

# NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY®

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WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 11-17, 2014

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**8.8**

Billions of dollars in the FDOT budget to improve bicycle-pedestrian roads

**60**

Accidents in Collier County involving cars and bicycles this year

**5,189**

Pedestrian fatalities in Florida from 2003-2012

**159**

Helmets given out by Charlotte County police for safety

**FLORIDA RANKS WORST IN THE U.S. IN PEDESTRIAN & BICYCLE SAFETY**

## Deadly streets

**C**OURT NEDERVELD IS A BICYCLIST. A ROAD rider. He's ridden across the United States. He's journeyed from the Canadian border to New Orleans. For years he's spun and mashed those pedals most days a week up and down the southwest coast of the Sunshine State, which leads non-riders to question his sanity, he says. Florida is

SEE DEADLY, A8 ►

STORY BY ROGER WILLIAMS @RWILLIAMS@FLORIDAWEEKLY.COM

## INSIDE



### On the clock

FGCU students set to create art in 24 hours. **C1** ►



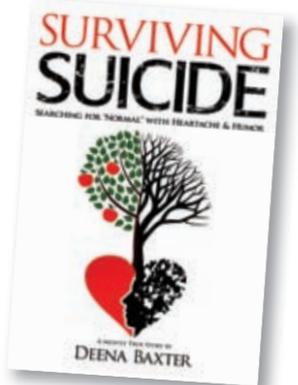
### A wonderful time

VIP guests enjoy tour of reinvented gardens, and more Society photos. **C28-29** ►



### Show us the \$\$\$

Florida leads in cash sales for real estate transactions. **B1** ►



### Heartache, humor

Naples woman responds to family tragedy with grit and guts. **A11** ►

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## Subtly, autumn creeps in as gardeners prepare for growing season



HEATHER GIENAPP / LEEPARKS.ORG

Birdwatchers on Wood Duck Deck at Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve, where the change in seasons is already noticeable.

BY GLENN MILLER

Florida Weekly Correspondent

Change is coming, a change that no election can alter, change that affects Republicans and Democrats alike.

Autumn is knocking softly on Southwest Florida doors, announcing its upcoming presence in subtle ways. It officially arrives at 10:29 p.m. Monday, Sept. 22.

But it will arrive without the hoopla of northern falls. No frost on the pumpkin

here. No kaleidoscope of colors on the leaves in our forests. No chilly Friday night high school football games.

But the changes are already under way and can be seen in gardens and parks and on farms.

At Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve in Lee County, supervisor Heather Gienapp tells visitors the first signs of fall have been visible since August. That's when

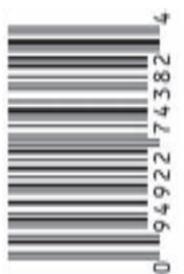
SEE SEASON, A10 ►

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# COMMENTARY

## There must be 50 ways



The latest features a dozen members of Congress engaged in serious misconduct, while the balance of nominees committed “misdeeds” earning them a “dishonorable mention.” Of course, a number of Florida’s elected representatives made the list.

To find further evidence confirming our suspicions about the corrupting influence of money in politics, a recent piece by Robert Reich is worth a read.

The commentary highlights a new study.

A joint project of Princeton’s Martin Gilens and Northwestern University’s Benjamin Page, the study analyzes in detail 1,799 policy issues, assessing the relative influence of “economic elites, business groups, mass-based interest groups, and average citizens” on the sausage-making we call public policy.

Any guesses about the findings? Spoiler alert: “The preferences of the average American voter appear to have only a miniscule, near-zero, statistically non-significant impact upon public policy.”

I guess the “near zero” and “statistically non-significant impact” is meant to annihilate any doubt that the bigger the money vote, the less individual voters matter; but hey, we already know this. It seems starkly apparent given the present inaction of Congress on matters Americans overwhelmingly agree demand action, including greater gun control, comprehensive immigration reform and increasing the minimum wage.

But, as Reich says, before we all say “duh” in unison, the attendant caveat is that the study is based on data over a peri-

od of time long before Citizens United unleashed the floodgates of anonymous money; prior to the advent of super PACs; and before Washington bailed out Wall Street.

The study bases its findings on data from 1981 to 2002.

If big money in elections was corrosive back then, it is far worse now. The post-Citizens United environment is the wild, wild west; the sheriff is outgunned; Shane is nowhere to be found; and the hired guns and big money behind them are crushing the common folk and destroying the town.

Public perception is consistent with what the study confirms historically, i.e., that “lawmakers respond to the policy demands of wealthy individuals and monied business interests — those with the most lobbying prowess and deepest pockets to bankroll campaigns.”

In other words, here we are 50 years later, and it’s déjà vu all over again, except worse. The gunslingers and cattle barons are the victors.

Not to get too deep into the weeds, the researchers summarize four theoretical traditions characterizing the study of American politics, each offering “predictions about which sets of actors have how much influence over public policy. Lacking earlier a singular statistical tool, the academicians say it was not possible until now to test which of these traditions has the greatest impact on public policy: average citizens; economic elites; organized interest groups; or mass-based or business-oriented?

Now we know — the study concludes electoral politics dominated by the economically elite trumps its competitors, followed closely by biased pluralism, i.e., organized proponents of special interests. Unsurprisingly, “mass-based interest groups and average citizens have little or no independent influence.”

The Center for Responsive Politics, a nonpartisan watchdog, says the 2014 election cycle is already “on track to becoming the darkest election in history when it comes to voters’ knowledge about the deep-pocketed, anonymous donors who are working to influence their vote,” a trend that began three elections ago, each shattering all records for the preceding election cycle.

Robert Maguire, a staff investigator, writes, “In the Citizens United decision, the justices were nearly unanimous in their support of disclosure as a means to inform citizens of “whether elected officials are ‘in the pocket’ of so-called moneyed interests.... Yet despite the court’s recognition that voters should be able to know who’s funding their elected officials, spending by dark money groups continues unabated, leaving voters in the dark.” ■

— Leslie Lilly is a native. Her professional career spans more than 25 years in the charitable sector, leading major philanthropic institutions in the South and rural Appalachia. She resides with her family and pugs in Jupiter. Email her at [lilly15@gmail.com](mailto:lilly15@gmail.com) and follow Lilly on Twitter @lilly15.

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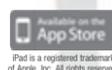


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# OPINION

## The real rape culture



**richLOWRY**

Special to Florida Weekly

There are no words for the horror of Rotherham.

More than 1,400 young girls have been raped and brutally exploited in the northern England town of roughly 250,000 over the past 16 years, while nearly everyone in authority did all he or she could to look the other way.

A newly released independent investigation says: "It is hard to describe the appalling nature of the abuse that child victims suffered. They were raped by multiple perpetrators, trafficked to other towns and cities in the north of England, abducted, beaten and intimidated."

In other words, the local government tolerated sexual violence on a vast scale. Why? In part, because the criminals who committed these sickening acts were Muslims from the local Pakistani community, and noticing their depravity was considered insensitive at best, racist at worst.

The victims were white and overwhelmingly from broken homes. They

were groomed by young men who would ply them with cigarettes, alcohol and drugs, and, after initiating a sexual relationship, force them to have sex with other men and make violent threats to keep them subservient.

*The New York Times* interviewed a girl who was first gang-raped at age 13. Thereafter, it became a regular occurrence. To keep her in line, her torturers threatened to rape her mother and firebomb her house. Once, they carried out a mock execution with a gun clapped to her head.

Even though reports were reaching social workers of the crimes in Rotherham as far back as the 1990s, nothing of consequence was done for more than a decade. The police were pigheaded and clueless, and the fear of being called "racist" paralyzed the very social workers and local officials who were supposed to protect the girls.

In a BBC documentary, the author of a 2002 report to the Rotherham council on the scandal said her work was quashed. When she noted that the perpetrators were from the Pakistani community, a colleague told her "you must never refer to that again — you must never refer to Asian men." She was sent to diversity training and, by her account, nearly fired.

The reports kept coming every few years, to no effect.

It should be taken as a given that a rapist is a rapist, no matter what his religion or ethnicity. But British multiculturalism isn't so simple-minded. The member of Parliament who represented Rotherham admitted that as a "liberal leftie" he didn't want "to rock the multicultural community boat."

And so the rapists did their vile worst, protected by the appalling assumption that violating and exploiting young girls is just another ethnic folkway that tolerant people have to learn to accept, or at least to ignore.

In this country, there is a feminist cottage industry in identifying nearly everything as part of "rape culture." In Rotherham, there was a terrifyingly real and endemic rape culture. Yet it hasn't prompted feminist hand-wringing about how multiculturalism effectively empowered a criminal patriarchy. It has barely caused a peep.

It is the wrong perpetrators, wrong victims, wrong narrative. Which is why so many young, innocent lives were allowed to be ruined in the first place. There are no words. ■

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

## An ill-fitting suit



**bobFRANKEN**

Special to Florida Weekly

Well, that might be the last time he wears a tan suit in public. President Barack Obama, who had called a news conference to discuss incredibly weighty questions about American military reaction to out-of-control Islamic State militants, wore a lightweight, tan summer suit. He sure regretted it.

Of all the vital and controversial issues he discussed, it was the reaction to the tan suit that exploded across social media, not the debate over whether to bomb the murderous extremists sweeping Iraq from across the border in Syria and not his admission that the process of forming a regional response is not complete.

The only clamor he caused with that was his statement "We don't have a strategy yet." Predictably, the opposition jumped all over that one.

"It just confirmed what we've been talking about really for almost two years," huffed the Republican chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, Mike Rogers, "There has been no real strategy."

Granted, POTUS left himself wide open to that kind of snark with his plain talk, and he also might wish that he'd used other words. But let's hope not. It was refreshing to hear such candor instead of the usual double-talk we get from all sides.

The fact is that determining how all the pieces fit is just the first step. Next he'll have to sweet talk skittish allies before there is any hope that the Islamic State forces can be beaten back as they roll over the entire region pursuing their fervent dream of a harsh caliphate ruled by their brutal fanatics. He'll need to start by dealing with the antago-



SCREENSHOT FROM ABCNEWS.COM

The president's garb did not suit the occasion of his news conference; social media seemingly missed the importance of his address, and focused instead on his dress.

nisms of the other nations in the region, with their varying degrees of culpability. How can they be rallied around a single agenda, with a coordinated armed forces and intelligence response?

What about Syria? Do we ignore the cruel pariah leader Bashar al-Assad, with his sophisticated defense system, who has warned against air attacks on his turf without permission? Do the United States and allies suddenly deal with the same man they have been trying to oust because of his vicious attacks against his citizens while trying to squash a rebellion, because we now have a common enemy? And what about dealing with a Congress that's been out of town?

These are not easy questions, and a strategy takes time, much to the frustration of the "do something even if it's wrong" crowd. That reflexive approach is usually what gets us into these con-

volved messes in the first place. We live in a Twitterized environment that demands immediate answers even when there are none. Unfortunately, there is tremendous pressure on our leaders to deal with these tangled knots with one pull of a string. More often than not, that just tightens things up more. Waiting to sort things out has become agony to a society that expects instant gratification.

President Obama is constantly dealing with a perception that he's indecisive, even when rash action would be harmful. One decision he does need to make right away is to replace his wardrobe consultants, or if he doesn't have any, get some. Let's face it, that suit really didn't, uh, suit the occasion. ■

— Robert E. "Bob" Franken is an American journalist and frequent guest on MSNBC.

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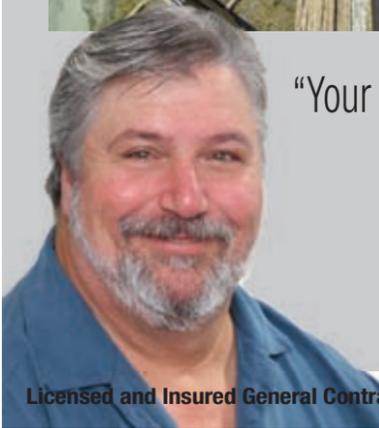
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# PROFILES IN PARADISE

## Devoted to making a difference in the lives of less fortunate kids



He attended Catholic schools through the 12th grade and earned a degree in accounting from Southeastern Louisiana University. After working for his father's CPA firm as a tax accountant and auditor for a few years, he became more interested in emerging technology and moved to Atlanta to start a career in computer software sales.

Ron McGinty moved to Naples in 1997 knowing he wanted to contribute his time, talent and treasure to worthy causes on the Paradise Coast. After serving a three-year term on the board of directors for Youth Haven, he decided to dedicate even more time to being a child advocate.

In 1983 he formed Matrix Resources Inc., a staffing and recruiting firm specializing in information systems. Still privately held, Matrix had revenues of nearly \$200 million in 2013.

Around that time, he happened to be on an airplane with Kathy Bigham of Bigham Jewelers, who told him about her involvement in the Guardian ad Litem program. Guardians are appointed by the court as special advocates for children who find themselves in the court system due to allegations of abuse, abandonment or severe neglect. The next week, Ron filled out his application, and before long, he had completed 30 hours of classroom training and 40 hours of online training to become a guardian.

Ron and his wife Diane have been married for 38 years. They have no children. Two of Ron's brothers were his wards for more than 15 years before they died, both in their 50s. One was a paraplegic/alcoholic and the other was bipolar. "I was blessed by God, to be able to do this," Ron says of caring for them.

"You learn quickly that you can make a difference," he says. He's currently responsible for nine children in the state of Florida's 20th Judicial Circuit, which includes Collier, Lee, Charlotte, Hendry and Glades counties.

In addition to his work as a Guardian ad Litem, Ron is involved with the Conservancy of Southwest Florida. He also enjoys travel photography (the results can be seen at ronmcginty.com) and is helping in the development of a new app called Sparksfly, which can simplify social media feeds on Apple and Android devices.

Ron grew up in New Orleans in a loving family of six children (he's the second child and the oldest of four boys).

Today, Collier County has 120 Guardian ad Litem volunteers who represent about 300 children. Even with such a solid volunteer base, there are at least 150 more children in Collier County now under court supervision who do not have a Guardian ad Litem on their

### Talking points with Ron McGinty



**Mentor(s):** My parents. They were dedicated to the success of their children and sacrificed so much for us.

**As a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?** I'll let you know when I am no longer a kid.

**First jobs:** Caddie and bartender.

**Something your mom was right about:** Follow your passion, and if it takes leaving your father's business to follow your dreams, it's your life.

**What makes you laugh?** People who can laugh at themselves by telling what happened to them, and George Carlin parodies.

**What would you be doing if you weren't doing this?** Traveling more to far-off places.

**Next vacation destination:** Brazil to photograph the jaguars in the Pantanal jungles.

**One thing on your bucket list:** To help at least one child who came out of the dependency system achieve successful adulthood.

**Pet peeve:** People who never stop talking. One of my favorite jokes is when I asked a friend how his wife was doing. He said, "Honestly, Ron, I don't know. I haven't talked to her in over a week ... I hate to interrupt her."

**Guilty pleasure:** Fine wines.

**Skill or talent you wish you had:** Public speaking.

**Last book read:** "A Land Remembered" by Patrick Smith.

**Something you'll never understand:** As I age, I tend to tear up more (too) easily.

**Something people might be surprised to find out about you:** I am never afraid of the unknown or taking a chance. I proposed to Diane after knowing her 90 days...

**What are you most proud of?** Our 38 years of marriage, starting a company that still functions well after 31 years and being a Marine.

**What the Paradise Coast really needs:** Making the beaches dog friendly before 8:30 a.m. and more restrooms at beach parking areas.

**Favorite thing about the Paradise Coast:** The people and the weather (all 12 months of it).

side. For information about becoming a guardian, call (866) 341-1425 or visit guardianadlitem.org. ■

— Bob Harden is the producer and host of "The Bob Harden Show," airing from 7-8 a.m. weekdays at bobharden.com.



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# DEADLY

From page 1

now ranked number one as the most dangerous state in which to walk or bicycle somewhere — anywhere.

And now Mr. Nederveld, president of the Peace River Riders bicycling club, is about to leave the North American continent and travel to Spain, where he plans to embark on a 350-mile journey out of Pamplona.

In all his time on the road, the 65-year-old master of a two-wheeled, man-powered cycling machine — first invented two centuries ago and cast in roughly its current design about 20 years before Henry Ford ever put a single internal combustion automobile on the road — has never had an encounter, or even so much as a brush with a motor vehicle.

That's unusual for long-time bicyclists. Some have been badly injured in accidents. But many have been nudged, brushed or solidly bumped by vehicle mirrors, or forced off the road to avoid being nudged or brushed or worse.

Sometimes they're merely threatened. "I was riding onto Sanibel a couple of weeks ago and a guy in a Jeep going the other way started yelling at me to get off the road," recalls Steve Rodgers, past president of the Caloosa Riders Bicycle Club, who puts in about 125 miles a week on the roads. "I wasn't anywhere near him; he just didn't like me." He's been bumped, too.

Not Mr. Nederveld. "It's about thinking, and I'm confident in controlling my surroundings," he says, echoing the personal-responsibility, personal-care mantra that most serious cyclists adhere to. It's about knowing the bike, choosing a safe route and time of day, wearing a helmet, using a mirror, observing laws that apply to cyclists as well as drivers, and avoiding confrontations with drivers who sometimes seem to be looking for trouble.

"I have lights on my bike, I wear brightly covered clothing. And I recommend to all cyclists that they use lights on their bikes even in the day, because if you can increase your chances of being seen even a little bit, that is huge," says Jane Cheffy, president of the Naples Pathways Coalition.

She learned that again the other day. "I've had so many friends get injured, and I've had a mirror on Crayton Road brush my arm. But the other day I was driving my car to the office at 7:50 a.m., and the bright sunlight was in my eyes, blinding me. A cyclist in front of me was riding with flashing lights, and that kept me from hitting him. I really could have hit him. Now that I've had this experience from a driver's point of view, I'm telling everyone I know to ride with their lights on."

## When luck runs out

All of which would be a smart approach for pedestrians, too. But sometimes what happens is about luck, or the lack thereof. For almost 2,000 bicyclists and pedestrians in Charlotte, Lee and Collier Counties just in the last four years alone, Mr. Nederveld's brand of spot-free luck eventually ran out in one degree or another, according to accounts and estimates by planning organizations, law enforcement officials and local cycling organizations such as BikeWalkLee, the most organized and politically active citizens' group in the region.

They were injured, killed or (if they were lucky) merely had their bicycles damaged or destroyed.

It's a dismaying number for the many local and state officials along with



Steve Rodgers and members of the Caloosa Riders Bicycle Club on a road with no bike lane.

COURTESY PHOTOS

## in the know

### States ranked by pedestrian danger index

Rank	State	Total traffic fatalities (2003–2012)	Total pedestrian fatalities (2003–2012)	Percentage of traffic deaths that were pedestrians (2003–2012)	Annual pedestrian deaths per 100,000 (2003–2012)	State Pedestrian Danger Index
1	Florida	29,302	5,189	17.7	2.83	166.6
2	Alabama	10,061	723	7.2	1.55	125.2
3	Louisiana	8,673	1,030	11.9	2.29	116.6
4	South Carolina	9,546	1,020	10.7	2.29	110.4
5	Georgia	14,748	1,564	10.6	1.87	104.0
6	Delaware	1,223	194	15.9	2.22	103.6
7	Mississippi	7,833	527	6.7	1.80	102.6
8	Arizona	9,960	1,434	14.4	2.34	101.2
9	North Carolina	14,486	1,883	11.	1.84	99.8
10	Texas	34,107	4,192	12.3	1.74	97.5

citizen volunteers who have worked together for years to improve conditions for bicycling and walking, not to mention driving and riding on public transit, in the region.

That effort is a process not yet an achievement, says Darla Letourneau, executive director of BikeWalkLee — one that will be years or decades in the making.

"We're a suburban sprawl state — it's why Florida's safety record is so bad," she explains. "Two-lane roads got six lanes. We kept widening roads for years without thinking about bicyclists and pedestrians, and people are supposed to cross six lanes of traffic to get to a shopping center. So improving the crash injury and fatality thing is going to take a long time. And if you keep building more high-speed roads that run through neighborhoods, no matter how many bike paths you put out, you still have to cross the busy street. It's a very long term proposition."

Progress has been made, no doubt about that, acknowledges everyone taking part in the ongoing debate about how to use money, and where. There are hundreds of miles of bicycling lanes and paths that weren't here a decade ago. There are education programs and law enforcement audits of dangerous intersections. There is money for what the advocates have long called "Complete Streets" — that almost magical comingling of bicycle, pedestrian and public transit needs with the motor vehicle culture and its needs: for example, \$8.8 billion this year alone in the Florida Department of Transportation budget aimed at helping to create complete streets, says Debbie Tower, a spokeswoman for the 12-county District 1 that includes Southwest Florida.

Meanwhile, some of the old planning notions persist, the dinosaur thinking

that fails to consider people on foot or bicycle, says Margaret Banyan, an assistant professor of public policy at Florida Gulf Coast University.

Professor Banyan lives in the Tice region of East Fort Myers, one of the county's older neighborhoods crisscrossed by the fabric of roads, small homes, closely entwined neighborhoods on narrow streets, and vibrant immigrant lives that appeals to her so much, she says.

What does not appeal, however, are the plans some county designers put into place on Palm Beach Boulevard, or laid out to turn Ortiz Avenue into six lanes and make other changes that would accommodate drivers, but not the significant number of walkers and bicyclists in the community.

"On Palm Beach," she explains, "a big part of the problem is speed, and another part is that there is not a lot of right of way to build sidewalks, and no right of way for bike lanes."

That wasn't part of the planning, even when the road was redesigned a few years ago.

"So we sort of said, 'that's not an insurmountable problem.' And we proposed better bike and pedestrian pathways north and south of Palm Beach.

"We know roads and streets can transform communities, and one of those is Honore Avenue. They proposed a six-laner there at first, then a four-laner, then they reduced it to two, with a turn, low-impact greening, great bike-laning and bike walks, and good shade. The drainage, instead of being typical gutter drainage, is low impact,



**Retrofitting roads with bicycle lanes or sidewalks is more difficult and much more expensive than designing them in the first place.**

which is good for the environment."

But other proposed changes in the communities there or elsewhere have remained on the desks of some county officials, advocates say, going nowhere.

And the accident numbers keep going up.

Tossing money at them does help, but it doesn't solve the problem, say the advocates of safety.

"This unfortunate distinction as the number one state in the country for the highest bike pedestrian fatalities is not a distinction we want to keep, but solving the various problems takes time," says Ms. Tower of the FDOT.

So nowadays, the FDOT looks at safety on all roads for all users in terms of what Ms. Tower calls "the three E's: education, enforcement and engineering."

The money is there, too — \$8.8 billion in the budget this year for improving road safety. Sometimes that means studying danger spots to determine future action. Sometimes it means retrofitting what the experts call "Car sewers": roads that were originally designed only to move motor vehicles, and now accommodate pedestrians, bicyclists or public transit opportunities either poorly or not at all. Some-



BANYAN

times it means putting in sidewalks (which are not recommended for bicyclists since they're more dangerous than roads).

And it employs officials who deeply care — a District 1 engineer named Matt Weaver, for example, whose title is Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Champion for District 1.

When Mr. Weaver and his colleague in District 1, Providance Nagy, received complaints from members of a bike-pedestrian committee about travel over the Peace River Bridge on U.S. 41, they decided to climb on their bikes and ride it — several times.

"She was on her mountain bike," he says of Ms. Nagy, who also serves a reservist in the Marine Corps and has now been deployed to South Africa, "and I was on my somewhat fancier street bike."

They discovered bolts sticking out of the guardrails into the bike lane, and a lot more trash in the northbound lane because the bridge slants that direction, and it collected there.

As a result, in the coming couple of weeks the shoulder will be marked as a bike lane, and made contiguous with projects north of the bridge so riders will have an easier time.

"The first thing I tell anybody who cares is that first and foremost I'm a citizen cyclist bicyclist runner, and I also happen to be an engineer. If you have any problems, complaints or even suggestions, just get in touch with the DOT. Just call us. We do come to work trying to make things better here," says Mr. Weaver.

**In Collier County, for example, in only four of the 60 accidents involving bicycles and cars investigated this year were citations issued, three of them to the bicyclists.**

#### By the numbers

And so do the private organizations in Collier, Lee and Charlotte, first by getting a grip on the problems and the numbers.

Working hand-in-hand with Lee's Metropolitan Planning Organization (comprised of elected leaders from each local government along with a few staffers), BikeWalkLee offers a map that shows exactly where each reported accident involving a motor vehicle and a bicyclist or pedestrian occurred in Lee County, the most dangerous county on the coast, between 2011 and 2013 — all 1,197 of them.

Those accidents resulted in injuries, fatalities or occasionally just property damage, and they appear in locations from urban center to country road.

The current year has been even worse, to date. The numbers suggest that 2014 is on par to set a several-year record for injuries or fatalities — especially with the snowbirds and late fall tourists set to pour into the region beginning in October.

In Charlotte County as of last month, the sheriff's office responded to 23 accidents involving bicycles alone during the year, and in Collier that number amounted to 60 as of the last week in August.

But in Lee County the number was more than double Collier's, and the number of bicycle and pedestrian accidents together have run well over 150 so far in the year, with an unfortunate jump in fatalities. As of late August, 16 bicyclists or pedestrians have been killed on Lee roads.



Court Nederveld

COURTESY PHOTO

**As of late August, 16 bicyclists or pedestrians have been killed on Lee roads.**

Many bicyclists insist that police must become much more aggressive in charging drivers who hit bicyclists who are following the rules of the road. And unless an obvious violation has occurred — DUI, for example — they have often been reluctant to charge drivers with any crime, or even to ticket them.

In Collier County, for example, in only four of the 60 accidents involving bicycles and cars investigated this year were citations issued, three of them to the bicyclists.

Police are more aggressive about safety now than they used to be, however. In Charlotte County, for example, "we try to educate the public as much as possible," says Deputy Dan Cotton, a community policing officer who patrols on a bicycle.

In five years on that job, he's never been hit or bumped by a motor vehicle. But off the job he was run off the road while riding his own bicycle. He got the license plate of the road rager, called the company, and accepted an apology from the driver after his boss made him apologize, he recalls.

Meanwhile, "we lead by example. We wear helmets and use lights and have gloves," he says. "And the sheriff's office gives away helmets to children.

We gave away 159 last month and at another event in September we'll probably give away 200. We fit the helmet on the person and make sure it's sized correctly."

But a change in the way police treat drivers who hit bicyclists is also essential, says Dan Moser, *Florida Weekly's* bicycle columnist and a member of BikeWalkLee.

"In enforcement, what I've seen is that they do a pretty well-rounded job, now. They're focusing on the motorist more, especially when it comes to giving citations out.

"That's what should happen. The killing machine is the car."

But the issues become more complicated, he admits, because bicyclists and pedestrians often break the rules — in part because the rules don't work.

"The reason frequently that pedestrians and bicyclists misbehave is because of their experience," he says. "When they do behave, it doesn't get them anywhere. For example, they don't use crosswalks because when they're in them, they almost get run over. So they say, 'I'll go downstream or upstream and cross where I can. I'm protecting my interest.' In many places they're facing motorists who don't even think about their right to be there. And that's because we've designed those roads to accommodate speed and motor vehicles. Only."

But that problem will not be solved merely by engineering fixes to a few most-dangerous spots, says Don Scott, executive director of Lee's MPO.

"The sheriff's department has conducted bike-enforcement events and

we're looking at some of the same old (dangerous) spots — U.S. 41 at Crystal or in old Bonita, the 41 and Del Prado corridors, Palm Beach Boulevard — but one of the problems we face when we say, 'What are the dangerous locations?' is that they're spread out."

Why?

The answer may be an imperfect but still dangerous storm of different factors. Among them, years of bad planning. Streets that are not both safe and accessible. A failure on the part of many drivers to recognize that bicycles are vehicles with the full compliment of road rights — and responsibilities — of any motor vehicles.

For example, on streets that are 14 feet wide or less, bicycles can take the full lane, by law. That's based on the calculation of 9 feet in width from side mirror to side mirror for a truck, plus another 3 feet of space that motorists are required to give bicyclists, plus 2 feet out from a curb that cyclists are supposed to ride.

And on any streets, while drivers must give a bicyclist a minimum of three feet, by law, bicyclists must stay in bike lanes, where provided. And stop at stop signs or lights.

But even if many other problems could be solved, the old bugaboos still haunt the streets, too: drinking or drugging and riding, either bikes or vehicles. Or drinking and drugging and walking. Or telephoning, texting and ear-budding.

"We've become complacent, not only as drivers but as bicyclists and walkers," says Jay Anderson, executive director of Stay Alive-Just Drive.

"Especially with these electronic devices. It puzzles me to death why someone biking or walking feels it necessary to engage in this behavior. I watched someone riding a bicycle down the sidewalk with their ear to a phone the other day. If you can't do it driving, why can you do it bicycling?"

The rash of crashes proved so alarming to officials in the Trauma Center at Lee Memorial Health Services that they looked into the details of pedestrian-car accidents just in April alone, when people on foot kept getting nailed at significantly higher than the usual recent rates.

"In April alone we had 20 pedestrians hit by autos, and 14 became trauma alerts," notes Syndi Bultman, injury prevention manager for Trauma Services.

"In April, 2013, by contrast, 12 were hit by autos, with eight trauma alerts.

"We did a further breakdown for April — our average age of victim was 53, although it ranged from 18 to 87. There were 11 males and nine females. Fifteen percent of those had to go up to the Operating Room. And 40 percent required ICU care."

All that becomes a bloody, costly process for everybody. Perhaps more significantly, however, were these statistics: "Of the victims, 30 percent had alcohol on board, and 25 percent had toxic substances on board — drugs," Ms. Bultman says.

"In the end, 13 out of 20 were able to go home, four had to go to a rehab facility, one is still here at the hospital, and a couple went to the morgue because they died."

Those who were killed, she says, "did not have drugs or alcohol aboard."

That was just in a single month. Ms. Bultman adds this sobering statistic, about pedestrians and the drivers of motor vehicles who hit them: "If you're the driver, at 30 miles per hour you have a 50-50 chance of killing someone. And at 45 miles per hour it jumps to an 85 percent chance. Your vehicle is a weapon on the roadway. So everybody's responsibility is to keep your eyes on the road."

No one disagrees with that. But there are many who don't follow that advice. ■

# SEASON

From page 1

the cypress trees begin changing their colors, from green to a brownish hue. Earlier this month, she adds, the pop ash and elm trees started to lose leaves.

Fall means something else to Robert Halman, the University of Florida extension agent in Collier County. As the calendar digs deeper in autumn, he can go out to farms around Immokalee and see something special: produce growing. "Being in agriculture I like to see things grow," he says.

Many area farmers already are preparing their fields to plant tomatoes. And in a couple of months, the migrant population will start returning to work in those fields.

With its abundant sunshine and pleasant temperatures, fall is also a planting time in Southwest Florida for most other vegetables and for herbs such as dill and cilantro.

Collier County residents can learn about the basics of growing vegetables in Southwest Florida at a workshop offered by the local UF extension service from 3:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 16, at the extension service at 14700 Immokalee Road.

Roy Beckford, director of the UF extension service in Lee County, will discuss crops that are suitable for planting in Southwest Florida's various soils and locations. Gene McAvoy of the extension service in Hendry County will discuss how to keep your vegetables and herbs free from pests and diseases that are common to the area.

Cost is \$10. Sign up at [swfvegetablegardening.eventbrite.com](http://swfvegetablegardening.eventbrite.com). For more



information, call 252-4800.

In August, the average high temperature in Naples is 93 and in Fort Myers it's 92, according to weather.com. By Sept. 30, the average high is 89 — not much of a change, and definitely not enough to warrant turning off the air-conditioning, but at least the temperature is going in the right direction. By Oct. 31, the average high is 84 and overnight lows average 65.

Most of us welcome whatever modest relief fall brings in the weather. The near-daily summer thunderstorms are winding down. Average monthly rainfall in Fort Myers in August is 10.14 inches. In September it's 8.31 inches, and in October it dips to 2.88 inches.

"Fall in Fort Myers means the cessation of sauna bath-style morning walks with Bubbie," Fort Myers resident Michael McNally says, referring to his dog. "It means a crispness in the air and relief from afternoon drives in torrential rains."

The cool down also is good for Mr. McNally's health.

"It brings a healthy shift in my mental attitude and an easing of my respiratory

challenges," he says. "It's the time when the mango trees in my yard shed their leaves. The release of leaves conjures the memory of maples trees doing the same at another time and in a different place."

The signs are there if you know where to look.

Changes in the weather are under way now even before the first significant cold front of the season gathers enough oomph to punch all the way down the Florida peninsula.

Virginia Amsler, who lives on Useppa Island, has another way of telling when fall is about to settle over the area.

"There is an osprey nest in front of Whelk Cottage on Useppa," she says. "Empty all summer, the first sign fall is the return of the male who settles in, cleaning the home and making it ready for the return from vacation of Mrs. Osprey."

As Southwest Florida goes deeper and deeper into fall, the temperatures continue moderating. By Nov. 30, the average local high is 79 and the average low is 59.

"Doors and windows open again," Ms.

Amsler says. "Walks don't have to be taken before 8 in the morning or after 6 in the evening." ■

"Late summer and fall is the best time to plant a vegetable, fruit and herb garden."

— Rick Joyce, president  
Forestry Resources Ecological

**in the know**

**'The Basics of Vegetable Growing in Southwest Florida'**

- >> **What:** A seminar hosted by the University of Florida extension service in Collier County
- >> **When:** 3:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 16
- >> **Where:** The extension service office at 14700 Immokalee Road
- >> **Cost:** \$10
- >> **Register:** [swfvegetablegardening.eventbrite.com](http://swfvegetablegardening.eventbrite.com)
- >> **Info:** 252-4800



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Procedure by Eric Bernstein, MD

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Photos courtesy of Edward Becker, MD

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# Tragedy leads to mission to remove stigma of mental illness

BY DON MANLEY  
Florida Weekly Correspondent

It was two years ago that Deena Baxter received a phone call bearing information no one ever wants to hear.

Across the airwaves came news that a loved one, in this case her stepson who was bipolar, had committed suicide.

Mrs. Baxter, her husband Adam and their two surviving sons were devastated by Kevin Baxter's decision to end his life at age 36, in Brazil, where he made his home.

Rather than be immobilized by grief, Mrs. Baxter responded to the tragedy by becoming an advocate for the mentally ill and a champion for eliminating the stigma attached to emotional disorders.

"Mental illness is everywhere, but we don't want to talk about it. I want to give it a voice," the Naples resident says. "That's what it's all about. It doesn't have to end in suicide."

Her efforts have yielded a partnership with the Collier County branch of the National Alliance on Mental Health called The Funny Farm Project and its website, writeonmymind.com, which features a variety of mental health-related resources as well as artwork, poetry and prose created by people affected by mental illness, including patients, family members, caregivers and more.

The Funny Farm Project also led to Mrs. Baxter's self-penned book, "Surviving Suicide: Searching for 'Normal' with Heartache & Humor." The book



BAXTER

was released Sept. 10, Worldwide Suicide Prevention Day. Artwork produced by participants in NAMI's Sarah Ann Drop-In Center program separates the chapters, and Mrs. Baxter is donating the proceeds of all book sales to NAMI and other mental health organizations.

"The first part of the book is the journey to respectfully bury our son and honor his memory," she says. "The second part is the journey of how did we get here and why did this have to happen — the price of denial of patient, family and society — and facing the realities of mental wellness and mental illness, and who gets to decide what is normal."

The book is endorsed by Stephen Hinshaw, a professor of psychology at the University of California-Berkeley and vice-chairman for psychology in the department of psychiatry at UC-San Francisco.

"Irreverent yet serious, lighthearted yet profound, science-based yet intimately personal, Deena Baxter's 'Surviving Suicide' is a must-read for anyone who has experienced mental illness in a family member," writes Mr. Hinshaw. "Of course, given the prevalence of mental illness, this means almost everyone."

### Connecting with NAMI

Humor was an important coping mechanism for Mrs. Baxter in dealing with the death of her stepson, who became part of her life when he was 5 years old. "It's the only way I could have gotten through this," she says.

Mrs. Baxter is not a newcomer to writing. Her business articles and humor columns have been published by Scripps News Service, Working Woman, Inc. magazine and the Naples-based eBella magazine. She holds an MBA from Boston University and is a strategic management consultant with more than 30 years of experience in finance, program management and communications.

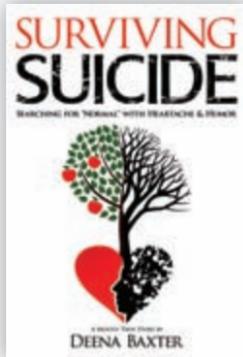
She hopes her book will help to spur a meaningful dialog about all aspects of mental illness.

"I want to look at healthy sides, the sides that are struggling (with mental illness issues) and what society can do to learn to live with it, embrace it, treat it respectfully and give it the services it demands ... just like we do a physical illness," she says. "We've got to stop separating the physical body from the mind. It all works together."

Her association with NAMI began with a meeting she had with the Kathryn Hunter, executive director of NAMI of Collier County, three weeks after Kevin Baxter's death. "I told her I was determined to find a purpose for this happening, this heartache," she says.

Inspiration for writing the book struck Mrs. Baxter during their chat, as did the idea of making it a fundraiser for NAMI. As the process unfolded, she also decided to include artwork from the Sarah Ann Drop-In Center participants.

"We grew to see the incredibly powerful way that people with major mental illness or impairment can speak through their artwork," she says.



Ms. Hunters says the center participants are thrilled about having their handiwork included in the book and on the website.

"The ones who were asked to provide art for the book expressed such pride, and sheer joy in receiving recognition," she says.

One of NAMI's free programs, the drop-in center serves adults diagnosed with a severe mental illness such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and depression.

Ms. Hunter credits Mrs. Baxter with providing invaluable contributions to the effort to improve the lives of people with mental illness and their families.

"Deena's passion for helping to shed light on a disease that is not talked about, not funded, is an amazing tribute to her selflessness," says Ms. Hunter. "We have to help persons in our community who are in crisis, by funding therapy, medications and more. Deena will help us do that. More importantly, she will help us provide hope to those in darkness." ■

### in the know

#### "Surviving Suicide: Searching for 'Normal' with Heartache & Humor"

- >>What: A book by Naples resident Deena Baxter
- >>Cost: \$20.95 at writeonmymind.com, with all sales benefitting the Collier County branch of the National Alliance on Mental Illness and other mental health organizations
- >>More: The author is available for speaking and book signings
- >>Info: Email deenabaxter2@gmail.com or visit writeonmymind.com or namicollier.org

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## Naples Airport Authority committee has vacancy to fill

The Naples Airport Authority is recruiting general aviation or commercial pilots to fill a vacancy on its Noise Compatibility Committee. Applicants must be registered to vote in Collier County, able to participate in at least three meetings a year and willing to volunteer through March 20, 2017.

The committee helps monitor the impact of aircraft noise and makes recommendations about noise-mitigation procedures for consideration by the city of NAA board of commissioners, which appoints members.

Nine committee members serve as volunteer representatives of the Collier

County Commission, Naples City Council, general aviation pilots and six geographic areas surrounding the airport. The current vacancy was created by the resignation of a member with out-of-state business obligations.

Applications will be accepted until Tuesday, Oct. 7, and are available online at [flynaples.com](http://flynaples.com) (click on noise abatement/noise committee/volunteer). Commissioners will interview applicants during their Thursday, Oct. 16, meeting at Naples City Hall.

For more information, call NAA Deputy Executive Director Sheila Dugan at 643-0733. ■

## Rookery Bay reserve hopes to add to its volunteer roster

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve is recruiting 10 to 15 new volunteers to help in its mission to protect and preserve 110,000 acres of local coastal lands and waters.

"We are especially looking for people who wish to share their passion for the environment by providing daily programs on topics such as manatees, sharks and shells," says Donna Young, visitor services and volunteer coordinator. Other tasks include feeding the aquarium fish and explaining the touch tank to visitors in the Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center and leading

guided walks on the reserve's Snail Trail.

Volunteers can also assist with special events, workshops and art gallery receptions, help staff at the front desk and assist the Friends of Rookery Bay in maintaining the merchandise in the Palmetto Patch Nature Store. The center also has a Florida-friendly garden in need of maintenance volunteers.

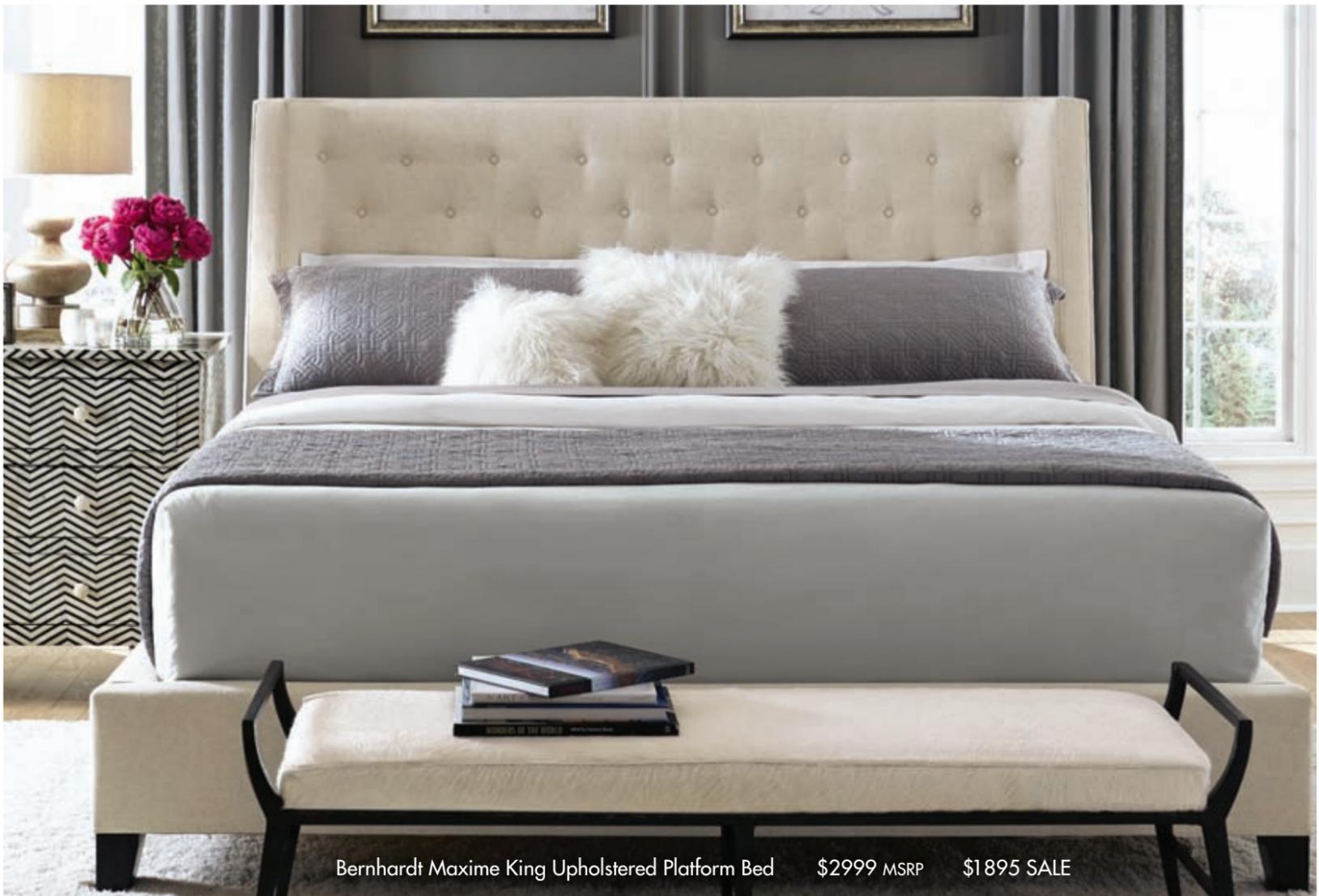
Year-round resident volunteers are needed. Shifts are flexible and hours vary per position. Training is provided.

For more information, call Ms. Young at 530-5974 or email [volunteer@rookerybay.org](mailto:volunteer@rookerybay.org). ■

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# Immokalee student heads to Massachusetts boarding school

**SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY**

Growing up in the small town of Immokalee, high school sophomore Gaele Henry always had high aspirations. Her mother continuously expressed the importance of an education to her and her older brother.

"She has worked hard all her life and wishes for nothing more than for her children to prosper and to share their wealth of knowledge, kindness and love to all," Ms. Henry says about her mom.

With the help of The Immokalee Foundation and a few special people in her life, Ms. Henry is well on her way to achieving her dreams — and making her mother very proud.

This month the 15-year-old begins a new journey at The Governor's Academy, a boarding school in Byfield, Mass., about 30 miles north of Boston. Founded in 1763, it is the oldest continuously operating boarding school in the United States, educating young men and women in grades 9-12. The student population numbers about 400, and the average class size is 12 students.

For Ms. Henry, the new school year is the chance of her lifetime. "It will give me the best of both worlds," she says.

"I'm not jumping into college before I'm ready, but I'm being challenged in different dynamics that keep learning fun and interesting. In addition to the rich culture that the school provides, which I am looking forward to, students from all across the globe are learning in one of the nation's most historical cities — Boston."

This year's students at the academy come from 23 states and 19 countries including Canada, China, Germany, Switzerland, Japan, Nigeria, Russia, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand and the Bahamas.

Ms. Henry plans to stay at the academy through graduation and "leave a legacy so great it will never be forgotten." She credits TIF and its scholarship and mentoring program, Take Stock in Children, with helping her achieve her goal of acceptance into the boarding school. "They've provided me with resources such as laptops to do school work, information on where students can work for volunteer hours and workshops to help us build our skills and resumes," she says. "Plus, through them, I was able to meet a very influential man who is a key part in my acceptance to The Governor's Academy."

That man is John Henry, a Take Stock in Children mentor and a TIF board



COURTESY PHOTO

**Marcie Reyna, left, student services coordinator for The Immokalee Foundation's Take Stock in Children program, helps student Gaele Henry with some of the paperwork for her application to The Governor's Academy boarding school.**

only introduced me to Mr. Henry, but also helped me schedule my interview with the head of admissions and provided me with more information about the school, among many other things.

"Mr. Henry always showed faith in my ability. And my mentor, Mrs. Sitter, would always call to check up on me and motivate me and help me improve my work."

After word of her acceptance came in, TIF staff helped Ms. Henry and her mother fill out paperwork, reviewed her financial award package and arranged their travel to and from the academy — a place where Ms. Henry will no doubt fit right in. The school's motto, non sibi sed aliis, is Latin for "not for self but for others."

Ms. Henry says although her plans for the future aren't yet known, what she does know is that she wants to be successful and give back to her community as much as possible. "It is important that I show my community that I have not forgotten them and that I appreciate where I come from."

For information about TIF and its programs, including how to volunteer as a TSIC mentor, call 430-9122 or visit [immokaleefoundation.org](http://immokaleefoundation.org).

member. In 2011, he was named Mentor of the Year for the state of Florida by TSIC. Mr. Henry also happens to be an alumnus of The Governor's Academy. He, along with Teddy Sitter, who is Ms. Henry's TSIC mentor, and TIF staff members Marcie Reyna and Noemi Perez supported Ms. Henry throughout the rigorous application process.

"I had never applied to a school before," she says. "Ms. Noemi and Ms. Marcie not

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# CLUB NOTES

■ **Pilot Club of Naples/Naples Pilot Foundation** meets at 6 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month at Perkins at 3585 Pine Ridge Road. The next meeting is Sept. 11. Pilot International focuses its charitable and educational efforts on brain-related disorders and disabilities, including traumatic brain injuries, dementia and autism. Guests and new members are always welcome at meetings. Reservations are not required. Attendees order from the menu and pay for their meals. For more information, call Sue Lester 289-8268.

■ Members of the **Naples IOWA Club** invite **University of Iowa** Hawk-eyes fans to join them at Weekend Willie's to watch the football game against Iowa State University. ISU alums are welcome to join the gathering. Kickoff is at 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13.



■ The **Naples Buckeyes, the Ohio State University alumni club**, invites fellow alumni to happy hour from 5-6:30 p.m. at rotating locations on the third Thursday of every month. The Sept. 18 gathering will be at Gatsby's Pizza, and the Oct. 16 location is Bellasera Hotel. RSVP by calling Sue Goldsberry at 405-7068 or emailing suegold181@aol.com.

OSU alums and fans are also welcome to join club members to watch the team play football at the following locations in Naples on every game day: Bokamper's Sports Bar and Grille, Stevie Tomato's Sports Page, Harold's Place at the Gulfcoast Inn and Gatsby's Pizza.

For more information about the club, visit [naplesbuckeyes.com](http://naplesbuckeyes.com).

■ The **Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance** invites all orchid lovers to hear Jim Roberts of Florida Suncoast Orchids



1. Steve Augulis and his "Spatter Attitude-Self Portrait"  
2. Christina Skibicki and "Agate Abstract"  
3. Nic Provenzo and his "Pilings"

from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 18, at Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church across from Sam's Club on Immokalee Road.

Mr. Roberts has been growing orchids for more than 30 years and specializes in plants that do well in tropical climates. He will have plants for sale from his Sarasota nursery and will donate a plant for an auction to benefit the alliance's educational programs. Alliance members are encouraged to bring their orchids for the monthly exhibition and judging.

Admission is free, and all are welcome. For more information, call 498-9741.

■ The **Naples Alumnae Club of Kappa Kappa Gamma** welcomes all alumnae in Naples, Bonita Springs and Marco Island to another season of activities. For the schedule of meetings and activities and more information, call 293-2468.

■ 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



STEPHEN WRIGHT / FLORIDA WEEKLY

An appreciative crowd attended the opening reception for an exhibit of works by members of DPI-SIG, the Digital Photography & Imaging Club of Naples-Special Interest Group, at Naples Regional Library on Central Avenue. The photographs are on display through September. The club welcomes new members and guests at its regular meetings from 7-9 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month in Building J at Edison State College-Collier Campus. The next meeting is Sept. 11. For more information, visit [dpi-sig.org](http://dpi-sig.org).

Sept. 18. Call 963-4670 for location.

■ The **Democratic Women's Club of Collier County** welcomes members and guests to its meetings from 10 a.m. to noon on the third Saturday of the month in the Walden Oaks Professional Center, 6710 Lone Oak Blvd. The next meeting is Sept. 20. For more information, email [dwcpresident@gmail.com](mailto:dwcpresident@gmail.com).

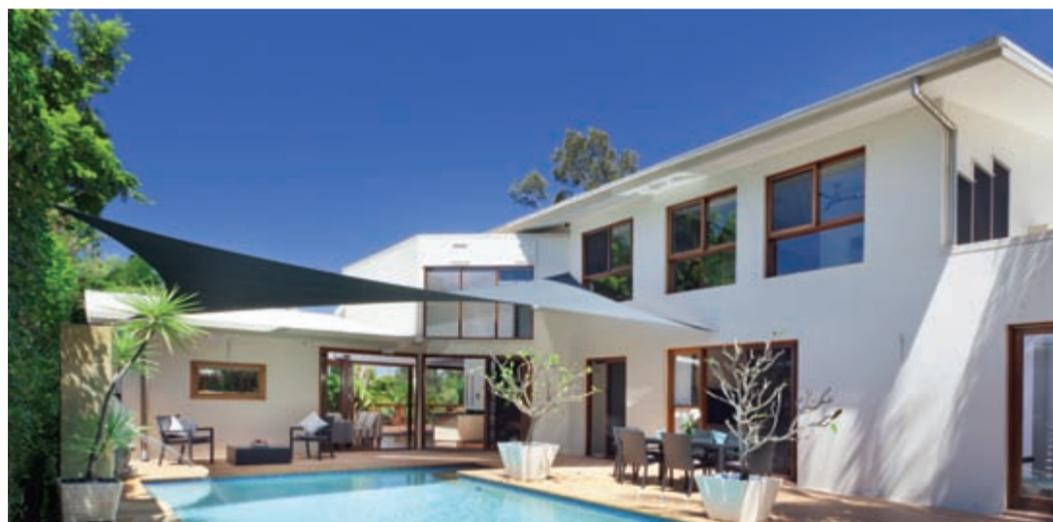
■ The **Naples base of the U.S. Submarine Veterans (USSVI)** meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month at the American Legion Post 303, 27678 Imperial Shores Blvd. in Bonita Springs. The next meeting is Sept. 23. Membership is open to active duty and retired submariners who have earned the Qualified in Submarines designation. The local USSVI base commander is John Dykhuis of Naples. For more information, visit [ussvi.org/base/naples.asp](http://ussvi.org/base/naples.asp).

■ The **Naples Press Club** invites members and the working press to happy hour from 5:30-7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 25, at the Rusty Bucket in Mercato. Appetizers are provided and there is a cash bar.

■ **Naples Nites Lions Club** meets at 6 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at Perkins on Pine Ridge Road at Interstate-75. The next meetings are Sept. 23 and Oct. 14. All current and former Lions are welcome. For more information, call Dan Sams at 352-2827.

■ The **Naples chapter of Ikebana International** welcomes members and guests to its first meeting of the new season at 9 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 1, at Moorings Presbyterian Church, 791 Harbour Drive. Guest speaker Kathy LaDuke, an instructor from the St. Petersburg chapter, will lead a workshop in the ichiyo technique of Ikebana that emphasizes arrangements using Japanese papers that complement the décor of the environment where they will be displayed. Participants should bring materials to create a small arrangement as well as scissors and wire clippers.

Reservations are required and can be made by emailing Carol Brocklesby at [wcartstream@centurylink.net](mailto:wcartstream@centurylink.net). Payment of \$5 will be collected at the door. For more information, visit [ikebananaples.com](http://ikebananaples.com).



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■ The **Naples Civitan Club** meets at noon on the first Wednesday of every month at Perkins on Pine Ridge Road. The next meeting is Oct. 1. The service club focuses on assisting people with developmental disabilities. The club sponsors the Challenger Little League baseball team and welcomes new participants in that youth program.

The Civitan International Research Center in Birmingham, Ala., works toward finding the cause, cure and better treatments of brain disorders including autism, Alzheimer's disease and Down syndrome. For more information about the local club, call 774-2623 or email [naplescivitan@aol.com](mailto:naplescivitan@aol.com)

■ The **Marco Island Lions Club** meets at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 1, at Vandy's on East Elcam Circle. Visiting Lions and guests are welcome. For more information, call Joe Bartucci at 970-2039.

■ **Gamma Phi Beta** alumnae are invited to join the Summer Lunch Bunch on the second Monday of the month. The next meeting is Oct. 13. For location and reservations, call Lynne Nordhoff at 594-8420 or email [lynnecnordhoff@gmail.com](mailto:lynnecnordhoff@gmail.com).

■ **Toastmasters International** teaches public speaking and leadership skills through a worldwide network of meeting locations. Guests are always welcome. Local Toastmasters chapters, meeting times and locations include:

**Bonita Toastmasters Club:** 7 p.m. every second and fourth Wednesday at the Bonita Springs Fire Station, 27701 Bonita Grande Drive. For more information, call Pamela Houze at (214) 355-6069.

**Collier Communique Club:** 6:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday at the North Collier Government Center, 2335 Orange Blossom Drive. Call Robert Rizzo at (407) 493-8584.

**Marco Island Toastmasters:** 6:30 p.m. every Wednesday at Centennial Bank, 645 Elcam Circle, Marco Island. E-mail Chris Pritchard at [colliertoastmasters@gmail.com](mailto:colliertoastmasters@gmail.com).

**Naples Sunrise Bay Toastmasters Club:** 7:30 a.m. on the first and third Tuesday in Moss Hall at Moorings Presbyterian Church, 791 Harbour Drive. Call Steve McCann at 777-8851.

**Naples Toastmasters Club:** 7 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday at Naples General Aviation Center, 200 Aviation Drive N. Call Steve Jallad at 776-5398.

**Toast of the Coast Toastmasters Club:** Noon on the second and fourth Friday at the American Cancer Society, 5020 Tamiami Trail N. Call Kathy Feinstein at 594-0900.

**Naples Advanced Toastmasters:** 6:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Monday at the North Collier Government Center, 2335 Orange Blossom Drive. Call Linda Valentine at (954) 780-6683. This club has prerequisites for membership.

■ **Naples Newcomers Club** welcomes women who have moved to the area within the past five years. In addition to a monthly luncheon, members get together to explore Naples and to enjoy a variety of interests, from books to bridge and mah-jongg to gourmet cooking and conversations over coffee. A coffee for prospective new members takes place on the first Thursday of each month. For more information, call 298-4083 or visit [naplesnewcomers.com](http://naplesnewcomers.com). ■

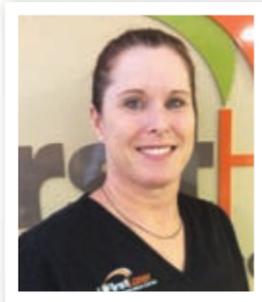
— Email club news to Cindy Pierce at [cpierce@floridaweekly.com](mailto:cpierce@floridaweekly.com).

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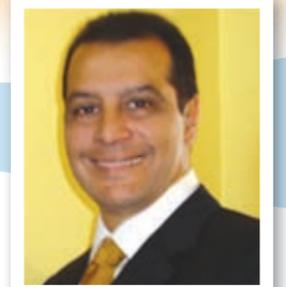
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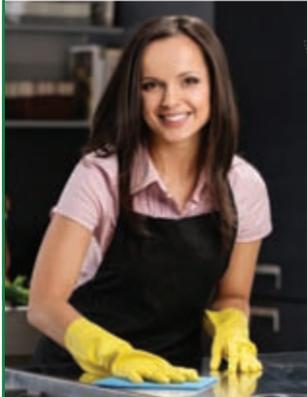
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## NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD  
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### They didn't see this coming?

■ German Rolf Buchholz, who owns the Guinness Book world record for most body piercings (453), said he was upset to be denied entrance into United Arab Emirates in August to fulfill a performance of sorts at Dubai's Fairmont Hotel. Mr. Buchholz said officials gave no explanation, although in addition to the piercings (example: at least 50 beads stuck to his lips), he has also implanted

horns in his forehead.

■ Caius Veiovis, 33, is similarly concerned about his forehead horns. While preparing for trial in Hamden, Mass., in a gruesome 2011 triple murder, he has decided to freshen up somewhat by removing the spikes from his nostrils, but still needs the judge's help to warn prospective jurors not to presume guilt from his six horns.

### The continuing crisis

■ After several contestants in the 2013 world swimming championships in Barcelona, Spain, remarked that the racers in lanes 5 to 8 seemed to swim faster than those in lanes 1 to 4, two researchers investigated further and concluded, in July, that there was a rogue current on the lane-8 side of the pool. In fact, most of the losers swam in lane 1, and the lane 8 swimmers produced a glut of medals, and, wrote the researchers, a current would be "the only cause that we can propose to explain these findings."

■ The New Normal: In America, TV pundits merely shout at each other, but twice recently in Middle East TV debates, discussants have roughhoused on the air. Journalist Shakir al-Johari was involved both times, on the Jordanian 7 Stars channel in May and on Dubai TV in July. In the first, the studio was wrecked, according to Al-Arabiya

news service, and the latter incident was calmed only after Mr. al-Johari threw his chair at lawyer Saleh Khrais.

■ After police issued a plea for help in July to identify the perpetrators of a porn movie filmed inside an Austrian church and in which actors' faces were obscured, a serious fan of Austrian porn spoke up, naming the 24-year-old female lead. The nude breasts of the star, he said, were unmistakably those of "Babsi," a popular actress, and she was subsequently charged with trespassing in the church.

■ Wilfred Mashaya told a magistrate in Harare, Zimbabwe, in June that he wanted to divorce his wife because, when they sleep together, "She would not even make any sexual sound" — which was, to him, unbearable. The magistrate took the case under advisement.

### Compelling explanations

■ In July, two of the four fertilizer manufacturers operating in the vicinity of the April 2013 massive explosion and fire in West, Texas, filed motions contesting the city's lawsuit against them. According to the companies, it was actually the city's ill-trained first responders and volunteer firefighters who caused many of the injuries.

■ A Matter of Scale: (1) Police in Cologne, Germany, wrote a bicycle-equipment infraction against Bogdan Ionescu in April because his bike had

no right-side handlebar brake. But since Ionescu has no right arm, he fought the ticket, and in July received a police apology. (2) David Rainsford, 44, is contesting the fee charged for a routine eye exam by Specsavers in Cramlington, England. He wants a discount because he has no right eye. (However, Specsavers says Mr. Rainsford's glass eye can pose risks for the good eye and that the area surrounding both eyes must be checked, as well.)

### Leading economic indicators

■ Despite all that has transpired in Ukraine this year, the country's defense industry manufacturers continue to sell military gear to Russia (including "key parts for ship engines, advanced targeting technology for tanks and upkeep for Russia's heaviest nuclear missiles," according to an August Washington Post dispatch). The Ukrainian government may be hostile to Russia, but workers at companies such as Motor Sich fear loss of jobs in an already deep recession. Said a Motor Sich spokesman, "We have our own (political) party, the party of Motor Sich."

■ Dilemmas of the 1 Percent: In July, New York City approved construction of a 33-story condominium/apartment tower housing both luxury units (219, facing the Hudson River) and "affordable" units (55, facing the street) — with separate entrances so the beautiful people could avoid the more downscale. (The developer, Extell, said it deserves credit for carving out the "affordable" units because the luxury units are more profitable.)

■ Considering the height restrictions zoned into London's super-prime real estate, the only practical way for some

owners to expand is to go underground (as deep as five stories' worth of "basement"), which requires heavy digging machines. However, by the time the excavation is finished, the machines are mired at the bottom of a huge pit with no easy way to bring the behemoths up. Consequently, on some jobs, reported the New Statesman in June, property owners have elected merely to leave the machines buried under what would be their sub-basement.

■ The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species recently estimated that nearly 50,000 African elephants were killed for their tusks in the last two years, continuing the century-long drastic decline in wild pachyderms. The Fish and Wildlife Service has thus proposed new rules to curb ivory imports into the United States, to discourage American buying. However, in July, the National Rifle Association warned that the FWS rules would be "disastrous" for America's collectors of antique pearl-handled guns and urged members to fight the regulations (even though, as NRA advocates acknowledged, few gun owners would be affected). ■

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# HEALTHY LIVING

## New ambulance makes child's play of transport to Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Every minute counts when a child needs emergency or urgent specialty care. Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida recently unveiled its new neonatal and pediatric ambulance that will provide safe, efficient and child-friendly ground transportation from hospitals throughout the region.

The design and functionality of the ambulance was done completely through the eye of a child, from the soothing, playful interior design to the video distraction enhancement, according to Susan Ryckman, vice president-

patient care services for the hospital. State-of-the-art technology was incorporated in all elements of the build, including telemedicine capabilities that enable the transport team to communicate critical clinical information as needed while en route. The technology can virtually place the doctor on the ambulance during transport.

"Registered nurses and respiratory therapists with specialty training in neonatal and pediatric transport, along with licensed EMTs and paramedics, function under the direction of a neonatal or pediatric intensive care physician throughout the transport process," says



Marybeth Gardner, transport coordinator for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Golisano Children's Hospital.

A calming, child-friendly interior helps decrease anxiety in an otherwise stressful experience.

"Medical equipment is concealed behind cabinet doors, a DVD player serves as a familiar distraction, and the walls and ceiling are painted in a bright, cheerful beach and sky theme.

Purchase of the ambulance was made possible thanks to SanCap Cares, an annual event held on Sanibel-Captiva Islands to benefit the hospital.

"This hospital is critical to the community and to the welfare of the chil-

dren who live and visit here," says event co-chair Dorothy Fitzgerald.

Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, part of Lee Memorial Health System in Lee County, is the only acute care children's hospital between Tampa and Miami. It opened in 1994 within HealthPark Medical Center in south Fort Myers. The name was changed to Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida in 2012. A capital campaign is underway to build a new 292,000-square-foot, 128-bed facility for children on the HealthPark campus. For more information, visit [childrenshospital.org](http://childrenshospital.org). ■

## NCH occupies a 'sweet spot' in the field of cardiology

allenWEISS  
allen.weiss@nchmd.org



Anyone who plays tennis knows that the "sweet spot" is that magical point where racket hits ball, resulting in maximum momentum and the perfect shot for the player. At NCH over the last 14 years, one of our "sweet spots" has been cardiology, a specialty for which our institution has received well-deserved recognition.

We added to that reputation recently by being named the only accredited chest pain center with cardiac catheterization in Collier and Lee counties.

Four years ago we embarked on the journey to become accredited by the Society of Cardiovascular Patient Care for cardiac services. This accreditation recognizes excellent performance and outcomes for the entire continuum of care, from pre-hospitalization, through hospital stay and continuing to outpatient cardiology services. Two surveyors visited us to evaluate eight key elements of performance encompassing 107 measurement points. We submitted comprehensive documents prior to the on-site visit, and full accreditation was granted when the onsite survey validated that all requirements were met.

The Society of Cardiovascular Patient Care guidelines combine evidenced-based science, quality initiatives, American College of Cardiology and Ameri-

can Heart Association guidelines, and clinical best practices to produce the most effective care delivery model for all forms of heart disease. We embrace these guidelines and practice them every day at NCH.

Our team includes Kristin Miller, R.N., chest pain coordinator and nurse manager for our neurosciences unit; Steve Cooke, R.N., director of our cardiac catheterization lab; and Betsy Novakovich R.N., director of emergency services, along with an interdisciplinary team that includes EMS personnel, emergency department staff, cardiologists, hospitalists, cardiothoracic surgeons, interventional cardiologists, nurses and outpatient cardiac services staff.

Earlier this year, the Society of Tho-

racic Surgery affirmed that NCH is among the top 10 percent of hospitals in the nation for heart bypass surgery and aortic valve replacement. We have also been named among the top 50 hospitals for cardiac care by Truven Health Analytics.

Cardiac disease is the No. 1 cause of death in the United States. Happily, this is not the case in Collier County, and one reason is the NCH cardiac team, an unquestioned "sweet spot" of care in a system dedicated to helping everyone live longer, happier and healthier lives. ■

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

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## Mental health symposium set

"Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis," the fourth annual mental health symposium hosted by HOPE Clubhouse of Southwest Florida takes place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 14, at the Broadway Palm Theatre in Fort Myers.

Keynote speaker U.S. Congressman Tim Murphy (R-Pa.) will discuss the landmark mental health reform legislation he introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives earlier this year. The bill currently has 96 co-sponsors.

In a panel discussion, three area professionals will address the impact mental illness has on families:

■ **Dayna Harpster** is a local newspaper and magazine journalist who will talk about mental illness in her family.

■ **Marlene Hauck** is the Sarasota-based development coordinator for the southeastern U.S. for Sunshine from Darkness, an international organization that has raised more than \$175 million for mental health research. Ms. Hauck has an adult daughter living with bipolar disorder.

■ **Janeice Martin** is a judge who presides over Collier County Mental Health Court and Collier County Adult Drug Court each week.

Tickets for "Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis" are \$40 (\$50 for two CEUs for mental health professionals) and include lunch. For reservations or more hopeclubhouse.org.

HOPE Clubhouse of Southwest Florida serves people living with severe mental illness such as bipolar disorder, schizophrenia and clinical depression by offering opportunities for meaningful work, education, friendships and access to housing in a supportive, caring and dignified community setting. Its operation is based on the principle that meaningful work is critical in bringing positive change to the lives of those living with mental illness.

For more information, visit the website. ■



HARPSTER



HAUCK



MARTIN

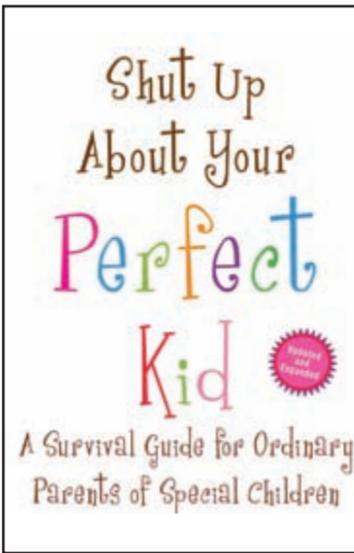


MURPHY

## 'Shut Up About Your Perfect Kid' authors to speak at FGCU conference

Florida Gulf Coast University hosts the fourth annual Children's Mental Health Conference from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1, in the Cohen Center at FGCU. The meeting is designed to create an alliance between mental health professionals, caregivers and the community.

Keynote speakers Gina Gallagher and Patricia Konjoian, co-authors of "Shut Up About Your Perfect Kid," will address some of the problems associated with mental health disorders in children and youth, and will provide insight about what the community can do to make a difference in their lives by building stronger linkages, networks and



resources within the community. Local vendors will be on hand to share information about their resources. Sponsors in addition to FGCU include the Florida Institute of Government, Hunter Institute, the Southwest Florida Community Foundation, the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation and Park Royal Hospital.

Registration is \$49 (\$25 for students, \$69 to include contact hours for nursing and mental health professionals). Lunch is included. For more information, call Joanne Hartke at 425-3273. ■

## Program addresses hidden epidemic of substance abuse in older adults

Hazelden at Naples, a part of the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation, partners with Park Royal Hospital in Fort Myers to present a free continuing education event, "The Hidden Epidemic for Boomers and Older Adults: Substance Use, Misuse and Abuse, in Collier and Lee Counties."

The presentation will be held Tuesday, Sept. 16, at Park Royal Hospital in Fort Myers and Wednesday, Sept. 17, at Moorings Park Center for Health Living in Naples. Registration both days begins at 11:30 a.m. and the program will be from noon to 2 p.m. Lunch is included, and two free continuing education credits are available.

Facilitated by Brenda Iliff, executive

director of Hazelden at Naples, and Denise Kitson, director of clinical services at Park Royal Hospital, the presentation will explore the unique addiction issues that baby boomers and older adults face and how professionals can address these issues in treatment.

"More than ever, baby boomers and older adults are at risk," Ms. Iliff says. "Easy access to powerful prescription medications along with a natural decline in the ability to metabolize alcohol and other drugs make adults over age 50 particularly vulnerable to addiction."

Although attendance is free, registration in advance is required. Call 659-2351 or send an email to marycampbell@hazelden.org. ■

## Yogi will conduct healing encounter

As part of its 10th anniversary celebration, Bija Yoga studio presents a non-denominational healing encounter with yogi Matthew Gibbons at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 19, at the studio in the North Trail Building at 1250 Tamiami Trail N., Naples.

Mr. Gibbons will direct healing energy to individuals by "laying hands" on participants. Comfortable clothing is recommended, and participants should be prepared to rest/sit while Mr. Gib-

bons works with others in the room. An offering of \$15 is suggested.

A former resident of Naples, Mr. Gibbons now resides in Fayetteville, Ark., where he is a yoga instructor at World Gym of Northwest Arkansas and the University of Arkansas. For more information about his instruction and practice, visit spiritlifeyoga.com.

For information about classes and programs at Bija Yoga, call 775-0888 or visit bijayoganaples.com. ■

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# PET TALES

## Pet hospice

There's a growing trend of 'pawspice' care being provided for terminally ill pets

BY KIM CAMPBELL THORNTON  
Universal Uclick

We are so fortunate that our dogs and cats are living longer than ever before and have access to the highest levels of veterinary care. At some point, though, just as with people, nothing more can be done. That doesn't always mean that euthanasia must be the next step. More and more, people are turning to end-of-life programs that help to ease a pet's journey out of life in a way that maintains comfort, while giving his family extra time with him.

Known as "pawspice," a term coined by veterinary oncologist Dr. Alice Villalobos, it allows people and veterinarians to work together to increase survival time, ensure quality of life, relieve pain and recognize when it's time to say goodbye. That philosophy of maintaining quality of life honors the human-animal bond, Dr. Villalobos says.

"Pawspice is not abandoning the disease," she says. "It's palliative medicine that involves treating the disease."

Palliative medicine includes pain management, infection control, nutritional support and complementary therapies, such as acupuncture or massage. Pets who receive it often have longer survival times, giving human and animal more time together before the pet's death.

If you have a terminally ill pet, talk to your veterinarian about a pet hospice plan. One of the things you'll need to do is to assess your animal's quality of life. Answering the following questions can guide you. Score criteria on a scale of 0 to 10. A score of 35 or higher suggests good quality of life, while a lower score may mean you need to make changes to improve your dog's or cat's situation or consider whether it's time to let him go.

■ Is my pet's pain manageable with medication or oxygen therapy? The most severe type of pain involves difficulty with breathing. Your veterinarian can show you how to monitor your pet's respiration and comfort level and identify



Quality of life encompasses an animal's physical, mental and social well-being.

labored breathing.

■ Is my pet's appetite good? Your veterinarian may be able to prescribe an appetite stimulant or insert a feeding tube. Some pets — my cavalier, Bella, for instance — respond well to being hand-fed. You can also try warming food to make it more aromatic. Sometimes scratching a pet's head and neck can encourage him to eat.

■ Is my pet drinking enough water? Dehydration can make pets feel sick. Providing a fountain can encourage your dog or cat to drink more water.

■ Is my pet staying clean? This can be especially problematic for cats, who may groom themselves less often if they don't feel well. Cats with oral cancers may find it painful or difficult to groom themselves. Gently brush or comb your pet regularly and give "butt baths" or other cleaning as needed.

■ Is my pet happy? It's a good sign if

your dog or cat still greets you and enjoys petting and other interactions. If he seems depressed, anxious or isolated, try to make environmental changes, such as keeping him in a quieter area if he doesn't like noise or moving him to a place where he can enjoy being with the family if he's the social type.

■ Is my pet mobile? If necessary, see if you can help him out with ramps or steps to furniture or that make it easier for him to get in and out of the litter box.

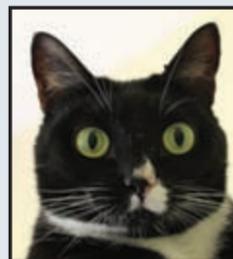
■ Is my pet having more good days than bad? Your dog's or cat's quality of life may be going downhill if he's starting to have three or four bad days in a row. It may be time to think about euthanasia.

Most important, let your veterinarian know that your pet is important to you.

"They see a lot of people who have a utilitarian bond, not a love bond," Dr. Villalobos says. "They can help you better when they know that." ■

### Pets of the Week

>>**Daisy May** is a 4-year-old sweetie who enjoys head scratches and hanging out on the cat tower watching the world go by. Because she has been at the shelter for more than 180 days, her adoption fee is has been waived.



>>**Joshua** is a 9-month-old tuxedo who enjoys lounging around but who also has a playful side. Like Daisy Mae, his adoption fee has been waived.



>>**Minnesota** is an 11-month-old terrier mix. She's a bit shy, but you'll know when she wants to connect. Her adoption fee is \$75.



>>**Sam** is a 7-year-old cockapoo whose elderly owner has moved into assisted living. He loves people and cuddling up on a warm lap. His adoption fee is \$75.



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# THE DIVA DIARIES

## Reflecting on the lives of three extraordinary women in show business

**stephanieDAVIS**  
sdavis@floridaweekly.com



The world, it seems, has gotten a little less bawdy, somewhat quieter, and definitely has lost a noticeable amount of sparkle this past summer.

They say these things come in threes. Perhaps it's true, because whether you want to call the following legendary ladies divas or dames, we've had to say goodbye to a trifecta of incredibly strong, fearless, smart women recently — women who were admired for their talent and tenacity, and who gave the labels "dame" and "diva" a wholly positive connotation. And I'm a little concerned, because it seems we see less and less of this kind of ballsy broad on our stages, in our movie theaters and on our television screens. Instead, we see Kim Kardashian and Honey Boo-Boo, and that does not bode well for the future.

In July, we lost Broadway legend Elaine Stritch, the blunt, cigarette-smoking New York treasure who got by in show business because she was gifted and determined. She loved to drink, to dance and to have a good time — and she made no apologies. If you didn't know her for her stage career in masterpieces such as Edward Albee's "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf" or Stephen Sondheim's "Company" (in which she discovered her signature anthem, "The Ladies Who Lunch"),



RIVERS

then you remember her for playing the hilarious monster of a mother to Alec Baldwin's character on TV's "30 Rock." As she aged, she was known for her casually elegant style: black tights, men's oversized white dress shirts, big, black, round eyeglasses and almost always a plucky black hat. When I'm in my 80s, that's exactly what I want to wear pretty much everywhere I go. Miss Stritch exited stage left at age 89.

In August, one of the last great movie stars of the golden era, the sexy, smoky-voiced actress who was known as "The Look," passed away quietly at age 89 in the wake of Robin Williams' suicide. Lauren Bacall was lanky and cool, and among the first to make trousers look hot when her contemporaries were wiggling themselves into tight dresses. Her career never stopped; from movies to TV to the stage, she kept herself relevant. She was never shy about discussing her left-wing politics, and she was famous for embracing



BACALL

old age, letting her hair go gray and refusing to ever go under the plastic surgeon's knife. She was quoted as saying, "I think your whole life shows in your face and you should be proud of that."

And, then, just last week, it was a sad and sudden farewell for Joan Rivers. Yes, she was 81, but there was no warning. She reportedly had a routine throat procedure, her heart stopped in the midst of it, and she just never woke up. I had just watched her, a few days after the Emmy Awards, on "Fashion Police," and as usual, she was hysterical with her one-liners. Her mind was as sharp as a tack and her wit was shockingly quick. Even as a little kid I was a night owl, and starting at age 7, I'd beg to stay up late on Friday nights to watch Ms. Rivers' appearances on "The Tonight Show." Later, her work on the red carpet and her stand-up act were inspiring. This woman, who came from nothing, who made her way in man's world and who had survived so much, was a suc-



STRITCH

cess because of her brains and her talent. Period. Seriously, what a dame.

Losing these three role models in such a short time has me looking around for other women who are revered because they're brave and smart — not because they made a sex tape and leaked it online or put their barely clad selfies on Instagram. Thankfully, we have women such as Meryl Streep and Helen Mirren and Cicely Tyson. But these dames are ladies of a certain age. I'm looking past them to the younger set.

We need to find the young Elaines, Laurens and Joans and make sure they stay loud and sparkly and amazing. For inspiration, get your hands on two great documentaries, "Elaine Stritch: Shoot Me" and "Joan Rivers: A Piece of Work." You'll be glad you did. ■

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



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- 6 Feeling of a pebble in your foot can be a nerve tumor.
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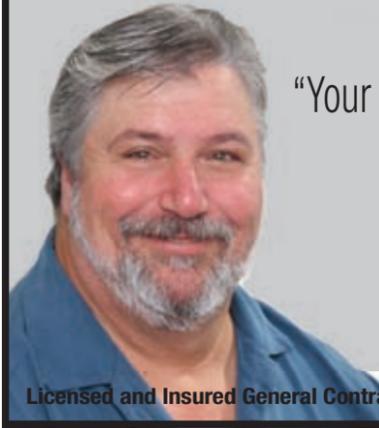
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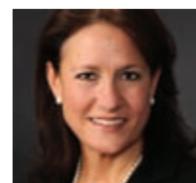
A GUIDE TO THE LOCAL BUSINESS & REAL ESTATE INDUSTRIES

| **INSIDE** |



**On the water**

Members of the Domestic Estate Managers Association aboard the Naples Princess, and more Networking photos. **B6-7** ▶



**On the Move**

Who's going where, doing what on the local business scene. **B3** ▶



**House Hunting**

What \$250,000 can buy in four area markets (above), and a \$2 million estate in Estero. **B9, B18** ▶

# PAYING IN CASH



*A wave of buyers who can afford to pay up front put the crimp on those who can't*

**BY EVAN WILLIAMS**  
ewilliams@floridaweekly.com

The traditional home mortgage has taken a back seat to cash sales in South Florida, more so than any other place in the country. Cash buyers are leading the housing market recovery, Real estate agents said, but at the same time making it more difficult for middle-class buyers, who don't have that kind of cash on hand and already face tight lending standards, to secure a mortgage.

Florida was king of cash sales in the second quarter of this year, defined as single-family homes and condos where no loan was recorded at the time of sale, according to a report by the research firm RealtyTrac. The state swept eight of the top 10 areas for cash sales in the country. The Cape Coral-Fort Myers area saw 62 percent cash sales, and Sarasota-Bradenton-Venice 61.5 percent, the second and third highest of the 100 largest metro areas in the United States

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# MONEY & INVESTING

## Investors' worst enemies: Themselves



A frequent topic in this column is investor behavior as it is critical to investment success. It is considered to be so problematic that many mutual fund companies, which are able to track investors buying at market highs and leaving at market lows, often suggest a passive approach to investing (e.g., create a balanced portfolio and don't tinker with it).

But many individual investors and money managers, in an attempt to do their very best, overthink it, overwork the solution, over-trade, over-emotionalize with fear and greed, or under-emotionalize with complacency — and they do it over and over again. There is also a tendency to create their own world using these cognitive biases, fortifying in their minds their investment world/thinking and then they grasp at denial if their results do not match their expectations.

Professionals describe these behaviors as coming from their "cognitive biases."

While good investors read and listen to a great deal of economic, stock and market content, they often fail to read and listen to a lot of content about investing behavior. Either they think their behavior is perfect or close to it or they think that such reading is unimportant relative to the core elements of investing.

But investment professionals take the state of their psyche very, seriously and even go to see therapists. What's the topic of discussion on the therapy couch? There are several: How to deal with the large loss just incurred as it wipes away confidence and mentally paralyzes the manager. How to deal with success. How to deal with professional staff who are placating when they should be challenging. How to deal with their investment belief systems.

Lance Roberts of streettalklive.com dedicates a fair amount of his columns to investor behavior; not that other fundamental or technical investment material is not also to be found at his website, but it is interesting that he, too, perceives the investor psyche as being of great importance.

His recent, must-read blog post, titled "Five Cognitive Biases That Are Killing Your Returns," is worthy of a full reading; here are some observations he makes about cognitive biases:

1. Confirmation bias is seeking out information that conforms to our current beliefs. So if you think the market is going higher (or lower) and all your chips are on the table, then of course you will seek out newsletters, news columns and cable pundits, etc. who embrace that viewpoint. Unfortunately, many purveyors of information have a primary objective for you to buy their bullish (or bearish) perspective.

2. Gabbler's fallacy "assumes that the past will repeat itself. "This is one of the key issues that affect investors' long term returns. Performance chasing has a high propensity to fail continually, causing investors to jump from one late cycle strategy to the next. This is shown in the periodic table of returns below. 'Hot hands' only tend to last on average two to three years before going 'cold.'"
3. Probability neglect focuses on possibilities more than probabilities. Surely, Apple can go to \$200 tomorrow, but the probability of that happening is infinitesimally small. And even when thinking definite probabilities, many investors in pre 2008-9 would never have placed a meaningful probability on an equity market correction of some 50 percent! It was an outlier probability called a Black Swan Event, except more and more black swans were happening.
4. Herd bias has us follow the herd in and out of investments. There is no independent thinking as there is comfort to invest along with the Joneses.
5. Anchoring effect has our perception limited to our actual, major life experiences. For example, "... the purchase of (a) home was a major life event. Therefore, we attach particular significance to that event and remember it vividly. If there

was a gain between the purchase and sale price of the home, it was a positive event and therefore we assume that the next home purchase will have a similar result. We are mentally 'anchored' to that event and base our future decisions around a very limited data."

As there is no perfect investor behavior, the best we can do it move toward better investment behavior. It is my personal assessment that such improvement is very hard to do outside the help of a larger group — whether it is made up of investment colleagues at work or an online investment forum. I continue to highly recommend Value Forum as this website stands leagues apart from other online forums.

There is absolutely no figuring or predicting an equity market, which has long outlived most historical metrics measuring duration and degree of a bull run. So unquestionably, equity investors face a higher probability (higher than two years ago or one year ago or six months ago) that the equity market will correct.

So stop thinking about your desired investment possibilities, get out of the herd, remember not just your memorable, glorious gains of the past, understand that history does not repeat itself, and start talking to other investors who think differently than you do. ■

— Jeannette Showalter, CFA is a market specialist with Worldwide Futures Systems. Follow her on Twitter @rohshowalter and on LinkedIn.

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# ON THE MOVE

## Milestones

**Insurance and Risk Management Services Inc.** is celebrating 25 years in business. IRMS was founded in 1989 to provide clients with comprehensive and professional risk management products and services that protect their financial interests. **George Schmelzle** is president and CEO of the company.

## New Location

**Moran Edwards Asset Management Group of Wells Fargo Advisors** has relocated its offices to the main floor of the Wells Fargo Building at 5801 Pelican Bay Blvd.

## Awards & Recognition

**Richard Geary**, president of Naples-based Geary Design Inc., has been named Miromar Design Center's Designer of Distinction for September. A second-generation designer, Mr. Geary has more than 40 years of experience designing homes around the world, including three decades of service to clients in Southwest Florida. A graduate of the School of Architecture, Design and Planning at Ohio University, he specializes in modern classic designs.

**Mary Ann Ramsey**, president and owner of Betty Maclean Travel Inc., has been named one of Travel & Leisure Magazine's 10 Super-Agents in the world of travel. In her more than 35 years of travel experience, Ms. Ramsey has been on safari 23 times and visited more than 80 countries. She sits on the Travel & Leisure advisory board.

**John Rafal**, founder and vice chair of Essex Financial Services, was honored at the opening ceremony of the Barron's 2014 Financial Advisor Summit. A resident of Naples and Essex, Conn., Mr. Rafal was recognized for his consistent appearance on Barron's Top 100 Independent Financial Advisor List each year since inception in 2004. He is one of 15 advisors from across the country who have achieved this status.

## Board Appointments

The Bonita Springs Estero Economic Development Council announces the following new members of its board of directors: **Matt Stepan**, Premier Commercial Inc.; **Bob Johns**, Lee Memorial Health System; **Susan Takas**, Physicians Regional Healthcare System; and **Thomas Goettel**, Shaw Development

LLC. The The BSEEDC encourages regional business development by nurturing area entrepreneurs and assisting local companies with their individual growth initiatives. The council also works to attract new businesses to diversity the region's economic base and create year-round jobs.

**Christine Ross**, president and CEO of the Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce, has been elected to serve on the board of directors of the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives, a national organization of professionals who manage chambers of commerce



ROSS

## Home Design

**Lindsey LaCroix** has joined Clive Daniel Home as sales and marketing account manager. Ms. LaCroix most recently served as membership and marketing director for Harbour Ridge Yacht and Country Club in Palm City and before that was in similar positions at Kensington Golf & Country Club and London Bay Homes, both in Naples. She attended Lake Forest College in Lake Forest, Ill.



LACROIX

## Law

**Elizabeth Hazelbaker** has joined the Naples office of the national law firm of Quarles & Brady LLP as a staff attorney in the commercial litigation practice group. Ms. Hazelbaker previously represented national lenders, negotiating secured transaction financing documentation and handling commercial and residential real estate matters. She graduated from the University of Vermont and earned her law degree from Capital University Law School.



HAZELBAKER

**Patrick Neale** has joined the Collier Building Industry Association as a consultant on government affairs activities locally and at the state level. Mr. Neale will work with the CBIA board of directors and executive vice president in facilitating, evaluating and preparing

CBIA positions and recommendations relative to legislative and regulatory matters affecting the industry. A resident of Collier county since 1987, he has been a member of the Florida Bar for more than 30 years. He represented the Collier County Contractors' Licensing Board for 15 years and has appeared before the state legislature, governor and cabinet; the Collier County Commission; the City of Marco Island Council; and state and federal courts and various governmental boards and agencies on behalf of clients. He is a graduate of the University of Miami School of Law.

## Nonprofit Organizations

**Steven Kissinger** has joined The Immo-kalee Foundation as executive director. Mr. Kissinger has 15 years of experience working with local nonprofits that are focused on children, most recently as CFO of THE Children's Advocacy Center of Collier County. He is an alumnus of Leadership Collier and Leadership Bonita Springs and is a board member of Bonita Springs Assistance Office as well as the Crew Land Water & Trust. He graduated from Florida Gulf Coast University with a bachelor's degree in accounting and is a member of the Institute of Management Accountants.



KISSINGER

## Professional Development

**Jaclynn Faffer**, Ph.D., CEO and president of the nonprofit Jewish Family & Community Services, joined more than 140 nonprofit leaders from around the world at the Strategic Perspectives in Non-Profit Management Seminar held at Harvard University as part of the Harvard Business School's Executive Education program. Ms. Faffer received a grant from the Harvard Club of Naples that funded the costs to attend the six-day seminar. Ms. Faffer has been in leadership roles in the human services field for more than 25 years. She earned a bachelor's degree from Boston University, a master's of social work degree from Tulane University School of Social Work and a doctor of social welfare degree from the Wurzweiler School of Social Work at Yeshiva University in New York.



FAFFER

## Engineering

**Casey Ward** has rejoined Forge Engineering after a brief hiatus. Mr. Ward holds a bachelor's degree in engineering from Ohio University and has more than 10 years of experience in building sciences, roofing evaluation and design, forensics, construction, materials testing and evaluation and geotechnical engineering. He will be based out of Forge Engineering's office in Naples. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers in Southwest Florida.



WARD

## Media

**Maryruth Harrison** has joined ITZ Studios to oversee the Naples-based film and production company's graphic design and social media initiatives. Ms. Harrison is responsible for the image and content of the firm's Instagram and Twitter accounts and three Facebook pages and is also the studio's on-set stylist in charge of selecting the clothing and accessories for editorial features, television advertising campaigns, music videos, reality TV shows, films and any public appearances made by ITZ clients.



HARRISON

## Mortgages

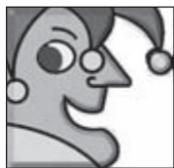
**Matt McCain** has joined imortgage in Naples as multi-branch manager for the company's Southwest Florida locations. Mr. McCain brings 17 years of experience in the mortgage industry to his new position.

## Public Relations

**Lisa Davanzo** has joined Pushing the Envelope Inc. as a public relations specialist and account ally to serve as a client liaison in public relations, marketing and project management efforts. Ms. Davanzo earned a bachelor's degree in communications from East Carolina University and has more than seven years of experience in public relations and marketing. She is a member of the Florida Public Relations Association. ■

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## Fool's School

### Be Careful When an Analyst Says 'Buy!'

When you run across a stock that's rated "buy" by Wall Street analysts, don't rush to snap up shares. There's far less value in analyst ratings than you might expect.

For one thing, their growth estimates for companies are overly optimistic. Patrick Cusatis and J. Randall Woolridge of Pennsylvania State University studied 20 years' worth of published earnings estimates made by Wall Street industry analysts, and found that they consistently overestimated the future earnings growth rates of the companies they cover. By a lot — around 40 percent more. So take analysts' forecasts with a grain of salt at best.

Don't give too much importance to a buy rating, either, as buy ratings typically make up about half of all ratings, and various studies have found that sell ratings make up between 1 percent and 7 percent of the total.

Why are analysts saying "buy" so often? Well, according to professor Ohad Kadan of Washington University: "Analysts tend to herd. There's no big penalty if you're wrong, because everyone else is wrong. You've got cover. You're not going to

lose your job. If you take a different opinion, either you get a big prize if you're right, or you lose your job. An analyst needs to be really courageous to say something different from most other analysts."

Analysts are frequently wrong, too. The folks at NerdWallet found that over the course of 2012, only 51 percent of analyst ratings for the 30 stocks in the Dow Jones Industrial Average were correct. (Hold ratings were far less likely to be correct than buy ratings.) It all makes some sense when you realize that many analysts work for investment banks that would rather not tick off companies that might be customers one day.

If you really want to follow some financial pundits, check out The Motley Fool's CAPS stock-rating platform, tracking calls made by Wall Streeters as well as many thousands of individual investors. At caps.fool.com/Stats.aspx, you can see lists of the most accurate Wall Streeters, and see which stocks our highest-rated players are recommending, too. ■

## My Dumbest Investment

### Not Too Late

We all know that hindsight is 20/20, but I had plenty of information and still did not take advantage of investing in Home Depot or Wal-Mart when I first learned about them. I was just too timid and indecisive, as I didn't know enough about investing. The stocks have split numerous times since then, and I missed out on those.

— J.P., Ellendale, North Dakota

**The Fool Responds:** It's not necessarily best to invest in promising companies as soon as you hear about them. Instead, spend time researching them, their rivals and their industry, gaining confidence in your decision.

Consider that investors in Wal-Mart have averaged annual gains of 11 percent over the past five years and also the past 20 years. Better still, Home Depot stock has grown faster in the past few years than in many previous ones. Neither seems like a screaming bargain right now, but their businesses are likely to keep growing, and you might buy either stock on a pullback. Remember, too, that stock splits are close to meaningless, not changing the value of a holding. (The Motley Fool has recommended Home Depot.) ■



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

I trace my roots back to the 1899 founding of the submarine-building Electric Boat Co. My current name is the result of a 1952 combination of the Electric Boat Co., the Consolidated Vultee ("Convair") aircraft company and several other companies. Today I'm an aerospace and defense giant, raking in more than \$30 billion annually. My offerings include combat vehicles, weapons systems, shipbuilding services and technology solutions. I bought Gulfstream in 1999, and business jets are now a big part of my business, making me less dependent on military contracts. Based in Virginia, I employ about 90,000 people. Who am I? (Answer: General Dynamics) ■



Write to Us! Send questions for Ask the Fool, Dumbest (or Smartest) Investments (up to 100 words), and your Trivia entries to Fool@fool.com or via regular mail c/o this newspaper, attn: The Motley Fool. Sorry, we can't provide individual financial advice.

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## Ask the Fool

### Stocks to Blow You Away

**Q**I'm optimistic about the growth of wind power. Which companies that are involved in it might I invest in?

— B.M., Honolulu, Hawaii

**A**Wind power has been growing, partly due to the cost of wind turbines and the price of wind-powered electricity falling. The U.S. wind energy industry employs about 50,000 people, and the U.S. Department of Energy would like to see wind generate 20 percent of the nation's electricity demand by 2030 — or at least get close.

General Electric (NYSE: GE) is far from a pure play in wind, but it's the largest wind turbine supplier in the United States and is expanding internationally, too, such as in India. The U.S. leader in wind energy, though, is NextEra Energy (NYSE: NEE), with more than 10 gigawatts of wind capacity across 19 states. Dominion Resources (NYSE: D), meanwhile, is buying many big offshore wind leases from the U.S. government.

(The Motley Fool has recommended shares of Dominion Resources and owns shares of General Electric.)

\*\*\*

**Q**Old Navy doesn't seem to be a publicly traded stock — so I can't invest in it, right?

— P.T., Syracuse, New York

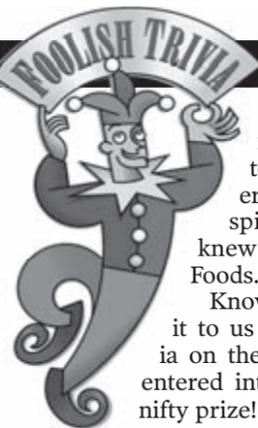
**A**Not exactly. A little research (such as Googling or just calling the company) will reveal that Old Navy, along with Banana Republic, Athleta, INTERMIX and Piperlime, belong to Gap, which is publicly traded.

Many companies are divisions of other companies. Pottery Barn is part of Williams-Sonoma, as is West Elm and Rejuvenation. TJX Companies owns T.J. Maxx, Marshalls, HomeGoods and Sierra Trading Post. Yum! Brands owns Taco Bell, Pizza Hut and KFC. Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway owns Dairy Queen, See's Candies, GEICO, Benjamin Moore, Fruit of the Loom and The Pampered Chef, among many other companies. ■

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

## Name That Company

I trace my history back to 1892, when my founders invented a machine that made Shredded Wheat cereal. Three years later they debuted the Postum cereal drink, followed by Grape-Nuts cereal in 1897. Today, based in St. Louis, I specialize in name-brand cereals; natural and organic cereals and snacks; refrigerated egg, potato and cheese foods; and private-label foods such as pastas, peanut butters, dried fruits and more. I launched my Raisin Bran cereal in 1942, Alpha-Bits in 1958



and Fruity Pebbles in 1971. My history features mergers, acquisitions and spin-offs. You once knew me as General Foods. Who am I?

Know the answer? Send it to us with Foolish Trivia on the top and you'll be entered into a drawing for a nifty prize! ■

## The Motley Fool Take

### There's Life in MetLife

Founded in 1868, MetLife (NYSE: MET), one of the world's largest life insurance companies, might belong in your stock portfolio. It serves about 100 million customers in nearly 50 nations, offering life insurance, annuities, asset management, auto insurance, home insurance, IRAs, employee benefit programs and more.

There's much to like about MetLife, such as its push into fast-growing emerging and developing markets and its cost-cutting plans to boost profitability. Operating earnings in its European, Middle Eastern and African business (excluding Western Europe) grew 16.1 percent on average over the last two full financial years.

The company is also aiming to reduce operating earnings volatility and improve

free cash flow by shifting its business focus "from market-sensitive, capital-intensive products toward protection-oriented, capital-efficient products," according to its most recent 10-K report. Growing its global employee benefits business is a priority. If interest rates rise in coming years, as they're expected to, that will serve as another growth catalyst.

MetLife's valuation is also appealing. Its price-to-earnings (P/E) ratio was recently 17, well above its five-year average of 11, but its forward-looking P/E, based on next year's expected earnings, is 9. It's a financial giant with a diversified international platform, economies of scale and a well-known brand — and a solid dividend, too. ■

# 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 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.

■ **Business After Five** for members and guests of the Marco Island Area Chamber of Commerce is set for 5:30-7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 17, at Marco Island Florist & Gifts, 175 S. Barfield Drive. \$4 for members, \$10 for others. Call 394-7549 or visit marcoislandchamber.org.

■ **The Collier Building Industry Association** holds its next members mixer from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 18, at Design Studio by Raymond's new showroom, 990 First Ave. N. \$15 for CBIA members, \$25 for others. Reservations required by Sept. 12. Email nancy@cbia.net.

■ **The Leadership Collier Foundation** hosts a kick-off party for the Leadership Collier Class of 2015 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 18, at the La Playa Beach & Golf Resort. Chair of the class is Chief Stephanie Spell of the Collier County Sheriff's Office; co-vice chairs are Steven Kissinger of the Children's Advocacy of Collier County and Lynda Waterhouse of Collier Anesthesia P.A. Tickets are \$25 and include hors d'oeuvres. Register at napleschamber.org/events.

■ **The Council of Hispanic Business Professionals** meets for networking from 5:30-7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 23, at McCormick & Schmick's in Mercato. Cost is \$15 for members. For more information, visit chbnaples.wildapricot.org.

■ **The Collier Building Industry Association** hosts the 2014 Sand Dollar Awards dinner and celebration Saturday, Sept. 27, at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort. For more information, call 436-6100 or visit cbia.net.

■ **The Council for Hispanic Business Professionals** holds its sixth annual Latin Night gala Saturday, Sept. 27, at Wyndemere Country Club. This year's beneficiary is Grace Place for Children & Families. Tickets for \$75 are available at chbnaples.org.

■ **The Marco Island Area Chamber of Commerce** hosts a speed networking event from 7:30-9 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 1, at the Marco Island Historical Museum. \$5 at the door. Attendance is limited to the first 30 chamber members who make reservations by calling 394-7549 or emailing donna@marcoislandchamber.org.

■ **The Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce** holds its next Wake Up Naples for members and guests from 7:30-8:30 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 8, at the Hilton Naples. \$20 for members, \$25 for others. Sign up at napleschamber.org/events. ■

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

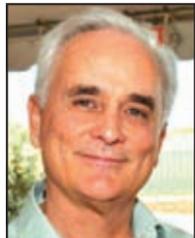
# CASH

From page 1

The greater Miami area took the top spot at 64 percent. Hidalgo County, Texas, and the Las Vegas area rounded out the list at numbers seven and 10. The national average was 37.9 percent.

Those figures are “very consistent with what we’re seeing here in Charlotte County,” where cash accounted for 66 percent of single-family home and condo sales in the second quarter, said Roger Morris, managing broker at Michael Saunders & Company.

Nationwide, cash sales were especially high for the cheapest and the priciest properties, RealtyTrac



CABRAL

says. In the luxury Naples market, Realtor Corey Cabral reported that fully 96 percent of his homes sold for cash in the last two years, priced from \$500,000 to more than \$1 million.

In addition to the sunny lifestyle, buyers were attracted to the lower prices, driven down in the wake of recession and now beginning to appreciate again. Too, cash deals don’t require the red tape of loan applications and appraisals.

The cash buyers fall into three main categories, said Daren Blomquist, RealtyTrac vice president: investors aiming to flip or rent property, from institutions such as Wall Street firms to individuals; foreign buyers looking for a safe haven for their money or a trophy property; and retirees who may have sold a home up north and brought the proceeds south.

They may also have cashed in other investments.

“They were able to see a significant gain in their stock portfolio,” said Randy Thibaut, president and CEO of Land Solutions, which specializes in residential tracking and land transactions in Southwest Florida. “They took some of those winnings of the table and instead of reinvesting it used it to buy a home in Southwest Florida while prices were still down.”

The influx of cash helps the market recover in the “short term,” said Mr. Blomquist, but traditional mortgages play an important role in allowing young families and other middle-class buyers to enter the market.

“We need to see more first-time home buyers and move-up buyers participating in the housing recovery for it to continue to happen,” Mr. Blomquist said.



Mr. Morris added that buyers who need a loan and compete with cash offers generally lose unless they are especially credit worthy and make a higher offer.

The average price point for cash sales of single family homes is about \$150,000 in Charlotte County, while the average overall is \$170,000, said Crystal Bienz, a Realtor based in Punta Gorda.

“The low end is right now almost strictly cash,” she said. “The regular buyers, they can’t compete with these cash buyers.”

Cash buyers helped absorb distressed property but eventually, Mr. Thibaut predicts, they will be fewer in number.

“And that is where the challenges lie,” he said. “Because most of the people who have decent credit and had the ability to go get a loan have, and now what’s showing up is the challenged credit buyers.”

Mr. Blomquist notes cash sales have already abated slightly from a year ago in South Florida, by about 2 percent, indicating a continuing decrease in the trend that began when the housing market bottomed out after the great recession and vulture buyers began to swoop in looking for deals.

### Luxury homes for cash

Corey Cabral has been a Realtor in the Naples luxury housing market for the better part of four decades and is watching the trend in cash sales with fascination.

“This is a dramatic change in the real estate market in recent Naples history,”

he said.

With home interest rates so low, buyers might consider taking out a mortgage and investing their cash in the surging stock market instead, he points out. But that’s not happening, indicating that cash buyers see a home as a better bet than stocks or other investments.

“The national and international (buyers), particularly, consider Naples to be a very secure marketplace for investment and I believe that’s why they’re willing to leave their cash here in the real estate instead of other avenues for investment,” he said.

For Mr. Cabral, Canadians are his top international market. There is also a mix of European, Asian, Indian and Brazilian buyers.

“The investor doesn’t have the confidence in the governments and so they look to invest their profits outside of

their own country in the U.S. marketplace.”

Mr. Cabral has been through three recession-and-recovery cycles, he said, and finds in the current version cause for both concern and confidence.

“I don’t like to see a recovery at the pace that it’s moving at because it’s a clear duplicate of the last recovery we had, moving too fast, ultimately ending in a bust,” he said. “But what’s very different now — this boom is being driven by cash buyers. The last boom was driven by cheap mortgage access. Anyone who was a warm body could come in and get a mortgage back in 2004, 2005 and 2006, and that was fueling the huge price run-up in Collier County whereas today we’re not seeing it at all. Even if there’s a pull-back, the cash buyers aren’t going to have to bail and run.” ■

### in the know

#### Florida remains the capital for cash real estate deals

The percent of homes sold for cash by metro area in the United States in Q2 of 2014.

- >> 1. Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach: 64.1
- >> 2. Cape Coral-Fort Myers: 62.1
- >> 3. Sarasota-Bradenton-Venice: 61.5
- >> 4. Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater: 54.6
- >> 5. Lakeland: 53
- >> 6. Orlando-Kissimmee: 52.2
- >> 7. McAllen-Edinburg-Mission, Texas: 52
- >> 8. Jacksonville: 51.5
- >> 9. Palm Bay-Melbourne-Titusville: 50.7
- >> 10. Las Vegas-Paradise: 50.7
- >> National average: 37.9

— Source: RealtyTrac



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(Ref #002289)

**FOR LEASE** - 40,000± SF warehouse with office/showroom, six 12x14 overhead doors & truckwell. Located between Metro Pkwy & Plantation Rd. Zoned IL. \$4.98 PSF

(Ref #002248)

**FOR SALE** - Everglades City mobile home lot. Located on a salt water canal with direct access to Panther Creek and The Ten Thousand Islands. Offered at \$110,000

(Ref #00986)

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# NETWORKING

## Vein specialist Dr. Joseph Magnant addresses the Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce



Allen Furrer, Lesley Colantonio and Charlie Williams



Jennifer Rice, Katie Peterson and Lindsey Simek



Thomas Falciglia, Michelle Spitzer and Dorene Mou



Chloe Friedman, Mary Birr and Anna Theobald



Corlin Tucker, Mary Johnson and Raven Dodd



Alan Gaunt, Debi Dilling, Dr. Joseph Magnant and Christine Ross



Marianne Gilhuly, Andrea Compton and Kellie Nolan



Sylvia Connor, Sam Black and Teresa Gittemeier



Katie Hoffman, Gary Israel and Fran Bliss

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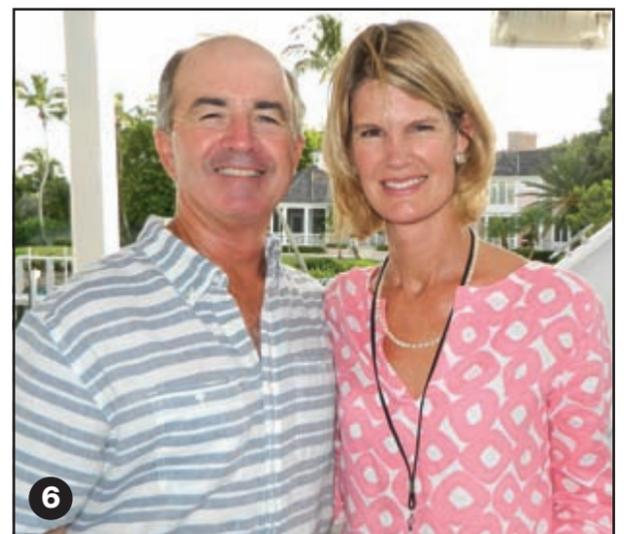
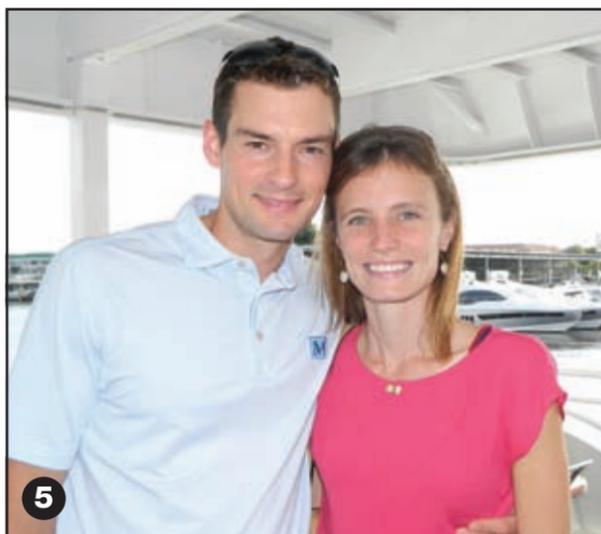
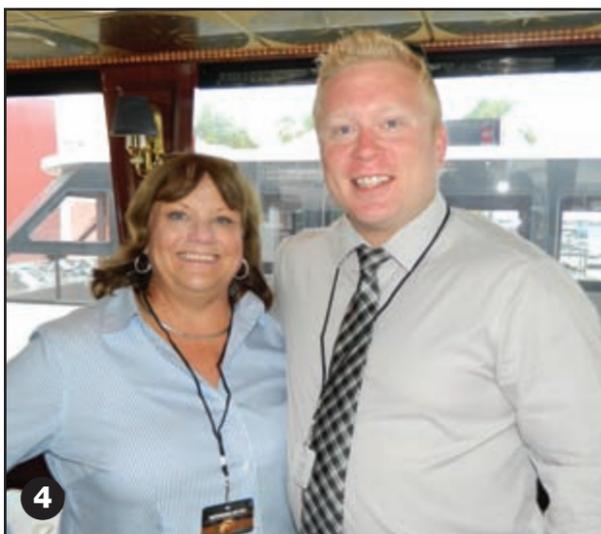
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# NETWORKING

## Onboard the Naples Princess with the Domestic Estate Managers Association



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2. Glen Smith and Mark Gabel
3. Clark Stroeter, Sandi Williams and Mitch Williams
4. Barbara Seyer and Jason Abidin
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**Naples, Quail Woods Estates \$1,099,000** 5/5  
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# REAL ESTATE

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 11-17, 2014

A GUIDE TO THE LOCAL REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY

B9

## What \$250,000 will buy in SWFL



### 23371 Superior Ave., Port Charlotte

This great-room design leads to a large, screened enclosure with paver decking, solar-heated pool and private fenced backyard with mature landscaping. Other features include a mix of 20-inch ceramic tile and laminate-wood flooring and vaulted ceilings with numerous plant shelves, solid hardwood kitchen cabinetry accented with quartz counters and stainless appliances. The master bedroom, with direct access to the pool enclosure, has a remodeled bath with vaulted ceilings, plantation shutters, a large walk-in closet with glass doors, separate shower with jetted tub and dual sinks in a custom vanity. The property is listed at \$249,000 by RE/MAX Anchor Realty, remax-anchor-pg-fl.com. ■



### 1323 Kendari Terrace, Naples

This newer residence in the Naples Artesia community has three bedrooms and 2½ baths in 1,555 square feet of living area, with plenty of room for a pool. This home has wooden cabinetry and stainless steel appliances in the kitchen along with wooden blinds throughout for window coverings. This well-maintained home has fresh paint inside, an attached two-car garage, paver driveway and nice landscaping. The clubhouse, community pool and other amenities are under construction and will be ready in the third quarter of 2015. The property is listed at \$240,000 by Keller Williams Realty-Marco Island, kw.com. ■



### 9251 Pittsburgh Blvd., Fort Myers

This spacious home has a fenced yard and private preserve views. With four bedrooms, the great-room design has a formal dining room with wood floors, crown molding, plantation shutters and exterior shutters. The huge porch/Florida room has a beautiful view and a paver patio area. Walk to the community pool, fitness center, clubhouse, tennis courts, picnic pavilions and more at the Lakes at Three Oaks, just minutes from some of Southwest Florida's best shopping, restaurants, schools, parks, the interstate and Florida Gulf Coast University. The property is listed at \$244,000 by Real Living Cypress Realty, cypressrealty.com. ■



### 23580 Alamanda Drive, Unit 101, Bonita Springs

This comfy great-room flat with two bedrooms and two full baths is light, bright and loaded with green and tree line views. This home has large double windows everywhere to give a feeling of bringing the outside in. It features 42-inch cabinets, stainless appliances, granite counter tops and tile everywhere but the bedrooms. This hideaway is in the community of Mirasol at Coconut Point, a gated neighborhood of only 200 residences with a resort-style pool and spa with rock waterfall, game room, community room and fitness center. The property is listed at \$249,480 by DR Horton Realty SW Florida, drhorton.com. ■

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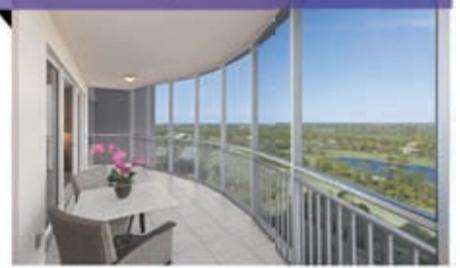
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- Low Rise
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- 2 Bed/2 Bath
- Villa Attached
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- Single Family
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- Moorings MLS# 214001173
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- Low Rise
- Delightful Views of Gulf

**NAPLES**



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**NAPLES**



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- Low Rise
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**NAPLES**



- Calusa Bay South MLS# 214040781
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- Villa Attached
- Newly Renovated

**NAPLES**



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- \$249,000
- 3 Bed/2 Bath
- Single Family
- Tastefully Decorated and Well Cared For

**NAPLES**



- The Strand MLS# 213500810
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- Low Rise
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**NAPLES**



- Moon Lake MLS# 214019347
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- 3 Bed/2 Bath
- Single Family
- Unique Architectural Features

**NAPLES**



- Naples Park MLS# 214039394
- \$260,000
- 3 Bed/2 Bath
- Single Family
- Location, Location, Location!

**NAPLES**



- Glades Country Club MLS# 214022223
- \$237,000
- 2 Bed/2 Bath
- Low Rise
- Newly Remodeled Kitchen

**CAPE CORAL**



- Cape Coral MLS# 214039912
- \$192,000
- 3 Bed/2 Bath
- Single Family
- Large Master Retreat

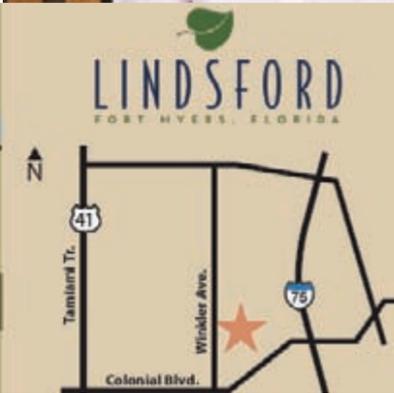
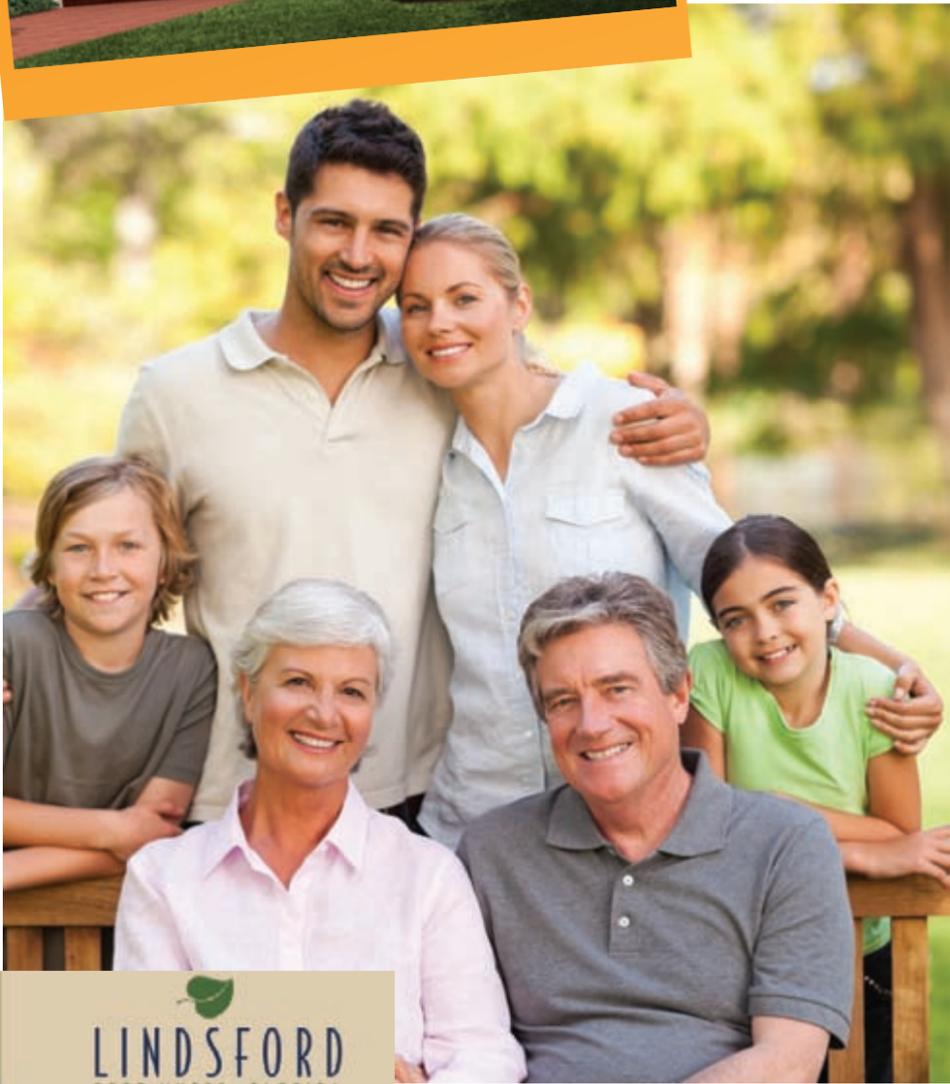


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\*Home and community information, including pricing, included features, terms, availability and amenities are subject to change or prior sale at any time without notice or obligation. Pictures, photographs, features, colors and sizes are approximate for illustration purposes only and will vary from the homes as built.  
 \*\*Square footage dimensions are approximate.



# REAL ESTATE NEWSMAKERS

**Carole Carpenter** has joined Berkshire Hathaway Florida Realty in the agency's Fifth Avenue office in Naples as part of The Barone Group with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices. Ms. Carpenter's diverse background includes professional experience in educational administration, major gift fundraising and nursing.

**Lois Chapman** has joined South Bay Realty. A Naples resident since 1995, Ms. Chapman worked for seven years selling high-rise residences in Pelican Bay for Gulf Bay Development. She is a member of the Naples Area Board of Realtors, the Florida Association of Realtors and the National Association of Realtors.



CHAPMAN

**Ann Giles** of Engel & Volkers Olde Naples has earned the designation of certified international property specialist from the National Association of Realtors.



RISOP

**Chris Risop** has joined Encore Realty. Mr. Risop graduated from Barron Collier High School and played professional baseball for 14 years, pitching in the major leagues for six teams.

The following real estate agents have recently joined John R. Wood Properties:

Central office: **Catherine Barsky**  
 Old Naples office: **Godfrey Levy**, **William Michalek**, **Arianne Taylor** and **Jane Wood**

Bonita Springs office: **Jim Chambers**, **Rich Dooley** (broker associate), **Anne Marie Dooley** and **Andrew Mease** ■

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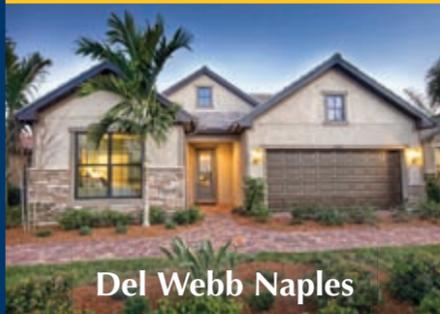
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Maple Ridge



# House Hunting:

10520 Timber Lawn Drive; Shadow Wood at The Brooks

This meticulously maintained estate home is situated on a southern rear exposure lot that has prime lake-to-golf course views in Shadow Wood at The Brooks, just south of Coconut Point in Estero. Interior details include premium travertine stone flooring, an automated

lighting system, extensive wood cabinetry and crown molding, Sub Zero refrigerator, Wolf appliances and stone countertops. The two-car detached garage has been finished as a fifth bedroom suite with full bathroom. Shadow Wood at The Brooks offers multiple member-

ship options to the 54-hole golf courses, the Commons Club private beach club on Bonita Beach, a fitness facility and Rosie Spoonbill's restaurant.

David William Auston has the listing for \$2,185,000. For more information, call 280-5433 or visit davidnaples.com. ■



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# Enjoy fall and winter season in a new home at Talis Park

BY KEVIN CAFFREY

Special to Florida Weekly

With nine homes completed or soon to be resident-ready, Talis Park offers homebuyers an opportunity to enjoy the 2014 fall and 2015 winter seasons in a new residence built by one of the community's participating builders.

Talis Park's "new-fashioned" lifestyle — with a choice of Spanish eclectic, Caribbean Colonial or Italian Renaissance architectural designs, one of the top 20 golf courses in Florida and numerous other amenities — have contributed to a recent surge in sales activity. Two closed home site sales, two closed new-build home sales and one new-build residence contract worth a total of \$5,571,000 were processed during August. Through Aug. 31, 68 home site contracts and 34 new-build contracts valued at \$65,055,000 have been processed this year.

T. Scholten Builder's 6,491-square-foot, five-bedroom, 6½-bath Casa El Nido model is available for purchase and occupancy in the Prato neighborhood of 24 estate homes. Residences in Prato range from 4,500 square feet to more than 7,000 square feet. Pricing begins at \$2.5 million.

Casa El Nido is offered fully furnished at \$3,750,000. The two-story home conveys a traditional sensibility complimented by modern elements. Lighter toned hardwood flooring is found throughout the downstairs. The outdoor living area features a sitting area with a fireplace and television, a dining area, an island bar, an outdoor kitchen, a custom pool and spa and a raised fire pit.

Seven completed and soon-to-be-completed homes ranging from 2,622 square feet to 3,709 square feet and priced from \$1,275,000 to \$1,725,000 are available in the Brightling neighborhood, where homes by Sunwest Homes, Fox Custom Builders and Harbourside Custom Homes showcase Caribbean Colonial and Spanish eclectic designs. Ten home sites remain available in Brightling.

Three completed residences by Sunwest are available in Brightling: the Capri, the Amalfi and the Caribbean.

With 3,075 square feet, the three-bedroom Capri has a walled entry courtyard and a spacious great room, island kitchen and dining area that fully open to a covered lanai and outdoor living space. There is an optional wet bar and study. The Capri is priced at \$1,375,000.

Priced at \$1,650,000, the Amalfi has three bedrooms plus a study and 3½ baths in 3,709 square feet of living area. The great room opens to a covered lanai and outdoor living area, and the island kitchen has an optional butler's pantry. There is a three-car garage as well as a separate golf cart garage.



By T. Scholten Builder, the 6,491-square-foot Casa El Nido has five bedrooms and 6½ baths and is offered at \$3,750,000, fully furnished.

The Caribbean measures 3,527 square feet and includes three bedrooms plus a study and 3½ baths. The great room has a wine bar and is open to the spacious island kitchen. Columns define the formal dining area off the Sunwest's signature gallery hallway. The Caribbean is priced at \$1,650,000.

Fox Custom Builders is nearing completion of its Camilla, Barlovento and Nadia homes in Brightling.

The 3,083-square-foot Camilla residence offers three bedrooms, 3½ baths, a great room and island kitchen that open to a covered lanai with an optional outdoor kitchen and fireplace, a formal dining room, a study and a three-car garage. The Camilla is offered at \$1,475,000, unfurnished.

With a walled courtyard entry, the 3,433-square-foot Barlovento features an interior by Clive Daniel Home. There are three bedrooms, 3½ baths, a great room, formal dining room, island kitchen and an outdoor living area with a pool, spa, an optional fireplace and outdoor kitchen. The Barlovento is priced at \$1,725,000.

The two-story Nadia encompasses 3,648 square feet and features an interior by Norris Home Furnishings. A two-story foyer leads to a great room, kitchen and dining area that opens to the outside. The study opens to a garden, and the downstairs guest suite has its own courtyard. Upstairs, a loft and a guest suite open to a balcony overlooking the golf course and preserve. Scheduled for completion in January, the Nadia is priced at \$1,595,000.

Harbourside has started construction of its Villa Adriana residence in

Brightling. The 2,622-square-foot design includes a great room that opens to an outdoor living area with a pool, optional fireplace and optional outdoor kitchen. There are three bedrooms, 3½ baths, a study and a three-car garage. The Villa Adriana is priced at \$1,275,000.

Harbourside's fully furnished Aviano model in the Fairgrove neighborhood at Talis Park is open for viewing and available for purchase. Fairgrove has 24 south-facing homes on one side of the street. Italian Renaissance and Spanish eclectic designs by Harbourside Custom Homes and Iron Star Luxury Homes range from 3,100 square feet to 4,000 square feet and are priced from

\$1,350,000. Two buildable home sites are available.

Priced at \$1,595,000, Harbourside's Aviano design has a total of 4,101 square feet and includes three bedrooms, 3½ baths, a study, formal dining room and an island kitchen with breakfast nook. The outdoor living area has a pool and spa with a screened surround, a fireplace and a summer kitchen. There is a three-car garage.

The entrance to Talis Park is on Livingston Road just north of Immokalee Road in North Naples. For more information, stop by the sales center at 16980 Livingston Road or visit talispark.com. ■



The Nadia by Fox Custom Builders, set for completion in January, will have an interior by Norris Home Furnishings.



The Capri by Sunwest Homes has 3,075 square feet and is priced at \$1,375,000.

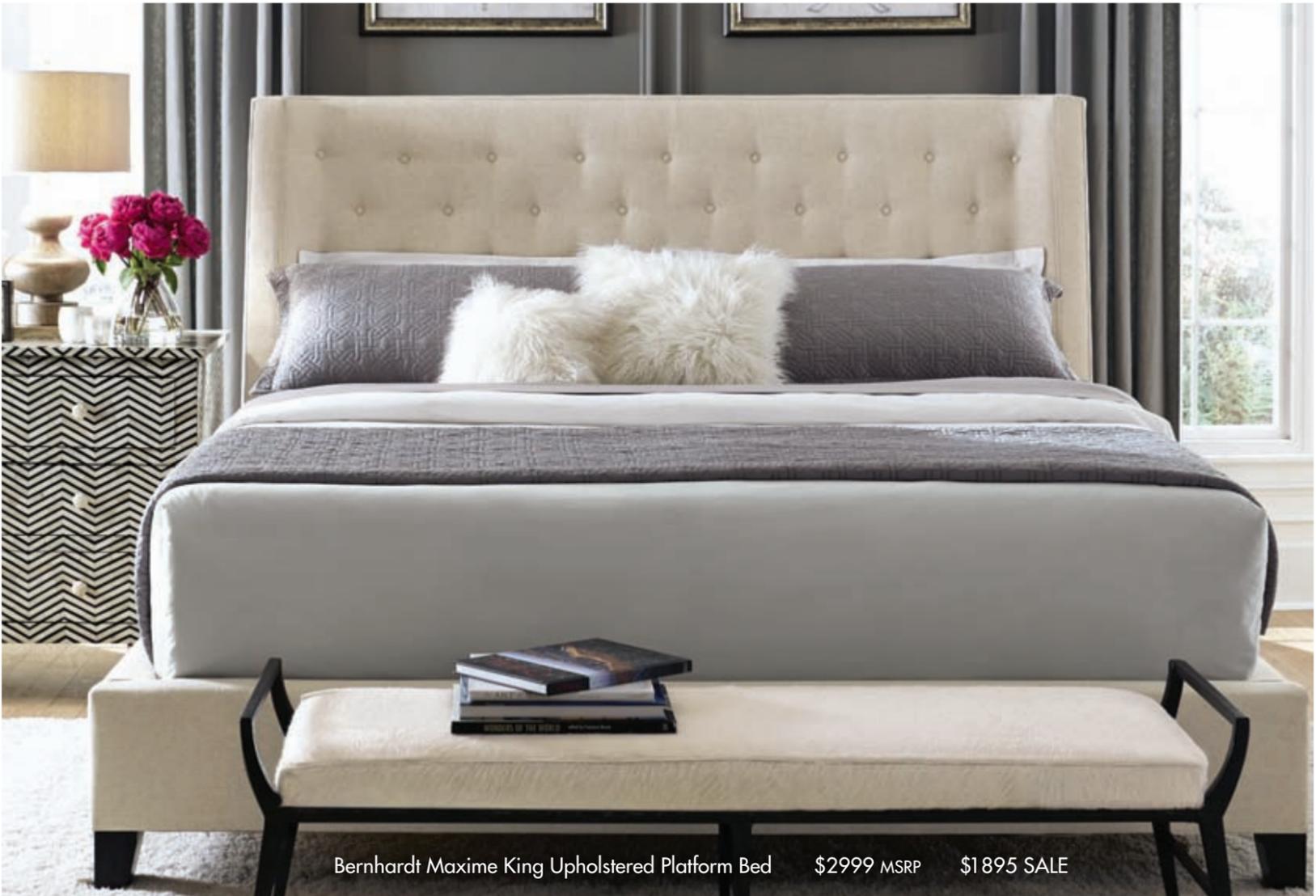


Sunwest Homes' Caribbean design has 3,527 square feet and is priced at \$1,650,000.

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# Florida Weekly's Open Houses

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**Open Houses are Sunday 1-4, unless otherwise marked**

**>\$200,000**

**1 • HIGH POINT - HIGH POINT COUNTRY CLUB** • 37 High Point Circle East #304 • \$219,000 • Premier Sotheby's International Realty • Jon Peter Vollmer • 239.250.9414

**>\$400,000**

**2 • BAY FOREST - NAPLES WALK** • 15191 Cedarwood Lane #2704 • \$490,000 • Premier Sotheby's International Realty • Dina Moon • 239.370.1252

**>\$500,000**

**3 • BANYAN WOODS - RESERVE II** • 5050 Blauvelt Way #201 • \$525,000 • Premier Sotheby's International Realty • Pat Duggan • 239.216.1980

**4 • BRENDISI AT MEDITERRA** • 29140 Brendisi Way #201 • \$584,000 • John R Wood Properties • Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell • 239.595.0097

**>\$600,000**

**5 • NAPLES BATH & TENNIS** • 1031 Oriole Circle • \$699,000 • Premier Sotheby's International Realty • Debbi/Marty McDermott • 239.564.4231

**>\$700,000**

**6 • VINEYARDS - AVELLINO** • 533 Avellino Isles Circle #32202 • \$715,000 • Premier Sotheby's International Realty • Denise Sands • 239.598.1260 • Open 1-3pm

**>\$900,000**

**7 • PELICAN BAY - CRESCENT** • 8430 Abbington Circle • \$949,000 • Premier Sotheby's International Realty • Diane Solomon • 301.343.5585

**>\$1,000,000**

**8 • MERCATO - THE STRADA** • 9123 Strada Place • From \$1,000,000 • Premier Sotheby's International Realty • Call 239.594.9400 • Open Monday-Saturday 10am-8pm & Sunday 12-8pm

**9 • MARCO ISLAND** • 36 Algonquin Court • \$1,195,000 • Premier Sotheby's International Realty • Paul Strong • 239.404.3280 • Open Saturday & Sunday 1-4pm

**10 • OLD NAPLES - BAYFRONT** • 451 Bayfront Place #5511 • \$1,195,000 • Premier Sotheby's International Realty • Jane Bond • 239.595.9515

**11 • OLD NAPLES** • 740 5th Avenue North • \$1,595,000 • Premier Sotheby's International Realty • Debbi/Marty McDermott • 239.564.4231

**12 • TWINEAGLES** • 11864 Hedgestone Court • \$1,725,000 • Premier Sotheby's International Realty • John D'Amelio • 239.961.5996

**13 • GREY OAKS - ESTUARY** • 1220 Gordon River Trail • From \$1,795,000 • Premier Sotheby's International Realty • Call 239.261.3148 • Open Monday-Saturday 9am-5pm & Sunday 12-5pm

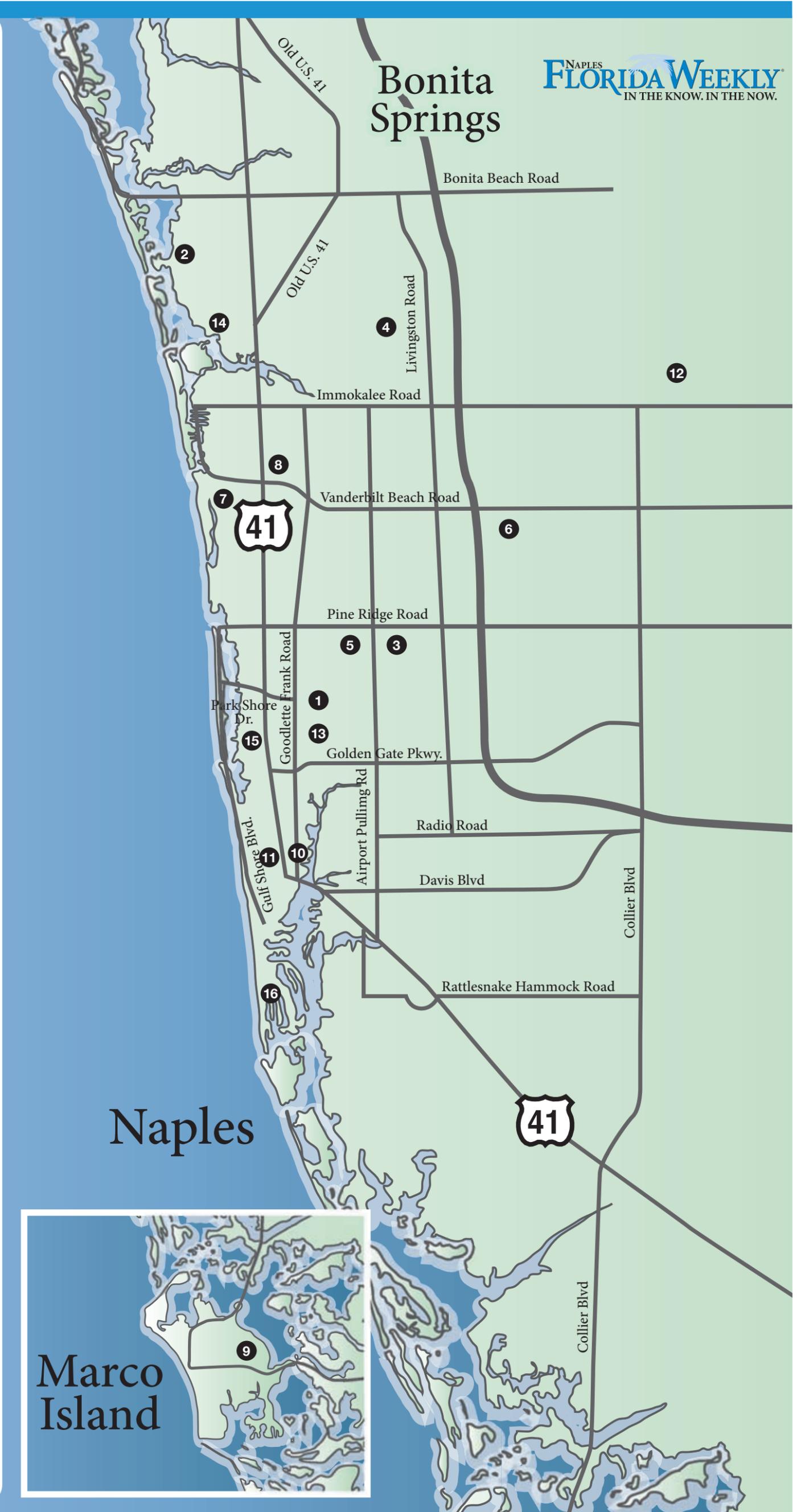
**>\$2,000,000**

**14 • PELICAN ISLE - AQUA** • 13675 Vanderbilt Drive #605 • \$2,050,000 • Premier Sotheby's International Realty • John D'Amelio • 239.961.5996

**15 • THE MOORINGS** • 725 Ketch Drive • \$2,990,000 • Premier Sotheby's International Realty • Carolyn Weinand • 239.269.5678

**>\$9,000,000**

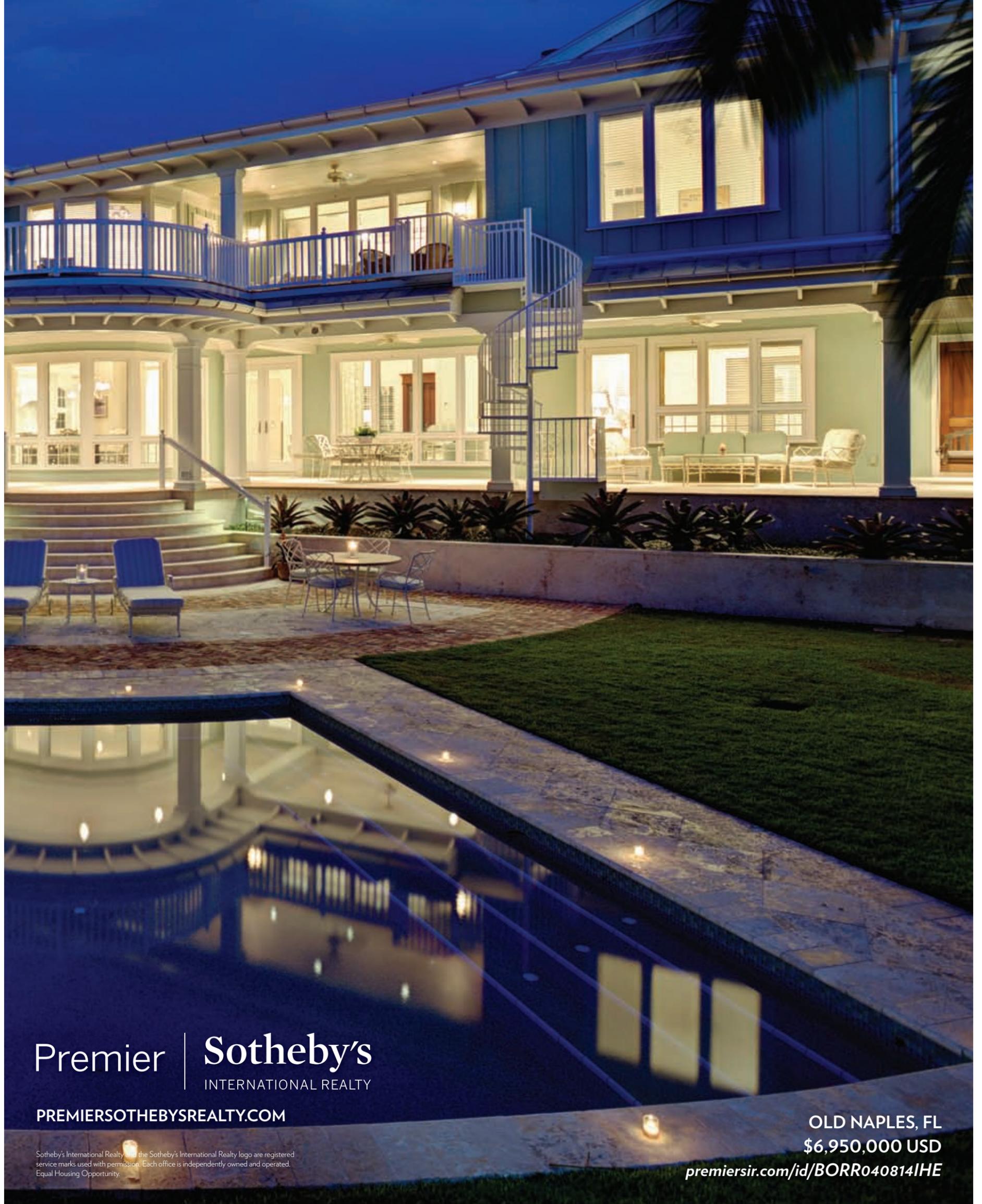
**16 • PORT ROYAL** • 3605 Fort Charles Drive • \$9,450,000 • Premier Sotheby's International Realty • Richard Culp • 239.290.2200



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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 11-17, 2014

A GUIDE TO THE LOCAL ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SCENE

**24**  
hour festival at FGCU  
allows only one day  
for creativity

▲ Above: "Lonely Man" by Ben Kirchman, one of last year's winners

◀ From the 2013 festival, Britney Brady and Katelyn Gravel

BY NANCY STETSON  
nstetson@floridaweekly.com

"What a difference a day makes / 24 little hours"  
— Dinah Washington

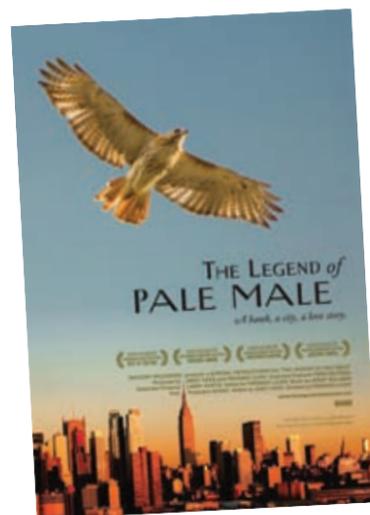
A LOT CAN HAPPEN IN 24 HOURS. A group of students at Florida Gulf Coast University is set to show just how much they can make happen in the 24-hour period starting at 6 p.m. Friday, Sept. 12. The public will be able to view the results — a myriad of plays, films, dances, music and 2D and 3D art, none of which existed the day before — in the FGCU Art Complex at 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13. It's the university's eighth annual 24-Hour Festival, the creation of theater professor Barry Cavin.

SEE 24, C4 ▶

FGCU PINNACLE MAGAZINE / COURTESY PHOTOS

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| **INSIDE** |



**Local spotlight**

Silverspot screens Neapolitan cinematographer's film about Central Park's famous hawk. **C5 ▶**



**Earning its wings**

Arts writer Nancy Stetson likes what she sees at Gulfshore Playhouse festival. **C8 ▶**



**Way beyond pancakes**

Blueberry's Café presents a wide variety of options in a casual atmosphere. **C31 ▶**

Check out the author line-up for lecture series

**SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY**

Four bestselling authors form the 2015 Nick Linn Lecture Series presented by Friends of the Library of Collier County. Since it began in 2004, the series of luncheons with nationally known fiction authors has raised more than \$700,000 for the Collier County Library System. This year's authors and dates are:

- Greg Iles, "Natchez Burning," Sunday, Jan. 26
- Joseph Finder, "Suspicion," Sunday, March 2
- Lisa Gardner, "Fear Nothing," Sunday, March 9

SEE AUTHORS, C22 ▶



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# SANDY DAYS, SALTY NIGHTS

## In memory of Tom Scanlan



Tom and Eleanor Scanlan lived beside the house where I grew up on Fort Myers Beach. They were childless, with few relatives, already old by the time I knew them.

Tom used to like to come out to the beach when my girlfriends were over and ogle us in our bathing suits. He was the champion of the two-seconds-too-long hug.

By the time I graduated from college, the Scanlans had moved into an assisted living facility. Eleanor, who had always been slight, shrank even further. She developed Alzheimer's disease and left the world slowly, one memory at a time, until at the end there was almost nothing left. After her death, Tom stuck to his routine, walking the dog, eating in the dining room, a stooped old man always alone.

I should tell you that Tom Scanlan was a mean old bird. He thought it was funny to cut you with his comments, and he had this way of saying exactly the hurtful thing that would sting for days. I caught some of it when I was in high school, but I dodged the worst of it when I went away to college. My mother, though, bore the brunt of his cruel humor. Tom took a special delight in

teasing her, and when he got in an especially good zinger, he'd throw back his bald head and hold his stomach while he chuckled. He was a difficult man to love.

But my mother gave it her best shot. After Eleanor died, she saw Tom as often as she could. They'd have lunch together in the dining room of the assisted living home, and he'd run through his list of insults, laughing the whole time. My mother would always leave hurt and

angry, swearing she'd never go back. Then guilt would get the best of her and she'd return for another round. She was the closest thing to kin Tom Scanlan had. Every year on his birthday, my mother would buy Tom a chocolate cake and spend the day with him at the home. It was the one time when he was halfway decent to her.

This year she stopped by a few days early to confirm (Tom's hearing had

gotten so bad that it was impossible to speak on the phone), and when she asked for him at the front desk the woman behind the counter told her Tom had passed away.

My mother stood there in silence, too stunned to say anything.

"What happened?" she finally asked.

Tom had fallen, the woman behind the counter said, and broken several bones. He went to the hospital for a time and then they moved him into hospice. He stayed there until he died.

"But no one called me," my mother said.

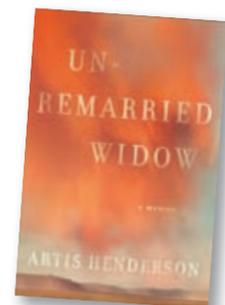
The woman behind the counter gave her a sympathetic look. "He didn't have anyone listed on his forms."

Not one person.

"That old man died alone," my mother said to me. "He might have been mean, but he didn't deserve that."

And so this is for Tom Scanlan, who had no one to hold his hand at the very end. ■

— Artis Henderson  
is the author of  
"Unremarried  
Widow" published  
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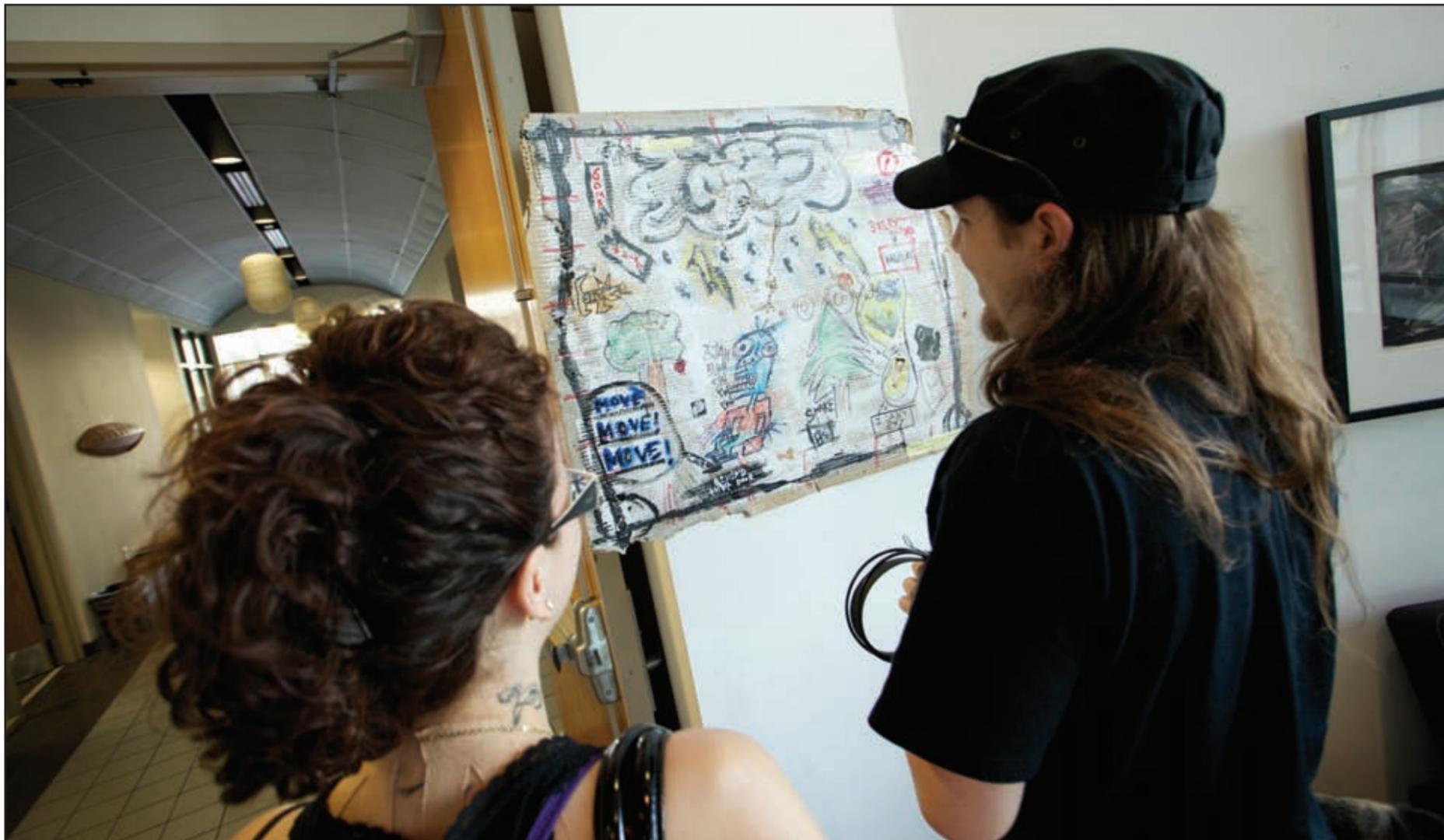
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COURTESY FGCU PINNACLE MAGAZINE

Students ponder a mixed-media work by Matthew Engel.

## 24

From page 1

"It's a unique twist on the 24-hour film festivals and the 24-hour play festivals I'd hear about from time to time," Mr. Cavin explains. "We decided to bring in all the art forms together under one festival, so that the students in visual arts and music and theater, the three primary art forms we have at the university in our program, could work together under the same kind of pressures and create something unique to their particular art form."

Here's how it works:

FGCU students who want to participate gather at 6 p.m. Friday, Sept. 12, which is when Mr. Cavin gives them a list of certain elements that must appear in the art they're about to create.

"Last year, what I included was a necessary sentence that had to occur in some fashion in (their work)," he says. "It was, 'He was flying apart in all directions.'"

He also gave them a plot fragment that had to be incorporated into the film and theater submissions: The character in your work uncovers a truth that changes everything.

"Then I had a theme: At a distance, everything is a comedy."

And finally, their work had to include a variety of random objects: a bucket, a monster, something melted, a white object, an aisle of secrets, a red balloon and a broken record.

The plot fragment didn't apply to the music or visual arts participants.

"They could in some way think of it as a metaphor if they wished, but they didn't have to apply it to their work," Mr. Cavin explains. The visual artists could include it in their work, he adds, but it didn't have to appear in the compositions, because some were instrumental. Instead, those who were composing music were given a list of instruments and told to compose for three or four of them.

"This year, there'll be elements that can be used in the composition: objects that can be used as an instrument," he says, adding the idea came from FGCU compositions professor Jason Bahr. "He told me about an Iron Composer Contest that was a lot like the 24-Hour Festival.

So he and I are working together to create an opportunity specifically tailored to the composition students."

The students have 24 hours in which to create their work of art. Some, such as those in film or theater, can work in teams; each performance can be no longer than seven minutes.

The following evening, the newly created works will be performed and the visual arts displayed.

This year's guest judges determining the winners are: Glenn Basham, concertmaster of the Naples Philharmonic; Chris Silk, theater critic for the *Naples Daily News*; Jim Griffith, executive director of the Sidney and Berne Davis Art Center; and Gisela Carbonell, curator of special collections at The Baker Museum at Artis—Naples.

Professional artist Juan Diaz of Naples will be a guest participant. His installation art will be revealed to the audience while the judges deliberate and choose the night's winners.

"I really want it to be a celebration of all arts combined," Mr. Cavin says. "We get so caught up in all the work, the business we have to do. It's really wonderful to get all the artists on campus together at one time, working on this. It's a lot of fun."

He also sees it as a way of helping students develop practical, job-related skills.

For example, it teaches them to meet deadlines.

"Most of the time you think of artists as taking time to think about what they're going to create," he says. "But in reality, you get out into the work world, you've got a client who's very specific about what he or she might want, and you have

"It's a unique twist on the 24-hour film festivals and the 24-hour play festivals I'd hear about from time to time. We decided to bring in all the art forms together under one festival, so that the students in visual arts and music and theater, the three primary art forms we have at the university in our program, could work together under the same kind of pressures and create something unique to their particular art form."

— Barry Cavin,  
FGCU professor

a deadline, and you have to be creative under pressure. I think that's an extremely good skill to practice in a university setting. It's fun, and it's a practical learning opportunity."

The exercise also helps student artists learn the value of improvisation, he says. "You don't really have time to do all the self-editing that you tend to do, and sometimes you see the benefit of seeing the free flight of imagination. That's an extremely valuable tool for any artist."

He acknowledges that the quality of the work produced for the 24-Hour Festival varies and can be uneven. Some "looks like it was done yesterday, and then there are works that you think are genius," he says. "Every time, I am

floored by the high quality of work that some people manage to do. It's amazing. It's impressive, but also frightening to think: Hey, they could do this in 24 hours, what could they do with more time?"

The participants' first step is to absorb the elements.

"They have no idea what (guidelines and requirements) I'm going to be giving them that night," he says. "They have to sit there with that, for a little bit, and let it incubate. Then once they get their mind around that, they have to allow those elements to inspire their own creativity."

"Once that happens, they have to hustle to get all that done. If they allow that free flight of imagination, it should stimulate them and (provide) a richness that they can follow. They can go in different directions, and work hard to make it all come together."

Brittney Brady, a cofounder of Ghostbird Theatre Company at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center in Fort Myers, participated in the 24-Hour Festival when

she attended FGCU as an English major. She won three out of the four years.

"It's challenging, overwhelming, exciting," she says. "Working within the guidelines and limitations can often be a wellspring for creativity. You find yourself making discoveries you wouldn't otherwise make."

"Then you get to be creative for the next 24 hours, and follow your ideas and go down the rabbit hole. The experience itself is exhilarating ... you feel all these really positive things, but at the same time, there's a great deal of pressure and a great deal of stress."

When it's over, "You're stressed and sleep deprived and hungry," she says. "You're tired and stressed and worried and you're hoping that everything would fall into place."

She worked with a team of other students for the first three competitions and then worked solo in her final year. Her pieces included music, spoken word poetry, dance, film and shadow puppets.

"A lot of times, as creative people, there's a fear to commit sometimes, to just go for it," she says. "We're always self-editing. There's all kinds of fear involved."

The deadline and guidelines help eliminate that fear, she says.

"You just have to work," she says. "There's a kind of abandon, because, well, if it works, it works, if it doesn't, it doesn't. (You tell yourself), well, I'm just gonna try it and see what happens. It's a one-day thing; there's not all this weight involved as there is in something that has more time or energy behind it."

"It's just a place for you to really explore, and it takes away that fear. And there's (that curiosity), that's part of the excitement: I wonder what the other groups are doing?" ■

in the know

The eighth annual 24-Hour Festival at FGCU

>> **When:** 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept 13

>> **Where:** The Arts Complex at Florida Gulf Coast University

>> **Cost:** Free

>> **Info:** 590-1086 or fgcu.edu

# 'The Legend of Pale Male' launches Paradise Coast Film Festival

Silverspot Cinema starts its inaugural Paradise Coast Film Festival: A Tribute to Local Filmmakers with a screening of "The Legend of Pale Male: A Hawk, a City, a Love Story," at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 15. Award-winning cinematographer Lawrence Curtis will attend and take questions from the audience after the screening.

"As a fulltime resident of Naples, I am very proud to showcase this film to my friends and my community while helping to kick off this exciting series," Mr. Curtis says.

Over the past 18 years, Mr. Curtis' work has been shown on National Geographic and Discovery channels, BBC, PBS/Nature, as well as in feature documentaries and international commercials. In 2005, he took what he thought would be a brief departure from his specialized work in ocean conservation filmmaking and heeded the call from his friends to help film the famous red-tailed hawk of New York City's Central Park — Pale Male.

The effort turned into a five-year odyssey.

"The Legend of Pale Male," a prior winner at the Palm Beach International Film Festival, is a modern day fable that follows the story of the passion of Frederic Lillien as he strives to live his childhood dream of becoming a wildlife filmmaker in the most unlikely of places. It is a heartfelt love story of the connections we all have with nature.

Other awards the film has received include: Best of Festival at the International Wildlife Film Festival and the Wild & Scenic Environmental Film Festival; Audience Favorite Award, the



Santa Barbara International Film Festival; Best Script, Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival and Wildscreen (England); Best Nature & People Award, the Japan Wildlife Film Festival and the Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival; and Jury's Prize, Green Screen (Germany).

Tickets to the screening at Silverspot and talkback with Mr. Curtis are \$10.50 and can be purchased at the box office

or at silverspot.net.

Maggie McCarty, director of the Paradise Coast Film Commission, is working with Silverspot to determine future screenings for the Paradise Coast Film Festival. "Hopefully, we'll offer the next film this winter," she says, adding, "I think this series will really surprise the community as to

how many talented industry people are local." ■

**in the know**

**'The Legend of Pale Male'**

- >> **What:** A 2009 documentary about Central Park's famous hawk, filmed by Naples cinematographer Lawrence Curtis
- >> **Screening:** 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 15, followed by a talkback with Mr. Curtis
- >> **Where:** Silverspot Cinema in Mercato
- >> **Tickets:** \$10.50
- >> **Info:** silverspot.net

September 18-21

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## WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

## THEATER

**Dinner Train** – “Royal Palm Noir” aboard the Seminole Gulf Railway Murder Mystery Train select dates through Sept. 22. 275-8487 or semgulf.com.

**Noises Off** – By The Naples Players Sept. 24-Oct. 18 at the Sugden Community Theatre. 263-7990 or naplesplayers.org.

**Those Were the Days** – Through Oct. 4 at the Broadway Palm Theatre, Fort Myers. 278-4422 or broadwaypalm.com.

## ONGOING EXHIBITS

**Dimensions 2D3D** – A variety of work on board, box, canvas, paper, pedestal and wall through Oct. 31 at Rosen Gallery & Studios. 2172 J & C Blvd. 821-1061.

**Extraction & Deficit** – Works by Ecuadoran artist Cesar Aguilera at The Naples Depot Museum through Oct. 31. 252-8476 or colliermuseums.org.

**Camera USA: National Photography Exhibition** – Forty-six photographs taken around the country by photographers from around the country on display at The von Liebig Art Center through Sept. 26. 585 Park St. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday. Free admission, donations welcome. 262-6517 or naplesart.org.

**Art of the Everglades** – “Never No More: Southwest Florida” by Rob Storter through Oct. 31 at Marco Island Historical Museum. 180 S. Heathwood Drive, Marco Island. 642-1440 or colliermuseums.com.

**Black & White and Shades of Gray** – At the Center for Visual Arts Bonita Springs through Sept. 18. 495-8989 or artcenterbonita.org.

## THURSDAY 9.11

**Garden Tour** – Naples Historical Society offers tours of The Norris Gardens at Historic Palm Cottage from 10-11 a.m. \$10, free for NHS members. Reservations required. 137 12th Ave. S. 261-8164.

**Last Chance** – “Death of a River,” the first exhibit of the year in ArtLab at FGCU, closes with a reception from 5-8 p.m. Several of the exhibiting artists will be in attendance. Free. 590-7199 or asturdiv@fgcu.edu.

**Chamber Music** – Enjoy free performances of chamber music by members of the Naples Philharmonic at 6 p.m. at South Regional Library and also as follows: noon Sept. 12 at The von Liebig Art Center; 3:30 p.m. Sept. 12, Bower Chapel at The Moorings; 6:30 p.m. Sept. 12, The Baker Museum at Artis—Naples; 4 p.m. Sept. 13, Naples United Church of Christ.

**Sweat the Small Stuff** – It’s trivia night starting at 7 p.m. at the Naples English Pub. 5047 Tamiami Trail E. 775-3727 or thenaplesenglishpub.com.

**Jazz at Alto** – The Dan Heck Trio performs from 8-10 p.m. at Alto Live Jazz Kitchen. 492 Bayfront Place. 261-2586 or altonaples.com.

**Open Mic** – Frankie Colt hosts open mic night starting at 9 p.m. at South Street City Oven & Grill. 1410 Pine Ridge Road. 435-9333 or southstreetnaples.com.



Second Cup in Mercato welcomes singer/songwriter Donna Lee Holman, who has opened for Rascal Flatts and Kid Rock, among others, from 7-8 p.m. Sept. 13. Free.

**Just for Laughs** – April Macie, a finalist on NBC’s “Last Comic Standing,” takes the stage at 8 p.m. tonight through Sept. 14 at the Off the Hook Comedy Club in Gulf Coast Town Center, Fort Myers. 389-6901 or offthehookcomedy.com.

## FRIDAY 9.12

**Here’s to Beers** – Naples Beach Brewery hosts a tasting and tour from 4-8 p.m. \$15 includes 2 ounces of each beer brewed followed by two 12-ounce pours. naplesbeachbrewery.com.

**Welcome to the Weekend** – Say TGIF with \$5 flutes of Veuve Clicquot Yellow Label (\$25 for Le Grand Dame) from 5-7 p.m. at the Waldorf Astoria Naples. Live entertainment. 475 Seagate Drive. 597-3232.

**Guitar Man** – Tom DesRochers entertains from 6-9 p.m. at Capers Kitchen & Bar. 2460 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 293-2675 or caperskitchen.com.

**Pickin’ and Grinnin’** – Ellie Lee of The Beanpickers performs from 7-10 p.m. at Chrissy’s Tavern & Bistro. 3340 Tamiami Trail E. 775-0101 or chrissystavern.com.

**Unplugged Country** – Stomp your feet to the country sounds of Jon Bowling Live & Unplugged from 7-10 p.m. at Fred’s Food, Fun & Spirits. 2700 Immokalee Road. 431-7928 or fredsdiner.com.

**More Tunes** – The Wholtones perform at 9 p.m. at Agave Bar & Grill. 2380 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 598-3473.

## SATURDAY 9.13

**Farmers Market** – Stock up on fresh produce, flowers, baked goods, cheese, pasta, coffee, doggy treats and more at the Third Street South Farmers Market from 7:30-11:30 a.m. in the parking lot behind Tommy Bahama’s on Third Street South.

**Muy Bueno!** – The Home Depot at Airport-Pulling Road and Davis Boulevard celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with traditional food and refreshments, children’s workshops, music, games and more fun. 793-2203.

**Magic Carpet Concert** – Musicians from the brass section of the Naples Philharmonic perform and explain their instruments for ages 3-9 and their grown-up companions at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. at Artis—Naples. \$8. 597-1900 or artisnaples.org.

**Dixieland Jazz** – The Naples Jazzmasters perform from 1-3 p.m. at The Norris Center. Sponsored by the Naples Jazz Society. Free. 254-9674.

**So Long, SummerJazz** – The season’s final evening of SummerJazz on the Gulf brings The Mud Flapper Band to the lawn at the Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Free. 261-2222.

**Smooth Jazz** – The Marc Vee Trio plays from 6:30-9:30 p.m. in The Claw Bar at The Bay House Restaurant. 799 Walkerbilt Road. 591-3837.

**It Takes Two** – Pablo Repun Tango hosts a class for beginners from 7-8 p.m. followed by milonga for everyone. Bring your own wine; snacks provided. \$15. 1673 Pine Ridge Road. 738-4184 or pabllorepuntango.com.

**Latin Jam** – West Side Tropico performs at Fred’s Food, Fun, and Spirits from 8:30-11:30 p.m. \$8 cover. 2700 Immokalee Road. 431-7928 or fredsdiner.com.

**Gypsy Native** – Enjoy live music by Gypsy Native from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at Agave Bar & Grill. 2380 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 598-3473.

**Eligible Men** – The Ex-Bachelors take the stage from 9 p.m. to midnight at South Street City Oven Bar & Grill. 1410 Pine Ridge Road. 435-9333 or southstreetnaples.com.

## SUNDAY 9.14

**Fresh Goods** – The Collier Boulevard Farmers Market takes place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 11725 Collier Blvd. 206-4339.

**Open Mic** – Show your stuff during open mic from 5-6:45 p.m. at Fred’s Food, Fun & Spirits. From 7-10 p.m. enjoy the sounds of Black Sheep. 2700 Immokalee Road. 431-7928 or fredsdiner.com.

**Music Man** – John Mameli takes the stage from 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Chrissy’s Tavern & Bistro. 3340 Tamiami Trail E. 775-0101 or chrissystavern.com.

**Reggae Sunday** – Orange Juice takes the stage at 9:30 p.m. at South Street City Oven & Grill. 1410 Pine Ridge Road. 435-9333 or southstreetnaples.com.

## MONDAY 9.15

**All That Jazz** – Join Jebry & Friends for a jazz jam from 6-9 p.m. at Fred’s Food, Fun and Spirits. 431-7928 or fredsdiner.com.

**Play Your Cards Right** – It’s bingo night starting at 7 p.m. at the Naples English Pub. 5047 Tamiami Trail E. 775-3727 or thenaplesenglishpub.com.

**Movie Night** – Bring the family and settle in on the lawn at Mercato for a free screening of “The Lone Ranger” starting at sundown. 254-1080.

## TUESDAY 9.16

**Local History** – Docents with the Naples Historical Society lead tours of Historic Palm Cottage from 1-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. \$10, free for NHS members. 137 12th Ave. S. 261-8164 or napleshistoricalsociety.org.

**Panther Partners** – Conservancy of Southwest Florida and The Naples Zoo celebrate a partnership to advance panther research in Florida. Doors open at the Conservancy at 5:30 p.m. At 6:30 p.m., Conservancy wildlife biologist David Shindle discusses his years of tracking the awe-inspiring big cats. **SOLD OUT.** 262-5409, ext. 135, or timothy@napleszoo.org.

**Pale Male** – Silverspot Cinema presents a screening of “The Legend of Pale Male,” the true story of Central Park’s famous red-tailed hawk, at 7 p.m. Naples resident and cinematographer Lawrence Curtis will discuss his work on the film after the screening. silverspot.net. See story on page C5.

**Tango Tuesdays** – Step up for intermediate and advanced tango class from 8-9 p.m. at Pablo Repun Tango. \$15. 1673 Pine Ridge Road. 738-4184 or pabllorepuntango.com.

**Sing Along** – It’s karaoke night from 9 p.m. to midnight at South Street City Oven Grill. 1410 Pine Ridge Road. 435-9333 or southstreetnaples.com.

## WEDNESDAY 9.17

**Who’s Buried Here?** – The Collier County Museum presents “As You Are, So Once Was I: Decoding Florida’s Cemeteries” from 1-3 p.m. at the main museum in the Collier County Government Complex. Presenter is Melissa Timo of the Florida Archaeology Network. Free. Reservations required. 252-8738.

**Book Discussion** – South Regional Library hosts a discussion of “Orphan Train” by Christina Baker Kline at 2 p.m. Free. Reservations required. 8065 Lely Cultural Parkway. 252-7542 or collierlibrary.org.

**Champagne & Chocolate** – Shula’s holds the fourth annual Champagne & Chocolate Tasting featuring sweets from Norman Love Confections as a benefit for The United Way of Collier County from 6-8 p.m. in the lobby bar at the Hilton Naples. \$55 in advance, \$65 at the door. 430-4999.

# WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

**Jazz Ambassadors** – The Jazz Ambassadors of Washington, D.C., the official touring band of the United States Army, present a free concert sponsored by the city of Naples at 7 p.m. under the bandshell at Cambier Park.

## COMING UP

**Nibbles & Wine** – Decanted Wines hosts a tapas and wine pairing prepared by Chef Amber Phillips from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Sept. 18. \$60. Reservations required. 434-1814 or info@decantedwines.com.

**Thursday on Third** – Live music fills the courtyards of the Third Street South shopping district from 6-9 p.m. Sept. 18.

**Save the Giraffes** – Conservancy of Southwest Florida and The Naples Zoo present Julian Fennessey of the Giraffe Conservation Foundation in a program at 7 p.m. Sept. 19 at the Conservancy. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Free. Reservations required. 262-5409, ext. 135, or timothy@napleszoo.org.

**Be Creative** – Dagny's Spirits hosts "Paint Your Own Wine Glasses" from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Sept. 19. 15205 Collier Blvd. 384-9241 or dagnysspirits.com.

**Blues Bash** – The fourth annual Naples Bay Blues Bash to benefit the Bayshore Cultural and Performing Arts Center begins at 5 p.m. Sept. 20 at Jack's River Bar. \$10. 213-1441.

**Art After Hours** – The Baker Museum at Artis—Naples stays open late and offers free admission from 6-9 p.m. Sept. 24. A local band entertains, and docents are happy to discuss current exhibitions. 597-1900 or artisnaples.org.

**Ad Libbing** – Local improv groups take suggestions from the audience and deliver laughs from 7-9 p.m. Sept. 24 at the Centers for Performing Arts Bonita Springs. \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. Wine, beer, soda and snacks available for purchase. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or artcenterbonita.org.

**Wine on the Water** – Join the experts from Decanted for sunset, wine and heavy hors d'oeuvres aboard the Naples Princess from 6-8 p.m. Sept. 25. \$60 for the two-hour cruise. Reservations required. 649-2275 or naplesprincesscruises.com.

**Hey, Bartender** – Shula's hosts celebrity bartender night featuring members of the undefeated 1972 Miami Dolphins from 6-8 p.m. Sept. 26. Proceeds benefit The United Way of Collier County. \$25 admission includes one drink, appetizers and reduced drink prices. Reservations required. 659-3176.

**National Museum Day** – The Naples Depot Museum celebrates the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum Day from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sept. 27. Activities include face painting, rock climbing and educational programs for adults and children. 262-6525 or colliermuseums.com.

**Ahoy!** – The annual boat show sponsored by the Marine Industry Association of Collier County takes place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 4-5 at the Naples City Dock in Crayton Cove. Free. 682-0900 or miacc.org. ■

— Submit calendar listings and high-resolution photos to events@floridaweekly.com. Email text, jpegs or Word documents are accepted. No pdfs or photos of fliers. The deadline for calendar submissions is noon Sunday.



## 9.11-14

■ **Still Standing** – April Macie, a finalist on NBC's "Last Comic Standing," takes the stage at 8 p.m. Thursday-Sunday at the Off the Hook Comedy Club in Gulf Coast Town Center. 389-6901 or

## 9.13

■ **Mud Flappers** — The season's final SummerJazz concert brings The Mud Flappers Band to the lawn at the Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Saturday. 261-2222 or naplesbeachhotel.



## 9.15

■ **Hi Ho, Silver!** — Bring the family and some blankets or chairs and settle in on the lawn at Mercato for a free screening of "The Lone Ranger" starting at sundown Monday. 254-1080.



## #TWEETED IT

■ "If a town has a billboard asking you to stay for a while, I don't know about you guys, but I'm probably not gonna."  
— @aprilmacie



## #INDULGE IN IT

■ Imbibe in some bubbly and assuage your sweet tooth at the fourth annual Champagne & Chocolate Tasting to benefit The United Way of Collier County from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday in the lobby bar at the Hilton Naples. \$55 in advance, \$65 at the door. 430-4999 or shulasnaples.com.



# ARTS COMMENTARY

## Gulfshore Playhouse New Works Festival is earning its wings



It appears that Gulfshore Playhouse's New Works Festival is no longer local theater's best-kept secret.

The fledgling festival, now in its second year, keeps getting bigger and better.

This year's event, held Thursday through Sunday, Sept. 4-7, added an extra day and an extra play.

Two directors, 10 extremely talented actors and four never-produced-before plays, all for \$45, added up to one exciting event that people are buzzing about.

The four plays were plucked from 108 submissions. The only criteria for choosing the winning plays, says producing artistic director and founder Kristen Coury, were: Is it good? And: Can we be of service to it?

The playwrights spent a week at the venue, working with the actors and directors, rewriting scenes and dialogues. For some, it was the first time they'd heard the lines of their work spoken by professional actors.

The actors had only 10 to 12 hours in which to rehearse.

"It was quick and dirty," Ms. Coury told the audience. "Get in, make art, GO!"

She directed two of the four plays, and Lou Tyrrell, founder of the now-defunct Florida Stage in West Palm Beach and artistic director of Arts Garage in Delray Beach, directed the other two.

Seventy-five people attended the first evening's play. Attendance kept increasing with each day of the festival, culminating with 130 people watching the fourth and final reading at Sunday's matinee.

"Rust on Bone," by Bianca Sams, opened the festival. The three-actor, four-character play deals with domestic abuse and the aftereffects of war. A therapist who works with veterans is counseling a woman traumatized by being in combat. But when the therapist talks with the soldier's husband, she hears a different version of events.

The play examines loss and the sometimes elusive nature of truth. It is unrelentingly intense, sometimes brutally violent. Though it contained some brief moments of humor, they were all too few for me, and I found myself wishing for some more peaks and valleys in the work. The tension kept ratcheting up tighter and tighter for 90 minutes, with



Cody Nickell and Kristen Coury chose four plays out of 107 submitted to Gulfshore Playhouse's contest.

VANDY MAJOR / FLORIDA WEEKLY

no escape.

The ending, which was somewhat ambiguous, provoked much spirited discussion after the play.

"Harlowe," by Jennifer Lane, the festival's second play, was very different in tone. It opens with a young woman in a bathtub. She claims she's lost her ability to feel. She's been through a traumatic event and is back in her childhood home with her sister, father and 12-year-old brother. (One audience member called the family "beautifully messed up.") There is sibling rivalry, alcoholism and adolescence. (That last one alone is enough to mess up anyone.)

The writing was lyrical and poetic, almost like a Sarah Ruhl play, and also ruefully funny.

It questions what it means to be alive, to be a human being in a body.

"I am an assemblage of unrelated parts," says Harlowe, the lead character. "I feel like a passenger inside myself, like my body (is only a means of) transportation for my consciousness."

Her younger brother is dealing with his changing body while her father struggles with the effects of aging. (He tells her that aging is the body breaking down, while the spirit perseveres.)

Mystical and moving, "Harlowe" looks at a family in crisis, while providing numerous laughs.

The same could be said for Stephen

Spotswood's "Doublewide," a play about a family struggling in these difficult economic times. The mom works at Walmart and the father works in a chicken factory. Their teen daughter, Lorelai, is failing her classes in high school, and the future looks dim for her.

Then the family learns that the county is going to take half their land — on which sits their doublewide trailer home — to make room for a highway expansion. They can move their trailer back onto what will be left of their land, but it's not enough property for them to build a proper home upon, which has been their dream.

I had some initial apprehensions at the beginning of the play as to whether I'd like it, as the father, Big Jim, likes to hunt and tells a joke mocking someone who's into "book learning." I was scared it would be all twang and stereotype. But due to Mr. Spotswood's keen writing and the cast's fully realized portrayals, I soon came to feel for this family and grew involved in their struggles.

Maureen Silliman, as Big Jim's mother, Coral, practically stole the show. You never knew what gem was going to come out her of her mouth when she began to speak. Feisty and opinionated, she loves to gamble at the local casino and isn't afraid to share her system of playing the slots.

Is the local casino an evil business

whose volume of traffic demands another highway lane, thus stealing their land, or is it a godsend, providing better-paying jobs?

Real life husband-and-wife Cory Nickell and Kate Eastwood Norris, who played the parents, imbued their roles with little gestures of love and the shorthand communication that comes from a long marriage.

"Doublewide" looks at a family of limited means and options struggling in today's harsh economic times.

"It wasn't supposed to be like this; everything," says Big Jim. "It feels like it's been one compromise after another, a constant slipping."

At another point, his daughter says, "Haven't you ever wanted to leave? Just step out of your life and go? Step out of yourself and walk away?"

This is a family loving each other as best they know how, and surviving as best they can. "Doublewide" is a timely play, and this group of talented actors elevated the characters far above stereotype.

"Shepherd's Bush," the festival's final play reading, is a historical play about the novelist E.M. Forster, who wrote, among others, "A Passage to India" and "Howard's End."

The novelist, living in a time when being gay could get you locked up in jail, falls in love with Bob, a younger man who's a policeman. The two carry on a romantic and sweet affair, but then Bob meets May, and, partially for appearance's sake, marries her. Though May meets the great novelist, she doesn't know that her own husband is carrying on an affair with him.

This is a sad and sweet play, but also tremendously funny. Scott C. Sickles has written witty dialogue worthy of Oscar Wilde or Noel Coward, and the laughs were loud and consistent. (Shawn Fagan, as Forster's friend Ackerly, drew gales of laughter just by the way he said "Tuesday." And Ms. Silliman, this time playing the novelist's aged mother, also drew constant laughter with her complaints and attitude of martyrdom.)

William Parry played Forster quite sympathetically, while Mr. Nickell played Bob, his love interest.

All four plays were followed by talk-backs with the playwright, director and cast. The audiences gave intelligent and thoughtful feedback, asking questions and answering the playwright's questions.

The New Works Festival is rapidly becoming one of the area's don't-miss arts events.

I suspect the staff will have to add even more chairs next year. ■



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# PUZZLE ANSWERS



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

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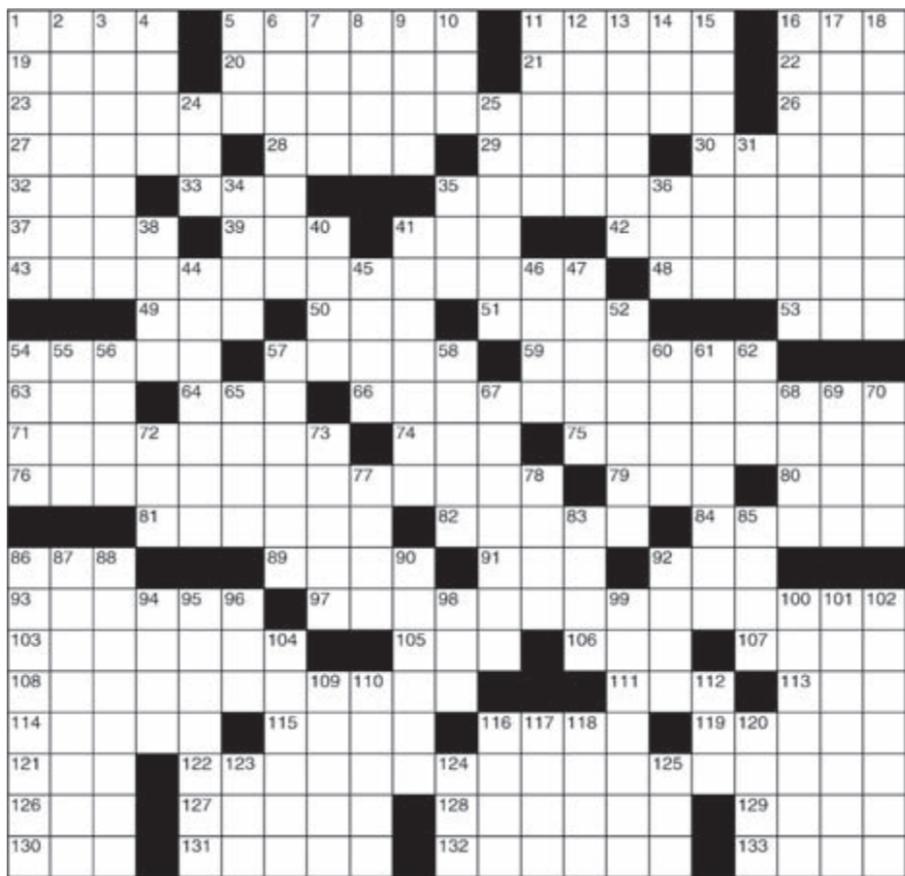
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# PUZZLES

## CALENDAR GIRL'S PLAYLIST



- ACROSS**
- 1 "— la Douce"
  - 5 Neighbor of Namibia
  - 11 "Futurama" genre
  - 16 Tour vehicle
  - 19 Eye drop
  - 20 Luvs product
  - 21 Turkic people
  - 22 Transfer — (cell stuff)
  - 23 1972 Chicago hit
  - 26 Intent
  - 27 Is — (has a penchant for)
  - 28 Pop music's Bee —
  - 29 Isn't correct
  - 30 — Domingo
  - 32 Mischievous little laugh
  - 33 Soprano Sumac
  - 35 1986 Bangles hit
  - 37 "Take — face value"
  - 39 Mohawk-sporting star
  - 41 Hardly happy
  - 42 Big ornate cabinet
  - 43 1999 David Bowie single
  - 48 Saw or heard
  - 49 Suffix with proverb
  - 50 "— favor" (Spanish "please")
  - 51 — tide
  - 54 Brick placer
  - 57 Douglas Hofstadter's "—, Escher, Bach"
  - 59 Bird on a baseball cap
  - 63 Rank below brig. gen.
  - 64 Imbibing site
  - 66 1977 Johnny Cash song
  - 71 Asian portion of Turkey
  - 74 Scull propeller
  - 75 Neolithic time
  - 76 1960 Oscar-winning Melina Mercouri song
  - 79 Cortés' gold
  - 80 Rodeo lady
  - 81 Sweaters with high, snug collars, for short
  - 82 Ohio city
  - 84 Cautious
  - 86 — cone
  - 89 ICU locale
  - 91 J-N link
  - 92 Rapper — Wayne
  - 93 Pair
  - 97 1992 hit for the Cure
  - 103 Patriotic hymns
  - 105 Round geom. shape
  - 106 Stubbed digit
  - 107 Adopt- — (shelter program)
  - 108 1967 Rolling Stones hit
  - 111 Lazy sort
  - 113 "— tu" (Verdi baritone aria)
  - 114 Put icing on
  - 115 Vocalist Vikki
  - 116 "Wellaway!"
  - 119 "Hardball" channel
  - 121 — Dhabi (sheikdom)
  - 122 What there are songs for in this puzzle
  - 126 With 100-Down, cutting kitchen tools
  - 127 Fingerprint feature
  - 128 Edict
  - 129 Ex-governor for short
  - 130 Conclusion
  - 131 Derivative look
  - 132 Not aseas
  - 133 Exam for jrs.
- DOWN**
- 1 Critic's words of high praise
  - 2 "One soweth, and another —": John 4:37
  - 3 Actor Walter
  - 4 Stuck in —
  - 5 Find the total
  - 6 American Falls locale
  - 7 Marvin of R&B music
  - 8 Andy Taylor's kid
  - 9 Fishy, e.g.
  - 10 Prado pieces
  - 11 Boat back
  - 12 Italian resort island
  - 13 Lake that feeds the Mississippi
  - 14 Quite a way
  - 15 Annoying
  - 16 Wave around threateningly
  - 17 Square inch, say
  - 18 Siberian sled dogs
  - 24 Singer Clark
  - 25 Bury one's — the sand
  - 31 Ever and —
  - 34 Livy's 2,550
  - 35 — jongg
  - 36 Bride's title
  - 38 Duo + one
  - 40 Editor's catch
  - 41 Secure by twisting
  - 44 Saxophonist David
  - 45 Scotch mixer
  - 46 Novelist Uris
  - 47 Has the guts
  - 52 Comet valve
  - 54 Thom — shoes
  - 55 High-caliber
  - 56 Bosnian, e.g.
  - 57 Seussian spoilsport
  - 58 — dog's life
  - 60 Lysol target
  - 61 Wool fat
  - 62 With 100-Down, surprising revelations
  - 65 Balm additive
  - 67 — Noir (men's cologne)
  - 68 Zoo pen
  - 69 Bacterial culture base
  - 70 Depend
  - 72 Vietnamese festival
  - 73 Request from
  - 77 Lenin's land
  - 78 Annual: Abbr.
  - 83 Forget to use
  - 85 Scatting Fitzgerald
  - 86 Al Capone's nickname
  - 87 Away from the city
  - 88 Away from the city, maybe
  - 90 Enterprise captain
  - 92 Stead
  - 94 — ed (gym class)
  - 95 Missives
  - 96 Aussie avian
  - 98 Initialism for a handyman
  - 99 Al Capone, for one
  - 100 See 126-Across or 62-Down
  - 101 Hanging-basket plant
  - 102 Airport kiosk printout
  - 104 Wave the country?
  - 109 GI orderer
  - 110 Alternative to a clothesline
  - 112 Fr. lady's title
  - 116 Pro votes
  - 117 Scottish body of water
  - 118 Bushy '60s hairdo
  - 120 Barter
  - 123 Wine, in Nice
  - 124 City in central Oklahoma
  - 125 "— Haw"

◀ SEE ANSWERS, C9

## HOROSCOPES

**VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)** Enjoy your well-earned plaudits for a job well done. But be aware that some people might not share your colleagues' admiration, and you might have to work harder to win them over.

**LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)** It's a good week to recheck your probably already overlong "to do" list and decide what to keep and what to discard. Lose the clutter and focus your energy on what's really important.

**SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)** This is a good time to take a new perspective on what you've been offered. Expanding your view could help to uncover any pluses or minuses that weren't apparent at first.

**SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)** Applying the usual methods to this week's unique challenges might not work too well. Instead, use your creativity to find a way to resolve any impasse that develops.

**CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)** So what if fate throws some obstacles in your path this week? Just keep in mind that the sure-footed and resolute Goat can get past any barrier by focusing on the goals up ahead.

**AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)** This week calls for better communication with people in both your private life and the workplace. Start by asking questions, and then pay close attention to the answers.

**PISCES (February 19 to March 20)** Potentially beneficial workplace changes

could be closer than you realize. Make sure you know what's going on so that you're not left high and dry when the good things happen.

**ARIES (March 21 to April 19)** An offer to help with a stalled project should reassure you that you have a workable plan in spite of the problems in getting it up and running. The week's end brings more positive news.

**TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** A past problem about a workplace situation re-emerges early in the week. Talking things out helps ease tensions by midweek, but some hurt feelings could linger a few more days.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)** Optimistic aspects dominate your efforts. However, expect to confront some criticism, some of which might be valid, so keep an open mind. But overall, it's your views that will count.

**CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** Social interaction with new people, especially on the job, could be a bit strained in the early part of the week. But the awkwardness passes as you get to know each other better.

**LEO (July 23 to August 22)** Expect news about a follow-up to a workplace change that could make a difference in your career path. Meanwhile, new friends widen the circle for all you Social Lions who love to party.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You're not timid about pushing to have your aims realized once you've set your mind to accomplishing your goals. ■

By Linda Thistle

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

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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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# LATEST FILMS

## 'The Identical'

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★★

### Is it worth \$10? No

Imagine Elvis Presley has a twin brother. They look, talk, sing and dance the same, but the brother, dead ringer as he is, isn't told he's Elvis' twin. He goes through life being told "he looks just like!" yet never achieves the fame and fortune of his genetic other half.

Welcome to "The Identical," a work of fiction that doesn't use real names or real songs but does have an uncharismatic lead in the title role, which is one of the worst traits you can have when channeling Elvis. The premise isn't a terrible idea, it just falters under ho-hum direction.

In 1935 Alabama, destitute William (Brian Geraghty) and Helen Hemsley (Amanda Crew) can't afford to take care of their newborn twin sons. Citing a local preacher and his wife's strong desire but inability to procreate, William and Helen give one of the boys to Reece (Ray Liotta) and Louise Wade (Ashley Judd), who promptly move out of town, give the boy a new name and promise not to reveal the secret until after the Hemsleys are dead.

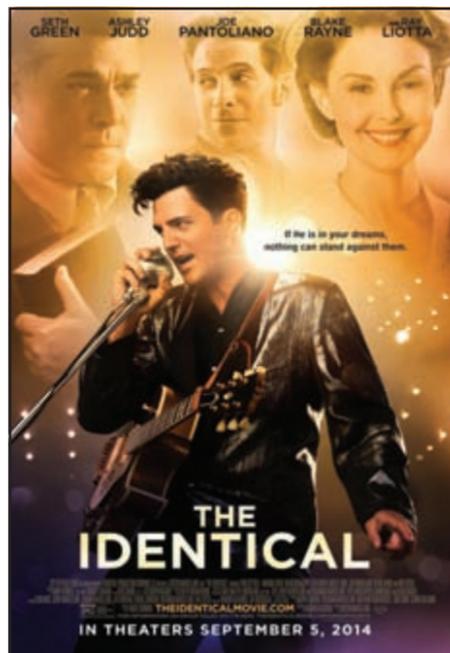
One boy grows up to be world famous rock star Elvis —errr, Drexel "The Dream" Hemsley (Blake Rayne). The other, Ryan Wade (Rayne again), lives a confined upbringing until he gains notoriety as a spot-on Drexel impersonator. This doesn't sit well with Ryan's preacher father, who wants him to join the ministry, but is OK with his mother because women are always more tolerant in these stories.

(Aside: Ryan's father clearly ages more than 30 years, but his mother doesn't age a day. The same thing happened in "Noah" with Russell Crowe and Jennifer Connelly. I know it's a superficial business, but can the women at least gray their hair a little?)

As the terrible title suggests, Ryan gets the bulk of the screen time, and his journey is never compelling. The problem lies with star Blake Rayne, who doesn't command the screen or act with conviction. He's wide-eyed and wooden, making his screen debut in a dual role that's over his head. Perhaps unavoidably, it always feels like we're watching

a cheap Elvis impersonator rather than a real character with hopes/dreams/aspirations for success. Thankfully, the rest of the cast is solid, including Mr. Liotta as the oppressive father and Joe Pantoliano and Seth Green as Ryan's friends.

To be fair, Mr. Rayne could've been helped out with direction that doesn't feel so plain. First-time director Dustin Marcellino, working from a script by Howie Klausner ("Space Cowboys"), nicely captures the production design and costumes of the 1930s through the '70s, but the music sounds like second-rate Elvis and the story lacks surprise and intrigue.



You might not be able to pinpoint exactly how it'll all happen, but you do know early on what will happen, and when that expectation isn't subverted into something better, the movie becomes tiresome.

"The Identical" has a straight-to-On Demand vibe about it, second rate across the board with no reason at all to see it on the big screen. It's not unbearable — especially for Elvis fans, the devoutly religious and anyone who might be a twin — but watching it is like listening to a bad cover band rather than the real thing. ■

in the know

>> Blake Rayne's showbiz career began in 1998 when he won an Elvis impersonator competition. In recent years, he has parlayed that success into a Nashville singing career prior to making his screen debut here.

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# FILM CAPSULES



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## The November Man ★★

(Pierce Brosnan, Olga Kuryleno, Luke Bracey) An ex-CIA operative (Mr. Brosnan) returns to action when his old flame uncovers dirt on the Russian president-elect. It has all the pieces of a solid espionage thriller, but they don't come together in an entertaining way. Rated R.



## The Hundred-Foot Journey ★★1/2

(Helen Mirren, Om Puri, Manish Dayal) The fussy proprietor of a Michelin-starred French restaurant (Ms. Mirren) doesn't take kindly to her new neighbors/competition, a spunky Indian family whose restaurant is right across the street. Like the food on screen, the movie looks fine and is perfectly edible, but it's nothing special. Rated PG.

## Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles ★★

(Megan Fox, Will Arnett, William Fichtner) Reporter April (Ms. Fox) teams with four mutated, talking ninja turtles to stop a crime syndicate. This is an entertaining, full origin story with laughs and solid action. Rated PG-13.



## Sin City: A Dame To Kill For ★★

(Jessica Alba, Eva Green, Josh Brolin) Four vignettes comprise the action in writer/directors Robert Rodriguez and Frank Miller's sequel to the 2005 sensation "Sin City." None of the four stories titillate, and the film only looks good — not great — in 3D. Rated R.

## If I Stay ★★

(Chloe Grace Moretz, Mireille Enos, Jamie Blackley) Teenage cello prodigy Mia (Ms. Moretz) is in a horrific car accident and must choose to live or die as we witness flashbacks to her Juilliard audition and growing love for boyfriend Adam (Mr. Blackley). Although there are some nice moments, the story as a whole is labored and the Mia/Adam relationship doesn't feel real. Rated PG-13.

## Into the Storm ★★

(Richard Armitage, Sarah Wayne Callies, Matt Walsh) Locals try to survive as a series of tornadoes strike a small midwestern town. Some action scenes are great and others miss the mark. With forgettable characters and rote dialog, this isn't one to run off to. Rated PG-13.

## Magic In The Moonlight ★★1/2

(Colin Firth, Emma Stone, Marcia)

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Gay Harden) A world-renowned magician (Mr. Firth) travels to the south of France to reveal an American psychic (Ms. Stone) as a fraud, but his perspective changes as they spend time together. Ms. Stone's character is underplayed and the story is predictable, but Mr. Firth's snarky charm keeps you laughing. Rated PG-13.

**Guardians Of The Galaxy**

★★★★ (Chris Pratt, Zoe Saldana, Dave Bautista) Unlikely heroes Star-Lord (Mr. Pratt), Gamora (Ms. Saldana), Drax (Mr. Bautista), Groot (voice of Vin Diesel) and Rocket Raccoon (voice of Bradley Cooper) try to stop the villainous Ronan (Lee Pace) from possessing a powerful orb. It's action-packed, hilarious and an out-of-this-world good time. It also fits nicely within the Avengers-driven Marvel Cinematic Universe. Rated PG-13.

**And So It Goes** ★★1/2

(Michael Douglas, Diane Keaton, Sterling Jerins) Grumpy old Oren (Mr. Douglas) needs the help of his kind neighbor (Ms. Keaton) to care for his granddaughter (Ms. Jerins). It's full of clichés and heavy messages, but Mr. Douglas' acerbic one-liners and the chemistry between him and Ms. Keaton make it moderately enjoyable. Rated PG-13.

**Boyhood** ★★★★★1/2

(Ellar Coltrane, Patricia Arquette, Ethan Hawke) This landmark film from director Richard Linklater ("Before Midnight") follows a boy, Mason (Mr. Coltrane), as he ages from 6 to 18 years old. Ms. Arquette and Mr. Hawke play Mason's divorced parents. Shot in 39 days

over the course of 12 years, it's the most natural and realistic depiction of the pains of adolescence in recent memory. Rated R.

**Sex Tape** ★★

(Cameron Diaz, Jason Segel, Rob Corddry) To spruce things up, married with children Annie (Ms. Diaz) and Jay (Mr. Segel) make a sex tape on a tablet. Crisis comes, however, when the session synchs with other devices. We don't buy these two as a couple, it's not funny, the story's weak and worst of all, it's just not sexy. Rated R.

**The Purge: Anarchy** ★★★★★

(Frank Grillo, Carmen Ejogo, Zach Gilford) A well-equipped enforcer (Mr. Grillo) helps innocents caught outside during the purge, the one night a year in which all crime is legal. This is a notable improvement on "The Purge" (2013), largely because it smartly shows the far-reaching effects of purging. Rated R.



**Dawn of the Planet of the Apes**

★★ (Gary Oldman, Keri Russell, Andy Serkis) In this sequel to "Rise of the Planet of the Apes" (2011), apes and humans try to peacefully co-exist in futuristic San Francisco. The ape visual effects are fine, but the picture is dull and the story is lazy. Rated PG-13. ■



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## Dig this: The Marco Players' announce 40th anniversary season

The Marco Players celebrate their 40th anniversary of community theater in 2014-15 with a 1970s theme, "Can You Dig It?" The first show of the season has been cast, but roles are open and audition days are scheduled for the remaining productions. Here's the lineup:

■ **"Becky's New Car"**

**By Steven Dietz**  
**Performances: Jan. 7-25**

Becky Foster is caught in middle age, middle management and in a middling marriage — with no prospects for change on the horizon. Then one night a socially inept and grief-struck millionaire stumbles



into the car dealership where Becky works and offers her nothing short of a new life. The audience rides shotgun in a way that most plays wouldn't dare. Described as "a cool comedy with serious overtones," it's a devious and delightful romp down the road not taken. Greg Madera directs for The Marco Players.

■ **"The Interview"**

**By Peter Swet**  
**Performances: Feb. 11-March 1**  
**Auditions: Tuesday, Sept. 30**

Abie Moscovitz, an aging Jewish tailor, is visited by Shannon, an arrogant investigator who's suspicious as to why Abie wants to increase the value of his life insurance policy. Abie gradually wilts under Shannon's relentless questioning, and we learn the terrible facts of his past life — his concentration camp experiences and the murder of his family. At the same time, we become aware of the terror in Shannon's soul — the vulgar bravado he has assumed to mask his insecurity and fear of failure in the rat race for money and status. In the end, there's a real and touching moment of communion between the two men.

Jim Corsica directs for The Marco Players. Auditions will be held Tuesday, Sept. 30.

■ **"Love, Loss and What I Wore"**

**By Nora Ephron and Delia Ephron**  
**Performances: March 18-April 4**  
**Auditions: Saturday, Oct. 25**

Based on the book by Ilene Beckerman and organized as a series of monologues using a rotating cast of six women, the show examines women's relationships and wardrobes and at times the interaction of the two, using the female wardrobe as a time capsule of a woman's life. Beverly Dahlstrom, artistic director of the company, directs for The Marco Players.

Rehearsals and performances are held in The Marco Players company home at Marco Town Center. For information about auditioning, rehearsal dates and more, call Ms. Dahlstrom at 404-5198 or email info@themarcoplayers.com. For more information about the company, visit themarco-players.com. ■

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# AUDITION CALLS

■ Equity and non-Equity auditions (principal/chorus) for **TheatreZone's** 10th anniversary season will be held by appointment Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 13-14, at the G&L Theatre on the campus of The Community School, 13275 Livingston Road in Naples. Founding Artistic Director Mark Danni says more than 100 professional actors from across the country will try out for one or more of the season's 50 available roles. Local actors are encouraged to audition as well.

The season opens in January with "Mack & Mabel" and continues with "Sweeney Todd" (the two lead roles have already been cast, but eight Equity roles and six non-Equity roles are available), "Brooklyn - The Musical" (African American and Latino American actors needed), and Neil Simon's "They're Playing Our Song."

For an audition appointment or for more information, email Mr. Danni at markdanni@theatrezone-florida.com or call 449-2323. Sides are posted at theatrezone-florida.com.

■ **Opera Naples** holds general and chorus auditions Saturday, Sept. 13, by appointment only. Through general auditions, ON seeks professional singers for future casting considerations of principal and secondary roles. Chorus auditions are for singers of all ages who will perform alongside professional singers at the Naples Philharmonic in a fully staged production of Puccini's "La Boheme" Thursday and Saturday, Nov. 20 and 22, at Artis—Naples.

Audition appointments for the chorus can be scheduled by emailing Robin Frank at rfrank@operanaples.org.

General auditions require at least three songs of varying languages, a recent headshot and a resume. Interested singers should email materials, including an audio or video file, to Ms. Frank at the above address for consideration for a live audition.

For more information, email Ms. Frank or call Opera Naples at 963-9050.

■ The **Southwest Florida Symphony** holds auditions Wednesday through Saturday, Oct. 8-11, as follows:

Section violin (seven positions open): Wednesday, Oct. 8

Second oboe and second trumpet: Thursday, Oct. 9

Principal viola and section cello: Friday, Oct. 10

Principal keyboard and section percussion: Saturday, Oct. 11

A panel of five musicians, including the symphony's new maestro, Nir Kabaretti, will judge the blind auditions. Qualified musicians should send a one-page resume to the Southwest Florida Symphony, 8290 College Parkway, Suite 103, Fort Myers, FL 33919, in care of personnel manager Alex Albanese. Alternately, a digital resume can be emailed to aalbanese@swflso.org.

Auditions will consist of required excerpts, solo selection(s) and sight-reading. Required repertoire and excerpts are available at swflso.org (under the "About Us" drop-down menu) or by emailing Mr. Albanese at the above address.

Resumes and a \$40 refundable deposit are due by Sept. 21.

For more information about the Southwest Florida Symphony and its coming season, call 418-0996 or visit swflso.org. ■

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## FLORIDA WRITERS

### Debut novel explores martial arts discipline in coming-of-age story



philJASON

pkjason@comcast.net

■ **“Taichi: The Story of a Chinese Master in America” by Marc Meyer. BookLocker. 196 pages. Trade paperback, \$14.95; Kindle e-book, \$3.99.**

Enlightening and filled with captivating characters, Marc Meyer’s “Taichi: The Story of a Chinese Master in America” is strong on atmosphere and setting but somewhat weak on plot. Set in the 1960s, the novel takes us into the bi-cultural world of a young Chinese American boy named Paulie, whose adult self is the narrator of the tale. He lives in New York’s Chinatown with his younger brother, Fa, their mother, Mei, and stepfather, Harry Chen. The family has a spacious apartment over its successful dry-goods store, where Paulie and Fa work after school.



Meyer

Everyone’s life is drastically changed with Mei’s older brother, Uncle Kuo, comes from China to live near his sister and his nephews. Though he was a man of status and influence during Chiang Kai-Shek’s reign, the Cultural Revolution that followed triggered Kuo’s departure.

He entered an America going through its own very different cultural revolution.

Kuo’s ambition, quickly and effectively realized, was to open a school of t’ai chi chuan, a t’ai chi form of which he was a legendary master. He connects with an old friend, Jimmy Chow, who assists him in opening bank accounts, choosing a place to live and finding a vacant dance studio that is perfect for the school.

Naturally, Paulie and Fa become students, along with other young and not-so-young aspirants. At this point, the story becomes, to a large degree, an ongoing description of the philosophy and skills required to rise up the ladder of t’ai chi mastery. Mr. Meyer makes this material quite fascinating through precise description and through connecting it to the endeavors and achievements of Kuo’s students, who are sharply individualized. Indeed, members of the core group are given special names: Fire, Metal, Water, Earth and Wood. Each student has a trait that connects to his or her element.

Meet Ba Ling, a 17-year-old transfer student from Beijing who has immigrated via Ellis Island. Already a stellar martial arts performer, the troubled young woman becomes a teacher in the school while she continues her own development. Alcohol and drug addiction plague her progress, and her setbacks plague the school. Paulie is overwhelmed by the slender beauty, only a few years older than he is.

As the students advance in their training, Kuo and his assistants develop com-



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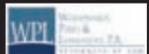
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petitions and public performances to promote interest in t'ai chi and to raise each student's confidence level and ability to perform under pressure. Excitement and suspense come from following Paulie, Ba Ling and the others as they prepare for and participate in increasingly critical exhibitions. All along the way, learning continues on several levels. Concentration is a key discipline that is sometimes a problem for Paulie, who is easily distracted.

Outside obstacles challenge the school. On a couple of occasions, neighborhood thugs try to upset Kuo and his students with threats and violence. These troublemakers quickly learn a lesson about Kuo's martial skills, but the neighborhood remains problematic. In addition, a rival martial arts impresario makes things difficult for Kuo and his group.

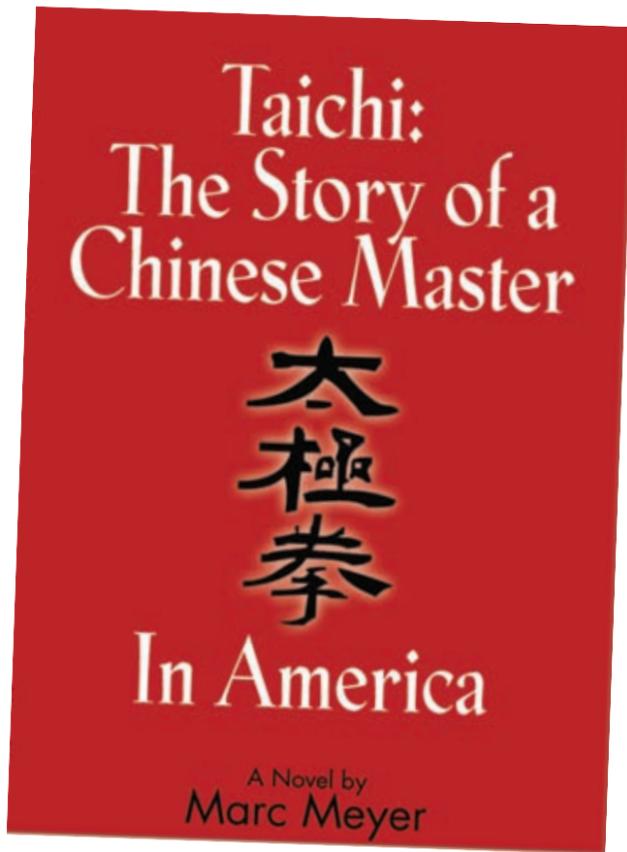
The biggest difficulty, however, remains Ba Ling's dangerous cycle of doping, losing stability, going into recovery programs, doing well for a while and then once again plunging into despair and self-destruction.

A mysterious thread in the book has to do with a Catholic bishop who has a strange relationship with Paulie's family. There are intriguing rumors about him that remain unsettling.

Kuo, of course, is the character referred to in the title, and it is his character and actions that hold center stage. Sometimes a tyrant, sometimes extremely cool and remote, always ready to manipulate his students in testing and surpassing their supposed limits, often secretive, usually humble — there are many facets to this

complex character. His skills and discipline are amazing. The details of his past and the reasons for his abrupt changes of course seem unfathomable, though ultimately clarified.

Paulie, the narrator, also makes surprising choices. His double education, at once a student in New York City public



schools and in his uncle's exceptional program, prepares him well for the task of finding his own way.

A detailed, entertaining look at the workings of an imposing physical, men-

tal and spiritual discipline, "Taichi" will keep you engaged and in awe.

**About the author**

Marc Meyer is a professional pianist who has worked with prominent jazz and pop musicians throughout the industry. He is also a t'ai chi instructor and a writer who diligently pursued the dream of having his first novel, "Taichi: The Story of a Chinese Master in America," published. With the help and support of his publisher, family and friends, this dream has become a reality.

He continues to write short stories dealing with a wide variety of topics. He hopes the successful launch of his book will not only help him to establish his place in the literary world but also enable him to give back a portion of the gifts he has received through his involvement with Chinese martial arts for well over a decade.

Mr. Meyer's home for the past 20 years has been in Naples, where he makes his living as a pianist and by teaching t'ai chi at residential communities. He has played both Ritz-Carlton properties in Naples and has performed in upwards of 40 upscale clubs, restaurants and hotels in the Naples and Palm Beach areas. ■

— 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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The *Florida Weekly* Writing Challenge continues, where we ask readers to submit stories based on our photo prompts. This week we present "County Fair," a selection based on the photo on the facing page.

For the third round of the challenge, we offer the photograph on this page as a starting point for your creative process and invite 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. Two winners will receive a ticket each to the Sanibel Island Writers Conference coming up Nov. 6-9.

We'll welcome your original works in Word format or pasted into the body of an email. You have until midnight Sunday, Sept. 28, to send us your imaginings inspired by this photo. Then we'll offer a new prompt.

Email your entries to [writing@floridaweekly.com](mailto:writing@floridaweekly.com). No "snail mail" copies will be accepted. Be sure to include your name, address and contact information with your submission. The earlier we receive your submission, the better your shot at being printed.

For more information on the Sanibel Island Writers Conference, visit [fgcu.edu/siwc](http://fgcu.edu/siwc). ■



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# WRITING CHALLENGE

## County Fair By Joanne Taillele Marco Island

Sensory overload. That is how I remember it. The barker on the right taunted me to knock over the milk bottles. It was a scam. My Dad told me . . . after I spent two weeks of my allowance trying to win "Tigger." To my left, the cotton candy vendor was already swirling those sweet pink confections and wrapping them in clear plastic. My taste buds began to water, but I didn't have any money left anyhow. I sprinted for the big white equestrian tent as the morning sun warmed my face.

The 4-H stalls were already clean, with fresh straw on the floor and wheat-colored oats in the troughs. I passed the 4-H kids, seated together in one stall crammed with army cots. One waved a hand while stuffing his mouth with a huge soft pretzel.

The next stalls were still dirty, and the scent of manure replaced all previous aromas. The farmers had not yet arrived to tend to their animals. At the last stall, a crowd was gathering. I pushed my way past blue jeans and polyester pants to reach the front.

Star was laying on her side, breathing heavily, her black coat lathered with sweat. One man with a handlebar mustache held a huge stethoscope on her breast. I assumed he was the vet's assistant.

The veterinarian, Doc Thomas, was kneeling behind her hind quarters. He leaned back on his legs. "He's coming," he hollered and the



crowd hushed.

A gush of liquid poured from between her legs. It snaked through the fresh straw and wet my new pink Keds.

Soon I saw one hoof, then another, visible through a milky sack. I held my breath.

Doc tugged some more, putting all his muscle into it. Sweat dripped off his brow. The foal did not budge. Star's wide girth heaved.

"We're losing her." The assistant shouted, his ears still plugged with the stethoscope.

Doc let go of the foal's legs and pulled on long yellow gloves that went clear to his elbow. "I think the back leg is wedged under her rib cage. I'll have to go in."

I looked at Star. Her big brown eyes stared right into mine, wide with fear. I crawled through the wooden slats and ran my hands over her head, from the erratic warm breath from her

nostrils, over the perfect white star to her bangs hanging between her ears. "You can do it, Star. Please don't die." Tears dripped onto her black muzzle.

"Hey kid. You can't be in here," the assistant shouted at me.

The vet looked around Star's wide hind quarters. "It's OK. Joanie and Star are friends. Keep her calm, Joanie."

I leaned closer and whispered into her soft ears. "Come on, you're going to be a momma. You can't die on your baby."

Her eyes blinked. She understood. I was sure of it.

Doc disappeared from my view when his arm descended into her. He twisted and turned his arm, trying to dislodge the leg,

Star's eyes got wider and she whinnied a low, guttural sound I would never forget. She raised

her long slender neck and swung it to the side, trying to see what was happening to her.

"I see a nose. Look, a head." Someone shouted from the crowd.

"Got it," Doc shouted. Finally the foal moved through the birth canal. I couldn't see from my vantage point, but the crowd cheered as it slipped onto the soft straw.

Doc pulled away the white sack. "It's a filly."

"I knew you could do it. I knew it." I kissed her silky jaw.

Within minutes, the chocolate foal was on her feet, wobbly, but standing. It nuzzled Star's belly, already looking for nourishment.

I looked over at Doc. "Shouldn't she be getting up too?"

He nodded, but I saw the assistant shake his head.

"No, no. She can't die." By then I was near hysteria.

"Maybe you should go, Joanie," Doc said.

I shook my head, "No, no. Come on, Star. Get up. Get up."

I heard the white noise of bystanders murmuring.

She looked at me. Then she raised her head, pulling with all her strength, she made it up on her front quarters.

"You can do it, Star. Up you go."

She lurched forward and raised her hind quarters.

"She did it, she did it." I jumped up and down with joy. The filly found a nipple on her soft belly and latched on.

Star stood 16 hands, her back now towering over me. But she pressed her face into my chest. I think she was saying "thanks." ■

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by Michael Frayn

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# KOVEL: ANTIQUES

## Rare toy commemorates Chinese terrorist group's defeat

BY TERRY KOVEL AND KIM KOVEL

Sometimes an antique toy tells an almost-forgotten story. The Tammany Hall bank with a well-dressed man taking the penny is a criticism of corrupt politicians in New York City in 1871. A 1940s blond doll wearing ice skates probably is not recognized today as Sonja Henie, a world-champion ice skater from 1923 to 1936 and star of 12 Hollywood movies. A very rare clockwork toy has four Chinese men tossing a child in a blanket. Each of the men has a brightly painted hat that represents a European country. The toy, made in the early 1900s by Lehmann in Germany, is a comment on the Boxer Rebellion of 1900, when England, Russia, France and Germany occupied China. A Chinese secret society, the Boxers, led a rebellion against the European countries, killing foreigners and Chinese Christians, and destroying property. An international army that included Americans subdued the uprising. The rebellion ended in 1901, and China paid \$330 million in reparations. It seems like a strange idea for a toy. It is claimed that only four of the toys still exist because the action required a complicated mechanism that broke easily. So in recent years, one of these toys in good working condition sold for \$14,800.



When this toy is wound, four Chinese men in colorful hats wave the canopy to toss the child. It recalls the Boxer Rebellion in China in 1900. The 5-inch-high toy sold for \$14,800 at a Bertoia auction in Vineland, N.J., in 2013.

**Q:** Can you tell me anything about a

clear pressed glass serving bowl left to my husband by his grandmother? The inside is marked "Mountain City Mills, patent, flour."

**A:** A grain-milling company (or two different companies) named Mountain City Mills was in business in Chattanooga, Tenn., and Frederick, Maryland, in the early 1900s. It's unusual to find a piece of pressed glass marked like yours. It is possible that Mountain City contracted with a glass manufacturer to make pieces either for employees or as a premium for customers. Pressed glass is not as popular with collectors as it was 20 years ago. Depending on the pattern and size of your bowl, it could sell for \$25 or more.



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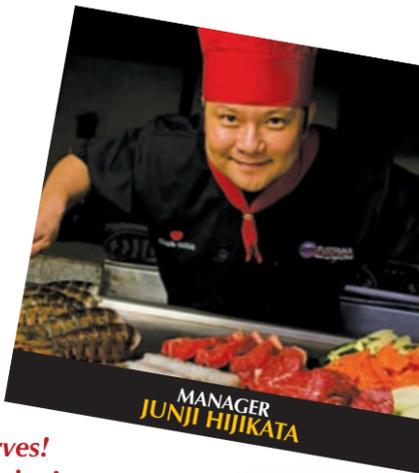
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**Q:** My mother has had a mint-condition alligator purse since about 1940. The inside is labeled "Cuba." Can you tell me what it's worth?

**A:** Back in the 1930s, '40s and early '50s, Cuban manufacturers sold a lot of goods in the United States. Those were the same decades when alligator purses were at their peak of popularity. If the purse is in excellent condition, it probably would sell for \$20 to \$50. If it had a high-end designer label, it could sell for many times that.

**Q:** I inherited an antique stove and would like to sell it. It's a standing, round stove, and I assume it's a wood-burning model. It's black with metal accents and is marked "Great Western Stove Co., Leavenworth, Omaha, Denver." Where can I sell it, and how much can I get for it?

**A:** We receive many questions about antique stoves. The history of the Great Western Manufacturing Co. of Leavenworth, Kansas, dates back to 1858. The related stove manufacturer, Great Western Stove Co., was formed in 1875 and operated into at least the 1930s. We have seen Great Western stoves offered for \$100 to more than \$1,000. Take a look at the website [AntiqueStoves.com](http://AntiqueStoves.com) to get an idea of the types of stoves collectors are looking for and selling. Then you might want to try selling locally through a dealer or via Craigslist so the buyer doesn't have to worry about shipping costs.

**Q:** I have a tea set that I can find nothing about. It has a teapot, sugar and creamer and eight cups and saucers and is in mint condition. The pattern name is "Hawthorn" and it looks like Belleek, but I can't find any other

information. Can you help with age and value?

**A:** Your tea set was made in Ireland by the Donegal Parian China Co. The company was formed in 1985 in Ballyshannon, County Donegal, by a group of former workers from the more-famous Belleek Pottery, just five miles away, across the border in Northern Ireland. Donegal China made marble-like Parian tableware and giftware in the Belleek style decorated with shamrocks, roses, hawthorn and other Irish designs, but the intricacy of the pieces was never that of traditional Irish Belleek. In 1996, Donegal China became a subsidiary of Belleek Pottery, which closed the Donegal China factory in 2005, dissolved the brand completely in 2012 and discontinued the Donegal Parian lines. Your tea set is worth about \$250.

**Tip:** Repairs made to cut glass can be seen with a black light. It also will show most added plastic repairs. Look at where the foot, knob or handles might have been reattached. Many auctions have a black light available at the preview. ■

— Terry Kovel and Kim Kovel answer questions sent to 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 photographs, but if a stamped envelope is included, we will try. The amount of mail makes personal answers or appraisals impossible. Write to Kovels, (Florida Weekly), King Features Syndicate, 300 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019.



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**Philly Cheese Steak Sub** Served with French fries and slaw. \$10<sup>00</sup>

**DINNER FEATURES (SERVED 4:00-10:00)**

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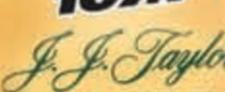
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**AUTHORS**

From page 1

■ Sandra Brown, “Mean Streak,” Sunday, March 23

The lectures take place in the grand lawn pavilion at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, with lunch beginning at noon and the program at 1 p.m. Tickets range from \$275 to \$525 for the series. To purchase tickets or for more information, call Marlene Kern at the Friends of the Library, 262-8135, or visit [collier-friends.org](http://collier-friends.org).

Since it was incorporated more than 55 years ago, Friends of the Library has contributed more than \$2 million to help fund library programs, books and other services that benefit adults, teenagers and children in Collier County. ■



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## Marco, Everglades City museums showcase pioneer's illustrations

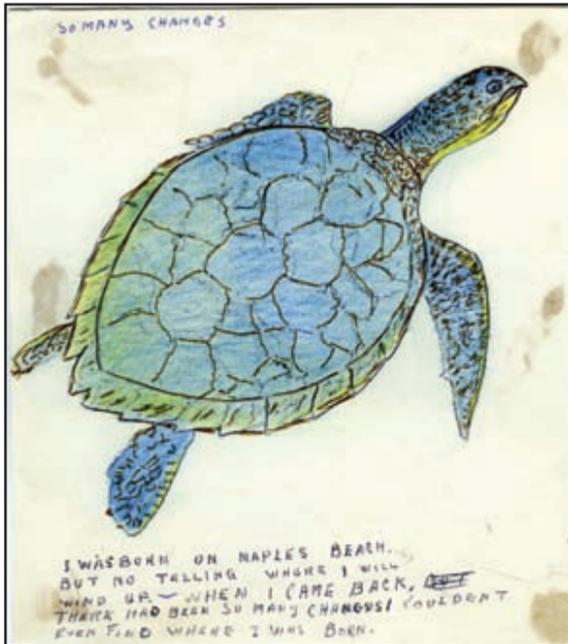
The Marco Island Historical Museum presents Rob Storter's "Artwork of the Everglades," an illustrated guide to the history of the Everglades, through October.

Through September, the Museum of the Everglades in Everglades City is also honoring Mr. Storter with an exhibit titled "History of Fishing in the Glades through the Eyes of Rob Storter." An opening reception take place from 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 20.

Robert Lee Storter was born Sept. 30, 1894, in Everglades City and lived an abundant 92 years of life as a guide, fisherman, poet and artist who chronicled what it was like in the "earlier" days of Collier County.

The Marco museum's "Artwork of the Everglades" exhibit transports viewers to the remote, half-wild frontier of Southwest Florida in the early part of the 20th century through Mr. Storter's drawings of the swamps, estuaries and vast array of plants and animal life of a time gone by. Depicting a life closely linked to the water, the drawings record how mechanized methods obscured the more simple approach of fishing.

Both exhibits also tell the story of family and community triumphs and its setbacks. Mr. Storter knew the Ever-



One of Mr. Storter's illustrations.

COURTESY PHOTOS

glades before commercial fishing, real estate development, drainage projects and tourism changed the region forever. His illustrations offer a glimpse into the mixed benefits of progress and the responsibilities of stewardship.

The Marco Island Historical Museum and the Museum of the Everglades are part of the Collier County Museum system. Hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Admission is free. For more information, call 252-8476 or visit [colliermuseum.com](http://colliermuseum.com). ■



Rob Storter at work.

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■ **THURSDAY, SEPT. 11, 11 P.M.**

**Charlie Rose**  
Charlie Rose talks to people in every field who have "a great story to tell."

■ **FRIDAY, SEPT. 12, 10 P.M.**

**Royal Paintbox**  
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■ **SATURDAY, SEPT. 13, 10:30 P.M.**

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■ **SUNDAY, SEPT. 14, 8 P.M.**

**The Roosevelts: An Intimate History Get Action (1858-1901)**  
A frail, asthmatic young Theodore Roosevelt transforms himself into a vigorous champion of the strenuous life, loses one great love and finds another, leads men into battle and then becomes the youngest president in American history. Meanwhile, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, brought up as the pampered only child of adoring parents, follows his older cousin's career with worshipful fascination.

■ **MONDAY, SEPT. 15, 8 P.M.**

**The Roosevelts: An Intimate History In the Arena (1901-1910)**  
Murder brings Theodore Roosevelt to the presidency, but in the seven years that follow, he transforms the office and makes

himself perhaps the best-loved of all the men who ever lived in the White House. FDR courts and weds Eleanor Roosevelt, the shy orphaned daughter of Theodore's alcoholic brother, Elliott. When Franklin is offered a chance to run for the New York state senate, he jumps at it.

■ **TUESDAY, SEPT. 16, 8 P.M.**

**The Roosevelts: An Intimate History The Fire of Life (1910-1919)**  
Theodore Roosevelt leads a Progressive crusade that splits his own party, undertakes a deadly expedition into the South American jungle, campaigns for American entry into World War I — and pays a terrible personal price. Franklin masters wartime Washington as Assistant Secretary of the Navy, while Eleanor finds personal salvation in war work. TR's death at 60 is almost universally mourned, but provides Franklin with a golden opportunity.

■ **WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 17, 8 P.M.**

**The Roosevelts: An Intimate History The Storm (1920-1933)**  
Franklin Roosevelt runs for vice president in 1920 and seems assured of a still brighter future until polio devastates him the following summer. He spends seven years struggling without success to walk again, while Eleanor builds a personal and political life of her own. FDR returns to politics in 1928 and, as governor of New York, acts with such vigor and imagination during the first years of the Great Depression that the Democrats turn to him as their presidential nominee in 1932. He survives an attempted assassination as president-elect. ■

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# CELEBRITY EXTRA

## Ludwig goes from Navy SEAL to viking

BY CINDY ELAVSKY

**Q:** We watched “Lone Survivor” last night on DVD, and the actor who played the new guy that they were giving a hard time looked familiar to me. What else has he been in?

— Amelia D., via email

**A:** Alexander Ludwig, who played newbie Navy SEAL Shane Patton, is perhaps best known for playing Cato, the career tribute from District 2 in “The Hunger Games.” He’ll also play Bjorn (Ironsides) Lothbrok — Ragnar and Lagertha’s now-grown son — in the upcoming season of the History channel’s “Vikings,” which likely will air in spring 2015.



Alexander Ludwig in “Vikings”

tiltskin’s Daughter.” As of now, it is planned to be a stand-alone book, not a series, but as Breeana told me, you never know.

“So far as I know it’s a single story. You know, my brain does strange things.

I thought ‘Dusk Gate’ was done after ‘Blooms of Consequence,’ so I don’t know for sure. But probably if it did turn into a series, it would branch off from a few different characters. Like maybe a same world and same storyline, but focus on different people.”

**Q:** When will “Gone Girl” be released at the theater? Seems like I’ve been waiting forever!

— Deanna R., via email

**A:** The long-awaited Ben Affleck-starring thriller — which is based on the best-selling novel by Gillian Flynn, who also wrote the movie’s screenplay — will be in theaters on Oct. 3. Save me a seat and some popcorn, because you can bet I’ll be there! ■

— Mary Anne K., Allentown, Pa.

**A:** Breeana’s new book, which is slated to be released in late September or early October, is called “Rumples-

— Write to Cindy at King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475; or email her at [letters@cindyelavsky.com](mailto:letters@cindyelavsky.com).

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# SAVE THE DATE

■ **Three Naples chefs** — Lisa Boet of Chez Boet, Charles Mereday of Mereday's Fine Dining and Brian Roland of Crave Culinaire — debut their individual culinary cruises at an event to benefit the **Naples Children & Education Foundation** on Tuesday, Oct. 14, at Naples Bay Resort.

Hosted by Friends of the Foundation, the evening is presented by Naples- and St. Louis-based Cruising with the Chefs, which selected Ms. Boet, Mr. Mereday and Mr. Roland to each lead a culinary cruise in 2015. Ms. Boet's cruise tours Rome to Monte Carlo (June 16-23); Mr. Mereday's explores Venice to Barcelona (July 25-Aug. 5); and Mr. Roland's travels from Venice to Istanbul (Aug. 27-Sept. 7).

For the evening at Naples Bay Resort, each chef will prepare and serve three dishes representing the cuisine of their cruise destination, for a total of nine courses with paired wines. For tickets of more information, call NCEF at 514-2239 or visit [napleswinefestival.com](http://napleswinefestival.com).



■ **Chez Boet** restaurant in Crayton Cove hosts a dinner to benefit PAWS Assistance Dogs on Tuesday, Oct. 21. Doors open for cocktails at 6:15 p.m. Tickets for \$75 include a three-course dinner, entertainment and a meet-and-greet with PAWS service animals.

The Naples-based program trains and places service and skilled support dogs, free-of-charge, to change and enrich the lives of children and veterans with disabilities and special needs. Training a specially selected puppy to become a certified service dog requires a two-year intensive training program and a financial investment of up to \$35,000 per dog. PAWS training programs are entirely underwritten by tax-deductible donations.

In addition, the PAWS program supports rehabilitative therapy dog services to at-risk youth, adolescents and young adults. For more information or to reserve a ticket for the dinner, call 775-1660 or visit [pawsassistancedogs.com](http://pawsassistancedogs.com).



■ The **fifth annual Gulf Ball** hosted by the David Lawrence Center Young Executives takes place from 7-10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at Hamilton Harbor Yacht Club. Cocktail attire is encouraged for the upscale but casual evening of fun, fellowship and friend-raising for the David Lawrence Center. Jack Dillman will entertain while guests enjoy cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and a silent auction. Tickets are \$50 if purchased by Dec. 1 and \$60 thereafter. Call Paige Simpson at 304-3505 for tickets or information about sponsorship opportunities.

■ The third annual **Evening in Monte Carlo** to benefit the Physician Led Access Network of Collier County is set for Saturday, Oct. 18, at the Naples Yacht Club. Guests will enjoy professional regulation

casino-style gaming as well as music, food, drink and a silent auction. The evening's celebrity host will be actor/writer/comedian Scott Adsit of Chicago's Second City and NBC's "30 Rock."

Tickets are \$150. Numerous sponsorship opportunities are available beginning at \$1,000. For information, call 776-3016 or visit [plance.org](http://plance.org).

■ The 56th annual **NCH Hospital Ball** takes place Saturday, Oct. 25, at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort. This year's event will benefit the hospital's cardiology program. Co-chairs are Cortney and Kevin Beebe. Invitations will be mailed in late August. For information about sponsorship opportunities, call 624-2000 or email [foundation@nchmd.org](mailto:foundation@nchmd.org).



■ **Golisano Children's Museum of Naples** holds its first Backyard Bash: Kick Off! tailgate party Saturday evening, Oct. 25. Put on your team colors, gather your friends and get in the spirit to support hands-on educational opportunities for children and families visiting C'mon.

The evening promises to bring out the inner child of grown-up fans of every sport, from football and baseball to soccer, lacrosse, tennis, swimming and cricket. Games and a silent auction will encourage friendly rivalry. Naples Beach Brewery will provide beverages, Crave Culinaire will cook up the main meal, and Rita's Italian Ice will serve sweets.

Co-chairs are Jennifer Jarvis Urness, Roxanne Werner and Rachel Linse. Tickets are \$125 per person or \$1,500 for an MVP table of eight. Numerous sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information, call 260-1714.

■ The **Light the Way gala** to benefit the Salvation Army in Collier County takes place Saturday, Nov. 1, at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort. Co-chairs are Sharon Treiser and Sheila Zellers. Tickets are \$300.

Donations for the evening's silent and live auctions are being sought, as are individual and corporate sponsorships. Contact Chris Nind, director of development, by calling 210-3081 or emailing [chris\\_nind@uss.salvationarmy.org](mailto:chris_nind@uss.salvationarmy.org).

■ The **American Girl Fashion Show** to benefit Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida returns to the Naples Beach Hotel and Golf Club with seatings at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 8. The event showcases historical and contemporary fashions for girls and their American Girl dolls. Local young models (and their dolls) present the fashions. An American Girl doll salon and pop-up bookstore will be set up.

Tickets for \$100 will be available in September. For information about sponsorship opportunities, call Nicki McTeague at 343-6106, email [Nicole.McTeague@LeeMemorial.org](mailto:Nicole.McTeague@LeeMemorial.org) or find American Girl Fashion Show, Southwest Florida on Facebook.

■ The sixth annual **Naples International Film Festival** is set for Thursday-Sunday, Nov. 6-9. The opening-night red carpet gala takes place at Artis—Naples, with screening of independent documentaries, shorts and full-length features taking place at Silverspot Cinema in Mercato. Call 775-3456 or visit [naplesfilmfest.com](http://naplesfilmfest.com) for more information.

■ **Boogie on the Beach:** Music for the Soul, an afternoon of food, fun and a silent auction to benefit Lighthouse of Collier Center for Blindness and Vision Loss, takes place from 12:30-4:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 9, on the main lawn at the Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club. Live music will be by Sanctum Soul. Tickets are \$75 for adults, \$25 for ages 6-18 and free for ages 5 and younger. The event's main sponsor is Arthrex. Additional sponsorship opportunities are available.

Proceeds will help Lighthouse of Collier serve the estimated 14,000 blind and vision-impaired children and adults in Collier County. For more information, call 430-3934 or visit [lighthouseofcollier.org](http://lighthouseofcollier.org).

■ **Humane Society Naples** holds its 16th annual Tea & Fashion Show from 2-5 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 11, at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort. This year's theme is "Ride Along the Riviera." Co-chairs Philip Douglas and Doug Olsen, along with their pampered pooch Eva, promise an unforgettable afternoon of furry fun, fashion, fine food and refreshments, all to benefit the orphaned and abandoned pets awaiting their forever homes at the HSN shelter. Fashions will be presented exclusively by Escales and Pucci & Catana Luxury Pet Boutique.

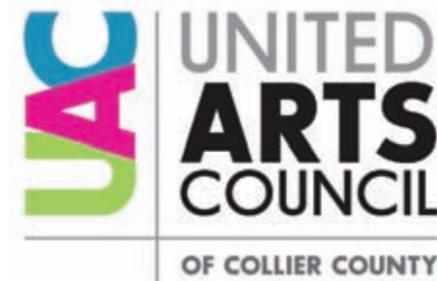
Sponsorship opportunities are available now. For more information, visit [hsnaples.org](http://hsnaples.org).

■ **Naples Botanical Garden's** 11th annual Hats in the Garden luncheon and fashion show, "Couture et Fleurs: Runway Fantasies Inspired & Created from Nature," is set for Wednesday, Nov. 12, at the Garden. Co-chairs are Donna Hall and Rusty Hubbell. Northern Trust is the presenting sponsor, and Saks Fifth Avenue is the retail sponsor. Other major sponsors include Premier Sotheby's International Realty, Naples Illustrated and Arthrex.

The event is always a sell-out. For information about tickets, call 643-7275 or visit [naplesgarden.org](http://naplesgarden.org).

■ The **Immokalee Foundation's 2014 Charity Classic Celebration:** "Hope Grows" takes place Friday, Nov. 14, at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort. The evening of fine dining, entertainment and the Fund A Dream auction highlights the successes of TIF students in the foundation's various education programs. Joe Zednik, president of the TIF board of directors, is chair of the celebration.

Tickets are \$550. Sponsors include Arthrex, Fifth Third Bank, Jaguar Naples, Porsche of Naples, Bigham Jewelers, Naples Illustrated, Kevin Johnson with Morgan Stanley Private Wealth Management, GE Foundation and Caterpillar Foundation. For more information, call 430-9122 or visit [immokaleefoundation.org](http://immokaleefoundation.org).



■ The **United Arts Council of Collier County** hosts its annual Celebrate the Arts gala Thursday, Nov. 20, at the LaPlaya Resort. Robin Hamilton and Robin Bache Gray as co-chairs of the evening themed "A Hot Night for Cool Arts." For more information, call 254-8242 or visit [collierarts.com](http://collierarts.com).

■ The **Community Foundation of Collier County** hosts the 2014 Power of the Purse luncheon to benefit its Women

of Initiative program Thursday, Dec. 4, at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort. Erin Brockovich, the legal clerk and environmental activist whose story became a hit movie starring Julia Roberts, will be the keynote speaker. Co-chairs are Myra Friedman and Jacquelyn Pierce.

The luncheon brings together civic-minded leaders whose charitable activities help improve the well being of women and girls in our community. The 2015 Women of Initiative honorees will be announced at the Power of the Purse event. The 2015 Women of Initiative awards ceremony will be held in March 2015. For more information, call 649-5000 or visit [cfcollier.org](http://cfcollier.org).

■ **Make-A-Wish Southern Florida** holds its fourth annual Tea at The Ritz from 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort. Guests will enjoy classic tea service with finger sandwiches, fruit tartlets, champagne and more. Fidelity Investments is the presenting sponsor, and Dylan Sanders is chair. This year's goal is to raise funds to grant wishes to three local children.

Individual tickets are \$125; sponsorships start at \$500. To purchase tickets, call Lesley Colantonio at 992-9474 or email [lcolantonio@sflawish.org](mailto:lcolantonio@sflawish.org). Tickets can be purchased online at Event Brite by searching "Tea at the Ritz."

■ **Naples Botanical Garden** celebrates the opening of the Eleanor and Nichole Chabraja Visitor Center with cocktails, dinner and dancing under the stars Thursday, Jan. 8. Tickets start at \$300. Formal invitations will be mailed in the fall. For more information, call 643-7275 or visit [naplesgarden.org](http://naplesgarden.org).



■ The **Fire & Ice gala** to benefit the Guadalupe Center of Immokalee takes place Wednesday, Jan. 14, at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort. Tickets for the evening of dinner, dancing and a live auction are \$500. Sponsorships are available. For more information, call 657-7711 or visit [guadalupecenter.org](http://guadalupecenter.org).

■ The ninth annual **Wishmaker's Ball:** "Magical Moments" to benefit Make-A-Wish Southern Florida takes place Saturday, Jan. 17, at Quail West Golf and Country Club. Honorary chair of the evening is Brenda Booth-Brown; co-chairs are Jenny Foegen, Dylan Sanders and Amy Sedlacek. The goal is to raise funds to enable Make-A-Wish to grant 30 wishes to children in Southwest Florida.

Tickets are \$250; sponsorship opportunities are available starting at \$2,500. For more information, call Lesley Colantonio at 992-9474 or email [lcolantonio@sflawish.org](mailto:lcolantonio@sflawish.org).

For more information about Make-A-Wish, including how to grant a wish or get involved as a volunteer, visit [sflawish.org](http://sflawish.org).

■ **Champions For Learning** hosts its inaugural Night of Champions in celebration of its 25th year and to honor community leaders who are connecting Collier County students to their future. The evening is set for 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28, at the Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club. For information about tickets and sponsorship tables, call Marylee Tirrell at 643-4755 or email [mtirrell@championsforlearning.org](mailto:mtirrell@championsforlearning.org).

— *It's never too early to mark your calendar for galas and fundraisers in the season coming up. Nor is it too soon to list your nonprofit organization's event in Florida Weekly. Email details to editor Cindy Pierce at [cpierce@floridaweekly.com](mailto:cpierce@floridaweekly.com).*

# SOCIETY

## A VIP reception at revitalized Everglades Wonder Gardens



Eric Hansen, Teri Hansen, Sonny Saunders, Betty Saunders and Don Fischer



Al Sloan and Paul Schmidgall



Andrew Hayes and Jeffery Tate



Donna Caron and RL Caron



Donny Thomson, Don Thomson and John Brady



Emily Labovitz and Jesse Underwood



Elaine Rumble, Noelle Knight, Kathie Pedit, Karan Ilowite and Kelly Leonard



Jean Curlin and Murphy, a 10-year-old hyacinth macaw



Kyle Carper and Mary Shea

VANDY MAJOR / FLORIDA WEEKLY

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# SOCIETY

Seeing 'Amelie' at Silverspot with the Naples International Film Festival



Zack Franklin and Pamela Krol



Philip Santucci and Kena Yoke



Kimberly Darr and Lynn Pitochelli



Arturo Samaniego and Barbara Samaniego



Brad Heiges and Evelyn Cannata



Ivana Donko and Justin Guistiza



Mary Ann Green and Hank Sorrick



Mimi O'Connell, Sally Hiller and Christine Richardson



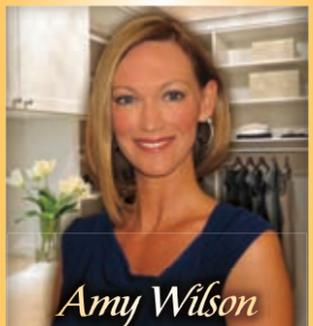
Shannon Franklin, Steven Falk and Reisha Brown

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# VINO

## Earthquake shakes up Napa Valley, but spares most wineries



Lovers of Napa Valley wines can breathe a sigh of relief. Although the August earthquake did some damage to the region, supplies remain plentiful, as most of the grape crop had not been harvested.

Total damage to wineries and wine businesses in the Napa area approaches \$50 million, according to officials quoted in *decanter.com*.

"Some affected wineries may experience loss of inventory, (but) the earthquake will not have an impact on the overall supply of California wines," said a representative of the California Wine Institute.

That's good news, although it's still not clear how much wine was lost. But among the more than 700 wineries in the area, many were lucky to have little or no damage to wine barrels and bottles. Harvest had not yet started in earnest, and many wineries did not yet have the 2014 vintage in casks. If the temblor had struck weeks later when barrels and tanks were full of new wine, the impact would have been far greater.

Most of the 2012 vintage had been bottled and prepared for shipment, placed on pallets and wrapped in shrinkwrap to minimize the possibility of shipping damages. A small but significant number of wineries suffered losses depending on how their bottled wines were stored and how their barrels were stacked.

David Duncan, president and CEO of Silver Oak winery, was quoted at *nbcbayarea.com* as saying he found the floor littered with hundreds of broken bottles when he arrived at the Oakville headquarters, including a "unique, one-of-a-kind" blend that is not available for general sale. After tweeting photos of the damage, however, he said he expected no impact on the vintage.

Some wineries sustained damages to their stainless steel tanks. At Mt. Veeder Winery, two 20,000-liter tanks filled with the 2013 cabernet sauvignon crumpled and spilled their contents. B.R. Cohn and other wineries lost barrels that broke open when they fell off their racks.

Still, many vintners reported little to no damage at all. Mike Smith of Myriad Cellars in St. Helena reported: "We consider ourselves very fortunate ... the winery in Calistoga and all wine(s) in our Napa warehouse were untouched."

Shafer Vineyards, MacRostie Winery and Silverado Cellars all avoided damages as well, according to *decanter.com*.

Those wineries that did experience loss will soon get some help. As reported this week on *WineSpectator.com*, Napa Valley Vintners, a trade group representing some 500 wineries in Napa Valley has stepped up with an initial \$10 million donation to its Community Disaster Relief Fund, which provides immediate support for Napa County wineries, businesses and residents. It was joined by wine companies such as Constellation Brands, whose Napa wineries include Robert Mondavi, Clos du Bois and Franciscan, which donated \$100,000.

What does all this mean for wine lovers? You might not be able to get that boutique wine or small production gem that you treasure, but supplies are generally in good shape and there is sure to be plenty of wine released from Napa Valley this vintage.

### Wine picks of the week:

■ **Arrowood Chardonnay Sonoma County 2012 (\$30):** Medium straw colors in the glass, and an aroma that rises with notes of citrus and peach. With a touch of oak, the palate adds some tropical fruit with a long balanced finish.

■ **Arrowood Syrah Saralee's Vineyard Russian River Valley 2011 (\$35):** Dark reddish plum in color, and an aroma that has blackberry and dark cherry notes, joined on the palate with plum and spice. Medium in body and velvety in the mouth with a long, balanced finish.

■ **Arrowood Viognier Saralee's Vineyard Russian River Valley 2012 (\$30):** Light straw in color, this one has a nose that opens with white flowers and citrus. The palate adds tropical flavors with a touch of peach and a lingering finish.

■ **Paul Hobbs Crossbarn Chardonnay Sonoma Coast 2013 (\$25):** Light and clear in the glass, with an aroma of apples, peaches and a touch of lemon citrus. The palate adds more complex pear and melon notes, ending with a balanced finish.

■ **Paul Hobbs Crossbarn Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast 2012 (\$35):** Red and purple colors, with a nose and palate of black cherry and raspberry and some spice at the end, with a touch of oak on the balanced finish.

■ **Paul Hobbs Crossbarn Pinot Noir Anderson Valley 2012 (\$35):** Richer in color than its Sonoma cousin, this one has a nose that's mostly dark berries and some spice. The supple palate is full of dark fruits and blackberries, ending on the long finish with some oak and spice.

■ **Edmeades Zinfandel Mendocino County 2011 (\$20):** Medium in color and body, the aromas of plums and cherries join with cherries and mixed red fruits on the palate. Good tannins and acid balance, with some juice on the long finish. ■



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# CUISINE

## Blueberry's a sweet spot for a meal anytime hunger hits



From the outside, Blueberry's doesn't really look like a diner, but once you get inside, it certainly feels and acts like one.

Open from the crack of dawn well into the evening (except for Sundays), it serves breakfast, lunch and dinner, with a voluminous menu offered for each meal.

The servers are friendly and welcoming, delivering large steaming platters from the kitchen to tables filled with families and friends out for a casual, inexpensive meal.

The decor is neat but not fancy — a large dining room with yellow walls and a mural on the back wall, windows that frame the kitchen and a whimsical fruit stand. Shelves set high above the windows are decked out with knickknacks: plates featuring Uncle Sam, athletics trophies, an assortment of pitchers — well, you get the idea.

On a Sunday morning, the place was bustling, despite the fact that it was a sweltering August day.

Nonetheless, it's worth venturing out when the payoff consists of golden pancakes or waffles, fluffy three-egg omelets, crepes sweet or savory, eggs Benedict, hearty skillet and sides of bacon, ham and sausage. For those who want a more virtuous meal, there is a fresh fruit platter (seasonal fruits, cottage cheese and raisin toast), oatmeal or egg-white scramblers.

Just for the record, on the morning I was there, I didn't see a single diner who was being virtuous.

Want a New York strip with those eggs? Yep — they've got that. There are also pork chops, if that's more to your liking.

My companion is a blueberry pancake devotee, and given the restaurant's name, decided to give those a try. They come four to a stack (\$6.49) with blueberries in the batter and compote on the side. Those in the batter were fine. The compote, however, was runny and made the pancakes soggy when poured atop them. We agreed he'd have been better off sticking to syrup.

A side order of scrambled eggs and lightly browned and seasoned baby red



KAREN FELDMAN / FLORIDA WEEKLY  
**Above: Blueberry pancakes come with blueberry compote, butter and syrup.**

**Right: A Santa Fe omelet is full of onions, jalapenos, cilantro, tomatoes and jack cheese, served with salsa and sour cream.**



potatoes was fine.

From a wealth of omelets, I ordered the Santa Fe (\$7.69), which comes with onions, cilantro, tomatoes, jalapenos and jack cheese. The eggs were fluffy, as advertised, and full of fresh ingredients. I loved the combination of spicy jalapenos and fresh cilantro along with a touch of salsa served on the side.

You also get your choice of toast or pancakes and potatoes, grits, sliced tomatoes or fruit. The pancakes were the basic buttermilk variety and possessed a good buttermilk flavor. Two were a nice accompaniment to the eggs. The grits were bland, requiring a serious amount of salt and butter. (Note to self: Don't order these at restaurants, since most don't bother to add salt when cooking.)

Coffee was hot and full-bodied without being overly strong — or worse, dishwasher weak — and the servers were

generous in dispensing it.

While breakfast appears to be a most popular meal at Blueberry's, the restaurant stands ready to handle the lunch and dinner crowds, too.

Start with a Taste of Greece (\$6.99) — a platter featuring gyros, hummus, fried fish fingers, Kalamata olives, feta, tzatziki sauce, tomatoes, cucumbers and red onions in Greek vinaigrette served with warm pita. There are also classic soups, such as beef chili and chicken noodle, and Disco Dancing Fries (with house-made chili and cheddar cheese).

Lunch dishes center on sandwiches such as grilled chicken done a variety of ways (with bacon and Swiss, Buffalo style, or topped with feta, spinach, roasted red peppers and onions), burgers, deli sandwiches, gyros, wraps and salads.

The dinner menu abounds with classic comfort fare such as slow-cooked pot roast, country fried steak, liver and onions, fried chicken, roasted turkey, baked meatloaf and chicken Parmesan. There are entrée-sized salads from which to choose as well, plus a host of shrimp and tilapia dishes, burgers and sandwiches.

I think the biggest problem customers have at Blueberry's is narrowing down the choices to just one dish.

What I liked best about Blueberry's was its unfussiness. In a city in which restaurants strive to outdo one another with phantasmagorical décor and showy service, Blueberry's has a down-home, aw-shucks quality to it that's endearing and relaxing. Show up in your (non-Lululemon) yoga pants or shorts and flip-flops. Bring the kids. Park in the gravelly lot in the back. Sprawl in a comfortable booth and settle in for a comforting, well-executed meal full of ingredients you recognize and enjoy.

Some days you want fancy. Sometimes a trip to Blueberry's is a sweet and relaxing escape. ■

### in the know

#### Blueberry's Cafe

3350 Tamiami Trail N.,  
Naples; 430-0700

**Ratings:**  
**Food:** ★★★★★  
**Service:** ★★★★★  
**Atmosphere:** ★★★

- >> **Hours:** 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Saturday; 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday
- >> **Reservations:** No
- >> **Credit cards:** Accepted
- >> **Price range:** Breakfast, \$3.99-\$12.99; lunch, appetizers, \$2.99-\$5.99, entrees, \$4.99-\$8.49; dinner, appetizers, \$2.99-\$6.99, entrees, 4.99-\$12.99
- >> **Beverages:** Beer and wine served
- >> **Seating:** Booths plus conventional tables and chairs
- >> **Specialties of the house:** You name it, they have it
- >> **Volume:** Moderate to high
- >> **Parking:** Free lot
- >> **Website:** blueberrysrestaurant.com

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★★★ Good  
★★ Fair  
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# Welcome to Florida Weekly's Leaders of Distinction

Businesses are the lifeblood of a community, and the people behind those businesses are the leaders who give each community its character and personality.

These entrepreneurs often are the first people we meet, the welcome wagon to our new life in a strange place. They help us buy our new home and furnish, fix and maintain it. They sell us a vehicle to put in its driveway or garage, and service that vehicle. They cure us when we're sick and fix us when we're broken, both physically and mentally.

They wine and dine us and show us how to enjoy our leisure time. They educate us and advise us on how to spend and invest our money. They are the starters and stewards of charity and community service who make sure those of us who need help get it.

They, more than anyone, teach us about the community they serve, and make us feel part of it. Not only do they provide the goods and services we need, they become the friends and neighbors who give us reason to make this new place home.

If you want to know why we love life in Collier County, consider first the men and women who own and operate our businesses. Reading through their profiles, you get snapshots of our county's movers and shakers: where they come from, how they got here, and what values, education and mentoring have led to their success on multiple levels.

There are many common threads in the fabric of these community leaders. Most place great importance in family, faith and tradition. Most work hard,

and play just as hard when they can. Most get involved in local organizations beyond their businesses, lending a hand when and where they can.

But as similar as they might be, it is the diversity of our business leaders that makes the sun shine just a little brighter on Collier County. That's what makes Collier special, a place unlike any other to live, work and play.

All we can say is follow these leaders by example — our 2014 Florida Weekly Leaders of Distinction. ■

## THE LEADERS OF DISTINCTION



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# Collier tourism executive director brings economic prosperity to county

BY JONELL MODYS

PR & Communications Manager  
Naples, Marco Island, Everglades CVB  
Collier County Tourism

At the end of 2014, Jack Wert celebrates a dozen years as Collier County's tourism executive director with a solid track record for success that has brought benefits not only to tourism industry businesses, but area residents as well.

Mr. Wert was recruited from Seminole County, where he also served as tourism director. He came to Collier County shortly after tourism industry and community leaders came to a consensus that the Naples, Marco Island, Everglades Convention and Visitors Bureau should be a county-based organization similar to the structure of many other local Florida tourism organizations, including Lee County's.

Looking at the full term of Mr. Wert's service, there are several achievements that stand out. The destination was unified as Florida's Paradise Coast to highlight the features and benefits of vacationing in Naples, Marco Island and Everglades City, providing a unique mix of upscale amenities combined with outdoor adventure in the Gulf Coast Everglades. The CVB was the first in Florida to receive professional

accreditation from the Destination Marketing Association International and one of only 195 destination marketing organizations in the world to hold that designation.

In the past 10 years, the number of visitors has grown from 850,000 to more than 1.6 million annually, and the annual economic impact from visitor spending in Collier County is up from \$885 million to \$1.6 billion. Through the power of effective destination marketing campaigns the area has transformed from one having a four-month high season to a year-round destination of choice for travelers from all over the world, resulting in year-round employment opportunities for more than 34,000 residents.

Local residents save \$754 on their property taxes annually thanks to the contributions of visitors. The Collier County tourist development tax — 4 cents on the dollar for hotel, short-term vacation rental and campground stays — funds not only the area's destination marketing campaigns, but also pays for beach renourishment, beach park projects and grants for special events, museums and arts organizations.

One of the accomplishments that Mr. Wert is most proud of is building a destination marketing organization



WERT

of dedicated professionals that is recognized at the top of their profession worldwide.

"Our tourism marketing staff is much smaller than in other Florida coastal counties, but our accomplishments are many," Mr. Wert said.

Mr. Wert has a bright outlook for the future. Of particular note is the

recent focus on continued development of both existing and new international markets, many of which can help bring more business to area hotel, restaurant and retail businesses in the months when seasonal residents have flown north.

Visitation from the U.K., Germany and Scandinavia — especially affluent travelers from those markets — continues to increase year round.

A new marketing focus on Brazil should raise awareness about the joys of visiting the Paradise Coast among the growing population of Brazilian travelers seeking family relaxation, adventure and shopping opportunities outside of Orlando and Miami.

"It's more important than ever to keep well-crafted messages about our destination in the marketplace," Mr. Wert said. "People are reacting on a near-immediate basis to messages that resonate with them emotionally. Recent research has proven that if your destination message isn't there, you will lose market share."

With continued increases in consumer confidence and a greater awareness of the need to take time away from work to focus on spending quality time with family and friends — along with savvy travel marketing from the CVB — the outlook for Collier County's tourism industry looks bright and sunny in the years ahead. ■

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# THE GREATER NAPLES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

## One and just begun

BY JOHN S. COX  
President & CEO

Last month, more than 1,000 chamber of commerce professionals from around the world met for the ACCE annual conference in Cincinnati. We gathered to share our new stories of community building written since we were last together. There were common themes: our traditional sources of economic strength are coming back community by community; all of us are short on talent; education from cradle to career is the most critical issue facing us all; well-crafted strategies with implementation plans are essential; the value of local leadership can never be underestimated; and public/private partnerships is a best practice for transforming our communities.

As I start my second year with the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce I see the great progress we have made in all those areas and know even greater work can and must be done as we seize the opportunities Naples affords. How did we get this far?

First, we had to **INSTIGATE** an inclusive process which was broader than the scope of our already substantial reach. With more than 1860 chamber members we've established a strong network with more than 3000 direct connections and representing tens of thousands of employees throughout our foot print. But our public, private and civic lead-

ers knew then and we all know now the substantial work which needs to be accomplished in this MSA would require the collective impact of all the diverse groups, communities, associations, families, constituencies, faith groups, educational resources, civic leadership and residents. The Greater Naples Chamber and our Partnership For Collier's Future Economy was poised to start the process.

Second, we were privileged to **NEGOTIATE** with The Board of Collier County Commissioners and our County Manager, crafting a document, clarifying roles, agreeing to a division of labor all of which would lead to a Strategic Plan for economic and community development. That Strategy has been adopted and you can read it at [www.opportunitynaples.com](http://www.opportunitynaples.com) in the document tab marked Strategy. The three year implementation plan begins this month. Our nearly 50 member Steering Committee has led the process and many of them now will move on to the Implementation Plan Committee.

Third, we asked our many partners to **INVESTIGATE** what the actual systemic, longitudinal issues are for the Naples-Marco Island-Immokalee MSA. More than 1200 participated in the online survey providing feedback and direction. While the issues are substantive they are in fact solvable through our collective efforts targeting our economic viability and sustainability over time. We conducted more than a dozen



COX

Focus Groups and dozens of one-one-one interviews were completed as well. We conducted a listening tour and the input has been significant.

Fourth, as we move forward we will have to **ACCUMULATE** resources and determine how best to **ALLOCATE** them as we move from a well define strategy to the very specific tactics contained in the Implementation Plan. Communities with far fewer resources than those that exist in Collier County are raising millions of dollars to underwrite their com-

munity building initiatives and we will have to as well. While every community in the country is unique in some way, we all know Naples is exceptional and our responsibility to ensure that is equally exceptional. We have a great story to tell and we can only tell it together.

Fifth, we will have to craft a communication strategy in order to **ARTICULATE** what we plan to do and why and how essential it is that everyone's fingerprints are on the work. I've learned in the last year the Greater Naples Chamber is an excellent place to begin telling the story. We host hundreds of events each year; we bring together people and ideas, we do things others think just happen; we help small businesses grow; we point entrepreneurs in the right direct for resources; we help the jobless find jobs. We are an exceptional chamber. But as I said earlier this story must be written, told and owned by all of us--how we articulate that is crucial.

Finally, through this process we will elevate the standard of living for all of citizens, we will navigate the uncertain path together, we will demonstrate to young professionals that there are places for them to live and work in Collier County and allow them to appropriate this opportunity as their own and we will congratulate each other as together we create the best Opportunity Naples possible.

What a great story and it's ours to tell! ■

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Owning a designer resale store with excellent customer service has always been a dream for Jennifer Johnson.

She realized as a little girl growing up on a farm in a small town in Minnesota that she had a passion for fashion. She would spend time as a child going through all the catalogs that her parents would receive in the mail and mark all the things she liked. She would spend hours playing with her dress up dolls and going to garage sales with her grandmother to find awesome clothes. As she grew older she also realized that she loved the "thrill of the hunt" for a bargain.

Jennifer started her career in the bridal industry where she owned and operated a very successful and nationally recognized wedding and event planning business and bridal shop. She was featured on shows such as Inside Edition, Home Delivery and several local TV and radio shows as a wedding professional. She is also a former Ms. Petite Minnesota and national model and actress and continues with her modeling and acting career today. Ever since she was a little girl she has dreamed of fashion. Fashion is her passion!

After moving to Naples from Minnesota almost 6 years ago, Jennifer, a True Fashionista at heart, decided to open a designer resale store that catered to the whole family (a first of its kind store in Naples) so she could bring designer clothing, accessories, and great customer service to others at great prices. True Fashionistas is Naples first luxury designer resale specialist!

Her team takes pride in excellent customer service as well as their knowledge in the industry. True Fashionistas carries mainstream designer lines such as White House Black Market and Ann Taylor but also have some of the most exquisite items in the fashion world at unheard of great prices!

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## COLLIER COUNTY COMMISSION, DISTRICT 3

### Looking ahead in Collier County

BY TOM HENNING

Collier County commission chairman, District 3

Collier County is looking brighter these days with more visitors coming to the area and businesses turning around and expanding. It is exciting to serve at the Board of County Commissioners having seen our area go through the 2007 economic recession and then emerge strongly over the last two years with more businesses opening doors.

As our community and business leaders attempt to establish a new foothold on the economic development taking place in Southwest Florida, the Collier County Commissioners have created the Office of Business and Economic Development. The office's team has empowered us to create an innovative and business-friendly program to attract new business.

As part of the commission's goal to create a friendlier business atmosphere, this year the Board of Collier County Commissioners supported partnering with both East Naples and North Naples fire control and rescue districts to speed up the approval of commercial development. We simplified the fire plan review process for nearly all fire districts to work more cooperatively with the county's plan reviewers to reduce the redundant inspections.

The change in fire plans reviews has, in short, made it faster for businesses to open their doors by eliminating delays. I am thankful to the East Naples and North Naples Fire Commissioners specifically for making this change possible and bringing about much-needed change to improve business in Collier County.

In 2013, I also undertook, along with the commissioners, the goal to smart size the county airports to move them toward a debt-neutral status. We explored various reorganization options and voted to eliminate the executive director position as well as an unfilled maintenance position.

Smart sizing the airports has the airport system more than \$250,000. Previous to the reorganization, airports were an independent department reporting to the commissioners. With the reorganization, airports moved under the county manager, giving them more support for growth planning and grant procurement.

The Office of Business and Economic Development brought forth a strong plan to attract businesses to Collier County. We approved creating two business accelerators with an innovation accelerators business plan. The two accelerators have differing purposes.

The first accelerator is in the western area of the county to become one of only 13 certified soft-landing accelerators recruiting companies in smart health, information technology and other knowledge-based industries. The second accelerator will target cultivating culinary innovation and emerging food technologies within



HENNING

the agribusiness sector in the eastern portion of the county, centered primarily in Immokalee.

With support from the state of Florida, the county is receiving \$2.5 million to provide seed capital

for initial expenses of the accelerator program, such as leasehold improvements, equipment, initial lease payments and staff support. The Board of County Commissioners has invested \$250,000 in the program, and public and private donations through fundraising efforts are making these business accelerators a reality.

Growing business in Collier County is critical to its long-term growth. The county manager reduced numerous development fees this year to support the business development goals. It is such a great time to open a business here as our community continues to strongly support new ventures and ideas.

While Collier County is listed as the third-wealthiest city in the United States and has become a bustling wealth-management center for clients across the world, we remain focused on growing Collier County even stronger with new and innovative technology-focused businesses. It is exciting to look ahead and see the many accomplishments that are just around the corner including focusing development in eastern Collier County.

Our parks, library and museum destinations are helping create amenities for residents, visitors and are attractions to new businesses. We are also focused on improving infrastructure such as roads, storm drainage and land use in the eastern part of the County to provide the necessary support for new industries.

This beautiful community is on the nation's map for a reason. It is inviting to every single visitor. With beautiful beaches, top-ranked hospitals, upgraded roads and the beautiful landscaping, I know companies will fall in love with Collier County just as you have.

It is an honor to be your neighbor with a shared focus on planning for a robust future in Collier County. ■

# A snapshot of the City of Naples

BY JOHN SOREY  
Mayor

The City of Naples is often referred to as "Paradise." After visiting, most would agree that our area is a distinctive place that once you visit, you never forget.

What makes it so special? It is a walkable community, has a small-town feel, amenities at your fingertips, free of the hustle and bustle of a big city, clean air, and lush greenery. Not to mention it is a great place to raise a family and live a high quality of life. In 2012, Naples ranked No. 2 on the list of "America's Happiest Seaside Towns" out of the top 15 by Coastal Living Magazine. In 2011, a study showed that women in Collier County had a higher life expectancy (86 years old) than any other women in the nation, and the list goes on.

When my wife Delores (pictured with me at right) and I first visited Naples in the late 1970s, we both knew right away that this was the place where we wanted to reside fulltime, and in 1998, we made the move and have not had any regrets. For over 40 years, I have worked in consumer and industrial products, distribution, and the service sectors, and have been very involved in the non-profit sector. Since 2004, I have served on the Naples City Council and was elected mayor in 2012. Serving people has always been my passion and I cannot image anything more satisfying and rewarding. I am honored to serve the residents of the City of Naples.

The Town of Naples was incorpo-



rated by a special act of the Florida Legislature in 1923 and the charter was adopted in 1946, changing "town" to City of Naples. One of three municipalities (Everglades City and Marco Island) in Collier County, the city is 14.4 square miles and has a year-round population over 21,000 and reaches approximately 30,000 in season, November through April. Like other cities in Florida, Naples felt the downturn in the economy and many businesses were affected. During the past couple of years, we have seen job growth, tourism reaching its highest numbers in years and new developments and businesses coming online.

New construction numbers are in and things are looking great. The trend for new homes in Naples continues to

increase over the past five years. In May, our Building Department received 22 permit applications to demolish existing homes and it is expected that these will result in new home permits applications in the next few months. The number of people remodeling their existing condo units is at an all-time high. It is suspected that this is due to recently purchased condos getting renovated, the growth of the stock market, and condos over 20 years old in need of modernization. Other trends are: half of new homes permitted have permanently installed electrical generators, and there also has been an increase in solar applications - primarily PVC (photo voltaic collectors) which produce electricity for the homeowner.

## Our newest developments

Baker Park is the city's newest and last park, and is anticipated to be completed in 2016. The park will be completed in phases, and is located off Goodlette Frank Road on Riverside Circle, which is adjacent to the Gordon River. It will connect to the Gordon River Greenway Bridge, which terminates at the Naples Municipal Airport along the eastern edge of the River. The park is estimated to cost \$15 million and is a public-private partnership. The community has supported the park tremendously through a pro bono park design, and many donations, which now total almost \$6 million.

Hyatt House Naples has plans to build a three story, 186 room hotel on

the Gordon River on Fifth Avenue and River Point. The 16,000-plus square-foot hotel will have 60 marina boat slips and a public walkway along the river. Construction is anticipated to begin early in 2015 and the developer anticipates that the project will be completed by the end of the year.

Mangrove Bay is a new planned community located in Old Naples on Goodlette Frank Road on 15 acres, and has plans to build 53 homes. This development is the last remaining significant waterfront residential development in the city and site work is underway, and it is anticipated to be completed in the next few years.

Naples Square, located on the corner of Fifth Avenue South and Goodlette Frank Road in downtown Naples, is a new planned community on 19 acres, and will have 300 condos and 150,000 square feet of commercial space. The developer will break ground this summer for Phase I with 73 residences and anticipates completing them in 2015.

I invite you to explore Naples — discover and rediscover its beauty. Whether you want to have a laid-back day relaxing on the beach, dine at one of our area's restaurants or go sightseeing, Naples has something for all ages.

My door is always open. Feel free to reach out to me if you are interested in learning more about the city by calling me at 248-1550 or send an email to me at [mayor@naplesgov.com](mailto:mayor@naplesgov.com). Please visit the city's website at [naplesgov.com](http://naplesgov.com) and get acquainted with our city. ■

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# John F. Sorey III

## Mayor City of Naples

### ‘Very focused ... loves to work hard, play hard’

If you missed John Sorey’s essay about the city of Naples on the previous page, do yourself a favor and go back and read it. The man loves his city, and he proves it every day as its proud mayor.

#### Describe yourself in one sentence:

I am a very focused person who loves to work hard, play hard, and accomplish the task at hand.

#### Describe your business in one sentence:

Serving the citizens of Naples in the most effective and efficient manner possible.

#### What motivates you?

The stress of the battle, I always attempt to win but either way, I give it my best shot.

#### What has been your best idea so far?

Marrying my wife Delores and moving to Naples.

#### What advice would you give a young executive trying to break into your business?

Get involved in your community and be willing to give back to your citizens, nonprofits and others in need.

#### How would you want others to describe you as a businessperson?

I am tough, but fair, strategic, I hire the best employees for the job and I motivate them to succeed.

#### What current issue affecting your business is most important to you?

Construction of the new Baker Park on the Gordon River.

#### Who is your most influential role model, and why?

Jim Rideoutte, the former executive director of the Naples Players in Downtown Naples. He is a great sounding board, a great listener, idea generator, and keeps me humble.

#### What charitable organization is most important to you?

The Naples Players, it is a live community theatre formed in 1952.

#### The person I would most like to have coffee or a cocktail with:

Vladimir Putin because I would love to learn what makes him tick.

#### As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?

Own my own business.

#### Your favorite childhood memory:

Extended family visits during the Fourth of July celebration.

#### WHO AM I?

**Name:** John F. Sorey III

**Title:** Mayor

**Business or Company:** City of Naples

**Years working in Collier County:** since 1998

**Family:** Married to Delores, a son, daughter and twin grandsons.

**Education:** MBA from the University of Tennessee, a BS in Business Administration from Tennessee Technological University, and completed the Harvard Program for Management Development.

**Hometown:** Nashville, Tenn.



#### Favorite Naples restaurant:

I love them all so much, I am going to get in trouble here — well, here you go: Bleu Provence, Mereday’s, Mangrove Café, Cosmos, Avenue 5, and the Chapel Grill.

#### ‘Must do’ when entertaining out-of-town guests:

Tour the City to include the Naples Pier, the beach, Baker Park after it has been completed, house looking, and dinner at one of our great restaurants.

#### Name the last...

■ Book you read: I am always reading multiple books. “One Nation” by Dr. Ben Carson, “Last Full Measure” by Jeff Shaara, and “Return on Impact” by David Nour.

■ Concert/live performance you saw: Eagles, beautiful

■ Movie you saw: I am not a big fan of movies.

■ Time you laughed out loud: I laugh frequently as I think life is quite funny.

■ Time you apologized: I apologize every day for the things I do. Our employees do, so I strive to improve myself to lead by example.

■ Time you cried: At my age I cry because I frequently lose friends. Some of my friends lost were Earl Hodges, Chuck Mohlke and Suzy Dorr.

#### Most important lesson you’ve learned in life:

Be yourself. Say what you do and do what you say. Be honest. Be tough, but fair. Always do your best and strive every day to be better than you were yesterday.

#### Lightning Round

■ Coffee or Tea: Tea

■ Coke or Pepsi: Neither, I don’t drink soft drinks

■ Beer or Wine: Wine

■ Cook or Dine Out:

Dine out

■ Sweet or Salty: Sweet

■ Dog or Cat: Dog

■ Pool or Beach: Beach

■ Crossfit or Yoga: Crossfit

■ Spa or Adventure: Adventure

■ RedBox or Movie Theater: Movie Theater

■ Jimmy Kimmel or Jimmy Fallon: Jimmy Fallon

■ Golf or Golf: Golf

■ First Class or Economy: First Class

■ Five Star or Budget: Five Star

■ Kayak or Speed Boat: Speed Boat

■ Hybrid or Gas Hog: Gas Hog

■ Mac or PC: Mac

■ Netflix or Hulu: Netflix

■ Pandora or Spotify: Pandora

■ Instagram or Twitter: Twitter

■ iPhone or Android: iPhone

■ Digital or Print: Print ■

#### Your first job:

Working on an assembly line making vacuum bottles.

#### Your worst job:

Hauling bales of hay as a teenager.

#### Your dream job:

Being the Mayor of Naples.

#### What do you enjoy doing most with your family or friends?

Traveling and enjoying great wine and fine food.

#### Tell us something few people know about you:

I enjoy paddleboarding.

#### Hobbies:

Traveling, fine dining, paddle boarding, and walking on the beach.

# Del H. Ackerman

Owner  
Del's 24 Hour

## 'Give quality service and make people happy'

**D**el Ackerman's half-century of business experience in Collier County is tough to top, but with a standard of trade built on dependability, unfailing service and treating people with honesty and respect, we see no reason he can't succeed for another 50 years.

**Describe yourself in one sentence:**

A dynamic go-getter and smart entrepreneur

**Describe your business in one sentence:**

Dependable 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for 51 years.

**What motivates you?**

God and helping other families in our community and beyond.

**What has been your best idea so far?**

Moving to Naples to open convenience stores.

**What advice would you give a young executive trying to break into your business?**

Save your money. Work hard. Treat people with respect. Give quality service and make people happy.

**How would you want others describe you as a businessperson?**

Above average and honest. Respectful of others.

**What current issue affecting your business is most important to you?**

Serving the community 24 hours a day and treating people with respect.

**Who is your most influential role model, and why?**

Ronald Reagan. He was sincere, strong, powerful and truthful.

**What charitable organization is most important to you?**

My church and Salvation Army, Toys for Tots.

**The person I would most like to have coffee or a cocktail with:**

Corbin Wyatt.

**As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?**

A business man and entrepreneur.

**Your favorite childhood memory:**

Roller skating at Pearson Park in Toledo, Ohio.

**Your first job:**

Working as a paper delivery boy at St. Vincent's Hospital in Toledo.

**Your worst job:**

In college — cleaning weeds at the Pure Oil Refinery in Toledo, Ohio

**Your dream job:**

I am living it now!! Also working with Rush Limbaugh. We sell his line of teas at the store.

**What do you enjoy doing most with your family or friends?**

BBQs, birthday parties in the backyard, family reunions.

**Tell us something few people know about you:**

I have feelings. I am sincere. I am a man of my word. I am religious. I have overcome severe medical problems. I was hit by a bus and told I would never walk again. Well, Del is walking now.

**Hobbies:**

Waterskiing, volleyball, softball, swimming

**Favorite Naples restaurant:**

Erin's Isle

**"Must do" when entertaining out-of-town guests:**

Serving good food, Providing happiness and comfort and cold drinks!

**Name the last...**

■ Movie you saw: "If I Stay"

**WHO AM I?**

**Name:** Del H. Ackerman

**Title:** Owner

**Business or Company:** Del's 24 Hour

**Years working in Collier County:** 51

**Family:** Tanya Ackerman-Daughter (deceased), Nancy Ackerman-Wife (deceased) Elizabeth Easterly-grandaughter

**Education:** Southmore College-Bluffton, Ohio

**Hometown:** Toledo, Ohio

■ Time you laughed out loud: Today, and every day!

■ Time you apologized: Last week. I said someone was 77 but he was actually 76.

■ Time you cried: Last night with my grandchildren.

**Most important lesson you've learned in life:**

Be a man of your word. Don't

judge a book by its cover. Treat people with respect and dignity.

**Lightning Round**

- Coffee or Tea: Coffee
- Coke or Pepsi: Coke
- Beer or Wine: Beer
- Cook or Dine Out: Dine out
- Sweet or Salty: Salty
- Dog or Cat: Dog
- Pool or Beach: Pool
- Crossfit or Yoga: Crossfit
- Spa or Adventure Spa
- RedBox or Movie Theater: Movie theater
- Jimmy Kimmel or Jimmy Fallon: Jimmy Kimmel
- Golf or Golf: Golf
- First Class or Economy: First Class
- Five Star or Budget: 5 star
- Kayak or Speed Boat: Speed Boat
- Hybrid or Gas Hog: Hybrid
- Mac or PC: Mac
- Netflix or Hulu: N/A
- Pandora or Spotify: Pandora
- Instagram or Twitter: Instagram
- iPhone or Android: N/A
- Digital or Print: Print ■





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# Jeff Allbritten

President

Florida SouthWestern State College

## 'I am so goal-driven, I fear the day I don't have a goal'

A change in the name of the institution he leads is just one of countless new things happening with Jeff Allbritten and Florida SouthWestern State College as it enters a new era. So while he never became the rock-star musician he aspired to be as a child, Dr. Allbritten has become a rock star on a more important stage: the field of higher education.

**Describe yourself in one sentence:**

I'm a person who values — this is going to sound trite — who values education, education not just for credentialing but value it for its own ends, and I truly enjoy working with a great team.

**What motivates you?**

I am so goal-driven, I fear the day I don't have a goal. The fear of failure probably undermines a lot of people. The fear of not achieving a goal. So it makes me work extra hard. I don't think I'm



extra smart. I just work extra hard.

**What has been your best idea so far?**

I think aligning the college as truly one institution. ... An entity with four sites that delivers education. That is a sea change for us. ... We were four kind of quasi-disparate facilities that functioned as a unit, and that never works. Now we are one institution. One entity.

**What advice would you give a young executive in your business?**

I would make sure that they have had every job in the traditional academic path. Be a tenured university or college professor. ... Publish research. ... Make sure you know how to stand in front of an audience. Then make sure you know how to lead. Toughest job I ever had was department chair.

**How would you want others to describe you as a businessperson?**

I would hope that they would think I'm courageous. I've heard that word. I don't know if that's fitting, but I like it. Why do I like the term? I haven't been afraid to take on some pretty sacred cows. I use the term sacred cows because they make the best steaks. They really do. They're delicious.

**What current issue affecting your business is most important to you?**

I think it's the shifting landscape of higher education and people focusing on careers rather than on educational attainment itself. I call myself a pragmatic idealist, and people say wait a minute. I'm highly pragmatic, but still hold on to the ideal that sometimes learning for learning's sake is just as important.

**Who is your most influential role model, and why?**

Dr. Harold Spraker, department chair, Middle Tennessee State. He was such a man of integrity. ... Had humility. ... He was a great role model for me in the sense of how to be fair but firm and not be afraid. ... I see so many leaders, they're so afraid they check the wind to see which direction before

**WHO AM I?**

**Name:** Jeff Allbritten

**Title:** President

**Business or Company:** Florida SouthWestern State College

**Family:** Wife, Liz, two grown children and four grandchildren between the ages of 3 and 7.

**Education:** Doctor of Arts degree in chemistry from Middle Tennessee State University, master of science degree in mathematics from Murray State University and bachelor of science degree, also from Murray State.

**Hometown:** Aberdeen, Md.

they make a decision. ... I never called him Harold after he retired. ... He was still Dr. Spraker until his dying day. He probably changed my life.

**What charitable organization is most important to you?**

Florida SouthWestern State College Foundation.

**The person I would most like to have coffee or a cocktail with:**

Coffee - Wernher von Braun. Cocktails - Jimmy Buffett.

**As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?**

Rock star. This was definitely not on my game plan.

**Your favorite childhood memory:**

Summer trips with my parents. We used to go to this little town in Tennessee called Gatlinburg. ... Susquehanna River family outings.

**Your first job:**

Bus boy at a Holiday Inn in Aberdeen, Md. Wore the bowtie and everything.

**Your worst job:**

Department of Defense. It has the mindless, intensely bureaucratic, fill it or lose it kind of mentality, and what I saw was such disparity. I saw people who were incredibly busy and incredibly good workers. And then I saw the epitome of federal employee laziness. In the same office.

**Your dream job:**

I think I have it. I think so. Of course, my dream job would be playing lead with, if I had to pick a band, Queen or Styx.

**What do you enjoy doing most with your family or friends?**

Traveling, No. 1, and I'm a Europe-phile of the worst type. We just love to go to Europe and stroll through the back streets.

**Tell us something few people know about you:**

The fact that I was born in Italy. Can't be president.

**Hobbies:**

About to get into boating. Travel. My wife and I are very much water people, whether in it or looking at it.

**"Must do" when entertaining out of town guests:**

I usually take them to Marco Island, which I think is the prettiest beach in Southwest Florida. And then take them to the Naples Pier.

**Name the last...**

■ Book you read: "Executive Order" by Tom Clancy.

■ Concert/live performance you saw: Kenny Loggins.

■ Movie you saw: "Transcendence."

■ Time you laughed out loud: Yesterday.

■ Time you apologized: Probably yesterday.

■ Time you cried: Probably when we gave our dog away in 2010.

■ Most important lesson you've learned in life: This is temporary. Don't get too full of yourself.

**Lightning Round:**

■ Coffee or Tea: Coffee

■ Coke or Pepsi: Coke

■ Beer or Wine: Beer

■ Cook or Dine Out: Dine out

■ Sweet or Salty: Sweet

■ Dog or Cat: Dog

■ Pool or Beach: Pool

■ Crossfit or Yoga: Crossfit

■ Spa or Adventure: Adventure

■ RedBox or Movie Theater: Movie Theater

■ Jimmy Kimmel or Jimmy Fallon: Jimmy Fallon

■ Golf or Golf: Golf

■ First Class or Economy: Economy

■ Five Star or Budget: In between

■ Kayak or Speed Boat: Speed Boat

■ Hybrid or Gas Hog: Gas Hog

■ Mac or PC: PC

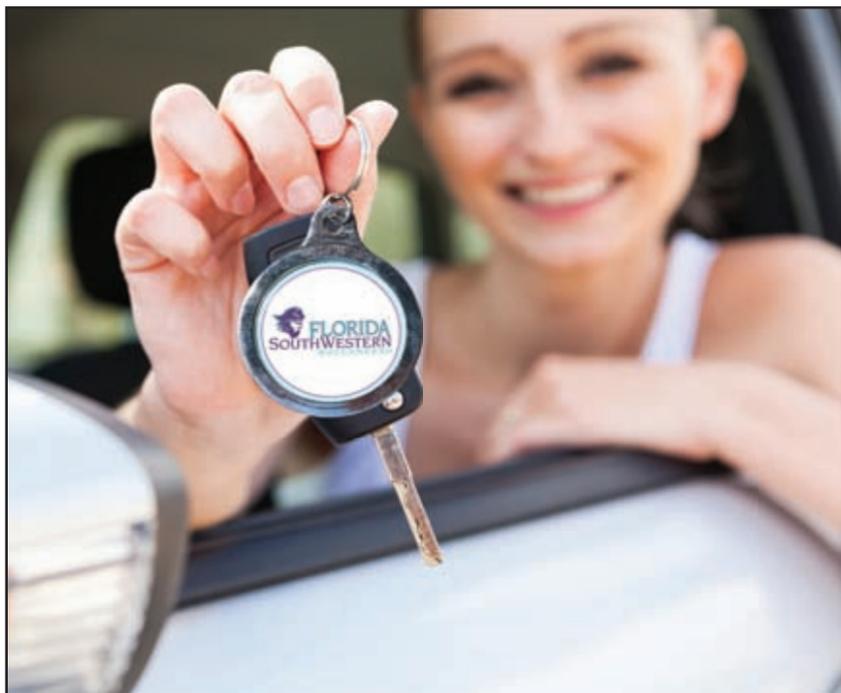
■ Netflix or Hulu: Netflix

■ Pandora or Spotify: Neither

■ Instagram or Twitter: Neither

■ iPhone or Android: Android

■ Digital or Print: Print ■



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# Wilma Boyd

## President, CEO

### Preferred Travel of Naples, Inc.

# 'Known for my integrity, dedication and honesty'

**W**ilma Boyd began her career in travel as a TWA flight attendant recruiting supervisor. A working wife and mother before it was the "norm," she has championed women in the workplace throughout her career. While living with her family in Pittsburgh, she founded and directed the prestigious Wilma Boyd Career School to prepare women for travel industry positions. She also hosted her own television show that focused on women's careers and other topics of interest to women, interviewing local and national celebrities including Elizabeth Taylor.

In 1984, Mrs. Boyd and her late husband, Bill, moved to Naples. That same year, she founded her Naples travel agency in partnership with her long-time friend, the late Earl Hodges. Today, 30 years later, Preferred Travel has a team of 54 domestic and international travel specialists, and has provided global leisure and corporate travel services to thousands of individual clients, groups and corporations.

Service to community is an integral part of Preferred Travel's mission. In addition to other philanthropic activities through the years, in 2007, Preferred Travel introduced an annual travel showcase presented in partnership with their many luxury travel partners throughout the world. All proceeds from the event are donated to local charitable organizations that help women and children. To date, the travel showcase has raised more than \$114,000.

Service to the travel industry also is important to Mrs. Boyd. She ensures that Preferred Travel is represented on many industry advisory boards, including the American Society of Travel Agents, Cox & Kings, Luxury Travel Exchange International and Signature Travel Network. She also authored a travel education book that is still used in classrooms today, "Travel Agent," published by Simon & Schuster.

**Describe yourself in one sentence:**

My personal philosophy has always been to be kind to everyone and to make each person feel special.

**Describe your business in one sentence:**

Dedication to the travel goals of

our many loyal clients and service to our community.

**What motivates you?**

The ability to help clients realize their travel dreams and exceed their expectations.

**What has been your best idea so far?**

To build the company by surrounding myself with an amazing team that prides itself on knowledge, expertise and delivering a high level of customer service.

**What advice would you give a young executive trying to break into your business?**

Training, training, training! It is important to learn from the ground up all aspects of our business. It's a complex industry that requires multi-tasking and flexibility.

**How would you want others describe you as a businessperson?**

I always want to be known for my integrity, dedication and honesty. I am always open to ideas and non-judgmental.

**What current issue affecting your business is most important to you?**

Right now, it's keeping up with the demand for travel.

**Who is your most influential role model, and why?**

My Mother. She led by example



**WHO AM I?**

**Name:** Wilma Boyd  
**Title:** President, CEO  
**Business or Company:** Preferred Travel of Naples, Inc.  
**Years working in Collier County:** I just celebrated Preferred Travel's 30th anniversary. I moved to Naples and opened Preferred Travel in 1984  
**Family:** My husband and I raised four wonderful children and now have three grandchildren.  
**Education:** Goodwin Business College, Pittsburgh, Business Degree  
**Hometown:** Pittsburgh

and instilled the values and work ethics that I have employed throughout my personal and professional life.

**What charitable organization is most important to you?**

Junior Achievement of SWFL. I believe it is our responsibility to help children achieve success.

**The person I would most like to have coffee or a cocktail with:**

I would love to have coffee with Pope Francis. He is such an interesting and humble man that inspires millions.

**As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?**

Believe it or not - a flight attendant.

**Your favorite childhood memory:**

I come from a very large family. I always reflect back on the camaraderie, compatibility and love that I enjoyed with my siblings. We are all still very close.

**Your first job:**

My first job was working

the soda counter in a local drug store.

**Your worst job:**

I would have to say as a bookkeeper. While I love numbers, I didn't get to interact with people on a daily basis.

**Your dream job:**

I have been blessed that almost every job has been a dream job because I was doing something I loved and was passionate about.

**What do you enjoy doing most with your family or friends?**

It doesn't matter what we do as long as I get to spend time with them.

**Tell us something few people know about you:**

That I do dress very casually at home!

**Hobbies:**

Obviously traveling!

**Favorite Naples restaurant:**

It's hard to pick one. I love the variety of great restaurants in Naples. I guess my favorite for the evening would depend on what I was in the mood for.

**"Must do" when entertaining out-of-town guests:**

I love introducing my guests to the great dining and shopping in town. They are always impressed by the variety in downtown Naples and beautiful malls like Waterside, Mercato and Venetian Village.

**Name the last...**

- Book you read: I am proud to say I just finished "Inside the Box" written by my son, Drew Boyd, a published author!
- Favorite Destination: My favorite place is Monte Carlo. I always look forward to a stay there.
- Cruise: I enjoyed a Caribbean cruise on Celebrity Cruises. I am looking forward to my next cruise.
- Time you laughed out loud: I laugh every day.

**Most important lesson you've learned in life:**

To always do the right thing, no matter what. ■

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# Christopher A. Braun

Broker Associate / Realtor, CRS  
Downing-Frye Realty, Inc.

## 'My first client from 30 years ago is still my client today'

**C**hristopher Braun's path to the real estate business began by saving money from real estate sales to put himself through law school, and then what started as an avocation became a vocation. His lifelong real estate career in Naples has evolved into a passion for expert client representation. But, he says his true dream job is Dad — and he apparently does it quite well with 5 kids to practice with.

**Describe yourself in one sentence:**

I am very family centric, competitive, maintain a sense of humor, know solutions are much more important than problems, strive for balance (that's a high bar ... strive ... not always achieve) and am motivated to try to help or aid others when and where I am able to as life presents those opportunities each day.

**Describe your business in one sentence:**

Protective of clients, fast paced problem solving, competitive, confidential, meticulously detailed, very personally attentive of and thankful to my clients ... and always available to clients.

**What motivates you?**

My family ... and striving to be the best father, husband, friend, person, and Realtor I can be.

**What has been your best idea so far?** Never giving up.



**What advice would you give a young executive trying to break into your business?**

Work hard, work harder, then work harder still and do not give up ... and always be honest ... even when it costs you business.

**How would you want others describe you as a businessperson?**

Good to my word honest, helpful, dedicated, rock solid and capable ... a consistent professional who follows through to completion every time.

**What current issue affecting your business is most important to you?**

Data syndication.

**Who is your most influential role model, and why?**

Anyone who is self-sacrificing, honest and kind ... or has a good joke.

**What charitable organization is most important to you?**

My church and a couple of cancer related organizations.

**The person I would most like to have coffee or a cocktail with:**

My sister or father ... both in God's hand yet I still miss them so much.

**WHO AM I?**

**Name:** Christopher A. Braun  
**Title:** Broker-Associate / Realtor, CRS  
**Business or Company:** Downing-Frye Realty, Inc.  
**Years working in Collier County:** 30-plus  
**Family:** My wife Julia and our 5 children  
**Education:** Furman University, B.A.  
**Hometown:** Ho-Ho-Kus, N.J.

**As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?**

Priest, then orthopedic surgeon, then maritime attorney ... then very best Realtor.

**Your favorite childhood memory:**

Tar on my feet at the Jersey Shore beach and boardwalks, sun, water, salt air ... or Caribbean beaches and clear water ... always the beach and with my sisters (and sometimes our dogs)!

**Your first job:**

9 years old ... cutting lawns, raking leaves, washing cars, cutting firewood, and delivering newspapers.

**Your worst job:**

None ... always grateful to be able to work regardless of what the job required ... though honestly never really enjoyed cleaning up after large animals ... "lol" as they say today.

**Your dream job:**

A father who lives to see his children all safe, happy, and productive building their own lives and families ... and enjoying one another along the way.

**What do you enjoy doing most with your family or friends?**

Laughing.

**Hobbies:**

Love to fish with my family and / or friends ... boxing ... cooking at home ... wood working ... travel with Julia.

**Last book you read:**

"Broken" and "Support and Defend" ... often read two books at the same time or in parallel ... mix fiction and autobiographies.

**Last concert/live performance you saw:** Steely Dan

**Last time you laughed out loud:**

When youngest son Samuel tried to avoid doing chores (still did them) but did a darn good Batman villain imitation to suggest another activity that did not involve chores.

**Last time you apologized:**

Either to my wife or my assistant Terry ... within the past 72 hours ... maybe on a rolling basis ... there is always A LOT going on ...

**Last time you cried:**

Too personal.

**Most important lesson you've learned in life:**

Actions speak louder than words ... anything I genuinely put my mind and effort into is achievable ... and that Faith, Hope and Love truly are three of life's greatest gifts.

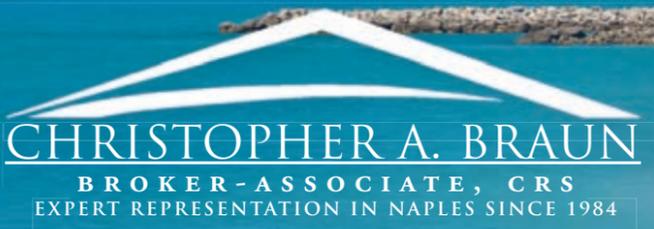
**Lightning Round**

- Coffee or Tea : Coffee
- Coke or Pepsi: Dr. Pepper
- Beer or Wine: Wine
- Cook or Dine Out: Cook
- Sweet or Salty: Both!
- Dog or Cat: Dog
- Pool or Beach: Beach
- Crossfit or Yoga: Boxing
- Spa or Adventure: Adventure
- RedBox or Movie Theater:

**Depends**

- Jimmy Kimmel or Jimmy Fallon: Johnny Carson and David Letterman re-runs
- Golf or Golf: Golf
- Kayak or Speed Boat: As long as it floats!
- Hybrid or Gas Hog: SUV
- Mac or PC: iPads, PCs, Smartphones etc. etc.
- Netflix or Hulu: Xfinity ■

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# James Corts

## Senior Sales Executive MarineMax Naples Yacht Center

### ‘Eager to make a difference’

**J**ames Corts came to his career as a senior sales executive in the marine industry after first reaching his original goal of becoming a stockbroker. He likely experienced many ups and downs in the volatile trading industry, but he says the experience helped make him the smooth business sailor he is today.

**Describe yourself in one sentence:**  
Passionate about life.

**Describe your business in one sentence:**  
Eager to make a difference.

**What motivates you?**  
Success and rewards.

**What advice would you give a young executive trying to break into your business?**  
Understand that it will take time to create and build success. It is not only about working hard, but you must work smarter and plan for your future.

**What current issue affecting your business is most important to you?**  
In sales you need product to sell. With the boom in our industry, we are contracting new projects today that will deliver in almost two years.

**Who is your most influential role model, and why?**  
My father. He instilled the values in me at a very young age that helped me become the person I am today.

**What charitable organization is most important to you?**  
American Diabetes Association.

**The person I would most like to have coffee or a cocktail with:**  
Jimmy Buffet.

**As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?**  
Stockbroker, which I did succeed to become and helped set the path for where I am today.

**Your favorite childhood memory:**  
Summers in Avalon, N.J.

**Your first job:** Paper boy.

**Your worst job:** Paper boy — getting up early as a kid was tough.

**Your dream job:** “Part Time” Senior Sale Executive.

**What do you enjoy doing most with your family or friends?**  
Enjoying a great bottle of wine.

**Tell us something few people know about you:**  
On the outside I can manage the stress and demands of busiest days and always appear calm, but on the inside my mind is racing faster than the world around me.

**Hobbies:** Golf, boating and skiing.

**Favorite Naples restaurant:**  
Cote D’azur

**“Must do” when entertaining out-of-town guests:**  
Sunset on the water

**Name the last...**  
 ■ Book you read: “Outliers” by Malcolm Gladwell  
 ■ Concert/live performance you saw: Zac Brown  
 ■ Movie you saw: “Food Matters” (documentary)  
 ■ Time you laughed out loud: Last night.  
 ■ Time you apologized: This morning for what I did last night.

#### WHO AM I?

**Name:** James Corts  
**Title:** Senior Sales Executive  
**Business or Company:** MarineMax Naples Yacht Center  
**Years working in Collier County:** 12  
**Family:** Wife and a dog  
**Education:** BA Temple University  
**Hometown:** Richboro, Pa.

■ Time you cried: Last night when I was laughing too hard.

**Most important lesson you’ve learned in life:**  
Life is very short and we only have a short moment in time to make a difference.

**Lightening Round:**  
 ■ Coffee or Tea: Coffee  
 ■ Coke or Pepsi: Coke  
 ■ Beer or Wine: Wine  
 ■ Cook or Dine Out: Depends  
 ■ Sweet or Salty: Both, together  
 ■ Dog or Cat: Dog  
 ■ Pool or Beach: Pool  
 ■ Crossfit or Yoga: Run and Yoga  
 ■ Spa or Adventure: Adventure  
 ■ RedBox or Movie Theater: RedBox  
 ■ Golf or Golf: Both! That is why Southwest Florida is perfect.  
 ■ First Class or Economy: First Class  
 ■ Five Star or Budget: Five Star  
 ■ Kayak or Speed Boat: Speed Boat  
 ■ Hybrid or Gas Hog: Gas Hog, unfortunately  
 ■ Mac or PC: Mac  
 ■ Pandora or Spotify: Pandora  
 ■ Instagram or Twitter: Neither  
 ■ iPhone or Android: iPhone  
 ■ Digital or Print: Digital ■



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# Kirk Fagan

## Vice President

### Wayne Wiles Floor Coverings

# ‘Trust your instinct, it’s typically better than you think’

**K**irk Fagan says he comes up with some of his best ideas away from the office, citing running as a great way to get in focus. He also keeps things moving as a leader of one of Southwest Florida’s premier flooring companies, obviously a man who has a great foundation under him.

**Describe yourself in one sentence:**  
Dedicated, goal-oriented leader who enjoys the fast pace of running a business.

**Describe your business in one sentence:**  
We are an innovative flooring company providing the latest products and personalized service to homeowners, builders and commercial contractors.

**How do you come up with new ideas?**  
I do some of my best thinking away from the office. Running is an excellent way to clear your head and focus.

**What has been your best idea so far?**  
Relocating to Southwest Florida

**How would others describe you as a businessperson?**  
I am level-headed and calm in almost every situation. I can be tough, but always fair.

**What single issue is most important to you?**  
Economic growth in SWFL. Attracting the right mix of businesses is a crucial part of the area’s future.

**Your most influential role model, and why?**  
My father. He always seems to have the right advice and helped develop my work ethic at an early age.

**Your business role model:**  
Mark Cuban, tenacious entrepreneur who combines hard work, great ideas and good luck.

**As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?**  
Auto Mechanic.

**Your first job:**  
Stock clerk at the grocery store.

**Tell us something few people know about you:**  
I’m actually a really good cook, when I get the chance.

**What business apps/software are invaluable to you?**  
Outlook and Excel.



### WHO AM I?

**Name:** Kirk Fagan  
**Title:** Vice President  
**Business or Company:** Wayne Wiles Floor Coverings  
**Years working in Lee County:** 10  
**Closest family:** Sons Stone, Jackson and Bowden; Parents Bob and Dotti..  
**Hometown:** Westford, Mass.

**What’s the most important business book you’ve read?**  
“Turn the Ship Around,” David Marquet

**Most important lesson you’ve learned in life:**  
Trust your instinct, it’s typically better than you think. It’s important to recognize opportunity when it’s staring you in the face.

**What’s a piece of advice you wish you’d have received years ago?**  
Life goes by quickly, enjoy every day.

**What advice would you give to a fellow executive relocating to our area?**  
Just do it. There is almost unlimited opportunity in Southwest Florida.

**If you had a theme song, what would it be?** “Welcome to the Jungle” ■



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# Patrick Flaharty, M.D.

Owner and Medical Director  
Azul Cosmetic Surgery and Medical Spa

## ‘Success in medicine is derived one patient at a time’

**A**s a triathlete, Dr. Patrick Flaharty certainly practices what he preaches — and for that matter, what he also practices as medical director at Azul Cosmetic Surgery and Medical Spa. His goal: to help people look and feel their best. And there’s no better way to promote that zestful ambition than to look and feel great yourself.

**Describe yourself in one sentence:**

I am a passionate, energetic and compassionate person who loves to live life to the fullest.

**Describe your business in one sentence:**

Azul Cosmetic Surgery and Medical Spa helps people to look and feel their best.

**What motivates you?**

Accomplishing new challenges, and growing personally and professionally

**What has been your best idea so far?**

To dedicate myself to excellence in facial rejuvenation.

**What advice would you give a young executive trying to break into your business?**

Success in medicine is derived one patient at a time. Take good care of the person in your chair and others will follow.

**How would you want others to describe you as a businessperson?**

I would want to be described as an honest, ethical and hard-working physician, always with integrity.

**What current issue affecting your business is most important to you?**

The field of cosmetic medicine is exploding, especially in the non-surgical area. Keeping up with advancements in technology and being a cutting edge leader is very important to me.

**Who is your most influential role model, and why?**

Richard Anderson, M.D, under

whom I trained in oculoplastic surgery in Salt Lake City, Utah, was an important role model. Rick was a pioneer in the field. He was always brave and progressive, never stagnant in his approach to solving difficult problems. He also lives with passion all areas of his life.

**What charitable organization is most important to you?**

My favorite charities are those that support education and sports. I feel those are the two areas that have shaped my life and pointed me in the right direction. Not everybody has the same access to education and to participate in sports and I enjoy being a part of helping those to achieve their goals.

**The person I would most like to have coffee or a cocktail with:**

Abraham Lincoln. I am a history buff and would love to spend time with him discussing democracy.

**As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?**

I always wanted to be a doctor. My father was a doctor and I knew from early on that medicine was my calling.

**Your favorite childhood memory:**

Vacationing in Northern Michigan

**What do you enjoy doing most with your family or friends?**

Traveling and playing sports.

**Tell us something few people know about you:**

I love to read fiction novels.

**Hobbies: Triathlons:**

swimming, biking, running

**Favorite Naples restaurant:**

Trulucks on Fifth

**“Must do” when entertaining out-of-town guests:**

Beach and Fifth Avenue

**Name the last ...**

■ Book you read:

**WHO AM I?**

**Name:** Patrick Flaharty, M.D.

**Title:** Owner and Medical Director

**Business or Company:** Azul Cosmetic Surgery and Medical Spa

**Years working in Lee County:** 21

**Family:** Wife: Kristen Flaharty, Daughters: Katie (18), Caroline (16) and Kendall (13)

**Education:** Kalamazoo College, BS; University of Michigan, MD

**Hometown:** Birmingham, Mich.

“Sycamore Row” by John Grisham

■ Movie you saw:

“When the Game Stands Tall”

■ Time you laughed out loud:

I laugh out loud every day! Laughter is food for the soul and I laugh many times each day.

■ Time you cried:

When taking our oldest daughter, Katie, to Williams College recently for her freshman year.

**Most important lesson you’ve learned in life:**

Success comes from consistent effort every day. In baseball terms, it’s all about hitting singles. Swinging for the fence is tempting, but it doesn’t assure success.

**Lightning Round:**

■ Coffee or Tea: Coffee

■ Coke or Pepsi:

Coke

■ Beer or Wine:

Wine

■ Cook or Dine Out: Dine Out

■ City or Country: City

■ Sweet or Salty: Salty

■ Dog or Cat: Dog

■ Pool or Beach: Beach

■ Crossfit or Yoga: Crossfit

■ RedBox or Movie Theater: Movie Theater

■ Jimmy Kimmel or Jimmy Fallon : Jimmy Fallon

■ Beatles or Rolling Stones: Beatles

■ Star Wars or Star Trek: Star Trek

■ Golf or Golf: Golf

■ First Class or Business Class: First Class

■ Kayaking or Boating: Kayaking

■ Hybrid or Sports Car: Sports Car

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■ iPhone or Android: iPhone

■ Newspaper Readership, Digital or Print: Print ■



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# Jenny Foegen

## President Naples Princess

### ‘Strive for the best and people will notice’

**J**enny Foegen admits she’s living the dream running a Naples cruise business, but she has always reached great personal heights — even as a collegiate all-conference pole vaulter. But the highest road she takes is giving back to the community in ways that make a true difference, as you’ll soon read.

**Describe yourself in one sentence:**  
Loyal and giving.

**Describe your business in one sentence:**  
The best events are on the water!

**What motivates you?**  
Knowing you can make a difference.

**What has been your best idea so far?**  
Moving to Florida. I love it in Naples. You can’t beat the weather, the people, beach, water, restaurants and entire community. I get to do what I love every day and be on the water.

**What advice would you give a young executive trying to break into your business?** Start wherever you need to,

even if that means taking a position you are overqualified for. Stay persistent and prove yourself along the way and you will continue to move up. Do whatever job you are in to the fullest, strive for the best and people will notice.

**How would you want others describe you as a businessperson?** Respected, dedicated, hard working and loyal.

**What current issue affecting your business is important to you?** The weather, letting people know rain or shine we still cruise. Hot or cold we have climate-controlled interiors to accommodate! Just keep the hurricanes away.

**Your most influential role model, and why?** My parents. They are the most hard working and true people. I have learned so much from them. They have taught me that hard work pays off and have always told me to believe in myself. They provide so much encouragement every step of life and I am proud to be very much like them.

**What charitable organization is most important to you?**

I love giving back and it’s so hard to choose just one as there are so many great ones in town, so here are a few: Make A Wish of Southern Florida. I am a Co-Chair for the President’s Council and also a wish granter. It’s one of the most rewarding things I have ever done. Getting to experience bringing joy and moments of relief to a family is so incredible! Making Strides Against Breast Cancer with the American Cancer Society is also a cause I choose to give back to. I have been the Chair for the past two years. We all have been touched by someone with cancer and Making Strides not only funds breast cancer research but the funds stay local to provide programs and services to women to help through this hard time in their life. Hope For Haiti is another great organization I sit on the Next Generation Board for. What they are doing to build sustainable communities is amazing. They don’t just want to provide temporary relief — they want to provide support for them to thrive on their own.

**WHO AM I?**  
**Name:** Jenny Foegen  
**Title:** President  
**Business or Company:** Naples Princess  
**Years working in Collier County:** 9  
**Closest family:** Mom and Dad in Wisconsin, sister running a similar operation on the East Coast.  
**Education:** BA in Marketing with minors in Business and Communications  
**Hometown:** LaCrosse, Wis.

**The person I would most like to have coffee or a cocktail with:**

Even though I have already, Myra Janco Daniels. She is an amazing woman, and in the few times I have met her I leave inspired every time. She has made a difference for so many people, and I hope that one day I can do the same.

**As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?** A businesswoman, in a suit, walking the streets of Chicago with a Starbucks in my hand.

**Your favorite childhood memory:**  
Going to Disney World of course!

**Your first job:** Camp Counselor for National Youth Sports Program. This program helped low-income children and children in the court system that just needed a little guidance. It was great to get them involved in team activities for the summer and let them see what more there is out there.

**Your worst job:** None — I liked them all!

**Your dream job:** Who doesn’t want to be on the water on a beautiful million-dollar yacht!

**What do you enjoy doing most with your family or friends?**

When work is so busy, nothing is better than a nice glass of wine sitting around a table with great friends. I also am a big Wisconsin Sports Fan, so catching a Packer, Badger or Brewer Game is always on the list.

**Tell us something few people know about you:** I was an all-conference pole vaulter in college.

**Hobbies:** Golf, boating, taking time to give back.

**Favorite Naples restaurant:** That depends on what I am hungry for.

**“Must do” when entertaining out-of-town guests:** The Naples Princess, of course!

**Name the last...**

- Thing you read: Florida Weekly
- Concert/live performance you saw: Brewer game when I was home a couple months ago
- Movie you saw: “Captain Phillips”: I think every person should watch this movie.
- Time you laughed out loud: Today
- Time you apologized: Today
- Time you cried: Yesterday

**Most important lesson you’ve learned in life:** Hard work pays off, and be true to yourself in the process.

**Lightning Round**

- Coffee or Tea: Coffee
- Coke or Pepsi: Coke
- Beer or Wine: Wine
- Cook or Dine Out: Dine Out
- Sweet or Salty: Salty
- Dog or Cat: Dog
- Pool or Beach: Pool
- Crossfit or Yoga: Crossfit
- Spa or Adventure: Spa
- RedBox or Movie Theater: Red Box
- Jimmy Kimmel or Jimmy Fallon: Jimmy Kimmel
- Golf or Golf: Both
- First Class or Economy: First Class
- Five Star or Budget: Five Star
- Kayak or Speed Boat: Speed Boat
- Hybrid or Gas Hog: Hybrid
- Mac or PC: PC
- Netflix or Hulu: Netflix
- Pandora or Spotify: Pandora
- Instagram or Twitter: Neither
- iPhone or Android: iPhone
- Digital or Print: Both ■





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# John C. Goede, Esquire

## Managing Partner

### Goede, Adamczyk & DeBoest, PLLC

## 'I motivate my team to excellence'

**J**ohn Goede never reached his childhood aspiration of being an astronomer, but as leader of a law firm that has grown statewide under his leadership, he's always aiming high in the sky.

**Describe yourself in one sentence:**

I motivate my team to excellence, meanwhile expecting no more from others than what I expect from myself.

**Describe your business in one sentence:**

Full Service Law Firm serving the entire state of Florida.

**What motivates you?**

The desire to provide an excellent service at a reasonable price, which ultimately leads to satisfied lifetime clients.

**What has been your best idea so far?**

Expanding the law firm, and opening additional branch offices throughout the state of Florida.

**What advice would you give a young executive trying to break into your business?**

Find a mentor. Study the habits of those in your profession whom you admire and emulate them. Success is a daily reward, so enjoy the challenges each day will bring you.



And above all, always remember that your most valuable asset is your integrity.

**How would you want others describe you as a businessperson?**

My clients have stated that I have a unique blend of book smarts, common sense and calm delivery of outcomes.

**What current issue affecting your business is most important to you?**

Technology and the legal profession are often difficult and complex and present challenges to lawyers. These advances increase the pace of practice and client expectations, forcing lawyers to adapt.

**Who is your most influential role model, and why?**

Steve Jobs, a true visionary. He was solution driven, and had the ability to think outside the box.

**What charitable organization is most important to you?**

Naples International Film Festival. As a founding board member, I enjoy watching this fall event grow each year, and seeing the amazing talent that comes to Naples to be showcased.

**The person I would most like to have coffee or a cocktail with:**

Mark Cuban — savvy businessman, investor and owner of the Dallas Mavericks.

**WHO AM I?**

**Name:** John C. Goede, Esquire  
**Title:** Managing Partner  
**Business or Company:** Goede, Adamczyk & DeBoest, PLLC  
**Years working in Collier County:** 16  
**Family:** Married with two daughters  
**Education:** University of Florida – Economics, University of Florida Law School  
**Hometown:** Philadelphia, Pa.

**As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?**

I wanted to be an astronomer; my curiosity about the universe still exists today.

**Your favorite childhood memory:**

Spending time with my parents and brothers at the beach.

**Your first job:**

Customer Service Representative at MCI Worldcom.

**Your worst job:**

Haven't had one yet.

**Your dream job:**

In House Counsel for Google.

**What do you enjoy doing most with your family or friends?**

Boating and fishing, anywhere in the world.

**Tell us something few people know about you:**

I am left-handed, and have a watch collection.

**Hobbies:**

Deep sea fishing

**Favorite Naples restaurant:**

Capital Grille.

**"Must do" when entertaining out-of-town guests:**

Taking them for a boat ride on the Gulf of Mexico and visiting La Playa.

**Name the last...**

- Book you read: "The 4-Hour Workweek"
- Concert/live performance you saw: John Fogarty
- Movie you saw: "Snowpiercer"
- Time you laughed out loud: Daily
- Time you apologized: Whenever I need to.
- Time you cried: I laugh til I cry when watching comedy

**Most important lesson you've learned in life:**

Treat others with respect and be honest in your dealings.

**Lightning Round**

- Coffee or Tea: Tea
- Coke or Pepsi: Coke
- Beer or Wine: Wine
- Cook or Dine Out: Dine Out
- Sweet or Salty: Sweet
- Dog or Cat: Dog
- Pool or Beach: Beach
- Crossfit or Yoga: Crossfit
- Spa or Adventure: Adventure
- RedBox or Movie Theater: Movie Theater
- Jimmy Kimmel or Jimmy Fallon: Fallon
- Gulf or Golf: Gulf
- First Class or Economy: First Class
- Five Star or Budget: Five Star
- Kayak or Speed Boat: Speed Boat
- Hybrid or Gas Hog: Gas Hog
- Mac or PC: PC
- Netflix or Hulu: Netflix
- Pandora or Spotify: Neither — Songza
- Instagram or Twitter: Neither
- iPhone or Android: iPhone
- Digital or Print: Digital

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John C. Goede, Mark E. Adamczyk & Richard D. DeBoest, II



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# Denny Grimes

Realtor, Royal Shell Real Estate  
Denny Grimes & Company at Royal Shell Real Estate

## 'Good decisions cannot be made with bad information'

**T**alk about a guy who knows how to pick himself up, dust himself off and, as he puts it, march on. Denny Grimes took his shots in recent years along with many in the real estate game, but his optimism and diligence helped him emerge from the housing crisis even better prepared to make the American housing dream come true.

### Describe yourself in one sentence:

I'm a marcher, meaning that each morning I strap on my boots and march. I don't bask too long in my wins, nor do I wallow too long in my defeats; I just march. It's surprising how much progress you can make if you just keep moving.

### Describe your business in one sentence:

My team is committed to providing exceptional residential real-estate advice/service, and that starts and ends with honesty as we believe that good decisions cannot be made with bad information. Therefore, our clients can always trust that what we say is in fact the truth.

### How do you come up with new ideas?

First, I look outside my industry for examples of marketing or customer service, and I figure out how to apply that in my business. Secondly, I'm a thinker, meaning I never accept the most obvious conclusion, even if the majority reaches that conclusion. I like to ask "what if" questions because I have found that nuggets of gold are out there, but rarely are they found sitting on a golf tee in the middle of the sidewalk.

### What has been your best idea so far?

I was the first real estate agent in Southwest Florida to buy a moving truck, and I made it available to my customers and local charities, free of charge. That turned out to be both a great branding move and a great help to hundreds of families who were in the process of a local move.

### How would others describe you as a businessperson?

I've been known to raise the bar

when times are good, and people know me for my energy and ambition to do that. Most recently, though, I think I'm also seen as a survivor, one who bounces back from setbacks like the economic downturn. Those of us who stayed the course have a new area of expertise to offer, and while we hope we don't need to use those lessons learned again, I think others recognize the value and insight experienced Realtors like myself can offer.

### What single issue is most important to you?

Business-wise, it is educating other real estate professionals about how to interpret market data in order to assist their clients. Too many agents base their opinion of the market on the latest news story or headline instead of actual analytics.

### Your most influential role model, and why?

I have to give credit to three main men in my life. My grandfather taught me how to be strong, my dad taught me how to work hard, and my father-in-law taught me how to work smart.

### Your business role model:

John Maxwell. He has written about 80 books on leadership. He is a sought-after speaker, and he has a vision that is worldwide. I too want to write, speak and expand my real estate presence worldwide.

### As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?

I wanted to be an airline pilot. My dad was a local charter pilot for Fort Myers Airways, so hanging with

### WHO AM I?

**Name:** Denny Grimes

**Title:** Realtor, Royal Shell Real Estate

**Business or Company:** Denny Grimes & Company at Royal Shell Real Estate

**Years working in Lee County:** 31

**Closest family:** My daughter, Morgan, who works with my real estate team.

**Education:** MBA, University of South Florida

**Hometown:** Ashtabula, Ohio

him gave me a love for aviation. Obviously, that didn't happen, but I have been a private pilot for over 30 years.

### Your first job:

I was a porter at a bowling alley in Ohio. I started working there when I was 14, and by the time I was 16, I was running the entire 32-lane bowling alley.

### Tell us something few people know about you:

I was raised by my grandparents in Fort Myers. They were very conservative, and they wouldn't allow me to go to movies, wear corduroy pants and go into other people's homes. Well, today I go to movies, wouldn't be caught dead in corduroy pants (don't ask), and I make my living going into other people's homes. Sorry, Grandma.

### What business apps/software is invaluable to you?

I love Google Calendar as it keeps my schedule, and that of my team, in the palm of my hand.

### What's the most important business book you've read?

Most recently, "The One Thing" by Gary Keller.

Before that it would have to be "How to Win Friends and Influence People" by Dale Carnegie.

### Most important lesson you've learned in life:

I like what Rick Warren, the author of "The Purpose Driven Life," says: "Rather than life being hills and valleys, I believe that it's kind of like two rails on a railroad track, and at all times you have something good and something bad in your life. No matter how good things are in your life, there is always something bad that needs to be worked on. And no matter how bad things are in your life, there is always something good you can be thankful for." I have come to grips with the fact that chaos will coexist in a fulfilled and successful life. In other words, you can still have a clean house even though you can never eliminate every speck of dust.

### What's a piece of advice you wish you'd have received years ago?

I would have asked for help more instead of thinking that my success was totally up to me. John Maxwell, one of my favorite authors, says, "Nobody succeeds alone." In fairness to those around me, I probably received this advice, but I did not heed it.

### What advice would you give to a fellow executive relocating to our area?

I would encourage them to take the initiative and introduce themselves to the neighbors because a large percentage of people living here are from somewhere else and are anxious to make new friends. Southwest Florida is the most friendly area in Florida. Leverage that and make new friends. You never know when you will need a cup of sugar.

### If you had a theme song, what would it be?

"Stand" by Rascal Flatts, "Cause when push comes to shove you taste what you're made of. You might bend, 'til you break cause it's all you can take. On your knees you look up, decide you've had enough. You get mad, you get strong, wipe your hands, shake it off. Then you stand." That pretty much sums up the last 10 years in the world of residential real estate. ■



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# Kent V. Hasen, M.D.

## Plastic Surgeon

### Aesthetic Plastic Surgery of Naples

## 'A perfectionist who will go the extra mile'

Not many doctors take a break from the pressure and grind of medical school by climbing Mount Kilimanjaro, but Dr. Kent V. Hasen has always been an over-achiever. That's a great attribute for a plastic surgeon — and even better news for the patients who rely on his skill to look and feel better.

**Describe yourself in one sentence:**

I am a perfectionist who will go the extra mile to make sure things are done to the best of my ability.

**Describe your business in one sentence:**

A boutique plastic surgery office that offers the full range of cosmetic treatments from non-surgical options to plastic surgery of the face, breast and body.

**What motivates you?**

Patient satisfaction.

**What has been your best idea so far?**

Marrying my wife, who is my partner in life and business. She is a better manager of our employees than I am.

**What advice would you give a young executive trying to break into your business?**

Do your very best effort every time without cutting corners and it will pay off.

**How would you want others to describe you as a businessperson?**

I am a better doctor than businessman.

**What current issue affecting your business is most important to you?**

Space. We have outgrown our current location with the addition of our Physician Assistant and several new lasers. We are looking to expand to a larger space to help alleviate this and to continue growing.

**Who is your most influential role model, and why?**

Dr. Gregory Dumanian, who is the chief of Plastic Surgery at Northwestern. He is a small, brilliant man who is not afraid of any challenge. He showed me a way to handle serious reconstructive cases with a level head that has served me well in my own practice.

**What charitable organization is most important to you?**

Bosom Buddies, a breast cancer support organization that provides breast cancer treatment and reconstruction to uninsured and underinsured women.

**As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?**

A doctor. My mom bought me a stethoscope for my 6th birthday to sway that decision, I believe.

**Your favorite childhood memory:**

Visiting Florida with my family for most holidays.

**Your first job:**

Pizza delivery guy.

**Your worst job:**

Construction site cleanup.

**Your dream job:**

My current job, plastic surgeon.

**What do you enjoy doing most with your family or friends?**

Enjoying the beautiful beaches of Southwest Florida.

**Tell us something few people know about you:**

I climbed Mount Kilimanjaro during medical school while doing a medical rotation in Tanzania.

**Hobbies:**

Fishing, Crossfit and vacationing with family.

**Favorite Naples restaurant:**

Osteria Tulia.

**"Must do" when entertaining out-of-town guests:**

Visit the Naples Pier and stroll on 3rd Street and 5th Avenue.

**Name the last ...**

- Book you read: "Let's Explore Diabetes with Owls" by David Sedaris.
- Concert/live performance you saw: Pearl Jam in Wrigley Field last summer.
- Movie you saw: "American Hustle."
- Time you laughed out loud: Watching any episode of "Impractical Jokers" or "VEEP."

■ Time you cried: When my father passed away.

**Most important lesson you've learned in life:**

Do the right thing and good things will follow.

**Lightning Round**

- Coffee or Tea: Coffee
- Coke or Pepsi : Coke
- Beer or Wine: Wine
- Cook or Dine Out: Dine Out
- Sweet or Salty: Sweet
- Dog or Cat: Cat
- Pool or Beach: Beach
- Crossfit or Yoga: Crossfit
- Spa or Adventure: Adventure
- RedBox or Movie Theater: Movie

**WHO AM I?**

**Name:** Kent V. Hasen, M.D.

**Title:** Plastic Surgeon

**Business or Company:** Aesthetic Plastic Surgery of Naples

**Years working in Collier County:** 12

**Family:** Wife: Dellene; Children: Kendell, 10, Kade, 8, and Kennedy, 6

**Education:** Undergraduate With Highest Distinction Indiana University, BS Biology 1991; BA Double Major Italian and Chemistry, 1991 – Phi Beta Kappa.

Cornell University Medical College, MD, 1995-AOA

General Surgery, Northwestern University Hospitals, 1995-1998

Plastic Surgery, Northwestern University Hospitals, 1998-2002

Fellowship in Cosmetic Surgery, Miami, 2002

**Hometown:** Indianapolis, Ind.

**Theater**

■ Jimmy Kimmel or Jimmy Fallon: Fallon

■ Golf or Golf: Golf

■ Kayak or Speed Boat: Speed Boat

■ Mac or PC: PC

■ Netflix or Hulu: Netflix

■ Pandora or Spotify : Spotify

■ Instagram or Twitter : Neither

■ iPhone or Android : iPhone

■ Digital or Print: Digital

■ Digital or Print: Digital



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# Steven Lush

## President Robb & Stucky

### ‘I believe in true partnerships and win-win scenarios’

Furniture is literally in the blood of Steven Lush, who brings 120 years of family retail-furnishings’ experience to his job as president of prestigious Robb & Stucky. But this is not a business leader stuck in his industry’s history, as demonstrated by the forward-thinking, goal-driven philosophies he expresses in the following answers.

**Describe yourself in one sentence:**

Hard-working, driven, passionate, optimistic, genuine.

**Describe your business in one sentence:**

Robb & Stucky is a complete home furnishings and interior design company; our showrooms feature beautiful displays, talented designers and outstanding customer service.

**What motivates you?**

I’m motivated by constant improvement and striving to be the very best we can be. This is both challenging and rewarding, and it drives all of us at Robb & Stucky. There’s always something that can be improved to make an even better experience for our customers, and we love meeting this challenge every day.

**How do you come up with new ideas?**

I read a lot, especially books on business strategy and management, biographies and history. For industry trends, I read several interior-design magazines and I follow a lot of design blogs. And of course I visit retail stores — regardless of what they’re selling I always come away with a few ideas. But I also see things in everyday life that may spark an idea that can be implemented in our business.

**How would others describe you as a businessperson?**

Honest, fair and trustworthy. I believe in true partnerships and win-win scenarios.

**What current issue affecting your business is most important to you?**

Over the past 100 years, Robb & Stucky has furnished many of the most beautiful homes in Florida. We continue this tradition today by carrying only the finest quality furnishings available — a great deal of which are made in America — and by providing expert interior design assistance. However, we also strive to provide beautiful and comfortable homes to a wide range of budgets — to this end, we shop hard for values and we operate a very efficient

business so our prices can be extremely competitive. Many people are surprised when they walk in our stores and see how affordable quality furniture can be.

**What business apps/software are invaluable to you?**

I love spreadsheets. It’s kind of a joke around the office.

**What’s the most important business book you’ve read?**

“Competitive Strategy” by Michael Porter. This book taught me at an early age the importance of positioning and strategy. Without the right strategy, a lot of time and effort can be wasted. And anything by Peter Drucker — he’s without a doubt my favorite business-management writer. I’ve read some of his books four and five times.

**What advice would you give to a fellow executive relocating to our area?**

Embrace what is great about living here: Beautiful weather year-round, beach, tennis, golf, shopping, dining, boating, fishing, and really friendly and interesting people from all over. Everyday life is fantastic here. If you feel the need to visit a large city, or to escape the heat with a trip up north, we have a great airport. Whenever we take a trip away, we can’t wait to get back to SW FL!

**What charitable organization is most important to you?**

At Robb & Stucky, we all believe in supporting our local community. There are a great number of charitable organizations that we lend our support to: American Cancer Society, Arts for ACT, Habitat for Humanity and The Shelter for Abused Women & Children are just a few.

**As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?**

A “Furniture Man” No kidding. I grew up in a 120-year-old furniture retail family, and I always wanted to be like my father. I really enjoy the business part of what I do, but I have a true passion for furniture and interior design.

**Your first job:**

Blowing up balloons at a traveling carnival that was in my hometown for two weeks. I think they paid me 25 cents an hour and I loved it. My first real job was working on the delivery truck in my family’s business, which I did every weekend and summer from junior high through college.

**WHO AM I?**

**Name:** Steven Lush  
**Title:** President  
**Business or Company:** Robb & Stucky  
**Years working in Lee County:** 3  
**Family:** Wife of 28 years, Nanette. 26 year-old daughter Danielle.  
**Education:** University of Vermont  
**Hometown:** Galeton, Pa.

**What do you enjoy doing most with your family or friends?**

I love eating my wife’s cooking. She’s a gourmet cook and loves to entertain. We’ve had many great afternoons and evenings around the dinner table.

**Hobbies:** Tennis, skiing, wakeboarding, travel, dining out, live music.

**Favorite Naples restaurant:**

There are so many great restaurants in Naples that we visit on a regular basis. If I had to choose one favorite it would be Truluck’s. Best happy hour in town, and we love the décor, the food and the service..

**What’s a piece of advice you wish you’d have received years ago?**

Discover your passion and follow it. If you love what you do, you’ll be successful. And most of all, you’ll be happy.

**Lightning Round:**

- Coffee or Tea: Coffee
- Coke or Pepsi: Neither
- Beer or Wine: Both
- Cook or Dine Out: Absolutely dine out. Or eat my wife’s cooking. I’m a terrible cook.
- City or Country: Both. I love the dining, sports and enter-

tainment options in large cities. And I love the outdoors — beach, mountains, lakes. To stay in balance, I need both.

- Sweet or Salty: Salty
- Dog or Cat: Dog. Our cocker spaniel Sadie is part of the family.
- Pool or Beach: Beach
- Crossfit or Yoga: Yoga. I enjoy yoga — my daughter used to make me go to her class when I visited her. Now she’s into Pure Barre. I’ll let you know how that goes after my next visit.
- RedBox or Movie Theater: Movie Theater. We love Silver Spot.
- Jimmy Kimmel or Jimmy Fallon: Jimmy Kimmel.
- Beatles or Rolling Stones: Beatles.
- Hands-down.
- “Star Wars” or “Star Trek”: Neither
- Gulf or Golf: Gulf
- First Class or Business Class: I’m a coach person.

- Kayaking or Boating: Boating
- Hybrid or Sports Car: Sports Car
- Mac or PC: PC
- Pandora or Spotify: Pandora
- Facebook or Twitter: Facebook
- iPhone or Android: iPhone.
- Digital or Print: Digital. Except on the beach — print is much better. ■



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# Tiffany McQuaid

Broker/Owner

**McQuaid & Company Real Estate Services and McQuaid Marketing and Promotions**

‘Creative, forward-thinking, dedicated ball of energy’

**W**hen you read Tiffany McQuaid’s favorite childhood memory in the following profile, you’ll see that she was destined early on to be an enterprising businesswoman. Seems this successful real-estate and marketing executive has always been ahead of her time ... and the competition.

**Describe yourself in one sentence:**

A creative, forward-thinking, extremely dedicated, really hard-working, ball of energy!

**Describe your business in one sentence:**

Everything we do is taken to the “Mth Degree!”  
The sky is the limit.

**What motivates you?**

A phrase, a color, a sign, a song... I find inspiration in the strangest of places, but the thought of creating something from nothing and making a difference in the smallest of ways is what lights the fire in my belly!”

**What has been your best idea so far?**

Taking the risk, despite all odds, to pursue my dream of opening my own real estate and marketing companies (at the same time nonetheless)!

**What advice would you give a young executive trying to break into your business?**

You have to love it...

Really, really love it! When you love what you are doing, it truly doesn’t feel like work — it becomes more about a passion. The hazard is, that you don’t know when to shut it off. Balance will then become critically important for your health, happiness and growth as a professional.”

**How would you want others to describe you as a businessperson?**

As someone who gives it her all!  
If I fail, it won’t be because I didn’t exhaust ALL options first.

**Who is your most influential role model, and why?**

“Barbara Corcoran (Real Estate Mogul and Shark Tank Investor) because of her tenacity to build a real estate business from nothing into one of the largest firms in New York City. She has played an integral role in mentoring me and pushing me to recognize (and play up) the assets that my business offers. I want to be just like her when I grow up!

**What charitable organization is most important to you?**

I have always been a supporter of so many charities and truly believe in giving back. So I created the McQuaid Cares Foundation last year. This will allow funds generated from events my marketing company does, as well

**WHO AM I?**

**Name:** Tiffany McQuaid

**Title:** Broker/Owner

**Business or Company:** McQuaid & Company Real Estate Services and McQuaid Marketing and Promotions

**Years working in Collier County:** 12

**Hometown:** Originally from Akron, Ohio; moved to Youngstown, Ohio, to go to college and stayed for many years.

as donations from the real estate office and agents, to support health, education, commerce and standards of living.

**Your favorite childhood memory:**

This memory was not a positive one at the time, but I cannot help but giggle every time I think of it now. When I was 10 I decided to participate in our neighborhood yard sale (my Mother knew nothing of this participation) and for weeks prior to the “big day” I collected trinkets, clothes, etc., from around the house. I priced them and hid them under the stairs in anticipation of the big day. When my Mother left for work the morning of the sale, I sprung into action and set up all of my tables, displayed my pre-priced items carefully and put my handmade yard sale signs in the driveway. I was doing very well and selling loads of my carefully selected inventory, until my Mom decided to come home that day for lunch unexpectedly. She interrupted my negotiation with a buyer of her prized Hummel Clock Collection (which I was selling for \$1) and was very upset so she immediately shut me down. I was grounded for several weeks, as a result, but mostly because I sold several of her work suits.

**Your dream job:**

The one I have right now!

**Tell us something few people know about you:**

I danced (tap and jazz) from when I was 2 years old until I graduated high school. Many of those

years were spent traveling the country dancing competitively.

**Favorite Naples restaurant:**

Alto, Live Jazz Kitchen at Bayfront. Best mashed potatoes in town.

**A “must do” when you have out-of-town guests:**

Aside from visiting our beaches and local establishments, a visit to the Shy Wolf Sanctuary is a must-do!

**Name the last...**

- Book you read: “Purple Cow” by Seth Godin
- Concert/live performance you saw: Katy Perry live in Tampa!

**Most important lesson you’ve learned in life:**

Stay true to who you are, don’t let the noise of outside opinions or thoughts prevent you from losing sight of your own vision. Most importantly, always take the high road!

**Lighting round:**

- Coffee or Tea: My favorite is Tazo Zen Green Tea
- Coke or Pepsi: I was a Diet Coke addict for many years but gave it up almost a year ago.
- Beer or wine: Michelob Ultra or a nice glass of Chardonnay.
- Spa or Adventure: I like adventure, but love the spa more.
- Five Star or Budget: Anyone can pay full price for things; the true fun is in finding a good deal.

**Your favorite song:**

I have many songs that I love, but the one that inspires me the most (right now) is “Roar,” by Katy Perry. The lyrics are a perfect fit, I have been knocked down so many times in my life and career, but have learned not to waste any time getting back up!

**Your favorite quote:**

“To be successful, be excellent. If you want the best the world has to offer, then offer the world your best!” — Oprah ■



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# David C. Michie

## Yacht Broker MarineMax

### 'Be a man of your word'

**D**avid Michie is big in the luxury-boating business, which isn't surprising since he has been on the water since age 7. Integrity in life and the workplace are important to him, as is the virtue of patience. He might be a water guy by trade, but he's as grounded as they come.

**Describe yourself in one sentence:**

Excited to see what tomorrow brings.

**Describe your business in one sentence:**

Do the right things by your clients, and they will always remember you.

**What motivates you?**

That's simple, my wife and daughter.

**What has been your best idea so far?**

I always had a boat from age 7. Getting into the boat business seemed like a natural fit.

**What advice would you give a young executive trying to break into your business?**

Be patient.

**What current issue affecting your business is most important to you?**

The economy. Generally people are cautious, with good reason. People still want to enjoy the water and are careful in their decision making process.

The higher quality brands are in more demand than anytime before.

**Who is your most influential role model, and why?**

My father. Always a family man and man of his word. He is very giving to the ones he loves. I also am fortunate to have several very successful clients. All of them have one trait in common: They are good to the people they are around.

**What charitable organization is most important to you?**

Blessings in a Backpack.

**WHO AM I?**

**Name:** David C. Michie

**Title:** Yacht Broker

**Business or Company:** MarineMax

**Years working in Collier County:** 12 years in the area

**Family:** wife Brooke (former teacher at The Canterbury School in Fort Myers); daughter: Sienna Grace, age 2; parents: Dr. David and Donna Michie; sister: Sharon Michie

**Hometown:** Born in Miami, raised in Fort Myers

my wife, and my mother-in-law is closer to my age,

**Hobbies:**

Golf, boating, traveling.

**Favorite Naples restaurant:**

Capital Grille.

**"Must do" when entertaining out-of-town guests:**

Boating and the beaches.

**Name the last...**

■ Concert/live performance you saw: Zac Brown

■ Movie you saw: "Frozen"

■ Time you laughed out loud: Thirty seconds ago reflecting on me taking the garbage out.

■ Time you apologized: This morning.

■ Time you cried: A recent Thursday. Leaving my girls while I travel is always tough.

**Most important lesson you've learned in life:**

Be a man of your word.

**The person I would most like to have coffee or a cocktail with:**

Coffee: Bono from U2; Cocktail: Jack Nicklaus.

**As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?**

I didn't want to grow up.

**Your favorite childhood memory:**

Boating to Useppa with my mom and dad.

**Your first job:**

Took out the garbage in my dad's doctor's office. Wasn't for me.

**Your worst job:**

Taking out the garbage.

**Your dream job:**

I'm living it.

**What do you enjoy doing most with your family or friends?**

Laughing at ourselves and each other.

**Tell us something few people know about you:**

I'm 11 years older than

**Lightning Round**

■ Coffee or Tea: Tea

■ Coke or Pepsi: Coke (better with rum)

■ Beer or Wine: Beer

■ Cook or Dine Out: Dine Out

■ Sweet or Salty: Salty

■ Dog or Cat: Fish

■ Pool or Beach: Pool

■ Crossfit or Yoga: Neither

■ Spa or Adventure: Adventure

■ RedBox or Movie Theater: Movie Theater

■ Jimmy Kimmel or Jimmy Fallon: Jimmy Fallon

■ Golf or Golf: Golf

■ First Class or Economy: First Class

■ Five Star or Budget: Five Star

■ Kayak or Speed Boat: Speed Boat

■ Hybrid or Gas Hog: Gas Hog

■ Mac or PC: Mac

■ Netflix or Hulu: Netflix

■ Pandora or Spotify: Pandora

■ Instagram or Twitter: Twitter

■ iPhone or Android: iPhone

■ Digital or Print: Digital ■



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# Geurt Peet

CEO

Millennium Physician Group, LLC

## ‘Good health care starts with taking care of ourselves’

Even though he’s not a medical doctor himself, Geurt Peet understands what it takes to manage a successful physician group. His educational background is in engineering, computer technology and business administration, but his heart is in enabling his organization to provide the best healthcare possible — and with the family he loves and still learns from.

**Describe yourself in one sentence:**

I like to work hard and accomplish our goals, but enjoy my time off with family and friends.

**Describe your business in one sentence:**

To provide Southwest Florida patients access to convenient and comprehensive primary care services.

**What do you personally get paid to do?**

To equip our practitioners with the right tools and equipment, in the right place and time, so they can provide the best care for their patients.

**How do you come up with new ideas?**

Mostly through talking with others.

**What has been your best idea so far?**

Being part of the team that created Millennium Physician Group.

**How would others describe you as a business person?**

Fair.

**What single issue is most important to you?**

The challenge of making people understand that good health care starts with all of us taking care of ourselves. I often struggle with it myself.

**Your most influential role model, and why?**

My parents. They taught us that hard work, perseverance and compassion are good traits.

**Your favorite leader of all time:**

Ronald Reagan

**Your business role model:**

My father

**WHO AM I?**

**Name:** Geurt Peet

**Title:** CEO

**Business or Company:** Millennium Physician Group, LLC

**Years working in Southwest Florida:** 20-plus

**Closest family:** Wife Mayte, daughters Nicole and Natasha, son Michael, parents Geurt Sr. and Helen Peet, in-laws Michael and Emma Morales.

**Education:** Bachelor’s degrees in Industrial Engineering and in Computer Technology from USF Tampa, MBA NOVA Southeastern.

**Hometown:** Suriname – it’s in northern South America.

**As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?**

A commercial airline pilot.

**Your favorite childhood memory:**

Fishing with my mother and brothers.

**Your first job:**

Computer clerk at a bank.

**If you could chat with anyone in history for 20 minutes, with whom would it be?**

Steve Jobs.

**Describe your typical weekend:**

Cleaning cars, yard work, fishing and golf are my Saturday therapy. Just about every Sunday afternoon we spend at our home with family.

**What do you enjoy doing most with your family or friends?**

We’re very much alike. We like to work hard, but when we’re together we have a good time.

**Tell us something few people know about you:**

I don’t mind being alone!

**Personal hobbies:**

Fishing and golf

**Favorite all-time book:**

“Atlas Shrugged” by Ayn Rand

**Movie:**

“Monsters Inc.”

**TV show:**

“CBS Sunday Morning”

**Music:**

Anything from the 1970s and 1980s

**Radio station:**

XM-The Blend

**Most important lesson you’ve learned in life:**

When making decisions, painful or not, making them sooner rather than later makes life a lot simpler.

**If I could do one thing in my life over again, it would be ...**

Spending more time with my wife and children. As cliché as this sounds, time flies and you don’t get any of it back.

**What advice would you give to a fellow executive relocating to our area?**

It takes some time to acclimate, but it’s a great place to live and work. There are plenty of opportunities for those willing to look for them. ■



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# Manuel Pena, M.D.

## CEO/ Surgeon in Chief Pena Plastic Surgery

### 'I love what I do'

**H**is heritage is Cuban, but he's a Deep South-raised and educated doctor with ties to Georgia, where he grew up with a surgeon father as a role model and began his own medical education, and Florida, where he has flourished in his successful plastic-surgery practice in Naples. Read on, and you'll see what this Manny being Manny is all about.

**Describe yourself in one sentence:**

I am a very social person.

**Describe your business in one sentence:**

Restoring and improving how people look and feel.

**What motivates you?**

I love what I do.

**What has been your best idea so far?**

Moving to Naples and opening my own practice (I guess that's two ideas!).

**What advice would you give a young executive trying to break into your business?**

Invest in yourself (education and equipment).

**How would you want others to describe you as a businessperson?**

Good doctor, OK businessperson.

**What current issue affecting your business is most important to you?**

Happy patients! They are my reason for staying in practice.

**Who is your most influential role model, and why?**

My father, because he did not hesitate leaving his country at age 50 to give us a chance for a better life.

**What charitable organization is most important to you?**

Boys and Girls Club of Collier County.

**WHO AM I?**

**Name:** Manuel (Manny) Pena, M.D.  
**Title:** CEO/ Surgeon in chief  
**Business or Company:** Pena Plastic Surgery  
**Years working in Collier County:** 25  
**Family:** Married 28 years to Regina. Four wonderful children: Monica, Manny, Savannah Rose and Athens.  
**Education:** B.S. from University of Georgia, M.D. from Med College of Georgia, General Surgery residency at University of Miami, Plastic Surgery Residency at Medical College of Georgia and post graduate fellowships at University of Miami and Manhattan Eye Ear and Throat Hosp/NYU  
**Hometown:** Camaguey, Cuba

**The person I would most like to have coffee or a cocktail with:**

Ernest Hemingway, if you can throw in a Mojito!

**As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?**

My father was an orthopedic surgeon so medicine was always in back of my mind, but I also thought about architecture.

**Your favorite childhood memory:**

Growing up on the grounds of a giant mental hospital in Milledgeville, Georgia. My idea of "normal" is quite broad thanks to that.

**Your first job:**

McDonald's.

**Your worst job:**

I have enjoyed them all! They all had their purpose in making me who I am.

**Your dream job:**

Being a plastic surgeon in Naples and being able to go abroad on missions for months at a time instead of a few

weeks here and there.

**What do you enjoy doing most with your family or friends?**

Traveling and cooking.

**Tell us something few people know about you:**

I do not like being upside down over water!

**Hobbies:**

Cooking, boating, Getting together with friends over Cuban cigars.

**Favorite Naples restaurant:**

I prefer my cooking, to be honest.



**"Must do" when entertaining out-of-town guests:**

Sunset at La Playa.

**Name the last...**

- Book you read: "Dancing in the Glory of Monsters" (Civil War in the Congo).
- Concert/live performance you saw: Broadway play "Book of Mormon."
- Movie you saw: "Tammy."
- Time you laughed out loud: Every day in my operating room. I am easily amused.

**Most important lesson you've learned in life:**

Humility. The only difference between myself and a homeless person or an illegal immigrant is circumstances often beyond anyone's control.

**Lightning Round**

- Coffee or Tea: Coffee
- Coke or Pepsi: Coke ... are you kidding?
- Beer or Wine: Now I am into IPAs
- Cook or Dine Out: Cook
- Sweet or Salty: Salty
- Dog or Cat: Woof
- Pool or Beach: Beach
- Crossfit or Yoga: Crossfit
- Spa or Adventure: Adventure
- RedBox or Movie Theater: Theater
- Jimmy Kimmel or Jimmy Fallon: I quit when Johnny retired
- Golf or Golf: Gulf
- First Class or Economy: First Class
- Five Star or Budget: Five star
- Kayak or Speed Boat: Slow Speed Boat
- Hybrid or Gas Hog: 2 Camry hybrids since 2007!
- Mac or PC: PC
- Netflix or Hulu: Netflix
- Pandora or Spotify: None
- Instagram or Twitter: None
- iPhone or Android: Android
- Digital or Print: Digital ■

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# John J Schrenkel

## CEO

### The American Eagle Mortgage Co.

## ‘I’m someone who makes it happen’

The mortgage business in recent years has been much like a ride one might take at John Schrenkel’s favorite amusement park — the roller-coaster capital of the world, Cedar Point along Lake Erie in Ohio. Through the dips and turns, though, Mr. Schrenkel’s a well-grounded mortgage executive whose goal is, as he puts it, “making dreams come true.”

**Describe yourself in one sentence:**

Motivated and driven to be the best.

**Describe your business in one sentence:**

Making dreams come true.

**What motivates you?**

The pat on the back and/or recognition for a great job. Putting the building blocks together, growing from a small company with a few locations to a national presence — 5 states and 25 locations and still growing!

**What has been your best idea so far?**

Moving to Southwest Florida.

**What advice would you give a young executive trying to break into your business?**

Put blinders on to the outside world. Don’t listen to the noise and stay focused and work hard.

**How would you want others to describe you as a businessperson?**

Honest and hard working. I’m someone who makes it happen.

**What current issue affecting your business is most important to you?**

The regulation and change to the landscape of our business.

**Who is your most influential role model, and why?**

Dwight Reynolds, a successful doctor and businessman, relative by marriage. Taught me anything is possible, and being around people who are much more successful than you will

push you to higher limits.

**What charitable organization is most important to you?**

Make a Wish. It’s touching to see a child’s dream come true. Being able to contribute to the organization and making these dreams happen.

**The person I would most like to have coffee or a cocktail with:**

Donald Trump. He has failed and succeeded so many times, and to come back on top is amazing. The pure ability to overcome failure and turn it into success.

**As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?**

An actor. And even today, I still want to be an actor!

**Your favorite childhood memory:**

Cedar Point in Sandusky, Ohio. The best amusement park in the world!

**Your first job:**

Busboy at Millers Restaurant in Aron, Ohio.

**Your worst job:**

A collector for Kirby Vacuums.

**Your dream job:**

Owning my own casino.

**What do you enjoy doing most with your family or friends?**

Vacationing. Traveling to new places we have never been. Any tropical destination is our ideal vacation.

**Tell us something few people know about you:**

I use to be a DJ.

**Hobbies:**

Working on homes, walking, boating, paddleboarding.

**Favorite Naples restaurant:**

Turtle Club.

**WHO AM I?**  
**Name:** John J. Schrenkel  
**Title:** CEO  
**Business or Company:** The American Eagle Mortgage Co.  
**Years working in Collier County:** 9 years part time, 5 years full time  
**Family:** Wife, Diane, and two sons, Anthony and Austin  
**Hometown:** Amherst, Ohio



**“Must do” when entertaining out-of-town guests:**

Paddleboarding on the Gulf of Mexico.

**Name the last...**

- Book you read: “Who Moved My Cheese?”
- Concert/live performance you saw: Elton John.
- Movie you saw: “Elysium.”
- Time you laughed out loud: Seeing Gabriel Iglesias.
- Time you cried: When my dad passed away

**Most important lesson you’ve learned in life:**

The life is too short. You need to live in the moment and not dwell on the past.

**Lightning Round**

- Coffee or Tea: Coffee
- Coke or Pepsi: Coke
- Beer or Wine: Wine
- Cook or Dine Out: Dine out
- Sweet or Salty: Sweet
- Dog or Cat: Dog
- Pool or Beach: Beach
- Crossfit or Yoga: Crossfit
- Spa or Adventure: Spa
- RedBox or Movie Theater- Movie Theater
- Jimmy Kimmel or Jimmy Fallon: Fallon
- Gulf or Golf: Gulf
- First Class or Economy: First Class
- Five Star or Budget: Five star
- Kayak or Speed Boat: Speed Boat
- Hybrid or Gas Hog: Gas hog
- Mac or PC: Mac
- Netflix or Hulu: Netflix
- Pandora or Spotify: Pandora
- Instagram or Twitter: Neither
- iPhone or Android: iPhone
- Digital or Print: Print

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# Jason Sherman • Todd Schusterman

## Owners / Managing Partners Diamond District

### 'Our antennas are always up'

Jason likes beer; Todd's a wine guy. Jason loves the Beatles; Todd gets his satisfaction from the Stones. Jason likes reading his news in print; Todd goes digital these days. A few differences, perhaps, but just as the quality diamonds they sell are forever, so likely is one of Southwest Florida's greatest, most-visible business partnerships.

#### Jason Sherman

**What motivates you?** My daughter and the happiness of our clients.

**How do you come up with new ideas?** Todd and I brainstorm daily; my mind is always churning.

**What has been your best idea so far?** Our complimentary limousine that we offered to our clients for their celebrations.

**How would others describe you as a businessperson?** Very driven, neurotic about doing things the correct way.

**What advice would you give a young executive trying to break into your business?** Nothing in life or business is easy; find what makes you happy.

**What current issue affecting your business is most important to you?** Internet.

**What's the most important business book you've read?** "The Art of War"

**What advice would you give to a fellow executive relocating to our area?** Stay focused on your business and be careful of the many distractions here in Southwest Florida.

**What charitable organization is most important to you?** Passion Foundation and Make A Wish.

**The person you'd most like to have coffee or a**



#### WHO AM I?

**Name:** Jason Sherman  
**Title:** Owner/ Managing Partner  
**Business or Company:** Diamond District  
**Years working in Lee County:** 11  
**Family:** Daughter Aubrie  
**Education:** Broward Community College  
**Hometown:** North Miami Beach

**cocktail with:** Derek Jeter

**As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?** Cardiologist

**Your first job:** Haagen Dazs ice cream scooper

**Your worst job:** Haagen Dazs ice cream scooper

**What do you enjoy doing most with your family or friends?** Attending sporting events

**Hobbies:** Poker and tennis

**"Must do" when entertaining out-of-town guests:** Watch a sunset

**Name your favorite concert/live performance:** Bruce Springsteen

**If you had a theme song, what would it be?** "We Are the Champions"

**Lightning Round:**

- Coffee or Tea: Coffee
- Coke or Pepsi: Coke
- Beer or Wine: Beer
- Cook or Dine Out: Dine Out
- City or Country: Country
- Sweet or Salty: Sweet
- Dog or Cat: Dog
- Pool or Beach: Pool
- Crossfit or Yoga: Crossfit
- RedBox or Movie Theater: Movie Theater
- Jimmy Kimmel or Jimmy Fallon: Jimmy Kimmel
- Beatles or Rolling Stones: Beatles
- "Star Wars" or "Star Trek": "Star Wars"
- Gulf or Golf: Gulf
- First Class or Business Class: First Class
- Kayaking or Boating: Kayaking
- Hybrid or Sports Car: Sports Car
- Pandora or Spotify: Pandora
- Facebook or Twitter: Facebook
- Instagram or Snap Chat: Snap Chat
- iPhone or Android: iPhone
- Digital or Print: Print

#### WHO AM I?

**Name:** Todd Schusterman  
**Title:** Owner/ Managing Partner  
**Business or Company:** Diamond District  
**Years working in Lee County:** 13  
**Family:** Wife: Tara; Daughters: Kayla and Kaitlyn; Grandson: Declan  
**Education:** Zanesville High School  
**Hometown:** Zanesville, Ohio

#### Todd Schusterman

**Describe yourself in one sentence:** I am truly blessed!

**Describe your business in one sentence:** One of the joys of being in the diamond business is that you are also in the business of celebrating romance and milestones.

**What motivates you?** My family, doing the right thing.

**How do you come up with new ideas?** Jason and I brainstorm every day; our antennas are always up.

**What has been your best idea so far?** Our complimentary limousine that we offered to our clients for their celebrations.

**How would others describe you as a businessperson?** Caring, teacher, motivated.

**What advice would you give a young executive trying to break into your business?** It's all about relationships. If you don't have a passion to meet new people and forge lasting relationships, then stay out of this business.

**What current issue affecting your business is most important to you?** Internet sales/sales-tax issues

**What's the most important business book you've read?** "Who Moved My Cheese?"

**Your most influential business role model and why?** My father. Not only did he pave the way for me and teach me the significance of our business, but he showed me how to truly care for others in a deeper way.

**What charitable organization is most important to you?** Passion Foundation and Autism Speaks.

**The person you'd most like to have coffee or a cocktail with:** Jack Nicklaus

**As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?** DJ

**Your first job:** Making bows for a nickel apiece

in our family's jewelry store.

**Worst job:** Stock boy in men's clothing store

**Tell us something few people know about you:** Few people know that I'm addicted to Christmas movies. I watch them all year.

**What do you enjoy doing most with your family or friends?** Family dinners and playing board games.

**Hobbies:** Tennis and Christmas movies

**Favorite Fort Myers restaurant:** All of them

**"Must do" when entertaining out-of-town guests:** Edison Ford Estates

**Name your favorite:**

- Book - "The Ultimate Gift"
- Concert - Rod Stewart
- Movie - "A Christmas Story"

**What's a piece of advice you wish you'd received years ago?** The power and freedom that is in forgiveness.

**Lightning Round:**

- Coffee or Tea: Coffee
- Coke or Pepsi: Coke
- Beer or Wine: Wine
- Cook or Dine Out: Dine Out
- City or Country: Country
- Sweet or Salty: Sweet
- Dog or Cat: Dog
- Pool or Beach: Pool
- Crossfit or Yoga: Crossfit
- RedBox or Movie Theater: Theater
- Kimmel or Fallon: Kimmel
- Beatles or Rolling Stones: Stones
- "Star Wars" or "Star Trek": "Star Wars"
- Gulf or Golf: Gulf
- First Class or Business Class: First Class

**Class**

- Kayaking or Boating: Kayaking
- Hybrid or Sports Car: Sports Car
- Pandora or Spotify: Pandora
- Facebook or Twitter: Facebook
- Instagram or Snap Chat: Snap Chat
- iPhone or Android: iPhone
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# Vicki Tracy

Director  
Arlington of Naples

## ‘Talk to the customers first ... then fill the need’

**W**hen we enter the twilight years, life often becomes too difficult to negotiate alone. It's good to know you have people such as Vicki Tracy who make it their life's work to ensure those days are indeed golden.

**Describe yourself in one sentence:**  
Passionate about my family, friends, Naples and seniors!

**Describe your business in one sentence:**  
Resort-style Senior Living.

**What motivates you?**  
The desire to make a difference.

**What has been your best idea so far?**  
To move to Naples and marry Steve Tracy.

**What advice would you give a young executive trying to break into your business?**

Educate yourself about the senior living industry. (The fastest growing industry in the USA due to baby boomers aging.) Talk to the customers first — find out why they made the decisions they did to live in this type of community. Then fill the need!

**How would you want others describe you as a businessperson?**

Dedicated and passionate about what she does. Call Vicki — she will get it done!

**What current issue affecting your business is most important to you?**

Educating the public on what senior living is, and getting people to have a plan. The industry has changed so much that keeping up with the new and innovative

dynamics and communicating it back to dispel old ideals about senior living is an ongoing challenge. No one really thinks about it until they have a need, then in many cases its too late to be proactive vs. reactive.

**Who is your most influential role model, and why?**

Other than my husband, it would be my mother and Joseph Greene. Joe was the founder and former CEO of HMA. He taught me more in business than I could ever thank him for. He emulated servant leadership.

**What charitable organization is most important to you?**

Most charitable organizations in this town are so worthy. The two that I think are impacting our town for the future are the Golisano Children's Museum (C'mon) and the proposed Bayshore Cultural and Performing Arts Center.

**The person I would most like to have coffee or a cocktail with:**

In Naples — my husband — I'm never home. Second only to at least 100 names that I keep saying "we will get together soon" to friends and colleagues that think I fell off the earth while trying to build The Arlington.

**As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?**

A waitress. Thank God I had the mom I do! I'm still a good waitress.

**Your favorite childhood memory:**

Being able to travel the US with my best friend Kathy and her family. Or anything that I did



### WHO AM I?

**Name:** Vicki Tracy  
**Title/Business:** Director, Arlington of Naples  
**Years working in Collier County:** 39  
**Family:** Husband Steve Tracy, Mom (Darlene Thomas), Kevin Thomas (Jenny), Greg Thomas (Colleen), Ken Thomas, Terri Thomas, mother-in-law Charlotte Tracy, stepson Gabe Tracy — and beloved nieces and nephews Dan, Bridget, Brendan, Madison and Jake.

with my brothers and sisters.

**Your first job:**  
Folding laundry at the hospital. Short lived.

**Your worst job:**  
Folding laundry at the hospital.

**Your dream job:**  
What I'm doing now — I love the people we serve! When you get to spend time with amazing seniors, hear great stories, and get an extended family that you love.

**What do you enjoy doing most with your family or friends?**

Friends - boat on Keewaydin. Family - just hanging out with my brothers and sisters and laughing. They just make you laugh until your side hurts. Throw in the nieces and nephews and I'm in heaven.

**Tell us something few people know about you:**

I love to chill out with my friends on the beach or camping or under my house - the more casual the better. A lot of people don't think I do that because I'm a work-a-holic who doesn't appear to have a life. I used to ride a motorcycle — that makes people laugh.

**Hobbies:**  
Work is my hobby, and boating.

**Favorite Naples restaurant:**  
There are so many — but if I could go anywhere at any time it would be to

Truluck's.

**“Must do” when entertaining out-of-town guests:**  
Take them on the boat. Make sure they see the Everglades.

**Name the last...**  
■ Book you read: “The Land Lost in Time”

■ Concert/live performance you saw: Phoenix (a local group)  
■ Movie you saw: I haven't been to a movie theater in 10 years, but I watched “Frozen” with my niece and nephew and adopted nieces and nephews. I loved it.

■ Time you laughed out loud: Every day — at something — mostly at myself.

■ Time you apologized: Daily — usually to my husband.

■ Time you cried: Last week - for friends with cancer.

**Most important lesson you've learned in life:** Love conquers all. If you have love in your life, of family and friends — nothing else matters.

### Lightning Round

- Coffee or Tea: Coffee
- Coke or Pepsi: Coke
- Beer or Wine: Wine
- Cook or Dine Out: Dine out
- Sweet or Salty: Sweet
- Dog or Cat: Neither
- Pool or Beach: Beach
- Crossfit or Yoga: Neither
- Spa or Adventure: Spa
- RedBox or Movie Theater: Theater
- Jimmy Kimmel or Jimmy Fallon: Kimmel
- Gulf or Golf: Gulf
- First Class or Economy: First class
- Five Star or Budget: Either
- Kayak or Speed Boat: Speed boat
- Hybrid or Gas Hog: Gas hog
- Mac or PC: PC
- Netflix or Hulu: Neither
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- Instagram or Twitter: Neither
- iPhone or Android: Both
- Digital or Print: Print ■

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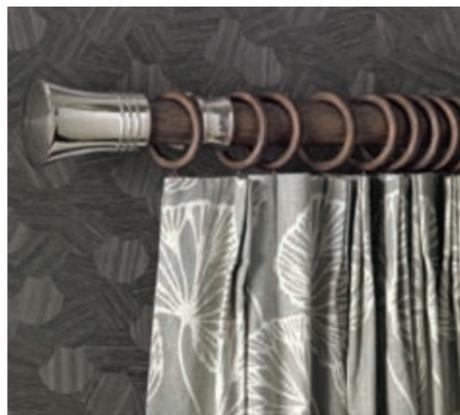
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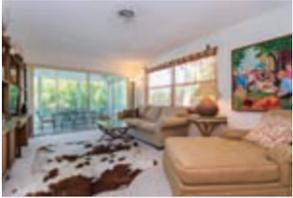
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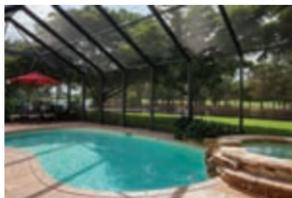
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Grande Dominica #T-3  
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premierSir.com/id/214044322 \$849,500



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Patrick O'Connor 239.293.9411  
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Dina L. Moon 239.370.1252  
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Tatyana Bogdanova-Sallee 239.293.5017  
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Bet Dewey 239.564.5673  
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premierSir.com/id/214048267 \$189,000



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Pat Callis 239.250.0562  
premierSir.com/id/213508100 \$669,000



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**MARCO ISLAND**

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premierSir.com/id/213005335 \$795,000



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premierSir.com/id/214048545 \$550,000



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premierSir.com/id/214038743 \$329,000



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premierSir.com/id/INFU090314IHE \$249,000



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Paul Strong 239.404.3280  
premierSir.com/id/214038837 \$459,000



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premierSir.com/id/214038057 \$399,900



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Michelle Thomas 239.860.7176  
premierSir.com/id/214032234 \$369,000



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premierSir.com/id/214048092 \$349,000



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premierSir.com/id/214038037 \$184,000



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**FIDDLER'S CREEK**

Whisper Trace #103  
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