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Southern, Greek, Mexican and pizza restaurants coming to Naples

When stone crab season launched last week, Stoney's Stone Crab in Naples' Bayfront remained dark. That's because the local restaurant that closed in early June for a summer hiatus is not reopening. Something new is in the works there.

“The stone crab market is really scarce and expensive,” said Kevin Stoneburner, who owns the restaurant and the Bayfront mixed-use development along the Gordon River at Goodlette-Frank Road and Fifth Avenue South.

The Stoneburner Companies Restaurant Group is still working on a new dining concept to replace the seafood restaurant that operated for two seasons.

First, though, what's old is new again. The classic Stoney's Steakhouse is back in Bayfront. Because the Stoney's name is available again after the closing of the stone crab restaurant, K-Prime Steakhouse — also briefly St. Germain Steakhouse — has been rebranded Stoney's, the name that launched the steakhouse in 2002.

“People never stopped calling it that,” Mr. Stoneburner said. “I thought, why fight it? Just go back to the name.”

The steakhouse will be upgraded for the season with a wider selection of cuts.

“We're even going to have Wagyu and bison and grass-fed beef,” he said.

Targeted to open in mid-November, Southern Style Kitchen & Cocktails will replace Stoney's Stone Crab in
The Old Fashioned

Roger WILLIAMS
rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

The fact is, it's hard to say goodbye to a beloved old companion, doesn't matter who or what human or beast. Custom, place or habit. Tool, trade or time of life. Whether or not it's healthy, whether or not it's even right, sometimes you just don't want to let go of a good stiff drink, proverbial or real.

That's why the Republican-led Legislature and Gov. Ron DeSantis are having such a difficult time letting go of the 20th century, even though the damn thing now lies far behind us. The last shadow of the last day of the last hour of the 20th is almost 20 years back down the track, after all.

Nevertheless, legislators have powered up a plan for the biggest highway building project since the 1980s, with 330 miles of asphalt to be stripped into the peninsula and ready by 2030 for millions more to arrive, buy and build — from Central Florida to Georgia, and from Central Florida to Southwest Florida, with an east-west route from near Orlando to Florida Bay. Or you happen when you slapped down highways that limited the southward flow of water nobody understood or cared what would happen when they slapped down highways that limited the southward flow of water from near Orlando to Florida Bay. Or you built highways in wetlands that brought developers who built suburbs and shopping malls and country clubs and more than 1,250 golf courses in the Sunshine State — all connected by highways.

Must have been a real lark getting rich and old and leaving that legacy to your kids, especially the kids who grew up with the governor's reactive approach to fixing the Everglades system by spending $625 million in each of the next three years, by the way; that's merely essential for politicians from either party nowadays who want to be re-elected.

But it carries additional weight because it comes from a Republican. With only a few exceptions, the GOP ignored water and other environmental problems in Florida — as did Dilbert the U.S. House of Representatives — for eight or more years before the governor arrived in Tallahassee in January, so it's both surprising and gratifying.

No, the problem here is letting go of fun and profit the easy way, a 20th century hallmark.

It was so much fun building all those highways back in the 20th. Bringing in all those people. Developing all those beach communities and suburbs and shopping malls and country clubs and more than 1,250 golf courses in the Sunshine State — all connected by highways.

Thank you, Daddy-o.

Those were the days — back when nobody understood or cared what would happen when you slapped down highways that limited the southward flow of water from near Orlando to Florida Bay. Or you built highways in wetlands that brought developers who built suburbs and shopping malls and country clubs and more than 1,250 golf courses in the Sunshine State — all connected by highways.

Must have been a real lark getting rich and old and leaving that legacy to your kids, especially the kids who grew up to become Republican state legislators. Thank you, Daddy-o.

What else but a couple of those stiff drinks and some strong lobbying from old fashioned outfits like the Florida Trucking Association (they love toll roads), the Florida Chamber of Commerce (they love commerce on toll roads), the Florida Ports Council (they love ports connected to toll roads) and Associated Industries of Florida (they love trucking, commerce and shipping on toll roads) would compel our Republican leaders to draw three lines representing highways on a Florida map and write them into law faster than a '64 Pontiac GTO could go from zero to 60 — and not tell the public exactly where?

That is, until January, officials said last week. Then they'll show us the exact routes.

The Pontiac muscle car from the 1960s could reach 60 mph from a dead stop in 6.6 seconds. It didn't take much longer for the hastily contrived plan pushed aggressively by Republicans to be signed off by the governor.

The plan calls for construction to begin in 2022 across mostly agricultural and rural lands, some in citrus or cows, and some owned by the wealthiest man in Florida, billionaire Thomas Peterffy.

A 1965 Hungarian immigrant and master of Wall Street who introduced handheld computers to the trading floor, Mr. Peterffy “vaulted into the top tier of U.S. landowners when he paid more than $700 million to acquire the 561,000-acre Foley Timber & Land in Northern Florida,” according to 2018’s Land Report: The Magazine of the American Landowner.

He owns a home on Billionaires Row in Palm Beach, he remains a member of Donald Trump's club, Mar-a-Lago, and tens of thousands of acres of his land, already zoned for master-planned communities, would likely benefit from the northern stretch of the new old fashioned toll road, observers have said.

Oh, this too: He gave hundreds of thousands of dollars to an ambitious politician named Gov. Ron DeSantis.

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OPINION

Happy birthday, Vlad

Bob FRANKEN

Vladimir Putin is not a Facebook friend of mine—nor do I know of any.He could be, perhaps registered under an alias put out by the Moscow Troll Factory, exposing our Kurdish allies to a Turkish invasion, Trump now has his own decision to make. 

But he didn't really have to mark the occasion. For Putin, Trump has been the gift who keeps on giving by tattering the United States of America and its already frayed tapestry of democracy. The U.S. political system is supposed to be an intricate knot of balancing powers that are woven into the legislative, executive and judicial branches of federal government, as high school students are taught. Apparently, Trump missed class that day, or he simply chooses to ignore it.

The timid Democrats, who assumed majority control of the House of Representatives this year, finally decided to use their power of impeachment to try to end the nation's embarrassment. That congressional power was carefully spelled out by our founders in Article 2 of the Constitution:

“The President, Vice President and all Civil Officers of the United States, shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors.”

Notice the word “shall,” meaning that Congress has the absolute ability to exercise the impeachment and removal function.

Right now, the House is playing its role, looking into alleged wrongdoing by this president (the “alleged” descriptor is inserted in an abundance of fairness). Ultimately, when the investigation is complete, members will vote whether to impeach Trump, which would be roughly equivalent to an indictment. But the Trump administration has taken a Constitution-be-damned approach. After coming up with a variety of reasons not to turn over into witness and provide witnesses even under subpoena, Donald Trump, through his lawyers, has declared the administration will not cooperate with the exercise, but offered no real legal justification for denying the House Democrats and, by the way, the Constitution.

Back in high school civics, we learned that the founders designed the balance of power so that each branch would curb the others’ excesses. It’s a fundamental part of this delicate democracy of ours. But for it to work properly, it requires the good faith of all involved. 

For Putin, Trump has been the open-and-shut case, but they are tediously exploring whether there’s a lot more “there” there.

Trump’s personal friends, the Republicans, have been intimidated into going through hoops to support him, in fear of his jeopardizing their political careers. From afar, Vladimir Putin is certainly relishing the spectacle, while making sure to keep Trump in office for four more years. The Democrats will have to show that they’re a match for Trump and Putin. So far, they’re not.

— Bob Franken is an Emmy Award-winning reporter who covered Washington for more than 20 years with the Associated Press.

The foolhardy campaign against ‘endless wars’

Barack Obama and Donald Trump are diematically opposed figures, representing the categorical rejection of the other for his supporters, yet they share significant foreign-policy DNA.

They both defined themselves in opposition to George W. Bush’s foreign policy. Obama probably wouldn’t have defected Hillary Clinton for the 2008 Democratic nomination if she hadn’t voted for the Iraq War and if he didn’t speak out against it at the time. Likewise, Trump outpaced all his 2016 GOP rivals in denouncing our Middle East commitments.

Obama represented the internationalist left, while Trump is the champion of the populist right, and there are important policy differences between the two (Obama cut the Iran nuclear deal; Trump withdrew from it). Yet, in his pullback from the Syrian border, exposing our Kurdish allies to a Turkish invasion, Trump now has his own version of that. The Kurds, who generously reacted from Iraq that created the opening for the rise of ISIS.

The cost of Trump’s decision is a betrayal of the Kurds, a worsening relationship with Turkey, a possible lifeline for ISIS and a war of counterinsurgency, and our minimal commitment in Syria aimed at creating and supporting a proxy force to do the hard fighting against ISIS.

To throw both the Syria and Iraq interventions together under the rubric of “endless war” is to fail to make distinctions. It’s senseless to oppose a relatively cost-free action in Syria that has succeeded in its own terms (the ISIS caliphate has been defeated) because the Iraq War was fought for years at a high cost with dubious results. It would be like opposing the invasion of Grenada because the invasion of Normandy required so much blood and treasure.

The long-standing American military reflex is to win and go home, but it’s rare that even the most clear-cut victory is so neat. We won a decisive conventional military victory in World War II in Europe, and we still have troops in Germany. The first Gulf War is supposed to be the model of a rigorously limited commitment, but it still resulted in a no-fly zone over Iraq, the creation of an autonomous region for the Kurds in the north and a constant effort to enforce U.N. sanctions.

Nor is getting out as clean as advertised. Obama triumphantly exited Iraq, only to have to go back in when things spun out of control. If Trump wants to do so with Syria, it might not be done with him.

— Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
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How sweet it is

BY DAVE TRECKER

Florida is called The Sunshine State, but it might just as well be called The Sugar State. We’re the largest producer of sugar cane in the country.

As much as the cane and the industry is under fire for fertilizer runoff said to pollute Lake O and the Everglades and feed the blue-green algae that has choked waterways throughout South Florida. Adding to its woes are protests against burning the cane fields, a regular practice that’s become a major source of air pollution. And, as if that were not enough, the sugar industry is now facing another challenge.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration allowed a “no sugar added” claim for allulose, a naturally occurring sweetener present in small amounts in figs, raisins, maple syrup and other foods. With a caloric content one-tenth that of sucrose, allulose does not have to be accounted as sugar in nutrition labels.

Allulose avoids that. At 70% the sweetness of sucrose, allulose is used at levels of 0.4 kcal/gm versus 4 kcal/gm for sucrose. Allulose is a crystalline sugar alcohol, chemically called pentytrhydroxyhexan-2-one. Although naturally occurring, it’s produced commercially by enzymatic treatment of cornstarch. It has a caloric content of 0.4 kcal/gm versus 4 kcal/gm for sucrose, which is added to dairy products. It also skirts the browning capability and freezing point.

Allulose is similar to sugar. Moreover, it mimics the sweetness of sucrose, it’s used at levels comparable to dairy products. A grain of allulose on a teaspoon of sugar. That means in many foods, the bulk provided by sugar has been consigned to specialty status — that is, used only in health foods and combined with less-expensive sweeteners.

Allulose fills a niche in the sweetener market. The size of that niche will tell us how widely allulose can be used.

Second, the low caloric content may mean poor metabolism and, in turn, the prospect of diabetes and other gastrointestinal upsets. Tolerance tests for various foods are in progress and will determine how widely allulose can be used.

The sweet sensation for the sweetener comes from binding to a sugar receptor in the mouth and triggering a sweet taste. Allulose works by interacting with a sugar receptor in the mouth and stimulating the taste buds.

A chemist and retired Pfizer executive, Dave Trecker serves on a number of local boards.

TECHMatch at FGCU invites pros and students

The Southwest Florida Regional Technology Partnership invites area technology professionals and students to attend TECHMatch 2019 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 29, at Florida Gulf Coast University. The event is designed to match technology employers with tech job seekers and technology students at all levels (secondary, vocational, and college — even if not yet seeking a job).

Exhibiting companies include: Hertz, 21st Century Oncology, Chico’s FAS, Lee Health, Hotwire, IT/Vantage, Testimonial Tree, Inceptus, Flightdocs, FGCU, Cignet, ReachMobi, Shaw Development, PartnerMedia, SkyLink Data Centers, Hodges University, CareerSource Southwest Florida, Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce, Herc Rentals, Linga POS, Vectra Digital, Call Miner, Artexcore, Logiscool and Miromar Development Corp.

Attendees will be able to interact with company representatives and match their skills to open positions.

TECHMatch 2019 is sponsored by CareerSource Southwest Florida. Admission is free, but registration is required in advance at www.swfrtp.org.

The nonprofit Southwest Florida Technology Partnership was chartered in 2008 and is dedicated solely to the growth of the technology cluster in southwest Florida. A member of the Lee County Horizon Council, it is comprised of technology companies and technology users, economic development groups and higher education institutions. Membership and sponsorship information is available at the website.
Send thanks, holiday wishes to military

The American Red Cross invites everyone to take part in its “Holiday for Heroes” campaign that sends small gifts and messages of thanks and holiday cheer to veterans and military members. Donations must be made by Wednesday, Nov. 6 (see box for drop-off sites).

Donated items and messages are packaged in holiday stockings hand-sewn by volunteers. Lead partner Arthrex Inc. and other sponsors will assemble and deliver the stockings for military members who are away from their families during the holidays.

“I have personally been on a one-year deployment to the Middle East and can say from experience how much these efforts mean to our service members,” said Heidi O’Sheehan, Red Cross director of service to the armed forces in South Florida.

“When you are far from home, especially around the holidays, you begin to feel forgotten and very detached,” she added. “To receive a care package or even a brief note of appreciation and well wishes from someone back home who doesn’t even know you personally is just incredibly powerful and touching. It makes you feel connected and reminds you that the sacrifices you and your family are making are for a worthy cause and are not forgotten. I think that is an incredible gift to give a service member or veteran.”

Last year, more than 1,000 stockings were delivered to soldiers serving overseas.

Here are the kinds of items that are suitable for donation:

- Hot cocoa mix (individual packets)
- Power bars
- Gum, mints, hard candy (no chocolate)
- Individually packaged/travel-size snacks (nuts, trail mix, beef jerky, crackers, cookies)
- Non-perishable meat (individual packets of tuna, chicken, salmon; not canned)
- Lip balm
- Small packs of baby wipes
- Small puzzle books, playing cards, hacky sacks, etc.

Cards and letters of appreciation (Do not write your last name, address or personal contact info. Use wording that will encompass the holiday spirit without reference to race or religion, as messages are delivered to a diverse group of service members. Also, do not seal cards or letters in envelopes.)

For more information about Holiday for Heroes, go to www.redcross.org/holidayforheroes.

Holiday collection sites
These are the drop-off locations for donations that are in Naples or close by. For a complete list, go to www.redcross.org/holidayforheroes.

- Red Cross headquarters: 2610 Northbrooke Plaza Drive, Naples
- Hodges University: 2647 Professional Circle, Naples
- Barron Collier Companies, 2600 Golden Gate Parkway, Naples
- Community School of Naples, 13270 Livingston Road
- The Carlisle, 6945 Carlisle Court, Naples
- Wellington Group Morgan Stanley Wealth Management, 7208 N. Collier Blvd., Marco Island

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**CLUB NOTES**

- **The Florida District of Pilot International** holds its annual fall council Oct. 25 at the Naples Hilton, 531 Tamiami Trail N. The Pilot Club of Naples serves as the host club to 28 Pilot Clubs of Florida. With a focus on brain injury prevention, speakers include Jodi Walborn, Safe Routes to School Community Educator; and Dr. Hopkins All Children’s Hospita- tal; and Cpl. Mike Nelson of the Collier County Sheriff’s Office, public speaker on bikes, bike rodeo coordinator and participant in the Pan-Florida Challenge Bike Ride for Hungry Kids. The Florida District is also supporting four scholar- ship homes on the campus of FSU, UF and FGCU. For information about Pilot International, call Suzanne Lester, Pilot Club of Naples president, at 239-289-8268.

- **Gulf Breeze Bop Club** meets at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 5, at the Elks Lodge, 3231 Coconut Rd., Bonita Springs. A free dance lesson with paid admission is at 6:30 p.m. with instructor Cindy Johnson; open dancing is from 7:30-9:30 p.m. with DJ Donna Conley. This is a nonprofit dance club with members. Admission is $10 for members, $15 for guests. Gulfbreezebopclub.com.

- **Alliance Française de Naples** hosts “Piano Recital by Frazar Henry,” a 15-year- old Naples piano prodigy, at 3 p.m. Friday, Oct. 5, at Grain de Café, 8803 Tamiami Trail N., Naples. The cost is $50, which includes a glass of wine, non-alcoholic beverage or coffee and a French pastry. Proceeds fund a scholarship for Frazar to study French with the Alliance Française de Naples. Seating is limited. Reserva- tions by mail only; reservations will not be taken at the door. The deadline to receive reservations and payment is Tuesday, Oct. 22. For details, visit www.afnaples.org, or call President Denypse Jenkins at 239-352-0447.

- **Solo Singles of Collier County** was organized more than 25 years ago to create and promote recreation, cul- tural, charitable and social activities for singles, divorced or widowed men and women. Members meet at a different restaurant at 5 p.m. each Wednesday for an hour followed by dinner. The next event is scheduled for Oct. 30 at Outback Steakhouse, 4910 Tamiami Trail N., Naples. For membership information, call Carey Hughes at 239-262-0278 or email careyjhj@aol.com.

- **The Men’s Republican Club of Collier County** hosts the third annual Salute to Veterans luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Nov. 1, at the Naples Hilton Hotel, 531 Tamiami Trail N. The keynote speaker is U. S. Army Capt. Roger Hill who served in Korea, Iraq and Afghanistan and author of “Dog Compan- y,” a true story of American soldiers abandoned by their higher command. Tickets are $25. For more information or to buy tickets, visit www.colleuirre- publicansmc.com.

- **The Genealogical Society of Col- lier County** will hold a free genealogy class, “Mining at Central Ave., There’s Gold in Them There Genealogy Rooms,” with instructor Marie Overman, GSSC presi- dent, from 9:30-11 a.m. Nov. 4 at Naples Regional Library, 604 Central Ave. The GSSC will meet on Tuesday, Nov. 12, at Moorings Presbyterian Church, Moss Hill, and Harbour Drive, Naples. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. The 7 p.m. program, “A Salute to our Veterans and the Records They Left,” addresses finding and using military records in genealogy research presented by GSSC member John Stras- brough. The meeting is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Jeanne Bruehler at 239-877-9276 or visit www.thegssc.org.

- **Tech4Good SWFL** holds month- ly events, convening change makers to share ideas and collaborate on projects for real world impact. Members represent nonprofit organizations, govern- ment agencies, service providers, develop- ers, innovators and social entrepre- neurs. Its next meeting is from 6 to 8 p.m. Nov. 5 at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6340 Naya Way, Naples, and will feature John Cunniff, attorney at Hawn & Law. The meetings are free and open to the public.

- **SCORE Naples** presents “Excel Spreadsheets for Beginners (2-Part Series)” from 6-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Nov. 6 and 13, at the Naples Accelerator, 3510 Kraft Road, Ste. 220, Naples. This interactive workshop will introduce Excel to first-time or infrequent users, teach best practices and basic formulas and high- light key differences between Microsoft Excel and Google Sheets. Cost is $30 for one session or $50 for both when registering online. Visit www.scorenaples.org or call 239-430-0081.

- **Naples Ship Modelers** is an infor- mal group dedicated to the hobby of building wooden ship models, sharing skills, knowledge and ship building tech- niques. The club meets twice monthly on Saturday mornings and new members interested in the hobby are welcome. Call Dick Ritchie at 239-594-0068 or email dritchie57@gmail.com.

- **The Collier County Alumnae Association of Kappa Kappa Gamma** welcomes all alumnae and KKG visitors in the area to join its upcoming activities, including a Founders Day Candlight Ceremony luncheon, presenting 35-, 40-, 65- and 75-year pins, at 11:30 a.m. Nov. 9 at the Naples Beach Hotel. On Nov. 14, the association will visit Everglades Wonder Gardens followed by lunch. For information, contact Joan at 847-942-7527 or email cdcritchie37@gmail.com.

- **SWF USNA alumni and their fami- lies will hold its monthly luncheon at noon Tuesday, Nov. 12, at the Wyndemere Country Club, 700 Wyndemere Way, Naples. All USNA alumni are welcome. Quang Nguyen, a survivor of the Vietnam War will be the speaker. For information, contact club secretary Herb Andrews at herbiejohn88@gmail.com.

- **An AARP Safe Driving class** for seniors will be held from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Nov. 14 at St. Williams Ministry, 750 Seagate Dr., Naples. The cost is $15 for AARP members and $20 for non-mem- bers. To register, call Tom Campbell at 239-455-2132.

- **Widows & Widowers of South- west Florida** is a social and support group for those who have lost a partner, will hold a dinner and dance from 5 to 9 p.m. Monday, Nov. 18, at the Hilton, Naples, 531 Tamiami Trail North, Naples. Enjoy meet- ing new people and fellowship for cock- tail hour starting at 5 p.m., with dinner at 6 p.m. Dancing and music provided by the Manhattan Connection is from 6 to 9 p.m. Cost is $35 per person, including tax and gratuity. Country Club attire, collared shirts for men. For reservations, contact Sandi Alalouf, 404-463-1487 or sosaralene@yahoo.com, Ral Homovec at 239-566-2454 or Olivia Fort at 239-450-0738.

**ADDED ACTIVITIES**

- **Townsend Square Garden Club** will feature John Cunniff, attorney at Hawn & Law, Nov. 14, at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6340 Naya Way, Naples. The cost is $10 for members, $15 for visitors. For more information, contact(status@townsquaregardenclub.org).

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You know the sound a shopping cart makes when one of its wheels is wonky? Wockata, wockata, wockata. Last year, my hoarder mother snagged one of those rickety carts from behind Walgreens. Tiny as she was, she trumped that thing around with the energy of a ferret.

Our house, next to the strip mall, was bulging withatty furnishings, empty jars, funky clothes, hideous lamps. Moldering stuffed toys and bedraggled baby dolls were crammed into every crevice. Halloween masks dangled from the living room ceiling fan. In December, she came home with an aluminum Christmas tree. I was in my room studying when I heard the wockata, wockata, wockata. She pushed it up the sidewalk.

"Hey, Suze," she yelled, "Guess what I found!"

She jammed the tree into a corner of the living room. After Christmas she decorated it for every holiday: Christmas balls, red paper hearts and plastic mas balls, red paper hearts and plastic decorated it for every holiday. Christmas balls, red paper hearts and plastic. Last month I was sitting on the stoop when I heard the wockata, wockata, wockata. She pushed the cart up to the bottom step.

"Hey, Suze, guess what I found from behind the ‘Nails R Us’?"

Turned out she’d found a mannequin in the dumpster behind the men’s store. It was naked except for a tatty blond wig.

"Can you get the door?" She was wresting the thing out of the cart.

What was I gonna say? I gave up the fight a long time ago.

After she dragged it into the house, she plopped him onto the sofa, straightened his wig and then, gesturing like Vanya in a Chekhov play, gave him a vow, pointed to the mannequin.

"Sure meet Manny."

I went to my room and slammed the door. My room was the only space in the house not filled with garbage.

Last week she arrived with another “surprise.” I heard the front door slam.

"Hey, Suze, guess what I found at the tag sale?"

She carried in a beat up, child-size, CPK practice dummy, part of a rusty Manny’s lap. Stepping back to admire the vignette, she grabbed a naked baby doll out from under the coffee table and plunked it down beside the dummy.

"Look, Suze," she said, gesturing again like Vanya, “just like a real fam-

"Wockata, wockata, wockata. I took a quick look around before I left her tucked in her cart in the Walgreens parking lot. I was smiling aw-

Hey, Girlie." I whirled around.

Just my luck. I hadn’t seen the shelf’s cruiser parked next to the dump-

ster. Before he cuffed me, he just stood there shaking his head.

Manny’s wig and lit it on fire. I slammed it over the couch, poured the last of it onto my hoarder mother snagged one of those rickety carts from behind Walgreens. Tiny as she was, she trumped that thing around with the energy of a ferret.

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eger social worker. From her first job in a New York City juvenile hall for

ple of unruly kids and some runaway canned goods.

A NICE ENDING

Remembering my manners, I ask if I can get her something to drink. She declines and we both rest back into the bench and listen quietly to the music. I am just entering and she is well into the time of life when silence between strangers is no longer uncomfortable, but is instead a time for ingathering.

She reaches over to her dog and be-

From “Ghost Particles” by Patricia Bouillier of Naples, about a homeless woman named Scylla “who said she was a diver, scavenging barnacles from boat hulls.” Scylla occasionally visited the narrator’s church but then disap-

AN INTERESTING PERSPECTIVE

No one sticks up for us shopping cars. They use us, abuse us, knock us over, spook us, and then just leave us abandoned to get hit by cars and wait until someone takes us or the clerk puts us home to our coral.

From “Shopping Cart Crimes” by Suzanne Rudd Hamilton, recounting a day in the life of a shopping cart that witnesses all manner of chaos and car-

narge involving a distracted mom, a couple of unruly kids and some runaway canned goods.

From “Strangers” by David Spie-

berg wrote about a man who finds calming music and a dance partner in a downtown courtyard after realizing he needs a new outlook because he had created a “disaster scenario” in his mind when a harmless stranger approached him in a drugstore parking lot.

Ms. Brakeley-Bugaeff started writing seriously about 10 years ago, soon after she retired from a 40-year career as a psychiatric social worker. From her first job in a New York City juvenile hall for girls, she went to the forensics ward of a Connecticut state hospital then to a half-way house for female felons. She also did some geriatric counseling and worked for a time at a public mental health clinic before spending five years as a consult-
tant with a family services agency.

"I’d always been sort of a closet writ-

er,” she said, adding it took her eight weeks to graduation and then I was going to go as far as I could get.

After a while, I became aware that I hadn’t heard my mother doing her usual stumbly, rumble routine.

"Hey, Mom," I yelled from my room. Had she gone out to peel and left the door unlocked? I had to check.

The vignette on the couch hadn’t changed. I bent down to rouse her.

"Mom," I shook her. Her skin was ice cold. Her lips were blue. No pulse...

I stood there for a long time before I bundled her in an old poncho, carried her outside and gently placed her in the cart. I ran on the street inside and showed my books and some clothes into my backpack.

"Hey, Suze, guess what I found behind the ‘Nails R Us’?"

I found a gallon jug of nail polish re-

backpack.

my books and some clothes into my cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shoved them into the cart. I ran back inside and shove

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VERLA WALLACE, NAPLES_________________________

Car Talk

"There are only 35 of these babies in Second highest number of million-ty?" for a smoke. Can you believe this beau-

ping.

Sammy who knew cars like baseball Drophead Coupe. For a gearhead like break and there it was: 2015 Water-

being critiqued by fellow members).

to the Suncoast Writers Guild and enjoys with our second-place winner, belongs band for feedback (although she, along a week writing and tweaking “Guess ond prize in the Mid-County Regional Library’s “What’S YOUR Story?” com-
petition.

Ms. Brakley-Bugaeff spent about a master’s degree in pastoral counseling.

and tweaked a bit, has been selected for publication early next year in a liter-
ary and her story titled “The Burden of Perspi-
cancy” was recent-

Second place

Ms. Brakley-Bugaeff who drew her inspiration for “Lucky” from our black-and-white

week in a liter-

tor tidings that is right in the world. She smells like heaven. I lick her hand and she smiles at me. A real smile. We can all tell the difference, you know.

EILEEN VORBACH COLLINS, ROTUNDA WEST

Hey, Dude! Slow down, will ya? I could lose you in the crowd up there. Let’s listen to the music; snuff around those bags awhile and see what secrets they hold. Well, I’ll do the sniffin’ and you do the dillin’. That’s our game, right? I saw I may have four legs, but they’re a lot shorter than yours.

Why did I get this damn dog? I knew I shoulda picked one of the pits, but the last one almost got me busted when he went after that little pais-

ass dog the girl carried around in her purse. How the hell is a guy supposed to make an honest living if you can’t even put your hand in a bag at a metro stop? The little guy’s working out OK though — most of the time. Lots of chicks think he’s cute, so the panhan-
dling’s going real good, and he sure as hell don’t eat as much as that big one.

He’d be surprised if he knew what this old dog is thinking. I know why you picked up the race, big guy. You want to sniff that skirt up ahead. I get it. I’m no perv, mind you, not into any inter-species’ kinky stuff, but I wouldn’t be shy about dancing a me-
tanguage on one a them legs. Whoo hoo! Woofle doo!

I point my cars forward and listen to this guy’s tame pickup line. “Hey darlin’, you’re looking aw-

ful sweet tonight. What’s your hurry? How about I buy you a drink?”

The lady with the shoes that make noise recoils, like she smells rotten meat. Ugh. That creep again. “No thanks, I’m running late. Meeting friends at the Biblots.” She hurries past.

It’s time for my special act. “OWWK! I hold my right fro-

paw up like there’s something stuck in it. Whimper and whim, that’s how I shine. They can’t resist me. She stops in her tracks and turns to look at me. “Oh, no! What’s wrong with your little dog?”

Why’s she talking to him? It’s me, the cute furry one that she’s concerned about. The big guy gives her his best fake smile and replies, “He’s not mine. He just started following me. I’m a sucker for any animal and they know it. He looked hungry, so I bought him a burger.”

Lies! You grabbed me off the street, the headwaiter nodded toward the station. The gentleman excused himself back at the station, to check the plates. Did you see anyone get out of the car?”

“No, sir. Just saw it when I came out for a smoke. Can you believe this beau-
ty?”

“Hey, it’s Naples,” the officer smiled. “Second highest number of million-
aires per capita of any city in the coun-
try, so we see a lot of expensive cars.”

“Not like this one,” Sammy said.

“There are only 35 of these babies in the world! They cost a cool $650,000, and...” The officer interrupted.

“Sorry. Can’t chat. I need to find the driver and get it out of the crosswalk.

Car Talk

VERLA WALLACE, NAPLES

Sammy stepped outside for a smoke break and there it was: 2015 Water-
speed Collection Rolls Royce Phantom Drophead Coupe. For a gearhead like Sammy who knew cars like baseball fans know their stats, it was jaw-drop-
ing.

A uniformed police officer ap-

proached him. “Are you the driver of this car?”

“No, sir. Just saw it when I came out for a smoke. Can you believe this beau-
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Did you see anyone get out of the car?”

“No, Sorry.”

The officer called Ken, his assistant back at the station, to check the plates. The car was registered to a New York corporation. The name rang a bell. It had been in the news, but he couldn’t recall the details. He asked Ken to run it down.

He began to canvas nearby estab-
lishments, asking if anyone knew the driver of the strange blue convertible. At an upscale steakhouse across the street, the headwaiter nodded toward a window table. Discreetly, he walked over to the table and asked a white-

haired gentleman to step up to the host station. The gentleman excused himself from his guests and followed.

“What seems to be the problem, Jef-
freY?” he asked.

The officer stepped forward. “Sir, do you own the blue Rolls-Royce out-
side?”

Third place

Verla Wallace, whose “Car Talk” was inspired by our Rolls-Royce photograph, is among 40-some writers who have been invited to talk about, display and sell their works at the Collier County Library Local Author Book Fair coming up Saturday, Nov. 9, at South Regional Library in Naples.

Her book, a mem-
or titled “Revolt of the Well-Intentioned: Life: The Backroads Adventure that Changed Everything,” is

Steve Fassler is a Well-Intentioned
Lucky
From page 13
who he chooses.”
My advanced canine brain leaps at this chance, but who am I kid-
ing? I’m following my heart. This one looks like a keeper. Like the ones I’ve heard about. I might even get my own bowl and a clean water dish. Sleep in-
side a box. I know. I’ll never lift my leg in there. She can be the Alpha. Ah, the poor creep was feeling hopeful when he named me Lucky.”

Other fun stuff from stories inspired by this prompt

Car Talk
From page 13
“Son, you interrupted my lunch to ask about my car! Do you know who I am? “Yes, sir. You’re the owner of a car il-
legally parked in the crosswalk and jutting too close to an adjoining vehicle. You probably don’t know who I am. I’m Of-
ficer James Hanson, with the Naples Po-
lice Department. I’m going to write you a ticket and tow your car unless you move it at once.”

The gentleman bristled, answering in a
low, clipped voice, “I’ll move it when I’ve finished my lunch … and I’m in no hurry, officer. I suggest you be in less of a hurry, too, if you want to continue your very important job.” He turned away, dismissing the matter.
The officer walked outside to called Ken, “What’s your name?”
“Jim, you’ll love this! Remember that DEA alert that came in on Monday about some Big Deal executive who
skipped out on his scheduled deposition last week? Your guy is one of those big
pharma execs the feds are going after in connection with the opioid scandal?”
Ken said, “I told the chief, he called the FBI and DEA. They’re on their way.”
The officer anxiously returned to the car as Sammy was wrapping up his break.

“So, do you find the driver?” he asked.

“Yup.”

“Is he a movie star? Some hip-hop artist? An Arab sheik?”

“Nope.”

“Who is he?”

“Apparently, he’s someone who thinks he’s above the law.” Hanson winked.

“Aww, cut the guy some slack,” Sammy said.

“Who is he?”

“Who is he?”

“Who is he?”

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“Who is he?”

...and unobtrusively tried to palm it off on the officer.

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Other fun stuff from stories inspired by this prompt

Challenge
From page 13
based on the 40 days she spent driving across the country, alone, after suffer-
ing what her doctors called a physical breakdown. She retired from her work as director of media relations and crisis communications for a health-
care conglomerate in Chicago. That job had followed a long career as a broadcast journalist covering crime, politics and education for NBC-affiliate stations in the Windy City. She also freelanced for the Chicago Tribune. After her backroads adventure, Ms. Collins returned to Chicago and created a whole new life for herself, working halftime as a consultant and writing the other half. “My heart was focused on the trip and the time I had to myself.”

“Why I Called in Sick Last Friday” — JoAnn Wieder, Fort Myers, who wrote a story about a series of unfortu-

The Hearafternet
■ BEST TITLE
“From Pennies to Heaven” — With North Port resident Steve Rodgers’ story about an aging grand-

NEWSPAPER OF RECORD
■ BEST MADE-UP WORD
“Hearafternet” — Hey, Henry,” Charles Rolls said, “I just read on the Hearafternet that a newspa-

■ DESCRIPTION SO GOOD YOU CAN’T LIE
They’re wearing identical Hawaiian

■ SHORTEST ENTRY OF ALL
“Just Got Lucky,” 74 words, by Paula Myers. We hope you try again next year, Paula.

■ PLEASANT RECOLLECTION
Cruising was a sign of the times, a way to meet people — ones we knew and ones we didn’t. I remember cruising...”

■ APPEALING RECOLLECTION
Cruising was a sign of the times, a way to meet people — ones we knew and ones we didn’t. I remember cruising...”

■ A GREAT TITLE
“And there it was. The Florida Week-

■ CAN SEE IT
APhantastical tale of someone (an alien?) sent to New York City to deter-
mine whether it would be a good place to
call home.

■ MOST PROMISING START
That was disqualified because the

Most Promising Start
That was disqualified because the

■ MOST PROBLEMATIC WORD
was keeping it to 750 words.

“I had to mix a lot of good stuff about the car itself and the real-life gearhead at the dealership who was so excited to tell me all about it. He said he had actually sold the car in the picture.”

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Get in the spirit by shopping Spirit Halloween Stores for seasonal decorations and costumes! Not only will you save 10% on your entire order, but 10% of your sale will support the Golisano Children’s Hospital.

To view a list of participating stores and to download your coupon, visit LeeHealthFoundation.org/Spirit.
Naples Bay Club undergoes multi-million dollar renovation

The Naples Bay Club, a private membership resort club located minutes from downtown Naples, recently underwent a multi-million dollar interior and exterior renovation to provide its members with best in class amenities, equipment and service. Spearheaded by Fred Pezeshkan, upgrades and renovations began in July 2018 and will be completed in January 2020.

“We are excited about the Club’s renovations and offering our guests a superior, one-of-a-kind membership experience,” said Fred Pezeshkan, a 30-year veteran real estate developer and owner of the land and surrounding areas. “The Club is a hidden gem in downtown Naples featuring everything from a resort-style pool and lazy river, tennis facility and fitness center, to a marina, spa and access to championship golf courses. These renovations will enhance our product offering to the same standard of excellence as our 4-Diamond Naples Bay Resort and better accommodate the needs of our current and future members. The Club is a tropical haven with new world-class amenities.
and impecable service perfect for local and seasonal couples and families to enjoy an upscale resort lifestyle.”

The more than $2.9 million renovation addressed almost every interior and exterior area of the Club, including its lobby, fitness center, outdoor bar and members’ lounge. The lobby was updated to include an air-conditioned entryway and lounge encased in floor-to-ceiling glass windows. New software was also installed to operate and manage membership, bookings and point of sale.

Members will enjoy a new members’ lounge designed by Clove Daniel Hospitality. The lounge will have a new bar, carpet, blinds, furniture, pool table, poker table and light fixtures. In the off-season, it will be available for members to reserve private celebrations and no membership is required exclusively for members, such as Member Mixers, and planned evening entertainment will continue at the Club.

The fitness center was fully equipped with cardiovascular and strength training machines by Technogym, the leading global manufacturer of fitness equipment based in Cesena, Italy. This new state-of-the-art equipment alone was more than $400,000 and is one of the only gyms in Southwest Florida to offer this top of the line brand.

The outdoor Blue Water Bar, next to the pool area, was fully renovated and seating capacity doubled in size. Five 55-inch flat-screen TVs were added to capture all current entertainment. The fitness center was fully equipped with state-of-the-art Technogym equipment based in Cesena, Italy. This new equipment alone was more than $400,000 and is one of the only gyms in Southwest Florida to offer this top of the line brand.

All Club buildings were painted in white and new exterior lighting will be installed to operate and manage membership, bookings and point of sale.

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Basic steps to protect your computer from malware

By Anthony Gamboa Stuva

In recent months, we have seen an increasing number of malware and ransomware attacks throughout the country. Most recently, smaller local governments in Texas have been a target of coordinated ransomware attacks that have affected their operations.

Although these types of attacks are common at government and corporate levels, they can also make their way through home computers. Protecting your computer and personal electronic devices is necessary, especially if they are connected to the internet. That is the key path that malware uses to conduct attacks.

There are numerous ways to protect and remove malware from computers. Not a single method is enough to ensure your device is secure, so it’s best to layer your computer’s defenses to make it harder for hackers to gain access.

My soccer coach used to tell me, “Let’s start with the basics.” That phrase would be applicable in this case, and below are five steps you can take to protect your information.

- **Update your operating system and applications regularly.** Whether you have Windows 10, MacOs, iOS (phone, tablet) or Android devices is necessary, especially if they are connected to the internet. That is the key path that malware uses to conduct attacks.

- **Install and update your antivirus software solution.** Even though Microsoft Windows has made tremendous improvements to Windows Defender, having an antivirus installed and updated on your device is also helpful. It prevents unauthorized code, worms, viruses, keyloggers, Trojans, etc. Antivirus provides a real-time protection and detect threats.

- **Use complex passwords or use a password manager application.** This is your first line of defense and keeping strong password complexity is a good step towards that. Complexity includes having eight or more characters, mix of numbers, special characters, upper and lower case characters. The more complexity, the more difficult it will be for hackers to break. Consider a password manager application to keep your list of passwords secure.

- **Check your internet browser and your social media security and privacy settings.** Internet browsers have several security and privacy settings should be reviewed on a regular basis as updates may change certain settings. The same applies for social media channels.

- **Lastly, think twice before clicking links, downloading apps, or opening email attachments.** When in doubt, do not click on links or open any attachments. Instead, look to validate the origin of the source. Observe if the email address matches that of your known contact. Hover over the links first and look to see if the domain is valid and legitimate.

Following these simple basic steps can improve your computer’s security.

— Anthony Gamboa Stuva is the assistant vice president of information technology at Hodges University.
For pizza’s sake

NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY

For pizza’s sake menu,” Mr. Stoneburner said.

Bellagio in the last 15 years or so.

Kitchen, Bianchi’s, The Grill Club and Il en, Chef Peter Della Rocca is spinning that can be cut by the piece.”

all the sandwiches (individually), we’re had flatbreads, but not the classic New roads. The longtime Parmesan Pete’s has

in North Naples.

Chef Peter Della Rocca is spinning of Peter’s Cuisine catering service, Mr. Della Rocca formerly owned and oper-

ated two critically acclaimed restaurants in New Jersey.

Peter’s Pizzeria will be open 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. weekdays but may start later on the weekends. For more infor-

mation, call 239-734-8836 or go to Pete’sPizzeriaNaples.com

Greek roots

Across the street from Pete’s, Greek-
town Taverna is targeted to open this week. 4 in Naples Walk on the southeast cor-
ner of Airport-Pulling and Vanderbilt Beach roads. The longtime Pete’s has had flatbreads, but not the classic New York-style pizza pies and Stromboli that will be available at Pete’s Pizzeria.

“It’s going to be pizza and sandwiches and salads,” he said. “Instead of making all the sandwiches (individually), we’re going to make large sandwiches that can be cut by the piece.”

The pizzeria also will offer prepared foods to take home for lunch or dinner. Little by little, Mr. Della Rocca will add

Italian deli items for sale. A pastrami case also is in the works with desserts such as gelatos, cannoli and cookies.

Although the new pizzeria will have only about 10 seats, Mr. Della Rocca is hoping for a big takeout business, espe-
cially for lunch when Pete’s will offer pizza slices from large pies on display. Delivery also will be available.

Mr. Della Rocca came to Naples about 20 years ago from Brooklyn, New York, where his family served fine Ital-

ian cuisine for decades. The founder of Peter’s Cuisine catering service, Mr. Della Rocca formerly owned and oper-

ated two critically acclaimed restaurants in New Jersey.

The new restaurant also will have a full liquor bar with a dining room of 100 seats inside and eventually 40 outside.

Greektown Taverna, 2440 Vanderbilt Beach Road, Unit 200, will be open 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturdays and 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sundays.

More new names

Another Mr. Tequila Mexican restaur-

ant and bar is targeted to open in about a month in the Uptown Center space that most recently was Phoenician Leba-
Pete’s Tavern in Naples opened in 1995. that most recently was Phoenician Leba-

nese Bistro until it closed in late May after operating a year on Immokalee Road in North Naples. That corner retail

unit also was previously El Gasco Inca Bistro and Fred’s Diner.

Mr. Tequila, owned by the Plassena family, has been in business at freestand-

ing locations on U.S. 41 for 10 years in Naples and five years in East Naples. The venues’ extensive menu for lunch and dinner includes burritos, chimichangas, enchiladas, fajitas, tacos and quesadillas, as well as margaritas, beer and wine.

Meanwhile, the same family recently changed the name of its Casamigos restaurant in Naples to Don Tequila because its “house of friends” infringed upon the billion-dollar tequila brand of the same name co-founded by actor George Clooney. Although the local res-

taurant has a new name, it has the same owners and menu of the Mexican restau-

rant that has operated for two years in Liberty Plaza, the retail center across U.S. 41 North from Outback Steakhouse.

Spreading out

Two Naples-based restaurants recent-

ly launched locations out of the area.

The new Venice eatery on U.S. 41 offers the same homespun look and scratch menu that have made the breakfast-
lunch venue popular since the first one in North Naples opened in 1999.

Fernandez the Bull Cuban Cafe opened a Key Largo location on Oct. II in Publix-anchored Tradewinds Plaza, near mile marker 101 on U.S. I. The small cafe in the Keys shares a menu with the long-
time restaurant’s locations on both Pine Ridge and Immokalee roads in North Naples.

— “Tim Aten Knows” is published each week in Naples Florida Week-

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY THE EDITORS AT ANDREW MCMEELE

Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

I’d walk a mile ... or 350

Tommy Lee Jenkins, 32, recently moved away from Oshkosh, Wis., to Whitestown, Ind., but on Oct. 1, he struck up an online relationship with “Kylee,” a supposed 14-year-old girl in Neenah, Wis., according to the Justice Department. As their correspondence progressed, he requested sexually explicit photos of Kylee and made plans to engage in sexual behavior, court documents said, but when Kylee refused to come to Indiana, Jenkins set out toward Neenah — on foot. The Oshkosh Northwestern reported that waiting for him at the end of his 373-mile trek were Winnebago County Sheriff’s deputies (one of whom was “Kylee”) and FBI agents, who arrested him for using a computer to attempt to persuade, induce or entice a minor to engage in unlawful sexual activity. Jenkins faced other child sexual assault charges in 2011 and 2012 and had been sentenced to probation.

Ironies

While patrolling a Bath and Body Works store in Waukesha, Wis., an unnamed security guard let the boredom get to him. Around 2 a.m. on Oct. 11, he slipped his handcuffs on — then realized he’d left the keys at home. Forced to call police, who responded and freed him from his restraints, the bored guard then hid the cuffs from himself so he wouldn’t be tempted to put them on again. According to WDJT, he told police it wasn’t the first time he had handcuffed himself without having the keys.

Awesome

It was W.C. Fields who said, “Never work with animals or children.” Russian President Vladimir Putin was reminded of that warning on Oct. 14 as he visited King Salman of Saudi Arabia in Riyadh. The Daily Mail reported that Putin brought along a gyrfalcon named Alpha for the king, and as everyone admired the bird during the ceremonial exchange of gifts, it chose that moment to take aim on the plush royal carpet and, shall we say, leave its mark. Hunting with birds of prey is one of the favorite pastimes of Saudi royalty, and the birds are highly prized.

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Staying aware

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

Getting older can bring many changes, both physically and mentally. Even when you’re healthy, your brain and body start slowing down. Maintaining your cognitive health — the ability to clearly think, learn and remember — is important for your overall well-being.

Many things influence cognitive health. Your genes, lifestyle and environment can all impact your thinking skills and ability to perform everyday tasks.

It’s common to experience some decline in cognitive function as we get older. Maybe you lose things occasionally, or forget a word or even what day it is for a brief time. Or you might notice that it takes longer to learn new things.

Such symptoms do not necessarily mean you’re developing Alzheimer’s disease or another type of dementia.

“I like to think about the brain as a computer disk for memory and thinking,” explains Dr. Marie Bernard, an aging expert at the National Institutes of Health. “As you get older, it gets fuller and fuller. So it can get more difficult to retrieve data and add data to it.

“But you’re still able to learn and grow.”

Aging is bound to bring changes. But there are many things you can do to protect your cognitive health as you age. That includes knowing what puts your well-being at risk.

Staying aware

It’s not only occasional memory problems that older adults are more likely to experience. Aging can bring other changes to the way the brain works. These changes can impact your ability to deal with complex social situations. That can put you at higher risk of being scammed.

“Older adults are often targeted by scam artists,” says Dr. Patricia Boyle, who studies the aging brain at Rush University. Older adults are also more likely than younger ones to pick up the phone without knowing who’s calling, she explains.

“Simply by doing that, you’re opening yourself up to a conversation with someone who may be an unscrupulous person trying to steal from you.”

Common scams targeting older adults include identity theft, risky or fake investments, charity scams and people posing as relatives in distress to ask for money.

Any adult can fall victim to these sorts of scams. But Dr. Boyle and her team recently found that low awareness of scams was about twice as likely to lead to Alzheimer’s disease as those with high scam awareness.

People should verify any investment proposal or request for money before acting, Dr. Boyle explains. Trusted family members or friends may be able to help with this.

“Take the time to look into financial propositions and make sure they are legitimate,” she says.

Reversing changes

Many things can cause memory or other thinking problems. Depression, anxiety, an infection or even certain medications can cause cognitive changes. Sometimes these types of issues can be resolved with treatment.

If you experience a sudden change in thinking, memory or mood, it might be caused by a new medication. Some drugs might not cause cognitive changes when taken on their own but can do so when combined with other medications. Even common supplements or over-the-counter remedies can cause these types of interactions.

If you have more than one doctor, sometimes one might not know what the others prescribed.

“Older adults really benefit from having a list of all their over-the-counter, herbal and prescribed medications with them whenever they see a health care professional,” says Dr. Bernard.

Certain medications can also have dangerous, or even deadly, effects when combined with alcohol.

And alcohol alone poses risks for the older brain. It can take less alcohol to alter judgment, coordination, balance or sleep patterns in an older adult.

Dangerous drinking habits have been rising among older adults in the U.S. A recent NIH-funded study found that 1 in 10 Americans aged 65 or older binged drinks regularly. That means drinking four or more drinks on the same occasion for women and five or more for men.

Older adults might change their drinking habits to cope with the death of a partner or other loved one, or because they’re lonely. But drinking can also be part of social activities for older adults, explains Dr. Edith Sullivan, an alcohol researcher at Stanford University.

“Older adults might feel that, ‘Well, I’m old now, it’s OK for me to drink,’ she says. But older brains and bodies are especially vulnerable to the effects of alcohol, she adds.

A recent study by Dr. Sullivan and her team used brain imaging to see how alcohol affects the brain and found that older adults who misused alcohol had greater loss of brain tissue compared with their peers who didn’t drink. This was true even if they started misusing alcohol later in life.

The good news, the doctor explains, is that some problems with thinking or memory caused by medications or alcohol misuse can be reversed. “That’s different from classical dementia, which is a one-way street of decline,” she says.

Building brainpower

There are many things you can do to protect your brain as you age.

“Cognitive activity, physical activity and social engagement are associated with better cognitive functioning in older adulthood,” Dr. Boyle explains.

Managing your health conditions is also important. Controlling your blood pressure, for example, reduces the risk of having a small stroke (bleeding from blood vessels in the brain). Small strokes can cause temporary or permanent cognitive problems.

Feeling a sense of purpose in one’s life also seems to help protect older adults from cognitive decline. A study from Dr. Boyle and her colleagues found that people who felt more purpose in life had fewer symptoms from brain changes linked to Alzheimer’s disease.

“The aging brain can accumulate Alzheimer’s changes, but if you’re stimulating your brain and strengthening it like a muscle, you may be better able to tolerate those changes,” she says.

Dr. Bernard stresses that getting older can also bring cognitive advantages you might not know about.

“Older adults have greater verbal ability than younger adults. They’re better problem solvers. And accumulated experiences are very helpful,” she says.

“What about the positive things that come with aging, Dr. Bernard says. “It’s a great time to become engaged in meaningful activities, maintain connections to friends and family, develop new connections and be physically active.

And in turn, all of these things can enhance one’s quality of life and one’s aging.”

WAYS TO PROTECT YOUR BRAIN HEALTH

Good overall health can help you maintain your brain health. These tips can help you stay active and healthy physically and mentally.

Choose healthy foods whenever possible.

Drink enough fluids.

Limit your use of alcohol.

Don’t smoke or use tobacco products.

Get enough sleep.

Make physical activity part of your routine.

Keep your mind active with learning, teaching and volunteer work.

Stay connected with loved ones, friends and your community.

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In the KNOW
Naples Senior Center awarded Schulze Family grant

The Naples Senior Center, a nonprofit organization that provides comprehensive programs and social services for seniors, announced it has been awarded a $150,000 grant from the Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation. The grant will support core programming including socialization and wellness activities at the senior center.

The Naples Senior Center is the only human services agency of its kind, providing “one-stop shop” services addressing the emotional and social needs of seniors in Collier and southern Lee counties. Since opening its doors in January 2014, the organization has seen a surge in the depth and scope of need for comprehensive senior services in this region.

This latest grant from the Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation will enable the Naples Senior Center to offer more than 100 programs and activities, which will provide 12,500 class units for members. The grant will also support a variety of wellness and recreational activities such as arts, crafts, movies, gardening and cards as well as exercise classes like tai chi, chair yoga and cardio fitness that will improve the physical fitness of members.

“We are very grateful to the Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation for their continued support in addressing the emotional and social needs of seniors throughout Collier and southern Lee counties,” said Dr. Jaclynn Faffer, president/CEO of Naples Senior Center.

The Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation was created in 2004 by Best Buy founder Dick Schulze to “support transformational change for the benefit of mankind.” The Foundation has consistently directed its primary efforts and resources toward matters of importance in human and social services, education, and health and medicine with a geographic emphasis on the Twin Cities area of Minnesota and Collier and Lee counties.

The Naples Senior Center enriches the lives of those 60 years of age and older by providing comprehensive programs and social services that support and strengthen individuals and their families, often at times of vulnerability and crisis.

All programs and services are provided by licensed and credentialed professionals. These include Structured Dementia Respite Support; Geriatric Case Management and Senior Outreach Programs; and Emotional Support Services as well as a “choice” Food Pantry. An average of 40 different social, educational and wellness programs also are offered each week thanks to a dedicated corps of more than 200 trained and vetted volunteers.

For additional information on the Naples Senior Center and its comprehensive programs and social services for area seniors and their families, visit www.NaplesSeniorCenter.org.

Optimism. A powerful element in fighting cancer.

Marissa Lenney was diagnosed with stage 3 inflammatory breast cancer five weeks after her daughter, Adrianna, was born. Marissa’s family rallied around her as the doctors at Florida Cancer Specialists started her treatment less than 24 hours after her diagnosis. Being treated just 15 minutes from home allowed Marissa to soak up as many mom moments as she could. Florida Cancer Specialists’ quick response and her family’s support helped Marissa picture a future where she could be with her daughter.

“By getting treated locally at Florida Cancer Specialists, I was able to spend more time with the people who matter most — my family.”

-Marissa Lenney, Patient & Breast Cancer Fighter

Where hope is powered by science.™
FindHopeHere.com
BY KRISTEN BROWN
Child Life Specialist at Golisano Children’s Hospital

I have yet to meet an adult who likes going to the hospital. Imagine what it’s like for a child — doctors with surgical masks, gloves and hats, nurses with needles and syringes full of medicine, big words being thrown around and separation from home. Those are just side effects, if you will, of being in the hospital, and don’t even begin to consider the injury or illness that brought them to the hospital in the first place.

Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida recognizes that hospital environments inherently cause additional stress and anxiety for pediatric patients. We’re here to help them get better, but the setting doesn’t always scream “welcome.” That’s why Golisano Children’s Hospital employs highly skilled medical professionals who are instrumental in reducing fear, anxiety and pain for children. Certified child life specialists take the lead in making our pediatric patients feel comfortable in what is often an uncomfortable environment. The goal of this team of child development experts is to ensure that life remains as normal as possible in the health care setting. Child life specialists create age-appropriate activities in the playrooms, teen lounge and bedside, and coordinate educational services so children with extended stays don’t fall behind academically.

Our specialists also use play to teach. The American Academy of Pediatrics estimates that 50% to 75% of children develop significant fear prior to surgery and additional procedures. Pre-surgical tours of the hospital help to familiarize them with the facility. Special teaching dolls help break down medical terminology into kid-friendly words so each child can understand what is happening to them. Using syringes for a painting activity can help ease a child’s fear of medical equipment.

Child life specialists not only take the time to prepare children prior to their medical tests and procedures, but also accompany them to those procedures, a service that plays a key role in decreasing stress levels, not just for the patient, but also the parents. In procedure and operating rooms, a child life specialist might be the only familiar face in a sea of strangers.

The cost of a child life specialist at Lee Health, however, is not reimbursed by insurance. Through support of community members, organizations and businesses via the Lee Health Foundation, Golisano Children’s Hospital employs 10 child life specialists who are helping children and families cope with illness, injury, disability and hospitalization.

One of those community partners is Spirit Halloween, which operates stores in Naples, Bonita Springs, Fort Myers, Cape Coral and Port Charlotte. Through its Spirit of Children program, the company has contributed more than $174,000 to Golisano Children’s Hospital to support pediatric care through the work of the Child Life Department. Nationally, it’s raised over $45 million since 2007 to support hospitals in every state.

As you contemplate this year’s Halloween costume idea, consider the services of the Lee Health Foundation/Spirit to download a coupon for 10% off at Spirit Halloween. The company will then donate 10% of proceeds from your sale to Golisano Children’s Hospital.

Buying a scary costume for Halloween just might help make a hospital stay less scary for children in Southwest Florida.

— Kristen Brown, child life specialist at Golisano Children’s Hospital, is part of a team of child development experts who help ensure that life remains as normal as possible for patients at Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida.
HEALTH NEWS BRIEFS

Collier awarded gold by Florida Healthy Kids Corp.

Collier County was recognized as a 2019-2021 Florida Healthy School District recipient for meeting the health needs of students and staff. In collaboration with the Florida Association of District School Superintendents, and as members of the Florida Partnership for Healthy Schools, the Florida Healthy Kids Corp., announced Collier County as a Gold level award recipient. This award is granted to districts that meet self-assessment tool requirements based on sustainable infrastructure, policy, programs and practices. It is based off high-quality healthy school teams, suicide prevention and trauma-informed care facility training, school gardens and breakfast enhancement strategies, and exemplary Florida KidCare enrollment mechanisms and best practices.

Children's Advocacy Center awarded $20,000 grant

The United Way of Collier County recently awarded a $20,000 grant to the Children’s Advocacy Center of Collier County. The money will serve abused children and their families who have been identified by UWCC in its ALICE report as living in ALICE households. The UWCC, more than 37,000 households in Collier County currently fit this category, and a large number of children in crisis are living in ALICE households. The Children’s Advocacy Center is a nonprofit organization that serves an estimated 1,216 physically and sexually abused children and provides support for their families living in the ALICE population. The UWCC grant will help fund its programs of short-term interventions to these families at no charge, including counseling and a broad range of medical and legal advocacy services while providing long-term solutions to help improve these children's lives.

Free dental services offered on Nov. 9

Park Family & Cosmetic Dentistry will hold its sixth annual “Dentistry From the Heart” event from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9, at 600 Goodlette-Frank Road, Naples. The dental practice offers free dental services for those desperately in need of dental care. Must be 18 or older and need a filling, extraction or cleaning. No wisdom teeth extractions. The first 200 patients are guaranteed to be seen. Registration starts at 6:30 a.m. For information, call 239-263-1151.

Healthcare Network of SW Fla achieves AAAHC accreditation

Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida has been accredited by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care. Accreditation distinguishes it from many other outpatient facilities through its adherence to rigorous standards of care and safety. Status as an accredited organization means Healthcare Network has met nationally recognized standards for the provision of quality health care set by AAAHC. Ambulatory health care organizations seeking AAAHC accreditation undergo an extensive self-assessment and onsite survey by AAAHC expert surveyors — physicians, nurses, and administrators who are actively involved in ambulatory care. Healthcare Network has met nation-wide self-assessment tool requirements based on sustainable infrastructure, policy, programs and practices. It is based off high-quality healthy school teams, suicide prevention and trauma-informed care facility training, school gardens and breakfast enhancement strategies, and exemplary Florida KidCare enrollment mechanisms and best practices.

Florida Healthy Kids Corp.

Collier awarded gold by

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PET TALES

Authentic werewolf Halloween advice

BY DEANNA DEPPEN
Executive Director of Shy Wolf Sanctuary

With piercing eyes and sharp intelligence, it is easy to admire the powerful presence of a wolf. However, that wasn’t always the case.

From the Middle Ages, wolves were believed to be instruments of the devil and deeply feared. During the 1600s, men, women, and children lost their lives during hundreds of werewolf trials. It wasn’t just Europeans who feared the wolves. Cherokee Indians believed that if you hunted a wolf, its brothers would take revenge. Any weapons used to kill a wolf would never work properly again.

If you plan to dress as a werewolf this Halloween, we wanted to debunk some of the myths so that you could be the most authentic wolf at your party this year.

Don’t howl at the moon. Wolves howl to rally the pack before a hunt, to warn of a threat, or to contact separated members of the pack — not at the moon. The howl lasts about five seconds but often seems longer when the pack joins in. Choose your date wisely. Typically, a male and a female wolf will mate for life. They are protective of their pups and develop sophisticated family ties within the pack. The average size of a family unit is five to eight wolves but may vary from two to 30 wolves. Take another trip to the buffet. When wolves are hungry, they can eat up to 20 pounds of meat in a sitting. That would be like a human eating 100 hamburgers at once, so feel free to let your werewolf instincts take you back to the buffet. Incidentally, the 60 resident animals at Shy Wolf Sanctuary eat around 52,000 pounds of meat per year. Wolves don’t make good guard dogs, but sports medicine veterinarian Christine Zink of Ellicott City, Maryland, notes that nonsurgical options are available to prevent that. “You can build a fence, you can walk your dog on a leash,” she says. “It doesn’t require removing a really important organ for the dog’s endocrine system.”

Does that mean you shouldn’t spay or neuter your dog? Human societies believe early spay/neuter risks are outweighed by the reduction in shelter populations.

“We’re not saying, ‘Don’t spay or neuter your dog,’” says Dr. Benjamin Hart. “We’re saying for some breeds, such as the retrievers, wait until they are a year or a year and a half old.” Talk to your veterinarian. The decision on spay/neuter timing should be a joint one based on your pup’s risk according to published data.

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“Stress is the new normal and, to become resilient, you must practice strategies that will unhook you from the damaging, reactive nature of the stress reaction.”

— Cynthia Howard, an executive coach and performance expert

STRESSED OUT AT WORK?

Four strategies to help you reboot and refresh

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Stress at work can adversely affect other areas of your life, such as relationships and sleep, studies show. And as stress in the workplace rises, having a stress management strategy is vital, say mental health professionals and experts in corporate culture.

It’s not just workers who suffer from stress. Employers feel the effects of stress in increased absenteeism and lost production, and some companies address work-related stress with policies and practices. But it’s

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BY CHRIS VERNON
Special to Florida Weekly

Although it can be difficult to discern, there are many different types of financial professionals who each have their own subjective bias in terms of how you should think about how to deal with your money. As a result, you should consider making a written inventory of your investments, debts, income, and general financial needs and wants before speaking with anyone about making new investments or managing your money. This self-analysis may sound daunting if you don’t think of yourself as financially savvy, but it’s easier than it might sound, and can help you get to the right type of investment professional (who might be the wrong type of investment professional).

Here is a suggested simple self-analysis exercise. Write down the following:

• Your primary source of income and approximate income (e.g., if in real estate business, you write down real estate and, if a retiree, then write down bonds if you own a lot of bonds)

• Your major assets and approximate value (e.g., home, 401k, cash value in life insurance, your personal IRA) and whether they are available to use or move to a different asset

• Your major liabilities (e.g., mortgage, credit line or car payments)

• Your currently anticipated annual financial needs.

Once you do these four simple steps, look at the overall picture and see if you notice any patterns, such as whether you are paying high interest rates on debt, or whether most of your assets and income are dependent on the real estate market, etc.

The value of doing this before you reach out to an investment professional is to help you avoid going to someone for investment advice who may not have your best interests in mind. For example, someone who sells real estate investments (who may not need insurance; or someone who sells real estate investments if you are already over 40 years old) who has earned your trust may try to sell you investments that are mostly real estate and your income is dependent on the real estate industry.

In the next column we will cover the different types of investment professionals, some of which might be good professionals, but not necessarily a good fit for you because they primarily sell or specialize in a service you don’t need. Much like hiring a lawyer to buy a car or even buying a car, you should be dealing with someone who understands and offers what you need, as opposed to ending up with an investment professional who recommends what they’re selling.

— Chris Vernon is a Naples-based attorney who represents investors in financial disputes throughout the United States. He holds an AV rating by the prestigious Martindale-Hubbell, is recognized by Florida Super Lawyers and The Best Lawyers in America, and is also licensed as a Registered Investment Advisor and has testified as an expert on investment matters and FINRA arbitration matters.
MONEY & INVESTING

Now is the time to sell Netflix stock

Eric Bretan
estaterick@gmail.com

One of the top performing stocks of the last decade, Netflix is a key component of the “FANG” group comprised of itself, Facebook, Amazon and Google. The four companies have been the key drivers in the current bull market and have rewarded shareholders handsome-ly. But recently Netflix has given back some of its gains and many analysts are beginning to question whether it remains a high growth stock suitable for investors.

Netflix was founded in 1997 in California. It rented DVDs by mail in direct competition with Blockbuster, the lead-er in video rentals at the time. Two years later, Netflix introduced a month-ly flat rate plan where you could rent a movie a day for $19.95 per month. Two years later, Netflix introduced a month-ly flat rate plan where you could rent one movie a month for $10.95. This was obviously not as successful as the Netflix service, but it did allow Netflix to start building its subscriber base. Two years later, Netflix introduced a month-ly flat rate plan where you could rent one movie a month for $10.95. This was obviously not a large miss so it could be swept aside by most investors. Of course, Netflix went on to become the dominant player in streaming media and is completely dependent on growing its user base in order to drive revenue and earnings.

In 2000, the company was still not profitable and proposed a sale of the company to Blockbuster for $50 million, that was declined. So, to raise capital, the company went public in 2002. It wasn’t until 2007 that Netflix offered the ability to stream movies to its existing subscriber base through its “Watch Later” feature, which is critical to its success. However, there were a number of cautionary signals included in the quarter-ly report.

First, revenue came in lightly under expectations — $61.24 billion versus the predicted $62.25 billion. This was obviously not a large miss so it could be brushed off by most investors.

More significantly, Netflix only grew its U.S. subscriber base by 1.5 million people compared to the projected 6.05 million. Clearly, the company is gaining traction outside the U.S., which is critical to its success.

Second, Netflix announced that next quarter it expects to add only 7.6 million new subscribers globally. This compares to 8.8 million new Netflix members in the same quarter last year. Netflix blames this anticipated shortfall on a number of factors including “minor elevated churn” of subscribers after it recently raised its prices, as well as new competitors entering the streaming marketplace.

It is this change in the competitive landscape that most worries several prominent analysts covering Netflix stock. Historically, Netflix was the dom-inant player in streaming media and almost all “cord cutters” who gave up their cable subscriptions purchased a Netflix subscription. There were a few other similar companies like Hulu or Amazon Prime, but none had Netflix’s depth or quality of programming. In the next few quarters, a number of new streaming services will start to compete for these same customers, including HBO Max, Disney+ and Apple TV. Many of these new services will pro-vide consumers access to a massive library of popular programming. Disney, for example, will enable its subscribers to watch not only Disney movies but content from its Marvel and Star Wars franchises as well. This means that it will be critical for Netflix to continue to develop hit original programming to keep and grow its subscriber base. Without shows like “Stranger Things,” exist-ing customers may be tempted to switch to a new service like HBO after it releases its new “Game of Thrones” prequel series.

Because of this dramatic shift in the streaming competitive landscape, as well as Netflix’s ability to grow or even retain customers in this environment, I would be a seller of Netflix stock. It is priced at an eye-popping price to earn-ings ratio of over 100, which I do not believe is justified given the significant uncertainty going forward.

And with these new players, there will be more demand for a finite num-ber of hit programs. That likely will mean Netflix will have to pay more for its new content or its competitors will gain the rights to these franchises and will steal subscribers. I believe that Net-flix’s stock will take a significant hit as its revenues do not grow as forecast and its expenses rise.

— 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.
Gulf Coast PRSA honors public relations pros

The Gulf Coast Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America recently honored two prominent public relations professionals for their service to the industry through their outstanding campaigns.

Denyse Smith Mesnik, APR, president of The Mesnik Group, received the PRSA Sunshine District Gert Evans Award for Distinguished Service. She founded her company in 2016 following a 27-year career as vice president of corporate communications for Beasley Media Group. Ms. Mesnik is a past officer of the PRSA Sunshine District, and a founding member and former president of the Gulf Coast Chapter of PRSA.

“Build a tolerance to work stress and being vulnerable,” says Ms. Howard, the author of “The Resilient Leader, Mindset Reaction,” says Ms. Howard, an executive coach and performance expert. “From page 27

Diaz boasts 29 years of catering sales experience and began her career in 1990 as assistant director of conference services at Doral Golf Resort and Spa in Miami. Ms. Heffelinger has been promoted from her previous position as catering sales administrator and remains on the LaPlaya catering team. She was recently re-elected as secretary to the Signature Travel Network Board of Directors. Ms. Placeres recently attended Signature Network’s three-day annual meeting along with Kristina Gear, managing director for Preferred Travel. This was the first year that Ms. Placeres attended as the sole owner of the travel agency that she recently acquired after 30 years of being the agency’s CFO and agency manager.

More than 30 guests, including three representatives from the PRSA Sunshine District, traveled from Orlando and Fort Lauderdale to participate in the Gulf Coast Chapter PRSA Celebration event at Burnwood Tavern at the Mercato in Naples.

For more information about the Gulf Coast Chapter of PRSA, visit www.gulfcoastprsa.org.

COURTESY PHOTO

Diaz and Denyse Mesnik were honored by the Gulf Coast Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America.

STRESSED

From page 27

important for over-stressed workers to develop their own tools to better deal with stress and not let it affect their job performance or quality of life, says Cynthia Howard, an executive coach and performance expert.

“Stress is the new normal and, to become resilient, you must practice strategies that will unhook you from the damaging, reactive nature of the stress reaction,” says Ms. Howard, the author of “The Resilient Leader, Mindset Makeover.” “One cannot think their way out of a stress reaction, and when you ignore what can happen, you leave yourself vulnerable.”

Ms. Howard offers these strategies to build a tolerance to work stress and perform at a high level even during stressful situations.

Take a moment: the three-second transition.

Used at different parts of the day, such as before and after a meeting or difficult conversation, this strategy helps develop the feel of being in the moment.

“Be deliberate with three seconds,” Ms. Howard says. “Pause, breathe and focus on what you are going to do for three seconds. This slows down your mind and opens your awareness.”

With practice, this gets shallower and less effective in slowing off the buildup of carbon dioxide, leaving you more acutely— the opposite of what the body needs to stay energized.

Practicing everyday mindfulness.

Because many people are distracted in a social media-filled world, Ms. Howard says, it’s hard for them to focus for long periods. Mindfulness can tune out distractions.

“Mindfulness means directing your attention to what is happening in the moment without judging what is happening,” she says. “This practice improves the quality of your attention and decreases your reactivity to stress.”

Keep a journal.

Ms. Howard suggests taking 10 minutes each day to write out thoughts.

“This practice will increase self-awareness and build your ability to stay in the moment,” she says. “You will get to know yourself at a deeper level and, with that, get to the real motives that drive your choices and behavior. Set a time limit to do your journaling and have specific goals in mind— reflecting on a conversation, recap your day, digging deeper into your reaction to something. Then go back and review your journal after every quarter. Have you made progress?”

“We tend to expend more energy than we renew,” Ms. Howard says. “Most people go through the day with constant interruptions, stimuli and others, spinal and draggers, all draining energy. It is essential to use some type of stress-relief strategy every day to keep our energy stores filled.”

Woman taking a deep breath. Caption: “Most people today are in moderate to high levels of stress, so it’s hard for them to focus for long periods. Mindfulness can help with that.”


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This Mediterra beauty by London Bay Homes offers an inviting open floor plan that caters to casual everyday living as well as to grand entertaining. Interior details include soaring wood beam ceilings, arched entryways, crown molding, plantation shutters and French doors that lead to balconies and a private courtyard. The great room, kitchen and formal dining/living area flow seamlessly to the outdoor living area complete with a fireplace and a gas-heated pool and spa. Wolf, Miele and Sub-Zero appliances grace the light and bright kitchen where an immense granite-topped island takes center stage. The nearly 3,800-square-foot interior includes three bedrooms, three baths, a library/study and a loft. The finishing touch is a three-car garage. Mediterra residents enjoy an array of amenities, including a private beach club, a newly renovated and expanded clubhouse and a full social calendar as well as golf membership options.

Christianne Arthur and Alysia Shivers of John R. Wood Properties have the listing for $1,750,000 (furnishings are negotiable). To arrange a showing or for more information, call Ms. Arthur at 239-289-8175 or Ms. Shivers at 239-877-9732, or email carthur@johnrwood.com or ashivers@johnrwood.com.

House Hunting

16683 Lucarno Way, Mediterra

Lucarno at Mediterra
16659 Lucarno Way  $1,999,000
Naples Bay Resort
1530 Fifth Ave S #C212  $1,325,000
Stunning gated waterfront estate home with its own “Field of Dreams”. Double waterfront lot in the Moorings creating one particularly spectacular and incredibly rare waterfront offering in the Moorings. 1 acre of manicured grounds, over 225’ of waterfront, southwest exposure, every amenity, tremendous family home built in 2007 with 7 bedrooms +Den, 50’+ lap pool with spa, tremendous dockage for boats, watercraft and paddleboards. Close to Doctors Pass and Moorings Resident Beach access. Unsurpassed waterfront value from Park Shore to Port Royal. $10,750,000

Price Adjustment: Completed June 1st ready for occupancy! State of the art, fully furnished, 4+den with 5 full baths. Planked oak floors, 3-car garage, amazing lanai / pool area and summer kitchen. $4,745,000

Rarely Available! Ideal southern exposure vacant lot fronting on gorgeous Mahogany tree canopied street with preferred rear alley. Ready for your forever home, 3 blocks to beach, quiet interior lot, magnificent $2,395,000

MOORINGS

NEW TO MARKET

Brand new market, full sized lot, close to everything. A++ location. Fantastic beach proximity and priced to sell! 3+den, roof and air conditioning replaced. Site configuration allows for many exciting designs for those looking to build. $997,500

MOORINGS

NEW TO MARKET

Gorgeous Golf Course & Lake Views, 5/3 full furnished, amenities, garage parking, gated, walk to beach. Move-in ready, high ceilings, open kitchen, sunset horizons to the west from the lanai. $1,295,000

PELICAN MARSH

NEW TO MARKET

Built in 2015, quiet cul-de-sac, 5 bedrooms, 4 full baths plus fenced backyard. Super desirable “A” rated school districts. Outstanding community amenities. Super reasonable HOA fees that include lawn service. The advantages and features are simply too many too list. $549,900

OLDE NAPLES

NEW TO MARKET

Rarely Available! Ideal southern exposure vacant lot fronting on gorgeous Mahogany tree canopied street with preferred rear alley. Ready for your forever home, 3 blocks to beach, quiet interior lot, magnificent $2,395,000

OLDE NAPLES

NEW TO MARKET

Brand new to market. Over 1.5 acres of land is yours with this gorgeous interior lot … well established mature trees surround the property boundaries … truly as pretty as a picture. Older residence with detached garage work shop area. $1,350,000

RIVERSTONE

NEW TO MARKET

OPALE AT VANDERBILT

NEW TO MARKET

Gorgeous long Water views. 3/2, fully furnished, amenities, garage parking, gated, walk to beach. Move-in ready, high ceilings, open kitchen, sunset horizons to the west from the lanai. $779,000

RIVERSTONE

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Stock Custom Homes’ offers visits to ‘Estates of Distinction’

Stock Custom Homes, the custom home building division of Stock Development, invites guests to explore nine of its exquisite residences during the Stock Custom Homes Estates of Distinction from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 26 and 27.

In Quail West, two of the five models that Stock offers feature the Glendale design, encompassing a spacious 4,173 square feet under air with four bedrooms, four and one-half bathrooms, a study, formal dining room, and double two-car garages.

The 4,561-square-foot under air Atherton model exudes easy living in its open floorplan, featuring interior design by celebrated Marc-Michaels Interior Design and boasting four bedrooms, five and one-half bathrooms, and a four-car garage.

A blend of California casual and European charm, the Casa Bordolino estate is a four-bedroom, four and two-half bath, 6,064-square-foot under air abode with interior design by recognized Sam Baker of Beasley & Henley Interior Design.

Stock’s grand Sophia III model is a refined residence with exceptional outdoor living and impressive golf course views from within its 4,892 square feet under air. The estate features four bedrooms, four full and one-half bathrooms, living room, family room, formal dining room and a study, and was furnished by Beasley & Henley Interior Design.

In TwinEagles, guests can tour the fully furnished Clairborne II, a four-bedroom, four full and one-half bath home with 4,609 square feet under air and interior design by Beasley & Henley Interior Design. Additionally, the 6,658 square-foot under air Coquina in The Estuary at Grey Oaks is elegantly furnished by Jessica Lee of Marc-Michaels Interior Design.

Stock has one luxurious Pine Ridge Estates home to discover during the Estates of Distinction. Inspired by the Wyndam II floorplan, the Sand Dollar Award-winning residence at 279 Mahogany Drive encompasses 4,323 square feet of living space under air and provides three bedrooms, a VIP suite, expansive great room, dining room, study, and a four-car garage. Soco Interiors’ Daniel Kilgore provided the décor and furnishings.

Unique to Olde Naples, Stock Custom Homes’ row houses offer unique charm and luxurious design. Located at 112 6th Street South, guests can take in the Emily Ann’s spacious indoor and outdoor living with first-floor master suite, covered lanai, adjoining pool and spa, and guest cabana with covered deck. Designed by acclaimed Soco Interiors’ Daniel Kilgore, the home features a contemporary coastal look featuring a layered neutral color palette that is light, airy, and consistent.

For more information, visit stockcustomhomes.com or call 239-249-6400.
As Moorings Park nears its 40th anniversary, officials have announced their plans to host an event that is open to the public and designed to showcase the many unique amenities, numerous residential offerings and superb healthcare that has made this Life Plan Community Simply the Best®.

On Friday, November 1st, beginning at 11:00 am in the Sheffield Theatre, those in attendance will have the opportunity to visit the Goodlette-Frank Road campus and experience what a life well planned and well played can look like.

It’s an exciting time for Moorings Park as they recently announce that its A+ ratings by Standard & Poor’s Rating Services (S&P) has been re-affirmed. Moorings Park is a nationally accredited, nonprofit, Medicare certified community and one of the only A+ S&P rated Life Plan communities in the country.

“Moorings Park is very pleased to achieve this distinction,” said Moorings Park CEO Dan Lavender. “It is a reflection of our ongoing commitment to our residents to provide a quality lifestyle with healthcare services that have been simply the best for nearly 40 years.”

In acknowledging Moorings Park’s strong performance S&P reported, “With stable leadership that has a track record of successfully executing large expansion projects, we believe that Moorings Park and its affiliated companies have, in our view, the best-in-class governance and management in the industry that will continue to demonstrate strong project management and financial acumen.”

S&P noted the generally high occupancy for all levels of service at Moorings Park’s 83-acre campus on Goodlette-Frank Road with over 500 independent living units typically attaining or exceeding an occupancy level of 99%, a level significantly higher than industry averages.

In what is truly a rare opportunity within Moorings Park, a number of residences are now available in the Tower Residences neighborhood, which consists of two, 8-story buildings. Both towers are located within steps of the newly renovated and expanded club house at Moorings Park and offer some of the most panoramic views in the Life Plan community.

The apartments in the Tower Residences neighborhood range in size from 882 to 2,700 square feet. They are perfect for individuals or couples seeking a maintenance-free lifestyle while living in a home that looks out onto the manicured grounds and shimmering lakes from an aerial perspective.

The 230-seat Bower Chapel provides a gathering place and dining experience, one which focuses on foods that are fresh, local, healthy and fast.

Moorings Park is a pet friendly campus.

In acknowledging Moorings Park’s original campus to host event

Informational Luncheon
Friday, November 1st at 11:00 am
Sheffield Theatre in the Center for Healthy Living
132 Moorings Park Drive
RSVP by October 29th by calling 239-778-9836

Top: The Tower Residences were recently renovated, several of which are available for immediate occupancy. Right: The Park Grill is a popular gathering spot due to its outdoor fireplace, dining al fresco and expansive dining room and bar. Bottom Left: Care 360 concierge physicians and personalized healthcare program which is included with residency. Bottom Right: Moorings Park is a pet friendly campus.

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2030 Gordon Drive
Michael G. Lawler 239.261.3939
$6,950,000

2400 Gulf Shore Boulevard North #704
Joe McBride 239.298.3373
$785,000

233 Cremwell Court
Michael G. Lawler 239.261.3939
$6,495,000

330 Regatta Road
Kim Price 239.248.6924
$1,375,000

3081 Galleon Drive
Walter Patte
$12,450,000

636 Portside Drive
Hunter Hansen 239.300.8800
$1,275,000

1221 Gulf Shore Boulevard North #901
Jordan Oslin
$3,995,000

1232 Regatta Road
Kim Price 239.248.6924
$1,375,000

606 Binnacle Drive
Michael G. Lawler 239.261.3939
$2,695,000

3430 Gulf Shore Boulevard North #2E
Laurie Zanelli 239.675.9777
$540,000

1030 Gulf Shore Boulevard North
Larry Roorda 239.860.2534
$1,085,000

1432 Nighthawk Pointe
Sam Helman
$4,495,000

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We are number 1

IN TOTAL SALES VOLUME
FOR HOMES PRICED OVER
$1 MILLION
$3 MILLION
$5 MILLION

IN TOTAL SALES VOLUME
FOR HOMES PRICED OVER
$1 MILLION
$3 MILLION
$5 MILLION

More than $4.5 billion in sales volume for 2018
<table>
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<th>Address</th>
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For those seeking the uncharted
ORAL REPRESENTATIONS CANNOT BE RELIED UPON AS CORRECTLY STATING REPRESENTATIONS OF THE DEVELOPER. FOR CORRECT REPRESENTATIONS, MAKE REFERENCE TO THIS BROCHURE AND TO THE DOCUMENTS REQUIRED BY CHAPTER 718.503, FLORIDA STATUTES, TO BE FURNISHED BY A DEVELOPER TO A BUYER OR LESSEE.

Hydrate in one of 4 pools. Without ever leaving home. With 3 clubside pools and our Tower Sky Pool, it's the perfect place to celebrate each and every day of a quintessential life. Kalea Bay offers coastal living. Pure and simple. Where thoughtful designs blend seamlessly into a carefree resort lifestyle and sun-drenched days give way to glorious gulf sunsets. Forever views that are forever yours.

Tower 300 pre-construction from $1.5M | Tower 200 occupancy Summer 2020

13910 Old Coast Road, Naples, FL 34110 KaleaBay.com 239-793-0110

Kalea Bay

Hydrate in one of 4 pools. Without ever leaving home.
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<td>27450 HARBOR COVE CT., BONITA</td>
<td>The Most Talked About Home on the River</td>
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<td>351 NEAPOLITAN WAY, NAPLES</td>
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<td>3 BR, 3 BA, Pool + Separate Cabana</td>
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<td>3 BR, 2 BA + Den, Pool, Totally Renovated</td>
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<td>351 NEAPOLITAN WAY, NAPLES</td>
<td>Multi Family Unit Waterfront Home</td>
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<td>3 BR, 5 BA + Den, Over 4,400 S.F.</td>
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Sales at Kalea Bay are Swift
Prompting Release of Third Tower

According to Inga Lodge, Vice President of Sales & Marketing for Kalea Bay, the gated, luxury residential high-rise community being developed on Vanderbilt Drive in North Naples, sales of Tower 200 have topped the 85% mark.

“We're fortunate in that not only do we have a wonderful community but we have a fully operational clubhouse and amenity package that our residents and prospective residents can touch and feel,” she said.

“It truly is the social and recreational community,” she said, “but it's also the envy of every community in the Naples area.”

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

The 25,000-square-foot clubhouse features three individual pools, including a resort pool, an adults-only pool and a children’s pool, plus an expansive pool deck, an open-air bar, an indoor/outdoor restaurant, a fitness center, the café Bistro, a lakeside fire pit, kid’s game room and event lawn.

Three pools overlook the lake and provide a multitude of recreational options. Expansive sun decks with lounge chairs and native, tropical plants separate each of the three pools for the ultimate in privacy.

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

“We have the perfect place for all three,” said Lodge. “The indoor/outdoor restaurant serves incredible meals throughout the day. And what better way to celebrate the good life in Florida than meeting family and friends for drinks while watching the sun set over the Gulf of Mexico. This is what living in Florida is supposed to be.”

In fact, the clubhouse at Kalea Bay has two restaurants, the Driftwood Café and the Salt and Oak Restaurant. The Driftwood Café is open for breakfast and lunch. The Salt and Oak Restaurant is designed for an elegant dining experience and includes such features as a private dining room, a banquet room and wine tasting room among others.

The state-of-the-art fitness center features Peloton bicycles, as well as assorted strength machines, free weights and a stretch area.

For those residents who have young children or grandchildren, the clubhouse will delight one and all with a teen lounge, complete with virtual reality games, Foosball, WiFi, chalkboard and TVs.

Additional residential features include floor-to-ceiling windows and transparent glass rails.

“Master suites, kitchens and main living areas in most units have direct views to the water and preserve. They are perfect vantage points to watch our spectacular sunsets,” Lodge said.

“Master suites, kitchens and main living areas in most units have direct views to the water and preserve. They are perfect vantage points to watch our spectacular sunsets,” Lodge said.

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

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

Prices in Tower 300 begin at $1.4 million. For more information visit Kalea Bay’s onsite sales center. It is located on Vanderbilt Drive, two-thirds of a mile north of Wiggins Pass Road. Call (239) 793-0110 or visit KaleaBay.com.

Above: Artist rendering of Tower 300 rooftop amenities and spectacular views. Below top: Tower 100 provides the perfect backdrop to the lakeside fire pit. Below Middle: The Salt & Oak restaurant is one of several dining venues at Kalea Bay. Bottom: Reservations are now being taken on Tower 300.
UNQUESTIONABLY
THE BEST.

Presenting our ESTATES of EXCELLENCE

TOUR 9 EXCEPTIONALLY DESIGNED CUSTOM HOMES
THIS SATURDAY & SUNDAY  |  Noon – 4:00 p.m.

Join us for a tour of our finest estate homes in Naples’ best-selling luxury community. Quail West is the pinnacle of luxurious living, with our spectacular 70,000-square-foot clubhouse, two-story fitness center and beautifully restored championship golf courses.
Tour nine exceptionally designed homes this weekend at award-winning Quail West

Following on the heels of a very successful Sand Dollar Awards ceremony late last month in which Quail West walked away with the coveted 2019 Community of the Year award, as well as Clubhouse of the Year, both from the Collier Building Industry Association, it now has plans for a new home tour.

In a rare opportunity, the public is invited to experience firsthand one of Southwest Florida’s finest communities by touring nine furnished models during the Estates of Excellence model tour slated for October 26th & 27th at Quail West from noon to 4 p.m. Quail West, one of Stock Development’s premier golf and resort-lifestyle communities located in North Naples, has long been known as a beautiful residential oasis. From the lush, tropical canopy at its approach, to its streets winding through majestic preserves and past manicured fairways and pristine lakes, Quail West is unmistakably unique to the Southwest Florida real estate marketplace.

So is the community’s amenity-rich lifestyle. It’s 70,000-square-foot clubhouse, with casual and formal dining, glass-enclosed heated swimming pool and lounge areas, recently went through a major expansion and renovation which included a new two-story, 12,000-square-foot fitness and wellness center with state-of-the-art exercise equipment and rooms for yoga, Pilates, spinning classes and cardio workouts.

A brand new golf pro shop and an expansive indoor/outdoor seating area, was also included in the renovations as were enhancements to the Lakes golf course, one of two 18-hole championship golf courses within the community.

The featured homes on the tour include:

The Atherton is a four-bedroom plus study/five-and-a-half-bath home with 4,561 square feet under air and 7,056 total square feet, including a four-car garage. It too, has an impressive outdoor living area with pool and spa. It is priced at $3,699,990, by Stock Custom Homes and includes furnishings by Beasley and Henley Interior Design.

The Cambridge, by Florida Lifestyle Homes, sits on a lakefront homesite that overlooks the 15th fairway of the community’s Lakes Course, is a four-bedroom plus study/four-and-a-half-bath home with 4,173 square feet under air and 7,252 total square feet, including two two-car garages and an expansive outdoor living area. It is priced at $3,135,000.

The Fontaine, from McGarvey Custom Homes is also on the tour. This four-bedroom plus study/four-and-a-half-bath home with 4,892 square feet under air and 8,820 total square feet, including two two-car garages and an expansive outdoor living area with pool and spa. It is priced at $3,995,000, including furnishings.

A second Glendale model is also on the tour with 4 bedrooms, 4-and-a-half bathrooms. It includes 4,173 square feet under air and 7,252 total square feet, including two two-car garages and an large outdoor living area. It is being offered at $3,150,000.

The Ladera, by Diamond Custom Homes is also on the tour. This four-bedroom homes includes club room/five full-bath/two half-baths with 5,568 square feet under air and 7,854 total square feet including a three-car garage and an expansive outdoor living area with pool and spa. It is currently priced at $4,395,000, including furnishings.

McGarvey Custom Homes is also showcasing its II Cortile model. This single-story, courtyard-style home features three-bedroom plus guest cabana suite plus study/three full-bath/two half-bath home has 4,661 square feet under air and 8,348 total square feet, including a four-car garage plus golf cart storage. It is priced at $3,875,000, including furnishings.

The Sophia III, also by Stock Custom Homes, is a four-bedroom plus study/four-and-a-half-bath home with 4,892 square feet under air and 8,820 total square feet, including two two-car garages and an expansive outdoor living area with pool and spa. It is priced at $4,145,000, including furnishings and furnishings by Soco Interiors.

In a rare opportunity, the public is invited to experience firsthand one of Southwest Florida’s finest communities by touring nine furnished models during the Estates of Excellence model tour...
Including Simply the Best® lifestyle, amenities and concierge healthcare.

Moorings Park, Naples’ premier retirement community has been enabling our residents to live longer, healthier happier lives for over 40 years in a community that showcases residences from 800 sq. ft to over 5,000 sq. ft. In our centrally located 83-acre campus, we offer an unparalleled lifestyle with Simply the Best® social and wellness programs, unmatched casual and fine dining venues and concierge healthcare that’s included. Why settle for anything less than the best?

Informational Luncheon | Friday, November 1st at 11:00 AM
The Center for Healthy Living | 132 Moorings Park Drive | RSVP by October 29th by calling 239-778-9836

Moorings Park® is a nationally accredited, nonprofit, Medicare-certified Life Plan Community with A+ ratings by S&P and Fitch.
Royal Palm Golf Club’s renovation becomes reality

“It’s like a dream come true,” said Rick Neet, Royal Palm director of golf, referring to the new renovation of the golf course. “All the years of planning, golf committee meetings, member votes, and finally the decision to move ahead with the project have all come to fruition. It is going to be a great golf course.”

Mr. Neet should know a little about Royal Palm. He received his PGA Class A designation in 1980 and assumed the role of head pro at Royal Country Club in 1981. He has been at the helm ever since. You could say that this 188-acre tract of land in East Naples is his baby.

The dream began back in 1972 when Cornelius Van Der Lely purchased over 25,000 acres bounded by Rattlesnake Hammock Road, U.S. 41 (Tamiami Trail East) and Route 951 (Collier Boulevard). The site of those holes will now be the front nine at the new Royal Palm Golf Club. In the next two years from 1974-1975, the remaining nine holes were completed and opened on Dec. 31, 1975.

From 1976 through 1984, Lely Royal Palm Country Club operated as a developer’s club. On July 25, 1984, Lely Estates, Inc. announced its intention to sell both of the golf courses, Hibiscus and Royal Palm, and on May 1, 1985, Royal Palm Country Club was officially born. The dream was becoming reality.

Royal Palm Country Club was redesign in 2000 by Gordon Lewis. Although the golf course has been through many changes over its 40+ years history, it is still one of the premier golfing venues in Southwest Florida. After almost 20 years since the last major renovation at Royal Palm, it was time for not only a new redesign, but also for a new name that better described the amenities and purpose of the club. With just a short drive to Royal Palm Golf Club, a rebranding effort began in conjunction with the new redesign by Ron Garl.

“It was time to position our club for the dream so many were talking about,” said Jeff Calhoun, newest redesign by Ron Garl. “effort began in conjunction with the major renovation at Royal Palm, it going on forever, when in fact we didn’t have Rock walls have been constructed on a number of holes to enhance existing water features.

“It is hard to believe the number of man hours that have been put in and the amount of dirt that has been moved in such a short span of time.”

— John Gittings, president of the Royal Palm Golf Club board of directors

The Royal Palm Golf Club clubhouse will reopen for its members on Monday, Nov. 4 and the renovated golf course is slated to open Dec. 1.
### The RESERVE LIST Group

The RESERVE LIST Group offers a comprehensive Market Analysis of your property. Contact us for Current Market Information or Register at NaplesReserveList.com/market-data

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#### Price, Location, Subdivision, Buyer, Date

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Royal Shell Real Estate
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Royal Shell Real Estate
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$1,750,000
Royal Shell Real Estate
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9218 Michael Circle #4
$239,900
Royal Shell Real Estate
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WOMODEREC LAKE CLUB
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$159,000
Royal Shell Real Estate
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$2,249,000
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$2,599,000
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8160 Bay Creek Drive
$2,295,000
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4971 Bonita Bay Boulevard #203
$2,175,000
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Hands-on exhibit on display at Naples Art

by Nancy Stetson
nstetson@floridaweekly.com

For those of us who thrive on texture or see a “Do Not Touch” sign and immediately want to disobey it, Naples Art has the perfect exhibit for you: “Touchable Art: A Multi-Experiential Exhibition,” now showing through Oct. 30.

Not only can you put your hands all over the art but you’re encouraged to do so. A sign at the front of the exhibit reads: “Touching is a basic instinct and a way to experience objects, gather information and build awareness. This exhibition features

SEE HANDS ON, C4

"Day Dreamer" by Diane Lubliniski is on display at Naples Art. You can touch every spot on it.

Thunderbirds are go!
The crack Air Force squadron headlines the list of other dynamic aerobatic performers at the 2019 Florida International Air Show

by Rusty Pray
Florida Weekly Correspondent

Jet planes will fly wing-to-wing. Smaller aircraft will roll and tumble across the sky like so many gymnasts in the clouds. Parachutes will mushroom aloft.

And nowhere in the crowd at the Florida International Air Show will there be eyes gazing at the tree line at Punta Gorda Airport. All eyes will be turned to the sky.

The 38th edition of the Air Show, scheduled for Nov. 1-3, promises to feature more speed, more pyrotechnics, and more jaw-dropping aerals than ever before. The event opens with a nighttime show on Friday, Nov. 1, that includes a spectacular fireworks display.

The Florida International Air Show is an all-volunteer organization that relies on about 400 volunteers. The show benefits nonprofits in Charlotte

SEE AIR SHOW, C23

COURTESY PHOTOS

“Day Dreamer” by Diane Lubliniski is on display at Naples Art. You can touch every spot on it.

COURTESY IMAGE

Hands-on exhibit on display at Naples Art

INSIDE

Godfather of shock rock
Alice Cooper’s current show offers plenty of horrific visuals, stage sets and props. C8

Society
Naples Art hosts reception for three exhibitions. C28

Come on, get happy
Igor and Red Elvises bring their Russian-American funk/rock/ska/surf music to Fort Myers. C19

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Sanibel Island | 239.472.2735
Rentals | 239.262.4242

USAFT Thunderbirds

COURTESY PHOTOS
It was July 1979 and we were cleaning out Aunt Cleo’s house in Pahokee. She’d died the month before after a year of chemo that finally culminated in open heart surgery.

My grandmother Dorothy, Cleo’s younger sister, took a drag of a Belair cigarette and said, “I’ll bet your mama was blind by that point.”

She pointed to a red glass cruet with a strawberry stopper. Avon had marketed the pieces, selling them with bath oil.

“She likes her cranberry glass,” Dorothy said with another puff as she returned to Pahokee the next day to continue packing.

In the hours after we left, Dorothy rallied, and anything that wasn’t nailed down was loaded into cars and a waiting truck. She took everything, my parents down and cooed over Cleo’s Occupied Japan china, which had been left to me.

In the carport behind Cleo’s house, I saw Aunt Cleo’s old clock. I reached under and there was a watch and its chain and my infant brother Bill, wrung his hands.

“Indeed she does,” I thought. Years later, I was vacuuming the den at Dorothy’s home in South Georgia and heard a clank from under the sofa. I reached under and there was Cleo’s stainless steel flatware. It had been tucked away for two decades. The day after we returned from Pahokee, I began to unpack boxes and wash dishes.

My maternal grandmother came to stay. She was 91 and she took Aunt Cleo’s death at 67 in stride, invoking her name whenever Dorothy did something that was not to her liking.

“This fried chicken is good,” Granny would sigh. “But not as good as poor Cleo’s.”

And she’d sigh again. There was no victory here, only resignation. So we wrapped some more.

That afternoon, Dorothy said she was having an angina attack while standing in the carport behind Cleo’s house. Her spare frame collapsed into a chair and someone grabbed her nitroglycerin and slipped a tablet under her tongue.

“What will I do if something happens to Dorothy?” Granny wailed. My step-grandfather, whom we called Grandpa Bill, wrung his hands.

My parents decided it was too much for Dorothy to have everyone there, so they drove us home to Fort Myers, then continued packing.

Every now and then, Dorothy would sigh. “But not as good as poor Cleo’s.”

After studying the pieces, selling them with bath oil.

We dug around in another box and there arose from the wrapping the men-}

THE FIND:
A set of 10 cranberry glass tumbler

Found: Habitat For Humanity of Palm Beach County Thrift Store, 1635 N. Old Dixie Highway, Jupiter; 561-253-2290.

Purchased: $230; it was senior day and I qualify, so they cost $22.50 for the set of 10.

The Skinny: I love the rosy hue of these 5½-inch cranberry glass footed tumblers.

I initially thought they might be cranberry-flashed — clear glass that’s coated in a pink-tinted stain to look like cranberry glass. After studying them, and attempting to scratch one with a scissors blade, I think they actually are the pink-tinted glass, made by adding gold salts or colloidal gold to molten glass.

They probably date from the mid-20th century and were made in central Europe, much like the stemware marketed by George Borgfeldt, a New York firm that licensed and imported goods from around the world.

We dug around in another box and there arose from the wrapping the men-
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artwork by the sighted, visually impaired and blind artists. Shake off the traditional-al gallery-goer behavior and use your hands to explore this exhibition."

“It’s very unusual in that regard,” says Naples Art curator Jack O’Brien about the show. “In fact, it’s taken a lot of our visitors by surprise. Even though it’s touchable, and the sign when you come in says please touch and explore with your fingers and hands, people will come out and ask, ‘Can I touch the artwork?’ They want to be reassured it’s OK. We’re so accustomed in a public setting, not touching artwork at all. But once they get going, they really have a good time.”

The exhibit’s a combination of textured paintings, multi-media works, ceramics and sculpture. Patricia Kennedy Flock’s painting, “Don Pedro de Barberana After Velázquez” is a portrait of the man using paint and found objects. His nose, for example, is a pewter-colored egg-shaped doorknob.

“You can grab his nose,” says Mr. O’Brien. “There’s something really rewarding about doing that.”

And he’s right. There is. Not only can you grab his nose but you can run your hands all over his face. His moustache and goatee are made of steel wool, almost hiding a mouth made of a tight metal coil. His eyes are some kind of gold gears with raised silver screw heads in the middle as pupils. His eyebrows are cut from a black scrubbing sponge.

It’s almost like an adult version of “Pat the Bunny,” the textured book for toddlers.

There are all kinds of textures in the show: smooth, rough, bumpy, patterned, soft, hard, sandy, fluffy.

Neville D. Deegan’s “Daniel Dolphin,” a 36-inch-long wood carving of a dolphin, is a lovely smooth curve of a mammal. But near it is its tactile opposite, Ken Alexander’s “Giraffe w/ No Name,” a rough piece of driftwood with touches of wire, lace and bells.

“We get so much information through touch,” says Mr. O’Brien. “When we’re toddlers we crawl around our house and pick everything up and touch it first, and then we put it in our mouth (where we touch it with) our tongue and taste it as well.

As children, we really use touch, then when we develop our (powers of) perception, we rely on sight… we take visual shortcuts.”

"Touchable Art" provides a wide variety of objects and artwork.

“There are many pieces that are on canvas that have paint and texture,” he says. “Then there are sculptures.”

Nine of the 31 artists exhibiting are from Lighthouse of Collier and take classes at Naples Art. The association

In the KNOW

**Touchable Art: A Multi-Experiential Exhibition**

- **When:** through Oct. 30
- **Where:** Naples Art, 460 Park St., Naples
- **Cost:** free
- **Information:** 239-262-6517 or www.naplesart.org
- **New hours:** Mon-Sat 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sun noon-4 p.m.

**Poke** by Joe Halperin.

Joe Halperin of Naples uses found objects — mostly cardboard and shipping containers, both rectangular and circular — for his material. In his work "The Couple," a tailor-than-life man and woman stand side-by-side. They're dressed in actual fabrics, and the man's faded jeans feel as soft as a luxury hotel pillow. His "Poke," showing a man and a woman holding hands on a shipping box, uses cardboard, paint, and magazine cutouts. (The man's tie, for example, is made out of a Cheez Whiz ad.)

Though it was only awarded an honorable mention, perhaps the most successful tactile piece in the show is "So Many Swirls," an abstract sculpture by Carve Stone of Fort Myers, a favorite of blind patrons who've come to the exhibit, the alabaster stone sculpture is cool and smooth to the touch. It has multiple raised circular paths your fingers can travel along, like a maze or an ear.

It's an odd-looking piece, looking like a model of some kind of inner organ taken from a alien.

But boy, is it fun to touch.

And that’s what this exhibit is all about.

So take your hands out of your pockets and touch the art.

It'll make your hands happy and help you "see" the art in a new way.

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**XL Goldfish** by Gilberto Sanchez.

*Dona Pedro* by Patricia Kennedy Flock.

**Matilda** by Kaylee Rouse.

**Swirls** by Carve Stone of Fort Myers.
A night of blowouts, blues and sons of my idols

“I haven’t changed a tire in 40 years,” I said to Hans as we gazed at each other over what was left of the blown-out tire on the left rear side of my car.

Hans shrugged. “I’ve never changed one,” he said.

It was dark there on the shoulder of one of the busiest highways in America as cars, trucks and motorcycles blasted past at 80 miles an hour. Inside the car, my friend Carol and Hans’s wife Marilyn sat, wondering if the night was over already.

I had been invited by my friend Mike to meet him at a blues club called John-ny’s Blitz to see a blues band featuring Joe “Mojo” Morganfield and Greg Guy. If you’re a blues fan, you might recognize those last names. Greg Guy is the son of Buddy Guy, perhaps the most respected American blues artist alive today. Mojo Morganfield is the son of the late McKin-ley Morganfield, also known as Muddy Waters, maybe the greatest blues musi-cian that America ever produced.

And along with Mike’s invitation came an irresistible offer: Mike had grown up with Joe Morganfield since third grade, and when Joe learned that Mike was learning to play blues harmonica, he invited him to jump up and play on stage, and this was his chance to pay me back. Call it karma.

“I think we can do this,” I said as Hans put the stakeout to check out the little low-mileage spare tire.

“I do,” I said. “But I’ve never used it.”

Hans pulled out his cellphone as I pulled out the spare and the jack. I was worried about how long it might take for help to be dispatched, especially with the heavy traffic that roared past.

Besides, I thought, would ladies in a car jack be impressed with a guy who can operate a cellphone, or a guy who knows his way around a car jack? Mike loves to get a moment like that on stage yet, but I have a friend who is.” He invited both Mike and me up to play with him.

But wait — where was the handle that would crank the jack up? I searched everywhere, but it was nowhere to be found. The jack had a small loop where the handle would be inserted, but all I could find was a small Phillips-head screwdriver, no more than four inches long. I slipped the screwdriver into the loop and gave the jack a quarter turn.

Then I refitted it and gave it another quarter turn. This might work… given enough time.

Hans had the lug nuts loose by the time the ruined tire cleared the ground.

Next we were back on the road.

And early in the second set, Mojo Morganfield took the stage. We made it to the standing-room only club, only to find the street jammed with parked cars — everywhere except that single open space right in front of the door. Maybe my karma was going to find a happy balance after all. We entered the club just as the band finished tuning up and launched into a couple instrumentals before Mojo Morganfield took the stage.

— TR Kerth is the author of the book “Revenge of the Sardines.” Contact him at trkerth@yahoo.com.
Charlotte's Web — By Broadway Palm Children’s Theatre through Nov. 15. 1880 Colonial Blvd. 239-278-4422 or www.broadwaypalm.com.

Finding Neverland — By Broadway Palm Theatre through Nov. 15. 1880 Colonial Blvd. 239-278-4422 or www.broadwaypalm.com.

Frozen, Jr. — By Island Theatre Company’s junior troupe Nov. 2-10 at Marcus Lutheran Church. 525 N. Collier Blvd. 239-394-0080 or www.theateronmarcos.com.

Three One-Act Comedies — By The Studio Players Nov. 15-Dec. 1 at Golden Gate Community Center’s Joan Jenkins Auditorium. 4701 Golden Gate Pkwy. 239-398-9192 or www.thestudioplayers.org.

It’s a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play — By Gulfshore Playhouse Nov. 16-Dec. 29 at The Norris Center. 866-811-4111 or www.gulfshoreplayhouse.org.

The Great Gatsby — By the Naples Players through Oct. 27 at Sugden Community Theatre. 239-263-7220 or www.naplesplayers.org.

Old Ringers — By The Marco Players through Nov. 3 at The Marco Players Theatre. 1089 N. Collier Blvd. 239-642-7270 or www.themarcoplayers.com.

Always ... Patsy Cline - By Gulfshore Playhouse through Nov. 1 at The Norris Center. 866-811-4111 or www.gulfshoreplayhouse.org.

THEATER

THURSDAY

Tram Tour — Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park hosts a tram tour of Florida’s largest state park starting at 10 a.m. each Thursday. $25. 239-695-4933 or www.fsfla.org.

Meet the Designers — Robb & Stucky hosts a meet-and-greet with the designers of the Isles of Collier Reserve’s Birchwood Model from 1-2 p.m. Reservations required. 239-732-2490 or www.robbstucky.com.

Spielberg Film — FGCU’s Renais-ance Academy screens “AL” (2001) at 2 p.m. A highly advanced robotic boy longs to become “real” so he can regain the love of his human mother. $6 for members, $8 for others. 1010 Fifth Ave. S. 239-434-4777 or www.fgcu.edu.

Hands in Dirt — Shanghai-La Springs hosts an organic farming class with the center’s garden manager. Ceci- lia Morales from 4:30-5:30 p.m. 239-949-0749 or www.chinastringplayers.com.

Musical Interludes — Chloe Agnew, a former Celtic Woman, performs from 5-8 p.m. at the FGCU Arts Center. 1380 Colonial Blvd. 239-434-4777 or www.fgcu.edu.


Dance, Dance — The Shelter for Abused Women & Children hosts a Dance Party at Mercato from 6-8 p.m. 239-775-3862 or www.naplesshelter.org.

Film Fest — Artis—Naples hosts a Naples International Film Festival’s opening night film at party at 6 p.m. which features a red carpet, film screening, cocktails and the opportunity to talk with filmmakers. The festival continues through Sunday, Oct. 27, with screenings at Silverspot at Mercato. 239-597-9900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Bonita Concert — Squired Nut Zip- pers performs at 7 p.m. at Southwest Florida Event Center. Johnny Jensen opens. $32-$60. 11515 Bonita Beach Road. 239-254-9900 or www.swfleventcenter.com.

Comedy Show — Comedian Paul Mercurio performs tonight through Sun- day at The Off The Hook Comedy Club. Show times vary. $25 general admission; $35 VIP. 2500 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 239-389-6909 or www.theoffsbeachcomedy.com.

FRIDAY

Community Market — Eagle Lakes Community Park hosts a market with fresh produce, ethnic foods and artisan goods from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Friday through April. 11556 Tamiami Trail E. 239-206-4339.

Classic Film — FGCU’s Renaissance Academy screens “Broken Arrow” (1950) at 2 p.m. at the university’s Naples campus. Tom Jef fords tries to make peace between settlers and Apaches in Arizona territory. $6 for members, $8 for others. 1030 Fifth Ave. S. 239-434-4737 or www.fgcu.edu.

Claw Crackin’ — The 10th annual Stone Crab Festival kicks off with fresh stone crabs, conch and late music by Sarah Hadeka and a Bob Marley tribute band from 5-9 p.m. at Tin City and Bayfront. The event continues through the weekend with a block party, lots of live performances, vendors, water sport deals and more at both locations. www.stonecrabfest.com.

SUNDAY

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WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

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

Flashback Cinema – SilverSpot at Mercato screens “Nightmare on Elm Street” (1984) at 1 p.m. and 6:45. The monstrous spirit of a slain child murderer by invading the dreams of teenagers whose parents were responsible for his death. $12-$17. 239-592-0300 or www.silverspot.net.

Closing Ceremony – The Naples International Film Festival hosts a closing night awards ceremony and wrap party at 5:30 p.m. that also includes a performance by the Naples Philharmonic playing the score to a live screening of “Raiders of the Lost Ark.” 239-597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Comedy Night – Naples Italian American Foundation hosts a night of laughter and songs with entertainer Frank del Pizzo at 6 p.m. $30 for members, $35 for others. Cash bar and finger foods included. 7035 Airport-Pulling Road. 239-597-5210 or www.niafoundation.org.

Cabaret Show – Stand Up or Get Dragged Down “The Ultimate cabaret comedy open mic” starts at 8 p.m. at the Off The Hook Comedy Club. $9 general admission; $15 VIP. 2500 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 389-6901 or www.offthehookcomedy.com.

MONDAY 10.28

Trivia – Naples Beach Brewery hosts a trivia contest at 7 p.m. Free. 4110 Enterprise Ave. 239-304-8795 or www.naplesbeachbrewery.com.

Spiritual Celebration – Celebrate a bicentenary celebration of the Baha’i faith with videos, discussion and more at 7 p.m. at FSW College. Free. 7505 Grand Lely Dr. 239-597-4729 or www.bahai.org.

Films for Film Lovers – Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs screens “Get Out” (2017) at 7 p.m. A young African-American visits his white girlfriend’s family for the weekend, where his simmering uneasiness about their reception of him reaches a breaking point. $10. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 239-495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

TUESDAY 10.29

Panther Encounter – Naples Zoo hosts an encounter with its 1-year-old Florida panther, Athena, from 9-10:30 a.m. each Tuesday. $40 for members, $50 for others. 239-262-5409 or www.napleszoo.com.

Swampy – Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park hosts introductory swamp walks from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. each Tuesday, $60. 239-695-4593 or www.orchidswamp.org.

Flutterby – Koreshan State Park hosts a talk on the park’s butterflies at 10 a.m. Free with park entry fee. 3800 Corkscrew Road. 239-992-0311 or www.floridastateparks.org.

China Talk – FGCU’s Renaissance Academy hosts a talk about the making of modern China from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at the university’s Naples campus. 1050 Fifth Ave. S. 239-434-4737 or www.fgcu.edu.

Chamber Concert – Members of the Naples Philharmonic perform works by Beethoven at 3 p.m. 239-597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.
Alice Cooper is by no means living in the past — in 2009 he marks his 71st year on this planet. In fact, he is particularly busy, considering he has both his solo career and his side band the Hollywood Vampires, both up and running at full speed.

But his newest project, a newly released EP called “Breadcrumbs,” does represent a tip of the hat back to his beginnings — to the time when the man born Vincent Furnier returned to his birthplace of Detroit, brought his villainous Alice Cooper character into focus and started his climb to stardom with the original Alice Cooper Group.

The six-song EP features Cooper’s versions of songs by such legendary late ’60s/early ’70s Detroit rockers as Bob Seger and the MC5, as well as lesser known, but important, acts such as the Dirtbombs and Suzy Quatro. Cooper speaks fondly of the Detroit music scene at the start of the ’70s and how musicians playing very different musical styles co-existed and supported each other during and after the famous 1967 riot in the Motor City.

“If you were a hard rock band in Detroit, you were totally acceptable. A soft rock band gets killed in Detroit,” Cooper recalled in a phone interview last week. “It’s an industrial city. Everybody works at the factories. And it was the MC5 or Iggy & the Stooges or Alice Cooper or Ted Nugent or Bob Seger, those were the hard rock bands that came out of Detroit and were totally acceptable to everybody.

“No, the crazy thing about Detroit was, back in those days, the early ’70s, music was the common denominator. You had Motown and you had hard rock. We’d be playing the East Town with the Stooges or the MC5 and you’d look down and you’d see Smokey Robinson and you’d see like people from the ‘Temptations or Stevie Wonder because they wanted to hear the hard rock bands.

“So, where we would go? We’d go to the Rooster Tail and places like that, and we’d see the Motown bands. When the riots started, we realized the black audience and the black public in Detroit saw rock guys as being family. We were not the enemy. We could walk into any black bar in downtown Detroit, and if you were in a rock band, you were totally accepted. And I found that in the playing of this (“Breadcrumbs”) album, the six songs, I used all Detroit players, and there’s a certain amount of R&B within the hard rock. It’s in there somehow.”

In making “Breadcrumbs” Cooper didn’t choose the most obvious songs — or even try to include all of Detroit’s hard rock royalty. In fact, Iggy Pop and the Stooges and Nugent aren’t represented. And while Seger is included, Cooper chose to cover the relatively obscure tune “East Side Story.”

“I think he (Seger) was most surprised at that when I said I’m going do one of his songs for this tribute to Detroit,” Cooper said. “He probably thought I was going to do ‘Get Out of Denver’ or one of those hard rock ones. I said, ‘I’m going to ‘East Side Story,’ and he goes ‘What?’”

The “Breadcrumbs” EP is worth noting, not only because it’s Cooper’s newest release and it’s quite entertaining, but because it serves as a prequel to his next full-length album, which he expects to release next year.

“I still think Detroit is the hard rock capital.”

— Alice Cooper

Alice Cooper

In the KNOW

**Alice Cooper**

- **When:** 9 p.m. Nov. 3
- **Where:** Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, 13350 Edison Parkway, Fort Myers
- **Tickets:** $41.93-$95.18
- **Info:** 239-481-4849 or www.ibmnovanpah.com

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On his current tour, Alice Cooper continues the theatrical dimension that influenced bands from Kiss to Rob Zombie to Slipknot and beyond.

In the past — in 2009 he marks his 71st year on this planet. In fact, he is particularly busy, considering he has both his solo career and his side band the Hollywood Vampires, both up and running at full speed.

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WHAT TO DO

WEDNESDAY 

HALLOWEEN EVENTS – Miramar Outlets hosts Mall-O-Ween from 6-8 p.m. This event includes music, karaoke, trick-or-treating and contests. www.miramaroutlets.com.

KIDS CRAFTS – Miramar Outlets offers free kids crafts from 10 a.m. to noon each Wednesday in WINK Playland. 239-948-3766 or www.miramaroutlets.com.

ALL THAT JAZZ – Trombonist Michael Dease performs with the Naples Philharmonic Jazz Orchestra at 6 p.m. and Dease performs with the Naples Philharmonic at 8 p.m. at Artis—Naples. 239-597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.


COMEDY SHOW – Naples comedian Mr. D (Joe Dombrowski) performs at 7 p.m. at Off The Hook Comedy Club, $30 general admission; $60 VIP. 2500 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 239-389-6901 or www.offthehookcomedy.com.

COMING UP

SPIRITED & SPOOKY – Fifth Avenue South hosts its annual Spooktacular celebration with live music and a wide variety of family-friendly activities from 4-7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 31. 239-692-8436 or www.fifthavenuesouth.com.

CARNIVAL – Naples Italian American Foundation hosts a carnival that kicks off at 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 31, and continues through Sunday, Nov. 3. 7035 Airport-Pulling Road. 239-597-5220 or www.niafoundation.org.

TRUNK OR TREAT – Shepherd of the Glades Lutheran Church hosts a trunk-or-treat from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 31. 6020 Rattlesnake-Hammock Road. 239-775-0696 or www.sotgwell.org.

NATIVE ARTS – The Seminole Tribe of Florida hosts its American Indian Arts Celebration with arts, crafts, activities, musical and dance demonstrations on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 1-2, at Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum. $7.50-$10. 17 miles north of I-75 off exit 49. 863-902-1113 or www.ahthahthikimuseum.com.

Bounty – Everglades Wonder Gardens celebrates fall with Harvest in the Garden, a farm-to-table dinner prepared by local chefs, from 6-9 p.m. Friday, Nov. 1, under the garden’s banyan tree. $150; proceeds will benefit the garden’s educational programs. 27180 Old 41 Road. 239-992-2591 or www.evergladeswondergardens.com.

MURDER & MAYHEM – Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs hosts a teen cabaret-style performance of spooky musical theater numbers at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 1. 235-8300, included cocktails and hors d’oeuvres. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 239-495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

FLOSSY, FLOSSY – Naples Art Association hosts Scene to be Scene, and art-and-fashion runway show that also includes a pre-show cocktail hour and after party, from 6:30-10:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 1. $225-$500; proceeds benefit the organization’s children’s programs. 300 Freedom Way, 239-362-6577 or www.naplesart.org.

TRIBUTE – The Stage Restaurant in Bonita Springs hosts a Neil Diamond tribute show at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 1. 9444 Bonita Beach Road. 239-415-8566 or www.stagemonita.com.

BEACH BIRDS – bird expert Adam DiNuvoo hosts a talk about the life cycles and journeys of migrating and wintering shorebirds from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Nov. 2, at Rookery Bay’s Field Station. 239-530-9540 or www.rookerybay.org.

BAZAAR – St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church hosts a craft bazaar with over forty vendors, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 2. 5130 Rattlesnake-Hammock Road. 239-919-3130 or www.stpeternaples.org.

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

Gin Blossoms to play at Seminole Casino on Nov. 2

Seminole Casino Hotel Immokalee presents Gin Blossoms live in concert at 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 2. Tickets are $5, with all proceeds benefiting the Guadalupe Center, which provides educational programs for more than 1,300 children in Immokalee from infancy through high school, and has a 100 percent college acceptance rate. Advance tickets are available now at www.seminoleimmokaleecasino.com and at Seminole Casino Hotel on the day of the concert. Gates open at 6 p.m. for this outdoor concert, which will feature open seating — so attendees should bring their own chairs. No pets or coolers will be allowed.

In the late 80s, Gin Blossoms started to grow a huge following as the No. 1 local music draw in Phoenix, Arizona. The band’s fusion of pop, melodic rock, folk and country elements took the airwaves by siege, making the band a 1990s mainstay. From its breakout album through today, Gin Blossoms has sold more than 10 million records and is one of the most in-demand 1990s live artists who began at the end of the grunge era. In 2017, the band went back in the studio to record a new album.

Naples International Film Festival

October 25-27

For details and tickets visit www.ArtisNaples.org

Day of the Dead Fiesta Menu at Burntwood Tavern

Tribe on November 3rd, 2019

Nightmare on Elm Street at Silverspot Cinema

October 27 & 30

Tickets: www.Silverspot.net
Innovative, minimalist ‘Saint Joan’ rules at Gulfshore Playhouse

Nancy STETSON
nancy@floridaweekly.com

Isn’t it interesting how men in power hate it when women speak out? Even men without positions of authority can feel this way, their insecurity leading them to believe a woman’s strength somehow diminishes theirs.

But Joan’s Saint Joan at Gulfshore Playhouse, the French are enamored with Joan of Arc, a young teen who leads them to victory over the English. But the feudal aristocracy and the church leaders grow concerned about potentially losing control of the land and losing power. And so they plot to squelch her.

“If only she will keep quiet, or go home,” means King Charles, though it is Joan who crowned him king in Rheims Cathedral.

But Joan refuses to do either. She hears voices speaking to her, the voice of God through St. Catherine, St. Margaret and Michael the Archangel: they urge her on.

And Joan’s own voice, when she speaks, is compelling. It leads the French soldiers into battle to victory. It gives them hope and breathes strength into them. And her words confound those who try to argue with her.

Dria Brown is perfect as Joan: energetic, inspired and pure of heart and spirit. She possesses an inner glow. When she first bounds onstage, she appears like a girl who has just put dropped her jump rope and run inside. But when she opens her mouth to speak, wisdom and poise beyond her years make themselves evident.

She is the type of Christian you wouldn’t mind being trapped in an elevator with; by the time you were rescued, she would have inspired you to start your own business with only a dime in your pocket and you’d firmly believe you could conquer the world.

And so you would.

Her faith is simple, strong, unwavering. Throughout George Bernard Shaw’s classic play, Joan is called an angel and a conqueror, a French soldier who so believes in Joan that he buys her a horse, then transforms into a chaplain and an archbishop who plot her demise. The quality of this trio’s acting matches Ms. Brown’s; their performances are all superlative.

Eric Tucker, Bedlam’s artistic director, directed this production, mixing humor and drama, pathos and hope. His innovative and clever restaging of the Shavian classic is nothing short of genius. He makes the most use of the space, with actors running, striding and slinking throughout the theater. In so many other productions, doing so would ruin the magic, bringing us out of the play; in this case, however, it draws us in and makes us part of it.

Particularly chilling is a scene where the inquisitors and clergy accuse Joan from the darkness of the theater; they literally stand in the shadows while plotting her fate. It is disconcerting. It is evil.

For those who crave tap-dancing and fluff: This is not that type of show, though Eric Tucker, Bedlam’s director, has introduced to us a captain’s steward but later transforms into the Dauphin (who becomes King Charles) and a chaplain who is hell bent on Joan’s death. And among Mr. Labbadia’s many characters is a French soldier who so believes in Joan that he buys her a horse, then transforms into a chaplain and an archbishop who plot her demise. The quality of this trio’s acting matches Ms. Brown’s; their performances are all superlative.

Eric Tucker, Bedlam’s artistic director, directed this production, mixing humor and drama, pathos and hope. His innovative and clever restaging of the Shavian classic is nothing short of genius. He makes the most use of the space, with actors running, striding and slinking throughout the theater. In so many other productions, doing so would ruin the magic, bringing us out of the play; in this case, however, it draws us in and makes us part of it.

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For those who crave tap-dancing and fluff: This is not that type of show, though “Bedlam’s Saint Joan” does provide some lunacy and slapstick, and Mr. Shaw’s script contains much humor. And though it’s longer than most contemporary plays, the action moves swiftly.

This play is not only food for thought, it’s an entire banquet for contemplation. And this production is not to be missed. I hope it won’t be the last time Bedlam comes to Gulfshore Playhouse, as I would love to see how the company brings other classics to life.

“Bedlam’s Saint Joan” is not only a story about a woman with a vision and men with their egos, but also a story of good vs. evil, the faithful vs. the hypocritical, the establishment vs. rebels and sheep vs. independent thinkers.

“What will the world be like when every girl thinks herself a Joan?” the men in power ask fearfully.

Pretty damn incredible, I think.

In the KNOW

“Bedlam’s Saint Joan”

Where: Gulfshore Playhouse
The Norris Center, Naples
755 8th Avenue South, Naples
723-264-7955 or www.gulfshoreplayhouse.org
When: Through Nov. 3
Cost: $22-$67
Note: Evening shows start at 7 p.m.
Puzzle Answers

\[
\begin{array}{cccccccc}
9 & 7 & 3 & 8 & 6 & 5 & 4 & 2 \\
2 & 8 & 6 & 1 & 3 & 4 & 7 & 5 \\
5 & 1 & 4 & 9 & 7 & 2 & 8 & 3 \\
6 & 5 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 9 & 1 & 7 \\
8 & 4 & 7 & 5 & 1 & 8 & 6 & 9 \\
1 & 9 & 8 & 6 & 2 & 7 & 3 & 4 \\
4 & 6 & 9 & 7 & 5 & 1 & 2 & 8 \\
3 & 2 & 1 & 4 & 9 & 3 & 5 & 6 \\
7 & 3 & 5 & 2 & 8 & 6 & 9 & 1 \\
\end{array}
\]
SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)
Trying to resolve a problem in a personal relationship could be more difficult than you’d expect. Look into the possibility that someone might be interfering for his or her own reasons.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)
A project you once rejected might be more attractive because of changes that you feel you can now work with. The weekend is especially favorable to family matters.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)
This is a good week for the gregarious Goat to enjoy being with people you care for. You might even want to show off those creative kitchen skills you’re so adept at.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)
A colleague might think your attitude is patronizing or even outright insulting. True. That might be his or her problem. But you might want to take some reassuring steps anyway.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20)
It’s a good time to jettison those old concepts about a family matter you might have been holding on to. This will help make room for a new and more enlightened way of dealing with it.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)
Caution dominates the Sheep’s monetary aspect this week. Rams and Ewes might want to shear their big spending plans until a more favorable financial picture begins to emerge by week’s end.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
Thrift counts both at home and at work. So you might want to rethink major purchases or investments. Also, be wary of a so-called revelation about a previous decision.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)
A partnership could lead to an unexpected challenge.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)
It’s not too early for the sometimes procrastinating Virgo to start making those long-distance travel plans. The sooner you decide where to go, when to go and how to go, the better.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)
Financial matters once again figure in any major action you might take regarding career, travel or other endeavors. You’ll want a ready reserve to help you back up those moves.

BORN THIS WEEK: You like to analyze a puzzling situation before you try to resolve it. This makes you excel at getting things done the right related matter. Check this out carefully to see if it’s what you really want before you decide one way or another.

LEO (July 23 to August 22)
This could be the start of a new career-changing phase, so start marking down your many accomplishments for those who need to know how much you have to offer. Good luck.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)
It’s not too early for the sometimes procrastinating Virgo to start making those long-distance travel plans. The sooner you decide where to go, when to go and how to go, the better.

SUDOKU
Difficulty level: ★★★
Place a number in each empty cell in such a way that each row, each column and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

By Linda Thistle
There are many deals where declarer is virtually in the dark as to which opponent to finesse for a missing honor card. In such a situation, anything the defenders can do to help steer declarer in the wrong direction is certainly in their best interests. Take this case from a team game where both Souths ended up in four spades. Both declarers recognized that the only real threat to the contract was a spades. Both declarers realized that where both Souths ended up in four spades to the king. It was on this trick that the play diverged. At the other table, East, who had carefully studied the spade position after the dummy was exposed, tried to improve his chance of getting a spade trick by playing the seven on the first spade lead. This subtle false card was intended to convince declarer that if any defender played the deuce on the first spade, leaving declarer to his own devices. South steeled for a while and then guessed correctly by leading a spade to dummy’s ace. After that it was a simple matter to pick up East’s jack, and he lost a heart at the end of making his game.

We don’t know exactly how the situation at the other table faced at the other table. Within walking distance of all there is to see and do on this idyllic palm-lined island surrounded by crystal blue waters.

There are many deals where declarer is virtually in the dark as to which opponent to finesse for a missing honor card. In such a situation, anything the defenders can do to help steer declarer in the wrong direction is certainly in their best interests. Take this case from a team game where both Souths ended up in four spades. Both declarers recognized that the only real threat to the contract was a spades. Both declarers realized that where both Souths ended up in four spades to the king. It was on this trick that the play diverged. At the other table, East, who had carefully studied the spade position after the dummy was exposed, tried to improve his chance of getting a spade trick by playing the seven on the first spade lead. This subtle false card was intended to convince declarer that if any defender played the deuce on the first spade, leaving declarer to his own devices. South steeled for a while and then guessed correctly by leading a spade to dummy’s ace. After that it was a simple matter to pick up East’s jack, and he lost a heart at the end of making his game. We don’t know exactly how the situation at the other table faced at the other table.
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‘Hamilton’ heading to Artis—Naples

Producer Jeffery Seller and Artis—Naples announced that single tickets for “Hamilton” will go on sale to the public at 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 1. Tickets will be available at artisnaples.org, by calling 800-597-1900 and in person at the Artis—Naples Box Office, 5833 Pelican Bay Blvd. Tickets will be available for performances Jan. 1-12, 2020.

There is a maximum purchase limit of four tickets per household for the engagement. When tickets go on sale, prices will range from $89 to $399 with a select number of $99 premium seats available for all performances. There will be a lottery for 40 $10 seats for all performances. Lottery details will be announced closer to the engagement.

Mr. Seller notes, “It’s tempting to get tickets any way you can. There are many sites and people who are selling overpriced, and in some cases, fraudulent tickets. For the best seats, the best prices and to eliminate the risk of counterfeit tickets, all purchases for the Naples engagement should be made through artisnaples.org.”

“Hamilton” is the story of America’s Founding Father Alexander Hamilton, an immigrant from the West Indies who became George Washington’s right-hand man during the Revolutionary War and was the new nation’s first Treasury Secretary. Featuring a score that blends hip-hop, jazz, blues, rap, R&B and Broadway, “Hamilton” is the story of America then, as told by America now.

With book, music and lyrics by Lin-Manuel Miranda, direction by Thomas Kail, choreography by Andy Blankenbuehler and musical supervision and orchestrations by Alex Lacamoire, “Hamilton” is based on Ron Chernow’s biography of Founding Father Alexander Hamilton.

The “Hamilton” creative team previouly collaborated on the 2008 Tony Award-Winning Best Musical In the Heights. The “Hamilton” original Broadway cast recording received a 2016 Grammy for Best Musical Theatre Album.

C14  |  WEEK OF OCTOBER 24-30, 2019  |  NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2019
5-9PM (Times vary across activities)

TIN CITY 5-9PM
Live Entertainment presented by Seminole Casino Hotel on the Event Stage
- 5-9PM - Fresh Stone Crabs, concessions, drink specials, waterfront dining, shopping, & more!
- 5:30PM - Kick off & cracking of the Stone Crab with local city leaders
- 6-9PM - Bob Marley Tribute

BAYFRONT NAPLES 4-9PM
- 20+ restaurants featuring fresh Stone Crabs, local seafood & a wide variety of other delicious eats & treats
- 50+ market vendors & local businesses offering local art, handmade jewelry, apparel, furniture & other unique Florida novelties
- Special festival-only offers at our on-site restaurants & retail stores
- Bayfront condominium tours offering a glimpse of Downtown Waterfront Living at it’s finest!

Live Entertainment presented by McQuaid & Company on the Bayfront Stage
- 4-6PM - Sarah Hadeka
- 5-5:15PM - 10th Anniversary Festival Dedication with local city leaders
- 7-9PM - TBA

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2019
10AM-9PM (Times vary across activities)

TIN CITY 10AM-9PM
- Block Party - Live music, Stone Crab specialis, drink specials, vendor booths, concessions, waterfront dining & shopping
- Live Entertainment presented by Seminole Casino Hotel on the Event Stage
  - 11AM-2PM - Mattie Jolie
  - 2:30-5:30PM - Wilder Sons
  - 6-9PM - Josh Cruz & The Experience

BAYFRONT NAPLES 10AM-9PM
- 20+ restaurants featuring fresh Stone Crabs, local seafood & a wide variety of other delicious eats & treats
- 50+ market vendors & local businesses offering local art, handmade jewelry, apparel, furniture & other unique Florida novelties
- Special festival-only offers at our on-site restaurants & retail stores
- Bayfront condominium tours offering a glimpse of Downtown Waterfront Living at it’s finest!
- Charity Row - underpass between Tin City & Bayfront featuring local Veterans groups

Live Entertainment presented by McQuaid & Company on the Bayfront Stage
- 11AM-1PM - Guy Smith
- 1:30-3:30PM - Big Buck & The Biscuit Boys
- 4-6PM - Edith Diamond
- 7-9PM - 41 South

SATURDAY & SUNDAY
OCT 26TH & 27TH, 2019

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**MISS NAPLES SIGHTSEEING CRUISES**
- 9AM, 1PM, 5:30PM - $25 (plus tax) Sightseeing cruises

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- 12PM, 2PM, 4PM - $25 (plus tax) Sightseeing cruises & jet boat rides
- 10AM-5PM
  - Free fuel on boat & jet ski rentals
  - $25 (plus tax) jet boat rides

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2019**
10AM-5PM (Times vary across activities)

**TIN CITY 10AM-5PM**
Block Party - Live music, Stone Crab specials, drink specials, vendor booths, concessions, waterfront dining & shopping
Live Entertainment presented by Seminole Casino Hotel on the Event Stage
- 10AM-1PM - Matty Jolie
- 2-5PM - Ben Allen Band

**BAYFRONT NAPLES 10AM-5PM**
- 20+ restaurants featuring fresh Stone Crabs, local seafood & a wide variety of other delicious eats & treats
- 50+ market vendors & local businesses offering local art, handmade jewelry, apparel, furniture & other unique Florida novelties
- Special festival-only offers at our on-site restaurants & retail stores
- Bayfront condominium tours offering a glimpse of Downtown Waterfront Living at it’s finest!
- Charity Row – underpass between Tin City & Bayfront featuring local Veterans groups

Live Entertainment presented by McQuaid & Company on the Bayfront Stage
- 11AM-1PM - Music by Guy Smith
- 1:15-2:15PM - Dance Arts by Marla
- 2:45-5PM - Sarah Hadeka Trio

**MISS NAPLES SIGHTSEEING CRUISES**
- 9AM, 1PM, 5:30PM - $25 (plus tax) Sightseeing cruises

**PURE FLORIDA**
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- 10AM-5PM
  - Free fuel on boat & jet ski rentals
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Come on, get happy
Igor and The Red Elvises bring their Russian-American funk/rock/ska/surf music to Fort Myers

BY NANCY STETSON
nstetson@floridaweekly.com

Life for musician Igor Yuzov can be divided in two: before the Elvis dream and after the Elvis dream. Raised in Odessa, Ukraine, and educated in Russia, he was living in sunny Venice, Calif., when it happened. It was 1995, and the King of Rock ’n’ Roll appeared to him in a dream and said, “Call the band Red Elvises and play rock ’n’ roll.”

“I didn’t want to argue with the King,” Igor says in his heavily accented English. “It was the older Elvis; I don’t know why the younger didn’t show. He was wearing red and I thought: ‘What a great idea. Thank you very much.’ That’s how I started.”

He already had a band at the time. Called Limpopo, they performed traditional Russian folk music on acoustic instruments such as accordions and the balalaika.

But now he had a different mission. Red Elvises began to play a new kind of sound, a mix of funk, rock, ska, rockabilly and surf music, all performed with a heavy Russian musical accent.

“We have influences from Russian music, Ukrainian music, klezmer music, rock ’n’ roll and rockabilly — all this mixed in one vat, in one show,” he says. “Very eclectic. And surf music, too. I spend quite a lot of time on the beaches in California. And in Odessa, we have the Black Sea, I’m a beach bum, I guess.”

When they started out, they performed on the street at Santa Monica’s Third Street Promenade. They recorded a couple albums: “Grooving to the Moscow Beat” and “Surfing in Siberia.” But it was their 1998 album, “I Wanna See You Bellydance,” that broke through.

Those who think the Red Elvises are a novelty band should consider this: They’ve lasted for more than two decades and performed all over the U.S. as well as in Canada, Europe and Thailand. And they play in Russia and Ukraine for a few months every summer, now that the music’s no longer illegal.

They play The Indigo Room in downtown Fort Myers on Thursday, Oct. 31, with the local Memphis 56 as the opening act.

Red Elvises have released 13 studio albums and a good handful of live albums, including “Live in Montana.” They’re on the soundtrack of indie film “Six-String Samurai,” and they’ve appeared on “Melrose Place” and performed for FX’s “Beverly Hills 90210 Swimsuit Beach Party,” a marathon replaying of the series. They also wrote the theme song and other music for “Mike, Lu & Og,” a Cartoon Network animated series.

A Red Elvises concert is a freewheeling affair that includes original songs such as “Drinking With Jesus,” “She Works for the KGB” and “Let’s Get Drunk and Funk.” Ben Salmon, reviewing one of their shows for “The Bulletin,” wrote: “People were having fun, and I’m not talking about bob-your-head-and-look-cool fun. I’m talking pure, unbridled, I’ve-given-up-control-of-my-body-like-a-flailling-ragdoll fun. Real fun.”

Igor, who sports Elvis-like sideburns and looks more like the later King than the younger, loves to wear animal prints and after performing. Sometimes he mixes them up and wears clashing prints, so he looks like an entire menagerie.

“I like really bright colors. It draws attention,” he says. “It emphasizes that special moment you’re on the stage; you don’t dress like this when you go to the grocery store to buy bananas.”

“I try to keep that ’50s, ’60s rockabilly look.”

When they played on the streets of Los Angeles, Hollywood people such as Julie Andrews of “The Sound of Music” fame would often book them for private parties. And they count actor Peter Ustinov and John Densmore, drummer for The Doors, as fans.

Early in their career, they performed for Ronald and Nancy Reagan when the First Couple hosted the Gorbbachevs. About his songwriting process Igor says, “I try to bring music and rhythm and humor into one thing. Inspiration can come from everywhere. Songs can come to you in a dream or from a conversation,” he says. Or they can be about friends and your associations with them. “Just from everyday life.”

For example, he says, the Red Elvises were driving in their van and saw a Burger King billboard proclaiming: “Smell the bacon.”

“I thought, That would be a funny title for a song.”

So he wrote “Smell the Bacon.”

Red Elvises also named one of their albums “Bacon.”

People who see Red Elvises in concert never regret it, he says. “They’ll remember it for the rest of their lives. We guarantee they will be happy.”

“They have no choice but to be happy.”

In the KNOW

Igor and the Red Elvises
Where: Thursday, Oct. 31; doors open at 6 p.m.

When: The Indigo Room, 2219 Main St., Fort Myers

Cost: $10 in advance, $15 at the door

Info: 239-332-0014; Tickets can be purchased at The Indigo Room’s Facebook page or in person from a bartender. The show is for ages 18 and older.

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Rookery Bay revs up for classic car show

Owners/collectors or classic cars and modern performance cars are invited to show off their prized four-wheel possessions when Friends of Rookery Bay and Island Automotive host a classic car show. Entries are being accepted now for the show that takes place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 16, at the Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center, 300 Tower Road, Naples (on the way to Marco Island).

This is the inaugural show for Rookery Bay; Island Automotive, which has been family-owned and operated on Marco since 1979, has coordinated numerous similar shows over the years. Organizers expect to have more than 100 cars on display.

To enter a car in the show, go to www.rookerybay.org and click on Special Events. To learn more, visit the website or call 239-530-5940.

Marco’s ‘Frozen Jr’ adds ‘Tea With The Prince and Princesses’

Theater Company on Marco Island’s “Frozen Jr.” will be presented at the Marco Lutheran Church Great Room, 525 N. Collier Blvd., Marco Island at 7:30 p.m. with matinees on Sundays at 2:30 p.m. Show dates are Nov. 2, 3, 8, 9 and 10. Doors open 10 minutes prior to performances. Tickets are $15 for adults and $10 for students and can be purchased at the Centennial Bank, 615 E. Elkcam Circle, Marco Island, by visiting www.theateronmarco.com, or at the door prior to the performance on a space available basis.

The doors of the castle will open a little early for both of its Nov. 3 and 10 Sunday matinee performances to host a “Tea With The Prince and Princesses” at 1:30 p.m., prior to the 2:30 p.m. performances.

Children will have the opportunity of meeting Princess Elsa, Princess Anna, and Prince Hans at their “special tea” reception, before they travel back to Arendelle for the show.

Tickets for the tea party, sold separate-ly from the performance, are $15 per child. Ticket holders will enjoy light refreshments and photo opportunities with the Prince and Princesses. Adults accompanying children are not required to purchase a ticket for the tea party event.

Tickets can be purchased online at theateronmarco.com or by calling 239-394-0080.

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA’S GUIDE TO THE ARTS

ARTS PREVIEW

Arts Preview is the insider’s guide to the highlights of the season’s best performing and fine arts events.

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ACT I • FORT MYERS, CHARLOTTE COUNTY OR NAPLES/BONITA EDITIONS
PUBLISH DATE: FORT MYERS: NOV. 20th, 2019
CHARLOTTE COUNTY, NAPLES/BONITA: NOV. 21st, 2019
SPACE DEADLINE: Wednesday, November 13th at 12pm
CAMERA READY ADS: Friday, November 15th at 10am
ACT II • FORT MYERS, CHARLOTTE COUNTY OR NAPLES/BONITA EDITIONS
PUBLISH DATE: FORT MYERS: FEB. 5th, 2020
CHARLOTTE COUNTY, NAPLES/BONITA: FEB. 6th, 2020
SPACE DEADLINE: Wednesday, January 29th at 12pm
CAMERA READY ADS: Friday, January 30th at 10am
GET OUT FOR A GOOD CAUSE

David Lawrence Center hosts its sixth annual Chip in for DLC Golf Tournament on Friday, Oct. 25, at Quail Creek Golf and Country Club, 13000 Valverde Drive, Naples. The lunch and registration begin at 11:30 a.m., with tee-off set for 1 p.m. Individual players are $250 per person and teams are $1,000 per foursome. Proceeds benefit the David Lawrence Center and its treatment services. For information, contact David Lawrence Center at 239-354-1445 or visit ChipinforDLC.org.

The Old Naples Surf Shop holds its seventh annual 18th Avenue South Skim Jam skin board contest Saturday, Oct. 26, on the beach at 18th Avenue South in Naples. Proceeds benefit the Audubon Western Everglades Shorebird Stewardship Program. Registration is from 7:30 a.m. and the contest begins at 9 a.m. Contestants may register in advance at Old Naples Surf Shop, 121 Third Street South, or visit www.oldnapplesurffsh.com. Early entry fees are $35, and contest day fees are $40. For information, visit www.oldnapplesurffshop.com/events, or Facebook/oldnapplesurf shop or call 239-262-1877.

Domestic Animal Services is teaming up with She's at Landsdowne Street for a fundraiser from 1-4 p.m. Oct. 26 at She's, 720 Fifth Avenue South on the north side of Cambier Park. The free event includes prizes, giveaways, live music, games and a dog costume contest. Anyone who makes a donation to Domestic Animal Services will receive a free lunch (grilled hot dogs and chips).

Patchington’s “Party with a Purpose” stands up to domestic violence with a weeklong in-store shopping event through Oct. 28, offering a 30% discount in exchange for a $50 donation to the Shelter for Abused Women and Children. Its Venetian Villages store is partnering with Option for Abused Women, who make a donation to Domestic Animal Services. Patchington is a women’s resort-wear boutique at 4320 Gulf Shore Blvd North.

The Naples Woman’s Club holds its fourth annual Artisan Marketplace Nov. 1-3. Proceeds fund the club’s arts scholarship program for Collier County high school students pursuing a college degree in the arts. The marketplace hosts a preview party Friday, Nov. 1, at the charity’s campus, 121 Goodlette-Frank Road, Naples. The casual evening honors the clinic’s 20 years of hope and healing and includes appetizers and cocktails, food trucks, games with prizes, live music by the Pearl Street Band. Tickets are $100 per person and can be purchased by calling 239-365-7464, or online at www.naplesneighborhoodhealth clinic.org/neighborhood-bash/.

Epilepsy Florida will host its ninth annual Naples Walk the Talk for Epilepsy on Saturday, Nov. 2. The walk will be held at North Collier Regional Park, 15000 Livingston Road, Naples, with registration opening at 8 a.m. and the walk at 9 a.m. The walk will feature family-friendly entertainment, live music from Sarah Hadeka and Friends, appearances by the Florida Everbabes and Florida Everblades mascot Swampee. Registration is $25 for adults and $15 for children; day-of registration is $35 for adults and $20 for children. For information and to register, visit www.epilepsyfl.org/walkthetalk.

The RedSnook Catch and Release Charity Tournament hosted by The Conservancy of Southwest Florida invites anglers to participate Nov. 1-3. The three-day fundraiser features a kick-off party, two days of fishing and an awards reception to raise awareness of water quality’s influence on the Southwest Florida ecosystem. Proceeds benefit the Conservancy’s juvenile game fish studies, water quality research and game estuary protection. The kick-off party at the Conservancy Nature Center is open to the public and $75 per person. Saturday and Sunday mornings, anglers will launch at sites in Naples, Goodland and Chokoloskee for two days of fishing. A Sunday awards ceremony will be held at Northern Trust, 4001 Tamiami Trial N. in Naples. For information, to register or sponsor a team, email meganb@ conservancy.org, call 239-430-2240 or visit www.Conservancy.org/RedSnook.

Girls on the Run of Southwest Florida presents the Naples LUNAFEST film festival at 7 p.m. Nov. 8 at Silverport Cinemas at Mercato, 9118 Strada Place, Naples. Cocktails, hors d’oeuvres and a silent auction open at 6 p.m. Tickets are $5. Girls on the Run is a nonprofit program for girls in the third through eighth grade. The LUNA-FEST is a celebration of award-winning short films by, for, and about women. All proceeds benefit Girls on the Run of Southwest Florida. To purchase tickets, visit www.gottswfl.org/lunafest. For information about the event, contact Christine McConnelee at christine.mconnelee@gmail.com.

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Journalist pokes fun at official symbols of the Sunshine State

Phil JASON
philjreviews@gmail.com


What do you hope to get from your reading materials: information or laughs? If you want both, and if you are curious about Florida, this is the book for you.

Writing as an amused and sometimes perplexed Florida partisan, Mark Lane zeros in on the symbols that define the Sunshine State and the leg- islative process of how they come into being. In 19 hilarious and often wacky vignettes, he presents a wealth of information.

With something often approaching a straight face, he keeps his tongue in his cheek. It’s a winning performance.

Many of the chapters benefit from Mr. Lane’s decision to surround or imbed the story of how a symbol became the “official Florida” this or that with bits and pieces of his own personal story. His long developed sense of Florida culture and his knowledge of state and local politics afford many opportuni- ties for him to embellish the bare bones facts about how the selection for offi- cialdom occurred. The storytelling is always pleasant, even when the facts themselves often are not. Here are some of Mr. Lane’s chapter subtitles that give a taste of what readers are in for:

■ “Welcome to the Sunshine – Not the Alligator – State”
■ “Welcome to the Land of the Manatee Mailboxes”
■ “Ponce de Leon Slept Here”
■ “The Mockingbird Will Not Be Mocked, Tree Huggers”
■ “In God We Trust (All Others Pay Cash)”

The chapters are usually headed by the official language of incarnation. Some are straightforward, following the pattern of “Key lime pie is design- nated as the official Florida state pie – Florida Statute 15.052.” The eleva- tion of the orange to reign as the state fruit is easy to anticipate, but the ways in which Mr. Lane embroiders and personalizes the story will surprise you. Elsewhere one learns about Myakka fine sand, credentialed as the official Florida state soil. (Is this the kind of exercise we want state legislators to spend time on?) You get the idea.

Each chapter is a little gem, a kind of inspired dose of the ridiculous. The actual statute that elevates the sabal palm (aka the sabal palmetto palm and/or cabbage palm) as the state tree of Florida (even though it’s actually a tree-like plant) as the state tree of Florida (even though it’s actually a tree-like plant) is just the kind of discovery for which Mr. Lane cannot resist witty remarks and satiric storytelling. He includes some laughs at the expense of the sabal palms’ post-hurricane trimmings. “It’s the poodle-cut of palms.”

The Daytona Beach area resident also relates the sad — and sadly real- istic — story of how the Florida Sen- ate named automobile racing as the official state sport, but the House of Representatives did not add its imprimatur. Such congressional pet- tiness! It seems other parts of the state, far from the world of NASCAR and Daytona International Speedway, could not support naming auto racing as being representative, let alone the pinnacle, of Florida sports culture.

The official state gem, the official state sea — there and other symbols abound. Florida readers, beware. You might laugh way too hard and wake up your neighbors.

About the author
Mark Lane grew up in Daytona Beach and graduated from Seabreeze High School, “the home of the fighting sand crabs.” Professionally, he has worked as a columnist, editorial writer and occasional feature writer at the same newspaper where he was copyboy in high school, the Daytona Beach News-Journal. Since 1980, he has worked as a general assignment reporter, local government reporter, courts and crime reporter, editorial writer and copy edi- tor in addition to column writing.

He earned a master’s in history from Boston University and has also written “Sandspurs: Notes from a Coast Col- umnist” (University Press of Florida 2008) and “Legendary Locals of Dayto- na Beach” (Arcadia Publishing 2015). 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.

FLORIDA WRITERS
When RedLine Air Shows, the air aero-
batic team out of Cincinnati, had to cancel
this year’s Florida International Air
Show because of the death of one of its
pilots, the possibility that RedLine had per-
duced funds to 23 local nonprofits.

Attendance this year is expected to be
more than double, thanks to the U.S. Air
Force Thunderbirds Air Demonstration
Squadron, which are the headliners among
the numerous other aerobatic acts.

“The hours that pass immediately after,
you’re not sure what you’re going to do,”
said Ken Rieder, RedLine founder.

He was in the air performing with Jon
Thockey when the late pilot “became
disoriented” and flew his plane into the
ground at a show in Calpeoper, Virginia.

The tragedy occurred just days before
RedLine was scheduled to perform at
Punta Gorda show, Mr. Rieder, after con-
sidering honoring his commitment with
a solo show, took his wife’s advice and
canceled. When he informed Mr. Carr of
his decision, the Air Show board president
didn’t hesitate.

Punta Gorda was the “first show to call
me and say, ‘Keep the deposit; you’re hired
for next year,’” Mr. Rieder recalled. “It put
a tear to my eye, I’m looking forward to
coming back”.

“We really wanted to support him dur-
ing that difficult time,” Mr. Rieder said.
“It had only been a week. A lot of things were
up in the air. He called me and offered a refund right away. I turned him down.
I said I was confident in his ability to
rebound and come back next year.”

Next year is here. And RedLine, which
performed to oohs and aahs in Punta Gorda
in 2017, is back with its two-plane formation
aircrew — and Mr. Rieder will pilot the plane
delivering fireworks at the Nov. 1 evening
performance.

“RedLine returns to Punta Gorda with a performance that
will elicit gasps from the crowd.

In one of the stunts, the RV8s cross
paths as they fly away from the crowd. To
the folks on the ground, it looks like they’re
going to hit.

Following the choreographed near miss —
and after the fans catch their collective
breath — the pilots perform the stunt again —
only this time the planes are inverted.

“We’re different because we’re a for-
amation act,” he said. “We do loops, rolls,
switchbacks.”

Sharing the skies

In addition to the Thunderbirds and
RedLine, the Air Show also will feature acts
such as the McCan jet-powered truck,
the DASH Aerosports L-39 Albatross; Matt
Youkain in his twin Beech 18; the GEICO
Skystyers Airshow Team; and the U.S.
Special Operations Command’s premier
aircraft demonstration team float-
ing in the sky. Also on hand will be Patry
Wagstaff — a six-time member of the U.S.
Aerobatic Team who has won the gold,
silver and bronze medals in Olympic-level
international aerobatic competition —
who made her Florida International Air
Show debut in 1998. She is the first woman to win
the title of U.S. National Aerobatic Cham-
pion — and one of the few people to win
it three times.

Returning as the air boss (the individ-
ual who controls the environment,
including air traffic, staging and includ-
ing air traffic, staging and activities) is Wayne Boggs, star of the PBS
documentary/reality show “Air Boss,”
who is recognized as one of the top
air bosses —

and undoubtedly the most famous — in
the nation.

In addition to the action in the sky, more
than 25 aircraft — including a P-51 Mustang
and a Huey helicopter — will be on static
display all weekend. Demonstration equip-
ment from all branches of the military also
will be on exhibit.

Mr. Carr offered a couple of pieces of
tips for those who plan to attend the Air
Show.

“The biggest thing right now is to pur-
chase tickets ahead of time,” he said, not-
ing that discounts are available to online
buyers. “You’ll save money and avoid lines.
Second, come early. If you wait and come
to show, there’ll be some lines. Com-
ing early doesn’t mean you’ll have to sit
and twiddle your thumbs until show time with
the static displays, food, drink and other
vendors, there’s easily four to five hours
of entertainment on the ground. There will
be plenty to do up to the show beginning.”

Mr. Rieder is excited about delivering
the opening night’s fireworks on Friday.
The pyrotechnics will be strapped to his
wing tips for the show.

Mr. Carr called the fireworks display,
“airborne pyrotechnics on steroids. When
the aircraft is lit up and pyrotechnics are
coming off the wing tips, it’s really spec-
tacular.”

“I’m not bragging, but it’s the best out
there,” Mr. Rieder said. “It’s going to be
something else.”

Tips for attendees:

• Be sure to pack your sunscreen and
event chairs.

• Chairs will be available for rent at the
event if you do not want to carry your
own.

• Outside food, alcoholic beverages,
carry-in packages, coolers, large
beach umbrellas and pets are
not permitted (excluding certified
service animals).

• Smoking is not allowed inside the
gates, except in the smoking area.

• Drones are not permitted.

• Attending with young children,
please consider bringing ear
protection (ear plugs or silencing ear
muffs) to help keep them comfortable
and enjoying the show.

courtesy photos
SOCOM, Para-Commandos

SOCOM, Para-Commandos

In the KNOW

Florida International Air Show

Where: Friday, Nov. 1, through Sunday, Nov. 3

Hours:
• Friday – Gates open at 5 p.m.; performances from 5:30-8:30 p.m.
• Saturday and Sunday – Gates open at 9 a.m.; performances from noon-
2:30 p.m.

Where: Punta Gorda Airport, Challenger Boulevard, Punta Gorda

Cost: Prices vary from $5 to $55

Tickets and info: www.floridaairshow.com

Performers:
• DASH Aerospace’s Scott Farnsworth
• GEICO Skytypers Air Show Team
• Greg Koozin – Alabama Boys
• Jim Patz – Beechcraft Bonanza
• Matt Youkain – Twin Beech 18
• Patry Wagstaff
• RedLine Airshows
• SOCOT Para-Commandos
• McCan jet-powered truck

In addition, Rob Rieder will return
as this year’s announcer, and Wayne
Boggs is once again the show’s air
boss.
**THURSDAY, OCT. 24, 10 P.M.**

**Miss Fisher’s**

**Part 1: Away with the Fairies**

Phryne investigates the puzzling death of a magazine columnist and author of fairy stories. To get to the truth she must unearth the deceptions and rampant rivalries of the magazine’s thoroughly modern working women—and dig into the past of their token male employee.

**FRIDAY, OCT. 25, 10 P.M.**

**Songwriting with Soldiers**

**Stories of Service**

An Austin-based singer-songwriter founded Songwriting with Soldiers, a free program that pairs professional songwriters with veterans to craft original songs based on their experiences. For many of the 120 military members who have participated, songwriting begins the healing process.

**SATURDAY, OCT. 26, 8 P.M.**

**Antiques Roadshow**

**Virginia Beach: Part 2**

Journey to Virginia Beach for vintage finds both local and global, such as a John Wayne mug collection, a 1977 Frank McCarthy “On the Trail” oil, and 1984 artist-signed, limited edition Olympic posters. Which has the highest value?

**SUNDAY, OCT. 27, 9 P.M.**

**Poldark: Season 5, Part 5**

Ross returns to London in the hope of securing his friends’ passage home and Drake takes a bold risk to help Morwenna. Geoffrey Charles and Cecily find themselves in trouble, while George and his allies hatch a plan to destroy their opposition for good.

**MONDAY, OCT. 28, 10 P.M.**

**Songwriting with Soldiers**

**Secrets of the Sky Tomb**

The tunneling Himalayas were among the last places on Earth that humanity settled. Scaling sheer cliff sides, a team of daring scientists hunts for clues to how ancient people found their way into this forbidding landscape and adapted to survive the high altitude. They discover rock-cut tombs filled with human bones and enigmatic artifacts, including gold masks and Chinese silk dating back thousands of years, and piece together evidence of strange rituals and beliefs designed to ward off the restless spirits of the dead.

**WEEK OF OCTOBER 24-30, 2019**

**FIRST SEATING SPECIAL**

$14.95 2 Course Dinner

FIRST SEATING SPECIAL

$25 SPENT

ENTREE

Penne Alla Bolognese

Chicken Alla Cacciatore

Cheese Ravioli

Soup of the Day

**SECOND SEATING SPECIAL**

$14.95 2 Course Dinner

SECOND SEATING SPECIAL

$25 SPENT

ENTREE

Fettuccine Alfredo

CHEESE RAVIOLI

Penne alla Bolognese

Soup of the Day

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**Monday-Friday, 11:30am-3:00pm**

“includes your choice of soup, salad or fries Monday-Friday, 11:30am-3:00pm

**Happy Hour Menu**

Half price domestic beers and house wines along with a special $6.95 menu

**First Off $25 Or More Spent**

“Cannot be combined with other discounts, complimentary lunch specials. Paymen at 10%"
The cheapest Mercedes convertible is anything but cheap

Looking at the least expensive Mercedes convertible feels a bit like a contradiction. There’s nothing cheap about the Mercedes-Benz C300 Cabriolet, including its $53,950 base price. However, it’s this refusal to get into the bargain basement that sustains the car’s appeal.

The exterior displays a good example of its premium virtue. LED headlights and nicely designed 18-inch alloy wheels are the kind of features that are expected on an upper-class Benz, and they are standard here.

One of the most distinctive parts of this convertible is the roof color. Just about every soft top convertible out there comes in black. In fact, Audi A5 only comes in black (the BMW 4-Series is a similar cost but is a folding hard-top.) The C300 Cabriolet offers the standard black soft top, but the optional red ragtop of our test car instantly makes it memorable. Not only is this a no-cost choice, but also a dark brown or a particularly distinctive blue can be chosen for no additional charge. Mercedes offers a similar assortment on larger more expensive drop-tops, like the E and S-class models, and so it feels especially premium on the C-Class.

Giving customers a wide variety of roof colors may also be part of a larger strategy. Black and white are the only two no-cost body colors. Mercedes offers 10 more metallic paints ranging from $720 to $2,020. There’s no better way to make a premium-minded buyer consider paying extra for a body color than by giving them more ways to coordinate with the roof.

Inside is more proof Mercedes is mindful that it is asking for real money upfront. Black, brown, gray and beige leather-like MB-Tex are all no-cost color options. Mercedes will only charge for those who want to upgrade to leather surfaces ($1,620). It has some nice standard features, including dual-zone automatic climate control, blind-spot monitoring and power front seats with the Airscarf system that blows warm air onto chilly necks. The standard 10.25-inch infotainment screen is good for in-car connectivity with most cellphones, and importantly for a convertible, it doesn’t easily get washed out in direct sunlight.

The soft top feels very well insulated with most of its mechanical pieces well-hidden from occupants. Between the look of the headliner and the level of sound-deadening, it can sometimes be forgotten that this is a convertible. The C300 is powered by a 255 horsepower 2.0-liter turbocharged engine. It’s the only four-cylinder convertible currently in the company’s lineup, however, it finds use in sedans that are larger than this C-Class drop-top. It means that even the lowest-priced Mercedes convertible comes standard with plenty of pep.

It has a good balance with its nine-speed automatic transmission to be able to get up quickly from a stoplight and confidently downshift for swift highway passing. Those who want a performance juggernaut can upgrade to a 503 horsepower AMG version of the C-Class coupe, but the rest of us understand that a convertible like this is built to enjoy the low-speed coastal byways. The steering is light, the engine tone is mellow and there’s an overall relaxed feeling that makes racking up the miles easy.

We doubt anyone at the Mercedes dealer will tell you this is the cheapest convertible they have. The word “cheap” doesn’t cover the real money this C300 Cabriolet costs, and it also doesn’t reflect the standard amenities Mercedes has put into the car.
Refuge to celebrate opening of Clyde Butcher exhibition

The public is invited to the free kick-off celebration of the Refuge 75th Anniversary Clyde Butcher Photographic Exhibition at 9 a.m., Wednesday, Nov. 13, starting in the “Ding” Darling Visitor & Education Center on Sanibel Island. Guests will be the first to view Butcher’s American Everglades Collection. The opening will include refreshments and, at 10 a.m., an opportunity to meet the world-famous photographer, who will be available for a limited number of book signings outside the Refuge Nature Store. The store will be carrying books, notecards and other Clyde Butcher gifts.

The 35-piece photo exhibition will run daily free-of-charge through Feb. 5, 2020, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Often tagged “the Ansel Adams of Florida,” photographer Clyde has made a reputation based on big black-and-white nature images taken with big cameras. The award-winning artist captures the Florida Everglades, coastal islands and other unspoiled areas with stunning majesty. “Wilderness, to me, is a spiritual necessity,” says Mr. Butcher. “The underlying message to this important exhibition is the value of preserving the fragile Everglades habitat and the quality of our waterways in the pristine state Clyde Butcher has captured them,” said DDWS executive director Birgie Miller. “We thank Mark and Gretchen Banks for sponsoring the exhibition and Wayne and Linda Boyd for sponsoring the opening reception.” For more information on the exhibition and 75th anniversary calendar of events, visit Ding75.org. ■

PHOTO BY WOODY WALTERS
Far Right: Butcher shoots with large-format cameras.
PHOTO BY CLYDE BUTCHER
Right: The exhibition will include one of Butler’s most iconic portraits of the elusive ghost orchid.
SOCIETY

hairdesign by AVANTGARDE Salon & Spa ‘Beauty and Bling’ Bahamas benefit

1. Dr. Yomari Schwarz and Dean Forbes
2. Jessica Rodriguez, Brynn Brick, Marianna Armstrong and Hannah Petty
3. Ching Schuettig
4. Katja Raab and Dr. Rudy Bershadski
5. Chris Stephenson, Deanne Smith and Kellen Souza
6. Anna Kerkhofs, Brynn Brick and Katja Raab
7. Brian Smith and Dr. Joaquin Hernandez

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

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SOCIETY

Naples Art hosts reception for three exhibitions
‘Touchable Art-A Multi-Experiential Exhibition,’ ‘Curative Arts: Celebrating Creative Insights of those with MS,’
and ‘Pieces of Paradise and other Art by students of St. Ann School’

1. Carmen Garcia, Camila Cordero, Casandra Ruanova, Christina Grün and Dorothy Grant
2. Ava Ladic
3. Mel Bubrick and Barbara Bemison
4. Eva Huerta, Liani Vidal, Angela Gomez and Maria Gomez
5. Cath Brownwood, Anastasia Gera and Chad Brunette

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SOCIETY

Dorona Celebrity StarTender event benefitting Pace Center for Girls

1. Leann Burkholder and Michelle Haskman Shaw
2. Jennifer Evans and Kristina Johnson
4. Emily Bua and Ingrid Areti
5. Lesley Rubischau Colantoni and Jeff Jerome
7. Dimitrios Settos and Lily Montes
8. Brad Heiges and Rick Locastro
9. Susy Gunnich and Ed Devine

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CUCINE NEWS

The Aielli Restaurant Group announced a fourth restaurant will join its current roster, which includes Sea Salt, Barbetta and Dorona, at the end of November. Grappina, which will reflect the Venetian roots of owner and chef Fabrizio Aielli and aims to feature simple Italian comfort food with over 100 varieties of grappa, a grape-based Italian brandy.

Taking over the spot formerly occupied by Timeless-MH K Eatery, the restaurant aims to maintain the original award-winning interior design by Suzanna Costa while adding Murano glass features to emphasize its Italian theme. For more information about Grappina's opening, interested diners can submit their email address at www.grappinanaples.com.

Take Note:
Black Forest Restaurant celebrates Oktoberfest by offering a free German beer with an entrée on Wednesday, Oct. 30. 239-572-4784 or www.blackforestnaples.com.

Dagny’s Spirits hosts a free wine and liquor tasting from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 24. 239-381-9241 or www.dagnysspirits.com.

21 Spices hosts a charity lunch buffet from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26, to benefit Humane Society Naples, $25, reservations requested. 4270 Tamiami Trail E 239-359-8830 or www.21spicesdining.com.

The Wine Store and Legal Aid Service of Collier County host the first of a three-part wine seminar with Master Sommelier Barrie Larvin, who has been featured in publications like Wine Spec- tor, Food & Wine and Bon Appetit, on Friday, Oct. 25. Cost is $50. Parts two and three are on Nov. 1 and 8, for $50 and $75 respectively. Cost for all three seminars is $250. 300 Central Ave. 239-234-6625 or www.thewinestorenaples.com.

Dorona hosts a cooking demonstra- tion featuring autumn squashes at 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26, with Chef Jason God- dard where guests will learn to prepare butternut squash soup, pumpkin ravioli and pumpkin pie panna cotta. 458 Tamiami Trail N. 239-529-2819 or www.doronanaples.com.

Sukie’s Wine Shop hosts a free wine tasting of 16 bottles from its collection from 5-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 6. Free, but registration required. 4280 Gulfshore Blvd. 239-228-5823 or www.sukieswineshop.com.

Unity Church of Naples hosts a healthy cooking class and three-course dinner with Chef Daniels from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 7. On the menu are kale salad, pumpkin ravioli with sage bechamel and avocado chocolate mousse. Reservations required. 2000 Unity Way 239-919-0937 or www.unitynaples.org.

For Veterans Day, Burntwood Tay- bers and Mercato will honor active military personnel to eat free on Monday, Nov. 11. 239-631-8946 or www. burntwoodtavern.com.

The Ladies’ Philoptochos Society of St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church are hosting a bake sale now through Sunday, Nov. 3, where locals can buy delicacies like baklava, spanakopita and trays of Greek holiday cookies, moussakia and pastitio for pick-up on Nov. 6. All items are frozen and ready to bake. Orders must be placed by Nov. 3 contacting Vasiliki Bodnarchuk at 239-597-6571 or mmbod26@gmail.com.

Naples Originals’ Foodie Camp 2019’s chef-led cooking classes at mem- ber restaurants continues until Wednes- day, Oct. 30. Participating chefs are Brian Roland (Crave Culinaire), Everett Fromm (7th Avenue Social), Tony Ridg- way (Ridgway Bar & Grill), J.C. Perez (La Moraga), Lisa Boet (Chez Boet), Moni- cia Czechowska (Fuse Global Cuisine), Adam Nardis (M Waterfront Grille), Keith Casey (KC American Bistro), Aisf Syed (21 Spices), Abel Gonzalez (Bayside Seafood Grill & Bar), Jason Goddard (Burntwood Tavern) and Jeanne Harvey (The Real Macaw), $60, includes a demonstra- tion, tasting of two or three courses, a glass of wine, a takeaway folder, entry in a raffle, an apron and a $50 gift cer- tificate that can be redeemed at a Naples Original restaurant. For a full schedule, visit the event’s website. 239-404-5014 or www.foodiecampnaples.com.

Dorona hosts the latest installment of its Celebrity Statter series with Bucket List Bash board members (Azita Lovse, Dina Galeazzi Elliott, Shirlene Ellkins and Jennifer McCurry) singing drinks from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 30. Proceed will benefit their orga- nization and the American Cancer Soci- ety, 2110 Tamiami Trail N. 239-529-2819 or www.doronanaples.com.

Verginia celebrates Halloween with a Cuban-themed party that includes pop-up mojito bar, cigar rolling, costume contest and music by Miami Motown Machine and a daylay all evening on Thursday, Oct. 31. 700 Fifth Ave. S. 239-659-7088 or www.vegrinapianorestaurant.com.

Evenlades Wonder Gardens hosts its third annual Brews for the Birds to benefit the organization’s avian facilities from 4-8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 2. Guests will enjoy unlimited craft beer tastings from local breweries, food trucks and live musi- cal performances by Roots Almighty and Emma Arnold. $20-$35 in advance, $50 at the door. 2780 Old 41 Road. 239-992-5911 or www.evergladeswondergardens.com.

Friends of Lovers Key hosts Beach ‘N Brews where guests can enjoy live music with beers from local breweries and food truck fair from 6-9 p.m. Friday, Nov. 8, at Lovers Key. $50 for general admission, $75 for VIP that includes early admission at 5 p.m., gazoze seating, gift bag and more. 8700 Estero Blvd. 239-463-4588 or events@friendsofloverskey.org.
I’ve watched with a soupcon of envy these last few months as at least half a dozen friends have jetted off to Europe for fabulous vacations. Their Facebook posts and the stories they’ve told upon their return have made me yearn to hop a flight and go.

But, alas, there just isn’t time for a European sojourn right now. There is, however, time for a meal that can at least transport my senses there and that’s precisely what brunch at Café Gourmand accomplished last weekend.

Flaky croissants. Bracing coffee with silky cream. Ethereal crepes. Gracious service. Tres bien! Café Gourmand is a family affair, according to the friendly and accommodating woman who took care of us. She’s the mom. She runs it with her daughter and son-in-law. It has the feel of a family-run café you’d find in a small, French town — and the carefully crafted flavors of one as well.

There are tables out front shaded by umbrellas, but it’s still far too hot for most of us and, frankly, it feels like Southwest Florida, with all the noise of U.S. 41 out there. Go inside and savor the tranquility of the cozy dining room instead.

You can’t miss the glass display case filled with croissants when you enter the restaurant. The menu indicates you can have them plain (they come in raisin or chocolate as well) or stuffed with meat, cheese or smoked salmon if you prefer.

Though the restaurant has a modest footprint, the menu covers some serious real estate — sandwiches, salads (and savory), omelets, quiches and desserts. And that’s just for breakfast.

It’s got a broad reach and, based at least on the variety of items we sampled, the kitchen seems to have a firm grasp by umbrellas, but it’s still far too hot for most of us and, frankly, it feels like Southwest Florida, with all the noise of U.S. 41 out there. Go inside and savor the tranquility of the cozy dining room instead.

The front counter at Café Gourmand holds a bounty of freshly baked croissants.

A croque madame is a warm ham and cheese sandwich topped with a fried egg, which was hot and strong, but not bitter, served with cream (the croque madame ($9.80) was just right — a well-crafted toasted sandwich containing ham and Swiss cheese topped with a fried egg (the egg being what distinguishes a madame from a monsieur). It came with a side of fresh mixed greens, although you can substitute fruit. The toast was crisp, but not overly so, the ham was tender and the cheese was creamy with the egg sunny side up.

A crêpe forestière ($11.80) was equally good. The tender crepe was just lightly browned and held a mix of Brie, ham and mushrooms. And then there was the quiche of the day, an inspired blend of eggs, Swiss cheese, bacon and Brussels sprouts ($11.70) on a flaky pastry crust. You might assume that Swiss cheese would be bland, but this cheese had plenty of flavor owing to the fact that it wasn’t the sliced variety one typically finds at

The Gourmand accomplished last weekend. It’s got a broad reach and, based at least on the variety of items we sampled, the kitchen seems to have a firm grasp on the cuisine. Brunch began with one of those luscious-looking croissants, which did not disappoint. It was flaky and light and needed nothing more than a bit of butter. It went splendidly with the coffee,

Brussels sprouts, bacon and Swiss cheese were the ingredients in the quiche of the day.

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DECEMBER 19 | LARRY • STEVE • RUDY
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JANUARY 26 | MARSHALL TUCKER BAND
FEBRUARY 1 | LOUIE ANDERSON
FEBRUARY 16 | JON SECADA
FEBRUARY 27 | JOHN TESH
FEBRUARY 28 | THE OAK RIDGE BOYS
MARCH 6 | CHARLIE DANIELS BAND
         | WITH SPECIAL GUEST THE OUTLAWS
MARCH 19 | THE ORCHESTRA
         | STARRING FORMER MEMBERS
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