Smiles all around for HCN’s adult dental program

BY ROBIN DEMATTIA
Florida Weekly Correspondent

Ted Williams was living at St. Matthew’s House after he got out of prison, recovering from alcohol and drug addiction, when someone told him “there’s a place that could help you get some teeth.”

Mr. Williams hadn’t realized that cocaine use had caused his tooth decay. By the time of his first dental exam and treatment in more than 15 years, the 54-year-old admits the inside of his mouth “probably looked like a bat cave” with missing and broken teeth.

Yet, he says, staff at the Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida “are the most awesome people in the world. They make you feel important. It changed my whole outlook.”

The HCN dentist pulled out all of the stubs and broken teeth, leaving just four bottom teeth, prior to creating a partial denture for his bottom teeth and full denture for the top.

“They fit like a champion,” Mr. Williams says. “People say I look like a totally different person. I had been walking around looking like a grandpa, chewing almost gum to gum, so it affected my jaw. I was in a lot of pain from that and exposed nerves.”

He used to cover his mouth when he

SEE HCN, A8

Ted Williams is all smiles now that he has full upper and partial lower dentures he received at no cost from Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida.
COMMENTARY

The Best

By Roger Williams

Gooding, bettering and besting is a brutal business these days, something I only recently discovered — again.

It happens every year: Who or what is the best, we ask ourselves. I don’t know. That’s a torturous question just to start with, as food or art critics probably learn when they’re still in diapers.

I have a few opinions, but that’s all they are. Opinions. They’re the best opinions, of course, because they have to be. I am, after all, a professional Opinionator. But I won’t swear to them. That would be like swearing that a morning splash of sun in July is the best of all weathers.

You do that and by afternoon great masses of warm rising from the soupy ‘Glades collide thousands of feet above the sawgrass with vast armadas of cool purples like an overripe mango, spreading in from the coasts. The sky Draped in the glorious vestments of the celebrated skies of Southeast Asia. Draped in the glorious vestments of evening, it finally ushers in dusk and the stars with a flourish that even God would buy tickets to see.

It’s then you realize: You blew it. The morning Florida sun you confidently anointed was really only Second-Best Of.

The biggest problem with Bests is not wrong-headed Opinionators, however. Instead, it’s this: a number of the best don’t get mentioned.

So let me chip away at that injustice by naming some of the bests that may not appear elsewhere in this issue, and through no fault of their own.

Best Game: Baseball, even if it is a 19th century creation, as George Carlin pointed out. In baseball, batters treat each other civilly while worrying about a ball the size of a small orange. Nobody hits, pounds or knocks down anybody else unless it’s an accident or a player turns out to be a bad apple.

Games such as football, hockey or lacrosse, on the other hand, require pared-down combat. In the latter two cases, players employ funny-looking sticks that stand in for bayonets. Such games have encouraged animosity toward others since hominines of the species Australopithecus afarensis were running around Tanzania almost four million years ago, no doubt.

You beat the opposition by pounding them into the dirt or the ice or the wall with a club. Or a bayonet or a stick. The solution to the world’s problems, therefore, is more baseball from an early age. And if you can’t get your kids playing baseball, you can substitute basketball.

Best Women: American women. A lot gets said about French or Italian women, Asian, African, Russian or eastern European women, and they’re all wonderful, no doubt — especially when they’ve become American women.

If “best” is characterized by vibrant, bright, curious, funny, brave, proud, loyal masters of the art of walking a difficult line between careerism and child raising, well then: American women.

The best of the breed:

Best picture-shootin’, storytellin’ born-and-raised hot-shots: Any locals with an ear for the past and an eye for, say, tired old barns or moss-shrouded oak hammocks or farmstead front porches or swing bridges may do. But these folks in particular you can look up and friend on Facebook, that church-social throwback to everybody-knows-everybody with a religion all of its own: Billy Murphy, a storyteller of history’s precious moments who grew up on a farming and ranching operation and can tell you precisely how that worked; or Gary Carico and Waddy Thompson, both master photographers and natives who can show you the beauty of objects or places you’ve looked at before but never really seen.

If you can’t find them, you can write me at one of two addresses, below, and I’ll tell you what I know:

Roger Williams, Opinionator, Sea of Tranquillitatus, the Moon.

Or write to my email address. I’ll get back to you with all sorts of opinions, before long. And all of them will be the best — something. That’s for you to decide.
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The word for 2017? Incredulous

leSlie LILLY

If you feel you are experiencing news whiplash, you are not alone. In a little more than a week, the country went from dropping the “mother of all bombs” on an ISIS hideaway in Afghanistan, to a high-stakes, nuclear face-off with North Korea’s Kim Jong-un. Then, on Tax Day, tens of thousands of protestors demanded President Trump release his tax returns. Afterward (and bizarrely), as if a breaking news from an alternate universe, the president and the Easter Bunny observed an Easter Monday déjá vu to host an egg roll on the White House lawn. Thousands of kids played happily, sheltered briefly from the drizzle by the Oval Office, in a moment in which all children are increasingly vulnerable. It was surreal.

None of them, the moment passed, business as usual returned. Goodwill and peace on Earth vanished like yesterday’s boiled eggs. Fearful politics continues the country’s flirtation with autocentricity. We slid further down the slippery slope toward danger. It was unwise to witness how quickly the normal transitioned to the aberrant. The threat is palpable. If these eggs we are juggling are broken, there will be no unscrambling them ever again.

Roald Dahl once described in his fantastical children’s book, “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory,” another scary and endangered country. He called it “Loomipalatan.” Something huge lived on a small island in the Pacific. Instead of swamps or jungles it had the unspeakable adult mayhem to which all children and all adults are increasingly vulnerable. It was surreal.

None of the children would be allowed to go outside to catch lightning bugs in jars or play a rousing game of 1, 2, 3, Red Light. Brother literally sat at the feet of the Easter Bunny. Something was just not quite right about the scene, despite the cheer with which it was composed. Given its context, the prior week, it was far too incredible to take at face value.

My being incredulous seems to be happening to everyone I have reached out a living in this strange place and struggled to make a go of it. Then things got worse.

The country was taken over and ravaged within by fearful, dangerous beasts that Dahl called the Hornsnorxers, Snozzwangers, Vermicious Knids and the Slugbirdgetty. These dangerous interlopers turned the lives of the Oompa Loompas upside down, leading to the Great Loompa War. The Oompa Loompas suffer terribly. They are tortured, beaten and eaten by the bad guys. They have no hope of seeing any kind of normalcy ever again.

But then, something miraculous happens. Along comes a “Phoenix-like man arising from his creative and strange genius.” It is the strangely odd, inimitable Willy Wonka. Willy seizes the power of Oompa Loompa. He helps them flee, giving them jobs as laborers in his chocolate factory. Dahl continued the story of how Wonka, who is entering his twilight years, pursues them ever again.

There were several movies adapted from Dahl’s book. The most memorable version was made in 1971. It was called “Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory.” It starred Gene Wilder in the role of Willy Wonka.

His performance is iconic because of the oddball creepiness with which he played the part. It was edgy. You were left feeling that accepting a chocolate bar from Wonka could be a big mistake. Of the film’s performance, film critic Jefrey Anderson wrote, “If you’re a kid, Wonka seems magical, but watching it now, he has a frightening combination of sick, perverted, sadism.”

A similar thought crossed my mind in observing our president with the men watching the cablevision. It was a strange world we live in. Somewhere, a-close to the men watching the cablevision. The phrase connotes passionate love-making with a chemical assist as if you are the Energizer Bunny. The only limiting consideration a man gets in the context of the enhanced sexual activity is “Will my partner have to pay the emergency room?”

It’s a strange world we live in. Someho, somewhere, something from the 21st century meant a new age of enlightenment. I guess I was wrong.

— Leslie Lilly's professional career spans more than 25 years leading philanthropic institutions in the South and Appalachia. She resides with her family and fages in Jupiter. Email her at llilly15@live.com or visit her past blog posts on Tumblr at lilly15.Tumblr.com.

By Thomas A. Seals, Jr. and James H. Seals

Bill Cornell, known to us as Brother, is our first cousin through our respective mothers. During the 50s, we visited the Cornwells in Decatur, Ga., nearly every summer. By adolescent comparisons, Brother was quite a bit younger than his sister and two cousins, yet his precocious, highly intelligent, extremely knowledgeable mind soaked up knowledge like a sponge, allowing him to be competitive at anything with which he engaged. Brother was a professional in that art.

In the 1960s we all came of age in the rapidly changing South. Although he grew up steeped in the Old Confederacy's culture and tradition, Bill attached himself to the ethos of the emerging New South. Raised just outside of Atlanta, Bill read the Atlanta newspapers and was deeply influenced by the progressive columnists (one would later become his boss and mentor at the St. Petersburg Times), reading about their vision of a new and improved South. Bill reached adulthood a tastefully cultivated blend of Old and New South, discarding the negatives and embracing the positives.

In college, Bill majored in history, where he believed was a much better preparation for a career in journalism than the study of journalism itself. He regarded reporting the news as writing history as it was happening. He was diligent, courageous and a great craftsman of words. He proudly enjoyed telling stories, both in print and in private conversation, about the people he’d met, places he’d been, and the cultures he had so perceptively witnessed.

Bill Cornell was a good and talented and perceptive in a time when these qualities are often in short supply. We will all miss him and his wise voice.

— Bill Cornell, a writer for Florida Weekly; died April 16.
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PROFILE IN PARADISE

Business thrives with a focus on giving back to the community

Talking points with Charlie McDonald

Mentors: Joseph and Louis Simone, two of the greatest living portrait artists in the world. I used the chance to work right with them in the studio for a couple of weeks. Also Tom Pich, a nationally recognized photographer out of New York who taught me attention to detail and has an incredible work ethic.

Hometown: Hamilton, Ontario, which is between Niagara Falls and Toronto.

First job: I was a babysitter while in high school in Lahr, Germany.

When did you first come to Naples, and what did you think? I was a 10-year-old kid on vacation and thought I was in paradise.

Advice for someone just starting in photography: Volunteer. Keeping shooting all the time; the more you shoot the more you learn. And network, network, network. Also, take a business and/or marketing course so you don’t end up as a starving artist/photographer.

Favorite app: My Google calendar. It keeps me organized.

What would you most admire in your best friend? He has incredible intelligence.

Something that’s been on your mind: There is too much animosity in society these days; we need more civility. We may disagree, but we should be able to have reasonable and intelligent discourse.

Something that makes you laugh: "Semi-retired Karate sensei."

Favorite thing about the Paradise Coast: The warmth and tropical greenery.

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HCN

From page 1

Finding the funding

Mr. Williams, who works as a contract carpenter, didn’t have to pay for any of his dental work. It was provided free of charge through Naples-based HCN, which provides health care (physical, behavioral and dental) to South-west Florida residents, whether insured, uninsured or underinsured.

HCN was established in 1977 to address the health issues of migrant and seasonal farm workers, rural poor and other citizens of Collier County. It is a Federally Qualified Health Center, a reimbursement designation from the Bureau of Primary Health Care and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services of the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

The nonprofit organization with a staff of 400 saw 48,659 patients, including 30,635 children, in 2016. Of this total, 12,573 were dental patient visits, including 3,011 extractions and dentures.

One barrier to adult dental care was funding. Pediatric care was often covered through insurance, but Medicaid for adults previously didn’t even cover cleanings but only emergencies and just one denture per lifetime. “Now, with advancements toward managed Medicaid plans, coverage can include dental health and wellness, even fillings,” Dr. Orr says.

In addition, HCN obtained a $1.4 million grant from the Agency for Health and Wellness, even fillings,” Dr. Orr says.

The HCN Health & Smiles mobile unit delivers care to patients throughout Collier County.

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Dr. Elizabeth Orr, DDS, is chief dental officer and vice president of dental services. When she began with HCN three years ago, she noticed that the dental program primarily saw children and only accommodated adults for emergencies.

She pushed to increase adult dental care, she says, because “there is a huge correlation between oral health and overall health.” When she presented studies confirming this, the board made expanding adult dental services a strategic priority.

“We needed more providers skilled at providing more comprehensive dental services,” she explains. “Treating children is much different than treating adults, especially geriatric patients who need full mouth rehabilitation such as extractions and dentures.”

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Beyond dental care

Dr. Alexandra Zabala, DDS, also provided dental care and hopes to return to HCN as an endodontist.

Dr. Zabala saw a need in HCN for more endodontists, who perform root canals. She is moving back to Minneapolis to study this field full time endodontist. “I always wanted to help the community,” she says about her attraction to HCN and the patients it serves. “I felt related to their problems and their issues. They work hard. They’re very good people.”

Dr. Zabala provides dental care and often refers her patients to other HCN services, particularly the psychologists. “We don’t only take care of teeth,” she says. “We help with socioeconomic issues and political problems.”

Patients have cried in her dental chair, sharing their personal and family problems. “The community in Immokalee is very special and very different from other communities,” she says. Latin cultures are very close, she adds, but many people here don’t have that family support. “They are alone. They are single parents. There are language barriers. They are in a lot of pain but don’t have the money to pay, so we give them vouchers for antibiotics. We try to be compassionate and show we really care, and they see that. That’s why they come back to us.”

Dr. Zabala saw a need in HCN for more endodontists, who perform root canals. She is moving back to Minneapolis to study this field full time and hopes to return to HCN as an endodontist. “This is very different from other dental programs,” she says of HCN. “People realize this community needs help.”

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

On Thanksgiving Day in 1960, CBS News aired “Harvest of Shame,” a documentary narrated by Edward R. Murrow. Much of it was filmed in Florida, with some scenes occurring in Collier County. It told the grim story of migrant workers living from hand-to-mouth, barely able to feed their children as they harvested a bounty of fruit and produce for the best fed nation on earth. They had no health care, no possessions except for the clothes on their back, no safety net and little hope of improving their lives.

A remark made by a landowner in the documentary encapsulated their plight: “We used to own our slaves; now we rent them.”

Certainly these images came to mind and time again as community leaders in Collier County pondered what could be done, and how, to provide basic health care not only for the area’s migrant workers but for all underserved citizens of Southwest Florida. By the mid-1970s, their ideas took form and by 1977, Collier Health Services was up and running. It wasn’t much in the beginning — just temporary office space in the Collier County Health Department and then two stationary trailers in Immokalee — but it was definitely the first step in addressing this Harvest of Shame.

Despite its meager facilities, CHS provided excellent care to a diverse population. As word spread, so too did its patient base and volume. By 1993, it was able to build its first permanent facility, the Marion E. Fether Medical Center in Immokalee. CHS was providing care to more than 15,000 patients. Recognition by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations was achieved a few years later and renewals continue to this day, while a second phase of growth was completed in 1996 with the establishment of a pediatric network of offices serving Marco Island to Immokalee.

In 1999, the Immokalee Family Care Center opened, the first of several new facilities built to serve both children and adults including the Family Care Naples East Center / Horizons Primary Care (2003), renamed the Mike Davis Medical Center in 2008.

Recognizing the fact that not all families could travel to its facilities, HCN introduced the first mobile pediatric facility in Collier County in 2004 to serve children’s dental and medical needs. Four years later, the company opened the 12-chair Countryside Dental Center in East Naples.

While all of this growth was occurring, HCN continued to further its reputation and shore up its future by establishing The Collier Health Services Foundation (now the Healthcare Network Foundation) and by achieving accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation for Ambulatory Health Care. CHS was renamed Healthcare Network in 2013.

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As CEO Mike Ellis affirms, “We intend to become the best, most comprehensive and most affordable health-care provider for every resident of Southwest Florida.”

A bit of HCN history

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You can help Stamp Out Hunger
Mail carriers set to collect pantry goods May 13

The 25th anniversary of the National Association of Letter Carriers Stamp Out Hunger food drive is Saturday, May 13. Postal customers around the country are encouraged to leave non-perishable food items by their mailbox for their letter carrier to collect. Canned vegetables, soups, beans and proteins along with boxes of cereal, pasta, granola, breakfast bars and peanut butter are all good examples of items to donate.

Collier Harvest has partnered in the food drive with mail carriers in Collier County for all 25 years. Stamp Out Hunger donations aid the 40 nonprofit agencies Collier Harvest serves through the long summer months.

“Currently 64 percent of all Collier County students are eligible for free or reduced meals due to their families’ low income levels,” Connie Preu, Collier Harvest executive director, says. “During the summer, these children won’t receive those school meals, which are often their main food source of the day.

Many families also see reduced or eliminated work hours due to seasonal work needs,” she adds. “This is why it’s so important we collect as much food as possible through the Stamp Out Hunger drive, so we can help sustain our agencies during these high-demand months.”

Because mail trucks cannot hold a large volume of cans and boxes of food, volunteers are being recruited to follow letter carriers along their routes the day of the food drive and help transport donations back to the Collier Harvest warehouse at 4451 Mercantile Ave. in Naples. Helpers are also needed to sort the collected food for Stamp Out Hunger. Anyone of middle-school-age and older is welcome to lend a hand for an hour or more between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, May 13, at the warehouse. Help is especially needed toward the end of the day as donations pour in. Beverages, pizza and live entertainment will be provided.

Seasonal residents who are headed back north before Saturday, May 13, can take their pantry items to the U.S. Post Office on Goodlette-Frank Road or to the Coco River U.S. Post Office during anytime during the long summer months.

Collier Harvest operates a surplus food program throughout the year, with volunteers picking up surplus food from local restaurants and grocery stores and delivering it to dozens of food pantries and agencies that feed the hungry on a daily basis. The organization accepts monetary gifts in addition to food donations. Although administrative costs are kept low and volunteers use their personal vehicles and fuel to deliver the donated food, the organization still requires some monetary support to fulfill its mission.

For more information or to volunteer to help Stamp Out Hunger, call 455-3663 or visit www.colliershare.org.

Inside the Collier Harvest warehouse on last year’s Stamp Out Hunger day, helpers sort donated food items that will be delivered to 40 area agencies that help feed the hungry.
Interfaith convocation welcomes all

PFLAG — Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays — invites people of all faiths to worship together at its 10th annual interfaith convocation at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 7, at Temple Shalom, 4630 Pine Ridge Road in Naples.

Welcoming houses of worship include: Beth Tikvah, Cornerstone United Methodist, Emmanuel Lutheran Church, First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Fort Myers Congregational United Church of Christ, Jewish Congregation of Marco Island, Lamb of God Lutheran-Episcopal Church, Lighthouse Congregational United Church of Christ, Naples Jewish Congregation, Naples United Church of Christ, Samudrabuddha Buddhist Center, St. John the Apostle MCC, St. Monica’s Episcopal Church, Shepherd of the Glades Lutheran Church, Temple Shalom, The Bahá’í Faith, Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Greater Naples, Unitarian Universalist Church of Fort Myers, Unity of Naples Church and Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church.

For more information, call 206-3267 or visit www.pflagnaples.org.

NABOR and Noodles rally to help wildfire victims

The Naples Area Board of Realtors and Noodles Italian Café & Sushi Bar are responding to the immediate relief needs of families who lost homes in the fires that have ravaged eastern Collier County. From 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, May 9, guests at Noodles will enjoy two drinks and appetizers for $20, with all proceeds being distributed directly to those families in need.

“We received an outpouring of messages from concerned NABOR members who requested we get involved as an organization,” says Dominic Pal- lin, NABOR board president. “This fundraiser will give our members and the public an opportunity to come together and show their support to our neighbors in serious need.”

Members of NABOR’s Community Involvement Committee will be on hand to collect additional donations from those who wish to give beyond the $20 entry. Additionally, anyone who can’t get to Noodles for the May 9 happy hour can drop off a cash or check donation for fire victims at NABOR headquarters, 1455 Pine Ridge Road, during business hours.
NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD

Chutzpah!

Henry Wachtel, 24, continues in legal limbo after being found “not criminally responsible” for the death of his mother in 2014, despite having beaten her in the head and elsewhere up to 100 times — because he was having an epileptic seizure at that moment and has no memory of the attack. A judge must still decide the terms of Wachtel’s psychiatric hospitalization, but Wachtel’s mind is clear enough now that, in March, he demanded, as sole heir, payoff on his mother’s life insurance policy (which, under New York law, is still technically feasible).

Epic smugglers

In February, federal customs agents seized 22 pounds of illegal animal meat in a wide array at the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport. Among the tasty items were raw chicken, pig, and cow meat, brains, hearts, heads, tongues and feet — in addition to (wrote a reporter) “other body parts” (if there even are any other edible parts). In a typical day nationwide, U.S. Customs and Border Protection seizes about 4,600 smuggled plant or animal products.

River rights

In March, the New Zealand parliament gave human rights to a river — the Whanganui, long revered by the country’s indigenous Maori. (One Maori and one civil servant were appointed as the river’s representatives.) Within a week, activists in India, scouring court rulings, found two of that country’s waterways deserved similar status — the Ganges and Yamuna rivers, which were then so designated by judges in Uttarakhand state. (The Ganges’ “rights” seem hollow since an estimated 1 billion gallons of waste still enters it every day despite its being a holy bathing spot for Hindus.)

ewww

Luu Cong Huyen, 58, in Y en Giao, Vietnam, is the most recent to attract reporters’ attention with disturbingly long fingernails. A March OddityCentral.com report, with cringe-inducing photos, failed to disclose their precise length, but Huyen said he has not clipped them since a 2013 report on VietnamNet revealed that each measured up to 10.7 inches. Huyen explained (inadequately) that his nail obsession started merely as a hobby and that he is not yet over it. (The Guinness Book record is not exactly within fingertip reach: 73.5 inches per nail, by Shridhar Chillad of India.)

And a partridge in a pear tree

In February, a pet welfare organization complained of a raid on a home near Lockhart, Texas, that housed more than 400 animals (and, of course, reeked “overpoweringly” of urine). The inventory: 86 snakes, 56 guinea pigs, 28 dogs, 26 rabbits, 15 goats, nine doves, eight skinks, seven pigs, six pigeons, four gerbils, three bearded dragons, two ducks and one tarantula — plus about 150 rats and mice (to feed the menagerie) and 20 other animals whose numbers did not fit the above lyric pattern.

Grammar police

For more than a decade, an “editor” has been roaming the streets at night in Bristol, England, “correcting” violations of standard grammar, lately being described as “The Apostrophiser” since he has “locked” the machines’ sophisticated software, preventing even small repairs or upgrades until a Deere service rep shows up to enter the secret password (and, of course, leaves a bill). Deere’s business model has driven some farmers recently to a black market of fearless Ukrainian hackers (some of the same risky dark-net outlaws believed to pose online dangers), who help put the farmers back on track. Eight state legislatures are presently considering overriding Deere’s contract to create a “right to repair.”

Agricultural hacking

For the 31st consecutive Easter in the Philippines, Ruben Enaje, 57, was among the throngs of devotees who slashed their own torsos bloody, then flogged themselves repeatedly as they marched through the streets to demonstrate homage to God, and dozens of men in San Pedro Cutud, Santa Lucia and other villages replicated the crucifixion of Jesus by having sterilized 4-inch nails driven into their own arms and legs. When News of the Weird first encountered the Philippine phenomenon in 1989, the crucifixions had built a 40-year history and still listed, as an official sponsor, the Philippine Department of Tourism (but no longer). (The Catholic Church banned the extreme acts, to little effect.)
■ Alliance Française de Naples
Invites all who enjoy conversing in French to the end-of-season picnic at 4 p.m. Sunday, May 7, in the party room at Bermuda Greens in Imperial Golf Estates. A French buffet will be served. $40 for members, $25 for others. Reservations and payment are required by Thursday, May 4. Email jeenkins@comcast.net.

■ The Naples Orchid Society
Invites members and guests to its monthly meeting Thursday, May 4, at Moorings Presbyterian Church, 791 Harbour Drive. Doors open and flower registration begins at 6:30 p.m.; flower judging is at 7:10 p.m. and the program is at 7:45 p.m. For more information about the club, call Dick Ritchie at 594-0868 or email dcritchie@comcast.net.

■ The Naples EAA Chapter is one of many of the country's most notable men and women. Members are pilots, student pilots, flight instructors, aviation enthusiasts, and Down syndrome, among others. The Marco Island Civitan Club meets the first Wednesday of the month and has social/educational meetings the third week of the month. For more information, call 774-2623 or email mivcivitan@gmail.com.

■ The Naples Ship Modelers
is an informal group dedicated to building wooden ship models. Members meet at 7:30 p.m. on the first and third Saturday at the Landmark Naples community in North Naples. The next meetings are May 6 and 20. Members should bring their models in progress and be prepared to share techniques and tips. All are invited to enjoy lunch afterward at Fitzgerald's. RSVP by emailing Joe Geithamm at joear442@yahoo.com. For more information about the club, call Dick Ritchie at 594-0868 or email dcritchie@comcast.net.

■ The Genealogical Society of Collier County meets Tuesday evening, May 9, in the fellowship hall at Faith Lutheran Church, 450 Goodlette-Frank Road. Speaker Virginia Bailey will present a program about the Congressional Cemetery, the final resting place of many of the country's most notable men and women. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the program starts at 7 p.m. Attendance is free, and all are welcome. For more information, visit www.jsbgc.org.

■ The Naples chapter of PFLAG, Parents Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, is dedicated to finding the cause, cure and better treatments of brain disorders including autism, Alzheimer's disease and Down syndrome, among others. The Marco Island Civitan Club meets the second Tuesday of the month and has social/educational meetings the fourth week of every month. The Naples Civilian Club meets the first Wednesday of the month and has social/educational meetings the third week of the month. For more information, call 774-2623 or email ewlcivitan@gmail.com.

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■ The Antique Automobile Club of America-Naples Marco region members meet the second Sunday of each month at Naples Municipal Airport. Meetings are from noon to 1 p.m. every Wednesday at Naples Airport. For more information, call Wade Keller at 389-2525 or email wk@kellerpublishing.com.

■ Toast of The Coast Toastmasters Club
meets Tuesday evening, May 9, in the board room at 1455 Pine Ridge Road. The meeting is open to all Toastmasters International as a President's Dis-tinguished Club, meets from noon to 1 p.m. on the second and fourth Friday of every month at the American Cancer Society office, 5020 Tamiami Trail N. The next meetings are May 12 and 26. Visitors are always welcome. For more information, call 777-0416 or visit www.aacanaplesmarco.org.

■ The Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 1007-Naples meets at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month at Naples Municipal Airport. The next meeting is June 7. Members also serve a pancake breakfast from 8-11 a.m. on the Sunday second of each month in the pilots' lounge at Naples Municipal Airport. Admission for $5 includes coffee, pancakes, bacon or sausage and orange juice. All proceeds benefit the EAA Young Eagles program that acquaints youth ages 8-17 with aviation as a career. The next breakfast is May 14.

■ The Naples chapter of PFLAG, Parents Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, is a support, education and advocacy group for families with gay or transgender members, meets at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 18, at Naples United Church of Christ, 520 Crayton Road. For more information, call 963-4670 or visit pflagnaples.org.

■ The PCBUG computer and technology club invites all those interested in learning more about computers and mobile devices to meet at 5 p.m. Thurs- day, May 18, at Naples Regional Library, 650 Central Ave. For more information, call J. Burke at 659-0609 or email pad- dyeb@hotmail.com.

■ The Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance meets from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, May 18, at the Naples Conference Center, 1455 Pine Ridge Road. Admission is free, and all are welcome. The alliance welcomes donations of out-of-bloom or unwanted orchids, which members use for educational purposes. Free pick up is available and can be arranged by calling 498-9741. For more information, visit gulfcoastorchidalliance.com.

■ The Democratic Women's Club of Collier County welcomes members and guests to its meetings from 10 a.m. to noon on the third Saturday of the month in the Walden Oaks Professional Center, 6710 Lone Oak Blvd. The next meeting is May 20. For more information, visit www.collierdems.org or email dwpresident@gmail.com.

■ The Solo Women Travel Group meets at 2 p.m. on the third Saturday of the month at St. John the Evangelist Church in North Naples. All are welcome to share their travel experiences and travel wish list. The next meeting is May 20. For more information, call Barb Garrett at 305-664-9202.

■ Collier County Republicans hold their 2017 Elephant Cruise & Auction from Sunday afternoon, May 21, aboard the Naples Princess. Boarding begins at 2 p.m. and the boat sails from 2:30-4:30 p.m. General admission is $55; Patriot admission is $100. For tickets or more information, call 732-0885 or visit www.collierGOP.org.

■ The Collier County Stamp Club meets from 7-9 p.m. on the fourth Thurs- day of the month at the Naples Airport Office Building, 200 Aviation Drive. The next meeting is May 25. Stamp trading follows the evening's program. All stamp enthusiasts are welcome. For more information, call 348-9845.

■ Civitan Clubs are dedicated to serving the needs of the community with an emphasis on the disabled. The Civitan International Research Center and avionics includes a career. The next meeting is May 25. Stamp trading follows the evening's program. All stamp enthusiasts are welcome. For more information, call 348-9845.

■ Riviera Beach Civic Club meets at 6 p.m. on the first Monday of every month at the Riviera Beach Civic Center, 6710 Lone Oak Blvd. The next meeting is May 22. For more information, call 650-665-9202.

■ The Naples EAA chapter is one of many of the country's most notable men and Down syndrome, among others. The Marco Island Civitan Club meets the second Tuesday of the month and has social/educational meetings the fourth week of every month. The Naples Civilian Club meets the first Wednesday of the month and has social/educational meetings the third week of the month. For more information, call 774-2623 or email mivcivitan@gmail.com.

■ Coastal Beach clubs in Naples and Marco Island welcome players of all levels for casual games and occasional tournaments. Marco meetings are from 9 a.m. to noon every Monday at the Lutheran Church, 525 N. Collier. Naples meetings are from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Saturday in the clubhouse at Moorings Park, off Goodlette-Frank Road just south of Pine Ridge Road. For more information, call Wade Keller at 389-2525, email wk@kellerpublishing.com or visit WWW.chess7.net.

■ The Naples MacFriends User Group has hundreds of members who share a passion for all thing Apple and who love to learn from one another. Weekly meetings are open to all, free of charge, and take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Wednesday at Naples Regional Library, 650 Central Ave. For more information, visit www.naples-mac.com.

— Email club news to Cindy Pierce at cpierce@floridaweekly.com.
The new Golisano Children’s Hospital opens in mid-May to provide families the quality health care their children deserve—close to home. Conveniently located on the grounds of HealthPark Medical Center, our state-of-the-art children’s hospital serves families from Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Hendry and Glades counties.

We are a true children’s hospital that focuses on the needs of families.

Features include:

• 128 private patient rooms
• 64 private Neonatal Intensive Care Unit rooms
• Ronald McDonald House family room
• More than 70 pediatric specialists and 400 specially-trained pediatric nurses
• One of the top ranked Regional Perinatal Intensive Care Centers in Florida
• A diagnostic and MRI suite with pediatric sedation center
• Pediatric emergency department
• The area’s only dedicated hematology/oncology program

Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida
9981 S. HealthPark Drive
Fort Myers, FL 33908

239-343-KIDS (5437) • GolisanoChildrensFlorida.org
GET OUT FOR A GOOD CAUSE

Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs hosts a golf tournament starting with a continental breakfast Friday, May 5, at Spring Run Golf Club. Tee-off is at 9 a.m. An awards luncheon wraps up the day. Registration is $800 and benefits the organization’s programs for at-risk youth. For more information or to register, call 495-8989 or visit www.artcenterbonita.org.

Bonita Springs-Estero Association of Realtors hosts its 26th annual BEAR Golf Challenge at 9 a.m. Friday, May 5, at Spring Run Golf Club. The day begins with a 7:45 breakfast and concludes with an awards luncheon at 1:45 p.m. Registration is $100 per golfer. For more information or to register, call 992-6771 or visit www.bonitaestatorealtors.com.

Redlands Christian Migrant Association holds the annual Lipman Golf Classic tee-ing off at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, May 6, at Naples Heritage Golf Club. Registration is $225, with proceeds to benefit Immokalee migrant farm workers. For more information, call 800-282-6540 or visit www.rcma.org.

The Brandi Tramazzo Hero House Foundation hosts its second annual Crazy Pants charity golf tournament Sunday morning, May 6, at Hammock Bay Golf & Country Club. Lunch follows at The Speakeasy Marco Island. For registration details and more information, call 404-4228 or email marcosandi@comcast.net.

La Playa Beach & Golf Resort hosts a sunset yoga session with instructor Wendy Campbell to benefit Survive & Thrive, a local organization that incorporates yoga instruction to empower cancer survivors, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 6. Guests will enjoy light hors d’oeuvres and refreshments afterward and are advised to bring their own towel and yoga mat. Pre-registration is $30, same-day registration is $40 ($10 for a special children’s session). For more information or to register, email laplayaevents@glodownead.com or visit www.laplayaresort.com.

Gulfcoast Runners hosts the Tropicool 5K in downtown Naples at 7:30 a.m. Sunday, May 7, to benefit Friends of Foster Children Forever. The course consists of two loops that start in Broad Street. Registration for adults is $20 until May 6 and $25 the day of the race ($12 and $15 for students). To sign up or for more information, visit www.gcrunner.org.

The inaugural Garden Open to benefit Naples Botanical Garden took place recently at Windstar on Naples Bay.

1. Mike Moorman, Larry Irwin, Linda White, Jim White, David Smith and Vicky Smith
2. Eleanor Chabraja and Nick Chabraja
3. Margie Seldin, Chris Siemers, Annette Alvarez and Connie Elliott
4. Trent Ryan, Paul Schmidgall, Jack Raben and Ken Crooker
5. MJ Heiderman, Julie Peterson, Donna McGinnis, Marina Miller and Mary Raymond
6. Kathy Akenson and Sheri Hopkins
7. Jeremy King and Chris Simoneau
8. Emily Maya, Britt Patterson-Weber and Taylor Burnham

The Bonita Springs-Estero Association of Realtors hosts its 30th annual Fairways for the Future golf tournament at 1 p.m. Monday, May 8, at Grey Oaks Country Club. All golfers will receive one ticket to the organization’s gala on May 7, a boxed lunch, two mul-ligans, entry into all on-course contests and admission to the post-tournament awards reception. Registration is $500. Raffle tickets for a European river cruise are available for $25.

Noodles Italian Café and Sushi Bar hosts the eighth annual Stand Up Paddle & Luau Races with competitive, family and Special Olympics races starting at 9 a.m. Sunday, May 7, at Vanderbilt Beach. Registration is $25 and includes paddleboards. Proceeds benefit Collier County Special Olympics. For more information or to register, call 370-6577 or visit www.uspspecialolympicsn.aples.org.

Youth Haven hosts its 30th annual Fairways for the Future golf tournament at 1 p.m. Monday, May 8, at Grey Oaks Country Club. All golfers will receive one ticket to the organization’s gala on May 7, a boxed lunch, two mul-ligans, entry into all on-course contests and admission to the post-tournament awards reception. Registration is $500. Raffle tickets for a European river cruise are available for $25.
GET OUT FOR A GOOD CAUSE

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**Hodges University** hosts its 14th annual Scholarship Spring Golf Classic on Wednesday, May 10, at Grey Oaks Country Club. The day starts with a luncheon, and tee time is 12:30 p.m. Registration is $250. To sign up or for more information, call 598-6153 or visit www.hodges.edu.

**Seacrest Country Day School** hosts its 11th annual Stingray Golf Tournament on Saturday, May 13, at TwinEagles. Registration for $200 includes continental breakfast, luncheon and awards. For more information or to sign up, call 793-1986 or visit www.seacrest.org.

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The Immokalee Foundation’s 2017 Charity Classic Pro-Am pairs local players with more than 20 of the world’s greatest golfers at 9 a.m. Monday, Nov. 13, at Bay Colony Golf Club. The day starts with breakfast and demonstrations at 7:30 a.m. and the tournament is followed by lunch and an awards presentation. Registration starts at $5,000 with proceeds benefiting TIF programs that build pathways to post-secondary education for Immokalee’s youth. For more information, call 430-9122 or visit www.immokaleefoundation.org.

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— Email news about charity sports events to Lindsey Nesmith at lnesmith@floridaweekly.com.

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The inaugural Sunshine 5K Run/Walk to benefit Friends of Foster Children Forever took place April 22 at the Vineyards Community Park. The 200 participants ranged in age from 10 to 89 years. Zachary Dale, 15, was the overall winner with a time of 18:55 minutes. Event sponsors were DeVoe Automotive Group, Uniforms Unlimited, Infinity Home Group, Naples Luxury Builders, Pathways Human Services, Sunset Grill, Waypoint Electric and William C. Huff Companies. For information about Friends of Foster Children of Forever, call 262-1808 or visit www.friendsoffosterchildren.net.
Watch out for CCSO traffic deputies

Here's where Collier County Sheriff's Office deputies will be on traffic detail the week of May 8-12:

**Monday, May 8**
- Davis and Lakewood boulevards: Red-light running
- Vanderbilt Beach and Goodlette-Frank roads: Red-light running
- Logan and Green boulevards: Speeding

**Tuesday, May 9**
- Tropicana Boulevard and 32nd Avenue: Speeding
- Livingston Road and Orange Blossom Drive: Speeding
- Pinellas and Airport-Pulling roads: Aggressive driving
- Pelican Marsh Boulevard and U.S. 41: North Aggressive driving

**Wednesday, May 10**
- Golden Gate Parkway and Santa Barbara Boulevard: Red-light running
- Pine Ridge Road and I-75 northbound exit: Red-light running
- Pine Ridge Road and Madison Park Boulevard: Aggressive driving

**Thursday, May 11**
- Immokalee and Airport-Pulling roads: Aggressive driving
- Collier Boulevard and Rattlesnake Hammock Road: Speeding
- Pelican Marsh Boulevard and U.S. 41: North Aggressive driving
- Friday, May 12
- White Boulevard: Speeding
- Santa Barbara Boulevard and Golden Gate Parkway: Red-light running
- Vineyards and Arbor boulevards: Aggressive driving

Sharpen your road skills at AARP class

AARP offers classes to help older drivers learn about new traffic laws, refresh their driving skills and reduce their risk for tickets and accidents. Drivers over age 55 might be eligible for a discount on auto insurance. Cost is $55 for AARP members, $20 for others. Reservations are required and can be made by calling the number listed with the session you wish to attend.

**Thursday, May 18:** 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at St. Williams Ministry Center, 750 Seagate Drive, Naples 947-1727

The Collier County Sheriff’s Office and North Collier Fire Control & Rescue District invite families to a free Safety Fair and Bike Rodeo from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 6, at Corkscrew Middle School in Golden Gate Estates. In addition to games and a bounce house for fun, children ages 5-12 will learn how to properly use their bicycle equipment and will be able to test their skills on a road test. Participants must wear helmets and bring their own bicycles.

AARP has partnered with several local businesses and organizations to provide resources for families. Some of these resources include: Special Olympics, Educational Pathways Academy, David Lawrence Center, Florida State University College of Medicine, Synergy of Naples, Counseling of SW Florida, Nutrition Elite, Collier County Supervisor of Elections and Collier County departments of solid waste, animal services, code enforcement and pollution control.

A2SD will feature its mounted patrol, crime prevention, SWAT, aviation and bomb squad units. Attendees can also meet with North Collier Fire Control & Rescue District’s K-9 search and rescue team.

Safety fair and bike rodeo in the Estates

The Mini Cooper Countryman gets a growth spurt

The Mini just keep getting bigger. Last year we test the new Clubman and called it an “oxymoron on wheels” because it was the largest car in the company lineup. But not to be outdone, the Countryman crossover is all-new for 2017, and it assumes the new title of a rolling contradiction.

This Mini Cooper Countryman is eight inches longer than its predecessor, and it also swelled taller and wider by a few inches. But its second-generation growth spurt doesn’t make the vehicle look bloated. In fact, the effect is quite the opposite.

The first Countryman was struck in an odd placement of trying to look like the original Mini retro hatchback that spent too much time at the gym. This new, larger one has a bit more space to gradually develop the more muscular lines demanded of a crossover. So the 2017 model loses some of its heritage as it grows up into something more attractive.

Its growth is really appreciated inside. The previous generation was developed to carry four people, with the middle rear seat added later in life. This one offers seating for five from the beginning, and the rear even gets decent enough legroom to make the soccer practice runs with no complaints.

The driver’s seat gets the typical Mini charm of round gauges with the focus centered on the middle where the original Austin/Morris cars of the 1960s had their solo speedometer. Mini even still utilizes toggle switches to keep the retro charisma flowing.

But within this old-school design are some nice modern features. For example, the head-up display is built into a nifty piece of plexiglass that rises from the dash when the car is started. It’s part of a $2,250 technology package that also adds a touch-screen sat nav, wireless charging station and radar parking assistant.

Mini is owned by BMW, which is known for offering one of the longest configurations lists around. It’s best to options wisely. In fact, our test car was arranged in the worst way for people who like the spirited performance of the Mini.

The Cooper version gets a 1.5-liter turbocharged three-cylinder unit rated at 134 horsepower, and the Cooper S receives an extra cylinder for a 2.0-liter turbo that produces 228hp. This is the same choice and availability with the other vehicles in the Mini lineup. While the three-cylinder motor works well in the base Mini hardtop/hatchback, the Countryman is a much beefier vehicle.

Our car had the 1.5-liter motor installed in its heaviest vehicle that’s also weighed more than the most basic Mini. That doesn’t completely overwhelm the little turbo motor, but it does all the help it can get, and our eight-speed automatic transmission wasn’t a friend.

The good news is there are multiple ways of avoiding this drawback. First, the standard transmission in the Cooper model is a six-speed manual. So drivers who aren’t intimidated by rowing their own gears will save $1,500 over the automatic, and extra power and fun is only a downshift away.

And while the 35k upgrade to the Cooper only comes with the eight-speed automatic, the extra 55 horsepower is really appreciated. Finally, for those who need the most power, there is a John Cooper Works edition that can squeeze 228hp out of the 2.0-liter turbo.

Once the motor/transmission combo is settled, the Countryman continues Mini’s commitment to providing go-cart style handling to all its vehicles. The BMW family connection is felt here because even the biggest Mini has been engineered to have lively feet but feel solidly planted through the corners.

This German-level execution is why Mini can charge $27,450 for the base Countryman, and many people will happily option one well past $35k. After all, there are less expensive comparables out there. The Fiat 500X has a similar charisma, and Mazda CX3 and CX5 both offer that sporty feeling.
Founders Fund scholars announced

Thirty-seven Collier County students are the newest recipients of scholarships from the Founders Fund. Since its inception in 1991, the fund has awarded more than 640 scholarships totaling more than $3.4 million.

At the annual ice cream reception at the Club Pelican Bay, each student was presented with a non-restrictive scholarship for $2,500 per academic year totaling a $10,000 overall scholarship. Students agree to remain in school full-time and to maintain a B average or better.

This year, the scholarship award amount was increased from $2,000 to $2,500 per year along with the number of recipients increasing from an average of 25 each year to 37. A total of 102 students will receive funds this year.

Scholarship funds are raised via a golf event held every other year and through individual donations and the support of local business sponsors.

Originally set up to help children of Club Pelican Bay employees, the scholarship program has expanded to include Collier County high schools. The 2017 recipients are:

- **Barren Collier High School**: Kala Ashlee Parkinson, Fiona Pashollari, Cecilia Sofia Peregrin and Jason Randall
- **Community School of Naples**: Tiffany Morton and Corey Hixson
- **Golden Gate High School**: Marlen Ruiz-Perez, Michelle Lauren Schubert and Lita Tseng
- **Gulf Coast High School**: Nicole Garcia and Federico Martinez
- **Immokalee High School**: Azariah Howard, Erick Hidalgo and Rosalinda Matayer
- **Lely High School**: Jason Francoeur, Robert Garcia, Patrick Joseph, Erick Joseph, Watson Marcellin and Zuleima Toro
- **Lorenzo Walker**: Milagros Jerez, Brady Lee, Aurora Medellin-Gutierrez and Marshall Shaaruba
- **Naples High School**: Cameron Mary Bonk, Camila Cal, Leo Gonzalez and Oscar Rodriguez
- **St. John Newman**: John Zizzo
- **Club Pelican Bay (Club Pelican Bay employees’ children)**: Thomas DeMallie, Brendan Fieger, Maddeline Gross and Donna Taylor

For more information, call 593-0124 or visit www.thefoundersfundinc.org.

COURTESY PHOTO
The 2017 scholarship recipients

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We’re open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and accept most insurance plans. We offer financial solutions for every budget and, in honor of our grand opening, we’re extending these special offers for a limited time.

Call or book an appointment today!

239.431.9022 TowncareDental.com
9132 Strada Place, Suite 1110, Naples, FL 34108
HEALTHY LIVING

Greater Naples YMCA ‘chips’ in to help Neapolitans learn to make healthy choices

BY PAUL THEIN
Special to Florida Weekly

Among the more than 160 programs offered each week at the YMCA of Greater Naples, perhaps none has been more effective in creating positive lifestyle changes and affecting our members’ health as CHIP. The Complete Health Improvement Program was developed by the Lifestyle Medicine Institute in California. More than 80,000 people in the U.S., Canada, Australia and New Zealand have completed a CHIP course.

Our Y began offering the program in the summer of 2015 and already has 100 graduates.

CHIP is a 12-week lifestyle education program designed to reduce many disease risk factors by combining better eating habits with exercise, stress management and good sleep habits. The primary goal is to lower blood cholesterol, hypertension and blood sugar levels and reduce excessive weight. This is achieved through nutrition education, a personalized daily exercise program and a support system provided by the group setting. Lifestyle modification as taught through CHIP has been shown to prevent, manage and even reverse chronic disease such as arthritis, certain cancers, depression, diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, impotence and stroke, often as well as or better than many medicines without any side effects, except for weight loss.

After an initial two-hour introductory presentation, enrollment commences for a total of 18 evening classes lasting 90 minutes each. Sessions include educational videos, class discussions, periodic food samplings, individual counseling, progress evaluations and three periodic food samplings. Exercise is done at a moderate pace in the Y pool or exercise room.

Dr. Amy Chappell and Heidi Roderick facilitate our CHIP program. Dr. Chappell also practices neurology as a volunteer at the Neighborhood Health Clinic. She facilitates CHIP as her way of helping put people in charge of their own health. “CHIP graduates have all the tools they need to make good decisions in regards to their health,” Dr. Chappell says. “If they make poor decisions, it is not out of ignorance.”

Ms. Roderick, director of community wellness for our Y, complements Dr. Chappell’s expertise with her work in the exercise component of CHIP, providing guidelines for individual and group exercises.

After completing the program, CHIP graduates are invited to monthly events to help them stay motivated. “Club CHIP” events have included tennis clinics, SK walks and potluck dinners. A nominal fee covers educational materials from the Lifestyle Medicine Institute (including a CHIP toolkit with a workbook, cookbook, water bottle, pedometer and textbook, all representing the lessons of the program: Live More, Eat More, Drink More, Move More and Learn More). The set of labs and a three-month YMCA membership is also included.

Carleton Case, a longtime Naples Y member, volunteer and a former board chair, is a proud CHIP graduate. He and his wife signed up for the program’s very first session in June 2015.

“CHIP was a remarkable experience for both of us,” Mr. Case, who had become pre-diabetic, says. “I became aware of how much sugar I consumed, and the dangers of eating too much red meat … I lost more than 25 pounds, took several inches off my waist size and started to feel much better.”

He set an exercise goal to take daily steps and still tries to do 10,000 steps every weekday and 15,000 on weekends. “I continue to watch my weight and the dangers of eating too much red meat . . . I lost more than 25 pounds, took several inches off my waist size and started to feel much better.”

LaPlaya Beach & Golf Resort’s LaPlaya Beach & Golf Resort hosts a sunrise yoga on the beach session in partnership with Survive & Thrive from 6:30-7:30 a.m. Saturday, May 6. Survive & Thrive offers yoga instruction and mindfulness techniques based at LaPlaya.

SEE CHIP, A21

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David Lawrence Center celebrates Mental Health Awareness Month

The David Lawrence Center, Collier County’s only comprehensive, not-for-profit mental health and substance abuse treatment facility serving children, adults and families, invites the public to an open house and mental health fair in celebration of National Mental Health Awareness Month from 3:30-6 p.m. Friday, May 12, at the main DLC campus off Golden Gate Parkway at 6075 Bathey Lane. All are welcome.

The afternoon will celebrate the many heroes who support mental health in Southwest Florida with a variety of activities and demonstrations; community partner resource tables representing health, wellness and mental health providers; as well as brief educational presentations on the signs and symptoms of mental illness and substance abuse, bullying and how to live a healthy lifestyle.

Facility tours and ribbon cuttings for DLC’s new Children’s Outpatient Building, Genoa pharmacy and the new Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida medical practice are also planned.

Activities of all ages will enjoy lawn games, contests with prizes, an art therapy craft station, children’s art therapy showcase, a superhero photo booth, and rock-climbing wall, fire truck demonstration and more. Food vendors will also be onsite.

Former NFL plays and Drug Free Collier ambassadors Ike Alama-Francis and David Jones will be on hand to meet and greet attendees, as will a therapy horse from Naples Therapeutic Riding Center (formerly Naples Equestrian Challenge) and a therapy dog. Sponsors to date include Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida, Florida Weekly, Genoa Pharmacy and Neapolitan Family and ebell magazines.

Community partners to date include Collier County Sheriff’s Office, Collier County Fire Department, Genoa Pharmacy, Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida, Naples Therapeutic Riding Center, Drug Free Collier, Jansen Pharmaceuticals, Golisano Children’s Museum of Naples, MaxFlex Fitness, Florida Art Therapy Services, Project HELP, National Alliance on Mental Illness, Naples Vet Center, Valerie’s House, Storytellers Creative Arts, Open Mind Zen Center and registered nutritionist Dawn Gray.

Admission is free. For more information, call the David Lawrence Center at 455-8500, ext. 1568, or visit www.davidlawrencecenter.org.

Clear your head with ‘Spring Cleaning for the Mind’

Sweep away the emotional cobwebs of the past, clear out fears of the future and organize your thoughts and feelings so you can be present in the moment with help from “Spring Cleaning for the Mind” from 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 11, at Monarch Wellness. Offered in collaboration with the Mental Health Association of Southwest Florida, the session with feature presenters from Monarch Wellness as well as gentle yoga instructor Devi Rosado and licensed clinical social worker Cicily Santora.

Monarch Wellness is at 843 Myrtle Terrace in Naples. Attendance is free, but reservations are required. Call Brian Follweiler at the Mental Health Association of Southwest Florida, 261-5405, or email bfollweiler@mhaswfl.org.

After class, participants will enjoy lawn games, contests with prizes, an art therapy craft station, children’s art therapy showcase, a superhero photo booth, and rock-climbing wall, fire truck demonstration and more. Food vendors will also be onsite.

From page 20

perform a regular regimen of physical exercises each day,” he says. “Best of all, I continue to feel better, and my family continues to support me and appreciates me more.”

Mr. Case, whose business involves employee benefits, says he continues to see how much money companies pay for employee benefits, says he continues to support me and appreciates me more.”

— Paul Thein is president and CEO of the Greater Naples YMCA, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

SURVIVE

From page 20

on cancer sensitivity programming. The organization’s certified yoga instructors are also trained by Yoga4Cancer to provide the safest and most effective methodology for student experience.

The sunset yoga class is part of a wellness campaigns promoted by LaPlaya. It will be led by local yoga instructor Wendy Campbell, the founder of Survive & Thrive. As a survivor of Hodgkin lymphoma, Ms. Campbell created the organization as a response to her journey living with and healing from cancer. The organization is committed to sharing practices that reduce suffering and cultivate freedom, choice and balance.

After class, participants will enjoy light bites and refreshments. Bring yoga mat or beach towel; the resort will provide a towel and water.

Cost is $30 in advance, $40 at the door ($30 for children). All proceeds from registration will benefit Survive & Thrive. Attendees can also purchase raffle tickets to win an 80-minute traditional couples massage from the resort’s Spaterra.

RSVP by emailing LaPlayaEvents@glodowned.com. For more information about Survive & Thrive, visit www.wendycampbellbyoga.com/survive-thrive.
PET TALES

Kitten fix

When should your kitten be spayed or neutered? Earlier than you might think, experts say.

BY KIM CAMPBELL THORNTON
Andrews McMeel Syndication

It’s kitten season! If you are bringing home one of the little fluffballs, there’s more to think about than cuddling and caressing. Feline veterinarians and animal welfare supporters think spaying and neutering by 5 months of age is a good idea. Performing sterilization surgery by that age has benefits for owners, cats and veterinarians alike. I don’t know if you’ve ever heard a female cat in heat. I have, and the intensity of the screeching still sticks in my mind some 30 years later. Putting off spay surgery until she’s older can land you with a female kitten who is intent on finding male companionship and who is desirous of letting the whole neighborhood know about it. Intact male cats also vocalize, as well as mark their territory with urine and attempt to escape in search of a willing and able female. Sterilizing them before they hit puberty curbs these unwanted behaviors. It also typically costs less to spay a female cat in heat. It is easier to see organs. Young kittens bleed less than adults. They also have less body fat, making it easier to see organ changes. Although there are drawbacks, some studies have found that certain dog breeds gain health benefits from spay/neuter surgery at a later age. But cats don’t seem to have increased outcomes for minor interventions like we see in dogs. Making time to get the kitten spayed or neutered is never too early. Supporting sterilization surgery by that age has benefits for owners, cats and veterinarians alike. That’s just one of the reasons that the Veterinary Task Force on Feline Sterilization surgery says the optimal age for sterilization is 5 months or earlier. Supporting the recommendation are the American Animal Hospital Association, the American Veterinary Medical Association, the Association of Shelter Veterinarians, the Cat Fanciers Association, the International Cat Association and the Winn Feline Foundation.

“The 6-month rule that so many veterinarians and animal welfare supporters think spaying and neutering by 5 months of age is a good idea. Performing sterilization surgery by that age has benefits for owners, cats and veterinarians alike. I don’t know if you’ve ever heard a female cat in heat. I have, and the intensity of the screeching still sticks in my mind some 30 years later. Putting off spay surgery until she’s older can land you with a female kitten who is intent on finding male companionship and who is desirous of letting the whole neighborhood know about it. Intact male cats also vocalize, as well as mark their territory with urine and attempt to escape in search of a willing and able female. Sterilizing them before they hit puberty curbs these unwanted behaviors. It also typically costs less to spay a female who is not in full-blown heat. Many studies support the safety of altering kittens at 5 months or earlier. Scheduling sterilization surgery at the same time as other routine kitten wellness care can help to prevent the procrastination effect that often occurs when owners must wait two months to bring kittens back in for the procedure. It’s all too easy to get caught up by other things that need to be done. Making time to get the kitten spayed or neutered is one of those things that often gets bumped down the list because it doesn’t seem urgent.

For cats, one benefit that lasts throughout life is a lower risk of mammary cancer. Because the surgery goes more quickly, kittens are typically anesthetized for a shorter period, Dr. Demos says. She adds that younger patients also bounce back more quickly from surgery. An advantage for veterinarians is that young kittens bleed less than adult cats. They also have less body fat, making it easier to see organs. Are there drawbacks? Some studies have found that certain dog breeds gain health benefits from spay/neuter surgery at a later age. But cats don’t seem to have increased risk for any health problems following sterilization surgery, says Julie K. Levy, DVM, professor at Maddie’s Shelter Medicine at the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine.

“There’s so much vigor in the natural life of the screeching still sticks in my mind some 30 years later. Putting off spay surgery until she’s older can land you with a female kitten who is intent on finding male companionship and who is desirous of letting the whole neighborhood know about it. Intact male cats also vocalize, as well as mark their territory with urine and attempt to escape in search of a willing and able female. Sterilizing them before they hit puberty curbs these unwanted behaviors. It also typically costs less to spay a female who is not in full-blown heat. Many studies support the safety of altering kittens at 5 months or earlier. Scheduling sterilization surgery at the same time as other routine kitten wellness care can help to prevent the procrastination effect that often occurs when owners must wait two months to bring kittens back in for the procedure. It’s all too easy to get caught up by other things that need to be done. Making time to get the kitten spayed or neutered is one of those things that often gets bumped down the list because it doesn’t seem urgent.

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“There’s so much vigor in the natural cat that we’re not seeing major medical outcomes for minor interventions like we might in dogs.”

Kitten Fix

>> Cinnamon Bun is a senior neutered mix who hopes it doesn’t take long to find his forever family. His long, matted hair has to be shaved but will grow back beautifully.

>> Java is an adult neutered male domestic shorthair who has full personality and wants to warm his way into a forever home and a cozy lap.

>> Serenading Sams is a neutered adult male domestic short-haired who has lovely markings and wants to be your target for adoption.

To adopt or foster a pet this week’s adoptable pets are from Brookes Legacy Animal Rescue, an all-volunteer, foster home rescue organization. For more information, call 434-7480, email Admin@brookeslegacyanimalrescue.org or visit www.brookeslegacyanimalsrescue.com.
THE DIVA DIARIES

Forget the blender, help pay for Susie and Doug’s honeymoon

As we usher in May, we’ve gone from tourist/event/festival season directly into my favorite time of year. Oh, I know the heat and humidity and love bugs are all on their way, but I prefer to look at the bright side: It’s wedding season!

No one adores a wedding more than I. Yes, in 1981, I woke up well before dawn to watch the coverage of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer’s storybook nuptials on TV, but not just because I’m a hugely dedicated anglophile from way back — I simply love watching people get married.

For years after Charles and Diana’s, whenever I attended a wedding I would picture myself marrying Charles’ younger brother, Prince Edward. Not because he was particularly cute (he’s not — and his ears are enormous), but because he was the only age-appropriate member of the British royal bloodline for me, and I desperately wanted a royal wedding. That dream fizzled when I became old enough to realize that there was only a very, very slim chance that I’d run into the younger prince at any of my favorite haunts, such as Ross Dress for Less or the Twistee Treat on U.S. 41. Sigh.

I eventually married Prince Todd of Tennessee, and now that it’s May and our calendar is filling up with weddings, I couldn’t be giddier. As thrilled as I am, however, I’m busily trying to keep up with the shifting of traditions. For instance, more and more marrying couples are foregoing wedding registries and instead suggesting cold, hard cash in place of customary gifts.

I remember going to weddings in my early 20s — when I was working up to three jobs at a time, raising my son and rushing around with no time to organize (plus, there was no such thing as Amazon Prime back in those medieval times) — and once asking my mother if I could just throw a bit of cash in with my wedding card to the couple and be done with it. Being the well-mannered lady she was, she told me no. It went something like this: “If the bride and groom could take the time to send you an invitation and prepare you a seat at their table, you can certainly take the time to purchase something memorable for them to remember their special day and that they celebrated it with you.” She went on to tell me it was fine for the bride’s Uncle Earl or the groom’s grandpa to slip the couple a wad of twenties, but not me — which was actually fine, because I only had a (very small) wad of fives anyway. The idea, my mother explained, was, for instance, if I gave the couple champagne flutes, every time they used them they would be reminded of the day they got married, and no amount of cash could create memories the way thoughtfully chosen gifts could.

These days, the internet has figured a way around the cold-heartedness of cash by creating websites such as www.Honeyfund.com and www.HoneymoonWishes.com and (gasp) even www.GoFundMe.com. The idea behind the first two is that we get to “sponsor” specific honeymoon experiences for the newlyweds. For instance, a contribution of $100 would go toward a spa experience for two; for $50, you can contribute to a room service breakfast, and so on. GoFundMe, of course, is a bit less romantic in the sense that most couples on that site simply ask for straight-up contributions and I guess you just assume it’s for margaritas on the beach or a day of parasailing — or maybe it’s going toward their Mastercard statement or even their cable bill. Who knows?

But then again, one might argue, who cares? Some time ago I was invited to an out-of-town wedding I was unable to attend, but since the HoneyFund registry website was printed on the invitation, for $75 I happily sponsored the cab ride that the couple took from the airport to the island resort where they spent their first days and nights of wedded bliss. I like to think they enjoyed that cab ride and said nice things about me the entire ride:

“Wasn’t it wonderful for Stephanie to give us this cab ride?”

“Yes, she is so generous. This is much more romantic than hitchhiking.”

“What a shame she couldn’t make it to the wedding. I missed her terribly.”

“I love Stephanie so much!”

Sadly, they divorced less than a year later. Thankfully, they never had to worry about who got the champagne flutes. But they’ll always have that taxi ride.

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

Stephanie Davis
sdavis@floridaweekly.com

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Peggy M.

“You folks have just finished a remodeling project for us at our condo. We would like to point out this is the third time we have used your services. During all these projects, Matt, the workers and staff were very gentle and respectful. From the start to finish your team has been outstanding. My wife immediately ran out about how beautiful the remodeling has been. We can definitely attest to your claim about the WOW factor!”
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In the lead at the Leadership Collier Foundation

BY DON MANLEY
Florida Weekly Correspondent

Amanda Beights has been an agent of positive change throughout her professional career.

It was in the classroom that she first applied her passion for helping to elevate others. Ms. Beights spent the first 10 years of her working life as an elementary school teacher in Ohio, Chicago and in Collier County, at Royal Palm Academy and the Community School of Naples.

Her efforts became community wide in 2013 when she was named vice president of the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce’s Leadership Collier Foundation. In this role, Ms. Beights manages the Foundation’s programs, which include:

- Leadership Collier, which educates business leaders about societal and economic challenges facing the community.
- Growing Associates In Naples (GAIN), in which emerging leaders, ages 21-40, learn about local government, charities, the arts, commerce, law enforcement, tourism, education and more.
- Youth Leadership Collier, which is dedicated to developing ethical leaders committed to active community involvement.
- The Emerging Leadership Council, which facilitates communication and collaboration between the county, established decision makers and emerging leaders.
- The Campaign for Leadership, which is dedicated to engaging and inspiring LCF alumni to consider running for elected positions within the community.

Administering the foundation alumni association and its more than 1,500 members is also among Ms. Beights’ duties, along with serving as the primary director and liaison for the organization’s...
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Distinguished entrepreneurs to be honored at May 10 awards evening

The 2017 Distinguished Entrepreneur of Southwest Florida awards celebration is set for 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, May 10, at the Southwest Florida Performing Arts Center in Bonita Springs.

The finalists are: Tanya Veit, AAE Glass LLC; Jeanne Sweeney, Above Board Chamber of Florida; Jeff Poliert, AZI International; Louis Bruno, Bruno Air Conditioning; Jenn Zella, CID Design Group; Shane Bailey, Cloud 9 Thermal Imaging and Home Watch; John and Sue Benkert, CFR Tools Inc.; Dan Puleio, Cape Cleaners; Jamilla D. Brooks, Desire To Inspire; Lisa Cochrane, Dorado Property Management; Caryn Smith, CEO, Driven By Design LLC; Dr. Anais Aurora Badia, Florida Skin Center, Inc.; Bradd Konert Jr., Gamma Tech Services, LLC; Michaela Reiterer Henning, Hлевел Architects; David Mulicka, HONC DESTRUCTION; Carleen Mcllvene, Imagine By Carleen Inc.; Kirk McFee, Kirk’s Coney Island; Bess Charles, LadyCakes Bakery; Lori Adams, Lori’s Movin and Groovin for Lori Adams Enterprises LLC; Lourdes McLeod, McLeod’s Construction, Paint & Restoration LLC; Guido Minaya, Minaya Learning Global Solutions LLC; Misty Kinzel, Misty’s Sunshine Cleaning LLC; Keith Daubmann, MY Shower Door/D3 Glass; Lora Mccann, Peace of Mind Patient Advocacy LLC; Andreas Dolleschal, Smargasy Inc.; Brian Rast, Storm Smart Inc.; Gavin Cresswell, Str8 Up Aviation; Carlene Proux, The CarlionCo; Samuel Lewis, Wear The Fund LLC; and Christopher Gregg Fous, Woolbamboo!

Three winners will be honored for their business success, innovative technology and business advocacy. Hallmark sponsor of the Distinguished Entrepreneur of Southwest Florida awards program and dinner celebration for the sixth year is Markham Norton Mosteller Wright & Co. Other sponsors include Florida Gulf Coast University Foundation, Gulfshore Business, Southwest Florida Business Today, The NewsPress Media Group, Spiro and Associates, Spada, Tamiami Angel Funds, Grasmeier Business Services and Platinum PEO Resources Inc.

Tickets for the dinner are $75. For reservations or more information, call 245-3700, email sbdc@fgcu.edu or visit www.fsbdcsfwfl.org.

The Florida Small Business Development Center at FGCU offers one-on-one, confidential, no-cost consulting and low-cost workshops for businesses throughout Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Hendry, and Glades counties. The state designates it as Florida’s principal provider of business assistance. The center at FGCU is a member of a statewide service network funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration.
When you think of countries that conduct unfair trade practices that hurt American companies and consumers, which do you think of first? China, with its currency manipulation? Mexico, with its cheap labor? European countries, with their high import duties and taxes? If you are Donald Trump, the first country that comes to mind appears to be—Canada. Yes, our “hostile” neighbor to the north became the first target of President Trump when he imposed new tariffs on imported softwood products into the U.S. He further threatened duties on dairy products from Canada. So why does the government feel that Canada’s products are “unfair” and what effect do these taxes have on the U.S.?

In Canada, most timberland is owned by the government. According to the U.S., the government then sells trees to these companies below market prices. In effect, the government is artificially lowering prices. In effect, the government lowers the cost of its domestic wood products, which makes it cheaper than U.S.-produced products. The result is that Canadian exporters will have a monopoly and be able to raise prices at will. This is especially true in industries with significant barriers to entry.

But in this case, both trees and cows are very plentiful both in the U.S. and Canada so I don’t see Canadian lumber and dairy companies driving U.S. companies out of business. The U.S. housing sector and individual consumers will be the ones hurt with Trump’s new tariffs, as people have to pay more for lumber and wood products.

What if Canada retaliates against the U.S. by imposing tariffs on U.S. “subsidized” goods, like sugar? With Trump already pulling out of the proposed Trans Pacific Partnership and threatening to pull out of NAFTA, the U.S. could be on the brink of a new era of global trade wars.

And that, I promise, will not end well for anyone.

— Eric Bretan, the co-owner of Rick’s Estate & Jewelry Buyers in Punta Gorda, was a senior derivatives marketer and investment banker for more than 15 years at several global banks.

MONEY & INVESTING

Tariffs on Canadian wood products will hurt U.S. consumers

Determine your hiring style

Your personality, expertise and experiences shape your approach to leadership and how you select talent, Mr. Wintrip explains, adding there are four basic styles of hiring:

1. Tacklers: These hiring managers are fast and decisive. They want to be in control and reach goals quickly. During interviews, they get to the point quickly and appreciate people who do the same. Tacklers tend to hire candidates they think will condense timelines and hit targets fast.

2. Testers: These people are talkers who use their communication skills to motivate people. They talk a lot during interviews, often selling the candidate on the company and potential opportunities. These date-driven hiring managers thrive on clarity. They make decisions based on tangible evidence. During interviews, they gather pertinent details and value facts over stories. Testers tend to hire candidates who are capable of cultivating strong workplace relationships.

3. Tailors: These are collaborators. They point out that there’s no “I” in “team.” During interviews, they build a rapport and allow conversation to become an open exchange of thoughts and feelings. Tailors tend to hire candidates they think are capable of collaborating to meet objectives.

4. Testers: These date-driven hiring managers thrive on clarity. They make decisions based on tangible evidence. During interviews, they gather pertinent details and value facts over stories. Testers tend to hire candidates who are capable of cultivating strong workplace relationships.

To test your skills, consider the following questions:

• What are my style’s blind spots?
• What other styles can better see what I’m not seeing?
• What if I work with someone who has the same style as I do? What’s the best way to work with someone who thinks differently?

Mr. Wintrip says: “It’s important to stack your hiring team with people of all four styles. This will give you an expansive, 360-degree view of a candidate. A team composed of people with diverse hiring styles gives you a more realistic perspective than if your team were composed of people with just one or two styles.”}

Coordinate before interviewing

To best leverage each hiring style, your team should have a discussion that answers the following questions:

• What are my style’s blind spots?
• What other styles can better see what I’m not seeing?
• What if I work with someone who has the same style as I do? What’s the best way to work with someone who thinks differently?

Mr. Wintrip says: “It’s important to stack your hiring team with people of all four styles. This will give you an expansive, 360-degree view of a candidate. A team composed of people with diverse hiring styles gives you a more realistic perspective than if your team were composed of people with just one or two styles.”

Mr. Wintrip has changed how thousands of companies across the globe find and select employees, helping design and implement a process to hire top talent in less than an hour. For five consecutive years, Staffing Industry Analysts, a Crain Communications company, has awarded Mr. Wintrip a place on its list of the 100 most influential staffing leaders in the world. He is a member of the Million Dollar Consultant Hall of Fame and was recently inducted into the Staffing 100 Hall of Fame. He lives in St. Petersburg.

— Scott Wintrip, author of “High Velocity Hiring: How to Hire Top Talent in an Instant”
Amanda Beights offers her time and talent as a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity of Collier County, among several other community causes.

“We’re thinking about seriously. Since we opened ourselves up to other professional opportunities and a friend at the chamber, Kaftan Benedict, introduced her to apply for the vice president post. She had no experience in this work, so I worked with her over the holidays, taught her what to do, and she did. Ms. Beights says, “I had a really wonderful time learning about the chamber and its work. They asked if I had any concerns, to which I simply replied, ‘What are your concerns, because I’m open to learning about the organization’s mission.’”

When I am seeking good counsel, I have the privilege of working with dozens of our community’s best leaders. If I were pressed to choose just one, it might be my first mentor at the chamber, Chief Stephanie Hedberg. She challenged Leadership Collier’s first and second year, and I was so grateful to be under her wing. To this day, she is just a phone call or text away when I am seeking good counsel.

First job: I was a counselor at a summer camp for children with special needs.

Business words of wisdom: “Great leaders do not set out to be leaders. They set out to make a difference. It’s never about the role; it’s always about the people.”

Interview with Amanda Beights

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dipalo

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**The Motley Fool**

To Educate, Amuse & Enrich

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**The Motley Fool Take**

**Perking Up**

Starbucks’ (Nasdaq: SBUX) stock has been a dud for investors over the past year. That’s some news that would perk up the coffeehouse, but they will likely do well to stick around.

In fiscal year 2016, sales at stores opened longer than a year grew by 5 percent, versus 7 percent the year before. This opened more than 2,000 new stores worldwide, boosting overall revenue by 11 percent. Earnings per share were up by 17 percent, thanks to rising operating profit margins.

While Starbucks already has more than 12,000 stores in the U.S., it’s still opening hundreds of new stores each year. The opportunity is even bigger in international markets, especially China. Its profitability and return on invest-

---

**Name That Company**

I was born in the Great Depression, when my founder moved to Arizona and opened a Woolworth five-and-dime store. Business got a boost in World War II, as chicken wasn’t among the foods being rationed and demand for it grew. Today I’m a top global food company, producing about 1 in every 5 pounds of chicken, beef, and pork in the U.S. My brand includes Jimmy Dean, Hillshire Farm, Sara Lee, Ball Park, Wright, Aidels and State Fair.

---

**Last week’s trivia answer**

I trace my roots to the 1920s. I’m dominant industrial powerhouse, with more revenue than all companies for more than their pre-

---

**My Dumbest Investment**

This or That

My dumbest investment was buying $25,000 worth of General Electric stock instead of Netflix.

---

**Ask the Fool**

**Mysterious Purchases**

When one company buys another, where does that money actu-

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**Business Meetings**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>The Above Board Chamber</th>
<th>com/events. For more information, call Gerald Hendry at 337-0555.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Collier County Medical Society holds its annual meeting and 60th anniversary celebration Saturday evening, May 13, at Qual Creek Country Club. For more information, email <a href="mailto:info@ccmosonline.org">info@ccmosonline.org</a> or visit <a href="http://www.ccmosonline.org">www.ccmosonline.org</a>.</td>
<td>— Email business meeting announcements to <a href="mailto:cpiercie@floridaweekly.com">cpiercie@floridaweekly.com</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Network of Collier County from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, May 9, at Esteli de Ballet &amp; Co., 3285 Pine Ridge Road. Guide speaker will be PR consultant Cyndee Woolley, the author of “Building Brand (You),” which has been featured in the executive MBA program at Hodgson University. Sign up at <a href="http://www.nvncc.org">www.nvncc.org</a>.</td>
<td>— Young Professionals of the Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce host the “In Your Futures” YP Summit from 7-8:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 10, at the Hilton Bonita Springs. For more information, call 992-2943.</td>
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NETWORKING

Celebrating the grand opening of Moorings Park’s Grande Place at Grey Oaks

1. Michael Darby, Steve Brinkert, Dr. John Little, Dan Lavender, Fred Yanni and Robert Jones
2. Bob Dickemper and Christine Dickemper
3. Bonnie Barker, Carol Pier and Dan Lein
4. Cameron Rahn and Bill McCollum
5. Dan Lavender and Dr. Allen Weiss
6. Rebecca Hychko, Lori Wegman and Hanna French
7. William Faute, Robert Fisher, Georgia Fisher and Barbara Faute
8. Lou Ann Hansen and Hal Hansen
9. Dr. Frank Astor and Arina Astor
10. Katie Sproul and Judy Sproul

“Like” us on Facebook.com/NaplesFloridaWeekly to see more photos. We take more society and business networking photos at area events than we can fit in the newspaper. Send us your society and business networking photos. Include the names of everyone in the picture. Email them to cpierce@floridaweekly.com.
For more than 90 years, BB&T Insurance Services has never taken a relationship for granted. We set out to earn your business each and every day. Our strong value system helps us determine what is right and reasonable, and to remain focused on doing what’s in the best interests of the clients and communities we service. Discover the value a values driven agency can offer for you. Insurance.BBT.com

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If you are seeking a newer home of impeccable quality, 21st-century technology, spectacular outdoor space, the privacy of .32 acres with preserve views on a cul-de-sac and proximity to every amenity, this 2013 home in Lely’s gated Lakoya community is a superb choice.

A gracious foyer welcomes you to a formal, light-filled dining room on the right and a comfortable gathering room, breakfast room and kitchen with long views of the expansive outdoor entertainment space and screened pool/spa area beyond.

Access the outdoor living room from a wall of tall, pocketing sliders. Details include fine appliances, generously sized pantry and fitted closets, designer ceiling fans and plantation shutters.

This home has four large bedrooms (one of which is now configured as a study), 3½ baths, a two-bay garage and a standalone one-car garage. Gas lines fuel the kitchen range, outdoor grill, water heater, dryer and pool/spa heater. There is a two-part wine cooler, a whole-house water softener and a whole-house surge protector.

Residents can contact Lely Resort Golf & Country Club for information about mandatory club membership and fees.

Craig Jones, broker associate at Premier Sotheby’s International Realty, has this listing for $955,000. To arrange a showing, call 552-5522 or email craig.jones@sothebysrealty.com.
**PORT ROYAL**

1201 GALLIION DR, NAPLES
- Entrace/Drive + 2 BR, 4 BA Estate, Over 8,200 S.F.
- 180 Degree Bay View
- Deo Daless 239.313.9100

**NAPLES**

- Immediate Golf Membership Available
- Long Fairway Views
- $3,795,000 MLS 217004958
- Drs. & Greg Martinovitch 239.325.3505

**MEDITERRA**

- Luxury Residence w/Terrace Lake View
- Infinity Edge Pool & Spillover Spa
- $1,599,000 MLS 216049611
- Drs. & Greg Martinovitch 239.325.3505

**SHADOW WOOD AT THE BROOKS**

- Totaly Remodeled, 3 BR, 2 BA Condo
- Turnkey Furnished, 2nd Floor Unit
- $499,000 MLS 217036301
- Liz Appelli 239.272.7201

**HIDDEN LAKES AT SPRING RUN**

- 3 BR, 2 BA with Beautiful Lake View
- Gabe Meloax 239.825.2234

**MEDITERRA NEW PRICE**

- Tastefully Decorated Condo w/Lake Views
- Furnished w/All New Less Than 1 Year Ago
- $269,000 MLS 217029844
- Dads & Orsdel, The Robid Team 239.768.8123

**BONITA**

- Great Lake & Golf Course Views
- Ideally Located Near Pool/Parking
- $279,000 MLS 217011290
- Gary Ryan 239.273.6796

**INDIGO LAKES**

- Best Home in Indigo Lakes
- Peaceful Lake Views
- Gabe Meloax 239.825.2234

**HIDDEN LAKES AT SPRING RUN NEW PRICE**

- 3 BR, 2 BA, 2 Car Garage
- $858,000 MLS 217038528
- Signature Properties 239.929.2227

**SUMMIT PLACE**

- 3 BR, 2 BA w/Courtyard View
- Shannon Lakes
- Gabe Meloax 239.825.2234

**BELLERIVE AT THE VINEYARDS**

- Open 5/7, 1:00PM - 4:00PM
- New Listing
- 32901 SHADY KNOLL DR, BONITA
- Pool Lot with Great Lake Views
- 3 BRs, 3 Bathrooms + Den
- $995,000 MLS 217038133
- Gary Ryan 239.273.6796

**PARK SHORE**

- Pool Home w/Two Master Suites
- Quiet Street, Close to the Beach
- $1,295,000 MLS 216047112
- Liz Appelli 239.272.7201

**TARASCON**

- 3BR, 2BA
- 2nd Floor
- $499,000 MLS 217004958
- Drs. & Greg Martinovitch 239.325.3505

**LELY RESORT**

- Open 5/7, 1:00PM - 4:00PM
- New Listing
- 3BR, 2BA, 2 Car Garage
- $1,299,000 MLS 217038133
- Gary Ryan 239.273.6796

**FIDDLER’S CREEK**

- New Look
- Contemporary, 20’ Ceilings
- $999,000 Call For Details
- The Taranto Team 239.572.3078

**BONITA BAY NEW LISTING**

- Beautiful Updated 4 BR, 4.5 BA, Large Corner Lot
- Spacious & Private Lanai w/Water Feature
- $1,495,000 MLS 217038453
- Conole-Lamont, The Lamont Team 239.589.3635

**BONITA**

- Beautiful Updated 4 BR, 4.5 BA, Large Corner Lot
- Spacious & Private Lanai w/Water Feature
- $1,495,000 MLS 217038453
- Conole-Lamont, The Lamont Team 239.589.3635

**MOORINGS**

- 4 BR, 3 BA
- 2nd Floor
- $1,599,000 MLS 217036301
- Jack Richter, Waterfield Group 239.698.3953

**BORDEAUX CLUB**

- Estate Home, Passed Final Inspection
- $4,299,000 MLS 217038133
- Liz Appelli 239.272.7201

**BELLERIVE AT THE VINEYARDS**

- New Listing
- 3BR, 2BA
- 2 Car Garage
- $858,000 MLS 217038528
- Signature Properties 239.929.2227

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- Quiet Street, Close to the Beach
- $1,295,000 MLS 216047112
- Liz Appelli 239.272.7201
PLATINUM & DIAMONDS
ARE PRECIOUS BUT
YOUR FUTURE IS PRICELESS

PLEASE JOIN US AND SAMPLE SIMPLY THE BEST®

Long-recognized for our commitment to helping residents and members live longer, healthier, happier lives, we invite you for a taste and tour of Moorings Park. Learn how to begin planning for your future and live the life you love in a community dedicated to the art of successful aging.

• Indulge your taste buds with the inspired cuisine of Trio Restaurant
• Learn about prioritized access to our residences
• See a sneak peek of our campus enhancements now underway
• Tour Trio Restaurant, Bower Chapel & The Center for Healthy Living

Please Join Us
Friday, May 19th at 11:00 AM
The Center for Healthy Living
132 Moorings Park Drive
RSVP by May 15th by Calling 239-643-9111

Moorings Park® is a nationally accredited, non-profit, Medicare certified community and the only A+ S&P and Fitch rated continuing care retirement community in the country.
Cypress Woods Golf & C.C. $289,000
Furnished, 2BR, 2BA plus den Coach home. Golf course & lake view, putting green, exercise room, golf equity & more!

Verona Walk $549,000
3BR, 2.5BA plus den pool home. Brazilian Koa hardwood flooring & upgrades galore. A must see!

Pelican Bay $680,000
2BR, 2.5BA, Chateaumere condo. Impressive updates, built-in's & gorgeous lake & golf course view.

ENJOY THE TRAM TO THE BEACH!
ENJOY THE RESTAURANT AT THE CLUBHOUSE!
SOUGHT AFTER OAKMONT MODEL!
NEW LISTING!

15923 Roseto Way | $4,395,000
Benvenuto at Mediterra
JUST REDUCED!

14908 Celle Way | $3,995,000
Ravello at Mediterra
JUST REDUCED!

17011 Verona Lane | $2,799,000
Verona at Mediterra

17230 Germano CT | $2,099,000
Positano at Mediterra

16755 Lucarno Way | $1,945,000
Lucarno at Mediterra

15543 Monterosso Ln #102 | $574,000
Monterosso at Mediterra

JUST REDUCED!
OPEN SUNDAY 1PM-4PM!
OPEN SUNDAY 1PM-4PM!
OPEN SUNDAY 1PM-4PM!
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<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Agent</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<th>Price</th>
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<td>711 Galleon Drive</td>
<td>Karen Van Arsdale</td>
<td>239.860.0894</td>
<td>D27.0176</td>
<td>$20,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>1099 Spyglass Lane</td>
<td>Linda Perry/Judy Perry</td>
<td>239.404.7052</td>
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<td>3300 Green Dolphin Lane</td>
<td>Tom Balsamo</td>
<td>239.404.4883</td>
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<td>2080 Gordon Drive</td>
<td>Michael G. Lawler</td>
<td>239.261.3999</td>
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<td>2030 Gordon Drive</td>
<td>Michael G. Lawler</td>
<td>239.261.3999</td>
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<td>396 Yucca Road</td>
<td>James Bates</td>
<td>239.962.3973</td>
<td>D26.0364</td>
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<td>590 Ketch Drive</td>
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<td>239.213.7463</td>
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<td>725 Regatta Road</td>
<td>Karen Van Arsdale</td>
<td>239.860.0894</td>
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<td>Carriage Club #61</td>
<td>Beth McNichols</td>
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<td>Spindrift Club #66</td>
<td>Ryan Nordbye</td>
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<td>Dale McNair</td>
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<td>689 Bougainvillea Road</td>
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<td>555 on Fifth #201</td>
<td>Tatiana Stabile</td>
<td>239.293.5017</td>
<td>D27.0235</td>
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<td>Bernard Minarcin</td>
<td>239.269.6850</td>
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<td>Carol Reid</td>
<td>239.269.9555</td>
<td>Web ID 214054706</td>
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<td>1486 Anhinga Pointe</td>
<td>Sam Ashman</td>
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<td>Darby Fowles</td>
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<td>699 99th Avenue North</td>
<td>Charles McCarl</td>
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<td>The Strada #7209</td>
<td>Susan Gartel</td>
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<td>200 Fairway Circle</td>
<td>Virginia Mann</td>
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<td>5520 Ilex Circle</td>
<td>Michelle Thomas</td>
<td>239.213.428</td>
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<td>Vanderbrit Surf Colony #305</td>
<td>Joanne McBride</td>
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<td>172 Seabreeze Avenue</td>
<td>Shonel F.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regatta #604</td>
<td>Dave Utz</td>
<td>239.213.428</td>
<td>Web ID 214056455</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vanderbrit Golfside #104</td>
<td>David Utz</td>
<td>239.213.428</td>
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FLIP
From page 9

hard-money lenders, expect the financing costs to be higher than what you'd pay for a mortgage if you were buying a house to live in.

Keeping an eye on your total budget is essential. If you borrow enough money to make the purchase but don't have cash on hand to pay for the renovations and unexpected contingencies, you'll be stuck before you even start.

In addition to the purchase price, you'll need money for renovations, upgrades, inspections and permits. Also, consider the cost of ownership between the purchase and sale. Carrying costs, including utilities, financing, insurance and property maintenance, can add up each month. You want to move fast to evaluate a home and put in an offer before someone else buys it. And once you buy the home, there's another race against time to complete the work and make a sale. Working with a trusted contractor and real estate attorney can help expedite the project.

Bottom line: Flipping homes can be profitable, particularly for those who have professional real estate experience, but don't expect it to be easy money.

— Nathaniel Sillin is a financial expert who directs Practical Money Skills for Life, a free financial education program. See www.practicalmoneyskills.com for more information.

Download the practical moneyskills app from the Google Play Store or the Apple Store, online at www.practicalmoneyskills.com, or call 1-877-1-MONEY.

Don't expect it to be easy money.

Bottom line: Flipping homes can be profitable, particularly for those who have professional real estate experience, but don't expect it to be easy money.

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**For POSTMODERN JUKEBOX**

everything new is old again

**BY NANCY STETSON**

nstetson@floridaweekly.com

How to describe Postmodern Jukebox? Just imagine if sheet music for today's hits were somehow sent back in time and interpreted by composers such as Scott Joplin or George Gershwin. And then those arrangements were sung by sultry blues singers, 1940s crooners or Kansas City belters.

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**Rookery Bay showcases works by resident artist**

**BY LINDSEY NESMITH**

lnesmith@floridaweekly.com

The Friends of Rookery Bay host an opening reception for “Fine Art of Lee Hammond” from 5:30-7 p.m. Wednesday, May 10, at Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center’s art gallery. The exhibit featuring a selection of the artist’s works in graphite, colored pencil and acrylic paintings will hang through mid-September.

As the resident artist at Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Ms. Hammond teaches a variety of daily and weekly classes at the learning center. “I teach all subject matter and all mediums,” she says, adding the exhibit represents everything that she teaches. Mostly a self-taught artist, Ms. Hammond created her unique drawing style while simultaneously teaching art classes as far back as an undergraduate at University of Nebraska in 1974. Aside from working as an instructor, she has held a number of corporate art positions.

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“For I was hearing all these songs on the radio, but part of me wondered: ‘How would these songs sound if they were recorded in the styles that I loved?’ My friends really liked Top 40 stuff, so I started experimenting with Top 40. I’d take a song they loved and play it as jazz. It was like a party trick.”

— Scott Bradlee, founder of Postmodern Jukebox

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Scott Bradlee and Postmodern Jukebox bring their unique arrangements to the Mann Hall in Fort Myers on May 11.

**Mutts & Martinis**

Fun at Marco’s Esplanade, and more to-dos around town. C18-19→

**Truly satisfying**

Food writer Karen Feldman says True Food Kitchen is a chain well worth experiencing. C23 →

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Theater critic Nancy Stetson says Gulfshore Playhouse packs a wallop with “The Christians.” C10 →

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WEEK OF MAY 4-10, 2017 www.FloridaWeekly.com NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY

FLORIDA WRITERS

Masterful murder mystery wrapped up in manipulation and discord

By Mary Anna Evans

In her latest Faye Longchamp Mystery Series, Mary Anna Evans introduces a new setting in Oklahoma. The shooting of a law enforcement officer guarding the site attracted gunfire. It soon became clear that she was murdered, and then buried, along with several important artifacts.

Disturbing historic sites, especially burial sites, had been a controversial issue in the Muscogee Nation and in the community of Sylacauga, Okla. Those attempting to reopen the site situated gunflints. Is that because they knew Dr. Townsend's remains would be discovered? Is her murderer among those trying to scare people away?

More to the point: Is her murderer one of those she had employed shortly before she disappeared? That group includes Sly Mantooth, father of Faye's husband Joe, and Mickey Callahan, father of an archaeologist named Carson Callahan. Carson, who had earned his graduate degrees by doing studies of Dr. Townsend's work, is now part of the team continuing her work — and also part of the investigation of her death.

The shooting of a law enforcement officer guarding the site of the crime adds a degree of urgency to the investigation led by Chief Cloud and to the work assigned to Faye. Her task is further complicated by the essential reason for coming to this tiny Oklahoma town, which is to help her husband rebuild his family life. Together, they will disperse Joe's late mother's ashes. The domestic dynamics in this mystery series are among the features that give it a special distinction and a special attraction. Ms. Evans' nuanced handling of family relationships enriches our understanding of and sympathy for the key characters.

Indeed, characterization is a great strength of this novel. Even the long-dead Dr. Townsend is drawn in exquisite detail. How can this be? Well, Ms. Evans reveals Dr. Townsend's character through the expedient but effective medium of having Faye read her field notes. They are charged with revelations of deep hostility and overwhelming ambition. Via the words of other characters, we also learn that Sofia Townsend was a cruel seductress whose behavior under mined marriages and thereby left several characters with a murder motive.

Ms. Evans draws Carlson Callahan, who knew Dr. Townsend briefly when he was an adolescent, as a 40-year-old man who still hasn't grown up, whose family life was made miserable by how Dr. Townsend's seduction of his father ruined his parents' marriage. Now he is a slave to his accomplishment and his ruined his parents' marriage. Now he is a slave to his accomplishment and his family life was made miserable by how Dr. Townsend's seduction of his father ruined his parents' marriage. Now he is a slave to his accomplishment and his

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**See how they go in photo exhibit at The Naples Depot Museum**

BY LINDSEY NESMITH
lnesmith@floridaweekly.com

Taking inspiration from its venue at the Naples Depot Museum, Naples Digital Photography Club’s latest exhibit, “Transportation in the Digital Age,” spotlights transportation in all its forms from around the world. From puddle jumpers in Alaska to hot rods at a local car show, photographers were able to capture the vehicles’ essences in surprising and revealing ways.

“Because it’s at the Naples Depot, which deals with trains, we thought transportation would be a good theme for the display,” says Priscilla McGuire, the show’s art director.

In his “Seeing Double in Alaska,” Edward Cohen captured a locomotive doubling back on itself around a curve in the tracks, reflecting and distorting the landscape off the sides of the cars.

“Chinese Families Cycling,” an unusual entry by Harold Kurzman, depicts a family of six sharing two mopeds for a trip in the city. A little girl has her face to the camera, her ear cocked toward her parents, possibly to hear what they’re saying over the traffic. It’s an interesting study in composition and a quick reminder that not all families herd their flock around town in an SUV.

Ms. McGuire took her “My Blue Bomber” at a local car show because she was captivated by the car’s intense shade.

Club members host a free opening reception for the exhibit from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, May 4. The Naples Depot Museum is at 1051 Fifth Ave. S. “Transportation in the Digital Age” will be on display through July. For more information, call 262-6525 or visit www.colliermuseum.com.

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Cosmopolitan magazine put it this way: Scott Bradlee and Postmodern Jukebox "create old-school pop tunes on modern pop tunes." And Entertainment Weekly wrote: “Scott Bradlee’s group is known for retro-flying modern hits songs into viral success.”

Pianist and arranger Scott Bradlee, founder of Postmodern Jukebox, had an old-school passion for the styles of jazz and ragtime. He often used his love of music to keep his head upstairs and stop his kids from doing their homework. “The people downstairs didn’t appreciate tap dancing in the living room,” he says.

He released “Hello My Ragtime ’80s,” a recording of 1980s songs in a ragtime style, in 2009. In 2012, his Motown tribute to the Jacksons gained attention. But it was the doo-wop cover of Ms. Cyrus’ “We Can’t Stop” with Robyn Adele Anderson that catapulted him into the national spotlight. “That was a dream come true. I imagined that years later I’d play there. I never thought about it happening,” he says.

The group has become known for its retroflying of classical music and singers from the past. “It’s like a party trick.”

“We’ve gotten a lot of endorsements, like Broadway, ‘American Idol’ and ‘Glee’,” Mr. Bradlee says. “More and more, people appreciate hearing their songs in a new way. We try to keep that element, that spontaneity, that feeling of being in conversation with one another.”

Scott Bradlee is known as “the sad clown with the golden crown.” His selection of artists was very organic. “I was hearing all these songs on the radio, and it was like a party trick.”

“Everything is gist for the Postmodern Jukebox mill and can be retro-fied: Britney Spears’ ‘Hotline Bling,’ Sia’s ‘Chandelier,’ Lady Gaga’s ‘Bad Romance,’ Cheap Trick’s ‘I Want You to Want Me,’ the Red Hot Chili Peppers’ ‘Give It Away.’

Some famous faces

With a revolving collective of performers, you’re never sure who you’re going to see perform in a Postmodern Jukebox concert. In fact, the lineup keeps changing, and neither Mr. Bradlee nor his publicist will say who’s appearing onstage with him.

Some musicians familiar to South- west Floridians have appeared with the Postmodern Jukebox. “It was the doo-wop cover of Ms. Cyrus’ ‘We Can’t Stop’ that made her popular,” he says.

For fun, everyone in the Postmodern Jukebox mill and can be retro-fied: Britney Spears’ ‘Hotline Bling,’ Sia’s ‘Chandelier,’ Lady Gaga’s ‘Bad Romance,’ Cheap Trick’s ‘I Want You to Want Me,’ the Red Hot Chili Peppers’ ‘Give It Away.’

Musicians love it when the group covers one of their songs. “Puddles was pretty unknown. No one knew what this song was going to do,” Mr. Bradlee recalls. “He stands at the mic and waits from everybody to be completely silent, and then when everyone stopped talking, he let loose this glorious voice. I thought, I need to put this on the internet.”

Worldwide Jukebox

Postmodern Jukebox now has 14 albums out, including one that came out on Concord Records, “The Essentials,” which includes their most popular covers. They recently returned from a 70-city tour of Europe.

“We’re happy to spread our music all over the world,” he adds. “My goal is to get to every corner of the world. I want to make sure that all these people played there,” he says. “I never imagined that years later I’d play there. That was a dream come true.”

Three generations attend his concerts, he says, calling his music “a great equalizer.”

“Grandparents appreciate the styles of music making a comeback. Younger people appreciate hearing their songs done by singers dressed in awesome vintage clothing. And in the middle, you appreciate both, the sense of tradition and talent over image.”

As Mr. Bradlee once explained on his website, “My goal with Postmodern Jukebox is to get my audience to think otherwise.”

Postmodern Jukebox has 14 albums out and is playing at BB Mann.

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HAMMOND
From page 1

such as a graphic designer, billboard painting and design, police composite artist and lead illustrator for NASA. She has maintained a full teaching schedule for more than 30 years and in the 1980s developed an instruction method that formed the basis of her book, “Lifelike Portraits from Photographs,” which initiated the publication of a wide variety of art books at North Light Books.

Serving as Rookery Bay’s resident artist requires her to not only offer courses to the public, but to serve in whatever artistic capacity the organization might require, from painting murals to consulting on graphic design matters.

While only a few pieces in the “Fine Art of Lee Hammond” exhibit will be for sale, guests can order a fine art reproduction of anything they like, or she can create a customized version of a favorite work.

Admission to the reception is free for Friends of Rookery Bay members, $3 for others and includes wine and light hors d’oeuvres. Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center is at 100 Tower Road, off Collier Boulevard on the way to Marco Island. For more information, call 530-5942 or visit www.rookerybay.org.
THEATER

Legs Diamond – By TheatreZone through May 7 at 5372 Livingston Rd. 505-9646 or www.theatrezone-florida.com.

Clever Little Lies – By The Studio Players through May 7 at the Golden Gate Park Theater. 4701 Golden Gate Parkway. 398-9192 or www.thestudioplayers.com.

Heaven Help Me – By The Marco Players through May 7 at The Marco Players Theater. 1089 N. Collier Blvd. 642-7277 or www.themarcompayers.com.

I Hate Hamlet – By The Naples Players through May 14 at Sugden Community Theater. 705 Fifth Ave. S. 262-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org.

Noli Timere (Don’t Be Afraid) – By Theatre Conspiracy May 5-20 at the Alliance for the Arts. 10019 McGregor Blvd, Fort Myers. 590-2788 or www.Art-InLee.org/Theatre.

Body and Sold – By Laboratory Theatre of Florida May 5-7. 1634 Woodford Road. 245-2727 or www.marcoislandart.org.

Doublebide – By Florida Repertory Theatre through May 14 in the ArtStage Theater. 2267 Bay St., Fort Myers. 322-4480 or www.floridarpe.org.


FRIDAY

Cast a Net – Delnor-Wiggins State Park ranger teaches the basic of cast netting at 9:30 a.m. Free with park entry fee. 597-0616 or www.floridastateparks.net.

Travel Talk – South Regional Library hosts a presentation about the Italian city of Venice at 2 p.m. Free, but reservations recommended. 8065 Lely Cultural Parkway. 252-7542 or www.collierlibrary.org.

Mercato Nights – Folk- and jazz-infused band The Woodwork plays under the stars on the lawn at Mercato from 6-9 p.m. The Mercato Nights music series continues through July 1 with Wilder Sons and Sproat, July 6 with the Ben Allen Band, Aug. 3 with Electric Mud and Sept. 7 with Rockin’ Horse. Free. 250-1080 or www.mercatoshops.com.


Masterworks – Naples Philharmonic performs Beethoven at 8 p.m. by Wagner, Grieg and Beethoven at 8 p.m. today and Saturday, May 6. 597-1900 or www.artsínapes.org.

FRIDAY 5.4

Big Impressions – Collier Child Care Services presents “Big Impressions by Little Artists,” where parents can purchase art by local artists and youngsters in the organization’s preschool programs, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Hiltich Cultural Park, 875. 643-9180 or www.collierchildcare.org. See story on page C9.

Cinco de Meow – Humane Society Naples brings its adoption mobile full of furry felines to Ripotle Brewing Company from 5-7 p.m. 987 Third Ave. N. 649-1555 or www.nhspca.org.

SATURDAY 5.6

With A Paddle – The 41st annual Great Dock Canoe Races brings the traditional races and new paddlboarding to Cayton Cove with the fun starting at 8:30 a.m. 825-1228 or www.greatdockcanoeraces.com.

Wonder in the Garden – Kids are invited to Naples Botanical Garden to learn about harmonious habitats through themed activities from 10:30-1:30 p.m. today and Sunday in the Smith Children’s Garden. Free with admission.

MADAMA BUTTERFLY – Gulfshore Symphony and Gulfshore Opera collaborate on a production of Puccini’s “Madama Butterfly” at 7 p.m. at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, Fort Myers. 483-4849 or www.gulfoastsymphony.org.

Blues Concert – Blues and R&B band Ambrosia performs at 8 p.m. at Southwest Florida Performing Arts Center. 2209 14th St. 592-0300 or www.wfpac.com.

TUESDAY 5.9

Pups on Parade – Naples Botanical Garden welcomes friendly, leashed dogs from 8-11 a.m. Free for member dogs, $10 for non-members and their pooches. 643-4737 or www.naplesgarden.org.

Geopolitical Lecture – FGCU’s Renaissance Academy hosts a talk about global refuge and immigration crises from 1-2:30 p.m. at The Arlington. 200 S. Cleveland Ave. 505-2222 or www.fgcu.edu.

Travel Tuesday – Take an armchair trip to southern India with a presentation about the sights, food and people at 2 p.m. at Headwaters Regional Library. Free, but reservations recommended. 2885 Orange Blossom Drive. 933-0334 or www.collierlibrary.org.

Art Reception – Marco Island Center for the Arts hosts an opening reception for “What’s Old is New,” an exhibit featuring art interpretations of found objects, from 5:30-7 p.m. Free for members, $10 for others. 1010 Winterberry Drive. 394-4221 or www.marcoislandart.org.

WEDNESDAY 5.10

Morning Salutations – Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park hosts a yoga session with the beach yoga instructors at 9 a.m. every Wednesday in May. $5 plus park entry fee. 597-0616 or www.floridastateparks.org.

DIVA FIM – Headquarters Library screens “Double Bunkems” (2016) at 2 p.m. The story of a New York City heiress who dreamed of being an opera star, despite having a terrible singing voice. Free, but reservations recommended. 2385 Orange Blossom Drive. 933-0334 or www.collierlibrary.org.

Turtle Time – Headquarters Regional Library hosts a talk about sea turtles at 3 p.m. Free, but reservations recommended. 2385 Orange Blossom Drive. 933-0334 or www.collierlibrary.org.

New Exhibit – Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center hosts an opening reception with wine and hors d’oeuvres for resident artist Lee Hammond’s exhibit, “Fine Art of Lee Hammond” from 5:30-7 p.m. Free for members, $3 for others, despite having a terrible singing voice. Free, but reservations recommended. 2385 Orange Blossom Drive. 933-0334 or www.collierlibrary.org.

Future Creators – Naples Art Association hosts a reception and awards presentation for its Jade N. Reidel Scholarship Competition for local high school students at 6 p.m. Thursday, May 11. 585 Park St. 262-0677 or www.naplesart.org.


Beautilful Italy – FGCU’s Renaissance Academy hosts a lecture about Umbria’s wine region at 10 a.m. today and Friday, May 12 and 19, at The Arlington. 7900 Arlington Cir. 307-3000 or www.fgcu.edu.

Beer Me – Blues, Brews & BBQ returns to Tin City with craft beer, barbeque, stone crabs, family activities and more on Friday and Saturday, May 12-13. www.naplesbrewsbeebq.com.

Doo Wop – Rockin’ the Rollers and Tokens perform at 5:30 p.m. Friday, May 12, at The Naples Zoo. $37, 390-2788 or www.stayinnamy.com.

Free Concert – Rockin’ Horse performs from 5-7 p.m. Friday, May 12, at Miramar Outlets. 948-3766 or www.miramorooutlets.com.

Opera Night – Naples Opera presents “Rigoletto” at 8 p.m. Friday, May 12, at the Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or www.artsínapes.org. 825-1228 or www.greatdockcanoeacres.com.

Lookey-Loo – Miramar Outlets hosts a mardi gras可疑 theme contest at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 13. Registration starts at 10 a.m. 948-3766 or www.miramorooutlets.com.


Everyone’s invited to Community Day at Artis—Naples from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 14. See story on page C10.

On the Wing – Gulfshore Playhouse offers “Amores Perros” (Mex- ico, 2000) at 2 p.m. A horrific car acci- dent connects three stories, each involv- ing characters dealing with loss, regret and life’s harsh realities, all in the name of love. $6 for members, $8 for others. 1010 Fifth Ave. S. 543-4737 or www.fgcu.edu.
WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Art After Hours – The Galleries at Crayton Cove stay open late so visitors can enjoy live music and view works by more than 30 artists from 6-9 p.m. Saturday, May 13. www.galleriesofcraytoncove.com.

Brunch for Mom – Young Life in Collier County hosts an al fresco, strawberry-themed Mothers Day brunch provided by Here’s Howe catering from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, May 14, in the outdoor plaza at Sugden Community Theatre. $15-$25. www.mothersdaybrunch.org.

Art Show – The Esplanade Shopper on Marco Island host the Left Bank Art Fest with juried fine art in a variety of mediums from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 14. 537-5921 or tylerwildphotos@yahoo.com.


French History – FGCU’s Renaissance Academy hosts a talk about Louis XIII and Richelieu from 1-2:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 16, at The Arlington. $20 for members, $25 for others. 7900 Arlington Cir. 307-3000 or www.fgcu.edu.

Travel Tuesday – Headquarters Regional Library hosts a multimedia presentation on Japan at 2 p.m. Tuesday, May 16. Free, but reservations recommended. 2385 Orange Blossom Drive. 593-0334 or www.collierlibrary.org.

Art Talk – FGCU’s Renaissance Academy presents a lecture about life and art in the Middle Ages from 10-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 17, at Moorings Park. $20 for members, $25 for others. 132 Moorings Park Drive. 261-1616 or www.fgcu.edu.

Anthropology, Anyone? – South Regional Library hosts a talk about the spread and growth of Native American societies at 10 a.m. Thursday, May 18. Free, but reservations recommended. 8065 Lely Cultural Pkwy. 252-7542 or www.collierlibrary.org.

Classical Concert – Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs presents a concert featuring the flute and piano with works by Poulenc at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 18. $25. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Stars & Stripes Concert – The Naples Philharmonic and Naples Philharmonic Chorus salute the troops with the annual Patriotic Pops performances at 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, May 18-19. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.


Blues, Brews & BBQ kicks off with a performance by Deb & The Dynamics from 6-9 p.m. Friday, May 12, at Tin City. The party continues through Saturday, May 13, with, of course, craft beer and barbecue plus lots more fun for all ages. — www.naplesbluesbbq.com

American Pie – Folk singer Don McLean performs at 8 p.m. Saturday, May 20, at the Southwest Florida Performing Arts Center. $52-$57. 1355 Bonita Beach Road. 389-6901 or www.swflpac.com.

Smooth Moves – The Tenors perform at 8 p.m. Saturday, May 20, at Seminole Immokalee Casino. $45. (800) 238-0007 or www.moreinparadise.com.
Magic Carpet – Members of the Naples Philharmonic perform an up-close woodwind concert for kids at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 20. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Country Crooners – Two Way Crossing brings four-part harmony to country music at 8 p.m. Saturday, May 20, at Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonit.org.

Travel Tuesday – Headquarters Regional Library hosts a presentation on China and Hong Kong at 2 p.m. Tuesday, May 23. Free, but reservations recommended. 2385 Orange Blossom Drive. 394-0334 or www.collierlibrary.org.

Featured Artist – Painter Catherine Chantilly hosts a workshop about creating your own painting style from 9 a.m. to noon Wednesday, May 24, followed by a lecture about “The Square of Painting Representation” from 1-3 p.m. at the Marco Island Center for the Arts. Workshop is $75, lecture is $25, both are $95. 1010 Winterberry Drive. 394-4221 or www.marcoislandart.com.

Nature Talk – Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park hosts a guided walk with a park ranger to teach guests about barrier islands at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, May 25. Free with park entry fee. 597-6916 or www.floridastateparks.org.

Hot Numbers – Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons perform at 8 p.m. Thursday, May 25, at Seminole Immokalee Casino. $125. 658-1313 or www.seminoleimmokaleecasino.com.

Frothy Fun – Southwest Florida Soapfest Weekend returns to Marco Island with daytime television stars attending a variety of parties and events with the public Friday through Monday, May 26-29. Events are priced separately. Proceeds benefit Camp Able and ITC Kids. 394-0080 or www.theateronmarco.com.

Rock Concert – Sister Hazel performs at 8 p.m. Friday, May 26, at Southwest Florida Performing Arts Center. $28-$38. 1515 Bonita Beach Road. 389-6901 or www.zwlpac.com.

Still the King – Western swing giants Asleep at the Wheel perform at 8 p.m. Saturday, May 27, at Seminole Immokalee Casino. $25. (888) 219-0007 or www.marcoislandart.com.

Three Voices – Terry Barber Trio performs at 8 p.m. Saturday, May 27, at Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs. 835-845, 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Summer Spectacular – The Naples Philharmonic performs classical favorites alongside the organization’s youth orchestra students at 7 p.m. Sunday, May 28, at Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

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

WHAT TO DO

Gulf Coast Symphony performance accessible to all patrons.

Saturday, May 6, 2017, 7pm
Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall at FSW • Tickets from $22

A beautiful new fully-staged production, co-produced by the Gulf Coast Symphony and Gulfshore Opera. Madama Butterfly tells the heartbreaking story of an innocent young geisha who gives up everything to be with an American Naval officer. Filled with Puccini’s most expansive melodies, Madama Butterfly is at the top of a very short list of most performed and best loved operas of all time.

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WE’LL BE YOUR HOME AWAY FROM HOME
Kids’ art will make ‘Big Impressions’ for Collier Child Care Resources

Collier Child Care Resources’ fifth annual “Big Impressions by Little Artists” takes place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, May 5, at the Hilton Naples. Creations by the children of CCCR’s early childhood development programs along with the works of local artists Kerri Meehan, Amanda Jaron, Mona Lisa Johns and Marcus Zetter are among the items that will be offered in live and silent auctions. The four artists also worked with CCCR children.

This year’s theme is artwork inspired by the natural environment. Event co-chairs are Lisa Gruenloh and Kathy Bamberg. Rick Gallo is the auctioneer. “Big Impressions by Little Artists” is hosted by the CCCR Business 100, a group of local businesses that support CCCR’s mission and programs by making an annual donation to benefit its four child development programs in Naples, Golden Gate and Immokalee.

Tickets for $75 are available by calling 643-3908 or visiting www.collierchildcare.org. "Big Impressions by Little Artists is hosted by the CCCR Business 100, a group of local businesses that support CCCR’s mission and programs by making an annual donation to benefit its four child development programs in Naples, Golden Gate and Immokalee. Tickets for $75 are available by calling 643-3908 or visiting www.collierchildcare.org."
Hell, no! Gulfshore Playhouse packs a wallop with ‘The Christians’

Six years ago, Rob Bell, pastor and founder of the Michigan mega-church Mars Hill Bible Church, caused a big controversy by questioning the existence of Hell. His book, “Love Wins: A Book About Heaven, Hell, and the Fate of Every Person Who Ever Lived,” especially among Evangelical Christians, because it questions if Hell exists and wonders whether Jesus’ salvation is universal — that all are saved by His sacrifice.

Pastor Bell was named one of Time magazine’s Top 100 Influential People of the World that year, but 3,000 congregants left Mars Hill Bible Church. Criticism came from various Christian leaders and theologians, and Pastor Bell eventually stepped down later that year, leaving the church he’d founded.

In “The Christians,” playwright Lucas Hnath looks at the life of a similar Christian pastor of the Eternal Life Church. The church began in a small storefront and then moved to a gymnasium. It eventually built a sanctuary, a huge structure that contains a coffee shop, bookstore and a baptismal font — “as big as a swimming pool.” The church is so huge it even has an escalator, and the joke is that the parking lot’s so vast you could get lost in it.

On this one particular Sunday, the congregation meets to celebrate that fact that it’s finally out of debt. But on this same Sunday, Pastor Paul (a folksy and genial Alan Campbell) gives a sermon that discusses some in his congregation: He tells them that God told him there is no Hell. (Like some believers, Pastor Paul talks about having two-way conversations with God as if it’s an everyday occurrence.)

The congregation is dumbfounded; those seated on the platform look at each other, bewildered.

Associate Pastor Joshua (William Oliver Watkins) is particularly confused, and confronts the pastor right there, in front of everyone.

And so the church schism begins. What happens when one devout believer says God told him one thing and another says God told him the exact opposite?

Kristen Martino’s set of the front platform of a mega-church is eerily realistic. There’s a huge wooden cross in the center, with a drum kit stage right and an electric keyboard stage left. Down in front are a couple of chairs and little tables with vases of flowers. It has that sterile look of an impersonal space that could have been designed by someone who designs shopping malls.

The play opens with a three-piece band playing (Jyn Yates on drums, Ryan Closs on guitar and musical director John Austin Clark on keyboards). Kate Fahmer comes out and sings a couple of praise songs. If you’d walked into The Norris Center and didn’t know you were going to the theater, you’d be forgiven for thinking you’d accidentally walked into a church. Images of lush landscapes and back-lit doves appear on two large screens when the songs are sung, as do the pastor’s sermon points, given as if it were a Powerpoint presentation.

Mr. Campbell’s Pastor Paul is an affable guy, not slick or authoritarian or smarmy. We like him. In his sermon, he tells a story of the first time he saw the woman he eventually married. They were on a plane, but he was seated far from her. He sent a note to her via a flight attendant, saying, “I have a powerful urge to communicate with you, but I find the distance between us insurmountable” — a statement that could be said by practically everyone in this play.

The existence of Hell is a major tenet in Christian theology, and questioning it sends this church — and the relationships of those within it — reeling. It even affects the pastor’s relationship with his wife, Elizabeth (Amy Van Nostrand), who is rattled by his sudden change in theology.

While this challenging 90-minute play is about change, beliefs and the challenge of communication, it’s set in a specifically Christian milieu, which might turn off some theatergoers. There’s much talk of various scripture verses, theological arguments and lots of praise songs.

The cast has a few stumble. A congregate asks if she can give “a testimony” rather than a testimony, making it sound as if she’s at a black-tie dinner. And it seems strange the church doesn’t have a statement of faith: very specific things that it believes and preaches.

But the playwright is clever, too. The associate pastor who believes strongly in the existence of Hell is named Joshua, an Old Testament name; whereas Pastor Paul has a New Testament name, implying grace over law.

Pastor Paul also preaches a sermon in which he mentions a verse from Isaiah about a building having a crack in it when it rains. Though his sermon causes disagreement in the church, it is Associate Pastor Joshua’s leaving that encourages others to leave. And, in the Old Testament, it is Joshua who leads an army around the walls of Jericho, blowing horns, causing the city’s walls to fall.

The writing of “The Christians” is highly stylized, as is the staging: Everything takes place via a handheld microphone, even husband and wife in bed. Some might find that off-putting, but the playwright insists on this, saying in his stage directions that, “Everyone will always speak on mics, just the way pastors do.”

People step forward and say their piece. This is almost like a Greek tragedy, only there isn’t a chorus, just a musical trio and lone singer.

The script consists of monologues and dialogues between two people. Pastor Paul also narrates the action, on occasion adding “he said” or “she said.”

Each actor gets his or her moment to shine. Mr. Watkins is powerful in his questioning of Pastor Paul, and he gives a heartbreaking description of his mother’s death; Ms. Fahrner’s confrontation of the pastor is also heartfelt. Stephen Bradbury, as Elder Jay, a member of the church board, has a conversation with Pastor Paul soon after his momentous sermon; he is gentle, respectful, low-key.

As Pastor Paul’s wife, Ms. Van Nostrand doesn’t speak until the end of the play. Does she abandon him? Does she change? Later in their adult life. How do we react? Do we feel betrayed? Do we abandon them? Do we change, too? How does that challenge our own life?

This little 90-minute play packs a wallop. The ending, which I will not reveal, is incredibly powerful, though also open to interpretation.

It’s unlike anything else I can recall seeing, and my feelings and thoughts about it changed repeatedly within 24 hours after seeing it; I suspect they’ll continue to change as I keep musing on this oddly affecting play.

And perhaps that’s what the playwright and Gulfshore Playhouse intend to do: challenge our thinking and make us think and rethink and rethink yet again.

After all, what good is life — or a faith — that doesn’t stand up to repeated re-examination and questioning?

Do we live by fear, or by love? ■

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In the know

“The Christians”

What: Gulfshore Playhouse

Where: Through May 21

When: Noon to 7 p.m.

Tickets: $34 to $37

Info: 867-7529 or www.gulfshoreplayhouse.org

The cast of “The Christians” at Gulfshore Playhouse

Photo courtesy Gulfshore Playhouse

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TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) 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 knew 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.
Contract Bridge

Famous Hand

BY STEVE BECKER

Bidding is a form of science, but, as in many scientific endeavors, it is not always possible to attain perfection. The theoretical must give way to the practical in numerous hands, and some bids are only general-direction shots.

Take this deal, which occurred in a match between France and Italy in 1998. South was Pierre Jais of France, partnered by Roger Trezel. West was Walter Avarelli, playing with Giorgio Belladonna.

Trezel found himself in an awkward position after East had bid two spades and South showed a minimum by passing. Afraid of two spade losers, Trezel position after East had bid two spades

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called and gave the only ruling possible

diamond trick if the suit broke badly.

The biddings:

East South West North

Pass 1♥ Pass 2♥

4 Pass Pass 4♥ 6♥

Opening lead — seven of spades, not realizing it was possible to lose a diamond trick if the suit broke badly.

The opponents naturally contested the claim. The tournament director was called and gave the only ruling possible under the Laws. Forquet was prohibited from taking a diamond finesse against the jack and went down one in the slam, giving the French a gain of 1030 points on the deal. C’est la guerre.

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FILM CAPSULES

Free Fire ★★
(Brie Larson, Armie Hammer, Sharlto Copley) In a Boston warehouse in 1978, a misunderstanding leads to a shoot-out between gunrunners. The story is thin and the characters are one-dimensional, but that's forgivable. What's not forgivable is the ho-hum, repetitive action. Rated R.

The Lost City of Z ★★★
(Charlie Hunnam, Robert Pattinson, Sienna Miller) In the early 1900s, British explorer Percy Fawcett (Mr. Hunnam) leaves his family behind to search for what he believes is an undiscovered city. Mr. Pattinson plays his right-hand man, and Ms. Miller is Percy's long-suffering wife. It's a bit bloated at 141 minutes, but the performances are strong and it tells an epic story in an intriguing way. Rated PG-13.

Frantz ★★★
(Pierre Niney, Paula Beer, Anton von Lucke) In Germany shortly after The Great War, a stranger (Mr. Niney) appears at the gravesite of a grieving woman's (Ms. Beer) fiancé (Mr. Lucke, seen in flashbacks), and he intends to get to know the fiancée's family. Tense drama whose supposed resolution comes in the middle, leading to an intriguing and unexpected second half. Rated PG-13.

Gifted ★★★
(Chris Evans, Jenny Slate, McKenna Grace) After her mother dies, a 7-year-old math prodigy (Ms. Grace) is the subject of a custody battle between her uncle (Mr. Evans) and grandmother (Lindsay Duncan). It's predictable and has the expected touching moments, but the best parts are the unexpected dashes of humor that make it endearing. Rated PG-13.

Smurfs: The Lost Village ★★½
(Voices of Demi Lovato, Joe Manganiello, Rainn Wilson) With evil wizard Gargamel (Mr. Wilson) in hot pursuit, Smurfette (Ms. Lovato), Hefty (Mr. Manganiello) and other Smurfs seek out an ominous lost village in their forest. The animation, action and humor are all average. But the target audience is little kids, and it effectively conveys the message that girls can grow up to be whatever they want to be. Rated PG.

T2: Trainspotting ★★★
(Ewan McGregor, Ewen Bremner, Jonny Lee Miller) Twenty years after ripping off his mates, Mark (Mr. McGregor) returns to Edinburgh and gets mixed up with the boys once again. Danny Boyle's sequel to his 1996 hit isn't the adrenaline rush the original is, but it nonetheless tells a compelling story that's worth a look. Rated R.

Beauty and the Beast ★★½
(Emma Watson, Dan Stevens, Ian McKellen) In Disney's live-action remake of its animated classic, Belle (Ms. Watson) is trapped in the Beast's (Ms. Stevens) enchanted castle, but is helped by a clock (Mr. McKellen) and candelabra (Ewan McGregor), among other living furniture. It remains a sweet love story at its core, and the visuals are breathtaking. Still, the filmmakers took an animated 84-minute work of perfection and bloated it to a live-action 129 minutes that feels unnecessary. Rated PG.
Is it worth $10? No

An observation while watching “The Dinner” is how little of it actually takes place at dinner. Every time the four main characters try to enjoy the meal, one of them gets up and the conversation halts. So, too, does the flow of the movie. And therefore the quality of the movie. In fact, it’s hard to tell who’s more distracted — the characters who can’t sit still, or writer/director Oren Moverman’s story, which is all over the place and only occasionally moves in the direction it’s supposed to move: forward.

The premise, based on a book by Herman Koch, is intriguing: Missanthe trope Paul (Steve Coogan) is dreading having dinner at a posh restaurant with his brother Stan (Richard Gere) and Stan’s wife, Katelyn (Rebecca Hall). Paul’s wife, Claire (Laura Linney), is more reasonable about the invitation, citing Stan’s willingness to pay and the importance Stan emphasized when asking for the dinner.

It turns out Stan has good reason: A short time ago, Stan’s son Rick (Seamus Davey-Fitzpatrick) and Paul’s son, Michael (Charlie Plummer), assaulted a homeless woman inside a glass-enclosed ATM kiosk. It’s the kind of thing that dumb, spoiled and entitled rich kids do, and sadly sometimes get away with, which is really the central dilemma here: Should the parents allow their children to get away with it, knowing prison time is the likely alternative? Complicating matters are Stan’s political aspirations and Paul’s mental instability.

As a creative flourish, Mr. Moverman includes the stages of the meal with onscreen titles (from “aperitif” to “digestif”) which in no way does reflect the content or themes of the film. In a better movie, these stages would have been indicative of the pace of the story. But there is no pace to the story. Mr. Moverman is so all over the place with Stan’s distractions, Paul’s personal history, and even Stan’s ex-wife (Chloe Sevigny) that distractions, Paul’s personal history, and even Stan’s ex-wife (Chloe Sevigny) that the reason Stan wanted the dinner in the first place — to discuss their sons’ crime — is buried in a second act reveal that is gradually (i.e., undramatically) exposed. This is a lot of teasing and distraction for nominal payoff.

The personalities of the characters don’t help matters, particularly Paul. He’s a miserable human being. One will naturally wonder if Steve Coogan being a comedian means he’s out of his league in a dramatic role, and that’s possible but too simplistic. Mr. Coogan may have trying so hard to veer away from comedy that he delivers too deep into drama, and in doing so makes Paul completely unlikeable. But in fairness, his dialog — which is not Mr. Coogan’s creation — doesn’t give Paul any endearing qualities, only sympathetic ones. We end up pitying and despising Paul, which is not ideal for a focal character.

The real shame in “The Dinner” not being better is that there’s a dearth of high-quality independent dramas hitting theaters these days, and that’s a problem for people who crave content outside of the mainstream. Here’s hoping such misfortune will not continue as we venture into the escapist summer months.
CELEBRITY EXTRA

‘Shut Eye’ gets green light

BY CINDY ELAVSKY

Q: I just binge-watched the entire first season of “Shut Eye” on Hulu and am definitely hooked. Do you know if it has been renewed for another season?

— Karl T., via email

A: The Hulu original drama starring Jeffrey Donovan, KalBee Strickland, Susan Misner, Emmanuelle Chriqui, David Zayas, Angus Sampson and Isabella Rossellini does have the green light for a second season. The show centers on Charlie Haverford (expertly played by Mr. Donovan), a Las Vegas magician who moves to L.A. to try his hand in the world of psychics and fortunetellers. He encounters a lot of physical and metaphorical bumps and bruises along the way as he tries to navigate his mafia-like Roma bosses in his quest for “the big score.” Look for season two to be 10 episodes as well.

Q: It seems like I’ve been waiting forever for a new season of “House of Cards.” When will it be back?

— Vivian C., via email

A: You don’t have much longer to wait. The political drama/thriller returns to Netflix for its fifth season on Tuesday, May 30. The 13 new episodes will focus on Frank (Kevin Spacey) and Claire’s (Robin Wright) campaign for president and vice president, respectively, after winning the party’s nomination at the end of last season.

Returning this season are Michael Kelly, Jayne Atkinson, Neve Campbell, Derek Cecil, Paul Sparks, Joel Kinnaman and Dominique McElligott, with Patricia Clarkson and Campbell Scott joining in on the political intrigue. Season five also will deal with Frank and Claire’s decision to take the country to war with the Islamic Caliphate Organization in order to boost approval ratings. Mahershala Ali, who played Remy Danton, will not return.

In other Netflix original-programming news, “Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt” returns May 19. The third season has Kimmy (Ellie Kemper) trying to divorce Richard Wayne Gary Wayne (Jon Hamm), whom she married while she was in his cult in the underground bunker. She also decides she wants to go to college. Lillian (Carol Kane) deals with a breakup, and Titus (Tituss Burgess) goes all “Lemonade” on his boyfriend, whom he suspects of cheating. Jane Krakowski, Josh Charles and Dylan Gelula also return.

— Write to Cindy at King Features Weekly Service, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803, or send an email to letters@cindyelavsky.com.
THURSDAY, MAY 4, 9 P.M.
Doc Martin: Season 3
Happily Ever After
Martin manages to offend the local vicar who is due to conduct Martin and Louisa's wedding ceremony. In a struggle, the vicar stumbles and fractures his pelvis.

FRIDAY, MAY 5, 8:30 P.M.
Charlie Rose: The Week
The iconic interviewer brings his unique style to PBS prime time with the best stories and interviews of the past seven days.

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 8 P.M.
Antiques Roadshow
Virginia Beach, Part 2
Trash, treasure or other? The crew spends a second hour seeing what the folks in Virginia Beach turn up for appraisal.

SUNDAY, MAY 7, 9 P.M.
Home Fires
Season 2, Part 6
There’s cause for joy in the village as everyone prepares for a wedding. Even as the allies cheer for victory in the Battle of Britain, there’s one more twist of fate in store for the citizens of Great Paxford.

MONDAY, MAY 8, 10 P.M.
Secrets of the Dead
Caveman Cold Case
A tomb of 49,000-year-old Neanderthal bones discovered in El Sidron, a remote, mountainous region of Northern Spain, leads to a compelling investigation to solve a double mystery: How did this group of Neanderthals die?

TUESDAY, MAY 9, 8 P.M.
Victorian Slum House, Part 2
The 1870s witness a dire economic depression heightened by the arrival of Irish migrants seeking work. Daily, the slum dwellers toil to fulfill clothing orders and make artificial flowers for factories. Some won’t be able to settle their debts.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 8 P.M.
Nature: Dolphins: Spy in the Pod, Part 2
The Spy Creatures continue to reveal the world of dolphins as never before, their mysteries of communication and strategies. Go undercover to meet the Orca, the largest dolphins, and race the Dall’s porpoises, the fastest dolphins in the world.
**SOCIETY**

Guadalupe Center’s Diamond Volunteer Award reception

1. Carol Harrison and Roberta Rigney
2. Greethal Leon, Virgie Lombardo, Maureen Monmau and Mickie George
3. Kat McKibb and Greethal Leon of Guadalupe Center Resale Shop with Kelly Capolin, founder of the Diamond Volunteer Awards program
4. Pam Ferreira and Ed Ferreira
5. Joe Kaplo, Cathy Burke and Rita Kaplo
6. Mickie George, Kelly Capolin and Virgie Lombardo
7. Kelly Hammer and Chris Halas

“Like” us on Facebook.com/NaplesFloridaWeekly to see more photos. We take more society and business networking photos at area events than we can fit in the newspaper. Send us your society and business networking photos. Include the names of everyone in the picture. Email them to cpierce@floridaweekly.com.
SOCIETY

Stepping out for ‘Mutts & Martinis’ at the Esplanade on Marco Island

1. Jan Martin and Tom Martin with Carlo
2. Yolanda Medwid and Cathy Bressan with Brady
3. Candy Seward and Bentley in the Pooch Parade
4. Carol Rohrbach and Ronda Balham
5. Steve Geibel and Carol Geibel
6. Laura Nowosielski and Abby
7. Eve Tschantz and Chloe
8. Sue Rebstock and Lucy
9. Jim Dorris and Zoey
10. Maryann Kaufman with Fiona and Egg

“Like” us on Facebook.com/NaplesFloridaWeekly to see more photos. We take more society and business networking photos at area events than we can fit in the newspaper.

Send us your society and business networking photos. Include the names of everyone in the picture. Email them to cpierec@floridaweekly.com.

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**The Dish:** Cuisin de Canard aux Cerise

**The Price:** $33

**The Place:** The French, 365 Fifth Ave. S.

**The Hours:** Lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday; dinner from 5:30 p.m. to close daily; Sunday brunch from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

**The Menu:** [www.thefrenchnaples.com](http://www.thefrenchnaples.com)

**The Details:** My favorite women treated me to a birthday dinner at The French (I’m very special, you know). We were all curious to discover how Chef Vincenzo Betulia’s (Osteria Tulia and Bar Tulia) would execute brasserie cuisine. Predictably, my duck was superb: the sour cherry reduction perfectly complemented the rich, tender poultry, which was encased in a crispy, chewy skin. This dish shows that the simpler the elements, the more demanding the technique. Chef Betulia nailed it for me, and my dinner companions agreed that their meals were as equally satisfying.

**One More Thing:** I ordered a rosy cocktail called Le Vie en Rose, which contained vodka, an aromatic wine called quinquina, rose petal syrup and Peychaud, all topped with a dried rosebud that inspired me to gaze upon the drink’s beauty a little more than is customary. And it was as tasty as it was pretty. Happy birthday to me.

— Lindsey Nesmith
lnesmith@floridaweekly.com
CUISINE NEWS

■ Agave celebrates Cinco de Mayo from 11:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Friday, May 5, with giveaways, prizes that include a “golden key” that entitles the recipient to one free gold margarita at each visit for a year. Live music by Miami Splash starts at 8 p.m. Dining and bar specials include $5 Signature Silver margaritas, $2 select beers and $5 chicken or beef tacos. 2880 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 598-3473 or www.agavenaples.com.

■ Do Cinco de Mayo at The Deck 560 at the Hilton Marco Beach Resort & Spa and enjoy specialty tacos and homemade guacamole for $8 on Friday, May 5. Drink specials include $3 Coronas and a tequila flight for $12. 540 N. Collier Blvd. 394-5000 or www.hiltonmarcoisland.com.

■ Beers up, sombreros on for Cinco de Mayo at Fish Crazy, where Chef Hector Hidalgo is creating a special menu of South-of-the-Border cuisine that includes Little Donkey Enchiladas (filled with a choice of meat, cheese, cabbage tomatoes and sour cream and topped with guajillo, tomatillo or habanero sauce) and Hidalgo’s Tacos (cabbage, onion, salt, pork or ground beef wrapped in a soft corn tortilla and topped with cilantro and onions.) Don’t miss this opportunity to enjoy Chef Hidalgo’s specialty cuisine; you never know when he will serve it up again. 14700 Tamiami Trail N. 260-1070 or www.fishcrazyrestaurant.com.

■ Masa, the D’Amico & Partners-owned restaurant in Mercato, will close permanently on Saturday, May 6. “Masa was always a labor of love for me and I’m sorry it is closing,” says Richard D’Amico, co-owner of D’Amico & Partners. “The restaurant won countless awards for its food, design and happy hour. We are grateful to all of our customers who joined us and we look forward to continue seeing them at The Continental, Café & Bar Lurcat, Campiello, D’Amico & Sons and Fogg Café.”

The restaurant is taking reservations and plans to celebrate Cinco de Mayo at Fish Crazy on Friday, May 5, with giveaways, prizes that include a “golden key” that entitles the recipient to one free gold margarita at each visit for a year. Live music by Miami Splash starts at 8 p.m. Dining and bar specials include $5 Signature Silver margaritas, $2 select beers and $5 chicken or beef tacos. 2880 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 598-3473 or www.agavenaples.com.

■ BRIO Tuscan Grill in Waterside Shops has added some interesting dishes to the menu. But you have to go soon, as they are only offered through June 4. Items include whipped ricotta and roasted tomato bruschetta with lemon-basil pesto and pine nuts; chicken Sorentino prepared with Romano-crusted eggplant, tomato compote, whipped ricotta and basil vinaigrette; and marinated skirt steak served with farro, haricot vert, grape tomatoes, feta, Marcona almonds, dill and toasted spice vinaigrette. 593-5319 or www.briotuscan.com.

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PAST REPASTS

Here are some capsule summaries of past restaurant reviews:

**Another Broken Egg Café, 670 Tamiami Trail N., Naples; 300-0696**
While Another Broken Egg offers traditional items, there’s lots of unusual fare, too. Crab cakes topped with poached eggs and Andouille-infused Hollandaise, for example. Omelettes with lobster and Brie, and even some breakfast appetizers. I can personally attest to the deliciousness of the Baked Brie Delight — a slab of warm cheese served with apples, raisins and pecans lightly sautéed in Grand Marnier butter sauce paired with toasted French bread. Other winners were a large bowl of house-made granola, fruit and quinoa with strawberries, blueberries, bananas, coconut and vanilla Greek yogurt; the Bacquezeo, an omelette with cream cheese, bacon, chorizo, Monterey Jack and green onions; and the Hey Lucy! omelette with chorizo, sautéed onions, green chiles and cheddar. A Belgian waffle and gluten-free pancakes were top-notch as well. A bonus: The staff is uniformly welcoming and efficient. Lunch served, too. Beer and wine served.

**Bill’s Steak & Seafood, 4221 Tamiami Trail E., Naples; 455-5111**
Looking for a place to dine and dance? Bill’s on the East Trail has what you’re after. Never mind the somewhat drab exterior. There’s valet parking and a thoughtful staff whose aim is to ensure guests have a great evening. Booths are most distant from the band, so you might land one if you want it (although most people the night of our visit were more interested in proximity to the band and dance floor). The New England-themed seafood menu is solid, with lots of choices for both meat and seafood lovers. Salads were fresh and the New England clam chowder was laden with clams and potatoes. A surf-and-turf specialty included a tasty 1-pound lobster, corn on the cob and a big baked potato along with the steak (that could have used more seasoning). Both the wine list (bottle and glass) and cocktail menu contained a wealth of choices. And the band played almost the whole time we were there.

**O’mei, Naples Centre Villages, 6434 Naples Blvd.; 631-5633**
It’s in a new location, but O’mei continues to serve some of the region’s best and most creative Chinese fare, now near the Hollywood Stadium 20 cin- emas. Hong Kong chef Mark Cheng and his wife, Mary, operate a lovely establish- ment serving authentic fare — in other words, no egg foo yung or chop suey. Mr. Cheng’s duck, either the crispy version or the full-out Peking style, is exceptional and well worth the indul- gence. Other noteworthy dishes include the salt and pepper calamari, shrimp spring rolls, mango prawns and four- season spicy prawns (fried and tossed with sweet chili and sour sauce). For veggie lovers, the stir-fried green beans with crunchly onions and dried pepper are terrific. Full bar.

**Zorba’s Mediterranean Grill & Bar, 9106 Bonita Beach Road, Bonita Springs; 992-5005**
In a sprawling Ace Hardware-anchored plaza set far back from a busy road, Zorba’s can be easy to overlook. But the same family has been serving Greek, Italian, Portuguese and Middle Eastern dishes here since 1998. The kitchen shows good range in handling a deep and diverse menu, while the staff out front ensures a warm reception and seamless service. Smoked gouda added a buttery richness to bifteki — a beef meatball served atop super-crispy, super-delicious shoestring fries. The baba ganoush would have benefited from a more assertive presence of garlic, but bits of red pepper added a pleasing sweet note. The standout was an entreé of chicken pastitsio, but with a tasty char, and tossed with three or four different kinds of peppers, some sweet and some hot. Full bar.

Food: ★★★★★
Service: ★★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★★
Reviewed January 2016

**Bill’s Steak & Seafood, 4221 Tamiami Trail E., Naples; 455-5311**
Lunch served, too. Never mind the somewhat drab exterior. There’s valet parking and a classic rendition served in its own little pot. And scallops in grapefruit butter were exceptionally good, the scallops perfectly seared then touched with but- ter and bits of pink grapefruit served with splendid roasted tomatoes. A warm apple tart with vanilla ice cream and slivered almonds was a perfect finish to the meal. Beer and wine served.

Food: ★★★★★
Service: ★★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★★
Reviewed November 2015

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Food: ★★★★★
Service: ★★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★★
Reviewed September 2015

**Tartine & Tartelette, 1121 Health Park Blvd., Naples; 888-1151**
This cozy little restaurant just off Goodlette-Frank and Immokalee roads may seem an unlikely setting for excellent French fare, but that’s what you will find here, along with ample parking, a friendly staff and an attractive dining room. Owners Axelle and Jean Bechu have transformed the space with soothing tones of silver-gray and white. A millefeuille ("a thousand leaves") of smoked salmon and apples was a gorgeous and delicious dish of whisper-thin slices of Granny Smith apples alternat- ing with rich smoked salmon. A vol au vent of the sea held bits of chopped seafood in cream sauce beneath a ten- der puff pastry. The coq au vin was a
True Food Kitchen will make you love eating healthy — truly

If rice cakes, sprouts and tofu come to mind the minute you hear the term “health food,” you’re in for a most pleasant surprise at True Food Kitchen. While you won’t find any fried fare on the menu or burgers laden with fried eggs, onion rings and cheese, there aren’t any of those tasteless rice cakes or ubiquitous sprouts to be found (although tofu does make an appearance in one appetizer).

What is available is a dazzling array of dishes that the website describes as “merging nutrient-rich ingredients with a flavor-forward menu that rotates regularly.” The philosophy, it states, is that “you shouldn’t have to sacrifice taste to live a healthier lifestyle.”

And to that I raise my ginger margarita ($12) in a toast.

As regular readers of this column likely know, I rarely cover chain restaurants. There are 17 True Food Kitchens across the country right now with another six slated to open in the next few months, including one in Boca Raton. I’ve made an exception for this one because it’s new to the area, the concept is unique and it goes about the dining experience in a way that does not have a one-size-fits-all corporate mentality.

What True Food Kitchen offers is an imaginative menu filled with reasonably priced foods geared for a variety of lifestyles: vegan, vegetarian, gluten-free and even those who eat meat and fish but want it humanely raised and sustainably sourced.

Wines are biodynamic, sustainable or organic and labeled for easy selection. All are available in 6- or 9-ounce pours or by the bottle. Beer lovers can choose from five labels from Florida breweries, and there’s even a gluten-free Cigar City hard cider in the mix.

I’ve had two great dinners at the Waterside Shops location since it opened in March. As a result, I’ve sampled a number of items from the current menu and found almost everything to be well seasoned and beautifully presented.

I didn’t love the kale guacamole with pink grapefruit, cilantro, roasted poblanos, sunflower seeds and pita chips ($9). The description made it seem as if it would have a lot of flavor, but despite having a lot of ingredients mixed into the avocado spread, it was bland and would have benefited from some lemon, garlic and salt. I had a similar feeling about the spaghetti squash casserole with organic tomato, caramelized onion, zucchini and fresh mozzarella ($14). It was pretty but needed a flavor boost.

They weren’t dishes I’d order again, but I heard people at other tables praising the squash dish so I’ll settle on it being a matter of taste.

Everything else we tried was terrific, most especially the charred cauliflower with harissa tahini, medjool dates, dill, mint and pistachios ($8). I tried it the first time and craved it frequently before my return trip last weekend when I ordered it again and it was every bit as good. Although the mix of ingredients sounds discordant, the resulting flavors are anything but. I could make a meal of this dish.

A wild mushroom pizza ($14) possessed a crispy, thin crust topped with flavorful mushrooms, garlic and taleggio cheese. It was simple but elegant in flavor.

All three of the entrees I sampled were first-rate. Let’s start with the grass-fed steak tacos ($17) — soft corn tacos topped with tender beef, cilantro, avocado, Greek yogurt, pickled onion with a side of Anasazi beans and cotija cheese. These gluten-free tacos (two to an order) were filled just right and are also available with fish instead of beef.

Lasagna Bolognese ($12) with house-made chicken sausage, mushrooms, spinach and lemon ricotta was delicious, the pillows of pasta rich and creamy, despite being gluten-free, and the cabbage crumbled and well-seasoned.

The prettiest of our entrees was the Scottish steelhead ($21) with smoked onion farro, arugula, roasted beet and cilantro pumpkin seed pesto. The fish was perfectly cooked, then set atop a mound of creamy pesto with sides of the farro that also appeared to have quinoa in it. The two beets were served cold and were just so-so, but the rest of the dish was outstanding.

Both the Thai grapefruit martini ($12, with organic vodka, Thai basil and grapefruit) and the ginger margarita (with ancho tequila, elderflower liqueur, ginger honey and lemon) were lovely, cold and refreshing.

Dessert was one bowl of coconut and chia seed flan with caramel sauce, blueberries and blackberries. It was cool and creamy, sweet but not overly so. After a big meal, one dessert was enough for both of us.

Service and atmosphere deserve some attention here, too. The room is large and expansive, with high ceiling and not much to absorb sound. Although it was fairly full and on the boisterous side, we were able to talk easily across our table without yelling.

I love the fully open kitchen concept, showing that all food prep is done in the open.

The servers on both occasions were well versed on the menu, personable and attentive. There’s plenty of help so everyone is well attended to.

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Stock Development features stunning move-in ready homes across Southwest Florida!

As the winter sales season draws to a close, homeowners will not want to miss the chance to tour dozens of Stock Development’s move-in ready homes across 16 communities from Bradenton to Marco Island. No other developer has such a diverse array of residences in highly amenitized communities.

Stock is one of Southwest Florida’s most successful and respected builders. The company recently released its sales report for the first quarter 2017. The company registered 84 new homes sales worth $88,222 million and closed on an additional 59 homes worth $52.2 million.

“We are off to a terrific start in 2017,” said Claudine Léger-Wetzel, Vice President of Sales & Marketing for Stock Development. “We sold homes ranging from casitas in the $230s to custom estate homes priced at over $7 million. Overall, our average sale price topped $1 million for the first time.”

One of the keys to Stock’s success the past several years has been its aggressive inventory and custom homes program. The company maintains an unparalleled portfolio of homes available for immediate occupancy.

“Stock has a home for every lifestyle at incredible prices,” said Léger-Wetzel. “Guests may tour coach homes and twin villas priced from the $300s to single-family homes and custom built estate homes priced at nearly $4 million!”


Hidden Moor is one of the last new home communities south of Tampa Bay with Gulf access. Homeowners with boat docks have access to the Gulf of Mexico by way of the Ten Mile Canal and Estero Bay. It provides access to The Great Calusa Blueway Paddling Trail, a 190-mile marked canoe and kayak trail that meanders through the coastal waters and inland tributaries of Lee County, Florida. Several inventory homes are available.

The Montessa II’s open great room style floor plan has the livability of an estate sized home in a residence with 2,327 square feet under air. Sliding glass doors and bay windows line the back of the home, bathing it in an abundance of natural light and opening it to Florida’s beautiful outdoors. It is priced at only $549,990.

The Anastasia features 2,913 square feet under air. This three-bedroom, three and one-half bath home has a great room, a formal dining room, and a study. With the covered lanai, two-car garage and single-car garage, the home offers 4,220 total square feet. It is priced at $869,990.

Stock offers numerous home styles at Lely Resort.

Single-family homes and twin villas are found in Lakoya, a meticulously planned 342-acre enclave with sculptured landscaping, classical gardens, spectacularly choreographed fountains and elegant paved walking paths. It is surrounded by subtropical woodlands and The Classics 18-hole championship course, which features gentle undulations and tree-lined fairways.

From the Topaz Series, The San Remo III is a single-story great room style home featuring two bedrooms, two baths, plus a study, and a spacious master suite. The San Remo III offers homebuyers 1,809 square feet of living area in an open and breezy floor plan with plenty of space to enjoy a casual Florida lifestyle.

The great room opens to a very generous lanai and large pool and spa. The grand two-story foyer is adjacent to the study, which is the perfect place for the home office and quiet reading.

The master suite also features plenty of natural light and direct access to the outdoor living area. A move-in ready model is available for $641,485.

Twin Villas are also available in The Opal Series, a collection of four, single-story twin villa designs. They are priced from $445,285. The Arvanita is a three-bedroom, two-bath home with and offers 1,916 square feet of living area and 2,577 total square feet, including a screened lanai and an attached two-car garage.

Stunning coach homes are also found in Signature Club and Cipriani, where furnished models are open.

Cipriani is within The Classics, a stunning gated enclave along one of Lely’s three championship golf courses. The neighborhood also features an array of beautiful lake and nature views along The Classics Championship Golf Course. Each coach home building at Cipriani offers four luxurious residences with the spacious feel of single-family homes. The Venice B is move-in ready for only $883,300.

Naples Reserve is a 688-acre gated by IStar midway between Naples and Marco Island along the U.S. 41 Tantam Trail/Collier Boulevard 9 Naples Reserve presents a relaxed, water themed lifestyle. Stock is building in the Parrot Cay and Sparrow Cay neighborhoods, offering homes from $2,300 to over $3,500 square feet.

The Biscayne is available in Sparrow Cay. This three-bedroom/two-bath home features 2,384 square feet under air and 3,806 total square feet, including the covered entry, attached three-car garage and spacious outdoor living area.

The open floorplan offers a great room design and includes a formal dining room, as well as a study. The large island-style kitchen has a breakfast nook with bay windows overlooking the pool. It is adjacent to the great room, which is bathed in natural light from stacked sliding glass doors leading directly to the covered outdoor living area where there is a second kitchen. The Biscayne is priced at $906,380.

Don’t miss your chance to find the Southwest Florida home of your dreams! For full details of all of Stock Development’s offerings, visit the company website at www.stockdevelopment.com or email at info@stockdevelopment.com or call (239) 592-7344. Stock Development is on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ FLStockDevelopment. Stock Development is headquartered at 2639 Professional Circle, Suite 101 in Naples.
Kalea Bay, the gated, resort-lifestyle, high-rise community located on Vanderbilt Drive in North Naples, announced the community’s second tower has been released for sale.

“Our first tower, which is under construction and scheduled to be completed in November, is approaching the 90 percent sold mark,” stated Inga Lodge, Vice President of Sales and Marketing for Kalea Bay. “The approaching sell-out of Tower 1 and the overwhelming response from our buyers prompted us to release Tower 2. Currently, the number of residences already reserved in our second tower exceeds the $40 million mark.”

The new 22-story tower, with 120 residences, will have 20 floors of residences over two floors of parking. The incredibly designed residences offer views of the Gulf of Mexico and pristine nature preserves.

Six floor plans are available in Tower 2.

- Residences 1 and 6 are 3-bedroom plus den/3.5 bath plans with 3,704 total square feet. Residences 2 and 5, with 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, have 3,791 total square feet. Residences 3 and 4 are 4-bedroom/4.5-bath plans also with 3,791 total square feet.

 Residents will revel in Gulf views, open floor plans, a private elevator leading directly into their residence and wood floors throughout,” said Lodge.

The custom kitchens have Wolf and Sub-Zero appliances, a natural gas range, luxury cabinetry, quartz countertops, a Butler’s pantry and oversized island, all of which are standard features.

“Our floor plans have an open design we call ‘lifestyle designs’ that blends the kitchen seamlessly into the living and dining rooms, perfect for the way people live today,” said Lodge.

The master bedroom includes an oversized walk-in closet while the master bath has his and hers vanities, quartz countertops, luxury cabinetry, a soaking tub and separate glass-enclosed shower.

All master suites, kitchens and main living areas have direct views to the water and preserve. They are perfect vantage points to watch our spectacular sunsets,” Lodge said.

Additional residential features include floor-to-ceiling windows and doors that open to large lanais with transparent glass rails.

“We take our outdoor living as seriously as our indoor living with oversized lanais on every residence,” said Lodge. High-tech wiring and fully equipped laundry rooms round out the list of features, she noted.

Dramatic views are available to every homeowner, no matter which floor they live on as the tower’s amenities are located on the rooftop including the sky lounge, a dramatic pool and the open-air fitness center.

From the rooftop, residents can enjoy daily views of the Gulf of Mexico, the nature preserves and two beaches ranked among the best in the United States.

Prices at Kalea Bay begin at $1.3 million in Tower 1 and $1.4 million in Tower 2.

In addition to the rooftop amenities, the residents of Kalea Bay will also enjoy the community’s clubhouse area, which is also under construction and due to be completed when the first residents move into their new homes.

“The clubhouse area will be the social and recreational centerpiece of the community,” said Lodge.

Kalea Bay’s 88,000-square-foot clubhouse (in foreground) will be located on the north side of the large lake at the community’s entrance. It will feature three individual pools, including a resort pool, an adults-only pool and a children’s pool, plus an expansive pool deck, a poolside bistro, open-air bar, an indoor/outdoor restaurant, a sundries shop, and a state-of-the-art fitness center.

“All three pools will overlook the lake and provide a multitude of recreational options for everyone who lives and visits here,” said Lodge. “Expansive sun decks with lounge chairs and native, tropical plants will separate each of the three pools for the ultimate in privacy.”

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

“What better way to celebrate the good life in Florida than meeting family and friends for drinks while watching the sun set over the Gulf of Mexico,” said Lodge. “This is what living in Florida is supposed to be.”

Adjacent to the clubhouse is the tennis pavilion with Har-Tru tennis courts, as well as pickleball courts, and 24 guest suites to accommodate overnight guests and family members.

“Having that number of guest suites is unusual for a luxury high-rise community, but it’s an amenity our residents are excited about especially when they have extended family visiting,” said Lodge.

For more information regarding Kalea Bay visit the onsite sales center. Due to bridge closings in the North Naples area, take US 41 to Wiggins Pass Road, then right on Vanderbilt Drive, two-tenths of a mile. Additional information is available by calling (239) 793-0110 or online at KaleaBay.com.

Above: Kalea Bay’s 88,000-square-foot clubhouse (in foreground) will be completed in November, approximately the same time as the community’s first tower (in background). Kalea Bay residences have very open floor plans. All master bedrooms offer views of the Gulf of Mexico. Kalea Bay’s Tower 1 and Tower 2 were designed with rooftop amenities, including a sky lounge, spectacular pool and open-air fitness center. Left: Kalea Bay’s first tower is scheduled to be completed in November.
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With vertical construction of 26-floor, 120-unit Seaglass luxury high-rise tower within Bonita Bay progressing at a rapid pace and on schedule for completion in just 13 months, The Ronto Group announced that sales contracts worth over $125 million have been processed. The building is now more than 60% sold, currently situated just 600 feet from Estero Bay, making it one of the closest to the water's edge of the high-rises currently under construction on Southwest Florida's Gulf coast. All new open-concept floor plans with tall ceilings take full advantage of spectacular mangrove, water, and sunset views. Seaglass offers brand new, fully-completed, and ready-for-occupancy residences with designer-selected premium finishes, including flooring, paint, and trim. The space sequences and components found in the kitchens and master baths of the residences will reflect the contemporary flair found in the architectural style of the building.

Each residence will come with two protected access under-building parking spaces. Private enclosed two-car garages will be available. All of the Seaglass penthouse residences have been sold. A choice selection of tower residences ranging from 2,889 to 3,421 square feet under air and priced from just over $1.1 million remains available.

The spacious tower residences will include dual private elevator grand foyers, large island kitchens, three bedrooms and three-and-a-half baths, or three bedrooms plus a den or fourth bedroom and three-and-a-half baths; walk-in closets in the owner’s suite, and sliders opening to multiple outdoor spaces that include a gas grill. Ten-foot ceiling heights are included per plan. One and components remain available on both the 8th and 10th floors, and two are available on the 9th, 11th, and 15th floors. Units in the 01 stack on the 3rd and 4th floors are priced from $1,510,000 to $1,855,000. Residences in the 06 stack on floors 3 through 7 and on the 15th floor are offered from $1,510,000 to $2,385,000.

Ronto is making a special opportunity available to purchasers of tower residences 2003 and 2004 on the 20th floor. In addition to selecting finishes for their new home through the Seaglass Finishing Touches Program, homebuyers may join the two units together to create a luxurious 6,200 square foot residence with scintillating views of the Gulf of Mexico. The expanded residence will come with four protected access under-building parking spaces. The 2003 and 2004 residences are individually priced in a residence on one of the building's lower to mid-level floors are urged to make them buying decisions now. Doing so will allow them to take advantage of The Ronto Group's Finishing Touches Program. The Program is designed to assist future residents with finish selections and to ensure each residence meets individual buyer preferences. Opportunities to specify finish selections are becoming progressively limited as construction progresses.

Based in the Seaglass Design Studio at 26951 Country Club Drive within Bonita Bay, the Finishing Touches Program allows future residents to select finishes for their home’s flooring, cabinetry, countertops, door hardware, plumbing fixtures, and paint colors. A fully outfitted kitchen featuring the finishes and Thermador appliances available at Seaglass is included at the Design Studio, as well as stone, porcelain, and wood flooring and carpet selections; granite, marble, and quartz countertops; decorative backsplash choices; trim, doors, faucets, and plumbing fixtures; and a gas grill. Future residents are invited to meet with the Finishing Touches Coordinator at the Design Studio and to include their own interior designer in the selection process. Future residents may also specify finishes from other sources. The Seaglass Design Studio and Sales Center are open from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and Sundays from noon to 5:00 p.m.

With membership opportunities available, Seaglass residents will enjoy Bonita Bay’s amenity rich lifestyle. Recognized as one of the ten healthiest clubs in America by Prevo Health Solutions, Bonita Bay's amenities range from a 60,000 square feet Lifestyle Center, to five championship golf courses, expanded tennis facilities, a full-service marina, numerous dining venues, a residents only private beach park, and a network of on-property hiking and biking trails.

The America's Healthiest Clubs award is conveyed only to private clubs focused on the cultivation of a healthy environment and lifestyle for its members and staff. The three-story Lifestyle Center includes a nearly 20,000 square feet Fitness Center, a 9,000 square feet spa and salon, and the WAVE Café that serves healthy fast food, freshly made organic juices, and smoothies.

Visit Seaglass online at www.seaglassbonitabay.com.
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London Bay Homes’ six model homes at Mediterra showcase luxury living blended with natural beauty

Six luxury model homes, created by London Bay and priced from $1 million to more than $3 million, are now open for viewing at Mediterra, Collier County’s 10-time Community of the Year. Showcasing multiple outdoor living destinations, such as fire features and custom pools—one with dancing water—these single-family custom estate and luxury villa models cater to just about any imaginable Naples lifestyle.

Featuring interiors by Romanza Interior Design, the models are also move-in ready. Most provide maintenance-free living, giving residents more time to enjoy Mediterra’s many amenities.

The one- and two-story models offer 2,800 to 4,500 square feet of living space and multiple alfresco gathering areas to enjoy Florida’s outdoor lifestyle. Transitional and relaxed contemporary interior design and architecture set the trends with inspired color palettes, sculpted ceilings, specialty wall treatments, and pool and spa designs that push new boundaries.

One of London Bay Homes’ most popular floor plans, the four-bedroom, four-bath Capriano, is represented in two new models—and display the array of options available to customize each home. The maintenance-free, luxury villas offer libraries, wine rooms and second-floor lounge areas with wet bars and large sun decks. Firescapes, trellises, pergolas and entry courtyards with fountains enhance these alfresco spaces.

The lakefront Capriano in Lucarno was recently awarded Overall Excellence in Construction and Design in the $2,501,000 to $3 million category during the Collier Building Industry Association’s 2017 Parade of Homes. The home offers 4,402 square feet of living space, a linear fireplace in the great room, an outdoor fireplace, and a dramatic master bathroom with smoked-glass shower doors. Its soft contemporary design features bright green, orange, melon and yellow. The model is priced at $2,756,700.

The Capriano in Cortile features a transitional interior design theme with shades of taupe, blue, green and ivory. Accents of vibrant turquoise and teal are also displayed throughout the home’s 4,493 square feet of living space. The model offers a cascading waterfall fountain and fire pit under a pergola. It is priced at $3,675,000.

Three luxury villas are open in Cabreo, an intimate maintenance-free living neighborhood located near Mediterra’s Parterre Garden—the community’s largest neighborhood park with formal gardens, sitting areas, and a large reflecting pond. The three-bedroom, three-bath Angelica—priced at $1,330,000—includes designer finishes and accents of burnt oak, crimson and oak throughout its 2,800 square feet of living space.

The recently completed 3,110-square-foot Bettina offers four bedrooms, four baths and an open great room floor plan. Its transitional contemporary aesthetic features modern understated furniture forms and muted grays with aquamarine and coral accents. It is priced at $1,880,000 and fully furnished.

The three-bedroom, three- and one-half bath Clara has 3,369 square feet of living space and offers formal living and dining rooms, a study, great room and butler’s bar. Priced at $1,995,000, it replaces a previous Clara model that sold 43 days after its completion—three times faster than other similarly priced homes in Naples.

A multiple Sand Dollar award winner, the Isabella Two-Story includes four bedrooms and five baths within 4,285 square feet of living space. Interior elements include a transitional design, travertine and wood flooring, and a palette of white, neutral gray, black and teal. The model’s outdoor areas include an award-winning pool with dancing streams of colored water emerging unexpectedly from the pool deck. Located in the Serata neighborhood, the home is priced at $3,125,625.

Additional models are in various stages of construction and another five models will open later in 2017. Each demonstrates London Bay Homes’ brand promise of Private Label Living—a commitment to ensuring quality, attention to detail, and homes that are a unique expression of their residents’ distinctive tastes.

An award-winning homebuilder and developer in the Southwest Florida luxury home market for more than 25 years, London Bay Homes manages all new home construction sales and marketing for Mediterra. London Bay Homes is offering an exclusive opportunity for new home buyers to purchase a golf membership without the delay of what otherwise is approximately a one-year waiting list. Learn more about the models by logging onto www.MediterraNaples.com, calling 239-298-7600 or visiting Mediterra, located on Livingston Road, two miles north of Immokalee Road and west of I-75.
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Cheers to these **people**, **places** and **things** that make **Southwest Florida** so special.
Welcome to Florida Weekly’s Best special section

Many “best of” publications are filled solely with content that’s bought and paid for; that’s not our style at Florida Weekly. Yes, our advertisers — the folks who make this piece of Floridian pulp and history you hold in your hands possible — receive shout-outs from us in these pages. It’s only fair. But the bulk of our Best section has nothing to do with invoices or ballot-box stuffing.

The nonscientific, non-crowdsourced process by which we choose our BEST winners begins with a brainstorming meeting of our writers and editors. A couple of months later, after scouring the nooks and crannies of the region and Florida Weekly archives, this section emerges: page after page of things we praise and applaud, pontificate on and poke fun at.

Herewith, our BEST. We had fun doing it, and we hope you have fun reading it.

LET US ENTERTAIN YOU — PAGE 8
When it comes to leisure time, Southwest Floridians cannot live on beaches and sunsets alone. We need theater, music, shopping, movies, museums and all sorts of places to take the kids and grandkids and to send our houseguests to explore on their own when everyone needs a little space. Here are the BEST of them all.

ONLY IN PARADISE PAGE 28
Here are some of the notable faces and places that exemplify the BEST of what our fair city by the sea has to offer.

BON APPETIT! PAGE 45
Going out to eat has become the great American pastime, but Neapolitans seem to make it their job. Tuck into some of the BEST and most interesting tidbits we’ve been slaving over.

HOME SWEET HOME PAGE 66
Whether you already live here or look forward to settling in Southwest Florida someday down the road, there are lots of people at the ready to make sure it’s always the BEST home, sweet home — from those who can help you find, finance, build or furnish your abode to someone to watch over it when you have to tear yourself away for whatever reason.

AT YOUR SERVICE PAGE 81
Please with the attention span, the time and the tools, do-it-yourself projects certainly have their place. We’re talking about the kinds of things you see on Pinterest and at free weekend workshops at The Home Depot. When it comes to the serious business of life, though, we always take the BEST route and find a professional to get the job done.

LOOKING GOOD, FEELING GOOD PAGE 90
Back in 1513, when Juan Ponce de Leon led the first known European expedition to La Florida, he was supposedly searching for the Fountain of Youth. Alas, the discovery was not to be made. But that couldn’t stop millions of others from making their way to the Sunshine State on a quest for their own versions of eternal youth (or even just a fresh start or a restful retirement). More than 500 years later, the Fountain of Youth still eludes us. Fortunately, that doesn’t mean we can’t look and feel our BEST while we’re here.

CALL US CRAZY PAGE 102
Sometimes it’s called “Flori-Duh,” and there’s no denying it: We have some crazy politics and colorful folks who do some things worth noting. Here are some of the BEST from our files.

BEST contributing writers:
Robin DaMattia, Karen Feldman, Sharon Kenny, Michael Korb, Cynthia Mott, Lindsey Nesmith, Ivan Seligman, Nancy Stetson, Nanci Theoret and Evan Williams

BEST contributing photographers:
Sal Dickinson, Kimberly Joy, Bernadette La Paglia, Charles McDonald, Cynthia Mott and Ivan Seligman
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**BEST HIDDEN TALENT**
Collier County Sheriff’s Office

The fine men and women of CCSO have been on a roll lately with public relations campaigns that make us smile. Our favorite is “Car Pool Cruiser,” where host Lt. J.J. Carol picks up a deputy for an interview during which they also break into songs like “I Fought the Law and the Law Won” and “Thirty Days in the Hole.” It’s kind of like squad-car karaoke. Catch the newest episodes at www.ccso.tv. On a related note, CCSO officers have been sharing coffee and swapping stories with interested residents at area Dunkin’ Donuts so everyone can get to know each other a little better — and so those of us on the civilian side of the law can live out a real-life cliché at the same time.

**BEST CANDID CAMERA**
Corkscrew boardwalk panther

While walking the boardwalk at Audubon Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary last spring, visitor Tina Dorschel had her camera out when a full-grown Florida panther trotted into view and skidded directly past her in fright. She later posted her video on Facebook, not knowing that she is probably the only person in at least a generation to unintentionally encounter a healthy Florida panther in the wild. A single choice word and more than 6 million page views later, we still marvel at how close she came to Florida’s most prized big cat.

**BEST BASKETBALL UP-AND-COMERS**
The men and women Eagles of FGCU

While they didn’t make it to the Sweet 16 as they did in 2013, the FGCU men’s basketball team made a valiant effort in the NCAA March Madness first round against the towering team of FSU, losing by a mere 6 points. Pretty impressive when you consider the Seminoles had one player who was 7-foot-4 and another who was 7-foot-2. The FGCU women also made it to NCAA play, making the University of Miami women work hard for a 62-60 victory in the final seconds of the game. These young Division I teams are providing Southwest Florida with electrifying competition and showing they can do battle with the BEST of them. Go Eagles!
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BEST CHRISTMAS PRESENT
Top town for the holidays
Thanks, Coastal Living, for naming Naples one of “America’s 10 BEST Beach Towns for Christmas.” We Neapolitans are naturally festive (you should see how we do St. Patrick’s Day and the Fourth of July), so it’s wonderful when a national magazine recognizes our downtown window displays, boat parades and sparkle. You really shouldn’t have!

BEST $25 EVER SPENT
“World Class Cash” scratch-off ticket
Josh Reyes of Naples made the most out of the new Florida Lottery scratch-off game “World Class Cash” by turning the $25 ticket into a million-dollar prize. Mr. Reyes, who is now our newest BEST friend, purchased his winning ticket at the Publix on 4860 Davis Blvd. and chose to receive a one-time, lump sum payment of $748,000. The $25 game launched on Feb. 28 and features more than $549 million in total cash prizes, including two top prizes of $10 million and 46 prizes of $1 million. There are still plenty of wins left. And though we don’t condone gambling, we do condone winning.

BEST OASIS WITHIN AN OASIS
Old Collier Golf Club
Imagine a spot that makes the outside world of Naples seem like a bourgeois garden club. For a mere $310,000 (plus yearly dues) you can be transported to what feels like Carolina Low Country and play golf with a maximum of 250 of your closest friends/billionaires. It’s Old Collier Golf Club, the very definition of exclusive.

BEST KNOW-IT-ALL
Tim Aten, Naples Daily News
It doesn’t hurt us at all to admit that Tim Aten, the Naples Daily News writer who oversees the paper’s “In The Know” column, might really know everything happening in Naples right now. And tomorrow and the next day. It’s a monumental task, and we’re happy to say that locals are lucky to have Mr. Aten at their service.

BEST SHOW OF UNITY
Shabat for Solidarity
During a recent national wave of anti-Semitic crime in the U.S., Neapolitans were shocked to join the list of communities grappling with hate crimes when Temple Shalom’s sign was shot in December. Never fear, though. More than 1,000 people showed their support for the local Jewish community when they arrived at the congregation’s Shabbat for Solidarity immediately following the event. Here’s hoping we showed the perpetrators they are in the extreme minority.

BEST BIKE SERVICE
Valet your cruiser or 10-speed
Neapolitans love cycling, but using it for actual transportation rather than fitness provides a simple challenge: where to stash it at downtown events. Naples Pathways Coalition came to the rescue with a bike valet service so locals could enjoy the wind in their hair on the way to big events including the Naples New Year’s Art Festival, for example, and not worry about whether their sweet ride would be defiled or stolen while they perused vendor tents.
At Stock, we take pride in giving you our best. From beautiful lifestyle communities to exquisitely crafted estate homes, our award-winning style and quality shines through. We’ve been building and developing luxury communities and homes in the region for more than 15 years, and are now expanding our reach into Sarasota. We’re proud to be a compassionate and caring community partner, supporting causes that improve and enhance all of Southwest Florida. Come see our best... and make it yours.

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BEST WAY TO MAKE A SPLASH
Port of Naples Marina

Naples Bay is one of Naples’ greatest attractions, and Port of Naples Marina has all the options for enjoying the water to its fullest. For experienced or novice water-sports enthusiasts, here’s where to find the newest fleet of jet skis, rental boats, charter fishing and public and private cruises. Adjacent to Tin City and in the same building as Naples Princess cruises, this one-stop shop has everything under the sun for your next day out on the water. BEST of all, these options give customers the experience of being up close and personal with Naples Bay and the wildlife that resides within. 239-774-0479; www.portofnaplesmarina.com.

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BEST PLACE TO EXPLORE THE HISTORY OF COLLIER COUNTY
Collier County Museums

Collier County Museums offer five locations where you can explore more than a million years of Southwest Florida history: Naples, Everglades City, Immokalee, Naples Depot and Marco Island. Established in 1978, Collier County Museums are committed to preservation and education, giving you a glimpse of the rich and diverse history of Collier County and Southwest Florida through the use of elaborate exhibits, free education programs and lectures and free admission at all locations. Each museum offers a different historical focus and an enlightened view into the distant and not-so-distant past that makes Collier County the world-renowned cultural center it is today. 239-252-8476; www.colliermuseums.com.

BEST WATERFRONT SHOPPING AND DINING
Village on Venetian Bay

With 40 shops and boutiques, six waterfront restaurants and the only Ben & Jerry’s in town, the Village lines the waterfront of Venetian Bay with more shopping and dining than any other destination in Naples. The Village offers award-winning dining — T-Michaels, M Waterfront Grille, MiraMare, Fish Restaurant and Bayside Seafood Grill & Bar. They feature casual dining establishments such as The Village Pub and Rendez-Vous Café. The Village Farmers Market is from 8 a.m. to noon every Sunday. At Gulfshore and Parkshore boulevards, one block from the sugar sand beaches and overlooking beautiful bay waters, you’ll go for the shopping and dining and stay for the views. 239-261-6100; www.venetianvillage.com.

BEST THEATER TO RECLINE, WINE AND DINE
Paragon Theaters

Paragon Theaters is the BEST place to recline and unwind, whether you are watching the latest blockbuster, the MET Opera Live in HD or the next big award-winner. You can enjoy a flatbread, salad, wrap and more from The Lot Bar & Lounge during, before or after your movie. A wide range of wines and beers is also available. Paragon Theaters is also the perfect place to hold your next fundraiser, private screening or birthday party. (You can even game on the big screen.) Group tickets are perfect for gift-giving to friends, family, clients and teachers. Check out all the promotions, including free kids’ movies starting in June, at the website. 239-596-0008; www.paragontheaters.com.
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BEST FISH OUT OF WATER
Samantha Fish at Bonita Blues Fest

We were blown away by a few things at our first-ever experience with Bonita Blues Fest back in mid-March. Even though it was the 11th annual festival, we’d never heard much about it. Boy, were we surprised when we showed up at Riverside Park on the day of. Parking was pretty easy. Seating in the lovely little park was abundant (and shady). The food and drink were flowing. And the music — just wow. One of our favorite acts was Samantha Fish, a scrappy rocker who treated the crowd to numbers from her “Chills & Fever” album that was released about 10 days later. The 2018 Bonita Blues Fest takes place March 9-10. We’ll be there.

BEST AND COOLEST NEW CATS
Clouded leopards at The Naples Zoo

They met at The Naples Zoo last fall, and there’s hope sparks will fly! Masala, a male, and Tikka, a female, are clouded leopards, vulnerable to extinction and part of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums’ Species Survival Plan that works to create sustainable populations of threatened and endangered species. Clouded leopards are paired before they are a year old and remain in that pairing for their lifetimes. Zoo visitors are encouraged to help save clouded leopards by reading grocery store labels and selecting products, from toothpaste to chocolate, that use sustainably grown palm oil, helping protect the leopard’s rainforest habitat. A free app is available at www.napleszoo.org/palmoil.

BEST NEW HANGOUT FOR MILLENNIALS
Creekside Commons

Creekside Commons, the new shopping center at Immokalee and Goodlette-Frank roads in North Naples, is home to two hotspots for Millennials to indulge their hipster cravings in one location: Bone Hook Brewing Company for craft beer and Public House for curated cocktails and farm-to-table eats.

BEST PIANO CONCERT SERIES, IN- OR OFF-SEASON
The Grand Piano Series

The Grand Piano Series, founded by Milana Strezeva and Raniero Tazzi of EuroPianos Naples, has been a jealously well-kept secret among local concertgoers. Why? Because of the superb musicians and reasonable pricing, the 45 seats in the venue’s intimate setting sell out almost immediately as soon as word gets out. The post-concert meet-the-artist receptions with light bites and wines can last for hours, and sometimes even talented audience members take a turn at the fabulous Fazioli concert grand piano. 646-741-8179; www.grandpianoseries.com.

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BEST TAKEOVER
Tesla pulls into Waterside Shops

There’s always room for another luxury car dealer in town and Tesla, the newest addition to Waterside Shops, took over Ann Taylor’s sweet spot so it can showcase its special brand of hipster luxury indoors. Shoppers can custom design their cars, avail themselves of hands-on exhibits and take a sweet ride for a spin, right from the same spot the town’s female professionals used to pur- chase their twill pencil skirts and slingbacks.

BEST TALL TALES
Story Tellers of the Round Table

Art comes in many forms, and what’s more funda- mental than a good story? Formered out of a Naples Toastmaster’s Group, Story Tellers of the Round Table have been entertaining sold-out crowds in Collier and Lee counties the old-fashioned way: yarn-spinning. Follow Story Tellers of the Round Table on Facebook.

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BEST BEACH BAR NOT ON THE BEACH
The Island Gypsy

For a coastal destination, it’s a bit surprising we don’t have more beachside dining options, but it’s okay. We have Island Gypsy Café & Marina Bar on Isle of Capri. It has no beach, but it does have waterfront dining, boat-in access and a great bar menu that would make Jack Sparrow feel right at home. Gypsy punch, anyone? 239-394-3111; www.theislandgypsy.com.

BEST CONSERVATION EDUCATION PROGRAMS
The Naples Zoo

Education is the heart of Naples Zoo’s mission, and the zoo provides an informative, educational and engaging family-oriented experience that inspires guests to respect and protect wildlife and nature. As we enter into a new era of global awareness and environmental stewardship, Naples Zoo is uniquely positioned to reach an increasing number of children and adults, helping to inspire them to value, respect and conserve the biodiversity of the planet. Naples Zoo has formal education partnerships with Collier County Public Schools, Lee County Public Schools and Lee County Public Library System. The zoo’s commitment to education is further demonstrated by its collaboration with the Florida Department of Education to develop programs that meet Florida’s Next Generation Sunshine State Standards. Grade-specific programming has been designed for students from pre-K through middle-schoolers, offering a variety of hands-on learning opportunities in biology, animal behavior, ecology and species and habitat conservation. www.napleszoo.org/education.

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BEST NEW EVENT SPACE

Venue Naples

What happens when one of the area’s most innovative and energetic chefs creates an event space that’s as flexible and inventive as he is? You get Venue Naples, a fully customizable multi-use event space owned and operated by Brian and Nicole Roland. Chef Roland heads up theCrave Culinaire team, which provides the food and service at Venue Naples. It is a splendid pairing and offers those looking for a place for that special performance, wedding or other event a new and convenient option. The interior looks like a modern loft with exposed brick and reclaimed lumber beams. Adding to the ambiance, the Rolands joined forces with the Gallery of Amazing Things in Dania Beach to host monthly exhibits of art, décor and antiques that will be available for purchase. Salud! 239-212-1529; www.venuenaples.com.

BEST DEATH BED SCENE

“Outside Mullingar”

The intimate deathbed scene between father and son in The Naples Players’ production of “Outside Mullingar” brought tears to everyone’s eyes as the two said everything you’d want to say to a parent or child so there’d be no regrets after it was too late. It was practically a textbook example in What to Say for Your Last Conversation. And incredibly moving.

BEST BET IF YOU CAN’T MAKE IT TO BROADWAY

Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre

Year after year, Broadway Palm brings home to Southwest Florida the crowd-pleasing shows and full-scale Broadway musicals generations of audiences adore. Romance, nostalgia, prime rib; These are the bread and butter of this family-run, 450-seat dinner theater that has packed the house now for 24 incredible seasons. Now playing: “Jesus Christ Superstar,” through May 14; and “A Year With Frog and Toad,” through May 12. Followed by “Clue: the Musical,” May 18-June 24; “Mary Poppins,” June 29-Aug. 12; and “Rapunzel,” June 2-23. And if you can’t make it to Broadway Palm, try the 100-seat black box theater across the lobby, the Off Broadway Palm, where “Right Bed, Wrong Husband” plays June 15-July 29. 239-278-4422; www.broadwaypalm.com.

BEST DOUBLE BILLING

My Fair Ladies

Two theater companies, just blocks from each other, put on individual productions of “My Fair Lady” this season. For those who love musical theater, it was not only an opportunity to see a classic musical twice, but an invitation to compare two very different treatments of the classic show: Gulfshore Playhouse did a minimalist production, with a cast of 10 playing all the roles and just two pianos for accompaniment, whereas The Naples Players went all out, with a cast of 32 and a 13-piece orchestra. Same musical, two different approaches. Bravo! Bravo!
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BEST UNBEARABLE LIKENESS OF BEING NEAR A BEAR
FWC bear-wise videos

If your name is Boo-Boo, you’re probably pretty excited to have a bear wander into your neighborhood. But a quick check of the local tax rolls finds we are in short supply of Boo-Boos. However, Florida black bear numbers are on the rise, and all too many of us are finding ourselves nose-to-snout with the furry fellas. That’s why the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has produced two videos — “Cause for a Call” and “BearWise Communities” — to help teach the public how to safely coexist with the four-legged trash lovers. We laughed, we cried, we growled.

BEST ARENA WEST OF I-75
Florida SouthWestern State College

The Suncoast Credit Union Arena opened its doors to the public on Nov. 29, 2016. While serving as the new home of the FSW Buccaneers basketball and volleyball teams, the stunning 75,000-square-foot arena is also a gathering spot for students. Within this new facility, students are able to exercise before or after class in a state-of-the-art fitness center, join an intramural sport or take advantage of open recreation nights. In the off-season, it will serve as a resource for the community and a venue for concerts, trade shows, exhibitions and FSW’s annual commencement ceremonies. www.FSWedu.

BEST DIVA FROM COLLIER TO CHARLOTTE COUNTY
Steffanie Pearce

Soprano Steffanie Pearce founded Opera Naples 10 years ago, then three years ago created Gulfshore Opera. With 30 years of opera experience the producer, director, performer and teacher is a dynamo, producing operas in Collier, Lee, and Charlotte counties, making the art form physically and financially accessible for aficionados from Collier to Charlotte counties. This past season, there were 30 public events in the three counties. www.gulfshoreopera.org.

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Nestled in a tree-shaded campus, the Marco Island Center for the Arts is a colorful “secret” site that’s generously supported and visited by art lovers from Everglades City to Fort Myers. It offers both traditional and cutting-edge juried works in varied media as well as a superb music series (just $25 per concert). Whether you go for an exhibit opening, a performance or a class, be sure to say hi to Daisy Doodle, the center’s 15-year-old golden retriever mascot. 239-394-4221; www.marcolandart.org.
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BEST PLACE TO REVITALIZE
Shangri-La Springs

Built in 1921, this legendary property in downtown Bonita Springs is the hidden treasure of Southwest Florida. Nestled among a lush botanical garden, the resort restaurant sources its food from the property’s certified organic gardens. There’s also a full-service spa offering natural, organic body treatments and a steam room, sauna and private courtyard. The extensive program line-up includes yoga and crystal bowl meditations, weekly live music and various workshops. Works by local artists and artisans are featured in the charming gift shop. Free, multi-media art and nature nights happen every second Wednesday, and the beautiful Great House gallery showcases new local artists every two months. Sign up for the garden and history tours and learn about the spring on the property from which Bonita Springs gets its name and about the rare giant Mysore fig trees that canopy the historic buildings. The unique, rich landscape that makes Southwest Florida known as a paradise is exemplified on these grounds where paradise is found. 239-949-0749; www.ShangriLaSprings.com.

BEST NEW STAGE DIRECTION
Bryce Alexander

When Dallas Dunnagan retired after 16 years as artistic director at The Naples Players, there were big shoes to fill. Denver native Bryce Alexander accepted the challenge last fall, moving from the snow to the sand. Mr. Alexander hopes to “raise the curtain” on several new ideas, including building renovations, marketing to a younger audience, performing Shakespeare on the front plaza along Fifth Avenue South and offering sensory-friendly performances for people with autism or Alzheimer’s.

BEST PLACE TO GET LOST AT SEA
Naples Nantucket Yacht Group

Those who travel to Southwest Florida to escape the cold winters up north and those who have chosen to call this place their year-round home all share the common passion for our greatest attraction: the picturesque Gulf waters. Capt. Bill Charbonneau was inspired to find a way to share his passion for boating and provide a superior opportunity for clients to experience yachting on the waters of Southwest Florida in a truly luxurious fashion. Their fleet of yachts, ranging from 31-165 feet long, with highly trained and attentive staff will be sure to make your luxury cruise something to remember for a lifetime. 239-331-6868; www.naplesnantucketyachtcharters.com.

BEST ACTRESS
Sofia Jean Gomez

Sofia Jean Gomez won you over the very minute she stepped on stage as Portia in Gulfshore Playhouse’s production of Shakespeare’s “The Merchant of Venice.” It was easy to see why she had so many suitors trying to win her hand: She was smart, witty and had a delightful sparkle about her. She seemed perpetually bemused by life. The actress reminded us of a young Meryl Streep in the way she fully inhabited her character. She made Shakespeare fun.
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Naples and its surrounds certainly have their share of colorful places as well as characters, achievers, do-gooders, movers and shakers to keep our staff supplied with stories all year round. Here are some of the notable faces and places that exemplify the BEST of what our fair city by the sea has to offer.

BEST WAY TO GO
WHERE OTHERS CAN'T
Ten Thousand Islands jet ski tour

Collier County has a backyard like none other in the entire world. The magical Ten Thousand Islands sprawl languid in warm sun and salt water, inviting exploration. But they are pristine, perfect nature for a reason — they're difficult to reach. Sure, you can take a tour boat or even your own motorboat into this wonderful watery world, but a sleeker, more thrilling way to explore is by jet ski. Several companies offer jet-ski tours from the Marco Island area. The water scooters run super shallow and leave no prop marks, which means you can access remote regions. You'll see dolphins, visit empty beaches and have plenty of photo opportunities. And you don't need any jet-ski experience. Well-trained guides will be with you every step of the way. Get out there!

BEST DINNER SHOW
Dinner with the Artists

Art and food? Sign us up, please and thank you. The Naples Art Association debuted its “Dinner with the Artists” series that allowed guests to enjoy a multi-course meal while watching a local chef and artist create masterpieces right in front of them. Fun and tasty!

BEST PLACE TO BE SEEN
Florida Weekly’s Society pages

Admit it: The first thing you do when you pick up your Florida Weekly is flip to the back to see who was sparkling at all the recent soirées around town. Who was wearing what? Who showed up with whom? Who was photographed holding a plate of Love chocolates? Our Society pages are Southwest Florida's equivalent to the party photos in Vanity Fair; everyone wants to be in them — or see who's in them. If you see a Florida Weekly photographer walking toward you, remember to smile and look festive.

BEST COMEBACK
THAT NEVER LEFT
The Great Dock Canoe Race

Last spring, our writers covered the “last” Great Dock Canoe Race from front to back and front again, all with the knowledge that the beloved 40-year tradition would likely be rescued once founder Vin DePasquale finally convinced everyone that he really was finished with it. Et voila! Here we are in 2017, anticipating a story about Naples Junior Chamber's first race since taking over for DePasquale. So thanks, Jaycees, for rescuing the one silly day Neapolitans have to celebrate the end of season. If not for you, some civic-minded individual would have organized a celebratory wine tasting or something.

BEST ROYALTY
The Buzzard Lope Queen

For 33 years an illustrious tradition has carried on: the annual crowning of the Buzzard Lope Queen at Stan's Idle Hour in Goodland. This year's honor — cue the music, preferably something reggae or Parrothead — went to Lisa Bacewicz, who was crowned the weekend before the Super Bowl, as part of the annual Goodland Mullet Festival. The Buzzard Lope is a dance, based on a song by famed local, Stan Gober, creator of Stan's Idle Hour Restaurant & Bar where the Mullet Festival was born.
The high ceilings and spacious open floor plans of Seaglass invite good feelings at all hours of the day. Complete with luxurious master suites, gourmet kitchens and magnificent views of the Gulf of Mexico, it’s truly a tower above all others.

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Chokoloskee is famous for the historic, age-bowed Smallwood Store, which is famous for being the site where (alleged) outlaw Edgar Watson was gunned down by a group of his islander neighbors in 1910. What you hear little about is the store’s porch overlooking Chokoloskee Bay. For more than a century, the weather-worn wooden building has clung to the water’s edge, welcoming pioneer settlers, fishermen and Seminole-Miccosukee quietly poling their canoes to trade hides for staples. The porch has seen a parade of characters, from American presidents to moonshiners. It has witnessed hurricanes and more sunrises and sunsets than any human will live to see. It’s impossible to stand on the porch and not hear the whisper of the vanished wilderness past. For a small admission fee, you get to enjoy the Smallwood Store, an old-Florida time capsule museum, and you’ll be free to linger on the porch, where maybe the blood of old Watson will call you from the ancient sand. 239-695-2989; www.smallwoodstore.com.

BEST HANGOUTS FOR EVERY AGE

**Toddler:*** If you’re 4 years old — first, congratulations on your reading skills! — there is probably no better place than Golisano Children’s Museum of Naples, better known as C’mon. Millions and millions of dollars went into creating an indoor space where little ones get to learn about what’s happening outdoors (and about lots of indoor stuff, too). There’s an art studio and gallery, a world café, a faux beach with faux fish, a faux tree to climb and even a backyard with a hedge maze and splash area. The only thing that might make it better would be a wine bar for parents. (In C’mon’s defense, they do throw a really great grown-ups-only annual Pirate Ball.) 239-514-0084; www.cmon.org.

**Teens:** Back in the day, teenagers used to hang out at the malls. And you know what? They still hang out at the mall. Coastland Center provides just enough glamorous lighting and cheap fast food to make an impressionable teen swoon. BEST of all, a quick walk across the parking lot lands you in The Cheesecake Factory. That’s a 15-year-old’s Xanadu.

**Singles:** If you’re looking for love or something similar, Blue Martini and Capital Grille, both in Mercato, are perfect spots to meet someone special(fish). Blue Martini has music and drinks and waitresses in bustiers. Capital Grille has people with enviable checkbooks hiding their wedding rings in their front pockets. If you’re single and young and tend to plan things out, you can find a remarkable number of singles participating in the young professional legs of the area’s major nonprofits, such as the Naples Winter Wine Festival’s Friends of the Foundation, Humane Society Naples’ Young Pawfessionals and David Lawrence Center’s Young Executives group.

**Seniors:** There are 67,755 square miles in the state of Florida, and it’s difficult to figure out which portion of it isn’t the BEST hangout for seniors. And while the waiting room of Quest Diagnostics appears to be a real hotspot on any given day, we’ve met a lot of wonderful folks at Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs and the Naples Senior Center run by Jewish Family & Community Services. Both places are where the cool (older) kids hang out.

BEST ETHICAL POLITICIAN

Doug Finlay

Naples City Council member Doug Finlay filed an ethics complaint against himself over a rule that is, frankly, quite dumb. It seems councilors are not allowed to accept food or drink at social events. In a role that requires that their constituents like them, it’s very odd that they are required to reject the hospitality offered to them practically everywhere they go. It’s not like grabbing a shrimp puff is the same as a taxpayer funded trip to China, right?
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Best Non-Season Season

Mango Time

Stretching roughly from May to October, mango season yields the sweetest, most joyful resistance to the sweat-soaked, rain-scoured subtropical summer. Mangos are everywhere: hanging from bending branches over sidewalks and lawns, flattened by cars on neighborhood streets — every one of them a promise that the world can be luscious. The heart of mango season in Southwest Florida is Pine Island, where a MangoMania festival in mid-July delivers a world of mangoes, something on the order of 35 varieties or so, for sample and sale. Among them are such names as Alphonso, Bailey’s Marvel, Bombay (suggesting the 4,000-year-old history of the fruit originating in India), Cogshell, Fairchild, Florigom, Gold Nuggets, Ice Cream, Jakarta, Kent, Okuran, Po Puy, Kalay, Tebow, Tommy Atkins and Zill.

Best Bedtime Story

The Pinecrest Pillow Project

When Pinecrest Elementary School Teacher Erica Rimbert asked her students what they wanted for Christmas, she was dismayed when they responded with gifts that filled very basic needs — and stuffed animals. Upon learning that many used the toys as pillows because they often don’t have one, Ms. Rimbert initiated the Pinecrest Pillow Project and collected 1,356 pillows, 894 pillowcases, 1,125 blankets and 854 sleeping bags from all over the world. She far exceeded the goal for her classroom, so the extras went to siblings and family members in the school community.

Best Reason for a Mandatory Time Out

A bad lesson on social media

Here’s a tip for public servants: You have to behave like you can tolerate the people you serve. Parkside Elementary School teacher Veronica Fleming was moved out of the classroom to perform administrative duties when she proclaimed exultation on Facebook at President Trump’s February plan for mass deportations. It’s a common opinion, yes, but a teacher who serves a student population of 96 percent minorities shouldn’t run her mouth on social media about her distaste for immigrants. No one trusts you to teach their kids when you’re so openly dismissive of their families, Ms. Fleming.

Best Place to Get Up Close to Gators

Lake Trafford Park & Marina

Lake Trafford is a 1,500-acre lake a few miles west of Immokllee. Rumor has it that it’s so thick with gators you can walk from one side to the other on the heads of the reptiles and never get your feet wet. To see them, all you have to do is visit the public park at the end of Lake Trafford Road (CR 850). There’s a pier, a boat ramp and some bank access where you can get as close as you want to the gators — who WILL be watching you. You can take a picnic and eat with a gator; you just can’t eat the gator. 239-657-2401.

Best Mom

Polly Crews

Polly Crews, 91, lost her son, Army Sgt. Robert Crews, in the Vietnam War in 1968. He was 21. Mrs. Crews might not be able to drive anymore, but she can organize. The energetic Neapolitan is the oldest living Gold Star Mother in Florida, and earlier this year she launched a mission to get a Southwest Florida chapter of the organization (the closest one is in Tampa) started. American Gold Star Mothers was established in 1928 by and for mothers who have lost a son or daughter in the service of our country.
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BEST BAT BRIDGE
Matheson Avenue, Bonita Springs

Where the Imperial River flows under Matheson Avenue in Bonita Springs lives a colony of Brazilian free-tailed bats (the most common kind in Florida). CGT Kayaks owner and tour guide John Paeno estimates that there are more than 1,000 of them. At sunset, they come streaming out to feed on insects, eating about half their body weight’s worth, and “fill the sky haphazardly,” he says, “or create almost a funnel of bats.” As far as Mr. Paeno knows, the bridge has been home to the bats for decades. His outfitter offers a popular Imperial River Batmoon Paddle tour during which kayakers can get a good look at these hungry little creatures.

BEST NEW PRESIDENT
Joyce Owens

Joyce Owens, principal of Architecture Joyce Owens, was named president of the Florida AIA (the Florida chapter of the American Institute of Architects) this year, making her the third female president in the professional organization’s 105-year history in the Sunshine State. She ran with a message of communicating value and wants to de-mystify her profession for the public. www.architecturejoyceowens.com.

BEST RESURGENCE
Local progressives

Thanks to a shellacking in the November 2016 general election, local progressives found renewed energy to organize, fundraise and maybe just remind everyone else that the Republican majority in Collier County is actually very slim. From a local affiliate event to the Women’s March on Washington to a new crop of activism groups like Collier Freedom, there is some evidence that Collier is not the conservative stronghold most think it is. We’re happy to see the local left looking alive again. Now we’re asking: Are Independents aggravated enough to join forces and turn Collier blue?

BEST LEGACY
Homer Helter

Patriotism often boils down to lip service for many of us. A Facebook post on Memorial Day is enough to inform everyone about our gratitude to the men and women who serve in the military. Homer Helter was different. Mr. Helter dedicated his time, money and effort to supporting veterans throughout his life. As the owner of Homer Helter Antique & Military Mall, he created a space for veterans from all branches and eras to gather, eat, chat or just hang out in like company among one of the largest collections of military memorabilia in the country. From donating wheelchairs for wounded warriors to collecting 70 tons of supplies for servicemen overseas, Mr. Helter put his money and time where his mouth was until he died in October 2016.

BEST LOCAL AUTHOR
Nathan Hill

Neapolitan Nathan Hill, who used to teach creative writing at Florida Gulf Coast University and is married to a bassoonist in the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra, hit Bestseller Lists with his debut novel, “The Nix” this past summer. The book’s about a woman who abandons her son and later attains unwanted notoriety by throwing a handful of gravel at a conservative presidential candidate, but it’s really about everything, from video gaming to the Choose-Your-Own-Adventure books to the 1968 Chicago riots and protests. Not only did “The Nix” make it to the New York Times bestseller list, but has now been optioned to be made into a TV miniseries by J.J. Abrams, with Meryl Streep starring as the mother.

BEST LOCAL REVENGE NOVEL
“Grabmore”

Florida Weekly freelancer Glenn Miller, who previously worked for a daily, was upset with the constant layoffs and furloughs (required time off without pay). He was dismayed with the erosion of journalism and superiors putting profit over people. So he took out his frustration by writing “Grabmore,” a novel in which reporters at a fictional Fort Myers daily newspaper kidnap the visiting obnoxious power-hungry CEO of their corporation.
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BEST SPECS

Cheryl Lampard

If you’re having trouble reading this, we suggest you head to your nearest optometrist. But whether you’re already bespectacled or not, we suggest you take a page out of Cheryl Lampard’s playbook and make your glasses memorable. Ms Lampard happens to be the owner/founder of Style Matters International, a firm that advises everyone from celebs to captains of industry (and people in between) on how to look their best. She regularly sports the coolest optics this side of Harry Potter. Fun fact: They’re both British! Coincidence?

BEST PINK PANTS-ER

Trevor English

A pretty pink tie is probably the limit for most men, but Naples Realtor Trevor English channels all-out Vineyard Vines and J. Crew prepster wearing the hue head to toe (thankfully not at the same time — and we can just hear him phshawing us for even thinking that). Mr. English definitely has a signature style that stands out, one not too many men would or could pull off.

BEST REASON TO HIT THE MUTE BUTTON

1-888-SEAN-KING

Families in Southwest Florida have only one reason to all dive for the remote at once: local defense attorney Sean King’s television ads. Spanning from shameless (American flag Christian fish) to befuddling (a silent clip of a swimming whale shark with the caption “Save the Whales”), the ads cause entire households flee the family room before the terrible earworm of a jingle shatters the meditative trance his desperation for clients inspires.

BEST NEW GREEN THUMB

Thomas Hecker at Everglades Wonder Gardens

With decades of environmental non-profit management experience, Thomas Hecker became executive director at the 81-year-old Everglades Wonder Gardens in Bonita Springs in January. Mr. Hecker has worked at the Missouri Botanical Gardens in St. Louis and the Magic Wings Butterfly Conservatory & Insectarium at the Museum of Life and Science in Durham, N.C. Locally, many remember his tenure at Naples Botanical Garden and, most recently, as CEO of the Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center. We’re looking forward to seeing how Everglades Wonder Gardens grows under his guidance.

BEST NEW TRANSPLANT

Donna McGinnis at Naples Botanical Garden

Brian Holley planted the roots of Naples Botanical Garden. Donna McGinnis is poised to nurture the shoots. When Mr. Holley retired after 11 years as executive director, Ms. McGinnis was hired as president and CEO, coming from the Missouri Botanical Garden where she was a senior vice president. She previously served as a managing director of the Missouri History Museum and was an adjunct professor at Washington University in St. Louis since 2006. In addition, she was a consultant to the Rome Group in St. Louis, counseling more than 60 nonprofit clients on strategic planning and fundraising. Sounds like she’s prepared to “dig” into her new job.
Best Conservation Education Programs

Education is the heart of Naples Zoo’s mission, and the Zoo provides an informative, educational and engaging family-oriented experience that inspires guests to respect and protect wildlife and nature. Naples Zoo offers programs for ages 3 to 12 years old, including Safari Squad, Camp WILD and ZooMobile!

For more information on Naples Zoo’s education programs visit www.napleszoo.org/education.

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BEST SALE OF THE YEAR
The Red Sox’ Chris Sale
Pitcher Chris Sale sounds positively giddy talking about being traded in December from the Chicago White Sox to the Boston Red Sox. It meant coming home because the Red Sox train at JetBlue Park, a short drive from his alma mater, Florida Gulf Coast University. It’s not much farther to his Naples home. “This is the happiest I’ve ever been in my life,” the left-handed Sale told USA Today during spring training. “You kidding me? What more could you ask for?” Six weeks at home sounds pretty good.

BEST GRAND OPENING
Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida
It’s America’s newest children’s hospital, and it’s right here in our backyard. The seven-story, 128-bed Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida, adjacent to HealthPark Medical Center in south Fort Myers, had its grand opening on April 1. A $100 million fundraising campaign was fueled by a $10 million donation by philanthropist and part-time Neapolitan Tom Golisano. The other $90-million plus came from donors around Southwest Florida.

BEST MOST GENEROUS 24 HOURS
Give Where You Live Collier
The third annual Give Where You Live Collier in February generated 1,847 donations and a total of more than $4 million for 40 local nonprofits. Hosted by the Community Foundation of Collier County and the Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation, which together offered a $500,000 matching fund, the 24-hour giving challenge helps raise awareness about local charities and entices donors to support their favorites. Funds will help organizations providing basic services and education programs.

BEST GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING
$3 million to WGCU Public Media
Myra Janco Daniels, who founded the Philharmonic Center for the Arts after she moved to Southwest Florida to retire, donated $3 million to WGCU Public Media, our local PBS station, to support arts programming. The station renamed the building housing its radio and TV studios The Myra Janco Daniels Public Media Building. Her gift, Mrs. Daniels said, was a way to reach the region’s largest audience with the arts, calling the station “Southwest Florida’s biggest stage.” And, considering the way our current government’s trying to stop federal funding to the Company for Public Broadcasting (as well as to the National Endowment for the Arts), even though it costs each of us only $1.35 a year, they may well need it even more than they realized.

BEST LUCKY DOG
Rescued from the jaws of a gator
Part-time Naples resident Donald Copps caused quite a commotion when he rescued Carbon, a 7-year-old black lab, from the jaws of a hungry alligator at Olde Cypress Golf Club. Mr. Copps’ screaming, bellowing and splashing in one of the course’s drainage ponds (ugh) was enough to distract the gator long enough for the poor pup to swim to safety. Thanks to Mr. Copps’ quick thinking, Carbon only suffered a few scrapes and puncture wounds.
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BEST (ONLY!) PLACE IN SOUTHWEST FLORIDA TO SPOT A BAHAMIAN CURLYTAIL LIZARD
Chokoloskee

If you’ve ever been to the Bahamas, you surely noticed the islands’ fat, cute, lizards with tails curled straight up over their backs. Their proper name is Northern Curlytail Lizard (or if you’re real proper, Leiocephalus carinatus armouri — BLESS YOU!). They’re a non-native species to Florida, but somehow, sometime within the past decade, they appeared in Chokoloskee, and now have established a thriving population. They are bold and tame easily — but of course you are not supposed to be encouraging them, so don’t, at least not while an official official is looking.

BEST PLACE TO EAVESDROP
Naples Winter Wine Festival dinners

While any large-scale social function creates terrific opportunities to accidentally overhear quality gossip, the mother of all social functions is the Naples Winter Wine Festival’s Friday night celebrity vintner/chef dinners. Wine flows freely and limousines are provided for all guests so they can imbibe to their hearts’ contents. That makes everyone giddy and gossipy. (Which explains the exceedingly high number of dark sunglasses the next day at the auction.)

BEST MOST LIKELY TO CREATE THE $6 MILLION DOLLAR MAN
Arthrex

Who would expect a high-tech medical device company to base its headquarters and manufacturing in Naples? But Arthrex, the hugely successful company that provides much-needed, year-round, highly paid and highly skilled jobs in this tourism-heavy economy, has been here since its start. Founder and owner Reinhold Schmieding makes sure his company makes a positive contribution to the medical community and the Collier County community, too. Arthrex has more than 10,000 products and procedures in its arsenal, including artificial joints and surgical tools to help doctors around the world take care of their patients.

BEST PLACE TO GET ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE LAW
Citizens Police Academy

Perhaps you became a dentist instead of fulfilling your childhood dream of being a police officer. Is there any way to go back and do it all over again? Maybe not, but the City of Naples does offer residents a means to live out their childhood fantasies with a Citizens Police Academy. The free program gives participants greater insight into police practices with demonstrations, hands-on exercises (crime scene investigation, anyone?) and more. You won’t leave with a badge, but your cops-and-robbers daydreams will be so much more realistic from now on.

BEST PLACE TO HAVE FUN LOSING (OR WINNING) MONEY
Seminole Immokalee Casino

Slots, Blackjack, Three Card Poker, Texas Hold ‘Em, Mini Baccarat, Pai Gow, Let It Ride, Mississippi Stud — Seminole Casino offers a whole gaggle of ways to indulge in the thrill of chance. First-rate entertainment — think Frankie Valli, Neil Sedaka, Olivia Newton John and Paul Shaffer & The World’s Most Dangerous Band — keeps patrons grooving when the cards are down, and four eateries stand always at the ready to keep you nourished. When you finally need a rest, you can slide on into your hotel room right there. 239-658-1313; www.seminoleimmokaleecasino.com.
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For additional information on the Oxford knee, including risks and warnings, talk to your surgeon and see the full patient risk information on oxfordknee.com and http://www.zimmerbiomet.com Oxford is a trademark of Zimmer Biomet, Inc. or its subsidiaries unless otherwise indicated. * Compared to total knee replacement. Refer to references at oxfordknee.com. † Subject to terms and conditions within the written warranty.
Bon apparté!

Going out to eat has become the great American pastime, but Neapolitans seem to make it their jobs. With local chefs performing feats of culinary artistry never before seen this side of Miami, residents and visitors alike are packing into dining rooms and sometimes lining streets to get a taste of the haute cuisine flying out of kitchens all around town. Even home cooks can dish out incredible meals, thanks to the abundance of gourmet and specialty markets catering to foodies. We’ve lined up the BEST and most interesting tidbits we’re savoring over from around town.

BEST FRIED FISH YOU CAN EAT WHILE WEARING THE ACTUAL CLOTHES YOU WERE WEARING WHEN YOU CAUGHT THE FISH

Everglades City’s Island Café

WHEN YOU CAUGHT THE FISH YOU WERE WEARING

WHILE WEARING THE ACTUAL BEST FRIED FISH YOU CAN EAT

Art Smith, Oprah Winfrey’s former chef and a two-time James Beard award winner, opened another of his successful restaurants in the space formerly occupied by the delicious but defunct MereDay’s at Naples Bay Resort. The 1500 South concept pairs Southern food with inspiration from Chef Smith’s world travels. Long may his fabulous fried chicken and waffles reign. 239-774-1500; www.1500southnaples.com.

BEST MEXICAN FIESTA
Felipe’s Mexican Taqueria

At Felipe’s Mexican Taqueria, their philosophy is simple: Ingredients should always be fresh and the recipes original. They cook all of their food from scratch continuously throughout the day. Felipe’s uses all-natural and traditional Mexican ingredients to bring the freshest and the most authentic flavors to the plate. Our bar motto is “Fresh, Authentic, Creative.” Watch as we create one of our freshly squeezed Key lime margaritas right in front of your eyes. Everyday is a Fiesta at Felipe’s. 239-302-1444; www.felipestaqueria.com.

REINVENTION

BEST RESTAURANT
1500 South

BEST PLACE TO MAKE MOM HAPPY YOU ATE THERE
True Food Kitchen

Healthy foods are deliciously served at the new True Food Kitchen in Waterside Shops, with a large, open dining space and open bustling kitchen. The staff’s uber-friendly team approach delivers top service from any passing server. Must-have dishes include the BEST fish tacos in Southwest Florida; the wild mushroom pizza with creamy taleggio cheese, asparagus and garlic; charred cauliflower salad with tahini; and the luscious turkey burger with smoked Gouda cheese and jalapeno remoulade. Desserts rock, too, with the gluten-free Key lime pie, vegan flan with coconut and caramel sauce and the most luscious flourless chocolate cakes you’ll ever have (topped with coconut milk ice cream). 239-431-4580; www.truefoodkitchen.com/locations/naples/
BEST CATCH ON 41
Catch 41

It’s a great catch — and that is not a fishy story. A new chef and a fresh concept add up to a great catch at the Ramada Inn. The sprawling 200-seat restaurant and bar needed something more than just OK to keep it filled and profitable. This New Jersey family has done just that. Florida casual is the feel you get whether sitting at the bar, a table or lounging by the pool. The food is fun, fanciful and accompanied by live music. The menu, along with daily specials created by Executive Chef David Lani, will leave you wanting more. Convenitely located in the heart of Naples at the Ramada Inn, you won’t find a better place to kick back and enjoy a cold beverage and amazing eats. Open daily from 11 a.m. to closing at 1100 Ninth St. N. 239-263-6046; www.catch41naples.com.

BEST OF BOTH WORLDS
Noodles Italian Café & Sushi Bar

Noodles Italian Café & Sushi Bar is considered a local hotspot that has brought two unlikely genres of food together. This seemingly odd couple that is Italian and Japanese cuisine has come together in successful and delicious harmony. The family, which consists of Matt and Seth, owners and operators, opened their doors in 1991. They have been celebrating 25 years with a wonderful array of mouthwatering dishes for you to choose from. Whether you are craving a hearty plate of spaghetti and meatballs, our famous chicken and artichoke hearts or fresh blue fin tuna sushi roll, you can find it all here. Noodles is a passionate family restaurant which has evolved into a local and seasonal favorite. In addition to hosting happy hours and business events, Noodles supports our local community through several avenues. There is no question, at Noodles, you truly get the BEST of both worlds, where east meets west. 239-592-0050; www.noodlescafe.com.

BEST TRANSLATION FROM ITALIAN TO FRENCH

The French

Vincenzo Betulia’s opening of a third restaurant – The French Brasserie Rustique — has proved a lovely complement to his two outstanding Italian establishments, Osteria Tulia and Bar Tulia. Chef Vinnie and his wife Anna met at Campiello where Vinnie was the chef and Anna was a server. Their dream to open their own place came true when they opened Sicilian-themed Osteria Tulia and later Bar Tulia next door. Taking on a second culture and a third location with The French, Chef Vinnie dashes across the street from one kitchen to another during the lunch and dinner hours yet never seems to lose his smile. Perhaps it’s because all three restaurants are hugely successful. 239-315-4019; www.thefrenchnaples.com.

BEST ORIGINAL DINING STAPLES IN NAPLES
Ridgway Bar & Grill, Bayside Seafood Grill, Tony’s on Third, Sukie’s Wine Shop

Tony Ridgway opened his first restaurant in Naples more than 46 years ago, only a couple of blocks from where his Ridgway Bar & Grill and Tony’s Off Third wow diners today on 13th Avenue South off of Third Street South. Tony along with his long-time business partner, Sukie Honeycutt, have together operated many of Naples’ most successful and beloved restaurants. Today, the duo runs Ridgway Bar & Grill and Tony’s Off Third in Old Naples, and Bayside Seafood Grill & Bar and Sukie’s Wine Shop in Venetian Village. Both Tony and Sukie have earned their stripes, and the respect of foodies and wine-lovers far and wide, for achieving such long-term success in a notoriously challenging industry. Neither shows any sign of slowing, either, continuing to evolve to meet modern trends. Tony and Sukie were both foodies before that was a thing, and the Naples food scene wouldn’t be the same without their influence. Ridgway Bar and Grill: 239-262-5500; www.ridgwaybarandgrill.com. Tony’s Off Third: 239-262-7999; www.tonysoff-third.com. Sukie’s: 239-228-5823; www.sukieswineshop.com.
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The Culinary and Hospitality Education Foundation

A year’s Culinary Institute of America tuition costs $45,000-plus — a big bite out of any culinary student’s budget. The Culinary and Hospitality Education Foundation — CHEF — has awarded more than $300,000 in scholarships to more than 200 students, most from right here in Southwest Florida. This includes sponsorship of culinary competition teams and other opportunities for culinary and hospitality arts students. Recipients have been able to matriculate at FGCU’s Resort and Hospitality School, the CIA and Johnson & Wales, thanks to CHEF scholarships generously funded by members of the Naples and Bonita Springs chapters of the Chaine des Rotisseurs. Who knows, your next restaurant meal just might be cooked by a CHEF scholarship recipient.

BEST TASTE OF SOUTHERN ITALY

Ristorante Limoncello

Ristorante Limoncello is taking his downtown mojo and heading to mid- and uptown with the opening of MidTown Kitchen + Bar and Public House at Immokalee and Goodlette-Frank roads. www.migmatownkitchenandbar.net; www.publichouseofnaples.com.

BEST PLACE FOR BETTER MEXICAN FOOD

Agave


BEST UPTOWN PROGRESS

MidTown Kitchen + Bar, Public House

Long-time Naples restaurateur Michael Hernandez is taking his downtown mojo and heading to mid- and uptown with the opening of MidTown Kitchen + Bar at U.S. 41 and Golden Gate Parkway and Public House at Immokalee and Goodlette-Frank roads; www.midtownkitchenandbar.net; www.publichouseofnaples.com.

BEST LOCAL WATERING HOLE

Rusty’s Raw Bar and Grill

When people come to Southwest Florida, they envision the palm trees, warm breezes, white sandy beaches with crystal clear water, fresh seafood and, of course, a nice cold drink to wash their worries away. If you want to know where the people who call this paradise home go to enjoy a meal and a cocktail, it’s Rusty’s Raw Bar & Grill. Its old-Florida feel, engaging and friendly staff, menu with something for everyone and some of the BEST happy hour prices in town are why the locals call this place their home away from home. The next time you walk off the beach and want a bite to eat and a cold drink, hang out with the locals at the BEST local watering hole in town. 239-263-9464; www.rustysraw.com.

BEST GLIMPSE INTO THE FUTURE

The East Trail

Two words to new settlers: Go east, young men (and women)! Developers have finally made good on long-standing plans to bring commerce to Tamiami Trail East, and in addition to signs of advanced civilization such as Starbucks, Texas Roadhouse and Fresh Market, they’ve installed cosmetics stronghold Ulta as an indication they anticipate a younger crowd moving in.

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BEST RESTAURANT WITH CRAFTSMANSHIP IN MIND
Whiskey Park

When most people think of a “park,” they envision an open landscape, people and pets wandering around and the serenity of the open air. However, if you and your family are seeking a laid-back atmosphere similar to that of a Speakeasy, there is only one place: Whiskey Park. This New Orleans-inspired restaurant provides a great escape to enjoy a handcrafted cocktail or one of their many craft brews as you explore their highly diverse menu with something for everyone, including a few Cajun-infused dishes. The energetic and attentive staff will help you navigate the menu and pair it up with a drink of your choice. Whether you’re looking to catch a game, check out some live entertainment or have a night out with friends and family, this park has it all. 239-263-6777; www.whiskeypark-naples.com.

BEST PLACE WHERE THREE’S A CHARM
Club Sushi, Fujiyama and Harold’s Place

"Where should we eat?" It’s the quintessential dining question in Naples, but for people who love great food and atmosphere, the answer is always Club Sushi, Fujiyama or Harold’s Place. All three restaurants offer something for every palate. Harold’s tropical chickie bar serves up some of the BEST burgers in town, while Club Sushi is the go-to spot for sushi, and Fujiyama offers the ultimate hibachi table. So grab your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers and head to the BEST hangout in town. Club Sushi: 239-433-2031; naplesclub sushi.com. Fujiyama: 239-433-2031; naplesfujiyama.com. Harold’s Place: 239-263-7254; www.naplesharoldsplace.com.

BEST MOST FARTHEST FLUNG PLACE IN SOUTH WEST FLORIDA FOR CUBAN FOOD
Havana Cafe of the Everglades

Don’t you just love surprises? You’ll get one at this little out-of-the-way surprise in out-of-the-way Chokoloskee. The successful little eatery is the lifelong dream come true of fisherman Carlos Valdes — and of those fortunate enough to eat here. In spite of his family’s worries — “Are you crazy? You’ve never run a restaurant, and in the middle of nowhere!” — Carlos and his wife purchased the building and opened the doors of their dream in 2005. Turns out people appreciate delicious Cuban and Caribbean-inspired food. Be sure to call ahead. Hours vary with season. (239) 695-2214; www.havanacafofeoftheeverglades.com.

BEST PLACE TO TANGO
El Gaucho Inca

Kick up your heels every Wednesday at the Naples location featuring live tango music from Adrian Batis-ta. The sexiest dance makes Tango Wednesdays a hot destination in Southwest Florida. And then there’s the unforgettable menu. From the time the crusty warm bread arrives at your table with a side of green huacatay herb-infused sauce, you know you’re in for a special meal at El Gaucho Inca. The restaurant serves up a winning and unexpected combination of Peruvian, Argentinian and Italian dishes. Why those three cuisines? The warm and welcoming staff explains that the owners, Rocio NAVARRETE and her husband, Chef Mariano MALDONADO, have roots in all three countries and have dedicated parts of the menu and the restaurant itself to each portion of the triumvirate. From adventurous dishes like tripe, sweetbreads and blood sausages to steak stir-fry, fish and seafood, El Gaucho Inca gets it right regardless of from which country they’re drawing their inspiration. Naples: 239-434-7928; Fort Myers: 239-275-7904; www.ELGAUCHOinca.com.
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- Each year a new charity is selected. To date, over $155,600 has been raised and donated. We’ve raised funds for SWFL Children’s Charities, Friends of Foster Children, the Guadalupe Center, and many more.

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BEST PLACE TO RELIVE THOSE HAPPY DAYS
Mel’s Diner

Diners are a treasured American tradition that have never gone out of style. Mel’s exemplifies this ideal, with home-cooked, stick-to-your-ribs specials, hometown servers and the flair of neon and bright metal trim. You can’t go wrong with dishes like a hot open-face meatloaf sandwich, blue plate specials and mile-high chocolate chip pancakes, but that only scratches the surface of a menu as big and generous as the portions. Order up a malted for you and your sweetheart, and find a place where those happy days never went away. 239-275-7850; www.MelsDiners.com.

BEST PLACE TO MAKE ANY OCCASION SPECIAL
Angelina’s Ristorante

Angelina’s remains a culinary favorite and a great place to impress friends and family any night of the week. Foodies will appreciate popular dishes such as the fresh, handmade butternut squash ravioli, sea-salted snapper for two and from-scratch cannoli. Wine lovers will be wowed by the 30-foot wine tower and the daily happy hour. Make tonight or any night special with a visit to Angelina’s. Reservations highly recommended. 239-390-3187; www.angelinasofbonitasprings.com.

BEST WATERFRONT DINING DUO
Mira Mare Ristorante, FISH

Hidden in the heart of Naples are two of the finest waterfront dining destinations in Southwest Florida. Mira Mare Ristorante is known for its authentic Italian cuisine and its quaint, romantic setting, while its little brother FISH serves the freshest seafood in town. Keep an eye out for owner Sal, who is never far. You can make your reservations by phone or online. Whichever dining experience you choose, it comes with a stunning view of the Venetian Bay. 239-430-6273; www.Miramarenaples.com. 239-263-3474; www.fishrestaurantnaples.com.

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When it comes to the secrets of Old 41’s success, the focus is on high-quality, home-cooked American classics and excellent service. Known for his dedication to perfection, owner Tony Backos brought 40 years of experience from his family-owned restaurants in Philadelphia to Southwest Florida, and we’re all the better for it. Fill up on breakfast favorites such as pancakes, omelets and good old sausage gravy and biscuits. Take a stroll around the block and come back for roast beef and turkey with homemade gravy or the Huffy cheese steak made with real rib eye steak. 239-948-4123; www.Old41Restaurant.com.

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Cosmo’s Italian Café and Pizzeria

When you have a craving for inspired, old-school Italian flavors, Cosmo’s Italian Café & Pizzeria in Naples serves up deep satisfaction. Owner Gianluca Corso brings his family’s generations-old recipes to a menu that features hand-tossed pizza, pasta, sandwiches, seafood and specialty dishes. Each is prepared with fresh ingredients and served with warm hospitality. So bring your appetite, and mangia! And next time you head to the Naples Pier, check out Cosmo’s at the Pier. 239-262-8181; www.cosmospizzanaples.com.

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With a simple concept, the original Pinchers Crab Shack started out to provide the freshest seafood in a fun, down-to-earth, old Florida-style atmosphere. The company bought a stake in the Island Crab Company on Pine Island, ensuring a reliable source of Gulf seafood — right from the water and onto diners’ plates. Even though the “crab shack” has expanded to almost a dozen locations including Fort Myers, Fort Myers Beach, Cape Coral, Bonita, Naples (Tin City) and Marco Island with more than 500 employees, the secret to its success is to keep giving people the Florida waterfront fish house experience. You can’t fake fresh — or Florida. Pinchers is the real deal. Fort Myers: 239-435-6040; Naples: 239-434-6616; www.PinchersUSA.com.

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Pelican Larry’s long-standing tradition of being the BEST still has locals flocking there year ‘round. It’s been named BEST Happy Hour, BEST Chicken Wings, BEST Bartender, BEST Late-Night Dining and BEST Place to Catch the Game by Gulfshore Life magazine; BEST Bar & Nightclub in SWFL; BEST Happy Hour in Naples; BEST Bartenders in Naples and BEST Ladies Night Out by Spotlight Magazine. And those are just the accolades they have on public record. At this local legend since 1998, the original motto still holds true: “Tourists love it, locals live it!” Go online to find a location near you. 1-855-PLARRYS; www.pelicanlarrys.com.

BEST WATERFRONT DINING WITH THE FRESHEST LOBSTER AND CRAB
The Boathouse on Naples Bay

Here’s where you’ll find outstanding seafood in a uniquely adventurous atmosphere. Because it’s built over the water on Naples Bay, every seat in the Boathouse has a wide view of the glistening waters and beautiful boats passing by. The kitchen specializes in succulent seafood flown in daily from the most pristine waters, just-caught fish, premium meats, home-style favorites and exclusive handcrafted beers, cocktails and wines. Year after year — in some families, we have four generations of loyal customers — the Boathouse on Naples Bay is a local and critical favorite. 239-643-2235; www.BoathouseOnNaplesBay.com.

BEST PLACE TO FEED YOUR GRILL
Johnsonville Sausage

What’s a better way to top off a gorgeous day in Southwest Florida than taking the cover off the grill, firing it up, and having friends and family over for a fantastic cook out? As important as it is to entertain your company, it’s always wise to entertain the main attraction of the feast: your grill. Johnsonville Sausage Marketplace has opened its first retail location here in Naples where you can find a wide variety of products from the nation’s No. 1 sausage brand to satisfy your grill. All the fixings for your feast can be found at 6355 Naples Blvd. www.johnsonvillesausagemarketplace.com.

TEXAS TONY’S RIB HOUSE

Way before he and his family moved to Florida and started Pincher’s Crab Shack, Tony Phelan grew up on Texas barbecue — and that means the slow-smoked kind. When he discovered that Florida’s orange wood created a delicious mild flavor in slow-cooked ribs, chicken and brisket, he was inspired to open his latest venture, Texas Tony’s on the East Trail in Naples. The real secret is his dry rub and the ring produced when his meats are cooked slow and low for 18 hours. Classic sides such as collard greens and fresh-cut fries round out the finest Texas barbecue with a Florida twist. 239-732-8392; www.TexasTonys.com.

BEST PLACE TO GO GOURMET
Wynn’s Market

Parents are often superheroes as they juggle jobs, soccer practice, piano lessons and doctor appointments and then finish the day preparing a healthful, satisfying family meal. Sometimes they just need a break. And when that time comes, Wynn’s Market is ready, with a variety of wines, baked goods and deli foods as well as fresh, time-saving, easy-to-make (or already prepared) things for dinner. Dash in for ready-made meals or have fun finding all the right ingredients for your special dish. Wynn’s takes the chore out of grocery shopping and helps you make every meal gourmet. 239-261-7157; www.wynnsonline.com.

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T-Michaels Steak and Seafood

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BEST PLACE FOR A STEAKOUT
Shula’s Steak House

At Shula’s, it’s about more than great steaks in great surroundings for an important lunch or dinner. It’s about prime customer service and an award-winning wine list. And it’s also about being a prime place for fundraising events and parties that draw business leaders and philanthropists from throughout the community. Just like the coach for whom it’s named, Shula’s at the Hilton Naples is legendary. Stop in and experience our new menu items. Shula’s is now Blue Zone Certified. 239-430-4999; www.shulasnaples.com.

BEST MOST UNIQUE RESTAURANT COOKERY
Kitchen 41

Sous vide cooking never tasted this good. Cooking food under vacuum, in its own juices, is a hands-on cookery technique that Italian Chef Domenico Bosco at Kitchen 41 has mastered. Starting with sustainable and generally organic products, he seasons them with fresh herbs, perhaps a splash of wine or truffles, and cooks them to the perfect temperature and rich taste with sous vide’s simple technology. Start off an evening with the spiced wine-poached pears and Brunet goat cheese appetizer, then savor wild caught sea scallops atop pureed lima beans, golden raisins and roasted red and yellow peppers. The Gulf-caught black grouper is a treat, too, served with squash, Kalamata olives and capers. Mediterranean-style desserts change nightly. 239-263-8009; www.kitchen41.com.

BEST MEDITERRANEAN FOOD
Vergina

As the warm Naples air mixes with the scent of roasted garlic and other flavors of the Mediterranean, Vergina takes top honors as Fifth Avenue South’s home for authentic seafood and Mediterranean cuisine. With a strong emphasis on Italian, the menu offers a variety of seafood and healthy dishes that expertly combine Old World and contemporary cuisine. The food is definitely the star here, but the nightlife around the bar at Vergina has a sophisticated vibe of its own that’s the envy of downtown. 239-659-7008; www.verginarestaurant.com.

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Whether you already live here or look forward to settling in Southwest Florida someday down the road, there are lots of people at the ready to make sure it’s always the BEST home, sweet home — from those who can help you find, finance, build or furnish your abode to someone to watch over it when you have to tear yourself away for whatever reason.

BEST YET-TO-BE-COMPLETED HOUSE
Dick Schulze’s future abode

Twenty-one bedrooms, nine laundry rooms and enough Gulf of Mexico beach front to rival Cancun’s hottest resorts, Dick Schulze (founder of BEST Buy and philanthropist extraordinaire) is putting the finishing touches on what will be Naples’ biggest house. It’s rumored to be capable of hosting all of his grandchildren — and their friends and their friends’ families and friends. After all, he could have just bought a Holiday Inn and been done with it.

BEST PLACE TO LOOK DOWN ON THE REST
The Enclave penthouse

Best-selling author Robin Cook’s 29th floor penthouse in The Enclave is the highest home in the area. Shortly after the condo tower was built in 1991, zoning changes capped building heights slightly lower, locking in this amazing property as Naples’ highest residence. Cooler still, it has access to the roof, meaning it’s even easier to look down upon the little people. (Seriously, they look so tiny from up there.) BEST of all, at press time, the home was for sale for a mere $8.9 million.

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Seaglass at Bonita Bay

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Lake Michigan Credit Union of Florida has three full-service retail and mortgage offices in Bonita Springs and Naples, providing a full range of personal banking products and services, from high interest-bearing checking accounts to mortgages, and the very latest in online and mobile banking technologies. Founded in 1933, LMCU is Michigan’s largest credit union, with more than 460,000 members. ATM access includes the 50,000 worldwide locations of the All-Point ATM network. Bauer Financial Group awarded LMCU its coveted 5-Star rating for financial safety and soundness, while Weiss Ratings gives LMCU an A+ for excellent financial strength. www.LMcu.org.

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For those of you looking for that much-needed retreat, we have good news. The well-travelled professionals at CI Travel want to help get you there. CI Travel’s “vacation therapists” will give you the tools and guide you while you plan your dream vacation.
Customer service combined with state-of-the-art technology has made CI Travel one of the most successful travel agencies in Southwest Florida. They offer everything from restorative spa holidays to luxurious cruises, privately guided adventures, affordable beach vacations and all-inclusive resort escapes. CI Travel helps travelers make informed and impassioned decisions for the ultimate trip of a lifetime or for a simple getaway. 239-897-6700; www.cinaples.com.

**BEST WAY TO TAKE CARE OF YOU AND YOURS**

Ted Todd Insurance

For 30 years, Ted Todd Insurance has been protecting your loved ones and your future. The company has grown to be one of the largest and most respected Allstate agencies in the country, providing one-on-one communication with caring local agents as well as the most innovative online solutions and tools. Last year, Ted’s son, Charles Todd, became CEO of the company with an ongoing commitment to creating a culture where both employees and clients feel good about their coverage. 239-501-8100; www.TedToddInsurance.com.

**BEST PLACE TO DRIVE AWAY HAPPY**

Tamiami Auto Group

A family-owned and operated business since October 1973, Tamiami Auto Group is one of the most highly regarded dealerships in Southwest Florida. For five years in a row, it has won multiple gold and silver recognitions in several automotive categories, making Tamiami Hyundai the BEST place to drive away happy in Southwest Florida. With a convenient location in Naples that serves Fort Myers, Bonita Springs, Estero and Immokalee, it takes care of all your automotive needs under one roof. Whether you’re looking for a new or used vehicle, Tamiami Hyundai can help you find the perfect transportation for your needs. When you drive away, the staff will make sure that it’s with a smile — after all, the name alone means a great deal. 239-245-9819; www.TamiamiHyundai.com.

**BEST GIFT TO GIVE TO YOUR SPOUSE**

Miracle Ear

“Huh? What’s that, you say? I couldn’t make out what you said, honey.” Sometimes you’re not ignoring your spouse; you just really can’t hear very well — and who knows? She could be telling you that she won the lottery. Don’t miss out on a miracle. Hearing loss is a common problem that affects people at different ages, but the experienced staff at Miracle-Ear has the latest technology to help fix the problem. Part of the reason why it is America’s most recognized brand of hearing aids is the strong commitment to customers. Take a free hearing test, have the experts assess your problem and find the BEST match for your needs. Hearing aids no longer have to be big and bulky. There are a wide range of models to choose from at Miracle-Ear. Discover the Miracle-Ear Experience, with 13 locations in Southwest Florida. 239-249-3440; www.miracle-ear.com.

**BEST WAY TO IMPROVE YOUR IMAGE**

Nu-Image Cleaners

When you want to make a great impression, whether it’s a job interview or a party, a date or at work every day, you can count on looking your BEST in clothes cleaned by Nu Image. This dry cleaning, restoration and tailoring business has more than 40 years of experience bringing out the BEST in designer suits and wedding gowns, office apparel and leather jackets alike. Its eco-friendly cleaning techniques rid garments of the worst stains, extend the life of your clothes and help keep your image sparkling. 239-936-0665; www.NuImageCleaners.com.
Catch 41 Bar ‘n’ Grill is the new catch in Naples, Florida. With live music every Friday and Saturday, fresh food, and a wide variety of drinks, we aim to offer something for everyone in a place you can sit back, relax and enjoy fine cuisine inside or poolside.
Looking good, feeling good

Back in 1513, when Juan Ponce de Leon led the first known European expedition to La Florida, he was supposedly searching for the Fountain of Youth. Alas, the discovery was not to be made. But that couldn’t stop millions of others from making their way to the Sunshine State on a quest for their own versions of eternal youth (or even just a fresh start or a restful retirement). More than 500 years later, the Fountain of Youth still eludes us. Fortunately, that doesn’t mean we can’t look and feel our BEST while we’re here.

BEST PLACE TO WATCH YOUR TOES

Stillwater Spa

Granted, it might not be for everyone, but the ancient art of being walked on via barefoot massage is a time-honored experience that finally lets us know what it’s like to be the little guy. OK, not really. But having a perfect stranger lube up their feet and hang from a bamboo support structure as they walk all over you is heavenly (in a hopeful, agnostic sort of way.) We tried it at Stillwater Spa at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort and have never enjoyed being stepped on more. 239-390-4360; www.coconut-point.regency.hyatt.com.

BEST PLACE TO GET YOUR VA-VA-VOOM BACK

Dr. Manuel Peña

Dr. Manuel Peña is now offering ThermiVa, a new nonsurgical vaginal rejuvenation system that has the highest satisfaction among patients discussing procedures in the RealSelf forum. Look great in your yoga pants! ThermiVa improves lubrication, mild to moderate stress urinary incontinence, and increases intimate sensation as well as improving the appearance and all without any downtime. That’s just one way Dr. Peña can help you look as good as you feel with services such as facial rejuvenation, body contouring, dermal fillers, Dermalpen with PRP, Medispa services, and fractional laser treatments. With over 25 years of experience and more than 25,000 patients, Dr. Peña proves that age is just a state of mind. 239-348-7362; www.dr-pena.com.

BEST PLACE TO FIND THE NEW YOU

Aesthetic Surgery Center

If you are in search of finding the new, confident you, there is no better place to look than the Aesthetic Surgery Center with their specialized and modern approaches to restoring and enhancing your face and body. Your path to rejuvenation will begin at their new state-of-the-art spa-like facility where their friendly and knowledgeable staff will make you feel at ease. From surgical to non-surgical treatments for your face, body and skin, Drs. Anurag Agarwal, Richard Maloney and Kiranjeet Gill will help you take the first steps toward improving your appearance and enhancing your self-image. 239-594-9100; www.aestheticsurgerycenter.com.

BEST WAY TO FIX A PROBLEM

Frantz EyeCare

It’s not every day that you get to help solve a problem for a well-known and well-loved former NFL player and coach. So when Mike Ditka came to Frantz EyeCare for his cataract surgery, the team at Frantz EyeCare was grateful and humbled. “If you can fix a problem that you have, why wouldn’t you?” Mr. Ditka says. “Frantz EyeCare fixed my problem and did an outstanding job.” Dr. George Corrent was voted one of Castle Connolly’s BEST Doctors and Dr. Jonathan Frantz is the most experienced laser cataract surgeon in Florida and among the top laser cataract surgeons in the country. Dr. Frantz has also been voted BEST Cataract Surgeon by readers of the Fort Myers News-Press. If you think you may have cataracts, visit Dr. Frantz, Dr. Corrent and their team at one of five locations in Fort Myers, Naples, Cape Coral, Punta Gorda and Lehigh Acres. 239-488-0999; www.bettervision.net.
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BEST NATURAL LUXURY GIFT
Naples Soap Company

The skin struggle is real. Harsh commercial chemicals that you find in everyday soaps are most likely hurting more than helping. So why not give the gift of natural, organic ingredients used in the products at Naples Soap Company? Help your loved ones to heal and repair bothersome skin conditions such as eczema or psoriasis. Give them relaxation as they soak the stress away with one of NSC’s unbelievable bath bombs or scrub away all of their troubles with a gentle exfoliator. In this tropical climate, skincare is incredibly important. With countless remedies to soothe and revive, Naples Soap Company can restore and protect your skin in a natural, luxurious way. 239-325-8263; www.naplessoap.com.

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Best

BEST NON-COSMETIC MAKEOVER
The Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club

We can all use a little nip-and-tuck now and then to keep us looking fresh. But the Naples Beach Hotel golf course went above and beyond by collaborating with course designer Jack Nicklaus and architect John Sanford for a total redesign and renovation. The $9 million project was completed this past December and memberships sold out in an instant. Now there’s a wait list to join. That shows you how important it is to know when to get a makeover.

BEST PLACE TO ENHANCE YOUR NATURAL BEAUTY
Aesthetic Plastic Surgery of Naples

It’s no secret that Kent V. Hasen, M.D.—Aesthetic Plastic Surgery & Med Spa of Naples is the go-to center for all surgical and non-surgical cosmetic treatments in Southwest Florida. Their welcoming environment and accommodating staff make them the BEST at what they do. As a board certified plastic surgeon, Dr. Hasen strives to enrich and improve the lives of his patients using advanced technology in his state-of-the-art facility. If you are looking for a non-surgical procedure, they offer a variety of relaxing med-spa treatments. Visit their beautiful new office off Airport-Pulling Road to see for yourself. 239-262-5662; www.drhansen.com.

BEST DESIGNER FINDS
True Fashionistas

True Fashionistas designer resale and online design er consignment store is first on every Southwest Florida fashionista’s list for its selection of high-quality, gently used clothing and accessories. Need to spruce up your wardrobe? Drop by the store or shop online for men’s, women’s and children’s clothing. With a 100 percent authenticity guarantee, True Fashionistas carries designer brands including Burberry, Christian Dior, Kate Spade, Tiffany & Co., Valentino, Yves Saint Laurent and many, many more. 239-596-5044; www.truefashionistaresale.com; www.shopseiconsign.com.

BEST PLACE TO BE SEEN
Malkani Retina Center

The sunsets, the palm trees, the historic landmarks — Southwest Florida boasts a plethora of beautiful sights, but if you don’t take care of your eye health you could miss out. Take the BEST care of your eyes by being seen at Malkani Retina Center, the premier practice offering advanced treatment options for macular degeneration, retinal detachment and diabetic retinopathy. Malkani Retina Center is led by renowned retina surgeon Dr. Sunil Malkani, who applies state-of-the-art medical and surgical skills with a thoughtful, human touch. 239-324-4888; www.MRCmd.com.
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Gulfside Chiropractic

Chiropractic is based on the principle that the relationship between the body's structure, mainly the spine, and its function, governed by the nervous system, affects overall health and wellness. This structure and function relationship is addressed through specific, gentle and effective chiropractic adjustments to the spine and extremities. The Doctors at Gulfside Chiropractic utilize a multi-faceted approach to health and wellness. We believe in a hands-on, drug-free, patient-centered model, focusing on individualized treatments to meet the needs of our community. The three doctors at Gulfside Chiropractic Health Center have the passion and skills to help you reach your health and performance goals. Our goal is to help you achieve yours. Drs. Emily Flynn, Kreg D. Sherman II and Kimberly Sanborn. 239-908-9762; www.gulfsidechiropractic.com.

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**BEST PLACE FOR ORGANIC ANTI-AGING AND RELAXATION**
Purely You Spa

Purely You Spa is the destination for those looking for anti-aging skincare and relaxation. All products used are organic and customized, which gives the skin and body a greater sense of well-being. Immerse yourself in the ambiance of a waterfall while the extensively trained staff goes above and beyond to pamper you. At Purely You Spa, they focus on customizing to the needs of each guest to provide the BEST overall experience. Call to set up an appointment at the only certified organic spa in Naples and experience the organic difference. 239-331-8266; www.purelyyouspa.com.

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**BEST NON-INVASIVE BODY SCULPTING FOR FAT REDUCTION**
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No matter how much you exercise, there are always some pesky bulges that never seem to go away, right? Not anymore. You can now say goodbye to those stubborn areas at Pura Vida Medical Spa with body sculpting that doesn't require painful surgery or downtime. Pura Vida uses CoolSculpting technology to gently crystalize (freeze) fat cells away to give you a more sculpted look wherever you need it. The BEST news? Once those fat cells are frozen, they never come back. Husband-and-wife team Jill Salata, a nurse practitioner, and Eric Salata, M.D., who trained at Georgetown University and The Mayo Clinic, will find the procedure and plan that’s BEST for your body. The staff at Pura Vida is friendly, down-to-earth and extremely knowledgeable about all medi-spa treatments. Pura Vida Medical Spa offers a range of other services as well, including Botox, dermal fillers, laser skincare for face, neck and for hair removal, ThermiVa, radio frequency tightening, Kybella, platelet rich plasma, Hydrafacial MD and more. Call today or visit the website for more information. You deserve the best. 239-919-7872; www.puravidanaples.com.
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BEST WAY TO BE HEALTHY
Mother Earth Natural Foods

The right diet can help reduce the risk of high cholesterol, obesity, diabetes and other health-related issues. Whether you are hoping to drastically change your lifestyle or simply want to start making healthier decisions, Mother Earth provides an extensive collection of healthy foods and wellness products. Since 1975, the company has served area customers quality natural foods, fresh produce, nutrition and health supplements, weight management products and more. There are now six locations where you can find organic and gluten-free foods, fresh produce, frozen and refrigerated foods, healthy snacks and pet food. Whether you’re a long-time health nut or are ready to make a change, Mother Earth is the place to go. 239-939-0990; www.MotherEarthNatFds.com.

BEST NATURAL AND ORGANIC SKINCARE
Moxie Creed

With the motto “Skincare Beyond Chemistry,” Moxie Creed offers facial cleanser, moisturizer and daily serum made from organic ingredients and a formula based on the understanding that nature created the perfect editions of what our bodies need to remain healthy and free of disease (or to heal, when needed). Owner Julie Koester believes amazing skin has never required chemistry, but it does require education. A Ph.D. candidate in public health, she says that just as we know chemicals in food will cause damage, skincare with chemicals causes damage to our bodies in similar ways — it just enters through the skin instead of the mouth. Ms. Koester describes herself as “a veteran vegan, passionate researcher, nutrition renegade, purist gourmand and maverick single parent, slavishly devoted to saving the world by harnessing nature at its finest.” 305-306-1220 www.MoxieCreed.com.
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Call us crazy
Sometimes it’s called “Flori-Duh,” and there’s no denying it: The Sunshine State seems to have more than its share of crazy politics and colorful folks who are always doing something worth noting. Here are some of the BEST from our files.

BEST FREEZE OUT OF THE PRESS
South Florida legislators
For the 2017 legislative session, we reached out to every member of the delegation in Florida Weekly’s distribution areas several times, by phone and email, to ask them to respond briefly to some basic questions about the upcoming session: our water problem, distribution areas several times, by phone and email, to ask them to respond briefly to some basic questions about the upcoming session: our water problem, the rights of gun owners, sanctuary cities, marijuana
out on her showing condolences for gay victims after proposing measures to limit domestic partner’s rights.

BEST LIVE ON-AIR CALLOUT
Anderson Cooper
CNN’s Anderson Cooper covered the Pulse night-club tragedy in Orlando and while interviewing Flori-ada Attorney General Pam Bondi about it, called her out on her showing condolences for gay victims after proposing measures to limit domestic partner’s rights.

BEST PLACE TO NOT ARGUE POLITICS
Private Facebook groups
Most of us were raised to never discuss religion or politics at the dinner table, but with the current deri-sive political atmosphere, Democrats and Republicans are desperate for safe places to sound off. Whether you think Donald Trump is the bomb-diggety or you believe his presidency is a complete bomb, there are plenty of Facebook groups where you can find like-minded folk — and since they’re private, only mem-bers of the group can comment on the pontifications therein. Love Trumps Hate is a locally founded Face-book group where liberals can speak freely; Friends Who Support President Donald J. Trump is a haven for those who want to trumpet the POTUS. If you can’t stand confrontation and you’re trying to avoid trolls, private political Facebook groups are a good place to get it all off your chest — without hav-ing to slug through name-calling and rants in all caps.

BEST DUMBASS GUN PROPOSAL
State Sen. Greg Steube (R-District 230)
There are people who appreciate guns and then there’s Sen. Greg Steube, who proposed a package of laws that would allow 1.7 million gun owners in Florida to carry their concealed weapons into court-houses, into colleges and high schools, middle and elementary and nursery schools, into airport termi-nals, bars, churches, libraries, city council and county commission meetings. We could talk about allowing some licensed gun owners into a few of these places, perhaps, but angry exes in courthouses during con-tentious divorce hearings? Pissed-off people at city council meetings? Drunken frat-boys and depressed students? Libraries?

Is unarmed peace and co-existence a virtue we should insist on anywhere at all? And when law enforcement shows up to the scene of an actual shootout, they’ll easily be able to tell the good guys from the bad guys, right? Maybe. Sen. Steube, you’ve just seen “Unforgiven” one too many times. Maybe you should take off your holster, cowboy, sit down and think this over.

BEST POWER STRUGGLE
Amendment 1
Florida’s power companies thought they’d pull a fast one on voters when they tried to limit rooftop solar expansion. Utility-backed political committees pro-moted the amendment as protecting consumers and encouraging solar, when what it really would have done was add fees and costs to rooftop solar users while lining the pockets of the power companies. Good thing it failed.
Since 1990, we have performed innovative cosmetic procedures on more than 25,000 patients. Dr. Peña is considered to be one of the leading surgeons in Southwest Florida. Whatever type of cosmetic option you are considering, we can promise we'll work hard to deliver spectacular care and do all we can to get your face and body looking great.

Aesthetic Surgery of the FACE, BREAST & BODY

Non-Surgical Skin Tightening of the FACE & BODY

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Non-Surgical Vaginal Rejuvenation
Also Improves Mild To Moderate Urinary Incontinence

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Naples, Florida 34119
Southwest Florida’s #1 FLOORING CHOICE

With over 50 years of floor covering experience, Wayne Wiles Floor Coverings is the area leader in floor covering. Thousands of homes and offices have experienced the quality products and professional service Wayne Wiles Floor Coverings is known for. As a locally owned and operated business, we can respond to your needs quickly and provide personalized service with guaranteed customer satisfaction. Wayne Wiles Floor Coverings is now Southwest Florida’s only Daltile Statements Dealer, offering the area’s largest selection of Daltile stone, porcelain, ceramic, and decorative accents.

Need carpet?
Wayne Wiles Floor Coverings is not only Lee County’s exclusive Stainmaster Flooring Center, but we are one of the Top 100 Karastan Showrooms in the USA.

Southwest Florida’s Floor Experts

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(239) 482-7600 | WayneWiles.com
Montura Country Living on 1.25 Acres
Spacious doublewide 3 bed 2 bath manufactured home on 1.25 acres is move in ready. Back & front porch. Detached garage with storage. $73,900
1-866-657-2300
800LE025967.

Gulf Access Condo “Turnkey”
Fully furnished two bedroom condos. Clean and move in ready. Huge heated community pool. Easy access to entertainment. $76,000
1-866-657-2300
800CC027733.

Great Investment Property
This 4 bedroom unit is ready to be remodeled for your home or for your rental property. $75,000
1-866-657-2300
800LE030034.

Doll House
Well maintained cottage close to beach complex. Utilities are upgraded, move in condition. $75,500
1-866-657-2300
800FM016902.

55+ Community – You Own the Land
2/2 Very nice! Restored! Over 1400 sqft, wood laminate floors new paint inside and out. Pool clubhouse must see. $76,000
1-866-657-2300
800CC016170.

3/1 Single Family Home in Port Charlotte
Nice home with open kitchen with high ceilings. Fenced back yard with huge shed. Close to shopping and boat ramp. $102,800
1-866-657-2300
800CH233974.

Condo in Bonita Springs
1/1 clean condo in a great gated community complete with resort style pool, hot tub, fitness center, club house. $114,900
1-866-657-2300
800BS076435.

Doll House
Well maintained cottage close to beach complex. Utilities are upgraded, move in condition. $75,500
1-866-657-2300
800FM016902.

Turnkey Attached Villa
Clean as a whistle and move in ready. New carpet and freshly painted. New Samsung washer and dryer. Eat-in kitchen. $129,900
1-866-657-2300
800FM026772.

Condo with an Awesome View
Habitswarme condo well maintained with gulf access and is only minutes from the river! $139,900
1-866-657-2300
800CC014677.

Spacious Townhouse
Sandalwood Estates is centrally located in the exclusive South Point area and close to restaurants, beaches, Rutenberg. $134,999
1-866-657-2300
800FM047355.

Kelly Greens Terrace Condo-Golf & Lake View
2nd floor condo on Kelly Greens Championship golf course offered turnkey! $147,900
1-866-657-2300
800FM026772.

2 Bed 2 Bath Condo at The Enclave of Naples
2 Bed 2 bath first floor all tile handicapped accessible condo. Split floor plan with both bathrooms completely remodeled. $158,000
1-866-657-2300
800FM034632.

3/1 Single Family Home in Port Charlotte
Nice spacious home. With vinyl plank flooring, kitchen nook and nice walk in closet. Close to schools and shopping. $159,900
1-866-657-2300
800CH236315.

2/2 in San Mirage - Bonita Springs
Spacious 2 bed/2 bath ground floor corner unit with screened lanai and storage space. Over 1000 sqft. of living area. $159,900
1-866-657-2300
800BS013419.

Desirable West Lehigh Home
Clean 3/2 1/2 home with open floor plan, screened lanai, laundry room, fenced yard, security system, sprinkler system. $162,000
1-866-657-2300
800FM076417.

Great Move in Ready NE Gator Circle Home
Corner lot with large screened lanai in back and nice open porch on front. Make this 3 bedroom 2 bath home yours today! $165,000
1-866-657-2300
800CC011818.

3 Bed 2 Bath Coach Home Gulf Hideaway
Don’t miss this one - 3 bedrooms and 2 baths! $169,000
1-866-657-2300
800FM025948.

Fully Furnished in the Heart of Cape Coral
Almost 1300 sqft, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, garage, tile throughout the home, screened in patio, beautiful back yard. $169,500
1-866-657-2300
800FM016902.

Lehigh Acres

Visit www.c21sunbelt.com to view all available listings!
Beautiful 3 Bedroom 2 Bath Home
This beautiful 3 bed 2 bath home has tons to offer w/9174 ft² and 11 ft ceilings. This 2 1/2 bath home makes a great home for family living. 1-866-657-2300
$169,900
800FM018174

Fantastic 3/2 Metal Roof, Front & Back Porches
Fantastical! 3/2 home! Great front and back porches to enjoy the days and evenings! Friendly, open floor plan. 1-866-657-2300
$169,900
800FM018174

Spacious 3 Bedroom Townhome
Lowest priced townhome in Lakewood Village. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1 car garage centrally located to beaches. 1-866-657-2300
$170,000
800FM016498

SE Cape Charmers
4 homes that need nothing is hard to find, so STOP looking here it is! 3 1/2 w/ 3/2 w/ open floor plan and new tile. 1-866-657-2300
$171,900
800FM017058

First Floor Veranda with Great Lakeview
Lovely 2/2 carriage home with den. Great view of water and golf course. 1-866-657-2300
$239,500
800FM016498

Lowest priced townhome in Lakewood Village. 3 bed, 2 bath, 1 car garage in the resort style community of Villagio. 1-866-657-2300
$179,900
800FM054547

Beautiful Concordia 3/2 condo w/ many upgrades and new A/C. Enjoy the picture beautiful view from any back window. 1-866-657-2300
$182,500
800FM020541

Gated Community, 2 Car Garage
Beautifully maintained condo w/ 2 car garage, 2 bedrooms, in quiet gated community. Back faces East so you can enjoy. 1-866-657-2300
$184,000
800FM020541

Privacy and Tranquility
This spacious three bedroom, two bath, plus den home features beautiful tile throughout and new carpet in the bedrooms. 1-866-657-2300
$179,900
800FM020541

Heatherstone at Rookery Pointe in Estero
Charming 2 1/2 bedroom in gated community w/1 car garage, lake and sunset views w/ extended lanai. 1-866-657-2300
$239,900
800FM049674

Fully remodeled. It is move-in ready and priced to sell. 1-866-657-2300
$189,500
800FM013177

Beautiful 2 Bedroom
This is a beautiful 2 bedroom 1 1/2 car garage home located in a Island Club gated community just off 75. 1-866-657-2300
$224,900
800FM026517

Fully remodeled. It is move-in ready and priced to sell. 1-866-657-2300
$218,000
800FM028019

Spacious 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath Home
Located in a Island Club gated community just off 75. 1-866-657-2300
$220,000
800FM017985

Located is a Plus with this One
This affordable 2 bedroom pool home has been beautifully remodeled. It is move in ready and priced to sell. 1-866-657-2300
$235,000
800FM026517

Half Duplex - 4 Bed 3 Bath-Great Location
Half Duplex with 4 bedroom and 3 bathrooms in great location! Very close to Gulf Coast Town Center. Florida Gulf Coast. 1-866-657-2300
$259,000
800FM019157

Immaculate Carriage Home 3/2 in Majestic Palms
Must see! 1st floor carriage home with garage and partial lake view. 1-866-657-2300
$215,900
800FM011961

Immaculate Fort Myers Townhouse
2 bedroom 2 bath townhome w/ 2 car garage! New carpet, new A/C and more! Located in the heart of Fort Myers. 1-866-657-2300
$184,900
800FM013177

First Floor Veranda
First Floor Veranda w/great view! 1-866-657-2300
$171,900
800FM020541

First Floor Veranda w/great view! 1-866-657-2300
$171,900
800FM020541

Low maintenance fees. 1-866-657-2300
$179,999
800LE012186

Located in Majestic Palms w/a 2 car garage and split floor plan in the heart of Cape Coral featuring 2 bedrooms/2 bath on each side. Each unit is 861 sqft. 1-866-657-2300
$189,500
800CC026877

Location is a Plus with this One
This fantastic move in ready home offers 3 bed & a great den space. Enjoy the picture beautiful view from any back window. 1-866-657-2300
$218,000
800FM020541

Location is a Plus with this One
This is a beautiful 2 bedroom 2 1/2 bath home located in San Carlos Park. 1-866-657-2300
$220,000
800FM017985

Look No Further Your Large Home Waiting for You
This fantastic move in ready home offers 3 bed & a great den space. Enjoy the picture beautiful view from any back window. 1-866-657-2300
$220,000
800FM017985

Heatherstone at Rookery Pointe in Estero
Charming 2 1/2 bedroom in gated community w/1 car garage, lake and sunset views w/ extended lanai. 1-866-657-2300
$239,900
800FM049674

Heatherstone at Rookery Pointe in Estero
Charming 2 1/2 bedroom in gated community w/1 car garage, lake and sunset views w/ extended lanai. 1-866-657-2300
$239,900
800FM049674

Heatherstone at Rookery Pointe in Estero
Charming 2 1/2 bedroom in gated community w/1 car garage, lake and sunset views w/ extended lanai. 1-866-657-2300
$239,900
800FM049674

Gated Community, 2 Car Garage
Beautifully maintained condo w/ 2 car garage, 2 bedrooms, in quiet gated community. Back faces East so you can enjoy. 1-866-657-2300
$184,000
800FM020541

Privacy and Tranquility
This spacious three bedroom, two bath, plus den home features beautiful tile throughout and new carpet in the bedrooms. 1-866-657-2300
$179,900
800FM020541

Beautiful Carriage Home
Beautiful Carriage Home w/5Ft fenced yard & split floor plan makes it a great home for family. 1-866-657-2300
$169,900
800FM018174

Visit www.C21SUNBELT.com to view all available listings!
1-866-657-2300

Beautiful 3/2 Pool Home on Oversize Lot
Beautiful 3/2 pool home on oversized lot in Cape Coral. Home on Pelican area located close to schools, shopping and more!  
$240,500  
1-866-657-2300 800CC020402.

Watch the Sunset from Your Terrace
Utopia Tuscany Village condo located on 30th. Rubicon Canal is a pleasure! 2 bedroom, 2 bath, turnkey. 
$244,900  
1-866-657-2300 800CC217123.

Charming Pool Home in SW Cape Coral
3 bed/3 bath pool home in SW Cape Coral - quiet neighborhood, close to parks and Tayside Point Marina.  
$245,000  
1-866-657-2300 800CC217124.

Gated Community
2 bedrooms + den, 2 bath spacious home in The Reserve at Estero. 24 hour guard gated community surrounded by nature.  
$287,500  
1-866-657-2300 800CC027012.

Beautiful 3/2 Pool Home on Oversize Lot
Beautiful 3/2 pool home on oversize lot in Cape Coral.  
$284,900  
1-866-657-2300 800CC056614.

Fully Furnished Pool Home Close to Cape Harbour
Located in one of the most popular neighborhoods in the SW Cape. 3 bedrooms/2 bath pool home.  
$297,900  
1-866-657-2300 800CC225929.

Well Maintained Home w/New Roof
Open floor plan, volume ceilings, bay windows, hurricane shutters, 2 car garage. On an oversized lot!  
$329,000  
1-866-657-2300 800CC221683.

Magnificent 2 Story 3 Lot Site
2 master suites & 1/2 bath den formal living & dining. Family room 2 1/2 car garage. Many upgrades alarm system salt water pool.  
$329,900  
1-866-657-2300 800CC263707.

Remodeled Mid-Century Home
3/2 in the prestigious river side of the McGregor District. Remodeled throughout with a clean contemporary touch.  
$329,900  
1-866-657-2300 800CC227383.

The Reserve at Estero
Large 4/2/2 home built by Toll Brothers.  
$344,900  
1-866-657-2300 800FM165848.

Fenced Pool Home
This beautiful 3 bedroom 2 bath pool home sits on three lots. It is perfect in making it great for pets, kids.  
$349,500  
1-866-657-2300 800FM208639.

Beautiful Gulf Access - Salt Water Pool Home
Walk through the beautiful front door into a wide open floor plan to the living room dining and kitchen.  
$339,900  
1-866-657-2300 800CC0265880.

The Shores at Berkshire Lakes
Cul-de-sac bright villa set within a lush landscaped large corner lot.  
$349,500  
1-866-657-2300 800BG622625.

Intersecting Canal View
Cleverly designed floor plan takes advantage of the incredible view. Wow. Three bedroom, two bath open floor plan.  
$374,900  
1-866-657-2300 800CC225929.

Beautifully Remodeled Home
Beautifully remodeled 3 bedroom, 2.5 bathroom home on the sought after McGregor Pi River.  
$374,900  
1-866-657-2300 800CC225929.

Intersecting Canal View
Hot tub overlooking the canal and close to the boat dock!  
$415,000  
1-866-657-2300 800CC225929.

4 Bed, 3 Bath, 3 Car Garage, Pool Home, NW Cape Home has it all, tile and wood flooring, quartz counter tops, LED lights, crown molding, inground pool and lots more.  
$365,000  
1-866-657-2300 800CC270587.

Fenced in Home
Beautiful fenced in home w/no rear neighbors.  
$374,000  
1-866-657-2300 800CC270587.

Fully Furnished Pool Home
Located in one of the most popular neighborhoods in the SW Cape. 3 bedrooms/2 bath pool home.  
$399,900  
1-866-657-2300 800CC221683.

3 Bedroom 2 Bath Gateway Home
Well maintain 3 bed 2 bath home in gateway! Low home fees!!!  
$515,000  
1-866-657-2300 800FM053729.

3 Bedroom 2 Bath Gateway Home
Well maintain 3 bed 2 bath home in gateway! Low home fees!!!  
$525,000  
1-866-657-2300 800FM053729.

Cleverly designed floor plan takes advantage of the incredible view. Wow. Three bedroom, two bath open floor plan.  
$374,900  
1-866-657-2300 800CC225929.

Well Maintained Home w/New Roof
Open floor plan, volume ceilings, bay windows, hurricane shutters, 2 car garage. On an oversized lot!  
$329,000  
1-866-657-2300 800CC221683.

Beautifully Remodeled Home
Beautifully remodeled 3 bedroom, 2.5 bathroom home on the sought after McGregor Pi River.  
$374,900  
1-866-657-2300 800CC225929.

3 Bedroom 2 Bath Gateway Home
Well maintain 3 bed 2 bath home in gateway! Low home fees!!!  
$515,000  
1-866-657-2300 800FM053729.

3 Bedroom 2 Bath Gateway Home
Well maintain 3 bed 2 bath home in gateway! Low home fees!!!  
$525,000  
1-866-657-2300 800FM053729.
CAPE CORAL

SW Cape 4 Bedroom Pool Home
This custom built 4 bedroom pool home is waiting for a new owner.
$374,900
1-866-657-2300
800FM042595.

Waterfront - Sandoval Style
lakefront home in award winning community with resort style amenities. 2 bed/2 bath, studio, granite kitchen, 3 car garage!
$379,900
1-866-657-2300
800C2004441.

PORT CHARLOTTE

Beautiful 3/2 Waterfront Pool Home in Port Charlotte
Gorgeous well maintained pool home with amenities. Canal waterfront. 3 car garage. Come see it!
$419,900
1-866-657-2300
800C2004418.

Beautiful River Front Property
Beautiful 3 bedroom 2 bath with an oversized garage plus den home is on the Caloosahatchee River.
$419,900
1-866-657-2300
800LE17862.

LABELLE

Southern Exposure, 4 Bed 3 Bath, Solar Heated Pool
Formal living, dining and family areas with 2 side fireplaces, breakfast nook large entertaining patio. Amenities paid.
$429,900
800C2014871.

CAPE CORAL

SW Cape Gulf Access Luxury
Gulf access southern exposure 4/2/2 in lightly desired SW Cape Coral. Oversize heated pool. 
$449,900
1-866-657-2300
800M071826.

CAPE CORAL

Gulf Access Home Site on Large Lot
3 bed 3 bath 2 car garage home in NW Cape Coral with gulf access. Built with a 2-room separate living space. Open floor plan.
$469,900
1-866-657-2300
800C201276.

SANIBEL

Slumming Sanibel Retreat
Sanibel Beachfront home in the community. 
$475,000
1-866-657-2300
800LE015662.

PORT CHARLOTTE

Beautiful Canal Front Pool Home in Port Charlotte
Beautiful well kept 4/2 canal front pool home. Beautiful living space and outdoor landscaping! Don’t miss it!
$499,000
1-866-657-2300
800A236581.

ESTERO

See Right thru House to Awesome Water View
Outside you will find a beautiful pool, brick paved deck.
$495,000
800FM071219.

ST. JAMES CITY

Waterfront Living in Pine Island
Enjoy this spacious 2 story home with direct access (1200 feet) to the open water. A cook’s kitchen, heated pool/spa.
$625,000
800FM076890.

NAPLES

Water views-Over 200’ of Seawall-Direct Sailboat Access
3/3 Pool home, 10,000 pound boat lift, newer kitchen. Water views from almost every room in the house.
$750,000
1-866-657-2300
800C2004889.

CAPE CORAL

Four Story 3/2.5 Pool Home on the Water
Completely updated island home with expansive water views. 4 floors total w/3 bed plus a Den. Wood and tile flooring.
$885,000
1-866-657-2300
800C2002119.

BOKEELIA

Have you been Dreaming of a Designer Home
Don’t miss out on this beautifully appointed exceptional floor plan.
$645,900
800FM075268.

CAPE CORAL

Waterfront Beauty on 195’ Deep Lot
This stunning home has been completely rebuilt in 1997 with upgrades such as a 2nd story hip roof. Stunning views!!
$1,058,000
1-866-657-2300
800C2005785.

FORT MYERS

Four Story 3/2.5 Pool Home on the Water
Completely updated island home with expansive water views. 4 floors total w/3 bed plus a Den. Wood and tile flooring.
$885,000
1-866-657-2300
800C2002119.

FORT MYERS

Stunning Canal Home
Breathtaking views of the bay! Watch sea life & shrimp boats! Superb location! Open-floor plan.
$1,695,000
800FM073496.

FORT MYERS

Ft. Myers Contemporary Estate Home
This is a two story estate home has been totally renovated.
$2,099,000
800FM002484.

CAPE CORAL

Location Location Location
4/3 pool home with sailboat access!! Minutes to river for boating and great fishing. Very sleek and modern in design.
$897,000
800FM062585.

BOKEELIA

4/3 pool home with sailboat access!! Minutes to river for boating and great fishing. Very sleek and modern in design.
$897,000
800FM062585.

CAPE CORAL

Riverfront Beauty on 195’ Deep Lot
This stunning home has been completely rebuilt in 1997 with upgrades such as a 2nd story hip roof. Stunning views!!
$1,058,000
1-866-657-2300
800C2005785.

St. James City

Have you been Dreaming of a Designer Home
Don’t miss out on this beautifully appointed exceptional floor plan.
$645,900
800FM075268.

Sanibel

Slumming Sanibel Retreat
Sanibel Beachfront home in the community. 
$475,000
1-866-657-2300
800LE015662.

Estero

See Right thru House to Awesome Water View
Outside you will find a beautiful pool, brick paved deck.
$495,000
800FM071219.

Waterfront Living in Pine Island
Enjoy this spacious 2 story home with direct access (1200 feet) to the open water. A cook’s kitchen, heated pool/spa.
$625,000
800FM076890.

St. James City

Waterfront Living in Pine Island
Enjoy this spacious 2 story home with direct access (1200 feet) to the open water. A cook’s kitchen, heated pool/spa.
$625,000
800FM076890.

St. James City

See Right thru House to Awesome Water View
Outside you will find a beautiful pool, brick paved deck.
$495,000
800FM071219.

St. James City

Have you been Dreaming of a Designer Home
Don’t miss out on this beautifully appointed exceptional floor plan.
$645,900
800FM075268.

St. James City

Waterfront Beauty on 195’ Deep Lot
This stunning home has been completely rebuilt in 1997 with upgrades such as a 2nd story hip roof. Stunning views!!
$1,058,000
1-866-657-2300
800C2005785.

St. James City

Location Location Location
4/3 pool home with sailboat access!! Minutes to river for boating and great fishing. Very sleek and modern in design.
$897,000
800FM062585.

Hunt Club

Waterfront Beauty on 195’ Deep Lot
This stunning home has been completely rebuilt in 1997 with upgrades such as a 2nd story hip roof. Stunning views!!
$1,058,000
1-866-657-2300
800C2005785.

Hunt Club

Location Location Location
4/3 pool home with sailboat access!! Minutes to river for boating and great fishing. Very sleek and modern in design.
$897,000
800FM062585.

St. James City

Have you been Dreaming of a Designer Home
Don’t miss out on this beautifully appointed exceptional floor plan.
$645,900
800FM075268.

St. James City

Waterfront Beauty on 195’ Deep Lot
This stunning home has been completely rebuilt in 1997 with upgrades such as a 2nd story hip roof. Stunning views!!
$1,058,000
1-866-657-2300
800C2005785.