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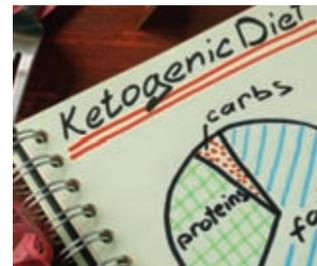
IN THE KNOW. IN THE NOW.

WEEK OF AUGUST 23-29, 2018

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Vol. X, No. 44 • FREE

INSIDE



Stephanie Davis

Isn't the keto diet really the Atkins diet, and where are my carbs? **A23** ▶



Comic diva

Comedian Mariannette Torres founded a showcase for women to perform stand-up. **C1** ▶



Healthy Living

A new kind of ER for older adults has patients feeling more comfortable. **A21** ▶



Networking

Flightdocs celebrates with a ribbon cutting. **A27** ▶

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BY THE NUMBERS:

The price of growing citrus per acre in Florida.
\$2,000

\$8.6 Billions of dollars lost in revenue from 2007 and 2016 due to greening.

Workers employed in the citrus industry in Florida. **45,000**

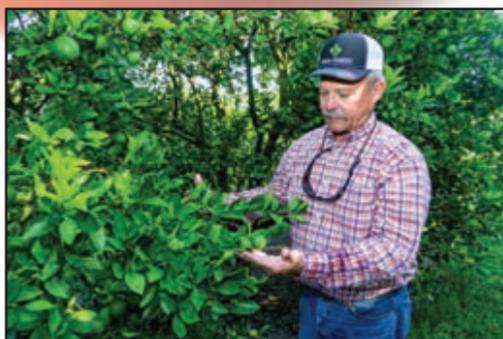


Alliance of farmers, scientists and promoters share cautious optimism in fight to save Florida's citrus crop.

BY ROGER WILLIAMS
rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

WAYNE SIMMONS PARKED his Ford truck sporting a "Drink Orange Juice" tag on a dirt track near a 60-acre Hendry County grove of members of the Rue family (Rutaceae), which could appear in a hospital soap opera if they were

SEE ORANGE, A10 ▶



VANDY MAJOR / FLORIDA WEEKLY
Wayne Simmons in his orange grove observing the effects of greening.

Tesla Model 3 Performance whispers into warp-drive

BY MYLES KORNBLATT
mk@autominded.com

Hollywood has teased us with views of optimistic futures, filled with vehicles that quickly hum down the streets. So while it seems a cliché to call electric cars space age, the Tesla Model 3 really is that whisper-quiet machine, and the new Performance model is like a

warp-drive upgrade.

This is intended to be the most mainstream of the company's current three-model lineup, and the design is a good

SEE TESLA, A16 ▶

COURTESY PHOTO

Tesla rarely allows test drives of its new models. The future will catch up to Model 3.



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COMMENTARY

The broadside harvest

roger WILLIAMS
rwilliams@floridaweekly.com



The broadside harvest is coming in this year as robustly as the citrus harvest should, stuffed with political promises and attacks.

Broadsides, like oranges, are the culmination of an elaborate process: Trees make the paper that form the broadsides that hold the print that tout the claims that fill the trucks that transport all that political flatulence to the local branches of the United States Postal Service, that employs the hardworking men and women who deliver it to us.

Just in time for the Florida primary elections, which culminate on Tuesday, Aug. 28, when Republicans and Democrats alike (or more accurately, unlike) complete casting ballots to decide who faces off in the general elections, come November. The broadsides will help them decide.

When a candidate has no challenger from the other party, the primary itself determines the future.

That happens in my neck of the woods from time to time because Democrats may no longer exist on the southwest coast — although one was spotted trying to cross the highway at dusk by a wildlife biologist in the fall of 2016.

The creature was described as “limping, muttering, drooling and decidedly underfed, apparently having hallucinations.”

Florida’s east coast is different, of course:

Everybody has hallucinations, Republicans and Democrats alike.

The motto of the U.S. Postal Service, meanwhile, remains unflinching in the face of this propaganda blizzard: “Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds.”

Which is to deliver what amounts to mostly crap, every single day.

That motto should be inscribed on every public building in Florida — especially schools where many kids have never heard of “snow” or “gloom of night,” and houses of ill repute that depend on “heat” and “gloom of night.”

Those include the Republican state house, various courthouses, all county government buildings, and police and sheriff’s headquarters in each of 67 Florida counties.

In her case, “appointed rounds” for my mail courier has meant weeks of daily deliveries stuffing Republican broadsides into my wooden mailbox.

I’m stunned in this digital age we still rely on the mail delivery and on paper, but we do. And a great deal of political paper this year seems to be heavily influenced by the gravity of Donald Trump.

For example, this one: “KEEP FLORIDA’S VITAL SIGNS STRONG: Donald Trump Needs Dr. Julio Gonzalez.”

Beautifully produced on paper so stiff it could have been used to seal a roof leak, this broadside shows a smiling orthopedic surgeon from Venice standing next to a digital display of some pretty comforting vitals: Pulse 72, oxygen 98, respiration 22, blood pressure 126 over 72.

Dr. Gonzalez, a Navy veteran, is challenging a lawyer and fellow Republican, state Sen. Greg Steube, an Army veteran, for a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives from District 17. The district includes Charlotte, DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Highlands and Okeechobee counties in their entirety, as well as parts of Lee, Polk and Sarasota counties.

The broadsides from both men insist the NRA adores them and they will champion guns; they will work to build Trump’s wall; they will keep out immigrants crossing the border without permission or using resources in Florida; they will defend families, fight terrorists, and (I quit reading at this point, but there was more), probably bring Jesus back for the Second Coming.

Sen. Steube, who championed more than 10 legislative bills designed to reduce or do away with any gun regulations last year, even appears in photos with guns on his hip or wearing military gear and clutching an M-4 held at port arms. He’s usually scowling and staring at something. One wants to whistle the theme song from “The Good, The Bad and The Ugly.”

Then it gets interesting.

Another broadside just as shiny and stiff pictures a scowling President Obama beside a scowling Hillary Clinton. It asks this question: “What kind of Republican supports the most Liberal, Anti-Trump DEMOCRATS?”

The type is urine-yellow against a black background and the answer is on the flyer’s backside, above a picture of a haggard, jowly looking Julio Gonzalez: “THIS KIND.”

Come to find out in the smaller print

(which I did read) that Dr. Gonzalez gave “Liberal Debbie Wasserman Schultz a personal check for \$500. It was, he admitted, an effort to ‘find new friends in the Democratic Party.’”

That bastard. Just un-American.

This kind of tension ramps up even more with state Rep. Matt Caldwell, who has spent the last six months or so campaigning across Florida to become commissioner of agriculture, a powerful position in state government now held by Republican gubernatorial candidate Adam Putnam.

Rep. Caldwell, long a supporter of Big Sugar and corporate agricultural interests who bills himself as a “principled conservative,” pushes all the right buttons on one broadside: “A+ rated and endorsed by the NRA; Slashed taxes by over \$10 billion; 100-percent rating by Florida Right To Life,” among others.

But he also wrote an op-ed piece published in The News-Press in Fort Myers, in March 2016 that included these words: “I cannot in good conscience support Donald Trump for President ... I also cannot and will not vote for him in the general election.”

That’s trouble, for Rep. Caldwell; either that, or his political enemies who printed and mailed that broadside, the Committee To Protect Florida, just gave him the win by also describing him as “a Trump hater.”

Here’s the strangest thing about the mountains of material I have from these Republicans. Almost none of them mention the single greatest threat Floridians have ever faced: Water, and the toxic, collapsing environment. ■



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OPINION

The Trumpettes face a bleak future



bobFRANKEN

King Features

Networking in Washington is even more important than it is elsewhere. One would never go to a party here inadequately dressed, which is to say without carrying a resume, ready to hand out at a moment's notice. Socializing is not personal; it's hard work. Ambition is a good thing, and we're swarming with those who have brought their principled beliefs to government to make a difference. At least that's what they say.

Count me among those who say "Balderdash!" (That's not what I actually say, but we have to remember the kiddies.) The point is that our nation's capital is teeming with those who take ambition to a cutthroat extreme, with ideals that are just a subterfuge. In actual fact, they are here simply to put in their public-service time, checking off that requirement on the way to a prosperous career.

Many depart, but many also stick around to mine all the precious opportunities that the swamp has to offer. They accumulate a Rolodex (these days it's a smartphone-a-dex) full of people they can call to peddle influence as hired guns of whatever corporate or financial bad-guy special interest is impressed by all of their credentials, meaning their contacts. Those whose CV includes time spent on Capitol Hill, to say nothing of former members of Congress, can look forward to a big paycheck in the private sector. That's the payoff for all the hassles of politics.

If you can hook up with a president's administration, that's usually a lifetime ticket to ride on the gravy train. Those who wheedle a Cabinet- or sub-Cabinet-level position or a high-ranking White House job — the more visible the better — generally, when their public-service



Former Trump campaign manager Paul Manafort and political consultant Rick Gates walking backstage during the Republican National Convention.

ordeal is over, get to pick and choose among lucrative offers from those who want to bring prestige and rain-making to their operation.

But what about those who have associated with Donald Trump? What about those who joined on only to learn that this president unleashes such a deluge of noxious garbage that it's impossible not to get drenched in it? That goes for the ones who are relatively upstanding and certainly includes the bad apples whom Trump picked. With all the scrutiny, they inevitably get caught, their misdeeds exposed by aggressive news media or investigators, most notably special counsel Bob Mueller.

Paul Manafort stealthily made millions of dollars for decades by assisting some really rotten world leaders. But under the withering D.C. klieg lights, his lavish lifestyle — paid for in part by allegedly unlawful financial dealings — was exposed, and he now faces

criminal charges punishable by a lifetime of prison. Looking past him and the other Trump patsies who might face the same fate, what about those who survive their time in the administration without indictment?

They may be shocked to discover that the reward may be no reward because they're too indelibly stained by their association and participation in this nation's humiliating future. They may be ostracized as accessories after the fact. Make that "alternative facts." Those who signed on to burnish their reputations in the job world may discover that they suffer everlasting disrepute. They may find, as a result, that their party is over even before it begins. ■

— Bob Franken is an Emmy Award-winning reporter who covered Washington for more than 20 years with CNN.

The Turkish hostage crisis



richLOWRY

King Features

It's never a good idea to negotiate with a hostage-taker, but when it's a NATO ally, there isn't much choice.

The Trump administration has been trying to get back a Christian pastor detained in Turkey since October 2016, and when a possible deal at the sidelines of the NATO summit fell through, decided to drop the hammer.

The administration sanctioned Turkey's justice and interior ministers — remember, these are top officials of a fellow NATO country. The action hit the Turkish currency and stock market hard. Then President Donald Trump intervened in his inimitable style, with a tweet promising a doubling of aluminum and steel tariffs against the country and pointedly noting the drop in the value of the lira.

As always, the president's shoot-from-the-lip style is open to question, but Turkey deserved every last character — including the two exclamation points — in that presidential tweet. Turkish

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is not Justin Trudeau or Angela Merkel, a leader firmly within the liberal West who annoys Trump. He's an Islamist authoritarian who is fundamentally changing the character of an erstwhile ally.

Erdogan's resort to hostage-taking as a tactic to gain leverage over allies — it's not just us — is a barbarous throwback and a disgusting homage to rogue states like Iran and North Korea. He also has grabbed a Turkish-American NASA scientist and local employees of American consulates.

The case against the pastor, the highest-profile case, is ludicrous. Andrew Brunson lived with his family in a seaside city, Izmir, for more than 20 years until the government, after Erdogan survived a coup, decided that he was guilty of aiding terrorist organizations and military espionage.

The alleged supporting evidence is a collection of absurdities — a video of a traditional Arab dish sent to Brunson by his daughter, a church member texting the pastor about missing a service, a photo of him with a man in a scarf bearing certain colors, and so on.

What this clearly is about is holding Brunson to try to get Fethullah Gulen, a former Erdogan ally and cleric who lives

on a farm in Pennsylvania. With great fervency but little evidence, the Turkish government accuses Gulen of being behind the shadowy July 15, 2016, coup that became an occasion for Erdogan to seize emergency powers and purge the state and civil society of his political enemies. This isn't a trade the U.S. should be willing to make.

Erdogan blames an "economic war" for his country's dire economic straits. He should instead blame his own mismanagement. Turkey was already vulnerable to an end of the era of cheap capital, even before it pursued a course of confrontation with a country vastly richer and more powerful than it is.

There were always going to be stresses in the U.S.-Turkish alliance; Turkey views the Kurds as a threat, and we consider them allies. But the chief cause of the radical deterioration in the relationship is Turkey's rank anti-Americanism, a paranoia stoked at every turn by Erdogan for his own cynical purposes.

He is now reaping what he sowed, and if Erdogan wants relief, his first step should be releasing the hostages. ■

— Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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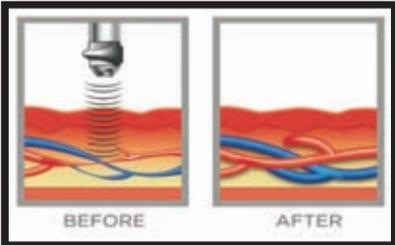
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Early voting continues for the Florida Aug. 28 primary

Early voting ends on Aug. 25. Registration for voting in the primary closed July 30.

The deadline to request a mail ballot is 5 p.m. on Aug. 22, elections officials say. The ballot must be physically back in the hands of the elections office by 7 p.m. Aug. 28. A postmark by the deadline isn't good enough if it's received after the polls close on Aug. 28.

Voters who want to vote early should present a valid photo identification and a signature identification at the early voting site. Voters can vote at any early voting site within the county when the site is open.

Collier County sites are:

- Collier County Government Complex - 3311 Tamiami Trl E., Naples
- Everglades City Hall - 102 Copeland Avenue N., Everglades City

- Golden Gate Community Center - 4701 Golden Gate Parkway, Naples
- Immokalee Community Park - 321 N. First St., Immokalee
- Library Headquarters - 2385 Orange Blossom Drive, Naples
- Marco Island Library - 210 S. Heathwood Drive, Marco Island
- Norris Center - 755 8th Ave S., Naples
- North Collier Regional Park - 15000 Livingston Road, Naples
- Supervisor of Elections Office - 3750 Enterprise Ave., Naples

For complete information on voting and registration, visit www.colliervotes.com.

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Care For Collier Fund opened to support red tide relief

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The Community Foundation of Collier County has opened the Care for Collier Fund with the assistance of local government and the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce to support emerging community causes. The fund's initial cause will be to provide relief for red tide hardship for small businesses in Collier County that have lost income due to the severity of the ongoing red tide crisis in Southwest Florida.

"The red tide definitely has had an impact on our economy — particularly our small businesses that make a living off the gulf. Helping them through this is the right thing to do now," said Michael Dalby, president and CEO of the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce. "In the long term, we need to also come together regionally as one voice to advocate for change to the status quo. Solutions are out there. We need the leadership and funding to put them into action."

The Care for Collier Fund is designed to support community members in times of hardship due to a natural disaster. Assistance will go to water-based businesses such as fishing and charter or water tour operations, water-monitoring equipment services and educational programs whose income has been adversely affected due to extreme red tide conditions.



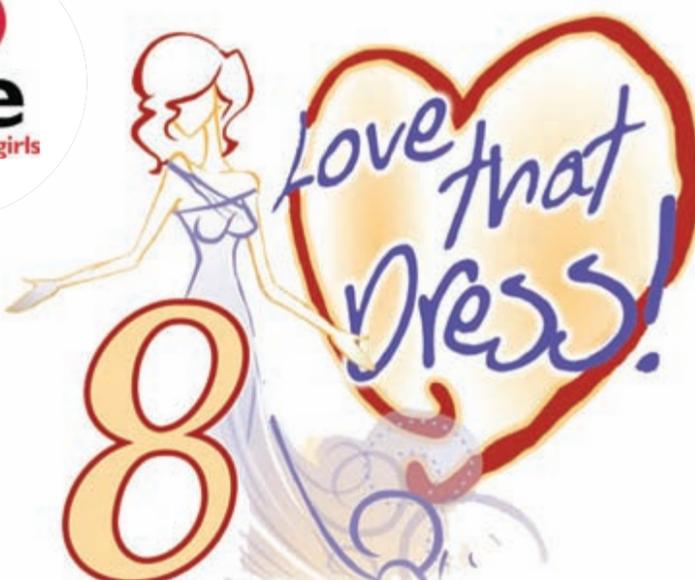
"We recognize that our community has a serious environmental problem that requires assistance, and we want to be proactive in responding to that need," said Eileen Connolly-Keesler, president and CEO of the Community Foundation. "Our board and community partners have been extremely supportive of this new initiative and we thank them for their quick action that enables us to provide relief for many who have been affected by the red tide crisis."

The foundation's board of trustees kicked off the Care for Collier Fund by allotting \$50,000 from the foundation's Changing Needs Fund to be made available for immediate relief.

The foundation needs support in this effort, however, and believes the community and donors will respond much as they did after Hurricane Irma.

"We live in a magnificent community,

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Bridge loan program assists businesses hit by algae, red tide

Businesses that have been impacted by Lake Okeechobee discharge/algae blooms and red tide can apply for short-term, interest-free loans through the Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program. The program helps bridge the gap for small businesses between the time impact occurs until other resources are available, including insurance claims.

Currently, there is no federal assistance designated for this occurrence.

The deadline to apply is Sept. 7.

Collier County businesses are eligible for relief from hardships related to red tide; Lee County business can apply for red tide-related relief and also for Lake Okeechobee discharge/algae blooms relief.

The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity administers the Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program. The program is not designed to be the primary source of assistance to affected small businesses, which is why eligibility is linked to pursuit of other sources. Loans made under this program

are short-term debt loans made by the state of Florida using public funds. They are not grants. Emergency bridge loans require repayment by the approved applicant from business receipts, insurance proceeds received or longer-term disaster recovery assistance.

As part of its service offering, the Florida SBDC at Florida Gulf Coast University has certified consultants and disaster specialists available to provide confidential, no-cost consulting to help affected businesses prepare disaster loan applications and with other post-disaster challenges.

“Our goal is to ensure that small business owners impacted by man-made and natural disasters can stay strong and stay open,” said Lois Knox, regional director for the Florida SBDC at FGCU. “Small business owners have a valuable resource in their Florida SBDC. Our consultants are here and ready to help guide you through the business continuation process.”

For more information, and to submit an application, go to www.floridadisasterloan.org. ■

FUND

From page 8

a community that is blessed and a community that cares,” Florida Sen. Garret Richter said. “This care is again highlighted by the good work of our Community Foundation of Collier County as it impacts the extraordinary needs of our

small businesses impacted by red tide.”

Applications are available for up to \$2,500 in hardship relief to pay expenses such as rent or mortgage payments, business loan payments, utility bills or other small business expenses. Applicant eligibility will be decided upon and awarded by a grant committee.

To contribute to the Care for Collier Fund or to apply for relief, visit www.cfcollier.org/care-for-collier-fund-to-support-red-tide-relief/. ■

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ORANGE

From page 1

human. But they aren't. The most prominent and troubled family member is citrus, but the Rues include such relatives as roses, among many others.

Citrus is gravely ill, but still productive.

Beneath the truck tires, the track was covered with the chopped mulch of once-upon-a-time orange trees killed by mischance.

Most were destroyed by Hurricane Irma almost 12 months ago. But some were the victims of an insect-borne bacterial disease more dangerous to citrus farmers over time than any 10 hurricanes.

Mr. Simmons had cut the ruined trees out of the grove, dragged them clear, and run them through an industrial mulcher before spreading the result back on the ground.

"At least there's some use out of them," he said.

Cheerful and fit-looking, Mr. Simmons, 60, grew up on a farm near Plant City, like five generations of his family before him. He'd stopped here on the first morning of August to greet two visitors: a Florida Weekly reporter and a man familiar to citrus farmers internationally — farmers growing citrus from China, India, Spain, North Africa and Brazil to the five counties of Southwest Florida — Dr. Mongi Zekri, a University of Florida citrus extension agent based in LaBelle.

They had come to assess the current condition of Florida's citrus industry, a powerful economic force in the Sunshine State from the late 1940s to 2005. For 13 years since then, citrus has been beleaguered and in decline though still a significant producer, the victim of the seemingly unstoppable disease called greening.

Now, farmers, agricultural scientists and promoters of the industry working together in a unique historic alliance all express a cautious optimism about the future.

"It's like AIDS, but in citrus," said Mr. Simmons, echoing the comparison of others to the HIV and AIDS epidemic of the 1980s in humans.

Citrus industry growers and researchers have now spent hundreds of millions of dollars not only to control the Asian citrus psyllid that spreads the greening bacteria, but to create new rootstock more tolerant to it while also developing chemicals that can be more effective when sprayed on trees.

Their goal, like that of AIDS researchers: To find "workarounds," as Mr. Simmons puts it — new ways of growing good citrus, of living productively even with the disease, just as AIDS victims can now do.

But they also remain sobered by the past and by what they still don't know.

In the grove

Beneath Hendry County's blue bowl of summer sky the flat track where Mr. Simmons stopped to greet his visitors is flanked by 9,000 trees — his trees, rank-and-file producers of Valencia juice oranges, their long rows plumed straight as strings in sets of two, each two rows separated by a drainage swale.

To a reporter, the trees looked good, the verdant canopies together supporting countless thousands of small green orbs swelling toward late fall or winter. Then, as they turn orange and become the newest citrus crop, pickers from Mexico, the beneficiaries of the H-2A visa program for agricultural workers, will arrive in the United States to harvest them — if the season goes as Mr. Simmons hopes.

After picking the fruit from thorny



VANDY MAJOR// FLORIDA WEEKLY

Greening has caused this orange tree to blossom and later produce fruit out of sync with the normal rhythms of flowering, setting fruit, maturing, ripening and harvesting.

"It's like AIDS, but in citrus."

— Wayne Simmons, above, echoing the comparison of others to the HIV and AIDS epidemic of the 1980s in humans.

trees at high speed between about November and March, they'll return south of the border, home.

"We'll have to see how that program works this year," Mr. Simmons said, referring to the trouble immigrants have had recently on this side of the border. "Certainly no domestic workers are going to do that job."

To Dr. Zekri, however, field workers were only a secondary problem. To him,

apparently, the trees looked troubled. But they also looked well managed by a capable, smart farmer who has adopted new growing regimens.

A native of Tunisia, Dr. Zekri, 67, grew up on a grape- and fig-producing farm before immigrating to the U.S. to earn a Ph.D. in horticulture from the University of Florida in 1987.

His latest book appeared from the University of Florida Press in 2016,

"The Critical Importance of Citrus Tree Nutrition."

The title alone suggests how much science is required for successful farmers.

Dr. Zekri ultimately became a resource for knowledge and help beloved by farmers in the Southwest Florida region, the state and even the world, many say.

But they don't tend to call him Dr. Zekri. They call him Mongi.

in the know

Top 11 citrus-producing counties, 2016-17

COUNTY	BOXES PRODUCED
DeSoto	11.67 million
Polk	11.65 million
Hendry	10.95 million
Highlands	9.16 million
Hardee	7.87 million
Collier	5.01 million
St. Lucie	4.55 million
Indian River	4.29 million
Manatee	2.77 million
Charlotte	2.14 million
Lee	1.72 million

Florida acres planted in citrus

YEAR	ACRES PLANTED
2018	454,973
2017	480,121
2016	501,396
2014	515,147
2013	524,640
2012	531,493
2011	541,328
2010	554,037
2009	568,814
2008	576,577

SOURCE: FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES

“Looks like you are doing a very good job,” the tree doctor told Mr. Simmons, quietly, studying his trees and their fruit.

“So you get an ‘A,’” a reporter added. “I wish I could take that ‘A’ to the bank, Mongi,” the farmer replied. They both smiled.

Behind them, a roadside sign announced the business Mr. Simmons kicked off three decades ago, about the time Dr. Zekri got his doctorate in Gainesville: Labelle Fruit Company. Mature trees rose 15 feet above the inhospitable sand that passes for farming soil here, with newer trees of one to three years, standing waist- to head-high, patched into the rows sporadically. They won’t begin producing fruit until they’re about four years old.

Some trees were “flushing” — producing healthy new leaves of light green indicating nutrition is reaching them, along with the right amounts of sunlight and water. Black irrigation hoses threaded the rows at the base of tree trunks, a system designed to jet water and nutrition to each tree’s roots in a life-giving, life-saving cocktail delivered by a powerful well-pump embedded at the top of the grove.

Nutrition (though not water) must be delivered not just to the root-system of the tree, but to the canopy, nowadays, Dr. Zekri explained. That’s part of the regular spraying of groves undertaken by farmers about every four to six weeks, instead of only four times year as they used to, Mr. Simmons said.

“As a result, the cost of growing (citrus) has gone from about \$800 to about \$2,000 an acre,” Dr. Zekri noted.

Mr. Simmons described more than 10 herbicides, pesticides and nutrient-rich fertilizers that must be added to trees each year.

“In the (early) 1990s it was very easy,” Dr. Zekri recalled. “We didn’t use a lot of chemicals at that time, we had fewer pests, we did not have exotic diseases like now — citrus canker and greening are the most devastating diseases, but there are others.”

Some of the chemicals now used are so severe farmers call them “chemotherapy.”

“They kill the good bugs and the bad ones,” Dr. Zekri acknowledged. Those who apply them wear suits to



Dr. Mongi Zekri, a University of Florida citrus extension agent, has worked with farmers in Collier, Lee, Hendry, Charlotte and Glades counties since the 1980s.

protect themselves, and strict regulations determine when they can be applied and how much time must pass before the produce goes to market, designated safe for consumers.

The schedules nowadays are sometimes too strict, said Rene Curtis Pratt, a member of a family beekeeping business in LaBelle, Curtis Honey. Farmers in the region from Sanibel to Clewiston have long come to Curtis to lease beehives and bees brought into their groves to pollinate trees, which then become productive, setting abundant fruit — but sometimes these days Curtis can’t help.

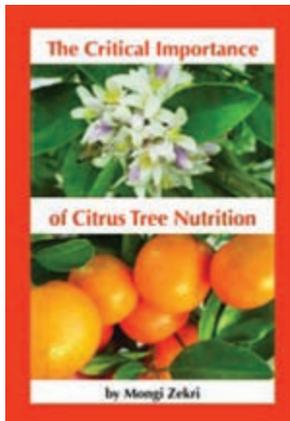
“Now with all the chemicals and regulations — and I understand why they have them — the window for the bees to get in and pollinate is so narrow. Maybe only a couple of weeks when they aren’t spraying. So the bees don’t have time to set up,” she said.

When they set up under ideal conditions, they find food and establish their hives for a few weeks before the citrus groves bloom, usually in March. Then bees cover the flowering trees and groves with a blizzard of energy and activity, making orange blossom and other honey while pollinating trees in an ancient cycle of plant-productive life. But now some farmers even have to worry about bees, and their availability.

The numbers story

And that’s just the start of a laundry list of challenges for people like Mr. Simmons.

Florida’s citrus farmers, now about 4,000 who cultivate more than 430,000 acres, according to Florida Citrus Mutual, a trade organization, are 13 years into



the fight of their lives to survive greening — a fight that includes challenges from other fronts as well: labor, a changing market for citrus and juice, and other disease threats.

Between 2007 and 2016, the citrus industry lost almost \$8 billion in revenue and more than 160,000 acres, along with about 7,500 jobs, government statics show.

Now, the trade organizations that market the fruit farmers grow say the industry is still worth \$8.6 billion in Florida’s economy each year, employing 45,000 workers — truck drivers who haul fruit, people who maintain the trucks, people who make or sell specialized farm equipment, pickers, grove tenders, operators of processing plants and the like.

But the figures are fuzzy because they’re interpreted in different ways. The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis said two years ago agriculture as a whole in Florida — including both beef and all crops — amounted to about \$6 billion of the state’s economy.

And trade associations are no longer just marketers for citrus. Now, they’re also research promoters who fund solid science.

“If you don’t have fruit, you won’t have anything to market,” said Andrew Meadows, a spokesman for Florida Citrus Mutual, with 3,000 farmer members. For that reason, he said, citrus farmers agreed to tax themselves on every box of fruit packed and sold, diverting part of the money from marketing to research — \$100 million so far.

That’s almost as much as the effort of federal and state governments, which have contributed \$125 million to date, mostly in the fight against greening.

“As a result, the cost of growing (citrus) has gone from about \$800 to about \$2,000 an acre.”

— Dr. Mongi Zekri, at left, a University of Florida citrus extension agent based in LaBelle

And this year, the Florida legislature designated \$25 million annually for citrus greening research in an “Emergency Citrus Disease Research and Development Trust Fund.”

In the private industry itself, “we’ve launched a multi-million dollar research effort and have turned over every rock possible from a research standpoint,” Mr. Meadows said.

“Growers are learning new ways and new production techniques, how to get nutrition to plants, what kind of nutrition, they’re thinking about water quality, replanting with greening-tolerant root stocks, doing high-density planting at 350 trees per acre to get investment and return sooner — there are tools in the tool box.”

In the mind of Dr. Michael Rogers, an entomologist and director of the Citrus Research and Education Center at the University of Florida, all that is unique.

“I have never seen a disease bringing so many people together. In the past decade alone we’ve learned more about this disease than in the past century. We’re all hands on deck.”

The back story

In the minds of many farmers, the real fight for a future didn’t begin in 2005. Instead, hard times first stepped out of the swamp when the fair-weather citrus industry experienced mid-state freezes in the 1980s.

Those freezes drove some farmers south, including Mr. Simmons. Freezes were followed by a terrible canker blight that precipitated the loss of significant citrus lands through out the state, including almost 50,000 of the one-time 190,000 acres of citrus in Southwest Florida, said Ron Hamel, who retired Aug. 1 after 30 years as vice president of the Gulf Citrus Growers Association of farmers on the southwest coast.

“In those days every damn grove had to have an inspection program, and entry spray. All people who went in and out along with all vehicles had to be sprayed down,” he said.

“And they had monitors from the Department of Agriculture following people around because they felt they had a good shot at eradicating canker. And we were taking a pretty good lick at it. But then the hurricanes came.”

Four hurricanes arrived in one year, the first time that had happened in the U.S. since 1886, in Texas, records show.

Charley, Frances, Ivan and Jeanne hit Florida one after the other in 2004 like runaway trains. Since canker is borne in rain on the wind, it spread everywhere. Again. Until then the state’s canker program had required that every time a tree with the disease was found, every other citrus tree within 1,900 feet — about 250 acres in an orange grove — had to be removed.

But in the year of the hurricanes, when greening was first detected in Brazilian groves, the canker program fell apart. The next year, greening arrived in Florida.

Remembering all that, Mr. Simmons sees his problems differently than he used to.

“I wish all we had now was canker,” he said. “You can’t sell the fruit itself in the market because canker makes it look bad. But you can still use it for juice. And the trees don’t die.”

Farmers managed to have some very
SEE ORANGE, A12 ►

ORANGE

From page 11

good years while they were fighting canker. In 1997-98, they produced the biggest crop ever recorded in the state, coming in at about 245 million 90-pound boxes, and giving Florida status as the second-largest citrus-producing region in the world, behind Brazil.

The biggest fight

Then the real trouble started, and it hasn't stopped. It landed near Clewiston first in 2005, in the sprawling groves of Southern Gardens Citrus, a subsidiary of U.S. Sugar now headed by company President Ricke Kress.

Although he did not return a phone call from Florida Weekly asking for an update on greening in the 3,000 acres of Southern Gardens Citrus around Lake Okeechobee, two years ago he spoke about the greening fight in a YouTube video promoting science — in particular science at Cornell University in New York — as the way to defeat the disease.

"In 2005, we were one of two growers" who first saw the disease, he said.

"Every researcher has indicated the ultimate solution will be biotechnology. (But) greening has the potential to wipe out the citrus industry" if biotechnology doesn't hurry up its game.

One of the greatest problems still, Mr. Kress pointed out, is a problem in the lab: "It's a bacteria that's never been cultured in the world, and it's in citrus throughout the world."

That's because researchers have so far failed to isolate the bacteria and study it under specific conditions.

"We haven't been able to culture the bacterium using traditional methods because we haven't been able to develop the right media or diet to put it in a petri dish," Dr. Rogers said.

Sounds simple enough; apparently not.

Meanwhile last year, in large part due to Hurricane Irma, Florida growers only produced 45 million boxes, although they hoped for upwards of 70 million boxes before the storm.

Although this year could show some promise for a future in citrus, the loss of farmers and groves in the last decade, not to mention processing plants — down to about six in the state from 26 two decades ago — has been astounding.

Greening itself

Citrus originated in parts of southeast Asia or even the Himalayan region a few thousand years ago, and like a lot of things — horses, hogs and domestic cattle, wheat and oats, for example — arrived in the New World with the Spanish, in the 1600s.

The Asian citrus psyllid and greening were not part of those imports, however. Nobody knows how they got here, but a number of researchers suspect they arrived in somebody's undeclared tree or plant samples designed for grafting as tree scions in the 1990s — perhaps an ambitious cultivator of new root stock, or perhaps a traveler with a hankering for an Asian fruit tree in the nursery or back yard.

However it happened, now it's a done deal. Greening by any name is here to stay, predicts Dr. Zekri.

And it has other names. The disease is sometimes called HLB, the acronym for its Chinese name, Huanglongbing. Farmers also call it Yellow Dragon or Yellow Chute, both translations of the Chinese name.

In China and Southeast Asia greening first appeared a century ago. Little or no research was done to combat it because it was so poorly understood, scientists say — and until it hit the Americas start-



The mural at Curtis Honey suggest how important citrus and its flowers are to honey bees, and vice versa.

COURTESY PHOTO



COURTESY PHOTO

A T-shirt at Curtis Honey, which citrus growers in the region have relied on for decades to pollinate their groves.

ing less than two decades ago, spreading elsewhere as well, not much was known about it.

That's changed.

When a tree becomes infected, leaves take on a faintly yellow striping. They become stunted just like the fruit that will later set haltingly and mature only as small, hard produce useless to farmers and consumers. Eventually branches won't bear leaves and the trees die.

The Asian citrus psyllid that carries the bacteria appeared in Florida in 1998, seven years before anybody spotted the disease — a tiny, mottled brown bug in the groves.

Smaller than a pin-head — so small it remains almost invisible to the naked eye, at about .05 inches in its adult phase — the bug began spreading bacteria through citrus trees and related plant species in the Rue family, with devastating results to citrus.

Greening causes the roots of citrus trees to swell and then shrink, preventing them from sending water, minerals and nutrients up though the tree in its xylem (pronounced zy-lem), the vascular system that works nutrition upward from the roots.

At the same time, when the leaves in the canopy use the sun and nutrients to

make food in photosynthesis, they are suddenly unable to transfer those sugars and starches downward through tissue called phloem (pronounced flo-em), shut down by the bacteria.

In effect, both the tree and the leaves themselves become simultaneously starved, and constipated. And they look it.

Growers have handled this by "having to learn to grow citrus all over again," said Dr. Rogers. "They've adjusted how they grow it. They're very educated and adopt tactics to keep the trees going."

But in the lab, scientists still can't figure out what makes the bacteria tick.

Back in the grove

Back in the grove or at least the grove offices, meanwhile, it's paperwork season, the time when farmers try to arrange dependable labor for the harvest that begins in October and November.

"With the reduced crop size the labor markets aren't in short supply so much," said Mr. Meadows, of Florida Citrus Mutual.

"We have transitioned our industries, and now the vast majority of the fruit is picked under the H-2A visa program — they pick the crop and then go home."

And they're eager to do it, apparently. "We have growers who go down to Monterey, Mexico and conduct interviews — a lot of people apply," Mr. Meadows said.

"And a lot of growers find and work with the harvesters who are good workers."

Mr. Simmons is thinking about the same thing, and doing the paperwork these days, he says — trying to hire the 30 or so farmworkers who will pick his crop.

"They're really good, hard-working people," he said.

Unlike the soil he's standing on that supports his beautiful but troubled trees on 60 acres, with a couple hundred more acres of the LaBelle Fruit Company just down the road; it's neither good or hard-working, apparently.

"The soil here mostly just holds up the trees," Mr. Simmons explained cheerfully, indulging in a moment of wishful thinking: "Now, if we just had the soil they have in Indiana or Ohio or Kansas ..."

But that's not how it ever worked in Florida, especially not these days, as nobody knows better than Mr. Simmons or Dr. Zekri.

"We have to live with this," Dr. Zekri repeated — "but hopefully food and juice prices will stay on the high side so growers can make a profit."

That would be nice for consumers, too.

But a lot of people who didn't make a profit for a few years have given up the hard life; piles of dead trees and naked fields that once produced sizeable orange groves and will never be planted again are visible almost in the shadow of LaBelle.

Mr. Simmons is not one of them.

"I'm not a gentleman farmer," he said. "I'm all in, completely committed. This is my life."

He will continue to grow about 150 trees per acre until he can't, he says. That's twice what farmers once grew when 75 trees per acre was standard, and about half what they might plant now or in the future when they scrape old groves from the earth en masse, and try to start over. Which is not his plan.

Unfortunately, the disease is still only partly understood by entomologists, agricultural scientists and the farmers themselves — but they're racing toward an understanding that will give them control, Dr. Rogers says. New research now identifies the genes responsible for the disease. Scientists — the most muscular group in the world are probably University of Florida researchers — are striving to turn off the gene markers and create new citrus trees that simply don't react to bacteria carried by the Asian citrus psyllid.

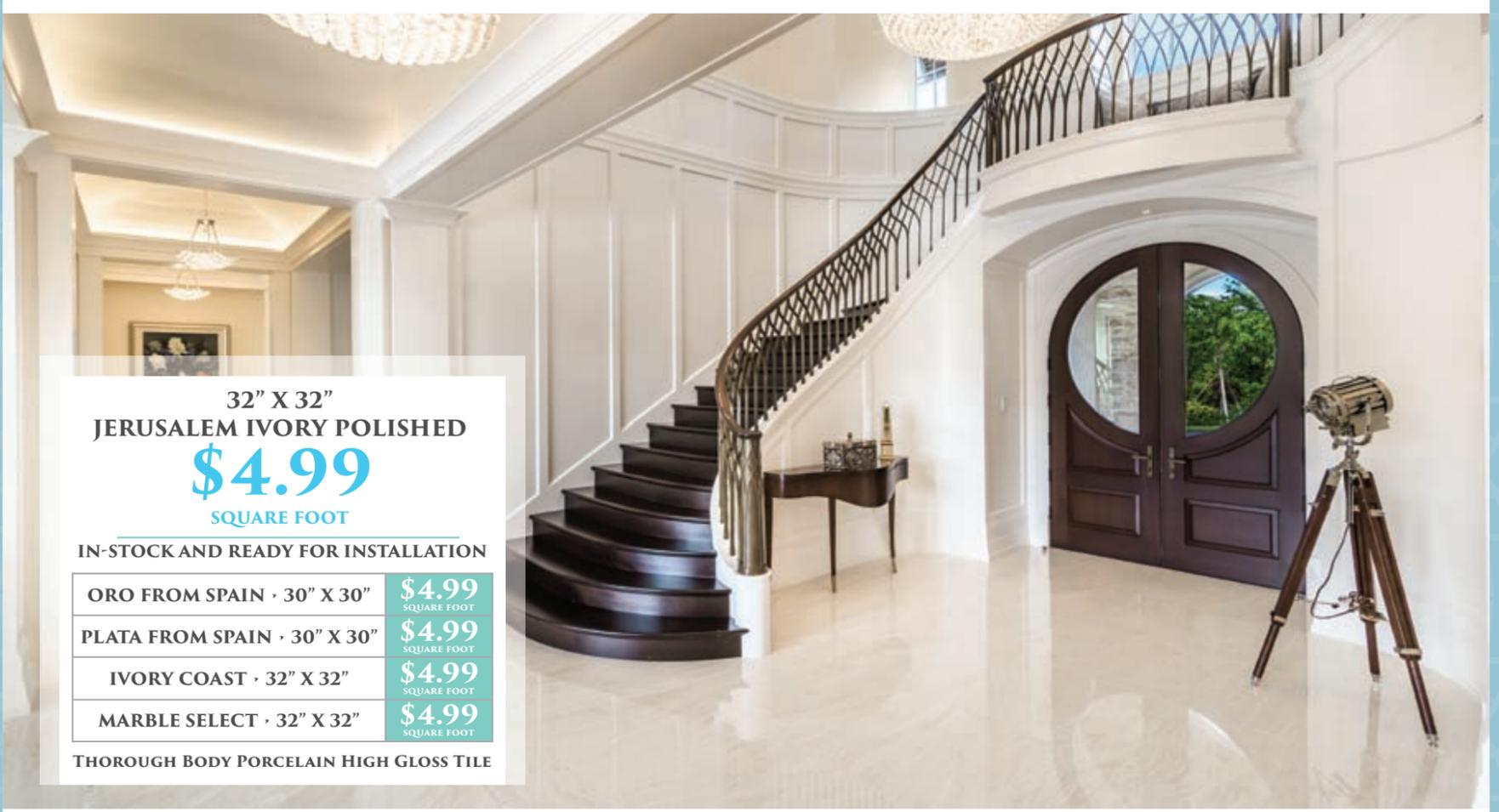
"I am very optimistic we're going to solve this," he said. "I just hope it's soon enough."

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY THE EDITORS AT ANDREWS MCMEEL

Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

Awesome

Retirees Marli and Paulo Ciquinel of Meleiro in southern Brazil discovered a fetishist's dream in the vegetable garden behind their home: a 17½-pound potato that has grown into the shape of a huge human foot (with six toes). The "toes" descend in size, much as human toes

do, and the largest has roots that look like hair. The "foot" portion of the tuber reaches up almost to knee-height. Marli told the Mirror, "We have never seen anything like it." Paulo said he was "a little bit scared when we harvested that potato." The couple don't plan to eat it.

Irony

Tania Singer, 48, a renowned neuroscientist who is one of the world's top researchers on human empathy, has been accused by co-workers of being ... a bully. "Whenever anyone had a meeting with her, there was at least an even chance they would come out in tears," one colleague told Science magazine. Others said the daily working environment included threats and emotional abuse, The Washington Post reported on Aug. 12. For her part, Singer denied the most serious charges and said, "The

workload and pressure increasing led to stress and strain that in turn sometimes caused inadequate communication with my staff in problem situations." The Max Planck Institute for Human Cognitive and Brain Sciences in Leipzig, Germany, where Singer has her lab, granted Singer a sabbatical in 2017 and said in a statement that when she returns, "it is envisioned that Prof. Singer will head, at her own request, a considerably smaller working group for social neuroscience."

Bold

In Columbus, Ohio, workers repairing a street on Aug. 8 hit an unmarked water main, causing homes along the road to lose water. One man couldn't be deterred from finishing his shower, though: WCMH TV reported that after screaming from his porch, "I was in the

f----- shower!" the unidentified resident finished his morning toilette on the street, in the geyser from the pipe. Facebook user Cody Vickers took a picture of two astonished crewmembers as Mr. Clean rinsed off nearby.

Solving the wrong problem?

In Paris, the designer of a recently installed "urinoir," a sidewalk urinal, on the Ile Saint-Louis, says the new device offers "an eco solution to public peeing." But Reuters reports that nearby residents and business owners are unhappy about the urinals, saying they are "immodest and ugly" and will

"incite exhibitionism." The "Uritrottoir," a mashup of the French words for urinal and sidewalk, looks much like a plastic trash receptacle, and local mayor Ariel Weil says they're necessary: "If we don't do anything, then men are just going to pee in the streets."

Oops

Colorado Mesa University in Grand Junction, Colo., is footing the bill for a possible \$46,000 reprint job after a recent graduate found a typo on his diploma. Alec Williams, former editor of the school's newspaper, was examining his sheepskin when he found a line reading "Coard of Trustees," instead of "Board of Trustees" under one of the signatures. "There was this moment of laughing at it ... and the more I

thought about it, the more frustrated I got, because I'm sitting on \$30,000 worth of debt and they can't take the time to use spellcheck," he said. CMU President Tim Foster told The Grand Junction Daily Sentinel that the school will send out corrected diplomas to 2018 grads — but the typo goes back to 2012 diplomas. Those graduates can request a new diploma if they want to. "This mistake is all ours," he said. ■



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TESLA

From page 1

reflection of that philosophy. There are unique pieces enhancing aerodynamics like the flush-fitting door handles and front end without a grille. Still, the overall appearance is like a Porsche Panamera that got shrunk in the wash. So while there are distinctive touches, the Model 3 also buddies-up to an established look of sleek and premium.

Inside is an experience like no other production car — it's even distinctive from its Tesla Model S and X siblings. Aside from the steering wheel, the entire sedan is controlled with one large central touchscreen. Maps, climate control, regenerative braking, stereo and much more are all adjusted through one sizeable table-like interface.

Features like the speedometer that are traditionally directly behind the steering wheel are also part of the touchscreen. This leaves a large airy feeling for both the passenger and the driver. It doesn't deliver the total luxury immersion that comes from buying a Mercedes at a similar price/size level, but that's not missed much in the Tesla because it's such a simple clean-sheet design.

The unique dash also creates some clever solutions. For example, the air conditioning doesn't use traditional vents. Instead, the full-width front air panel can be directionally adjusted through the touchscreen. It creates nearly infinite ways to channel air. This setting and many more are remembered and identified through a smart phone. So it all automatically adjusts when there's a driver change.

Not everyone is going to like this minimal interior, and some might find such a feature-filled touchscreen downright distracting. But the car is built to be ahead of its time because it has to be. Tesla is fully committed to an autonomous future, so a Model 3 needs to look like it's just a software update away from driving itself to the grocery store.

In fact, there are already seven cameras, 12 sensors and radar built into every Model 3. It allows Tesla's semi-autonomous Autopilot to be standard on all cars. It also means the hardware is there for any owner to upgrade to a fully autonomous vehicle once it becomes legal. So it's a car that is actually waiting for the future to catch up to it.

While Autopilot is looking to eliminate the driver, the Model 3 is a driver's car. Unlike combustion engines, electric motors have their full power and torque instantly available. Plus, Tesla builds the batteries (one of the heaviest components) into the platform floor to keep



COURTESY PHOTO

The Tesla Model 3 has a sleek design.

the center of gravity low. This creates a quick and nimble vehicle.

The sporty feeling is amplified by the new Performance line. It's an upgrade from the base Model 3 that includes a second electric motor for all-wheel drive and a serious rise in power. The Model 3 Performance began most of its initial deliveries earlier this month, and so it was fortunate that Tesla of Naples was one of the few in the country that had it available for us to test drive.

Tesla's official 0 to 60 mph time for this car is 3.5 seconds. That makes it as fast as the best cars from BMW's M and Cadillac's V series of performance heavyweights. While those feel raucous and wild, the Tesla is a different kind of fun.

The Model 3 Performance doesn't have an engine growl or wheel spin. Instead, the electric motors give a whoosh of power as they instantly deliver a seat-pinning amount of torque. The all-wheel drive and low center of gravity create a package that feels as planted and controlled as a bullet train on fresh rails.

When used as a real commuter car, the 310-mile range should be plenty to get through a week's commute. Plus, a full charge can be achieved with one night on a home charger. For longer trips, Tesla's proprietary rapid chargers have been established along enough



COURTESY PHOTO

The entire sedan is controlled from one large touchscreen.

interstate corridors that it's possible to be electric coast-to-coast.

There's an even quicker Tesla out there. The Model S P100D is a specialty model that is a full second quicker from 0 to 60 mph. Starting at \$135,000 (before the \$7,500 tax incentive all Teslas can receive,) it's more than double the Model 3 Performance's \$64K base price. That puts the smaller Tesla directly in competition with other fast luxury cars like the BMW M4. Thus, while the Model S in supercar-like trim will

always be equated to home values, the Model 3 Performance feels like obtainable premium.

The Tesla Model 3 Performance is quick, nimble, quiet, somewhat affordable and fulfills a future we were promised long ago. Just as some people don't enjoy a science-fiction movie, this can be an intimidating vehicle. But for the same reason that there's always a line for the latest iPhone, there's no shortage of eager technology early adopters out there, too. ■

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HEART

From page 14

director, government and community relations from 2005 to 2017.

"I am proud to be a part of this amazing organization as it brings best practices from proven research into our daily lives to improve health," Ms. Jackson said. "Helping to lead the Greater Southeast Affiliate of the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association as we build community partnerships to reduce risk factors and save lives is an honor."

Both Ms. Church and Ms. Jackson have served in numerous volunteer leadership and fundraising roles within the associa-

tion. Ms. Church served as president of the local association board from 2001 to 2004 and chaired the 1999 and 2000 Collier County Heart Walks. In 2001, she received the Volunteer of the Year Award, and in 2006, she was awarded the prestigious Special Services Award at the Florida Affiliate Level. In 2018, she received the association's National Award of Meritorious Achievement for her 21 years of fundraising efforts.

Ms. Jackson has served on the Southwest Florida Association board, including as board and leadership chair. She has chaired the Lee County Heart Walk and the Southwest Florida Go Red for Women Luncheon, as well as served on the Southwest Florida Heart Ball Executive Leadership Team. Additionally, she has served as the GSA board's advocacy chair and secretary-treasurer. ■

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Dave Norris was a healthy 65-year-old, until one day he had trouble swallowing. His doctor discovered a malignant tumor in his stomach and Dave sought treatment at a large cancer center in another city. There, they saw him as patient number 1125157, not Dave Norris. Every other week, Dave flew across the country for treatment until he discovered a Florida Cancer Specialists clinic only minutes from his home. Here, Dave was given a successful knockout round of treatment, all while being treated like Dave Norris, not just another number. The care and compassion Dave received inspired him so much that he has dedicated the next chapter of his life to helping other Florida Cancer Specialists patients.

"I am thankful for the doctors and nurses at Florida Cancer Specialists who cared for me as a person and a neighbor, not just a patient and a number."

-Dave Norris, Cancer Fighter

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HEALTHY LIVING

Mourning, a journey in progress, moves along with you

BY DEENA BAXTER
Special to Florida Weekly

World Suicide Prevention Day is Sept. 10 and it has particular meaning for me. It's been six years since we lost Kevin, our youngest adult son, to suicide — death by bipolar mental illness. The grief after any death is acute — especially sudden death without goodbye. It can cut like a knife and feel overwhelmingly intense, devouring everything in its path. It can be emotionally and physically draining, a whole mind-body-soul slam, but with time and resilience we can move on.



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The greatest gift we can give to those who are grieving is to treat them with dignity and listen and validate where they are, or have been, in their life: The act of listening to understand instead of listening to respond. By "listening deeply" I've learned that some people lack the vocabulary to articulate their pain, their grief, their frustrations with life and what they need. The most compassionate thing we can do is to listen and not jump

in, assuming someone wants something cleaned up, made smaller or swept away. Sometimes people just want to share the truth of their own experience. Grief author Megan Devine calls this, "A deep act of love and respect." After listening, it can sometimes be appropriate to ask, "What do you need or want? Can I do anything to help you?"

Recently, I experienced this on a very personal level. We sold our home and downsized by 50 percent, on short notice. In less than a month we had to find a new home, dispose of years of "stuff," get through the inspection and closing and move. I don't believe in storage units; nor does my husband. In anticipation of eventually moving, I had been whittling our belongings for several months but my beloved husband — ever the procrastinator — hadn't moved beyond thinking about it. Yes, opposites do attract.

There is an element of grieving and mourning in downsizing. There is the pain of parting with something we value and then living without it. I found it cathartic to dispose of furniture, clothing and household goods. More difficult were parting with 40-plus family photo albums and my porcelain doll collection. Thankfully, one son wanted the family albums and a local doll club eagerly accepted the



dolls for a future fundraiser.

What brought us to our knees was the harsh reality that no family member wanted Kevin's few mementos — achievement awards, childhood art projects, graduation albums, wedding photos, etc. These were the tangibles that remained, frozen in time, and there would be no new ones. The thought of preserving them as digital images and throwing them away seemed like a form of desecration — a sacrilege. My husband's heart was aching and mine wasn't much better.

This was a time to step back, take a deep breath, listen deeply, respect my husband's truth and tap into mine. As Kenny Rogers sings, "Know when to hold them, know when to fold them, know when to walk away, know when to run."

The message was clear: "These are still too precious to part with, so don't!" I

packed up all the items in three boxes and moved them with us. I put Kevin's mementoes on our nightstands, in my husband's study and in the family room, along with other family keepsakes. A poster-size photo of Kevin from his high school soccer days hangs in my husband's closet, and we made room for the remaining boxes and will rotate those items for display. We found a way to move our mourning in a way that works best for us and incorporated it respectfully into our new setting.

Mourning moves in mysterious ways, literally and figuratively. It's our choice how we respond to its demands. We can honor those we've loved and lost by remembering that they lived. This is a gift that keeps on giving. ■

— Deena Baxter launched *The Surviving Suicide and Sudden Loss Project* in partnership with the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Collier County in 2014. The project's mission is to promote life-affirming mental wellness. It includes a book, a creative arts website (www.WriteOnMyMind.com) and mental health advocacy and outreach. The book is titled, "Surviving Suicide - Searching for 'Normal' with Heartache and Humor." All profits go to NAMI of Collier County.

A new kind of ER for older adults

BY SEBASTIEN SAIITA, PHYSICIANS REGIONAL HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

No one likes the thought of having to visit an emergency room. The reality is, illness or injuries that may need emergency medical attention can and do happen with the likelihood increasing as we get older. A study conducted by George Washington University Medical Center in Washington, D.C., found that emergency room visits by the elderly have already increased more than 34 percent in a decade, creating a greater need for specialized care. In response, Physicians Regional - Collier Boulevard has introduced a new kind of ER for older adults to help make them feel more at ease and comfortable.

"We recognize that the ER can be stressful for anyone," said Christy De Leon, director of the Emergency Room at Physicians Regional-Collier Blvd. "This can be intensified for older adults so we decided to take the extra steps to better serve their needs."

The Emergency Department at Physicians Regional-Collier Boulevard has made enhancements to its emergency rooms to help address the physical, social, cognitive, and situational differences of older adults.

"This was a year-long project for us identifying their specific needs and implementing the necessary changes," said Karen Hays, senior office coordinator for the Emergency Department at Physicians Regional-Collier Blvd. "We have seen that even the smallest changes have made a significant difference."

These changes include:

- Private patient rooms
- Special beds with thick, soft mattresses
- Larger, easy to read clocks
- Softer lighting
- Soothing room colors
- Large and easy to operate remote for nurse call and TV
- Arm rest seating and recliners for family comfort

■ Portable CD player offering 1940s hits geared for patients with dementia "Families of dementia patients have really appreciated that we took the step of adding the 1940s music," said Ms. Hays. "They've noticed the calming effect that it can have." Research also shows that prints can cause dizziness in patients with seizures, migraines and/or dementia which is why they also took the step of replacing all of the curtains in the ER with new ones that have soft, solid colors.

While not immediately visible, another notable enhancement is the specially trained clinical staff to care for older adults. All of the Emergency Department staff and medical providers have completed at least ten hours of geriatric care education, providing them with the extra know-how in caring for and addressing age related issues.

Controlling noise is a big factor in creating an optimal environment for older adults. The ER provides a 30-minute-or-less Service Pledge where a patient's

time will be noted when he or she enter emergency room, and a medical professional will work diligently to have them initially seen within 30 minutes or less of their noted arrival. This allows the patient to receive faster care and quickly gets the patient into a less noisy environment when in triage. Each patient room is also enclosed with sliding glass doors that help drown out hallway noise.

"We make a special effort to know what matters to them, and by going the extra mile with these enhancements, we hope to make their experience a more positive one," said Christy De Leon.

The emergency room at Physicians Regional - Collier Blvd. has 18 private rooms, offers 24-hour care by board-certified physicians and is conveniently located in East Naples at 8300 Collier Blvd. Naples. It is a Certified Primary Stroke Center and Accredited Chest Pain Center by the American College of Cardiology. ■

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DLC promotes Garcia, Eppich

David Lawrence Center, Collier County's only comprehensive, not-for-profit mental health and addiction recovery treatment center serving children, adults and families, announces the promotion of Natalie Garcia to clinical director of access and outpatient services and Barbara Eppich to manager of accounts receivable.

As clinical director since 2014, Ms. Garcia has overseen outpatient mental health therapy services and access services. In her new role, she assumes the additional responsibilities of outpatient medical services, which include the management and administrative oversight of daily operations of the psychiatric medical team and medication management services for children and adults. This includes services provided by a team of child and adult psychiatrists, doctors of osteopathic medicine, advanced registered nurse practitioners, physician assistants and medical technicians. The team represents the largest, most comprehensive psychiatric practice in Collier County.

Ms. Garcia earned a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's in community counseling from Oklahoma State University. She joined DLC in 2005 as an emergency services clinician. She was

named Employee of the Year in 2008 and received the Outstanding Leadership Award in 2013. She was also recognized by the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Collier County as Professional Partner of the Year in 2010.

Ms. Eppich joined DLC in 2016 as the center's billing and collections specialist. In her new role, she oversees management and daily operations of the accounts receivable department and also oversees billing and coding standards to assure contract compliance.

She has more than 30 years of experience in information technology, sales, customer service and accounting. Prior to joining DLC, she worked as an account representative with Neuroscience and Spine Associates, was a principal with EMR Solutions and senior project manager, project manager and senior staff engineer with Public Service Enterprise Group.

Ms. Eppich earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Stevens Institute of Technology in New Jersey.

DLC provides 225,000 treatment sessions to more than 9,000 people every year. To learn more about the center's programs and services, call 455-8500 or visit www.DavidLawrenceCenter.org. ■



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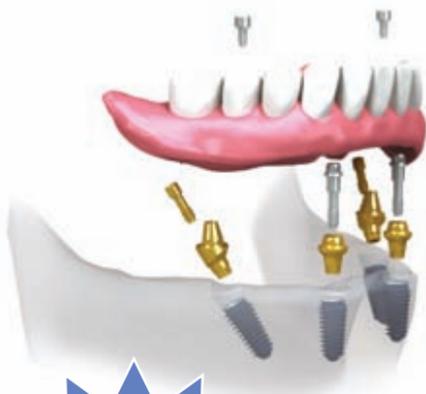


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PET TALES

Pet prosthetics

BY KIM CAMPBELL THORNTON
Andrews McMeel Syndication

One of the patients who sticks in Dr. Denis Marcellin-Little's memory is a golden retriever who was able to hike 6 miles a day after being fitted with a prosthetic device. His owner was an athletic trainer, skilled in wrapping and taping athletes. That came in handy during his dog's adaptation to the new limb.

"He improved on the process, improved on the device in that dog," says Dr. Marcellin-Little, a veterinary surgical specialist and professor at the University of California, Davis School of Veterinary Medicine.

Prosthetics are more than artificial limbs. They also include orthotics — custom braces for knees, hips and ankles — and wraps and other supportive devices. They can return mobility to pets who have suffered paralyzing injuries and improve gait for animals facing amputation or an orthopedic problem that inhibits movement, such as cranial cruciate injury.

Pet prostheses have been available for more than 15 years, but they are still challenging to create and fit. The latest advances include greater availability of 3-D printing and improvements in software for scanning and modeling. But just because you have a 3-D printer at home doesn't mean you can simply print out a new limb for your pet who had a leg amputated after being hit by a car.

Not every animal is a good candidate for a prosthetic device, and not every



JEREMIAH URONIS / PAWOPEDIC.COM

A well-fitted prosthetic device combined with rehab can improve a pet's mobility over the long term.

veterinarian is knowledgeable about the mechanical, logistical and biological considerations involved in fitting pets for one. If your pet needs help getting around or is facing amputation because of an injury or cancer, and you are interested in a prosthetic device for him, here's what you should know before moving ahead.

■ Plan ahead. Ideally, an animal will need two articulating joints remaining for a prosthetic therapy to be successful. There's nothing for the device to attach to if a pet has had a full amputation.

"Talk to your orthopedic surgeon to determine if it is an option," says Jim Nelson, co-founder of Tripawds, an online community for people with three-legged pets.

■ Medical factors. Considerations include whether the pet has pain, the kind of pain, the health of the tissue, whether there's scar tissue, and whether skin is thin, loose or infected, to name just a few.

■ Coordination is key. A partial amputation with the goal of fitting a prosthetic device is a complicated procedure and involves a number of people: owner, general practitioner, surgeon, device manufacturer and rehab practitioner.

The process typically involves an initial consultation, patient assessment, measurements, design and manufacture, the surgery itself and physical rehab for six weeks or more. Surgery must be coordinated with the maker of the device. Devices may need to be sent back and forth by mail until the fit is perfect. It helps to have a knowledgeable person keeping track of all the steps.

■ Go the distance. Because pet prosthetics are still in the early stages of development, little is taught about them in veterinary school. You may need to travel to find a veterinarian who is experienced in placing them.

■ Understand the full commitment. Fitting a pet with a prosthetic device takes time, money and a good rehab team.

"We've seen some dogs who are not getting the therapy they need, and they're just kind of swinging a prosthetic around," says Tripawds co-founder Rene Agredano. "Odds are, that device is going to end up sitting in a closet eventually, because the animal just doesn't adapt."

When everything goes right, a prosthesis can make a visible difference in a pet's mobility and quality of life.

"Their joints are better, their backs are better, their muscles are better," Agredano says. ■

Pets of the Week



>> **Nesta** is a 3-year-old female black and white terrier bully weighing about 49 pounds. She is calm, quiet and friendly. She knows her basics and is good on her leash.



>> **April** is a 1-year-old female brown tabby domestic shorthair. She is playful, likes to explore and entertains herself.



>> **Trixie** is a 7-year-old female brown brindle and white American Staffordshire terrier mix. She weighs about 68 pounds and is calm, friendly and quiet.



>> **Heath** is a 2-year-old male orange tabby and white domestic shorthair. He is sweet, handsome and friendly. He tested positive for FIV that can affect his immune system over time, but cats with FIV often live long, healthy and normal lives with no symptoms.

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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My car just won't drive to the state of ketosis

stephanieDAVIS

sdavis@floridaweekly.com



I knew the Keto Diet was not for me when I witnessed a friend carefully eating the innards of a sushi roll while completely avoiding each and every grain of the surrounding rice. When she was finished, there was a single, tiny, cooked rice donut on her plate. It was bizarre.

Now that is will power.

To her credit, she's dropped 10 pounds in less than three weeks. Who am I to question her methods?

I'm just a regular, normal person whose metabolism completely halted with the onset of menopause. As a result, if I even dare to glance at a Triscuit, I immediately gain 5 pounds. So, I find myself perking up and paying attention when someone my age drops a whopping 10 pounds in far less than the amount of time it takes for me to binge watch a few episodes of "The Handmaid's Tale" on Hulu.

At first, the Keto Diet sounded like something new and exotic — until I commenced to Googling it and realized that it was basically the same old Atkins Diet I adopted in the early '90s to shed 40 post-pregnancy pounds by eating tons of meat, cheese and eggs — thereby putting my body into ketosis (that's where the "keto" come in). Whether ketosis is healthy depends on whom you ask. When you're operating on a minuscule amount of carbohydrates, the



body uses energy from ketone bodies in the blood instead of glucose, which can result in both rapid weight loss and really bad breath.

So, you take the good with the bad — in other words, you could pop a Tic Tac to alleviate the bad breath, but is that really how you want to use your tiny carb allowance? If you're doing Keto, or Atkins, or Paleo (yet another name for the same low-carb diet that is based on the idea that Paleolithic cave people were thin because they only ate animals

as opposed to bagels), most low-carb dieters prefer to enjoy their carbohydrates calories over ice in the form of vodka — and can you blame them? Life without bread is hard.

Alas, in the long run, unless you swear off carbohydrates forever — and keep in mind that lettuce, carrots, watermelon, and especially bananas are filled with carbs — as soon as normal eating resumes, the weight will come back with a vengeance — and then some.

Yet, like my mother and grandmother

before me, I continue trying fad diets. In the '70s, I remember my mom doing the Cantaloupe Diet (I am not making this up) — she ate cantaloupe every day for six months. She'd salt it, sugar it, put cottage cheese on it, and cut up cubes of it to put it her vodka. She went from a size 6 to a size 2 in a few months.

My grandmother was even more drastic. She was the slimmest lady I'd ever seen and she somehow sustained herself on the Grapefruit Diet — grapefruit, coffee, water and cigarettes. No wonder she was always in such a bad mood.

I have bunches of friends who have found their ideal weight by going vegan and avoiding eating anything with eyes — which is in direct opposition to my thin paleo friends who only eat things with eyes. Then there's my skinny friends who never eat gluten, or my slender friends who don't touch dairy.

It can all be so daunting, but ultimately takes me back to my 20s, to a day when I was having lunch with a friend in her 50s. I was scarfing down my sandwich, my fries and my dessert while my friend slowly nibbled on a salad. She was healthy, athletic and attractive — I asked her (as I chewed) why she was barely eating. She said, "My dear, you'll find out after menopause — everything in moderation."

I still haven't figured out how not to scarf down a sandwich, but amongst all the fads out there, I think I know the answer to a healthy diet — eat less calories and move more. I'll let you know how it works out once I'm ready to try it. ■



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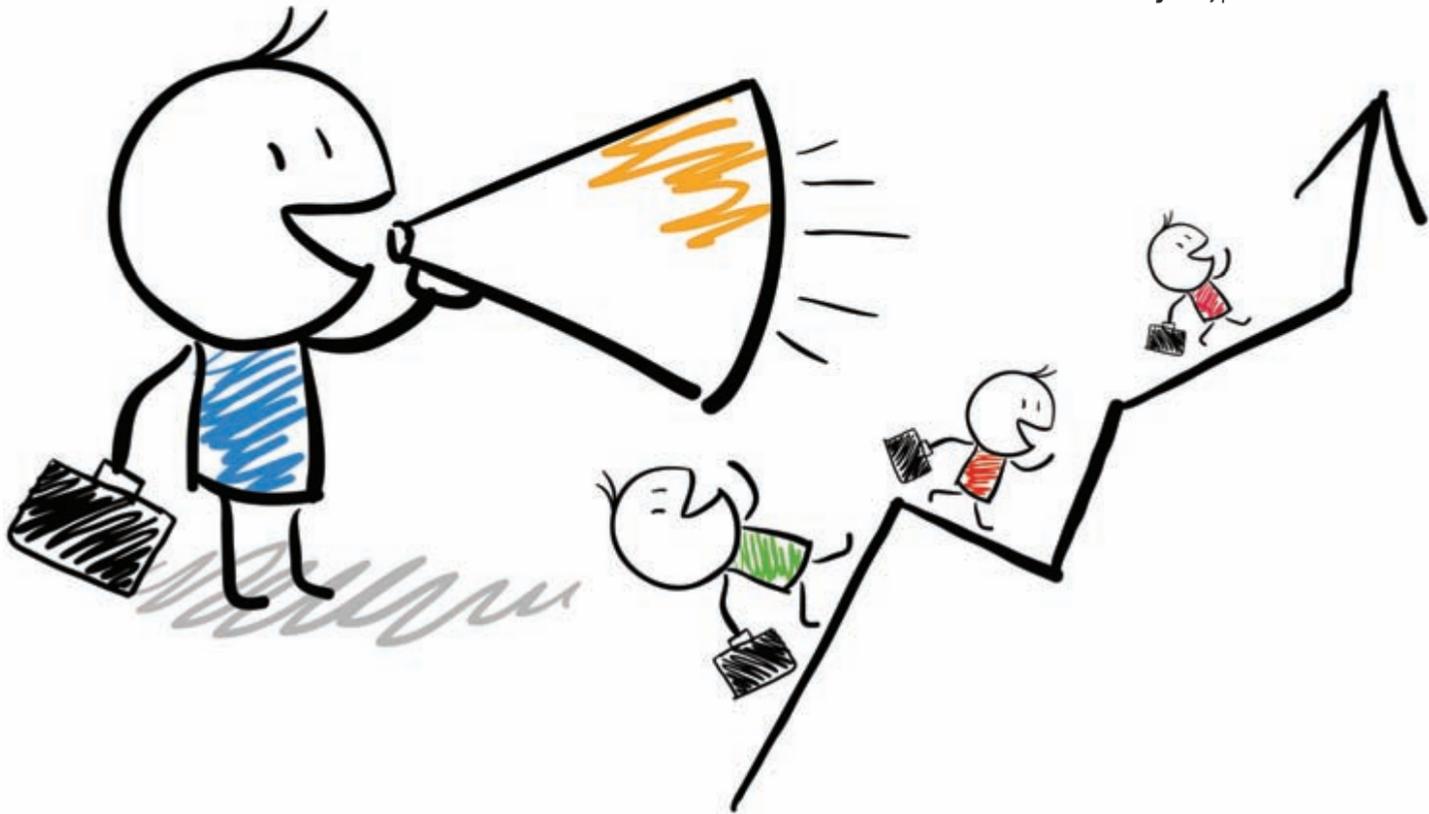
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BUSINESS

“As a sales leader, you will often find your people looking to you for wisdom, direction and reassurance.”

— Lance Tyson, president and CEO of Tyson Group



COACHING

YOUR SALES STAFF
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SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

SALES IS A HIGHLY COMPETITIVE FIELD. People who sell for a living often face more than a few rejections before receiving a yes.

Coaching can be helpful to struggling salespeople, as shown by a recent Forbes article that reported many salespeople who quit cited a lack of coaches and mentors as one of the top reasons they bolted. Some in sales management see their role as comparable to a sports team coach, given the attributes

SEE SALES, A26 ►



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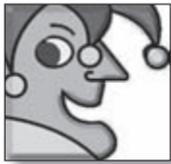


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Value and Quality

Successful investing boils down to being able to answer two key questions whenever considering a stock for your portfolio:

1) Is this a healthy, high-quality company?

2) Is the company's stock priced attractively right now?

If you focus on only one, you might end up buying overvalued shares of a terrific company, or seemingly bargain-priced shares of a troubled or doomed business. Investors have lost a lot of money doing either or both of those things.

Many good companies are rather apparent, but a close examination is wise. You can discern quality by assessing a company's profitability, growth and health via measures such as sales and earnings growth rates, profit margins, return on equity (ROE), return on assets (ROA), inventory turnover and market share, among other things. Management quality and candor is also important.

Once you find a great prospect, it can be tricky to figure out at what price it's a good buy. Price-related measures help

you determine whether a stock is overpriced, underpriced or priced just right. They address a company's valuation or stock price and include its market capitalization, enterprise value, price-to-earnings (P/E) ratio and price-to-sales ratio.

It's easy to think that as long as the company is wonderful, the stock price doesn't matter much. You might assume that if an overvalued company keeps growing, it'll eventually grow into and surpass its current price. That could take a long time, though, and instead, the stock might fall closer to its fair value. Even if the stock grows, it might not do so briskly, if it's already overvalued. To reduce your risk and have a better chance of realizing solid gains, aim to buy into stock only at attractive prices. That's what value investors do, and they call it seeking a margin of safety.

When you evaluate possible investments, focus on quality and price. These two factors can also help you determine when to sell. Learn more about successful investing at fool.com/how-to-invest. ■

My Dumbest Investment

Reverse Splits

I should have known better, but I took investment advice from a rag that repeatedly failed me. More than half the companies I invested in had reverse splits of 1-to-10 or 1-to-20. After those splits, most of them went down the drain completely.

— J.H., online

The Fool Responds: Ouch. Too many investors don't sufficiently understand what stock splits and reverse splits are and mean.

With a regular stock split, such as a 2-for-1 split, if you have 100 shares of a stock priced at \$50 per share (total value: \$5,000), post-split you'll have 200 shares priced around \$25 apiece (total value: \$5,000). Splits lower share prices, but investors' stakes remain the same.

There's little reason to rejoice or lament a regular stock split, but a reverse split is usually a red flag, signaling a company in trouble. With a 1-for-10 split, 100 shares valued at \$5 per share would become 10 shares valued at \$50. Reverse splits can be used to inflate a stock's price so that it looks less worrisome.

Be careful with any investing newsletter — make sure that its record is available and impressive. (You can access some rankings of newsletters at hulbertratings.com.) Ideally, make your investment decisions based on your own research, perhaps with the help of a good newsletter — or just stick with low-fee, broad-market index funds. They instantly and easily set you up to earn the stock market's approximate return. ■

Ask the Fool

Market Expectations

QI began investing a few years ago, and my first investments' gains have averaged around 30 percent. I suspect this won't last. What average annual returns I can expect over a 10-year period — maybe 15 percent?

— T.B., Baton Rouge, Louisiana

AThere's no way to know exactly how any stock or the overall market will do in any time period. Over decades, though, the stock market has averaged close to 8 or 10 percent annually — more than that with dividends reinvested. Over your particular investing years, you might average 6 percent, or 12 percent, or something else.

A market-topping average is hard to achieve over the long run. Yes, Apple stock has averaged annual gains of about 30 percent over the past 20 years, but IBM has averaged 5.7 percent and Johnson & Johnson has averaged 9 percent.

Since trying to beat the market is so difficult, superinvestor Warren Buffett has recommended low-cost broad-market index funds for most people. They offer an easy way to roughly match the market's return.

QWhere can I study and compare mutual funds?

— P.L., Grand Rapids, Michigan

AThe internet is great for that. Morningstar.com is a major mutual fund resource, offering details about thousands of funds' performance, fees, taxes, holdings and much more.

The folks at the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA), meanwhile, offer useful comparisons and data via their Fund Analyzer tool at finra.org/fundanalyzer. There you can enter fund names or ticker symbols and compare fees and performances of various funds — as well as assessing their performances after fees have been subtracted. That can be a great way to see how often inexpensive index funds outperform managed funds, even if the managed funds sport higher pre-fee returns. ■

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

Name That Company

I trace my roots back to 1936 and a guy selling peanuts out of his car in Los Angeles. Over the years, I've been involved in businesses as diverse as publishing and child care, but today, based in Philadelphia and with a market value recently topping \$9 billion, I'm a major food service company. I employ 270,000 people worldwide and regularly serve more than 5,400 dining locations, 2,000 health care facilities, 1,500 col-



leges and schools and 100 million sports fans at various venues. I've served at many Olympics, Super Bowls, FIFA World Cups and more. Who am I?

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

Last week's trivia answer

I trace my roots all the way back to a paint ingredient company in 1866. In 1873, I introduced my first paint, raw umber, in oil, and in 1877, my founder patented a re-sealable tin paint can. By the 1880s I was selling ready-mixed paint. I introduced a water-based paint in 1941 and a latex paint in 1950. Over the years I also made items such as insecticide, synthetic resins, automobile lacquer and linseed oil. Today, based in Cleveland and with 4,200-plus stores, I'm America's largest specialty paint retailer. My brands include Krylon, Valspar and Pratt & Lambert. Who am I? (Answer: Sherwin-Williams) ■



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The Motley Fool Take

A Mouse for Your House

Many investors have been steering clear of Walt Disney (NYSE: DIS), fearing the effect of gobs of consumers cutting their cable cords on its ESPN and ABC TV businesses. But that's short-sighted.

Disney's theme parks attract more than 150 million visitors annually, the Disney cruise line is adding three more ships between 2021 and 2023, and the company is breaking away from its Netflix partnership to nurture its own digital video efforts.

Disney is already a movie powerhouse. It owns much of the Marvel universe through its acquisition of Marvel Entertainment. And having also bought Pixar and Lucasfilm, it has the Toy Story and Star Wars franchises, too. Some analysts have estimated that Disney earned 61 per-

cent of the movie industry's total profits in 2016.

With Disney acquiring Twenty-First Century Fox for \$71 billion (the purchase was approved by shareholders last month), it will get a rich content library featuring properties from "Avatar" to "The Simpsons." Disney's ability to turn intellectual property into cold, hard cash will serve it well as it builds its own video streaming service.

Walt Disney's future looks as strong as ever, and its stock seems undervalued today, trading with a recent price-to-earnings (P/E) ratio in the mid-teens and a 1.5 percent dividend yield. (The Motley Fool owns shares of and has recommended Disney.) ■



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SALES

From page 24

required to drive success in sales and sports are similar: encouraging a positive attitude, motivating, presenting a clear strategy, insisting on dedication and breeding consistent winning habits.

“As a sales leader, you will often find your people looking to you for wisdom, direction and reassurance,” says Lance Tyson, president and CEO of Tyson Group and the author of “Selling is an Away Game: Close Business and Compete in a Complex World.”



TYSON

As a franchise owner of Dale Carnegie operations in the Midwest, Mr. Tyson drove them to 230 percent growth before starting his own company. He conducts more than 100 workshops annually in areas such as performance management, leadership, sales, sales management, customer service, negotiations and team building.

Sales managers need a coaching process that allows them the time to build up the people who make up their talent pool, Mr. Tyson says. “You need to look beyond what they can do today and help them realize what’s possible tomorrow.”

Mr. Tyson, whose clients include the sales departments of numerous professional sports and entertainment franchises, thinks improvement in sales teams starts with how effectively sales managers coach their teams



while emphasizing a competitive mindset.

He offers five ways sales leaders can improve their coaching and thus facilitate more team success — much like a sports coach looks for ways to lead his or her team to more wins.

■ **Identify weaknesses**

— Mr. Tyson says sales leaders must keep their eyes and ears open to find areas that need improvement. This information



could come from a customer or vendor, a performance review or observations from a colleague. “Regardless of the source, always assess different opportunities for coaching and improvement,” he says.

■ **Establish desired results**

— This requires a leader to describe to salespeople the gap between what they are currently doing and what they should be doing. “Associate an identifiable action with all

the steps in between,” Mr. Tyson says. “When you outline the process up front, your team member can envision well-defined results.”

■ **Provide resources** — For the coaching process to be successful, you must clear away obstructions and make the appropriate resources available: time, money, equipment, training, upper management buy-in and support “Most importantly,” Mr. Tyson says, “your salespeople must commit to the process and want to achieve the results.”

■ **Practice, practice, practice. And observe implementation**

— Better results require new behavior, which won’t come overnight. “Once you have the resources in place and you’ve explained and demonstrated the desired skill, it’s time for the team member to implement it,” Mr. Tyson says. “They must sharpen the behavior with the help of a coach. Practice allows the coach to identify strengths and opportunities for improvement while witnessing the skill in real-time.”

■ **Use effective follow-up** — Many training sessions have gone for naught when there was no follow-up and new ways toward success were forgotten. “Remember as a sales leader that your goal is to effect a behavioral change,” Mr. Tyson says. “Coaching is a process, and it never really ends. The next step is follow-up at regular intervals to review results. And when your salespeople reach goals, take time to acknowledge and celebrate it.”

As a sales leader, you just can’t settle for telling your team what they should do. You need a process for coaching them to achievement. This gives you a framework to accommodate an individual’s unique personality through small adjustments. ■



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COURTESY PHOTOS

Florida Weekly welcomes submissions for the Networking photo pages from business events, grand openings, professional association meetings, etc. We need 300-dpi photographs of groups of two or more people, facing the camera and identified by first and last names. Questions? Email editor Robbie Spencer at rspencer@floridaweekly.com.



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| B1

REAL ESTATE NEWSMAKERS

Don Winkler has joined Premier Sotheby's International Realty at the agency's Broad Avenue office in downtown Naples. Mr. Winkler ranks in the top 10 among the 6,000-plus members of the Naples Area Board of Realtors and during a 20-year career within the local brokerage community has earned numerous honors, achieving a career sales volume of nearly \$1 billion, including \$85 million in 2017.



WINKLER

Dolly Smith has joined Diamond Custom Homes as controller. Ms. Smith's primary responsibilities are focused upon managing accounts payable, accounts receivable and bank reconciliations; ensuring budgets remain on track; and overseeing all communications with outside vendors. She is also responsible for maximizing return on financial assets by establishing financial policies, procedures, controls and reporting systems.



SMITH

Born and raised in New Port Richey, she moved to Naples in 2008. Before beginning her career in finance, she worked for a disaster relief company in Florida. After that, she returned to college and earned a degree in accounting from Hodges University. She also holds all of the educational and work-study requirements to sit for the CPA exam and the community association manager license in the state of Florida.

The Collier Building Industry Association welcomes economist and author **Christopher Westley, Ph.D.**, as guest speaker at the organization's general membership meeting Wednesday evening, Aug. 29, at The Club at Olde Cypress. Mr. Westley, who is a professor



WESTLEY

SEE NEWSMAKERS, B3 ►



Cypress Cove at The Strand

5617 Whisperwood Blvd., #1004

All of the updates have been done for you in this immaculately maintained, thoughtfully updated two-bedroom-plus-den, two-bath residence in the gated golf course community of The Strand. The original owners have included all of the features and finishes today's buyers desire, including granite and marble in the kitchen and baths, stainless appliances, crown molding, recessed lighting, new fixtures, and tile throughout the 1,793 square feet of living area. The master bath has a step-in tile surround shower with no glass to clean. The split-bedroom floor plan gives everyone privacy, and convenient pocket doors cleverly enclose the den as well as the

laundry. A two-car attached garage furnished with storage cabinets adds the finishing touch. The second-floor end unit has a quiet preserve to the west and golf course views to the south.

Cypress Cove is by The Strand's main gate, which makes Publix, several salons, dental offices, Skilletts and Subway conveniently close. The Strand boasts access off Immokalee Road as well as a north gate accessed from Livingston Road.

Alysia Shivers of John R. Wood Properties has the listing for \$329,900. To schedule a showing or for more information, call 877-9732, email ashivers@johnrwood.com or visit www.aroundtownwithalysia.com. ■



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NEWSMAKERS

From page 1

of economics and director of the Regional Economic Research Institute at Florida Gulf Coast University, will discuss "SWFL Regional Economic Indicators Affecting Growth and Development." Mr. Wesley earned his Ph.D. from Auburn University and has had numerous scholarly articles published in journals including Economics and Politics, Constitutional Political Economy, the Eastern Economics Journal, the American Journal of Economics and Sociology and the International Journal of Social Economics.

The meeting begins with networking at 5:30 p.m. Admission is \$30 for CBIA members, \$50 for others. Admission includes heavy hors d'oeuvres; there is a cash bar. Reservations are required by Aug. 24 and can be made by calling 436-6100 or emailing Nancy@cbia.net. CBIA members can sign up at www.cbia.net/news/calendar.

Developers, government leaders and real estate experts will address the trends and impacts of shifting growth patterns at the 2018 Real Estate Symposium set for Thursday, Sept. 13, at Florida Gulf Coast University. The event is presented by the Real Estate Investment Society in partnership with the Lutger College of Business at FGCU and the Calusa Chapter of the Florida Planning

& Zoning Association.

Sean Ellis, Esq., of Roetzel & Andress will moderate the panel discussion.

"Southwest Florida is adapting to new market trends and economics, and REIS is pleased to provide a forum with knowledge and ideas that will help our members and our community leaders succeed in this dynamic environment," says Bev Larson, REIS president.

The symposium begins at 8 a.m. with registration and continental breakfast; the program takes place from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Admission is \$35 for members of REIS or FPZA, \$45 for others (FGCU students can attend at no cost). Seating is limited and reservations are required by Sept. 11. AICP credits are pending approval. Reservations can be made at www.reis-swfl.org.

Roetzel is title sponsor of the event, with additional sponsors including Morris-Depew Associates, Busey and d3 creative studio.

Diamond Custom Homes has started construction of the Ladera, a 7,854-square-foot estate home on Williston Way in Quail West Golf & Country Club. The four-bedroom, five full and two half baths estate is designed by John Cooney of Stofft Cooney Architects; interior design is by Lou Shafran and Mark Vanagas of Pacifica Interior Designs; and landscape design is by Pat Trefz of Outside Productions International. The home includes a three-car garage and a golf cart garage.

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PORT ROYAL

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Michael G. Lawler 239.261.3939
\$18,500,000



PORT ROYAL

3231 Green Dolphin Lane
Karen Van Arsdale 239.860.0894
\$12,500,000



PORT ROYAL

1365 Spyglass Lane
Keith Buchanan 239.253.7775
\$6,395,000



THE MOORINGS

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\$4,195,000



THE MOORINGS

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Trish Lowe Soars/Barbi Lowe 239.213.7227
\$2,195,000



THE MOORINGS

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Michael G. Lawler 239.261.3939
\$1,225,000



THE MOORINGS

3420 Gulf Shore Boulevard North #14
Kelly Kent 239.250.5480
\$1,225,000



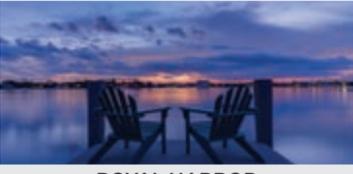
THE MOORINGS

2100 Gulf Shore Boulevard North #102
Gary Blaine 239.595.2912
\$469,900



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Don Winkler 239.961.2166
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Heather Hobrock 239.370.3944
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Meghan Toppino 239.348.5777
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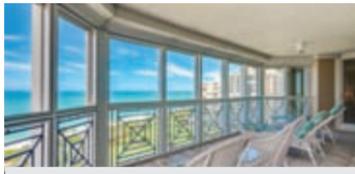
PARK SHORE

4740 Gulf Shore Boulevard North
Michael G. Lawler 239.261.3939
\$7,740,000



PARK SHORE

4351 Gulf Shore Boulevard North #15S
Amy Becker/Leah Ritchey 239.272.3229
\$7,299,000



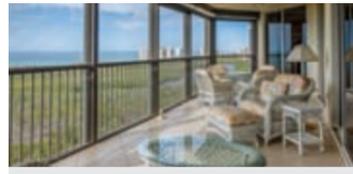
PARK SHORE

4021 Gulf Shore Boulevard North #1101
Ruth Trettis 239.571.6760
\$3,200,000



PARK SHORE

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Angela R. Allen 239.825.8494
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 Suzanne Ring 239.821.7550
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 \$959,000



THE DUNES
 375 Sea Grove Lane #6-102
 Christine Maccarone 954.691.8787
 \$825,000



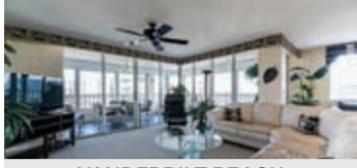
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 Larry Caruso 239.394.9191
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MARCO ISLAND
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 Larry Caruso 239.394.9191
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 Darlene Roddy 239.404.0685
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ADVERTORIAL

Ave Maria – more than just a neighborhood



Ave Maria has proved to be more than just a collection of neighborhoods from three builders— it's a hometown filled with camaraderie and community spirit. The sort of place where neighbors gather in the front lawn for impromptu evening socials, kids ride bikes to their own sports complex, friends look out for each other, and residents enjoy peace of mind. Ave Maria is life...made simple.

CC Homes
CC Homes, presents 3-6 bedroom homes in one and two-story floor plans ranging in size from 1,133 to over 5,000 square feet and priced from the low \$200s. Homes are offered in three neighborhoods: Maple Ridge, Maple Ridge Reserve, and Coquina at Maple Ridge. Customize your dream home with several options including outdoor oasis with pool, kitchen, and cabana bathroom or an extra bedroom or flex room above the garage.

Visit the on-site sales center and tour 14 model homes open daily. Ask about several move-in ready homes. Under construction- the brand new Club at Maple Ridge, exclusive to residents of Maple Ridge, Maple Ridge Reserve and Coquina at Maple Ridge, this stunning resort and recreation center will include pool, fitness, cabanas, playground, clubhouse with party room and coffee bar, exhibition kitchen and billiard's room.

Del Webb Naples
Del Webb Naples is the smart choice for active adults desiring a well-rounded southwest Florida lifestyle. Del Webb Naples offers ten floor plans from 1,133 to over 2,500 square feet, with 2-5 bedrooms and prices from the high \$100s. Choose from golf course, lake or preserve view when selecting your home site from the nation's highly awarded home builder.

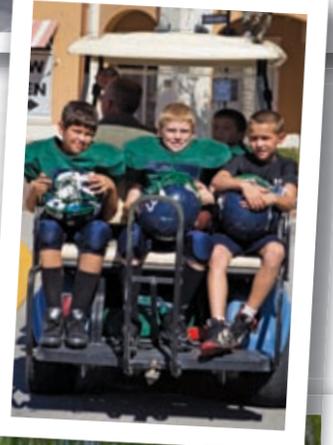
The on-site Oasis Club at Del Webb

Naples features over 12,000 square feet of resort and lap pools, tennis courts, bocce and pickleball, fitness center, library, café, fire pit, arts & crafts studio, and library. Dine at the brand new Rusty Putter for breakfast, lunch or afternoon bites. Visit an on-site sales representative to learn more about the Del Webb lifestyle. 5 model homes open daily.

Pulte Homes
With 20 popular single-family home designs in Avalon Park and Emerson Park priced from the low \$200s, Pulte Homes offers quality construction home buyers can trust. These neighborhoods are located near the Town Center, private schools, and outdoor recreation. A well-known and respected name in home



Over 40 floor plans from 3 builders with prices from the low \$200s. Everything in one location including Publix, shops and restaurants, schools, recreation and an on-site activities director. Models open daily.



building, Pulte Homes features Life Tested® features in their home designs built for life and how you live it. Three models open daily in Avalon Park.

Visit Us- Welcome Center and Model Homes Open Daily

21 Model homes open daily. For more information visit Ave Maria at 5076 Annunciation Circle # 104, avemaria.com or by calling 239-352-3903. Follow us on social media to be the first to learn about specials and incentives. Take Immokalee Rd. east; turn right onto Oil Well Rd; then left into the main Ave Maria entrance. ■



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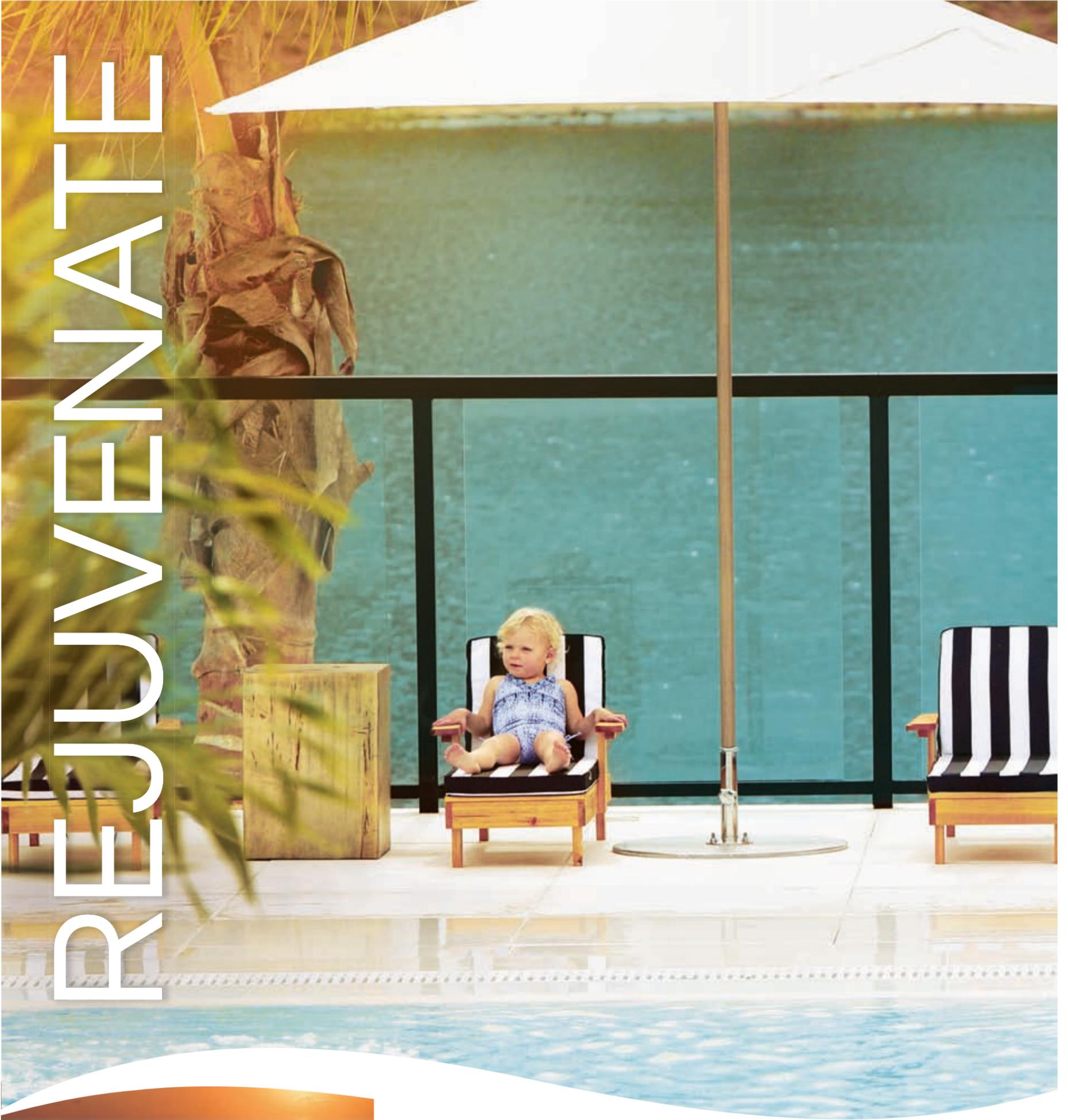
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ADVERTORIAL

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 bicycles or kayaks.

■ 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.

■ Waterfront Bar & Grill now under construction

Rising along quiet waters in the community is the Overlook Bar & Grill, brimming with the authentic Old Florida charm that pervades the community. Now under construction, the venue is sure to be the new heart of social life at The Isles of Collier Preserve. Residents can gather for cocktails with friends or casual dining, while enjoying vistas of vibrant sunsets over the Cypress Waterway.

■ 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 \$1.5 million.

For a limited time only, Minto is offering up to \$60,000 in purchase incentives



on select move-in ready coach homes and up to \$50,000 in savings on select single-family and villa homes.

■ Visit 16 furnished models

Sixteen furnished models include nine single-family homes, four one-story villas, and three award-winning coach homes. Single-family homes range from 2,016 to 4,327 square feet under air, and are priced from the high-\$400s to over \$1.5 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.

Villas range from 1,565 square feet under air to 1,862 square feet under air, and are priced from the mid-\$300s. Villa homes include two to three bedrooms, plus den or hobby room, great room, dining room, two baths, covered lanai and two-car garage.

■ An award-winning master planned community

A recognized leader in green construction, Minto has won many national and regional awards for The Isles of Collier Preserve. These include three silver awards from the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), including the 2016 Best in American Living Award for "Best Mixed Community", the 2017 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

Above: 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. Available coach homes offering up to \$60,000 incentive. Above Left: The Overlook Bar & Grill will have the feel of an Old Florida waterside restaurant and honor the area's early fishing history. Above Right: The restaurant will include a large U-shaped bar, and dining table seating. Tiki torch gas lighting will enhance outdoor dining in the evening. Left: Available single-family and villa homes offering up to \$50,000 incentive.

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.

■ Waterfront homesites just released!

For those interested in waterfront living, The Isles of Collier Preserve has just released coach home homesites along scenic Cypress Waterway. 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. ■

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NORMANDY II at QUAIL WEST

OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY & SUNDAY 12PM-4PM

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+ options

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3 BEDROOM/3.5 BATH 2,909 sq.ft. \$489,990
+ options

RUFFINO II - SINGLE FAMILY HOME
3 BEDROOM/2.5 BATH 2,585 sq.ft. \$609,475

MYRTLE - WATERFRONT SINGLE FAMILY HOME
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NAPOLI - VILLA
2 BEDROOM/2 BATH 1,882 sq.ft. \$439,260

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3 BEDROOM/3.5 BATH 2,738 sq.ft. \$579,235

TWINEAGLES

GLENMORE - SINGLE FAMILY HOME
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WYNDAM - FURNISHED SINGLE FAMILY HOME
3 BEDROOM/4.5 BATH 4,298 sq.ft. \$2,531,825

MARCO ISLAND

PASADENA - FURNISHED SINGLE FAMILY HOME
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3 BEDROOM/3.5 BATH 2,896 sq.ft. \$894,270

BELFIELD - PARROT CAY - SINGLE FAMILY HOME
3 BEDROOM/3.5 BATH 2,812 sq.ft. \$899,860

VENICE - SPARROW CAY - FURNISHED SINGLE FAMILY HOME
3 BEDROOM/2.5 BATH 2,643 sq.ft. \$966,750

FIDDLER'S CREEK - MARSH COVE NEW HOMES JUST RELEASED FROM THE \$500s

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3 BEDROOM/4.5 BATH 3,136 sq.ft. \$1,142,130

VALE - SINGLE FAMILY HOME
4 BEDROOM/4.5 BATH 3,284 sq.ft. \$1,198,405

LYNDON - SINGLE FAMILY HOME
4 BEDROOM/5.5 BATH 3,609 sq.ft. \$1,331,195

ULYSSA - FURNISHED SINGLE FAMILY HOME
5 BEDROOM/4 BATH 3,196 sq.ft. \$1,451,290

ISLES OF COLLIER PRESERVE

MARIGOLD - SINGLE FAMILY HOME
4 BEDROOM/4.5 BATH 3,578 sq.ft. \$ **PENDING**

PLUMBAGO - SINGLE FAMILY HOME
3 BEDROOM/4 BATH 3,714 sq.ft. \$1,323,205

QUAIL WEST

MUIRFIELD V - SINGLE FAMILY HOME
4 BEDROOM/4.5 BATH 3,375 sq.ft. \$1,508,605

NORMANDY II - FURNISHED SINGLE FAMILY HOME
4 BEDROOM/4.5 BATH 4,124 sq.ft. \$2,095,000

WINDSOR III - ESTATE HOME
4 BEDROOM/4.5 BATH 4,155 sq.ft. \$2,249,925

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Gary & Jeff Jaarda 239.293.1507

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• Volume Ceilings w/Grand Foyer
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Sylvie Hall, Westerfield Group 239.300.3828

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OPEN 8/26 2:00PM - 4:00PM

4851 BONITA BAY BLVD. #804, BONITA
• Visit Tavira804.com for Details
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• Immediate Occupancy
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Peninsula Sales Team 239.777.7209

PENINSULA AT TREVISO BAY



9873 MONTIANO CT., NAPLES
• Quick Delivery Abaco Home
• 4 Bedrooms, 3.5 Baths, TPC Golf Membership
\$2,049,000 MLS 218021041
Peninsula Sales Team 239.777.7209

ISLES OF COLLIER PRESERVE



5718 CLARENDON DR., NAPLES
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• Close Out Price
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The Taranto Team 239.572.3078

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Dru & Greg Martinovich 239.325.3505

BONITA BAY - ANCHORAGE



27540 RIVERBANK DR., BONITA
• Gorgeous 3 BR, 3.5 BA + Den, Updated Villa
• Rare 3 Car Garage, Wide Scenic Lake Views
\$997,000 MLS 218031434
Connie Lummis, The Lummis Team 239.289.3543

BONITA BAY - LAKESIDE



4081 BAYHEAD DR. #204, BONITA
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• Southwest Corner, Turnkey Furnished
\$529,000 MLS 217069250
Sandy Kass, The Fagan Team 239.292.4044

BONITA BAY



27167 OAKWOOD LAKE DR., BONITA
• Lake & Golf Course Views
• Remodeled Kitchen w/High-End Appliances
\$449,000 MLS 218031813
Linda Ramsey 239.405.3054

PELICAN MARSH



1520 CLERMONT DR. #H-304, NAPLES
• Southern Views of Golf Course
• Updated Wood Flooring
\$430,000 MLS 218027857
Ed Biddison 239.218.7444

EL DORADO ACRES



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• Beautiful 3 BR, 2 BA, No HOA Fees
• Hurricane Windows, New Hot Water Tank
\$359,000 MLS 218029755
Jim Westerfield, Westerfield Group 239.287.6617

MEADOWS OF ESTERO



3620 LANSING LP. #202, ESTERO
• 2,841 S.F. of Luxury Living, 3 BR, 2.5 BA
• Long Lake View of Sunsets
\$335,000 MLS 218005211
Jim Westerfield, Westerfield Group 239.287.6617

PALMETTO RIDGE

NEW PRICE



9231 PALMETTO RIDGE DR. #101, ESTERO
• 2 BR, 2 BA + Den, Offered Turnkey
• 2 Car Garage w/Built-In Cabinets
\$309,000 MLS 218023408
Sue Ellen Mathers 239.877.2726

BRECKENRIDGE



4239 TEQUESTA DR., ESTERO
• Waterfront End Unit Townhome, Enclosed Lanai
• 3 BR, 2 BA, 2 Car Garage, Open Floor Plan
\$255,000 MLS 218001693
Jamie Lienhardt 239.565.4268

BERKSHIRE VILLAGE



1407 MONARCH CIR. #B-2.1, NAPLES
• Large Split Bedroom Villa
• 3 Bedrooms, 2.5 Bathrooms, 2 Car Garage
\$249,900 MLS 218021758
Taylor Ekovich 239.370.7715

LAKWOOD



3624 BOCA CIEGA DR. #F-9, NAPLES
• Convenient Location, Minutes to Downtown
• Great Rental History
\$249,000 MLS 218035740
Dodona & Omela, The Roboci Team 239.776.8123

BELLASERA RESORT



221 9TH ST. S. #406, NAPLES
• Fantastic Location, Walk to 5th Avenue & Beach
• Sold Turnkey, Full Amenities
\$189,000 MLS 218036329
Tina Tusack 239.634.3810

TURTLE LAKE



200 TURTLE LAKE CT. #304, NAPLES
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• Resort Style Community
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1281 STONE CT., MARCO ISLAND
 • Direct Gulf Access
 • Panoramic Sweeping Views of Basin to Gulf
\$3,450,000 MLS 218030254
 Kevin O'Leary 603.616.6010

QUAIL WEST



5889 SUNNYSLOPE DR., NAPLES
 • 4 Bedrooms, 6 Bathrooms, 4 Car Garage
 • Saltwater Pool, Game & Wine Rooms
\$3,100,000 MLS 217054229
 The Taranto Team 239.572.3078

BONITA BAY - AZURE



4931 BONITA BAY BLVD. #1001, BONITA
 • 10th Floor, South End Sky Home
 • 4,500 S.F., Private Elevator, Rarely Available
\$2,560,000 MLS 218014385
 Connie Lummis, The Lummis Team 239.289.3543

PENINSULA AT TREVISO BAY



9893 MONTIANO DR., NAPLES
 • Caprina Home, 4 BR, 4.5 BA + Den, 3,770 S.F.
 • Pool/Spa, 3 Car Garage, Summer Kitchen
\$1,945,000 MLS 218026670
 Peninsula Sales Team 239.777.7209

PARK SHORE



4916 CRAYTON RD., NAPLES
 • Totally Remodeled 3 BR, 2 BA, Pool Home
 • Large Lanai w/Outdoor Kitchen
\$1,650,000 MLS 217064146
 Liz Appling 239.272.7201

SHADOW WOOD AT THE BROOKS



22221 FAIRVIEW BEND DR., ESTERO
 • 3 BR, 4 BA, 2 Story, Great Room Floor Plan
 • Overlooks 2 Lakes, Fairway #12 & Preserve
\$1,289,000 MLS 218050396
 The Taranto Team 239.572.3078

PELICAN LANDING



3500 LAKEMONT DR., BONITA
 • Beautifully Remodeled Lakemont Home
 • Peaceful Long Lake View
\$729,000 MLS 218040132
 Deb Adams-Bateman 239.273.4824

BONITA LAKES

NEW LISTING



23296 SANABRIA LP., BONITA
 • Beautifully Appointed 4 BR, 3 BA Custom Home
 • Pool Area w/Tropical Atmosphere, 2 Car Garage
\$667,400 MLS 218052656
 Elizabeth Lodge, The Fortune Group 239.682.5615

SERRANO



27054 SERRANO WAY, BONITA
 • Custom 3 BR, 2.5 BA + Den, Quiet Neighborhood
 • Open Chef's Kitchen w/Lake View
\$619,900 MLS 218036689
 Vahle Team 239.450.7805

BONITA BAY - ENCLAVE

NEW PRICE



27100 ENCLAVE DR., BONITA
 • Furnished, 3 BR, 2.5 BA, 2 Car Garage, 2,200 S.F.
 • Private Pool, S. Exposure, Golf Course View
\$555,000 MLS 218045159
 Corye Reiter, The Lummis Team 239.273.3722

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NEW PRICE



9940 TREASURE CAY LN., BONITA
 • Turnkey Furnished & Extensively Remodeled
 • 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, Open Floor Plan
\$419,000 MLS 218038280
 Jim Griffith, The Boeglin Team 239.322.2409

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6120 MONTELENA CIR. #2201, NAPLES
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 • Cherry Cabinetry, Granite, 18" Diagonal Tile
\$399,000 MLS 218017776
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10216 COBBLE HILL RD., BONITA
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 • Beautiful Pool & Spa
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 Deb Adams-Bateman 239.273.4824

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23159 AMGCI WAY #3109, ESTERO
 • 2 Master Suites & Guest Bath
 • Largest Floor Plan in The Residences
\$379,000 MLS 218044001
 Jim Westerfield, Westerfield Group 239.287.6617

SPANISH WELLS



9181 LAS MADERAS DR., BONITA
 • 2 BR, 2 BA, Turnkey Attached Villa
 • Beautiful Lake & Golf Course Views
\$295,000 MLS 218024948
 The Boeglin Team 239.287.6414

TWIN EAGLES



12021 COVENT GARDEN CT. #2701, NAPLES
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 • Beautifully Updated, Full 2 Car Garage
\$279,000 MLS 217021512
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HUNTERS RIDGE

NEW LISTING



12802 MAIDEN CANE LN., BONITA
 • Spacious 2 BR, 2 BA + Den, 2 Car GA Villa
 • Golf & Furniture Included
\$270,000 MLS 218052497
 Jamie Lienhardt 239.565.4268

THE RESERVE

NEW LISTING



19660 VILLA ROSA LP., ESTERO
 • Chateau Granada Model, 3 BR, 2 BA, 2 Car GA
 • SW Exp., Enclosed Lanai, Room for a Pool
\$270,000 MLS 218053580
 Carol Jones 239.250.4310

SERRANO



27000 ADRIANA CIR. #102, BONITA
 • 1st Floor Unit, Attached 1 Car Garage
 • New Paint & Carpet
\$228,500 MLS 218040838
 Tom Crea 239.315.1111

CRESCENT LAKE ESTATES



9597 CRESCENT GARDEN DR. #D-101, NAPLES
 • Bright & Open Floor Plan Condo
 • Walking Distance to Pelican Marsh Elementary
\$215,000 MLS 218041979
 Jackie Gantzer 239.825.3206

GLEN EAGLE

NEW PRICE



6820 STERLING GREENS PL. #2104, NAPLES
 • 1st Floor, Unfurnished, 2 BR, 2 BA
 • Serene Panoramic Views
\$199,000 MLS 218027340
 Mark Semeraro 239.370.2455

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 • End Unit w/Pool View
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 Pam Olsen 239.464.6873

ADVERTORIAL

Stunning move-in ready homes offered by Stock Development throughout Southwest Florida

Stock Signature Homes has put in place an unparalleled portfolio of luxury homes in the area's most sought exclusive addresses.

"We have one of the largest selections of homes available in the area with a wide range of price points that appeals to many homebuyers," said Léger-Wetzel. "These homes are available in three series of exceptionally designed homes: Stock Classic Homes, Stock Signature Homes and Stock Custom Homes."

Stock Signature Homes' has a spectacular Cocoplum open as a furnished model in the Isles of Collier Preserve. Nestled amidst a pristine natural setting minutes from Downtown Naples, The Isles of Collier Preserve features a colorful update of classic coastal living. Inspired by the timeless architecture and traditions of Old Naples, homes overlook miles of scenic kayak and hiking trails.

The Cocoplum model, which showcases an interior by Soco's Daniel Kilgore, is a 3,641 square foot residence that includes 1,004 square feet of covered lanai space. This four-bedroom, four and one-half bath home features a spacious great room design with an open, island-style kitchen, a dining room overlooking the lanai and a formal study. The home offers a spectacular outdoor living area and a three-car garage. Stock's home prices start from \$1.2 million.

Lely Resort is home to three spectacular championship golf courses and four clubhouses and is the eight time recipient of the Collier Building Industry Association's Community of the Year Award.

Coach homes have been selling quickly. These residences are available in Signature Club and Tasori, priced from just the \$400's and a furnished model is open.

The Tasori neighborhood is located within The Classics, a stunning gated enclave along one of Lely's three championship golf courses. It also features an array of beautiful lake and nature views along The Classics Championship Golf Course. Each coach home building offers four luxurious residences with the spacious feel of single-family homes.

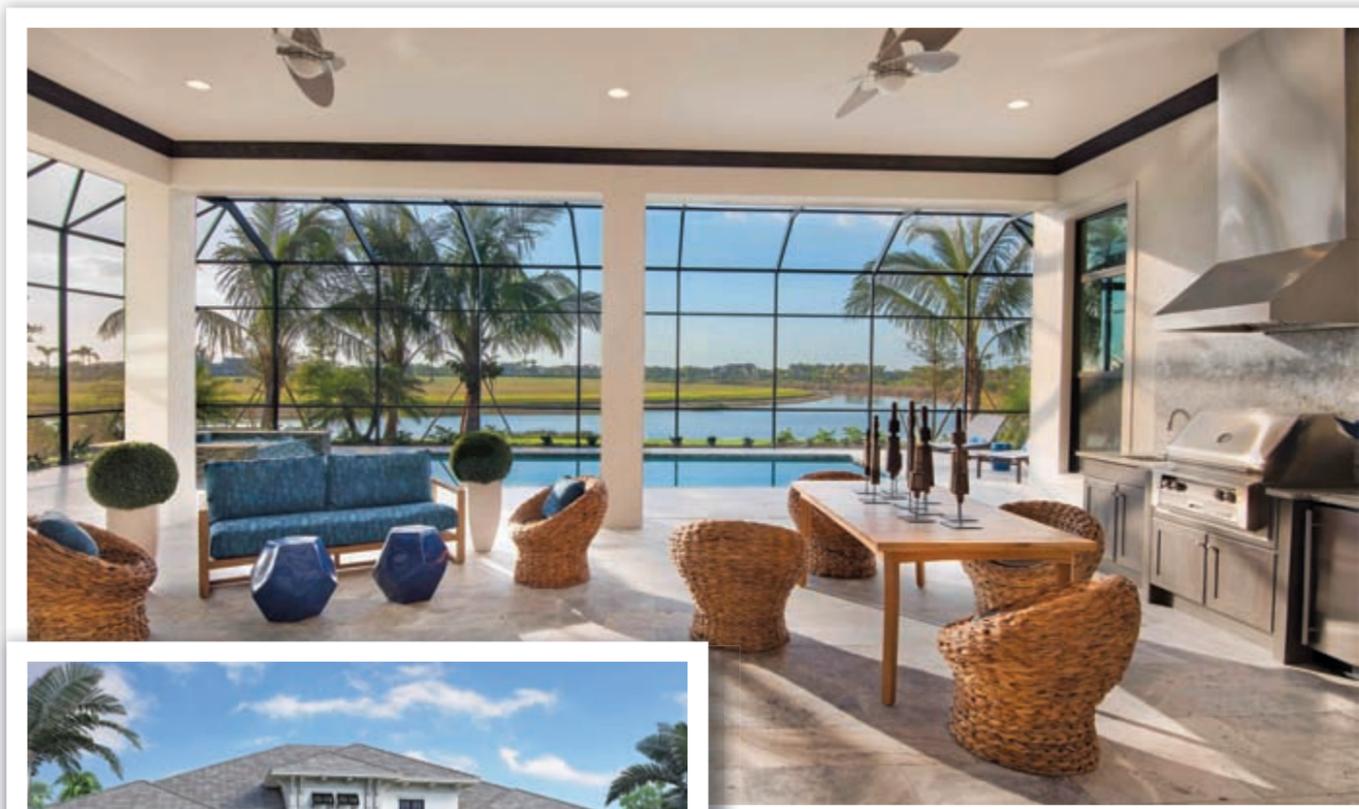
The San Marco II is a second floor home with an elevator option. It has 2,919 square feet under air and a total of 3,722 square feet, including a screened and covered lanai and an attached two-car garage and a loggia. It offers three-bedrooms and three baths in a great room design. The gourmet island kitchen opens to the great room with stacked, sliding glass doors leading to the lanai beyond. The master suite offers direct access to the lanai via sliding glass doors and features his and hers walk-in closets.

The home also features an amazing 544 square foot multi-purpose club room, which can serve nearly any purpose the homeowner requires, including a secondary family room to accommodate guests or for entertaining. The home is move-in ready and priced at \$411, 810.

An on-site sales center is located in Signature Club. It showcases the coach home residences of both neighborhoods.

Signature Club has a beautiful private, gated entry with water features, beautiful landscaping and a stone entry monument. Each coach home building at Signature Club offers four residences. The neighborhood features a selection of amazing lake and golf course views across The Classics Championship Golf Course.

On spectacular Marco Island, Stock Signature Homes offers the new Pasadena. This three-bedroom, three and one-half bath great room style home has 2,636 square feet under air and a total of 3,531 square feet, including a spectacular outdoor living area and an attached two-



Above: The Ulyssa at Fiddler's Creek. Left: The Pasadena on Marco Island. Below Left: The Plantation II at Naples Reserve. Below Right: The Cocoplum at Isles of Collier Preserve. Bottom: The San Marco at Lely Resort.

car garage. The home features a large open kitchen with a breakfast nook overlooking the pool and lanai. There is a formal study and an expansive master suite and two additional full bedroom suites, one of which opens to the lanai. The Pasadena is priced at \$1,695,000.

Naples Reserve is a 688-acre gated community between Naples and Marco Island along the U.S. 41 Tamiami Trail/ Collier Boulevard 951 corridor. Stock has furnished models open at Naples Reserve, including three models from the recently introduced Stock Classic Homes Collection. Stock is building in Naples Reserve's Parrot Cay and Spar-

row Cay neighborhoods.

The Classic Series models include the Plantation II with an interior design by Soco Interiors, the Marathon II with an interior design by Pizzazz Interiors and the Siesta II with an interior design by Robb & Stucky. All are being built in the Sparrow Cay neighborhood. They are base priced from just \$429,990. Floorplan details can be found at www.stockdevelopment.com.

At Fiddler's Creek, Capistrano is a spectacular enclave of 33 luxury homes offering five brand new floorplans, featuring a variety of spectacular golf course views. Most of the homes offer views across the beautiful fairways of the cham-

pionship golf Creek Course. The uniquely designed single and two-story floor plans range from 2,627 to 3,702 square feet under air. They offer extraordinary flexibility with options that give the homes a range of three to six bedrooms. Homes are base priced from the \$500s.

Visit a Stock sales center this week to find the home of your dreams!

To see all that Stock has to offer, please visit the Stock Development website at www.stockdevelopment.com. Email at info@stockdevelopment.com or call (239) 592-7344. Stock Development is on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FLStockDevelopment. ■



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ADVERTORIAL

Kalea Bay's second tower hits the \$138 million sales mark

Club Amenity Center popular with residents

The construction of the second tower in Kalea Bay, the gated, luxury high-rise community located in North Naples, is now well underway. Currently, three construction cranes are onsite as work continues on the lower floors.

As the footprint for Tower 200 begins to take shape, sales in the high-rise building have remained extremely strong.

"We originally launched our sales effort for our second tower in July 2017," sated Inga Lodge, Vice President of Sales and Marketing for Kalea Bay. "Since then, we have sold 65 of the tower's 120 residences. That represents a total sales volume of \$138 million."

Like its predecessor, Tower 200 is also 22-stories with 120 residences. Specifically, 20 floors of residences over two floors of parking.

Six floor plans are available in Tower 2. Residences 1 and 6 are 3-bedroom plus den/3.5 bath plans with 3,704 total square feet. Residences 2 and 5 are 4-bedroom/4.5 bath plans with 3,791 total square feet. Residences 3 and 4 are 4-bedroom/4.5-bath plans with 3,919 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 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.

"Master suites, kitchens and main living areas in most units 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.

Like the first tower, Tower 200 will also have rooftop amenities including a pool, open-air fitness center and a sky lounge.

Prices in Tower 200 begin at \$1.4 million. The residents of the first tower, along with their family members and friends, are already enjoying the community's Club amenity center. It opened in early January and is now the social and recreational centerpiece of the community.

"The 88,000-square-foot club amenity center is located on the north side of the large lake at the community's entrance," stated Lodge. "Not only is it a dramatic sight as residents and visitors drive into the community, but it's now the envy of every community in the Naples area."

She added, "Purchasers in Tower 200 can start using the club and its amenities the day they sign their contracts, affording them an unprecedented



Above: Kalea Bay's second tower is 22 stories and features 120 luxury residences. **Right:** The rooftop amenities include a negative-edge pool, open-air fitness center and a sky lounge. **Below Left:** All master bedrooms offer views of the Gulf of Mexico. **Below Right:** The custom kitchens feature Wolf and SubZero appliances and an oversized island. **Bottom:** Kalea Bay residences have very open floor plans.



opportunity to utilize this amazing \$25 million world-class amenity center."

The clubhouse itself features 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, bistro, a fitness center, and lakeside fire pit.

"All three pools overlook the lake and provide a multitude of recreational options for everyone who lives and visits here," said Lodge.

Expansive sun decks and lounge chairs separate each of the three pools for the ultimate in privacy.

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

"We have the perfect place for all three," said Lodge. "The indoor/outdoor restaurant serves incredible meals throughout the day. And what better way to celebrate the good life in Florida than meeting family and friends for drinks while watching the sun set over the Gulf of Mexico. This is what living in Florida is supposed to be."

Adjacent to the clubhouse is the tennis pavilion with 4 Har-Tru tennis courts, as well as eight pickleball courts. Guest suites can be reserved by mem-



bers to accommodate overnight guests and are located on property.

Residents also have a shuttle service that originates from the clubhouse, and takes them to the beach.

For more information regarding Kalea Bay, visit the onsite sales center. It is located on Vanderbilt Drive, two-tenths of a mile north of Wiggins Pass Road. Call (239) 793-0110 or visit KaleaBay.com. ■

ADVERTORIAL

Mangrove Bay

An outstanding waterfront address close to Old Naples, Mangrove Bay provides a world-class lifestyle, combining estuary views and Gulf of Mexico access with all the nearby shopping and entertainment venues of 5th Avenue South.

Mangrove Bay offers a choice of one- and two-story, Old Naples cottage-style luxury single-family homes complete with private pools and individual boat slips. Built on Old Naples' last remaining significant waterfront property for residential development, the homes at Mangrove Bay are designed for those with exceptional taste desiring an unequalled residence and lifestyle.

Mangrove Bay will be breaking ground on The Amenities Center which will have a private on-site concierge to cater to every resident's needs, comprehensive property management services, state-of-the-art wellness/fitness equipment and ground level storage area for resident's kayas, canoes, paddle boards and jet-skis. Residents may choose from a wide range of fitness activities that include public and private golf and tennis nearby. In addition, residents will enjoy easy access to the new 20+/- acre Baker Park and bridge accessing the 120+/- acre Gordon River Greenway Preserve with trails immediately adjacent to the community. This remarkably distinguished location makes Mangrove Bay a rare jewel indeed.

The Captiva II floor plan features an attractive open concept design with soaring vaulted ceilings and expansive outdoor living space. A vast master suite as well as two en suite bedrooms flow seamlessly from the breathtaking light filled great room and kitchen.



The single story Palm Cottage offers 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bathrooms in a lovely open great room setting with beach cottage aesthetics. This 2,514 square foot floor plan encompasses a spacious master suite and a generous living area for entertaining.

Step into The Coquina, a charming three bedroom, two-story cottage style home, and prepare to be impressed. This home is designed to maximize privacy and functionality in an exquisite floor plan. The alley entry with two-car garage paves the way to a beautifully situated outdoor area complete with pool and covered living space.

The Amelia floor plan exemplifies open

concept living with an expansive master suite, two guest bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths and a den on a single story. Perfect for entertaining, the great room seamlessly flows to a partial covered charming outdoor space.

Old Florida architecture is exemplified in the brilliantly crafted Keewaydin floor plan. The second story features a loft living area allowing for picturesque views as well as two guest bedrooms giving the first floor master and open concept living space privacy and functionality.

The most versatile of Mangrove Bay's waterfront homes, the Useppa is offered in three different elevations varying in square footage. The largest of the three is a true

two story old Florida masterpiece of architectural innovation. With the exception of Palm Cottage, all floor plans may include a second-story guest suite.

Built by Lotus Construction, LLC the exclusive General Contractor for Mangrove Bay, these waterfront homes are available and won't last long. ■

SUMMER INCENTIVES

July through September, over \$100,000 worth of upgrades will be a complementary inclusion in the purchase of a new home.



AMENITY CENTER UNDERWAY!

Slated for completion Fall 2019.

Mangrove Bay has broken ground on The Amenities Center which will have a private on-site concierge to cater to every resident's needs which can include recommending and making arrangements for comprehensive property management services. The Center has a multi-purpose room including a kitchen and will also include state-of-the-art wellness/fitness equipment and ground level storage area for resident's kayas, canoes, paddle boards and jet-skis. Residents may choose from a wide range of fitness activities that include public and private golf and tennis nearby. In addition, residents will enjoy easy access to the new 20+/- acre Baker Park and bridge accessing the 120+/- acre Gordon River Greenway Preserve with trails immediately adjacent to the community. This remarkably distinguished location makes Mangrove Bay a rare jewel indeed.

FINISHED MODELS ON THE WAY!

Under Construction and Slated for Completion in Fall 2018.



- LOT 13 - COQUINA II - 3,232 sq. ft.
- LOT 25 - COQUINA II - 3,232 sq. ft.
- LOT 26 - AMELIA I - 3,098 sq. ft.
- LOT 31 - USEPPA I (Modified) - 3,488 sq. ft.
- LOT 41 - KEEWAYDIN I - 3,272 sq. ft.

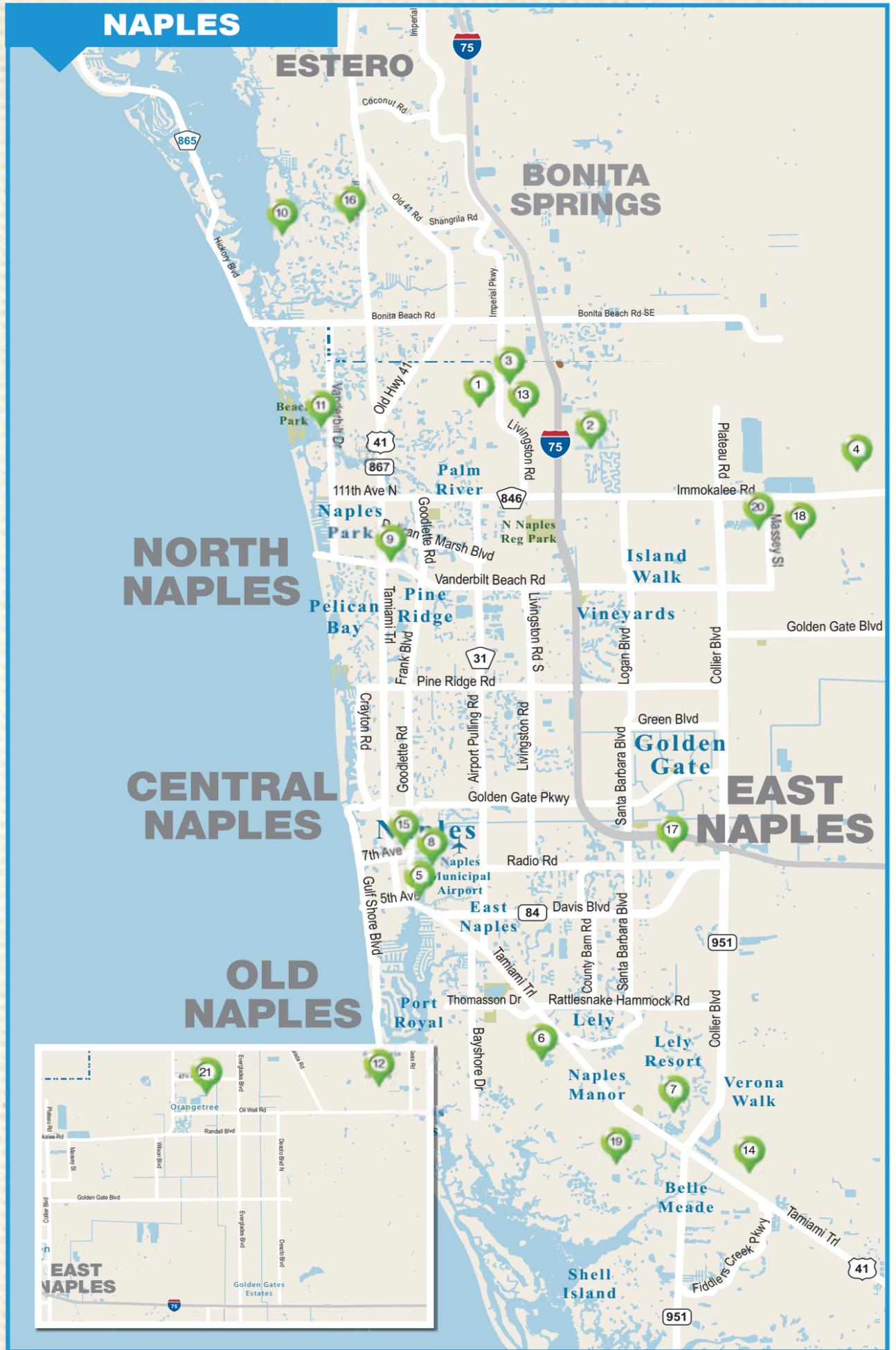


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TalisPark.com

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Twin Eagles
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TwinEagles.com

5 
Naples Square
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NaplesSquare.com

6 
The Isles of Collier Preserve
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7 
Lely Resort New Home Sales
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stockdevelopment.com

8 
Mangrove Bay
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 239.261.2200
MangroveBayNaples.com

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Residences at Mercato
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 239.594.9400
ResidencesAtMercato.com

10 
Seaglass at Bonita Bay
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seaglassatbonitabay.com

11 
Kalea Bay
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KaleaBay.com

12 
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AveMaria.com

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Naples Reserve
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 Naples, FL
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naplesreserve.com

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Florida Weekly's OPEN HOUSE DIRECTORY | August 25 & 26

Naples

AREA	ADDRESS	PRICE	REAL ESTATE OFFICE	AGENT & PHONE NUMBER	HOURS
PORT ROYAL	1201 Galleon Drive	\$13,875,000	Royal Shell Real Estate	Call for Details! 239.213.9100	Sunday 1-4pm
QUAIL WEST	5889 Sunnyslope Drive	\$3,100,000	Royal Shell Real Estate	The Taranto Team 239.572.3078	Sunday 1-4pm
BELLAGIO	10620 Gulfshore Drive PH802	\$2,999,999	Gulf Breeze Real Estate	Sue Myhelic 239.216.6444	Sunday 1-4pm
OLD NAPLES	875 9th Avenue South	\$2,875,000	William Raveis	Dante DiSabato 239.537.5351	Sunday 1-4pm
LELY - IRONWOOD	482 Bristle Cone Lane	\$2,799,000	Premier Sotheby's International Realty	Tom Oaster 239.595.1275	Sunday 1-4pm
GREY OAKS - ESTUARY AT GREY OAKS	2394 Grey Oaks Drive North	From \$2,495,000	Premier Sotheby's International Realty	Sales Office 239.262.5557	Mon-Sat 9am-5pm & Sun 12-5pm
OLD NAPLES - ESERALDA ON EIGHTH	985 8th Avenue South #1022	\$2,495,000	Premier Sotheby's International Realty	John Blackie 239.405.1721	Sunday 1-4pm
OLD NAPLES - ESERALDA ON EIGHTH	985 8th Avenue South #102	\$2,495,000	Premier Sotheby's International Realty	Heather Hobrock 239.370.3944	Sunday 1-4pm
THE PENINSULA AT TREVISO BAY	9938 Montiano Drive	\$2,399,000	Royal Shell Real Estate	Peninsula Sales Team 239.777.7209	Daily 10am-5pm
THE MOORINGS	475 Putter Point Drive	\$2,295,000	John R Wood Properties	Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell 239.595.0097	Sunday 1-4pm
THE MOORINGS	441 Wedge Drive	\$2,250,000	Premier Sotheby's International Realty	Sheila Lytle 239.293.5040	Sunday 1-4pm
QUAIL WEST	4211 Cortland Way	\$1,950,000	Premier Sotheby's International Realty	Catherine Ouellette 941.916.7876	Sunday 1-4pm
QUAIL WEST	6530 Highcroft Drive	\$1,790,000	Premier Sotheby's International Realty	Joanne MacLeod 239.272.7679	Sunday 1-4pm
PARK SHORE	534 Parkwood Lane	\$1,500,000	John R Wood Properties	Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell 239.595.0098	Sunday 1-4pm
TERRACINA AT VINEYARDS	503 Terracina Way	\$1,350,000	John R Wood Properties	Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell 239.595.0099	Sunday 1-4pm
RESIDENCES AT MERCATO	9123 Strada Place #7125	From \$1,325,000	Premier Sotheby's International Realty	Sales Office 239.594.9400	Mon-Sat 10am-6pm & Sun 12-6pm
LELY RESORT - LAKOYA	6465 Costa Circle	\$1,049,000	Premier Sotheby's International Realty	Nancy Harris-Gannon 239.691.0939	Sunday 1-4pm
LUCARNO AT MEDITARRA	16660 Lucarno Way	\$975,000	John R Wood Properties	Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell 239.595.0100	Sunday 1-4pm
TIBURON - CASTILLO	2850 Tiburon Boulevard East #102	\$799,000	Premier Sotheby's International Realty	Gregory Sofranko 239.877.1966	Sunday 1-4pm
WINDSTAR - REGATTA LANDING	2439 Breakwater Way #9-101	\$719,000	Premier Sotheby's International Realty	Susie Culp 239.290.9000	Sunday 1-4pm
BENT CREEK PRESERVE	9323 Glenforest Drive	\$649,900	Premier Sotheby's International Realty	Charlina McGee 239.770.1911	Sunday 1-4pm
AUTUMN WOODS	6968 Burnt Sienna Circle	\$624,900	John R Wood Properties	Lenore Vitale 239.370.7030	Sunday 1-4pm
CALABRIA AT MEDITERRA	28530 Calabria Court #102	\$550,000	John R Wood Properties	Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell 239.595.0101	Sunday 1-4pm
COCONUT RIVER	2537 Clipper Way	\$549,999	Premier Sotheby's International Realty	Ximena Silva 239.682.6141	Sunday 1-4pm
FIDDLER'S CREEK - CASCADA	9006 Cascada Way #201	\$525,000	Premier Sotheby's International Realty	ML Meade 239.293.4854	Sunday 1-4pm
WALDEN OAKS	6908 Lone Oak Boulevard	\$419,000	Premier Sotheby's International Realty	Shelley Monteiro 239.919.7909	Sunday 1-4pm
FIDDLER'S CREEK - CALLISTA	2717 Callista Court #202	\$395,000	Premier Sotheby's International Realty	ML Meade 239.293.4851	Sunday 1-4pm
NAPLES PARK	820 110th Avenue North	\$387,500	Gulf Breeze Real Estate	Sue Myhelic 239.216.6444	Wednesday 1-4pm
LELY RESORT - OLE	9072 Covina Drive North #55-02	\$315,000	Premier Sotheby's International Realty	Marcella Ade 207.751.6723	Sunday 1-4pm
CYPRESS WOODS GOLF & C.C.	3445 Grand Cypress Drive #102	\$264,900	Gulf Breeze Real Estate	Sue Myhelic 239.216.6444	Sunday 1-4pm
THE VINEYARDS - TRA VIGNE	232 Via Perignon #232	\$245,000	Premier Sotheby's International Realty	Sandra McCarthy-Meeks 239.287.7921	Sunday 1-4pm
HUNTINGTON LAKES	6750 Huntington Lakes Circle #101	\$228,900	Gulf Breeze Real Estate	Sue Myhelic 239.216.6444	Sunday 1-4pm
NAPLES ESTATES	400 Palm Haven Boulevard	\$145,000	Naples Estates	Mary Moench 888.265.0605	Saturday 11am-3pm

Bonita Springs

AREA	ADDRESS	PRICE	REAL ESTATE OFFICE	AGENT & PHONE NUMBER	HOURS
BONITA BAY - TAVIRA	4851 Bonita Bay Boulevard #804	\$2,495,000	Royal Shell Real Estate	Gary & Jeff Jaarda 239.293.1507	Sunday 2-4pm
BONITA BAY - WOODLAKE	3959 Woodlake Drive	\$739,000	Premier Sotheby's International Realty	Pamela Hershberger 239.784.7534	Sunday 1-4pm
PELICAN LANDING - LAKEMONT	3500 Lakemont Drive	\$729,000	Royal Shell Real Estate	Deb Adams-Bateman 239.273.4824	Sunday 1-4pm
SPANISH WELLS	9940 Treasure Cay Lane	\$419,000	Royal Shell Real Estate	Jim Griffith, The Boeglin Team 239.322.2409	Sunday 1-4pm
HAWTHORNE - COBBLESTONE	10216 Cobble Hill Road	\$389,000	Royal Shell Real Estate	Deb Adams-Bateman 239.273.4824	Sunday 1-4pm
HAWTHORNE - CHESAPEAKE COVE	26510 Lucky Stone Road #201	\$309,000	Royal Shell Real Estate	Deb Adams-Bateman 239.273.4824	Sunday 1-4pm
LAS BRISAS AT SPANISH WELLS	9181 Las Maderas Drive	\$295,000	Royal Shell Real Estate	The Boeglin Team 239.287.6414	Sunday 1-4pm
SORRENTO	28054 Sosta Lane #3	\$257,000	Premier Sotheby's International Realty	Shirlene Elkins 239.777.9574	Sunday 1-4pm

Estero

AREA	ADDRESS	PRICE	REAL ESTATE OFFICE	AGENT & PHONE NUMBER	HOURS
SHADOW WOOD AT THE BROOKS - FAIRVIEW	22221 Fairview Bend Drive	\$1,289,000	Royal Shell Real Estate	The Taranto Team 239.572.3078	Sunday 1-4pm
THE RESERVE	19660 Villa Rosa Loop	\$270,000	Royal Shell Real Estate	Carol Jones 239.250.4310	Sunday 1-4pm

Fort Myers

AREA	ADDRESS	PRICE	REAL ESTATE OFFICE	AGENT & PHONE NUMBER	HOURS
HIDDEN HARBOR	17306 Hidden Estates Circle	\$1,150,000	Premier Sotheby's International Realty	Catherine Ouellette 941.916.7876	Sunday 1-4pm
LAKES AT THREE OAKS	9191 Pittsburgh Boulevard	\$350,000	Premier Sotheby's International Realty	Vanya Demireva 239.565.0550	Sunday 1-4pm

Call 239.325.1960 to be included in Florida Weekly's OPEN HOUSE DIRECTORY

NEWSMAKERS

From page 3

In a blend of traditional and contemporary styles, the Ladera has a symmetrical open floor plan, with rooms, doors and windows configured in careful relation to a central axis. West

feet of commercial space at 101 Eighth St. S. in Old Naples. Walking distance from the beach, luxury shops and fine dining, the project is being developed by Mike Assaad from Waterside Builders Inc. and designed by Matthew Kragh of MHK Architecture & Planning.

"This evolving neighborhood we are promoting as SoCe, South of Central, is going to feel like an extension of Fifth Avenue within the next few years," said Joe Belz, a founding agent of Compass'



Indies-designed houses address heat, sunlight and generous rainfall by providing shade and protection from the elements, thanks, in part, to exterior window shutters hinged from the side or top, wide verandas and front porches with generous overhangs.

For more information, call 325-4600 or visit www.diamondcustomhomesfl.com.

Compass Florida has been tapped to handle sales and marketing for SoCe Flats, a mixed-use project comprised of 18 hotel residences and 4,500 square

Naples location and the agent representing this development.

SoCe Flats construction is expected to commence in early 2019 with completion slated for 2020. Pricing will start at \$575,000. One- and two-bedroom options will range from 610 to 1,220 square feet. A sales gallery at 4501 Tamiami Trail N. (open by appointment only) features the latest in augmented reality technology provided by D3 creative studio.

For more information, go to www.soceflats.com.



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SUPER BRIGHT & CHEERFUL

1830 Menorca Ct.
\$725,000

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

WEEK OF AUGUST 23-29, 2018

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SECTION C



Mariannette Torres couldn't find a stage to perform stand-up so she started her own show

VANDY MAJOR / FLORIDA WEEKLY
Mariannette Torres performs.

BY NANCY STETSON
nstetson@floridaweekly.com

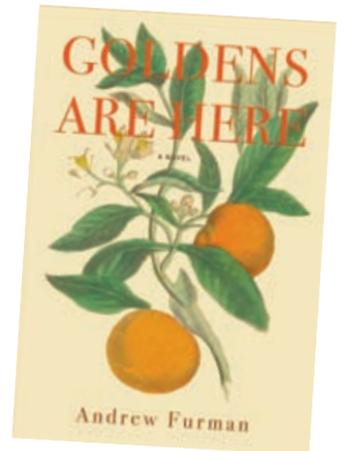
MARIANNETTE TORRES, WHO GOES by the stage name Mariannette La Puppet, a play on the word "marionette," knows women can be funny. She eats, breathes, sweats, exhales funny.

It comes naturally to her. But opportunities for female comics are dismal. Even today it's still a male-dominated field.

In a calendar of comics appearing in Southwest Florida in August, only two of the more than 20 listed were

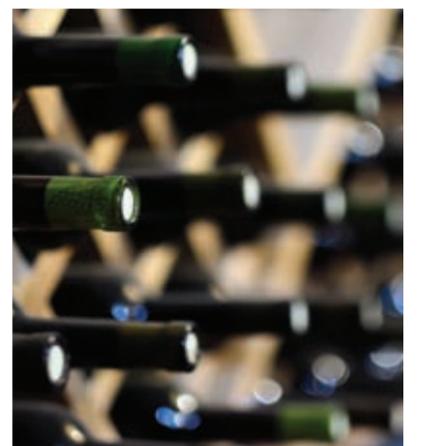
SEE DIVA, C4 ►

INSIDE



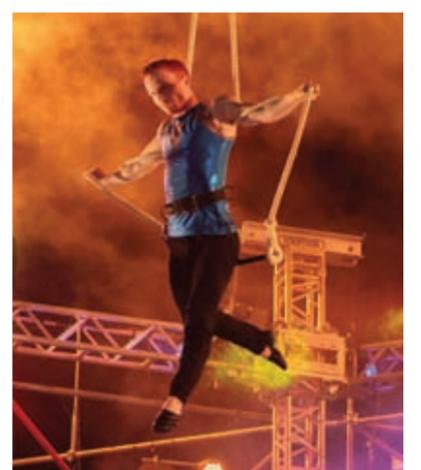
Florida Writers

"Goldens Are Here" is an ambitious book worth reading, our reviewer says. **C2** ►



Wine for everyone

Our wine columnist offers a number of wines for any taste, budget. **C18** ►



Things to do

Check out our calendar of events for this week. **C6-7** ►

Make a toast at Arts Alliance: 98 years ago women got the vote

Celebrate the 98th anniversary of women's right at "Toast to Tenacity."

Honor the courageous women behind the passage of the 19th Amendment at this event from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Aug. 26 at the Alliance for the Arts in Fort Myers.

Tenacious women from diverse backgrounds persisted for more than 70 years — even went to prison and endured other terrible hardships — before the movement succeeded.

When the 19th Amendment was finally ratified into law on Aug. 26, 1920, suffragists across the nation raised a glass of grape juice — since Prohibition was in effect, they skipped the more potent

stuff — to celebrate its passage.

Among the suffragists are many unsung heroes. Hear the whole story, about such heroines as black suffragists Ida B. Wells Barnett and Mary Church Terrell, who were members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Although Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony are the names most associated with the movement, they were not alone in their commitment to gender equality.

Join Vision 2020, the Fort Myers Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta

Sorority Inc., and Progressive Women of Southwest Florida as they stand together to honor the suffragists of all colors and look to a future of equality with an inspiring program, a grape juice toast, and a wine and cheese reception.

"Toast to Tenacity" special guest is Lee County Supervisor of Elections Tommy Doyle.

Attendance is free, but reservations are requested. For more information and to register, go to www.artinlee.org/tenacity.

The Alliance for the Arts is at 10091 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers. ■



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FLORIDA WRITERS

Florida, families and fruit trees anchor an ambitious work of fiction

philJASON

philreviews@gmail.com



■ **“Goldens Are Here” by Andrew Furman. Green Writers Press. 364 pages. Trade paperback, \$21.95.**

There are so many strands and points of interest in this fine, highly original novel that it's hard to know where to begin. In the background are the Cuban Missile Crisis, the blooming (technically and economically) of Florida's Space Coast and the Civil Rights struggle. In the foreground is the Florida citrus industry in the early 1960s as represented by a body of small grove owners along or near the Indian River.



FURMAN

In these communities, the white folks own the groves and the black folks perform much of the labor. Race relations are in an uneasy truce, a tangle of old habits and shaky dependencies. A great freeze threatens to destroy the groves, even if insects don't.

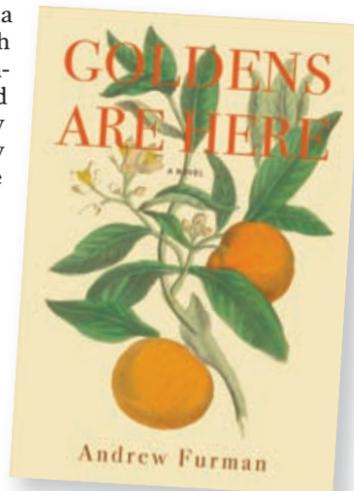
The central character, Isaac Golden, has abandoned his career as a physician and set out on a grand adventure with his wife Melody and their two young children, Sarah and Eli. Moving away

from the Philadelphia area, where their Jewish identity was readily reinforced, they have settled in a small town with only one other Jewish family and a considerable ride to Jewish institutions. The Goldens are clearly outsiders, and the way they are addressed by many of the townspeople carries a brand of politeness that barely veils a cultural tradition of anti-Semitism.

Author Andrew Furman portrays how Isaac and Melody deal with their displacement and discomfort with skill and sensitivity.

The story of Isaac's attempt to develop improved breeds of oranges becomes a continuing lesson in citrus science. Mr. Furman provides a large specialized vocabulary that is the basis for reader understanding of Isaac's mission and of the industry he has entered. This material and the extensive exposition should fall flat, but the author makes it sing. He does this by capturing Isaac's poetic passion, especially his interest in avoiding chemical pesticides and protecting his groves using natural, nontoxic agents.

But he is spending more money than he is likely to make. Melody develops a roadside business selling from her vegetable garden, from the groves and from the kitchen (her wonderful pies add much-



needed income to the family's enterprise).

Eli is an undersized, sickly child with serious respiratory challenges. How each parent treats him, and how they treat toddler Sarah, defines them credibly and even admirably. For example, Isaac, though it brings him pain, forces himself to avoid coddling Eli or setting low expectations for the boy.

Melody, and ultimately her marriage, is challenged by her loneliness and by the wiles of an African-American labor organizer who is the returned prodigal son of Isaac's grove manager.

The townspeople provide a chorus of reprehensible, yet understandable attitudes toward the curious Jewish family that doesn't quite know how to fit in. Melody has movie star looks; Isaac has stature, strength and not a trace of a conventional Jewish face. They are some sort of new breed.

Yet they plan to raise their children in traditional Jewish ways. Eli's bar mitzvah is out there on the horizon. Isaac and Melody are well stocked with Yiddish phrases and a modicum of Jewish knowledge and wisdom.

This is an extremely ambitious novel, delightfully blending the ups and downs of domestic life, an exploration of cul-

turally engrained prejudices, the East-Central Florida ethos, the major issues of national and international concern and the vibrant interplay of man and nature.

I love the author's chutzpah in bringing this all together, and I love the cascades of language and lists that carry it along.

About the author

Andrew Furman is a professor of English at Florida Atlantic University and teaches in its creative writing MFA program. He is the author, most recently, of the environmental memoir "Bitten: My Unexpected Love Affair with Florida" (2014, reviewed in these pages), which was named a Finalist for the ASLE Environmental Book Award, and "My Los Angeles in Black and (Almost) White" (2010). His fiction and creative nonfiction frequently engages with the Florida outdoors, but he has also written about Jewish identity, basketball, lighthouses, swimming and cast-iron cookware. His essays and stories have appeared in such publications as the Oxford American, The Southern Review, Ecotone, Poets & Writers, The Chronicle of Higher Education, Agni Online, Terrain.org, and The Florida Review. He lives in South Florida with his family. ■

— 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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IVAN SELIGMAN / FLORIDA WEEKLY

Part 2: The Florida Weekly Writing Challenge

“I hate writing, I love having written.”
— Dorothy Parker

Welcome to Part 2 of the 2018 Florida Weekly Writing Challenge. The photo of the garden cherubs you see here is the second prompt of four that will make up this year’s contest. Wordsmiths who accept our challenge have until midnight Sunday, Aug. 26, to send us a story inspired by the image.

Part 1 of the contest is closed. We’ll print new prompts and submission deadlines for Part 3 on Aug. 30 and Part 4 on Sept. 13.

Here are the rules:

- If you submitted something for Part 1, great. Thank you. You are also welcome to take us up on Parts 2, 3 and 4 of the challenge. But please limit your output to one per prompt.
- Keep your narrative (no poetry) to 750 words.
- Give it a title and run it through Spellcheck.

■ Put your full name, phone number and city/state you live in at the end of your masterpiece.

■ 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.

Our editors look forward to reviewing the entries and selecting one winner, whose author will receive a ticket to the 13th annual Sanibel Island Writers Conference (value: \$500). With keynote speaker and New York Times bestselling author Ann Hood (“She Loves You Yeah, Yeah, Yeah,” “An Italian Wife,” “Somewhere Off the Coast of Maine,” “An Ornithologist’s Guide to Life” and “The Obituary Writer,” among others), the conference is set for Nov. 8-11 on Sanibel Island.

The 2018 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. ■

SWFL'S PREMIER DINNER THEATRE BROADWAYPALM

CIRCUS TRANSFORMUS

A CIRCUS STORY OF TRANSFORMATION

AUG 25 & 26

Imagine a world where society is reborn to believe that humans and all life forms can coexist sharing and sustaining the Earth's natural gifts. Circus Transformus is a visually stunning contemporary circus performance which incorporates music, dance, acrobatics and aerial arts.

This show contains adult themes that may not be suitable for young children. Parental discretion is advised.

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DIVA

From page 1

women. With a few exceptions, women are rarely booked and they're rarely headliners.

That's why Mariannette, of Fort Myers, decided to take matters into her own hands.

The club circuit didn't appeal to her. "It's too male-dominated, too lonely and scary for women out there on the road," she says. "Even the guys get scared."

Over two decades ago, she won the comedy portion of a talent competition in Orlando, performing in front of 2,500 people.

But she didn't realize it would mean going on tour. As a single mom, with two young children, she couldn't do it.

"If I had taken that opportunity," she says, "my children would have failed. No success is big enough for that."

But now her children are 22 and 17. "I am desperately waiting for what white people call the empty nest," she jokes. "So I can travel. I can be free and funny around the country."

Part Puerto Rican and part Dominican, she calls herself a Dominirican, or, a Phillirican, as she grew up in Philadelphia. "Philly's my hood," she says.

When she moved to Fort Myers 24 years ago, "it would be so quiet, I'd be scared," she says, explaining that in Philly, when she heard gunshots, she'd know what areas to avoid.

She came to comedy through theater, which she discovered in college.

At 19, she attended Pennsylvania State University.

"I went in as an aerospace engineering major," she says. "I wanted to be a fighter pilot. It was the 'Top Gun' era that influenced all those young minds. When I was 7, my mom told me there was going to be a war, and I believed her. I went to Air Force camp, was in ROTC all through middle school and high school."

Then she went to college, the first of her family to attend.

Her first engineering class intimidated and confused her; she couldn't understand a word.

"Is she speaking Asian? I had no idea what she was saying."

Her second class was theater, her elective.

"When I walked in and heard them speak, I heard angels sing!"

She had found her place.

Years later, she found herself in Orlando, where she taught improv comedy traffic school classes for two or three years, in Spanish.

"And I was born," she says. "I was teaching traffic school, in Spanish! Being



VANDY MAJOR / FLORIDA WEEKLY

The lineup features Dani Thralow, Mariannette LaPuppet, Nancy Francis and Pam Bruno.

funny in Spanish. That's how comedy became a part of my life."

She doesn't want to go on the road and stay in a different motel every night, battling with the cutthroat world of stand-up comedy.

"I'm older, I'm Spanish, I'm female," she says. "I have all the odds against me. So if I have a chance, it has to be with (something I build) with my own hands. Because they're not letting me in. I don't know why. I'm too different, too much or too whatever. They don't want to deal with it. But I know I'm good when I'm good. My faces and my analogies are my strong suit. My faces — that comes from my theater experience. I express out loud on my face. It works for me."

There's safety in numbers, she thought, and came up with Diva Comedy Night, now called the Comedianettes, a revue of various female stand-up comics that can be seen in a theater setting.

She presented her idea to the Alliance for the Arts in Fort Myers, which welcomed her with open arms.

"We noticed that in the area there were predominantly male comedians and very few female headliners or all-female shows," says Lydia Black, executive director of the Alliance. "We were looking to showcase some people who may not have had the opportunity to get up on the stage."

The shows are very successful. She sold out three different shows last year, as well as another show this July. The next show will be Oct. 27, with another one scheduled for Feb. 2.

"Mariannette's helping us recognize female comedians outside of a bar environment," Ms. Davis says. "People who might not go to a comedy club or a bar can hear them in a theater."

That is Mariannette's plan; to have rotating lineup of female comics perform in various theaters. She estimates there are 105 theaters from Ocala to South Beach. Each one, a potential venue.

Some comics, she explains, don't have a full hour of material. They may have 15 minutes, or 20. Offering a diverse group

of female comics gives them stage time and also gives audiences a variety of humorous styles and personalities.

"The Comedianettes are like the Rockettes — they would change dancers, but it was still the Rockettes," she says. "And then I finish the show. I bring the funny."

In July, Mariannette followed a woman who was deadpan and sardonic.

She exploded on stage with energy and pizzazz.

"I just want to work," she says. "I don't care about fame, just put me on a stage from here to Katmandu. I just want to work."

"This is a moving pieces production," she explains. "You will not likely see the same people together. It's a mix. I love to see a mix."

She scouts out talent in person and online, and has friends in Colorado who scout for her, too.

She has a few guidelines: in addition to being funny, she wants her comedians to not do blue material, and she doesn't want them to preach or man-bash.

"You eliminate the majority of your audience (that way)," she explains. "You can bash your man, but don't bash other men."

Approximately 90 percent of her audiences here have been female.

"But the men have just as much fun as the women do," she says.

"I make sure I choose females that make me laugh. I appreciate their humor."

"I have to take that jump," she adds. "I believe in myself enough to do this. I'm ready. I'm going to take a shot. There are a lot of closed doors, a lot of closed minds. But I'm going to be an artist, no matter what this world does to me. I won't stop. I can't stop."

"I hustle," she says. "I'm exhausted girl. I'm tired. But I'm still inspired."

And as funny as hell. ■



The Comedianettes

- >> **When:** Oct. 27 and Feb. 2
- >> **Where:** Foulds Theatre, Alliance for the Arts 10091 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers
- >> **Cost:** \$20
- >> **Information:** 439-2787 or www.artinlee.org

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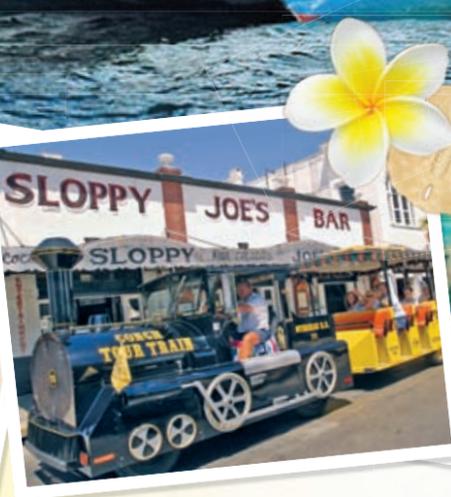
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WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

THEATER

Repossessed - By Theatre Conspiracy Aug. 23-26 at the Alliance for the Arts. 10091 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers. 939-2787 or www.artinlee.org.

It's Only A Play - By The Laboratory Theater of Florida through Aug. 26. 1634 Woodford Ave. www.laboratorytheater-florida.com or 218-0481.

Peter & The Starcatcher - By The Naples Players Oct. 3-28, at Sugden Community Theater. 263-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org.

I'll Eat You Last - By The Studio Players Oct. 5-21, at Golden Gate Community Center. 4701 Golden Gate Pkwy. 398-9192 or www.thestudioplayers.org.

An Iliad - By Gulfshore Playhouse Oct. 20-Nov. 4, at The Norris Center. 755 Eighth Ave. S. (866) 811-4111 or www.gulfshoreplayhouse.org.

Rehearsal for Murder - By The Marco Players Oct. 24-Nov. 11, at The Marco Players Theater. 1089 N. Collier Blvd. 642-7270 or www.themarcoplayers.org.

THURSDAY 8.23

Pups in the Garden - Put your favorite pooch in the car (don't forget the leash) and head to Naples Botanical Garden for canine-friendly hours from 3-5 p.m. (also 9-11:30 a.m. Sunday and 8-11 a.m. Tuesday). Free for garden members and their dogs; regular admission for humans plus \$9.95 for their dogs. www.naplesgarden.org.

Tsar-ry 'Bout Ya - FGCU's Renaissance Academy hosts a presentation about the Russian Revolution from 10 a.m. to noon at Bentley Village. \$24 for members, \$29 for others. 850 Retreat Drive. 434-4737 or www.fgcu.edu.

Doodle Night - Naples Art Association hosts doodle design class from 6-9 p.m. \$50. 585 Park St. 262-6517 or www.naplesart.org.

Risk! - Barnes & Noble hosts an evening of good, old-fashioned board game fun at 7 p.m. 598-5200 or www.bn.com.

FRIDAY 8.24

Fresh & Local - Golden Gate Community Center hosts a farmers market from 2-7 p.m. each Friday. 206-4339 or www.colliergov.net.

Summer Film - FGCU's Renaissance Academy screens "Bang The Drum Slowly" (1973) at 2 p.m. at the university's Naples campus. A portrayal of the relationship between a star pitcher and a catcher who has a terminal illness. \$6 for members, \$8 for others. 1010 Fifth Ave. S. 434-4737 or www.fgcu.edu.

Funny People - The L.A. Comedy Tour, featuring comedians like Dante and Erik Meyers, performs at Off The Hook Comedy Club tonight and Saturday, Aug. 25. 2500 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 389-6901 or www.offthehookcomedy.com.

SATURDAY 8.25

To Market, To Market - Stock up on fresh produce and locally made goodies at the Third Street South farmers market from 7:30-11:30 a.m. 434-6533 or www.thirdstreetsouth.com.

Sail Away - Naples Model Yacht Club hosts radio-control model sailboat racing at 9:30 a.m. each Saturday behind Dick's Sporting Goods. 5955 Naples Blvd. www.naplesmyc.org.



Circus Formus comes to the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre at 8 p.m. Aug. 25 and 6 p.m. Aug. 26. The show is a contemporary circus performance incorporating dance, acrobatics, aerial arts and other skilled acts. The show contains adult themes that may not be suitable for young children. Pictured: circus artist Devon Chanceric. \$65 for Saturday (includes after party); \$50 for Sunday; \$20 for Sunday after party only. 1380 Colonial Blvd. 278-4422 or www.broadwaypalm.com.

All Aboard - Volunteer docents from the Naples Train Museum are on hand at the Naples Depot Museum from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to help visitors of all ages enjoy the outdoor and indoor trains. Corner of 10th St. S. and Fifth Ave. S. www.naplestrainmuseum.org.

SUNDAY 8.26

Fresh Produce - Take your grocery list to the Naples Farmers Market from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the corner Pine Ridge and Livingston roads.

Foreign Film - FGCU's Renaissance Academy screens "1000 Times Goodnight" (Ireland, 2013) at 2 p.m. at the university's Naples campus. A warzone photojournalist recovers from injuries sustained from a suicide bomb. \$6 for members, \$8 for others. 1010 Fifth Ave. S. 434-4737 or www.fgcu.edu.

Flashback Cinema - Silverspot at Mercato screens "The Sandlot" (1993) at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. During the summer of 1962, a new kid in town is taken under the wing of a young baseball prodigy and his rowdy team. 592-0300 or www.silverspot.net.

MONDAY 8.27

Films for Film Lovers - Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs screens "Elena" (Russia, 2011) at 7 p.m. When a sudden illness and a surprise reunion threaten a housewife's inheritance, she must hatch a desperate plan. \$10. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

TUESDAY 8.28

Panther Encounter - Naples Zoo lets guests get up close and personal with Uno, a rescued Florida panther, each Tuesday at 9 a.m. \$55 for members, \$65 for others. Check website for additional animal encounters. 262-5409 or www.napleszoo.com.

Fudge Ripple Effect - FGCU's Renaissance Academy hosts a field trip to Royal Scoop in North Naples where guests can learn some secrets about ice cream while enjoying lunch and a few scoops from 10:30 a.m. to noon. \$17 for members, \$19 for others. 15 Eighth St. 434-4737 or www.fgcu.edu.

WEDNESDAY 8.29

Meditation Event - The Gypsy Sea Witch hosts a crystal bowl meditation from 7-7:30 p.m. each Wednesday at Koreshan State Park. \$20, registration required. 3800 Corkscrew Road. 754-444-9779 or www.thegypsyseawitch.com.

WWII in Paradise - Local historian Jacob Winge leads a presentation about wartime Naples at 11:30 a.m. at Sandalwood Village. Reservations required. 3511 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 260-5455.

COMING UP

Blues Concert - Selwyn Birchwood performs at 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 31, at Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs. \$20-\$30. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Chamber Concert - Naples Philharmonic Chamber musicians perform works by Vivaldi, Szervanszky and Smetana at 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 7, at South Regional Library. 8065 Lely Cultural Blvd. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Rock Concert - Poetry Thieves perform at 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8, at Southwest Florida Event Center. \$15-\$35. 11515 Bonita Beach Road. 245-9910 or www.swflevntcenter.com.

Senior Prep - Leadership Coalition hosts a seminar titled "Advanced Planning: Getting Your Affairs in Order" on Thursday, Sept. 13, at South Regional Library. Free, but registration required. 8065 Lely Cultural Pkwy. 687-3156 or www.collierseniorresources.org.

Live And Local - The Freecoasters perform at 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 13, at Artis—Naples' Daniels Pavilion. \$15, includes one drink. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Live Readings - Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs hosts staged readings of poems, essays, speeches and more 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 14. \$18-\$20. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Jazz on the Sand - Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club hosts a free performance by Pocket Change from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 15, as part of its annual SummerJazz on the Gulf concert series. 261-2222 or www.naplesbeachhotel.com.

Where's Mickey? - Disney of Ice's "Mickey's Search Party" visits Germain Arena at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Sept. 21. 948-7825 or www.germainarena.com.

Blues for You - Robert Castiglia performs at 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22, at Center for Performing Arts Bonita Springs. \$20-\$30. Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989.

Terrifying Funk - Here Come The Mummies performs at 8 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 23, at Southwest Florida Event Center. \$32-\$55. 11515 Bonita Beach Road. 245-9910 or www.swflevntcenter.com.

Party in the Estuary - Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center celebrates the 40th annual National Estuary Day with guided tours, paddleboard demonstrations, presentations and much more from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29. Free, \$25 for VIP. 300 Tower Road. 530-5940 or www.rookerybay.org.

Laugh-In - Stage 2 Improv performs at 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29, at Joan Jenks Auditorium at Golden Gate Community Park. \$15.4701 Golden Gate Pkwy. 398-9192 or www.thestudioplayers.org.

Wind Concert - FGCU's Wind Orchestra performs works at 3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 30, at Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Art ALIVE - The galleries and studios of Naples Art District, the area west of Airport-Pulling and north of Pine Ridge roads, open their doors to the public from 5-8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 3. Look for the magenta and white art flags to locate participating galleries. Free. 289-5070 or www.naplesartdistrict.com.

Free Concert - Rockin' Horse performs from 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 4, on the lawn at Mercato. 254-1080 or www.mercatoshops.com.

Chamber Concert - The Naples Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra performs works by Haydn, Bach and Pergolesi at 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 6, at Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Blues Concert - Damon Fowler performs at 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 6, at Center for Performing Arts Bonita Springs. \$20-\$30. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Chamber Concert - The Naples Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra performs works by Leonarda, Hensel and Farrenc at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 9, at Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Gross - Collier County Fairgrounds hosts its annual Halloween Gross House on select dates between Oct. 12-27, with a haunted house, hay rides and more. 455-1444 or www.colliercountyfair.com.

Free Film - Mercato screens "The Nightmare before Christmas" at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 16, on the lawn across

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

from Silverspot. 254-1080 or www.mercatoshops.com.

Live And Local – The Alex Lopez Express performs at 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 17, at Artis—Naples’ Daniels Pavilion. 597-1900 or www.artis-naples.org.

Art Show – Members of Naples Art-crafters host an arts and crafts show from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20, at Cam-bier Park. www.naplesartcrafters.com.

Brew for You – Mercato hosts the seventh annual Brew-Ha-Ha Craft Beer Festival with samples of over 60 craft beers, live music, silent auction, competitions and more from 5-8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20. Proceeds benefit Ronald McDonald Charities of Southwest Florida. 254-1080 or www.mercatoshops.com.

Chamber Concert – The Naples Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra performs works by Dvorac, Poulenc, Chopin and Saint-Saens featuring pianists Christina and Michelle Noughten at 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 21. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Wine for You – Naples Gulf Shore Sunset Rotary hosts a wine walk through Mercato from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 24, to benefit local charities. \$40 in advance, \$50 the day of the event. 254-1080 or www.mercatoshops.com.

Cinephilia – The Naples International Film Festival kicks off with an opening night party and film at 6 p.m. Oct. 25 at Artis—Naples. Guests will enjoy cocktails and hors-d’oeuvres, screening of the event’s opening night film and a Q&A with the filmmakers. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

An Evening to Forget – Comedians Steve Martin and Martin Short team up for a variety act titled “An Evening You’ll Forget For The Rest Of Your Life” at 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 28, at Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Imperial March – Artis—Naples screens the original “Star Wars” film with the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra performing composer John Williams’ timeless score in time to the movie at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 30. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Trick-or-Treat – Mercato hosts a Halloween extravaganza with store-to-store trick-or-treating, a pumpkin patch, a DJ, face painting, stilt walkers and more from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 30. 254-1080 or www.mercatoshops.com.

Spooky – Fifth Avenue Association hosts its annual Halloween gathering, Spooktacular, with live music, dancing, trick-or-treating, costume contests and more from 4-7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 31. 692-8436 or www.fifthavenuesouth.com.

Jazz Concert – Vibraphonist Joe Locke performs with the Naples Philharmonic Jazz Orchestra at 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 31, at Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Free Concert – Mudbone Fingers performs from 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 1, on the lawn at Mercato. 254-1080 or www.mercatoshops.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.



SCOOP IT

■ Cool off with a field trip to ice cream parlor **Royal Scoop** with FGCU’s Renaissance Academy from 10:30 a.m. to noon on Tuesday, Aug. 28. Guests will learn all about how the frozen treat is made and enjoy lunch and samples.

— www.fgcu.edu



■ In lieu of its monthly Thursday Night Live concert, the **Bell Tower Shops** hosts a fundraising event for fallen Fort Myers police officer **Adam Jobbers-Miller** from 6-8 p.m. Aug. 23 in the northeast parking lot.

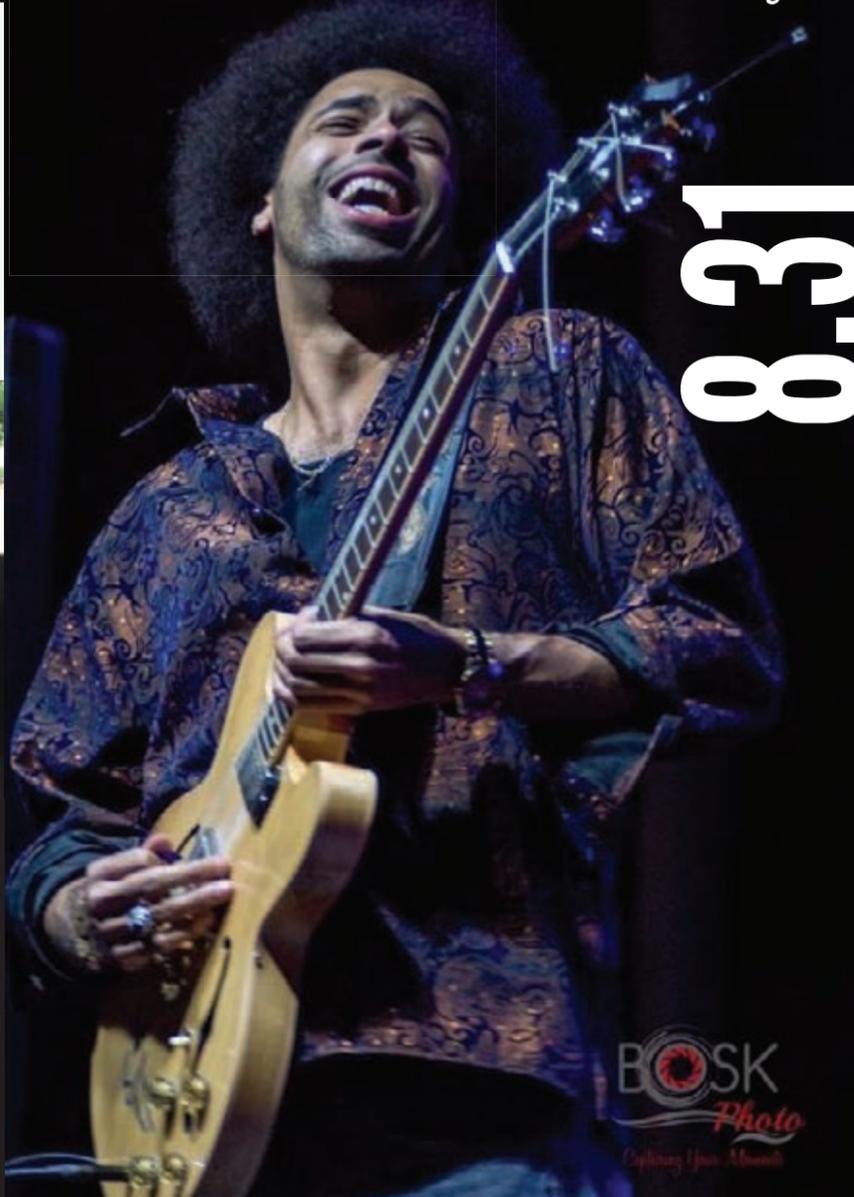
— www.thebelltowershops.com



JAM IT

■ Young blues star **Selwyn Birchood** brings his fiery guitar and gritty vocals to Center for Performing Arts Bonita Springs at 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 31.

— www.artscenterbonita.org



WALK IT

■ Paws up for walkies at **Naples Botanical Garden**, scheduled each week on Thursdays from 3-5 p.m., Sundays 9-11:30 a.m. Tuesdays from 8-11 a.m.

— www.naplesgarden.org



8.23-27

■ Theatre Conspiracy presents **“Repossessed”** Aug. 23-26 at the Alliance for the Arts. Written by Greg Lam and directed by Steve Hooper, the play is the winner of the annual Janet and Bruce Bunch New Play Contest Award. An audio descriptor performance is set for Aug. 26.

— artinlee.org/theatre/



THIS WEEK ON WGCU-TV



Celtic Thunder X, 9 p.m. Aug. 23

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SATURDAY, AUG. 25, 11 P.M.

Food: What the Heck Should I Eat? With Mark Hyman, MD

Dr. Mark Hyman looks at every food group and explains what we've gotten wrong, revealing which foods nurture our health and which pose a threat.

SUNDAY, AUG. 26, 7 P.M.
Dr. David Perlmutter's Whole Life Plan

Dr. Perlmutter puts his ideas into practice in the real world to show you that living your best life is about much more than what you put in your mouth: it's also about the timing of when you eat, sleep and exercise; knowing which supplements to take and which medications to potentially drop; and more.

MONDAY, AUG. 27, 8 P.M.
Dionne Warwick: Then Came You (My Music)

Five-time Grammy winner Dionne Warwick performs "Then Came You" in a tribute to producer, arranger, and songwriter Thom Bell at the "Grammy Salute To Music Legends 2017."

TUESDAY, AUG. 28, 8 P.M.
Memory Rescue with Daniel Amen, MD

Dr. Daniel Amen talks about how you can improve your memory and even rescue it if you think it's headed for trouble. Dr. Amen has developed the mnemonic "Bright Minds" to help you remember the 11 major risk factors that steal your mind. Most of these risk factors are either preventable or treatable.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 29, 8 P.M.
Wings Over Grand Canyon

Enjoy a stunning aerial adventure spanning nearly four American states and 1,500 miles flown to capture it. Soar over national parks, above breathtaking landscapes and into hidden, magical canyons. ■

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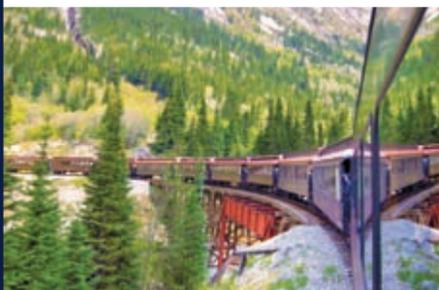


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FILM CAPSULES

BY DAN HUDAK

BlacKkKlansman ★★★

(John David Washington, Adam Driver, Topher Grace) In the early '70s, an African-American police officer (Washington, Denzel's son) in Colorado Springs infiltrates the Klu Klux Klan with the help of his white Jewish colleague (Driver). Director Spike Lee's film is a bit long at 135 minutes, but it's also nicely acted and well told. Rated R.

Christopher Robin ★★

(Ewan McGregor, Hayley Atwell, Bronte Carmichael) An adult Christopher Robin (McGregor) tries to keep his job, and his family together, when his old friend Winnie the Pooh (voice of Lee Cummings) finds him in London in need of help. The visual effects are impressive, but the story isn't really for kids or adults — and it's pretty dull. Rated PG.

Mission: Impossible – Fallout

★★★★½

(Tom Cruise, Henry Cavill, Rebecca Ferguson) Ethan Hunt (Cruise) and his team botch a mission and then have to save the world to make up for their mistake. The action is once again top notch, and the story has more twists than you expect. This is one of the best action franchises in movies today. Rated PG-13.

Leave No Trace ★★★

(Ben Foster, Thomasin McKenzie, Dale Dickey) A father (Foster) and daughter (McKenzie) live off the grid in Oregon, but things change when he

is arrested for living on public land. It's a minimalist, fascinating study of an unusual but healthy father-daughter relationship that features solid performances from Foster and McKenzie. Rated PG.

Generation Wealth ★★½

(Limo Bob, Tiffany Masters, Florian Homm) Documentarian Lauren Greenfield examines society's obsession with wealth, image and material possessions in this cautionary doc that raises more questions than it can answer. Still, it's an intriguing watch for its naked honesty, especially from those who greatly desired wealth, had it, lost it and now understand it didn't make them happy. Rated R.

Skyscraper ★★★

(Dwayne Johnson, Neve Campbell, Pablo Schreiber) A security expert (Johnson) must save his wife (Campbell) and kids from a fire on the 96th floor of the tallest building in the world. It's a clear riff on "Die Hard" and "The Towering Inferno," but it's entertaining enough to be worth a look. Rated PG-13.

Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom

★★

(Chris Pratt, Bryce Dallas Howard, James Cromwell) Claire (Howard) and Owen (Pratt) return to the setting of "Jurassic World" to evacuate the dinosaurs when a volcano threatens the island. The premise may be a bit different, but not much feels new, or fresh. It's a downer when you spend 128 minutes watching a movie and leave feeling like you've seen it before. Rated PG-13. ■



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LATEST FILMS

'Alpha'

danHUDAK

punchdrunkmovies.com



Is it worth \$10? No

Based on the trailers and marketing, viewers have every right to expect "Alpha" to eagerly embrace the standard dog movie tropes: Lost soul human befriends a feisty canine, and the two form a symbiotic bond that changes both of their lives.

These things do happen, but it inexplicably takes director Albert Hughes 40 minutes — nearly half of the 96-minute running time — to get there. It's an example of too much tedious exposition leading to a level of indifference from which the movie cannot recover.

There's also this: It's fully subtitled, meaning not one word of English is spoken.

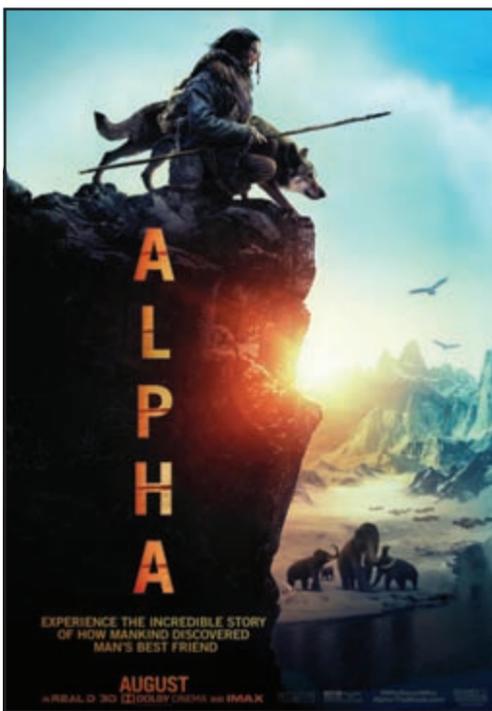
Twenty thousand years ago in Europe (does it matter where the story is set when there's no civilization in the world?), humans survive by hunting and taking care of their own. They hunt for food, not sport, and must store enough rations to last through the brutally cold and snowy winter. The leader of the tribe is Tau (Johannes Haukur Johannesson), and for the first time his son Keda (Kodi Smit-McPhee) is joining him on the hunt. It will make a man out of him, Tau insists, but Keda is not a natural warrior.

Things go wrong, and Keda is believed to be dead. This is both the best and worst part of the film. It's the best because Keda is trapped on a small ledge in the middle of a cliff with seemingly no chance of escape. It's perilous and palm-sweat inducing, and it has us genuinely wondering how he can escape. It's the worst because far too much time is spent with Tau lamenting the supposed death of his son, which everybody who's seen the trailer knows isn't real. Tau mourning is therefore a complete waste of time.

Keda eventually befriends a wolf dog and they help one another survive, with Keda knowing he needs to return home before winter comes. There are impressive visual sequences, and as seen in 3D some landscapes and action scenes

inspire awe. It's not, however, so cinematographically stunning that it sufficiently compensates for the sluggish story.

Animal lovers, the target audience for the film, are unlikely to find much joy here. There's ample hunting and killing, for one. The visual effects for the larger animals, particularly wolves and a panther, are murky and feel a little cheap, for another. Most of all, though, a 2016 news story about the production reported four bison were slaughtered for a scene (that was cut from the film). The report depicted the removal of the ani-



mals' hides (source: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/bisons-killed-film-alberta-1.3653436>). This negative press perhaps also explains why "Alpha" was on the shelf for a year before getting a never-desirable August release date.

Offensive to some people's sensibilities or not, "Alpha" as a whole simply isn't that good. It's structurally flawed and not nearly as accessible to mainstream audiences as the marketing would lead you to believe. No harm in catching this on home video when the time comes — and even then only as a second or third choice. ■

in the know

>> Filming for "Alpha" took place in Vancouver, Alberta and Iceland.

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PUZZLES

HOPPER IN THE SOOT

- ACROSS**
- 1 Whip material
 - 8 Complain
 - 14 Publisher Ochs
 - 20 Red-faced
 - 21 Fly a 727, e.g.
 - 22 "Heat" co-star Robert
 - 23 Start of a riddle
 - 25 One running away to wed
 - 26 Title for Tennyson
 - 27 Roadside stopover
 - 28 Old Glory's land
 - 29 Desktop machines
 - 30 Riddle, part 2
 - 39 Chop into small cubes
 - 40 Fit to be donned
 - 41 Tire-trapping furrows
 - 42 Sharp nudge
 - 45 Tot's "piggies"
 - 47 Glass parts
 - 48 End of many 28-Downs
 - 49 — -Pro
 - 50 Riddle, part 3
 - 57 — suit (1940s outfit)
 - 59 Football Hall of Famer Junior
 - 60 Precipitates cold flakes
 - 61 Ram's partner
 - 62 Equine animals
 - 65 Bert's buddy
 - 68 Turned in for the night
 - 70 Riddle, part 4
 - 74 Signaled incorrectly, as an actor
 - 77 Substitute for chocolate
 - 78 Force of rotation
 - 82 System of beliefs
 - 83 Horse noise
 - 86 Virginie, par exemple
 - 88 "Gross!"
 - 89 Riddle, part 5
 - 95 "Dark" quaff
 - 96 Kit — (act)
 - 97 As regards
 - 98 Vague sense
 - 99 Pop
 - 100 Suffix with prank or trick
 - 102 Swiss franc divisions
 - 106 Squishy ball brand
 - 108 End of the riddle
 - 114 With 24-Down, drilling structure
 - 115 Lady-Tramp link
 - 116 Sargasso Sea fish
 - 117 Woody Guthrie's son
 - 118 Future revealer
 - 120 Riddle's answer
 - 127 Mosey along
 - 128 With milk, French-style
 - 129 Leading female role
 - 130 Service songbook
 - 131 Artifacts
 - 132 Result of an absent goalie
 - DOWN**
 - 1 "A Natural Man" singer Lou
 - 2 Put on — (act)
 - 3 "Void — prohibited"
 - 4 Picked up and gave to
 - 5 "— Believer"
 - 6 Dawn beads
 - 7 Old Tokyo
 - 8 "Catch my drift?"
 - 9 Broad street
 - 10 Pre-2001 space station
 - 11 Big mouth
 - 12 H, to Homer
 - 13 — gestae
 - 14 "— Fideles" (carol)
 - 15 Put off action
 - 16 Yoko of song and art
 - 17 Cosmetic to enhance the kisser
 - 18 Trimmed to size in advance
 - 19 Equine animals
 - 24 See 114-Across
 - 28 Virtual address
 - 31 Falafel wrap
 - 32 Revered one
 - 33 Essentialities
 - 34 Boat cover
 - 35 Singer India
 - 36 Really denounces
 - 37 "Peer Gynt" playwright
 - 38 Frizzy dos, informally
 - 42 Dixieland or bebop
 - 43 Emollient plant additive
 - 44 Oozy lump
 - 46 Like chiffon
 - 48 Sam's Club competitor
 - 51 50+ org.
 - 52 — Wars (Rome-Carthage conflicts)
 - 53 Actress Diana
 - 54 Nest sound
 - 55 Have debts
 - 56 Poet Hughes
 - 58 — II (Gillette brand)
 - 63 Summer appliance, for short
 - 64 Charlie of "Spin City"
 - 66 — rut (stuck)
 - 67 Marsh bird
 - 69 "Just doing my best"
 - 71 Hippie-style "Got it"
 - 72 Tiniest bit
 - 73 Channel for hoops fan
 - 74 1/1,000 inch
 - 75 Prefix with lateral
 - 76 Fire safety device
 - 79 College area
 - 80 Coll. near Beverly Hills
 - 81 Managed, with "out"
 - 84 Rat race
 - 85 Tip-offs
 - 87 "For — is the kingdom ..."
 - 90 Kid's racing vehicle
 - 91 Basic street layout
 - 92 Powerful auto engine
 - 93 Wild goat of Eurasia
 - 94 Former Ford auto, in brief
 - 100 Nike symbol
 - 101 Six times five
 - 102 Howard of sportscasts
 - 103 Slice of time
 - 104 Like a utopia
 - 105 Ream's 500
 - 107 Perfume bottle
 - 109 Writer Cather
 - 110 Bridge writer Culbertson
 - 111 "Argo" actor Alan
 - 112 TV actress Graff
 - 113 Sacred choral piece
 - 119 Cell dweller
 - 120 Hertz rental
 - 121 Shade
 - 122 Not well
 - 123 — tai
 - 124 Margaret of stand-up
 - 125 Congress mem.
 - 126 Mad feeling

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SEE ANSWERS, C16 ▶

HOROSCOPES

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) There might be mixed signals from a certain someone who doesn't seem all that certain about their intentions. Best to sort it all out before it becomes more confusing.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Get all the facts about that investment "opportunity" before you put even one dollar into it. There could be hidden problems that could prove to be costly.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Compromising on a matter you feel strongly about not only ends the impasse, but can be a win-win deal for all. Remember: Scorpions do well with change.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) With all the demands you currently have to deal with, accepting the help of family and friends could be the wisest course to take at this time.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to

January 19) Recent upsetting incidents might have left you with a big gap in your self-assurance. Refill it by spending time with those who know how worthy you really are.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A dispute about money needs to be resolved quickly, before it festers into something more serious. Consider asking an impartial colleague to mediate the matter.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A soft approach could be more effective than making a loud demand for the information you need. You might even find yourself with more data than you expected.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) A little "wool-gathering" for the usually productive Lamb is all right if it helps you unwind. But be careful; too much daydreaming can put you behind schedule in your work.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) A work problem is close to being resolved.

Now you can go ahead and celebrate the week, accepting invitations from friends who enjoy your company.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Getting your new plan accepted won't be a major hassle if you have the facts to back it up. Your supporters are also prepared to help you make your case. Good luck.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Dealing with a pesky job problem might be time-consuming but necessary. The sooner you get this situation settled, the sooner you can move on to other matters.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Career advancement is favored thanks to your impressive work record. On the personal side, you should soon hear some good news about an ailing family member.

BORN THIS WEEK: You're sought out for the wonderful advice you're able to offer to others. And sometimes you even take it yourself. ■

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

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CONTRACT BRIDGE

A topsy-turvy play

BY STEVE BECKER

It may sometimes be necessary to make a play that runs totally contrary to standard procedure in order to achieve your goal.

For example, assume you're in three notrump and West leads a heart. It seems perfectly normal to win East's nine with the queen and lead the jack of diamonds, hoping to find West with the queen. In that case, you'd be sure of making at least 10 tricks. In the actual deal, however, if you led the jack and finessed, you'd soon find yourself down one after East took the queen and returned a heart, establishing West's suit.

But the fact is that if West has the queen of diamonds, you can make the contract by playing the hand in an entirely different way — and at the same time almost certainly make the contract if East has the queen.

You have to make a peculiar-looking play to accomplish your purpose, but it is nonetheless a very sound play. All you have to do is to lead a club to dummy's queen at trick two and return a low diamond.

It is true that in the actual deal East can defeat you by putting up the queen of diamonds instead of following low, but how many players do you know who would make that play? East would almost surely play low from the Q-x, Q-x-x or Q-x-x-x of diamonds, and after he did, you would have the contract all

East dealer.

East-West vulnerable.

NORTH			
♠	K 9 5		
♥	7 5 2		
♦	K 10 7 3		
♣	K Q 4		
WEST		EAST	
♠	J 3 2	♠	Q 10 7 6
♥	K 10 8 6 3	♥	9 4
♦	A 4	♦	Q 5 2
♣	9 6 2	♣	J 10 5 3
SOUTH			
♠	A 8 4		
♥	A Q J		
♦	J 9 8 6		
♣	A 8 7		

The bidding:

East	South	West	North
Pass	1 NT	Pass	3 NT

Opening lead — six of hearts.

wrapped up regardless of how West proceeded.

Of course, it's been drilled into all of us that, with the diamond combination shown in this deal, declarer should always initiate the suit by leading toward the K-10-x-x. But standard practice should be willingly suspended when the appropriate occasion arises, and there is no doubt that this deal is one of those rare times. ■



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1. Mary Meima, Lora Taylor, Arlene Hunter, Laura Carr and Peter O'Flinn
2. Marjorie Rubacky, Jacke McCurdy and Angie Nichols
3. Amy Samoylenko, Jean Beaver, Marilyn Lightner and Karin Moe
4. Karin Moe and Thomas Hecker
5. Trish Leonard, Peg Vanourmy, Jacke McCurdy and Dr. Beth Hagan

Arlene Hunter, Lora Taylor and Thomas Hecker



LISETTE MORALES / COURTESY PHOTOS

Florida Weekly welcomes submissions for the Society pages from charity galas and fundraising events, club meetings and other to-dos around town. We need 300-dpi photographs of groups of two or more people, facing the camera and identified by first and last names. Questions? Email editor Robbie Spencer at rspencer@floridaweekly.com.



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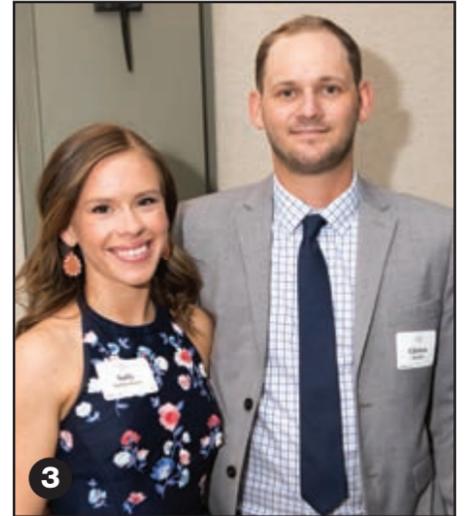
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SOCIETY

Youth Haven Bubble-Q at Grey Oaks



COURTESY PHOTOS



- 1. Dana and Greg Debski
- 2. Allison Murrell, Kevyn Hayes, Charlie Miller, Jacqui Resop, Melissa Clark, Kyle McLaughlin, Allison Yore and David Purcell
- 3. Sally Schweiter and Clinton Kostuk
- 4. Ben Allen Band
- 5. Linda Tyson, Jan Wannstedt, June Gregory and Bill Battjes
- 6. Nancy Sauer, Heather Henning, Erin Otterbeck and Angela Bland

Lisa George, Evelyn McKoan, Jessica Santella and Nancy Sauer



Florida Weekly welcomes submissions for the Society pages from charity galas and fundraising events, club meetings and other to-dos around town. We need 300-dpi photographs of groups of two or more people, facing the camera and identified by first and last names. Questions? Email editor Robbie Spencer at rspencer@floridaweekly.com.

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CUISINE NEWS

Hilton Naples and Shula's Steakhouse recently announced they are joining other local restaurants in providing biodegradable straws to their guests in light of the national push to eliminate environmentally harmful plastic straws.

The move is part of Hilton Naples' commitment to conserving resources and protecting the environment. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection designated Hilton Naples as a Three Palm member of its Florida Green Lodging Program, which establishes environmental guidelines for hotels to conserve natural resources and prevent pollution.

"Hilton Naples and Shula's Naples strongly encourage other Naples hotels and restaurants to help protect our environment and marine life in particular by eliminating the use of plastic straws," said Clark Hill, general manager, Hilton Naples. "While it is certainly not the answer to our pollution problems, it is one of the easiest steps we can take as part of our overall 'green practices.'"

While most local municipalities have not initiated moves to outlaw plastic straws, Marco Island City Council voted in March to ban them from all restaurants on the beachside of North Collier Boulevard. For now, local restaurants are taking the initiative themselves to find more environmentally friendly options.

Take Note:

Sea Salt hosts a five-course wine dinner at 6:30 Friday, Aug. 24 with dishes like shrimp cannelloni, Dover sole, rabbit porchetta, lamb with tomato chutney and kaffir lime churros with mango sorbet. \$85. 1186 Third St. S. 434-7258 or www.seasaltnaples.com.

The Wine Store hosts a wine and cheese pairing coordinated by local fromage expert Frank Annese and wine expert Patrick Gray, from 3-5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25. Four cheese and wine selections from around the globe will be available. \$25, reservations required. 1200 Central Ave. 234-6625 or www.thewinestorenaples.com.

Dorona celebrates National Aviation Week by offering a prix-fixe, three-course meal to celebrate the local aviation and aeronautics community through Saturday, Aug. 25. Selections include dishes like steakhouse wedge salad, "airline" chicken with black truffle carrots and wild mushroom potato puree and carrot cake. \$39. 2110 Tamiami Trail N. 529-2819 or www.doronanaples.com.

The French hosts a wine dinner where guests will taste both French and Italian vintages during each course at 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 23. Dishes include cauliflower veloute with lobster and truffle, ricotta and mascarpone tortelli with red wine glaze, roasted beef tenderloin and chocolate soufflé. \$125. 365 Fifth Ave. S. 315-4019 or www.thefrenchnaples.com.

Venue Naples hosts a sweet and savory dinner featuring Callebaut Belgian chocolate at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 24. \$65. 13240 Tamiami Trail N. 292-1529 or www.venue Naples.com.

Dagny's Spirits holds a free wine and liquor tasting from 4-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 30. 15205 Collier Blvd. 384-9421 or www.dagnyspirits.com. ■



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VINO

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jerryGREENFIELD

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As you know, we wine journalists receive sample bottles from wineries and their public relations firms, shipped to us in the hope that we'll swirl, sip and review the products favorably in our columns. When I first started writing this column, I knew the Fed Ex and UPS trucks would be unloading boxes at my office, but I was a bit unprepared for the flood of samples I'd receive.

This is not a complaint. I am delighted with the range and quality of the wines I'm privileged to sample and evaluate. And, as I've mentioned in past columns, I take the responsibility seriously and have a tasting panel of very knowledgeable friends who join me in monthly sipping sessions.

However, I do get emails from the wineries and their ad agencies asking, "Did you have a chance to try the Chateau Bonjour we sent?"

But, since my column is published only every other week, and since I have room for three or maybe four reviews in each, I do get a bit behind and the bottles stack up in the cellar.

So, every once in a while, I try to catch up a bit and offer you a range of new choices and recommendations.

When my wife Debi and I first fell down the rabbit hole into the wine world, I made myself one promise: I would never serve or recommend a wine I wouldn't drink myself. In fact, when the panel is finished sampling and evaluating the wines, we finish some of them off with dinner, and then everybody takes home a few bottles.

We like them, so we continue to enjoy them. And on more than one occasion, I've tasted a sample bottle and immediately ordered a case. Or two.

In order to get a bit ahead of the sample shipments, I'm happy to offer your new shopping list of excellent value wines.

We liked them all. Most may be available locally or can be ordered on line and shipped to you.

Ranch 32 Cabernet Sauvignon Monterey 2015 (\$39) — The dark ruby color in the glass promises a full-bodied palate with exuberant black mixed fruit, leather and smoke. WW 88.

Clos Pegase Estate Chardonnay Napa Valley Mitsuko's Vineyard 2016 (\$30) — After nine months in the barrel, this wine offers toasty oak on the nose with hints of vanilla and caramel. Melon and apricot flavors predominate, riding on a creamy texture from the malolactic fermentation. If you like an oak-style Chardonnay, try this one. WW 89-90.

Les Dauphins Côtes du Rhône Réserve Rouge 2016 (\$11) — A characteristic Rhone blend of Grenache, Syrah, and Mourvèdre with a rich ruby color. Black mixed fruit, with currant flavors predominant and hints of spice, plum and smoke. Excellent value. WW 88.

Fetzer Riesling Monterey County NV (\$10) — An off-dry example of this German varietal with a rich yellow color in the glass, a bit of characteristic petrol on the nose and round mouthfeel with predominant melon flavors and a long finish. Great value for the price. WW 87.

Gato Negro Sauvignon Blanc Chile 2017 (\$5) — A pleasant, light summer sipper, with pronounced lemon and grapefruit aromas and flavors and a bit of a green note as well. Nicely balanced between the lively acidity and fruit flavors. Another very good value. WW 87-88.

Scheid Family VDR Red Blend Monterey Hames Valley 2015 (\$20) — The "VDR" stands for "very dark red," and it is. An uncommon blend of Petit Verdot and Petite Sirah, there's nothing petite about the flavors. Explosive blueberry, vanilla and pepper, along with mouth-filling deep plum and tobacco. Definitely a sipping wine. WW 93.

Ask the Wine Whisperer

Q. I was watching a few wine experts sampling and evaluating wines, and they slurped them pretty noisily from the glass. Why are we supposed to slurp wine?

— *Caroline L., Port St. Lucie*

A. Slurping has the same effect as when you swirl the wine in your glass before tasting, only more so. Both swirling and slurping are ways to get oxygen into the liquid and help it to "open up," bringing out the aromas and flavors. So, go ahead and slurp. It's the professional thing to do. ■

— *Jerry Greenfield is The Wine Whisperer. He is wine director of the international Direct Cellars wine club. His book, "Ask the Wine Whisperer," will be published in September. Read his other writings at www.winewhisperer.com.*



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CUISINE REVIEW

Restaurateurs extract The Pearl from Everglades City Oyster House



karenFELDMAN
cuisine@floridaweekly.com

August in Naples typically means you can roll a bowling ball through the dining room of most restaurants and hit no one. You rarely need a reservation. It's so quiet that many restaurants take much-needed breaks at this time of year.

But you'd have thought it was prime time on a recent Saturday night at The Pearl Steak & Seafood, a new dining spot where Stonewood used to be in Fountain Park near the intersection of Vanderbilt Beach and Airport-Pulling roads.

The bar was filled and so loud that it was tough to converse with the hostess. We managed to overhear her tell the couple ahead of us — who had not made a reservation — that the earliest they might land a table was about two hours hence. They opted to head elsewhere.

We had had the foresight to book through Open Table and were immediately led to our table, which was mercifully distant from the lively bar in the booth-filled dining room that was mostly occupied but in which the volume was much lower.

Why was half the town at this one restaurant?

Well, I suspect it has something to do with the fact that the owners, two generations of the Miller family, are well-known for their previous restaurant, the Oyster House, a 30-year institution in Everglades City that was ravaged by Hurricane Irma. Rather than rebuild it, they chose to move north to the well-appointed location Stonewood left in February.

The interior looks much as it did during the Stonewood era but has been enhanced with trappings from the Oyster House, such as nautical artwork and little model ships that stand atop the room dividers.

The opening menu covers a fair amount of ground (and water), but not so much as to be unmanageable as the staff gets acclimated.

On this busy night it appeared that things were a bit rocky for the front-of-the-house team as we waited 15 minutes while servers passed by us, cleared other tables and talked among themselves without acknowledging us. At long last, our server arrived. Once he found us, however, he was pleasant and attentive for the duration of our visit.



Coconut shrimp each get their own skewer and are served with orange horseradish marmalade.



Crispy snapper is topped with salsa verde and mango citrus salsa, served with green beans and sweet potato waffle fries.



Key lime doughnuts are paired with coconut ice cream.



A black Angus ribeye was wet-aged and served with potato flats and green beans.



Firetail gator features chunks of gator tail served with a zesty aioli.

We'd had plenty of time to decide on both drinks and dinner and wasted no time in ordering.

From the adult beverage offerings, my companion tried a citrusy Yealands sauvignon blanc. I explored the craft cocktails, sampling a Pearl Fizz, which consisted of Hendricks gin, cucumber, simple syrup, sour mix and soda. It was refreshing if a touch light on gin.

Some excellent crusty bread and honey butter kept us occupied until our appetizers appeared.

There are salads and chowder, ceviche, mussels, shrimp and oysters. Also on the menu is the ubiquitous coconut shrimp (\$12.20) and the less often seen gator (\$13.20). In this case, there were four shrimp, each on its own wooden skewer, covered in coconut-laden batter then fried. They were on the dry side, a touch overcooked, although the orange horseradish marmalade added some much-needed moisture and the tangy horseradish helped balance the sweetness of the coconut.

The firetail gator was a creative variation on boom-boom shrimp. In this case, chunks of gator tail had been lightly fried then tossed in "firetail aioli," a combination of sriracha, lime and mayo. The gator was tender and tasty on its own, better still with the sauce.

As mentioned previously, there are just a few fish choices — grouper, snapper, salmon and trout, along with shrimp and mussels — but it looks as if there are daily specials that will allow the kitchen to take advantage of other options when they are available.

The crispy snapper (\$26.10) had a light coating on it and so was mildly crisp, which was fine as it allowed the flavor and texture of the fish to come through. That was enhanced by a lively salsa verde and mango citrus salsa. Properly cooked green beans and excellent sweet potato waffle fries were good sides, although a small cup of ketchup that accompanied the fries was a little puzzling. Does anyone dip sweet potatoes in ketchup?

The 12-ounce ribeye (\$34.10) was tender, cooked as ordered and had a rich beef flavor. It, too, was served with green beans. I chose the potato flats, which turned out to be a thin version of steak fries that were lightly salted and just crisp enough.

For dessert, we shared an order of Key lime doughnuts (\$8.20). Two tender, warm cake doughnuts covered in key lime glaze were accompanied by a scoop of coconut ice cream. It was just right for two to share and a fitting tropical ending to the meal.

The Pearl has some kinks to work out, but that's to be expected of a restaurant that's been open for just a few weeks.

It has a lot of things going for it as well, including an experienced team of managers and chefs (both the chef and the sous are Culinary Institute of America alums), a solid menu that suits both meat and seafood lovers (plus some vegetarian options). The dining room is full of comfortable booths, for those who like a livelier setting, there's the bar, and smokers can enjoy the great outdoors.

The Oyster House may be no more, but its Pearl shines on. ■

in the know

The Pearl Steak & Seafood

7935 Airport-Pulling Road
Naples; 591-5939

Ratings:
Food: ★★ ★ 1/2
Service: ★★ ★ 1/2
Atmosphere: ★★ ★ ★

- >> **Hours:** 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday and Saturday
- >> **Reservations:** Accepted
- >> **Credit cards:** Accepted
- >> **Price range:** Appetizers and salads, \$5.10-\$13.10; entrees, \$18.10-\$34.10
- >> **Beverages:** Full bar
- >> **Seating:** At the bar, booths and conventional table indoors, outdoor tables
- >> **Specialties of the house:** Steak and seafood
- >> **Volume:** Moderate to high
- >> **Parking:** Free lot
- >> **Website:** thepearlnaples.com

★★★★★ Superb
★★★★ Noteworthy
★★★ Good
★★ Fair
★ Poor

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