

A recent local conservancy report on our estuaries could be an action plan for guarding water and wildlife in the western Everglades

WHAT'S *IN* OUR

WATERS

BY ROGER WILLIAMS
rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

A COMPREHENSIVE NEW ANALYSIS OF WATER and wildlife in each of the 10 estuary systems sewn into the fabric of the western Everglades offers two conclusions: There is cause for despair and there is cause for hope.

The 2017 "Estuary Report Card" — a 302-page look at water systems from Venice to the Ten Thousand Islands produced by the Conservancy of Southwest Florida — describes both what's in the water, or isn't, and what can be done to remove it or to restore it, as required.

Several years in the making, the report relies on data from state government and research organizations measuring pathogens, nutrients, oxygen depletion, levels of salinity or turbidity,

SEE WATER GRADE, A8 ▶

INSIDE

■ **Estuaries report card:** See the study from the Conservancy of Southwest Florida grading local waters. **A8▶**

■ **What you can do:** Recommendations for how to help preserve our water for policymakers and water protectors. **A9▶**



INSIDE



Body double?

Roger Williams says President Trump's actions make it seem he has a double. **A2▶**



Deadline drawing near

Enter a favorite photo of your pet and win a prize. Details: **A17▶**



Know what your librarian likes?

What they are looking forward to reading this summer. **C1▶**

No horsing around: The industry generates billions in Florida

BY ROGER WILLIAMS
rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

Only a century ago, horses were almost as common in Florida as humans, essential for both food production and transportation.

Although that way of life is gone, horses are not.

This week we ask why, exploring the robust economy and culture of horses in the region, a culture that reaches directly into the editorial offices and lives of this

newspaper's staff.

For some of us this story is personal because horses are part of everything we do every day.

"When I ride, every worry in my world is small. I'm at ease knowing that I'm with the most beautiful creature God has made... in my eyes, at least," said Hannah Arnone, an experienced trail rider and *Florida Weekly* graphic artist.

"It's my stress relief, it keeps me grounded and healthy, both mentally and

SEE HORISING, A10 ▶



Roger Williams hits the trails.



Mini golf still big

Putt-putt courses still good business across Florida. **A19▶**

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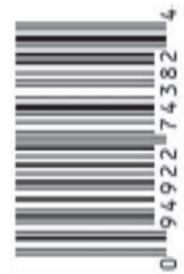
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COMMENTARY

Our civilization

roger WILLIAMS

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As a master of masquerade, President Donald Trump played to his strengths last week, increasing respect for his skill as a tactician.

The critics suggest Mr. Trump's speech in Poland and his sit-down visit with Vladimir Putin at the G-20-plus-Ivanka Summit amounted to a big fat giveaway: He surrendered more than 70 years of the American strategy championed by Democrats and Republicans alike to the anti-democratic world view of Putin.

Mr. Putin went home a winner, they say.

Let's consider that notion. Donald went easy on Vladimir, yes. But is that any reason to think he gave anything away?

This is no more worrisome than thinking Neville Chamberlain's soft-glove treatment of Adolph Hitler was a precursor to war and loss in 1937 and '38, a mere 80 years ago.

Remember that?

Unfortunately the British prime minister ended up giving away the Sudetenland in Czechoslovakia to Hitler because the Fuhrer reassured him that's all he really wanted: It should have been German anyway, he was a really nice guy, and Europe would be better off without war, living instead as one big happy family, Adolph said.

He smiled, wiped the cream off his

mustache with a linen napkin, thanked Mr. Chamberlain, and promptly swallowed Poland in a single gulp, finishing his hors d'oeuvres plate before getting down to the main meal.

Trump no doubt knows all that. "As long as we know our history, we will know how to build our future," he intoned in his eloquent address in Warsaw.

Looking to our future, however, Mr. Trump ignored the big bite the Russians have just taken out of the American democratic process.

Instead, he discussed forming an "impenetrable cyber security unit" together with Mr. Putin, tweeting Sunday that the Russian leader "vehemently denied" attacking and manipulating the 2016 American elections.

Putin's denial was good enough for the president. He took the word of the former KGB agent and shook hands.

Mr. Putin smiled, thanked him, agreed to quit bombing women and children in Syria this week, and wiped the cream off his lip with a linen napkin.

Some of Mr. Trump's fellow Republicans didn't get the word, it seems. Sen. Marco Rubio tweeted the following response: "Partnering with Putin on a 'Cyber Security Unit' is akin to partnering with (Syrian dictator Bashar) Assad on a 'Chemical Weapons Unit.'"

Don't worry, Sen. Rubio, the Donald has got this — which is why he's encouraging Mr. Putin to play nice and help stop an assault on "our civilization."

The term seems to mean anybody who isn't Muslim, in Mr. Trump's mind — even

those who kill their political enemies along with reporters they don't like, rather than staging fake wrestling matches with them.

So let's step back for a moment and consider two ideas: One, "our civilization" traditionally has used religion, authoritarian righteousness and expansion as reasons to abuse, enslave and kill countless human beings from Europe and Asia to the Americas. That's not a lefty position, it's just a historic fact.

And two, Donald Trump grew up in moneyed New York. Such people are not rubes. They know which fork to use in high-etiquette settings. They know which wine goes with which course, either at Le Bernardin on Seventh Avenue, or in the state dining room at the White House.

They can also drive a hard bargain.

Since Americans did not drive a hard bargain last week clearly Donald Trump wasn't there, either speaking in Warsaw or visiting with Putin in Hamburg.

But somebody was, somebody who looked like Mr. Trump.

It's increasingly evident the president has hired and trained two doubles, each pasty, each orange, and each capable of jowly pouts. Men scrounged up from the long lunch-hour darkness of strip clubs in Cleveland or somewhere equally anonymous — St. Louis, Kansas City, the butt end of Denver, east L.A.

They take turns traveling for him, they meet with foreign leaders for him, they can't figure out how to shake hands — or not to — for him, and they fail to recognize the presidential limousine parked at the bottom of Air Force One's steps when they

return home to Andrews Air Force Base, for him.

They have to be told to get in the damn car, instead of walking past it with an idiot vacancy that suggests advanced dementia.

A reporter filmed such a scene last week, but it was a brilliant tactical move on Mr. Trump's part, like Muhammad Ali flashing that long left in a phantom jab back, then delivering a devastating right cross while dancing away.

His enemies will underestimate him.

How he plans to follow up the jab is anybody's guess, of course — that's strategy, not tactics. And it's not his strength.

The president's team was extraordinarily well prepared this time around.

For the first time, the language his double used in Warsaw suggested a Churchillian awareness of the stakes, a blood-sweat-and-tears sense of climactic events — an awareness utterly absent in any of the president's earlier actions or words, not to mention in his grab-ass life.

"The fundamental question of our time is whether the West has the will to survive," he thundered from the hilltop of history.

"Do we have the confidence in our values to defend them at any cost? Do we have enough respect for our citizens to protect our borders? Do we have the desire and the courage to preserve our civilization in the face of those who would subvert and destroy it?"

There are two other questions, as well: Exactly what part of our civilization are we preserving? And who, exactly, are those who would subvert and destroy it? ■

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OPINION

Pure science fiction



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In 2014, an estimated 3 million people watched a live stream video of a debate on the internet. Its topic was the origins of the Earth, life and humanity. Two men took to the stage: Ken Ham, the founder of the “Young Earth Creationist” ministry in northern Kentucky, also home to his Creation Museum and theme park; and Bill Nye, the science educator and popular television personality, best known by his fans for his half-hour science series, “Bill Nye, the Science Guy.”

Nye’s “live action science programs” were broadcast for almost two decades on PBS and syndicated to local stations. Think of Nye as the progeny of Mr. Wizard, of “Watch Mr. Wizard.” The popular program taught science to kids on television in the ’50s and ’60s. His audience numbered in the millions and Mr. Wizard science clubs proliferated in the thousands nationwide.

Like Mr. Wizard’s programs, Nye’s science series effectively taught science to kids. His program earned critical acclaim and 23 Emmy nominations.

Nye is a frequent lecturer and often laments to his audiences that science deniers undermine science education in the classroom and impede scientific advancements. Think about the consequences of believing or not believing in climate change science, and he’s got a compelling point.

Surveys report some 40 percent of Americans say they disbelieve fact-based science. It’s worrisome, says Nye, because the alternative “pseudoscience” promoted by religious fundamentalists is “just plain wrong.” He cites the overwhelming evidence supporting a fact-based explanation of how the Earth and life evolved. He uses the sciences

to debunk creationism and intelligent design as “alternative facts.”

Nye says it is imperative to protect the academic rigor of science education taught in public schools. But religious fundamentalists aren’t having it. And the science deniers who wear their skepticism to earn political points are the worst of all. They cynically and shamelessly exploit science denial for their own callow purposes.

Nye’s comments caught Ham’s attention. As a religious fundamentalist, his thinking is profoundly oppositional to that of Nye. His creationist ministry is based on a strict, literal interpretation of the Bible’s Book of Genesis; i.e., God created the Earth in six, 24-hour days, making it about 6,000 years old. Humans appeared fully formed, just as they are today, absent any close encounters of an ancestral kind.

Thus, evolution plays no part in the origins of humans; nor does their full-blown presence on the planet necessitate its accomplishment over a vast swath of geologic time.

Nye’s counters to Ham’s assertions are the product of fact-finding, evidence and scientific consensus. It sets the age of the Earth at about 4.5 billion years and some 60 million years separate the time of man from the time of dinosaurs.

The debate between Ham and Nye did not change the mind of either. The controversy over evolution continues, now embroiling the science of climate change as collateral damage.

“Ham’s insistence that the laws of nature didn’t apply 4,400 years ago, or 6,000 years ago, were “extraordinary and unsettling...” Nye said. He said the

efforts to promulgate the teaching of YEC and creationism in public schools “would erode America’s scientific leadership in the world and undermine the role of science in advancing America’s well-being. If the nation rejects fact-based science, “we are not going to move forward.”

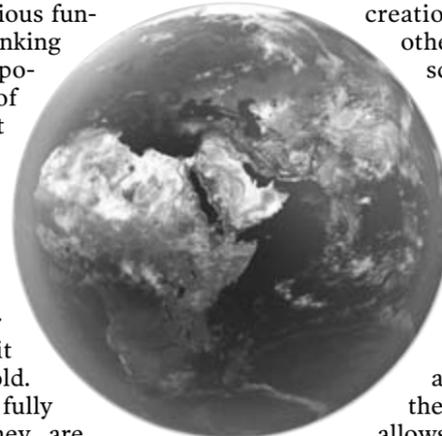
Though the Supreme Court has barred teaching creationism in public schools, by the mid ’90s, “intelligent design” took up the flag and promotes creationist ideas through other means. The anti-science movement is aided by opportunistic politicians who feign righteousness in defense of their cause.

Recently Gov. Rick Scott signed into law HB 989. The Legislature approved the bill by a two-vote margin in the Senate. The new law allows any Florida resident (not just parents of school children) to object to the use of specific instructional materials in the public schools if they fail to provide “a non-inflammatory, objective and balanced viewpoint on issues.”

The National Center for Science Education said, “uh oh” to that. It warned educators and citizens that religious fundamentalists would leverage the meaning of a “balanced viewpoint” to challenge the teaching of evolution and climate change science in public schools. The law opens the door to intelligent design” and “Young Earth Creationism” being taught on par with fact-based science in Florida’s public schools.

But it isn’t science the fundamentalists want taught. It is science fiction. ■

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The neglected Reagan



richLOWRY

Special to Florida Weekly

Does anyone really know Ronald Reagan?

In his new book “The Working Class Republican,” a bracingly revisionist account of the 40th president, Henry Olsen answers “no.” One of the most astute political analysts at work today and a fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center, Olsen argues that Reagan’s politics bear the distinctive stamp of his origins as a New Deal Democrat.

Olsen’s interpretation of what he calls “Reagan’s New Deal conservatism” is open to dispute. But he undoubtedly is correct that contemporary conservative politicians do Reagan — and themselves — a disservice by remembering him as an unremitting ideologue and tactical maximalist.

As late as 1980, Reagan had still been a Democrat longer than he had been a Republican. As he put it, characteristically, in his 1984 acceptance speech, “Did I leave the Democratic Party, or did the leadership of that party leave not just me but millions of patriotic Demo-

crats who believed in the principles and philosophy of that platform?”

With an eye to these sorts of voters throughout his career and with a sensibility attuned to their concerns, Reagan didn’t simply replicate the let-it-all-hang-out, high-octane conservatism of Barry Goldwater.

He never contested the idea that there should be a safety net. In his famous speech promoting Goldwater’s candidacy in 1964, Reagan stipulated, “We’re for a provision that destitution should not follow unemployment by reason of old age, and to that end we have accepted Social Security as a step toward meeting the problem.”

That said, Reagan was hardly a friend of the welfare state. His 1964 speech attacked farm programs, government planning, welfare, the size and power of bureaucracy, and regulations that “have cost us many of our constitutional safeguards.”

He extolled the common man, “the forgotten American,” and his innate dignity. In his first inaugural address, Reagan hailed the “men and women who raise our food, patrol our streets, man our mines and factories, teach our children, keep our homes, and heal us when we’re sick — professionals, industrialists, shopkeepers, clerks, cabbies, and truck drivers.”

He didn’t support tax cuts for the rich so much as tax cuts for everyone, and didn’t obsess over entrepreneurship.

He had a pragmatic cast. In his campaign for governor of California, he noted that “public officials are elected primarily for one purpose — to solve public problems.” Hostile to taxes, he nevertheless raised them as governor of California in response to a budget crisis, and as president as part of a Social Security deal. A free trader, he brushed back the Japanese on trade.

Reagan’s tone and program, coupled with his generational talent as a politician, allowed him to unlock the working-class vote in his races for governor and president. “The Reagan Democrat” has been part of our political vocabulary ever since. It is telling how President Donald Trump — not having learned the purported lessons of Reagan — was able to go and get these voters in a way that Republican politicians bound by Reaganite truisms were not.

Reagan was a constitutional conservative, although an exceptionally gifted one who understood how to meet Americans where they live. In this important book, Henry Olsen reminds us how. ■

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

ALTAIR Gun Club to host crime prevention seminar July 22

ALTAIR Gun Club will host a crime prevention seminar presented by US Law Shield on Saturday, July 22, from 9 a.m. to noon at ALTAIR's Deep Lake Facility, 20201 State Road 29 South in Copeland.

US Law Shield, a Legal Services Company, was founded by attorneys and is dedicated to preserving second amendment rights for all legal gun owners and ensuring legal representation for their members whoever must use a firearm or any lawful weapon.

The US Law Shield seminar will be given by an experienced criminal law attorney and address Florida law regarding the use of deadly force, aspects of criminal law and gun ownership, as well as civil law application to cases involving the use of deadly force. A law enforcement officer will also hold a discussion on interacting with police as a concealed carry license owner and after discharging one's firearm in a self-defense situation.

"The seminar is an educational benefit from US Law Shield. Self-defense and firearms law is a cornerstone of our program," said Shirley Watral, instructor and general manager of ALTAIR Gun Club. "Being an informed citizen is essential to preserving our country's rich heritage and our rights."

The free event is open to the public, however, pre-registration is highly recommended as seats are limited. To reg-



ister, contact ALTAIR Gun Club's general manager at Shirley@ALTAIRtrainingsolutions.com. Include name and contact info for all attendees.



ALTAIR Gun Club offers firearms, self-defense, medical and teambuilding courses for men and women. The facility is equipped with rifle and pistol ranges, private-room housing for up to 30 people, a large training classroom and meal plans for overnight or extended stays. Ten minutes from Interstate 75 on State Road 29, ALTAIR Gun Club is situated on 25 acres in the Florida Everglades.

For more information, visit www.ALTAIRGunClub.com or call 571-3241. ■

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FLORIDA PANTHER UPDATE

The Florida panther, Florida's official state animal, has been listed as a federally endangered species since 1967. As the state grows, suitable habitat for panthers and other wildlife shrinks. Encounters with Florida panthers are relatively rare but do occur, particularly in rural parts of Florida.

If you feel threatened by a panther, or have lost pets or livestock to a panther, you can call the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation's Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-FWCC. ■



DEATHS

2017 total: 16

Note: Total as of July 10

DISCOVERED	PANTHER ID	AGE	SEX	CAUSE	COUNTY
July 3	UCFP311	5 years	M	Vehicle	Collier
June 16	UCFP310	2-3 years	M	Vehicle	Hendry
June 11	UCFP309	NA	NA	Unknown	Collier
May 8	UCFP308	3-4 years	F	Vehicle	Hendry
April 20	UCFP307	NA	NA	Vehicle	Collier
April 13	UCFP306	3 years	M	Vehicle	Polk
April 5	UCFP305	1.5 years	F	Vehicle	Hendry
March 22	FP198	9 years	F	IA*	Lee
March 14	UCFP304	4 years	F	Vehicle	Collier
March 9	UCFP303	2 months	NA	Vehicle	Collier
March 4	UCFP302	2 years	F	Vehicle	Hendry
Feb. 28	UCFP301	2-3 years	M	Vehicle	Desoto
Feb. 27	UCFP300	5-6 years	M	vehicle	Collier
Feb. 23	UCFP299	NA	NA	Unknown	Collier
Jan. 28	K388	4 years	M	IA*	Hendry
Jan. 28	UCFP296	3 months	M	Vehicle	Hendry

BIRTHS

2017 total: 15

Note: Total as of July 10

DATE HANDLED/AGE	MOTHER	FATHER	MALE	FEMALE	LOCATION
June 22/12 days	FP220	Unknown	2	2	Big Cypress National Preserve
June 16/16 days	FP224	Unknown	2	1	North Belle Meade
April 25/8 days	FP199	Unknown	1	2	Big Cypress National Preserve
April 13/10 days	FP247	Unknown	2	1	Private Ranch
Jan. 18/2.5 weeks	FP214	Unknown	2	0	Big Cypress National Preserve

REPORTED PREDATOR DEATHS

2017 total incidents: 31

Note: Total as of July 10

DATE	COUNTY	PREDATOR	PREY	NO.
June 22	Collier	Panther	Turkey, Goat	1,1
June 19	Hendry	Coyote	Sheep	13
May 31	Lee	Panther	Goat	1
May 28	Collier	Panther	Sheep	1
May 24	Hendry	Panther	Calf	1
May 22	Hendry	Panther	Calf	1
May 22	Hendry	Panther	Calf	1
May 21	Hendry	Panther	Calf	1
May 20	Collier	Panther	Goat	1
May 15	Collier	Panther	Goat	1
April 11	Collier	Panther	Goat	2

DATE	COUNTY	PREDATOR	PREY	NO.
April 7	Collier	Panther	Turkey	1
March 20	Collier	Panther	Goat	1
March 19	Polk	Panther	Sheep	1
March 19	Collier	Panther	Pig	2
March 17	Collier	Panther	Goat	2
March 14	Hendry	Coyote	Goat	3
March 12	Collier	Panther	Goat, Goose, Duck	7,2,2
March 3	Collier	Panther	Cat	1
March 1	Collier	Panther	Goat	1
Feb. 27	Collier	Panther	Pig	2
Feb. 17	Collier	Panther	Goat	1

DATE	COUNTY	PREDATOR	PREY	NO.
Feb. 3	Collier	Panther	Alpaca	1
Jan. 25	Collier	Panther	Sheep	1
Jan. 19	Collier	Panther	Goat	2
Jan. 18	Collier	Panther	Calf	1
Jan. 15	Collier	Panther	Goats	2
Jan. 10	Collier	Panther	Calf	1
Jan. 8	Collier	Panther	Goat (injured)	1
Jan. 5	Collier	Panther	Calf	1
Jan. 3	Collier	Panther	Goat	1

* Intraspecific aggression

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THE DIVA DIARIES

Mastering the perfect selfie — it's all about me



While I realize that I'm not 13, I'm still determined to master the summer selfie.

After a great many ridiculous and failed attempts, I've concluded that taking selfies is a talent — like being able to moonwalk or do bird calls. Some folks are just naturals at it while the rest of us fail no matter how hard we practice.

I had a speaking engagement not long ago where I, along with several other speakers, were asked to send in selfies so the organizers could use them in promotional materials. I emailed back, "You mean you want me to send in a professional headshot, right?"

I was told no. "We want a selfie," said the perky organizer. "They're so much more casual and youthful and fun."

They may look fun, but they're no fun to take — especially if you're cursed with short arms like me. Honestly, when I look in the mirror, I don't appear to have crazily disproportionate arms that make me look like a human T-Rex, but when I attempt a selfie, my arms suddenly shrink to around six inches.

For the selfie I was to turn in, I combed through social media for inspiration and found plenty of friends showing off the most flattering summer selfies at the beach, on boats and at barbe-

cues. One friend was skilled enough to take a selfie with a fish he'd just caught. And I have no idea how she did it, but another friend took a selfie that depicted her at the beach in a cute suit, while reading a book. I'm assuming she has an extra arm that she normally keeps hidden under her clothes.

Other friends, with extremely good skin and very small pores, are masters of the close-up selfie, but that one didn't work for me regardless of how many times I ran it through my phone's soft-focus filter. My girlfriend Valerie is traveling the world this summer and her arms are so long that she's able to take a selfie with the entire Red Sea in the background. It's remarkable. But she has nothing on my friend Don. He and his wife and two kids went to England in June and treated Facebook with family selfies, all four of them looking happy and fabulous with major landmarks like Buckingham Palace also in the frame.

Due to my tiny-arm shortcomings, I decided to attempt the selfie where you stand in front of a mirror and snap a reflection of yourself. Seems easy enough — my friend Audre makes it

look effortless and posts one every few days to show us a new outfit or hip hairdo. But I'm awful at this one. I can't figure out how to push the button on the camera while working my posture, sucking in my stomach and smiling at the same time. It's exhausting.

My girlfriend Gloria, another selfie superstar, uses two hands and positions her phone from way above — this makes her beautiful face look even more beautiful — the angle accentuates her cheekbones and gives her a lovely glow. But when I try to use both hands and look upward, the result makes it appear that I'm hanging precariously off a tall building.

Luckily, I still have some time to master the perfect summer selfie. I could continue practicing or I could just give up and go buy an arm extender — otherwise known as a selfie stick — for a mere \$7.99.

I think I'll take the easy route to selfie perfection. ■

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



The Future is in Her **HANDS.**



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“If the intention of this report is honest and earnest, and not to be used as a (political) cudgel, it can be extremely valuable. You have organizations with good expertise on these issues.”

— Rep. Matt Caldwell, a District 79 Republican campaigning for commissioner of agriculture in 2018



CALDWELL

“People need objective information to understand the magnitude of the risk and the problem. The conservancy has been really good about referencing their statements and basing their statements on science.”

— John Cassani, Calusa Waterkeeper



CASSANI

WATER GRADE

From page 1

metals in the water and the biology of given estuaries.

It also offers the most recent look at remaining mangroves, wetlands and the extent of conservation lands in each of the estuaries.

The estuaries include Coastal Venice, Lemon Bay, Greater Charlotte Harbor, Pine Island Sound, the Caloosahatchee, Estero Bay, Wiggins Pass and the Coochatchee, Naples Bay, Rookery Bay and the Ten Thousand Islands.

The Report Card is also an action plan for government officials and for residents whose lives are wedded inevitably to the health of one water system or another.

“We want this to show a way forward,” said Rob Moher, president and CEO of the conservancy, a powerful advocate for conservation and healthy resources.

“We’ve gotten to a point where the goal is simply to prevent further degradation of the resources. We have to do that before we can improve them.”

The report includes specific pointers for policymakers, and for individuals living anywhere in the region.

Both Pine Island Sound and the Ten Thousands Islands received the highest grades for wildlife habitat — the only A+ grades — but they earned a D and C+ respectively for water quality.

Greater Charlotte Harbor received a B – and a C +, but the Caloosahatchee received a D – for both, as did Naples Bay.

“When we use pieces of this report to emphasize a point with policymakers it can resonate, and we hope help them think through the issues,” explained Nicole Johnson, director of environmental policy at the conservancy, based in Naples.

“For example, Naples Bay is doing poorly in the water quality category, and conservation (acreage) in the Naples Bay watershed is only 1 percent of the total.”

One of the report’s recommendations for policymakers is to support programs to acquire more conservation land or water.

“So Collier commissioners thinking about conservation might be aware that 68 percent of the county is in public ownership,” Ms. Johnson added. “But when they learn that only 1 percent of the watershed is conserved — that helps.”

Up and down the coast, water systems have been pushed to the breaking point. While everybody knows that, the 2017



COURTESY PHOTO

Red tide off the coast of Sanibel Island.

Estuaries report card

The Conservancy of Southwest Florida’s Estuaries Report Card summarizes information about the health of the region’s estuaries.

Grades are divided into two categories: water quality and wildlife habitat.

The scores reflect four indicators – extent of wetlands, conservation lands, water quality assessment data and hydrology information. Also included is mangrove coverage and impervious surface cover.

WATERSHED	WATER QUALITY	WILDLIFE HABITAT
Caloosahatchee River	D-	D-
Coastal Venice	C-	C-
Estero Bay	D	B-
Greater Charlotte Harbor	C+	B-
Lemon Bay	D-	B
Naples Bay	D-	D-
Pine Island Sound	D	A+
Rookery Bay	C	B+
Ten Thousand Islands	C+	A+
Wiggins Pass	D-	B

SOURCE: THE CONSERVANCY OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

Report Card helps put it in perspective with solid, verifiable data.

For example, a reader can learn here that “from 2011 to 2016, there were 889 recorded cases of fish kills (sudden deaths of populations) in Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Lee, Manatee, Polk and Sarasota counties, where the watersheds in this report exist.”

Sarasota and Lee counties were at the top with 215 and 179. The causes were algae blooms, low dissolved oxygen concentrations, pollution and red tide events.

Range of reactions

While no one debates such facts, or argues about the number of jobs that depend on tourism in Florida (1.2 million), or the \$11.5 billion impact of the marine industry just in South Florida alone, or the \$9.3 billion impact of the commercial fishing industry, how to react and what to do about are sometimes contentious issues.

Local and regional officials as well as state legislators from coastal districts all received copies of the report, issued both online and in print on June 6. (See the links that accompany this story to look at any or all of the report.)

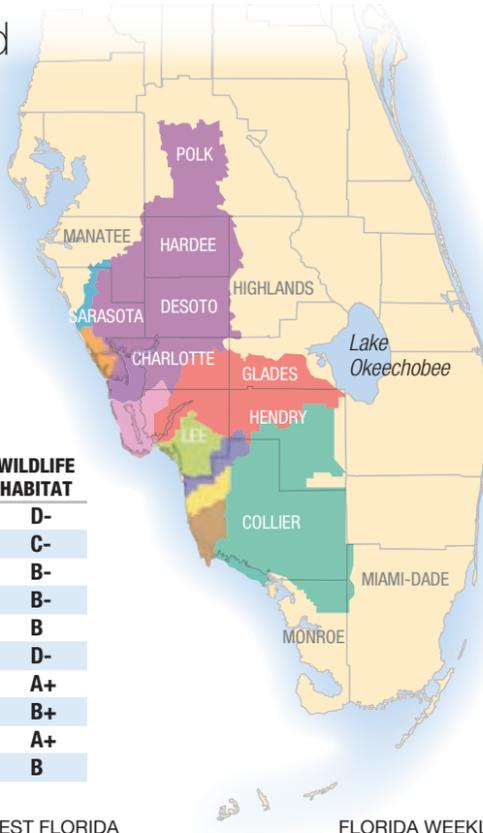
Some have glanced at it so far, they say, and reactions have ranged from ambivalence and cautious praise to admiration.

“If the intention of this report is honest and earnest, and not to be used as a (political) cudgel, it can be extremely valuable. You have organizations with good expertise on these issues,” said Rep. Matt Caldwell, a District 79 Republican who is campaigning for commissioner of agriculture in 2018.

“Policymakers have good partners in some of these (environmental) groups. The conservancy has been at the forefront on the Edison Farms project, for example — it’s a huge water quality benefit.

“I wish we could pay the right price for it but I leave that to the county.”

Edison Farms, owned by an out-of-region lending company, is a 4,000-acre, 6.25-square mile parcel in the Density Reduction/Groundwater Resource area



FLORIDA WEEKLY

(the DRGR) of Estero now offered for sale with a \$49 million price tag. There, developers have sought to build thousands of homes and establish commercial space.

Conservationists, meanwhile, including the conservancy, have fought to permanently remove the land from the development roles. They celebrated a decision by Lee commissioners recently

to offer \$42 million to the owners, the highest of three appraisal prices.

“This is one of the largest opportunities we’ll have from now into future, to make significant savings,” said Commissioner Frank Mann.

“Any water in the southern part of the county finds its way to Estero Bay, and to a large extent much of that water will pass through Edison Farms.

“So we can’t let it get developed,” Mr. Mann said. “We want it never to contribute to the pollution that developed lands all do to a greater or lesser extent. And that property does recharge and filter water through natural processes. By keeping it, we won’t contribute to pollution, and it continues to recharge aquifers.”

There was no word at press time whether the owners, represented by Lee County based Realtors, Land Solutions Inc., would accept the \$42 million offer.

For Charlotte Commissioner Bill Truex, “the report is a great guideline for us to try to review, understand and develop strategies to improve water quality in the harbor. We have the Charlotte Harbor area (B -, C +, Lemon Bay (B, D-), and the Coastal Venice area (C-, C-).

“What we send south can affect Pine Island Sound (D for water). So policymakers have to look at what they can do in their own areas to improve the situation.”

In his opinion, however, “maybe half of them will glance at it — I hope a lot more.”

Collier County Commissioner Penny Taylor said, “It’s appalling to be living on the Gulf of Mexico and see how impaired



COURTESY PHOTO

Naples Bay scored a D- in water quality and wildlife habitat.

“My take is they have done a lot of very good scientific research or gathering of data, so there’s a lot of good information available in this report. I am particularly supportive of continuing to fund monitoring estuaries because of the degradation issue.”

— Kathleen Passidomo, District 28 Republican



PASSIDOMO

“This is one of the largest opportunities we’ll have from now into future, to make significant savings.”

— Commissioner Frank Mann



MANN

the water really is. I think we can do better. I admire and complement the conservancy for taking the initiative.

“I would hope other officials — state officials — use this report,” she said. “We have challenges ourselves, here, in Naples Bay and Rookery Bay and this gives us a road map to identify accurately what the conditions of our water are, and to start addressing them as local officials.”

“I’m optimistic. I don’t think I’m a lone voice at all. Commissioner Burt Saunders was the first in the history of Collier to suggest taxes be used to preserve green space in the 1990s, in a program called Pennies for Paradise. It was rejected but other (programs emerged). He was the first one and he sits next to me up there.

“The sentiment of our people is such that they demand it. So if we listen to our constituents and understand how we use water and where it goes — and I do think we do — we can use this report to help ourselves.”

John Cassani, was named Calusa Waterkeeper early this year. The statewide nonprofit Waterkeeper organization appoints water experts to monitor individual water systems. Mr. Cassani is more optimistic about the reaction of private citizens to the report than he is about public officials.

“This report is helpful by letting the greater public understand what’s happening on a regional scale,” he explained.

“The public starts to add it up. ‘I value boating, or fishing,’ or ‘my property is on the water that’s being degraded as a result of declining water quality.’

“People need objective information to understand the magnitude of the risk and the problem. The conservancy has been really good about referencing their statements and basing their statements on science.”

Septic, for example

One of the key battles many officials are fighting is the resistance of some property owners to convert septic to sewer systems, or even to upgrade septic systems when they don’t appear to be having trouble.

The report even offers advice to individuals about maintaining clean and efficient septic systems.

“At the local level, we’ve been trying to improve water quality across the board,” said Kevin Ruane, mayor of Sanibel Island. The island lies at the mouth of the Caloosahatchee where terrible algae blooms and outbreaks of red tide have occurred in recent years, not only choking the natural biology of the water systems there, but strangling tourism for periods of time — the lifeblood of the island economy.

Some of that is the result of beleaguered and poorly monitored septic systems all the way upriver to Lake Okeechobee, some 80 miles.

“We’ve gone to various municipalities to promote conservation efforts, for example fertilizer rules or best management practices at marinas, or the value of converting from septic to sewer — and if not, then determining what is the best kind of septic,” he said.

A self-described “fiscal conservative” and Republican, Mayor Ruane led a group of mayors to Tallahassee last year to insist legislators find a way to halt unseasonable floods of excess water from being released east and west from



COURTESY PHOTO

Algal bloom in the Caloosahatchee River. The river scored a D- in water quality and wildlife habitat.

Lake Okeechobee by the Army Corps of Engineers, down both the St. Lucie and the Caloosahatchee systems. Those releases play a prominent role in water degradation, both in Charlotte Harbor and in the Indian River Lagoon near Stuart on the east coast.

“I don’t have a problem with septic as long as they work and they’re being maintained,” he said.

But that’s the problem, in the eyes of Commissioner Truex.

“We have to have the intestinal fortitude to stand up and do what’s right on this issue, and conversion from septic to sewers is something a lot of people still don’t think it is necessary. You think if you’re not having a problem you can see, nothing’s wrong with your septic.”

But old systems that cause homeowners no problems often leak dangerously into water systems.

“You can take a beating for proposing we change this,” said Commissioner Truex. “Even the (federal) EPA says on its website that septic works, but they leave out rest of the story — the systems have to be (state-of-the-art), they have to filtrate the solids out and be maintained. Those old systems are not working.”

According to state code, he said, the minimum distance any septic tank should be from the mean, seasonal high-water line (how far up in the soil water comes, on average) is two feet. But the new recommendations say five feet.

“So in Charlotte County we’ll be putting in more monitoring stations for water quality, and that’s a key to improving results.”

Advocacy vs. science, politics

Naples-based State Sen. Kathleen Passidomo, a District 28 Republican (Collier, Hendry and parts of Lee County), agrees.

“My take is they have done a lot of very good scientific research or gathering of data, so there’s a lot of good information available in this report. I am particularly supportive of continuing to fund monitoring estuaries because of the degradation issue.”

One of the weaknesses in the report, according to the conservancy and others, is that water quality data is sometimes unavailable.

Mr. Cassani said the reason is no mystery: Regulation has been diminished during the administration of Gov. Rick Scott.

“I think the GOP in Florida owns this issue now. Enforcement is almost nonexistent in the state and has been since Gov. Scott’s administration took office. What do you expect? If you’re not going to hold jurisdiction, you’ll see water quality decline.

“There is no pressure on jurisdictions to meet water quality standards. The state just isn’t requiring these local jurisdictions to address issues seriously.”

“We’ll focus on bringing more attention and more knowledge to areas that matter — to public health issues such as bacteria, heavy metals and algal toxins in the water,” he said of his organization.

“It’s costly but we will start sampling for this information,” said Mr. Cassani.

Sen. Passidomo said she and other legislators need to separate advocacy from the science.

“I need to be able to look at technical information, the science behind the information, and then come to a conclusion as to how to handle these issues,” she said.

“The conservancy, and rightly so, is an advocacy group. But that’s not the thrust of a legislator — we need to look at the science and make our decisions.”

The science is key at the conservancy — but it goes hand in hand with advocacy, suggested Ms. Johnson.

“Communities understand their problems, for the most part,” she said. But they may disagree about how to go forward, and how much to spend doing it.

Sometimes, the question is unspoken, suggested Mr. Moher: Are we going to pay for the fix, or let our children do it?

Action now is not only less expensive, but more honorable, said Ms. Johnson.

“The report card shows with a snapshot in time how severe problems are, but also it shows what can we do at a personal level, and what can be done at a governmental level.”

A lot, is the answer — laid out neatly under such categories as “Recommendations for people,” and “Recommendations for policymakers.”

“But a report like this could seem a double-edged sword,” Ms. Johnson acknowledged.

“We in Florida are promoting tourism and business, all of these things that use beautiful beaches and idyllic images to promote them, but the report card brings to the forefront another fact: There are major problems.” ■



What’s in our water

See the report

>> www.conservancy.org/reportcard

Recommendations for people:

- >> Dispose of your waste appropriately (don’t put fertilizer, motor oil, paint, grass or pet waste into stormwater drains. Wash the car on the lawn. Compost food waste.
- >> Minimize impact of yard (for example, don’t fertilize before a rain).
- >> Conserve water (especially water used for irrigation).
- >> Maintain septic tank: have it pumped every four to five years; don’t flush wipes; spread out laundry over the week.
- >> Participate in cleanup days.
- >> Convert your yard into a Florida-Friendly Landscape with native plants.
- >> Volunteer to test water quality for a program: Often, too little data exists to know if water bodies are meeting state standards. One program is the Charlotte Harbor Estuaries Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Network.
- >> Contact government representatives (ask them to approve projects that improve estuarine health).
- >> Sign up for a Conservancy Action Alert.
- >> Join the conservancy.
- >> Support local, state and federal policies that protect wetlands.
- >> Support land acquisition efforts.
- >> Go out and enjoy nature.
- >> Share your knowledge.

Recommendations for policymakers:

- >> A. Act to prevent additional loss of wetlands.
- >> B. Support hydrologic restoration (get funding, collaborative partnerships).
- >> C. Restore water quality (on site if possible, support programs that lead to proper runoff.)
- >> D. Update statewide stormwater management standards for new development and redevelopment.
- >> E. Protect critical environmental lands for water and wildlife by buying land.
- >> F. Create planning tools that direct intensification away from sensitive natural resources.
- >> G. Monitor quality consistently and thoroughly all the time; upload data to STORET, an acronym for the EPA database “Storage and Retrieval.” There, information from the water management districts, local government and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection is stored. That data is used to determine if a water body meets water quality standards. Where there is no data, organizations or governments aren’t doing their jobs.

—Source: conservancy.org



“There’s something about them that touches people. If you have them in your life, you are richer because of it.”

— dressage rider Cathy Cottrill

HORSING

From page 1



Hannah Arnone and Nevada

physically,” said *Florida Weekly* Publisher Angela Schivinski, a prize-winning barrel racer describing the three-plus hours per day she spends on and around horses, rather than in a gym or a shopping mall.

If horses are therapeutic magic, there’s a science in the magic, too.

“One person came to us unable to use words — and her first words came on the back of a horse,” recalled Melissa “Missy” Saracino, program director at Naples Therapeutic Riding Center, one of several nonprofit agencies in the region widely recognized as having extraordinary effects on the lives of people with special needs.

“What happened was, the movements of the horse stimulated her spinal cord, which goes to her brain and helped her get the words out.”

Susan Blackwell, a 20-year veteran of the horse business and managing partner of Calusa Equine Veterinary Services, a Lee County-based practice, puts it this way: “Horses inspire independence, an active social lifestyle, positive mental health with stress reduction, a sense of freedom and power, and a close, therapeutic relationship between species that is often times indescribable.”

No wonder there are a lot of us horse lovers.

But horses also demand daily work and sometimes-significant expense (the author of this story owns two). So why bother?

“There’s something about them that touches people. If you have them in your life you are richer because of it,” said dressage rider Cathy Cottrill, our copy editor, who was riding before she could walk, owned her first horse at 12, and never looked back.

Dressage, seemingly the most technical riding discipline, may also be one of the most difficult, requiring obedience, flexibility and balance in precise movements of the horse, signaled almost invisibly by the rider.

There’s gold in them hills

From track racing and rodeoing to such sport disciplines as jumping, barrel racing, dressage, harness racing, trail riding or polo (played mostly on the east coast), the culture of horses is a bottom-line bonanza in the Sunshine State.



SCHIVINSKI



BLACKWELL



COTTRILL



Rachel Widener recently won the Florida High School Rodeo Association Reined Cow Horse Championship.



Jay Holmes of Triple J Ranch in Sarasota.

Horses generate \$6.5 billion per year of gross domestic product in Florida, according to the state Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Racing alone is worth more than baseball’s spring training throughout the state — some \$900 million annually, including 12,000 jobs and \$400 million in wages and benefits, reports Cummings Associates, economic analysts hired by the Florida Thoroughbred Racing Association.

Goods and services for horses statewide, meanwhile, are worth about \$2.2 billion a year, with 245,000 Floridians joined to the industry as owners or providers and workers. That includes 72,000 hands-on jobs and lifestyles ranging from large-animal veterinarians and feed-store owners to farriers, tack and equipment merchants, trainers and stable managers who feed, shelter, exercise and clean horses for owners who lack the space or the time to do it themselves.

In practical terms, horse ownership is relatively expensive, ranging widely from owner to owner depending on level of involvement.

Those who own horses without property may pay several hundred dollars

per month to a stable that keeps, feeds and exercises horses. Feed, basic vaccinations and maintenance may amount to about \$2,000 per year on the low end for those who keep horses, and depending on their need for vet services. For performance horses the cost is much higher.

“We have a lot of horse owners in the area but we aren’t economically bonded by any one type of horse ownership — like Ocala with horse racing or Wellington with upper-level show horses,” said Ms. Blackwell.

“While there are upper-level show horses in this area, most of the equine economy is family ownership. So every dollar spent on horse care is more of a luxury than a necessity.”

Horsewomen, and men, among us

One of the most widely known professionals in the region is Jay Holmes, manager and head trainer at the Triple J Ranch in Sarasota. Nationally celebrated for his ability to polish competitive champions in disciplines across the board, he helps horses and riders from the state and nation meet widely varying goals.

“I make my living on horses. I don’t have anything, monetarily, that a horse hasn’t provided for me. They’re my life,” Mr. Holmes said of his passion for the animal.

“So that horse will get everything I’ve got. When I ride a new horse, I’m looking for that horse to be the best it can ever be.”

He also wants the rider to be the best she can be on the best horse she can mount, as Rachel Widener of Buckingham has discovered.

A home-schooled student who grew up riding, Ms. Widener, 17, won the Florida High School Rodeo Association Reined Cow Horse Championship last month, one of two Lee County riders to be named best in the state (Josie Adkins became the FHSRA State Champion Pole Bender).

Mr. Holmes — and a superb horse — helped her do it, she says.

“I have been really blessed to be able to ride such a nice horse, and to work with Jay Holmes and Robert Smith,” she acknowledged, naming another Florida trainer who moved to Texas.

In the reined cow horse competition, riders must execute a variety of maneuvers: They ride patterns, change leads, spin their mounts, perform sliding stops and change speeds in fast and slow circles. Then riders meet a hard-charging cow coming out of the pen and hold it at one end of the arena, before taking the cow down the fence at a gallop and running the horse in front of it to stop and turn the cow.

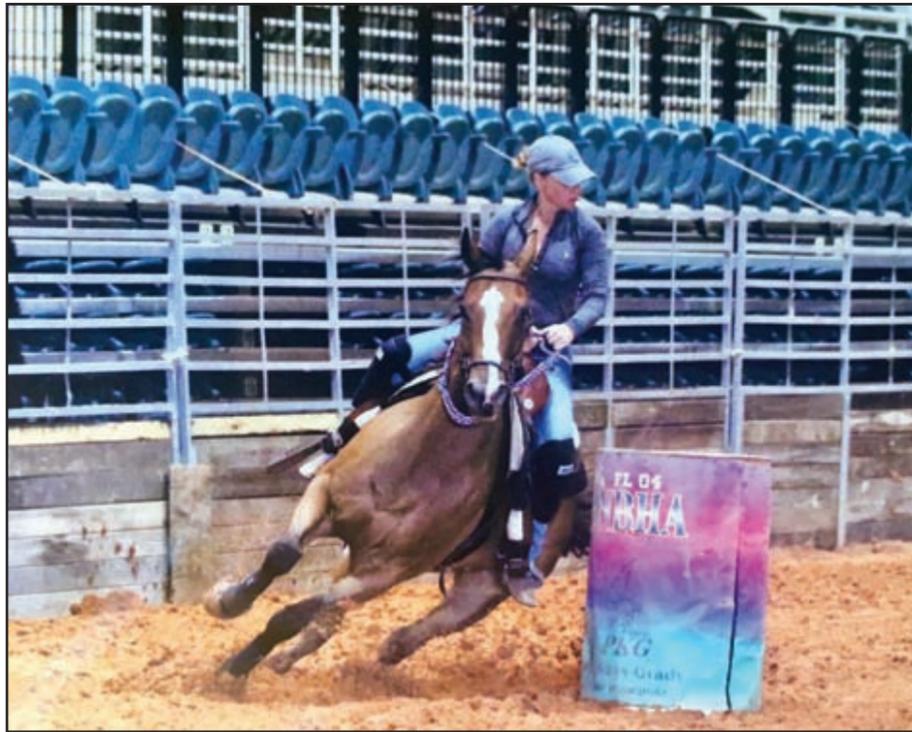
This is the most dangerous part of the event; Ms. Widener describes it as her favorite.

Finally, the rider must bring the cow into the center of the arena, circling it both left and right and demonstrating to judges that the cow wants to do anything horse and rider ask.

“It takes an awful lot of horsemanship, especially to be able to cue the horse to score well in the reining por-



HOLMES



Angela Schivinski and Stix

tion of the event," she said.

"We are very proud of her," said her mother, Cyndi Skates Widener, a seventh-generation Floridian who grew up riding and barrel racing.

The office manager at Sweet Cypress Ranch where feed, hay, livestock supplies, horse trailers and sheds are commodities, she and her husband Eric Widener will take Rachel this month into the Midwest and West, towing trailer and horse all the way.

First, they'll travel to Shawnee, Okla., so their daughter can compete in break-away roping and goat tying in the International Finals Youth Rodeo; then they'll head north to Gillette, Wyo., near the Montana border, to represent Florida in the Reined Cow Horse competition at the National High School Rodeo finals.

Mr. Holmes figures his young protégé will do well — she's a talent, he says. And so is her horse.

He should know. Mr. Holmes was born on a small ranch in Colorado. He began breaking horses at 14 and later spent a decade working the King Ranch in Texas, where he trained custom cutting horses and developed the first program to sell good "using" horses off the King Ranch — horses that can do anything required in ranch or pleasure settings.

He left the King Ranch more than two decades ago for Florida, where he's helped train champion horses and riders in such skills as reining, cutting and roping. He'll even prepare dressage horses, though he has never been a dressage rider.

"I'm riding for a lady training for dressage, now," he said.

"So this lady went out and bought a dressage horse — the horse was trained for it — and it bucked her off. But ... He just needs a little more riding, a little more ... well, he just needs to be an honest citizen."

Mr. Holmes will teach the horse an attentive discipline and respect for a rider who can and will return the favor in training and effort.

Such riders — the best riders — are all students of the horse, said Ms. Schivinski.

"They're humble. They realize there is always something more to learn and listen to. You listen to what others tell you, and you listen to your horse. I weigh 120 pounds and my horse weighs 1,200 pounds. I follow the 'Ask, don't tell,' philosophy."

It shows. Last week Ms. Schivinski won a second division title on her filly, Delightfully First, out-riding 188 other contestants in a National Barrel Racing Association event.

Caring communities

One of the most extraordinary qualities in devoted horse people is the level of care they show, both for their animals and for each other.

"She's our baby. She's on a care schedule. Every five weeks she gets new shoes. She sees a chiropractor and gets acupuncture once a month — for performance, for stress relief before we go to big competitions. She's an athlete," Ms. Schivinski said of Delightfully First, barn name Stix.

Stix was barely broke when her rider found her, and now they're winning competitions all over the state, and north of it.

"The reason she got her forever home (with me) was because of the kindness and intelligence I could see in her eye," she said.

Ms. Schivinski's daughter called her Stix because she was thin and gangly at first.

"But she wanted to be part of the relationship. She wanted to please. You can feel them thinking. You can feel them trying."

People sometimes debate the intelligence of horses, and the question can be answered many ways — not just in scientific studies that suggest they have significant cognitive abilities along with superb eyesight, hearing and a sense of smell more acute than a human's (although not the equal of a dog's).

"It depends on how you define 'intelligence,'" said Ms. Cottrill.

"Sometimes they're so much more aware than any person. My barn has a screen door across the front and a flimsy bar in back. One day my horse (Stella, age 17, Ms. Cottrill's pride and joy for 13 years) was loose in the barn aisle.

"Suddenly she started snorting. And then she flew backwards in a dead panic, stopping just before (she hit) the 1-by-2 bar across the back door."

Ms. Cottrill moved to the place Stella had evacuated, and listened.

"The electrical outlet near where she was standing was sparking inside the box. I never would have known and I couldn't tell until I put my ear against it," she said.

Barn, horse and possibly human saved by a dressage horse named Stella. That's one (very good) definition of intelligence, perhaps.

But the notion that horses are both intelligent and emotionally complex was not widely held 30 years ago except by the most experienced riders, who likely have always known, said Mrs. Widener.

"In that 30 years since I rode, what we have learned about horses in general — and about horsemanship — is that they are such athletes," she said.

"We didn't treat them like athletes 30 years ago. If you had a barrel horse that



Cathy Cottrill and Stella

COURTESY PHOTOS

didn't want to go in the arena or turn the first barrel, nobody understood why."

Now, they receive chiropractic help and other therapies, helping do their jobs.

"They're amazing animals. They want to work, to do the right thing, to do their job, to do it well," said Mrs. Widener. "Now when you see resistance, people are looking for why. Is this horse uncomfortable somewhere? Is his back or top hurting, what's going on? Sometimes the horse is just testing you, sure. But they're pretty honest."

Such caring is deeply sewn into the lives of horse people for each other, too, in any of the disciplines.

When something happens to somebody, horseback angels circle and descend from all over the state and far beyond.

On May 24, 2016, Rachel's fellow competitor, friend and high school barrel racer Jacee Thomas was hit by a train while driving her car across a track without crossing guards on a small road in south Georgia, near her home (she usually competed in Florida). She has brain damage and her recovery has been slow.

"She would have graduated this past June," said Mrs. Widener. "The entire rodeo community has rallied behind her, from junior rodeo organizations to professionals."

That means money, support, ongoing visits, love — and prayers.

"'Pray for Jacee' was even mentioned by contestants during the National

Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas last December," Mrs. Widener noted.

After the Wideners talked to Florida Weekly, she sent a late-day email with a request from Rachel: "Rachel wants to know if you will put 'Pray for Jacee' after any quotes you use."

Done. ■

in the know

Naples Therapeutic Riding Center:

- >> **About:** to improve the lives of children and adults with special needs, and of military veterans with PTSD, brain injuries or amputations.
- >> **Needs:** Volunteers, horses and donations.
- >> **About:** This is a Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship (PATH) Premier Accredited Center collaborating with many other help organizations in the region.
- >> **To learn more:** www.NaplesTherapeuticRidingCenter.org

Special Equestrians, Lee County:

- >> **About:** a PATH International Premier Accredited Center, Special Equestrians offers therapeutic horseback riding lessons and other equine activities to children and adults with disabilities in Lee, Charlotte, Hendry and Glades counties.
- >> **Needs:** Volunteers, horses and donations.
- >> **To learn more:** www.specialequestrians.net



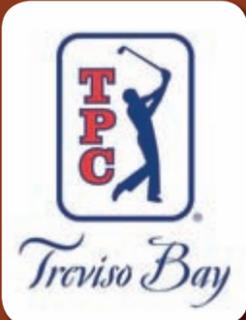
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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY THE EDITORS AT ANDREWS MCMEEL

Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

Oh, Canada

What could go wrong? Canadian company Bad Axe Throwing announced in June it is bringing its unusual entertainment concept to Denver. It's "like darts, but on steroids," says founder Mario Zelaya. Customers provide their

own food and beer and learn how to throw axes at targets. "We'll be bringing along the competitive league side as well. That means that folks in Denver can sign up ... and compete at a global level," Zelaya said.

Smooth eactions

■ Did you say french fries or FRESH fries? Eiram Chanel Amir Dixon, 25, made a point of ordering fresh french fries at a Coon Rapids, Minn., Wendy's drive-thru in May. When the exchange between the dissatisfied Dixon and a Wendy's worker escalated, the employee threw a soda at Dixon, and Dixon fired back by spraying Mace through the drive-thru window. Police charged Dixon with one count of using tear gas

to immobilize. ■ Rachel Borch, 21, of Hope, Maine, was out for a run in June when a raccoon attacked her. Thinking quickly, Borch grabbed the animal and, despite being bitten, ran to a puddle on the trail and held its head underwater until it drowned. (BONUS: Borch's father retrieved the dead raccoon and delivered it for rabies testing in a Taste of the Wild dog food bag.)

Insult to injury

It was dark in the wee hours of June 30 in Jacksonville and Cedric Jelks, 38, probably never saw the loaded gun on the driver's seat of his car as he got in, but he certainly felt it after the gun went off, wounding his manhood.

When police investigating the report of a gunshot wound arrived at the hospital Jelks was taken to, they added possible firearms charges to his pain after discovering Jelks had a prior conviction for cocaine possession.

Why not?

A driver in Zhenjiang, China, took drive-thru service to the next level on June 10 when he carefully pulled his tiny automobile through the front doors of a convenience store, requested a package of potato chips and a bottle of yogurt, paid

for his purchase and reversed through the doors with the cashier's guidance. Surveillance video shows the cashier waving and saluting as the car pulls away. He posited that the driver might have been avoiding getting out of his car in the rain.

Finer points of the law

■ A restaurant owner near Florence, Italy, was ordered to pay 2,000 euros in fines in June after judges in Italy's highest court declared it illegal to keep lobsters on ice in restaurants because it causes them undue suffering. "The suffering caused by detaining the animals while they wait to be cooked cannot be justified," the judges ruled.

■ In a fit of law abidance, a resident of Yorkshire, England, called that country's emergency phone number to report that Queen Elizabeth II was not wearing her seatbelt as she departed the Palace of Westminster on June 21 after delivering her traditional speech at the State Opening of Parliament. Police warned that the 999 system is meant to be used only for emergencies.

Bright ideas

Smoke bombs aren't just for celebrating our nation's birth. Mike Tingley of Grand Blanc Township, Mich., burned his garage to the ground on July 3 when he used smoke bombs to try to rid the structure of a bees' nest. When firefight-

ers from three townships arrived, fireworks stored in the garage were shooting into the sky. "We really weren't going to celebrate the Fourth of July so much," Tingley said. His home, which was not attached to the garage, was not damaged.

No help here

Two unidentified thieves managed to elude capture even after one of them nearly lost his pants during a Wellington car break-in. The man, caught on a security camera June 18 while running back

to a getaway car, tripped over his pants and landed facedown, clearly yelling, "My pants fell!" He managed to make it to the vehicle, and the thieves have yet to be identified.

Oops

Jerry Lynn of Ross, Pa., is continually haunted by the result of a minor mishap 13 years ago while drilling a hole in the wall of his living room. During his proj-

ect, an alarm clock fell through the hole and to the floor behind the wall. Since then, the alarm sounds dutifully at 7:10 p.m. (standard time) every day.

The entrepreneurial spirit

Ventura County California sheriff's officers charged three produce workers with grand theft fruit after they were caught making unauthorized cash sales of avocados from a ripening facility. Joseph Valenzuela, 38, Carlos Chavez,

28, and Rahim Leblanc, 30, liquidated up to \$300,000 worth of off-the-books avocados. "It's a big product here in California," said Sgt. John Franchi. "Everybody loves avocados." ■



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HEALTHY LIVING

NCH enters the teaching hospital realm



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NCH is now a teaching health care system as 12 internal medicine residents and two pharmacy residents joined our team. The founders of a 50-bed frontier hospital more than 62 years ago would be pleased and surprised to learn that their endeavor evolved to a community — and now a teaching — institution. We have had nursing, medical, laboratory, and radiology students as well as residents from Mayo over the years leading up to our current monumental change in culture.

Americans perceive teaching hospitals as the best place to receive care if they are seriously ill or injured. Sixty-seven percent agree that, “teaching hospitals are the backbone of innovation in American medicine.” Sixty-four percent believe that medical schools and teaching hospitals are needed to “train doctors in cutting-edge knowledge that gets spread ... around the country.” Our 12 first year medical and two pharmacy residents are:

■ **Nachelle Aurelien, M.D.** - born at NCH, graduated from Naples High School, and just finished two years of research at Yale, now returns having graduated from USF and American University of Antigua.

■ **Matthew Dorman, D.O.** - born in NYC, married, a cat lover and amateur vet, formerly a park ranger, has a master's in mental health counseling from UCF, and graduated from Nova Southeast.

■ **Alison Fernandes, M.D.** - born in Bahrain, raised in Canada, a former occupational therapist, enjoys travel, and cooking, and graduated from Saba University of Medicine.

■ **Teng Hui, M.D.** - born in China, raised in Winter Park, loves theme parks with thrilling rides and also

SEE NCH, A15 ►

Patch — with no needles — could be your next flu shot

An influenza vaccine can produce robust immune responses and be administered safely with an experimental patch of dissolving microneedles, a National Institutes of Health-funded study led by a team at the Georgia Institute of Technology and Emory University has shown.

The method is an alternative to needle-and-syringe immunization; with further development, it could eliminate the discomfort of an injection as well as the inconvenience and expense of visiting a flu clinic.

“This bandage-strip sized patch of painless and dissolvable needles can transform how we get vaccinated,” said Roderic I. Pettigrew, director of the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering, which funded the study. “A particularly attractive feature is that this vaccination patch could be delivered in the mail and self-administered. In addition, this technology holds promise for delivering other vaccines in the future.”

The researchers received funding through an NIBIB Quantum Grant and from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

The study was led by Nadine Rouphael, M.D., associate professor of medicine and Mark J. Mulligan, M.D., Emory University School of Medicine, in collaboration with Mark R. Prausnitz, Ph.D., Regents Professor and J. Erskine Love Chair in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology. The vaccine patch consists of 100 solid, water-soluble needles that are just long enough to penetrate the skin.

“The skin is an immune surveillance organ,” Mr. Prausnitz said. “It’s our interface with the outside world, so it’s very well equipped to detect a pathogen and mount an immune response against it.”

Adhesive helps the patch grip the skin during the administration of the vaccine, which is encapsulated in the needles and is released as the needle tips dissolve, within minutes. The patch is peeled away and discarded like a used bandage strip.

The researchers enrolled 100 adult participants, dividing them into four random groups: vaccination with microneedle patch given by a health care provider; vaccination with microneedle patch self-administered by the study



participant; vaccination with intramuscular injection given by a health-care provider; and placebo microneedle patch given by a health care provider. The researchers used an inactivated influenza vaccine formulated for the 2014-15 flu season to inoculate participants other than those in the placebo group.

The researchers found that vaccination with the microneedle patches was safe, with no serious related adverse events reported. Some participants developed local skin reactions to the patches, described as faint redness and mild itching that lasted two to three days.

The results also showed that antibody responses generated by the vaccine, as measured through analysis of blood samples, were similar in the groups vaccinated using patches and those receiving intramuscular injection, and these immune responses were still present after six months. More than 70 percent of patch recipients reported they would prefer patch vaccination over injection or intranasal vaccination for future vaccinations.

No significant difference was seen between the doses of vaccine delivered by the health care workers and the volunteers who self-administered the patches, showing that participants were able to correctly self-administer the patch. After vaccination, imaging

of the used patches found that the microneedles had dissolved in the skin, suggesting that the used patches could be safely discarded as non-sharps waste. The vaccines remained potent in the patches without refrigeration for at least one year.

The prospective vaccine technology could offer economic and manufacturing advantages. The manufacturing cost for the patch is expected to be competitive with prefilled syringe costs. The patch, however, can dramatically reduce the cost of vaccination, since self-administration can eliminate the need to have health workers oversee the process. It can be easily packaged for transportation, requires no refrigeration, and is stable.

Mr. Prausnitz is co-founder of a company that is licensing the microneedle patch technology. He is an inventor on licensed patents and has ownership interest in companies developing microneedle products, including Micron Biomedical. These potential conflicts of interest have been disclosed and are overseen by Georgia Institute of Technology and Emory University.

The team plans to conduct further clinical trials to pursue the technology's ultimate availability to patients. They also are working to develop microneedle patches for use with other vaccines, including measles, rubella and polio. ■

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From page 14

technology, conducted breast cancer research, and graduated from St. George's University of Medicine.

■ **Eric Micallef, M.D.** - born in Sarasota, a newlywed, speaks Maltese, enjoys soccer, weight lifting, painting, an FGCU undergrad who graduated from Ross University School of Medicine.

■ **Rachel Miranda, M.D.** - born in NYC, a bilingual Cuban-American, enjoys the outdoors, attended Davidson College, has a Master's in Healthcare Management, and graduated from American University of Antigua.

■ **Ellen Mooney, D.O.** - born in Long Island, NY, was a paramedic and public health worker in NYC, enjoys water sports including kayaking, and has already completed a one-year residency in Maine after graduating from Nova.

■ **Daniel Morales, M.D.** - a Cuban-born fashionista, enjoys beach walks with his wife, and after graduating from Gulf Coast High served in the Navy for four years before enrolling in Barry University and St. George's.

■ **Zakia Rauf, M.D.** - born in Miami, active in the student national medical association and community health fairs, enjoys water sports, reality shows, and

graduated from FIU and Ross University School of Medicine.

■ **Jared Schprechman, M.D.** - following his family to Naples having graduated from the U. of Toledo, enjoys biking, swimming, and basketball, and may practice in Naples upon completion.

■ **Lesly Silva, M.D.** - born and raised in Cuba until age 18, interested in poetry, salsa dancing, and gardening, has a four-year-old, and graduated from U. of Miami and Florida International University.

■ **Julia Skettini, M.D.** - born in Toms River, NJ, interested in genetics, an a cappella singer with a passion for horses, a Duke undergrad and Nova Southeastern School of Medicine graduate.

■ **Kristen McGraw, PharmD.** - born in Ohio, enjoys baking and spending time with her 15-year-old Yorkie, and has an MBA from U. of Kentucky.

■ **Daniel Morley, PharmD.** - lived all over the world including New Zealand, enjoys golf, swimming, and tennis, is engaged to be married, worked in a Mayo Clinic Neuro Lab, and graduated from the University of Florida.

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








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BEHIND THE WHEEL

Nissan goes for a smaller, more distinct Rogue Sport

mylesKORNBLATT

mk@autominded.com



Adding the word “sport” to a car is usually just about enhancing a vehicle with a few more aggressive features. Ford offers new wheels, a different grille and deletes some chrome for this trim level on the Fusion, Edge and Explorer. So does the Honda Ridgeline. Even the luxury-level Range Rover Sport shares its wheelbase and engines with the standard Range Rover. So it could be easy to dismiss the Nissan Rogue Sport as just a trim level, when in fact, it’s a separate and distinct vehicle.

Despite possible confusion over this new crossover’s individuality, it will not likely be ignored. Buyers are now used to “sport” vehicles as a premium package, but the Rogue Sport starts out at \$3,000 less than the standard Rogue. In fact, it seems like the less expensive model is out to steal customers who are solely shopping on sticker price, but there’s much more to the situation.

Nissan established two different crossover names on the international market over a decade ago, utilizing one platform. The X-Trail was boxy enough to look truck-based (but it wasn’t,) and the smaller Qashqai became popular in Europe for providing some sleek lines



in a compact size. As crossover tastes began to unite under car-like designs, so did these two model lines. By 2014, the two established names merged similar stylings into big/little sibling alliance.

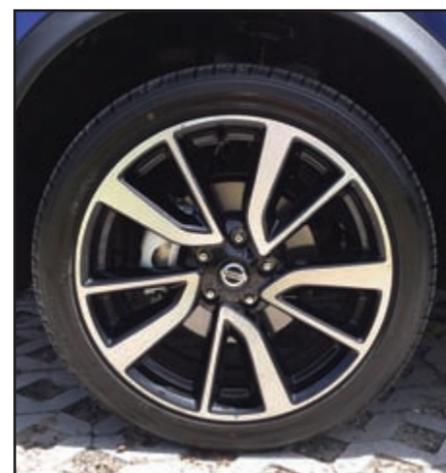
We didn’t see much of this in the U.S. because the latest Nissan Rogue is a version of the larger X-Trail, but the Qashqai never made it to our shores — until now.

The DNA shared between the Rogue

sporty grip and small horn cap reminiscent of a BMW. The base model starts at \$22,380, and comes equipped with all the popular features — power windows, power locks, backup camera and keyless entry/ignition. But these are also found in a nearly identical layout on the redesigned 2017 Rogue.

The real difference between these two siblings starts behind the front seats. Compared to its big bro, the Rogue Sport’s wheelbase is a few inches smaller and over a foot shorter in total length. That makes legroom a little tighter in the back seat and not enough space for an optional third row.

There’s more distinction to the Rogue Sport out on the road. The 2.0-liter motor makes 140 horsepower, which is 30 less



and Rogue Sport is obvious. Similarities in the headlight designs, creased hood lines, and window profiles sometimes make the two indistinguishable to a casual consumer. This is likely why Nissan didn’t give the Rogue Sport a distinct name. After all, since we were never introduced to such exotic labels as the X-Trail and Qashqai, if Nissan tried that division on us now, we’d probably accuse them of making a mountain out of a molehill.

But the Rogue Sport’s design does live up to the “sport” expectations of buyers by forgoing much of the chrome details of its larger brother, giving it an overall sleeker appearance. And when looking at Nissan’s total lineup, it’s clear this one is serving as a midpoint point between the somewhat polarizing styling of the smaller Juke and their more conventional larger crossovers/SUVs.

Inside, the Rogue Sport carries Nissan’s new style steering wheel that has a

than the big Rogue’s standard 2.5-liter. Those extra ponies are missed under hard acceleration, but this is the case with many value-priced small crossovers.

Instead, the steering and suspension are really where this one earns the sport name. It feels a bit more responsive than its bigger bro and many of its competitors. This doesn’t compare to a true sport model like the Nissan 370Z, but it can be fun driving around town.

Like any good crossover, the Rogue Sport comes with plenty of option packages — everything from all-wheel drive to radar-based intelligent cruise control. But these will add to the weight and/or the price. So choose features carefully.

Nissan feels that there’s now enough room in the USA for the X-Trail and Qashqai to both fit under the Rogue name. And the best distinction of the Rogue Sport is when its role is as the svelte and affordable little brother. ■

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Our hands-down favorite project every summer at *Florida Weekly* is the Pet Lovers special edition that features — what else? — pictures from you, our readers, of the furry, slithery, slobbery, whiskered, feathered, hooved, amphibious or otherwise non-human companions that help make your lives complete.

Grab your smartphone or camera and click away. Then email your favorite shot (one entry per person, please) to pets@floridaweekly.com. Be sure to tell us your full name and phone number, the name of your pet(s) and anything else you think we might want to know about your animal friend(s).

Our pet-friendly staff will review the pictures we receive and choose our favorite few dozen for publication in our July 27 edition.

We'll also pick three top pets whose owners will receive gift certificates (\$250 for first place, \$100 each for second and third) to a pet supply store.

Deadline for email submissions of high-resolution jpgs (300 dpi) is 11:59 p.m. Sunday, July 16. But please don't

wait; we want to start admiring, laughing at and loving your pets as much as you do. ■



BETTY WELLS / FLORIDA WEEKLY
Golden retriever Maddie Wells, 9, depends on her "baba" when there are storms. Or when she's just worried about something.

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PET TALES

Kitty come home

BY KIM CAMPBELL THORNTON

Andrews McMeel Syndication

Anyone who has lived with them knows that cats are ninjas when it comes to slipping unnoticed out of doors and then hiding successfully from anyone searching for them. These little predators who live in our homes are hard-wired to remain hidden, and living a soft indoor life doesn't dull their instincts. Trying to find a lost cat can be like searching for a specific grain of sand on the beach.

The first rule of success is knowing how to look. Cheryl M. Melton of Sallisaw, Okla., vice president and western area director for Forever Friends Humane Society, became an accidental expert in 2013 after a family adopted a cat from her rescue group. The same night they took him home, he slipped out the door and disappeared.

"I was determined to find Thomas," she says. "This was the jumping-off point for me in finding lost cats."

Thomas was finally recovered. Since then, Melton has helped owners find other missing meowers.

Even though you can't see them, "lost" cats typically stick close to home. They may take refuge in bushes or a shed and hunker down for about 24 hours. They use their senses to gather information and won't move until they feel safe. Then they will begin to search for food, water, shelter and, sometimes, other cats. If you have a neighbor who is



Cats who become lost outside their home area — in the event of a car accident, for instance — usually stay close to that area.

known for feeding cats, check with her first, Melton advises.

"I have found that cats do not usually go further than 200 yards from the point of exit," she says. "They don't go in a straight line, and they don't stick to roads like dogs do. They tend to slowly work their way around, and it seems like they always work their way forward. The cats I have found have been very close to home, not more than a half mile at most."

Look for your cat at dawn or dusk. Cats are crepuscular, meaning those are

the times of day they are most active. They like to hunt when it's still cool or when it's dark out.

Put up flyers. They are the number-one way pets are returned to owners, Melton says. Put a large color photo of your cat on the flyer, topped with the words "Missing!" and "Reward!" At the bottom, add other details, including contact information. Post flyers on street corners up to a half-mile from your home. Place them at eye level so the driver of a car can see them.

"Put one on your door for your mailman to see, and make sure flyers are distributed to neighbors, pet stores, feed stores, shelters and online," Melton says.

Because at the time she didn't know how to look, it took Melton a month to track down Thomas.

"Once I learned more about staying close to the point of exit, that made all the difference, and we got him within the week," she says.

One thing Melton learned from the search for Thomas was that no matter how loving and friendly a cat is, being lost is a scary situation for him. Even though your cat knows you, he may be too afraid to come when you call. Be prepared to set and monitor a humane trap once you locate your cat.

"Don't give up hope," Melton says. "Your kitty could be found in a day or a month or a year. It all depends on the area, the depth of the search and, of course, the cat." ■

Pets of the Week



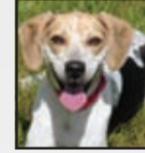
>> **Becky** is an approximately 4-month-old female black domestic short-hair. She is beautiful, loves to play, and likes to be petted. She is friendly, sweet, and affectionate. Becky is an adorable kitten who would love to be your best friend forever.



>> **Casper** is an approximately 1-year-old male white domestic short-hair. He is as sweet as he is handsome. He is playful, affectionate, and loving.

Casper has tested positive for feline immunodeficiency virus that can affect his immune system over a period of time. It only affects cats and is not easily passed between cats. FIV cats most often live long, healthy, and relatively normal lives with no symptoms at all.

>> **Harlie** is an approximately 2-year-old female white, tan and black hound mix. She weighs about 40 pounds and is quiet, and gentle. She knows her basics, loves to play ball and has lots of energy. She is lovely, affectionate, and likes treats. She likes kids, other dogs, and cats.



To adopt or foster a pet

This week's pets are from **Collier County Domestic Animal Services**. Adoption fees for cats range from \$20 to \$60 and dogs from \$30 to \$80. Fees include sterilization surgery, vaccinations, pet license, ID microchip and a bag of food. Visit DAS at 7610 Davis Blvd. from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Saturday. Adoptable dogs and cats from DAS are also at For Footed Friends in Marquesa Plaza on Livingston Road from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. the first Saturday of every month. For more information, call 252-7387 or visit www.colliergov.net/pets.

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"I would say 50 percent of our business is done in six to eight weeks of the year."

— Chris Frizzell, general manager of Jungle Golf in Fort Myers

Mini golf is big business

BY GLENN MILLER

Florida Weekly Correspondent

"How long will this newest fad last?"

— Popular Science Monthly, November 1930, on miniature golf

Now, 87 years after that question was posed, miniature golf courses still dot the American landscape with new ones popping up around Florida.

Tropical Breeze Fun Park in Cape Coral opened in April and claims the world's longest mini-golf hole

SEE GOLF, A21 ►

Florida putt-putt courses are popular attractions as 'clean family fun'

COURTESY PHOTO
Fish Cove Adventure
Golf in Port Charlotte
has water views.

Collier selects new growth management director

The Collier County Board of County Commissioners has hired a former secretary of the Florida Department of Community Affairs, Thaddeus Cohen, as the director of the Growth Management Department.

"His extensive local government experience, leadership skills and education make him an ideal candidate for this position," said Collier County Manager Leo Ochs. "I will rely on Thaddeus to lead our agency's efforts to develop and implement coordinated planning, regulation, construction and maintenance programs that will enhance the

county's effectiveness and accountability."

Under the county manager's direction, Mr. Cohen will oversee a department that has 10 operating divisions with an annual operating budget of more than \$119 million and a full-time workforce of more than 490 employees. He will be charged with effectively managing the county's assets, making the operations more efficient and delivering superior customer service.

Mr. Cohen has an extensive background in urban planning, community development, infrastructure

design and construction management. Most recently, he served as the planning director and the community redevelopment agency director for the city of Key West. Prior to that, he was assistant city manager and Community Redevelopment Agency director for the city of Pensacola. From 2004 to 2007, he served as the secretary of the Florida Department of Community Affairs. In addition, he had his own architecture firm for 20 years.

Mr. Cohen's relationship with Key West City Manager Jim Scholl was reportedly strained and the two

agreed in March that Mr. Cohen would end his employment with the city.

A graduate of Kent State University with a bachelor of architecture degree, Mr. Cohen has served as chair of the Florida Community Trust, chair of the Council for Black Economic Broward County, chair of the Palm Beach County Affordable Housing Commission, and as a board member for 1000 Friends of Florida, Florida Housing Finance Corp. and Florida's Broward Alliance.

His annual salary will be \$145,000. ■

MONEY & INVESTING

Heed red flags about Blue Apron before buying stock

ericBRETAN

estaterick@gmail.com



I don't really get the whole meal kit delivery popularity sweeping across the country. If you have never heard of these services, it is where a company sends you a package full of ingredients along with a recipe to prepare the meal. You have to prep all of the ingredients and do the cooking along with paying a premium price for the food. I guess my thought is that if I am going to pay \$10 for a meal, I don't really want to spend 20 minutes dicing onions and praying that my piece of salmon is cooked medium rare.

Blue Apron is clearly the dominant player. The company went public earlier last month. With over \$800 million in sales and explosive growth, the company should have been a Wall Street favorite. Instead, the company has faced significant headwinds over the last few weeks. Is this a time to jump into the stock? What may the future hold for Blue Apron?

A month before Blue Apron's IPO, the stock was expected to make a huge splash when it went public. Then, just a few days prior to the offering, a bombshell was dropped on the food industry. Amazon announced that it was buying Whole Foods. Analysts proclaimed that the online company was going to revolutionize the way Americans buy food. One of the casualties of this announce-



ment was Blue Apron's valuation. Prior to the announcement, the company was expected to be priced at \$15 to \$17 per share. Post announcement, the company's stock was priced at \$10 to \$11 and APRN went public at the bottom of that range at \$10 per share.

Even at this lower valuation, investors were not clamoring for APRN. On one hand, the company was experiencing rapid growth. In the last two years, revenue grew by a factor of 10 from \$78 million to \$800 million. In addition, despite being the largest meal delivery company, it still has a very small market share with

only about 1 percent of the \$800 billion grocery market. There is lots of opportunity to grow.

However, there are many red flags with regard to APRN's financials. First, the company is losing money. In itself, this is fairly typical with newly formed, fast-growing public companies, so is not a reason in itself not to invest in the stock. Amazon was unprofitable for years.

But the reasons for APRN's lack of profitability are cause for some concern. The company is spending huge amounts of money to attract new customers, as existing customers are not returning. The

company spends around \$94 to attract each new paying customer and each of these people spends around \$57 worth of food each quarter. This would be fine if customers remained loyal to the company. But just 20 percent of customers still buy from the company a year after ordering their first meal. This means that the majority of APRN's customers are not yet profitable after deducting food, shipping, marketing and administrative costs.

Equally as concerning, the competitive landscape for Blue Apron will make it harder for the company to grow in the future. Fast-casual restaurants are promoting more healthy options and they do all of the prep work for you at basically the same price as Blue Apron. In addition, grocery stores, in an effort to combat Walmart, are offering more gourmet ready-made food products at low prices. And with Amazon entering the grocery business via Whole Foods, many analysts expect the combined company to beat Blue Apron in the meal delivery business.

All of these factors have weighed heavily on APRN. The stock now trades below its \$10 offering price at around \$9. Even at this level, I would be very wary of this stock until the company can show meal kits are not just a fad and they have a strategy to grow profitable customers. ■

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

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Exhibit space available for chamber business expo

The Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce holds its Connections Business Expo 2017 from 2-6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 22, at the Naples Grande Beach Resort.

Exhibit spaces are now available: \$750 (\$850 after July 15) for ballroom exhibits, \$1,000 (\$1,100 after July 15) for foyer exhibits for chamber members, with the winner of the Best Booth contest receiving free registration for the 2018 expo.

Non-members can purchase ballroom exhibit space for \$1,100.

All exhibitors are invited to a workshop from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, July 20, for those who are signed up as expo exhibitors. "The Power of Connections: Maximizing Your Business Expo Participation and ROI" will be presented by Don Chiodo and Madeline Young in the Leadership Collier Foundation community room at chamber headquarters, 2390 Tamiami Trail N. Cost is \$25 in advance, \$50 at the door.

Business expo sponsorship opportunities are also available now. For \$2,500, silver-level sponsors receive exposure in all marketing materials and programs, digital display advertising at the expo, preferred booth location with electricity and WIFI provided, and 10 guest admissions. Sponsors to date include: *Naples Daily News*, AVmedia Inc., Collier Sea-

wall & Dock, First Florida Integrity Bank and Waste Management of Florida.

Admission for expo guests will be \$15 for chamber members in advance, \$25 for members and others at the door. Admission fee includes event admission, heavy hors d'oeuvres and valet parking. Cash bar.

For more information, contact Jackie Woodring at 403-2909 or jackie@napleschamber.org.

Apply now for Blue Chip Business Award

The 23rd annual Southwest Florida Blue Chip Community Business Award

is coordinated and sponsored by BB&T-Oswald Trippe and Company and BB&T Bank.

Applications are now open to successful for-profit companies with their principal office located in Charlotte, Collier, or Lee County that have been in continuous operation for at least three years under the same ownership and have five to 400 payroll employees. Applications are due by Sept. 6. An independent panel of judges will pick the winning entry. Businesses can nominate themselves or be nominated by a third party. The award ceremony will take place on Thursday, Nov. 2, at a new location, Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort and Spa.

To submit an application, contact Stacey Mercado at 433-7189 or SMercado@BBandT.com. ■

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GOLF

From page 19

— 264 feet. To put that in perspective, it's more than 50 yards farther from tee to hole than the distance on a football field from the goal line to the 50-yard line.

The business model that made miniature golf a success between the world wars is likely what keeps it going in 2017, 90 years after an entrepreneur named Garnet Carter in 1927 built the first course, which was in Lookout Mountain, Tenn.

"What I like is what I liked 20 years ago," said Bob Trimarchi, one of Tropical Breeze's two owners, along with David Lanaux. "I know it sounds corny but it's putting a smile on people's faces. It's good, clean family fun."

The game's health also appears strong on Florida's east coast, where other new courses have been built in recent years.

The South Florida Science Center and Aquarium opened its 18-hole miniature golf course in November. It was designed by two men with names very familiar in the world of bigger golf courses — Jim Fazio and Gary Nicklaus. Mr. Fazio is a well-known golf course architect with his own eponymous company — Jim Fazio Golf Designs. Mr. Nicklaus is the son of legendary golfer Jack Nicklaus and also played on the pro tour.

Lew Crampton, the science center's president and CEO, said both men donated their services to design the course, which cost about \$250,000 to build.

It's not a typical miniature golf course. And not just because it doesn't have either a clown's mouth or windmill.

"It is set within a butterfly garden," Mr. Crampton said.

And it has a science name — the Conservation Course. It's designed to be educational as well as fun. Each hole is named for a plant or animal in the Everglades and each hole has a sign with educational information on it. Hole names include the Great Horned Owl and the American Crocodile.

So, far, according to Mr. Crampton, the miniature golf course has generated \$55,000 in revenue since its opening last fall. The course's purpose is two-fold for players: Have fun and teach science.

Only three years before the Conservation Course opened, Lighthouse Cove opened in Jupiter. The facility has recently added new props or obstacles to its course as well as adding a 6,000-gallon saltwater tank. Its on-site restaurant, the Burger Shack, added an open-air pavilion with seating for 90 guests.

As with many if not all Florida miniature golf courses, certain months are busier than others at Lighthouse Cove.

"We're very busy 10 months," said Tim Glita, Lighthouse's general manager.

The only two slow months, he said, are August and September. At the peak time of the year, Mr. Glita estimates the facility averages between 500 and 600 rounds a day. In the two slow months, it's down to 100-to-200 rounds a day.

As a sign of the game's popularity, Lighthouse opened a second location last year in Cocoa Beach. Mr. Glita said Lighthouse owners are looking at a third location. A site hasn't been selected yet.

What attracted families in 1930 when Herbert Hoover was president and the Depression was just deepening its hold on America after the 1929 stock market crash is also the case now, according to miniature golf operators.

Heather Bergeron, manager of Fish Cove Adventure Golf in Port Charlotte, echoed Mr. Trimarchi's sentiments, ones that operators may have used nearly nine decades ago.

"We sell fun," Ms. Bergeron told *Florida Weekly* in a telephone conversation.

The conversation was then interrupted.

"Can you hold on?" Ms. Bergeron



CAPEHART PHOTOGRAPHY PHOTO

A butterfly garden is home for the South Florida Science Center and Aquarium course.

asked *Florida Weekly*. "I have a customer."

She dealt with her customer and could be heard saying, "You guys have fun."

Fish Cove offers two 18-hole courses, plenty of room for fun. When she returned to the phone call, Ms. Bergeron said, "That's what I always tell them."

Chris Frizzell, general manager of Jungle Golf in Fort Myers, believes that part of the game's allure is that it demands attention. That's attention to the challenge of making shots but also to friends and families who play together, making it a social activity instead of social media.

"Your phone doesn't help," said Mr. Frizzell, who has been at Jungle Golf for 10 years. "People actually have to talk together."

So much has changed since Jungle Golf opened in 1978, let alone since that 1930 Popular Science article with this headline: "Why Midget Golf Swept Country."

Mr. Frizzell said his facility has steady growth of between 3 and 10 percent a year.

Of course, now that it's summer, not as many customers play miniature golf in Florida.

Not surprisingly, a great bulk of the business in Florida at these courses comes when the weather isn't scorching hot and the danger of lightning strikes is not omnipresent.

"I would say 50 percent of our business is done in six to eight weeks of the year," Mr. Frizzell said.

That would be around Christmas and New Year's and around Easter, according to the Jungle Golf general manager.

Although tourists would seem to be a natural part of the clientele in miniature golf, Mr. Trimarchi said Tropical Breeze wasn't designed for tourists and snowbirds.

"We opened this for residents of Cape Coral and the Cape Coral area," Mr. Trimarchi said.

Mr. Trimarchi said he has embraced the Disney approach to customer service, aiming to keep the facility spotless and treat each customer as he or she wants to be treated.

The name Tropical is also enhanced, he said, by the landscaping that includes various types of palm trees that include canary date, coconut, foxtail and royal palm.

The Southwest Florida miniature golf course landscape also includes a facility a short drive from Tropical Breeze Fun Park's location on Santa Barbara Boulevard. Mike Greenwell's Bat-A-Ball & Family Fun Park on Pine Island Road, a Cape Coral entertainment fixture since 1992, includes a 19-hole miniature golf course.

Just like with regulation golf, miniature golf courses demand attention from management. There are trees and bushes and grass that need to be trimmed or cut, just like on the big courses. Rain and wind can damage holes over night so when workers arrive in the morning there are often new tasks to tackle.

"You have to think of it as a large animal," Mr. Frizzell said. "A horse or an elephant."



COURTESY PHOTO

Tropical Breeze Fun Park in Cape Coral just recently opened on Santa Barbara south of Hancock Bridge Parkway.



Russ, Tyler, Joyce and Lily Evans of Lake Worth play the Conservation Course at the South Florida Science Center and Aquarium in West Palm Beach.

Horses and elephants need food and water. Miniature golf courses need attention.

"You have to take care of it like a living thing," Mr. Frizzell said.

The Florida landscape is dotted with other miniature golf courses such as Castle Golf in Fort Myers, Coral Cay in Naples, Golf Safari in Bonita Springs and Adventure Mini Golf in Lake Worth.

So, 87 years after Popular Science Monthly asked the about the future of America's "newest fad" it doesn't appear to be going away.

What did the magazine predict in 1930 of its future?

"Showmanship and mechanical art will decide the fate of America's newest big industry — miniature golf," Popular Science Magazine wrote. ■

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NETWORKING

Above Board Chamber of Commerce at the Hilton Naples



1. Front: Carol Obermeier, Scott Sherman and Florice Hodges. Back: Jeanne Sweeney, Richard LeBer and Sue Huff
2. JoAnn Lawrence, Michael Abruzzese and Ashley Porraro
3. Trish Leonard, Barbara Melvin and Daniel Melvin
4. Brian Hunter and Christian Gehring
5. Carol Obermeier and Scott Sherman
6. Thomas Donahue, Tom Myroniuk, Niccole Howard and Karole Davis
7. Sue Huff and Jeanne Sweeney



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NETWORKING

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1. The whole BRAVO staff
 2. CEO Brian O'Malley, right, with staff wearing T-shirts that say it all.
 3. District partner Ryan Blackburn, Regional

Vice President Mike Wozniak, General Manager Erick Moses, COO Connie Collins, Executive Chef Joseph Richert, CEO Brian O'Malley and district partner Justin Stratford

COURTESY PHOTOS

Cooper's Hawk hosts Gulf Coast PRSA members and guests



1. Soni Dimond and Pamela Fultz
 2. Clay Cone and Russell Tuff
 3. Cindee Mandos, Judy Bricker and Ava Lennane
 4. Gary Meo and Robin Lankton

Ava Lennane, Denyse Mesnik and Judy Bricker



COURTESY PHOTOS

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"You folks have just finished a remodeling project for us at our condo. We would like to point out this is the third time we have used your services. During all three of these projects, Matt, the workers and staff were very helpful and responsive. And the workmanship has been outstanding. All of our neighbors have raved about how beautiful the remodeling has been. We can definitely attest to your claim about the WOW factor!"

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| B1

State session ends on positive note for Realtors

NAPLES AREA BOARD OF REALTORS

The 2017 Legislative Session was a great triumph for homeowners across Florida as every item on the Florida Realtors agenda passed. As noted by Danielle Scoggins, Senior Public Policy Representative with Florida Realtors, the strength of the NABOR Realtors Political Action Committee contributions as well as NABOR advocacy and outreach efforts helped the state agency gain the support it needed on many issues that impact homeownership in Florida.

Ms. Scoggins spoke to real estate professionals at the annual NABOR Meet Your Legislators panel discussion at Quail Creek Country Club on June 22.

“Two of these guests are the sponsors of the Estoppel Bill that passed,” Ms. Scoggins said as she motioned to the three politicians seated at the front of the room. Applause broke out as she thanked Sen. Kathleen Passidomo, who is serving her first term after six years in the house, and freshmen Reps. Byron Donalds (District 80) and Bob Rommel (District 106).

“When the first budgets came out, the House had zero set aside for Southwest Florida, while the Senate had quite a bit,” Sen. Passidomo said. This financial imbalance prompted Reps. Donalds and Rommel to band together and create a list of potential bills that directly addressed issues affecting Southwest Florida that were on the Senate’s list.

One of those items was Senate Bill 398, which went into effect July 1. As proposed by Rep. Donalds, the bill limits the amount sellers have to pay for an estoppel certificate (a document that informs a buyer if the seller is current with dues and assessments). With Sen. Passidomo’s sponsorship of the bill at the senate level, it passed and effectively “caps estoppel certificate fees at \$250 for unit owners who are current in their assessments. Associations may charge an additional \$100 for expedited estoppel certificates (delivered within three business days) and another \$150 to owners who are delinquent in their assessments.”

Another achievement during the session will benefit business owners in Florida greatly. While not the first time

SEE NAR, B7 ►



COURTESY PHOTOS

House Hunting

4021 Gulf Shore Blvd. N.

Exquisitely updated in a coastal contemporary design, this 12th-floor residence in The Brittany showcases the turquoise waters of the Gulf of Mexico. There are three bedrooms, a den and three baths in approximately 2,500 square feet of living area as well as lanais with both western and eastern exposure. Built in 1995, The Brittany is an elegant building with luxury amenities including a health club, guest suites, social rooms, library, one of the largest pools on the beach and two tennis courts. Pets are welcomed.

Cheryl Turner of John R. Wood Properties has the listing for \$2,695,000, unfurnished. For more information or to arrange a showing, call 250-3311, email Cheryl@cherylturner.com or visit cherylturner.com. ■



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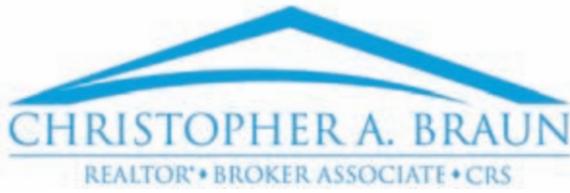
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Lipman executive to serve on regional water management board

Florida Gov. Rick Scott recently appointed Jaime Weisinger of Lipman Family Farms to the governing board of the South Florida Water Management District.

Mr. Weisinger will represent district seven — which includes Collier, Lee, Charlotte, Hendry, Highlands, Glades, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola and Polk counties — with a focus on the Southwest Florida area.

The director of community and government relations for Lipman, Mr. Weisinger will serve a four-year term on the board, replacing Mitchel Hutchcraft of King Ranch.

Lipman Family Farms is headquartered in Collier County, with farm and facility locations in almost every county within the SFWMD operating district.

“It is an honor to be appointed to the governing board of the South Florida Water Management District,” said Mr. Weisinger. “I intend to do everything I can to fulfill the governor’s goal of being a good steward of South Florida’s water systems so that Floridians can have a safe and abundant supply of clean water for generations to come.”

A lifelong resident of South Florida, Mr. Weisinger lives in Fort Myers. He received his bachelor’s degree from

Boston University.

Based in Immokalee, Lipman is the largest open field tomato grower in North America, providing year-round through a network of research and development, farming, processing and repacking. Farms in Florida, South Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, California and Mexico — totaling tens of thousands of acres — allow Lipman to grow and ship produce 365 days a year. For more information, see www.LipmanProduce.com. ■



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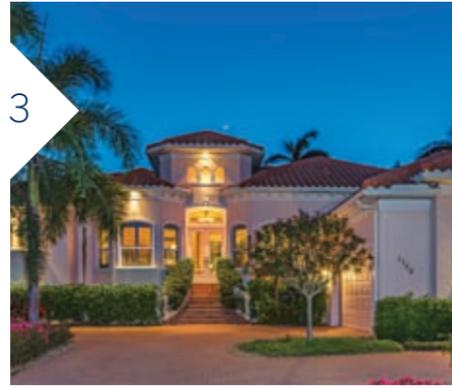
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Ryan Nordyke 239.776.9390
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Web ID 217026632 \$4,970,730



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Web ID 217011150 \$2,375,000



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Web ID CRAY080416IHE \$6,495,000



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Sandra McCarthy-Meeks 239.287.7921
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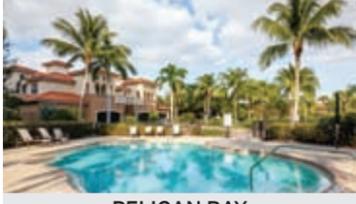
PARK SHORE
Gulfside #103
Dave/Ann Renner 239.784.5552
Web ID 217011083 \$734,000



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Marbella #2101/2102
Gilman/Hamilton/Briscoe 239.213.7463
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Cannes #4-201
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Web ID 216065315 \$1,695,000



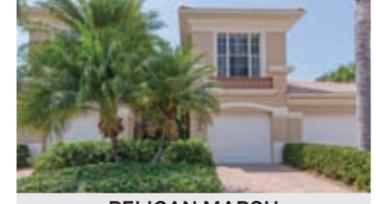
BAY COLONY SHORES
356 Cromwell Court
Leah Ritchey/Amy Becker 239.289.0433
Web ID 217044101 \$4,499,000



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 Sherry Irvin 239.825.2786
 Web ID 217005702 \$2,400,000



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 Sherry Irvin 239.825.2786
 Web ID 215041971 \$1,500,000



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Naples Bay Club #536
 Julie Rembos 239.595.1809
 Web ID 217043050 \$595,000



COPPER COVE PRESERVE

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 Michelle Thomas 239.860.7176
 Web ID 217010410 \$520,000



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 ML Meade 239.293.4851
 Web ID 217023311 \$399,000



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 Sherry Irvin 239.825.2786
 Web ID 217019921 \$375,000



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1372 Great Egret Trail
 Daniel Guenther 239.357.8121
 Web ID 217044098 \$4,900,000



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1377 Great Egret Trail
 Sonya Shaheen 239.877.2797
 Web ID BOUC062617IHE \$4,100,000



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2224 Residence Circle
 Krista Fraga 239.877.6745
 Web ID 216068556 \$1,260,000



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 Mary Kavanagh 616.957.4428
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16725 Cabreo Drive
 Erik David Barber 323.513.6391
 Web ID 217004417 \$1,095,000



TALIS PARK

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 Cynthia Miles 239.273.3449
 Web ID 217043348 \$840,000



TIBURON

Castillo #1-103
 Kimberly Wagner 239.571.5474
 Web ID CULL070717IHE \$815,000



QUAIL CREEK

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 Web ID 217012327 \$649,500



CAMDEN LAKES

16190 Camden Lakes Circle
 Charles Cole 239.963.5560
 Web ID 217026053 \$548,800



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 Marion Bethea/Anne Killilea 239.261.6200
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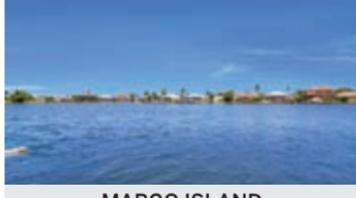
VANDERBILT BEACH

Sand Castle #401
 Yola Zapiec 239.848.6693
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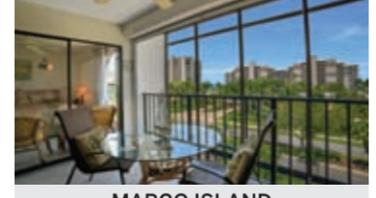
MARCO ISLAND

Apollo #404
 Vince Colace 239.260.3333
 Web ID 217043060 \$495,000



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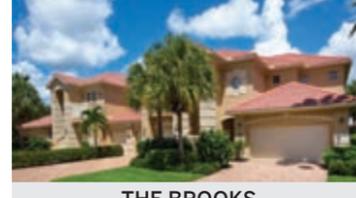
FIDDLER'S CREEK

7690 Mulberry Lane
 ML Meade 239.293.4851
 Web ID BONA070517IHE \$799,000



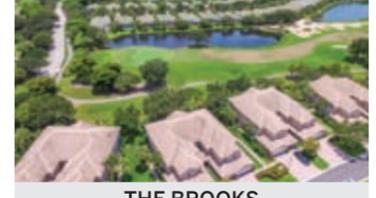
FIDDLER'S CREEK

8944 Cherry Oaks Trail
 Michelle Thomas 239.860.7176
 Web ID 217038353 \$519,000



THE BROOKS

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 Roxanne Jeske 239.450.5210
 Web ID 217044624 \$410,000



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VASARI COUNTRY CLUB

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 Nancy Koeper 239.450.1930
 Web ID 217023411 \$269,000



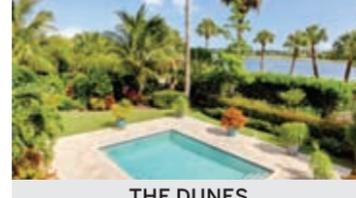
BONITA BAY

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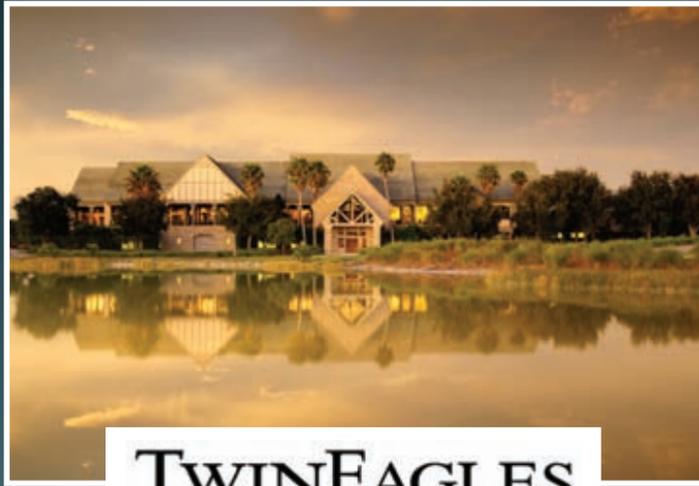
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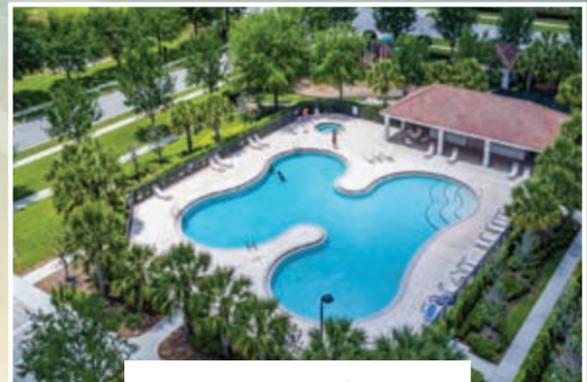
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NAR

From page 1

it has been argued during session, this year marked the first-ever reduction of the business rent tax. Effective Jan. 1, 2018, the new state tax rate businesses will pay on their commercial leases will be 5.8 percent. Far from being eliminated, which is ultimately the goal, it is estimated that businesses throughout Florida will save more than \$60 million each year with this first-ever reduction.

“This was the best year for Realtors in my six years in Tallahassee,” Sen. Passidomo said. “Your priorities became our priorities, and it’s great how everyone came together.”

She had a heavy load to carry in her first year as a state senator. She personally drafted and passed the Estoppel Bill, an important consumer protection bill that affects all real estate transactions, and culminates more than three years of pressing this issue before the legislature.

While new to the process, Reps. Donalds and Rommel quickly learned the importance of building relationships, and both admitted that “getting an idea through several committees doesn’t mean you have to make enemies.”

A hot topic of discussion during the evening was the issue of Assignment of Benefits. Rep. Donalds responded by saying, “It will be tough, but we can’t have these type of abuses in insurances. There’s no protection to consumers.”

Sen. Passidomo commented that trial lawyers consider killing AOB reforma-

tion as their biggest accomplishment. “There’s so much abuse going on with this provision and insurers — like Citizens Property Insurance, which points to ‘out-of-control’ water damage claims where homeowners have signed over their assignment of benefits to contractors — are responding with rate hikes. Others will follow,” she said.

But progress was made in other areas, including the passage of HJR 21, which affects seasonal homeowners. Currently, there is a 10 percent cap on the annual increase of property taxes for all non-homestead properties, but it sunsets on Jan. 1, 2019. With the passing of HJR 21, voters will see a new amendment on the November 2018 ballot that permanently puts a 10 percent cap on the annual increase of property taxes for all non-homestead properties.

Rep. Rommel mentioned an additional three bills that passed the session to control property taxes. These bills, as outlined by Florida Realtors, are:

■ HJR 7105: An amendment on the November 2018 ballot that would allow homeowners to shield an additional \$25,000 of the value of their home from non-school property taxes.

■ HB 455: If approved by 60 percent of voters in November 2018, this would provide a 100 percent homestead tax exemption to first responders who become totally and permanently disabled in the line of duty.

■ SB 90: An amendment to exempt renewable energy devices, such as rooftop solar, installed by businesses and commercial entities from the tangible personal property tax. ■



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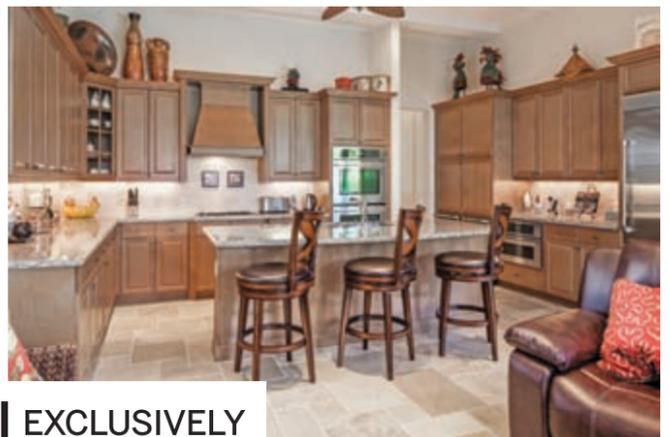
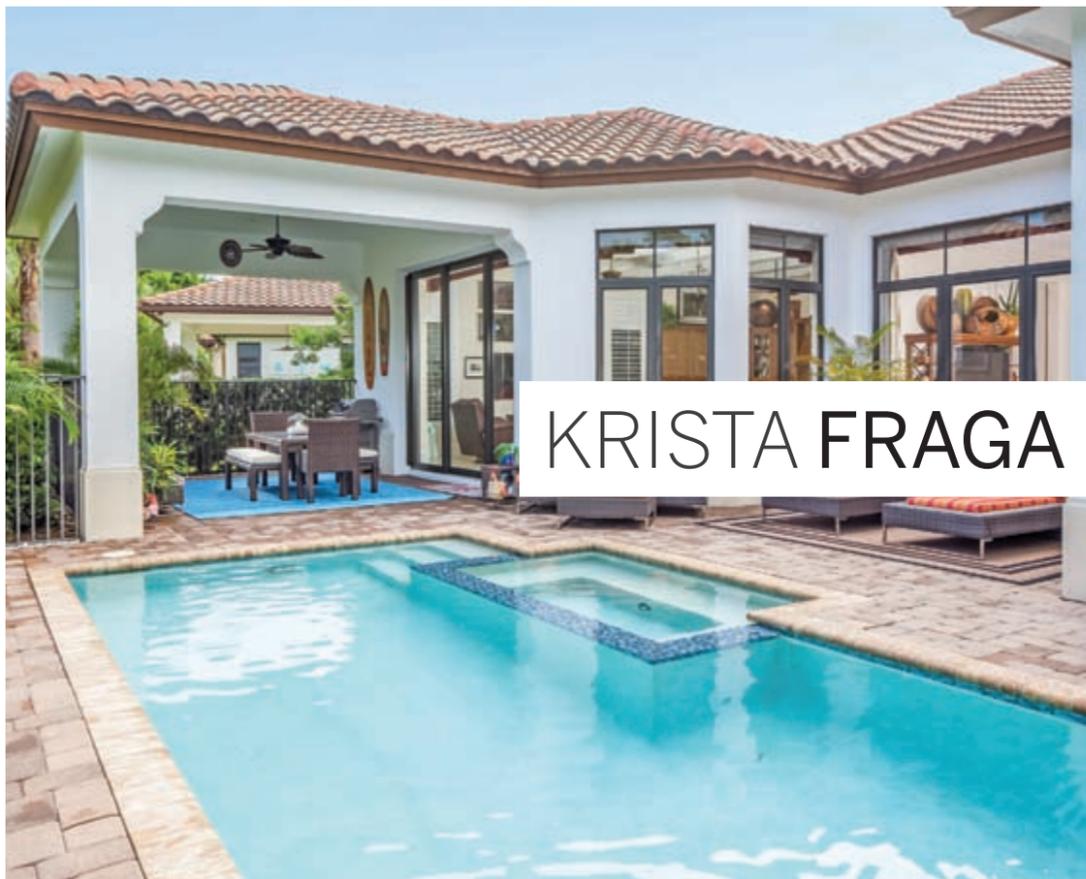
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SIESTA	3/3	2,630	\$599,125	\$549,125	AMELIA	4/3.5	2,873	\$1,045,070	\$975,000
MONTESSA	3/2	2,293	\$617,795	\$549,990	AMELIA <i>furnished</i>	4/3.5	2,873	\$1,276,925	\$1,174,990



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ON THE MOVE

Health Care

Aesthetic Plastic Surgery & Med Spa of Naples and **Kent V. Hasen M.D.**, welcomes their newest staff member and Patient Concierge, Bethany Holewinski. She comes to the practice with more than 12 years of medical office experience, including dermatology, family practice and radiology. Ms. Holewinski's caring, organized and helpful persona helps patients have a client centric experience within the office as they explore the many options in aesthetic plastic surgery.

Armando Llechu has been named chief administrative officer at Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida. Mr. Llechu oversees the hospital's strategic initiatives, manages day-to-day operations and is responsible for its overall performance. He previously was vice president-clinical operations at Nicklaus Children's Hospital in Miami. Mr. Llechu earned a bachelor's degree in health services at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton and an MBA Lean Six Sigma Black Belt Certification at Florida International University.



LLECHU

Amanda Radick, licensed medical aesthetician, has joined the staff at Aesthetic Plastic Surgery & Med Spa of Naples. Her results-driven skin care routine, including both professional services and home care, provides patients with an educated, lifelong approach to caring for their skin. Ms. Radick is a graduate of the University of Kansas where she received her bachelor's degree in psychology. She has more than five years of experience in the aesthetics industry and is a licensed medical aesthetician.



RADICK

Higher Education

Hodges University announced the promotion of **Dr. Aysegul Timur**, dean of the Johnson School of Business, to the position of senior vice president of academic affairs. In her new role, Dr. Timur will be charged with fostering collaboration among Hodges' five schools and Southwest Florida's employers so the area's needs for an educated workforce can be effectively met. She will also continue to oversee the Johnson School of Business.

Hospitality

Campagna Hospitality Group, owners of The French, Osteria Tulia and Bar Tulia, announced the following management promotions:

Jason Zadorski has been named general manager of The French restaurant. He previously was general manager of Osteria Tulia and Bar Tulia.

Frank Pullara has been promoted to executive chef of all three establishments.

Anna Betulia, restaurant manager at Osteria Tulia and Bar Tulia, has added special events director for Campagna Hospitality Group to her role with the company.

The JW Marriott Marco Island Beach Resort has been experiencing many changes as it moves through the final phase of its \$320 million renovation project. As one of these changes, the property has welcomed a new director of sales and marketing. **Amanda Cox** is a 15-year veteran of Marriott International. She will be taking over the director's role from Robert Pfeffer, who is moving on to the position of senior director for the corporation's Convention & Resorts Network portfolio where he will be working with Marriott International's 34 resorts throughout the U.S., Hawaii and Caribbean/Latin American regions. Mr. Pfeffer spent the last 12 years with the property.

Quail Creek Country Club announced that **Wendy D. Felsing** has joined the club as communications and marketing director. Originally from Fort Wayne, Ind., Ms. Felsing has a strong background in marketing and communications with emphases in writing and digital marketing. She has worked in the club industry for more than 13 years and spent eight years at Indiana's Sycamore Hills Golf Club. She will oversee the writing, design, publishing and distribution of all printed and electronic club communications. ■



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9 • VASARI COUNTRY CLUB - ALTESSA • 28510 Altessa Way #201 • \$579,000 • PSIR • Roxanne Jeske • 239.405.6243

10 • COCONUT RIVER • 2457 Clipper Way • \$599,000 • PSIR • Jon Feins • 239.387.9546

11 • COVE TOWERS - BEQUIA • 420 Cove Tower Drive #603 • \$599,000 • PSIR • Carol Sheehy • 239.340.9300 • Open 2-4pm

12 • VANDERBILT LAKES • 28051 Winthrop Circle • \$599,900 • PSIR • Linda Scalia • 239.948.4000

13 • WYNDEMERE - GLENDEVON • 767 Glendevon Drive • \$599,999 • PSIR • Kate Benham • 239.222.2268

>\$600,000

14 • GOLDEN GATE ESTATES • 130 29th Street NW • \$699,900 • PSIR • Walter Patrick • 239.325.9111

>\$700,000

15 • OLD NAPLES - FRANCISCAN GARDENS • 812 10th Avenue South • \$795,000 • PSIR • Debbie Broulik • 239.659.0099

>\$800,000

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

17 • GREY OAKS - TRADITIONS • 2315 Tradition Way #101 • \$875,000 • PSIR • Sonya Shaheen • 239.877.2797

>\$900,000

18 • THE BROOKS - SHADOW WOOD - CEDAR GLEN • 9110 Hollow Pine Drive • \$925,000 • PSIR • Roxanne Jeske • 239.405.6243

19 • PARK SHORE - SAVOY • 4041 Gulf Shore Boulevard North #1109 • \$999,000 • PSIR • Gary Blaine • 239.595.2912

>\$1,000,000

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

21 • LELY RESORT - MAJORS • 9058 Shenendoah Circle • \$1,099,999 • PSIR • Cynthia Corogin • 239.963.5561

22 • MARCO ISLAND • 908 Panama Court #201 • \$1,249,000 • PSIR • Cathy Rogers • 239.821.7926

23 • THE DUNES - GRANDE GENEVA • 265 Indies Way #1202 • \$1,289,000 • PSIR • Connie Long • 239.825.9760 • Call agent for building access

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

25 • 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

26 • BELLEZZA AT MEDITERRA • 14898 Bellezza Lane • \$1,675,000 • John R Wood Properties • Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell • 239.595.0097

27 • PELICAN BAY - DORCHESTER • 6075 Pelican Bay Boulevard PH B • \$1,825,000 • PSIR • Cynthia Rosa • 239.287.6015

28 • PELICAN BAY - ST. RAPHAEL • 7117 Pelican Bay Boulevard #1506 • \$1,849,000 • PSIR • Pam Hershberger • 239.784.7534

>\$2,000,000

29 • PINE RIDGE • 612 Carica Road • \$2,162,000 • PSIR • Craig Jones • 239.825.6857 • Open 1-3pm

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

31 • 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

32 • ESTATES AT GREY OAKS • 2919 Indigobush Way • \$2,895,000 • John R Wood Properties • Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell • 239.595.0097

>\$3,000,000

33 • 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

34 • TALIS PARK - PRATO GRAND ESTATES • 16770 Prato Way • \$3,195,000 • PSIR • Erik David Barber • 323.513.6391

>\$4,000,000

35 • OLD NAPLES • 489 1st Avenue South • \$4,175,000 • William Raveis • Dante DiSabato • 239.537.5351

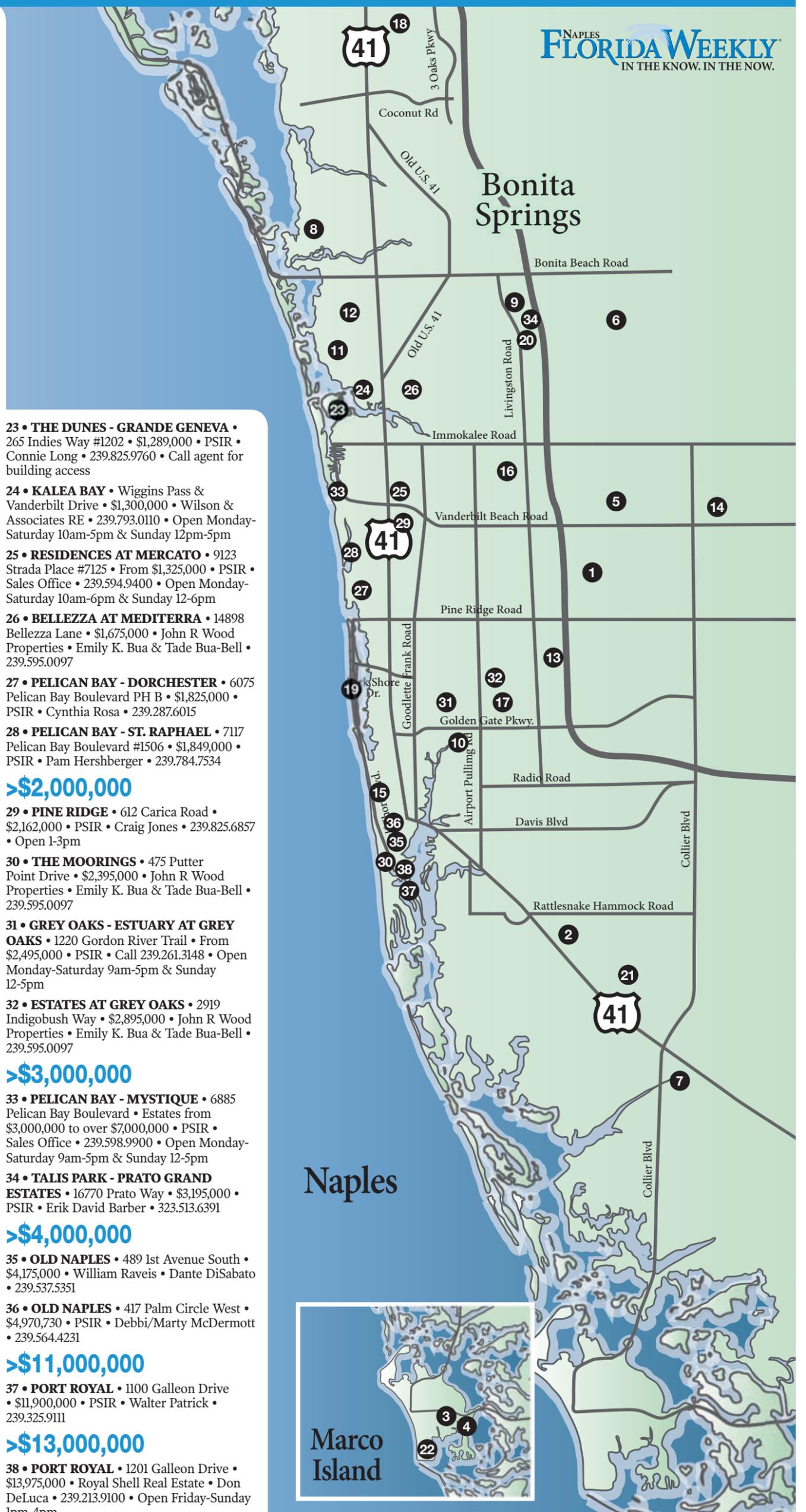
36 • OLD NAPLES • 417 Palm Circle West • \$4,970,730 • PSIR • Debbi/Marty McDermott • 239.564.4231

>\$11,000,000

37 • PORT ROYAL • 1100 Galleon Drive • \$11,900,000 • PSIR • Walter Patrick • 239.325.9111

>\$13,000,000

38 • PORT ROYAL • 1201 Galleon Drive • \$13,975,000 • Royal Shell Real Estate • Don DeLuca • 239.213.9100 • Open Friday-Sunday 1pm-4pm



*For illustration purposes only.

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. Like the original Naples Beach Hotel, The Isles Club is distinguished by a stylized cupola and large awning-shaded front porch. Residents and friends gather at The Isles Club for dining and social functions, swimming in the resort-style pool and lap pool, tennis, pickleball and workouts in the state-of-the-art fitness center. A lushly landscaped event courtyard, yoga lawn and kayak launch provide additional opportunities for outdoor recreation.



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 only, Minto is offering up to \$70,000 in purchase incentives on select move-in ready coach homes and up to \$60,000 in savings on select single-family and villa homes.

The available Orchid Grande two-story coach home is 2,011 square feet under air, and includes two bedrooms, two baths, den, sunroom, two-car garage, private elevator, and water view. It is priced at \$663,610. The Pimento single-family home includes a 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. The Mimosa villa home is 1,780 square feet under air with two bedrooms, two baths, den, two-car garage and water view. It is priced at \$528,480.

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



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 is an award-winning master-planned community. 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.

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 nation-

al 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 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 MintoUSA.com. ■

PORT ROYAL



OPEN 7/14 - 7/16 1:00PM - 4:00PM

1201 GALLEON DR., NAPLES
• <http://royalshell.me/galleondrive>
• Extraordinary 5 BR, 6 BA Estate, Over 9,700 S.F.
\$13,975,000 MLS 217020067
Don DeLuca 239.213.9100

ESTUARY AT GREY OAKS



NAPLES
• Timeless, 8 BR, 8 Full BA, 2 Powder BA
• Golf Course, Preserve w/Sunset Skies
\$7,950,000 MLS 215050309
The Taranto Team 239.572.3078

PARK SHORE



NAPLES
• "Tranquility", a Contemporary Zen Design
• Over 9,000 S.F. Indoor/Outdoor Living Space
\$3,795,000 MLS 217029954
Doug Haughey 239.961.1561

SHADOW WOOD AT THE BROOKS



BONITA
• Watch Eagles from Your Spectacular Lanai
• Private, Lakefront, 3 BR+ Den on Cul-De-Sac
\$1,149,000 MLS 217020229
Gary Ryan 239.273.6796

BONITA BAY



BONITA
• 4 BR + Den, Bonus Room, 4 BA, 3-Car Garage
• Private Pool/Spa and Spacious Lanai
\$995,000 MLS 216059863
Dotti Fagan, The Fagan Team 239.272.4946

AUDUBON COUNTRY CLUB



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

SHADOW WOOD AT THE BROOKS



ESTERO
• Palmetto Ridge, South Exp., Preserve View
• 4 BR, 3 BA, Pool & Spa, Quiet & Peaceful
\$749,000 MLS 217011327
Greg Lewis, The Lewis Team 239.287.1158

THE COLONY



ESTERO
• Rare 3 BR, 3 BA, 1st Floor Unit
• Incredible Outdoor Patio
\$745,000 MLS 217039527
Taylor Ekovich 239.322.9463

ROYAL HARBOR



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

STONEBRIDGE



NAPLES
• Large 3 BR + Den, 3 BA, Pool Home
• Newly Updated
\$729,900 MLS 217007712
Patti Fortune & Trisha Kent 239.272.8494

GULF SHORES



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

BONITA BAY



OPEN 7/16 1:00PM - 4:00PM

25961 NESTING CT. #101, BONITA
• Unobstructed Lake, Golf & Preserve Views
• Glassed-In Lanai, 3 BR, 2.5 BA, 2-Car Garage
\$549,900 MLS 217027383
Cathy Lieberman & Cindy Reiff 239.777.2441

FIDDLER'S CREEK



NAPLES
• Stunning Southern Lake View
• 3 Bedrooms + Den, 3 Bathrooms
\$549,000 MLS 217023851
Dru & Greg Martinovich 239.325.3505

VILLAGE WALK AT BONITA



NEW LISTING
OPEN 7/16 1:00PM - 4:00PM

15362 SCRUB JAY LN., BONITA
• One of the Largest Floor Plans, 4 BR, 3 BA
• Pool Home
\$509,000 MLS 217041496
Dodona & Ornela, The Roboci Team 239.776.8123

NAPLES CLUB ESTATES

NEW PRICE



NAPLES
• 3/4 Acre Waterfront Lot, Gated Community
• 155 Acres, 28 Homesites, Two 5-Acre Lakes
\$365,000 MLS 213015237
Roger Stening 239.770.4707

HAWTHORNE



OPEN 7/16 1:00PM - 4:00PM

10254 COBBLE HILL RD., BONITA
• Wildlife Abounds in this Water View
• Immaculate 2 BR + Den or 3rd BR
\$349,900 MLS 217038438
Deb Adams-Bateman 239.273.4824

LAKESIDE

NEW PRICE



OPEN 7/16 1:00PM - 4:00PM

2854 MIZZEN WAY, NAPLES
• Single Family, Centrally Located
• Quiet Neighborhood
\$349,000 MLS 217036727
Dodona & Ornela, The Roboci Team 239.776.8123

VALENCIA LAKES

NEW PRICE



OPEN 7/16 1:00PM - 4:00PM

2731 ORANGE GROVE TRL., NAPLES
• Completely Remodeled, 4 BR, 3 BA
• New Island Kitchen, Cabinets & Granite
\$339,000 MLS 217034044
Dodona & Ornela, The Roboci Team 239.776.8123

VINEYARDS - BELLERIVE

NEW PRICE



OPEN 7/16 1:00PM - 4:00PM

6280 BELLERIVE AVE. #2-206, NAPLES
• Lake Views, Tastefully Decorated 2nd Floor Condo
• Turnkey with All New Furnishings
\$259,000 MLS 217034005
Dodona & Ornela, The Roboci Team 239.776.8123

IMPERIAL GOLF ESTATES



NAPLES
• Newly Remodeled, 2 BR, 2 BA Condo
• Best Views of Lake & Golf Course
\$230,000 MLS 216059835
The Taranto Team 239.572.3078

HIGH POINT COUNTRY CLUB



OPEN 7/15 & 7/16 1:00PM - 4:00PM

1 HIGH POINT CIR. #505, NAPLES
• A Golfer's Dream Come True
• Amenities: Golf, Tennis, Exercise Room
\$229,000 MLS 217023129
Mark Semeraro 239.370.2455

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MARCO ISLAND
• Boat & RV Paradise Found
• Minutes to Gulf of Mexico
\$220,000 MLS 216052828
Katie Brady Rigsby 239.770.6061

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PARK SHORE



BONITA
 • A Singular Opportunity at Venetian Villas
 • Bay, Dock, 2-Car Garage
\$1,995,000 MLS 217006667
Steve Suddeth & Jenn Nicolai 239.784.0693

HEMINGWAY PLACE



NAPLES
 • 2-Story Victorian Charmer w/Refreshed Look
 • Front Porch, Wraparound Balconies
\$1,499,000 MLS 216066094
The Taranto Team 239.572.3078

PARK SHORE



NAPLES
 • Prestigious Downtown Location on Quiet Street
 • Spacious, Updated, Single Family, Pool Home
\$1,250,000 MLS 217043451
Liz Appling 239.272.7201

SHADOW WOOD AT THE BROOKS



ESTERO
 • Private Lot with Great Lake Views
 • 3 Bedrooms + Den, 3 Bathrooms
\$929,900 MLS 217029133
Gary Ryan 239.273.6796

ISLES OF COLLIER PRESERVE



NAPLES
 • Lakefront Home w/Upgrades Galore
 • Pool & Spa, Equipped Summer Kitchen
\$925,000 MLS 217031438
The Taranto Team 239.572.3078

BONITA BAY



BONITA
 • 3 BR, 3 Full BA, 2,200 S.F.
 • 12th Floor, End Unit
\$849,000 MLS 216058384
Corye Reiter, The Lummis Team 239.273.3722

CEDAR CREEK



BONITA
 • Gulf Access, Custom Built Home
 • 3 BR + Office, 3-Car Garage
\$689,000 MLS 217031381
Darlene Rice 239.325.3537

MOORINGS



NAPLES
 • Totally Remodeled, 3 BR, 2 BA Condo
 • On the Bay Across from the Beach
\$649,000 MLS 217026301
Liz Appling 239.272.7201

PELICAN BAY



NAPLES
 • 3 BR + Den, 2.5 BA Townhome
 • 1-Car Garage, Wood Flooring
\$635,000 MLS 216079451
Vito Bauer 239.777.7080

CROSSINGS AT MILL RUN



BONITA
 • 3 BR + Den, 2 BA w/Southern Exposure
 • Many Upgrades, Fabulous, Private Lake View
\$635,000 MLS 217033522
John Aycock 239.777.9898

SPANISH WELLS



BONITA
 • Lovely 3 BR + Den, 2 BA, Pool Home
 • Located in Quiet, Peaceful Setting
\$495,000 MLS 217036495
Jim Griffith, The Boeglin Team 239.322.2409

BONITA BAY



BONITA
 • 3 BR, 3 BA, 1st Floor Coach Home, 2-Car
 • Open & Bright, Volume Ceilings, 2,276 S.F.
\$450,000 MLS 217024742
Connie Lummis, The Lummis Team 239.289.3543

PELICAN LANDING



BONITA
 • 2nd Floor, 3 BR, 3 BA Condo
 • Well Maintained, Attached 2-Car Garage
\$425,000 MLS 217031479
Larry Bell 239.919.4404

STONEBROOK GOLF COMMUNITY



ESTERO
 • 3,700 S.F., 5 BR, 4 BA, 2-Car Garage
 • Southwesterly Lake & Golf Course Views
\$410,000 MLS 217043039
Stacey Glenn 239.823.1343

TWIN EAGLES



NAPLES
 • 2nd Floor End Unit, 2,045 S.F. Under Air
 • Offered Furnished, Full 2-Car Garage
\$329,000 MLS 217021512
Corye Reiter, The Lummis Team 239.273.3722

BRIDGEWATER BAY



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

VILLAGES OF BONITA



25671 OLD GASLIGHT DR., BONITA
 • 3 BR, 2-Car Garage, Oversized Lanai
 • Recently Upgraded w/Beautiful Backyard
\$315,000 MLS 217019777
Corye Reiter, The Lummis Team 239.273.3722

SPANISH WELLS - MARBELLA



9305 LAPLAYA CT. #1624, BONITA
 • Turnkey, 3 BR, 2 BA, 2nd Floor End Unit
 • Outstanding Lake, Golf & Preserve Views
\$271,900 MLS 217037153
Boeglin Team 239.287.6414

BRECKENRIDGE



ESTERO
 • Renovated 3 BR, 2 BA, Upstairs End Unit
 • Tile & New Carpet
\$219,000 MLS 217038076
Dotti Fagan, The Fagan Team 239.272.4946

SPANISH WELLS



9860 COSTA MESA LN. #501, BONITA
 • 3 BR, 2 BA, 1st Floor Condo, 1-Car Garage
 • Lake & Golf Course Views
\$215,000 MLS 217033442
Jim Griffith, The Boeglin Team 239.322.2409

DEAUVILLE LAKE CLUB



NAPLES
 • Tropical Oasis, Expansive Lake Views
 • Turnkey with Quality Furnishings
\$185,000 MLS 217021080
Liz Biswurm 239.370.0312

GLADES GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB



NAPLES
 • 1st Floor, 2 BR, 2 BA Turnkey Condo
 • Golf Course Views, Bundled
\$159,900 MLS 217024029
Liz Appling 239.272.7201

ADVERTORIAL

Stock Signature Homes move-in ready homes across Southwest Florida offer incredible summer prices for homebuyers!

Following sizzling sales for the first half of 2017, Stock Signature Homes has introduced special summer pricing on an incredible array of move-in ready homes. The homes are found in 16 highly amenitized communities from Bradenton to Marco Island.

Stock is one of Southwest Florida's most successful and respected builders. Through June 30th, the company sold 158 new homes worth \$182.63 million.

"Stock has been having a great sales year," said Claudine Léger-Wetzol, Vice President of Sales & Marketing for Stock. "With this new pricing, we anticipate strong summer sales as well. Prices begin at just \$383,100 for multi-family homes in Lely Resort and we have magnificently furnished estate homes priced from \$1.8 million in Quail West."

One of the keys to Stock's success has been its aggressive inventory and custom homes program. The company maintains an unparalleled portfolio of homes available for immediate occupancy.

Stock has move-in ready and soon to be complete homes available in The City of Naples, Bonita Bay, Quail West, Lely Resort, Naples Reserve, The Isles at Collier Preserve, Esplanade Golf & Country Club of Naples, Twin Eagles, Renaissance, Hidden Harbor, Paseo, The Concession, The Lake Club, Esplanade at Lakewood Ranch and Country Club East.

Stock's furnished Stella model in Quail West's Cortland neighborhood is available for immediate occupancy. The 4,238 square foot Stella model includes a formal living room with a fireplace, a formal dining room, wet bar, a double-island kitchen, breakfast nook, and family room, a study, four bedrooms, four-and-a-half baths, and a three-car garage. It features a classic interior design by Soco Interiors' Kassie Parisoe that showcases dark espresso finishes contrasted by light fabrics. It is priced at \$2,339,460.

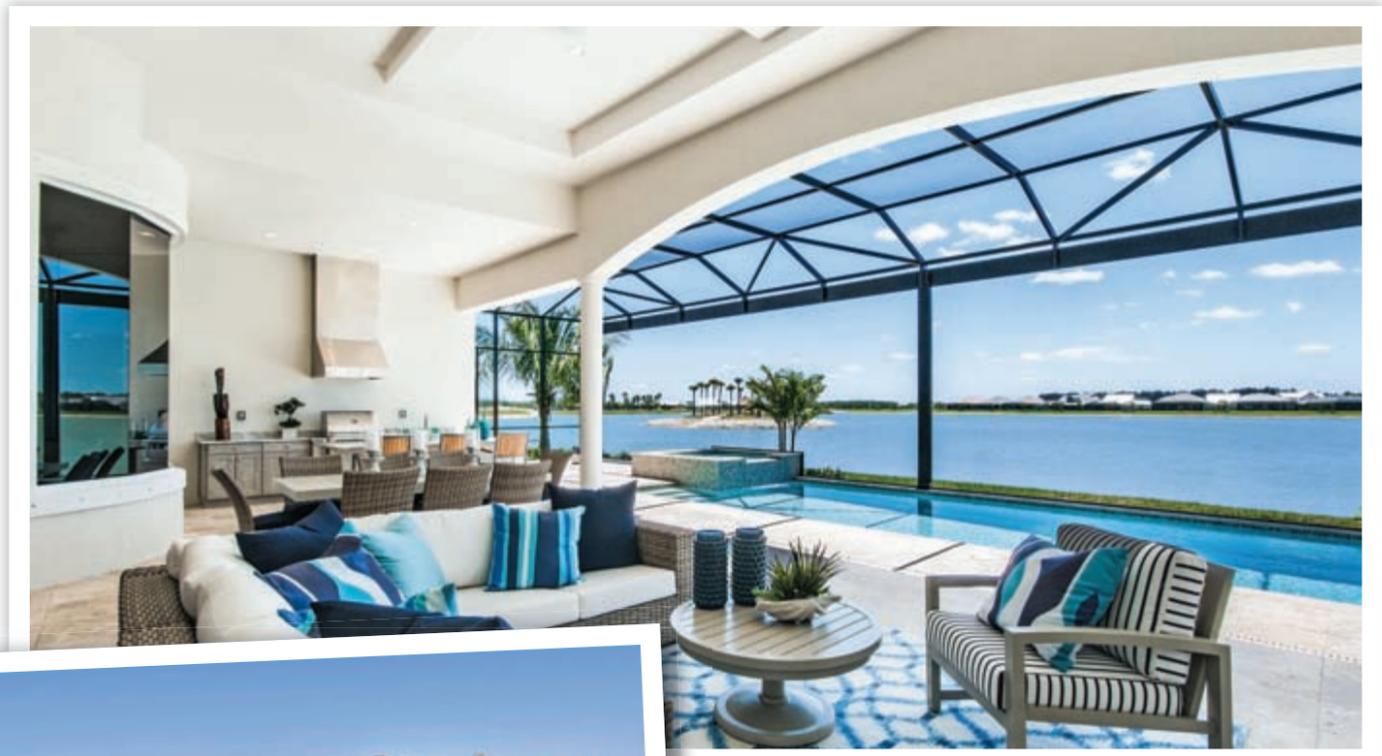
At Fiddler's Creek, Stock Signature Homes is now offering 50 new residences in the exclusive gated village of Marsh Cove. Stock previously sold out three villages in Fiddler's Creek.

Stock's homes in Marsh Cove include seven single-family custom estate floor plans, featuring three and four bedrooms plus a study and range from 2,812 to over 3,600 square feet of air-conditioned living space. The homes feature three-car garages and multiple outdoor living areas overlooking the lakes and fairways of the Arthur Hills-designed Creek Course.

Three model homes are underway - The Madison II, Ulyssa and Belfield floor plans.

The Madison II plan includes 3,054 square feet under air and a 856-square-foot outdoor living area. The great room, island kitchen and dining area open to the outdoor space that can include a fireplace, outdoor kitchen, pool and spa. The plan also features three bedrooms, a fourth bedroom or bonus room, a study, four full baths, a half-bath, and a three-car garage. The furnished Madison II model will present an interior by Soco Interiors.

The 3,196-square-foot under air Ulyssa plan includes a large great room, island kitchen, and dining area, a wet bar, four bedrooms, a fifth bedroom or bonus room, four full baths, a study, and a three-car garage. The living area opens to an out-



Above: The Muirfield III, the Cocoplum and the Stella. Below: The Clubhouse at Fiddler's Creek, championship Golf at Lely.



door living area that can include an outdoor kitchen, pool, and spa. Pizzazz Interiors is creating the interior design for the furnished Ulyssa model.

The Belfield plan features a great room, optional wet bar, island kitchen and breakfast nook that open to a large outdoor living area that can include a fireplace and outdoor kitchen. It also includes three bedrooms, three-and-a-half baths, a study, a formal dining room, and a three-car garage. The Belfield model will feature an interior designed by Clive Daniel Home.

Homes by Stock Signature Homes in Marsh Cove are base priced from the mid-\$700s, not including the homesite.

At Twin Eagles. Stock is selling single-family homes in the Hedgestone neighborhood of this stunning North Naples country club community. A Golf Membership is included in the cost of every new home.

Offering 3,375 square feet under air, the Muirfield V features a massive living room, a formal dining room, an island kitchen, four bedrooms, four-and-a-half baths, a study, an outdoor living area with a summer kitchen, pool and spa, and a three-car garage. It is priced at \$1,334,185.

Naples Reserve is a 688-acre gated community midway between Naples and Marco Island along the U.S. 41 Tamiami Trail/Collier Boulevard. Naples Reserve presents a relaxed, water themed lifestyle. Stock is building in the Parrot Cay and Sparrow Cay neighborhoods, offering homes from 2,300 to over 3,500 square feet.

The Biscayne is available in Sparrow Cay. This three-bedroom/two-bath home features 2,384 square feet under air and 3,806 total square feet, including the covered entry, attached three-car garage and spacious outdoor living area.

The open floorplan offers a great room design and includes a formal dining room, as well as a study. The large island-style kitchen has a breakfast nook with bay windows overlooking the pool. It is adjacent to the great room, which is bathed in natural light from stacked sliding glass doors leading directly to the covered outdoor living area where there is a second kitchen. The Biscayne is a furnished model available on leaseback and is priced at \$906,330.

Please visit our sales centers. We are confident that Stock has the home of your dreams waiting for you this weekend!

For full details of all of Stock Signature Homes' offerings, visit the company website at www.stockdevelopment.com or email at info@stockdevelopment.com or call (239) 592-7344. Stock is on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FLStockDevelopment. Stock is headquartered at 2639 Professional Circle, Suite 101 in Naples. ■

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Nestled along the scenic Cypress Waterway only 5 minutes from downtown Naples you'll find a waterfront lifestyle that others can only dream of. Where an incredible selection of award-winning Minto homes complements an extraordinary setting for every day adventures and non-stop fun. Simply put, "Life is better in The Isles." Come experience it for yourself!

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ADVERTORIAL

Kalea Bay's community amenities popular with buyers

Tower 2 contracts remain strong

If the clubhouse is the social and recreational centerpiece of a community then Kalea Bay's will surely be one of the busiest places in the gated, luxury residential high-rise community located on Vanderbilt Drive in North Naples.

"There are several reasons buyers have decided to purchase at Kalea Bay," said Inga Lodge, Vice President of Sales & Marketing for Kalea Bay. "The first is the beautifully designed three-bedroom plus den/three-and-a-half-bath and four-bedroom/four-bath tower residences with Gulf views. The other is our spectacular community clubhouse. Not only will it be a dramatic sight as residents and visitors drive into the community, but it will also be the envy of every community in the Naples' area."

Kalea Bay's 88,000-square-foot clubhouse is located on the north side of the large lake at the community's entrance.

The clubhouse, which is currently under construction, will feature three individual pools, including a resort pool, an adults-only pool and a children's pool, plus an expansive pool deck, an open-air bar, an indoor/outdoor restaurant, a snack bar, an Internet café, a gifts and 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 separate each of the three pools for the ultimate in privacy.

If basking in the sun or taking a refreshing dip in the pool isn't on a resident's schedule, perhaps meeting friends for lunch, dinner or drinks is.

"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," stated Lodge. "This is what living in Florida is supposed to be."

Just a short walk from the clubhouse will be the tennis pavilion with six lighted Har-Tru tennis courts. Nearby are 24 guest suites to accommodate overnight guests and family members.

"Having that number of guest suites is unusual for a luxury high-rise community, but it's an amenity many of our residents are excited about especially when they have extended family visiting," said Lodge. "Rather than putting their guests up in hotels throughout the Naples and Bonita Springs area, they can vacation within the community. It's a real convenience."

There will also be a shuttle service, originating from the clubhouse, to the beach.

Construction on the clubhouse is slated for completion in the fall and will coincide with the anticipated November completion of the first residential tower, which is 90 percent sold.

"The approaching sellout of Tower 1 and the overwhelming response from our buyers prompted us to recently release Tower 2 earlier this year," said Lodge. "As of late June, the number of contracted residences in our second tower exceeded the \$60 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.



Above: Kalea Bay's clubhouse has a lounge that opens out to the adults-only pool. The fitness center features state-of-the-art equipment. The Bistro is the ideal place for Kalea Bay residents to enjoy a snack. Left: Kalea Bay's 88,000-square-foot clubhouse will be completed around November, around the same time as the community's first tower. Below: Kalea Bay's second tower is 22 stories and features 120 luxury residences.

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 SubZero 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 Gulf 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.

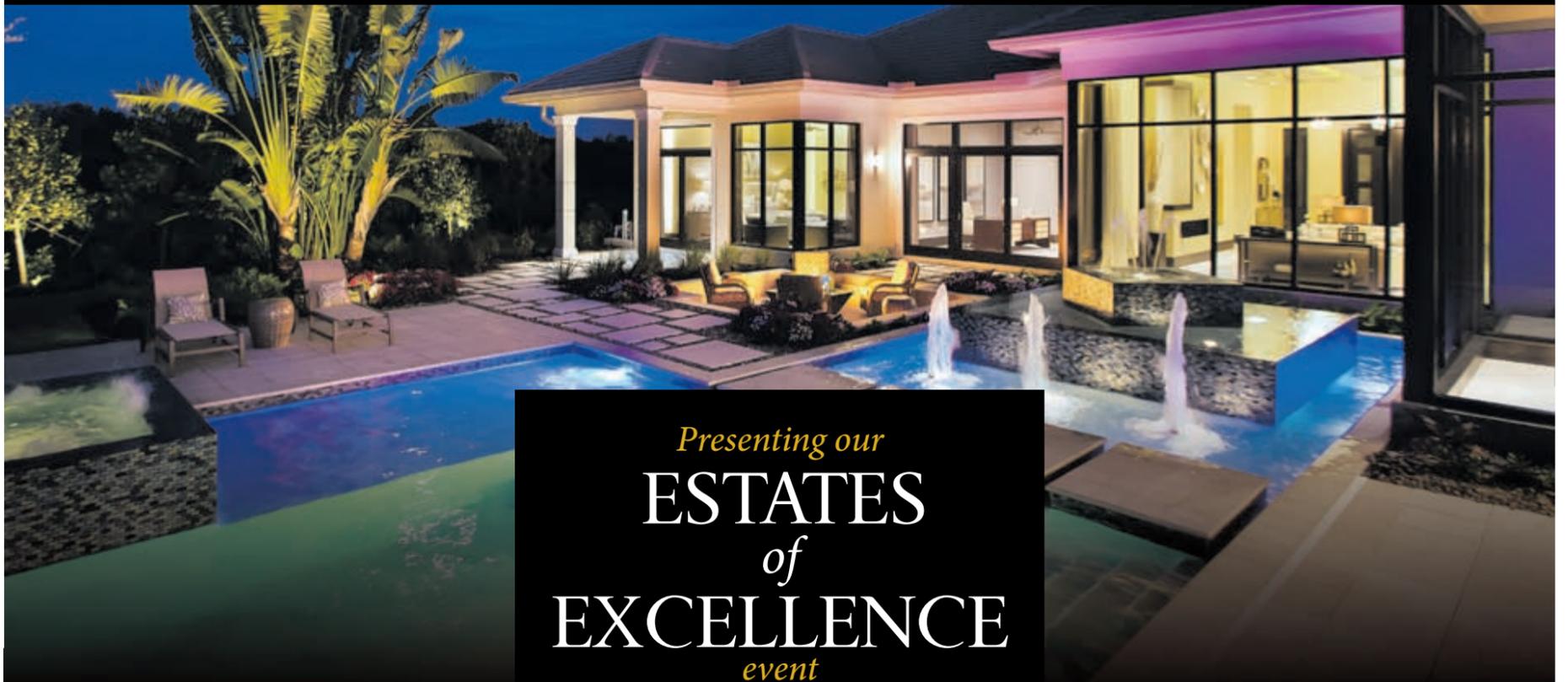
Prices at Kalea Bay begin at \$1.3 million in Tower 1 and \$1.4 million in Tower 2.

For more information regarding Kalea Bay visit the on-site sales center. Due to bridge closings in the North Naples' area, take US 41 to Wiggins Pass Road, then right on Vanderbilt Drive, two-



tents of a mile. Additional information is available by calling (239) 793-0110 or online at KaleaBay.com. ■

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Completed estate models and unfurnished residences available at Quail West

Stock Development's Quail West community is offering a collection of estate residences that present homebuyers an opportunity to be in a newly constructed home before fall season. Quail West's amenity rich lifestyle has been enhanced by the completion of Phase I of a clubhouse renovation initiative and improvements to the community's Preserve golf course. A nearly 12,000-square foot two-story dedicated fitness and wellness center is scheduled to open this month. Phase II of the initiative is underway and expected to be completed by January. Enhancements to the Lakes golf course are underway with completion expected by the end of the year.

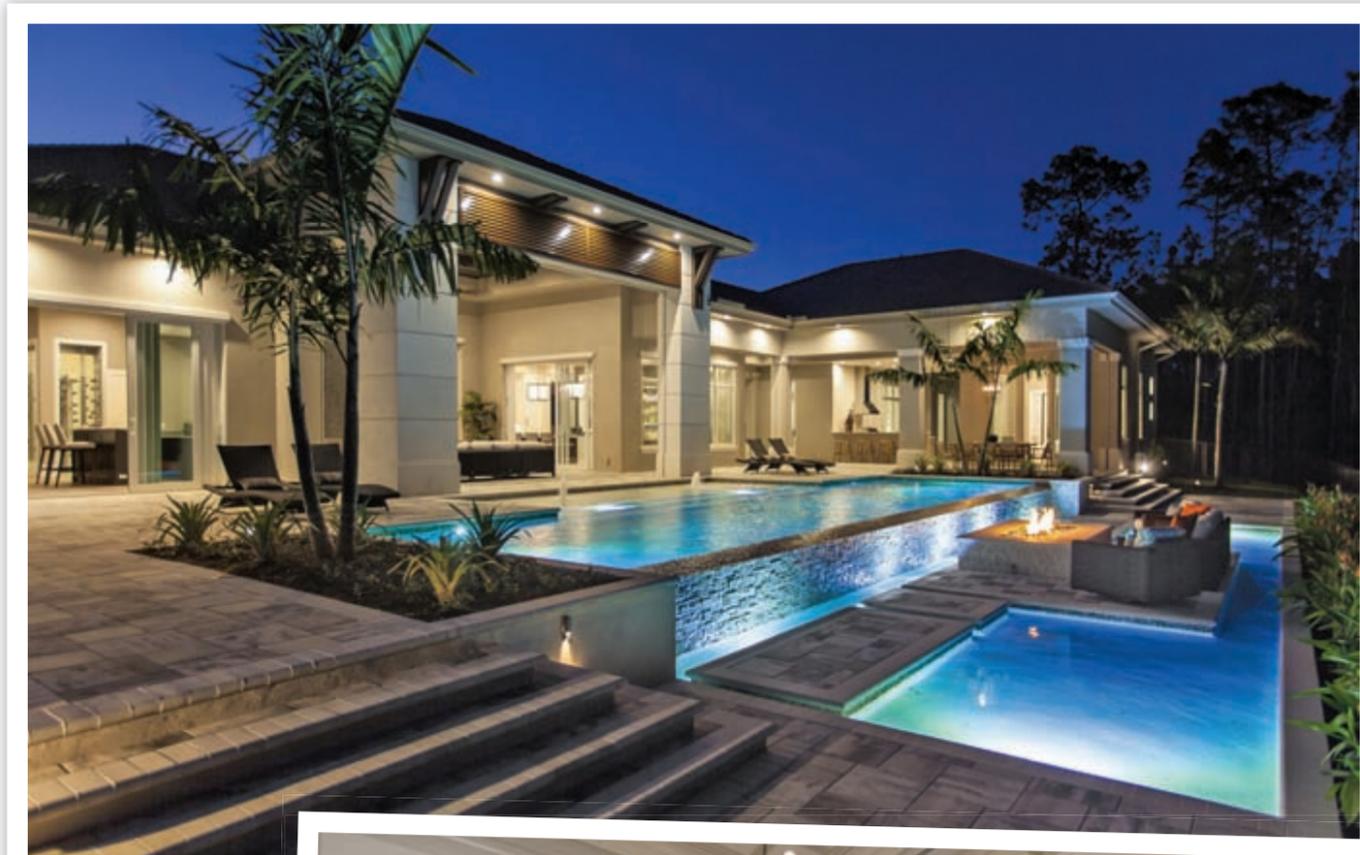
Priced at \$3,799,990 fully-furnished, Stock's 4,937 square foot Aqualina estate model includes a formal living room with a fireplace. The plan features a formal dining room and butler's pantry, a wine cellar, four bedrooms, four full baths and two half-baths. A double-island kitchen adjoins a family room opening to an outdoor living area with a fireplace, an outdoor kitchen, and a pool and spa. The Aqualina showcases an interior by Christina Villalonga, Senior Designer at Marc Michaels Interior Design that conveys an ambiance of timeless elegance.

Priced at \$3,974,990 with furnishings and now open for viewing and purchase, Stock's 4,855 square foot Sophia II model's formal living room includes a fireplace and sliders that open to a covered lanai. A rectangular wet bar and formal dining room present a setting ideal for entertaining. Casual gatherings can be hosted in the island kitchen and in a family room wrapped by outdoor areas with covered lanais, an outdoor kitchen, conversation and dining areas, and a pool and spa. The model includes a study, a game room, a master bath with an outdoor shower, two guest ensuites, a powder bath, and two two-car garages. The Sophia II presents a coastal contemporary interior by Soco Interiors' Daniel Killgore.

Stock's 4,554 square feet Atherton estate includes a great room with a fireplace, a wine room, four bedrooms, four full baths and two half baths, a study, formal dining room, a spacious island kitchen, an exercise room, an outdoor living area with a custom pool and spa, fireplace, summer kitchen, and dining and conversation areas. The plan also includes two two-car garages. Priced at \$3,236,980 furnished, the Atherton features an interior by Charlotte Horvath at Soco Interiors. Horvath's coastal contemporary style features clean lines conveying an understated elegance.

Stock's 4,349 square feet unfurnished Matera estate residence offers four bedrooms, four-and-a-half baths, a study, formal living room with a fireplace and a wet bar, a formal dining room, a large island kitchen, family room, and dinette, and multiple covered lanai spaces that include a summer kitchen, fireplace, dining and conversation areas, and a pool and spa. The plan includes a three-car garage and a two-car garage. The unfurnished Matera estate is priced at \$2,499,990.

Priced at \$3,572,930 furnished, Stock's 4,427 square feet Cristale estate is on schedule for completion this month. The four-bedroom, four-and-a-half bath estate will include a parlour greeting area, a formal dining room, a double-island kitchen and family room, a library/study, a master bedroom with its own covered lanai, two two-car garages, and an outdoor living area measuring



876 square feet with a summer kitchen, fireplace, pool, and spa. The Cristale will feature an interior by Laurie Walter, CEO and Diana Hall, President of Cinnabar Design for Pizzazz Interiors.

Diamond Custom Homes' two-story, 5,541 square feet Magnolia estate presents an interior by Lusie "Lou" Shafran, Principal Designer/CEO at Pacifica Interior Design in Naples. The open-



Above: Seagate Development Group, LLC's 5,693 square foot Pine Valley estate is priced at \$4,295,000. The beautifully appointed residence includes a detached one-bedroom casita with a private bathroom situated adjacent to the pool. Priced at \$3,799,990 fully-furnished, Stock's 4,937 square foot Aqualina estate model includes a formal living room with a fireplace and features an interior by Christina Villalonga, Senior Designer at Marc Michaels Interior Design. **Left:** London Bay Homes' Avignon furnished estate model at Quail West is priced at \$4,975,000 and offers 5,895 square feet under air. The Avignon features an interior by Romanza Interior Design.

concept plan includes a great room, a wet bar, a spacious dining area, gourmet island kitchen, and a comfortable lounge area. The great room and lounge both open to an outdoor living area with a kitchen, a covered loggia, and a pool deck with a fire pit. Additional gathering places include a library and an upstairs television area and billiards room that open to outdoor terraces. The plan features four bedrooms, four-and-a-half baths, and a three-car garage. The furnished Magnolia is priced at \$3,695,000.

Seagate Development Group, LLC's 5,693 square foot Pine Valley estate includes a great room that opens to an

outdoor living area with a pool and spa, a fireplace, and an outdoor kitchen. A detached one-bedroom casita is situated adjacent to the pool. Inside, the plan features a clubroom with a media area, a bar with a window that opens to the outdoor area, a walk-in wine room, a double-island kitchen, and a lounge area. A gallery hallway includes floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking a garden. The plan includes a four-car garage. The Pine Valley showcases an interior by Freestyle Interiors. The furnished Pine Valley is priced at \$4,295,000.

London Bay Homes' Avignon estate model is priced at \$4,975,000 and offers

5,895 square feet. The plan includes a foyer with views of the outdoor living area and pool, a sitting area and gallery that opens to the outdoors, a study that also opens to the outdoors, an island kitchen, dining area, great room, and wet bar, four bedrooms, five full baths and one half-bath, multiple covered outdoor living areas that include a kitchen and overlook a landscaped green space, pool and spa, and a four-car garage. The Avignon features an interior by Romanza Interior Design.

Quail West is located east of Interstate 75, one mile south of Bonita Beach Road. Take Exit 116 (Bonita Beach Road) east. Turn right on Bonita Grande Drive and follow the signs to the sales center. Call 239.592.1010. Visit Quail West online at www.QuailWest.com. ■

ADVERTORIAL

Iconic Lake Timber Lake House nearing completion at Babcock Ranch

Construction of the Lake House neighborhood center within the Lake Timber neighborhood at Babcock Ranch is nearing completion. Babcock Ranch is a new 18,000-acre eco-centric, solar powered town being developed by Kitson & Partners just 20 minutes east of Fort Myers, Florida off Florida State Road 31 in Charlotte County just north of the Lee Civic Center. The Lake House will serve as an iconic focal point for first-time visitors to Babcock Ranch. The entrance to Babcock Ranch was designed to introduce the fresh water lakes and green spaces that are a central focus of the new town. As visitors traverse Babcock's entry bridge, the first building they see will be the Lake House.

Inspired by the historic Cypress Lodge on the neighboring Babcock Ranch Preserve, the 2,400-square foot Lake House features soaring ceilings with exposed 24 x 24-inch beams and a two-sided stone fireplace. The use of exposed wood and natural materials resulted in the creation of a center suited to Lake Timber's natural setting. Open interior spaces offer gathering places for neighborhood events. The interior showcases a comfortable family room-style seating area around the fireplace, a game room, and a kitchenette. Outside features a barbecue area with a grill, a 2,000-square foot lakefront deck, a 2,200 square-foot pool, a bathhouse, a large playground, and an expansive lawn.

While the ambiance of Lake House pays homage to a bygone era, the wilderness-chic style lodge will be energy efficient.

The same SIP Panel Construction process featured in the Cottage Collection homes Fox Premier Builders is building within Lake Timber was used to construct the Lake House. Developed by New Panel Homes, the structural insulated panels (SIPs) are a high performance, 21st Century building system. The panels consist of an insulating foam core sandwiched between two structural facings, typically oriented strand board (OSB). SIPs are manufactured under factory controlled conditions and can be fabricated to fit nearly any building design. The building system is durable, energy efficient and cost effective. The SIPs act as a thermal blanket, compacting all the insulation within the walls so that everything inside is usable, conditioned space. The process saves time, money, and labor.

Lake Timber's lakefront green spaces and pathways, trail head facilities, a dog park, fishing dock, observation deck, and Babcock Ranch's first town garden provide opportunities for connecting with nature. Custom lakefront, porch home, and cottage residences line streetscapes dotted with parks. Furnished models by Homes by Towne, Stock Development, and Florida Lifestyle Homes are open for viewing. All buildings and residences at



Construction of the Lake House neighborhood center within the Lake Timber neighborhood at Babcock Ranch has been completed. The Babcock Ranch Discovery Center on the first floor of Woodlea Hall at Founder's Square is the focal point for obtaining information about all aspects of Kitson & Partners' new solar powered town. Curry Creek Outfitters serves the hikers, bikers, kayakers, boaters, and fishing enthusiasts eager to enjoy Babcock Ranch's 50-miles of nature trails and numerous lakes.

Babcock Ranch are built to Florida Green Building Coalition Certification standards. To learn more about living at the

eco-centric, solar powered town being developed by Kitson & Partners at Babcock Ranch, visit babcockranch.com. ■

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Broker participation is welcome. Prices, plans, specifications and community design are subject to change. Oral representations cannot be relied upon as correctly stating the representations of the developer. For correct information regarding Babcock Ranch, interested parties should refer to written materials provided by the developer, legislative acts related to Babcock Ranch and the covenants and restrictions of the Babcock Ranch Residential Association, Inc. The information provided above is not intended to be an offering and should be considered as informational only.

25 estate home opportunities now available at TwinEagles

Discerning luxury homebuyers now have an opportunity to enjoy a refined estate living experience in three different TwinEagles' neighborhoods. A total of 25 custom estate purchase opportunities are available in the North Naples community's Hedgestone, Lake Estates, and Sterling Hill Legacy Estate neighborhoods. A full golf membership is included with the purchase of every newly constructed residence at TwinEagles.

Six buildable estate home sites are available in Hedgestone. Hedgestone offers 2,800 to 5,000 square foot estates by Stock Signature Homes and A.R.B.C. Arthur Rutenberg Homes priced from \$1.2 million on 90 x 160-foot lots. In addition to the six buildable sites, Stock's completed 3,375 square foot unfurnished Muirfield V residence is priced at \$1,334,185 and available for purchase in Hedgestone. The floor plan offers a splendid entry sequence and gallery hallway, a massive living room, formal dining room, island kitchen and breakfast area, four bedrooms, four-and-a-half baths, a study, an outdoor living area with a summer kitchen, bar, pool and spa, and a three-car garage. The Muirfield V plan is base-priced at \$679,990. Stock has started construction of a second unfurnished Muirfield V slated for completion in early 2018 and priced at \$1,362,850.

Rutenberg has started construction of a move-in ready Bermuda estate in Hedgestone that is priced at \$1.5 million and expected to be completed in March 2018. The Bermuda features a 3,438 square foot great room plan with a den, three bedrooms, three baths, an island kitchen, bonus room, and three-car garage. The plan features a casual dining area adjacent to the kitchen that opens to the outside. The den extends into a circular space that forms an architectural feature on the exterior of the home and a sitting area inside. The bonus room's vaulted ceiling will feature beam details. Sliders open the great room to an outdoor space with a cabana, summer kitchen, conversation area, pool and sun shelf, a spa, and a fire pit.

Ten custom home sites, a completed furnished model, and a model under construction remain available in TwinEagles' Lake Estates neighborhood. Lake Estates showcases 19 south or west-facing lakefront home sites 110-feet wide and 150-feet deep with long-range views of a 34-acre lake, the largest lake in TwinEagles. Lake Estates features minimum 3,500 square foot residences by Rutenberg and Stock starting at \$1.8 million. The combination of the lakefront neighborhood's captivating water views, the size and scale of the residences, the starting price point, and TwinEagles 36-holes of golf is unprecedented in Naples. Rutenberg's completed furnished Amalfi model includes 3,903 square feet with a great room that opens to a covered lanai, an open kitchen and dining area that also opens to the outdoors, a club room that opens to the outdoor kitchen and dining area, a study, four bedrooms, four baths, and a three-car garage. The Amalfi showcases an interior by Licensed Interior Designer Kelley Vitorino. Vitorino's design fosters an atmosphere of understated sophistication layered on a traditional Amalfi coast farmhouse. The Amalfi model is priced at \$2,067,000 with furnishings. Stock's Wyndham is currently under construction and also available for purchase in Lake Estates.



Above: In addition to the six buildable sites, Stock's completed 3,375 square foot unfurnished Muirfield V residence is priced at \$1,334,185 and available for purchase in Hedgestone. A.R.B.C. Arthur Rutenberg Homes' 3,903 square foot Amalfi model, Stock Signature Homes' Wyndham model now under construction, and 10 buildable home sites with are available for purchase in TwinEagles' Lake Estates neighborhood. Boardroom magazine recognized TwinEagles as a Distinguished Emerald Club, a designation accorded to the top five-percent of private clubs throughout the world.

TwinEagles' grand estate residences are situated on Legacy Estate home sites located along the community's Talon golf course. These extraordinary home sites range from nearly an acre to over two-acres and are priced from \$632,500 to \$775,000. Just four grand estate home

sites remain available in the Sterling Hill neighborhood that has captivated homebuyers since the beginning of TwinEagles' development. A thirty-foot setback ensures residences will be at least sixty-feet apart. The Ronto Group, the award-winning developer of TwinEagles,

is providing those intent on enjoying a refined grand estate lifestyle an unprecedented opportunity to build their custom dream home with the builder of their choice. The ability to personally select a custom grand estate homebuilder, plus the combination of the site sizes and pricing, the natural setting, and the golf membership included with every new-build home purchased within TwinEagles presents a rare opportunity for those intent on living a grand estate lifestyle.

Homeowners at TwinEagles' enjoy an array of amenities that includes two championship golf courses. The caliber of play and the overall club experience at TwinEagles have been repeatedly acknowledged. Most recently, Boardroom magazine recognized TwinEagles as a Distinguished Emerald Club, a designation accorded to the top five-percent of private clubs throughout the world.

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 offering an array of golf equipment, clothing, and accessories, 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 a fine dining experience created by award-winning Executive Chef Chas Tatigian.

The Clubhouse is complemented by an amenity center with a 2,500-square foot pool and spa, a zero-entry feature, and an expansive sunning deck. An outdoor lounge, dining venue, and lighted Har-Tru tennis courts are adjacent to the pool. The 6,430-square foot fitness center includes men's and women's locker rooms, areas for aerobics and yoga, as well as a fitness hall with state-of-the-art exercise equipment.

The Ronto Group is also developing Naples Square in downtown Naples, the Seaglass high-rise tower within Bonita Bay, and Orange Blossom. A new project located on Central Avenue in downtown Naples is in development. Visit the TwinEagles Sales Center at 11330 TwinEagles Boulevard, or visit TwinEagles online at twineagles.com. ■

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SAN MARCO B - COACH HOME	3/3.5	2,919 sq.ft.	WAS \$479,760	NOW \$434,760
WENTWORTH - SIGNATURE CLUB - COACH HOME	2/2.5	2,091 sq.ft.	WAS \$472,990	NOW \$437,990
ARVANITA - LAKOYA - VILLA	3/2	1,916 sq.ft.	WAS \$484,950	NOW \$444,950
TIVOLI III - LAKOYA - SINGLE FAMILY HOME	3/3	2,062 sq.ft.	WAS \$725,790	NOW \$644,990
SAN REMO III - LAKOYA - SINGLE FAMILY HOME	2/2	1,809 sq.ft.	WAS \$711,940	NOW \$624,990

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MAJESTIC - SINGLE FAMILY HOME	4/4	3,843 sq.ft.	WAS \$1,608,290	NOW \$1,599,990
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COCOPLUM - SINGLE FAMILY HOME	4/4.5	3,641 sq.ft.	WAS \$1,313,945	NOW \$1,263,945
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SOLD

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BELFIELD - PARROT CAY - SINGLE FAMILY HOME	3/3.5	2,812 sq.ft.	WAS \$952,460	NOW \$927,460
VENICE - SPARROW CAY - SINGLE FAMILY HOME	3/2.5	2,643 sq.ft.	WAS \$981,750	NOW \$956,750*
MADISON - PARROT CAY - SINGLE FAMILY HOME	4/4.5	2,947 sq.ft.	WAS \$1,222,500	NOW \$1,197,500*

*Offered as a model leaseback. See Sales Associate for details.

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PENDING

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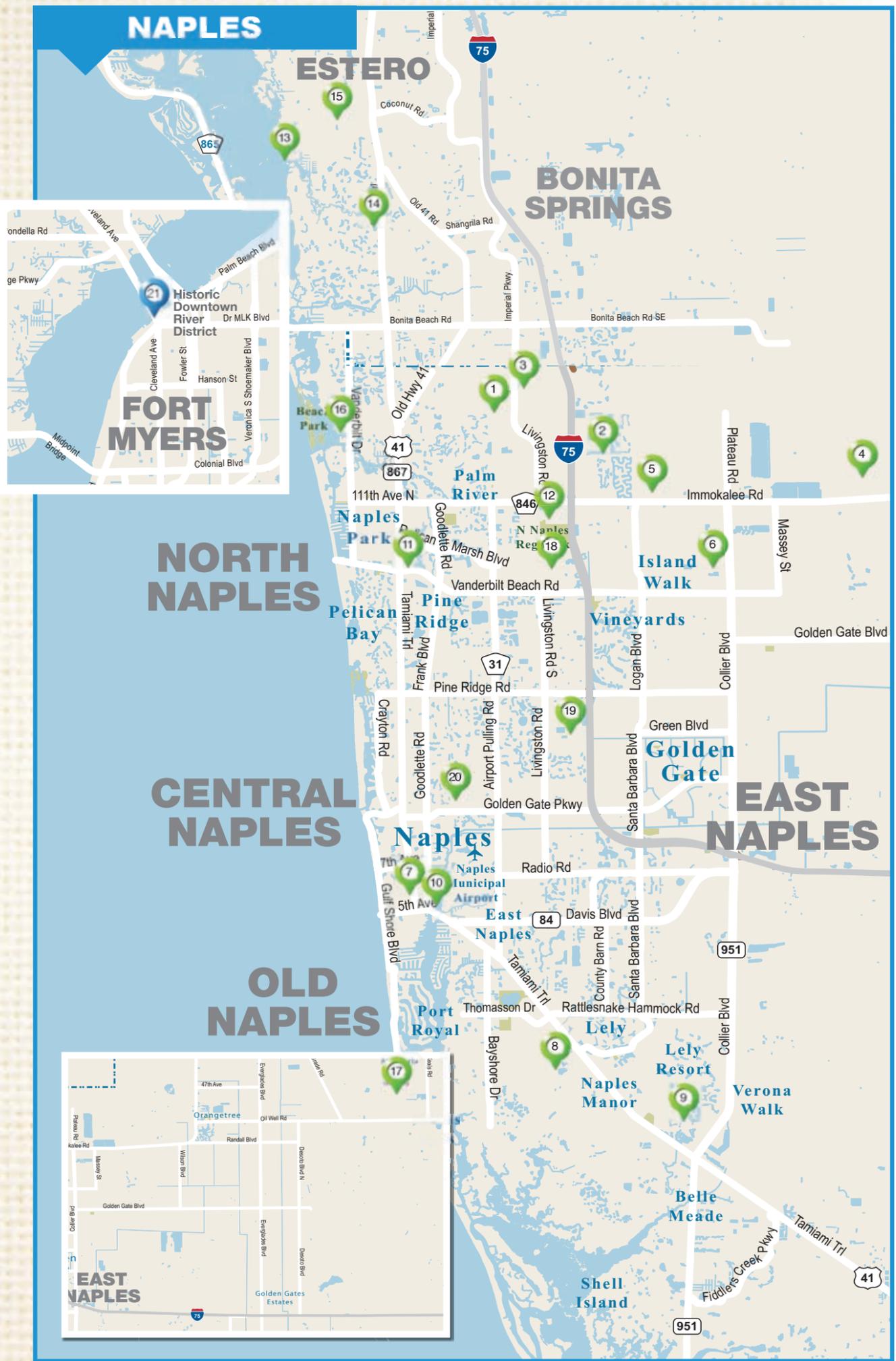
For directions and complete listings of all our models & communities please visit StockDevelopment.com

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Mangrove Bay
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13 
The Colony Golf & Bay Club
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14 
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SECTION C

Librarians suggest



What you might like and what they're looking forward to reading this summer

BY NANCY STETSON

nstetson@floridaweekly.com

IT'S A GIVEN: LIBRARIANS ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT BOOKS.

They love reading them, love discussing them, love suggesting them to others.

"I always love talking about books," exclaims Judy Domzalski, library technician at the Mid-County Regional Library in Port Charlotte.

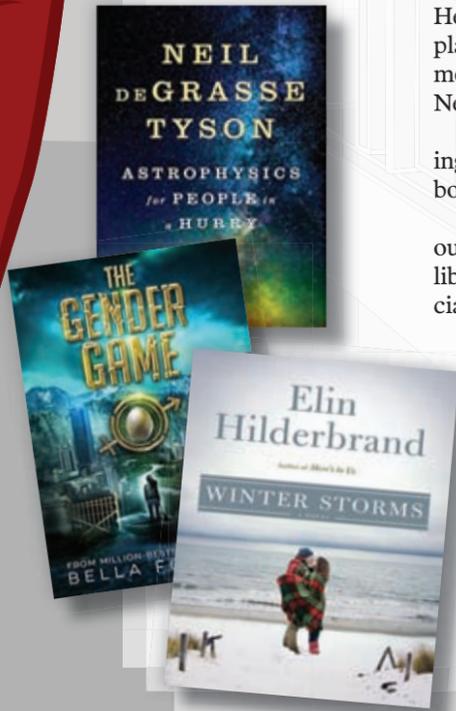
"I'm a voracious reader. I'm always with a book," says public services librarian Tracy Williams, who works at the Collier County Headquarters. This summer, she plans to work her way through most of the books on the current New York Times Bestseller List.

"If I'm not working, I'm reading," she says. "I read two or three books a week, without a doubt."

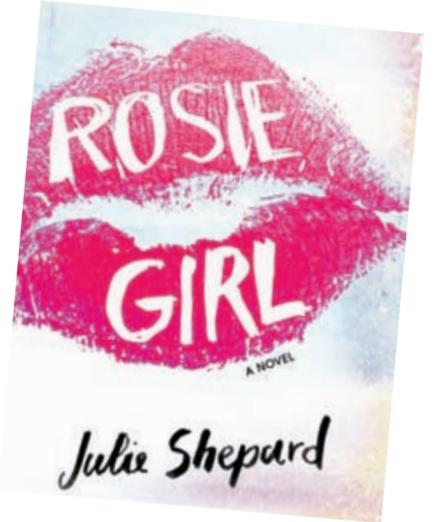
Florida Weekly was curious what books librarians (and librarian associates and technicians) would recommend for the summer, and what they were personally looking forward to reading, so we talked to a number of them in Lee, Collier and Charlotte counties.

Their suggestions were as diverse as the people themselves.

SEE LIBRARIANS, C4 ►

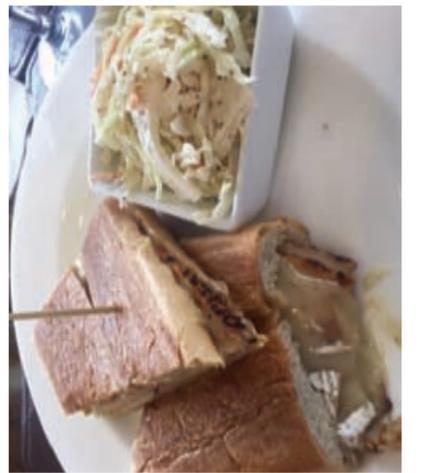


INSIDE



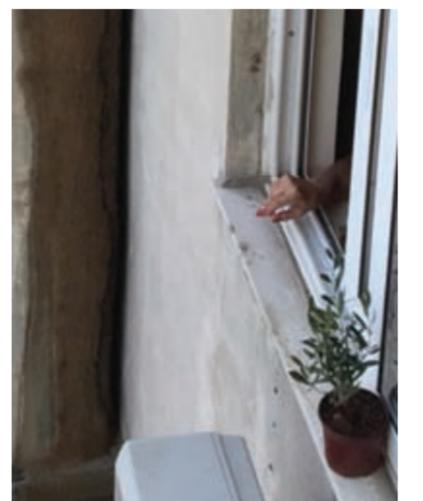
Florida Writers

Bold young adult novel probes into the psyche of troubled teen. C2 ►



Cuisine

Sydney's offers a glimpse of Tiburon grandeur even to non-members. C27 ►



Face the challenge

The *Florida Weekly* annual writing challenge is underway. C3 ►

Help a nonprofit this summer

BY LINDSEY NESMITH

lnesmith@floridaweekly.com

The busy winter/spring season often depletes local nonprofit organizations of much-needed supplies, leaving them in need through the dog days of summer. We asked several agencies what would help them most right now, and they eagerly shared.

■ **Champions for Learning** - The

organization plans to provide its freshly graduated high school seniors with dormitory supplies as they leave for college: extra-long bedding and foam mattress toppers, regular pillows, back pillows and bed risers; desk lamps, small fans and surge protectors; bath caddies, three-drawer plastic carts on wheels and collapsible laundry baskets; gift cards to Target, Wal-Mart, Chick-Fil-A and Subway. 3606 Enterprise Ave. 643-4755 or www.championsforlearning.org.

■ **David Lawrence Center** -The rehabilitation facility offers inpatient, outpatient and residential treatment to clients who often arrive without personal items: Gas cards, bus passes and grocery store gift cards; sneakers, socks, underwear and sweatshirts without hoods; toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo and conditioner; bug spray; toilet paper; tents and blankets; staple-free wring binders, kid-friendly

SEE STORY, C20 ►

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FLORIDA WRITERS

Bold young adult novel probes into the psyche of troubled teen

philJASON
philjreviews@gmail.com



■ **"Rosie Girl" by Julie Shepard.**
Putnam. 384 pages. Trade paperback, \$17.99.

Once again, I'm shaken by a young adult novel. It's filled with cruelty, suffering, determination and decisions that shouldn't have to be made by someone just emerging from childhood.



SHEPARD

Rosie is 17 as we meet her. She turns 18 about the same time she graduates from high school. She seems isolated, left to fend for herself in a household in which Lucy, her abusive stepmother, displays no parenting skills — only an interest in hurting and manipulating Rosie.

It's clear that the responsibility to care for Rosie she took on many years back has been in the way of Lucy's needs. No longer married to Rosie's father, Lucy now doesn't want to deal with her boyfriend Judd's crude advances toward her stepdaughter. When she married Rosie's father, Lucy made a deal that would have a substantial payoff. She doesn't want to rock the boat that is sailing to that payoff, perfectly timed for Lucy's freedom from "parenting" Rosie.

Rosie is also fighting the humiliation of ex-boyfriend Ray's unwillingness to respect her wishes. She is not ready to have sex with him, and this stance has sent him looking elsewhere.

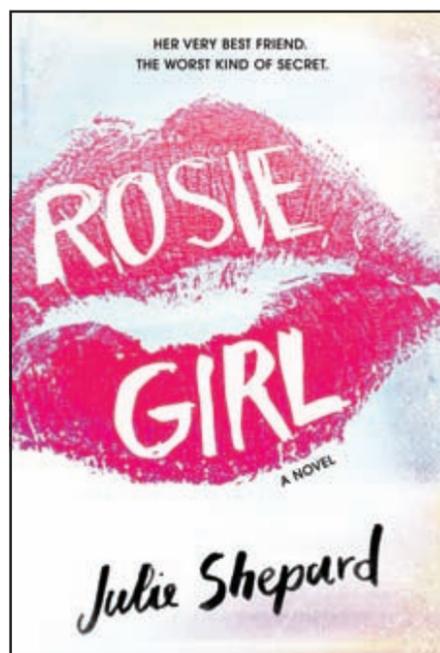
Rosie leans on her best — and pretty much her only — friend: Mary. Mary is extremely supportive and understanding, perhaps because she too is striving to survive a dysfunctional family. Both girls want to get away from their dismal home situations, save up some money and get out of town so they can move on with their lives. Rosie is considering studying fashion design, but how can she pay for it?

The girls have worked out a plan in which Rosie is essentially Mary's pimp: Mary puts out for the sex-hungry school-boys, and the money is set aside for the girls' futures — which are just around the corner. When Rosie receives clues that her real mother is alive, the money is re-directed toward tracking her down and visiting her. She hires a private detective who takes this as a pro bono case and turns most of the scut work over to his nephew, a straight-arrow college student who pays attention to Rosie in a respectful way.

Rosie also encounters the likelihood of an inheritance.

The visit to the sanitarium in Colorado is one of the high points of the novel, placed right where it should be. What is revealed there about mother and daughter is astonishing and makes one rethink everything that's come before (so resist the temptation to leap ahead).

In "Rosie Girl," many worlds collide. These include the world of high school, the



world of the Miami area, the world of family dysfunction and the world of madness. Each is deftly and vividly portrayed, and each contributes insights and surprises.

Several minor characters stand out, though they are only briefly center stage. These include teenage boys and girls of Rosie's acquaintance, teachers and staff at the school, John the detective and his nephew (who is a very important and striking minor character) and an older neighborhood woman who befriends Rosie.

What goes on inside Rosie's head is what readers will find most engrossing. The author has pinned down that threshold time of life: its yearnings and

frustrations, its quick mood changes, its confused values, its encounters with loyalty and betrayal, its mixture of audacity and guilt, hope and hopelessness. Whatever part of the see-saw Rosie is on, Mary seems to be her counterpart on the other side.

Julie Shepard's book is powerful, moving and frightening. I haven't yet decided whether I should share it with my 17-year-old granddaughter. I'd better ask her mother, whose 17th year I remember only too well.

About the author

After receiving her degree in English literature from the University of Florida, Julie Shepard earned her teaching certificate and taught seventh-grade English and several after-school creative writing programs. It was during this time she developed a keen ear for adolescent drama and knew that young adult fiction was the path her writing journey would take. Although she left the classroom years ago, her passion for crafting dark, edgy stories continues. She attends writing conferences and workshops, and meets for critique sessions with writing group members.

While her sons have already escaped the household, she and her husband still occupy their own slice of paradise in Fort Lauderdale. ■

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

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Step up to the Florida Weekly 2017 Writing Challenge

"I try to leave out the parts that people skip."

— Elmore Leonard

That's great advice from the prolific novelist and short story writer. Keep it in mind as you draw inspiration from the accompanying photograph and craft your entry in the 2017 Florida Weekly Writing Challenge.

Here's how it works:

We want your original narrative fiction using this photo prompt as the starting point. Keep it to 750 words, please, and no poetry, thank you.

Run your masterpiece through Spellcheck, give it a title and send it, either attached as a Word document or simply pasted into the body of the email, to writing@floridaweekly.com. Snail mail offerings will not be considered, nor will any entry that does not contain your full name, the city/state you live in and a phone number where we can reach you.

You have until 5 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 13, to submit your story.

We'll publish a new photo prompt in our Aug. 16 issue. If you are so inspired, you'll have until 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 1, to send us another story based on that image. Only one entry per photo prompt, for a total of two entries permitted per person.



BETTY WELLS / FLORIDA WEEKLY

Florida Weekly editors will review the entries and vote for our favorite, whose author will receive a ticket to the 12th annual Sanibel Island Writers Conference (value: \$500). With keynote speaker Alice Hoffman, the conference is set for Nov. 2-5 on Sanibel Island.

The 2017 Florida Weekly Writing Challenge winner will be notified by Oct. 15, and the winning entry will be published in all our editions.

Questions? Email writing@floridaweekly.com and we'll get back to you. ■

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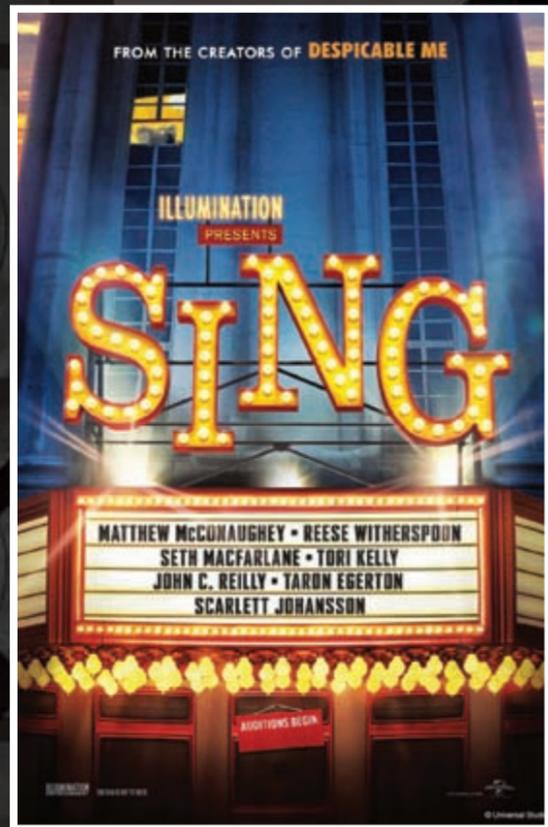
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- October 17 Legally Blonde
- November 21 Moana

LIBRARIANS

From page 1

Here's what they had to say:

■ Kevin Wells

Reference librarian at Lakes Regional Library, Fort Myers

Recommend:

One of the books I just finished is the NY Times Bestseller "Astrophysics for People in a Hurry" by astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson. It's very short, and it's very good. It's a very complex subject, but he's able to bring it down to a level where someone like me, a history major, can understand the basic concepts. It's small enough to whet your appetite. He's not just bright, he can communicate too.

Personally looking forward to:

I'm looking forward to "Testimony" by Scott Turow. It's a little different, because a lot of the action takes place overseas. So even though it's a legal drama, it departs from his other works in that respect. It's an international drama having to do with The Hague.

■ Tracy Herman

Librarian supervisor at the Port Charlotte Library

Recommend:

I've been recommending, "My Brother is a Superhero" by David Solomons. It's a cute story, for grades 3-5. It's humorous, and I think it will really attract the kids' attention. It kept mine. It opens with a kid up in a tree house with his older brother. He leaves the tree house to use the bathroom in their house. It opens with the line, "It all happened because I had to pee." When he's not in the tree house, a UFO comes down and an alien from another planet beams up his brother, the one who's going to save the world, and gives him super powers.

Personally looking forward to:

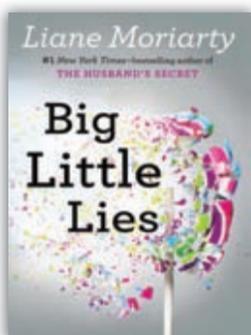
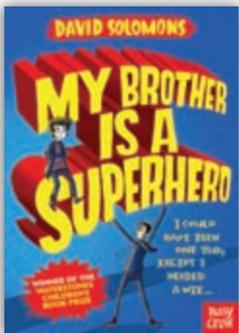
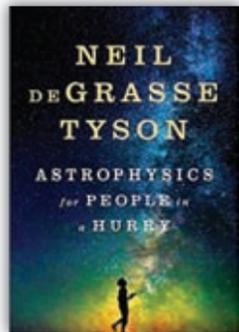
I'm looking forward to reading "Drowning Tides" by Karen Harper. She's the author of a series set in Florida. She's going to be a guest speaker here in our library in upcoming season, after the first of the year.

■ Bill MacDonald

Reference librarian and head of adult programs at Mid-County Regional Library, Port Charlotte

Recommend:

The "Big Little Lies" book by Liane Moriarty is now an HBO series — that's pretty popular. It's got a cast of characters, mainly female. I think it's set in Australia in the book, but the HBO mini series relocates it to Los Angeles.



It's a dark comedy, a social commentary on suburbia. And it'll be the subject of a discussion group here at the library in October.

Personally looking forward to:

I plan to read some biographies, one on John F. Kennedy and one on Lyndon Johnson, but haven't selected the exact books yet.

■ Judy Domzalski

Library technician Mid-County Regional Library, Port Charlotte

Recommend:

The one I just finished is "A Gentleman in Moscow," by Amor Towles. It's set in Russia, right after the Revolution. The subject of the title is an aristocrat that's been put under house arrest at one of the grand hotels in Moscow, the internationally famous Metropol hotel. It's (about) how he manages to survive in post-Revolution Russia. Most of his material goods have been taken from him. But the part of him that is the strongest is his strength of character, and his relationships. His strength of spirit is so strong, it's endearing.

Personally looking forward to:

I'm currently reading "The Chilbury Ladies' Choir" by Jennifer Ryan. It's such an odd title, but the book itself is amazing. It's really good. It's all told through journals, diaries, and letters, set in WW II.

And I'm looking forward to reading the new Jennifer McMahon book, "Burntown." She's a suspense writer and some of it is on the supernatural side. She had written a book called "The Winter People" that got a lot of attention, an eerie book. So we're all looking forward to her new one.

■ Lynda Citro

Interim regional librarian for the Charlotte County Library System

Recommend:

I'd recommend a new series I'm reading, called "The Gender Game" by Bella Forrest.

If you liked "The Hunger Games," you'd like "The Gender Games." Six books are already out.

It's (set in) a post-apocalyptic world; something happened, the world sort of ended, yet people are surviving. So they decided, instead of setting up like it used to be, one society is the matriarchal society where women are rulers, then on the other side of the river is the patriarchal society. (It looks at) how when you go to one extreme or the other, it's not going to work. I find them interesting.

Personally looking forward to:

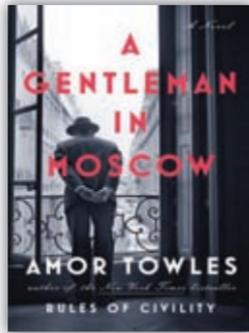
I'm looking forward to book 7 in "The Gender Games" series.

■ Bryan Watt

Public services librarian for the Collier County Library System

Recommend:

I'd recommend a couple of books: "The Identicals" by Elin Hilderbrand and "Camino Island" by John Grisham, his latest. Those are two of our top requested books from our patrons. Definitely popular reads for the summer. And I'd recom-



mend the last book I just read, an autobiography by David Ortiz: "Papi: My Story." He's a retired baseball player, a designated hitter, who played for the Boston Red Sox. They just retired his number at Fenway a few weeks ago.

He was one of the best designated hitters to play the game of baseball. He was a good player and a good human being. It's more about his character than about baseball.

And I'm a Yankees fan too! I'm not a fan of the Red Sox, but it was good book and I enjoyed reading it.

Personally looking forward to:

A book I'm just starting to read now, Lisa See's "The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane." It's her latest. It's good. It's more of a drama, but the reason it's appealing, is that it's based on a true story about the life of a Chinese mother and daughter, and the daughter's been adopted by an American couple. I plan on doing a book discussion about it in the fall.

■ Matt Hardy

Library associate at Lakes Regional Library, Fort Myers

Recommend:

Paula Hawkins' "Into the Water." She wrote the NY Times Best-seller "Girl on a Train."

Personally looking forward to:

Personally, I'm looking forward to reading "The Force" by Don Winslow, set in the NYPD. I believe it's about the rise and fall of one officer on the special task force. He's the author who wrote "The Power of the Dog" and "The Cartel."

■ Tracy Williams

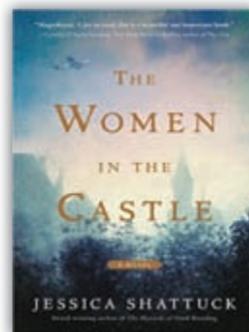
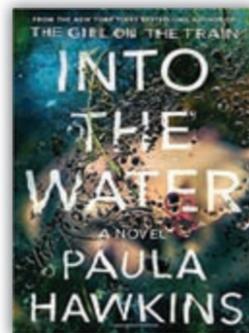
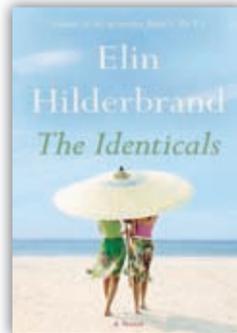
Public services librarian at Collier County Library Headquarters

Recommend:

I just finished "The Women in the Castle" by Jessica Shattuck, which I really enjoyed. The story's set in post WW II, with strong female characters. The main character took in others and in the process realized in the end that her life was not what she thought it was. She wasn't as strong as she thought she was. "The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane" by Lisa See was also really good. I liked reading about the class system, the very patriarchal society in China, and how women were subjugated, but how the main character overcame that, and wound up running her own business, and traveled to American and broke out of that mode.

Personally looking forward to:

I am looking forward to Philipa Gregory's book "The Last Tudor." I've read everything she's ever written. And I plan to read most everything on the current New York Times Bestseller list.



■ Rose Dunn

Reference library associate Fort Myers Regional Library

Recommend:

I'd recommend anything by Elin Hilderbrand, who's from Massachusetts. She writes about Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard, and I'm from that area. So I identify with that.

I know where she's talking about. I recommend all of her books. I'd call them beach reads.

I also recommend Harlan Coben. He has a series, and some stand-alones. And then my absolute favorite author is Karin Slaughter. Her name is very fitting. It's gory, gross, "Oh my God, I can't read this when I'm alone," that kind of stuff. And I love it! I have read every single thing she's written. She also has series and stand-alones. When I read one of her books, I drop what I'm doing, and my husband doesn't get supper all week or for a few days, until I'm done. I can't wait for her next book. And then I'm afraid the entire time I'm reading it.

Personally looking forward to:

I'm waiting for the new one by Elin Hilderbrand, called "The Identicals." It's set at the beach, and it's definitely a beach read.

■ Laura Cifelli

Reference librarian Fort Myers Regional Library

Recommend:

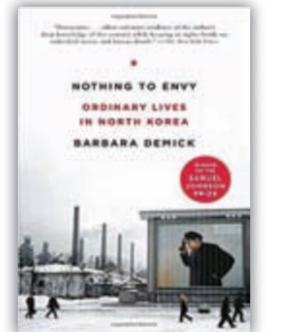
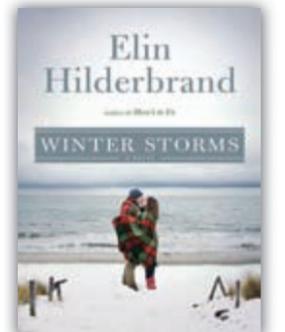
This year, in April, our book discussion group read a non-fiction title called "Nothing to Envy: Ordinary Lives in North Korea" by Barbara Demick.

It turned out to be very timely considering what happened with Otto Warmbier from Ohio, (the student who was tortured by the North Korean regime.) Barbara Demick was a Los Angeles Times reporter who was in Korea, so she went to North Korea and (did) research. The book was astounding. We were just so flabbergasted at the conditions of the people in North Korea. One of the most remarkable things was that they don't have adequate electricity, so at night, if you look at a satellite map, in the middle of Asia, it's pitch black. After just the first few sentences, I was saying, "Wow, I had no idea." I read it on an audio book. It's just brilliant, absolutely amazing. It's hard to realize that it's going on today. It's real, it's not a dystopian novel. I would highly recommend it.

Personally looking forward to:

A book I'm looking forward to reading this summer, is "Thirsty Dragon: China's Lust for Bordeaux and the Threat to the World's Best Wines," by Suzanne Mustacich. It's about China's lust for Bordeaux. They now have this very large affluent consumer class, they've moved into wine. There was just a story (the other) week on NPR on China trying to buy up vineyards in Australia.

And a manga version of that Marie Kondo book, called "The Life-Changing Manga of Tidying Up," was just released. It's a graphic novel version. I'm really curious what that's going to be like, and how her philosophy translates. I think that's going to be really neat. ■



COLLECTOR'S CORNER

The tale of Granny, Aunt Cleo, the car and the cow



scott SIMMONS
ssimmons@floridaweekly.com



FAMILY PHOTOS

Top: My great-grandparents, Lilla Chason Griffin and Osro P. Griffin, in Fort Pierce. Bottom: My Aunt Cleo Griffin Douthit on Palm Beach in 1933.

What is it with my family and cars?
A maternal great-grandfather loved them enough that he built one of his own — he and my grandfather even owned an Oldsmobile and Buick dealership in Indiana.
Driving wasn't just for the men, either. The women in my family always have driven — three of my four great-grandmothers drove and both of my grandmothers drove — fast.
My grandmother Dorothy told the tale of how their father bought a touring car of some sort around 1920 or '21. They cleared an alley and a field in Thomasville, Ga., so he, Aunt Cleo, age 10, and Granny could learn to drive the thing. Everyone stood back and watched, she said.
They moved to Florida in 1923 before moving back to South Georgia to run the family farm. Later, when my father's family came back to South Florida around 1929, it was my 12-year-old grandmother Dorothy who drove the truck as they headed south.
Yes, it was another world.
Around 1933, Aunt Cleo and Granny set out on a road trip from Fort Pierce to visit the relatives in South Georgia.
They no doubt were wearing hats and gloves as they zipped along U.S. 1

in Cleo's tiny American Austin — the 1930s answer to the Mini Cooper. Florida was open country back then,

with towns that gave way to orange groves and pastures, where cattle freely grazed unencumbered by fences.
Indeed, if you were to have asked Cleo and Granny before they left Fort Pierce, they'd have assured you that rural Florida was a bucolic paradise.
And so it was, until they crossed a bridge and met a cow somewhere around Sebastian.
Cleo insisted the cow was grazing at the side of the road on the other side of the bridge. But by the time they had crossed, Cleo had driven the rinky-dink Roadster under the cow, which promptly relieved itself all over Granny.
The cow survived.
But Granny and Cleo were covered in the bovine response to their meeting.
It wasn't pretty — Granny was heard to say, "Shit!" for the first time. Repeatedly.
The ladies returned home for cleanup.
When they got home, my great-grandfather and my grandmother Dorothy were there.
They tried not to laugh, but how could they not?
Of course, the more they laughed, the angrier Cleo and Granny became.
And so another family story raced into legend. ■

THE FIND:

An early 20th century humidor

Bought: All Good Things, 330 N. Dixie Highway, Lake Worth; 561-547-7606.

Paid: \$18

The Skinny: I love the expression on the face of this racecar driver from the turn of the last century.



It looks as though he is chomping on a stogie as he navigates the rutted roads of the day.

The jar is ceramic; there's a place in the lid that would have held a sponge to keep the tobacco it stored moist. Inside, the jar is stained from years of use.

My friend, Jacksonville antiques expert and appraiser Jim Antone, tells me it probably was made in

England or Ireland, though it bears no markings other than an impressed number.

Regardless, its design offers a hint at the novelty driving held in the early days of the automobile. ■



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WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

THEATER

Sister Act: The Musical – By The Naples Players through July 30 at the Sugden Community Theater. 263-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org.

Mary Poppins – By Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre through Aug. 12. 1380 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers. 278-4422 or www.broadwaypalm.com.

Whatever Happened To Baby Jane: A Parody of the Horror – By Laboratory Theater of Florida through July 15. 1634 Woodford Ave., Fort Myers. 218-0481 or www.laboratorytheaterflorida.com.

Right Bed, Wrong Husband – By the Off Broadway Palm Theatre through July 29. 1380 Colonial Blvd. 278-4422 or www.broadwaypalm.com.

Moon Over Buffalo – By CFABS Players July 19-23 at Center for the Arts Bonita Springs' Hinman Auditorium. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

The Cocktail Hour – By The Studio Players July 21-Aug. 6 at the Golden Gate Community Center. 398-9192 or www.thestudioplayers.com.

Into the Woods – By students in Gulfshore Playhouse's STAR Academy summer camp at 4 and 7 p.m. Aug. 3 at The Norris Center. 261-7529 or www.gulfshoreplayhouse.org.

Women in Jeopardy – By Theatre Conspiracy Aug. 11-26 at the Alliance for the Arts, 10091 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers. 936-3239 or www.artinlee.org.



A performance by Americana musician Ray Cerbone and an après-concert jam session is the latest installment in the Florida Songwriter Showcase starting at 7 p.m. Monday, July 24, at The Marco Players theater on Marco Island. The series continues through August with weekly performances by homegrown musicians who share their talent and Florida heritage with the audience. www.marcoplayers.com.

THURSDAY 7.13

Turtle Time – Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park hosts a talk about Loggerhead sea turtles at 9:30 a.m. Free with park entry fee. 597-6196 or www.floridastateparks.gov.

Western Masterpieces – FGCU's Renaissance Academy hosts a class to compare and contrast J.S. Bach's "Mass in B Minor" and Beethoven's "Symphony #5 in C Minor" from 10 a.m. to noon at Bentley Village. \$35 for members, \$40 for others. 850 Retreat Drive. 434-4737 or www.fgcu.edu.

Lifelong Learning – Naples Botanical Garden hosts a lecture about plumeria in Southeast Asia from 10-11 a.m. \$15 for members, \$20 for others. 643-4737 or www.naplesgarden.org.

Free Film – Naples Regional Library screens "Loving" (2016) at 2 p.m. The story of Richard and Mildred Loving, a couple whose arrest for interracial marriage in 1960s Virginia began a legal battle that would end with the Supreme Court's historic 1967 decision. 650 Central Ave. 262-4130 or www.collierlibrary.org.

Love That Dress! – La Piel Spa hosts a Love That Dress! dress collection party to benefit PACE Center for Girls from 5-7 p.m. 352-5554 or www.lovethatdress.org.

Double Time – Lindsay Garritson and Milana Strezeva perform a four-hands piano concert at 6 p.m. at Clive Daniel Home. Cocktails precede the performance at 5:30 p.m. \$60. 646-734-8179 or www.grandpianoseries.com.

Frog Call Adventure – Meet at the Naples Preserve at 7:30 p.m. to caravan out to the wilds of Collier County to hear the frogs call and learn more about these amazing amphibians. Suitable for ages 8 and up. \$10 per family, includes a frog call CD. 1690 Tamiami Trail North. 261-4290.

FRIDAY 7.14

Free Stuff for Kids – Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center offers free admission and themed programming to kids ages 12 and younger from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Friday through summer. This week's theme: sea turtles! 300 Tower Road. 530-5977 or www.rookerybay.org.

Flamenco Fun – World-renowned Flamenco guitarist Ghaleb performs from 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Vergina Restaurant. \$20. 659-7008 or www.verginarestaurant.com.

SATURDAY 7.15

To Market, To Market – Third Street South hosts a farmers market from 7:30-11:30 a.m. 434-6533 or www.thirdstreetsouth.com.

Mano a Mano – The Naples Players hosts a stage combat class that focuses on hand-to-hand combat from 1-3 p.m. at Sugden Community Theater. \$30 for members, \$35 for others. Must be at least 13 years old. 263-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org.

Space Cowboy – The Steve Miller Band performs with special guest Peter Frampton at 7:30 p.m. at Germain Arena. \$40-\$100. 948-7825 or www.germainarena.com.

Funny Guy – Comedian Adam Hunter ("Chelsea Lately," "Last Comic Standing") performs at Off the Hook Comedy Club tonight and Sunday, July 16. 2500 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 389-6901 or www.offthehookcomedy.com.

SUNDAY 7.16

Beach Baubles – Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park hosts a talk about beach combing at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday through July. Free with park entry fee. 597-6196 or www.floridastateparks.gov.

We Scream for Ice Cream – Le Manchot Crème Glacée celebrates its first annual Ice Cream Fest with food trucks, music, local vendors, bounce house and its own signature gelato and frozen treats from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission. 3811 Enterprise Ave. 984-3576 or www.lemanchotcreme glacee.com

Foreign Film – FGCU's Renaissance Academy screens "Golden Dream" (Mexico, 2014) at 2 p.m. at the university's Naples campus. A road movie that follows the fortunes of four Guatemalan teenagers on a dangerous journey across the Mexican border into America. \$6 for members, \$8 for other. 1010 Fifth Ave. S. 434-4737 or www.fgcu.edu.

MONDAY 7.17

Films for Film Lovers – Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs screens "A Summer's Tale" (1996) at 7 p.m. A shy college graduate takes a vacation in Dinard and unwittingly discovers he's a hot commodity among the local girls. \$10. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Songwriter Showcase – The Marco Players hosts a performance by Nate Martin followed by a reception, Q&A with the musician and jam session from 7-10 p.m. \$30-\$35. 1089 N. Collier Blvd. 642-7270 or www.themarcoplayers.com.

TUESDAY 7.18

Pup Patrol – Naples Botanical Garden welcomes friendly, leashed dogs to accompany their owners from 8-11 a.m. Free for member dogs, regular admission plus \$9.95 for non-members and their pooches. Dog-walking hours are also from 3-5 p.m. Thursday and 9-11:30 a.m. Sunday. 643-4737 or www.naplesgarden.org.

Free Kids' Film – Paragon Pavilion screens "Mis Peregrine's School for Peculiar Children" at 10 a.m. today through Thursday, July 13. 833 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 596-0008 or www.paragontheaters.com.

Free Film – Settle in on the lawn at Mercato for a free screening of "Sing" (2016) at sunset. In a city of humanoid animals, a hustling theater impresario's attempt to save his theater with a singing competition becomes grander than he anticipates even as its finalists find their lives will never be the same. 254-1080 or www.mercatoshops.com.

WEDNESDAY 7.19

Lifelong Learning – Naples Botanical Garden hosts a workshop about a practical approach to well-being from 10 a.m. to noon. \$35 for members, \$40 for others. 643-4737 or www.naplesgarden.org.

Hey, Ladies – The Center Bar at Promenade at Bonita Bay hosts Ladies' Night from 4 p.m. to close with \$5 house wine and margaritas and \$3.50 well drinks. 26795 S. Bay Drive, Bonita Springs. www.promenadeshops.com.

Love that Dress! – Ooh La La Jewels Du Jour hosts a dress collection party to benefit PACE Center for Girls from 5-7 p.m. Guests who bring new or gently used dresses will enjoy a wine and cheese reception and shopping discounts, with 20 percent of the evening's proceeds going to PACE. 900 Neapolitan Way. 434-9700 or www.oohlalanas.com.

Two to Tango – El Gaucho Inca hosts tango night with musician Adrian Batista from 5:30-9:30 p.m. 2700 Immokalee Road. 431-7928 or www.elgauchoinca.com.

Art After Hours – The Baker Museum offers free admission from 6-9 p.m. where guests can see its latest exhibitions and installations. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Jig Is Up – Traditional Irish musicians take the stage and kick up their heels at 7 p.m. at Riptide Brewing Company. 987 Third Ave. N. 228-6533 or www.riptidebrewingcompany.com.

Crystal Clear – The Gypsy Sea Witch holds a crystal bowl meditation at 7 p.m. at Koreshan State Historic Site. \$15-\$20, must pre-register at website. 754-444-9779 or www.thegypsysseawitch.com.

COMING UP

For The Birds – Rookery Bay Environmental Learning center hosts a light breakfast and lecture about seabird restoration from 9-10:30 a.m. Thursday, July 20. \$10 for members, \$15 for others. 300 Tower Road. 530-5940 or www.rookerybay.org.

Cast A Net – Learn to catch your own bait when Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park teaches the basic techniques of cast netting at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, July 20. Free with park entry fee. 596-6196 or www.floridastateparks.gov.

Third Thursday – Third Street South hosts live music by Steve Fentimann from 6-9 p.m. Thursday, July 20, on the Fleischmann Courtyard. Free. 434-6533 or www.thirdstreetsouth.com.

Songwriter Showcase – The Marco Players host singer-songwriter Ray Cerbone with a post-performance reception, Q&A with the musician and jam session from 7-10 p.m. Monday, July 24. \$30-\$35. 1089 N. Collier Blvd. 642-7270 or www.themarcoplayers.com.

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

I Wish – Performers from Gulfshore Playhouse’s Teen Conservatory perform selections from Stephen Sondheim’s “Into the Woods” at 3 p.m. Tuesday, July 25, at Naples Regional Library, 650 Central Ave. 262-4230 or www.collierlibrary.org.

‘SUP, Dudes – Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park hosts a beginning paddle board lesson for ages 12 and up at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, July 27. \$15, reservations required. Equipment included. 431-0958 or www.naplesbeachadventures.com.

Art, Drink and Be Merry – Naples Art Association invites guests to enjoy wine while instructors help them complete an acrylic painting from 6-9 p.m. Thursday, July 27. \$50. 585 Park St. 262-6517 or www.naplesart.org.

Dancing Shoes – Learn how to dance backwards in high heels when The Naples Players hold a dance class from 1-3 p.m. Saturday, July 29, at Sugden Community Theater. \$30 for members, \$55 for others. Must be at least 18 years old. 263-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org.

Songwriter Showcase – The Marco Players welcome singer/songwriter Capt. Jac with a post-performance reception, Q&A with the musician and jam session from 7-10 p.m. Monday, July 31. \$30-\$35. 1089 N. Collier Blvd. 642-7270 or www.themarcoplayers.com.

Total Eclipse – Headquarters Library hosts a presentation on the mechanics of the 2017 solar eclipse at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 2. 2385 Orange Blossom Drive. 593-0334 or www.collierlibrary.org.

Free Concert – Electric Mud performs from 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 3, on the lawn at Mercato. 254-1080 or www.mercatoshops.com.

Songwriter Showcase – The Marco Player host singer/songwriters Pete Gallagher and Pat Barmore with a post-performance reception, Q&A with the musicians and jam session from 7-10 p.m. Monday, Aug. 7. \$30-\$35. 1089 N. Collier Blvd. 642-7270 or www.themarcoplayers.com.

Art Reception – Marco Island Center for the Arts hosts an opening reception for the exhibit “Over 80/Under 30” from 5:30-7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 8. Free, but donations welcome. 1010 Winterberry Drive. 394-4221 or www.marcoislandarts.com.

Art Awards – Naples Art Association hosts an awards ceremony, reception and live music by Joel Osment for “Your Choice 2017, the organization’s annual, non-juried exhibition of member works, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 11. The exhibition will hang through Sept. 29. \$10. 585 Park St. 262-6517 or www.naplesart.org.

Nature Film – The Conservancy of Southwest Florida screens DisneyNature’s “Wings of Life” at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug 12. 1495 Smith Preserve Way. 262-0304 or www.conservancy.org.

Songwriter Showcase – The Marco Players present singer/songwriter Andy Wahlberg with a post-performance reception, Q&A with the musician and jam session from 7-10 p.m. Monday, Aug. 14. \$30-\$35. 1089 N. Collier Blvd. 642-7270 or www.themarcoplayers.com.

For The Birds – Rookery Bay Environmental Learning center hosts a light breakfast and lecture about citizen science from 9-10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 15. \$10 for members, \$15 for others. 300 Tower Road. 530-5940 or www.rookerybay.org.



7.13



■ Grow your tropical gardening knowledge with a lecture on **plumeria** from 10-11:30 a.m. Thursday, July 13, at Naples Botanical Garden.

— naplesgarden.org

7.24

■ A performance by Americana musician **Ray Cerbone** and an après-concert jam session is the latest installment in the Florida Songwriter Showcase starting at 7 p.m. Monday, July 24, at The Marco Players theater on Marco Island.

— marcoplayers.com

■ The **Steve Miller Band** performs with special guest Peter Frampton at 7:30 p.m. July 15 at Germain Arena. \$40-\$100.

— germainarena.com

7.15



■ Pianists **Milana Streveza**, founding member of the award-winning Manhattan Piano Trio, and **Lindsay Garritson**, an internationally decorated pianist, perform together at 6 p.m. Thursday, July 13, at Clive Daniel Home.

— grandpianoseries.com



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■ Cool off at Le Manchot Crème Glacée’s first annual **Ice Cream Fest**, which promises a bounce house, food trucks, live music and lots of creamy, icy gelato to keep at least one dog day of summer at bay from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, July 16.

7.16

— lemanchotcremeglacee.com

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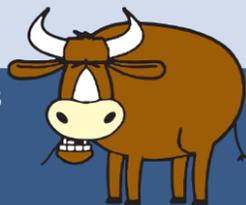
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WHAT TO DO

Poetry and Piano – Florida Poet Laureate Peter Meinke and composer William Dawson Jr. present their original collaborations at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 15, at Naples United Church of Christ. \$40. 5200 Crayton Road. 646-734-8179 or www.grandpianoseries.com.

SummerJazz on the Gulf – Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club presents Gloria West and The Gents when the 32nd season of SummerJazz on the Gulf concerts continues from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 19. Free. 261-2222 or www.naplesbeachhotel.com.

Songwriter Showcase – The Marco Players hosts “Sawgrass” Cindy Hackney with a post-performance reception, Q&A with the musician and jam session from 7-10 p.m. Monday, Aug. 21. \$30-\$35. 1089 N. Collier Blvd. 642-7270 or www.themarcoplayers.com.

Songwriter Showcase – The Marco Players presents singer/songwriter Joerey Ortiz with a post-performance reception, Q&A with the musician and jam session from 7-10 p.m. Monday, Aug. 28. \$30-\$35. 1089 N. Collier Blvd. 642-7270 or www.themarcoplayers.com.

Piano Concert – Pianist Bryan Wallick performs works by Liszt, Bach, Brahms and Albeniz from 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 29, at Shangri-La Springs. 27750 Old 41 Road, Bonita Springs. 646-734-8179 or www.grandpianoseries.com.

Art, Drink and Be Merry – Naples Art Association invites guests to sip wine while instructors help them complete an acrylic painting from 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 31. \$50. 585 Park St. 262-6517 or www.naplesart.org.

plete an acrylic painting from 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 31. \$50. 585 Park St. 262-6517 or www.naplesart.org.

Free Concert – Rockin’ Horse performs from 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7, on the lawn at Mercato. 254-1080 or www.mercatoshops.com.

Free Film – Mercato screens “The Angry Birds Movie” (2016) on the lawn at sunset on Tuesday, Sept. 13. When an island populated by happy, flightless birds is visited by mysterious green pig-gies, it’s up to three unlikely outcasts to figure out what the porkers are up to. 254-1080 or www.mercatoshops.com.

SummerJazz on the Gulf – Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club presents Late Night Brass when the 32nd season of SummerJazz on the Gulf concerts concludes from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16. Free. 261-2222 or www.naplesbeachhotel.com.

Nosh & Shop – Waterside Shops hosts the fifth annual Craving Fashion culinary and fashion event where guests can see the latest fashions available at retailers and enjoy bites from dozens of area restaurants from 5:30-8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 22. Proceeds benefit United Way of Collier County. 598-1605 or www.watersideshops.com.

Wicked Game – Rock ‘n’ roll crooner Chris Isaak performs at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 4, at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall. \$43-\$63. 481-4849 or www.bbmanpah.com.

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WHERE TO GO

Youth Day – Koreshan State Historic Site hosts Youth Empowerment Day with a fishing clinic, self-defense demonstrations, guided hikes and more from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 15. Free with park entry fee. 3800 Corkscrew Road. 992-0311 or www.floridastateparks.gov.

Free Film – Mercato screens “Legally Blonde” (2001) on the lawn at sunset on Tuesday, Oct. 17. Elle Woods follows her ex-boyfriend to law school and figures out there’s more to her than good looks. Free. 254-1080 or www.mercatoshops.com.

How Does Your Garden Grow? – Naples Yard & Garden Show hosts vendors, horticultural experts, lectures and more from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 22, at Collier Extension Services. \$5. 14700 Immokalee Road. 352-4800.

Boo Bash – Little ones can enjoy trick-or-treating, characters, jugglers and more from 9-10:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 28, at Waterside Shops. \$10, reservations required. Proceeds benefit Golisano Children’s Museum of Naples. 598-1605 or www.watersideshops.com.

Free Concert – The Appleseed Collective performs on the lawn at Mercato at from 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 2. 254-1080 or www.mercatoshops.com.

Southern Rock – The Marshall Tucker Band and Charlie Daniels Band

both perform at 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 11, at Seminole Immokalee Casino. \$55-\$125. (800) 218- 0007 or www.moreinparadise.com.

Rocking Chair – Humorist Jean Robertson, a 73-year-old Youtube star known for her witty speeches and observations, performs at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 12, at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall. \$29-\$50. 481-4849 or www.bbman-npah.com.

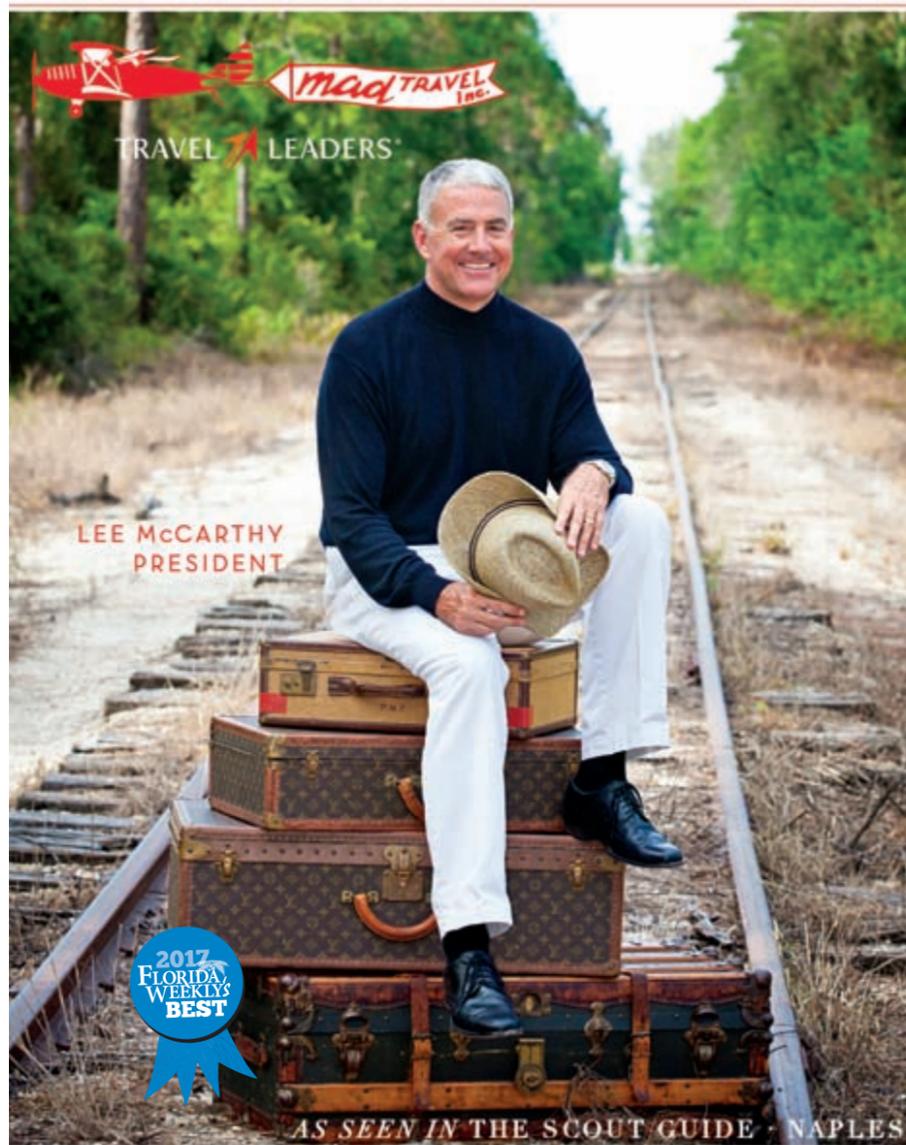
Free Film – Mercato screens “Moana” (2016) on the lawn at 5:45 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 21. 254-1080 or www.mercatoshops.com.

Free Film – Mercato screens “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation” on the lawn at 5:45 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 19. 254-1080 or www.mercatoshops.com.

Noble Ape – Comedian Jim Gaffigan performs at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 28, at Germain Arena. 948-7825 or www.germainarena.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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ARTS COMMENTARY

Mary's simply magical in Broadway Palm's 'Mary Poppins'

nancySTETSON

nstetson@floridaweekly.com



Attention: Mary Poppins has flown into town; be sure not to miss her while she's here.

She's dropped into 17 Cherry Tree Lane (at the Broadway Palm) to straighten out some unruly, ungrateful children, and bring the Banks family closer together.

"Mary Poppins" is an ambitious musical for the theater to put on — for any theater to put on. After all, this is a world where toys and stone statues come to life, cakes decorate themselves and a certain special nanny flies through the sky. There's a vast array of characters and special effects galore.

But the Broadway Palm and its talented cast and crew handle it all marvelously.

Mary Poppins (Melissa Whitworth) shows up fairly early in the musical. The actress shares Julie Andrews's delicate features, so if we use the 1964 Disney movie as a reference (rather than the books), she looks exactly how Mary Poppins should look.

This is Ms. Whitworth's third production as the famous British nanny, and she's the perfect marriage of no-nonsense and nonsensical. She also sings like a dream, to boot, and makes it all look effortless. By the time she's pulled a 5-foot coat rack, an oversized potted plant and a cup of tea from her carpetbag, we've fallen under her spell.

George Banks (James Taylor Odom), the father, may sing of "precision and order," but Mary Poppins is the one who has it all under control.

Chris Duir does a great job as Bert, the chimney sweep. His Bert's a likeable guy, not half as goofy as Dyke Van Dyke is in the movie. Mr. Duir plays him more like a person than a caricature and — thank God — doesn't overdo it with the Cockney accent. As a child, I thought Bert and Mary were an item, but as seen in this stage production, he respects her and has a crush on her. And while she's friendly, Mary seems to keep him at arm's length.

"Step In Time," danced up on the London rooftops among the chimneys with the ensemble all dressed as chimney sweeps, is one of the show's outstanding numbers. This big, infectious, lively



COURTESY PHOTOS
Mary Poppins arrives, with (from left) top row: Kylan Ritchie as Jane Banks and Liam Hutt as Michael Banks; bottom row: Meagan Mapson as Mrs. Brill, James Taylor Odom as George Banks, Melissa Whitworth as Mary Poppins, Desirée Dillon as Winifred Banks and Danny Boman as Robertson Ay.

A scene from "Step In Time."

song is a tap-dancing extravaganza.

This stage show veers from the movie in some places. Mrs. Banks is no longer a suffragette, fighting for the women's vote and equal rights. Bert is not a one-man band. And Mary and the children don't visit Uncle Albert, who floats to the top of the ceiling like a helium balloon when he laughs.

Some of the original songs from the movie (by Richard M. Sherman and Robert B. Sherman) are included — some adapted, and some new songs by George Stiles and Anthony Drewe are added.

Don't worry; old favorites such as "A Spoonful of Sugar," "Chim Chim Cher-ee," "Let's Go Fly a Kite" and "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" are still there, though maybe not all in the places they used to be.

Director Ryan Gibbs and choreographer/associate director Samantha Hews Cramer do a smart job with this show, getting the tone just right and presenting a fresh, bright picture of Mary Poppins. Mr. Gibbs has cast children who

are skilled actors, not just kids who are cute and adorable. Kylan Ritchie and Liam Hutt played Jane and Michael Banks, respectively, on opening night. (They alternate shows with Ava Stroebel and Nicholas Salerno.)

During the show, an interesting thing happened: Mary Poppins' hat was knocked askew during a dance number. The actress tried to quickly reattach it, and failed. A little later, she handed her umbrella to Mr. Hutt, who stayed in character and acted as if it were part of the script. She matter-of-factly re-affixed her hat, and when the two crossed paths again, received her umbrella back.

There's not a weak link in the group. Megan Mapson and Danny Boman as the cook and houseboy are also outstanding, as they try to deal with the strange goings-on in the Bank household.

The role of Mrs. Banks is more of a thankless job in this stage version, but Desirée Dillon makes the best of it, finally asserting herself in the end. She's no longer a suffragette, but a displaced actress trying to win her husband's love and control her unruly children. And Mr. Odom as Mr. Banks

is much more interested in his job than in his wife or children.

The ensemble doesn't get much rest, as they are constantly called upon to be onstage in various numbers as large dolls, Londoners in a park, bankers or chimney sweeps. Many play multiple roles, including Jen Hope, who plays Katie Nanna (a good-natured nanny who leaves the Banks), Miss Andrew (an evil nanny) and the Bird Woman, who sings "Feed the Birds."

There are so many big production numbers in this musical that it's difficult to name them all. The staid banker's number ("Precision and Order") is a great contrast to the outrageousness of "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious."

The costumes, by John P. White, are wildly creative, whether they're stone statues, adult-sized toys, or customers and clerks in Mrs. Corry's magical shop where people can buy words. I adored the two giant dancing penguins in "Jolly Holiday." For some reason, they just made me laugh.

While this is a light-hearted show, it also has its messages, including "Anything can happen if you let it." Though family friendly, some scenes may be too intense for very young children. (The original West End production banned children 3 and younger, saying the show was for best for children 7 and older.)

The special effects are quite amazing; it's one thing to see something occur on screen, but a definite challenge to make magic happen on a stage. Mary Poppins even flies in a couple of scenes (though if you sit in the very front of the theater, you can see the wires and mechanics that make it happen, unfortunately, spoiling the spell).

"Mary Poppins" is one of the best shows I've seen produced at the Broadway Palm. Go see it — it's a joyous, magical show that will make you feel like a child again. ■

in the know

'Mary Poppins: The Musical'

- >> **When:** through Aug. 12
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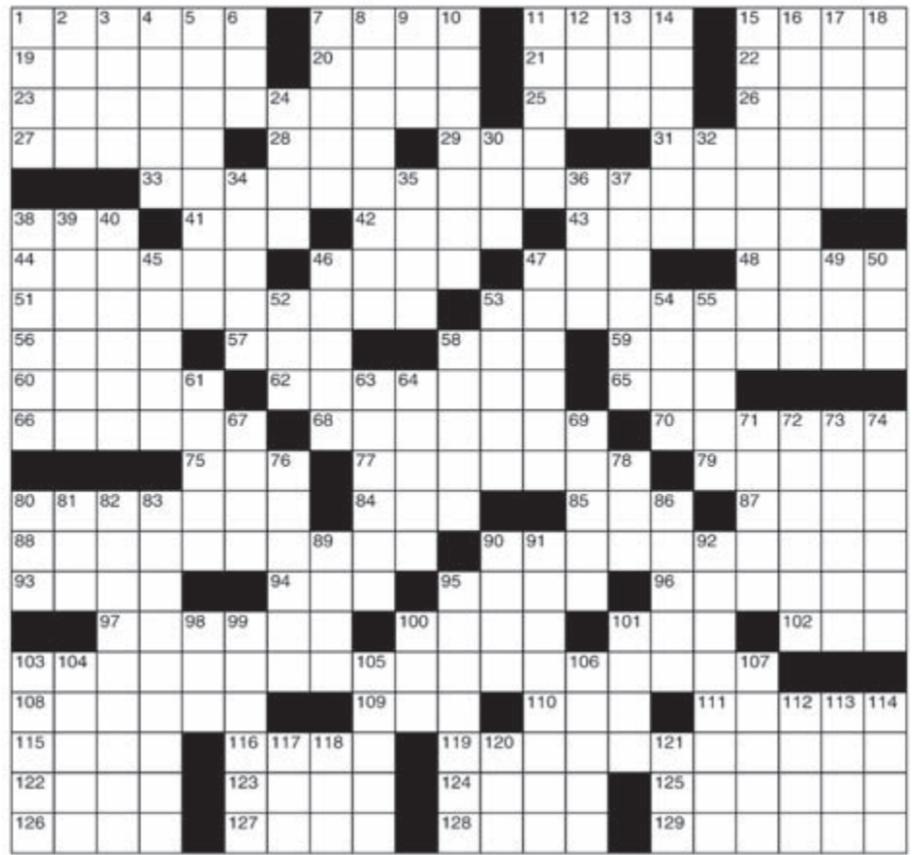
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PUZZLES

PERMANENT LINKS

- ACROSS**
- 1 Neighbor of Rwanda
 - 7 Only OK
 - 11 Lucky mystique
 - 15 Odist, e.g.
 - 19 Bagel shape
 - 20 "— Excited"
 - 21 Baldwin of film
 - 22 Duncan of education
 - 23 Decorative window option
 - 25 Grown-up eft
 - 26 Dryer fuzz
 - 27 Tendril, e.g.
 - 28 Atop, to a 15-Across
 - 29 Washed-out
 - 31 Slowly, on a score
 - 33 Hurdle for a new driver's-license applicant
 - 38 See 24-Down
 - 41 Wall St. news
 - 42 Prefix with vision
 - 43 Superhero film of 2015
 - 44 Apple pic application
 - 46 Bottom-row PC key
 - 47 "— Miniver"
 - 48 Mimics a wolf
 - 51 Totem pole, essentially
 - 53 Item in an election box
 - 56 Ocean's hue
 - 57 Ocean's kin
 - 58 Cleveland cager, briefly
 - 59 Subsides
 - 60 Oxidizes
 - 62 Upright height
 - 65 Coach Riley
 - 66 Pick up on
 - 68 What can follow eight key words in this puzzle to get phrases meaning "permanent"
 - 70 SSA part
 - 75 City area, informally
 - 77 Deny, as a fact
 - 79 Mambo relative
 - 80 "No, not true!"
 - 84 Mine rocks
 - 85 Bang into
 - 87 Fix, as a cat
 - 88 Vase inserts
 - 90 Fixed goal
 - 93 State, to Luc
 - 94 Alias initials
 - 95 Jacob's first wife
 - 96 Secondary
 - 97 Venerate
 - 100 Objectives
 - 101 24-hr. cash source
 - 102 Serpentine letter
 - 103 Fancy wedding mailing
 - 108 Frosh topper
 - 109 Seedy loaf
 - 110 Salem-to-L.A. dir.
 - 111 It's a no-no
 - 115 Greek liqueur
 - 116 White-dwarf explosion
 - 119 Feature of a body-builder's tummy
 - 122 Dunkable cookie
 - 123 Smack hard
 - 124 Golfer, e.g.
 - 125 Isis' brother
 - 126 "Freak on a Leash" rock band
 - 127 In times past
 - 128 Fulfill
 - 129 Cloud layers
- DOWN**
- 1 Colorado natives
 - 2 Alternative style to emo
 - 3 Former BP gas brand
 - 4 Not at all, informally
 - 5 Classic cola brand
 - 6 Count up
 - 7 — mignon
 - 8 Italian liqueur
 - 9 Specific mag. printing
 - 10 UFO museum city
 - 11 Miracle food from above
 - 12 Bullfighting yell
 - 13 Hanukkah observer
 - 14 Eighth of a circle
 - 15 Tasty
 - 16 They're not facsimiles
 - 17 Film scorer
 - 18 "Grand" mountain
 - 24 With 38-Across, deteriorate (on)
 - 30 Logger's tool
 - 32 Block (up)
 - 34 Apple items with earbuds
 - 35 Geeky sort
 - 36 Rover's planet
 - 37 Foot section
 - 38 Jean-Luc of the U.S.S. Enterprise
 - 39 Light-blocking
 - 40 Propulsion
 - 45 Egg-shaped
 - 46 Raccoon lookalike
 - 47 Experts
 - 49 "— name it!"
 - 50 Brand of fuel additives
 - 52 "Gone" actor Bentley
 - 53 "Lili" actress Leslie
 - 54 Dolly's calls
 - 55 Fur tycoon on the Titanic
 - 58 "Aw" inspirer
 - 61 Certain oar
 - 63 Longhair cat
 - 64 Romanov bigwigs
 - 67 Half a sextet
 - 69 Neighbor of 36-Down
 - 71 Tooth parts
 - 72 Horn in (on)
 - 73 Demeans
 - 74 Parfait parts
 - 76 Look out for
 - 78 Talk shrilly
 - 80 Cola cooler
 - 81 "Tsk, tsk!"
 - 82 Daydreamer
 - 83 Matinée time
 - 86 Prefix with faceted
 - 89 Barely earned, with "out"
 - 90 Rig on a road
 - 91 Manhattan area
 - 92 Most distant
 - 95 Equipment for real-time viewing on the Net
 - 98 Steve of rock guitar
 - 99 "All the same ..."
 - 100 Above zero
 - 101 To — (unerringly)
 - 103 Nook reading
 - 104 Prefix with physiologist
 - 105 Beyond mad
 - 106 Good point
 - 107 Low point
 - 112 Silents vamp Theda
 - 113 Somber paper notice
 - 114 Greek mount
 - 117 Have
 - 118 Carpet sweeper, briefly
 - 120 Move hastily
 - 121 UCLA part



◀ SEE ANSWERS, C11

HOROSCOPES

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Your kindness makes a difference in someone's life. But by week's end, a touch of Cancerian envy could create a problem with a colleague. Take care to keep it under control.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) A new spurt of energy sends you roaring back into that challenging work situation. But be careful not to overdo it, or your sizzle could fizzle before your task is completed.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Your practical sense helps you see the logic of being a bit more flexible with a workplace colleague. But you still have a ways to go before there's a true meeting of the minds.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A surprise situation could cause you to spend more money than you feel you can afford. But careful budget adjustments will help. Your fiscal picture soon brightens.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) That decision you

made might still have its detractors, but your supporters are growing. Meanwhile, your personal life takes on some welcome new developments.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Matters of the mind intrigue the sage Sagittarian through week's end. By then, you should feel more than ready to make room for pursuits of the heart.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) The canny Capricorn can offer good counsel to others. But how about taking some advice yourself from a close friend or family member who is able and ready to help?

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A new workplace opportunity offers a variety of challenges that you might find intriguing. Best advice: Take things one step at a time so that you don't feel overwhelmed.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A bid to revive a relationship that

ended on a bitter note needs to be carefully thought out before you can even begin to consider plunging into a new emotional commitment.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You're wise to let your Arian skepticism question a former adversary's request to let bygones be bygones. Time will tell if they are trying to pull the wool over the Lamb's eyes.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Congratulations. Your hard work soon pays off with some well-deserved recognition. Meanwhile, that important personal relationship needs more attention from you.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) That new person in your life seems trustworthy, but don't turn him or her into a confidant just yet. Remember: The secret you don't reveal is the one you won't lose sleep over.

BORN THIS WEEK: You enjoy being with people, and people love being with you. You would probably do very well in politics. ■

SUDOKU

Difficulty level:

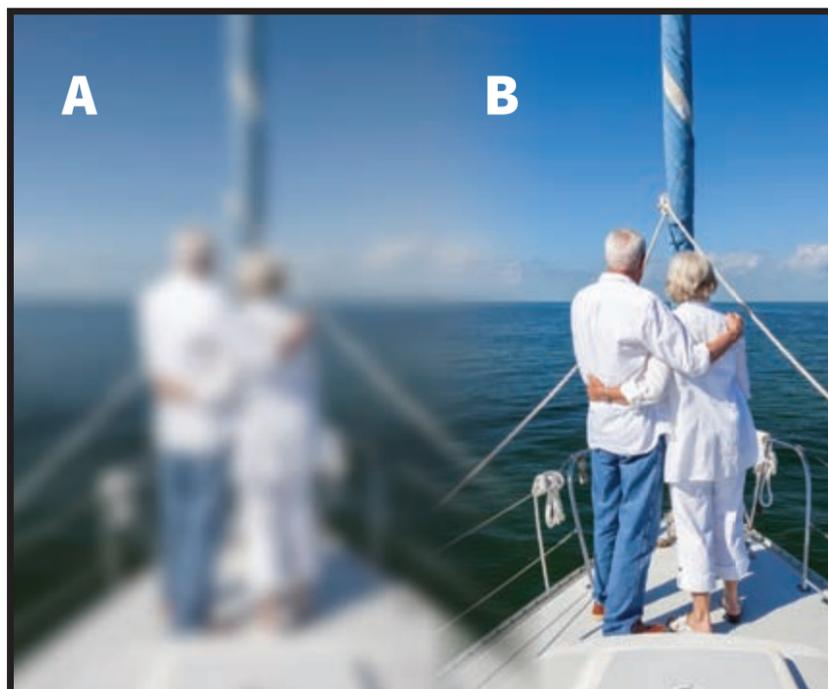


Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

By Linda Thistle



◀ SEE ANSWERS, C11



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CONTRACT BRIDGE

Immobilizing the defense

BY STEVE BECKER

There is no difference between making a contract on its merits and making a contract because your opponents don't find the best defense. Many a contract is made because of a defensive error or misjudgment, and anything declarer can do to induce a misplay is a step in the right direction.

Consider this case where West leads a diamond against four spades. South sees four losers — a heart, two diamonds and a club — and must try to avoid one of them.

If the defenders could see South's hand, they surely would stop the contract. But since declarer's specific assets and liabilities are concealed from the prying eyes of the defense, he often can trade upon this advantage.

South's best method of play is to win the diamond in dummy and immediately return a low heart. East follows low, and the jack loses to the ace. The defenders cash two diamonds and switch to a club.

Declarer wins with the king, draws trumps ending in dummy and leads the queen of hearts. This traps East's king, and sooner or later South disposes of his club loser on one of dummy's heart honors.

The only way East can foil declarer is by rising with the king when the three of hearts is led from dummy at trick two. However, going up with the king

South dealer.

Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ K 7 3
♥ Q 10 4 3
♦ A 7 5
♣ A K 6

WEST

♠ 9 6
♥ A 9 8 5
♦ Q J 10 2
♣ 10 8 3

EAST

♠ 8 4
♥ K 7 6 2
♦ K 9 4
♣ Q J 7 2

SOUTH

♠ A Q J 10 5 2
♥ J
♦ 8 6 3
♣ 9 5 4

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
2♠	Pass	4♠	

Opening lead — queen of diamonds.

of hearts is a lot easier when you see all four hands than when you see only the East hand and dummy. The fact is that not many players would make this play, and, in any case, nothing is lost by putting East to the test.

Note that declarer makes his move as soon as possible — without drawing trumps and without giving the defense the slightest inkling of what he is up to. ■

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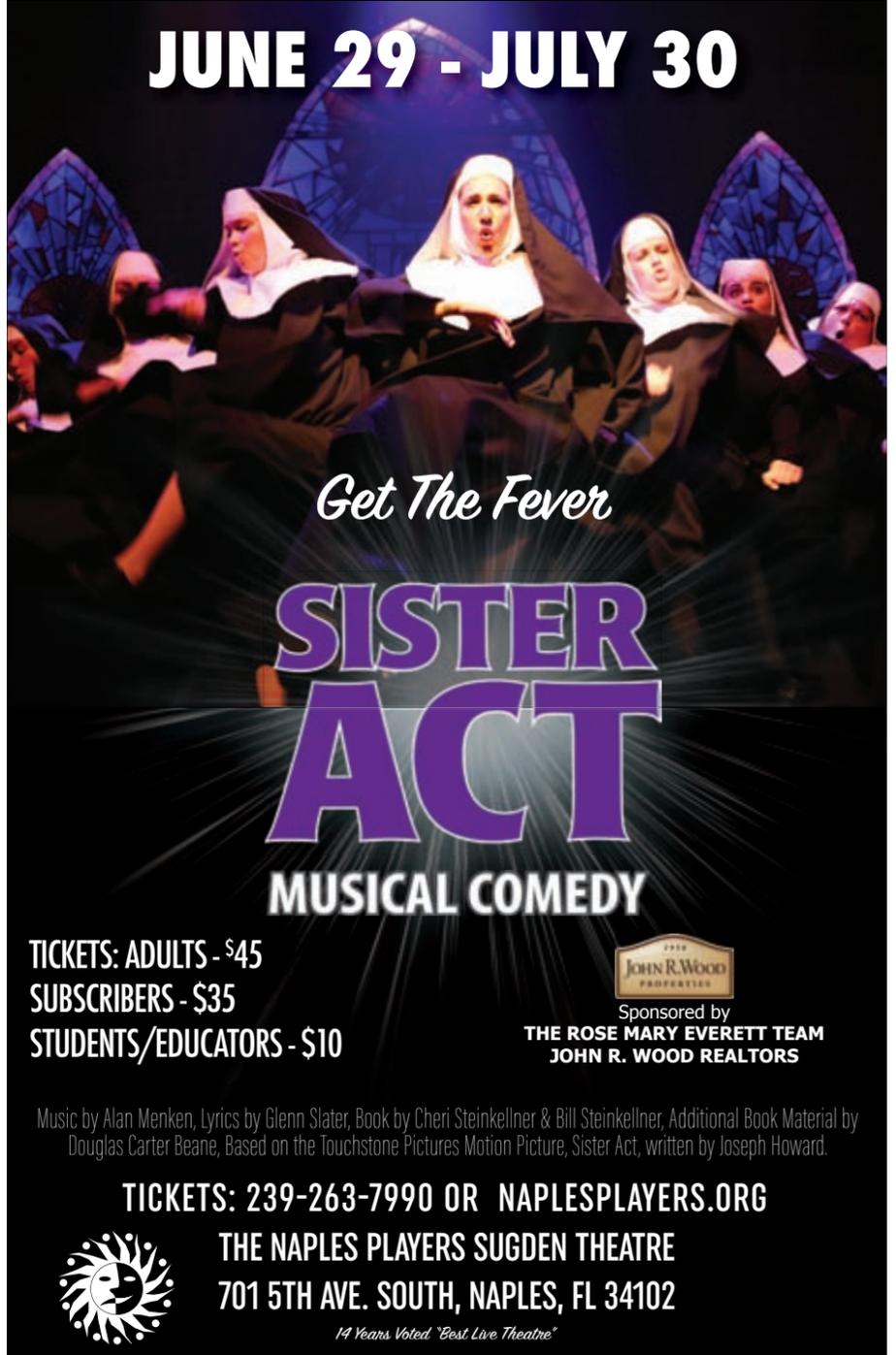
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CELEBRITY EXTRA

What's Kevin Bacon up to?

BY CINDY ELAVSKY

Q: Can you tell me what my favorite actor, Kevin Bacon, has been up to lately?
— Brian F., via email

A: The prolific and talented actor is currently working with Jason Blum on a pilot of his 1990 cult-hit comedy/horror movie "Tremors." They are developing an eight-episode series based on the movie for the SyFy network. Kevin will star in and produce the series, returning as lead character Valentine McKee, a handyman in a small Nevada town who battles for his life, and the lives of the townsfolk, against giant man-eating sandworms. There is no word on whether any of the other stars of the movie will return, but then again, did anyone except Kevin's character survive? It's been so long, I can't remember. Looks like I have my Friday movie night planned out!



DEPOSITPHOTOS
KEVIN BACON

Q: Is it true that there is going to be another installment of my favorite scary movie, "The Conjuring"?

— Larry K., Galveston, Texas

A: New Line recently announced that "The Conjuring 3" is indeed in the works. Patrick Wilson and Vera Farmiga

are expected to return as Ed and Lorraine Warren, the husband-and-wife team of paranormal researchers. The plot of this installment will come from the case files of the Warrens, and you can bet it will be just as scary as the first two films. Since it's in the very early stages of development, details such as plot, premiere date, co-stars, etc., are not yet available.

Q: I've watched quite a few original Netflix feature films, and I always find them enjoyable and compelling. Can you tell me any new ones I should look out for?
— Xavier R., via email

A: I just got word that Netflix won the rights to an as-yet-untitled drama set in the art world and starring Jake Gyllenhaal and Rene Russo (one of my favorite actresses). The movie was written by Dan Gilroy, who also will direct. You may remember that Dan directed Jake and Renee in the film "Nightcrawler," so it'll be interesting to get the team back together and see what they create. If you want to get your Jake fill before then, his Netflix-original movie "Okja," which recently competed at the Cannes Film Festival, is now available for streaming. It also stars Tilda Swinton and Paul Dano. ■

— 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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FILM CAPSULES

War for the Planet of the Apes

★★★

(Andy Serkis, Woody Harrelson, Judy Greer) After his wife and child are murdered, Caesar (Serkis), the leader of the apes, vows vengeance on the man who killed them (Harrelson). That's right: Caesar only wants revenge on one guy, so there's not much "war" here at all. It's one of the many letdowns in this third part of the new "Apes" trilogy. Rated PG-13.

Spider-Man: Homecoming

★★★★

(Tom Holland, Robert Downey Jr., Michael Keaton) Spider-Man (Holland) must stop a black market arms dealer (Keaton) from selling alien technology to criminals. Solid action, humor, and a winning performance from Holland in the title role make this thoroughly enjoyable summer fare. Rated PG-13.

Despicable Me

★★★

(Steve Carell, Kristen Wiig, Trey Parker) Gru (Carell), his long-lost brother Dru (Carell again) and Lucy try to stop '80s inspired villain Balthazar Bratt (Parker) from destroying Hollywood. Too much focus on Carell's two characters and not enough on the villain and story make this an uneven disappointment. Rated PG.

The Beguiled

★★★★

(Nicole Kidman, Colin Farrell, Elle Fanning) During the Civil War, a wounded Union soldier is taken in by Confederate women who subsequently compete for his attention. It starts slow, but it's fun to watch the story twist and the third act packs a wallop. Rated R.

Transformers: The Last Knight

★★★½

(Mark Wahlberg, Anthony Hopkins, Laura Haddock) Once again the Autobots get Mark Wahlberg's help in saving the world from the Decepticons. It's understandable if you're expecting this fifth installment to be terrible, but it's actually pretty amusing. The story is cleverer than you expect, and the visual effects and action are strong. Rated PG-13.

The Hero

★★★

(Sam Elliott, Laura Prepon, Nick Offerman) An aging former movie star (Elliott) tries to reconcile his disappointing life after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Elliott's performance is stellar, but the story is underdeveloped and some important characters barely register. Rated R.

Beatriz At Dinner

★★★

(Salma Hayek, John Lithgow, Connie Britton) A masseuse's (Hayek) car breaks down at her wealthy client's (Britton) home, so she's invited to stay for a dinner party that night, where she butts heads with a real estate mogul (Lithgow). The script wants to say a lot, yet it never figures out how to say it. The ambition for ripe social commentary is here, but not the execution. Rated R.

Megan Leavey

★★★★

(Kate Mara, Common, Edie Falco) A Marine (Mara) and her bomb-sniffing dog bond and save lives in Iraq. It's a touching story that also shows how in many ways the dog saves her life as well. Rated PG-13. ■

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LATEST FILMS

'War for the Planet of the Apes'

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★★
Is it worth \$10? No

There's not much war in "War for the Planet of the Apes," which is a problem given that it's called "War for the Planet of the Apes." A better, more accurate title would have been "Failed Diplomacy on the Planet of the Apes," though of course that wouldn't get anyone excited. "War" though, YEAH. An apes-fighting-humans summer blockbuster — give me some of that.

It opens well, as an army battalion closes in on an ape stronghold. The humans think they're at war, the apes just want to be left alone. Humans attack. Apes defend themselves. It's a nicely staged, edited and performed sequence, and gives hope for positive things to come.

And then ... nothing. The apes talk about their feelings and soon we're about to doze off. The dialog isn't well written. In fact, this may set the record for most subtitles in a big budget blockbuster. It's a given that people spending money to see a movie with this title don't want to read from the screen. This isn't a foreign film, after all.

Now we do need to know what the apes are communicating, so why not let them all speak? Not just the leader, Caesar (Andy Serkis), all of them. Because here's the logical flaw in only Caesar speaking: How do the other apes understand English? Furthermore, when he's not facing other apes and they sign (language) something to him, he shouldn't be responding as if they're in conversation when he can't see them. Apparently the other apes understand English perfectly, they just can't speak it. The few that try a word here and there, though, do just fine.

I know. I'm talking about logic in a movie about a talking ape and the humans trying to kill him. Perhaps my frustration is misguided. Let's instead put all the blame for the film's failings on the misshapen story. After big bad

Colonel McCullogh (Woody Harrelson) kills Caesar's wife (Judy Greer) and son (Max Lloyd-Jones), Caesar vows to kill him. Important: Caesar vows to kill only McCullogh and no one else. It's not much of a war when the protagonist is only after one person.

On Caesar goes, picking up help in the form of fellow apes Maurice (Karin Konoval), Luca (Michael Adamthwaite) and Rocket (Terry Notary). They also take pity on a human girl, Nova (Amiah Miller), and the kooky "Bad Ape" (Steve Zahn), so named because he used to be in a zoo and (presumably) that's what humans always said to him. We're supposed to feel bad for him. I didn't.

As the chase evolves, nonsensical plot conveniences take over. The apes find the perfect people to join them on their journey, even in the most remote of places. Later, Nova walks straight into a restricted area completely undetected and assists incarcerated apes, apparently because the guards had gone to bed for the night.

All that implausibility aside, director Matt Reeves' film does feature tremendous visual effects.

Because they seem so real it's easy to forget the apes are created using performance capture animation, in which the actors' movements are placed into a computer that subsequently renders the apes. Given that everything about the apes is created inside a computer, the details of the hair, facial expressions, light reflecting in the eyes and even tears are absolutely stunning. If you do see this, be sure to make an effort to marvel at the technology on display.

In the opening credits, "War for the Planet of the Apes" provides a quick summary of predecessors "Rise" (2011) and "Dawn of the Planet of the Apes" (2014), which is good because the only thing I remembered about those two was how forgettable they were. Now having seen the third film, I hope the fourth will extend the same courtesy. ■



in the know

Did you know?

>> There have now been nine "Planet of the Apes" movies, and the first one (1968) is still the best.



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Not responsible for typographical errors or changes in entertainment schedule.

■ **Wine Tasters of Naples** is a social club that meets from 5-7:30 p.m. every Friday at different locations around town. More so than wine, members enjoy socializing and working together on philanthropic and service projects to benefit the community. Members pay a \$7 door fee; guests pay \$9. Light bites are served, and attendees pay for their own beverages. The club sponsors other social events throughout the year as well. For more information, visit www.winetaster-sofnaples.wildapricot.org.



■ **Solo Singles of Collier County** was organized more than 25 years ago to create and promote recreation, culture, charitable and social activities for those persons single, divorced or widowed. Members meet at 5 p.m. every Friday for happy hour and dinner at different restaurants around town. Upcoming gathering spots are: July 14, Brunina's Pizza & Pasta, 4330 Thomason Drive; July 21, Watermark Grille, 11280 Tamiami Trail N.; and July 28, 2017 Eurasia, 8793 Tamiami Trail E. For more information, call Carey Hughes 262-0278 or email careyjh@aol.com.

■ **Gamma Phi Betas** who are living in or visiting Southwest Florida are welcome to join members for lunch on the second Monday of every month at

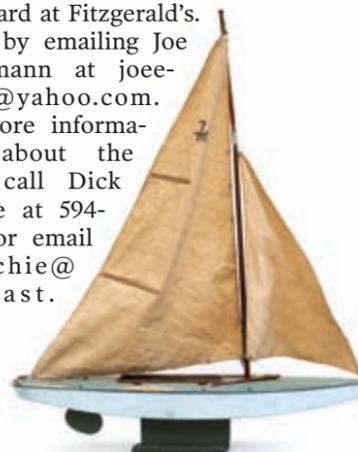
Brio Ristorante in Waterside Shops. For more information, call Lynne Nordhoff at 594-8420.

■ **The Antique Automobile Club of America-Naples Marco Region** members meet at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Monday at First United Church of Naples, 388 First Ave. S. Visitors are always welcome. The next meeting is July 24. For general information about the club, call Paul Rhoads at 877-3228 or visit www.naplesmarcoaca.org.



■ **Toast of The Coast Toastmasters Club #6544**, recognized by Toastmasters International as a President's Distinguished Club, meets from noon to 1 p.m. on the second and fourth Friday of every month at the American Cancer Society office, 5020 Tamiami Trail N. The next meetings are July 14 and 23. Visitors are always welcome. For more information, call 777-0416 or visit www.ToastOfTheCoast.org.

■ **Naples Ship Modelers** is an informal group dedicated to building wooden ship models. Members meet at 9:30 a.m. July 15 and 29 at the Landmark Naples community in North Naples. Members should bring their works in progress and be prepared to share techniques and tips. All are invited to enjoy lunch afterward at Fitzgerald's. RSVP by emailing Joe Geithmann at joeearl142@yahoo.com. For more information about the club, call Dick Ritchie at 594-0868 or email dritchier@comcast.net.



■ The **PCBUG** computer and technology club invites all those interested in learning more about computers and

mobile devices to meet at 5 p.m. Thursday, July 20, at Naples Regional Library, 650 Central Ave. For more information call J. Burke at 659-0659 or email pad-dyeb@hotmail.com.

■ The **Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance** meets from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, July 20, at the Naples Conference Center, 1455 Pine Ridge Road. Admission is free, and all are welcome. The alliance welcomes donations of out-of-bloom or unwanted orchids, which members use for educational purposes. Free pick up is available and can be arranged by calling 498-9741. For more information, visit gulfcoastorchidalliance.com.

■ The Naples chapter of **PFLAG, Parents Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays**, a support, education and advocacy group for families with gay or transgender members, meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month at Naples United Church of Christ, 5200 Crayton Road. The next meeting is July 20. For more information, call 963-4670 or visit pflagnaples.org.

■ The **Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 1067-Naples** meets at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month at Naples Municipal Airport. The next meeting is Aug. 2. Members also serve a buffet breakfast from 8-11 a.m. on the second Sunday of each month in the pilots' lounge at Naples Municipal Airport. Admission for \$5 includes all-you-can-eat fresh fruit, donuts and pastries, yogurt, breakfast sausage, juice and coffee, with all proceeds benefitting the EAA Young Eagles program that acquaints youth ages 8-17 with aviation as a career. The Naples EAA chapter is one of approximately 1,700 chapters worldwide. Members are pilots, student pilots, plane builders and aviation enthusiasts. For more information, call 649-6627 or visit www.eaa1067.com.

■ Want to ski Steamboat, Jackson Hole and Aspen/Snowmass in 2018? Join the **Southwest Florida Ski Club** to learn about upcoming ski adventures on the slopes. Starting in September, membership meetings take place on the first Tuesday of the month, and social gatherings are held on the third Tuesday of every month at different locations throughout Naples. For more information, call 839-3711 or visit www.swflskiclub.com.

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



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SAVE THE DATE

■ A “Summer Bling Fling” and dress collection party to benefit **PACE Center for Girls-Collier** at Immokalee takes place from 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, July 19, at Ooh La La Jewels Du Jour, 900 Neapolitan Way in Naples. Guests will enjoy a wine and cheese reception with raffles, drawings and discount shopping, with 20 percent of sales going to PACE. Each person who donates a dress or purse for Love That Dress! (see next item) will receive a gift from Ooh La La Jewels Du Jour. For more information, call 434-9700 or visit www.oohlalanales.com.



■ **PACE Center For Girls-Collier** at Immokalee and presenting sponsor White House Black Market present the seventh annual Love That Dress! from 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 16, at the Naples Grande Beach Resort. General admission is \$30; VIP admission with 5 p.m. entry is \$150. VIP guests and major sponsors enjoy private dressing rooms, clothing hold, express checkout service and complimentary cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. Tickets go on sale July 15 at www.lovethatdress.org.

In the meantime, sponsors, volunteers and vendors are still welcome, as are donations of new and gently worn dresses of all styles and sizes. Dress donations can be dropped off during business hours at these locations: A. Jaron Studio, First Florida Integrity Bank, Georgie's & The Shoe Resort, Gretchen Scott Designs, Healthsource Chiropractic, Ideal Image, IHeartMedia, Invitation to Paper, Kunjani, Lilly Pulitzer and Lux Boutique.

■ The **Purple Party Masquerade** hosted by the NextGen Committee of The Shelter for Abused Women & Children takes place from 6:30-9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 12, at Cavo Lounge. NextGen members and other young professionals gather to raise awareness to end domestic violence and human trafficking. Tickets are \$65 and include one drink (cash bar available), hors d'oeuvres and entertainment. Lisa Hulme is this year's chair, and Mike Gebeau is vice-chair. For tickets or more information, including details about sponsorship opportunities, call Rebecca Thompson at 775-3862 or go to www.naplesshelter.org/purpleparty.

■ **Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida** honors its 2017 Business Hall of Fame-Collier County laureates during a dinner and awards ceremony Thursday, Oct. 26, at the Naples Grande Beach Resort. For information about tickets and sponsorship opportunities, visit www.JAS-WFL.org.

■ The **Community Foundation of Collier County** hosts the 2017 Celebration of Philanthropy luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 3, at the Naples Grande Beach Resort. The following awards will be presented: The Robert C. Cosgrove Award, Patty and Jay Baker; the Harvey Kapnick Award, the Conservancy of Southwest Florida; Outstanding Corporate Philanthropy Award, Wynn's Market & Catering; and the Excellence in Civic Leadership Award, The Latchkey League of The Salvation Army. Tickets are \$185. For more information, visit www.cfcollier.org/events.

■ **Humane Society Naples** holds its 19th annual Fashion Show & Luncheon: “The Real Housepets of Naples” at 11:30 a.m. Friday, Nov. 10, at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort. Co-chairs are Philip Douglas and Doug Olsen. Tickets are \$200. Formal invitations will be mailed. For information about sponsorships, email Annemarie Zoller at events@hsnaples.org.

■ **Youth Haven** holds its fourth annual Uncorked wine pairing event from 5-7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 10, at Mediterra Beach Club in Bonita Springs. Guests will catch stellar views of the sun setting over the Gulf of Mexico while enjoying wines from Napa Valley vintner Darioush, live entertainment, a raffle and silent auction. Tickets for \$150 go on sale Aug. 1 at www.youthhavenswfl.org.

■ **Tea at the Ritz** to benefit Make-A-Wish Southern Florida takes place from 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9, at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort. For tickets or more information as the date nears, call 992-9474, ext. 22, or email lcolantonio@sflawish.org.

■ **CAPA Cultural and Performing Arts Center** holds its annual gala, “Hitting the Right Note,” Monday evening, Jan. 8, at the Naples Sailing & Yacht Club. For more information, call 775-2800 or email info@capacenter.org.

■ The **David Lawrence Center** celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2018. While numerous programs and events will mark the milestone throughout the year, the biggest of all will be the 50th Anniversary Celebration Gala: “Puttin’ on the Ritz” the evening of Saturday, Jan. 13, 2018, at The

Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort. For more information, call Jennifer Denike at 304-3505, email jenniferde@dclmhc.com or visit www.DLCgala.org.

■ The **Wishmaker's Ball** to benefit Make-A-Wish Southern Florida will be held Saturday evening, Jan. 13, at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort. For tickets or more information as the date nears, call 992-9474, ext. 22, or email lcolantonio@sflawish.org.

■ **Champions For Learning** holds the annual Night of Champions from 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 31, at the Naples Grande Beach Resort. Watch www.championsforlearning.org for more information as the date nears.

■ The **Neighborhood Health Clinic** hosts a gourmet vintner dinner Saturday evening, Feb. 3, at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort. The evening begins with a reception featuring a samples from more than 10 winemakers selected by The Ritz-Carlton's sommelier. Following the tasting, guests will enjoy dinner, live entertainment, a live auction, dancing and more. Guests will be able to be “life savers” by donating directly to clinic, where 90 cents of every dollar goes directly to patient services. NHC cares for approximately 200 working, uninsured patients a week.

Tickets to the vintner dinner are \$375. Sponsorships are available. For more information, call 316-7416 or visit www.neighborhoodhealthclinic.org.

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From page 1

markers, crayons and coloring books; motivational/meditation books and calendars; playing cards and small games. 6075 Bathey Way. 455-8500 or www.davidlawrence.org.

■ **Friends of Foster Children Forever** - The organization aims to supply the needs of children who enter or are at risk of entering the foster system: large binders and Trapper Keepers; toddler clothing; diapers; baby wipes; bottles; formula; boys underwear and socks in all sizes. 2675 Horseshoe Drive. 262-1808 or www.friendsoffosterchildren.net.

■ **Grace Place for Children and Families** - The school provides educational opportunities for children and families to lift themselves from poverty and is currently helping young children ready themselves for kindergarten: healthy, individually wrapped snacks; Goldfish and Teddy Graham snacks; board books; bilingual "easy reader" books for English as a Second Language programs; powdered milk; canned or dry fruit; canned vegetables; canned soup; dry beans; bags of rice; boxed macaroni and cheese; cereal; canned meat; peanut butter and jelly. 4300 21st Ave. S.W. 234-2400 or www.graceplace-naples.org.

■ **Hope for Haiti, 1021 Fifth Ave. N.** - The organization distributes medical supplies to rural partner facilities

and provides medical care to local communities: Water purification tablets; oral rehydration salts; Tylenol, Advil, Children's Tylenol and Neosporin with expiration dates of 6/18 or later; unopened antibiotics with a 12-month expiration date like doxycycline, tetracycline and amoxicillin; hygiene products; batteries, flashlights, carpentry tools; school supplies. 434-7183 or www.hopeforhaiti.org.

■ **Humane Society Naples, 370 Airport Pulling Road** - Adoptable pets have a lot of needs and Humane Society Naples appreciates supplies that keep them happy, healthy and ready to find a forever family: heavy duty garbage bags; hand sanitizer; towels, blankets and sheets; two-gallon Ziploc bags; sandwich-sized Ziploc bags; bleach, laundry detergent; Dawn dish soap; scoopable cat litter; pill pockets for dogs and cats; paper towels; Fabuloso all-purpose cleaner; disinfectant wipes; canned dog and puppy food; canned cat and kitten food; KMR milk replacement for kittens; Esbilac formula for puppies; soft dog toys; durable and washable dog toys; Kongs; peanut butter; washable cat toys, Milkbone dog treats; Cat Turbo Scratcher refills; dog waste bags, Kuranda beds for dogs; puppy training pads; heating pads for foster pets; pet beds; Feliway Plug-In refills. 642-1555 or www.hsnaples.org.

■ **Naples Art Association, 585 Park St.** - ARTScool is a STEAM-based summer program for children ages 5-17 that serves over 800 students each year, twenty percent of whom receive tuition assistance: two large dry erase boards (48 by 72); six sets of dry erase markers in various colors; professional grade

Prang watercolor sets, blicrylic paints; fifty Fiskars pointed tip scissors; plastic Palettes/mixing Trays; specialty paper for pastel, drawing (graphite, colored pencil) and watercolor; five Ipevo Ziggi-HD Plus High Definition USB Document Cameras (CDVU-06IP); five five Casio XJ-F210WN WXGA Ultra Video Projectors. 262-6517 or www.naplesart.org.

■ **Naples Cat Alliance, 555 Golden Gate Pkwy** - Naples Cat Alliance carries out cat rescues and adoptions with no government funding, relying on volunteers and private donations: large bags of Purina Cat Chow; large cans of Friskies cat food; Fancy Feast canned kitten food; Royal Canin baby cat dry food; KMR kitten milk; gift certificates to Rural King or Tractor Supply for litter; laundry detergent; bleach; paper towels. (424) 835-1523 or www.naples-catalliance.org.

■ **The Shelter for Abused Women & Children, 968 Second Ave. N.** - The organization provides emergency shelter to domestic abuse and human trafficking victims and their children: hygiene products; twin-sized bed linens; towels and washcloths; sleep shirts; plastic dinnerware; tampons; dish detergent; diapers; hand-held can openers; baby and children's clothes; non-violent toys; formula; strollers; car seats; all sizes of socks and shoes; pacifiers and sippy cups; used cell phones; phone cards; gas cards; CAT bus tickets; gift certificates; tuna, ham and chicken; soups; pasta; salt and pepper; sugar; rice; peanut butter and jelly; juice; coffee; cereal; canned food; oatmeal; condiments; juice boxes; ramen noodles; fresh fruits and vegetables; milk; dog

and cat food; [et shampoo and conditioner; cat litter; pet bedding; collars and leashes. 775-3862 or www.naplesshelter.org.

■ **Senior Center at Jewish Family and Community Services of Southwest Florida, 5025 Castella Drive** - The center provides social services and operates a food pantry to serve local seniors: low-sodium canned soups and vegetables; peanut butter; canned tuna; pasta; Depends; toilet paper. 325-4444 or www.jfcsswfl.org.

■ **von Arx Wildlife Hospital at The Conservancy of Southwest Florida, 1495 Smith Preserve Way** - The hospital treats about 3,800 injured, sick and orphaned native animals each year: oatmeal and rolled oats (not instant); toasted oat cereal. Purina One Smart Blend kitten formula; distilled water; Iams Smart Puppy Chow; Krusee Manukah Honey G; unscented paper towels; towels in good condition; hand soap; unscented bleach; liquid dish detergent; cotton balls; Scotch Dishwant refills and holders; 15- and 33-gallon trash bags; high efficiency laundry detergent; Lysol disinfectant spray; JetNozzle - Best Adjustable Brass Hose Spray Nozzles; leather garden gloves - all sizes; bug spray; duct and masking tape; 5- and 10-inch mirrors; quick dry nail polish in basic colors; kitchen shears; blue ballpoint pens; tin foil; plastic wrap. 262-0304 or www.conservancy.org.

- To submit a wish list for a Collier County non-profit organization, email Lindsey Nesmith at lnesmith@floridaweekly.com.

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THURSDAY, JULY 13, 10 P.M.
Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries
Season 1: Murder in the Dark

Phryne's cousins and Aunt Prudence's entire household come under suspicion when a young girl is found drowned in her aunt's fountain on the eve of a lavish fancy dress party.

FRIDAY, JULY 14, 9 P.M.
The Great British Baking Show
Season 4: The Botanical

Monitor the remaining seven as they strive to give their bakes maximum botanical taste.

SATURDAY, JULY 15, 9 P.M.
As Time Goes By

Jean and Lionel try to rekindle their flame after 38 years.

SUNDAY, JULY 16, 10 P.M.
Remember Me, Part 1

Learn what happens after Tom (Michael Palin) enters assisted living and a social worker falls to her death. Traumatized, Tom is taken to hospital. Inexplicably, the folk song "Scarborough Fair" angers and agitates him. A ghost haunts Hannah's dreams.

MONDAY, JULY 17, 10 P.M.

10 Homes That Changed America

Visit 10 architecturally adventuresome homes that elevated living to an art form.

TUESDAY, JULY 18

8 P.M. - Weekend in Havana

Join Geoffrey Baer as he travels to Havana, where dancers, musicians, architects and writers invite him into their lives to experience the color, culture and history of a beautiful and seductive city only



"The Great British Baking Show," July 14



"Rare Creatures of the Photo Ark," July 18

recently re-opened to Americans.

9 P.M. - Rare Creatures of the Photo Ark

Join Joel Sartore as he travels to Madagascar and the Florida Keys on his mission to photograph beautiful and endangered animals for the Photo Ark. In Florida, he checks in on the Key deer, a species that he first saw 20 years ago.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 10 P.M.

Nova: Life's Rocky Start

From the first sparks of life to the survival of the fittest, unearth the secret relationship between rocks and life. NOVA goes around the world and back in time to investigate how minerals are vital to the origins and evolution of life. ■

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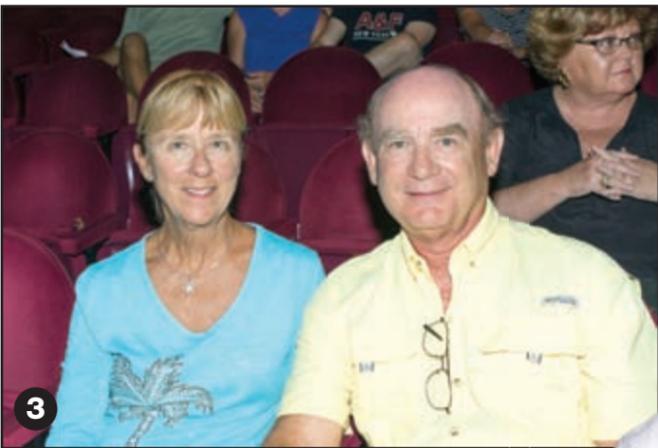
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2. Lee Pershing and Marion Nicolay
3. Karen Shmihluk and Bob Shmihluk
4. Lynette Cahill and Judy Scribner
5. Kim Mayfield and Roy Schneider
6. Ronny Howell and Denise Waters

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An aerial view of Playa Lago Resort & Spa. The resort has 144 rooms and suites and 10 private bungalows on 14 beachfront acres in Key Largo.

COURTESY PHOTOS

New luxury resort a compelling reason for a Key Largo getaway

BY MARY THURWACHTER

mthurwachter@floridaweekly.com

This year, to mark the Summer Solstice — the longest day of the year — I chose a Florida Keys getaway with the shortest travel distance: Key Largo. It's only a two-hour, 45-minute drive from Naples. The island's unobstructed sunset views are among its biggest attractions.

I celebrated the setting sun on the beach at Playa Lago Resort & Spa (www.playalagoresort.com), a Marriott Autograph Collection hotel and the first new resort built in Key Largo in 20 years. It's at mile marker 97 on the Florida Bay side of the Overseas Highway on 14 waterfront acres once home to a campground and RV park.

Tin roof, large balconies with white railings and the classic eyebrow-style roofline typical of vernacular Key West architecture can be found on the resort's four wings, 10 two-story cottages and a three-bedroom beach house.

The lobby sparkles with terrazzo floors, a dramatic spiral staircase to the lower level and cheese hole wall leading to Las Olas ceviche bar. A central fountain surrounded with lanterns and a circle of hanging chairs made of rope and resembling fish net show the lobby's subtle nautical theme.

Guest rooms are large, with high ceilings and wood paneled walls mimicking the wall decking of old clipper ships. Floors are tiled in wood-washed porcelain. Area rugs and accent furniture reflect a neutral color scheme.

The resort has several restaurants: Las Olas Ceviche Bar, LaMarea for breakfast, and the al fresco Sol by the Sea, built around an old boathouse on the water. Its walls are covered in reclaimed buoys for a touch of barefoot luxury. All three eateries are very good, but for its seafood menu and Keys ambiance, Sol by the Sea, overlooking a 22-slip marina, can't be beat.

The manmade beach has plenty of lounge chairs, hammock pods and kayaks and paddleboards.

I hung out on the beach, splashed in the calm clear waters of Florida Bay and swam in a sparkling zero entry lagoon style pool before stretching out on a lounge chair to soak up the sun.

I didn't have time to try out the fit-



A beach view at Playa Largo.

ness center, but did take an hour for a reflexology treatment — much more than a foot massage — in the resort's Ocean Spa. Absolutely divine!

While enjoying dinner at Sol by the Sea, I watched the sun set on the longest day of the year. But it ended all too quickly for me!

Top reasons to go to Key Largo

Playa Largo is one of my favorite reasons to go to Key Largo. Here are five more:

- John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park (www.pennekampark.com). Take a glass-bottom boat tour for a view of the coral reefs and underwater park, home to "Christ of the Abyss," a 4,000-pound bronze sculpture of Jesus Christ standing under 25 feet of water.

- Dolphin Cove. Swim or snorkel with Flipper's friends in a natural lagoon at Dolphin Cove (www.dolphinsplus.com).

- Florida Keys Wild Bird Center (www.fkwbc.org). The nonprofit organization rescues, rehabilitates and releases native and migratory wild birds that have been harmed or displaced. Stroll along the Sanctuary boardwalk and see what winged creatures fly in to greet you.

- Silent World Dive Center (www.silentworld.com). Scuba divers already know this place. It offers daily dive and snorkel trips to the most popular dive sites in the Upper Florida Keys. Drinks



MARY THURWACHTER / FLORIDA WEEKLY

The resort has pools, cabanas, fire pits and watersport programs including kayaking, paddleboarding, snorkeling, diving, boating and ocean excursions.

are complimentary and night dives are available.

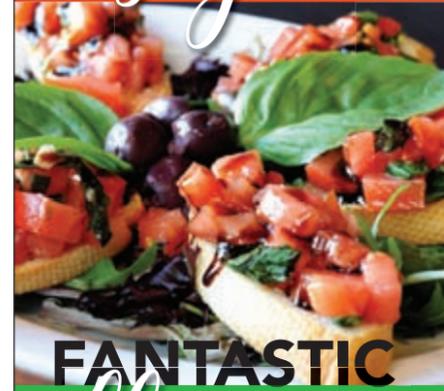
- The restaurants. In Key Largo, you can go out and reel in your dinner or find some mighty good seafood at local eateries. I recommend Sol by the Sea, a photogenic beach shack at the edge of a pier where motor yachts are docked. ■

in the know

Playa Lago Resort & Spa, 97450 Overseas Highway, Key Largo, 305-853-1001, www.playalagoresort.com. The Oceanfront resort has luxury rooms, suites and bungalows, plus a pool, spa and gourmet restaurants. Snorkel, dive, paddleboarding, kayaking and sunset excursions available. Room rates start at \$249.



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DINING NOTES

The Tea & Spice Exchange announced a soft opening and celebration during normal operating hours on Saturday, July 29. The new store, located at 800 Fifth Ave. S., will offer over 140 fine spices, 75 hand-mixed blends and 30 loose-leaf teas.

While perusing a store that resembles an 18th century trading post and lined with apothecary jars, guests are encouraged to open jars and experience the store's heady aromas while watching spice masters mix the contents by hand.

"We chose Fifth Avenue South because it is truly a unique shopping destination for visitors and locals. The charm and old world grace together with the Neapolitan-friendly atmosphere makes it a perfect fit for what we offer. Whether you want to turn up the heat with a dash of Pirate's Bite, authentically season pasta dishes with the Tuscan Blend, or freshen up a veggie dip with our Coastal Blend, or even try one of our many specialty tea blends, we've got you covered," said owner Kathleen McGowan.

Store hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. For more information, visit the Facebook page at www.facebook.com/tstenaples or email naples@spiceandtea.com.

Matthew Kragh, founder and owner of MHK Architecture, and Naples chef David Nelson announced they will open **Timeless - An MHK Eatery** on Monday, Aug. 7, at 90 Tamiami Trail S. In a space inspired by Kragh's Old Florida architectural designs, the pair will offer



Timeless – an MHK Eatery, a dining collaboration between architect Matthe Kragh and Chef David Nelson, is scheduled to open Monday, Aug. 7, at its 90 Tamiami Trail N. location.

casual dining, delivery and snacking opportunities that highlight Nelson's flair with simple, fresh ingredients. The restaurant will offer several sit-down areas including a restaurant and open kitchen with counter seating; wine beer and pizza lounge with an indoor/outdoor, and coffee and espresso bar; and a counter for take out and delivery services.

"Having worked in downtown Naples for more than a decade and seeing many dining establishments come and go, Matt and I found that the neighborhood was missing a bakery, and eatery that offered fresh morning bagels, grab and go eggs as well as artisan sandwiches, a light lunch with organic salads and proteins, and the great American staple — hot, fresh pizza delivered to your door," said Chef Nelson. "Timeless will fill this void in the neighborhood under one roof. We will combine Matt's vision and my culinary expertise to bring our unique concept to life, and

provide the neighborhood with not only a quick grab and go breakfast and lunch joint, but a casual yet refined eatery that offers a snacking, drinking and dining option for residents, businesspeople and tourists alike."

The restaurant will be open daily from 7 a.m. until after midnight. For more information, call 331-4013 or visit www.timelesseatery.com.

National French Fry Day comes but once a year, and **BurgerFI** celebrates by offering free regular-sized fries with any hotdog or burger purchase all day on Thursday, July 13. Visit the store's website for the nearest Naples location. www.burgerfi.com.

Crave Culinaire offers two cooking classes that feature skills like pickling, dehydration, searing, cooking grains and dessert techniques from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday and Saturday, July 14-15, at Venue Naples. \$45, reservations required. 13240 Tamiami Trail N. 292-1529 or www.craveculinaire.com.

Sister restaurants **Bravo Cucina Italiana** and **Brio Tuscan Grille** celebrate National Lasagna Day — technically scheduled for July 29 — on Wednesday and Thursday, July 26-27, with a 50 percent discount on the famed baked pasta dish. On Wednesday, lunch guests at Bravo can enjoy a half-serving of Mama's Lasagna Bolognese with a chopped, Caesar, or house salad for \$7, while dinner guests can order a full serving for \$8.99. On Thursday, Brio guests enjoy the same promotion.



Bravo Cucina Italiana and Brio Tuscan Grille both offer deals on Mama's Lasagna Bolognese.

Sea Salt offers a cooking class where guests will learn to make an Italian-inspired summer luncheon at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 29. Executive Chef Josh Zeman will demonstrate how to prepare two courses, a diver scallop crudo with yuzu-buttermilk dressing and ricotta gnocchi with English peas asparagus and green garlic. \$50, includes demonstration, lunch and a glass of wine or champagne. Reservations required. 1186 Third St. S. 434-7258 or www.seasalt-naples.com.

Blue Martini in Mercato hosts a wine tasting with food pairings at 3 p.m. Sunday, July 16, with menu selections Mer Soleil Chardonnay Reserve paired with lobster risotto and honey lemon butter reduction and Red Schooner Voyage 4 served with baby back ribs. \$35 per person. 784-4449 or www.bluemartinilounge.com. ■





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Understanding food allergies: How to prevent peanut allergy and more

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY
NIH News in Health

Have you noticed food allergy warnings at restaurants? Maybe you've heard about peanut-free classrooms and flights. People who have serious reactions to certain foods must be careful about what they eat — and what others eat around them. There's no cure for food allergies. But researchers are learning more about how to prevent and treat this condition.



Allergic reactions happen when your immune system — your body's defense against germs and foreign substances — overreacts to something that's normally harmless. In the United States, most food allergies are caused by peanuts, tree nuts, fish, shellfish, eggs, milk, wheat and soy. Allergies show up most often in children, but they can develop at any age.

Food allergy symptoms can range from mild to severe. Some people experience a life-threatening reaction called anaphylaxis. Symptoms may include trouble breathing, dizziness and fainting. When you have a food allergy, there's no way to predict how your body will react when you're exposed. You might have a mild reaction one time and a severe reaction the next.

If you think that you or your child may have a food allergy, see your health care provider. Your doctor will take a detailed medical history and perform a physical examination. If a diagnosis of food allergy seems likely, they may recommend a blood test or skin prick test.

These results will help determine if you or your child has a food allergy.

National Institutes of Health researchers have been working to better understand food allergies.

Scientists hope the progress they make on peanut allergy will help guide how to handle other food allergies. Researchers recently carried out a large clinical trial called Learning Early About Peanut Allergy. The study looked at infants' chances of developing an allergy if they ate peanut-containing foods at an early age. Six hundred and forty infants who were at high risk of developing a peanut allergy were enrolled in the trial.

The infants were randomly placed in either a peanut-eating or peanut-avoiding group. They continued these diets until they were 5 years old. Infants who ate peanut-containing foods beginning early in life had an 81 percent lower chance of developing a peanut allergy.

Talk with your health care provider to learn more about preventing and treating food allergies. ■

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<p>THURSDAY</p> <p>KILLER WINGS & THINGS</p> <p>.69¢ JUMBO WINGS</p> <p>10 FOR \$5.99 BONELESS CHICKEN WINGERS</p> <p>\$2 OFF ANY STEVIE'S BASKET</p>	<p>FRIDAY</p> <p>FISHING LODGE FISH FRY</p> <p>\$9.99 YUENGLING BEER BATTERED FISH FRY <small>Served with fries and slaw.</small></p> <p>\$12.99 GROUPEY FRY <small>Served with fries and slaw.</small></p> <p>2 for 1 DRINKS ALL DAY <small>Domestic, house & well only</small></p>	<p>MON-FRI</p> <p>LUNCH SPECIAL</p> <p>Available till 3 pm</p> <p>7 for \$7</p> <p>7 choices for \$7 each</p>

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PAST REPASTS

Here are some capsule summaries of previous restaurant reviews:

Fernandez the Bull - Midtown, 3375 Pine Ridge Road, Naples; (239) 653-9097.

Local lovers of Cuban food have twice as much to thank the Fernandez family for now that there's a second Fernandez the Bull to patronize. For 25-plus years, the first one has existed in various locations. Now a chic-looking sibling operates on Pine Ridge Road with indoor and outdoor seating, a full bar and a terrific staff. Start with a well-chilled and minty guava mojito. Savor some beef empanadas (one dish of eight serves two or more) or crisp fried calamari - then move on to an entrée like the chicken with mojo and garlic sauce or shrimp and mussels in white wine and tomato sauce. Sides of moros (rice and black beans), fried yucca or fried plantains are all great choices. And don't skip dessert. We loved the guava mango mousse cheesecake. Full bar.

Food: ★★★★★½
 Service: ★★★★★½
 Atmosphere: ★★★★★½
 Reviewed November 2015

Rodizio Grill, Coconut Point, 8017 Plaza Del Lago Drive, Estero; (239) 498-0018.

The latest dining addition at Coconut Point re-creates the Brazilian churrasceria tradition of all-you-can-eat grilled meats carved tableside by gauchos wielding three-foot skewers and scary looking knives. It's entirely possible to

eat a week's worth of protein at one sitting. That's not advisable for a number of reasons, one of which is that you should dedicate a portion of your appetite to the remarkably expansive salad bar and Brazilian side dishes. We sampled four cuts of beef, three pork presentations, ham and three chicken items including some exquisitely tender hearts. The tri-tip and a garlicky beef called bife com alho were favorites in the beef department. Bacon-wrapped chicken and pork chunks were table pleasers, too, as were sweet pork linguica sausages and pork loin dusted with Parmesan. Aside from the occasional streak of gristle, the only real disappointment was the leg of lamb, which was overcooked and devoid of even the slightest hint of pink. Full bar.

Food: ★★★★★½
 Service: ★★★★★
 Atmosphere: ★★★★★½
 Reviewed May 2016

Sophia's Ristorante Italiano, 3545 Pine Ridge Road, Naples; 597-0744.

Tucked between a Harley-Davidson dealership and a Hawthorne Suites sits a gem of a restaurant that seems as if it's been lifted right out of Italy. Sophia's is filled with lovely Tuscan browns and golds with mosaic patterns on tables and floors. The staff is uniformly gracious and some also come with charming Italian accents. And the food - try not to overload on the house-made breads served with herb-studded olive oil. The fried calamari was excellent but I could have made a meal of the tender-crisp rapini and well-seasoned sausage

with polenta. The zuppe de pesce is a remarkable mountain of seafood but veal is a specialty here and the osso buco, a special that evening, was fork-tender and delicious with a side of porcini risotto. Sea bass with clams, caperberries and house-made linguini was just right. For dessert, the tiramisu was light, delicious and ample for two. The wine list is noteworthy as well. Full bar.

Food: ★★★★★½
 Service: ★★★★★½
 Atmosphere: ★★★★★½
 Reviewed December 2015

The Crust, 8004 Trail Blvd., Naples; 244-8488.

This popular pizza spot at the Pavilion Shopping Center has added a second, much-needed larger location just a few miles away on U.S. 41. About four times the size of the original (which remains open), it serves the same Midwest-style pizza in the former Big Al's space. Try an old-fashioned soda - we loved the Dr. Pepper and Orange Crush made with real sugar rather than high-fructose corn syrup. A Caesar was fresh with a mild dressing. A house salad had good ingredients but needed a more assertive dressing than the house-made Champagne vinaigrette. A 10-inch BBQ pizza had a thin, crisp crust topped with smoky barbecue sauce, roasted chicken, red onions, smoked gouda, provolone and cilantro. My companion chose one with mushrooms, Kalamata olive and basil. Both were excellent. Service is efficient and pleasant. Full bar.

Food: ★★★★★

Service: ★★★★★
 Atmosphere: ★★★★★
 Reviewed May 2016

Zorba's Mediterranean Grille & Bar, 9106 Bonita Beach Road, Bonita Springs; 992-5005.

Located in a sprawling Ace Hardware-anchored plaza set far back from a busy road, Zorba's can be easy to overlook. But the same family has been serving Greek, Italian, Portuguese and Middle Eastern dishes here since 1998. The kitchen shows good range in handling a deep and diverse menu, while the staff out front ensures a warm reception and seamless service. Smoked gouda added a buttery richness to bifteki - a beef meatball served atop super-crispy, super-delicious shoestring fries. The baba ghanoush would have benefited from a more assertive presence of garlic, but bits of red pepper added a pleasing sweet note. The standout was an entrée of grilled octopus - tender but with a tasty char - tossed with three or four different kinds of peppers, some sweet and some hot. Full bar.

Food: ★★★★★½
 Service: ★★★★★½
 Atmosphere: ★★★★★
 Reviewed December 2015

Key to ratings

★★★★★ Superb	★★ Fair
★★★★ Noteworthy	★ Poor
★★★ Good	

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CUISINE REVIEW

Sydney's offers a glimpse of Tiburon grandeur even to non-members



karenFELDMAN
cuisine@floridaweekly.com

I've admired the lush Tiburon golf course from afar, primarily while dining at nearby LEMONIA at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, which offers a splendid view of the course.

But I recently discovered that Sydney's Pub, situated within the Tiburon Clubhouse, is open to the public as well.

This time of year it's primarily serving lunch, although during season — and on some evenings during the summer — there's dinner as well.

The lunch menu is casual but well-rounded, offering soups, flatbreads, sandwiches and some hot entrees. Salads come in small and large versions with optional protein add-ons.

The dining room is long and on the narrow side but that affords virtually every table a decent-to-excellent view of the golf course below. It was a super-sunny day and, despite the high temperatures, there were plenty of golfers out and about.

Our server was quick to appear and offer us beverages. My bloody Mary (\$12) was impressive. The spicy concoction was presented in a large glass with a crisp stalk of celery, two extra-large green olives and wedges of both lime and lemon. It was the perfect antidote to a scorching hot day. My companion's glass of Kim Crawford sauvignon blanc (\$12) was also served well chilled.

The day's soup was New England clam chowder (\$4), which sounded like a great start to the meal and it was. The soup was hot and full of chunks of potato, celery and clams. It wasn't overly thick, as some chowders are, and was nicely seasoned. It was accompanied by oyster crackers and a package of Saltine crackers.

The slow-roasted pear salad (\$9 or \$13) appealed to my companion with a menu description that included baby arugula, Humboldt fog cheese, sweet and spicy pecans and a blood orange-sherry vinaigrette. He ordered the smaller version, which arrived with a lovely wedge of the wondrous goat-milk cheese on top. There was just one thing missing from the roasted pear salad: the roasted pears.

We notified our server who apologized and quickly went to retrieve said pears, bringing us a double portion to make up for the oversight. Once we



A roasted pear salad comes with Humboldt fog cheese and sweet and spicy pecans.



The salmon sandwich on brioche bun is a health lunch option — unless you order it with fries.

added the pears to the salad, it was an excellent dish, the pears and that creamy cheese blending well, with the pecans adding a satisfying crunch.

The roasted salmon sandwich (\$16) on a brioche bun also came with fresh herbs and avocado aioli and was listed as one of the healthy options on the menu. The salmon was properly cooked and the combination was tasty. My companion managed to counteract some of that sandwich's healthfulness by choosing house fries to accompany it. They were crisp, hot and just salty enough. (Other options include kettle chips, cole slaw or fresh fruit.)

From the pressed sandwiches, I ordered the roasted turkey and Brie (\$14). It comes with Fuji apple slices and lingonberry mayonnaise. Unfortunately, there's also a roasted turkey and caprese pressed sandwich, which is what our server thought I said and that's what arrived at the table. I took a bite before I realized I had the wrong sandwich.

Once again, our server apologized



A pressed sandwich contained turkey, Brie and Fuji apples.



New England clam chowder is full of vegetables and clams.

and offered to either take the cost of the sandwich off our bill or have the kitchen prepare the sandwich I'd ordered. I didn't love the caprese and so asked for my original choice. To its credit, the kitchen hustled and the sandwich arrived in a very short time.

The turkey, gooey Brie and crisp apples made for a delicious pairing. There was a disappointingly scant amount of lingonberry mayo but the

Brie added enough moisture to make the sandwich work. A side of cole slaw was cold and crisp.

I'm not sure if they offer desserts for lunch but our server brought us a couple of white chocolate chip macadamia cookies, perhaps to atone for the errors during our meal. He offered us two more when we finished those. We were full and declined.

He also discounted the salad by half and took my sandwich off the bill altogether, gestures that weren't necessary but spoke well of the staff's training. No one is perfect but it's the way in which mistakes are dealt with that often makes the difference between a good and bad experience.

Sydney's is a lovely, quiet and refreshing space in which to while away an hour or two and enjoy a salad or sandwich. I spotted someone tucking into a substantial bowl of fish and chips so those who want something heartier can find that as well.

If you are curious about how upscale golf clubs look and feel, the staff of Sydney's Pub is willing and able to assist you. Oh and, by the way, there's free valet parking. ■

in the know

Sydney's Pub

Tiburon Golf Club, 2620 Tiburon Drive, Naples; 593-2213

Ratings:
Food: ★★★★★
Service: ★★★½
Atmosphere: ★★★★★

- >> **Hours:** 11 a.m.- 8 p.m. daily.
- >> **Reservations:** Accepted (cancellations within 24 hours of dining date subject to 50 percent of published evening price)
- >> **Credit cards:** Accepted
- >> **Price range:** soups, salads and starters, \$4-\$16; flatbreads and sandwiches, \$12-\$18; lunch entrees, \$14-\$18
- >> **Beverages:** Full bar
- >> **Seating:** Conventional tables and at the bar
- >> **Specialties of the house:** Contemporary American cuisine
- >> **Volume:** Low to moderate
- >> **Parking:** Valet parking
- >> **Website:** tiburonnaples.com/dining/sydneys

★★★★★ Superb
★★★★ Noteworthy
★★★ Good
★★ Fair
★ Poor



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 - Open Faced Meatloaf Sandwich

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THE NAPLES LUXURY HOME REDEFINED

Rockin'

the great room

The Residences at Mercato take space to great heights

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NAPLES KENNY / COURTESY PHOTO



Makeover

From 'Why' to 'Wow!'
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Designer Q&A

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of Clive Daniel Home
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Design Society

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at design events
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JEAN LOSIER

... of Clive Daniel Home found her calling

It takes talent and patience to get a room just right, and interior designer Jean Losier has plenty of both. Luxe Living's Michael Korb chatted with Ms. Losier about how she became a designer and how she approaches her work.

Q: Was there a moment you decided you wanted to be an interior designer?

A: In retrospect yes, I was a manager in the clothing industry five years after getting out of college, and my youngest was three years old. I enjoyed my job but knew I wanted to do more. I knew I loved the everyday challenge of space planning the gallery floor and creating new displays and the relationships I had made with my regular and new clients. I knew then that I wanted to go back to school and get my degree in interior design. I felt a degree in interior design would complement my existing fine arts degree and retail management skills. I spent three years studying to earn my BA in interior design alongside working with a small design firm in Tampa.

Q: Where did you learn your craft?

A: I graduated with my BA from The International Academy of Merchandising and Design, an ASID accredited school, in 1997. I continued to work with the same small design firm in Tampa, but I knew I needed to find a company that I could learn from and allow me to grow in my field. I was hired in the spring of 1999 by Robb & Stucky, (then owned by the Lubner family) and this was where

I really learned the basics in the field. As a visual merchandiser and librarian, I learned furniture manufacturers and fabrics quickly. Within a year I was promoted to run a selection room for two custom builders. I assisted in every color selection, recording, pricing and drafting all designs. After running the selection room for five years, our company moved to a large gallery in Tampa where I was then a full-time designer working with my own clients. When the Lubner family started Clive Daniel Home, I was thrilled to work with them again and have been at CDH for three years.

Q: Do you have a formula for how you build out a room?

A: In creating a space it always starts with the flooring — this is the largest and most important selection in the room. The flooring touches all and affects all finishes, fabrics, and colors. Ceiling details, if there are tall ceilings in the space, I always find this is an opportunity to give the space a personal touch. The wall color would be the next selection in the space, which would be determined by the coloring of the flooring — if it is cool or warm. If there is a large wall space, again this is an opportunity to warm things up with a simple detail or playing with an additional color or texture. Having created the physical space you would now need to know how this space was going to be used and then create a furniture space plan according to the client's needs and wants. The furniture selection process would then follow along



Coastal design today can have many different looks. This particular home in Talis park is a very relaxed transitional, shabby-chic look. The dining room has a lot of natural finishes which to me really brings the outdoors in. This table is made of teak with a cement veneered top mixed with relaxed, textured linen chairs. All of this sits on top of large porcelain wood-look tiles that have the coloring of a salty dock.

with fabrics, window treatments, rugs and accessories.

Q: What's the first thing you ask clients when you meet them?

A: When meeting with a client it is not just about finding out what their design needs are but what their lifestyle is like. In Florida, many residents and families live here part time so it is important to know what their needs are. What is their family dynamic? Do they have children and what age are they? Do they have pets? Do they work from home? Do they like to entertain a lot? It really is an interviewing process. The more I know about my client and understand their needs and concerns, I can create a design that is unique reflect their personality and their lifestyle. ■

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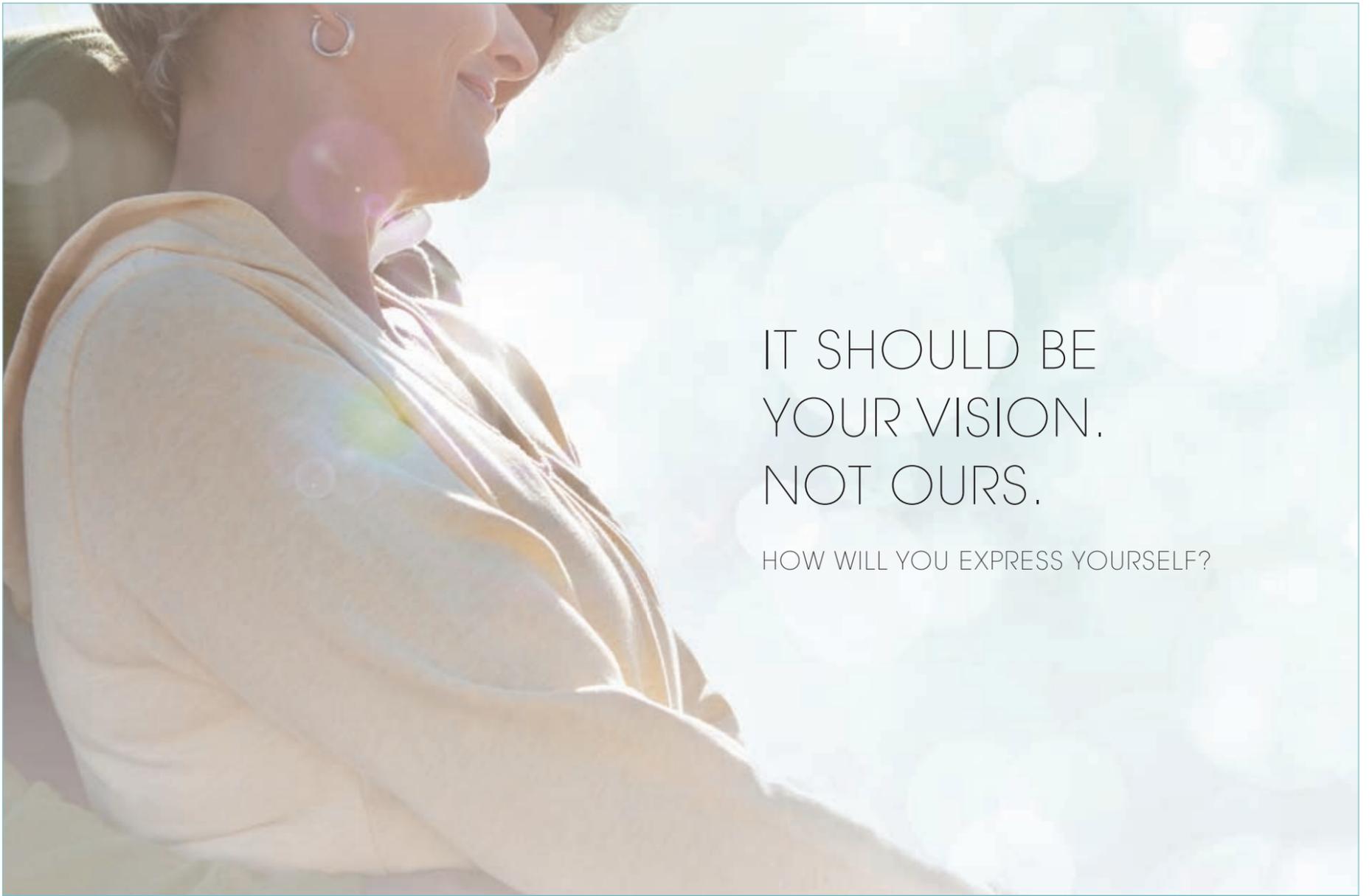
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Renee Gaddis took an enclosed kitchen (inset) and opened it up into the long view stunner you see (top) with reclaimed wood beams housing new lighting. An eclectic mix of materials delight the senses. The space opens onto the new living room (right), which looks out to gorgeous Gulf views.

Revived and refreshed

A Gulf Shore condo goes from “why?” to “wow!”

BY MICHAEL KORB
Florida Weekly Correspondent

A talented interior designer can take a cardboard box and make it look like it belongs on the pages of a glamorous magazine.

And based on the before and after photos of this condo on Gulf Shore Boulevard, it looks like the owners of this former box made the right decision calling designer Renée Gaddis of Renee Gaddis Interiors.

The homeowners bought the 3,224-square foot three-bedroom, four-bathroom property as is and wanted to completely gut the interior shell of the condo. The original layout was not particularly open, and because of that, it missed some great opportunities to take advantage of the view.

“It was mostly original,” says Ms. Gaddis. “You could tell immediately after you walked in how dated everything was. The counter tops, the tile in all the bathrooms, the cabinetry in the kitchen and wall-coverings that you would see years ago...”

Even the floor tiles in the main living areas had that hideous “builder’s grade” look about them and had to go.

“We replaced it with a beautiful, stained wood floor and coordinated matching ceiling beams in the living room and kitchen to help add additional lighting in all of those areas,” adds Ms. Gaddis. “The ceiling we were working with was (concrete) slab so we had to come down in order to get lighting which was definitely necessary.”

The owners are from up north and so they wanted some of that Naples/beachy vibe, but they wanted a bit of rustic flair to it as well — hence the rustic, reclaimed beams. And because the homeowners have a son and daughter who visit, they wanted dedicated guest bedrooms for each. And though you don’t see it, Gaddis created a den for the couple to use as a home office.

Perhaps the most impactful transformation came in the main living area



where Gaddis removed walls in order to create the open concept floor plan everyone loves.

“The kitchen was enclosed into a very small space,” says Ms. Gaddis. “But we were able to open that up to the living room as well as the breakfast area to give it one long view. It’s awesome.”

The kitchen is a perfect example of how to use a mix of finishes to pull a look together. Though the light fixtures are brass, the hardware elsewhere is a darker finish with some nickel. She also mixed bright white cambria quartz countertops on the perimeter with soapstone on the island.

“The other area that we really opened up was the master bedroom and bathroom,” adds Ms. Gaddis. “Before it had a lot of different angles to the space and we opened it up so the master bedroom is one large space. And the walkway to their master bathroom was cleared up. We took some walls down there as well as in the bath in order to get a tub and shower in there. Before it was a ton smaller. ... They even have a more expansive closet than before. It really just came down to knocking out some walls that didn’t make sense.”

In the end it’s a rare triumph of blending rustic, coastal and modern into an eclectic winner. It’s hard to imagine it once looked like a cardboard box. ■

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NAPLES KENNY / COURTESY PHOTOS

Rockin'

the great room

The Residences at Mercato take space to great heights



The spacious master bedroom features a grass cloth accent wall behind the bed as well as grass cloth inserts among the wood grill on the ceiling. The suite opens out onto the outdoor living space/pool and spa area (above).



The home features a cabana with full bath for guests who prefer a little more privacy, but who want to be close to the pool.

BY MICHAEL KORB

Florida Weekly Correspondent

The beauty of Naples is that anything is possible. Whatever you desire can be yours. And if you desire new construction that is also convenient to the best of North Naples, all you have to do is write a check to The Lutgert Companies. Its new Residences at Mercato gives homebuyers access to all the restaurants, nightlife and shops the area is known for but with the privacy of gated single family living.

The La Ciel model shown here is a 3,037 square foot (under air), three-bedroom (plus cabana), four-and-a-half bath single-family residence that takes coastal contemporary to the next level. Designed by MHK Architecture & Planning, the dramatic interior spaces give homeowners the “wow factor” they crave while still maintaining livability.

It features 24-foot ceilings in the spacious great room with 10- and 12-foot ceilings elsewhere. That height allowed for a terrific (and equally dramatic) loft, which overlooks the main living area. It also features a perfect workstation area for those who still need a place to pay the bills.

“Two story homes allow you to create some volume spaces,” says Mike Hoyt, senior vice president of The Lutgert Companies. “It gives you the space that people are looking for. But we keep the master bedroom on the first floor so that it appeals to folks who may not be crazy about climbing stairs.”

Elevators are an option in all of the two-story homes, though this particular home doesn't have one. Again, you can have anything you're willing to pay for. In fact, though this home was beautifully handled by designer Jean Losier of Clive Daniel Home, you can create something unique to you through upgrades or other design options.

“They wanted a coastal feel, but not a traditional coastal feel,” says Ms. Losier. “Something a bit more transitional or edgy. So that's my inspiration right there. They wanted colors as well.”

“With this model I did things that reminded me of the water, but in a different way than having seashells or palm trees all over the place,” adds Ms. Losier. “We were lucky to find that split-faced stone which brought in all those greys and almost greenish blues. And we carried that outside for the pool wall — I think it's important that the inside and outside reflect each other.”

In fact, the first thing that catches your eye upon entering the home is that spectacular stone wall that houses an offset linear fireplace and television. It's a major player in the home's “wow factor” and draws the eye upward to the equally dramatic coffered ceiling with tongue-and-groove inserts, which stretch across to the second floor.

“You are looking straight up at a massive ceiling,” says Ms. Losier. “And when you are in the loft you are at that ceiling level, so you’re looking straight across at that architectural detail.”

The loft is easily one of the best rooms in a house filled with great spaces.

But, like the loft, the kitchen also looks onto the great room and blends perfectly with the transitional look. Sleek lines and classic, rich colors make this kitchen visually appealing regardless of what your cooking prowess might look like. Orchid canyon granite surfaces over mushroom-colored lower cabinetry (brilliant white uppers with super-high glass inserts up top) and a Bosch appliance package look classic and fresh all at once. And a grey glass subway tile backsplash ties it all together seamlessly.

And the flooring throughout (except the two upstairs bedrooms, which got carpeting) is a tile that not only looks like real wood, it is significantly easier to maintain. It looks so good, in fact, Losier chose to have it be an accent wall in the master bathroom, behind the sculptural stand alone tub. This home also features an outside shower as part of the master bath, and it also incorporates the split-face stone found in the great room.

The master suite itself opens onto the home’s outdoor living area. And therein lies the real appeal of The Residences at Mercato.

“Each have their own pools and the courtyards are quite intimate,” says Mr. Hoyt. “We designed many of them to have water features and other hard-scape features such as brick walls or natural stone walls. But we kept them fairly maintenance light so that they aren’t a big burden on the homeowner or the homeowner’s association. They can lay by their pool and not worry about other people or other people’s



Spending time in the loft gives guests an up-close and personal look at the dramatic great room and tongue-and-groove coffered ceiling.



The master bath works the drama by pulling the faux wood floor tile up the wall behind the sculptural stand-alone tub. An outdoor shower is just steps away.

grandkids or whatever.”

All of the homes come with private pools, but the water features are an upgrade. But certainly worth considering.

“It does two things,” adds Hoyt. “It creates a little extra visual interest out there and it drowns out the noise from the outside world.”

Which makes sense because there is a bustling world right next door filled with people yelling, “Why isn’t there more parking outside of Whole Foods?!?” Luckily, if you lived here, you wouldn’t be one of them. ■

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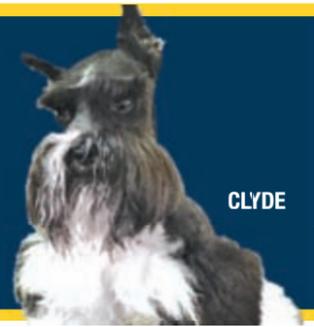
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Tropical Retreat-Turnkey-Pines at Eagle Ridge
Soothing paint colors will make you feel right at home.
\$175,000
1-866-657-2300 800FM007063.

LEHIGH ACRES



Privacy Galore
Freshly painted exterior with new gutters, new landscaping & wood fence backyard compliment the interior upgrades.
\$179,900
1-866-657-2300 800LE019192.

CAPE CORAL



Nice 3/2/2 Home-Room for Pool
Convenient location in a wonderful neighborhood located in SE Cape Coral with quick access to shopping and dining.
\$179,900
1-866-657-2300 800CC037858.

LEHIGH ACRES



2005 Single Owner 4 Bedroom 2 1/2 Bath
2 Story home located in Lehigh Acres. Many extra custom features make this one of a kind. Convenient to shopping.
\$184,900
1-866-657-2300 800LE031887.

CAPE CORAL



Well Maintained 3/2 Corner Lot
Fresh paint inside and out. Fenced, above ground pool. Great floor plan with formal dining. Eat in kitchen.
\$185,000
1-866-657-2300 800CC041436.



FORT MYERS



WyldeWood 3 Bed 2 Car Gar Villa
Beautiful WyldeWood Lakes 3 bedroom 2 bath villa in the highly desirable and convenient Whiskey Creek area. **\$189,900**
1-866-657-2300 800FM038606.

CAPE CORAL



Beautifully Updated 3 Bedroom 2 Bath
Beautifully updated home that was completely renovated in 2015. This home features a split floor plan w/3 bedrooms and 2 baths. **\$199,000**
1-866-657-2300 800CC042191.

LEHIGH ACRES



Beautiful Pool Home
Great neighborhood pool home. Large screened lanai, fenced back yard, large shed. 3 bedrooms 2 bath-immaculate. **\$199,900**
1-866-657-2300 800LE039687.

LEHIGH ACRES



Move In Ready Pool Home on 1/2 Acre Property
This home boasts of space and possibilities! Come see how you can add your personal touches and move right in. **\$199,999**
1-866-657-2300 800LE027777.

CAPE CORAL



Awesome Home with all the Florida Amenities
3/2 Pool home in NW Cape. New flooring and new paint. Fenced yard. **\$201,900**
1-866-657-2300 800CC029509.

NORTH FORT MYERS



NFM Orange Grove Blvd Beauty! 3/2 Lakefront
Stately well-built home (previous Michigan Homes Model Home). Lakefront and in a beautiful, quiet neighborhood! **\$203,998**
1-866-657-2300 800FM023521.

LEHIGH ACRES



Best Location in Lehigh Acres
Best location in Lehigh Acres! It offers three bedrooms, two baths. This home has two living rooms. **\$207,000**
1-866-657-2300 800FM042807.

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! **\$209,000**
1-866-657-2300 800FM025819.

CAPE CORAL



Location Location Location...
Walk to Cape Harbour...Adorable 3/2 is in mint condition. Freshly painted inside and out. Newer roof and AC in 2012! **\$210,000**
1-866-657-2300 800CC040958.

CAPE CORAL



Upscale 3 Bed Gulf Access Condo w/Deeded Dock
Rare beautiful 3 bedroom 2 bath condo with deeded dock on Gulf access canal. All appliances included! **\$215,000**
1-866-657-2300 800CC033495.

FORT MYERS



Kitchen with a View
3/2/2 on golf course in San Carlos. Huge yard with lots of parking. Great view of golf course. **\$215,000**
1-866-657-2300 800FM033290.

CAPE CORAL



Direct Access Waterfront Condo
Fabulous 3 bedroom 2 bath on large 200+ canal just off the river. Boat slip, covered parking, extra storage. **\$220,000**
1-866-657-2300 800FM035965.

ESTERO



Gated Community
This is a beautiful 2 bedroom 2 bath 1.5 car garage home located in a Island Club gated community just off of 75. **\$224,900**
1-866-657-2300 800FM022651.

ESTERO



Grand Palm Beauty
Beautiful second floor coach. **\$235,000**
1-866-657-2300 800FM031313.

ESTERO



First Floor Southwind
Not often available - but here it is! Beautiful coach home 2 bed + 2 bath. **\$239,900**
1-866-657-2300 800FM009855.

FORT MYERS



Top Floor End Veranda Condo-Kelly Greens
Rare listing of upper end unit with great lake view! **\$240,000**
1-866-657-2300 800FM021623.

FORT MYERS



Best Kept Secret in Gateway - Gated Community
Best kept secret in Gateway is the gated community of Silverlakes. Low HOA is \$99 month. Three beds two baths. **\$243,973**
1-866-657-2300 800FM024705.

FORT MYERS



Silverlakes Community in Gateway
Very clean, 3/2/2 home is located in a wonderful community. Enjoy the view from your screened lanai. **\$244,900**
1-866-657-2300 800FM029654.

FORT MYERS



Pristine Lakeview Coach Home
Like new 2 bedroom, plus den and 2 bath coach home with 1 car garage. The home has a large lanai. **\$244,900**
1-866-657-2300 800FM028424.

CAPE CORAL



Charming Pool Home in SW Cape Coral
3 bed/3 bath pool home in SW Cape Coral - Quiet neighborhood, close to parks and Tarpon Point Marina. **\$245,000**
1-866-657-2300 800CC013724.

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. **\$247,000**
1-866-657-2300 800CC009057.

BRADENTON



Extraordinary Affordable Opportunity
Sugar sand beaches, hospitals, shopping, golfing all within a few miles of this recently modernized 2/2+ den home. **\$250,000**
1-866-657-2300 800NA035821.

NORTH PORT



Great North Port home
Large 3/2/2 pool home secluded in this growing area of North Port. **\$259,900**
1-866-657-2300 800CH239075.

LEHIGH ACRES



One Best Maintained Properties in Lehigh Acres
Stunning, immaculate, and tasteful are words that best describe this well maintained home. **\$259,952**
1-866-657-2300 800LE038205.



Call 866-657-2300



FORT MYERS



3 Bedroom 2 Bath Gateway Home
Well maintain 3 bedroom 2 bath home in Gateway! Low home fees!!!!
\$260,000
1-866-657-2300 800FM063178.

ESTERO



Water View Villa at Estero
Lovely 2 bed 2 bath + den. Beautiful view.
\$264,900
1-866-657-2300 800FM058614.

LEHIGH ACRES



Olympia Point Beauty
This home has it all. Upgraded appliances, upgraded carpeting and 3 bedrooms, plus a den and 3 full bathrooms.
\$269,000
1-866-657-2300 800LE033922.

LEHIGH ACRES



Beautiful Maintained Home
Living in nature- Lots of privacy but also close to everything!!!
\$269,900
1-866-657-2300 800FM018580.

NAPLES



Come See this American Dream Builders Model
This spacious floor plan is tiled throughout with large bedrooms and plenty of closet space.
\$270,000
1-866-657-2300 800LE041720.

ESTERO



Gated Community
2 bedroom + den, 2 bath spacious home in The Reserve at Estero. 24 hour guard gated community surrounded by nature.
\$278,900
1-866-657-2300 800CC027012.

FORT MYERS



Desired Location
Move in ready. 3 bedroom 3 bath home remodeled in 2015, new roof, new a/c.
\$282,500
1-866-657-2300 800FM042812.

CAPE CORAL



Investors Dream
Location, Location, Location! One of the lowest priced sail boat access canal front home in the Yacht Club area!
\$286,000
1-866-657-2300 800CC042464.

LEHIGH ACRES



2770 + sqft Pool Home
This elegant two story pool home has it all with over 2770 sqft in living area!
\$292,000
1-866-657-2300 800LE029634.

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.

#1
CENTURY 21 IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA
MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE!
SEARCH OVER 550 HOME & LOT LISTINGS!
C21SUNBELT.COM

CAPE CORAL



Remodeled Gulf Access Home
3/2 gulf access home overlooking a wide canal. Move in ready condition.
\$314,964
1-866-657-2300 800CC030861.

BONITA SPRINGS



Gorgeous New Construction Home
3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, fantastic open floor, 1 car garage, and open lanai, lot of room for pool.
\$320,000
1-866-657-2300 800BS035782.

FORT MYERS



Down by the Riverside
3/2 Well maintained ranch, 4 House from river. Never roof, a/c and refurbished pool and pool house.
\$328,445
1-866-657-2300 800FM039304.

ESTERO



The Reserve at Estero
Large 4/2/2 home built by Toll Brothers.
\$344,900
1-866-657-2300 800FM076548.

ESTERO



Silver Oaks Beauty
More than wow factor move in ready!!
\$349,000
1-866-657-2300 800FM063883.

CAPE CORAL



Remodeled Sailboat Accessible Pool Home in SE Cape
Lovely remodeled split three bedroom pool home on sailboat accessible canal.
\$349,900
1-866-657-2300 800CC037688.

FORT MYERS



Ranch in the City
Unusual 4 acres +/- Ranch in east Fort Myers - perfect for the person looking for acreage with animals.
\$350,000
1-866-657-2300 800FM063729.

CAPE CORAL



Great Location
3/2 Gulf access pool home with boat life in SW Cape Coral. 2000 + sqft of living space. Tile floors throughout!
\$369,000
1-866-657-2300 800CC017126.

BONITA SPRINGS



Newly Constructed Home
3 bedroom 2 bath ultra efficient home on Imperial Shores.
\$374,000
1-866-657-2300 800BS035740.

PORT CHARLOTTE



Beautiful 3/2 Waterfront Pool Home in Port Charlotte
Gorgeous well maintained pool home with amenities. Canal waterfront. 2 car garage. Come see it!
\$409,950
1-866-657-2300 800CH238418.

NAPLES



Pool Home with a Mother-in-Law Apartment
Three bed home with a bonus room and pool. Mother-in-law apartment with separate bed, bath and kitchenette. On 2.25 acre lot.
\$420,000
1-866-657-2300 800NA038187.

CAPE CORAL



Direct Access Beauty
Beautiful 2237 sqft custom Mercedes 4/2 pool home on direct access canal with lift and extended wooded dock.
\$429,500
1-866-657-2300 800CC067650.

CALL 866-657-2300 TO SCHEDULE YOUR SHOWING!



CAPE CORAL



Southern Exposure, 4 Bed 3 Bath, Solar Heated Pool
 Formal living, dining and family areas with 2 sided fireplace, breakfast nook large entertaining patio. Assessments paid.
\$439,900
 1-866-657-2300 800CC014011.

CAPE CORAL



SW Cape Gulf Access Luxury
 Gulf access southern exposure 4/2/2 in highly desired SW Cape Coral. Oversize solar heated pool.
\$439,900
 1-866-657-2300 800FM017821.

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!
\$449,000
 1-866-657-2300 800CC020088.

CAPE CORAL



SW Cape Sailboat Accessible 4 Bed Pool Home
 SW Cape sailboat accessible 4 bedroom pool home with boat lift. Less than 2.5 miles of idle to the Caloosahatchee River.
\$450,000
 1-866-657-2300 800CC024178.

CAPE CORAL



Gulf Access
 3 bedroom + den, 2.1 bath pool home w/fabulous view of 200' wide canal, upgrades galore, oversized Garage, 8500 lb boat lift!
\$475,000
 1-866-657-2300 800CC019547.

CAPE CORAL



Gulf Access Water Views
 Remodeled, updated 3 bedroom 2 bath gulf access pool home in SW Cape Coral. Incredible views from virtually everywhere!
\$498,900
 1-866-657-2300 800CC037332.

CAPE CORAL



Triple Lot Home in SW Cape Coral
 4 bedroom/3.5 bath pool home with open spacious floor plan. Western exposed home for beautiful sunsets.
\$559,900
 1-866-657-2300 800CC014065.

CAPE CORAL



Sweeping Canal Views
 Cape Harbor area pool home located on an oversized lot on Eternity Canal. Featuring 3 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms.
\$574,500
 1-866-657-2300 800CC037646.

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
 1-866-657-2300 800CH232214.

CAPE CORAL



Direct Access Pool Home
 Direct sailboat access pool home in unit 64. 3/2 with formal living & dining/den/office. Atrium off master bedroom.
\$575,000
 1-866-657-2300 800CC024494.

CAPE CORAL



Gulf Access in SW Cape
 3 Bedroom 3 bath 3 car garage pool home with gulf access in prime SW Cape location. Only 2 years old.
\$599,900
 1-866-657-2300 800CC035866.

CAPE CORAL



Well Maintained Gulf Access Home
 The 3/2 home features a very spacious screened in lanai with an electric heated pool, beautiful landscaping.
\$599,900
 1-866-657-2300 800CC024930.

ST. JAMES CITY



Luxury Living Pine Island Style
 View sunsets from the lanai and pool area. Pool faces west and has direct gulf access.
\$645,000
 1-866-657-2300 800FM028502.

CAPE CORAL



Your Search Ends Here, Gulf Access
 2 Story home located on 200' Gulf access canal home over 3,000+ living area with soaring ceilings & open floor plan.
\$650,000
 1-866-657-2300 800CC037038.

CAPE CORAL



River Views
 Charming 3/2 with heated pool and SE patio exposure. Captains walk wooden dock with boat lift. Oversized in great area.
\$825,000
 1-866-657-2300 800CC029166.

CAPE CORAL



Custom Home that is Kept & Shows Like a Model Home
 Builder show home-one-of-a-kind, immaculate gulf access custom residence w/gorgeous landscaping & breathtaking interior.
\$948,000
 1-866-657-2300 800CC018656.

CAPE CORAL



Magnificent Mediterranean Bellagio Masterpiece
 Mediterranean house situated on an oversized lot at the end of the cul-de-sac !!!!!
\$999,900
 1-866-657-2300 800CC071053.

FORT MYERS



South Fort Myers - Quick Boating Access to the Beaches
 Home offers over 3,700 sqft of living area, a nice summer kitchen w/tiki hut over viewing pool/spa and wide canal.
\$1,300,000
 1-866-657-2300 800CC037384.

FORT MYERS



Ft. Myers Contemporary Estate Home
 This is a two story estate home has been totally remodeled.
\$1,699,000
 1-866-657-2300 800FM022494.

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.
\$1,700,000
 1-866-657-2300 800FM033960.

