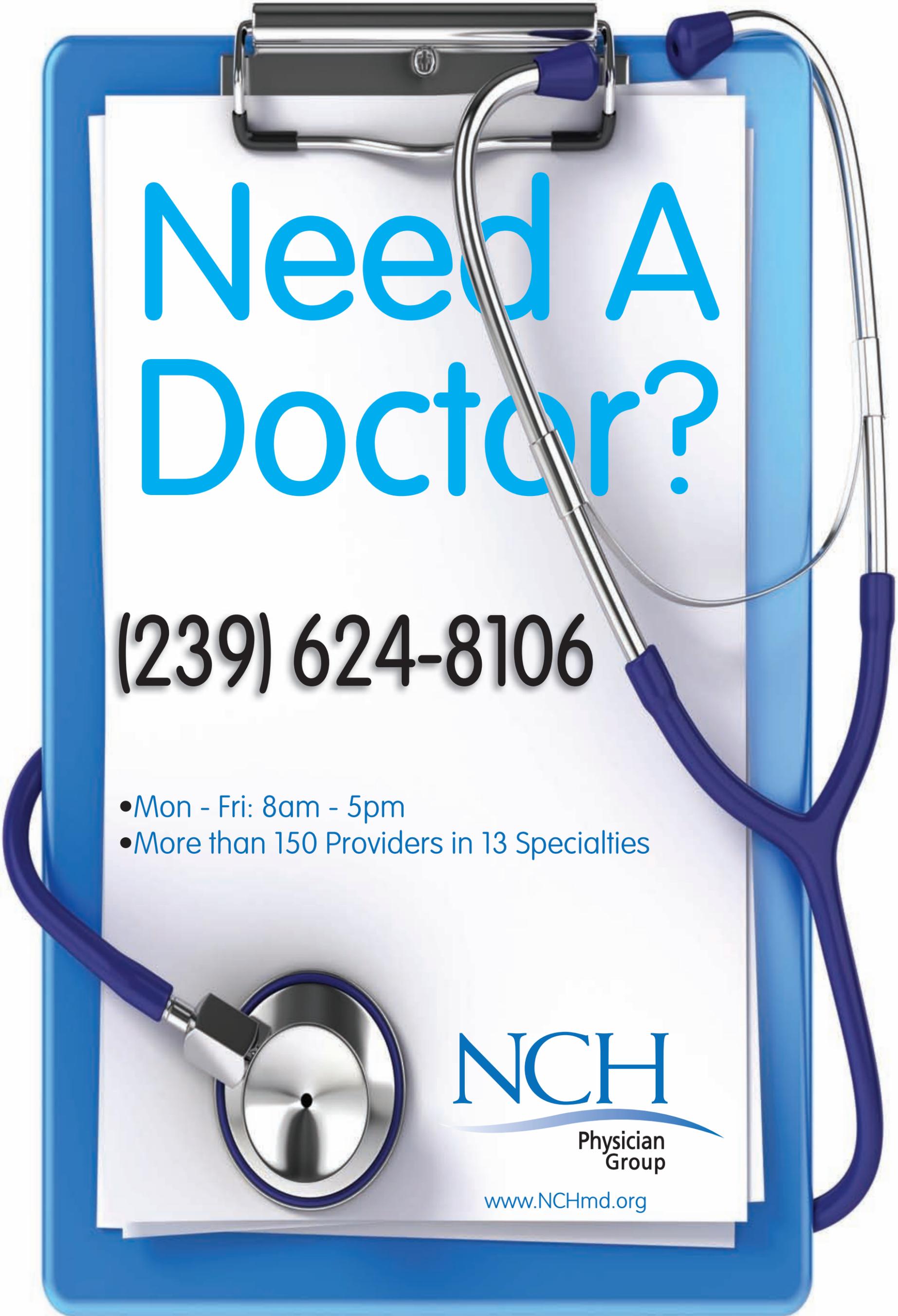


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Publisher

Shelley Hobbs
shobbs@floridaweekly.com

Editor

Cindy Pierce
cpierce@floridaweekly.com

Reporters & Columnists

Eric Bretan, Karen Feldman
Jerry Greenfield, Bob Harden
Dan Hudak, Myles Kornblatt
Lindsey Nesmith, Drew Sterwald
Nancy Stetson, Evan Williams
Roger Williams

Photographers

Peggy Farren, Tim Gibbons
Bernadette La Paglia
Vandy Major, Charlie McDonald
Bob Raymond, Ivan Seligman
Stephen Wright

Copy Editor

Cathy Cottrill

Presentation Editor

Eric Raddatz
eraddatz@floridaweekly.com

Graphic Designers

Chris Andruskiewicz
Hannah Arnocz
Alisa Bowman
Amy Grau
Paul Heinrich
Meg Roloff
Scott Sleeper

Circulation Manager

Maggie Humphrey
maggie@floridaweekly.com

Circulation

David Anderson
Paul Neumann
Greg Tretwold

Account Executives

Nicole Ryan
nryan@floridaweekly.com
Cori Higgins
chiggins@floridaweekly.com
Adam Schonberg
aschonberg@floridaweekly.com
Drew McAuley
andrew.mcauley@floridaweekly.com

Sales and Marketing Assistant

Katie Babka

Business Office Manager

Kelli Carico

Published by

Florida Media Group LLC

Pason Gaddis
pgaddis@floridaweekly.com

Jeffrey Cull
jcull@floridaweekly.com

Jim Dickerson
jdickerson@floridaweekly.com

Naples Florida Weekly

9051 Tamiami Trail North, Suite 202
Naples, Florida 34108
Phone 239.325.1960
Fax: 239.325.1964



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OPINION

That's no bull



leslieLILLY

lilly@floridaweekly.com

Powerful political imagery has a long and valued tradition in American history. When a marriage of opportunity weds a symbol to a political cause, it becomes more than the sum of its parts. Recent examples include those hot pink hats with pussycat ears sported by millions of participants on the day of the Women's March on Washington. They were an instant success, worn in sisterhood as a symbol of resistance to the misogynous policies of the radical right.

The marriage of creativity with a cause also made another appearance recently, this time a consequence of political happenstance. Two disparate, sculptural memes placed in proximity to one another created yet a third by sharing the same space. The iconic "Charging Bull" of Wall Street, long pastured in isolation on its cobblestone patch, suddenly found its space invaded by a bronze sculpture known as "Fearless Girl."

"Fearless Girl" is a diminutive figure frozen in a defiant pose, hands on hips, her skirt floating slightly aloft like a swirling cape. She looks like a half-pint matadonna preparing to do battle with a testosterone-driven beast furious at finding her there.

The combination of "Fearless Girl" with "Charging Bull" proved to be wildly popular with a broad audience. Images of the confrontation between bull and girl went viral. It quickly became a political and cultural icon symbolizing "female power" and the fearless females who confront male dominance and aggression in the world.

The overall effect of the sculptural face-off was transformative of both works of art. But it wasn't planned that way by either of the artists involved. In an interview with *The Washington Post*,

Kristen Visbal, the creator of "Fearless Girl," says the sculpture is future-oriented, encouraging women's leadership.

But as the images of the Wall Street duo proliferated, a vocal opposition rose against the pairing, not the least of which was voiced by Italian artist Arturo Di Modica, who sculpted the fiery bovine. At last word, Modica threatens to sue, claiming copyright infringement, complaining "Fearless Girl" misconstrues the artistic intent of his creation — "...peace, strength, power and love."

To complicate matters, neither sculpture has a permanent lease on the turf they occupy. "Fearless Girl" was planned as a temporary installation, but the city has given it a reprieve for a longer stay.

"Charging Bull" is anchored to its spot by default, earning squatter's rights by occupying its space, without city objection, for nearly three decades. The artist doesn't have a format permit and the city chose to look the other way.

A passionate debate has erupted about the meaning of it all. Some say Modica's right to protect the meaning of his work is appropriated by the presence of "Fearless Girl." Others insist "Fearless Girl" doesn't ruin "Charging Bull's" meaning but, instead, makes it relevant. Symbolism is in the eye of the beholder.

Decades ago, when women stepped out of their traditional domestic roles and into the public sphere, they lacked symbols to represent the unity of their political activism. The valor, heroism, and courage associated with women's fight for equality did not have a feminist version of the bold motifs commonly employed by alpha males to rally others to their cause.

Think Lincoln's log cabin, blazing saddles, iron crosses and the harrowing tales of bloody battles that infused passion into the political enterprise of men.

The National Women's History Museum notes the act of creating a political culture appropriate to women's experiences was also vital to winning women's rights. Without it, women were unlikely

to muster sufficient support for equal rights or propel suffrage to its final passage. Thus, the first challenge of the women's suffrage movement was to create "... a vital and instantly recognizable means of political communication in a pre-television age." And so, they did.

A tri-color flag of white, purple and gold became the movement's official colors, each color signifying qualities and values enshrined in the allegiance of its members to their cause. Women who picketed the White House and suffered prison time for their militancy were awarded a "Jailed for Freedom" pin by the National Women's Party. A single yellow rose was worn universally to signal one's support of women's suffrage and suffragettes adopted the tradition of wearing white to underscore the purity of their purpose.

The museum says such symbols promoted acceptance of women's inclusion in the nation's public life and were a significant tactic toward winning Congressional approval and ratification by the states of the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote.

The manly man tactics of aspirational Teddy R's have not gone out of style. The take-no-prisoner Indian fighter of old is the conquering, corporate mogul of now. It is no coincidence President Trump channels the murderous frontiersman, Andy Jackson, to stir his own contentious crush, nor that Hillary resurrected the suffrage movement when she wore white the night she accepted her party's nomination as its candidate for president of the United States.

And that, fearless girl, is no bull. ■

— Leslie Lilly is a native Floridian whose professional career spans more than 25 years leading major philanthropic institutions in the South and Appalachia. 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.

No, Trump is not a neocon



richLOWRY

Special to Florida Weekly

With U.S. missiles flying in Syria, the "mother of all bombs" exploding in Afghanistan and an aircraft carrier strike group heading toward North Korea, has there been a revolution in President Donald Trump's foreign policy?

His most fervent supporters shouldn't get overly exercised, and his interventionist critics shouldn't get too excited. What has been on offer so far is broadly consistent with the Jacksonian worldview that is the core of Trump's posture toward the world.

Trump's views are obviously inchoate. He has an attitude rather than a doctrine, and upon leaving office, he surely won't, like Richard Nixon, write a series of books on international affairs.

What we have learned since he took office is that Trump is not an isolationist. At times, he's sounded like one. His "America First" slogan (inadvertently) harkened back to the movement to keep us out of World War II. His outlandish questioning of the NATO alliance, an

anchor of the West, created the sense that he might be willing to overturn the foundations of the post-World War II order.

This hasn't come to pass. It's not possible to be a truly isolationist president in the 21st century. And such an approach would undercut the most consistent element of Trump's approach — namely strength.

His set piece foreign-policy speeches during the campaign were clear on this. "The world is most peaceful and most prosperous when America is strongest," he said last April at the Center for the National Interest. Trump said repeatedly on the campaign trail that he would take the war to ISIS and build up our defenses, in direct contradiction to isolationism.

Now, there is no doubt that the Syrian strike is a notable departure for Trump, and he defended it in unapologetically humanitarian terms. But it's entirely possible that the strike will only have the narrow purpose of re-establishing a red line against the use of chemical weapons in Syria and reasserting American credibility. That is particularly important in the context of the brewing showdown with North Korea.

The Tomahawks in Syria and saber

rattling at North Korea have Trump's critics on the right and the left claiming he's becoming a neoconservative — a term of abuse that is most poorly understood by the people most inclined to use it. All neocons may be hawks, but not all hawks are neocons, who are distinctive in their idealism and robust interventionism.

We haven't heard paeans to democracy from Trump, or clarion calls for human rights. He hasn't seriously embraced regime change anywhere (even if his foreign-policy officials say Bashar Assad has to go). He shows no sign of a willingness to make a major commitment of U.S. ground troops abroad.

Trump is a particular kind of hawk. The Jacksonian school is inclined toward realism and reluctant to use force, except when a national interest is clearly at stake. As historian Walter Russell Mead writes: "Jacksonians believe that international life is and will remain both violent and anarchic. The United States must be vigilant, strongly armed. Our diplomacy must be cunning, forceful, and no more scrupulous than any other country's."

This tradition isn't isolationist or neo-conservative, and neither is Trump. ■

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

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Enjoy free admission to The Norris Gardens and Palm Cottage

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Naples Historical Society celebrates the first decade of The Norris Gardens at Historic Palm Cottage with free admission to both the cottage and gardens from 1-4 p.m. Saturday, April 29. Following the open house/garden hours, the Naples Dixieland Jazz Band will perform in the gardens. Admission to the concert, which is part of the Stay in May program of performances, is \$17.

The history of the gardens is young compared to the house, which was built in the late 1800s, but their story is just as important. Up until the early part of the 21st century, the property included a small home once owned by legendary land developer Ed Crayton. When this property became available for purchase in 2005, the board of directors of Naples Historical Society initiated a capital campaign to purchase the land. Community support rallied around the project and funding from major contributors, including the Norris family, allowed NHS to acquire the lot and put a plan into place for its careful remastering.

Today, six separate and unique gardens make up The Norris Gardens. They are:

- The Sharon & Dolph von Arx Pioneer Garden
- The Jacobsen Family Foundation Palm Collector's Garden
- The Harold Cornelius Smith Family Edible Garden
- The Water Garden, in Memory of Vera D. Wavering
- The Moxley Family Descendants Everglades Shade Garden
- The Diana & Don Wingard Garden



COURTESY PHOTOS

Above: The Norris Gardens surround Historic Palm Cottage, home of the Naples Historical Society. Left: Visitors tour The Norris Gardens at Historic Palm Cottage.



of the Senses

Also featured in the Gardens are the Mrs. George H. Gaynor Chickee Pavilion, which was originally built by Semi-

nole tribe member O.B. Osceola, and the Mary & Stephen Byron Smith Oval Lawn. The Norris Gardens at Historic Palm Cottage continues to adapt and thrive under the loving care of a team of volunteers.

"Each garden was uniquely crafted to replicate a specific native Florida garden that might have existed when the area was first settled," says Barbara Lee Jones, NHS garden team leader. "For example, the Pioneer Garden features plants that require minimal water

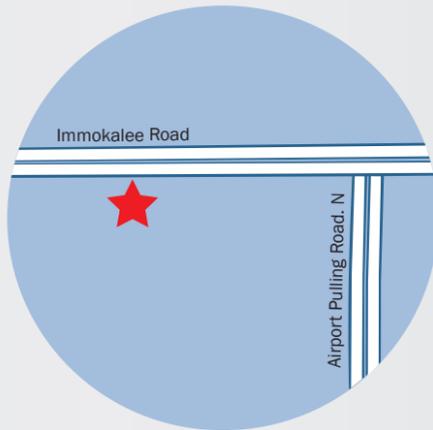
such as the resurrection fern and rose cactus, while the Edible Garden features fruits and vegetables like dwarf bananas, herbs and wild coffee."

The location of each garden serves not only an aesthetic purpose, but also a practical one. For instance, the Garden of the Senses was strategically placed just off the front porch of the Palm Cottage because this is where early settlers would have enjoyed their leisurely afternoons and evenings with wafting aromas from the many flowering plants. The aptly named Everglades Shade Garden was placed on the east side of the cottage to provide a reprieve from the hot glare of the early morning and mid-day sun. And of course most early residents of Naples had a vegetable garden, so the Norris Gardens also include an Edible Garden, which is a favorite for the many students who visit as part of the NHS Pupils at Palm Cottage program.

Historic Palm Cottage has stood strong since the late 1800s. It was originally an escape from the cold winter months for its owner, *Louisville Courier-Journal* founder Walter Haldeman, before it became a temporary boarding house in the early 1900s. After Mr. Haldeman's death, the Cottage (and most of Mr. Haldeman's land assets) was purchased by legendary Naples developer Ed Crayton.

The cottage changed hands several times in the mid-1900s and was eventually purchased by NHS in 1979. In 1982, the cottage was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Today, the property is used to educate the public and preserve the history of Naples for generations to enjoy. ■

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FRAUD

From page 1

ance Agents of Palm Beach County. "It's a huge problem. It's not good for the (insurance) industry and in a majority of cases it's not good for the consumer either."

Here's a Cliffs Notes version of how the scheme typically works: a homeowner has non-weather related water damage. He calls a contractor to clean up the mess and make repairs. The contractor advises him to sign an "assignment of benefits" or AOB document, in which the homeowner transfers many of his rights as the insured to the contractor, who works with a lawyer on the homeowner's behalf to collect a claim.

Then the lawyer sues or threatens to sue the insurance company to pay out far more than the damage is worth, using a 1959 Florida statute known as one-way attorney fees. It states that if an insurance company loses in court or settles for an amount that is higher than the original offer, the company is liable for all attorney's fees. Insurers have been settling for paying inflated claims rather than pay even more money for a court battle.

Ultimately, the costs incurred by a massive wave of AOB-related water and property damage claims, the Office of Insurance Regulation says, has been falling on the backs of homeowners in the form of higher insurance premiums. It estimates those premiums will continue to rise statewide at the rate of about 10 percent per year or more where AOB abuse is most common.

Insurance industry professionals said that AOB and one-way attorney fees can benefit consumers, to protect and aid them in dealing with insurance companies, but that they were not intended to be used by third-party businesses to squeeze out inflated claims.

The AOB/one-way attorney fees scheme is estimated to have started around 2010 or 2011 and exploded virally since then. In 2006 there were 405 AOB-related lawsuits across Florida, the Office of Insurance Regulation says. In 2011 there were 1,000. In 2016, there were 28,200 AOB-related lawsuits.

Attorney Harvey V. Cohen, whose Orlando-area firm Cohen Grossman has filed among the most AOB suits in Florida, is "known throughout the state of Florida and nationwide as the go-to attorney for assignment of benefit contract cases as it pertains to the restoration industry," his website reads.

Mr. Cohen contends that the rapid growth is not due to lawyers and contractors abusing the rules to cash in on inflated claims, but instead due to legitimate use of AOB to help homeowners get the work they need done right away and get fair compensation for themselves and for contractors.

"I think more and more people are understanding the benefits as a business and homeowners are understanding the benefits of using AOB," he said.

The Florida Office of Insurance Regulation and Commissioner David Altmaier have been "misled by the insurance industry," Mr. Cohen said, into believing that AOB lawsuits are forcing wealthy private insurance companies to raise their rates.

"Honestly, all of this is completely made up just so they have a scapegoat," he said. "They want to collect premiums and not pay claims."

He insists that none of the suits he has brought against insurance companies have been inflated.

"One hundred percent not inflated," he said.

Does he believe there is any AOB fraud and abuse in the system at all?

"I don't know," Mr. Cohen said. "I'm sure there are abuses in any field wheth-

in the know

Top 10 attorneys for filing AOB lawsuits in Florida, 2014 to 2017

>> Cohen Grossman, Orlando:	564
>> Trujillo Vargas Gonzalez & Hevia, Coral Gables:	392
>> The Mineo Salcedo Law Firm, Davie:	357
>> Marin, Eljaiek & Lopez, Miami:	254
>> MAS Collections, Miami:	246
>> The Diener Firm, Plantation:	243
>> Militzok & Levy, offices in Hollywood, Miami and New York City:	212
>> Consumer Law Office, North Miami Beach:	192
>> Cardenas Law Group, Miami:	159
>> The Gilchrist Law Firm, Coral Gables:	153

— Source: Citizens Property Insurance

er you're a reporter, a plumber, an attorney or a doctor, that some people will abuse the system, but I don't have any evidence of that."

Attorneys and contractors who may be abusing the rules are off the hook because what they're doing is legal, which is why the Office of Insurance Regulation and others are pushing lawmakers to reform the rules.

"We remain hopeful that lawmakers are going to address the fraud and abuse that is rampant with this particular issue," said Edie Ousley, vice president of public affairs for the Florida Chamber of Commerce, which is spearheading the Consumer Protection Coalition, a group that pushes for legislative reform to stop AOB abuse.

Although they've been aware of the problem for several years now, legislators have failed to pass bills that could stop the surging prices for home insurance premiums.

"This is not going to go away," said Sen. Dorothy Hukill, R-District 14, who introduced a bill in February along with Sen. Kathleen Passidomo, R-District 28, designed to stop AOB and one-way attorney fee abuse. "This is not going to get better. You can turn a blind eye for only so long."

But Sen. Anitere Flores, R-District 39, as chair of the Senate Banking and Insurance Committee, refused to allow the bill to be heard.

A *Wall Street Journal* opinion piece on April 1 took her to task for blocking the legislation while placing "two bills on her committee's agenda sponsored by Democrat Gary Farmer, who used to run Florida's trial-bar lobby. Mr. Farmer's bills would keep the attorney fee game going..."

Sen. Flores said she blocked the Hukill-Passidomo SB 1038 because insurance companies refused to guarantee that rates would go down if it passed.

"Rates should come down and there should be something in the law that states that and up until now the insurance companies have been very, well, hesitant is a small word," she said. "They have said 'absolutely not.' They're saying they can't guarantee that this will make rates go down or at least stabilize rates even though they're saying this is why rates are going up."

She added in a prepared statement that the Hukill-Passidomo legislation

"hinders consumers' ability to protect themselves when insurance companies take advantage of them. If the Hukill-Passidomo bill would be amended to ensure that insurance rates will go down for some time as a result of passing that bill, this Committee will be happy to hear it."

The latest proposed legislation, House bill 1421 sponsored by Rep. James Grant, R-District 64, is also written to curb AOB abuse. It was heard favorably by the House Insurance and Banking Subcommittee, and the Commerce Committee, but as of press time still needed to pass the House floor and then the Senate. The session ends May 5.

"We think this bill goes a long way towards mitigating a cost driver for Florida consumers," said David Altmaier, Florida's insurance commissioner, to House lawmakers on April 17.

Florida's state-backed nonprofit insurer of last resort, Citizens Property Insurance, also supports the bill.

Sen. Hukill doubted that there was time to pass a bill, but said she will try again in 2018, and that meanwhile, AOB misuse may continue to spread.

"If there are unscrupulous contractors and attorneys out there who have hit upon a scheme that works, it's not going to be limited to one area. That may be the area where it's most prevalent (in southeast Florida), but there's going to be flooding all over."

Citizens points out other problems with AOB that it says should be addressed by legislation. For instance, policyholders are normally supposed to notify an insurance company promptly after a loss, and keep records, said Michael Peltier, a spokesperson for Citizens, but contractors and lawyers acting as a third-party on behalf of homeowners may not have those same responsibilities under an AOB.

"We're seeing increasingly when we get the first notice of loss we are already getting a notice that we are being sued," before they even make an offer, Mr. Peltier said.

He says that contractors and attorneys should be subject to the same responsibilities as homeowners if they use an AOB.

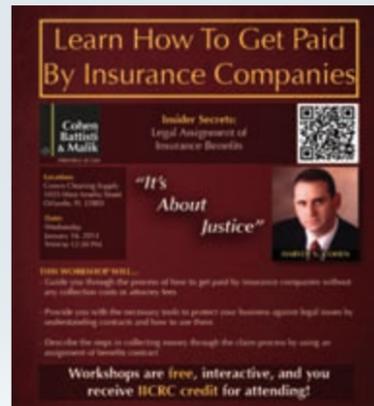
There are other ways homeowners can be left in the lurch, he added. If the contractor is unable to collect the inflated claim from the insurance agency, they may be able to legally hold the homeowner responsible for paying out the balance themselves, and even place a lien on their home.

AOB abuse is also financially damaging Citizens. It attributes AOB abuse as the driving factor behind what it estimates will be an \$86 million loss in 2018. And if there happens to be a catastrophic hurricane, combined with AOB fraud and abuse, the losses could be astronomical, leaving taxpayers on the hook.

"When we have a storm, God forbid we do, we're particularly vulnerable," Sen. Hukill said.

The misuse of AOB and one-way attorney fee rules may also drive private insurers from doing business, especially in areas where AOB-related claims are most common, in Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties, although AOB

An advertisement for a workshop from an attorney, Harvey V. Cohen, teaching contractors how to use assignment of benefits, or AOB, to collect money from insurance agencies back in 2013. His firm, Cohen Grossman, has been found by Citizens Insurance to have brought more AOB lawsuits than any other one in Florida from 2014 to 2017.



claims have also been on the rise in Central and Southwest Florida, and other parts of the state.

"The insurance carriers can close off areas and zip codes or not write at all," said Mr. Norberg of Arden Insurance. "I have several who will not write a policy in Miami-Dade and Broward County because the problems are so extensive, and they're starting now to limit more in Palm Beach County. Especially older homes that are subject to water type losses."

According to Citizens, its average amount of a claim from 2010 to 2016 nearly doubled in tri-county southeast Florida, from \$10,301 to \$19,966. And the frequency of water claims in the tri-county area is up more than 50 percent, even though its number of policies in the region has shrunk by two-thirds since 2012.

Law firms, contractors often use AOB

Citizens says that a handful of law firms and contractors have been responsible for the majority of AOB-related claims.

Cohen Grossman has had the most AOB-related lawsuits on its books since 2014, Citizens found, followed by Trujillo Vargas Gonzalez & Hevia. Trujillo Vargas did not respond to a request for comment.

And contractors that have most often been involved in AOB suit submissions as of last July include a franchise company, Restoration 1, as well as National Water Restoration. National Water Restoration did not respond to a request for comment.

Micah Findley, vice president of operations for Restoration 1, said the company is making improvements that will eliminate the need for AOBs. He wrote:

"Restoration 1, as a network, is moving away from AOBs across the country and focusing on providing accurate and fair invoices to insurance carriers, and policy holders, through more in-depth franchise owner training and ongoing support. This shift is the latest of several changes since new management took over the organization in 2016 and began making improvements to services and systems across the franchise network."

Mr. Findley said Restoration 1 has partnered with National Water, a company that will vet the accuracy of their franchise owners' job estimates.

"By providing our franchise owners with the best training and vendor support for estimates and invoices, we eliminate the need for AOBs," he wrote.

He added that Citizens Insurance shows "skewed data that represents all 11 Restoration 1 locations as one entity and compares it to single-unit locations..."

"Despite this clarification, we will maintain our commitment to continued improvement."

Joe Taylor of Joe Taylor Restoration, a contractor that does work in South Florida including Palm Beach, Lee, Charlotte and Collier counties, doesn't use AOBs.

"The past three to five years it's really become like a plague," he said.

"We work with 50-plus (insurance) carriers and rates are going up across



HUKILL



PASSIDOMO



FLORES



FARMER

“The unscrupulous guys are turning a small water leak under a kitchen cabinet into a \$30,000 kitchen for people ... It’s a huge problem. It’s not good for the (insurance) industry and in a majority of cases it’s not good for the consumer either.”

— **Robert Norberg**, vice president of Lantana-based Arden Insurance Associates and president of Independent Insurance Agents of Palm Beach County



the board and the number one reason is AOB.”

Mr. Taylor said his business is increasingly in demand to do not just restoration work, but as an expert witness in AOB lawsuits, peer-reviews and comparative estimates by insurance companies who feel a claim is inflated: “We used to do one a quarter, and then it was one a month, and then one a week, and then one a day. We probably get five a day now.”

Mr. Taylor said, “The reality is AOB is a license to steal and they know it and they’ll do it until the day it becomes illegal,” adding that he believes even that won’t stop the process.

He also gets solicitations from attorneys to attend workshops teaching contractors how to use AOBs.

AOBs and one-way attorney fees are not in and of themselves bad laws, Mr. Peltier with Citizens believes.

“We don’t have a problem with the policyholder’s right to sign an AOB,” he said, which could afford them the convenience of not dealing with an insurance company among other benefits. “What we do have an issue with is the way this process has been manipulated for something that it wasn’t intended to be.”

He also says that one-way attorney fees was “a good law” intended to protect consumers. If a homeowner is not satisfied with an insurance company or the amount its paying, he can go to court

and if the insurance company agrees to pay even a penny more than the original claim, they are required to cover all the attorney fees.

“This was a David and Goliath kind of thing,” he said, “So that homeowners would have the ability to go up against deep-pocket insurance companies when they had a claim. It also worked as a way to tell the insurance industry, ‘you folks better respond to claims in good faith because if you go to court and lose it’s going to cost you even more money.’ What we saw in 2011 was that increasingly folks were using AOB and sort of signing their rights and the policy benefits over to a third-party contractor say, and the contractor through law firms started to use the one-way attorney fee statute in cases ... A business-to-business lawsuit for which that law was never intended.”

AOB cases in South Florida

There are payoffs for others involved in AOB and one-way attorney fee schemes as well, even if they don’t realize fully what they’re involved in, Mr. Norberg said. In some cases the initial contractor, say a plumber, will be paid a referral fee of \$200 to \$1,000 or more to refer another subcontractor for further repairs, who then gets the homeowner to sign an AOB and sue an insurance company.

“In a lot of cases, the insured doesn’t even know they’re party to this lawsuit,” Mr. Norberg said.

Some homeowners also get a payoff. And word spreads: one homeowner tells a friend about it.

“It’s a snowball effect,” Mr. Norberg said. “And I have calls from my clients, ‘Hey, I’ve heard I can file a claim for this water leak that’s been dripping now for the last 10 years and never fixed it and I can get all my cabinets replaced.’ There’s a lot of people taking advantage of the situation but it drives rates up for you and me.”

But he adds when a large AOB claim is filed on behalf of a homeowner, it could cause an insurance company to drop that homeowner. That happened to one of Mr. Norberg’s clients. “The insurance we were able to find her was probably double her last premium because nobody’s going to take her because she’s got a past water claim,” he said.

Insurance agent Brian Samberg, president of Boca Raton-based Southeast Insurance, has at least a few clients who have run into nightmare scenarios by signing AOBs. In one developing case, a Boca Raton couple in their mid 60s tells him that their signature was forged on an AOB form during the first week in April.

For them, it worked like this: they had water damage in their condo from a unit above them and contacted Southeast Insurance to report the loss.

“We were very careful in expressing, do not sign an AOB form,” Mr. Samberg said.

The couple called a contractor who provided an AOB form the couple says they refused to sign. A few weeks later he found out the couple discovered that the insurance company had an AOB signed in their name.

The insurance company had estimated the damages to the unit for water removal and mold remediation cost \$6,000, but the contractor who claims to have their signature on an AOB form is saying it cost more than four times that amount, at least \$24,000, Mr. Samberg said.

There is a separate claim for \$17,000 for additional damages to the unit.

It’s unclear how the issue will be resolved.

“Bottom line is the client has no money at this point. They don’t know when they get the money, if this restoration company is going to come after them. It’s a mess.”

In another case, a Boca Raton senior living in a single-family home had water damage, he said. The insurance company told him it would take a week to 10 days to handle the claim paperwork. A contractor came to his home and advised him to sign an AOB and pay the \$15,000 up front instead of waiting the 10 days. He expected to get that \$15,000 back minus his normal deductible. Because he signed the AOB form, the insurance company paid the claim directly to the contractor, who legally has no obligation to return the money. ■

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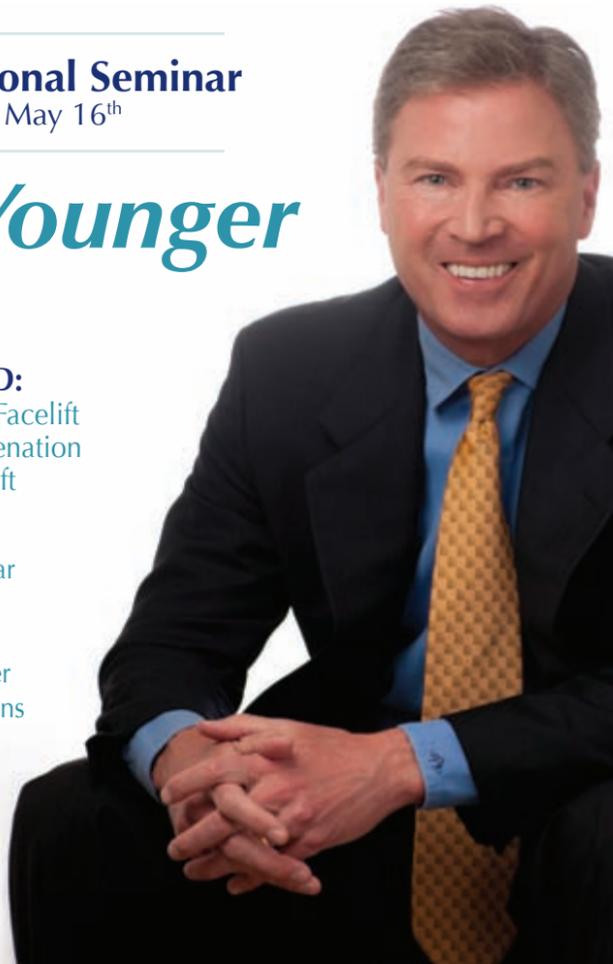
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Longtime executive director retiring from HSN

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Michael Simonik, executive director of Humane Society Naples, has informed the organization's board of directors of his plan to retire at the end of July 2017.

"The 13 years that I have spent with Humane Society Naples have been some of the most rewarding and satisfying of my career," Mr. Simonik said in a press release. "I am grateful to the board of directors who believed in my vision and supported the major changes I proposed and also to an incredible staff and to the thousands of donors and volunteers who have supported this organization over these years."

Hired in 2004, Mr. Simonik guided HSN through some significant changes during his tenure, including:

- Treating and caring for 3,500 animals annually (up from 380 per year when he started);
 - Leading the charge to make HSN a no-kill shelter, completing the \$4.8 million renovation and expansion of the main shelter;
 - Adding the Coastland Mall satellite adoption location, Oakes Boarding Kennels and the mobile adoption bus;
 - Completing the veterinary clinic renovation;
 - Obtaining a Charity Navigator four-star rating 11 of the past 12 years and ranking as the No. 1 shelter in Florida and No 2 shelter in the country in 2015;
 - Growing the staff from 16 to 55 members; and
 - Raising HSN's assets from \$5.9 million to \$19.4 million.
- In addition, Mr. Simonik has fostered



Michael Simonik at Humane Society Naples' main shelter on Airport-Pulling Road.

more than 750 animals, including countless litters of puppies and kittens, in his home over the years.

"Michael led HSN through some of our biggest challenges and opportunities and through it all ensured that we stayed fully committed to the organization's mission to shelter animals in times of need, locate life-long homes and promote responsible pet ownership through education, legislation and sterilization," board president Kevin Dardorff said in the release. The board has launched a national search to find Mr. Simonik's successor.

Founded in 1960, the no-kill, cage-free HSN will celebrate finding forever homes for 100,000 homeless pets this year. More than half a million people visit HSN's three locations each year. The main shelter is at 370 Airport-Pulling Road.

To make a contribution in Mr. Simonik's name or for more information about HSN, call 643-1555 or visit www.HSNaples.org.

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April 29 is shred day at Iberiabank

Iberiabank hosts another paper-shredding party from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 29, at the branch at 775 Airport-Pulling Road. Residents and small business owners are invited to dispose of outdated bank statements, checks, contracts, junk mail and other documents in a safe and secure manner. Shredding services will be complements of Shred-It secure document destruction services.



While their papers are being shredded, attendees will be able to visit with Humane Society Naples dogs and cats available for adoption at the Paws

Around Town adoption mobile. There is a limit of 10 boxes per person, and a donation of \$3 per box is requested for donation to Step-Smart Collier and HSN.

The bank is also holding a pet supply drive for HSN through April 28 at all branches in Collier County. Items needed include canned pet food, cat litter, gently used towels, leashes and collars, pet toys and cleaning supplies such as paper towels and bleach. Pet supplies can be dropped off at any Iberiabank location during business hours Monday-Friday.

For more information, call 430-1639. ■

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DOGS

From page 1

website.
 “I was taking photos of dogs every day, five days a week, and got really good at it,” he says.

He left Broward for another job in Tampa, but he missed pet photography. About a year ago he offered his services to Humane Society of Tampa Bay for a fundraiser, and he’s been in demand as a pet photographer ever since — even quitting his full-time job so he could fully devote his time and talent to capturing the essence of ridiculously adorable pooches to advance the cause of shelter animals.

Through two previous photo sessions this year, Mr. Goldberg has raised almost \$2,300 for HSN.

In addition to the digital portraits of their pets, dog owners who book a session for May 7 will walk away with a goody bag from Pucci & Catana luxury pet boutique. They will also be able to purchase additional photos, with 50 percent of sales still earmarked — dog-eared? — for HSN. Options range from \$20 for five 4-by-6-inch prints to \$165 for an 8-by-16-inch wrapped canvas and \$210 for a 20-page photo book.

With all that and craft beer, too, what’s not to love?

Momentum Brewhouse is at 786 Bonita Beach Road in Bonita Springs.

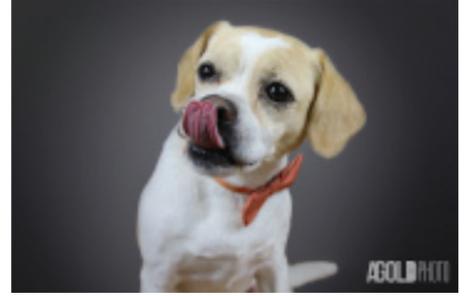
Sign up for a photo shoot at www.agoldphoto.com. Appointments are required.

For more information about Humane Society Naples or to inquire about adoption opportunities, call 643-1555 or visit www.hsnaples.org. ■



Pet photographer Adam Goldberg

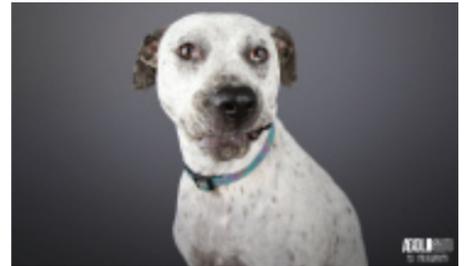
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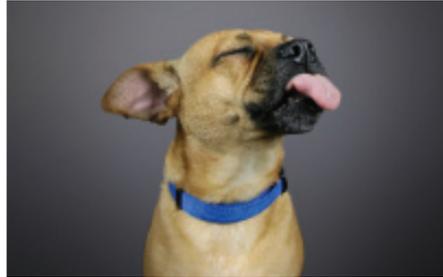
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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

Training day

A June 2016 police raid on David Jessen's Fresno County (California) farmhouse caused a \$150,000 mess when sheriff's deputies and Clovis Police Department officers "rescued" it from a trespassing homeless man — with the massive destruction leading to Jessen's lawsuit announced in March. The misdemeanor helped himself to an ice cream bar, some milk and half a tomato, but was otherwise "unarmed"; however, by the

time the police standoff ended, the "crime scene" included more than 50 cop cars, a SWAT team (and backups), two helicopters, standby ambulances, a police robot, and a crisis negotiation team. Windows, walls and wrought-iron doors were destroyed; tear gas and a "flash bomb" were employed. (Jessen suspects that the farmhouse's isolation enticed police to decide that it presented an excellent training opportunity.)

Compelling explanations

■ "Pro-choice" activist Jessica Farrar, a Texas state legislator, introduced a bill in March to create consistency between the state's rigorous regulation of women's reproductive functions and those of men (regulation which, by the way, in either case she calls "invasive" and "unnecessary"). Because Texas's anti-abortion laws highlight "procreation" as a crucial government interest, she believes male use of erectile-dysfunction drugs should be regulated as abortion is. Under her bill, individual use of Viagra or similar drugs must be preceded by "counseling" similar to that required by abortion laws, and since male masturbation involves the "wasting" of precious sperm cells, it, too,

would require "beforehand" counseling. ■ Jason Sexton told KFSM-TV in Fort Smith, Ark., in April that he alone had been digging the massive hole neighbors noticed, now 34 feet deep and with separate tunnels extending off of the main hole. Police had come to check it out, since it was on another person's private property (and not the city's, which Sexton had assumed). He said he had been digging off and on for three years to get an answer to whether "the Spanish" had been in Fort Smith centuries ago, mining iron, and, if so, the site should therefore be a lucrative tourist destination. Sexton said he felt he had to give his explanation: "Nobody in their right mind," he said, "would dig a hole (this big) for no reason."

Crime report

■ At a time of growing awareness that some people seem almost addicted to their cell phones and instant 24/7 communication, police in Brookfield, Wis., released surveillance photos of a woman in the act of robbing banks on March 25 and 27 — while standing at teller counters and talking on the phone during the entire episodes. Acting on a tip from the photos, police arrested Sarah Kraus, 33, on March 28.

■ Paul Perry Jr., 39, sound asleep behind the wheel of his car, with motor running, at 6 a.m. on April 2, was in no position to talk his way out of a DUI ticket, but did offer a gentle challenge to the Youngstown, Ohio,

police officer. Several times, according to the police report, Perry offered to "thumb wrestle" the officer to get out of the ticket. From the report: "Perry was advised officers would not thumb-wrestle him."

■ Wait, what? A father, 43, and his son, 22, argued on April 9 about who would walk the dog at their home on Chicago's South Side. They apparently thought to settle the issue with a gunfight, and police, who recovered the two weapons, said both men received multiple wounds. The son was killed, and the father was in critical condition.

Leading economic indicators

The eight elite Ivy League universities are better thought of as "hedge fund(s) with classes," according to a March report by the activist Open The Books, and thus there is little reason for taxpayers to have given them the more than \$41 billion in grants and entitlements they received over a recent six-year period. The schools are already legendary for their \$119 billion "endow-

ments" (based on donations from alumni and aggressive investment). Those endowments are enough, according to Open The Books, that (assuming donations continue to arrive at the same pace) schools could provide free tuition to every student in the eight schools — in perpetuity. (Even if no new donations are made, the eight schools could provide such free tuition for 51 years.)

Ironies

Federico Musto was suspected recently by Wired.com of audaciously inventing academic credentials to help land his job as CEO of the company Arduino (a circuit-board manufacturer popular in the computer industry among coders creating, among other things, robots and motion detectors). Arduino's work is "open source" — creating hardware

that others, by design, can exploit and modify for their own loftier projects. It might thus be said that Musto's claimed academic "accomplishments" (his so-called MBA from New York University and claimed Ph.D from MIT) are themselves the product of his having "open-sourced" his own, previously modest curriculum vitae.

The foreign press

(1) Village police in Bangladesh arrested Yasin Byapari, 45, in January on the complaint of his wife — after she had learned that she was not, as he had told her, his second spouse, but rather the 25th of his 28. (Police found him at the home of No. 27.) The accuser said she had, through sleuthing, tracked down 17 of her "competitors." (2) A male schoolteacher

reported in February that he had been kidnapped by four women near Lupane, Zimbabwe, drugged with a beverage and sexually assaulted, in what appears to be a return of the "sperm bandits" said to operate in the area; previously, police set up roadblocks and arrested three women with 31 condoms full of semen. ■

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BILL

From page 2

his own.

That takes guts. Bill's response to his history, to his parents, to his own appearance in the mirror — to anybody he came across from north to south — was to tell the truth as best he could, and to be a gentleman while going about it.

But he never stopped loving people with quirks when love was warranted. His final word, in fact, is an act of such love: He has asked that his remains be interred in a small cemetery in Monticello, next to his mother and father. For such a man, the most wrong-headed notion ever tossed at a conversation or story is the dismissive phrase, "It's just talk."

In Bill Cornwell's world there is no such thing as "just talk." Ideas and the words that frame their anatomies are

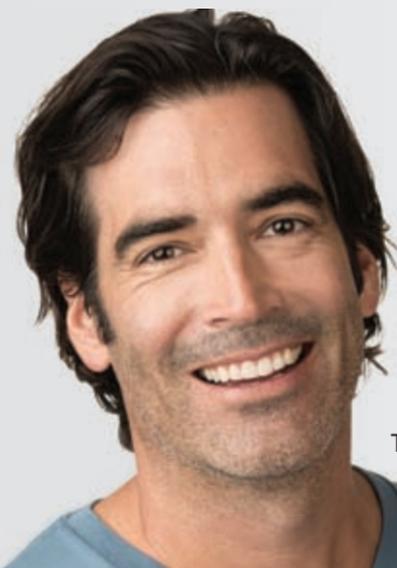


Bill Cornwell was right at home in a newsroom. At the Decatur Daily in 1971 you will see him, second from left, with "no coat and too much hair," as he said. Below are some Florida Weekly covers with stories written by the Georgia native.

sacred acts wired to the souls of each of us, popping and sizzling off the hot griddle of life.

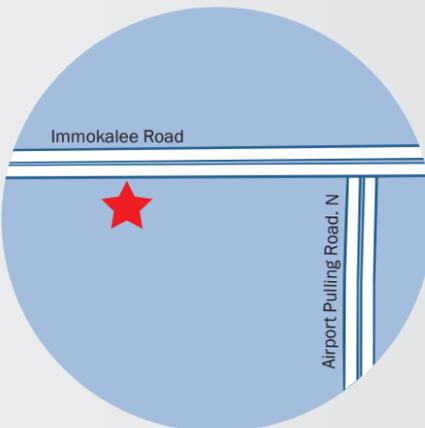
His reverence for that truth in particular — and his willingness to share and even insist on it — made him not just powerful and memorable, but for all of us, a muse.

And forever our friend. ■



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HEALTHY LIVING



Watch out for health effects of wildfire smoke

Recent wildfires in Golden Gate Estates have prompted the Florida Department of Health in Collier County to caution the public about the health effects of wildfire smoke as a respiratory irritant. Smoke can cause scratchy throat, coughing, headaches or irritated eyes and nose, and can also worsen asthma and other chronic lung or heart conditions. Dust generated from increased wildfire response activity on dirt roads may also worsen these conditions.

DOH offers these tips on how to protect your family:

- Pay attention to local air quality reports, news coverage or health warnings related to smoke.

- Avoid prolonged outdoor activities. This is especially important for children and also anyone with pre-existing medical conditions.

- Stay indoors and run your air conditioner. Keep the fresh air intake closed and the filter clean to prevent bringing additional smoke inside. For best results, run the air conditioning with recirculated air. If you do not have an air conditioner, staying inside with the windows closed can be dangerous in extremely hot weather. In these cases, seek alternative shelter.

- Help keep particle levels lower inside. When smoke levels are high, try to avoid using anything that burns, such as gas stoves and candles. Do not vacuum, which stirs up particles already inside your home. Do not smoke.

- Follow your doctor's advice about taking medicines and following your asthma management plan if you have asthma or other lung disease. Call your doctor if your symptoms worsen.

Collier County has opened an emergency hotline to respond to questions about the wildfire threat. Call 252-8444. ■

Building a trap for Alzheimer's Harvard study probes the power of early action

Editor's note: This is the first in an occasional series on how Harvard University researchers are tackling the problematic issues of aging.

BY ALVIN POWELL
Harvard Staff Writer

Catch it early.

Those are watchwords in the battle against a host of illnesses, from heart disease to cancer to Type 2 diabetes. Early detection gives physicians a chance to minimize damage, to insert a stent and keep blood flowing to the heart, to remove a tumor before one becomes many, to urge crucial lifestyle changes: lose weight, eat better, exercise.

But can the strategy work for Alzheimer's disease? Scientists are starting to think it might.

The Harvard Aging Brain Study, now in its seventh year, has shown that amyloid beta, the protein thought to cause Alzheimer's disease, accumulates in the brain a decade or more before symptoms occur. That finding has given new hope to researchers struggling to explain a rash of high-profile Alzheimer's failures in clinical drug trials.

"I think we've failed in 11 phase three trials, which is not a good track record," says Reisa Sperling, a neurology professor at Harvard Medical School and a physician at Brigham and Women's Hospital. "From a clinical point of view, it's a dismal failure."

Now, the "catch it early" idea is being put to the test in a new study called A4, or Anti-Amyloid Treatment in Asymptomatic Alzheimer's Disease, led by Dr. Sperling and the University of Southern California's Dr. Paul Aisen. Researchers will try an anti-amyloid drug on people who show no signs of Alzheimer's cognitive decline, but who do have abnormally high levels of amyloid beta in their brains.



AISEN

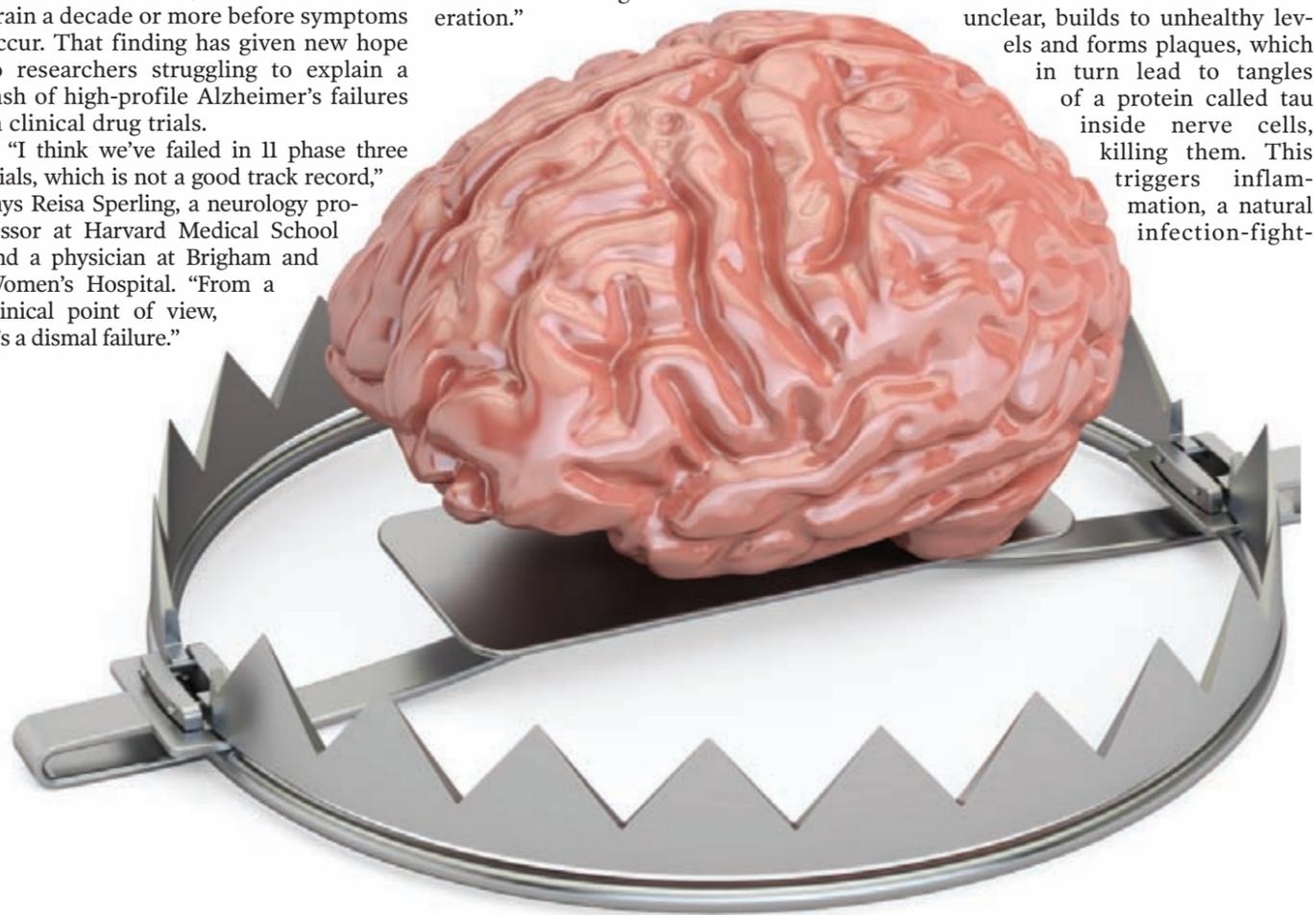
"I think this is a tremendously important trial," Dr. Aisen says. "It's the first trial in a population we refer to as 'preclinical Alzheimer's disease.' We believe this is identifying an early stage of the disease, not just 'at-risk' (patients) ... If we wait for people to have symptoms, there's already substantial neuro-degeneration."

Alzheimer's is the sixth-leading cause of death in the United States, killing about 94,000 people annually, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The number of Americans living with the disease may be as high as 5 million, a figure projected to climb to 13.5 million by 2050, according to a report by the Alzheimer's Association. Costs of caring for Alzheimer's patients are expected to rise from \$226 billion in 2015 to \$1.1 trillion by 2050, with Medicare and Medicaid paying 70 percent.

Developing a treatment to delay Alzheimer's onset by just five years by 2025 could save an estimated \$935 billion over the following 10 years, the report says.

In recent decades, researchers have worked out what many believe is the step-by-step process through which Alzheimer's does its work. Amyloid beta, a naturally occurring protein whose normal function in the brain remains unclear, builds to unhealthy levels and forms plaques, which in turn lead to tangles of a protein called tau inside nerve cells, killing them. This triggers inflammation, a natural infection-fight-



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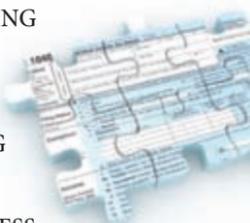
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“I hope my kids don’t have to take care of me that way and, hopefully, my grandchildren won’t even know what Alzheimer’s is.”

— Dr. Reisa Sperling, whose father and grandfather both died from Alzheimer’s disease

ing response, which in this case makes things worse.

A4 is screening 5,000 cognitively normal candidates, age 65 to 85, with the goal of enrolling about 1,150 who have elevated amyloid beta levels. The trial will test Eli Lilly’s solanezumab, an anti-amyloid antibody that was proved safe, though judged ineffective, in patients with mild dementia due to Alzheimer’s. The antibody targets soluble forms of the protein, not the plaques themselves.

Though solanezumab has been tried in Alzheimer’s patients without success, the data from that trial held indications of positive trends, Dr. Sperling says.

The A4 study — being conducted at 67 sites in the U.S., Canada, Japan, and Australia — has already enrolled 875 people. It rests on the foundation laid by the Harvard Aging Brain Study, which began in 2009 and is headed by Dr. Sperling and Keith Johnson, a professor of radiology at HMS and Massachusetts General Hospital. With funding to run through 2019, the study images the brains of 60- to 90-year-olds to follow changes over time.

By early 2013, it was clear that patients who started out with higher amyloid levels — even those who were cognitively normal — had a much faster rate of decline in cognitive ability, four to five times that of patients with normal levels of the protein, Dr. Sperling says.

Those findings pointed to a far earlier beginning of the disease than scientists had grasped and led to the “catch it



Dr. Reisa Sperling, a neurology professor at Harvard Medical School and physician at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, is co-director of the Harvard Aging Brain Study.

ROSE LINCOLN / HARVARD STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

early” approach of A4. Dr. Sperling worries, however, that even the A4 design might be intervening too late and that, though subjects are cognitively normal, their high amyloid levels mark a cascade ending in dementia that a drug won’t halt.

And that isn’t her only worry. Though the amyloid-tau-inflammation scenario has gained wide support, skeptics remain. In fact, there are enough exceptions in the Harvard Aging Brain Study to give Dr. Sperling pause: cases of people with high levels of amyloid beta

who don’t experience cognitive decline and others with lower levels who nonetheless progress rapidly.

“There are still a lot of questions,” she says. “We can still only account for 50 percent — on a good day — of the variance of what happens to people cognitively. I do worry. What if we’re completely on the wrong track? What if it’s all circumstantial? What if there’s some giant X-factor we’ve missed?”

Despite these questions, Dr. Sperling and Dr. Aisen agree that there’s a sense of hope in the Alzheimer’s community,

a feeling that progress in several areas has put science on the verge of a breakthrough.

“I am very hopeful about the field in general,” Dr. Aisen says. “There’s a number of promising therapies. I believe we’re going to be successful and I believe dramatically successful. This is an enormous world health problem and a major problem in this country’s health.”

Should A4 fail, Dr. Sperling has a plan for trying to catch the disease earlier still. While A4 is targeting cognitively normal patients with high amyloid levels, she’s designing A3, the Ante-Amyloid Prevention of Alzheimer’s Disease study, which would test interventions on people age 60 — or even 50 — who are cognitively normal and whose amyloid levels have yet to rise.

“A3 is trying to get closer to primary prevention, pushing the envelope,” she says.

For Dr. Sperling, Alzheimer’s is not just a clinical problem, but also a personal one. Her career sprang from her grandfather’s Alzheimer’s, which became apparent when she was applying to medical school. Her father was diagnosed with the disease six years ago and died last year.

“I naively thought I could do something before it affected other members of my family,” she says. “I hope my kids don’t have to take care of me that way and, hopefully, my grandchildren won’t even know what Alzheimer’s is.” ■

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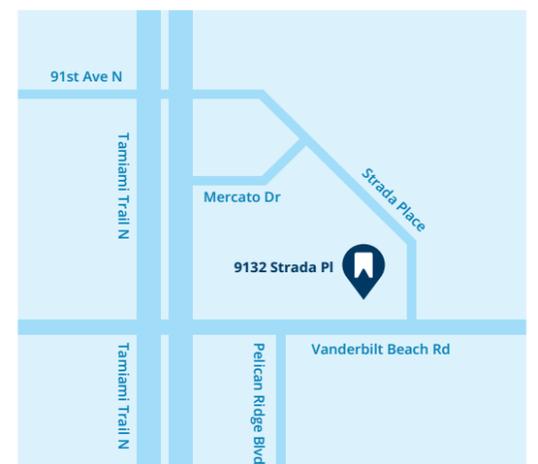
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PET TALES

Relieving allergies a painstaking process

BY DR. MARTY BECKER AND
KIM CAMPBELL THORNTON
Andrews McMeel Syndication

Is your dog or cat itching and scratching uncontrollably? It's frustrating and sometimes even disturbing to see them so uncomfortable as they lick and chew at their feet and flanks, or frantically rub their faces on the carpet.

Itchy skin is a common problem in pets. Pollen, mold, grass, trees, weeds, dust, flea bites and some food ingredients can all cause itchiness and other allergic reactions.

Determining what's behind the itchiness is a process of elimination. Your veterinarian may look for flea dirt on your pet's body and recommend a preventive product if your dog or cat isn't already on one; perform skin scrapings to check for infections caused by bacteria or yeast, which commonly accompany allergies; or suggest an elimination diet to rule out food allergies.

Pets who get itchy only at certain times of the year or who aren't helped by flea-control products or a change in diet are likely suffering from an inhalant allergy caused by pollen, mold or dust. Food allergies, which are more common in cats than in dogs, usually involve sensitivity to common animal or plant proteins, such as beef, chicken or soy.

Can allergies be eliminated? There's no magic bullet to resolve them, and many pets need a combination of therapies for best results. A cure is unlikely, but better treatments are available — or in the pipeline — to help quell the itching, runny eyes, ear infections and snoring that often



Dogs and cats may have a combination of seasonal and non-seasonal allergies, resulting in year-round allergy problems.

accompany allergies in pets.

Drugs called kinase inhibitors work by changing cellular function to fight itchiness. An example is a drug called Apoquel (oclacitinib).

"Results in head-to-head studies against either prednisolone or cyclosporine show the drug to be equally effective in control of itch and inflammation and to have a very rapid onset of action, with relief sometimes apparent within hours of oral administration," said board-certified veterinary dermatologist Dr. Douglas J. DeBoer of the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine in the proceedings of the 2016 North American Veterinary Community Conference in Orlando, Florida.

Other biologics with promise are called monoclonal antibodies. They are a type of immunotherapy that can be directed against key molecules that cause itchiness. A monthly injectable treatment is available for dogs.

Some dogs respond to old-school immunotherapy: allergy shots. Testing deter-

mines the substances to which the dog is allergic — cats, for instance, or Bermuda grass. Then a veterinary dermatologist creates an allergy shot to hyposensitize the dog to specific allergens. Up to 75 percent of dogs get relief from allergy shots, although some may need additional therapies at certain times of year, depending on the type of allergy.

A more conservative treatment that is a good adjunct to medications is a high level of supplementation with essential fatty acids, or EFAs. They can have anti-inflammatory effects and may help to improve the skin's barrier function — its ability to control colonization by bacteria that cause itchy skin infections. It usually takes a month or two before effects are noticeable. Topical treatments such as shampoos and moisturizers can also help to enhance barrier function.

For pets who may have food allergies, an elimination trial — feeding a food that contains ingredients a pet has never eaten before — can help to identify the dietary culprit.

It's a painstaking process. Simply switching from one brand or protein to another isn't enough, because most commercial pet foods contain trace amounts of allergens that may not be listed on the label. That's why trial diets usually comprise odd combinations such as kangaroo and oats or fish and potatoes. If the pet improves after eight to 12 weeks of eating only the hypoallergenic diet (no treats or table foods), ingredients are added back into meals one by one until it's clear which one is causing the problem. ■

Pets of the Week



>> **Stitch** is a 9-month-old tabby who gets along well with other cats — especially his roommate. Adopt them both for the price of one: \$55.



>> **Channing** is a 2-year-old domestic shorthair mix who is relaxed and playful. Her adoption fee is \$55.



>> **Buddy** is a happy-go-lucky 7-year-old Chihuahua mix whose adoption fee is \$150.



>> **Burgler** is a 9-year-old schnauzer mix who is a perfect gentleman with people and with other dogs. His adoption fee is \$45.

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*"Vacation
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Vacation
Had to get away..." — The Go Gos*

Vacations are supposed to be relaxing and stress free, but the planning that goes into one can be exhausting exasperating.

I thought I was the only one who found booking airline tickets to be one of the most nerve-wracking experiences ever, but I was texting with my friend Tracy from Tennessee and it turns out she feels the same, she says she hates booking flights as much as I do. We commiserated about how the airline websites don't exactly make it easy. When Tracy was recently booking a plane ticket for an upcoming getaway, she told me, "It skipped right over the part where I was supposed to pick my seats and took me right to 'Airline Picks' — really?!"

I get it completely. Todd and I usually road trip to our summer vacations to the mountains of Tennessee, but we've come to realize that both Florida and Georgia are way too bloody long, y'all. They really aren't so bad, though, when you first get in the car and head north on 75 — you're excited, filled with anticipation for vacation.

During the lengthy exodus out of Southwest Florida to Georgia, my husband Todd

and I typically wile away the nearly 500 miles of flat, boring interstate by counting the number of billboards for "adult novelty" stores peppered in between signs for Disney World, Sea World and The Holy Land Experience theme parks.

Plus, we discuss all the fun things we're going to do when we finally make it to Tennessee. In Georgia, once we survive the white-knuckle nightmare traffic of Atlanta, we begin getting our first glimpse of mountains — and the stress of the seven long hours of Georgia roadway becomes a distant memory.

It's after vacation, coming home through Georgia and Florida that causes me to lose my will to live. I feel like I'm going to jump out of my skin as I watch all the orange barrels marking the tedious construction of Sarasota, while I mentally click my heels and repeat, "Almost home, almost home, almost home."

So, this year, we've decided that we've outgrown road trips and it's time to fly the friendly skies. Still, I was hesitant — and not just because of the United Airlines incident (although I do love my teeth and wish them not to be knocked out of my head). No, I think that what stresses me out the most about booking flights is the commitment of it all. Once you've entered



your credit card number and clicked "complete purchase" you're stuck. You're getting on that enormous, claustrophobic, metal tube and hurling through the air whether you like it or not.

This time, I chose Southwest Airlines because of the attractive pricing. I've never flown Southwest before, but I've heard good things from friends, so I clicked through all the steps on the website. Finally, it told me to complete my purchase and I did, thinking they'd ask me for my seating preferences afterward.

But, no — that step was missing completely. I immediately called Southwest where someone on the other end of the line named Matt explained in a somewhat bored voice that Southwest doesn't have

seating assignments — it's "open seating."

I was horrified, "Matt dear," I said, "it's an AIRPLANE, not a U2 concert. We don't just all pile in willy nilly, do we?" Matt sighed wearily and explained that we pile in according to three separate groups, which did nothing to calm my frayed nerves.

Either way, it's done — the tickets are booked and there's no going back now. Which almost lends some peace of mind because it's out of my hands.

Now I understand the reasoning behind another

friend of mine who only books plane tickets after one too many glasses of wine. She's relaxed, she throws caution to the wind, it's usually midnight. The next morning she reads an email from an airline telling her that she and her beau are headed to Barcelona in two weeks — and even though she has a middle seat, it's OK — because it's done. She makes herself a mimosa and starts looking at hotels in Spain.

Adult-beverage fueled vacation plans are the way to go. ■

— *Ciao for now, my lovelies! Stay tuned for another divalicious diary entry next week ...*

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FROM THE TOP

'Sustainable, attainable' is CEO's motto

BY DON MANLEY
Florida Weekly Correspondent

Jim Henderson believes firmly in the power of the sun.

His faith in sunlight's viability as an energy source is so great that he installed a rooftop solar system at his business, the William C. Huff Companies, substantial enough to handle all the electrical needs of the 44,000-square-foot building it occupies.



HENDERSON

"I think sustainability doesn't have to be expensive," says Mr. Henderson, the company's president and CEO. "My phrase is, 'sustainable and attainable.'"

In use since November 2015, the solar array provides heating and cooling for the company's 34,000-square-foot, climate controlled warehouse and 10,000 square feet of administrative space.

Mr. Henderson says the system is Collier County's largest, single-facility solar project. It produces more electricity than the facility requires, enabling the company to have a negative carbon footprint. A 30 percent Federal tax credit reduces the system's installation cost to \$245,000, which he expects to recoup within seven years of use.

Based in east Naples, the William C. Huff Companies is a provider of worldwide, concierge moving and storage services for the highest of high-end clients.

"We're a logistics specialist," Mr. Henderson says. "Private families are what we work toward pleasing. We specialize in ultra-high net-worth clients — people with a liquid net-worth of \$50 million or more." The majority of the company's clients are worth "in the hundreds of millions or in the billions," he adds.

SEE HENDERSON, B5 ►



Employing good professionals can make the difference between owning a seasonal dream home or facing a costly nightmare

Home WATCHERS

BY KATHY GREY
Florida Weekly Correspondent

AH, THE DAYS OF "SEASON" HAVE FLOWN. So, too, have many of our beloved snowbirds, those part-time Florida residents who boost Florida's economy exponentially in our winter months. But snowbirds' commitment to Florida's economy doesn't necessarily end at the close of tourist season. In the summer months, an increasing number of seasonal residents employ the services of local home watchers who keep an eye on their winter digs while they are away.

So if you love snowbirds for ramping-up the economy in winter, you can thank

SEE WATCHERS, B6 ►

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SOLD

Hodges U. welcomes newest members of business honor society

Hodges University's Johnson School of Business recently inducted 14 students and six university administrators, faculty and staff members into its Sigma Beta Delta Honor Society at the ninth annual induction ceremony on the Naples campus.

Sigma Beta Delta was founded in 1994 to encourage and recognize scholarship and accomplishment among students of accounting, business administration and management. It also serves to encourage and promote aspirations toward personal and professional improvement and a life distinguished by honorable service to humankind.

The ceremony included keynote speaker and honorary inductee Barry Banther, CEO of Banther Consulting



COURTESY PHOTO

The newest Sigma Beta Delta inductees at Hodges University.

Corp. and Banther Family Advisors. A business management expert, he was elected three back-to-back terms as chairman of the State Board of Independent Colleges and Universities. During his presentation, he encouraged inductees to remember three critical skills to succeed as a leader:

“First, run toward the problem, not away from it. Second, make it your goal to invest in people; it is your most valuable inventory. And third, bring out the best in people,” he said.

The following students were inducted: Accounting: Vily Andre, Lori Gunn, John Martinous and Dung Phan. Business

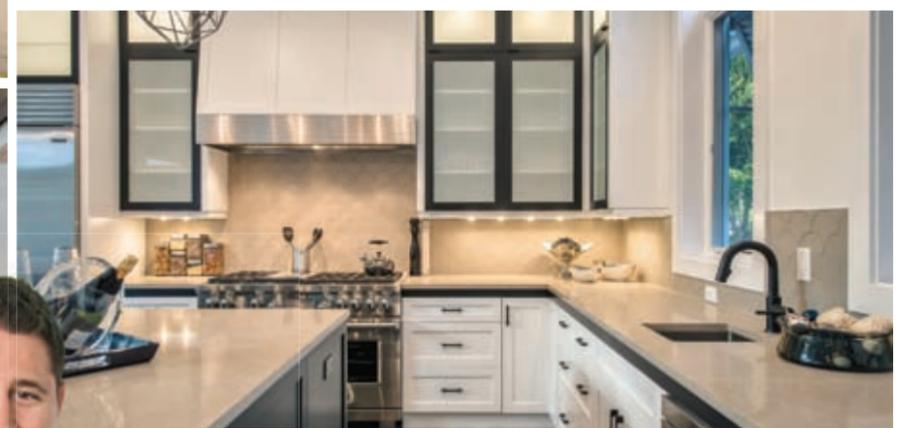
administration: Osman Cosgun, David Ferguson, Gratiem Iyumva, Stela Sheehan and Marina Zupan. Management: Carole Clark, Jennifer Porr, Jordan Scardigno and Kenneth Worthy. Public Administration: Mari Thieryung.

The following university administrators, faculty and staff were inducted: Donald Wortham, university president; Carol Morrison, senior vice president of student and support services; Marcia Turner, dean of students; Leisha Cali, director of English as a Second Language program; Rick Durant, adjunct faculty of accounting; and Eve Olvera, administrative assistant to the dean of the Johnson School of Business. ■

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Beware of Variable Annuities

Variable annuities can seem like ideal solutions for retirement income, but their drawbacks typically outweigh their benefits.

With both variable and fixed-rate annuities, you pay a financial services company a bunch of money, and in exchange, you receive payments (or possibly a lump sum) beginning immediately or in the future. While variable annuity payouts rely on the performance of an underlying security or the stock market, simpler fixed annuities offer specified payouts, with less mystery, and are often preferable.

When you're being pitched a variable annuity — and that's often how they're sold, by salespeople pushing them — you'll be told of their benefits, which will sound terrific. For example, you can receive income for the rest of your life, reducing or eliminating your chances of running out of money before you die. The annuity is tax-deferred, so your money grows without being taxed and is taxed when you withdraw funds. You can often include a "death benefit," choosing a beneficiary to receive a certain sum should you die before you receive all guaranteed payouts, or if your

account's balance is above a certain level.

Those are all good, but you can get the same or similar benefits from less problematic annuities, such as fixed and/or immediate annuities.

As variable annuities let you choose how the money in your account is invested — conservatively, aggressively or somewhere in between — you can end up with exceptionally good results — but only if the investments perform as you hope. Many end up receiving less from the annuity than they'd hoped.

Variable annuities are also problematic because they often feature steep fees and costs. Even seemingly small fees can eat into your return, making a big difference in the long run. A variable annuity is likely to charge you fees for mortality and expense risk, along with general administrative fees. Variable annuities charge "surrender" fees, too, which can be substantial.

Learn more at sec.gov/investor/pubs/varannity.htm before investing in a variable annuity — and consider opting for a fixed annuity instead. ■

Name That Company

I trace my roots to the 1920s. I'm dominant in cable TV, with HBO, Cinemax, CNN, TBS, TNT, Adult Swim and the Cartoon Network. One of my divisions is the world's leading producer of television programming and filmed entertainment. Video games such as "Mortal Kombat X" and "Batman: Arkham Knight" are also mine, as is the new "LEGO Dimensions." My former businesses included magazines (such as People



and Sports Illustrated), hardcover books, comic books, recorded music and even AOL. My market value recently topped \$75 billion, and I employ around 25,000 people. AT&T is aiming to buy me. Who am I?

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

The Motley Fool Take

McWhat?

It rakes in close to \$200 billion per year, employs about 70,000 people and is No. 5 on the Fortune 500 list, but relatively few people have heard of McKesson (NYSE: MCK). By revenue, it's the largest of the big three wholesale prescription drug distributors in the U.S. (ahead of Cardinal Health and AmerisourceBergen), enjoying powerful economies of scale.

Earnings growth over the past year has been somewhat elusive for McKesson and its peers, which has kept the stock price depressed. An unpredictable political environment has not helped, either.

Increasing payer pushback against branded prescription drug prices has squeezed McKesson's profit margins in recent quarters. This might hamper growth in the short term, but it also

strengthens the company's advantage over smaller competitors.

Meanwhile, McKesson has posted nearly \$6 billion in free cash flow over the past year, enabling it to pay dividends, buy back shares, pay down debt and acquire other companies.

McKesson is well positioned for decades of profitability. Its dividend offers a meager 0.8 percent yield at recent prices, but massive share repurchases have been shrinking its share count and boosting the value of remaining shares. The average stock in the S&P 500 was recently trading at a nerve-rattling price-to-earnings (P/E) ratio of 24, making McKesson's recent P/E ratio of 17 look like a much better value. (The Motley Fool has recommended McKesson.) ■

My Dumbest Investment

Shoulda, Coulda, Woulda

Back in fall 2013, I bought a bunch of stock in networking software specialist Extreme Networks. It looked good at first.

A couple of months later, I saw that some insiders were selling off stock. I did nothing. That was really dumb. Within a week, the stock tanked — and then a few weeks later, it tanked again on weak earnings and a new CFO being named.

I sold after losing \$16,000. Moral of the story: When you see some really negative news, don't do nothing. Follow your gut. If I had sold when I first saw the insider sales, I would have made a profit. Shoulda, coulda, woulda.

— L.H., online

The Fool Responds: It's good to take action whenever you see troubling news about a company in which you're invested. Don't just sell, though — it's best to do some digging first, to find out whether the company is facing lasting challenges or is merely encountering temporary troubles.

Don't be alarmed when insiders sell shares, unless there's sudden mass selling. Many executives and people who work for younger companies receive a significant chunk of their compensation in the form of stock grants and stock options, so when they need money (perhaps to buy a home or car or pay a tuition bill), they will routinely sell some shares.

Extreme Networks has more than doubled over the past year. ■

Last week's trivia answer

I trace my roots back to 1911, when my founder, a hunter frustrated with cold, damp feet, designed a boot with a rubber bottom and a leather top. I soon became known for great service and high-quality goods. Most of my early sales came from my mail-order catalog, but online sales eclipsed that in 2009. I'm an outdoor gear and apparel retailing giant. My flagship store in the Northeast U.S. has no locks on its doors, as it's open nonstop year-round. With 220,000 square feet, it's visited by more than 3 million people yearly. I rake in more than \$1 billion annually. Who am I? (Answer: L.L.Bean) ■



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

Allocating Capital

Q What's a company's "capital allocation"?

— B.R., Sioux City, Iowa

A The term capital allocation refers to how a company spends its money. For example, it can pay down its debt, pay its shareholders a dividend, buy back some of its shares, buy another company or use it to further its own growth, such as by hiring more workers, building a new plant, spending more on advertising, and so on.

The money should be spent in the most productive ways, so companies need to avoid spending too much on an acquisition or buying back shares when they're overvalued. When a company's capital is not allocated effectively, it's wasted, and that hurts shareholders.

Q Can I claim a loss on worthless stock without selling the shares?

— K.W., Bremerton, Washington

A Only if the stock qualifies as "worthless" according to IRS rules. It's often simpler just to sell the shares.

Some brokerages will buy shares of clients' worthless stock for a small sum. If yours won't, you can sell the shares to a friend (or cousin, aunt or uncle) for pennies. (But not to a spouse, siblings, parents, grandparents or lineal descendants.) Here's one way to do it:

1. Get the actual stock certificates from your broker.
2. Formally sell the shares, with a payment check and bill of sale.
3. Sign over the stock certificate (on its back) to the buyer. Have the signatures verified by your banker and/or a local stockbroker.
4. Send the certificate to the stock's transfer agent, explaining that the shares have been sold. Ask them to cancel the old shares and issue a new certificate to the new owner.

Learn more from the horse's mouth at irs.gov. ■

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

BUSINESS MEETINGS

■ The **Leadership Collier** Class of 2017 and the **GAIN** Class of 2017 celebrate their respective graduations Thursday evening, April 27, at Artis—Naples. For more information, visit www.napleschamber.org/events.

■ **Wake Up YP Bonita** for Young Professionals of the Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce takes place from 8-9:15 a.m. Tuesday, May 2, at DeRomo's Gourmet Market & Restaurant in the Promenade. Sign up at www.bonitaspringschamber.com or RSVP by calling 992-2943.

■ **The Above Board Chamber** meets from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, May 8, at the Hilton Naples. A panel discussion about "Ethics in Business" will be emceed by Eric Dent, Ph.D., Uncom-

mon Friends Endowed Chair of Ethics in the Lutgert College of Business at Florida Gulf Coast University. Panelists will include Michael Wynn, president of Sunshine Ace Hardware; Theo Etzel, CEO of Conditioned Air Corp.; and Jim Henderson, president of William C. Huff Companies. \$25 for Above Board members, \$30 for others when reservations are made Wednesday, May 3; \$30 and \$35 for reservations made after May 3. Sign up at www.aboveboardchamber.com. For information about membership, call Jeanne Sweeney at 910-7426.

■ **Women's Network of Collier County** meets from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, May 9, at Etudes de Ballet & Co., 3285 Pine Ridge Road. Guest speaker will be Joyce Beers from Neat Method. Sign up at www.wnocc.org.

■ **The Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce** hosts its annual dinner Thursday, May 11, at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort. For more information, visit www.napleschamber.org/events.

■ **Business After Hours** for members and guests of the Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce takes place from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, May 11, at Vi at Bentley Village in North Naples. Sign up at www.bonitaspringschamber.com or RSVP by calling 992-2943.

■ **Young Professionals of the Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce** host the "In Your Future" YP Summit from noon to 6 p.m. Friday, May 12, at Florida SouthWestern State College in Fort Myers. Emerging leaders from throughout the region are welcome. \$55.

For reservations or more information, visit www.bonitaspringschamber.com or call 992-2943.

■ **The Collier County Medical Society** holds its annual meeting and 60th anniversary celebration Saturday evening, May 13, at Quail Creek Country Club. For more information, email info@ccmsonline.org or visit www.ccmsonline.org.

■ **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. ■

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

HENDERSON

From page 1

Mr. Henderson's solar power advocacy has led him to speak before groups locally and nationally to convince residents and other business owners to turn to the sun for their power needs.

The company's environmental conservation also includes recycling almost 100 percent of its cardboard (which totals roughly 300,000 to 400,000 pounds annually) and reusing another 200,000 pounds of cardboard, approximately, each year.

Because clients sometimes store no longer needed items in the business' warehouse, the William C. Huff Companies also helps interested clients find new homes for their belongings by donating them. For example, the company works with Renovation Angel, a national nonprofit that recycles luxury pre-owned kitchens and renovation items for sale, with the proceeds benefitting programs that deal with at-risk youth, addiction recovery, job creation and social entrepreneurship.

Promoting and participating in environmental stewardship is a key element of the company's business philosophy.

"We can leave a great business behind, we can leave a great community behind, but none of that's going to matter if we don't protect the environment," he says.

Mr. Henderson purchased William C. Huff Moving and Storage 28 years ago from its namesake when it was a two-man operation located in Dover, N.H., that focused on small, local moves and was known, primarily, for low prices. Mr. Henderson grew the business in both size and coverage area and began emphasizing quality service, while step-

ping up to handle large moves throughout New England.

"It took a solid two years to get to a point where people hired me for quality, not price," he says. "We became the company of choice in the Seacoast New Hampshire area. It was accomplished by my philosophy of 'Always exceed the client's expectations.'"

The company expanded to include the Naples location in 1995.

"When I visited down here, I was impressed the statistics of 7 percent growth each year at the time — and quite frankly, Naples is a great place to hang out in the winter as opposed to New Hampshire.

"The older I get, I can look back and say that was a really great decision."

As the business continued to grow in after opening in Naples, Mr. Henderson decided to shift its focus to serving the high net-worth and ultra-high net-worth markets. The name was changed to reflect the new specialty and the fact that William C. Huff is more than a moving and storage business.

Mr. Henderson says serving such high-end clientele calls for having a professionally trained, well-vetted and highly skilled staff that is experienced in dealing with such customers and their valued possessions, family heirlooms "and things that money can't buy."

The Maine native is a product of that state's foster care system, and Friends of Foster Children Forever is one of the many local nonprofits organizations he is actively involved with.

Mr. Henderson said he enjoys his work, primarily because he doesn't regard it as work.

"We provide a needed service in a very unique way, and people notice the difference," he says. "When you know that you're unique and different, you have a different set of standards and

that makes every day interesting. We're always looking at things a little differently. We're always advancing every day, trying to go the next level. We challenge staff members to be focused on more than just getting through the day."

Mr. Henderson and his wife, Nanette, reside in Naples and Wolfeboro, N.H. Their son, Joel, manages the company's warehouse and daughter Jacquelin is a visual artist who resides in New Hampshire.

Interview with Jim Henderson

• **Business mentor:** To be honest, most conventional business owners have not impressed me. They seem to have values that oppose my ethics and moral compass. I read the Bible a lot and get most of my inspiration from what I read.

• **First job:** I walked up to a neighbor's home when I was 12 years old and told him his house needed painting. He looked at me and, most likely, was intrigued with my self-confidence. He asked if I had any older brothers who could help me, and when I said "two" he hired me and we spent the next few weeks painting just the trim on his enormous summer home.

I also had a 30-hour/week job mowing a summer resident's lawn with, believe it or not, a "Forest Gump" Toro mower. It was mind-numbingly boring, so I sold the job to a lazy neighborhood friend for the \$40/week pay that I got. Basically I have ... never been without some form of sustaining income, going back to 12 years old.

• **Business words of wisdom:** Nothing is more important than attitude. I always have told my children, "Do not ever let someone else's attitude change yours, but always, always strive to let your attitude affect other people's attitudes." That is always the challenge: No



COURTESY PHOTO

Jim Henderson at his company headquarters.

matter what the circumstances, never have a negative attitude. It is the one thing we wear that everyone can see and pass judgment on.

• **Favorite business book:** Hands down, "Freakonomics" by Steven Levitt, probably one of the most brilliant minds of our time.

• **Two things you look for when hiring:** You guessed it: Attitude and ... attitude. Anything can be learned; attitude is something people just "have."

• **Any job openings now:** Always have job openings for anyone who has the right attitude — and who can lift heavy objects, of course.

• **Last time you had to fire someone and the reason:** It doesn't occur very often these days. I believe the last firing was six or seven years ago. And the reason? You guessed it: a really, really bad attitude. ■

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WATCHERS

From page 1

them again for creating a niche business for a number of Florida entrepreneurs who take responsibility for keeping an eye on homes and properties as seriously as the owners would themselves if they were still in Florida.

Of course, seasonal residents can hand over the keys to their winter abodes to neighbors or friends to take a look-see once in a while, to make sure nothing disastrous has happened to the property. And some do. But neither party sees this as much more than a favor until something goes wrong. The consequences can be financially devastating to the homeowner, and mark the end of a friendship.

"A vacant home is a vulnerable home," says Diane Pisani, founder of Your Home Watch Professionals in Naples and the author of "The Ultimate Home Watch Interview Guide," which takes seasonal homeowners through a step-by-step process of assessing what the cost of negligence could mean to a second home, one of their most valuable assets.

Unchecked growth

The home watch industry has seen significant growth over the years, attracting pretty much anyone with a key and a brain to make sure your home is secure while you're away. And that's why the National Home Watch Association was established in 2009: to create standards for the home watch industry.

"Home watch services that are accredited by the National Home Watch Association have met the highest standards in the industry, and are leaders in the field," touts the NHTWA website (www.nationalhomewatchassociation.org).

But Ms. Pisani cautions that the home watch business is an unregulated industry in the state of Florida.

"True professionals know what to look for and have resources to handle just about any situation," Ms. Pisani says, which is why she not only partners in a home watch service with 15 affiliate, independently-owned companies, but started a business training people about home watching, which, if not performed with expertise, can be costly not only to the homeowner, but the home watcher, as well.

Charlotte County caretaker

Howie Grace, 47, is a familiar face in Punta Gorda. For years, he served as a cameraman and reporter with major network affiliates. All the while, he was working alongside his fiancée, Melissa Reynolds, in Peace of Mind Home Watch Service, a company she bought about 25 years ago. In the growing market of home watch companies, Peace of Mind, now in its third decade, is one of the granddaddies of them all.

"I helped her out a little when we first started dating, and I took over the business after Hurricane Charley," he says. As a law enforcement officer, Ms. Reynolds' services were needed around the clock after Hurricane Charley made a direct hit on Punta Gorda in August 2004. Mr. Grace managed the business for a decade, and about three years ago, he became a commercial truck driver for Cypress Truck Lines "this side of the Mason/Dixie," he says. When he's not on the road driving, sleeping in the truck's berth, stretching out on his hammock and grilling local food procured from Savannah to Louisiana, he's back in Charlotte County, giving Peace of Mind to home watch clients.

"We downsized a lot because of our schedules," he says. "At one time, we had over 100 clients in the Punta Gorda area." Today, he and Ms. Reynolds serve "a loyal group of about two dozen customers," and expect to expand the business



The management of Admiral's Cove in Jupiter takes special care of its residents, offering a home watch option within the 900-home community.

COURTESY PHOTO

"True professionals know what to look for and have resources to handle just about any situation"



— Diane Pisani
Your Home Watch Professionals

when one of them retires.

The couple's clients are mostly snowbirds. About a quarter of them are preparing to retire. "They buy a condo and ask us to keep an eye on the place, but we insist on weekly home checks. We don't take clients once a month. A lot of things can go wrong in 30 days. That kind of contract can create a lot of havoc."

That's something Ms. Pisani urges her home watch students: If someone wants you to do a home check once a month, walk away.

"We haven't raised our rates in 15 years," Mr. Grace says, so it's no wonder Peace of Mind is in high demand. "I realize that we charge less than others, but we're keeping the business going by being loyal to clients we've had for years, and we are very particular about the clients we accept. I've seen a lot of businesses like ours spring up and die. People jump in and don't realize the kind of commitment it takes," he says, including taking calls at midnight to reset an alarm.

But there are lighter scenarios, too. After Hurricane Charley, Mr. Grace checked on a client's Punta Gorda Isles home. "I walked around the back to do a perimeter search and walked in on the neighbors skinny-dipping in the client's pool." They had permission, the disrobed duo assured him. "Yeah," he thought, "but did they know you'd be NAKED in the pool?" He confirmed with the homeowner that the neighbors were permitted to use the pool, and never divulged their state of undress. "Not my monkey; not my circus. As long as they had permission," Mr. Grace says.

Teaching the art of the watch

Ms. Pisani considers herself a customer service professional first and foremost. "It all depends on where we want to use our skills," she says. Following careers at AT&T and her own cruise-only travel agency in Indiana, she moved to Southwest Florida in 2003. She worked at the Ritz-Carlton and as a director of property services. There, she learned about home watch, and in 2006, she



COURTESY PHOTO

Howie Grace works for Peace of Mind Home Watch Service and is also a truck driver.

partnered in founding Second to None Services.

"We grew very quickly," she says of the 15 independently owned companies. "We work together cooperatively to build a brand and develop our culture." But at its outset, Ms. Pisani realized there was no training for home watchers. "There was no oversight, no barriers to entry in this service. We learned people were not providing the level of service we were," she says, so she hosted her first training seminar for professional home watchers in 2008. The training aspect took off, and Your Home Watch Professionals has been a full-time business since then.

While she believes certification as a home watcher is on the horizon, anyone can start a home watch business simply by accepting a set of keys. That seemed absurd to Ms. Pisani, who knows that certification and licensure is required "for someone to rub your neck or apply fingernail polish."

Her three-day, 24-hour, comprehensive training features guidelines, advice, anecdotal information and guest speakers to educate about air conditioning, plumbing, mold remediation, accounting and insurance. A business coach rounds out the experience of launching a business.

The home watch business is ideal for "transitional entrepreneurs," she says, even if they've never been self-employed. "You might have been in corporate America for 30 years. You'll need a roadmap." Ms. Pisani has trained executives, former military personnel, first responders, country club managers and husband and wife teams, for example. "We're baby boomers serving baby boomers," she

says, noting that people in their 30s and 40s are also getting into the home watch business.

Ms. Pisani does not divulge the cost of her course, but she says her company's home watch professionals charge \$40 per visit.

Educating the homeowner is important, too, which is why she authored "The Ultimate Home Watch Interview Guide," available free by visiting www.yourhwp.com. Her blog, featuring other home watch musings, can also be found on the site, including the very cautionary fact that insurance companies can deny a claim if there is not proof that a vacant home is being watched regularly.

Her affiliates offer weekly or twice-weekly visits. "We don't offer monthly visits. It gives owners a false sense of security she says, adding that too many disasters can occur in a month.

She tells the tale of a couple who bought a pristine condo and asked a friend to keep an eye on it while they were away. Six months later, their new condo was covered in mold, and the \$30,000 mitigation claim was denied by the insurance company. "The home watcher wasn't a bad person. He was reporting to the home owner, but he was not regulating the humidity level," Ms. Pisani says. "He was not trained. If they do take legal action, that will impact him financially, and certainly it means the loss of a friendship." ■

in the know

Home Watcher benefits

- >> Regular visits to your property can prevent or lessen property damage.
- >> Creating a presence in your home may deter squatters and other intruders.
- >> Delivering consistent and accurate information to you during your absence.
- >> Inspectors will look for leaks, insect infestations, mold and other issues.
- >> For condo owners, while an HOA/POA is responsible for common grounds and common areas, you are responsible for everything from the "studs in." Problems in an overhead unit can create major damage to the unit below. Common pipes in common walls can cause problems to multiple units. A home watch service will discover any issue prior to your return.
- >> A home watch service can act as your liaison between contractors, associations, Realtors and virtually anyone that you authorize them to.
- >> Implementing your storm plan.
- >> Making arrangements for work to be done in your absence.
- >> Answering alarm calls.
- >> Peace of mind, knowing that your home is being looked after by professionals.

— Source: National Home Watch Association

NETWORKING

Naples Trust Bank hosts volunteer appreciation party for Senior Friendship Health Services



1. Front: Jennifer Smith, Janice Genovese, Robert Ross and Sharon Anderson. Back: Bruce Novark, Nicholas Paver, Donnie Rooksberry, Frant Szot, Douglas Doben and Kent McWherter
2. Dr. Joan Benz and Bob Andrews
3. Haylee Cochran and MJ Scarpelli
4. Cherry Smith, Dr. Bruce Novark and Beverly Novark
5. Nina Gray, Jennifer Smith and Janet Mattucci
6. Connie McWherter, Haylee Cochran, Bruce Genovese and Dr. Kent McWherter
7. Janet Thibeault and Chuck Thibeault
8. Carl Westman and Wayne Mullican
9. Robert Nordland, Dr. Joan Benz, Dr. Ranendra Dasvarma, Janet Mattucci, Bruce Genovese and Michael Gloth

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NETWORKING

Clive Daniel Home hosts Collier Resource Center



1. Ben Bulme and Silvia Puente
2. Mj Scarpelli and Donna McClymont
3. Barbara Knepshield, Karen Biernesser and Kay Jasso
4. Pat Connell and Dave Giddens
5. Sue Ryan and Nan Moore
6. Karen Coney Coplin, Nan Moore and Susan Suarez
7. Trey Fletcher, Brittany Panter and Marie Jimenez
8. MJ Scarpelli and Tom Weschler
9. Irene Williams and Voncile Whitaker
10. Gary Biernesser, Jenny Billig and Jim Knepshield



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WEEK OF APRIL 27- MAY 3, 2017

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| B9

Existing-home sales set new pace in March

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

Existing-home sales took off in March to their highest pace in more than 10 years, and severe supply shortages resulted in the typical home coming off the market significantly faster than in February and a year ago, according to the National Association of Realtors. Only the West saw a decline in sales activity in March.

The March sales pace was 5.9 percent above a year ago and surpasses January as the strongest month of sales since February 2007 (5.79 million).

Existing sales were led by hefty gains in the Northeast and Midwest. "The early returns so far this spring buying season look very promising," says Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist. "Although finding available properties to buy continues to be a strenuous task for many buyers, there was enough of a monthly increase in listings in March for sales to muster a strong gain," he adds. "Sales will go up as long as inventory does."

The median existing-home price for all housing types in March was \$236,400, up 6.8 percent from March 2016 (\$221,400). The increase marks the 61st consecutive month of year-over-year gains.

Total housing inventory at the end of March increased 5.8 percent to 1.83 million existing homes available for sale, but is still 6.6 percent lower than a year ago (1.96 million) and has fallen year-over-year for 22 straight months. Unsold inventory is at a 3.8-month supply at the current sales pace (unchanged from February).

Properties typically stayed on the market for 34 days in March, which is down significantly from 45 days in February and 47 days a year ago. Short sales were on the market the longest at a median of 90 days in March, while foreclosures sold in 52 days and non-distressed homes took 32 days (shortest since NAR began tracking in May 2011). Forty-eight percent of homes sold in March were on the market for less than a month.

SEE NAR, B12 ►



House Hunting

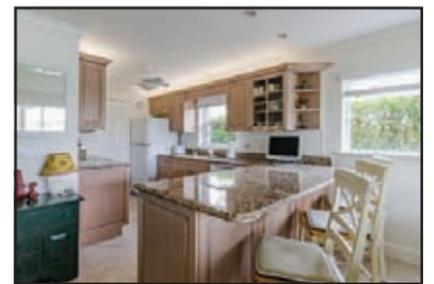
2100 Gulf Shore Blvd. N., Suite 121

Location is everything. Beach lovers will fall in love with this sunny end-unit condo nestled in the beautiful Moorings community. Bay views and steps to the beach make this a hidden paradise treasure. The convenient location allows owners to walk or bike to shopping and dining only a few blocks away. Plus, for boat lovers, a private boat dock is included and has been recently renovated.

The 1,200-square-foot condo with two bedrooms and two baths has easy access as a ground-floor unit and is being offer completely turnkey. Just bring your swimsuit and lotion to start enjoying life in paradise. The established neighborhood offers barbecue and picnic areas, private beach access, community pool, fishing pier and more.

Membership to Moorings Beach Club is included for only \$75 per year and offers amenities and shady pavilions for those lazy beach days.

Kelly Capolino of Downing Frye Realty has the listing for \$499,000. For more information, call 877-6700 or email Kelly@naples.net. ■



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 • Extraordinary 5 BR, 6 BA Estate, Over 9,700 S.F.
 • 180 Degree Bay View
\$13,975,000 MLS 217020067
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NAPLES
 • Full Golf Membership Included
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\$2,249,000 MLS 216064912
Patti Fortune & Charles Goff 239.272.8494

QUAIL WEST



NAPLES
 • 1-Story Mansion w/6,900 S.F. Under Air
 • Impressive Curb Appeal
\$2,199,000 MLS 216034504
The Taranto Team 239.572.3078

LUSSO VILLAS



NAPLES
 • New Look
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\$999,000 Call For Details
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LELY RESORT



OPEN 4/30 2:30PM - 5:30PM

9030 SHENANDOAH CIR., NAPLES
 • Muriefield Floor Plan Overlooking Golf Course
 • Central Vacuum, Custom Entertainment
\$995,000 MLS 217004528
The Taranto Team 239.572.3078

AUDUBON COUNTRY CLUB



NAPLES
 • 3 Bedroom + Study, 4 Bathroom Home
 • Porcelain Tile, Granite & Marble Countertops
\$937,000 MLS 216078207
Zach Fischer 239.777.7500

GOLDEN SHORES



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

SHADOW WOOD AT THE BROOKS



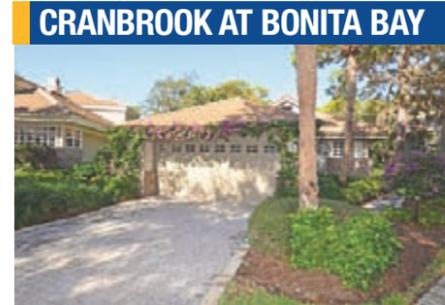
BONITA
 • Quiet Wooded Lot w/Park Next Door
 • Private Pool/Spa Surrounded by Vegetation
\$735,000 MLS 217016458
Gary Ryan 239.273.6796

SATURNIA LAKES



NAPLES
 • Views of Golf Course, Pool & Spa
 • Light & Bright 5 BR, 3 BA Home
\$680,000 MLS 217007547
Dodona & Ornela, The Robodi Team 239.776.8123

CRANBROOK AT BONITA BAY



BONITA
 • Cozy Villa, 3 BR, 2.5 BA & Large Space
 • New Kitchen Cabinets & Tile Floor
\$675,000 MLS 217004370
Linda Ramsey 239.405.3054

GULF SHORES
NEW PRICE



NAPLES
 • Remodeled Canal Home w/Gulf Access
 • 3 BR, 2 BA, Tile Flooring Throughout
\$569,000 MLS 216062087
Doug Haughey 239.961.1561

LELY RESORT



OPEN 4/30 1:00PM - 4:00PM

6080 DOGLEG DR., NAPLES
 • 2-Story, 4 BR, 3 BA Home
 • Cathedral Ceiling, Loft & Den
\$552,000 MLS 216060235
The Taranto Team 239.572.3078

BLACK BEAR RIDGE



NAPLES
 • 3 BR + Den, 2.5 BA, 3-Car Garage
 • Upgraded Kitchen/Breakfast Bar
\$549,000 MLS 216065941
Vito Bauer 239.777.7080

MARBELLA LAKES



NAPLES
 • Close Proximity to Clubhouse
 • Low HOA Fees, Includes Cable
\$547,900 MLS 216076893
Patti Fortune 239.272.8494

INDIGO LAKES
NEW LISTING



NAPLES
 • Best Home in Indigo Lakes
 • Peaceful Lake Views
\$465,000 MLS 217026816
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NAPLES BAY RESORT
NEW LISTING



NAPLES
 • Resort Style Living, Minutes to 5th Ave.
 • 2nd Floor 2 BR, 2 BA Unit
\$428,750 MLS 217024424
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NEW LISTING



NAPLES
 • Totally Remodeled 1st Floor Unit
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\$425,000 MLS 217027244
Liz Appling 239.272.7201

THE ORCHARDS



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7573 CITRUS HILL LN., NAPLES
 • Centrally Located, "A" Rated School District
 • Greatly Maintained Community, Low Fees
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2198 STACIL CIR. #24, NAPLES
 • Beautiful Long Lake Views
 • 3 BR, 2 BA, Screened-In Lanai
\$315,000 MLS 217024124
Mark Semeraro 239.370.2455

NAPLES PARK



CLOSE TO THE BEACH
 • 3 BR + Den, 2 BA Home, Fenced Backyard
 • Room for a Pool w/Southern Exposure
\$265,000 MLS 216071477
Liz Appling 239.272.7201

IMPERIAL GOLF ESTATES



NAPLES
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 • Best Views of Lake & Golf Course
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 • Remote Key West Home w/Garden Area
 • Exceptionally Large & Newer Style MBR
\$1,300,000 MLS 217023909
John Aycock 239.777.9898



PARK SHORE
NAPLES
 • Pool Home w/Two Master Suites
 • Quiet Street, Close to the Beach
\$1,295,000 MLS 216047112
Liz Appling 239.272.7201



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NAPLES
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 • Commercial Size Pool & Infinity Edge Spa
\$1,100,000 MLS 216054371
Doug Haughey 239.961.1561



GOLDEN SHORES
NAPLES
 • 3 BR, 3.5 BA, 2-Story Waterfront Townhouse
 • Existing One Year Lease at \$3,000/Mo.
\$820,000 MLS 214030966
Steve Suddeth & Jenn Nicolai 239.784.0693



RIVERSTONE
NAPLES
 • Professionally Furnished, Brand New
 • 3-Car Garage, Walking Distance to Clubhouse
\$795,000 MLS 216067663
Patti Fortune 239.272.8494



MARBELLA LAKES
NEW PRICE
NAPLES
 • 6 Bedrooms + Den, 5 Bathrooms
 • Private Yard w/Salt Water Pool
\$749,900 MLS 217003899
Patti Fortune 239.272.8494



MOORINGS
NEW LISTING
NAPLES
 • Totally Remodeled, 3 BR, 2 BA Condo
 • Turnkey Furnished, 2nd Floor Unit
\$649,000 MLS 217026301
Liz Appling 239.272.7201



PELICAN BAY
NAPLES
 • 3 BR + Den, 2.5 BA Townhome
 • 1-Car Garage, Wood Flooring
\$620,000 MLS 216079451
Vito Bauer 239.777.7080



SHADOW WOOD AT THE BROOKS
BONITA
 • Great Sunrise/Sunset Views Over Lake
 • 2 BR + Den, 2 BA, Pool & Spa
\$599,000 MLS 216080780
Gary Ryan 239.273.6796



LAKE PARK
NAPLES
 • 3 BR, 2 BA, 2-Car Garage
 • Updated Kitchen & Bathrooms
\$575,000 MLS 216070338
Doug Haughey 239.961.1561



HAWTHORNE
OPEN 4/30 1:00PM - 4:00PM
10324 YORKSTONE DR., BONITA
 • Priced to Sell, Upgrades Galore, 2,562 S.F.
 • 3 BR + Den, 2.5 BA, Salt Water Pool
\$539,000 MLS 216015458
Linda Ramsey 239.405.3054



YACHT HARBOR
OPEN 4/30 1:00PM - 4:00PM
2500 GULF SHORE BLVD. N. #S-6, NAPLES
 • 2 BR, 2 BA Condo w/Boat Dock
 • Beach & Boating Access
\$519,000 MLS 217002421
Deborah Viglas 239.215.2035



SPANISH WELLS
OPEN 4/30 1:00PM - 4:00PM
28372 SOMBRERO DR., BONITA
 • Turnkey Furnished, 3 BR + Den, 3 BA, Pool & Spa
 • Beautiful Golf Course & Sunset Views
\$509,900 MLS 217022861
The Boeglin Team 239.287.6414



VERONA WALK
NAPLES
 • Oakmont Model, 3 BR + Den, 2 BA Home
 • Heated Pool w/Water View
\$475,000 MLS 217009608
Roger Stening 239.770.4707



MARINA TOWERS & YACHT CLUB
OPEN 4/30 1:00PM - 4:00PM
8401 ESTERO BLVD. #608, NAPLES
 • Lovely Corner 2 BR, 2 BA Condo
 • Northern Sunrise & Sunset Views
\$369,900 MLS 217012032
Michael May 239.949.0000



SATURNIA LAKES
OPEN 4/30 1:00PM - 4:00PM
1639 TRIANGLE PALM TER., NAPLES
 • Professionally Decorated
 • Amenity Rich Neighborhood
\$355,000 MLS 217008232
Dodona & Ornela, The Robodi Team 239.776.8123



COPPERLEAF AT THE BROOKS
BONITA
 • Turnkey
 • Low Density Bundled Golf
\$325,000 MLS 217015772
Bette Pitzer 239.560.2627



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NEW LISTING
NAPLES
 • Nicely Appointed, 3 BR, Walk-Up Condo
 • Beautiful Lake Views
\$319,000 MLS 217021679
Doug Haughey 239.961.1561



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NEW LISTING
NAPLES
 • 1st Floor Furnished 2 BR, 2 BA
 • Serene Panoramic Views
\$219,000 MLS 217027391
Mark Semeraro 239.370.2455



MOORINGS
OPEN 4/30 1:00PM - 4:00PM
744 WEDGE DR. #22, NAPLES
 • Less Than a Mile to Private Beach
 • New CGI Impact Windows, Guest Parking
\$214,500 MLS 217012219
Deborah Viglas 239.215.2035



GLADES GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB
NEW LISTING
NAPLES
 • 1st Floor 2 BR, 2 BA Turnkey Condo
 • Golf Course Views, Bundled Golf
\$169,900 MLS 217024029
Liz Appling 239.272.7201



BONITA PINES
BONITA
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 • Charming 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath Condo
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Larry Bell 239.919.4404

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NAR

From page 9

Inventory data from www.realtor.com shows the metropolitan statistical areas where listings stayed on the market the shortest amount of time in March were San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, Calif. (24 days); San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, Calif. (25 days); Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, Wash., and Denver-Aurora-Lakewood, Colo. (both at 28 days); and Vallejo-Fairfield, Calif. (31 days).

“A growing pool of all types of buyers is competing for the lackluster amount of existing homes on the market,” Mr.



Yun says. “Until we see significant and sustained multi-month increases in housing starts, prices will continue to far outpace incomes and put pressure on those trying to buy.”

Regional breakdown

March existing-home sales in the Northeast surged 10.1 percent to an annual rate of 760,000, and are now 4.1 percent above a year ago. The median price in the Northeast was \$260,800, which is 2.8 percent above March 2016.

In the Midwest, existing-home sales jumped 9.2 percent to an annual rate of 1.31 million in March, and are now 3.1 percent above a year ago. The median price in the Midwest was \$183,000, up 6.2 percent from a year ago.

Existing-home sales in the South in March rose 3.4 percent to an annual rate of 2.42 million, and are now 8.5 percent above March 2016. The median price in the South was \$210,600, up 8.6 percent from a year ago.

Existing-home sales in the West decreased 1.6 percent to an annual rate of 1.22 million in March, but are still 5.2 percent above a year ago. The median price in the West was \$347,500, up 8.0 percent from March 2016. ■

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**1423 Princess Sabal Point
Naples, FL 34119**

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Please Call George at 239-253-9691.**

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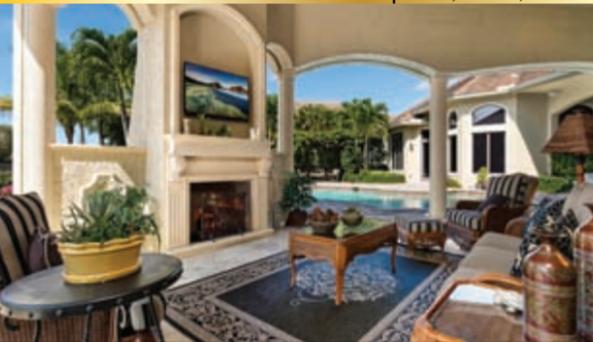
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15430 MILAN WAY | \$1,895,000



UPDATED VILLA - GOLF COURSE VIEWS!

29170 MARCELLO WAY | \$2,750,000



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15675 VILLORESI WAY | \$1,210,000



OPEN SUNDAY 1PM-4PM!

16755 LUCARNO WAY | \$1,945,000



OPEN SUNDAY 1PM-4PM!

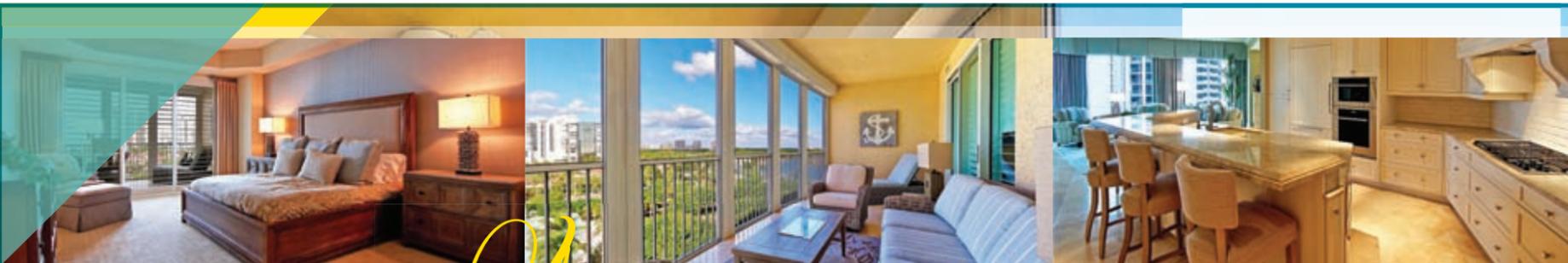
15512 MONTEROSSO LN #201 | \$679,000



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|---|---|------------------------------|
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Linda Perry/Judy Perry
Web ID 216028524 | 239.404.7052
\$7,250,000 |
| 2 | 1100 Galleon Drive
Karen Van Arsdale
Web ID 216070094 | 239.860.0894
\$11,900,000 |
| 3 | 1351 Spyglass Lane
Michael G. Lawler
Web ID 216063829 | 239.261.3939
\$11,900,000 |
| 4 | 3001 Rum Row
Friley Saucier
Web ID 216022071 | 239.293.3532
\$7,750,000 |
| 5 | 1060 Galleon Drive
Michael G. Lawler
Web ID 216053618 | 239.261.3939
\$6,250,000 |



- | | | |
|---|--|-----------------------------|
| 1 | 419 Mooring Line Drive
Michael G. Lawler
Web ID 216059130 | 239.261.3939
\$3,995,000 |
| 2 | Naples Continental #507
Pat Duggan
Web ID 217028420 | 239.213.7445
\$849,000 |
| 3 | 825 Wedge Drive
Michael G. Lawler
Web ID 216071000 | 239.261.3939
\$2,695,000 |
| 4 | Admiralty Point #505
Ryan Nordyke
Web ID 216079762 | 239.776.9390
\$1,499,000 |
| 5 | Executive Club #213
James Bates
Web ID 216073977 | 239.961.3973
\$659,000 |



- | | | |
|---|--|-----------------------------|
| 1 | 629 Gulf Shore Boulevard North
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\$6,995,000 |
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Cindy Thompson
Web ID 217027738 | 239.860.6513
\$5,500,000 |
| 3 | 840 17th Avenue South
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Michael G. Lawler 239.261.3939
Web ID DEVE042117IHE \$3,500,000



Le Rivage #4N
Barbi Lowe/Trish Lowe Soars 239.216.1973
Web ID 217015224 \$7,950,000



Le Jardin #1402
Jutta V. Lopez/Al Lopez 239.659.5113
Web ID 216034888 \$4,800,000



Provence #1003
Michael G. Lawler 239.261.3939
Web ID 217027630 \$4,195,000



Aria #1403
Marion Bethea/Anne Killilea 239.261.6200
Web ID 217004104 \$3,995,000



650 Fountainhead Lane
Shirlene Elkins 239.777.9574
Web ID 216031849 \$2,095,000



Gulfside #404
Sandra McCarthy-Meeks 239.287.7921
Web ID 217010669 \$735,000



Marbella #2101 & #2102
Gilman/Hamilton/Briscoe 239.213.7463
Web ID 217000254 \$4,695,000



St. Laurent #1005
Heidi Deen 239.370.5388
Web ID 216073216 \$1,425,000



6609 Ridgewood Drive
Jane Darling 239.290.3112
Web ID 217003042 \$2,795,000



Marbella #1703
Gilman/Hamilton/Briscoe 239.213.7463
Web ID 216066085 \$2,195,000



St. Raphael #1506
Pamela Hershberger 239.784.7534
Web ID 217015223 \$1,899,000



6577 Ridgewood Drive
Michelle Thomas 239.860.7176
Web ID 216055166 \$1,895,000



Breakwater #7-101
Dean Foster 239.269.2220
Web ID 216055570 \$779,000



Pebble Creek #204
Janet Rathbun 239.860.0012
Web ID 217002793 \$599,000



Trieste #1106
Gilman/Hamilton/Briscoe 239.213.7463
Web ID 214024952 \$2,695,000



Remington #1104
Catherine Bordner 239.560.2921
Web ID 216058185 \$5,995,000



Toscana #1602
Leah Ritchey/Amy Becker 239.289.0433
Web ID 216042456 \$2,288,000



Mansion La Palma #203
Barbi Lowe/Trish Lowe Soars 239.216.1973
Web ID 216016653 \$1,199,000



9456 Sweetgrass Way
Terri Moellers 239.213.7344
Web ID 217024496 \$3,475,000



9155 Torrefino Court
Gilman/Hamilton/Briscoe 239.213.7463
Web ID 216065124 \$1,799,000



9280 Troon Lakes Drive
Terri Moellers 239.213.7344
Web ID 217020389 \$795,000



Seville #1721
Roya Nouhi 239.290.9111
Web ID 216026645 \$549,900



9751 Bentgrass Bend
Gilman/Hamilton/Briscoe 239.213.7463
Web ID 216060738 \$5,695,000



7694 Hutchinson Court
Lura Jones 239.370.5340
Web ID 217028356 \$1,085,000



612 Carica Road
Craig Jones 239.825.6857
Web ID 217005478 \$2,162,000



Beach House #102
Michael G. Lawler 239.261.3939
Web ID 215070944 \$1,895,000



6564 Costa Circle
Bill Frantz 330.329.0077
Web ID 216068878 \$1,449,000



1131 7th Avenue North
Cristal O'Meara 239.961.2528
Web ID 216007802 \$1,199,000



9058 Shenendoah Circle
Erik David Barber 323.513.6391
Web ID 216057409 \$1,150,000



6660 Glen Arbor Way
Laurie Zanelli 239.675.9777
Web ID 216034385 \$1,100,000



4821 Mahogany Ridge Drive
Bernie/Joe Garabed 239.571.2466
Web ID 216048558 \$1,000,000



9301 Vercelli Court
Tess/Tom McCarthy 239.207.0118
Web ID 215000859 \$939,000

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Joanne MacLeod 239.272.7679
Web ID 216044323 \$849,000



2117 Paget Circle
Jim Hild 239.860.6801
Web ID 216030154 \$589,900



Lancaster Square #8-804
Debbi/Marty McDermott 239.564.4231
Web ID 216013324 \$549,900



Mystic Greens #1604
Wil Bedard 239.961.2710
Web ID 216078204 \$375,000



4971 Hickory Wood Drive
Patrick O'Connor 239.293.9411
Web ID 217028155 \$375,000



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1425 Nighthawk Pointe
Daniel Guenther 239.357.8121
Web ID 216013779 \$4,690,000



1227 Gordon River Trail
Daniel Guenther 239.357.8121
Web ID 216005828 \$2,395,000



1215 Gordon River Trail
Daniel Guenther 239.357.8121
Web ID 215036906 \$1,995,000



2165 Asti Court
Sonya Shaheen 239.877.2797
Web ID 215073681 \$1,595,000



1302 Noble Heron Way
Melissa Williams 239.248.7238
Web ID 215070811 \$1,495,000

1505 Marsh Wren Lane
Sam Heitman 239.537.2018
Web ID 216020655 \$2,095,000



NORTH NAPLES

8187 Wilshire Lakes Boulevard
Patrick O'Connor 239.293.9411
Web ID 217028677 \$549,900



28921 Cavell Terrace
Valerie Bee 239.398.3055
Web ID 216064000 \$7,400,000



4437 Wayside Drive
Fahada Saad 239.595.8500
Web ID 216065012 \$3,580,000



Aqua #810
John D'Amelio 239.961.5996
Web ID 216037626 \$2,950,000



4493 Wayside Drive
Ruth Bethem 239.777.7007
Web ID 217004723 \$2,675,000



4448 Wayside Drive
Joanne MacLeod 239.272.7679
Web ID 216005639 \$2,090,000



Aqua #510
John D'Amelio 239.961.5996
Web ID 216036267 \$1,845,000



9201 Mercato Way
Susan Gardner 239.438.2846
Web ID 216039475 \$1,625,000



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Heidi Deen 239.370.5388
Web ID 217026968 \$1,375,000



850 Barcarmil Way
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Web ID 217019889 \$1,150,000



12802 Pond Apple Drive West
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Web ID 217002223 \$1,147,000



975 Barcarmil Way
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2818 Wild Orchid Court
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963 Barcarmil Way
Dave/Ann Renner 239.784.5552
Web ID 217020104 \$1,050,000



10462 Vanderbilt Drive
Kimberly Salay 239.300.5075
Web ID 216013237 \$992,000



8111 Costa Brava Court
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Web ID 217027512 \$935,000



Castillo #1-102
John D'Amelio 239.961.5996
Web ID 217011607 \$812,500



Cove Towers | Bequia #603
Carol Sheehy 239.340.9300
Web ID 216024293 \$599,000



2201 Imperial Golf Course Boulevard
Ruth Bethem 239.777.7007
Web ID 216048294 \$505,000



VANDERBILT BEACH

Le Dauphin #104
Ryan Batey 239.287.9159
Web ID 217022373 \$1,999,000



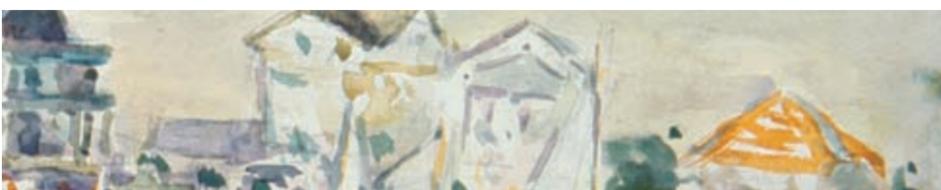
478 Willet Avenue
Debron Fowles 239.826.6655
Web ID 216011484 \$3,399,000



Vanderbilt Lagoon Villas #3
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MARCO ISLAND		1501 Honeysuckle Avenue Darlene Roddy 239.404.0685 Web ID 216034543 \$668,000		South Seas #1009 ML Meade 239.293.4851 Web ID 217028133 \$649,000		1751 Ludlow Road Larry Caruso 239.394.9191 Web ID 217014539 \$3,450,000	
		60 Covewood Court Larry Caruso 239.394.9191 Web ID 217013968 \$1,658,000		The Esplanade #2-402 Cathy Rogers 239.821.7926 Web ID 217014334 \$1,549,000		Royal Marco Point #535 Jim/Nikki Prange-Carroll 239.642.1133 Web ID 216069000 \$1,325,000	
		1064 Gayer Way Cathy Rogers 239.821.7926 Web ID 216080793 \$1,199,900		1170 Osprey Court Brock/Julie Wilson 239.821.9545 Web ID 217000577 \$1,199,000		Royal Marco Point #557 Jim/Nikki Prange-Carroll 239.642.1133 Web ID 216068950 \$985,000	
		700 Inlet Drive Jim/Nikki Prange-Carroll 239.642.1133 Web ID 216080204 \$894,500		Dela Park Place #606 Larry Caruso 239.394.9191 Web ID 217027864 \$735,000		1153 Whiteheart Court Cathy Brodie 239.272.7725 Web ID 216070258 \$635,000	
		Sandcastle #206 Cynthia Corogin 239.393.6747 Web ID 217027474 \$595,000		South Seas #111 Larry Caruso 239.394.9191 Web ID 217012304 \$569,900		Admiralty House #S-906 Cathy Brodie 239.272.7725 Web ID 216035314 \$563,000	
		945 Royal Marco Way Darlene Roddy 239.404.0685 Web ID 217001298 \$495,000		Admiralty House #N-106 Cathy Brodie 239.272.7725 Web ID 217013533 \$399,000		411 Battersea Court Lori Holland 239.404.7070 Web ID 216034025 \$359,999	
	FIDDLER'S CREEK		3875 Isla Del Sol Way Laurie Zanelli 239.675.9777 Web ID 216059884 \$2,395,000		3719 Mahogany Bend Drive Michelle Thomas 239.860.7176 Web ID 217026354 \$1,625,000		8572 Bellagio Drive Michelle Thomas 239.860.7176 Web ID 216028235 \$1,185,000
			7690 Mulberry Lane ML Meade 239.293.4851 Web ID 216012977 \$799,000		7798 Mulberry Lane Michelle Thomas 239.860.7176 Web ID 217000272 \$799,000		9193 Campanile Circle Michelle Thomas 239.860.7176 Web ID 217009066 \$539,000
			Marengo #203 Michelle Thomas 239.860.7176 Web ID 217008896 \$399,000		Varena #203 ML Meade 239.293.4851 Web ID 216060580 \$386,900		Sonoma #202 Cathy Rogers 239.821.7926 Web ID 217007695 \$379,900
			Varena #2-202 Michelle Thomas 239.860.7176 Web ID 216067175 \$379,000		Varena #102 Michelle Thomas 239.860.7176 Web ID 216080637 \$365,000		

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Florida Weekly's Open Houses

Open Houses are Sunday 1-4, unless otherwise marked

>\$200,000

1 • COUNTRYSIDE - COUNTRYSIDE VERANDAS • 491 Veranda Way #204 • \$270,000 • Premier Sotheby's International Realty • Ruth Bethem • 239.777.7007

2 • LIVINGSTON LAKES - GARDEN HOMES • 15114 Palmer Lake Circle #205 • \$279,000 • PSIR • Linda Perry • 239.450.9113

3 • BONITA PARK • 27616 Lime Street • \$299,000 • PSIR • Connie Long • 239.825.9790

>\$300,000

4 • LAKEWOOD • 218 Dent Drive • \$339,900 • PSIR • Tatyana Sallee • 239.293.5017

5 • AUTUMN WOODS • 7128 Timberland Circle #202 • \$375,000 • PSIR • Whitney Casement • 239.253.6125

>\$400,000

6 • THE ORCHARDS • 7573 Citrus Hill Lane • \$419,000 • Royal Shell Real Estate • Dodona & Ornela, The Roboci Team • 239.776.8123

7 • PELICAN MARSH - RAVENNA • 2382 Ravenna Boulevard #102 • \$427,000 • PSIR • Dave Renner • 239.784.5552

8 • DEL MAR AT COQUINA SANDS • 1300 Gulf Shore Boulevard North, #509 • \$455,000 • John R Wood Properties • Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell • 239.595.0097

9 • COQUINA SANDS - SURFSIDE CLUB • 1065 Gulf Shore Boulevard North #315 • \$475,000 • PSIR • Cynthia Rosa • 239.287.6015

>\$500,000

10 • SPANISH WELLS • 28372 Sombrero Drive • \$509,900 • Royal Shell Real Estate • The Boeglin Team • 239.287.6414

11 • YACHT HARBOR • 2500 Gulf Shore Boulevard North #S-6 • \$519,000 • Royal Shell Real Estate • Deborah Viglas • 239.215.2035

12 • QUAIL CREEK VILLAGE • 10378 Quail Crown Drive • \$524,900 • PSIR • Erik David Barber • 323.513.6391

13 • HAWTHORNE • 10324 Yorkstone Drive • \$539,000 • Royal Shell Real Estate • Linda Ramsey • 239.405.3054

14 • CAMDEN LAKES • 16190 Camden Lakes Circle • \$548,800 • PSIR • Charles Cole • 239.963.5560

15 • PORTA VECCHIO AT MEDITERRA • 16994 Porta Vecchio Way #102 • \$550,000 • John R Wood Properties • Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell • 239.595.0097

16 • VASARI COUNTRY CLUB - PIENZA • 28609 Pienza Court • \$559,900 • PSIR • Roxanne Jeske • 239.450.5210

17 • PELICAN BAY - CHATEAUMERE • 6000 Pelican Bay Boulevard #402 • \$598,000 • PSIR • Heidi Deen • 239.370.5388 • Open 1-3pm

18 • PELICAN LANDING - COLONY - NAVONA • 23540 Via Veneto Boulevard #704 • \$599,900 • PSIR • Linda Scaglia • 239.206.0169

>\$600,000

19 • MEDITERRA - CALABRIA • 28550 Calabria Court #202 • \$695,000 • PSIR • Fahada Saad • 239.595.8500

>\$700,000

20 • HORSE CREEK ESTATES • 292 Saddlebrook Lane • \$709,000 • PSIR • Lynn Applebaum • 239.776.5055

>\$800,000

21 • MARCO ISLAND • 1830 Menorca Court • \$810,000 • PSIR • Richard Droste • 239.572.5117 • Open 1-3:30pm

22 • TIBURON - CASTILLO • 2805 Tiburon Boulevard #102 • \$812,500 • PSIR • John D'Amelio • 239.961.5996

23 • PELICAN BAY - THE GROSVENOR • 6001 Pelican Bay Boulevard #804 • \$899,000 • PSIR • Werner Schroeder • 239.776.8956

>\$900,000

24 • PELICAN BAY - ST. LAURENT • 6849 Grenadier Boulevard #305 • \$925,000 • PSIR • Beth McNichols • 239.821.3304

25 • LELY RESORT • 9030 Shenandoah Circle • \$995,000 • Royal Shell Real Estate • The Taranto Team • 239.572.3078

>\$1,000,000

26 • CABREO AT MEDITERRA • 16807 Cabreo Drive • \$1,049,000 • John R Wood Properties • Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell • 239.595.0097

27 • VILLORESI AT MEDITERRA • 15675 Villioresi Way • \$1,210,000 • Weekly Realty Group • Pam & Roy Weekly • 239.793.8762

28 • KALEA BAY • Wiggins Pass & Vanderbilt Drive • \$1,300,000 • Wilson & Associates RE • 239.793.0110 • Open Monday-Saturday 10am-5pm & Sunday 12pm-5pm

29 • RESIDENCES AT MERCATO • 9123 Strada Place #7125 • From \$1,325,000 • PSIR • Sales Office • 239.594.9400 • Open Monday-Saturday 10am-6pm & Sunday 12-6pm

30 • KENSINGTON GARDENS • 2948 Gardens Boulevard • \$1,375,000 • John R Wood Properties • Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell • 239.595.0097

31 • PELICAN BAY - PINECREST • 804 Tallow Tree Court • \$1,530,000 • PSIR • Jon Feins • 239.687.9546

32 • TORINO AT GREY OAKS • 2130 Modena Court • \$1,600,000 • John R Wood Properties • Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell • 239.595.0097

33 • QUAIL WEST • 4416 Woodmont Court • \$1,750,000 • John R Wood Properties • Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell • 239.595.0097

34 • LUCARNO AT MEDITERRA • 16755 Lucarno Way • \$1,945,000 • Weekly Realty Group • Pam & Roy Weekly • 239.793.8762

>\$2,000,000

35 • MEDICI AT MEDITERRA • 15200 Medici Way • \$2,100,000 • John R Wood Properties • Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell • 239.595.0097

36 • THE MOORINGS • 475 Putter Point Drive • \$2,395,000 • John R Wood Properties • Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell • 239.595.0097

37 • GREY OAKS - ESTUARY AT GREY OAKS • 1220 Gordon River Trail • From \$2,495,000 • PSIR • Call 239.261.3148 • Open Monday-Saturday 9am-5pm & Sunday 12-5pm

38 • OLD NAPLES • 340 7th Avenue North • \$2,495,000 • PSIR • Alyssa Reppucci • 239.776.6714

39 • GREY OAKS - MIRAMONTE • 2199 Miramonte Way • \$2,499,000 • PSIR • Carol Reid • 239.269.9555

40 • PARK SHORE • 4705 Villa Mare Lane • \$2,599,000 • PSIR • Joshua Eckert • 239.641.6666

41 • QUAIL WEST • 13871 Williston Way • \$2,599,000 • John R Wood Properties • Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell • 239.595.0097

42 • SEAGATE • 5139 Sand Dollar Lane • \$2,850,000 • PSIR • Larry Roorda • 239.860.2534

>\$3,000,000

43 • PELICAN BAY - MYSTIQUE • 6885 Pelican Bay Boulevard • Estates from \$3,000,000 to over \$7,000,000 • PSIR • Sales Office • 239.598.9900 • Open Monday-Saturday 9am-5pm & Sunday 12-5pm

44 • OLD NAPLES • 590 Palm Circle East • \$3,495,000 • PSIR • Deb Welch • 239.293.5294

45 • ROYAL HARBOR • 2180 Sheephead Drive • \$3,599,000 • PSIR • Andrew Zienck • 239.776.4946

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46 • OLD NAPLES • 489 1st Avenue South • \$4,175,000 • Encore Realty • Dante DiSabato • 239.537.5351

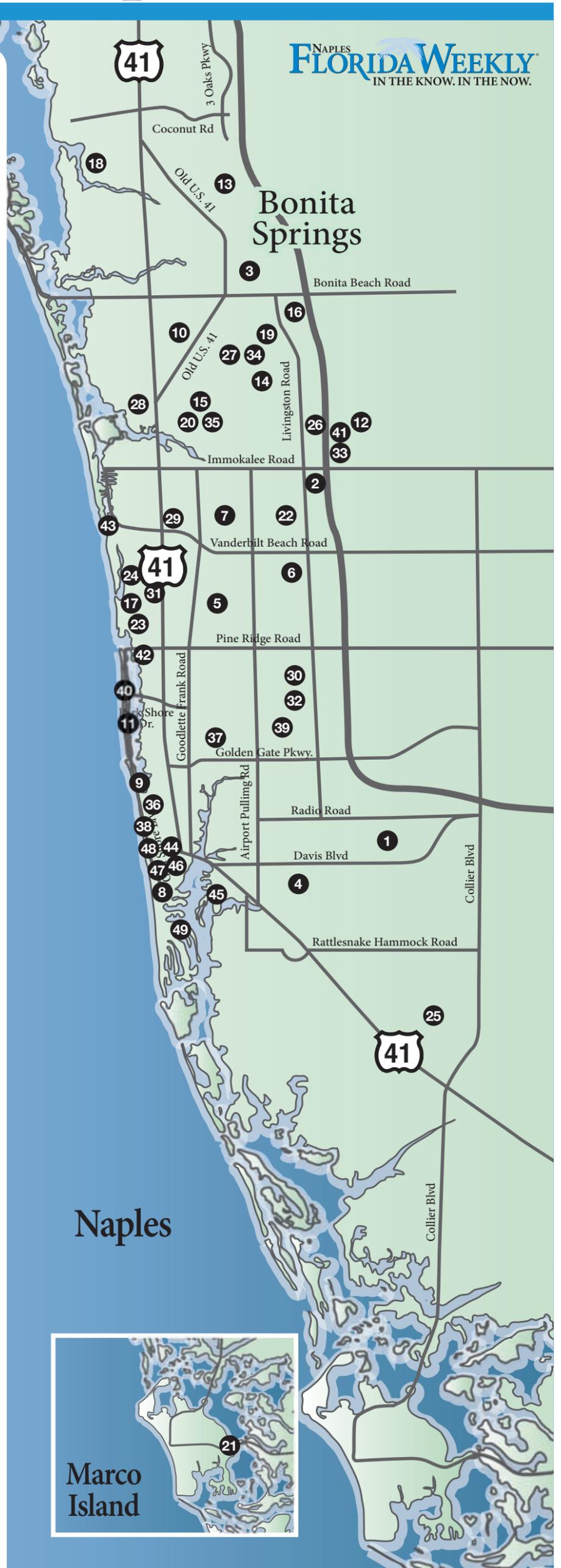
47 • OLD NAPLES • 205 3rd Avenue North • \$4,699,000 • PSIR • Peter Reppucci • 239.595.6500

>\$5,000,000

48 • OLD NAPLES • 575 3rd Street North • \$5,500,000 • PSIR • Meghan Toppino • 239.860.6513

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49 • PORT ROYAL • 1201 Galleon Drive • \$13,975,000 • Royal Shell Real Estate • Don DeLuca • 239.213.9100



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Southwest Florida is a mecca for a wide variety of bird life. Abundant natural habitats, including the Everglades, mangrove forests and tidal flats offer a haven for many species of water birds. Depending on the season, you're likely to see White Pelicans Reddish Egret, Snowy Egret, Great Blue Heron, and perhaps you'll even catch a glimpse of the endangered Roseate Spoonbill.

The climate lends itself to year-round

displays of dazzling birds of prey including Bald Eagle, Osprey, along with an assortment of hawk and falcon. Woodland species include the Pileated Woodpecker and Great Horned Owl.



Today bird watching on Useppa Island is popular with island residents. Useppa is located just west of Pine Island, in the Pine Island Sound Aquatic Preserve. The Preserve contains the three largest colonial bird rookeries in the area, located on Broken Islands, Hemp Key and Useppa Oyster Bar.

Laura Stokes, Useppa resident, professional nature photographer and Chief Medical Officer for Useppa Island's Fire Department says "Our Great Horned Owls are always a treat and every year, around Christmas, they produce

an owlet! It's fun to watch the little one grow. This year the fledgling was very outgoing and would swoop down to have his picture taken every day around dusk!"

A stroll along Useppa's private beach, or a walk on the Pink Path, shaded by tall native trees, is a bird photographer's paradise. Experience the spectacular show of birds for yourself surrounded by sea, sky, and abundant natural beauty.

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631 Broad Court N ■ 3 Beds, 3 Full 1 Half Baths

COMING SOON

MEDITERRA

THE CATALINA – \$3,995,000
16987 Cortile Drive ■ 4 Bedrooms, 5 Baths

QUAIL WEST

THE AVIGNON – \$4,975,000
13750 Pondview Cir ■ 4 Beds, 5 Full 1 Half Baths

SUNDAY ONLY

MIROMAR LAKES
BEACH & GOLF CLUB

THE BENITA – \$2,150,000
18125 Via Portofino Way ■ 3 Beds, 4 Full Baths

MEDITERRA

THE CAPRIANO – \$2,756,700
16747 Lucarno Way ■ 4 Beds, 4 Full Baths

SUNDAY ONLY

MEDITERRA

ISABELLA TWO-STORY – \$3,125,625
28070 Castellano Way ■ 4 Beds, 5 Full Baths

COMING SOON

PORT ROYAL

4395 GORDON DRIVE – \$12,975,000
4 Beds, 4 Full 2 Half Baths

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| SECTION C

STAND-UP FIRST



Veteran comedian Louie Anderson still having a blast at what he does best

BY ISAAC KOZELL
Special to Florida Weekly

In the world of comedy, it takes a lot to stay relevant, especially if your career spans more than three decades. But Louie Anderson has figured out a way to stay on the radar, transcending generations of fans with his work on the stage, screen and in print.

The respected comedian, Emmy Award-winning actor and a best-selling author takes the stage at Off the Hook Comedy Club for five performances Thursday through Sunday, April 27-30.

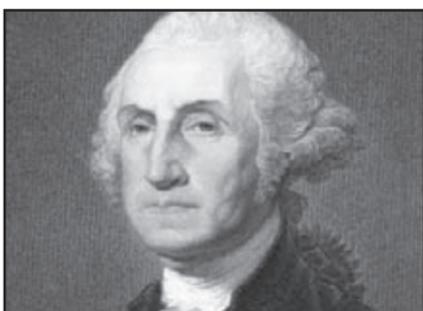
Whether you know him from his stand-up specials, his movie/TV roles or his poignant and hilarious books, Mr. Anderson boldly puts everything he's got into his art.

Recently he has garnered critical acclaim for

SEE LOUIE, C24 ▶

'George Washington's Teeth'

... and five other plays you've never heard of



BY NANCY STETSON
nstetson@floridaweekly.com

Ask anyone about George Washington and they'll probably tell you three things, only one of which is true:

1. He was the first president of our country.
2. As a youth, he chopped down a cherry tree and owned up to it, telling

his father, "I cannot tell a lie."

3. He had false teeth made of wood. "I don't think the cherry tree (story) is real," says playwright Mark St. Germain.

And the president did have false teeth, but, "I don't think they were made out of wood," he adds. They were most likely made of ivory and cow, horse and

SEE TEETH, C4 ▶

INSIDE



Couture, Cuisine, Charity

Stepping out for Friends of Foster Children Forever, and more to-dos around town. C26-27 ▶



Violin sensation

Classic Chamber Concerts wraps up another season with a virtuoso. C3 ▶



Cuisine News

Meet Chef Ralph Feraco (C31) and get your fill of tidbits from the food and dining scene. C28-31 ▶

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FLORIDA WRITERS

Characters bedeviled by trauma and loss in complex psychological thriller

philJASON

philjreviews@gmail.com



■ **"The Red Hunter" by Lisa Unger.** Touchstone. 368 pages. Hardcover, \$25.99.

This delicately constructed thriller from award-winning Lisa Unger explores the distance and proximity between two women whose paths cross in strikingly unusual ways.

The younger of the two, Zoey Drake, has lived through a lengthy and ongoing recovery from a devastating childhood trauma. Her parents were murdered

before her eyes in their rural home outside of New York City. Zoey, who barely survived, has lived with a rage she must control if she is to function effectively. Rigorous martial arts training has been her coping mechanism and her security against being victimized in her adulthood as she was in her childhood.

She was reared and put through college by the man she calls Uncle Paul, and now she assists him as he struggles with poor health. She supports herself through cat-sitting jobs and by helping her martial arts

mentor teach self-defense to young girls. Nightmares haunt her, but she has gained a healthy self-confidence.

Claudia Bishop and her daughter, Raven, now occupy the house where Zoey was raised. For Claudia, renovating the home is part of an extended recovery from a horrible assault and rape that occurred many years ago. Herself a troubled young woman at 17, Raven feels the need to follow up on the possibility that she is not the child of the loving man from whom Claudia has been long divorced. Perhaps she is the daughter of the rapist. Her quest regarding her identity is one plot driver in this brilliant, complex novel.

Signs of intruders lead to the revelation that somewhere between the house and the barn might be the buried fruits of a robbery gone haywire. There's a possibility that individuals connected with the robbery are committed to recovering \$1 millions. The theft involved corrupt police. It looks like the handyman Claudia has hired for the renovation was somehow involved, as was his brother, a desperate, soulless character recently released from prison.

Through shifting narrators and points of view, Ms. Unger orchestrates a series of revelations that lead to the final outcome. The suspense is almost unbearable.

I don't know of another writer working today who brings us characters with such precisely rendered emotional complications. Of course, they are put in situations — or they can't stop remembering situations — that give them a lot to process. Sometimes they are presented from a

third-person perspective, and sometimes they are briefly narrators. It's not easy to make such shifts work, but Ms. Unger makes it a compelling feature of her art.

Having us peek into Claudia's blog (she is developing an audience for the ongoing story of how her life and are being renovated) is one of the ways we gain added perspectives on a major character.

Zoey (whose obsessive self-awareness recognizes three phases of her being) is the most magnificent of these achievements, but Claudia and Raven are not far behind.

There are many other interesting complications in "The Red Hunter." We meet, or simply hear about, characters whose moral choices are tainted by greed even when partly motivated by a sense of responsibility. When a fortune is up for grabs, and you have a good chance of getting your hands on it, and you have noble uses for it, and the people to whom it belongs are criminals and creeps — what will guide your decisions?

When are the ties of family loyalty so strong that they overpower one's loyalty to what is right? Where is the line

between courage and foolhardiness? Are revenge and justice the same thing?

But this is not an ethics manual or a psychology primer. It's an action book. Ms. Unger describes the sheer physicality of her characters with remarkable vividness. She represents how they move,

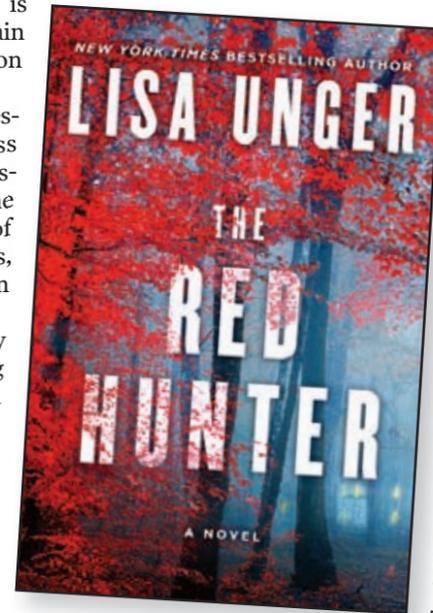
gesture, collapse, ward off pain and exhaust themselves — all with uncanny realism.

The good-sized cast of supporting characters includes many who readers will not soon forget. In every sense of the phrase, this author takes you places you might not ever want to go. These, too, will stay with you a long, long time.

This is memorable writing. I'm already waiting for the next offering from Ms. Unger, who lives in the Tampa Bay area with her husband, daughter

and Labradoodle. ■

— 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.



UNGER

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Kids' art will make 'Big Impressions' for Collier Child Care Resources

Collier Child Care Resources' fifth annual "Big Impressions by Little Artists" takes place from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, May 5, at the Hilton Naples. Creations by the children of CCCR's early childhood development programs along with the works of local artists Kerri Meehan, Amanda Jaron, Mona Lisa Johns and Marcus Zotter are among the items that will be offered in live and silent auctions. The four artists also worked with CCCR children.

This year's theme is artwork inspired by the natural environment. Event co-chairs are Lisa Gruenloh and Kathy Bamberg. Rick Gallo is the auctioneer.

"Big Impressions by Little Artists" is hosted by the CCCR Business 100, a group of local businesses that support CCCR's mission and programs by making an annual donation to benefit its four child development programs in Naples. Golden Gate and Immokalee.

Tickets for \$75 are available by calling 643-3908 or visiting www.collierchildcare.org.



Local artist Mona Lisa Johns collaborated with preschoolers at CCCR's A Step Up Child Development Center at Golden Gate High School to create these two pieces of art that will be auctioned off at "Big Impressions by Little Artists."



Lara St. John

Classic Chamber concerts presents violin virtuoso for season finale

Canadian violinist Lara St. John started playing the instrument 44 years ago, when she was just 2. Her first appearance as a soloist was at age 4. And by the time she was 12, she and her violin were touring Spain, France, Portugal and Hungary.

As if touring the world at 12 wasn't enough, she moved to Russia at the age of 17 in the height of the Cold War to become the youngest post-graduate student at the Moscow Conservatory. Her list of accomplishments as a musician just grows from there. In 2000, wanting to have complete artistic control over every aspect of her recordings, she started her own record label, Ancalagon (named after her pet iguana). Smart move on her part, as her albums continue to top iTunes charts.

In collaboration with StayinMay Festival and Classic Chamber Concerts, Ms. St. John performs with the Fifth Avenue Chamber Orchestra at 8 p.m. Monday, May 1, at First United Methodist Church of Naples. It's the season finale for CCC,

which is under the direction of maestro William Noll.

"Having Ms. St. John perform with Classic Chamber Concerts is a high point of this season," Mr. Noll says. "Her unbridled passion for the art is without a doubt something that music lovers of all ages should witness. She is an outside-the-box artist who takes performing to a new level of intense creativity."

Ms. St. John's last album, "Shiksa," with pianist Matt Herskowitz (who performed to a sold-out audience at last season's CCC finale), has been featured on NPR's Tiny Desk Concerts and includes songs from Armenia, Palestine, the Jewish Diaspora, Russia, Macedonia, Serbia, Greece, Romania and Hungary. The program for May 1 includes Bach's Brandenburg Concerto, Mozart's Symphony No. 25 and "The Turkish" Violin Concerto.

Tickets are \$60. For reservations or more information, call 434-8505 or visit www.classicchamberconcerts.org.

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TEETH

From page 1

human teeth, a common practice in those days. “They would be made of all kinds of things, anything that would work as a toothy surface.”

Mr. St. Germain has been thinking more than usual about Washington’s teeth lately, because he’s written a play in which they play a key role.

Florida Repertory Theatre presents a reading of “George Washington’s Teeth” as part of its fourth annual PlayLab festival. The reading closes the four-day event that also includes readings of five other new plays, a keynote address by the executive director of the National New Play Network, a playwrights’ panel and the world premiere production of “A Dream Within a Dream: The Spirit of Poe,” by Christopher T. Parks.

“George Washington’s Teeth” looks at a historical society in the town of New Bunion that’s fallen on difficult times. The society holds an annual re-enactment of a battle they claim occurred during the American Revolution but that is actually something made up to draw tourists. Attendance has dwindled over the years, however, and something has to be done.

“They find out that someone in town has a set of George Washington’s teeth,” Mr. St. Germain says. But the woman who owns the teeth may have been denied acceptance into the historical society years ago.

“It’s about this organization that’s falling apart, scheming to get these teeth to put on exhibit,” the playwright says, adding it’s about the relationships between the women of the society more than anything.

The comedy, with a cast of five women, is very different in tone from many of Mr. St. Germain’s other plays, especially the two Florida Rep has produced: “Best of Enemies,” about the relationship between a KKK leader and a black civil rights activist in 1970s North Carolina, and “Camping with Henry and Tom,” in which Henry Ford and Thomas Edison go camping with Warren G. Harding.

“George Washington’s Teeth” was inspired by a friend of Mr. St. Germain’s, the actress Debra Jo Rupp (who portrayed Dr. Ruth in the one-person show he also wrote, “Dr. Ruth, All the Way”). Ms. Rupp bemoaned the fact that there aren’t enough roles for older women in the theater, how once you’re no longer the ingenue, you become a character actor — a concept Mr. St. Germain found “ridiculous.”

He decided to write something with parts only for women. And, never hav-

ing written a farce, he thought he’d try one. “George Washington’s Teeth,” in which only one role is age-specific, is the result.

“It’s very funny,” says Jason Parrish, PlayLab artistic director. “There’s about to be an all-out war about those teeth, because they all want them. It sets their little town into a tail spin.”

Gentleman thief

Another comedy opens the festival: Mark Brown’s “Love, The Cracksman.” Based on a PG Wodehouse novella, it’s in the style of Mr. Brown’s “Around the World in 80 Days,” which played at Florida Rep two seasons ago and in which actors play multiple characters, sometimes within one scene. In “Love, The Cracksman,” six actors play more than a dozen characters.

In the last scene, one character plays two or three roles. “He exits, then comes out through another door as another character,” the playwright says, adding the new play “has that theatricality of ‘80 Days’ or ‘Greater Tuna’ — which I love.”

It’s a gentleman thief story, “Wodehouse’s response to the Raffles series with David Niven,” he says, calling it, “A precursor to ‘Oceans Eleven,’ where you like the thief, and he’s stealing for good reasons; he’s handsome and debonair.”

He compares it also to the Thin Man series, with Myrna Loy and William Powell. “That’s the level I’m trying to capture ... You could put Cary Grant and Myrna Loy in this. It would be the perfect vehicle for them.”

It opens with Jimmy Pitt watching a friend perform in a gentleman thief play. Afterward, Jimmy claims, “It’s not that hard to break into a house. I bet I can do it.” And so he and his friend make a bet.

That bet leads him to love and to involvement with a crook who believes Jimmy is an international diamond thief.

“We end up in England in a huge mansion where lots of different characters come in,” the playwright says. “That’s when the hijinks really begin.”

Mr. Brown has changed the plot and the ending of the Wodehouse novella and fleshed it out more. And while similar in tone to “Around the World in 80 Days,” which is now one of the most produced plays in the world, he says “Love, The Cracksman” is in a different style, with a different feel and in different time period. But, “I think if you see this play, you’ll be able to say, ‘Yeah, that’s from the same guy,’” who wrote “Around the World in 80 Days.”

Variety of genres

This year’s PlayLab festival offers two more readings than previous festivals.

After announcing the festival through the National New Playwork, Florida Rep received its limit of 75 plays in less than

72 hours, Mr. Parrish says.

“We hope to chose one of these plays to turn into a world premiere, to develop it,” he adds. (To end the regular 2016-17 season, Florida Rep presents “Doublewide” by Stephen Spotswood, which was a reading at last year’s PlayLab. It runs through May 14 in the Art-Stage Studio Theatre adjacent to the company’s main stage.)

PlayLab this year concludes with a full production of Christopher T. Parks’ “A Dream Within A Dream: The Spirit of Poe,” another work from last year’s festival.

Also on the PlayLab program

“The Flower Room,” by Daryl Lisa Fazio, is about a woman having a late sexual awakening in her 40s. Ironically, she’s a professor of anthropology of primitive sexual behavior who finds herself caught up in a sex scandal at the university where she teaches. Her brother convinces her that with her writing ability and knowledge of sexual behavior, she should start writing high-end erotica.

“It’s wildly funny and a bit edgy,” with sexual content and nudity, Mr. Parrish says — and couldn’t be more different than “Split in Three,” Ms. Fazio’s play that was in the 2014 PlayLab and on the main stage in Florida Rep’s 2015 season.

“Smoke,” by Gloria Bond Clunie, is an unlikely love story that takes place in 1960s North Carolina, “when tobacco was king and Camels were cool,” says Mr. Parrish. Its African-American characters consist of a man who comes down from the north to lobby against big tobacco and the woman he woos.

“I compare it to ‘The Rainmaker,’” Mr. Parrish says. “It’s that kind of riveting love story, with a really strong set of characters at the heart of it.”

Bennett Fisher’s “Damascus” is a three-person play that examines what it’s like to be a Muslim in America today. It takes place mostly a super shuttle van. The driver, a Somali African American who has lived in Minneapolis all his life, drives the shuttle to make ends meet.

A white college kid has missed his flight. Desperate to get from Minneapolis to Chicago, the student hires the shuttle. There’s an explosion at the airport behind them, and the driver is concerned people will think he’s involved.

“There’s a twist, a psychological twist, and it brings to the surface: Who are they going to believe — the white, rich college kid or this Somali African American? Who’s more American?”

“We Will Not Be Silent,” by David Meyers, is another drama, based on the story of Sofie Scholl, a German college student at the time of the Holocaust.

“We haven’t heard about what the ordinary Germans did in the face of evil and oppression,” Mr. Parrish says. “This

is a story of people who said no, it can’t happen, and what happened to them.

“We chose it because it’s an important story to tell at this moment. These evil things that exist in the world happen one step at a time. What are you going to do to stop them?” ■



PlayLab 2017

- >> **What:** Six play readings, a keynote address and a world premiere performance
- >> **When:** April 27-30
- >> **Where:** Florida Repertory Theatre, Fort Myers
- >> **Cost:** \$12 per show, \$60 for all-access pass
- >> **Info:** 332-4488 or www.floridarep.org

The readings:

- >> **“Love, The Cracksman”** by Mark Brown
8 p.m. Thursday, April 27
- >> **“The Flower Room”** by Daryl Lisa Fazio
2 p.m. Friday, April 28
- >> **“Smoke”** by Gloria Bond Clunie
8 p.m. Friday, April 28
- >> **“Damascus”** by Bennett Fisher
1 p.m. Saturday, April 29
- >> **“We Will Not Be Silent”** by David Meyers
2 p.m. Sunday, April 30
- >> **“George Washington’s Teeth”** by Mark St. Germain
5:30 p.m. Sunday, April 30

Keynote speaker:

- >> **Nan Barnett**, executive director of the National New Play Network
5 p.m. Saturday, April 29

World premiere:

- >> **“A Dream Within a Dream: The Spirit of Poe”**
by Christopher T. Parks
11 a.m. Sunday, April 30

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Spiritually cerebral 'The Christians' opens at Gulfshore Playhouse

BY KATHY GREY
Florida Weekly Correspondent

Gulfshore Playhouse's 2016-17 season comes to a close on a thought-provoking note with "The Christians," in which playwright Lucas Hnath addresses forged relationships and the splits that divide them.

As the play's title suggests, the schism of alliances in "The Christians" happens within a house of worship with an enormous congregation. The church family is divided when Pastor Paul (Alan Campbell) — who has spent two decades growing a modest congregation into a megachurch — announces, at a celebration of the church being free of debt, that the congregation will no longer acknowledge a component of traditional theological belief. Thus begins the congregational divide, starting with Associate Pastor Joshua (William Oliver Watkins) and trickling down to church members who find the new doctrine reprehensible.

Mr. Hnath (pronounced "nayth") was raised in a familial church environment, thus sparking his anecdotal, though extensively researched, view of the inner workings of a place of faith in which so many seek refuge. But decisions driving these sacred second homes for the masses can be fraught with conflict. Are church leaders' decisions driven by purity or profit? Is the pastor actually hearing the voice of God, or is he disseminating his own will, conveniently cloaked in Biblical verse?

"We live in such a divisive world," says Kristen Coury, Gulfshore Play-



Chairs arranged on either side of a centerpiece cross depict the divide that plays out in "The Christians," with set design for Gulfshore Playhouse by Kristen Martino.

house founding artistic director. "What Lucas Hnath manages to do is present an unbiased argument. You might take a side, but this play will help you understand the other side of the argument. It's a look inside what attracts people to their faith, what they're looking for.

Ms. Coury, who also directs "The Christians," says she chose to stage the play because she is fascinated by what causes human beings to question their life's purpose: "God, the afterlife ... age-old questions that throughout history have resulted in myriad answers. I am drawn to the answers they find in it," she says.

The Gulfshore Playhouse production stars returning actor Alan Campbell, who earned a Tony nominee for his work in "Sunset Boulevard" with Glenn Close, as Pastor Paul; returning actor William Oliver Watkins as Associate Pastor Joshua; and the professional company's veteran actress Amy Van Nostrand as Elizabeth, Pastor Paul's

wife, who packs a punch toward the end of the show.

Rounding out the cast are Stephen Bradbury (Elder Jay) and Kate Fahrner (congregant Jenny), making her Gulfshore Playhouse debut and also singing with the show's three-member praise band (piano/synthesizer, drums and guitar). "(Kate) has an amazing voice," Ms. Coury says, comparing the actress' vocal prowess to that required by the character of Glinda in "Wicked."

Sound designed by Gabriel Luxton and music directed by John Austin Clark provide the auditory ambiance of the production. Gulfshore Playhouse's Jennifer Bronsted's costume work illustrates "The Christians" characters, and Nick Solyom's lighting design casts shadows on the faith-imbued script. Scenic designer Kristen Martino's "American-Christian" set is the show's centerpiece.

Akin to the 2015 premiere of "The Christians" at Playwrights Horizons

off Broadway, Gulfshore Playhouse will have an interactive lobby display for audience members to express their impressions.

"Gulfshore Playhouse lives to create opportunities for thought," Ms. Coury says, adding the lobby display is part of the company's Synergy Series of free activities geared toward "thinking more deeply about what a play means to the audience." In addition to the lobby display, those activities for "The Christians" include panel discussions with clergy and talk-backs following select performances. (Visit www.gulfshore-playhouse.org/the-synergy-series for information.)

Regardless of any one audience member's personal beliefs, "The Christians" presents a thought-provoking examination of the power of faith and its ability to unite or to divide. Mr. Hnath's script is strategically crafted so that the approach is impartial, reaching beyond the subject at hand. Neither singularly nor secularly focused, the play incites audiences to question the cracks in the foundation of all relationships — personal or spiritual — none of which, in reality, are permanent. ■

in the know

'The Christians'

- >> **Who:** Gulfshore Playhouse
- >> **When:** April 29-May 21
- >> **Where:** The Norris Center
- >> **Tickets:** \$20-\$64 (\$30 for April 27-28 preview performances)
- >> **Info:** 261-7529 or www.gulfshoreplayhouse.org

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THEATER

Legs Diamond – By TheatreZone April 27-May 7 at G&L Theatre. 13275 Livingston Road. (888) 966-3352 or www.theatrezone-florida.com.

The Christians – By Gulfshore Playhouse April 27-May 21 at The Norris Center. 755 Eighth Ave. S. (866) 811-4111 or www.gulfshoreplayhouse.org. See story on page C5.

Clever Little Lies – By The Studio Players through May 7 at the Golden Gate Community Center. 4701 Golden Gate Parkway. 398-9192 or www.thestudioplayers.com.

Heaven Help Me – By The Marco Players through May 7 at The Marco Players Theater. 1089 N. Collier Blvd. 642-7270 or www.themarcoplayers.com.

I Hate Hamlet – By The Naples Players through May 14 at Sugden Community Theater. 701 Fifth Ave. S. 262-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org. See review on page C10.

The King & I – At the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall in Fort Myers through April 30. 481-4849 or www.bbmanna.com.

The Last Night of Ballyhoo – By Laboratory Theater of Florida through April 30. 1634 Woodford Ave., Fort Myers. LaboratoryTheaterFlorida.com or 218-0481.

Doublewide – By Florida Repertory Theatre through May 14 in the ArtStage Studio Theatre. 2267 Bay St., Fort Myers. 332-4488 or www.floridarep.org.

THURSDAY 4.27

Cruisin' – The Conservancy of Southwest Florida hosts a mangrove cruise with naturalist Kathy Worley from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. \$20-\$47. 213-2500 or www.conservancy.org.

Nature Talk – Enjoy smoked mullet and mojitos at 6 p.m. followed by a program at 7 p.m. about the pristine ecosystems of Cuba at Everglades Wonder Gardens. \$15 for members, \$25 for others. 27180 Old 41 Road, Bonita Springs. 992-2591 or www.evergladeswondergardens.com.

Environmental History – Author Steve Noll examines the relationship of people to the land of Florida, starting with Native American settlements, at 7 p.m. at the Marco Island Historical Museum. Free for members, \$5 for others. 180 S. Heathwood Drive. 642-1440 or www.themihs.com.

Music at the Moe – Classical Jazz Quartet performs at 7:30 p.m. at Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs. \$25. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

FRIDAY 4.28

Country Rock – Chris Hillman and Herb Pedersen perform at 8 p.m. at Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs. \$35-\$45. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Piano Man – Musical comedian Jimmy Keys performs at Barbatella at 9 p.m. \$35, includes a glass of wine. 1290 Third St. S. 263-1955 or www.barbatellanaples.com.

SATURDAY 4.29

Knick-Knacks – St. Paul Antiochian Church hosts a flea market at 8 a.m. 2425 Rivers Road. 348-0828 or anna@icsamerica.com.



Broadway Palm Theatre presents Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's "Jesus Christ Superstar" through May 14. The musical has wowed audiences for more than 40 years with its message of hope, peace and the power of love. \$40-\$65. 1380 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers. 278-4422 or www.BroadwayPalm.com.

Silly Strings – The Naples Philharmonic performs an up-close string concert for kids with instrument demonstrations at 10 a.m. at Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Happy Anniversary – Celebrate the Tamiami Trail's 89th anniversary and Museum of the Everglades' 19th birthday with talks, a car show, walking tours, lunch and live music from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Everglades City Museum. Free. 105 W. Broadway. 695-0008 or www.colliermuseums.com.

Anniversary Party – The Norris Gardens at Palm Cottage celebrates 10 years with free admission from 1-4 p.m. A performance by the Naples Dixieland Jazz Band (\$17) follows the open house. 137 12th Ave. S. 261-8164 or www.napleshistoricalsociety.org.

All Shook Up – Naples Philharmonic, joined by Broadway singers, pays tribute to The King at 8 p.m. at Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Broadway in Naples – The Naples Orchestra & Chorus performs hits from "Camelot," "Brigadoon," "Oklahoma!" and more at 7 p.m. today and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 30, at Golden Gate High School. \$18 in advance, \$20 at the door. 2925 Titan Way. 298-7911 or www.naplesorchestraandchorus.com.

SUNDAY 4.30

Om in the Garden – Bend and stretch with an instructor from Greenmonkey yoga at 10 a.m. at Naples Botanical Garden. \$10 for members, \$20 for others. 643-4737 or www.naplesgarden.org.

Free Concert – Naples Jazz Society performs from 2-4 p.m. at Cambier Park. 263-1113 or www.naplesjazzsociety.com.

Foreign Film – FGCU's Renaissance Academy screens "Phoenix" (Germany, 2015) at 2 p.m. A disfigured Holocaust survivor is determined to find out whether the man she loved betrayed her trust. \$6 for members, \$8 for others. 1010 Fifth Ave. S. 434-4737 or www.fgcu.edu.

WEDNESDAY 5.3

Jazz Night – Naples Philharmonic Jazz Orchestra performs a tribute to Antonio Carlos Jobim at 6 p.m. in the Daniels Pavilion at Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Art ALIVE – The Naples Art District west of Airport-Pulling and north of Pine Ridge roads opens its 40 galleries and studios to the public from 5-8 p.m. 596-5059 or www.naplesartdistrict.com.

Jazz Concert – Bob Zottola and his jazz ensemble perform from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Marco Island Center for the Arts. \$25. 1010 Winterberry Drive. 394-4221 or www.marcoislandart.org.

COMING UP

Mercato Nights – Folk- and jazz-infused band The Woodwork plays under the stars on the lawn at Mercato from 6-9 p.m. Thursday, May 4. The Mercato Nights music series continues June 1 with Wilder Sons and Sprout, July 6 with the Ben Allen Band, Aug. 3 with Electric Mud and Sept. 7 with Rockin' Horse. Free.

Author Talk – Barnes & Noble at Waterside Shops hosts a book signing and discussion with author Jennifer Lin ("Shanghai Faithful: Betrayal and Forgiveness in a Chinese Christian Family") at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 4. 598-5200 or www.bn.com.

Masterworks – Naples Philharmonic performs works by Wagner, Grieg and Beethoven at 8 p.m. Thursday and Saturday, May 4 and May 6. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Big Impressions – Collier Child Care Resources hosts "Big Impressions by Little Artists," where guests can purchase art by local artists and youngsters in the organization's preschool programs from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, May 5, at Hilton Naples. \$75. 643-3908 or www.collierchildcare.org. See story on page C3.

Cinco de Meow – Humane Society Naples brings its adoption mobile full of furry felines to Riptide Brewing Company from 5-7 p.m. Friday, May 5. 987 Third Ave. N. 649-1555 or www.hsnaples.org.

Cinco de Mayo – Miromar Outlets hosts a Cinco de Mayo celebration with live entertainment, a margarita crawl, prizes and more from 6-9 p.m. Friday, May 5. 948-3766 or www.miromaroutlets.com.

Choral Concert – Naples Philharmonic Youth Chorus performs at 7 p.m. Friday, May 5, at the David and Cecile Wang Opera Center. 2408 Linwood Ave. 963-9050 or www.operanaples.com.

With A Paddle – The 41st annual Great Dock Canoe Races brings the traditional races and new paddleboard races to Crayton Cove with the fun starting at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, May 6. 825-1228 or www.greatdockcanoeraces.com.

Madama Butterfly – Gulfcoast Symphony and Gulfshore Opera collaborate on a production of Puccini's "Madama Butterfly" at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 6, at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, Fort Myers. 481-4849 or www.gulfcoastsymphony.org.

Foreign Film – FGCU's Renaissance Academy screens "Amores Perros" (Mexico, 2000) at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 7. A horrific car accident connects three stories, each involving characters dealing with loss, regret and life's harsh realities, all in the name of love. \$6 for members, \$8 for others. 1010 Fifth Ave. S. 434-4737 or www.fgcu.edu.

Play Reading – The Naples Players' Etc... Readers Theatre performs a reading of Samuel French's "The New York Idea" at 2 p.m. \$10. 262-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org.

Student Concert – Faith Lutheran Church hosts a youth concert featuring trumpeter Arthur Zanin at 3 p.m. Free, but donations appreciated. 4150 Goodlette-Frank Road. 434-5811 or www.flcnaples.com.

Youth Concert – Naples Philharmonic Youth Orchestra performs at 7 p.m. at Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

MONDAY 5.1

Film for Film Lovers – Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs screens "The Forgotten Kingdom" (2013) at 7 p.m. A young man travels to the mountainous African region of Lesotho to bury his father and falls in love. \$10. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

TUESDAY 5.2

Pups on Parade – Naples Botanical Garden welcomes friendly, leashed dogs from 8-11 a.m. Free for member dogs, regular admission plus \$9.95 for non-members and their pooches. 643-4737 or www.naplesgarden.org.

Local Star – FGCU's Renaissance Academy hosts a presentation about Naples resident and marine film consultant Capt. Lance Julian's film career ("Waterworld," "Titanic") from 1-2:30 p.m. at The Arlington. \$20 for members, \$25 for others. 7900 Arlington Cir. 307-3000 or www.fgcu.edu.

Suicide Girls – Burlesque troupe The Suicide Girls perform high-energy striptease performances that reference "Star Wars," "A Clockwork Orange," "Donnie Darko" and more at 8 p.m. at the Southwest Florida Performing Arts Center. \$25-\$85. 11515 Bonita Beach Road. 389-6901 or www.swflpac.com.

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Community Day – Artis—Naples opens invites to public to enjoy free activities and performances from 1-4 p.m. Sunday, May 7. 597-19000 or www.artisnaples.org.

Film for Film Lovers – Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs screens “Snatch” (2000) at 7 p.m. Monday, May 8. Underground thugs fight to track down a priceless diamond. \$10. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Women’s Work – Lunafest, a traveling film festival featuring short films by women, stops by Paragon Pavilion at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 11. \$25-\$35, with proceeds benefitting the Breast Cancer Fund and Girls on the Run of Collier County. www.lunafest.org.

Beautiful Italy – FGCU’s Renaissance Academy hosts a lecture about Umbria’s hill towns from 10-11:30 a.m. Friday, May 12 and 19, at The Arlington. 7900 Arlington Cir. 307-3000 or www.fgcu.edu.

Beer Me – Blues, Brews & BBQ returns to Tin City with craft beer, barbecue, stone crabs, family activities and more Friday and Saturday, May 12-13. www.naplesbluesbbq.com.

Doo Wop – Rocky and the Rollers and Tokens perform at 5:30 p.m. Friday, May 12, at The Naples Zoo. \$37. 390-2788 or www.stayinmay.com.

Free Concert – Rockin’ Horse performs from 6-9 p.m. Friday, May 12, at Miromar Outlets. 948-3766 or www.miromaroutlets.com.

Opera Night – Opera Naples presents Mozart’s “The Magic Flute” at 8 p.m. Friday, May 12, at Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org. 825-1228 or www.greatdockcanoeraces.com.

Book Signing – Barnes & Noble at Waterside Shops hosts author and Naples resident Nathan Hill (“The Nix”) at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 13. 598-5200 or www.bn.com.

Brunch for Mom – Young Life in Collier County hosts an al fresco, strawberry-themed Mothers Day brunch provided by Here’s Howe catering from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, May 14, in the outdoor plaza at Sugden Community Theatre. \$15-\$25. www.mothersdaybrunch.org.

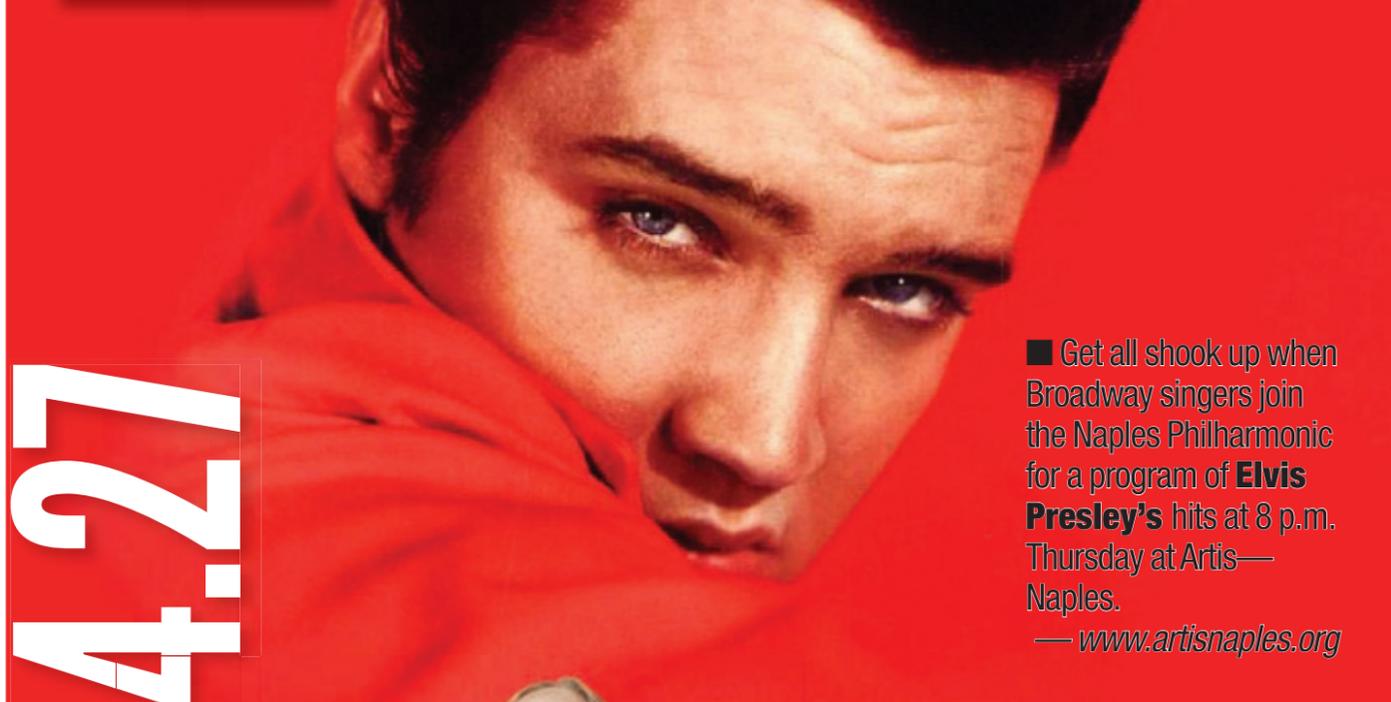
Sultan of Swat – FGCU’s Renaissance Academy hosts a lecture about Babe Ruth from 10-11:30 a.m. Monday, May 15, at Moorings Park. 132 Moorings Park Drive. 261-1616 or www.fgcu.edu.

French History – FGCU’s Renaissance Academy hosts a talk about Louis XIII and Richelieu from 1-2:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 16, at The Arlington. \$20 for members, \$25 for others. 7900 Arlington Cir. 307-3000 or www.fgcu.edu.

Art Talk – FGCU’s Renaissance Academy hosts a lecture about life and art in the Middle Ages from 10-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 17, at Moorings Park. \$20 for members, \$25 for others. 132 Moorings Park Drive. 261-1616 or www.fgcu.edu.

Classical Concert – Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs presents a concert featuring the flute and piano with works by Poulenc at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 18. \$25. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Frankly Funny – Actor and comedian Frank Blocker presents a one-man show with zany characters, improv, special guests and more at 8 p.m. Friday, May 19, at Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs. \$15. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.



■ Get all shook up when Broadway singers join the Naples Philharmonic for a program of **Elvis Presley’s** hits at 8 p.m. Thursday at Artis—Naples.
— www.artisnaples.org



#LAUGH IT UP
■ Three-time Emmy Award-winner and one of Comedy Central’s 100 Greatest Stand-Up Comics of All Time, **Louie Anderson** takes the stage Thursday through Sunday at Off the Hook Comedy Club. See story on page C1.
— offthehookcomedy.com

■ You’ll love it when the kids of the Naples Philharmonic Youth Chorus raise their voices in song for CAPA’s final **Rising Stars** concert of the season at 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 5, at the David and Cecile Wang Opera Center.
— www.capacenter.org



■ Def Leppard is among the more than 20 bands lined up for the fifth annual **Fort Rock Festival** taking place Saturday and Sunday at JetBlue Park in Fort Myers.
— www.fortrockfestival.com



■ Bend, stretch and breeeeeeeathe in the fresh air at **Naples Botanical Garden** during the season’s final yoga session at 10 a.m. Sunday.
— www.naplesgarden.org



#EAT IT

■ Take your sweet tooth to **Whole Foods Market** in Mercato and satisfy it with free samples from Norman Love Confections, whose products are new to the offerings at the all-natural grocer, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

WHAT TO DO



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Ice Dancers – Disney on Ice's "World of Enchantment" visits Germain Arena at 10:30 a.m. Friday through Sunday, May 19-21. \$22-\$87. 948-7825 or www.germainarena.com.

Free Concert – Neon Summer performs from 6-9 p.m. Friday, May 19, at Miromar Outlets. 948-3766 or www.miromaroutlets.com.

Magic Carpet – Members of the Naples Philharmonic perform an up-close woodwind concert for kids at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 20. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Smooth Moves – The Tenors perform at 8 p.m. Saturday, May 20, at Seminole Immokalee Casino. \$45. (800) 218-0007 or www.moreinparadise.com.

Country Crooners – Two Way Crossing brings four-part harmony to country music at 8 p.m. Saturday, May 20, at Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Frothy Fun – Southwest Florida Soapfest Weekend returns to Marco Island with daytime television stars attending a variety of parties and events with the public Friday through Monday, May 26-29. Events are priced separately. Proceeds benefit Camp Able and ITC Kids. 394-0080 or www.theateronmarco.com.

Free Concert – Hester Prynne performs from 6-9 p.m. Friday, May 26, at Miromar Outlets. 948-3766 or www.miromaroutlets.com.

Still the King – Western swing giants Asleep at the Wheel perform at 8 p.m.

Saturday, May 27, at Seminole Immokalee Casino. \$25. (888) 219-0007 or www.moreinparadise.com.

Vocal Concert – Terry Barber Trio performs at 8 p.m. Saturday, May 27, at Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs. \$35-\$45. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Summer Spectacular – The Naples Philharmonic performs classical favorites alongside the organization's youth orchestra students at 7 p.m. Sunday, May 28, at Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Pro-Am – Talented amateur musicians perform great orchestral works alongside the Naples Philharmonic at 7 p.m. Saturday, June 3, at Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Got Some Pipes – Artis—Naples shows off its 3,604-pipe Casavant organ with a performance of a wide range of music by the area's best organists at 3 p.m. Sunday, June 4. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Free Film – Paragon Pavilion screens "The Peanuts Movie" at 10 a.m. Tuesday through Thursday, June 13-15. 833 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 596-0008 or www.paragontheaters.com. ■

— Email calendar listings and high-resolution photos to Lindsey Nesmith at 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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ETC ... Readers Theatre wraps up the 2017 season with a classic

The Naples Players' ETC ... Readers Theatre closes the 2017 season with Langdon Mitchell's classic "A New York Idea" at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 30. It's the story of Cynthia Karlslake, a freewheeling divorcee in 1906 New York City society who has decided to settle down into a stable, reliable relationship with the prominent Judge Philip Phillimore. Little does Cynthia know, however, that neither of their bombastic and blowsy ex-spouses yet down for the count.

The sharp-tongued comedy shines a surprisingly contemporary light on social mores, status and attitudes about sex and divorce in high society. Tickets for \$10 are available by calling 263-7990 or by visiting the box office from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

Seeking new plays

ETC ... Readers Theatre is accepting original one-act scripts for its 14th annual Evening of New Plays contest for Southwest Florida playwrights. In addition to having their play performed, up to four finalists will each receive a \$100 performance royalty, memorial plaque, event poster and two tickets to the Evening of New Plays and awards ceremony set for Sunday evening, Jan. 21, 2018 at the Sugden Community Theatre.

Deadline for submissions is July 31. Winners will be notified by Oct. 31.

Playwrights must reside in Collier, Lee, Charlotte, Glades or Hendry counties. Only non-musical, one-acts are accepted. Only one play per writer can be submitted. Each play must be the writer's own original work, not an adaptation, and not commercially published or produced (though it may have been work-shopped or presented in staged readings). A submitted play also may have been entered in an earlier Evening of New Plays contest, so long as it was not a finalist. Once the play is submitted, no script changes can be made for purposes of this competition.



Playwrights must submit two copies of their script in standard stage play format to Evening of New Plays, The Naples Players, 701 Fifth Ave. S., Naples, FL 34102. A title page with the name of the play, synopsis and list of characters must be attached to each script. Include a separate page unattached to script with the name of the play and playwright and contact information. This is to help assure anonymity during the judging process. For scripts to be returned a self-addressed stamped envelope must be included.

The judging panel will recommend up to four finalists for review and final approval by TNP Artistic Director Bryce Alexander and Associate Artistic Director Jessica Walck. Authors retain all rights and give performance rights to The Naples Players for the Evening of New Plays and limited readings in other venues, including possible outreach and electronic media.

ETC ... Readers Theatre, a TNP affiliate theater group, is led by Ms. Walck. Performances are held throughout the year in the 100-seat Tobye Studio at the Sugden Community Theatre. The season consists of programs of one-act plays and one selected full-length work, with scripts in hand and without props or costumes. For more information, visit www.naplesplayers.org. ■

Auditions set for summer KidzAct shows

Tryouts for the KidzAct summer productions of "James and the Giant Peach Jr." and "Beauty and the Beast Jr." will take place from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 6 and 13, at the Sugden Community Theatre. Young thespians ages 9-14 can audition for one or both shows.

"James and the Giant Peach Jr." is a brand new take on one of Roald Dahl's most poignantly quirky stories. Featuring a wickedly tuneful score and a witty and charming book, it's an adventurous musical about courage and self-discovery.

Rehearsals for "James and the Giant Peach Jr." will be from 1-5 p.m. Monday-Friday from June 5 to July 6. Four performances will be held July 7-9.

"Disney's Beauty and the Beast Jr." is an adaptation of the classic story of transformation and tolerance. The show features some of the most popular songs ever written by Alan Menken and the late Howard Ashman, along with new songs by Mr. Menken and Tim Rice.

Rehearsals for "Beauty and the Beast Jr." will be from 1-5 p.m. Monday-Friday



from July 10 through Aug. 10. Performances will be Aug. 11-13.

Get in on 'Sister Act' for teens

The KidzAct kids will present "Sister Act Jr." this summer, on the heels of The Naples Players' main stage production of the musical comedy. Auditions for ages 13-18 will take place from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 3. Appointments are required.

Rehearsals for "Sister Act Jr." will be from 3-6 p.m. Monday-Friday from June 19 to July 28, and from 7-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday from July 31 to Aug. 3. Performances will be Aug. 4-6.

Appointments are required for all KidzAct auditions. To schedule a time or for more information, call 263-7990 or visit www.naplesplayers.org. ■



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ARTS COMMENTARY

Seances, swordfights and Shakespeare in 'I Hate Hamlet'

nancySTETSON
nstetson@floridaweekly.com



Let's put it this way: I didn't hate "I Hate Hamlet," but I didn't love it either.

It's a play adored by actors because it glorifies the theater and boasts of the superiority of the stage over the TV screen.

Written in 1991, it possesses great lines and funny moments — but not enough to sustain an entire evening.

Unlike John Barrymore himself, the play hasn't aged well. Bits like someone going into a trance during a séance to commune with a spirit guide or an actor making funny noises as he does acting exercises to prepare for a scene are old hat, things we've seen countless times before.

The night I saw it, about a dozen people seated near me left at intermission.

Playwright Paul Rudnick does have some priceless lines. And his premise is clever: TV actor Andrew Rally (Jesse Heindl) is given the opportunity to play the title role in "Hamlet" for New York City's Shakespeare in the Park. His girlfriend Deirdre (Madeline Leon) loves the idea, but she still won't sleep with him.

Real estate broker Felice (Mary Anne McAvoy McKerrow) rents Andrew the apartment where the actor John Barrymore used to live. Barrymore's ghost is conjured up from the dead; he then hangs around to give Andrew acting advice as well as help in the romance department.

What actor wouldn't want to get personal guidance from an iconic actor who played the same role?

John McKerrow as John Barrymore helps save the show. His Barrymore is dashing and commanding — and quite likeable. With his gallant ways, you can see how he's seduced hundreds of women.

(And, he has a sense of humor. He introduces himself as, "Actor, legend, seducer, corpse.")

Mr. McKerrow is obviously very at home with the Bard, having performed with the local Shakespeare in Paradise troupe.

Mr. Heindl as Andrew, the hapless TV actor, is also well cast. He comes across as a young Billy Crystal at times. He's ambivalent about playing Hamlet, in once instance bursting out with, "I hate 'Hamlet!'"

His character is a schlock actor who knows he's mediocre. How does he get to be Hamlet? He's chosen for his name



John McKerrow, Mary Anne McKerrow and Madeline Leon in "I Hate Hamlet."

PATRICE SHIELDS / COURTESY PHOTO

appeal, because he played a doctor on TV. That's something that often happens on Broadway now, where TV actors are cast in lead roles to pull in the crowds; people don't want to see a good play, they want to see a celebrity.

It doesn't make as much sense that he's chosen to do Shakespeare in the Park, as the venue has a history of hiring people known for their superior acting skills, such as Meryl Streep and the late Raul Julia.

Gaps in the plot or the logic of the play could be much more forgiven if the laughs were more consistent.

Ms. McKerrow is underutilized as Felice, but gets one of the night's biggest laughs during her sex talk with Deirdre, who's still a virgin. She knows how to deliver a line for maximum punch, even if it's just one word.

And thanks to costume designer Dot Auchmoody, Felice's outfits also get laughs, especially a gown that looks as if one of Liberace's abundantly sequined costumes mated with a flamenco dancer's dress. It is wonderfully, horrifically tacky.

Director D. Terry Williams' staging could be more dynamic. Sometimes the characters are all standing in a line, talking with each other. At another point, he has an actor address another actor behind him, awkwardly talking over his shoulder, instead of turning to face him.

Yes, actors are taught not to show their backs to an audience, but some interactions in this production just feel unnatural, when the characters don't turn or look at the people they're addressing. It's almost as if they're in a TV show and are playing to imaginary cameras in front of them.

And this production of "I Hate Hamlet" does have that feel, as if we're being a presented with a TV sit-com. In a play that argues for the glory of the theater over the mediocrity of television, that's not a good thing.

The actors do make good use of the stage during a swordfight between Barrymore and his young protégé, Andrew. Fight choreographer Cole Butcher has the actors making the most of the space and the furniture. Mr. McKerrow, as Barrymore, even drinks some alcohol while fighting, and he's such a good swordsman that he can fight Andrew while facing in the opposite direction.

Mary Wallace, The Naples Players' costume shop supervisor, plays Andrew's agent, Lillian, a majestic woman of a certain age. It is good to see Ms. Wallace back onstage.

Lillian had a fling with Barrymore when she was younger, and her poignant scene with him resonated with the audience. They not only received the evening's biggest laugh, but also exit applause when

their scene ended.

Paul Polomsky's portrayal of Gary, an agent from LA, is a little more problematic. With his scruffy beard and floppy hair, he comes across more '50s beatnik than California agent. It's a highly caffeinated, over-the-top performance, complete with wild gestures and overacting. Mr. Polomsky can act, but it would've been more effective if the director had reined him in a little.

Todd Potter's two-level set with wood walls, chandelier and a huge fireplace is like one of those New York City gems preserved from long ago. It could practically be a setting from one of Barrymore's movies.

To recommend or not recommend "I Hate Hamlet," that is the question.

I laughed. It's amusing. Some of the performers are really worth seeing.

But I didn't float out of the theater with a light heart and a silly grin on my face, two things a really good comedy can accomplish. ■

in the know

'I Hate Hamlet'

- >> **Who:** The Naples Players
- >> **When:** Through May 14
- >> **Where:** Sugden Community Theatre
- >> **Cost:** \$35 adults; \$10 for students
- >> **Info:** 263-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org

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PUZZLE ANSWERS

A	M	O	N	G	B	A	M	W	H	I	N	E	S	D	V	D
C	O	N	F	A	B	O	R	R	H	O	N	O	R	E	R	O
T	H	E	C	L	O	C	K	I	S	T	I	C	K	I	N	G
E	S	S	L	X	I	A	L	A	S	R	E	W	E	A	V	E
S	O	F	A	S	O	C	K	E	Y	E	S	A	L	M	O	N
A	P	P	T	I	O	N	A	T	A	X	I	T	Y	K	E	
M	O	R	A	S	S	O	W	N	S	O	P	A	E	D	A	M
B	L	O	C	K	H	O	U	S	E	S	T	E	N	O	F	B
L	E	X	I	E	B	T	W	U	Z	I	T	S	E	L	I	O
E	R	Y	W	I	I	U	T	R	A	C	I	A	D	A	G	E
S	I	R	R	E	E	N	A	X	O	S	T	R	A	X	Y	A
T	R	E	E	S	A	P	M	I	A	S	A	Y	C	O	L	A
E	M	T	S	L	E	E	P	T	A	L	K	S	T	U	R	K
M	A	U	L	G	T	O	S	N	Y	E	U	P	N	E	X	T
R	O	O	T	T	I	A	R	A	S	I	B	O	L	A	V	
S	A	N	D	R	A	B	U	L	L	O	C	K	P	L	E	N
A	T	P	E	A	C	E	A	X	O	N	A	I	T	I	M	P
U	T	A	J	O	H	N	M	A	Y	N	A	R	D	K	E	Y
D	I	T	E	M	I	N	E	M	D	R	E	E	X	E	R	T
I	C	H	L	A	M	E	R	S	A	S	P	T	W	E	E	T

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

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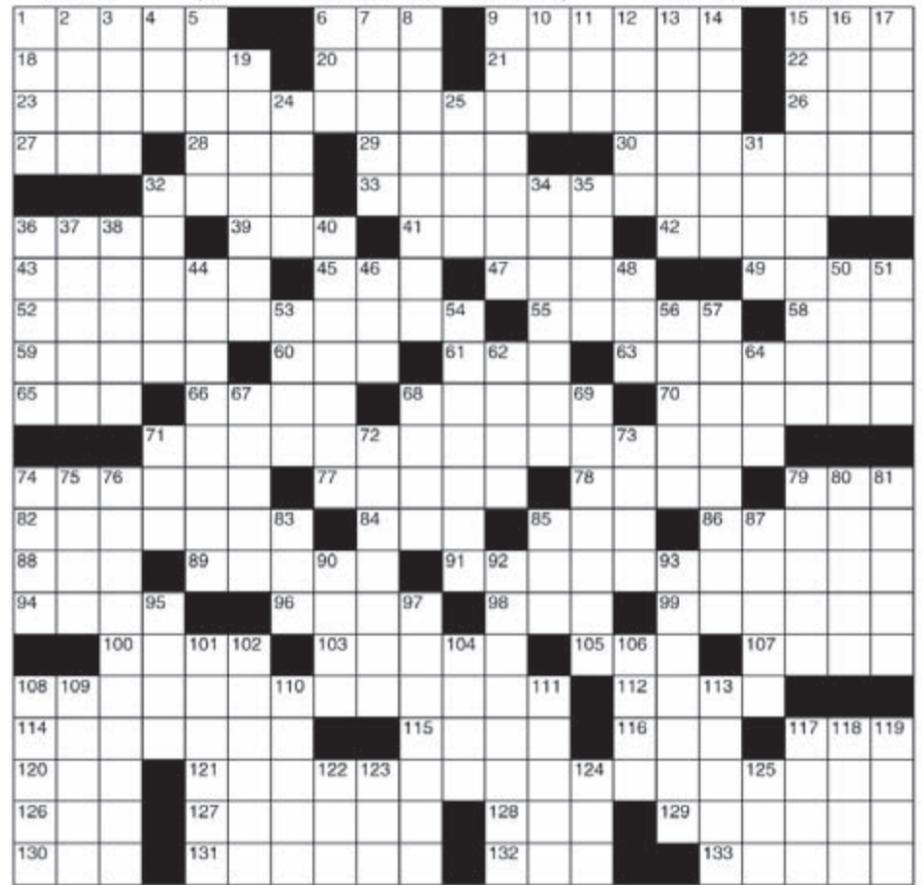
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PUZZLES

X MARKS THE SPOT

- ACROSS**
- 1 Between
 - 6 Cartoon thud
 - 9 Snively cries
 - 15 Film format
 - 18 Chat session
 - 20 The Bruins' Bobby
 - 21 Author — de Balzac
 - 22 Aussie leaper
 - 23 "You only have so much time"
 - 26 Ron of "Tarzan"
 - 27 Quaint suffix with poet
 - 28 Virgil's 61
 - 29 "How sad"
 - 30 Entwine anew
 - 32 Den furniture
 - 33 Swimmer also called a blueback
 - 36 Scheduled mtg.
 - 39 "+" or "-" atom
 - 41 Take — (cab it)
 - 42 Wee child
 - 43 Boggy area
 - 45 Possess
 - 47 Campbell's product, in Spanish
 - 49 Netherlands cheese
 - 52 Forts made of squared timbers
 - 55 Any ".50" time
 - 58 Slo- fuse
 - 59 One of the Greys on "Grey's Anatomy"
 - 60 Emailer's "incidentally"
 - 61 Gun of Israeli design
 - 63 "The Waste Land" poet
 - 65 Suffix with trick or hatch
 - 66 New Nintendo system of 2012
 - 68 Bingham of "Baywatch"
 - 70 Proverbs
 - 71 Where all eight X's appear in this puzzle
 - 74 "No —, Bob!"
 - 77 Greek island near Paros
 - 78 "Time —" (1990s sci-fi series)
 - 79 Blabber
 - 82 Trunk gunk
 - 84 Actress Farrow
 - 85 Pronounce
 - 86 Bella — (British Columbian native)
 - 88 CPR-trained pro
 - 89 Be dozing
 - 91 Has a frank discussion
 - 94 Heavy hammer
 - 96 Old Pontiac muscle cars
 - 98 TV scientist Bill
 - 99 On deck
 - 100 Turnip, e.g.
 - 103 Regal crown
 - 105 Sis or bro
 - 107 Royal name of Norway
 - 108 "Gravity" actress
 - 112 — T-Pak (Wrigley's gum unit)
 - 114 Worry-free
 - 115 Nerve cell extension
 - 116 River islet
 - 117 Devilkin
 - 120 Broadway's Hagen
 - 121 "A Treatise on Money" economist
 - 126 Click in Morse code
 - 127 "Crack a Bottle" rapper
 - 128 Dr. — ("Crack a Bottle" rapper)
 - 129 Welds
 - 130 I, to Johann
 - 131 Really uncool types
 - 132 Nile snake
 - 133 Bird noise
- DOWN**
- 1 Part of a French play
 - 2 — scale of hardness
 - 3 Individuals
 - 4 16-team grid gp.
 - 5 Noted family name in wine
 - 6 — choy
 - 7 Opera solos
 - 8 "Entertaining —" (Joe Orton play)
 - 9 Cat food brand
 - 10 Ad —
 - 11 Pen filler
 - 12 Bête —
 - 13 Borgnine of film
 - 14 Self-balancing two-wheeler
 - 15 Had lofty aspirations
 - 16 Saab rival
 - 17 Senior group member
 - 19 Puffer's cousin
 - 24 "Bye now!"
 - 25 Savoir-faire
 - 31 Sommer of the screen
 - 32 Actress Keanan
 - 34 Unusual foreign objects
 - 35 "Criminy!"
 - 36 Stroll along
 - 37 Gondola guider
 - 38 Authorized substitute
 - 40 Sign banning 180s
 - 44 Statistical asymmetry
 - 46 Compass pt.
 - 48 Toiling insect
 - 50 Salve plant
 - 51 Verbal gems
 - 53 Big Apple stage award
 - 54 Tunic worn over armor
 - 56 Port of Japan
 - 57 Annual PGA Tour event
 - 62 Drummer Starkey and screenwriter Penn
 - 64 Secular
 - 67 Perfect
 - 68 Poison: Prefix
 - 69 Entry points on pipes
 - 71 Suffix with press
 - 72 Kerosene
 - 73 Abstainers from alcohol
 - 74 Flower stalk
 - 75 "— la Douce"
 - 76 Address that bounced email is delivered to
 - 79 Rustic sort
 - 80 Vega of "Spy Kids" films
 - 81 Cable shows, e.g.
 - 83 Tent securer
 - 85 Clever
 - 87 "Smoking —?"
 - 90 Reproach to Brutus
 - 92 Big boa
 - 93 Resembling a vat
 - 95 Ore deposit
 - 97 Low bows
 - 101 Toothache relief brand
 - 102 City near Seattle
 - 104 Old Big Apple theater
 - 106 Apple tablet
 - 108 — Arabian
 - 109 Garret
 - 110 Vikki Carr's "It Must —"
 - 111 Knots on tree trunks
 - 113 Digital book, e.g.
 - 117 As to
 - 118 Dole (out)
 - 119 "Hey, you"
 - 122 Dir. 135 deg. from 46-Down
 - 123 Sea, in Caen
 - 124 Sales —
 - 125 Hedge bush



◀ SEE ANSWERS, C11

HOROSCOPES

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your resolute determination to stick by a position might make some people uncomfortable. But if you're proved right (as I expect you to be), a lot of changes will tilt in your favor.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You might feel conflicted between what you want to do and what you should do. Best advice: Honor your obligations first. Then go ahead and enjoy your well-earned rewards.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) That financial matter still needs to be sorted out before you can consider any major monetary moves. Pressures ease midweek, with news about a potential career change.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) A workplace problem threatens to derail your well-planned project. But your quick mind should lead you to a solution and get you back on track without too much delay.

VIRGO (August 23 to September

22) An opportunity opens up but could quickly close down if you allow pessimism to override enthusiasm. A trusted friend can offer the encouragement you need.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You've come through a difficult period of helping others deal with their problems. Now you can concentrate on putting your energy to work on your own projects.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Forget about who's to blame and, instead, make the first move toward patching up a misunderstanding before it creates a rift that you'll never be able to cross.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Good news for the travel-loving Sagittarian who enjoys galloping off to new places: That trip you put off will soon be back on your schedule.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A mood change could make the gregarious Goat seek the

company of just a few friends. But you charge back into the crowd for weekend fun and games.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A decision you made in good faith could come under fire. Best advice: Open your mind to other possibilities by listening to your challenger's point of view.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) You can avoid being swamped by all those tasks dangling from your line this week by tackling them one by one, according to priority. The weekend brings good news.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) The often-skeptical Aries might find that an answer to a question is hard to believe. But check it out before you chuck it out. You might well be surprised at what you could learn.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a fine business sense and a love of the arts. You enjoy living life to its fullest. ■

SUDOKU

Difficulty level:

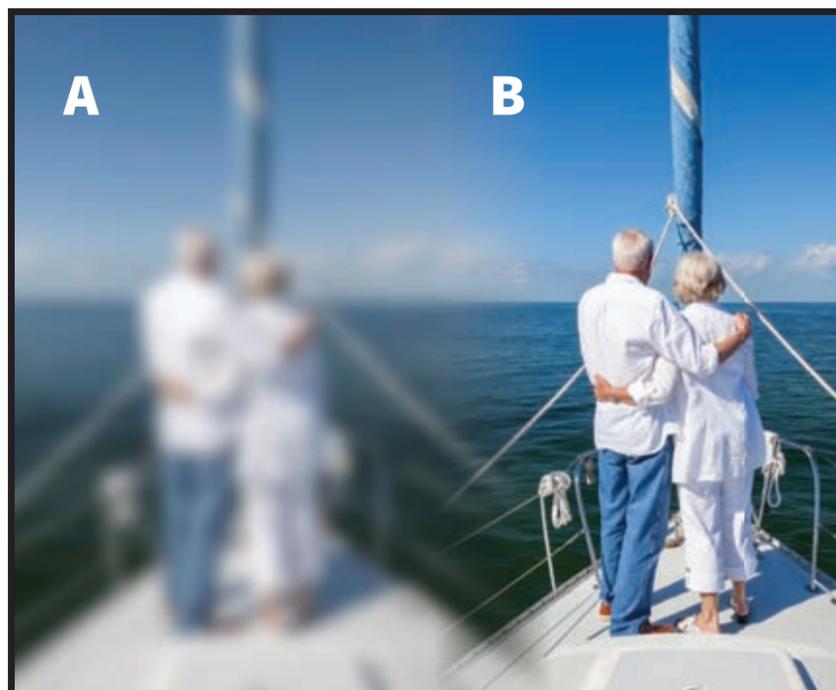


Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

By Linda Thistle

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

◀ SEE ANSWERS, C11



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CONTRACT BRIDGE

Creation of an illusion

BY STEVE BECKER

Although bridge is primarily a game of percentages, it nevertheless offers plenty of opportunity for ingenuity. For example, take this case where South got to four spades on the bidding shown. West led the ace and another club, and declarer ruffed high when East continued the suit at trick three.

Having lost the first two tricks, and with the ace of hearts also a certain loser, declarer had to find a way to avoid losing any diamonds. This seemed an impossible task, for while one diamond loser could eventually be discarded on a high heart, there seemed to be no way to avoid the other one.

Declarer considered the possibility of leading a heart toward dummy, hoping West would make the mistake of rising with the ace if he had it. But South dismissed this thought because he felt certain East had the ace of hearts for his vulnerable overcall once West had shown up with the ace of clubs.

South finally concluded that his only possible chance for the contract was to lay a trap for East. So at trick four he crossed to the queen of spades and returned the deuce of hearts!

It was very difficult for East to imagine that South would make this play without holding the jack of hearts, so,

North dealer.

East-West vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ Q 10 7
♥ K Q 2
♦ A 10 8 5
♣ Q 7 4

WEST

♠ 6 5
♥ J 9 8 7 5 4
♦ Q 3 2
♣ A 3

EAST

♠ 2
♥ A 10 6
♦ K J 7
♣ K J 10 9 6 5

SOUTH

♠ A K J 9 8 4 3
♥ 3
♦ 9 6 4
♣ 8 2

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1♦	2♣	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	

Opening lead — ace of clubs.

afraid that the jack might be singleton, he rushed up with the ace. South later discarded both of his diamond losers on the K-Q of hearts to make four spades.

You could argue, quite justifiably, that East made a poor defensive play, but even if the ploy had failed, you'd still have to give South an A for effort. ■

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FILM CAPSULES

The Lost City of Z ★★★

(Charlie Hunnam, Robert Pattinson, Sienna Miller) In the early 1900s, British explorer Percy Fawcett (Mr. Hunnam) leaves his family behind to search for what he believes is an undiscovered city. Mr. Pattinson plays his right-hand man, and Ms. Miller is Percy's long-suffering wife. It's a bit bloated at 141 minutes, but the performances are strong and it tells an epic story in an intriguing way. Rated PG-13.

Frantz ★★★

(Pierre Niney, Paula Beer, Anton von Lucke) In Germany shortly after The Great War, a stranger (Mr. Niney) appears at the gravesite of a grieving woman's (Ms. Beer) fiancée (Mr. Lucke, seen in flashbacks), and he intends to get to know the fiancée's family. Tense drama whose supposed resolution comes in the middle, leading to an intriguing and unexpected second half. Rated PG-13.

Gifted ★★★

(Chris Evans, Jenny Slate, Mckenna Grace) After her mother dies, a 7-year-old math prodigy (Ms. Grace) is the subject of a custody battle between her uncle (Mr. Evans) and grandmother (Lindsay Duncan). It's predictable and has the expected touching moments, but the best parts are the unexpected dashes of humor that make it endearing. Rated PG-13.

Smurfs: The Lost Village ★★★½

(Voices of Demi Lovato, Joe Manganiello, Rainn Wilson) With evil wizard Gargamel (Mr. Wilson) in hot pursuit, Smurfette (Ms. Lovato), Hefty (Mr. Manganiello) and other Smurfs seek out an

ominous lost village in their forest. The animation, action and humor are all average. But the target audience is little kids, and it effectively conveys the message that girls can grow up to be whatever they want to be. Rated PG.

T2: Trainspotting ★★★

(Ewan McGregor, Ewen Bremner, Jonny Lee Miller) Twenty years after ripping off his mates, Mark (Mr. McGregor) returns to Edinburgh and gets mixed up with the boys once again. Danny Boyle's sequel to his 1996 hit isn't the adrenaline rush the original is, but it nonetheless tells a compelling story that's worth a look. Rated R.

Beauty and the Beast ★★★½

(Emma Watson, Dan Stevens, Ian McKellen) In Disney's live-action remake of its animated classic, Belle (Ms. Watson) is trapped in the Beast's (Ms. Stevens) enchanted castle, but is helped by a clock (Mr. McKellen) and candelabra (Ewan McGregor), among other living furniture. It remains a sweet love story at its core, and the visuals are breathtaking. Still, the filmmakers took an animated 84-minute work of perfection and bloated it to a live-action 129 minutes that feels unnecessary. Rated PG.

The Sense of an Ending ★★

(Jim Broadbent, Emily Mortimer, Charlotte Rampling) An elderly British man (Mr. Broadbent) has trouble retrieving a diary that is in the possession of the woman (Ms. Rampling) who was his girlfriend 40 years earlier. There are some nice themes and performances, but the ending, ironically, leaves a bit to be desired. Rated PG-13. ■



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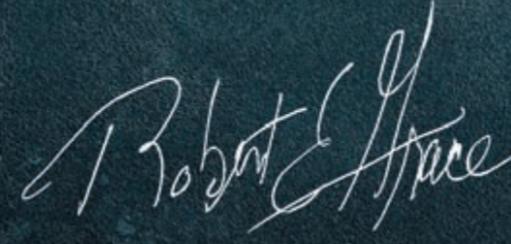
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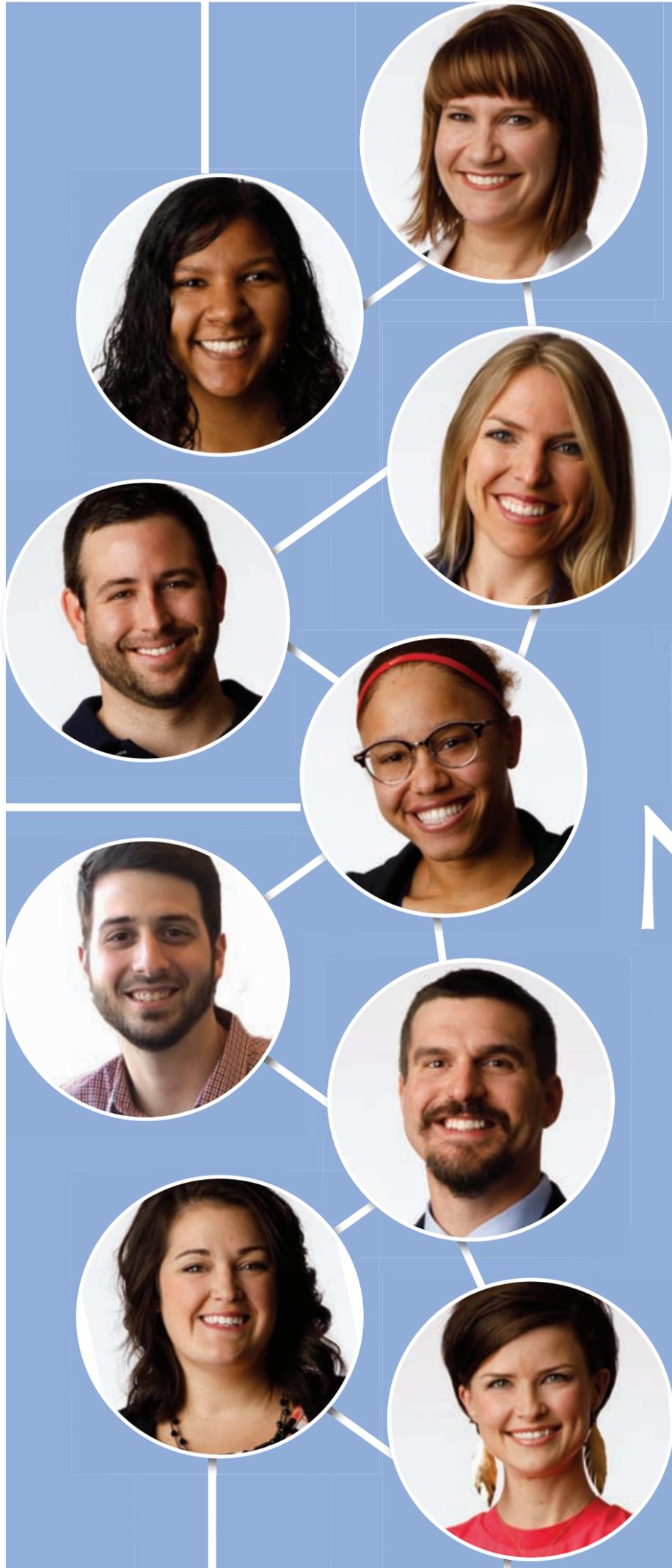
our community



GIVING MATTERS



INSIDE: ■ Multi-year scholarships 4 ■ How to establish a scholarship fund 4 ■



“Donors have created a ripple effect in the community by impacting these students’ lives who in turn impact our community and the world. There’s an exponential return on donors’ generosity.”



— Sarah Owen, CEO and president of the Southwest Florida Community Foundation

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Catching up with former scholarship recipients who are changing the world

IT'S HUMAN NATURE TO WONDER WHAT FORMER classmates and colleagues, friends and first loves are doing these days. We're curious if they married so-and-so, fulfilled a childhood dream of becoming a doctor or teacher, and, let's be honest, have they changed?

Social media lets us fill in the gaps, reconnect and follow their lives.

Recently at the Southwest Florida Community Foundation we've begun following the lives and successes of the people impacted by our programs. One of our biggest thrills is seeing scholarship recipients earn post-secondary college degrees and certifications and sharing their success stories with

SEE NOW, 2 ▶

► **NOW FROM PAGE 1**

our community.

The foundation administers 88 scholarship-related funds and last year distributed \$700,000 in new and multi-year awards to the freshman class of 2016, current college students and adults returning to the classroom. These funds have been established by community patrons who realize post-secondary education is an investment in the community.

“Scholarships have the power to shape someone’s future,” said Sarah Owen, president and CEO of the Southwest Florida Community Foundation. “The beautiful thing about our scholarship programs is that the donors understand the importance of launching a student on a career path. They tell us, ‘I want to help a student pursue their goals and dreams even if I never meet them.’”

The community foundation has awarded \$2.75 million in scholarships during just the last five years, providing financial assistance to students like 2016 Dunbar High graduate Nahisha Alabre, just wrapping up her freshman year at Cornell University. Receiving scholarship money was “a blessing upon me and my family,” said Ms. Alabre.

A scholarship is just the beginning of the community foundation’s connection with students. Like proud parents, we walk with them every step of the way, supporting and cheering them on, celebrating college and technical college graduation and the next big step to a career. We’ve seen many scholarship students change their community and the world, becoming engineers, artists, scientists, teachers, advocates and leaders.

Sharing the successes of nine present and former scholarship recipients shows how scholarships have opened a world of opportunity for thousands of Southwest Florida students. These students and young professionals have realized their dreams, including a practicing cardiothoracic surgeon, an Emmy Award-winning manager at NBC Sports, and a chief financial officer for a Texas gas and oil company. Others are working right here in Southwest Florida, including the assistant head of



COURTESY PHOTO

▲ Chris Howland

school at Montessori School of Fort Myers, an assistant district attorney, and the 2008 Miss Florida who now mentors young women through her church and runs a home-based business.

The Power of Believing

Scholarships permanently entwine the lives of donor and recipient.

“Someone believed in me and really wanted me to succeed,” said Jessica Williams, the recipient of the 2011 Paul & Aline Flynn Scholarship established by the community foundation’s former CEO and his wife Aline Flynn. “I want to thank them for giving me a chance to become who I could be. Someone who I had never met wanted to invest in me. That kept me going.”

As a first-generation college graduate, Ms. Williams said her bachelor’s degree in communications from



► **Erin Gillaspie MD,**
Cardiothoracic
surgeon & professor



▲ **Sierra (Minott) Jones,**
Former Miss Florida, mentor, entrepreneur



► **Lee Visone,**
Sr. Examiner,
US Patent
and Trade-
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► **Lindsay Scott,**
Asst. State
Attorney

“The beautiful thing about our scholarship programs is that the donors understand the importance of launching a student on a career path. They tell us, ‘I want to help a student pursue their goals and dreams even if I never meet them.’”

— Sarah Owen, CEO and president

Florida Gulf Coast University is “my family’s degree. They are so proud of me.” She is now working on her master’s at the University of Vermont where she received a full-ride scholarship.

Christopher Howland received the first Flynn scholarship in 2008, following the career path of Mr. Flynn who started in sports journalism and later became president of USA Today. Mr. Howland landed a job at NBC Sports soon after graduating from Florida State University and received a 2016 Emmy for digital innovation. He’s nominated for two 2017 awards and was recently promoted to manager of sales integration, responsible for the custom commercial advertisements users see when streaming live events.

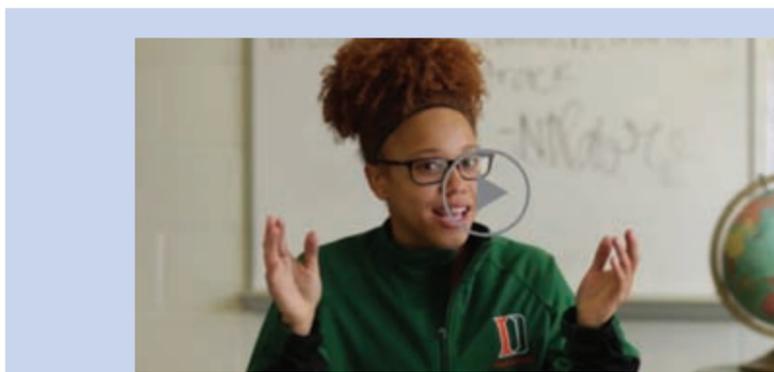
“What the Flynn’s did is admirable, giving kids like me an opportunity,” he said. “I know Mr. Flynn was a major player in sports journalism. I would love to have met him. I would ask for career advice and what he would do in my shoes to continue to advance.”

Scholarships for Every Scenario

The Southwest Florida Community Foundation awards annual scholarships to students who meet a variety of criteria established by donors - from simply living in the five-county region and demonstrating a financial need to those following a certain career path or attending a donor’s alma mater.

Ms. Alabre was identified in middle school as a candidate for the Jo Anne Olmsted and John F. and Mary W. Hotchkiss scholarships which the community foundation provides to the Foundation for Lee County Schools to administer. The scholarships were created in 2005 from \$2 million in gifts to the community foundation and require recipients maintain good grades and stay drug- and crime-free through middle and high school.

Ms. Alabre, who lights up the room with her megawatt smile, was selected by her teachers and mentored through the school foundation’s Take Stock in Children program. She also received the Dunbar Heritage Scholarship and is grateful to the donors who gave her an early start.



Video stories

■ **Catch up with these successful scholarship recipients**, watch a video interview and read more about them and their plans to change the world. — Visit floridacommunity.com/scholarship-success

“If it wasn’t for them, I wouldn’t be where I am now, doing what I’m doing,” she said. “The scholarships were important because I knew my parents couldn’t afford college. I don’t have the stress about where the money is coming from and if I’m coming back next semester. There are kids who couldn’t come back.”

A Dunbar track standout and Lee County’s fastest woman in 2016, Ms. Alabre was also recruited for the Cornell track team. She’s majoring in human development, minoring in business and plans to pursue sports psychology in graduate school. She’ll then return to Dunbar and give back to the community she credits with supporting and guiding her to success.

“I don’t quit,” she said. “I want to lead by example and give back to the community that built the Nahisha Alabre you see today. I have a big heart and once I put that in there, boy, boy, boy. Things get rolling and magic happens.”

Multiyear Awards Shape a Doctor and a Scientist

Erin Gillaspie and Lee Visone received money for college from the John M. and Mary A. Shanley fund, a four-year scholarship. It helped Dr. Gillaspie realize a lifelong dream of becoming a cardiothoracic surgeon.

Ms. Gillaspie was a unique candidate for scholarship

- at 18 she had already achieved her high school diploma and her first college degree.

“I knew I wanted to do this since I was a little 13-year-old in oversized scrubs sitting in the operating room watching my first case,” said, Ms. Gillaspie, who recently completed a fellowship in surgical training at the Mayo Clinic and is an assistant professor in thoracic surgery at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. “I’ll never forget my first day as an attending walking into my office knowing I accomplished this because of people like the Shanleys. I remember the day I interviewed with the Southwest Florida Community Foundation for the scholarship. Everyone was kind, compassionate and excited for me.”

The Shanley scholarship funds supplemented money Mr. Visone received through the GI Bill after serving a four-year tour in Iraq. The Marine veteran graduated with honors from the University of Florida in microbiology and is now a senior-level patent examiner for the federal government.

“This scholarship helped me achieve a lot of things in life,” he said. “I’d like the donors to know their money went to a great cause.”

SEE NOW, 4 ►



PHOTOS BY BRIAN TIETZ

▲ **Michael Dignam**, Chief Financial Officer

▲ **Nahisha Alabre**, Student, Cornell University

▲ **Jessica Williams**, 2017 graduate with master’s degree, Univ. of Vermont

► **Rachel (Fox) Roberts**, Asst. head of Montessori School of Fort Myers



...the importance of launching a student on a career path. They tell us, ‘I want to help a student... dreams even if I never meet them.’”

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► **NOW FROM PAGE 3**

Return on Investment, a Return to Southwest Florida

Rachel (Fox) Roberts has found her calling at the Montessori School of Fort Myers. She said receiving the Lewis Barber Memorial Scholarship marked a life milestone. “It was the first time as an adult I made something happen for me. “I was really proud I got this money.”

Sierra (Minott) Jones received the George E. Judd Scholarship and supplemented it by getting involved with the Miss America program at Palm Beach Atlantic University. She was named Miss Florida in 2008 and competed at the national level the following year, finishing fourth in Miss America.

“Because of the scholarship money, I completed my education debt-free,” said Mrs. Jones, who earned a master’s in secondary and returned to Fort Myers where she and her husband are raising a family.

Lindsay Scott gives a voice to victims of domestic abuse as an assistant district

attorney with the 20th Judicial Circuit, a career inspired by watching “Law and Order” as a child.

Ms. Scott credits guidance counselors from Fort Myers High School for providing lists of available scholarship money. “It was a proud moment for my family when I found out I received the Sam Sirianni Athletic Scholarship.”

Paying it Forward

Michael Dignam, the CFO of an oil and gas company in Corpus Christi, Texas, received numerous scholarship awards including the 2006 Sam Sirianni Athletic Scholarship and the Southwest Florida PGA Scholarship 2006. “He was recruited to play golf at Vanderbilt University where he majored in economics and Spanish.

“I reached out for any scholarship I could to take the financial burden off my family,” he said. “The scholarship donors were very helpful to a young person trying not to take on a ton of debt while going to college.”

Mr. Dignam plans to one day pay it forward by getting involved with organi-

zations like the community foundation. “Scholarships so thoughtfully provided by donors who are no longer here continue to give,” said Mrs. Owen. “They have created a ripple effect in the community by impacting these students’ lives who in turn impact our community and the world. There’s an exponential return on donors’ generosity.” —OC

“I’m starting to ask myself how I can help young people trying to follow the same path I followed ... I want to repay the favor I was given.”

— **Michael Dignam**

CFO of a Texas oil and gas company
 Corpus Christi, TX

Multiple-year Scholarships Becoming the New Norm

SCHOLARSHIPS AND POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION have the power to change lives for high school seniors and the growing numbers of nontraditional students returning to the classroom to finish degree or certification requirements or completely change careers.

As a result, multi year scholarships that follow a student through college or technical school have become mission critical, according to Sarah Owen, president and CEO of the Southwest Florida Community Foundation.

“Getting a scholarship for freshman year or the first year for nontraditional students is the beginning of the story,” she said. “Getting it done is equally important as getting in.”

The community foundation is working with donors to establish multiyear awards and is walking alongside students throughout their degree or certification attainment.

“We’re having different conversations about scholarships,” Mrs. Owen said. “We have to take a new approach because things have changed. College students aren’t necessarily high school seniors nor do they complete their degrees in four years. The new norm is six years and a large percentage of students are now nontraditional students who need a different support system.”

Two local professionals understand the importance of renewable scholarships. Gail Markham, founding partner of Markham Norton Mosteller Wright & Co. P.A. with offices in Fort Myers and Naples, received five four-year scholarships while attending the University of Maryland. To this day, she credits the kindness of others for changing her life.

Scholarships

■ **Share your scholarship story with us!** If you or someone you know has received a scholarship from the Southwest Florida Community Foundation, we’d love to hear about it and reconnect. Let’s talk! Contact us at 239-274-5900 or email crogers@floridacommunity.com.

As the first generation in his family to attend college, Christopher Hill qualified for scholarship money during his years at Barry University in Miami. Now a financial advisor with Wells Fargo Advisors and the vice chairman of the community foundation’s scholarship committee, Mr. Hill worked a number of full-time jobs to supplement expenses not covered.

“I was lucky,” he said. “Some students have more barriers than I did.”

Ms. Markham established an endowed scholarship fund at the community foundation in 2013, making it available to girls in the five-county region who demonstrate financial need and have a minimum 3.0 grade point average. It’s renewed annually up to four years.

“I didn’t want too many restrictions,” she said. “I just want girls to go to college. That’s how I broke out of my previous world. Education was everything for me.”

The community foundation offers 88 different scholarship funds, each fulfilling a variety of scenarios. Some are broad-scoped like Ms. Markham’s. Others are more specific, awarded to students following a certain career path or attending a donor’s alma mater, for example. Some scholarships even identify students as early as sixth grade.

The foundation is a partner and the anchor organization for the regional FutureMakers Coalition. The Coalition is dedicated to removing the barriers to degree and certifi-

cate attainment, recognizing some scholarships awarded by colleges and universities can be restrictive. (www.futuremakerscoalition.com.) Money can’t be applied to summer housing, food or living expenses such as gas, transportation or even a warmer wardrobe for Florida students attending a northern school. Some financial awards may even prohibit a student from working to ensure they adapt to academic life.

As part of its communication with current students, the foundation connects through students’ LinkedIn accounts. It’s also looking into creating an emergency fund to help students facing potential drop-out crises, Mrs. Owen said.

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, about 60 percent of students who were freshmen at a four-year institution in 2008 had graduated by 2014.

“Numerous studies appear to show that little things can keep people from graduating,” Mr. Hill said. “They might get sick or their car breaks down. An unexpected \$100 expense could mean the difference in completing a semester.”

“I really appreciated the scholarship opportunity I was given,” he added. “I’m proud to help other kids who might be in the same situation.”

The Southwest Florida Community Foundation provides a number of creative ways to establish scholarship funds. Donors can establish them in memory of a loved one, a favorite school or alma mater or specific subject, and also request donations be made to their funds in lieu of birthday gifts or to commemorate other milestones. —OC

— *Interested in establishing a multi-year scholarship? Contact Carolyn Rogers at the Southwest Florida Community Foundation at 239-274-5900, email CRogers@floridacommunity.com or visit us at 8771 College Parkway, Building 2, Suite 201 in Fort Myers. More information can also be found online at www.floridacommunity.com.*



HILL



MARKHAM

LATEST FILMS

'Free Fire'

★★★★★
danHUDAK
 punchdrunkmovies.com



★ ★
Is it worth \$10? No

In the history of movies, I don't think more characters have survived more gunshot wounds than as seen in "Free Fire." Bullets connect with various body parts, yet for the longest time, no one dies. You would think professional gun-runners would have better aim. It's truly remarkable that most of the characters are still around at the end of the film; one guy doesn't die from bullet wounds even though he's been shot multiple times.

Reality clearly wasn't the impulse behind the creation of "Free Fire," though in hindsight one wonders what compelled Martin Scorsese to sign on as an executive producer. In that role he's responsible for overseeing the production and ensuring it's completed on time, on budget, etc. He also has creative input, but creatively there's not much here. A bunch of thugs in a warehouse shooting each other — that's the movie. What Mr. Scorsese contributed and/or thought he could bring is anyone's guess.

It's Boston, 1978. Bad hair and worse suits are in play. In an abandoned warehouse, Ord (Armie Hammer) has organized the sale of M-16 rifles from Vernon (Sharlto Copley) to Chris (Cillian Murphy). Each has back up, ranging from Vernon's associate Martin (Babou Ceesay) to Chris' brother-in-law Frank (Michael Smiley). There are other miscreants roaming about as well, but the real wild card is the lone female, Justine (Brie Larson), who's a romantic interest for both Vernon and Chris. A communication breakdown occurs. A gunfight ensues.

As you might presume, the story is paper-thin. Of course it is. This is about criminals shooting each other — what do you expect? The characters are one-dimensional and poorly developed. Of course they are — we don't need or want to know more about them. This is all understandable.

But the un-dynamic, poorly shot and equally poorly edited action is unforgivable. Co-writer (with Amy Jump) and director Ben Wheatley fails to showcase filmmaking techniques outside of a slow-motion sequence or two, which means the gunfire starts to feel really repetitive, really fast. Playing with camera angles, the music and ensuring that the editing provided a clear sense of character and location would have gone a long way toward improving the action. A few more plot twists would've helped, too.

On top of all that, "Free Fire" isn't as funny as it could be. Mr. Hammer and Mr. Copley get in a few good one-liners, yes, but the black comedy is lacking



comedy. If this is intended to be a satire of our gun-crazed present day and/or of ridiculous action movies, it fails.

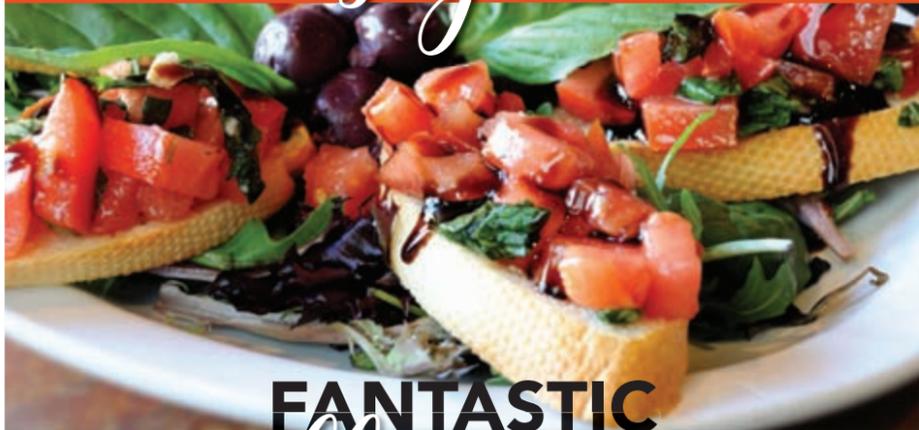
The only thing one can really glean from "Free Fire" is that a person can be shot multiple times and still live for at least a few hours. Good to know, but we didn't need a movie to learn that. ■

★★★★★ in the know

>> **Armie Hammer** said police appeared on set during the second day of shooting, responding to calls of concern from members of the public in nearby shops having heard gunshots.



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COLLECTOR'S CORNER

A paperclip sparks memories of Grandma and a road trip



It was raining the summer day we visited the Lincoln birthplace in Kentucky.

I was 8 years old, and I'm embarrassed to admit I remember crying because I thought I wouldn't get to see the hallowed spot where our 16th president was born.

But traffic had been bad in Tennessee and Grandma's nerves were frayed by the time we rolled into Kentucky.

Fortunately, the rain cleared and we barely had enough time to make it into Hodgenville.

It was to be a special treat that summer of 1971.

I was big enough to visit the relatives in Indiana, and to provide Grandma with company on the road in the days before interstates connected everyone.

As an added incentive, Grandma was given a shiny green 1971 Oldsmobile Cutlass sedan to drive, courtesy of my grandfather's employer, Bob Lincoln Oldsmobile (I loved that Bob had a portrait of Abraham over his desk).

As I recall, it was muggy after

SCOTT SIMMONS/FLORIDA WEEKLY
This 5-inch brass paperclip bears no markings, other than the numbers "5525." Online sources suggest it and others may have been 1933 World's Fair souvenirs.

the rain, but it didn't stop me from running all the way up the stairs to the temple that was home to the birthplace cabin.

Inside that temple, the cabin was tiny, with a pole bed in the corner. It was hard to imagine that it had been home to a family of four. Never mind



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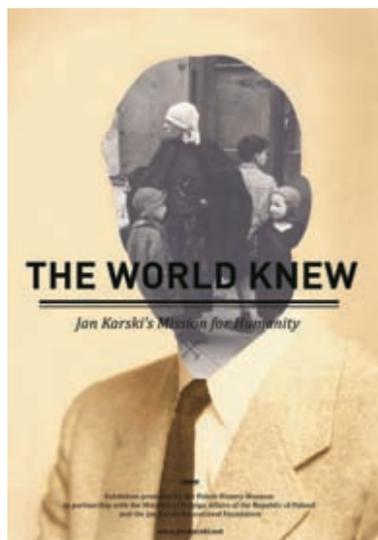
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that it wasn't the actual cabin in which Lincoln was born — a log or two may have come from the Lincolns' home, but nothing more. I don't know that I knew that at the time, not that it matters. I was enthralled.

I grew up idolizing Lincoln, from the time I recognized his image on a new penny that was destined for the gum machine. Mason's Bakery at the Edison Mall in Fort Myers sold Presidents Day cakes that bore images of Lincoln and Washington, and that was one more sweet incentive to get to know the president.

By the time we visited his birthplace, I had read Frances Cavanah's "Abe Lincoln Gets His Chance" and other books on the president, and was hooked. I even had a barrel of Lincoln Logs, all the better to build with.

I became a lifelong fan of the man. What better person was there to idolize than Lincoln? He was a self-made man who persevered in the face of grueling odds.

A decade later, I stood in awe of Daniel Chester French's statue of the man at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., and later still, Doris Kearns Goodwin's book "Team of Rivals" made me appreciate his accomplishments all the more.

That brings me back to 1971. It was an eventful year for our family. That summer, my Aunt Cleo faced a second breast cancer surgery, and that September, my mother gave birth to my brother — tragedy followed by triumph, as it were.

Those were the big deals of the year, at least in my life. My sister and I loved having a baby brother.

But sometimes the small events are what linger in the rose hues of

memories.

I'm sure it was out of the way for Grandma to drive over to Hodgenville — this was her first and only major road trip alone. I know she was tired, but she wanted to please me.

And she did. Today, I am filled with gratitude to her whenever I see a souvenir of the 16th president.

I think back to that summer of 1971 and realize I would be tempted to give away a whole lifetime of memories to recreate one day of that trip. ■

THE FIND:

Brass Abraham Lincoln paperclip

Where: Deja New Gallery, 212 U.S. 1, North Palm Beach; 561-844-1151.

Paid: \$10

The skinny: I first thought this might be a Victorian piece, but a friend, Jacksonville antiques dealer Jim Antone, directed me to a reference suggesting the 5-inch brass paperclips were sold during the 1933 World's Fair in Chicago.

I'd have known it sooner had I had followed a lesson Jim already had taught me: Ask yourself what's wrong with the piece.

In the case of this, nothing is wrong, but I should have known that a turn-of-the-century piece would not have Art Deco lettering, as this does, so it's a piece that looks forward, even as it looks back at a great president.

And to be perfectly honest, this Abe still is usable on a desk or hanging from a bulletin board. ■



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THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 10 P.M.
Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries
Raisins and Almonds

When a young man is found dead at the Eastern Market, Phryne is plunged into the diverse worlds of Jewish politics, alchemy and poison.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 8 P.M.
Command and Control

Discover the terrifying truth behind one of America's most dangerous nuclear accidents — the deadly 1980 incident at an Arkansas Titan II missile complex.

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 9 P.M.
As Time Goes On

Jean and Lionel try to rekindle their flame after 38 years.

Sunday, April 30
8 P.M. - HD Call the Midwife
Season 6, Part 5

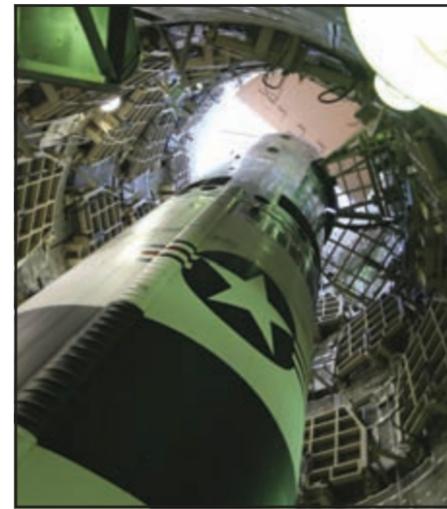
Nonnatus House welcomes nurse Valerie Dyer, a new recruit. A vulnerable young man captures the hearts of Fred and Violet, while the whereabouts of Sister Mary Cynthia cause distress among the team.

9 P.M. - HD Home Fires
Season 2, Part 5

Steph risks losing the farm. Sarah finds herself in a dangerous situation, and Teresa has a big decision to make.

MONDAY, MAY 1, 10 P.M.
Wild Weather

See how weather works through ambitious (even unlikely) experiments that show how nature transforms simple ingredients like wind, water and temperature



"Command and Control," April 28

into something spectacular and powerful.

TUESDAY, MAY 2, 8 P.M.
Victorian Slum House
Part 1: The 1800s

Follow participants as they move into an 1860s tenement made up of sparse rooms, a shared water pump and outdoor privies. They seek to make a living by matchbox making, wood turning and the rag trade, work once done by their impoverished forebears.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 10 P.M.
Plants Behaving Badly
Part 1: Murder & Mayhem

Examine the extraordinary behavior of carnivorous plants, which have been a feature of many a sci-fi film over the years. The reality turns out to be far stranger than the fiction. ■

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- General Aches and Pains
- Skin Cancer, Skin rashes
- Lab and Blood Work



CELEBRITY EXTRA

Jude Law stars as Dumbledore

BY CINDY ELAVSKY

Q: I have been a fan of Jude Law ever since “The Talented Mr. Ripley,” and I absolutely love him in the “Sherlock Holmes” films. Can you tell me what he has coming up?

— Layla C., via email

A: Next up for the handsome thespian is a role for the ages: that of a young Albus Dumbledore in the next installment in the “Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them” series. Director David Yates will be back, as will Eddie Redmayne and Johnny Depp, as Newt Scamander and Grindel-

wald, respectively. Author J.K. Rowling also will return as screenwriter. Since “Fantastic Beasts 2” is set before the action of the “Harry Potter” series, when we meet Young Dumbledore in this next film, he is still Hogwarts’ transfiguration professor.

But fans will have to wait until Nov. 16, 2018, to see what, exactly, Rowling plans to reveal. ■

— Write to Cindy at King Features Weekly Service, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803; or email her at letters@cindyelavsky.com.



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LOUIE

From page 1

his role on the FX series “Baskets,” in which he plays the matriarchal role of Christine Baskets. He won a 2016 Emmy for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series for this role.

“It’s a wonderful third act,” Mr. Anderson says about the part. “I think it was something I was meant to do. I’m having the most fun time doing it. It’s meant everything to me. It’s definitely been a gift.

“It’s hard to explain,” he adds. “Even when I see the pictures of myself I go, ‘Wow, is this me?’ I really disconnect Louie Anderson from Christine Baskets in that sense. It’s kind of surreal, to be honest ... I don’t know how much I have to do with it or how much it just happens.

“I try not to analyze it because I think that’s the worst thing to do to something you’re doing so well.”

A major influence on the character of Christine is Mr. Anderson’s own mother. “I’m channeling her to do the part,” he says. “I think she might have something to do with it, wherever she is in the great beyond. I feel like she got together and had this part commandeered for me.”

His mother’s influence is especially fitting, he says, in that he always felt she belonged in show business.

“She was smart, interesting and funny. She had a lot of friends. She could hold court — not in the way of somebody telling jokes, but in the way of entertaining,” he says. “She was a giant personality and a really unique human being. She loved people and knew how hard their



Mr. Anderson won an Emmy for his role as Christine Baskets on FX’s “Baskets.” The comedian says his portrayal of the matriarch is influenced by his mother.

lives could be. She had a light about her that shined brightly.”

A real ‘Baskets’ case

One of the perks of the success of “Baskets” is it is broadening Mr. Anderson’s fan base.

“Here, there and everywhere people are watching ‘Baskets,’” he says, and now they’re coming to his stand-up shows as well. Add to that his fans from the “Life with Louie” cartoon and his stint as host of the 1999-2001 revival of “Family Feud,” and the result is “a wide range of demographics” among his fans.

Although he’s having a blast right now doing stand-up, he says in his 30-plus-year career there have been many times he didn’t feel that way.

“I didn’t want to do it for a while,”

he says. “There were a couple of years there that I really, really didn’t want to do it.

“But like every stand-up ... there’s a curse we live with, and it’s that we HAVE to do it. You don’t think you’re going to do it and then you’ll go, ‘This could be a good routine. Maybe I’ll work on that a little bit.’”

At the end of the day, he says, “I’m a stand-up first and everything else is second.”

Now 64 years old, he’s been doing stand-up steadily for the last 11 years.

Like all good artists, he continues to evolve as a performer, even taking interest again in the kind of darker material he did in his early days.

“I got away from it because of TV and because I wanted to make money,” he says about that early stuff. “I wanted

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to be an opening act for all of these people that were asking me to open their shows, like Smokey Robinson, The Pointer Sisters, Glen Campbell, Ray Charles. In those days you couldn't do that kind of stuff in front of them.

"I think there's a lot more in stand-up that I haven't done and would like to explore," he says, adding quickly, however, "It certainly isn't where I'm going to become Dirty Louie."

He believes he's funnier than ever these days, though, and says audience reactions bear that out. "If people are dying out there in the audience and standing up at the end, then I'm doing my job. That's how I grade myself."

Free advice

Mr. Anderson offers some advice to comedians and writers.

"You have to have a routine with writing," he says. "Writing is work. Writing is rewriting. I always tell comics, 'The best joke you have is underneath the joke you're already telling. Don't quit at the first joke. There's a better joke underneath there.'"

He knows his comedy has made an impact and feels his biggest contribution has been "making people feel less alone and feel better. Those are the things I know I've given to people." And since comedy is a two-way street, his fans return the favor.

"I feel very loved by my fans," he says. "My heart is wide open. I think to be a great stand-up, your heart has to be wide open."

No matter where he performs, no matter what the material, Mr. Anderson aims to leave an impression.

"Good stand-up is like a good song," he says. "It stays with you a while." ■



in the know

Louie Anderson

- >> **Where:** Off the Hook Comedy Club, 2500 Vanderbilt Beach Road
- >> **When:** 7 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Sunday, April 27, 28 and 30; 6 and 8 p.m. Friday, April 29
- >> **Tickets:** \$20-\$25
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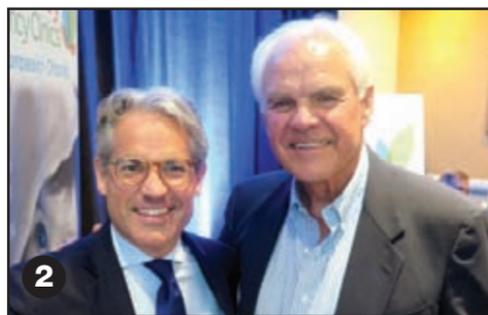


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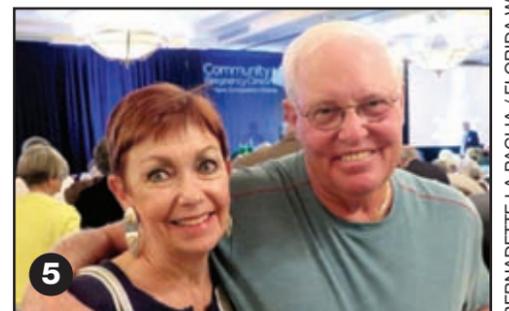


TIM GIBBONS / FLORIDA WEEKLY

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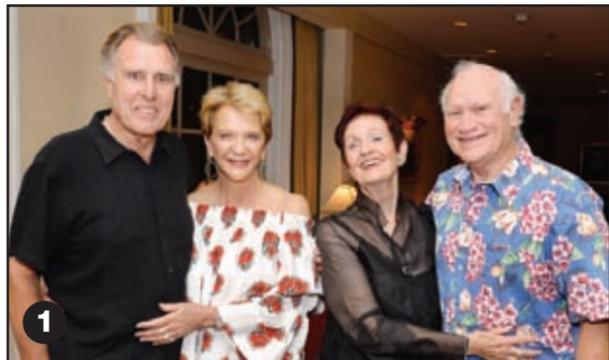
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8. Connie Wells and Roger Wells
9. Jan Burrus, Moira Fennessey, Louise Ost and Susan Gibbons
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IVAN SELIGMAN / FLORIDA WEEKLY

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The Price: Market price

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Monday-Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday-Saturday

The Menu: www.ocean-prime.com

Reservations: 430-0404 or www.opentable.com

The Details: This is a seafood lover’s Stairway to Heaven. “Have it your way” takes on a special meaning as you craft your custom-designed tower from an oceanic bounty. My tablemates created a Poseidon’s feast with a base of Dutch Harbor king crab legs, a whole Maine lobster with drawn butter and a pair of whale-sized jumbo shrimp, all topped off with a fresh lump crabmeat cocktail. Your custom tower could feature Blue Point, Pickering or Florida’s Apalachicola oysters as well as jumbo lump crab cakes and/or or diver scallops.

Pair your tower with a flute of champagne or perhaps Ocean Prime’s Berries & Bubbles, a cocktail of citrus vodka, marinated blackberries, homemade sour and Domaine Chandon Brut.

Seek turf with your surf? Then either the 16-ounce Prime ribeye or the Duroc porkship is sure to float your boat.

Save room for dessert, too. There’s the mile-high 10-layer carrot cake with



cream cheese icing and pineapple syrup, the luscious chocolate peanut butter pie and the classic baked Alaska trio of ice creams, finished with toasted meringue and fresh raspberries. ■

— Ivan Seligman
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CUISINE NEWS

■ **Bleu Provence** hosts a champagne and amuse-bouche tasting with special guests Angeline LaSalle (Champagne Jules LaSalle), Daniel Brunier (Domaine du Vieux Telegraphe) and Pierre Debenoist (A&P De Villaine) from 5-6:30 p.m. Friday, April 28. \$15, reservations recommended. 1234 Eighth St. S. 261-8239 or www.bleuprovincenaples.com.

■ An array of specialty desserts from **Norman Love Confections** is now available at **Whole Foods Market**. Shoppers at the grocery store in Mercato will be able to sample the sweets from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 29. The lineup of treats includes vanilla cheesecake, milk chocolate raspberry dome, passion panna cotta and lemon-strawberry dome.

■ **Purple Spoon** hosts a three-course dinner featuring eggs and meats from Fort Myers-based Asbury Farms from 6-8 p.m. Saturday, April 29. Dishes include frittata with heirloom tomatoes, braised duck leg and seared duck breast served with cracklings and dark chocolate-dipped bacon. \$64. 25151 Chamber of Commerce Drive, Bonita Springs. 908-3842 or www.chefkristina.com.

■ **Ridgway Bar & Grill** hosts a wine dinner featuring Orin Swift Cellars from 6:30-10 p.m. Monday, May 1, with winemaker Dave Phinney in attendance. Guests will enjoy house-smoked Niman Ranch ribs with corn pudding, ricotta and spinach gnocchi with braised lamb shoulder and New York strip steak with celery root gratin. \$125. 1300 Third St. S. 262-5500 or www.ridgwaybarandgrill.com.

■ Get a taste of some of the dishes that will be served during Naples Restaurant Week in June by attending the inaugural **First Bite Menu Release Party** from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, May 2, at the new Mercedes-Benz of Bonita Springs showroom. Live music by Father Al & The Jazz Congregation, a photo booth, ice carving and a caricature artist will add to the fun. Adoptable animals from Humane Society Naples will be special guests.

Attendees will sample preview selections from restaurants that are taking part of Naples Restaurant Week June 1-14, during which special prix-fixe menus will be priced from \$55-\$75. Participating restaurants to date are: 1500 South, Ario, Barbatella, Bayside Seafood



Grill & Bar, Bravo! Italian Cucina, Brio, Café Alfredo, Catch 41, Cavo Lounge, Fish Crazy, Kitchen 41 Lamoraga, Latitude 26, Lima Restaurant & Pisco Bar, Martin Fierro, Real Seafood Co., Ridgway Bar & Grill, Roy's Bonita Springs, Sea Salt, Seasons 52 and Tartine & Tartlette.

Tickets to the First Bite Menu Release Party are \$55. For reservations or more information, visit www.naplesrestaurantweek.com.

■ **BRAVO! Italian Cucina** was recently named one of OpenTable's "Top 100 Hot Spot Restaurants in America." The list, based on more than 10 million reviews of more than 24,000 restaurants, recognizes the Mercato spot's quality menu offerings and its vibrant atmosphere.

To see a complete list of honored restaurants in 25 states, visit www.opentable.com. For more information about BRAVO! Italian Cucina or to make a reservation, call 514-0042 or visit www.bravoitalian.com.

■ **Bone Hook Brewing Co.** will introduce four new brews every month as part of its new Beer30 promotion. Here's what craft beer aficionados can look forward to:

May: Red Magnum Double IPA, Zuper Saazer Imperial Pilsner, 2x Rye IPA and a Double Rye Ale.

June: Fresh Citrus Gose, Raspberry Witbier, Apricot IPA and a Plum Porter.

July: Wet-hopped IPA series.

August: Historical styles including Gose, Lichtenhainer, Sahti and Kentucky Common.

The brewery is at 1514 Goodlette-Frank Road in North Naples. 631-8522 or www.bonehookbrewing.com.

■ Want to work on your skills in the kitchen? Here are some **cooking classes** on the front burner:

Purple Spoon, 25151 Chamber of Commerce Drive, Bonita Springs; 908-3842 or www.chefkristina.com - Pizza: Friday, April 28 (\$60).
Sur La Table, 9501 Strada Place, Mercato; 598-1463 or www.surlatable.com - Souffle 101 (\$69), Thursday, April 27; Seafood Grilling Secrets (\$79), Friday, April 28; Date Night-A Taste of Italy (\$79), Saturday, April 29; Flavors of the Greek Isles (\$69), Sunday, April 30; Thai Restaurant Favorites (\$69), Monday, May 1; Celebrating Cinco de Mayo (\$69), Tuesday, May 2. ■

— Email food and dining news to Lindsey Nesmith at lnesmith@floridaweekly.com.

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VINO

It's time to put a plug in this controversy



The debate rages on, and now it's starting to swing in an unexpected direction. The argument has to do with the venerable cork, used for centuries as a wine bottle stopper, and its opponent, the newer-technology screw cap.

Why, after all this time, has the industry started to drift away from cork? After all, there's such romance in having the bottle presented in the restaurant, the faint "pop" as the server extracts the cork, the inspection of same as it's placed on the table. And besides, we've been using them in wine bottles for over 700 years. Well, there's a reason, and it's all because of a fungus.

It's called TCA, and I won't clobber you with the polysyllabic technical name. But it's a fungus, and it infects cork, which is, after all, just the bark of a certain kind of oak tree. This practically indestructible organism lives in the wooden pallets in wine cellars and on other unlikely surfaces.

TCA, or cork taint, as it's most commonly called, spoils wine. At worst, it makes the precious liquid in the bottle taste like wet cardboard or newspapers. At its mildest, it robs the wine of flavor components and makes it taste ... well, blah.

In fact, winemakers estimate that between 5 percent and 7 percent of all wine bottled under corks gets spoiled.



People open the bottle, taste the wine and pour it down the sink. Imagine if you had a factory and 5 percent of your product turned out to be defective. You wouldn't stay in business very long.

Hence the move toward more neutral, non-reactive stoppers, such as screw caps. The charge has been led over the past 10 or 15 years by New World wineries, especially in Australia and New Zealand. The advantage: no TCA, and the closure is supposedly perfect for wines that are going to be consumed within a couple of years.

But what about other wines? Cork, being slightly porous, allows small amounts of air into the bottle, which helps break down tannins and makes the flavor components come together and harmonize. And it's true that bottles sitting around for 20-30 years will be slightly

less full than newer bottles. The wine disappears — it goes somewhere — so air must be getting in or out. However, cork does break down over time, and collectors who have bottles that are 40-50 years old often get them recorked every couple of years. The high-end wineries, like Chateau Lafite Rothschild, provide such a service.

My advice? Don't worry about it. The mistaken perception that only lower-quality wines have screw caps is an attitude left over from the old Ernest and Julio Gallo jug wine days. In fact, many top-quality wines are being bottled with screw caps. Example: Mollydooker "Carnival of Love," a blockbuster Shiraz from Australia, was Wine Spectator's #2 Wine of the Year last year. It costs over \$65 a bottle and guess what? Screw cap. The closure is ideal for wines that are meant

to be enjoyed in just a few years ... or tonight ... which is most of them.

There are tons of excellent bottling at great prices, and besides, you won't need to search for a corkscrew to open them. We're all born with opposable thumbs, and that's all you need to enjoy the great values on the shelf today.

Speaking of wines on the shelf, here are some new discoveries.

Ciù Ciù Passerina Evoè Marche 2015 (\$7) – This wine would be a steal at three times the price. The Passerina grape is an ancient white varietal, not seen much these days. In fact, it was new to me. The nose offers fragrant flowers and cantaloupe, with similar flavors on the palate. Highly recommended. WW 89+.

Scacciadiavoli Montefalco Sagrantino 2008 (\$32) – A rich, powerful Sagrantino with a nose of leather, smoke and deep black fruit. The palate of dried plums, prunes and chocolate goes on forever through an amazing finish. Killer stuff. WW 92.

Fontanafredda Barolo 2012 (\$46) – Possibly the most translucent Barolo we've ever seen. Pleasant aromas and flavors of mint and orange peel. Very light bodied for this type of wine. WS 87. ■

— Jerry Greenfield is *The Wine Whisperer*. He is creative director of Greenfield Advertising Group. His book, "Secrets of the Wine Whisperer," is available through his website or on Amazon. His latest novel, "DASPO — An Unhinged Novel of Vietnam," has just been published.

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CHEF Q&A

Balancing consistency with 'something different' for private club diners

BY LINDSEY NESMITH
lnesmith@floridaweekly.com

Naples has lots of super talented chef/owners who delight in wowing diners with their culinary skills. This month we're looking at Ralph Feraco, the executive chef at Kensington Golf & Country Club. While it's true that club members are the lucky few who really get to taste his dishes, the entire culinary community reaps the benefits of Chef Feraco's expertise. He is heavily involved with not only the local chapter of the American Culinary Federation — where as president he established a student membership program — he is also on advisory boards of several organizations, including the Greater Naples YMCA and Lorenzo Walker Walker Technical College, doing his part to bring up Naples' next great generation of chefs. Read on to learn more about how Chef Feraco helps the Southwest Florida culinary community grow.

Tell us about your culinary background.

I have a degree in culinary arts from Johnson & Wales University. Shortly after graduation, I worked at the five-star Garden City Hotel in Garden City, N.Y., as chef garde manager and then moved my way up to executive sous chef. In 1991, I became the executive chef at the Nassau Country Club in Glen Cove, N.Y. In 2003, I relocated to Naples and took the executive chef position at the Naples Sailing & Yacht club, a position I held for 11½ years. I have now enjoyed being the executive chef at the Kensington Golf & Country Club for the past three years.

What inspired you to become a chef?

I grew up in an Italian household where food was one of our main focuses. When my father would get home from work he would go to the garden and pick fresh lettuce and vegetables and I would help my mother prepare them for dinner. In a high school culinary course, I really enjoyed cooking and fell in love with the profession.

You work for a private country club but are also extremely involved in community outreach in Naples cuisine scene. Can you tell us how the two professional endeavors intertwine?

I was instrumental in starting the



Beyond the Plate series at the Greater Naples YMCA. I was able to bring the local chefs of the American Culinary Federation together. The chefs donated their time to put together a healthy wine dinner to help raise money to start the YMCA kids culinary program. The chapter culinary instructors will come to the YMCA to teach the kids all about healthy foods and how to prepare them. I feel that the (Kensington Golf & Country Club) members are proud that their chef is out in the community helping others, and I feel many of the chefs from the ACF find it rewarding to give back to the community. We are excited about the partnership.

You were recently named winner of the Dr. L.J. Minor Chef Professionalism Award for the southeast region of the American Culinary Federa-

tion. How do you define professionalism in the culinary industry?

I am a Certified Executive Chef through the American Culinary Federation. Being certified means that I am held to a high set of standards for my behavior, attitude and level of education. Professionalism is beyond culinary skills; it is a deep respect for everybody who works in the kitchen, in the front of the house and in the industry. Most importantly, it is about sharing and mentoring young culinarians.

What do you think you bring to the table in your public roles as chef? In your role at Kensington Golf & Country Club?

I attend educational seminars and take many additional classes during the off-season to keep me current on new cooking trends and techniques. I am

always looking to challenge my staff and myself, because the membership at Kensington requires consistency, but at the same time they enjoy something different.

Which dishes are you particularly proud of?

There are many items I could choose, but I feel when I put seared day boat scallops with fresh cavatelli pasta, wild mushrooms and truffle cream on the menu, the members are always very happy.

What do you find challenging?

Staffing. The seasonality of Southwest Florida is one of the reasons why it is hard to find staff. It is expensive for employees to live here, and there are so many clubs and restaurants in this area that we are all competing for the same employees.

Who or what are your greatest culinary influences?

I am influenced by being a Certified Executive Chef from the American Culinary Federation. To maintain your certification, you are required to continue your education in the culinary arts. I also draw inspiration from other chefs from our chapter. There are a lot of talented chefs in the Naples area and most of them are willing to share ideas, plus the chapter hosts monthly educational chef meetings.

What has been one of your favorite culinary experiences?

Besides winning the Dr. L.J. Minor Chef Professionalism Award, I would have to say participating in the 2004 Culinary Olympics in Erfurt, Germany, and bringing home a gold medal. Traveling to another country ... was both challenging and exciting for me, and to win a gold medal in that environment was truly an experience.

What are your favorite culinary resources (books, blogs, etc.)? How do you keep your dishes relevant?

Some of my favorite cookbooks are all volumes of "The Professional Chef," all of Charlie Trotter's cookbooks, "The French Laundry Cookbook" and "Eleven Madison Park: The Cookbook." Some of my favorite websites are www.ideasinfood.com, www.chefstep.com, www.acfchefs.com and www.chefralphferaco.com. ■



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"At GL Homes, we are committed to excellence and the happy residents at StoneCreek are a true testament to that commitment," said Tandra Wolfe, vice president and project manager for GL Homes at StoneCreek and Riverstone. "We love hearing the positive feedback from our homeowners. They are excited about the lifestyle they have here in StoneCreek."

Homebuyers can now take advantage of incredible savings on to-be-built homes and Quick Delivery homes. Depending on the collection and the model, residents can receive \$5,000 to \$10,000 on upgrades or closing costs on a new build and up to \$40,000 off the purchase price or closing costs on Quick Delivery Homes.

With 19 new home designs available, StoneCreek offers a variety of unique floorplans to fit any homebuyer's needs. Ranging in size from 1,991 to 4,879 square feet of air-conditioned living space, every home comes built with beautiful interior finishes and luxury standard features, such as impact resistant windows on the front of the house, elegant granite countertops in the bathrooms and kitchens, natural gas appliances and tile in the main living areas.

Residents will be impressed with the community's amenities that are



Above: The beautiful Cabernet from the Vintage Collection offers three bedrooms, three bathrooms, a den/optional fourth bedroom and a three-car garage under 2,162 square feet of air conditioned living space.

thoughtfully created to fit the desired lifestyle in the Stonecreek community. At the center of a more than six-acre recreational hub is an impressive 13,000 square-foot decorator-appointed clubhouse that includes a unique and expansive indoor air-conditioned sports court for basketball, volleyball and more; a social hall with catering kitchen; a multipurpose studio for activities including arts and crafts and fitness classes; a billiards and game room; card room and state-of-the-art fitness equipment.

Outside the clubhouse, residents will enjoy a resort-style swimming pool and lap/exercise pool; a Jacuzzi spa

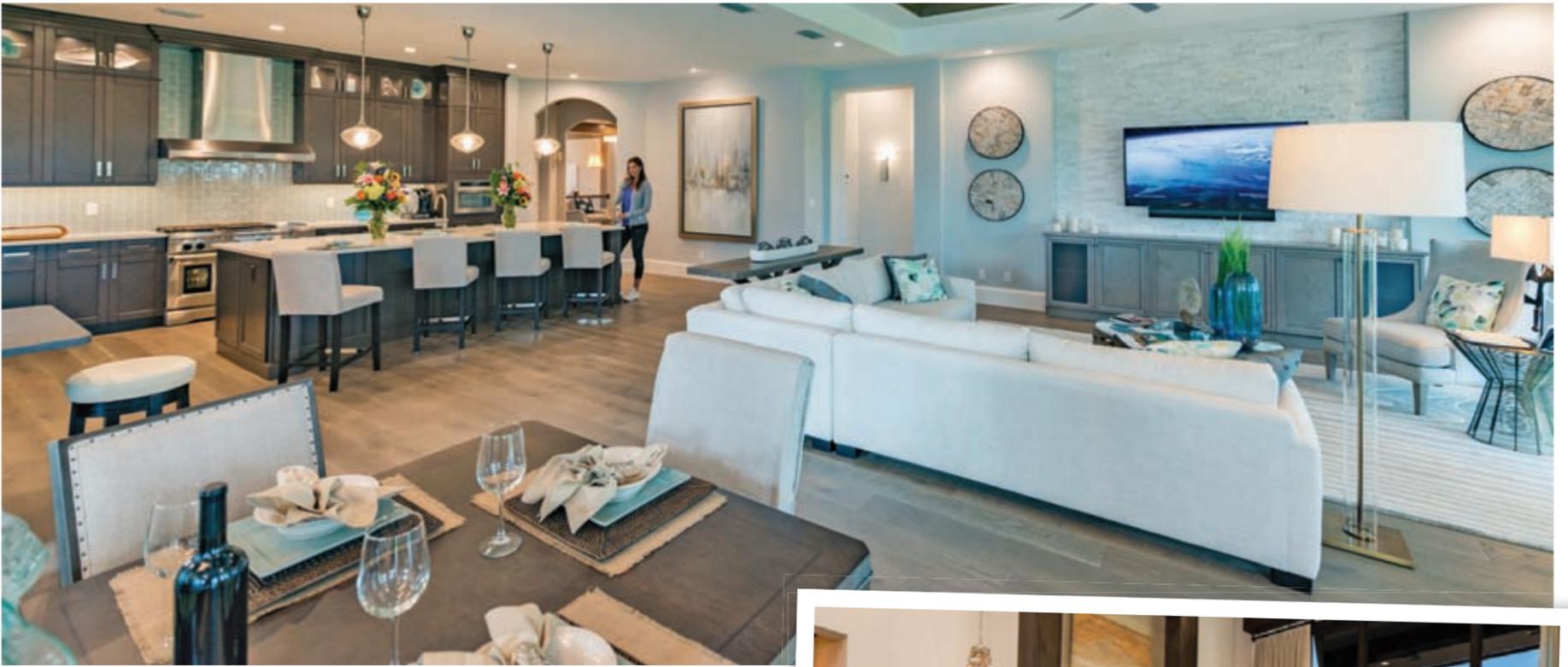
and relaxing pool deck with shade pavilions; a wet play activity center; outdoor tiki bar; tot lot and playground for children; beach volleyball court; five lighted Har-Tru tennis courts with bleachers for viewing; four pickle ball courts; an outdoor basketball court; a party pavilion with bathrooms; and an open-playing field and a fire pit and seating area. Sidewalks wind throughout the community, perfect for walking, jogging and biking.

Just minutes away from stunning beaches and A-list schools, StoneCreek is in a great location on the southwest Florida coast. Also, Naples is home to

some of the most challenging golf courses in the world and is known for chic and trendy shopping, outstanding dining, a vibrant arts scene, unique family attractions and an abundance of water sports and other outdoor activities.

StoneCreek is located at 4068 Nova Lane in Naples. To visit, from I-75 take the Immokalee Road Exit 111 and travel east on Immokalee Road. Turn left on Logan Boulevard. The StoneCreek entrance is on the left, after you pass Riverstone. The new model center is open daily from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. For more information, call 239-592-6000 or visit www.GLHOMES.com. ■

Talis Park's Spring Luxury Home Tour this weekend



Kitson & Partners' Talis Park community is holding its Spring Luxury Home Tour tomorrow and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 3:00 p.m. Ten luxurious residences are being presented, including furnished Showcase Estates by Gulfshore Homes, Sunwest Homes, and McGarvey Custom Homes, single-family homes by Frizone, Sunwest Homes, and Harbourside Custom Homes, a single-family villa by Distinctive Communities, a resort-style coach home by FrontDoor Communities, and penthouse-style condominium and Terrace Homes by WCI Communities.

Priced at \$4,849,000, Gulfshore's Dorado estate in Talis Park's Prato neighborhood offers a total of 8,862 square feet with 6,336 square feet under air. The floor plan includes an expansive entry foyer and parlour, and a great room that opens to a covered terrace and outdoor living area with a conversation and dining area, summer kitchen, and a pool and spa. The great room flows into a dining area and a double-island gourmet kitchen. The open-concept floor plan includes a study, four bedrooms, and a four-car garage.

Sunwest's two-story Grand Santa Barbara estate in Prato includes 9,200 square feet with 5,951 square feet under air. The floor plan includes a great room, wet bar, island kitchen, and dining area that open to an outdoor living area with a summer kitchen and dining space, a pool bath, and a pool and spa. A master suite and two guest suites are located on the first floor. The second floor is devoted to a second master suite, a covered terrace, and a sun deck. The furnished model is priced at \$4,495,000.

McGarvey's two-story Astaire estate in Prato encompasses 11,110 square feet with 6,820 square feet under air. The floor plan includes an elegant foyer and living room, a formal dining room, a grand room with a wet bar, an island kitchen, four bedrooms, including a first floor master suite that features a bath with a private garden and outdoor shower, a second floor VIP suite, flex room, wet bar, and covered terrace, an outdoor living area with a kitchen, island bar, fireplace, pool and spa, and two two-car garages. The Astaire is priced at \$4,695,900.

Frizone's 5,847 square feet, two-story Villa Ferrari residence priced at \$3,990,000 is on display in Talis Park's Fairgrove neighborhood. The four-bed-

Above: FrontDoor Communities' previously sold Sienna second floor coach home model is being featured during Talis Park's Spring Luxury Home Tour. Completed Corsica Coach Home residences are available for purchase and immediate occupancy. Right: McGarvey Custom Homes' two-story Astaire estate encompasses 11,110 square feet with 6,820 square feet under air. A must-see for Luxury Home Tour visitors, the Astaire model is priced at \$4,695,900. Below: WCI is debuting its Viansa Terrace Home model during Talis Park's Spring Luxury Home Tour and is accepting contracts for Terrace Homes priced from the \$600's within the first two of eight three-story mid-rises in the Viansa neighborhood.

room, five-and-a-half bath Villa Ferrari great room plan includes a double-island kitchen, formal dining room, wet bar, and an upstairs game room and lounge that opens to a covered terrace overlooking a massive outdoor living area.

Distinctive Communities' Berolina residence is situated in Talis Park's Watercourse neighborhood. Watercourse is an enclave of 29 detached luxury villas built by Artisan Associates ranging from 2,530 to 3,638 square feet. Priced at \$1,485,000, the 2,979 square feet three-bedroom, three-and-a-half bath Berolina is finished with over \$100,000 in upgrades. Gray oak wood floors throughout the first level blend with two-toned, off-white kitchen cabinetry. A natural gas outdoor kitchen, an electronic screen for the lanai, and an over-sized spa offer a luxurious place to relax.

Furnished single-family and resort-style coach homes are being presented in the Corsica neighborhood. Priced at \$2,495,000, Sunwest's 3,950 square foot two-story Grand Santa Barbara model combines traditional elements with contemporary lines. The great room plan includes three first floor bedrooms and an island kitchen and dining area. The great room and dining area open to a covered outdoor area with a bar, summer kitchen, pool and spa. Upstairs, the plan offers a bonus room with a full bath, a covered terrace, and a sundeck.

Harbourside's two-story, 3,672 square feet Villa Adriana II model showcases a great room, island kitchen, and dining area that open to the outdoors, a master suite, two guest bedrooms, and a study with wood flooring. The kitchen features a wine bar, KitchenAid appliances, granite countertops, and a walk-in pantry. Upstairs offers a fourth bedroom or second study, and a bonus room



that opens to a covered balcony. The outdoor living area features a kitchen, fireplace, and a pool and spa with a screened colonnade. The plan includes a three-car garage.

FrontDoor Communities' previously sold 3,382 square feet Sienna second floor coach home model in Corsica includes a foyer with a 20-foot ceiling, an elegant staircase, and a private elevator, a study or loft, a great room, dining area and wet bar, an island kitchen, three bedrooms, and three-and-a-half baths. The great room, dining area, and owner's suite open to a 527 square feet covered lanai. Unfurnished coach homes priced from the \$700's are available for immediate move-in.

A furnished penthouse-style condominium model is being featured in WCI Communities' Carrara neighborhood. Priced from the \$700s, each Carrara residence includes a private elevator lobby, a great room, island kitchen, an "on the view" owner's suite, two guest ensuites,

a library/media room, a powder bath, and secured ground level parking. The penthouse-style residences offer more than 2,900 square feet and feature wrap-around loggias.

WCI is debuting its Viansa Terrace Home model during the Home Tour and is accepting contracts for Terrace Homes within the first two of eight three-story mid-rises in the Viansa neighborhood. Offering 2,350 square feet of living area, 48 three-bedroom plus den, three-and-a-half bath Viansa Terrace Homes will feature nature preserve views and a refined home design that balances everyday living with easy al fresco entertaining. Homes in Viansa are priced from the \$600's.

Interested homebuyers are invited to begin their Talis Park Luxury Home Tour at the community's Garden Home Sales Center at 16980 Livingston Road just north of Immokalee Road. Visit Talis Park at talispark.com. ■

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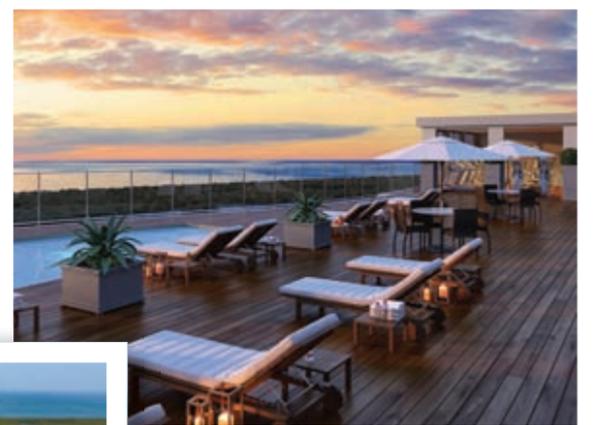
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Kalea Bay's first tower nears sellout

Tower 2 released for sale



Kalea Bay, the gated, resort-lifestyle, high-rise community located on Vanderbilt Drive in North Naples, announced the community's second tower has been released for sale.

"Our first tower, which is under construction and scheduled to be completed in November, is approaching the 90 percent sold mark," stated Inga Lodge, Vice President of Sales and Marketing for Kalea Bay. "The approaching sell-out of Tower 1 and the overwhelming response from our buyers prompted us to release Tower 2. Currently, the number of residences already reserved in our second tower exceeds the \$40 million mark."

The new 22-story tower, with 120 residences, will have 20 floors of residences over two floors of parking. The incredibly designed residences offer views of the Gulf of Mexico and pristine nature preserve.

Six floor plans are available in Tower 2.

Residences 1 and 6 are 3-bedroom plus den/3.5 bath plans with 3,704 total square feet. Residences 2 and 5, with 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, have 3,791 total square feet. Residences 3 and 4 are 4-bedroom/4.5-bath plans also with 3,791 total square feet.

"Residents will revel in Gulf views, open floor plans, a private elevator leading directly into their residence and wood floors throughout," said Lodge.

The custom kitchens have Wolf and Sub-Zero appliances, a natural gas range, luxury cabinetry, quartz countertops, a

Butler's pantry and oversized island, all of which are standard features.

"Our floor plans have an open design we call 'lifestyle designs' that blends the kitchen seamlessly into the living and dining rooms, perfect for the way people live today," said Lodge.

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. They are perfect vantage points to watch our spectacular sunsets," Lodge said.

Additional residential features include floor-to-ceiling windows and doors that open to large lanais with transparent glass rails.

"We take our outdoor living as seriously as our indoor living with oversized lanais on every residence," said Lodge. High-tech wiring and fully equipped laundry rooms round out the list of features, she noted.

Dramatic views are available to every homeowner, no matter which floor they live on as the tower's amenities are located on the rooftop including the sky lounge, a dramatic pool and the open-air fitness center.

From the rooftop, residents can enjoy daily views of the Gulf of Mexico, the nature preserves and two beaches ranked among the best in the United States.

Prices at Kalea Bay begin at \$1.3 million in Tower 1 and \$1.4 million in Tower

2.

In addition to the rooftop amenities, the residents of Kalea Bay will also enjoy the community's clubhouse area, which is also under construction and due to be completed when the first residents move into their new homes.

"The clubhouse area will be the social and recreational centerpiece of the community," said Lodge.

Kalea Bay's 88,000-square-foot clubhouse is located on the north side of the large lake at the community's entrance. It will feature three individual pools, including a resort pool, an adults-only pool and a children's pool, plus an expansive pool deck, a poolside bistro, open-air bar, an indoor/outdoor restaurant, a sundries shop, and a state-of-the-art fitness center.

"All three pools will overlook the lake and provide a multitude of recreational options for everyone who lives and visits here," said Lodge. "Expansive sun decks with lounge chairs and native, tropical plants will separate each of the three pools for the ultimate in privacy."

If basking in the sun or taking a

Above: Kalea Bay's 88,000-square-foot clubhouse (in foreground) will be completed in November, approximately the same time as the community's first tower (in background). Kalea Bay residences have very open floor plans. All master bedrooms offer views of the Gulf of Mexico. Kalea Bay's Tower 1 and Tower 2 were designed with rooftop amenities, including a sky lounge, spectacular pool and open-air fitness center. Left: Kalea Bay's first tower is scheduled to be completed in November.

refreshing dip in the pool isn't on a resident's schedule, perhaps meeting friends for lunch, dinner or drinks is.

"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," said Lodge. "This is what living in Florida is supposed to be."

Adjacent to the clubhouse is the tennis pavilion with Har-Tru tennis courts, as well as pickleball courts, and 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 our residents are excited about especially when they have extended family visiting," said Lodge.

For more information regarding Kalea Bay visit the onsite 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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London Bay Homes' six model homes at Mediterra showcase luxury living blended with natural beauty

Six luxury model homes, created by London Bay and priced from \$1 million to more than \$3 million, are now open for viewing at Mediterra, Collier County's 10-time Community of the Year. Showcasing multiple outdoor living destinations, such as fire features and custom pools—one with dancing water—these single-family custom estate and luxury villa models cater to just about any imaginable Naples lifestyle.

Featuring interiors by Romanza Interior Design, the models are also move-in ready. Most provide maintenance-free living, giving residents more time to enjoy Mediterra's many amenities.

The one- and two-story models offer 2,800 to 4,500 square feet of living space and multiple alfresco gathering areas to enjoy Florida's outdoor lifestyle. Transitional and relaxed contemporary interior design and architecture set the trends with inspired color palettes, sculpted ceilings, specialty wall treatments, and pool and spa designs that push new boundaries.

One of London Bay Homes' most popular floor plans, the four-bedroom, four-bath Capriano, is represented in two new models—and display the array of options available to customize each home. The maintenance-free luxury villas offer libraries, wine rooms and second-floor lounge areas with wet bars and large sun decks. Firescap, trellises, pergolas and entry courtyards with fountains enhance these alfresco spaces.

The lakefront Capriano in Lucarno was recently awarded Overall Excellence in Construction and Design in the \$2,501,000 to \$3 million category during the Collier Building Industry Association's 2017 Parade of Homes. The home offers 4,402 square feet of living space, a linear fireplace in the great room, an outdoor fireplace, and a dramatic master bathroom with smoked-glass shower doors. Its soft contemporary design features bright green, orange, melon and yellow. The model is priced at \$2,756,700.

The Capriano in Cortile features a transitional interior design theme with shades of taupe, blue, green and ivory. Accents of vibrant turquoise and teal are also displayed throughout the home's 4,493 square feet of living space. The model offers a cascading waterfall fountain and fire pit under a pergola. It is priced at \$3,675,000.

Three luxury villas are open in Cabreo, an intimate maintenance-free living neighborhood located near Med-



London Bay Homes' Capriano model recently received top honors for construction and design during the CBIA Parade of Homes.

iterra's Parterre Garden—the community's largest neighborhood park with formal gardens, sitting areas, and a large reflecting pond. The three-bedroom, three-bath Angelica—priced at \$1,330,000—includes designer finishes and accents of burnt oak, crimson and oak throughout its 2,800 square feet of living space.

The recently completed 3,110-square-foot Bettina offers four bedrooms, four baths and an open great room floor plan. Its transitional contemporary aesthetic features modern understated furniture forms and muted grays with aquamarine and coral accents. It is priced at \$1,880,900, fully furnished.

The three-bedroom, three- and one-half bath Clara has 3,369 square feet of living space and offers formal living and dining rooms, a study, great room and butler's bar. Priced at \$1,995,000, it replaces a previous Clara model that sold 43 days after its completion—three times faster than other similarly priced homes in Naples.

A multiple Sand Dollar award winner, the Isabella Two-Story includes four bedrooms and five baths within 4,285 square feet of living space. Interior elements include a transitional design, travertine and wood flooring, and a palette of white, neutral gray, black and teal. The model's outdoor areas include an award-winning pool with dancing streams of colored water emerging unexpectedly from the pool deck. Located in the Serata neighborhood, the home is priced at \$3,125,625.



Offering four bedrooms and four full baths, the Capriano in Lucarno features a soft contemporary look with wood and metal tones and bright accents of green, orange, melon and yellow throughout the model's 4,402 square feet of interior living space.

Additional models are in various stages of construction and another five models will open later in 2017. Each demonstrates London Bay Homes' brand promise of Private Label Living—a commitment to ensuring quality, attention to detail, and homes that are a unique expression of their residents' distinctive tastes.

An award-winning homebuilder and developer in the Southwest Florida luxury home market for more than 25 years, London Bay Homes manages all

new home construction sales and marketing for Mediterra.

London Bay Homes is offering an exclusive opportunity for new homebuyers to purchase a golf membership without the delay of what otherwise is approximately a one-year waiting list.

Learn more about the models by logging onto www.MediterraNaples.com, calling 239-298-7600 or visiting Mediterra, located on Livingston Road, two miles north of Immokalee Road and west of I-75. ■



The four-bedroom, five-bath Isabella model offers a formal dining room, a study, an open great room design, a second-floor bonus room and a three-car garage.

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Golf experience, construction progress attracting Seaglass homebuyers

With the award-winning Ronto Group's 26-floor, 120-unit Seaglass high-rise tower within Bonita Bay on schedule for completion just 14 months from now, future residents are looking forward to enjoying the community's award-winning lifestyle. The combination of the tower's alluring floor plan choices, various Bonita Bay Club membership opportunities, and Bonita Bay's award-winning lifestyle that includes five championship golf courses, Seaglass is redefining the high-rise living experience.

The Bonita Bay Club's golf operation is legendary. A two-story, 15,000 square-foot facility houses the golf pro shop, tournament offices, and merchandise offices, as well as underground storage for 260 carts and 2,600 golf bags. Director of Golf E.J. McDonnell, PGA oversees a staff that includes 25 PGA Professionals. Ten of the PGA Professionals and seven Fitness Professionals are Titleist Performance Institute Certified, creating one of the largest programs in the country. An instructional program includes private and group lessons, golf schools, and clinics on three dedicated practice areas. Members have access to the latest equipment and benefit from professional club-fitting services. One of the largest private club-repair facilities in the country further contributes to the "Tour Experience" enjoyed by the members.

The three on-property Bonita Bay West courses were designed by Arthur Hills to preserve and enhance the natural features of the land. The courses achieved Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary status in 1995. A healthy 6,910 yards from the back tees, the Bay Island course is considered the most challenging of the Club's courses. Water hazards, sand traps, and thick stands of oak and cypress await errant shots on a course that plays to all four points of the compass. Golfers must be both long and accurate off the tee to score well. Elevated greens present a significant challenge to approach shots, and recovering from missed shots demands an accurate short game.

The Creekside course is a favorite of the Bonita Bay Club's members. A challenging 6,632 yards from the back tees, Creekside features broad fairways and limited carries while changes in the land elevations create a subtle feeling of rolling hills. Bunkering and moguls add to the challenge. Grass-face bunkers protect the greens that are undulating and fast. Extra room off many of the tees provides an opportunity to aggressively attack a number of the holes.

The 6,483 yard Marsh course winds its way through wetland areas with oaks and palmettos. The wetlands and natural vegetation provide both landscaping and water hazards. While challenging, the setting provides golfers with a sense of peace during their round. Many of the holes are more about target golf and require golfers to use every club in their bag. In 1990, the Marsh course was ranked 60th on Golf Digest's list of the 100 greatest courses in America.

Two Tom Fazio designed courses at Bonita Bay East 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 8,200 square foot clubhouse is nestled among slash pines and Sabal palms and features



Above: With the award-winning Ronto Group's 26-floor, 120-unit Seaglass high-rise tower within Bonita Bay on schedule for completion just 14 months from now, future residents are looking forward to enjoying the community's award-winning lifestyle. **Right:** The caliber of the Bonita Bay Club's golf operation is legendary and well-known to golfers worldwide. Director of Golf E.J. McDonnell, PGA oversees a staff of 25 PGA Professionals. **Below:** In addition to golf, a 9,000 square foot spa, full service salon, and a multi-purpose room are available at the Bonita Bay Club's approximately 60,000 square foot Lifestyle Center.

a golf shop, main dining room, mixed grill room, bar, and locker areas.

The Bonita Bay East Cypress course is considered one of the best tournament sites in Southwest Florida. The front nine is forgiving off the tee, but the greens are protected by large deep bunkers. Once on the inward nine, the holes are separated by stands of cypress trees and wetlands. A challenging 7,059 yards from the back tee, the course features large undulating greens that are some of the fastest in the area.

The 6,813 yard Sabal course is yet another Bonita Bay course that brings golfers and nature together. With five par fives and five par threes, the course presents an excellent variety of challenges. Alligators, wild turkeys, deer, and bald eagles are often seen near the massive lake that comes into play on holes 9 through 12. The green complexes are large and feature high green speeds, but allow room for approach shots.

Seaglass offers fully-completed,



ready-for-occupancy residences with designer-selected premium finishes. Each residence will come with two protected access underground parking spaces. Private enclosed two-car garages will be available. Seaglass will showcase the open living

environments that luxury homebuyers prefer. The elegant residences will be accessed by private elevator foyers and feature spacious great rooms, centrally located kitchens, and two or three outdoor terraces per residence, one of which will include a gas grill. The terraces and extensive use of glass throughout the residences will provide stunning views of Estero Bay and the

Gulf of Mexico.

A choice selection of tower residences remains available at Seaglass. Three luxurious great room floor plans ranging from 3,353 to 3,946 total square feet are priced from just over \$1 million. The spacious tower residences will include dual private elevator grand foyers, large 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 ceiling heights are included per plan. Three furnished tower residence models will be available for viewing upon completion of construction.

For additional information, 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 seaglassatbonitabay.com. ■

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The Isles of Collier Preserve... where residents celebrate nature and active living

The Isles of Collier Preserve in Naples by Minto Communities is an award-winning master-planned community inspired by nature, informed by historic references to the classic southern coastal architecture of Old Naples, and designed to accommodate an active lifestyle that is connected to nature.

Just four miles east of downtown Naples, The Isles of Collier Preserve provides residents with a stunningly beautiful private world bordered by Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Naples Botanical Garden and Dollar Bay. More than 1,300 acres of the community's 2,400 acres are dedicated to natural habitat and nature preserves connected by a network of recreational trails, nature observation stations, bike paths and waterways for kayaking.

Residents and visitors enter The Isles of Collier Preserve through a gatehouse archway distinguished by a reflecting pool. Next stop for visitors...the Discovery Sales Center, described as more nature center than sales center. A "Neighbors Room" presents displays on neighbors Rookery Bay Reserve, Naples Botanical Garden, and Conservancy of Southwest Florida, among others. A rustic boardwalk encircles a recreated cypress wetland and 14' cypress tree replica. Visitors can take a virtual tour at interactive stations, take an eco-friendly electric boat ride or explore via Minto-provided bicycle or kayak.

■ World-class amenities inspired by Collier history

The Isles Club with its inviting coastal cottage style design inspired by the original Naples Beach Hotel built in 1888 is at the community's center. The Club includes a stunning resort-style pool, lap pool, pickleball and tennis courts, and impressively appointed fitness center. A lushly landscaped event courtyard and yoga lawn, kayak launch and beach with cabanas surround the club.

Isles of Collier Preserve residents have formed a variety of clubs related to the community's many outdoor activities. Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the US, and The Isles Pickleball Club members look forward to the 2017 Minto US Open Pickleball Championships hosted at the nearby East Naples Community Park from April 23-29. Minto, along with their new Latitude Margaritaville communities, are the Title Sponsor of this annual championship tournament.

■ Home choices to meet every lifestyle

Minto offers a selection of 43 innovative, energy-efficient home designs at The Isles of Collier Preserve that complement their spectacular natural surroundings and present a contemporary interpretation of classic Florida coastal home styles. Selections include coach homes, villas and single-family homes ranging from the mid-\$300s to more than \$1 million.

For a limited time, Minto is offering up to \$50,000 in purchase incentives on select move-in ready homes—the Pimento single-family home, Oleander Grande coach home and Mimosa villa home. The Pimento includes a pool and spa with a beautiful water view. It is 2,333 square feet under air with two bedrooms, den, 2.5 baths and three-car garage, and priced at \$823,237. The Oleander Grande three-story coach home is 2,160 square feet under air with two bedrooms, three baths,



Above: An eco-friendly electric boat is available at the Isles of Collier Preserve Discovery Sales Center dock for tours of the Cypress Waterway. The Isles Club resort-style pool, lap pool, shaded cabanas and sandy beach area provide the ultimate environment for relaxation and socializing. The Isles of Collier Preserve residents take to the Isles Club courts for Pickleball—the fastest growing sport in the U.S. Left: The Pimento single-family home includes pool and spa with a beautiful water view. It is 2,333 square feet under air, with two bedrooms, den, two-and-a-half baths and three-car garage and is priced at \$823,237. Model home shown in photo.

Nationals Award for "Best Clubhouse", and the 2017 Best in American Living Award for "Best Community Facility".

The Isles of Collier Preserve also received the Grand Aurora Award for Master-Planned Community of the Year from the Southeast Building Conference (SEBC), the largest building industry trade show in the southeast, and the Community of the Year award at the Collier Building Industry Association 2016 Sand Dollar Awards.

Minto developed The Isles of Collier Preserve using its own funding sources, electing not to utilize Community Development District (CDD) funds, and saving homeowners at The Isles of Collier Preserve thousands of dollars in annual assessments.

The Isles of Collier Preserve is located just four miles east of downtown Naples on U.S. 41/Tamiami Trail East. The Discovery Sales Center is open Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information on The Isles of Collier Preserve call 888-707-1251 or visit minto.com. ■

den, third floor observatory, two-car garage and private elevator. It is priced at \$664,890. The Mimosa villa is 1,780 square feet under air with two bedrooms, two baths, den, two-car garage and water view, and priced at \$529,780.

■ Visit 16 furnished models

Sixteen furnished models include nine single-family homes, four one-story villas, and three award-winning coach homes. Single-family homes range from 2,016 to 4,327 square feet under air, and are priced from the high-\$400s to over \$1 million. Designed for entertaining, homes feature gourmet kitchens with large seating and serving islands, open floor plans, private guest quarters, and luxurious outdoor living areas with nature and water views.

Coach homes include one, two and three story floor plans ranging from 1,621 square feet under air to 2,960 square feet under air, priced from the mid-\$400s to \$600s. All include two-car garages.

Two-and-three-story coach homes also include private elevators. Architecturally detailed ceiling treatments, bright, open floor plans, large eat-in kitchens, formal dining rooms and more are among Minto's distinctive luxury touches.

Villas range from 1,565 square feet under air to 1,862 square feet under air, and are priced from the mid-\$300s. Villa homes include two to three bedrooms, plus den or hobby room, great room, dining room, two baths, covered lanai and two-car garage.

■ An award-winning master planned community

A recognized leader in green construction, Minto has won many national and regional awards for The Isles of Collier Preserve. These include three silver awards from the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), including the 2016 Best in American Living Award for "Best Mixed Community", the 2017



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Phase II amenity enhancements poised to begin at Quail West

With renovations to its Lakes Golf Course already underway, Quail West Golf & Country Club announced that Phase II of a substantial renovation of the community's clubhouse is poised to begin as scheduled early this summer. Budgeted at a cost of approximately \$30 million, the member approved and financed two-phase initiative reflects the community's continued mission to be the premier private residential country club in Southwest Florida. Designed to meet the needs of Quail West's growing membership and the changing lifestyle characteristics of the community's members, the improvements will provide the latest in physical facilities and state of the art technology.

The renovation initiative is making Quail West's 70,000 square foot clubhouse an even more highly preferred destination while providing residents and members an experience that offers the finest in high-end amenities and services, including formal and casual dining, a glass enclosed, heated swimming pool, a 12,000 square-foot fitness and wellness facility, golf, tennis, and salon and spa services. Quail West's members will appreciate having exclusive access to the club's comprehensive array of world-class amenities. The enhancements are also further securing Quail West's legacy of offering the best golf and social experience in Southwest Florida.

In addition to enhancements to the community's Preserve golf course, Phase I renovations of the clubhouse's upstairs banquet kitchen have been completed. The kitchen renovations are primary aspects of the upgraded clubhouse facility. The fine dining experience has been enhanced by the completion of expanded pre-function space overlooking the indoor glass enclosed pool with a new lighted bar with a contemporary glass wall. The design of the new pre-function space is centered on the undulating shape of the bar and the glass wall that contains moving water and mood lighting. A double-sided fireplace warms the room. The expansion of the second floor kitchen has enhanced service to both the Mahogany Room formal dining room and to events in the adjacent ballroom.

Work on the redesign of the main lobby entrance has also been completed. Exquisite furnishings are framed by a new fire and water feature that creates a memorable impression as people enter the exclusive Quail West venue. New furnishings and area rugs provide comfort and a consistent look for the lobby and hallway leading to the ballroom.

The new two-story dedicated fitness and wellness center building included in Phase I is on schedule for completion this summer. Gates Construction is also completing associated site improvements to expand parking at the clubhouse complex and redoing four of the Club's eight tennis courts with new hydro court surfaces and LED lighting. The fitness and wellness center will promote exercise and wellness classes for members of all ages and will feature dedicated areas for Pilates and spin classes, cardio and weight rooms, and TRX personal training technology. Live and video workouts will be available throughout the year. A glass-enclosed lobby will provide a bright note of welcome to members and their guests. The



Above: With renovations to its Lakes Golf Course already underway, Quail West Golf & Country Club announced that Phase II of a substantial renovation of the community's clubhouse is poised to begin as scheduled early this summer. **Right:** Renovations to Quail West's two golf courses are addressing enhancements to the irrigation systems, green complexes, adjacent grass areas, and fairways. Improvements to the Preserve course have been completed and work on the Lakes course is underway. **Below:** The design of the new pre-function space in the Quail West clubhouse is centered on the undulating shape of the bar and the glass wall that contain moving water and mood lighting. A double-sided fireplace warms the room.



fitness and wellness center will connect to the existing glass-enclosed indoor heated pool and to the clubhouse.

Phase II renovations are scheduled to commence early this summer and will transform the lower floor of the clubhouse while providing more casual spaces. Central to the Phase II plan is doubling the size of the existing Grille Room and its kitchen facilities to elevate the quality of casual dining at Quail West to the level of the club's fine dining experience. The expanded casual dining will allow covered and open-air outdoor dining with table and patio seating surrounded by fire

pits and the glass-enclosed indoor heated pool. Also included in Phase II will be the addition of an attractive covered lower level entry; an enhanced salon and spa; an Internet Café with take-out service; rooms for member

private parties and catered events; bocce ball courts and an outdoor gazebo bar area; and a ballroom expansion that will take increased advantage of the upstairs views overlooking the water.

The design of the improved clubhouse spaces has been a cooperative effort of the Club'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. The upper floor of the clubhouse has remained more formal with a transitional feel. The lower floor will be more casual and will tie in the traditional elements of the club with

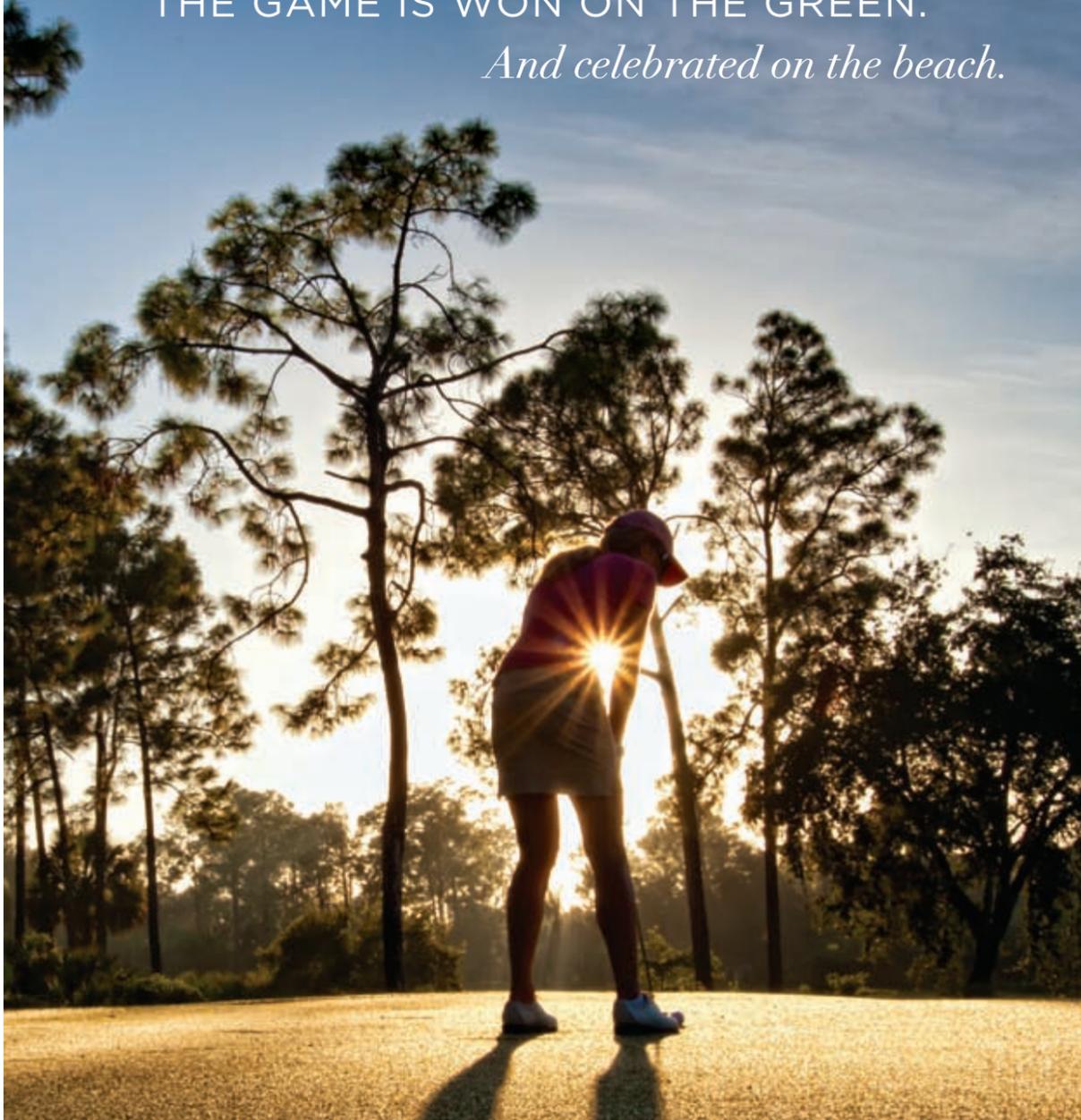
a more relaxed casual atmosphere that will integrate golf, fitness, tennis, the salon and spa, and casual dining.

Renovations to Quail West's two golf courses are addressing enhancements to the irrigation systems, green complexes, adjacent grass areas, and fairways. The renovation effort is focused on improving the playability of the Lakes and Preserve courses. The golf practice area is being enlarged to provide increased preparation and lesson space. The course enhancements are being overseen by J. Drew Rogers, a member of the American Society of Golf Course Architects highly regarded for his ability to undertake golf course renovation projects. With improvements to the Preserve course already completed, work on the Lakes course is underway and the course is expected to re-open by January, 2018.

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. Visit Quail West online at www.QuailWest.com. ■



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Shadow Creek at Hibiscus offers luxurious condominiums

Prices start in the \$300s



Shadow Creek at Hibiscus, the gated condominium community being developed in Naples at the entrance to the Hibiscus Golf Club on Rattlesnake Hammock Road, just opened its onsite sales center and has officially launched its sales effort.

Developed by Hibiscus Land of Naples, who has tapped NM Development Group to assist in the planning and development of the project, Shadow Creek will consist of nine two-story, coastal-inspired buildings, each with six residences for a total of 54.

Many of the condominiums offer views of the Hibiscus golf course and will include one covered parking space per residence within the private, gated community.

Prices start in the \$300s and include a myriad of standard features others consider upgrades.

Two spacious floor plans are available.

The two-bedroom/two-bath Jasmine plan has 1,355 square feet under air. A gracious foyer leads to an expansive open-concept great room that includes the kitchen, dining and living areas.

Standard in every kitchen is a large island counter with breakfast bar seating, and a stainless steel GE appliance package including a refrigerator, 30-inch electric range, microwave and dishwasher. Kitchens also feature quartz countertops, luxury cabinetry with soft-close doors and 42-inch upper cabinets, as well as stainless steel undermount sink featuring Grohe faucets with pull-out spray.

The dining area includes a wet bar with built-in shelving. The living room features large sliding glass doors that access the screen-enclosed lanai which has ample room for both a seating area and an outdoor dining table.

The kitchen, dining and living room areas all include 20 by 20-inch porcelain tile.

A privacy vestibule off the living room leads into the spacious master



Above: Two- and three-bedroom floor plans are offered in Shadow Creek's coastal-inspired buildings. Left: Residents are automatically enrolled in the Shadow Creek Preferred Players Program, which affords them discounted rates and advanced tee times at the Hibiscus Golf Club. Below: The Hibiscus clubhouse has a pro shop and is home to Erin's Isle Restaurant and Irish Bar, which serves lunches and dinners. The sales center for Shadow Creek is now open and located at 5360 Hibiscus Drive, at the entrance to the Hibiscus Golf Club.

others in the area has and is a golfer's dream with every hole an experience no matter the golfer's skill level. Wide fairways, bunkered greens and numerous lakes and streams make each hole a new challenge and a pleasure to play.

Residents can also enjoy a short stroll to the newly remodeled clubhouse at Hibiscus, as well as its pro shop, and Erin's Isle Restaurant and Irish Bar serving lunches and dinners daily.

NM Development Group is a full-service real estate development, investment and advisory firm focused on both the development of its current real estate portfolio as well as acquisition of residential and commercial assets.

The development partners, David Nassif and Albert Moscato, Jr., have nearly 50 years of combined experience in real estate development, land ownership, joint ventures, leasing, property management, financing, marketing and sales.

In addition to Shadow Creek, the principals of NM Development are involved in a number of other projects and land holdings including, University Highlands in Estero, Hibiscus Golf Club in Naples and Marco Shores in Naples.

For more information regarding Shadow Creek at Hibiscus, visit the sales center located at 5360 Hibiscus Drive in Naples, or call (239) 316-1575. Additional information is available online at ShadowCreekNaples.com. ■

bedroom, also with direct access to the lanai. A walk-in closet separates the bedroom from the master bath, which features Grohe fixtures, dual sinks and a luxurious shower.

The Jasmine residence also includes a large guest bedroom and bath.

The three-bedroom/two-bath plans, the Magnolia and Hibiscus, are both corner units with 1,622 square feet under air.

The dining area in this home is positioned between the foyer and the open kitchen which features all the amenities of the two-bedroom floor plan.

The living area features large sliding glass doors that lead onto the spacious screen-enclosed lanai. The master bedroom, with a private vestibule, also features sliding glass doors that lead to the lanai.

The guest bedrooms in the Magnolia

and Hibiscus are located in a separate wing of the residence with a guest bath conveniently located between the two bedrooms.

Within a short walking distance of each residence will be Shadow Creek's open-air clubhouse, which will include a pool and Jacuzzi, outdoor shower, expansive sun deck, outdoor grilling area, fire pit, and covered patio and bar, as well as restrooms.

In addition to the community's clubhouse, residents of Shadow Creek are automatically enrolled in the exclusive Shadow Creek Preferred Players Program, which affords them discounted rates and advanced tee times at the public, 18-hole championship golf course of Hibiscus Golf Club.

Built in 1969 and recently enhanced, the Hibiscus course has a maturity few

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Just 4 purchase opportunities remaining in Covent Garden at TwinEagles

TwinEagles announced that four purchase opportunities, including a furnished model still to be listed for sale, remain available in Pulte Homes' Covent Garden carriage home neighborhood. Three remaining unfurnished second-floor Tourmaline carriage homes currently under construction measure 2,297 square feet under air and are being offered with a variety of optional finishes and builder incentives. The 103 Tourmaline residence is priced at \$376,380 including a \$20,000 incentive and features park views. The 1802 residence presents golf and water views and is priced at \$398,485 including a \$30,000 incentive. The 1703 Tourmaline showcases captivating water views and is priced at \$404,925 including a \$25,000 incentive. A first-floor furnished Cheshire model will be listed for sale after all other residences are sold. A full golf membership is included with the purchase of every newly constructed residence within TwinEagles.

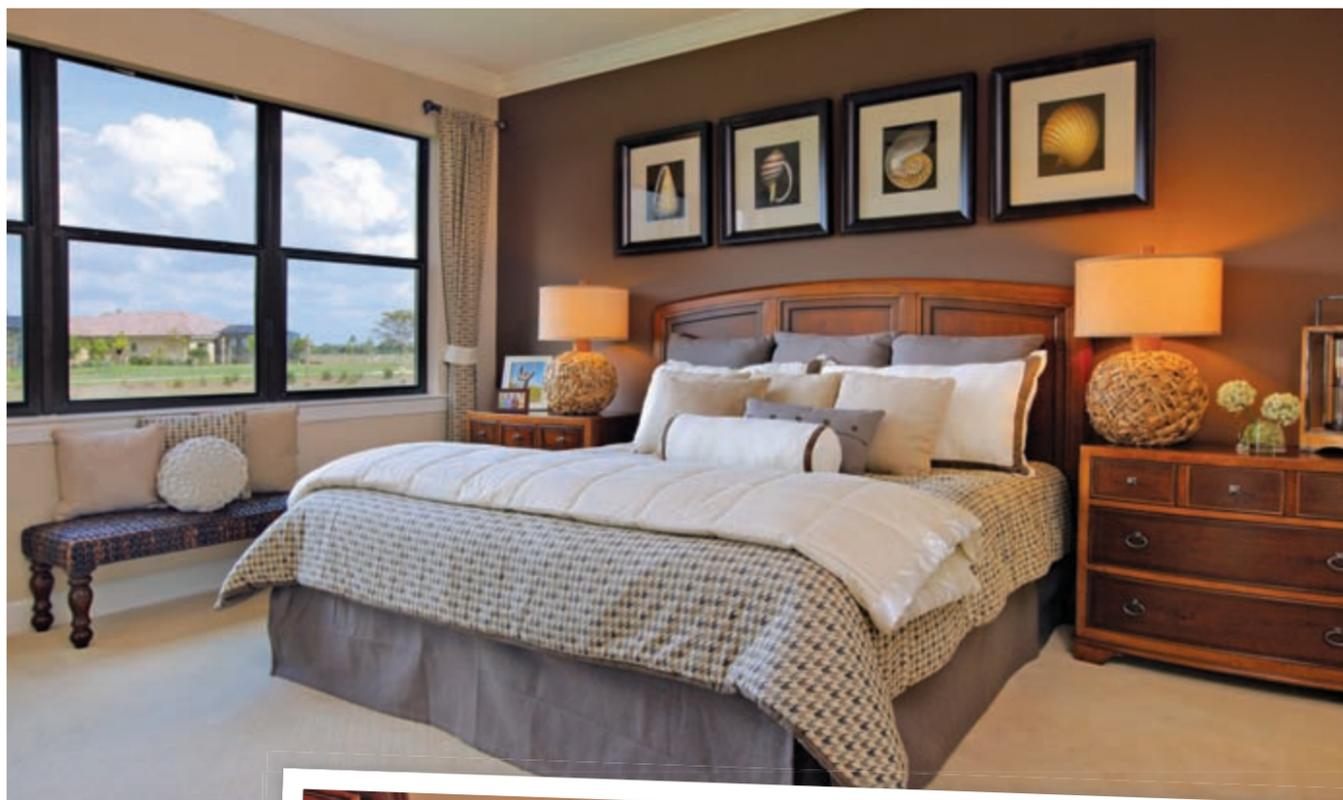
Covent Garden continues to be one of TwinEagles most popular product choices. With the full golf membership, two award-winning championship golf courses, an array of world class amenities, and an irresistible natural setting, the maintenance-free carriage home residences offer an exceptional value and an ideal pied-a-terre for those intent on enjoying an award-winning country club lifestyle. The TwinEagles community being developed by The Ronto Group was recognized by Boardroom magazine as a Distinguished Emerald Club, a designation accorded to the top five-percent of private clubs throughout the world. Ronto was named recipient of the Naples Daily News' 2016 People's Choice Awards Gold Award for Best Developer.

The Covent Garden carriage home floor plans offer a comfortable ambiance for enjoying a maintenance-free, lock and leave living experience and are perfectly suited to empty-nesters and those seeking an elegantly appointed getaway destination within one of Southwest Florida's most prestigious gated golf course communities. In addition to the amenities found throughout the TwinEagles community, Covent Garden residents enjoy a private swimming pool and outdoor dining area that is designed for hosting neighborhood gatherings and special events.

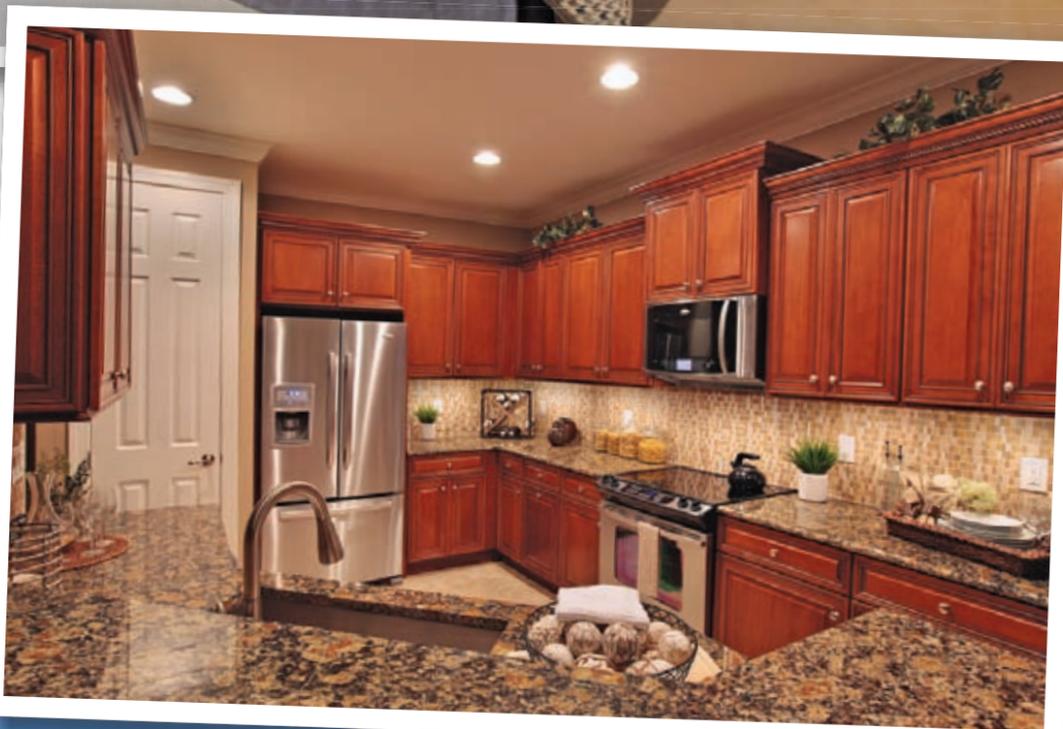
Covent Garden's 2,297 under air second floor Tourmaline floor plan also includes a 230 square foot covered lanai and a two-car garage. The plan offers an impressive ground level entry and two-story stairwell, a spacious great room that opens to the covered lanai, a formal dining room, a gourmet kitchen, a breakfast nook that also opens to the lanai, three bedrooms plus a den or fourth bedroom, and two-and-a-half baths. The owner's suite bedroom can include an optional tray ceiling and an optional door opening to the covered lanai. His and her walk-in closets are included in the owner's suite.

Covent Garden's first floor Cheshire carriage home's 1,654 square feet under air floor plan also includes a 230 square foot covered lanai and a two-car garage. The plan's comfortable great room opens to the covered lanai and flows into a gourmet kitchen and dining area that also opens to the lanai. The Cheshire's spacious owner's suite includes a walk-in closet and a beautifully finished bath. The plan includes a guest bedroom plus a den or third bedroom and a second full bath. The furnished Cheshire carriage home model is open daily for viewing.

Covent Garden homebuyers are attracted to TwinEagles' array of amenities that includes two championship golf courses. The Talon Course was designed by Jack



Above: The Cheshire's spacious owner's suite includes a walk-in closet and a beautifully finished bath. The plan includes a guest bedroom plus a den or third bedroom and a second full bath. The furnished Cheshire carriage home model is open daily for viewing. Right: Covent Garden's first floor Cheshire carriage home's 1,654 square feet under air floor plan also includes a 230 square foot covered lanai and a two-car garage. A first-floor furnished Cheshire model will be listed for sale after all other residences are sold.



Above: TwinEagles announced that just four purchase opportunities, including a furnished model still to be listed for sale, remain available in Pulte Homes' Covent Garden carriage home neighborhood. A full golf membership is included with the purchase of every newly constructed residence within TwinEagles.

Nicklaus and his son and is regarded as the top residential course in Southwest Florida. The Talon Course hosted the Chubb Classic PGA Champions Tour tournament in February. The community's Eagle Course was named "Best New U.S. Private Course of the Year" by Golf Magazine. Designed by Steve Smyers, the course has a challenging historical design with modern yardages. In addition to the two championship golf courses, TwinEagles is the home of "Doc" Jim Suttie's Golf Academy.

The golf courses provide a magical tableau for peaceful neighborhoods

tucked along lush fairways and shimmering lakes that offer breathtaking vistas and a sense of privacy. A 47,000 square-foot clubhouse pays homage to St. Andrews where the game of golf was born. In addition to a golf pro shop, the Clubhouse's wrap-around verandahs that overlook preserve views and the finishing holes of both courses provide an ideal setting for enjoying a post-round beverage and conversation. The Clubhouse also offers one of the finest dining experiences in Southwest Florida. Award-winning Executive Chef

Chas Tatigian serves up a variety of succulent treats ranging from seafood and stuffed chicken to pasta that can be accompanied by a selection from a meticulously vetted wine list.

The Clubhouse is complemented by a sparkling community swimming pool and fitness center. This beautifully designed amenity center includes a 2,500 square foot pool with a large spa, a zero-entry feature, and an expansive sunning deck overlooking a lake. An outdoor lounge, dining venue, and lighted Har-Tru tennis courts are located adjacent to the pool. The 6,430 square foot fitness center was designed to complement the Clubhouse architecture. The floor plan includes men's and women's locker rooms, areas for aerobics and yoga, as well as an expansive fitness hall that houses state-of-the-art exercise equipment. In addition to the amenity center, TwinEagles offers the serenity of dozens of lakes, miles of walking paths that meander through the community, and neighborhood parks and gardens that dot the landscape and provide quiet spots for enjoying the community's tranquil ambiance.

TwinEagles' selection of luxury residences ranges from the Covent Garden carriage homes to distinctive single-family homes, estate, and grand estate residences priced into the millions. Visit the TwinEagles Sales Center at 11330 Twin Eagles Boulevard, or call 239.352.8000. Visit TwinEagles online at twineagles.com. ■



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Oakstone Assisted Living and Memory Care to hold public event

Luxurious suites available

For more than 35 years Moorings Park has set the standard when it comes to Southwest Florida retirement communities offering luxury residences, world-class amenities and outstanding healthcare services.

Moorings Park's mission is to provide Simply the Best facilities and services for successful aging within an environment where residents can thrive physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually, and live longer, happier and healthier lives.

Oakstone, the newly completed assisting living and memory care center, is just one more example of that commitment. And as such, the public is invited to learn more about the new center during an upcoming event at Grande Place, on its Grey Oaks campus.

The event is slated for Friday, May 5, at 11:30 a.m., in the Grande Place Ballroom, with a luncheon following the presentation.

Those wishing to attend should RSVP by end of day on Tuesday, May 2, by calling (239) 919-1732. Seating is limited so early reservations are highly recommended.

The luxurious 38 assisted living and memory care residences offer Simply the Best® quality healthcare services in a family friendly environment.

Oakstone provides 24-hour all-inclusive assistance with the activities of daily living in the assisted living private suites. Residents receive all the features and benefits of Moorings Park's award-winning continuum of care that includes social, intellectual, spiritual and recreational activities and events, as well as dining, in a beautiful setting.

Oakstone's memory care suites provide certified, compassionate care to residents and their families who are in the early stages of Alzheimer's and other related dementias.

As residents experience memory loss, the acclaimed "Best Friends" approach offers person-centered care to Oakstone residents by utilizing unique tools designed to engage residents in purposeful communication and camaraderie with their neighbors, thereby helping residents with dementia feel safe, secure and valued.

Oakstone offers both short and long-term care, with month-to-month rates available and is located in the elegant Grande Place, which also houses the community's clubhouse.

The new center provides residents with many innovative programs including Opening Minds Through Art, where student volunteers assist residents in creating beautiful art, as well as meaningful relationships.

There are also regularly scheduled music programs, parties and celebrations to stimulate socialization, and programs that promote positive well-being, as well as physical exercise programs designed to build strength, while also having fun.

Programs and activities take place both inside and out as the center's outdoor gardens were specifically designed to foster a sense of independence in a secured setting, while providing residents with a daily dose of sunlight.

Moorings Park is a nationally accredited, nonprofit, Medicare-certified community and the only A+ S & P and Fitch rated Life Plan Community (formerly known as Continuing Care Retirement Community) in the country.

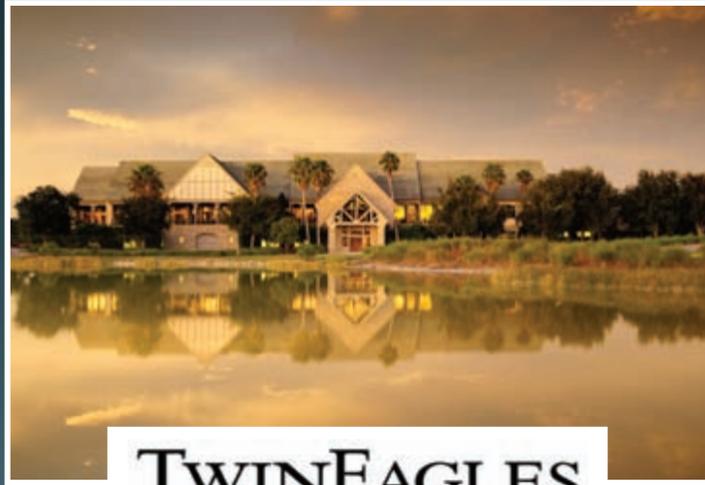


Above: Entrance to Oakstone, Moorings Park at Grey Oaks' newly completed Assisted Living and Memory Care Center. Left: Large windows in the master bedroom make the room bright and airy. Right: Exterior view of Oakstone Assisted Living and Memory Care Center. Below: Oakstone Assisted Living residences feature spacious open floor plans.



It has been repeatedly acknowledged as Southwest Florida's premier retirement community for more than 35 years. It was the first and only Life Plan Community located in the City of Naples. Moorings Park at Grey Oaks is the second.

For additional information about Oakstone, visit MooringsParkGO.org or stop at the sales center located at 2355 Rue du Jardin in Moorings Park at Grey Oaks. ■



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Everywhere you go at Babcock Ranch, you'll meet people who are passionate about their role in creating a whole new way of living. You'll see the vision for this solar-powered, eco-centric hometown becoming a reality right before your eyes. At Founder's Square, you'll find a place where the full flavor of Babcock Ranch is being served up daily. And it's delicious.

Table & Tap, the farm-to-table restaurant located on Founder's Square at the edge of Lake Babcock, opened in early March and has quickly developed a brisk lunch and dinner business. Among the daily flow of 300-500 guests, you'll find a growing group of regulars who stop by three or four times a week. And from your very first bite - you'll understand why.

"Food is what sets us apart—not just sourcing the best possible local ingredients that I can get, but every employee is passionate about what they are doing here and it is a difference you can taste," Chef David Rashty explained. "As the first restaurant at Babcock Ranch our menu needs to appeal to all different tastes. We put a lot of time, thought and effort into every component and we are constantly on the lookout for new, local ingredients to keep it fresh and relevant, and keep people coming back."

"Food is an incredibly important part of a healthy lifestyle," added Matt Seiler, Director of Food and Beverage at Babcock Ranch. "The thing we want customers to walk away with is a realization that locally-sourced, organic foods are not only good for their health, they are good for palate. They taste better."

The flavors you experience at Table & Tap tell the story of a chef who does not take any shortcuts. If you aren't convinced that the added effort and fresh ingredients make a difference—wait until you bite into the brisket sandwich with friend green tomato and topped with creamy coleslaw. Seriously. Any lingering doubts vanish instantly as the succulent meat smoked for a couple of hours, then braised for 15-16 hours in Babcock Brew and cider, literally melts in your mouth.

The farm-to-table menu is just one of Table & Tap's attractions. It's got a relaxed

vibe that makes people want to come stay a while. Couples linger a bit longer over good food and spirits as they enjoy live music out on the patio every Tuesday and Saturday evening. On weekends families come out—and parents find time for conversation while keeping an eye on kids playing yard games, cooling off in the splash pad out in Founder's

Square, or fishing off the boardwalk. Every day of the week, Table & Tap has the best seats in the house to witness what few have experienced before—the birth of a new town. ■



Left: Chef David Rashty already had a strong local following when he joined the Babcock Ranch team in February. As the leader of both the local chef's collaborative and the area's slow food movement, his passion for sustainable, humanely-used products made him a perfect fit. Above: It hasn't taken long for Table & Tap to become the neighborhood gathering spot. Live music on Tuesday and Saturday evenings add to the festive feeling out on the patio.

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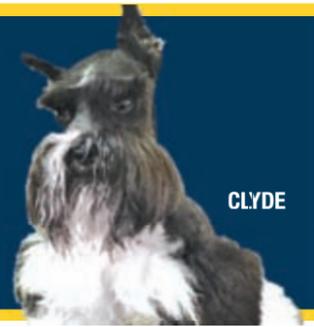
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LABELLE



Spacious Home in Port Labelle
Spanish style large 3 bed 3 bath home on oversized lot in Laurel Oaks Village. Features includes 2 master bedrooms, 1 w/sitting room.
\$199,000
1-866-657-2300 800LE021402.

FORT MYERS



Beautifully Updated 3 Bed Condo at The Landings
Recently updated 3 bed/2 bath at The Landings! Resort living at it's best!
\$212,900
1-866-657-2300 800CC009560.

CAPE CORAL



Location is a Plus with this One
This affordable 3 bedroom pool home has been beautifully remodeled. It is move-in ready and priced to sell!
\$219,900
1-866-657-2300 800FM025819.

CAPE CORAL



Wow-Buy for the Price-Stay for the View
Spectacular 2/2 condo less than 300 yards from the river.
\$219,900
1-866-657-2300 800CC022347.

CAPE CORAL



Beautiful 3 Bed/2 Bath in Desirable Lotus Canal Area
Meticulously maintained 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2 car garage, lots of curb appeal and an awesome back yard!
\$223,900
1-866-657-2300 800CC018332.

CAPE CORAL



4/4 Duplex-Right Next to Downtown Cape Coral
Great investment opportunity just minutes away from downtown Cape Coral.
\$225,000
1-866-657-2300 800CC065748.

CAPE CORAL



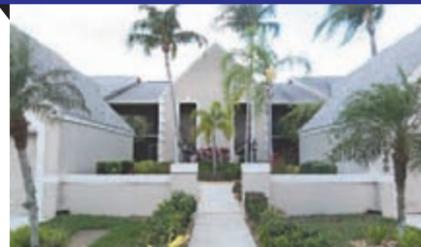
4 Bed 2 Bath Pool Home with Golf Course View
Great location, quiet neighborhood. Fenced-in side and back yard with a beautiful pool.
\$227,900
1-866-657-2300 800CC060203.

CAPE CORAL



Popular SW Cape Coral Pool Home
3 bed, 2 bath, formal living, dining and family room, new kitchen with granite, fabulous travertine brick pool patio, shed.
\$235,900
1-866-657-2300 800CC06551.

FORT MYERS



Perfect First Floor Veranda
All upgraded with great furniture and golf course view!
\$239,000
1-866-657-2300 800FM025917.

ESTERO



1st Floor-Million Dollar View
1st floor coach home!!
\$239,900
1-866-657-2300 800FM011094.

NORTH PORT



North Port Dream Home
Beautiful 3 bedrooms + den, 2 car garage in North Port! Tiled throughout, granite countertops, custom woodwork, includes crown molding.
\$240,000
1-866-657-2300 800CC072552.

PUNTA GORDA



Nice 3/2 in Port Charlotte
Gorgeous well kept home. Built in 2006 new appliances and beautiful kitchen and interior areas. Don't miss it!
\$249,900
1-866-657-2300 800CH230651.

CAPE CORAL



Western Exposure Pool Home-Desirable Neighborhoods
Pool home in SW Cape Coral. Large size 3 bedrooms+den or office. Walking distance to shopping and restaurants.
\$249,900
1-866-657-2300 800CC004813.

CAPE CORAL



Well Maintained Pool Home Open Floor Plan
Beautiful well maintained Florida pool home with open floor plan, vaulted ceilings, split bedrooms. Corner fenced lot.
\$250,000
1-866-657-2300 800CC009057.

FORT MYERS



The Fantastic Opportunity Won't Last
This amazing, large, 2 master suite bedroom home, has a very private large lanai that looks out onto a huge lake.
\$252,000
1-866-657-2300 800FM070147.

ESTERO



Fairway Bend Waterfront Beauty
3 bed 2 bath awesome view - electric shutters, granite kitchen, tiled floors.
\$265,900
1-866-657-2300 800FM009795.

LEHIGH ACRES



Beautiful Maintained Home
Living in nature- Lots of privacy but also close to everything!!!
\$269,900
1-866-657-2300 800FM018580.

CAPE CORAL



Intersecting Canal View
Cleverly designed floor plan takes advantage of the incredible view.. Wow. Three bedroom, two bath open floor plan.
\$274,900
1-866-657-2300 800CC022339.

Call 866-657-2300



CAPE CORAL



Direct Gulf Access

Boater's delight! 3 bed 2 bath pool home with dock. Sailboat friendly, NO bridges and just minutes to the River! **\$275,000**
1-866-657-2300 800CC021544.

NORTH PORT



Beautiful 3/2 Pool Home in Port Charlotte

Beautiful 3/2 pool home in heart of Port Charlotte. Canal front, fenced in yard. Near shopping and dining. **\$279,900**
1-866-657-2300 800CH234885.

LEHIGH ACRES



Acres - Spacious 3 Bed Home - 2 Acres/Pond

Acres!! This spacious 3 bedroom pool home sits on over 2 acres of land with a large pond. **\$284,900**
1-866-657-2300 800LE025587.

FORT MYERS



Cypress Cay Pool Home in Gateway

Owners pride shows in this 2004 home with 3 yr. old salt water pool and paved patio plus crown molding. **\$290,000**
1-866-657-2300 800FM018296.

PUNTA GORDA



Beautiful 3/2 Pool Home in Punta Gorda Isles

Gorgeous pool home! Beautiful living space with upgrades, landscape and pool! Don't miss it! **\$299,888**
1-866-657-2300 800CH235126.

CAPE CORAL



Waterfront Pool Home

Over 2,000 sqft. 3 bed + den/2 bath with 3 car garage. **\$314,900**
1-866-657-2300 800CC018046.

CAPE CORAL



Best Lake View Pool Home Deal In Sandoval

4/2.5 located in the gated community of Sandoval in Cape Coral. Master is located on the 1st floor w/3 other bedrooms. **\$319,000**
1-866-657-2300 800CC007003.

NAPLES



The Shores at Berkshire Lakes

Delightful bright villa set within a lush landscaped large corner lot. **\$319,500**
1-866-657-2300 800BS002450.

CAPE CORAL



Fantastic 4 Bedroom in Beach-Chiquita Area

Seller put in many upgrades and improvements since 2015. Solar water heater, new a/c, New pool heater. 4/2 pool home. **\$325,000**
1-866-657-2300 800CC022513.

BONITA SPRINGS



Well Maintained Home w/New Roof

Open floor plan, volume ceilings, bay windows, hurricane shutters, 2 car garage. On an oversize lot! **\$329,000**
1-866-657-2300 800BS063730.

ESTERO



Silver Oaks Beauty

More than wow factor move in ready!! **\$349,000**
1-866-657-2300 800FM063883.

BONITA SPRINGS



Custom Home in Bell Villa with In-law Apartment

Price reduced on this beautiful corner lot, 3 bed/3 bath custom home in private Bell Villa with in-law apartment. **\$350,000**
1-866-657-2300 800BS066177.

CAPE CORAL



Gulf Access Southern Exposure Pool Home

3/2.5 Gulf access pool home located in SE Cape Coral. Renovated inside and out with open great room floor plan. **\$369,900**
1-866-657-2300 800CC024769.

FORT MYERS



Bridgetown at The Plantation

Majestic 3 bed + den/3 bath/2 car garage home has everything you wanted and more! 2562 sqft under air. **\$399,900**
1-866-657-2300 800FM080449.

ESTERO



Colonial Oaks Lakeview, Pool Home

This spacious 2 story home offers a lake view, southern exposure and features 3 bedrooms plus a den **\$419,900**
1-866-657-2300 800BS021472.

FORT MYERS



Spectacular Lake Views

Waterfront home! Gated community - clubhouse & pool! Custom lanai w/spa! Builder warranty! Low fees! **\$425,000**
1-866-657-2300 800FM014888.

CAPE CORAL



Large Gulf Access Pool Home

Looking for an affordable, large gulf access home? You found it. Living area is just under 4,000 sqft. **\$429,000**
1-866-657-2300 800CC035867.

CAPE CORAL



Largest Home in Sandoval

Over 3000 sqft of living area. 4 bed/4 bath pool home features an upstairs bonus room with closet and full bath. **\$429,900**
1-866-657-2300 800CC024548.

CAPE CORAL



Direct Access Beauty

Beautiful 2237 sqft custom Mercedes 4/2 pool home on direct access canal with lift and extended wooded dock. **\$437,500**
1-866-657-2300 800CC067650.

CAPE CORAL



One of a Kind Boater's Dream

Spacious and sleek 2500+ sqft gulf access pool home featuring 4 bedrooms and 3 (2/1) baths, dining room, family room. **\$449,900**
1-866-657-2300 800CC019532.

CAPE CORAL



SW Cape Gulf Access Luxury

Gulf access southern exposure 4/2/2 in highly desired SW Cape Coral. Oversize solar heated pool. **\$449,900**
1-866-657-2300 800FM017821.

CAPE CORAL



SW Cape Coral Pool Home, Assessments In and Paid

4 bed/3 bath, 3 car garage pool home in SW Cape Coral with all assessments in and paid. Corner sliders, 3 zoned A/C. **\$455,000**
1-866-657-2300 800CC006176.

#1

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CAPE CORAL



Big Water Views, Gulf Access Heated Pool/Spa
Reduced Thousands! Immaculate Oyster Bay home, 4/2, formal living, dining, family room. Counter bar kitchen, dock/lift.
\$459,900
800CC045356
1-866-657-2300

FORT MYERS



Stunning 3/2/2 Pool Home - Paseo Community
You will not believe the features of this home and the amenities of the community has to offer! Schedule your showing today.
\$467,990
800CC079350
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



Like New 4/3 Pool Home Close To Everything
Great family home on quiet cul-de-sac. Fresh water. canal, pool, spa, 3 car garage.
\$469,900
800CC023123
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



River View and Basin View from this Property
Walking distance to downtown Cape Coral. Beautiful direct sailboat access home features 2 bedrooms and plenty of space!
\$489,500
800CC020088
1-866-657-2300

FORT MYERS



Carillon Woods
Sprawling home w/4 bed/4 bath/2 car oversized garage & caged pool. 2861 sqft under air! Many new updates.
\$494,900
800FM067288
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



Direct Access Pool Home
4 bedrooms + den, 3 bath pool home. Totally renovated in 2010.
\$499,900
800CC024784
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



Gulf Access
3 bed + den, 2.1 bath pool home w/fabulous view of 200' wide canal, upgrades galore, oversized Garage, 8500 lb boat lift!
\$499,900
800CC019547
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



3/2 Gulf Access Pool Home
Panoramic views of Thunderbird Lake. Remodeled & upgraded home in SW Cape Coral. Features 3 bed/2 bath & incredible views.
\$524,900
800CC076559
1-866-657-2300

FORT MYERS



The Perfect Home to Live
A beautiful professional designer 4 bed + den 3 bath with a lot upgrades and nice pool.
\$559,900
800BS074637
1-866-657-2300

PORT CHARLOTTE



Colonial Style Home on Sailboat Water
Immaculate 2 story Colonial designed home on sailboat water in Port Charlotte. Sail boat frontage and beach access!
\$575,000
800CH232214
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



Gulf Access Pool Home
Beautiful 3 bed, 2 bath SW Cape sailboat access home on a wide canal. Open floor plan, pool, spa. Large undercover.
\$599,900
800CC014769
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



Well Maintained Gulf Access
The 3/2 home features a very spacious screened in lanai with an electric heated pool, beautiful landscaping.
\$629,000
800CC024930
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



Southern Exposure Pool Home
3/2 Gulf access pool home in the Rose Garden area. Very well maintained, shows bright and open with big windows.
\$635,000
800CC025898
1-866-657-2300

NAPLES



Have You Been Dreaming of a Designer Home
Don't miss out on this beautifully appointed exceptional floor-plan.
\$645,900
800FM072906
1-866-657-2300

FORT MYERS



Whiskey Creek Luxurious Waterfront Home
Enjoy the Florida lifestyle in this 4179 sqft 5 bed/3 bath + 2 car oversized garage home.
\$750,000
800FM069031
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



One of a Kind - Shows Like a Model Home
Builder show home - one-of-a kind, immaculate gulf access custom residence w/gorgeous landscaping & breathtaking Interior.
\$948,000
800CC018656
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



Direct Gulf Access Pool Home
4 bed/3 bath gulf access pool home in prestigious Peninsula Point.
\$949,900
800CC076523
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



Magnificent Mediterranean Bellagio Masterpiece
Mediterranean house situated on an oversized lot at the end of the cul-de-sac!!!!!!
\$999,900
800CC071053
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



Location Location Location
4/3 pool home with sailboat access!! Minute to river for boating and great fishing. Very sleek and modern in design.
\$1,057,000
800CC002935
1-866-657-2300

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
800FM033960
1-866-657-2300

