The 10th annual Everglades Bike Ride sets out from the heart of Everglades City on Sunday morning, April 2, giving cyclists the option of pedaling 15- or 62-mile “smooth” routes (on pavement) or a 27-mile “bumpy” route off-pavement and into the Fakahatchee Strand.

No matter which route you ride, it’s a great way to experience what many consider the most unique part of Florida’s landscape. Past participants have declared the SAG-supported ride one of the best bicycling events in the state.

Organizers focus on safety, environmental education and stewardship for those who enjoy and promote hiking, walking and/or cycling as a means of traversing the Everglades. Proceeds from registration fees will benefit Friends of the River of Grass Greenway, Smallwood’s Store Museum and Florida’s state and national parks.

The River of Grass Greenway is a non-motorized transportation and recreation corridor proposed to connect Naples and Miami. Paralleling the historical corridor of the Tamiami Trail/U.S. 41, the 76.47-mile route is named for the river that once flowed from Lake Okeechobee to the Gulf of Mexico.

Experience the Everglades in a whole new way.

Havana remains unspoiled and vibrant. But how long will it take before it becomes just a tourism destination?

I t’s a little after midnight on my last night in Havana. The streets eight stories below my two-room Airbnb apartment overlooking Old Havana are quiet now. My mind is clear and the effects of the evening’s half dozen mojitos and daiquiris quaffed at two of Ernest Hemingway’s favorite Havana haunts, El Floridita and La Bodeguita del Medio, wore off hours ago. In a few short hours I’ll be back in the United States. I do not want to leave.

Havana, A10

Story and Photos by Mark S. Krzos

Strange, but good
The new BMW X4 might just be the perfect Florida car.

Not on the house
For the self-employed, getting a mortgage isn’t always easy.

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Weird Florida
Meet author Craig Pittman at the Southwest Florida Reading Festival.

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COMMENTARY

Sunshine Week, with clouds

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion ... or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press..."

— First Amendment, United States Constitution

That damn First Amendment. It keeps getting in the way of shadowy government corruption. It keeps insisting on open public records no matter how you read it.

Perhaps President Trump and Florida Gov. Rick Scott should consider privatizing corruption. A federal or state Department of Corruption could be highly efficient, especially if experienced private business owners run it: Wall Street bankers, health insurance executives, oil barons, used car dealers, casino operators, pimps and a loan shark or two. That should do it. Wouldn’t corruption then be a lot less costly and more productive than corruption generally offering a bigger payday to the government bureaucrats?

Two at a time out of the Sunshine — give local government leaders the right to contract to his pal, Bill, or permitted development rights in low-density rural zones to his pal, Bud. And it’s OK if Commissioner Jack then meets Commissioner Jane, and they all agree — out of the Sunshine — to hire Bill and green-light Bud with their majority vote on a five-member commission.

And it’s peachy-keen with Rep. Donalds if nobody living in that county ever knows the difference: none of the 1.4 million citizens in Palm Beach County, or the 700,000 citizens in Lee, or the 850,000 in Collier or the 70,000 living in Charlotte.

Rep. Donalds’ bill would undo 108 years of public records precedent in the Sunshine State. In 1909, Florida passed its first open-records law, a simple little thing that would apply to university presidents, provosts or deans — that’s House Bill 351 sponsored by Rep. Bob Rommel (Dist. 80), a Naples Republican.

"They want to keep it secret until there's a list of finalists," Ms. Petersen explains. "But frequently that's a list of one. And if that applies to university presidents does it also apply to city or county managers?"

Here’s one that’s even worse: Rep. Byron Donalds, another Naples Republican (Dist. 80), has proposed a law (HB 843) that would give local government leaders the right to meet two at a time out of the Sunshine — out of the public eye — to talk about public business. That means city council members, county commissioners, planning board members, members of school boards, hospital boards, and so on.

"Maybe there’s something in the Naples water. Apparently it’s just fine with Rep. Donalds if Commissioner Joe meets Commissioner Jack and convinces him to give a big county contract to his pal, Bill, or permitted development rights in low-density rural zones to his pal, Bud. And it’s OK if Commissioner Jack then meets Commissioner Jane, and they all agree — out of the Sunshine — to hire Bill and green-light Bud with their majority vote on a five-member commission.

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Rep. Donalds’ bill would undo 108 years of public records precedent in the Sunshine State. In 1909, Florida passed its first open-records law, a simple little thing that would seem to have sufficed for all time: “All state, county and municipal records shall at all times be open to a personal inspection of any citizen of Florida, and those in charge of such records shall not refuse this privilege to any citizen of Florida.”

However they were, those legislators had read the First Amendment and taken it to heart.

But that law failed to do the job — corruption generally offering a bigger payday than openness. So 50 years ago, in 1967 under Republican Gov. Claude Kirk, the state passed the first “Sunshine Law” requiring that people be informed of meetings or communications between officials — any officials and anyplace, including bars, boats, restaurants, rest rooms or official meeting halls. Such communications, legislators decided then, are public records.

You might have thought that would get the job done, finally. But no. In 1975, The News-Press in Fort Myers sued the county administrator, Lavon Wisher, in a case called Wisher v. News-Press Publishing Co. — and not just for fun. She had refused to turn over personnel records that could tell the public about the backgrounds of county employees.

Lee Melsek became part of that case, which changed Florida law again. Now a retired investigative reporter, he spent 32 years at The News-Press using public records to put corrupt officials out of jobs or in jail, or to help victims of abuse from cops or at state hospitals, to name a few. With another reporter and backed up by his editors, he began pushing for the county’s personnel records.

A judge ruled that Lee County, and by extension every county in the state, had to turn over those records when any citizen sought them.

“The government created the Sunshine and public records law because, it said, the business of government is the public’s business,” Ms. Melsek once told me (I worked with him at The News-Press in the late 1990s).

“The public owns that government. Everything that government does should be open — transparent.”

If you’re a red-blooded First Amendment American, you might just want to shout “AMEN!” and carry on proudly after reading that, since it couldn’t be more clear.

But not if you love Sunshine in Florida. In that case you should start with this premise, now during “Sunshine Week” 2017:

If you have Sunshine — and we still do in the Sunshine State — somebody will try to take it away from you, sooner or later.
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Florida's State Legislature is back at work in Tallahassee. Their task is to craft the future year state budget. Our governor has weighed in with his own budget proposal. He has launched efforts to boost state funding to a new high, engineer a $618 million tax cut for businesses and excuse $1.1 billion in state spending, with hospitals taking most of the hit. It also would include squirrelling away $5 billion in “rainy day” reserves should the state coffers unexpectedly require an infusion of cash.

In assessing the tenor of the upcoming negotiations, Max Dixon for Politico Florida writes, “The governor’s plan is laced with potential landmines that will make portions of it untenable for legislative leaders, who will push hard for their priorities. That’s not uncommon this early in the budget process, but without question, clear fault lines exist between the governor and both chambers of the Legislature.”

That is something of an understatement. The governor and the legislature are already at war over the governor’s most fervent funding priorities. They include $85 million to fund Enterprise Florida for business recruitment and $76 million to fund Visit Florida to boost the state’s tourism. The Legislature is not in the mood to rubber-stamp Scott’s proposal. The lawmakers in the House first offered a bill to completely gut both agencies but may ultimately settle for something less draconian.

Those who support Scott’s funding request for the agencies are quick to come to their defense. They include the state’s most powerful, private sector stakeholders, and the special interests of agriculture, tourism and the state’s major utilities. The Florida Chamber of Commerce is at the head of the pack.

It says its mission in Tallahassee is to lobby on behalf of the private sector for an annual cash infusion for agen-

cies, referred to as the Florida Business Agenda.”

The agenda is a “set of policy priorities that will help grow private sector jobs, continue to create economic opportunity in Florida and diversify our economy.”

That is “Coming Apart,” a best-selling account of the white working class that illuminated some of the social forces behind the rise of Donald Trump. Second, there was the venue. No one has ever mistimed Middlebury, a small Vermont liberal arts college founded by Congregationalists, for Berkeley, and yet it has given us one of the most puzzling episodes of anti-speech thuggery in recent memory. If it can happen at a school in Middle-

bury, it can happen anywhere (or at least at Swarthmore or Bucknell). Finally, there was the violence. The students who brought in Charles Murray framed the evening as “an invitation to argue,” and in that spirit asked professors to give them the space to round up legislative allies and become a pha-
lant of raimakers, pounding the drums and championing the job creation mantra, orchestrating the necessary pow-wows, to inspire a downpour of tax dollars.

The crux of the budget negotiation. Some lawmakers support Scott’s funding priorities for these purposes “corporate welfare,” a tax giveaway of benefit primarily to for-profit ventures that don’t need the help. Those supporting the funding say it is warranted if Florida is to keep its com-

petitive edge, invariably offering a rosy calculus of the tax revenue and infusion of cash.

It is a classic, perennial tug-of-war. Anytime a perceived excess of tax dol-

lars is in search of a purpose, there is no absence of special interests and lobbyists who want to give them more money, to round up legislative allies and become a pha-
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It is “The Bell Curve,” about IQ — but Murray is controversial — mainly for his remember as a watershed.

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lant of raimakers, pounding the drums and championing the job creation mantra, orchestrating the necessary pow-wows, to inspire a downpour of tax dollars.

The root of the phenomenon is the idea that unwelcome speech is tantamount to a physical threat against offended lis-
teners. If this is true, it follows that dis-

agitation causes claims to get to “yes.”

But the first indication that this is the case is that increased free speech, as we are sometimes led to do, what is needed is the evidence of mis-

enthusiasm — enough that healthy skepticism is warranted.

This skepticism is in now in play in Tallahassee, although one might rea-

sonably suspect it is the right perspec-

tive for the wrong reason. But that is just politics in a nutshell.

Some lawmakers take the long view: Might a better plan be to invest in human capital and build a skilled, well trained force to attract good paying jobs? Or how about investing in the kind of 21st-


century infrastructure that attracts and Florida writes, “The governor’s plan is at the head of the pack.”

So it says its mission in Tallahassee is to lobby on behalf of the private sector for an annual cash infusion for agencies, referred to as the Florida Business Agenda.”

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Aschonberg is a native Florid-
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thropic institutions in the South and Appalachia. She writes frequently on issues of politics, public policy and philanthropy, earning national recogni-
tion for her leadership in the charitable sector. She resides with her family and in-county. She can be reached at llilly@floridaweekly.com and read past blog posts on Tumblr at www.lillyLTumblr.com.

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Good girl! Jessie seems to sense that the family needs less stress

Anybody else feel the pressure? Spring has sprung and with the early arrival of blooms in the planter comes the crunch of everything happening at once (and need- ing attention). The only residents of a seasonal destination can feel. The holidays have nothing on the volume of things on our to-do lists during tourist season (or, thanks to lines of cars and people everywhere, on the time it takes to accomplish even the most mundane of those things). December at least holds the promise of enforced time off to bathe in Christmas sparkle, whereas right now I just want to lie down and take a long winter's nap until Easter is over.

Along with the fact that traffic should start to lighten soon, there's another bright spot at our house these days: Our dumb dog Jessie has slowed her roll. Whereas two weeks ago she still required frequent visits to daycare to expel extra energy, now she seems to be happy napping at my side for most of the day while I work.

This turn of events is weird and sad- den, but much appreciated. Jessie has stopped destroying valuables and now sticks to the worthless knick-knacks the kids bring in the house. She can have them. The fruitless barking out the window at the kids' rooms for a beloved breakfast remains, patrolling the cats, counter-surfing for items to destroy and bark- ing out the window at the neighbor dogs that rise later than 5 a.m. Today, however, if all goes to plan she will be found in the house.

Is Jessie actually becoming a good girl? She shows no signs of depression. She still greets us enthusiastically as we wake, with unsuppressed tail wagging and a genuine doggy smile, as if she can't believe that she woke up and still belongs to us (a questionable fate until recently). As I sit at my desk, I still periodically feel proper expel her energy on a walk. Good Jessie chews contentedly on something of her own while waiting to

Two brown, almost bovine eyes boring into my skull until I give her a thorough neck scratch. The difference is in the details. For example, no one has to bribe or chase her into her crate anymore. In fact, she napped inside it the other day and I forgot to lock it when I left. To my sur- prise, she was exactly where I left her two hours later, and not a single destroyed or even disturbed item was to be found in the house. For her morning greeting, a full-body snuggle suffices rather than an unauthorized wrestling match as we rise from the sheets.

Is she growing up or becoming resigned to her fate? Through the mania of her first year, people told us she would calm down after her birthday, and miracu- lously, she has. It kind of surprises me.

The truth is that the last few weeks we've been unable to take her to day- care because we can't find the time in our afternoon schedules to pick her up. Her daily rollerblade runs with James — his trusty method of exhausting her at the end of the day — are on hiatus because he hasn't found the time yet to replace the wheels she wore out. Even so, visitors can now enter our house in safety without a manic, 40-pound, liver-and-white furred mis- sile launching itself at their waist in greeting.

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Conservancy’s ‘Magic’ raises $1.2 million

The Conservancy of Southwest Florida’s 13th annual Magic Under the Mangroves gala dinner and auction fundraiser raised $1.2 million to support the Conservancy’s mission to protect the region’s water, land, wildlife and future. “The funds raised from Magic will enable our biologists, policy advocates, education team and wildlife rehabilitation staff to continue their important work that will influence Southwest Florida for years to come,” said Rob Moher, Conservancy president and CEO.

This year’s presenting sponsors were Northern Trust and William Raveis Real Estate. Carol Dinardo, the proprietor of Washington, D.C.-based Windows Catering, chaired the evening that was set to theme “Flock to Magic for a Bird’s Eye View.” The Windows culinary team spent several months researching and developing the menu and overall gastronomic experience. Members of the team, as well as captains, bartenders and waiters, traveled to Naples in advance to ensure a successful event down to the smallest detail.

In addition to Northern Trust and William Raveis Real Estate as the presenting sponsors, supporting sponsors of the 2017 Magic Under the Mangroves included AVMedia, Germain BMW, Gulfshore Life, Florida Weekly, NBC-2 and the Naples Daily News.

About the Conservancy

For 50 years, the Conservancy of Southwest Florida has focused on the issues impacting the water, land, wildlife and future of Collier, Lee, Hendry and Glades counties. The Conservancy accomplishes this mission through the combined efforts of its experts in the areas of environmental science, policy, education and wildlife rehabilitation. The world-class nature center and von Arx Wildlife Hospital are headquartered in Naples at 1495 Smith Preserve Way, south of The Naples Zoo off Goodlette-Frank Road.

For more information, visit www.conservancy.org.

conservancy CEO Rob Moher with Carol Dinardo and Henry Dinardo. Mrs. Dinardo chaired this year’s “Magic Under the Mangroves” gala. See more photos on page C29.
Getting there

You can book your trip through tour operator packages like Doc Ford’s Cuba Expeditions, Droid Culinary Adventures or many others—or fly there on your own. JetBlue now offers direct flights from Orlando, Fort Lauderdale and New York’s JFK International airports. Prior to take-off you’ll be required to possess a visa, which can be purchased at the airport terminal for $50. You’ll also be required to state the purpose of your trip. Travelers must meet one of 12 requirements for legal travel to Cuba. For more information on these requirements, see https://cu.usembassy.gov/u-s-citizen-services/local-resources-of-u-s-citizens/travelling-to-cuba/

Do’s & Don’ts In Havana

Do bring at least $100 a day per person for the entire length of your stay. Finding places that accept credit cards is difficult and finding bank machines that accept U.S. bank cards is even more difficult.

Don’t drink the water! Drink only bottled water — and use that bottled water to brush your teeth. But don’t worry about drinking that daiquiri or mojito from local bars and restaurants. Their ice is filtered and safe.

Don’t bring immodium, aspirin and other medications. You may not be able to get what you need if you get sick.

Don’t listen to Cuban taxi drivers or people on the street telling you about some “better” restaurant, “better” bar or “discounted” Cuban cigars. They’re likely being paid by the restaurant or selling you knock-off cigars.

Do engage with the locals. Cubans are friendly, love Americans and want to talk politics, technology and more.

Don’t expect to be able to share all your photos until you get home. Wi-Fi is rare and extremely slow.

Don’t do a 1950s-era U.S.-made classic car taxi. They’re more affordable than the modern taxis.

Don’t get ripped off on money exchange or change from purchases. There are two currencies in Cuba — the CUC and the CUP. The CUC is the Cuban peso and is about equal to one U.S. dollar. One CUC is equal to about 24 CUPs.

Do bring comfortable walking shoes and leave the high heels at home. Sore feet from uncomfortable shoes or twisting an ankle on uneven, broken or cobblestone streets is no fun.

Don’t bring more than $100 in cigars back to the U.S.

Do negotiate cab fares. If you take a classic ’50s-style cab, ask how much to a better restaurant, “better” bar or “discounted” Cuban cigars. They’re likely being paid by the restaurant or selling you knock-off cigars.

Sit in the café La Lluvia de Oro, not far from Old Havana’s Parque Cervantes. Mr. Merbille is full of hope. “Cuba is going to change a lot because of all the Americans coming in,” he says optimistically.

Despite the Obama administration easing some travel restrictions that had been in place since President John F. Kennedy announced an economic embargo 55 years ago, most Americans aren’t “officially” allowed to visit Cuba. Official visits are permitted for 12 categories including family visits, official government business, professional research, journalistic, educational, religious or humanitarian activities.

Licensed Florida tour operators such as author Randy Wayne White’s Doc Ford’s Cuba Expeditions, Chef Douglas
Rodriguez’s Drod Culinary Adventures and others fulfill the requirements of one of the categories. Many of the Americans we encountered said their real reason for visiting Cuba “was to see it before it changes” and appeared unfazed by Congress’s failure to fully lift the embargo. While we checked off “journalistic activities,” we also did a small part in helping the Cuban people by buying milk for people such as Mr. Merbille and his family.

Mr. Merbille, like many Cubans, knows the issues well. “When Obama was president it seemed like finally America was helping the Cuban people,” he said, taking a long sip from his mojito. “Trump said he’s going to cope with life here.”

Noel Merbille and his girlfriend say a lot has changed over the past few years and that 10 years ago they weren’t even allowed to speak to tourists.

In Havana, milk is scarce and rice is rationed. “Salaries are still low, but 10 years ago, Cubans weren’t allowed to even talk to tourists,” Mr. Merbille said.

The Cubans who call the Havana districts of Centro and Vedado home don’t have much, but they manage. Some sell fruit on the side of the road, others sell scratch-off Wi-Fi cards designated for use in one of the local parks. Only a few seem to beg for free handouts.

Tom Fleming, a social worker from Hackensack, N.J., said he’s drawn to the architecture, the people, the art, the culture. What’s really surprised me is the resiliency of the people and how they use creativity and ingenuity to cope with life here.”

Places to eat and drink in Havana

This nightclub in Havana’s Miramar district is a celebration of modern art complete with DJs spinning music by hip-hop artist The Weeknd, dance, tapas, drinks and more.

The original Sloppy Joe’s opened in Havana in 1917. It was here that celebrities such as Frank Sinatra and Ava Gardner enjoyed the rope daiquiri, and that 10 years ago they weren’t even allowed to speak to tourists.

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SEE HAVANA, A12
Molly Leibowitz, a San Francisco resident where you are, you always feel safe one street to the next, but no matter of all ages. Many gather here at sunset for romance, music and to unwind after a long day. El Malecon, one of the world's most famous roads, is a popular hangout for Cubans and tourists. "People have been really friendly and they're super proud of their country," Molly Leibowitz, a San Francisco resident said between sips of her daiquiri at the famous La Floridita. "But Havana is about what I expected. It has a ton of charm and a lot of poverty. I do feel like some of the poverty is swept under the rug a bit." Linda Lam, a resident of Boca Ratón, came to Havana as part of a tour, but her reason for choosing Cuba was because it had been off-limits for so long. "I wanted to get here before it started looking like Miami Beach," Ms. Lam said. "The people have been charming and they're happy to have Americans coming here and spending their money here." At The Hotel Nacional, where Mar- lon Brando, Frank Sinatra, Ava Gardner and Lucky Luciano once stayed, tourists from Asia, Europe and the America- cans watch the sunset over Havana's historic drive, El Malecon. A few hours later, they are cheering on the world-renown Grammy Award-winning Buena Vista Social Club. Some even get up and dance. Similar scenes play out all over the city. Along the Old Havana streets of O'Reilly and Obispo, storefronts have fresh coats of paint, restaurants are packed and live salsa music spills out into the street. Soon locals are dancing with tourists, heads begin to turn and smiles sweep across hundreds of differ- ent faces. It's a typical early afternoon in Habana Vieja. Not far from the Plaza de Armas, open-air hotel lobbies offer sprawling bars and a piano player sings like a char- acter right out of the movie "Casablan- ca." This was my father's Cuba when he was a boy. It wasn't the real Cuba then and it isn't the real Cuba now. He told me stories of the casinos his father, my grandfather, spent his time and money in. He told me about the hotel parties he saw — the beauti- ful women in evening gowns and men in white tuxedos. He never saw the struggle outside the city back in the 1950s and he never had the chance to return to see Havana's current crumble and decay. Pablo Morales Marchan, a freelance journalist in Havana, points at the peo- ple walking down Obispo. "What you're looking at is a tourist's version of Cuba," he said. "Very little has changed outside of Havana. People are living in misery — in extreme poverty. Yes, there is more freedom, but not enough. The government is trying to get a bet-
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Diamond Volunteer Awards winners announced

Naples real estate professional Kelly Capolino, founder of the Diamond Volunteer Awards program, announced the 2017 award winners. The program honors volunteers of local nonprofit agencies for their efforts to improve the community while helping change the lives of those who serve.

Three organizations are chosen each year to receive the Diamond Volunteer Award. The newest winners are: Guadalupe Center, Special Olympics and Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

Ms. Capolino founded the program in 2009 with the first awards presented to organizations for their volunteer work. The Diamond Volunteer program celebrates its “silver” milestone in 2017 as the total number of nonprofits that have been honored reaches 25.

Award winners each get a private cocktail reception for 25 of their volunteers and honored guests; a press release written about their group; photos taken at their award reception and submitted to local media; and a framed award.

Ooh La La Jewels Du Jour names Mimi Scofield a Legacy Lady

Ooh La La Jewels Du Jour announces Mimi Scofield as the third Ooh La La Legacy Lady for the 2017 season. Ms. Scofield is vice chairman of Drug Free Collier and has chaired the organization’s Annual Community Awareness Luncheon since 2012. Originally from Louisville, Ky., Ms. Scofield has been a Naples resident since 1982. She is a retired nurse and spent more than 30 years in health-care marketing and administration with organizations across the country. She has given much of her time and talent to protecting area youth from substance abuse by supporting local prevention initiatives designed to educate and empower young people with the tools they need to make good choices.

With her commitment and dedication to partnering with community organizations, her contributions pave the way for the development and enhancement of young lives.

“I believe that serving a cause greater than our own is everyone’s responsibility,” she says. “I’m passionate about leaving our community a better place for our children to grow and flourish.”

Ms. Scofield also serves on the board of directors of St. Matthew’s House and Justin’s Place and co-chairs their Annual Legacy Breakfast.

Six local women have been chosen to represent the community as part of the Legacy Lady recognition program this year and will be showcased through June 2017. The Legacy Lady program was created to celebrate local women who leave a lasting legacy in the community. The recognition program was designed by sisters and Ooh La La Jewels Du Jour co-owners Amy Turner and Tammy Turner Kipp.

Moorings Park Foundation distributes $200,000 to help local seniors

The Moorings Park Foundation was formed with a mission to create a culture of philanthropy that provides opportunities to benefit the residents of Moorings Park, its employees and people in the greater community.

With that mission in mind, foundation board members challenged the residents of Moorings Park and Moorings Park at Grey Oaks, along with members of the various operating boards of Moorings Park, to raise charitable support for seniors who are struggling in the greater Naples community. The various entities raised $200,000, which then was matched by an anonymous resident donor.

The $200,000 has been distributed to four organizations: the Senior Friendship Health Center, the Naples Senior Center, the Golden Gate Senior Center and Step Smart Collier.

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Foundation will award 10 scholarships

The Uncommon Friends Foundation is accepting applications from students, veterans, struggling adults and single parents in Southwest Florida who are pursuing degrees in education, law, technology and other studies.

Nominees must need financial assistance, excel in school and/or their personal lives and possess high quality character traits. A total of 10 scholarships are available.

Scholarships vary in application requirements, duration and financial amounts, while some are for specific schools.

The deadline for applications, which must be submitted electronically, is April 1. Winners will be announced in May and will be honored at the Uncommon Friends Foundation’s "Uncommon Evening" on Thursday, Nov. 2.

Application packets include an application form, a written essay on character traits and possible need-financial assistance and links to all applications, visit www.uncommonfriends.org.

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Junior Destine laughs now when reminded of the Instagram profile he created while in his teens. He was "just a kid" of Haitian heritage trying to make it in America, he wrote then.

A few years later, his Blogspot profile declared that he was from Immokalee, a freshman at Florida Gulf Coast University studying business, and he liked to read and play basketball.

He’s 25 now and clearly making it in America.

As branch manager for Enterprise Rent-A-Car at the Naples Municipal Airport, Mr. Destine is putting his degree in marketing and management to good use. He says managers for his company do it all, from sales to service, from marketing to managing the branch employees.

"When you work for Enterprise, you’ve got your hands in everything," he says. And doing everything has paid off financially, enabling Mr. Destine to move to a condominium in Fort Myers and, along with his sister, Yvette — an elementary school teacher in Cape Coral — to represent the first generation in his family to go to college and earn a degree.

He wouldn’t have imagined it when he was a child.

"I just thought I’d be like the rest of my family — go to high school and then get a job," he says.

But The Immoakle Foundation’s post-secondary and career success program helped him envision much more for his life.

Mr. Destine came under the foundation’s wing while still in high school. He received help with his academic plan, applying to colleges and finding and competing for scholarships. He decided on FGCU. "And even during college, a mentor met up with me on campus, the whole nine yards," he says. "The Immoakle Foundation didn’t get me to college and forget about me."

His association with Enterprise began with an internship during his senior year of college. He then worked at the Southwest Florida International Airport branch. After graduation, he stayed with the company full-time and soon was promoted to assistant manager. For the past year and a half, he has managed his own branch in Naples.

The goal of TIF’s post-secondary and career success program is to help students make the transition from high school to college and beyond. It helps them develop important life skills such as financial responsibility, time management and study habits — skills that will benefit them now and later in life.

Mr. Destine was not alone in finding it hard to imagine earning a college degree and having the kinds of career opportunities his parents and grandparents never had. He and his sister were raised by their grandmother, who died two years ago. TIF remains an anchor for them in the community and a loyal force in their lives.

TIF’s major annual fundraisers like the Charity Classic Celebration and the Charity Classic Pro-Am make foundation programs possible, but so do donations, bequests, mentors, volunteers and a dedicated staff.

This 25th year of the foundation was notable for the first graduation of a physician, Dr. Kristen Dimas, who is completing her residency with Lee Health and plans to stay in the area to use her education to help her community of origin.

Support from the business community also has been essential to the growth of Immokalee’s children into educated adults who realize their potential. TIF’s post-secondary and career success program also provides vocational opportunities for students who are not college-bound but are needed to fill important, well-paying jobs, particularly in heavy equipment mechanics.

The post-secondary and career success program is bolstered by TIF’s career development and junior career development programs for students at younger ages, beginning in middle school. Through speakers, presentations and outings to places of business in Southwest Florida, TIF students learn about a range of careers, from finance to military service, veterinary medicine to nursing, social work, performing arts, restaurant and other business opportunities.

To learn more about TIF, including how to volunteer, become a mentor or make a donation, call 430-9122 or visit www.immokaleefoundation.org.

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Former Immokalee student is in the driver’s seat at Enterprise

Immokalee’s children into educated adults who realize their potential. TIF’s post-secondary and career success program is bolstered by TIF’s career development and junior career development programs for students at younger ages, beginning in middle school. Through speakers, presentations and outings to places of business in Southwest Florida, TIF students learn about a range of careers, from finance to military service, veterinary medicine to nursing, social work, performing arts, restaurant and other business opportunities.

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SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY
David Lawrence Center presents Sound Minds symposium

David Lawrence Center and its education partner, the Naples Children & Education Foundation present the third annual Sound Minds Mental Health Symposium from 3-5 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at Moorings Presbyterian Church. This year’s event focuses on brain health. Renowned psychologist, educator and author Kay Redfield Jamison, Ph.D., is the keynote speaker.

Ms. Jamison has authored five books and is considered a leading authority on mood disorders, bipolar disorder and suicide. She became the public face of bipolar disorder after her best-selling 1995 memoir, “An Unquiet Mind,” explored her own battles with the disease. “Touched with Fire,” her book about the links between bipolar disorder and creativity, was made into a movie in 2015 starring Katie Holmes.

She has served as a professor of psychiatry at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine for the last 25 years and has acted as a professor of mood disorders and co-director of the Johns Hopkins University Mood Disorders Center since 2005.

There are a variety of ticket options available:

- An all-access pass for $400 includes a VIP wine dinner with the keynote speaker on Friday, March 24, at the Conservancy of Southwest Florida and a wine and hors d’oeuvres reception with her after the symposium on Saturday evening, March 25, at Moorings Presbyterian Church.
- A ticket for the VIP wine dinner and symposium is $300.
- A ticket for the symposium and meet-the-speaker reception is $125.

Ms. Jamison will be available for a book signing for ticket holders at both the VIP dinner and the post-symposium reception.

* Admission to the symposium only is a $80 suggested donation.

For tickets or more information, call Jennifer Denike at the David Lawrence Center at 304-3505 or visit www.davidlawrencecenter.org.

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Go to the dogs at Shell Factory GoldenFest

Go to the dogs at the eighth annual GoldenFest from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, March 26, in the canine park at the Shell Factory & Nature Park in North Fort Myers. Hosted by Golden Retriever Rescue of Southwest Florida, the afternoon includes pet portraits, dock dog diving, a pet spa, a doggy garage sale, refreshments and raffle/auction items ranging from attraction, theater, dinner cruise and hotel tickets to rounds of golf and lavish gift baskets. Vendors include animal hospitals, boarding facilities, trainers, groomers, rescues and pet food companies. All breeds of well-mannered, leash-done dogs are invited to attend with their owners. Admission and parking are free. Additional auction item donations and dog-related vendors are welcome.

For more information, call 369-0415, email info@grrswf.org or visit www.grrswf.org.

Consider ‘The future of Religious Freedom’

“The Future of Religious Freedom” is the topic when Jennifer Marshall of The Heritage Foundation addresses the Christian Rights & Freedom Institute at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, March 23, in the parish hall at St. Katharine Drexel Greek Orthodox Church, 7100 Airport-Pulling Road. Ms. Marshall will explore how erosion of religious liberty affects religious schools, ministries, churches and individuals.

Admission is free for CRFI lecture series subscribers, $10 for others. For more information, visit www.christian-rightsandfreedom.org.

Rabbi to address anti-Semitism at UF

Rabbi Adam Grossman, CEO of Hillel at the University of Florida-Gainesville, will speak about the rising tide of anti-Semitism on campus as part of the Shabbat service at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 24, at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6440 Napa Woods Way, Naples. All are welcome to attend the service that is sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Collier County and the Naples Jewish Congregation.
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Remember lost loved ones at Avow butterfly ceremony

Avow invites everyone to its annual butterfly release and community memorial service Saturday, March 25, at Cambier Park. Children’s activities begin and a walk-through tent with hundreds of live butterflies opens at 10 a.m.

The memorial service starts at noon and will include inspirational readings, music and a name-reading ceremony to honor the lives of loved ones. At the conclusion of the service, the exhibit tent will open, allowing more than 500 butterflies to float into the sky.

Jayson Roa, Avow president and CEO, says the butterfly was chosen as the symbolic representation for this event because it undergoes a major transformative process as part of its normal life cycle. “The butterfly is a reminder of how beautiful, delicate and fragile life can be, so that we should remember to appreciate and be grateful for each moment,” he says.

Many view the butterfly as a symbol of joy, happiness, rebirth, and renewal. The butterfly evokes an image that is mild and gentle, one that can touch the heart and provide strength during difficult times.

Avow’s annual butterfly release is generously endowed by the Gorlach family. Admission is free. Early arrival is recommended to allow for parking, check-in, and time to experience the butterfly exhibit prior to the start of the ceremony.

Those who wish to have a loved one’s name read during the remembrance ceremony or for more information about the event, call Avow at 649-5063 or visit www.avowcares.org/butterflyrelease.
**BEHIND THE WHEEL**

**Dunkin Donuts on East Trail hosts Coffee with a Cop**

The Collier County Sheriff’s Office partners with Dunkin Donuts for Coffee with a Cop from 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 22, at Dunkin Donuts at 3440 Tamiami Trail E. Members of the community are invited to share some coffee with CCSO deputies one-on-one while discussing their concerns and learning more about the agency’s work.

Coffee with a Cop is a national initiative supported by The United States Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services. Similar events are being held across the country, as local law enforcement departments strive to advance the practice of community policing, one cup of coffee at a time.

**Watch out for CCSO traffic deputies**

Here’s where CCSO deputies will be on traffic detail the week of March 20-24:

- **Monday, March 20**
  Goodlette-Frank Road and Pelican Marsh Boulevard: Speeding
  Pine Ridge Road and Napa Boulevard: Aggressive driving
  Santa Barbara and Davis boulevards: Red-light running

- **Tuesday, March 21**
  Airport-Pulling Road and Estuary Drive: Aggressive driving
  Collier and Cedar Hammock boulevards: Speeding
  Livingston Road and Marsala Way: Speeding

- **Wednesday, March 22**
  Thomason Drive at Avalon Elementary School: Aggressive driving
  Collier Boulevard and Lely Cultural Parkway: Red-light running
  Radio Road and San Marcos Boulevard: Speeding

- **Thursday, March 23**
  Sunshine Boulevard and 20th Place
  U.S. 41 East and Lely Resort Boulevard: Speeding
  Pine Ridge Road at Pine Ridge Middle School: Aggressive driving

- **Friday, March 24**
  Goodlette-Frank Road and Golden Gate Parkway: Red-light running
  Immokalee Road and Logan Boulevard: Aggressive driving
  Golden Gate Parkway at I-75 southbound exit: Speeding

**BMW X4 is strange, and that’s why you like it**

BMW might have just created the perfect Florida car with the X4 crossover, but the question is, did they really mean to do that?

It’s hard to confine the X4 to one vehicle class. It has four doors like a sedan, but there’s a sweeping rear roofline that German companies like BMW will still call coupes. It has the raised suspension of an off-road machine, but the tire package is from a sports car. And when the car-like rear decklid is opened, it reveals a versatile hatchback design.

Seems confusing? That’s why BMW had to create the term Sports Activity Coupe. This is actually the company’s second SAC behind the X6, and Mercedes and Audi are even following suit. So, this segment is more than just a fluke.

What an SAC really provides is a crossover for people who wanted a sports car. It works well where twentysomethings like to be seen in tall machines with prestigious badges, like when arriving at a nightclub in Miami Beach. But in reality, this is a vehicle that works exceptionally well for the senior demographic, too.

After all, the X4 has swoopy coupe lines, but its high ride height means there’s no bending down to get inside. And the overall size is 10 inches shorter than the X6, so it’s even easier to park. BMW already makes a taller version of its cars known as the Gran Turismo that offers similar mobility benefits to the X4, but this one just does a better job of hiding its functionality under trendy skin.

Inside, the X4 only loses a few inches of headroom over the X6. That means plenty of legroom up front, and there’s even still proper seating behind the tall seat. The instrumentation is lifted directly from the X3 crossover — a vehicle that shares the South Carolina assembly line with the X4.

The good news about this is that the X3/X4 has a well laid-out interior that keeps many of the familiar BMW family components (gauges, gearshift, iDrive, etc.) But it also feels a little better executed in some places. For example, other BMW vehicles have their information screens mounted on top of the dashboard. The X3/X4’s screen is smaller, but it seems a bit nicer because it’s integrated into the dash design.

Our tester car was optioned with the M Sport interior that upgrades a few elements, including the steering wheel. It’s not only thinner than the stock piece, but also fans of BMW history will love that the smaller round airbag allows the steering wheel to look like the classic performance designs from the first 3-series and 5002 models.

And having a sporty feeling is key to the X4. The base motor is a twin-scroll turbo four-cylinder that produces a healthy 240. Upgrade to the X4 M40i, and that odd alphabet soup will add a six-cylinder turbo that yields nearly 50 percent more power.

The 355 hp motor in our test car allowed us to generate low-end turbo boost so that it was always the first one to the next stoplight. And while the X4 is taller than a sports car, the sports suspension and grippy road tires made sure there was no real body roll.

This kind of performance does come at a cost. The X4 starts at $46,545, which includes standard all-wheel drive. Upgrading to the M40i adds $2,250 more, and that’s before expensive goodies like the head-up display or 20-inch wheels are added.

In fact, a vehicle like the one seen here is more expensive than its X6 larger sibling. The loaded X4 is lighter and more powerful than any comparably-priced X6 out there, and it’s in this distinction that creates its real versatility.

The X4 is not as capable off-road as an SUV, cannot carry as much cargo as a wagon, and is not as speedy as a true sports car. But it carries a little hint of both. Thus, it can be the sports car for people who want a trendy crossover, and it can be the tall crossover for those who are forced to give up their sports car. And whether you’re a retiree or a club kid, you’ve probably got this one on your premium shopping list.
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CLUB NOTES

- The Naples Men’s Bridge members and guests meet for rubber bridge at 9:15 a.m. every Wednesday at Longshore Lake Country Club, 11099 Phoenix Way in Naples. For more information, call John Fieldhouse at (323) 697-7097 or email johnfieldhouse@comcast.net.

- The Naples Women’s Social Interclub Bridge group has been meeting on the first Thursday of each month November-March for more than 15 years and welcomes new clubs to join for the season that will begin next fall. Eleven clubs are currently represented, with 16 members each: Country/Pine Trace, Fort Myers, Carlisle, Highland Woods (two teams), Pelican Landing, Spanish Wells, Sterling Oaks, Stonebridge and Wyndemere.

- The group is for less serious players who enjoy Chicago bridge. Meeting at a different club each month, game day starts at 9 a.m. with coffee and Danish and includes eight rounds of four, breaking for lunch after five rounds. Dues are $20 per year. For more information, call Beverly Jaeger at (609) 408-0779.

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

- The Naples Peggers invite anyone who likes cribbage to play from 6:30-8:30 p.m. every Wednesday at East Naples Community Park, 3500 Thomasson Drive. The annual membership fee is $10. For more information, call Cathy Keebler at 774-1113 or email cathykeeler@gmail.com.

- Naples Ship Models is an informa- 
group dedicated to building wooden 
ship models. Members meet at 9:30 a.m. on the first and third Saturday of the month at the Landmark Naples commer-
cial in North Naples. The next meet-
ings are March 18 and April 8. Members should bring their works in progress and be prepared to share techniques and tips. All are welcome to enjoy lunch afterward at Fitzgerald’s. RSVP by calling Joe Geithmann at joearta@42@yahoo.com. For more information about the club, call Dick Ritchie at 594-0866 or email dcrichie@comcast.net.

- The Hungarian Club of South-
west Florida holds its last event of the season, “A Night in Budapest,” from 6-8 p.m. April 1 at the Bonita Springs Community Center, 1161 S. Collier Blvd. Enjoy live entertainment by the Hungarian Band and a buffet dinner. Reservations are required and can be made by calling Ted Hably at 291-0139.

- The Antique Automobile Club of America-Naples Marco Region mem-
bers meet at 7 p.m. on the third Monday of the month at First United Church of Naples, 388 First Ave. S. Visitors are always welcome. The next meeting is March 20. For general information, contact club President Paul Rhoads at 855-2228 or visit www.naplesmarcro.com.

- The Naples Women’s Club holds its seventh annual flea market and rum-
mage sale from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday March 25, at club headquarters at 370 Park St. in downtown Naples. Members promise bargains on a wide array of furniture, housewares, clothing and household items.

- The Wellesley Club of Naples invites alumnae to its annual 

- The Naples Aloha Club holds its regular luncheon Wednesday, March 29, at a local Naples restaurant. For reservations, call 257-1661.

- The Naples Press Club and Marine 
Veterans of Collier County host the 
annual Red Shoe Fashion Show & Lun-
cheon at noon Saturday, April 1, at the Naples Beach Hotel. Speaker will be Dr. John P. Cziesrz, a professor of environmental studies, will speak about “Why Good People Do Bad Environmental Things.” Reservations are required by Monday, March 20, and can be made by emailing Carol Goode at goode6@gmail.com.

- The Collier County alumnae chapter of Delta Sigma Theta sorority invites members and guests to its second annual Red Shoe Fashion Show & Lun-
cheon at noon Saturday, April 1, at the Naples Beach Hotel. Speaker will be Dr. John P. Cziesrz, a professor of environmental studies, will speak about “Why Good People Do Bad Environmental Things.” Reservations are required by Monday, March 20, and can be made by emailing Carol Goode at goode6@gmail.com.

- The Collier County Alumni association meets Wednesday mornings at the Naples Garden Club, 3311 Central Ave. in Naples. The next meeting is April 6. For more information, call 774-9762 or email naplescivitan@aol.com.

- The Naples branch of the English Speaking Union hold their annual meet-
ing at the La Playa Beach and Golf Resort, April 5, at Pelican Marsh Club. For more information, call Karen Lannan at 380- 2528 or email naplesvisitors@comcast.net or visit www.esu.org/Naples.

- The Naples Orchid Society wel-
comes members and guests to its meeting Thursday, April 6, at Moorings Presbyte-
rian Church. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for flower registration. Judging is at 7:10 p.m., followed by a short meeting at 7:35 p.m. and raffle. For more information, visit www.naplesorchidso-
ciety.org.

- Everyone who owns or adores Cor-
vettes is welcome to attend the Corv-
ettes of Naples meeting at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 6, at Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church in North Naples. For more information, visit www.corvettesofnaples.com.

- Solo Singles of Collier County was organized more than 25 years ago to create social events that offer opportunities for singles who are single, divorced or widowed. Members meet for dinner and activities from time to time. For information, call 340-5107. Meetings are held at the Shady Palm Pub, 210 Tamiami Trail N. For location or more information, call Carey Hughes at 627-0282 or email careyjh@aol.com.

- Eastern Airlines SWFL Silverlin-
ers, a philanthropic organization of for-
mer flight attendants, welcomes all for-
mer and present flight attendants from 
Eastern Airlines as well as other airlines to join the chapter. Lunch meetings start at noon on the second Saturday of each month. The next meeting is April 8. For reservations or more information, call Donna DeBrito-Williams at 495-0741 or email jfdills@comcast.net.

- The Genealogical Society of Col-
lier County celebrates its 83rd anniversary at its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 11, at Faith Lutheran Church, 4105 Golden Gate Parkway, Fort Myers. Author and webmaster Michele Bender will present “I Dig Relatives: A Lighthearted Look at Family History Research.” This dinner meeting is for members and their guests only. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. For reservations or information, call 468-2019. Dinner is $40 per person. Call at 455-2795 or visit www.thegsc.org.

- Email club news to Cindy Pierce at cipierce@floridaweekly.com.
GET OUT FOR A GOOD CAUSE

■ The 14th annual CarePSP Awareness and Memorial Walk to raise awareness of neurodegeneration and to support research and programs for progressive supranuclear palsy (PSP) and related prime-of-life brain diseases takes place from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, March 18, at Mackle Park on Marco Island. The route is less than 1 mile long and is wheelchair- and family-friendly. The spectrum of relatively rare PSP diseases often affects people during their most productive years and leads to debilitating symptoms and early death. PSP brain diseases affect more than 150,000 people in the U.S., alone.

Registration is $25 for adults, $10 for students and includes a T-shirt and lunch. For more information, call Cindy MacDonald at 255-8900.

■ Runners of every level are invited to participate in the Marco Island Half-Marathon and 5K-Walk/Run on Sunday, March 19, starting at the Shops of Marco. The route heads east on San Marco Road, passes over the Goodland Bridge and winds through Key Marco before returning to the starting point. The ninth annual half-marathon starts at 7:30 a.m.; the fifth annual marathon starts at 7:45 a.m. More than 700 people participated in last year’s events.

■ The Route Recovery Foundation holds its inaugural Stroke Victor Golf Scramble on Sunday, April 22, at Quail Village Golf Club. Registration starts at noon and the shotgun start is at 1 p.m. Registration is limited to 100 golfers and includes dinner and an awards ceremony. Sign up for $80 per golfer (dinner for non-golfers is $35). To register or for more information, call 994-2843 or email membership@QuailVillageGolfClub.org.

■ The Parkinson Association of Southwest Florida Inc. holds its “Augusta on the Gulf” golf tournament Monday, April 24, at Vineyards Country Club. Registration is $250. To sign up or for more information, call 467-3465 or email office@pafsfl.org.

■ The Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce hosts its annual golf tournament at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 29, at Estero Community Park on Vanderbilt Beach Rd. Registration is $10. To sign up or for information, call Lindsey Nesmith at lnesmith@napleschamber.org.
BUILD YOUR DREAMS

Over 20,000 Satisfied Clients
Here’s what our clients are saying...

“Love the Kitchen! Working with your organization was the easiest I ever dealt with. The workers were prompt, courteous and definitely knew exactly what to do. The tweaking of minor things at the end was accomplished in a timely manner. I couldn’t be happier. I will definitely be recommending Cornerstone to everyone!”
Carolyn F.

“Having lived with my newly remodeled kitchen for a few weeks, I wanted to inform you of my great satisfaction with everything your company has done. From my initial meeting with Jason through the completion of my job, I couldn’t be more pleased. My kitchen was transformed from a typical builder kitchen to a warm, inviting room that makes me smile when I walk in. All of your employees were very professional, friendly and great crafters.”
Peggy M.

“You folks have just finished a remodeling project for us at our condo. We would like to point out this is the third time we have used your services. During all three of these projects, Matt, the workers and staff were very nice and professional. Most the workmanship has been outstanding. We are extremely happy and raved about how beautiful the remodeling has been. We can definitely attest to your claim about the WOW factor!”
Becky & Scott G.

CONTACT ONE OF OUR DESIGN CENTERS TODAY!
For Your Free In-Home Consultation
We can complete almost anything you can imagine, and make your vision come to life. Think of Cornerstone as your one-stop shop for ALL of your remodeling needs!

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mile pathway will link six national and state parks, preserves, forests and wildlife refuges.

Almost the entire length of the busy highway is two-lane. Traffic is high speed and includes many trucks hauling wide boat trailers, especially on weekends. To date, only a few portions have paved shoulders considered safe for bicyclists/walkers/hikers (one of the best portions is the 10 miles between Port of the Islands and SR29 in Collier County).

The idea for ROGG was born out of a notion to provide public access to one of the most unique and well-studied landscapes in the world. Building on the allure of a long-distance hiking and biking experience for a variety of users, ROGG is envisioned to bring awareness to the Greater Everglades ecosystem, including ongoing ecological restoration in the region. Fishermen, photographers and birders will also embrace the ability to better enjoy the area and promote stewardship of its unique assets.

Pick your route and pace
The Everglades Bike Ride is not a race, organizers stress. Cyclists can pedal at their own comfortable pace and are encouraged to watch for wildlife and stop at places of interest along the way. In fact, registration includes admission to Smallwood’s Store Museum on the day of the ride.

All rides start and end at McLeod Park, where continental breakfast will be served starting at 7:30 a.m. and lunch from Triad Seafood Café complete with calamondin cake will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Volunteer guides will accompany groups of riders to point out sights along the way, and volunteers from the Naples nonprofit Bikes for Tykes will provide free bike repairs as needed. SAG support will be provided by Island Bike Shops, Big Momma’s Bicycles and Bikes for Tykes.

Setting out at 9 a.m., the 15-mile paved route winds through historic Everglades City and includes a stop at the Everglades National Park Gulf Coast Visitors Center before crossing the causeway to Chokoloskee Island — which arguably has the most colorful history and attitude within all of Collier County — before returning to the start point. The 27-mile “bumpy” ride (3½-inch tires recommended) includes a stretch through the cypress forest of Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park, famous for its orchids and bromeliads. This ride starts at 8:30 a.m.

Starting at 8 a.m., the 62-mile “smooth” route takes riders along 17 miles of U.S. 41 in Big Cypress National Preserve and also includes a stretch along CR29 to view the wilds of Fakahatchee on the way to Chokoloskee.

The 10th annual Everglades Bike Ride

- **What:** 15-, 27- and 62-mile routes
- **When:** Sunday morning, April 2
- **Where:** Start and finish in McLeod Park, Everglades City
- **Registration:** $40 for Friends of the River of Grass Greenway and members of the Naples Pathways Coalition; $45 for others
- **Sign up:** Visit www.evergladesrogg.org (click on “Events”) or call 695-2397.
- **Volunteer:** Helpers are welcome to assist with breakfast and lunch service and to accompany groups of riders. Call Patty Huff at the above phone number or email snookcity@gmail.com.

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News from the local Parkinson Association

The Parkinson Association of Southwest Florida Inc. welcomes neurologist Eric Ahlskog for a program at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 21, at Avow headquarters, 1095 Whippoorwill Lane in Naples. Dr. Ahlskog is on staff at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., and is the author of “The New Parkinson’s Disease Treatment Book.” Admission is free, but reservations are required.

PASFI is also taking part in the nationwide Tulip Tuesday to raise awareness of Parkinson’s disease. Anyone can order a bouquet of red tulips for $20 and pick them up at several locations around Naples on Tulip Tuesday, April 4. Delivery is an additional $5. Orders must be placed by noon Tuesday, March 28.

For reservations for Dr. Ahlskog’s presentation or to order a bouquet of tulips for Tulip Tuesday, call PASFI at 417-3465. For information about PASFI’s many support services and programs for Parkinson’s disease patients and their caregivers, visit www.pasfl.org.

Miracles Among Us Brain Fair coming up

The third annual Miracles Among Us Brain Fair takes place from 1-4 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at South Regional Library, 8065 Lely Cultural Parkway. The free event includes a “Brain Minders” puppet show provided by the Pilot Club of Naples, presentations about brain injury, bike helmet giveaways, children’s crafts and more. Miracles Among Us supports the more than 12,000 people living with brain injuries in Collier and Lee counties and their caregivers. For more information, call Suzan Berg at 529-5284, email info@miraclesamongus.org or visit www.MiraclesAmongUs.org.

Support group welcomes visually impaired

Lighthouse of Collier Center for Blindness and Vision Loss invites all who are blind or visually impaired to attend a support group from 10-11:30 a.m. every Wednesday at the center, 2685 Horseshoe Drive in Naples. Facilitator Rick Hart encourages attendees to share the challenges they face and the techniques they find helpful in managing those challenges. Attendees feel less isolated as they make connections with others who can relate to their situation. Friends and family members who care for a blind or visually impaired friend or loved one can also benefit from the group and are welcome to attend. For more information, call 430-3934 or visit www.LighthouseofCollier.org.
BRINGING WORLD-CLASS CANCER CARE TO COLLIER COUNTY

Florida Cancer Specialists has built a national reputation for excellence that is reflected in exceptional and compassionate patient care. Our team of highly trained and dedicated physicians, clinicians and staff is proud to care for you at our five Collier County locations.

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84% of new cancer drugs approved in 2016 for use in the U.S. were studied in clinical trials conducted with Florida Cancer Specialists participation.*

“My doctor is very kind and caring. He always makes time for me and answers my questions without rushing. The nurses and staff members are also wonderful! I love them all!”

– Doris Nogueira

*Prior to approval
Health care and hospitals always evolve

**SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY**

Scientists on the Jupiter campus of The Scripps Research Institute have designed two new drug candidates to target prostate and triple negative breast cancers.

The research, published recently as two separate studies in ACS Central Science and the Journal of the American Chemical Society, demonstrates that a new class of drugs called small molecule RNA inhibitors can successfully target and kill specific types of cancer.

This is like designing a scalpel to precisely seek out and destroy a cancer — but with a pill and without surgery,” said Professor Matthew Disney, senior author of both studies. RNA molecules that translate our genetic code into proteins. RNA defects can lead to cancers, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, myotonic dystrophy and many other diseases.

In their ACS Central Science study, Disney and his colleagues used DNA sequencing to evaluate thousands of small molecules as potential drug candidates. The researchers were on the lookout for molecules that could bind precisely with defective RNAs — like keys fitting in the right locks.

This strategy led them to a compound that targets the precursor molecule to an RNA called microRNA-18a. This RNA had caught the attention of scientists who found that mature microRNA-18a inhibits a protein that suppresses cancer. When microRNA-18a is overexpressed, cancer cells just keep growing.

Disney and his team tested their compound, called Targapremir-18a, and found that it could target microRNA-18a and trigger prostate cancer cell death.

“Since microRNA-18a is overexpressed in cancer cells and helps to maintain them as cancerous, application of Targapremir-18a to cancer cells causes them to kill themselves,” Disney said.

“Targapremir-18a to microRNA-18a means a cancer drug that follows this strategy would be likely to kill prostate cancer cells without causing the broad side effects seen with many other cancer therapies.”

And there may be even bigger implications. “We could apply the strategy used in this study to quickly identify and design small molecule drugs for other RNA-associated diseases,” explained Sai Velagapudi, a research associate in the Disney lab.

The same screening strategy led the researchers to a drug candidate to target triple negative breast cancer, as reported in the Journal of the American Chemical Society. Triple negative breast cancer is especially hard to treat because it lacks the receptors, such as the estrogen receptor, targeted with other cancer drugs. The Disney lab aimed to get around this problem by instead targeting an RNA called microRNA-210, which is overexpressed in solid breast cancer tumors.

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The researchers tested their drug compound, Targapremir-210, in mouse models of triple negative breast cancer. They found that the therapy significantly slowed down tumor growth. In fact, a single dose decreased tumor size by 60 percent over a three-week period.

The researchers analyzed these smaller tumors and discovered that they also expressed less microRNA-210 compared with untreated tumors. Targapremir-210 appears to work by reversing a circuit that tells cells to “survive at all costs” and become cancerous.

With microRNA-210 in check, cells regain their normal function and cancer cannot grow.

“We believe Targapremir-210 can provide a potentially more precise, targeted therapy that would not harm healthy cells,” said TSRI graduate student Mathew G. Costales.

Next, the researchers plan to further develop their molecule-screening strategy into a platform to test molecules against any form of RNA defect-related disease.
WEISS
From page 32
change, but it makes a huge difference for patient service, quality and safety, not to mention making for more satisfied and happier nurses.

Medication reconciliation, namely understanding what medicines a person is taking upon entering and leaving the hospital, is a huge challenge in our industry across America. Kim Thorp, our director of pharmacy, and Gina Teegarden, our associate chief nursing officer, and their colleagues are “on the case,” using everyone’s expertise, not merely brute force, to find a sustainable solution. While medication reconciliation is an ongoing journey, we have made significant progress.

Cleaning surgical instrument trays is a complex and critical process that one we serve live longer, happier and healthier lives.

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

Repurposing your fat for a more youthful face: Understanding Fat Grafting

Most of us spend ungodly hours exercising, eating right, and trying to ensure that any areas of unwanted fat are kept as small as possible. But did you know that one of the things that ages us fastest is the loss of fat from our face as we grow older? While using dermal fillers is one solution for restoring lost volume, there’s a 100% natural solution that has revolutionized the way many cosmetic surgery procedures are being performed, especially in regards to facelifts heat transfer) and fat grafting (also known as fat transfer).

UNDERSTANDING FAT GRAFTING

I’ve consulted many patients that are frustrated with loss of volume in their face. They have enjoyed a long life and have taken time to care for their bodies through exercise, only to lose weight in places that needs boosting! I’m happy to share that they can have effective restoration in the facial hollows with fat grafting.

The reason babies are so cute is because of their round, cherubic cheeks and the fullness in their faces. This remains throughout childhood and decreases with time. As we grow into adulthood, age, gravity, the environment, and the sun take a huge toll on our skin. Dramatic weight loss can also produce a gaunt or hollow look. Thankfully, we now have the ability to restore volume through fat grafting. What may sound a little daunting at first is really a very practical and natural-looking way to enhance plastic surgery.

FAT

Here’s how fat grafting typically works:

To boost facial hollows—most commonly the nasolabial folds (the folds from the corner of your mouth to your nose), the undereye areas, the cheeks, and the temples—we take living fat cells from other areas of your body (e.g., the abdomen, thighs, or back of arms) and inject them into your desired spots. As an injectable filler, your own fat is almost perfect. It’s soft and feels natural, offers a practical and natural alternative to synthetic fillers, and has less ongoing maintenance.

Downside is minimal. The whole process takes two to three hours and is performed under local anesthesia. I often perform this procedure in conjunction with a browlift, necklift, or lower facelift. Typical side effects include light bruising in the area, which will generally take a few days to resolve. Restoring lost volume in the face creates more youthful contours with long-lasting results, erasing years while using an entirely natural substance from your own body. Have a look at more fantastic results from some of our patients by clicking here.

If you’re troubled by sunken cheeks, hollow-looking eyes, and thinning around your temples, fat transfer is a great way to look rested and youthful and is a long-lasting alternative to dermal fillers.

I invite you to visit us in any of our three Florida locations for a consultation. Just fill out our convenient online form or give us a call at (239) 415-7574. Our team of talented, trained nurses, medical estheticians, and master injectors will take care of your every need.
PET TALES

Litter box woes

If your cat isn’t using the litter box, here’s how to dig deep to discover the solution

BY DR. MARTY BECKER, KIM CAMPBELL
THORNTON AND MIKKEL BECKER

Andrews McMeel

Cats come programmed to keep their living area clean. That’s one of the things that make them great house companions. When a cat chooses not to use the litter box, people feel betrayed. It’s no surprise that house-soiling — the technical term for peeing or pooping outside the box — is the No. 1 behavior problem reported in cats.

But cats don’t avoid the litter box out of spite, as owners often believe. One retrospective study — meaning the researchers went back and looked at past cases to figure out possible associations — found that 60 percent of cats who had issues with house soiling had a history of urinary tract disease. Not using the litter box can also be a sign of other health problems common in cats, including hyperthyroidism, diabetes mellitus and liver disease.

There are other reasons cats may avoid the litter box. A good “rule of paw” is stairs or otherwise trekking long distances to use that spot are to place his food and water dishes there or to cover the area with double-sided tape or aluminum foil.

Another important thing to try is the automatic litter box. This type of box will clean itself, and your cat may like it better. In multi-cat homes, separate litter boxes. Cats like privacy when they do their business.

Knowing your cat’s potty preferences ensures that you’ll both be happy with the elimination situation in your home. Try to figure out if your cat is having relationship issues with another cat or dog in the house, is unnerved by a new baby or person in the family, or is upset by some other change in his environment or schedule.

In multi-cat homes, separate litter boxes so that one cat doesn’t guard access to them. Providing multiple litter boxes is also important if you have an aging cat who may have trouble getting up or down stairs or otherwise trekking long distances to a litter box. A good “rule of paw” is one box per cat, plus one extra.

Make the litter box attractive to your cat. Scoop it once or twice a day so that waste doesn’t sit there and stink it up. At least once or twice a month, empty the box, wash it with warm water and unscented soap, and fill it with fresh litter.

Offer your cat some alternative types of litter. Line up some open litter boxes, one filled with your cat’s regular litter and the others with alternatives. You may be surprised to find that your cat has a distinct preference.

Fill the box with two to four inches of litter. Many cats like to have some depth for digging. Even with a deep bed of litter, you should still scoop it daily.

Place the box in a quiet area where your cat will experience few interusions. Cats like privacy when they do their business.

Try a different type of litter box. If you’re using a hooded litter box, try an uncovered one. An open litter box gives a cat a feeling of security because he can see people or other animals approaching. An uncovered litter box is also easier for you to scoop and clean.

Discourage your cat from using the areas he soiled. An enzymatic cleanser is the best choice for stamping out odor that could draw your cat back to the area. Other ways to make it unpleasant for him to use that spot are to place his food and water dishes there or to cover the area with double-sided tape or aluminum foil.

Remember that these techniques won’t help unless you also uncover and address any health or social problems your cat may have.

To adopt or foster a pet: Dogs and cats adopted from Humane Society Naples come with vaccinations, sterilization surgery, ID microchip and 30 days of health insurance. Visit the animals ready for adoption at the main shelter at 370 Airport-Pulling Road N, (11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday), or at the satellite adoption center at Coastland Center during mall hours. Call 643-1555 or visit www.HSNaples.org for more information.

Pets of the Week

>> Duke is a 9-year-old Labrador retriever mix who enjoys being around other dogs and is a well-mannered senior guy. His adoption fee is $45.

>> Lucy is a 2-year-old American bulldog mix who walks very well on a leash and loves attention from everyone. Her adoption fee is $75.

>> Piste is a 1-year-old dachshund who is all around adorable. Her adoption fee is $55.

>> Whiskers is a 5-year-old domestic shorthair who is all around adorable. Her adoption fee is $55.
THE DIVA DIARIES

March resolutions: It takes three months for the gyms to clear, right?

A New Year’s resolution counts if I start in March, right?

Resolutions never work for me on Jan. 1 — or anytime in January, really — because I’m too busy putting away sparkly decorations, cleaning the house and eating leftover treats from festive holiday soirees. Also, February isn’t convenient either, as there are far too many seasonal events to attend, plus it’s the month of both Valentine’s Day (chocolate) and Girl Scout Cookies (Thin Mints).

So, I’ve only recently achieved my 2017 resolution of joining a gym — in mid-March. I mean, at least, it’s still technically winter; for another few days at least.

I’m notoriously bad at gyms. My first challenge is that most people go to the gym at the crack of dawn and I don’t know about your bed, but MY bed somehow gets extra comfy as the day breaks — I mean, it really turns on the charm around 7 a.m. and just gets softer and more cuddly as the morning wears on. Therefore, mornings are not my thing. In addition to my affection for bed, there’s also my penchant for muumuus — and if there’s one thing you ought not to wear to the gym, it’s a muumuu.

I’m actually not worried about looking out of place in a sea of neon Spandex and razor-back sports bras, but I am concerned that my muumuu could get caught in the inner workings of the treadmill and result in strangulation or some other deadly accident. I understand that people sometimes get injuries in gyms when they over-extend themselves, but I don’t want my coroner’s report to read, “Death by Mummuu.”

Finally, there are the gym people — and I’m not one of them. I have no idea how to count my protein grams verses my carbohydrate intake vs. my cardio output multiplied by how many ounces of water I drink.

I realize there are apps for all that, but I’d rather use my phone to play Pokémon, not try to figure out how much time I need to spend doing squats to burn off the calories in one sleeve of Thin Mints — because, admit it, who eats just one Thin Mint without devouring the whole sleeve?

Luckily, there’s a gym in my neighborhood that, while it won’t permit me showing up in a flowy muumuu, can help me with all my other challenges. It’s a trainer-based gym — which means that you have to work with a personal trainer — and if there’s one thing I’m good at, it’s keeping dates. The concept is that if you know you have to keep the appointment, you’ll show up. Also, I’m a 3 in the afternoon kind of gal and the gym is OK with that — 3 p.m. gives me a chance to sleep in, catch up on email, feed the cats and try to find something chic to sweat in that won’t get caught in any fancy fitness equipment.

And bonus — if I start working out at 3, I’ll be done just in time for Happy Hour.

Here’s hoping my trainer can help me calculate how many lunges it takes to work off a double margarita.

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

stephanieDAVIS
sdavis@floridaweekly.com
OPEN HOUSE!

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BECOME A VOLUNTEER, CALL 343-5055
FROM THE TOP

Have you met Kathy Bigham of Bigham Jewelers?

BY DON MANLEY
Florida Weekly Correspondent

For proof of the profound impact teachers can have on their students, look no further than Kathy Bigham, president and CEO of Bigham Jewelers. It was her seventh grade choir instructor and basketball coach in suburban Cleveland who chose fashion accessories sparked an interest in Ms. Bigham that led to her career choice.

“I had a teacher who wore the most magnificent jewelry, which began my interest in jewelry,” says Ms. Bigham, who founded her business in 1995 after moving to Naples from Ohio.

From its start in a 2,800-square-foot, strip mall storefront, Bigham Jewelers has grown to the point that it now occupies an 8,000-square-foot, diamond-shaped, stand-alone building dubbed the Bigham Galleria on U.S. 41. Shortly after its 2005 opening, InStore Magazine selected it as the “Coolest Jewelry Store in America” for being a “luxurious, but ultra-cool store where customer service has never felt — or looked — so good.”

Combining her passion for jewelry and a burning desire to have her own independent family business became a goal during Ms. Bigham’s youth. It’s a decision she hasn’t regretted.

“I love jewelry,” she says. “I wanted to be able to wear and share it, and I wanted to be able to get into a business that I was passionate about. I wanted to be able to get up in the morning and say, ‘Wow, I get to do this every day,’ and to share in people’s special occasions all year long.”

Entrepreneurship appealed to her for several reasons.

SEE BIGHAM, B5

Self-employed?

Why getting a mortgage can be tough

BY NANCY THEORET
Florida Weekly Correspondent

Sure, it’s great being your own boss. No employees to oversee or pay and no dress code. You set your own hours and don’t have to deal with prickly clients if you don’t want to. Everything seems fine and dandy, all hunky and dory, right?

Then you try to qualify for a home loan. Denied.

For the growing legions of the self-employed, the same federal law enacted to protect the public and the economy from another housing crisis and economic meltdown is preventing many sole-employee business owners from qualifying for a conventional loan. Denied.

Some business owners have a profitable business and cash flow but on paper run at a loss for tax purposes,

— Greg McBride, the Palm Beach Gardens-based chief financial analyst for Bankrate.com

SEE LOAN, B6

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FGCU Leadership Academy part of 20th anniversary celebration

As Florida Gulf Coast University celebrates its 20th anniversary, the FGCU Alumni Association invites the community to explore the school’s two decades of growth and progress at the inaugural FGCU Leadership Academy.

Fashioned after similar programs sponsored by business and civic organizations to introduce participants to the inner workings of their communities, the academy will meet monthly for six months, starting in April. Participants will be introduced to the newest facilities and programs offered at FGCU — along with the administrators and faculty who manage them, and alumni who have benefited from The FGCU Effect.

The program will not only provide leadership training from FGCU staff and alumni but will also provide “an inside look at our ever-evolving campus and its surrounding properties in a special way,” says Kimberly Wallace, director of alumni relations. “For instance, we’ll visit the waterfront Vester Marine Field Station in Bonita Springs and the new Emergent Technologies Institute a few miles northeast of campus — both sites of cutting-edge educational research,” Ms. Wallace says.

On-campus tours will take participants behind the scenes at Alico Arena and FGCU’s growing athletics facilities and the state-of-the-art laboratories for tomorrow’s health-care professionals in Marieb Hall.

“Best of all, the deans of FGCU’s colleges, faculty members and alumni representing each university program will be there to share industry trends and offer information and other practical tools that you can apply to your own business or profession,” Ms. Wallace adds. Sessions will meet from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on the third Friday of the month.

Besides visits to the Vester station in April, Alico Arena in May, Marieb Hall in June and the ETI in July, the Leadership Academy will venture inside FGCU’s business hub, Lutgert Hall, in August, and conclude with a graduation celebration in September.

The FGCU Alumni Association Leadership Academy is limited to 15 participants. Applications are due by March 24. Tuition is $350 ($250 for FGCU alumni).

To register or for more information, visit www.alumni.fgcu.edu, click on the “Engage” tab at the top of the home page and follow the drop menu to ‘Leadership Academy.”
A number of people have asked me about my opinion of Snap Inc.’s IPO. For those not following financial markets, the parent company of Snapchat went public on March 2 with a very strong demand for the new stock. Because of this, the stock was priced above its expected price of $14 to $16, at $27 per share. SNAP opened at around $24 and by Friday it was trading above $27. So at this price, is this a good stock to buy? To answer this question, I think it would help to examine what makes a stock price move. Ask a typical investor and her answer would probably be good news or bad news. If a company reports something positive like good earnings, the stock should move higher. And if it has a negative announcement like poor revenues, the stock should fall. Actually, this is incorrect. Good news and bad news does not move stock prices. Unexpected news moves stock prices. For example, if a company was expected to post $50 million in losses in a quarter but it actually lost $9 million, that is still bad news. But the stock price actually may go up because the loss was better than expected — it was actually unexpected good news.

So far Snapchat is a one-trick pony, so be cautious before investing. A number of people have asked me about my opinion of Snap Inc.’s IPO. For those not following financial markets, the parent company of Snapchat went public on March 2 with a very strong demand for the new stock. Because of this, the stock was priced above its expected price of $14 to $16, at $27 per share. SNAP opened at around $24 and by Friday it was trading above $27. So at this price, is this a good stock to buy? To answer this question, I think it would help to examine what makes a stock price move. Ask a typical investor and her answer would probably be good news or bad news. If a company reports something positive like good earnings, the stock should move higher. And if it has a negative announcement like poor revenues, the stock should fall. Actually, this is incorrect. Good news and bad news does not move stock prices. Unexpected news moves stock prices. For example, if a company was expected to post $50 million in losses in a quarter but it actually lost $9 million, that is still bad news. But the stock price actually may go up because the loss was better than expected — it was actually unexpected good news.

So why is it worth so much? Because investors are already pricing good news into the stock. Company sales grew over 600 percent between 2015 and 2016. In order to justify its current valuation, the company must continue to grow at this kind of eye-popping rate. Skeptics point out that slow user growth, saturation in the U.S. markets, higher expenses and increased competition from Facebook make this unlikely going forward. Snapchat supporters point to the wildly successful Facebook IPO as an example of a highly valued stock that rewarded investors. And it is true that when Facebook debuted as a public company at a frothy 24 times sales, many analysts said that the company was completely overvalued. But those analysts were proved wrong when the company went on to rise from its offering price of $38 to over $130 today. But what people may have forgotten was that Facebook not only rewarded investors with good results over the past few years but unexpectedly good financials. When the stock went public in 2012, the company had a significant user base just like Snapchat. But many investors were worried because users were using Facebook on their home computers but mobile computing was taking off. They didn't believe that Facebook would be able to get advertisers to pay big money to advertise on tiny smart phone screens. These skeptics were clearly wrong and Facebook was able to monetize all of the new tablet and smart phone users. That is why the stock price has grown so quickly over the past couple of years — the unexpected success of its mobile advertising.

So the question now for SNAP is what unexpected positive catalysts are there for the company. If the company just grows as it is expected to, I would argue that it probably is not a wonderful investment as the stock is fully valued today and probably won’t move much higher. And any revenue/user slowdowns, insider selling, or other negative surprises could destroy the stock as seen with a similar company, Twitter. So the only way the company, in my opinion, is a good investment at this time is if the company can do something that the market is not anticipating. So far, the company has been a one-trick pony, so I don’t see that creativity in the near future. Therefore, before investing in this new stock, I would first wait until the lockout period ends and insiders can begin to sell their stock. This should put near term pressure on the stock. And second, I would wait until the company demonstrates it can do something not currently anticipated by the market. Yes, you may miss the bottom of the stock run, but I think the risks just don’t justify the rewards here right now.

— 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.

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**Interview with Kathy Bigham**

**Business mentors:** A first and lifelong mentor was my uncle, Bill Wirtz. An entrepreneur in my Cleveland hometown, he established a respected and highly successful financial services firm, starting from scratch.

Locally, my favorite mentor is the amazing Myra Janco Daniels, whose wisdom and grounded advice continue to inspire me.

**First job:** When I was 10 years old, I got a paper route.

**Business words of wisdom:** One of my favorite quotes is by Yoda, the Jedi master in "Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back." He says simply: "Do. Or do not. There is no try." This quote inspired my business motto: "Make it happen."

**Favorite business book:** Malcolm Gladwell's "Outliers," for its insights on what it takes to reach high achievement levels in different fields.

**Things you look for when hiring:** I look for three qualities in a candidate: That s/he can do the job, WANTS to do the job and WILL do the job. I need all three; if one is doubtful, it's a no-go.

**Any job openings now?:** Because we are growing steadily, we are always looking for that additional "right" candidate. When s/he appears, we will create the position.

**Last time you had to fire someone — and reasons:** Truthfulness is a must-have in our company. Last summer, I had to separate a new employee who had misrepresented himself.
votional home loan. It’s especially dif-
ficult for baby boomers, small business owners and those old and those showing little or no profit come tax time.

Some business owners have a prof-
itable business and cash flow but on paper run at a loss for tax purposes,” said Greg McBride, the Palm Beach Gardens-based chief financial analyst for bankrate.com. “It’s nearly impossible for real estate investors at various points there are other income streams or the business owner still has a day job.”

The 2012 Dodd-Frank Act, which overhauled the nation’s financial regula-
tory system and is slated for likely termination under the Trump Adminis-
tration, has made the mortgage approval process for small business own-
cants can no longer show check stubs or bank statements as proof of income. Still fresh off the Great Recession and robosigning, traditional lending institutions are aware of their business and personal tax returns more closely. Line 37, the adjusted gross income on the 1040, is the line lenders look at most closely and typically disqualifies those in business for themselves from low-interest con-
ventional loans, VA, USDA and FHA mortgages.

“CPAs can be very creative in claim-
ing deductions for small business own-
ers,” said John Salter, a relationship manager at PNC Bank in Boynton Beach. “But if you go down as much as possible, which is great for tax time but a challenge when these business owners try to get a mortgage.”

Most Americans are their own bosses. Some 15 million workers, according to the Bureau of Labor Sta-

tistics, have stepped out of corporate America and are working for them-
selves. Between 2012 and 2013, Florida led the nation with 60,000 individuals joining the ranks of the self-employed. Census data, which will be updated in May, shows some 620,000 individuals are employed for two years, including self-employed individuals for the majority of all U.S. busi-
nesses.

Banks, ironically, are among the self-employed who often don’t qualify for a mortgage. So, too, are attorneys, entrepreneurs and the growing ranks of freelance and contract workers. It’s also difficult for these solo professionals just getting started in their careers.

Florida has over 1.8 million self-
employed workers, with professional services and creative jobs in real estate and rentals — accounting for the largest number of small businesses — also leads the coun-
try with the most mortgage failures, according to Nerd-
Wallet, a personal finance site and comparison platform which allows users to compare products at various banks and insurance companies. Nearly one in five mortgage applications — 17.1 percent — is declined during its inaugural Home Buyer Reality Report.

Angie Fritz Nicholas, broker associate for The Nichols Team at Jones & Co. Realty in Fort Myers, encounters self-
employed workers “all the time,” she said. “They lend out others who can get it done if the buyer has been self-
employed for two years or more and have a strong credit score, coming to the table with ample financial documentation will make it easier.”

It takes time

For those who can’t show enough income, rectifying the situation isn’t going to happen overnight. In most cases, banks will ask for two years of tax returns. Tim Manni, a mortgage expert at NerdWallet, suggests business own-
ers reduce their deductions and start taking a salary, which means paying more taxes.

“It’s definitely possible to target a con-
temporary loan, but it’s going to take time and research longer than a traditional salary position,” he said. “You might have to write off less in those two years. Mortgage companies are going to look at line 7 to 22 on the 1040 and 23 to 37 for adjusted gross income. Debt levels are another thing.”

The bottom line, said Virginia Prast, vice president of mortgage operations for Achieva Credit Union, is how much of a financial risk the potential bor-
rrower poses.

At the end of the day it’s about qualifying someone for something they can definitely afford,” she said. “They have to have the ability to repay. There are regulations on lending that weren’t there before and we have to show we’re making good business decisions.”

As a member-owned institution, Ms. Prast said the 80-year-old Pinellas Park-

based credit union with offices through-
out Southwest Florida, has more flex-
ibility than a traditional bank. “There’s a common-sense approach,” she said. “Members feel we are looking at their particular situation and not just fit into a box. We can look beyond the bottom line and the current profit and loss, but it does have to make sense.”

Ms. Prast and other experts also advise self-employed business owners to separate business and personal expenses.

Pay the price

There is another option for the self-
employed who want to buy a home soon rather than later. Google “self-
employed home loans” and more than 16 million results pop up, including short-term responses and advertisements guaranteeing approval.

One of the top, Home 1st Lending, rings right to Ruth Macellari, who runs the Naples branch. She’s worked with attorneys, Realtors and law-and-care-
companies’ local owners and statewide. Depending on the dreaded line 37 on their tax return, she can qualify them for a conventional loan.

Home 1st offers a portfolio of mortgage products, including a non-distra-
mination loan that forgives the tax return for 24 months of personal or business tax statements. But there are downsides, including a one-time closing cost based on credit score and down payment amount — and a one-time 2.75-percent fee due at closing on a conventional loan, private mortgage insurance isn’t a requirement for anyone putting less than 20 percent down.

“I do seven to eight of these a month,” said Ms. Macellari. “Only a few lenders do this.”

It’s a matter of weighing the cost ben-
efits — pay higher interest or additional business taxes.

For example, monthly mortgage pay-
ments with a 20 percent down payment on a $250,000 loan at today’s 3.75 per-
cent rate will cost rates at close to 4.094 with no PMI. Expect to pay about $1,200 a month for a 6 percent home loan that comes with it.

“It is more but you’re getting a loan,” Ms. Macellari said. “You can always refi-
dumnent at any time.”

Nominations open for Distinguished
Entrepreneur awards

The Florida Small Business Development Center at Florida Gulf Coast University is accepting nomi-
nations for the 2017 Distinguished Entrepreneur of Southwest Florida awards. Awards for Distinguished Entrepreneur, Distinguished Small Business Advocate and Distingui-
she is the deadline for applying. Find out more and apply at www.fsbdcwfl.org.

Markham Norton Mosteller Wyatt & Calvani, P.A. is the title sponsor of the awards; additional sponsorship opportunities are available. Tickets to the awards ceremo-
ny are $75.

The Florida Small Business Devel-

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counseling and low-cost workshops for small business owners. The center is a member of a nationwide NOC network that is funded in part through a coopera-
tive agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration.

For more information, call Aman-
da Stirm at 745-3706 or email astirm@ fgcu.edu.
My Dumbest Investment
Bat Guano Crazy

My dumbest investment is a weird one. In the late 1960s, a mining company aimed to profit from a cave in the Grand Canyon filled with bat droppings, a fabulous treasure of fertilizer. It built a cable system across the canyon to extract the stuff and bring it to a processing plant, where it was packaged for distribution and sale. The company experienced many mishaps and problems, though, and didn't make me rich.

— P., online

The Fool Responds: It's certainly an interesting story! It turns out that the U.S. Guano Company aimed to profit from a cave, which was estimated to contain 100,000 to 200,000 tons of bat guano. It was very costly to build a tramway over a mile long, and the cable reportedly broke several times. Even worse, the cave apparently held much less guano than expected. One report said the company had spent $3.5 million to salvage 1,000 tons of guano, which sold for 60 cents a pound. (That amounts to about $1.4 million in revenue.)

An odd silver lining in this cloud of a story is that a U.S. Air Force aircraft accidentally flew by and severed the cable, enabling the company, reportedly, to sue the Air Force and recoup some costs. A lesson here is to consider all potential maintenance issues, both of people and systems.

For practical retirement guidance and more, try our “Rule Your Retirement” newsletter for free at fool.com/shop/newsletters.

Last week’s trivia answer

I trace my roots back to 1928, when two cousins named Ed made a folding wood-slat reclining chair for porch use. A year later they upholstered it for indoor use and gave it a name that some might find insulting. Chair production temporarily gave way to airplane-part production during World War II. In the decades after the war, otomakers, rockers, built-in footstools and electric controls were introduced. By the 90s, my chairs offered heating and massages. Today, based in Michigan, I employ more than 6,000 people and sport a market value near $4 billion. Who am I? (Answer: La-Z-Boy)

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

The Motley Fool Take

General Electric’s Bright Future

Not all that long ago, General Electric (NYSE: GE) was a mega-conglomerate with its hands in a wide variety of businesses. Not anymore. GE has since sold or spun off a number of businesses (such as its financial units and NBC) and has returned to its industrial roots — but with a twist. Instead of just being a traditional manufacturer, GE is becoming a “digital industrial company,” combining its software and manufacturing expertise to create next-generation products.

Those offerings include gas turbines, jet engines, light bulbs, locomotives and other industrial products that connect to the internet. When combined with a subscription to GE’s Predic software, these new products will be able to run more efficiently and communicate potential maintenance issues, both of which can greatly lower operating costs. That should allow GE to steadily steal market share and substantially grow revenue in its high-margin software division. If this works out as planned, GE’s bottom line looks well positioned for growth in the years ahead.

Market watchers believe that GE’s bottom line will grow by more than 12 percent annually over the next five years. That’s fast for a company recently trading at a forward-looking price-to-earnings (P/E) ratio in the teens. Throw in a dividend that recently yielded 3.2 percent, and GE looks like a stock patient investors can learn to love. (The Motley Fool owns shares of General Electric.)
BUSINESS MEETINGS

- The Leadership Collier Foundation Alumni Association holds its next Leadership Lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, March 28, at the Hilton Naples. 5111 Tamiami Trail N. Guest speaker Maria Jimenez-Lara, CEO of the Naples Children & Education Foundation, will discuss the making of The Naples Winter Children & Education Foundation, will discuss “The FGCU Effect.” Sign up at www.napleschamber.org/events.

- The Collier County Medical Society holds its general membership meeting Thursday, March 30, at Artis. The annual meeting and 60th anniversary celebration will be held Saturday evening, May 13, at Quail Creek Country Club. For more information, email info@ccmsonline.org or visit www.ccmsonline.org.

- Wake Up YP for young professionals takes place Monday, April 3, at DiBiondo’s Gourmet Market and Pharmacy. Patients in the inpatient/ambulatory care program at www.bonitaspringschamber.com/events or call 992-2943 for more information.

- The Colmar Island Chamber of Commerce holds its annual business expo from 4-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 5, at Marco Island Charter Middle School. Call 294-3061 or visit www.marcolislandchamber.org for more information.

- The next roundtable for members of the CBIA and city of Naples Building Office takes place from 8-10:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 5, at CBIA headquarters, 5200 Bailey Lane. Sign up by calling 456-8000 or emailing nancy@cbia.net.

- The Above Board Chamber meets from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, April 10, at the Hilton Naples for lunch and a program about “What’s In Your Marketing Toolbox?” Meeting sponsors are State Insurance and Glenview at Pelican Bay. $20 for members, $30 for guests. Register at www.aboveboardchamber.com/events. For more information, call Jeanne Sweeney at 980-7436 or email Jeanne@aboveboardchamber.com.

- Wake Up Naples for members and guests of The Naples Chamber of Commerce takes place from 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 12, at the Hilton Naples. FGCU President Wilson Bradshaw will discuss “The FGCU Effect.” Sign up at www.napleschamber.org/events.

- A reception for new members of the Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce takes place from 8-10:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 13, at chamber headquarters, 2501 Chamber of Commerce Drive. Call 277-7582 or visit www.bonitaspringschamber.com/events or call 992-2943 for more information.

- The East Naples Merchants Association holds its next meeting and working event from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 13, at LIEFStrength Health Center, 4280 Tamiami Trail E. $80 for members, $20 for others. RSVP required. Email info@eastnaplesmerchantsasso.com.

- Business After Five for members and guests of the Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce takes place from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, April 13, at GameTime Mega Arcade, 10037 Gulf Center Drive. Sign up at www.bonitaspringschamber.com/events or call 992-2943 for more information.

- Business After Five for members and guests of the Marco Island Area Chamber of Commerce takes place from 5-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 10, at the Marco Island Yacht Club. Call 294-3061 or visit www.marcoislandchamber.org for more information.

- Collier County Public Schools holds a Building and Trades Career Fair from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, April 27, at Collier County Fair and Exposition Inc., 793 39th Ave. N.E. Construction and carpentry students from Lely, Immokalee and Palmetto Ridge high schools will learn about job opportunities by visiting booths set up by local builders and construction trades businesses. For information about reserving a booth, call 486-6800 or email nancy@cbia.net.

- The Leadership Collier Class of 2017 celebrates its graduation Thursday evening, April 27, at Artis—Naples. For more information, visit www.napleschamber.org/events.

- The Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce hosts its annual dinner Thursday, May 11, at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort. For more information, visit www.greaternaples.org.

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

■ Email business meeting announcements to currence@floridaweekly.com.

The Office of Continuing Education & Off-Campus Programs at Florida Gulf Coast University hosts a professional development series, “Creating Your Mobile App and Generating Sales on Mobile,” at the Cohen Center on the FGCU campus. Sessions meet from 5:45-8:45 p.m. Tuesdays, April 4-25.

Participants will learn the fundamentals of building mobile marketing and advertising campaigns; get a step-by-step blueprint to design, build, market and distribute a mobile app; create marketing, distribution and monetization plans for the app; and learn how to use mobile apps for a competitive advantage. The program includes a private Facebook group for support and networking.

Instructor Eva Zacks is a digital marketing strategist, tech entrepreneur, executive level leader, trainer and business consultant who has more than 20 years of experience in the areas of digital marketing, e-commerce, management, IT and content marketing at Fortune 500 organizations and startups.

For registration details and more information, call 452-3270 or email continued@fgcu.edu.

Leadership Collier applications being accepted for Class of 2018

The Leadership Collier Foundation is accepting applications for the class of 2018 Leadership Collier program. Formed by the Greater Naples Chamber of commerce in 1988, the program is designed to develop a network of informed citizens prepared to assume leadership roles in the community.

The 2018 program runs from September through March. Participants will participate in a full-day retreat and including 10 full-day sessions taking place on Thursdays and focuses on various aspects of the Collier County community, from health and human services to government, law enforcement, agriculture and the arts.

Applicants should be senior executives, presidents and vice presidents, executive directors, business owners and high-level directors and managers representing all industries and business types in the region.

Tuition is $2,200. A limited number of need-based scholarships are available. Applications are due by 5 p.m. Friday, March 23. The two-part application is available to download at www.napleschamber.org/chamber/leadership_programs.aspx. For more information, contact Amanda Bheights at leadership@floridaweekly.com.
Insurance products sold, offered, or recommended are not a deposit, not FDIC insured, not insured by any federal government agency, not guaranteed by a bank, and may go down in value.

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NETWORKING
The Above Board Chamber at the Hilton Naples

1. Florice Hodges and Amber Schaffer
2. Denise Murphy and Kevin Elwell
3. Jeanne Sweeney and Wotts Mercy
4. Pat Kazor and Glenda Inniss
5. Dianne Reed and Jane Guyton

6. Bob Harden and Heidi Wilson
7. Kimberly Anderson and Ambrosia Nicole
8. Tracy Monique and Denise Murphy
9. Ashley Porarro and John Huttner

After hours with Bonita chamber members at The Café at Bonita Beach

1. Arthur Nazar and Claudine Milz
2. Steven Lohan and Joseph Daigle
3. Crystal Wimpeng, Chelsea Garlock and Kellie Nolan
4. Jean-Claudel Saint-Preux and Suzanne McGuinn
5. Susie Sugerman, Patricia Mushacke and Nancy Schranck

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

Seniors BlueBook annual symposium at Vi at Bentley Village

1. Jennifer Hoops, Jodi Hansen and Peggy Davis
2. Kristi Lykes, Maureen Grawe and Justine Andolo
3. George Losbo, Lisa Armstrong and Rosemarie Losbo
4. Nelson Jones and Jeff Blyskal
5. Mary Hughes and Brittany Turner
6. Amanda Barton and Samantha Hersh
7. Crystal Townsend and Tasia Felix
8. Irene King and Krasandra Panting
9. Renee Smith-Gonzalez, Stephanie Webley, Jeff Collins and Lily Casarone
10. Hayward Boyce and Ann Boyce

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ESTUARY AT GREY OAKS
NAPLES
- Timidus, 8 BR, 8 Full BA, 2 Powder BA
- Golf Course, Preserve w/Sunset Skies
$6,650,000 MLS 216003009
The Tarascon Team 239.572.3078

ROYAL HARBOR
NAPLES
- 95 Waterfront Views
- Exceptional Interior Detailing
$3,199,000 MLS 216067984
Pam Olsen 239.466.6873

DIRECT WATER ACCESS
NAPLES
- “A” Rated Schools
- Quiet Wooded Lot w/Park Next Door
- Updated, Single Family Pool Home
- Prestigious Downtown Location, Quiet Street

PARK SHORE
NAPLES
- Exceptional Interior Detailing
- 3 BR, 2 BA, Screened-In Lanai
- Beautiful Long Lake Views
- Over an Acre Corner Lot
- Build Your Dream Home
- 4 BR + Den, 3.5 BA
- 3rd Floor, 2 BR, 2 BA Condo
- Over 3 BR + Den, 2.5 BA, 3 Car Garage
- Open Bay View, No Bridges
- 4 BR + Den, 3.5 BA

FOUR SEASONS
NAPLES
- Open 3/19 1:00PM - 4:00PM
- 6461 MARBELLA LN, NAPLES
- 5 Bedrooms + Den, 5 Bathrooms
- Private Yard w/Salt Water Pool
- New CGI Impact Windows, Guest Parking
- Less Than a Mile to Private Beach
- Low HOA’s, Includes Cable
- Close Proximity to Clubhouse

GOLDEN SHORES
NAPLES
- Open 3/19 10:00AM - 4:00PM
- 7209 ACORN WAY, NAPLES
- 3 BR + Den, 2.5 BA, 3 Car Garage
- Upgraded Kitchen/Breakfast Bar
- New Price

SHADOW WOOD AT THE BROOKS
NAPLES
- Speculative Wide South Lake Views
- Black Bear Ridge

SHADOW WOOD AT THE BROOKS
NAPLES
- Speculative Wide South Lake Views
- All New Kitchen Appliances
- Gary Ryan 239.273.6796
- Open 3/19 10:00AM - 4:00PM
- 9286 SPANISH MISTS WAY, BONITA
- 3 BR + Den, 3 BA, Pool Home
- Beautiful Golf Course & Preserve Views
- New Price

THE ORCHARDS
NAPLES
- The Orchard 327.76.8123
- Over 3 BR, 2 BA, Tile Flooring Throughout
- Overlooked Pool, Screened Lanai, Low Fees
- $439,000 MLS 217003103
- New Price

MARBELLA LAKES
NAPLES
- New Price
- 3 BR + Den, 2 BA, 2 Car Garage
- Natural Gas Community
- Beautiful Long Lake Views
- New Price

VILLA PALMERAS
NAPLES
- "A" Rated Schools
- Fantastic Locations
- New Price
- 2 BR + Den, 2 BA, 2-Car Garage
- Natural Gas Community
- Beautiful Long Lake Views
- New Price

MARKER LAKE VILLAS
NAPLES
- Open 3/19 1:00PM - 4:00PM
- 3190 STACEY CIR, NAPLES
- Beautiful Long Lake Views
- New Price

MOORINGS WATERFRONT
NAPLES
- Open 3/19 1:00PM - 4:00PM
- 744 WIDGE DR, NAPLES
- Less Than a Mile to Private Beach
- New CGI Impact Windows, Guest Parking
- New Price

DOWNTOWN MAIN ST. CIRCLE
EVERGLADES CITY
- Gateway to the 10,000 Islands
- Building & Land Suitable for Restaurant
- New Price

LAKES CLUB AT SPANISH WELLS
- New Price
- 3 BR, 2 BA, Tile Flooring Throughout
- Overlooked Pool, Screened Lanai, Low Fees
- $439,000 MLS 216003376
- New Price
This custom estate residence by Harmonick Homes in the Ravello community at Mediterra is surrounded by lush landscaping and on an oversized lot of 1.3 acres for extra privacy. There are five bedrooms, an office, five full baths and two half-baths in 10,746 square feet of air-conditioned living space. Including the outdoor area and seven-car garage, the home has a total of 16,000 square feet.

Hand-painted Italian frescos in the two-story grand salon ceiling, stone walls, two Juliet balconies, imported crystal chandeliers and an 8-foot antique carved fireplace with European marble mantel create an elegant, Old World ambiance. The expansive lanai is the perfect spot for entertaining guests and is complete with summer kitchen, lounging area and stone fireplace. The free-form pool is heated, and the spa has five spillover sections.

This dream property is offered fully furnished. David William Auston of Amerivest Realty has the listing for $8,750,000. To arrange a showing, call 239-5433, email david@DWAnaples.com or visit www.DWAnaples.com.

Naples-based Surety Construction Company has been awarded a $50 million contract by Genova Partners, LLC to build 201 luxury condominiums in six four-story buildings at Genova at Coconut Point in Estero. Genova is the first residential community approved by the Estero Village Council within the area newly designated the Village Center.

Terry Kelly, president/partner of the general contracting firm, says construction of the first building is ready to begin. With three stories over parking, the six buildings will have 28-36 residences each for a total of 201 residences. Each residence will come with a two-car garage. Floor plans range from 1,324 to 2,206 air-conditioned square feet. Prices will be from the $280,000s to the $570,000s.

Royal Shell Real Estate announces the following top producers for February:

**Naples Parkshore office** – The Roboci Team, top listings producer team; Michael May, top listings producer individual; The Boeglin Team, top sales producer team; Linda Ramsey, top sales producer individual.

**Naples Fifth Avenue office** – The Taranto Team, top listings producer team and top sales producer team; Roger Stening, top listings producer individual; Liz Appling, top sales producer individual.

**Bonita Springs office** – The Lummis Team, top listings producer team; The Fagan Team, top sales producer team; Deb Adams-Bateman top listings producer individual and top sales producer individual.

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Additional information on properties includes:

- **Il Corsini at Mediterra**
  - 7,857 SQ FT | $5,950,000

- **Positano at Mediterra**
  - 4,233 SQ FT | $2,299,000

- **Bellezza at Mediterra**
  - 3,836 SQ FT | $2,095,000

- **Bayshores at Vanderbilt Beach**
  - 1,315 SQ FT | $1,149,000

For more information, visit [www.DWAnaples.com](http://www.DWAnaples.com).
REAL ESTATE NETWORKING

Naples Reserve welcomes crowd for CBIA Single-Site Parade of Homes

1. The Naples Reserve welcome center
2. Cliff Canover, Lisa Canover, Jerry Tubbs, Margie Tubbs, Diane Yost and Tom Yost
3. Jim Shaffer, Mary Wiggins, Marybeth Serinsky-Gill and Linda Gangari
4. Jayne Makowski, Sue Martin, an event entertainer and Cindy Carlson
5. Bob Lundstrom, Chris Boland and Andrea Lundstrom
6. Wendy Pacelli, Robert Pacelli, Jeff Baker and Diane Baker
7. Mitch Brown, Pete Emery, Don Mears and Craig Wilbrett
8. Kathy Caputi and Brian Caputi
9. Pete Peterson and Maureen Gobbi
10. The Stock Signature Homes Venice model with a display by event partner Paws & Prints Pet Photography
11. Wendy Pacelli, Robert Pacelli, Jeff Baker and Diane Baker at the Capri model by Ashton Woods

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

Sanibel-Captiva office – The McMurray & Nette Team, top listings producer team and top sales producer individual; Tracy Walters, top listings producer individual; The Yergens, Miller & Welsh Team, top sales producer team; and Lori Jackson, top sales producer individual.

Fort Myers office – The Ricca/Mulinello Team, top listings producer team; Maureen Ahmed, top listings producer individual; The Yergens, Miller & Welsh Team, top sales producer team; and Lori Jackson, top sales producer individual.

Cape Coral office – The Koffman & Associates Team, top listings producer team and top sales producer team; Marc Wozny, top listings producer individual; and Jennifer Morrow, top sales producer individual.

iStar announces 40 new homes were sold at Naples Reserve in the first two months of 2017.

Naples Reserve is a 668-acre community of attached villas, single-family homes and custom estate homes in south Naples, with 11 planned communities designed around 22 freshwater lakes. A mile-long stretch of lakefront along the community’s northern edge borders the Picayune Strand State Forest, a 76,000-acre state park with protected pinelands, cypress swamps, marshes and abundant wildlife.

Seventeen three- and four-bedroom model homes are open for viewing by Ashton Woods, D.R. Horton, Florida Lifestyle Homes, KTS Homes, Lunde Development, Marvin Development, McGarvey Custom Homes and Stock Signature Homes. Prices start in the high-$200,000s and go up to $1 million-plus.

Naples Reserve’s $7 million Island Club social center has a 5,160-square-foot clubhouse and an adjacent 3,500-square-foot fitness center. The resort-style pool offers dedicated lap lanes, and tennis, pickleball and bocce ball courts are nearby. Indoor and alfresco gathering areas include a lakeside fire pit and casual beverage and dining options. At the Outrigger Center, paddleboards, kayaks and canoes are available for use, and cruises on the community’s two Duffy boats depart from the center’s floating docks for residents to explore the 125-acre Eagle Lake and Kontiki Island.

Naples Reserve residents also receive complimentary one-year social memberships at Walker’s Hideaway Marina of Naples, a yacht club along the Gordon River with indoor storage for 600 boats, two waterside restaurants, outdoor pool and sauna and access to Naples Bay.

The entrance to Naples Reserve is off U.S. 41, two miles southeast of the Collier Boulevard intersection and 10 minutes from I-75, Exit 101. Visit the Outrigger Center at 14885 Naples Reserve Circle or go to www.naplesreserve.com for more information.

London Bay Homes is nearing completion of the four-bedroom, five-bath Catalina model in Cortile at Mediterra.

The 5,800-square-foot Catalina, nearing completion by London Bay Homes in Mediterra, is priced at $3,995,000.

Stock Signature Homes. Prices start in the high-$200,000s and go up to $1 million-plus.

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SEE NEWSMAKERS, B20
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What does “Concierge Service” mean to you?

The term “Concierge” is French, meaning “keeper of the keys.” History reveals “Concierge” first appeared in France in the Middle Ages. The Concierge was responsible for keeping the keys to royal households and ensuring that visiting guests had everything they needed and wanted.

Have you ever said “I need to clone myself,” or “I need a wife” – even if responsible for keeping the keys to royal households and ensuring that visiting guests had everything they needed and wanted.

Folks choose to spend their leisure time on Useppa Island in order to escape the hectic pace of life. Owning a vacation home should be just that…a vacation. This is the opportunity to enjoy time with family, relax and savor all the fun that can fit into your day and night.

Brian and Mary McCollgan, Realtors® with Keller Williams Luxury Homes International, Resort & Second Home Property Specialists and Useppa residents for 30+ years, happily show and share their “paradise” with all interested.

PARADISE WITHOUT A PASSPORT

Chart your course for unmatched beauty, open water and endless adventures.

Experience captivating water views to the Useppa yacht basin and beyond. Hurricane-tiered to top to bottom, this light-filled attached Villa provides quality materials, indoors and out. Complete with updated systems, plumbing & electrical, sturdy HardiePlank exterior and hurricane-resistant doors/windows. Offered furnished, enjoy private decks, an updated kitchen and baths in the 3 bedroom plan.

324 USEPPA ISLAND - LIGHT-FILLED WATERFRONT ESCAPE $575,000

Discover the very best of Private Island living, accessible only by air or water on the ICW between Boca Grande and Captiva Islands. Here, there are no cars, no crowds and no high rises.

Brian and Mary McCollgan, Realtors®
Resort & Second Home Property Specialists

239.410.7850  239.848.6170  BrianMary@TheUseppaPeople.com

The Useppa People

OPEN HOUSE, SUNDAY 3/19, 1-4PM

5949 AMBERWOOD DRIVE

Well maintained golf course and lakefront property with unique custom windows and storm protection in place. Excellent privacy and large outdoor entertaining space. 4BR+Den/3½BA $995,000

TROPHY CLUB - 6031 Trophy Club Drive #204

Gorgeous 2nd floor corner unit with sweeping golf and lake views. Over 2600 square feet of living space. Elegant renovation to kitchen including architectural improvements. 3BR+Den/3BA $510,000

OPEN HOUSE, SUNDAY 3/19, 1-4PM

5906 BARCLAY LANE

If you want to expand your outdoor living space, this is the property for you. Huge under-cover lanai and large pool deck with sunny SE exposure Wide lake and golf views. 4BR/3BA $829,000

PINNACLE - 6015 Pinnacle Lane #503

Gorgeous, well-maintained 2nd floor corner condo with sweeping golf views, lots of natural light and quality upgrades to kitchen. Tiled lanai with electric storm shutters. 3BR+Den/2BA $365,000

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George Kohlbrenner 239-565-8805  
$5,900,000

696 KINZIE ISLAND  
Kasey Albright 239-850-7602  
$2,150,000

5815 RIVERSIDE LN  
Cathy Galietti 239-826-5897  
$599,900

2161279

1206 BAY DR.  
Nancy Finch 239-822-7825  
$3,899,000

15011 PUNTA RASSA RD 201  
Marianne Stewart 239-560-6420  
$449,900

1399 WHITE CEDAR LANE  
Dagmar Seibert 239-265-5755  
$182,500

5832 ARMADA CT.  
George Kohlbrenner 239-565-8805  
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$182,500

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- Potentially More Than 100%
- Agent Training Provided... At No Cost

NEW LISTING!
AWARD WINNING LANDSCAPING 1660 Galleon Court

BOATERS’ DREAM ACCESS
1380 Monona Court

AWARD WINNING LANDSCAPING
1660 Galleon Court

3BR, 2BA, 2C Garage Villa with new deck, pool, tilled & wood flooring. Custom upgrades & more!

The Madison II by Stock Signature Homes is offered in the Marsh Cove neighborhood at Fiddler’s Creek.

GOLF EQUITY INCLUDED!
1686 Mandarin Road, Naples, FL 34102

Exceptional building site in Coquina Sands $749,900

COURTESY PHOTO

**NEWSMAKERS**

From page 17

The two-story design has 5,800 square feet under air and includes a formal dining room, bonus room, wine bar, loft with wet bar, a mud room and an open floor plan between great room, kitchen and café. The model overlooks a lake and preserve.

The Catalina’s kitchen has an island with sink and dishwasher, a six-burner stove top, steam oven and separate refrigerator and freezer.

The master suite opens to a landscaped terrace under a cedar trellis. A private garden with outdoor shower is accessed from the master bath.

The model’s two first-floor guest rooms have private full bathrooms and walk-in closets.

The second floor is designed as a VIP retreat for guests.

There are two, two-car garages and a large wraparound covered living/dining area with kitchen and bar. The second-floor “sunset overlook” has an outdoor fireplace.

Additional outdoor features include an elongated linear pool with a sun shelf, a raised spa with spillover and a fountain in a garden area near a raised fire pit. Water is introduced in fountains flanking each side of the Catalina’s brick-pavered entry.

Fully furnished by award-winning Romanza Interior Design, the Catalina is on target for completion in April. It is priced at $3,995,000.

For more information about Mediterria, call 949-8999, stop by the sales center at 18386 Savoy Way (two miles north of Immokalee Road off Livingston Road) or visit www.MinettizNaples.com.

**Stock Signature Homes** is offering 50 new residences in the gated community of Marsh Cove at Fiddler’s Creek on the way to Marco Island. Seven three- and four-bedroom designs range from 2,812 to more than 3,600 square feet of air-conditioned living space. The homes have three-car garages and multiple outdoor living areas overlooking lakes and the fairways of the award-winning Arthur Hills-designed Creek Course.

Two model homes are under construction, with a third to be underway soon. Stock Signature Homes in Marsh Cove are priced from the $900,000s to more than $1.5 million.

Residents of Fiddler’s Creek enjoy amenities that include the 54,000-square-foot Club & Spa at Fiddler’s Creek, a fitness center, tropical lagoon-style swimming complex, tennis courts and casual and fine dining. Owners also have the opportunity to join The Golf Club at Fiddler’s Creek and The Tarpon Club for boating and beach access at the Marco Beach Ocean Resort.

In addition to Stock Signature Homes, preferred builders at Fiddler’s Creek are Ashton Woods Homes, D.R. Horton, Harbourside Custom Homes, Lennar Homes and Taylor Morrison. Prices are from the $400,000s to $2 million-plus.

For more information, call 732-9300, stop by the information center at 832 Fiddler’s Creek Parkway or go to www.fiddlerscreek.com. ✈️
VILLAGE WALK TOWN CENTER
is the focus of the community’s unique lifestyle—a lifestyle people dream about—meet friends for a swim, a workout or a set of tennis. Then, grab lunch or dinner at the on-site restaurant. Relax to soothing sounds of fountains or take a stroll around the many lakes and footbridges.

288/28A Capri villa situated in prime cul-de-sac location! Lovely sunny home is comfortably updated with granite in kitchen, plantation shutters, new hot water heater in 2016, A/C replaced in 2011, newer dishwasher, built-in entertainment center and freshly painted exterior in 2016. The large screened lanai offers the perfect place to dine alfresco or sip your favorite beverage all while enjoying the long lake or Venetian-style bridge views. Now $299,900

ISLAND WALK • 5160 INAGUA WAY
OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! This single-family 4BR/3.5BA home is priced to sell quickly. Entertaining is a breeze in this nicely-appointed home that offers an open floor plan with large rooms and a screened lanai with custom pool and lake and Venetian bridge views. Hurricane shutters, newer A/C and hot water heater and new screen cage in 2008 offers the next owner peace of mind. Asking $499,900

29170 MARCELLO WAY | $2,750,000

ISLAND WALK • 3005 FUTUNA LANE
This bright and light 2BR/2BA villa with 2-car attached garage is MOVE-IN READY! The home offers the EXTENDED version of the Capri model featuring 1,680 SF of living space under air, along with tile in all main living areas, newer carpet in the master and a screened lanai with peaceful water views. This home is the perfect size for a full-time resident or a seasonal snowbird’s vacation home. New $309,000

15675 VILLORESE WAY | $1,210,000

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NEW PRICE!
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Get to the Garden for Naples City Limits

BY LINDSEY NESMITH
lnesmith@floridaweekly.com

The current state of country music has many longtime fans wondering, “What’s so great about trucks and beer?” and “How did a drum machine make it onto Cat Country?”

Local listeners looking to add a dash of authenticity back into their music’s down-home twang need look no further than the first-ever Naples City Limits festival from 7-10 p.m. Saturday, March 18, at Naples Botanical Garden.

Shane Smith and The Saints take the stage to raise money for the Children’s Advocacy Center. Part Mumford & Sons and part Creedence Clearwater Revival, the band executes a mix of rock and country with dashes of Celtic, Cajun and folk influences to connect with their audience.

“I think the greater percentage of our fan base is people who are looking for honest, genuine music that sings about things country used to sing about,” frontman Shane Smith says. “You can’t often hear that on the radio anymore. You have to dig for it nowadays.”

He describes the band’s show as high-energy and “lyrically very honest.” The words matter, he says, not only because articulate word play enhances the music and gives audiences another element to connect with, but also because he doesn’t want to sing songs he can’t relate to anymore.

“I just don’t want to write anything that I’m going to regret as an older person,” he says. “If I’m going to be sing-

This is Naples resident Kinley Roby’s 11th and final Harry Brock Mystery. Though he had planned for it to be the last, an unexpected dilemma must have sufficed the close experience a bit. Accidentally deleting the almost complete text file and its backup from his computer (a cautionary tale, writer friends), Mr. Roby had to laboriously reconstruct his narrative. In the interim, the publisher of the first 10 series titles decided to abandon the detective fiction genre, leaving the author with whom a relationship almost blooms.

Tucker’s niece, Delia, an intelligent, humorous odd couple. Tucker’s niece, Delia, temporarily living with her uncle, is one of several attractive women whom Harry admires and with whom a relationship almost blooms. Mr. Roby sets the series in a displaced version of Naples and environs. Those familiar with the area will have fun penetrating the place names (such as “Vienna Village”) the author invents for familiar locations, as well his presentation of the cultural environment.

Harry is still running his PI business, patrolling the patch of government land called Bartram’s Hammock on the edge of the Everglades. He inhabits a small house in exchange for warden duties, and he gets mixed up in cases that also involve local, state and federal law enforcement agencies.

And, as in past adventures, beautiful women are omnipresent. Harry’s also still spending time with his friend and neighbor, Tucker. The two aging outdoorsmen are still doing a bit of farming. It’s a delight that the author allows us to see them tending to pets with whom they carry on conversations.

Harry and Tucker are an intelligent, humorous odd couple. Tucker’s niece, Delia, temporarily living with her uncle, is one of several attractive women whom Harry admires and with whom a relationship almost blooms.

Some of the previous books in the Harry Brock mystery series by Naples resident Kinley Roby. The 11th and final installment is available only as an e-book.

A confessed fan of the series, I found it once again meeting the high bar of the others in most ways. Readers might trip over the types of one kind or another that haven’t yet been corrected, but there are still so many things to enjoy.

Mr. Roby’s dedication to building complex, credible characters is best revealed in his treatment of the slow demise of Harry’s relationship with Holly, a woman he has lived with and loves, but not enough to step out of his safety zone and follow her to the place she needs to make home. Their problem with commitment and exposure is drawn with sensitivity and sympathy.

Somewhat less credible, but totally enjoyable, is the striking Russian woman named Arda Grigoryev who assists in the art theft business. More accurately, she is trapped in it. Both she and her boss warn that his involvement might lead Harry to harm; unexpectedly, they truly seem to care about him. Harry is charmed by her sexuality and by her laughable mangled of the English language. You will be, too.

A Burmese python, a bear, a sex-starved bobcat, a cerebral mule, a honey harvest and a handful of females fawning over Harry are among the many and varied ingredients in this delicious farewell to Harry Brock. (By the way, Mr. Roby is now working on a western.)

— Phil Jason, Ph.D., United States Naval Academy professor emeritus of English, is a poet, critic and freelance writer with 20 books to his credit, including several studies of war literature and a creative writing text.

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ASYMMETRY: One half looks different than the other half.
BOARDER: Irregular, scalloped or poorly defined border.
COLOR: Varied from one area to another; shades of tan and brown. Black, sometimes white, red or blue.
DIAMETER: Melanomas are usually greater than 6mm (the size of a pencil eraser).
EVOLVING: A mole or skin lesion that looks different from the rest or is changing in size, shape or color.

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Improv on the page
Children’s book author never gave up the art of ad-libbing

BY NANCY STETSON
nancy@floridaweekly.com

When author Chris Grabenstein attends a book festival or speaks at a school, he’s greeted like a rock star — especially by those in the 8- to 12-year-old range.

Even reluctant readers love his books. Third through sixth graders adore him.

“They just go crazy,” he says, “and it takes a little more to win over the seventh and eighth graders.”

Mr. Grabenstein is the author of such New York Times Bestsellers as “The Island of Dr. Libris” and “Escape From Mr. Lemoncello’s Library.” He has also collaborated with James Patterson on the I Funny, Treasure Hunters and House of Robots series and the books “Word of Mouse,” “Jacky Ha-Ha” and “Daniel X: Armageddon.”

When he talks in schools, he does an improvisational exercise with the kids, using their suggestions and ideas to write a story with them. It teaches them about story structure while also showing them how not to get writer’s block.

“I never knew what the story’s going to be, what suggestions they’re going to give me,” he says. “It’s never the same story twice. That’s what keeps it interesting.”

Mr. Grabenstein is one of half a dozen children’s book authors attending the Southwest Florida Reading Festival taking place Saturday, March 18, in Centennial Park in downtown Fort Myers. This year’s event includes adult authors such as Nathan Hill (“The Nic”), Greg Herritz (“Nowhere Man”), Cassandra King (“Moonrise”), James Grippando (“The Koreshans”) and Beatriz Williams (“The Wicked City”). A total of 26 authors of books for adults, teens and children are expected to attend.

Mr. Grabenstein will speak at the children’s author/illustrator tent at 2:15 p.m. and sign books at 10:15 a.m. and 3:15 p.m.

Amusement park beginnings

Mr. Grabenstein started his career doing improv in New York City. He then began writing advertising copy, working for now-bestselling author James Patterson at J. Walter Thompson in New York City.

“He’s always been, and to this day is, the hardest working man in the business,” he says. He recalls that Mr. Patterson would go to his office early and work on his books from 6 to 9 a.m. Then, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., he’d be the ad agency’s executive creative director.

“I remember seeing a picture of him in Advertising Age in 1985, a photo of him with a stack of his books, maybe five (different titles). They weren’t the huge bestsellers yet.”

Inspired, Mr. Grabenstein began writing his own series of murder mysteries set in the fictional New Jersey seaside town of Sea Haven, where an amusement park is a main attraction. Like Mr. Patterson’s books, these were novels for adults.

But why the amusement park?

“Mystery writers try to avoid the Coconut Grove Syndrome,” he says, referring to the “Murder She Wrote” series where a murder occurred with frightening regularity in Cabot Cove, Jessica Fletcher’s coastal Maine town. “It happened so often, you would think residents would be embarrassed. Be proud of that. Be proud of what you live in the most interesting state in the country.”

My grandfather worshipped at the altar of Perry Mason,” Mr. Pittman said. “He loved the TV show. He read all the books. My mother was a big fan of Agatha Christie.”

Then there was his great-aunt Pansy who introduced him to perhaps the most influential Florida crime novelist of all, John D. MacDonald, creator of Travis McGee.

“When I was 14, she took a long, long cigarette and said, ‘I think you’re ready for Travis McGee’ and handed me a copy of a book that had a top- less woman seen from the back on the cover,’” Mr. Pittman said. “Yes, ma’am, I am ready for Travis McGee.”

He was soon hooked on Mr. MacDonald.

“He slips in these environmental messages,” Mr. Pittman said. “He teaches you that Florida is a beautiful place people are out to spoil it and maybe that’s not such a good thing.”

As a participant in the Southwest Florida Reading Festival, the author is a staunch supporter of reading, especially for writers.

“You got to fill up the gas tank,” Mr. Pittman said. “You read other stuff so you can see how the other voices and other sentences. You increase your vocabulary. You see how they tell a story. Anybody who wants to write has to read. People who don’t read baffle me,” he said. “I can’t imagine what their lives are like. How do you function as a human being if you don’t read?”

Craig Pittman reads. The evidence is in “Oh, Florida, How America’s Weirdest State Influences the Rest of the Country.”
say, ‘Come on, let’s get out of this town, someone’s dying every week.’

“So I wanted to come up with a set-
ting that had a transient population,” he says. Plus, he’s had a fascination for amusement parks.

His first book in that first series, “Tilt a Whirl,” won the Anthony Award and was named one of the best mysteries of 2005 by The Sun-Sentinel, the Detroit Free Press, the Christian Science Monitor, Barnes&Noble.com and BookBitch.com.

He eventually wrote eight books in the series, each one named after an amusement park ride or game (“Whack a Mole,” “Mad Mouse,” “Fun House,” for example.)

Then he wrote “a creepy ghost story about a haunted house possessed by a demon of someone who’d crashed into it,” he says. He’d written 120,000 words when his editor read it and declared it would be perfect for readers ages 8 to 12 — “if you take the adult language and situations out and cut 70,000 words,” he says.

And Mr. Grabenstein, who has 20 nieces and nephews, thought: I might be able to write something my nieces and nephews would read.

So he did it. It became the first book of his Crossroads series.

“I realized, ‘Wow, I’ve got this 12-year-old MAD magazine reader in my brain,’” he says.

A team effort

About 15 years after their time together at the ad agency, Mr. Grabenstein ran into his former boss, Mr. Patterson, at the West Palm Beach Day Academy.

“Mr. Patterson’s son was in the class Mr. Patterson was teaching,” he says. “It’s terrific fun. He’s easy to work with. He’s taught me a lot over the years how to write. He’s my mentor.”

Mr. Grabenstein hasn’t done too shabbily on his own, though. Both “The Island of Dr. Libris” and “Escape From Mr. Lemoncello’s Library” were New York Times Bestsellers. The latter was followed by “Mr. Lemoncello’s Library Olympics” and “Mr. Lemoncello’s Great Library Race.”

And Nickelodeon made a movie out of “Escape From Mr. Lemoncello’s Library.” Set for release in the fall, it stars Casey Simpson (of “Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn”) and Breanna Yde (of “School House Rock” and “The Haunted Hathaways”).

Florida memories

He’s never lived in Florida, but Mr. Grabenstein’s grandparents did, and his family would visit them every year in St. Petersburg. Images from those visits — the heat in the car before air-conditioning became a standard feature, stopping on the road for cows to pass, his grandparents’ rambling house and old beach motels — show up in his writing.

The second book in Mr. Grabenstein’s Wonderland series is set to come out in May.

“It’s a collection of all those wacky things I used to see: Gatorland in Orlando, roadside Americana statues and crazy things. It’s the coolest retro motel you can imagine … a struggling underdog place like the mom-and-pop roadside attractions — Weeki-Wachee Springs, glass bottom boats, Frontier Town — all those memories rolled into one.”

Mr. Grabenstein says he’s still doing improv — only now it’s on the page.

“Take whatever comes into your brain, don’t deny it, take it and build on it,” he says. “Just put down whatever crazy thing comes into your imagination. Write down crazy stuff, then you can make connections.”

You never know where an idea will take you.

When he and his wife flew out to Vancouver to see some of “Escape From Mr. Lemoncello’s Library” being filmed, she was “totally blown away,” he says, adding she looked at all the actors and costumes and lighting and sets and crew and said in wonder, “All these people are here because of that silly idea!”

Attending authors

Adult authors

Aditya Brown
Colin Campbell
Shelley Shepard Gray
Mark Smeary
James Grifando
Nathan Hill
Gregg Hurwitz
Cassandra King
Mary Kubica
Taya Kyle
Craig Pittman
Kimberla Lawson Roby
D. Watkins
Susan Wiggs
Lori Wilde
Bethria Williams

Teen authors

Kami Garcia
Su Kincade
Michelle Knudsen
Sara Shepard

Children’s authors

Candace Fleming
Chris Grabenstein
Grace Lin
Eric Rohmann
Tai T. Sutherland
Salina Yoon

Southwest Florida Reading Festival

>> When: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 18
>> Where: Centennial Park, Fort Myers
>> Cost: Free
>> Info: 478-INFO or www.ReadFest.org

**CELLFINA® DOWN WITH DIMPLES! EVENT**

Meet Brandie Gostigian PA-C and the representative from Cellfina® at our Down with Dimples event. Learn about the advantages of the Cellfina® treatment for minimally invasive smoothing of cellulite on the thighs and buttocks. Special event pricing! Refreshments will be served. Complimentary event but RSVP required.

**TOP TRENDS IN PLASTIC SURGERY SEMINAR**

Meet Dr. Kent V. Hasen, Board Certified Plastic Surgeon and Brandie Gostigian PA-C for an in-depth Q&A seminar focused on the top trends in Cosmetic Surgery & Non-Surgical procedures for the face, breast and body. Special event pricing and refreshments will be available. Complimentary event but RSVP required.

**THE BREAST EXPERIENCE EVENT**

Meet Dr. Kent V. Hasen and our Natrelle® breast implant representative for an informative Q&A session that explores the variety of procedures available in breast enhancements to ensure you are ready for bikini season. All attendees receive special event pricing. Learn about our affordable financing options. RSVP today!

April 1-14  (Limited Time Offer: Expires April 14th, 2017)

Ulthera® Youthful Results Offer (a $600 value)

Schedule an appointment with Brandie Gostigian PA-C for our “Youthful Results Offer” and receive a ONE complimentary lower lid treatment with the purchase of any area of Ulthera® treatment. Patients must schedule their consult before April 14th. See youthful results in brow, chin, neck and décolletage areas!
WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

THURSDAY

Lei It On – Naples Botanical Garden hosts a lei-making workshop from 10 a.m. to noon. $15 for members, $20 for others. 463-4737 or www.naplesbotanicalgarden.org.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT


THEATER

Something Rotten! – The Broadway production is at Arts-Naples through March 17. 597-9000 or www.artsnaples.org.

Driving Miss Daisy – By The Marco Players through April 2 at The Marco Players Theatre. 1089 N. Collier Blvd. 642-7270 or www.caccollier.org. See review page C10.

Men Are Dogs – By Island Theater Company March 16-20 and April 19-23 at the Marco Island Historical Museum. 380 S. Heathwood Drive, Marco Island. 394-0080 or www.theaterronemarco.com.

9 to 5: The Musical – By TheatroZone through March 17 at the G&L Theatre, 13275 Livingston Road. (888) 966-3352 or www.theatrozonemarcoflorida.com.


Shear Madness – By Florida Repertory Theatre through April 2 in the ArtStage Studio Theatre. 2207 Bay St. Fort Myers. 332-4488 or www.floridarep.org.


The Merchant of Venice – By Gulfshore Playhouse March 25-April 15 at the Gulfshore Playhouse, 6363 Woodfare Ave. 218-0481 or www.gulfshoreplayhouse.com.

THURSDAY

Fair Play – Collier County Agricultural Fair & Exposition returns with carnivore rides, livestock competitions, musical guests and much more tonight through March 26 at Collier County Fairgrounds. Check website for full schedule. 65-1444 or www.collierfairgrounds.com.

Chamber Jazz – A classical jazz quartet featuring flute, violin, viola and cello performs from 7:30-9 p.m. at Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs. $25. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8899 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Lonely Boy – Paul Anka performs at 8 p.m. at Seminole Immokalee Casino. $25. (800) 281-0007 or www.moreinparadise.com.

FRI	

Music Lecture – FGCU’s Renaissance Academy hosts a talk about Bach’s “St. John Passion” from 2-3:30 p.m. at the university’s Naples campus. $20 for members, $25 for others. 1050 Fifth Ave. S. 434-4737 or www.fgcu.edu.

Dinner Cruise – Gulfshore Opera hosts a St. Patrick’s Day dinner cruise boarding the Naples Princess at 5:30 p.m. $125. 390 Port O Call Way. 529-3925 or www.gulfshoreopera.org.

Bluegrass Concert – Swingin’ Bridge performs at 7 p.m. at The Norris Center. $20 in advance, $22 at the door. 213-3229 or www.davidpamley.com.

Frankly Funny – Comedian and actor Frank Blocker performs monologues, improv, songs and more at 8 p.m. at Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs. 105. 10100 Bonita Beach Road. 395-8099 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

SATURDAY

Be Our Guest – Paragon Pavilion celebrates the release of Disney’s live-action “Beauty and the Beast” with a fully decorated lobby, giveaways and coloring activities from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Guests are encouraged to come in costume to win a Funko Pop figurine. Free, movie tickets priced separately. 596-0008 or www.paragontheaters.com.

R&B Night – Sounds of Soul perform hits from The Temptations, Aethna Franklin, Lionel Richie, Tina Turner at 7:30 p.m. at The Norris Center. $25. 218-0481 or www.naplesgov.com.

Spring Concert – Violinists Wanchi Huang and Max Rabinovitch perform with the Naples Orchestra and Chorus at 7 p.m. tonight in the Arts and Culture Center of Collier County. More info at 394-3397 or www.fgcu.edu.

Opera Concert – Opera Naples studens who have been in sessions with legendary vocalist Renata Scotti perform at 8 p.m. at the David and Cecile WWII Ocean Center. $19-869. 2418 Livingston Ave. 963-9050 or www.operanaples.org.

Tribute Concert – The McCartney Years performs at 8 p.m. at Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs. 454-855, 10250 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8899 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

MONDAY

Pick It Up – Friends of Delnor-Wiggins hosts a beach clean-up of the state park from 8:30 a.m. Free, reservations required. 593-2689 or www.floridastateparks.org.

Invaders – Naples Botanical Garden hosts a lecture about invasive plants from 1-2 p.m., no charge. $20 for members, $20 for others. 463-4737 or www.naplesbotanicalgarden.org.

Good King Hall – FGCU’s Renaissance Academy hosts a lecture about Henry VIII’s ascent to the throne from 1:30-3 p.m. at the university’s Naples campus. $20 for members, $25 for others. 1050 Fifth Ave. S. 434-4737 or www.fgcu.edu.

Tale As Old As Time – Preferred Travel of Naples hosts a talk about the movie adaptation of Disney’s live-action rendition of “Beauty and the Beast” at 7:30 p.m. at Paragon Pavilion. Reservations required by March 17. 261-1177 or www.prefreddonalds.com.
WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

TUESDAY 3.21

Get the Worm — Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary hosts an early bird walk on the boardwalk for guests who want to experience the sights and sounds of the awakening swamp from 8-11 a.m. $10-$25. 254-9151 or www.corkscrew.audubon.org.

Hello, Fresh — The NCH Farmers Market posts up at the hospital's downtown campus from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. www.nchmd.org.

Tiffany's Treasures — FGCU's Renaissance Academy hosts a lecture about glass artist Louis Comfort Tiffany from 1-2:30 p.m. at the university's Naples campus. $20 for members, $25 for others. 1010 Fifth Ave. S. 434-4737 or www.fgcu.edu.

Pup Patrol — Naples Botanical Garden welcomes well-behaved, leased dogs from 8-11 a.m. each Tuesday, 3-5 p.m. each Thursday and 9-11:30 a.m. each Sunday. Free for members dogs, $9.95 for other pooches. 643-4737 or www.naplesgarden.org.

Lunch & Learn — Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center hosts a lecture titled “The Epigenetics Revolution Reaches the Ocean” at noon, $10 for members, $15 for others. Includes lunch. 300 Tower Road. 530-5940 or www.rookerybay.org.

Lifelong Learning — Naples Botanical Garden hosts a lecture about why the tropics are so diverse from 1-2 p.m. $15 for members, $20 for others. 643-4737 or www.naplesgarden.org.

Edible Art — Naples Art Association pairs sculptor Joel Sharpes with chef Pyro Rodriguez of Crave Culinaire for Dinner with the Artist from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at NAA headquarters. $125. 585 Park St. 262-6517 or www.naplesart.org.

A Poem Is — Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs hosts a Celebration of Poetry with nationally recognized poets Dr. Catalina Monterrosa and Abbott Ikeler reading their own works from 9 a.m. to noon. Free. 26100 Old 41 Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Funny Lady — Carol Burnett performs at 7:30 p.m. at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, Fort Myers. 481-4849 or www.barbarabmannpah.com.

Free Film — Mercato screens “School of Rock” on the lawn at 7:45 p.m. 254-1080 or www.mercatoshops.com.

WEDNESDAY 3.22

Guided Walk — Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary hosts a walk through the preserve’s ancient stand of bald cypress from 9 a.m. to noon. $10-$25. 254-9151 or www.corkscrew.audubon.org.

Pioneering Women — Local historian Marya Repko leads a lecture about women who settled and protected The Everglades at 3 p.m. at Collier County Museum, Free. 331 Tamiami Trail E. 252-8242 or www.colliermuseums.com.

COMING UP


Cruisin’ — The Conservancy of Southwest Florida hosts a mangrove cruise with expert Kathy Worley from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, March 23. $20-$47. 213-2500 or www.conservancy.org.

Classically trained musicians who have performed together since childhood, the Janoska Ensemble performs at 6 and 8:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Daniels Pavilion at Arts—Naples as part of its first U.S. multi-city tour. Hear the virtuosos — three brothers and one brother-in-law — riff on Paganini with dueling violins and play an original rumba that harkens back to Mozart.

— www.artsnaples.org

Low water levels make for excellent wildlife viewing during a selection of guided walks at Audubon Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary. Start with the early bird excursion on the boardwalk from 8-11 a.m. Tuesday.

— www.corkscrew.audubon.org

Learn about Burmese python invasion at a 6 p.m. Thursday, March 23, at The Naples Zoo, when the Conservancy’s Ian Bartoszek explains how the exotic species got loose and what they’re doing to Southwest Florida ecosystems.

— www.napleszoo.com

The Collier County Agricultural Fair & Exposition brings carnival rides, livestock competitions, musical guests and much more to the Collier County Fairgrounds Thursday though March 26.

— www.colliercountyfair.com
WHAT TO DO

Tail Waggin’ – Native Visions Gallery hosts wolfdog ambassadors from Shy Wolf Sanctuary to celebrate the organization’s 30th anniversary and visits from a variety of the gallery’s featured artists from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, March 23, 737 Fifth Ave. S. 643-3785 or www.nativevisions.com.

Meet the Author – Barnes & Noble hosts author Kelly Parsons (“Under the Knife”) at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 23. 598-5200 or www.bn.com.


One-Man Show – Playwright and actor Chaz Palmintieri presents “A Bronx Tale” at 8 p.m. Thursday, March 23, at Seminole Immokalee Casino. $50. (800) 218-0007 or www.moreninparadise.com.

Nature Chat – Humorist and natural history author Charles Sobczak discusses the changing face of nature and signs copies of his books while guests enjoy beer and ceviche from Coastal Peruvian at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 23, at Everglades Wonder Gardens. $15 for members, $25 for others. 27180 Old 41 Road. 992-2591 or www.everglades-wondergardens.org.


Book Sale – Friends of the Bonita Springs Library host a book sale from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 24-25, in the library’s meeting room. 26870 Pine Ave. 533-4860 or agap@comcast.net.

In Bloom – Naples Garden Club hosts the 2017 Naples Flower Show with juried entries, a garden market, live demonstrations and more from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 24-25, at Naples Botanical Garden. This year’s theme is “Cinderella.” 262-1272 or www.naplesgardencub.com.

Orchid Show – Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance hosts an orchid show and sale from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, March 24, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at United Church of Christ. $5. 5200 Crayton Road. 269-6390 or www.gulfcoastorchidalliance.com.

See Food, Eat Food – The Marco Island Seafood & Music Festival returns with heaps of shellfish, music, beer and more at 11 a.m. Friday, March 24, and continuing through the weekend at Veterans Community Park. $10-$16. 393-1350 or www.marcoislandseafoodandmusicfestival.com.

Full of Grace – “Late Night Cat-echism” returns with Sister’s riotous and righteous take on sins and sensibilities at 6 and 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 24-25, at Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Hawaiian Style – Ave Maria hosts the Landshark Luau from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at the Ave Maria Town Center. 352-3903 or www.aveMaria.com.
WHERE TO GO

Hidden Treasures – Naples Wom-an’s Club hosts its annual flea mar- ket and rummage sale where guests can purchase furniture, art, jewelry and more from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at the group’s headquarters. 570 Park St. 262-6331 or www.gfwc-napleswomansclub.com.

Guided Walk – Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary takes adventurers off the boardwalk into the preserve’s old growth cypress forest from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, March 25, Hikers should be prepared for standing water and uneven terrain. $70-$85. 348-9151 or to www.corkscrew.audubon.org.

Faraway Places – Lighthouse of Collier County presents Naples India Fest 2017 with presentations, gourmet foods, fashion and more from 2-9 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at Riverside Park. Free. 949-6262 or www.lighthouseofcollier.org.

Bonita Party – Celebrate Bonita! takes place with family activities, food vendors and musical performances by guests in the culture of the subcontinent offering appreciated. 2700 Airport Road. 455-2582 or www.worldsofnaples.org.

I Hope You Dance – Naples Performing Arts Center hosts a daddy/daughter dance with games, lessons, treats, raffles and more from 5-7 p.m. Saturday, March 25. 6646 Willow Park Drive. 597-6722 or www.naplesperformingartscenter.com.

I Love the ‘90s – Naughty by Nature, Sugar Ray’s Mark McGrath, Al-I-4-One, Vanilla Ice and other musical stars of the ’90s perform at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at Germain Arena. $35-$890. 948-7825 or www.germainarena.com.

Piano Concert – Celebrated pianist and composer Robin Spielberg performs at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs. 520-530, 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Choral Concert – Voices of Naples presents “Homeward Bound” at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 26, at East Naples United Methodist Church Free, but freewill offering appreciated. 2700 Airport Road. 455-2582 or www.voicesofnaples.org.

Choral Concert – New Chorale of Southwest Florida performs patriotic and Broadway classics at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 26, at Christus Victor Lutheran Church. 15600 Tamiami Trail N. www.thenewchoraleswflorida.org.

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Bonita Party – Celebrate Bonita! takes place with family activities, food vendors and musical performances by four-time Grammy nominee Joe Nich- ols, The Ben Allen Band, Sarah Hadekah and more from 2-9 p.m. Saturday, March 25; at Riverside Park. Free. 949-6262 or www.cityofbonitasprings.org.

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— Email calendar listings and high-reso- lution photos to Lindsey Nesmith at lnesmith@floridaweekly.com. Please send Word or text documents and jpps with time, date, location, cost and contact information. No pdfs or photos of flis. Deadline for calendar submissions is noon Monday. No phone calls, please.
Lavish and lovelier: The Naples Players present ‘My Fair Lady’

The Naples Players take a more traditional approach for their rendition. It’s a big, lavish celebration of the classic musical with full sets, a cast of 32 and a 12-piece orchestra in the pit.

Elizabeth Marcantonio as Eliza Doolittle makes a highly believable transformation from a lower-class girl selling flowers on the streets to “a proper lady.” You see the light going on in her brain when she finally grasps how to say, “The rain in Spain falls mainly in the plane” properly. And when she attends her first ball, she looks like a princess. (Kudos to costume designer Mary Wallace.)

David Whalley is perfect as Col. Pickering, who swoons about in front of Professor Higgins. His two songs, “With a Little Bit of Luck” and “Get Me to the Church On Time” are joyous, full-out numbers that rock the house. However, there were times when I wish he’d sacrificed accuracy of accent for clarity; it was sometimes difficult to decipher his extremely thick accent, especially when his character’s slurring his words due to drunkenness.

Also of note: Frank Scott Davis as Freddy Eynestoff-Hill. His lovesick young man who swoons about in front of Professor Higgins’ house in hopes of catching a glimpse of Eliza delivers a sweet version of “On the Street Where You Live.”

Charles Fornara’s orchestra is superb and doesn’t overwhelm the singers at all. He’s done an excellent job with all the singers — leads and ensemble members alike. The harmonizing at times is exquisite.

Director and choreographer Dawn Lebrott-Roth Fornara keeps this musical moving along, though it clocks in at almost three hours (typical of musicals of its era). Yet, the show never drags, thanks to staging and choreography so well done you have to keep reminding yourself these are not professional actors on stage. Ms. Fornara has single-handedly brought these local actors light years ahead of where they were just a few years ago, especially as dancers. Todd Potter’s two-level set of the professor’s office and choreography so well done you have to keep reminding yourself these are not professional actors on stage. Ms. Fornara has single-handedly brought these local actors light years ahead of where they were just a few years ago, especially as dancers. Todd Potter’s two-level set of the professor’s office and choreography so well done you have to keep reminding yourself these are not professional actors on stage. Ms. Fornara has single-handedly brought these local actors light years ahead of where they were just a few years ago, especially as dancers.

Jeremy Giovinazzo, Sarah Gipson, Elizabeth Finchert, Jennifer Price and Jack Weld in the “Poor Professor Higgins” scene.

The Naples Players make me wish they’d made a very big 11 o’clock number, “I’ve Grown Accustomed to Her Face,” instead of the quickie “Touche” from “The Threepenny Opera.” But this is a musical, not an operetta. And Brad Brenner as Alfred Doolittle, Eliza’s father, puts in a solid performance as the silver-tongued drunkard who suddenly finds himself elevated to the middle class. His two songs, “With a Little Bit of Luck” and “Get Me to the Church On Time” are joyous, full-out numbers that rock the house.

The Naples Players debut as his mother, Mrs. Higgins, does such a terrific job. I wish her role were bigger. The actress received well-deserved exit applause in all of her scenes and I can’t wait to see her onstage again.

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Whether Professor Higgins has also temporarily humbled by Eliza’s leaving, but he still has a lot to learn.

“My Fair Lady” is not only about gender relations but a look at class differences, too. The same people who think so little of Eliza when she’s a poor girl peddling flowers esteem her when they think she’s a member of high society or even possibly royalty.

If you want to see “My Fair Lady” with a full cast and orchestration, this production is just your cup of tea.
PUZZLE ANSWERS

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

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PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A patch of roiling water in the workplace could be threatening, but stay the course and you'll soon be clear of it. Then go out and have a great time with loved ones.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Put your restlessness to good use by indulging the Arian love of exploring new places and seeking new challenges. There also could be a new romance waiting to be "discovered."

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) A surprise message from someone in your past could lead to a long-awaited reunion with a once-close friend. Also, look for a workplace problem to be resolved in your favor.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Your self-confidence is rising, and that should be a significant factor in helping you adjust to a new social situation, as well as adjusting to changes in the workplace.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Turnabout could be lots of fun when someone who previously accepted your tender, loving care without question now suggests that he or she wants to start taking care of you.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Put the lessons you learned from past disappointments to work in planning your future. The way ahead opens to opportunities "purrfectly" suited to the adventurous Lion.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) This is a good time to renew contacts with family members and/ or old friends who somehow slipped off your personal viewing screen in recent years. Travel also is favored.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Most problems surrounding that recent personal situation have been resolved, and that means you should move on to other things that are important to you.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Spend this weekend recharging your physical and spiritual energies. When you return to your workaday world, you'll be ready to take on that new project.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Be careful how you advise a troubled friend. Even your wise counsel could be misunderstood. Better to suggest that he or she seek professional help.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Family problems once again dominate and, once again, everyone seeks your guidance in these matters. Later, you can indulge in some much-needed relaxation.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Some mixed signals create confusion in the workplace. Best advice: Ask for explanations before you attempt to deal with any of these matters on your own.

BORN THIS WEEK: Your extraordinary leadership qualities mark you as someone people can turn to for guidance in difficult situations.
CONTRACT BRIDGE

Points, shmoints

BY STEVE BECKER

The number of tricks a side can make often is determined by distributional factors rather than high-card points, as witness this deal from a match between Ireland and Italy.

The Irish declarer, Peter Pigot, got to four hearts doubled as shown after East, Benito Garozzo, opened with one club, showing 16 or more points.

West led a spade, ruffed by Pigot, who returned the king of diamonds and discarded a spade from dummy. East took the ace and played another spade, ruffed again by declarer.

Pigot now cashed the queen of diamonds, discarding dummy’s last spade, and made the key play of a low trump from his A-J-9, won by East with the queen. Garozzo could do no better than return a trump, won by South with the ace.

After ruffing a diamond with dummy’s last trump, Pigot took a club finesse, which went, and led the J-10 of diamonds. West ruffed with his high trump and played still another spade, but Pigot ruffed and scored the last two tricks with the A-Q of clubs to make four hearts doubled.

Thus it was that South, with 17 points, scored 10 tricks, while East-West, with 23 points, scored only three.

The outcome emphasizes that what counts in bridge is the number of tricks you can take and not the number of points you have. Point-count enthusiasts eventually learn from bitter experience that while high-card points are a valuable measuring rod, they are by no means an accurate barometer of how many tricks actually can be made.
FILM CAPSULES

Kong: Skull Island ★★★½
(Brie Larson, Tom Hiddleston, Samuel L. Jackson) In 1973, a group of explorers encounter a giant ape and other creatures on a remote island in the South Pacific. The action and effects are impressive, but the story takes a turn for the worse in its second half. If you go, see it in IMAX 3D – the visuals are tremendous. Rated PG-13.

Before I Fall ★★★
(Zoey Deutch, Halston Sage, Jennifer Beals) After dying in a car accident, a teenage waker wakes to relive the same day until...well, that’s what she needs to figure out. It’s “Groundhog Day” as a teen girl drama, and though it has some intriguing ideas it plays out in pretty standard ways. Rated PG-13.

Fist Fight ★
(Jace Cube, Charlie Day, Tracy Morgan) A public high school teacher (Mr. Day) gets his colleague (Mr. Cube) fired after trashing on him after he destroyed a student-occupied desk with an axe. It’s crass and unrealistic, but worst of all, it’s an unfunny mish mash of a high school that is truly out of this world. Rated R.

The LEGO Batman Movie ★★★★
(Voices of Will Arnett, Zach Galifianakis, Jenny Slate) Bruce Wayne/Batman (Mr. Arnett) adopts an orphan (voice of Michael Cera) and fights The Joker (Mr. Galifianakis) and other Gotham City villains in this spinoff of “The LEGO Movie” (2014). It’s more than DC Comics characters who come into play (Sauron, Voldemort, etc.), which is part of the fun — and it is a heckuva lot of fun. Rated PG.

The Comedian ★★★½
(Robert De Niro, Leslie Mann, Edie Falco) Struggling stand-up comic Jackie Burke (Mr. De Niro) bickers with his agent (Ms. Falco) and finds a kindred spirit in a woman he meets in a soup kitchen (Ms. Mann). The jokes are hit and miss, the story labors and ultimately, Jackie is too pigheaded to root for. Rated R.

A Dog’s Purpose ★½
(Brett Robertson, Dennis Quaid, voice of Josh Gad) The soul of a dog (Mr. Gad) is reincarnated over four lifetimes, touching different humans in the process. It might appeal to kids, but anyone else — even dog lovers — will find the manipulative, forced drama tough to stomach. Rated PG.

20th Century Women ★★½
(Annette Bening, Lucas Jade Zumann, Elle Fanning) In 1979, a singer mother (Ms. Bening) asks two female friends (Ms. Fanning and Greta Gerwig) to help her 15-year-old son (Mr. Zumann) become a man. Ms. Bening leads the stellar ensemble in this wonderful coming of age story that sublime-ly captures the travails of adolescence and the spirit of the ‘70s. Don’t miss it! Rated R.

Silence ★★
(Andrew Garfield, Adam Driver, Liam Neeson) Director Martin Scorsese’s latest follows two priests (Mr. Garfield and Mr. Driver) as they travel to Japan to find their mentor (Mr. Neeson). It notably lacks Mr. Scorsese’s dynamic style, and as a result is a dull bore of 161 minutes. Rated R.

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Florida Weekly
WEEK OF MARCH 16-22, 2017
NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY
Is it worth $10? No

For a movie that highlights the ending in its title, “The Sense of an Ending” doesn’t have much of one. It’s anti-climactic, if anything. This is especially disappointing because the rest of the Ritesh Batra (“The Lunchbox”) directed film deserves better. For most of the 108 minute running time we are intrigued by the personal history of its protagonist, and the cloudy memory that distorts his recollection. It lends itself to a fascinating guessing game of where it’ll go next, only to find out the destination leaves something to be desired.

Living in London, Tony Webster (Jim Broadbent (“Iris”), we like him anyway. He’s divorced from Margaret (Harriet Walter), and his daughter Susie (Michelle Dockery) is pregnant with no father in the picture. But they’re not the source of Tony’s distress. That comes when he gets a letter from Sarah Ford (Emily Mortimer), whose daughter Verónica (Freya Mavor) dating, and Veronica (played by Charlotte Rampling (played by Charlotte Rampling when older) dated Tony 40 years earlier. There’s a diary from Tony’s old school chum, Adrian (Joe Alwyn) that was left to Tony but is in Veronica’s possession. Getting the diary, and subsequently what’s in it, comprise the bulk of the story.

For perspective, we also have flashbacks to young Tony (Billy Howle) and Verónica (Freya Mavor) dating, and how Adrian came into their lives. These flashbacks are welcome and essential, as they add perspective to the present day and allow the film’s overall narrative to build in tension. And to be sure, there are twists along the way that keep us on our toes, but the script by Nick Payne (based on the book by Sarah Ford) that was left to Tony but is in Veronica’s possession. Getting the diary, and subsequently what’s in it, comprise the bulk of the story.

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emotions sometimes sanitize unsavory events to make us feel not so horrible about them. This makes sense as an instinct of self-preservation, but it also welcomes delusion, and one of the film’s shortcomings is that there aren’t more consequences for Tony’s misremembering. Relatedly, Payne’s script recognizes that we cannot know exact truths unless we experienced them ourselves, and even then there are the sugarcoated memories in play. This is an important theme, as what Tony recalls happening in the past is directly related to what we’re seeing in the present. If only Batra did more with these themes besides present them,
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DAN AND VICTORIA SERVINO

I remember the first Toby jug I bought. It depicted a little fat man holding a mug. It could not have been more than 3 inches high and, though crudely painted, had the most beautiful cobalt blue glaze on its coat. I found it in an antiques shop in North Fort Myers and probably still have it somewhere, if I dig around.

I thought it was an antique at the time, but it was marked “England;” so I know now that it was made after the 1890s and would not have been considered an antique at the time.

Ah, the things you learn. I’m sure my fascination with pieces like that stemmed from my love of history.

It didn’t hurt that Maas

SCOTT SIMMONS/FLORIDA WEEKLY

The Toby jug is elaborately painted. It has a wishbone-shaped handle and one can pour from the pitcher the lady is holding.
Toby jugs, also known as Fillpots or Philpots, usually had the form of a seated person holding a vessel from which liquid could be poured. Toby mugs usually were just the head, and often were caricatures of real folks.

And the name?
“Most likely, it was named after a notorious 18th century Yorkshire drinker, Henry Elwes, who was known as ‘Toby Fillpot’ (or Philpot) and was inspired by an old English drinking song, ‘The Brown Jug’, which paid tribute to Toby Fillpot, whose ashes are out of my price range. They were new, but from a tradition that dated back to the mid-18th century.

Those pieces were vividly painted and caught my 10-year-old eye, but they were out of my price range. They were pretty evenly divided as to whether this jug was made in England or Germany. Typically, the English porcelains and ceramics. Typically, the English porcelains and ceramics.

The skinny: The experts I know as the shape of axes as a reminder of their fates.

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MINUTES AWAY FROM MORE
‘These Shining Lives’ sheds light on the Radium Girls of the 1920s

BY PATRICE SHIELDS
Special to Florida Weekly

In recognition of Women’s History Month, The Naples Players present Melanie Marnich’s historical drama, “These Shining Lives,” March 22-April 15 in the Tobye Studio at the Sugden Community Theatre, Jessica Walck directs.

Set in the 1920s at the factory Radium Dial on the outskirts of Chicago, the play is inspired by the true story of the young women, now remembered as The Radium Girls, who were poisoned by the luminous paint they applied to numbers on the faces of clocks and watches. The uplifting but ominous story chronicles the strength and determination of women considered expendable in their day.

The story follows Catherine (Jamielynn Bucci), a young mother who is happily married to her ironworker husband Tom (Jesse Hughes). Catherine opens the play with the lines that are both hopeful and foreboding: “This isn’t a fairy tale, though it starts like one. It’s not a tragedy, though it ends like one.”

Catherine takes a job in a local watch factory to help make ends meet at home and meets Pearl (Amy Hughes), the incessant jokester; Frances (Katherine Oni), the moral backbone; and sharp-tongued Charlotte (Jasmine Vizena), the brutally honest one of the group. As the women happily paint watch dials with radium, sharpening the point of their brushes between their lips to accurately apply the radium to the dials, they become the best of friends.

When they start to notice the unusual effects of working with radium, the women are quickly reassured by the factory foreman Mr. Reed (Mark Vanagas) that radium is in no way harmful and might in fact have health benefits. And when they begin to succumb to the devastating effects of radium, the company refuses to acknowledge the issue and begins to systematically fire them when their illnesses interfere with their work. Though critically ill, the women choose to stand up and fight for justice. These women and their strength still shine brightly today and their resilient efforts for justice set in motion workplace safety standards and worker’s compensation, introduced to protect future generations.

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COURTESY PHOTO
Amy Hughes, Katherine Oni, JamieLynn Bucci and Jasmine Vizena star in “These Shining Lives.”

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Island Theater Company’s latest promises to fetch lots of laughs

The Island Theater Company on Marco presents the contemporary adult comedy “Men Are Dogs” March 16-20 and April 19-23 at the Marco Island Historical Museum. Playwright Joseph Simonella will attend the 7:30 p.m. shows on April 20 and 22 and conduct a talkback with the audience after each performance.

The play stars Diana Back as Cecelia, a successful psychologist who, among many sessions, runs a support group for single and divorced women. She’s got troubles of her own, but it’s her ensemble of neurotic patients who provide the action when a “volunteer” role-player becomes the hapless victim of their not-inconsiderable ire.

Judy Daye has the role of Rose, Cecelia’s fun-loving “live-in” mom who offers her daughter unsolicited dating advice. Ray Kane plays the substitute postal deliveryman who strikes up a relationship with Cecelia.

John Moulton is Tony, a divorced, pompous, part-time actor hired by Cecelia to role-play with her patients. Abby Yetter plays Allison, a hairdresser and the latest addition to Cecelia’s group. Another member of the group is Madeline, is played by Carol Clark. Madeline is a comically dark, angry woman who has been burned way too many times.

The cast of “Men Are Dogs”

Maria Tobin plays Jane, a member of the group who is a bit of a “dim light bulb” and often misses the meaning of things going on around her. And Monica Sooy plays Loretta, the “wild child” who adds plenty of spark to every group meeting.

Ann Megna directs “Men Are Dogs” for the Island Theater Company. The show is sponsored by Clausen Properties.

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CELEBRITY EXTRA
Series starring singer Jewel returns in April on Hallmark

BY CINDY ELAVSKY

Q: Last year I saw a movie on cable that starred Jewel, the singer, and she solved a murder mystery. It was based on a book series, so I was wondering if they were planning to make the movies into a series.

— Lyla F., via email

A: You are talking about Hallmark Movies and Mysteries’ “Fixer Upper Mysteries,” which are based on best-selling author Kate Carlisle’s book series. I am happy to report that because of record-breaking viewing numbers, there will be more installments coming your way. The second movie is “Concrete Evidence: A Fixer Upper Mystery,” and it premieres Sunday, April 2, at 9 p.m. ET/PT. I spoke with Jewel recently about the series, and she is thrilled to return to the role of Shannon Hughes.

“Shannon is a woman who once didn’t trust her intuition, and it cost her very dearly with her mother, and she made a promise to herself to never ignore her intuition again. And her fight is really every woman’s fight, every human’s right, which is to speak up for your inner ‘knowing’ and what you know is right and act on that. It was so synergistic with the platform that I’m building (with jewelneverbroken.com), and getting to act a character who’s actually trying to live the same thing was a real fun opportunity.”

Jewel also sees parallels between acting and being a singer/songwriter/poet: “While there are definitely different aspects of the craft, the way I find my way into it is pretty similar. I wasn’t formally taught music; I taught myself guitar, and you teach yourself songwriting — same thing with poetry.”

Q: Do you know when “Game of Thrones” will be back? Usually it’s around April or May, but I haven’t heard anything.

— George A. in Rhode Island

A: HBO has pushed back the premiere a few months. While there is not an exact date as of this writing, word has it that season seven will premiere in July. Don’t forget, season seven will have only seven episodes, with the eighth and final season rumored to have just six.

Q: A few months back, I heard about a new Bill Nye science show. Can you give me any more information on that?

— Kelli T., via email

A: “Bill Nye Saves the World” drops April 21 on Netflix. Each episode will tackle a topic from a scientific point of view, dispelling myths and refuting anti-scientific claims that may be espoused by politicians, religious leaders or titans of industry.

— Write to Cindy at King Features Weekly Service, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803; or email her at letters@cindyelavsky.com.

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THIS WEEK ON WGCU-TV

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 10:30 P.M.
Tom Jones: A Soundstage Special
Special guest Grammy winner Alison Krauss joins Tom Jones, who performs signature songs “Delilah,” “It’s Not Unusual,” “Green, Green Grass of Home,” “Kiss” and “Thunderball,” as well as new material from his recent albums.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 11 P.M.
You Are the Universe with Deepak Chopra, MD
The New York Times bestselling author talks about transformation and a new spiritual age.

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 8 P.M.
The Best of WGCU

SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 8 P.M.
The Best of WGCU

MONDAY, MARCH 20, 8 P.M.
The Best of WGCU

TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 10 P.M.
Frontline: Iraq Uncovered
This timely investigative report from inside Iraq examines the forces vying for control in Iraq and what’s happening in the places where ISIS has been pushed out. On the ground, in dangerous conditions, the film looks at the militias working with the military, the impact on civilians and concerns about sectarian fighting erupting inside the country.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 8 P.M.
The Best of WGCU
3rd ANNUAL NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
APRIL 1, 2017 • 3 PM
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“THE STRUGGLE TO BRIDGE THE HUMAN RIGHTS DIVIDE:
JUDEO-CHRISTIAN CULTURE AND ISLAM”

A TIMELY DISCUSSION FEATURING
DR. ANDREW J. TABLER, The Washington Institute – on Syria
DR. SONER CAGAPTAY, The Washington Institute – on Turkey
DR. SARAH FEUER, The Washington Institute – on North Africa
STUART ROTH, American Center for Law & Justice – on United Nations
Moderated by MIMI GREGORY • Reception to Follow

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FR. PHILEMON PATITSAS, PRESIDING PRIEST

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NON-SUBSCRIBERS: $30 - REGISTER ON Eventbrite OR AT
www.christianrightsandfreedom.org (SHOW YOUR RECEIPT/TICKET AT THE DOOR)
SAVE THE DATE

- "A Little Bit o’ Blarney" to benefit Collier Child Care Resources takes place from 6-9 p.m. Friday, March 17, at Clive Daniel Home. Doug Keating and The Keating Group of Downing-Frye Realty host the night of live entertainment, dancing, a 50/50 cash raffle and hearty appetizers (cash bar). Tickets for $60 (two for $100) are available through www.eventbrite.com. For more information, call CCCR at 643-9908 or visit www.collierchildcare.org.

- The San Marco Knights of Columbus Assembly 2594 host a Senior Prom Dinner Dance from 6:30-10:30 p.m. Saturday, March 18, at the San Marco Parish Center on Marco Island. DJ Scott Dean will spin the best tunes from the ’50s and ’60s, and the prom king and queen will be crowned. Tickets for $55 (cash bar) are available at the church office or by calling 642-9840, 450-4065 or (201) 681-8988.

- The eighth annual Baffish Bash for the Bay to benefit Friends of Boney Lake Bay takes place from 6-10:30 p.m. Saturday, March 18, at the Boney Lake Environmental Learning Center. For tickets or more information, visit www.wcrookerybay.org.

- The Marco Players invite friends to figure out whodunit on a two-hour mystery cruise aboard the Marco Princess on Monday evening, March 20. Tickets are $389 (cash bar). To sign up, call Sunshine Tours at 642-5415.

- The Holocaust Museum & Education Center of Southwest Florida hosts Triumph 2017: “The Freedom Writ-er’s Story” on Wednesday evening, March 22, at Quail West Golf and Country Club. Erin Gruwell, the teacher/star of the film “Romeo Must Die,” will share her insights on the life-changing power of education. Tickets are $275. For more information, call Tim Morrison at 263-9200 or email tim@holocaustmuseumSWFL.org.

- "Couture, Cuisine and Charity" to benefit Friends of Foster Children Forever takes place from 5:30-8 p.m. Thursday, March 23, at the Village on Venetian Bay. Guests will enjoy a runway fashion show hosted by Walker Henry featuring designs from Village boutiques, Village restaurants and retailers will offer wine and culinary samplings. Tickets are $40 in advance, $50 on the night of the event. Reservations are suggested.

- Naples Performing Arts Center hosts its second annual semi-formal Dad-Daughter Dance from 5-7 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at the center at 6646 Willow Park Drive. Guests will enjoy games and lessons in waltz and swing dance steps. All ages are welcome. Tickets are $75 for dad and daughter, $25 for each additional daughter. For tickets, visit www.nzadad-daughterDance.eventbrite.com.

- The 10th annual Boots & Boogie Bash to benefit Friends of Foster Children Forever takes place Saturday, March 25, at Grey Oaks Country Club. The “Boots & Bling” evening includes cocktails and dinner, silent and live auctions, entertainment by Pzazz Productions and dancing to the Blue Stone Circle Band. Celebrity emcees are Krista Fogelson of ABC-7 and Brian Roland to Crave Culinaire. Tickets are $250 per person, $350 per patron and $1,000 for a patron table. For tickets or information, call 262-8808 or visit www.friendsoffosterchildren.net.

- The 2017 NCH Magnolia Ball is set for Saturday, March 25, at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort to benefit the hospital system’s oncology programs, specifically to launch a comprehensive cancer navigation program to guide patients and their families through the patient’s care. For more information, call Monica Biondo at the NCH Healthcare System Foundation at 624-2000 or email foundation@nchmd.org.

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The Alpha-1 Foundation hosts “Anchors Away for Alpha-1” on Thurs- day evening, March 30, at the Naples Yacht Club. Keynote speaker Dr. Robert Sandhaus of National Jewish Health will discuss “Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency: What You Need to Know about Genetic COPD and Liver Disease.”

Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency is a genetic disorder that can cause liver disease in children and lung or liver disease in adults. The Alpha-1 Foundation has funded more than $65 million in research and programs for Alpha-1. Tickets for $200 include dinner, spirits and valet parking. For more information or to purchase tickets, call Jeanne Kush- ner at (877) 228-7321, ext. 204, or email jk Kushner@alphal.org.

CHAMPIONS FOR LEARNING

Champions For Learning and Suncoast Credit Union host the 27th annual Golden Apple Celebration of Teachers Dinner honoring the 2017 Golden Apple recipients, Teachers of Distinction and Collier County Public Schools’ Teachers of the Year from 6-9 p.m. Friday, March 31, at the Naples Grande Beach Resort. Myra Janes-Daniels will be honored as the newest Heart of the Apple recipient. The Golden Apple recipients are: Joanna Campanile and Janell Matos, Poinciana Elementary; Anne Fredette, Lorenzo Walker Technical College; Ashley Lyons Heirls, Highlands Elementary; Maria LaRocco, Saba Palm Elementary; Amanda McCoy, Manatee Middle; and Stacy Smith, Palmetto Ridge High. Tickets are $125. For tickets or more information, call Champions For Learning at 643-4275 or visit www.championsforlearning.org.

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Give us this day our Daily Bread.
Location: AVOW Hospice
1095 Whippoorwill Lane, Naples, FL 34105
Presenter: Chaplain Henry Braga, M Div., AVOW Hospice

MARCH 29
And lead us not into Temptation...
Location: Naples YMCA
5450 YMCA Road, Naples, FL 34109
Presenter: Dr. Donald Wortham, Ph.D., President, Hodges University

APRIL 5
And load us not into Temptation...
Location: St. Agnes Catholic Church
7735 Vanderbilt Beach Road, Naples, FL 34120
Presenter: Father Bob Kantor, Pastor, St. Agnes Catholic Church

APRIL 12
But deliver us from Evil.
Location: East Naples United Methodist Church
2701 Airport Road South, Naples, FL 34112
Presenter: Pastor Zenford Gause, Pastor, East Naples United Methodist Church

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■ The 28th annual Wanderlust culinary and travel auction to benefit the School of Resort & Hospitality Management at Florida Gulf Coast University takes place from 6-9 p.m. Saturday, April 1, at Six Bends Harley-Davidson in Fort Myers, followed by an after party at HeadPinz in Fort Myers. Tickets are $250 ($150 for School of Resort & Hospitality Management alumni). For tickets or more information, email wanderlust@fgcu.edu or visit www.FGCUWanderlust.org.

■ Legal Aid Services of Collier County holds its annual Barristers Bash from 6-9 p.m. Thursday, April 27, at the Hilton Naples. Tickets are limited to the first 300 sold. For more information, call Logan Meester at 775-4555 or email lmeester@legalaid.org.

■ Collier Child Care Resources holds its fifth annual “Big Impressions by Little Artists” from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, May 5, at the Hilton Naples. This year’s artwork will be inspired by the Reggio Emilia educational philosophy. Creations by the children follow the Reggio Emilia educational program and the natural environment in harmony for preschoolers of teen parents who are completing their high school education. ■ Email details about your charity gala or fundraising soiree to Cindy Pierce at cpierce@floridaweekly.com.

The Naples Orchestra & Chorus Max Rabinovitsj Artistic Director Stephen Parker, Assistant Conductor & Choral Director VIOLIN SOLOIST WANCHI HUANG

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART Overture to the Marriage of Figaro, K.492
WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART Violin Concerto No. 5 in A Major, K.219
FRANZ JOSEPH HAYDN Missa Solemnis in B flat Major

Saturday, March 18, 2017 at 7:00 PM
Sunday, March 19, 2017 at 2:00 PM

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THURSDAY
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WEDNESDAY
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Open Faced Tuna Melt $10
Wheat bread, tomato, tuna salad and Swiss cheese served with fries and a pickle
Baked Haddock Aldo $13
Topped with grilled scallops and beurre blanc served with rice and veggies
Fried BBQ Chicken Garden Salad $12
Mixed greens, cucumbers, tomatoes, toasted almonds and fried wonton strips served with balsamic vinaigrette
Lunch Shrimp & Lobster Mac & Cheese $16
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7. Ralph Stayer and Shelly Stayer
8. Jamie Dockweiler and Heather Dockweiler
9. Bob Clifford and Scott Lutgert

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C28 | WEEK OF MARCH 16-22, 2017 | NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY
SOCIETY

Conservancy patrons flock to 13th annual Magic Under the Mangroves

1. Ron Ciesla, Charlie Mueller, Dan Hickey, Tori Mueller, Stephanie Goforth, Linda Hewelling, Mickey Shes and Dean Charne
2. Stephanie Prebish, Richard Prebish, Henley Shotwell and Kelly Shotwell
3. Lisa Ficarra and Doug Van Oort
4. William Bosqian, Diane McGanity, Sue Dalton and Henry Dinardo
5. Ed Eaton and Tookie Eaton
6. Sharon von Ax and Geri Malt
7. Rob Moher, Carol Dinardo and Henry Dinardo
8. The 2017 theme “Flock to Magic for a Bird’s Eye View” theme represented in food

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

An Enchanted Evening for Everglades Wonder Gardens

2. Rick Rechler, Maquette Rubacky, Susan Rechler and Gerald Smith
3. Jennifer Haxley, Lisa Nakfoor and Tracy Buenmeyer
4. Sandra Quinn
5. Jerry Nichols and Susan Grose
6. Connie McIntosh and Steve McIntosh
7. Thomas Hecker, Jennifer Hecker and Mike Gibson
8. Mary Kay Mathes and John Mathes
9. John Flammang, Donna Flammang and Linda Gutshall

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SOCIETY

A gala affair for the Marco Island Center for the Arts

1. Emily James, John James, Pat Kaufman, Scott Kaufman, Rosemary Wick and Michael Wick
2. Michelle Richards, Casey Panepinto, Gerry Richards, Michael Richards, Alyson Richards and Jim Richards
3. Ji Kim, KD Kim, Ralph Howard and Heidi Darrow
4. Jean King, Gail Fischer and Lorraine Johnson
5. Gord Dumain and Jackie Pierce
6. Dawn Birch and Kate Anderson
7. Russ Darrow and Sue Darrow
8. Mara Darrow and Russ Darrow Jr.
9. Anne Burns and Hyla Crane

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

**Zen Asian Bistro** has expanded its lunch menu to include bento boxes with a choice of Japanese, Korean or Thai combinations.

**1500 South** hosts a six-course wine dinner featuring vintages from Cakebread Cellars and dishes like KWP shrimp carbonara with sweet pea tortellini, cured duck breast with foie gras jus and wild berries and strawberry shortcake with toasted pistachios and Greek yogurt gelato at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 16. $189. 1500 Fifth Ave. S. 774-1500 or www.1500southnaples.com.

Be sure to hit up these spots to celebrate St. Patrick’s Day with food, fun, beer and a bit o’ the green: Bar Tulla goes Irish for a day on Friday, March 17, with green beer on draft and corned beef and cabbage on the menu. Other eateries honoring the Emerald Isle with food and drink specials (and entertainment in some cases) include: Stage Deli Fine Foods, Tavern on the Bay, Erin’s Isle, Vergina and Bill’s Steak & Seafood.

**Naples Wine Collection** hosts a tasting of California wines from vintners including Truchard, Saddleback and Titus from 5-6:30 Friday, March 17. Up next: a tasting of Nicholas Allen wines from 5-6:30 p.m. Friday, March 24. Guests at each event will sip samples accompanied by light hors d’oeuvres.

The cost is $25, with discounts offered on bottles of the featured wines to take home. 367 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 513-0095 or www.napleswinecollection.com.

**Sunshine Ace Hardware** stores in Naples and Marco Island host a grilling demonstration, family activities, raffles, and more at its **Sunshine Ace Grill & Chill** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 18. www.sunshineace.com.

**Ridgeway Bar & Grill** hosts a book signing, cooking demonstration and tasting with Brian Talley, president of Talley Vineyards and Talley Farms, from 5:30 p.m. Monday, March 20. Guests will enjoy dishes from Talley’s new book, “Our California Table,” while sipping wines from his vineyards. $35. 1300 Third St. S. 239-262-5500 or www.ridgewaybarandgrill.com.

**Tony’s Off Third** and VINTUS host a tasting of selections from favorite vintners including Chateau Montelena, Brewer-Clifton and Ponzi from 5:30-7 p.m. Wednesday, March 22. $18. 1300 Third St. S. 239-262-7999 or www.tonysoffthird.com.

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Café & Bar Lurcat offers a variety of cocktails, like this Old Fashioned, to complement its new, extensive collection of bourbon selections.

- Café Lurcat recently introduced a new bourbon program with 21 options and a variety of serving methods, bitters and cocktails that include Old Fashioneds, Sazeracs, Manhattan and more. 494 Fifth Ave. S. 213-3357 or www.cafelurcat.com.

- 21 Spices now offers a three-course early bird menu from 5-6 p.m. for $35, including a glass of wine. Dishes include chicken tikka skewers, lamb rogan josh and gulab jamun. Chef Asif Syed also holds cooking classes featuring Indian cuisine from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Saturday through March. $65. Reservations required for classes. 909-8830 or www.21spicedsining.com.

- In observance of the Lenten season, The Local offers $15 dinner specials featuring fresh Florida fish every day through April 15 (Holy Saturday). Depending on availability, sustainably harvested triggerfish, amberjack, margate, grouper, snapper and golden tilefish are on the menu. Diners can select the chef’s recommended preparation or choose to have the catch of the day sautéed or grilled. The entrée can be served atop greens as a salad or with two sides. 596-3276 or www.thelocalnaples.com.

- Want to work on your skills in the kitchen? Here are some cooking classes on the front burner:
  - The Good Life of Naples, 2355 Vanderbilt Beach Road; $46-463 or www.goodlifenaples.com – Captivating Classic: Thursday, March 16 ($79); Treasures of the Mediterranean: Wednesday, March 22 ($79).
  - Sur Le Table, 950 Strada Place, Mercato; 598-1463 or www.surlatable.com – Marvelous French Macarons: Thursday, March 16 ($69); Date Night Ireland: Friday, March 17 ($69); Fabulous French Crepes: Saturday, March 18 ($69); Thai Restaurant Favorites: Saturday, March 18 ($69); Date Night Steakhouse Favorites: Saturday, March 21 ($85); Barbie You Can Be A Chef: Sunday, March 19 ($49); Knife Skills 101: Sunday, March 19 ($59); Wine Country Favorites: Sunday, March 19 ($69); Soufflé 101: Tuesday, March 21 ($48.96); Exploring Italy Risotto: Tuesday, March 21 ($69); Great British Baking: Wednesday, March 22 ($69).
Catching up on the wine tasting

Great value, and a steal at the price. A big, dark, black wine in the glass, it delivers aromas of warm earth and smoke, but fruit flavors on the palate. You’ll enjoy the complexity of the blackberry, raspberry, black pepper, baking chocolate and mushroom. Lovely. WW 89-90.

Bousquet Malbec Tupungato Valley Mendoza Grande Reserva 2013 ($25) — A wine that’s very much about the place and the soil … an Old World style. Bold flavors of earth, truffle and black tobacco. WW 88.

Kendall-Jackson Chardonnay Grand Reserve 2013 ($34) — From the middle-range of the KJ portfolio, this is a great everyday sipper. Medium-bodied, with balanced oak notes supporting apple and lemon flavors. WW 87-88.

Meeomi Chardonnay California 2015 ($13) — Grapes are blended from three very diverse regions in this wine. It’s bold and creamy with a buttery mouthfeel and an entertaining hint of buttered popcorn. Straightforward flavors of pear and white peach. WW 88.

Ask the Wine Whisperer

Q: I’ve read some articles recently about “vegan” wines. Can you clarify what this terms means?

A: This isn’t the first question I’ve received about the issue of so-called “vegan” wines. This term is starting to enter the vocabulary of the wine world, and there’s a lot of confusion about it. So let me try to answer it in some detail.

Wine is made from fruit, which is about as vegan as things get. What could there possibly be in the bottle that comes from animals? Well, it turns out there are two things.

Often, wine is put through a process called “fining.” This is a way to clarify the liquid and get rid of any floating fruit solids that remain after fermentation and the “racking” of the wine from the big vats into smaller barrels. Fining involves putting some substance in the wine that’s heavier than the liquid. It settles to the bottom, taking the particles with it. For centuries winemakers have used either gelatin or egg whites as fining agents. Both are derived from animal products, and that’s what has the vegans on edge.

More recently, many winemakers use another pure inert material such as bentonite, which is a clay formed by the weathering of volcanic ash. So it’s a mineral. It also has a strong negative charge, so it pulls impurities toward it. The problem is that while some bottle labels will tell you the product is “unfiltered and unfined,” it will never tell you whether it was fined … or what kind of fining agent was used. So the concept of “vegan” wines will remain somewhat problematic, at least for the time being.

— Jerry Greenfield is the Wine Whisperer. He is also the creative director of Greenfield Advertising Group. Find his book, “Secrets of the Wine Whisperer,” on Amazon or at www.winewhisperer.com, where his other writings are also available.

The wine business is, in one sense, like any other. Wisemakers want to get their products in front of the public. Some companies advertise their wares on television, or radio, or in newspapers. Wine producers have different strategies.

One of the great things about being a journalist in general — and a wine journalist in particular — is that wineries and their public relations firms send out sample bottles, in the hope that we will evaluate the wines and recommend them to our readers. As you know, I do that faithfully in this space twice a month.

However, the supply far exceeds the space I’m given, as well as the lamentable infrequency of my column, so bottles tend to stack up in the cellar, awaiting my attention and evaluation. The backlog recently got so large I invited some very knowledgeable and discriminating wine friends over for a massive tasting session, where we sampled, critically discussed and rated about 20 different wines. We were very happy when we finished.

So this column is a kind of “catch up” piece, where I’m listing several wines we particularly enjoyed. I hope you like them as well as we did. And please persist to the Q&A at the end ... it’s an especially interesting topic.

Matanzas Creek Merlot Sonoma 2013 ($30) — A full-bodied effort, dark ruby in the glass and bold aromas of chocolate and red fruit. Very fruit forward, and certainly a great food wine. WW 90-91.

Avignonesi Rosso di Montalcino 2013 ($377) — This “baby Brunello” would be great with grilled meats. Medium-bodied on the palate, flavors of red currant, cherry, and violets. WW 89.

Concannon Petite Sirah 2014 ($11) — A wine that’s very much about the place and the soil … an Old World style. Bold flavors of earth, truffle and black tobacco. WW 88.

■
Early last summer, I pulled into Antica Trattoria on Bonita Beach Road in the midst of a rainstorm. The parking lot was deserted, the front door was open and the tables were unoccupied. Not good omens, obviously, but it was too late to turn around and find another restaurant to review.

So, we sat down and ordered glasses of wine. That’s when the server told us: They were closing for summer the next day. Chef-owner Antonio Scotto insisted on cooking for us anyway and encouraged us to return in the fall. I can’t remember what he served us from his dimishing pantry, but it was good, wholesome Italian food and the hospitality and integrity mattered more than the specific dish.

I do remember the chef bemoaning the fact that most customers wanted the familiar, tried-and-true dishes — parmigiana, picatta, pappardella — while he yearned to celebrate his culinary roots in the coastal Campania region of southern Italy. He vowed to represent the region when he came back after the summer hiatus.

True to his word, Mr. Scotto has a full complement of chef’s selections on his current menu. He pays homage to the rustic pleasures of braised rabbit (must be ordered two days in advance), sauteed beef tripe, beef braciola and grilled octopus with cannellini. The nine selections allow him to satisfy his soul while placating the predictable American palate.

Not offered during special events on Fifth Avenue South or national holidays.

Mr. Scotto’s wife, Claudia Plaza, is the pastry chef behind such delights as a pear and dark chocolate tart, complete with buttery crust, and flaky, pastry-crust cannolis.

As regular readers know, we eat at a lot of Italian restaurants because they just keep proliferating. Mr. Scotto is making the effort to offer something beyond the usual Italian-American repertoire, so we decided to focus on his chef’s selections for our main course.

The fried zucchini planks ($9) were lightly battered, almost like tempura, and dusted with Parmesan. They were obviously hand cut, not out of a jarred basil sauce. There was fresh basil on the premises — we saw the chef plucking leaves for garnish from a plant kept on the kitchen counter. Considering the care taken with the dish’s other ingredients, it’s hard to understand the misstep.

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The Polipo al Tegamo ($24) features octopus, which seems to be enjoying a moment in the culinary spotlight after decades of indifference in America.

Here it’s gently simmered in a fresh cherry-tomato sauce seasoned with a bit of garlic, wine and fresh basil. Slow cooking renders the leg meat incredibly tender and imubes it with mouthwatering tomato flavor. A generous portion is ladled over cavatelli pasta for a delicious and hearty entree.

Another chef’s selection, Granchio e Gamberi all Nerone ($26), showcased some of our local waters’ treasures. Hefty chunks of jumbo lump crabmeat and three grilled jumbo shrimp were tucked into a bed of “lentil polenta,” a smooth puree with a mild flavor that played a strong supporting role for the dish. The main attraction, of course, was the crab and perfectly grilled shell-on shrimp. The only fault with this entree: dollops of pesto that had the bitter taste of old or jarred basil sauce. There was fresh basil on the premises — we saw the chef plucking leaves for garnish from a plant kept on the kitchen counter. Considering the care taken with the dish’s other ingredients, it’s hard to understand the misstep.

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Get a glimpse into Naples Reserve’s casually awesome lifestyle along the water’s edge and tour the newly opened D.R. Horton’s Cambridge Villa model Saturday, March 18 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

After touring the new two-bedroom, two-bath villa plus den model home, guests are invited to enjoy refreshments and entertainment at Naples Reserve’s Key West-inspired Island Club. Experience the community’s resort-style amenities and check out the colorful tropical fish in the Welcome Center’s 850-gallon cylindrical aquarium.

The Cambridge Villa model is located in Coral Harbor, a neighborhood of attached villa homes offering lake and preserve views and low-maintenance, easy Florida living, and is priced from $284,990.

With a sophisticated gold-and-cream-theme interior by One of a Kind Design, the Cambridge’s great room design seamlessly blends dining and living areas in 1,519 air-conditioned square feet and offers a breezy lanai for alfresco enjoyment, day and night.

Touches of merlot, contemporary metallic lighting fixtures, and glass and Lucite accent pieces unify the rooms, including a creamy white kitchen with gold-flecked granite countertops and a breakfast bar. The master suite, complete with dual walk-in closets, features a plush, metallic-accented upholstered off-white headboard and a romantically playful crystal chandelier. The den – envisioned here as an intimate home office with a loveseat, a Lucite desk and twin gold-burnished bookcases – offers additional opportunities for personalization.

D.R. Horton’s sales center at Naples Reserve is located in the Wheaton model, one of D.R. Horton’s five single-family homes in the Savannah Lakes neighborhood. The builder also offers five single-family floor plans in the Egret Landing neighborhood. D.R. Horton’s single-family homes in Naples Reserve are priced from the low-$300s.

Looking for even more inspiration? Naples Reserve, created by award-winning developer iStar, offers an amazing variety of home designs in neighborhoods nestled around 22 freshwater lakes. Offering three and four bedrooms, large outdoor areas with pools and spas, and 2,100 to more than 3,500 square feet of living space, 16 additional fully decorated model homes from Southwest Florida’s premier homebuilders feature designer details such as tongue-and-groove treatments, coffer and cove-lit ceilings, wood and stone flooring, granite and quartz countertops, custom cabinetry and luxury finishes.

Naples Reserve’s villa homes, single-family and custom estate homes are available from the high-$200s to more than $1 million. The Island Club’s clubhouse and fitness center, the epicenter of all things social at Naples Reserve, is where residents in search of relaxation bask in the chaise lounges near the expansive, resort-style pool, and sports seekers enjoy spirited games of volleyball and bocce ball on the white sand lakefront beach. Is it time for a fun umbrella drink? Head to the Chat n Chill Tiki Bar, or visit Latitudes Cafe for deliciously casual fare before nighttime stargazing at the lakeside fire pit.

The Outrigger Center offers paddleboards, kayaks and canoes for independent adventures, while cruises on the community’s two Duffy boats depart from the center’s floating docks for residents to explore Naples Reserve’s centerpiece: the 125-acre Eagle Lake and Kontiki Island. Coming soon to Naples Reserve are a community boat ramp, the lakeside Match Point tennis and pickleball complex, plus dog parks, tot lots and a meandering biking, hiking and jogging linear park.

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.
Harbourside Custom Homes is offering three new residences for purchase in the award-winning Talis Park community's Corsica neighborhood. Corsica offers the unique combination of multiple product choices, close proximity to every amenity within the community, and park-like views. The neighborhood is just minutes from Talis Park's Sports Complex that includes lighted Har-Tru tennis courts, a tennis pro shop and clubhouse, bocce ball courts, a two-lane lap pool, and a children's playground. Corsica is also within a short walk, bike ride, or golf cart ride from Talis Park's award-winning Vyne House clubhouse.

Corsica includes twenty-four single-family home sites that will accommodate residences from 3,000 to 4,500 square feet. North-facing home sites with water and fairway views are priced from $505,000 to $905,000. Home and lot packages are available from $1.6 to $2.5 million. Builder-owned home sites remain available. The single-family residences in Corsica are being built by Harbourside, Sunwest Homes, M Development, and Fox Custom Builders.

Harbourside's Villa Adriana III furnished model showcases an interior by Den-
Above: The previously sold second floor Sienna Coach Home at Corsica model at Talis Park offers 3,302 square feet under air and 527 square feet of covered lanai space. The model is available for viewing through a builder leaseback. Move-in ready coach homes are available for purchase. Right: Harbourside Custom Homes' new Villa Adriana III furnished model in Corsica at Talis Park is expected to be completed in June and is available purchase at $2,250,000 with a leaseback. The 3,101 square feet under air residence will showcase an interior by Clive Daniel Home. Below: Priced at $2,595,000 with furnishings, the 3,950 square feet, furnished, two-story Grand Santa Barbara model by Sunwest Homes is open and available for viewing and purchase in Talis Park's Corsica neighborhood. Owner Lita Dirks. Dirks' light and airy design concept that both inspires excitement and oozes comfort introduces a color palette that embodies the sea and sky mingled with the warmth of sun and sand. Wide plank hardwood flooring throughout the living areas is a shade of sandy gray driftwood. Owner Lita Dirks. Dirks' light and airy design concept that both inspires excitement and oozes comfort introduces a color palette that embodies the sea and sky mingled with the warmth of sun and sand. Wide plank hardwood flooring throughout the living areas is a shade of sandy gray driftwood.

Harbourside Custom Homes is offering three new homes in Corsica at Talis Park

Each residence includes a private arrival foyer and gallery hallway entry that leads to a spacious great room, island kitchen, and dining area. The plan includes four bedrooms, three-and-a-half baths, a study, and a three-car garage. The great room and dining area open to an outdoor living area with a fireplace, summer kitchen, pool, spa, and a screened colonnade.

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(Bridge on Vanderbilt Drive, between 111th Ave. N. and Wiggins Pass Rd. closed)

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Stock Signature Homes presenting 25 furnished models on final weekend of CBIA Parade of Homes

Stock Signature Homes is presenting an array of 25 designer-decorated furnished models during the CBIA Multi-Site Parade of Homes Friday through Sunday, the final weekend of the 2017 Parade. Nine of the models were named recipients of Parade of Homes awards, including five Overall Excellence in Construction and Design winners and four Merit Award winners.

Stock’s Windsor III model in Esplanade Golf & Country Club of Naples’ Salara neighborhood received an Overall Excellence award in the $2,001,000-$2,250,000 category and offers 4,235 square feet with three bedrooms, a fourth bedroom or rec room, four-and-a-half baths, a great room, study, dining room, island kitchen, and an outdoor living area with a fireplace, kitchen, pool, and spa. The Windsor III is offered at $2,038,715. The previously sold Glenmore in Arroyo at Esplanade was named a Merit Award winner, $1,501,000-$1,750,000 and offers a 3,991 square feet three-bedroom plan with four bedrooms, a study, four-and-a-half baths, a formal dining room and gourmet kitchen island, and an outdoor living area with a fireplace, summer kitchen, pool and spa. Stock’s previously sold Windsor model in Lake Estates at Twin Eagles also won a Merit Award and presents a great room plan with a formal dining room, island kitchen, his and her studies, four bedrooms, four-and-a-half baths, and a covered lanai with a fireplace, summer kitchen, pool and spa.

Stock is presenting models in Parrot Cay and Sparrow Cay at Naples Reserve. The 2,947 square feet Madison in Parrot Cay is priced at $1,395,800 while the 3,255 square feet Merit Award winning Muirfield III also in Parrot Cay is offered at $1,402,000. The Sparrow Cay models include the Overall Excellence $901,000-$1 million award-winning 2,934 square feet Anastasia priced at $1,041,700, the 2,434 square feet Venice priced at $956,700; and the 2,384 square feet Biscayne priced at $906,330.

Stock is presenting two estate models Pine Ridge Estates. The residence at 392 West Street was named Overall Excellence winner $3,001,000-$3,500,000 with 4,369 square feet plus 1,084 square feet of covered lanai space. The great room floor plan features an interior entry foyer that leads to an elegant reception room, island kitchen, study, exercise room, three bedrooms plus a VIP suite, and three-and-a-half baths plus a pool bath. An outdoor fireplace, outdoor kitchen, pool and spa are included. A second model at 86 North Street in Pine Ridge Estates is priced at $3,895,000. This serene retreat is finished in soft taupes with accents of sky blues and cremes. Oak wood flooring is found throughout the home.

Stock’s model at 3750 Fountainhead Lane in Park Shore received Park Shore’s 2017 Beautification Award and a Merit Award $3,001,000-$3,500,000 from the Parade of Homes. Priced at $3,895,000, the 4,389 square feet two-story residence showcases a floor plan with a living room featuring a fireplace, a two-story ceiling, and opens to an outdoor living area with a fireplace, outdoor kitchen, and a pool and spa.

The latest addition to Stock’s collection of luxurious estate models is at 3050 Crayton Road in the Moorings. Priced at $3,895,000 with furnishings, the 4,389 square feet estate features an interior entry foyer that leads to an elegant reception room, the living areas include a great room with a fireplace, an island kitchen, a walk-in pantry, formal dining room, study, four bedrooms, four-and-a-half baths plus a pool bath, a one-car garage, and a two-car garage. The great room, study, master bedroom, and breakfast area open to an outdoor living area with a summer kitchen, fireplace, pool and spa.

Stock models in Parrot Cay and Sparrow Cay at Naples Reserve during the Parade of Homes and was named recipient of CBIA Overall Excellence award in the $2,001,000-$2,250,000 category. The Windsor III is offered at $2,038,715 with furnishings. Stock Signature Homes’ furnished model at 3750 Fountainhead Lane was named recipient of Park Shore’s 2017 Beautification Award and received a Merit Award $3,001,000-$3,500,000 from the Parade of Homes. The two-story residence is priced at $3,395,000 with furnishings. Right: The 2,913 square feet Anastasia residence is one of five furnished models Stock Signature Homes is presenting at Naples Reserve during the Parade of Homes and was named recipient of CBIA Overall Excellence award in the $901,000-$1 million category.

Above: Stock Signature Homes’ Windsor III model in Esplanade Golf & Country Club of Naples’ Salara neighborhood received a CBIA Overall Excellence award in the $2,001,000-$2,250,000 category. The Windsor III is offered at $2,038,715 with furnishings. Stock Signature Homes’ furnished model at 3750 Fountainhead Lane was named recipient of Park Shore’s 2017 Beautification Award and received a Merit Award $3,001,000-$3,500,000 from the Parade of Homes. The two-story residence is priced at $3,395,000 with furnishings. Right: The 2,913 square feet Anastasia residence is one of five furnished models Stock Signature Homes is presenting at Naples Reserve during the Parade of Homes and was named recipient of CBIA Overall Excellence award in the $901,000-$1 million category.

Stock’s 4,238 square feet Stella model in Bay Woods at Bonita Bay is priced at $2,809,000. Four models are featured at Quail West, including the 4,937 square feet Aquila in the $2,999,990-$3,250,000 category. Three models are in the Cortland neighborhood, including the 4,297 square feet Cameron priced at $2,358,500; the open-concept Norman III priced at $2,087,000; and the 4,238 square feet Stella priced at $2,399,460.

Two Stock models are showcased at the Isles of Collier Preserve. The 3,401 square feet Cocoplum also includes a 1,004 square-foot covered lanai. The plan features a great room that opens to the lanai and a built-in entertainment center, an island kitchen, dining room, study, four bedrooms, four-and-a-half baths and a three-car garage. The Marigold includes 3,578 square feet under air plus 1,062 square feet of covered lanai space. The model features a great room, island kitchen, formal dining room, four bedrooms or three bedrooms plus a bonus room, a study, four-and-a-half baths, and an outdoor living area with a fireplace, kitchen, pool and spa. The Marigold is priced at $2,884,730.

Four Stock models are being presented at Lely Resort, two of which are in Lakoya. The 1,809 square feet San Remo III model is priced at $734,990 and offers a great room plan with two bedrooms, two baths, a study, and a two-car garage. The 1,916 square feet, three-bedroom, two-bath Arvanita is priced at $534,990 and includes formal living and dining rooms and a two-car garage. Second floor coach homes are featured in Cipriani and Signature Club. The 2,899 square feet Overall Excellence $601,000-$670,000 award winner San Marco in Cipriani is priced at $689,990 and offers a great room plan with three bedrooms, three baths, an island kitchen, a club room, and a two-car garage. The previously sold 2,096 square feet Wentworth coach home in the Signature Club is also being featured. To learn more about the models featured by Stock Signature Homes in the CBIA Multi-Site Parade of Homes, visit stockdevelopment.com.
StoneCreek in Naples offers exciting new-home designs and an amazing resort lifestyle. The 6+ acre recreation area features everything you’ve ever imagined and more! Plus, this magnificent community has gorgeous single-family residences with luxury standard features other builders don’t offer. Visit today and see all of StoneCreek’s gorgeous new models.

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DUBONNET GRANDE - 649,000
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Conveniently located near award-winning beaches and easily accessible to the dynamic downtown scene in Naples, StoneCreek by GL Homes is exceeding homebuyers’ expectations. Offering stunning single-family homes priced from the $400,000s to the $800,000s and amazing recreational amenities, StoneCreek has become the hottest community in Naples.

“At GL Homes, we are committed to excellence and the happy residents at StoneCreek are a true testament to that commitment,” said Tambra Wolfe, vice president and project manager for GL Homes at StoneCreek and Riverstone. “We love hearing the positive feedback from our homeowners. They are excited about the lifestyle they have here in StoneCreek.”

Homebuyers can now take advantage of incredible savings on to-be-built homes and Quick Delivery homes. Depending on the collection and the model, residents can receive $5,000 to $10,000 on upgrades or closing costs on a new build and up to $40,000 off the purchase price or closing costs on Quick Delivery Homes.

With 19 new home designs available, StoneCreek offers a variety of unique floorplans to fit any homebuyer’s needs. Ranging in size from 1,991 to 4,879 square feet of air-conditioned living space, every home comes built with beautiful interior finishes and luxury standard features, such as impact resistant windows on the front of the house, elegant granite countertops in the bathrooms and kitchens, natural gas appliances and tile in the main living areas.

Residents will be impressed with the community’s amenities that are thoughtfully created to fit the desired lifestyle in the Stonecreek community. At the center of a more than six-acre recreational hub is an impressive 13,000 square-foot decorator-decorated clubhouse that includes a unique and expansive indoor air-conditioned sports court for basketball, volleyball and more; a social hall with catering kitchen; a multipurpose studio for activities including arts and crafts and fitness classes; a billiards and game room; card room and state-of-the-art fitness equipment.

Outside the clubhouse, residents will enjoy a resort-style swimming pool and lap/exercise pool; a Jacuzzi spa and relaxing pool deck with shade pavilions; a wet play activity center; outdoor tiki bar; tot lot and playground for children; beach volleyball court; five lighted Har-Tru tennis courts with bleachers for viewing; four pickle ball courts; an outdoor basketball court; a party pavilion with bathrooms; and an open-playing field and a fire pit and seating area. Sidewalks wind throughout the community, perfect for walking, jogging and biking. Just minutes away from stunning beaches and A-list schools, StoneCreek is in a great location on the southwest Florida coast. Also, Naples is home to some of the most challenging golf courses in the world and is known for chic and trendy shopping, outstanding dining, a vibrant arts scene, unique family attractions and an abundance of water sports and other outdoor activities.

StoneCreek is located at 4068 Nova Lane in Naples. To visit, from I-75 take the Immokalee Road Exit 111 and travel east on Immokalee Road. Turn left on Logan Boulevard. The StoneCreek entrance is on the left, after you pass Riverstone. The new model center is open daily from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. For more information, call 239-592-6000 or visit www.GLHOMES.com.
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Mediterra celebrates an impressive decade of dominance as Naples’ 10-time Community of the Year

Mediterra continues to reign as Naples’ most coveted address, with an unprecedented 10-time honor as Community of the Year, as well as national and international accolades for its exceptional lifestyle, resort-inspired amenities and luxury custom homes.

The premier golf and beach club community extended its decade of dominance, claiming the Collier Building Industry Association’s 2016 Sand Dollar Award for best community in the $1 million and over category, and 2016 Grand Aurora Award for Best Community Site Plan.

“Mediterra is by far the most recognizable community in Southwest Florida and is becoming well known throughout the country and the world,” said Mark Wilson, president and CEO of London Bay Homes, which manages all new home construction sales and marketing for the community. “Mediterra sets the standard for private clubs and is a great place to live. It offers every possible amenity sought after by the luxury homebuyer: 36 holes of Tom Fazio-designed championship golf, a Beach Club on the Gulf of Mexico, a variety of dining options, plus activities like tennis and bocce, social clubs and events.”

Enhancing Mediterra’s lifestyle are new single-family villas and custom estate homes built by London Bay Homes, which also offers homebuyers the exclusive opportunity to bypass an approximately one-year waiting list for a membership. The builder has reserved 28 golf memberships for new homebuyers.

Mediterra homes, many offering a maintenance-free lifestyle, are tucked away in intimate neighborhoods along golf fairways, sparkling lakes and nature preserves. Five furnished model homes featuring interior design by Romanza Interior Design are now open for viewing. London Bay Homes’ one- and two-story homes offer generously sized designs flowing to outdoor destinations, including covered alfresco living and dining areas, fire pits and intimate garden spots. The homes embody the builder’s commitment to its clients’ self-expression, quality and attention to detail – the hallmarks of its Private Label Living. Additional models are in various stages of construction and another seven models will open later in 2017, Wilson said.

The Club at Mediterra is also lauded as one of the top private clubs in the world by BoardRoom magazine and was recently ranked among the top 50 of the nation’s 150 best private clubs by Platinum Club – the only Naples facility on the 2016-18 list.

Always mindful of enhancing the member experience with white-glove service and new amenities, the club recently completed extensive improvements to both golf courses, doubled the size of the Sports Club’s fitness center and added tennis and bocce courts. Golf membership is limited to just 450 to ensure a premier experience.

Mediterra’s award-winning lifestyle also includes an outdoor pool and spa treatments at the Sports Club, multiple indoor and outdoor gathering areas, and epicurean cuisine and bistro fare served at the 32,000-square-foot clubhouse.

The community’s private Beach Club promises the perfect beach day and sunset views, providing convenient concierge service for chaises, umbrellas, towels, food and beverage right on the white-sugar sand.

Find out more about Naples’ 10-time Community of the Year and its award-winning homes, priced from $1 million to more than $7 million, by logging on to www.MediterraNaples.com, calling 239-949-8989, or visiting the Mediterra Sales Center at 15836 Savona Way.
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Community features, amenities and pricing are approximate and subject to change without notice. The information and materials provided are subject to government requirements and approvals. The developer reserves the right to modify, correct errors and omissions and to make improvements to the features, amenities and plans depicted. Land uses, public and private facilities, improvements, and plans described or depicted on any materials are conceptual only, subject to government approval, and are subject to change or cancellation (in whole or in part) at any time without notice. The information and materials provided to you, or any communication made or given in connection with the foregoing may not be relied upon for any reason. Neither the developer, nor any agent or employee of the developer, nor any concessionaire, nor any agent or employee of any concessionaire, nor any trade name, nor any agent or employee of any trade name, nor any other person or entity authorized, implied or alleged by you to be acting on behalf of the developer or any of the entities described above, has made any representations or warranties express or implied except as expressly set forth in the Sales and Marketing Information. Equal Housing Opportunity.
Phase II models now open at Naples Square

With Phase II residents at Naples Square beginning to move into their new homes, The Ronto Group announced that three new furnished Phase II model residences are now open for viewing. Ronto is developing Naples Square at the corner of 5th Avenue South and Goodlette-Frank Road in downtown Naples.

The community’s walkable lifestyle is changing how people live in the downtown district. Six Phase II residences remain available for purchase. The four available Phase II plans range from 1,529 to 2,857 square feet under air and are priced from the mid-$700s. Each of the plans features open-concept living areas, open-air terraces, controlled access under-building parking, private storage, and bicycle storage within the garage.

Baer’s Furniture’s Janet Graham, ASID created the interior for the Phase II Chelsea model. Graham is bringing a soft contemporary design to the Chelsea’s two-bedroom plus den, two-and-a-half bath plan that includes 1,843 square feet under air and a 238 square feet balcony. The great room, master bedroom, and guest bedroom open to the balcony. The plan features a kitchen with a peninsula bar and food preparation area with a double-sink and dishwasher. The owner’s suite includes walk-in closets and a bath with a glass-enclosed shower and tub and separate vanities.

Graham’s design conveys an urban look reflecting the vibrancy of the home’s downtown location. Off-white walls complement 12” x 24” porcelain wood-look flooring presented in pale cream with a subtle taupe variation. The tile runs throughout the main area, into the great room, and onto the balcony. The kitchen perimeter and island cabinetry are finished in a White Chocolate Truffle tone with chrome hardware. White quartz countertops are accented by a pale green, waxy blue, grayed lavender, and silver metal surfaces, and white backgrounds with accents of periwinkle blue, grayed lavender, and silver. The foyer features a circular tile flooring inset outlined by metal strips. The detail is set into Carre-ral-look white porcelain tile with gray accents. The great room features a media wall with a linear fireplace. The media wall is faux-finished with silver striations. Recessed and paneled ceiling design details create definition between the great room and dining areas. A Parsons-style rectangular dining table features a white quartz top and stainless steel legs. White leather dining chairs surround the table.

White shaker-style cabinetry in the kitchen is complemented by a sunset-toned glass tile backsplash. Countertops on the perimeter and island are finished with white quartz with gray accents. The study features a built-in desk/shelf across one wall with white shaker-style cabinetry topped by sandy-toned quartz countertops.

Phase II Ballard model features an interior by Robb & Stucky’s Susan J. Bleda, AP, President and Principal Designer at Renee Gaddis Interiors brought a modern coastal look with an urban feel to the Denison model. The plan offers 2,204 square feet and a 290 square feet balcony while featuring three bedrooms, a den, three baths, family room and dining room, island kitchen, and a balcony accessed from the family room, dining room, and a guest bedroom. The owner’s suite includes a balcony, walk-in closets, and a bath with separate vanities, soaking tub, glass-enclosed shower, and stainless steel water closets.

Above: Base-priced at $845,000, the 1,698 square feet under air Phase III Biltmore plan at Naples Square includes a 242 square feet open-air balcony. The two-bedroom plus den, great room plan includes a spacious counter-height island kitchen with a stainless steel sink, dishwasher and a food preparation area. Left: Base-priced at $695,000, the Phase III Astoria great room plan at Naples Square offers 1,460 square feet of living space plus a 260 square feet open-air balcony. The Phase III Astoria residences are east and west facing. Below: Modeled after the 2,034 square feet under air Phase I Franklin floor plan, the two-story Phase III Fenwick plan at Naples Square offers 3,238 square feet under air, a 10% increase in air conditioned space. Phase III reservations are now being converted to contracts.

The Denison’s foyer presents a rectangular ceiling detail of white painted tongue-in-groove panels. White barn doors open to the den that includes a desk and a media wall. The ceiling design features a rustic wood look with open truss details. The kitchen features shaker-style cabinetry and Calcutta marble countertops that waterfall over the edge of the island. The island features a live-edge wood table in a smoked gray finish. The great room features a drywall coffered ceiling design to add a subtle loft-like detail. Flat stock molding is applied to frame a walnut media console. The palette of white and smoky gray continues into the owner’s suite where a stepped crown ceiling design adds drama. In the owner’s bath, beveled white tile waterfall is used as a backsplash on the Calcutta marble countertop.

Ronto is accepting Phase III reservations. Construction is expected to start upon permit approval. The Naples Square Sales Gallery at 100 South Goodlette-Frank Road in downtown Naples is open daily. Visit NaplesSquare.com.
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- MAGNOLIA - DIAMOND CUSTOM HOMES
  4 bedrooms & 4 1/2 baths

- CASA KAE - FLORIDA LIFESTYLE HOMES
  4 bedrooms & 6 baths

- CASA BELLISSIMA - FOX CUSTOM BUILDERS
  4 bedrooms & 4 1/2 baths

- AVIGNON - LONDON BAY HOMES
  4 bedrooms & 5 1/2 baths

- BRIGITTE - MCGARVEY CUSTOM HOMES
  5 bedrooms & 4 1/2 baths

- PINE VALLEY - SEAGATE DEVELOPMENT GROUP
  4 bedrooms & 4 1/2 baths

- STELLA - STOCK SIGNATURE HOMES
  4 bedrooms & 4 1/2 baths

- AQUALINA - STOCK SIGNATURE HOMES
  4 bedrooms & 4 1/2 baths

- MAGNOLIA - DIAMOND CUSTOM HOMES
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- CASA KAE - FLORIDA LIFESTYLE HOMES
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  4 bedrooms & 4 1/2 baths

- AVIGNON - LONDON BAY HOMES
  4 bedrooms & 5 1/2 baths

- BRIGITTE - MCGARVEY CUSTOM HOMES
  4 bedrooms & 4 + 2-1/2 baths

- PINE VALLEY - SEAGATE DEVELOPMENT GROUP
  4 bedrooms & 4 1/2 baths

- STELLA - STOCK SIGNATURE HOMES
  4 bedrooms & 4 1/2 baths

- AQUALINA - STOCK SIGNATURE HOMES
  4 bedrooms & 4 1/2 baths

- MAGNOLIA - DIAMOND CUSTOM HOMES
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- CASA KAE - FLORIDA LIFESTYLE HOMES
  4 bedrooms & 6 baths

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  4 bedrooms & 4 1/2 baths

- AVIGNON - LONDON BAY HOMES
  4 bedrooms & 5 1/2 baths

- BRIGITTE - MCGARVEY CUSTOM HOMES
  4 bedrooms & 4 + 2-1/2 baths

- PINE VALLEY - SEAGATE DEVELOPMENT GROUP
  4 bedrooms & 4 1/2 baths

- STELLA - STOCK SIGNATURE HOMES
  4 bedrooms & 4 1/2 baths
AQUA at Pelican Isle is rapidly approaching sell out announced Chris Hanlon, principal with IC AQUA II, the developer of the luxury marine front condominium community in Naples adjacent to Wiggins Pass. Hanlon reports only eight residences—all with water views—remain available to purchase in AQUA’s Tower II including one penthouse suite.

“AQUA at Pelican Isle reflects a new wave in luxury waterfront living by offering residents immediate access to water, a private marina, and spectacular views of Gulf of Mexico, beaches, Wiggins Bay and mangrove-lined estuaries,” says Darline Hillard, AQUA director of sales. “Thanks to our convenient central location nearby world-class restaurants and chic shopping in Mercato, Waterside Shops and downtown Naples, AQUA combines all of the advantages of luxury waterfront living in Southwest Florida in one place,” she adds.

Those seeking a more refined lifestyle—one where quiet sophistication, luxury and the water interact on a daily basis—should act now on the few remaining residences in AQUA’s Tower II. With a completion date scheduled for spring 2017, these one-of-a-kind water view residences will not last long!

AQUA offers two- and three-bedroom plus den floor plans with open-concept living areas and open-air terraces, controlled access under-building parking, private storage and bicycle storage within the garage. A private enclosed two-car garage is also available for the remaining penthouse suite.

Designed as a beautiful boutique resort, the 11-story AQUA Tower II, featuring three levels of palatial penthouses, is located adjacent to the Pelican Isle Yacht Club at Wiggins Pass in North Naples. AQUA’s expansive custom residences, priced from $1.995 million to more than $4.85 million, include high ceilings, gourmet kitchens with Wolf gas cooktops, Subzero refrigeration and two zone wine coolers, sunny back-to-front living areas, spacious master bedroom suites, lavish master bathrooms with generous closet space, sunset and sunrise terraces, and more.

The penthouse suite, with more than 6,900 square feet of living area, is available priced at $4.85 million. The penthouse features four bedrooms and four and one-half baths, grand salon, family room (or den or fifth bedroom), dining room, master study with wet bar and more than 3000 square feet outdoor living area thanks to a grand sunset terrace with sun deck—with wet bar and gas grill—spanning across the entire west side of the residence overlooking the Gulf of Mexico and mangrove lined estuaries of Wiggins Bay, plus an expansive private sunrise balcony adjacent to the family room and three guest suites.

Exceptional conveniences offered to AQUA residents include the community’s private yacht harbor with direct access to the Gulf of Mexico with 29 boat slips to accommodate boats up to 55 feet long and a 60-slip marina. The marina is available priced at $4.85 million. The 6,500 square feet of living area value, an expansive private sunrise balcony adjacent to the family room and three guest suites.

In addition to the high-tech equipment in the fitness center catering to resident’s health and well-being, 24 hours a day. The fitness center is outfitted with state-of-the-art cardio and weight lifting equipment, spacious his and her locker rooms with cedar lined dry saunas, glass block steam rooms, a relaxation lounge and private massage/treatment rooms. Equipment includes a premier collection of True® treadmills, Precor® elliptical machines, and stationary bicycles—each furnished with an individual television and headphones. Free weights and weight machines allow for superior strength training, and a spacious stretching area offers ample room to work up and wind down, and keep everyone toned, fit and in shape. Yoga, Pilates and aerobic workouts are improved thanks to the separate aerobics room equipped with a big screen TV and DVD to play preferred fitness routines.

Sales for AQUA Tower II have reached 75% with Naples-based PACT Realty serving as the exclusive listing agent. The AQUA information center and three new designer furnished models reflect the modern architectural style of the high-rise and showcase several features of AQUA’s sophisticated and refined design. Models are available for purchase with potential leaseback opportunities.

For further information about the select opportunities at AQUA, please call 239-591-2727, visit online at www.aqua-naples.com or stop by the information center located at Wiggins Pass Road, 13675 Vanderbilt Drive, Naples, Florida 34110.
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    - 15400 Mockingbird Crossing Dr
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Kalea Bay releases second tower as first tower approaches sellout

Prices start at $1.3 million in Tower 1

Kalea Bay, the gated, resort-lifestyle, high-rise community located on Vanderbilt Drive in North Naples, announced the community’s second tower has been released for sale.

“Our first tower, which is under construction and scheduled to be completed this fall, has already surpassed the 80 percent sold mark,” stated Inga Wilson, Vice President of Sales and Marketing for Kalea Bay. “The approaching sellout of Tower 1 and the overwhelming response from our buyers prompted us to release Tower 2.”

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

Six floor plans are available in Tower 2.

Residences 1 and 6 are 3-bedroom plus den/3.5 bath plans with 3,974 total square feet. Residences 2 and 5, with 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, have 3,791 total square feet. Residences 3 and 4 are 4-bedroom/4.5-bath plans also with 3,791 total square feet.

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

The custom kitchens have Wolf and SubZero appliances, a natural gas range, luxury cabinetry, quartz countertops, and a backsplash comprised of native, tropical plants. The master bedrooms feature Wolf and SubZero appliances, a natural gas range, luxury cabinetry, and separate glass-enclosed showers.

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

Additional residential features include floor-to-ceiling windows and doors that open to large lanais with transparent glass rails. “We take our outdoor living as seriously as our indoor living with oversized lanais on every residence,” said Wilson.

The master bedroom includes an oversized walk-in closet while the master bath has his and hers vanities, quartz countertops, and separate glass-enclosed showers.

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

“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 Har-Tru tennis courts, as well as pickleball courts, and 24 guest suites to accommodate overnight guests and family members.

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

For more information regarding Kalea Bay visit the onsite sales center. Due to bridge closings in the North Naples’ area, take US 41 to Wiggins Pass Road, then right on Vanderbilt Drive, two-tenths of a mile. Additional information is available by calling (239) 793-0110 or online at Kaleabay.com.
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For directions and complete listings of all our models & communities please visit StockDevelopment.com
Kinross generating strong sales at TwinEagles

TwinEagles announced that Lennar Corporation’s Kinross neighborhood continues to drive strong sales in the North Naples community being developed by The Ronto Group. Kinross will include 86 residences at build-out. Twenty-four home sites measuring 52 feet wide and 145 feet deep or deeper remain available. Six floor plans ranging from 1,850 to 2,828 square feet are priced from the high $400’s to the low-$600’s and present a final opportunity to purchase a single-family home in TwinEagles at that price point. Eight unfurnished, move-in ready homes are also available, four of which are completed and the remainder of which are in varying stages of construction. Two furnished models are open for viewing. A golf membership is included with the purchase of every newly constructed home at TwinEagles.

Base pricing for each of the Kinross floor plans includes a capped heated pool and spa, a summer kitchen with a refrigerator, a pavered pool deck, lanai and driveway, wood ceilings on the lanai, crown moldings in the living areas and owner’s bedroom, and additional features. The 2,247 square feet Maria plan includes a great room and island kitchen, a spacious dining area, three bedrooms, a den or fourth bedroom, three full baths, a covered lanai off the great room and owner’s bedroom, and a two-car garage. The Maria floor plan is base-priced at $560,094. A furnished Maria model is open for viewing and an unfurnished Maria residence on a preserve home site is offered for $565,000, including optional features and upgrades.

The Maria furnished model showcases an interior by Baer’s Furniture’s Janet Graham, ASID. Her design blends contemporary flair with traditional straight lines. The color palette includes muted grays with fabrics that blend creams and aquas. Flooring throughout the living areas is 20 x 20-inch neutral porcelain tile. Ceiling details and custom built-ins add to the look.

Dark espresso wood flooring in the den blends perfectly with an espresso-toned custom built-in topped with a gray granite counter that provides cabinetry, shelves for books and accessories, and a 42-inch space for a television. A hallway sweeps past the den to a space that combines the dining area, great room and kitchen. In the great room, Graham has designed an eye-catching feature wall. A built-in in a deep espresso finish provides storage space for media equipment while establishing the base for a television. The wall above is adorned with mosaic tile encausted in wood. In the kitchen, extensive perimeter cabinetry features a creamy linen finish with rolled raised panel doors. The counter-top is executed in a granite with swirling lines. The color palette includes muted grays with fabrics that blend creams and aquas. The kitchen’s island provides a gathering spot with four stools in dark wood and creamy upholstered seats. Granite counters feature mellow gold tones. The covered lanai’s summer kitchen features cabinetry and countertops matching the kitchen.

The Angelina model showcases an interior design by Robb & Stucky’s Tricia Lynch and Cynthia Bradford, ASID. Their neutral color palette includes whites, creams, and beige with splashes of blue. Flooring throughout the living areas is beige 20 x 20-inch porcelain tile while the den features hardwood and the bedrooms are carpeted. A built-in in the great room functions as the entertainment center while providing storage and display space. The kitchen’s island provides a gathering spot with four stools in dark wood and creamy upholstered seats. Granite counters feature mellow gold tones. The covered lanai’s summer kitchen features cabinetry and countertops matching the kitchen.

The Angelina model is one of two furnished model residences open for viewing in TwinEagles’ new Kinross neighborhood. Completed unfurnished residences are available for immediate move-in. Right: TwinEagles’ world-class amenities include two championship golf courses. A golf membership is included with the purchase of every newly constructed home at TwinEagles. Below: The Angelina model in Kinross at TwinEagles features a custom built-in in the great room that functions as the entertainment center while providing storage and display space.
The countdown to your new life begins here.

With spectacular views of the Caloosahatchee River and just a short stroll from historic downtown Fort Myers, discover ONE. This 16-story tower, with two- and three-bedroom residences, will provide luxury living for a fortunate few. Celebrate your new life with:

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Sales Gallery: 1300 Hendry St., Fort Myers, FL 33901 • 239-500-5294 Ext. 1 • OneFtMyers.com
Don’t miss final weekend of CBIA Parade of Homes at Quail West

Stock Development’s Quail West community in North Naples is presenting ten luxurious furnished models during the final weekend of the 2017 CBIA Multi-Site Parade of Homes on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. The Avignon estate by London Bay Homes offers 5,095 square feet under air. Priced at $4,955,000, the plan includes a sitting area and gallery that opens to the outdoors, a study that also opens to the outdoors, an island kitchen, dining area, great room, and wet bar, four bedrooms, five full baths and one half-bath, and covered outdoor living areas with a full kitchen overlooking a green space, pool and spa. The Avignon features an interior by Romanza Interior Design.

Priced at $4,495,000, Florida Lifestyle Homes’ 5,820 square feet Casa Kae estate was named winner of CBIA’s 2017 award for Overall Excellence in Construction and Design, $4 to $4.5 million. The four-bedroom, five-and-a-half bath, great room plan includes an entertainment room, an island kitchen, a formal dining room and wine storage room, a study, a unique “secret” room, a guest wing private courtyard, an urban cultivator, an ultraviolet sauna with chromo-therapy, an outdoor shower, and an outdoor living area with a kitchen, fireplace, and a pool. The Casa Kae features an interior by Seoco Interior’s Erin McNerney.

Florida Lifestyle’s previously sold St. Martin model received a Merit Award in the $2.251 to $2.5 million category. The St. Martin features a 4,238 square feet great room plan with a dining room and wine storage wall, a gourmet island kitchen, four bedrooms, a study, four-and-a-half baths, including a master bath with an outdoor shower, an outdoor living area with a fireplace, outdoor kitchen, and a pool and spa. Seagate Development Group, LLC is presenting three models, each featuring an interior by Freestyle Interiors’ Ruta Menaghzali. Seagate’s 5,093 square feet Pine Valley estate includes a great room opening to an outdoor living area with a pool and spa, a fireplace, and an outdoor kitchen. A one-bedroom, one-bathroom casita is situated adjacent to the pool. Inside, the plan features a clubhouse with a media area, a bar with a window opening to the lanai, a wine room, a double-island kitchen, and a lounge. A gallery hallway includes floor to ceiling windows overlooking a garage. The furnished Pine Valley model is priced at $4,295,000.

Seagate’s 5,464 square feet Calusa estate includes a great room, a double-island kitchen, and a dining area with an indoor/outdoor bar. A gallery hallway leads to a club room, two guest suites, and a garden courtyard. The club room includes a full-bar and can serve as a fifth bedroom. A guest casita is located off an outdoor living area featuring an outdoor kitchen and bar, a fireplace, pool and spa, and a fire pit. The owner’s wing features a study with a sitting area and a master bedroom with a sitting area. The Calusa estate is priced at $4,295,000.

Seagate’s Oakmont estate was named a Merit Award winner in the $4 to $4.5 million category. Priced at $4,495,000 furnished, the home’s medium-toned walnut flooring anchors a color palette that incorporates taupes, sage and olive greens, and bronze and black accents. The 5,464 square feet Great room plan includes an additional 2,931 square feet of covered outdoor spaces. Windows throughout the living areas provide views of an infinity edge pool and spa.

Above: Stock Signature Homes’ 4,238 square feet Stella model in Cortland at Quail West includes an outdoor living space featuring a fireplace, an outdoor kitchen and bar and dining area, and a pool and spa. Priced at $2,339,460 with furnishings, the Stella model features a classic interior design by Soco Interiors’ Kassie Parisoe. Seagate Development Group, LLC’s Oakmont estate was a Merit Award winner in the $4 to $4.5 million category. Priced at $4,495,000 furnished, the Oakmont is one of three Seagate estates being presented during the Parade of Homes. Left: Priced at $3,799,990 fully-furnished, the 4,937 square feet Aqualina estate by Stock Signature Homes is one of 10 furnished models being featured at Quail West during the 2017 CBIA Parade of Homes Friday through Sunday.

Don’t miss final weekend of CBIA Parade of Homes at Quail West

With a fireplace, a formal dining room, wet bar, a kitchen with a t-shaped island and family room, a study, four bedrooms, four-and-a-half baths, and a three-car garage. The outdoor living space features a fireplace, an outdoor kitchen with a walk-up bar and dining area, and a pool and spa. C. Chad Ellekin of Hayes-Elkins Design created the Cameron model’s traditional-transitional interior. The Cameron model is priced at $3,288,583 with furnishings.

Priced at $2,339,460, Stock’s Normandy II model in Cortland showcases an interior by Clive Daniel Home. The open concept floor plan includes four bedrooms, four-and-a-half baths, and a study. The living area features a great room, dining area, a wet bar, a double-island kitchen, and an entertainment bar overlooking the outdoors. One of the guest bedrooms is designed as a cabana suite. The great room opens to covered lanais, a summer kitchen, fireplace, and a pool and spa. Stock’s 4,238 square feet Stella model in Cortland includes a formal living room with a fireplace, a formal dining room, wet bar, double-island kitchen and family room, study, four bedrooms, four-and-a-half baths, and a three-car garage. The living room and family room open to an outdoor living space featuring a fireplace, an outdoor kitchen and bar and dining area, and a pool and spa. Priced at $2,339,460 with furnishings, the Stella model features a classic interior design by Soco Interiors’ Kassie Parisoe.

Quail West is located east of Interstate 75, one mile south of Bonita Beach Road. Take Exit 16 (Bonita Beach Road) east. Turn right on Bonita Grande Drive and follow the signs to the sales center. Call 239.952.1010. Visit Quail West online at www.QuailWest.com.
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Exclusivity defines the lifestyle at ONE
New Boutique Condominium Features Just 26 Exclusive Waterfront Residences

A life of ultimate luxury is coming to the Historic Downtown Fort Myers River District, providing a select few the opportunity to own an elegant residence in a private, urban enclave. ONE, the new 16-story boutique condominium to rise on the bank of the Caloosahatchee River in the charming River District, will house just 26 exclusive waterfront homes offering residents an array of indulgent, resort-style amenities and breathtaking water views.

Designed by world-renowned architects Behar Font & Partners with interiors inspired by Adriana Hoyos Design Studio, ONE will offer spacious residences at prices from the low $500,000’s to over $2 million. The boutique tower will feature two- and three-bedroom residences ranging from 1,500 to 2,286 square feet. ONE will also include two penthouses spanning from 3,900 square feet to over 5,000 square feet, one of which is already reserved.

Luxurious features at ONE include private entrance elevators, 10- to 14-foot ceilings, porcelain flooring, natural gas ranges, five-burner cooktop, double oven, quartz countertops in chef-inspired kitchens, floor-to-ceiling windows, expansive balconies, and large walk-in wardrobes.

In addition to all of the enviable unit features and amenities, ONE will offer enviable building amenities including: a heated, cascading, infinity-edge pool and riverside beach area overlooking the water; a serene, landscaped riverfront promenade; a riverfront wellness center complete with the latest in fitness equipment; an elegant lobby; an owners’ lounge with a bar; a pet grooming room; kayak storage and launch area; concierge services; high-speed internet and Wi-Fi in all public areas.

ONE’s prime location in the Historic Downtown Fort Myers River District, puts residents in a vibrant neighborhood that has become one of the most treasured areas on the Gulf Coast. Offering the best of arts, culture, and entertainment, this locale has become extremely attractive to visitors and local residents alike, delivering the ultimate Florida lifestyle.

Arts and culture abound in the River District where the cobblestone-streets are lined with eclectic boutiques and art galleries, historic landmarks and architecture, museums, and even a professional theater. This combination, including over 65 cafes, bars, and restaurants, has resulted in the perfect live, work, play urban environment, attracting people of all ages all year round.

ONE’s combination of a prime waterfront location in the middle of a charming downtown full of art, shopping, dining and entertainment options, combined with its impressive roster of unique amenities and the exclusivity and privacy it offers as a boutique condominium make it ONE in a million.

The sales gallery for ONE is located on the first floor of the Fort Myers City Pier building at 1300 Hendry Street in Downtown Fort Myers. Open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. To learn more about ONE, call (239) 500-3222 ext. 1 or visit www.ONEFtMyers.com.
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Located on Livingston Road, approximately 2 miles north of Immokalee Road
n addition to enjoying luxurious, fully completed residences with spacious outdoor terraces, the residents of the newly-opening Ronto Group’s Seaglass at Bonita Bay highrise tower will relish the world-class lifestyle that makes Bonita Bay one of Southwest Florida’s most desirable communities. Recognized as one of the ten healthiest clubs in America by Prevo Health Solutions, Bonita Bay’s amenities include a 60,000 square feet Lifestyle Center with a fitness center, spa and salon, five championship golf courses, casual and fine dining, boating, biking and hiking trails, kayaking and canoeing, tennis, and a private, residents only beach club on Little Hickory Island. The master planned, gated community is celebrated for its environmental stewardship, and creative land use, including three waterfront parks and 1,400 acres of open space.

A full-service on-site marina with direct access to the Gulf of Mexico allows Bonita Bay residents to enjoy every aspect of Southwest Florida’s heralded tropical lifestyle. A unique amenity that is rarely found in combination with a world-class golf experience, the Bonita Bay Marina is the only full-service marina on the south end of Estero Bay, just minutes from the open waters of the Gulf. Wet slips and dry boat storage are available, as well as on-site fueling and light mechanical services. Owned exclusively by the residents of Bonita Bay, the Marina can accommodate a variety of watercraft with a maximum draft of thirty-six inches.

The Marina can accommodate a variety of watercraft with a maximum draft of thirty-six inches. The wet slip lifts can hold vessels up to 16,000 pounds and the dry storage can fit boats up to 32-feet long from the rear of the engine or platform to the front of the anchor or pulpit. Trailer loading and unloading service is available for most boats. Charts, bait, tackle, and other items are available at the Ships Store.

Backwater Jack’s, a waterfront restaurant and bar located at the Marina, is a favored gathering place for Bonita Bay’s boater community. A menu offering flavorful twists on Backwater Jack’s heralded casual dining selections is available during season. Dinner is served Tuesday through Sunday evenings and lunch service extends through season. A 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. happy hour includes drink discounts and a bar food menu. All menu selections are available for take-out. Live music by an assortment of artists is featured Friday and Saturday nights during season. Regularly scheduled special events and themed parties are open to all Bonita Bay residents and their guests. Backwater Jack’s is available for events by special interest clubs, community parties, and private dinners.

With over $125 million in sales processed to date, Ronto’s Seaglass tower will feature fully-completed, ready for occupancy residences with designer-selected premium finishes, including flooring, paint, and trim. Each residence will come with two protected access under-building parking spaces. Private enclosed two-car garages will be available.

The Seaglass penthouse residences have been sold. A selection of tower residences ranging from 2,889 to 3,421 square feet under air and priced from just over $1 million remains available. The tower residences will include dual private elevator grand foyers, island kitchens, three bedrooms and three-and-a-half baths, or three bedrooms plus a den or fourth bedroom and three-and-a-half baths, walk-in closets in the owner’s suite, and sliders opening to multiple outdoor spaces that include a gas grill. Ronto is making a special opportunity available to purchasers of tower residences 2003 and 2004 on the 20th floor. Homebuyers may join the two units together to create a 6,200 square foot residence with scalintilling Gulf Views. The expanded residence will come with four protected access under-building parking spaces. The residences are individually priced at $8,855,000 and at $3,780,000 in the combined unit configuration.

With concrete on the 11th floor already poured and a new floor being poured every two weeks, homebuyers interested in residences on the building’s lower to mid-level floors are urged to make their buying decisions now. Doing so will allow them to take advantage of The Ronto Group’s Finishing Touches Program designed to assist future residents with finish selections and to ensure each residence meets individual buyer preferences. Opportunities to specify finish selections are becoming progressively limited as construction progresses.

The Finishing Touches Program allows future residents to select finishes for their home’s flooring, cabinetry, countertops, door hardware, plumbing fixtures, and paint colors. A fully outfitted kitchen featuring the finishes and appliances available at Seaglass is included at the Design Studio, as well as stone, porcelain, and wood flooring and cabinet selections; granite, marble, and quartz countertops; decorative backsplash choices; trim, doors, faucets, and plumbing fixtures; and a gas grill. Future residents are invited to meet with the Finishing Touches Coordinator at the Design Studio and to include the Seaglass building architect and their own interior designer in the Finishing Touches Program selection process. To ensure each residence is finished to each owner’s specific tastes, future residents may also specify finishes from other sources.

Visit the Seaglass Design Studio and Sales Center from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and Sundays from noon to 5:00 p.m. Visit Seaglass online at www.seaglassatbonitabay.com.
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The Isles of Collier Preserve by Minto named Community of the Year

The Isles of Collier Preserve in Naples by Minto Communities recently received Collier Building Industry Association (CBIA) 2016 Sand Dollar Awards for Community of the Year, Best Special Event for Residents for the Isles Club Grand Opening, and Best TV commercial. Minto’s ultra-luxurious Tamarind Grande model at The Isles of Collier Preserve also won for Best Specialty Feature for its unique guest casitas.

The design of The Isles Club was inspired by the charming coastal cottage style of the original Naples Beach Hotel built in 1888 as a 16-room inn. Like the historic hotel, The Isles Club is distinguished by a stylized cupola and large awning-shaded front porch. Overlooking the sparkling Cypress Waterway, The Isles Club includes an array of active lifestyle and wellness amenities. Residents and friends gather here for social functions, swimming in the stunning resort-style pool, tennis, pickleball and workouts in the state-of-the-art fitness center. A style pool, tennis, pickleball and workouts in the state-of-the-art fitness center. A

For a limited time only, buyers will have the opportunity to take advantage of

in ready homes including a Pimento single-family home, Dahlia villa home and Oleander Grande coach home.

The Pimento single-family home includes a pool and spa with a beautiful water view. It is 2,333 square feet under air, with two bedrooms, den, two-and-a-half baths and three-car garage and is priced at $823,237. The Dahlia villa home is 1,565 square feet under air with two bedrooms, two baths, den, pool and spa, and two-car garage. It is priced at $516,550. The Oleander Grande three-story coach home is 2,660 square feet under air, and includes two bedrooms, three baths, den, third floor observatory, two-car garage and private elevator. It is priced at $664,890.

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

Above: The Isles Club, The Isles of Collier Preserve and Pimento interior.
RESORT-STYLE COACH HOME AND LUXURIOUS SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Single-Family Residences from $1.6 Million</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3,000 to 4,500 SF three and four bedroom + study residences</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 single-family home sites offering water and fairway views</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vyne House and Sports Complex just minutes away</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single-Family Homes by Harbourside Custom Homes • Sunwest Homes M Development • Fox Custom Builders</td>
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<th>Coach Homes from the $700,000’s</th>
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<tr>
<td>Luxury Residences from 2,532 to 3,382 SF</td>
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<tr>
<td>Light-filled, open concept 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath great room floor plans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spacious outdoor living areas, courtyard entries, private garages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minutes from every amenity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Coach Homes at Corsica by FrontDoor Communities</td>
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PARK SHORE
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Gulf and bay views abound from this residence. Enjoy the unrivaled design, designer lighting, fully renovated kitchen and amenity-rich building in the perfect Naples location. This residence is offered furnished including two convenient Murphy beds and features two bedrooms plus den, a living and family room, two screened balconies and 3,200 square feet of luxurious living.

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* Bay Harbor by Fred Wagner used with permission.
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1060 Galleon Drive
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<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Agent</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Web ID</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<td>Mirasol #405</td>
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<td>25240 Gashashields Circle</td>
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<td>Bonita Village #3307</td>
<td>Doctor Marty C&gt;Editenmatt</td>
<td>239.564.4231</td>
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<tr>
<td>13032 Cherry Street</td>
<td>Scott Hills</td>
<td>239.333.9202</td>
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<td>Morningside #201</td>
<td>Jacquie Lewisy</td>
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<td>20438 Foxworth Circle</td>
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<tr>
<td>25689 Old Gaslight Drive</td>
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<td>Waterford V #1908</td>
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<td>27025 Shell Ridge Circle</td>
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<tr>
<td>27658 Riverbank Drive</td>
<td>Pamela Harshbarger</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bay Pointe #202</td>
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<td>216045344</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greenbriar #302</td>
<td>Jane Greenhagen</td>
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<td>217012815</td>
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<td>10232 Lithgour Lane</td>
<td>Melanie Denaco</td>
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<tr>
<td>16177 Captiva Drive</td>
<td>Pat Moore</td>
<td>239.233.3088</td>
<td>216063376</td>
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<td>1651 San Carlos Bay Drive</td>
<td>Burns Family</td>
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<td>Burns Family</td>
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<td>216073020</td>
<td>$498,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Burns Family</td>
<td>239.464.2984</td>
<td>216066785</td>
<td>$465,000</td>
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CONTACT US TODAY FOR A CONSULTATION ON HOW YOUR HOME CAN BE MARKETED IN FLORIDA AND AROUND THE WORLD.

Premier | Sotheby’s
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

PREMIERSOTHEBYSREALTY.COM
**NORTH FORT MYERS**

- Investors Special - 2 Bed, 1 Bath, North F.Myers
  - Quant 2 bedroom/1 bath that has been remodeled into a 3 bedroom/3 bath. Remodeled kitchen, stove and refrigerator.
  - Call 866-657-2300
  - $59,999
  - 800VM016958.

- 55+ Community - You Own the Land
  - 2/2 Very nice Renovated Over 1400 sqft, wood laminate floors new paint inside and out. Pool Clubhouse. Must see!
  - 1-800-657-2300
  - $178,000
  - 800CC036186.

- Charming 55+ Condo
  - Affordable 2 bedroom 2 bath home with extensive updates.
  - 1-800-657-2300
  - $67,900
  - 800PA702647.

- Nice 2/2 Condo in Port Charlotte
  - Ready to move in unit! Complete security in this private gated community. Just minutes from everything. Some see it $84,900.
  - 1-800-657-2300
  - 800CH236696.

- Great Starter Home or Investment Property
  - Great starter home or Investment Property! 4 bedroom, nice neighborhood, good condition for this price. $119,900.
  - 1-800-657-2300
  - 800FM004288.

**PORT CHARLOTTE**

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

- 2/1/1 Single Family Home in Tropical Gulf Acres
  - Cute 2 bedroom 1.5 bath 1 car garage home in Tropical Gulf Acres! Neat & Clean. Perfect retirement home or starter home.
  - 1-800-657-2300
  - $154,900
  - 800CH230044.

- Great Starter Condo in Port Charlotte
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  - 800FM004288.
**ESTERO**

**Bella Terra 2+2 w/ Carport and Storage**

Bella Terra 2+2 with carport and storage. $169,900
1-800-657-2300 800FM064749.

**Fantastick Home 3/2 Metal Roof Soaking Tub**

Fantastick 3/2 home! Great front and back porches to enjoy the days and evenings! Flat, open floor plan. $169,900
1-800-657-2300 800FM014914.

**SE Cape Charme**

A house that needs nothing is hard to find, so stop looking because here it is! 2/2 w/ open floor plan and new life.
1-800-657-2300 800CC017558.

**Estero C2’s Best Value**

2 bed/2 bath condo in SE Cape Coral. Incredible turnkey opportunity. Seconds to the river ideal for boater or fisherman.
1-800-657-2300 800CC071381.

**PORT CHARLOTTE**

**Beautiful 3/2 Pool Home in Port Charlotte**

3/2 bath/3 car garage pool home in a well kept Beautiful pool, new carpet and plenty of space. Don’t miss it.
1-800-657-2300 800CC034433.

**FORT MYERS**

**Golf Condo**

2 bedroom 2 bath condo. $225,000
1-800-657-2300 800FM002777.

**Golf Condo**

2 bedroom 2 bath condo. $225,000
1-800-657-2300 800FM002777.

**FORT MYERS**

**Best Location in Lehigh Acres**

Best location in Lehigh Acres! It offers three bedrooms, two baths. This home has two living rooms.
1-800-657-2300 800FM007888.

**LEHIGH ACRES**

**Immaculate Carriage Home 2/2 in Magisterial Palms**

Must see 1st floor carriage home with garage and partial lake view.
1-800-657-2300 800LE069730.

**NORTH PORT**

**North Port Dream Home**

North Port Dream Home. $240,000
1-800-657-2300 800CN020582.

**CAPE CORAL**

**Beautiful 5 SW Cape Pool Home**

Nice 3/2 pool with heated pool. Beautiful tile floors with art tile mosaic, cathedral ceilings, granite in kit & baths.
1-800-657-2300 800CC016931.

**Hearthstone at Rookery Pointe in Estero**

Charming 3/2 with heated pool. Wonderful views of water and lake. $239,900
1-800-657-2300 800FM046554.

**Estero Country Club**

3 bedroom 2 bath pool home. $239,900
1-800-657-2300 800FM030285.

**CAPE CORAL**

**Golf Condo**

2 bedroom 2 bath condo plus storm shutters. $244,900
1-800-657-2300 800FM071531.
Western Exposure Pool Home
Postal home in SW Cape Coral. Large size 3 bedrooms & den or office. Walking distance to shopping and restaurants.
$249,900
1-800-657-2300
800MME4812

Country Estate
Exquisite custom home in Northeast Cape Coral. Open floor plan with high ceilings. Three suites. $429,900
1-800-657-2300
800MM47996

Absolutely Jaw Dropping Gorgeous
3 bed/3 bath pool home. Amazing lake view. $300,000
1-800-657-2300
800FM002734

Gulf Access, Renovated and Beautiful
1 Bridge to the river. New large tie throughout this spacious 3/2 home with split floor plan.
$250,000
1-800-657-2300
800MM95396

Family Pool Home 4/2/2 - NFM Hidden Gem
Fantastic 4/2/2 pool home. Large yard. Huge lot, with basketball court, 2 cabanas and shopping stone walkway! Large master suite.
$309,000
1-800-657-2300
800FM96394

Small Central Fort Myers Non-gated Community
Spacious 3/2 home with split floor plan. $259,000
1-800-657-2300
800FM12410

Felt Up Beach Cottage
3 Bed/2 Bath Cape Coral Beach cottage. Walking distance to beach. $249,900
1-800-657-2300
800CC004813

Price to Sell Ready to Move
Spectacular 4 bed 2 bath on 2.75 acres, pool and super deck. $309,000
1-800-657-2300
800NA003936

Best Lake View Pool Home Deal In Sandoval
3/2.5 located in the gated Sandoval in Cape Coral. Master is located on the 1st floor w/3 other bedrooms. $319,000
1-800-657-2300
800FM12515

NICE 3/2/2 IN PORT CHARLOTTE
Nice well kept home in Port Charlotte. Beautiful interior and nice screened in lanai and pool area. Come see it!!!
$234,900
1-800-657-2300
800NA227853

Great Opportunity in Bonita Springs
Three bedroom, 2 bath home in a great location in Bonita Springs. $335,000
1-800-657-2300
800NA004186

Ranch in the City
Unusual 4 acres++ - Ranch in East Fort Myers - perfect for the person looking for acreage with animals.
$350,000
1-800-657-2300
800NM002450

3 Bedroom Pool Home Golden Gate Estates
Approximately 2100 sqft. 3 bed/2bath pool home on 0.37 acres. Fenced yard 2 story waterfront & deck.
$359,900
1-800-657-2300
800MM043202

Accessible Dream Home Furnished
2/2 upscale condo in Windstar Country Club. Completely furnished and ready to move into.
$383,900
1-800-657-2300
800MM007194

Open Concept Entry Home Marbella At Spanish Wells
Beautiful custom built home has an open concept. The kitchen/den is spacious with room for casual dining.
$395,000
1-800-657-2300
800MS014015

Waterfront Living - Sandoval Style
Lakefront home in award winning community with resort style amenities, 4 bed/3 bath, study, granite kitchen, 3 car garage!
$399,900
1-800-657-2300
800FM002844

Direct Gulf Access Pool Home
3 Bed/2 Bath with pool overlooking a deep water canal.
$374,900
1-800-657-2300
800CM057574

Direct Access Beauty
Beautiful 3 bed/2 Bath custom Mercedes 4/2 pool home on direct access canal with lift and extended wooded dock.
$441,500
1-800-657-2300
800CM068177

Search over 550 Home & Lot Listings!
C21 SUNBELT.COM

CALL 866-657-2300 TO SCHEDULE YOUR SHOWING!
Big Water Views, Golf Access Heated Pool/Spa Reduced thousands! Immaculate Oyster Bay Home, 4/2, formal living, dining, family room. Counter bar

3/3 Condo in Bonita Bay Perfect for seasonal or full time live. Spacious green room plan w/ceiling vaults. Remodeled master bath

Slumming 3/2/2 Pool Home - Paseo Community You will not believe the features of this home and the amenities the community has to offer! Schedule your showing today!

Lensford Woods Sprawling home with 4 bed/4 bath/2 car oversized garage & caged pool. 2861 sqft under air - many new updates.

Direct Sailboat Access Pool Home Top located in the popular Rose Garden Area (UNIT 64) Overlooking intersecting canals.

Beautiful Southern Exposure Gulf Access Custom built in 2005. 2 bed/3 bath and 3 car garage located in unit 69. Cape Coral.

Contact 1-800-657-2300 800FM016936.

Location Location Location 4/3 pool home with sailboat access!! Minutes to river for boating and great fishing. Very sleek and modern in design.

Lakewport Park Shore Home Walking distance to private beach for Park Shore residents only! 4 bed/3 bath Pool home with impressive landscaping

Stunning Canal Home Breathtaking views of the bay! Watch sea life & shrimp boats! Summer location! Open floor plan.

Luxurious 4 Story Estate Home in Cape Harbour 4 bed, 4 bath, 4 car garage home. Open kitchen, 4 master suites. Virtually every room offers an incrediable view.

-quarters the community has to offer! Schedule your showing today!

Location Location Location Beautiful 3/2 + den, pool home located in unit 69. Cape Coral, dining & shopping, and turnkey.

Beautiful Southern Exposure Gulf Access Beautiful 3/2 + den, pool home located in unit 69. Cape Coral.

Contact 1-800-657-2300 800FM049261.

Four Story 3/2.5 Pool Home on the Water Completely updated sailboat home with expansive water views. 4 floors total w/3 bed plus a den. Wood and tile flooring.

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