

NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY®

IN THE KNOW. IN THE NOW.

WEEK OF OCTOBER 6-12, 2016

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Vol. VIII, No. 50 • FREE



“There has been a tremendous increase in support systems at all levels, starting with the biopsy, to after completion of their acute medical treatment.”

— Dr. Rie Aihara, a surgeon at Regional Breast Care

INSIDE STORY

■ Partners director understands firsthand patients’ fears. | **A8**

■ Getting help from Partners for Breast Cancer Care. | **A6**

■ ‘It’s a battle we don’t have to fight alone’ | **A4**

DECADES OF PROGRESS



Breast cancer diagnosis and treatment options have grown over time

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS Month is a time of reflection.

It also is a time of hope, and a time to look back and see how far medicine has come in diagnosing and treating this disease that claims the lives of about 40,450 women in the U.S. each year.

Florida Weekly asked Dr. Rie Aihara, a breast surgeon at Regional Breast Care in Fort Myers, for her insights into recent breast cancer innovations. Dr. Aihara’s

SEE PROGRESS, A10 ►

BY THE NUMBERS:

- About **1 in 8** U.S. women (about 12 percent) will develop invasive breast cancer over the course of their lifetime.

- Breast cancer incidence rates in the U.S. began decreasing in the year 2000, after increasing for the previous two decades. They dropped by **7 percent** from 2002 to 2003 alone. One theory is that this decrease was partially due to the reduced use of hormone replacement therapy by women after the results of a large study called the Women’s Health Initiative

were published in 2002.

These results suggested a connection between HRT and increased breast cancer risk.

- About **40,450** women in the U.S. are expected to die in 2016 from breast cancer, though death rates have been decreasing since 1989. Women under 50 have experienced larger decreases. These decreases are thought to be the result of treatment advances, earlier detection through screening, and increased awareness.

- For women in the U.S., breast cancer death rates

are higher than those for any other cancer, besides lung cancer.

- Besides skin cancer, breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among American women. In 2015, it’s estimated that just under **30 percent** of newly diagnosed cancers in women will be breast cancers.

- In women **under 45**, breast cancer is more common in African-American women than white women. Overall, African-American women are more likely to die of breast cancer. For Asian,

Hispanic and Native American women, the risk of developing and dying from breast cancer is lower.

- In 2016, there are more than **2.8 million** women with a history of breast cancer in the U.S. This includes women currently being treated and women who have finished treatment.

- A woman’s risk of breast cancer nearly doubles if she has a first-degree relative (mother, sister, daughter) who has been diagnosed with breast cancer. Less than **15 percent** of women who get

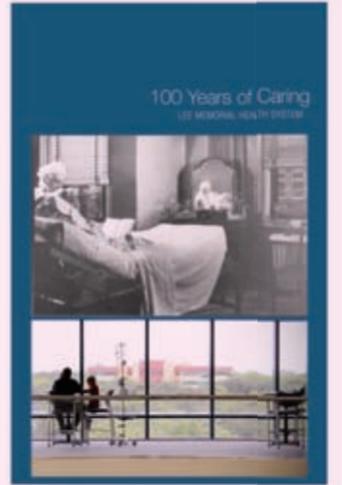
breast cancer have a family member diagnosed with it.

- About **85 percent** of breast cancers occur in women who have no family history of breast cancer. These occur due to genetic mutations that happen as a result of the aging process and life in general, rather than inherited mutations.

- The most significant risk factors for breast cancer are gender (being a woman) and age (growing older).

— Source: breastcancer.org

INSIDE



Centennial celebration

100 years of caring with the Lee Memorial Health System. INSERT ►



Time warp time

The Naples Players season opens with “Rocky Horror Show.” C1 ►



The fight goes on

Battle against citrus greening enters its second decade. B1 ►



Hoping for help

Naples-based Hope for Haiti seeks donations to help with Hurricane Matthew recovery. A21 ►

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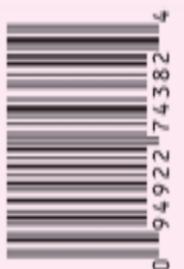
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PINK EVENTS

■ Through October

Paragon Pavilion donates a portion of proceeds from its Pink Doubles Combo to breast cancer awareness research through October. For \$19.95 the deal for moviegoers includes two large collectors cups and a large popcorn with free refills. 596-0008 or www.paragonteaters.com.

■ 101 Breast Cancer & Advanced Treatment: 5:30-6:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6, at Physicians Regional Hospital-Collier Boulevard

Breast surgeon Dr. Troy Shell discusses the latest advances in breast cancer treatment. Free, but registration required.

348-4180 or www.physiciansregional.com.

■ Sunset Cruise: 5-7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 8, on board the Naples Princess

Susan G. Komen-SWFL hosts a sunset dinner and dance cruise that includes a glass of champagne, prime rib or lemon-caper chicken entrée, dessert and coffee. The evening also includes hermit crab races, live entertainment by Trevor Earl and cash bar. \$125. www.komenswfl.org.

■ Pink Celebrity Bartender Night: 5:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 13, at Lamoraga

Lamoraga raises funds to find a cure for breast cancer and helps increase awareness of the disease and provide necessary information on detecting breast cancer in its early stages with help from eight celebrity bartenders competing for the most tips (which will be donated to Susan G. Komen-SWFL). This year's celebrity bartenders are: Wilfredo Emanuel of Clive

Daniel Home; Benjamin Fleischer, CEO and founder of Pyure Brands; Winston Justice, former NFL player of the Indianapolis Colts, Philadelphia Eagles and Denver Broncos and now managing partner of Altoros Trust; Batya Maman, CEO of Social Connect; Tom Nütten, a Super Bowl XXXIV champion and former NFL guard for the St. Louis Rams; Chef Brian Roland of Crave Culinare; and stylist Sashy and Stephanie Zachmann of Sashy Hairdesign Club. The evening's premium sponsors are Lutgert Insurance, Northern Trust and Thomas Riley Studio. \$25 includes one drink and a selection of tapas. Purchase tickets through eventbrite at pinkcelebrity.eventbrite.com or call Lamoraga at 331-3669 or visit www.lamoragarestaurant.com.

■ Fifth Annual Pink Party: 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 13, at Physicians Regional Hospital-Pine Ridge

The Pink Party blends refreshments, prizes, giveaways and live entertainment with important wellness advice, neighborhood charity to benefit Cancer Alliance of Naples and complimentary health screenings. Free admission. 348-4180 or www.physiciansregional.com.

■ Blue Martini Pink Party: 8-11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 15, at Blue Martini

Ladies dressed in pink enjoy free admission and a portion of sales of the Pretty in Pink cocktail will benefit Making Strides Against Breast Cancer. 591-2583 or www.bluemartinilounge.com

■ When to get screenings: 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 19, at Iberiabank on



TIM GIBBONS / FLORIDA WEEKLY
Timmea Zimmerman struts her stuff at last year's Pink Party presented by Physicians Regional Health System.

Marco Island, 605 Bald Eagle Drive

Iberiabank and Radiology Regional present Dr. Margaret Taha in a program designed to help clear up conflicting recommendations for when and how often a woman should be screened for breast cancer. Dr. Taha will also discuss the latest advancements in screening technology and diagnostic tools. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. \$3, with limited seating. 393-2400 for reservations.

■ Mah Jongg for Bosom Buddies: Friday-Sunday, Oct. 21-23 at the Courtyard by Marriott

The Naples Italian American Foundation hosts this three-day tournament that includes continental breakfast Saturday and Sunday and a buffet lunch on Saturday. \$130-\$290, with accommodations included in the larger packages. 597-5210 or www.niafoundation.org.

■ Making Strides Against Breast Cancer: 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 22, at Artis-Naples

This non-competitive 5K walk/run honors survivors and raises awareness and money to help the American Cancer Society fund breast cancer research and provide information, services and access to mammograms for women who need them. \$10 donation required. www.acevents.org.

■ Shop at J McLaughlin: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 26

Shop at any J McLaughlin store in Southwest Florida and 15 percent of your purchase total will be donated to Susan G. Komen-SWFL. In Naples, the women's boutique is at 1209 Third St. S. and also in Venetian Village.

■ Largest Human Pink Ribbon: 9-11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 29, at JetBlue Park in south Fort Myers

Partners for Breast Cancer Care and Susan G. Komen-SWFL will attempt to set the record for the Largest Human Pink Ribbon. A \$20 donation gets a pink umbrella that allows you to help form the ribbon. www.pfbcc.org or www.komenswfl.org. ■

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'It's a battle we don't have to fight alone'

BY LINDA SAETHER

"You've got cancer," are some of the most chilling words to hear, like a gut punch that stops just about everything. I didn't think it could happen to me, and certainly not twice.

I had my first encounter with breast cancer 20 years ago, when the removal of a bothersome cyst surprised both my surgeon and me. I opted for extensive surgical treatment that was considered aggressive at the time, after which I believed that breast cancer was something that no longer could affect me.

Less than a year ago, during a vile bout of pneumonia, I felt a nodule on the side of my chest while bracing myself against fits of coughing that shot pain through my left side. For a while I wasn't certain it was a nodule at all, telling myself it was scar tissue, an irregular rib margin, or really just a cyst this time. A biopsy revealed that it was breast cancer, and after surgical removal of the lesion, it was evident that the cancer had spread to a few of the lymph nodes.

Once the bone-quaking grip of fear eased its hold, I think I went into combat mode and started to gather information, seeking out doctors I trusted, and forming a plan of attack.

My tumor was aggressive, something that seemed like the most intimate betrayal, but I felt I could exhale after a PET scan, and learned that the disease had not appeared to progress.

To ward off the possible spread of undetected cells still lurking, I went through both chemo and radiation. My oncologist, Dr. Lowell Hart at Florida Cancer Specialists, and radiation oncol-



Linda Saether said, "Losing my hair stung ... I practiced wrapping my head in scarves."

ogist, Dr. Michael Katin at 21st Century Oncology, both sat down with me and explained what the treatment options were, leaving me with less than a 15 percent chance of recurrence over the next 10 years if I completed the recommended treatment. There are no 100 percent guarantees in life, but I decided to do everything I could to ensure that the odds were in my favor.

There was some time between surgery and starting treatment so I had time to think and prepare for the journey ahead. Alternative treatments flashed across my computer screen, but I decided to trust my doctors and the research they based their treatment on. I discovered there were things I could do that could possibly make a difference, or at least make the battle easier.

In the early days I read a lot about the disease, and the treatment, frightening myself horribly. Unlike an acute infec-



tious illness, where you feel horrible, and improve, chemo is a slippery slope from feeling well, to falling into a mind-numbing, lethargic state, where food taste like wet cardboard, and everything seems irrelevant.

Radiation, which was started after months of chemo, was like a surreal entry to a high-tech world that left me fatigued, but still grateful.

Losing my hair after the second round of chemo stung, but knowing it would happen I bought a wig, and practiced wrapping my head in scarves. It might sound frivolous, but in this battle, looking as good as possible offers a small, but much-needed boost.

With cancer there is so much one can't control, but I took charge of what I could. Before my treatment started, I made sure a lot of loose ends were tied up, the house was neat, laundry done, and the right foods were in the fridge.

Maybe these were small, irrelevant things, but it helped calm my mind.

I started to pore over Dr. Michael Greger's book, "How Not to Die," and followed www.NutritionFacts.org, until my diet became increasingly more vegan. I read about the correlation between walking 30 minutes daily, and exercising regularly, with a positive outcome for breast cancer patients, and I made myself walk, which I continued even on the most miserable of days.

Yoga has always been my "go to" form of exercise, and although I was too weak to do much during the months of treatment, it has been instrumental in restoring my physical and mental stamina, and I highly recommend it.

Now that most of this is behind me, I don't think of it every day, but the little hormone-suppressive pill that will be prescribed for me for the next five years reminds me to be grateful.

Although I knew a lot about cancer before this chapter of my life, I learned a great deal. There were things I wished I had known, and things that I was glad other cancer patients told me.

As a very private person, I had qualms about blogging, but in hopes of helping others, I started a blog called "youvegottocancer.com."

Cancer doesn't discriminate, and it continues to challenge so many, but it's a battle we don't have to fight alone. ■

— Linda Saether is a family practice physician with Lee Physician Group in Fort Myers, a writer and a breast cancer survivor. Read more about her breast cancer journey on her blog, youvegottocancer.com.

Screenings Matter!

9 out of 10 women diagnosed with breast cancer have **no family history** of the disease. Getting your mammogram **yearly** could be the difference between early detection of a less invasive cancer with minor life-changing treatment versus battling a late-stage cancer with aggressive and disruptive treatment.

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'I am now on the other side of the fence'

BY LINDA THOMAS

First, I would like you all to know that I am very blessed to be telling you my story. In February 2015, my world became a tornado. I was told that I had breast cancer.

Let me start from the beginning. It was in late October 2014 that I noticed a lump in my left breast and I said to myself, 'OK Linda, let's not go crazy, take it one step at a time.' When the recession hit here in Florida my husband and myself both lost our jobs. So what goes when you lose your jobs? You lose your insurance.

I called everywhere looking for help and when I say everywhere, I mean everywhere. All of the places that I called for help stated that because I did not have a primary care physician they could not help me. I called my old doctor but because I did not have any insurance they would not consider helping me with the cost of an office visit. I would have to pay full price. I told them that I could not afford it and to please help me just so that I could get a referral for a mammogram. I could not believe it, but no one was helping me at all. Then I saw an article on the internet that a company called Her Scan was going to be in Bonita Springs in November 2014 and they did ultrasounds of the breast for breast cancer.

I called the phone number right away and made an appointment. It cost \$180. I was so scared going to this appointment because I was sure that they were going to tell me that I had breast cancer.

After the procedure the technician told me she did not see anything abnor-



Linda Thomas, second from left holding the banner, had difficulty finding a provider to help her until she found Partners for Breast Cancer Care.

COURTESY PHOTO

mal, though she emphasized she was not a doctor. I actually broke down and cried. I left that place like I was on top of the world.

In December I keep feeling my lump and again I get that nagging sensation that this is not right. This is now a constant worry. Christmas comes and goes and New Year's comes and goes. And now it's Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2015. I was getting a lot of headaches and my friend

Bobbi at work asked me if everything is all right.

I told her everything. Bobbi told me to call Samaritan Health and Wellness Center in Cape Coral. I called them the next day. I was told to come in the next day. I could not believe I had an appointment that fast.

I went, and after nurse practitioner Susan Hook examined me she immediately called and sent me to Partners for

Breast Cancer Care with a referral for a mammogram and an ultrasound.

Partners for Breast Cancer Care scheduled my mammogram and ultrasound to be done on Monday, Feb. 2. On Friday I was told that I needed a breast biopsy done. On Feb. 9 I had the biopsy done and on Friday, Feb. 13, I was diagnosed with breast cancer, the day before Valentine's Day.

My mind is spinning like a tornado. I am thinking that I have an 11-year-old and a husband who needs me. Then I get a call from Partners telling me to see Tammy Zinn, a breast health navigator at Regional Cancer Center. I had an appointment with Ms. Zinn and she scheduled an MRI for me the very next day, and eight days after that I met my team of doctors. On March 7, I had a PET scan and on March 12 I had a mastectomy on my left breast. On March 18, I found out that I had 20 lymph nodes removed and all were positive and my diagnosis was Invasive lobular carcinoma Stage 3, ER and PR positive, HER-2 negative.

My surgeon told me that my tumor was the size of a hockey puck. I had 16 chemotherapy treatments and 35 radiation therapy treatments. I had a fantastic surgeon and team of doctors.

It is now Sept. 28, 2016, and it's my birthday today. My last radiation treatment was in October 2015. I am now on the other side of the fence. I am done with my treatments and so far I am cancer-free. I totally believe that if it weren't for Partners for Breast Cancer Care that I might not be here today.

Thank you, Partners for Breast Cancer Care, for saving my life. ■

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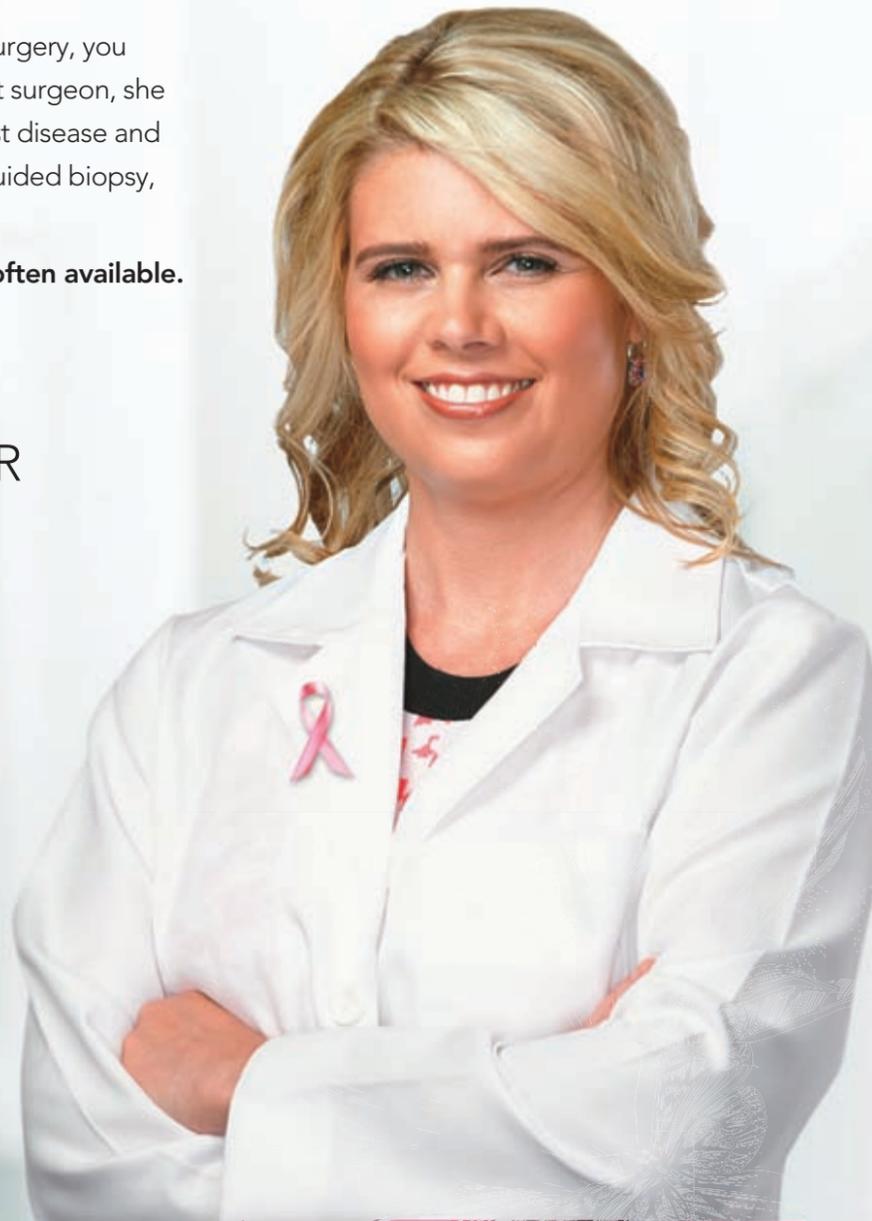
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Partners director understands firsthand patients' fears

BY JANET DARNELL

I was a 44-year-old single mother with two children.

I had a cleaning business, but could not afford health insurance. I didn't have a breast problem and there was no breast cancer in my family, but knew I should have a baseline mammogram.

It was the month of October when we are constantly being reminded of the importance of early detection. Feeling proud of myself for having saved the money for the exam (a screening mammogram is \$240) I went to Radiology Regional Center for the screening mammogram.

The radiologist asked that I speak with him in his office following the test. Of course I thought this was routine and had no idea he was about to tell me he had found something suspicious.

I had several microcalcifications the size of salt in my left breast and he recommended that I have a stereotactic (needle) biopsy.

When I explained that I could not afford the \$3,000 for the test he simply reiterated that he felt it was extremely necessary.

As I left his office the technician gave me the telephone number for Partners for Breast Cancer Care, a local nonprofit organization that funds breast care for uninsured, low-income Lee County residents. The technician said I might qualify for no-cost breast care.

I followed through and qualified for the program. Partners funded the biopsy, which revealed that I had breast cancer.



COURTESY PHOTO

Janet Darnell is an 18-year survivor.

Partners also funded my lumpectomy and six weeks of radiation treatments, all at no cost to me.

Wanting to give back to the organization, I started volunteering for Partners.

I am now the executive director of the organization.

I'm able to help so many uninsured, low-income women and men who desperately need breast care. I understand their fears as well as the uncomfortable feeling of having to ask for help.

I am now a healthy 18-year survivor of breast cancer.

I have always felt Partners for Breast Cancer Care truly saved my life. ■

SEMINARS

UPCOMING 2016 EVENTS

Uplifting The New You Event

October 11, 2016 [Tuesday, 11:00AM & 2:00PM]

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The Breast Experience Event

October 12, 2016 [Wednesday, 5:30-7:30PM]

Meet Dr. Kent V. Hasen and our Natrelle® breast implant representative for an informative breast event. This Q&A session explores the variety of procedures available in breast enhancements. All attendees receive special event pricing.

Halloween Boo-tox Event

October 27, 2016 [Thursday, 12:00PM-5:00PM]

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PROGRESS

From page 1

surgical practice is dedicated to treating individuals with breast disease. She graduated in 1993 from the David Geffen School of Medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles, and trained in general surgery at Tufts University/New England Medical Center. She was an assistant professor of surgery at Boston University School of Medicine and Boston Medical Center before moving to Florida in 2003.

Q. How would you describe how technology has advanced breast cancer treatment in the past 25 years? What tools do we now have for detection and prevention?

A. There have been numerous advancements in both the detection and treatment of breast cancer over the past couple of decades.

First, in terms of detection, compared to the analog films that were used in screening mammography, the development of digital mammography has improved the ability to detect abnormalities overall. Furthermore, recent introduction of the 3-D mammograms, or tomosgrams, has allowed radiologists to detect on the average, three to four more cancer cases per 1,000 screenings performed. This has been especially useful in women with dense breasts.

Breast MRIs have also been a useful tool for clinicians to detect suspicious areas based on blood flow where conventional imaging may not allow for detection of abnormalities due to breast density or scarring from a previous surgery.

However, it is still important to keep in mind that none of these tests are 100 percent. Therefore, it is important to continue with monthly self-breast exams as well as an annual clinical exam and to combine screening from various angles to optimize detection.

As for treatment, the biggest change in approach is the use of a multidisciplinary team concept, comprised not only of physicians such as surgeons, medical and radiation oncologists, pathologists and radiologists, but also specialists from other ancillary services such as breast health navigators and genetic counselors.

We treat every individual differently, based on their tumor characteristics, features and his or her coexisting medical issues and social issues.

Since not all treatments are cookie-cutter, but rather individualized therapy, it is extremely important to have a team of experts to guide a patient through their treatment and recovery, focusing on not only the acute medical issues but also on survivorship issues, which is yet another emerging area of expertise.

Overall, surgical resection is becoming less and less aggressive both in terms of removing the primary breast tumor as well as the assessment of lymph nodes. Patients have the option of a lumpectomy with radiation versus a mastectomy, with equivalent outcome when technically feasible.

New devices such as the SaviScout to replace the localization wires in some



COURTESY PHOTO

The advent of instruments that provide 3D mammography has allowed radiologists to detect, on the average, three to four more cancer cases per 1,000 screenings performed.

cases, and the BioZorb radiation marker, implanted at the time of surgery, help to focus radiation treatment as well as aiding the radiologists in follow up imaging studies to help differentiate scar tissue from possible recurrence.

There are also new and improved drugs that target specific sites or receptors on the cancer cells, aiming therapy based on tumor biology. And genomic analysis can be used when clinically indicated, to determine the risk of recurrence as well as the response to chemotherapy, allowing some patients to avoid toxic treatment in cases where the tumor may not respond to that particular mode of therapy. In terms of the field of radiation therapy, there is emerging data, which is helping clinicians to possibly shorten the course of radiation or perhaps even to omit treatment in specific groups of individuals.

Prevention of breast cancer is still a very difficult topic. Unlike cervical cancer, which we now know is secondary to a viral infection with the human papilloma virus and thus can be prevented with a vaccine, breast cancer is perhaps more multifactorial. Certainly, estrogen has been a known factor. Hormone replacement therapy, while having benefits such as symptomatic relief of menopausal symptoms, bone and cardio protective properties, prolongs the overall time of exposure at a higher level in the bloodstream compared to what naturally exists in the body.

However, there are other factors such as increased body fat, sedentary lifestyle, alcohol consumption and genetic factors that play a role in cancer development.

For now, we advise limiting or better yet eliminating exogenous estrogen, exercise, healthy dietary habits, limiting alcohol consumption and reducing stress levels to optimize the immune system to lower the risk of breast cancer. In addition, screening mammograms along with a clinical exam, as well as a monthly self-breast exam remain important in allowing for early detection.

Q. How has the number of health care providers treating breast cancer changed?

A. Breast surgery has traditionally been incorporated as part of general surgery, and most general surgeons performed breast surgery as part of their training and practice. While there are

no distinctly separate Breast Surgery Boards, breast fellowships programs have been emerging for the past 15 years, focusing on further training in this field. Currently, there are 46 programs throughout the country that are accredited by the Society of Surgical Oncology, and most offer a one-year program in providing further exposure to surgery, medical and radiation oncology. While it is very difficult to say exactly how many surgeons practice breast surgery today, based on the membership in the American Society of Breast Surgeons, there are approximately 1,500 members who continue to partake in active education and research in this field.

Q. What societal and psychological differences are there in the way we approach breast cancer compared to years ago?

A. Breast cancer is no longer a death sentence due to early detection and improved treatment. Improved knowledge of the disease as well as treatment have come a long way, but the awareness and the voices of women and their families across the United States and the world have certainly changed the way people perceive and face breast cancer in general.

First, the development of national organizations such as Susan G. Komen and the American Cancer Society, as well as other numerous local organizations, have helped to raise the much-needed funds for research and to promote awareness. The education regarding the importance of screening and self-exams has empowered women to take control of their health. With the education and knowledge, women can also partake in the informed decision-making process regarding their treatment, especially now that there are options and personal choices that factor into the process.

Gone are the days that a woman with a breast lump is taken for a biopsy and wakes up to learn that a mastectomy had been performed for an intraoperative finding of breast cancer.

Q. What levels of support are available for patients that didn't exist 25 years ago?

A. There has been a tremendous increase in support systems at all levels, starting with the biopsy, to after completion of their acute medical treatment. This ranges from the breast health navigators who can assist an individual from the time their journey begins, helping to arrange for doctor appointments when needed, answer questions and educate them about the treatment plan.

There are also mastectomy teaching classes, chemotherapy education sessions as well as financial funding for qualifying patients diagnosed with breast cancer. In addition, other organizations have support for such issues as gas money, cleaning services and transportation to and from appointments during their active treatments.

There is also additional support being established for survivors dealing with chronic post-treatment issues such as fatigue, depression, limited mobility of their extremities, sexual dysfunction, body image issues and side effects of medication. ■



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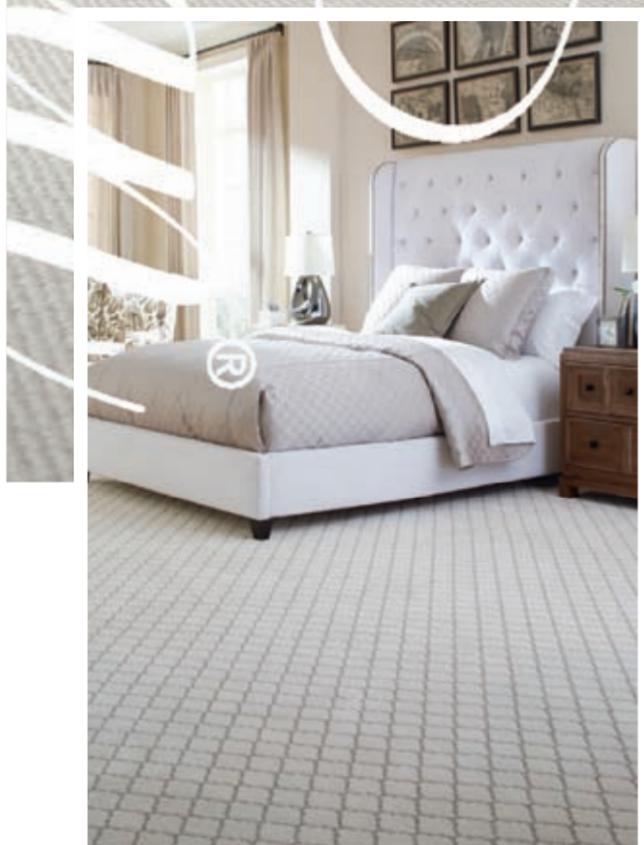
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Drug Free Collier hopes parents visit mock teen room to look for drugs

Drug Free Collier and the national nonprofit notMYkid have partnered for a Back-to-School Substance Abuse Prevention Campaign.

"Most parents are unaware that the average age for first-time drug experimentation is 13," says notMYkid CEO Aimee Runyon. "When a child starts using drugs, it is typically two years before parents realize there is a problem."

To help parents learn what signs to look for, a mock teenager's bedroom has been set up as a traveling exhibit called "Hidden in Plain Sight." Parents enter the room and look around before hearing from a Drug Free Collier expert about typical ways teens hide and/or disguise drugs in their rooms. When they go back to the exhibit for second look, parents turn up an assortment of drugs and related paraphernalia.

Local parents have two opportunities to visit "Hidden in Plain Sight" and also pick up free drug-testing kits and information about resources available locally:

■ **9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 11,** at Oakridge Middle School, 14975 Collier Blvd.

■ **5:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 13,** at Big Cypress Elementary School, 3250 Golden Gate Blvd.

"Parents will walk away with valuable information to help them protect their child from substance abuse," Rey Pezeshkan, Drug Free Collier board president, says.

In addition to opening the dialogue about substance abuse, when parents choose to drug test their kids, it help kids avoid peer pressure situations by empowering them to say, "No, I can't. My parents drug test me."

Drug Free Collier, a nonprofit coalition founded in 2005, reminds parents that they are the No. 1 influence in their children's lives — "more than friends, music, TV, the internet and celebrities. Kids who learn about the risks of drugs and alcohol from their parents are up to 50 percent less likely to use than those who do not," according to the Drug Free Collier website.

For more information, call 302-6717, email info@drugfreecollier.org or visit drugfreecollier.org. ■



"We want to make sure that not only do people understand the laws but that they are also aware of how the visually impaired community can live independently."

— Robin Goldstone Garcia, executive director, Lighthouse of Collier



The 2015 White Cane Walk along Fifth Avenue South.

COURTESY PHOTO

SEEING THE WAY

White Cane Walk will raise awareness of the visually impaired

BY LINDSEY NESMITH

lnesmith@floridaweekly.com

Considering that pedestrian traffic is relatively low in Collier County, drivers might be unaware that they are required to come to a full stop when a blind or visually impaired person using a cane attempts to cross the road. To raise awareness in the community, Lighthouse of Collier and Collier Association of the Visually Impaired observe White Cane Day with a White Cane Walk from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 15, along Fifth Avenue South.

"We want people to stop and ask us what we're doing," says Robin Goldstone Garcia, executive director of Lighthouse of Collier. "We want to make sure that not only do people understand the laws," she adds, "but that they are also aware of how the visually impaired community can live



GARCIA



OLSON

independently."

Members from both organizations will have their white canes in hand as they make their way down the avenue. Members of the public are welcome to borrow a white cane (limited supply available from Lighthouse of Collier) and join the walk; some might want to heighten the experience by simulating blindness with a blindfold or by keeping their eyes shut.

Blind or visually impaired people often choose to use canes to maneuver in public places, with the color white signifying to the public they are obligated to stop their cars or give a wide berth to the person using the cane. Individuals require training to use canes for orienting themselves in a pedes-

trian environment.

"It's different for every person," mobility specialist Wendy Olson says about the amount of training a visually impaired person needs in order to use a cane. "Some people just want to use it to get to their mailbox and some want to use it for a certain route to work. Then some people want to learn generalized skills so that no matter where they are, they can cross any street without assistance."

After the walk, participants are invited to The von Liebig Art Center for docent-led tours of two exhibits that cater directly to the visually impaired community: "Please Touch" consists of tactile art that Lighthouse of Collier clients created with assistance from members of the Naples Art Association; "Face of Peace," provided to the art center by the local nonprofit organization Feel the Arts, consists of tactile interpretations of Picasso's series of 29 drawings by the same name.

For more information about Lighthouse of Collier and its various services and programs for Collier County's visually impaired adults and children and their caregivers, call 430-3934 or visit www.lighthouseofcollier.org. ■



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Be informed about solar power, medical marijuana amendments on the ballot

BY LYDIA GALTON AND DAVE TRECKER
Special to Florida Weekly

They might seem like an afterthought, appearing far down on the November ballot, but the four constitutional amendments are important, and at least two of them, if passed, could have a real impact on Florida's future.

To help voters make sense of the amendments and understand what's at stake, a group of civic organizations is sponsoring a public forum from 6-7:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 10, at The Norris Center in downtown Naples. All are welcome to attend.

Here are some of the things that will be discussed:

AMENDMENT 1: Backed by Florida utilities, this solar-energy proposal would embed in the constitution the right for individuals to own or lease solar equipment on their own property for their own use. Sounds innocuous. Consumers already have that right, but the amendment doesn't stop there. It goes on to "ensure that consumers who do not choose to install solar are not



GALTON



TRECKER

required to subsidize the costs of back-up power and electric grid access to those who do." In other words, utilities would be free to add a surcharge to bills of consumers with solar panels.

Supporters of the amendment say that's needed because someone has to pay for maintaining the grid when the sun isn't shining. If you take business away from the grid, higher electric bills are needed to cover fixed costs of the power plants and transmission lines. Who should pay those higher bills? Consumers who installed solar panels.

Opponents say this is outrageous. Nowhere in the U.S. is grid-tied solar energy threatening any power network. Consumers should be able to sell excess rooftop energy back to the grid, not be penalized for installing panels. The utilities, they say, simply want to retain their Florida monopoly and protect their profits.

AMENDMENT 2: This one promises even more of a bare-knuckles fight. A rerun of the attempt to legalize medical marijuana in 2014, it pits the Florida pot community against medical and law-enforcement groups.

The state has already taken some steps toward decriminalizing marijuana. In 2014, Tallahassee legalized a non-euphoric form for treating epilepsy, muscle spasms and cancer, and earlier this year it approved use of full-strength marijuana for terminally ill patients.

Amendment 2 would steamroll those laws. Here are some of its provisions:

■ It would allow use of all forms of weed for "debilitating medical conditions" as determined by a licensed

Florida physician.

■ It would exempt doctors who act with "reasonable care," growers and caregivers from liability.

Supporters say it's about time. Twenty-five states have already approved medical marijuana, and four others allow it for recreational use. Increasingly, patients are demanding it. Clinical evidence is building. Pot is already available on the black market in impure form. Supporters say let's control its growth and ensure safe use.

Opponents are appalled, claiming the amendment is an open door for abuse, a return to the pill-mill days. Law enforcement sees impaired drivers and criminal behavior. Employers see impaired workers. The health-care community sees addiction and a gateway to hard drugs.

The financial upside is impressive. A \$3 billion to \$4 billion market is projected in Florida for medical marijuana, an economic boost that would generate thousands of new jobs. Recreational pot, likely not far behind, could add even more dollars and redefine Florida as a tourist destination.

AMENDMENTS 3 AND 5: These two are less flashy but nonetheless important. They would grant tax exemptions for disabled first responders and certain low-income seniors.

To learn more, please plan to join us at The Norris Center at 6 p.m. Monday, Oct. 10. A blue-chip panel with experts from around the state (see box) will debate the pros and cons of each amendment, and there will be plenty of time for audience questions. The session should be lively and provide infor-

mation voters need to make informed decisions in November. ■

— Lydia Galton and Dave Trecker are members of the Collier Citizens Council. In addition to the CCC, forum sponsors are: the League of Women Voters of Collier County, Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce, Collier County Presidents Council, Greater Naples Better Government Committee, Naples Press Club, Pelican Bay Property Owners Association, East Naples Civic Association, Golden Gate Civic Association and Golden Gate Estates Civic Association.

in the know

Amendment 1

- >> Pro: Jim Kallinger, co-chair of Consumers for Smart Choice, the primary sponsor of the solar-energy proposal
- >> Con: Stephen Smith, executive director of Southern Alliance for Clean Energy, the primary opponent of the proposal

Amendment 2

- >> Pro: Ben Pollara, campaign manager for United for Care, the chief promoter of the medical marijuana amendment
- >> Con: Sheriff Bill Prummell of Charlotte County, a long-standing and outspoken critic of medical marijuana

Amendments 3 & 5

- >> Patrick Neale, local attorney and administrative law expert
- >> Moderator: Michael Dalby, president and CEO of the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce

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OPINION

Ballots or bullets?



leslieLILLY

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In 1964, a black man got up in front of a gathering in the Cory Methodist Church in Cleveland, Ohio. He was there to deliver a speech at the Congress of Racial Equality. In it, he decried the failures of white political leadership to address the inequalities suffered by black Americans. Neither Republicans nor Democrats escaped his scathing critique.

He warned, "If we don't do something real soon, I think you will have to agree that we are going to be forced to either use the ballot or the bullet. It is one or the other It isn't that time is running out — time has run out!"

Almost a year later, he again gave warning: "Brother and sister, let me tell you. I spend my time out there in the streets with people, all kinds of people, listening to what they have to say. And they're dissatisfied, they are disillusioned, they're fed up, they're getting to the point of frustration of where they begin to feel, "What do we have to lose? When you get to that point, you're the type of person who can create a very dangerously explosive atmosphere."

Fast forward. You might think Donald Trump borrowed the observations above for his own use recently. But Malcolm X made the comments decades ago, looking down the barrel of racial unrest in communities of color. He urged black Americans to join his revolution, observing white politicians talk the talk but never walk the walk of racial justice.

When election season arrived, it was always the same. Politicians courted blacks but suppression of the black vote was rampant. He witnessed the despair, anger and the disaffection in the black community. It was a powder keg waiting to blow. Malcolm X believed he was the match.

He warned, if the ballot box failed to function and deliver racial justice, bullets most certainly would. He saw no American dream; only an American nightmare.

Trump is a revolutionary, too. He also senses a powerful force, dormant but dangerous. It lacks only sufficient provocation to explode. The habit is deeply ingrained in this country, and when racial conflict erupts, it is not easily quelled.

He calls out to minority voters from the safety of white audiences. The irony is rich. He may not be a card-carrying white nationalist, but he is a pretty good imitation of one. Even so, he thinks he can play both sides of racial discontent to his political advantage.

His revolution first attracted the angry voters for whom white privilege is not working so well anymore. They want to burn something down, even if it is their own house. Trump is their would-be armed missile aimed at the heart of the American democracy. He would reduce Washington to a smoking ruin.

Trump represents a thin slice of Americans who deeply despise and hate their own government. They could care less that everything Trump stands for is inimical to democratic values and beliefs. After all, bombing the nation's democratic ideals into oblivion is rather the point. Moral quandaries? Not at all.

Meanwhile, Trump tells African-Americans he identifies with their grievances, too. That's because the system is rigged and stacked against him as well. He feels their pain. He's employed the same equanimity of suffering he's used to compare his personal sacrifices to the sacrifice of Gold Star families. He models himself as a benevolent savior. Bring all your poor, suffering little children to me.

But Trump rejects the legitimacy of the Black Lives Matter movement. He belongs to the country club of "All Lives Matter." He thinks black voters will embrace him anyway. He reaches out

and urges them to join his coalition of disaffected, disillusioned, frustrated and fed-up white people. But it is a hard sell.

They know that when Trump talks about civil rights, it isn't about the civil rights of minorities; it's about civil rights entitled and protected by white privilege — as it applies to citizenship, legal rights, education and economic opportunity.

Take, for example, the most fundamental right of citizenship in a democracy — the right to vote.

This will be the first presidential election since the Supreme Court took a wrecking ball to the 1965 Voting Rights Act. Every Republican-governed state freed from the restrictions moved to enact laws to make voting more difficult, disproportionately disenfranchising large numbers of minority voters. Alabama's state law, for example, strips the voting rights of about 15 percent of the state's black voting age population based on their having been convicted of a felony involving "moral turpitude." "Moral turpitude" is what got Puritans hanged in Salem.

When faced with the civil rights crisis of his time, Malcolm X put a rudimentary question to black Americans: Will it be ballots or bullets? Today, we are again on the edge of a national confrontation over the fundamental rights of minority communities. Were Donald Trump to answer Malcolm X's question now, how would he answer? Bullets, but not ballots. ■

— Leslie Lilly is a native Floridian. Her professional career spans more than 25 years leading major philanthropic institutions in the South and Appalachia. She writes frequently on issues of politics, public policy, and philanthropy, earning national recognition for her leadership in the charitable sector. She resides with her family and pugs in Jupiter. Email her at lilly@floridaweekly.com and read past blog posts on Tumblr at lilly15.Tumblr.com.

GUEST COMMENTARY

A call for a new era in Florida water management

WOODY WODRASKA

Former CEO of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Albert Einstein defined "insanity" as doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. This same concept can be applied to the dismal state of affairs in water management in Florida. I suggest a complete change from the past 60-plus years of Florida water management with a de-emphasis on the federal government and a major emphasis on the need for leadership and direction from the state.

Admittedly, Florida has a long way to go to gain the public's trust when it comes to managing and protecting our water resources. The current administration has effectively dismantled the state's water management districts, severely curbing their staffing and financial resources.

To a lesser degree, the same can be said

of the Department of Environmental Protection, where two seats on the Environmental Regulatory Commission have been left vacant for months.

Likewise, this administration has repeatedly turned a blind eye to real water crises. Whoever becomes the next governor will have to undo the draconian measures enacted by the Scott administration when it comes to water and the environment.

So, here are some thoughts on enacting a new era in Florida water management.

How about electing a majority of the water management district governing board members?

We elect school board members, sheriffs, property appraisers and a host of other public officials because of the importance of local input. Doesn't our environment warrant similar local protection and oversight?

When I was the executive director of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, half of the members of my board were locally elected.

I found those elected water management officials to be conscientious and more immune to the negative influences of state politics because they answered to

the electorate.

And, since the water management districts here in Florida have taxing authority, I believe their decisions should be accountable to the taxpayers.

South Florida is one of the few areas in the country that is uniquely under the water management jurisdiction of the federal government and its planning, construction and regulation of the Central & Southern Florida Flood Control Project. It was the federal government that designed and built the Herbert Hoover Dike surrounding Lake Okeechobee.

It is the federal government that reroutes excessive lake discharges to the St. Lucie canal and the Caloosahatchee River.

It is the federal government that is "slow playing" the retrofitting and hardening of the dike to safeguard against a probable and calamitous breach during high water levels in the lake.

By the Corps of Engineers own admission, the Herbert Hoover Dike is the most unstable impoundment structure in the country. But you wouldn't know that given the foot-dragging of the federal government, which has turned the protection of

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BEHIND THE WHEEL

Nissan Leaf: The practicality of an electric soul



How does a car that comes with priority parking, \$3 per fill-up and a built-in government rebate sound? The idea of an electric car can be pretty appealing before even the first mile is driven. But what about when reality sets in? Can you adapt to the plug-in lifestyle?

That's why we put one of best-selling electric vehicles through an everyday workout.

The Nissan Leaf is the car that really brought fully electric driving to the masses. It's no longer the newest car on the market, or the one with the farthest range, but the affordability and usability of this hatchback holds it as the Model T of EV benchmarking.

One of the biggest reasons for the Leaf's appeal is how it fits into everyday life. If it were not for the "Zero Emissions" badges on the doors, it could blend in with every other car on the road. And that's important for a car that wants to be taken seriously.

Inside is a similar story.

The base model can be driven off a Nissan lot today for around \$30,000 (not including its eligible \$7,500 federal tax credit). It comes nicely equipped with features including automatic climate control, power windows, rearview camera, a Bluetooth stereo and heated

seats (it's more energy efficient to heat each individual seat than the whole car).

Higher trim levels can be equipped with a navigation system that's particularly helpful because it will calculate if a destination is within range as well as find plug-in stations nearby. And because charging points are often reserved parking at shopping centers and office buildings, this car is like an automatic ticket to VIP parking.

Every Leaf has an 80-kilowatt electric motor that is whisper quiet as long as the air conditioning and radio are not running. It's rated at 107 hp, which

might seem a little low in a world where the Nissan Altima sedan comes with 180 hp as standard, but electric cars operate differently. They offer significantly more torque, and it is all instantly available. So where a standard car has to build to its peak power, an EV like the Leaf feels pretty nippy at urban speed limits.

On the highway, the Leaf feels just as solid and secure as any other compact hatchback, even though it's not really built for this duty. For example, a nearly full charge of 84 miles feels like a lot of range. But turn on the air conditioner, and the distance reduces to around 75

miles. Get on the interstate, and the high speed/high power usage situation mixed with fewer coasting opportunities to regenerate power cuts the range to below 70 miles. There's a lot of useful time left in the Leaf, but it does mean Alligator Alley is off the road trip list.

It takes an upgrade to the higher trim levels (they start around \$35K) to extend the range to 107 miles. Comparatively, the Chevrolet Bolt is rated for more than double the distance.

But that might not be the whole story.

EVs are still trying to get over "range anxiety." This is where drivers are worried that they won't be able to make it to a destination and/or return home on the available power of an electric car. Manufacturers are touting their electric range, but it is important to remember that it's not just how far an EV can go, but also how quickly it can refuel. After all, it will be tough to utilize the ever-increasing reach of an EV if it cannot be completely refreshed overnight.

Thus, it's important to know how an EV is going to be utilized before being lured in by hundreds of miles in range. The Nissan Leaf works best for the urban commuter who has stop-and-go traffic on a 30-mile drive to work. It's also a good one for the retiree who loves to pop down to the shops and takes pride in front-row parking.

Notice how we have not yet brought up the EV's benefit of reducing the environmental impact of driving. That's because when an EV can find a practical role, green motoring is just a bonus. ■

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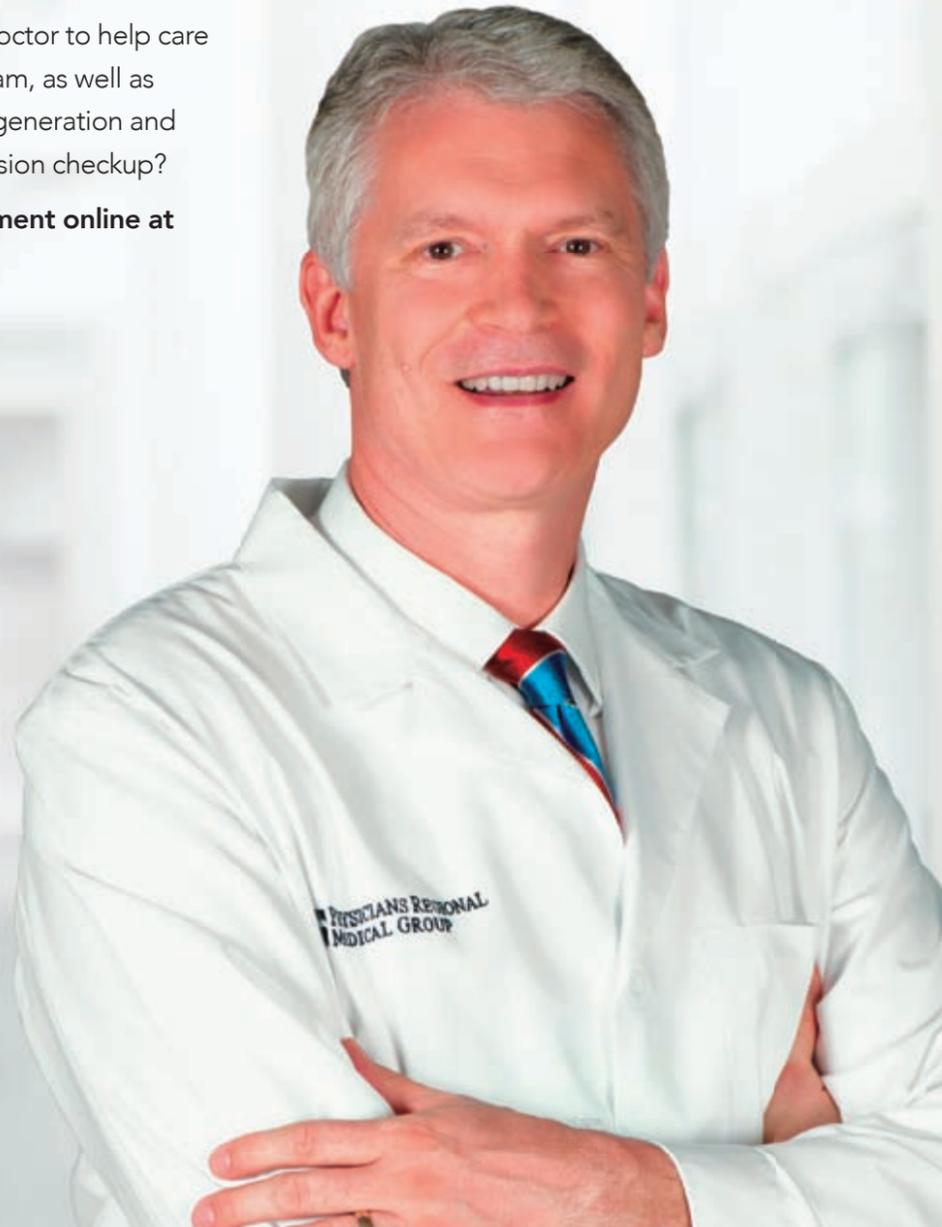
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COURTESY PHOTOS

The Southern University Museum of Arts at the Southern Utah University designed by The Brooks + Scarpa.

AIA brings noted architects to Southwest Florida for lecture series

The American Institute of Architects-Florida Southwest Chapter begins its 2016 Fall Lecture Series on Friday evening, Oct. 7, in the second floor gallery at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center in downtown Fort Myers. The second and third lectures take place at the Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club. The series features distinguished guest speakers who are nationally recognized in design, culture and sustainability. All who are interested in the built and natural environment are welcome.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for cocktails, and the programs begin at 7:30 p.m.

The series opens with Xavier Vendrell, director of the Rural Studio undergraduate program at Auburn University.

Mr. Vendrell studied architecture in his native city of Barcelona, where he has been practicing architecture since 1983. His work embraces a range of scales from landscape architecture to urban design, public buildings, housing and interior design. From 2002-2012 he was consultant for the Rural Studio and has been a professor there since 2013. He taught at the Barcelona School of Architecture from 1990-1998 and has lectured across Europe, Latin America and the U.S.



The students and faculty at the Rural Studio have been designing and building houses and community structures for the impoverished residents of Hale County, Ala. Using salvaged lumber and bricks, discarded tires, hay and waste cardboard bales, concrete rubble, colored bottles and old license plates, they create inex-



Two Hulls House designed by Brian Mackay-Lyons

pensive buildings in a style described by co-founder Sam Mockbee as "contemporary modernism grounded in Southern culture."

The lecture series continues as follows:

■ **Friday, Nov. 4:** Brian Mackay-Lyons of Halifax Nova Scotia-based Mackay-Lyons Sweetapple Architects Ltd., presented by PBS Contractors.



MACKAY-LYONS

■ **Friday, Dec. 2:** Lawrence Scarpa of Los Angeles-based Brooks + Scarpa, presented by D. Garrett Construction.



SCARPA

Tickets to each lecture are \$25 for AIA members, \$30 for others and free for students with a college ID. Attend all three programs for \$60 for AIA members, \$75 for others. Reservations are encouraged and can be made through Eventbrite. Cash, check, debit or credit will also be accepted at the door. For more information, visit www.aiaflasw.org. ■



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WATER

From page 16

lives and property into a protracted multi-decade project.

In short, the federal government has been the major disruptor of the hydrology, storage and historic flow patterns in South Florida.

I submit that it is time to renegotiate the state of Florida's agreements with the federal government concerning the Flood Control Project.

What about the restoration of those ecological systems that were effectively destroyed by the federal government?

The restoration of the Kissimmee River was a state initiative — originally resisted

by the federal government.

Today, it is recognized as one of the best examples of environmental restoration in the world.

However, Everglades restoration has been largely a federal initiative. We are 20-plus years into this effort with no clear vision or blueprint as to what would define successful Everglades restoration.

The most definitive statement is "We want to get the water right."

But what does that mean? What is the vision and objective of Everglades restoration? We have a compilation of original Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Project projects, we have added-on projects, we have emerging projects, but at the end of this multi-multibillion dollar effort, does anyone think future generations will look back and say, "Boy, they got

that right!"

We certainly could not run our military, our economy, our educational, legal and justice systems — indeed our very democracy — with such a disjointed approach.

Finally, regrettably, our biggest water management problem and threat is not environmental restoration but rather climate change and sea level rise.

These concepts are unmentionable in the current state administration. Nor can we wait on the abysmal record of planning and funding demonstrated repeatedly by the federal government.

We must prepare now for the devastating effects of saltwater intrusion into our well fields, destructive and prolonged flooding, the potential diminishment of our agricultural sector and the impacts to coastal properties.

We desperately need a comprehensive statewide plan for addressing the impacts of sea level rise. Florida is, after all, ground zero. Leadership must come from future state administrations combined with a new mind-set and approach.

This is why I am calling for a new era in Florida water management.

Hopefully our next governor and future legislatures will make it happen. ■

— Woody Wodraska, of Jupiter, is a 45-year veteran of the water industry. He spent 26 years in the public sector, divided between two of the largest water agencies in the U.S. He started his professional career with the South Florida Water Management District and was then recruited to serve as the CEO of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

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Hope for Haiti hopes to receive help for hurricane recovery efforts

Hope for Haiti staff members in Les Cayes, Haiti, have reported significant damage to their homes from Hurricane Matthew's severe wind, torrential rain and resulting flooding.

Mark Hindley, COO of the Naples-based nonprofit, said at press time Tuesday, just a few hours after the eye of the storm had passed southern Haiti, that he and others "remain in constant contact with key leaders and partners, assessing damage and formulating our response strategy. We are actively working with local and international relief organizations to position medicine, medical supplies and relief aid for deployment as soon as conditions permit."

As the recovery efforts begin, contributions in any amount will be greatly appreciated and can be made online at www.hope-forhaiti.com.

In addition, the organization welcomes donations of the following medications and supplies that will be delivered to Les Cayes:

- Cholera medications (Re-hydration therapy/ORS, antibiotics)
- General medical/primary care supplies (gauze, bandages, pain relievers, etc.)
- Water purification tablets/filters
- Personal hygiene supplies
- MREs or like meals
- Flashlights, radios and batteries
- Blankets/tarps
- Duct tape

Donations of supplies can be dropped off at the Hopes for Haiti headquarters at 1021 Fifth Ave. N. For more information, visit the website or follow Hope for Haiti on Facebook or Twitter. ■

Know where to watch for traffic cops

Here's where Collier County Sheriff's Office deputies will be on traffic detail:

Monday, Oct. 10

Old 41 Road and Tamiami Trail North: Speeding

Collier Boulevard and Tuscan Cove Drive: Speeding

Immokalee Road at Gulf Coast High School: Aggressive driving

Tuesday, Oct. 11

Airport-Pulling Road and Rustic Oak Circle: Red-light running

Pine Ridge Road at Pine Ridge Middle School: Aggressive driving

Orange Blossom Drive and Yarbry Lane: Aggressive driving

Wednesday, Oct. 12

Golden Gate and Wilson boulevards:

Aggressive driving

Oil Well Road and Everglades Boulevard: Speeding

Vanderbilt Beach Road and Logan Boulevard: Red-light running

Thursday, Oct. 14

Golden Gate Boulevard at Big Cypress Elementary School: Speeding

Santa Barbara and Devonshire boulevards: Red-light running

Naples Boulevard: Speeding

Friday, Oct. 15

Oil Well and Immokalee roads: Red-light running

U.S. 41 East and Collier Boulevard: Red-light running

Radio and Airport-Pulling roads: Aggressive driving ■



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MAKING STRIDES WALK Saturday, October 8

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SCIENCE SATURDAY Saturday, October 8

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

Foul-feathered friends

In September, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, noting a recent uptick in cases of “live-poultry-associated salmonella,” repeated its earlier (apparently largely ignored) alert that people should not be kissing chickens (or ducks or turkeys). CDC noted the recent popu-

larity of urban egg farming, but reminded “hipster” farmers and faddish pet patrons that cuddling the animals, or bringing the little darlings into the home (even those that appear clean and friendly), can spread dangerous bacteria for which humans are unprepared.

Suspicious confirmed

■ A recent working paper by two Louisiana State University economists revealed that the state’s juvenile court judges dole out harsher sentences on weeks following a loss by the LSU football team (among those judges who matriculated at LSU). The differences in sentences were particularly stark in those seasons that LSU’s team was nationally ranked. (All sentences from 1996 to 2012 were examined, for first-time juvenile offenders, except for murder and aggravated-rape cases.)

■ The NCAA’s two-year probation handed to Georgia Southern University’s football program in July included a note that two football players were given “impermissible” inside help to pass a course. It turns out that even though GSU’s former assistant director of student-athlete services stealthily wrote five extra-credit assignments for each of the players, still, neither player was apparently in good enough shape to pass the course.

Awkward

■ A paramedic with the St. Louis Fire Department discovered on Aug. 4 that his car, in the station’s parking lot, had been broken into and was missing various items. Minutes after he filed a police report, the station received an emergency call about a pedestrian hit by a car, and the paramedic and crew rushed to the scene. As he was helping the victim, the paramedic noticed that his own gym bag and belongings were strewn about the scene and concluded that the man he was attending to was likely the man who had broken into his car. The paramedic continued to assist the man, and police told the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* that they would arrest the man as soon as he

was discharged from the hospital. ■ Raylon Parker, doing his duty in August on a grand jury in Halifax County, N.C., listened to a prosecutor lay out a case, and to Parker’s apparent surprise, the case was against Raylon Parker (for assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill). Still, he voted on the indictment, which passed (though, due to grand jury secrecy, we do not know which way he voted). One possibility: He voted to indict, assuming a judge would toss it out, tainting the prosecutor’s case. However, Parker’s judge said the indictment — signifying “probable cause” — was still valid and that she would not inquire how Parker had voted.

Bright ideas

■ Business is booming for Lainey Morse, the owner of No Regrets Farm in Albany, Ore., and the founder of “Goat Yoga” — an outdoor regimen of relaxation carried out among her wandering goats. “Do you know how hard it is to be sad and depressed when there are baby goats jumping around?” she asked, proudly noting that she is booked up right now, with a waiting list of 500. One problem has surfaced, though (as she told a Canadian Broadcasting Corp. reporter): Naive baby goats try to eat flower designs on yoga mats, leading Morse to permit only mats of solid colors.

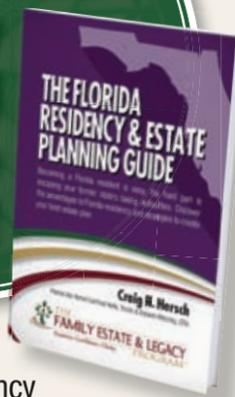
four of cocaine (along with \$3,083 cash) and charged with dealing. Autrey (street name, for some reason: “Newphew”) wet his pants during the arrest, which police said he did under the mistaken impression that heroin would dissolve when exposed to urine.

■ Wesley Autrey, 42, was arrested by Scranton, Pa., detectives in September in a drug bust with five bags of heroin and

■ Although India’s sacred Ganges River remains ridiculously polluted, it retains holy credibility for Hindus, who consume and bathe in it regularly for salvation. Since reaching the Ganges can be difficult for India’s poor, the country’s postal service (with 155,000 offices) began recently to offer home delivery of the Ganges, in bottles, for the equivalent of about 22 to 37 cents. ■

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GET OUT FOR A GOOD CAUSE

■ The **Collier County Bar Association** hosts an informal fishing tournament Saturday, Oct. 8. Anglers can pick their own spot and fish at anytime until 12:30 p.m., at which point participants can head to Hamilton Harbor Yacht Club for lunch and awards at 1 p.m. Prizes will be awarded to anglers who catch the largest snook, redfish, spotted sea trout, catfish and freshwater bass. An additional award will be given for the largest fish caught by a participant under 13 years old. Registration is \$35, proceeds will purchase bikes for elementary school children in need. 252-8711 or www.colliercountybar.org.

■ The **Pilot Club of Naples/Naples Pilot Foundation Inc.** holds its Family Fun 1- and 2-Mile Walk from 3-5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 16, at North Collier Regional Park. Registration is \$12 (\$5 for ages 10 and under), with proceeds to benefit the Pilot Club and Pilot Foundation's brain-related causes and community service efforts. 289-8268, les1612@aol.com or www.pilotclubofnaples.org.

■ The **Naples Orchestra & Chorus** hosts its fifth annual golf outing from

1-7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 20, at Bear's Paw Country Club. Registration \$150. Tickets for dinner without golf are \$60. www.naplesorchestraandchorus.org.

■ **Florida Gulf Coast University Foundation** hosts the 25th annual Founder's Cup from 11:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 21, at Quail Creek Country Club. The four-player scramble concludes with a cocktail reception, buffet dinner and awards ceremony. \$500-\$2,500. 590-1016 or www.alumni.fgcu.edu.

■ The **David Lawrence Center** hosts the third annual Chip In for the DLC golf tournament Friday, Oct. 21, at Wyndemere Golf and Country Club. The day starts with lunch, followed by tee-off at 1 p.m. A cocktail awards reception starts at 5:30 p.m. Registration is \$250. Sign up by Oct. 7. 304-3505 or www.chipinfordlc.org.

■ The inaugural **Out of the Darkness Community Walk** hosted by the local chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention sets out at 9:45 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 22, at North Col-

lier Regional Park. Online registration at www.afsp.org closes at noon Oct. 21; participants can also sign up on the day of the event. For more information, contact Lorijane Graham by calling 913-9964 or emailing lorijanegraham@gmail.com.

■ **Old Naples Surf Shop** hosts Skim Jam '16 starting at 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 22, on the beach at 13th Avenue South. All ages and skill levels are welcome to take part in skim boarding to benefit Keep Collier Beautiful. Advance registration on the store's website is \$30, same-day registration is from 7-8 a.m. and costs \$35. 262-1877 or www.oldnaplessurfshop.com.

■ **Avow Hospice** hosts the second annual Avow Open charity tournament from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Oct. 24, at Audubon Country Club. Golfers will enjoy lunch at the clubhouse, raffles, prizes, games and auctions. Registration is \$175 (\$50 for lunch only). Sponsorship opportunities are available. 430-3195 or email kkincaid@avowcares.org.

■ **Gulfshore Playhouse** hosts its 12th annual charity golf tournament on

Monday, Oct. 24, at TwinEagles. A putting contest starts the fun at 11:30 a.m., and tee time is 12:30 p.m. Registration for \$400 includes lunch, golf, a buffet dinner, two drink tickets and admission for two to a Gulfshore Playhouse production. (866) 811-4111 or www.gulfshoreplayhouse.org.

■ **Community Cooperative** hosts the inaugural Soup'er Hero 5K Run/Walk at 7:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 29, at Gulf Coast Town Center. Participants are encouraged to dress up as their favorite super hero. Awards will be distributed for the top runners, fundraisers and costumes. Registration is \$34. 332-7687 or Nicole@communitycooperative.com.

■ The fourth annual **golf tournament** to benefit the Marco Island Center for the Arts tees off Saturday morning, Oct. 29, at Hammock Bay Golf Club. Registration for \$150 includes three muligans and lunch. 394-4221 or www.marcoislandarts.com. ■

— Email items to Inesmith@floridaweekly.com.



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NCH caregivers deliver compassionate care around the clock, and that often goes unpublicized. But sometimes, as in the recent case of several of our North Naples Emergency Department nurses, the above-and-beyond efforts of some of our talented team members receive due recognition.

NurseTogether.com recognizes DAISY Foundation honorees. DAISY is an acronym for Diseases Attacking the Immune System. The foundation was formed in 1999 by family members of a patient who were truly touched by the clinical skill and kindness of the nurses who attended their loved one. Today, The DAISY Award honors extraordinary nursing care in nearly 1,300 health-care facilities in seven countries. Patient stories prompt DAISY Award nominations, which is exactly what happened with the North Naples Emergency Department in a most unusual situation.

I'll let the attending nurse, Tammy Toney-Butler, pick it up from there:

"Marrying the one you love is a dream some of us have had ever since we were kids. And if you are suffering an illness from which you might not be able to recover, you might wish to marry the one you love before anything happens — which is what exactly happened to this patient admitted in spring 2015. He had a subdural bleed from an aneurysm and had a coil procedure and placement of a shunt. His recovery had been long and his significant other (who I had thought was his wife) was at his side at all times.

"We later learned through testing that he was bleeding again in his brain ... The attending physician ordered the patient transferred to NCH Baker Hospital for an angiogram. The medical transport was on its way when the patient's significant other asked if she could talk to me in private.

"She said they were supposed to

SEE WEISS, A25 ►



Researchers say new compound could help with treatment of alcohol, smoking disorders

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

A new medication that targets part of the brain's stress system might help reduce alcohol use in people with alcohol use disorder, according to a new study by researchers at the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

"Medications have become an important tool for treating alcohol use disorders, but current medications are not effective for all people with such disorders, NIAAA Director George Koob says. "We're committed to developing new medications to provide effective therapy to a broader spectrum of people with alcohol use disorders," he adds.

NIAAA is part of the National Institutes of Health.

As reported online in the journal *Neuropsychopharmacology*, researchers led by Raye Litten, Ph.D., acting director of the NIAAA Division of Medications Development, conducted a randomized clinical trial of ABT-436, a new compound designed to block the effects of vasopressin, a neuropeptide produced in the hypothalamus of the brain.

"Vasopressin helps to regulate the pituitary adrenal axis and other brain circuits involved in emotion," Ms. Litten explains. "As such, it plays a role in regulating

stress, anxiety and their interaction with alcohol use disorders."

Ms. Litten, first author Megan Ryan and their NIAAA colleagues worked with NIAAA's multi-center Clinical Investigations Group to recruit 144 alcohol-dependent adult men and women for the 12-week study. During a 28-day baseline period, female participants consumed at least 28 drinks per week, while male participants consumed at least 35 drinks per week. Participants were then randomized to receive either placebo tablets or ones containing the ABT-436 compound. Researchers monitored participants' alcohol consumption as well as their mood changes and smoking habits, as these are known to co-vary with alcohol consumption.

Researchers found that participants receiving ABT-436 experienced more days of alcohol abstinence than those receiving the placebo. In particular, participants who reported high levels of stress appeared to respond better to ABT-436, in that both the frequency of their drinking and the number of heavy drinking days they experienced decreased.

"Our findings suggest that potential future studies with drugs targeting vasopressin blockade should focus on populations of people with alcohol use disorder

who also report high levels of stress," says Ms. Ryan, who is a clinical project manager in the NIAAA Division of Medications Development.

Smokers might be another population that could benefit from ABT-436. In addition to its effects on alcohol consumption, study participants receiving the new compound experienced a reduction in smoking. The researchers suspect that ABT-436 might target the same areas in the brain that relate to withdrawal and stress and, in the process, influence both tobacco and alcohol use disorders. Additional research is needed to determine if that is the case.

The NIAAA is the primary U.S. agency for conducting and supporting research on the causes, consequences, prevention and treatment of alcohol use disorder and alcohol-related problems. NIAAA also disseminates research findings to general, professional and academic audiences. Additional alcohol research information and publications are available at www.niaaa.nih.gov.

NIH the nation's medical research agency and a component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, includes 27 institutes and centers. For more information about NIH and its programs, visit www.nih.gov. ■

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Diabetic freed from insulin therapy after 26 years will speak at conference

After being insulin dependent for 26 years due to Type 1 diabetes, Texas resident Wendy Peacock now lives free from insulin therapy thanks to a procedure performed last summer by the Diabetes Research Institute at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. Ms. Peacock, Dr. David Baidal, who is part of her medical team, and Joshua Rednik, president and CEO of the DRI Foundation, will be guest speakers at the second annual Naples Diabetes Conference taking place Sunday, Nov. 6, at the Greater Naples YMCA.

Ms. Peacock was the first patient to receive an islet cell transplant in the DRI BioHub clinical trials. While islet trans-

plantation itself is not new, DRI scientists are testing a new transplant location within the body that is expected to be much more receptive to donor cells. Ms. Peacock received the transplant in late August 2015 and became insulin independent just days afterward.

At the Naples conference, she will talk about how life changing the experience has been for her. Dr. Rednik will share the next steps DRI scientists are making in order to make this procedure more widespread in the future.

Admission to the daylong conference starts at \$10, and need-based scholarships are available. For more information, visit NaplesDiabetesConference.com. ■

Specialist will discuss aging in place

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines "aging in place" as "the ability to live in one's own home and community safely, independently and comfortably, regardless of age, income or ability level." Certified aging-in-place specialist Justine Andollo invites the public to learn more about

the concept when she presents "Everything You Need to Know About Aging In Place" at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 11, at The Carlisle Naples, 6945 Carlisle Court off Airport-Pulling Road. Admission is free, but an RSVP is requested. Call 591-2200. ■

Bank hosts Bascom Palmer Eye Institute director

Iberiabank and the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute invite the public to learn about age-related macular degeneration from Dr. Stephen Schwartz on Thursday, Oct. 13, at the bank branch at 3838 Tamiami Trail N. in Naples. Dr. Schwartz, medical director at the BPEI in Naples, will discuss risk factors

for macular degeneration, treatment options, ways to reduce the disease's progression and resources for patients and their caregivers.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the program starts at 6 p.m. Admission is free, but reservations are requested. Call 403-5123. ■

Community invited to 'Shape Up!' for free

The Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida hosts Shape Up!, a free community event to promote health and wellness from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 15, at Lowdermilk Park. Activities will include super-charged workouts, family fitness classes, Silver Sneakers (a workout for seniors), a 1-mile walk/2-mile run, standup paddleboard demonstration, beach yoga, a spinning class and more. Healthy snacks and refreshments will be available.

Event sponsors are Golisano Chil-

dren's Hospital of Southwest Florida, FineMark National Bank and Trust and Naples Bay Resort.

The Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida provides primary health and dental care to more than 60 percent of Collier County's children as well as family care, women's care and behavioral care to more than 48,000 patients through its 21 facilities from Immokalee to Naples to Marco Island. For more information, call Sarah Hawes at 658-3116 or visit www.healthcareofswfl.org. ■

WEISS

From page 24

get married soon, but given the circumstances would like to get married immediately, in the hospital before the Ambitrans arrived. I was happy to oblige and grant this heartfelt wish.

"I went to Margaret Hinton, who was in charge, and told her we needed to stall the Ambitrans until the pastor and witnesses arrived. She was thrilled ... We prepared a blank wedding card for all of us to sign and arranged a wedding cake. When Dr. Tatwig Guirguis heard what was happening, he felt the need to run to the cafeteria to get some appetizers for the occasion.

When the Ambitrans team arrived and learned of the circumstances, they were gracious to wait since there were no calls pending. The wedding commenced, and despite his diagnosis and pain, the patient left the hospital happy with his new wife.

"We are so fortunate to be a part of these snapshots of people's lives. All of us in the unit — RNs Julia Cannon, Jacki Ellis, Hollie Masino and Amanda Reyes; Emergency Department techs Denice Burke and Marguerite Denise Kirkland; and unit secretary Heidi Wasko — congratulated the happy couple. The ED crew was amazing in helping make this a special time for my patient.

"I am sure this was not protocol, but it was something that had to be done."

No, this wasn't "protocol." But it was heartfelt and appropriate. Happy life cycle events are, alas, a rarity in any emergency room. Thank goodness we have the kind of quick-thinking and compassionate nurses who, even at such a difficult time, can pull off something so uplifting. It is my pleasure to share their amazing story. ■

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

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PET TALES

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BY KIM CAMPBELL THORNTON

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1. What's the largest litter of puppies ever born to a domestic dog?
 - a. 17
 - b. 24
 - c. 19
 - d. 12
2. A dog whose coat is any color or pattern plus white spotting is said to be what?
 - a. Irish spotted
 - b. Bicolor
 - c. Flashy
 - d. Tuxedo
3. True or false: Dogs with droopy ears have more ear infections than dogs with upright ears.
4. The term "sennenhunds" refers to which of the following group of dogs?
 - a. St. Bernard, Rottweiler, Leonberger and mastiff
 - b. Alpine herdsman's dog, dachshund, kooikerhondje and hovawart
 - c. Appenzell mountain dog, Bernese mountain dog, Entlebucher and greater Swiss mountain dog
 - d. Swiss hound, small Swiss hound, St. Bernard and Alpine mastiff
5. True or false? The Australian shepherd was developed in Australia.
6. The dog who guards the gates of the underworld is named what?
 - a. Argos
 - b. Anubis



Learning information about dogs is never a trivial pursuit.

- c. Fang
 - d. Cerberus
7. What term is used to refer to dogs with narrow heads and long muzzles?
 - a. Brachycephalic
 - b. Dolichocephalic
 - c. Mesaticephalic
 - d. Metatarsal
 8. The sound that hounds on the trail make is called what?
 - a. Howling
 - b. Yodeling
 - c. Baying
 - d. Chortling

Answers:

1. b. A Neapolitan mastiff named Tia gave birth to a whopping 24 puppies in November 2004, setting a world record that has yet to be broken.
2. a, b, c, d. If you chose any of these answers, you are correct. Bicolor dogs can have a little white or a lot, but the term Irish spotting

typically applies to dogs with a specific symmetrical pattern of white markings, such as the Boston terrier's white muzzle band, white blaze between the eyes and over the head, white collar and white forehead.

3. Unproven. Anecdotally, veterinarians and pet owners see more ear infections in dogs with hanging ears, but no scientific study has proven it.

4. c. All four of these dogs are Swiss breeds. They were used for herding, pulling carts, driving cattle and guarding the farmstead.

5. False. When 19th-century American ranchers imported Australian sheep, the flocks were tended by Basque shepherds and their blue herding dogs.

Because of their association with the Australian sheep, the dogs became known as Australian shepherds, but they belong to a distinctly American breed.

6. b. Three-headed Cerberus guards the gates to Hades, ensuring that no one gets in — or out — who's not supposed to.

7. b. The word dolichocephalic is used to describe dogs such as Salukis or collies.

Brachycephalic dogs such as pugs or bulldogs have a broad head with a short muzzle.

Beagles and similar breeds are mesaticephalic, meaning they have a medium-width head with a medium-length muzzle.

8. c. Baying. The deep, melodious sound is poetically described as mountain music. ■

Pets of the Week



>> **Blake** is a handsome 2-year-old orange tabby domestic shorthair who likes to play and to be petted.



>> **Josie** is a gentle 1-year-old black mouth cur who weighs about 45 pounds. She is a bit shy but very sweet and ready to be trained by her forever owner.



>> **Pookie** is a beautiful, declawed 5-year-old domestic shorthair. She loves people and is very affectionate, but she prefers to be an only pet.



>> **Tip** is a 1-year-old Labrador retriever mix who is as friendly as he is handsome. He weighs about 53 pounds, is good on his leash and loves to play.

To adopt or foster a pet

This week's pets are from **Collier County Domestic Animal Services**. Adoption fees for cats are \$60 and dogs are \$85 and include sterilization surgery, vaccinations, pet license, ID microchip and a bag of food. Visit DAS at 7610 Davis Blvd. from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Saturday. Adoptable dogs and cats from DAS are also at For Footed Friends in Marquesa Plaza on Livingston Road from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. the first Saturday of every month. For more information, call 252-7387 or visit www.colliergov.net/pets. ■



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THE DIVA DIARIES

A reminder of the joys of Southwest Florida's May-November season



I don't know about you, dear readers, but this summer has made me feel more claustrophobic than usual. I know, it's not technically summer anymore, but if you've lived in Southwest Florida as long as I have, you know there are only two seasons: Hot and Not As Hot. Or, better yet, Hurricane Season and Tourist Season.

I've gotten some prickly emails in the past from snowbirds who felt I was picking on them if I happened to vent about the traffic on our roads or the crowds at Publix, but I've always maintained that though large hordes of them can get on my last nerve, they're smart cookies because they know better than to be all the way down here in the subtropics this time of year when the weather can best be described as gross. Instead, they're frolicking in the Northern climes where summer doesn't stretch out until December-ish.

In fact, someday, I'd like very much to be a snowbird and enjoy a home in a place where there are actual seasons in addition to one down here when it's all icy and slushy up there — and I wouldn't give a whit about whose nerves I got on.

Alas, my husband, Todd, and I remain working stiff, so we hibernate in the



A/C as much as possible from May through November and count down the weeks in between refreshing little getaways. Even though they're just short jaunts around Florida, mini-vacations and long weekends break up the monotony of living without four seasons.

Our latest getaway was Clearwater Beach, where Todd had to be at a conference for work and I was tasked with grueling duties like sunning by the pool, walking the beach and sipping delicious

margaritas at the Opal Sands Resort. I also stayed busy taking obligatory photos of my feet on lounge chairs with the Gulf and gorgeous sunsets as a backdrop, as well as artsy pictures of my fruity, frozen cocktails.

I know it's only a couple of hours north, but I'd never been to Clearwater Beach before, and while it's not vastly different from parts of Southwest Florida, whenever I go anywhere new I feel like I'm in a wonderful, exotic foreign

country. But first, I had to conquer my fear of going over the Sunshine Skyway Bridge, the enormous monstrosity over Tampa Bay that's 430 feet in the air. It's only a mile long, and Todd is the best driver ever, but I was clutching rosary beads the entire time (and I'm not even Catholic). You'll be happy to know I survived without passing out, and going over it the second time on the way home was decidedly less traumatic.

Heading home, we decided to take a detour to Longboat Key near Sarasota and hit up Mote Marine Laboratory, an incredible aquarium where we got to see sharks, manatees, an octopus or two and lots of other weird and beautiful sea creatures.

The good news about this season — whether you want to call it Hot or Hurricane — between May and November is that we get our swamp all to ourselves. Traffic isn't too bad on road trips, there's room (and Florida resident discounts) in the hotels and resorts, and we can check out attractions like Mote Marine without having to stalk a parking spot or stand in long lines for tickets.

So beat the heat and the claustrophobia and run away somewhere nearby for the weekend, or even for just a day. Because before you know it, those smart snowbirds will be back and autumn will get here in December. ■

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

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“With projections for this upcoming season estimates to be the worst in 50 years, it’s critical Congress show citrus farmers they are not alone in their fight against this bacterial disease.”

— **U.S. Rep. Vern Buchanan**, a District 16 Republican from Sarasota who sponsored the Emergency Citrus Disease Response Act

Not easy being green



The fight to save Florida’s citrus enters decade two

BY ROGER WILLIAMS

rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

WHEN THE BACTERIAL DISEASE KNOWN AS greening collided with Florida’s huge citrus industry in 2005, nobody imagined that 11 years later the state’s annual production, now worth almost \$11 billion, would have dropped from a once-high 240 million boxes of fruit to 80 million, a reduction of two-thirds.

The hard numbers in a report released last month by the USDA and the state Department of Agriculture also show a massive loss of citrus-producing acreage, from a total of about 625,500 acres two decades ago, to just over 480,000 today.

For a decade now, scientists and farmers have labored to understand and eradicate the disease, also known as HLB for the Chinese word Huanglongbing, or yellow dragon disease.

Carried and transmitted by the Asian citrus psyllid, a jumping plant lice that resembles aphids, the disease’s “output impact” on the state’s citrus industry in

SEE GREEN, B4 ▶

INSIDE



They do!

Wedding professionals show off at Germain bridal expo, and more Networking photos. **B7-8** ▶



On the Move

Who’s going where, doing what on the local business scene. **B5** ▶



House Hunting

Three bedrooms and a pool in Boca Palms for \$409,000. **B9** ▶

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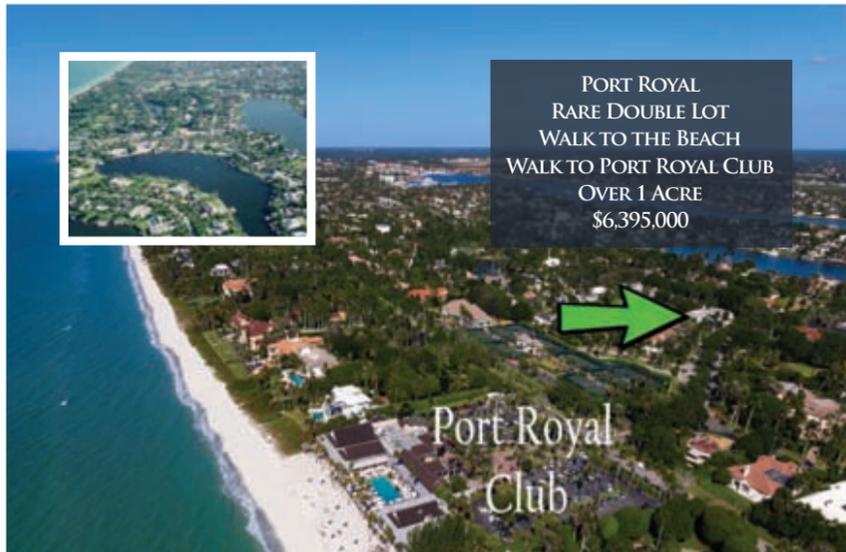
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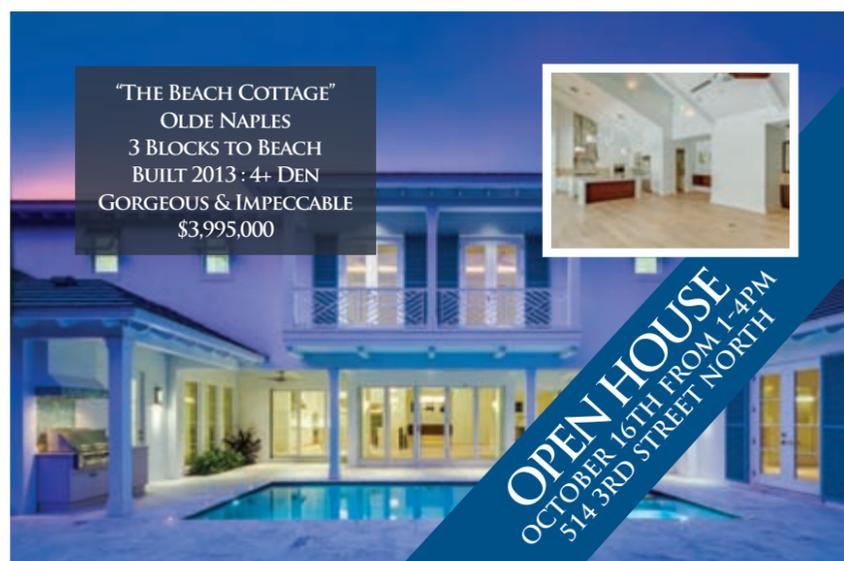


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Four-week ESL for professionals class offered at FGCU Naples Center

Florida Gulf Coast University hosts a professional development workshop, "ESL: English as a Second Language for Professionals," Oct. 17-Nov. 10. Offered by the university's Office of Continuing Education & Off-Campus Programs, class will meet from 6-8:30 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays at the FGCU Naples Center, 1010 Fifth Ave. S.

Participants in the intermediate level ESL course will develop speaking, listening, reading and writing English language skills for communicating with management, colleagues and/or customers in the workplace. The course is designed for employees, managers or professionals who either already

use English in their work or hope to find a job by improving their English; participants may be currently employed or seeking employment.

Program instructor Barbara White Crockett is a TEFL/ESL certified career counselor and English language coach. As founder and principal of BWC International, a global executive recruiting and human resources consulting firm, she has more than 30 years of corporate experience and has hired top talent for major organizations worldwide.

Tuition is \$295. To register or for more information, call 425-3270, email continuing@fgcu.edu, or go to fgcu.edu. ■

Growing Associates in Naples seeks emerging leaders for Class of 2017

The Leadership Collier Foundation is accepting applications for the Class of 2017 Growing Associates in Naples program for emerging leaders and professionals in Collier County ages 21-40. Participants learn about local history, government, election structures, charitable foundations and other resources so that they can become involved as effective contributors in the community.

This Class of 2017 runs from Feb. 21-April 11 and includes eight ses-

sions (most from 3-5 p.m.) focused on professional development and peer networking. Tuition is \$750, and registration is limited to 40 people.

The application deadline is Nov. 30. Visit napleschamber.org/chamber/leadership_programs to download an application. For more information, contact Amanda Beights, vice president of the Leadership Collier Foundation, by calling 403-2903 or emailing amanda@napleschamber.org. ■



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Dante DiSabato
Broker Associate



GREEN

From page 1

just the last five years has amounted to \$4.5 billion, according to researchers in the Department of Food and Economics at the University of Florida.

Since Florida and Sao Paulo, Brazil, produce more than 80 percent of the world's orange juice, strategies to treat it are widely varying and aggressive. And even the federal government is trying to help.

U.S. Rep. Vern Buchanan, a District 16 Republican from Sarasota, sponsored



BUCHANAN

the Emergency Citrus Disease Response Act and helped move it through the U.S. House last week, which could mean significantly more financial support for farm operations, allowing those who own at least 50 percent of the trees in a

grove to deduct the full cost of planting new or replacing damaged trees from their taxes, through 2025. But first it must pass the Senate.

"Help is on the way to Florida's growers," he told *Florida Weekly*. "With projections for this upcoming season estimates to be the worst in 50 years, it's critical Congress show citrus farmers they are not alone in their fight against this bacterial disease."

"The House acted swiftly this month to pass my bill, and I'm hopeful the Senate will do the same in November."

That would be nice, especially for growers like Frank Green, a born-and-raised farmer from Lee County whose wife, two sons and two daughters-in-law are all in it together, come hell, high-water or psyllids.

Like other citrus growers big and small, he's tried every approach possible to slow the disease in his family groves — and that's a costly process.

"What it's doing to us, we're getting good money for our product but we're spending it all trying to grow it," Mr. Green explains.

"We spend close to \$2,000 an acre just trying to grow the fruit. So as long as your production is halfway decent, we're able to keep our head above water."

Keeping production up is the key. Florida farmers in general take a different approach than those in Sao Paulo, where aggressively rooting out trees with greening, then planting new ones and trying to keep off the psyllid with heavy spraying is the standard approach, the University of Florida's researchers say.

Here, farmers have tried that too, especially in the huge corporate-owned groves



COURTESY PHOTOS

The Asian citrus psyllid eats citrus leaves, especially those of young trees, leaving a tree with a deadly bacterium that causes greening.

where farms can afford to plant new trees and wait for them to grow and finally begin producing, a several-year process.

"Big growers can take their chances on new root stock, new science, and they look for a silver bullet to get them back into (big production)," explains Mr. Green.

But the smaller farmer, in particular, fights back with a process called "enhanced foliar nutrition," which keeps the trees fed even when the bacteria stops their ability to feed themselves, greatly slowing the speed of affliction.

"With greening now, we know what the organism is, we know how it affects the tree, and we have some mitigation techniques," explains Gene McAvoy, county extension director and regional vegetable agent for the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Science, based in Hendry County. He works with farmers in Collier, Lee and Hendry counties.

In Hendry County, for example, with 10 million citrus trees (the most in Florida) and about 40,000 residents (one of the smallest county populations), life has gotten harder. The same is true in other counties.

"What happens is, the bacteria plugs up the vascular system of the tree, preventing it from feeding itself, so we can feed it," he says. "Foliage nutrition has slowed the decline."

But the decline is still precipitous, says Mr. Green. And deeply frustrating.

"Just before the fruit gets ready to be harvested, the three turns loose of it and it hits the ground," he says.

"Another thing that happens: The tree will produce an abnormal amount of real small fruit."

So with that lack of production, there's a cumulative effect, and it's made it difficult. We had groves producing 600 to 700 boxes per acre. Now we're fortunate if we're in the 400-box range."

When farmers practice foliage nutrition, they have to keep any weeds or plants out of the groves, so the trees won't have to compete for the nutrition they add. And that's a lot of work.

The Green family does everything itself, except harvest, when they bring in crews. Families that can't do that have a harder time, he figures.

And the loss in production also affects workers up and down the long production line of Florida fruit: When production drops, jobs may be at risk for pickers, haulers, packers, processors, grove employees and grove managers, too.

"We're getting to the point where it takes a certain amount of product to keep a juice plant open, and we hope we have enough," says Mr. McAvoy. "The big ones are Southern Gardens Citrus in Clewiston, Peace River Packing and Tropicana, around Bradenton."

The engineering and mechanics of the systems are designed to run more, not less.

"To give you an idea: In the heyday 15 years ago, once they started processing juice around the end of October, they'd run those plants 24/7 until June, with one day of scheduled maintenance periodically."



"But now they can only run for several weeks, starting in the morning and for 10 or 12 hours. They do that for about 10 days, then shut down."

Meanwhile, with lifestyle and livelihoods at stake, not to mention the expectations of orange juice drinkers from sea to shining sea, new approaches are being tried all the time.

"Scientists are looking to breed varieties that might be genetically resistant," says Mr. McAvoy.

"For example, scientists in Texas have taken a gene from a spinach plant and introduced it into (citrus root stock) and it seems to effect the bacteria."

But it isn't just that simple. "Is the public ready for a genetically modified orange tree, even if it's something we eat already, like spinach?" he asks.

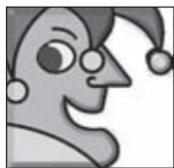
"And of course that requires government approval, and that testing and approval process can take up to 10 years."

But he remains an optimist.

"There have been hundreds of millions of dollars pumped into this effort. Brilliant scientific minds are working on it. I have a lot of faith in that." ■

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Consider the 15-Year Mortgage

The vast majority of homebuyers opt for 30-year mortgage loans — but many of them might be better served by 15-year loans instead.

Let's start with the obvious benefit: Yes, 15-year mortgages require steeper monthly payments, but they also have you owning your home outright far more quickly. They also have you paying far less in interest.

Here's an example: Imagine buying a \$250,000 home, putting 20 percent (\$50,000) down and borrowing \$200,000 via a fixed-rate mortgage. We'll also imagine that your interest rate is 3.5 percent for the 30-year loan and 3 percent for the 15-year one. (Interest rates are typically lower for 15-year mortgages.) Per an online calculator at Bankrate.com, your monthly payment would be \$1,381 with the shorter loan and \$898 with the longer one. But over the lives of the loans, you'd pay a total of \$123,312 in interest with the 30-year loan and just \$48,609 with the 15-year one. That's a difference of nearly \$75,000!

If you're about to buy a home, be sure to consider a 15-year loan. If you already have a mortgage, look into whether it would make sense to refinance into a 15-year loan.

If you fear you may not be able to pay the steeper bills of a 15-year mortgage, consider this strategy: Secure a 30-year mortgage with no penalties for making extra payments to pay down the principal. That way you can make a few extra mortgage payments each year or just send in a few hundred dollars more each month — and the life of your loan will be significantly shortened. If you fall on hard times, you'll have the safety net of being able to just switch to making only your required monthly payments.

A 15-year mortgage can help you arrive at retirement without a mortgage, and that can be helpful when you're living on a fixed income or off of savings. It can help you sleep better at night, too. The more you learn about mortgages, the more you might save. ■

My Dumbest Investment

Went Against Advice

Lots of people told me not to do it, but during the housing bubble, I got nervous — and since I didn't have a prepayment penalty clause in my mortgage, I decided to use part of my retirement funds to pay off the loan.

What made me nervous was that I was getting older, and my income was going to become more limited. I was advised against doing what I did because mortgage interest is deductible on my taxes, and I would have to pay taxes on the amount I withdrew, too.

Still, now I can easily live off my limited income and not get any extra gray hair worrying about the mortgage or the possibility of somehow losing my home. And I still have most of my retirement account again. As a single working mother, I have been well served by my investments. I have taken far more out of them than I ever put into them.

— D.M., Pittsburg, Calif.

The Fool Responds: What you did isn't necessarily dumb. Taking money from a retirement account can be dangerous, as it leaves you with less to support yourself in retirement. But not having a mortgage can be a good thing — and you avoided paying a lot of interest, too. Since your retirement account has recovered some and continues to grow, your financial future is not so imperiled. ■

Last week's trivia answer

I was formed in 1930 by three fruit enthusiasts. Today I'm a cooperative of more than 700 grower families in the U.S., Canada and Chile. I'm the world's main producer of juices made from my fruit of focus — which is featured in more than 1,000 products in more than 100 countries. My first product was a jellied sauce. I introduced grapefruit juice in the 1970s and Craisins in 1993. I employ more than 2,000 people and sport close to 20 receiving and processing facilities. My headquarters, in Massachusetts, is surrounded by 16 acres of bogs and ponds. Who am I? (Answer: Ocean Spray) ■



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

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Ask the Fool

Stocks or Bonds for Kids?

Q Should I invest my kids in stocks or savings bonds?

— P.D., Maryville, Tenn.

A It depends. If it's short-term money needed in a few years for college, then less volatile investments, such as savings bonds or CDs, can give you a modest return and minimize losses.

For long-term money, though — meaning time frames of five or 10 or more years — consider stocks, which have outperformed bonds and CDs over most long periods. A simple, inexpensive index fund such as one based on the S&P 500 offers instant diversification across hundreds of companies.

You might also invest at least a little money in the stock of a few companies that your children know and like, such as Nike, Starbucks, Hasbro or Apple. Then you can follow the fortunes of the companies together, as they learn about the stock market.

Learn more at savingsbonds.gov, bankrate.com and www.fool.com/investing/mutual-funds/mutual-funds.aspx.

Q What are "closed-end" funds?

— S.G., Naples

A They're like mutual funds in that they pool investor money that's managed by a professional — but they're different.

With regular mutual funds, if many people want to invest in them, more shares are simply created. But when closed-end funds are created, a fixed number of shares are sold to the public. After that, the shares are usually traded in a secondary market, like stocks.

The prices of regular mutual funds are calculated at the end of each trading day based on the value of the funds' assets. But the price of closed-end funds can swing higher or lower than their net asset value, reflecting supply and demand of the shares.

Closed-end funds can be volatile, and they sometimes charge high fees. Learn more before investing in any. Start at sec.gov/answers/mfclose.htm. ■

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

Name That Company

I trace my roots back to 1984, when a 19-year-old Texan founded me with \$1,000 and started selling computers he assembled from parts from his college dorm room. Four years later, I went public and had a market value of \$85 million. In 1997, I shipped my 10 millionth PC, and in 2000, I rang up \$40 million in online sales in a single day. In 2001, I became the world's largest com-



puter systems provider. In 2013, I was taken private by my founder and some others for \$24.4 billion, and I just bought data storage giant EMC. Who am I?

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

The Motley Fool Take

Want a Bite of This Apple?

Apple (Nasdaq: AAPL) has released its new iPhone 7 phones, and early reports are that it's selling well. If these new phones can alleviate the concern among investors about Apple's ability to grow iPhone-related revenue and unit shipments, that could boost its share price. Add in potential earnings growth, and there's significant upside to the stock.

Despite the iPhone 7's merits, some see it as just an incremental update to the prior-generation phones, rather than a fundamental game changer. According to whispers, the next iteration, perhaps an iPhone 8, is likely to bring a major overhaul in form as well as a move to a curved organic light-emitting diode (OLED) display, which should both enhance aesthetics and lead to even

better image quality. This leap forward could turbocharge upgrade activity and further accelerate market share gains at the high end of the smartphone market.

Meanwhile, Apple is generating significant and growing revenue from its services, such as its iTunes Store and App Store.

Apple's future stellar performance isn't guaranteed, but with a couple of great years potentially ahead in terms of revenue and profit growth, it may be a good time to pick up some Apple stock. It recently traded at a price-to-earnings (P/E) ratio in the mid-teens, with a dividend that's growing briskly, recently yielding around 2 percent. (The Motley Fool owns shares of and has recommended Apple.) ■

BUSINESS MEETINGS

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

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

■ **Wake Up Naples** for members and guests of the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce takes place from 7-8:30 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 12, at the Hilton Naples. Guests panelists from the Naples Daily News will discuss "The

Changing Media Landscape." \$25 in advance for chamber members, \$35 at the door for members and guests. Sign up at www.napleschamber.org/events.

■ Members of the **Marco Island Chamber of Commerce** meet for Business After Five from 5:30-7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 12, at Erin's Isle, 5375 Hibiscus Drive. For more information, email Katie@marcoislandchamber.org.

■ The **Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce** holds a new member welcome reception from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 12, at chamber headquarters, 25071 Chamber of Commerce Drive in Bonita. RSVP by Oct. 6 by calling 992-2943.

■ **Business After Hours** for members and guests of the Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce takes place

from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 13, at Fish Tale Marina, 7225 Estero Blvd., Fort Myers Beach. Call 992-2943 to RSVP.

■ The **East Naples Merchants Association** meets for networking from 5:30-7 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month at varying locations. The Oct. 13 meeting is in the INCubator Lab classroom at Lely High School. Visit www.eastnaplesmerchantsassoc.com for more information.

■ **Business After Five** for members and guests of the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce takes place from 5:30-7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20, at Quail Creek Country Club, 13300 Valewood Drive. \$10 for members in advance, \$15 at the door for members and guests. Sign up at www.napleschamber.org/events.

■ The **Public Relations Society of**

America-Gulf Coast Chapter meets from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 25, at the Hilton Naples. Guest speaker is Deanna Renda, CEO of Naples Soap Company. \$27 for PRSA members and nonprofits, \$35 for others. Reservations required by Oct. 21. Call 353-1687 or visit www.gulfcoastprsa.org.

■ The **ABWA-Neapolitan Chapter** meets for dinner and a program from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 25, at Bellasera Hotel. Guest speaker Jamie Bergen, the founder of Bergen Wealth Management will discuss the basics of investing. Doors open at 5 p.m. and structured networking is from 5:30-6 p.m. \$33 for members, \$38 for others. For more information, go to www.abwaneapolitan.org. ■

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

Consumer sentiment ticks up among Floridians in September

THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Consumer sentiment among Floridians ticked up 2.8 points in September to 90.9, according to the latest University of Florida consumer survey.

Among the five components that make up the index, four increased and one remained unchanged.

Perceptions of one's personal financial situation now compared with a year ago climbed 3.2 points, from 77.3 to 80.5. Opinions as to whether now is a good time to buy a big-ticket item like an appliance went up 4.2 points to 101.6. These two components together indicate that Floridians' opinions of current economic conditions improved in September.

"The latter increase is mainly driven by the population aged 60 and over, but in general, Floridians expressed more positive views compared with last month's index score," says Hector Sandoval, director of the economic analysis program at UF's Bureau of Economic and Business Research.

Expectations of personal finances a year from now rose slightly by 1.6 points to 100.1.

Expectations of U.S. economic conditions over the next year remained unchanged at 85.1 points, while anticipated U.S. economic conditions over the next five years showed the greatest increase of any component: up 5.2 points, from 82 to 87.2.

"Perceptions of present conditions and expectations about future conditions each explained about half of the change in this month's consumer sentiment index," Mr. Sandoval says. "Furthermore, the overall positive change is independent of age, gender and income."

The Florida economy continued adding jobs statewide in August, and Florida unemployment is at the lowest level since the last recession, unchanged at 4.7 percent for the last three months. Many experts think this means Florida has reached its "natural" rate of unemployment, which is the unemployment rate the economy will tend to gravitate toward in the long run, despite fluctuating during shorter-term booms and busts.

While Florida's economy is growing, with more jobs added every month, questions are being raised about the quality of those jobs.

"Despite these positive trends in the labor market, labor force participation is decreasing, and there is evidence of an underlying change in the employment structure, with



more Floridians in lower-paying jobs compared with pre-recession levels," Mr. Sandoval says. "Adding more low-wage and low-skill jobs does not directly translate into a higher standard of living for Florida workers," he adds.

The Federal Reserve Board recently decided to leave interest rates unchanged. The Fed's low-interest-rate policy holds savings rates low for those who put money in a bank and encourages investors to seek higher returns in other, riskier investments. But it also keeps the cost of borrowing low for firms and households who need credit.

This month's spike in perceptions as to whether this is a good time to buy a big-ticket item could be due to the Fed's announcement, Mr. Sandoval says.

The current election season might also affect the opinions of Florida consumers.

"It's not unusual to see politics creep into the consumer sentiment index during a presidential election, particularly in the expectations of U.S. economic conditions," Chris McCarty, director of the UF bureau, says. "The contrast between the candidates' approach to the economy is as stark a contrast as any election in recent memory. While the polls show a tight race, this may ultimately bode well for Clinton in Florida."

Conducted Sept. 1-25, the UF study reflects the responses of 431 individuals who were reached on cell phones and who represent a demographic cross-section of Florida.

The index used by UF researchers is benchmarked to 1966, which means a value of 100 represents the same level of confidence for that year. The lowest index possible is a two, and the highest is 150.

Details of this month's survey can be found at www.bebr.ufl.edu/csi-data. ■

ON THE MOVE

New Location

The Family Wealth Planning Group

recently moved to the Vanderbilt Galleria where the firm has expanded and enhanced its services. Founder **Tom LaMacchio** says the team, which includes financial advisor **Nadia Keric**, has invested in technology to create a secure environment to support in-person and virtual client meetings, added in-house tax advisory services and partnered with local artists to feature their collections.



LAMACCHIO



KERIC

Mayotte has more than 18 years of experience in commercial and residential construction. As vice president of BUILD, LLC, he oversees owner relations and the project team from pre- to post-construction.

Ali Feezor has been promoted to general manager at **Pelican Isle Yacht Club**. Ms. Feezor has worked as the club's food and beverage manager for the past three years. She previously served as a captain in the U.S. Army with responsibilities in operations, logistics and expense management. She also worked for many years in other private clubs and restaurants.

Dawnmarie Peterson has been promoted from assistant food and beverage manager to food and beverage manager at **Pelican Isle Yacht Club**. Ms. Peterson joined PIYC in September 2014.

Marlina Savage has been promoted from server to dining room supervisor at **Pelican Isle Yacht Club**.

Angelica Addeo has joined the staff at **Pelican Isle Yacht Club** as seasonal special dining and event coordinator.

Susan Bowles, assistant controller at **Pelican Isle Yacht Club**, has been elected to serve as secretary of the local chapter of the **Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals**.

Expansion

Kitchens by Clay, a kitchen and bath remodeling firm, has doubled the size of its showroom in Fountain Park Plaza at 7935 Airport-Pulling Road, expanding from 2,000 square feet to 4,000 square feet. Owners Clay and Kelly Cox say the expansion provides more space for product display and designer work areas.

Grand Re-opening

Rhonda Fister, a licensed clinical esthetician and the new owner of Euro Spa of Naples, invites the public to a grand re-opening celebration and open house from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 18. The spa in Mission Square Plaza at 1575 Pine Ridge Road offers a broad range of clinical and therapeutic treatments including skin care, massage therapy, laser and injectables.

Construction

Brian Mayotte has joined **BUILD, LLC**, a Naples-based full-service construction management, general contracting and design build firm specializing in both commercial and residential construction, as vice president. A Michigan native, Mr.

Law

Matt Goodwin of **Goodwin Law, P.A.**, has been named chair of the Collier County Bar Association's Real Estate Section. Additionally, Mr. Goodwin recently became of counsel to **The Boatman Law Firm**.

Travis Hayes, a wills, trusts and estates attorney and a partner of **Lile & Hayes** in Naples, has been appointed co-chair of The Florida Bar's Probate Rules Committee by the president of The Florida Bar. He is a member of the Executive Council for the Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section of The Florida Bar and serves as vice chair of both the Legislation Committee and Probate Law and Procedure Committee. A past chair of the Trusts & Estates Section of the Collier County Bar Association, he serves on the board of directors of the CCBA. A graduate of the University of Florida Levin College of Law, Mr. Hayes previously served as a principal in the Naples office of Cummings & Lockwood, LLC. ■



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NETWORKING

The National Association of Wedding Professionals' Bridal Blast 2016 at Germain Arena



- 1. Jennifer Riggs and Aja Jones
- 2. Carmen Kaouk, Natalie Kaouk and Sherri Chanel
- 3. Chris Lackey and Lena Lackey
- 4. Jai Nunez-Vicioso
- 5. Ashley Maldonado and Norma Maldonado
- 6. Tammy Schaffer and Jaime Griffin
- 7. Myrtle October
- 8. Nick Southwick, Owen Flaitz, Brian Cooper and Lenny Kanevsky
- 9. Confections by Black Market Cakes

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NETWORKING

Women on 5th at The von Liebig Art Center



1. Milena Makismova, Amber Ramsey and Nicole Peters
2. Ivyie Moreschi, Chelsea Mooney and Lise Sundria
3. Robin Koneski and Stacie Carrol
4. Jane Mjolsness and Lynn Borzumato
5. Ann Aiken and Mary Martin
6. Elle Young, Lynn Borzumato, Amiee Schler and Mary Visgilio
7. Brenda Smith, Elle Young and Debra McMillan

BOB RAYMOND / FLORIDA WEEKLY

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REAL ESTATE NEWSMAKERS

Chip Olson of REI Advisor in Naples has become the 14th partner to join the Florida Commercial Brokers Network, a network of commercial real estate brokers across the Sunshine State. Mr. Olson, a broker in Naples for more than 30 years, established REI Advisors last year. The consulting firm has a national networking of experts specializing in generational transition of real estate assets.

Leslie Prinz has joined the TreasureMyHome.com Real Estate Team of Keller Williams. A native of Boston, Ms. Prinz earned a bachelor's degree in retail management from New England University and has more than 25 years of sales and marketing experience.



PRINZ

Jackie Rafferty has joined the leadership team at Premier Sotheby's International Realty as public relations and communications manager. She is responsible for corporate communications, media relations, press releases and content writing for the company. A Boston native who hails from Beverly, Mass., Ms. Rafferty has more than 20 years of experience developing successful public relations strategies. She started her career at one of the largest Fortune 500 financial institutions in the country and also held leadership roles for Massachusetts' leading association for specialty contractors. In Naples, she has worked for an advertising agency and a shopping district.



RAFFERTY

Justin Thibaut has been promoted to director of sales at Land Solutions Inc. Mr. Thibaut is a licensed real estate agent and a CCIM and ALC candidate. He is responsible for planning and implementing sales, marketing and land acquisitions, both short and long

SEE NEWSMAKERS, B17 ►



COURTESY PHOTOS

House Hunting

10159 Boca Circle

This three-bedroom, two-bath, split-floor-plan pool home with 1,854 square feet is on a private lot in the low-fee gated community of Boca Palms in North Naples. There are vaulted ceilings, tile and laminate flooring throughout, granite kitchen countertops and wood cabinets. The master bedroom has a walk-in closet and sliding door access to the pool area. Both guest bedrooms are generously sized and share a bathroom. The interior of the home has been repainted in light neutral colors. The roof was redone in 2012, and all windows have hurricane protection. Outside is an oversized lanai with plenty of covered and uncovered areas and an inviting solar-heated swimming pool. The front yard has a mature mango tree, and the backyard boasts more fruit trees and a privacy wall. A well for irrigation has recently been installed. Boca Palms offers a community pool, tennis courts and A-rated elementary, middle and high schools (Pelican Marsh, Pine Ridge and Barron Collier).

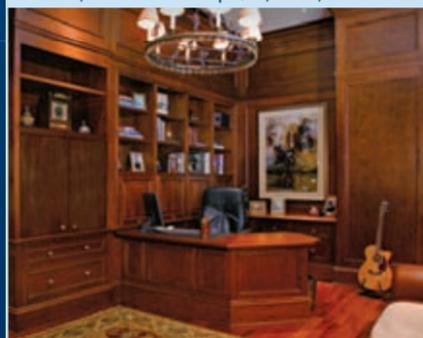
Karyn and Rowan Samuel, The Samuel Team at John R. Wood Properties, have the listing for \$409,000. For more information or to arrange a private showing, call 537-3732, email ksamuel@johnrwood.com or visit www.realestatein-naplesflorida.net. ■



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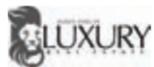
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Liz Appling 239.272.7201

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SHADOW WOOD



GINGER POINTE
• Bardmoor Model, Entirely Upgraded, Move-In Ready
• 3 BR + Den, 3.5 BA, Lake & Golf Course Views, 2,520 S.F.
• \$780,000 MLS 216019285
Linda Ramsey 239.405.3054

FAIRWINDS



BONITA
• 3 Years Young & Better Than New
• Peaceful Setting & Wonderful Retreat
• \$429,000 MLS 216047143
Sue Ellen Mathers 239.877.2726

PELICAN LANDING



SANDPIPER GREENS
• Former Model, Numerous Upgrades, SS Appliances
• 3 BR, 3 Full BA in a Desirable Community
• \$419,900 MLS 216057669
Larry Bell 239.919.4404

MARBELLA AT SPANISH WELLS



BONITA
• 2 BR + Den, 2 BA w/Open Airy Floor Plan
• Lovely Golf Course Views
• \$375,000 MLS 216026143
The Boeglin Team 239.287.6414

VILLA PALMERAS



ESTERO
• 2 BR + Den, 2 BA, 2-Car Garage
• Natural Gas Community
• \$360,000 MLS 216057928
Katie Brady Rigsby 239.770.6061

LUSSO VILLAS



NAPLES
 • 3 Bedrooms + Den, 3.5 Bathrooms, 2-Car Garage
 • Soaring Ceilings, Great Floor Plan
 • **\$1,175,000** MLS 216008506
 The Taranto Team 239.572.3078

FOUR SEASONS



NAPLES
 • 4 BR, 4 BA, 1 Acre Home
 • Amazing Commercial Size Pool & Infinity Edge Spa
 • **\$1,150,000** MLS 216054371
 Doug Haughey 239.961.1561

PELICAN BAY



NAPLES
 • 2 Bedrooms + Den, 2 Bathrooms, Furnished
 • Commanding Views of the Gulf
 • **\$1,099,000** MLS 215056701
 Doug Haughey 239.961.1561

VANDERBILT BEACH



CONNORS
 • Canal Lot w/Southern Vanderbilt Beach Exposure
 • Brand New 85' Seawall
 • **\$849,000** MLS 216048332
 Patti Fortune & Charles Goff 239.272.8494

ROBERTS BAY / BARFIELD BAY



MARCO ISLAND
 • 4 BR, 3 BA Courtyard Home w/Heated Pool
 • Open Floor Plan w/Eat-In Kitchen & Surround Sound
 • **\$790,000** MLS 216032706
 Natalie Kipper, Westerfield Realty Team 239.784.3729

COVE TOWERS



NAPLES
 • 3 BR, 3 Full BA, 2,379 S.F.
 • 10th Floor End Unit, Luxury Details
 • **\$739,000** MLS 216051663
 Corye Reiter, The Lummis Team 239.273.3722

PELICAN BAY - AVALON



NAPLES
 • Lowest Priced Camelot Townhouse
 • Amenities Galore
 • **\$650,000** MLS 216023509
 Vito Bauer 239.777.7080

AVELLINO ISLES AT THE VINEYARDS



NAPLES
 • Newly Decorated, Furnished 3 BR, 2.5 BA Condo
 • Amazing Views of Lake & Fairways
 • **\$599,000** MLS 216060384
 Kurt Petersen 239.777.0408

NEW LISTING

PELICAN BAY



NAPLES
 • Beautiful Lake View
 • 2 Bedroom, 2 Bathroom Condo w/Carport
 • **\$480,000** MLS 216029881
 Jim Hiester 239.919.9508

MOORINGS WATERFRONT



NAPLES
 • 3rd Floor, 2 BR, 2 BA Condo
 • Furnished w/Extra Storage
 • **\$459,000** MLS 216025749
 Liz Appling 239.272.7201

HERITAGE GREENS



NAPLES
 • Stunning 3 BR + Den, 2.5 BA, 2-Car Garage
 • Many High End Upgrades
 • **\$429,900** MLS 216045734
 Dodona Roboci, The Roboci Team 239.776.8123

NEW PRICE

HAMMOCK BAY



NAPLES
 • World Class Golf & Amenities Galore
 • Spacious 3 BR, 3.5 BA
 • **\$425,000** MLS 216023913
 Starr Whiting 239.404.1219

BELLERIVE AT THE VINEYARDS



NEW PRICE

NAPLES
 • Tastefully Decorated 2nd Floor Condo w/Lake Views
 • Furnished w/All New Less Than 1 Year Ago
 • **\$279,000** MLS 216043468
 Dodona Roboci, The Roboci Team 239.776.8124

IMPERIAL GOLF ESTATES



THE ISLAND
 • Newly Remodeled 2 BR, 2 BA Condo
 • Best Views of Lake & Golf Course
 • **\$271,000** MLS 216059835
 The Taranto Team 239.572.3078

WEST BAY BEACH & GOLF CLUB



RIVERBROOKE
 • Former Cornerstone Furnished Model
 • Golf Course Views Over Lavish Pool & Spa
 • **\$1,595,000** MLS 216008062
 Pam Olsen 239.464.6873

SHADOW WOOD AT THE BROOKS



BONITA
 • Amazing Lake & Golf Course Views, Spacious Lanai
 • High Quality Harbourside Home, Fine Detailing
 • **\$1,589,000** MLS 216014927
 Robert Nemeec 239.273.2556

BONITA BEACH



BONITA
 • Build Your Dream Home Across from the Beach
 • 0.40 Acres, 106' Wide, Deep Water
 • **\$699,000** MLS 216025443
 Liz Appling 239.272.7201

PELICAN LANDING



BONITA
 • Beautiful S. Exposure for Max. Pool/Spa Enjoyment
 • Overlooking 14th Hole on Gator Course
 • **\$570,000** MLS 216045003
 Beth James 239.287.4663

MARBELLA AT SPANISH WELLS



BONITA
 • 3 BR + Den, 3 BA, Pool Home
 • Beautiful Golf Course & Preserve Views
 • **\$449,000** MLS 216033736
 Jim Griffith, Boeglin Team 239.322.2409

MARBELLA AT SPANISH WELLS



BONITA
 • Beautiful 4 BR, 2 BA Home w/Pool & Spa
 • Outstanding Lake, Golf Course & Preserve Views
 • **\$445,000** MLS 216042737
 The Boeglin Team 239.287.6414

BONITA BAY



BAY POINTE
 • 2 Bedrooms + Den, 2 Bathrooms
 • Southern Exposure, Private Preserve View
 • **\$319,900** MLS 216017338
 Cathy Lieberman & Cindy Reiff 239.777.2441

LAS BRISAS AT SPANISH WELLS



NEW PRICE

BONITA
 • Furnished 2 BR + Den, 2 BA Condo
 • Beautiful Lake & Sunset Views
 • **\$269,000** MLS 216031214
 The Boeglin Team 239.287.6414

HACIENDA VILLAGE



BONITA
 • Furnished 2 BR, 2.5 BA Townhouse, Lake View
 • Gated Community w/Lush Mature Landscaping
 • **\$225,000** MLS 216017583
 Vahle Team 239.450.7805

OSPREY COVE



ESTERO
 • 2 Bedrooms + Den, 2 Bathrooms
 • Lake & Preserve Views
 • **\$189,500** MLS 216034997
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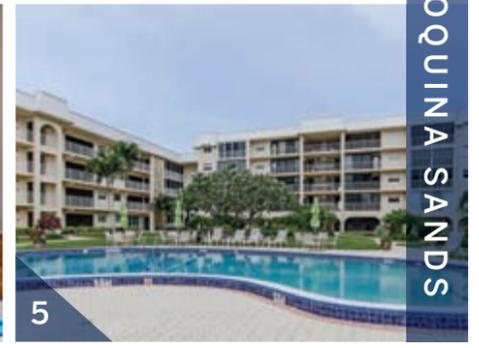


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Michael G. Lawler
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\$11,900,000 |
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Friley Saucier
Web ID 216022071 | 239.293.3532
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Web ID 216022951 | 239.261.3939
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| 2 | Admiralty Point #310
Larry Roorda
Web ID 216059678 | 239.860.2534
\$1,195,000 |
| 3 | Billows #4
Ryan Nordyke
Web ID 216021425 | 239.776.9390
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| 4 | Commodore Club #504
Sharon Kaltenborn
Web ID TAYL100316IHE | 239.248.1964
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\$2,470,000 |
| 2 | Naples Marina Villas #6
Paul Graffy
Web ID 216060423 | 239.273.0403
\$750,000 |
| 3 | 495 18th Avenue South
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Web ID 216027889 | 239.261.3939
\$4,295,000 |
| 4 | 940 7th Street South
Heather Hobrock
Web ID 216044574 | 239.370.3944
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| 5 | Olde Naples Villas #2B
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Web ID 216028550 | 239.216.3753
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Web ID 216061344 \$1,599,000



303 Turtle Hatch Road
Michael G. Lawler 239.261.3939
Web ID 216026258 \$5,295,000



4705 Villa Mare Lane
Sarah Theiss 239.269.0300
Web ID 216025520 \$2,699,000



5160 Crayton Place South
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Web ID 216027698 \$1,850,000



Horizon House #500
Sandra McCarthy-Meeks 239.287.7921
Web ID 216026677 \$899,900



Monaco Beach Club PH 6
Karen Van Arsdale 239.860.0894
Web ID 216027592 \$799,900



Surfsedge #104
Heidi Deen 239.370.5388
Web ID 216028234 \$749,000



688 Annemore Lane
Susan Barton 239.860.1412
Web ID 216060221 \$2,299,000



7012 Rue De Marquis
Jane Darling 239.290.3112
Web ID 216058682 \$1,925,000



792 Tramore Lane
Jane Darling 239.290.3112
Web ID 216004625 \$2,095,000



6075 Pelican Bay Boulevard North
Cynthia Rosa 239.287.6015
Web ID DIPA091916IHE \$1,550,000



St. Kitts #301
Amy Atherholt 239.860.2167
Web ID 216057262 \$895,000



Chateaumere #E-203
Jeannie McGearty 239.248.4333
Web ID 216005866 \$885,000



St. Maarten #1104
Pat Duggan 239.213.7445
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Chateaumere #E-404
Heidi Deen 239.370.5388
Web ID 216058313 \$648,900



7951 Vizcaya Way
Leah Ritchey/Amy Becker 239.289.0433
Web ID 216024346 \$3,595,000



Brighton #501
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Web ID 216028678 \$4,795,000



Toscana #804
Cathy Owen 239.269.3118
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Mansion La Palma #203
Barbi Lowe/Trish Lowe Soars 239.216.1973
Web ID 216016653 \$1,199,000



8727 Purslane Drive
Terri Moellers 239.404.7887
Web ID 216060834 \$2,450,000



9281 Troon Lakes Drive
Linda Roberts 239.450.2864
Web ID 216014566 \$795,000



Mont Claire #O-201
Gayle Fawkes 239.250.6051
Web ID 216044589 \$734,900



Osprey Pointe #2-101
Debra McInnis 239.776.4946
Web ID 216060911 \$599,000



Egrets Walk #101
Cynthia Miles 239.273.3449
Web ID 216044205 \$405,000



4244 1st Avenue NW
Debron Fowles 239.826.6655
Web ID 216028420 \$1,700,000



Naples Square #119
Fahada Saad 239.595.8500
Web ID 216053964 \$1,799,000



5678 Sago Court
Christine Jones 239.404.9900
Web ID 216035892 \$999,000



9301 Vercelli Court
Tess/Tom McCarthy 239.207.0118
Web ID EDEL060116IHE \$949,900



405 Rosemeade Lane
Bordner/Hurvitz 239.560.2921
Web ID 216046625 \$900,000



Avellino Isles #201
Joanne MacLeod 239.272.7679
Web ID 216044323 \$849,000



1024 Michigan Avenue
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Web ID 216042438 \$599,000



7743 Martino Circle
John D'Amelio 239.961.5996
Web ID 216040479 \$514,500



5891 Waxmyrtle Way
Blake Owen 239.273.3117
Web ID 216054063 \$499,900





166 Torrey Pines Point
Fahada Saad 239.595.8500
Web ID 216045475 \$489,000



14749 Cranberry Court
Fahada Saad 239.595.8500
Web ID 216046724 \$425,000



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Gordie Lazich/Mark Maran 239.777.2033
Web ID 216059122 \$399,900



Barrington II #201
Vince Colace 239.260.3333
Web ID 216060764 \$379,700



4025 Stow Way
Jacquie Lewis 239.227.3070
Web ID 216060635 \$359,000



GREY OAKS

1372 Great Egret Trail
Sam Heitman 239.537.2018
Web ID 215068568 \$5,200,000



1245 Gordon River Trail
Daniel Guenther 239.357.8121
Web ID 215050013 \$7,295,000



1234 Gordon River Trail
Melissa Williams 239.248.7238
Web ID 214000494 \$6,995,000



1342 Noble Heron Way
Melissa Williams 239.248.7238
Web ID 215049759 \$2,561,500



2165 Asti Court
Sonya Shaheen 239.877.2797
Web ID 215073681 \$1,650,000



NORTH NAPLES

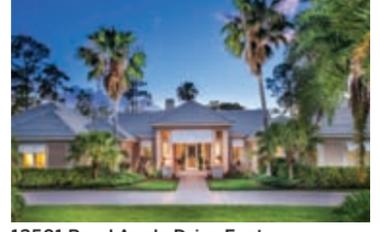
16838 Cabreo Drive
Jutta V. Lopez/Al Lopez 239.659.5113
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Kimberly Alvord 239.919.2742
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Vanya/Dimo Demirev 239.565.0550
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Web ID 216061118 \$1,189,000



13423 Pond Apple Drive East
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Marquesa Royale #5-102
Cynthia Rosa 239.287.6015
Web ID 216059844 \$1,175,000



2934 Cinnamon Bay Circle
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5970 Amberwood Drive
Sandra McCarthy-Meeks 239.287.7921
Web ID 216037333 \$960,000



8044 Cadiz Court
Dave/Ann Renner 239.784.5552
Web ID 216061436 \$899,000



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Susie Culp 239.290.9000
Web ID 216026776 \$875,000



5860 Whisperwood Court
Shimer/Garabed 239.825.9020
Web ID 216019663 \$849,000



11914 Heather Woods Court
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Web ID 216022264 \$749,900



3976 Upolo Lane
Dave/Ann Renner 239.784.5552
Web ID 216061136 \$689,000



9932 Boca Circle
Martin McGill 239.227.6377
Web ID 216059814 \$450,000



11626 Quail Village Way
Joanne MacLeod 239.272.7679
Web ID 216060301 \$399,000



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Web ID 216060318 \$398,000



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Web ID 216060658 \$379,900



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449 Willet Avenue
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Web ID 216007190 \$3,500,000



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Web ID 216060781 \$525,000



320 Wild Orchid Lane
Jim/Nikki Prange-Carroll 239.642.1133
Web ID 215073382 \$1,885,000



Belize #1504
Cathy Rogers 239.821.7926
Web ID 215041080 \$1,779,000



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Jim/Nikki Prange-Carroll 239.642.1133
Web ID 215007854 \$1,395,000



172 Richmond Court
Jim/Nikki Prange-Carroll 239.642.1133
Web ID 216005071 \$1,385,000



1405 Collingswood Avenue
Cathy Brodie 239.272.7725
Web ID 216009054 \$1,100,000



Sandpiper #603
Cynthia Corogin 239.393.6747
Web ID 216020600 \$955,000



1771 Wavecrest Court
Cathy Brodie 239.272.7725
Web ID 216009226 \$825,000



Royal Marco Point #445
Cathy Rogers 239.821.7926
Web ID 216059567 \$725,000



Shippo's Landing #201
Gwen Tolson 847.208.2754
Web ID 216060527 \$595,000



South Seas #1109
Helga Wetzold 239.821.6905
Web ID 216060255 \$545,000



Apollo #1007
Robin/Larry Taylor 239.250.9016
Web ID 216060230 \$497,000



Admiralty House #S-205
Cynthia Corogin 239.393.6747
Web ID 216021740 \$496,000



681 Inlet Drive
Jim/Nikki Prange-Carroll 239.642.1133
Web ID 216006902 \$425,000



20 Covewood Court
Janice Engel 239.316.0074
Web ID 216060594 \$425,000



Sussex on the Bay #304
Brock/Julie Wilson 239.821.9545
Web ID 216009392 \$409,900



945 Royal Marco Way
Darlene Roddy 239.404.0685
Web ID 215038981 \$395,000



3875 Isla Del Sol Way
Laurie Zanelli 239.675.9777
Web ID 216059884 \$2,395,000



8560 Pepper Tree Way
ML Meade 239.293.4851
Web ID 216040309 \$395,000



3248 Tavolara Lane
ML Meade 239.293.4851
Web ID 216042047 \$1,395,000



Menaggio #101
Michelle Thomas 239.860.7176
Web ID 216007406 \$549,000



3014 Aviamar Circle
Michelle Thomas 239.860.7176
Web ID 216010337 \$548,900



Menaggio #101
Michelle Thomas 239.860.7176
Web ID 216044200 \$470,000



Serena #2-202
Lura Jones 239.370.5340
Web ID 216016877 \$459,000



Marengo #201
Lura Jones 239.370.5340
Web ID 216045227 \$399,000



Varenna #203
ML Meade 239.293.4851
Web ID 216060580 \$396,900



Cherry Oaks #202
Michelle Thomas 239.860.7176
Web ID 215058103 \$380,000



Laguna #204
Lura Jones 239.370.5340
Web ID 216044490 \$375,000



Montreux #101
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Web ID 216040325 \$365,000



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House Hunting:

23841 Addison Place Court, Bonita Springs

Here's a 3,000-square-foot-plus, single-family home in The Colony Golf and Bay Club.

Step through towering wood, glass and steel doors to this bright and open home, which features western sunset views through walls of glass overlooking the pool, spa, live oaks and the golf course.

The raised entry foyer sits one step above a large, open landing area that perfectly links the living room, dining room and family room into a massive great-room feel. The kitchen has granite counters, built-in fridge, cooktop and wall ovens. The breakfast area with a

pool-view picture window connects with the family room.

The bedroom plan allows the master to open to the pool/spa and patio area, and both guest rooms (one easily converts to a den) are split on the opposite side of the house.

Community amenities include the Bay Club with elegant waterfront dining on two levels and a 34-acre, private island beach park. Access to the newly updated Colony Country Club and Golf Course are optional through equity membership.

The property is listed at \$949,000 by Engel & Volkers Olde Naples, www.oldenaples.evusa.com. ■



COURTESY PHOTOS

Kristin Stroh

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"Kristin was helpful with everything from giving us names of inspectors and attorneys to delivering the closing documents to us at the hospital when our baby came early."

"I would highly recommend Kristin Stroh for a REALTOR®."



239.784.7196

kris_stroh@yahoo.com

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370 12th Avenue South, Naples, Florida 34102

DELA PARK PLACE #204 - \$645,000



South end unit in gated complex. Spacious master suite w/large master bath. Tastefully furnished.

BREATHTAKING VIEW

7522 GARIBALDI COURT - \$459,900



Gorgeous 3 BR/2 BA + den in impeccable condition. Huge, built-in wall unit floor to ceiling. Truly as must see.

LOVELY VIEW

GLENEAGLES (DEERWOOD) - \$188,000



Really charming area in Naples. 2nd floor unit in great complex. Lovely views, carport & storage. Offered furnished.

AGGRESSIVE PRICING

1660 GALLEON COURT - \$874,500



Pride in ownership. Custom home with quick out to gulf. Dock/lift/2 jet ski lifts. Upgraded ss appliances. Bonus room.

BOATER'S DELIGHT



Jacki Strategos
GRI, CREN
239-370-1222
JStrategos@att.net
Jackistrategos239



Richard Droste
REALTOR
239-572-5117
rddsmd@comcast.net



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NEWSMAKERS

From page 9

range. A graduate of the University of Florida with a bachelor's degree in construction management, he joined the Land Solutions team after a successful career in the nuclear power and oil and gas industries, holding positions in project and business management of major capital construction projects valued from \$500 million to \$1 billion.



THIBAUT

Shelley Whiteside has joined the leadership team at Premier Sotheby's International Realty as regional marketing manager to oversee the development and execution of marketing plans, media buying and corporate training for the regions she serves. A native of Chicago who now resides in Sarasota, Ms. Whiteside has more than 15 years of experience managing the marketing and sales efforts for prominent organizations.



WHITESIDE

The Naples Area Board of Realtors'

member publication, the Naples REALTOR magazine, received four awards at the Florida Magazine Association's Charlie Awards gala in Orlando on Sept. 23. Naples REALTOR won the following awards in the Association & Trade/Technical category:

■ Charlie Award for Writing Excellence/Best In-Depth Reporting for "Safety First"

■ Bronze Award for Design Excellence/Best Cover for "Safety First"

■ Bronze Award for Writing Excellence/Best Department for "For Openers"

■ Bronze Award for General Excellence/Best Media Kit



Naples REALTOR is a quarterly publication with a distribution of more than 5,500 to NABOR members. It is published and produced in collaboration with its publisher Gulfshore Life/Open Sky Media. The magazine's editorial board includes: Kathy Zorn, Harley Conrad, Terrilyn VanGorder, Bill Poteet, Mary Waller and Marcia Albert, along

with Phil Borchmann, Cary Barbor and Brett Wilson of Gulfshore Life/Open Sky Media. ■



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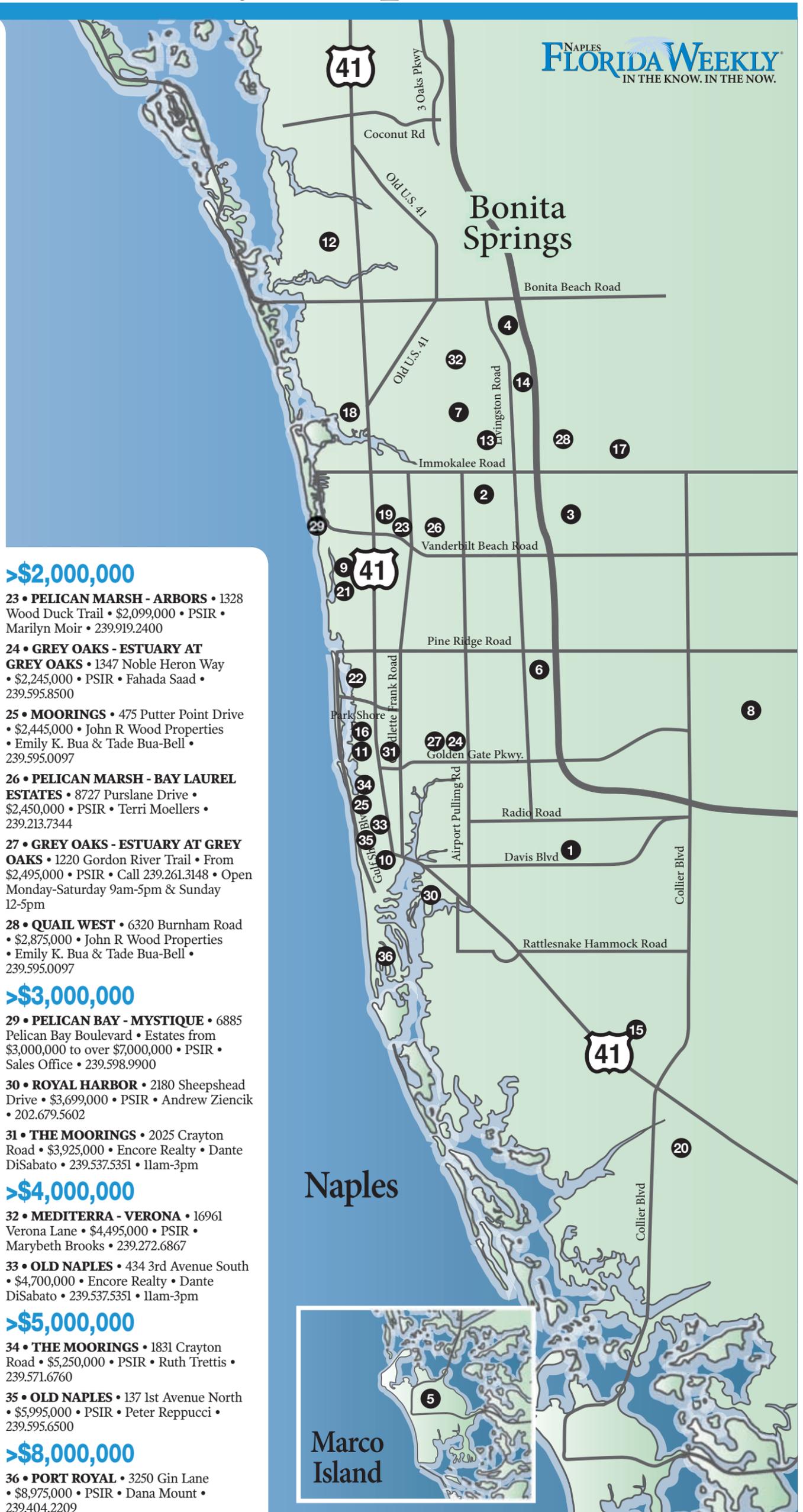
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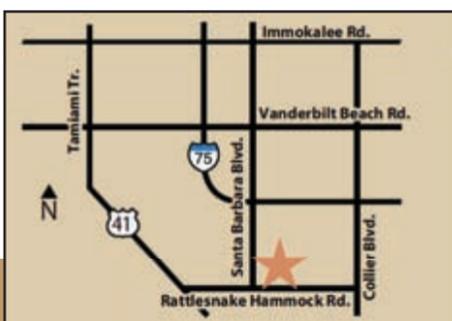
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SECTION C

“You can borrow and glean ideas from wherever, whether Jacques Tati or Jackie Chan films. You can have them in conversation with each other.”

— Doug Elkins, choreographer/dancer



COURTESY PHOTO

Experience the sublime, surreal, hilarious and audacious at Sarasota’s Ringling Festival

BY NANCY STETSON
nstetson@floridaweekly.com

CHOREOGRAPHER/DANCER DOUG ELKINS considers himself a creative magpie; collecting various appealing things and bringing them back to his nest where he transforms them into something different. “I’m a bit of a gleaner,” he says. “Like in the Bible where they had the whole practice of when you harvest the field, you leave the corners, so the poor people could take what was left? I’m an historical bagman that way.”

“I like this great John Cage quote: ‘History’s not a fact. History is merely a field with a lot of stuff in it.’ I tend to be walking through that field and gathering stuff and putting things next to each other.” When he does, he comes up with something quite different and entertaining. For example, putting Shakespeare and Motown next to each other. “What if you have James Brown do a rewrite of ‘Othello’ on the set of ‘Soul Train,’” he wondered. “What does that possibility look like?”

SEE RIAF, C4 ►

It’s always time to do the time warp again

BY LINDSEY NESMITH
lnesmith@floridaweekly.com

Is it time for the time warp again? When isn’t it? The Naples Players are ready to have theatergoers shivering in anticipation of Dr. Frank-N-Furter’s antics with a production that promises kink, cross dressing, non-consensual lobotomies, intergalactic invasions, liberal use of the pre-fix “trans” and other hijinx that are not limited to the characters on stage.

“The Rocky Horror Show” opens the players’ season Wednesday, Oct. 12, and runs through Nov. 6 on the main stage at the Sugden Community Theatre.

For the uninitiated, the cult musical premiered in London in 1973 with Tim Curry playing Dr. Frank-N-Furter, a role that made the actor famous when the production was turned into a film in 1975. The plot centers on Brad and Janet, who encounter the doctor and his castle of deviants when they seek assistance during a rainstorm.



JESSICA WALCK / COURTESY PHOTO

Mark Vanagas brings his own personality to his Dr. Frank-N-Furter character, the role that made Tim Curry famous when “The Rocky Horror Show” became “The Rocky Horror Picture Show” in 1975.

Mr. Curry breathed life into the “sweet transvestite from Transsexual, Transylvania” who is at all times sentimental, domineering, slick and dangerous, giving little thought to who he sleeps with and

whether he or she is entirely consenting. Taking up the mantle for The Naples Players production is Mark Vanagas, a stage veteran who has been performing with the company since 2002 and has appeared in 22 of its productions.

“(Dr. Frank-N-Furter) has cruel aspects to the character, but you want to make him fun and enticing for people,” Mr. Vanagas says. “No matter what their sex is, there’s something that draws people to him. It’s just a delicious role.”

And demanding. Traipsing upstairs and around a stage in five-inch platform heels, a steel-boned corset and thick make-up is not an easy task for Mr. Vanagas, despite his having played characters in the past who dabbled in cross dressing.

“I’ve done drag characters in ‘Cabaret’ and ‘The Mystery of Irma Vep,’ and that part of the physicality — the hand gestures, the softer side — wasn’t hard for me to bring back,” he says. “But the shoes are ungodly uncomfortable.”

SEE TIME WARP, C5 ►

INSIDE



Take the challenge

Florida Weekly wants your original fiction. But hurry! C3 ►



In the stars

Gulfshore Playhouse opens season with “Constellations.” C5 ►



Bon appétit!

Restaurant critic Karen Feldman enjoys every bite at Bleu Provence, and more dining news. C24-27 ►

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FLORIDA WRITERS

Compendium of Florida facts and follies links the loony, lousy and laughable



■ **“Oh, Florida! How America’s Weirdest State Influences the Rest of the Country” by Craig Pittman. St. Martin’s Press. 336 pages. Hardcover, \$26.99.**

Already a *New York Times* best-seller, this book belongs in every Florida home. No, it’s not a hurricane survival guide. It’s a rambling encyclopedia of Florida freakiness to remind us of what we have been surviving while warning others to enter at their own risk.



PITTMAN

Craig Pittman is the literary entrepreneur of what’s odd — and yet often trendsetting — about our populous state with the seemingly endless coastline. His “Oh, Florida!” is local color with a laugh and a blush.

Mr. Pittman presents his learning, lore and laughs in 18 friendly chapters, perhaps to make us think we are strolling along on a Florida golf course. Having established a central focus for each

chapter, he generally stays in bounds even while addressing Florida hazards. Every now and then, though, he does need to take an extra stroke penalty.

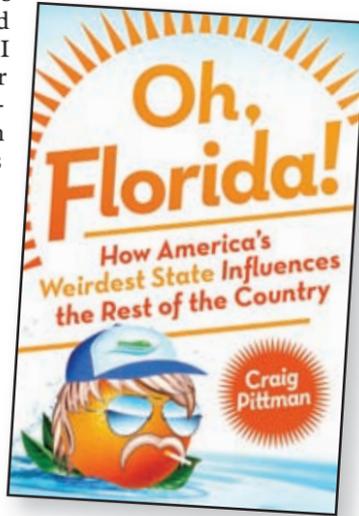
There’s something called “school of beauties” criticism, not very well respected, in which the critic simply oohs and aahs and quotes passages. I’m tempted to go there, but then I wouldn’t know how or when to stop. Readers will find their own favorite passages in this delightful romp. So, here are some of the themes and categories:

Florida is, and has been forever, a land of hucksters. Think swampland, think Cape Coral, think rumrunning, think of a rainy, often overcast state that named itself the Sunshine State.

Florida is a land of “surface flash” that leads people to overlook truly interesting architecture. Why stand gaga in front of Cinderella’s Castle when you can find 10 Frank Lloyd Wright buildings on the Lakeland campus of Florida Southern College?

Florida is the land of mermaids and manatees, alligators and armadillos. That’s enough freakiness for one state. But we have more.

Florida is the land of hurricanes, sinkholes and beachfronts that appear and disappear. It’s the land dotted with Bob’s Barricades — a huge business that defines a state whose roads seem to be under construction or repair incredibly often.



Florida has an extraordinary proportion of elderly drivers, and the consequences of that demography are not funny. It’s one more natural disaster, but in serial form. (More on such problems in the “God’s Waiting Room” chapter.)

It’s a land of major sports teams, a major university system and major sporting events. It has the nation’s most phallic Capitol Building. It has colossal political scandals at all levels of government.

You can imagine how Mr. Pittman fills out his chapter on “The Gunshine State.” Not that he ignores the interest lavished on other weapons, such as machetes. By 2012, Florida had issued “one million concealed weapon permits, more than any other state.”

In education, Mr. Pittman enjoys pointing out follies such as the FCAT

scandals and the sorrowful history of our charter schools.

And there’s much, much more.

What I can’t reproduce for you is how hilarious this book is. Much of the time, Mr. Pittman encourages us to laugh, because otherwise we would be likely to cry at the oddness that merges into madness, the eccentricity that merges into cruelty. In many ways, those of us who live in this state full of conflicting values and endlessly varied experiences are victims of one thing or another.

However, we have here plenty of opportunities to enjoy what can’t be remedied and to celebrate what can’t be found, suffered or applauded elsewhere. At least not yet.

Essentially, Mr. Pittman is a master storyteller and a research addict. He’s also an award-winning journalist and the author of three previous books. In 2013 the native Floridian wrote a popular blog for Slate called “Oh, Florida!” that became the genesis for this book and led to his appearance on TV and radio discussing why Florida is so odd and entertaining. He lives in St. Petersburg with his wife and two children. I guarantee he will make you smile. ■

— 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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Take the Florida Weekly Writing Challenge

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

That's great advice from the novelist and short story writer. Keep it in mind as you draw inspiration from the accompanying photograph and pen your own story for our annual Writing Challenge.

We've changed the timeline this year, giving you just a couple of weeks to submit your narrative work of fiction for our editors' consideration. The winner will receive a ticket to the 11th Sanibel Island Writers Conference taking place Nov. 3-6 (value: \$500).

We want your original stories (1,500 words maximum; no minimum) attached as a Word document or pasted into the body of an email. No snail mail, please, and no poetry. Be sure to include your full name, address and phone number.

Email to writing@floridaweekly.com by 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14.

The winner will be notified on Monday, Oct. 24, in plenty of time to plan for the conference weekend on Sanibel Island in the company of like-minded writers and dozens of published authors, including keynote speaker Sue Monk Kidd ("The Invention of Wings,"



"The Mermaid Chair," "The Secret Life of Bees).

For more information about the Sanibel Island Writers Conference, visit fgcu.edu/siwc. ■



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RIAF

From page 1

"I'm building a strange trail of flowers for the audience to follow," he says. "And that trail is the trail of things that are possibly familiar — something from Shakespeare, the Motown sound and The Temptations, certainly things about early modern dance history — and letting them have a conversation, a somewhat Rashomon-like retelling of that story."

The result is "Mo(or)town/Redux," one of the dances Doug Elkins Choreography, Etc., will present at the Ringling International Arts Festival 2016 in Sarasota. (Mr. Elkins' troupe last performed there in 2011, presenting "Fraulein Maria," set to the soundtrack of "The Sound of Music," in which there were three Marias on stage at the same time, one of them a man.)

The four-day festival presents cutting-edge acts from around the world in modern dance, theater, contemporary and classical music, the circus arts, comedy and drama. This year's lineup includes Israeli cellist Matt Haimovitz, who'll present "The Bach Suites: A Moveable Feast," with overtures created by contemporary composers; Gravity & Other Myths, an award-winning Australian acrobatic ensemble; Eighth Blackbird, a Chicago-based sextet who'll perform new and diverse music from living composers; Thaddeus Phillips, who'll present his one-man show about 15 years of international travel; Circo Aereo and Thomas Monckton, who'll present "The Pianist," a contemporary circus comedy; and LMn03:Lohse, Marquis & Oakley, a comedic trio of dancers from Mr. Elkins' company, whose performance includes hard rap, body percussion, headlamps and a game show.

"I got the idea that you could possibly retell 'Othello' as though it were a Motown group," Mr. Elkins says. "The music is the history of that era."

He imagined who would play Othello, Desdemona, Emilia and Iago if he could cast them as famous people from musical history.

He saw Othello as a combination of James Brown and Eddie Kendricks, the former lead singer of the Temptations; Desdemona as a mash-up of Dusty Springfield and Martha and the Vandellas; Emilia as Amy Winehouse; and Iago as a cross between Mick Jagger and Prince.

The dance references vernacular jazz, hip-hop, the old Motown groups and the TV show "Soul Train."

"All the way back to 'Hullabaloo,' if you want," Mr. Elkins says.

Though he originally created "Mo(or)town" in 1990, he recreated it in 2012 and renamed it "Mo(or)town/Redux."

"I'd been through a separation, a divorce, end of a marriage," he explains, "and there was that idea of losing someone. I thought I could bring more to it than the young man I was in my late 20s/early 30s, as the person I was at 49 or 50. I think it's the superior version."

He points out that Monet painted the same water lilies and haystacks throughout his life. "It's not unusual in other practices to approach the same subject matter from a different point of view," he says.

Whimsy and ridiculousness

The other work Mr. Elkins' company will perform at RIAF 2016 is titled "Hapless Bizarre."

"I tend to start playing with a lot of movement ideas (when creating a dance)," the choreographer says. For this one, he adds, "I started from the point of view of the trope of physical comedy — Buster Keaton, Chaplin, the tropes of slapstick — and started working with those languages."

He built the dance with Mark Gindick, who went to Ringling Clown College and is one of the former lead clowns of the Big



STEPH MACKINNON / COURTESY PHOTO

Matt Haimovitz will play at RIAF this year.

Apple Circus. Mr. Gindick led a series of clowning and improv workshops for the dancers.

"Hapless Bizarre," he says, plays with the tropes of ideas found in silent comedy, such as the Marx Brothers' mirror game and the idea of something getting stuck onto someone or something, as well as the ideas of tripping, misdirection, someone heading for something and someone else cutting them off.

"It's playing with the language of someone who does physical comedy," he says.

"It's gleaning again; you can borrow and glean ideas from wherever, whether Jacques Tati or Jackie Chan films. You can have them in conversation with each other."

He says the dance sets up an expectation and then twists it around and offers you a new perspective.

"It surprises you in a pleasant way by defying your expectations."

Mr. Elkins says his "Mo(or)town/Redux" and "Hapless Bizarre" complement each other. "The laissez-faire of 'Hapless' and the more fully darker, velvety places of 'Mo(or)town/Redux' feed each other in an interesting way."

Matt Haimovitz

Mr. Haimovitz, the Israeli cellist, is bringing his own brand of mash-ups to the festival.

Known for playing contemporary music such as Jimi Hendrix's "Star Spangled Banner" and Led Zeppelin's "Kashmir," he's also known for playing in atypical venues. At RIAF, he'll perform "The Bach Suites: A Moveable Feast" at three locations: the court of Ca' d'Zan, the Huntington Gallery of the Museum of Art, and the Historic Asolo Theater. His concerts at the first two locations are sold out.

Back in 2000, Mr. Haimovitz had a record release party at the Iron Horse Music Hall, a legendary coffeehouse in Massachusetts. "It sold out, they were turning away people," he recalls. "There was an incredible chemistry with new listeners and classical music lovers. All that led to me wanting to try another one in another place, and it took on a life of its own."

He's played in old warehouses, on New York City's High Line and at the now-defunct CBGBs. A couple of weeks ago he played at a Parisian Laundromat.

The beauty of playing in unexpected places, he says, "is that it changes the context of what you're playing. It takes on a different meaning. The audience is engaged in a way they may not be in a regular concert hall. It changes the dynamics and the chemistry of everything. Everyone is a little more on their toes."

It also demystifies classical music and brings it to people who might not necessarily attend a traditional concert.

The album release party in 2000 was for his first album of the six Bach Suites for Solo Cello. He released another album of the same suites last year.

"On a gut level, it's like two different people," he says. "Fifteen years ago I made a recording, but I no longer recognize who it is playing. That's the beauty of a lifetime in classical music; you can have that trajectory. You hear it differently, you play it differently. It still enriches your life."

He imagines that in another 15 years he'll sit down and make another recording of the Bach Suites for Solo Cello.

"You make a discovery, and that leads to more discoveries, your interpretation evolves and within a couple years, you sound very different," he says.

There are also some technical things he did differently this time around: using ox gut strings instead of metal ones, using a different tuning so it's a half-step lower in pitch and using a baroque bow, which is shaped differently than a modern one.

"In my mind (that all makes for) a more human quality, a very different way of articulation: what's available to you, the way the notes speak, the way one note leads into the next. It's quite different."

After Bach wrote his first five suites for solo cello, he wanted to expand the sound of the instrument for the sixth suite, Mr. Haimovitz explains, so he wrote it for a five-string instrument. So the musician plays a cello piccolo for that suite, which he describes as "a small cello with an added string."

He also commissioned six contemporary composers to write an overture.

Philip Glass wrote "Overture to Bach," which Mr. Haimovitz will play before Suite I at the Ca' d'Zan. Then he'll play Suite VI with an overture, "Lili'uokalani," by Luna Pearl Woolf, described as "a pre-western Hawaiian chant, thumped out percussively on the body of the cello."

For his sold-out Saturday show in the Museum of Art, the overture for Suite II will be "The Veil of Veronica" by Du Yun, which includes echoes of Serbian chant. He's matching that suite with Suite IV, whose overture is "Le Memoria" by Robert Sierra, described as "a morphing of Bach's motif into Latin forms and rhythms."

His third and last concert — the only one with tickets still available — he'll play Suite III, opened with "Run" by jazz pianist Vijay Iyer, who performed with his jazz trio at RIAF in 2014. This concert will conclude with Suite V, with an overture, "Es War" by David Sanford, described in RIAF material as "an intricately layered and vibrantly animated 'classical-meets-jazz' encounter."

The Bach pieces sound every bit as contemporary and modern as the overtures he commissioned, Mr. Haimovitz says, adding that the suites must have been "pretty revolutionary and eye-opening when Bach gave them to his cellist. He must have been dumbfounded ... it's so far ahead of its time."

As for his approach to the works, he says, "I was looking back, trying to get closest to the spirit and tools of Bach's

time, while at the same time I felt like I wanted to move forward with the music. The suites have been with me over three decades. I wanted to give back, and also leave something behind, for more cello music in our repertory."

Mr. Haimovitz is married to the composer Ms. Woolf (who wrote the Suite IV overture). "We drink and breathe this way of life," he says about their commitment to music both classical and contemporary. "For us, this is a living, breathing, art form." ■

in the know



RIAF 2016

Ringling International Arts Festival 2016

- >> **When:** Oct. 13-16
- >> **Where:** Various venues on The Ringling campus in Sarasota: The Historic Asolo Theater, the Circus Museum, the court of Ca' d'Zan, the Museum of Art and the Mertz Theatre
- >> **Cost:** \$35 or \$30 per ticket
- >> **Info:** (941) 360-7399 or ringling.org

The schedule

- >> Seven performers in classical and contemporary music, dance, circus arts, comedy and drama will provide multiple performances over the Ringling International Festival's four days.
- >> **Matt Haimovitz**
Performances sold out except for 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 16, at the Historic Asolo Theater
- >> **Gravity & Other Myths**
At the Circus Museum
7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 13
5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14
8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15
2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 16
- >> **Doug Elkins Choreography, Etc.**
At the Mertz Theatre
7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 13
8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14
2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15
- >> **Eighth Blackbird**
At the Historic Asolo Theater
7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 13
5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14
2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15
- >> **Thaddeus Phillips**
At the Historic Asolo Theater
8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14
5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15
- >> **Circo Aereo and Thomas Monckton**
At the Mertz Theatre
5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 15
8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15
5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 16
- >> **LMn03: Lohse, Marquis & Oakley**
At the Historic Asolo Theater
9 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15
5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 16

Other events

- >> **A Night in Brazil** — In the courtyard of the Museum of Art, Dende & Bande plays Brazilian samba, rumba and Afrobeat from 8-10 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 13. Tickets are \$80.
- >> **Conversation with the Artists: Passion and Process** — Dwight Currie, RIAF curator of performance, engages a panel of RIAF artists in a conversation about what informs, shapes, defines and animates their new works of contemporary music, theater and dance from 2-3 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14, in the Chao Lecture Hall in the Museum of Art. Free, but reservations required.

TIME WARP

From page 1

The key, he says, was to learn numbers in the shoes to save himself the transition once the cast progressed to dress rehearsals.

"I had to relearn how to balance and walk correctly — that's why it was so important that I had those shoes before I went into the first rehearsal. There was never a point of learning them in normal dance shoes."

Another element he and his cast mates are preparing for is Friday participation nights, when audience members can buy a \$5 bag of props to use during the performance. Part of the show's quirky charm is the opportunity for the audience to act as the peanut gallery by yelling at characters and pulling out newspapers, flash-



The Naples Players' production of "The Rocky Horror Show" stars Mark Vanagas, center, as Dr. Frank-N-Furter and Jesse Hughes and Jasmine Vizena as Brad and Janet.

JESSICA WALCK / COURTESY PHOTO

lights, rice and other items that reference plot points throughout the performance. While its discouraged during almost all other stage productions, The Naples Players have reserved Fridays for audiences to spew all the customary profanities, quips, retorts, judgments and accoutrement on stage that the show is known for.

"You have to keep the show going and take subtle pauses because you don't want to discourage (the audience)," Mr. Vanagas says. "As a performer, you've got to be prepared that things are going to be yelled at you, maybe something you've never heard before. The audience responses can be fairly vulgar sometimes," he adds, cautioning that, "People who are easily shocked might be upset."

Which is to say that for all its goofiness, "The Rocky Horror Show" is a strictly R-rated production and is meant for audience members who have long years of moral corruption behind them.

The show also stars Jasmine Vizena and Jesse Hughes as newly engaged Brad and Janet, with Dawn LeBrecht Fornara directing and choreographing the production.

The Naples Players' main stage season continues with:

Nov. 23-Dec. 18: "Coney Island Christmas"

Jan. 11-Feb. 5: "Bell, Book & Candle"

March 1-April 2: "My Fair Lady"

April 19-May 14: "I Hate Hamlet" ■

Gulfshore Playhouse opens season with a play about love

"Constellations," an intimate love story of cosmic proportions, opens the new season for Gulfshore Playhouse at The Norris Center. Opening night is Saturday, Oct. 8.

Nick Payne's play follows quantum physicist Marianne and beekeeper Roland through a series of vignettes where each encounter plays out in any number of ways. Variety newspaper wrote: "Short and sweet and strangely haunting. ... The devilishly clever scribe is not playing games with either his characters or his audience, because with each iteration Roland and Marianne grow closer to one another — and become more important to us. And by the end of the play (has it really been only an hour?), we're fully invested in their lives. All of them."

Kristen Coury, Gulfshore Playhouse founder and producing artistic director, says she has wanted to bring "Constellations" to the Naples stage ever since she saw it on Broadway. "It is both intelligent and accessible," she says, adding the play "combines heightened theories of the multiverse and quantum physics with something we can all understand: the love between two people."

The show is directed by Philadelphia-based Matt Pfeiffer, who also directed "Moon Over Buffalo" and "The Whipping Man" for Gulfshore Playhouse. It stars two familiar Gulfshore Playhouse faces: Cody Nickell and Kate Eastwood Norris.

SEE LOVE, C8 ►

in the know

'The Rocky Horror Show'

>> **Who:** The Naples Players

>> **When:** Oct. 12-Nov. 6, with curtain at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday

>> **Special performances:** Every Friday is audience participation night (props bags, \$5). For a late-night show at 11 p.m. Friday, Oct. 28, props bags are included in the ticket price.

>> **Where:** The Sugden Community Theater

>> **Cost:** \$10-\$50

>> **Info:** 263-7990 or naplesplayers.org

Oktoberfest

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WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

THEATER

Of Thee I Sing - By TheatreZone and students of the FGCU Bower School of Music and The Arts Oct. 6-9 at FGCU. (888) 966-3352 or www.theatrezone-florida.com.

Constellations - By Gulfshore Playhouse Oct. 8-30 at The Norris Center. 755 Eighth St. S. (866) 811-4111 or www.gulfshoreplayhouse.org.

The Rocky Horror Show - By The Naples Players Oct. 12-Nov. 6 at the Sugden Community Theater. 263-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org. See story on page C1.

Yesterday's - A musical comedy revue at Broadway Palm Theatre through Oct. 8. 1380 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers. 278-4422 or www.broadwaypalm.com.

The Best Man - By Laboratory Theater of Florida Oct. 7-19. 1634 Woodford Ave., Fort Myers. 218-0481 or www.laboratorytheaterflorida.com.

The Lion King, Jr. - By Island Theater Company Oct. 14-16 at Marco Lutheran Church. 394-0800 or www.theateronmarco.com.

The Cemetery Club - By The Marco Players Oct. 26-Nov. 13 at Marco Town Center Mall. 404-5198 or www.themarcoplayers.com.

Erma Bombeck: At Wit's End - By Florida Repertory Theatre Oct. 7-Nov. 6. 2268 Bay St., Fort Myers. 332-4488 or www.floridarep.org.

The Nerd - By the Off Broadway Palm Theatre Oct. 6-Nov. 12. 1380 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers. 278-4422 or www.broadwaypalm.com.

The Taming - By Theatre Conspiracy Oct. 14-30 at the Alliance for the Arts. 10091 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers. 936-3239 or www.theatreconspiracy.org.

THURSDAY 10.06

Up a Creek - Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park hosts a beginning paddleboard lesson with Naples Beach Adventures at 9:30 a.m. \$15 plus park admission fee. Reservations required. 431-0598 or www.floridastateparks.org.

War Lecture - South Regional Library hosts a talk about World War II's Operation Drum Beat at 10 a.m. Free. 8065 Lely Cultural Blvd. 252-7542 or collierlibrary.org.

Artist Talk - Local artist Phyllis Pransky discusses her pieces in "Fiber as Art" on exhibit at Marco Island Center for the Arts at 5:30 p.m. Free for members, \$5 for others. The exhibit is on display through Oct. 25. 1010 Winterberry Drive. 394-4221 or www.marcoislandarts.com.

Pet Show - Miromar Outlets hosts pet-themed entertainment and store specials from 6-8 p.m. 948-3766 or www.miromaroutlets.com.

FRIDAY 10.07

Lifelong Learning - Naples Botanical Garden hosts a tour of the property's native plants with Chad Washburn from 1-3 p.m. \$15 for Garden members, \$20 for others. 643-7275 or www.naplesgarden.org.

Foreign Film - South Regional Library screens "Volver" (Spain, 2006) at 2 p.m. After her death, a mother returns to her hometown to fix the situations she couldn't resolve during her life. Free. 8065 Lely Cultural Blvd. 252-7542 or www.collierlibrary.org.



Find some comic relief when Square One Improv performs at 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 8, at The Marco Players Theater. 642-7270 or www.themarcoplayers.com.

All That Jazz - Jebry and friends invite everyone to join the jazz jam session from 5-8 p.m. at Royal Wood Country Club. 4300 Royal Wood Blvd. 775-4451.

SATURDAY 10.08

To Market, To Market - The Third Street South Farmers Market takes place from 7:30-11:30 a.m. 434-6533 or www.thirdstreetsouth.com.

Swiper - "Dora the Explorer" characters Dora and Diego visit Naples Zoo from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. today and Sunday, Oct. 9, to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. The costumed pair with host a fiesta in the Rainforest Grove and pose for pictures with young guests. 262-5409 or www.napleszoo.com.

Wonder in the Garden - Kids learn all about super seeds with themed activities from 10:30 a.m. to noon and 1:30-3 p.m. today and Sunday, Oct. 9, at Naples Botanical Garden. Free with regular Garden admission. 643-7275 or www.naplesgarden.org.

Funny Guy - Piff the Magic Dragon performs tonight and Sunday, Oct. 9, at Off the Hook Comedy Club. 2500 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 389-6901 or www.offthehookcomedy.com.

Magic Carpet Ride - Artis—Naples invites youngsters to get up-close with the orchestra's brass players and their horns at 10 a.m. 597-1900 or www.artis-naples.org.

Show Me The Way - Peter Frampton performs at 8 p.m. at Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Comedy Relief - Square One Improv performs at 8 p.m. at The Marco Players Theater. \$10-\$20. 1089 N. Collier Blvd. 642-7270 or www.themarcoplayers.com.

SUNDAY 10.09

Find & Seek - Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park hosts a volunteer-led talk about beachcombing at 9:30 a.m. Free with regular park admission. 597-6196 or www.floridastateparks.org.

Foreign Film - The FGCU Renaissance Academy presents a screening and discussion of "The Wind Will Carry Us" (Iran/France, 1999) at 2 p.m. in the university's Naples Center. An irreverent city engineer comes to a rural village in Iran to keep vigil for a dying relative. PG. \$5 for Academy members, \$7 for others. 1010 Fifth Ave. S. 425-3270 or renaissance@fgcu.edu.

All Green Thumbs - Koreshan State Historic Site hosts a native plant sale and farmers market from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. 273-8945 or www.fnpscocoloba.org.

Paint Party - Vino's Picasso raises money for The Shelter for Abused Women & Children with a guided painting session from 2-4 p.m. \$36. Registration required. 431-8750 or www.vinospicasso.com.

MONDAY 10.10

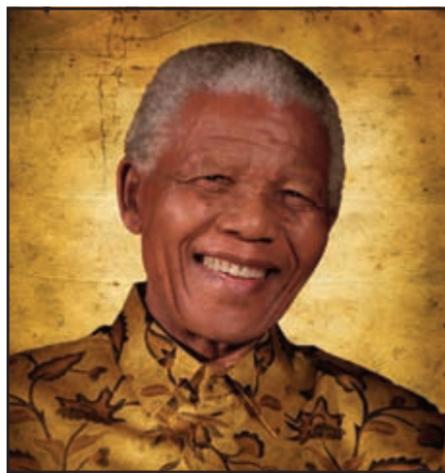
Lifelong Learning - Naples Botanical Garden hosts a walking meditation from 9:30-10:30 a.m. with Nora Vanhouten. \$15 for Garden members, \$20 for others. 643-7275 or www.naplesgarden.org.

Films for Film Lovers - Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs screens "Loose Cannons" (Italy, 2010) at 7 p.m. The youngest son of an Italian pasta magnate plans to announce he's gay so he won't have to take over the family business, but his brother makes a startling announcement of his own. \$10. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

TUESDAY 10.11

Fresh Air Yoga - Koreshan State Historic Site hosts an outdoor yoga class at 8:30 a.m. \$10. 992-0311 or www.floridastateparks.org.

Art Reception - Marco Island Center for the Arts hosts a reception for its "Fiber as Art" exhibition from 5:30-7 p.m. Free for members, \$5 for others. 1010 Winterberry Drive. 394-4221 or www.marcoislandarts.com.



"Humanity of Service: Portraits by Michael Collopy" hangs through Dec. 16 in the Canizaro Library at Ave Maria University. Mr. Collopy has photographed humanitarian and civic leaders around the world, including Nelson Mandela (shown here), Mother Teresa and Pope John Paul II. The exhibit is open to the public during regular library hours. www.avemaria.edu.

Farmers Market - The NCH Farmers market sells healthy, fresh foods from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at North Naples Hospital. www.nchmd.org.

Trad Seisiuns - Enjoy traditional Irish music starting at 5 p.m. at Shea's at Lansdowne Street. 702 Fifth Ave. S. 398-1159 or irmusic@embarqmail.com.

WEDNESDAY 10.12

Lifelong Learning - Learn the essentials of digital photography from 9 a.m. to noon at Naples Botanical Garden. \$35 for members, \$40 for others. 643-7275 or www.naplesgarden.org.

Namaste - Instructors from Green Monkey Yoga lead a beach session from 9-10 a.m. at Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park. \$5 plus park admission. Reservations required. 598-1938 or www.greenmonkey.com.

History Talk - Collier County Museums hosts a talk about the history and culture of the Seminole people at 2 p.m. at the main museum. 3331 Tamiami Trail E. 642-1440 or www.colliermuseums.com.

Jazz It Up - Chill out to music by The Richmonds from 6-9 p.m. at The Bay House. 799 Walkerbilt Road. 591-3837 or www.bayhousesnaples.com.

More Jazz - Jebry and friends jam from 6-9 p.m. at New York Pizza & Pasta. 11140 Tamiami Trail N. 594-3500.

Opera Night - Tenor Livio Ferrari performs at 7 p.m. at Barbatella while guests enjoy a four-course dinner. \$55. Reservations required. 263-1955 or www.barbatellanaples.com.

COMING UP

Lifelong Learning - Learn about growing mangoes from 10 a.m. to noon Thursday, Oct. 13, at Naples Botanical Garden. \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members. 643-7275 or www.naplesgarden.org.

Artist Talk - Local artist Jeannie Thomma discusses her pieces in "Fiber as Art" on exhibit at Marco Island Center for the Arts at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 13. Free for members, \$5 for others. 1010 Winterberry Drive. 394-4221 or www.marcoislandarts.com.

Moon River - Friends of Lovers Key hosts moonlight kayaking through the park setting out at 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14. \$15 for members, \$20 for others (kayak rental separate). (708) 359-0466 or fjgreenwood@gmail.com.

After Hours - Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary hosts a "creatures of the night" event with educational exhibits, Halloween costumes, hikes on the boardwalk and more from 6-9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14. 348-9151 or www.corkscrew.audubon.com.

Gross Out - Collier County Fairgrounds presents its annual Haunted Gross House from 7-11 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Oct. 14-15, Oct. 21-22 and Oct. 28-29. \$15. 455-1444 or www.colliercountyfair.com.

Ahoy! - The Marine Industry Association of Collier County presents The Naples Boat Show Downtown from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 15-16, at Naples City Dock. Free. 682-0900 or www.miacc.org.

Celebration - Kool & The Gang perform at 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15, at Seminole Immokalee Casino. \$36-\$125. (800) 218-0007 or www.moreinparadise.com.

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Jazz Concert – The Delfeayo Marsalis Quartet, featuring trombonist and composer Delfeayo Marsalis, performs at 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15, at Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs. \$40-\$50. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Paws Off The Table – The Humane Society Naples' Pawprofessionals hosts its second annual Bow Wow Brunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 16, at The Continental. This dog-friendly, young professionals event will include craft cocktail samples, brunch, live entertainment and more. \$35, registration required. 643-1555 or www.hsnaples.org.

Foreign Film – The FGCU Renaissance Academy presents a screening and discussion of "Seven Beauties" (Italy, 1976) at 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 16, in the university's Naples Center. Lina Wertmüller's harrowing film stars Giancarlo Giannini as a petty crook with seven unattractive sisters to support. It features a picaresque, World War II-era journey through a prison asylum, army service and a Nazi concentration camp. Rated R. \$5 for Academy members, \$7 for others. 1010 Fifth Ave. S. 425-3270 or renaissance@fgcu.edu.

Films for Film Lovers – Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs screens "Four Minutes" (France, 2008) at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 17. An elderly piano teacher trains a young convict at a women's penitentiary. \$10. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Art Talk – Hodges University hosts a talk about the rivalry between Picasso and Matisse from 1-2:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20. \$25. 2647 Professional Way. 598-6140 or www.hodges.edu.

Poking Around – Rangers at Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park take guests on a hike around the barrier island to learn about its various ecosystems at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 20. Free with park admission. 597-6196 or www.floridastateparks.org.

Artist Talk – Local artist Pat Kimicich discusses her pieces in "Fiber as Art" on exhibit at Marco Island Center for the Arts at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20. Free for members, \$5 for others. 1010 Winterberry Drive. 394-4221 or www.marcoislandarts.com.

Masterworks – The Naples Philharmonic features cellist Sol Gabetta performing works by Elgar, Liadov and Berlioz at 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Oct. 20-21. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Author Signing – Bestselling author Randy Wayne Wright discusses and signs copies of his new novel, "Seduced," from 3-5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 21, at Sunshine Booksellers on Marco Island. Free. 677 S. Collier Blvd. 393-0353 or www.sunshinebooksellers.com.

Rock Night – Enjoy live music by groups like SCS Band and German food by Artichoke & Co. at Satellite Rotary Club of Bonita Beach Sunset's Rockterbest Round the World from 5-10 p.m. Friday, Oct. 21, at the Home Depot Plaza on Bonita Beach Road. Free, donations to support New Horizons of Southwest Florida appreciated. 263-7679. ■

— Email calendar listings and high-resolution photos to Lindsey Nesmith at lnesmith@floridaweekly.com. Please send Word or text documents and jpgs with time, date, location, cost and contact information. No pdfs or photos of fliers. Deadline for calendar submissions is noon Monday. No phone calls, please.

10.6-9



■ TheatreZone and FGCU's Bower School of Music and the Arts join forces to present "Of Thee I Sing" Thursday through Sunday at FGCU. Gershwin's rarely produced musical comedy takes a poke at the idealism, corruption and incompetence so rampant on Capitol Hill.
— www.theatrezone-florida.com

#SWFL
TOP
PICKS



10.7-9



■ "America's Got Talent" top 10 finalist Piff the Magic Dragon and his magical Chihuahua, Mr. Piffles, perform Friday through Sunday at Off the Hook Comedy Club.
— www.offthehookcomedy.com



■ Peter Frampton shows Naples the way at 8 p.m. Friday at Artis—Naples.
— www.artisnaples.org

10.8



10.14

#PLAN IT

The Southern Express band brings bluegrass to the Southwest Florida Performing Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14. \$18.
— eventbrite.com

■ Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park volunteers tell visitors about the beach treasures to be found in the barrier islands tidal areas in a program at 9:30 a.m. Sunday.
— www.floridastateparks.org

10.9



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LOVE

From page 5

Mr. Nickell, former artistic associate with the company, is thrilled to return to the local stage, where he most recently starred in the third annual holiday production of "Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol." A graduate of Carnegie Mellon University's School of Drama, he has performed at theaters around the county as well as in films and on television.



NICKELL



NORRIS

Ms. Norris most recently played Phyllis in Gulfshore Playhouse's production of "Body Awareness." A company member at Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company in Washington, D.C., she has received two Helen Hayes Awards and Philadelphia's Barrymore Award for her acting. She is also a teacher of Shakespeare, performance, and clown for students of all ages. She holds a master's degree in humanities and the creative life from Pacifica Graduate Institute in California.

The technical crew for "Constellations" includes Genevieve Beller, costume designer; Steve TenEyck, lighting designer; David Arsenault, scenic designer; and Evan Middlesworth, sound designer.

The Gulfshore Playhouse season continues with:



Nov. 12-Dec. 11: "My Fair Lady"
Jan. 7-29: "Do This" world premiere
Feb. 11-March 12: "The Hound of the Baskervilles"
March 25-April 15: "The Merchant of Venice"
April 29-May 21: "The Christians" ■

in the know

GULFSHORE PLAYHOUSE
at THE NORRIS CENTER

'Constellations'

- >> **Who:** Gulfshore Playhouse
- >> **When:** Oct. 8-30 (previews Oct. 6-7)
- >> **Where:** The Norris Center
- >> **Up next:** "My Fair Lady," Nov. 12-Dec.11; "Do This," world premiere Jan. 7-29; "The Hound of the Baskervilles," Feb. 11-March 12; "The Merchant of Venice," March 25-April 15; "The Christians," April 29-May 21.
- >> **Tickets:** 261-7529 or www.gulfshoreplayhouse.org

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Florida Repertory Theatre opens a new season with 'At Wit's End'

Florida Repertory Theatre's 19th season in the Historic Arcade Theatre and the adjacent ArtStage Studio Theatre in downtown Fort Myers includes Agatha Christie's most famous whodunit, a Tony Award-winning musical, multiple comedies, an American classic and a world premiere.



The season opens with **"Erma Bombeck: At Wit's End,"** starring Carrie Lund as the witty columnist, in the ArtStage Studio Theatre. Opening night is Friday, Oct. 7, and the show runs through Nov. 6.

■ **"Shear Madness,"** Paul Portner's comedy whodunit - **Jan. 20-March 12** (previews Jan. 17-18) in the ArtStage Studio Theatre.

Here's the rest of the season:

■ **"Over the River and Through the Woods,"** Joe DiPietro's warm-hearted comedy about a single Italian-American man who has to tell his grandparents he's moving across the country - **Oct. 28-Nov. 16** (previews Oct. 25-27) in the Historic Arcade Theatre.

■ Harper Lee's **"To Kill a Mockingbird,"** adapted by Christopher Sergel, the timeless American drama - Feb. 17-March 8 (previews Feb. 14-16) in the Historic Arcade Theatre.

■ **"The Best of Enemies,"** Mark St. German's gripping true story that exposes the poison of prejudice and the beauty of friendship - **Nov. 18-Dec. 18** (previews Nov. 15-17) in the ArtStage Studio Theatre.

■ **"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee,"** the Tony Award-winning musical conceived by Rebecca Feldman, with music and lyrics by William Finn and book by Rachel Sheinkin - **March 24-April 12** (previews March 21-23) in the Historic Arcade Theatre.

■ Agatha Christie's **"The Mousetrap,"** the spine-tingling whodunit that's world's longest-running play - **Dec. 2-18** (previews Nov. 29-Dec. 1) in the Historic Arcade Theatre.

■ The world premiere of **"Doublewide,"** Stephen Spotswood's heartfelt and often fun drama that explores how far one family will go to hold on to their American Dream (adult situations and strong language) - **April 14-May 14** (previews April 11-13) in the ArtStage Studio Theatre.

■ **"The House of Blue Leaves,"** John Guare's Tony-nominated farce about dreaming big - **Jan. 6-25** (previews Jan. 3-5) in the Historic Arcade Theatre.

Single tickets for \$45 and \$52 (previews \$25 and \$32) and subscription packages starting at \$150 for six plays, are on sale now. For more information, call the box office at 332-4488 or visit floridarep.org.

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ARTS COMMENTARY

Transport to freedom, however you can get it



Imagine a world in which Lincoln is assassinated while president-elect and the Civil War never happens.

Imagine a world where slavery is still legal in four Southern states nicknamed "The Hard Four": Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and the Carolinas (now one state). Slaves (or PBs, as in Person Bound to Labor) are tattooed at the base of the throat with the brand of their corporate owners. Blacks in the rest of the country are subjected to stops at any time and must carry papers with them at all times that prove they're free.

That's the alternate reality in "Underground Airlines" (\$26, Mulholland Books), a gripping novel by Ben H. Winters.

His antihero, Victor, is a former slave who, in exchange for his freedom, tracks down escaped slaves for the U.S. Marshal's Service. Of course, his freedom is questionable; he's still enslaved, only by another system. And his work is reprehensible: betraying his own, in order to not be sent back to a corporate plantation himself.

But Victor feels he has no option. A small tracking device was implanted at the top of his spine and if he tries to run, he'll be returned into slavery in the south.

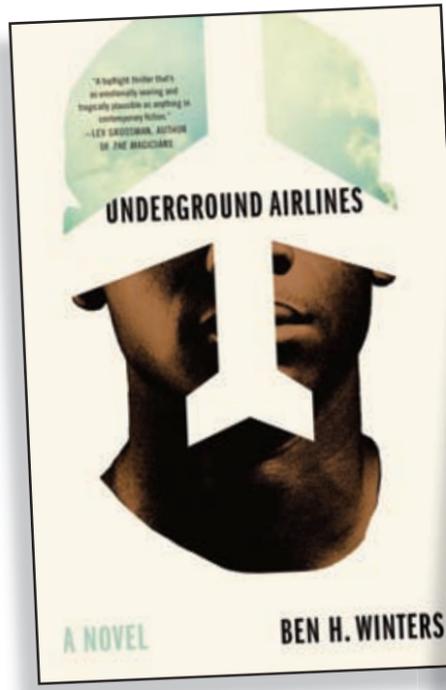
He calls himself a thief, a con man. He steals others' freedom and presents himself as different people, living in the shadows and putting on whatever new identity seems to fit the situation.

"I have a lot of names. Or, more precisely, it was my practice at the beginning of a new job to think of myself as having no name at all. As being not really a person at all.

"... I was not a person but a manifestation of will. I was a mechanism — a device," he says early in the novel.

"(I was) a man with no name, a quasi-employee of a clandestine branch, moving from city to city, job to job, under the supervision of a voice on a Maryland telephone."

Instead of being called an underground railroad, the covert system of helping slaves escape is the Underground Airlines, with pilots and cargo and connections.



"Underground Airlines is a figure of speech," Mr. Winters writes. "It's the root of a grand, extended metaphor, 'pilots' and 'stewards' and 'baggage handlers' and 'gate agents.' Connecting flights and airport security. The Airlines flies on the ground, in package trucks and unmarked vans and stolen tractor-trailers. It flies in the illicit adjustment of numbers on packing slips, in the suborning of plantation guards and the bribing of border security agents ..."

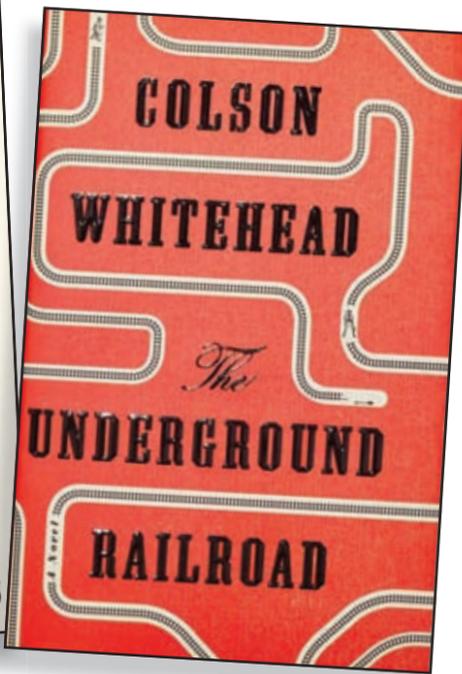
Though it eats him up inside, Victor also takes a perverse pleasure in his work: "That's the problem with doing the devil's work. It can be pretty satisfying now and again."

But he wrestles with his conscience, with his identity: "I was a monster, but way down underneath I was good. Wasn't I? ... Good underground. In the buried parts of me are good things," he insists.

It's easy to see why "Underground Airlines" debuted at No. 20 on *The New York Times* Best Sellers List when it was released in July, and was No. 1 on the Indie Bestseller List. Entertainment Weekly magazine gave it an A-

The author, who is white, has said in interviews he was thinking about the deaths of Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown and others when he wrote his novel.

The book is somewhat of a mystery/detective novel, somewhat science fiction, turning the world as we know it



upside down but creating a credible history. It is some ways alike to the one we live in and in some ways different.

Mr. Whitehead takes this new history to logical conclusions: singer James Brown defects to Canada and refuses to play the U.S. ever again; The Olympic athlete Jesse Owens wins his gold medals, but winds up defecting to the Soviet Union, where he feels better treated.

"Underground Airlines" is compelling, unpredictable, full of twists and turns. It's also deep, layers upon layers.

'Underground Railroad'

There's been a lot of buzz about Colson Whitehead's novel, "Underground Railroad" (\$26.95, Doubleday), released in August. It's an examination of racism and slavery, with one touch of whimsy: In this world, the underground railroad is literally a railroad that runs underground, taking slaves to Northern cities. (Mr. Whitehead told Terry Gross on NPR's "Fresh Air" that when he was a child and heard about the Underground Railroad, he imagined a subway running underneath the country. He told her he felt "a bit upset" when he learned that wasn't true.)

Named an Oprah Book Club pick pre-publication, it's also been nominated for a National Book Award and has been on *The New York Times* Best Sellers list for seven weeks.

Its protagonist is a young girl, Cora, whose mother escapes, abandoning her on the Georgia plantation where they're enslaved. Cora's left to fend for herself and eventually runs away with another slave, Caesar, by means of the Underground Railroad.

Mr. Whitehead divides his novel into chapters about people or places, a kind of "Gulliver's Travels," with each new state providing its own strange ways and rules, obstacles and challenges.

He shows racism with all its myriad ugly faces; though Cora escapes the plantation, she winds up in South Carolina, where white people appear on the surface to be helpful. However, she winds up put on display at the Museum of Natural Wonders behind glass in dioramas of plantations and slave ships. And she discovers the local hospital's sterilizing escaped slaves without their permission, "stealing our futures."

"Truth was a changing display in a shop window, manipulated by hands when you weren't looking, alluring and ever out of reach," he has Cora say.

"The whites came to this land for a fresh start and to escape the tyranny of their masters, just as the freemen had fled theirs. But the ideals they held up for themselves, they denied others."

Mr. Whitehead is unflinching in his description of an America that uses black people as property, thinking nothing of hurting or killing them, an America that also lied to Indians and massacred them, stealing their land for itself.

Cora's journey is gripping and heart-breaking. This is a masterful book that is both personal and wide reaching.

It's interesting to note, too, that both novels stress the importance of reading in their protagonists' lives. Victor, in "Underground Airlines," would "spend whole days in the reading room of the big library downtown, a shadow in the corner; reading the great slave narratives, reading Ellison, Baldwin, Wright. Learning my own history. I read Zora Neale Hurston's masterpiece, the one that had, legendarily, been smuggled page by page out of a Florida cane plantation two decades before that state went free."

And Cora learns to read too, embodying the saying that the only thing more dangerous than a slave with a gun is a slave with a book.

These two novels are not only great reads, but cut to the heart like only truth can. ■

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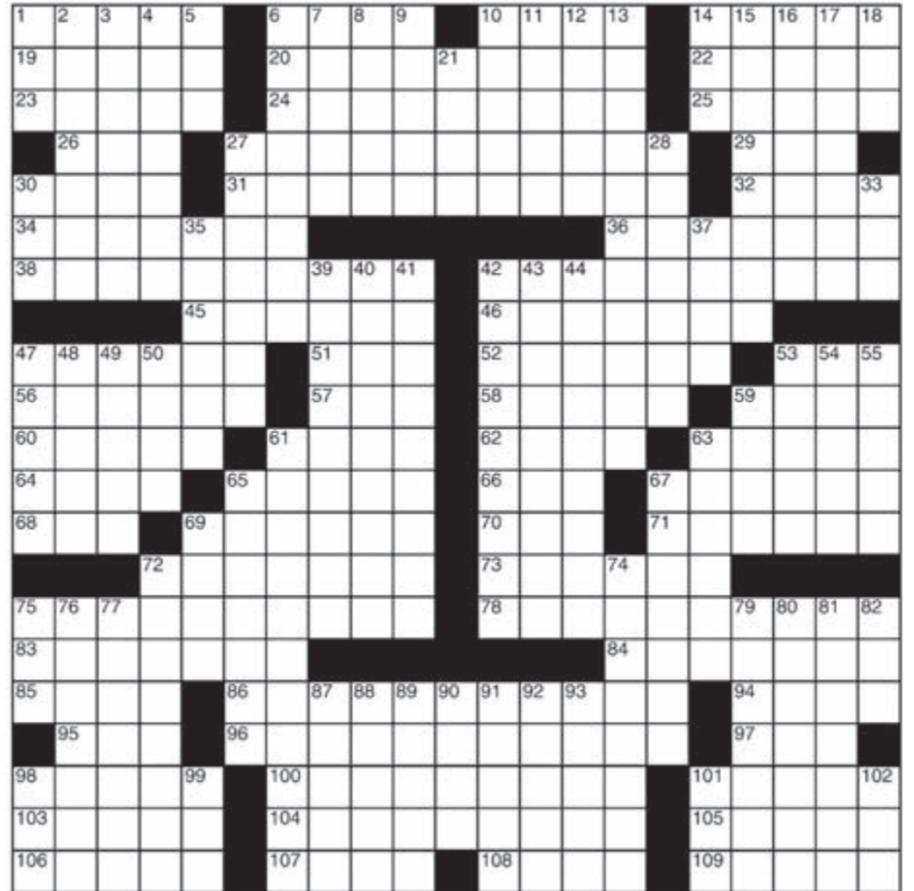
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PUZZLES

I WILL NOT BE A PART OF THIS!

- ACROSS**
- 1 School, in Soissons
 - 6 Paquin of "X-Men"
 - 10 Mascara enhances it
 - 14 Impertinent
 - 19 Volcano emissions
 - 20 Tackiness
 - 22 Spanish for "milk"
 - 23 Letter after phi, chi, psi
 - 24 Person in a sit-in, say
 - 25 Skin soothers
 - 26 Period to remember
 - 27 "The Matrix" star
 - 29 — healthy pace
 - 30 It made the Ciera, briefly
 - 31 Being hauled to the station
 - 32 Unit of binary digits
 - 34 2004-12 Fox medical drama
 - 36 St. — University (Philadelphia school)
 - 38 Girders, often
 - 42 Very easy
 - 45 Zany
 - 46 Beef cattle with back humps
 - 47 Musical mix
 - 51 Tony winner
 - 52 Rubble of Bedrock
 - 53 Upscale German ride
 - 56 Dawn
 - 57 Tic — (wee mint)
 - 58 Correct, as text
 - 59 Not exciting
 - 60 Seizes
 - 61 Summoned by invitation
 - 62 Like grass at dawn, often
 - 63 Quench
 - 64 Old hi-fi format
 - 65 Bigwig
 - 66 — you sleeping?"
 - 67 National Mall's vicinity
 - 68 Question
 - 69 Tijuana wife
 - 70 — -Mart (retail titan)
 - 71 Redford with many roles
 - 72 Butcher knife
 - 73 After a lengthy delay
 - 75 "Heavens!"
 - 78 "Yankee-ography" cable channel
 - 83 Wife on "The Sopranos"
 - 84 19th-century stage actress
 - 85 Part of UAR
 - 86 Property liquidations
 - 94 Dawn's direction
 - 95 Gene material
 - 96 Span
 - 97 "Say what?" sounds
 - 98 Terre —
 - 100 Elec. flow in power supplies
 - 101 Allan- — ("Robin Hood" minstrel)
 - 103 Stared at lecherously
 - 104 Class writing assignment
 - 105 ESPN baseball analyst
 - 106 Plants often extirpated
 - 107 Spear
 - 108 Pietà mother
 - 109 Della of song
- DOWN**
- 1 "Do Ya" rock gp.
 - 2 "C'est Moi" musical
 - 3 Late
 - 4 Celebrity chef Emeril
 - 5 That, to Juan
 - 6 Attached
 - 7 U.S.-Canada air-watch
 - 8 0% of the group
 - 9 Pianist Rubinstein
 - 10 Hair removal tool
 - 11 Fall flower
 - 12 Singer Winwood
 - 13 Old "Tonight Show" intro
 - 14 Ga. neighbor
 - 15 Puts a new tag on
 - 16 Subspecies adapted to a particular habitat
 - 17 Sword cases
 - 18 "... — my brother"
 - 21 Prefix with 32-Across
 - 27 Campfire spiritual song
 - 28 Raided
 - 30 Cries of insight
 - 33 Suffix with shepherd
 - 35 Glue brand
 - 37 Don't budge
 - 39 Superior to
 - 40 People fighting los toros
 - 41 They're between "Alt" keys
 - 42 Faded, as an emotion
 - 43 24 images per second, for most films
 - 44 Goodbyes
 - 47 Volcanic rock material
 - 48 Greek coins
 - 49 Sipped, say
 - 50 Gray wolf
 - 53 Siren sound
 - 54 Constructor
 - 55 Spelt, e.g.
 - 59 Spill secrets
 - 61 Long bicycle saddles
 - 63 Actors Baio and Bakula
 - 65 Taunting type
 - 67 He created Whoville
 - 69 Dark purple fruit
 - 72 Fought against
 - 74 Lineage
 - 75 1970s label of Elton John
 - 76 Gridiron gain
 - 77 Bit of sand
 - 79 Coax
 - 80 Largest city in the Cornhusker St.
 - 81 Grapples, in the sticks
 - 82 Chess piece: Abbr.
 - 87 "Be silent," musically
 - 88 Ghana's largest city
 - 89 Glove part
 - 90 Wyatt of the Wild West
 - 91 "Git!"
 - 92 Corn pancake of Colombia
 - 93 Solitary soul
 - 98 "— so?"
 - 99 Masthead VIPs
 - 101 "Which is longer, — B?"
 - 102 Body part that's a homophone of the vowel that is totally absent from this puzzle's answer



◀ SEE ANSWERS, C11

HOROSCOPES

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A difficult experience begins to ease. That's the good news. The not-so-good news is a possible complication that could prolong the problem awhile longer.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your self-confidence gets a much-needed big boost as you start to unsnarl that knotty financial problem. Expect some help from a surprising source.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Congratulations. Any lingering negative aftereffects from that not-so-pleasant workplace situation are all but gone. It's time now to focus on the positive.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Your self-confidence grows stronger as you continue to take more control of your life. Arrange for some well-earned fun and relaxation with someone special.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to Feb-

ruary 18) As usual, you've been concerned more about the needs of others than your own. You need to take time for yourself so you can replenish all that spent energy.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Stronger planetary influences indicate a growing presence of people eager to help you navigate through the rough seas that might mark your career course.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You're moving from a relatively stable situation to one that appears to be laced with perplexity. Be patient. You'll eventually get answers to help clear up the confusion around you.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) A vexing situation tempts you to rush to set it all straight. But it's best to let things sort themselves out so you can get a better picture of the challenge you face.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Financial matters could create some confusion, especially with a torrent of

advice pouring in from several sources. Resist acting on emotion and wait for the facts to emerge.

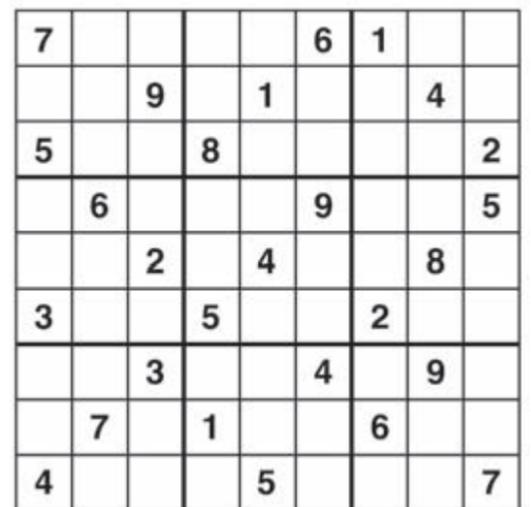
CANCER (June 21 to July 22) That goal you've set is still in sight and is still in reach. Stay with the course. Making too many shifts in direction now could create another set of problems.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) It might be time to confront a trouble-making associate and demand some answers. But be prepared for some surprises that could lead you to make a change in some long-standing plans.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Congratulations. You're making great progress in sorting out all that confusion that kept you from making those important decisions. You're on your way now.

BORN THIS WEEK: You can balance emotion and logic, which gives you the ability to make choices that are more likely than not to prove successful. ■

By Linda Thistle



Difficulty level:



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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.



◀ SEE ANSWERS, C11

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CONTRACT BRIDGE

Sheer artistry

BY STEVE BECKER

Luck evens out in the long run, so if you want to be a winner at bridge, you have to play better than those you play with.

Let's say you're in six hearts and West leads the king of clubs, which you ruff. You play the queen of trumps and finesse, but East wins with the king and returns the queen of spades.

It looks as though you must lose a spade trick and go down one, but if you put your gray cells to work, the way to avoid the spade loser emerges.

So you win East's spade return with dummy's king, ruff a club with the 10, re-enter dummy with a low trump to the nine and ruff another club with the jack.

This runs you out of trumps in your hand, since you've ruffed clubs three times and led trumps twice, but that's precisely what you've been trying to do.

You now enter dummy with a diamond and draw West's last trump with the ace, discarding a spade from your hand. Your K-Q-J-10 of diamonds and ace of spades then win the last five tricks, and the slam is home as your spade loser vanishes into thin air.

To come to 12 tricks, you scored five trump tricks instead of only the four you seemed to have after the trump

North dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ K 8 7
♥ A 9 6
♦ A 8 3
♣ Q J 9 4

WEST

♠ 6 3 2
♥ 8 5 4
♦ 7 4 2
♣ A K 8 3

EAST

♠ Q J 10 4
♥ K 2
♦ 9 6
♣ 10 7 6 5 2

SOUTH

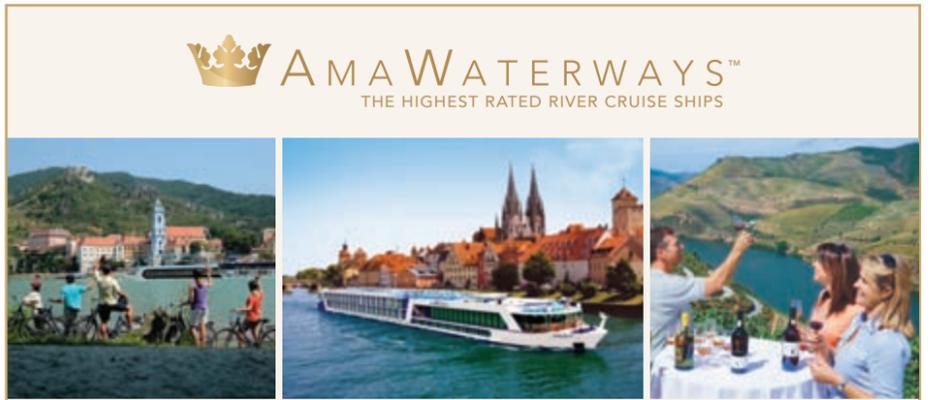
♠ A 9 5
♥ Q J 10 7 3
♦ K Q J 10 5
♣ —

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
1 NT	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	6 ♥	

Opening lead — king of clubs.

finesse failed. It might seem odd that to make the slam you must discard your spade loser on one of dummy's trumps, but that's the way things usually go in dummy-reversal hands. ■



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FILM CAPSULES

Miss Peregrine's Home For Peculiar Children ★★

(Eva Green, Samuel L. Jackson, Asa Butterfield) Teenager Jake (Mr. Butterfield) ventures off to join Miss Peregrine (Ms. Green) and other children with peculiar abilities, only to find a madman (Mr. Jackson) trying to harness those abilities for himself. It has the visual flair you expect from director Tim Burton ("Alice in Wonderland"), but too many lulls in the story make it a sluggish watch. Rated PG-13.

Storks ★★★

(Voices of Andy Samberg, Jennifer Aniston, Ty Burrell) A stork (Mr. Samberg) and a girl (Katie Crown) encounter a wolf pack and other obstacles as they struggle to deliver a baby. The 3D animation is crisp, it's funny, and kids will get a kick out of it, but best of all there's plenty to relate to for parents. Rated PG.

Bridget Jones's Baby ★★★

(Renee Zellweger, Colin Firth, Patrick Dempsey) Conclusion to the "Bridget Jones" trilogy follows single Bridget (Ms. Zellweger) as she tries to figure out which guy (Mr. Firth or Mr. Dempsey) is the father of her unborn baby. It a funny and fitting end to the only romantic comedy trilogy in recent memory. Rated R.

Hands of Stone ★★★

(Robert De Niro, Edgar Ramirez, Ana de Armas) Based on a true story, boxer Roberto Duran (Mr. Ramirez) emerges from poverty in Panama to become a world champion. Solid performances and editing allow this part biopic/part boxing movie to be a thoroughly engaging drama. Rated R.

Sully ★★1/2

(Tom Hanks, Aaron Eckhart, Laura Linney) Pilot Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger (Mr. Hanks) and co-pilot Jeff Skiles' (Mr. Eckhart) heroic landing of a US Air flight on the Hudson River in New York City in January 2009 is recounted and investigated in director Clint Eastwood's ("Gran Torino") latest. The story is thin and too much time is spent on the investigation early on, but the landing, rescue and resolution will put a lump in your throat. Rated PG-13.

The Light Between Oceans ★★★

(Michael Fassbender, Alicia Vikander, Rachel Weisz) Nice performances from Mr. Fassbender, Ms. Vikander and Ms. Weisz highlight this epic story that sees a couple (Mr. Fassbender and Ms. Vikander) adopt a baby presuming the girl's parents are dead, only to be faced with the decision of returning the child upon learning the mother (Ms. Weisz) is still alive. The beautiful Australian coastline punctuates the isolation and desperation of the story, and best of all, the premise offers a great "what would you do?" post-screening conversation starter. Rated PG-13.

Southside with You ★★

(Tika Sumpter, Parker Sawyers, Vanessa Bell Calloway) Here's the story of Barack and Michelle Obama's first date during a hot summer day in 1989. But only the locations are accurate; the dialogue is fictionalized, which is a downer given the film's inherent appeal. Combine that with low-budget production values and standard editing and the whole thing plays like a made-for-TV movie. Rated PG-13. ■

Shula's

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'Deepwater Horizon'

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Is it worth \$10? No

Foreshadowing manifests in a variety of ways in disaster-driven films, and better movies convey these elements with a modicum of subtlety and grace. Unfortunately, "Deepwater Horizon" has the subtlety of a sledgehammer dropped from a 10-story building.

For example, the main character, Mike (Mark Wahlberg), works on oil rigs created for offshore drilling. Before he leaves for a 21-day job on board the Deepwater Horizon off the coast of Louisiana, his daughter (Stella Allen) explains his job for a science project using a straw, honey and soda can. In a rudimentary way, we're clued into the technology of the oil rig and its potential dangers. A few moments after she's done with the demonstration, the can overflows. Point taken.

If this were the only obvious foreshadowing it'd be OK, but seemingly everything in the opening 50 minutes (which is half the movie) winks toward impending doom: Rig foreman Jimmy (Kurt Russell) tells BP execs not to wear a magenta tie because magenta is the color of extreme danger warnings; essential tests are not run to ensure the safety of the rig; stubborn BP execs (John Malkovich and Brad Leland) insist on drilling regardless of safety concerns; phones don't work; Jimmy insists on running a negative pressure test because "it never hurts to run a test," he says; Jimmy and the rig receive a safety award hours before the explosion; and there are numerous shots of the bubbling surface a mile below, ready to blow.

This isn't just setup. It's overkill.

What director Peter Berg ("Lone Survivor") loses in these teases is the ability to really get to know and like the people whose lives are about to be in grave danger.

We meet Andrea (Gina Rodriguez), who can't get her Mustang working and whose boyfriend won't let her drive his motorcycle. And that's all we learn about her. Jimmy is ... well, we never learn anything about him. Young and eager Caleb (Dylan O'Brien) works hard, but we never learn anything else



about him.

Mike is the only person whose personal life is revealed — which would be fine if he were the only one in peril, but there were 126 people on that rig. Given that the movie is based on the 2010 true story of the biggest oil spill in U.S. history, more stories should've been shared.

The visual effects are fine, but after the explosion the narrative doesn't get much better due to the aforementioned lack of emotional investment in the characters. Also, there are multiple scenes in which competent people act in ways that defy logic, which is infuriating. And there are enough strong images (including a bone protruding from a leg) to make you question the validity of the PG-13 rating.

It's not easy to base a story on an oil-rig explosion, but if you're going to do it, you need to do it better than "Deepwater Horizon." All attempts at emotion feel strained and superfluous, though credit should be given to Kate Hudson for making the most of the thankless role of Mike's wife. The disaster itself is harrowing and terrifying, but it's not done well enough to offset the feeling of inevitability brought on by the first half of the film. The events in a movie such as this should feel shocking, not expected. ■

in the know

>> **This is the first time** Kate Hudson has worked with her "stepfather" Kurt Russell (Goldie Hawn is her mother and Mr. Russell's longtime girlfriend).

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KOVEL: ANTIQUES

Handmade doll is an important piece of American Indian history

BY TERRY KOVEL AND KIM KOVEL

Many American Indian tribes almost lost their culture by the 1960s because of 19th- and early 20th-century U.S. government rules. American Indians could be removed from their land, resettled on reservations and even have their children sent to special boarding schools to be taught a new way of life. The children were punished if they continued to practice their ceremonies or speak their native language. Children from the Potawatomi tribe went to either a boys' or girls' boarding school, where they learned English and a trade. The American Indian Religious Freedom Act passed in the 1970s led to the end of the boarding schools and the beginning of efforts to bring back the Indian culture.

The toy Indian cradle pictured here is decorated with beads and silver buttons but holds a European porcelain-headed doll. It was made by Millie Hall at a Potawatomi boarding school in 1900.

Q: I have a rose-colored glass bowl that I believe is called a "banana boat." I've been told the pattern name is Delaware. The bowl is 11¼ inches wide and has a ruffled edge. Could you corroborate my information and help me with a value?

A: Your bowl is indeed a banana boat. The pattern name is Delaware,

but it was also known as New Century or Four Petal Flower. The pattern was first made in 1899 by the U.S. Glass Co., a group of 15 glass companies that merged in 1891 and had a headquarters in Pittsburgh. Delaware was made in crystal (colorless), emerald green, custard, milk glass and ruby stain, like yours. Some pieces had gold trim. Other Delaware shapes included a sugar and creamer; various bowls; shakers; celery vase; compote dish; cruet; custard cup; toothpick; berry, table and water sets; dresser boxes; and a pin tray.

Early American pressed glass fell out of popularity by the 1920s. Prices peaked in the 1990s, when your bowl might have brought more than \$200. Today it is worth about \$50.

Q: I have an antique Alfred Andresen cast-iron waffle iron that makes heart-shaped waffles. The baking surface is divided into five heart-shaped parts that make five waffles at a time. It's marked "Minneapolis" and "999" on one side, and "981" on the other. What is it worth?

A: Alfred Andresen was granted a patent for his heart-shape "design for a cover for waffle irons" in 1904. Griswold made the waffle irons for Andresen. They're not popular collectibles, but the heart shape and age of your waffle iron might make it worth \$100 if it still works.

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WE GO SLOW AND LOW



This European doll in an Indian-style beaded cradle was made about 1900 at an Indian boarding school and sold for \$11,070.

Q: I need to sell a Stieff square grand piano, serial No. 6153. I've been told they are few in number and one was in the White House. An antiques dealer and auctioneer told me that old pianos are referred to as "boat anchors" because they are so hard to sell. My piano is in good shape, but hasn't been tuned since 2002. Does it have any value as a piano,

or for the wood itself? I was told it's Brazilian rosewood, which is no longer available in the U.S.

A: Charles M. Stieff established his piano company in Baltimore in 1842. The business was liquidated in 1951. The serial number on your piano indicates it was made about 1880. Square pianos are hard to sell today, but you should contact a local piano dealer who also buys used pianos. If you find a buyer, know that the price will be influenced by the location, since it is expensive to ship a piano.

Q: My Architector Building Set No. 15 was bought from Home & Garden in 1944. It's in its original wooden box and cost \$15 when it was new. All the pieces for building a model brick house are there. Was this a toy or for an architect? What is it worth?

A: This building set made by Architector Co. of New York was advertised as a toy for both boys and girls. The complete set includes white and red bricks, wood molding, shingles, glue and building plans. Professional architects designed the plans. Building sets are popular today. Yours is worth about \$100. ■

— Terry Kovel and Kim Kovel answer questions sent to the column. By sending a letter with a question and a picture, 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. Personal answers or appraisals are not possible. Write to Kovel, Florida Weekly, King Features Syndicate, 300 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019.

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COLLECTOR'S CORNER

All that glitters may be gold – with a touch of cranberry



scott SIMMONS

ssimmons@floridaweekly.com

grow tired of some of the more common pieces in her collection — those 1970s pieces that seemingly pop up everywhere now that women of her generation are beginning to downsize. Meanwhile, her doll collection continues to grow.

Over a half-century of collecting, my mom has had two passions: cranberry glass and antique dolls.

In the 1940s and '50s, Fenton Art Glass Co. of Williamstown, W. Va., turned out millions of pieces of glass that resembled the Victorian art glass of decades before. Among the most popular of the Fenton lines was its cranberry glass, particularly in the bumpy opalescent hobnail that reminded collectors like my mom of pieces their grandmothers had owned. It was pretty stuff, and Fenton had a second heyday with the line in the 1960s and '70s.

My mom did too, buying lamps, vases, bowls and other objects at shops and shows across the country. But she has begun to

But one never grows weary of the older pieces of cranberry glass, like a butter or cheese dome I recently found in Fort Pierce. It's Bohemian glass, made in Czechoslovakia during the early 20th century.

Every aspect of this piece is hand-wrought, from the wheel polishing of its sides and bottom to the beveled and cut edge of the underplate.

Glassblowers use gold salts, or colloidal gold, to create cranberry glass, so it doesn't surprise me that these pieces set a gold standard of sorts for collecting, regardless of provenance.

When I see this piece, I think of all the years we traveled the state seeking pieces of cranberry glass.

I'm glad I can call this one mine. ■



SCOTT SIMMONS / FLORIDA WEEKLY
The writer paid \$36 for this cranberry glass butter or cheese dome at The Unique Antique Shop in Fort Pierce.

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Lab Theater's 'The Best Man' study in political contrasts

BY TOM HALL
Special to Florida Weekly

Just in time for the presidential election, Laboratory Theater of Florida presents a play that puts political campaigns in context. Opening Thursday, Oct. 6, Gore Vidal's "The Best Man" garnered six Tony nominations during its original Broadway run.

The play pitches two imperfect candidates vying with one another for their party's nomination for the presidency of the United States. One candidate believes he is honest, ethical and deserves the land's highest office. The

other will do whatever it takes to win the nomination. Will the incumbent favor one of them with his endorsement, or let them duke it out in a battle royale that spells doom in the general election?

The show runs through Oct. 29, with performances Thursday-Sunday. Tickets are available online at www.LaboratoryTheaterFlorida.com and by calling 218-0481.

The theater is at 1634 Woodford Ave. just east of downtown Fort Myers. ■

— See Tom Hall's www.artswfl.com, for more news on local theater and art.

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The Naples Opera Society invites opera aficionados to catch the bus to Miami for the 2016-17 season of Florida Grand Opera. Tickets includes round trip coach transportation and driver tip, dinner in Coral Gables, a 7 p.m. pre-opera lecture and the 8 p.m. performance at the Adrienne Arsht Center for Performing Arts in Coral Gables. All opera excursions are on a Saturday. Here's the schedule:

■ **Nov. 19: Georges Bizet's "Carmen"** - The most provocative gypsy in Seville tells her admirers that love is free and obeys no rules. Only one man,

Don Jose, pays no attention to her.

■ **Feb. 4: Tchaikovsky's "Eugene Onegin"** - The musical realization of Alexander Pushkin's timeless, heart-rending novel.

■ **March 25: Jorge Martin's "Before Night Falls"** - The story of a Cuban writer who faces a terrifying situation

in his homeland: Neither is he free to be and to express himself artistically, nor is he free to leave. He is persecuted and silenced, but he resolves to escape.

■ **May 6: Verdi's "Un Ballo en**

Maschera" - Based on the real-life assassination of King Gustavus III of Sweden in 1792.

Naples passengers board the bus at 1 p.m. at Crossroads Shopping Center. The bus makes its first pickup at 11:45 a.m. at the Ace Hardware shopping center in Cape Coral.

Mezzanine seats are \$500 and rear orchestra seats \$600 for the four-show season; single opera tickets are \$140 and \$165.

Order forms are at naplesoperasociety.org. For more information, call Eugene Buffo at 431-7509 or email ehand-jhb@gmail.com. A check for tickets can also be mailed to Naples Opera Society, 2485 Crayton Road, Naples FL 34103. ■





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SOCIETY

Golisano Children's Museum of Naples welcomes children's author Robin Mizwa



Robin Mizwa, Grace Mizwa, Gabi Boyd and Liam Purtle



Robin Mizwa



Kelly Wilkening and Gatlan Wilkening



Robin Mizwa and Tom Mizwa



Kally Proctor holding Joshua Juarez Proctor



Liam Purtle, Gabi Boyd, Grace Mizwa, Robin Mizwa, Veronica Bestrand, Cierra Bekich and Brenda Salgado

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SOCIETY

Opening reception for Rookery Bay/United Arts Council 'Summer II: Water' exhibit



Pete Anselmo, Priscilla Anselmo, Robin Ernst and Mike Ernst



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Muffy Clark Gill and Warren Gill



Robin Ernst, Lynda Fay Braun and Priscilla Anselmo



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CUISINE NEWS

■ **Paradise Wine** welcomes Chef Jose Zamora to the wine bar's culinary lineup. A graduate of the Culinary School of Cambrils in Spain and Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts in Miami, Mr. Zamora has worked at Doral Resort in Miami and Tio Pepe in New York City. Paradise Wine debuted his Mediterranean-themed tapas menu earlier this week. The wine is at 8965 Tamiami Trail N. Call 687-3155 or go to www.paradisewinellc.com.



ZAMORA

Bay Bar & Grill has the event for you. From 8-11 p.m. Friday, Oct. 7, the restaurant hosts its fourth annual Oktoberfest celebration with Bavarian food, beer, music, a stein hoisting competition and more. 489 Bayfront Place. 530-2225 or www.tavernonthebay.net.

■ **Vom Fass** in Mercato provides tastes of Calvados Napoleon 25-year brandy and hors d'oeuvres prepared with the store's pumpkin seed oil from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 8. Free. 513-0103 or www.vomfassnaples.com.

■ **Paradise Wine** hosts a four-course, prix-fixe dinner at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 10. \$65. 8965 Tamiami Trail N. 687-3155 or www.paradisewinellc.com.

■ Diners who pass over pumpkins for truffles when fall descends can count on a number of local restaurants to add the prized fungus to their October menus. **Campiello** and **Sea Salt** both offer distinct dining experiences that allow guests to indulge in the funky note truffles impart.

Head to Campiello's for the opportunity to add white or black truffle to cobia tartar, mushroom risotto and tagliatelle pasta with robioloa crema (truffles are priced separately) through October. For reservations or more information, visit www.damico.com.

Sea Salt hosts a prix-fixe, truffle-themed wine dinner at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 11. Visit www.seasaltnaples.com for reservations or more information.

■ **Osteria Tulia** has been chosen as one of 50 restaurants across the country to participate in Cru Night on Wednesday, Oct. 12, when the selected establishments all highlight one rare, single-vineyard Italian wine. This year it's the Corbaia 2011 from Castello di Bossi. A two-course dinner for \$50 is available, as is the full menu (wine priced separately). 213-2073 or osteriatulia.com.

■ **Bar Tulia** kicks off its fall Guest Bartender Series from 6 p.m. until close Thursday, Oct. 20. Miami-based mixologist Julio Cabrera will mix up rum-based drinks including the Hemingway Special, the Presidente and Hotel Nacional.

Dubbed "the king of Miami's cocktail scene" by Eater Miami, Mr. Cabrera has earned a long list of accolades during the 25 years he's mixed cocktails

■ If you favor beer over pumpkin spice lattes in October, **Tavern on the**

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CUISINE NEWS



Miami mixologist Julio Cabrera shakes up custom rum cocktails from 6 p.m. to close Thursday, Oct. 20, at Bar Tulia.

COURTESY PHOTO

around the city, including landing the GQ Magazine's cover and designation as America's most innovative bartender. Today, he can be found shaking things up at The Regent Cocktail Club. 213-2073 or www.tulianaples.com.

■ Someone came up with the ingenious idea to pair a comedy performance with a dessert buffet, and that man's name is "Star Search" winner **Taylor Mason**. By pairing, comedy, ventriloquism, music and sugar, Mr. Mason has developed a family-friendly show that will keep kids and adults entertained and well fed. Catch it at 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 21, at the David and Cecile Wang Opera Center (dessert buffet starts at 7:30 p.m.). Tickets are \$25. 719-0727 or www.myfairway.info.

■ Want to work on your skills in the kitchen? Here are some cooking classes on the front burner:

The Good Life of Naples, 2355 Vanderbilt Beach Road; 514-4663 or www.goodlifenasles.com - The Perfect Piccata: Wednesday, Oct. 12 (\$75); It's Greek to Me: Tuesday, Oct. 18 (\$75); Bundled Up Flavors of Fall: Friday, Oct. 21 (\$79); Savory, Crunchy & Sweetly Delicious: Thursday, Oct. 27 (\$69); A Night in Sicily: Friday, Nov. 4 (\$79).

Sur La Table, 9501 Strada Place, Mercato; 598-1463 or www.surlatable.com French Sauces 101: Thursday, Oct. 6 (\$69); Homemade Donuts: Friday, Oct. 7 (\$69); Homemade Caramel Workshop: Saturday, Oct. 8 (\$69); Date Night A Taste of Spain: Saturday, Oct. 8 (\$79); Knife Skills 101: Sunday, Oct. 9 (\$59); Family Fun Apple Season: Sunday, Oct. 9 (\$59); Fall Risotto Workshop: Sunday, Oct. 9 (\$69); Delicious Fall Soups: Monday, Oct. 10 (\$69); Best of Fall Apples: Tuesday, Oct. 11 (\$69); Jacque Pepin's Favorites and free book: Tuesday, Oct. 11 (\$79); Amazing Autumn Flavors with free baker: Wednesday, Oct. 12 (\$85). ■

— Email food and dining news to Lindsey Nesmith at lnesmith@floridaweekly.com.

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PAST REPASTS

Here are some capsule summaries of previous restaurant reviews:

■ Another Broken Egg Café, 670 Tamiami Trail N., Naples; 300-0696

While Another Broken Egg offers traditional items, there's lots of unusual fare, too. Crab cakes topped with poached eggs and Andouille-infused Hollandaise, for example. Omelettes with lobster and Brie, and even some breakfast appetizers. I can personally attest to the deliciousness of the Baked Brie Delight (a slab of warm cheese served with apples, raisins and pecans lightly sautéed in Grand Marnier butter sauce paired with toasted French bread). Other winners were a large bowl of house-made granola, fruit and quinoa with strawberries, blueberries, bananas, coconut and vanilla Greek yogurt; the Bacquezo, an omelette with cream cheese, bacon, chorizo, Monterey Jack and green onions; and the Hey Lucy! omelette with chorizo, sautéed onions, green chilies and cheddar. A Belgian waffle and gluten-free pancakes were top-notch as well. A bonus: The staff is uniformly welcoming and efficient. Lunch served, too. Beer and wine served.

Food: ★ ★ ★ ★ 1/2
Service: ★ ★ ★ ★ 1/2
Atmosphere: ★ ★ ★ ★
Reviewed January 2016

■ Coastal Peruvian Seafood & Grill, 5477 Airport-Pulling Road, Naples; 631-6943

This lovely restaurant provides a refreshing space in which to dine on

exceptionally good food. Owners Chris and Fabiola Santos are hospitable and helpful as they introduce guests to their menu. Of the various ceviche variations, we enjoyed the Ceviche 200 Miles, a sprightly blend of shrimp, squid, mussels, fish, red onions, sweet potato and corn that had a bite but wasn't fiery hot. Marina sliders held fried red snapper fillets topped with aji amarillo-pineapple chimichurri on firm, yeasty mini-buns. The Poseidon Fest was a montage of seafood cooked in the restaurant's Jospo oven, which renders proteins crisp outside, juicy within. And the Savage Tacu Tacu was a great rendition of rice and lentil pancakes with a tender skirt steak and sweet plantains. For dessert: the chocolucuma, a pie with an Oreo crumb crust, middle of caramel-flavored lucuma and a drizzle of chocolate sauce. Beer and wine served.

Food: ★ ★ ★ ★ 1/2
Service: ★ ★ ★ ★ 1/2
Atmosphere: ★ ★ ★ ★ 1/2
Reviewed January 2016

■ The Crust, 8004 Trail Blvd., Naples; 244-8488

This popular pizza spot at the Pavilion Shopping Center has added a second, much-needed larger location just a few miles away on U.S. 41. About four times the size of the original (which remains open), it serves the same Midwest-style pizza in the former Big Al's space. (Note: If you want takeout from The Crust, this is the location that offers it.) Try an old-fashioned soda (we loved the Dr. Pepper and Orange

Crush made with real sugar rather than high-fructose corn syrup). A Caesar salad was fresh with a mild dressing. A house salad had good ingredients but needed a more assertive dressing than the house-made Champagne vinaigrette. When it comes to pizza, The Crust is first-rate. A 10-inch BBQ pizza had a thin, crisp crust topped with smoky barbecue sauce, roasted chicken, red onions, smoked gouda, provolone and cilantro. My companion chose one with mushrooms, Kalamata olives and basil. Both were excellent, the crusts crisp but not brittle, and sturdy enough to support the generous toppings. Service is efficient and pleasant. Full bar.

Food: ★ ★ ★ ★
Service: ★ ★ ★ ★
Atmosphere: ★ ★ ★ ★
Reviewed May 2016

■ O'mei, Naples Centre Villages, 6434 Naples Blvd.; 631-5633

It may have relocated, but O'mei continues to serve some of the region's best and most creative Chinese fare, now near the Hollywood Stadium 20 cinemas. Hong Kong chef Mark Cheng and his wife, Mary, operate a lovely establishment serving authentic fare — in other words, no egg foo yung and chop suey. Mr. Cheng's duck — either the crispy version or the full-out Peking duck — is exceptional and well worth the indulgence. Other noteworthy dishes include the salt-and-pepper calamari, shrimp spring rolls and mango prawns, four season spicy prawns (fried and tossed with sweet chili and sour sauce). For veggie lovers, the stir-fried

green beans with crunchy onions and dried pepper are terrific. Full bar.

Food: ★ ★ ★ ★
Service: ★ ★ ★ 1/2
Atmosphere: ★ ★ ★ ★
Reviewed September 2015

■ 21 Spices by Chef Asif, Sugden Park Plaza, 4270 Tamiami Trail E., Naples; 919-8830

Head east — on Tamiami Trail, that is — for a taste of modern Indian cuisine as imagined and prepared by Chef Asif Rasheed. Born in Northern India, he brings his well-developed talents for art and cooking to this elegant and innovative newcomer where you'll find some of the standards as well as intriguing offerings such as lobster mulligatawny soup, dumpukhy goat biryani and jhinga prawns. The ghehra paani diver scallops were plump and delicious atop a mound of black lentils with orange tomato jus and yellow pepper coulis. Palawaka chaat consisted of crisp fried baby spinach leaves intermingled with dates, tamarind and yogurt. A trio of baby lamb chops was moist and seasoned with a touch of mint and mustard. From the entrees, great choices were the seafood medley, the saffron chicken korma and the Nizam's kofte, vegetable and cheese dumplings. Full bar.

Food: ★ ★ ★ ★
Service: ★ ★ ★ ★
Atmosphere: ★ ★ ★ ★ 1/2
Reviewed January 2016 ■


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CUISINE REVIEW

Bleu Provence as good as it ever was – perhaps even better



A nightly special featured a trio of lamb chops topped with pistachios and walnuts with soy demi glace.



Left: Homemade smoked salmon is topped with strawberries and a light citrus vinaigrette. Right: A warm round of goat cheese comes atop julienned pea pods, radishes and walnuts.



Left: A classic dessert of chocolate profiteroles is a great ending to a meal. Right: A warm plum tart is served with tart mandarin orange sorbet.



Some successful restaurants are content to rest on their laurels, serving the same menu items and doing things the way they have for years because people like it and it's easier than changing.

Bleu Provence is not one of these. In business since 1999, this lovely French restaurant owned and operated by Lysielle and Jacques Cariot never stops evolving, striving to be the best, always providing something new for its guests.

What hasn't changed is the owners' devotion to quality both in the kitchen and the front of the house, although the front of the house has grown substantially since the restaurant opened with about 16 tables in a single dining room. It's now expanded to multiple rooms and an extensive outdoor area, but each room still has a warm, French feel about it. The hostess seated us at a roomy table for two and supplied cushions for the backs of our rattan chairs.

Bleu Provence also has the distinction of being the only restaurant in the region to win a Grand Award from Wine Spectator. That's the highest award given, and only 88 restaurants in the world can claim it this year. It is among heady company. Other Grand Award winners include Bern's Steak House in Tampa, Spago Beverly Hills, The French Laundry in Napa and New York's esteemed Daniel and Jean-Georges.

It isn't simply that Bleu Provence has 3,200 wines and 30,000 bottles. Wine is like a religion here. A sommelier makes the rounds and offers guests assistance, but the servers are deeply knowledgeable as well. After discussing what we planned to order, our basic likes and dislikes in wine and our price range, our server, William, enthusiastically suggested a delightful 2011 Domaine Monier Perreol Saint-Joseph Blanc, a northern Rhone appellation we'd likely have passed over in the 2-inch-thick book that is the wine list.

I saw similar exchanges happening around the room with other servers and the sommelier.

The menu is much less complex than the wine list but no less compelling. Will it be porcini mushroom and chestnut soup, seared foie gras, pan-grilled muskels or a classic cheese plate to start?

You can see the dilemma. I felt compelled to try the homemade smoked salmon (\$12.99), while my companion was drawn to the baked goat cheese crotin salad (\$12.99).

Thinly sliced strips of salmon formed a circle on the plate, topped with strawberries, grapefruit, arugula sprouts and an oh-so-light citrus vinaigrette that added just a hint of flavor to the tender, gently cured fish.

The salad was glorious, too. A bed of julienned snow peas, radishes and walnuts were bathed in honey mustard mayonnaise dressing, topped with a warm round of lightly breaded goat cheese that served as a creamy counterpoint to the cool, crunchy pods beneath it.

I'm hard-pressed to say which I liked more.

There's much to like on the entrée list as well, such as blackened organic salmon, boneless wagyu short ribs, duck leg confit, sautéed wild pink Argentinian shrimp, sweet breads and chicken tagine.

But both of the nightly specials seemed too good to pass up. After all, the menu will be there the next time, whereas pompano in lemon beurre blanc (\$30.99) and rack of lamb with eggplant puree and potatoes au gratin (\$50.99) might not.

The fish was exceptionally fresh, tender and complemented nicely by a light sauce and tender-crisp asparagus.

The three meaty lamb chops were

cooked to a bare medium. They were rich and sweet, not strongly flavored as lamb can be. And on top was a heavenly crust made of crushed pistachios, walnuts and soy demi glace. The eggplant had a mashed potato consistency but retained the flavor of the vegetable. The au gratin potatoes, which came in their own little pot, had the requisite amount of cream, cheese and butter. Both paired well with the chops.

While we normally share one dessert, there were too many tantalizing choices here. We ordered the fruit tart du jour (which was plum, \$8.50) and the chocolate profiteroles (\$8.50).

The plum tart was everything it should be: warm, full of fruit, creamy and accompanied by a slightly tart mandarin orange sorbet. As with the previous two courses, the kitchen showed a talent for creating intense flavors, sensual textures and pairing them perfectly.

The same was true for the profiteroles, with their choux pastry filled with vanilla ice cream topped with chocolate sauce and lots of sliced almonds.

Throughout our meal, our server made sure to stop by regularly, checking to make sure each course was to our liking, that our wine glasses were filled and that we were happy. We were indeed.

That appeared to be the case at every table I could see. People were enjoying bottle after bottle of wine, sharing bites of food, laughing and generally having a wonderful time. You might think that's

what always happens in restaurants, but I've been in enough of them to tell you such a festive spirit isn't always present.

Bleu Provence remains a heavenly little French getaway. Spend a couple of hours with some exceptional food and wine with service to match and you are likely to feel as if you've been on a bit of a French holiday. Bon appetit! ■

in the know

Bleu Provence

1234 Eighth St. S., Naples; 261-8239

Ratings:
Food: ★★★★★
Service: ★★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★★½

- >> **Hours:** 5-10 p.m. every day
- >> **Reservations:** Accepted
- >> **Credit cards:** Accepted
- >> **Price range:** Appetizers, \$8.99-\$14.99; entrees, \$22.99-\$43.99
- >> **Beverages:** Full bar with extensive wine list
- >> **Seating:** Tables indoors and outside
- >> **Specialties of the house:** French
- >> **Volume:** Moderate
- >> **Parking:** On the street, valet
- >> **Website:** www.bleuprovincenaples.com

★★★★★ Superb
★★★★ Noteworthy
★★★ Good
★★ Fair
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Surge in Phase III reservations at Ronto's Naples Square



With Phase II construction at Naples Square approaching completion, and just 15 Phase II residences remaining, The Ronto Group reported a surge in Phase III reservations. Naples Square is being developed by Ronto at 5th Avenue South and Goodlette-Frank Road in downtown Naples. The community has connected 5th Avenue to Bayfront with access on 10th Street via 3rd Avenue South. Naples Square's walkable lifestyle and light-filled one and two-story, two and three bedroom plus den floor plans with open-concept living areas and open-air terraces have transformed how people live in downtown Naples.

Eight Phase III floor plans ranging from 1,460 to 3,238 square feet under air are base-priced from \$695,000. The plans feature 10' ceilings, designer kitchens with gas cooking, chic owners' bedrooms and designer flooring. The Phase III plans offer enhanced iterations of the plans being enjoyed by the community's Phase I residents.

Just four Phase III Emerson residences remain available. Fashioned after the 2,469 square foot Phase I Essex plan, the Phase III Emerson offers 2,830 square feet, a 15% square footage increase. The plan's great room, dining room, owner's bedroom, and one of the two guest bedrooms open to a south-facing 366 square foot balcony overlooking a courtyard amenity deck. Base-priced at \$1,495,000, the Emerson plan includes a den, an island kitchen with counter height bar seating, a foyer with a ceiling detail and crown molding, three-and-a-half baths, and a laundry room. The owner's suite includes walk-in closets and a bath with his and her vanities, a soaking tub, glass enclosed shower, and separate water closet.

The Phase III Emerson plan will offer a remarkable level of livability to complement Naples Square's amenity rich lifestyle. Five feet were added to the great room presented in the Phase I Essex plan. Pocketing sliders will open the Emerson's great room and dining room to the covered balcony that is now 12-feet deep and faces the amenity deck. A significant bank of cabinetry was added to the kitchen design and the size of the kitchen's island was increased. Three feet of depth was added to both

Above: The Phase III Biltmore floor plan at Naples Square offers an ideal Downtown Naples pied-a-terre. Base-priced at \$845,000, the 1,698 square feet under air Biltmore also includes a 242 square feet open-air terrace.



the owner's bedroom and the den and the windows were enlarged from two panels to three. The redesigned guest bedroom facing the courtyard was transformed from a 12 x 12-foot space to an 18 x 12-foot suite with an additional window, a larger walk-in closet, an additional vanity sink, and a door separating the shower and commode from the vanities. The space now conveys the feeling of a second master suite that offers a pleasing view of the courtyard.

The Phase III Biltmore floor plan also reflects the enhanced space sequences available in the Phase III offering. Base-priced at \$845,000, the 1,698 square feet under air Phase III Biltmore floor plan is based on the 1,529 square foot Phase I Ballard plan. In addition to offering an 11% increase in air conditioned space, the Biltmore's open-air terrace is 20% larger and measures 242 square feet. The two-bedroom plus den Biltmore plan offers the possibility of owning a beautifully finished downtown residence literally just minutes from downtown's dining, shopping, and entertainment attractions. Each of the Biltmore residences will overlook the Phase III building's lushly landscaped



Above: The Phase III Biltmore floor plan at Naples Square includes a spacious counter-height island kitchen with a stainless steel sink, dishwasher and a food preparation area. Left: Eight Naples Square Phase III floor plans ranging from 1,460 to 3,238 square feet under air are base-priced from \$695,000. The plans feature 10' ceilings, designer kitchens with gas cooking, chic owners' bedrooms and designer flooring.

courtyard. The great room plan includes a spacious counter-height island kitchen with a stainless steel sink, dishwasher and a food preparation area. The great room, owner's bedroom, and guest bedroom all open to the terrace. The owner's suite includes double walk-in closets and a bath with a glass-enclosed shower and his and her vanities.

Ronto enlarged the width of the Biltmore's great room, kitchen, and terrace by two feet, an enhancement that will contribute to the livability of the home's living areas. The enlarged width allowed Ronto to increase the slider panels opening to the terrace from four to six, a step that provides additional natural light while enhancing the views of the courtyard. An additional foot of depth was included in the terrace design. Taken in combination with its increased width, the additional depth resulted in a 20% increase in the terrace square footage. A wall of cabinetry was added to the kitchen design and is now standard in all Biltmore residences. The re-design also increased the size of the owner's bedroom. It now measures 15 x 15-feet, a full 225 square feet of sleeping quarters. To enhance the owner's bedroom's natural light and view, a third panel of glass was added to the window.

The Phase III residences will present luxurious standard finishes. Standard details include porcelain tile flooring in the living areas, kitchens and baths, 8-foot solid core interior doors, 8-foot exterior and sliding glass doors, lever-style door hardware, 8-inch clean-lined baseboards, 7-inch crown molding per plan, ventilated wood shelving in the bedroom, linen and pantry closets, and laundry rooms with a Whirlpool Duet front load washer and dryer and a utility sink in most plans. Phase III's open kitchens will feature an appliance package with a gas cooktop and hood and a wall mounted oven and microwave. European frameless construction, full-overlay cabinetry with a variety of door profiles, finish selections and hardware, a stainless steel, under-mount sink with a pull-out spray faucet, and multiple granite and quartz countertop options that are three centimeters thick are included. The master bath features marble-topped vanities with dual sinks, showers with bench seats and glass enclosures, soaking tubs with most floor plans, and a separate water closet.

The Naples Square Sales Gallery at 100 South Goodlette-Frank Road in downtown Naples is open daily. Visit NaplesSquare.com. ■

Kalea Bay's first tower reaches penthouse floor Clubhouse also under construction

Kalea Bay, a gated, resort-life-style community located on Vanderbilt Drive in North Naples, has set a new standard for luxury residential high-rise living.

The incredibly-designed residences at Kalea Bay, combined with spectacular views of the Gulf of Mexico, the Coghatchee River and a pristine nature preserve, have propelled the community to become one of the hottest-selling properties this year.

"As of mid-September, the construction on our first tower reached the penthouse floor," stated Inga Wilson, Kalea Bay's Vice President of Sales & Marketing.

The 22-story tower, with 120 residences, will have 20 floors of residences over two floors of parking.

"From my office in the sales center I can observe the construction progress on a daily basis," said Wilson. "It's not only exciting for me, but also for those who've already purchased and even the visitors who have come to the sales center for the first time."

Six floor plans are available at Kalea Bay with prices currently starting at \$1.3 million.

Residences 1 and 6 are 4-bedroom/4-bath plans with 3,755 total square feet. Residences 2 and 5, with three-bedrooms plus den and three-and-a-half baths, have 3,835 total square feet while residences 3 and 4 are four-bedroom/four-bath plans with 3,921 total square feet.

All residents of Kalea Bay will revel in gulf views, open floor plans, a private elevator leading directly into their residence, 9-foot, 2-inch ceilings in living areas, and wood floors throughout.

The custom kitchens have Wolf and SubZero appliances, a natural gas range, Downsview cabinetry, quartz countertops, a Butler's pantry and oversized island.

"Our kitchens feature an open design we call lifestyle designs that blends the kitchen seamlessly into the living and dining rooms, perfect for today's hosts and hostesses," said Wilson. "The layout of the kitchen can be experienced firsthand through a replica of one in our sales center."

The master bedroom includes an oversized walk-in closet while the master bath has his and hers vanities, quartz countertops, luxury cabinetry, a soaking tub and separate glass-enclosed shower.

"All master suites, kitchens and main living areas have direct views to the water and preserve," stated Wilson. "That means all of our residents have front row seats for our spectacular sunsets."

Additional residential features include floor-to-ceiling windows and doors that open to large lanais with transparent glass rails. High-tech wiring and fully equipped laundry rooms round out the list of features.

Wilson says dramatic views are available to every single resident, not matter which floor they live on.

"That's because the tower's amenities are located on the rooftop," explained Wilson. "That includes our sky lounge, a dramatic pool and the open-air fitness center."

From the rooftop, residents can enjoy daily views of the Gulf of Mexico, the nature preserves and two beaches ranked among the best in the United States.

"Those beaches include Barefoot Beach Preserve Park, which was ranked #2 nationally in 2015, and Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park, which was ranked



#9," said Wilson.

The first residential high-rise tower at Kalea Bay will be completed in the summer of next year. However, it won't be the only building on-site to reach that milestone.

"Currently, Kalea Bay's community clubhouse area is also under construction and slated to be completed around the same timeframe," said Wilson. "Our clubhouse area will be the social and recreational centerpiece of the community."

Kalea Bay's 88,000-square-foot clubhouse is located on the north side of the large lake at the community's entrance. It will feature three individual pools, including a resort pool, an adults-only pool and a children's pool, plus an expansive pool deck, an open air bar, an indoor/outdoor restaurant, a snack bar, an Internet cafe and a gifts and sundries shop.

"All three pools will overlook the lake and provide a multitude of recreational options for everyone who lives and vis-

its here," said Wilson. "Expansive sun decks with lounge chairs and native, tropical plants will separate each of the three pools for the ultimate in privacy." If basking in the sun or taking a refreshing dip in the pool isn't on a resident's schedule, perhaps meeting friends for lunch, dinner or drinks is.

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

Above: The 22-story tower at Kalea Bay has 120 residences. **Left:** The 88,000-square-foot clubhouse features three separate pools, a deck bar, an indoor/outdoor restaurant and an Internet cafe.

Kalea Bay residences have open floor plans with 9-foot high ceilings. Kalea Bay's first tower was designed with rooftop amenities, including a sky lounge, spectacular pool and open-air fitness center. All master bedrooms offer views of the Gulf of Mexico.

is supposed to be."

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

"Having that number of guest suites is unusual for a luxury high-rise community, but it's an amenity many of our residents are excited about especially when they have extended family visiting," said Wilson. "There will also be a shuttle service, originating from the clubhouse, to the beach."

For more information regarding Kalea Bay visit the on-site sales center. It is located on Vanderbilt Drive, just north of Wiggins Pass Road at 13910 Old Coast Road in North Naples. Additional information is available by calling (239) 793-0110 or online at KaleaBay.com. ■

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Majestic II - Lely Resort



Windsor III - Esplanade

LELY RESORT

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Venice B	Coach Home	2/2.5	2,230	\$447,090	\$437,090	
Napoli	Twin Villa	2/2	1,855	\$504,260	\$464,260	
Wentworth	Coach Home	2/2.5	2,091	\$481,645	\$471,645	
Capri	Twin Villa	3/2	2,107	\$517,435	\$477,435	
Sienna	Twin Villa	2/2	2,195	\$530,025	\$490,025	
San Remo III	Single-Family	2/2	1,809	\$679,685	\$639,685	
San Marco	Coach Home	3/3	2,919	\$690,694	\$665,694	furnished
St Andrews	Coach Home	3/3.5	2,743	\$762,975	\$762,975	furnished
Majestic II	Single-Family	4/4	3,843	\$1,921,994	\$1,849,990	furnished

BONITA BAY®

				Was	NOW	
Stella	Estate Home	4/4.5	4,238		\$2,706,310	
Savannah	Estate Home	4/4.5	4,500		\$3,256,915	furnished

QUAIL WEST

				Was	NOW	
Palmhurst	Villa	3/3.5	2,822	\$1,139,445	\$1,089,445	
Cadera	Villa	3/3.5	2,725		\$1,175,000	furnished
Regency Manor	Single-Family	4/4.5	3,699	\$1,545,355	\$1,456,530	
Glenmore	Single-Family	4/4.5	3,591	\$1,634,510	\$1,584,510	
Carlisle II	Estate Homes	4/4.5	4,420		\$3,301,740	PENDING
Aqualina	Estate Homes	4/4(2).5	4,937	\$3,859,145	\$3,809,145	furnished
Magnolia	Estate Homes	4/4.5	5,541		\$3,895,000	furnished
Oakmont	Estate Homes	4/4(2).5	5,524		\$4,700,000	furnished

ISLES OF COLLIER PRESERVE

				Was	NOW	
Cocoplum	Estate Home	4/4.5	3,641		\$1,363,035	
Marigold	Estate Home	4/4.5	3,578		\$1,686,155	furnished

ESPLANADE, NAPLES

					NOW	
Regency Manor	Single-Family	4/4.5	3,699		\$1,208,215	
Majorca II	Single-Family	4/4.5	4,089		\$2,003,260	furnished
Windsor III	Single-Family	4/4.5	4,155		\$2,088,715	furnished

TWINEAGLES

					NOW	
Muirfield V	Single-Family	4/4.5	3,375		\$1,373,475	
Regency Manor	Single-Family	4/4.5	3,699		\$1,548,060	

OLDE CYPRESS

				Was	NOW	
Final new home available in Lantana. Full Golf Membership Included.						
San Remo III #19	Single-Family	2/2	1,809	\$629,475	\$569,990	

HIDDEN HARBOR

				Was	NOW	
Largo	Single-Family	3/3	2,552	\$765,155	\$715,155	
Biscayne	Single-Family	3/2	2,384	\$894,990	\$844,990	furnished
Captiva	Single-Family	4/3.5	2,600	\$954,820	\$904,820	
Amelia	Single-Family	4/3.5	2,873	\$1,276,925	\$1,174,990	furnished
Anastasia	Single-Family	3/3.5	2,913	\$1,279,502	\$1,229,502	furnished
Sanibel	Single-Family	4/3.5	2,384	\$1,353,100	\$1,303,100	furnished

PARK SHORE

				Was	NOW	
3750 Fountainhead Lane						
	Estate Home	4/4.5	4,189		\$3,795,000	furnished



Stella - Bonita Bay®



Cocoplum - Isle of Collier Preserve



3750 Fountainhead - Custom Estate

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

Stock Signature Homes hosts open houses from noon to 4:00 p.m. this weekend across Southwest Florida

Stock Signature Homes is hosting open houses across Southwest Florida this weekend in nine area communities. Homebuyers will not want to miss this showcase of beautifully furnished models and exceptional move-in ready homes in the area's most luxurious communities.

"We have a superb collection of luxury homes available for homebuyers to tour," said Claudine Léger-Wetzel, Vice President of Sales and Marketing for Stock Signature Homes. "These magnificent residences are located in communities that feature world-class amenities. Championship golf, state-of-the-art tennis facilities and the finest club dining are just the beginning of the lifestyle opportunities on offer."

The furnished models and move in ready homes are open from noon to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 8th and Sunday, October 9th in Lely Resort, Quail West, TwinEagles, Bonita Bay, Lely Resort, Esplanade Golf & Country Club of Naples, The Isles of Collier Preserve, Olde Cypress and Hidden Harbor.

At TwinEagles, Stock is selling single-family homes in two neighborhoods of this stunning North Naples country club community. A Golf Membership is included in the cost of every new home.

The Regency Manor is a four-bedroom, four and one half bath home with a great room, dining room, breakfast nook and study. This home includes a three-car garage, large covered lanai and summer kitchen. The master bedroom features a sitting area, his and hers walk in closets and split vanities in the master bathroom. The Regency Manor is 3,699 square feet under air and 5,544 total square feet. It is priced at \$1,548,060.

Stock's homes are surrounded by TwinEagles' exceptional beauty. Outstanding community amenities include a gorgeous new swimming pool and fitness center and a 47,000 square foot Clubhouse two championship golf courses.

Stock Signature Homes has the 4,500-square-foot furnished Savannah model ready for immediate occupancy in Bay Woods at Bonita Bay.

The Savannah model features an extraordinary interior by Senior Designers Daniel Kilgore and Natalie Kibler at Soco Interiors. Designed by RG Designs, the open concept floor plan is ideally suited to the luxurious Bonita Bay indoor/outdoor lifestyle.

The plan offers a spacious grand room that flows into a formal dining room, an island kitchen with a breakfast area featuring a custom built-in, a large study with a beamed ceiling detail, a three-car garage, four bedrooms, four-and-a-half baths plus a pool bath, and an outdoor living area that includes a summer kitchen with a large island, dining and conversation areas, and a pool and spa. The grand room, study, master bedroom, and one of the guest suites open to the outdoor living area. A covered L-shaped terrace at the front of the home provides an engaging entry sequence that leads to a foyer with a see-through view of the pool and a preserve beyond. The Savannah model is priced at \$3.256 million.

Stock also has furnished models and inventory homes at Hidden Harbor, an exclusive, amenity-rich boating community nestled between Naples and Fort Myers, which provides access to the Gulf of Mexico.

The Biscayne is a three-bedroom/two-bath home with 2,384 square feet under air and 3,806 total square feet, including the covered entry, attached three-car garage and spacious outdoor living area. The home offers an exquisite

interior design by Diana Hall and Laurie Walter of Cinnabar Design for Pizzazz Interiors and is priced at \$844,990.

All of Hidden Harbor's homesites are located just a short stroll from the 4,484 square foot community clubhouse, which will be situated on a premium waterfront site at the entrance to the harbor. The clubhouse will host its Grand Opening later this month.

Stock Signature Homes continues to expand its Southwest Florida operations and recently became a Preferred Builder within the beautiful resort community of The Isles of Collier Preserve.

Their beautifully furnished Cocoplum model is open. The home showcases an interior by Soco's Daniel Kilgore. There is also a Magnolia model nearing completion and two inventory homes.

Nestled within a pristine natural setting just minutes from Downtown Naples, The Isles of Collier Preserve features a colorful update of classic coastal living. Inspired by the timeless architecture and traditions of Old Naples, homes overlook miles of scenic kayak and hiking trails. With over half of the 2,400-acres dedicated to lakes,



Above: The Savannah model's living room. Left: The Regency Manor's large covered lanai and summer kitchen. Below: The Biscayne and Cocoplum models.



nature preserves and natural habitat, combined with outdoor-inspired amenities, it is an extraordinary new community where the magic of Old Naples and unspoiled nature still coexist.

Stock is celebrating 15 years of quality construction in Southwest Florida. Its attention to detail has given the company a stellar reputation as a new homebuilder since 2001. Its residences and lifestyle amenities have received more than 500 awards in the past 15 years, including an unprecedented 16 Community of the Year honors from the local building industry associations over the past 10 years. The company operates throughout Southwest Florida from Sarasota to Marco Island, as well as in Palm Beach County. Please visit Stock's models and view our extraordinary selection of ready-to-move-in homes!

Visit the Stock Development website at www.stockdevelopment.com. Email at info@stockdevelopment.com or call (239) 592-7344. Stock Development is on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FLStockDevelopment. ■



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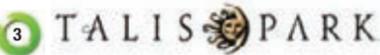
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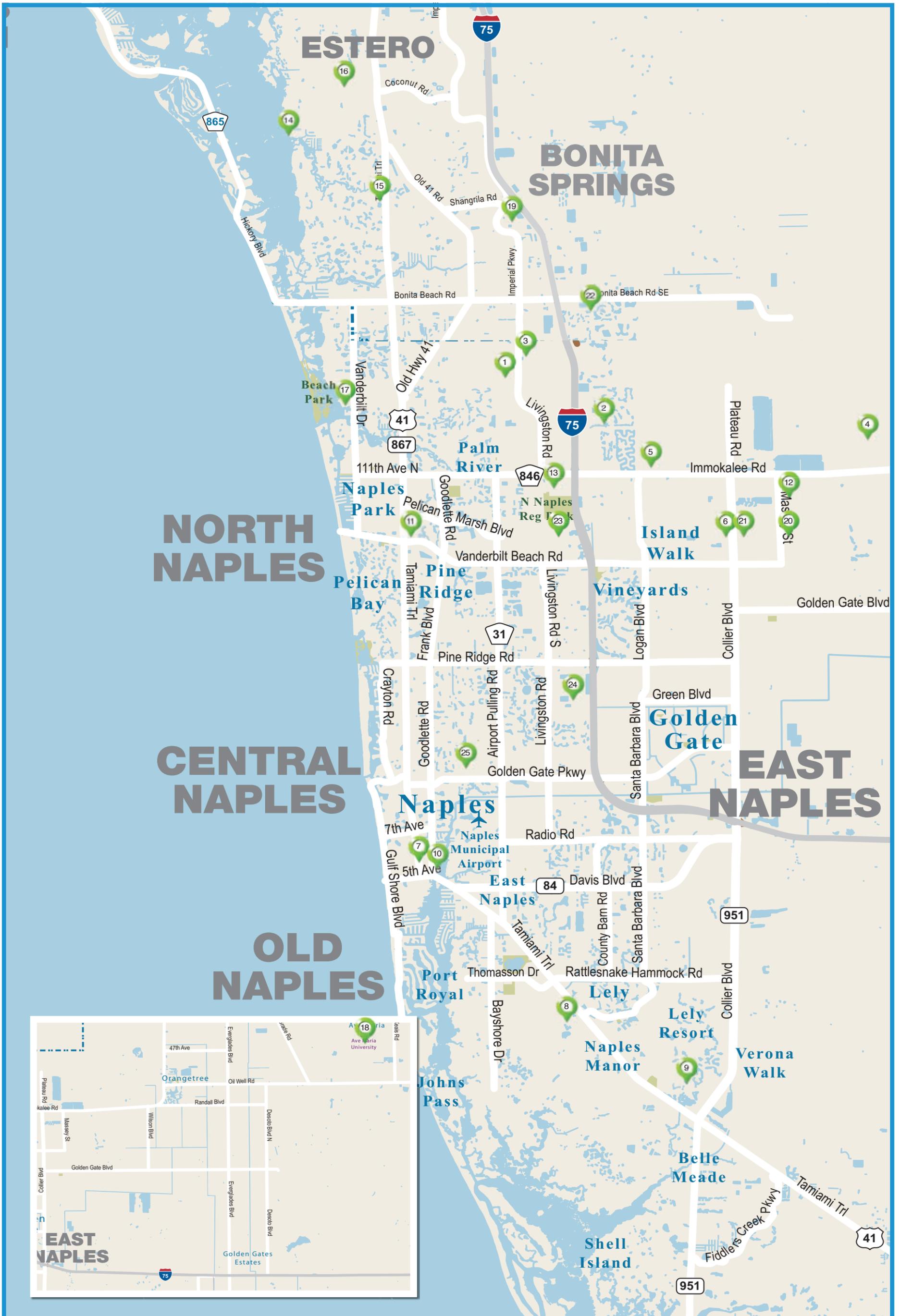
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The Isles of Collier Preserve by Minto named Community of the Year

The Isles of Collier Preserve in Naples by Minto Communities recently received Collier Building Industry Association (CBIA) 2016 Sand Dollar Awards for Community of the Year, Best Special Event for Residents for the Isles Club Grand Opening, and Best TV commercial. Minto's ultra-luxurious Tamarind Grande model at The Isles of Collier Preserve also won for Best Specialty Feature for its unique guest casitas.

The design of The Isles Club was inspired by the charming coastal cottage style of the original Naples Beach Hotel built in 1888 as a 16-room inn. Like the historic hotel, The Isles Club is distinguished by a stylized cupola and large awning-shaded front porch. Overlooking the sparkling Cypress Waterway, The Isles Club includes an array of active lifestyle and wellness amenities. Residents and friends gather here for social functions, swimming in the stunning resort-style pool, tennis, pickleball and workouts in the state-of-the-art fitness center. A lushly landscaped event courtyard, yoga lawn and kayak launch provide additional opportunities for outdoor recreation.

Energy efficient home designs at The Isles of Collier Preserve include a selection of 43 innovative floor plans. Luxury villas, coach homes and single-family homes are priced from the mid \$300s to \$1 million plus. The community currently presents 16 fully furnished model homes for touring.

Currently, three move-in-ready featured homes are available. For a limited time, these homes include a \$50,000 incentive

toward purchase. Featured homes include the Orchid two-story coach home priced at \$607,150, the Mimosa villa home priced at \$549,260, and the Jasmine Grande single-family home priced at \$999,047.

The Orchid coach home is 2,011 square feet under air, and includes two bedrooms, two baths, den, sun room, two-car garage and private elevator. The Mimosa villa home is 1,780 square feet under air, and includes two bedrooms, two baths, den, pool and spa with water view and two-car garage. The Jasmine Grande single-family custom choice home also includes a beautiful water view. It is 2,933 square feet under air, and includes two bedrooms, den, sitting room, two-and-a-half baths and two-car garage.

The Isles of Collier Preserve is located just four miles east of downtown Naples on U.S. 41/Tamiami Trail East. The Discovery Sales Center is open Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information on The Isles of Collier Preserve call 888-707-1251 or visit mintofla.com. ■



Above: The Isles Club, The Isles of Collier Preserve and Jasmine Grande exterior.



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Allure: the “Rolls Royce” of Historic Downtown Fort Myers



Barbara Bengochea-Perez, Sales and Marketing Director for ALLURE, the new, luxury condominium to be developed by JAXI CMD, LLC in charming, Historic Downtown Fort Myers, reports that buyers and brokers alike are extremely impressed and excited about both the neighborhood and the elegant condominium. “One local realtor has referred to ALLURE as the Rolls Royce of downtown, because it’s a building people usually dream of,” says Bengochea-Perez.

“Many people are buying here because they are attracted to the beautiful River District and all that it has to offer, including quaint cafes and trendy restaurants, exciting nightlife, fun shopping in unique shops and boutiques, and of course all of the arts and entertainment options to choose from,” says Bengochea-Perez. “And everything is within walking distance or a trolley ride from ALLURE,” she adds.

To rise 32-stories on the banks of the glistening, Caloosahatchee River, ALLURE will house 292 elegant condominium residences in two, architecturally-stunning towers. Esteemed Urban Planner Andres Duany too believes in Allure’s unique qualities and has gone on record to tout the towers’ visually stimulating architecture and contribution to the aesthetics of the area.

In addition to some of the most breathtaking views of the river as well as a panorama of historic buildings, estates, gar-

dens and bridges, residences at ALLURE will boast an enviable array of design features and finishes. Among the most noteworthy are natural-gas ranges, seamless glass walk-in showers, chef-inspired kitchens featuring European frameless cabinetry, quartz waterfall-style islands and ceramic glass backsplashes.

Luxuriously-appointed residences at ALLURE will also feature, smart technology, private entrance elevators, assigned covered garage parking with 24-hour controlled access and charging stations for electric vehicles. A variety of thoughtfully-designed, open floor plans are available including one, two and three-bedroom residences. Prices start from the \$300,000’s to over \$1 million.

ALLURE boasts an array of enviable amenities including: a peaceful, landscaped riverfront promenade; private screening room with cutting edge audiovisual equipment and theater-style seating; men’s and women’s spa facilities; pool deck with heated cascading infinity-edge pool overlooking the water; “Allure Your Senses” rooftop gardens; social gathering rooms with fireplace, billiards, game tables and areas for relaxing and quiet reading; high-speed Internet access in all public areas, and many other luxury features.

To learn more about ALLURE, call (239) 500-JAXI (5294) or visit the sales gallery at 1300 Hendry Street in historic downtown. Online at www.AllureLuxuryCondominiums.com. ■

“One local realtor has referred to ALLURE as the Rolls Royce of downtown, because it’s a building people usually dream of,”

— Barbara Bengochea-Perez
Sales and Marketing Director
for ALLURE



PRE-CONSTRUCTION OPPORTUNITY PRICED FROM \$300'S TO OVER \$1MILLION

ALLURE

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Panther Run Golf Club at Del Webb Naples

The difference between Ave Maria and everywhere else is everything!

With 7 distinctly different neighborhoods and 3 award-winning builders, Ave Maria truly has something for everyone. Choose from a wide array of 2-6 bedroom homes offered by CC Homes, Del Webb Naples and Pulte Homes. With prices from the high \$100s to \$500s, it's easy to spot the Ave Maria difference.

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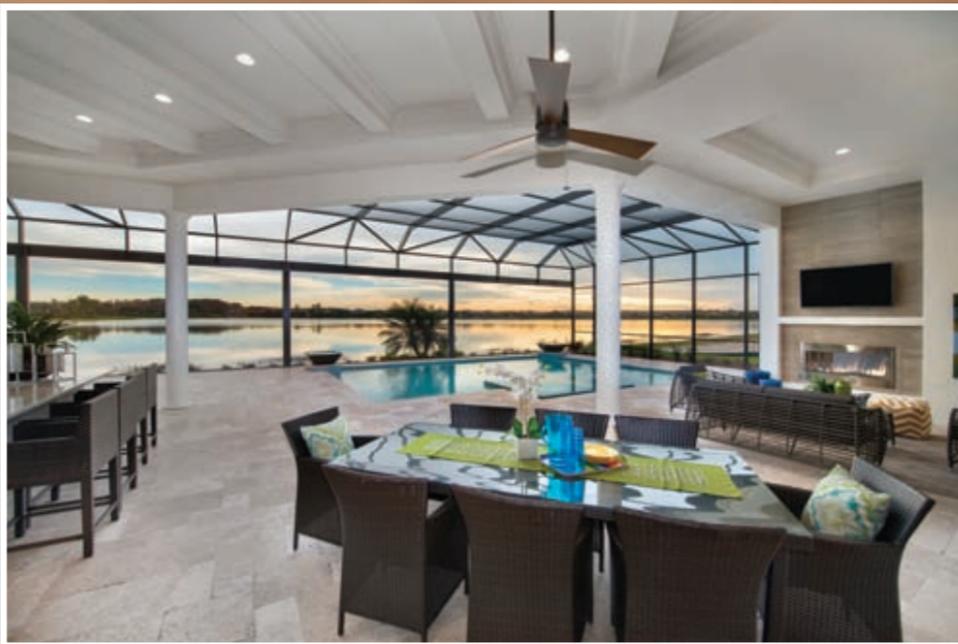


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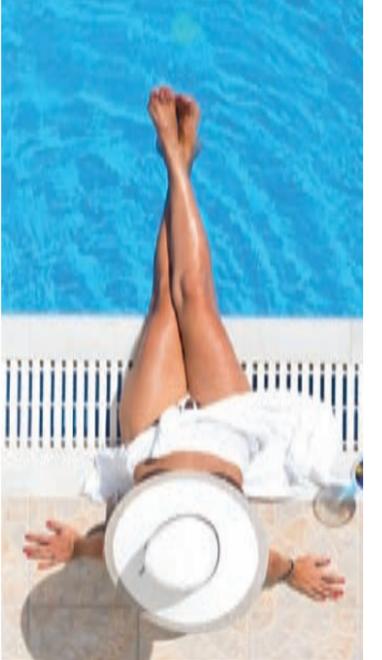


Your Downtown Meets Our Downtown

What do Ohio, New York, Illinois and Texas have in common? They all live at Naples Square! Residents come from across our great country to experience this unique downtown lifestyle. So whether you're a Wolverine or a Buckeye—a Yankee or a Sox fan—we're proud you've chosen to live at Naples Square. Take a look at the list below to see where others are from who are living here.

Thank you!

So Upscale. So Downtown.



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North Haven
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Delray Beach
Flagler Beach
Fort Lauderdale
Naples
Santa Rosa Beach

GEORGIA

Atlanta
Cumming
Duluth

ILLINOIS

Batavia
Chicago
Glen Ellyn
Glencoe
Hinsdale
Lake Zurich
Oak Brook
Plainfield
Saint Charles
Vernon Hills
Willowbrook
Winnetka

KENTUCKY

Lexington

MASSACHUSETTS

Andover
Boston
Charlestown
Northborough

MARYLAND

Baltimore
Potomac

MAINE

Kennebunk

MICHIGAN

Ann Arbor
Southfield

MINNESOTA

Eden Prairie
Minneapolis

MISSOURI

Saint Louis

NORTH CAROLINA

Wilmington

NEW JERSEY

Cresskill
Franklin Lakes
Harrington Park
Jersey City
Montclair
Skillman

NEW YORK

Bedford
Buffalo
New York
Saint James
Skaneateles
Smithtown
Yorktown Heights

OHIO

Canfield
Cleveland
Dublin
Massillon
New Albany

PENNSYLVANIA

Devon
Philadelphia
Wexford
York

SOUTH CAROLINA

Charleston
Hilton Head Island

SOUTH DAKOTA

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Call 866-657-2300
#1 Century 21 in the state of florida

CAPE CORAL



Gulf Access, 3 Lot Site
2500+ sqft home has 2 master bedrooms! Custom built w/110 ft. of waterfront & southern exposure. Room for all!
\$595,000
1-866-657-2300 800CC020015.

BONITA SPRINGS

OPEN DAILY 10-4



11581 Pin Oak Drive
Construction Community in Bonita Springs
Oak Ridge-only 21 homesites, greenblock construction, still time to pick interior finishes. Homes starting at \$419,000.
\$519,000
1-866-657-2300 800CC041830.

CAPE CORAL



Boaters Dream Home - This Is The One
Custom home on the water, one bridge to Matlacha Pass and the Gulf of Mexico. Numerous upgrades throughout.
\$499,000
1-866-657-2300 800CC028317.

BONITA SPRINGS

OPEN SUN 1-4



23368 Sanabria Loop
Beautiful Home Located In Bonita Lakes
Beautiful 3, 2, 2 with upgrades galore, enjoy all the amenities and easy lifestyle Bonita Lakes has to offer.
\$486,500
1-866-657-2300 800BS014568.

FORT MYERS



Belle Lago Tiena Model, 4 Bed, 3 Full Baths
Belle Lago Tiena model 4 bedrooms, 3 full bath, tandem garage. Formal living & dining room.
\$479,900
1-866-657-2300 800FM064695.

CAPE CORAL



Immaculate Gulf Access Pool Home
Beautiful 3/2/3. Fully screened pool w/new pump/heater! New ac unit, new water heater, captain's walk w/10k lb lift.
\$479,900
1-866-657-2300 800CC006498.

NAPLES



Foxfire Bundled Golf Community
3/2 single family, lakefront home. Awesome clubhouse and golf with pro shop. Community tennis, pool, & fitness center.
\$464,900
1-866-657-2300 800NA017012.

CAPE CORAL



Brand New Gulf Access Pool Home
Beautiful open floor plan! 2245 sqft under air. 3 bed/2 bath with 3-car garage. Lots of upgrades! Ready to move in early 2016!
\$450,000
1-866-657-2300 800CC070812.

ESTERO



Lake Front 5/3/2 - 2863 sqft in Bella Terra
Lovely two story house, Stockton floor plan, in Bella Terra. 5 bed/3 bath, 2 car garage, heated pool. Plenty of upgrades.
\$445,000
1-866-657-2300 800BS045555.

FORT MYERS



New Listing In Olde Hickory G&C
This beautifully decorated and well maintained Pinehurst model home was just listed.. The kitchen has new granite.
\$439,900
1-866-657-2300 800FM007858.

CAPE CORAL



Custom 3/2 Gulf Access
All assessments are paid! Mature landscaping, beautifully maintained. Open concept kitchen & large family room.
\$429,999
1-866-657-2300 800CC034605.

CAPE CORAL



Live The Island Lifestyle
Custom, one owner, impeccable home is your new peaceful paradise! 4 bed with all of the features and newer upgrades.
\$399,900
1-866-657-2300 800CC034715.

CAPE CORAL



Waterfront Pool Home w/Dock
3/2/2 In-ground heated pool & spa, gulf access canal w/boat dock & lift! Screened lanai, 10 ft ceilings, master bath jetted tub.
\$395,000
1-866-657-2300 800CC045697.

CAPE CORAL



Gulf Access Cape Coral Pool Home
Own a slice of paradise w/this 3/2 pool home. One bridge, Gulf access, 2 boat lifts, private spa.
\$395,000
1-866-657-2300 800CC058586.

NAPLES



Olde Naples 800 Central Club-8 Blocks To Beach
2 bedroom, 1 bathroom, ground floor garden unit. Completely remodeled and all permitted.
\$389,000
1-866-657-2300 800NA028537.

ESTERO



Beautiful Upgraded 4/2 In Bella Terra
This rare Royal Palm model offers approx. 2300 sqft & a fantastic great room. Upgrades galore. 4/2/3
\$379,000
1-866-657-2300 800BS026795.

FORT MYERS

OPEN SUN 2-5



8371 Arborfield CT
So Far Yet So Close
3 bed/2.5 pool/2.5 garage, gated community. Convenience plus!
\$375,500
1-866-657-2300 800FM044379.

FORT MYERS



Just Recently Updated Huge Home in Eagle Ridge
Huge home in Eagle Ridge with 4/2.5 on large corner lot w/pool. Open floor plan. No touchups required.
\$369,000
1-866-657-2300 800CC016733.

ESTERO



Hidden Estero Gem
This beautiful well-maintained one owner home is located on a cul-de-sac in the gated community of Estero Palms.
\$359,000
1-866-657-2300 800BS049485.

CAPE CORAL

OPEN SAT 9-2



1627 SW 33 Terr
Exceptional Duplex - Desirable SW Cape Coral
Each side features 3 bedrooms and 2 full bathrooms, with an oversized 1 car garage, private concrete driveway.
\$358,500
1-866-657-2300 800CC035440.

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CAPE CORAL



Gulf Access 3/2 Pool Home
Heated, salt water pool, Jacuzzi & pool bath. Concrete dock w/captain's walk & seawall. Assessments paid.
\$349,000
800CC002960.
1-866-657-2300

PUNTA GORDA

OPEN
SAT 1-3



16472 Cape Horn Blvd

Beautiful Burnt Store Pool Home
This is the one you have waited for! Boasting with pride of ownership this 3 bedrooms plus a den, 2 1/2 baths 3 car garage.
\$339,900
800FM017983.
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



Rose Garden Area 4/3/2 Pool Home
Prestigious Rose Garden area over 2200 sqft, 4 bed, 3 full bath 2 car pool home with nice landscaping & circular drive.
\$329,900
800CC028594.
1-866-657-2300

BONITA SPRINGS



Spanish Wells
You'll be glad you chose this carefully-maintained home on .26 acres in Bonita Springs. Settle into this 2 bedroom/2 bath.
\$329,000
800BS059235.
1-866-657-2300

NAPLES



Beautiful Estates 3+1/2 Home with Many Extra's
3 bedroom split design, 2 bathroom. 2000 sqft RV & boat storage. Extended lanai enclosed pavilion for BBQ's a must see!
\$319,400
800NA055513.
1-866-657-2300

FORT MYERS



Spacious 3 Bed Pool-Lakefront Views-Gated Community
This home has bright open floor plan w/ views of the lake. 3 bed/2 bath w/pool. In Willows gated community.
\$309,900
800CC051713.
1-866-657-2300

LEHIGH ACRES



Country Estate
Exclusive executive custom home in Northeast Lehigh Acres. Open floor plan with high ceilings. Three suites.
\$299,900
800FM047996.
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



SE Cape Pool Home
Beautiful SE Cape pool home. Assessments are in and paid! Home offers gorgeous master w/grand master bath & more.
\$289,900
800CC015681.
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



Beautiful Cape Coral Waterfront Home is Waiting for You
This waterfront property is centrally located in the heart of Cape Coral and close to everything!
\$277,900
800CC041637.
1-866-657-2300

LEHIGH ACRES



3/3/2 Pool Home
This 3 bedroom 3 bath home boasts 3165 sqft under air. It has a 2 car garage with a large driveway big enough.
\$270,000
800FM024248.
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



Fabulous 2 Bed/2 Bath Rivers I Condo
End unit with private courtyard, large master suite, River views. Beach Parkway area, Jaycee Park!
\$269,900
800CC020083.
1-866-657-2300

FORT MYERS

OPEN
SUN 1-4



Beautiful 2 Bed 2 Bath Home in Watermark
This Tide Water model offers 2 bedrooms,den,2 bath,foyer,upgraded kitchen with espresso cabinets, stainless appliances.
\$269,900
800BS046775.
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



Direct Access Waterfront Condo
Fabulous 3 bedroom 2 bath on large 200+ canal just off the river. Boat slip, covered parking, extra storage.
\$264,900
800FM032112.
1-866-657-2300

PORT CHARLOTTE



3/2/ Single Family Home Port Charlotte Area
This like new 3 bed 2 bath 2 car garage pool home in Sec 15 is a must see! Remastered kitchen and bathroom!
\$259,900
800CH227000.
1-866-657-2300

PUNTA GORDA



Port Charlotte - 3/2/ Single Family Home
Beautiful 3 bedroom 2 bath pool home in port charlotte! Updated kitchen and tiled garage for easy convenience.
\$259,900
800CH226510.
1-866-657-2300

PORT CHARLOTTE



Beautiful 3/2/ Pool Home in Port Charlotte
Three bedroom, two bath home . New French door and sliders. Beautiful inside and out. Heated pool. Come see it!
\$249,900
800CH229132.
1-866-657-2300

LEHIGH ACRES



Only 4 Bedroom House In Gated Community
This is a steal for the price 4 bed 2 bath home in the gated community of Westminster Golf & Tennis Club Low HOA Fees.
\$249,900
800BS057670.
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



Build In 2003 Cape Pool Home
Newer SW Cape Coral pool home with 3 bedrooms and 2 bath - comes turnkey including furniture and furnishings.
\$249,000
800CC020408.
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



Waterfront Sailboat Gulf Access Home
1 Mile to the Caloosahaatchee River by boat. Open floor plan, 3 bed/2 baths. Captains Walk extends entire width of lot.
\$249,000
800CC044097.
1-866-657-2300

FORT MYERS



Beautiful Lakefront Villa in Reflection Isles
Great location, close to airport, I-75,ballfields, and restaurants and beaches. This 3yr old attached villa is better.
\$240,000
800FM054348.
1-866-657-2300

FORT MYERS



Fabulous Remodeled Condo in Kelly Green
Come and view this turnkey first floor 2+ den/2 bath condo in The Villages at Kelly Green with no dues.
\$234,500
800FM054358.
1-866-657-2300

FORT MYERS

OPEN
SAT 1-3



11640 Marino Bay Ct # 407
Immaculate Carriage Home Fully Furnished
Must see fully furnished 1st floor carriage home with garage and partial lake view.
\$224,900
800FM051196.
1-866-657-2300

PORT CHARLOTTE



Nice Single Family 2/2
Very nice Suncoast Lakes community with nice peaceful view of big lake. Pool home with screened lanai.
\$219,900
800CH228529.
1-866-657-2300

LEHIGH ACRES



Golfers Dream
Golfers Dream-location-location beautiful 3 bed home just under 1800 sqft, upgraded laminate, tile floors carpet in bedrooms.
\$214,900
800LE037906.
1-866-657-2300

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NAPLES



3 Bed/2 Bath Condo Located in Reflection Lakes
Gorgeous townhome. Property well maintained. Walk in closets and community pool! Close to shopping & restaurants. **\$210,000**
1-866-657-2300 800NA056439.

LEHIGH ACRES



Pool Home For Sale
3/2 with 1938 sqft desirable area of Lehigh. Large open living space contains a formal living room and dining room. **\$204,500**
1-866-657-2300 800LE042142.

FORT MYERS



Location Location Location
3 bedroom 2 bedroom home located in Fort Myers Villas. Close to shopping, airport and the best beaches! **\$199,900**
1-866-657-2300 800CC056960.

CAPE CORAL



Incredible Opportunity To Own In Sandoval
Gorgeous lakefront unit on the 1st floor. 2/2 with 1 car garage. Many award winning amenities. **\$195,000**
1-866-657-2300 800CC028320.

LEHIGH ACRES



4 Bedrooms in West Lehigh
Lovely 4 bedroom 2 bath home with 2 car garage. All tile floors and brand new kitchen cabinets and counter tops. **\$189,900**
1-866-657-2300 800LE056226.

FORT MYERS



Legends Golf Community, Bundled Golf & Social
Legends Golf & CC in Ft. Myers is a golfers paradise! Built from '99-'05 by Lennar Homes. 18 hole Championship course. **\$180,000**
1-866-657-2300 800BS026907.

CAPE CORAL



3 Bed 2 Bath Unit 71
Tile in main part of home, upgraded carpet in the bedrooms. Kitchen has granite, breakfast bar, Nicely landscaped. **\$179,900**
1-866-657-2300 800CC057329.

CAPE CORAL



Super Clean SE Cape Pool Home - Country Club Area
3/2 pool home located in charming SE Cape. Tile throughout. Clean and ready to move in! vacant lot to south for privacy. **\$179,895**
1-866-657-2300 800CC045627.

NAPLES



Executive Condo In Positano Place
1/1 Ground floor unit is fully furnished and ready to go. Pool, clubhouse, & lake views. Gorgeous decor! Low fees. **\$178,900**
1-866-657-2300 800NA012562.

NAPLES



2 Bedroom 2 Bathroom In Desirable North Naples
Gorgeous lake and pool view 2/2 light, bright, updated and immaculately clean Being sold turnkey. **\$175,000**
1-866-657-2300 800NA023727.

LEHIGH ACRES



Great 3/2 + Den Home in Lehigh Acres
Spacious 3/2 + den in a desirable area of Lehigh Acres in Mirror Lakes Subdivision. Home has tile throughout. **\$175,000**
1-866-657-2300 800CC059590.

LEHIGH ACRES



Looking for a Home on a Cul-de-sac
Here is your chance to own piece and quiet with a splash of water! This great 4 bedroom also has 2 bathrooms. **\$174,900**
1-866-657-2300 800LE020167.

FORT MYERS



Just Minutes to the Beach
Loveable 2 bedroom 2 bath home. Eat in kitchen. Florida room. One car garage converted into island theme retreat! **\$169,900**
1-866-657-2300 800BS059040.

LEHIGH ACRES



3 Bed plus a Den in a Quiet Peaceful Neighborhood
3 bed + den, 2 car garage. 6 ft fence. Well maintained, fresh paint, new carpet in bedrooms. Close to shopping & schools! **\$164,900**
1-866-657-2300 800CC050505.

FORT MYERS



Not to be Missed Reconstructed
This is a reconstructed and architecturally redesigned three bedroom 2 bath 1900 sqft home in state. **\$164,900**
1-866-657-2300 800FM055154.

CAPE CORAL



Bright, Airy, Beautiful 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath
A must see - too many features, immaculate, upgraded finishes, 1850 sqft, perfect location and views. **\$157,500**
1-866-657-2300 800CC025244.

LEHIGH ACRES



Looking for a True 4 Bed Home in Lehigh
Your search for a ready to move in home has ended. This spacious home offers 4 bed 2 bath & an open living space. **\$149,900**
1-866-657-2300 800LE017353.

CAPE CORAL



SE Cape Coral Home for under \$150,000
Single family home w/open great room floorplan, 2 car garage, city water/sewer. Assessments paid! Upgrades in home. **\$149,900**
1-866-657-2300 800BS058874.

NORTH FORT MYERS



Beautiful Condo in the Heart of Riverbend
You will love sipping your morning coffee from your large lanai overlooking the tranquil canal setting! **\$144,900**
1-866-657-2300 800CC032611.

NAPLES



2/2 Condo with Golf Course View
Ground floor unit w/screened lanai. Great view of fairway. Furniture negotiable. **\$142,000**
1-866-657-2300 800NA011204.

PORT CHARLOTTE



Beautiful 3/2 Home with Pool
3/2/2 pool home for sale! Minutes from Port Charlotte Town Center and 10 miles from Port Charlotte Beach! **\$140,000**
1-866-657-2300 800CH225566.

PUNTA GORDA



2 /1/1 Single Family Home in Tropical Gulf Acres
Cute 2 bedroom 1.5 bath 1 car garage home in Tropical Gulf Acres! Newer A/C. Perfect retirement home or starter home. **\$129,000**
1-866-657-2300 800CH230044.

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LEHIGH ACRES



What A Doll House

This unit has been totally remodeled. Newer 3 dimensional roof, new a/c, new floors, freshly painted inside and out. **\$125,000**
800LE057235.
1-866-657-2300

NORTH FORT MYERS



Large Outstanding Lakefront

2/2 Move in ready Expansive view of the lake, large carport, own your land. Low monthly maintenance fee boat/RV storage **\$124,900**
800CC026707.
1-866-657-2300

LEHIGH ACRES



Beautiful Corner Home. Fast Response to Offers

Beautiful Corner Home. Fast response to offers. This is a perfect starter home, or investment for a rental. **\$120,500**
800LE055849.
1-866-657-2300

FORT MYERS



2 Bedroom Gated 55+ Bundled Golf

Enjoy Florida as a snowbird or make this your permanent home. Spacious 2 bedroom unit located close to shopping. **\$114,500**
800FM054990.
1-866-657-2300

NAPLES



Well Maintained 55+ Community

Great location! 4/2 double wide manufactured home in Cape Sable Lakes. Large living room, full size laundry, ramp. **\$85,000**
80NA063544.
1-866-657-2300

LABELLE



Great Investment Property

This 4 bedroom unit is ready to be remodeled for your home or for your rental property. **\$80,000**
80LE030034.
1-866-657-2300

NORTH FORT MYERS



Affordable Opportunity

For the 55 and over crowd. **\$79,900**
800FM054954.
1-866-657-2300

FORT MYERS



The Perfect Invest

Location, location, location!!! Great price for a condo in the Green Tee Community adjacent to the Fort Myers Country Club. **\$75,000**
800FM066559.
1-866-657-2300

Southwest Florida Signature Collection

A SELECTION OF EXEMPLARY HOMES.

VIEW ALL OUR LUXURY HOMES INCLUDING PHOTO GALLERIES AT **C21SUNBELT.COM**

CAPE CORAL



5 Bed Intersecting Canal Home

Almost 7,000 sqft 2 story executive home w/pool. Intersecting canals, Stunning! 20k boat lift with captains walk. **\$2,380,000**
800CC028418.
1-866-657-2300

FORT MYERS



Ft Myers Contemporary Estate Home

This is a two story estate home has been totally remodeled. **\$1,699,000**
800FM022494.
1-866-657-2300

FORT MYERS



Stunning Canal Home

Breathtaking views of the bay! Watch sea life & shrimp boats! Superb location! Open floor plan. **\$1,695,000**
800FM014540.
1-866-657-2300

BONITA SPRINGS

OPEN SUN 1-4



23217 Salinas Way

Beautiful Bonita Springs Home In Gated Community

Beautiful 3/4 custom salt water pool home in Bonita Lakes. Open floor plan w/soaring ceilings throughout. **\$899,955**
800BS002720.
1-866-657-2300

FORT MYERS



Exclusive Enclave Estate Homes Subdivision

Expanded Barrington model. 5 bedrooms (master on the first floor), 4 spacious bedrms on 2nd flr, loft, 3 full baths & more. **\$899,000**
800CC003689.
1-866-657-2300

FORT MYERS



Riverfront Equestrian Estate

Located on the Orange River with 2 homes, barn, dressage facilities with the equestrian in mind. You will fall in love! **\$799,999**
800FM031273.
1-866-657-2300

FORT MYERS

OPEN SUN 1-4



5550 Harborage Drive

Ski, Lake, Gulf Access, Gated! Wow!

Gorgeous 4/3/3 in beautiful gated community. Enjoy tennis, jet skiing, sailing, and more! Upgraded kitchen and more! **\$799,750**
800CC016561.
1-866-657-2300

CAPE CORAL



Direct Sailboat Access Home Across From Cape Harbour

Better than new construction !! This home is located in the most desirable neighborhood of Cape Coral. **\$799,000**
800CC019327.
1-866-657-2300

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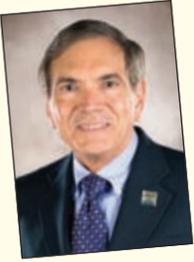


100 Years of Caring

LEE MEMORIAL HEALTH SYSTEM



100 Years of Caring Lee Memorial Health System



Since its founding 100 years ago, Lee Memorial has been our community's major health care provider—created, built and staffed by the people of Southwest Florida.

In 1912, a group of civic-minded citizens gathered to discuss the building of a hospital. That group—the Lee County Hospital Association—worked diligently to secure a site, raise funds and garner support for the first hospital in Southwest Florida. Local men worked by the light of a bonfire dismantling the old courthouse and claiming the wood to build the new hospital. The two-story, four-room Lee Memorial Hospital opened on Oct. 3, 1916 at the corner of Victoria and Grand avenues.

Lee Memorial's growth has paralleled the rapid growth of Southwest Florida. As the community's needs changed, a comprehensive health system evolved to meet those needs and to provide high quality, leading-edge, patient-centered care. Today, Lee Memorial Health System is comprised of four acute care hospitals, two specialty hospitals and wide-ranging health care services throughout Southwest Florida.

As we look back on our impressive 100-year history, stories of perseverance, community spirit, local pride, generosity, kindness, compassion and caring demonstrate a commitment to excellence in caring for others. In this book you will find an inspiring narrative of a community coming together to create a place where lives were saved, new lives began and the ill or wounded found relief. The tradition of caring people, caring for people began 100 years ago and will continue for generations to come.

Peace,

Jim Nathan
President, Lee Memorial Health System



Oct. 3, 1916 - Lee County Hospital opened at the corner of Grand and Victoria avenues in Fort Myers 1917-1918 - Two wings, a third floor operating room and a portico also were added



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In the Beginning

The first patient in the 100-year history of Lee Memorial Health System was a man with appendicitis from LaBelle named Sam Thompson. What he needed to do and how the hospital responded set a pattern of care and commitment that hasn't wavered in 100 years and counting.

Thompson, then 39, was on horseback in the woods south of LaBelle on a fall day in 1916 when he was gripped with pain. He then somehow rode his horse to a new Fort Myers hospital.

He needed help. He needed expert medical care. He knew where to go to get both—at that new hospital in Fort Myers.

The only available surgeon was Dr. Daniel McSwain of Arcadia. Word reached the doctor either by telegram or telephone that a man needed help in Fort Myers. Dr. McSwain boarded a train in Arcadia around 10 p.m. He arrived at the hospital about an hour later and using kerosene lamps for light, he operated on Thompson. Then at 7 a.m., Dr. McSwain boarded a train for the return trip to Arcadia.

The operation was a success and Sam Thompson lived into his 80s. He was a hearty man and successful in many ways. He started a grocery store, served as a guide on hunting trips, worked as a game warden by oxen and horseback, and helped lay the first telephone lines from Fort Myers to Buckingham.

In the 100 years since Thompson, certainly in pain, endured that long horseback ride from the woods, countless thousands of patients have walked or limped or been wheeled or carried through the hospital's doors.



First Street, Fort Myers Circa 1900

Like Thompson, the other patients who entered what evolved into Lee Memorial Health System, knew they could rely on the men and women—the doctors, nurses, administrators and volunteers who make the system run smoothly.

Whether appendicitis or childbirth or heart surgery or broken fingers, they've trooped through the doors of the hospital, either at its first location or one of its current locations throughout Lee County, from HealthPark Medical Center to Cape Coral Hospital to Gulf Coast Medical Center and the new Golisano's Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida and more.

Nothing like these sparkling medical palaces existed when Sam Thompson needed help in 1916. He knew where to go, though—the hospital that opened on Oct. 3, 1916 and had four rooms.

Unlike today's gleaming buildings with high-tech medical devices, that first hospital was a two-story building with screened porches, four rooms for patients and no obstetric delivery room. Within two years, two wings were added, expanding the size to 16 rooms with space for 22 patients and a new operating room.

First, though, somebody had to raise money, and plan and find a site. That began in 1912.

Planning and More Planning

The history of Lee Memorial Health System really began in 1912 when civic-minded Fort Myers citizens gathered to discuss building a hospital. The town was growing. The U.S. census counted 2,463 people in Fort Myers in 1910. All of Lee County, which then included land that is now Collier and Hendry counties, contained 6,294 people.

To put that in perspective, in 2016 Lee Memorial Health System employed more than 12,000 people, another 4,089 people volunteered throughout the health system, and Lee County's population was more than 600,000. That doesn't include Collier and Hendry counties, which were carved out of Lee County in the 1920s.

In 1912, the communities of Cape Coral and Lehigh Acres did not exist. The town of Fort Myers was confined, for the most part, to what is now called the River District. But what was little more than a cowtown of ramshackle buildings clustered along the Caloosahatchee in the 1880s was bustling, and even booming, by the 20th century's second decade.

By 1912, when the hospital committee was meeting, downtown was beginning to take a shape that looks familiar even in the 21st century. Famed inventor Thomas Edison had already built his home on one side of town and on the other side of town what is now known as the Burroughs Home occupied another swath of riverfront property.

In between, the Arcade Theatre had opened in 1908. Railroad service had been extended to Fort Myers in 1904, making it much easier to reach the sun-splashed outpost in Southwest Florida.

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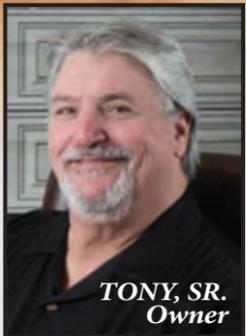
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The town was on its way to becoming a city and needed a suitable hospital.

Not everybody, though, thought so, according to a 1984 history of Lee Memorial Health System that appeared in a publication called Tampa Bay History.

Writer Alberta C. Rawchuck noted, "That some citizens clung to the belief that a hospital was only a place to go and die."

It took longer to consummate the project than any one likely suspected.

At 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 2, 1912, the Hospital Committee met in the residence of Captain W. F. Gwynne. Committee chairman Reverend G.F. Scott opened the proceedings with a prayer, according to minutes of the meeting, which are stored to this day in the Lee Memorial Health System archives.

"It certainly is gratifying to see a public movement command such enthusiastic support as is being accorded the proposition to establish in Fort Myers an emergency hospital."

Many other citizens, though, thought the town needed a hospital. But funding, organizing and building a hospital couldn't be done by waving a magic wand. It takes work and time, sweat and toil. Oh, and money.

Something called the Lee County Hospital Association was formed by many leading citizens of the day. The Fort Myers Press celebrated the group in an editorial on Jan. 11, 1912, nine days after the group's first meeting.

"It certainly is gratifying to see a public movement command such enthusiastic support as is being accorded the proposition to establish in Fort Myers an emergency hospital," the paper wrote in that editorial. "At the meeting in the council chamber Tuesday night the greatest interest was displayed and there was unanimity of opinion in favor of pushing the project to as speedy a consummation as possible."

By March 15, not quite two weeks after that meeting, the committee gathered again and learned it had a site. Or thought it had a site. It was a gift from Katie Loyd Gwynne.

"I wish to offer as a gift to the Hospital, Lots numbers one and two of Block Eighteen in the subdivision known as Edgewood," Katie Loyd Gwynne told the committee. "This property has a frontage of one hundred feet on Edgewood Ave. and of one hundred and fifty seven feet on Tarpon Ave. and is about two blocks from the Country Club and one and half blocks from the Caloosahatchee River."

There was also an offer from a local resident of using her house on Frierson Avenue as a temporary hospital site for seven months.

"I want it distinctly understood that this offer is a free loan, and is absolutely without rental, money consideration or profit

to me of any kind, but is made in the hope that a permanent hospital building will be erected during the period that our home is in use," said Fanny Adkins Lay.

The committee moved forward with investigating the feasibility of using the Lay home. At the same time, it had a tent committee considering using tents on a temporary basis.

The March 29, 1912 meeting was mentioned on the front page of The Fort Myers Press and it was described in the paper as "an enthusiastic meeting."

"Definite plans were adopted for placing in proper condition, the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. A. Lay, which was so kindly tendered for temporary use by the hospital committee. ..." the newspaper reported.

It seemed that the Lay residence would be ready by April 15. That never came about. At the April 13, 1912 meeting, the board heard about another possibility—a lot at Victoria Street and Cottage Avenue.

By May of 1912, plans had been drawn up for a hospital building. It would be two stories with four rooms on each story, according to the minutes of the May 11, 1912 meeting. The estimated cost would be \$1,500.

Securing a site, the Lee County Hospital Board discovered, was a more daunting challenge than they suspected when they first met in 1912. Rev. C. N. Thomas detailed those challenges in the newspaper.

"For two months the hospital board has been grappling with an exceedingly difficult problem, that of a satisfactory permanent location," Thomas explained. "Only those who have been on the board can appreciate the difficulty in solving this far-reaching point. The first place selected was on Second Street, but objections were raised by the neighborhood.

"The second place, the county poor house had equal difficulties to solve, and would have been only a temporary arrangement. The same was true with the liberal offer of Mrs. Lay. The lots offered by Mrs. Gwynne were ideal, in a fine neighborhood near the river. One objection, and the only one, was that it was quite a distance from the center of town."

So the work continued, slowly and quietly. Nothing seemed to happen for more than a year. No board minutes survive from May 11, 1912 until October of 1913.

It appears the project became dormant. The proposals for sites and buildings had not progressed when the committee met again on Jan. 9, 1914, nearly two years after the first meeting.

From the Jan. 9, 1914 minutes: "A motion by Dr. (J. E.) Brecht was made that the building committee be authorized to investigate plans for the hos-



Mattie and Sam Thompson

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pital building and for funds to build the same, and to take steps toward the procuring of said building and to report back to the board at the next meeting.”

The minutes from that meeting also asked the following: “... that the various preachers and influential men in the various services and meetings call attention to the cause of the hospital and the need for same, and thus arouse interest in same.”

There was only one more meeting in 1914. It was held on May 1, 1914. The meeting likely didn't last long, based on a three-paragraph summary of the gathering.

paigned to raise \$100 million for the new Golisano Children's Hospital, we did not give up.

“In fact, we were asked on multiple occasions if we hired a consultant to do a feasibility study about raising substantial capital. But why would we spend money to have it tell us we could not do what we knew we had to do? So, we decided we didn't want to hear that. We decided to just go out and raise the money.”

The same spirit that moved the community in the 1910s was also at work in the 2010s.

But let's go back to the 1910s and how it all began...



Early settler William Brown

From May 1, 1914: “The committee to see the Board of County Commissioners and the City Council not understanding their duties and functions made no report. The general finance committee reported progress.”

It had now been two years since the first meeting and Lee County still didn't have a hospital. The next meeting wasn't held until Feb. 8, 1915, nine months later.

From the minutes of that meeting: “C. W. Carlton, chairman of (building) committee, reported progress in the hospital building, given the various amount expended for labor and materials and the condition of said building. He further reported that it would take about \$1,200 to complete said building and place the same in running order.”

A Shotgun and a Bonfire

As the hospital committee was inching closer to building a hospital, one of the most dramatic and even bizarre incidents in Lee County history occurred. It propelled the hospital much closer to reality.

The minutes of that April 3, 1915 meeting provides a hint. From those minutes: “The material of the old courthouse was donated by the County. The laborers donated part of their wages. The merchants and material men furnished everything at wholesale prices.”

Therein hangs a tale.

On Oct. 24, 1914, the Lee County Commission voted 3-2 to build a new brick courthouse, replacing the wooden one built in 1894. That vote meant a great deal to the hospital committee. Although the commission voted in favor of the new courthouse, a faction of businessmen in town led by influential civic booster Harvie Heitman were opposed to the new courthouse.

So, his supporters boarded a 4 p.m. train for Arcadia where they hoped to get a court injunction to stop the plan to tear down the courthouse. While Heitman's faction was trundling up to Arcadia, Commission Chairman William Towles gathered 150 focused men.

Their mission was to dismantle the old courthouse overnight, working by the light of a bonfire. In a 1949 book, “The Story of Fort Myers,” author Karl Grismer wrote about the incident.

“A huge crowd gathered,” Grismer wrote. “Men, women and children cheered the workmen on. It was great sport. Never before had anything like this happened in Florida. Old timers say Towles sat on steps nearby with a shotgun in his hands.”

The lumber from the old courthouse was set aside and put to a new use—building a hospital. The new neoclassical courthouse with its Doric fluted columns that was built in 1915 still stands in downtown Fort Myers. By the way, Sam Thompson, who would need that hospital in 1916 because of appendicitis, was one of the 150 men who dismantled the courthouse and set aside the lumber.

By the fall of 1916, the four years of work and planning and fundraising were paying off and a site at the corner of Victoria and Grand was settled upon. Money continued to come in from various sources.

From the Jan. 9, 1914
minutes: “A motion
by Dr. (J. E.) Brecht
was made that the
building committee be
authorized to investigate
plans for the hospital
building...”

The hospital was inching closer to reality. At the April 3, 1915 meeting, three years and a month after the first meeting, by-laws for what was then called the Lee County Hospital were adopted. The 34 by-laws consumed more than five neatly typed pages in the minutes.

Current Lee Memorial Health System president Jim Nathan sees parallels between those early efforts and the commitment of their 21st century counterparts. Then, the focus was raising the funds to build a two-story hospital. Recently, a major focus has been raising millions to build the Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida.

“They didn't give up,” Jim says of the early volunteers and fundraisers. “And more recently, when people thought we could not sustain a major capital cam-



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Here's a headline in The Fort Myers Press from Oct. 3, 1916: "Large Donation Is Received."

The paper reported that Walter G. Langford, president of First National Bank, donated the "equivalent" of several hundred dollars.

From the newspaper: "The donation, which consists of a complete and up-to-date surgical equipment for the operating room of the new hospital, recently completed by the association and which it is understood will shortly be opened for active service, is held as an endorsement of the work accomplished by the Association, and those who have been identified with the work of completing."

The paper reported that the gift was the largest the association had by then received.

The paper added: "It is understood that Mr. Langford at first refused to allow the mention of his name in connection with the gift."

In the same story it was reported that, "it is expected that the hospital will be in readiness for receiving patients during the present week. It is expected that the committee will employ a graduate trained nurse who will have charge of the building, which will receive all cases of an imperative nature, although primarily the institution is for the treatment and care of those who need surgical attention."

That would soon prove the case for Sam Thompson of LaBelle. The paper closed its report that day in 1916 with this: "It is stated that cases will be taken up to the capacity of the building, which at present is limited to 15, including accommodations available in the wards. Private rooms will also be available to those desiring such accommodations the charges for which will be placed at a minimum."



Three of the original Lee Memorial Hospital nursing staff, 1920s

A Different Time

This was a much different world than the one 21st century Americans know.

Local phone numbers had two digits, such as 36, which was the number in the 1910s for funeral directors Carl F. Roberts and Vernon G. Widerquist.

The Fort Myers Press carried an ad for something called "Herbine." It was alleged to aid in the battle against, among other things, "indigestion, bad breath, dizziness, vertigo (blind staggers), headache, sallow complexion, a tired, discouraged feeling." It was available at Hunter's Drug Store and the ad went on to tout the wonders of Herbine with these claims: "Its powerful reviving influence in the torpid liver brings on an immediate improvement. You feel better at once. The bowels move freely so that the impurities which have clogged up the digestive organs find an outlet."

"When the system has been thus purified, the bilious, half sick feeling disappears, the complexion clears, the breath becomes sweet, the mind alert and cheerful and there is a fine feeling of exhilaration all through the body."

The town clearly needed sound medical services and not the blatant hokum of the claims in that ad.

When the hospital opened, its name was the Lee County Hospital. But the United Daughters of the Confederacy had its name changed to Robert E. Lee Memorial Hospital, in honor of the South's top general during the Civil War and the man for whom the county is named. It was later shortened to Lee Memorial Hospital.

The first hospital building that opened in 1916 was modest indeed, as historian Alberta C. Rawchuck wrote in a 1984 hospital history published in Tampa Bay History.

"A square, two-story building with screened porches along the front on both floors, it had four rooms for patients, an operating room, but it had no delivery room, so babies were delivered in the mothers' rooms," Rawchuck wrote. "With no elevator, patients were carried by hand from the second floor operating rooms downstairs to their rooms on the first floor."

There was no air conditioning and the only heat came from a fireplace. In 1918, anticipating growth, the hospital added two wings, which gave it 16 rooms and space for 22 patients. At that time, a third floor operating room was added. All that space would be needed as the new decade unfolded and the hospital grew.

"The grounds were desolate—no grass, no shrubs, no trees," Grismer wrote in "The Story of Fort Myers." "Shacks in which colored people lived were close by. The equipment was most meager. There were no chairs for visitors to sit on and in the kitchen there were no pots or pans or even dishes."

But Lee County had a hospital, modest though it was at the time. The hospital and city were growing as the 1910s neared their end.

From the Aug. 7, 1919 minutes: "Dr. Winkler reported that everything running well at hospital with eight patients in the hospital."

Soon, the hospital and community would grow at a rate likely unimagined when the hospital board first met in 1912. ■



When the hospital opened, its name was the Lee County Hospital. But, the United Daughters of the Confederacy had its name changed to Robert E. Lee Memorial Hospital, in honor of the South's top general during the Civil War and the man for whom the county is named. It was later shortened to Lee Memorial Hospital.

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The Roaring '20s

By time the calendar flipped to 1920, the first baby born at Lee Memorial Health System was nearly 3 years old. That was James Fielder Allred, who arrived on March 3, 1917, six months to the day after the hospital opened.

Baby James and the hospital were toddlers by 1920, learning their ways in the world, taking small steps on the way to bigger things. The hospital and the

\$681.57, and by November it had shrunk to \$480.29. Then by December the balance was \$234.96.

Where did the money go?

From the Aug. 5, 1920 board minutes: "The building committee reported that they were progressing nicely with the new wing to hospital and they hoped to finish same during the present month."

At the December 1920 meeting, the board voted to borrow \$1,500. No expla-

Two other endowments were made that day—\$25 for Miss Ida Smith (by Gertrude R. Lewis) and \$100 from E. A. Richards.

This was all needed as the community grew. Fort Myers officially became a city instead of a town in 1911 but didn't really begin looking like one until a few years later.

The 1920 Fort Myers population was 3,678, a 49.3 percent jump over the 2,463 people who resided in the town in 1910. Remember, in 1920, there were no places called Cape Coral or Lehigh Acres and a bridge to Sanibel Island was still 43 years off into the future.

The town of Fort Myers, though, became a small city in the 1920s. In his 1949 book, "The Story of Fort Myers," author Karl H. Grismer estimated the population was far more than the census

indicated, at least 15,000, perhaps 20,000 or even 25,000 in the mid-1920s.

So much was happening and even booming around the little hospital at the corner of Victoria and Grand. The Tamiami Trail linking Fort Myers to the outside world opened in 1924 and the highway was finished in 1928.

The Franklin Arms Hotel, which opened in 1921, tacked on a seven-story addition in 1924 and was considered the city's first skyscraper. By 1925, a major-league baseball team, the Philadelphia A's, managed by Connie Mack, was training at Terry Park, east of downtown.

The old hospital wouldn't do. Not at all. Not in booming Fort Myers, a city with two newspapers, The Press and Tropical News, engaged in a robust rivalry.

The 1920 Fort Myers population was 3,678, a 49.3 percent jump over the 2,463 people who resided in the town in 1910.

boy grew during the Roaring '20s, as the decade was known. The years between the world wars were a remarkable time in America in general, and Florida in particular.

The economy boomed in the 1920s as profound changes roiled the culture. Prohibition became the law of the land on Oct. 28, 1919, just a little more than three years after the hospital opened. That was the 18th Amendment. Less than a year later, the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote took effect, on Aug. 18, 1920.

Growth needed money. The treasurer's report from March 4, 1920 showed a balance of \$6,417.87.

Money was being spent making the hospital bigger and better and by Aug. 5, 1920, the balance was down to \$2,802.47. A month later the balance was \$1,013.09; by October the balance had dwindled to

nation of why and what the money would be spent on were detailed in the minutes. But there was good financial news of sorts.

"The treasurer reported that Mr. Gay in behalf of Gays laundry has offered to donate \$20.00 per month instead of \$10.00 per month as has been here to fore," the Dec. 2, 1920 minutes noted.

The Jan. 6, 1921 minutes show a deposit of \$1,500 in the hospital's account was listed as a "loan from the Bank of Fort Myers." That made a critical difference, keeping the books in the black with a balance of \$730.95.

It was at that meeting that board member Cordie Nutt "brought up the subject of an endowment fund." The motion carried and the endowment fund began when Cordie Nutt "endowed to her mother Mrs. Lettie Ashmore Nutt, the sum of \$10.00 paid."



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The Tamiami Trail linking Fort Myers to the outside world opened in 1924 and the highway was finished in 1928.

Times were changing everywhere. When the hospital opened, Florida physicians did not need a license. That changed in 1921.

In 1922, nurse LaVeta Allen was recruited by nurse superintendent Irene Gayles. That was also the year Theo Ellis became the hospital's first operating room nurse. She remained on staff for 47 years. More than half a century later, Ellis sat down in 1973 with then hospital administrator John Gadd to chat about her memories. Their conversation was taped and has been saved.

The videotape isn't a slick production like one that people expect in the 21st century. It was just Ellis and Gadd sitting in chairs and talking. Ellis wore her uniform and Gadd wore a suit.

Ellis chatted about how she was met at the train station and the drive to the hospital was over "kind of a rock road." The car she rode in had a crank on the front to get it started. The hospital then had, she said, 25 beds. Instruments were sterilized by using a wood-burning stove, Ellis told Gadd.

Historian Alberta C. Rawchuck wrote about Ellis' early days in a 1984 hospital history. When Ellis, a registered nurse and graduate of Tampa's Gordon Keller Hospital, arrived in Fort Myers, it was by train at a station on Monroe Street. The train pulled in at 12:30 p.m. and she was expected to assist in a 2 p.m. surgery that very day.

Hospital board member A. C. Carlton and nursing superintendent LaVeta Allen met Ellis at the train station. But two blocks from the station, according to Rawchuck's account, Carlton's Model T Ford stalled.

Carlton had recently had hernia surgery and wasn't capable of turning the crank. Allen was too tired. So that left Ellis.

"And that was my introduction to Fort Myers," Ellis said, according to Rawchuck's account.

On that first day in town, Ellis made it to the hospital in time for the surgery and that night was called upon to assist in an emergency appendectomy.

When Ellis started, the hospital didn't have a pharmacy and drugs were stored and locked away in a safe. Morphine was kept, she said, in a locked cupboard upstairs.

It was a different world for nurses, who used to chop wood to build a fire to boil water in order to sterilize the instruments.

"We didn't chop wood for very long but did when I first came," Ellis said in the 1973 interview.

The operating room was on the third floor, which wasn't part of the hospital when it opened in 1916. Another big difference, she said, was that bandages didn't come pre-packaged. The hospital had 100-yard bolts of gauze. "We made our own bandages," Ellis said.

Ellis stayed for 47 years, retiring in 1967. Late in life she married a man named Kenneth McAfee and moved to north Florida.



1922 - Theo Ellis became the first operating room nurse and remained in the position for 47 years.

Only two years after Gadd interviewed Ellis, current president Jim Nathan started at Lee Memorial Health System. In a recent interview he touched on the myth that things were always better in the old days.

"A lot of times the good old days weren't necessarily the good old days," Nathan said, citing nurses chopping wood and boiling water as examples.

Yes, the world and hospital that Theo Ellis experienced was a world and hospital likely unimaginable for 21st century doctors, nurses and patients. At that time, the hospital had five or six doctors (historical records are unclear on this) and two visiting surgeons.

Doctors such as W. B. Winkler were certainly very busy, as the minutes of a board meeting from July 12, 1923 attest. They had to do more than perform surgery, diagnose conditions and prescribe medication.

"Dr. Winkler reported that the wash basin at the hospital had not been fixed satisfactorily as he desired, as yet owing to the fact that all the plumbers in the city were busy, but that same would be fixed as soon as possible," was reported in the minutes.

Countless details were being handled then as now.

From the May 8, 1924 minutes: "A bill from Dr. Winkler for catgut sutures was also presented and ordered paid."

The minutes did not list how much was paid.

The hospital was getting bigger and better in many ways as the Roaring '20s rolled along.

From the June 12, 1924 minutes: "D. W. Boyd, chairman of the building committee, asked authority to have a shell walk built to the nurses' cottage, which request was granted."

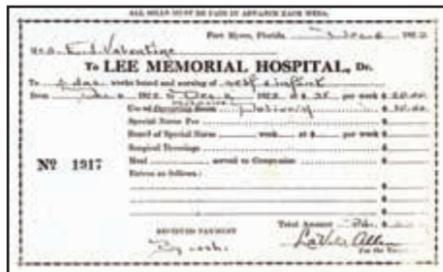
The hospital was growing in other ways. From the July 10, 1924 minutes: "... the building committee be instructed to order the elevator...from the Otis Elevator Co., at the price of \$2,750 installed. The building committee was also instructed to make the necessary changes in the roof of the present elevator shaft."

Then there were the medical devices needed to modernize the hospital, as noted in this item from the July 10, 1924 minutes: "Motion prevailed that A. E. Raymond be instructed to purchase a small pumping outfit to supply soft water to the sterilizers in the operating rooms, it having been conclusively proven that the water that is now being used will in a very short time ruin the sterilizers."

And this from the Sept. 11, 1924 board minutes: "The matter of purchasing a stereoptic to be used in conjunction with our new Acme-International X-Ray was brought up and discussed. Upon recommendation by Miss Doyle, stereoptic was ordered purchased by the board from the Acme-International X-Ray Co. Same being authorized upon motion by Boyd and seconded by Powell. ..."

As the hospital grew, it also needed more employees.

From the Oct. 22, 1925 minutes: "Mr. Carleton stated that there should be a man on duty at the hospital, to look after the grounds, drive the ambulance, and do odd jobs that are coming up from time to time, and he requested the other directors to keep this in mind and try to get some good local man for this work."



1923 Hospital bill for childbirth \$30

Bit by bit, day by day, the hospital was growing in people, expertise and equipment.

From the Jan. 19, 1926 minutes: "The only doctor who came before the board was Dr. (Quillian) Jones, who stated that he thought everything was running along as smoothly at the hospital considering the equipment we had. He stated that he and his patients were getting splendid service from the personnel at the hospital."

And the money to keep growing was coming in from various quarters, as noted in the April 1, 1926 minutes: "... the late John Fraw had bequeathed to Lee Memorial Hospital the sum of \$1,000.00."



Starting in 1924, medical care was available for blacks at Jones-Walker Hospital, which was located in the 1900 block of High Street. That part of Fort Myers where Jones-Walker was located was then known as Safety Hill, but it is now called Dunbar.

It was in 1926 that the hospital was incorporated and its mission set in the minutes as follows: "The general nature and purpose of this corporation will be charitable, in its inception, and not one for profit. It proposes to provide a hospital and furnish same with such appliances and accommodations as will give to the sick and afflicted, wounded or diseased such attention and treatment as may be necessary."

Physically, downtown Fort Myers in the 1920s began to look like something 21st century people might recognize. But the culture was vastly different.

The "Negro" Hospital

Fort Myers and all of Florida were very much segregated in the 1920s. Blacks could not live where they wished. There were no black doctors or nurses or even patients at Lee Memorial Hospital.

Starting in 1924, medical care was available for blacks at Jones-Walker Hospital, which was located in the 1900 block of High Street. That part of Fort Myers where Jones-Walker was located was then known as Safety Hill, but it is now called Dunbar.

Jones-Walker would remain open until 1966, when Lee Memorial Hospital was integrated and Jones-Walker was closed.

As was the case with Lee Memorial Hospital, Jones-Walker didn't just sprout up out of the ground one day. It took time and work and money.

The July 1, 1920 board minutes provide a hint of what was needed: "The treasurer reported the receipt of a check in the sum of \$500.00 from Mr. T. W. Magill to apply on the purchase of site for Negro hospital, the secretary was instructed to write Mr. Magill and advise his (sic) that the committee has an option on a lot and hoped to close the deal very shortly. ..."

Nearly a year later the minutes provided an update on the "colored hospital."

"Melissie Jones and two other colored women came before the board and made report as to the progress being made as to the fund for the purpose of creating hospital for the colored people," the June 9, 1921 minutes reported. "These colored people reported that they had some three hundred dollars on hand."

The "colored" hospital, by the way, was named Jones-Walker in honor of Melissie Jones and Candace Walker who sold pies to raise funds to build the hospital.

Work continued for the "colored" hospital through the Lee Memorial Hospital board and the sale of pies. At the Oct. 13, 1921 board meeting, the ubiquitous "Miss Cordie Nutt" provided an update, reporting that "the colored people at Sanibel had agreed to pledge themselves to support" the project.

The project moved along and by Feb. 12, 1925 it was a realistic goal.

From those minutes: "... it was moved and carried by D. W. Boyd that a committee be appointed to consult an architect relative to the drawing of a pencil sketch for an annex to the Lee Memorial Hospital for the Negro Hospital."

A few weeks later at the next board meeting, it was proposed that, "the colored people to run their own hospital and to relieve the Lee Memo. Hospital Assn. from the responsibility, both financial and moral, of the operation of the colored hospital."

The motion carried. "It was decided," the minutes reported, "to recommend to the new board that they lease the colored hospital to an organization of colored people for \$1.00 per year and allow them to conduct their own affairs."

At the time the color bar was stringent. When Jones-Walker was set aside for "colored" people that term meant anybody not Caucasian.

Despite the Jim Crow laws, which then regulated and constricted what African-American people could do and where they could go, there were people of good will. In 1924, according to a previous hospital history, nurse superintendent LaVeta Allen put care and humanity ahead of Jim Crow.

An obstetrical patient described as "colored" was in convulsions and needed an immediate Caesarean procedure. Allen said, according to this history, "Bring her to the hospital and we will do the operation here. If they (the board of directors) are looking for a reason for firing me, I might as well give them a good one."

The operation was performed. And then the board of directors fired Allen.

The segregation policies of the hospital were common throughout the South at that time. It was even written into the

Lee Memorial Hospital charter and by-laws, right there in Article III.

From Article III: "Any member of the Caucasian race may become a member of this corporation under such conditions and upon payment of such initiation or other dues or fees as may be prescribed in the by-laws, provided, however, not less than one dollar (\$1.00) shall ever be charged as a membership fee."



Nurses Refuge on the hospital grounds

Nurses Refuge

It was a different world in many ways. Nurses resided on the hospital grounds in something called the Nurses Refuge.

Just like 21st century nurses, they worked hard but in a different environment and very long hours. In the 1920s, the all-female nursing staff worked 12 hours a day, six days a week. For all that, they were paid \$85 a month. Based on a 72-hour workweek and four weeks a month, the nurses of that time worked 288 hours a month for that \$85.

On the plus side, their room and board was included so they didn't have to pay rent anywhere or buy groceries. Theo Ellis said there were two beds in each of the five rooms. It didn't even have a kitchen when she started, she said.

The Roaring '20s, though, were about to end with a thud. ■

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1938 - Frank W. Bail, & Associates, Architects rendering of the hospital to be built on Cleveland Avenue

The 1930s

The decade ended in a whimpering finale when the stock market crashed in October of 1929. It heralded not only the end of prosperity but also the beginning of the Great Depression.

The economic disaster that started on Wall Street reverberated all the way to Fort Myers. In the 1920s, the local economy was so robust that two newspapers thrived in the little city. Not in the 1930s. The town wasn't big enough for two papers dividing readers and advertisers.

The Press and Tropical News merged in 1931, creating The News-Press. It was just one example of how much the world had changed since the crash.

That same year the Edison Bridge opened on Feb. 11 and Thomas Edison himself participated in a dedication ceremony. He died eight months later at the age of 84 on Oct. 18, 1931.

A new post office opened in 1933 and still stands and now serves as the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center.

The depression's effects were certainly felt in Fort Myers. Historian Karl H. Grismer in his 1949 book, "The Story of Fort Myers," noted that by the late spring of 1933 a "dribble" of federal relief funds began coming into the city.

Grismer wrote that, "258 unemployed men, all heads of families, were being given three days' work at \$1 a day."

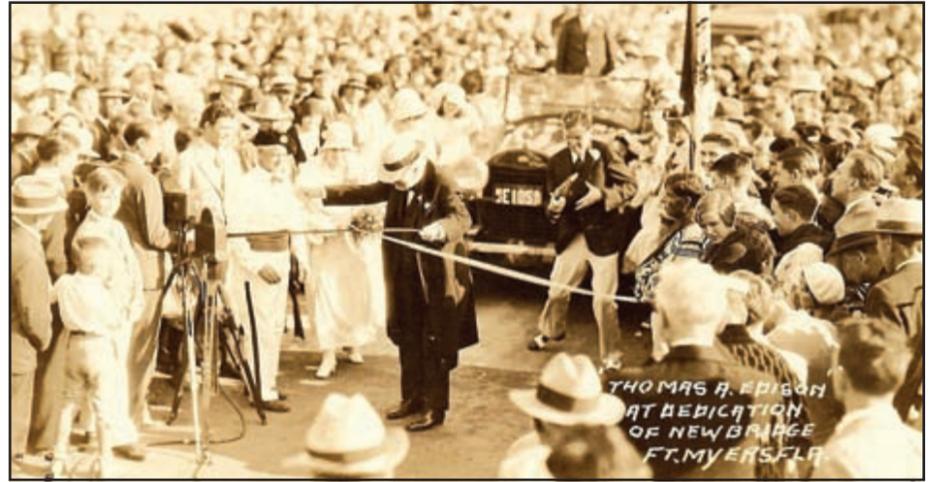
The federal funds were used for various projects through most of the decade. But initially, nothing was set aside to help build a new hospital. Sidewalks were built. Schools and sewers were repaired. A new water power plant was built and completed in 1937. Grismer noted that there were three projects that "were outstanding and deserve special mention."

Those were a new airport, a waterfront park and yacht basin and the new Lee Memorial Hospital. The other projects were finished in the 1930s but the new hospital building at the new location off Cleveland Avenue took longer.

In the late 1930s, the architectural

firm of Frank W. Bail & Associates had drawn up plans for a new hospital. But, as Grismer noted in his 1949 history of Fort Myers, the Works Progress Administration (WPA)—the largest and most

ambitious American New Deal agency, which employed millions of unemployed people carried out public works projects, including the construction of public buildings and roads—was scaling



The Edison Bridge opened on Feb. 11, 1931. Thomas Edison himself participated in a dedication ceremony.

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back as the economy slowly pulled out of the Great Depression.

“Only a skeleton crew of workmen, most inexperienced, was kept on the job ...,” Grismer wrote.

In fact, nurse Theo Ellis, in her memory video, said the slow new hospital construction was referred to as the “brick-a-day” hospital.

So Fort Myers would keep using the original wooden hospital, constructed in 1916, well into World War II.

Memorial Hospital? An item in The News-Press in 1972 reported that Allred, then 55, vacationed on Sanibel, spending a week with his mother, Annie Allred.

At the time, James Allred was an orthodontist in Pensacola and the newspaper quoted his mother about when her boy was born in the original Lee Memorial Hospital.

“Dr. W. B. Winkler was my physician,” Mrs. Allred told the paper in the summer of 1972. “He came to our home on



1930s groundbreaking ceremony for the new location of Lee Memorial Hospital on Cleveland Avenue

But Lee Memorial Hospital persevered and prospered in its modest home at Victoria and Grand. Doctors and nurses did their jobs. And babies were born. In 1935, there were 345 admissions to the hospital and 33 births were recorded.

Despite economic woes, the hospital added to its services in the 1930s. As new medical technology and procedures became available, Lee Memorial Hospital found the funds to get them. The decade saw the hospital acquire a fixed X-ray unit for \$3,335 and a portable X-ray for \$545.

Medicine and the culture had changed since the hospital opened in 1916 and since the first baby was born in 1917.

And whatever became of James Fielder Allred, the first baby born at Lee

Second Street and took me in his car to the hospital. And my husband, who had a jewelry store on Hendry Street, met us at the hospital.”

In 1939, when James Fielder Allred turned 22, the hospital’s future began taking shape on Cleveland Avenue, not far from the Fort Myers Country Club, which opened in 1917, the year Allred was born.

Work began on a new hospital building on Cleveland Avenue near Canal Street, where the main campus of the system is now located. The hospital was a WPA project, but the federal program was sidetracked and delayed by World War II.

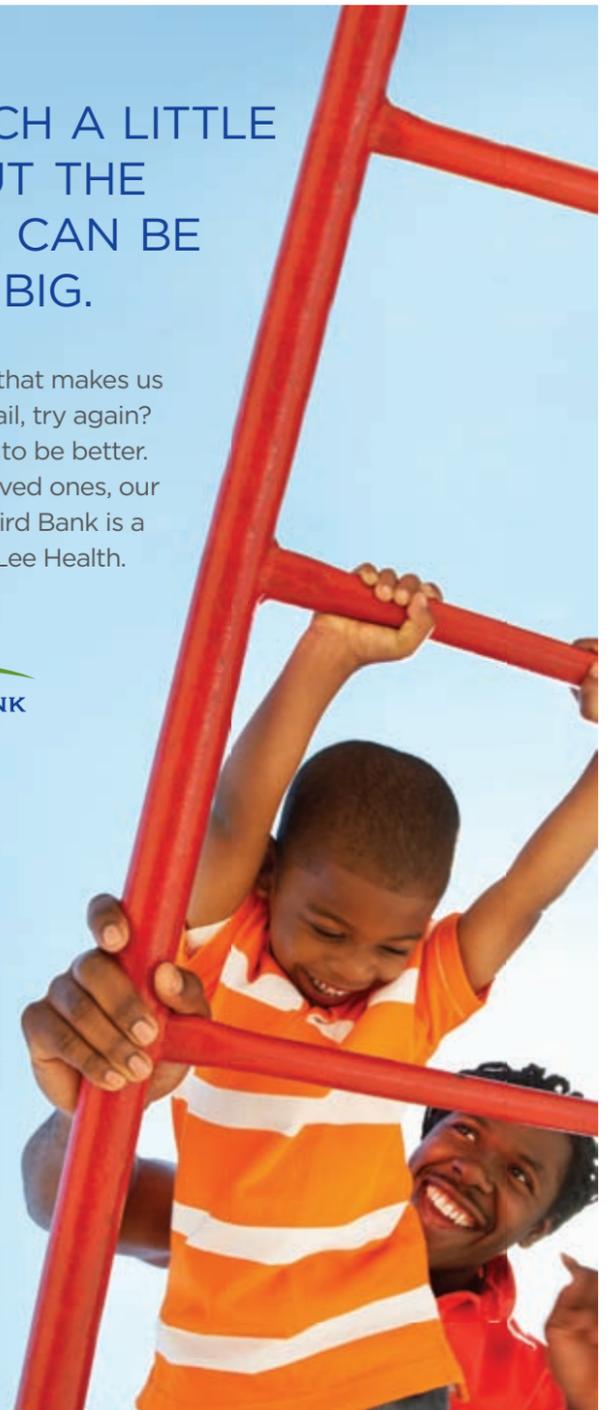
Eventually, though, the new hospital was built and it opened on April 18, 1943. ■

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Growing Up: 1940s-1960s

In the 1930s, there was just that one little building in downtown Fort Myers. As that decade wound down, work had begun in small ways for a new hospital building. The effects of the Great Depression were easing and the funds for a WPA project were drying up.

But the funds dwindled to a little more than a dribble to Fort Myers by the late 1930s. Even though architectural plans had been drawn for a new hospital, progress was slow.

Lee Memorial Hospital was transformed in many ways in the 25 years between 1943 and 1968. It ceased being what it once was in the 1910s and 1920s—a tiny hospital in a modest wood frame building in a small and remote city, one without an airport or highway link to Tampa and Miami.

The hospital became a big-city hospital with a big building and more—all part of a vibrant community with an airport and easy highway access to larger cities to the north and east.

The first big change for Lee Memorial Hospital was a change of address from the original location at Victoria and Grand avenues in Fort Myers. That came in 1943, when a new hospital building opened on Cleveland Avenue, the street where the hospital's main campus is still located.

First, though, it's important to put Lee County in its place in the world as the 1940s dawned. World War II was already raging in Europe and the United States was still at peace.

That all changed, of course, on Dec. 7, 1941, when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. As part of America's massive military buildup for the war, two training bases for airmen were built in Lee County. Buckingham Army Airfield was constructed 10 miles east of town and Page Field, which opened in 1927 as a civilian airport, was transformed into another training base for military aviators.

Fort Myers grew, as thousands of military personnel trooped through for training. Many would move to town after the war. The growing town needed something more than the little hospital at Victoria and Grand.

A Change of Address

Fort Myers got its second hospital building in 1943, 27 years after the first hospital opened. The News-Press lavishly covered the big news of the hospital's new home with numerous front-page stories in the days leading up to and following its April 18, 1943 opening.

It was described in the paper as a "handsome structure of buff brick on Cleveland Avenue near Katherine Street." A grand opening celebration was held on a Sunday and the public was invited to the new \$200,000 facility.

"That new hospital out on Cleveland Avenue is just about the nicest place imaginable to be sick in."

News-Press reporter Rufe Daughtrey was given a preview tour a couple days earlier and his account was published the day before the opening ceremony.

"That new hospital out on Cleveland Avenue is just about the nicest place imaginable to be sick in," Daughtrey wrote. "It's got just about everything from magnificent sun decks to a cozy parlor where you can play cards in front of a log fire on a chilly evening."

He went on to give a detailed description of the city's new jewel.

"Here is how the plant looked on a rehearsal tour yesterday," Daughtrey wrote. "To begin with, the front is in back and the back is in front. In other words, that side facing Cleveland Avenue is in the back. To get to the front you follow a winding road around under the pines to the offside of the building."

"From your car you step onto a narrow porch and into the big reception room. That's the room that has the old-fashioned fireplace and would make a good place for get-togethers on chill

evenings. Joining the reception room is the bookkeeper's office and the office of the superintendent of nurses.

"The office opens into a wide corridor. To the right is a long wing. This wing fronts on Cleveland Avenue. In fact, they all do—the two wings downstairs and the two upstairs. They are faced with solid windows of glass from floor to ceiling, a perfect sun deck."

The reporter went on to describe numerous details of the hospital's appearance, concluding with the operating room.

"And last but not least is the operating room," Daughtrey wrote. "This is the pride and joy of the new hospital. It really is an eye-full. Walls and floors to the ceiling are a restful green. In the center is the latest in operating tables where doctors can cut you open and with special lights so they can see what makes you tick."

"This operating table is something like a glorified barber chair. With it, doctors can stand you on your head, double you into a ball or turn you sideways. After seeing this you may be glad you can walk out under your own power."

The day before the ceremony, the paper reminded people about the location and appearance of the new hospital.

"In case anybody doesn't know, the new hospital is the four-winged brick building on Cleveland Avenue opposite Katherine Street," the paper reported.

About 1,000 people showed up for the grand opening.

Then, came the move. It was a period of adjustment for everybody, including nurse Theo Ellis, who had been on staff since 1922. At the old location, the nurses stayed in their own quarters next to the hospital.

Not at the new hospital. "We had to find a place to sleep in the hospital," Ellis said in a taped 1973 interview. Although many improvements had been made in medical care and facilities between 1922 and 1943, things were still crude, at least by 21st century standards.

In 1973 Ellis said that in the 1940s the man who drove the ambulance also worked in the hospital's machine shop. One day, they had to drive to Marco Island to retrieve a patient. This was before a bridge connected Marco Island to the mainland. The ambulance was transported to the island by barge.



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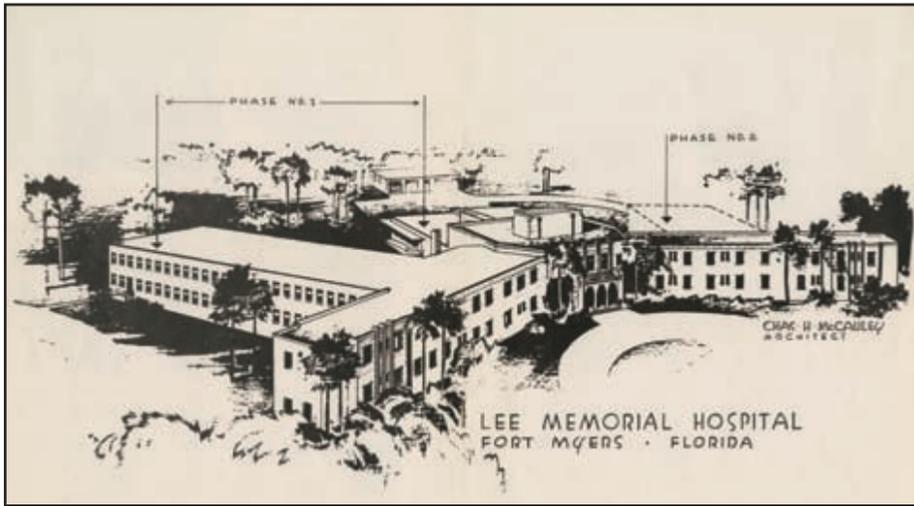
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Through most of her career, at the first location and even at the second location, the hospital didn't have air conditioning. Ellis said as doctors operated under such oppressive circumstances, a nurse was assigned to mop the surgeon's brow to keep sweat from falling into patients.

The Man Who Made It Happen

On April 15, 1943, The News-Press carried a front-page story with this headline: "Richard's Work Praised In Building of Hospital."

The "Richard" in the headline was E. A. Richard, according to the paper. In "The Story of Fort Myers," author Karl H. Grismer referred to him as Edwin A.

When the hospital opened, it was a marvel, one that The News-Press praised in an editorial.

"... a joy to behold," the paper wrote in the editorial published two days before the hospital opened. "A model of efficiency and in every respect an institution of which the community can be mighty proud."

"Those who should know what they are talking about say it is a magnificent modern hospital, equipped with the very latest in apparatus...all our doctors...nurses. These people, and others with comparable expert knowledge, are in complete agreement that they have what they wanted and it meets their exacting—it is sure to satisfy the public."

"... a joy to behold," the paper wrote in the editorial published two days before the hospital opened. "A model of efficiency and in every respect an institution of which the community can be mighty proud."

Richard, an importer from New York and, as Grismer wrote, "One of the best friends Fort Myers ever had."

In the newspaper that April, hospital board president Harry Wood and treasurer Virgil Robb said that Richard had "carried the big end of financing the hospital all through the Depression."

"The new Lee Memorial Hospital that we are opening Sunday will be his dream come true," Wood said in the story published on the Thursday before the opening. "He made the plans for this hospital. Unfortunately, he passed away when the work first began on it."

Edwin Richard began his fundraising for the new hospital building in 1925, only nine years after the first hospital building opened.

"From then on until his death Mr. Richard kept the hospital going," Robb told the paper. "When funds were needed he called on his friends for contributions. None of them would complain because no matter what they gave he always doubled or tripled it."

Richard donated more than money. He also gave the hospital X-ray equipment.

Even after the hospital's new building opened, folks knew more work needed to be done. The community was growing and its medical needs would grow, as well.

The day after the opening of the hospital, The News-Press published a story saying the hospital was beginning a drive for funds and needed \$18,000.

"We feel that this is everybody's hospital and that everybody will want to contribute," hospital vice president F. Irving Holmes said.

Holmes mentioned a carpenter named R. S. Woods, who attended the grand opening.

"I think R. S. Woods typifies the spirit we are looking for," he said. "Sunday he went out and saw the new hospital. He wanted to give something, so today during his noon hour he came in and gave me \$5."

Two years after the new hospital opened, World War II ended. Many of the servicemen who trained at Buckingham and Page fields liked Fort Myers and moved here after the war.

Fort Myers and the rest of the south remained segregated in the post-war years but racial change was on the horizon. Jackie Robinson integrated Major League Baseball in 1947 when he joined the Brooklyn Dodgers. It was a signal that more changes would follow.

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AMOUNT EARNED	44 00
Less: Fed. Old Age Tax	
Less: Fed. Withholding Tax	9 00
Less: U. S. Savings Bonds	BC 6 30
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	
NET AMOUNT DUE	28 70

Betty Wight
STAFF NURSE

Lee Memorial Hospital
Fort Myers, Florida

KEEP THIS ENVELOPE AY
IT IS YOUR RECEIPT

**Staff nurse pay 1952,
55 hours; amount earned \$44**

But not quite yet and not in Fort Myers. Lee Memorial Hospital remained segregated, and in 1949, a Lee County philanthropist named George Judd donated money to finance a new concrete block Jones-Walker Hospital, which served African-American residents and visitors.

1956 Expansion

It didn't take long for the community to outgrow the 1943 hospital, which was designed for 35 beds and was getting old

in the early 1950s. At times, 70 patients were jammed into the hospital, some sleeping on porches or in corridors.

In the 13 years between the opening of the new building and the 1956 expansion, other progress was made to bring Lee Memorial Hospital into the second half of the 20th century.

In 1950, Catherine Daubman and Mildred Miller formed the Lee Memorial Hospital Auxiliary. It began with 26 women.

The hospital, though, was crowded and too small, and a man from one of the most prominent families in Southwest Florida was recruited to serve as general chairman of a new \$500,000 hospital expansion fund committee. That was \$300,000 more than the 1943 building cost.

The man given this big job was Connie Mack Jr., son of the baseball Hall of Famer Connie Mack, who brought the Philadelphia A's to Fort Myers for spring training in 1925. Connie Mack III went on to become a United States senator and Connie Mack IV became a congressman.

Today, Lee Memorial Health System's chief legal officer is Mary McGillicuddy, sister to the former senator Mack.

But in the early 1950s, Connie Mack Jr. was asked to raise half a million dollars. Here's something else to put that figure in perspective: Lee Memorial's operating budget in 1955 was \$350,000. The money was needed. The need was clear. And had been by the time Mack went to work.

Mack wrote an open community letter addressed as "A Message to All Who Are Served by Lee Memorial Hospital." In the ninth paragraph of the 11-paragraph message, he got to the key point.

"Underlying everything is the critical shortage of hospital beds," he wrote. "To insure success in this campaign we must have the cooperation of all good-thinking citizens of our area. We must have whole-supported both from the standpoint of their assisting in the work of the campaign committee, as well as their utmost financial support."

Mack's message was part of a 1954 flyer published called the "Modernization and Expansion Fund Campaign." The flyer detailed the extraordinary growth that had occurred in the previous 10 years and offered statistics from 1944, the year after the new hospital opened, through 1953.

In 1944, there were 1,419 patients. By 1953, there were 3,217 patients. The flyer contained a chart detailing the growth. Records were not available for most categories from 1944 through 1949.

In 1948, though, there had been 585 surgical operations at Lee Memorial Hospital. By 1952, that number had risen to 1,003 but it dipped to 974 in 1953. The number of lab tests jumped tremendously in just a few years, from 1,585 in 1950 to 10,651 in 1953.

The flyer was essentially a plea for help. It closed with this comment: "If we are to have adequate facilities for this area, every citizen and friend of the hospital must do his part to help provide them."

On Feb. 15, 1954, The News-Press carried a story with the following headline: "100 More Beds Urgently Needed At Lee Hospital."

The community responded. On March 21, 1954, The News-Press carried a story reporting that businesswoman Flossie Hill gave \$4,000 to the hospital.

The community and culture were changing by the mid-1950s, when Dwight Eisenhower was president. By 1954, the community had its first television station, WINK. Folks could now watch black-and-white television broadcast over the air, which was good news for many.

Lee Memorial Hospital also received good news early in 1954 when it learned that \$180,000 in federal funds was avail-

able for the expansion project. It was a significant chunk of money for what was projected to be a \$630,000 project. At the time, Lee Memorial Hospital had \$250,000 on hand, according to a report by the Citizens Fact-Finding Committee. Of that sum, \$135,000 was from the estate of George M. Cox.

That left the hospital about \$200,000 short of its goal but the fact-finding group said in 1954 that could be raised through "public subscription."

"The average load over this period has varied from 176 percent capacity to 185 percent of capacity of the normal 35 beds," according to the fact-finding committee report.

There were then, and are now, expenses that must be borne. A big capital outlay in 1955 was purchasing for \$25,000 what has been described as a "state of the art diagnostic X-Ray" machine.

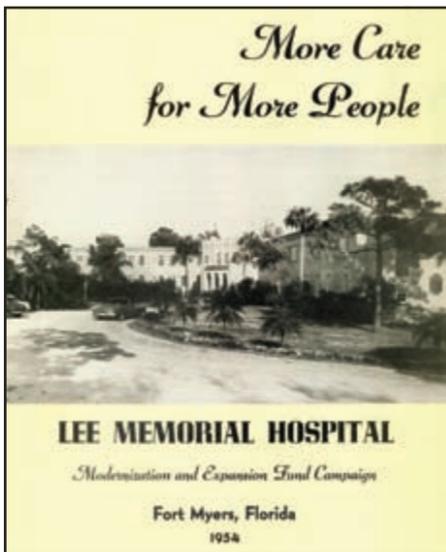
That was also the year one of the most influential figures in Lee Memorial Health System history was hired as administrator. John Gadd came from Vanderbilt University Medical Center, where he was associate executive director. He ran the hospital for the next 26 years.

Meanwhile, across the Caloosahatchee, Leonard and Jack Rosen of Baltimore, brothers and businessmen, were working on a massive Lee County project that would be called Cape Coral. Cape Coral was founded in 1957. Also in the mid-1950s, a new town east of Fort Myers named Lehigh Acres was starting to take shape.

Lee Memorial Hospital was working to keep pace. The 1956 expansion of the hospital on Cleveland Avenue was the response to the need.



1943 promotional photos of the new hospital



1954 Expansion Fund Campaign brochure—Fundraising has always been an important part of our ability to care for the community.

The hospital placed an advertisement in The News-Press on Feb. 19, 1956 that proclaimed the following: “Dedicating the Completion of A \$560,000 Expansion Program—the Largest and Finest in South.” Just as in 1943, the public was invited to the dedication, where hospital president Robert E. Parks accepted the new units of the hospital.

The day after the opening, The News-Press carried this front-page headline: “Citizens Exult Over Improvement To Lee Memorial.”

“It looks like a million dollars,” said one man, identified in the paper as a “prominent citizen.”

The expansion brought the number of beds to 100. Glowing reviews were common from those who toured the new hospital. “They exclaimed over the modernity of the spick-and-span operating rooms, gleaming medical instruments, and great expansion of patient’s facilities in the new suites,” the paper reported.

Architect Charles P. McCauley, who designed the building, predicted that the hospital wouldn’t be large enough in less than a decade. “Eight years from now you will no doubt find that the building is still too small,” he said.

But on that day the focus was on the present. “It’s with great pride that we turn over the keys to the hospital,” McCauley said.

Hospital president Robert E. Parks accepted the keys and dedicated the hospital to “the posterity of our community.” Parks added that 1,400 people had a part in building the hospital.

McCauley also mentioned George M. Cox, who left \$180,000 in his will to the hospital and “Mrs. H. Eric Jewett, a long-time friend of the hospital.” The hospital’s north wing was named for Cox and the south wing was named for Jewett.

Fort Myers Mayor Heard M. Edwards spoke at the grand opening and said, “It’s gratifying to know that we live in a community where the citizens will go together and put something like this over.” Reverend Jasper Smoak gave the

invocation and the paper reported that his “prayer was punctuated by a shriek from the upper floor. Two more screams were heard, followed by loud sobbing.” The paper did not offer any more insight into the shriek, screams or sobbing.

But the community appreciated the men and women, the doctors and nurses, the staff and volunteers at Lee Memorial Hospital. Patients sometimes felt compelled to share their appreciation by writing a letter to The News-Press.

“Have just finished six days of medication for a bad infection of kidneys, bladder and liver under the able direction of Dr. George D. Hopkins,” Fort Myers Beach resident Glen D. Carver wrote in a letter published on Sept. 12, 1957. “My life was involved. Went in with 104 temperature.” His life was saved and Glen D. Carver wrote that it cost him only \$5.

“Where would you equal that?” Carver wrote in his letter.

The lifesaving work that benefited Glen D. Carver wasn’t done in a vacuum. The same year that Carver’s letter was published, Lee Memorial Hospital received its first accreditation from the Joint Commission of Accreditation of Hospitals. That was also the year the hospital added a recovery room.

The community kept growing and hospital administrators knew the hospital had to keep growing. Lee County voters were asked in a referendum in 1959 to approve a 2 mill taxing authority to secure a \$5 million bond to build a new hospital. The voters said no. Stopgap measures were taken to ease the space crunch. In 1959, about 10 rooms were added to the hospital’s Jewett wing.

That was little more than a bandage on the need to expand.

Getting Closer to a New Building

Throughout the 1960s, other improvements were made prior to the 1968 completion of a new building on Cleveland Avenue.

In 1960, a freestanding, metal building was constructed to house pharmacy, medical records, a cafeteria and human resources office. Then, in 1962, another metal building was constructed. This one was used for engineering, X-ray, laboratory, central supply and the emergency department. The following year a wing was added to the hospital, which increased capacity by 20 beds.

All this wasn’t enough. On the morning of June 6, 1962, people who picked up The News-Press read this big headline splashed across the front of Page 1: “Hospital Directors Moving for a \$7 Million Building.”

The front page also included an architect’s rendering of a multi-story building. Reporter Pete Packett wrote that, “Lee Memorial Hospital directors last night unanimously approved steps toward building a \$7 million, 300-bed hospital on a new site to meet future hospital needs of a population expected to double in less than 10 years.”



OPEN HOUSE
- AND -
Dedication of Lee Memorial Hospital

This Afternoon 2:30

Public Cordially Invited

Dedicating the Completion of A \$560,000.00 Expansion Program—the Largest and Finest In Southwest Florida

The dedication of the completion of \$560,000.00 expansion program for the Lee Memorial Hospital will be held Sunday afternoon, 2:30 o'clock, with open house. The public is cordially invited to participate in this colorful event . . . to personally inspect Southwest Florida's largest and most complete hospital.

President Robert E. Parks will accept the new units from the architect and builder on behalf of the directors, and Chairman Wilson Piggott of the County Commission and Mayor Heard Edwards will represent the citizens of Fort Myers and Lee County with short talks of appreciation.

The Hospital Auxiliary and Future Nurses Club will be located in different wings of the hospital to give instructions and directions to the visitors . . . all Nurses and Department Heads will be on duty to answer all questions and give requested information.

This message is made possible through the cooperation of:

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Hospital president John Gadd outlined the two primary recommendations:

1. Have architects begin working on plans for construction and “insure maximum federal participation.”
2. Raise \$7 million by selling the old hospital and Jones-Walker Hospital. Solicit contributions from the public and “any county assistance that may be forthcoming.”

Case said the building’s first phase would be 300 beds with 100 beds to a floor. In the years that followed, work continued. More money was needed and for the first and only time in hospital history, a public bond issue was passed to expand Lee Memorial Hospital and to buy equipment.

In order to try to appeal to the citizens of Lee County to help support the building of a new hospital, the Lee Memorial Hospital Board worked with local and state officials to craft a plan. If the citizens would agree to a one-time \$4 million bond issue for the construction of the new facility, upon completion Lee Memorial would become a public hospital to be operated by a publicly elected 10 member board of directors, known as Hospital Board of Directors of Lee County. This plan was approved by the Florida Legislature in 1963.

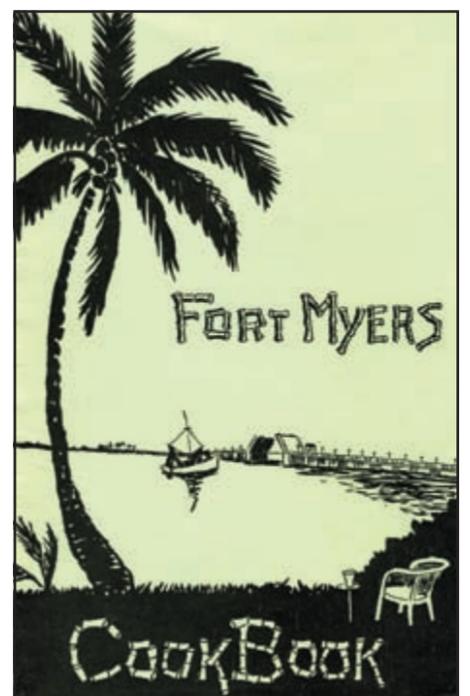
In 1965, a \$4 million bond was passed that led to the opening of a new hospital in 1968. It would be an integrated hospital.

On Sept. 22, 1965 Lee County newspaper readers noticed the following big headline on the front page of The News-Press: “Lee Memorial Directors to Comply Voluntarily with Civil Rights Act.”

Hospital officials had little choice. If they didn’t comply with the Civil Rights Act of 1964, they faced losing federal funds. Hospital attorney Walter O. Shepard recommended voluntarily compliance. He said at the time that the hospital had been denied indigent hospitalization funds since Sept. 1 for failure to comply with the civil rights bill. That amounted to about \$8,000 a month.

Jones-Walker Hospital closed in 1966 and Lee Memorial Hospital was integrated. In order to meet the expansion needs while awaiting the completion of the new hospital, what was referred to for many years as the “West Wing” . . . now classrooms, auxiliary and medical library . . . was completed with 36 beds.

The hospital integration came during a tumultuous time in America. The year 1968 was one of the most divisive and controversial in American history. Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert Kennedy were assassinated. Riots erupted in numerous American cities. But in Fort Myers one of the biggest developments of the year was the opening of the new hospital on Cleveland Avenue, one that dwarfed anything seen previously in Lee County.



The Fort Myers Cookbook, originally published by the Lee Memorial Hospital Auxiliary in 1951; selling the book helped raise funds.

OTHER HOSPIT

How you look so no

On behalf of everyone at Garramone Plastic Surgery, congratulations to all the volunteers, staff, nurses, physicians and Board of Directors, who contributed to making Lee Memorial Health System the largest public health system in Florida.

Your mission, values, principles, and dedication to our community made Lee Memorial Health System an energetic and vibrant institution for the last 100 years.

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- CoolSculpting®
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GARRAMONE FOR MEN

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- Botox® & Fillers
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- Diamond Lift™
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- Rhinoplasty
- Laser Hair Removal

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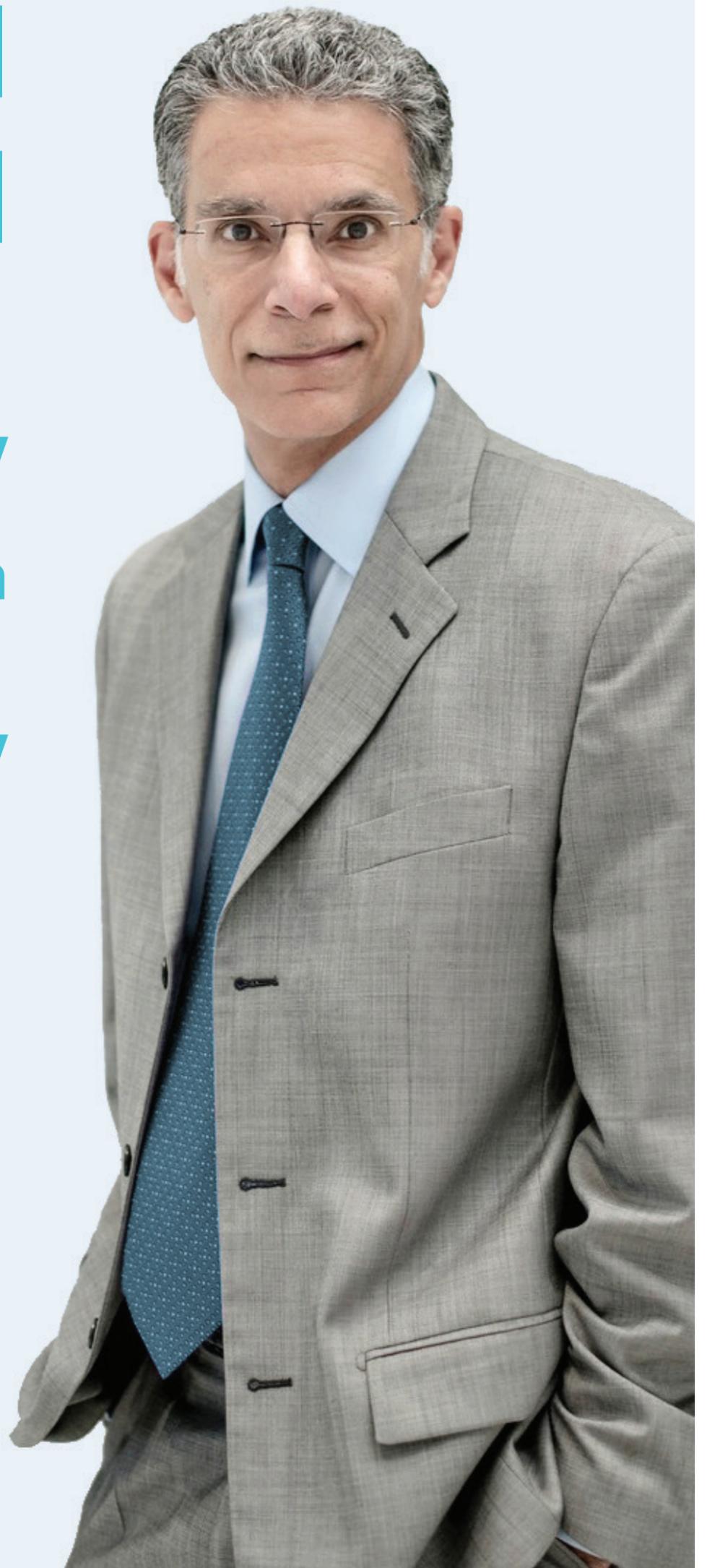
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But I'll
Never Tell

Happy
100th
Birthday



Goodbye to the original hospital and Jones-Walker

The original hospital, which was segregated, opened in 1916 and had been used until the opening of a new building on Cleveland Avenue in 1943. Although the original building was no longer a hospital, it wasn't torn down.

Businessman Fred H. Mellor converted the old hospital into the Victoria Apartments in the 1940s. It was a relic from another age by the mid-1960s compared to the hospital on Cleveland Avenue. In 1965, though, its owners decided to tear down the building, which was referred to in *The News-Press* as a "noted landmark."

"Today Lee Memorial Hospital has soared skyward and groaned sideward," *The News-Press* noted in its story about the first hospital being torn down. The account closed with this comment: "The institution (Lee Memorial Hospital) has seen many changes in the community in the last 42 years but has remained constant in serving the area well."

1957 Lee Memorial Hospital received its first accreditation from the Joint Commission of Accreditation of Hospitals

When the hospital turned 50 in 1966 there were no celebrations marking the event. Even more significant than the demolition of the 1916 hospital was the elimination of an old southern custom—segregation.

In 1956, an African-American man had been treated at Lee Memorial Hospital and it was big news in town. *The News-Press* went so far as to publish an editorial praising the hospital and town with this headline: "We Can Be Proud."



Community leader Ella Piper with children

"The admission of a Negro to the white Lee Memorial Hospital because he was so critically burned that his transfer from the emergency room there to the colored Jones-Walker Hospital would have jeopardized his life at that stage should be a source of deep pride to this community which supports the hospital," the paper wrote in an unsigned editorial.

That was the first paragraph. The second paragraph, though, was a defense of segregation.

"Racial segregation is a solidly founded institution here, as in other southern communities," the paper wrote. "There are deep-seated reasons for its establishment and for its continuance in the foreseeable future. The hospital incident signalizes no departure from it."

The editorial went on to praise the hospital.

"For segregation was no consideration in this case," the paper wrote. "Here a human life was at stake, and the hospital's mission is to save lives. The hospital's administration and its medical staff acted in accordance with the highest principles of Christianity and humanity in setting extraneous considerations aside to save this life, and those responsible for doing so deserve the highest credit for it." The paper also referred to what it called "the southern way of life."

In 1958, somebody at Jones-Walker wrote a one-page summary of what was going on at the hospital under the heading, "Have You Heard."



John Gadd came from Vanderbilt University Medical Center, where he was associate executive director. He ran the hospital for 26 years.

The unsigned summary survives in the Lee Memorial Health System archives to this day.

"The care given to the sick and suffering at our hospital is better today than at any time in its history," the summary noted. The writer added, "Every Negro in our community should be interested and should want to help financially. Some are able to contribute large sums of money; everyone can contribute, even though the amount of money may be small. All together we can raise enough to buy the equipment needed now."



Fort Myers Beach Circa 1930

"The opening of the new Lee Memorial Hospital represents another milestone in the development of Lee County, signaling the assumption of public responsibility for the provision of health care facilities for the first time," the paper reported on Oct. 16, 1968.

"The new hospital, a gleaming white \$4.5 million structure—is not yet the hospital that many people would have it be, but it is far better than Lee County ever had before."

The paper noted that the hospital employed 650 people and had room for 400 beds and when it reached that size it would need 1,200 employees. Then came a paragraph that sums up Lee Memorial Hospital's place in the community, indeed any good hospital in any community.

"But for those who do not work at the hospital, it is another kind of place fully as important in the human community as the home, the church or the school," *The News-Press* wrote. "The

- 120,000 concrete blocks were used to finish the walls.
- The building contained 180 toilets.

It was a new world. In 1968, the capacity was nearly 400.

Hospital administrator John Gadd predicted that the hospital would need 500 beds within 10 years. What was medical state of the art in 1968 may seem quaint now but it was a big deal at the time. As part of that special coverage of the hospital, *The News-Press* carried a story noting, "Radiology Adds Cobalt."

"In the new Lee Memorial Hospital is a cobalt room," the paper reported. "The walls are three feet thick. The floor is solid concrete four feet down to in the ground." The unit was used to treat cancer.

Also, in 1968, a 20-bed wing that was at first known as 3 West opened, and for a short time, served as a psychiatric wing, according to a previous hospital history timeline.

"The admission of a Negro to the white Lee Memorial Hospital because he was so critically burned that his transfer from the emergency room there to the colored Jones-Walker Hospital would have jeopardized his life at that stage should be a source of deep pride to this community which supports the hospital."

hospital is a stage where many of life's great dramas are played. It is a place to be born, with all the happiness the birth of a newborn baby brings. It is a place to die, when everything that man can do to prolong life has been done with all the grief that death entails. It is a place to go for help when sickness or injury interrupts an individual's life."

The *News-Press* also detailed some of the construction statistics that may have astounded readers. For example:

- 800 steel pilings averaging 100 feet in depth were required to keep the five-story building upright.

1968 was a big year in many ways. That year an elected hospital board took control of the hospital. Lee Memorial Hospital Inc. passed to the Lee County Hospital Board. The control was total.

"All supplies, accounts receivable, cash and judgments were assigned absolutely to the county board with no strings attached," *The News-Press* reported on Oct. 1, 1968.

Lee Memorial Hospital turned 54 years old in 1970. More astonishing growth and change would come in the remaining three decades of the 20th century. ■



1968 Lee Memorial Hospital

Less than a decade later, Jones-Walker Hospital closed.

It's Completed!

It had been six years since the hospital announced ambitious plans for a grand new building. It was a big deal and treated as such in *The News-Press*, which published a special section in 1968 celebrating the new \$5.5 million hospital project.

The building alone cost \$4.2 million and the rest of the cost went to the architect (\$267,000), land purchase (\$140,000), equipment (\$800,000) and another \$51,300 for what was listed as "miscellaneous." That last item included things such as site survey, soil testing, attorney fees and legal advertising.

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Left to right; Southwest Florida Medical Center, Gulf Coast Hospital, Cape Coral Hospital

Lee Memorial and Modern Medicine Grow: 1970s-1980s

By 1970, the early days of Lee Memorial Hospital were fading into history and few people were still around who remembered its origins. In the final three decades of the 20th century, the way things were in 1916 when the hospital opened started to sound not only quaint but also nearly as ancient as operating without anesthesia.

In 1916, there were few cars in Fort Myers and it had been only 13 years since the Wright Brothers flew the first airplane. In 1969, the year after a big new hospital building opened on Cleveland Avenue, men walked on the moon for the first time.

As the 1970s dawned, there were still men and women in Lee County who remembered the hospital opening in 1916. Many may have met Sam Thompson, the first patient, a man with appendicitis who was operated on by kerosene lamp in a hospital without air conditioning.

So much had changed since 1916 and the pace of change would accelerate in the 20th century's final three decades. Medical advances, such as arthroscopic surgery and open heart procedures that would have seemed the stuff of an H. G. Wells science fiction novel in 1916 became commonplace late in the 20th century.

Lee Memorial Hospital was part of that medical revolution, providing modern procedures unimaginable in 1916, offering a more diverse range of health care options and building bigger and ever better facilities. The hospital had to do all that to keep up with Lee County's explosive growth.

In 1950, Cape Coral and Lehigh Acres did not exist and the county's population was 23,404, according to the U.S. Census. By 1960, Cape Coral and Lehigh Acres had been founded and the county's population was up to 54,359.

In 1963, a causeway to Sanibel Island was built and in 1964 the Caloosahatchee Bridge opened. By 1970, the county's population had nearly doubled once again from 1960, hitting 105,216. And then it would nearly double again in the next 10 years, all the way to 205,286 in 1980.

The county added more people (130,000) between 1980 and 1990 than resided in Lee County in 1970. In 1990, the population was up to 335,113 and by 2000 it was closing in on half a million. The U.S. Census pegged it at 440,888 in 2000. Lee Memorial Health System had to keep pace. And it did.

The hospital integrated in 1966 and in 1973 the first female physician, Dr. Ellen Sayet, an oncologist, joined the medical staff. She was 31 years old at the time, and when The News-Press profiled her that summer, a reporter wrote that she appeared so youthful she could pass for 20.

"Things are starting to change for women in medicine," Dr. Sayet told the paper. "When I was interning there were only three or four other women in internal medicine. Now there are a large number going into specialties, including surgical specialties which previously had no women."

Hospital administrator John Gadd approved of Dr. Sayet joining the medical staff. "We are gratified that Dr. Sayet has chosen to come here with her extensive training and skills in her field," Gadd told The News-Press. "I feel she has distinguished us with her decision to become the first lady physician on the hospital's medical staff."

Measuring the Growth

As the 1970s dawned, the hospital had 100 physicians on staff and the hospital budget was \$10 million. There were 12,055 admissions that year. Five years later, admissions were up to 15,580 and 1,575 babies were born in the hospital in 1975.

Hospital budgets were rising, along with the county's population and health care needs. In 1973, for example, the hospital's budget was \$13.2 million, up \$3.1 million from the 1972 budget of \$10.1 million.

Along with the budget, the actual building was getting bigger. A 1974 story in The News-Press noted that a sixth, seventh and eighth floor were added to the main hospital building.

The numbers kept climbing in every conceivable facet of health care and the hospital business. In 1981, there were 2,500 births, nearly 1,000 more than were born in the hospital only 6 years earlier.

The contrast of Lee Memorial Hospital in the middle of the 20th century and what it became in the final third of the century may have been best summed up in a 1981 study. The study was done for the hospital administrator. Highlights from it show what a stark transformation took place in only 26 years, from 1955 to 1981.

For example:

- The hospital had 30 beds in 1955. By 1981, it was up to 558 beds.
- The number of employees increased from 90 in 1955 to 1,400 in 1981.
- Under a category called "Yearly Cost," the figure for 1955 was \$350,000. In 1981, it was \$75 million.

This study included a title: "Twenty-five years of unbelievable progress." The progress in that quarter of a century from the days when Dwight Eisenhower was president until the year Ronald Reagan was inaugurated was monumental.

The statistics are a testament to the hospital's growth. It's as if Lee Memorial Hospital was two different places—a small-town hospital in 1955 and a metropolitan hospital in 1981.

In 1955, the hospital was segregated and was not accredited. It did not have air-conditioned rooms in 1955. Can you imagine a hospital stay during a Florida summer without air conditioning? Can you imagine being anywhere and doing anything indoors in Florida in the summer without air conditioning? That's what patients endured at Lee Memorial Hospital in 1955.

Back then the hospital didn't have a pharmacy or pharmacist. It didn't have emergency power, a respiratory therapy department or a blood bank. The 1981 study noted parenthetically, that the hospital lacked a blood bank in 1955 and that "prisoners were (the) source" for blood.

In all, the report listed 130 items that the hospital had in 1981 that it did not have in 1955. The list started with accreditation and ended with doctors' offices. Items also included cobalt therapy, CAT scans, pathologists, psychiatric and pediatric units, delivery room, computers, cardiac lab, medical library and fire alarm system.

Then, there were the highly-trained specialists who had been added to the staff by 1981 that were not part of Lee Memorial Hospital in 1955. That includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Anesthesiologists
- Neurologists
- Neurosurgeons
- Thoracic surgeons
- Cardiologists
- Psychiatrists
- Oncologists
- Dermatologists
- Oral surgeons

The hospital made extraordinary leaps forward in many areas in those 26 years. It added a cafeteria, employee life insurance, a retirement plan, security guards and dialysis.

Lee Memorial Hospital even added an incinerator at some point between 1955 and 1981. Previously, the report noted, "body parts buried near hospital."

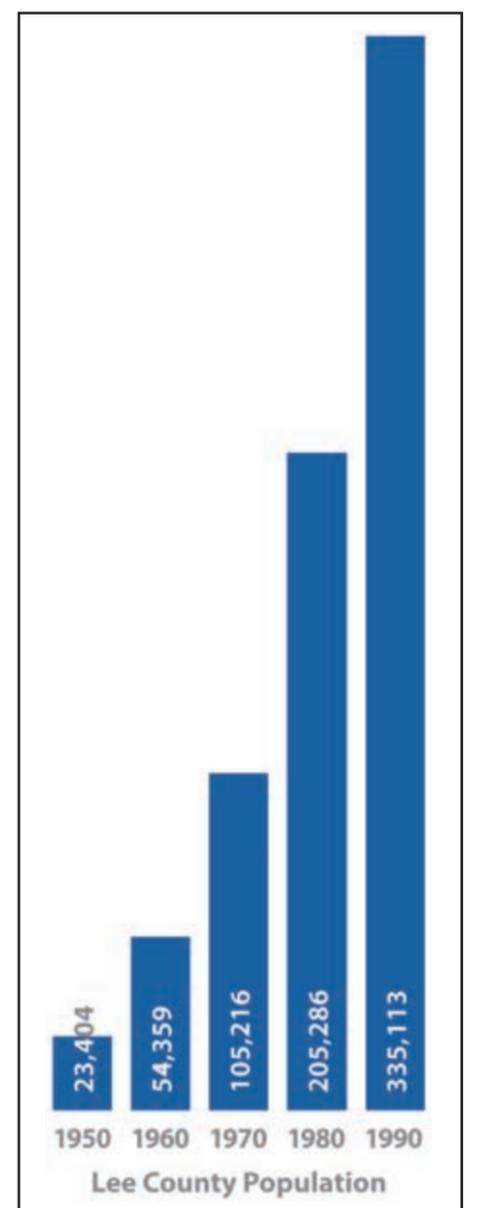
Hospital administrators in 1981 were proud of all that had been accomplished in the previous quarter of a century. In 1974, the first two floors of a \$2 million four-floor addition to the north building opened, bringing the number of beds to 465.

In 1977, 7 North was completed and the number of beds increased to 505. But administrators knew their work wasn't done and that the hospital needed to continue improving, getting bigger, staying up with new medical techniques and technology.

In 1981, the hospital board of directors voted to approve preliminary plans for an expanded childbirth center. Construction began in June 1982 and by July 1983 Lee Memorial Hospital achieved what was termed "Level III Neonatal Intensive Care status as designated by the State of Florida." That meant that critically ill babies could get the care they needed locally and not have to travel elsewhere.



1970s Cardioscope



Competition

Lee Memorial Hospital did not have the county to itself during these years. It may have been Lee County's first hospital but it wasn't the only hospital. Fort Myers Community Hospital opened in April 1974 with an \$8 million facility and 200 beds. In 1979, another wing was added, expanding the hospital to 400 beds.



Lee Memorial Hospital nurses with 1970s crash cart

In 1987 the competing hospital was re-named Southwest Florida Regional Medical Center. Hospital president Herbert F. Dorsett explained why the name was changed. "Consideration of our past accomplishments, our present strengths, and, most important, our future plans, leads us to an inescapable conclusion. The name Fort Myers Community Hospital seriously understates the magnitude of the service area and the range of services provided. We need to begin describing ourselves as we really are."

Southwest Florida Regional Medical Center opened a three-story, 124,000 square foot, \$26 million Heart Institute and Emergency Center in 1991. It had six operating rooms for heart surgery, a 16-bed critical care unit and a 16-bed cardiovascular recovery unit.

Cape Coral Hospital opened in July 1977. It was a sign of the growth of that community, which was founded only 20 years earlier.

In 1960, Cape Coral's population was 280. By 1970, it had exploded to 11,470 and by 1980 the U.S. Census counted 32,103 people in the town. The population nearly tripled in a decade.

The need for a hospital in that booming town was clear.

In the early 1990s, a \$4 million construction project added a third, fourth and fifth floor to Cape Coral Hospital. The same need for more health care was

the case east of Fort Myers in Lehigh Acres, which also was booming. In 1970, Lehigh Acres' population was 4,394. It grew by more than 100% through the 1970s and reached 9,604 in 1980.

Lehigh Acres General Hospital, now known as Lehigh Regional Medical Center, opened in 1965, and had 97 beds in 1974, according to a newspaper account at the time.

Hospitals were sprouting up all over. In 1988, ground was broken for the \$19 million Gulf Coast Hospital in south Fort Myers, what was termed an "osteopathic" hospital at that time opened in December 1990. It had 120 beds.

The Jim Nathan Era

One of the most significant people in local hospital history was hired in 1975 as an administrative resident. Within a year, the board recognized his capabilities and promoted him to vice president of Institutional Services.

That was a young man named James R. Nathan, who is the system's current CEO and president.

In January 1982 he was appointed interim president but later that year, on Oct. 20, he was elected president by acclamation of a vote by the board of directors.

He replaced John Gadd. Both men oversaw enormous change and growth. "The long-term success of the hospital had to be the result of strong leadership," said Lee County Commissioner Frank Mann, who was born at Lee Memorial Hospital in 1941. Gadd took the hospital to a higher level and then Nathan took it even higher.

"Nathan, in my judgment is, by his own record, one of the most capable, and knowledgeable hospital administrators to have served in the 20th and 21st century ANYWHERE," Mann wrote in his email, capitalizing the word "anywhere" for emphasis.

At first, though, even before he officially started working at the hospital, Nathan wondered what he was getting into in a sub-tropical place such as Lee County.

"When my wife, Karen, and I moved here we arrived on a Sunday in mid-August, 1975, and moved into a vacant home in Cape Coral that Karen had rented a few months earlier," Nathan said. "And we found every creepy crawler that we had never seen before in our lives. I sucked them all up in the central vacuum while Karen cleaned the cabinets. The next day she went to find out what day she was supposed to start the teaching job she had been hired for that spring. And it didn't exist."

"I had a week before I was to start at Lee Memorial so I went down to The News-Press. ... and read a number of negative articles about Lee Memorial and thought what have I gotten myself into here? So I went home and found



1982 Lee Memorial Hospital celebrates 65 years of caring



Cardiac testing

out Karen didn't have a job. We both wondered, 'What are we doing here!'"

It all worked out, of course, far better for the Nathans, Lee Memorial Hospital and the community than anybody could have predicted in 1975.

Nathan left for a little less than three years in the late 1990s in hopes of helping with national health reform but returned in 2000 as president and CEO. He's still in that role and, over his years, has overseen remarkable growth and has been at the helm as medical advances transformed the hospital and medical care.

In 1984, Lee Memorial Hospital opened a cardiac catheterization lab and a wellness center. In 1985, Older Adult Services began.



A state-of-the-art wellness center opened at Lee Memorial Hospital in 1984.

The rate of growth didn't slow as the century was nearing its final decade. Lee Memorial Hospital expanded services in numerous ways, including opening various outpatient facilities. The hospital was bringing care to convenient locations.

Lee Memorial Hospital opened two walk-in medical centers on Fort Myers Beach and at Miner's Corner in south Fort Myers. A health clinic opened at what is now called Southwest Florida International Airport. Changes were abundant at the hospital as Lee Memorial Hospital continued adding more procedures and services.

The 1980s witnessed the addition of the following to Lee Memorial Hospital's Cardiology Services:

- Stress echocardiograms
- Electrophysiology studies
- Automatic implantable cardioverter defibrillators
- Cardiac catheterization
- Cardiac surgery

Cardiac care wasn't the only department upgraded in the 1980s. In 1987, the Neuroscience and Stroke Center was started. Then in 1995, the Lee Memorial Health System Foundation was started. Fundraising became critical for many reasons, including basic humanitarian impulses.

As the 1980s wound down, the hospital was nearing the opening of its most extraordinary facility, a gleaming showcase of architecture, art and medical care. ■



Planning for the future, Bob Wright, CEO, Medical Cities, with Jim Nathan and Doug Dodson. Future site of HealthPark Medical Center

1990s: The Century Winds Down and Construction Goes Up

When the decade of the '90s began, Lee Memorial Hospital was a 608-bed hospital near downtown Fort Myers. More growth would follow when HealthPark Medical Center opened in December 1991 several miles away with 220 beds. Of those 220 beds, 75 were dedicated to pediatrics and in 1994 were named The Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida.

The contrast between the humble, two-story wood building that opened in 1916 and HealthPark Medical Center was as stark as the contrast between a Wright Brothers plane and a Boeing 757.

The new facility included a tiled indoor courtyard, trees, glass elevators and plush furniture. The original Lee Memorial Hospital didn't even have an elevator. HealthPark Medical Center's corridors and patient rooms were festooned with artwork.

The HealthPark Medical Center four-story atrium was taller than the original Lee Memorial Hospital. It looked more like a fine hotel than an old-fashioned hospital.

"The idea is that you won't feel like you're coming to a hospital, but to a multiservice facility that happens to have a hospital buried inside it," Nathan told *The News-Press* before the new hospital opened. "The traditional hospital is confining in its nature. You see patients on gurneys and doctors and nurses hustling down the hallways. All that adds to the emotion of going to the hospital."

HealthPark Medical Center's serene lobby and the atrium no doubt eased the anxiety of many patients and their families.

As was the case in 1916 when the first Lee Memorial Hospital opened, and in 1943 when a new hospital was built on Cleveland Avenue, and again in 1968 when the new building was erected on Cleveland, the opening of HealthPark Medical Center was a big deal. The public flocked to its grand opening.

The *News-Press* covered the event with a story carrying this headline: "HealthPark Leaves Visitors in Awe."

It took three years of work and \$56 million to make it a reality on a 402-acre plot of land. Paintings by more than 160 Lee County children were hung alongside other original artwork.

The health system moved departments—such as obstetrics, pediatrics, open heart and pulmonary units—from the Cleveland Avenue hospital campus. It also moved 220 existing inpatient beds from downtown.

Always the primary focus was improving health care and looking forward. Sometimes, though, Lee Memorial Health System has turned to its past while looking ahead. In 1992, a time capsule dedication ceremony was held at HealthPark Medical Center.



1991 HealthPark Medical Center

Lee Memorial Hospital had turned 75 in 1991 and in 1992 the capsule was buried with a vow to open in 2016 for its 100th anniversary.

Items in the capsule included a 1992 stethoscope and a hospital mission statement. A flyer prepared for the dedication listed the names of eight babies they dubbed "Keepers of the Capsule."

They were, the flyer noted, among the "first born at HealthPark Medical Center and the last born at our Cleveland Campus, and also included, Lee County's first quadruplets. They will be asked to come back in 25 years and be present at the re-opening of the capsule."

A 1993 report from the hospital detailed some of the new services added that year. The list included the following:

- A six-bed angioplasty suite opened to provide heart patients specialized care
- Lee Memorial became the first hospital in the area to offer cardiac stent procedures to help prevent closure of the artery after complicated angioplasty procedures
- A medical staff of 550 physicians

Lee Memorial Health System continued growing through the final years of the 20th century.

In 1996, Cape Coral Hospital joined the system. Prior to the acquisition of Cape Coral Hospital, Lee Memorial Hospital operated as "one hospital, two locations," a reference to Lee Memorial Hospital and HealthPark Medical Center. After Cape Coral Hospital joined, Lee Memorial Health System was initiated.

Services added included:

- 1997: Lee Parkinson's Care
- 1998: Lee Diabetes Care was established and later became the first certified program of its kind in Florida and the sixth in the nation.

The decision to build HealthPark Medical Center was one of the most significant in the hospital's history. "The decision to acquire potato and cucumber fields that before had been gladiolus and develop HealthPark (Medical Center) was a momentous time in the history of the organization," Nathan said.

Building such a large and grand facility required enormous planning, Nathan noted in an interview. "The choice of the location for HealthPark was actually

based upon the very first Florida comprehensive land use plan," he said. The hope was to avoid urban sprawl. The plan, Nathan noted, included factors such as roads, sewers and other support systems. An initial location at Summerlin and Bass roads was selected.

"Then, the state's comprehensive plan was never followed," he said. "Politics and land use and ecology and other things came into play."

"We did kind of a Disney World concept of acquiring parcels of land with different individuals putting down a name and a tentative possible negotiation for the purchase of the land in order to parcel it together," Nathan said. Initially, 242 acres were acquired and eventually it was 402 acres of largely vacant or farm land.

"No one could have ever envisioned that now 20-plus years later that we would have almost all that acreage completely filled and used," Nathan said. "But as a result of that, we were able to really use an effective land use planning program to be able to determine who the neighbors would be and to have design standards and things of that nature. Additionally, it could not



September 16, 1988 Employees helped make the groundbreaking of HealthPark Medical Center a big success.



1997 Jim Nathan waves goodbye on his farewell bus tour of the hospitals.

have happened without the support of Lee Healthcare Resources which was a derivative of the original Lee Memorial Hospital board that remained in business as a supporting organization for Lee Memorial Health System.”

Larry Antonucci, M.D., Lee Memorial Health System chief operating officer, and a relatively new practicing obstetrician at the time, recalled what he thought back then of the proposed site for the new facility. “There was nothing here,” Dr. Antonucci said, sitting in a conference room in a bank building across Bass Road from HealthPark Medical Center. “This was gladiolus fields. That was all.”

He wasn’t sure the site would work. “It just seemed so remote in my mind that I couldn’t imagine they were putting a hospital where they were putting it,” he said. “I was very skeptical at the time.”

But the site has worked. Now, HealthPark Florida is a beautifully landscaped health care community located near gated communities, fine shops and restaurants. That has not been mere luck or happenstance. It goes back to planning.

“If we had not made the decision on the front end to shift key specialties such as cardiac, women’s and children’s services, I think we would have failed tremendously,” Nathan said.

In August 1997, though, Nathan left Lee Memorial Health System.

“I thought that after 22 years here and 16 years as CEO I was supposed to do something else and the organization could benefit from new leadership,” he said. “Even more specifically, I thought I could play a role in health reform nationally. I failed miserably with that along with virtually anyone else who

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“Keepers of the Capsule” Now 25 years old

seems to have tried to help reform health care nationally.

“But the period of time that I was gone also helped focus my attention. I

realized how much I really missed being part of day-to-day operations and a part of a community that had a wonderful, compelling mission.” ■

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A New Century Begins; the Old Values Remain: 2000s

As one millennium ended and another dawned, Lee Memorial Health System continued evolving and expanding. Both were necessary to keep up with medical advances and Lee County's explosive population growth.

By 2000, the county's population hit 441,000, an increase of about 435,000 since the 1910 census, which was only two years before civic-minded citizens started meeting to discuss building a hospital, which after much discussion was built at the corner of Grand and Victoria avenues in Fort Myers.

Although transportation, medicine, communications and the county's population all were transformed since the hospital opened, some values remained the same. Hard work and the dedication of doctors, nurses, staff and volunteers made Lee Memorial Hospital a vital part of the community 100 years ago. Those values were also prized in the new century. The hospital industry noticed the system's good work.

In 2000, for example, the HCIA-Sachs Institute awarded the system its prestigious Top 100 Hospitals in America honors. Running a hospital system, though, was becoming a challenging task as the new century began. "Fiscal year 2000 was a year of transition for the health system," Nathan wrote in 2001. "If you are familiar at all with the health care industry, you know the difficulty we have of balancing the increased cost of care with shrinking reimbursements. Simply put, we are caring for more people, it costs more to provide that care, and we are receiving less for it."

"For the second consecutive year, Lee Memorial Health System had a financial loss. For fiscal year 2000, the loss was \$7.7 million. The good news is Lee Memorial Health System employees identified approximately \$14 million in cost-savings or revenue enhancement opportunities for (fiscal year) 2001. Ideas included everything from single sourcing our vending machines to collaborating with physicians on supply selection, to name a few. ... It appears these efforts are paying off. During the first five months of (fiscal year) 2001, we are ahead of budget by over \$5 million."

Nathan returned to Lee Memorial Health System in April 2000 and things had changed. The system was half way through its second year of operating losses, something not previously experienced.

The magnitude of care provided by Lee Memorial Health System at the dawn of the new millennium was staggering. The system cared for more than 38,000 adult and pediatric patients; and about 4,100 babies were born in the hospital in 2000. By time the hospital turned 100 in 2016, those babies born in 2000 were in high school.

The first year of the new century also witnessed 106,717 emergency room visits. That was an increase of more than 7,000 from 1999 (99,002) and nearly 20,000 from 1998, when 89,947 people visited the emergency room.

At the same time, according to an accompanying chart in a 2001 report, reimbursements were declining, from 48 cents for every dollar in 1998 to 45 cents in 1999 and down to 43 cents in 2000.

The first 15 years of the 21st century were a time of extraordinary growth and building, as Lee Memorial Health System continued serving the county's residents and visitors. Some changes and improvements in medical care came because of improved 21st century communications—things such as texting, cell phones and email. Differences between the second decade of the 21st century and the late 20th are stark.



Transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) procedure performed at HealthPark Medical Center

"We take for granted communication the way it is now and the ability to pick up a cell phone and talk to anybody in the world where back then it was very difficult," Dr. Antonucci says. "The surgeons would literally have to call an answering service every move they made. You know, if you went to a neighbor's house, they'd have to call and say, 'OK, I'm at this number.' And if they went somewhere else, 'OK, now I'm at this number.' And that's been a big difference."

"We're much more than a health system, we're your friends, your family and your neighbors."

As new communication techniques took greater hold, Lee Memorial Health System moved forward in other ways. In 2004, plans for a 10-year, \$500 million construction, expansion, equipment and other improvement were announced including a 122 bed addition to HealthPark Medical Center, according to an historical timeline on the Lee Memorial Health System website.

Just as in the days a century earlier, residents contributed funds to improve health care and build facilities. The primary goal of many of those giving was funding Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida.

HealthPark Medical Center, which opened in 1991, continued evolving and providing more services.

A big, top-of-the-front-page hospital news story broke in 2003 that didn't involve Lee Memorial Health System, but it would in a few years.

On an August day that year Southwest Florida Regional Medical Center announced plans to merge with Gulf Coast Hospital. Both hospitals were owned by HCA-The Healthcare Company. The announcement included the news that the 400-bed Southwest Regional Medical Center on Winkler Avenue would close.

"The justification for this is it's time to replace the building at Southwest,

and the best place is on the Gulf Coast campus," said Mark Weber, chief executive officer and president at the time of Southwest Florida Regional Medical Center and Gulf Coast Hospital.

In October 2006, Gulf Coast Hospital and Southwest Regional Medical Center were merged into Lee Memorial Health System and in March 2009 they were consolidated into one hospital. That one hospital is Gulf Coast Medical Center, which is located on Daniels Parkway in south Fort Myers.

In 2014, Lee Memorial Health System announced plans for a \$140 million health campus in south Lee County. It would include a freestanding emergency room, outpatient surgical center, doctors' offices, imaging and rehabilitation services. Plans called for the facility, Lee Health Village at Coconut Point, to be built on a 30-acre site just south of the upscale Coconut Point Mall.

From 2002 to 2003 Lee County's population grew from 475,073 to 497,022. That's an increase of 21,949, a 4.6 percent rise.

To put the growth in greater perspective, the addition of 21,949 new residents in that year was nearly the equal of the county's population in 1950—23,404.

Many things changed. Population. Technology. Medical care. Communications. Transportation. In 1912, when folks in town started meeting to plan a hospital, just about everybody in Fort Myers knew all or most of the people on the hospital committee and likely every other resident in town. As the first decade of the 21st century neared its end that was impossible as the county's population neared 600,000.

But an annual report to the community for the years 2007-2008 addressed numerous topics and as one reads through it, can see some similarities between the small town of nearly 100 years earlier and the vibrant urban community of the 21st century.

The cover of the report asked this question: "What happens inside our health system?"

It provided brief descriptions of the system, including two specialty hospitals, The Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida and the Rehabilitation Hospital. A paragraph was also devoted to each of the four main hospitals.

The report also addressed the core, the very essence of what hospitals are all about.

From the report: "We are the voice that comforts and the shoulder that supports during the greatest moments and the most difficult times. Lee Memorial Health System team members not only change lives, but we help our patients and their family members make it through moments that seem too hard to endure."

"We're much more than a health system," the report noted in bold face type. "We're your friends, your family and your neighbors."

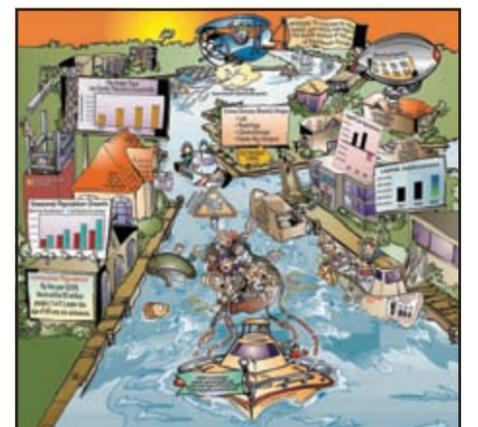
Although Lee County has grown too large for most people to know most of their neighbors, it's quite likely nearly everybody in Lee County has been a patient or knows somebody who has been a patient or knows somebody who works or volunteers in the system.

Few citizens and fewer visitors likely know the scope of care and services provided by Lee Memorial Health System.

The health system's Cleveland Avenue campus includes a 60-bed Rehabilitation Hospital on the fifth and sixth floors. As the Lee Memorial Health System website notes, "It is the only licensed comprehensive inpatient rehabilitation facility in Lee County."

The hospital-within-a-hospital employs 130 people and helps people with a wide array of medical problems from stroke to traumatic brain injury to amputations and more.

Then, there's HealthPark Care & Rehabilitation Center, a 112-bed skilled nursing facility near HealthPark Medical



An education tool helped Lee Memorial Health System employees identify approximately \$14 million in cost-savings or revenue enhancement opportunities for (fiscal year) 2001.



Caring for our patients never gets old.

Center. Patients at this facility receive skilled nursing care and more, with the goal of returning people to their homes.

Sometimes, you don't have to go to Lee Memorial Health System. Sometimes it comes to you. That's the case with Home Health, which makes house calls.

The system's highly trained nurses, physical, speech and occupation therapists and other specialists visit patients in their homes.

The latest addition to the array of health services is the Shipley Cardiothoracic Center, which will focus on innovation, research and education. Its creation was announced in September of 2015. The center will be located in a 10,000-square foot space at HealthPark Medical Center.

Yes, Lee Memorial Health System has

come a long way in a century, but in some ways it remains what it was in 1916—a locally operated health care provider operated by local people. There is no board of directors of a huge corporation located in a big city in a faraway state.

The people of Lee County decide who runs the system through 10 elected officials. There are five districts within the county and members are elected to the Board of Directors for four-year terms. These elected officials work together with health system administrators to provide the best care for the citizens of Lee County and the communities that they serve.

Through it all, Lee Memorial Health System has served the community, saving lives and limbs, bringing babies into the world and caring for the families of those leaving the world. ■



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A Century of Change

When Lee Memorial Hospital first opened a century ago, medical care and technology were in relative dark ages compared to the 21st century.

Insulin wasn't used until 1922, when the hospital was 6 years old. When penicillin was discovered in the late 1920s, Lee Memorial Hospital was still in its original but expanded wooden home at Victoria and Grand avenues.

By the time James Watson and Francis Crick described the DNA molecule in 1953, the hospital had been at its first Cleveland Avenue home for 10 years and the original hospital was an apartment building.

Jonas Salk developed his polio vaccine in 1952 and it became widely available in 1955. The world's first heart transplant was performed in 1967 and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) was invented in 1971; and arthroscopy became commonplace by the late 20th century.

As medical discoveries and advances worldwide became available, Lee Memorial Hospital worked to stay abreast of the developments and incorporate them in patient care. When the first surgery was performed at Lee Memorial Hospital in 1916, Sam Thompson's appendix was removed by a surgeon operating thanks to the light provided by a kerosene lamp in a wooden building without air conditioning.

In 1916, there wasn't an emergency room, as modern people know them. That remained the case for decades. "Back in the old days, there were no emergency room physicians," Dr. Antonucci said. "Each member of the medical staff had to do a 24-hour rotation as an ER doctor. So you may show up to the

emergency room with a heart attack and see a dermatologist or an eye doctor who was going to take care of you until they could get an appropriate specialist in."

That was the case across the spectrum of medical care. By the early 21st century, medical advances made worldwide were available right here in Lee County, procedures likely beyond the imagination of the most farsighted in 1916. A 2003 Lee Memorial Health System publication described some of those procedures. In 1916, when the first surgery was performed at the hospital, the options to operate on Sam Thompson's appendix were likely very few.

"Major surgery used to mean large incisions and prolonged recovery times," a 2003 system pamphlet noted. "However, during the past 10 years technology has evolved to the point that many surgeries can now be done with minimally invasive techniques and the assistance of image-guided technology. For example, surgeons perform image-guided spinal or brain surgery using a small opening and specialized camera and lens combinations."

Yes, that little two-story hospital without air conditioning that opened in 1916 is unimaginable today. Contrast that with a 2005 description of new operating rooms at HealthPark Medical Center. From that special issue published by the hospital: "Each of the new operating rooms at HealthPark Medical Center has its own equipment, electrical and medical gas supplies. They are suspended on ceiling-mounted power booms with moveable arm sections that can be brought within reach—and just as easily moved up and away from patients.

There are no cables across the floor. It's a clean, uncluttered environment, with non-glare room lights."

Lee Memorial Health System also worked to keep its facilities safe and vibrant, adding technology in the 21st century that might have been too far-fetched even for science fiction in the early years.

"When I announced my commitment in 2012 I hoped that it would leverage support from everyone in the community, that it would motivate everyone to contribute in a meaningful way to this important endeavor."

In 2005, for example, the security department at HealthPark Medical Center added something called "proximity card reader technology." It was designed and installed to protect patients and staff.

As described in a June 2005 HealthPark Medical Center publication, hospital staff was allowed access only to parts of the hospital where they worked. According to the special issue: "An administrative employee's proximity card will not access the same units as a nurse or physician. This cuts down on the number of people traveling from unit to unit in the hospital; and protects sensitive areas such as pediatrics and the pharmacy areas."

In 1922, when pioneer nurse Theo Ellis reported for duty as Lee Memorial Hospital's first operating room nurse, instruments were sterilized by boiling on a wood-burning kitchen stove. The same stove was used for cooking. Other supplies were sterilized in a steam chamber.

In a 2003 account in Health Scene, a Lee Memorial publication, the story is told of the time a baby was delivered in 1923 as a hurricane barreled through Fort Myers. At the time, hurricanes didn't have names and there were no radar systems or weather satellites to warn people of their approach.

Lee Memorial Hospital didn't have delivery rooms at the time so babies were delivered in the mother's room. As the storm raged, Ellis waded through ankle deep water on a porch as winds screamed, made it to the room and kept the baby dry.

Caring for infants was a priority then and now, and will remain so in the future, which brings us to one of the most significant developments in Lee Memorial Health System history. The changes even from the late 20th century to the middle of the second decade of the 21st century have been dramatic.



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“When I came in 1983 the care was really excellent but it was limited in its focus,” Dr. Antonucci said. “The expansion of the services has been what’s been so dramatic in my mind. World-class cardiovascular care, orthopedic care, pediatric care, etc. I mean there are so many areas here where we’re just doing incredible work. And we’ve been able to do that over the 100-year history and it’s something to be proud of.”

HealthPark Medical Center

In February of 2003 ground was broken for an expansion at HealthPark Medical Center. In 2005, the hospital published an update on its expansion plans, which included the following:

- 122 more patient beds
- 471 new parking spaces
- Extensive interior renovation
- Expanded central energy plant
- 3-story vertical expansion inpatient tower
- 3-story vertical expansion intensive care unit tower
- Ancillary service tower
- Expansion of surgical suite, central sterile processing, medical records, radiology and laboratory

When HealthPark Medical Center turned 20 in 2011, Jim Nathan wrote about its transformation over two decades. In 1991 he noted it was the second hospital in the system and offered “220 patient beds, comprehensive outpatient service, a 24/7 emergency department, space for 60 physician offices and greater accessibility to health care for an area of Lee County that was quickly growing.”

Between 1991 and 2011 it added The Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida, which as Nathan pointed out was the only nationally accredited children’s

hospital between Tampa and Miami. It also offered the only accredited chest pain center in the area.

On top of that, HealthPark Medical Center was, and remains, a striking facility with an atrium decorated with plants and artwork. An urban myth that has circulated through the county for many years was that the health system had a back-up plan—if the hospital failed the building could easily be transformed into a hotel.

Nathan shot down that rumor in a 2011 piece he wrote. “That is a rumor, and it was never true,” he said.

The main HealthPark Medical Center building is now part of a medical campus that includes so much more. As Nathan noted in 2011, it includes the following:

- Medical Plaza One office complex
- Outpatient Center at HealthPark Commons
- Physician offices
- HealthPark Care & Rehabilitation Center
- Hope Hospice corporate offices and inpatient facilities
- Cypress Cove Continuing Care Retirement Community
- The Ronald McDonald House® of Southwest Florida

It’s perhaps no more than an historical quirk or coincidence but in 2016, the year Lee Memorial turns 100, HealthPark Medical Center celebrates a significant birthday. It turns 25.

Steve Farricielli has worked at HealthPark Medical Center and seen it grow in many ways since the days as a place in the sticks on the way to the Sanibel Causeway.

“When I came from the Lee Memorial Hospital Emergency Department to HealthPark (Medical Center) we had just eight rooms,” Farricielli wrote in an



A premature baby fighting for life in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida

email. “I was the tech and the triage person. We saw hardly any patients. When we did, that patient had all the attention from the nurses and techs and doctor.

“A short time later we added four more rooms in the emergency room. Now we had 12 rooms. That was a big deal. Then, of course, we had 22 rooms plus about 12 half beds, express care with five rooms and pediatric overflow with eight beds. I’ve been working at Lee Memorial Health System for approximately 26 years. I’ve watched HealthPark Medical Center become one of the best hospitals in America.”

Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida

Hospitals don’t happen by waving magic wands. That was true in the years from 1912 to 1916 when Lee County residents met, planned, worked and raised money to build the county’s first hospital.

That’s been the case since the 2000s as work has progressed on planning and now building the \$244-million, 128-bed Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida.

“Miracles happen here,” Nathan said in September of 2015 as hospital con-

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struction reached its halfway point. "People said you couldn't do this. But we said, 'We have to.'"

It was done in many ways. One was raising more than \$100 million in private donations. The biggest individual chunk came from Naples billionaire B. Thomas Golisano, who donated \$20 million to the project. Golisano made the offer contingent on other private donors matching that total in two years.

"When I announced my commitment in 2012 I hoped that it would leverage support from everyone in the community, that it would motivate everyone to contribute in a meaningful way to this important endeavor," Golisano said at the groundbreaking ceremony for the new children's hospital.

An audience The News-Press estimated as "several hundred donors, hospital officials and patient families" attended the event and listened to Golisano.

"And certainly you all did it," Golisano said, referring to the generous outpouring of donations.

The News-Press called it "the largest charitable donation anyone can ever remember in this region."

"Tom Golisano's amazing generosity will change the lives and treatment of children diagnosed with life-threatening and often devastating diagnoses," Sharon MacDonald, the system's chief fundraiser said at the time in a prepared statement. "His challenge grant is inspiring others to give and is having a very positive impact on our central campaign to build Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida."

Golisano was 71 at that time and a Naples resident known for his giving. He founded and was chairman of Paychex Inc. and as of 2012 had already given away more than \$200 million to various charities. Around the same



time as his gift to Lee Memorial Health System, he gave \$34 million to the Children's Hospital at the University of Rochester Medical Center.

In October of 2012, he talked about why he gave away so much.

"People ask me, why do I give to the Children's Hospital," Golisano said. "The response is simple: It's the right thing to do and, in my particular situation, I can do it. It's one of the things that is so gratifying, (has) been so gratifying in my life."

The generosity of many, in addition to Golisano, was astounding. By the fall of 2013, \$64.9 million had been raised from 3,793 donors.

Although Golisano's gift was the largest, huge sums came from other places. The Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest donated \$10 million up to that point. Lee Healthcare Resources had chipped in \$5 million and another \$10 million came from Sanibel-Captiva Cares.

The Anderson Family Foundation gave a sum identified by the system as greater than \$1 million. Chico's FAS donated \$1 million. Local businessman Jim Doyle gave \$1 million in 2013.

It's not mere good luck that all those people and organizations donate vast sums to Lee Memorial Health System.

"Donors give to winners," Nathan said. "Donors don't usually give to losers. They give because they trust the people that they're donating to and they trust the mission of what they're doing. And when you look through the entire history of Lee Memorial, we have been blessed even in those small dollar amounts by today's terms, but they were large dollar amounts by yesterday's terms."

Just as it was in the years 1912-1916 when the first hospital committee met and planned, years of work went into

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Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida before the first shovel hit dirt. In the fall of 2012, for example, Lee Memorial Health System's elected governing board chose builders Skanska USA and Gates. It was a \$191 million deal.

Gulf Coast Medical Center

Lee Memorial Health System purchased Gulf Coast Hospital and Southwest Florida Regional Medical Center on Aug. 31, 2006. The price was \$250 million. Lee Memorial also said it would finish a \$285 million expansion of Gulf Coast.

The purchase left 88-bed Lehigh Regional Medical Center as the county's only private hospital. That didn't concern then Lehigh CEO Allen Tyra. "Our market is Lehigh Acres and the areas east of Lehigh Acres and north of Lehigh Acres," Tyra told The News-Press in 2006. "That's not going to change."

Meanwhile, Lee Memorial Health System kept doing what it had been doing for 90 years to that point: growing, improving and taking care of the patients throughout Lee County.

In the wake of the Gulf Coast and Southwest Florida Regional acquisition, Nathan told The News-Press it was a good move for residents and the hospital.



Above - Gulf Coast Hospital before expansion Below - Gulf Coast Medical Center after expansion

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“This will position us to make health care more efficient, improve the quality outcomes, be more accountable,” Nathan told the paper that fall. “We have an entire system now owned by the citizens of Lee County, and the dollars all stay in Lee County.”

the same as that of the humble two-story hospital built at Victoria and Grand nearly a century earlier. The goals in 1916 and 2009 were the same—improve care.

That’s something Richard Akin, chairman of the system’s 10-member board of directors, emphasized in an interview

tal history since the beginning. In 2009, for example, Gulf Coast Medical Center added a Siemens Sensation CT Scanner.

It is the only comprehensive stroke center in the five-county area. In 2012, the 349-bed hospital was included in U.S. News & World Report rankings of most beautiful hospitals. The hospital has Southwest Florida’s only kidney transplant program and the hospital continues to grow.

In early 2015, Lee Memorial Health System’s board of directors announced plans to begin architectural planning for a 275-bed addition to Gulf Coast Medical Center. The expansion will bring the bed count to 624. Construction is expected to begin in 2017 and be completed in 2020, when Lee Memorial Health System will celebrate 104 years of community care. A News-Press report pegged the potential cost of the project at \$315 million by 2020.

The News-Press also reported that the construction would add three floors to the building and that planners, “envision additional medical offices and a 1,300-space parking garage on the grounds of the Gulf Coast campus.”

As the system has done since its inception, it is responding to need. “Just as the baby boom generation caused the needs for the nation to build more schools when they were young, we must now make significant investments in facilities and programs

to provide health services as they age,” Nathan said in a news release. “This is particularly evident in our community, which has twice the number of people over the age of 65 than the national average.

“The mission of Lee Memorial (Health System) is to meet the health needs of our community and, with the capacity challenges we face, it is our responsibility to invest and respond accordingly.”

Happy Birthday

Lee Memorial Health System is now 100. Few organizations in Southwest Florida are as old.

It’s older than Collier and Hendry counties, which were part of Lee County when the hospital opened.

It’s older than the city of Cape Coral.

It predates the Tamiami Trail.

Only a handful of local businesses are older than the hospital. The

News-Press started

in 1884 as a week-

ly newspaper, called the Fort

Myers Press.

Bailey’s Gener-

al Store in Sanibel opened in

1899. Bartley’s

Sporting Goods, which is located

on Cleveland Avenue near the main

Lee Memorial Hospital

campus, opened in 1910.

Thomas Edison had his

home on McGregor when the hospital

opened. Fort Myers High, Lee County’s

oldest high school, opened in 1911,

just before Lee Memorial Hospital was

being planned and money was raised.

“... and that’s why I say we’ve been blessed through the decades with caring people, caring for people.”

— Jim Nathan

Lee Memorial Health System was true to its 2006 word on the Gulf Coast expansion. The \$285 million, 436,000 square foot Gulf Coast Medical Center opened in 2009 on Daniels Parkway, which is now a heavily traveled urban corridor of gated communities, shopping, golf courses and JetBlue Park, an \$80 million baseball stadium built for the Boston Red Sox.

When Lee Memorial Health System opened in 1916, that corridor was wilderness, a trackless swath of palmettos, pine trees and critters, and likely used by man for little more than hunting.

Gulf Coast Hospital originally opened on a 16-acre site but just like everything else in Southwest Florida, population growth demanded bigger and better facilities. In 2001, the hospital, which was then owned by HCA - The Healthcare Company, paid \$9.2 million for an adjoining 36 acres on two tracts, one just north of the hospital and one just to the south.

When the new Gulf Coast Medical Center opened in 2009, it moved 200 ill patients 4.6 miles across town from Southwest Florida Regional Medical Center. The goal of the new facility was

with Florida Weekly. Saving money is nice but the main thing is saving lives.

“I don’t want this hospital painted as ‘saving money,’ I want it painted as improving the quality of care,” Akin told Florida Weekly in 2009. “Saving money is second.”

Part of doing both occurred in March of 2009 when Southwest Florida Regional Medical Center closed and Gulf Coast Medical Center opened. Closing one hospital and opening another involved an intricate choreography of medical staff and 25 ambulances. The move needed the expert aid of paramedics, emergency medical technicians; and student nurses and EMT trainees from what was then known as Edison State College but is now Florida SouthWest-ern State College.

After 34 years of service, the Southwest Florida Regional Medical Center emergency room closed at 7 a.m., March 8, 2009.

“We’ve saved a lot of lives here,” charge nurse Shay Watson told The News-Press that day. “We’ve made a difference many times.”

Investments in people, training and equipment have been a staple of hospi-



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Generations of Floridians have trooped through its doors. The hospital system now employs more people, roughly 12,000, than resided in Lee County when it opened on Oct. 3, 1916.

It's meant a great deal to a great many people. Donna Gannon, who described herself as part of a "multi-generational" family of Florida natives, responded when the health system asked for hospital memories. She was born at Lee Memorial Hospital, as were her children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins and some others.

"My first memories of Lee Memorial Hospital were in the early 1960s when my mother and grandfather were burned very badly in a fire at home," Gannon wrote. "This was before air-conditioning. The doctors wanted to amputate both of my grandfather's hands. However, they were able to save both hands. He was able to continue his work for the city of Fort Myers until his retirement. He (and all the family)

also worked in his orange groves and he tinkered in his workshop with his crafts and creations until well into his 80s.

"Lee Memorial Health System has been there for multiple family mishaps, stitches, broken bones, surgeries, snake bites, easy and difficult births and an extended visit by my husband for Guillan-Barré Syndrome. I have worked here as a volunteer and as an employee for over 42 years so far. This is my home, my family. I am so thankful for the many people who have been there for my family and me over the years. They have taught me, guided me, supported me, cried with me and shared my happiness and joy. ... always caring."

That was the case in 1916 and remains so in 2016 and will certainly remain the case far into the future. What drove Dr. Daniel McSwain to board a train in Arcadia to operate on Sam Thompson still drives the physicians, nurses, administrators and volunteers at the health system.

"I think one of the most important things for the public to know is that this is their own asset," Nathan said early in 2016. "Not only do they have a publicly elected board but nobody owns Lee Memorial Health System but the citizens of Lee County... As long as I've been around here and reading back in the history and the mission of the organization, it's been here for the purpose of caring for people regardless of their economic status.

"And not every community has the benefit of a hospital or health system that says our mission is to care for people regardless of their economic status."

Lee Memorial Health System has operated for a century without being a burden to taxpayers.

"I think one of the biggest misperceptions that the public has is that



we're tax supported but we are not," Dr. Antonucci said. "We have to operate our hospitals and our entire health system based on our patient revenue. The other thing that I think would be a surprise is that 80 percent of the patients that we see don't cover the costs of their care. And it's really only the 20 percent that have to cover that deficit, plus whatever margin we have left over to build new facilities."

So much has changed but one vital ingredient of health care remains the same. In 1914, citizens dismantled an old courthouse and saved the lumber so they could build Lee County's first hospital two years later. That spirit lives on.

"The commitment to the community doesn't change," Dr. Antonucci said. "The numbers are bigger and the scale is bigger. But the people wanting to do the right thing for their community and raising the money and the gathering the wood and building the facility is not

unlike what happens today."

That's the way it's always been since Lee Memorial Hospital opened its doors on Oct. 3, 1916 in a small wood frame building in Fort Myers. Take care of the patient first. Dr. McSwain, operating by kerosene lamp in a building without air conditioning, took care of Sam Thompson's appendix in 1916.

Dr. McSwain left his home and boarded a train on a fall night long ago because a man was in pain and needed medical help, help from a skilled surgeon. "He could have stayed in Arcadia, right?" Nathan said. "But to travel all night and do surgery and go back early in the morning and then take on his regular job was really caring. And that's why I say we've been blessed through the decades with caring people, caring for people."

Technology, communication, medicine and transportation have changed since 1916. The dedication has not. Not in a century, and counting. ■



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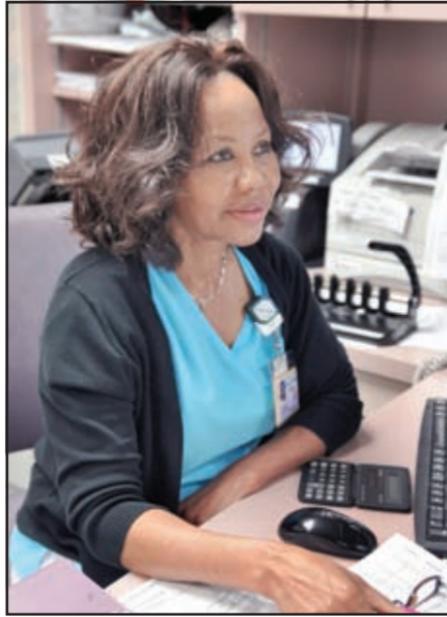
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Quotes

Our board members, system and community leaders, and volunteers and auxiliaries have provided their perspective on our historic milestone. These individuals work hard to sustain and support the Lee Memorial Health System mission, thus ensuring superior health care will thrive for the next 100 years and beyond for the communities we serve.



"It has been a privilege to be part of the health care transformation in Lee County as both an employee and trustee. The innovation and regional impact that Lee Memorial Health System has not only here in Southwest Florida, but in the changing culture of economic, physical and spiritual health and wellness has reached beyond our county lines. I'm excited for Lee Memorial Health System's future and here's to 100 more."

Jessica Carter Peer
District 5

"One hundred years ago some wonderful people had a vision to build what was then a place to serve patients requiring hospital care. That vision has been nurtured over the years to the state-of-the-art facility that Lee Memorial Health System is today. Congratulations to all involved."

Stephen R. Brown, M.D.
District 1

"Congratulations on a great milestone. Truly, caring people caring for people."

Diane Champion
District 4

"If Thomas and Mina Edison and my great grandfather could see Fort Myers today, they would be awestruck by the current medical science and services available in Lee Memorial Health System. Congratulations and thank you to all of our community leaders for caring and planning for the health care and wellness of the citizens of Lee County."

Donna Clarke, Vice-Chairman
District 2

"It is an honor and privilege to offer my congratulations to the community and Lee Memorial Health System for the 100-year anniversary. We have come from humble beginnings with a supportive community dedicated to caring for its residents. We continue this journey today, always striving to serve our community by remaining caring people, caring for people."

Therese Everly, BS, RRT, Secretary
District 1

"How exciting to be part of Lee Memorial Health System's centennial celebration. Thank you to our pioneers for having foresight and wisdom to start what has become one of Southwest Florida's most valuable assets. On a personal level, many of my memorable life events have involved this organization, literally beginning at birth. Yes, I was born at Lee Memorial Hospital as was my father before me. I am honored to serve on the Board of Directors. God-willing, I am eager to work hard with so many in our community to ensure this invaluable asset is sustainable for the next 100 years!"

Chris Hansen
District 4

"Congratulations, Lee Memorial Health System, on 100 years of exemplary service!"

Stephanie Meyer, RN, BSN
District 5

"I look back 17 years ago when I first walked through the doors of Lee Memorial Health System as a Board Member. How excited and nervous I was to enter into the boardroom. Now, years later, I feel a sense of belonging and friendship. I am grateful for all the relationships I have developed throughout those 17 years. Many, I know, will continue to be part of my life after the time I no longer remain on the Board. Thank you to all those who have helped make Lee Memorial Health System one of the premier destinations for quality health care. Congratulations on a wonderful 100 years."

Nancy McGovern, RN, MSM
District 2

"Wow! 100 years serving this great community! Congratulations and thank you to all past and present employees, providers and volunteers dedicated to serving our community!"

David Cato, chief administrative officer,
Outpatient Services

"Congratulations Lee Memorial Health System on 100 years of excellence in delivering high quality patient care. It is an honor to be part of this wonderful system that provides such an invaluable service to our community."

Roger Chen, vice president,
Organization Transformation

"Congratulations Lee Memorial Health System! Happy 100 to a system that has saved thousands of lives over the years."

Josh DeTillio, chief administrative officer,
Gulf Coast Medical Center

"It is an honor to recognize and celebrate the 100-year anniversary of Lee Memorial Health System. Congratulations to all of the caregivers who make the system an organization that the community can be proud of!"

Kris Fay, chief administrative officer,
Lee Physician Group

"For 100 years Lee Memorial Health System has been a guiding light for health care in the community—hundreds years of caring. Congratulations."

Donna Giannuzzi, system chief patient care officer, and chief administrative officer,
HealthPark Medical Center

"Congratulations on your 100th anniversary. It's incredible to see our community invest in the people and assets of our health system as they did from the very beginning. Looking forward to the next 100 years, focused on connecting with our community and advancing the health and well-being of those we serve."

Scott Kashman, chief administrative officer,
Cape Coral Hospital



Board Members

"The directors and staff of Lee Memorial Health System have provided for the health needs of our community for a century. The current Board's task is to shepherd today's multihospital, 11,000+ strong employee system to assure that the next century will see Lee County continue to be fully served by a health system that is constantly evolving to meet the health needs of a growing population and the medical education needs of a 1,200+ strong medical staff."

Sanford N. Cohen, M.D.,
Chairman of the Board 2016
District 3

"As we celebrate the 100th anniversary of Lee Memorial Health System, it gives us time to pause and reflect on how far we have journeyed as a health care system. It is also a great time to pause and look into the future. I am proud to see Lee Memorial Health System enter our next century with cutting-edge vision; and am thankful for the hardworking staff, leadership and community at large who rally around our efforts to be caring people, caring for people."

David F. Collins, Treasurer
District 3

System Leaders

"Happy 100th birthday and thanks to the thousands of dedicated physicians and staff who have worked over the past century to create a truly remarkable place of healing and wellness."

Larry Antonucci, M.D.,
chief operating officer

Lee Memorial Health System
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“Congratulations, Lee Memorial Health System! Serving the community for 100 years as a public hospital without tax support and providing high quality care to all members of the community regardless of ability to pay is a monumental accomplishment. I have been privileged to be part of it for the past two decades.”

Chuck Krivenko, M.D., chief medical officer, Clinical Services



“Looking over the long and incredible history of Lee Memorial Health System, I feel privileged to have travelled even a small part of the journey. From the humble beginnings in 1916 to today’s multihospital system, Lee Memorial has been at the heart of the community, building care and services that would assure a healthy future. Congratulations to the luminaries of the past, the leadership of the present and the visionaries of the future for this incredible health care system and for being caring people, caring for people.”

Sharon MacDonald, chief administrative officer, Oncology and Home Health Services

Congratulations to Lee Memorial Health System on 100 years of providing our community with the very finest in health care. Lee Memorial Health System Foundation is proud to be part of this incredible history. We look forward to the next 100 years.

Elwood “Skip” Leonard, chief foundation officer

“The legacy of Lee Memorial Health System is the caring and compassionate staff that has the privilege every day of improving the health of our community. It is through their dedication, the perseverance of our leadership team, and the support of community members that we have had the honor to serve all these years and grow to meet their health care needs.”

Kevin Newingham, chief strategy officer, Strategic Services

“It is an honor to have joined Lee Memorial Health System and to be able to participate both in the 100-year celebration, while having the opportunity to provide strategic and thoughtful leadership as we begin to write the first chapter for the next 100 year anniversary.”

Scott Nygaard, M.D., chief medical officer, Physician Services and Network Development

“Recently, when one looks at health care, you can see institutions, large organizations, big buildings and big businesses. Lee Memorial Health System was built on a simple concept of people caring for people. On the occasion of our 100th anniversary, our community has grown and so has Lee Memorial Health System, with our core principle of people caring for people remaining steadfast.”

Lisa Sgarlata, chief administrative officer, Lee Memorial Hospital

“Lee Memorial Health System has been and is a real crown jewel for our community. Congratulations to our very talented past employees and leadership staff for making it happen and for being such an important asset to the families who live in and visit our community!”

Mike Smith, chief information officer

“Congratulations, Lee Memorial Health System, on 100 years of incredible success. Thank you for all the care you have provided and the health improvements achieved and lives saved because of your existence. Thank you for providing a caring environment for our children, teens, adults and seniors.”

Ben Spence, chief financial officer

“Happy 100th anniversary to Lee Memorial Health System! For the past quarter century I have had the privilege of being part of this dedicated health system that has always put the needs of the community first.

One of the identified community needs has been developing health care services specifically for children. To this end, we have worked to make this vision a reality. The new Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida will open in 2017 to serve the children in this region. We are truly caring people...caring for kids!”

Kathy Bridge-Liles, chief administrative officer, Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida

“Congratulations, Lee Memorial Health System. 100 years of service to our community is a remarkable achievement. May we be blessed to continue this legacy of caring for another 100 years.”

Mary McGillicuddy, chief legal counsel and general counsel



I have had the privilege to serve Lee Memorial Health System for 44 of its first 100 years...almost half of its life and most of mine! This is a phenomenal experience, and one which I could never have dreamed possible. Tens of thousands of extraordinarily caring, dedicated and committed staff—whether medical, clinical, support, clerical or administrative—have come to work every day over the last 100 years to better the lives of so many in need of care in our community. They have given so much of their lives and made sacrifices to their families to serve and care for others. Lee County and Southwest Florida are blessed to have an institution like Lee Memorial Health System that is right here for so many people from the beginning to the end of their lives.

Jon C. Cecil, chief human resources officer

Auxiliary and Volunteer Leaders

“How exciting it is that Lee Memorial Health System is celebrating its 100th birthday. Since 1950 I have witnessed the growth of Lee Memorial Hospital. Now, Lee Memorial Hospital, HealthPark Medical Center, Cape Coral Hospital, Gulf Coast Medical Center, and the soon-to-be new Golisano Children’s Hospital tower are one system, and one of the best tax-free hospital systems in our country. It has been my pleasure to have been an active volunteer since 1953.”

Christie Knudsen, president 1956-57, Lee Memorial Hospital Auxiliary

“While the primary focus of the Cape Coral Hospital Auxiliary has been the needs of Cape Coral Hospital and its community, being part of Lee Memorial Health System has provided the opportunity to support broader community health care improvements, such as Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida. The totality of the system’s parts means that quality health care, that might not otherwise be available locally, is right here in Lee County.

Congratulations to the officers and trustees, past and present, for outstanding vision of what has been needed, and will be needed, to give the people of Lee County, and beyond, health care of which they can be proud.”

Jim Eberz, president, Cape Coral Hospital Auxiliary

Community Leaders

“In 2007, I was asked to chair the ‘Project 2017’ steering committee for Lee Memorial Health System. Today, ‘Project 2017’ is more widely recognized as ‘Healthy Lee’, which continues to offer a visionary approach to health care and focuses on making a difference in the quality of life in Southwest Florida. Congratulations to Lee Memorial Health System on celebrating 100 years!”

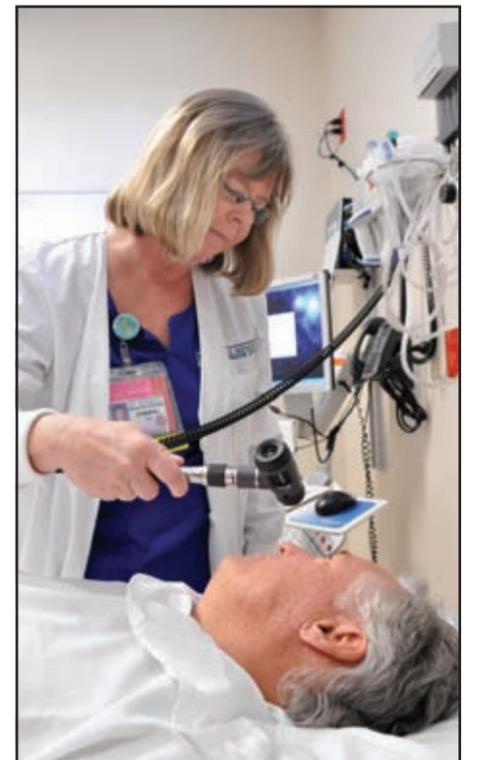
Gary Trippe, chairman and director, Disabled Veterans Insurance Careers

“The City of Fort Myers celebrates with Lee Memorial Health System 100 years of caring for citizens. Lee Memorial Health System has emerged as one of the top care facilities in the nation offering citizens high quality caring in an ever complex system of health care delivery. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the entire team at Lee Memorial Health System and its Board of Directors.”

Randall P. Henderson, Jr., mayor, Fort Myers

“As the health care leader in our region, Lee Memorial Health System plays an integral role in creating a healthier Southwest Florida. The organization’s 100-year history is impressive and continues to evolve in a positive direction with visionary community-building achievements such as Healthy Lee.”

Robbie Roepstorff, chair, Healthy Lee; president, Edison National Bank/Bank of the Islands



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Thank You

This publication would not have been possible without the tireless dedication of volunteers; and current and retired employees who helped to research, organize volumes of old documents and share their stories. The list is long and our appreciation is deep for these volunteer historians; however, we want to provide a special thanks to Dr. Roger Scott. Dr. Scott was a pioneer surgeon in Lee County, practicing at Lee Memorial and Jones Walker Hospitals and serving all patients regardless of economic or ethnic back-

ground. He also dedicated much of his recent years to preserving medical history for our region as the curator of the Medical History Museum housed at Florida SouthWestern State College.

Thank you, to author Glenn Miller, who spent many days researching, interviewing people and writing the history narrative. A thank you to the following organizations for the use of their historical files in his research:

- Southwest Florida Historical Society
- Southwest Florida Museum of History

- Florida Weekly
- The News-Press
- NBC-2
- The Bonita Banner
- Lee County Public Library
- "The Story of Fort Myers," by 1949 author Karl Grismer

Lee Memorial Health System extends special recognition to the history department at Florida Gulf Coast University. Erik Carlson, Ph.D., professor of History, graduate students Joshua Fortin and Nicole M. Diehm and under-

graduate students Diana Ramirez and Noah Anderson spent numerous hours reviewing historical documents and properly archiving videos, news clippings and photos from the past 100 years. Their work will preserve our rich history for future generations. We are grateful for their involvement and dedication to this project.

We hope this overview of our past will inspire you to keep reading, even as we write a new history in the years to come. Thank you for being part of our journey. ■



LeeHealth.org

After 100 years, Lee Memorial Health System is changing its name to Lee Health. This change reflects the future direction of health care and the role that we play for the Southwest Florida communities we serve. Our focus will be on health and well-being, and partnering with individuals to provide services and guidance to enable them to live their healthiest life possible.



Happy 100th Anniversary!
So blessed to be a part of it!
Glen, Joanne & Family



JOHNNY PREVATT & SONS PAVING

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How do you celebrate 100 years

JOINED HEALTH

with the people of Southwest Florida?

With a new name and a
strong commitment to
even deeper connections.

Lee Memorial Health System
is now Lee Health.



LEE HEALTH
Caring People. Inspiring Health.

LeeHealth.org

Less pain, faster recovery,
more natural motion.*

Who knew a partial knee
could do so much?



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* Compared to total knee replacement. Refer to references at oxfordknee.com. © 2016 Zimmer Biomet