

NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY®

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WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 12-18, 2013

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POLLUTED ESTUARIES, TREACHEROUS RAINFALL, AN AGING DIKE AND POLITICAL POSTURING — OUR STATE IS IN NEED OF A ...

WATER RESCUE

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THE CALOOSAATCHEE



Like the St. Lucie, the river is often swollen with nutrient pollution.

POLITICAL PLAYERS



Federal, state and local politicians are promising money.

LAKE OKEECHOBEE



If water rises above 17 feet, the dike could fail.

POLLUTERS



Cow manure is one of several pollutants sickening the South Florida water system.

EVERGLADES



Water needs to flow slowly through here to Florida Bay.

STORY BY ROGER WILLIAMS • RWILLIAMS@FLORIDAWEEKLY.COM

BACKGROUND PHOTO / NASA; CALOOSAATCHEE PHOTO / ERIC RADDATZ / FLORIDA WEEKLY

INSIDE



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Loved those dresses!

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Fire-damaged YMCA soldiers on in multifaceted recovery

BY EVAN WILLIAMS

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Heavy rains late last week flooded parts of the burned-out Naples YMCA building, just one of the many challenges in an ongoing recovery effort. The facility off Pine Ridge Road was partially destroyed in a Labor Day fire believed to have been started by lightning.

It will cost roughly \$3 million above what insurance will cover to rebuild, officials have estimated. Meanwhile, scores of Y employees

and volunteers have scrambled to maintain services that members of all ages count on, working long hours and beyond normal duties in makeshift offices.

"It's been a massive effort of coordination of the staff," says Tim Bauer, director of tennis. "I think our request is really still

to keep everyone positive and keep the support going, because generally when these things happen you're on the front page of the news and next week something else is



on the front page of the news, and that's when the real challenges begin."

It's easy to donate funds for the recovery at any First National Bank of the Gulf Coast location or to the Community Foundation of Collier County. And two fundraisers coming up Saturday, Sept.

14, promise a good time for all. See details on page A12 about the morning 5K run/walk

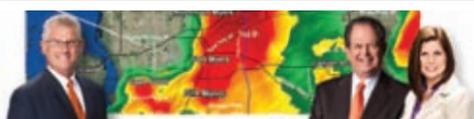
SEE YMCA, A12 ▶

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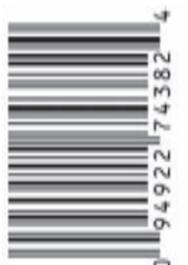
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COMMENTARY

Voting water



To fix this, somebody is going to have to suffer.

Or maybe everybody is going to have to suffer, in spite of the compelling evidence of history that rich people generally escape that proletarian experience, even if their water goes bad, too.

But their water is never bad. People with the liquidity of Palm Beach's Fanjul brothers — sugar producers Alfonso, Jose, Alexandro and Andres, owners of the Fanjul Corp. and Florida Crystals — probably won't have to suffer.

But they might have to sacrifice something, at least. Especially since they number among the greatest obstacles to clean Florida water and everything that flows from clean Florida water in sufficient quantities, for the rest of us.

If that sounds preposterous, it isn't.

Forget the Army Corps of Engineers. Forget the South Florida Water Management District. Forget the vegetable and citrus growers, the ranchers, and the sub-suburbanites using septic tanks up and down the lengths of the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee rivers east and west of Lake Okeechobee. All that's easy, because they aren't really the problem.

Give them a chance, show them a way, ask them (or maybe tell them) to share with each other a higher bill for something that's likely to solve the huge problem of filthy, misdirected water we now swallow as part of our daily Florida living, and they will.

Sure they will. These people are not generally bad willed, they're just self-interested. And cleaner water, in appropriate quantities, is now in the self-interests of all of them.

Even the helmsmen at U.S. Sugar, the owners of 188,000 acres of sugar land around Lake Okeechobee, would be willing to make some changes (at great advantage to themselves, as always).

And they proved it. They had agreed to sell their vast holdings in the 700,000-acre Everglades Agricultural Area to the state of Florida, probably for more than it was worth, in a deal former Gov. Charlie Crist almost managed to put together starting in 2008.

The EAA on the south side of Lake O. was created and protected for their use, with its vast system of canals and water pumps and state employees who keep them going, courtesy of the United States government, which also protects their major crop, sugar cane, with price supports.

In the EAA, they "grow their crops on what amounts to a twenty-mile-thick dam, a barrier that separates the former Everglades river from its headwaters, and these farmers have continually opposed any attempt to reestablish anything resembling the pristine environment of region..." writes historian David McCally in his seminal book, "The Everglades: an Environmental History."

All of them, therefore — each Fanjul and all the owners of U.S. Sugar — are the biggest welfare recipients since FDR invented soup lines.

Had Gov. Crist pulled the deal off, he likely would have saved the Florida Everglades, cleaned up and restored Florida Bay, and stopped the Army Corps of Engineers from ever again having to void the bowels of Lake O down the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie Rivers during storm events or periods of heavy rain.

The Fanjul brothers, however, helped kill the Crist deal, as public records show.

They did that, just as they continue to influence public policy — the policy of requiring clean water by enforcing more stringent standards for its use, for example — by giving huge amounts of money and support to politicians of both parties who support their aims.

Their aims are to make more money with less trouble.

So here's the problem and the solution: Politicians control the flow of money, and voters control the politicians. If we want to clean our water and carry on living like the blessed, we can't support politicians who don't show an aggressive willingness to wean themselves from the twin teats of Big Sugar and "the economy" — aka the financial interests of people who make more money if they don't have to meet clean water standards.

The politicians in question, led by Gov. Rick Scott, who received a \$100,000 campaign contribution from sugar interests in June, recently promised our money to help fix the problem.

Gov. Scott offered \$130 million at press conferences last month for reservoirs and road raisings.

But those are bandages, not fixes, from a leader who previously relaxed clean water standards in Florida and slashed both the state Department of Environmental Protection and the South Florida Water Management District, which protect water.

And nowhere in the current crisis has Sen. Marco Rubio appeared. This is, after all, his home state, and the single biggest domestic issue facing a generation. So where is he?

I don't know. But I do know that the senator is close enough to the Fanjuls to spend the night

partying on their luxury boat in the Hamptons, on Long Island, with the likes of Rudolph Giuliani — as Sen. Rubio reported himself in his 2012 autobiography, "An American Son."

And I do know that when Gov. Scott loosened clean water regulations and resisted a bid by the U.S. EPA to change that, Sen. Rubio championed his efforts, in 2011.

"I applaud Gov. Scott's efforts," he said. "I will continue working with my colleagues in Washington to prevent this EPA power grab from ruining Florida's economy... to accomplish the dual goals of a vibrant economy and a clean environment."

Then just last April, Sen. Rubio signed a letter with 30 Republicans led by Louisiana's David Vitter, that again resisted cleaner water proposals.

"If the EPA is allowed to move forward with this guidance, streams, lakes and wetlands in nearly all of our states are going to be overburdened with federal bureaucracy," they claimed.

Apparently, Sen. Rubio has never looked at a stream, a lake or a wetland here.

Otherwise, he might notice that they are already overburdened with both federal and state bureaucracies designed to support sugar and development interests.

So what do we do?

We start voting for somebody else.

And what do the Fanjuls end up sacrificing?

Well, not their 12,000 and 13,000 square-foot homes on Palm Beach, or their boats in the Hamptons, or their 300 nights in London's swank Claridge's Hotel, at \$7,000 per night or so (Jose Fanjul, according to a BBC documentary).

No. But they might have to sacrifice their sense of themselves as more important than everybody else. ■



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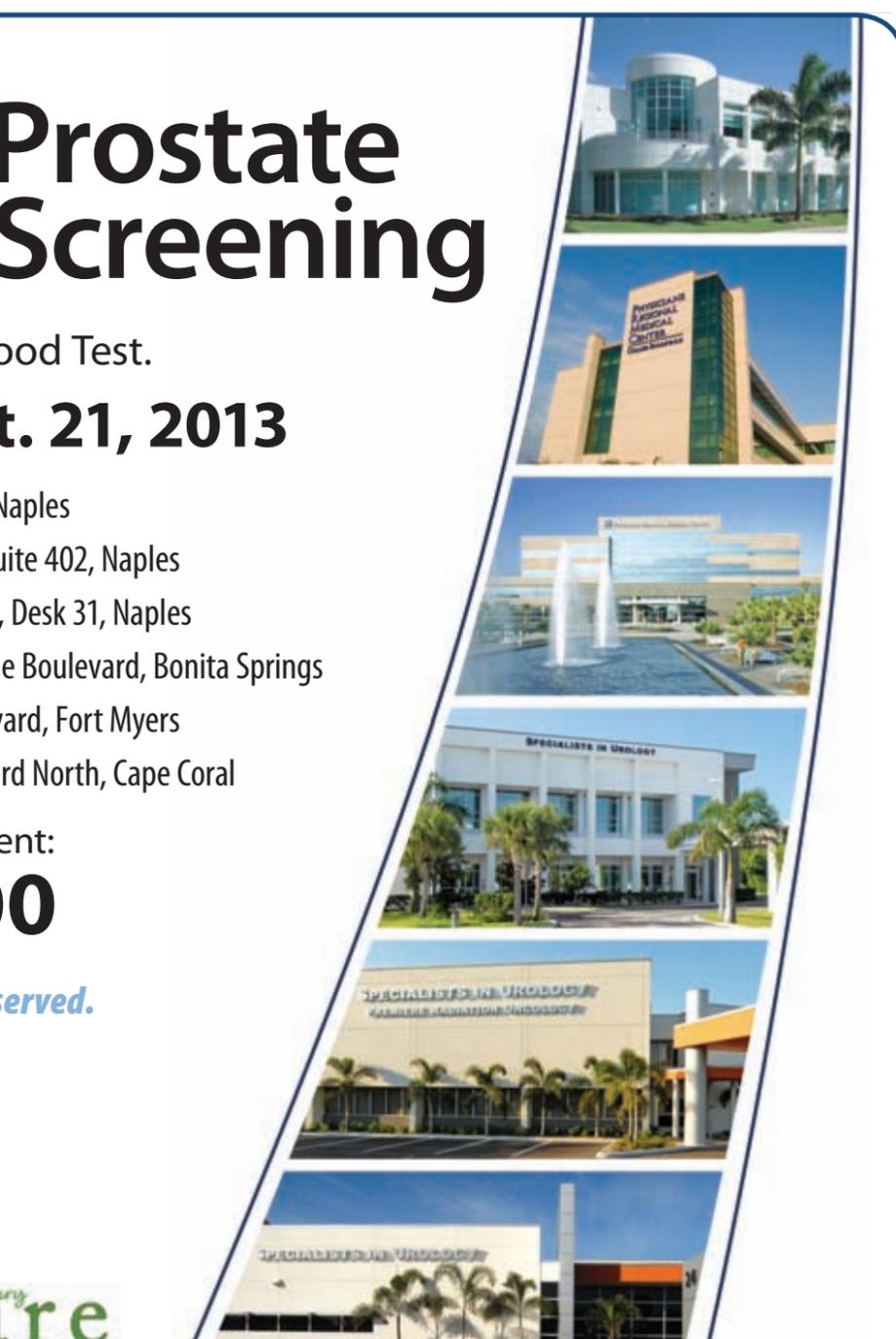
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OPINION



DOUG MACGREGOR / SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

GUEST COMMENTARY

We must complete Everglades restoration

BY RAY JUDAH

Special to Florida Weekly

The recent press conference held in Fort Myers by Gov. Rick Scott to announce a joint agreement between the state and the U.S. Department of Interior to fund the construction of 2.5 miles of bridging along the Tamiami Trail, to enhance water flow to the Everglades, was a wonderful example of the state and federal government continuing to work together on behalf of Everglades restoration.

The bridging is a component of the Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP), a state and federal initiative to use land already in public ownership to allow more water to be directed south to the central Everglades, Everglades National Park and Florida Bay. When completed, CEPP is expected to provide for the conveyance of approximately 220,000 acre feet of water south to the Everglades. An acre foot is essentially one foot of water covering an acre.

Gov. Scott and the State Legislature now have a tremendous opportunity to finalize the most critical piece of the Everglades restoration puzzle by moving forward with exercising the state's option, created several years ago, to purchase U.S. Sugar land holdings. The three-year option on 153,209 acres at \$7,400 per acre expires in October. The state would still have an opportunity to acquire U.S. Sugar lands after October but, at a much higher price and having to compete with other potential buyers. To place things in perspective, CEPP is expected to cost approximately \$2.6 billion and the entire comprehensive Everglades restoration efforts is expected to cost approximately \$16 billion over 30 years.

It is interesting to note that in 2005, the east and west releases from Lake Okeechobee amounted to 2.6 million acre feet. This totaled 855 billion gallons



THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

Restoring natural water flow would reduce pollution throughout southern Florida.

of turbid fresh water containing excess nutrients and other contaminants. The coastal estuaries on the west and east coast of South Florida sustained unprecedented damages to sea grass and fisheries and the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie were covered with toxic blue-green algae. Health department officials warned citizens not to touch the water. Threats of serious health problems were cited.

River and estuary damages are certain to occur repeatedly under current drainage structures and practices. Restoration of the historic southern flow-way from Lake Okeechobee to the Everglades is the most cost effective and efficient solution to alleviating the destruction of the rivers and east-west estuaries that were once acclaimed as the most bountiful in the nation.

The purchase of U.S. Sugar lands is absolutely critical to re-create a flow way through the Everglades Agricultural Area south of Lake Okeechobee to redirect the massive release of lake water that continues to cause adverse harm to coastal estuaries.

Our extremely wet summer rainy season of 2013 is shaping up like 2005 and

with CEPP, including the bridging, conveying only approximately 10 percent of lake water to the south, it is imperative that the state acquire additional lands for the necessary storage, treatment and conveyance of water from Lake Okeechobee to the Everglades.

Gov. Scott should declare a state of emergency given the devastating economic and environmental impacts to the west and east coast communities of south Florida and schedule a special session with the legislature to investigate options to acquire the U.S. Sugar lands. Such action would help bring to an end decades of degradation to our rivers, coastal estuaries and Florida Everglades. Bond financing, BP oil spill disaster funds dedicated to Florida under the Restore Act, or the reprioritization of the South Florida Water Management District's Capital Improvement Program would provide the necessary funds to enable the state to exercise the land purchase option. The final ingredient to "getting the water right" is the political will to complete the final phase of Everglades restoration. ■

— Ray Judah served as a Lee County Commissioner for 24 years.

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A tale of Tommie and the houseboat she saved



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While we're still in the throes of hurricane season, and with Labor Day just past, I am reminded of the Labor Day 1935 hurricane, "The Storm of the Century."

With 200-mph winds, this hurricane was the first Category 5 storm to make landfall in the continental U.S. It literally tore children from their mothers' arms and left more than 400 people dead in its wake. It also eluded the U.S. Weather Bureau's detection systems.

Once it was determined that the storm was heading toward the Florida Keys on that fateful Sept. 2, 78 years ago, a call was made to send a train to Homestead from Miami so it could then travel south to evacuate the Works Progress Administration construction workers and their families who were living in ramshackle camps in Lower Matecumbe Key.

Due to numerous miscommunications about the status of the train, it didn't depart Homestead until 5 p.m. The storm hit Islamorada at 8:24 p.m., and only the train's engine arrived there, its fire put out and cars scattered across the landscape by a 17-foot water surge.

Fortunately, however, because it was the Labor Day weekend, many of the workers who had been posted to the lower keys had taken off for the weekend; otherwise, the death toll would certainly have been much higher. The official

death toll reported on Lower Matecumbe Key was 423, with 164 civilians and 259 World War I veterans who were living in three federal rehabilitation camps.

Every tree and building on the key was destroyed, along with the railroad that connected the Florida Keys to the mainland.

Historical records describe bodies being recovered as far away as Cape Sable and Flamingo on the southwest tip of the Florida mainland. Rescue workers, including members of the Florida Civilian Conservation Corps, reported within days that corpses were swelling due to the intense heat. Public health officials ordered plain wooden coffins to hold the dead — coffins that could be burned quickly to prevent any additional health hazards.

Marco Island resident and author Elizabeth Perdichizzi shared with me a story told to her by the locals that she included in her book, "A Girl Called Tommie," which goes like this:

Sometime during the late 1930s, Marco Island pioneer and entrepreneur Tommie Barfield ran across an abandoned houseboat in the Florida Keys that had become partially grounded. Not wanting to see the boat deteriorate further, she believed that she could tow it back to her property on Goodland Point and make good use of it. Assisting her in this undertaking were J.H. Doxsee and eight other local pioneers.



COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUM / COURTESY PHOTO

This photograph from the late-1930s of the Ship Ahoy houseboat and towing crew at Goodland Point shows Tommie Barfield third from left and J.H. Doxsee next to her on the back row.

This houseboat has a delightful story behind it. Ms. Perdichizzi shared with me that the boat was commissioned in either 1901 or 1902 by the Danish government for use in the Caribbean. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers took it over after the territory was acquired. Then, at some point along the way, a flat barge was added to the stern, making the vessel 125 feet long and 36 feet wide.

Ms. Barfield learned that the houseboat had originally been used in the keys as a dormitory and cafeteria by Henry Flagler's crewmen working on the Overseas Highway, and that it had floundered in the 1935 "Storm of the Century." She eventually gave the houseboat to her daughter, Elsie Vogstad, to turn into a hotel-inn to serve Goodland. What could be more appropriate for a fishing village

than a restaurant-inn made out of a houseboat?"

When Elsie's husband, Ken, returned from the Navy in 1945, he set about refurbishing the houseboat. It later became the Ship Ahoy Restaurant, which served mostly the local fisherman. According to Marco Islander Craig Woodward, the barge also had a bar that became a popular place for locals and for the many construction workers brought over from Miami by the Mackle Brothers in the 1960s and '70s to build seawalls, canals, houses and condos.

Sadly, the bar is no longer there. The spot today is marked by docks with accompanying

boats — another sad chapter of our lost local history.

Correction: Let the record show that it was the Marco Lodge, once the home to Marco Island founder W.T. Collier, that was spared from the wrecking ball and moved to Goodland in 1954. The Marco Hotel, which is today's Bistro Soleil at the Olde Marco Inn, remains standing on Marco Island. My Aug. 29 column had incorrect information. ■

— Maureen Sullivan-Hartung arrived in Naples in 1981. Following a year's stint as a reporter for the former weekly *Everglades Echo* newspaper, she began freelancing. Her first book, "Hidden History of Everglades City & Points Nearby," was published in 2010 by *The History Press* in South Carolina. Learn more at www.maureenwrites.com.

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WATER RESCUE

BY ROGER WILLIAMS

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IT WAS THE SAME OLD SUMMER THING, UNTIL suddenly it was as new as a shiny coin.

The rain began to fall, and it kept falling. Then it rained some more (same old thing).

Lake Okeechobee filled. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, eager to avoid a breached dike and a lot of dead people, opened the floodgates and released the polluted freshwater east and west down dredged and straightened rivers, to the Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico — 24/7, for a solid month into late August (same old thing).

Placed at risk: marine life forms, Realtors struggling to sell waterfront properties, and every man, woman and child serving tourists for a living (again, same old thing).

But suddenly in the waning days of summer, the familiar became the novel. Politicians of every stripe arrived in the flesh: Gov. Rick Scott. Sen. Bill Nelson. U.S. Rep. Trey Radel. A handful of state congressional leaders.

They showed an unprecedented interest in events north, east and west of Lake Okeechobee, including along the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee rivers.

As September approached, they met with anxiety-ridden residents. And they promised money.

That promise was the new silver dollar in the old quarter-roll of troubled waters that wash the southern half of the Florida peninsula.

The pols didn't just promise money, either. They also demanded it, in the case of Gov. Scott, who repeatedly pointed to the federal government as the laggard in Everglades cleanup efforts.

"Right now, the federal government needs to stand up and do their job," he told reporters at a St. Lucie press conference, using a line of argument he repeated on the Indian River Lagoon and in Fort Myers.

"What they need to do is fund the project, fund the Corps, (and) the Corps will do their job if they have the money." So far, federal officials have failed to pay \$1.6 billion promised to help Florida clean up the Everglades, he said.

With that novel Scott administration position, water politics, suddenly, had become front-page news, along with the most diverse chorus of voices to weigh in on the subject in years.

Politicians did not fare well in the eyes of many.

From east to west, increasingly vocal critics of the status quo pointed fingers at elected leaders who ultimately control state and federal money for fixing the problems of environment and water.

Those officials, they insisted — Republican and Democrat alike — have underestimated the sea of trouble now facing the Sunshine State's greatly altered water system, a jimmied patch-up of flood-dodging, purity-compromising engineering grafted onto nature.

That has to change, they said.

"You have to keep talking. You HAVE to keep talking. Politicians will say how happy they are to (hear) you — they're not," announced Maggy Hurchalla, a former Martin County politician and the sister of one-time U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno. She addressed a crowd of water and business advocates gathered in Clewiston on the first day of September.

"Politicians will blame God, then they'll blame the Army Corps, and then they'll blame Washington. Look over there at that dike. There is not one single drop in it from Washington. We done did it to ourselves."

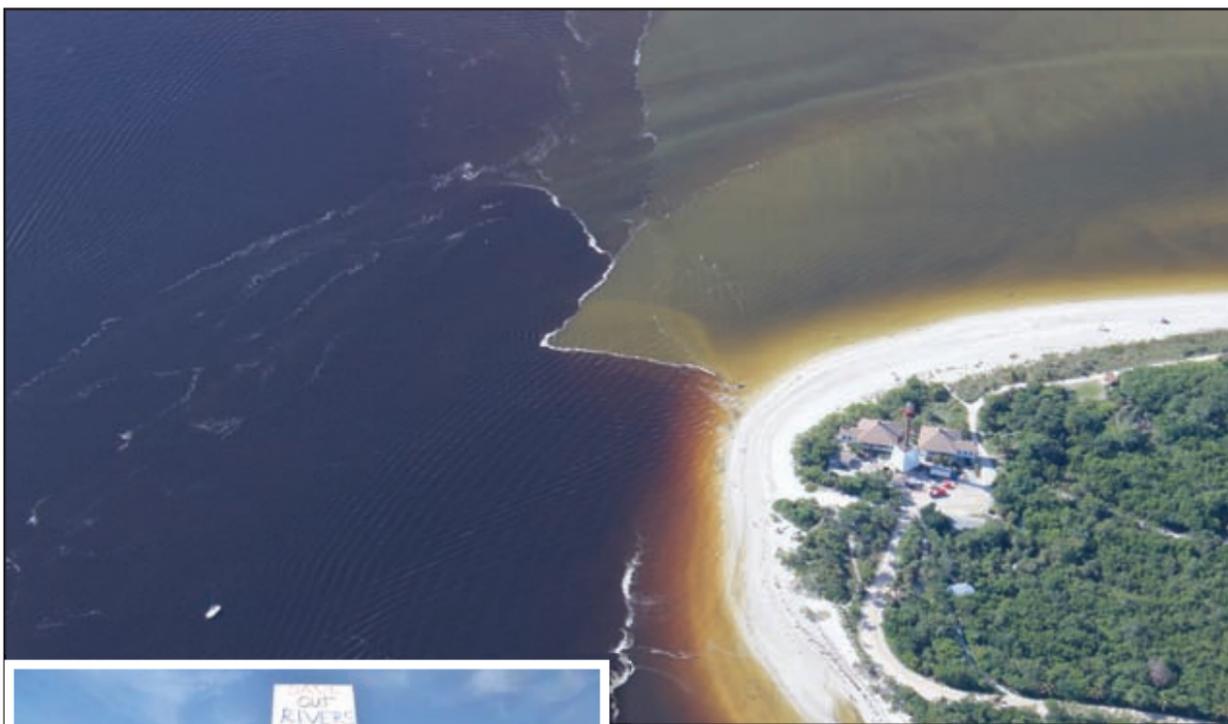
What we done did

In Florida now, there's either too much water in the summer, or too little of it during disabling winter droughts. It's either polluted when it flows into and out of Lake Okeechobee, or it's flowing the wrong direction out of the lake. Or both.

"The key thing to understand is that the Kissimmee influences Lake O., which influences the estuaries and the southern part of the system," says Lt. Col. Thomas Greco, Jacksonville district deputy commander for the Army Corps of Engineers.

"Fixing this will require tremendous resources. There are no short-term solutions to the problems. It's tough for me to talk about getting things done in decades, but that's the reality."

The uses and obligations of water — who gets how much, and how much users ought to pay to clean it up when they use it — can create significant conflicts among



COURTESY PHOTO

special interest groups that might be better served by working together, many acknowledge.

Barbara Miedema, vice president of the Florida Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative of about 50 farms, put it this way: "We have a saying: Water is for fighting, whiskey is for drinking." The difficulty comes in turning that truth upside down.

The heavy imprint of cows

Since a 2006 Lloyd's of London report citing Lake Okeechobee as the nation's second most vulnerable site for hurricanes, the Herbert Hoover dike has been buttressed by 21 miles of Army Corps engineering between Belle Glade and Pahokee. In addition, 32 of its dangerously aging culverts are now being replaced, notes Lt. Col. Greco.

"It's stronger than it was a year or two years ago, (with measures) actively protecting communities around the dike," he says.

But for many, that's too little cause for celebration in a tributary river and lake system where nearly a century of runoff nutrients from farming, mining and urban living have been poured, and southward flows altered significantly.

Lake Okeechobee's bottom, which was once commonly visible at any depth, isn't now.

"There's a century worth of phosphorous banked in the sediment of the lake — that's not going away anytime soon," explains John Cassani, a biologist and resource manager at Lee County Hyacinth Control on the west coast.

"A lot of that is urban contribution from Disney World south, but a lot of it is also agriculture."

No matter what their viewpoint, most agree that the Kissimmee River basin's cattle industry is one of the major problems in cleaning the Everglades for hundreds of miles to the south.

"That's where a lot of the nutrient pollution comes from, right up there," says Clewiston Mayor Phillip Roland.

As a boy, he could see the bottom of the lake in 15 or 20 feet of water wherever he was, he recalls. Now, at 74, he can't see it anywhere he is.

About 550,000 beef and dairy cattle live along the Kissimmee River and Fisheating Creek at any one time, the state Department of Agriculture estimates. Each cow can produce roughly 65 pounds of manure per day. Unfortunately, acknowledge the experts, much of that waste will reach the lake as nutrient pollution.

SANIBEL-CAPTIVA CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

Above: Water from Lake Okeechobee mixes with gulf waters off Sanibel. As the toxic brew of the lake's freshwater flooded into the Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico, Floridians began to protest in growing numbers (left).

Following overwhelming rains of about 100 inches in the wet season of 1947, and after years of planning, the Army Corps straightened the meandering Kissimmee over a 100-mile stretch in the 1960s.

Engineers reduced the river to a canal that worked like a big hose, stretching about 50 miles long, 200 feet wide and 30 feet deep. Water that once required six months to filter through natural wetlands from Orlando's south-side lake system to Lake Okeechobee now takes about two days, says Mark Perry, executive director of the Florida Oceanographic Society.

Unfiltered, that water injects huge amounts of nitrogen and phosphorous into Lake Okeechobee.

Every drop of it, eventually, becomes part of an all-points waterscape stirred daily into the Florida cocktail of geography, culture and economics.

John Poggi, president of West Palm Beach-based Eco-Advisors, characterized the problem this way: "The northern Everglades from Orlando down to Lake O. has been a forgotten child. It's a major source of this phosphorous and nitrogen pollution that help cause the algae blooms. It's regional and development runoff, and it includes agricultural runoff.

"The lake is like a big bowl. On the bottom of that lake it's probably six to eight inches thick over 730 square miles. That's called legacy phosphorous."

Holding catastrophe at bay

Wherever it comes from, much of the nutrient pollution eventually flows down the rivers east and west. Residents near the rivers contribute to the problem, too, by using lawn fertilizer and aging septic systems — 30,000 on the St. Lucie side in Martin County, and more than 100,000 on the Caloosahatchee side through Glades, Hendry and Lee Counties, records show (www.septic-search.com is one source).

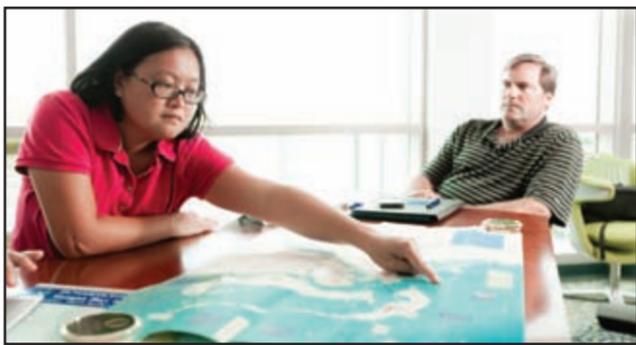
Seepage from those tanks gets into the river or groundwater systems that reach the river, is back-pumped into the Lake, or ultimately flows into the bays.

In addition, there are too few high-tech sewage treatment plants, the kind that filter out not just floating things, but many chemical pollutants, too, experts say.

The entire effort to hold catastrophe at bay or improve a fresh-to-saltwater system that once was as pure as anything in the world is so complicated it almost defies a single description. A map of ongoing or planned projects from Polk and St. Lucie counties south through Palm Beach, Collier, Broward, and into the Keys shows more than 60.

But the basic principles of restoration in the Everglades remain consistently simple.

The water-quality problems of pollution and its algae offspring, and the water-quantity problems — supplying clean freshwater at the right times to support estuaries



VANDY MAJOR / FLORIDA WEEKLY

FGCU marine biology professors Ai Ning Loh and Mike Parsons recommend fertilizer ordinances, septic inspections and storm-water treatment areas.

and healthy bays with productive levels of salinity and light — are discordant themes in a whole symphony now badly out of tune, observers acknowledge.

“Once water gets into the lake, we’re at the mercy of the system we have. The more we can keep out of the lake the better off we are,” explains Rick Barber, a Naples-based engineer and career water manager appointed recently by Gov. Scott to the governing board of the 16-county South Florida Water Management District.

But the water system we’ve created doesn’t have to be the one we continue to live with.

“If it’s going to go south it’s got to get cleaned up. Can we even do that?” asks Mr. Poggi, the environmental consultant.

“Yes, we can. The only reason we can’t or won’t, will be funding. And ultimately it’s politicians who decide if that funding will be there.”

Southward, or not?

Sending more water southward, and less east and west during the typical summer season of 55- to 65-inch rainfalls, may be the key not only to the future of this water world itself, but to the culture and economies built on it, many insist.

Once upon a time, the southern Everglades and ultimately Florida Bay inherited almost all the water from the northern Everglades in a nearly imperceptible flow of a few miles per month.

Now, says Mr. Perry, the Everglades gets only 13 percent of the water — not enough to maintain the proper levels of salinity in Florida Bay.

Agriculture, including sugar-producing companies that use 480,000 of the 700,000 acres in the government-protected Everglades Agricultural Area mostly south of the lake, gets 23 percent. And the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee river systems get the rest, but in amounts that are often too much, or too little — 20 percent in the case of the St. Lucie, and more than twice that much, 44 percent, in the case of the Caloosahatchee.

But southward storage or filtering does not appeal to those who control much of the land below the lake. Sugar growers, with their heavy fertilizer regimens and license to back-pump dirty water, maintain that they have been able to reduce the amount of phosphorus they create by 50 percent in recent years.

“Backpumping into the lake — we get criticized for it, but it only occurs under extreme flooding conditions,” says Ms. Miedema of the Sugar Growers Exchange.

“The South Florida Water Management District can’t move polluted water out to tide, so they have to put it back into the lake to prevent communities from flooding. And they haven’t done that for months.”

As for storage, she argues, that should be done either on the north side of the lake in cow country, or in the lake itself, with a better dike — but not on sugar lands.

“Rather than using (our) farmland, storage north of the lake gives you a bigger bang for your buck.” And for the time being, she adds, “Fix the levee around the lake. That’s the best place to store water.”

Where the pollution comes from

Debates about water use and storage aside, no one disputes this fact: The users, all of them together, create immense amounts of pollution.

In the Caloosahatchee system, for example, 18 to 27 percent of nutrients come from Lake Okeechobee. Roughly the same amounts enter the system from “submarine groundwater inputs,” according to a study produced by marine biology Professor Ai Ning Loh and other researchers at Florida Gulf Coast University.

The remaining nutrients come from the local watershed, especially east of the Franklin Locks.

As a result, the researchers concluded, “the best approach to reduce nutrient inputs would be... fertilizer ordinances, stormwater treatment areas, required septic system inspections, and so on.”

Some have taken action. Residents of Sanibel Island anted up a huge sum to keep their oceanfront and bay waters attractive to visitors, who will provide even greater streams of revenue, they hope.

“There’s a reason Sanibel spent \$71 million on (sewage treatment) — it was not to have septic poured into the water,” explains Sanibel Mayor Kevin Ruane.

Unfortunately, however, the charming and upscale barrier

island lies at the mouth of the Caloosahatchee River, which is not charming and upscale.

During the month-long flood of dirty-coffee water released downstream to protect Lake Okeechobee’s dike, salinity levels dropped to zero at various points in the naturally brackish estuary.

The average flow through the Franklin Locks in Lee County for 30 days, from July 21 to Aug. 19, was 9,800 cubic feet per second — 3.5 times higher than the “harm threshold,” according to the Sanibel Captiva Conservation Foundation.

That will have long-term effects, but it also had a short-term effect: “The release caused 100 percent mortality of intertidal juvenile oysters at two sites,” reported Rae Ann Wessel, the foundation’s policy director.

Low salt or none is only the short-term problem on the Caloosahatchee or the St. Lucie, however.

“So far this year alone, about a million pounds of nitrogen and 600,000 pounds of phosphorous have been released down the St. Lucie River — and probably more than twice that down the Caloosahatchee,” Mr. Perry said.

Cleaning this water, and directing it in appropriate quantities to the right environments, is now the challenge.

Inter-connected-ness

Ultimately, the system works like this:

When somebody flushes a toilet in the clubhouse of Disney’s Lake Buena Vista Golf Course, 10 minutes from the main gate at Disney World near the headwaters of the Kissimmee River and the 28-year-old Chemline water-treatment plant there, that four-gallon injection will ultimately affect Florida Bay more than 200 miles distant.

That happens even if the treated molecules of a flushed urban toilet, comingling with nutrient-rich waters from the lower Kissimmee basin, are held in Lake Okeechobee and then released in freshwater floods east or west down the St. Lucie or Caloosahatchee Rivers.

There, they join runoff: the massive runoff from farms, tens of thousands of leeching septic tanks, each town and city, and every sewer treatment plant designed to take out some but not all the pollutants in the effluvium.

When freshwater that once flowed southward reaches Stuart on the east, an ocean-front town bricked into the Atlantic mouth of the St. Lucie, or Sanibel Island on the west, wedged into Charlotte Harbor on the Gulf of Mexico, it can’t refresh the southern Everglades and Florida Bay.

Never mind that 90 percent of the wild fowl populating this water world in 1900 is now gone; Florida Bay has grown so salty without its traditional injections of naturally filtered freshwater that its marine populations might be unrecoverable to their original state.

Especially if politicians don’t behave much differently than they have in recent decades.

“It’s a resilient system,” notes Professor Aswani Voley, a marine biologist and chair of the Department of Arts & Sciences at Florida Gulf Coast University — shortly before adding the “but.”

“But there’s no silver bullet. The problem is not a localized problem.”

Four things become apparent to nearly every opinionater weighing in on the water issue:

One, the problem is likely to be solved only incrementally by a confluence of small fixes, unless lake water can be released in large measure to the south.

Two, it will take a great deal of money either way.

Three, elected officials are the ones who determine whether that money will be spent, or not, repairing the Everglades system enough so that tourism, real estate and agriculture all can live comfortably in the region.

And four, everybody is going to have to sacrifice something, from environmentalists to farmers.

As Wayne Daltry, a retired planner and now president of Caloosahatchee River Citizens Association/Riverwatch, put it in a letter to elected officials recently, “adversity is to be shared.”

He was encouraging them to support a measure calling for the Army Corps to provide more water down the estuaries in the dry season.

Even draining down Lake Okeechobee six inches would invigorate marine wildlife in and near the gulf, and allow the Army Corps to store more water in the wet season — at no cost — than the entire, \$500 million C-43 reservoir, with its 170,000 acre feet of planned storage, could hold upriver in Hendry County when and if it is ever built. (Congress has failed to release any stream of money for the project, so far.)

That, in turn, would help water managers avoid the flooding of those estuaries, killing flora and fauna, Mr. Daltry pointed out.

The C-43 reservoir on the west, and the now green-lighted C-44 on the east side of the lake, with its planned 50,600 acre feet of storage, represent the two most critical projects in the engineering plan of the South Florida Water Management District and Army Corps, many insist.

If there is good news, it might be this, suggests Professor Voley. “For about 15 years, things have been status quo. It hasn’t really gotten worse. And this is a resilient system. It can come back.”

It will have to if the natural and social economics of Florida are to remain robust. ■

in the know

What they’re saying

>> **Lt. Col. Thomas Greco**, Army Corps of Engineers:

“We have four projects that we could pull off the shelf and pursue, while we’re waiting for congressional authorizations on others. C-43 (in Hendry County), fixing the Biscayne Bay coastal wetlands, the C-111 spreader canal (in Broward County), and the Broward County water preserve area.



And here’s a wish list in no particular order: Herbert Hoover Dike rehab, pursue the Central Everglades Planning Project (the first of two public review periods began last week, at www.evergladesplan.org).

That means 200,000 acre feet will be sent south. During times like this, it will not solve the problem of releases to estuaries but it will help. It will shave days and weeks of discharges off (the current pattern during heavy rain).

Third: We need to complete current projects. The Tamiami Trail bridges. The Picayune Strand, the C-44 reservoir on the east side of the lake.

>> **Professor Aswani Voley**, professor of marine science at Florida Gulf Coast University:

We know what the problem is and the fix is easy: the realistic answer is, best practices.

All the things that affect the water — the salt, the sediment runoff, the color, the nutrients — when you let water out of Okeechobee, you’re letting out the nutrients.



So what can the different interests do in the name of best practices?

Agriculture: think retention ponds.

Residential non-point sources: Watch how much and when you’re applying fertilizer. Get off your septs and get on your sewers.

Wastewater treatment plants: put them all online, and upgrade them.

And the C-43 and C-44 reservoirs should go forward immediately.

>> **Barbara Miedema**, vice president of the Florida Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative:

Rather than using farmland (east or south of the lake for major water retention), storage north of lake gives you a bigger bang for your buck.



Having consensus in terms of what needs to get done — that’s difficult.

We’ve been trying to do that. I was one of most vocal champions of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. I walked the halls of Congress with members of Audubon to retrofit the central and south Florida flood control project.

What I think can be done now to help?

Fix the levee around the lake. That’s the best place to conserve water — in the lake.

>> **Wayne Daltry**, president of Caloosahatchee River Citizens Association/Riverwatch:

Look at the Tamiami Trail in Miami, look at Lake Okeechobee, look in between. The trail raising doesn’t help us until everything in between is connected, and MORE is added.



The additional water going under the bridge has to be clean, the water in the lake isn’t clean, the works in between are already full, more needs to be done to clean more water for us to be helped.

And all this is designed for years that are less wet than this year. Once the systems overload, they collapse (they flood).

Here’s what can be done now: Ask for more flexibility in managing the lake to allow for supplies to come to the river in the dry season even when the lake threatens to go below 12.5 feet. Achieving an additional six inches of discharge in the six-month dry season for environmental or economic purposes provides room for an additional storage in the wet season of over 200,000 acre feet — more than the C-43 reservoir is intended to provide at 170,000 acre feet.

POLITICS AND WATER POLICY INTERSECT

BY ROGER WILLIAMS

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TO CLEAN UP AND BETTER MANAGE WATER COMING INTO and flowing out of Lake Okeechobee, a great deal more will have to be stored outside the lake, experts say — both in reservoirs, and on southern lands where it once flowed naturally.

A significant portion of those lands, 700,000 acres called the Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA), is now owned by farm corporations. Together, they grow 480,000 acres of sugar cane there.

The EAA is a government gift to agriculture that includes 15 major canals and 25 water control structures managed by the South Florida Water Management District.

The sugar companies use water channeled their way efficiently, they say — back-pumping small amounts of it into the lake when necessary and cleaning the rest according to EPA standards before releasing it into canals flowing southward.

But sugar companies have resisted storing additional water on their lands for many years, while insisting on significant amounts of water for irrigation in season.

U.S. Sugar alone, with 1,700 employees, takes in an average of \$604 million in profits annually, according to the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences.

Its strategy for maintaining this status quo, say critics, includes significant campaign contributions to the state's current political leaders in both parties.

The relationship between so-called "Big Sugar" — the Fajul Corp. and the U.S. Sugar Corp., in particular — and very powerful politicians, appears to be intimate.

Sen. Marco Rubio, writing in his autobiography, "An American Son," recalled the following meeting with the Fajul family, owners of Florida Crystals, Domino Sugar and others. The passage was later quoted in *The Wall Street Journal*.

"The Fajuls suggested I spend Labor Day weekend in the Hamptons, where many of their friends and major Republican donors would spend the holiday. Jeanette and I stayed in Mark Gerson's guesthouse. On Sunday night, Pepe and Emilia Fajul hosted a dinner for us on their boat, and they invited former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani. Rudy stayed for the entire dinner, and afterward we talked about my campaign. He wasn't ready to endorse me yet, but he was intrigued. There was no love lost between Rudy and Charlie Crist."

Mr. Crist, Florida's former Republican governor, had championed an effort to buy U.S. Sugar lands en masse at market rates with federal and state money, and solve the problem of Everglades restoration once and for all with a southern flow-way.

It failed, although Florida managed to buy 26,800 acres for \$197 million. Gov. Rick Scott, Sen. Rubio and others campaigned against the plan in 2010, and a three-year option to acquire 153,200 acres of sugar land for about \$1.1 billion expires next month.

But the problem still has to be fixed — that's what everybody is now insisting, both Republican and Democrat.

"I reached out to Congress with this, I reached out to (U.S. Rep.) Trey Radel and (State Sen.) Lizbeth Benacquisto. I said, 'You need to fix this,'" says Sanibel Mayor Kevin Ruane. "Tourism in Lee and Collier counties alone is a \$4.4 billion industry. It provides 85,000 jobs."

But not if the water is bad.

Meanwhile, in one of the ironies of public life, Gov. Scott, who has long criticized federal participation and federal spending in Florida, went on the stump recently to demand help from the feds. He noted insistently that the federal government has failed to kick in \$1.6 billion its officials promised to pay as the federal share of Everglades cleanup.

And that isn't all they should pay, according to Gov. Scott. They'll need to meet the state halfway in a number of projects, including the new road raising on the Tamiami Trail in southeastern Collier County — planned as 2.6 miles of elevated highway costing \$180 million, to be split half-and-half by the state and the federal government.

The project will allow water to resume its traditional flow from north to south and out through the southern Everglades to Florida Bay.

At the same time, and supported by many state legislators, in his first term the governor has eviscerated the state's Department of Environmental Protection and



ROGER WILLIAMS / FLORIDA WEEKLY
Gov. Rick Scott, above, and State Sen. Lizbeth Benacquisto, left, hold a press conference in Fort Myers.



the South Florida Water Management District, along with state water quality standards, which are now significantly more lax than they were in 2010.

The Water Management District budget alone, about \$1.5 billion in 2010, came in at \$567.3 million in the current fiscal year, profoundly inhibiting the ability of officials to monitor compliance with clean water rules, to study

permit applications, and to do research, many said.

Administration officials argue the system is now leaner and more efficient.

And in the last six weeks, from the Indian River Lagoon, to Stuart and the St. Lucie Lock, to Fort Myers and the Franklin Lock, elected leaders, including Gov. Scott, have made appearances before disgruntled or anxious crowds, announcing money injections into a system designed to control water.

That comes on the heels of larger struggling efforts by officials to advance the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, reconfigured in 2000 from a decades-old plan as a nearly 70-part, 30-year strategy to save the Everglades.

But the CERP, as they call it, was judged to have made little progress by the National Research Council last year.

Nevertheless, "this is the most progress I've seen in a long time — that the legislature is willing to take up the issues in a meaningful way, to reform existing policies," says John Cassani, a biologist and water official in Lee County.

"That's big. What the outcome ends up being is still a question."

For example, the governor has now promised a \$40 million state boost to help build a reservoir on the St. Lucie River, along with the \$90 million boost to help raise the Tamiami Trail.

But will the feds do their share?

Some who toured with the governor last month are the feds.

"(That's) where I come in," announced U.S. Rep. Trey Radel, standing next to Gov. Scott at a Fort Myers meeting overlooking the Caloosahatchee.

"I'll work to make sure the federal government keeps the promises it made years and years ago (to pay for half of the Everglades restoration). A healthy environment means a healthy economy, means jobs for all of us."

Working a small crowd beside other legislators, all within a few feet of the governor, was a smiling State Sen. Lizbeth Benacquisto. Could she help secure more money for key water projects in her District 30?

"We're working on it," she said.

Meanwhile, proposals either to buy the U.S. Sugar land necessary to filter water south of Lake Okeechobee, or require the agricultural companies to store more water on their lands have not received any attention from Gov. Scott.

At a St. Lucie County news conference, reporters asked Gov. Scott how he could objectively consider such options as acquiring U.S. Sugar if he continued to accept campaign contributions from the sugar industry.

So far, he's received \$375,000, records show, including a \$100,000 donation in June, as summer rains began to fall.

"Look, what I'm focused on is today. We're going to make sure we do the right thing for this community," he replied.

"We're going to put the additional \$40 million in to deal with the storm treatment area. Today, every one of us needs to call the federal government and say, 'Do your job. Fund these projects. Allow the Corps of Engineers the funding so they can do the right thing.'" ■

in the know

What they're saying

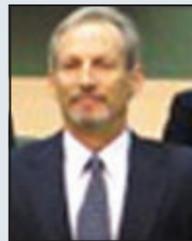
>> **John Cassani**, Lee County Hyacinth Control:

Sugar is backpumping nasty water into the lake at the same time (the Army Corps) is sending floodwaters east and west. It's not a lot, but it sends an awful message. And they have been doing that for a lot of years in the name of flood control for farms.

So that's adding to both excess volume and excess pollution.

The fundamental process of how our government works is a weak spot. Lobbyists are good at getting benefits for the influential few, and it doesn't work for the public good. It's the underlying flaw of how democracy works.

Yes, those interests should be represented but not at a large cost to others.



>> **Phillip Roland**, mayor of Clewiston:

Until they fix the drain system — the flow from the top — until they can throttle that water down and make it take longer to get into the Lake, they're not going to fix this whole damn system. The Kissimmee is the big hoo-ha in this whole thing, and the restoration area, the thing everybody talks about, is only 13 miles long. But the Kissimmee valley is 80 miles or so. You can live with Indian Prairie and Harney Pond. But not with the Kissimmee the way it is.



>> **John Poggi**, president of Eco-Advisers:

Here's my wish list. Number one: address the phosphorous issue at its source, so regulate agricultural discharges and development along the length of the Kissimmee Valley.

Two, we'll have to start treating what's coming out of Lake Okeechobee — we'll have to build filtering marshes and reservoirs to store and treat water. Then we'll be able to send it south as an alternative to discharging it into estuaries as it was originally done. And we'll be able to send it down into Florida Bay. The salinity levels in Florida Bay are unbelievably high because no fresh water gets dumped in there.

Of course, once we have an alternative route for water to be discharged from the lake, cleaned up and sent south, we'll continue to have issues with the estuaries.



>> **State Sen. Lizbeth Benacquisto** (R-Dist. 30):

When I started hearing criticism (of the governor's plans) I knew we were going to have to work to dispel it. That comes through a multi-pronged advocacy of mayors, commissioners, local government. All options should be on the table. To solve it, it will take all of us. So the best option is for folks to be willing to be a part of the solution.



>> **Rick Barber**, SFWMD governing board and a civil engineer:

As a water manager, I can tell you that usually when you try to fix a system, you start downstream and work upstream. These are conveyance issues not storage issues. If you fix conveyance upstream, somebody downstream is going to get flooded.

Starting at the Tamiami Trail (by raising it), it allows water conservation areas to the north to function better.

So fixing the Trail is good, but all these fixes have to work together. Look at the Caloosahatchee basin itself, at all the farming between Fort Myers and Moore Haven.

Now, I like to eat. And those farmers are doing the best they can. Can they do more? Yeah, they can do more on-site retention. They can hold their own water.



>> **Kevin Ruane**, mayor of Sanibel:

We have to hold more water in the lake. I understand the priority of public safety. In life we manage risks. The Army Corps needs to manage the risk of the dike. We need to be able to send water to the canals around the dike, and down to the south.

If you increase a little more water in the lake, and send more water down the canals, you have a short-term solution.

The most encouraging thing is that everybody is on this issue, now.



THE MOST DANGEROUS TIME: FLOOD RISK HIGH FOR LAKE OKEECHOBEE

BY ROGER WILLIAMS
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PHILLIP ROLAND SLEPT LITTLE ON THE LAST NIGHT OF AUGUST at his home in Clewiston, a town hunkered beneath Lake Okeechobee's Herbert Hoover dike. Instead, he lay awake sweating it.

That's typical now as this month's 85th anniversary of the second most deadly hurricane ever to hit American shores comes and goes.

"I just want to get to Thanksgiving so I won't have to worry about this every night," he said.

As he enters the most dangerous season on the calendar, Mr. Roland, who serves as mayor here where he was born and raised, worries about two problems.

First, he mistrusts the 30-foot-high dike, stretching 143 miles and spiked intermittently with many culverts. The dike holds back 730 square miles of water just outside his door, but that's not the problem. The problem is more vivid.



SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY
Damage from the 1928 hurricane aftermath that caused Lake Okeechobee to overflow, killing thousands. A similar flood could happen again.

The Herbert Hoover dike has a 40 percent chance of structural failure if the lake level reaches 17 feet, engineers have told him.

In August, after a month of the heaviest rains in recent years, the lake reached 16.3 feet. Water kept rising at more than twice the rate engineers could discharge it into the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee rivers.

The other worry the mayor has is even worse, he says: a hurricane coming out of the east with its counterclockwise spin could have deadly consequences.

"Look, this is a once-in-50-year event, this rainfall we've had this summer," he said. "But if a hurricane comes out of the Atlantic and across the lake — and about 90 percent of the worst storms we've ever had come in September or October — this could become a once-in-a-hundred-year event. And I'd have to order a mandatory evacuation."

Consequently, he just hopes to reach Thanksgiving without having to discover that we're living in an answer year, rather than a question year.

"There are years that ask questions and years that answer," wrote Zora Neale Hurston in her celebrated novel, "Their Eyes Were Watching God."

The book configures race, love and life during the Okeechobee hurricane that killed thousands living in the shadow of the "Big Water," as the Seminole Indians called the lake, tagging it forever with their word, Okeechobee.

Lloyd's of London, which had to pay out \$3.4 billion after Hurricane Katrina, looked at that Okeechobee "answer year" in a more practical way.

Its 22-page study, from 2006, pointed out that Okeechobee "is ranked second by the International Hurricane Research Center in a list of the most vulnerable U.S. mainland areas to hurricanes."

It concluded that if the dike collapses, 40,000 residents living near the Lake will be in "serious danger," and five million residents living in three counties to the southeast of the Lake would be deeply affected, "with economic losses likely to run to the tens of billions of dollars."

The furious storm that altered everything Floridians knew about water began on Sunday evening, Sept. 16, 1928, just after 6 p.m.

It came off the Atlantic and slammed into Palm Beach County between Jupiter and Boca Raton, bringing a storm surge of 10 feet and waves likely as high as 20 feet before reaching the lake and overwhelming it, observers reported.

In such lakeside towns as Belle Glade, Clewiston and South Bay, water reached heights of seven to 11 feet — a roiling, killer torrent that swept out of the darkness into a region inhabited by about 50,000 residents, many of them living without electricity or radios.

By dawn thousands were dead. The bodies of many were lost forever.

"The exact number who perished in the Okeechobee storm can never be ascertained," wrote Lawrence Will, a witness to the storm, in his book "Okeechobee Hurricane."

"Probably three-fourths or more of the casualties were Negroes who had come from the Bahama Islands... many were carried by the flood far into the sawgrass wastes."

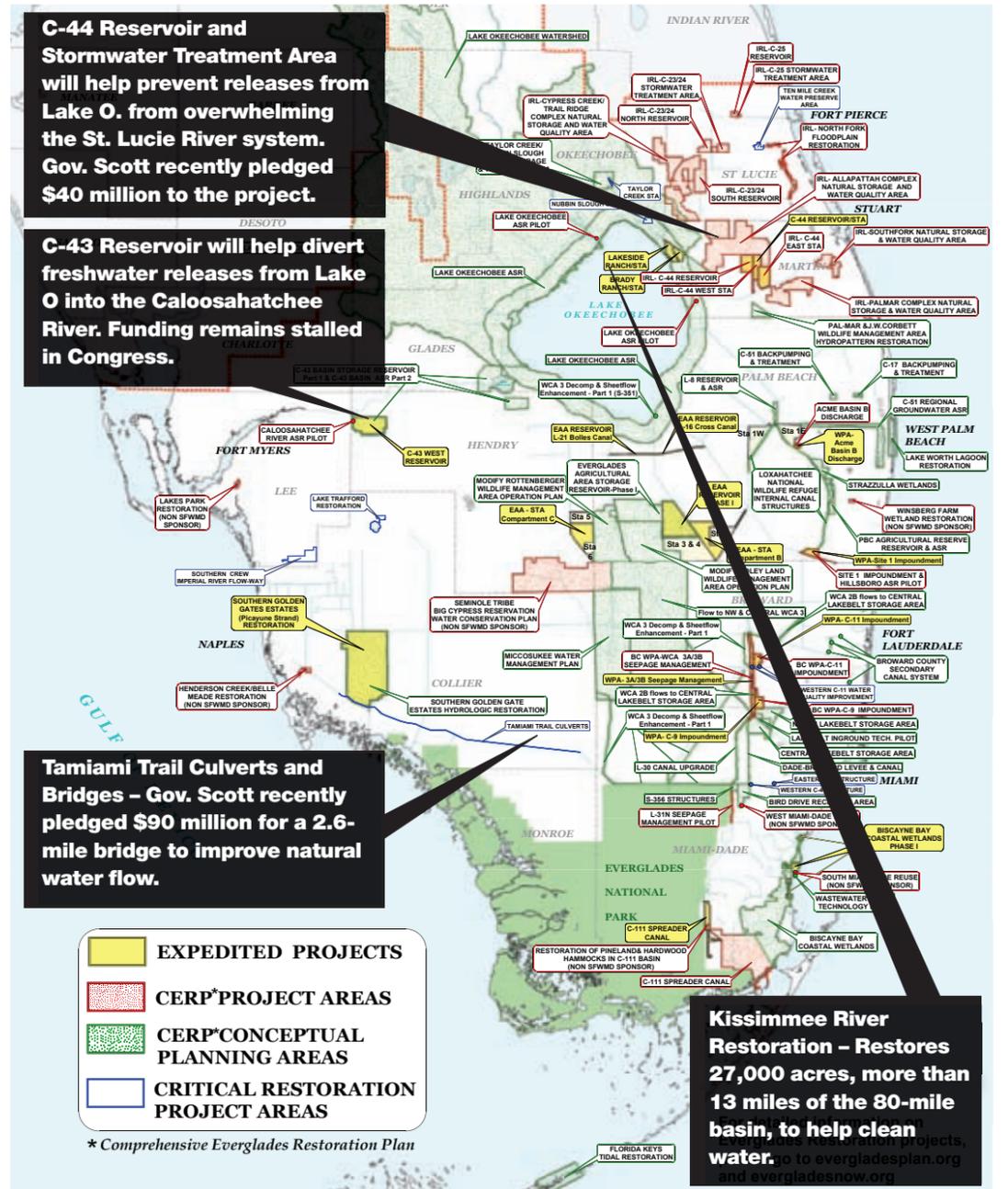
After that storm, everything about water changed in the southern half of the peninsula, including the construction of the Herbert Hoover dike, which took more than 30 years to complete.

Now, insists Mayor Roland, the fix needs to come in before, not after the next hurricane strikes.

"Because one thing is sure," he says. "It's going to happen again, sometime." ■

SOLUTIONS

This map shows more than 60 pieces of the ambitious Everglades Restoration Plan adopted by Congress in 2000, along with other government efforts to restore natural water flow. Most phases are not currently funded. Completely implementing the plan will help restore natural water flows and increase water quality throughout southern Florida.



C-44 Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment Area will help prevent releases from Lake O. from overwhelming the St. Lucie River system. Gov. Scott recently pledged \$40 million to the project.

C-43 Reservoir will help divert freshwater releases from Lake O into the Caloosahatchee River. Funding remains stalled in Congress.

Tamiami Trail Culverts and Bridges – Gov. Scott recently pledged \$90 million for a 2.6-mile bridge to improve natural water flow.

Kissimmee River Restoration – Restores 27,000 acres, more than 13 miles of the 80-mile basin, to help clean water.

EVERGLADES AGRICULTURAL AREA PURCHASE

Former Gov. Charlie Crist negotiated a deal in 2008 to purchase 180,000 acres of U.S. Sugar land south of Lake Okeechobee to help filter water and clean the Everglades. Although the state bought 26,800 acres for \$197 million, a three-year option for the rest of the land — 153,200 acres — expires next month.

FIXING THE HERBERT HOOVER DIKE

The Army Corps of Engineers has spent more than \$400 million replacing and removing culverts. The project will strengthen the aging dike and help prevent catastrophic flooding.

in the know

Get involved

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will host a public meeting to discuss the draft report for the Central Everglades Planning Project and give the public an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

>> When: 6:30 - 9 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 17
>> Location: South Florida Water Management District, 2301 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers
>> For more information: www.evergladesplan.org



KALI HORTON / COURTESY PHOTO

Paul Thein, YMCA president; Eileen Connelly-Keesler, CEO of the Community Foundation of Collier County; and Guy Blanchette, chair of the Y board of directors, stand amid the ruins of the main YMCA building off Pine Ridge Road.

YMCA

From page 1

and an evening blues bash and barbecue. "We're hoping people will go to both and make a day of it," says Vicky Tracy, organizer of the Naples Bay Blues Bash, which benefits a different nonprofit each year. She had decided long before Labor

Day to dedicate the third annual bash to the Y. Who knew how fortuitous that would be? "It's the one thing in our community that has services for everyone," Ms. Tracy says about the Y, adding that before the fire, "We took the Y for granted." The Sept. 2 fire destroyed the gymnasium, exercise room and adjoining rooms including lockers and offices, but spared the western part of the building at 5450 YMCA Road. The Gaynor Child Care

Center and tennis complex on the same site were not affected and remain open for members' use. Alternate locations have been secured for fitness, swimming and group exercise programs at the Greater Family Marco YMCA, Bonita Springs YMCA, NCH Wellness Centers, North Collier Regional Park, Golden Gate Aquatic and Fitness Complex, and Norris Aquatics Center. All swim lessons are behind held at Sun-N-Fun Lagoon. For the latest news about recovery ef-

in the know

>> **"Respond, Rebuild, Rejoice" 5K walk and run:** Sign-in begins at 7 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 14, and the walk/run goes on from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Naples YMCA, 5450 YMCA Road. Every participant must register by e-mailing NaplesYRebuildRun@gmail.com (if there are five people in a family, for example, send five e-mails). For more information, call 450-0617.

>> **The third annual Naples Bay Blues Bash:** All-you-can-eat barbecue plus live entertainment, a 50/50 raffle and live auction from 6-11 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14, at Jack's River Bar. Music by Front Page News, The Chopper Band, Dieter's Blues Machine and a surprise up-and-coming artist. General admission \$10; VIP admission \$20. For advance tickets or more information, call 213-1441.

>> **First National Bank of the Gulf Coast Relief Fund:** Donations can be made at any First National Bank of the Gulf Coast location in Naples and on Marco Island. For information, call 348-8000 or 649-6000.

>> **The Community Foundation of Collier County Relief Fund:** Current fund holders can download a donor form and mail with a check to the foundation at 2400 Tamiami Trail, Suite 300, Naples, FL 34103. Donations are also being accepted and through PayPal. The website is www.cfcollier.org. For more information, visit the website or call 649-5000.

forts, services available and ways to help out, visit www.greaternaplesymca.org and www.facebook.com/GreaterNaplesYMCA. Additional information can be found by texting @yinfo to (786) 766-7440. ■



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Pitch in to help coastal cleanup make a world of difference

Keep Collier Beautiful invites local residents to take part in the 27th annual International Coastal Cleanup on Saturday, Sept. 21. As individuals and in organized teams, volunteers in countries around the world will pitch in that day to remove trash and debris from waterways that lead to the world's oceans. In 2012, more than 500,000 people helped make a clean sweep along nearly 20,000 miles of coastlines and waterways.

The Collier County cleanup sites are: Barefoot Beach Preserve, Clam Pass, Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park, Gulf Shores Marina (Haldeman Creek), Lowdermilk Park, Naples Bay, the Naples Pier, Rookery

Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Tigertail Beach on Marco Island, Golden Gate canals and Isle of Capri.

Individuals and small groups of volunteers should meet at one of the cleanup sites between 8 and 11 a.m. on cleanup day to receive trash bags, gloves and an International Coastal Cleanup T-shirt (T-shirts provided while supplies last).

Groups with 10 or more members are asked to preregister with KCB by calling 580-8319 or e-mailing litternot@earthlink.net.

For more information about Keep Collier Beautiful, visit www.keepcollierbeautiful.com. ■



COURTESY PHOTO

Keep Collier Beautiful staff, board member and corporate supporters: Amanda Beights of the Leadership Collier Foundation; Nicole McGinnis, Davidson & Nick, CPAs; Tricia Dorn, LCEC; John Cox, the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce; Naples City Councilman Sam Saad III; Tamika Seaton, PIO for the city of Naples; Stephanie Kissinger, Waste Management and KCB board member; Jim Pilon, Siesky Pilon and Potter and KCB board member; Cyndee Woolley, C2 Communications; and Jim Zimmerman, volunteer executive director of Keep Collier Beautiful.

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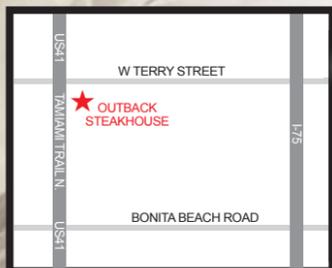
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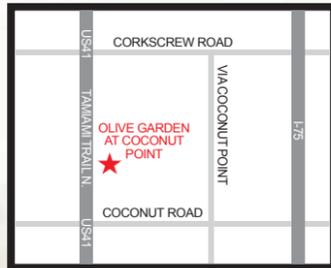
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NONPROFIT NEWS



COURTESY PHOTOS

At Edison State College for the Students of Promise camp, left to right: Crystal Maldonado, Jeff Allbritten, Guadalupe Hernandez, Joel Garcia, Cynthia Rodriguez, Efen Corona, Roseandree Celbeau, Nickson Vilsant and Liz Allbritten.

Fund A Dream gives Immokalee kids life-changing summer experiences

The Immokalee Foundation created a special summer for local students who learned, grew and advanced by visiting college campuses, participating in team-building activities, attending camps in New England and taking part in workshops, learning academies and even summer internships, many of which were made possible thanks to proceeds from TIF's Fund A Dream auction held last November at the 2012 Charity Classic Celebration.

As a nonprofit organization that provides educational opportunities for Immokalee's children, the foundation placed learning firmly at the center of its summer activities, which included a medical program at Florida State University in Tallahassee, the Leadership Academy at Florida Gulf Coast University, a Youth Leadership Collier program in Naples and the Students of Promise camp hosted by Edison State College. By providing glimpses of life beyond Immokalee, the experiences were life changing for many participants.

Joel Garcia, one of 23 incoming college freshmen who attended Students of Promise,

said the six-week camp went by quickly and one workshop made him realize "that it's not where you go to school but how much you put into your education. That is what will really pay off."

Through a partnership with TIF, ESC funded the students' camp tuition. The students lived onsite on the weekends and were responsible for attending classes daily and completing courses on topics such as transition to college, financial advisement and career counseling.

Nickson Vilsant, for one, appreciated the time he spent at the school. "It provided a great opportunity to live on campus and give an overall feeling of college life," he says.

Another camper, Chedeline Frederick, adds, "This experience taught us to grow as individuals, understand college life and become independent."

Guadalupe Hernandez appreciated the financial advice provided to campers. "This taught me not to waste money on unneeded things because you have to manage your entire budget for the whole year," she says.

Summer opportunities weren't limited to only older students in TIF programs. The Rising 8th Grade Academy was held four hours each day, for six weeks, at the TIF building in Immo-



Leslie Gallegos at Kingsley Pines camp in Maine.

kalee. The academy helped students with math and reading and provided training in Franklin Covey's "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens." The Rising Freshmen Academy provided the same, plus a transition camp for high school.

Overall, 98 sophomores, juniors and seniors enrolled in the ACT Summer Prep Academy at Immokalee's

I-TECH Center and 22 students attended a one-week College Success Boot Camp at Ave Maria University.

Personal growth, team-building and leadership skills were the focus of three summer camps in New England that hosted TIF students. Two students attended Camp Deerwood in New Hampshire; six were invited to Kingsley Pines in Maine; and one went to Camp Joslin, an all-male camp for children who have diabetes, in Massachusetts for the third year.

"We are so grateful to the individuals, businesses, colleges and universities that made this a summer to remember for our students," says Liz Allbritten, TIF executive director. "These opportunities and experiences provide invaluable information and will leave a lasting impact on all of our students." ■

— The Immokalee Foundation has a range of programs that focus on building pathways to success through college and post-secondary training, mentoring and tutoring, and opportunities for broadening experiences, life skills development and economic independence. To learn more about the foundation or about volunteering to mentor an Immokalee student, call 430-9122 or visit www.immokaleefoundation.org.



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NONPROFIT NEWS



Makayla Haar and Kora Catania, the day's youngest volunteers

COURTESY PHOTOS

Tuesdays for charities

Jason's Deli is celebrating a decade in Naples with a thank-you to the community for 10 years of support. The restaurant has designated a different charitable organization to be the beneficiary of 10 percent of its Naples sales every Tuesday between Sept. 17 and Nov. 19. Here are the organizations by date:

- NAMI of Collier County: Sept. 17
- Meals of Hope: Sept. 24
- PACE Center for Girls-Collier at Immokalee: Oct. 1
- Champions For Learning: Oct. 8
- Laces of Love: Oct. 15
- The Shelter for Abused Women & Children: Oct. 22
- Able Academy: Oct. 29
- Angels Undercover: Nov. 5
- The Salvation Army: Nov. 12
- Children's Advocacy Center of Collier County: Nov. 19

Donation totals will be based on sales (dine in, carry out and delivery) at the Naples Jason's Deli from 4-9 p.m. Customers who also give back by making a \$1 donation to the charity of the week will be entered in a drawing for a catered event for 10 people.

A celebratory breakfast and check presentations to all 10 charities will take place at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 3.

Jason's Deli of Naples is at 2700 Immokalee Road at Airport Pulling Road. ■

Foster children tuck in to new mattresses

Some local foster children are having sweet dreams on new mattresses thanks to the combined efforts of the Friends of Foster Children and Tempur-Pedic North America, LLC.

Just before the start of the new school year, 140 twin-sized Tempur-Pedic mattresses were delivered to the William C. Huff Companies warehouse in Naples.

It was the second year the mattress manufacturer has given mattresses to the local nonprofit. Jim Henderson, FFC board member and owner/president of William C. Huff Companies, donated warehouse space and staff labor again this year.

Foster parents picked up the new bedding on Aug. 24.

"Tempur-Pedic believes everybody, especially children, deserves a good night's rest. We are pleased to be able to offer a quality mattress for the children of Friends of Foster Children and help them achieve a better night's sleep," said Rick Anderson, president of Tempur-Pedic North America.



Friends of Foster Children volunteers Robyn Gibson, Kathy Haar and Kim Black

Statistics show that children with a better night's sleep tend to do much better in school. This is even more important for abused and neglected children who, through no fault of their own, are removed from their homes and in many cases moved from home to home.

The mission of Friends of Foster Children is to provide abused, neglected and abandoned children in Southwest Florida with the social, educational and financial support the state does not. For more information, call 262-1808 or visit www.friendsoffosterchildren.net. ■



Above: Volunteers unload mattresses. Below: Foster parents Billie Jean and Steve Karteroulitis



Goodwill seeks items for Camp

Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida needs supplies for Trailways Camp, a five-day residential camp for adults with disabilities. Now through Saturday, Sept. 14, donations are welcome at the Goodwill Retail & Donation Center on Pine Ridge Road in Naples.

Needed items include arts and crafts supplies, travel-sized toiletries, sporting equipment, fishing poles and fishing gear. View a full wish list at www.goodwillswfl.org/trailwayscamp. Gift cards to stores that sell needed items are also welcome.

Donors will receive a 50-percent-off Goodwill coupon in exchange for their Trailways Camp donation.

Trailways Camp is also accepting applications for its October session at Riverside Retreat Center in LaBelle. Applications are at the above website. ■

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Superintendent sets dates for town hall meetings at schools

Collier County Public Schools' Superintendent Kamela Patton has set the dates for her third year of Superintendent's Town Hall Meetings designed to allow her to meet with staff, parents and community members.

Topics of discussion will include BYOD (Bring Your Own Device), STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math), workforce education and the B-fit wellness campaign. She will also share information about the district's 2014-2016 strategic plan and steps the district is taking to promote safety and mental health awareness.

With networked laptops available at each meeting, parents will be able to receive technical assistance in setting up parent portal access and authorizing their children to participate in BYOD.

Questions will be accepted from the floor the evening of each meeting and can also be submitted in advance by e-mailing question@collierschools.com or by visiting www.collierschools.com (click on the "Ask the Superintendent" link under Community Input Requested).



Each hour-long meeting will begin at 6 p.m. Here's the schedule:

■ **Monday, Sept. 16:** Everglades City School

■ **Thursday, Sept. 26:** Immokalee Technical Center

■ **Tuesday, Oct. 1:** Tommie Barfield Elementary School, Marco Island

■ **Thursday, Oct. 10:** Golden Gate High School

■ **Monday, Oct. 14:** Barron Collier High School

■ **Monday, Oct. 28:** Gulf Coast High School

For more information, call 377-0180 or e-mail info@collierschools.com. ■

Campaign set for student voter registration

The Collier County Supervisor of Elections Office is challenging local high schools to get students registered for the 2014 and 2016 election cycle. The high school with the most students to register or pre-register to vote in Collier County during the Sept. 17-27 registration drive will receive a plaque from Jennifer Edwards, supervisor of elections.

In order to register to vote, residents must be legal U.S. citizens at least 18 years old. Pre-registration can be done at age 16.

The Collier County Supervisor of Elections Office continues to strengthen its partnerships with Collier County schools and engage students in the democratic process by providing educational programs, conducting voter registration drives and participating in events that familiarize students with voting and the electoral process.

For more information, call Cyndi Young, education coordinator, at 252-8450 or e-mail cynthiayoung@collier.gov.net. ■

College Night set for students, parents

Approximately 100 colleges and universities from Florida and around the United States will send representatives to Collier County Public Schools' annual College Night coming up from 4:30-7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19, in the gymnasium at Golden Gate High School. Throughout the evening, students and parents will be able to talk with school representatives about programs offered, entrance requirements, expenses, financial aid, campus life, etc.

For additional college resources, including questions to ask on College Night and things to research beforehand in order to help the decision-making process, go to www.collierschools.com/student_services/college.asp.

For more information, call Christopher Smith, counselor on special assignment/secondary school counseling, at 377-0515 or e-mail smithch@collierschools.com. ■



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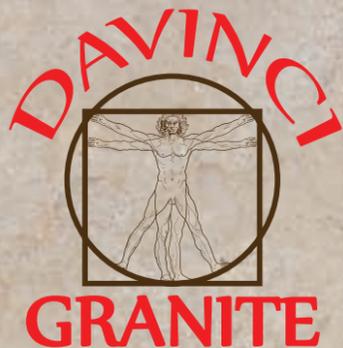
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HEALTHY LIVING

Majority of teens think prescription stimulant use is a problem among peers

Two-thirds of young people surveyed in a recent University of Florida study said the use of prescription stimulants is a moderate-to-large problem among youth. Nearly 15 percent said they had used a prescription stimulant, the study shows, and almost 12 percent reported diverting medications by giving their stimulants to a peer or taking someone else's pills.

The National Monitoring of Adolescent Prescription Stimulants Study involved surveys of more than 11,000 youth ages 10 to 18 from urban, rural and suburban areas in and around 10 U.S. cities. It is the first national study to monitor prescription stimulant use in both preteens and teens, including non-medical use, with significant details for each topic. The study findings appear in the September issue of the journal *Current Opinion in Psychiatry*.

Other studies have documented teens and college students using prescription stimulants non-medically as "study drugs" to enhance concentration. Stimulants such as Ritalin, Adderall and Concerta are typically prescribed to help patients with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder stay focused and to control behavior problems. But when the

drugs are taken incorrectly or without a prescription, they can increase blood pressure, heart rate and body temperature and decrease sleep and appetite, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse. At high doses, they can lead to cardiovascular problems.

For the UF study, led by Linda B. Cottler, chair of the department of epidemiology in the College of Public Health and Health Professions and the College of Medicine, researchers surveyed 11,048 preteens and teens in Boston, Cincinnati, Denver, Houston, Los Angeles, New York City, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Seattle and Tampa, Fla. Interviewers recruited participants at venues where young people congregate, such as shopping malls, movie theaters, sports and recreation centers, arcades and skate parks. The study was carried out during four time periods, starting in 2008 and ending in 2011.

Participants completed written questionnaires and were shown photos of brand name prescription stimulants to help them identify which medications they have used. Non-medical use was assessed by asking participants if they have ever taken more stimulants than their doctor



had prescribed, used someone else's stimulants, or taken stimulants "to get high," "out of curiosity" or "just because."

Nearly 15 percent of participants said they had used a prescription stimulant in their lifetime, with rates highest among 16- to 18-year-olds. Seven percent of all participants said they had taken a stimulant within the past 30 days with more than half of that — almost 4 percent — being non-medical use. About 12 percent

reported diverting stimulants either by giving them to a peer or taking someone else's prescription stimulants. Sixteen- to 18-year-olds in rural areas reported the highest rate of diversion at 17 percent.

"I was surprised at how consistent the findings were from city to city and time point to time point," said Ms. Cottler, the College of Public Health and Health Professions' associate dean for research and planning. "I was also surprised at how much diversion is being reported."

Ms. Cottler and study co-authors Catherine Striley, an assistant professor of epidemiology, and Sonam Lasopa, an epidemiology doctoral student, also found that 63 percent of the study participants believe that prescription stimulant use is a moderate-to-large problem among youth.

One way to address the problem of prescription stimulant misuse is to control access, Ms. Cottler said.

"Health-care providers should be cautious about prescribing stimulant medications to young people for non-significant issues," she said. "Parents should talk to their kids and let them know that medications should not be shared for any reason." ■

NCH encourages participation in Cancer Prevention Study-3

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More than a century ago, the microbiologist Dr. Louis Pasteur said, "Chance favors only the prepared mind." By this he meant that sudden flashes of insight don't just happen — they are the products of preparation.

Dr. Pasteur's words are particularly apt for the American Cancer Society, which has made significant strides in understanding the causes of cancer as a way to prevent this most dreaded of diseases. NCH supports this effort by encouraging at least 125 residents between the ages of 30-65 to participate in the Cancer Prevention Study-3 at our downtown campus on Wednesday, Oct. 2, and in North Naples on Thursday, Oct. 3.

The ACS had initial success in 1955 linking smoking to lung cancer. The lead

epidemiologist, Dr. Morton Levine at the Roswell Park Memorial Institute in Buffalo, N.Y., was recruited to look for an association between viruses and cancer. He designed a hospital intake questionnaire for patients with cancer and those without cancer.

After a few years of gathering responses, Dr. Levine and his colleagues noted the statistically significant association between lung cancer and smoking. Keep in mind, this was a time when everyone — including physicians — thought nothing of smoking.

From Dr. Levine's seminal study, two other landmark studies have shown the association of 1) obesity with cancer — particularly esophagus, pancreas, colon, endometrium, kidney, thyroid, gall bladder and breast, and 2) alcohol with cancer — oral, esophageal, liver cancer, colon and breast.

I cite these instances of scientific discoveries that have helped all of us live longer, happier and healthier lives because I had the privilege and pleasure of being a

National Science Foundation summer high school student working for the famous Dr. Levine. Years after his important discovery of the link between smoking and cancer, his team was still looking for other causes for and ways to fight cancer, as we are now encouraging our own community to do.

While treatment has improved for various forms of cancer — leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and testicular cancer, among them — we still have miles to go. Sadly, lung cancer, the most common cancer in our country, kills more than 150,000 people per year.

The age-adjusted mortality rate for cancer is essentially unchanged over the past half-century, at about 200 deaths per 100,000 people. Worst of all, the incidence of cancer is on the rise, which is exactly why the ACS's above-mentioned Cancer Prevention Study-3 taking place at NCH is so critical.

So what can each of us do to prevent this potential killer from invading our lives?

We can start by enrolling in the study. The initial intake includes a confidential questionnaire and a small blood sample, which will be frozen for further use if needed. The study is expected to last 20 years, and periodically you will be asked to fill out a questionnaire.

The deadline for signing up is Sept. 18. I urge you to call (888) 604-5888 or visit www.cancer.org/cps3florida to find out more.

The goal is to better understand the factors (lifestyle, environmental, genetic) that cause or prevent cancer, and ultimately, to help eliminate cancer as a major health concern for future generations.

Prevention is always better than treatment, of course. One of our primary goals at NCH is to enhance the health of our community. Collaborating with organizations such as ACS to study, assess and make progress is an ideal way for us to pursue that goal. ■

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

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HEALTHY LIVING

Focusing on health care

Local health-care industry experts who are graduates of Leadership Collier will present "Advances and Trends in Healthcare" from noon to 5 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19, at the Naples Children and Education Foundation Pediatric Dental Center at Edison State College-Collier Campus. The program is presented by the Leadership Collier Foundation Alumni Association and ESC.

Presenters are: Dr. Allen Weiss, CEO and president of NCH Healthcare System; Nancy Lascheid, RN, co-founder of the Neighborhood Health Clinic; Dan Lavender, CEO, Moorings Park; Vicki Tracy, director, The Arlington of Naples; Dr. Paul Mitchell, Chief Medical Officer, Avow; Robert Jones, Ed.D., president, ESC-Collier Campus; and Dr. Rolando Rivera, president of the Foundation of Collier County Medical Society. Their topics will include recent developments and trends in health care locally and nationally, Collier County population trends, the emergence of Assisted Living Facilities in the community and how to get involved in health-wise community groups and outreach programs.

The day will wrap up with a tour of the pediatric dental center. Registration is \$25 and includes lunch. For more information, visit www.napleschamber.org.

Calling for donors to give blood

Donations of blood slow to a trickle during the summer months in Southwest Florida, but the need for blood of all types does not. Donors are urged to take the time to donate at the Community Blood Center or its bloodmobile.

The center is on the first floor of the NCH Medical Plaza Building at 311 Ninth St. N., next to the NCH parking garage. Complimentary valet parking is offered for all blood donors. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday.

In Bonita Springs, the CBC bloodmobile makes a regular visit to the parking lot at Sunshine Plaza on the second Monday of the month. Look for it next from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 14.

Here are some additional stops for the bloodmobile coming up:

■ **Thursday, Sept. 12:** 8 a.m. to noon at Naples City Hall, 50 Riverside Circle.

■ **Thursday, Sept. 12:** 2-4 p.m. at Hazelden addiction treatment center, 950 Sixth Ave. N. Donors will receive a complimentary cup of coffee or a smoothie from Hazel's Cup.

■ **Friday, Sept. 13:** 1:30-4:30 p.m. at Wynn's Market, 141 Ninth St. N.

■ **Saturday, Sept. 14:** 8-11 a.m. at Barron Collier High School for "Canes vs. Cancer."

■ **Saturday, Sept. 14:** 1-6 p.m. at Hollywood Theatre Coconut Point (free movie ticket to successful donors).

■ **Sunday, Sept. 15:** 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Outback Steakhouse, 4910 Tamiami Trail N. (free Bloomin' Onion to donors).

■ **Tuesday, Sept. 17:** 8-10 a.m. at Northern Trust, 4001 Tamiami Trail N.

■ **Tuesday, Sept. 17:** Noon to 4:30 p.m. at Edison State College-Collier Campus.

Donors can safely give blood every 56 days. The minimum age to give blood is 16 (parental consent required). Donors must weigh at least 110 pounds, should eat and be well hydrated prior to giving blood and must present photo ID.

For the complete bloodmobile schedule, call 624-4120 or visit www.give-bloodcbc.org.

Basics for parents-to-be

Physicians Regional-Collier Boulevard invites expectant parents to attend one-time classes to help them prepare for the birth and care of their pending bundle of joy. Several sessions of each class are scheduled.

■ **The ABC's of Infant Care:** 6:30-8:30 p.m., with sessions offered on Tuesdays, Oct. 15, Nov. 26 and Dec. 10; \$65 per couple.

■ **Breastfeeding:** 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Oct. 8, Nov. 19 and Dec. 17; \$35 per couple.

■ **Express Childbirth Class:** 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturdays, Sept. 14 and Dec. 14; \$70 per couple - This one-day class covers the basics of pregnancy and various labor techniques and medical interventions.

For more information or to sign up for any of the above session, call 354-6142.

Screening for prostate problems

Men can receive free prostate cancer screens and PSA blood tests at Specialists in Urology locations in Collier and Lee counties Saturday, Sept. 21. This is the 10th year that SIU physicians, physician assistants and nurses have volunteered their services for the day of free testing.

SIU is a division of 21st Century Oncology. The free prostate screenings are offered at three SIU offices in Naples and at its locations in Marco Island, Bonita Springs, Fort Myers and Cape Coral. Appointments are required and can be made by calling 434-6300.

Lending hands to fight arthritis

Massage Envy Spa and the Arthritis Foundation have joined forces to host the third annual Healing Hands for Arthritis, a one-day nationwide event to build awareness and raise funds to fight arthritis. Massage Envy Spas across the country will donate \$10 from every one-hour massage or facial on Wednesday, Sept. 18, to the Arthritis Foundation. The goal is to raise \$1 million.

Appointments are required. Call 325-3689 in Naples or 947-3689 in Estero. ■

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GET OUT FOR A GOOD CAUSE

Walk the walks, run the runs, hit the links or bait a hook in the name of a non-profit organization. Here are some opportunities for getting out for a good cause.

■ Oakridge Middle School holds the fifth annual **Bulldog Dash 5K Race and Fun Run** on Saturday, Sept. 14. Proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society Relay For Life. The 1-mile fun run starts at 7:15 a.m. and takes place on the school's track and field area. Beginning at 7:30 a.m., the 5K will follow a course through Indigo Lakes before returning to the school.

Race-day registration is \$25 for adults and \$20 for ages 18 and younger. For more information, call teacher Katie Sullivan at 377-4800.

■ Physicians Regional Healthcare System presents the **10th annual golf tournament** to benefit the Marco Island Police Foundation on Saturday, Sept. 28, at the Island Country Club on Marco. Continental breakfast will begin at 7:30 a.m. and the shotgun start is set for 8:30 a.m. Registration for \$110 per person includes an awards luncheon after the game. For more information, call Dick Shanahan at 860-4354 or e-mail rsshana@aol.com.

■ The United Way of Collier County hosts its eighth annual **Walk for the Way** beginning at 8 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 28, at North Collier Regional Park. This family-friendly event is open to the public free of charge and boasts live entertainment, local celebrities and mascots, and representation from each of the United Way's 31 partner agencies. Individual walkers and teams are encouraged to participate.

For more information or to register as a team, individual or sponsor, call Jennifer Fey at 261-7112, ext. 203.

■ Specialists in Urology, 21st Century Oncology and Gulf Coast Runners invite adults and children to participate in the third annual **Prostate Cancer Awareness 5K race** on Saturday morning, Sept. 28, at Physicians Regional-Pine Ridge. The first 250 to sign up receive a race T-shirt.

To register or for more information, visit www.gcrunner.org.

■ A **golf tournament** to benefit the Marco Island Center for the Arts tees off Saturday, Oct. 12, at the Island Country Club. Lunch will be served at noon, followed by a shotgun start at 1 p.m. Registration is \$125. Prizes include a two-year lease on a 2014 Mercedes Benz C250, provided by Mercedes-Benz of Naples. To sign up or for more information, call the Marco Island Center for the Arts at 394-4221.

■ The American Cancer Society's **Making Strides Against Breast Cancer** sets out Saturday morning, Oct. 12, at Cambier Park. To register a team or to sign up to join an existing team, visit www.makingstrideswalk.org.

■ The Freedom Waters Foundation's **"Heels & Reels"** girls fishing tournament to benefit the PACE Center for Girls-Collier at Immokalee takes place from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 12, at the Naples Boat Club. Rain date is Saturday, Oct. 19. The event pairs approximately 30 teens from the PACE Center for Girls with experienced female anglers who offer mentoring and instruction while on the water.

Volunteers and sponsors are needed to donate funding, vessels, time and experience. For more information, contact Debbie Hanson at 233-4930.

■ Wine Tasters of Naples hold their **third annual golf outing** for charity on Saturday, Oct. 19, at Heritage Bay Golf & Country Club. Registration for \$85 per person includes a buffet lunch and drawings for prizes. Sign up as a single or a team by calling John Groneman at 963-6237 or e-mailing jhg3.154@gmail.com.

■ The Alzheimer's Association's **Walk to End Alzheimer's** takes place Saturday morning, Oct. 19, at Cambier Park and consists of a 2-mile walk as well as a tribute ceremony to honor those affected by Alzheimer's disease.

To register or for more information, call Nicole Melnick at 405-7008, e-mail melnickn@alzflgulf.org or visit www.act.alz.org/naples.

■ Hundreds of participants of all ages and both sexes will step into their highest heels for a 500-foot dash down Fifth Avenue South on Saturday Oct. 19. The fourth annual **Stiletto Sprint** benefits the Garden of Hope & Courage and Susan G. Komen Southwest Florida.

Runners, walkers and all footwear are welcome, but only those in 2-inch heels will qualify for the first-place prize.

The race sets out at 5 p.m. Other fun beginning at 4 p.m. includes live musical entertainment and family activities in Cambier Park. A beauty pageant will take place in the band shell.

Registration is \$35 for adults, \$15 for children. To sign up or for information about sponsorships, visit www.komenswfl.org.

■ The fourth annual **Southwest Florida Epilepsy Walkathon** takes place from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, Nov. 2, at North Collier Regional Park. Sign up as an individual or form a team and step out to raise funds for the Epilepsy Foundation of Florida. All walkers who raise \$50 will receive a T-shirt. Raise \$1,500 and get a \$100 gift certificate to Best Buy.

For registration or more information, call 254-7710 or 348-5155 or e-mail Danny Rosenfeld at dbrosenfeld08@gmail.com.

■ Conservancy of Southwest Florida invites amateur anglers to sign up for the 20th annual **RedSnook Catch and Release Charity Tournament**. Proceeds support the Conservancy's efforts to protect area waters and fund juvenile game fish research.

A kick-off party and auction take place Friday evening, Nov. 1, at the Naples Yacht Club. Anglers will launch from locations in Naples, Goodland and Everglades City the mornings of Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 2-3. The tournament concludes with an awards ceremony at 6 p.m. Nov. 3, at the Conservancy's Nature Center.

Registration is limited to the first 60 teams that sign up by Oct. 25. Forms for anglers are available at www.conservancy.org/redsnook.

For information about sponsorships, call Nikkie Dvorchak at 403-4219 or

e-mail nikkied@conservancy.org.

■ The fifth annual **All Species Fishing Tournament** to benefit Miracle Limbs-Courage in Motion is set for Saturday, Nov. 16, at Hamilton Harbor Yacht Club. Anglers in the catch-and-release competition will earn points for 19 different species and a mystery fish.

Participation is limited to the first 30 boats that sign up. For more information, call Bob Ayers at 591-8393 or Diana Ayers at 300-8156, e-mail Robert@miraclelimbs.org or visit www.miraclelimbs.org.

■ The Immokalee Foundation's 2013 **Charity Classic Pro-Am golf tournament** pairs two dozen of the world's greatest golfers with Naples' most philanthropic players on Monday, Nov. 18, at Bay Colony Golf Club. This year's chair is Kevin Johnson of Morgan Stanley Private Wealth Management. Entry fees begin at \$5,000. All pro-am golfers will receive tickets to the 2013 Charity Classic Celebration dinner and auction Saturday, Nov. 16, at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort.

To sign up or for more information, contact The Immokalee Foundation by calling 430-9122, e-mailing info@immokaleefoundation.org or visiting www.immokaleefoundation.org.

■ The ninth annual **Iron Joe Turkey Ride** to benefit the Naples Pathways Coalition takes place Sunday, Dec. 1. The race sets out from North Collier Regional Park and gives bicyclists the change to pedal 15, 30 or 62 miles, or to take the 15-mile Crossfit Box Challenge, with the box challenge taking place mid-ride on the beach. The day begins with sunrise yoga from 6:30-7:15 a.m. and includes lunch.

Registration for each of the above is \$30 in advance, \$35 on the day of. To sign up or for more information, visit www.naplespathways.org or e-mail info@naplespathways.org.

Corporate, small business and in-kind sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information, e-mail ruffpathways@gmail.com. ■

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Nominate a public service employee for award

Nominations are open for the 2013 Distinguished Public Service Awards in local law enforcement and emergency medical, fire and support services.

Nominees can be suggested for a single action or for career performance. They must be actively performing duties as a sworn law enforcement or certified jail or communications member, certified emergency medical or fire service member or a civilian of any of the three disciplines. The criteria for selecting award recipients includes, but is not limited to, innovation, community service, professional initiative, meritorious service in the performance of duty and commitment to professionalism.

Nominations are due by Tuesday, Oct. 1. For an application or more information, contact Brenda O'Connor at the



Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce by calling 403-2902 or e-mailing Brenda@napleschamber.org.

Award recipients will be honored at the annual Distinguished Public Service Awards breakfast and ceremony Wednesday, Nov. 13, at the Hilton Naples. ■



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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD

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Happiness is a clean toilet

Beginning in 2011, about three dozen people in Tokyo have been meeting every Sunday at 6 a.m. on a mission to scrub down, one by one, the city's grungiest public restrooms. "By 7:30," according to an Associated Press reporter who witnessed an outing in August, the team had left behind a "gleaming public toilet, looking as good as the day it was installed." Explained the hygiene-intense Satoshi Oda (during the week, a computer programmer), the mission is

"for our own good" — work that leader Masayuki Magome compares to the training that Buddhist monks receive to find peace. (In fact, to fulfill the group's motto, "Clean thyself by cleaning cubicles," the scouring must be done with bare hands.) A squad supporter spoke of a sad, growing apprehension that the younger generation no longer shares the Japanese cultural conviction that restrooms should always be clean and safe. ■

Medical marvels

Colleagues were stunned in May when ABC News editor Don Ennis suddenly appeared at work wearing a little black dress and a red wig and declaring that he had begun hormone therapy and wanted to be called Dawn Ennis. As co-workers accommodated his wishes (which did not seem so unusual in contemporary

professional society), Mr. Ennis began to have second thoughts, and by July had blamed his conversion on "transient global amnesia," brought on by marital difficulties, and had returned to work as Don. Apparently the primary lingering effect is that he must still deal with Dawn's hormone-induced breasts. ■

The entrepreneurial spirit

■ Researchers at the University of Tokyo have developed a mirror that makes a person appear happy even when not. A built-in camera tracks facial features in real time, then tweaks the image to turn up the corners of the mouth and to create the beginnings of a smile in the eyes. Of what practical use would such a mirror be? Other Japanese researchers, according to a Slate.com report in August, believe that happy-face mirrors in retail stores would improve shoppers'

dispositions and lead to more sales. ■ A home ownership boom in China has led to heavily attended housing fairs, in which builders compete zealously to sell their homes, leading to off-beat schemes to draw attention. Among the latest, according to *China Daily*, is one that dresses female models in bare-backed evening wear, with sample floor plans and other housing information painted onto their skin, and sends them wandering through the crowds. ■

Animals gone wild

■ SyFy Channel's recent original movie "Sharknado" briefly became a media sensation in July with a storyline involving large schools of oversized sharks lifted from the ocean by waterspouts and deposited, alive (and angry!) on land to wreak havoc. But as the website Mother Nature News subsequently reported, animals actually have been lifted to land in that fashion in the past. Previous documented news reports of the phenomenon include airborne fish (mudfish in the Philippines, perch in Australia); frogs (in Odzaci, Serbia, in 2005); jellyfish (Bath, England, in 1894); worms (Jennings, La., in 2007); and, according to an 1887 *New*

York Times story, eight alligators in Silvertown Township, S.C. ■ Two macaques escaped from the Straussberg Adventure Park in eastern Germany in July, apparently on the run from the jealous bullying of Cornelius, the resident alpha male. When park officials recaptured the two, they reported that (even though everyone seems to be against "bullying" these days) Fred and Richard would have to be castrated. It was not punishment, the officials explained; it was to calm them and reduce the overall "hormone imbalance" in the park, since males greatly outnumber females. ■

Perspective

The Costa Rican government announced recently that it would close all its zoos, effective March 2014, and free animals either to the wild or to safe "retirement" shelters. Since the country is known for its expansive biodiversity (500,000 unique organisms, despite

occupying barely more than 1/100th of 1 percent of Earth's area), it is time, the environment minister said, to allow the organisms to interact instead of imprisoning them. Costa Rica is also one of only four countries to ban the exploitation of dolphins. ■

Leading economic indicators

■ First-World Problems: Self-indulgent New York City parents have been hiring "play-date" coaches for their preschool youngsters, apparently out of fear that the kids' skill set for just having fun might not impress admissions officers at the city's elite private schools. The CEO of one consulting outfit told the *New York Post* in July that \$400 an hour gets expert monitoring of a 4-year-old in small groups, evaluating, for example, how the child colors in a book, shares the crayons, holds a pencil and follows the rules of Simon Says. ■ An unidentified school in the

West Coast Conference recently self-reported a violation of controversial NCAA rules that restrict privileges for student-athletes, ordering a member of its women's golf team to pay back \$20 after she washed her car using a hose (and water) belonging to the school but which were not available to other students. (A University of Portland coach said he heard about the violation at a conference meeting, and Yahoo Sports, seeking confirmation, reported that an NCAA spokesman soft-pedaled the illegality, calling the school's action a "miscommunication.") ■



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PET TALES

Rules for the road

The welcome mat stays out for clean, quiet canine travelers

BY DR. MARTY BECKER AND GINA SPADAFORI

Universal Uclick

Summer is prime time for vacationing with children, but if your family's "little ones" have four legs and bark, the better time to hit the road is now.

The weather's cooler and the hot travel spots are, too. And that means you'll find favorite destinations a little less crowded and possibly a lot more friendly to people traveling with their canine companions. Maria Goodavage, an author who's an expert in traveling with pets, offered her rules for traveling with a dog in our book "The Ultimate Dog Lover." They include:

- Bring only a well-behaved, friendly, clean, flea-free, healthy, house-trained dog on your travels. Dogs who are dirty and ill-mannered can close doors for future canine travel companions.

- Beware of leaving your dog in the car. Even if it seems cool out, the sun's heat passing through your windows can kill a dog in a matter of minutes.

- Make sure your dog always has access to cool, clean water. Dogs on the road may drink even more than they do at home.

- Take regular breaks. There's nothing more miserable than being stuck in a car when you can't find a rest stop and *really* need one. Imagine how a dog feels when the urge strikes and he can't tell you the problem. How frequently you



Planning, safety and courtesy are keys to a great trip with your dog.

stop depends on your dog's bladder and disposition.

- Play it safe by making sure your dog is wearing his license, ID and rabies tags. Make sure your dog's ID tag shows your cell phone number, since that's how you're reachable while on the road.

The biggest mistake people traveling with dogs make is not following proper "petiquette." This means:

- Never leave your dog alone in your

room. Leaving a dog alone in a strange place invites serious trouble. If you just can't bring your dog along to an outing, some hotels offer pet-sitting, or can provide you with contact information for local sitters and kennels.

- Don't let your dog bark when you're at a lodging or a restaurant.

- Always scoop the poop on your walks. You know it's there. Don't ignore it.

- Don't use your room's ice bucket as a food or water bowl. Gross!

- Yes, your dog needs to be clean. No, don't bathe him in your hotel's tub.

Pack a "doggy bag" that includes your dog's food, bowls (including a non-spill bowl for car rides), bedding, a brush, leash, towels if you'll be in mud or water, a first-aid kit, poop bags, prescription drugs, proof of vaccination, treats, toys and your favorite dog travel guide. (Water you can get on the road.) For dogs who insist on sleeping on the bed with you, bring a sheet to protect the hotel bedding.

Bookmark websites that help you find pet-friendly lodgings or veterinarian practices, or download apps that find hotels and emergency care for you. Plan ahead, stay safe and be considerate, and you and your dog will always be welcomed back. ■

Pets of the Week



>> **Bronson** is a neutered, 4-year-old American Staffordshire terrier/boxer mix who is a beautiful blue brindle color. He weighs about 60 pounds and has a sweet temperament.



>> **Demitrius** is a neutered, 2-year-old Akita/Labrador retriever/Great Dane mix who weighs about 70 pounds and has gorgeous blue eyes. He has started learning his basic obedience commands.



>> **Flame Noire** is a spayed, 3-year-old papillon mix who weighs about 15 pounds and has a wonderful disposition.



>> **Faux Pas** is a neutered, 5-month-old longhaired dachshund mix who is as sweet as he looks.

To adopt a pet

This week's adoptable pets are from **Brooke's Legacy Animal Rescue**, an all-volunteer, foster home rescue organization. For more information, call 434-7480, e-mail Admin@BrookesLegacyAnimalRescue.org or visit www.BrookesLegacyAnimalRescue.com.



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THE DIVA DIARIES

Lamenting the decline of the goods in goody bags



(as opposed to just cleaner), certificates for free massages, boxes of chocolate, umbrellas, Lancôme eye shadow (not a sample either, a really nice compact — I still have it).

These days, a lot of goody bags have lost their luster. I mean, pencils? Really? I don't even own a pencil sharpener. I'm not being ungrateful, trust me. I am very appreciative of all of my emery boards with the names of real estate companies on them. But if you saw the stacks and stacks of notepads I own with pharmaceutical logos on them, you'd think I was a doctor. I miss perfume samples and sewing kits.

I mean, it's fine to get a certificate for discounted Botox, but 10 percent off is NOT is not going to make much of a puncture in the bill. And while I realize that fundraising event organizers are doing their best to fatten up the goody bags, paper menus for restaurants are *not* goodies. If you're a restaurant owner being asked to donate, how about a certificate for a free cocktail, rather than just handing over a stack of menu pamphlets? I have so many menus, when really I could use more rubber jar openers (one can never have enough rubber jar openers, right?). The same does *not* hold true, however, for koozie cups. They're hard to store and I rarely drink out of cans or bottles, but I could easily open up a koozie-cup boutique stuffed to the gills with merchandise — in fact, I wonder how a store that sells only koozie cups, jewelry cleaner and unsharpened pencils would do?

Looking ahead at my social calendar for season and all the goodie bags in my future, we just might find out ...

Champagne & Chocolates

One can always hope to find one or two of Norman Love's decadent confections in the goody bag proffered at the door as one heads home from a fundraising event. What's even better, though, is attending a charitable evening for which the world-renowned chocolatier's sweets are part of the main attraction.

That's what makes the Champagne & Chocolate Tasting to kickoff The United Way of Collier County's annual campaign so sweet: Guests are *guaranteed* to enjoy their fill of Mr. Love's incredible creations as part of the event itself, not just as a treat to keep fingers crossed for in the swag bag on the way home in the car. And not only that, they can cleanse their palates with delightful sips of bubbly in between bites. Savory hors d'oeuvres, live entertainment and fun giveaways are also guaranteed. What's not to love about all that?

The third annual Champagne & Chocolate Tasting takes place from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 18, in the lobby



MARLA OTTENSTEIN / FLORIDA WEEKLY
Tom Donahue and Jeff Jerome at the Champagne & Chocolate Tasting that kicked off the 2012 United Way campaign. Don't miss this year's tasting and campaign launch from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 18, in the lobby bar at the Hilton Naples.

bar at Shula's at the Hilton Naples. Stop by Shula's or call 659-3176 to purchase tickets for \$55 in advance, or pay \$65 at the door.

Chocolate, champagne and The United Way — talk about goodies! ■

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

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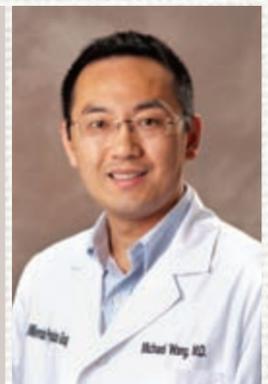
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BUSINESS & REAL ESTATE

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 12-28, 2013

A GUIDE TO THE LOCAL BUSINESS & REAL ESTATE INDUSTRIES



Running on cash



COURTESY PHOTO
Realtor Michael Polly (below) says 60 percent of his business are cash deals, including his house (above), which he recently sold in Fort Myers.

BY ATHENA PONUSHIS
aponushis@floridaweekly.com

MICHAEL POLLY HAS NOTICED THE RESURGENCE of a real estate trend that he has not seen in years: People are able to sell the house they live in to buy a new one. The vice president of real estate operations for Royal Shell Real Estate, Mr. Polly did so himself.

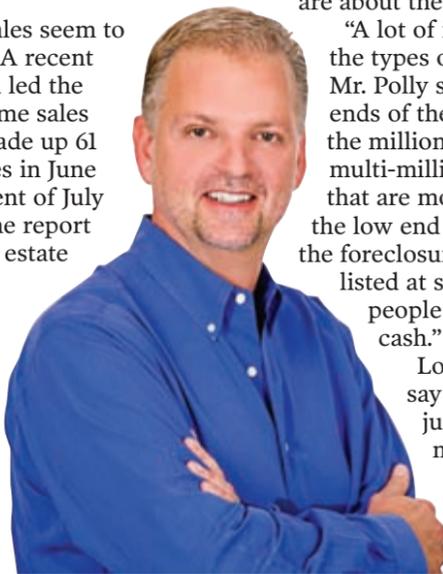
His children are grown. He and his wife wanted to downsize. They sold their house for cash. They paid cash for their new home, a smaller property on the Fort Myers waterfront.

"Before this year, we would not have been able to get the price we needed to get out of our house to make this happen," says Mr. Polly, who took out a small equity line, rather than a traditional mortgage, to cover some

upgrades and remodel work on his new space.

State real estate sales seem to be running on cash. A recent report shows Florida led the nation in all-cash home sales in July. Cash sales made up 61 percent of home sales in June and grew to 66 percent of July sales, according to the report compiled by the real estate research company RealtyTrac Inc.

Royal Shell Real Estate sales reflect these state figures. Mr. Polly says cash deals make up more than 60 percent of their company's busi-



ness in Lee County. Its Collier numbers are about the same.

"A lot of it has to do with the types of properties here," Mr. Polly says. "We have both ends of the spectrum. We have the million-dollar on up to the multi-million-dollar properties that are moving. And we have the low end of the spectrum, all the foreclosures, which have been listed at such a discount that people could afford to pay cash."

Local real estate experts say cash buyers are not just affluent buyers moving money over from their portfolios

SEE CASH, B4 ►

INSIDE



Members only

The Membership Directors Association of SWF, and more Networking photos. **B7-8** ►



The Fool knows

What agribusiness titan recently made its 327th consecutive quarterly dividend payment? **B6** ►



House Hunting

An impeccably maintained third-floor beauty at Tiburon for \$369,000. **B9** ►



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MONEY & INVESTING

Fundamental analysis cannot help bond investors



investors.

Not surprisingly, traditional investment portfolio allocations are made to exactly these (and often only these) asset classes, e.g., bonds and equities. Retail investors have unfortunately been trained that a bond/equity mix is a fully diversified portfolio and that allocations to bonds are a “must”... leaving only the degree of allocation to be decided. (And rarely does the “degree of allocation” mean a zero allocation to bonds.)

Why is there such a proclivity toward a fundamental view of an (at best) crazy, mixed up investment world? Most retail investors or advisors take comfort, both intellectually and emotionally, that they have some understanding of the world or some sense of the direction of interest rates or better understanding of a company’s prospects beyond a company’s annual report and other disclosures; they want to know this in their own due diligence process before they take an investment position. Then they can feel good about what they are doing, whether there are small or gargantuan sums of money at play.

Investors do not want to enter the world of “no one knows” or “it is really risky to be a long-only investor right now.” They prefer to stay in the world of logic and somehow appease their gut or intellect.

Some of the very best fundamental macro investors in the 2008 debacle turned out to be very wrong macro investors post-2008. Often mentioned within

this group is Henry Paulsen who made billions in the mortgage crisis, (definitely a stunning macro call) yet his macro calls since then have been left wanting. In subsequent years, he carried a huge portfolio allocation to gold, which collapsed.

Interest rates and bond prices have clearly displayed over the past several months the high degree of unpredictability and fundamental unknowing that truly exists in investing.

Fundamentalists might think there are reasons to suggest that a U.S. recovery has made a foothold. But with GDP growth under 2.5 percent, where is the rip roaring growth that would warrant higher rates? There is none. Surely, all were promised that the Fed would exit its QEs with grace, but we have come to find out that a hint of their trimming QE caused a mass exit from a theater that was on fire. Surely, Syria, Egypt, Cyprus, etc. would remain on the back burners, until they exploded. And the drama of these worldwide, cataclysmic events seemingly shields from public view that a further U.S. budget induced sequestration is on the immediate horizon — another form of the unknowable.

Which brings us to the U.S. 30 Year Treasury. For two years, the U.S. 30 year has traded mostly under 3.25 percent. Beginning the end of April 2013, interest rates began a rapid rise from 2.8 percent to a recent 3.8 percent, having recently retreated from over 3.9 percent as of mid-August,

To say that such a rise in rates was

knowable is somewhat ridiculous as not only did an imponderable happen, but several imponderables happened!

The newsletters that boast “I told you so” can always be right 50 percent of the time. They just take one of two sides of an investment bet and, over time, they could well be right 50 percent of the time.

And that is why technical trading, trading according to a technical set of rules, according to an algorithm set, is so very important for investors. It doesn’t suppose that it knows anything; it takes no entrenched position; and hopefully, it quickly admits when it is wrong and exits a trade and has the tenacity to stay in a trade and not prematurely take profits and prematurely exit a position. Once an investor accepts the usefulness and validity behind technical trading and using rule sets, then the investor has the emotional and intellectual freedom to venture beyond just equities and bonds and enter the world of many other investment asset classes, including commodities and managed futures.

Investors might think about how technical aspects of investing can be incorporated into their portfolio. It’s not just that technical systems have their own investment merits, but they also can hedge or safeguard against meaningful changes in interest rates and bond prices. ■

— Jeannette Showalter, CFA is a commodities broker with Worldwide Futures Systems, 571-8896. Find her on Facebook at Jeannette Showalter, CFA.

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CASH

From page 1

or other equities, but many cash buyers are second-home buyers who have done well for themselves, built up their savings and can now finally afford to buy the home they have always wanted.

Experts agree all-cash deals are a result of the tightening of mortgage requirements following the easy-lending, "no-doc" era that ended with the housing crisis and recession in 2008. While cash may be good for the market, some brokers worry these restrictions are so tight, they are squeezing out the buyers who do not have cash set aside.

Tiffany McQuaid, broker and owner of McQuaid & Company Real Estate Services in Naples, recalls a recent client approved for an FHA loan who put in an offer on three different properties. Her client was outbid by cash buyers on two of these deals and could not come to terms with the seller on the third. But Ms. McQuaid does not want people to think if they want to buy a house, they have to have cash. She does not want potential buyers to be afraid of FHA loans.

"There's money out there to be lent. Every mortgage broker I talk to sounds busy; business is steady," she says. "It would be misleading to tell people, 'If you don't come to the closing table with cash, forget it.' I don't see that at all."

To put cash sales in context, Ms. McQuaid says just because statistics tally these deals as cash, this does not mean all buyers are coming to the closing table with personal checks. Some may be pre-approved for a mortgage or able to take out an equity line, so they feel confident submitting a cash offer, making themselves look more attractive to the seller and positioning themselves more strongly for negotiations.

Looking over her numbers for last year, Ms. McQuaid says cash sales made up 60 percent of her business. She does not find this surprising, as she feels Southwest Florida has a healthy second-home market. She does like to point out that 75 percent of those cash sales were "end-users," buyers genuinely looking for a second home or primary residence as somewhere to live, not some property to flip.

Cash sales are slightly higher at Satya Realty. Broker Terry Yonker figures cash deals add up to 75 percent of the company's business. The majority of Satya sales are in Port Charlotte and Punta Gorda. Mr. Yonker sees small-scale investors buying homes under \$100,000 and sometimes up to \$200,000 for the rental return on investment. Above the \$200,000 mark, he sees sec-



COURTESY PHOTOS

Tiffany McQuaid (below) recently sold this Butterfly Orchid Lane property in Naples for \$1,575,000 in cash. It is the owner's second home.

ond-home buyers as the primary buyers, buying the home of their dreams. And he sees foreign investors converting euros into Florida real estate, hoping their properties will hold value as confidence in the currency dwindles.

"All-cash deals are much better than financed or government-backed deals for the simple fact that the investor's own money is at risk. Everyone watches and is more cautious with their own money than someone else's," Mr. Yonker writes in an e-mail. "Cash deals are bad for, surprise, those who don't have the cash, which is the proverbial 99 percent or the family that lives paycheck to paycheck."

Continuing his thought, Mr. Yonker writes cash deals might help the market, "since this group is the first to lose their home when that paycheck flow is interrupted. Owning a home is not for everyone. As we have seen, even when you lower lending requirements to try and artificially achieve that goal, it's just a matter of time before the invisible hand of the free market fixes it through foreclosure and subsequently puts the former homeowner in a renting situation again."



Mr. Yonker says cash deals are breathing life into the market but not blowing another bubble.

"It is the owner's money sitting there this time, not the bank's (money)," he writes. "They have an interest to find the highest and best use of each property, be it living there, renting it or building on vacant land, whatever, it's the owner's skin in the game now, not the bank's or yours, via your tax dollars, and that makes all the difference." ■

"There's money out there to be lent. Every mortgage broker I talk to sounds busy, business is steady," she says. "It would be misleading to tell people, 'If you don't come to the closing table with cash, forget it.' I don't see that at all."

— Tiffany McQuaid, broker and owner of McQuaid & Company Real Estate Services in Naples

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ON THE MOVE

Board Appointments

Thomas Moser of Naples has been elected to the board of directors of Save the Children, a global humanitarian and relief organization. He currently serves as a member of the board of directors of New York Life Insurance Company and has worked closely with audit committees and boards of many Fortune 500 companies. He also serves on the boards of Mary's Meals USA and the Naples-based Hope for Haiti.

Newly elected officers on the board of directors for Friends of Rookery Bay are: **Craig Seibert**, a science consultant and former science coordinator for Collier County Public Schools, president; **Julie Edmister**, former campus dean at Edison State College, vice president; **Gina Lostracco**, Fifth Third Bank, treasurer; and **Steve Mutart**, a retired real estate attorney, secretary.

New board members are: **Lisa Koehler**, the South Florida Water Management District; **Shelby Evans**, a former resource management specialist at Rookery Bay National Estuarine Reserve; **Robert Klus**, program manager for Parker Aerospace; and **Curt Wirthoff**, science and education coordinator with Collier County Public Schools.

Insurance

Lou Falconi has joined the staff at Galt Insurance Group. A native of western Pennsylvania, he graduated with honors from Grove City College with a bachelor's degree in financial management and

spent six years working as a mortgage loan officer in Pennsylvania. For the past three years he coached collegiate football at Slippery Rock University and taught public school in Grove City, Pa.

Law

■ **Gerd Franke**, CPA, has been named a principal at Hill, Barth & King. Mr. Franke joined the firm in January 1999 and was promoted to manager in 2005. His specialty areas include private and business clients with international tax issues, non-resident alien matters and foreign-owned real estate interests. He holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from Florida Gulf Coast University.



FRANKE

Financial Planning

Jay Spiller has been named market executive and senior vice president for the Naples office of Cypress Trust Company. He has more than 20 years of leadership experience in investment management, personal trust and financial services with regional and national wealth management firms based in Naples and Vero Beach. He earned a bachelor's degree in business management from Northern Kentucky University. Mr. Spiller volunteers with Habitat for Humanity of Collier County and is a former volunteer and board member of the YMCA of Collier County. ■

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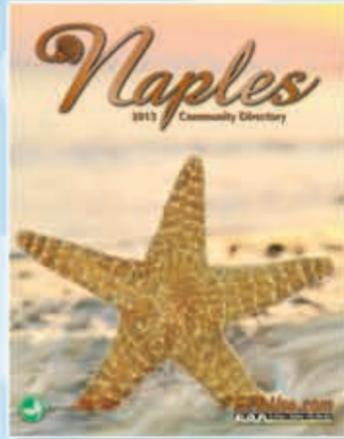
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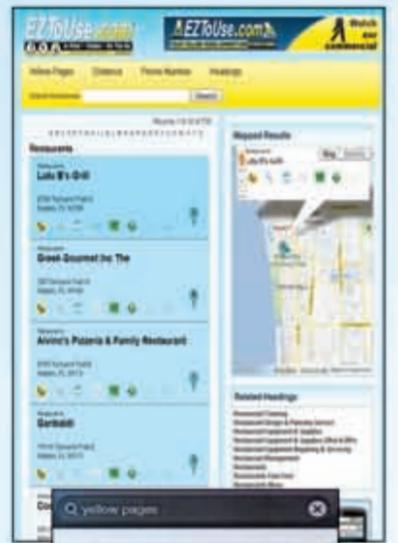
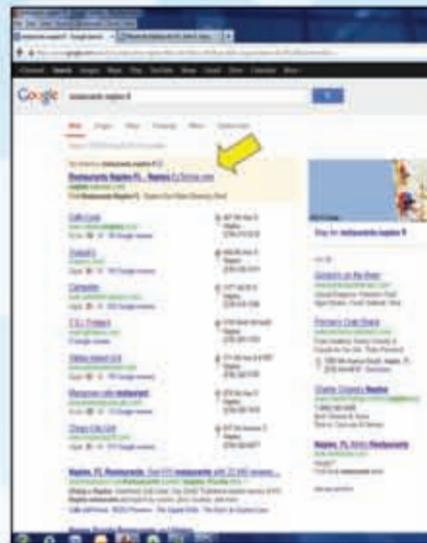


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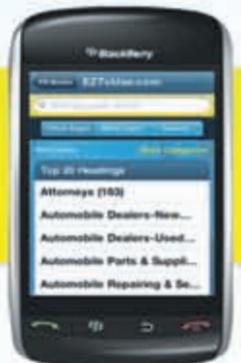
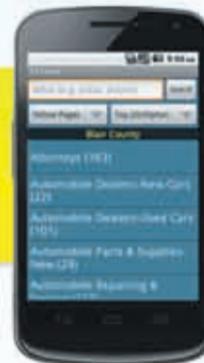
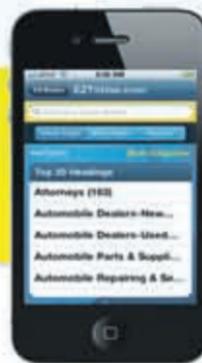
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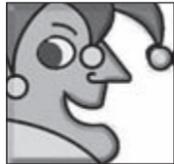
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The Beauty of Bear Markets

The stock market posted a string of losing days in mid-August, leading some to fear a bear market. That's premature, but we should all expect occasional bear markets. Indeed, many of us should actually be hoping for them. That may sound illogical, but if you're plunking money into the stock market over the next decade or three, a flat or falling market is a good thing — for now.

Superinvestor Warren Buffett once explained: "If you expect to be a net saver during the next five years, should you hope for a higher or lower stock market during that period? Many investors get this one wrong. ... Only those who will be sellers of equities in the near future should be happy at seeing stocks rise. Prospective purchasers should much prefer sinking prices."

Over the long run, you're simply better off buying shares of great companies at fair or depressed prices than at higher prices — and bargains abound in bear markets. Why hope to buy shares of a company you admire at \$30 and then \$40

after it rises, when you'd do better buying at \$30 and \$20? If you plan to buy milk for the next 25 years, 10 years of falling milk prices would be welcome, right? (Unless you run a dairy.)

A smart wealth-building strategy is to invest money methodically, understanding that over the long run, the patient investor has usually been rewarded. Those trying to get rich quick in stocks are often just gambling.

The media present a momentary drop in the stock market as unambiguously bad, and the possibility of a longer drop as reason to panic. The only ones who should panic are those who need to sell their holdings soon. That's why it's best to hold stocks only with money you can leave in the market for five, or even 10, years.

If you're investing over the decades ahead, don't let a depressed market depress you. It can be full of profit-making opportunities for the savvy and patient investor. ■

My Dumbest Investment

Young and Bilked

Twenty years ago, my wife and I were newlyweds and did not have a lot of cash. I talked her into investing \$3,000 into one of her friend's investment funds. We liked him and his wife and trusted him. He eventually bilked us for the total amount after buying a private airplane (in which we received a short ride for our \$3,000 investment) and a house in a warm climate, along with many other luxuries. He took his mother's only money for retirement and many other friends' money, too. His monthly reports showed great returns that turned out to be false. We did receive one check for \$300. Not close to what we gave away.

— G.S., Mankato, Minn.

The Fool Responds: Ouch. There are indeed some charlatans out there, such as Bernie Madoff, who also sent his clients falsified reports. One red flag to help you spot such fraudsters is consistent high returns. You can earn high returns in the stock market, but not consistently. There will be good years and bad ones, with the good typically outnumbering the bad. ■



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

Last week's trivia answer

Born in Seattle in 1994, I debuted on the stock market in 1997. I'm one of Earth's top retailers, offering everything from books to spoons, watches, cereal, shoes and more. I offer one-click shopping, streaming video and electronic tablets, among many other things. More than 2 million businesses and sellers use my e-commerce platform, and I've offered cloud computing-based services for years. My stock has grown by an average of 22 percent annually over the past decade. I aim to be the most customer-centric company. My annual revenue tops \$66 billion and I employ more than 88,000 people. Who am I? (Answer: Amazon.com) ■



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Ask the Fool

Confused Experts?

How can it be that via watching CNBC, reading financial magazines and checking out Motley Fool opinions on stocks, I often see one source recommending buying a stock and another recommending selling it?

— J.R., Sacramento, Calif.

It's rarely certain that a given stock will rise or fall. Every investor or analyst has his or her own opinion, and sometimes, inevitably, they're wrong. They can have different focuses, too. Some might seek very undervalued stocks, while others will accept a smaller margin of safety in exchange for greater possible growth. Read the arguments, do your own research and make up your own mind.

What's a "high-yield" stock?

— B.S., online

It's one that pays out a relatively hefty dividend, expressed as the dividend yield. Dividend yield is simply the current annual dividend amount divided by the stock's current price.

If McDonald Farms (ticker: EIEIO) pays \$1 per year (typically, it would be \$0.25 per quarter) and trades for \$25 per share, its yield is 4 percent (1 divided by 25 is 0.04).

Some solid companies, such as Visa, sport low dividend yields. Others, such as Google, pay no dividend at all. That's not necessarily bad; it just suggests that these companies have better things to do with their money, such as reinvesting it to grow their business. Instead of a dividend, they might deliver relatively rapid stock price appreciation, though that's never guaranteed. Dividends aren't guaranteed, either, but with established, growing companies, they're darn reliable and provide welcome income.

For a long list of promising high-yield stocks, try our "Motley Fool Income Investor" newsletter for free at fool.com/shop/newsletters. (The Motley Fool owns shares of Google and its newsletters have recommended it and Visa.) ■

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

Name That Company

Founded in 1902 and based in Decatur, Ill., I started out as a linseed company. Today I'm an agribusiness titan, turning corn, oilseeds, wheat and cocoa into products for food, animal feed, industrial and energy uses. I've added a major business line about every decade: milling, processing, specialty feed ingredients, specialty food ingredients, cocoa and nutrition. I built an ethanol plant during the Arab oil embargo in the 1970s. I recently made my



327th consecutive quarterly dividend payment, a record of 81 uninterrupted years. I rake in more than \$90 billion annually and employ about 30,000 people. Who am I? ■

The Motley Fool Take

Wiring Profits

Move over, paper checks and bank wires. A new way to send money from place to place is catching on in a big way. Meet the online money transfer, which will revolutionize the industry of sending cash from point to point. One of the best ways to invest in this new development is via Western Union (NYSE: WU), which offers a convenient, inexpensive way to send cash to any country you please.

Once, Western Union was the only game in town. But it got too comfortable in its market-leading position and lost exclusive contracts with agents in Mexico while failing to cut prices to thwart competitors elsewhere around the world. Industry rivals capitalized on that weakness.

It hasn't been the end of Western Union, though. Remember, this company survived the death of the telegraph, so disruptive technology is nothing new. It's already growing its online business at a 30-percent-plus annual clip.

Western Union still has major competitive advantages. Its network includes 500,000 agents, and it offers some services others don't, such as two-way money transfers. Its profitability is unmatched, as it turns \$0.17 of every dollar in revenue into pure free cash flow (an average of \$1 billion in each of the last five years).

With its P/E ratio recently near 11, Western Union deserves a higher valuation. (The Motley Fool's newsletters have recommended Western Union.) ■

BUSINESS MEETINGS

■ **A Job Search Support Group** meets from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Mondays at the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce. Contact Karen Klukiewicz at kluk77@comcast.net or visit www.napleschamber.org.

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

■ The **Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce** holds its next Business After Hours for members and guests from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 12, at the Colony Golf & Bay Club, 41010 Pelican

Colony Blvd. \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door for members, \$30 for others. 992-2943 or www.bonitaspringschamber.com.

■ The **Leadership Collier Foundation** kicks off its 25th anniversary season and the Class of 2014 at a reception from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 12, at the Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club. Guest speaker will be John Cox, the new president and CEO of the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce. \$25. Reservations are required and can be made at www.napleschamber.org/events.

■ The **East Naples Merchants Association** meets for Business After Business at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 12, at Physicians Regional-Collier Boulevard. For more information, call 435-9410 or 643-

3600 or visit www.eastnaplesmerchantsassoc.com.

■ **Business After Five** for members and guests of the Marco Island Area Chamber of Commerce takes place from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 18, at Marco Island Florist & Gifts 178 S. Barfield Drive. \$5 for members, \$10 for others.

■ The **Council of Hispanic Business Professionals** holds its next networking event from 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 18, at River Park Community Center, 451 111th St. N. For more information, call 449-8668 or e-mail webmaster@chbnaples.org.

■ **Business After Five** for members and guests of the Greater Naples Cham-

ber of Commerce takes place from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19, at the Naples Municipal Airport. \$8 for chamber members, \$25 for others. Sign up at www.napleschamber.org/events.

■ The annual meeting of the **Collier County Lodging and Tourism Alliance** begins at 8:30 a.m. Friday, Sept. 27, at the Waldorf Astoria Naples. Guest speakers will be Bruce Register, economic development director for Collier County, and Jack Wert, director of the Naples, Marco Island and Everglades Convention and Visitors Bureau. Visitors are welcome with advance registration. Cost is \$10 per person, payable at the door by cash or check (no credit cards). RSVP by e-mailing lisa.cclta@gmail.com no later than Monday, Sept. 23. ■

NETWORKING

Annual meeting of the Membership Directors Association of Southwest Florida



Nancy Muschong and Chris Pilgrim



Pat Schulz, Lisa Wilson, Sandy Cotter and Kimberly Doersein



Sara James and Daniela Jacob



Debbie Lohan and Melissa Hansen



Debbie Lohan and Melissa Hansen



Melody Kapauf, Alesia Mata and Sue Weber



Renee Easley and Barbara Alderson

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Sponsors, vendors invited to Marco area home expo

The Marco Island Area Chamber of Commerce invites sponsors and exhibitors to sign up for the second annual Marco Island Area Home Show set for Thursday, Nov. 14, in the Capri Ballroom at the Marco Island Marriott Beach Resort & Spa. Business-to-business networking will take place from 3:30-4 p.m.; the expo will be in the Capri Ballroom from 4-7 p.m.

The show is designed to showcase

businesses that provide goods and services related to the home, from floor to ceiling, inside and out.

Cost for exhibitors starts at \$300 for chamber members and \$500 for non-members. Deadline for vendors to sign up is Nov. 1. Sponsorships are also available and must be secured by Oct. 1.

For more information, call Katie O'Hara at 394-7549 or e-mail katie@marcoislandchamber.org.

Health-care reform help for small businesses

Score Naples and the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce offer a workshop titled "Health-Care Reform for the Small Business Owner" from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 14, at chamber headquarters, 2390 Tamiami Trail N. The session will help owners of small businesses develop a plan for implementing the Obamacare legislation. Topics include:

- Strategies to consider before your next renewal.

- Public versus private exchange options.

- How modified community ratings will impact premiums in January 2014.

Presenters are employee benefits advisors Timothy McGee and Trudy Stemen will lead the workshop.

Cost is \$35. To sign up or for more information, visit www.napleschamber.org/events or e-mail info@napleschamber.org.

NETWORKING

Preview reception for the Naples Fall Auction at Leslie Hindman Auctioneers



J.T. and Stephanie Webb



Barb Uible, Gred Klaucke and Rickie Klein



Bob and Theresa Stommel



Maggie Degler, Rosemary Coyn and Alice Cutrona



Elizabeth and John Bock



George and Wynnell Schrenk, Kristen Vaughn, Robin Hamilton and Ron Ciesla



Janis Hopkins and Barbara Rooch



Jack O'Brien, Rhona Saunders, Robin DeMattia and Brad Heiges

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

TIM GIBBONS / FLORIDA WEEKLY

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REAL ESTATE

WEEK OF SEPT. 12-18, 2013

A GUIDE TO THE LOCAL REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY

B9



COURTESY PHOTOS

House Hunting:

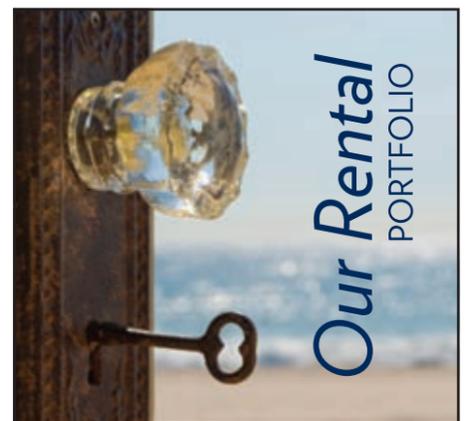
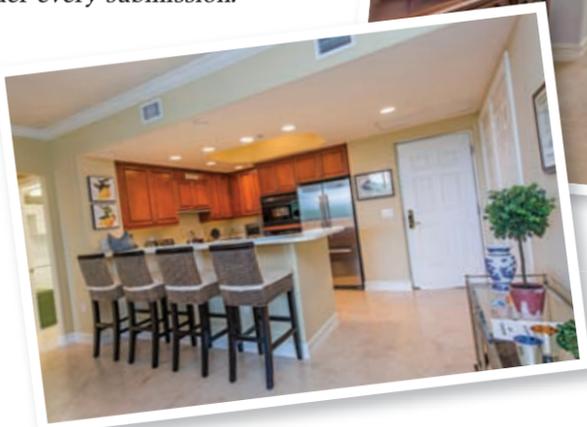
2748 Tiburon Blvd. E., #303

This third-floor, 1,470-square-foot residence at Ventana in the amenity-rich Tiburon Golf Resort has been newly painted and impeccably maintained. With two bedrooms, two baths and a private screened lanai, it has new tile and hardwood floors, Corian counters and wood cabinets, a new air-conditioning system and new stainless steel refrigerator and dishwasher. It comes with one parking space in the under-the-building garage, a storage unit, a community pool and a one-year home warranty.

Several levels of membership are available at Tiburon Golf Resort, which has the Rick Smith Golf Academy and two Greg Norman courses featuring 36 championship holes, a 27,000-square-foot clubhouse with three dining rooms, private member locker rooms, fitness center and spa services, heated pool, four lighted tennis courts and luxury beach transport.

The property is listed at \$369,000 by Karyn and Rowan Samuel, The Samuel Team at John R. Wood Realtors. Call 298-3555, e-mail rowan@lovingnaples.com or visit www.lovingnaples.com. ■

— Have a property you want to show off? Send it along with high-resolution photos to househunting@floridaweekly.com. We don't guarantee publication, but we will consider every submission.



Premier | Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY
Rental Division

NAPLES

Park Shore | Venetian Bayview
2BR/2BA condominium on the 5th floor.
Furnished. \$1,100

Carlton Lakes | Lakeview
2BR/2BA condominium on the 2nd floor.
Furnished. \$1,155

Pipers Grove
2BR/2BA + den end residence condominium on the 2nd floor with lake view. Unfurnished. \$1,500

Vanderbilt Beach | Gulf Breeze
2BR/2BA condominium with Gulf views.
Furnished. \$1,500

Ambassador Club
2BR/2BA first floor condominium on a canal. Across from the beach. Unfurnished. \$2,000

Mercato | The Strada
2BR/2BA Coastal Retreat model. Fabulous location and amenities. Furnished. \$3,500

Pelican Bay | Bay Villas
3BR/2BA villa with private pool and garage. Spacious. Unfurnished. \$3,600

Pelican Marsh | Timarron
3BR+den lakefront house with pool and spa. Furnished. \$3,600

The Dunes | Grande Phoenician
3BR/3BA 15th-floor condominium with private elevator & spectacular views. Unfurnished. \$4,000

Pelican Bay
3BR/3.5BA courtyard pool home. Lake view. Unfurnished. \$6,000

Old Naples
4BR/3.5BA+den pool home, 2 blocks to beach and 5th Avenue. Unfurnished or partially furnished. \$14,000

Port Royal
4BR/4.5BA pool home with theater room. Unfurnished. \$16,800

FORT MYERS, ESTERO & BONITA SPRINGS

The Brooks | Palmetto Ridge
3BR/2BA 2nd-floor condominium with garage. Unfurnished. \$1,500

Stoneybrook
3BR/2BA lakefront home in golf community. Partially furnished. \$1,600

Bonita Bay | Esperia
3BR/2BA 15th-floor condominium with expansive Gulf views. Unfurnished. \$2,950

Pelican Landing | Palermo
3BR/3BA luxurious high-rise in The Colony. Private elevator and entry. Unfurnished. \$3,300

Bonita Bay | Tuckaweye
3BR/3BA courtyard villa with heated pool and waterfall. Furnished. \$3,500

Mediterra | Calabria
3BR/3BA+den coach home. Granite, gas stove, and gorgeous! Unfurnished. \$3,600

Bonita Bay | Woodlake
3BR/3BA+den pool home. Pets allowed. Furnished. \$4,500

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The Heart of **VILLAGE WALK** and **ISLAND WALK** is the focus of the community's unique Town Center that creates a carefree lifestyle - a lifestyle people dream about; meeting friends for a swim, a work out at the state of the art fitness center, a set of tennis, or meeting for one of the planned activities...then grabbing lunch or dinner at the on-site restaurant... relaxing to the soothing sounds of fountains or taking a relaxing stroll back home around the many lakes and footbridges! The Town Center is reserved exclusively for resident's use with no equity or membership fees! The communities offer prime locations close to local beaches, fine dining, entertainment, shopping, area hospitals, and SW International Airport. Schedule your private tour of the awarding winning communities today!

VILLAGE WALK ♦ FEATURED PROPERTY ♦ VILLAGE WALK

NEW LISTING



OAKMONT 3BR, 2.5BA PLUS DEN offers prime location. Heads above the competition! **50K KITCHEN REMODEL**, not refaced - **REMOVED AND REPLACED!** Near cul-de-sac location with a bridge view from the pool area. Roll down hurricane shutters, 3 year old a/c, screen front entry, larger tile, newer hot water heater, garage cabinets, jetted tub in master, built in speakers in great room and lanai, and so much more. **ORIGINAL OWNER.** Love this house and Love this community - **MAKE AN APPOINTMENT TO VIEW TODAY. \$419,000**

VILLAGE WALK



MAGNIFICENT details set this **4BR, 3.5BA 3 Car Garage Stately Manor** apart from all the rest! The open floor plan is stunning, offering plenty of room to entertain family and friends with formal dining and living rooms, a large family room and Florida room, 3 guest suites, and a private master suite that is a self contained hideaway designed to give the homeowner a private retreat. The master suite offers a sitting room, walk-in closets, and a fabulous master bath that has just been **completely updated** with new shower, new counter tops, and cabinets. This lovely home also features new Granite counters, cook top, microwave, and double oven. The very private screened lanai features a heated pool, lush tropical landscaping and is sure to be a favorite gathering place. This meticulously maintained home also has newer A/C units, **electric hurricane shutters** for the entire home, and a paver brick driveway creates get curb appeal! **VISUAL TOUR AVAILABLE! A MUST SEE OFFERED AT \$563,000**

VILLAGE WALK



NEW LISTING



CLASSIC EXTENDED 2/2 CAPRI VILLA in the original North Naples Village Walk. **LESS THAN 5 MILES TO VANDERBILT BEACH AND LESS THAN 4 MILES TO MERCATO SHOPPING** and dining. Cul-de-sac location, large screen enclosed patio, hurricane shutters, wide side yard, inside painted less than one year ago, and carpet was replaced last year too. **\$279,000**

VILLAGE WALK



PENDING



PRIME CUL-DE-SAC LOCATION! 3BR, 3BA plus den features the popular Oakmont floor plan, and is ready to **MOVE RIGHT IN!** The original owners used the home on a seasonal part time basis so the home has been "lightly" lived in! The home features include tile on the diagonal in the great room, built-in entertainment center, crown molding and extensive trim work, newer refrigerator, additional landscaping and screen lanai with lake view! Turnkey package available! **\$375,000**

VILLAGE WALK



EXTENDED CAPRI in the cul-de-sac of Ventura Court. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage, large screened patio, roll down hurricane shutters, lake and fountain views. **PRICED TO SELL \$280,000**

VILLAGE WALK



RARELY AVAILABLE 3BR, 2BA, 2 CAR GARAGE REGENT! Lovely light and bright home is **PRISTINE**, used only occasionally by current homeowner, and lives like a single family home! Features includes wood floors in bedrooms and great room, newly updated showers in both baths, guest bath also offers a new jetted tub, a screened lanai with private heated pool and lake views completes this perfect patio home. The pool has been recently refinished and has a new tank less heater, the screen enclosed was completely rescreened in July 2013! **MOVE IN READY AND A MUST SEE! \$319,500**



ILLUSTRATED PROPERTIES

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JOANNE CIESIELSKI | 239.287.6732



BRIAN CAREY | 239.370.8687





GREY OAKS



Grand Isle Toscano Estate

- 6 + Bedrooms, 7 Full & 4-Half Baths
- 800 Bottle Wine Room Plus Movie Theater
- Chef's Kitchen & Butler's Pantry
- Absolutely Stunning Swimming Pool & Spa
- \$7,995,000 MLS 212017879
- Steve Suddeth & Ben Maltese 239.784.0693

MEDITERRA



Mediterranean Estate

- 5 Bedroom +Den, 5.5 Baths
- Stunning Pool & Spa, Bird Cage Elevator
- Exquisite Setting Overlooking Lake & Golf Course
- 9,760 Sq Ft Of Living Space, Wine Cellar
- \$4,995,000 MLS 212038463
- Lauren & Mike Taranto 239.572.3078

PORT ROYAL



Port Royal

- 2 Bedrooms +Den, 2 Baths
- Offered At Lot Value w/1956 Cottage Included As-Is
- Views Of Galleon Bay, Direct Gulf Access
- Port Royal Club Eligibility
- \$3,900,000 MLS 213008712
- Lauren & Mike Taranto 239.572.3078

MARCO ISLAND



Exquisite Estate Home

- 5 Bedrooms, 4.5-Baths, Over 4,800 S.F. Under Air
- Situated on Prestigious Roberts Bay
- Expansive Outdoor Area w/Heated Pool & More
- 107 Feet of Gorgeous Water Frontage
- \$2,800,000 MLS 212030384
- Carolyn Rzaca 239.877.1006

BONITA BAY

NEW LISTING



Esperia South

- Professionally Decorated 18th Floor Luxury High Rise
- Breathtaking City, Back Bay & Gulf Views
- Approx. 2,730 Under Air & 3,050 Total s/f
- Private Elevator Entrance - Turnkey Furnished
- \$1,125,000 MLS 213500916
- Corye Reiter, The Lummis Team 239.273.3722

PELICAN BAY



Pelican Bay

- 3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths
- 3-Story Villa, High End Finishes
- Tropical Garden & Private Pool
- Wonderful Amenities
- \$1,000,000 MLS 213000158
- Martinovich & Nulf 239.398.3929

THE COLONY AT PELICAN LANDING



The Colony At Pelican Landing

- Sweeping Vistas of Estero Bay and Gulf
- Terraces On The West & East
- Open Floor Plan With Great Room
- Exquisite Appointments
- \$985,000 MLS 213023424
- Heather Wightman 239.450.1891

BONITA BAY



Bonita Bay

- 3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths
- Professionally Designed, Turnkey Furnished
- Resort Style Amenities
- Southwest Exposure
- \$847,500 MLS 212023955
- Martinovich & Nulf 239.564.1266

BONITA BEACH



The Egret At Bonita Beach

- Pristine Top Floor Corner Unit
- 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 2 Balconies
- Breathtaking Views of the Gulf of Mexico
- Furnished & Covered Parking
- \$569,000 MLS 212021331
- Denise Stilwell 239.273.0990

OLDE NAPLES



South Beach Club

- Top Floor West Facing 2 Bedroom +Den, 2 Bath Condo
- Totally Renovated & Furnished
- Walk To 3rd St S & 5th Ave S Shops & Restaurants
- Three Blocks To The Beach
- \$550,000 MLS 213020958
- Liz Appling 239.272.7201

AVELLINO ISLES



Vineyards

- Beautifully Upgraded Michelangelo Model
- Upgraded Gourmet Kitchen
- Lake View with Fountains
- Columns and Archways
- \$537,000 MLS 212024564
- Kurt Petersen 239.777.0408

PELICAN MARSH



Pelican Marsh

- 3 Bedroom +Den w/2 Car Garage
- Turnkey w/Lake Views
- 2,400 Square Feet Of Living Space
- Close to Strada at Mercato, Vanderbilt Beach!
- \$525,000 MLS 213013455
- Debbie Dekevich 239.877.4194

MARINA MANOR



Olde Naples

- Walking Distance to Olde Naples and Beaches
- Remodeled 1st Floor Unit with 2 Master Bedrooms
- Upgraded Kitchen with Granite and New Appliances
- Boater's Paradise, Boat Dock Deeded with Condo
- \$469,000 MLS 213500339
- Frank Dekevich 239-877-4193

MEADOWBROOK

NEW LISTING



Bonita Springs

- Waterfront! Moments to Gulf Access For Boat
- Spacious 4 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms, Leisure Room
- View of Lighted Fountain From Gourmet Kitchen w/Granite
- Solar Heated Pool & Spa / Home Control Assistant
- \$468,000 MLS 213500284
- Jamie Lienhardt 239.565.4268

FIDDLER'S CREEK



Cascada Subdivision in Fiddler's Creek

- Gorgeous Robb & Stucky Furnished Home
- Over 3,000 Air Conditioned Square Feet
- 3 Plus Den and 3 Baths
- Great Community with Amenities
- \$449,000 MLS 213020779
- Kurt Petersen 239.777.0408

COPPERLEAF AT THE BROOKS



Copperleaf At The Brooks

- 2 Bedroom + Den, 2 Bath
- Turnkey Furnished
- Bundled Golf Community
- Electric Hurricane Shutters
- \$389,000 MLS 213020493
- Bette Pitzer 239.560.2627

EDENBRIDGE GARDENS



Bonita Springs

- Completely Remodeled 3 Bed/3 Bath/ Family Room
- Beautiful Landscaped & Water View
- Only 3 Miles to Beaches, Minutes to Shopping
- Furnishings Negotiable
- \$305,000 MLS 213019924
- Vahle Team 239.450.7805

WEST BAY CLUB



West Bay Club

- 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, 2040 Sq. Ft. Under Air
- 2nd Floor Coach Home, Tile Throughout
- Championship Pete Dye Signature Course
- Dry Dock Boat Storage For Residents
- \$284,900 MLS 213009301
- Pam Olsen 239.464.6873

PELICAN LANDING



Lakemont Cove

- 2 Bedrooms & 2 Baths
- Enclosed, Tiled Lanai
- Private Island & Water Taxi
- Golf Available, Tennis & Fitness Center
- \$185,000 MLS 213002876
- Beth James 239.287.4663

HIGHLAND WOODS



St. Andrews Verandas

- 2BR/ 2BA w/ Expansive Lake & Golf Views
- Convenient to Community Pool
- Beautifully Maintained & Tastefully Decorated
- Two Screened Lanai's
- \$168,500 MLS 213500687
- Mike Fagan, The Fagan Team 239.340.5455



Come out of your shell *and into one of ours.*

MEDITERRA



Magnificent Estate Home

- 4 Bedroom + Den, 4 Full & 1 Half Baths
- Impact Glass, Electric Shutters & Screens
- Outdoor Living Room w/ Fireplace
- Private Lush Homesite
- \$2,649,999 MLS 213000934
- Martinovich & Nulf 239.565.2139

SHADOW WOOD AT THE BROOKS



Lake Forest

- Stunning 4,583 s/f Custom Home, 4 BR + Den, 4.5 Baths
- Lanai Has 192' Lake View, Left to Right, Preserve Beyond
- Natural Gas, Granite Kitchen, Pool, Spa, Summer Kitchen & Fireplace
- 3 Car Garage, 3 Zone HVAC, Natural Gas Generator
- \$1,950,000 MLS 213025084
- Greg Lewis, The Lewis Team 239.287.1158

TALIS PARK



Tuscan Villa

- 3 Bedroom + Den, 4 Baths
- Former Model, Courtyard
- Pool/Spa With Blue Glass Tile
- Views of 10th Hole
- \$1,895,000 MLS 213501277
- Steve Suddeth & Jennifer Nicolai 239.784.0693

VANDERBILT BEACH



Vanderbilt Lagoon Villas #5

- 3 Bedrooms + Den, 2.5 Baths
- End Unit Townhome In Mint Condition
- 30 Ft. Boat Dock w/ 15,000 lb. Lift
- Also Available #1 At \$1,595,000
- \$1,695,000 MLS 212020951
- Steve Suddeth & Jennifer Nicolai 239.784.0693

BONITA BAY



Cranbrook At Bonita Bay

- Well Maintained 2-Story Home, 3BR + Loft, 3.5 Baths
- Beautiful Pool Area w/ Spa & Waterfall
- 3,187 Sq. Ft. Under Air, Tile Throughout
- Master Bedroom On First Or Second Floor w/ Own Lanai.
- \$695,000 MLS 213023987
- Linda Ramsey 239.405.3054

CEDAR HAMMOCK



Cedar Hammock

- 3 Bedrooms + Den, 3.5 Baths
- 2,750 Sq. Ft., 2.5 Car Garage
- Pool Home w/ Lake & Golf View
- All Custom Features
- \$650,000 MLS 213024651
- Denny Grimes 239.851.4663

THE QUARRY



The Quarry

- 3 Bedroom + Den, 3 Baths
- Open Floor Plan, Large Great Room
- Tropical Lanai Overlooks Preserve & Golf Course
- Gated Community, Boating & Golf
- \$625,000 MLS 213019310
- Kristin Cavella-Whorrall 239.821.6330

BONITA BAY



Room With A View

- 2 Bedrooms + Den, 3 Baths
- Private Outdoor Terraces
- High-Rise Impact Glass
- Upscale Amenities, Guest Suites
- \$599,000 MLS 212006581
- Martinovich & Nulf 239.564.1266

BONITA BEACH



The Egret

- 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath
- Spectacular Views of Gulf of Mexico
- Open Floor Plan, Offered Turnkey
- 7th Floor Residence
- \$499,000 MLS 212037496
- Denise Stilwell 239.273.0990

LELY RESORT



Lely Resort

- 3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths
- Paved Courtyard With Pool
- Guest Suite
- Wonderful Amenities
- \$495,000 MLS 213022803
- Vivienne Sinkow 239.405.0638

PELICAN BAY



Pelican Bay

- 3 Bedroom, 3 Bath, Exciting Floor Plan
- 25' Ceiling, Peaceful Water Views
- 2,000 S.F. Of Living Space & Furnished
- Walk To Private Beach, The Phil & Waterside
- \$470,000 MLS 212036583
- Marya Doonan 239.450.4000

COPPERLEAF AT THE BROOKS



Copperleaf At The Brooks

- Great Location
- Extended Lanai
- Lake To Golf Course View
- Hurricane Shutters
- \$469,000 MLS 213017389
- Bette Pitzer 239.560.2627

RESIDENCES AT COCONUT POINT

NEW LISTING



Fantastic Panoramic Views

- Ideal Location in The Heart of Fashion Drive
- 2+Den/2 Bath/1 Assigned Parking Under Building
- Gorgeous Interiors Including Wood Floors
- Gourmet Kitchen w/ Stainless Steel Appliances & Granite
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- Single Family Home with Pool & Spa
- Quiet Residential Neighborhood
- Very Low HOA Fees
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NEW PRICE



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- Upgrades Throughout
- Beautiful Fountain Lake View w/ SW Exposure
- Over 2,100 s/f of Living Area
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- Donald Faber, The Fagan Team 239.634.0989

BRIARWOOD



Briarwood

- 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
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- Gourmet Kitchen w/ Stainless Steel Appliances
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Naples

- 3 Bedrooms + Den, 3.5 Baths
- Custom Built Pool Home
- Gulf Access
- Private Boat Lift on Canal
- \$8,500 / Month MLS 213023646
- Debbie Hunt 239.398.5529

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- Immaculate 3 Bedroom + Den Residence
- Golf Course Views
- Furnished with Florida Style Dé cor
- Minutes to the Beach, Shopping and Dining
- \$3,500 / Month MLS 213022266
- Jeff Windland 239.285.1198

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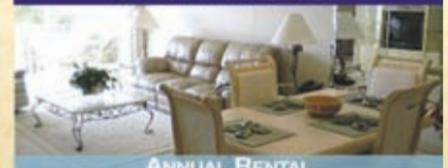


ANNUAL RENTAL

The Dunes

- 2 Bedroom + Den, 3 Baths
- 2,200 Sq. Ft.
- Wonderful City/Bay and Gulf Views
- Fabulous Amenities
- \$3,000 / Month MLS 211509326
- Marjorie Workinger 239.325.3516

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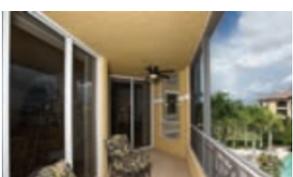
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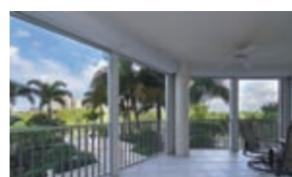
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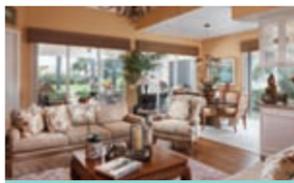
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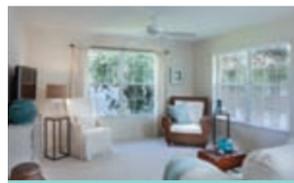
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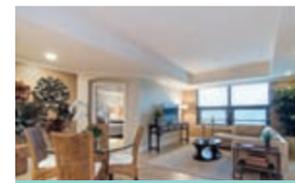
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Brock/Julie Wilson 239.821.9545
premiersir.com/id/213015924 \$1,125,000



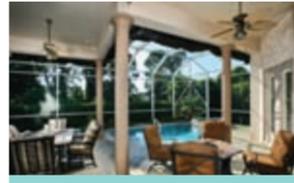
MARCO ISLAND

341 Seabreeze Drive
Cathy Rogers 239.821.7926
premiersir.com/id/213016248 \$1,050,000



MARCO ISLAND

1240 Stone Court
Dave Flowers 239.404.0493
premiersir.com/id/2135005172 \$849,000



MARCO ISLAND

1389 Bayport Avenue
Roe Tamagni 239.398.1222
premiersir.com/id/212028132 \$799,000



MARCO ISLAND

1284 Collier Blvd. North
Brock/Julie Wilson 239.821.9545
premiersir.com/id/213020113 \$759,000



MARCO ISLAND

Courtyard Towers #301
Angelica Andrews 239.595.7653
premiersir.com/id/213020077 \$599,000



MARCO ISLAND

Royal Marco Point I #404
Darlene Roddy 239.404.0685
premiersir.com/id/213017866 \$595,000



MARCO ISLAND

Moorings of Marco #202
Darlene Roddy 239.404.0685
premiersir.com/id/213020402 \$325,000



MARCO ISLAND

1101 San Marco Road
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premiersir.com/id/213501320 \$269,000



MARCO ISLAND

Tropic Schooner #1
Dave Flowers 239.404.0493
premiersir.com/id/213006917 \$139,000



MARCO ISLAND

Ville de Marco #E-1
Robin Taylor 239.250.9016
premiersir.com/id/213023862 \$135,900



MARCO ISLAND

Wexford Place #9
Angelica Andrews 239.595.7653
premiersir.com/id/212028298 \$116,000



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8519 Bellagio Drive
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premiersir.com/id/213005268 \$495,000



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premiersir.com/id/213501331 \$495,000



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premiersir.com/id/213501789 \$485,000



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premiersir.com/id/213501400 \$424,900



FIDDLER'S CREEK

Marengo #102
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premiersir.com/id/213017855 \$399,000



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premiersir.com/id/213501306 \$395,000



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premiersir.com/id/213501182 \$349,900



FIDDLER'S CREEK

Varenna #101
Lura Jones 239.370.5340
premiersir.com/id/211522962 \$349,500



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Deer Crossing #201
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premiersir.com/id/213011289 \$299,000



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8591 Pepper Tree Way
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premiersir.com/id/212008493 \$282,000



FIDDLER'S CREEK

4521 Cardinal Cove Lane
Michael/Maureen Joyce 239.285.6275
premiersir.com/id/213502071 \$239,999



FIDDLER'S CREEK

4553 Cardinal Cove Lane
Michael/Maureen Joyce 239.285.6275
premiersir.com/id/213502038 \$198,000



FIDDLER'S CREEK

Hawk's Nest #203
Michelle L. Thomas 239.860.7176
premiersir.com/id/213006454 \$165,000



FIDDLER'S CREEK

Whisper Trace #203
Lura Jones 239.370.5340
premiersir.com/id/213008872 \$153,000



CAPTIVA

1121 Schefflera Court
Denise Chambre 239.247.2868
premiersir.com/id/211522273 \$4,499,000



FORT MYERS

11340 Longwater Chase Court
Deb Smith 239.826.3416
premiersir.com/id/212038400 \$3,350,000



SANIBEL

428 Bella Vista Way East
Augustina Holtz 914.648.8888
premiersir.com/id/213502087 \$1,986,000



FORT MYERS

828 Cape View Drive
Denise Chambre 239.247.2868
premiersir.com/id/212028394 \$699,000



FORT MYERS

404 Keenan Avenue
Denise Chambre 239.247.2868
premiersir.com/id/212033851 \$499,000



SANIBEL

1246 Sand Castle Road
Jean Baer 239.691.9249
premiersir.com/id/212003055 \$399,000



FORT MYERS BEACH

Island Reef Club #103
Stephanie Bissett 239.292.3707
premiersir.com/id/213021805 \$380,000



FORT MYERS

2201 Jackson Street
Denise Chambre 239.247.2868
premiersir.com/id/213021376 \$219,000



FORT MYERS BEACH

Sanibel View Villas #2309
Denise Chambre 239.247.2868
premiersir.com/id/213005773 \$211,499



CAPE CORAL

1708 5th Place NW
Stephanie Bissett 239.292.3707
premiersir.com/id/213501762 \$150,000

REAL ESTATE ROUNDUP

■ **Robb & Stucky International** has been awarded a contract to provide total furnishings and interior details for a Mediterranean-style village of coach homes within Fiddler's Creek. The design firm's Joanne Wilseck and Tricia Lynch have been named lead designers for the Verona model in Sonoma.

The Verona is the upstairs unit and is the largest residence available in Sonoma, encompassing 2,141 air-conditioned square feet. The home features two bedrooms, a den and two baths situated around a central living room, kitchen, breakfast area and dining room. With completion expected this summer, the model will have a starting price of \$300,990.

■ Construction on **Minto Communities' Island Club** at Bonita Isles is ahead of schedule and nearing completion. Opening is slated for December.

Situated on an island in the center of Bonita Isles' expansive lake, the club will include a fitness center, two tennis courts, resort-style swimming pool surrounded by two stunning waterfall and an expansive lanai with outdoor grill.

The entrance to Bonita Isles is on Bernwood Parkway just east of U.S. 41 in Bonita Springs. When completed, the community will have more than 200 single-family homes and paired villas. Phase one includes 57 single-family homes and 70 villas.

Villas range in size from 1,565 square feet to 1,862 square feet under air and are priced from the mid to the high \$200,000s. Five floor plans are available.

Single-family homes range in size from 1,919 square feet to 2,387 square feet under air and are priced from the high \$200,000s to the mid \$300,000s. Four floor plans are offered.

Four models are open for viewing in Bonita Isles from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Saturday and from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. For more information, call (888) 422-7165 or visit www.mintofla.com.

■ **Stock Signature Homes**, the home building division of Stock Development, has joined TwinEagles' list of preferred builders. Homebuyers in the Wicklow and Hedgestone neighborhoods of TwinEagles now have several residences to choose from when building a luxury estate home in this premier golf community.

As the exclusive builder in Wicklow, Stock Signature Homes will build four Mediterranean-style model homes to open this winter. The Scottsdale II is a three-bedroom, three-bath home with 2,719 square feet; the Greenbriar II offers three bedrooms and four baths in 2,949 square feet. Both floor plans include a three-car garage and lanais, bringing the total square footage to approximately 4,400 square feet.

Two more models will be built in the Hedgestone neighborhood. The Muirfield IV has four-bedroom, 4½-bath residence with 3,333 square feet of living area plus a covered lanai and three-car garage. The Ponte Vedra Grande, the largest floor plan, has 3,525 square feet under air.

In addition to the design ideas showcased in the model homes, Stock's design center just a few miles away from TwinEagles offers homebuyers numerous options in flooring, finishes, lighting, bath, cabinetry and more.

The TwinEagles sales center is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. For more information, call 352-8000 or visit www.twineagles.com.

■ **Lennar Homes** has released the newest phase of estate homes in the Bella Firenze community at Treviso Bay. With three and four bedrooms, plans range in size from 2,394 square feet to 2,926 square feet and are priced from the high \$500,000s to the mid \$700,000s.

Also under construction at Treviso Bay is the Villa Rilissare clubhouse, with a full-service chickee bar restaurant, fitness facility, eight tennis courts and pool with a sandy beach. The anticipated completion date for the clubhouse is late 2013.

The entrance to Treviso Bay is five minutes south of downtown Naples off U.S. 41. For more information, visit www.lennar.com.

■ **Oakbrook Properties Inc.** has closed on the sale of 34.25 acres in the Coconut Point development within south Lee County to Hertz Corp. for the rental car company's new worldwide headquarters. The Fortune 300 company has committed to create 700 full-time jobs by the end of 2015 and

invest about \$68 million in capital, generating an economic impact of approximately \$300 million per year.

With its Florida development offices in Bonita Springs, Oakbrook Properties has been active in real estate locally for nearly 35 years. The company's properties range in size and uses, including single-family and multi-family residential, waterfront high-rises, golf course communities, large mixed-use developments, office complexes and commercial and industrial centers.

One of the company's earliest ventures in the region was Spanish Wells Golf & Country Club, the first planned residential community in Bonita Springs, in 1979. Also in the late 1970s, the company purchased the land that would become The Brooks and Coconut Point. At the time of acquisition of this 3,000-acre cattle ranch on a two-lane U.S. 41 midway between Naples and Fort Myers, neither Interstate 75 nor the Southwest Florida International Airport existed.

The three key components to the Coconut Point development are the Hertz headquarters within the North Village, the Coconut Point Town Center and a site purchased by Lee Memorial Hospital within the South Village, which is now being permitted for a regional hospital.

"The sale of land to Hertz is the fruition of nearly 30 years of work," says Ned Dewhirst, senior vice president of Florida operations for Oakbrook Properties.

For more information, call 992-5529 or visit www.oakbrookco.com. ■

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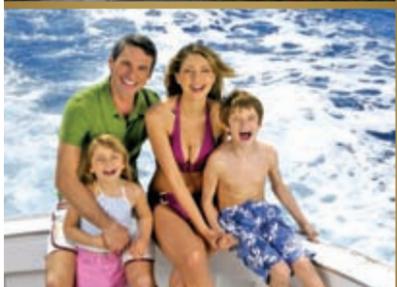
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Lot#	Model	Address	Sq. Ft.	Bed/Bath/Garage	Price
13	Navona	4355 Kentucky Way	2,765	4/3.5/2	\$277,470
163	Independence	4392 Steinbeck Way	3,357	5/3.5/3	\$312,470
164	Amalfi	4388 Steinbeck Way	2,529	4/3/2	\$243,470
165	Navona	4384 Steinbeck Way	2,765	4/3.5/2	\$268,470
167	Monte Carlo	4376 Steinbeck Way	3,231	5/3/3	\$278,470
219	Alexandria	4469 Steinbeck Way	1,904	4/3/2	\$260,570



**Coach, Executive & Estate Homes from the \$200s to \$1 million+
Up to 4 bedrooms & nearly 3,700 sq. ft.**

Unit#	Model	Address	Sq. Ft.	Bed/Bath/Garage	Price
3012	Florence	3149 Aviamar Circle #102	1,741	3/2/2	\$283,655
3022	Verona	3149 Aviamar Circle #202	2,110	3/2/2	\$303,655
2911	Florence	3153 Aviamar Circle #101	1,741	3/2/2	\$283,655
2912	Florence	3153 Aviamar Circle #102	1,741	3/2/2	\$283,655
2921	Verona	3153 Aviamar Circle #201	2,110	3/2/2	\$303,655
2922	Verona	3153 Aviamar Circle #202	2,110	3/2/2	\$303,655



Treviso Bay

**Coach, Executive & Estate Homes from the \$200s to \$1 million+
Up to 4 bedrooms & nearly 3,700 sq. ft.**

Unit#	Model	Address	Sq. Ft.	Bed/Bath/Garage	Price
614	Antonia	9735 Acqua Court #614	1,107	2/2/Covered Parking	\$200,240
617	Bellini	9735 Acqua Court #617	1,137	2/2/Covered Parking	\$212,240
515	Antonia	9731 Acqua Court #515	1,107	2/2/Covered Parking	\$208,240
516	Bellini	9731 Acqua Court #516	1,137	2/2/Covered Parking	\$225,240
522	Bellini	9731 Acqua Court #522	1,137	2/2/Covered Parking	\$226,240
523	Bellini	9731 Acqua Court #523	1,137	2/2/Covered Parking	\$229,240
524	Antonia	9731 Acqua Court #524	1,107	2/2/Covered Parking	\$211,240
526	Bellini	9731 Acqua Court #526	1,137	2/2/Covered Parking	\$227,240
532	Bellini	9731 Acqua Court #532	1,137	2/2/Covered Parking	\$230,240
534	Antonia	9731 Acqua Court #534	1,107	2/2/Covered Parking	\$215,240
536	Bellini	9731 Acqua Court #536	1,137	2/2/Covered Parking	\$231,240
541	Bellini	9731 Acqua Court #541	1,137	2/2/Covered Parking	\$234,240
543	Antonia	9731 Acqua Court #543	1,107	2/2/Covered Parking	\$219,240
545	Bellini	9731 Acqua Court #545	1,137	2/2/Covered Parking	\$235,240



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Know about your real estate agent before house hunting

BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU Special to Florida Weekly

With home sales soaring, the news headlines regarding the housing market are much different now than they were a few years ago. If you're a seller, you're in luck. Buyers, on the other hand, have to look a little harder to find the right fit at the right price. The Better Business Bureau wants consumers to be smart in choosing the right real estate agent or Realtor to help you get the best deal. According to the National Association of Realtors, 40 percent of existing homes sold in the U.S. are here in the South. That's around two million homes.

So far in 2013, the BBB received nearly 400 complaints nationally regarding real estate agents. Some complaints allege their agent was not properly organized or was not able to sell their home in the time frame discussed. Other complaints allege their agent was rude or uncooperative.

A good Realtor or real estate agent can help you determine how much your home is worth, devise a strategy to market the property, help judge whether prospective buyers are financially qualified to purchase your home and coordinate many of the financial details involved in closing the deal.

When looking for a real estate service provider, BBB advises consumers:

■ **Get referrals.** Ask friends and family for recommendations of real estate agents or companies they've worked with in the past. Ask if they were satisfied with their experiences and if they would use the Realtor in the future. Check with bbb.org to see the company's BBB Business Review for history of complaints, details about those complaints and any advertising issues or government actions. Use bbb.org to find a BBB Accredited Business.

■ **Interview candidates.** Make a list of at least three professionals and schedule times to meet with each of them. If you are selling your home, ask each professional to give a specific marketing plan for your home, a market analysis with an overview of similar houses in your area that have recently sold and samples of their current listings. Find out if you'll be dealing directly with the agent or if he/she has a team.

■ **Request references.** Ask the real estate agent to give you a list of references. Contact the references and ask about their experiences with the agent. This will give you an idea if the agent or company suits your needs.

■ **Agent or Realtor?** A real estate agent is required to take real estate courses and pass a licensing exam before practicing. Every licensed agent has taken the same courses and passed the same exam, but a Realtor is a member of the National Association of Realtors and

is held to a specific code of ethics while practicing real estate.

■ **Discuss compensation.** Real estate professionals are usually compensated through commission, which can vary from area to area. The percentage of the commission fee can sometimes be negotiated depending on the housing market.

■ **Read your contract.** Be wary of agents and Realtors who pressure you to sign documents immediately. Carefully read all the details in any document you help create or sign and make sure all of your questions are answered first.

To check the reliability of a company and find trustworthy businesses, visit BBB.org. For more consumer tips, visit BBB's News Center and like us on Facebook (facebook.com/westfloridabbb) to stay up to date. ■

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Florida Weekly's Open Houses

Open Houses are Sunday 1-4, unless otherwise marked

>\$300,000

1 • PELICAN BAY - GLENCOVE • 5803 Glencove Drive #601 • \$345,000 • Premier Sotheby's International Realty • Linda Ohler • 239.404.6460

2 • THE MOORINGS - EXECUTIVE CLUB • 3300 Gulf Shore Blvd. North #109 • \$399,000 • PSIR • Larry Roorda • 239.860.2534

3 • IMPERIAL GOLF ESTATES • 2018 Duke Dr. • \$399,000 • Engel and Volkers • Alberto Macia • 239.692.9449

>\$400,000

4 • COPPERLEAF AT THE BROOKS • 23531 Copperleaf Blvd. • \$469,000 • Engel and Volkers • Thomas Ostrander • 239.692.9449

>\$500,000

5 • PELICAN LANDING - PINEWATER PLACE • 25015 Pinewater Cove Lane • \$549,900 • PSIR • William Charbonneau • 239.860.6868

6 • MERCATO - THE STRADA • 9123 Strada Place • From \$599,000 • PSIR • Call 239.594.9400 • Open Monday-Saturday 10am-8pm & Sunday 12-8pm

7 • VILLAGES OF MONTEREY • 2104 Mission Drive • \$599,000 • PSIR • Ann Renner • 239.784.5552

>\$700,000

8 • TIBURON - BOLERO • 2642 Bolero Drive #503 • \$729,000 • PSIR • Susie Culp • 239.290.9000

9 • THE MOORINGS - CARRIAGE CLUB • 2011 Gulf Shore Blvd. North #51 • \$749,000 • PSIR • Ruth Trettis • 239.340.0295

10 • VILLAGES OF MONTEREY • 2119 Mission Drive • \$779,000 • PSIR • Sue Black • 239.250.5611

11 • THE DUNES - GRANDE PRESERVE • 280 Grande Way • From \$799,000 • PSIR • Call 239.594.1700 • Open Monday-Saturday 10am-5pm & Sunday 12-5pm

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12 • THE COLONY AT PELICAN LANDING • 23850 Via Italia Circle Unit#1105 • \$839,000 • Engel and Volkers • Thomas Ostrander • 239.692.9449

13 • THE COLONY AT PELICAN LANDING • 23850 Via Italia Circle Unit#301 • \$859,000 • Engel and Volkers • Thomas Ostrander • 239.692.9449

14 • THE COLONY AT PELICAN LANDING • 23850 Via Italia Circle Unit#1702 • \$859,000 • Engel and Volkers • Thomas Ostrander • 239.692.9449

>\$1,000,000

15 • LOGAN WOODS • 5386 Sycamore Drive • \$1,050,000 • PSIR • Bernie Garabed • 239.571.2466

16 • OLDE NAPLES SEAPORT • 1001 10th Avenue South #203 • \$1,190,000 • John R Wood Realtors • Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell • 239.595.0097

17 • BONITA BAY - TAVIRA • 26951 Country Club Drive • From \$1,306,000 • PSIR • Call 239.495.1105 • Open Monday-Saturday 10am-5pm & Sunday 12-5pm

18 • VILLA LAGO AT MEDITERRA • 18051 Lagos Way • \$1,375,000 • John R Wood, Realtors • Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell • 239.595.0097

19 • VANDERBILT BEACH • 189 Channel Drive • \$1,477,000 • John R Wood, Realtors • Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell • 239.595.0097

20 • PARK SHORE • 503 Turtle Hatch Lane • \$1,550,000 • PSIR • Vincent Bandelier • 239.450.5976

21 • AQUA • 13675 Vanderbilt Drive #610 • \$1,925,000 • PSIR • John D'Amelio • 239.961.5996 • Also Available: #605 • \$1,695,000

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26 • OLD NAPLES • 270 5th Avenue South • \$2,695,000 • PSIR • Tom McCarthy • 239.243.5520

27 • OLD NAPLES • 1075 5th Street South • \$2,745,000 • PSIR • Dana Marcum • 239.404.2209

28 • BANYAN ISLAND AT GREY OAKS • 1659 Chinaberry Court • \$2,795,000 • John R Wood, Realtors • Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell • 239.595.0097

29 • OLD NAPLES • 650 9th Avenue South • \$2,950,000 • PSIR • Phyllis O'Donnell • 239.269.6161

>\$3,000,000

30 • MEDITERRA • 16017 Trebbio Way • \$3,650,000 • PSIR • Nicola Gentil • 239.289.7737

31 • OLD NAPLES • 282 1st Avenue North • \$3,995,000 • PSIR • Celine Julie Godof • 239.404.9917

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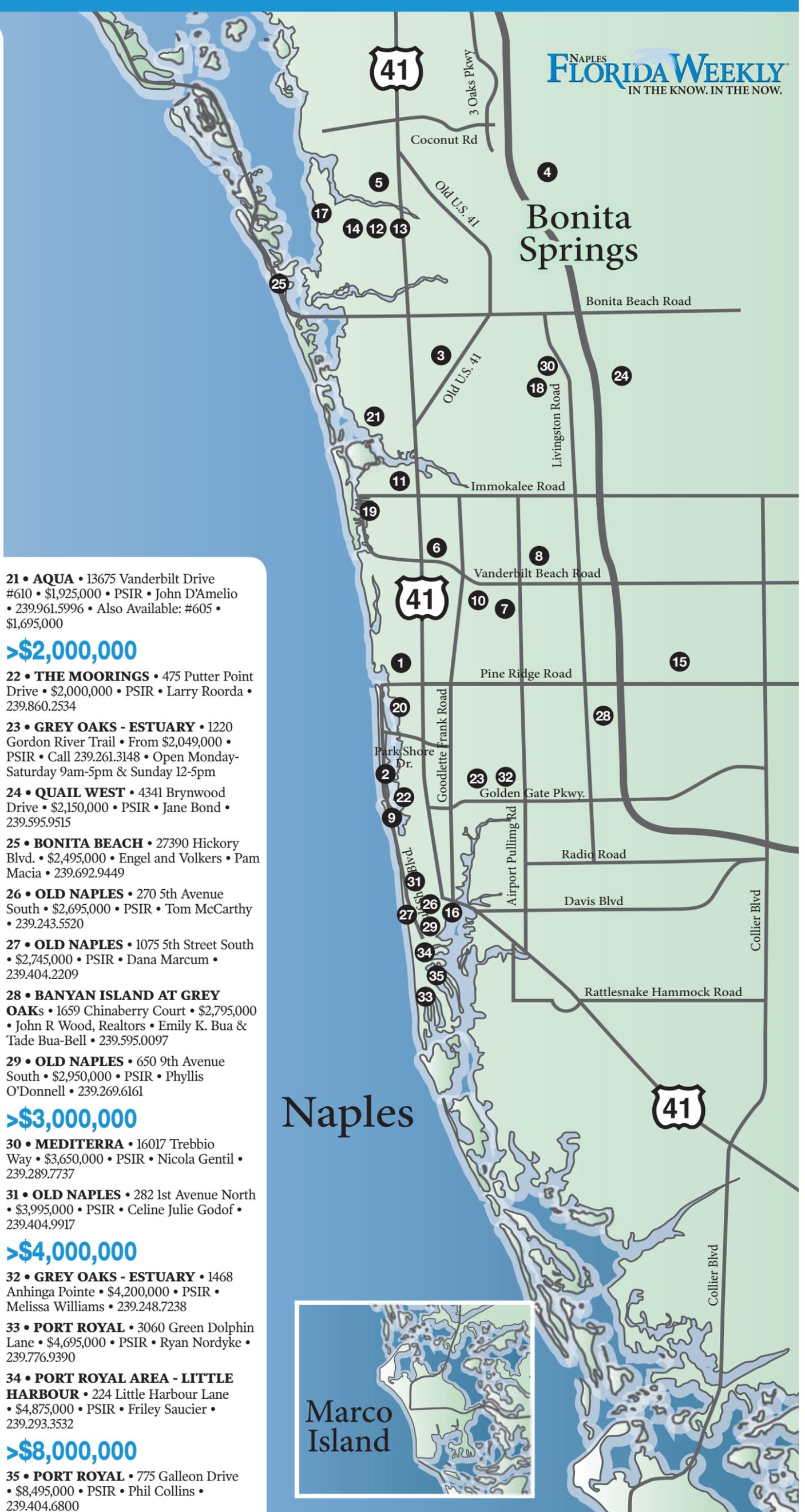
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33 • PORT ROYAL • 3060 Green Dolphin Lane • \$4,695,000 • PSIR • Ryan Nordyke • 239.776.9390

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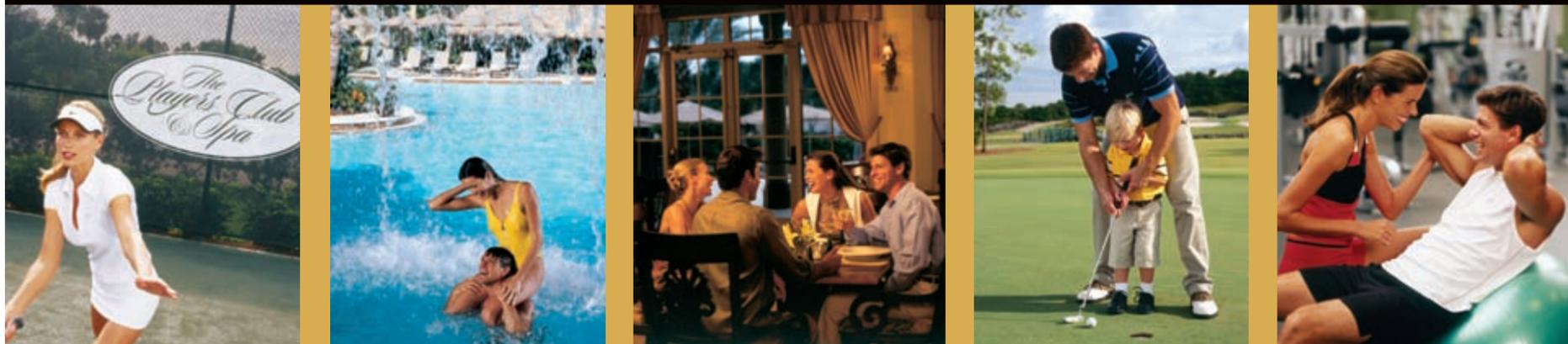
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 12-18, 2013

A GUIDE TO THE LOCAL ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SCENE



Coming soon: Film critic Dan Hudak looks ahead

BY DAN HUDAK

www.hudakonhollywood.com

After a so-so summer of mostly unremarkable releases, Oscar season is upon us — and it looks promising. Rather than offer a laundry list of upcoming new releases, here are the six movies I'm looking forward to the most over the next four months.

■ **“Insidious: Chapter 2” (opening Sept. 13)** — No filmmakers working today do horror better than director James Wan and his longtime collaborator, actor/writer Leigh Whannell. Together they've found a way to genuinely scare and disturb, as true horror should do, without relying on obscene slasher or torture porn conventions. This might not mean much to those who don't like getting the bejeezus scared out of them, but after the first “Saw” in 2004, “Insidious” in 2010 and this year's “The Conjuring,” excitement and expectations are high for where they'll take “Insidious” next. (Full review coming next week.)

■ **“Gravity” (Oct. 4)** — I think this one has Oscar vibes all over it. George Clooney and Sandra Bullock play astronauts for director Alfonso Cuarón (“Children of Men”) in this sci-fi drama. While floating in outer space Ms. Bullock's character, who is mourning the loss of her child, loses sight of her ship and co-pilot (Mr. Clooney) and is set adrift. Check out the YouTube clip to see how tense and well made it promises to be.

■ **“The Counselor” (Oct. 25)** — Working from an original script by acclaimed novelist Cormac McCarthy (“No Country For Old Men”), director Ridley Scott assembled an all-star cast for this story of drugs and corruption. Michael Fassbender plays the title role, a lawyer who's lured into a drug-running operation and gets in over his head. Javier Bardem, Brad Pitt

SEE COMING UP, C11 ►



Just for laughs

Comedy clubs are serious business in Southwest Florida

BY DON MANLEY

Florida Weekly Correspondent

SOUTHWEST FLORIDIANS EVIDENTLY enjoy a good laugh, judging by the multiple venues where stand-up comedy has proven successful over the years.

Charlotte County has Visani Restaurant & The Comedy Zone in Port Charlotte, and in Collier County it's the Off the Hook Comedy Club on Marco Island.

Smack dab in the middle in more populous Lee County are the Laugh-In Comedy Café in Fort Myers and Anthony's on the Boulevard in Cape Coral, a restaurant that offers stand-up one night a week.

On a larger scale is the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall in Fort Myers, which has hosted such stand-up comedy heavyweights as Jerry Seinfeld and Ron White.

All the clubs have several years of operation under their belts, and their owners and managers say each has carved out its unique niche and that competition amongst them has been minimal.

“We're really not in each other's backyards,” says

Mark Asciutto, owner of Visani Restaurant & The Comedy Zone. Considering the roughly 90-minute drive south to Off the Hook and about half that to clubs in Fort Myers or Cape Coral, “there's really not competition,” he adds.

With seating for 200 in the main room, The Comedy Zone is open five nights a week, offering

SEE LAUGHS, C4 ►



COURTESY PHOTO
The Off the Hook Comedy Club on Marco Island has attracted some of the biggest acts in stand-up comedy.

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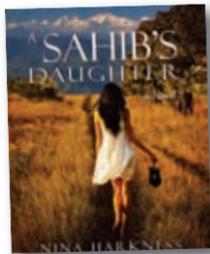


INSIDE



A stylish fix

Craving Fashion at Waterside Shops, and more to-dos. C27-29 ►



Elegant, vivid prose

Book critic Phil Jason enjoys a romance with the tensions of cultural conflict and change. C12 ►



A fine new restaurant

Mereday's at Naples Bay Resort delivers an exceptional dining experience. C31 ►



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The Village	261-6161
The Gallery	659-0099
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Vanderbilt	594-9494
The Promenade	948-4000
Fifth Avenue	434-8770
Marco Island	642-2222
Rentals	262-4242

SANDY DAYS, SALTY NIGHTS

Clean living lacks a certain something

artisHENDERSON

sandydays@floridaweekly.com



One afternoon last week I stood at the gas pump filling up my car when a man who looked like trouble pulled into the pump next to me. He had brightly colored tattoos running down his arms and a smooth shaven head. He wore a tight T-shirt and big sunglasses, and his car had a gaudy, tricked-out look.

I sighed inwardly. *Here we go*, I thought.

He was exactly the type of man I have always attracted.

But as I leaned against my car and waited for the tank to fill, I noticed him not noticing me. He never once looked in my direction; I had become invisible.

I scowled, trying to figure out what was missing from this once-predictable equation. Then I caught the reflection of my image in the car window: a woman dressed in a modest blouse and dark jeans, her hair pulled back in a conservative braid — no crop top, no mini-skirt, no bling. For a moment I didn't recognize myself. *Who is that woman?* I thought. Then I laughed. Of course, it was me.

You might not believe this, but I've cleaned up my act in the last few years. I've throttled back on my proclivity for bad behavior. Maybe I've matured, or

maybe the opportunities for mischief have just diminished with age. Either way, I'm all demure respectability now. Which is sometimes disappointing.

Thankfully, there are people who still remember my former self — that other woman who in some ways embarrasses me and in other ways makes me proud. I've done a good job of erasing her over the last few years (it helps that I often travel to places where no one knows me).

But my oldest friends — the ones I grew up with, whose friendship I treasure with a fierce intensity — they have not forgotten her. They remember every scandalous outfit, every night of dancing on tables, every silly man that woman ever let kiss her. No matter how many times I reinvent myself elsewhere, I am that same naughty girl the minute I come home.

"I'm telling you," I told a table full of friends at a Labor Day cookout. "I'm all about clean living now."

They were kind enough not to roll their eyes.

But recently a package arrived in my mail:

"H o t

Flash Sonnets," the new poetry collection from Moira Egan that tackles many of the issues women face as we age. In "And Into Ashes All My Lust?," Mrs. Egan writes:

"My new friend asks me if I think we lose/our younger selves completely, shed our lust/like sexy petticoats or snakeskins strewn along life's path."

The first time I read the poem, I had to stop reading for a moment because the words had struck me so deeply. I thought about the ways we surrender our sexuality — not just to age, but to our own respectability. In our rush to tidy up our characters, to make ourselves more presentable, we sacrifice something elemental and true.

When I think back to my mischievous former self, I'm surprisingly fond of her, and I would miss her if she disappeared completely. ■





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LAUGHS

From page 1

comedy Tuesday-Friday and live music every Saturday. There's a separate room for people who come only to dine.

Comedy notables such as Tommie Chong, Carlos Mencia (his Sept. 24 show is sold out), Gallagher, Ralphie May and Billy Gardell have entertained from The Comedy Zone's stage.

The clubs throughout Southwest Florida can differ in the type of audiences they draw.

Mr. Ascitutto says his clientele tends to be older than the typical comedy club because retirees are a significant demographic in Charlotte and Sarasota counties, where most of his customers hail from. With that demographic and his own sensitivities in mind, The Comedy Zone tends to shy away from humor that patrons might find overly risqué or raunchy.

"Most of our shows are adult clean," Mr. Ascitutto says. "We keep use of the F-word down." In the case of acts whose "blue" routines are a calling card — Mr. Mencia and Mr. May, for example — The Comedy Zone includes warnings in its advertisements.

Ticket prices usually range from \$8 for Wednesday-Thursday shows, to \$12 for Friday-Saturday performances. Big names command \$25 for late show and \$55 for the early show, which includes dinner.

What the patrons want

Laugh-In Comedy Café had the Charlotte, Lee and Collier county markets all to itself when it opened in 1992, according to founder and owner Joe Galanis.

Originally ensconced in the former Metro Mall (now headquarters of the School District of Lee County), the club moved to its 250-seat spot in the College Plaza Shopping Center, at the corner of College Parkway and Winkler Road, in 1998.

Owning and operating a comedy club is a passion for Mr. Galanis.

"It's a fun business," he says. "I love dealing with the comics ... They're very attuned to what's going on in the world. It's just a great form of entertainment. It especially works hand in glove with a nightclub next door." He's referring to Groove Street Grille & Discotheque, which he also owns.

Although Laugh-in Comedy Café has brought its share of big-name acts to town — David Brenner, Yacov Smirnov and Michael Winslow of "Police Academy" fame, to name a few — the club primarily books "road comics" who travel from venue to venue.

The term "road comics" is not a reflection on their talent, Mr. Galanis says, adding, "If there were somebody in the audience that had some influence, a lot of these people could really take a step up in their career and they'd be the next situation comedy comedian."

Like Visani Restaurant & The Comedy Zone, Laugh-in offers patrons a full menu. Mr. Galanis says the age range for patrons runs the gamut from 21-year-olds to people in their 90s.

Laugh-In has comedy on Friday and Saturday, with shows at 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Tickets are usually \$12, with upper-echelon performers generally in the \$15-\$20 range.

Cape Coral's Anthony's on the Boulevard opened in 2007, and the restaurant began offering comedy on Thursday evenings in 2009 as a means of easing the pain caused by the recession.

"With foreclosures and people losing their jobs, one of the ways I thought would be good for people in the community and hopefully for my business was to offer stand-up comedy," owner Anthony Serrago says.



An artist's rendering of the SWFL Performing Arts Center, the new home of the Off the Hook Comedy Club, slated to open in February in Bonita Springs.

Both then and now, the shows are included with the price of dinner or the purchase of an appetizer and drink.

"There're still a lot of people out there hurting," Mr. Serrago says "I'm not going to charge a cover or have a drink minimum. If we break even, we're happy. If you take care of the community, the community will take care of you — and they have."

Mr. Serrago uses St. Petersburg-based Coconut Comedy Clubs as his booking agency for headliners, but frequently uses local comedians as well. And much like Mr. Ascitutto in Port Charlotte, he tries to ensure the sensibilities of his customers, who ranged from 30 to 70 years old, aren't offended by comedy they could find unpalatable. "We do shows that are R rated, but the vulgarity is kept to a minimum just because of the community that this is."

Off the Hook on the move

The Off the Hook Comedy Club has been drawing stand-up comedy fans to slightly off-the-beaten-path Marco Island since owner Brien Spina opened it in 2005. The club shares space with the 200-seat Capt. Brien's Seafood and

Raw Bar, which Mr. Spina opened in 2001, in the Marco Walk Plaza.

Over the years, Off the Hook has become known for attracting top talent such as Drew Carey, Kevin Hart, John Pinette and the aforementioned Mr. Chong, along with well-regarded up-and-comers. Audiences come from Collier and Lee counties and beyond.

Mr. Spina casts a wide net where booking talent is concerned. "What we try to do is to spread it around all genres of comedy," he says. "We don't focus on one specific niche because that would be limiting for us."

A major change is in the offing for Off the Hook in the coming season. Mr. Spina is in the process of building a new facility — the SWFL Performing Arts Center — in Bonita Springs. When it opens, Off the Hook will move there.

Highlights of the 27,000-square-foot entertainment complex, slated to open in February at the corner of Imperial Parkway and Bonita Beach Road, include seating for 600 for comedy shows, live music and musical theater, two signature restaurants and a Spanish-style sangria bar with a sangria waterfall cascading from the

COURTESY PHOTOS

The performance and dining areas shared by the Off the Hook Comedy Club and Capt. Brien's Seafood and Raw Bar on Marco Island.

40-foot ceiling. There will also be what Mr. Spina has described as the world's first podcast cafe and lounge, where guests can enjoy light snacks and coffee drinks while producing their own podcast, at no charge.

Plans call for the venue to employ 200 and for it to also be available for rental to host banquets, weddings, corporate and group events.

Capt. Brien's was sold to J.J. and Stacey Mrozinski of Estero in June. Off the Hook will continue to operate there until the move occurs.

Mr. Spina attributes the move to outgrowing the Marco Island space and his desire to find a new space that was easily accessible and more centrally located for his customer base.

"We didn't get too far from Naples, and we're still centrally located from Naples to Fort Myers," he says.

Admission to shows at Off the Hook usually ranges from \$20-\$35. Performances are Thursday-Sunday nights.

Mr. Spina says he believes that the various venues offering stand-up all have their own customer bases, in part, because of the distance between them. "I think it's more of a localized demographic," he says.

Mr. Galanis, however, believes Off the Hook's move to Bonita could potentially affect his Laugh-In Comedy Café.

"That'll end up being some competition probably," he says. "I don't know. We'll have to see how that works out." ■

in the know

- >> **Anthony's on the Boulevard:** 1303 Del Prado Blvd. S., Cape Coral; 772-5900; www.anthonsontheblvd.com. Performances on Thursday evenings; Next up: Frank DelPizzo.
- >> **Laugh-in Comedy Café:** 8595 College Parkway, Fort Myers; 479-5233; www.laughincomedycafe.com. Performances on Friday and Saturday evenings; Next up: Rob Holloway and Johnny Mac.
- >> **Off the Hook Comedy Club:** 599 S. Collier Blvd., Marco Island; 389-6901; www.offthehookcomedy.com. Performances on Thursday-Sunday evenings. Next up: Mike Young.
- >> **The Comedy Zone:** At Visani Restaurant, 2400 Kings Highway, Port Charlotte; (941) 764-3463; www.visani.net. Performances on Tuesday-Friday evenings. Next up: Sept. 18, Frankie Paul and Justin Chamblis.

Published authors will explain why writing for children is no kids' stuff

The fifth annual "Writing for Children: Inspiration to Publication" workshop takes place from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 26, at Edison State College-Fort Myers. Presenters are Lee Bennett Hopkins, Patricia MacLachlan and Stephen Alcorn.

Mr. Bennett Hopkins is the namesake and founder of the Lee Bennett Hopkins / Penn State University Award for Children's Poetry and the Lee Bennett Hopkins / International Reading Association Promising New Poet Award. His recent works include "I Am the Book," "Sharing the Seasons," "Amazing Faces," "City I Love," and "Incredible Inventions."

Ms. MacLachlan is the author of many well-loved novels and picture books, including "Sarah, Plain and Tall," winner of the Newbery Medal, and its sequels, "Skylark" and "Caleb's Story." Her recent titles include "Word After Word" and "Snowflakes Fall."

Mr. Alcorn is the illustrator of numerous children's books, including "America At War: A Poetry Anthology," "My America" and "Days To Celebrate: An Almanac of People, Events, and Poetry."

For registration or more information, call Elaine Schaeffer at 489-9265, e-mail eschaeffer@edison.edu or visit www.edison.edu/writersinstitute. ■

Get a fresh start on writing this fall

The Renaissance Academy of FGCU offers writing classes this fall at the university's Naples Center, 1010 Fifth Ave. S. Registration is open now for:

■ **Writers Collaborative Workshop** - Share your writing with like-minded aspiring authors in an atmosphere of acceptance and encouragement. Class meets from 10 a.m. to noon Fridays, Oct. 11-Nov. 15.

■ **Writing Your Life Story and Memoirs** - A published author will help you order the chapters of your life. Class meets from 10 a.m. to noon Tuesdays, Oct. 15-Nov. 19.

■ **A Novel Experience: Start Writing Your Book** - Learn the stages of the

writing process as you plan and organize the book you've always wanted to write. All writing levels welcome. Class meets from 10 a.m. to noon Thursdays, Oct. 17-Nov. 21.

■ **Self-publishing with eBooks and POD** - This overview course will compare services for self-publishing and outline the steps involved. Guest speakers will share their own experiences. Class meets from 10 a.m. to noon Mondays, Nov. 4, 18 and 25 and Dec. 2.

For registration details and the complete fall schedule of Renaissance Academy classes, call 425-3272, e-mail renaissance@fgcu.edu or visit www.fgcu.edu/racademy/. ■



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WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Theater

■ **Miss Julie** - Through Sept. 15 by Ghostbird Theatre Company at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center, Fort Myers. www.sbdac.com.

■ **Burt & Me** - Through Oct. 5 at Broadway Palm Theatre, Fort Myers. 278-4422 or www.broadwaypalm.com.

Thursday, Sept. 12

■ **Book Talk** - Headquarters Regional Library hosts a discussion about Zora Neale Hurston's "Their Eyes were Watching God" at 2 p.m. 2385 Orange Blossom Drive. Registration required. 593-0177 or www.colliergov.net/library.

■ **Argo** - Naples Regional Library hosts a free screening of "Argo" (USA 2012) at 2 p.m. 650 Central Ave. Registration required. 263-7768 or www.colliergov.net/library.

■ **Free Chamber Music** - Artis—Naples presents a free chamber ensemble concert at 6 p.m. at Headquarters Library. Highlights include works by Boccherini and Shostakovich for string quartet. 2385 Orange Blossom Drive. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

■ **More Chamber Music** - The Philharmonic Brass Quintet presents a free chamber music concert at 7:30 p.m. at Saint William Catholic Church. 601 Seagate Drive. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

■ **A Stand-Up Guy** - Mike Young takes the stage tonight through Sept. 15 at the Off the Hook Comedy Club, Marco Island. 389-6901 or www.offthehookcomedy.com.

Friday, Sept. 13

■ **Piano Music** - Lynn Carol tickles the ivories from 6-9 p.m. in the lounge at Capers Kitchen & Bar. 2460 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 431-7438.

■ **Wild Things** - Catch a free screening of the family-friendly "Where the Wild Things Are" at 8:30 p.m. under the stars at Gulf Coast Town Center. www.gulfcoasttowncenter.com.

■ **Here's to Beer** - Tour Naples Beach Brewery from 4-8 p.m. \$15 gets the guided tour and samples of six craft beers. 4110 Enterprise Ave. 304-8795 or www.naplesbeachbrewery.com.



Dana Lynn Griffin, above, stars in Ghostbird Theatre Company's production of "Miss Julie" through Sept. 15 at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center in downtown Fort Myers. Written in 1888 by Swedish playwright August Strindberg, the play exposes the battles of the sexes and the classes at their most vulnerable and visceral. \$10. www.sbdac.com.

■ **More Music** - Tantrum performs from 7-10 p.m. at the Old Marco Pub & Restaurant. 1105 Bald Eagle Drive, Marco Island. 642-9700 or www.oldmarcopub.com.

■ **Live Jam** - Generation Gap takes the stage from 8-11 p.m. at Weekend Willie's. 5310 Shirley St. 597-3333 or www.weekendwillies.com.

Saturday, Sept. 14

■ **It's Your Move** - Players of all levels are invited to join the Naples Chess Club from 9 a.m. to noon in the clubhouse at Moorings Park off Goodlette-Frank Rd. 389-2525 or wk@kellerpublishing.com.

■ **Curious Kids** - The Golisano Children's Museum of Naples hosts a live concert and premiere of "Curious Kids" from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. 15080 Livingston Road. 514-0084 or www.cmon.org.

■ **Irish Countdown** - The Pub hosts "Half Way to St. Patrick's Day" at 5 p.m. Festivities include live entertainment by the Harp & Thistle Pipe Band, drink specials and a visit from Naples Beach Brewery. 594-2748 or www.experience-thepub.com.

■ **Art, Music & More** - Mercato hosts Saturday Nights Alive from 6-9 p.m. with musicians, street performers and local artist Jeffrey Scott Lewis. www.mercatoshops.com.

■ **It Takes Two** - Alicia Repun leads a tango class from 7-8 p.m. followed by milongos for all levels until 11 p.m. \$15. 1673 Pine Ridge Road. 738-4184 or www.pablrepuntango.com.

■ **Outdoor Entertainment** - The Boogie Men perform from 8-10 p.m. under the stars at Gulf Coast Town Center. Free. 267-0783 or www.gulfcoast-towncenter.com.

■ **Blues Bash** - Jack's River Bar hosts the third annual Naples Bay Blues Bash from 6-11 p.m. with live entertainment by four local blues bands, a live auction and half-priced drinks and barbecue. \$10, with all proceeds benefiting the Greater Naples YMCA. 213-1441 or www.jacksriverbarnaples.com.

Sunday, Sept. 15

■ **Dog Days** - Naples Botanical Garden welcomes canines and their owners from 8-11 a.m. Regular admission applies. 4820 Bayshore Drive. 325-7275 or www.naplesgarden.org. The garden closes for its annual fall maintenance Sept. 16-27.

■ **Quintet at C'mon** - Artis—Naples presents the Naples Philharmonic woodwind quintet in concert at 1:30 p.m. at the Golisano Children's Museum of Naples. Free. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

■ **Brass Quintet** - Enjoy the sounds of the Naples Philharmonic brass quintet in a free concert at 2 p.m. in the Hayes Hall lobby at Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

■ **String Quartet** - Music by Mozart and Onslow for string quartet makes up a free chamber music program at 2 p.m. at Naples United Church of Christ. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

■ **Live Reggae** - SowFlo performs reggae tunes beginning 9:30 p.m. at South Street City Oven Bar & Grill. 1410 Pine Ridge Road. 435-9333 or www.southstreetnaples.com.

Monday, Sept. 16

■ **Live Jam** - Devon Meyers takes the stage at 11:30 p.m. at Vandy's & 5 Brothers. 1089 N. Collier Blvd., Marco Island. 394-8767.

Tuesday, Sept. 17

■ **Outdoor Movie** - Catch a free screening of "Jack the Giant Slayer" (PG-13) starting at 7:45 p.m. on the lawn at Mercato. www.mercatoshops.com.

■ **Tuesday Tunes** - Kirk Mcfee performs at Vandy's & 5 Brothers starting at 11:30 p.m. 1089 N. Collier Blvd., Marco Island. 394-8767.



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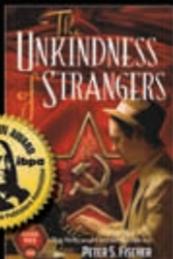
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September 15



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WHAT TO DO

Wednesday, Sept. 18

■ **Chocolate & Bubbly** - Enjoy champagne and sweet treats from Norman Love Confections to benefit The United Way from 6-8 p.m. in the lobby bar at Shula's at the Hilton Naples. \$65 at the door, \$55 in advance. 659-3176.

■ **Live Music** - Bill Colletti and Sharon Vath perform from 6-9 p.m. at Capers Kitchen & Bar. 2460 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 431-7438.

Coming up

■ **Third Thursday** - Third Street South comes alive with the music of Felix James from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Sept. 19.

■ **Rockin' Country** - The Grayson Rogers Band plays from 8-11 p.m. Sept. 19 at Fred's Food, Fun & Spirits. 2700 Immokalee Road. 431-7928 or www.fredsnaples.com.

■ **You Say Tomato, I Say Shut Up!** - Sept. 19-Nov. 2 at The Off Broadway Palm Theatre, Fort Myers. 278-4422 or www.broadwaypalm.com.

■ **Full Moon Friday** - Get down for "A Night at the Roxbury," a '90s-style dance party beginning at 8 p.m. Sept. 20 at Tavern on the Bay. 530-2225.

■ **Movie Under the Stars** - Catch a free screening of the family-friendly "Hotel Transylvania" at 8:30 p.m. Sept. 20 at Gulf Coast Town Center. www.gulfcoasttowncenter.com.

■ **Tigertail Cleanup** - Join the Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup effort at Tigertail Beach on Marco Island from 8 a.m. to noon Sept. 21. 389-5003.

■ **Fun for Kids** - The Boys & Girls Club of Collier County hosts a "Day for Kids" from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 21 featuring face painting, a dunk tank, bounce house and obstacle course. Free. 7500 Davis Blvd. 325-1700 or www.bgccc.com.

■ **Party in Purple** - The Next Generation Purple Party to benefit The Shelter for Abused Women & Children starts at 7 p.m. Sept. 21 at Café Lurcat and includes Motown music by the Greg Miller Band. \$40. 775-3862 or www.naplesshelter.org.

■ **Birthday Bash** - CJ's on the Bay celebrates its fifth birthday with live music, happy hour, food specials, dunk tank



Bring the kids and settle in under the stars for a free screening of "Jack the Giant Slayer" (PG-13) starting at 7:45 p.m. Sept. 17 on the lawn at Mercato. www.mercatoshops.com.

and more from noon to 6 p.m. Sept. 22. 740 N. Collier Blvd., Marco Island. 389-4511 or www.cjsonthebay.com.

■ **Rise & Shine** - The public is invited to a wine-and-cheese party to celebrate a new hair-drying system designed by Jeffrey Hall of Cottage 840 Salon from 4-8 p.m. Sept. 23 at the Marriot Courtyard. 3250 Tamiami Trail N.

■ **Movie Night** - The Center for the Arts Bonita Springs presents a screening and discussion of "A Heart in Winter" beginning at 7 p.m. Sept. 23. \$9. 26100 Old 41 Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

■ **Local History** - Florida Weekly history columnist Maureen Sullivan-Hartung presents "Beer Worms, Square Grouper & Indians, Oh My! The Hidden History of Everglades City" at 2 p.m. Sept. 25 at the Collier County Museum. 252-8476 or www.colliermuseums.com.

■ **Cook's Corner** - Chef Kristina San Filippo of The Good Life hosts a "Sultry Days of Summer" cooking class from 6-8 p.m. Sept. 26. \$60. 2355 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 514-4663 or www.goodlifenasles.com. ■

- Submit calendar listings and high-resolution photos to events@floridaweekly.com. E-mail text, jpegs or Word documents are accepted. No pdfs or photos of fliers. The deadline for calendar submissions is noon Sunday.



PHOTOGRAPHY NAPLES

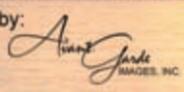
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- Getting to know your DSLR
- Food Photography
- Macro Interiors and Exteriors
- Photography Studio Lighting
- Fashion
- Nature



- Photoshop Elements
- Lightroom
- Newborns
- Sunset Portraiture
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09.14.13

featuring artist
Jeffrey Scott Lewis

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- Jeff Leigh (violinist)
- Danny Parkinson (singer/guitarist)
- Karen Seide (interactive art therapy)



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CALLS TO ARTISTS

■ **The Naples Invitational Art Fest** is accepting applications from artists working in all media to exhibit at the 17th annual festival that takes place Jan. 25-26 at Fleishmann Park. Awards totaling \$5,000 will be presented.

Online applications are due by Tuesday, Oct. 15, and can be completed by visiting www.fleasterseals.com/artfest. Event sponsorships are also available. The festival was ranked 31st in the United States in the September 2013 edition of Sunshine Artist magazine.

For more information, call Taire Malloy at 992-4680 or e-mail TMalloy@fleasterseals.com.

■ The **"Inspired Artworks"** exhibition will hang in the lobby at Covenant Presbyterian Church of Naples-PCA as part of the fourth annual **Storytellers Creative Arts Conference** taking place Nov. 7-13.

Artists can submit photos of their work for the jurying process at www.storytellerscreativearts.com. The entry deadline is Sept. 29; the \$25 fee covers three pieces (framed illustrations, abstracts, photos and representational and graphic works, sculptures or crafts). Jurors for the exhibition are author/illustrator Mary Lee Gutwein, photographer/publisher Susan Conner, painter and watercolor artist Emily James, pastel artist and silversmith Cheri Dunningan, photographer Hans Schmidt, portraiture artist Frances Golden Bussing and painter Marty Keddie.

The Storytellers Creative Arts Conference includes performances, keynote speakers, workshops and small group sessions plus an evening of talent, food, film and networking. Early registration is \$79 per person; group and student discounts are available. For more information, call 250-1822, e-mail artexpo@storytellerscreativearts.com or visit www.storytellerscreativearts.com.

■ Here's the lineup for the coming season of art festivals presented by the **Naples Art Association**. For registration details, call 262-6517 or visit www.naplesart.org:

Downtown Naples New Year's Art Fair: Jan. 4-5 along Fifth Avenue South. Deadline to apply: Oct. 2.

Naples National Art Festival: Feb. 22-23 at Eighth Street South and Cambier Park. Deadline: Nov. 6.

Mercato Fine Arts Festival: March 1-2 at Mercato. Deadline: Nov. 13.

Downtown Naples Festival of the Arts: March 22-23 along Fifth Avenue South. Deadline: Nov. 20.

■ **Friends of Rookery Bay** and the **United Arts Council** invite submissions for their eighth annual juried painting exhibition. Following Rook-

ery Bay's environmental mission, work with a central theme of landscape is preferred but not required. Open to artists in Collier and Lee counties, both full-time and seasonal, the exhibit hangs Nov. 19-Jan. 30 at the Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center.

Deadline for receipt of electronic entries is Oct. 11.

For entry rules and more information, e-mail abrowne@uaccollier.com.

■ **Boulderbrook** productions invites artists working in all mediums to apply online for 11 festivals in the 2013-14 season throughout Collier, Lee, Charlotte and Sarasota counties as well as in Panama City Beach and Pompano Beach. Here's the schedule:

Oct. 26-27: Naples Downtown Fall ArtFest

Nov. 9-10: Pier Park Masters Art Festival, Panama City Beach

Nov. 15-16: Seminole Casino Immokalee Craft & Music Festival

Nov. 29-30: Sanibel Masters Art Festival

Dec. 7-8: Pompano Beach Masters Art Festival

Jan. 18-19: Naples Masters Art Festival, The Shoppes at Vanderbilt

Feb. 1-2: Sarasota Masters Art Festival

Feb. 15-16: Olé Art & Jazz Festival at Lely Resort, Naples

March 15-16: Peace River National Art Festival

March 22-23: Boca Grande Art & Wine Festival

April 19-20: Balloons Over Paradise Festival, Seminole Casino Immokalee

Apply at www.boulderbrook.net or call 293-9448 for more information.

■ **Miromar Lakes Beach & Golf Club** welcomes submissions for its 2014 **Art on the Lake** poster design contest as well as for artists to exhibit at the sixth annual art show. The winning poster artist will receive a \$1,000 cash prize. Prints of the winning poster will be sold at "Art on the Lake" on Sunday afternoon, March 30, with proceeds to benefit ARTSPEAK, a program of the Foundation for Lee County Public Schools helping students with autism focus on their strengths using art as a medium for self-expression.

Artists can download contest entry forms and vendor information at www.MiromarArtOnTheLake.com. Poster submission deadline is Feb. 28.

■ The inaugural **Upcycle! Art Fest** set for April 26-27 on Sanibel Island invites entries from all artists who work with repurposed material. Those who apply by Oct. 30 will receive a \$50 refund on their registration when the show is over. For more information, visit www.UpcycleArtFest.org. ■

PUZZLE ANSWERS

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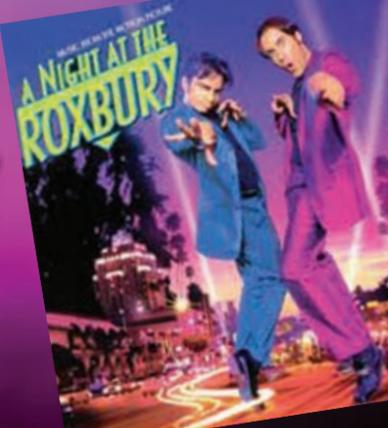
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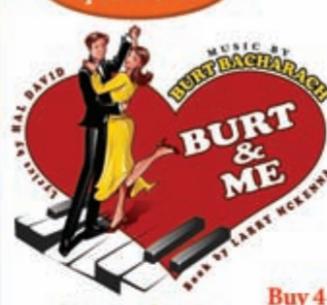


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Sept 19 - Nov 2

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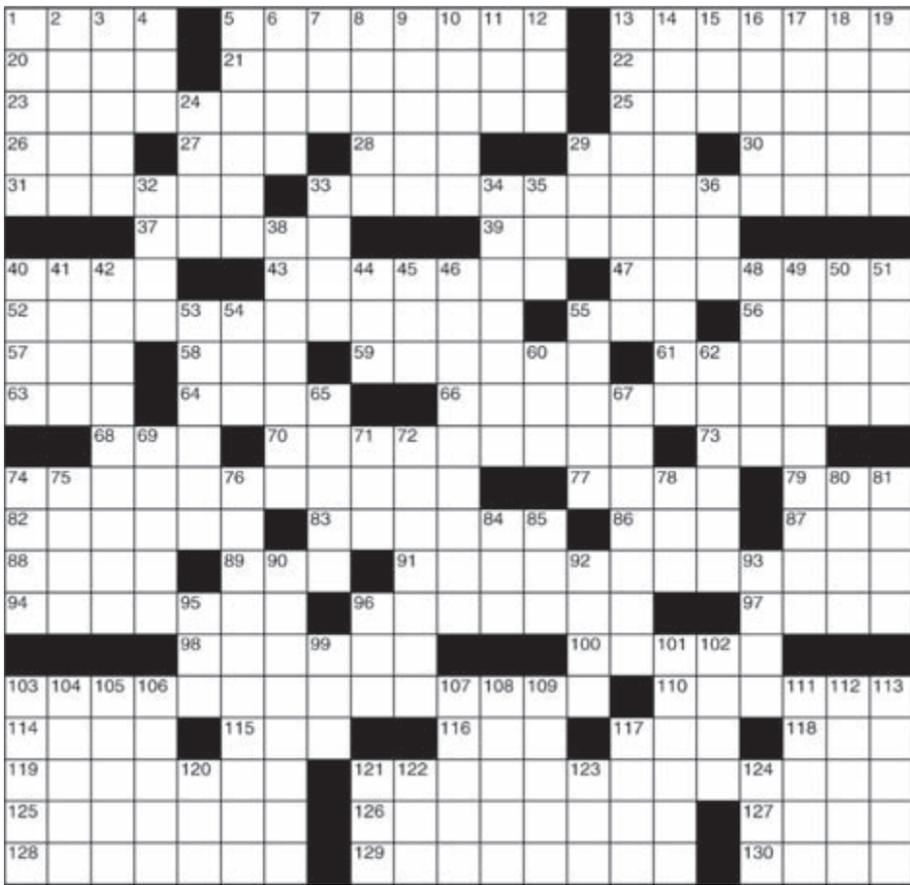
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PUZZLES

NEW 130-ACROSSES



- ACROSS**
- 1 Boxing punches
 - 5 Bulk-buying chain
 - 13 Professional copyists
 - 20 Balls
 - 21 Represent as perfect
 - 22 Ballerina Galina
 - 23 Something bad that has to be done
 - 25 Kind of comb
 - 26 Picnic crawler
 - 27 PIN-taking dispenser
 - 28 Sealant stuff
 - 29 One-eighty on the road
 - 30 One-named Deco artist
 - 31 Beastly
 - 33 Actor on "The Dick Van Dyke Show"
 - 37 Samuel with a code
 - 39 Act of keeping watch
 - 40 Arsenal stuff
 - 43 Three-horse carriages
 - 47 Complains
 - 52 Longtime classroom magazine
 - 55 Dutch banking giant
 - 56 Notorious emperor
 - 57 Curry of "Today"
 - 58 Wide-shoe letters
 - 59 Very interested in
 - 61 Turn into a mummy
 - 63 Thither
 - 64 Not far from
 - 66 18-yard box, in soccer
 - 68 Bear, in Mexico
 - 70 Serving several functions
 - 73 — -K (tyke's class)
 - 74 "Match Game" host
 - 77 Joke-telling Jay
 - 79 Relaxing resort
 - 82 Actor Platt
 - 83 Last Greek letters
 - 86 Antique Olds
 - 87 Ill-bred fellow
 - 88 Head, in Cannes
 - 89 Suffix with east or north
 - 91 Engage in silly play
 - 94 Intimidate
 - 96 Rio de —, Brazil
 - 97 Court partitions
 - 98 Brazil's first emperor
 - 100 Previously, in poetry
 - 103 Knighted English portraitist
 - 110 Life forms
 - 114 Suffix with laundry
 - 115 Hardly rigid
 - 116 Yearbook bit
 - 117 Grazing ground
 - 118 Amazed cry
 - 119 Call to mind
 - 121 "Fosse," e.g.
 - 125 Neil of the Pet Shop Boys
 - 126 Pep up
 - 127 Put on, as cargo
 - 128 Socks with diamonds
 - 129 Like a fez
 - 130 Word rearranged and hidden in this puzzle's eight longest answers
 - DOWN**
 - 1 — Brothers (boy band)
 - 2 Vying venue
 - 3 "Doctor Who" aier
 - 4 Cleveland-to-Akron dir.
 - 5 Nun
 - 6 Eve's mate
 - 7 Sea, to Simone
 - 8 "What do you — that?"
 - 9 With 40-Down, erase
 - 10 French for "book"
 - 11 Israeli arm
 - 12 Air or ami lead-in
 - 13 Definite indication
 - 14 Thing shot in skeet shooting
 - 15 — -a-tat
 - 16 Entomb
 - 17 Two-by-four
 - 18 Title role for Patti LuPone
 - 19 Bay State port
 - 24 Starch-yielding palm
 - 29 Ballpark arbiter
 - 32 Crazydly
 - 33 Paltry
 - 34 Pining type
 - 35 Horse kin
 - 36 "Do Ya" gp.
 - 38 Flowing steadily
 - 40 See 9-Down
 - 41 "Ask — questions ..."
 - 42 Akin to Amish
 - 44 Acorn maker
 - 45 Ending for cyan
 - 46 Continuing
 - 48 Open, as a gate
 - 49 Coast Guard coup
 - 50 Detective novelist — Stanley Gardner
 - 51 Cell body
 - 53 Poe maiden
 - 54 "— haw!" ("Wheel!")
 - 55 As a whole
 - 60 Beatle bride
 - 62 "I lost — meatball ..."
 - 65 Apply, as ointment
 - 67 Wary about
 - 69 Break off
 - 71 Abner's radio partner
 - 72 "Johnny —" (1957 Disney film)
 - 74 Attend
 - 75 Height: Abbr.
 - 76 "Is anyone else here?"
 - 78 Teachers' gp.
 - 80 Huff and puff
 - 81 Appends
 - 84 Gas suffix
 - 85 Do moguls
 - 90 New rough sketches
 - 92 Periods
 - 93 "Finally — know!"
 - 95 Cartoon shopkeeper
 - 96 Great elation
 - 99 Critic Reed
 - 101 Did as told
 - 102 Hindquarters
 - 103 Certain
 - 104 Additional
 - 105 Wasp attack
 - 106 Youngman of one-liners
 - 107 Wind quintet instruments
 - 108 Fibbers
 - 109 Avoid stlyly
 - 111 Stellar phenomena
 - 112 Mild cheese
 - 113 Utter
 - 117 Lie around
 - 120 — Kan (old dog food brand)
 - 121 Track wager
 - 122 Cell material
 - 123 Wheaton of TV and film
 - 124 TV Tarzan player Ron

SEE ANSWERS, C9

HOROSCOPES

■ **VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)** Someone in authority might decide to select you as a candidate for a project that carries more responsibilities. Be prepared to show why you're the right choice for the job.

■ **LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)** That new workplace problem should be dealt with as soon as possible. Leaving it unresolved for too long could lead to an even more unsettling and time-consuming situation.

■ **SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)** You might have to do some fancy juggling to keep both your work responsibilities and personal obligations on track. But ultimately, you'll work it all out, as you always do.

■ **SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)** You might hear some upsetting things about a situation in your life. But don't be swayed by talk. Demand proof before making any decisions on the matter.

■ **CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)** Don't risk depleting those precious energy levels by taking on more tasks than you can realistically handle. Also, remember to ask for help when you need it.

■ **AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)** It might be difficult for the Aquarian who is used to giving advice to take counsel when offered. But it's a good idea to listen to what trusted friends feel you should know.

■ **PISCES (February 19 to March 20)** Things might be a little unsettled as

you move through a period of reassessment. But once you get your priorities sorted out, you should be ready to tackle an important decision.

■ **ARIES (March 21 to April 19)** The changing season brings new experiences as well as challenges for the ever-adventurous Aries. Your social life expands, as do the opportunities at your workplace.

■ **TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** That recent period of uncertainty has passed. You can now feel more confident about making decisions, especially those that relate to an important personal relationship.

■ **GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)** Although you might be faced with a number of tasks on your to-do list, try to take time out to enjoy the arts. Music, especially, can be soothing to the sensitive soul of a Gemini.

■ **CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** A disagreement with a colleague or friend is best resolved with open and frank discussion. Trying to force the other party to see things your way is bound to backfire.

■ **LEO (July 23 to August 22)** That Leonine pride might be ruffled by a colleague's challenge to one of your pet ideas. But stop growling and listen. You could learn something that will work to your advantage.

■ **BORN THIS WEEK:** You're able to achieve a happy balance in your productive life by never feeling overwhelmed or underappreciated.

By Linda Thistle

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		2		1			5

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Puzzle Difficulty this week:



Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging ★★★ Expert

SEE ANSWERS, C9

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COMING UP

From page 1

and Cameron Diaz play baddies, and Penelope Cruz also stars. Movies from A-list directors about characters in over their heads — Martin Scorsese’s “The Departed” comes to mind — can be phenomenal when handled well, so here’s hoping director Mr. Scott is at the top of his game and doesn’t give us another dud like “Prometheus.”

■ **“The Wolf of Wall Street” (Nov. 15)** — Speaking of Mr. Scorsese, his latest stars Leonardo DiCaprio as a hot-shot stockbroker who makes millions through illegal securities fraud. It’s set in the early ’90s, so we can anticipate plenty of hedonism in the form of women and cocaine. And I expect Jonah Hill and Matthew McConaughey’s characters will be somewhat eccentric in a ’90s kind of way.

Aside from the fact that a new movie by Mr. Scorsese is always cause for excitement (and that Mr. DiCaprio looks to be at his dapper, charming best prior to his character inevitably getting caught), I think it will be interesting to see what parallels the acclaimed director draws between financial crimes of 20 years ago and those of today. I’m betting they’ll be shockingly similar.



■ **“Anchorman 2” (Dec. 20)** — The world has waited nine long years for the return of Ron Burgundy, and if he treats the ’80s the same way he handled the ’70s, we all win. Along with director Adam McKay, Will Ferrell, Christina Applegate, Paul Rudd, Steve Carell and David Koechner return for a sequel in which Ron has lost everything, only to have a chance for redemption at the advent of 24-hour cable news. With Ron staying classy on the national stage and cameos from Kristen Wiig, Harrison Ford, Tina Fey, Kanye West and more, this could be the funniest movie of 2013.

■ **“August: Osage County” (Dec. 25)** — I’ve already pegged this one for a surefire Best Picture contender. Family drama is one thing. But family drama that prompts Julia Roberts to lash out at Meryl Streep is another altogether — and it’s one that sounds too good to be true.

In this adaptation of Tracy Letts’ Pulitzer Prize-winning play, Ms. Streep plays the temperamental and abusive matriarch whose daughters (played by Ms. Roberts, Julianne Nicholson and Juliette Lewis) come to visit, prompting chaos to ensue. John Wells (the underrated “The Company Men”) directs, and with Oscar-winning “Argo” producer George Clooney also on board, how could anything go wrong? ■

FILM CAPSULES

The Spectacular Now ★★★★★

(Shailene Woodley, Miles Teller, Kyle Chandler) Sutter (Mr. Teller) is the popular kid in high school, and he unexpectedly takes a liking to Aimee (Ms. Woodley), who doesn’t have many friends. A symbiotic relationship ensues — and a beautiful one at that. Touching, heartwarming and surprisingly real, this is a teen drama from America’s heart. Rated R.

Blue Jasmine ★★★

(Cate Blanchett, Alec Baldwin, Sally Hawkins) A down-on-her-luck former New York socialite (Ms. Blanchett) moves to San Francisco to live with her sister (Ms. Hawkins), but finds that things go from bad to worse. Writer/director Woody Allen gets fantastic performances from Ms. Blanchett and Ms. Hawkins, and the drama is compelling. Rated PG-13.

We’re The Millers ★★★

(Jason Sudeikis, Jennifer Aniston, Will Poulter) A small-time drug dealer (Mr. Sudeikis) creates the façade of a perfect family to smuggle dope across the Mexico border. When a movie is this laugh-out-loud funny from start to finish, it’s easy to forgive the predictable story. Rated R.

The Smurfs 2 ★★★

(Hank Azaria, Neil Patrick Harris, voice of Katy Perry) Gargamel (Mr. Azaria) kidnaps Smurfette (Ms. Perry) because he needs her essence to turn his two pseudo-Smurf “Naughties” into real Smurfs. It’s enjoyable for kids, but there’s enough adult humor for it to be fun for the whole family. Rated PG.

The Way Way Back ★★★★★1/2

(Liam James, Toni Collette, Steve Carell) While working at a water park the young, introverted Duncan (Mr. James) comes into his own over the summer in spite of his mother’s (Ms. Collette) grating boyfriend (Mr. Carell). Moving, funny and inspiring, it has just the right painful warmth to remind you — in a good way — of your own teenage awkwardness. Rated PG-13.

Pacific Rim ★★★

(Charlie Hunnam, Idris Elba, Rinko Kikuchi) After giant monsters destroy the world, mankind’s last hope rests in those who operate the large robots capable of fighting back. It’s big, loud and entertaining, a legit feast for the eyes and ears. Rated PG-13. ■

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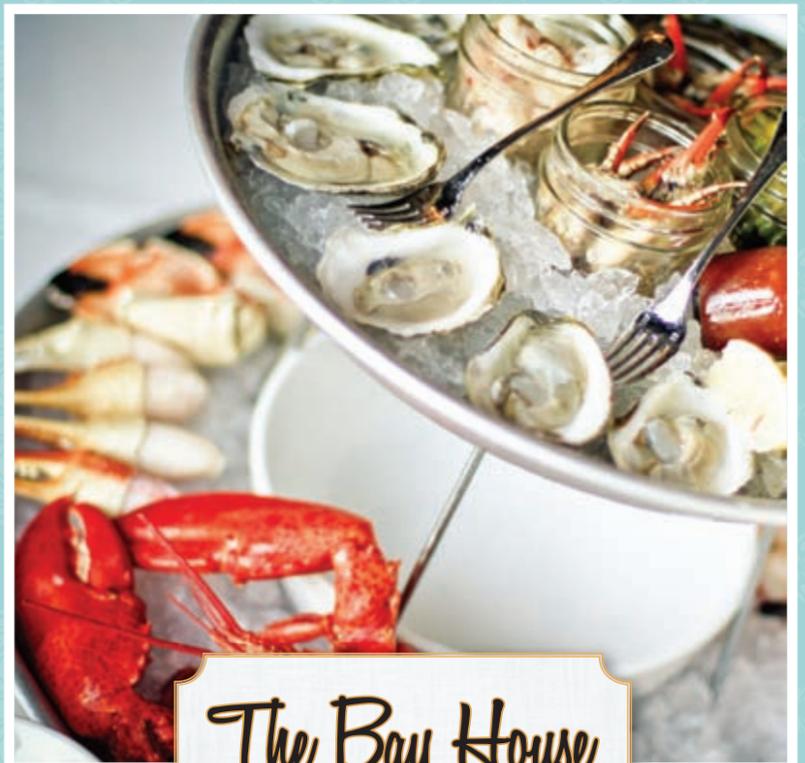
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FLORIDA WRITERS

Heart, head and habits complicate an exotic, multi-cultural romance



philJASON
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■ **“A Sahib’s Daughter” by Nina Harkness. Tollymore Publishing. 266 pages. Trade paperback \$13.99, Kindle ebook \$2.99.**

This gorgeous, exotic romance takes readers through almost half a century beginning in 1933, but its main focus is the 20 years of 1959-1979. These years focus on three generations of Indian and Anglo-Indian women — Prava, Ramona and Samira — ending soon after the birth of Samira’s daughter.

Written in an elegant, vivid prose style, the novel explores the relationships between adventurous men from England and Northern Ireland who leave their lower middle-class situations for opportunities on tea plantations in India and the women they meet there.

“Sahib” is a respectful title for white Europeans of social status living in colonial India, roughly equivalent to sir or master, and it applies to the young Brits we meet who hold minor administrative positions on the vast, remote tea plan-



Nina Harkness

tations that employ large numbers of native functionaries, field workers and household helpers.

The pivotal year in the decades the novel embraces is 1947, when India becomes an independent nation and yet maintains patterns of its colonial heritage, including social and economic hierarchies based on class and race. How these play out in the lives of the principal characters is among the book’s most fascinating elements.

Who is an appropriate mate for an Indian woman? Is marriage to a white planter a desired goal or a pairing doomed to grief? What is the status of racially blended individuals? How is it different in India from the UK? What are the chances for a comfortable entry or re-entry into English or Irish lifestyles for the family created in India? Where is home?

The answers vary with the outlook and circumstances of the people themselves. In the end, they are individuals just as much as they are representative figures.

The most complex set of circum-

stances has to do with Samira, who is courted by two men. First comes Ravi, the exceedingly handsome and dashing Indian man for whom she feels enormous passion. But Ravi’s attentions to her are inconsistent, and his periods of inattention are not sufficiently explained. We eventually find out that his parents are not at all pleased with mixed-race Samira as a proper wife for their son, and they are putting enormous pressures on him to accept an arranged marriage.

Next comes widower Justin, a tea planter whose first wife, the Irishwoman Lorraine, died in an accident. Despondent Justin is roused from his numbed life by the much younger Samira, who likes him in most ways, but without deep passion.

Tired of waiting for Ravi, and eventually hearing him admit that he is bending to his parents’ will,

Samira accepts Justin’s proposal on the rebound. When he takes her to meet his family and plan a wedding in Northern Ireland, matters become extremely complicated, especially as Samira seems

helpless in a world without servants. In addition, she is surprised to discover that she is pregnant.

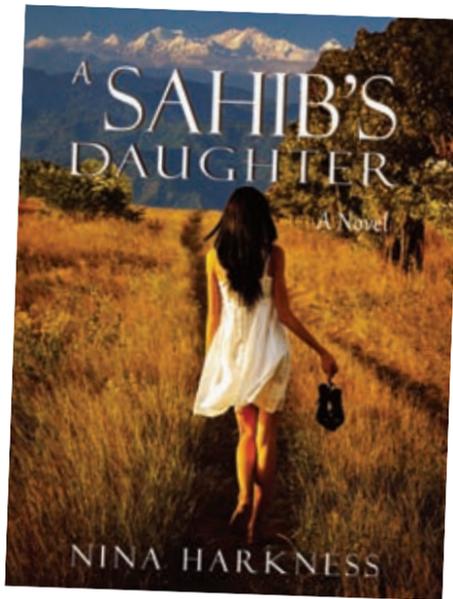
The author’s handling of setting is one of this novel’s great strengths. Whether describing the home of a plantation manager, the social club that is at the center of community life, the modest clusters of commercial enterprises, the larger towns and cities or the back-home Irish neighborhoods, Ms. Harkness is a marvelous stage-setter. All the notes a film director would need for location shooting, set design and even costume design are lavishly available in “A Sahib’s Daughter.”

As the main characters move back and forth between England or Northern Ireland and India, we see the degrees of dislocation that the shifting environments and cultures bring to each of them. Identity is often compromised and confused.

Step into this colorful novel and enjoy the sights, tastes and smells of the Dooars region, Assam, Darjeeling and Delhi; savor the delicious romances; feel the tensions of cultural conflict and change.

For more information about Naples resident Nina Harkness and her book, visit www.ninaharkness.com. ■

— 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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WRITING CHALLENGE

Golf photo inspires tale of murderous intrigue

Round two of our Writing Challenge continues this week with "The Eliminator" by Larry Wolf, a story that takes our golf course image in a completely unexpected direction.

We want you to share your story with us as well. Using the photo from the golf course seen here as a starting point for your creative process, we'd like you to come up with a narrative work of fiction of 1,500 words or less. There is no minimum length. No poems, please. Previous entrants are welcome to submit again.

Florida Weekly will accept your original stories in Word format or pasted into the body of an e-mail until Saturday, Sept. 14. E-mail them to writing@floridaweekly.com and we will print some of the best submissions. No "snail mail" copies will be accepted. Be sure to include your name, address and contact information with your submission. Feel free to include a headshot of yourself. The earlier we receive your submission, the better your shot at being printed.

We'll continue with various heats of the competition in the coming months. Two winners selected by our editorial staff will win a ticket each to the eighth annual Sanibel Island Writers Conference in November. Thanks for writing and good luck. ■

BY LARRY WOLF
Port Charlotte

Joe lined up his putt as he always had, imagining the crosshairs of a scope over his eyes and zoning in on his target. He was playing with his regular Thursday foursome: Dr. Randy Wissinger, a chiropractor who insisted on being called "Doctor" because ever since he first hung his shingle and treated his first patient he heard how chiropractors weren't "real doctors"; Gene Gaffney, a former Florida State baseball player who never made the big leagues but was a successful medical equipment sales rep; Dan Flack who owned several strip plazas in the area; and of course, there was Joe Irwin, or at least that was the name he was known as. Everyone knew Joe as an independent safety consultant specializing in nuclear power plants. Not even close.

As Joe bent over the ball, he remembered what Andrew Guolfo, the assistant pro at the club had instructed him to do: Determine your distance and stroke then focus on the ball and do not take your eye off the ball until after your putter has made contact. Andrew's practice sessions are what allowed Joe to become one of the top three putting

The Eliminator



members at the club. Focusing was not difficult for Joe; he had plenty of opportunities to focus during his former career as a Marine sniper. Joe sank the 18-foot putt and made it look easy.

After his round Joe returned to his villa on the 13th green. It was a classy unit with interior furnishings worth twice the value of the villa itself. Not

uncommon for individuals in Joe's real line of work. Joe checked his e-mail and found an assignment waiting. He would not know the actual details of the job until tomorrow when he arrived at the usual place, but there was a first class e-ticket, a car and hotel reservations booked in his name. He would arrive at LaGuardia at 11 p.m. tonight and

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would have to be at the Bronx Deli at 7:30 sharp tomorrow morning. Standard operating procedure.

Joe arrived at the deli and picked up a pre-ordered 2-inch thick T-bone steak wrapped in brown butcher's wax paper tied with twine. He returned to his hotel room with anticipation and untied the string and opened the package. Inside the wrapper in lieu of the T-bone was a hardback novel with the name, location and a brief description of the target Joe had to "eliminate." Also included was a single key on a key ring with a metal-edged round paper tag. Typed on the ring was an address and unit number.

No questions asked, just complete assignments.

Born Michael Anthony Ravello, Joe Irwin spent his childhood and teen years in the Bronx on East 153rd and Melrose. A very proud Italian, he, his older brother and sister were home every night at 6 p.m. for dinner and they ate as a family. One better have a good excuse not to be at the dinner table on time, because disappointing his mother or making his father angry wasn't an option without consequences.

Being familiar with the unwritten laws of the Bronx helped mold young Michael into the Joe Irwin he was today. Power was money and money was power, and those with both could control their own lives. The rest had to hope someday they too could choose, but in the meantime, they were smart enough to recognize that their compliance was their only hope of a decent, peaceful life.

Back in his hotel room, Joe memorized the target's name, address and description using an old method he learned in the Bronx from an old friend

and former hit man named Freddy Filo. Grab a notepad and write it down, read it, write it down, read it,... once certain you would not forget, burn all the papers in the entire notepad so no one could get an imprint of the information from the pages beneath.

It was Freddy's wealth and carefree lifestyle that intrigued young Michael Ravello enough that after he spent 22 years of active duty in the Marines, his last eight as a sniper, Michael returned to the Bronx seeking a life similar to Freddy's outside the law. Michael's employer set him up with the new identity — Joe Irwin — and guaranteed him at least 15 assignments a year, and each paid a minimum of \$30,000. This was his 14th year doing the work, and Joe couldn't remember the last year he had less than 30 assignments. Very good money for part-time work, he rationalized, especially during those gut-wrenching moments when reality struck him that he was a contract killer, not a safety consultant. The brutal doses of reality and nightmares were much more frequent in the past few months. As Joe approached his 55th birthday he began to calculate how many assignments The Eliminator, as he was known, had completed.

Joe wondered if he could ever escape the life he had chosen but was painfully aware that ending his employment would likely mean the end of his life. With the amount of information and the years of trust behind him, his employer didn't make a practice of unnecessary risk. Certainly the amount of information Joe had acquired and being no longer in his employer's control would be considered an unnecessary risk. In fact, several assignments Joe had completed

had been targets that either opted for retirement or were former colleagues who had chosen to "drop a dime" to the feds instead of doing time.

As Joe arrived at the address on the key tag and took the elevator to the 11th floor, he realized his target's address was the adjacent building. This would be another empty apartment from which he would set up his perch and eliminate his target through two windows. He began to calculate the speed his bullet would lose based on distance and glass thickness and wanted to be sure the equipment waiting for him was of adequate caliber. He opened the waiting suitcase to see that whoever packed the equipment was knowledgeable enough — an AS-50, .50 caliber military rifle complete with scope, tripod and silencer. Joe had used this before.

After Joe set up, he turned off the lights, drew the shades and began to wait. During the wait, Joe dreamed of how much happier his life would be if he could just retire. He thought of scheduling a sit-down with his employer and negotiating a release, or just fleeing, never to be found. Each and every scenario he considered led him to the same awful conclusion.

As his target turned on the lights to his apartment Joe realized he had set up near perfectly. The target's apartment windows were not only larger than most but without shears to cloud the view. Joe stared in shock as a second person entered the apartment; his body began to twitch uncontrollably, a woman accompanied the target. This was not just any woman.

As a standard practice, if the target isn't alone, a second target was created

and the unfortunate collateral damage was justified by claiming the innocent friend's life would be ruined by what they were about to witness. Therefore their death was simply considered a mercy killing.

As Joe gathered himself and looked through his scope, he realized the woman was in fact his high school sweetheart and his first real love. Michael Ravello and Jenni Weeks dated and were in love from the ages of 15 until 18. It was a month after their breakup that Michael enlisted in the Marines. Joe couldn't complete this assignment. He still had a spot in his heart for Jenni and hopes that someday they would be together again. His life for someone else's — a decision he had feared for years.

Joe left the equipment in place and drove to the airport.

Ironically, Freddy Filo Jr. — the son of Joe's mentor and an idol of sorts, arrived at the Fort Myers airport at 11 p.m. the following Wednesday, drove his rental car to the hotel and got a good night's sleep in preparation for an early morning at the country club. Golf was not on his agenda but the instructions from his employer were clear.

On Thursday morning after his normal breakfast of cereal with vanilla almond milk and a banana, Joe met Dr. Wissinger, Gene and Dan at the first tee. Just another round with his friends until they reached the No. 3 green.

Joe lined up his putt as he always had, imagining the crosshairs of a scope over his eyes and zoning in on his target, it was then the "pfoot" sound of the silencer from Freddie Filo's Jr.'s rifle was faintly heard through the palms.

Joe did not make that putt. ■

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KOVEL: ANTIQUES

Versatile barrel-shaped seats back in vogue

BY TERRY AND KIM KOVEL

Garden seats shaped like a barrel are being made today from porcelain, pottery, plastic, rattan and even plaster. They are used in a living room as a coffee table, in a powder room as a pedestal to hold towels, or inside or outside as a seat. The original antique "zuodun," a Chinese barrel seat, was a drum made with stretched skin tops held by nails and trimmed with nail heads. Many modern barrel seats have a row of round bumps that imitate old nail heads. Most common are white porcelain "barrels" decorated with blue designs, often hand-painted. A 19-inch-high porcelain garden stool made in about 1900 sold for \$1,210 at a Leland Little auction last December. The porcelain is blue with white flowers and birds. The stool has pierced decorations and bumps that resemble nail heads.



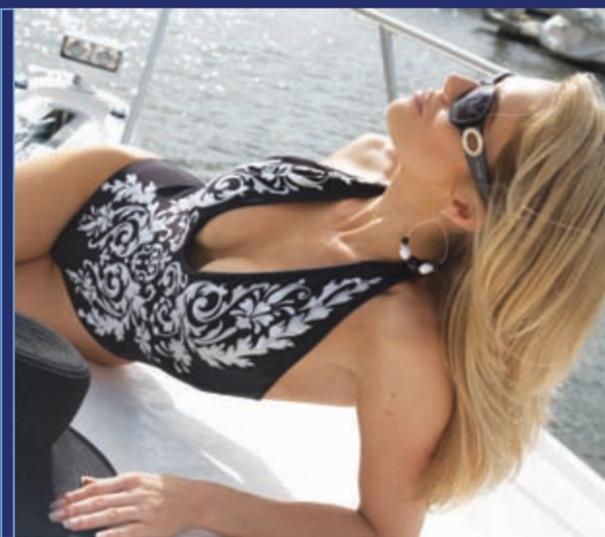
Garden stools have become popular again, and buyers use them indoors or outdoors. This blue porcelain antique Chinese stool sold for \$1,210 at a Leland Little auction in Hillsborough, N.C.

I came across a pile of half-buried old bottles along a loggers' road. One of them was a Dr Pepper bottle. There is no label on it, only raised letters and numbers. It reads "Dr Pepper, Good for Life." On the back is a circle with the numbers 10, 2 and 4. The bottom reads "Fairmont, Minn." Can you tell me something about it and if it's worth anything?

A: The Dr Pepper soft drink was first served in Waco, Texas, in 1885 and marketed nationally in 1904. The period after "Dr" was used on and off in logos, then removed entirely in the 1950s. Your Dr Pepper bottle dates from between 1927 and 1934. During this time period, embossed or "raised" logos and letters were used on the brand's bottles, along with the bottling city's name on the bottom. The 10-2-4 marketing idea for Dr Pepper was introduced in 1926 and stands for "Drink a Bite to Eat at 10, 2 and 4 o'Clock." The circle represents a clock dial. Dr Pepper bottles with raised letters like

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Q: I would like help in placing a value on a tea set marked "Phoenix Ware, Made in England, T.F. & S. Ltd." I have the tray, six dessert plates, six cups and saucers, the cream pitcher and the sugar bowl. Two cups are broken, but I have the pieces.

A: The mark on your tea set was used by Thomas Forester & Sons Ltd. at the Phoenix Works in Longton, Staffordshire, England. Thomas Forester opened a pottery in Longton in 1877 and built the Phoenix Works in 1879. The name of the company became Thomas Forester & Sons after his sons joined the business in 1883. The pottery closed in 1959. Even if the set were perfect, the 21 pieces would sell for less than \$100.

Q: I have a set of 14-inch-square cardboard cards titled "Your Planned Conditioning Program." They're at least 60 years old. Each card pictures an athlete or sports star explaining how to do a conditioning exercise. Mickey Mantle, Yogi Berra and Whitey Lockman are among the baseball players. What is the set worth?

A: A complete set of the cards, including its accompanying brochure, was up for auction a few years ago with a minimum bid of \$50. It didn't sell. But don't throw away your set - someone out there might be interested in buying it. But you won't get a lot of money for it.

Q: I have had a Hummel wall plaque of an angel and two children since the 1950s. It has the Goebel full-bee mark and the word "Germany" on the back. A wide crown mark with "WG" also is stamped on it. I learned from a Hummel price guide that the design never went into production. The book said

that there are "no specimens known." Value?

A: Your plaque is thought to be a prototype of a Hummel design called "Angel with Two Children at Feet." Factory records say it was designed in 1938 by Reinhold Unger, but it may not have been approved for regular production. A similar production model is listed in a 1950 Goebel catalog, but not as a Hummel. Talk to an auction house or shop that specializes in Hummels. Your plaque may be a very exciting find — or it may be a variation, or even a fake. Let us know what happens.

Tip: If you are buying a safe to store coins, jewelry, valuable papers, money, rare sports cards or other valuables, don't forget that a thief can just carry a safe away if it is lightweight and not bolted to a wall or floor. We laughed at the full-page ad in our local newspaper that showed a mailman carrying a boxed new safe to the buyer's front door. A large safe, however, may be too heavy to put anywhere but in the garage or basement and too big to fit through a standard door. ■

— Terry Kovel answers as many questions as possible through the column. By sending a letter with a question, you give full permission for use in the column or any other Kovel forum. Names, addresses or email addresses will not be published. We cannot guarantee the return of any photograph, but if a stamped envelope is included, we will try. The volume of mail makes personal answers or appraisals impossible. Write to Kovel, (Florida Weekly), King Features Syndicate, 300 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019.

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AUDITION CALLS

■ TheatreZone's Mark Danni is seeking out local children ages 7-13 for a "kids-only" audition to cast 15 roles in the company's season-opening musical, "Whistle Down the Wind." Tryouts are by appointment Friday afternoon, Sept. 13, at the G&L Theatre on the campus of Community School of Naples.

Equity and non-equity adult performer auditions (principal/chorus) for TheatreZone's "Year of the Composers" will be by appointment Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 14-15, also at the G&L Theatre.

To schedule an audition, e-mail mark@theatrezone-florida.com.

■ Casting for the first shows of The Naples Players' new season has already been completed, but area actors still have a

chance to tryout for later productions.

Auditions take place Saturday, Oct. 26, for "Black Tie," a comedy by A.R. Gurney. Director John McKerrow is seeking three men, one age 20-30, another age 45-55 and one age 65-80; and two women, one age 20-30 and another age 45-55. Rehearsals begin Nov. 25, and performances will be Jan. 15-Feb. 8 on the main stage in Blackburn Hall at the Sugden Community Theatre.

Auditions for "Good People" by David Lindsay-Abaire are set for Saturday, Nov. 16. The script calls for two men, one age 22-25 and one age 45-55; and four women, three ages 45-60 and one age 28-35 who must also be African American. Chris Goutman will direct this show that will be staged in the Sugden's Tobye Studio. Rehearsals

begin Dec. 16, and performances will be Feb. 5-March 1.

For more information, visit www.naples-players.org/auditions.

■ Singers 18 years and older can try out for the Naples Philharmonic Chorus from 5-7 p.m. Tuesdays, Sept. 17 and 24, at Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church. Call 592-5398 to make an appointment.

The volunteer chorus rehearses every Tuesday evening and participates in concerts alongside the Naples Philharmonic. Performances for 2013-14 are: Dec. 13, A Choral Christmas; Dec. 19-22, Holiday Pops; April 10-12, Beethoven's Ninth; April 22-26, A Tribute to Marvin Hamlisch; and May 15-16, Patriotic Pops. ■

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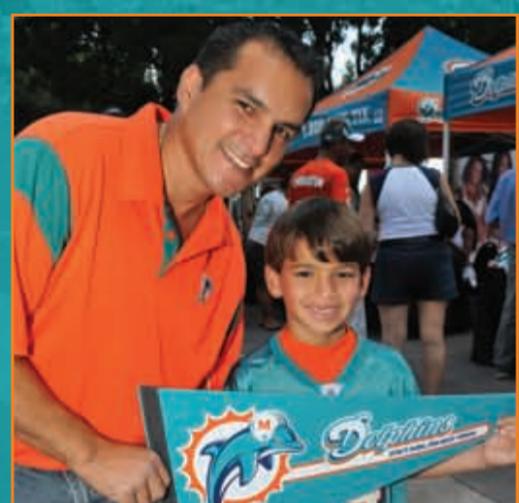
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CONTRACT BRIDGE

Great bridge champs continue to play winning hands

BY STEVE BECKER

Bridge is much too difficult a game for anyone to always play perfectly. Mistakes are fairly frequent, even at the highest level. The most that anyone can realistically hope to do is to hold their mistakes to a minimum.

Consider this deal from the 1977 world championship match between the United States and Sweden. When the U.S. held the North-South cards, the bidding went as shown. North's two-club bid over one notrump was "Landy," showing length in both major suits.

West led a diamond against four hearts doubled, and the American declarer took East's king with the ace. A trump to dummy's queen, West following low, revealed the 3-0 trump division. South then returned to his hand with a diamond and this time led a spade.

West followed low, as most defenders would, and declarer went up with the king, since West was marked by the bidding with the ace of spades. Next came a low spade to West's ace, after which it didn't matter what West played next. With proper play, South was bound to make the contract.

However, West could have defeated four hearts by going up with the ace of spades at trick four and exiting with a spade. South would then have found it impossible to stop West from scoring two trump tricks with the A-J no matter how he continued.

North dealer.

East-West vulnerable.

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

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
Pass	Pass	Pass	1 NT
2 ♣	2 ♦	3 ♥	3 NT
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Dble

Opening lead — three of diamonds.

It is not difficult to prove that the correct play at trick four was for West to go up with the ace of spades and return the suit. But in the heat of battle — when a defender does not have the time to analyze a situation completely and instead reacts instinctively — it is easy to make a mistake. West was only doing what came naturally. ■



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CLUB NOTES

■ Members of the **Naples IOWA Club** invite University of Iowa Hawkeyes fans and alumni to watch the football game against Iowa State at 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14, at Weekend Willie's, 5310 Shirley St.

For more information, call Michael Eovino at (319) 431-8845, e-mail naples-iowaclub@gmail.com or follow the club on Facebook at www.facebook.com/naples-iowaclub.

■ **Toastmaster Academy** welcomes members and guests to "What Did You Say?", an interactive articulation workshop from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 18, at the Bonita Fire Station, 27701 Bonita Grande Drive in Bonita Springs (new location). Anne Chidsey, a speech-language pathologist with Physicians Regional Healthcare System, will offer tips for improving your speech delivery and protecting your voice at the same time.

Attendance is free for Toastmaster Academy members, \$10 for other. For more information or to reserve a place, call Marianne Oehser at 216-3030 or e-mail info@toastmasteracademy.org.

■ The **Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance** invites orchid aficionados to its Third Thursday program from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19, at Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church. Tom Uhler, president of the Sanibel-Captiva Orchid Society, will discuss controlling pests and diseases to ensure healthy orchid plants. Mr. Uhler began growing orchids 10 years ago and especially enjoys growing catleyas and hard-to-grow species.

Attendance is free. Alliance members are encouraged to bring in their blooming plants for entry into the monthly exhibition judging. Annual membership is \$25 for individuals, \$45 for joint memberships, free for ages 18 and younger. For more information, call 498-9741.

■ The **Ohio State Alumni Club** of Naples invites Buckeyes, friends and fans to happy hour in the Parrot Room at Harold's Place from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19. Burgers will be served in the chickee hut after happy hour.

RSVP by calling Sara Ann Mousa at 593-9196 or e-mailing brusara@aol.com.

■ The Naples chapter of **PFLAG**, Parents Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, a support, education and advocacy group for families with gay or transgender members, meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. The next meeting is Sept. 19. Call 513-4568 for location.

■ The Southwest Florida Chapter of the **American Airlines Kiwi Club** holds its next luncheon and meeting starting at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 28, at D'Amico's Restaurant. The club is a social and charitable organization of present and former flight attendants of American Airlines, TWA and other airlines acquired by or merged with American Airlines. The chapter supports Pace Center for Girls-Collier at Immokalee and the Collier County Hunger & Homeless Coalition. New members are always welcome.

For reservations or more information, call Eileen Pearson at 595-1761 or e-mail Barbara Traci at summerbid@comcast.net.

■ The Naples chapter of **Ikebana International** holds its first meeting of the new season beginning at 9 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 2, at Moorings Presbyterian Church. Members Carol Brocklesby and Ingrid Maguire will present a Sogetsu program and workshop. Attendees must pay \$5 to cover the cost of materials.

All are welcome. Reservations are required and can be made by visiting www.ikebananaples.com.

■ The **Jewish Genealogy Shared Interest Group** meets at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 8, at the Jewish Federation of Collier County, 2500 Vanderbilt Beach Road. All who are interested in getting starting and/or continuing to explore the world of Jewish genealogy are welcome. No experience is necessary. RSVP by e-mailing genresearch13@yahoo.com. ■

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CELEBRITY EXTRA

'China Beach' finally gets the DVD treatment

BY CINDY ELAVSKY

Q: I think I've read this question in your column before, but I can't remember your answer. Will "China Beach" ever be released on DVD? I loved that series, and I wish I could watch it again.

— Beverly W., via e-mail

A: I've gotten scores of letters asking that same question, and I finally have a definitive answer for you: On Oct. 1, fans can at last own the critically acclaimed, Dana Delany-starring hit series. For the show's 25th anniversary, the complete series will be available in a 21-disc collector's set in stores and online.

Q: With Halloween approaching, it got me to wondering if Catherine Bell will be in another "Good Witch" movie on the Hallmark Channel? Those are my favorite.

— Betty S., Tulsa, Okla.

A: Catherine and company will return to the Hallmark Channel on Oct. 26 with "The Good Witch's Destiny." In this sixth installment of the series, all Cassie Nightingale (Catherine) wants for her birthday is for her family and friends to be together. As her special day is approaches, Lori discovers signs of a curse looming over Cassie. Check back soon for my exclusive interview with Catherine.

Q: You mentioned a show set in the 1940s about the Mafia that was supposed to air on TNT called "Lost Angels," but I can't find mention of it anywhere. Can you help?

— Douglas B. in Ohio

A: The latest TNT drama has been renamed "Mob City" and is set to premiere Dec. 4. The show centers on the epic battle between a determined police chief and a dangerous mobster that inflames 1940s Los Angeles, and stars Jon Bernthal, Neal McDonough and Ed Burns. ■

— Write to Cindy at King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475; or e-mail her at letters@cindyelavsky.com.



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THIS WEEK ON WGCU-TV

THURSDAY, SEPT. 12, 9 P.M.

Doc Martin
Mother Knows Best

It's Portwenn Fun Day and the village is buzzing with excitement. P.C. Penhale is in his element rallying the runners and whipping up support. Louisa's mum Eleanor arrives in Portwenn and Louisa is far from happy.

10 P.M.
18 Voices Sing Kol Nidre

Explore the Kol Nidre, the most sacred prayer in Judaism that begins its holiest day of Yom Kippur. This program tells the Kol Nidre story impressionistically through the tales of those who have been touched by it.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 13, 10 P.M.

Great Performances
Hugh Laurie: Let them Talk

British actor Hugh Laurie (House) showcases his musical side in a special filmed in New Orleans and features his performances with blues legends Allen Toussaint, Irma Thomas and Sir Tom Jones.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 14, 10:30 P.M.

Yes Minister

When Jim turns to a banker to rescue a doomed building project, he soon discovers it takes two to QUANGO.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 15, 8 P.M.

Last Tango in Halifax, Part 2

Celia and Alan are enjoying their new life together, but widowed Gillian and separated Caroline have problems with their respective children and partners. During Celia and Alan's engagement party, Gillian's son is arrested for assaulting his mother's young lover.

9 P.M.
Masterpiece Mystery!
Foyle's War Series 7: The Eternity Ring

Suspecting that atomic research has been infiltrated, MI5 asks Foyle to investigate. Foyle learns that his former driver has been working for one of the possible suspects.

MONDAY, SEPT. 16, 8 P.M.
Antiques Roadshow
Grand Rapids, Mich.

Highlights include a letter from Grand Rapids native son Gerald Ford; a pair of earrings made from cufflinks given by Czar Nicholas of Russia; and an 1881 painting by artist Jasper Cropsey.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 17, 8 P.M.
Latino Americans
Foreigners in Their Own Land

Survey the history and people from 1565-1880, as the first Spanish explorers enter North America, the U.S. expands



Latino Americans, Sept. 17

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Saturday, October 12, 2013

Cambier Park, Naples, FL

Registration: 7:30 A.M. • Walk Starts: 9:00 A.M.

Questions? Contact Ashley Smith at
Ashley.Smith@cancer.org or (239) 261-0337
MakingStridesWalk.org/naples



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WGCU puts 'Ding' Darling in the spotlight for one night

WGCU Public Media hosts "The Hidden Works of J.N. 'Ding' Darling," a one-night-only fundraiser at The Gallery on Fifth at Mercato, from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 26. The exhibit celebrates the sketches, cartoons and artwork of the renowned conservationist and Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist.

Guests will be able to view many of Mr. Darling's works as well as rarely seen personal items and tools including paintbrushes, sketch books and photos.

WGCU is hosting "The Hidden Works of J.N. 'Ding' Darling" in conjunction with the release of a TV documentary produced by Marvo Entertainment Group titled "America's Darling: The Story of J.N. 'Ding' Darling."

The Darling family has provided a limited-edition print to WGCU to help raise funds. "Fishermen I Have Met: The Old Sanibel Slip" will be available during the event to those who make a donation of \$125 to WGCU. Signed by Mr. Darling, the black-and-white sketch from 1956 shows the Sanibel slip before the bridge to Sanibel was constructed.

The evening will include beer, wine and hors d'oeuvres and live music by



COURTESY PHOTO
J.N. "Ding" Darling, circa 1904

Swing Set. Tickets for \$50 per person can be purchased at www.wgcu.org/events or by calling 590-2361. ■

WGCU-TV

From page 24

into territories in the Southwest, and the Mexican-American War strips Mexico of half its territories by 1848.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 18, 8 P.M. Earthflight: A Nature Special Presentation Europe

Cranes and geese rise over Venice, Dover, Edinburgh and the monkey-guarded Rock of Gibraltar. In Rome, the Loire Valley, Holland and Hungary, birds gather by the millions to breed. ■

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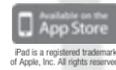


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SAVE THE DATE

■ Longtime Naples resident Mary Jane Briggs has been named Honorary Chair for the 2013 **NCH Hospital Ball**. The gala set for Saturday, Oct. 26, at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort benefits the Pediatric Emergency Department at the NCH North Naples Hospital.



BRIGGS

Ms. Briggs, who volunteers as a Snuggler for babies in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, continues a legacy of involvement with NCH that spans generations. Her husband, Dr. John Briggs, served as chairman of the board for more than a decade; his mother, Beatrice Branch Briggs, helped raise money for the original 50-bed Naples Community Hospital and served as the first chairman of the board.

Tickets to the 2013 NCH Hospital Ball are \$500 per person. For more information, call Miriam Ross at the NCH Healthcare System Foundation at 624-2015 or e-mail foundation@nchmd.org.

■ **Hodges University** holds its inaugural **President's Scholarship Dinner**, "Stepping out for Scholarships," from 5:30-9 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 7, at the Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club. Proceeds will benefit the school's Advancing Today's Woman: Women in Higher Education Scholarship Fund. The evening also celebrates Jeanette Brock, PhD, as the university's new president.

For more information, call Judy Coleman at 598-6122 or Alycssa DeLora at 938-7826.

■ Bayshore Cultural and Performing Arts Center presents **CAPA Art Forms — Sculpture** from 7-10 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9, at The von Liebig Art Center. The exhibition will include indoor and outdoor sculpture and "wearable" sculpture by Southwest Florida artists. Organizers are Richard Tooke, CAPA board member and director of CAPA's visual arts programming, and architect and art collector Charles Marshall. Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served.



Admission is \$100 per person. Ticket proceeds and a portion of art sales will support the CAPA mission to build a state-of-the-art cultural and performing arts center that showcases local visual and performing artists. To purchase tickets or for more information, call Bayshore CAPA at 775-2800, e-mail bayshorecapacenter@centurylink.net or visit www.bayshorecapa.org.

■ **Baby Basics of Collier County** hosts its sixth annual **Champagne Brunch & Fall Fashion Show** at 9:30 a.m. Monday, Nov. 11, at Dillard's in Coastland Center.

Baby Basics provides free diapers and supportive information to more than 325 infants and toddlers from low-income, working families in Collier County and Bonita Springs. Program participants and their parents will be special guests at the event to share how the program has benefited their families.

Tickets are \$75, which lets Baby Basics provide 10 weeks of diapers for one baby. For more information or to purchase a tickets, e-mail babybasicsndc@hotmail.com or visit www.BabyBasicsCollier.org.

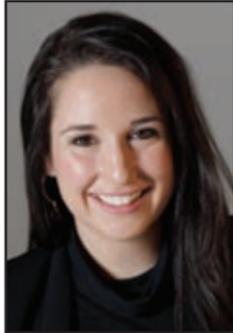
■ **Jewish Family & Community Services of Southwest Florida** presents **Planting Seeds for Better Tomorrows** from 5:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 14, at Artis—Naples.

Guest speaker Kim Lear will discuss "Four Generations of Family and Philanthropy." Guests will be able to wander the center's galleries while enjoying cocktails and hors d'oeuvres before the program.

The evening's sponsor is BMO Private Bank. Event co-chairs are Marvin and Carol Lader and Dr. Nat and Susan Ritter. Tickets are \$225.

JFCS is a non-sectarian social service agency. For tickets or more information, call Jaclynn Faffer at 325-4444 or e-mail jfaffer@jfcswfl.org.

■ Harmon-Meek Gallery hosts the inaugural **Visionaries of the Visual Arts** awards and benefit dinner Tuesday evening, Jan. 14, at the Naples Sailing and Yacht Club. Three individuals will be recognized for their contributions to the visual arts in Southwest Florida. Keynote speaker Charles



LEAR

Shepard is director of the Fort Wayne Museum of Art in Indiana.

Tickets are \$125 per person, with proceeds benefitting art programs for children and at-risk youth in the community through the Harmon-Meek Gallery Fund at the Southwest Florida Community Foundation. Co-chairs are Kristine and Juliana Meek. Tickets can be purchased by sending a check made payable to the Southwest Florida Community Foundation to Harmon-Meek Gallery, 599 Ninth St. N., Suite 309, Naples, FL 34102.

For more information, call the gallery at 261-2637.

■ **Susan G. Komen Southwest Florida** kicks off Breast Cancer Awareness Month with the inaugural **Pink Promise Luncheon** on Tuesday, Oct. 1, at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort. The multi-faceted "ladies day out" marks the hotel's debut after a summer-long renovation project.

Events from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. include several breakout educational sessions, a shopping venue, a live auction and survivor stories. Emcee and NBC2 anchor Heather Turco will introduce keynote speaker Diana Jordan, a comedian, author and breast cancer survivor whom Oprah Winfrey has called, "one of the funniest people on the planet."

Tickets for \$150 are available at www.komenswfl.org.

■ **Fiesta in PAWradise**, a dog-friendly fundraiser for the **Avow PAWS Pet Program**, takes place from 5-9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 18, at Avow. Guests will enjoy cocktails and heavy hors d'oeuvres, a silent auction, take-home portrait center, doggy fiesta fashion contest and a canine drill team performance.

Tickets are \$100; well-behaved, leashed dogs are welcome to accompany their owners. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 649-3683.

■ **The Immokalee Foundation's 2013 Charity Classic Celebration**, "Pathways to Success: Voices of the Future," includes an evening of fine dining, entertainment and auctions of once-in-a-lifetime experiences to benefit TIF students.

This year's celebration takes place Saturday evening, Nov. 16, at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort. Chairman is Pete Negri; Louise Penta hosts the evening's Fund A Dream.

Tickets are \$550. Underwriting and sponsorship opportunities are available. For reservations or more information, call 430-9122, e-mail info@immokaleefoundation.org or visit www.immokaleefoundation.org.

immokaleefoundation.org or visit www.immokaleefoundation.org.

■ **Champions For Learning**-The Education Foundation of Collier County, hosts the **Heart of the Apple** luncheon honoring Alan Korest on Tuesday, Nov. 19, at the Hilton Naples. For tickets or more information, call 643-4755 or visit www.educationforcollier.org.

■ **The Women's Initiative Network** of the Community Foundation of Collier County hosts the inaugural **Power of the Purse** luncheon on Wednesday, Dec. 4, at Grey Oaks Country Club. Guest speaker Connie Rose endured 16 years of childhood sexual abuse, much of it at the hands of her serial sex offender father. She founded Victims2Survivors to raise awareness and provide support for victims and survivors of sexual violence, sex trafficking and domestic violence.

The foundation's 2014 Women of Initiative honorees will also be formally announced at the luncheon. Nominations are being accepted at www.cfcollier.org. The award ceremony will be held on March 31 at the Naples Beach & Golf Resort.

Tickets to Power of the Purse are \$125 per person, \$250 for patrons and \$2,500 for a patron table. For more information, visit the website above.

■ **Humane Society Naples** holds its **Strut Your Mutt** costume parade and contest for best-dressed pets and owners on Saturday, Oct. 19, at Germain BMW. Admission is free; registration for the costume contest (Most Original, Scariest, Celebrity Lookalike, Cutest and Best Group/two or more pets) is \$10.

The society's 15th annual **Tea & Fashion Show** is set for Thursday, Dec. 5, at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort. This year's theme is "Passport to Paris." Co-chairs are Philip Douglas and Doug Olsen.

Visit www.humanesocietynaples.com for information about tickets and sponsorship opportunities as the dates draw closer.

■ The fifth annual **Naples International Film Festival** is set for Thursday-Sunday, Nov. 7-10. The red carpet opening night gala and screening take place Nov. 7 at Artis—Naples. Features, documentaries and film shorts of all genres will be screened at Silverspot Cinema at Mercato Nov. 8-10. Check www.naplesfilmfest.com for details as the date draws near, or call 775-3456. ■

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SOCIETY

Preview reception for two shows at The von Liebig Art Center



Gerry Crow Roeder, Lynne and Edwin Wilcox and Sandra Jackoboice



Lynda Fay Braun, John Long and Andrea Clark Brown



Mari Ann Cundali and Joan Fiore



Joseph Kramp and Angel Duncan



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The Naples Depot hosts opening reception for 'Journey of Hispanic Artists in America'



Blake Becker and Kelsi Boyd



Mila Bridger and Zawi



Joan Talano with Bill and Carmina Kupersmith



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SOCIETY

Waterside Shops hosts Craving Fashion for Make-A-Wish and St. Matthew's House



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PAST REPASTS

Here are some capsule summaries of previously reviewed restaurants:

■ **Capers Kitchen & Bar, 2460 Vanderbilt Beach Road, Naples; 431-7438**

Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, Capers melds the best of diners and full-fledged restaurants, offering a casual atmosphere, a friendly staff, house-made baked goods and jams, house-smoked salmon, live entertainment in the bar on some evenings and menu items such as pork osso buco and wood-grilled filet mignon. Yum yum shrimp was a plateful of sweet and tangy fried shrimp. The house-smoked salmon was somewhat salty and dry, but mustard dill sauce helped on both counts. Crab cakes are a house specialty and were full of lump crabmeat held together by what appeared to be bits of back fin, all lightly breaded and sautéed to a golden brown. Cedar-planked salmon was nicely done, served with pomegranate molasses and rice studded with sliced almonds, dried cranberries and orange zest. For dessert: a slab of warm bread pudding with raisins, caramel sauce and vanilla ice cream. Full bar.

Food: ★★★★★
Service: ★★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★★
Reviewed April 2013

■ **The Chapel Grill, 811 Seventh Ave. S., Naples; 206-4310**

Casual yet stylish, this restaurant in the 65-year-old former First Baptist Church is packing the pews with a wide-ranging menu that puts a new spin on some very familiar dishes. The

calamari, for instance, is strewn with chorizo sausage and tempura-fried julienned carrots served with a delicious mango-rum sauce. Seafood or steak, Chapel Grill seems blessed for success. A New York strip was perfectly grilled to medium-rare yet achieved a crusty exterior. The nicely marbled 14-ounce cut was dry-aged for 21 days, which imparted a noticeable richness. Red rock cod Florentine was a hefty fillet with thick flakes of moist white meat within its crisp oven-baked Parmesan crust. Inventive cocktails such as a vodka gimlet with balsamic-laced strawberries and fresh basil, or a bourbon highball spiked with The King's Ginger liqueur and a kiss of cloves are sinfully indulgent. Full bar.

Food: ★★★★★½
Service: ★★★★★½
Atmosphere: ★★★★★
Reviewed December 2012

■ **Michelbob's Champion Ribs, 371 Airport Pulling Road, Naples; 643-7427**

Michelbob's signature spice rub enhances its slow-smoked Danish baby backs, a mustard and paprika blend presented in shakers on every table just in case you want an extra punch of flavor. There are also two bottled sauces to slather on the meaty bones — one tangy with mustard (complex and well balanced) and one smoky-sweet (tasting heavily of Liquid Smoke). All of which is enough to satisfy anyone with a serious hankering for good ribs. If it's smoked pork shoulder or chicken you're after you might be less impressed. When all was said and done, and all saucy fingers

were licked clean, the baby backs truly stood out from the rest of the meal. The flesh was tender enough to slip off easily and had those crispy edges that just add a little extra texture to the experience. A smoked pork dinner had an ample stack of sliced meat but it leaned toward the dry side. Among the side dishes, the smoky-sweet baked beans studded with chunks of pork were a real standout. Full bar.

Food: ★★★½
Service: ★★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★★
Reviewed July 2012

■ **Swan River Seafood Restaurant and Fish Market, 3741 Tamiami Trail N., Naples; 403-7000**

North meets South at Swan River, which has been serving the best of New England's catch beside the treasures of Southwest Florida waters for more than 10 years. It captures the spirit of the Cape, with a nautical blue-and-white interior and menu offerings of whole belly clams, broiled scrod and lobster rolls. But these are complemented by Florida stone crab claws (in season), Gulf grouper and Southern oysters. Appetizers of fried oysters and steamed clams proved that the kitchen has mastered varying cooking methods. And you won't find food buried under piles of fruity salsas and painted with colorful drizzles of infused oil or creamy coulis; it's seafood cooked simply in order to showcase the quality of the main ingredient. Nowhere was that more evident than with the Maine gray sole, which was broiled to perfection with only white wine, lemon and butter

complementing the delicate flavor of the fish. Full bar.

Food: ★★★★★
Service: ★★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★★
Reviewed April 2012

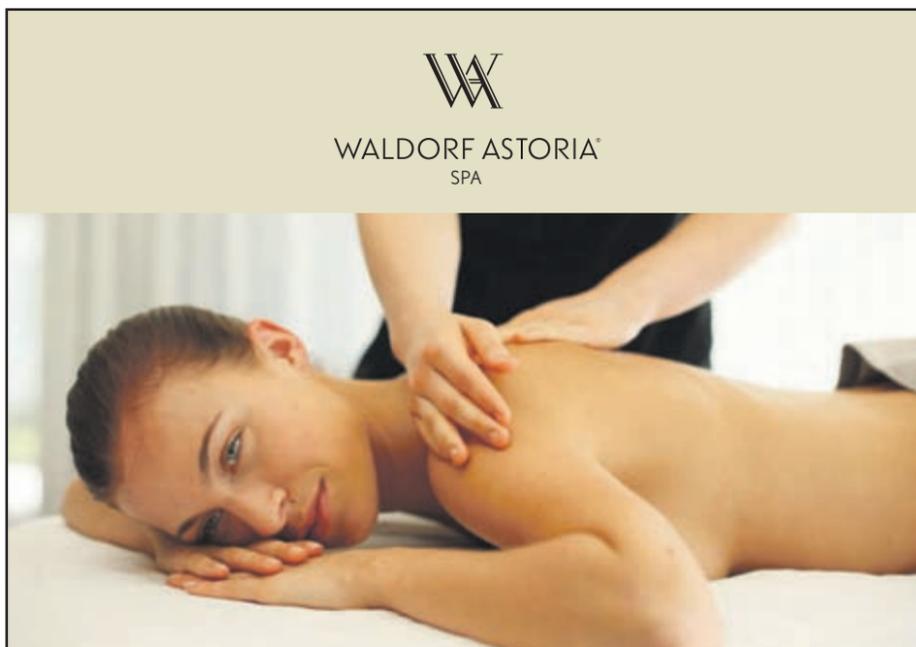
■ **Tarpon Bay, Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort and Spa, 5001 Coconut Road, Bonita Springs; 444-1234**

For a casual seafood bistro, it would be hard to beat Tarpon Bay. It has a ceviche bar, several varieties of raw oysters and lots of fresh fish options. We loved the sampler platter of eight varieties of ceviche (choose from one, two, three or eight types), particularly the Peruvian, a mix of scallops and mahi in a spicy marinade, and the shrimp with roasted corn, tequila, coriander, cumin and cayenne. This could be a meal unto itself. A grilled red snapper paired well with both the young soy white miso sauce and a slightly sweet ponzu sauce, but a spicy tropical salsa was a little overpowering. A lobster pot featured clams, mussels, lobster tail, fingerling potatoes, corn and roasted tomato. We added seafood sausage, which was delicious. For dessert: a flight of house-made ice creams. Both the peach and mascarpone cobbler were first rate. Full bar.

Food: ★★★★★½
Service: ★★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★★
Reviewed January 2012

Key to ratings

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



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CUISINE

Aptly named Mereday's Fine Dining delivers exceptional food, service



Just slightly off the beaten path, east of Tin City, culinary magic is brewing.

Chef/owner Charles Mereday has created a restaurant that in a mere six weeks has developed an enthusiastic following — and for very good reason.

Mr. Mereday describes his cuisine as American and, given that the country is a melting pot, I find that an appropriate description. There are elements of low country cuisine, no doubt a result of his training at Johnson & Wales University in Charleston, S.C. Time spent in Roanne, France, at the three-star Michelin La Maison Troisgros, has influenced his deft feel for creamy sauces, velvety purees and, of course, a fondness for foie gras.

There's a bit of island flavor that likely seeped into his repertoire while he owned and operated the Old Stone Farmhouse in St. Thomas in the U.S. Virgin Islands, and a soupçon more surely made its way into the lineup along with some African flair during his time as executive chef at Philadelphia's landmark Zanzibar Blue restaurant and jazz club.

In short, the man possesses some serious culinary chops — and he wastes no time in demonstrating them during a meal at his new Naples establishment situated along the upscale marina at the Naples Bay Resort in the space previously occupied by Olio and L'Orient.

With all that high-end experience, you might expect fussy, over-produced food, but Mr. Mereday keeps true to the style he describes on his website: "Cooking with integrity and love. (I'm a) believer and follower of fundamental cooking techniques (and) make no exceptions for superior quality ingredients. Keep it simple."

Mereday's offers diners a prix fixe menu, with three courses at lunch and three, four or five courses, with or without wine, at dinner. A charming and efficient hostess explains this to new arrivals before seating them. Those who want to try the food without committing to multiple courses can sit at the bar and enjoy a la carte selections, which might include cucumber



gazpacho with poached Florida pink shrimp or tarte flambe with creme fraiche, belle chevre, petite herbs and white balsamic.

But one look at the menu and we happily allowed ourselves to be led to a roomy table for two in sight of the open kitchen where Mr. Mereday, Executive Chef Joe Pittman and three other staff members were fluidly crafting plate after plate.

The front-of-the-house team handled its job with equal aplomb. When our vigilant server realized my companion ate no meat yet had been served an amuse-bouche that contained bacon, he took it away and returned with a meatless version. The tidbit was a perfectly ripe fig with a dollop of blue cheese, two bits of Nueske's bacon and a whisper of bacon vinaigrette. (My companion's version replaced bacon with balsamic glaze.)

What followed were four stellar courses. For starters, I enjoyed an heirloom red and gold beet salad with grilled ricotta salada, mint, orange segments (membranes removed) and basil oil, while my companion enjoyed three large seared scallops, baby carrots, arugula and parsnip puree. The blend



KAREN FELDMAN / FLORIDA WEEKLY

Top left: Shrimp Creole features plump shrimp with cheddar grits, Nueske's bacon, okra and tomatoes.

Above: Grilled salmon is served with Napa cabbage, sweet potato puree and red pepper jelly.

At left: Sticky toffee pudding is served warm with toffee sauce and brown sugar ice cream.

of crunchy bitter greens and velvety smooth parsnips was an inspired pairing with the lightly seasoned scallops.

Warm house-made ciabatta rolls and butter arrived with the first course. They were so good I could have made a meal of them, but I firmly, albeit reluctantly, declined the offer of a second one.

Next up were tender butternut squash ravioli with a tempura-fried stuffed squash blossom on a bed of tomato cream, and Creole shrimp with more of that divine Nueske's bacon atop cheddar grits, with bits of sausage, okra and tomato in the mix.

I'm not always a fan of piling proteins atop vegetables, but the grilled salmon on sweet potato puree and Napa cabbage topped by house-made red pepper jelly was another inspired combination in which the whole proved greater than the sum of its parts.

I had questioned the server about the crispy duck leg and been assured that it would be crisp. It looked almost charred, and it crackled when I cut into it. The skin was perfectly crisp, yet the flesh remained moist, complemented well by a delicate wild mushroom risotto.

Desserts, made by the staff pastry chef, were as well executed as the savory dishes. A mille feuille, similar to a Napoleon, consisted of thin, crisp pastry layers alternating with lavender lemon curd and segments of pink

grapefruit, accompanied by a mound of yuzu ice cream. Also outstanding was a warm sticky toffee pudding with a sweet toffee sauce and lightly salty brown sugar ice cream.

The servers, server attendants and the manager were ever vigilant. Our wine and water glasses never approached empty. Our silverware was replaced for each course. My companion's napkin was artfully refolded when he made a brief trip to the restroom. Someone checked after each course was served to make sure everything was fine, and the manager made a point of inquiring about the duck and whether it had been satisfactorily crisp. Now that's attention to detail!

Mereday's is a restaurant you have to make a bit of an effort to get to, and the prix fixe concept is one to which some diners might have to adjust. But those who do will be well rewarded. Mr. Mereday is an exceptional talent, and Naples is lucky to have him. ■

in the know

Mereday's Fine Dining

Naples Bay Resort, 1500 Fifth Ave. S., Naples; 732-0784

Ratings:
Food: ★★★★★
Service: ★★★★★½
Atmosphere: ★★★★★

- >> **Hours:** Lunch served noon-2 p.m. Monday through Friday; dinner served 5-9 p.m. every day
- >> **Reservations:** Accepted
- >> **Credit cards:** Accepted
- >> **Price range:** A la carte at the bar; prix fixe three-course lunch, \$25; prix fixe dinner, three courses, \$55, with wine \$85; four courses, \$75, with wine \$115; five courses, \$95, with wine \$145; weekday happy hour features wine flights and chef's choice of tapas for \$10
- >> **Beverages:** Beer and wine served
- >> **Seating:** Conventional tables, banquettes or at the bar
- >> **Specialties of the house:** Well-honed American cuisine
- >> **Volume:** Low to moderate
- >> **Parking:** Free lot
- >> **Website:** www.meredaysnaples.com

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



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Makeover Shocker
California Closets to the rescue. **3** ▶



In Store
Products you have to check out. **12** ▶



Designer Q&A
Michael Millspaugh
18 ▶





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“The aesthetics of the new closet allow it to become a part of the home’s décor, and now it’s a beautiful new area of living that adds real value for the homeowner and a pleasant experience for guests.”

— **Scott Scheffer**, California Closets Director of Business Development



COURTESY PHOTOS
California Closets reach-in — before, at right, and after, above.

California Closets to the rescue

BY KELLY MERRITT

Florida Weekly Correspondent

COULD THERE BE ANYTHING MORE FRUSTRATING in a beautiful home than a messy closet? Cluttered, too-small closets are a stressful eyesore.

No one knows this better than California Closets Director of Business Development Scott Scheffer, who has to hear customers lodge closet complaints on a daily basis. The company has renovated every type of closet, but in the case of these reach-in and walk-in closets, the makeover is nothing short of magical.

“In the case of a reach-in closet, this is a typical closet with a single row of hanging and one shelf above,” Mr. Scheffer says, adding such a scenario is most often found in a home’s secondary closets — the guest bedrooms.

The second astounding California Closets makeover is a master walk-in closet, with virtually no usual hanging or shelving.

The reach-in closet was renovated for

SEE MAKEOVER, 4 ►



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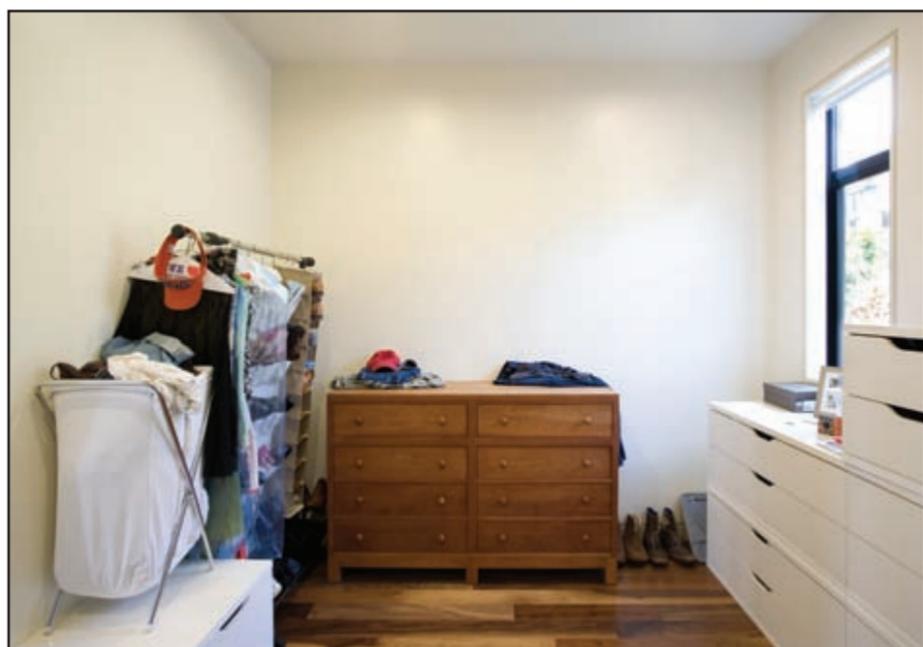
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California Closets white walk-in — before, above, and after, top.

COURTESY PHOTOS

MAKEOVER

From page 3

organizational reasons. There was insufficient hanging space and the shelf was overloaded with an array of folded clothing. The floor was strewn with miscellaneous items. The reorganized closet offers much more storage space and simple peace of mind.

"The aesthetics of the new closet allow it to become a part of the home's décor, and now it's a beautiful new area of living that adds real value for the homeowner and a pleasant experience for guests," Mr. Scheffer says.

In the case of the master bedroom walk-in closet, it lacked any type of usable hanging space, had a mix of furniture and needed shoe space and a hamper.

"This was essentially a room with miscellaneous, uncoordinated elements and the closet was completely redesigned around the existing space's features to neatly hold all of the existing inventory," Mr. Scheffer says. "The end result was a clean white space with an abundance of easily accessible space."

California Closets builds custom closets based on what's going into the closets and how those items will fit into a home-

owner's day-to-day life. Each California Closets system is custom-designed around each specific space. Any obstacles or challenges that could arise are handled at the design stage, Mr. Scheffer explains. Outside contractors were not a concern for either of these makeovers — California Closets systems are installed by the company's in-house teams.

"Because we design our closets based on the inventory that the homeowners will be putting in it, the placement of items is decided and spelled out at the design stage," Mr. Scheffer says.

Here are his tried-and-true tips for any homeowner who is revamping a closet:

1) Consider what you really need in your closets: Space is valuable and organization starts with deciding on the items that you really need or really love.

2) Think about functionality: where and how you dress each day, how you could make your mornings easier (using accessories such as valet rods to lay your clothes out the night before, etc.).

3) Be creative: California Closets has an extensive line of finishes and accessories and the designers can walk homeowners through the process of choosing what best suits a home and lifestyle.

For more information or to schedule your own California Closets makeover, call 694-8100 or visit www.California-Closets.com. ■

"Because we design our closets based on the inventory that the homeowners will be putting in it, the placement of items is decided and spelled out at the design stage."

— **Scott Scheffer**, California Closets Director of Business Development



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COLLINS & DUPONT INTERIOR DESIGN WINS FIVE AURORA AWARDS

Collins & DuPont Interior Design in Bonita Springs has been honored with five Aurora Awards, which honor the outstanding interior designers, builders, planners, architects, developers, merchandisers and other housing-related professionals within a 12-state region in the Southeast U.S. and eastern Caribbean.

These latest honors are among more than 60 awards given to Collins & DuPont through the years. This round of awards was for a private residence in Naples: Best Interior Merchandising, Best Interior Detailing, Best Master Bath, and Interior Design by Lana Knapp, Senior Designer, ASID. Other awards were for a model

home at Barefoot Beach in Bonita Springs for Detached Family Home (over \$3 million), Interior Merchandising (over \$3 million) and Interior Design by Kim Collins, ASID; and Alina Olinger, Allied ASID. For more information, visit www.collinsdupont.com or call 948-2400.

CATHLEEN SWIFT NAMED MIROMAR DESIGN CENTER DESIGNER OF DISTINCTION

Cathleen Swift has been recognized as Miromar Design Center's September 2013 Designer of Distinction. She is owner of Naples-based Cathleen B. Swift Design, LLC and has more than 25 years in the interior design business focused on the luxury residential market in Southwest

Florida. Ms. Swift is also a member of the Designer on Call service at Miromar Design Center.

"Miromar Design Center serves as my library in the interior design field," Ms. Swift said. "It features the largest selection of fabrics, furnishings, finishes, casework, all of my tools and it is a pleasure bringing clients into this beau-



Cathleen Swift

tifully appointed building to make their selections."

For more information on Ms. Swift's appointment as designer of the month or Miromar Design Center, go to www.MiromarDesignCenter.com.

MICHAEL MILLSPAUGH AND WATERSIDE BUILDERS TO COMPLETE 'FIREFLY' MODEL

Clive Daniel Home designer Michael Millspaugh's latest model, "Firefly" for Waterside Builders on 4th Avenue South, was done in partnership with Kelly Bridwell and debuts at the end of September. For more information, contact Mr. Millspaugh at 213-7873 or go to www.clivedaniel.com. ■



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“Nothing beats kicking back in such comfort to enjoy a great film the way it was meant to be seen”

—Tom Stoup, Silverspot’s resident film guru, understands why people are gravitating toward movie-going in their own homes



COURTESY PHOTO

This Tuscany themed home theater seats can be customized to size for any home.

LET THEM ENTERTAIN YOU

Home theaters and sound systems the new normal in luxury homes

BY KELLY MERRITT

Florida Weekly Correspondent

MOVIE THEATERS AND HIGH-END SOUND systems are the ultimate home luxury. Some feature vast expanses of seating, bars and other such comforts, while others are intimate, converted screening spaces birthed from unused bonus rooms.

Making the perfect movie room

At places such as Silverspot Cinema, which holds the unofficial title of Southwest Florida’s coolest movie theater, people live vicariously through what they’d like to have in the privacy of their own homes: an entertainment respite complete with cocktails, popcorn and hand-stitched, extra-wide leather seats.

Tom Stoup, Silverspot’s resident film guru, understands why people are gravitating toward movie-going in their own homes.

“Nothing beats kicking back in such comfort to enjoy a great film the way it was meant to be seen,” Mr. Stoup says, adding his own dream home theater would mimic director Martin Scorsese’s private screening room. “The master has built his personal movie theater



TIM GIBBONS / COURTESY PHOTO

Michael Novak at his store, Epic Audio Video store.

in his home with a touch of decorative reverence for old Hollywood.”

Michael Novak, the owner of Epic Audio Video, says a homeowner can have an amazing theater room for as little as \$10,000 by converting a spare room, or can spend millions creating an oversized, extravagant space with all the bells and whistles.

Mr. Novak’s pride and joy is a multi-million-dollar system he designed for a Naples home. It has nine 7-foot-tall racks of equipment. “A 3400 DVD Kaleidescape movie server sends different video to 19 Runco televisions simultaneously,” he says. “The 103-inch Runco plasma television is lifted flush into the wall on a custom aluminum winch and bracket system we fabricated from scratch,” he adds. “There’s pretty much nothing this system can’t control.”

For a client in a Pelican Bay penthouse, Epic Audio Video installed a commercial wireless network so strong that the owner “can watch a video on his laptop all the way into the elevator, down to the ground floor and then sit on the beach and never lose signal.”

And for another Pelican Bay client, Mr. Novak’s company converted a guest room into a home theater with sound-proofing, custom wall panels and draperies and installed Crestron controls, a Stewart screen and a high-power DLP Projector.

From the electronics to the furnishings, Mr. Novak says, his company can convert a guest room, office or library from nothing into a beautiful home theater in about a week.

Many homeowners who don’t have an extra room to dedicate to watching



SEE ENTERTAIN, 10 ► This home theater theme is build with a small stage for effect and a house full of kids.

COURTESY PHOTO



This lush home theater seats 18 people and includes a buddy bar in the back of the room.

COURTESY PHOTO



TIM GIBBONS / COURTESY PHOTO

Vinyl records have become increasingly popular with collectors and serious music lovers due to superior sound quality.

ENTERTAIN

From page 9

movies simply want systems that provide great sound and picture quality. Either way, Mr. Novak cautions that most houses are not properly wired for a media room. A homeowner won't even be able to get video on a television if the correct infrastructure is not in place.

"If you're complaining about your AppleTV picture stalling, that's because the backbone isn't done right," he says. "Having a commercial-grade network in your home is absolutely crucial because the amount of traffic and video streaming on today's systems is far too much for the \$100 router you picked up at a big-box store for total wireless coverage to all points of your home."

The latest toy for grown-ups who love technology is the 4K Ultra HD television. The picture quality is four times clearer than regular HD — it's like the television difference between an early Kindle and the latest iPad. The planet's first 4K Ultra HD media player is also a must-have.

For the home theater, however, a screen and projector are imperative.

The biggest television is 90 inches, too small for a theater room. Mr. Novak is in the process of building a new home theater in his store in Tanglewood Plaza that will feature the new Sony 4K projector, the same projector used at area theaters.

Furnishings — especially the seating — in a home theater are critical because, as Mr. Stoup says, no matter how great a movie is, you're going to be taken right out of the mood if your lumbar begins to ache at the halfway mark.

Steve Lush, president of Robb & Stucky International, says the home-theater market continues to be strong in Florida.

"People love the convenience of a theater in the comfort of their own home," says Mr. Lush, whose company also pro-



TIM GIBBONS / COURTESY PHOTO

Customers are known to sit in Mr. Novak's in-store music room for hours in the cushy chairs, listening to their favorite songs.

vides home-theater design services.

Stephen Jaron is a builder and remodeler who has morphed many spaces into entertainment rooms. He says new construction is typically a blank slate, so location of a media room can be incorporated into the overall design of the home.

"In existing homes, we have seen a desire for homeowners to convert formal dining rooms into media rooms," Mr. Jaron says. "Soundproofing is very important, and the proximity to living areas as opposed to sleeping areas. And because the technology is constantly changing, stick with brands and suppliers with a lengthy record in the business, being aware of trendy items that may become obsolete."

Other notable products for the home theater include the JBL Synthesis sound system on which most movies, including Lucas Films, are mastered. Homeowners who have this system hear films how they were intended to sound. It begins at \$35,000 and goes up to \$450,000 for residential systems, and only covers speakers and electronics.

The sound of music

For music lovers, lyrics and melodies are like oxygen — essential to life itself — and a sound system is vital to any media room or whole-house enter-

tainment infrastructure. Though Epic is cost-competitive, big-box stores are child's play compared to what's available to people who crave high-end music experiences. Take, for example, speakers impregnated with diamond dust that cost \$15,000 to \$25,000 per pair.

In the music room at Mr. Novak's store, customers sit, sometimes for hours, in comfy chairs to listen to their favorite songs. They've been known to sway back and forth, hum and even burst into song, hypnotized by the music that has defined their lives and made milestones out of ordinary experiences.

"When you sit in this room and close your eyes to listen, you can hear the subtle drum brushes and guitar frets, breathing and things you just ignore in the regular day," Mr. Novak says. "Clients listen to several pairs of speakers over and over until they find the sound they seek."

But homeowners can also spend a few hundred dollars and get perfectly good speakers, Mr. Novak says, adding the biggest mistake some people make is equating volume with power.

"The speaker purchase is the most important part of a sound system, but this is where most people get it wrong. The speakers make the sound, so if you skip here, then no matter how fancy the electronics you buy are, you'll never

in the know

Entertainment room dos and don'ts

>> **Do** add a bar to your home theater if you have room. Your designer can arrange the bar and stools behind the seats with the bar flush to the back of the chairs.

>> **Don't** buy a weak projector. A home-theater projector must be strong enough to throw enough light on a big screen.

>> **Don't** skimp on speakers or power. Speakers don't sound their best unless you give them more power. It's about current, not volume.

>> **Do** convert that little-used guest bedroom. In a small room you can still do a 110-inch screen, but there is no limit to how big you can go.

>> **Don't** put a traditional popcorn machine in your theater. They're fun, but they have a very specific scent that can grow old quickly. You're better off making popcorn in the kitchen.

— Source: Epic Audio Video

hear much improvement."

Speakers require significant clean power to sound good at low volume. Owning a nice pair of tower speakers but running them on a discount receiver from a big-box store versus a high-wattage amplifier means the quality will suffer.

"Listening to a good pair of speakers on a quality 200-watt amplifier will sound completely different than using a 100-watt receiver at the exact same volume level," Mr. Novak says of the high-end equipment he demonstrates in the store. "Education is the key, and that's what we try to provide."

Speaker designs include custom wood finishes and lacquers and the currently popular white speakers, among others. Respected brands to consider include the iconic, American-made McIntosh, Sonus Faber from Italy, UK-based Bowers and Wilkens, Canadian powerhouse Paradigm and Revel, which is made in the USA. ■

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Take a seat

▼ Palliser theater seats are known for their roomy 22-inch seat depth and 8 gauge sinuous wire springs for comfort – but the high resilience foam for support and LED cupholder switch make these the perfect choice for home theater chairs. Choose from the Lemans or HIFI, both available at Robb & Stucky International (www.robbstuckyintl.com).



Popcorn maker

► Cuisinart has the cutest popcorn maker – the EasyPop® Popcorn Maker – and it comes in eye-popping red in a nod to traditional popcorn machines. It makes 16 cups of fluffy popcorn in a matter of minutes and allows for adjusting oil, salt and flavorings. The best part? When it's ready, you can serve it right from the popping bowl. We discovered this at Sur La Table in the Mercato in Naples, across from our offices here at Florida Weekly.



Bowers and Wilkens 802 Speakers

◀ You don't have to own a recording studio to hear the same speakers used at the famous Abbey Road Studios. They use these Bowers and Wilkens speakers to mix their music. They are impregnated with diamond dust, which accounts for the \$15,000 price tag for a pair. Bang your head at Epic Audio Video.

Receiver

► All stereo components connect to a receiver that connects to the speakers, and in return



it amplifies the signal of all of the components. McIntosh, an iconic brand that has been around since 1949, is such a major label, they licensed the name to Apple. Their receivers, for sale at Epic Audio Video, are some of the best ever made with every nut and bolt completely built in the USA.



Paradigm Soundcast Soundbar

▲ Digital review heralded this sound bar as “meticulous in its speaker design” for “striking a succinct design” and was “designed to be perfectly tuned.” It’s manufactured by a family-owned company known for exceptional materials and copious research and development. At Epic Audio Video in Naples.



Paradigm’s headphones

▲ These headphones were made by the No. 1 speaker company in the world, which also makes the aforementioned sound bar. Priced at \$299, they are not cheap – but you get what you pay for in music quality. These are noise-canceling and regular headphones, built with high-end materials in Canada. We listened to these at Epic Audio Video.

illy stylish coffee

▼ If you want to impress your home theater or sound system listeners, also at Sur la Table is Master Barista champion Giorgio Milos’ favorite coffee machine – the Francis Francis X7. He loves it because it makes a quick and easy espresso, but it’s also extremely stylish, much like the Italian champion himself (no wonder, it was designed by Italian architect Luca Trazzi.) It uses an iper capsule and internal thermoblock – the panarello steam wand froths milk for cappuccinos and lattes. Available in red or black, also at Sur la Table.



Old movie posters

▲ To add a classic touch to a home theater, nothing says film buff like a classic movie poster. Websites CineMasterpieces and All Posters have the largest selection of classic posters that have made films such as “Casablanca” and “La Dolce Vita” iconic images. (www.allposters.com, www.cinemasterpieces.com) Then, be sure to protect your purchase and prevent glare with an anti-reflective frame from Hollywood Poster Frames. (www.hollywoodposterframes.com)

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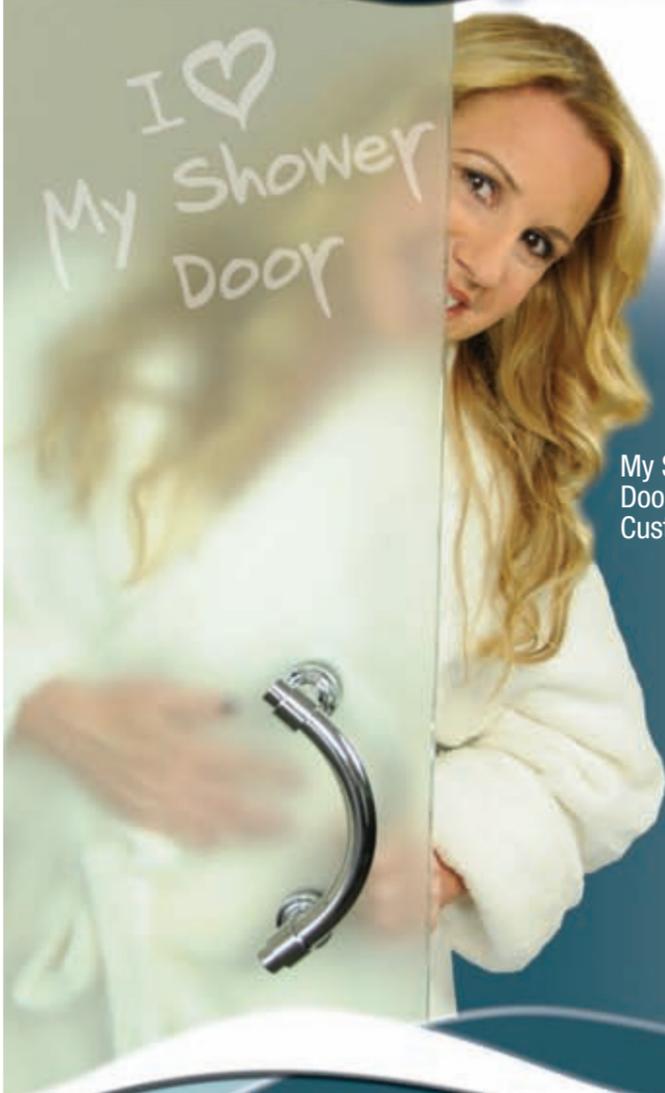
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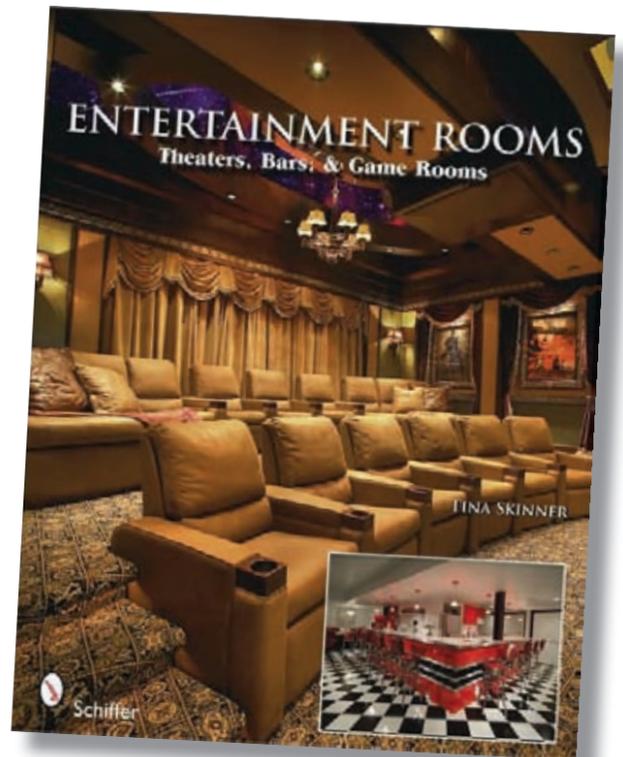
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MUST READ

September LL Reading List

The photos and suggestions in **"Entertainment Rooms: Theaters, Bars and Game Rooms"** by Tina Skinner (Schiffer Publishing, Ltd.) will have you booting that college kid into the dorm and knocking down walls to make room for a full-service bar.

In these homes, each room featured is a private oasis showcasing everything from upgraded entertainment rooms to magnificent home theaters. It also includes references for installing bars of all kinds from a simple counter to a sports complex with multiple screens and gaming tables. The wine cellars and tasting rooms section of the book are simply delicious — as are the indoor pool features. There are 200 full-color photographs to salivate over in Skinner's book. ■



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DESIGNER MICHAEL MILLSPAUGH

MICHAEL MILLSPAUGH OF CLIVE DANIEL Home was part of the opening team for the brand in 2011. He had a working relationship with the owners for the prior seven years and continues to relish the honor of joining them in the quest to reinvent the company's residential interior design store format.

Mr. Millspaugh takes delight in the fun his clients have when they realize how much fun they can have in the design process to achieve their ideal environment. Michael's latest model, "Firefly" for Waterside Builders on 4th Avenue South, was done in partnership with Kelly Bridwell and debuts at the end of September. LUXE sat down with him to get the scoop on a few design-build basics, what he's glad to see go away and the scorching-hot celebrity designer he'd most like to decorate his dream home.

Florida Weekly: What's the difference in working directly with an architect and a builder?

Michael Millspaugh: Architects have their own set of concerns based on history and their aesthetic, while builders are all about implementing the architect's plan.

FW: What's your favorite design trend right now?

MM: The movement away from the color brown.

FW: What design trends are you glad to see gone?

MM: Over ornamentation and excessive detail. Heavy, "goopy" furniture that screams nouveau riche is gone.

FW: What design books do you recommend?

MM: "Albert Hadley: The Story of America's Preeminent Interior Designer" and "Think COLOR" by Tricia Guild.

FW: If you could have a celebrity (or local) designer come decorate your house, who would it be?

MM: Nate Berkus



Michael Millspaugh

COURTESY PHOTO

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COURTESY PHOTO

In this classic modern Pelican Bay condo, Clive Daniel Interior Designer Michael Millspaugh procured a stunning red couch to serve as the centerpiece of the room.

FW: What decor would you most want in your home?

MM: A mix of classic modern, 18th century and sentimental pieces

FW: What one design element in particular do you find challenging?

MM: Curved windows can be unruly.

FW: If a homeowner wants to go it alone, please share any advice you have for decorating resources.

MM: Download shelter magazines and organize pictures of the pages you like in your tablet, or obtain hard copies of those magazines, tear out the pages and put post-it notes on the pages denoting likes and dislikes. This will help you establish a visual vocabulary that will keep you on track. Start with an area rug

or art to anchor the room, establish a color palette and learn how to work in two dimensions on a floor plan to establish placement and size constraints.

FW: What do you recall as an over-the-top, luxury outdoor space?

MM: It was a single-family home in Bonita Springs with 18 seats at an outdoor tiki hut that was built under the screen enclosure with four separate lounging areas around the pool. This outdoor area was more than 2,500 square feet. ■

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