SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

For the past 32 years, there have been no drug- or alcohol-related deaths in Collier County involving high school seniors on graduation night. A large part of that statistic is thanks to Project Graduation, where new graduates enjoy a night of fun and celebration with their friends in a safe, drug- and alcohol-free environment.

On Friday, May 25, after they walk the stage, shake hands, toss their caps and hug their family and friends, Collier County’s newest grads will be able to party like it’s 2018 from 11 p.m. to 4 a.m. at the Greater Naples YMCA. They’ll enjoy an all-you-can-eat buffet and a Starbucks coffee house, karaoke, a mechanical bull, photo booths, laser tag and other games plus live entertainment by the Ben Allen Band and a hypnotist.

A 2005 Ford Focus will be raffled off to one lucky attendee, and each high school also contributes prizes that will be raffled.

Florida is a driver’s paradise. Sure, we might occasionally get stuck behind a slow-going tourist rental car. But we are also at the crossroads of history, money and climate to be one of the best places for an automotive enthusiast. It starts with some great hidden gems that have been repurposed for drivers. One is Naples, where the city’s streets are lined with classic cars.

BY MYLES KORNBLATT
Florida Weekly Auto Writer

PROJECT GRADUATION: WHERE GRADS CELEBRATE SAFELY

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It boils down to this: Memory consists of what you saw. Take one step off the edge of that platform and you’re standing in a cemetery called history — what other people saw and recorded and what others yet concluded about it. History is a grave marker, an epitaph. Memory is alive.

The terrible adventure of World War I, therefore, is now for all purposes lost to memory. World War I is history.

But every breath we take still trembles with the inhalations of 6 million murdered European Jews and at least 23 million other civilians killed by genocide or in military action on the planet in World War II. Total military deaths from all causes number 21 million to 25 million, according to government and historic estimates; 407,300 were American. The victims are not yet lost to memory. As they did elsewhere, at Auschwitz as a general term includes several nearby locations — Auschwitz BII-Birkenau, which served both as a slave labor camp and an extermination camp with efficiently built gas chambers — and Auschwitz I. Between May 1940 and May 1945 when the Germans surrendered to the Allies, 1.1 million people died at Auschwitz alone.

Many victims whose last sight was the inside of a chamber would live among us today, if Hitler had been stopped earlier. They’d be old now, children born in the 1920s or ’30 or early ’40s. For all practical purposes they lived in our world, a world with electricity and indoor plumbing; with radio and telephone; with books, journals and daily newspapers. They would have understood us because theirs was the beginning of our culture, with its computers and cell phones and social media.

You know those people, and so do I: vibrant children with missing teeth and big smiles; hard-working parents who loved them; kindly old folks who put those kids on their knees. They were beautiful young women and men who could have fallen in love, shared sex, work, friendship and lives, and made a million new worlds of healthy babies and hope.

But they were killed in an organized, cattle-herd slaughter, a genocide, by German Nazis and fellow Europeans.

We will offer this simple plea or prayer, therefore: Let us remember them while we can.

Let us celebrate their lives by knowing their tragic history.

And let us share that history with our children, always.
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In spite of all the controversy about Scott Pruitt's cushy D.C. condo, it's entirely appropriate that he was getting a sweetheart deal on a place to sleep. After all, for his entire political career, he's been in bed with the special business interests who resist any and all government efforts to protect against their ravaging of the environment.

In Alabama, there've been no lawyers, then attorney general, and now the Trump administration's Environmental Protection Agency administrator, Pruitt has been a stalwart opponent of any regulation that would get in the way of the energy companies that have been his patrons. They and their extremist advocates have rewarded his efforts on their behalf handsomely.

Now that he has brought their bought-and-paid-for agenda to Washington, he has turned the EPA into the "Environmental Punishment Agency." He has been dismantling clean-planet rules left and right, and is dogmatically ignoring climate change science as he represents big business in pushing President Donald Trump's anti-regulation agenda.

He's also been living large, or trying to. His ridiculously cheap living arrangement at a lobbyist-owned apartment within the distance of the Capitol has been exposed by media reports, so he violated scoundrel rule No. 1 — which is, of course, "don't get caught." He was charged $50 a night, far, far below market rate in D.C., but even with all his thieves, he's got ten greedy. And clumsy.

In fact, Pruitt is quickly becoming legendary, even by Washington's dreary standards. His insistence on spending $40,000-plus of taxpayer money to construct a soundproof telephone room at his agency for his use was just one embarrassment. Until the drumbeat of criticism got too loud, he insisted on flying first class. EPA policy requires economic seating, with permission granted for an upgrade in exceptional circumstances.

Pruitt has adopted a policy of avoiding any but the friendliest, churning out interviews with the likes of Fox News and the right-wing Washington Times. However, even the Fox News interview was awkward, with correspondent Ed Henry asking tougher questions than expected. The former EPA administrator, then plain and simple, looking bad on TV is the original sin in the Gospel According to Donald Trump.

So down at Casa Blanca, el presidente is trying to determine whether all the bad publicity is enough to dredge Scott Pruitt to the list of those he must replace. On the one hand, Pruitt has been shamelessly effective at gutting environment-saving regulations at the EPA. That pleases POTUS, who insists he has full confidence in Pruitt.

But is that the Don Trump Kiss of Death? The indicators are becoming familiar. The president and maybe Chief of Staff John Kelly assure the unfortunate one that they have his back. At the same time, Sarah Huckabee Sanders or another White House-designated knife-wielder makes it clear that they possibly mean that his back is there to stab. So here was Sanders, making sure reporters knew: "We’re reviewing the situation. When we have had a chance to have a deeper dive on it, we’ll let you know the outcomes of that.”

Scott Pruitt may be the next to take the dive — with concrete. If he’s smart, even while he struggles to stay on, he'll be making sure all those wealthy special interests are there when he leaves power, so he can cash in his chips.

— Rich Lowry is an Emmy Award-winning reporter who covered Washing-

ton for more than 20 years with CNN.

Mark Zuckerberg's insufferable trip

Once again, Mark Zuckerberg is sorry. The founder of Facebook, who has apologized for privacy breaches throughout much of his company's existence, is back at it, on a much larger scale than ever before.

The proximate cause is the Cambridge Analytica controversy. In violation of Facebook's rules, the Trump-linked political consultancy schemed to get access to the data of 87 million users. This has made Facebook a scapegoat for President Donald Trump's victory on par with the Russians and James Comey (at least before the FBI director got fired and became a Trump adversary).

It's not Zuckerberg's fault that he has suddenly been deemed on the wrong side of history, but the Cambridge Analytica blowup is bringing a useful spotlight on the most sanctimoniously self-regarding large company in America. Facebook can't bear to admit that it has garnered the largest collection of data known to man to sell ads against and line the pockets of its founder and investors.

The problem isn't that Mark Zuckerberg is a businessman, and an exceptionally gifted one, but that he pretends to have stumbled out of the lyrics of John Lennon's song "Imagine." To listen to him, Facebook is all about connectivity and openness — he just happens to have made enough $63 billion as the T-shirt-wearing champion of "the global community," whatever that means.

It's this pose that makes him and other Facebook officials sound so shifty. In a rocky interview with Savannah Guthrie of the "Today" show, Sheryl Sandberg was asked what product Facebook sells. "We're selling the opportunity to connect with people," she said, before catching herself, "but it's not for sale."

Something or other must be for sale, or Facebook is the first company to rocket to the top ranks of corporate America based on having no product or profit motive. Guthrie, persisting, stated that Facebook sweeps up data for the use of advertisers. Sandberg objected: "We are not sweeping data. People are inputting data."

Uh, yeah. That's the genius of it. In a reported exchange of a recent collection of data known to man to sell ads against and line the pockets of its founder and investors, Facebook can't bear to admit that it has garnered the largest collection of data known to man to sell ads against and line the pockets of its founder and investors.

"The indicators are becoming familiar. The president and maybe Chief of Staff John Kelly assure the unfortunate one that they have his back. At the same time, Sarah Huckabee Sanders or another White House-designated knife-wielder makes it clear that they possibly mean that his back is there to stab. So here was Sanders, making sure reporters knew: “We’re reviewing the situation. When we have had a chance to have a deeper dive on it, we’ll let you know the outcomes of that.”

Scott Pruitt may be the next to take the dive — with concrete. If he’s smart, even while he struggles to stay on, he’ll be making sure all those wealthy special interests are there when he leaves power, so he can cash in his chips. — Bob Franken is an Emmy Award-winning reporter who covered Washing-ton for more than 20 years with CNN.
Only hospital rated 5 stars in SW Florida.
Recent tax changes present new opportunities for impactful giving

BY EDWARD WOLLMAN

With the recent changes to the tax code, Collier County philanthropists are taking advantage of new tax-favorable charitable opportunities to create real impact right here in our community.

With certain limitations being lifted, and other tax deductions expanded, donors have the ability to make keen financial decisions while simultaneously giving back to the community.

I refer to this as philanthropic estate planning. By partnering with charitable foundations that have deep roots in the community, people can create tax-favorable plans while contributing to causes that align with their personal values.

With the passing of the new tax law, it is critical to understand how your charitable giving is affected and how you can make sure your donations create tangible outcomes. By thoughtfully choosing where donations go, you can ensure long lasting impact on the community.

Thankfully there is good news for charitable-minded donors. The opportunities are now more prevalent for charitable-minded donors. The oppor-tunities are now more prevalent for charitable-minded donors.

Our firm, Wollman, Gehke & Associates, is proud to partner with the Community Foundation of Collier County, which represents exactly what we are speaking of with its mission to be a philanthropic partner and facilitator in addressing community issues.

So how does the tax change affect charitable organizations like the Community Foundation of Collier County? The story is business as usual. For most individual taxpayers who make substantial gifts to charity, the tax picture will most likely be very positive. A few notable changes include:

- The Pease limitations, which limited the income tax benefits for donating to charity, have been eliminated.
- Additionally, there is an increase in the ability to donate cash (as opposed to other assets) and write off more on your income tax return in the current year.
- And finally, the amount that you can pass to your heirs gift and estate tax-free has doubled. This will provide a great deal more assets in the control of the charitably inclined taxpayer who wants to control the destiny of their social capital.

The new tax changes also create new opportunities for charitable donors. Some of these changes allow for more creative approaches including bunching of deductions, cash gifts and tax-exempt investments and planned giving.

Here is an example of how the bunching technique works: In early 2018 you make your charitable donations for 2018. In late 2018 you make your 2019 anticipated charitable contributions to your donor-advised fund at the Community Foundation. In 2019, you advise the foundation that you wish to make the distributions to your favorite charities. This would result in the bunching of deductions in 2018 and the use of the Standard Deduction in 2019. Your CPA should be engaged to run projections.

If you wish to take advantage of the higher allowable adjusted gross income limitation for cash contributions to charity (now 60 percent of your AGI vs. 50 percent), you can seek to lower your AGI with your tax-exempt portfolio investments and then give away 60 percent of your AGI to reduce your tax on your taxable income from your tax-exempt portfolio.

Based on the higher gift and estate tax exemption and the repeal of the Pease limitations on the use of itemized deductions, this is a great time to set up a planned gift, including a Charitable Remainder Trust, a Charitable Lead Trust, a Charitable Gift Annuity or a Pooled Income Fund, just to name a few. The combination of the income tax savings and the gift and estate tax savings can be very powerful.

The good news is that we can utilize these new opportunities to come together as a community and create a culture of long-term sustainable charitable giving.

As always, before proceeding with any of these advantageous opportunities, it is necessary to run pro forma tax returns to see how the actual activity will play out in your actual situation. Please seek the advice of competent tax counsel.

Edward Wollman of Wollman, Gehke & Associates, P.A. is a member of the Community Foundation of Collier County’s Professional Advisor Committee. He wrote this column on behalf of the foundation.

At the intersection of divorce and new beginnings

Change is never easy when it comes to matters of the heart. If you are considering life changes in your relationship with significant others, let our experienced and compassionate attorneys guide you through the complex issues of divorce, prenuptial agreements, child custody, paternity, adoptions and domestic violence.
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off throughout the night. The Y and the Naples Auto Donation Center provide an older-model car for the raffle every year. “Grads have come here every year for the last 32 years to enjoy Project Graduation, and we are thrilled to host them once again,” said Carly Gibb, YMCA mission advancement director. “Our priority is to keep them safe and sober while they enjoy their big night.” The 2018 Project Graduation T-shirt was designed by Olivia Clubley, a student at Naples High. The shirts will serve as the new graduates’ ticket for admission to the party. Ms. Clubley received a $250 award from the Y for her winning artwork that was selected from more than three dozen entries by students from several high schools. Project Graduation T-shirts/tickets go on sale for $20 in the main office at every high school in Collier County starting in early May. On graduation night, all Project Graduation partiers will be picked up by school bus at Barron Collier High School and taken to the Y. Students cannot drive themselves or be dropped off at the Y. Of course, it takes lots of adult volunteers and donations from individuals and local businesses to pull off something like Project Graduation year after year. For information about volunteering your time or donating party goods or services, visit www.greaternaplesymca.org/projectgraduation or email cgibbs@greaternaplesymca.org.

As prom season nears, the Collier County Sheriff’s Office reminds teens and their parents to celebrate safely. It is important for parents, teens and party hosts to understand the laws in order to keep everyone safe. Some parents host after-prom parties where alcohol is provided, thinking that they can better protect teens by supervising their drinking and by keeping them from driving drunk. Deputies warn parents and guardians that they will be held responsible if any underage drinking occurs on their property and they could be subject to criminal and civil sanctions. Establishments that sell alcohol are reminded to ask patrons for ID. Underage sales and purchases could result in criminal prosecution. CCSO offers these tips to help parents and guardians keep teens safe during prom:

- Communicate with your teen about alcohol and drugs.
- Communicate with other parents about your expectations and theirs.
- Discuss your expectations and rules for prom and graduation outings.
- Know who will be driving and what your teen’s plans are.
- Make sure your teen has a cell phone. Establish times on prom night for your teen to call and check in with you.
- Remind your teen not to use alcohol or drugs, or ride in a vehicle with anyone under the influence.

- Never provide alcohol or drugs to your teen or others.
- Remind your teen to buckle up when riding in a vehicle.
- Get involved by volunteering to help at prom events.
- Don’t rent a hotel room for teens.
- Stay up until your teen gets home.

Regular and open communication between parents and teens can make a difference in preventing drunken driving, drug use, DUI accidents and other destructive behavior — and not just at prom time. It’s never too early to give your teens the information and tools they need to stay safe. And you can never do it too often.
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of the best examples is the number of remote air fields Florida had at the end of World War II. Decades of expansion have erased many of these, but ones like Buckingham Airfield east of Fort Myers have endured to become the perfect place to hold autocross events.

Established in 1942, the army airfield trained 50,000 gunners to defend bombers before closing in 1945. Since then it has quietly grown into a small airplane community, a hub for controlling the mosquito population, and the home of the Gulfcoast Autocrossers.

Autocross is a competition event where performance cars can legally be used to the fullest. These events traditionally need an open space of tarmac where courses can be laid out with something as simple (and forgiving) as plastic cones. Traditionally everything is welcomed from daily drivers to performance machines just legal enough to earn a license plate. They are divided into competitive categories, and everyone races the same course for the fastest time.

“Autocross is one of the most economic ways to do high-performance driving,” according to Mike Lawson, driver, instructor and member at Gulfcoast Autocrossers.

Mr. Lawson is quite competitive with a Scion FR-S. It’s a rear-wheel drive coupe that can be picked up for well under $30K at a dealership today, and it’s already ready for competition this weekend. After initial preparation, a local racer might only need a set of tires annually and suspension component semiannually. So, the investment in maintenance can be as low as $1,000 per year. But there is another side: “I’m a poster child for excess,” says Gulfcoast Autocrossers president Craig Ellis. He has a race-repaired 2008 Chevrolet Corvette C6, and that doesn’t even guarantee dominance. “I’ve spent a quarter-million, and I can still get beat by a nearly stock Miata,”

Mr. Ellis is not mismanaging his funds. It’s just more of a point about autocrossing is the driver,” says Mr. Lawson. It takes an investment in time to learn from other experts and practice on a racecourse to really be competitive. Gulfcoast is one of the few autocross organizations that also runs a school for novices. People like Mr. Ellis and Mr. Lawson take drivers in their own vehicles and help them understand what a sports car really can do. Those who get bit by the racing bug during the Saturday day learning sessions are the ones likely to pay $30 to hit the track on Sunday for the full event.

There is plenty more racing to be enjoyed across South Florida, which has led to an active chapter of the Sports Car Club of America. This is a sanctifying body and educational hub for people who want to drive full-speed on professional racecourses and/or want to move closer to professional competition.

For those who are more into grand touring than competing with their vehicles, South Florida also accommodates. The annual Florida Car Marathon takes place later this month. It’s a precision rally, which rewards participants for accurately holding a sustained reasonable average speed rather than high-performance driving. Thus, it provides the excitement of competition without needing to break legal speeds.

During its 500-mile run, the Florida Car Marathon will hit hotspots like the Sebring International Raceway. But no matter if it’s part of a driving event or just on a Sunday solo cruise, any enthusiast driving through south central Florida should make this stop.

Sebring is home to a 12-hour endurance race every spring that is one of the most famous in the world. This seven-decade tradition is where professional teams and ambitious amateurs are given half a day to prove their mettle.

“This is the long-standing testbed for the latest in road course racing,” said Jonathan Brownfield, a South Florida autocrosser, writer, Sebring attendee and all-around car-crazy enthusiast. “There’s a palpable excitement as past legends are connected through continuing to push the limits of competition and endurance.”

Even those who can’t make it to the 12 hours of Sebring can participate in some weekend SCCA and club events. And there is a ton of respect for any vehicle that spends time on this hallowed racing ground. Heck, even just an official coffee mug from the welcome center will get respectful nods from fellow enthusiasts.

Sebring is South Florida's most famous racetrack, but it's far from the only track. There is everything from amateurs running their quarter-mile drag racers at Palm Beach International Raceway, to the NASCAR season closer at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

While Gulfcoast is unique with its autocross school, many of these raceways will also have a driving school for those interested in learning how to properly get on the track.

But Florida’s automotive culture doesn’t have to be highly organized or expensive to enjoy. Anyone who doesn’t want to be part of a planned event can find pleasure in a lazy Sunday on the Tamiami Trail or get adventurous finding new back roads across our state. Even those who don’t want to go far can appreciate a local event in their affordable classic cars and/or just enjoy being a spectator.

The entire soul of Cars & Coffee is to move closer to professional competitions and/or want to move closer to professional competition.

One of the easiest car shows to find today is Cars & Coffee. While this tradition started out in California, the car-crazy lifestyle of Florida means that most major cities have someone organizing one locally. What keeps the event popular is its unpretentious spirit. A brand new 755 horsepower Corvette ZR1 can be parked next to a hodgepodge Volkswagen Beetle — both sharing the common thread of automotive passion.
one is charging money to park in the regular parking lot, and/or scrutinizing vehicles, then they don’t understand this grand tradition. But the good news is, even if the local one is getting greedy, there’s likely a proper Cars & Coffee right down the road.

When it comes to some of the best automotive events, snowbird season also often means car shows. So, while they might clog up the roads, some of this added traffic includes choice machines. Both the east coast and west coast of Florida have a terrific premium example of a winter event featuring one of the world’s most celebrated brands.

Every January the Cavallino Classic showcases multi-million-dollar classic Ferraris on the pristine lawns of The Breakers of Palm Beach. For those who can’t afford the exclusive ticket, or just want to see these supercars live up to their reputation, there is an alternative. There are track events at PBIR held the week before the show that remind us that these concours-level prancing horses still burn high-octane.

While the Cavallino thrives on exclusivity, Cars on Fifth is a Naples February tradition that is one of the most accessible events around. In fact, although it’s held by the local chapter of the Ferrari Club of America, the charity gathering has grown rapidly to invite everything from Jaguars to American muscle cars. The Elliott Museum on Stuart has a unique glass showcase showing of Packards. Muscle Car City in Punta Gorda lives up to its name with some of the best American big power machines around. The Elliott Museum in Stuart has a unique glass showcase that can bring cars closer to visitors.

By April we’ve just concluded most of the major winter events. It’s time now to plan ahead for next year’s shows like the Boca Raton Concours d’Elegance, Wheels Across the Pond (British car show), JupiCar (Naples Motorfest), and many other worthwhile gatherings. There are even new events being organized — like the first-ever Gasparilla Concours d’Elegance in Tampa last year.

The same weather and wealth that enrich shows in the winter also attract the car auctions. The Mecum Kissimmee sale every January has grown into a two-week event. There are so many cars filling the fairgrounds (over 3,000 in 2018) that enthusiasts can treat this one like a car show than an auction. There are track events at PBIR held the week before the show that remind us that these concours-level prancing horses still burn high-octane.

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The Florida RV Trade Association holds the 23rd annual Gulf Coast RV Extravaganza Friday-Sunday, April 20-22, at the Lee County Sports Complex/Hammond Stadium in South Fort Myers. Seven dealers will display an array of new, used and leftover recreation vehicles of all styles, brands and price ranges, from luxurious diesel motorhomes to travel trailers, fifth wheels, park models, van campers and pop-up campers. Several RV suppliers will also have booths.

With the economy strong and retiring baby boomers showing a keen interest in seeing the country, the RV industry is booming, says Tom Wegge, president of Region One of the state trade association. Financing for dealer inventory and qualified buyers has become easier, resulting in a market that has seen RV sales for both new and used merchandise soar, he adds.

The national Recreation Vehicle Industry Association reports that February 2018 RV wholesale shipments were the best ever, with a monthly total of 43,038 units shipped. This represents a 9.2 percent rise compared to the February 2017 total. Year-to-date wholesale shipments are at 85,479, up 16 percent compared to the same time last year.

Statistics continue to show that vacationing in an RV is less expensive than many other travel options, even when a trip is factored in,” Mr. Wegge adds. “Coupled with the overall reduction in fuel costs, an RV vacation is a bargain.”

With more than 800 athletes coming from 39 states and seven countries, last year’s event had a sell-out field of 1,200 athletes, drawing from even more countries and more states. This year’s tournament sold out in all registration categories in only three hours, something no other racquet or paddle sport — and few other sports of any kind — can claim. More than 2,000 players from 17 countries and 47 states are registered, and another 200 are on a waitlist, according to event founder Terri Graham.

Mr. Graham and Chris Evon are the founders of the Naples-based Spirit Pickles and Promotions, which organizes the Minto US OPEN Pickleball Championships, the biggest in the sport’s history, is set to break last year’s records — and with plenty of room to spare.

In 2016, the inaugural Minto US OPEN Pickleball Championships exceeded organizers’ expectations, with more than 800 athletes coming from 39 states and seven countries. Last year’s event had a sell-out field of 1,200 athletes, drawing from even more countries and more states. This year’s tournament sold out in all registration categories in only three hours, something no other racquet or paddle sport — and few other sports of any kind — can claim. More than 2,000 players from 17 countries and 47 states are registered, and another 200 are on a waitlist, according to event founder Terri Graham.

Ms. Graham and Chris Evon are the founders of the Naples-based Spirit Pickles and Promotions, which organizes the Minto US OPEN Pickleball Championships. The company consults with tennis clubs and park districts about adding pickleball courts and programming to their operations, and it also runs the US OPEN Pickleball Academy, which produces skill clinics, lesson packages and multi-day destination camps. This year’s competition includes singles, doubles and mixed doubles play in a variety of skill and age groups. Here are some tournament fun facts:

- The youngest registered player is 10, and one is 91 years of age.
- The player traveling the greatest distance is coming from Mumbai, India — a distance of 8,750 miles.
- Last year was the first time Simone Jardim (who runs the local academy) and Jennifer Dawson each won one Jardim (who runs the local academy) and Jennifer Dawson each won three individual titles: Ms. Jardim in Women’s Pro Singles, Women’s Pro Doubles and Mixed Pro Doubles; and Ms. Dawson in Women’s Senior Pro Singles, Women’s Senior Pro Doubles and Mixed Senior Pro Doubles. Will they repeat their triple crown performances this year?
- The event will be covered by CBS Sports Network and live streamed on CBS Sports Live from April 25-28.
- And it’s an economic boom for Collier County, bringing in approximately 11,000 spectators and 1,800 participants and making an economic impact of $4.9 million in 2017.

Hit the road for RV show

The Minto US OPEN Pickleball Championships Powered by Margaritaville return to East Naples Community Park for the third year April 21-28. The international tournament, the biggest in the sport’s history, is set to break last year’s records — and with plenty of room to spare.

In 2016, the inaugural Minto US OPEN Pickleball Championships exceeded organizers’ expectations, with more than 800 athletes coming from 39 states and seven countries. Last year’s event had a sell-out field of 1,200 athletes, drawing from even more countries and more states. This year’s tournament sold out in all registration categories in only three hours, something no other racquet or paddle sport — and few other sports of any kind — can claim. More than 2,000 players from 17 countries and 47 states are registered, and another 200 are on a waitlist, according to event founder Terri Graham.

Ms. Graham and Chris Evon are the founders of the Naples-based Spirit Pickles and Promotions, which organizes the Minto US OPEN Pickleball Championships, the biggest in the sport’s history, is set to break last year’s records — and with plenty of room to spare.

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The world of automobiles feels like it's in trouble ... or at least it's looking like it's getting more expensive. With additional taxes looming on steel, foreign cars or even ones built elsewhere in North America, there's a sense we are on a collision course with hard times. But will it ever really reach the consumer level?

Tariffs are supposed to encourage guiding products into desired channels but in the case of automobiles, the industry is so adaptive we might never fully feel the pinch of changing production costs.

One of the most interesting stories of how vehicles get around a problem starts with poultry. The 1963 Chicken Tax added a hefty 25 percent tariff to small commercial vehicles and trucks imported to the U.S. This was in response to new duties imposed on U.S. chicken exports by (West) Germany. It instantly rendered the small Volkswagen pickups non-competitive on our shores. There was just no way for VW to get them into the U.S. and still be profitable. However, as the tax stayed in effect, it created a hole in the compact truck market.

Companies like Toyota and Datsun specialize in these small vehicles. They succeeded where Volkswagen couldn't. In the 1970s they got around the Chicken Tax by importing the assembled truck without beds. This reduced the duty if they stamped and bolted the rear steel in the U.S.

Manufacturers are still getting around the Chicken Tax in modern times. In fact, this was initially wanted to protect U.S. companies. Ford is one of the most recent to work through a loophole. For many years, its small Transit Connect cargo van would arrive from Turkey classified as a passenger vehicle because of the rear windows and back seats. The extra metal, glass and fabric were promptly removed and the van was then sent to dealerships as a commercial vehicle. It was deemed cheaper to produce, it can be passed on to buyers without beds, then adding them in the U.S.

In the 1970s, Toyota and Datsun got around a high tax imposed on Germany by importing small VW trucks without the beds, then adding them in the U.S. They have proven they can drive a truckload of new cars through any small loophole.

If tariffs are imposed and extra costs incurred, it will certainly be a problem for the automobile producers. But with the right presentation, consumers might not feel it as much. Rarely do people walk into a dealership and ask for a car in-full. Financing is one of the more lucrative ways to sell a car. If a customer isn't going to invest in their old car, the dealership is also ready to show how one overhaul bill covers a few months of payments on a new vehicle.

So even in a world of higher tariffs, the car companies find loopholes, the consumers (on the whole) just want the right monthly payment, and the dealers are always ready to finance. It's not an ideal situation, but it also is not a recipe for a massive upheaval.

This column is not taking a side on trade policy or promoting a political agenda. After all, everything from environmental concerns to ridesharing can upset the industry, too. And exploiting loopholes and more financing are not something to encourage. This is just a small sample to highlight it takes more than trends and taxes to divert automobiles out of our hands. Tougher times might be immediately ahead, but there's over a century of history that tells us that cars find a way to survive.

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Know where to watch out for CCSO traffic deputies

Here’s where Collier County Sheriff’s Office deputies will be on traffic duty the week of April 23-27:

**Monday, April 23**
- Tropicana Boulevard and 26th Place SW: Aggressive driving
- Pine Ridge Road at Pine Ridge Middle School: Speeding
- Collier Boulevard and I-75 southbound exit: Speeding

**Tuesday, April 24**
- Airport-Pulling Road and River Reach Drive: Aggressive driving
- Immokalee and Goodlette-Frank roads: Red-light running
- U.S. 41 East and Barefoot Williams Road: Speeding

**Wednesday, April 25**
- Livingston Road and Enterprise Avenue: Red-light running

Napa Boulevard and Pine Ridge Road: Red-light running
- U.S. 41 North Gulf Park Drive: Speeding

**Thursday, April 26**
- Juliet Boulevard: Aggressive driving
- Vanderbilt Beach Road and Pelican Ridge Boulevard: Speeding
- Lely Cultural Parkway at Lely Elementary School: Aggressive driving

**Friday, April 27**
- Estery Avenue and Airport-Pulling Road: Red-light running
- Golden Gate Parkway at I-75 northbound exit: Aggressive driving
- Logan Boulevard and Teak Wood Drive: Speeding

Good behavior equals Slurpees

Watch out, kids. If a Collier County Sheriff’s Office deputy catches you in the act, you just might get a “ticket,” thanks to 7-Eleven’s Operation Chill, a program that aims to reduce crime and build rapport between kids and law enforcement.

When a deputy spots a child wearing a helmet, picking up trash or observing crosswalk rules, it can be cause to issue a coupon for a free small Slurpee at 7-Eleven.

CCSO deputies will have an APB out for good behavior as they patrol area parks, community events and summer camps in the months ahead.
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OUR WEIRD ADDICTION

On March 6, Royal Canadian Mount- ed Police participating in an awareness campaign set up several large electronic signs in North Vancouver, British Columbia, that warned drivers: “POLICE AHEAD — STAY OFF YOUR PHONE!” Despite that, within just two hours, offi- cers ticketed 89 drivers, 74 of them for distracted driving, which results in a $166 fine plus a $375 penalty payment on a first offense. “It is evident there is still more education and enforcement needed.”

DISAPPOINTING

Organizers of the Big Cheese Festival in Brighton, England, on March 3 were forced to offer refunds to patrons after the event failed on several levels. 1. The festival ran out of cheese. 2. The prom- ised “craft” beer was Bud Light and Stel- la Artois. 3. The wet weather prompted for the initial 12 months from account opening. Afterward the fixed rate will be computed based on the 5-year Treasury Bill rate (for a 5 year loan term) or the 10-year Treasury Bill rate (for a 10 year loan term) plus a margin of 3.00%. For owner occupied business real estate loans, 51% of

UNCLEAR ON THE CONCEPT

Jonathan Rivera, 25, of Hartford, Conn., durfully appeared in Hartford Superior Court March 7 to answer charges of stealing a car on Feb. 17. While he waited his turn, the Hartford Courant report- ed, parking authority agents outside the courthouse spotted a 2014 Subaru Legacy with license plates that had been report- ed as stolen. The car itself had also been stolen from Newman, Conn. Police waited for the driver to return and arrest- ed Rivera as he started to drive away in the Subaru. He was charged with second- degree larceny and taking a car without the owner’s permission.

REDNECK CHRONICLES

Last September, a celebration at a recre- ational lake in Witchita, Kan., caught the eye of someone who reported seeing people “dressed in Muslim garb” with an American flag “desecrated with ISIS symbols.” The Kansas City Star. Shortly thereafter, Munir Zani- al, an engineer for Spirit Aerosystems, was captured on video having sex with a woman on the street in front of the Crown & Anchor Pub, according to USA Today. Munir Zani- al, an engineer for Spirit Aerosystems,

FORT MEYERS WEEKLY | A16

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY THE EDITORS AT ANDREWS MCMEEL

Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

Compelling explanation

Fort Pierce police pulled over a car on March 21 after observing it swerving down the roadway. As they approached, they smelled marijuana and during the ensuing search, passenger Kenneca Posey, 26, was shocked — shocked — when police found two bags in her purse: one containing marijuana, the other cocaine. WPLG TV reported that Posey admitted the marijuana was hers, but told officers: “I don’t know anything about any cocaine. It’s a windy day. It must have flown through the window and into my purse.” Posey was charged with possession of cocaine and misdemeanor possession of marijuana.

Questionable judgment

On March 20, the U.S. Marine Corps fired Capt. Loften Thornton, serv- ing as a chaplain for the Marine Reserve in New Orleans, after Thornton was captured on video having sex with a woman on the street in front of the Crown & Anchor Pub, according to USA Today. Thornton was apparently extended to members of the general public.

Dangerous food

Some people don’t like ham. When Beverly Burrough Harrington, 62, received a gift of ham from her family on Feb. 12, she waited until she left, then set it on fire and threw it in a trash can at the Bomar Inn in Athens, Ala., where she was living. As smoke filled the room, AL.com reported, Harrington took her dog and left without alerting anyone to the fire. Harrington was arrested for “gross negligence or reckless endangerment” by the Athens Police Department.

Failure to communicate

Things went from bad to worse for soccer player Sanchez Watt during a match in Hertfordshire, England, on March 7 when he was awarded a yellow card. Watt was asked his name by referee Dean Hulme, who mistook “Watt” for “What.” As Watt repeated his name over and over, the referee became perturbed and

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FORT PIERCE WEEKLY | A17

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Big Sister’s Closet makes shopping fun and free for deserving young girls

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Like most teens everywhere, Olivia Thornhill loves clothes. Unlike a lot of 15-year-olds, however, she also loves sharing clothes, especially with younger girls whose closets aren’t overflowing with the latest fashions.

Last summer Ms. Thornhill founded Big Sister’s Closet, a nonprofit with the purpose of providing gently used clothing to girls in need at Parkside Elementary School in Naples. She’s been collecting donations since last summer and is now ready to share them during her organization’s inaugural shopping event. The pop-up shopping spree is set for Wednesday, May 23. Parkside girls in fifth grade will be the shoppers — and their “purchases” will be free — much like hand-me-downs would be from a big sister.

“I think every girl should have a fun shopping experience,” Ms. Thornhill says. “Girls often feel like they’re not as desirable as boys. But I believe everyone should be treated the same. I think it’s important to have fun shopping.”

The Naples High School sophomore got the idea for Big Sister’s Closet in a newsletter from her mother’s high school in Texas, where a student was doing something similar. “I thought Naples could benefit from something like it,” she says.

“Kids are often seen as a very affluent city, but many families here are struggling financially and don’t have the option of buying brand new clothes for their daughters,” Ms. Thornhill said. “Plus, she says, “Being a girl with an obsession for clothing, I know how an outfit can boost your confidence.” She also knows some of the insecurities fifth-grade girls in particular have about what they’ll wear on the first day of middle school.

Ms. Thornhill continues to welcome donations of lightly worn clothing in girls’ sizes 8-14, especially, but also in women’s sizes small to large.

She also welcomes like-minded teens who want to be part of Big Sister’s Closet. Volunteers are needed to collect clothes and help sort them before the shopping event as also to help set up and run the “store” on May 23.

For more information, visit www.big-sistersnaples.com, email Ms. Thornhill at ot.sisterscloset@gmail.com, call her at 227-3496 or follow Big Sister’s Closet Naples FL on Facebook and on Instagram at big.sisterscloset.

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Freedom Waters invites veterans on free cruise

Area veterans are invited to the semi-annual Freedom Waters Foundation Veterans Meet and Greet for a free cruise on the Naples Princess from 3-4:30 p.m. Monday, May 21. Boarding begins at 2:30 p.m. at the dock, 550 Port O Call Way. Light refreshments will be served. Each veteran can bring one guest.

The cruise provides a therapeutic on-the-water experience giving veterans a place for vet-to-vet camaraderie as well as socialization with civilians they can trust and be comfortable with. Approximately 125 veterans participate. Because space is limited, reservations are required by calling 263-2377 by May 18. The event is sponsored by Naples Princess.

Freedom Waters Foundation’s mission is to improve the lives of individuals with special needs and veterans by providing therapeutic marine-related experiences on the waters of South Florida. Learn more at www.freedomwatersfoundation.org.

Help Stamp Out Hunger before you leave town for the summer

Six days a week, 52 weeks a year, rain or shine, local letter carriers deliver everything from bills and birthday cards to catalogs and coupons. But on the second Saturday of May, postal workers in Collier County will deliver something more as they go along their routes: hope in the form of food for those in need.

Saturday, May 12, marks the National Association of Letter Carriers 26th annual Stamp Out Hunger, the nation’s largest single-day food drive, when postal customers are asked to leave donations of non-perishable pantry items for their carriers to pick up. In Collier County, these food donations are delivered to Collier Harvest Foundation, which has partnered with the NALC since the food drive began.

The drive occurs just as Southwest Florida’s seasonal residents leave; its success is critical to the efforts of feeding those less fortunate in our area throughout the summer, especially students from low-income families that rely on breakfast and lunch provided by Collier County Public Schools during the academic year. (CCPS reports serving on average 21,369 free or reduced meals a day). In addition, many families will see reduced or eliminated work hours in industries that provide seasonal service, further straining already stretched budgets.

Stamp Out Hunger donations are sorted, boxed and stored at the Collier Harvest warehouse. The busiest time of day is from 3-7 p.m. as the carriers finish their routes; volunteers are asked to commit to two-hour shifts.

“It’s an amazing day filled with community spirit as individuals, youth groups, businesses and civic organizations come together to help feed those less fortunate who live right here in Collier County,” says Connie Preu, Collier Harvest executive director. “We typically have up to 200 volunteers, working shifts, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. We have pizza, refreshments and even live music to keep everyone motivated while they work. It’s a fun and rewarding way to give back to the community.”

To sign up to volunteer for Stamp Out Hunger or for information about other volunteer opportunities at Collier Harvest, call 455-3663 or visit www.collierharvest.org.
Barrett-Jackson Auction sets records in Palm Beach

Barrett-Jackson, The World’s Greatest Collector Car Auctions, was a star-studded event, featuring celebrity, record attendance, record auction sales and the largest number of registered bidders for any Palm Beach auction. Three impressive collections were sold at the 16th annual auction, highlighted by renowned collector and philanthropist John Staluppi’s highly coveted Cars of Dreams vehicles, which all sold at No Reserve.

Celebrities who flocked to the four-day auction included Jimmy De Martini, fiddler with the Zac Brown Band, as well as Hollywood icon Burt Reynolds, who greeted fans, signed autographs and encouraged bidding on the block for three Pontiac Trans Ams. Other celebrity guests included actor Allee Wise, North Carolina Panthers head coach Ron Rivera, NASCAR legend Rick Hendrick and former NFL wide receiver Reggie Wayne.

In total, 692 vehicles sold, nearly all at No Reserve, for more than $38.3 million, while 380 pieces of automobilia brought in over $702,000, and $450,000 was raised through the sale of charity vehicles, bringing the total auction sales to more than $39.4 million. This year’s auction also attracted more than 700 new bidders, a new record for Palm Beach. In addition, there was an impressive showing from the international community, including vehicle consignments from Brazil and Italy.

“Our guests have made the Palm Beach Auction such an electrifying event year after year,” said Craig Jackson, chairman and CEO of Barrett-Jackson. “We were especially honored to be trusted to auction three incredible collections, including the ‘Cars of Dreams’ owned by our good friends Jeanette and John Staluppi. Their 145 vehicles, which all sold at No Reserve, represented some of the finest examples of ‘50s, ‘60s and ‘70s-era American cars. It was a pleasure working alongside John and Jeanette to find new homes for the vehicles in his remarkable collection, and we so appreciate their philanthropic support of our charity efforts over the years.”

At the beginning of the week, Barrett-Jackson kicked off its 16th annual Palm Beach Auction with a special parade featuring vehicles from John Staluppi’s Cars of Dreams Collection. During the four-day auction, 145 vehicles from the collection sold for $13.96 million. Automobilia sales during this year’s event were among the best recorded to date in Palm Beach, with restored gas pumps and porcelain neon signs among the most sought-after pieces.

For more information about Barrett-Jackson, visit www.Barrett-Jackson.com or call 480-421-6694.
Mother panther, kittens saved, released into wild

A female panther and her two kittens are back in the wild, after spending months in captivity.

On April 10, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission panther team released the panther family on the Picayune Strand State Forest in Collier County. This is the first time the FWC has rescued, rehabilitated and released a family group of panthers.

FWC biologists rescued the adult female panther, known as FP224, in December 2017 after she was struck by a vehicle on Collier Boulevard in Naples. They took her to the Animal Specialty Hospital of Florida in Naples where veterinarians determined she had a broken hind leg. Following a successful surgery to repair the fracture, the FWC Panther veterinarian took the panther to White Oak Conservation Foundation for rehabilitation.

In June, FP224 produced a litter of one female and two male kittens, and biologists suspected these kittens were near where their mother was injured. They set up cameras to locate the young panthers, and two of the kittens were photographed and captured immediately thereafter. Unfortunately, biologists were not able to capture the third kitten. Biologists brought the two male kittens to White Oak Conservation Foundation. They were not immediately returned to their mother so that her leg had time to heal. Last month, the family was reunited in a one-acre pen to maintain the family bond.

On April 9, veterinarians determined that all three felines were healthy and ready for release. “Typically, orphaned kittens still dependent on their mothers need to be kept in captivity until they can survive on their own,” said Darrell Land, FWC panther team leader. “However, in this case, the mother can continue to raise her kittens, teaching them the required survival and social skills they would not receive in captivity.”

FP224 is not new to the rescue and rehabilitation efforts of the FWC and partners. In 2013, she was struck by a vehicle and had to be rescued. In the years between the two accidents she has produced three litters of kittens, successfully contributing to the Florida panther population.

Florida residents can support conservation efforts like the rescue and rehabilitation of injured or orphaned panthers by purchasing a “Protect the Panther” license plate. Fees from license plate sales are the primary funding source for the FWC’s research and management of Florida panthers.

People can also help with panther research by reporting panther sightings and uploading photos and videos to the FWC at MyFWC.com/PantherSightings. To report dead or injured panthers, call the FWC’s Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-FWCC (3922) or #FWC or *FWC on a cellphone.

For more information on Florida panthers, go to MyFWC.com/Panther.
Bravery. A powerful element in fighting cancer.

When Pamela Klein discovered she had a rare form of lung cancer, being around for her family was all that mattered. After learning the survival rates for her specific cancer, she knew more had to be done. Pamela’s doctor referred her to Florida Cancer Specialists where she was put on a targeted therapy trial. In the past 3 years, the majority of new cancer drugs approved for use in the U.S. were studied in clinical trials with Florida Cancer Specialists participation. Within months of her treatment, Pamela’s health dramatically improved, proving when hope and science join forces, great outcomes happen.

“My doctors at Florida Cancer Specialists and the clinical trials they offer are the reason I’m here today.”

-Patient & Lung Cancer Survivor

Where Hope is Powered by Science™
FindHopeHere.com

Proud to serve patients at our five Collier County locations.

Deborah Z. Glick, MD
Joel S. Grossman, MD
Douglas D. Heldreth, MD
Rebecca Kosloff, MD
Andy Lipman, MD
Susan K. Morgan, MD
Daniel J. Morris, MD
Steven B. Newman, MD
Michele Ramirez, MD
Mark S. Rubin, MD
Ferdy Santiago, MD
Jay Wang, MD
SpelLIFE summit will focus on the power of food

The 2018 SpelLIFE Women’s Wellness Summit: “The Power of Food: What is Your Gut Instinct?” is set for 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, April 21, at the NCH Telford Center in downtown Naples. The event promotes a pro-active and preventive approach to health and wellness, with an emphasis on providing women in Southwest Florida with the education and resources they need to live physically, emotionally and financially richer lives.

Keynote speaker Dr. David Perlmutter, a Naples neurologist and four-time New York Times best-selling author (“The Grain Brain,” “The Brain Maker”), will address the connection between nutrition, lifestyle and brain health, as well as the importance of nurturing a “healthy gut” microbiome.

SpelLIFE 2018 will also include four breakout sessions about a variety of health and wellness-related topics:

■ Chris Edwards, the owner of Tri-Care Wellness, will discuss the importance of recovery methods for improving your mobility and reducing stress.

■ Dr. Cindy Cederquist, the founder of Cederquist Medical Wellness Center, will focus on the value of taking a personalized approach to supplementation.

■ Dr. Pamela Hughes, owner of the Hughes Center for Functional Medicine, will share her insights on the PATHS method for preventing and reversing memory loss, and...

■ Frank Corvino, president of Corvino & Corvino Consulting, will explore the merits of various alternative health care therapies and remedies.

This year’s summit is presented by A22 Operations Living Foundation, Inc. and Ellecia magazine. Tickets for $85 are available at A22LivingFoundation.org or by calling 598-0961. Partial proceeds will benefit the Senior Friendship Health Center to provide medical and dental services to underserved seniors in Collier County.

HEALTHY LIVING

Predicting the potential for chronic pain could help in battle against opioid abuse

THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

As health-care providers and policy-makers look for ways to address opioid misuse, knowing who might be at risk for developing chronic pain could be an important tool for prevention.

A new University of Florida study has pinpointed patient characteristics associated with long-term musculoskeletal pain. Researchers say the information could help physical therapists and other clinicians identify at-risk patients and better tailor treatments to control their pain and potentially limit prescription of opioid medications for pain.

The UF scientists found that patients who had greater initial pain, a higher number of other health problems, additional symptoms from other body systems and more pain-related psychological distress were more likely to continue to have pain one year after treatment. The findings appear in the newest edition of the journal Physical Therapy.

“Musculoskeletal pain is very common and one of the leading causes of disability,” said Jason Beneciuk, Ph.D., D.P.T., M.P.H., a research assistant professor in the department of physical therapy in the UF College of Public Health and Health Professions, part of UF Health. “Being able to predict who will develop long-standing musculoskeletal pain will allow for better use of non-pharmacological treatment options, such as physical therapy.”

The UF study was designed to test the capability of a variety of screening tools for predicting persistent pain. The study included more than 400 patients receiving physical therapy for low back, neck, knee or shoulder pain at nine health care centers across the country.

Assessments included a measure of pain intensity, a history of previous medical diagnoses and two newly developed screening tools created by a UF pain research team. One asked patients to report symptoms they were experiencing in other systems of the body, including cardiovascular, gastrointestinal, endocrine, nervous, pulmonary and musculoskeletal. The second tool screened for pain-related psychological issues, including depressive symptoms, fear, anxiety and pain catastrophizing, which is characterized by beliefs that pain will worsen or nothing can be done to stop it. They also screened for positive emotions, such as self-efficacy and pain acceptance.

Patients completed the screening tools before treatment and four weeks, six months and one year later. The number of physical therapy treatments patients received varied, but averaged eight to 10 sessions over four to six weeks. Treatment was not standardized across patients.

At the one-year mark, 36 percent of patients were still experiencing persistent musculoskeletal pain. These patients had higher levels of pain at baseline, a greater number of other health problems and more pain-related psychological distress. The long-term pain predictors were the same across patients being treated for low back, neck and shoulder pain.

“Our next step is to determine how these screening tools can be used to help clinicians determine initial treatment pathways,” said Mr. Beneciuk, who is interim director of the Brooks-Peugh Research Collaboration at Brooks Rehabilitation.

Although it is too early in the research to offer treatment recommendations for high-risk patients, future recommendations could potentially include increased monitoring, structuring treatment to take into account multiple health conditions and/or teaching patients coping skills, Beneciuk said.

“In the United States, we are embarking on an era in health care where non-pharmacological alternatives are being recommended as the primary treatment options for common musculoskeletal pain conditions,” he said. “This is a real opportunity for physical therapy and other non-pharmacological treatments to help prevent patients from transitioning to chronic pain.”

In addition to Mr. Beneciuk, the study team included Trevor Lentz, a graduate of the UF rehabilitation science Ph.D. program and a postdoctoral research fellow at the Duke Clinical Research Institute; Ying He, a graduate of the UF bio-statistics Ph.D. program and an assistant professor at Clarkson University; Samuel Wu, Ph.D., a professor in the UF department of biostatistics; and Steven George, Ph.D., a professor in the Duke Clinical Research Institute and the department of orthopaedic surgery at Duke University. Funding was provided by the Orthopaedic Section of the American Physical Therapy Association, the Foundation for Physical Therapy and the National Institutes of Health.
The Y wants families at Healthy Kids Day
Summer’s coming, and youngsters shouldn’t laze it away

Special to Florida Weekly

As spring comes to an end, the Greater Naples YMCA hosts its annual Healthy Kids Day as a reminder not to let children idle away their summer days. Instead, adults need to help the youngsters in their lives awaken their imaginations so they can explore new activities and healthy habits for their minds and bodies.

Healthy Kids Day from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 21, features active play, fitness classes, food demonstrations and various educational activities designed to motivate families develop healthy routines at home. Also in attendance will be representatives from the Collier County Sheriff’s Office, North Collier Fire Rescue District, Collier County EMS, Humane Society Naples’ mobile adoption unit, food trucks and more. Admission and programming, invite the public to a sunset yoga session from 6:30-8 p.m.

“We believe in the potential of all children, and we strive to help kids find that potential within themselves. “A child’s development is never on vacation.”

In celebration of Healthy Kids Day, The Y offers the following tips to help families develop healthy habits:

High five the fruits and veggies - Make sure kids get at least five servings a day, the minimum number nutritionists recommend to maintain healthy childhood development. And to keep kids’ taste buds evolving, have everyone in the family try at least one bite of a new fruit or vegetable at least once a month.

Foster an early and ongoing passion for books - Read to and with your kids. Help children read at every age and every stage of their development.

Team up for athletic events - Set a family goal of great health by teaming up for community or charity events like races, walks, fun runs, bike rides, etc.

Volunteer together - Find a cause that matters to the kids. Open their eyes to a world beyond themselves and the rich rewards that come from making a difference.

Make sleep a priority - Sleep plays a critical role in maintaining our healthy immune system, metabolism, mood, memory, learning and other vital functions. Doctors recommend 10-12 hours of sleep a day for children ages 5-12 and seven to eight hours per night for adults.

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For more information, visit www.greaternaplesymca.org.

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PET TALES

Pet gadgets galore

BY KIM CAMPBELL THORNTON
Andrew McMeel Syndication

Every March, pet product manufacturers converge on Orlando to present their wares to buyers and media from around the world. More than L100 exhibitors displayed toys, beds, food and more last month at the Global Pet Expo, and we walked every single aisle — more than once — to make our picks of the cool, the comfortable, the innovative: the products that dog and cat owners will want to bring home to make their pets’ lives more enjoyable or their own lives easier. Here are our top nine picks.

1. Be ready for anything on a walk with the Compleat, which combines a nylon leash, a built-in 10-ounce capped water flask, and two stackable bowls that can hold food, treats or personal items such as cash, credit cards or keys. The containers are part of the leash handle, and a waste bag dispenser can be attached to the leash as well. (MSRP $24.99; sitstaygo.com)

2. Snake on a stick! The Elegant Snake cat toy by Be One Breed makes a critically sound when your cat pounces on it, and the handle allows you to wriggle it in a lifelike manner. Bonus: It’s filled with catnip. (MSRP $5.99; beonebreed.com)

3. Make your dog a treat master with Planet Dog’s GuRu interactive toy. Insert treats into five different openings and let your dog have at it. He’ll need to chew and set it out. Your dog can get in his licks and maintain his interest for a long time. and come off easily when guests visit. (From $14.99; www.wcclawguard.com)

4. Forever furless? That’s the dream of many dog and cat owners whose clothes and furniture seem constantly covered in hair. The Lilly Brush promises to pick up pet hair with just a few swipes across clothing, upholstery, rugs and more. No peeling off tape; just rinse and reuse. (From $22.95; lillybrush.com)

5. To help your anxious dog stay occupied while you’re running errands or busy with just a few swipes across clothing, upholstery, rugs and more. No peeling off tape; just rinse and reuse. (From $22.95; lillybrush.com)

6. Cats or dogs who scratch on furniture or at doors and windows to get out can cause a lot of damage that’s expensive to repair. Clawguard door and furniture shields protect surfaces without hurting pets. Sizes are adjustable, and they come off easily when guests visit. (From $14.99; www.wcclawguard.com)

7. Have a bag of poop and no place to toss it, and you don’t want to put it in your car until you reach a spot with a public toilet? Enter the Tailgate Dumpster by Kurgo. The silicone holder attaches to metal vehicle surfaces (don’t try it on aluminum or fiberglass). Put your poop bag inside and drive away from the beach or hiking trail stink-free until you can dump your dog’s waste into a proper receptacle. (MSRP $20; kurgos.com)

8. If your aging cat is having accidents outside the litter box, it might be too difficult for her to get in and out. The Kitty Go Here litter box, with its low entrance, is easy for cats of all ages and abilities to navigate, especially if they have arthritic joints or other health issues that inhibit their mobility. (From $15.99; kittygohere.com)

9. Travel in style with your 10-pound or smaller pet in the Madison carrier combined with the Pet-Trek 4-spinner-wheel folding trolley, both by A Pet With Paws. The eco-friendly carrier looks like leather but is made of recycled plastic bottles and has a breathable mesh back, side and top for easy entry and exit. The carrier can be pulled without tapping your pet backward, which is more comfortable and less frightening for him. (MSRP $69-$279; plus $49 for Pet-Trek; apetwithpaws.com)
Literally, it’s a perfect time to do a deep dive for some new language

Last week, I had the following exchange with an acquaintance and her boyfriend, both of whom are in their mid-20s:

Me — “So, how was your cruise?”
Her — “Oh, it was literally AWESOME. We literally went swimming with the dolphins and I petted one, LITERALLY.”

The Boyfriend — “I know, right? And we had the all-inclusive drink package, so I literally drank 10 rum and cokes a day. And our cabin was huge, I mean literally! Also, the people who cleaned it literally made swans and rabbits and stuff out of our towels — like, LITERAL towel sculptures.”

I literally can’t even. I mean, when did we start using the word “literally” so literally? According to Merriam-Webster online it’s OK to use literally when “emphasizing the truth and accuracy of a statement or description” — so, the folks who are so fond of the word aren’t necessarily using it incorrectly — they’re just using it so often that it’s literally losing its meaning.

I realize that every generation has its vernacular and I remember overhearing “gag me with a spoon” and “totally” way more than necessary in the ’80s, so I shouldn’t be fine with how my friends under the age of 30 speak to each other. In fact, I have far more patience with the abuse of literally than I do with up talk — again, we’ll look to Merriam-Webster for help here — “speech which uses a rising inflection and poses statements as if they were questions.”

For better or worse, I tend to unconsciously mimic however I’m speaking to, so if I’m chatting with someone British, I’m all, “Tell ‘em how ‘e mat! Shall we go to the pub for some bangers and mash?” — and if I’m chewing the fat with a southerner, it’s not uncommon for me to start dropping “’ell” and “bless your heart” all over the place. So, when having a conversation with an up-talker, I fall right into it. “So, I went shopping! And I bought a blouse! The blouse was red! I think I’m going to wear it with my blue skirt! Then I went to lunch!”

I sound ridiculous, but I can’t help it. It’s not just Millennials who are driving me to drink when it comes to speaking and language. When I sit in meetings and hear business people saying, “Let’s take a deep dive into this topic ...” or, “At the end of the day, what matters is ...” or, “Let’s circle back to that ...” I literally need these people to “think outside the box” and come up with less overused phrases.

Finally, we’ve got to stop using “perfect” so much. Recently, at a luncheon, someone asked me to pass the salt — I did, and rather than saying “thank you,” the person responded, “perfect!” What was so perfect? The way in which I passed it? Or perhaps the salt was perfect. I don’t know, but I’ve found that when it comes to communication these days, no one is literally perfect.
GET OUT FOR A GOOD CAUSE

Friends of Foster Children Forever holds the annual Sunshine 5K Run/Walk Saturday morning, April 21, at the Collier County Public Schools Administration Center, 5775 Osceola Trail. Sign-in starts at 6 a.m. and the race/walk sets out at 7:30 a.m. Cash prizes for top male and female will be awarded in several categories. Registration is $30 in advance, $35 on the day of the race. Registration for a noncompetitive 1-mile run/walk is $20 (free for ages 13 and younger). All proceeds will help FFCF provide a continuum of educational support for foster children, from birth to graduation. Sign up at www.friendsoffosterchildren.net.

The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation of Naples & Fort Myers holds its annual Great Strides 5K walk on Saturday, April 21, at Estero Community Park in Estero. Registration opens at 8 a.m. and the walks start at 9 a.m. To form a team, to join a team, to sign up as an individual or to volunteer for race-day duties, visit www.fightcf.org.

Learn more about volunteering at Humane Society Naples

Hundreds of dedicated individuals already help Humane Society Naples care for homeless pets by participating in dog enrichment, socializing cats and performing numerous other tasks at the society’s two facilities, as well as at off-site events throughout the year.

But more helping hands are always welcome, and HSN makes it easy to get involved.

Two volunteer recruitment meetings take place monthly for those who want to learn more about making a difference in the lives of animals and people throughout the community.

Anyone age 16 or older who wants to learn about being an HSN volunteer should attend a session from 10-11 a.m. on the third Saturday of the month. The next meeting is April 21. Student/youth volunteers who are 16 years old can volunteer independently without a parent or guardian’s supervision. Volunteering for HSN is a great way to log student hours for class, graduation or scholarships. There are a few restrictions on duties that can be performed before the age of 16.

Kids ages 12-15 and the parent or guardian who must accompany them whenever they volunteer can sign up for the Feline Fan Club. Orientation/recruitment meetings for the club take place from 10-11 a.m. on the second Saturday of every month. The next one is May 12.

There is no upper age limit for being an HSN volunteer.

Helping out is not all cuddling kittens and playing with puppies, however; some areas of the shelter can be quite physically active and busy, so are not suitable for the skills and abilities of some individuals. Find out more at one of the monthly orientation sessions.

For more information about HSN in general, visit www.hsnaples.org.

Volunteer Laura Jahnke and adoptable Trixie. The next volunteer orientation meeting for adults is from 10-11 a.m. Saturday, April 21.

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“Strong client relationships are hard to come by and clients know it... That’s why, when you know how to create such relationships, you win your clients’ loyalty, earn referrals and enjoy repeat business for life.”

Astronomical global debt means you must vet investments

If you are like most Americans, you have just received your tax refund and you are using some or all of that cash to pay down some form of debt. After all, it is no fun owing a mortgage, student loan, auto loan or credit card companies.

But what if I told you that no matter how big a payment you were able to make, you will still have more debt than you will ever possibly be able to repay? The Institute of International Finance just released its annual calculation of the amount of global debt outstanding in the world and the number is mind-boggling. So what is this number and how will that affect you and the financial markets going forward?

Each year the institute, a global banking trade association, estimates the amount of debt outstanding in the world. This includes household debt, corporate debt, debt issued by governments and debt issued by banks and other financial institutions. Just last week, the group estimated that this number for 2017 was $237 trillion. The number is so large that to understand it, we must put it in perspective. There are around 5.4 billion adults in the world and if this debt was to be repaid equally among them, each would owe around $44,000.

But even scarier is the fact that the majority of people around the world live in poverty with no savings and income earners a day. Clearly, these people could not be counted on to pay back this huge debt burden. So instead, if you were to ask only people in first world countries to pay back this debt, the burden would be about $290,000 per person.

Where did this debt come from? Interest rates have been so low for the past several years that individuals, corporations and governments everywhere have eagerly borrowed this “cheap” money. And it is not just borrowers in rich countries that have embraced this trend. With investors clamoring for higher yields, even riskier borrowers have been able to access capital. In fact, the largest increase in borrowings on a percentage basis was countries like Argentina, Nigeria, Turkey and China.

However, developed counties contributed to the greatest dollar increase in overall debt. Most of these countries now have a debt to overall GDP ratio of over 300 percent. That means that if every dollar of output from these countries goes to paying off debt, it would still take three years to pay back its creditors.

These debt levels should be a great concern to investors. While there is significant publicity about government debt levels, this only makes up around one-third of all debt outstanding. Corporate and personal debt make up a majority of loans and these funds also must be paid back as they mature. And with interest rates expected to rise over the next several years, this problem will only become greater.

As an investor, I would look closely at potential investment target’s balance sheet and only invest in a company that can survive in a higher rate environment. I would also look for investments that would perform well in a rising crisis or environment where people are cut off from credit.

Don’t sell your customers products they don’t need – Be upfront about products that would be a waste of their hard-earned money. Make their best interests your focus in approaching clients with your services. This tip is part of a larger philosophy of moving away from seeing a client as an immediate sale and moving toward building a long-term relationship.

Deliver consistent service – Mr. Krasnow knows that clients come to see you for advice. They require your attention, your expertise, your genuine interest in their lives. Create an emotional connection with them.

If you make a mistake, apologize and fix the problem immediately – In a world where people are so discovery, it can be boggling. Instead, they want to forgive and forget. The best way to smooth things over when you’ve messed up is to make a heartfelt apology and then make it right.

If your business is anything less than thriving, you should first and foremost examine your relationship with your clients,” Mr. Krasnow concludes. “The truth is, you are far more in control of your brand’s growth than you give yourself credit for. That’s why it’s so important to take the ownership of the connection you build with your clients. You’ll be amazed how much your deep personal commitment to them will pay off in the long run.”

— 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.
also received the Three Star Award in recognition of record-breaking sales and customer support efforts. Allegra is a full-service marketing communications provider, The Alliance Franchise Brands network links more than 600 marketing, graphics and visual communications operations in the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom.

WCGU-FM has been named Radio Station of the Year for 2017 by the Florida Associated Press Broadcasters in recognition of excellence in overall news coverage and the newsmen’s service to the community through news and volunteering. The station staff consists of: John Davis, “Morning Edition” host and reporter; Julie Glenk, interim news director and “Gulf Coast Live” host; Rachel Iacovone, producer, daytime host and reporter; Mike King, producer and daytime host; Gisella Mozarras, “All Things Considered” host and reporter; Richard Chin-Que, interim FM programming director/producer; Yvette Cooper and Quincy Walters, “Morning Edition” host and reporter.

Naples Therapeutic Riding Center announces the following officer elections and board members: Anthony McClure, partner with the law firm Forte W. portrait, president; Connie Sharpe, executive and senior managing partner with Deloitte & Touche; treasurer; Jim Duti, partner with the law firm Bond, Schoeneck and King, PLLC; secretary; and board members Joseph Butts, Christy Daggett, Bobbi Edwards, Mary Welsh, Annette Pakula, Hilaryaines Wilcon and David Winebrenner.

Thea Etzel III, CEO of Conditioned Air Company of Naples, was among a dozen executives from throughout Florida selected to serve on a panel of judges for the Templeton Southeast Regional Business Ethics Case Competition held recently at Stetson University. Teams from 16 educational institutions from throughout North America participated in the competition. Mr. Etzel, a 1980 graduate of Stetson in business administration, economics and finance, has been CEO and an owner of Conditioned Air since the company’s 340 employees serve customers in Collier, Lee, Charlotte, Sarasota and Manatee counties.

Allegra Marketing Print Mail in Naples and owners Paul and Pamela Kersen have received a Sales Excellence Award from Alliance Franchise Brands network. The Kessens and their team

New Location

Naples Soap Company, its staff and owner Deanna Wallin recently celebrated the opening of the company’s second store location. At 614 Fifth Ave. S., the newest store brings the total to 11 retail locations from Naples to Destin.

Pura Vida Medical Spa has moved to 10959 Coast Blvd. The spa’s relocated loca- tion offers more space for services that include massage, Ultherapy, CoolSculpting, Collutiva, Hydrafacial and Thermiva, Botox, dermal fillers and thread lift- ing. Pura Vida is owned by the husband and wife team of Dr. Eric Salata and family nurse practitioner Jill Salata.

Awards & Recognition

Dr. James Talano has been named Physi- cian of the Year by the Collier County Medi- cal Society in recognition of his exemplary contributions to the practice of medicine and his dedication to service to the community. The award will be presented at CCMS’ 61st annual meeting and installation of officers Saturday, May 19, at Wyndemere Country Club. A retired major in the U.S. Army Reserve Medical Corp, Dr. Talano is the founder and clin- ical director of The SWICTF Institute of Medicine and University of South Florida. His writings about cardiovascular disease have appeared in numerous publications, and he has had appointments as professor, director and chief of top cardiology programs. He has held leadership positions with CCMS, the Southwest Florida Physicians Association, Collier County Fire Rescue, and Collier County Social Services Board and the NCH Healthcare System, and he has served as a volunteer at the Neighborhood Health Clinic.

BOYER

Boyer

EDWARDS

Steven Falciani has been named gen- eral manager of the Hilton Marco Island Beach Resort & Spa, an Olshan Properties resort. Mr. Falciani joins Olshan Properties most recently from the DoubleTree by Hilton in Rosemont, Ill., where he served as area director and general manager for the DoubleTree by Hilton and the Embassy Suites in Rosemont, Ill. Before that, he was senior vice president of franchise operations for the Quaker Steak and Lube Restaurant Group in Sharon, Pa. He earned a bachelor’s degree in hotel and restaurant management from Widener University in Chester, Penn.

David Tyler has been named director of sales & marketing for the Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club, overseeing the sales department and mar- keting programs for the A&A Four-Dia- mond resort. Mr. Tyler most recently was director of sales and business development at Rumbling Bald Resort at Lake Lure in Asheville, N.C. His extensive experience also includes serving as administrative director for the Sonas Home Care health care company in Naples; director of sales and marketing for The Atlantic Hotel & Spa in Marathon, Fla.; and director of sales and marketing for Turnberry Associates Hotels & Resorts in Orlando. He also previously served as the Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club’s director of sales and marketing for five years and as assis- tant director of sales for three years. He holds a bachelor’s degree in business from Michigan State University and has earned the designation of Certified Hospitality Supervisor.

Advertising & Marketing

Sara Pelletier has joined AdSource, a full-service advertising and marketing firm, as production manager and social media content writer. She will add additional multimedia planning and execution to the firm’s operation. Prior to joining AdSource, Ms. Pelletier developed a three-year plan to strategic and accu- rate project completion, she will manage business pages for agency clients’ social media platforms. A native Neapolitan, she recently earned a bachelor’s degree in multimedia jour- nalism with a minor in communication studies from Florida Atlantic University.

Andy Kelly has joined Spins & Aso- ciates Marketing, Advertising & PR Relations and Brand Architecture as senior creative advisor. Mr. Kelly has more than 17 years of experience in digital marketing, print branding and has contributed to campaigns for Wolfgang Puck, Comaxter, Coaster Tire & Rubber Company, Krystal, Rite Aid, Pennsylvania Lottery, MGM Grand, Del Monte Foods, Chick-fil-A, Moroccanoil, Italian Ice, Heinz and a host of the Loom, among many others. He holds a degree in advertising and public relations from Pennsylvania State University.

Hospitatly

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■ The East Naples Merchants Asso- ciation announces the winner of its Business After Busi- ness from 5:30-7 p.m. Thursday, May 10, at the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce, 2390 Tamiami Trail N., every second Thursday. The business after business meets for Business After Busi- ness from 5:30-7 p.m. Thursday, May 10, at the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce, 2390 Tamiami Trail N., every Thursday. To make an appointment for a free consultation, call Suzanne Specht at 475-3704.

■ Email business meeting announce- ments to cfiere@fioreweekly.com.
NETWORKING

Collier County Medical Society spring meeting at Saturnia Lakes

1. Dr. Anne Marie Tremaine, Dr. Gary Swain and Karen Swain
2. Ted Walters, Joshua Bliek, Dr. Jerry Williamson and Dr. Pauline Chusid
3. Dr. David Wilkinson and Ted Walters
4. Dr. Akson Fernandes, Dr. Lesly Silva and Dr. Julia Skettini
5. Dr. Rafael Urbina and Dr. Gustavo Rivera
6. Dr. Ray Montecalvo and Dr. Marilyn Varcoe
7. Dr. Catherine Kowal and Dr. Gerald Kumin
8. Dr. Tami Kuhlman and Michael Petrick
9. Joshua Bliek and Karen Mosteller

Florida Weekly welcomes submissions for the Networking photo pages from business events, grand openings, professional association meetings, etc. We need 300-dpi photographs of groups of two or more people, facing the camera and identified by first and last names. Questions? Email editor Cindy Pierce at cpierce@floridaweekly.com.
The Above Board Chamber at the Hilton Naples

1. Linda Lowery and Theo Etzel
2. Stephanie Gomez and Clark Hill
3. Michael Riley and Darlene Thomas
4. Jeannie Sweeney, Darlene Thomas, Mary Lu Whalen and Vicki Tracy
5. Laura Richardson and Sabrina Bennett
6. Alicia Brewer and Mollie Martin
7. Russell Burkhard and Ursula Pfahl
8. Jeannie Sweeney, Susan Ryan and Barbara Melton

Shula’s at the Hilton Naples earns Blue Zones status

Florida Weekly welcomes submissions for the Networking photo pages from business events, grand openings, professional association meetings, etc. We need 300-dpi photographs of groups of two or more people, facing the camera and identified by first and last names. Questions? Email editor Cindy Pierce at cpierce@floridaweekly.com.

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Licensed and Insured Certified Building Contractor #CBC 1253280 Cornerstone Builders of SW Florida Inc.
In the desirable neighborhood of Quail Creek Estates, this 7,000-square-foot home showcases the perfect balance of historic character and modern amenities. There are six bedrooms, six bathrooms and a den in three floors of living area, with full suite on the top floor. Details include a private elevator, quality woods throughout, interior brick, multiple fireplaces, elegant marble and custom tiles. The closets are swoon-worthy, and the kitchen would inspire any chef. Porches and balconies wrap around the entire residence, allowing for grand views of the golf course and lake along with breathtaking sunrises and sunsets views. A brick pathway winds through the outdoor space that’s complete with gardening station, fire pit and pool area. Quail Creek Estates community amenities include two 18-hole championship golf courses and the soon-to-be fully upgraded clubhouse with fitness center and spa. Quail Creek Country Club membership is not mandatory. Tiffany McQuaid and Gail DeFrancesca of McQuaid & Company Real Estate Services have the listing for $2,880,000. To arrange a private showing or for more information, call 287-6308 or 216-6295.
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AQUALANE SHORES • OVERSIZED LOT 190’ DEPTH • GORGEOUS WIDE WATER & HIGHLY SOUGHT WESTERN EXPOSURE • CHARMING RESIDENCE • DEEP WATER DIRECT GULF ACCESS • WALK TO BEACH & 3RD STREET SOUTH DISTRICT TOO • $4,950,000

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Realtors say NABOR’s latest numbers don’t come as a surprise

NAPLES AREA BOARD OF REALTORS

Sales of homes above $1 million in Naples during the first quarter of 2018 drove the market, increasing 61 percent compared to the same quarter of 2017, according to the First Quarter 2018 Market Report released by the Naples Area Board of Realtors. NABOR tracks home listings and sales within Collier County (excluding Marco Island).

“January’s results led some to question expectations for the year when compared to last, yet in February the market gained its stride, accelerating in March with closed sales shooting ahead to end the first quarter on a very impressive note,” said Budge Huskey, president of Premier Sotheby’s International Realty. According to NABOR monthly reports, January had 672 closed sales, February reported 672 closed sales, but March kept agents very busy with 942 closed sales, driven by a strong high end which included a number of new construction condominiums just delivered.

Pending sales in the first quarter of 2018 increased 3 percent to 3,177 compared to 3,097 in the first quarter of 2017. Although pending sales for both single-family homes and condominiums over $1 million increased by double digits, it was the $2 million and above condominium market that raised eyebrows among brokers who reviewed the reports.

“Tourism was up in our area this season compared to last year, so it’s not surprising that we would end

SEE NABOR, B41

NAPLES AREA REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY

1st Quarter 2018 compared with 1st Quarter 2017

OVERALL INVENTORY

OVERALL PENDING SALES

DAYS ON MARKET

CLOSED SALES

SOLD

SOLD

SOLD

OVERALL

2,306

15%

OVERALL SFH CONDO

1,050

11%

1,256

10%

MEDIAN CLOSED PRICE

$370,000

$370,000

SOLD

489 1st Ave South

LISTED AT $3,999,000

1461 Anhinga Pointe

LISTED AT $3,895,000

Dante DiSabato

Broker Associate

William Raveis Real Estate

720 5th Ave., Naples, FL 34102

Cell: 239.537.5351

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WEEK OF APRIL 19-25, 2018 | REAL ESTATE | B3

333 GULF SHORE BLVD SOUTH

LISTED AT $8,000,000

1875 8th Street South, Units 501 - 502, 201 & 202

LISTED AT $1,679,000 - $2,875,000

528 Devils Lane

LISTED AT $1,945,000

William Raveis Real Estate

720 5th Ave., Naples, FL 34102

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Multiple residential styles, park-like views, and proximity to every amenity make Corsica one of Talis Park’s most compelling neighborhoods. A variety of furnished single-family model homes, unfurnished residences and resort-style coach homes are currently available for immediate purchase and occupancy.

FrontDoor Communities’ coach homes provide an exceptional level of resort-style living. Two spacious, light-filled floor plans priced from the $700’s feature open-concept living areas and abundant natural light, conveying the atmosphere of traditional single-family homes. Residences may be customized to suit individual buyer preferences including den/study and outdoor kitchens with built-in gas grills, options rarely offered in luxury coach homes. A design consultant is available in the onsite finish selection center to help purchasers further personalize their residences. Each residence includes a private arrival courtyard, private garage, private covered terrace off the owner’s suite, dual walk-in closets extending across the rear of the residence, and pavered motor courts and walkways. A first-floor, furnished Messina model, with design by Allied ASID interior designers Jean Losier and Christina Rosalia of Clive Daniel Home, is available for viewing and purchase. Additionally, a previously sold, second floor Sienna model is available for viewing. Unfurnished coach homes and additional move-in ready residences are also available.

Harbourside Custom Homes’ 2,971 square feet, unfurnished Aviano II residence is available, offered at $1.995 million. The Aviano II features three bedrooms and three-and-a-half-baths with a separate dining room, spacious great room, study, and three-car garage. The great room and dining area open to a covered lanai and screened outdoor living area with summer kitchen, pool, spa, and colonnade. Harbourside’s unfurnished, 3,101-square-foot Villa Adriana III residence with three bedrooms and three-and-a-half-baths is also under construction and offered at $1.995 million.

Corsica residents enjoy immediate access to Talis Park’s Sports Complex with six Har-Tru tennis courts, tennis pro shop, two-lane lap pool, and playground, and the community’s award-winning Vyne House clubhouse.

Talis Park’s newest amenity is The Beach Runner, its exclusive Mercedes-Benz Sprinter shuttle. Each day, the Beach Runner whisks members away to the white sands of Vanderbilt Beach on the Gulf of Mexico. Trips begin around 10am, and the last return trip to Talis Park leaves the beach approximately a half-hour after sunset. Prospective homebuyers may experience Talis Park by participating in the community’s Gold Pass program. Gold Pass holders enjoy member status and amenities access for two consecutive days, including one round of golf at the member-guest rate. For program details, call 239-292-0846.

Community and model home tours are available seven days a week by visiting Talis Park’s Garden House Information & Sales Center, 16980 Livingston Rd. (north of Immokalee Rd.). For details, call 239-449-5900 or visit talispark.com.
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7330 Premier Drive, Naples, Florida 34105  I  MooringsParkGL.org

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Kalea Bay’s clubhouse a hit with residents
Tower 200 surpasses $100 million in sales

The clubhouse is the social and recreational centerpiece of a community then Kalea Bay’s clubhouse will surely be one of the busiest places in the gated, luxury residential high-rise community currently being developed on Vanderbilt Drive in North Naples. “There are several reasons buyers have decided to purchase at Kalea Bay,” said Inga Lodge, Vice President of Sales & Marketing for Kalea Bay. “The first is the beautifully designed three-bedroom plus den/three-and-a-half-bath and four-bedroom/four-bath tower residences with Gulf views. The other is our spectacular main amenity area which includes our community clubhouse. Not only is it a dramatic sight as residents and visitors drive into the community, but it’s now the envy of every community in the Naples area.”

Kalea Bay’s 88,000-square-foot main amenity area, which opened in early January, is located on the north side of the large lake at the community’s entrance.

The clubhouse features three individual pools, including a resort pool, an adult-only pool and a children’s pool, plus an expansive pool deck, an open-air bar, an indoor/outdoor restaurant, a fitness center, a snack bar, a lakeside fire pit, an Internet cafe and a gifts and sundries shop. “All three pools 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 separate each of the three pools for the ultimate in privacy.

If basking in the sun or taking a refreshing dip in the pool isn’t on a resident’s schedule, perhaps meeting friends for lunch, dinner or drinks is. “We have the perfect place for all three,” said Lodge. “The indoor/outdoor restaurant serves incredible meals throughout the day. And what better way to celebrate the good life in Florida than meeting family and friends for drinks while watching the sun set over the Gulf of Mexico. This is what living in Florida is supposed to be.”

Adjacent to the clubhouse is the tennis pavilion with 4 Har-Tru tennis courts, as well as eight pickleball courts. Guest suites that can accommodate overnight guests and family members are also located nearby. Residents also have a shuttle service that originates from the clubhouse and takes them to the beach. “Two of the top-rated beaches in the country are only minutes away from Kalea Bay,” stated Lodge. “They include Barefoot Beach Preserve Park, which was ranked #2 nationally, and Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park, which was ranked #9.”

The completion of the main amenity area at Kalea Bay coincided with the completion of the community’s first residential tower, which is sold out. “Master suites, kitchens and main living areas in most units have direct views to the water and preserve. They are perfect vantage points to watch our spectacular sunsets,” said Lodge. Additional residential features include floor-to-ceiling windows and doors that open to large lanais with transparent glass rails.

For more information regarding Kalea Bay, visit the onsite sales center in the community clubhouse, which features three separate pools, an indoor/outdoor restaurant, fitness center, open-air bar and Internet cafe. Bottom: The rooftop amenities at Kalea Bay’s second tower will include a pool, open-air fitness center and sky lounge.

Above: A fire pit at the clubhouse offers stunning views of the community’s first tower on the opposite side of the lake. Left: All master bedrooms offer views of the Gulf of Mexico. Below Left: Residents of Kalea Bay have indoor and outdoor dining options. Bottom Right: Kalea Bay’s main amenity area includes the clubhouse which features three separate pools, an indoor/outdoor restaurant, fitness center, open-air bar and Internet cafe.
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COMING SOON – right in the center of the Design District.
Falling in love with London Bay Homes’ Port Royal estate model at 4395 Gordon Drive

The water! The views!

We haven’t stopped talking about London Bay Homes’ new custom estate model at 4395 Gordon Drive in Port Royal since we toured it the other day. It’s right on Cutlass Cove, perfect for a 29-foot boat and incredibly close to Gordon Pass and the Gulf of Mexico. The views took our breath away: The quiet little cove and the beautiful greens of mangroves on Keewaydin Island just across the water.

“It gets even better,” promised Toby Cloutier, sales executive with London Bay, as we explored the first floor, impressed by Romanza Interior Design’s selection of 36-by-36-inch honed stone flooring; sapele, anigre and wenge woods; an extra-large kitchen island with a galley sink, and a wide-plank wood floor in the study. Construction is nearing completion and we love the idea of being able to move in right away. No need to pick out furniture or even artwork. Romanza has selected everything, creating a clean-lined modern aesthetic that suits our personalities. The luxury estate has three guest rooms, a wine room and a luxurious pool with a spa overlooking the cove. There’s even an Evo flat-top grill in the outdoor kitchen.

Toby has been our personal concierge, helping us navigate the builder’s Naples Collection of custom estate homes from Port Royal to Park Shore. We’ve toured furnished model homes in Old Naples, imagining living close to downtown Fifth Avenue strolling the streets and dining at Vergina’s while listening to live music under the starts. But after walking through the 4395 Gordon Drive home, we realized we could also fulfill our dream of having a boat in the backyard or go down the street to the beach with membership eligibility to the Cutlass Cove Club – a private beach park with a tiki hut.

As we explored every inch of the estate’s 4,648 square feet, we were amazed at the thought put into the tiniest details: Lighting that will paint rooms in different moods and highlight art; reglet channels accenting walls and framing doors; and a sense of airiness created by floating cabinetry, a wood-and-tempered-glass staircase, recessed baseboards and sculptural ceilings.

There’s also a built-in wardrobe, dresser and shelves with wood and lacquer finishes in the first-floor guest room.

We stepped into the master suite and saw Toby grin. It was his “wait for it” moment. Located on the second floor, the room is designed so the bed faces a wall of glass sliding doors showcasing the cove and mangroves. It has a large private terrace with a fireplace. Motorized shades are controlled from the bed.

“This would be the best way to wake up,” I told my husband.

The suite also has an oversized closet finished with custom Poliform cabinetry and his-and-her baths. Mine is divine: A walk-in shower that leads to a tub overlooking the cove, several vanities and a Calacatta gold-tiled partition. His bathroom has a gorgeous deep-colored granite countertop and dark chocolate wood cabinetry.

A loft offers a kitchen with a Wolf microwave, espresso machine, under-counter refrigerator and even a stackable washer and dryer. Two other bedrooms are situated on the second floor, including a large VIP suite.

“I think I’d spend the entire morning on the terrace and the afternoon by the pool … when we’re not out on the boat,” I happily pointed out to my husband.

He beamed at me: “It’s perfect but ...”

“Oh, yeah. Toby wants to take us through the other house,” I remembered.

London Bay is building a second luxury custom estate right next door at 4375 Gordon Drive. Could it be the one?

To schedule a visit and learn more about London Bay Homes’ exclusive downtown opportunities, call Toby Cloutier at 239-280-7367 or visit LondonBay.com.

Above: London Bay’s new Port Royal estate showcases a contemporary look by Romanza Interior Design featuring a mix of white and high-gloss lacquer and walnut cabinetry in the kitchen. Left: Located at 4395 Gordon Drive in Port Royal, the home will feature four bedrooms, two full baths and two half baths within more than 4,800 square feet of living space. Below: The estate showcases mesmerizing displays of luxurious water views of Cutlass Cove and world-class architecture by Stofft Cooney Architects.
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3. **PARK SHORE**
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     - Michael G. Lawler 239.261.3939
     - Web ID: 218025976
     - $1,495,000

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1. **THE EXTRAORDINARY FEATURED LISTINGS**

- **1300 Spyglass Lane**
  - Michael G. Lawler 239.261.3939
  - Karen Van Arsdale 239.261.3939
  - Web IDs: 217028182, 217065939
  - $9,550,000

- **711 Gallow Drive**
  - Karen Van Arsdale 239.261.3939
  - $2,225,000

- **1351 Spyglass Lane**
  - Michael G. Lawler 239.261.3939
  - Karen Van Arsdale 239.261.3939
  - $2,675,000

- **757 Binnacle Drive**
  - Trish Lowe Soars 239.213.7227
  - Web ID: 218003347
  - $2,250,000

- **Naples Continental #803**
  - ML Meade 239.293.4851
  - Web ID: 217065939
  - $799,000

- **1100 Galleon Drive**
  - Peter Reppucci 239.595.6500
  - Web ID: 217028182
  - $9,995,000

- **Mansion House #31**
  - Cindy Thompson 239.261.3939
  - Web ID: 217078556
  - $2,675,000

- **Via Delfino #901**
  - Karen Van Arsdale 239.261.3939
  - Web ID: 217065939
  - $3,650,000

- **Indies West #E3**
  - Larry Roorda 239.860.2534
  - Web ID: 217068167
  - $3,650,000

- **565 Fairway Terrace**
  - Michael G. Lawler 239.261.3939
  - Web ID: 217065939
  - $2,225,000

- **560 Admiralty Parade**
  - Michael G. Lawler 239.261.3939
  - Web ID: 217065939
  - $9,995,000

- **Commodore Club #306**
  - Robin/Tim Weidle 239.370.5515
  - Web ID: 218010921
  - $529,000

- **Commodore Club #110**
  - Larry Roorda 239.860.2534
  - Web ID: 218015683
  - $589,000

- **Windsor Court #104**
  - Ryan Novak 239.261.3939
  - Web ID: 217065939
  - $544,000

- **La Maison Club #104**
  - Larry Roorda 239.860.2534
  - Web ID: 217070956
  - $469,000

- **Harbour Club #203**
  - Bill Franza 239.293.4851
  - Web ID: 218004828
  - $330.329.0777
  - $699,900

- **Commodore Club #105**
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  - Web ID: 218004828
  - $330.329.0777
  - $699,900

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Heather Hobrock
Web ID 217075661
$3,995,000

272 1st Avenue South
Gordie Lawton/Mark Morin
Web ID 217040125
$3,390,000

Le Parc #603
Lindsey Hiebert
Web ID 218015914
$2,190,000

Surfside #1401
Gordie Lawton/Marc Morin
Web ID 216060605
$2,250,000

Marbella #1002
Terri Moellers
Web ID 218014765
$1,549,000

8121 Via Vecchia
Barbi Lowe/Trish Lowe Soars
Web ID 216073148
$5,750,000

Trieste #501
Gordon/Hamilton/Briscoe
Web ID 216044047
$3,600,000

8767 La Palma Lane
Jane Darling
Web ID 216040786
$3,490,000

8758 Niblick Lane
Kim Marie Umfer
Web ID 216084901
$1,760,000

2011 Timaron Way
Michelle Thomas
Web ID 216004570
$1,775,000

9796 Brassie Bend
Michael G. Lawler
Web ID 217073946
$4,950,000

Marbella #206
Terri Moellers
Web ID 218037765
$1,250,000

The Colonnade on 5th #B-304
Terri Tessa McCarthy
Web ID 218025404
$1,499,500

4058 Crayton Road
Pamela O'Connor
Web ID 218016688
$1,625,000

Marbella #1703
Gordon/Hamilton/Briscoe
Web ID 216066065
$2,190,000

Cap Ferrat #505
James Edkins
Web ID 216073787
$1,495,000

Le Parc #603
Lindsey Hiebert
Web ID 218015914
$2,190,000

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Lindsey Hiebert
Web ID 218015914
$2,190,000

Tiemaron Drive
Terri Moellers
Web ID 216058333
$1,775,000

2011 Timaron Way
Michelle Thomas
Web ID 216004570
$1,775,000

9976 Brassie Bend
Michael G. Lawler
Web ID 217073946
$4,950,000
Ronto going to contract at Omega, the final high-rise at Bonita Bay

After processing reservations worth nearly $80 million at its Omega high-rise tower within Bonita Bay, The Ronto Group announced it is now converting reservations to binding sales contracts. The 27-floor Omega tower to be built by the award-winning developer will be the final luxury high-rise at Bonita Bay. Designed by Robert M. Swedroe, the clean-lined tower will feature 67 residences, including 63 spacious tower residences and four penthouses. Swedroe’s design presents a fresh, out of market perspective on luxury and an approach to high-rise living that has never been available in the Southwest Florida market. With all four of the penthouses reserved, Ronto is now accepting purchase agreements for tower residences.

“We have experienced an unbelievable demand for residences at Omega,” said Ronto Group president Anthony Solom–

“arly involved in making that happen.”

The open living spaces and sheer size of the Omega tower residences reflect Ronto and Swedroe’s approach. Omega’s light-filled tower residences will feature larger, wider, open living spaces with tall windows overlooking Estero Bay and the Gulf. The 63 tower residences will be on levels four through 25. Three floor plans are available. The living spaces, owners’ suites, and some of the guest bedrooms will open to outdoor terraces with 42-inch high glass railings. "We designed accordingly. Rather than designing a four unit per floor building, we created a three unit per floor approach that allowed the residences to be wider and more spacious than typical condominiums. Omega is the final high-rise at Bonita Bay, and we want it to be unique and very special. We believe it will be and our customers were directly involved in making that happen.”

Top: After processing reservations worth nearly $80 million at its Omega high-rise tower within Bonita Bay in just two and a half months, The Ronto Group announced it is now converting reservations to binding sales contracts. Tall curved windows in Omega’s 2,100 square-foot Fitness center will offer stunning long-range views, this time to the north and west. Right: A massive pool with a beach entry, and two sun shelves that will each include six chaise lounges and built-in benches will serve as the centerpiece of the Omega high-rise’s outdoor amenity deck.

Omega features 18,000 square feet of interior amenities, including a billiards room, a bar and social room, a catering kitchen, fitness center, conference room, and three guest suites. Outside, a single level amenity deck surrounded by glass railings will include a resort-style pool and spa, a pool pavilion with a bar and dining tables, a hot tub, shaded areas, a cabana party area, fire pits with built-in seating, and six cabanas that are available for purchase and include a kitchenette and bathroom. The amenity deck will offer a view of Estero Bay.

Visit the Omega Sales Center at 2691 Country Club Drive within Bonita Bay from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and Sundays from noon to 5:00 p.m. Call 239-301-4940 for an appointment.

Standard finishes in the Omega residences will reflect Ronto’s attention to creating a luxurious yet livable environment. Flooring in the living areas will be wood, stone, or porcelain tile. The island kitchens will be outfitted with designer selected cabinetry; a multitude of quartz or granite countertop selections, a 36-inch SubZero refrigerator and 18-inch freezer, Wolf gas ranges and ovens, a Miele dishwasher, and Dornbracht plumbing fixtures. The bathrooms will also feature designer selected cabinetry and quartz or granite countertops, Dornbracht plumbing fixtures, and Toto toilets.

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SOUTH NAPLES #1 SELLING COMMUNITY
The Ronto Group is converting reservations for Phase I residences at Eleven Eleven Central to sales contracts. The announcement was made as unprecedented reservation activity continued at the walkable/bikeable community on Central Avenue between 10th Street and Goodlette-Frank Road in downtown Naples. Thirty-three reservations worth over $25 million have been processed. Earlier this month, seven reservations were processed in eight days.

Phase I includes five two-bedroom, two-bedroom plus den, and three-bedroom open-concept floor plans with 1,407 to 2,297 square feet of living space, including covered outdoor balconies. Pre-construction pricing starts in the mid-$500’s. Five Phase I penthouses remain available. All of Ronto’s Phase I Avalon and Atlantic floor plans have been reserved.

“Home sales in Naples typically gain strong momentum as we approach the end of season, particularly larger residences,” said Wanda Cross, director of sales for The Ronto Group. “The activity we’ve experienced reflects how buyers have scoured the downtown market and discovered Eleven Eleven Central’s location, amenities, price per square foot, and standard finishes offer tremendous value, especially given that buyers are purchasing newly constructed residences that do not require the extensive renovations. Eleven Eleven Central’s value proposition is unique.”

The Eleven Eleven Central Phase I floor plans are ideal for those intent on enjoying a convenient, maintenance-free, walkable/bikeable downtown lifestyle and a comprehensive array of amenities. Base-priced at $540,000, the sold out Atlantic floor plan features a total of 1,407 square feet of living space, including 1,365 square feet under air. The two-bedroom, two-full-bath residence includes a spacious island kitchen, dining area, and a great room that opens to a covered balcony measuring 142 square feet. Two walk-in closets are featured in the owner’s suite. The plan also includes a separate laundry room.

The sold out two-bedroom, two-full-bath Avalon plan provides a total of 1,736 square feet of living space with 1,741 square feet under air. An L-shaped 260 square foot balcony offers conversation and dining areas. The great room and owner’s bedroom open to the balcony. Two walk-in closets are included in the owner’s suite. The plan also includes a beautifully designed kitchen, dining area, and a separate laundry room. The Avalon plan is base-priced at $665,000.

With a total of 1,741 square feet of living space and 1,361 square feet under air, the Bel Air floor plan features a large great room that opens to a covered balcony, a comfortable dining area, and an island kitchen. Base-priced at $665,000 the plan also includes two bedrooms, two full-baths, a den, and a separate laundry room. Two walk-in closets are featured in the owner’s suite.

The two-bedroom plus den, two-and-a-half bath Collins floor plan includes a total of 1,947 total square feet of living space with 1,757 square feet under air. The living area opens to a covered balcony and includes a great room, dining area, and island kitchen. The owner’s suite features two walk-in closets, a bath with his and her’s vanities, and a bedroom with a sitting area. Base-priced at $765,000 the Collins plan also includes a separate laundry room.

The Duval floor plan is the largest of the Eleven Eleven Central Phase I plans. Base-priced at $890,000, the three-bedroom, three-and-a-half bath plan features a total of 2,297 square feet of living space with 2,045 square feet under air. Each of the guest bedrooms includes private baths and one of the guest bedrooms opens to the covered balcony. A wide gallery hallway and two walk-in closets are included in the owner’s suite. The massive living area includes a great room area, and an island kitchen wrapped by perimeter cabinetry and counter surfaces. The great room and dining area open to the covered balcony. A large separate laundry room is also included.

With Fifth Avenue South five blocks away, and the burgeoning Design District right around the corner, Eleven Eleven Central residents will enjoy downtown Naples’ shopping, dining, and entertainment attractions. The beach is three-quarters of a mile from the community via the sidewalks and bike lanes on Central Avenue or a short ride on the planned community beach shuttle. The community’s location provides easy access to Baker Park and the Gordon River Pedestrian Bridge and Boardwalk that connects Central Avenue to the Gordon River Greenway.

Eleven Eleven Central will offer a nearly 1,000-square-foot clubhouse with a bar, billiards tables, card tables, televisions, and a catering kitchen. A fitness center also featuring nearly 3,500-square-feet will include a functional movement area, exercise equipment, massage rooms, and rest rooms. Resident storage and bike storage areas will be included. Six guest suites will be provided and include a king or queen-sized bed, a television with cable service, an undercounter refrigerator, sink, microwave, seating area, and a full-bath. The project’s 60,000 square foot courtyard amenity deck scheduled for completion in Phase I will feature a 3,200 square feet resort-style pool with a beach entry, 90-foot lap lanes, chaise lounges, poolside tables, two spas, outdoor showers, poolside cabanas, grills, a cabana bar and grilling area with televisions, fire pits, seating areas, a hammock lawn, a life-sized outdoor chess set, a yoga area, and bocce courts. The outdoor amenities will be expanded during Phase II to include a 20,400-square-foot Courtyard Park.

Two downtown sales centers represent Eleven Eleven Central and Ronto’s Naples Square community. One is at 100 Goodlette-Frank Road South. The other is in unit 101 of the Naples Square Phase I building at 1030 3rd Avenue South. Both sales centers are open daily. Visit 1111Central.com or NaplesSquare.com. ■
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Seven spectacular London Bay models on display at Mediterra’s Model Showcase Sunday noon to 5:00 p.m.

Seven spectacular London Bay models by London Bay Homes that feature interiors by Romanza Interior Design will be on display Sunday noon to 5:00 p.m. during the Mediterra community’s highly anticipated Model Home Showcase event. Mediterra is located two-miles north of Immokalee Road on Livingston Parkway in North Naples. Homebuyers are invited to see how London Bay is transforming Mediterra with the creation of new neighborhoods and residences featuring stunning architectural and interior designs. Four of the models in the Showcase event were named recipients of awards during the 2018 Parade of Homes. Covered lanais overlooking Mediterra’s captivating tableau include outdoor kitchens and dining and entertainment areas. Custom pools by London Bay’s Acquatico Pools feature paved decks and fire and water features. Luxurious automobiles from Naples MotorSports will also be on display during Sunday’s Model Showcase event.

More than 60 purchase opportunities remain at Mediterra, including London Bay’s models and home sites with water and preserve views. Purchasers of homes by London Bay may secure a full golf membership immediately rather than being placed on the membership waiting list. London Bay, an award-winning homebuilder and developer in the Southwest Florida luxury home market for more than three decades, manages all new home construction sales and marketing for Mediterra.

London Bay’s Lucarno neighborhood presents lakeside villas from 2,900 to over 4,400 square feet priced from $1.5 million. Priced at $2,885,000 fully-furnished, the two-story Capriano model’s 4,402-square-foot plan features a great room with a linear fireplace, a wine bar, and a library that opens to an outdoor living and kitchen area. The home offers views of a custom pool, lake, and Mediterra’s Parterre Gardens. The master suite features a bathroom with glass partitions and views of a water feature from the freestanding tub. An open staircase ends at a wet bar that serves a second-floor lounge, a guest suite with a balcony, and a sun deck offering lake and garden views.

A second Capriano model and The Catalina model are being presented in Cortile, an estate and single-family villa home neighborhood. Priced at $3,675,000 fully-furnished, the four-bedroom, four-bath Capriano’s 4,493 square feet under air floor plan includes a great room, a wine bar, and a library that opens to an outdoor living and kitchen area. A custom pool includes a cascading waterfall fountain and spa. A fire pit offers a perfect gathering spot. An open staircase ends at a wet bar positioned to serve a second-floor lounge and a guest suite with a balcony, while a sun deck offers a view of the pool and a preserve. Priced at $4,250,000 furnished, the two-story, 5,288 square feet under air, Catalina model features a great room, an island kitchen, and a café. The café opens to an outdoor space with a kitchen, an island, and seating, while overlooking a resort-style pool, spa, and fire pit. The master suite opens to a private trellis area, while the master bath features a garden shower. The first floor offers a formal dining room, bonus room and two guest suites. The second floor includes a loft, wet bar, a third guest suite, and a sunset overlook with a fireplace.

The Sonoma model is featured in Mediterra’s Caminetto neighborhood, an enclave of single-family villas from the high $1-millions to the low $3-millions. Priced at $3,125,000 furnished, the two-story, 4,106-square-feet Sonoma features a great room, a gourmet-inspired kitchen, a dining room that opens to a covered terrace, and an outdoor living, dining and kitchen area. A bonus room opens to the outdoor spaces. Double doors in the master suite lead to a patio overlooking a pool with a sun shelf and spa. A garden shower is accessible from the master bathroom and the pool patio. The second floor includes a lounge with a wet bar and a guest suite. The Bettina and Clara models in Mediterra’s Cabreo neighborhood are also being featured. Cabreo presents 30 single-family villas from 2,800 to 3,200 square feet priced from $1 million. Priced at $1,960,000 furnished, the four-bedroom, four-bath Bettina villa offers 3,110 square feet. The Bettina presents an open plan with a great room, dining room, and an island kitchen with a pantry and a cafe area. The outdoor living space includes an outdoor kitchen.

The Clara model features 3,369 square feet. The three-bedroom, three-and-one-half bath residence is Cabreo’s largest floor plan. The family room, living room, and master suite open to an outdoor living area with a pool and spa. The Clara is priced at $1,995,000 furnished.

The two-story, four-bedroom Isabella model offers 4,285 square feet under air in Mediterra’s Serata neighborhood. A second-story covered balcony overlooks an outdoor living area, pool and spa. The model’s great room plan also includes a formal dining room, study, large master suite, and an outdoor kitchen. The model is priced at $2,995,000 furnished. A leading homebuilder and developer in the Southwest Florida home market for nearly three decades, London Bay Homes has earned more than 300 industry awards. Its brand promise of Private Label Living ensures quality, attention to detail, and homes that are a unique expression of their residents’ distinctive tastes. The company builds new luxury custom and multi-family homes priced from $1 million to more than $10 million in many of the region’s most exclusive neighborhoods and communities. For information about London Bay Homes, visit LondonBay.com. Visit the Mediterra Sales Center at 1836 Savona Way off Livingston Parkway two miles north of Immokalee Road. The Sales Center and model residences are open daily. Call (239) 298-7600. Visit Mediterranaples.com.
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Live the life you've been dreaming of in Ave Maria. Live in a place where neighbors are friends, moms walk baby strollers together, retirees meet at the pub for happy hour, families feel safe sending their kids off to ride bikes and play at the park, and where daily conveniences such as Publix, dentist and doctor, and gas station are available within your very own town. Learn why Ave Maria has been named Collier County’s Community of the Year 2017, 2016 and 2015.

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**Quality of Life**

In Ave Maria, homeowners real-ize the importance of quality of life. Top notch education is available to all children whether it’s from our highly-rated Collier County Public Schools, the private K-12 Donahue Academy or Ave Maria University. The preferred method of transportation in town? A golf cart! Nothing beats zipping to Pub-lix or to the pub on your golf cart. Best of all, new friends are easily made in Ave Maria with so many opportunities through the calendar of events hosted by the Master Association as well as the natural gathering spots around town.

**CC Homes**

CC Homes presents 3-6 bedroom homes in one and two-story floor plans ranging in size from 1,133 to over 5,000 square feet and priced from the high $100s. Homes are offered in three neighbor-hoods: Maple Ridge, Maple Ridge Reserve, and Coquina at Maple Ridge. Customize your dream home with several options including outdoor oasis with pool, kitchen, and cabana bathroom or an extra bedroom or flex room above the garage.

Visit the on-site sales center and tour 14 model homes open daily. Ask about several move-in ready homes.

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Del Webb Naples is the smart choice for active adults desiring a well-round-ed southwest Florida lifestyle. Del Webb Naples offers ten floor plans from 1,133 to over 2,500 square feet, with 2-5 bed-rooms and prices from the high 100s. Choose from golf course, lake or pre-serve view when selecting your home site from the nation’s highly awarded home builder.

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**Pulte Homes**

With 20 popular single-family home designs in Hampton Village, Emerson Park, and Avalon Park priced from the low $200s, Pulte Homes offers quality con-struction home buyers can trust. These neighborhoods are located near the Town Center, private schools, and outdoor recreation. A well-known and respected name in home building, Pulte Homes features Life Test-ed® features in their home designs built for life and how you live it. Three models open daily in Avalon Park.

**Farmers market**

Join us Saturdays in April from 8am-1pm. Stroll along the Town Center circle and enjoy food, art and crafts from local vendors. Call ahead to reserve a 90-minute eco-adventure with Orange Jeep Tours and enjoy an off-road safari on private Collier family owned land. 239-434-JEEP

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21 Model homes open daily. For more information visit Ave Maria at 5076 Annunciation Circle # 104, avemaria.com or by calling 239-352-3903. Follow us on social media to be the first to learn about specials and incentives. Take Immokalee Rd. east; turn right onto Oil Well Rd; then left into the main Ave Maria entrance.
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BONITA BAY - CREEK SIDE

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3 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms, 2 Car Garage
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• Large 1st Floor Master Unit
2 Car Garage
$399,900 MLS 218003262
Thu Kueh & Patti Fortune 239.372.8494
21179 BUTCHERS HOLLER, ESTERO
• 2 BR, 2 BA, 2nd Floor, Remodeled Condo
$269,000 MLS 218007903
Jim Griffith, The Boeglin Team 239.322.2409

2843 TIBURON BLVD. E. #7-101, NAPLES
• Spectacular Gulf Views, Beachfront Condo
2515 TALON CT. #4-402, NAPLES
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1401 TIVOLI TER., BONITA
• Large 1st Floor Master Unit
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Patti Fortune
239.250.4310
Carol Jones
239.989.8829
The Bordner Team

239.370.7715
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Announcing limited-time offers at Residences at Mercato

The Lutgert Companies announces that the Residences at Mercato, the exclusive enclave with easy pedestrian access to the amenities of Mercato, is offering buyers a unique opportunity. With the purchase of any single-family home at Residences at Mercato, enjoy a complimentary Beach and Full Golf Membership at LaPlaya Beach & Golf Club or an options and upgrades incentive of $60,000. This offer will only be available until April 30.

Just minutes from Naples’ award-winning beaches and countless cultural offerings, the model homes at the Residences at Mercato are open daily. Showcasing the ease of indoor-outdoor living with the grace of a single-family home, this gated neighborhood is nestled within cosmopolitan Mercato. Visit the new Enclave, Le Rivage and Azure model homes.

Discover the Enclave, a 2,924 square-foot, three-bedroom plus den, three-and-a-half-bath residence with a coastal contemporary vibe. Its two-story great room with natural gas fireplace transitions seamlessly to an expanded outdoor living space. A covered seating area is styled with a second fireplace and retractable roll-down screens. The summer kitchen, al fresco dining space, pool with LED-lit waterfall and spa are accentuated by stone, silver travertine and white glass tile. With interior design by Jean Losier of Clive Daniel Home, the use of natural wood showcases effortless elegance throughout the residence.

Step inside the exquisite Le Rivage model, which includes a Clive Daniel Home furnishings package at no additional cost. The five-bedroom, five-and-a-half-bath residence is designed with sophisticated finishes of oak, marble and glass throughout its 3,558 square feet of living space. Transitioning from the easy flow of the home’s interior, an inviting outdoor space features a pool with a cascading waterfall fountain and spa. Interior design was created by Charlie Hansen of Clive Daniel Home. Le Rivage received the Collier Building Industry Association 2017 Award for Overall Excellence in Construction and Design in the $2.251 million to $2.5 million category.

Explore the Azure model, 2017 winner of CBIA’s Overall Excellence in Construction and Design Award in the $1.751 million to $2 million category, featuring three bedrooms plus cabana, four-and-a-half baths and 2,953 square feet of living space. This villa offers an open-concept floor plan that allows for easy flow to the exquisite outdoor living areas. Embracing the Florida lifestyle, its outdoor area has been equipped with a summer kitchen, pool and a fireplace. Also featuring interior designs by Clive Daniel Home, the model boasts both transitional and global influences, with warm tones that complement the architecture’s coastal design.

The 3,037-square-foot, two-story detached Le Ciel residence features three-bedrooms and 4.5 baths. This model features a new coastal style with a fresh color palette of warm backgrounds. The home’s open floor plan makes it ideal for entertaining. A special feature is a flexible cabana space—ideal for a home office or guest room.

With 11 acres, Residences at Mercato is a gated enclave of 46 coastal contemporary-style homes accentuated by custom outdoor living spaces designed to emphasize year-round outdoor leisure. Winding paver roads, lush landscaping and coastal inspired facades showcase urban living at its finest.

Residences at Mercato is a natural gas community with maintenance-free living that includes lawn maintenance and pool cleaning, exterior window washing, pressure washing, pest control and painting. Basic cable, internet, water and sewer are also included. With the very best shopping, dining and entertainment right outside your door, Residences at Mercato is also just 1.7 miles from the beach.

Announcing a Limited Time Offer: Beach and Full Golf Membership at LaPlaya Beach & Golf Club or an options and upgrade incentive of $60,000 with the purchase of any single-family home at Residences at Mercato. Only available until April 30. Premier Sotheby’s International Realty 239.594.9400 | ResidencesAtMercato.com
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AQUA II designer furnished model ready to move-in now

If you are ready to make a move, but don’t want the stresses of moving, enjoy the convenience of purchasing a beautifully furnished model home at AQUA II. No moving furniture. No purchasing new window coverings or artwork. Simply arrive at your new home complete with designer-selected furnishings and enjoy immediate occupancy.

Award-winning interior designer Jerilyn Antonacci, president of Antonacci Design Group created the contemporary interior design of model 301, inspired by the curves of the building and the views of the water, spanning 4,171 sf under air with includes three bedrooms, a den and three-and-a-half bathrooms and priced at $2.545 million.

“The view is what we are always striving for, so we kept the open floor plan and created a palate of modern colors,” explains Ms. Antonacci. “The open floor plan appeals to people moving from a single-family home to a maintenance-free waterfront lifestyle,” she adds.

The model has a great room, kitchen and living room that line up against large windows overlooking the nearby marina. Design elements are very modern: a table with a center cutout, black coffee tables in three layers with smaller black tables, shimmering wallpaper and a linear fireplace.

The master bedroom overlooks the water, so Antonacci boosted the view with a large oval mirror over the bed to reflect that scenery. She used lots of white and gold colors, and unique design elements. The wall behind the bed features a wallpaper starburst. Modern artwork is placed throughout.

The master bathroom features a two-person built-in tub nestled against a big picture window that overlooks the water.

A silk hand-knotted throw by Ann Gish styles the bed in one of the guest rooms. The second guest room is a blush pink. The den has a long built-in desk and cubbies nestled in the wall.

Exceptional conveniences offered at AQUA include community’s private yacht harbor, with direct access to the Gulf, consisting of 29 slips for separate purchase for those who wish to own their own boat right in their back yard. One slip remains available for sale to accommodate a boat up to 50 feet.

Designed for homeowners who desire an extra shade or sunshine, AQUA marina cabanas offer nearby living area with comfortable seating, air conditioning, a wet bar with refrigerator and microwave, and a full bath. Two marina cabanas remain available for sale.

Top: AQUA furnished model 301 design elements are very modern with a table with center cutout, black coffee table in three layers with smaller black tables, shimmering wallpaper and linear fireplace. Above: Interior designer Jerilyn Antonacci was inspired by the curves of the building and the views of the water at AQUA at Pelican Isle when she created a palate of modern colors and mixed different metals with gold and white in the furnished model’s kitchen.

“The view is what we are always striving for, so we kept the open floor plan and created a palate of modern colors. The open floor plan appeals to people moving from a single-family home to a maintenance-free waterfront lifestyle.”

— Jerilyn Antonacci, President of Antonacci Design Group

Top: AQUA furnished model 301 design elements are very modern with a table with center cutout, black coffee table in three layers with smaller black tables, shimmering wallpaper and linear fireplace. Above: Interior designer Jerilyn Antonacci was inspired by the curves of the building and the views of the water at AQUA at Pelican Isle when she created a palate of modern colors and mixed different metals with gold and white in the furnished model’s kitchen.

AQUA II designer furnished model ready to move-in now

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Top: AQUA furnished model 301 design elements are very modern with a table with center cutout, black coffee table in three layers with smaller black tables, shimmering wallpaper and linear fireplace. Above: Interior designer Jerilyn Antonacci was inspired by the curves of the building and the views of the water at AQUA at Pelican Isle when she created a palate of modern colors and mixed different metals with gold and white in the furnished model’s kitchen.

“The view is what we are always striving for, so we kept the open floor plan and created a palate of modern colors. The open floor plan appeals to people moving from a single-family home to a maintenance-free waterfront lifestyle.”

— Jerilyn Antonacci, President of Antonacci Design Group
From poolside parties and beach picnics to kayaking and pickleball, The Isles of Collier Preserve is a place where nature, neighbors and free-spirited fun come together like nowhere else. A place where award-winning homes overlook miles of scenic waterways and preserves. Come see why, “The Isles have it” over any other community in Naples.

NEW PHASE OF LUXURY VILLAS NOW OPEN!

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For location, hours of operation and further details about our award-winning communities, visit MintoUSA.com.
One of South Naples’ fastest-selling communities, Naples Reserve channels the ambience of Florida’s old beach towns with Southern Coastal architecture and the spirit of Key West in a 688-acre community woven amongst 22 freshwater lakes - including the centerpiece 125-acre Eagle Lake.

Naples Reserve has attracted homebuyers with its social lifestyle and resort-style community of attached villa, single-family and custom estate homes. And residents agree, its affordability only adds to the appeal.

When Felipe and Cristina Duran embarked upon their new home search, they immediately recognized that Naples Reserve’s amenities and value set it apart from other communities.

“The look and feel of the community really appealed to us,” said Cristina. “The lot sizes and affordable and comprehensive HOA fees were added incentives.”

Naples Reserve residents enjoy a full social calendar planned by Lifestyle and Fitness Director Carri Adam, who themes many of the events around activities and amenities offered in the community.

Many events are held at Naples Reserve’s $7 million Island Club social center, which features a 5,100-square-foot clubhouse and an adjacent 3,500-square-foot fitness center with state-of-the-art equipment and a movement studio for spinning, Zumba and yoga. An expansive, resort-style, zero-entry pool offers a tropical waterfall and dedicated lap lanes, and the lakeshore Match Point tennis and pickleball complex offers opportunities for friendly competition among neighbors.

The Durans, who purchased a lakeview home in the Savannah Lakes neighborhood, said they regularly take advantage of the Island Club’s fitness center and pool. “We also enjoy Fire Pit Friday and paddles, and bocce ball. With so many new friends,” said Marquardt.

“‘Our events are a great way for residents to get to know their neighbors as they familiarize themselves with Naples Reserve’s amenities and all of the social opportunities offered within the community,” said Adam.

Residents celebrate all season long in Naples Reserve style. More than 100 “High Roller” Naples Reserve residents enjoyed Casino Night at the Island Club, complete with blackjack, craps, roulette, poker tables and slot machines – all staffed by professional dealers. Winners cashed out to receive gift cards to local restaurants and Naples Reserve favorites, including Latitude 39 and Chat n Chill Tiki Bar.

At the end-of-season Motown Party, residents got their groove on to the soulful sounds of Naples’ infamous Ex-Bachelors band while dining on soul food-style fare from Frisco’s Catering. Upcoming events include a Neighbor’s Night Out bus tour to Cape Coral’s Wick- ed Dolphin Rum Distillery and Big Blue Brewhouse, where residents will learn how rum and beer are made from scratch, as well as a festive fiesta to celebrate Cinco de Mayo around the resort-style pool.

Adam also regularly hosts educational and entertaining presentations. During these events, residents have learned paddleboard basics, practiced bocce ball and brushed up on their CPR technique.

“If you’re the experiences residents share make it a close-knit community,” said Adam.

Naples Reserve residents Tom and Sue Marquardt, who purchased a lakeview home in the Savannah Lakes neighborhood were recently honored at 2018 Parade of Homes Awards by the Collier Building Industry Association: the three-bedroom, two bath New- port, built by KTS Homes, and Florida Lifestyle Homes’ three-bedroom, three- and-a-half bath Siesta Key model.

With more than 275 homes spoken for, Tom and Sue haven’t missed one of Adam’s community events. In fact, Marquardt – an oenophile who has a website and writes a weekly syndicated column, “Wine Etc.” – helped coordinate a wine tasting event in the spring at the Outrigger Center that was attended by more than 50 Naples Reserve residents.

“We’ve never been in a community that has been this active. There is high energy here and a thriving drive to get to know each other. We’ve made so many new friends,” said Marquardt.

“Moving to Naples Reserve was the smartest thing we did in retirement!”

Along with Naples Reserve’s social offerings, its homes are also earning rave reviews. In recognition of overall excellence in construction and design, two custom-built homes in the Parrot Cay neighborhood were recently honored with 2018 Parade of Homes Awards by the Collier Building Industry Association: the three-bedroom, two bath Newport, built by KTS Homes, and Florida Lifestyle Homes’ three-bedroom, three- and-a-half bath Siesta Key model.

With more than 275 homes spoken for within six of its distinctive neighborhoods – offering a selection of residences ranging from 1,590 to more than 3,500 square feet of living space, including move-in ready homes with limited-time builder incentives – Phase I is more than 5 percent sold.

Now is the time to discover your new home and casually awesome lifestyle in this best-selling South Naples community, with a select number of move-in ready lakefront homes available in Naples Reserve’s Sparrow Cay, Savannah Lakes, Egret Landing and Mallard Point neighborhoods. Additional move-in ready attached villa homes are also available in Coral Harbor, Naples Reserve’s newest neighborhood. Homes are priced from the high-$200,000s to more than $1 million.

Naples Reserve is located off U.S. 41, 2 miles southeast of the Collier Boulevard/CR 951 intersection and 10 minutes from I-75 Exit 101. Visit the community at 14885 Naples Reserve Circle or online at www.naplesreserve.com.
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LOT 7 – COQUINA I
1315 1st Avenue South
2,664 sq. ft.

LOT 18 – COQUINA II
1394 1st Avenue South
3,232 sq. ft.

LOT 13 – COQUINA II
3,232 sq. ft.

LOT 25 – COQUINA II
3,232 sq. ft.

LOT 26 – AMELIA I
3,098 sq. ft.

LOT 31 – USEPPA I
3,488 sq. ft. (Modified)

LOT 41 – KEewaydin I
3,272 sq. ft.

Mangrove Bay will soon be breaking ground on The Amenities Center which will have a private on-site concierge to cater to every resident’s needs, comprehensive property management services, state-of-the-art wellness/fitness equipment and Yoga studio, a private boat ramp, as well as ground level storage area for resident’s kayaks, canoes, paddle boards and jet-skis. Additional floor plans include the single story Palm Cottage offering 3 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms in a lovely open great room setting with beach cottage aesthetics. This 2,514 square foot floor plan encompasses a spacious master suite and a generous living area for entertaining. The single story Captiva floor plan features an attractive open concept design with soaring vaulted ceilings and expansive outdoor living space. It offers 2,586 of luxurious living space.

With only 33 homes available, the opportunity to purchase a home at Mangrove Bay won’t last long. Remarkably designed with spacious and open floor plans, these homes inspire coastal luxury living at its finest.
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THE MOORINGS
THE CLOVERDALE
406 Rudder Road • 4 Beds, 4 Full 1 Half Baths

PORT ROYAL
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4375 Gordon Drive • 5 Beds, 5 Full 2 Half Baths

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Stock's Spring Tour of Homes event this weekend across Southwest Florida from Marco Island to Sarasota

Stock Development invites you to the April Stock Tour of Homes event this weekend. The Stock Tour of Homes begins, Friday, April 20th and continues Saturday and Sunday, April 21st and 22nd, from noon to 5:00 p.m. For full details, visit the company website at www.stockdevelopment.com.

"With 30 models in 11 different communities, this represents one of the largest model showcase we've ever presented," said Brian Stock, CEO of Stock Development. "And this year, for the first time on our Tour of Homes, we're proud to debut our three tiers of excellence: Stock Classic Homes, Stock Signature Homes and Stock Custom Homes."

Stock maintains a broad portfolio of homes available for immediate occupancy. Stock has move-in ready and soon to be completed homes available throughout Southwest Florida.

FIDDLER'S CREEK
At Fiddler's Creek, Stock Signature Homes has opened three beautifully furnished models within the exclusive gated village of Marsh Cove, two of which have already been sold.

Stock's homes in Marsh Cove include single-family custom estate floor plans, featuring three and four-bedroom plans plus a study and range from 2,600 to 3,600 square feet of air-conditioned living space. The homes feature three-car garages and multiple outdoor living areas overlooking the lakes and fairways of the Arthur Hills-designed Creek Course. The base price for Stock's homes at Marsh Cove begins at $729,990, plus lot.

LEYL RESORT
Time is running out for homebuyers who wish to purchase a new move-in ready home at Lely Resort. Stock is selling single-family homes in the community. A Golf Membership is included in the cost of every new home.

ESPLANADE GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB OF NAPLES

Stock is also celebrating the grand opening of the Regency Manor at Esplanade Golf and Country Club of Naples, a beautiful, private community. This four-bedroom, four, and one-half bath great room style home features a formal dining room, a study, an outdoor living area and a three-car garage. It offers 3,699 square feet under air and a total of 5,544 square feet of living space. Featuring an stunning interior design by Clive Daniel Home, it is being sold and being shown on leaseback.

ISLES OF CYPRESS PRESERVE
Stock Signature Homes' recently opened a spectacular new Marigold model in the Isles of Collier Preserve. The Marigold’s superb floorplan includes 3,578 square feet under air plus a covered lanai measuring 1,000-plus square feet. It features a great room with an optional built-in entertainment center, a large gourmet island kitchen and breakfast area and a formal dining room. The home offers an exquisite interior design by Soco Interiors.

TWIN EAGLES
At TwinEagles, Stock is selling single-family homes in the Hedgestone and Lake Estates neighborhood of this stunning North Naples country club community. A Golf Membership is included in the cost of every new home.

Quail West, one of Stock Development's premier golf and resort-lifestyle communities in North Naples, is a prestigious luxury community in Southwest Florida.

The community is experiencing another strong year this year due to the debut of the expanded and renovated clubhouse, the enhancements to the two championship golf courses, and the number of furnished models and inventory homes in the community.

The Normandy II is a four-bedroom plus study, four-and-a-half-bath home with 4,124 square feet under air and 6,034 total square feet, including a three-car garage. The Normandy II is priced at $2,499,990, including interior design by Clive Daniel.

MARCO ISLAND
On spectacular Marco Island, Stock Custom Homes has completed its furnished Polynesian model and will be opening the Malibu model in May. The 3,903-square-foot, two-story Polynesian features an interior by Soco Interiors’ Daniel Kilgore. The open concept plan includes a great room, dining area, and island kitchen, a study, four bedrooms, four full baths and two half baths, an upstairs loft, a three-car garage, and an outdoor living area with a summer kitchen, fireplace, pool and spa. The Polynesian model is priced at $2,795 million.

Don't miss the chance to see your dream home during Stock's April Tour of Homes this weekend!

To see all that Stock has to offer, please visit the Stock Development website at www.stockdevelopment.com. Email at info@stockdevelopment.com or call (239) 592-7344. Stock Development is on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FLStockDevelopment.
The Isles of Collier Preserve... where residents celebrate nature and active living

The Isles of Collier Preserve in Naples by Minto Communities is an award-winning master-planned community inspired by nature, designed by historic references to the classic southern coastal architecture of Old Naples, and designed to accommodate an active lifestyle that is connected to nature.

Just four miles east of downtown Naples, The Isles of Collier Preserve provides residents with a stunningly beautiful private world bordered by Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Naples Botanical Garden and Dollar Bay. More than 1,300 acres of the community’s 2,400 acres are dedicated to natural habitat and nature preserves connected by a network of natural trails, nature observation stations, bike paths and waterways for kayaking.

Residents and visitors enter The Isles of Collier Preserve through a gatehouse archway distinguished by a reflecting pool. Next stop for visitors...the Discovery Sales Center, described as more nature center than sales center. A “Neighbors Room” presents displays on neighbors Rookery Bay Reserve, Naples Botanical Garden, and Conservancy of Southwest Florida, among others. A rustic boardwalk encircles a recreated cypress wetland and 14' cypress tree replica. Visitors can take a virtual tour at interactive stations, take an eco-friendly electric boat ride or explore via Minto-provided bicycles or kayaks.

■ World-class amenities inspired by Collier history

The Isles Club with its inviting coastal cottage style design inspired by the original Naples Beach Hotel built in 1888 is the community’s center. Like the original Naples Beach Hotel, The Isles Club is distinguished by a stylized cupola and large awning-shaded front porch. Residents and friends gather at The Isles Club for dining and social functions, swimming in the resort-style pool and lap pool, tennis, pickleball and workouts in the state-of-the-art fitness center. A lushly landscaped event courtyard, yoga lawn and kayak launch provide additional opportunities for outdoor recreation.

■ Waterfront Bar and Grill now under construction

Rising along quiet waters in the community is the Overlook Bar and Grill, brimming with the authentic Old Florida charm that pervades the community. Now under construction, the venue is sure to be the new heart of social life in The Isles of Collier Preserve. Residents can gather for cocktails with friends or casual dining, while enjoying vistas of vibrant sunsets over the Cypress Waterway.

■ Home choices to meet every lifestyle

Minto offers a selection of 43 innovative, energy-efficient home designs at The Isles of Collier Preserve that complement their spectacular natural surroundings and present a contemporary interpretation of classic Florida coastal home styles. Selections include coach homes, villas and single-family homes ranging from 1,621 square feet under air, and are priced from the mid-$300s, to over $1.5 million. Designed for entertaining, homes feature gourmet kitchens with large seating and serving islands, open floor plans, large eat-in kitchens, formal dining rooms and more are among Minto’s distinctive luxury touches.

Villas range from 1,565 square feet under air to 1,862 square feet under air, and are priced from the mid-$300s. Villa homes include two to three bedrooms, plus den or hobby room, great room, dining room, two baths, covered lanai and two-car garage.

■ An award-winning master planned community

A recognized leader in green construction, Minto has won many national and regional awards for The Isles of Collier Preserve. These include three silver awards from the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), including the 2016 Best in American Living Award for “Best Mixed Community”, the 2017 Nationals Award for “Best Clubhouse”, and the 2017 Best in American Living Award for “Best Community Facility”. The Isles of Collier Preserve also received the Grand Aurora Award for Master-Planned Community of the Year from the Southeast Building Conference (SEBC), the largest building industry trade show in the southeast, and the Community of the Year award at the Collier Building Industry Association 2016 Sand Dollar Awards.

Minto developed The Isles of Collier Preserve using its own funding sources, electing not to utilize Community Development District (CDD) funds, and saving homeowners at The Isles of Collier Preserve thousands of dollars in annual assessments.

The Isles of Collier Preserve is located just four miles east of downtown Naples on U.S. 41/Tamiami Trail East. The Discovery Sales Center is open Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information on The Isles of Collier Preserve call 888-707-1251 or visit MintoUSA.com.
Public invited to informational luncheon at Moorings Park Grande Lake

Moorings Park Grande Lake, the new Life Plan Community being developed by Moorings Park and London Bay Homes, is inviting the public to a special event aimed as an introduction to the new community.

The informational luncheon will be held on Friday, April 27, at 11:30 a.m., at the Moorings Park Grande Lake Sales Gallery. Those wishing to attend need to RSVP by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, April 25, by calling 239-919-1620.

The Moorings Park Grande Lake Sales Gallery is located on Premier Drive, on the south side of Golden Gate Parkway, between Airport-Pulling and Livingston roads, inside the entrance to Naples Grande Golf Club.

Building upon the foundation that has made Moorings Park and Moorings Park at Grey Oaks the preferred choice for Life Plan communities in Southwest Florida, this third incredible neighborhood is planned for the next generation of residents.

Situated on 55 acres in the heart of Naples, Moorings Park Grande Lake will combine one-of-a-kind vistas of magnificent lakes and championship golf with luxury homes and exceptional healthcare.

Moorings Park Grande Lake is being created in partnership with esteemed luxury custom homebuilder and developer, London Bay Homes, long known for its award-winning architectural design and attention to detail.

“Future residents will be attracted to its natural beauty, classic design and total commitment to enabling them to live longer, healthier and happier lives,” stated Daniel Lavender, CEO of Moorings Park Institute, Inc.

“For nearly three decades, the brand promise of ‘Private Label Living’ has reflected our commitment to building and developing the finest luxury homes in Southwest Florida,” said Mark Wilson, President of London Bay Homes. “It’s an honor for us to now extend our philosophy of choice in design to the Moorings Park with no additional fees, other than typical co-pays. The Care 360 concierge physicians are accessible by appointment, plus 24/7 access via phone, text or email.

Should the need arise, Moorings Park Grande Lake provides its residents world-class Assisted Living and Memory Care in existing centers of excellence, at no additional cost.

“As you can tell, this is going to be a spectacular community” concludes Lavender. “Please visit us and learn more about London Bay Homes luxurious design and Moorings Park’s commitment to Simply the Best® qualities, services and amenities.”

The Moorings Park Grande Lake Sales Gallery is open Monday thru Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and closed Saturdays and Sundays. For additional information visit MooringsParkGL.org.
Buying a Home? Take advantage of our spring special! Now...take 0.25% off your rate!

**SPRING Max Mortgage SPECIAL + Guaranteed LOW Mortgage Rate = LOWER Monthly Payment**

**March 9 – April 16 ONLY**

For a limited time, you can receive DOUBLE the Max Mortgage™ discount when you buy a new home! You can lower your interest rate by 0.25% or apply the discount towards lowering your closing costs.

Don't forget to request a FREE Home Makeover estimate.

**WIN a $50,000 HOME MAKEOVER**

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Double the Max Mortgage™ Discount when you buy a new home! You can lower your interest rate by 0.50% or apply the discount towards lowering your closing costs.

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Miromar Lakes, Florida 33913

*National Association of Home Builders GOLD AWARD*
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**Florida Weekly’s OPEN HOUSE DIRECTORY** | **April 21 & 22**

**Call 239.325.1960 to be included in Florida Weekly’s OPEN HOUSE DIRECTORY**
NABOR
From page 41

However, this was not the only new construction activity that influenced NABOR’s first quarter statistics. According to Mr. Jones, many sellers of speculative single-family homes that have been on the market for two-plus years in neighborhoods like Park Shore and the Moorings began to set more realistic list prices this past quarter, which resulted in more sales in the high-end, single-family home market.

“Overpriced homes don’t sell,” Mr. Jones said. “In fact, I think sales during January and February could have been better had many of these sellers set their prices realistically earlier. It wasn’t until March that I began to see an uptick in price decreases in the MLS for many of these speculative, and then those sellers saw multiple offers from buyers who had been holding out.”

If you are looking to sell a home in Naples, contact a real estate professional who has the experience and knowledge to provide an accurate market comparison so you can determine the right asking price. Find out more at www.naplesarea.com.
ENTHRALLING

The final tower. Architecturally stunning. Each residence, a resplendent refuge, featuring amenities unrivaled and abundant. With Bay and Gulf views to infinity, forever unobstructed. Omega rising.

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OMEGA
BONITA BAY

RENT

3 Bedroom / 3.5 Bath / 6,292 sq. ft.
Dining Area: 75 sq. ft.
TERRACE AREA: 340 sq. ft.
TOTAL RESIDENCE: 4,214 sq. ft.

RESIDENCE 02

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Is there any experience filled with more expectation and nerves than a positive pregnancy test? Whether you’re a woman growing new life or the man who put it there, preparing for a baby is a life experience rife with conflicting emotions.

 TheatreZone’s production of “Baby” promises to take audiences on along for the journey with three expectant couples who don’t know what to make of their impending parenthood. “I love the story,” says Mark Danni, founding artistic director of the professional company. “I think it’s the very premise that sets you up for so many situations … the three couples are in various stages of their lives and the only tying factor is that they’re on this college campus and expecting.”

Winner of the 1994 Drama Desk Awards for Best Musical and Best Music, “Baby” follows college students Lizzie and Danny; 30-somethings Pam and Nick, who have been trying to become pregnant without success; and empty-nesters Arlene and Oh, baby! TheatreZone wraps up another season

BY LINDSEY NESMITH
lnesmith@floridaweekly.com

Anything is possible at a 10-MINUTE PLAY FESTIVAL
Including a mad scientist and dancing vaudeville sheep

A CHEF soiree
Culinary foundation honors one of its own, and more to-dos around town.
C25-27

A laughing matter
Comedy Nights are coming, and more news from The Naples Players.
C5

BY NANCY STETSON
nstetson@floridaweekly.com

What can you say in just 10 minutes?
Apparently, quite a lot, according to Frank Blocker, who’s in charge of theater and film programming at the Bonita Springs Center for Performing Arts.

Next up for Mr. Blocker is the center’s second year of “Stage It!,” a festival of plays that run a maximum of 10 minutes each. The works were chosen from among more than 200 plays submitted from around the U.S. as well as England, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

SEE FESTIVAL, C4

Oh, baby! TheatreZone wraps up another season

O

AHAHAAH

A laughing matter
Comedy Nights are coming, and more news from The Naples Players.
C5

Cuisine News
Karen Feldman swoons at Philly Pretzel Factory, and more food and dining tid-bits.
C28-31

SEE BABY, C22

SEE FESTIVAL, C4

SEE BABY, C22

SEE FESTIVAL, C4

SEE FESTIVAL, C4

SEE FESTIVAL, C4
Fashion and nostalgia? They’re in the bag

Grandma was proud of her shell handbag. She’d taken a class in the early 1960s at the Shell Factory in North Fort Myers and had learned the raw beginnings of coquillage, or shell art, gluing bits of treasure heaved from the sea onto the fabric panel that formed the side of a pocketbook she carried for years.

It was a white wicker purse with clear plastic that covered the shells, as I recall. It was, oh, so distinctly Florida.

When that handbag finally wore out, she carefully cut away the shell panel and tacked it to a wicker bag she kept the rest of her life. It seemed every region had bespoke purses back in the day.

Of course, Nantucket baskets remain popular (and valuable). But remember the other bags?

In the later 1960s and 1970s, decoupage and painted purses came in to vogue. Annie Laurie (yes, that really was her name) created handpainted and decoupage wooden purses in the Palm Beaches. Her purses remain popular with collectors and Palm Beachers who love a touch of nostalgia.

Others may well remember the Caro-Nan baskets that seemingly were everywhere from the mid-1960s through the early ’80s.

The purses, created by Carolyn McDaniel and Nancy Steele of Jackson, Miss., bore simple motifs of colorful townhouses they handpainted around the sides of baskets made in Vermont. They localized them, painting the names of the boutiques that sold the purses onto the storefronts and other buildings, and adding decoupage elements that read “France,” “Fabulous,” “Palm Beach” and other locales. At the height of their popularity, Caro-Nan was selling 5,000 bags a month.

I remember seeing the bags at boutiques along Naples’ Fifth Avenue South, as well as along tony St. Armand’s in Sarasota.

The ladies who created the bags are now in their 80s, according to an interview they did a couple of years ago with the Jackson Clarion-Ledger. In that interview, they described how the purses also could be used as seats at sporting events, and remembered how children would perch atop the purses in pews for better views at church.

The purses certainly speak to their time — and to mine. ■

**THE FIND:** A Caro-Nan purse created for David’s Fifth Avenue, Palm Beach


*Paid:* $12

*The Skinny:* I remember seeing these bags when I was a boy — I thought it was so cool that a purse listed shops in towns I knew. David’s Fifth Avenue actually was along Worth Avenue, near Via Mizner, in Palm Beach. This purse is in good shape, considering its half-century or so of existence. Its quilted crimson calico lining offers an added touch of wit and whimsy. And, yes, that’s a 1967 penny glued to its top. I’m sure it’s just for luck. We all can use that. ■
Stay in May starts in April with event at Palm Cottage

For the third year, Naples Historical Society has partnered with Stay In May, the arts and cultural festival that showcases a variety of performers and artists every year at the start of the summer season. “Interpreted in Art” brings four local artists with brushes, palettes and canvases in hand to The Norris Gardens at Historic Palm Cottage, home of the NHS, at 4 p.m. Thursday, April 26. Guests will enjoy live music, wine and light hors d’oeuvres while they watch art come to life. The participating artists are:

- Paula Brody, who will demonstrate her process of creating three-dimensional wavelength paper sculptures;
- Sandie Kozlow, who will create abstract art using texture and mixed media;
- Christine Otis, who will produce a piece that visually communicates the mood of movement and flow; and
- Susan Alexander Shipman, who will paint a watercolor en plein air.

Tickets for $15 are available at www.stayinmay.com. NHS members will enjoy free admission but are encouraged to RSVP by calling 261-8164 before April 24.

Naples Tractor Supply invites vendors to sign up for Market Day

Naples Tractor Supply is calling all growers, crafters and artisans to showcase their homemade and homegrown goods at its spring Market Day event Saturday, May 12.

Vendors with expertise in everything from homemade candles and soaps to honey, eggs, produce, baked goods, gardening, furniture and more are invited to set up free of charge in tented areas near the storefront. Nonprofit organizations and food trucks are also encouraged to register.

“Market Day is a way for us to bring neighbors together to spotlight the diverse talent that makes the Naples community so unique,” said Mary Lawley, vice president of store administration at Tractor Supply Company. “From the hobbyist to the professional, not only do we want to celebrate locally produced goods, but also the people who make them.”

Vendor registration closes Wednesday, May 9. To sign up or for more information, visit www.tsceventpartners.com or stop by Naples Tractor Supply at 13235 Tamiami Trail E.
Bonita festival. 12 plays that were staged at that first with the same name, containing the self-published, print-on-demand book competition last year. York, he says. with different theater companies in New Sydney Stone and M.S. Changar) and More Ten-Minute Plays" (edited with workshops and retreats, for example — things like children’s theater, musical ing of competitions and opportunities — for playwrights on a website. — for playwrights on a website. database.com, they have an actor and playwright in New Y ork City, and kept an extensive online list- and then I picked up one, and (in it) two comments, which resulted in three books: — for playwrights on a website.
‘Ripcord’ promises to pull on your heartstrings

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The curtain comes down on another season for The Naples Players with an award-winning comedy about assisted living by David Lindsay-Abaire. ‘Ripcord’ opens with a red-carpet reception on Wednesday, April 25, and runs through May 20.

A seemingly harmless bet between two old women quickly escalates into a hilarious game of one-upmanship with the prize being the sunny upper-floor room of the Bristol Place Senior Living Facility. Janina Birolo plays the incurably chatty but shy Marilyn Dunne to the foil of Bonnie Knapp in the role of the cantankerous but likeable Abby Binder. When the two are required to share a room in the retirement home, their dramatically different personalities immediately rub each other the wrong way. When Marilyn arrives as Abby’s possible new roommate, Abby pleads with an orderly, “If I have to have someone in the life of an amnesiac abduct a mysterious stranger.

Knowing this odd-couple roommate situation will not work, the two make a bet. Marilyn insists that nothing makes her angry, while Abby claims she is never, ever scared. If Abby can make Marilyn lose her temper, Marilyn will move out. The situation will not work, the two make a bet.

It’s a master of the setup and punch line,” says Bryce Alexander, TNP executive artistic director. “You might be able to imagine where the plot is heading, but when the worst case scenarios actually occur, you still find yourself laughing in disbelief.”

‘Ripcord’

>> Info:
>> Cost:
>> Where:
>> When:

The Naples Players announce a new monthly offering of family-friendly comedy in a café setting. Starting in May, TNP Comedy Night will include an evening of laughs, games and scenes that include suggestions provided by audience members. Every show is different and includes guest comedians and improv groups. Audience members are invited to be as involved in the show as they like.

Catch the first show at 8 p.m. Fri, May 4, at the Sugden Community Theatre. “It’s the perfect addition to our performance offerings,” TNP Executive Artistic Director Bryce Alexander says. “We have an incredible following of talented actors and comedians to draw from. We’re happy to offer great comedy and entertainment that the whole family can enjoy together.”

TNP Comedy Night will be hosted by Michael Santos, the theater company’s technical director and the co-founder of Stage 2 Improv, a Naples-based improvisational group whose members include several regulars from TNP productions.

Tickets are $20 for adults, $10 for students and educators. Call the box office at 263-7990 or buy tickets online at www.naplesplayers.org.

Get a load of Comedy Night at the Sugden

The Naples Players’ ETC Readers Theatre presents a reading of “June & Jason’s Survival Guide to Divorce” at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 6, at the Tobyue Studio at the Sugden Community Theatre. The reading is the first step to producing the comedy by Laura Lorusso as a world premiere in October as part of TNP’s 2018-19 65th anniversary season.

“Developing this show with Laura Lorusso and this amazing cast has been an opportunity of a lifetime,” says Jessica Walck, TNP associate artistic director and curator of ETC Readers Theatre. “I cannot wait to share this show with the world.”

The reading is the last before the show goes into production. An audience talk-back will follow the performance. "Ripcord" introduces an unforgettable collection of zany neighbors and friends who try to save June and Jason from a looming divorce. Mr. Walck directs the cast that includes Jamie Lynn Bucci (June), Gole Butcher (Jason), Patti Caroli (Jose- phine), Katie Cross (Lucy), Paul Polonsky (Doug), Christopher Rand (Sam) and Greg Sofranko (Richard).

Tickets for $5 are available at the box office or online. Call 263-7990 or go to www.naplesplayers.org.

ETC is an ideal venue for new playwrights, budding directors and actors who prefer a lower-stress environment. For more information about getting involved, call Mr. Walck at 434-7340, ext. 101, or send an email to jwalck@naplesplayers.org.

American’s Steak House

Locate at The Hilton Naples
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www.ShulasNaples.com

On April 25th, treat your valued admin pro to a legendary lunch at Shula’s Steak House Naples. Buy one entree and the second entree is free.*

Offer valid only on April 25, 2018 from 11:30am to 2:30pm.
Reservations required.

*Limit one (1) complimentary entrée per table. Free entrée must be equal or lesser value. Offer cannot be combined with other discounts, offers, or specials.

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Knowing this odd-couple roommate situation will not work, the two make a bet. Marilyn insists that nothing makes her angry, while Abby claims she is never, ever scared. If Abby can make Marilyn lose her temper, Marilyn will move out. That is, unless Marilyn frightens Abby. “He’s a master of the setup and punch line,” says Bryce Alexander, TNP executive artistic director. “You might be able to imagine where the plot is heading, but when the worst case scenarios actually occur, you still find yourself laughing in disbelief.”

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Tickets are $20 for adults, $10 for students and educators. Call the box office at 263-7990 or buy tickets online at www.naplesplayers.org. Tickets can also be purchased at the box office starting two hours before show time.

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**WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO**

**THEATER**

**Kalamazoo** – By The Naples Players held over through April 27 at the Sugden Community Theater. 263-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org.

**Bakersfield Mist** – By The Studio Players through Sunday, April 29 at the Golden Gate Community Center. 4701 Golden Gate Parkway. 398-9929, info@thestudioplayers.com of www.thestudioplayers.org.

**Ripcord** – By The Naples Players April 24-May 20 in the Toby Studio at the Sugden Community Theater. 263-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org.

**Four One-Act Comedies** – By The Marco Players April 25-May 13 at The Marco Players Theater. 1089 N. Collier Blvd. 642-2720 or www.marcoplayers.org.

**Baby** – By TheatreZone April 26-May 6 at GaUL Theatre. 13275 Livingston Road. 424-9400 or www.theatrezone-florida.com.


**The Studio Players present “Bakersfield Mist,” a comedy about a trailer park resident (Casey Cottle) who, with the help of his neighbor and the art expert (David Whaley, right) whose job is to authenticate it, on select dates through Sunday, April 29, at the Golden Gate Community Center. www.thestudioplayers.org.**

**Classical Film – FGCU’s Renaissance Academy screens “To Kill A Mockingbird” (1962) at 2 p.m. A lawyer from the Depression-era South defends a black man from an unsubstantiated rape charge. $6 for members, $8 for others. 1015 Fifth Ave. S. 434-4737 or www.fgcu.edu.

**Free Concert – The Bill Coletti Music Group performs on, as part of Norrimer Outlet’s Friday Night Concert Series. 948-3766 or www.miromaroutlets.com.

**Strings Sing – Yo-Yo Ma performs a diverse group of long-time collaborators at 8 p.m. at Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.**

**What A Mind – Comedian Carlos Mencia (“Mind of Mencia”) brings his “C 4 Unzel” tour to Offer The Hook Comedy Club tonight through Sunday, April 22. 2500 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 389-6900 or www.offthelook.com.**

**The Right Keys – Impressionist Jimmy Keys shows off his many faces and sounds from 9:30-11 p.m. at Barbatella. Reservations recommended. 1290 Third St. S. 263-9959 or www.barbatellanaples.com.**

**SUNDAY 4.22**

**Fresh Produce – Take your grocery list to the Naples Farmers Market from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the corner Pine Ridge and Livingston roads.**

**MONDAY 4.21**

**A Good Yarn – Storytellers of the Round Table present their third annual showcase storytelling event, “The Elephant II,” from 7-9 p.m. at Sugden Community Theater. 202.262-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org.**

**THURSDAY 4.19**

**Pups in the Garden – Put your favorite pooch in the car (don’t forget the leash!) and head over to Naples Botanical Garden for canine-friendly hours from 3-5 p.m. (also 9-11 a.m. Sunday and 4-8 p.m. Tuesday). Free. Garden members and their dogs get regular admission for humans plus $9.50 for their dogs. www.naplesgarden.org.**

**Mah Jongg on Marco – The Jewish Congregation of Marco Island invites mah jongg players to join the games from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 911 Winterberry Drive. 642-0880 or www.marcojcm.com.**

**Lei It on Me – Naples Botanical Garden hosts a workshop on making Hawaiian leis with ti leaves from 10 a.m. to noon. Free. www.naplesgarden.org.**

**Nature Lecture – Naples Zoo hosts a talk about Trees for the Future, an organization that plants trees to counteract deforestation around the world from 6-8 p.m. Free for members, $10 for others. 262-5409 or www.napleszoo.com.**

**FRIDAY 4.20**

**Classical Concert – The Naples Philharmonic performs Western music’s most beloved overtures at 8 p.m. at Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.**

**Farmers Market – Find fresh local produce and more at the St. John Farms Market from 9 a.m. to noon at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. 625 11th Ave. N.**

**All Aboard – Volunteer docents from the Naples Train Museum are on hand at the Naples Depot Museum from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. today and Saturday to help visitors of all ages enjoy the outdoor and indoor trains. Corner of 10th St. S. and Fifth Ave. S. www.naplestrainmuseum.org.**

**RV Show – Hit the road to the Lee County Sports Complex/ Hammond Stadum at Times Square for the 23rd annual RV Super-Saver Show hosted by the Florida RV Trade Association from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. today through Sunday, April 20-22. Free admission. www.frvta.org/shows.**

**FRIDAY 4.20**

**Sunset Yoga – Stretch and breathe with Friends of Lovers Key and Naples Yoga Center from 5:30-6:30 a.m. at the Lovers Key State Park gazebo and continuing weekly through the month. $10, plus pantry food fee, 952-4809 or www.friendsofloverskey.org.**

**Renaissance Art – FGCU’s Renaissance Academy hosts a lecture about Caravaggio and his followers at Bentley Village. $24 for members, $29 for others. 850 Retreat Drive. 434-4737 or www.fgcu.edu.**

**Films for Film Lovers – Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs screens “The Fall” (2006) at 7 p.m. In a hospital in Los Angeles, an injured stuntman tells another patient, a little girl, the fantastic story of five mythical creatures. $30. 10150 Fifth Ave. S. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.**

**TUESDAY 4.24**

**Take A Hike – CREW Land & Water Trust leads a free guided walk through its marsh trails from 9 a.m. to noon. 4600 Corkscrew Road. 657-2253 or www.crewtrust.org.**

**Gardening Lecture – Naples Botanical Garden hosts a lecture on annona and bael fruits from 10 a.m. to noon. Free for members, $20 for others. 643-7275 or www.naplesgarden.org.**

**Hidden Hong Kong – Naples Regional Library hosts a talk with former Hong Kong resident Paul Pletcher about the city’s hidden treasures and secrets from 3-4 p.m. Free. 263-7708 or www.collierlibrary.org.**

**Total Travel – Preferred Travel of Naples offers a free wine tasting and presentation of travel offerings by Star Clippers Cruises at 6 p.m. at Total Wine in Estero. 8012 Mediterranean Drive. Reservations required. 303-246-4310 or carol@preferrednaples.com.**

**WEDNESDAY 4.25**

**Marco Market – Stock up on fresh produce and more at the Marco Island Farmers Market from 7:30 a.m. to noon at Veterans Community Park. 901 Park Ave.**

**Cuban tenor Anibal Cruz performs from 5-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 25, at the Marco Island Center for the Arts. www.marcoislandarts.com**
Interlude – Cuban tenor Aníbal Cruz performs from 5:30-7 p.m. at Marco Island Center for the Arts, $25-$30, 1010 Winterberry Drive. 294-4221 or www.marcoislandarts.org.

COMING UP
Artfully Naples – Artists Paula Brody, Sandy Kozlow, Christine Otis and Susan Alexander Shipman demonstrate their unique techniques while interpreting scenes at Naples Historical Society’s headquarters at Historic Palm Cottage at 4 p.m. Thursday, April 26, $15, free for Naples Art Association members, 137 12th Ave. S. 390-2788 or www.artsnaples.org.

No Dummy – Comedian/ventriloquist Jeff Dunham brings his “Passively Aggressive” act to Germain Arena at 8 p.m. Thursday, April 26, $50.50, 948-7825 or www.germainarena.com.

Free Concert – Electric Lipstick performs on Friday, April 27, as part of Miro- mar Outlet’s Friday Night Concert Series. 948-7825 or www.miromaroutlets.com.

Bump You Up – Stay in May hosts a performance of roots jazz and street blues by Bumper Jacksons at 7 p.m. Friday, April 27, in the auditorium at Moorings Park Drive. 390-2788 or www.stayinmay.com.


Science Saturday – Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center hosts a day of family activities themed around the science of sand from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 28. Free with admission. 530-5940 or www.rookerybay.org.

Birthday Party – Friends of the Museum of the Everglades hosts a parade, live music, family activities and more in celebration of the 90th anniversary of the opening of the Tamiami Trail at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 28. FME_98@hotmail.com or www.everglademuseum.com.


Stay in May – Select artists in Naples Arts District offer classes in a variety of mediums at 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, April 27 through Sunday, April 29. Free with park admission. 597-6196 or www.floridastateparks.org.


Best Shorts – Stay in May hosts a short film fest kicking off at 7 p.m. Sunday, April 29, at Moorings Park and continuing Wednesday, May 2, and Sunday, May 6. $10 per event. 120 Moorings Park Drive. 390-2788 or www.stayinmay.com.

Out Loud – Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs stages 10-minute plays at 8 p.m. Saturday, April 28, and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 29. $32. 1050 Bonita Beach Road. 459-4899 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Deep dive into the mind of comedian Carlos Mencia when he steps up to the mic at Off The Hook Comedy Club Thursday through Sunday. — www.offthehookcomedy.com

Bluegrass group The Barefoot Movement takes listeners back to a simpler time when they take the stage at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at the Center for Performing Arts Bonita Springs. — www.artcenterbonita.org

Hit the road to the Lee County Sports Complex/ Hammond Stadium in South Fort Myers for the 23rd annual RV SuperSaver Show hosted by the Florida RV Trade Association from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday through Sunday.
WHAT TO DO

First Bite — The First Bite Menu Release Party at Mercedes-Benz of Bonita Springs kicks off Sizzle SWFL Restaurant Week from 5-9 p.m. Sunday, April 29. $85 for VIP admission at 5 p.m. $65 for general admission at 6 p.m. 16400 Tamiami Trail N. Tickets at www.eventbrite.com. Sizzle SWFL Restauranl Week takes place May 31-June 13.

Stress Less — Stay in May hosts a workshop on conquering stress with licensed mental health counselors Angela Sanders and Meredith Dee at 8 a.m. Monday, April 30, at Shangri-La Springs in Bonita Springs. $25. 27920 Old 41 Road. 390-2788 or www.stayinmay.com.


Chamber Concert — Fifth Avenue Chamber Orchestra performs with harpist Dickie Fleischer and flautist Travis Jones at 8 p.m. Monday, April 30, at Sugden Community Theater. $40. 390-2788 or www.stayinmay.com.

Coffee, Tea & Broadway — Actor’s from TheatreZone’s “Baby” perform show tunes and Broadway standards with a continental breakfast from 10:30 a.m. to noon Wednesday, May 2. $35. 13275 Livingston Road. 424-9500 or www.theatrezone-florida.com.

Rising Stars — Naples Philharmonic Youth Jazz Orchestra performs at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 2, at The David and Cecile Wang Opera Center. $80-$85. 2408 Lisa Wood Ave. 775-2800 or www.capacetener.com.

Classical Concert — The Naples Philharmonic performs Beethoven’s “Eroica” at 3 p.m. Thursday, May 3, and 8 p.m. Friday, May 4, at Artis—Naples, 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Sail Away — Preferred Travel of Naples hosts a talk with AmaWaterways about their river cruise offerings in Europe, Africa and Asia at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, May 3, at Club Pelican Bay. Free, but reservations required by May 1. 707 Gulf Park Drive. (800) 523-3776 or www.preferrednnaples.com.


N’awlins Jazz — Steve Delaenderaty and Dennis Miller perform New Orleans jazz at 6 p.m. Friday, May 4, at South Regional Library. $37. 8065 Lely Cultural Pkwy. 390-2788 or www.stayinmay.com.

Masterworks — Naples Philharmonic performs works by Vladimir Protokoff, Prokofiev and Beethoven with pianist Alexander Gavrylyuk at 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, May 3-4, at Artis—Naples, 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Om in the Swamp — Spiritual healer Bethanny Gonzalez hosts a meditation at Corkscrew Audubon Swamp Sanctuary’s natural amphitheater at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 5. $10 for members, $20 for others. 348-9295 or www.corkscrew.audubon.org.

Come one, Come all — Artis—Naples hosts a free community day with youth performances, kids’ activities and access to all museums and galleries starting at noon Saturday, May 5. 397-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.


The Breaker — Country music group Little Big Town with Kasey Musgraves and Midland performs at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 5, at Germain Arena. 948-7825 or www.germainarena.com.

Sunday Funday — Mercato hosts lawn games, Bloody Marys, mimosas and music by the Betty Fox Band from 1-3 p.m. Sunday, May 6. 254-1080 or www.mercatosf.com.

Sweet Jazz — Wycliffe Gordon and Lew Del Gatto perform at 7 p.m. Monday, May 7, at North Naples United Methodist Church. $35. 600 Goodlette-Frank Road. 390-2788 or www.stayinmay.com.


Art and Big Band — The Naples Big Band performs while artist Melinda Trick paints in Art Deco style at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 9, at the Marco Island Historical Museum. $32. 180 S. Heathwood Drive. 390-2788 or www.stayinmay.com.

We’ve Got Pipes — Stay in May hosts an “organ crawl” where guests will check out the organs at several local churches with host Michael Barone starting at 2 p.m. Thursday, May 10, at First Presbyterian Church. $37. 250 Sixth St. S. 390-2788 or www.stayinmay.com.

Tea for Two — Brambles Tea Room and Storytellers of the Round Table team up for an evening of stories about mums and a full tea from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, May 10. $35. 340 Fifth Ave. S. 262-7894 or www.bramblestea.com.

Opera Night — Opera Naples presents “The Marriage of Figaro” at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 10, at Arts—Naples. $25-$185. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Musical Wellness — Musician Glenn Estrin and mindfulness instructor Angela Sanders lead a demonstration in using music as mind medicine at 7 p.m. Friday, May 11, at Bentonville Village. 810 Retreat Drive. 390-2788 or www.stayinmay.com.

Whole Lotta Shakin’ — Stay in May hosts tribute band One Night in Memphis as they perform music by famed Sun Records artists Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and more at 6 p.m. Saturday, May 12, at Naples Zoo. $37. 390-2788 or www.stayinmay.com.

April 21
10am-4pm

EARTH DAY FESTIVAL

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F8 WEEK OF APRIL 19-25, 2018
NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY
WHERE TO GO

Flamenco – Flamenco Puro, featuring master dancer Clarita Filgueiras and her troupe of performers, take the stage at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 12, at the Center for Performing Arts Bonita Springs. 530-5940 or www.bonita.org.

Breakfast with the Birds – Shorebird expert Adam DiNuovo hosts a lecture with breakfast pastries and refreshments from 9:30-10:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 19, at Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center. $15. 300 Tower Road. 530-9940 or www.rookerybay.org.

All That Jazz – The Naples Philharmonic Jazz Orchestra performs the music of Miles Davis at 6 and 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 16, at Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.


Red, White & Awesome – Naples Philharmonic and Naples Philharmonic Chorus perform patriotic works with youth singers and the Gulf Coast High School dance team at 8 p.m. Thursday, May 17, and Friday, May 18, at Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.


Interlude – The Alex Weitz Jazz Ensemble performs from 5:30-7 p.m. Thursday, May 17, at Marco Island Center for the Arts. $25-$30. 1010 Winterberry Drive. 394-4221 or www.marcoislandarts.org.

Breakfast with the Birds – Shorebird expert Adam DiNuovo hosts a lecture with breakfast pastries and refreshments from 9:30-10:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 19, at Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center. $15. 300 Tower Road. 530-9940 or www.rookerybay.org.

Jazz on the Sand – Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club hosts a free performance by Show Biz Kids from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Saturday, June 23, as part of its annual SummerJazz on the Gulf concert series. 261-2222 or naplesbeachhotel.com.

Til Touchdown Brings Me Round – The Rocket Man Show featuring Elton John impersonator Rus Anderson performs at 8 p.m. Saturday, June 23, at Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs. 530-440, 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Creative Arts – Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum hosts an arts and crafts exhibition of works created by students at the Seminole Tribe’s Pemaytv Emahakv Charter School on Thursday, June 28. Free with admission. 17 miles off Exit 49 on I-75. 877-902-1113 or ahatsihiki.com.

Jazz on the Sand – Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club hosts a free performance by Late Night Brass from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Saturday, July 14, as part of its annual SummerJazz on the Gulf concert series. 261-2222 or naplesbeachhotel.com.

Interlude – The Brennan Vetter Jazz Trio performs from 5:30-7 p.m. Wednesday, July 18, at Marco Island Center for the Arts. $25-$30. 1010 Winterberry Drive. 394-4221 or www.marcoislandarts.org.

Om in the Swamp – Spiritual healer Bethannya Gonzalez leads a meditation at Corkscrew Audubon Swamp Sanctuary’s natural amphitheater at 9 a.m. Saturday, June 23. $10 for members, $20 for others. 348-9415 or www.corkscrew.audubon.org.

Solo Night – Guitarist and bandleader Sean Bek performs at 8 p.m. Saturday, June 9, at the Center for Performing Arts Bonita Springs. $20-$30. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.cccba.org.

Interlude – Cabaret singer Abby Yetter performs from 5:30-7 p.m. Thursday, June 14, at Marco Island Center for the Arts. $25-$30. 1010 Winterberry Drive. 394-4221 or www.marcoislandarts.org.

Eclipse – Pink Floyd tribute band Brit Floyd performs at 8 p.m. Saturday, June 16, at Germain Arena. 530-5940 or www.ticketsatthegema.com.

Matty Jolly performs songs by Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Michael Buble at 7 p.m. Friday, April 27, at the Center for Performing Arts Bonita Springs. $75, course meal prepared by Crave Culinaire. 13240 Tammia Trail N. 260-1529 or www.venenaples.com.

Breakfast with the Birds – Shorebird expert Adam DiNuovo hosts a lecture with breakfast pastries and refreshments from 9:30-10:30 p.m. Thursday, May 17, at Marco Island Center for the Arts. $25-$30. 1010 Winterberry Drive. 394-4221 or www.marcoislandarts.org.
**Make Your Mother’s Day Reservations Today!**

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**Films Capsules**

- **Beirut**
  - (Jordan), who has a mysterious tie to T’Challa’s past. The action is creative, the story is solid and it’s darn fun. Why can’t all Hollywood blockbusters be like this? Rated PG-13.

- **Chappaquiddick**
  - against Erik Killmonger who must defend his country aka the Black Panther, T’Challa (Boseman), Lupita Nyong’o) King of Wakanda.

- **Happy End**
  - Is it intentionally confusing at times, but it’s also a fascinating look at the good and bad of life and the secrets we keep hidden. Rated R.

- **The Party**
  - Kristen Scott-Thomas, Patricia Clarkson, Timothy Spall) A seven-person dinner party goes awry when long-held secrets are exposed. The solid cast does what it can with the material, but there’s too much going on in the scant 71-minute running time for any of it to register. Rated R.

- **The Hurricane Heist**
  - Must stop a $600 million heist as a Category 5 hurricane hits the fictional town of Gulfport, Ala. The action is merely adequate, but the story is repetitive and not told in a dynamic way. Still, there’s enough good here to be worthy of a moderate recommendation. Rated R.

- **Peter Rabbit**
  - (Voices of Margot Robbie, James Corden, Daisy Ridley) Peter Rabbit (Corden) likes to steal food from poor old Mr. McGregor (Sam Neill), but the bold bunny gets more than he bargained for when McGregor’s nephew (Domhnall Gleeson) moves into the house. Will children enjoy it, and will parents find it tolerable? The answer for both is: More than you’d expect, but not as much as you’d like. Based on the stories of Beatrix Potter. Rated PG.
At some point in our lives, most of us have played Truth or Dare. The rules are simple: Choose “Truth” or “Dare,” then either tell the truth or complete the dare. In real life, not fulfilling your obligation will cost you nothing except perhaps some fun points from your friends. In “Truth or Dare,” it will cost you your life. It’s a clever premise, and being a thriller from Blumhouse Productions, the studio behind “Get Out,” there’s plenty to hope for here. Perhaps this optimism is what makes the lackluster movie all the more frustrating. The story is thin, the dialog is lazy, the acting … doesn’t really matter. This is by-the-numbers mediocrity for which the best compliment is that it’s only rated PG-13; we don’t need to see the grisly gruesomeness that’s implied and, thankfully, the worst of it is left off screen.

College seniors, spring break. Olivia (Lucy Hale) and Markie (Violetta Beane) are best friends, so Markie tricks her into going to Mexico for the week. Markie’s boyfriend Lucas (Tyler Posey) joins them, as do party girl Penelope (Sophia Ali), her boyfriend Tyson (Nolan Gerard Funk) and their gay friend Brad (Hayden Szeto). Moron acquaintance Ronnie (Sam Lerner) bumps into them in Mexico, and Carter (Landon Liboiron), a random stranger at the bar who sticks up for Olivia, rounds out the octet.

With the bar closing and spring break nearly over, Carter insists he knows something to only choose truth. This makes things to only choose truth. This makes sense because while the truth can hurt, the dare is always a bad sign. Unfortunately, though, it doesn’t work out thanks to a plot contrivance that manifests shortly thereafter — and that’s fine, because not much else works out in this movie either.

Of course, there wouldn’t be a movie if his foreboding warning didn’t have some justice for this, though. At one point, Lucas advises to only choose truth. This makes sense because while the truth can hurt, at least it won’t kill you. This means college seniors actually use logic and sense because while the truth can hurt, it’s not much else works out in this movie.

The cast played a real game of Truth or Dare during filming, the only central cast member not to play was Hale, who chose to go home instead.

Did you know? ★★

• The cast played a real game of Truth or Dare during filming, the only central cast member not to play was Hale, who chose to go to bed instead.

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‘Truth or Dare’

Dan HUDAK

pinchblakemovies.com

Is it worth $10? No

At some point in our lives, most of us have played Truth or Dare. The rules are simple: Choose “Truth” or “Dare,” then either tell the truth or complete the dare. In real life, not fulfilling your obligation will cost you nothing except perhaps some fun points from your friends. In “Truth or Dare,” it will cost you your life. It’s a clever premise, and being a thriller from Blumhouse Productions, the studio behind “Get Out,” there’s plenty to hope for here. Perhaps this optimism is what makes the lackluster movie all the more frustrating. The story is thin, the dialog is lazy, the acting … doesn’t really matter. This is by-the-numbers mediocrity for which the best compliment is that it’s only rated PG-13; we don’t need to see the grisly gruesomeness that’s implied and, thankfully, the worst of it is left off screen.

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Mr. Green, in the apartment, with a visitor

Mr. Green doesn’t get many visitors. No, scratch that. He doesn’t get any visitors.

He’s hunkered down, in a depression, grieving the loss of his wife of 59 years. She was younger than he; he never expected she’d go first. Like many women of that generation, she did everything for him, from cooking to cleaning to propping up his ego. But now she’s gone, and he’s lost.

He’s pretty much barricaded himself in his Upper West Side apartment in New York City. He used to go out more, but when he did recently, he stepped out into traffic without looking and almost got hit by a speeding car.

He wound up falling down in front of the car.

And now, in his safe apartment, that very driver of that car has shown up. But he’s not there to harm him or torment him, as he fears.

The young man, Ross Gardiner, is there because a judge declared he has to visit Mr. Green weekly for the next six months, as community service. But Ross doesn’t exactly want to be there, but determines to make the best of it.

Mr. Green doesn’t want him there. He doesn’t want anyone there.

But then, who else would come? His wife is gone. And as he describes it, he has no children, no relatives.

“Everyone’s gone,” he means.

And this is the contrived premise of “Visiting Mr. Green,” the two-man play at The Laboratory Theater of Florida. Mr. Green is no afternoon tea party. Mr. Green is set in his ways. He sits in his dimly lit, somewhat neglected apartment. He forgets to eat.

Mr. Green tells him he can’t be, because he’s Jewish. And besides, he says, repeating old myths, gays act like women and they bother little boys. But Ross tells him he’s stereotyping gays in the same way that some people stereotype Jews.

Mr. Green, the dialogue and plot can be a little heavy-handed at times. It is to the credit of the cast and director Annette Trossbach that this predictable, sometimes preachy script still has powerful and poignant moments, despite itself.

It’s not giving anything away to say that Mr. Green, a Lou Grant-type character, softens up, but at least he doesn’t turn into a perky Mary Tyler Moore.

But playwright Jeff Baron has the two discuss how gays are persecuted and stereotyped, just as the Jews are. It’s almost as if the characters stop becoming people and are transformed into spokespeople for the playwright’s viewpoints. (When Ross tells Mr. Green he’s gay, Mr. Green tells him he can’t be, because he’s Jewish. And besides, he says, repeating old myths, gays act like women and they bother little boys. But Ross tells him he’s stereotyping gays in the same way that some people stereotype Jews.)

Ross’ anguish when talking about his family’s rejection of himself rings true, but not the fact that he can’t be out and has to live a closeted life. It’s not as if he’s living in a small town in the 1950s.

He’s in his 20s, a generation that grew up with gay-straight alliances in high schools. “It Gets Better” and out gay people on TV shows and in movies. Television has everything from RuPaul to Ellen to the new version of “Will and Grace.”

Plus, the guy lives in Manhattan, for crying out loud, a gay mecca for those living in small, conservative towns, a city crying out loud, a gay mecca for those living in small, conservative towns, a city filled with gay bars, gay clubs, gay square dancing, gay softball teams.

The play, and Lab Theater, has their moments. It possesses its comedic moments, such as a priceless scene when Mr. Hennessey demonstrates that he knows how to clean — comedic gold.

And thanks to the actors’ skill, “Visiting Mr. Green” doesn’t become a Hallmark Card Special and surpasses its material. The play highlights the tragedy of families who reject their own children, the necessity — and joy — of making your own chosen family.

It possesses its comedic moments, such as a priceless scene when Mr. Hennessey demonstrates that he knows how to clean — comedic gold.

“Visiting Mr. Green” can even spur tears, if you can overlook some of its contrivances.

Mr. Green, in the apartment, with a visitor

Michael Hennessey and Brandon Somers star in “Visiting Mr. Green.”

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5:30 to 7:30 pm
Reception sponsored by
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Meet Dr. Kent V. Hasen and our Natrelle® breast implant representative for an informative breast event. This Q&A session explores the variety of procedures available in breast enhancements. All attendees will receive special event pricing and can learn about our affordable financing options on procedures. RSVP required for this complimentary seminar.

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C16 | WEEK OF APRIL 19-25, 2018 | NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY
THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 10 P.M.
Agatha Christie's Partners in Crime
Detective Hercule Poirot and spinster sleuth Miss Marple weren't Dame Agatha Christie's only creations. She also invented Tommy and Tuppence Beresford, an ordinary married couple who stumble into spy craft and end up being rather good at it.

FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 10 P.M.
Will.I.am: Landmarks
Live in Concert
A Great Performances Special
Experience will.I.am live from Royal Albert Hall. Hosted by Chad Smith of the Red Hot Chili Peppers.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 10:30 P.M.
Downton Abbey: Season 2, Part 1
Two years into World War I, Down- ton Abbey is in turmoil, as Matthew and other young men go to war — or avoid it. The women also pitch in, and many couples see their romantic dreams dashed.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 8 P.M.
Call the Midwife: Season 7, Part 6
Poplar welcomes Lucille Anderson, the first West Indian midwife to be fea- tured as a series regular. Tested as never before, the nuns and nurses face chal- lenging issues from leprosy, tokophobia and stroke, to Huntington’s chorea and unmarried mothers.

MONDAY, APRIL 23, 10 P.M.
10 Parks That Changed America
Learn about the evolution of our nation’s city parks and the national landscape.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 8 P.M.
Civilizations
Part 2: How Do We Look?
Explore the many functions of the human image in art. Portraits, paintings and sculptures, both life-size and colos- sal, perform a role — assuaging loss, expressing strength, inspiring fear — and were instrumental in forming early civilizations.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 9 P.M.
NOVA Wonders
Part 1: What Are Animals Saying?
The first entry in the Wonders series that takes viewers on a journey to the frontiers of science, where researchers are tackling some of the biggest ques- tions about life and the cosmos.

Mother’s Day Peel Event
May 9
from 11a-4p
Hors d’oeuvres and mimosas
Spend $99 on a Skinceuticals chemical peel and receive $99 in FREE Skinceuticals products
A representative will be available to answer questions and perform skin evaluations, along with our estheticians.
The first 20 people to book appointments for the event will be entered into a drawing for a one year supply of Skinceuticals Vitamin C Serum
Spend $250 or more on products on the day of the event and get entered into a drawing for a FREE Kate Spade Purse
Like our page and share the event on social media and get more tickets to enter the raffle!
Appointment is required as space is limited

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Mother in “Landmarks: Live in Concert,” April 20

Will.I.am in “Landmarks: Live in Concert,” April 20

NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY | WEEK OF APRIL 19-25, 2018 | C17
■ The Naples Park Area Association holds beginning lessons in Mah jong for anyone age 60 and older who would like to learn the game. Regular games are played from 1-4 p.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday and at 5:30 p.m. every Tuesday. For information, send an email to Donna Caccese at naplesdonnac@gmail.com.

■ The Naples, Marco Island and Bonita Springs alumnus chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta offers a variety of monthly programs throughout the year. For more information, call Cindy Slavin at 229-8499 or visit www.Naples.KappaAlphaTheta.org.

■ Civitan Clubs are dedicated to serving the needs of the community with an emphasis on the disabled. The Civitan International Research Center 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 Civitan Club, dedicated to finding the cause, cure and better treatments of brain disorders including autism, Alzheimer’s disease and Down syndrome, among others, meets from 6-8 p.m. the third and fourth week of every month and has social/educational meetings the third week of the month. For more information, call 774-2632 or e-mail swflcivitan@gmail.com.

■ The Naples MacFriends User Group has hundreds of members who share a passion for all things 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.naplessmug.com.

■ The East Naples Civic Association meets for lunch and a program on the third Thursday of the month at 11:30 a.m. at the Players Club Spa in Lely Resort. The next meeting is April 19. Cost is $22 for ENCA members, $25 for others. For more information, call 434-1067 or visit www.EastNaplesCivic.com.

■ The Naples chapter of PFLAG, Parents Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, a support, education and advocacy group for families with gay or transgender members, meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of every month at Naples United Church of Christ, 5250 Crayton Road. The next meeting is April 19. For more information, call 963-4670 or visit www.pflagnaples.org.

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■ Wine Tasters of Naples members meet from 5:30-7:30 p.m. every Friday at different locations around town. Members — Napas — enjoy socializing and working together on philanthropic and service projects to benefit the community. Members pay a $7 door fee; guests pay $9. Members who are interested and attended pay for their own beverages. The April 20 meeting place is Old Naples. Old Naples All American Sport Bar, located behind Derona on April 27 and Real Seafood on May 4. The club sponsors other social events throughout the year as well. For more information, visit www.winetastersofnaples.org.

■ Solo Singles of Collier County creates and promotes recreation, culture, charitable and social activities for those persons single, divorced or widowed. Members gather at a different restaurant at 5 p.m. every Friday for happy hour and dinner. The April 20 place to be is Old Naples Garden, followed by Bill’s Steak and Seafood on April 27. For membership information, call Carey Huppler at 626-0278 or email careybill@aol.com.

■ Naples Ship Modelers meets at 9:30 a.m. on the first and third Saturday of every month at the Landmark Naples community center in North Naples. The next gatherings are April 21 and May 5. All are invited to enjoy lunch as they gather together afterward at a location TBD. For more information, call Dick Ritchie at 594-0868 or email dcritchie@comcast.net.

■ Serving Naples and Collier County since 1960, the Naples Philatelic Club meets at 6 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays at Perkins Restaurant at Pine Ridge Road and I-75. The next meetings are April 24 and May 8. All are welcome. For more information, call 293-6536 or 352-2827.

■ Pi Beta Phi alumnae in Naples, Bonita Springs, Estero and Marco Island are invited to enjoy networking in public at Naples Wednesday, April 25, at Pelican Bay Beach. arrive by 5:30 p.m. to board the Marker 36 pontoon beach trax, BYOB and a snack/appetizer to share. Alumnae are also invited to the final gathering of the season from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 8, at Painting with a Twist, 1505 Tampami Trail N. Attendees will create their own paintings. Cost is $40, and prepaid reservations required. For reservations or more information about either event, call Connie Kivsadler at 249-4966 or email consknd@aol.com.

■ Naples Sunrise Bay Toastmasters invite early birds who want to gain confidence in public speaking to its meetings from 7:30-8:30 a.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of every month at Moorings Presbyterian Church, 791 Harbour Drive. The next meetings are May 1 and 15. First-time visitors are always welcome to observe. For more information, call 777-8883.

■ TechGood SWFL, a club for staff of nonprofit organizations, meets from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, May 1, at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Naples, 640 Napa Woods Way. The free club is for staff and volunteers of nonprofit organizations who want to learn more about using their technology to advance their mission. Admission is free to monthly meetings, and a light dinner is served. RSVPs are requested to hsigr-paun@nptechprojects.org. For more information about the organization, visit www.techgoodswfl.org.

■ Ikebana International Naples Chapter 4168 meets at 9 a.m. Wednesday, May 2, in the Windstar Room at Naples Botanical Garden. This is the final meeting of the season. The program will be about gyotaku, or fish painting. The ginza market will be open prior to the 10:30 a.m. start of the program. All are welcome. Attendance is free. For more information, visit www.ikebananaples.org. Members follow Ikebana Naples on Facebook.

■ The Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 1067-Naples members meet at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month at Naples Municipal Airport. The next meeting is May 2. Members are invited to enjoy lunch together afterward at a location TBD. For more information about either event, call Tom Woodruff at 732-0602 or visit www.eaa1067.com.

■ Collectors and admirers of Corvettes are welcome to meet like-minded others when Corvettes of Naples meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month at Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church, 125 Piper Blvd. of Immokalee Road in North Naples. The next meeting is May 3. For more information, visit www.corvettesofnaples.org.

■ The Naples Christian Women’s Connection invites area women to a luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Friday, May 4, at the Club at Longshore Lake, 1199 Phoenix Way. Cost is $28 ($18 for first-timers). For reservations or more information, call 593-5797 or email cwcnaples@gmail.com.

■ The Jane Austen Society of Southwest Florida, a branch of the Jane Austen Society of North America, meets from 1-3 p.m. Saturday, May 5, at South Lee County Regional Library, 3100 Three Oaks Parkway in Estero. Professor Sara Dustin of Florida Southern College, Western State College will discuss “The Misfortune of Poetry: Retreat- ing to the Literature in ‘Persuasion’ and ‘Sanditon.’” The presentation will be a preview of the breakout session Ms. Dustin will lead at the 2018 annual meeting of the JASNA in Kansas City in September. Attendance at the local meeting is free, and all are welcome. To sign up, email janaswfl@gmail.com.

■ The Naples chapter of Sons of the American Revolution meets for its final meeting of the season at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, May 10, at Tiburon Golf Club. Guest speaker will be Judy Goby-Oxtoby, first vice regent, Big Cypress Chapter, DAR. Visitors and prospective members are welcome. For more information, call Tom Woodruff at 732-0602 or visit www.NaplesSAR.org.

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■ Pilot Foundation of Naples/Naples Pilot Foundation meets at 6 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month at Perkins on Pine Ridge Road. The next meeting is May 10. Guests and new members always welcome. Reserva- tions are not required. Attendees order from the menu and pay for their meals. Pilot International focuses its charitable and educational efforts on brain-related disorders and disabilities, including traumatic brain injuries, dementia and autism. For information, call Sue Lester 289-8208.

— Email club news to Cindy Pierce at cpierce@floridaweekly.com
KidzAct announces a full lineup of summer classes

Theater classes and productions for children ages 4 and older begin in June with KidzAct of The Naples Players. Classes begin with the basics and work toward a comprehensive understanding and appreciation of theatrical skills. Singing, dancing, dictation, volume, terminology, character, costume and plot are all introduced and developed as children progress through the program. Teamwork, confidence building and fun are the goals of the program.

Registration is open now for four summer sessions: June 4-15, June 18-29, July 9-20 and July 23-Aug. 3. The following programs are offered at each session:

- KidzAct for children in Pre-K and kindergarten.
- First Act for first- and second-graders.
- Third Act for those in grades 3-8.
- Acting for Autism Spectrum Disorder/Sensory Processing Disorder (all ages).

TNP partners with The Naples Art Association so that students can enjoy theater and art on the same day. They attend a theater class in the morning and have a supervised lunch followed by a supervised walk to the NAA for an afternoon art class.

Get in on the ACT

The following four summer sessions of its Advanced Conservatory Theatre program for middle and high school students. Dates are June 4-29 and July 9-Aug. 3. Classes meet from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Taught by TNP staff and guest artists of TNP, ACT core classes in acting, voice and movement are emphasized alongside specialized electives. Students spend the day in one core class and one elective. Along with performance classes, all students receive backstage access to learn about the technical elements of theater.

Core ACT classes are:

- Acting is Doing – Through monologues and scene work, instructor Jessica Walsh guides students in how to bring truth to their acting. This class is an intensive workout for the actor to become more comfortable performing as they understand what drives their character.
- Voice for Musical Theatre – In a master class setting with instructor Charles Fornara, students receive independent coaching and feedback in audition repertoire and work on refining the skills necessary to participating in musicals as a cast member. They explore sight-reading and harmony holding and review and polish all facets of auditioning.
- Dance for Musical Theatre – Dawn Lebrecht Fornara introduces students to a wide variety of dance styles featured in musical theater by exploring the choreography of iconic and lesser-known numbers from Broadway shows. The class includes significant work on technique and terminology to improve dance skills, physicality and confidence.
- “We were thrilled with the response from our spring ACT program,” says Craig Price, TNP education director. “Students called the classes ‘life changing.’ We are thrilled to continue this level of performing arts education for them throughout the summer.”

To sign up or get more information about any of the above programs, call 434-7340, ext. 127, or visit www.naplesplayers.org.

KidzAct invites aspiring young thespians to audition for the troupe’s summer productions

Tryouts for ages 9-14 will take place from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 12, for the following shows:

- “Junie B. Jones The Musical” – Rehearsals begin Monday, June 4; performances are Friday-Sunday, July 6-8.
- “Junie B. Jones The Musical” – Rehearsals begin Monday, July 9; performances are Friday-Sunday, Aug. 3.
- “Chicago The Musical” – Rehearsals begin Monday, July 9; performances are Friday-Sunday, Aug. 10-12.
- “Chicago The Musical” – Rehearsals begin Monday, July 23; performances are Friday-Sunday, Aug. 30-Sept. 1.

Auditions for ages 14 and older are set for noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 2, for the following shows:

- “Chicago The Musical” – Rehearsals begin Tuesday, June 19; performances are Friday-Sunday, Aug. 3-5.
- “Junie B. Jones The Musical” – Rehearsals begin Tuesday, June 26; performances are Friday-Sunday, July 6-8.
- “Junie B. Jones The Musical” – Rehearsals begin Monday, July 9; performances are Friday-Sunday, July 10-12.
- “Junie B. Jones The Musical” – Rehearsals begin Monday, July 23; performances are Friday-Sunday, Aug. 3-5.

For more information, visit www.naplesplayers.org.
Gulfshore Playhouse says let kids act up this summer

Registration is open for summer theater programs for students ages 6-18 at Gulfshore Playhouse.

- **“The Little Mermaid Jr.”** – June 11-29 for ages 6-14. This program allows students to dive into the magic of musical theater as they tell the tale of a young mermaid searching for the place where she belongs. The program will conclude with performances at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 28, and 3 and 7 p.m. Friday, June 29. Cost is $350 for ages 6-8, $500 for ages 9-14.

- **The Teen Conservatory – July 9-Aug. 3, with entrance by audition** – This pre-professional program offers training in musical theater and concludes with performances of the Tony Award-winning “The Secret Garden” directed by Gulfshore Playhouse Associate Artistic Director and Broadway star Jeffrey Binder (“The Lion King,” “Mary Poppins”). Performances will be at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 2, and 2 and 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 3.

From June 4-7, Gulfshore Playhouse will offer a series of weeklong programs for ages 6-18. Each Monday-Friday session concludes with a recital at 7 p.m. Friday.

- **June 4-8:** “The Velveteen Rabbit” for ages 6-8 – Students will perform scenes from the beloved story by Margery Williams about a toy, his rabbit and the meaning of friendship. Registration is $200.

- **July 9-13:** “Broadway Bootcamp Jr.” for ages 6-8 – Youngsters will learn to sing and dance as they rehearse and perform pieces from the musical theater canon chosen specifically for their group. Registration is $225.

- **June 4-8:** “The Lorax” for ages 9-12 – Young performers become an ensemble as they act out scenes from Dr. Seuss’ classic tale about caring for the environment. Registration is $200.

- **July 9-13:** “Broadway Bootcamp” for ages 9-12 – Performers will learn songs and dances selected specifically for their group during this musical theater intensive. Registration is $225.

- **June 4-8:** “Acting Shakespeare” for ages 13-18 – All the world’s a stage for teens working on classical acting techniques leading up to a performance of Shakespeare scenes. Registration is $300.

- **June 11-15:** “Musical Theater Intensive” for ages 13-18 – Students will work on singing, dancing, acting and audition techniques. Registration is $325.

Need-based scholarships are available for all programs. Sign up in person at any city of Naples Parks and Recreation facility or online at https://apm.activecommunities.com/naplesrec/Smartrec/Home.

For more information, contact Hester Kamin at Gulfshore Playhouse by calling 239-530-1600 ext. 207.
NEW MEMBERS PLAY & DINE ON US.
$20 FREE PLAY & $20 DINING

MINUTES AWAY FROM MORE

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$75,000 PROGRESSIVE GIVEAWAY
EVERY MONDAY IN APRIL
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PRIZES INCREASE HOURLY!
GRAND PRIZE:
$4,500 AT 7PM

PRIZES AWARDED IN FREE SLOT PLAY OR PROMO CHIPS.

$10,000 SPRING SCRATCH-OFF
THURSDAY, APRIL 19
$10 - $10,000 FREE PLAY
EVERYONE IS A WINNER

PICK UP ONE FREE SCRATCH-OFF CARD PER DAY.

MINUTES AWAY FROM MORE

SEE PLAYER’S CLUB FOR COMPLETE DETAILS. MUST BE AT LEAST 21 YEARS OLD AND A SEMINOLE WILD CARD MEMBER TO PARTICIPATE. MANAGEMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CHANGE OR CANCEL THIS PROMOTION AT ANY TIME BASED ON OPERATIONAL AND/or BUSINESS CONCERN. PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN TRESPASSED OR BANNED BY THE SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA OR THOSE WHO HAVE OPTED INTO THE SELF-EXCLUSION PROGRAM ARE NOT ELIGIBLE. IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW HAS A GAMBLING PROBLEM, PLEASE CALL 1.888.ADMIT.IT.

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BABY

From page 1

Alan, who are looking forward to a new lease on life now that they’ve finished raising their children. When the women all find themselves in possession of a positive pregnancy test, all three operate under the cliché that they want it all.

“Baby” is the closing production of the TheatreZone season. Mr. Danni says he likes to end things on a high note with something that is hopeful and light. It’s not a show that is widely performed, especially not in Southwest Florida, but after a successful run during TheatreZone’s second season in 2006, he thought it was time to bring it back into circulation.

“For our first few seasons we only ran four performances a week,” he says. “Not a lot of people saw ‘Baby’ back then. And it was really cute, so we thought it was time to bring it back into circulation.”

The show’s most poignant story is that of the couple who have been struggling to get pregnant and Carolann Sanita explains. “She’s a basketball coach into her 50s, a tomboy. To childhood anxieties about being a tomboy. And a failure to have a baby calls back to her agile. Because of that, not being able to get pregnant is an even deeper struggle for me as his wife because I mean those words for this particular person.”

Mr. Danni and Ms. Sanita both say the orchestra and ensemble players do a lot of heavy lifting to keep the music’s effervescent quality intact. Between the story and the skill required of the performers, the show promises theatergoers an evening well spent.

“‘There’s a wonderful story to be heard,” Mr. Danni says. “You’ll laugh and it will make you think. It will touch your ears and it will make you think. It will touch your heart.”

Enjoy a morning with ‘Baby’ actors

TheatreZone presents another installment of its morning cabaret series, “Coffee, Tea & Broadway,” from 10:30 a.m. to noon Wednesday, May 2, in the auditorium at Moorings Park. Five actors from “Baby” will sing their favorite Broadway ballads and other show tunes, including “Home” from “Beauty and the Beast.” “I Cannot Hear the City” from “Sweet Smell of Success” and a duet from a Rogers and Hammerstein classic.

Mark Danni, the professional company’s founding artistic director, will emcee the cabaret; Music Director Charles Fornara will be at the piano. Continental breakfast will be served from 10:30-11 a.m. and the show will be from 11 a.m. to noon. Guests are invited to a meet-and-greet with the actors from noon to 12:30 p.m. Tickets for $35 can be purchased by calling the TheatreZone box office at 424-9500 or by going online to www.theatrezone-florida.com.

“Coffee, Tea & Broadway” is sponsored by Moorings Park, FineMark Bank and Florida Weekly.

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Young vocalist wins Voices of Naples scholarship

Voices of Naples community chorus has awarded its 2018-19 scholarship to Jessica Jarvis of Naples. The $3,000 award will help Ms. Jarvis pursue vocal music studies at Southern Connecticut State University in the fall. Ms. Jarvis is home schooled and credits both her parents for motivating her in her academic and musical studies. Her father, Heath Jarvis, is a professional musician. Jessica started singing in musicals and church choirs when she was 8 years old and began taking piano lessons at age 11. She has been in three musicals with The Naples Players and in two operas with Opera Naples. Last year, she won second place in the senior voice category of the Naples Music Club competition. For more information about VON, visit www.voicesofnaples.org.

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CAPA Rising Stars concerts showcase young local talent

“Happy Music from Talented and Talented Young Voices,” the second concert of the season in the Rising Stars series presented by the Cultural and Performing Arts Center takes place at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 28, at The David and Cecile Wang Opera Center. Under the direction of James Cochran, the Naples Philharmonic Youth Chorus will perform a wide range of music, from classics to contemporary numbers. Members of the 100-voice chorus range from elementary to high school students.

“Providing performance opportunities for our community’s young musicians and vocalists is an important part of the CAPA mission,” says Rising Stars coordinator Steve Kutler. “It is vitally important to nourish, honor and showcase the talents of these growing young stars.”

The third and final concert of the season takes place at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 2, also at the opera center. “The Fresh Sounds of Jazz” will showcase members of the Naples Philharmonic Youth Jazz Orchestra.

Tickets to each performance are $40 for adults, $30 for students/children (2) and under with valid ID.

VIP tickets for $50 include preferred seating and a post-concert reception with the artists.

To purchase tickets or for more information, call 775-2800 or visit www.CAPArcenter.com.

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Christine McConnelee at 777-3720 or community service and self-respect. Participants attend 20 sessions with a curriculum that integrates running.

Memoir titled “Forward” is a New York

Friday, May 4, at Venue Naples. The event features Pion Abby Wambach as guest speaker and FIFA Women’s World Cup champion.


29, at Mercedes-Benz of Bonita Springs.

“Carousel After Dark” from 6-10 p.m. Friday, May 24, at Artis—Naples. Guest speaker Vitale. The Winged Foot Scholar Athlete Award was created in 1990 at the Collier Athletic Club as a vision to recognize the top high school scholar-athlete from each of the high schools in Collier County.

The first award was presented to Terry Curtis Strange was one of the leading golfers in the world and spent more than 200 weeks in the top 10 of the Official World Golf Ranking between their debut in 1986 and 1990. Now 63, he is a member of the World Golf Hall of Fame and Virginia Sports Hall of Fame.

The Winged Foot Scholarship Foundation awards banquet takes place Thursday evening, May 24, at Artis—Naples. Guest speaker Curtis Strange.

The Winged Foot Scholarship Foundation holds its third annual gala for recovery Red Gala tickets for $275 (L500 for a table for 10) are available at www.path2freedom.org. Visit the website www.path2freedom.org for more information.

Avow announces the date, theme and lead sponsor for its 2019 Butterfly Ball. On Saturday, Feb. 23, guests will participate in the popular “charity adventure” to the Naples Botanical Garden. The event begins with a cocktail reception at 6 p.m. with the dinner and awards presentation at 7 p.m. Tickets are $125 a person or $250 for a table of 10. For more information, call Brooke Hornebeck at 280-3270 or email Brooke_Hornebeck@uij.com.

Young Executives of the David Lynch Foundation’s finest,” the evening of Saturday, Sept. 22, at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort. Ticket sales begin June 1 at www.cbia.net.


The 10th annual Barristers Bash to benefit Legal Aid Service of Collier County takes place Thursday, April 26, at the Hilton Naples. Tickets are $125, and sponsorship packages begin at $500. The evening will feature delight and special guest Abby Wambach as guest speaker and FIFA Women’s World Cup champion.

Each of the public and private high schools in the county will benefit Avow’s hospice, palliative care and support programs. For information, call Brooke Hornbeck at 280-3270 or email Brooke_Hornebeck@uij.com.

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SOCIETY

Honoring Chef Fabrizio Aielli at ‘The Delights of Evolving Cuisine’ with the Culinary and Hospitality Foundation

1. Jimmy Augustine, Zoe Augustine and Justine Carron
2. Teddy Wallingford with his dog and Frank Heron and Jazmin Heron with their family.
3. Brett Kucej, Alison Kucej and Roger Weatherburn-Baker
5. Ingrid Aielli, Adrian Aielli, Fabrizio Aielli and Anna Kimanovsk
6. Lil Montes and Marie-Drine Saint-Pierre
7. Robin Hamilton, Lacey King, Maureen Lerner and Alan Goodridge
8. Frank Pullara and Vincenzo Betulia
9. Frank McMullen and Mike McMullen

Enjoying Blues, Brews & BBQ at Ave Maria

1. Jimmy Augustiner, Zoe Augustiner and Justine Carron
2. Teddy Wallingford with his dog and Frank Heron and Jazmin Heron with their family.
3. Brett Kucej, Alison Kucej and Ronda Johnson
4. Joe Aline, Angela Aline, Al Salafia, Doreen Salafia and Harry Z.
5. Justin Perez, Tauni Grossklas and Beth Perez

Florida Weekly welcomes submissions for the Society pages from charity galas and fundraising events, club meetings and other to-dos around town. We need 300-dpi photographs of groups of two or more people, facing the camera and identified by first and last names. Questions? Email editor Cindy Pierce at cpierce@floridaweekly.com.
Carrying on the ‘Five Painters & a Potter’ tradition

1. Dave Altomare and Ann Marie Altomare
2. Mary Ann Holt and Nikki Buschle
3. John Drury, Marcia Drury, Marilyn Bradlee and Bill Bradlee
4. Mike Huckabee and Dennis Logue
5. Mary Lee MacDougall, Monsignor Frank McGrath and Kerry Hutchinson
6. Omar Garcia and Marah
7. Richard Kazeln and Joyce Kazeln

CPCI gala with Gov. Mike Huckabee at the Hilton Naples

1. Dave Altomare and Ann Marie Altomare
2. Mary Ann Holt and Nikki Buschle
3. John Drury, Marcia Drury, Marilyn Bradlee and Bill Bradlee
4. Mike Huckabee and Dennis Logue
5. Mary Lee MacDougall, Monsignor Frank McGrath and Kerry Hutchinson
6. Omar Garcia and Marah
7. Richard Kazeln and Joyce Kazeln

Florida Weekly welcomes submissions for the Society pages from charity galas and fundraising events, club meetings and other to-dos around town. We need 300-dpi photographs of groups of two or more people, facing the camera and identified by first and last names. Questions? Email editor Cindy Pierce at cpierce@floridaweekly.com.
SOCIETY

An evening to ‘Eat, Drink & Be Broadway’ for TheatreZone

1. Mark Danni and Karen Danni
2. Carole Schoenfeld, Judi Baruck, Dr. Manuel Pena and Joni Brickley
3. Ron Salvagio and Patricia Salvagio
4. Dennis Nelson, Nancy Wyckoff and Beverly Ness
5. Liz Black, Rachel Voigt and Jake Voigt
6. Roger Battistella, Nancy Battistella, Tami Elers and Jon Vollmer
7. Ellen Elemen and Mike Elemen
8. Monica Rossell, Mitch Rossell and Chisty Hollissy
9. David Stevens and Tere Batista

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Bite Squad, a Minneapolis-based meal delivery service, has purchased Naples Express Meals in order to expand into the area. The service now offers delivery from more than 50 local restaurants.

“We’re thrilled to be launching in Naples, just down the way from our Fort Myers delivery area,” said Bite Squad co-founder and CEO Kian Salehi. “The area has a happening food scene that draws residents and visitors alike to explore a variety of cuisines. From Italian to sushi to barbecue and more, we’re excited to offer delivery from Naples’ best restaurants.”

Enhancements to the Naples Express Meals operation include an app for order tracking, a live chat support team for help and fully uniformed service people.

“Naples Express Meals customers can expect the same great service, with the added benefit of our advancing technology,” Mr. Salehi said. “Our delivery model helps ensure that customers’ food arrives in the best possible condition.”

Bite Squad currently operates in 30-plus metropolitan areas across the country, and Naples joins more than 15 service areas in Florida. For more information about the company and its current local operation, download the app or visit www.bitessquad.com.

Caterers and brothers Larry and Peter Falisi recently opened Two Guys Kitchen & Catering, their first 20-person restaurant, near River Reach on Airport-Pulling Road.

“My brother and I are excited to finally open our restaurant to the community,” said Peter. “We have put in a lot of hard work to get to this stage and are excited to be able to share our family’s recipes.”

The pair launched their catering business three years ago by offering office lunches to hungry workers. It has since grown to serve large functions including weddings and private and corporate dinners. The Falisis’ newest endeavor offers diners fast-casual fare and to-go breakfast and lunch options. The brothers plan to offer grab-and-go selections in the near future.

Two Guys Kitchen & Catering is open from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. The space is also available for rent to private events. For more information, call 394-9072 or visit www.twoguyskitchencatering.com.

Zen Asian BBQ has introduced new Korean options including galbi jjim (Korean braised short ribs), budae jjigae (Korean Army base stew), kimchee grilled chicken and Korean tofu with spinach. 10823 Tamiami Trail N. 260-7037 or www.eatatzen.com.

The Local celebrates Earth Day by offering a free vegan gluten-free coconut brownie with any purchase of $10 or more on Sunday, April 22. 5323 Airport-Pulling Road. 596-3726 or www.thelocal-naples.com.

Karen’s Lebanese Kitchen and 21 Spices by Chef Asif will team up to provide an Indo-Lebanese buffet on Sunday, April 22, where both chefs will prepare a variety of ethnic dishes using only plant-based ingredients and will promote plant-based diets. $19.99 per person, with $2 benefiting www.aplant-baseddiet.org. Dinners can make reservations by calling 919-8830 or emailing michel@2lspicesdining.com.


Purple Spoon offers a three-course dinner and discussion about medical marijuana with nurse practitioner Deborrah Post at 6 p.m. Thursday, May 24. 868, 25131 Chamber of Commerce Drive, Bonita Springs. 908-3842 or www.purplepoonfl.com.

Sizzle SWFL Restaurant Week hosts its First Bite Menu Release, where organizers Guy Clarke and Rafael Feliciano will announce participating restaurants in the summer edition of restaurant week from 5-9 p.m. Sunday, April 29, at Mercedes-Benz of Bonita Springs. In addition to previewing bites from the upcoming event’s prix-fixe menus (which will be available May 31-June 13), guests can participate in a raffle to benefit the Sizzle SWFL FGCU Food & Beverage Scholarship fund. $65-$105 in advance, $85-$125 at the door. www.swflrestaurantweek.com.

Taste of Collier returns to Bayfront for its 38th year with samples from local restaurants, live entertainment and chef presentations from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, May 6. Entry is $5; food tickets sold separately. www.tasteofcollier.com.

Venue Naples debuts its new charitable initiative, Crave for a Cause, on Tuesday, May 8. The series aims to provide funds for local nonprofits by offering health-focused events. The inaugural evening will include a three-course, plant-based dinner and a discussion by cardiologist Brian Tanski, MD, who is also focusing onfood as medicine. $30, with proceeds benefitting the American Heart Association. Note that this week’smenu is dairy- and gluten-free, it is not vegan. 13240 Tamiami Trail N. 292-3529 or www.venuenaples.com.

— Email food and dining news to Lindsay Nesmith at inesmith@florida-weekly.com.
The Wine Store: A unique blend of curated vintages, classes and more

There were just two things Bruce Nichols had not experienced after almost four decades in the wine industry: being a vintner-winemaker and running his own, brick-and-mortar wine shop.

Last November, that list was shortened by half when Mr. Nichols opened The Wine Store at 1200 Central Ave. in Naples. Step inside the doors and you’ll find meticulously curated, limited-production, artisan-crafted wines from family-owned vineyards, worldwide, that rely on their grapes’ unique qualities for each vintage, rather than manipulation in the winery.

Concierge-level service is provided by certified sommeliers who assist customers with making selections that harmonize with their palates.

Wines can be sampled before purchase and prices range from $12 to $500 a bottle. “One of the things I tell people is that just because a wine is produced by an artisan winemaker that doesn’t mean it has to be expensive,” Mr. Nichols says. “We have 30 to 40 wines, at any given time, that are in the $20 price range. Whatever price point the customer is looking for, I can deliver the absolutely highest quality product.”

The Wine Store’s focus on education includes:

■ A regularly scheduled guest-speaker program featuring vintners, master sommeliers, authors, and industry related professionals. For serious collectors, The Wine Store offers storage in its 23 secure, private, climate-controlled wine lockers.

■ “What we’re trying to do here is provide a full-service operation, so anything to do with the purchasing of wine, wine education and wine storage is offered under one roof,” Mr. Nichols explains.

His passion for wine began at age 16, in the late 1960s, when he became a waiter in a restaurant and began drinking in knowledge about vino. In the early 1970s, he moved to the San Francisco area, where he worked in restaurants and hotels, and took advantage of proximity to northern California’s wine country. His background in the hospitality industry also includes global corporate food service management.

He is a past national president of the wine division of Chaine des Rotisseurs, the international food and wine society; an honorary trustee of the Naples Winter Wine Festival; and the founder and owner of the consulting firm Naples Wine Solutions and the online newsletter “A Nichols Worth of Wine.” Originally from Philadelphia, he and his wife, Jill Backman, have been residents of North Naples since 2004.

For more information about The Wine Store, call 234-6625 or visit www.thewinestorenaples.com.
Sometimes, a story just falls into a writer’s lap, and it has to be told. This one is a classic. It’s about two sisters who grew up on opposite sides of the world, neither one knowing of the other’s existence. It’s about a dying man’s wish, a tearful reunion and a remarkable coincidence.

We’ll start with Robin McBride. She was born in Los Angeles, and when her parents divorced, her mother took her to live in picturesque Monterey County. She grew up with the sight of abundant grapevines stretching in every direction, and, not surprisingly, decided to make the wine business her career.

Nine years later, her father, who still lived in Los Angeles, met a woman from New Zealand. They married and had a daughter, Andrée. When the new Mrs. McBride was diagnosed with cancer, they decided to move to New Zealand to be closer to family. Andrée grew up in Marlborough, on the north end of the South Island, which is basically the Napa Valley of New Zealand. Guess what she decided she wanted to be when she grew up?

And so it went. Robin, the older sister, pursued her career in California having no contact at all with her estranged father. Andrée did the same in New Zealand, never knowing she had a sister half a world away.

Years later, Mr. McBride was suffering from a terminal illness, and he called upon his extensive family (he was the youngest of 12 siblings) to find his daughters and get them together. Literally, a deathbed wish, and a monumental task, since back in 1999 internet tools like searching for someone on Facebook or “Googling” a person were still far in the future. This is where the hand of fate taps us gently on the shoulder and quietly points the way.

One of the McBride brothers, returning home from work around that time, turned on his television and happened to watch Oprah Winfrey interview … whom? As destiny would have it, she had on her sofa two detectives who you’d hire to track someone down if they owed you money. They were generous with information about the tools, books and other resources they used to find people who didn’t necessarily want to be found. The brother got the idea, and got busy.

It took a while, but he finally managed to find both sisters and put them in touch. In 1999, Robin flew from California to New York and met her long-lost sister Andrée at LaGuardia airport. Andrée was 16, and Robin was 25.

Robin remembers, “I knew who she was as soon as she walked off the plane. We look so much alike, and we were even dressed the same — almost.” From there, nature took its inevitable course. The sisters’ love for wine enabled them to build what’s basically a global business, sourcing wines from both California and the finest winegrowing regions of New Zealand. The McBride Sisters collection is their third venture, and it furthers their mutual goals. As Andrée puts it, “We want to create and distribute wines that speak to female and multicultural wine lovers.” Seems like it’s working:

I reviewed one of their rosé wines in a previous column. Here are two others, along with another new favorite.

McBride Sisters Collection Chardonnay Central Coast 2016 (S7) — Deep yellow in the glass, on the slightly sweet side. This nicely balanced wine was fermented 50 percent in stainless steel and 50 percent in barrel. Flavors of green apple and white pear, along with white flowers. Very pleasant, especially for the price. WW 89-90.

McBride Sisters Collection Sauvignon Blanc Marlborough 2016 (S15) — This is not your typical Marlborough example of the varietal. Green apple, lime and grassy aromas and flavors predominate with tart subtle acidity on the finish. WW 87-88.

Ask the Wine Whisperer

Q. Recently, I heard about a process used in winemaking called reverse osmosis. What is it? What does it do?

A. This process, which is also used for water purification and other purposes, is a kind of filtration. It’s mostly used to reduce the amount of water in wine, and make it “bigger” and more concentrated. In short, it’s often used to modify the wine’s flavor profile.

— Jerry Greenfield is The Wine Whisperer. He is wine director of the International Direct Cellars wine club. Read his other writings at www.winewhisperer.com.
When it comes to food, Philadelphia is justifiably famous for the cheesesteak and, to a lesser degree, scrapple and Tastylakes. But to me, none of these are its most delectable creation. In the spirit of full disclosure, I confess to being born in the city and growing up 20 minutes away in the New Jersey suburbs. Foxy nor of my formative years, my father worked in Philly with his father and brother at their shared dental office at Fifth and Girard, just across the street from the national shrine of St. John Neumann. The dental office was on the first floor of a classic brownstone; my grandparents’ home occupied the second and third floors.

My two cousins and I would often spend Saturdays there and there was one place we always went. No, not the shrine, but the soft pretzel bakery next door, for a nickel, you could purchase a fresh-from-the-oven pretzel that was salty and slightly crisp on the outside, soft and chewy within. There were days we made two or three trips there.

I had no way of knowing then that I was experiencing the pinnacle of this wondrous creation until I had occasion to purchase them a few years later from street carts in New York and everywhere. That’s when I discovered, to my horror, that they were cold, had the consistency of cardboard and bore no resemblance beyond their shape to the pliant, fragrant pretzels of my youth. So, I did what any self-respecting soft pretzel lover would do: I stopped eating them.

Later, I discovered a chain that shall remain unnamed that advertised soft pretzels only to once again have my hopes dashed. They were fresh but more cake-like, and came in flavors such as jalapeño or cinnamon. Sacrilege, I say.

Flash forward several decades. I’ve been living in Southwest Florida for most of my adult life, albeit sans soft pretzels in the same physical relations to the one that used to call me to tell me about a new soft pretzel store opening in Naples. He does not see my skeptical eye roll as I listen to his spiel.

But then I go. And I taste. And I am transported back 50 years to the bliss of my childhood as the flavor of a real, warm soft pretzel permeates my senses. That is precisely what the aptly named Philadelphia Pretzel Factory produces and dispenses daily from its location at the Galleria Shoppes off Vanderbilt Beach Road.

Josie and Ed Szmuc bought the franchise in October and have been lovingly baking what are called Real Pretzels daily ever since.

Mrs. Szmuc hails from Schwenkville, Pa., Mr. Szmuc from Pittsburgh. While neither is Philadelphia, Schwenkville is a mere 37 miles away and Mrs. Szmuc’s parents were from Philadelphia — so she, too, knows from real soft pretzels.

Her husband was a willing and able student who quickly caught on. The couple has a background in the oil and gas industry, Mr. Szmuc as an electrical engineer and Mrs. Szmuc as a program manager on the regulatory side of the oil and gas industry. But Pittsburgh winters were wearing on them. They decided to head south and found the pretzel franchise. This is their first foray into the food business, but they are proud and enthusiastic purists.

“The soft pretzel has been the same in shape and consistency for more than 100 years,” Mrs. Szmuc says. “The standard pretzel is our bread and butter.”

And when the Philadelphia Eagles made it to the Super Bowl in February, pretzel-loving fans lined up at the store’s front door hours before they opened to ensure they had soft pretzels with which to watch the big game (which the Eagles won).

“The line was out the door and down past Weis’s around the corner,” she says. “People drove here from Tampa, Sarasota and West Palm.”

There are people who pick up 25 or 50 to stash in the freezer so they don’t run out. (A single pretzel sells for $1.75 but there’s a volume discount with 100 going for $52.)

In a nod to those from other regions, the store also stocks a few other items as well. There are mini-pretzels (4½ inches rather than the traditional 7 inches). And there’s the Philly cheesesteak pretzel (chopped steak, provolone and mozzarella wrapped in a pretzel and baked). There are pretzels with mozzarella and pepperoni served with a side of marinara, and a Dietz and Watson beef hot dog wrapped in a pretzel. They even offer a cinnamon twist pretzel for those who simply must veer off the traditional path.

But the Real Pretzel, as the original is called, is the darling. “It has no trans-fat, no saturated fat and 14 grams of protein in a single pretzel,” she said. The protein comes from the whey flour that’s in the mix, making it something of a healthy snack. You can purchase a side of regular mustard, spicy brown or hot mustard, melted cheese or other dipping sauces.

And for those who want to feel even better about what they’re eating, consider that some of the proceeds go to a worthy cause.

Mrs. Szmuc’s parents, children of the Great Depression, did well professionally and, in 1992, founded the Bernard W. Loeb and Dr. Bernadette Loeb Charitable Foundation as a way to give back. They provided assistance to smaller charities focused on food insecurity and education for those who could not afford it.

Now Mrs. Szmuc heads the charity now and she, too, focuses on smaller grass-roots charities that run food pantries, education programs for children and that help women and girls from impoverished backgrounds. She even found a way to turn a telling fact: Fresh food pantry fresh food pantry in Bucks County, Pa., that needed — and received — her support.

A Roman Catholic and living center and hospice that cares for indigent elderly is another of the charities she supports.

“For many of these groups, a $5,000 donation is life-changing,” Mrs. Szmuc says.

She continues to look for such groups to help, and she hopes to grow the pretzel business in order to be able to support still more good works.

That’s bound to leave a great taste in anyone’s mouth.
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2/2 canal home is in a quiet area close to shopping and parks.

Port Charlotte

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LEHIGH ACRES

Pool Home, 3 Bedrooms 2 Bathrooms, 2 Car Garage
Pool home, 3 bedrooms 2 bathrooms, 2 car garage. As-is, no repairs or warranties on anything.

Swamp Hunt Home, 3 Bathrooms on 1.05 acres.
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FORT MYERS

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LEHIGH ACRES

Pool Home, 3 Bedrooms 2 Bathrooms, 2 Car Garage
Pool home, 3 bedrooms 2 bathrooms, 2 car garage. As-is, no repairs or warranties on anything.

Swamp Hunt Home, 3 Bathrooms on 1.05 acres.
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FORT MYERS

Affordable Freshwater Cottage
2/2 canal home is in a quiet area close to shopping and parks.

Lehigh Acres

Upgraded with a European Flair and Own your Land
Truly one of a kind and you own the land! The sellers have spared no expense to provide every upgrade imaginable.

Furnished Condo
1 bed 1 bath, Turnkey with lovely updates.

Tons of Potential
Cute 2/1 CP home in the heart of Port Charlotte ready for your personal touch!

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