Southwest Florida’s vanishing pay telephones are an endangered species

BY ROGER WILLIAMS
rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

Tom Cameron had it good back in the day — back when he actually paid business owners a commission to install his pay telephones for their customers.

That was a different country, the United States in the second half of the 20th century.

Then, more than 2 million pay telephones were sewn into the culture, studying the fabric of American roads and shops, of public and private buildings, city street corners and country rest stops like decorative beads that could provide an essential if colorful use — instant communication away from home.

Even owning a single payphone in a high-volume neighborhood once could net Mr. Cameron $500 to $600 a month, he recalls. And the more the merrier. Many owners maintained scores or even hundreds of them.

“Now if somebody wants a payphone at their place of business, they gotta pay for it themselves,” he says.

But not many business owners do that.

About 75 percent of the payphones that once populated the American landscape are gone, industry officials say. Payphones, especially those operated with coins and not credit cards, are all

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New book picks the brains of local leaders.
John Peterson and I decided to become cops because of Frank Nelick. A Texan by birth and upbringing, Mr. Nelick was universally known as the coolest man who ever lived. He was also, paradoxically, a friend of the state’s top cop, Vern Miller, the scrappy attorney general. Mr. Miller agreed to open the doors for us to the Kansas State Police Academy on the prairie outside Hutchinson through a single month in the summer of 1972. That’s what it took then to get certified or recertified as a cop: 30 days on a deserted airbase with veteran Kansas police officers wielding .38 pistols and a strong mistrust of flowered VW vans. One of the instructors warned us vehemently against any we saw passing through our towns. We were to stop them whenever we saw them because their occupants would corrupt the town, the state and the nation with drugs, illicit sex (whatever that is, as Keith Richards says), and rock ‘n roll. It was hippy profiling at its most unapologetic.

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Sen. Kent Conrad of North Dakota is the chairman of the Senate Budget Committee. That means he’s the Democratic point person for the absolutely essential work of not coming up with a budget.

Conrad has occasionally gone wobbly. Sometimes he has sounded dangerously close to betraying the cause that his party has entrusted to him. Last month, the senator went on national TV to say he was going to have his committee “mark up” what he called a “10-year plan” — i.e., a budget. After briefly flitting with this treachery, Conrad came back to his sences and recommitted himself to his duty to remain resolutely budgetless for another year.

He didn’t hold a markup at all, which is the time-honored process by which a bill is debated, amended and voted on. Conrad dispensed with all such fluff and minutiae. He offered his own plan, issued based on the work of the Bowles-Simpson deficit-reduction commission, shot down any foolishness about tax hikes or voting, and pronounced himself well-pleased. Conrad had delivered yet again, by not deliver- ing a budget.

If this seems an easy, almost no-show job to you, think again. There are two varieties of budgetary boldness. There’s the bull’s-eye kind where you write a letter to the president saying “if we can’t find a budget, I’ll call it quits and you can hold my chair.” That approach has its merits, but even the Senate won’t have an annual excuse to stay off-budget.

The 1974 Budget Act says that, as a matter of law, the Senate Budget Committee is to pass a resolution by April 1 and Congress as a whole to pass one by April 15. No Senate, no budget vote. Kent Conrad is it, so pickled, weary, and toneless.

Three targeted Americans: A career government official, a filmmaker, and a hacker. None of these U.S. citizens was charged with a crime, but they have been tracked, spied upon, deceived, and sometimes at gunpoint — and interrogated, with no access to a lawyer. Each remains resolute in questioning the increasing government crackdown on dissent.

The intelligence official: William Binney, 72, used to work for the secretive National Security Agency (NSA), the U.S. spy agency that dwarfs the CIA. As technical director of the NSA’s World Geopolitical and Military Analysis Reporting Group, Binney told me, he was tasked to “see how we could solve collection, analysis and reporting on military and geopolitical issues all around the world — in the world.”

Throughout the 1990s, the NSA developed a massive eavesdropping system code-named ThinThread, which, Binney says, maintained crucial protections on the privacy of U.S. citizens demanded by the U.S. Constitution. He recalled, “After 9/11, all the wraps came off for NSA,” as massive domestic spying became the norm. He resigned on Oct. 31, 2001. Conrad has been the Senate’s number one critic of the NSA’s activities. Binney explained to me that the Bush administration turned down his offers to testify before Congress.

The filmmaker: Laura Poitras is an Academy Award-winning documentary filmmaker, whose recent films include “My Country, My Country,” about a U.S. occupational amputee, in the shower. They pointed their guns at his head, then led him to his back porch and interrogated him.

The hacker: Jacob Appelbaum works as a computer security researcher for the nonprofit organization the Tor Project (torproject.org), which is a free software package that allows people to browse the Internet anonymously, evading government surveillance. Tor was actually created by the U.S. Navy, and is now developed and maintained by Appelbaum and his colleagues. The software is used by dissidents around the world to communicate over the Internet. Tor also serves as the main way that the controversial WikiLeaks website protects those who release documents to it. Appelbaum’s work with WikiLeaks, leading to intense U.S. govern- ment surveillance.

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The NSA is watching you

Three others were raided that morn- ing. They called the FBI raid “retribu- tion and intimidation so we didn’t go to the Judiciary Committee in the Senate and tell them. We’re here what’s gone on.” Binney says, they would lose their seats on the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and intimidation so we didn’t go to the Judiciary Committee in the Senate and tell them. We’re here what’s gone on.” Binney was never charged with any crime.

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Sharon Kenny, the author of “Where Should We Eat? A Food Lover’s Recommended Places to Eat and Drink in the Naples Area,” has been a weekly guest on my show for several years. Not only does she share her expertise about dining establishments with our listeners, but she understands and promotes community events as well.

Sharon was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, into an extended family of farmers, which gave her an early appreciation of fresh vegetables and fruit grown on their land. Dining out, she recalls, was limited to the rare visit to a Chinese restaurant or “a place that grilled split hot dogs and shoestring fries — that was a real treat!”

She was 14 when she went to her first Polynesian restaurant. “I remember having to cross a little bridge over a stream to get to our table. And the food! Sweet, tender bites of meat on a stick, something to get to our table. And the food! Sweet, tender bites of meat on a stick, something I never knew food could taste like. I can still see that place and I can still hear the music they played.”

“…I never knew food could taste like that or that a restaurant could transport you to another world.”

She’s been exploring restaurants of all kinds ever since. And she worked in restaurants while studying French translation at the University of Manitoba and restaurants while studying French translation at the University of Toronto. Because food adventures were very limited, she had to learn to cook the exotic meals she missed so much.

Sharon and her husband, Sean (also a food lover), moved to St. Louis in 1989 and spent several years there. Although they found the food somewhat conservative for their adventurous palates, that’s where Sharon gained experience writing food reviews for the college paper while she was earning a master’s degree in art history.

When they moved to the Paradise Coast, Sharon became involved with the city’s advisory committee on art in public places and chaired the committee for more than 10 years. She also continued her pursuit of great dining experiences (the photo accompanying was taken last summer when Sharon was visiting the Domaine Chandon Vineyard in the Napa Valley). Soon she had a list of local places she could readily recommend to anyone who asked for advice on where to eat. And eventually, she published her guide (the fourth edition of which lists 114 restaurants, markets and bars throughout the area).

Sharon does not rate restaurants; she only recommends them. For inclusion, a dining establishment must be locally owned and have a unique atmosphere, a selection of cheeses and unusual fruits, and residents enjoy Naples a bit more.”

Talking points with Sharon Kenny

Something that’s been on your mind:
My next volunteer project.

Something your mother was always right about:
When you decide to be a nice girl, you can come out of your room.

What would you be doing if you weren’t doing this?
Teaching art history.

What makes you laugh?
My dogs and the online comments in the Naples Daily News.


Next vacation destination: Japan.

Something you’ll never understand: Japanese!

As a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up? A world traveler.

First job: From age 14-17, I worked as a page at the University of Toronto and the University of Toronto.

My last year in Toronto was an exploration of food from as many places I could afford — especially dim sum, Greek and Thai,” she says. “Every weekend I’d buy a selection of cheeses and unusual fruits and vegetables to try, things I’d never seen before.”

After college, she worked in the Northwest Territories and in Saskatchewan. Because food adventures were very limited, she had to learn to cook the exotic meals she missed so much.

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Nice view and good food.

“In all the good restaurants, you can tell that someone cares,” she says. “I’m glad to be able to help those people who put heart and soul into their restaurant. And I’m happy that I can help visitors and residents enjoy Naples a bit more.”
New Opportunities at Shell Point
The public is invited and many of these events are free.

May 7
May 15, 22

May 8, 16, 22, & 30

Three Great Seventeenth Century Dutch Masters
Dorothy “Dottie” Magen, M.A. is back to offer three presentations to the Academy of Lifelong Learning. She examines the life and artistic contributions of these great Dutch masters. Each session costs $10. Call (239) 489-8472 to reserve your place.

The Academy of Lifelong Learning
The public is invited and many of these events are free.

May 7
The Arab Spring – One Year Later from 6:45pm to 8:15pm. Professor Adrian Kerr offers an in-depth look at the History of the Middle East to help us understand what led to the uprisings in the spring of 2011, and the issues of today in this troubled region of the world. Tickets are $10.

Call (239) 489-8472 to reserve your place.

May 8, Session 1, Rembrandt from 2:00pm to 4:00 pm
May 15 Session 2, Vermeer from 2:00pm to 4:00 pm
May 22 Session 3, Hals from 2:00pm to 4:00 pm

May 30
Your Eyes Don’t Have to Act Their Age at 3:30 pm. Dr. Michael J. Collins, board certified Ophthalmologist will speak about exciting new advances in cataract surgery, and how you can customize it to fit your lifestyle. This event is free. Call (239) 489-8472 to reserve your space.

PLAY FOR LESS ALL SUMMER LONG
SUMMER GOLF MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE MAY 15 TO OCT. 15
The Shell Point Golf Club is offering a special summer membership rate to golfers interested in joining the golf club from May 15 through October 15. The cost is only $150 and includes:
• Reciprocal privileges
• 21 days advance tee times (online)
• 10% off merchandise (soft goods)
• Charge accounts
• Reduced cart fees

FOR INFORMATION CALL (239) 433-9790.

Visit www.shellpoint.org/LES for full descriptions of this month’s events!

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Life Enrichment Series
Explore + Imagine + Laugh + Create + Learn + Inspire
KEYBANK FORUM SET FOR WOMEN BUSINESS LEADERS
KeyBank’s 2012 Key4Women Forum, a benefit for PACE Center for Girls-Collier at Immokalee, takes place from 7:45 am, Friday, May 11, at the Hilton Naples. The session will highlight essential communication shifts that women in business — owners, managers and other decision makers, including those in the nonprofit sector — must understand in order to remain competitive.

Guest speakers Debra Jasper and Betsy Hubbard of Mindset Digital will discuss how organizations can assess their digital footprint and leverage social media channels such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Pinterest. They will discuss how a “Facebook world” is dramatically changing customer expectations.

Admission is $20. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 466-2518 or visiting www.key.com/womensforum.

Help postal workers ‘Stamp Out Hunger’ on May 12
Letter carriers in Collier and Lee counties are gearing up for the 20th annual National Letter Carrier Food Drive. The country’s largest single-day drive to help “Stamp Out Hunger” in America takes place Saturday, May 12. More than 10,000 communities across the country participate.

Area residents are asked to leave donations of non-perishable food at their mailboxes for pick-up.

Northerners who are returning home prior to May 12 can drop off their contributions at any U.S. Post Office; the items will be saved and added to the May 12 contributions. Businesses can set up collection boxes for employees and customers who for whatever reason cannot leave food by their mailboxes on May 12.

Foods high on the list of suitable donations include peanut butter and jelly; canned tuna, soups and vegetables; fruit and rice; beans. Donations must be in unbreakable and unopened containers.

All food collected in Collier County goes to Collier Harvest for distribution. Donations in Lee County go to the Harry Chapin Food Bank.

Local residents are needed to assist with the collection effort in two ways:
• Driving behind letter carriers along their routes to help collect and transport food donations; or
• Helping sort items as donations arrive at the main collection site.

To assist a letter carrier in Collier County, call Jesse Costin at 643-4716; to assist a letter carrier in Lee County, call 455-3663.

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PHONES

From page 1

but forgotten relics of another era. "I used to see them in the front of Walmart or Total Wine or occasionally by a bus stop," observes Jill Haugheie, a Neapolitan and organizer of the Unite Women March set to take place Saturday, April 28, in Naples.

One of scores organized in cities across the U.S. that day, Unite Women Naples presents the fact that American women continue to be underpaid and over-regulated when it comes to sala ries and their bodies and health.

But nobody will be calling home from a payphone along the march route to describe it, says Ms. Haugheie.

"Now all that remains (where the payphones used to be) is the outer shell — the stands that used to contain them. Maybe with a little gang graffiti, and maybe just the hanging receiver or the cord.

"There was one near the Beall’s and a mailbox, I remember. I just assume someone tore it off to get the quarters... I hope you were looking at our lat est (report)," cautions Cynthia Muir, a Florida Public Service Commission spokeswoman. She was at Lee Memorial Health Services, one of the largest public systems in Florida: no pay public telephones.

"We have courtesy phones," explains Mary Briggs, the spokeswoman at Lee Memorial Heath. They’re landlines too, like payphones. And like payphones, they’re capable of functioning if the cell tower goes down.

The same is true at all other hospi tals in the region.

But now, if you don’t have a cell phone you can call for free. And now these cell phones are a lot less expensive than they used to be and cell towers are a lot more dependable, so 90 percent of Americans now have cell phones and use them, communica tions officials say.

"There are more like 51,000 payphones left in Florida," Ms. Muir con cludes. "No, we do not have any pay phones here — I don’t think we’ve had them in years," says Michelle Ritter, a spokes woman at Fawcett Memorial Hospital in Port Charlotte.

Ditto at Naples Community Hospital and at Lee Memorial Health Services, with four acute care hospitals, one of the largest public systems in Florida: no public pay telephones.

"There are more like 51,000 payphones left in Florida," Ms. Muir con cludes. "Half of these calls were direct dial calls, when somebody put in 50 cents and March 31, 1,409 calls were made, or 40% of them, for a total of $320 from the pay phone business.

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At the same time, with personal phones and data plans, people can do more with a cell phone than they could with a payphone. Or not.

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But now, if you don’t have a cell phone you can call for free. And now these cell phones are a lot less expensive than they used to be and cell towers are a lot more dependable, so 90 percent of Americans now have cell phones and use them, communica tions officials say.

"There are more like 51,000 payphones left in Florida," Ms. Muir con cludes. "No, we do not have any pay phones here — I don’t think we’ve had them in years," says Michelle Ritter, a spokes woman at Fawcett Memorial Hospital in Port Charlotte.

Ditto at Naples Community Hospital and at Lee Memorial Health Services, with four acute care hospitals, one of the largest public systems in Florida: no public pay telephones.

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Walkers gain eye-opening insight about life with vision impairment

Participants in Lighthouse of Collier’s recent “Walk A Mile in Our Shoes” event wore special glasses that let them experience vision impairment as they set out on the 1-mile course around Bayfront.

Walker Prudence Demmler described the experience as a real “eye-opener.” “It made me realize how balance and depth perception are affected,” Ms. Demmler said about the glasses that simulated glaucoma, macular degeneration, cataracts and diabetic retinopathy. “It was very hard to keep stable while stepping.”

In addition to raising their own awareness of vision impairments, the participants, along with numerous sponsors from the community, raised $6,550 for Lighthouse of Collier Center for Blindness and Vision Loss.

The mission of the Lighthouse of Collier is to promote the development, implementation and on-going evaluation of programs and services that foster independence and enhance the quality of life for the blind, visually impaired and their caregivers.

The agency celebrates its third birthday with an open house from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, May 3, at its donated space at 424 Bayfront Place. Brad Marquardt of Magnifying Selections and Optelec are sponsoring the celebration; EJ’s Cafe at Bayfront and Eat Your Art Out have donated refreshments. All are welcome.

To learn more about the programs and services offered, call 430-3934 or visit www.lighthouseofcollier.org.

Special glasses let walkers experience different kinds of vision impairment.
Building the Trail took blood, sweat and mosquitoes

For most of us, the Tamiami Trail — the 275-mile stretch of highway that runs through Hillsborough, Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, Collier and Miami-Dade counties — has been in existence as long as we have, or at least as long as we’ve lived here in Southwest Florida; however, that wasn’t always the case.

In fact, the 84th anniversary of the completion of today’s much-traveled Trail was celebrated recently in Everglades City, Collier County’s former governing center.

In the early 1900s, the idea of connecting the east coast of Florida with the west coast by road was but a pipe dream of Capt. James Franklin Jaudon, a Miami tax assessor who had purchased quite a bit of land in Monroe County. Capt. Jaudon initially proposed the road with hopes of further developing his own properties with the Chevalier Company.

By 1915, the Trail reached from Tampa down to Fort Myers, before coming to a screeching halt, due to a lack of financing. Enter Nashville-born streetcar advertising magnate Barron Gift Collier. A man with a vision, Mr. Collier set out to complete the final 110-mile stretch of the Trail that would connect Naples to Miami, at his own considerable expense. The massive undertaking was often compared to the construction of the Panama Canal, and the working conditions were unimaginable: swamp lands infested with scores of mosquitoes, hundreds of snakes and alligators, thousands of horseflies that would take a hunk out of their unsuspecting target. The men labored in unbearable heat and endless waist-deep water, which often resulted in swamp rot afflicting their feet.

Policing the Trail, back then

While the construction of the Trail was ongoing, Mr. Collier needed to patrol his L276,160 acres that stretched from the Miami-Dade line eastward.

Everglades City was abuzz with excitement on April 26, 1928, at the official opening of the Tamiami Trail connecting this side of the state with Miami. This final link in the completion of the Tamiami Trail would forever change the Florida landscape. Shown in the distance at the left is the old train station, now the Seafood Depot.
Workers hauled dynamite amid endless mosquitoes, snakes and horseflies during construction of the Trail in the mid-1920s.

very rough gravel roads were wide open and not heavily trafficked yet, and wild animals were also known to roam freely. The six way stations along the Trail were Belle Meade (at Collier Boulevard), Royal Palm Hammock (at County Road 92, next to Collier-Seminole State Park), Weaver Station (renamed Big Cypress Bend Station, across from the Fakahatchee Strand boardwalk; it was demolished by Hurricane Andrew in 1992), Turner River (near Ochopee), Monroe Station (listed on the National Register of Historic Places and currently moved back away from the road in Ochopee and boarded up) and the Paolita Station (at the Miami-Dade County line). The Big Cypress National Preserve has ownership of the Monroe Station and plans to restore it to an interpretive museum.

From 1925 until 1928, Mr. Collier’s crews worked round-the-clock to complete the Naples-Miami link that would open Southwest Florida to the masses. The entire Tamiami Trail took 13 years to complete, at a staggering cost, for the times, of $8 million (half of which was for the purchase of dynamite).

The morning of April 26, 1928, dawned a glorious day for celebrating. Various local newspapers reported that a cavalcade with 500 cars had formed in Tampa to make the trek over to Miami with numerous celebrations along the way, including one at Everglades City where the mayor and Gov. John Wellborn Martin led the motorcade through the former grandiose stone archway at the Miami-Dade County line later that afternoon, en route to Miami.

Fast forward 84 years, to a breezy, overcast day in late April 2012. More than 100 people attended the small anniversary celebration in Everglades City that began with a motorcade of antique cars, coming to rest outside the Museum of the Everglades.

“It’s hard to believe that just 84 years ago they were just starting to carve this area out of the wilderness,” Joy Willard, a visitor from New York, marveled. In addition to hot dogs and cake, those in attendance were entertained by the sounds of Nate Augustus of the Gladezmen throughout the celebration.

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Have a heart for ‘Go Red’ annual luncheon

The American Heart Association’s 2012 Southwest Florida “Go Red For Women” luncheon is set for Wednesday, May 23, at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort & Spa in Bonita Springs. Keynote speaker Dr. Jennifer Mieres is one of the world’s leading experts and patient advocates in the fields of nuclear cardiology and cardiovascular disease in women.

Luncheon tickets are $125 per person, and sponsorships are available. For tickets or more information, call Monica Seif at 495-4903 or e-mail monica.seif@heart.org.

Help ‘Make Strides’ in the fight against breast cancer

Anyone who wants to get involved with the American Cancer Society’s next “Making Strides Against Breast Cancer” 5K walk is invited to learn more at a “Put on Your Pink Bra” committee rally from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 10, at Clive Daniel Home, 2777 Tamiami Trail N. in Naples. Wine and hors d’oeuvres will be served.

Friends, supporters, family members, caregivers, survivors and all whose lives have been touched by breast cancer are welcome.

Experts offer free advice on how to prevent foreclosure

The Housing Development Corp. of Southwest Florida Inc. and Goodwill Industries Job-Link Services present “Understanding Your Mortgage Options,” a free program about preventing foreclosure, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, May 4, at the United Way House at 20520 Old 41 Road, Bonita Springs.

Representatives from Fannie Mae, Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Bank of America, Chase, GMAC and Fifth Third Bank will be on-site to meet with homeowners.

In addition, certified housing counselors from the Housing Development Corp. of Southwest Florida will be available to discuss the State Hardest Hit Fund program and other foreclosure prevention options. And Goodwill Job-Link Services will have staff and materials available to assist homeowners who are seeking employment.

Pick up a Copy of Florida Weekly at Mario’s Meat Market and Deli

12326 S. Cleveland Avenue, Fort Myers
Monday-Saturday 9am-6pm
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The Robb & Stucky Half Off Floor Sample Sale has arrived! For a limited time, save up to 50% off MSRP on select furniture collections as we make room for new arrivals. Plus additional savings on select Royall & Borden, the world’s finest mattress, made exclusively for Robb & Stucky.

Experience the legendary handmade quality of Royall & Borden – starting at $799 per queen set. All to help you live life beautifully.

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This former model home, built by Harbourside Homes, features ALL of the finest qualities you demand for upscale living. Kitchen designed with walk-in-pantry, amazing views and the ovens have never been used! Invisible edge pool. Furniture negotiable.

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HIT THE LINKS FOR AREA CHARITIES

Here are some charity tournaments coming up for golfers on area greens:

- The Titan Gridiron Club at Golden Gate High School holds its second annual golf scramble Saturday, May 5, at Naples Lakes Country Club. The shotgun start is at 8 a.m. and the game is followed by lunch and live and silent auctions.
- Registration is $25 per person or $400 for a foursome. For a registration form or more information, contact Barb Anderson by calling 564-9440 or e-mailing balpkrfan@aol.com.
- Pack your putter and two other clubs of your choice and have fun at “Three Sticks for Kicks” on Saturday, May 5, at VI at Bentley Village. The non-traditional tournament will benefit Charity for Change and its School “Giver” Program at local elementary schools.
- The day begins at 8 a.m. with poolside continental breakfast and includes beer on the course, a lunch buffet and awards ceremony, plus a bucket raffle for items such as a Norman Love Confections chocolate basket and a 50/50 drawing. Awards for lowest scoring and “Most Honest” four-somes will include golfing certificates for Hideout Golf Club and Vineyards Country Club, among other courses.
- Cost is $100 per golfer. To register, call 992-6787 or visit www.charityforchange.org.
- The second annual Harry Chapin Food Bank Classic is set for Wednesday afternoon, May 9, at Grandezza Golf & Country Club. Registration is $125 and includes dinner after the tournament.
- To sign up or to learn about volunteering, donating silent auction items or becoming a sponsor, call 334-7007, e-mail Chris Robinson at chrisrobinson@harrychapinfood@ank.org or visit www.harrychapinfood@ank.org.
- The Collier Building Industry Association and Hill, Barth & King host a tournament on Friday, May 11, at Varasi. Competition includes a putting contest and a long drive contest. Admission includes cart and green fees, three mulligans, 10 raffle tickets, three complimentary drinks on the course and lunch following the tournament.
- For registration or more information, call the CBIA office at 436-6100 or visit www.cbia.net.
- First Baptist Academy tees up its 10th annual golf tournament on Saturday morning, May 12, at Windstar on Naples Bay. Cost is $150 per person. Sponsorship opportunities are available.
- For more information, call 597-2233 or e-mail fba@fbalions.org.

Founders Fund increases annual scholarship amount

The Founders Fund Inc. raised more than $340,000 at the 2012 Ed Brennan Memorial Golf Tournament and banquet earlier this month at the Club Pelican Bay. The event’s success means 25 Collier County high-school seniors will receive a $2,500, four-year renewable scholarship for their higher education. The total number of scholarships to be funded in 2012-13 is 100, which includes those already in the scholarship program from the past three years. Over the past 20 years, the fund has granted more than $2 million to deserving students. Awards are based on academic and extra-curricular performance and financial need.
- Golf tournament and banquet sponsors this year were MorganStanley Smith Barney, M&I Wealth Management, Mercedes-Benz of Naples, Northern Trust, PNC, Preferred Travel, Victoria Harrison P.A., Fifth Third Bank, Bigham Jewelers, Occasions of Naples, My Shower Door, William C. Huff Companies and a generous anonymous donor. Annual benefactors, donors and the Club Pelican Bay also played a key role in the event.
- For more information about scholarships, sponsorships or becoming a part of the Founders Fund, contact Sue Davis at 502-0204 or 597-2244 or visit www.thefoundersfundinc.org.

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www.NCHmd.org
Inclement weather on April 21 forced the eighth annual “Rackets Up!” tennis tournament to benefit the Salvation Army Naples Corps Child Care Center to be rescheduled for Saturday, May 26, at the Arthur L. Allen Tennis Center at Cambier Park. Check-in will begin at 10:30 a.m. and round robin competition begins at 11:35 a.m.

Registration is $35 and includes lunch catered by Jason’s Deli and a tournament T-shirt.

For registration or more information, call Kevin Walker at 231-3060 or e-mail naplestennis@naplesgov.com (subject: Salvation Army tennis fundraiser).

The inaugural Orange Blossom Special, a bicycle criterium race on two, 1-mile circuit courses in Old Naples, will take place as part of Naples CityFest activities Saturday and Sunday, May 5-6.

Bicyclists from around the state are expected to vie for $7,500 in cash and prizes. Volkswagen of Naples is the title sponsor.

For registration and more information, including race maps, visit www.orangeblossomnaples.com.

Friends of Lovers Key are setting the pace for the seventh annual Turtle Trot 5K on Saturday, May 12. Proceeds will go toward the Friends of Lovers Key fund for building a visitor center at the park. Runners, joggers and walkers will trek along Black Island Trail, run up a 38-foot hill and cross two bridges as they make for the finish line at the beach.

Breakfast will be provided by signature sponsor Whole Foods. Registration is $25 if completed before May 6 and $30 after that. Sign up at www.friendsofloverskey.org or stop by the park for a registration form.

For more information, call 463-4588 or e-mail president@friendsofloverskey.org.

The third annual Stand Up Paddleboard Luau Races to benefit Special Olympics Collier County will make a splash from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 5, at Bayfront on Naples Bay.

Three SUP division races will take place: for ages 10-16, boys and girls; the women’s open and the men’s open. Paddlers can register in advance at Noodles Italian Café & Sushi Bar and Shane’s Cabana Bar; day-of registration will begin at 9 a.m. Registration fee is $25. Paddlers should bring their own boards, although some boards will be available at no charge from Naples Kiteboarding and True Water Sports.
The Big Cypress Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution celebrated the season at a spring hat luncheon with guest speaker Jerry Sanford of the Collier County Freedom Memorial.

1. Top view of Nancy Alden’s chapeaux (see No. 8)
2. Madonna Crame, Sue Huff, Jerry Sanford and Brigitte van den Hove-Smith
3. Dolores Markgraf and Sara Clay Medeiros
4. Barbara Keating and Virginia Browning
5. Edith Sachs, Ruth McGarity and Penny Wainwright
6. Art Garrison with Trudy and Rob Withey
7. Nancy Alden, winner, Fun Hat

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living. Space is filling up fast for the 2012 fall semester!

The first on-campus residence hall is coming to the Edison State College Fort Myers campus. LightHouse Commons blends student-centered amenities and meal plans with the safety and convenience of on-campus living. Space is filling up fast for the 2012 fall semester!

Don’t Wait, Live at Edison State!

LightHouse Commons Opens This Fall!
The first on-campus residence hall is coming to the Edison State College Fort Myers campus. LightHouse Commons blends student-centered amenities and meal plans with the safety and convenience of on-campus living. Space is filling up fast for the 2012 fall semester!

AT SUNSHINE ACE HARDWARE!

Whether you’re an experienced gardener with big plans this spring or just discovering your green thumb, Sunshine Ace Hardware can help with a variety of products to ensure the success of your next project. Visit one of Sunshine Ace Hardware’s six locations in Lee & Collier counties and save on Miracle-Gro® lawn and gardening products.

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Inbetweeners
A new group for women, is open to all who want to cultivate friendships, support one another’s career and personal efforts and also help local charities. For more information, call Nicole Forbes at 784-7967 or look for Social Butterflies Naples on Facebook.

The Bonita Springs Newcomers Club welcomes women who have lived in Bonita for less than three years. Luncheons are held at area country clubs on the third Thursday of every month (December meeting is on the second Thursday). Members must attend five luncheons a year and pay annual dues of $40. For more information, e-mail bonitanewcomers@gmail.com or visit www.bonispringsnewcomersclub.com.

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NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY
WEEK OF MAY 3-9, 2012

CLUB NOTES

- The Ohio State Alumni Club of Naples holds its monthly happy hour social from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, May 17, at The Pub in Mercato. RSVP by calling 248-7408 or e-mailing jimdebs@comcast.net.

- The Southwest Florida chapter of the Kiwi Club, a social and charitable organization of present and former flight attendants of American Airlines, TWA and other airlines acquired by or merged with American Airlines, meets for its monthly luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, May 26, in a private home. For reservations or more information, call Eileen Martino at 995-701 or e-mail emmartino@gmail.com.

The local chapter supports PACE Center for Girls-Collier at Immokalee and the Collier County Hunger & Homeless Coalition. New members are always welcome. For membership information, call Jeanne Preston-Horvath at 596-0260 or e-mail Jeanne.preston@yahoo.com.

- The Zonta Club of Naples held its seventh annual fashion show on March 30 at the Club at the Strand. More than 150 members and guests attended the benefit for PACE Center for Girls-Collier at Immokalee, the Naples & Immokalee Teenage Parenting Program, the club’s scholarship fund and Zonta International’s Amelia Earhart Scholarship Fund.

The Naples chapter of Zonta International has a luncheon meeting on the first Tuesday of every month. Cost is $17 and reservations are required. For more information, call 572-4443, e-mail info@zonta-naples.org or visit www.zonta-naples.org.

- In Inbetweeners, a social group for singles ages 40-65, welcomes newcomers and regulars at gatherings from 4-7 p.m. every Wednesday. The May 9 meeting place is AZN in Mercato; May 16, 23 and 30 gatherings are set for Noodle’s Italian Café and Sushi Bar. For more information, visit www.meetup.com/inbetweeners or e-mail naplesinbetweeners@gmail.com.

- The Naples Newcomers Club welcomes women who have been permanent residents of Naples for no more than five years and who want to meet others who are new to the area. The club meets for lunch at 11:30 a.m. on the second Thursday of every month at country clubs throughout the area. In addition, groups within the club plan outings and dates to share varied interests, such as mah-jongg and duplicate bridge, gourmet cooking and discussions about philosophy.

- Membership in the Social Butterflies, a new group for women, is open to all who want to cultivate friendships, support one another’s career and personal efforts and also help local charities. For more information, call Nicole Forbes at 784-7967 or look for Social Butterflies Naples on Facebook.

- A new Women’s Traveling Club is taking shape for women who want to learn about world destinations and tips for traveling and who want to make new friends with similar interests. Monthly meetings will take place at various locations around Naples. For more information, contact Tracy Ball at MAD Travel by calling 961-3248 or e-mailing womenstravelclub@madtravel.com.

- The Naples Ship Modelers is an informal group dedicated to the hobby of building wooden ship models. Members share their skills, knowledge and shipbuilding techniques with one another at Saturday morning meetings twice a month and welcome new members.

For more information, call Dick Ritchie at 594-0868 or e-mail dcritchie@comcast.net.

Prospective members are invited to coffee at 10 a.m. on the first Thursday of each month. For meeting locations and more information, call 298-4083 or visit www.naplesnewcomers.com.

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When avid golfer Estelle Lizotte began having unexplained seizures, she knew something was wrong. When Lee Memorial Health System neurosurgeon Dean Lin, M.D. discovered a brain tumor, Estelle’s life changed—for the better.

Dr. Lin successfully removed the tumor, restoring Estelle’s body, and peace of mind. To read more of Estelle’s story go to www.LeeMemorial.org/caring
HEALTHY LIVING

Alzheimer's report reveals some unexpected findings


An estimated 5.4 million people have Alzheimer's or other dementias, including 594,293 Floridians, according to the report.

Here are some more findings:

■ One out of seven people with Alzheimer's lives alone. There are an estimated 3,000 people in the United States who have Alzheimer's and live alone. People with dementia who live alone are at greater risk of jeopardized health than those who live with others. These risks include missed or delayed diagnosis, self-neglect, malnutrition and untreated medical conditions. Those living alone are also at increased risk of wandering away unattended and of accidental death.

Complicating these issues is the fact that many are in denial about the seriousness of cognitive impairment and refusal to seek help.

“Advance planning for the individual with Alzheimer’s or another dementia who lives alone is absolutely critical,” says Gloria Smith, president and CEO of the Florida Gulf Coast Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association. “Alzheimer’s and other dementias take individuals through unfamiliar territory,” she adds.

“Planning in the early stages of the disease allows individuals to build a care team, make financial plans and prepare for future safety concerns, while they are still cognitively able to do so.”

■ Florida is among the top four states in which caregivers are needed. That’s 15.2 million friends and family members providing care for individuals with Alzheimer’s and other dementias, including 990,000 caregivers in Florida, California, New York and Texas. Florida tops the chart in the number of unpaid caregivers looking after loved ones with Alzheimer’s and other dementias. In 2011, caregivers provided $10 billion dollars of unpaid care nationally — $13.7 billion of it in Florida.

Caregivers take on a tremendous financial, physical and emotional toll to help care for a loved one with Alzheimer’s. Sixty-one percent of family caregivers of people with Alzheimer’s and other dementias rated their emotional stress of caring at high or very high. That physical and emotional impact is estimated to result in nearly $39 billion in increased health-care costs in the United States, including $594,293,482 for caregivers in Florida.

■ People with Alzheimer’s and other dementias cost Medicaid 19 times more than seniors without the conditions. Individuals with Alzheimer’s or other dementias are high consumers of hospital, nursing home and long-term care services, translating into high costs for Medicare, Medicaid and families.

Caring for people with Alzheimer’s and other dementias will cost the U.S. an estimated $200 billion in 2012, including $35 billion by Medicaid. Costs will soar from $200 billion in 2012 to an estimated $1.1 trillion per year by mid-century.

■ Alzheimer’s has profound implications for the nation. “Alzheimer’s has a significant impact on the individual who lives alone, for those who have the disease and live with their families, and for all levels of government,” said Ms. Smith. “This is why the Alzheimer’s Association supports federal efforts under way to create the first ever National Alzheimer’s Plan and the local effort recently passed by the Florida legislature to create a Florida Alzheimer’s Plan.”

■ The future is now. State Alzheimer’s plans assess the current impact of the disease and determine needed steps to support the growing number of families affected by the disease. The Florida Gulf Coast Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association spearheaded the state legislature’s effort to create an Alzheimer’s plan.

State Rep. Matt Hudson and State Sen. Garrett Richter, both of Naples, sponsored legislation that creates a Purple Ribbon Task Force directed to develop an Alzheimer’s Plan and submit policy recommendations to the governor, speaker of the House of Representatives and Senate president by August 2013. Gov. Rick Scott is currently reviewing the approved legislation for final consideration.

The full text of the Alzheimer’s Association’s 2012 Alzheimer’s Disease Facts and Figures report can be found at www.alz.org.

— Since it was formed in 1980, the Alzheimer’s Association has been the world’s leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer’s care, support and research. The organization provides services to those affected by Alzheimer’s and other dementias; advocates for policy change and research funding; and advances research toward prevention, treatment and cure. For more information, visit www.alz.org.

Laboratory medicine provides the backbone of health care

The backbone of our hospital system and health care in general is laboratory medicine. So in honor of National Lab Week, I had the pleasure of touring the Karl and Helga Brand Laboratory at our North Naples campus. Nancy Schafer, laboratory director, led the tour along with lab supervisor Cheryl Sacks and phlebotomy and processing supervisor Kim Ingle (I’ve known Ms. Inkle for 25 years, ever since I was in private practice and used the lab services extensively).

We followed a sample through the lab, starting with in-processing — the clearinghouse that typically collects more than 200 labs and has results available every day by 7 a.m. for up to 325 in-patients. Narline Fontaine, Lullianne Joseph and Helene Fleurival supervise this meticulous process, utilizing bar codes, collection times and specific tests ordered and organized for prompt and precise results.

Getting the right patient the right test on the first try is key in the laboratory. Timeliness and accuracy are crucial. The team at the Karl and Helga Brand Laboratory is committed to providing the highest quality care.

Bend and stretch on the beach under a full moon

Take a deep breath, bend, stretch and relax in the incomparable setting of the Naples beach under a full moon starting at 11 p.m. Saturday, May 5, on the beach at the Eighth Avenue South public access.

Join the Leapfrog fitness community and an instructor from Bala Vinyasa Yoga for the free class sponsored by lululemon athletica.

There’s no on-street parking at the beach access, so arrive early for direction to a parking spot. Bring your yoga mat and some bug spray. And after class, head to Café Lurcat on Fifth Avenue South for more camaraderie.

For more information, follow the Leapfrog fitness community on Facebook or e-mail coach@leapfrogrunning.com.

Voice aerobics class offered for Parkinson’s patients

The Parkinson Association of Southwestern Florida Inc. offers a class in voice aerobics beginning at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 8, at PASFI headquarters in Naples.

The association holds exercise, speech, dance and art therapy classes at locations in Naples and Bonita Springs for those who suffer from Parkinson’s disease. Support programs for families and caregivers are also offered, and various opportunities are available for volunteers at PASFI headquarters. To sign up for the new voice aerobics class or for more information about services and programs offered by PASFI, call Executive Director Ruth Hubing at 417-3436, or visit PASFI.org.

PASFI headquarters have recently moved into new office space at 1048 Goodlette Road, Suite 201. □
test at the right time is critical, and 90 percent of the time at NCH, we have results available within 30 minutes of the specimen entering the lab by tube system or courier. Large flat-screen monitors notify technologists when a specimen is approaching the 30-minute mark, so extra effort can be directed toward accelerating analysis.

Some specific tests — sedimentation rates, HIV screens, MRSA determination, urine analysis and abnormal platelet counts — need to be performed manually. Angel Kupiec, NCH Laboratory Technologist of the Year two years ago and a 15-year NCH employee, is on the case in these special instances. Both hospital labs are supervised by administrative director Jodi Cooper and are supported by histology labs that receive samples of body tissue and fluids to be tested for the operating rooms, endoscopy and outpatient surgery procedures. Pathology assistant Ron Hobbs handles these specimens, performing a complete examination and precisely cutting sections for the pathologists to make their final diagnoses.

Downtown histology supervisor Robin Swanson and laboratory assistant Michelle Gooley and their team handle an average of 175 to 200 blocks of tissue and frozen specimens per day from the operating room. Surgeons receive lab results in 20 minutes or less, which can potentially help determine the course of treatment for the patient.

Advanced technology, such as immunofluorescence, has progressed remarkably since I was a medical student. This is particularly true in our in-house microbiology division, which is led by Robin Williams and her team of Ana Alvarez, Deb Ault, Cindy Powell and Joe Kyle, who have been working together for years. Our in-house lab has allowed us to improve culture turnaround times, particularly our pediatric cultures.

In all, 88 colleagues downtown, 41 in North Naples and 15 members of the NCH Health-care Group (including Luis Trujillo, a patient favorite phlebotomist at Edison Village) handle about 4,500 specimens per day. Each year, three specialists at each campus are recognized by their colleagues for outstanding performance and service. This year’s honorees are:

- **Downtown**: Esmeralda Pierre (technical), Nancy Thompson (support) and Melissa Miller (customer service)
- **North Naples**: Peter Kubetschek (Technical), Aylet Quintero (support) and Alfaquenia Perez (customer service).

Our labs are perfect examples of how advanced technology, such as immunofluorescence, has progressed remarkably since I was a medical student. None of this could be accomplished without the help of our technicians who perform various tasks.

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

21st Century Oncology participates in SAVI breast cancer radiation study

Dr. Constantine Mantz, chief medical officer at 21st Century Oncology, was part of a collaborative group of physicians who presented their studies regarding advanced therapy for breast cancer treatment at the 36th annual Symposium of the American Society of Breast Disease last December.

The studies demonstrated the cosmetic advantages and precise radiation capabilities of the SAVI breast brachytherapy applicator for treatment of early-stage breast cancer. Researchers examined the initial and longer-term effects of the SAVI treatment in a group of 909 women at 12 research centers in the United States.

21st Century Oncology is one of the centers participating in the SAVI Collaborative Research Group and contributing to ongoing research into the SAVI applicator.

Dr. Mantz explains that the SAVI treatment is used in conjunction with breast conservation therapy where the tumor and surrounding tissue are removed (pectuncuomy), and the surgery is followed with a course of radiation. Traditionally, radiation treatment is delivered five days a week for six weeks following surgery, and the entire breast is radiated. With SAVI, the radiation is delivered far more precisely and over a course of just five days, he says.

“We’ve had excellent success rates with this treatment, and very few side effects,” Dr. Mantz adds.

The SAVI device allows physicians to tailor radiation based on patient-specific anatomy, which increases the number of women who can benefit from accelerated partial breast irradiation.

21st Century Oncology LLC is a leading developer and operator of radiation therapy centers in the United States. The company employs more than 113 radiation oncologists and more than 138 specialists, including urologists, surgeons, pathologists and primary care physicians. The company operates 94 facilities in 16 states and has 27 international facilities.

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Taking stock in local students proves a solid investment

The Education Foundation of Collier County honored the 26 graduates of its 2012 Take Stock in Children scholarship and mentoring program during a celebratory dinner at Moorings Park on April 26.

The program identifies students in the eighth grade who are economically challenged and who promise to maintain a 2.5 grade point average, meet weekly with a mentor and remain drug-and crime-free. Those who successfully complete all requirements are awarded a scholarship to a Florida state college or university of their choice. Many participants exceed above these requisites by maintaining honor roll grades, participating in clubs and community service and holding down part-time jobs through high school.

This year’s graduating class was named for Phil McCabe, who has supported 48 Take Stock in Children students over the years.

Lenore Matoff, who has mentored three students over the past 10 years, was honored as Volunteer of the Year.

In addition to Moorings Park, the celebration dinner was sponsored by

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Florida Gulf Coast University and M&I of BMO Financial Group.

Take stock in the future

The Education Foundation has the opportunity to purchase 20 four-year college scholarships for $8,000 each through the Florida Prepaid Foundation’s Stanley Tate Project STARS Matching Fund. The matching dollars will be distributed to other Florida counties unless the Education Foundation purchases them for Collier County students by June 1. Any contribution toward this local investment will help a local student.

Since 1999, nearly 400 Collier County students have gone through the Education Foundation’s Take Stock in Children program; there are 122 students currently enrolled, including this year’s soon-to-be graduates. According to the foundation, data collected over the past 13 years shows that:

- 90 percent of participants complete the program and earn the four-year scholarship.
- 95 percent graduate from high school (in Collier County, the average graduation rate is 80 percent).
- 88 percent have earned a post-secondary degree or are currently utilizing their Take Stock in Children scholarship.

For information about becoming a mentor or otherwise supporting Take Stock in Children through the Education Foundation of Collier County, call 643-4755 or visit www.GetOnTheBusCollier.org.

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Call 455-5496 to make an appointment.

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PET TALES

Mixing plants and pets

Good planning and good fences can keep everyone safe and happy

BY GINA SPADAFORI

Universal Uclick

Animals and plants are always near me, by choice. But some plants are poisonous, and even those animals who don’t eat plants seem just as intent on otherwise destroying them by sleeping on them or digging them up. That means I have spent a great deal of time protecting plants from animals, and vice versa.

This month, I’m giving up a suburban home for a very small farm, with room (and more important, zoning) for my two boarded horses, my chickens and ducks, as well as three dogs and a cat. There will be approved plants for eating — pasture! — and plants for a massive veggie garden as well.

Right now, it’s all raw dirt and broken-down fences. Both are going to change, and soon.

Fortunately, I’ve spent years balancing the needs and safety of animals and plants, so I know what to do. Fencing is a big part of the equation, but that’s not all of it. And since most people just want their dog to leave the landscaping alone, here are the tips that can help make that happen for everyone, no matter how big your yard:

Exercise your dog

Dogs who don’t get daily exercise are more likely to sleep while you are gone. When you leave, you should also offer your dog alternatives to choosing his own amusements: Provide him with a chew toy, such as a Kong — stuffed with something delicious, like peanut butter.

Work with your dog’s habits

Observe how your dog uses your yard, and plan accordingly. For instance, many dogs consider it their duty to run the fence line, leaving a well-worn trail where dogs consider it their duty to run the fence line. Place your beds and plantings away from the fence line, and let him do his guard-dog patrolling behind those plants.

Give the dog his own yard

A side “relief” yard where messes and unpleasantries can be allowed. This plant is nearly indestructible and any plants seem just as intent on otherwise destroying them by sleeping on them or digging them up. This plant is nearly indestructible and will deter him. Many dogs won’t dig if their own mess is under the surface. With hardy, clean fun, it is good fun, especially for dogs who are happiest with their noses in the dirt and their paws flying.

Fences are your friend

While there’s a lot you can do with yard layout and plant selection, if you’re planning a dedicated veggie garden, pick a pretty fence to go around it. At my current home, a four-foot fence that wouldn’t be enough to contain my large dogs safely on the property is plenty high enough to keep them out of the tomatoes.

It’ll be a long, long time before my new home has the gardens and plants I dream of. But with some basic guidelines in my head, there will be happier animals and fewer setbacks along the way.

Redirect digging

You can keep many dogs from digging if you keep them exercised, limit their access to dirt, and make the digging experience unpleasant. Sometimes, putting the dog’s own stools in the hole and covering them with dirt will deter him. Many dogs won’t dig if their own mess is under the surface. Another option is giving your dog a dig zone. While hardly clean fun, it is good fun, especially for dogs who are happiest with their noses in the dirt and their paws flying.

Put special plants in safer places

Raised beds and hanging planters are the place to put your most precious plants. In borders, put the plants that can take being stepped on in front. Want a good dog-friendly plant? Mint is perfect. This plant is nearly indestructible and greets each assault with a wave of fresh mint smell.

Want to know who’s making a difference?

At Fifth Third Bank, we strive to inspire our customers—not only with smart financial solutions that continually improve their lives, but also through our commitment to the communities we serve.

We have teamed up with The Salvation Army and its partner food banks throughout our area in hopes of fulfilling one of the most basic human needs...food.

Together with you and community leaders, we want to collect enough non-perishable food to feed 3,200 local children and families this summer as part of our annual “Fight Hunger, Feed Dreams” campaign.

Donate at any Fifth Third banking center to help us fill this critical need in our community.
**MUSINGS**

Mockumentary

By the creek named for Billy Bowlegs' surrender in the heart of the Fort town of My-ers one might have occasion to look up. One might see a full moon there unlike any other. This moon does not sport a man's face or a rabbit making tofi. And this moon is always full. It's an eye full.

This sight for eyes that soar above the dust of the daze is the iconic tower of WINK TV. It sports a spherical rendering of The Eyemark, the logo of CBS Television Networks, the "sign of good television." This broadcasting television network is second in size only to the BBC. Its logo is seen, most often in pixilated form, by millions each day. And the logo has been copied by networks in Austria, Peru, Japan, and Brazil.

The original logo was created by Wil- liam Golden. But it did not appear fully formed like Athena out of Zeus' head. Some say the inspiration may have come from Pennsylvania Dutch hex signs, which some say are talismanic. And some say are "chust for nice."

Some say the fabrication comes from a Shaker drawing. The Shakers, the United Society of Believers in Christ's Second Appearing, have been so called because of their ecstatic, charismatic wor-ship. In Shaker theology God is seen as dualism of male and female. Jesus, the son of a Jewish carpenter, is seen as the male manifestation while Mother Ann, daughter of an English blacksmith, was the female manifestation. Ann, the Mother Founder, was seen as Bride for Bridegroom, the manifestation while Mother Ann, daughter of an English blacksmith, was the female manifestation. Ann, the Mother Founder, was seen as Bride for Bridegroom, the fulfillment of the promise of the Second Coming. The community believed in four highest virtues: social communism, confession of sin, separation from the world, and celibate purity. In 1840, there were 6000 members. In 2009, there were three.

The thudy inspired Eyemark proclaims a CBS which has its own history. Odd that the whole enterprise started out only hear- ing, hearing only as radio network. Then the seeing, seeing as television network. And in the late '80s the message emerged in another sense: television you can feel. "You Can Feel It On CBS." What next? So far, the eye just stares. But there is another bit of urban legend tripping. Have you played? Meaning the game "Wink." Or some- times it is called "Wink Murder." Like all games, it has endless variations. The basic rule is that someone is the murderer, and the rest are potential victims and detec- tives. The murderer stealthily winks, and the one seeing this dies while the others try to figure out who that murderer is before they themselves are killed.

The game is not merely played by kids and Facebookers. For instance, Harpo Marx was the wink-murderer in the home of Alexander Woollcott. His grade school drop-out writing on the t.p. — "you are dead" — quickly led to his being smoked out in a gathering of intelligentsia. But some things are not so easily identified. Like death itself, which can only be defined in contrast to diaphanous life. There is this definitional difficulty even though all metazoa die.

That is, except this immortal jelly fish, turritopsis nutricula. Unlike other met- zoa that began to emerge from the Cam- brian explosion 500 million years ago, their body plan does not become fixed. Instead they are capable of transdifferentiation. This process is a type of metaplasia, a response of change in an original cell that is not robust to the existent environment. The immortal jelly can, after reaching a singular sexually mature adult form, return to a communal polyp state. This can occur any number of times, with death occurring only through accident or predation, not senescence. (Wink, wink.)


— Rx is the FloridaWeekly muse who hopes to inspire profound mutiny in all those who care to read. Our Rx may be wearing a pirate cloak of invisibility, but emanating from within this shadow is hope that readers will feel free to respond. Who knows: You may even inspire the muse. Make contact if you dare.
# Positively Great Physician Lecture Calendar

## MAKOplasty: Why It is Superior to All Other Technology
Learn about diagnosis and treatment advancements, including MAKOplasty joint resurfacing, an innovative new treatment option for early to mid-stage osteoarthritis of the knee and hip. Exclusively at Physicians Regional.

**Wednesday, May 2**
6:00 p.m.
Frederick Burchel, Jr., M.D.
Hospital Lobby
6101 Pine Ridge Road
RSVP: 348-4180

## Weight Loss Surgery Options
Learn about the most advanced techniques in modern weight loss surgery, including adjustable gastric banding, sleeve gastrectomy and gastric bypass, that can help you get back to your life faster.

**Tuesday, May 15**
6:00 p.m.
Thomas Rass M.D.
Hospital Lobby
6101 Pine Ridge Road
RSVP: 348-4180

## Arthritis Update 2012
Arthritis can be a painful and debilitating condition. Learn more about the symptoms, and how you can take control over this condition and improve your quality of life.

**Thursday, May 3**
4:00 p.m.
Allan Goodwin, M.D.
Hospital Cafeteria
6101 Pine Ridge Road
RSVP: 348-4180

## Urinary Incontinence and Voiding Dysfunction in Men & Women
Urinary incontinence can be an embarrassing problem. Learn about the surgical and non-surgical solutions available to treat this issue and improve your quality of life.

**Thursday, May 17**
6:00 p.m.
Jonathan Jay, M.D.
Hospital Lobby
6101 Pine Ridge Road
RSVP: 348-4180

## Brain Attack: Treatment Options
Join these world-class physicians to learn about the latest innovative treatment options for acute stroke, brain aneurysms and other brain and carotid artery diseases. Free Brain Attack Screenings will be offered.

**Thursday, May 3**
6:00 p.m.
Eric Edozien, M.D.
Brain Mason, M.D.
Richard Judas, M.D.
Hospital Cafeteria
6101 Pine Ridge Road
RSVP: 348-4180

## New Vein Treatment Options
Learn about the effective treatment options for vein diseases that include sclerotherapy and laser therapy procedures that eliminate varicose and spider veins. Now available at Physicians Regional.

**Tuesday, May 22**
5:00 p.m.
Richard Coilm, M.D.
Education Room
8300 Collier Boulevard
RSVP: 348-4180

## Robotic Arm Knee Surgery & Other Joint Reconstruction Advances
Learn about the many advances and minimally invasive options for knee, hip and shoulder replacements, including robotic arm knee surgery, that result in less pain and faster recovery. Exclusively at Physicians Regional.

**Tuesday, May 8**
6:00 p.m.
George Markovitch, M.D.
Hospital Lobby
6101 Pine Ridge Road
RSVP: 348-4180

## MAKOplasty Robotic Hip & Knee Surgery
Learn about the advancements in robotic techniques to restore hip and knee function. This innovative procedure restores the hip and knee joints and maximizes stability of the hip. Exclusively at Physicians Regional.

**Tuesday, May 22**
6:00 p.m.
Jen Deutsch, M.D.
Hospital Cafeteria
6101 Pine Ridge Road
RSVP: 348-4180

## Is It Acid Reflux or GERD?
Learn about the causes and symptoms of acid reflux and GERD. Dr. Cohen will also provide an update on the current medications available to treat these conditions and their side effects.

**Wednesday, May 9**
6:00 p.m.
Michael Cohen, M.D.
Hospital Lobby
6101 Pine Ridge Road
RSVP: 348-4180

## Eyelid Rejuvenation and Eyelid Health
Join Dr. Laqui for an eye opening experience. Learn about the latest techniques for eyelid rejuvenation, including blepharoplasty, brow lift and dermal fillers, as well as several other topics on eyelid health.

**Wednesday, May 23**
4:00 p.m.
Stephen Laqui, M.D.
Hospital Cafeteria
6101 Pine Ridge Road
RSVP: 348-4180

## What’s New and What Works for Painful Knees and Hips
Learn about the many innovative procedures available for knees and hips, including Direct Anterior Total Hip, MRI-Directed Custom Aligned Total Knee, Oxford Unicompartmental Knee and the Rapid Recovery Program.

**Thursday, May 10**
6:00 p.m.
Robert Zehf, M.D.
Hospital Lobby
6101 Pine Ridge Road
RSVP: 596-0100

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PhysiciansRegional.com
Consumer confidence among Floridians fell two points in April to 73 from the previous month’s revised figure of 75, marking a three-month decline, according to a monthly University of Florida survey. All five categories measured by the survey dropped.

Respondents’ overall assessment that their personal finances are stronger now than they were a year ago fell three points to 59. Their expectations of being better off financially a year from now fell four points to 78. Respondents were modestly pessimistic over the economy. Their perceptions that the nation’s economy will improve in the coming year dropped one point to 72. Meanwhile, their confidence in U.S. economic conditions over the next five years also declined, dropping two points to 77.

Finally, perceptions, especially among those over 60, that now is a good time to buy big-ticket items, such as computers and automobiles, fell one point to 78.

This latest drop in consumer confidence was expected, according to Chris McCarty, director of UF’s Survey Research Center in the Bureau of Economic and Business Research. “While we are in many ways repeating the pattern from last year, the levels of consumer confidence among Floridians are higher overall,” he says. “This time last year the index was at 68 compared with 73 this month. All five of the index components are higher than they were last year, although lower than last month.”

Income levels seem to have played a role in how survey takers responded in April. For example, confidence among those earning $30,000 or more a year dropped five points to 74. In contrast, those making less were optimistic; their confidence level jumped up five points to 73.

The economic data that explains these differing results is mixed, Mr. McCarty says. For instance, unemployment declined by 0.4 percent between February and March to 9 percent, which closed the gap between Florida’s and the nation’s unemploy-
China is important. Understanding (or at least attempting to understand) the ways of the Chinese when it comes to business should be a big priority for any U.S. investor. China is expected to surpass the U.S. as the world’s dominant economic power 20 years from now.

But understanding China is sometimes very difficult... so difficult, in fact, that accepting that you don’t understand them at times, accepting the inscrutable ways of the Chinese, is equally as important. The old sayings of, “Know what you don’t know” or “It ain’t what they say; it’s what they don’t say” both apply here.

Their economic communications are interplay of their language, culture and their strategies.

Chinese verbal communication is vastly different than our own western speech, not just in the letters and sounds we make, different than our own western speech, but how the Chinese communicate. For the Chinese, this is their normal conversation “reading the tea leaves.” And we all invites a response and suggests dialogue.

Sometimes, just determining what the other party wants in a negotiation or what is the economic reality in a conversation can be difficult. In Mandarin, there is no statement of plural... such as, “I have cows.” Rather, Mandarin allows a response of, “I have cow,” which leaves the listener clueless as to how many cows. If the speaker wishes to disclose how many cows he or she has, then a number is given, such as, “I have 100 cows.” So, even among themselves, their language directs the listener to an inner courtyard or outer courtyard. For many Americans, this is a contrived and posturing form of speech that can prove frustrating for the uninitiated. For the Chinese, this is their normal communication interplay.

Agendas also influence communications. The U.S. business world is run with a capitalist mentality, where we compete, take risks and fight to win. However, our government’s fiscal and monetary policies are increasingly run under “non-capitalist” thinking. Within and outside our borders, the U.S. pursues policies without figuring out how we will win or having it as a goal. For example, the U.S. Federal Reserve is deeply embroiled in helping other countries out of their sovereign debt problem with a capitalist viewpoint and game plan: “You need my help. I will give it and what do I get in return?”. China, on the other hand, is playing to win and intends to become the dominant world power. These are not new concepts for the brain of U.S. citizens to process but I think we reject them when coming out of China.

So, China has a culture/language that is different from ours and it has a game plan that we as U.S. citizens and businesses (not government) want for ourselves... but not for anyone else.

Here are some examples of the interplay of communication and agenda:

Sometimes, China makes major statements that it chooses to release to the world as news — even better when it gets coverage on the first page of the world’s leading newspapers (e.g., China tightening or loosening monetary policy).

Other times, it just goes about doing exactly as it plans without fanfare but not hiding the facts of its actions. For instance, China attends BRIIC (Brazil, Russia, India, Indonesia and China) summits. Everyone knows that a key element of those summits is discussing an alternative to the U.S. dollar as a reserve currency.

Sometimes the Chinese purposely do not disclose items of import, even though such disclosure would be the ordinary and expected conduct of a major GDP nation. For instance, it is assumed to be proper and good conduct by the world’s top users of natural and agricultural resources to make disclosure about their need for critical resources and their stockpiles of such resources. But China does not disclose this to the world, at least with any regularity... sometimes the wait is several years for inventory updates on its central bank’s precious metals holdings.

Sometimes it draws a lot of attention to a small issue and fully flexes its muscles so that the world makes great note of it. For instance, there was recently an issue in the South China seas as Chinese fishermen were being robbed and attacked by Philippines. So China sent its military fleet to the region.

It was needed; maybe it was a time to show that it will defend itself and that it now has the beginnings of naval might.

Investment suggestion? China ain’t switchin’ from tea leaves to tea bags any time soon. Those who are avid readers of mainstream newspapers might want to add a dosage of some Chinese Internet news. (I am not suggesting reading Mandarin characters.) Sure, take their news with a shaker of salt, read between the lines and definitely try to picture their world.

There is a substantial risk of loss in trading futures and options on futures contracts. Past performance is not indicative of future results. This article is provided for informational purposes only. No statement in this article should be construed as a recommendation to buy/sell futures/options contracts or to provide investment advice.

— Jeannette Showalter, CFA is a commodities broker with Worldwide Futures Systems, 571-889. For mid-week commentaries, write to showalter@wwfsystems.com.
Gulf Shore Blvd. Condominium

Unique vistas are had from the main living areas and sizable bedrooms of this beautifully updated Admiralty Point II condominium. Admiralty Point’s unique setting along the north bank of Doctor’s Pass and its on-site amenities are among the finest in the Moorings.

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Gulf Shore Blvd. Condominium

Located in the Waldorf, one of the most sought-after condominium addresses in Naples, this first-floor living residence is directly proximate to the pool and the sugar sand beach of the Gulf of Mexico. West-facing living and dining rooms afford daily displays of dazzling sunsets.

$4,990,000

Beachfront - 13th Avenue South

A real opportunity is presented for a buyer to take advantage of a very private entrance, leading to this unimproved beachfront property that can some day become a private residence with magnificent Gulf views and no public road on either side – your “secret beachfront home” just minutes from Third Street South.

$7,200,000

Beachfront - Gordon Drive

A charming Port Royal home with expansive water frontage and multidirectional long water views over Buccaneer’s Bay and Naples Bay. In the style of the islands, the home is artfully constructed with high ceilings, rich wood floors, and epitomizes comfortable elegance. Port Royal Club membership eligibility.

$14,000,000
Do you spend weeks each spring eagerly anticipating your income tax refund? When the money finally comes in, is it gone tomorrow? You’re not alone. Many consumers view tax refunds as unplanned bonuses, but it makes more sense to plan for that chunk of change so it doesn’t go to waste.

The Better Business Bureau Serving West Florida and Clear Point Credit Counseling Solutions recommend the following tips to tax refund recipients:

■ Pay down your debt. If you have an outstanding balance on more than one credit card, you can either try to pay off the lowest balance card first (good for motivation) or direct the funds toward the card carrying the highest interest rate (wiser from financial perspective). Or, apply your refund toward other debts, like a car loan or a home equity loan.

■ Consider your financial goals. Are you trying to save for a down payment on a house or car? Do you hope to contribute to your child’s college tuition one day? Consider applying your tax refund toward these goals. If you don’t yet have a set of short-term financial perspective). Or, apply your refund toward other debts, like a car loan or a home equity loan.

■ Consider your financial goals. Are you trying to save for a down payment on a house or car? Do you hope to contribute to your child’s college tuition one day? Consider applying your tax refund toward these goals. If you don’t yet have a set of short-term financial goals, put one together. You’ll be more conscientious about how you spend your tax refund and any other extra money that comes in, is it gone tomorrow? You’re not alone. Many consumers view tax refunds as unplanned bonuses, but it makes more sense to plan for that chunk of change so it doesn’t go to waste.

■ Keep things in perspective. Working your way out of debt can seem like a daunting task. Perhaps you assume that a small tax refund check won’t make enough of a dent in your debt. Think again. Every little bit helps.

■ If debt is a continuing problem, consider a credit counselor. Certified consumer credit counseling agencies can help. BBB has information on more than 2,000 credit and debt counseling firms.

■ Consider investing in your home or in others. Use the money to spruce up your home or make it more energy-efficient. Improve your career opportunities by taking a class or training course. Use your refund to teach your older children how to handle money.

Give them a portion of the refund and help them budget for school, clothing and entertainment expenses and savings. Finally, you might want to donate your tax refund to a charitable organization. You’ll help improve the lives of others, and your charitable gift may reduce next year’s tax burden.

For more information, visit www.bbb.org.
above, she bound their insights in a book, “Got Results, Respect, Revenue?” Ms. Allen says the title of her book holds purpose. Results are the key to respect, “results show that you do what you say you will do,” thereby, gain results, gain respect, gain revenue.

Consulting non-profit leaders, government leaders and many a CEO, Ms. Allen shares the innovative strategies of more than 60 Southwest Florida leaders — leaders the likes of Mary Love, owner of Norman Love Confections, or Wilson Bradshaw, president of Florida Gulf Coast University. By sharing their business stories, Ms. Allen hopes to boost the business of others, as she has been able to boost her own. And since she’s done all the legwork, her leaders are not only willing to contribute, but anxious to read.

“It’s an opportunity to learn what 60 successful business leaders in Southwest Florida have done to take their business to the next level. Why wouldn’t you read it?” asks Joe Gammons, owner of Office Furniture and Design Concepts. “It’s knowledge. It’s the stuff you can’t buy, the stuff you can’t get without experience, without making the mistakes.”

And it all started amidst economic distress. “It occurred to me, the people succeeding in the downside of the economy were wired differently,” Ms. Allen says, “I knew I could prove this.”

So she had her leaders complete an astrology profile — a science Ms. Allen defines as a hard science, more like biology or chemistry than philosophy, a science based on numbers.

Numerically measuring how her leaders make decisions and solve problems, she found her leaders to be “better developed thinkers.” And by collecting an anthology of “better developed business thought,” change thoughts toward business.

“How we need to read Betsy’s book is because we need more positive thinking,” county manager Ms. Hawes says. “We hear things every day that are so negative. And as humans, we tend to dwell on the negative, rather than the positive things we’re doing.”

“Negative gets a lot of attention and gets blown out of proportion. We need to think more pro-actively; more positively and start recognizing what we’re accomplishing.”

As far as articulating the purpose of her book, Ms. Allen points to her introduction, something she took time crafting, rather than speaking off-the-cuff.

“The purpose of this book is not to bore but to educate, not to put you to sleep but to wake you up, not ‘been there-done that’ but ‘new to you’ or ‘ready to use,’” she writes, before sharing the lessons of leaders such as Mr. Gammons.

Mr. Gammons sells office furniture. But in order to be successful, he says he has to be the consultative expert in his field. “You can buy office furniture online, if you just want to buy it,” says Mr. Gammons, Office Furniture and Design Concepts owner. “But if you’re looking for experts in interior design and flow throughout your work space, we’re the place to come to.”

Next to salaries, Mr. Gammons considers space the largest cost to an organization. He says employers are concerned with attracting and retaining employees, as well as giving them an efficient and aesthetic place to work.

“The other element that has really come into focus,” Mr. Gammons says, “Collaboration happens in every business, so how do you lay out your office space to promote collaboration?”

By sharing his conclusions with Ms. Allen, she can print his business story, leaving readers to question, “How do I become the expert in my field?” or “How do I promote my organization?” Mr. Gammons says he intends to read the book, “Because it’s a way to learn. The day you quit trying to learn is the end.”

And he’s curious to know what interesting things local leaders have done, “little nuggets I can take away and say, ‘That’s a great idea, I’m going to do that’.” Ms. Allen says that’s the novel thing about her book — “little nuggets” — how she writes about her leaders in one-page, profile sound-bites. Her template looks almost comic-book like, not because of content, but because of thought bubbles. It nearly reads like USA Today — there’s a main body, a sidebar labeled “Brain bar’s Bonus,” a pulled quote from some artist, politician or Oprah, then an information box of bullet points under the heading “Conversational Catalysts.”

Ms. Allen describes her “Conversational Catalysts” as trigger questions, “designed to get people to think different-ly, where at least one action is outlined for the team,” she says, because she designed her book to be an interactive book, “not just a boring read.”

To illustrate, here are snippets from Gail Markham, founding partner of Markham Norton Mosteller Wright & Company, PA, certified public accountants/consultants. Ms. Markham tells of how every year her team goes off-site to plan without the partners.

“Together, they decide what is working and what isn’t. They brainstorm solutions and insights. Then they present us all the things they think need to be improved and why.” Ms. Markham is quoted as saying.

“Planning from the client to team members to partners is unusual for a CPA firm,” she continues. “We feel this is non-negotiable. Our team is the front line for our clients. They often discover issues and opportunities we may miss.”

Ms. Markham says this strategy keeps her firm on the cutting edge. So in her “Conversational Catalysts,” Ms. Allen asks, “When was the last time you reached out to see what your employees think should be dropped or added? When will you again?”

Ms. Allen sees the business climate in Southwest Florida exploding. “At least that’s what my book is doing,” she says, “So I have every reason to believe more and more people are seeing a turn.”

Ms. Allen’s book launch will be May 11 at Cypress Lake Country Club. “It’s going to be a hoot,” she says, as she has planned for Shakespearean actors to engage the crowd in conversation. “Plus, there will be a lot of networking,” she adds, “Lots of business people mingling.”

Ms. Allen’s book launch is the name of the company in Galler Gravity that was mentioned in the story titled “Landlord’s Market” in the April 11 edition of this paper. The name that appeared in this article was incorrect.

Visit us online at www.FloridaWeekly.com
My Smartest Investment
Sold Cisco Too Soon

Back in the late 1980s, I bought some shares of networking giant Cisco Systems when the price dropped from about $4 to $0.80. It immediately dropped a little more, to $0.72 per share, but I never sold it. I wanted to preserve my capital. Then Cisco went on a tear, with its stock price surging and splitting about eight times over the next 10 years. I could have retired on that stock if I had held on.

—C.P. Henderson, New York

The Fool Responds: It’s important to not just look at numbers. Any stock plugging can keep plunging — or it could rebound sharply. It all depends on what the company does, its business model, its competitive position, its financial health and the skill of its management, among other things.

When a stock does drop, determine whether it’s facing a short-term problem (it was overvalued, for example, or posted poor earnings due to oversupply or a temporary one-offs) or a long-term problem (its technology gets eclipsed by a competitor’s or becomes obsolete). Look for great companies and avoid those with problems you can’t understand.

(The Motley Fool owns shares of Cisco.)

Ask the Fool Value Confusion

How can a stock be considered more expensive than a $50 stock? I don’t get it.

—P.L., Watertown, SD

It’s because a stock’s price alone is meaningless. To draw useful conclusions, you need to compare it to something else, such as sales, earnings, cash flow, etc. Imagine: a small rural community, called Joanie and Chachi, each trading for $20 per share. If Joanie’s earnings per share (EPS) for the past 12 months is $1 and Chachi’s is $2, then Joanie’s price-to-earnings ratio (or P/E, representing price divided by EPS) is 20 while Chachi’s is 10.

You’d have to pay $20 for each dollar of Joanie’s earnings, versus just $10 for Chachi’s. Already, Chachi looks cheaper.

For a company’s size, look at its market capitalization, not its stock price. Market cap is the current share price multiplied by the number of shares outstanding. A company’s market price tag the market is placing on a company right now. If Joanie sports 10 million shares and Chachi has 2 billion, then Joanie’s market cap is $200 million and Chachi’s is $40 billion. Despite the same stock price, Chachi is a much bigger company.

When studying a company, evaluate its quality and how inexpensive its stock may be, looking at debt and cash levels, growth rates of sales and earnings, and trends in profit margins and return on equity, and competitive strengths.

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

Arthrex hosts the Lodging and Tourism Alliance of Collier County

1. Courtney Herrell, David Tetzlaff, and Pam Krol
2. Liz Morris and Trish Williams
3. Beckie Reeves and Lavigne Kirkpatrick
4. Kyle Bohsancurt, Nicole Heine, and Gordon Glover
5. Kelly Capolino and Marisa Chave
6. Lisa Gardiner and Donna Brown
7. Reinhold Schmelzle, Julie Schmeiding, and Clay Cone
8. Gisele and David Atkinson
9. Pam Colore, Stephen Cosgrove, and Lisa Carney
10. Jean Gruss, Mike Kitchen, and Steve Adelman

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

Leadership Collier Class of 2012 graduation celebration at C’Mon

1. The Leadership Collier Class of 2012
2. Bob De Benedetto, Joan Larson and Marilee Vantine
3. Tessa Bradley and Todd Bradley
4. Julie and Clark Hill with Lisa Vinciguerra
5. Graduate Cyndee Woolley gets a congratulatory hug
6. Andrea Marsh, Kevin Ramkessar and Stephanie Spell
7. Cyndee Woolley and Aysegul Timur
8. Michael McComas, Mike Reagen and Russell Bud

BOB RAYMOND / FLORIDA WEEKLY

The Membership Directors Association of SWF at The Quarry

1. Karen Gross and Kimberly Doernth
2. Melody Kappaul, Max Passino and Melissa Shamahan
3. Joan Bixson and Laura Young
4. Liz Landry, Adria Starkey and
Bobbye Ustonyk
5. Sue Weber and Alesia Mata

CHARLIE MCDONALD / FLORIDA WEEKLY

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

239 Channel Drive

Elegance and sophistication describe this two-story canal-front home in the Connors/Vanderbilt Beach area. Built in 2000 by LaGrasta Custom Builders, the four-bedroom, four-bath residence has 4,050 square feet under air.

A circular drive, stately pillars and massive double doors dramatize the reception to this majestic home. Formal dining and living rooms provide the perfect setting for gracious entertaining. The kitchen has wood cabinetry, granite countertops, a formal island and a breakfast bar, and the luxurious master suite has a marble bathroom and a balcony overlooking the canal and pool.

The generous lanai overlooks the pool and the palm-lined canal, and the private boat dock with lift has canal access to the Gulf of Mexico. The dock also has a spacious sitting area for enjoying breezy Florida evenings on the water. Finally, all this luxury is just a short walk to beautiful Vanderbilt Beach and Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park.

Cheryl Turner of John R. Wood Realtors has this listing. For more information, call 250-3311.
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Michael & Lauren Taranto 239.572.0066

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Kristin Cavella-Whorrall 239.821.6330

$2,199,000    MLS 212003384

2-Story Guest House

Huge Outdoor Kitchen

5 Bedrooms, + Den, 5.5-Baths

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1870 Clayton Court

PELICAN MARSH

239.689.7653

OLDE NAPLES

PELICAN BAY

T MYERS

• Carolyn Rzaca 239.877.1006

• Award Winning Club & Spa

• 3 Bedrooms, 2-Baths

• $699,000    MLS 211520639

• 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 3-Baths

DEER CROSSING

• Lake and Golf View

• Martinovich & Nulf 239.398.3929

• 4 Bedrooms, + Den, 4.5-Baths

• 2 Level Lagoon Pool w/Spillover Spa

• Stunning, True Chef’s Kitchen

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NEW PRICE

26811

BONIT

SHADOW WOOD

• Debbie Dekevich  239.877.4194

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• Beautiful Updated Tile Throughout

• Preserve and Lake Views

• Martinovich & Nulf 239.564.1266

• Private Preserve Views

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Wiggins Bay

• The Fischer Group  239.777.7500

• Beautiful Views of the Lake

• Eat-in Kitchen

• 2 Bedrooms, + Den, 2-Baths

• Martinovich & Nulf 239.564.5717

• Private Elevator

• Overlooking the 9th Fairway

• Gorgeous Island Kitchen

• 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 3.5-Baths

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• 4 Bedrooms+ Den, 4.5-Baths

• Exquisite Marble Floors & Fixtures

• Game Room, Elevator & Open Balconies

• Handsome Entryway, Carport, Pool & Spa

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• Kristin Cavella-Whorrall 239.821.6330

• 2 Grand Pools, Spa and Fireplace

• Breathtaking Rotunda Foyer

• 22' Soaring Ceilings & Private Elevator

• Overlooking the Imperial River

• Situated on the Imperial River

• 2 Grand Pools, Spa and Fireplace

• 4 Terraces w/ Gulf and Bay Views

• Timeless Elegance Offered Fully Furnished

• Stunning Appointments Throughout

• $1,695,000    MLS 212003728

• Martinovich & Nulf 239.564.1266

• 2 Grand Pools, Spa and Fireplace

• 4 Bedrooms, + Den, 4.5-Baths

• CustomBuilt Large Lot W/Spacious Living Space

• $1,599,000    MLS 212152172

• Golf Course, The Fagan Team 239.272.4046

• 2 Grand Pools, Spa and Fireplace

• 4 Bedrooms, + Den, 4.5-Baths

• Over 3,200 S.F. of Living w/Soaring Ceilings

• Large Master Suite w/Coffered Ceiling

• Expansive Screened Lanai

• $475,000    MLS 212004643

• The Fischer Group 239.777.7500

• 2 Grand Pools, Spa and Fireplace

• 4 Bedrooms, + Den, 4.5-Baths

• Over 3,200 S.F. of Living w/Soaring Ceilings

• Large Master Suite w/Coffered Ceiling

• Expansive Screened Lanai

• $475,000    MLS 212004643

• The Fischer Group 239.777.7500

• 2 Grand Pools, Spa and Fireplace

• 4 Bedrooms, + Den, 4.5-Baths

• Situated on the Imperial River

• Situated on the Imperial River

• 2 Grand Pools, Spa and Fireplace

• 4 Bedrooms, + Den, 4.5-Baths

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• 2 Grand Pools, Spa and Fireplace
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JUST REDUCED $275K! Minutes from Doctor’s Pass & the Gulf. 3BR+Den, 3.5BA pool home on .45 acre lot with 167’ of waterfront living. 2 boat docks new with a 20lb. lift. Offered at $1,950,000.

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Tastefully updated beachfront 2+Den/3BA with fabulous views of the Gulf, Bay & City with impact windows. Offered at $1,074,000.

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Panoramic view over swaying palms, sandy beach and Gulf from this 3BR/3BA unit on the 2nd floor. Direct beach access, pool and more! Offered at $995,000.

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Spectacular lake views! Contemporary style pool home with over 2900 sq. ft. This well kept 2+DEN/3BA home offers 22ft. of soaring ceilings, newer A/C, carpet in the bedrooms & more. Offered at $347,900 Kay Miller 239-896-3693.

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7156 MILL POND CIRCLE
Incredibly priced 3BR/2BA residence with southern exposure, 11’ ceilings, granite counters & tile throughout with room for pool. Offered at $229,500.

Text T327122 to 85377

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Rarely available 2BR/2BA residence with triple sized lanai offered turnkey furnished in a bundled golf community only 1 mile from the beach. Offered at $152,000. Kay Miller 239-898-5693.

PENDING

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Villa Vistana at The Vineyards Attached villa is open and spacious. Large kitchen, living room, master bedroom and screen lanai all have pretty lake views. 3BD+Den 2.5BA 2GA $299,000.

Horizons at Bonita Bay Beautiful 21st floor unit overlooks the golf course, lakes, Estero Bay and the Gulf of Mexico from three large balconies and living area. Luxuriously furnished. 2BD+Den 4BA 2GA $1,795,000.

Quail Creek Estates Beautifully maintained family home offers golf course, lake and sunset views! Many recent updates throughout the home. 3BD+Den 4BA 3GA $865,000.

Gulf Shore Blvd, Naples Make this gulf-front luxury condominium your own with the $40,000 decorating allowance! Wonderful sunset views! 2BD+Den 2BA 1GA $639,000.

Sandpiper Bay Club, Naples Great location with beaches, restaurants, and shops close at hand. Community has dockage for sale or lease and is pet friendly. 2BD 2BA $155,000.

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ENGEL & VÖLKERS®
Stock set to begin construction in Fiddler’s Creek

Stock Construction has announced plans to build Mahogany Bend, a village of single-family homes within Fiddler’s Creek in Naples off Collier Boulevard on the way to Marco Island. Four floor plans are available:

■ The Riviera II, a one-story residence with 3,274 square feet under air and four bedrooms, 4½ baths. Base price is $694,990.

■ The Muirfield II, a one-story home with 3,202 air-conditioned square feet and four bedrooms, 3½ baths. Base price is $690,990.

■ The Seapines II, a one-story courtyard residence with 3,346 air-conditioned square feet and three bedrooms, 2½ baths and a separate cabana bedroom with bath. Base price is $744,990.

■ The Ponte Vedra II, a one-story residence with 3,490 square feet under air and four bedrooms, 4½ baths. Base price is $749,990.

Each residence has three front elevations to choose from and standard interior features including wood cabinetry, granite kitchen countertops and bath vanities, deep soaker tubs in the master bath and designer bath fixtures. Specialty items include brick paver driveways and walkways, wood shelving throughout and pre-wiring for security systems.

Mahogany Bend is the second of three neighborhoods to be built by Stock Construction at Fiddler’s Creek. For more information, call 732-9300, stop by the Fiddler’s Creek sales center at 8152 Fiddler’s Creek Parkway or visit www.fiddlerscreek.com.

Gulfshore Homes has new plans for Miromar Lakes

Gulfshore Homes has introduced new single-family floor plans in the waterfront Murano neighborhood in The Peninsula at Miromar Lakes Beach & Golf Club.

The plans range in size from a three-bedroom home with 3,567 air-conditioned square feet to an expansive two-bedroom home with 5,174 air-conditioned square feet. Details throughout each new Gulfshore Homes residence built in Murano include granite, marble and crown molding, stainless steel Viking appliances and a choice of pool design as well as an extensive list of additional luxurious specifications.

Gulfshore Homes has been building distinctive custom estate homes in South Florida for decades and is recognized on both Florida coasts for award-winning, innovative, custom designs.

Miromar Lakes Beach & Golf Club is an 1,800-acre resort-style community with a 700-acre freshwater lake. For more information, contact the sales center at 425-2340 or visit www.MiromarLakes.com.
What $400,000 will buy in Southwest Florida

25608 STILLWELL PARKWAY, BONITA SPRINGS

San Carlos Estates offers the comforts of country living.

This home, with 3,146 square feet of living area, is on a lot with more than an acre of fencing, affording plenty of privacy.

The home, which features beautiful flooring, has four bedrooms and three bathrooms. Two of the bedrooms are master suites, the second one of which has an extended walk-in closet, wet bar, wine cooler and private lanai. The spacious kitchen features a double oven, General Electric Advantium microwave, a long island, granite countertops and stainless steel appliances. The bathrooms have separate vanities and a walk-in closet for pool equipment.

For more information, contact listing agent Jeanne Risher of RE/MAX of The Islands at 464-1834.

4321 GARDNER DRIVE, PORT CHARLOTTE

For those who want to be near the water, this Tim Towles residence is a must see.

The 2006 construction is on a lot along a saltwater canal and just 15 lots from the harbor. The property includes a concrete dock and 10,000-pound boat lift.

On a dead-end street, the home features 2,076 square feet under air, with three bedrooms and two bathrooms. A spacious great room opens to the dining area and gourmet kitchen, which features built-in oven and microwave, cook top stove with decorator hood vent, crown molding on the cabinets, Corian countertops and stainless steel appliances.

Upgrades include a solid steel beam above the lanai, hurricane-impact windows, steel roof, Manabloc plumbing and plantation blinds.

The lanai is set up to accommodate a pool, with half-bathroom plumbing and a stor- age closet for pool equipment.

The home is listed at $400,000. Contact listing agent Vicky McPhee of Keller Williams Peace River Partners Realty at (941) 815-8064.

7730 KNIGHTWING CIRCLE, FORT MYERS

This spacious home is in the quiet Arthur Rutenberg gated Blackhawk community.

With 2,662 square feet of living area, the residence has three bedrooms, three bathrooms and a den. The master suite is a separate retreat with a bathroom, walk-in closet and electric fireplace.

The bathrooms have Travertine floors, with separate vanities and a jetted tub in the master bath. Among the interior’s distinctive features are custom built-in cabinetry, rosewood flooring, 11-foot ceilings with crown molding and stained cypress ceilings in the den and lanai. The kitchen features granite countertops and stainless steel appliances.

A paver driveway leads to the home. Side garage entrance creates great curb appeal and extra storage. The property has lush, mature and meticulously maintained landscaping.

For additional storage, a breakfast nook off the kitchen seats 12.

The home is listed at $399,999. Contact listing agent Anne Butcher of RE/MAX Realty Group at 872-1574.

2101 OUTRIGGER LANE, NAPLES

This old Floridi-an-style home is in Naples’ River Ranch subdivision on an oversized lot with mature landscaping.

The residence has plenty of space and privacy, but is conveniently located to the beaches. The home has a three-car attached garage underneath, allowing for additional storage.

The home’s 2,229 square feet under air features an open floor plan. The spacious kitchen, which includes a long island, has custom cabinetry, granite counters and ample storage space. A breakfast nook off the kitchen seats 12.

The master bedroom has walk-in closets and French doors leading to a screen-covered lanai wrapping around the rear of the home. The master bathroom has a tiled shower and dual sinks. The second bathroom features dual sinks, as well.

With gulf access by way of the Gordon River from the community’s private boat ramp, the home is listed at $400,000. To learn more, contact Doug Haughery of Royal Shell Real Estate at 762-1960.
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The Manor, only 18 of these beauties were built in Village Walk. 4 plus den, 3 1/2 baths, 3 car, with pool. $518,000

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Pristine Pool Home! Pristine 4BR,3.5BA,Carley with Southern exposure, features plenty of windows to let in the natural light, Cherry, bright neutral interior, upgraded throughout, screened lanai with lake views and heated pool. OWNER WILL CONSIDER ALL REASONABLE OFFERS. $465,000

Pristine Pool Home! Pristine 4BR,3.5BA,Carley with Southern exposure, features plenty of windows to let in the natural light, Cherry, bright neutral interior, upgraded throughout, screened lanai with lake views and heated pool. OWNER WILL CONSIDER ALL REASONABLE OFFERS. $465,000

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Florida Weekly’s Open Houses

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

>$200,000
1. Old Naples - Village Green • Heron Club • 464 Broad Avenue South • $146K • $238,000 • Premier Sotheby’s International Realty • Tom McCarthy • 239.207.0118 • Monday-Wednesday - Friday 3-6pm

>$300,000
2. Fort Myers Beach • 281 Lenell Road 7B • $189,900 • Engel & Völkers • Matthias Wolf • 239.322.8345 • Saturday 1-4pm

>$400,000
3. Mercato - The Strada • 923 Strada Place • From $440,000 • PSIR • Call 239.594.0400 • Monday-Saturday 10am-8pm & Sunday 12-8pm

4. Lemplaria • 7727 Lemplaria Circle #4602 • From $400,000 • PSIR • Tom Gabsar • 239.404.4883 • Sunday 12-4pm

5. Grandeza - Savona • 12355 Grandeza Design • $499,000 • PSIR • Vivienne Sinkow • 239.405.0638

>$500,000
6. Bonita Bay - Esperia & Tavira • 26951 Island Cove Circle • $545,000 • PSIR • Paul Graffy • 239.773.0078 • Monday-Saturday 10-5 & Sunday 12-5pm

7. The Colony • 23650 Via Veneto • $275,000 • Engel & Völkers • George Saffany • 239.908.7826 • Sunday 1-4pm

8. Pelican Marsh - Island Cove • 2307 Island Cove Circle • $545,000 • PSIR • Linda Perry • 239.459.9153

9. Vineyards - Cameolot Park • 1225 Cameolot Circle • $654,500 • PSIR • Patricia Bucalo • 239.248.0694

10. Crossings - Mill Run • 6941 Gulf Shore Blvd. • $850,000 • PSIR • Gary L. Ostrander • 860.304.1037 • Sunday 1-4pm

11. Miromar Lakes - Mirasol • 10723 Mirasol Drive #606 • $625,000 • PSIR • Paul Graffy • 239.273.0403

12. Pelican Isles - Condominiums • 8612 Island Cove Road • $529,000 • PSIR • George M. Lawler • 239.248.7474

13. The Strand • 26342 Augusta Creek Court • $1,295,000 • PSIR • Gary L./Jeff Jaarda • 239.248.7474

14. The Colony • 23801 Addison Place Court • $1,295,000 • Engel & Völkers • Tom Ostrander • 239.363.1037 • Sunday 1-4pm

15. The Colney • 26348 Augusta Creek Court • $1,250,000 • Engel & Völkers • Tom Ostrander • 239.363.1037 • Sunday 1-4pm

16. Bonita Bay - Hidden Harbor • 4101 Harbor Oaks Court • $1,875,000 • PSIR • Ginger Lickley • 239.860.4661

17. The Balmoral • 2223 Bay Avenue • $2,000,000 • PSIR • Call 239.514.5050 • Monday-Saturday 10-5pm & Sunday 12-5pm

18. Old Naples - Chatham Place • 310 8th Avenue South • $2,000,000 • PSIR • V.E. Melhood • 239.213.6440

19. Bonita Bay - Hidden Harbor • 4101 Harbor Oaks Court • $2,000,000 • PSIR • Tom Ostrander • 860.304.1037

20. Pelican Marsh - Estuary • 1220 Gordon River Trail • From $2,500,000 • PSIR • Tom Ostrander • 860.304.1037

21. Moorings - Lions Gate • 2199 Gulf Shore Blvd. North • $1,250,000 • PSIR • Michael G. Lawler • 239.248.7474

22. The Colney • 23801 Addison Place Court • $1,295,000 • Engel & Völkers • Tom Ostrander • 239.363.1037 • Sunday 1-4pm

23. The Colony • 23791 Naples Way • $1,250,000 • Engel & Völkers • Tom Ostrander • 239.363.1037 • Sunday 1-4pm

24. Bonita Bay - Augusta Creek • 20342 Augusta Creek Court • $1,295,000 • PSIR • Gary L./Jeff Jaarda • 239.248.7474

25. Pelican Bay - Cocoran • 7193 Cocoran Drive • $1,999,000 • PSIR • Jeff Cox • 239.777.0078

26. Grey Oaks - Estuary • 1220 Gordon River Trail • From $1,500,000 • PSIR • Call 239.261.3148 • Monday-Saturday 9am-5pm & Sunday 12-5pm

27. Old Naples - Chatham Place • 310 8th Avenue South • $1,695,000 • PSIR • V.E. Melhood • 239.213.6440

28. Grey Oaks - Miramonte • 2249 Miramonte Court • $1,750,000 • PSIR • V.E. Melhood • 239.213.6440

29. Bonita Bay - Hidden Harbor • 4101 Harbor Oaks Court • $2,000,000 • PSIR • Tom Ostrander • 860.304.1037

30. Park Shore - Horizon House • 3919 Gulf Shore Blvd. #407A • $1,995,000 • PSIR • Debbie Broulik • 239.297.5152

>$2,000,000
31. Vanderbilt Beach - Moraya Bay • 8123 Gulfshore Drive #407 • From $2,500,000 • PSIR • Call 239.914.0500 • Monday-Saturday 10-5 & Sunday 12-5pm

32. Quail West • 3200 Skat Road • $2,975,000 • PSIR • Paul Graffy • 239.273.0403

33. Aqualane Shores • 533 15th Ave South • $2,995,000 • PSIR • Vincent Baudelier • 239.459.9976

>$3,000,000
35. Old Naples • 175 3rd Street South • $3,450,000 • PSIR • Celine Julie Godof • 239.405.0638

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PROUD HOST OF THE 2012 ACE GROUP CLASSIC AND CME GROUP LPGA TITLEHOLDERS TOURNAMENT
Local art beautifies downtown construction site

BY ALAN SCULLEY
Florida Weekly Correspondent

The Naples Art Association at The von Liebig Art Center seeks creative ways to raise money to support educational programs. Art instructors and artist members recently joined the effort when a new opportunity arose.

The Inn on Fifth invited NAA to provide artwork to beautify Fifth Ave South while construction is going on. The temporary wall facing the inn has become a public mural, with nine pieces of artwork by eight NAA member artists, most of whom are instructors at the art center.

“We provided the canvases and they provided the talent. It’s kind of the same way they add to our organization — we provide the class times, and they share their energy, passion and skill with students and art lovers,” Aimee Schlehr, the center’s COO/CFO, says about the effort. She adds the mural is a new way to showcase artists and instructors at the same time as improving the look and appeal of downtown Naples in the midst of construction.

The artwork is painted onto a 4-by-4-foot canvas using weather-resistant materials. Passers-by can learn more about the artists by statements mounted near each artist’s piece. More information can be found on the art center’s Facebook page, talking about each artist’s inspirations, process, expertise and

A purposeful life
Naples mother pens powerful memoir about holding “the hot potato of hurt” and choosing to “live big.”

Celebrating Russia
The inaugural ArtsNaples World Festival showcases Russian music, art and films.

North meets South
From lobster rolls to stone crab claws, it’s all fresh and flavorful at Swan River Seafood.

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FEATURE

C1

CELEBRATING RUSSIA

ARTSNAPLES WORLD FESTIVAL

RUSsIA!

MAY 12-16, 2012

SEE STRAIGHT, C4

SEE MURAL, C4

Lady and Rose by Jane Mjolsness

STRAIGHT C1

A GUIDE TO THE LOCAL ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SCENE

WEEK OF MAY 3-9, 2012

NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

SECTION

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The High-Rises at Bonita Bay

595-1105

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301-3148

The Strada at Mercato

594-9400

The Village

261-6161

The Gallery

659-0099

Old Naples

434-2424

North Naples

594-9494

The Promenade

940-4000

Fifth Avenue

434-8770

Marco Island

642-2222

Rentals

262-4242
Call me Imelda. Nothing gets me going like a pair of shoes. I love the materials, the patent leather and thai silk and faux python; I love the colors, the taupe and cerulean and magenta; and I love the styles, the peep toes and gladiators and t-straps. I love boots, sandals and espadrilles.

But there’s one style of shoe I can’t handle: high heels. How can a shoe lover not like heels? The truth — they’re insufferable. They cramp my feet. Crimp my toes. Rub blisters on the back of my ankles. When I stand in a pair of heels I feel 7 feet tall. I’m already long-limbed and knob-kneed, and when you put me in a pair of stilettos I look like a praying mantis. I don’t know how other women do it.

On a recent trip to Japan, my travel companions and I remarked on the perfectly manicured Japanese women. They were impeccably coiffed and styled with flawless makeup and outfits. Their shoes were always top-notch, and they often wore heels. Not tiny kitten heels. Not wedges with a little lift. Full-on, toe-cramping, arch-hurting, ankle-blistering heels. One of my friends asked a young Japanese woman how she managed it.

The woman smiled demurely. “You American women,” she said, “are just lazy.”

I had this comment in my mind on a recent Saturday morning as I dressed for brunch. I eyeballed a pair of high-heeled sandals I’d bought the week before. As much as I hate to admit it, I’d like to be the kind of woman who’s confident in heels. So I stepped out of the ballet flats I had planned to wear and into the pair of new shoes. I was 3 inches taller. I wobbled on my feet. In the mirror I looked the same, only shakier.

But a funny thing happened on the way to brunch. The first man I passed gave me a long look and smiled. I smiled back. Surely, I thought, he was just being friendly. And that whistle from across the street? No way that was for me.

A construction crew was working on a strip of road I had to cross and the flag-holder said hello as I passed. “You are a beautiful woman,” one said. “A spectacular human being.” I had to laugh. No one had ever called me beautiful in flats.

As I made my way up the street, I remembered a piece of advice from Steve Harvey’s “Act Like a Lady, Think Like a Man.” In the back of the book, he answers questions from women readers. “Do men prefer flats or heels?” one woman asks. Mr. Harvey’s answer? “Heels, baby. Heels.”
Spring CityFest begins with ‘Sip of Fifth’

The 10-day Naples Spring CityFest celebration kicks off with “Sip of Fifth” along Fifth Avenue South on Friday evening, May 4. Mayor John Sorey will preside over the official opening ceremony at 6 p.m., and the evening’s street festival, “Sip of Fifth,” will feature six craft beer tasting stations, six wine tasting stations, antique cars, a tango demonstration, fashion shows (people and pups), live music and dancing until 10 p.m.

Live bands on the program are Uptown Express, Mudbone, Sound Check, Mr. & Mrs. Five, Tin Poinderex and Tres Amigos.

Tickets for $55 per person include a complimentary wine glass and charm and can be purchased online at www.FifthAvenueSouth.com or at any of the following merchants: Blue Mussel, Random Acts of Art, The Name Game and Vergina, all on Fifth Avenue South, and at Karl’s Creations at the Village on Venetian Bay.

The following Fifth Avenue South restaurants will offer discounts to “Sip of Fifth” attendees after 9 p.m.: Albion’s Cusnard & Mon “Key” Bread Factory, Altirnis, Bellini, Rice, Bistro 82L, Café Luna, Café Lurcat, Chops, Citrus, Mangrove Café, McCabe’s Irish Pub, Ossetra, Paddy Murphy’s, Pazzol, Rossopomodoro, Vergina and Yabba’s.

CityFest celebrations take place in May and October throughout the five downtown Naples districts: Fifth Avenue South, Third Street, The Waterfront District, Crayton Cove and Fifth Avenue South. 434-9786 or www.gcrunners.org.

The 29th annual Taste of Collier: Noon-4 p.m. Sunday, May 6, at Bayfront. $5 per person; tasting portions from $3 to $5.

Palette to Palate: 5:30-9 p.m. Wednesday, May 9, at Crayton Cove galleries and restaurants. Six studio galleries welcome visitors and Bleu Provence, Chez Boet and the Dock restaurants offer special menus for the evening.

The 36th running of the Great Dock Canoe Race: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 12, at Crayton Cove. www.greatdockcanorace.com.

The Design District Dash: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, May 12. This family-friendly scavenger hunt starts at Auctions Neapolitan, 1100 First Ave. S., and wraps up at the Shady Palm Pub, 210 Tamiami Trail N. Smart phones and wraps up at the Shady Palm Pub, 210 Tamiami Trail N. Smart phones will come in handy as participants explore the neighborhood in a quest for treasures donated by local businesses. www.auctionsN.com/thedash.

Art After Dark: 6-9 p.m. Saturday, May 12, at Crayton Cove. Ten galleries and art-related businesses stay open late. Live music by Capt. Richard at the Phil Fisher Gallery. 659-2787.

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NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY | WEEK OF MAY 3-9, 2012 | C3
STRAIGHT
From page 1

Like the first “Six Pack,” the second includes two fan favorites Straight No Chaser had been performing throughout the year (a medley of Michael Jackson’s “Billie Jean” and Bell Biv Devoe’s “Poison,” and Madonna’s “Like A Prayer”). It also includes a couple of songs the group added to its set this past summer (The Temptations’ “Get Ready” and Marvin Gaye’s “Let’s Get It On,”) and two numbers that are new to the group’s show (Weezer’s “Buddy Holly” and the medley of the Plain White T’s “Rhythm Of Love” and Elvis Presley’s “Can’t Help Falling In Love”).

“It (the first “Six Pack” EP) was a good mix of different songs, different genres, different decades — and that’s what this is as well,” Mr. Stine said of the new release.

In other words, Straight No Chaser is giving its audience more of what has attracted fans to the group in the first place. And why not? This 10-member all-vocal ensemble has become one of music’s more unusual success stories.

Today’s Straight No Chaser has its roots in an a cappella group of the same name that formed in 1996 at the University of Indiana in Bloomington.

Several of the singers in the group today were in that inaugural ensemble. They fully expected graduation would mean the last of their singing days together.

Diplomas in hand, they went their separate ways, with a few remaining in music. Walter Chase, for instance, performed in a band on the East Coast, while Ryan Ahlwardt started a singing career that included releasing three CDs on iTunes. Don Nottingham, on the other hand, became a district attorney in Denver.

Lives might have continued on those paths had it not been for a decision by UI to have a 10-year reunion of the group in 2006.

To mark the occasion, Mr. Stine posted a video on YouTube of a 1998 concert that included the group’s inventive versions of classics like “The Christmas Song,” “Carol of the Bells” and, of course, “The 12 Days Of Christmas.” Straight No Chaser was now off and running.


Now “Six Pack: Vol. II” figures to further establish that Straight No Chaser’s main priority is not Christmas music, but rather recasting pop songs into its unique style of a cappella which, in addition to layered vocals, often features bass lines — beats that, to the amazement of most first-time listeners, are created vocally by Tyler Trepp, Seggie Isho and Dave Roberts, with occasional contributions from Mr. Stine and Mr. Chase. In addition to Mr. Nottingham (the former district attorney), other members are Ryan Ahlwardt, Jerome Collins, Michael Lugniullb and Charlie Meckling.

On this spring’s tour, fans can expect to see Straight No Chaser perform favorites from “With A Twist” and “Six Pack,” a few tunes the group developed for its three-month run this past summer at Harrah’s Casino in Atlantic City, plus some material from “Six Pack: Vol. II.”

“This is probably our most diverse, I think, musically and most visual tour we’ve done yet so far,” Mr. Stine says. “We have the movie lights and light trusses and even some video elements in the show. There’s a lot more to look at on this tour than there has been before.”

MURAL
From page 1

goals. Organizers see this as a chance to share stories of why art matters and how it has impacted artists and students in the community.

The mural will remain on display through October and are up for silent auction bid (forms available at The von Liebig Art Center). The highest bidder will be revealed in the fall.

The featured artists are:

- Sam Platt, instructor of drawing and acrylic painting classes
- Jane Mjolsness, summer children’s ARTScool instructor
- Kelly Hollingsworth, ARTScool instructor
- PoPo Flanigan, member artist
- Judy Chinski, instructor of water-color painting
- David Hammel, instructor of clay
- Susan Champion, member artist
- Marie Kinnear, member artist and art center staff member

To everyone’s surprise, the video went viral and by December had 7 million views.

One of those who tuned in was Craig Kallman, CEO of Atlantic Records, who called Mr. Stine to discuss a record deal. Soon former members of the original UI Straight No Chaser were meeting with Atlantic and signing a record deal.

Because of the success of the “12 Days Of Christmas” video, Atlantic had Straight No Chaser debut with a Christmas album. “Holiday Spirits” came out in 2008 and featured the group’s inventive versions of classics like “The Christmas Song,” “Carol of the Bells” and, of course, “The 12 Days Of Christmas.” Straight No Chaser was now off and running.


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WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Theater

Friday, May 4

Cinco de Meow – The Old Naples Pub hosts “Cinco de Meow” for Humane Society Naples from 5-7 p.m. The feline fiesta happy hour will feature Painter Patty Kane guests through the painting process. $42 includes canvas, paint, brushes, wine, dinner and guidance. 2600 Old 41 Road. 495-8998 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Symphony Pops – The Naples Philharmonic Orchestra joins Dave Bennet’s Clarinet Swing Kings at 7 p.m. at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. Take a seasonal journey back in time with a wide range of music and entertainment. Tickets start at $28. 597-1900 or www.ThePhil.org.

Saturday, May 5

Remember the Titanic – “Ship to Shore,” a exhibit commemorating the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic, opens today and runs through June 30 at the Patty & Jay Baker Naples Museum of Art. On display are paint- ings, drawings, prints, photographs, sculptures and nautical models. The centerpiece of the exhibi- tion is outsider artist Wayne Kusy’s nationally acclaimed “Titanic” (1985), a 10-foot-long model constructed of 75,000 toothpicks. Museum hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and noon-4 p.m. Sunday. $8 for adults, $4 for students. 597-1900 or www.ThePhil.org.

Magic Carpet Concert – “Over the Rainbow,” a Magic Carpet Concert by members of the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra, starts at 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. $8. 597-1900 or www.ThePhil.org.

Folk ART – The Naples Fine Art and Folk Festival takes place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and Sunday on the grounds of the Naples Depot at the Collier County Museum, 1051 Fifth Ave. S. See works by 45 artists working in a variety of media and enjoy art demos. www.boulderbrook.net.

Natural Wonders – The Naples Botanical Garden hosts a day of WONDER from 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday through May. Bring the family to Walk, Observe, Navi- gate, Draw, Explore and Read. Regular admission applies. www.naplesbotanical.org.

Cinco de Mayo on Marco – Celebrate Cinco de Mayo from 5:30 p.m. in the courtyard at the Shops at Olde Marco, Marco Island. Enjoy vintage rock ‘n’ roll by the band Radio Flyer at 6:30 p.m. Fill up on fish tacos, quesadillas, Corones and margaritas and “Cupcakes Caliente.” 380-9981.

Free Music – Gulf Coast Town Center presents salsa and merengue music by Batay outdoors in Market Plaza from 8-10 p.m. 267-0783 or www.gulfcoasttowncenter.com.

Sunday, May 6

Hope Fraser, who describes her art as "the ultimate in recycling," will have comics vases like the one shown here and numerous other pieces created using bits of old fabric, newspapers, paper bags, cardboard and wood on display and for sale at the Naples Fine Art & Folk Festival from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, May 5-6, at the Naples Depot Museum, 1051 Fifth Ave. S. Several artists will demonstrate their craft, including Howard Cort, his wife of North Port, who will sit at his potter’s wheel and throw pots as festival guests watch. 262-6525 or www.boulderbrook.net.

Naples City Improv ad its last show of the season starting at 8 p.m. May 4 at The Norris Center. $15, 597-0752 or naplescityimprov@yahoo.com. See story on page C9.

Family Fun – The Center for the Arts of Bonita Springs hosts an open- ing reception for the Student Showcase Exhibition from 6-8 p.m. During the event, students will have the opportunity to meet their schoolmates, as well as be awarded to several students who have shown extraordinary talent and achievement with their pieces. 2600 Old 41 Road. 495-8998 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Comedy Show – Jarrod Harris from Comedy Central stars in a stand- up comedy show beginning at 9 p.m. at Fred's Food, Fun & Spirits. $8 in advance or $12 at the door, 2700 Immoklae Road. 412-7979 or www.mosquitobus.com.

Monday, May 7

New Exhibit – The “Gallery of the Endangered,” a juried art show, is the featured exhibit in the Lautzten and Ruth Gallery Series at the Art Center for the Arts today through May 31. The exhibit features endangered plants and animals. An opening reception will be held from 5:30-7 p.m. May 15. 1010 Winterberry Drive. 394-4221 or www.marcoislandart.org.

One More B-I-N-G-O – The Bingo season at the Jewish Congregation of Marco Island concludes today. The doors at 991 Winterberry Drive open at 5:30 p.m. for a free king-sized American flag, and the first game is called at 7 p.m. 642-8080.

Wednesday, May 9

A Capella Group – Straight No Chaser, a 10-man a capella group, per- forms at 8 p.m. at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. Tickets start at $49. 597-1900 or www.ThePhil.org. See story on page C1.

Upcoming Events


Cancer Rally – “A Put On Your Pink Bra” committee rally is set for 5:30-7:30 p.m. May 10 at Clive Daniel Home, 277 N. The American Cancer Society event is for those who would like to get involved in the Oct. 20 “Making Strides Against Breast Cancer” 5K Walk. The rally includes door prizes, wine and hors d’oeuvres. 216-1123 or janet_bruno@yahoo.com.

Mom’s Night Out – Coconut Point holds National Memoirs Night Out from 5-8 p.m. May 10. Enjoy a mom make- overs, is Price right game, vendor booths and more. 992-9966.

The Plague – By Laboratory The- ater of Florida May 11-26 at Kiwanis Hall, 1634 Woodford Ave., Fort Myers. 218-0481 or www.labtheaterytheater-flor- ida.com.


Game Show – “The Price Is Right Live” comes to Seminole Casino Immo- kalee May 11-June 18. This traveling ver- sion of America’s longest-running TV game show is hosted by Todd Newton of the TV show and Whammy. $25. (888) 288-0007.

Hot Dog! – Nathan’s Famous Hot Dog Eating Contest, featuring major league eaters Adrian Morgan and Bam Martinez, starts at 1 p.m. May 12 at Mer- cato. www.mercatoshops.com.
Kira Krümm
Kira Krümm International Design

Tuesday, May 15 at 11:00 a.m.
FREE SEMINAR AND LIGHT BITES

Escape with elegant metallic accents, soothing, chic organics and discover ways to create a harmonious coastal-inspired dynamic throughout your home. Interior Designer Kira Krümm will share inspirations behind her signature Koastal aesthetic – from the lifestyle of Southwest Florida to her favorite coastal destinations around the world. She’ll offer advice on transforming your home into a timeless, tranquil retreat that reflects your own unique style.

Following the presentation, meet the designer, enjoy light refreshments at Angela Fine Furnishings in Suite 210, and browse the latest in coastal inspired décor, featuring the Kira Krümm International Design OPAL DREAM ROOM.

Seating is limited. RSVP by Monday, May 14. Register online ONLY at MiromarDesignCenter.com. Call (239)390-8207 for more information.

KOASTAL KONCEPTS: Style Inspired by Life

The Erich Kunzel Community Concert Series presents The Bach Ensemble Troubadours at 7 p.m. May 3 at Edison State College, 7007 Lely Cultural Pkwy. $10 adults; $5 students. 775-2800 or www.bayshorecapa.org.

Art After Dark – The Galleries of Crayton Cove host Art After Dark from 6-9 p.m. May 12. Visit 10 galleries and art-related businesses and enjoy artwork and refreshments. 609-2787.

A Wild Time – The Center for the Arts of Bonita Springs presents An Affair of the Arts, “Up Close, Personal and Wild!” from 2-4 p.m. May 12. Get up close and personal with a variety of arachnids, amphibians, reptiles, birds and animals. $35 adults, $15 youth. 495-8090 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Acoustic Show – Chris Cornell takes the stage at 7:30 p.m. May 15 at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, Fort Myers. $25-$161. 481-4849 or www.bbmannpub.com.

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THEATER REVIEW

Laughing through the tears with six strong Southern women

There isn’t a line that Ms. Hoover doesn’t deliver like a pro. She made me laugh so much, I wound up writing in my notes: “I love Ann Hoover.” As the play is set in a beauty parlor, the two actors playing Truvy and Annelle have to actually do hair. They wash and curl and dry and then top it all off with hairspray. Tons of hairspray. I felt bad for the people in the front rows. They must have been so high from the fumes that they flew home after the curtain call.

These six women form a small support group within a community that’s none too large itself. And this ensemble falls together naturally.

Rick Foreman’s costumes perfectly reflect not only the ’80s, but each character’s age and status. His costumes for Ms. Hoover are especially inspired. (She spends an entire scene in a plastic-sticking cap with a scarf around her neck.)

The incidental music, by the Goat Rodeo Sessions, is perfect, because it’s Americana music, yet sophisticated, with Yo-Yo Ma on the cello.

Matt Flynn’s two-level set — Truvy’s hair salon, complete with work space and a waiting area — is one of the more impressive sets I’ve seen at the Sugden. I was especially impressed with the backdrop outside the picture window: a scenic view of trees that changes with the seasons.

And the passing seasons of life is what “Steel Magnolias” is all about: celebrating new life, but also facing death. Just as surely as winter follows autumn, death is surely coming.

Knowing this, Clairee, a widow, decides not to waste away during however many years she has left. She embraces life, throwing herself into new ventures, traveling to New York City to see theater, flying to France… just because she’s always wanted to.

And Ouiser lives her life on her own terms, too.

As Shelby says, “I would rather have 30 minutes of wonderful than a lifetime of nothing special.”

As these six women — and demonstrate — it’s living life with those we love that makes every minute wonderful.

In the know ▸

“Steel Magnolias” by The Naples Players

 tackled being the tears with six strong Southern women.

Kathleen Gravatt, Erin Laughlin, Lucy Harris, Ann Hoover and Carol Fox star in The Naples Players’ production of “Steel Magnolias.”

Though M’Lynn and Shelby have their disagreements, the love between them is undeniable.

Ms. Walker’s character is headstrong and somewhat naive. She has the wedding she wants, but discovers that the marriage is not all she’s dreamed. Although doctors have strongly advised against it because of her poor health, she decides to have a baby in hopes of holding the marriage together.

Ms. Gravatt’s character grows on you as the play goes along. At first, she just seems someone for Shelby to push against, but she soon grows into her own. And her dramatic moment near the end of the play moved some in the audience to tears.

But it is the more mature characters who steal the play: Carol Fox as Clairee, the widow of the former mayor, and Ms. Hoover as Ouiser. Ms. Fox delivers her lines with the casual ease of a stand-up comic, saying things such as, “The only thing that separates us from the animals is our ability to accessorize.” And when another character is accused of playing hard to get, she rejoins, “At her age, she should be playing ‘Beat the Clock.”’

And the role of Ouiser seems tailor-made for Ms. Hoover. Though prickly and ornery, you can’t help but love her. When she’s accused of never having done a religious thing in her life, she’s insulted. “That’s not true!” she insists. “When I was in school, a bunch of my friends and I used to dress up as nuns and go bar-hoppin’!”

And the Sugden audience, not above doing a little nodding out themselves from time to time, roared with laughter when she declared, “I do not see plays, because I can nap at home for free!”

As the play is set in a beauty parlor, the two actors playing Truvy and Annelle have to actually do hair. They wash and curl and dry and then top it all off with hairspray. Tons of hairspray. I felt bad for the people in the front rows. They must have been so high from the fumes that they flew home after the curtain call.

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In the know ▸

“Steel Magnolias” by The Naples Players

For more information:

nancySTETSON

info@naplesfloridaweekly.com

Several women in a beauty parlor, hair salon, complete with work space and a waiting area. The women are giggling and gossiping as they do the women’s hair. They are washing and curling and then top it all off with hairspray. Tons of hairspray. I felt bad for the people in the front rows. They must have been so high from the fumes that they flew home after the curtain call.

These six women form a small support group within a community that’s none too large itself. And this ensemble falls together naturally.

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In the know ▸

“Steel Magnolias” by The Naples Players

For more information:

nancySTETSON

info@naplesfloridaweekly.com
Naples City Improv winds down another season of ad-libbing

Naples City Improv performs its last show of the season beginning at 8 p.m. Friday, May 4, at The Norris Center. This will be the last time to see Scotty Sutton before he moves to Los Angeles to further his ambitions. Also featured will be NCI’s newest players, Alexis Kuchins and Rosie Spinosa.

NCI recently celebrated its 100th performance in Collier County with a nearly sold-out show at The Norris Center. The group arose from a series of one-event dates in the spring of 2008, culminating in a one-night stand of comedy and standup in early July 2008. Several of those players wanted to continue as a group and everything evolved from there. Other performance venues since then have included The English Pub most recently this season and numerous private clubs and communities in the area.

Tickets are $15. For reservations, call 213-3049.

For more information about the troupe, visit www.naplescityimprov.com.

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$5 Select Appetizers

Prices subject to change without notice.
TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) It’s time for the bold and beautiful Bovine to shake off the dust of the past and shape up with new ideas for the future. This could surprise some folks, but they’ll soon adjust.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Those nagging new doubts about an upcoming decision should alert you to step back (at least temporarily) so you can reassess its potential impact from a new perspective.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) That unpleasant situation you hoped would go away by itself needs immediate attention before it affects an upcoming decision. Expect your supporters to rally around your cause.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) You’re moving up and away from that recent setback. But remain cautious about finances. An exercise in thrift today helps cushion a possible end-of-the-month money squeeze.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) You’re still dealing with overtones of pessimism that cause you to doubt your ability to make some needed changes. But the negative pressures will ease up by week’s end.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) There could be some fallout from the way you handled a recent family problem. But those who know that you were in the right won’t hesitate to step in on your behalf.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Financial strains ease by week’s end. Meanwhile, focus on cultivating that new relationship if you hope to have it blossom into something more meaningful.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Health matters once again dominate the week. Be careful not to ignore recurrences of an old problem. An almost-forgotten commitment resurfaces.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) The emergence of an unusual selfish streak could dismay those close to you. Defy it -- don’t justify it -- so you can become your gracious self again.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Reassess your decision to stay with the status quo. It might seem like the sensible thing to do right now, but changes around you could make that choice a risky one.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Move decisively but cautiously when dealing with a delicate personal matter. The fewer mistakes you make now, the less likely it is that the problem will recur later on.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You Ewes and Rams will find your ideas cheered by a mostly receptive flock. Those few dissenters could well be turned around by your charm and powers of persuasion.

BORN THIS WEEK: You can find beauty where many cannot. And you enjoy sharing your discovery with others.
Abhhh, summer. Picnics, beaches, sun — and massive disasters that’ll make your head numb.

In fairness, the summer movie season is shaping up to be quite good (we hope). Here’s a lighthearted look at what I’m keeping an eye on for the next four months.

■ “Avengers” (May 4) — Geek boys, rejoice: All your favorite Marvel heroes (except Spider-Man & Wolverine) in one CGI-filled package.

■ “Dark Shadows” (May 13) — Stop reading when you’ve heard it before: John-ny Depp plays a weirdo freak in this TV adaptation directed by Tim Burton. Yeah, I knew you wouldn’t get this far.

■ “The Dictator” (May 16) — Sacha Baron Cohen is at his best when ridicul-ing American conventions (think “Borat”).

■ “Battleship” (May 18) — For as much as I don’t want it to end, I can’t wait to see how it ends.

■ “The Expendables 2” (Aug. 17) — Just the thought of it makes me want to vom it up. Never funny, but Vince Vaughn and Jonah Hill once were.

■ “The Amazing Spider-Man” (July 3) — Simply making its release date will be an upgrade from the disastrous “Spider- Man” shows.

■ “Savages” (July 6) — Imagine the same plot as Will Ferrell’s “Casa de mi Padre” (one hottie girl, heroes vs. a drug cartel, etc.) — only this time it’s serious and directed by Oliver Stone.

■ “Ted” (June 22) — “Family Guy” creator Seth MacFarlane voices a foul-mouthed teddy bear that won’t leave Mark Wahlberg alone. They had me at “Family Guy.”

■ “Ice Age: Continental Drift” (July 13) — Could animals, given another chance, do damage in the face of global warming already?

■ “The Dark Knight Rises” (July 20) — For as much as I don’t want it to end, I can’t wait to see how it ends.

■ “Prometheus” (Aug. 3) — “Get to the choppah!” Wait, wrong Arnold movie. “Bourne” movies have been so good that any one of them will be worth a shot.

■ “Total Recall” (Aug. 3) — “Total Recall” (Aug. 3) — “Get to the choppah!” Wait, wrong Arnold movie. Oh, hell, who cares? They’ll all be the same anyway.

■ “The Campaign” (Aug. 10) — Will Ferrell and Zach Galifianakis are political opponents in this satire a la “The Ides of March.”

■ “Hope Springs” (Aug. 10) — Meryl Streep and Tommy Lee Jones play an old married couple, and Steve Carell is their therapist. Great casting!

■ “Sparkle” (Aug. 17) — Notable only because it’s Whitney’s last film. Just the thought of it makes me want to give out a big-man yell and then punch something.

“Hope Springs” (Aug. 10) — Meryl Streep and Tommy Lee Jones play an old married couple, and Steve Carell is their therapist. Great casting!

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THE THEATRE EDUCATION PROJECT

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summer camps

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Students will have fun, make friends and perform in a showcase production of Beauty and the Beast on June 29th at 12 noon at the Norris Center and June 30th at 11am and 1pm at the Golisano Children’s Museum of Naples.

For Ages 6-12 | Mon-Fri, June 11-29, 2012
9:00am-1:00pm | Cost: $450

STAR Summer Acting Camp for Teens

Developed specifically for teens interested in exploring theatre more deeply, this stimulating and fun three week intensive program will introduce young adults to both the creative side and the business side of theatre. Learn about all aspects of acting, focusing on breathing, breaking down a scene, audition technique and character analysis. Students will perform in a Showcase performance for the public on July 27th, 2012 at 5:30pm.

For Ages 13-18 | Mon-Fri, July 9-27, 2012
9:00am-1:00pm | Cost: $450

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COMING UP AT THE PHIL

The Philharmonic Center for the Arts is at 5033 Pelican Bay Blvd., Naples. For more information or to order tickets, call 997-9000 or visit www.thephil.org.

■ “Family Fare” with the NPO 3 p.m. Sunday, May 6
The NPO ends its season of “Family Fare” concerts with guest conductor Paul Hostetter leading the musicians in “Take A Spin on the Wild Side.” On the program are selections sure to please from “Spiderman” and “Harry Potter.”

Family Fare concerts are approximately 75 minutes long and presented without an intermission. Tickets start at $15 for adults and $12 for students.

■ “Tchaikovsky’s Fourth” The NPO 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, May 11-12
The NPO presents “Tchaikovsky’s Fourth” as the final concert in its Classical Series this season, with guest conductor Mei-Ann Chen, the first woman to win the Malko International Conductor’s Competition. In addition to Tchaikovsky’s Fourth Symphony, the program includes Brahms’ Violin Concerto, which will be performed by Augustin Hadelich, 2009 winner of the Avery Fisher Career Grant award.

Tickets start at $22 for adults and $20 for students.

■ ABBA and the NPO 8 p.m. Friday, May 18
An acclaimed ABBA tribute band, with two original members of the ABBA rhythm section, joins the NPO for a concert of timeless ABBA hits, including “Dancing Queen,” “ Waterloo,” “ S.O.S.” and “The Winner Takes All.”

Tickets start at $69.

■ “Brahms to Bax” The Naples Philharmonic Chamber Ensemble 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 22
Judy Christy, oboe, joins the Naples Philharmonic Chamber Ensemble for “Brahms to Bax,” the final program in the season’s Chamber Series. On the program are classical masterworks from British, Russian and German composers, including Brahms’ String Sextet No. 1 and Sir Arnold Bax’s Quintet for Oboe and Strings, known for its lively, rapturous folk-like melodies and rhythms.

Tickets start at $34 for adults and $14 for students.

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12:00 - 8:00  SNOCONES
12:00 - 8:00  CORN HOLE/KIDS
12:00 - 8:00  LIMBO/PINATAS/GAMES
12:00 - 8:00  RYAN THE MAGICIAN /FACE PAINTING
1:30 & 6:00  DEVIN BARNES THE COMEDIAN
12:00 - 2:00  LIVE RADIO REMOTE:
               ZITO & GARRETT 96 KROC
12:00 - 3:00  BAND : LOS YOUNGSTERS
12:00 - 2:00  COINTREAU GIRLS & GIVEAWAYS
2:00 - 4:00  CAZADORES GIRLS & GIVEAWAYS
3:00 - 5:00  NEGRA MODELO GIRLS & GIVEAWAYS
2:00 - 5:00  THE GAME GUYS: GUITAR HERO/WII,
3:00 - 6:00  LIVE RADIO REMOTE: GINA BIRCH
            96.9 WINK
3:00 - 3:30  FRED ASTAIRE DANCE STUDIO SALSA
            EXHIBITION
3:30 - 6:00  BAND: MAMBO BROTHERS
TBA        AGAVE PASSPORT PLAQUE PRESENTATION
5:00 - 7:00  HERRADURA GIRLS & GIVEAWAYS
5:00 - 6:00  HERRADURA TASTING TABLE
6:00 - 8:00  CORONA GIRLS & GIVEAWAYS
             BAND: THE HYPE

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Inaugural ArtsNaples World Festival celebrates Russian art and culture

Opening night of the inaugural ArtsNaples World Festival, a weeklong celebration of Russian culture, will feature the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra with Mei-Ann Chen, conductor, and guest violinist Augustin Hadelich at 8 p.m. Saturday, May 12, at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts.

Ms. Chen is the recently named music director of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra and the first woman to win the Malo International Conductors Competition. Mr. Hadelich is the 2009 winner of the Avery Fisher Career Grant award.

The ArtsNaples World Festival continues as follows:

- 2 p.m. Sunday, May 13, at The von Liebig Art Center: The Declassified, an instrumental ensemble of alumni from The Juilliard School, The Academy at Carnegie Hall and the Weill Music Institute, presents a concert/story based on a Russian folktale about a deserting soldier and the Devil who eventually possesses his soul.
- 7 p.m. Sunday, May 13: A Russian Imperial dinner at The Ritz-Carlton, Naples (by invitation only), hosted by His Excellency, Sergey Kislyak, Ambassador of the Russian Federation to the United States of America.
- 2 p.m. Tuesday, May 15: The Declassified string quartet performs music by Prokofiev and Tchaikovsky.
- 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 15, at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts: William Noll conducts the ArtsNaples World Festival Chamber Orchestra with guest pianists Philipp Kopachevsky, Michael Berkovsky and Pavel Nersessian. Three Bosendorfer concert grand pianos will grace the stage.
- 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 16, at The von Liebig Art Center: Pianist Michael Berkovsky in recital.

For tickets and more information, call 390-2788 or visit www.ArtsNaplesWorldFestival.org.
The Naples International Film Festival presents a series of four Russian films as part of ArtsNaples World Festival. Sit a vodka cocktail, sample Russian treats and join NIFF for a unique film experience at the luxurious Silverspot Cinema.

■ 7 p.m. Monday, May 14: “Vysocky: Thank God I Am Alive” – One of the highest-grossing films in Russian history, this movie takes a look at the life of the iconic actor, poet and prolific singer/songwriter Vladimir Vysocky, one of the Soviet Union’s most influential artists.

■ 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 15: “The Vanished Empire” – Sergey is a cocky university student in 1973 Moscow who is more interested in British rock ‘n’ roll, pawning his family’s prized books to buy blue jeans and courting the beautiful Lyuda than in his studies. Against a backdrop of the black market and disaffected youth, Sergey is forced to grow up and accept responsibility for his family, his future and, ultimately, himself.

■ 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 15: “Moscow Does Not Believe in Tears” – The 1980 Academy Award winner for Best Foreign Language Film, this movie follows three optimistic young women who leave the countryside in search of a better future in the big city. Each one has a different dream of life in Moscow: marriage, education, climbing up the social ladder. Though things don’t always go as planned, they support each other over the decades through the ups and downs of life, from love, marriage and motherhood to heartbreak and, when least expected, love once more.

■ 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 17: “Elena” – The 2011 winner of a Special Jury Prize at the Cannes Film Festival, this film is about Vladimir and Elena, spouses in their 60s who uneasily share his palatial Moscow apartment: He’s a virile, wealthy businessman; she’s his dowdy former nurse who has clearly “married up.” None of the above films has been rated.

Tickets are available at the Silverspot Cinema box office or online at www.Silverspotcinema.com.

ArtsNaples World Festival includes screenings of four Russian films

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Naples resident Kelle Hampton relates with courage and exhilaration a story of how life gets in the way of the dreams and values we create for ourselves. The white picket fence lifestyle of her imagination, fed by a habitually rose-colored memory of her childhood, confronts the big fact that doesn’t fit. There is no place in the storybook life she imagines she is leading for a Down syndrome daughter. But when Nella is born, Ms. Hampton has to learn how to deal with reality and re-write the book. In the process, she makes important discoveries about herself and opening up to change.

The journey is arduous, and the road is filled with boulders and false trails. She has to figure out how to process the immeasurable and unconditional love she feels for her second child as well as the initial disappointment that she can’t deny. Raising Nella will mean disappointing 2-year-old Lainey, protecting Nella from the mocking cruelty and hurtful judgments of others and dealing with the full range of Down syndrome’s medical and developmental issues.

One of the first things Ms. Hampton learns is that Lainey has better equipment for coping with Nella than she does. Her firstborn’s innocence is her protection, her lack of expectations a blessing. Lainey relates to Nella immediately and positively. Is it that she doesn’t know any better, or that she knows (feels) what’s really important?

Shame, guilt, inadequacy, helplessness. These are among the feelings roiling within Ms. Hampton in the aftermath of Nella’s birth. To allay these feelings, she not only has to tap deeply into her inner resources, but she also has to learn to seek and accept the emotional support that friends and family can offer. She had already led her life in a way that had created strong bonds. She had long practiced active friendship. Her independent streak had always been tempered by a sense of community.

Choosing to “live big,” Ms. Hampton...
A conversation with the author

Phil Jason: What’s the relationship between your blog (www.kellehampton.com) and your book?

Kelle Hampton: The blog offers vignettes of our life today presented in stories and photos and ranging from stream-of-consciousness writing to more structured essays. The book is an in-depth account of the first year with Nella, beginning with her birth story (as written on the blog).

P2: What did you find most difficult in creating the book?

KH: The biggest challenge for me was narrowing down both a year’s worth of events and experiences from the past and selecting only the most important ones to write about. There are so many other stories I could have included, even in the short time frame of one year, that affected my perspective and/or that powerfully impacted me.

P2: The shock of Nella’s differentness could have led you to see a need to “live small” rather than “live big.” How were you able to choose “living big”?

KH: I think a lot of people who face challenges will tell you there is something incredibly inspiring about recognizing your own strengths through them. Once I embraced this thing I had always thought would be so heartbreaking, so awful, and allowed myself to move forward, I felt incredibly empowered. “What else am I capable of?” I wondered. “Living big” for me represents not only seizing opportunities to live purposefully, but actively pursuing them.

prose is full-color, just like the 237 gorgeous photographs that adorn her story, a story that is really a powerful meditation on loss, perspective, challenge and opportunity. Give it to anyone you know who is hurting. ■

Cinco de Mayo Fiesta

May 5th

$3 – Mahi Tacos
$5 – Herradura Shots
$8 – Herradura Margaritas
$5 – Cuervo Margaritas

May 5th

Cinco de Mayo Fiesta

May 5th

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Cinco de Mayo Fiesta
Iron doorstops are among today's top-selling collectibles. They are probably not propped against a door to keep it open but are instead displayed like rare porcelain figurines on a prominent shelf. The clever, colorful and often humorous doorstops favored today are made of painted cast iron. They were first popular in the late 19th century. Flower baskets, cottages, animals and people were the most common doorstop shapes. More than 1,000 American-made doorstops are known, and there are at least 35 different doorstops that look like Boston Terriers. A new doorstop in 1920 cost 25 cents. Today a rare doorstop sells for more than $10,000. But most doorstops in average condition cost about $100. Original paint is important and repainting a doorstop, no matter how battered, lowers the price. A broken or badly damaged piece has almost no value. Many reproductions of old doorstops have been made, most of them since the 1980s. That's when new collectors started searching for pieces for their collections.

Reproductions start out with overly bright paint, and any rust that develops on them is bright orange, not dark brown. One unusual vintage cast-iron doorstop is a clownish boy wearing a checkered shirt. He is standing with his legs and arms crossed. At his feet are piles of books and pamphlets. It may have been made to commemorate the New York Times Crossword Puzzle. Since the Times didn't publish its first crossword puzzle until 1942, the doorstop wasn't made before then. One sold in 2008 for $4,025. In 2011 another one sold for $1,725.

Q: My old child's rocking chair has a music box attached to one of the rockers. A short rod extends from the music box to the floor so that when the chair rocks, the music box plays. Unfortunately, the music box no longer works. What can you tell me about the chair? Do you know anyone who repairs something like this?

A: In the mid-20th century, a few companies made children's rocking chairs with music boxes. The mechanism on your chair was a feature of little rockers made by the N.D. Cass Co. of Athol, Mass. See if you can find a Cass Toys label or mark on the chair. Anyone who repairs music boxes should be able to repair the box on your chair. We list a few in the free directory on our website, Kovels.com.

Q: Please tell me what my World War II poster is worth. My father got the poster from his bank in 1942, which is
why I know it’s an original. It’s 39 by 60 inches and pictures a close-up of a pilot. The wording on it is: “Y ou Buy ‘Em, We’ll Fly ‘Em, Defense Bonds, Stamps.” The poster is in excellent condition and I have kept it framed under glass.

At World War II patriotic posters interest many collectors. Your poster, featuring art by Norman Wilkinson, was made in at least three sizes. Yours is the largest. We have seen a small one sell for $100, so yours would sell for more.

Q: I have owned an old heating stove for years. The name on it is “Warm Morning.” Can you give me any history?
A: “Warm Morning” was a trade name for heaters made by the Locke Stove Co., of Kansas City, Mo. The heaters were first sold in the early 1930s and remained popular through the ’40s. They were made to burn different fuels — wood, coal, gas or oil.

Q: More than 50 years ago, my husband and I bought a silver-plated melon-shaped serving piece with a removable silver insert and a second pierced silver insert below it. The dish is 15 inches high by 8 inches in diameter. The top rolls back and is decorated with an ornate coat of arms. The bottom is marked “Mappin & Webb, 7577 & 78 Oxford Street, Building City, London.” Can you tell me the history of this piece and its value?
A: You have what probably was marketed as a “bun warmer” or “breakfast warmer” designed to keep rolls or other food warm on the table or buffet. Mappin & Webb is still in business. It’s one of England’s oldest jewelry retailers and is known for its high-quality silver. The firm dates back to 1774, when Jonathan Mappin founded his own silversmith workshop in Sheffield, England. George Webb joined the Mappin family in the business in 1888 and the company’s name was changed to Mappin & Webb. A Mappin & Webb silver-plated warmer like yours sold at auction last summer for $85.

Tip: Valuable old wicker should never be painted. It should be misted once a month. Vacuum and dust it regularly. Once a year, wash it with a natural soap.

— Terry Kovel answers as many questions as possible through the column. By sending a letter with a question, you give full permission for use in the column or any other Kovel forum. Names, addresses or e-mail addresses will not be published. We cannot guarantee the return of any photograph, but if a stamped envelope is included, we will try. The volume of mail makes personal answers or appraisals impossible. Write to Kovels (Florida Weekly), King Features Syndicate, 300 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019.
Boys & Girls Club of Collier County hosts its annual crawfish boil

1. Kevin Aizenstadt and Matthew Kelley
2. Harold Weeks, Barbara Melvin and Mike Shaw
3. Glenn and Carol Martin, Myrna-Gail and Ross McDonald
4. Domenic and Leslie Colantonio with Sandra Buxton
5. Kelly Capolino
6. Tony Orr and Theresa Shaw

The Winetasters of Naples host ‘Cheers for Charity’ at Lely Resort

1. Polly Whiteside, Kevin Sheehy, Victoria Dellanos, Stephen Kaufman and Michelle Spitzer
2. Stephanie Horst, Christina Davidow and Jennifer Alvarez
3. Stephen and Yumike Simms
4. Linda Harley, Elaine and Roger Osbond, Sue Huff and Linda Santilippo
5. Kathleen Scanlon, Doug Morrison, Polly Whiteside and Margo Vincent
6. Deborah Strand, Janet Cason and Sue Downey

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

‘Sip & Sample’ at the Village for Friends of Foster Children of Southwest Florida

1. Lydia and John Gibbons, Barb and Fred Boggan
2. Amanda Rivera
3. Nicola Weston and Eric Lutgert
4. Marlene and Patrick Boom
5. Karen and Harvey Lee
6. Dan Reins and Dottie Poland
7. Mary Lee and Susan Crum

Jackie Sereno and Jennifer Weidenbruch

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A ‘Spring Fling’ at The Garden District

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1. Susan Calcapre and Gregg Sari
2. Donna Edges and Jennifer Phelps
3. Heidi Anderson and Kristen Weardon
4. Mark Schurtz and Greg Hunt
5. Maurica Hurley and Kay Bork
6. Jan Soderquist
7. Trisha Borges, Rufino Hernandez and Justine Andollow

BERNADETTE LA PAGLIA / FLORIDA WEEKLY

Clive Daniel Home hosts open house at The Strada models in Mercato

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1. Rob and Florence Turner, Joan and Archie Moore
2. Diane Dahl, Tom Dunkel, Sue Dabin-Herd and Joan Euler
3. Charlie Hansen and Rebekah Emrich-Pikovsky
4. Diane and Warren Schneider
5. Mike and Kathy Harvey
6. Gil Passan
7. Howard and Joan Pactovis

CHARLIE MCDONALD / FLORIDA WEEKLY
SOCIETY

Providence House holds a prayer breakfast at the Hilton Naples

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Send us your society and networking photos. Include the names of everyone in the picture. E-mail them to society@floridaweekly.com.

1. The Drake Family Quartet
2. Maria Santos and Crystal Hernandez
3. Deb and Jim Monterosso
4. Eileen Hennessy, Poiy Kessen and Joe Hennessy
5. Pam Kessen and Elizabeth Harris
6. Nancy and Frank Farren
7. Ed Melone, Terese Flanigan and Marilyn Melone
8. Rev. Jim Hill and Mary Beth Lindung
9. Fr. Tom Gillespie

Peggy Farren / Florida Weekly

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While wine lovers are willing to wait years for their favorite bottles to reach perfection, when it comes to information about those wines, they want it now.

For general wine information, sign up for e-mails from the British publication, Decanter Magazine, as well as Wine Spectator and Wine Advocate for e-mails from the British publication, Decanter Magazine, as well as Wine Spectator and Wine Advocate magazines remain reliable sources, as do local wine shops. But for faster-than-the-speed-of-light info, nothing beats cyber-space.

Twitter, Facebook and e-mail lists provide instant information from wineries and with fellow wine lovers. For general wine information, sign up for e-mails from the British publication, Decanter Magazine, as well as Wine Spectator and Wine Advocate. WTSO — WineTilSoldOut — is the online site for a south New Jersey retailer that features great prices for small lots.

Facebook is another way to stay connected. “Like” your favorite wineries and get updates through Facebook and connect with others who enjoy the same wines you do. This is a good way to find local events involving wines you like.

If you haven’t used Twitter, signing up is free. There is a very diverse Twitter-universe out there, and if you sign up to lots of accounts you might drown in the flood of tweets every day. If you search ‘wine’ on Twitter you will find thousands of opportunities to get the latest wine-blurb, ranging from mainstream to unusual. Who knew there is an English Wine Producers tweet? It seems every region, country and mass retailer has their own tweets, and some are extremely prolific. Wines of Argentina, Wine Australia, Oregon Wine, and Total Wine show up every day multiple times on my Twitter feed, featuring tips, tasting notes, events and news. Search for your own favorites.

Or maybe you just want the latest and best deal. There are two sites I recently joined that showcase wines in limited quantities but great prices.

WTSO — WineTilSoldOut — is the online site for a south New Jersey retailer that features great prices for small lots. Most selections require a three- or four-bottle purchase and include free shipping. Last Call Wines, another New Jersey retailer, also sends out daily updates and lists its available inventory. Be prepared for multiple daily updates, as they sell through their inventory and replace it with new options.

Recent offerings include Dog Point NZ Chardonnay; Mer Soleil Chardonnay and Freemark Abbey Bosche Estate Cabernet Sauvignon. These are all gone now, but the pipelines are full of selections from around the world.

Staying connected digitally is an effortless way to be in the know about your wine favorites. The hardest part is limiting yourself so you don’t get overloaded with Facebook updates and tweets.

Interesting tweets to help stay connected:

@jancisrobinson
For a distinctively British connection I enjoy Jancis Robinson, the well known wine authority and wine writer for the Financial Times of London. She has her ear to the ground and links her tweets back to her web site for in-depth appraisals of wine topics around the world. Recent articles have covered topics ranging from the Bordeaux 2011 vintage, a fine article about wine fraud involving big name French wines, and a comparison of restaurants of Languedoc versus Catalunya.

@wine594
I just like this one because it covers events around the continent, and some of the tweets and articles are not picked up by other tweets or news agencies. Who knew there was a Portuguese water dog named Rafa that is helping raise $10,000 for the local humane society in Edmonton Alberta?

Jancis Robinson’s Twitter feed provides a distinctively British perspective.
Swan River's seafood fresh and refreshing simple

North meets South at Swan River Seafood Restaurant, which has been serving the best of New England's catch beside the treasures of Southwest Florida waters for more than 10 years.

The original Swan River Seafood was founded on the shores of Nantucket Sound on Cape Cod more than 60 years ago by a retired sea captain. The Southern outpost certainly captures the spirit of the Cape, with its nautical blue and white interior, ours on the walls and menu offerings of whole belly clams, broiled scrod and lobster rolls. But it’s complemented by Florida stone crab claws (in season), Gulf grouper and Southern oysters.

Based on the constant flow of diners on an off-season weeknight and on the consistent quality of the food and service, it’s a winning combination.

Like so many Southwest Florida restaurants, Swan River is in a nondescript strip shopping plaza. The generic exterior is forgotten immediately upon stepping inside; suddenly, you could be walking into a restaurant in Wellesfield, Prowncetown or any of the Cape’s other charming fishing villages.

The restaurant and market buy seafood directly from boats that fish off Gardens Bank, the most northerly of the great Atlantic fishing banks, between Cape Cod and Nova Scotia. “The scrod, haddock and striped bass are all caught by hand-fishing, the most ecologically sound method of producing the best possible product,” according to the website. “Local fishermen pull the lobster and shellfish from the icy waters of the Atlantic daily.”

Now that we’ve established how fresh the product is, let’s get down to the eating.

We'd barely sat down when a bread basket arrived. The white dinner rolls were bland and a bit tough, but their crisp appearance foretold of the prompt service that would be standard for the evening.

About two dozen reasonably priced wine selections are available, mostly fine but fairly common names like Hess, Kendall-Jackson and Murphy-Goode. My Villa Maria Sauvignon Blanc from New Zealand ($27.75) was lightly tart and well chilled.

The menu includes all manner of raw and cooked seafood combinations as appetizers and entrees, which is nice if you want to sample an array of steaks, ribs, chicken piccata and liver and onions for those whose tastes lie elsewhere.

We started with fried oysters ($10.99) and steamed littleneck clams ($12.99). The former were lightly coated in corn flour and crisply fried, the briny morsels within melting in unctuous bursts on the tongue. The accompanying dip, described as Louisiana sauce, was like a zesty remoulade — creamy and slightly spicy, a nice counterpoint to the crunchy oysters.

Then came a nand the dozen options include spinach, salad, applesauce, various starches and pickled beets. The cole slaw here is noteworthy for the same simplicity we enjoyed with the sole; it tastes like it’s nothing more than cabbage and sweetened white or rice vinegar. (I later found the recipe online and I was only off by a few basic ingredients.) The potato salad and parsley red potatoes needed a touch of seasoning, but potatoes always do.

Two side dishes proved not too generous alongside our other entree, the bouillabaisse ($24.99), a good portion of which ended up going home with us. The Mediterranean classic was chock-full of seafood — clams, mussels, shrimp, fish and huge scallops. The broth was a flawles marriage of tomatoes, garlic and a variety of herbs. Again, we wished for bread to soak it up with.

Choices for dessert were no less diverse. We loved the zestful kumquat freezer pie with grape-crumber-thick crust ($6.50) — no way that came off of a Sysco truck. The bread pudding ($5.50) was equally good — warm, super-moist and not overly sweet.

Whether you’re longing for a taste of New England seafood or Florida’s own, the fishing is good at Swan River.

Below: Bread pudding is served warm and drizzled with caramel.

Swan River Seafood Restaurant and Fish Market
3741 Tamiami Trail N., Naples; 403-7000

Ratings:
Food: ★★★★★
Service: ★★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★★

★ Hours: 11 a.m.-3 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.-9 p.m. daily
★ Reservations: Required.
★ Beverages: Full bar
★ Specialties of the house: Seared, naturally
★ Volume: Moderate
★ Parking: Plenty
★ Website: www.swanriverseafood.com

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11 a.m.-3 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.-9 p.m. daily

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BEST OF 2012
[FLORIDA WEEKLY AWARDS SOUTHWEST FLORIDA’S FINEST]
Welcome to Florida Weekly’s Best special section

Typical “Best of” sections in local newspapers require merchants to buy ads to have their names placed on the ballot. No ad, no chance to win.

That’s not our style here at Florida Weekly.

We wanted to create a Best of Collier County that was fun, entertaining and untainted (for the most part) by commerce. We set out to create a list that captured the character of our unique area with the kind of flair you’ve come to expect from this publication. Instead of focusing on local merchants, we spotlight the people, places and events that make Southwest Florida special. If someone did advertise, however, we thanked them by including them as a Best.

At least we’re honest.

And, instead of having readers vote, which is a process rife with skullduggery, we sent our award-winning writers and editors out to scour Collier County for the Best.

LOCAL COLOR:
What makes us unique

>> Best place to last, Best send-off, Best May-December romance, Best proposal, Best legs in a skirt

DOWN TIME:
Relaxing and having fun

>> Best place to take the kids, grandkids, stepkids and the neighbor’s kids, Best place for a cheap senior date, Best place for a power breakfast, Best draft pick and more.

FRESH AIR:
The great outdoors

>> Best uphill battle, Best old-school park, place to camp, Best place to canoe/kayak, Best park for picnicking

GOODS AND SERVICES:
What we buy

>> Best place to stretch a dollar, Best place for beach-bound legs, Best travel companion, Best place to age gracefully and more.
Come cruise with us aboard the most elegant luxury yacht in all of Southwest Florida. You will experience the spectacular homes, breathtaking sights and natural beauty of Naples Bay and Port Royal. Relax in our fully enclosed and air-conditioned interior salons or bask in the warmth of the sun in the fresh-air outdoor seating.

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Lunch Menu
- STARTERS -
French Onion Soup  |  Lobster Bisque  |  Beefsteak Tomato &
Gorgonzola Salad  |  Traditional Caesar Salad
Ciabatta Bruschetta  |  BBQ Shrimp  |  Blackened Beef Tips
Tempura Asparagus Fries  |  Seared Ahi Tuna

- LUNCH SALADS -
Large Caesar Salad  |  Southwest Salad
Asian Salad  |  Cobb Salad
*Add your choice to the above salads: Three Grilled Shrimp  |  Four Blackened Beef Tips  |  Grilled Chicken Breast  |  10 oz. Grilled Salmon
Steak & Gorgonzola Salad  |  Hawaiian Chicken Salad

- KNIFE & FORK SANDWICHES -
French Dip Au Jus  |  BBQ Beef Sandwich  |  Buffalo Chicken
Tender Sandwich  |  Cuban Sandwich
Crab Cake Avocado Sandwich  |  Classic Club Sandwich
Premium Black Angus Beef Hamburger
BBQ Pork Sandwich  |  Turkey Wrap  |  Sandwiches served with your choice of Steak Fries, Sweet Potato Fries or Potato Salad

- LUNCH ENTREES -
Prime Rib  |  Seared Atlantic Salmon Fillet  |  Beef Tortellacci
Pan Seared Chicken  |  Gemelli Pasta (Add Grilled Chicken Breast)

- THE SHULA CUT® -
Steak Mary Ann  |  16 oz. New York Strip  |  8 oz. Filet Mignon
20 oz. Kansas City  |  12 oz. Filet Mignon  |  22 oz. Cowboy
24 oz. Porterhouse  |  48 oz. Porterhouse

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Dinner Menu
- APPETIZERS & SOUPS -
Barbeque Shrimp stuffed with Basil Calamari “Fries”  |  Colossal Shrimp Cocktail
French Onion Soup  |  Lobster Bisque
1/2 Doz. Blue Point Oysters (On the Half Shell) Jumbo Lump Crab Cake  |  Stone Crabs (Seasonal)
Flash Fried Lobster Tail  |  Cold Water Lobster Tail
Lobster Cocktail  |  Blackened Tenderloin Tips

- SALADS -
Beefsteak Tomato & Gorgonzola Salad
The Wedge  |  Traditional Caesar w/Herbed Croutons
Tomato & Fresh Mozzarella Chop Salad

- SIDES -
Creamed or Sautéed Spinach
Broccoli w/Hollandaise Sauce
Fresh Asparagus Steamed or Grilled Baked Potato  |  Hash Brown Potatoes
Lobster Mashed Potatoes  |  Grilled Onions
Double Stuffe Baked Potato  |  Steak Fries
Crab Mac & Cheese  |  Sautéed Mushrooms

- ENTREES -
THE SHULA CUT® - The Best Beef Money Can Buy
8 oz. Filet Mignon  |  12 oz. Filet Mignon
10 oz. Steak Mary Anne  |  16 oz. New York Strip
20 oz. Kansas City  |  22 oz. Cowboy
24 oz. Porterhouse  |  48 oz. Porterhouse
16 oz. Prime Rib  |  24 oz. Prime Rib
3-5 lb. Live Maine Lobster  |  10 oz. Florida Red Snapper
10 oz. Mahi Mahi  |  10 oz. Norwegian Salmon
16 oz. French Cut Chicken Breast  |  22 oz. Loin Chops
Stone Crabs (Seasonal)  |  Twin Tails (2) 9 oz. Lobster Tails
Surf & Turf  |  6 oz. Filet Mignon/9 oz. Lobster Tail

- DESSERTS -
Seven Layer Chocolate Cake  |  Crème Brûlée  |  Molten Chocolate Lava Cake  |  Key Lime Pie  |  Apple Cobbler
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BEST PLACE TO LAST
>> Collier County

A study published in Population Health Metrics says the average life expectancy for Collier County women is 86 years, the highest in the United States. Collier men, at 80, live longer than any others in Florida. That comes as no surprise to those of us who for years have been taking greedy gulps from Collier’s fountain of youth. Access to good health care is an obvious contributor, but might the longer living also come because of all the spa treatments offered and consumed? All the wonderful restaurants! All the warm weather and gulf sunsets? We’d like to think that this Collier County “best” comes as a result of the combination of all the “Best” things we celebrate in this issue. After all, living long is only worthwhile when you’re living in a place worth living long in.

BEST SENDOFF
>> Thank You Myra Days

When some people retire, they get a nice luncheon in their honor. Or they’ll get together with colleagues and friends at the local bar and toss down some beers. Myra Janco Daniels, the founder and first CEO of the Philharmonic Center for the Arts, had a two-day celebration at the venue. A Saturday night gala included Brian Stokes Mitchell CK Kelli O’Hara, Harold Blackwell, and Michael Feinstein, as well as Keith Lockhart conducting the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra and dancers from the Miami City Ballet. Celebrities such as Bill Cosby and Neil Sedaka delivered pre-recorded messages.

BEST BOB DYLAN MOMENT
(I.E. “HOW DOES IT FEEL-EE-EL?”)
>> Todd Allen vs. Bank of America

It was, at first appearance, a familiar story: One party failed to pay what it owed, the aggrieved party foreclosed and the repo-folks showed up to take the furniture. Except in this case, the party owing the money was a bank, the foreclosing was done by a Naples couple’s attorney and the furniture being taken was from inside the institution. Some quick financial action by Bank of America settled the debt and kept the furniture in place, but did nothing to remove the frittata’s worth of egg from its corporate face. Attorney Todd Allen’s action demonstrates both that given the right motivation, banks are still capable of speedy decisions, and that furniture from a bank lobby really only works in a bank lobby.

BEST NEW KID IN TOWN
>> Kathleen van Bergen

Philharmonic Center for the Arts CEO and President Kathleen van Bergen quickly set about making friends the minute she moved into her new position as successor to Mrs. Daniels (see above). She’s established partnerships with Gulfshore Playhouse and Opera Naples, among others, earning her a virtual “standing ovation” for her overtures.

BEST REASON TO CALL THE CARPET CLEANER
>> Craig Wolf

We learned earlier this year that NBC-2 might have lost Craig Wolf, its lead male anchor for nearly 18 years, not to disputes over money or bad behavior, but because of alleged dirty carpets. Mr. Wolf filed a whistleblower lawsuit against his former employer, claiming he was fired in retaliation for complaining to regulators about unsanitary conditions that he says damaged his health. The case is working its way through the courthouse, where, as far as we know, the linoleum tile is swept and polished daily.

BEST BAIT AND SWITCH
>> Trey Radel’s website shenanigans

Republican candidate for U.S. House Trey Radel pulled the ultimate sneak attack by purchasing websites linked to the names of three of his rivals: Gary Aubuchon, Chauncey Goss and Paigee Kreegel. Mr. Radel says he’s using the sites to highlight the liberal, big-spending faults of his competitors vying for the District 19 seat. His political foes, worried unsuspecting Googlers will navigate to these bogus sites, compare the move to identity theft and Washington-wor- thy campaign warfare. Is it sheer marketing genius, or just plain old dirty politics?

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BEST UNSUNG HERO
>> Cynthia Rodriguez-Schweisthal

As the liaison for homeless education for Collier County schools, Ms. Rodriguez-Schweisthal meets children who do their homework to the interior lights of parked cars and who wash up at gas stations and fall asleep at their desks. She helps these children with transportation, free lunch, tutoring sessions, health physicals, counseling, school supplies — but only as much as her funding will allow, for her position rests on a competitive grant of $90,000 to cover only as much as her funding will allow, for her position rests on a competitive grant of $90,000 to cover her salary and the services she provides. Meager as her means may be, she still delivers soap and towels to homeless shelters, she still finds bus passes for high school students who move from friend to friend, couch to couch. As of April, Mr. Rodriguez-Schweisthal has identified more than 1,000 homeless students in Collier County. We call her hero; these students might better call her saint.

BEST MAY-DRAWER ROMANCE
>> Tony Marino and Shannon Livingston

Mr. Marino (at 70, the December in this pairing) and Shannon Livingston (she’s May, at 39) have a 31-year age difference, but the relationship seems to work just fine. Tony says if Shannon can’t keep up that’s her issue, because he’s not slowing down.

BEST PROPOSAL
>> At the finish line

After the Marco Island Bridge Run, a half-marathon back in March, Naples triathlete Andy Holland dropped to one knee and proposed to Allyson Swanston, also a race competitor and triathlete. With a crowd of tired, sweaty runners cheering her on, she happily said “Yes!” — and we were reminded that true love is meant to be a marathon, not a sprint.

BEST COMEBACK
>> Chief James Billie

Chief James Billie has come a long way from being born next to the Chimpanzee Farm in Dania and escaping the deadly intent of a medicine man who took issue with little James’ mixed heritage. Mr. Billie, who was forced from his position as head of the Florida Seminoles nearly a decade ago, won 58.4 percent of the 1,257 ballots that were cast in an election last year and regained chairmanship of the Seminole Tribe of Florida. In doing so, he defeated two-term Chairman Mitchell Cypress, who was regarded as the favorite in the contest. Mr. Billie’s 22-year reign as chief of the Seminoles (1979-2000) was marked by flamboyance and controversy. A battle-hardened veteran of the Vietnam War and an alligator wrestler of wide renown, he piloted airplanes and helicopters owned by the tribe and generally conducted himself in a fashion that was guaranteed to attract attention. The signal accomplishment of his tenure was the establishment of Indian gambling facilities that have been emulated by tribes across the United States.

BEST DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDREL, AKAA “GOLIATH”
>> Florida Georgia Grove LLC

This is the developer who bulldozed Mamie Street, the only road to the century-old National Historic Register Smallwood Store and Indian trading post on Chokoloskee Island. FGG put up a fence, blocked the only land access and forced Smallwood supporters to gather grass-roots support and sue.

BEST GRASSROOTS SLINGSHOT HIT, AKAA “DAVID”
>> Lynn Smallwood McMillim

Ms. McMillim is director of the Ted Smallwood Store Inc., the nonprofit group dedicated to restoring Mamie Street (see above). After missing deadlines and twice being found in contempt of court, Florida Georgia Grove LLC agreed to comply with a court order to remove the fence and pave Mamie Street, a road that had been open 70 years when FGG decided to bulldoze it.

BEST WEIRD PRESS RELEASE PHOTO
>> Kat Epple
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Ms. Epple is one of our favorite and most creative local musicians, but we have no idea what’s going on in this photo of her and keyboardist Chuck Grinnell that was part of a press release about a March performance. It looks like they went to Where the Wild Things Are — but in an alternate universe — and while there, found a cardboard box with a cloud stuffed inside it. We love it. And it makes us want to hear and see them play. www.katepple.com.

BEST HEADLINE

>> Man Accused of Attacking Woman with Swim Noodle over Watermelon Dispute – Naples Daily News

Thank goodness we still have daily newspapers to provide needed perspective on conflict in our changing world. In this analysis of an incident at Lowdermilk Park, the schism began with strong diplomatic language over the resting place of a rotting melon carcass (on-shore vs. off), escalated to weaponry (as one party dumped on the other the bilge water from the barrel of a swim noodle) and ended with close-quarters combat (and, according to law enforcement, a punch to the cheek). With the arrest of an East Naples man, police have now reclaimed Lowdermilk Park as part of the Collier County DMZ.

BEST STYLE (HIM)

>> Joe-Jo Jennings

Some would say it’s the pocket square. Others would insist it’s the bow tie. We’d agree it’s both those things, plus his John Craig wardrobe, that give Neapolitan Joe-Jo Jennings his characteristic fashion panache. But there’s something else, too. Whenever we think of Mr. Jennings, we’re reminded of that old song, “You’re never fully dressed without a smile.” It still remains his most fabulous accessory.

BEST STYLE (HER)

>> Brenda O’Connor

The senior vice president of the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce says style for her means “playing dress up” every day. Mrs. O’Connor uses her imagination to create new looks for business, casual, “Naples Chic” or black tie. And she also relies on her great rapport with the salespeople in her favorite store, Nordstrom.

BEST LEGS IN A SKIRT

>> Dave Wallace

The proud president of the St. Andrews Society of Southwest Florida has been photographed more times in his kilt than any other man in Naples. Sorry, girls, but the senior commercial broker associate with CRE Consultants is married to the lovely Suzanne Wallace and the photo here is actually from their wedding.

BEST MEN IN HEELS

>> The Stiletto Sprint

A light-hearted, 500-yard race with a serious purpose — to raise funds and awareness during National Breast Cancer Awareness Month every October — the Stiletto Sprint draws bold women and even bolder men out to make a daring dash down Fifth Avenue South while wearing heels (the higher the better). Most participants use the sprint as an opportunity to get decked out in pink from head to toe as a sign of their support for the Garden of Hope and Courage at NCH and for Susan G. Komen for the Cure-Southwest Florida.
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BEST EXTREME HOME MAKEOVER
>> The David Lawrence Center

The kitchen and multi-purpose room in the Substance Abuse Services Center at the David Lawrence Center were in dire need of a makeover when professional organizer Marta Ottenstein donated her time and talent to make the spaces more functional and attractive. She applied her no-nonsense approach to cleaning out clutter, rearranged what was left and added much-needed touches, from a tile backsplash in the kitchen (which Ms. Ottenstein secured as a donation from Creative Tile & Hardwood Floors) to coordinating containers for condiments and supplies.

BEST REASON TO CLEAN OUT YOUR CLOSET
>> Love That Dress!


BEST REASON FOR A TRIP TO THE MALL
>> To shop for a pet

Talk about a purrr-fect pairing. Humane Society Naples and Coastland Center teamed up last fall to open a satellite center for the animal welfare group, allowing pet lovers a convenient spot in which to adopt dogs, cats and other homeless creatures. It's even open during conventional mall hours much of the week, which means potential pet owners don't have to leave work early in order to find and fall in love with a friendly furry face to take home. Making it easier for people to adopt pets is a concept worth barking for joy over. www.humanesocietynaples.com.

BEST HAIR (HER)
>> Kelly Capolino

Real estate professional and founder of the Diamond Volunteer Program, Ms. Capolino says her white highlights are God-given and her spiked cut is by Abby Roberts at Roberts of Philadelphia. With her busy schedule, she likes a cut that she can style in a few minutes, and that she can spike even more with a few dabs of gel when the occasion calls for a more playful look.

BEST HAIR (HIM)
>> Craig Bamberg

If imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, then it just might be that Justin Beiber's do can be traced back to its origin right here in Naples on the head of Craig Bamberg (although Mr. Bamberg's look is more "tailored mod GQ" than "rebel hip-hop teen"). He's a favorite among local paparazzi as easily spotted at events all around town. The senior director of corporate communications for ASG Software tells us his must-have hair elixir is LA Looks #10.

BEST FACIAL HAIR (JUST HIM)
>> Frank O'Neill

We snapped a photo of Mr. O'Neill and his remarkable mustache and beard at the annual CREW concert at Riverside Park in Bonita Springs. Although we caught him chilling out, he's a busy man who has served as interim building official for Collier County and chief building inspector for Lee County and now owns and operates Full Service Green, an environmental consulting company.

BEST SPECS (HER)
>> Kathleen van Bergen

We've already mentioned her as the Best New Kid in Town, but Kathleen van Bergen gets another nod as the woman about town who wears great eyeglasses. She tells us she's been wearing specs since her college days and has four pair in her current collection. Here she is...
in her favorite “dressy” pair, “oldies but goodies” she bought several years ago in Germany while there playing violin at a music festival in Heidelberg as Best New Kid in Town (see page D5), the president and CEO of the Phil is wearing more business-friendly frames by Lafont.

**BEST SPECS (HI)**

>> Karl Gibbons

Mr. Gibbons says he buys eyeglasses like women buy shoes. When asked how many pairs he owns, the president of Third Eye Management says not enough and certainly not as many as Sir Elton John. He’s shown here in frames by Roberto Cavalli.

**BEST SPECS (THEM)**

>> Gayle and Scott Campbell

Our third annual Best edition has a first-time category for a couple who both wear great glasses. When we noticed Gayle and Scott Campbell (he’s CEO of Physicians Regional-Collier Boulevard) kept showing up in our Society photos looking equally fabulous in a variety of frames, we had to find out more. Turns out she has “maybe a dozen?” pair by designers from Armani, Chanel and Kate Spade to Jean Lafont and Alain Mili (her favorite). He favors frames from Marc Ecko, Gant and Ermenegildo Zegna. Shown here at the Dream Gala for the Golisano Children’s Museum of Naples, she’s wearing a pair by Kate Spade and he’s in Marc Ecko. What a pair!

**BEST SMILE**

>> Peggy Farren

The effervescent owner of Undergraduate Photography and Avant-Garde Images is always beaming (and usually laughing). She says she smiles and laughs because life is good and most people are interesting and fun to be around. She certainly sets the standard on that account.

**BEST PLACE TO MAIL A POSTCARD HOME**

>> Ochopee Post Office

At a whopping 7-by-8 feet, this fully functioning U. S. Post Office is the smallest in the Country and a tourist attraction in its own right. Ochopee boasts a population of about one dozen. The tiny ghost town sits alongside the Tamiami Trail, about 35 picturesque miles east of Naples and about one mile west of the Skunk Ape Research Headquarters (see below).

**BEST SKUNK APE SCOOP**

>> Skunk Ape Research Headquarters

If huge, hairy, smelly, mysterious creatures interest you, don’t miss this kitschy attraction. It’s about as far removed from glitzy Fifth Avenue South as the Moon is from Mars, but you might just remember it longer. And if you’re here in October, there’s always “Skunktoberfest.” Find it at Trail Lakes Campground, 36 miles east of Naples on U.S. 41 in Ochopee. Write a postcard home while you’re there (see below).

**BEST LOCAL PIPELINE**

>> Gas at Costco

If you can’t get it for free, the least expensive gas in town is often found at Costco on Naples Boulevard. But the crowds are often found there, too. The fourth line of pumps installed this spring helps, but if you really want to beat the wait, the pumps open at 6 a.m. and there’s hardly ever a line then.

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**Simply the best.**

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**Susan Valentine**
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I have traveled extensively around the world. I recently sailed on the new Silver Spirit and was amazed at the high level of quality service and was genuinely impressed by the entire staff onboard. I LOVED the entertainment at sea! I enjoy the world renowned lecturers on board.

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**Karen Kelley, CTC**
Senior Travel Specialist, over 30 years experience
I recently sailed on AmaWaterway's Christmas Markets cruise from Nuremberg to Budapest. The level of service was excellent and very friendly with great attention to detail. I highly recommend the AMA experience and cannot wait to sail again!

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**Crystal Cruises**

Voted the WORLD'S BEST more than any other cruise line, hotel or resort in history. In 2012, Crystal Cruises will visit 182 ports-of-call in 59 countries. "Now including all onboard gratuities, complimentary wines and much more, including exclusive Wine tastings and complimentary wines and much more, and... NEW for 2012 River Cruising in Africa paired with the safari of your choice!"

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**Margo Buttino, CTA, DS**
Senior Travel Specialist, over 30 years experience
Crystal's service and food is outstanding and they have best entertainment at sea! I enjoy the world renowned lecturers on board. My clients love the wide array of educational activities such as Yamaha keyboard lessons, language, computer and photography classes.

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**Cox & Kings**

Cox & Kings has been introducing travelers to the glory of the Indian subcontinent for more than 250 years. Search for an elusive Bengal Tiger on elephant back, soar above the Himalayas by private helicopter, or dine by candlelight in a Maharajah’s palace. When you travel with Cox & Kings, you reap the benefits of two and a half centuries of relationships-local experts, bespoke luxury, customized experiences, and exceptional moments you’ll never forget.

Save $500 per couple off any new custom itinerary to Africa or India. Travel must be completed by Dec. 31, 2012.*

**Wendy Taylor, CTC**
Senior Travel Specialist, over 22 years experience
Due to my travels around the world and expertise, I have been invited to join Cox & Kings first Travel Agent Advisory Board representing Preferred Travel. I have just returned from the inaugural meeting in Los Angeles last month.

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**Holland America Line**


Reserve a new Holland America Line cruise with a reduced deposit by May 17, 2012 and receive an Onboard Value Booklet with over $450 in savings!* **Maria Esther Alvarez**
Travel Specialist & D'Latinos contributing travel writer, over 30 years experience
My clients love Holland America—the ships are elegant and they feel pampered. The service is first class and the prices are affordable. Plus, they love the size of ships, they are the perfect size.

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**Abercrombie & Kent**

Travel Solo on an Incredibile Adventure at a Great Price. If you choose to travel the world on your own but appreciate the benefits of small group travel, consider one of Abercrombie & Kent’s more than 40 small group escorted departures offering solo savings to popular destinations. All feature an expert Tour Director, an opportunity to pursue a personal passion, insider access and your own private accommodations.

**Donna Christensen, CTA, DS**
Senior Travel Specialist, over 20 years experience
A&K’s escorted programs feature single supplements – generally 15% of the total trip price. Select departures offer waived or reduced single supplements by as much as 75%.

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**Florida Weekly's Best**

Connie Moody
Senior Travel Specialist & e’Bella contributing travel writer
I’ve just returned from my 26th Regent cruise. I celebrated 365 days sailed on Regent when I hosted my annual cruise to the Colonial South and Bermuda in April. My number one all time favorite cruise was to Singapore and Indonesia.

John Burgess
Manager Leisure Division, Senior Travel Specialist
My clients agree that Lakani redefines luxury travel. It was no surprise they said it was the finest trip they’d ever taken. And since they’ve been almost everywhere and done almost everything, it’s very high praise indeed!

Bo Gover
Senior Travel Specialist, over 25 years experience
My clients love the all inclusive value, high level of service and world class restaurants. The really enjoy the unique itineraries and wonderful ports the small ships can sail right in to.

Suzanne Dennis
Senior Travel Specialist, over 30 years experience
Celebrity pays attention to detail and quality. They offer a wide variety of restaurants and activities. My clients love the cutting edge innovations like the Lawn Club with real grass, Wine Tower in the dining room and Lounges. It is definitely Modern Luxury at sea.

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BEST NEW HELPLINE
>> Collier 211

You’ve got questions, 211 has answers. The new non-emergency information and referral service from the Community Foundation of Collier County helps callers find help and information about hundreds of community nonprofits, government and for-profit service providers. One call to Collier 211 can help eliminate confusion about who to call for help and also reduces inappropriate calls to 911. Dial 211 or 263-4211, or visit www.collier211.org.

BEST CHURCH MARQUEE
>> East Naples Baptist Church

“Heaven. Don’t miss it for the world.” “You’re not saved by service but saved for service.” It’s no wonder that when it comes to witticisms of an ecclesiastical nature, the marquee at East Naples Baptist Church has earned a reputation for repartee. From snappy sayings to thoughtful reflections on the nature of spirituality, this marquee is sure to put a little prayer in your drive time.

BEST BAPTISMAL POOL
>> Waypoint Community Church

It’s Olympic! About a year and a half ago, Waypoint Community Church purchased the Collier Athletic Club property and began holding services there. It’s perhaps the only churches in town complete with pool, tennis courts and bar (now known as Believers And Refreshments). Pastor JD Mallory says everyone is welcome, and if you feel like taking a dip after worshipping, just bring your suit.

BEST NEW APP
>> Savory “lollipops”

Butternut squash rounds filled with boursin cheese and leeks, pinwheels of smoked salmon, stuffed mushroom caps, perfectly round melon balls — all in bite-size portions and presented on lollipop sticks, perfect for plucking from an imaginative display and popping into your mouth with nary a need for a napkin. These newest apps, the delightfully delicious creations of Carol and Henry Dinardo of the Washington, D.C.-based Windows Catering Co., whet our appetite at Magic Under the Mangroves, the annual gala for the Conservancy of Southwest Florida, but we suspect the inventive nibblies will soon be “popping up” at all the cool cocktail parties and receptions around town.

BEST DO-GODDER
>> John Bunch

Fishing guide and Capt. John “Giddy-up” Bunch’s seven-year effort to give troops returning from Iraq and Afghanistan weddings, honeymoons, vacations, fishing trips and joy at no charge — a form of thanks — is unprecedented. Also a licensed pastor, Capt. Bunch performs weddings by land, air and sea (and why not? He’s a former Marine Corps officer, after all). More than 150 businesses throughout Southwest Florida support his effort, but more support is always better support. Find out how you can help at www.operationopenarms.org.

BEST VANITY PLATE
>> “Piranha”

So, how did the man driving the blue Lamborghini Gallardo with the vanity plates that read “Piranha” make his money? We doubt it was by importing exotic fish. Spotted at the corner of Golden Gate Parkway and Livingston Road, he might not have been fishing for our attention — but he certainly caught it.

BEST PERSON WE ALL MISS
>> Peg Longstreth

At more than 6 feet tall and with a booming voice and strong opinions, Peg Longstreth was difficult to overlook. She knew the visual arts. She knew opera. She knew classical music. She knew a lot about a wide range of things. And she wrote about them for Florida Weekly. She opened an art gallery and filled it with artwork that’d be more at home in a more progressive metropolitan area. She loved cats and could never turn away any stray that was smart enough to find his or her way to her door. She died suddenly in February, and everyone who knows her is still reeling from the loss.
DOWN TIME: Relaxing and having fun

BEST PLACE TO TAKE THE KIDS, GRANDKIDS, STEPKIDS, THE NEIGHBOR’S KIDS
>> The Golisano Children’s Museum of Naples

C’Mon! Climb a tree, rake fall leaves, step into an igloo. At Naples’ newest museum kids can cast mag- nets to fish for stuffed animals from blue-painted turntables and then measure their catch to make sure it’s a keeper. They can traverse the Everglades by boardwalk, above a mangrove maze where a 19-foot gator (not a real one) makes his home. There’s also a 45-foot tall banyan tree to climb and a 22-foot-wide nautica shell to explore. www.cmon.org.

BEST EVENT MASCOT
>> The Green Flash Fairy

For the past two years, Kaye Klug has dressed up as the Green Flash Fairy to welcome guests at the Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park beach fundraiser, the “Green Flash Sunset Celebration.” Catch her colorful act at Flash Sunset Celebration.”

BEST PLACE TO GET DOWN AND DIRTY
>> The “World Famous” Swamp Buggy Races

Three times a year, the “World Famous” Naples Swamp Buggy Races provide an opportunity to witness what must rank as one of the strangest vehicle spectacles in the world. Buggies shaped like submarines and airplanes, on skids and skis and painted Skittles colors, plow through and over muddy water. It’s a roaring-loud place to spend a day with the family and maybe shock-and-awe some out-of-town guests. The first King of the Swamp was Johnny Jones, crowned in 1949. This year’s Spring Classics Champion was a SHE — Lorrie Johns, crowned Queen of the Swamp in her buggy “Lady Liberty.” Your next chance to catch a race will be Oct. 27-28 at the Florida Sports Park. Check it out. These definitely ain’t your Grandaddy’s buggy races! www.swamp-buggy.com.

BEST PLACE FOR A SENIOR DATE
>> Showtime at the Pavilion

The Pavilion Cinema 10 in the Pavilion Shopping Center at the corner of Tamiami Trail North and Vanderbilt Beach Road is a bargain for anyone over 55; you can impress your date with a first-run movie and still have enough money for popcorn. Even though it’s hard to ask for the senior ticket the first time, for $6 it’s well worth it. And as far as we can tell, they never ask for LD. (A bit disheartening for those of us who think we still look 40-something, but hey, we gotta love the savings). www.fandango.com/pavilioncinema10.

BEST PLACE FOR A CHEAP DATE AT ANY AGE
>> Bravo! Cucina Italiana

After you’ve dazzled your date with your good looks, be sure to impress her with your financial smarts. Visit Bravo! Cucina Italiana at Mercato for the “Bar Bites” menu and choose from an array of hearty appetizers, all for a mere $2.95. Offered from 3:30-5:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. to close, Monday to Friday. And if you think this romance might last, don’t miss $5 martini Wednesdays. www.bravotitantlan.com.

BEST FREE CONCERTS
>> Gulf Coast Town Center

Whether you’re plopped down on the grass in front of the stage, bar hopping or ducking in and out of all the shops, live music from the market plaza stage fills the air and sets a celebratory tone every weekend at Gulf Coast Town Center. Coming up in May: Batey (salsa and merengue, May 5), Mike & the Blues Rockers (acoustic rock, May 12), The Drunk Monkeys (acoustic rock, May 19) and Chicago Mob (jazz and blues, May 26). www.gulfoastowncenter.com.

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BEST WAY TO NIBBLE YOUR WAY THROUGH THE AFTERNOON

>> Naples Food tours

Naples Food Tours arrived on the scene in January, giving visitors and residents the opportunity to spend an afternoon nibbling their way through a variety of Naples eateries. The three-hour tour sets out from 2-5 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays and takes in five to six tasting stops. www.naplesfoodtours.com.

BEST PLACE FOR A POWER BREAKFAST

>> Fit & Fuel Café

Banish the early morning blues with an energy infusion from Fit & Fuel Café next to Naples Cyclery at the Pavilion Shopping Center. With yummy smoothies, bakery treats, crispy bagels and handcraft- ed coffee drinks from Miami-based specialty roaster Panther Coffee, this casual eatery will amp up your morning. And don’t forget to grab a Roadster cookie to ward off the dreaded afternoon slump. 514-3333.

BEST PLACE TO IMPRESS A CLIENT AT LUNCH

>> Shula’s

Maybe you're closing a whale of a deal, or maybe you're celebrating the success of a long business relationship. Whichever, you’ll chalk up the intended points you’re celebrating the success of a long business relationship. Whichever, you’ll chalk up the intended points they’ll be with an invitation to one of the nation’s best steakhouses — for lunch! A Premium Black Angus Steak and Shula’s Steakhouse Sides in the middle of the day and the evening is still theirs. Which should put you well on your way to the next big deal and relationship. 430-4999; www.donshuas.com.

BEST PLACE TO GET TEQUILA INSPIRED

>> Agave Southwestern Grill

With more than 200 tequilas and mezcal, awesome bartenders and creators making guacamole, Agave has quickly become “the” place to be in North Naples. A full bar with a 12-foot tequila tower and glass-enclosed tequila room, award-winning cuisine, fabulous lunch guaranteed served fresh in 30 minutes and the best margaritas in town — you’ll be sure to get your inspiration on! Pass the salt and limes, please! 598-3472; www.agavenaples.com.

BEST GLUTEN-FREE MENU (AND IT’S DELICIOUS, TOO!)

>> Jason’s Deli

Big stacked deli sandwiches and homemade toppings are staples at Jason’s along with a focus on health and well-being. That why’s there’s also a gluten-free menu with a full line of dressings, soups, breads, potatoes, kids meals and more. That’s what helped earn Jason’s the vote for Best Restaurant Chain in America by Parent’s Magazine in 2011. And of course, if it comes from Jason’s kitchen, there’s no high fructose corn syrup, no artificial trans fats and no MSG. All that healthy goodness goes so much better with the free soft-serve ice cream that finishes up every Jason’s meal. 593-9499; www.jasonsdeli.com.

BEST NOT-SO-FAUX BAND

>> Fake Problems

Fake Problems is the name of a four-piece Indie rock band from Naples that’s currently on tour with Say Anything. Two of Fake Problems’ songs are featured on the latest Taco Bell commercials. Watch for them; they just might inspire you to make a taco run for the border. Band members are Chris Farren, Derek Perry, Sean Stevenson and Brian Blount. Find Fake Problems — the real thing — on Facebook and YouTube.

BEST PLACE TO TAKE OUT-OF-TOWN GUESTS

>> Mercato

Remember when you used to feel the need to take visitors to a certain theme park near Orlando? Those days are gone with the advent of the Mercato Shops. Why settle for a Small World when Mercato brings you a big world that includes SilverScreen Cinema, Sur la Table and Charming Charlie’s? Who needs Tomorrowland when today at Mercato brings Whole Foods Market, Pandora and Bio? And why settle for a frozen banana when Mercato has Yogurbella, McCormick and Schmick’s and Blue Martini? For visiting guests, the Mercato can be your personal Magic Kingdom. www.mercatoshops.com.

BEST VOICE ON HIGH

>> Patricia Racette at Moorings Presbyterian Church

Church Martini? For visiting guests, the Mercato can be your personal Magic Kingdom. www.mercatoshops.com.
Opera Naples hit a bit note in fundraisers with the engagement of Metropolitan Opera soprano Patricia Racette to perform with her pianist, Dan Gettinger, in the acoustically amazing sanctuary at Moorings Presbyterian Church. The evening wasn’t all Puccini and Verde, however; after a set of opera classics and a brief break, she delighted the audience with numbers from the Great American Songbook, an Edith Piaf torch classic and Judy Garland’s “The Man That Got Away.” We didn’t know whether to shout “Encore!” or “Amen!”

**BEST GUYS’ KIND OF GALA**
>> The Naples Music Festival

The cost of admission mirrors the most glamorous galas in town, but the dress code makes the Naples Music Festival a fundraiser that even the guys don’t mind getting ticketed for. The bi-annual benefit for the Garden of Hope & Courage fills the historic Third Street South district with live bands and great food and drink. There are lots of studs, too, but none of the kind required to accessorize a tuxedo.

**BEST COSTUME PARADE**
>> Shut Your Mult

The human Halloween costume parade down Fifth Avenue South is always a sight to behold but we think Humane Society Naples’ annual Strut Your Mutt pet parade is even more fun to see. It’s amazing the lengths pet owners will go to (and what some dogs will tolerate) in hopes of capturing the title of Scariest, Funnest, Most Original or Best Celebrity Lookalike for their canine companion.

**NEXT BEST COSTUME PARADE**
>> “Hello, Dolly!”

It was a masterful staging idea, and truly unexpected: In the middle of The Naples Players’ production of “Hello, Dolly!” during the song “Put on Your Sunday Clothes,” the entire cast strutted off the stage and paraded across the center aisle at the Sugden Community Theatre in their early 20th century finery. If you were sitting in an aisle seat, you got a great close-up view of the fancy costumes.

**BEST LUNCHING LUNCH**
>> Calistoga Café

This artisan sandwich shop and bakery also has great gourmet coffee and espresso, a laid-back atmosphere and, an extra bonus, free Wi-Fi, which means that you can even hang out after eating and fire up the iPad or laptop. Lunch, however, is one of our favorite reasons to head to Calistoga. It’s quick, but it’s not fast food. There’s no fryer, and the sandwich-es, soups and salads are loaded with fresh and flavorful veggies, nuts, grains, spices and herbs. Which makes Calistoga better — simply better. Three locations in Southwest Florida: Coastland Center Mall and 7941 Airport-Pulling Road, Naples; and Gulf Coast Town Center, Fort Myers. www.calistogacafe.com.

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**Judy Hansen**

Judy Hansen is originally from Indianapolis, Indiana where I graduated from Butler University with dual degrees in Public Relations and Spanish. I worked as a licensed Optician for 10 years before getting my license to sell mutual funds where I worked for First Investors out of New York. I was married to a German National where I worked for the U.S. Army for 2 years in Stuttgart, Germany. In 1992 I moved to Naples and traveled the U.S. and Germany opening new stores for TGI Friday’s before getting my Real Estate License. I am a sailing enthusiast, have owned, captained and raced my own sailboat, a Catalina 28’ and am now crewing on other race boats. I chaired the SW Florida Charity Regatta in 2001 and 2002 and the ‘Hospice Regatta’ in 2004 all in Naples. After being widowed, I recently married a fellow sailor in May of ‘04. My goal is to bring expertise in the marketing of luxury real estate to assist the discriminating seller as well as showcasing homes that meet the lifestyle requirements of the knowledgeable buyer. www.GulfCoastSailingClub.org

www.JudyHansenHomes.com
(239) 248-4735
BEST LADIES' ROOM
>> Callistoga at Coastland Center
We know you go there for the food, but Callistoga Bakery and Café at Coastland Center also gets a Florida Weekly Best for its ladies’ room. If you’ve ever tried to fit into a restroom stall with your big purse or a bulging shopping bag, then you know what it’s like. You sometimes have to make a decision: Me or my purse? Both just won’t fit. Not so at this Callistoga, where the women’s restroom stalls are so big and roomy that you could even take in a suitcase. Finally, a restaurant that understands a woman’s needs.

BEST STRAIGHT TALK ABOUT RACE
>> “Race”
Gulfshore Playhouse’s production of David Mamet’s “Race” was a no-holds-barred look at race in America: our prejudices, our assumptions, our fears. It was provocative, audacious, brutally honest. And it laid it all out in some pretty explicit language. It was incredibly compelling theater. And it was a hell of a gutsy move for Producing Artistic Director Kristen Coury to stage this play in Naples, which is not exactly known for being open-minded and progressive, especially in matters of race.

BEST MEN’S ROOM
>> Who cares?

BEST BOUTIQUE GROCERY BUYS
>> Per: Eating Well
While it’s nice to finally have a choice between Whole Foods and Trader Joe’s, we pay just a wee bit more when we get everything we need at either. Despite the sinking balance feeling on our debit card, our friends at the Eating Well blog point to some values at each. They note Trader Joe’s cheese (Comte and Cheddar), staples (olive oil, almonds, granola and wild rice) frozen foods (smoked salmon and scallops) and wine. Whole Foods gets value marks for local fruits and vegetables, sustainable fish and seafood, bulk foods and store-brand products (365 Everyday Value and WFM). But value or not, we’re still going to try to fit into a restroom stall with our big purse or a bulging shopping bag, then you know what it’s like. You sometimes have to make a decision: Me or my purse? Both just won’t fit. Not so at this Callistoga, where the women’s restroom stalls are so big and roomy that you could even take in a suitcase. Finally, a restaurant that understands a woman’s needs.

BEST DANCE ADVICE
>> Charo
Charo’s show in the Daniels Pavilion at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts contains many highlights: shimmies in her low-cut mini-dress, going into the audience and pulling a man’s head into her cleavage, astounding us with her considerable skill on the classical guitar. (She’s a former student of Andre Segovia.) Yes, she sang her latest hit, “Sexy Sexy Sexy.” But one of our favorite moments was when she gave advice about the tango. “You have to be careful when you dance the tango,” she warned in her heavily accented/mangled English. “It can be a very dangerous dance, because you have to get very close, like you’re spooning. And everyone knows that too much spooning can lead to forking.”

BEST SUMMER READING LIST
>> The Critic’s Choice
Newton has a knack for picking interesting, literary novels. Every April, at her last lecture, she hands out her summer reading list around, offered up by Elaine Newton of “The Critic’s Choice” series of book lectures at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. Dr. Newton has a knack for picking interesting, literary novels. Every April, at her last lecture, she hands out her summer reading list. This year’s 38 titles include: “The Dressmaker” by Kate Alcott, “The Marriage Plot” by Jeffrey Eugenides, “The Art of Fielding” by Chad Harbach, “The Stranger’s Child” by Alan Hollingshust, “The Night Circus” by Erin Morgenstern, “The Submission” by Amy Waldman and “An Available Man” by Hilma Wolitzer. From those titles, she’ll pick six to lecture about next season. Find the entire list at www.thephil.org.

THE BEST WAY TO TIE ONE ON
>> The Coquito Mojito
Here’s to the new Naples Original, aka the Coquito Mojito, the cocktail that won a taste contest sponsored by the Naples Originals, the organization that promotes local, independent restaurants. Should you wish to tie one on in a liquid manner, here’s the recipe: .75-ounce Dancing Pine Oak Cask Rom, .75-ounce coconut-flavored rum, .75-ounce fresh squeezed lime juice, .75-ounce Coco Papez Coconut Cream, a splash of club soda and three sprigs of fresh mint (plus one for garnish), lime wheel garnish and coquitos (marble-sized coconuts for garnish, optional). In a cocktail shaker, lightly muddle the mint in...
the coconut cream. Add lime juice and rums, fill with ice and give a long hard shake. Pour through strainer into a glass over ice. Add a splash of club soda. Garnish with mint, lime wheel and coquito. Serves one. Cheers!

BEST SOUNDS-GROSS-TASTES-GREAT
>> Bacon for dessert

It’s hard to imagine, but bacon’s the newest dessert staple. Tierney’s Tavern at the Bay House takes it uptown with the Southern Decadence, a sweet bourbon pecan tart with sugar cane ice cream, mousse-like sweet potato cremeaux, corn-liquor gelee and chunks of salty, crunchy bacon. Don’t knock it until you’ve tried it. 591-3837.

BEST OLYMPIC CONNECTION
>> The English Pub

Just in time for the Olympic Games to move to London this summer, Naples’ original English Pub has moved to the East Trail to be ready for you. As your favorite Olympic competitions await their new London location, so too, do your favorite foods, favorite staff and favorite publicans await at the Pub’s new address, 5047 Tamiami Trail E. 775-3727; www.naplesenglishpub.com.

BEST TRAVEL PLANNERS WHEN PERFECTION IS PREFERRED
>> Preferred Travel of Naples

Preferred Travel of Naples continues to grow and expand by adding even more expert travel consultants to its 2000-plus-square-foot office. Preferred Travel owner Wilma Boyd is recognized as one of the best bosses in Southwest Florida and is recognized by national industry magazines, which makes it no surprise that Preferred Travel continues to be named as one of Southwest Florida’s top companies. Best people, best management and best company: When it comes to help making your travel plans, isn’t that the kind of perfection you’d prefer? 261-1177; www.preferrednaples.com.

FRESH AIR:
The great outdoors

BEST OLD-SCHOOL PARK
>> Cambier Park

Tucked close to Fifth Avenue South at 755 Eighth Ave. S., this iconic park boasts lots of treed shade, a band shell, shuffleboard and bocce courts, tennis, a playground, pavilion and, best of all, serenity.

BEST OLD-FLORIDA RANCH ROMP
>> Immokalee Pioneer Museum at Roberts Ranch

Part of the Collier County Museum system, this 15-acre living history museum consists of 20 pre-served buildings. Museum programs include ranch tours and events with historical characters as well as an annual Old Florida Festival. Anytime you decide to go, it’s a 44-mile trip back in time to the un-beached Florida, the one peopled by cow-hunters, ranchers and Indians. www.colliermuseums.com.

BEST PLACE TO GET GREEN
>> Naples Grande Golf Club

Regardless of your interpretation, you’ll find “green” all over Naples Grande Golf Club. If green to you is lush or rich, you’ll find an abundance of both, from the verdant fairways to the brand new greens. If a green is something you’re trying to reach in as few strokes of a club as possible, well, 18 of them are what Naples Grande Golf Club is all about. Or, if Shakespeare’s “green-eyed monster” of jealousy refers to the way you look upon members here, Marc Freiburg will be glad to get you on the other side of that membership equation (including a $69 member-for-a-day with unlimited afternoon golf). www.waldorfastorianaples.com.

BEST UPHILL BATTLE
>> The bridge to Marco Island

A sidewalk/bike path is included in the new two-lane span of the Jolley Bridge that provides south-bound travel from Naples onto Marco Island. We can thank our federal stimulus dollars and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 for newly improved access.
THE BEST WEEK OF MAY 3-9, 2012

BEST PLACE TO DUCK OUT OF SIGHT
>> Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park

This beachfront park at the end of Immokalee/111th Street has plenty of places to hide from the pressures of everyday life, whether it's for lunch hour while you're on the job or for a break from the kids and laundry duty on a weekend afternoon. And if you want to bring a party with you, there are picnic tables, grills, restrooms and showers. The 166-acre park is a tropical paradise for beach lovers, boaters and divers.

BEST WALK ON WATER
>> Naples Municipal Beach & Fishing Pier

The Naples Pier is one of the most photographed landmarks in the area for a reason. It's a spectacular place to walk on water without getting your feet wet. Go, stroll, saunter, sashay, wander or ramble and enjoy Naples and the Gulf of Mexico from a vantage like no other. www.naplespier.com.

BEST WAY TO ENJOY NAPLES FROM THE WATER
>> Naples Princess Cruises

The $3.5 million, 105-foot Naples Princess would be the envy of any prince's bride. The best part is, this U.S. Coast Guard-certified vessel is open to the public. Step aboard for any number of daily excursions that depart from Port O' Call Way near downtown Naples, or book a private event. Among surroundings of cherry wood and gold-plated ceilings, take in the views of Naples Bay and ogle at the exquisite waterfront residences in Port Royal. You can also choose to climb aboard for dinner and sunset. 649-2275; www.naplesprincesscruises.com.

BEST MANGROVE STROLL
>> Clam Pass Park

Enjoy a ¾-mile boardwalk stroll through a primeval mangrove tunnel. A free tram runs during daylight hours to take you comfortably from parking lot to beach. Skittering fiddler crabs, water birds and raccoon sightings included free. Parking is at the end of Seagate Drive.

BEST WALK IN THE SWAMP
>> Clyde Butcher's Saturday Swamp Walk

Join a swamp slog, organized by legendary photographer and Florida icon Clyde Butcher. Every Saturday from September through March, intrepid souls have a chance to rub shoulders with genius, and maybe even snap their own masterpiece pictures in the Big Cypress Swamp. www.clydebutchersbigcypressgallery.com.

BEST SLEEP IN THE SWAMP
>> Weekend in Clyde Butcher's Bungalow or Swamp Cottage

(see above) For Rent: October through April, two swamp houses owned by famed landscape photographer Clyde Butcher. Spend a night or two experiencing South Florida's watery wilderness, close-up. Maybe even catch a glimpse of the Skunk Apé! www.clydebutchersbigcypressgallery.com.

BEST GLADES GLIDE
>> Wooten's Everglades Airboat Tour

Wooten's has been gliding people around the River of Grass since 1953. For a unique peek at a landscape like no other, board an airboat and prepare to be thrilled. www.wootensairboats.com.

GOODS AND SERVICES:

BEST PLACE TO STRETCH A DOLLAR
>> Miromar Outlets

With more than 140 top designer and brand name outlet stores, if you start at one end of Miromar Outlets and shop your way to the other, you can stretch your dollar approximately two miles. You might wear out a lot of shoe leather, but don't worry, you'll encounter lots of footwear stores for replacements along the way — as well as places for apparel and accessories, housewares and furnishings, jewelry, luggage, toys and more. At Miromar Outlets, you can fill more bags for the buck and you can dine, drink and be entertained along the way. Don't miss the snowy
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white Peking ducks at the Nike fountain, the koi fish near Neiman Marcus Last Call or the turtles near Eddie Bauer Outlet. www.miromaroutlets.com.

BEST REASON TO COME OUT OF THE CLOSET

>> All About Closets

When you dread going into your dark and unorganized closet, there’s something wrong. All About Closets can turn that fearful space into a model of beauty and efficiency with custom designs. Closets, kitchens, entertainment areas, pantries, home offices — any space in your house or business can be transformed. It works with homeowners, builders and developers and interior designers. You’ll never get lost in there again. 303-9829; www.allaboutclosets.com.

BEST PASSION FOR FASHION

>> True Fashionistas Designer Resale

What if you could find a shop where true fashion met resale and consignment? Not just a “second-hand” store, but pre-owned Prada, Gucci and Louis Vuitton, to name a few. And what if this shop had impeccable style and sophistication in women’s, men’s and children’s clothing and accessories? Whether you’re looking for the finest names in couture or have clothing to sell, trade or consign, your go-to place is True Fashionistas Designer Resale. Come shop the collection of clothing-forward clothing and bring a few gently used pieces of your own. It’s how you can “go green,” the designer way. www.truefashionistasresale.com.

BEST TRAVEL COMPANION

>> CI Travel

When we imagine the perfect travel experience, it starts with someone else doing all the research and planning. After that, they’d move on to finding the best values for extraordinary experiences. That’s precisely what we find in CI Travel. With nearly 40 years in the global travel business, CI Travel is employee-owned and one of the largest American Express-affiliated travel firms in the world. And they complete the travel experience after you book your trip by being on call during your travels. It’s like having a personal travel expert along for the ride. www.cinaples.com.

BEST AGENT TO MAKE A “SAIL”

>> Judy Hansen, Coldwell Banker

Judy Hansen is more than just a top-notch Realtor; she’s also a racing sailor and commodore of the Gulf Coast Sailing Club. And her sailing is a real asset to her real estate clients: She can plot a course through challenging hazards and uncertain seas; she knows when to tack away from trouble, toward better winds; and she watches the charts to ensure your transaction proceeds to its final destination with a following sea. As a result, Ms. Hansen and the Judy Hansen Team make real estate a breeze. 248-4735; www.judyhansenhomes.com.

BEST WIZARD OF AAAHHHS

>> Alan N. Rembos, DDS

Most people don’t know about the omitted character in L. Frank Baum’s wonderful book, whose part in the TV special would have been to sing, “If I only had a smile...” For years, patients with similar songs in their hearts have been coming to Dr. Alan Rembos for cosmetic, implant and general dentistry. Dr. Rembos’ veneers, Invisalign treatments and crowns and bridges leave patients clicking their heels thrice and repeating, “There’s no place like here, there’s no place like here...” 434-0400; www.smilesbyrembos.com.

BEST PLACE FOR BEACH-BOUND LEGS

>> Gulfcoast Surgeons Vein Center

When your legs go shopping or go to work, you can keep them covered. But legs headed to the beach are pretty much out on display. If you’re faced with ugly,ropy or painful veins, you can find care and treatment at Gulfcoast Surgeons Vein Center. For swollen or knotty vericose veins, or threadlike spider veins, these highly skilled and renowned surgeons treat you as well as your condition. Get ready to take your legs to the beach; schedule a screening at the Vein Center to see what treatment might be right for you. www.gulfcoastsurgeons.com.

BEST PLACE TO GET YOUR STEP BACK

>> Family Foot and Leg Center

Most of us take walking for granted. We just put one foot in front of the other and it happens. That’s not true, though, for the many people who experience pain when they walk. At Family Foot and Leg Center, they’re devoted to the gift of walking without discomfort, regardless of a patient’s age or social status. They handle everything from emergency trauma to comprehensive dental care in a comfortable environment!

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**BEST PLACE TO AGE GRACEFULLY**

>> Brookdale Senior Living

Brookdale Senior Living provides a full spectrum of senior living options, including independent living, personalized assisted living, Alzheimer’s and dementia care, rehabilitation and skilled nursing. Brookdale creates communities where residents are respected and honored for who they are… every day. With locations throughout Florida and more than 645 facilities throughout the country, the staff are experts in providing warm, welcoming environments with plenty to see and do. www.brookdaleliving.com.

**BEST AT KEEPING THE INSIDE IN AND THE OUTSIDE OUT**

>> Great Southern Products

In your home, a little separation is a good thing. And Great Southern Products has what it takes to keep the outside out with decorative doors and windows. Inside the house, Great Southern Products keeps what’s inside the kitchen inside stylish cabinetry. Quality moldings draw the line between walls and ceilings, and milled baseboards separate a wall from the floor. Let Great Southern Products bring all this separation together for your next project. 332-7170; www.gswindow.net.

**BEST ART TO FLOOR YOU**

>> Azar Galleries

When it comes to displaying art, most people only think of their walls. But one of the largest locations for art in your home is on your floors. Azar Galleries has more than 10,000 examples of hand-knotted rugs in stock — the ultimate in art for your floors. And if that's not enough, they can even custom-make a rug in any colors and any size. When it comes to art in your home, broaden your horizons.
and cover your floors with the beautiful rugs you can only find at Azar Galleries. www.azaragalleries.com.

BEST NEW HOME COMMUNITIES

>> Lennar

With nearly two dozen communities in Southwest Florida, Lennar neighborhood names could populate a crossword puzzle: from Fiddler's Creek, Heritage Bay and Treviso Bay to Bella Terra, Reflection Lakes and Madison Park. And with that many different locations and unique characteristics, there's both a community and a home for you. Lennar has nearly 50 years experience not only as one of the nation’s top builders of condominiums, townhomes and single-family homes, but also as a creator of satisfied communities of people like you. If 15 across is “Selection” and 22 down is “Quality,” the answer to both is “Lennar.” www.lennar.com.

BEST POINTS OF INTEREST

>> American Eagle Mortgage

No matter how many times you purchase a new home or condo, the transaction goes on your lifetime list of “Complicated Deals.” When you’re adding to that list, American Eagle Mortgage can make your role in the deal easy, while they handle the complicated parts. They’ll research the best options, explore the opportunities and bring you the most competitive loan packages available. In fact, with American Eagle’s help, you might start a new lifetime list of “Complicated Deals Made Easier.” www.aemc.cc.

BEST PLACE TO FILL YOUR SCHEDULE

>> Illustrated Properties

Imagine your Village Walk calendar: Start your day with Breakfast Club or a landscape tour, move on to Culinary Club or a ladies luncheon, and wrap up the day with a museum trip or Dessert Night. Imagine these and 18 pages of other activities in the monthly Village Walk Life. And imagine how Joanne Ciesielski or Brian Carey of Illustrated Properties can find you a home in Village Walk where you’ll have a schedule of activities that keeps you as busy and as engaged as you’ve always wanted to be. The pros at Illustrated Properties can show you...
around Island walk and similar great communities to call home throughout the desirable North Naples area. www.ipre.com; www.villagewalkofnaples.com.

BEST PICK WHEN YOU'RE PICKING SIDES
>> Law Offices of David Orosz

Ever since we were kids, we've been picking people to be on "our side," for anything from a playground game to a high school team. The stakes are higher for adults, but we still get to pick who's on our side for issues including Veterans Affairs benefits, Medicaid plans and applications, and wills, deed and trusts. When you need someone on your side for these and other critical legal issues, the Law Offices of David Orosz offers free consultation. 334-8585.

BEST ZEN-LIKE WORLD OF NATURAL BEAUTY
>> Pottery As Art

This veritable campus of artisan pottery, fountains and sculpture collected from around the world is a kaleidoscopic feast for the senses. On Old 41 just north of Bonita Beach Road, it's the perfect place to take a peaceful retreat browsing among Asian kilns, and expanses of green lending Bella Casa a subtle grace that puts the mind and soul at ease. There are different floor plans to suit any client, and Bella Casa is central to everything: the interstate, beaches, shopping, scenic downtown, golf courses and Florida Gulf Coast University. Get a workout in the exercise room, take a dip in the pool or just lounge around the expansive deck and write a postcard to a friend in Ohio. Be sure to include a weather report from paradise. 288-5117; www.bellacasaluxury.com.

BEST REASON TO BREAK THE COPY MACHINE
>> Copy Lady

Ever get really steamed at the office when the copy machine misfires? Go ahead and give it the corporal punishment it deserves. Let 'er rip. Then give Copy Lady a call and get the best equipment and service in the business. Founder and CEO Cynthia Duff's dedication to customer service as Copy Lady, selling and servicing commercial grade digital copier equipment, is par none. It just makes you feel good when she's around, like having a superhero for all your copying needs. It's a bird, it's a plane — no it's Copy Lady! Her unmatched two-hour response time, professional staff of technicians and more than a decade serving the Southwest Florida community makes old copy equipment start beeping uncontrollably.

BEST PLACE FROM WHICH TO SEND A POSTCARD TO OHIO
>> Bella Casa

This sunny South Fort Myers luxury condo community typifies the best of Southwest Florida living. That means picturesque lakes, Mediterranean architecture and expanses of green lending Bella Casa a subtle grace that puts the mind and soul at ease. There are different floor plans to suit any client, and Bella Casa is central to everything: the interstate, beaches, shopping, scenic downtown, golf courses and Florida Gulf Coast University. Get a workout in the exercise room, take a dip in the pool or just lounge around the expansive deck and write a postcard to a friend in Ohio. Be sure to include a weather report from paradise. 288-5117; www.bellacasaluxury.com.

THE BEST OF EVERYTHING... REALLY
>> The Best of Everything

With an assignment to find the "Best Of" in Naples, we couldn’t have cut significant corners with a single stop at The Best of Everything. Imagine cub reporter Jimmy Olsen telling Daily Planet editor Perry White that he's completed an assignment to find the best of Naples by opening a single door. The Best of Everything has the best of everything in jewelry (bracelets, necklaces and rings), the best of everything in fashions (handbags, scarves and sunglasses) and the best of everything in gifts (pewter, shell jewelry and cards). Yet we press on to find other superlatives in our fair city. Depending on next year’s budget, we might only come here for the Best of Everything. www.bestofeverythingnaples.com.

BEST WAY TO MAKE A HUSBAND BEG TO GO FURNITURE SHOPPING
>> Clive Daniel Home

Ladies, when it comes to men, most furniture showrooms just don't get it. Not so at the all-new Clive Daniel Home. While you shop to your heart's content for fabulous furnishings and accessories for your home, your man can while away the time in the best man cave ever, the showroom theater that's completely equipped with a beer tap (of course, this assumes that he makes it past the wine bar in the center of the North Naples showroom). Clive Daniel Home combines local knowledge, decades of experience and fine American craftsmanship in a place that anyone can appreciate. Even a man. 261-4663; www.clivedaniel.com.
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Directions: From I-75, exit 131 (Calle Verde Dr.), south 1/4 mi., turn right on Championship Blvd. to community entrance on left.

Single-family Homes
From the Low $200s
Directions: From I-75 exit 131 (Calle Verde Dr.), south 1/4 mi., turn right on Championship Blvd. to community entrance on left.

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