13% of Florida residents do not have health insurance.

Public hospitals and a network of local free clinics are helping fill the coverage gap.

... but at a growing cost.

BY EVAN WILLIAMS
ewilliams@floridaweekly.com

Almost a decade after the Affordable Care Act was passed and six years after it began, with its central promise to afford every American good health insurance, about 2.7 million or 13 percent of Floridians have none. That’s the highest rate in 47 out of 50 states, says the U.S. Census Bureau in a report released in September.

The growing rate of uninsured people in Florida strains public hospitals, which are on the hook for millions in uncompensated care every year.

“This is the population that was never going to be insured ... So often we get patients from the ER or we get them as they’re being released from the hospital.”

— Leslie Lascheid, Neighborhood Health Clinic CEO

Naples’ Coastland Center mall adding three restaurants

At least three new restaurants are coming to Coastland Center mall in Naples. You know about Planet Grilled Cheese coming soon to the mall’s food court, but two other larger restaurants are in the works. These are in addition to the restaurant with the state-of-the-art CMX Cinébistro movie theater being built within the next year on the footprint of the

SEE ATEN KNOWS, A4 ↔

TIM ATEN / FLORIDA WEEKLY

Planet Grilled Cheese is targeted to open soon next to Chick-fil-A in the Coastland Center mall’s food court.

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COMMENTARY

Hooray for Mr. Trump

Roger WILLIAMS
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There should be no doubt about this: The mainstream media, generally accurate in its reporting of facts no matter what one thinks of its pandits and opinion spinners, completely missed the most significant change in the political weather since 2008. And it happened last week.

Back in 2008, media outlets like The New York Times, The Washington Post, CNN, NPR and the rest all dutifully and accurately reported the election of an African-American to the White House — the one with the funny name, Obama, which sounds like Osama and rhymes with “yo’ mama.” Remember him?

The media got that right. The moment was significant, a game changer, a history maker. We dutifully and accurately reported the election of an African-American to the White House — the one with the funny name, Obama, which sounds like Osama and rhymes with “yo’ mama.” Remember him?

The president clearly intends to let all those Mexicans south of the current border — the descendants of Santa Anna’s prolific army — take over more than 1,000 miles of countryside right up to the Arkansas River, traditionally one of their northern borders.

The president’s decision is so extraordinary, so honorably and fundamentally decent, so dazzlingly progressive, that it will permanently alter both American culture and American geography, not to mention the way historians will treat Trump in the years to come.

And what a beautiful example for our youth, the next generation of Yankee traders and cool-hand capitalists: This. This right here. This is how you treat your neighbors, your fellow man and woman. You acknowledge your own terrible mistakes, you shake hands and you give them back what you took.

Mr. Trump’s idea caught me by surprise, I admit. And it seems a little impractical. But so did the Declaration of Independence, so did the Constitution — the impractical acts of a bunch of funny-looking white men with jowls and big noses who owned slaves and wore wigs, just like Mr. Trump. He also has jowls and a big nose. He also wears a wig and owns slaves: his acting chief of staff, Mick Mulvaney; his attorney general, William Barr; the rest of his Cabinet. And Melania Trump.

They’re all slaves, purchased at contemporary auction blocks hidden in plain sight, apparently.

So if that’s what it takes to change the world, to do right by “We the people,” then I’m good with it.

Besides, we don’t really need that part of Mexico anyway, do we? All that desert, all those canyons, Grand and otherwise, all those rattlesnakes, all that sagebrush, all those crime-ridden, smog-suffering cities, all those climate-change wild fires.

There is one problem, but I’m sure Mr. Trump is smart enough to let the Mexicans deal with that: They didn’t really own all that land in the first place. Nosireebob. The Indians owned it.

So I say, hooray! Hooray for Mr. Trump, which rhymes with trump and sounds like yo’ rump! Build the (Colorado) wall!
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from page 1

former Sears stores. Two other building projects are under construction near the recently razed Sears on that southeast corner of U.S. 41 and Golden Gate Parkway: While a stand-alone, 3,060-square-foot SunTrust bank branch will be built near the mall's entrance off U.S. 41, a massive Mexican restaurant is coming next to it in an outparcel that was a parking lot for Sears.

Meet Uncle Julio

Between the future spots for the bank and six-screen cinema, Uncle Julio's Meet mom in the mall plans to open a freestanding restaurant with a full bar next fall with nearly 13,500 square feet of indoor and outdoor dining space, plans show.

"We are excited to bring the signature Uncle Julio's experience to Naples," said Rachel Hedstrom, a spokeswoman for Dallas-based Uncle Julio's. "Our hope is to open in the latter half of 2020." Uncle Julio's has 36 locations in 10 states with the majority of the chain's restaurants in Texas, Illinois and Virginia. The only Florida location is near The Wheel at ICON Park, also known as the Orlando Eye Ferris wheel.

The casual Mexican restaurant is known for scratch cooking using authentic recipes and fresh ingredients to create mesquite-grilled meats and house-made margaritas, as well as its classic chocolate piñata dessert. The dining concept includes an interactive menu, Guacamole made tableside and an open kitchen.

Voila Vourla

A Turkish, Greek and Levantine restaurant with a full bar is targeted to open next month in the mall's former Calitoga Bakery Cafe, which operated for a decade until closing in January 2017. Voila Mediterranean Cafe & Grill starts with platters of mezze—a selection of small dishes served as tapas or appetizers. Expect home-style cooking with service different than a conventional restaurant, said Hakan Karsavuran, the restaurant's chef and co-owner.

"When you sit down, we don't give you a menu," he said. "The first thing, you'll see a big table with like 30 different appetizers and you're just going to pick it. For every single customer it will be an individual different tray.

The 30 mezze options will feature mostly vegan plates such as eggplant and artichokes. Fresh appetizers from the tray will be served with hot pita chips and bread, then diners will receive a menu for hot appetizers such as grilled octopus, fried calamari and warm hummus. Main courses may be chosen from a menu of six or seven fresh entrees and six or seven daily specials.

"We have a limited menu, but we have daily specials," Mr. Karsavuran said.

Entrées will include a variety of kebabs, gyros and lamb dishes such as Sultan's Delight—braised lamb stew served over an eggplant puree.

"Everything is homemade," he said. "When you taste it, you will see the difference." Voila will have 160 to 170 seats, which will include an al fresco dining on the covered patio near the food court's exterior entrance on the south side of the mall. The section inside near the fireplace will be the bar area.

More in the mall

Planet Grill & Grille – Cheese is targeted to open in early November to replace Island Vibe Caribbean Cuisine, which closed in July next to Chick-fil-A in the mall's food court. The new eatery will provide a twist to the classic American grilled cheese by offering a variety of gourmet sandwich- es made with artisan bread and high-quality ingredients. A young French couple co-founded the concept in 2016 as a food truck in the Tampa Bay area and branched out to restaurant units at malls in Lakeland and Tampa.

Coming to Waterside

An all-day café is coming in early 2020 to Waterside Shops in Naples. Demolition for Santa Fe Cafe will begin this week in the 1,200-square-foot space where MAC Cosmetics used to be between the Michael Kors and MaxMara stores. The location for the new café and coffee shop is not far from where Starbucks operated in the open-air mall for more than 12 years before closing in January.

"We are looking to open at the end of January or in February. It all depends on the construction time," said Alex Scolnik, owner of Santa Fe News & Espresso that has operated in Bal Harbour Shops near Miami Beach for more than 20 years.

His Naples venue will have the same selection for breakfast, lunch and dinner that are available at Bal Harbour, including a gourmet espresso bar and a juice bar with fruit and veggie smoothies. Bakery cases will feature pastries, gelato and desserts.

"We have pastries all day and a full coffee bar all day," Mr. Scolnik said. "We have pretty much everything. Pretty much you want it, we have it."

Known for its Cuban coffee and empanadas, Santa Fe Cafe will have everything from Benedicts and omelets in the morning to grilled seafood and steaks at night. The extensive menu includes a wide selection of appetizers, salads and hot and cold sandwiches, as well as specialty burgers, pizza, tacos and other entrees. Beer and wine are even available. The small shop also will sell snacks, candies, magazines, cig
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When I was a kid, I was usually a bum.

“I’m talking about my Halloween costume, of course. I wasn’t a bum, but every day, there were those who might dispute that.

My parents didn’t have a lot of money to spend on fancy costumes that would be worn only one day of the year, and a bum outfit was the easiest and cheapest way to go, so that’s the way I went nearly every Halloween.

After all, there were always shabby clothes lying around the house, and with a few more rips and stains, they only looked all the more bum-worthy. Add a bit of burnt cork around the jawline to simulate a week’s growth of beard, and — Presto! Change-o! — I was a bum.

I always envied the kids whose parents went out and bought them whole outfits from a costume shop, complete with rubber mask. They were the kings and queens of trick-or-treat, the kings and queens of trick-or-treat, because those costumes allowed them to become something entirely different, to become something entirely different, to become the kings and queens of trick-or-treat.

It didn’t take long, though, for me to lose my envy for the kids whose parents bought them a rubber head to wear every Halloween, because I was nearly blind the whole time, tripping over curbs and porch steps. And the head was so hot, my hair dripped sweat down my riveted neck.

It didn’t work, though, for me to pretend to be a hobo. I was too young to work cutting and sewing fabric, stuff-dressing as a soccer ball. My wife went around how to inflate a kid into a ball.

One year, Mom came up with a rubber Frankenstein mask for me to wear. I don’t know where it came from, but I’m pretty sure she didn’t buy it at a costume shop. It was probably a hand-me-down from one of the neighbor kids who had a new costume to wear that year, or maybe something that she picked up at a garage sale for a nickel.

It didn’t come with the rest of the costume, but that was OK because it seemed to me that Boris Karloff’s monster wore pretty much the same bum clothes that I wore every Halloween, so that’s what we did. That Halloween I walked down the street proudly, a terrifying bum with a green rubber head and rivets on the neck.

I didn’t take long, though, for me to pretend to be a hobo. I was too old to work cutting and sewing fabric, stuff-dressing as a soccer ball. My wife went around how to inflate a kid into a ball.

I asked. “You’ve never been a hobo.”

“I’m talking about the hobos of her youth during the Depression, riding the rails, traveling the country in a grand adventure.

She was right. It was a marvelous transformation.

Suddenly I was an exotic wanderer, not just a bum. After all, I had seen bums in our neighborhood, and they always seemed sad and smelly. But a hobo? A hobo was like a guester in a fancy tale. Odysseus, or Sinbad. Besides, if my trick-or-treat bag got too full, I could always pack more treats in my bindle.

The bindle made all the difference.

In time, though, I grew too old to trick-or-treat, and I looked forward to the day that I would have children of my own to deck out in shabby clothes and burnt cork.

But by the time I was married and we had a daughter and a son, I couldn’t convince any of them of the glory of being a hobo. No, my wife insisted on making all of their costumes by hand, and she indulged their wildest fantasies.

When our son started playing soccer, he insisted on going trick-or-treating dressed as a soccer ball. My wife went to work cutting and sewing fabric, stuffing it with polyester fiber, and figuring out how to inflate a kid into a ball.

When she was finished, the costume was a masterpiece. He was a perfectly round white ball with black patches, his skinny arms and legs sticking out at the sides and bottom, and at the top a smilling blond head beaming with pride.

Unfortunately, it rained that Halloween. The puddle inside the costume kept him warm for a while, but before long he started soaking up the water, and his legs grew weery from hauling around the extra weight.

By the time we got home, he was the shape and density of a blight-splotched Idaho potato. If I had dressed in my raggedy hobo costume and gone with him, people would have thought we were re-enacting the Irish Potato Famine.

He should have been a bum. Or better still, a hobo.

Because the bindle would have made all the difference.

— TR Kerth is the author of the book “Revenge of the Sardines.” Contact him at trkerth@yahoo.com.
WE UNMASK WRINKLES THE CLOWN
THURS 6PM

MOMMY WINE CULTURE
EASING STRESS OR INVITING ADDICTION?
FRI 5PM

it's mom's turn to wine

mom juice
Leadership Collier Foundation names first student board member

The Leadership Collier Foundation, of the Greater Naples Chamber, has named high school senior Julien Zappulla as its first-ever student board member. The decision to add a student board member was rooted in the desire to hear the student perspective on issues, especially as the Foundation’s work with youth and talent development continues to grow. “As the LCF continues to advance our work with talent development, having a student voice on our board of advisors has proven to be very valuable,” said Amanda Beights, vice president of LCF.

Zappulla, a 2019 Youth Leadership Collier graduate, attends Seacrest Country Day School where he is the captain of the robotics team and a member of the varsity soccer team. Additionally, he sings in the Naples Philharmonic Chorus, Zappulla also spends time mentoring local robotics teams, refereeing robotics competitions and creating STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) programs at the Boys and Girls Club.

“I am passionate about both the Greater Naples Chamber and LCF because I have a drive to communicate and network with people, and VLC was truly a life-changing experience for me,” said Zappulla. “As an LCF board member, I look forward to providing a student perspective in discussions at board meetings and other events.”

Zappulla plans to attend Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts where he hopes to receive a master’s degree in robotic engineering and artificial intelligence. His primary goal through a career in engineering is to advance the intelligence, design, and useful capacity of machinery, emphasizing robotic systems and controls.
Naples-area writers to appear at Local Author Book Fair

Sixty-three writers from Naples and throughout Collier County will share their inspirations and writing techniques at the Local Author Book Fair on Saturday, Nov. 9, sponsored by the Friends of the Library of Collier County.

The 63-author lineup is a huge expansion from the successful 2018 Local Author Book Fair, which drew more than 40 published authors and hundreds of book lovers. Admission to the fair is free to the public. It will take place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the South Regional public library, 8065 Lely Cultural Parkway in East Naples.

The Sizzle Truck food truck will be selling food and drinks, and there will be crafts and activities for children.

The book fair has registered a wide range of commercially published and self-published authors whose works include novels, history, self-help, cookbook, inspirational, young adult and children’s. A list of all the authors participating is at the Friends’ website: www.collier-friends.org

Each author will be set up at a table where they can display their books, talk with the public and sell their books.

This year’s group of authors includes political thriller writer Karna Small Bodman, a veteran journalist who also is a political thriller writer. Bodman’s hard-won insider information and sheer storytelling talent make this a book to remember.

Ms. Bodman spent six years as President Ronald Reagan’s White House staff, first as deputy press secretary under the late James Brady, later as senior director and spokesman for the National Security Council, where she was the highest-ranking woman on The White House staff.

Before her government service, she was on the air for 15 years as a TV news reporter and anchor in San Francisco and Washington, D.C., and did political commentary for the ABC network in New York.

Mr. Conrath is a finalist this year for the Royal Palm Literary Award, mystery category, from the Florida Writer’s Association for his second mystery novel, “Blood Moon Rising.” His book series features Cooper, a philosophy professor whose 7-year-old son, Maxie, disappears without a trace while playing ball on his front lawn in southern Ohio one sunny October day.

“In the late ‘90s,” said Mr. Conrath, “as headmaster of a Turkish school in the mountainous region of Southern Turkey, I’d spend many long and dark nights writing, rewriting and creating scenarios for this series. My main characters, Cooper, is both a college professor and a private eye. ‘Coop’ guides me along the trail as we seek out the bad guys; those who prey on children; the human traffickers; the international mobsters; the monsters who take what is good about humanity and attempt to destroy it for their own greed.”

This Local Author Book Fair is sponsored exclusively by the nonprofit Friends of the Library, due to Collier County regulations on library book sales. For membership information to support the Friends of the Library, go to friends-collier.org.

In the KNOW

Local Author Book Fair

What: 63 Naples-area authors present their books and talk with book lovers.

When: 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9. At 2 p.m., authors Karna Small Bodman and Richard Conrath will speak and take part in a Q&A.

Where: South Regional public library, 8065 Lely Cultural Parkway, East Naples.

Admission: Free to the public.

Extras: Food and drink from the Sizzle Truck food truck; crafts and activities for children.

Information: Contact Friends of the Library of Collier County at 239-482-8135 or mkirk@collier-friends.org
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Collier Lee Honor Flight plans 21st mission, second annual gala and Vietnam anniversary pinning

The 21st mission of Collier Lee Honor Flight will take 86 WWII, Korean and Vietnam War veterans, each accompanied by a guardian, and 12 ambassadors to Washington, D.C., on Saturday, Nov. 2. The public is invited to welcome the war heroes home when the return flight lands at 8 p.m. at Southwest Florida International Airport (go to short-term parking, ask for an Honor Flight event ticket at the gate and park for free).

The mission of Honor Flight is to transport veterans to Washington, D.C., to visit the war memorials dedicated to honor their service and sacrifices. Since it was established in September 2013, LCHF has taken hundreds of veterans on the one-day, chartered flight trip. Top priority is given to our country’s eldest war heroes and to any veteran with a terminal illness.

Gala time
The second annual CLHF gala takes place Saturday evening, Nov. 9, at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort & Spa. Guests of honor will be Purple Heart recipient Col. Danny McKnight, whose character was depicted in the movie “Black Hawk Down” as the commander of the lost patrol, and celebrity confectioner Norman Love.

Radio personality Drew Steele of 95.2 FM will emcee, and Naples Mayor Bill Barnett will conduct a live auction.

The black-tie event will also feature the artwork of Capt. Scott Morris, lead pilot from last year’s F16 flyover at JetBlue Park for the 50th Vietnam Pinning Event.

Tickets are $100, with all proceeds to benefit Collier Lee Honor Flight. The nonprofit has no paid employees. To purchase tickets or for more information, visit www.collierhonorflight.org or call 239-777-9295.

Pinning ceremony
Collier Lee Honor Flight volunteers will distribute Congressionally authorized 50th Vietnam anniversary lapel pins to Vietnam veterans during a Veterans Day ceremony starting at 9 a.m. Monday, Nov. 11, at JetBlue Park in Fort Myers. Guest speakers Joe Galloway and Allan West will address the heroes.

Crystal Gabbard and her family will sing the Veterans Hallelujah followed by the 93rd Fighter Squadron from Homestead flying over in four F16s. All are welcome to attend.

A10 | WEEK OF OCT. 31-NOV. 6, 2019 | NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY

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Battlefield to ball field: National amputee team to play in Bonita

The city of Bonita Springs and the Veterans Advisory Committee invite the public to attend the Bonita Springs First Responders/Warriors Cup at 7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 10, at the Veterans Memorial Field in the Bonita Springs Community Park. The Louisville Sluggers will play against The Bonita Springs First Responders, which include members from the Lee County Sheriff’s Office and Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District. Designed by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) public charity organization and the only nationally sponsored amputee baseball team, the Louisville Slugger Warriors are an extremely competitive amputee baseball team that consists of U.S. Military Veterans, active duty personnel, Wounded Warriors and current and former amputee college baseball players. All of these highly skilled athletes come from all walks of life. They have either suffered a loss of limb, partial limb, digits, eye and serious limb deformities, plus have other prostheses all due to congenital, disease or trauma-related reasons.

“The city of Bonita Springs and their Veterans Advisory Council are once again displaying an extreme amount of generosity and hospitality towards our team and we cannot thank them enough,” said David Van Sleet, the Louisville Slugger Warrior’s General Manager. “It is simply amazing the resources they pull together to make this event happen over Veterans Day Weekend.”

The Bonita Springs Little League will sell refreshments during the game. The American Legion will hold a 50/50 raffle and The Louisville Sluggers will sell their team’s apparel. Proceeds will go toward The Louisville Slugger Warriors Baseball/Softball Team. Bleacher seating is limited; the public is encouraged to bring lawn chairs. Lee County Sheriff’s Office will assist with the opening ceremonies by doing a flyover for their dedication to helping to shape the lives of future generations. For more information about the Bonita Springs First Responders/Warriors Cup, call Bonita Springs City Hall at 239-949-6262.

Investing in future generations

BY OLGA PLACERES
Owner of Preferred Travel of Naples

Oftentimes, we are asked why we donate all the proceeds from our annual travel show to a local nonprofit. The answer is simple. Preferred Travel of Naples is investing in future generations.

We are blessed in Collier County to have so many amazing nonprofit organizations that nurture and shape the lives of children and teens. Each year, we feel fortunate to choose one of these charitable organizations to benefit from our event. This year, we have selected Guadalupe Center.

Our Preferred Travel team gets very excited when a nonprofit organization is selected. They visit the charity to learn about its services so they can better understand the nonprofit’s mission.

On a recent trip to Immokalee, the team learned that Guadalupe Center is a purpose-driven organization that is doing exceptional work, helping to break the cycle of poverty through education for the children of Immokalee.

Guadalupe Center has proven results in creating endless possibilities for the students through education and fostering personal and academic success that leads to economic independence.

With a focus on breaking the cycle of poverty through education, Guadalupe Center is proud of the children’s accomplishments: 95% meet or exceed kindergarten readiness measures, 100% of Tutor Corps high school seniors graduate high school and are accepted into college, and more than 92% graduate with a post-secondary degree. This marks the 13th year that we have selected a charity to benefit from the show. We are proud to support and feature the chosen nonprofit each year and 100% of ticket proceeds go directly to the selected charity. To date, Preferred Travel has donated more than $234,000 to local charities from the show’s proceeds. Our upcoming event will be held Feb. 17 and the $75 per person donation to attend the invitation only travel show will directly benefit the Guadalupe Center.

Our agency was founded by Wilma Boyd in 1984 and features a team of experienced travel specialists who provide worldwide travel services to clients. All our travel partners, guests and travel advisors really get behind our selected charity to raise funds and awareness of their mission.

Dawn Montecalvo, president of Guadalupe Center, said they are honored to have been chosen and we are grateful for their dedication in helping to shape the lives of future generations.

For information about Preferred Travel of Naples, call 239-201-477 or visit www.preferrednaples.com.
UNINSURED

From page 1

along with a network of free and charitable clinics that are helping fill the gap in medical care that insurance is still unable to.

Those people who can’t afford health insurance in Florida are typically working-age adults ages 19 to 64. Children, seniors, pregnant women and some of those with severe conditions or disabilities qualify for some form of insurance under Medicare or Medicaid. Throughout the U.S., the census survey found 252 million people or 8.5 percent of the population had no health insurance in 2018, compared to Florida’s 13 percent. State averages ranged from a low of 2.7 percent uninsured in Massachusetts to 17.7 percent in Texas. Georgiа and Oklahoma are the only two states that had higher rates of uninsured than Florida.

One reason why Florida has such a high rate of uninsured, the report says, is that under Gov. Rick Scott it is one of 19 states that declined to expand federal Medicaid insurance to the state’s “work- ing poor.” Those are people who live in poverty, or officially whose incomes are $16,394 per year for an individual or $33,588 for a family of four (at or below 138 percent of the federal poverty line). By last year, those 31 states that chose to expand the program had on average half the rate of uninsured people than those that did not, 6.6 percent compared to 12.4. Kaiser Family Foundation estimates some 445,000 Floridians fall into the Medicaid “coverage gap” who would have been eligible with an expansion. But even if all those in that gap did sign up, that would still leave some 2.2 million in the Sunshine State uninsured. For many of those people, the uneven implementation of the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) in Florida and other states led to insurance that is anything but affordable. While the ACA sharply cut the number of uninsured people in Florida when it was implemented in 2014, its rising costs align with current rising rates of uninsured people. That’s happening for several reasons, in addition to Gov. Scott blocking Medicaid expansion.

For those paying hundreds of dollars each month for a health care plan with premiums or co-pays they couldn’t afford anyway, it might make more sense to drop their plan. Some people who feel blissfully healthy risk it with no insurance. And others without insurance are middle-income people or higher earners who just choose not to pay for it.

For whatever reasons, the shrinking pool of people with health insurance leads to a vicious cycle of rising health care costs that strain the entire system, explained Ben Spence, chief financial and business service officer for Lee Health, which runs hospitals throughout Lee County.

“Rising costs burden everyone: hospitals and clinics as well as those people who do have insurance, who end up paying higher premiums and co-pays to help cover for those not paying in to the system. And for those who can’t afford insurance, quality health care becomes less and less accessible.”

“It’s not sustainable in the long run,” Mr. Spence said.

Lee Health’s cost to pay for those without insurance jumped from $791 million in 2013 to $1,054 million in 2019 (in fiscal years) as the county has grown, with that being about 7 percent of the system’s gross charges.

Lee Health hospital ERs treat many of those patients. Uninsured patients who need emergency care also cost the hospital $3,878 every day, or $472 million per year.

Much of the rest comes from writing off charity care for those patients with incomes up to 200 percent of poverty guidelines, and deeply discounting care for those up to 400 percent. Lee Health also runs charitable clinics for those with the least income.

Adding insult to injury, hospitals lose millions of dollars every year on Medicare and Medicaid, because the federal government does not reimburse them for the full cost of care under those programs.

Yet Lee Health still needs to make money. Even as a nonprofit it sustains a 3 percent profit margin to keep up with expansions and technology in Lee County, one of the fastest growing in the country.

“So when you have a growing number of uninsured who pay nothing, how do you pay for that?” Mr. Spence said.

The answer completes the vicious circle once again: higher costs for individuals and businesses who are insured or can afford to self-pay. It also falls on hospitals and a local network of free and charitable clinics.

Solutions: filling the gap

Hospital emergency rooms are unfortunately often a first point of contact to treat the uninsured. That’s one of the most consistent results of having inadequate insurance. People who are struggling to afford the most urgent costs such as food tend to put off things like mammograms.

But there are much better options for the uninsured. Local public, nonprofit hospitals like those run by Lee Health typically offer discounts for those whose incomes qualify (private, for-profit hospitals usually don’t). But hospitals aren’t set up for primary care, which can help keep people out of their high-priced ERs and inpatient rooms.

That’s one of the main reasons why hospitals also run their own work or work alongside a statewide network of free and charitable health care clinics for patients with lower or no incomes. In many cases, these are patients who would remain uninsured, even if Florida had expanded Medicaid. They draw support from volunteers, local health care providers, philanthropists, community groups and government grants.

Each clinic has its own requirements, which usually include that patients are at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, have no other means to pay and have been denied Medicaid.

Those clinics and their network of supporters provide the safety net that insurance right now does not. They save lives and offer patients access to at least some basic level of comprehensive services that help keep them out of the ER and at work, even if that work is underpaid.

Services may include dental work, mental health care, surgeries, a pharmacy and prescriptions, primary care visits, up-to-date exams and check-ups, and education on overall health and well-being.

NCH, which runs hospitals in Naples, discounts hospital services if patients qualify based on income. We try to make it so the payment would never get in the way of accessing health care,” said Paul Hiltz, who started as the new CEO of NCH on Sept. 1.

But for the county’s lowest income patients, Mr. Hiltz points to the Neighbor- hood Health Clinic in Naples as a potential model for filling in Florida’s coverage gap. It only accepts Collier County residents.

“Really their goal is to keep people out of the emergency department, so I envision stronger partnerships with groups

Lee Health: Cost of paying for the uninsured

Also stated as a percent of gross charges throughout the hospital system.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Florida &amp; Lee County</td>
<td>$867.1 million (6.9%)</td>
<td>$889.0 million (7.2%)</td>
<td>$865.0 million (7.7%)</td>
<td>$844.0 million (8.0%)</td>
<td>$112.2 million (6.7%)</td>
<td>$115.7 million (6.7%)</td>
<td>$119.4 million (6.9%)</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Uninsured inpatient days | 1,508 |
| Average daily number of uninsured inpatient days | 69 |
| Average cost per inpatient admission day | $1,878 per day or $472.7 million per year |

— Source: Lee Health
I think in a general sense that’s always been a concern that if you don’t have access to primary care services you put things off (and end up) in the ER.”  
— Thomas Cleare, vice president of strategy for the Health Care District of Palm Beach County
UNINSURED

From page 13

able Care Marketplace. She has found a medical home at the clinic, where she had come that day for a checkup and to renew her blood pressure medication. “It has been great,” she said. “It helped get my blood pressure under control. They make sure I’m doing good.”

The Andes Clinic sees some 12,000 pa-
tient visits each year. Among its support are 220 volunteers and 78 local providers and specialists.

Across the state from the Andes Clinic on the east coast, the Health Care District of Palm Beach County’s system of char-
table clinics is growing. Before ACA first went in to effect, it began a program to provide comprehensive medi-
cal care to adults and children at its C.L. Brumback Primary Care Clinics.

The clinics started at four locations in 2013. There are now 10 throughout Palm Beach County operating as Federally Qualified Health Centers, funded primarily by local taxpayers and grants. They offer a range of services including family care, dentistry, psychia-
try, a pharmacy, and women’s health ser-
vices. The system also includes a mo-
bile clinic designed for caring for home-
less individuals and families. One of the first things it helps patients do, if they haven’t tried, is sign up for insurance or Medicaid. As with other clinics designed to offer charitable services, it helps save other

local hospitals money at the emergency room and keeps thousands of people working, even if those jobs aren’t offering them enough to pay for health care.

“I think in a general sense that’s always been a concern that if you don’t have ac-
cess to primary care services you put things off (and end up) in the ER,” said Thomas Cleare, vice president of strat-
egy. “And that’s really one of the driv-
ers of us having the primary care clinics throughout the county where it’s much easier to access care and prevent people from having to use the emergency room for their primary care.”

The Health Care District reports that more than 44,500 patients received care in 2018, up about 6 percent from the year before. They are part of the Health Care District’s other operations, which include a hospital in Belle Glade, a school nurse program and trauma services. It has also expanded in to ad-
diction treatment due to the opioid epi-
demic. ■

Kathryn Cantley is a nurse and manager of Sarasota Memorial Hospital’s Community Specialty Clinic.

“In the KNOW

Uncompensated care

The Sarasota Memorial Hospital costs reflect those who did not or could not pay for services, traditional charity care for the low-income uninsured, and losses from the federal Medicare and Medicaid programs, which don’t reimburse hospitals for the full amount of care.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Bad Debts</th>
<th>Medicare Losses</th>
<th>Medicaid Losses</th>
<th>Charity Care</th>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$20.6 million</td>
<td>$22.7 million</td>
<td>$14.2 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$25.3 million</td>
<td>$23.3 million</td>
<td>$9.7 million</td>
<td>$22.7 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$27.2 million</td>
<td>$19.9 million</td>
<td>$15.7 million</td>
<td>$29.9 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$31.8 million</td>
<td>$36.4 million</td>
<td>$20.9 million</td>
<td>$16.5 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$41.6 million</td>
<td>$39.6 million</td>
<td>$16.6 million</td>
<td>$31.6 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

— Source: Sarasota Memorial Hospital
Spooktacular
Fans of fright this Halloween may want to travel to Summertown, Tenn., to see if they can become the first visitor to make it all the way through the haunt-ed house experience called McKamey Manor. The rewards are compelling—along with notoriety, a person who completes the tour will receive $20,000. But the demands are great, too: Along with bringing a bag of dog food for owner Russ McKamey’s dogs, you need to be at least 21 years old, watch a two-hour video of other contestants failing, complete a sports physical with a doctor’s letter, pass a background check, bring proof of medical insurance, sign a 40-page waiver of other contestants failing, complete a sports physical with a doctor’s letter, pass a background check, bring proof of medical insurance, sign a 40-page waiver of other contestants failing, complete a sports physical with a doctor’s letter, pass a background check, bring proof of medical insurance, sign a 40-page waiver of other contestants failing, complete a sports physical with a doctor’s letter, pass a background check, bring proof of medical insurance, sign a 40-page waiver of other contestants failing, complete a sports physical with a doctor’s letter, pass a background check, bring proof of medical insurance, sign a 40-page waiver of other contestants failing, complete a sports physical with a doctor’s letter, pass a background check, bring proof of medical insurance, sign a 40-page waiver.

Unclear on the concept
Andrew Blackwell, 25, has his sights set on a particular home in Salt Lake City, Utah, and apparently will stop at nothing to make it his own. Since late August, Blackwell, a neighbor of the property, has been repeatedly entering the home, according to court papers, even after being told by police that he does not have authority to do so. He has been doing work around the house, including removing trees and shoveling, installing new locks and telling other neighbors he had bought the house. Blackwell told police he offered the elderly owner of the home, who lives elsewhere, $90,000 for her property, which has a market value of $463,000. Court documents state that after the owner refused the offer, he told her he would “forge any document needed to get the property from her,” according to KUTV. Finally, on Oct. 18, police issued a warrant for Blackwell’s arrest, on charges of burglary, forgery, stalking, theft, three counts of criminal trespassing and criminal mischief.

Recent alarming headline
The San Diego Humane Society was summoned to a convenience store parking lot in Del Mar, Calif., on Oct. 8 after law enforcement officers responded to calls of concern about a van parked there, near one of San Diego’s tiniest neighborhoods. Officers found a woman living in the van with more than 300 pet rats. Humane Society Capt. Danee Cook told The San Diego Union-Tri-bune, “This was not a cruelty case. This was a relinquishment.” The unidentified owner said she had started with two pet rats, but the situation had gotten out of control, and she agreed to surrender all of them, many of which were juveniles or pregnant. Officers spent several days tearing the van apart and recovered 320 animals, about half of which were put up for adoption. Meanwhile, the woman has found a place to live with the help of a GoFundMe page.

Inexplicable
Stacey Wagers, 45, of Tampa, is suing the Don CeSar Hotel in St. Pete Beach over an incident that happened in November 2018. She and a friend were celebrating her birthday at the hotel’s Maritana Grille when they observed a waiter pouring a liquid over a nearby table’s dessert that made it “smoke.” Wagers told NBC News. “He had just poured it on a dessert.” But the lawsuit filed Oct. 11 says Wagers immediately fell ill, eventually having to have her gall bladder and parts of her stom-ach removed where the chemical had burned the tissue. Her attorney says she will have lifelong digestion issues.

You’re right. We don’t.
...Y ou really don’t want to do this.” — which they then drank. “Of course I didn’t think it was dangerous at all,” Wagers told NBC News. “He had just poured it on a dessert.” But the lawsuit filed Oct. 11 says Wagers immediately fell ill, eventually having to have her gall bladder and parts of her stom-ach removed where the chemical had burned the tissue. Her attorney says she will have lifelong digestion issues.

Overreaction
Truck driver Cesar Schmitz of Eneas, Brazil, was just trying to make his wife happy when he launched an effort to rid their backyard of cock-roaches. “She ... begged me to destroy their nest under the ground once and for all,” Schmitz, 48, explained. After chemicals failed to do the job, The Daily Mail reported, Schmitz decided setting fire to the hole would work, so on Oct. 18, he poured a capful of gasoline into the hole and tossed in a lighted match. After a couple of misfires, caught on his home’s security camera, a match landed, and Schmitz and his dogs are seen ducking for cover as the resulting explosion sends turf and lawn furniture flying through the air. The gasoline itself had ignited but it had also set off the highly combustible methane from the bugs’ venom that had accumulated in an air pocket under the grass. “I wish I’d thought this through,” Schmitz said. He admitted it made a huge mess, but said, ultimately, his scheme was a suc-cess: The cockroaches are gone.

You probably thought Tupac Shakur died in 1996 in Las Vegas. Little did you suspect there’s ANOTHER Tupac A. Shakur walk-ing the streets — or pacing the jail cells — of Washington County, Tennessee. Shakur, 40, was arrested Oct. 19 after he threatened Johnson City police officers with a knife, Fox News reported. Police were able to wrestle Shakur to the ground; they also found a syringe and bags of methamphetamine and charged him with aggravated assault, resisting arrest, and simple posses-sion of meth and unlawful drug parapher-nalia. It is unclear whether Shakur’s name was his from birth or whether he changed it to match the rapper’s.

Making Hospitals Less Scary for Kids
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.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY THE EDITORS AT ANDREW MCMEEEL
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate
Collier household hazardous waste roundup takes you Saturday

Collier County will host household hazardous waste and recycling collection events from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 2, at all county recycling centers. This is a great opportunity for residents to dispose of household hazardous items free. Residents may bring household hazardous products including batteries, used oil, gasoline, tires, paint, pesticides, chemicals, aluminum, computers, TVs and cell phones; and recyclable items including paper, cardboard, plastics numbered 1 through 7 and more for free, environmentally safe disposal.

Drop-off locations:
- Immokalee Transfer Station, 700 Stockade Road, Immokalee
- Marco Island Recycling Drop-off Center, 930 Chalmers Drive
- Naples Recycling Drop-off Center, 2640 Corporate Flight Drive
- North Collier Recycling Drop-off Center, 9950 Goodlette-Frank Road N.
- Northeast Recycling Drop-off Center, 825 39th Ave. NE, Naples
- Hazardous Materials Collection Center, 3728 White Lake Blvd., Naples

Last year, the Household Hazardous Waste Roundup event resulted in the collection of 8,675 pounds of household hazardous waste; 20,940 pounds of paper for shredding; 3,100 pounds of textiles, housewares, electronics; and 260 pounds of medications. To learn more about recycling in Collier County, visit colliercountyfl.gov/recycles.

Collier household hazardous waste roundup takes you Saturday

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FURNITURE | INTERIORS

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355 9th Street South, Naples, FL 34102
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Store Hours: FRI – SAT: 10am – 6pm, SUN: Noon – 5pm

UP TO 50% off DINING TABLES*

50% off OUTDOOR LIVING

Many items in stock for immediate delivery!

CHRISTMAS TREE WONDERLAND
Thursday, November 14th, 5pm-7pm
Robb & Stucky Naples Showroom
$10.00 Admission
Go to ROBBSTUCKY.COM
to get click the Eventbrite ticket link!

See more products online at ROBBSTUCKY.COM

AUCTION-OFF

Featuring themed decorated Christmas Trees donated by local businesses.

Make this a part of your holiday kick-off this year. Enjoy a tour of the Christmas Tree display starting November 1st at Robb & Stucky. There will be a wonderful opportunity to bid on your new ready-to-go beautiful Christmas tree at the Silent Auction November 14th. 20% of proceeds goes to Sunshine Kids.

Go to: https://christmastreewonderland2019.eventbrite.com to purchase your tickets today!

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355 9th Street South, Naples, FL 34102
Phone: (239) 732-2499
Store Hours: FRI – SAT: 10am – 6pm, SUN: Noon – 5pm

H.O. COLLIER COUNTY HAZARDOUS WASTE ROUNDUP
Saturday, Nov 2, 8:30am-2pm

Hazardous Materials Collection Center, 3728 White Lake Blvd., Naples

- Paint, used oil, batteries, used tires, fluorescent lights and more
- Paper, cardboard, aluminum, plastics, electronics

To learn more about recycling in Collier County, visit colliercountyfl.gov/recycles.

Collier household hazardous waste roundup takes you Saturday

SPEECHBOARDS
- Handmade Quilts & Handmade Gifts
- Baked Goods
- Christmas Decorations
- Crafts of All Kinds
- Jewelry
- Linens & Home Decorative Items
- White Elephant Items
- Chocolate & Coffee Gifts
- House Gifts, Handmade Ornaments
- Branded, Unique & Special Gifts

Kitchen Party & Cookie Booths

Christmas Wonderland
Saturday, Nov 2, 8:30am-2pm

- Household Hazardous Waste & Recycling
- Christmas Tree & Silent Auction
- Baked Goods & Decorative Items

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FLOOR COVERINGS
WORLDWIDE DELIVERY AVAILABLE

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Florida Panther Update

The Florida panther, Florida’s official state animal, has been listed as a federally endangered species since 1967. As the state grows, suitable habitat for panthers and other wildlife shrinks. Encounters with Florida panthers are relatively rare but do occur, particularly in rural parts of Florida.

If you feel threatened by a panther, have lost pets or livestock to a panther, or to report injured or dead panthers you can call the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation’s Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-FWCC.

Mysterious disorder claims life of female panther

A puzzling disorder depleting panthers’ hind legs and causing them to teeter through the brush has claimed the life of an adult female.

The Florida Wildlife Commission picked up the panther earlier this month. In July, the FWC released video footage from a trail camera showing panthers dragging their hind legs along the trail. The panther collared and tagged FP296 was seen on the footage exhibiting symptoms associated with the condition. The female had young kittens that likely would not have survived in the wild.

FWC staff removed the kittens for observation and testing. Monitoring of these kittens as they age may provide valuable information pertaining to the cause of this condition.

FWC trail cameras subsequently documented that the adult female panther’s health was deteriorating, and this month the decision was made to remove her from the wild.

“After a thorough examination, the decision was made to humanely euthanize the panther due to the animal’s poor condition and the likelihood of recovery or improvement,” the FWC said. “The panther underwent complete necropsy, and the results of extensive microscopic testing are pending.”

In addition to the latest case, the FWC has documented at least 10 panthers and bobcats with the condition, and two others that died of other causes but were determined to have also been affected.

“Affected animals exhibit varying degrees of rear leg weaknesses that lead to difficulty in walking,” the FWC said. “To date, the FWC has confirmed neurological damage in one panther and one bobcat through necropsy. Necropsy results of the female panther are pending. Additionally, trail camera footage has captured nine panthers (mostly kittens) and four adult bobcats displaying signs that may be consistent with this condition. The FWC takes this situation seriously and is increasing monitoring efforts to locate affected animals.”

The FWC and collaborators have increased monitoring efforts for this condition via the deployment of video trail cameras in areas where the condition has been most frequently documented.

The first video footage of an affected kitten was received in the spring of 2018. Further review of earlier still photos suggests that an affected kitten may have been documented in 2017, the FWC said. It wasn’t until this year that additional reports were received, suggesting it’s a broader issue.

The FWC ruled out five potential causes: Distemper, feline leukemia, ticks, inbreeding and cane toads.

“Until we know the cause of this condition, we cannot say whether this will affect other animals,” the FWC said. The disorder so far is affecting panthers and bobcats.

These recent neurological episodes are yet another challenge facing the endangered Florida panther,” said Elizabeth Fleming, senior Florida representative for Defenders of Wildlife, in a news release. “We’re hopeful that this panther’s death has a silver lining, and that her necropsy results will shed light on why panthers are having difficulty walking and standing upright. Defenders of Wildlife will continue to work closely with state and federal agencies to help address this emerging and fatal threat in any way we can.

For more information on the panther disorder, see www.myfwc.com/wildlifewatch/wildlife/panther/disorder/.

In the KNOW

How you can help

» People can help by submitting photographs or other video that captures affected animals.

» Files less than 10 MB can be uploaded to the FWC panther sighting webpage at www.myfwc.com/panthersightings. If you have larger files, contact the FWC at myfwc.panthersightings for more information on uploading.

» Florida residents can help panther preservation by purchasing a “Protect the Panther” license plate at www.buyaplate.com. Reins from plate sales are the primary funding source for FWC’s research and management of panthers.

» If you see dead or injured panthers, call the FWC hotline at 888-404-3922.

In the KNOW

Florida Panther

Scientific name: Puma concolor coryi

Description: A uniform tan color with light fur on their lower chests, belly and inner legs. Kittens are spotted, which helps to camouflage them in the shadows of their den.

Weight: Male: 100 to 200 pounds; Female: 70 to 100 pounds.

Known breeding range

™ Known presence of males

™ Starvation due to euthanizing
Some of us are old enough to remember the snail darter. That’s the tiny fish environmentalists said would be wiped out by construction of a Tennessee dam in the mid-1970s. The controversy was tied up in the courts for five years and cost upwards of $300 million, real money in those days. A Tennessean quoted a Tennessean at the time as saying, “What the hell is a snail darter? I’ve never seen a snail darter.”

I’m reminded of that as local environmentalists try to hold up plans for three state toll roads. The cause-of-the-day isn’t the snail darter this time, but the Florida panther. Most of us have never seen a Florida panther. I certainly haven’t.

But most of us have seen poverty. We’ve seen congestion and safety issues. Those are people problems. And people problems trump the Florida panther every time.

What’s this all about?

At issue are three north-south regional corridors authorized by the Florida legislature (HB 7131/SB 7068) and approved by Gov. Ron DeSantis. One of the corridors will directly affect our community — the Southwest-Central Florida Connector, a toll road cutting through underserved rural areas and linking Collier and Polk counties.

The Conservancy of Southwest Florida bitterly opposes it. A Conservancy spokesperson was quoted as saying, “The toll road is a disaster and shouldn’t be funded.” How about a route that would intrude less on panther habitat? “It’s difficult for us to conceive of a path that would be acceptable,” the spokesperson said. In other words, kill the project. In other words, kill the project.

“I'm encouraged. With task force recommendations — actual corridor routes, hurricane evacuation, congestion mitigation, shared-use transportation, infrastructure needs, impacts on trade. Based on this input, the Department of Transportation will make the final call.”

That won’t happen. The project will go forward because it will provide three and perhaps four public benefits.

It will offer an alternative evacuation route to I-75. That’s Safety 101. Those of us trapped in Naples when all roads north were clogged with panicked motorists fleeing Hurricane Irma will appreciate having a safety value. In response to Irma, officials kidded, “This is a mandatory evacuation. All residents must evacuate.” Yet there was nowhere to go. It was a terrifying situation. The new highway will give us another way out.

Apart from emergencies, the toll road will relieve day-to-day traffic congestion. Inland counties, hampered by a limited number of two-lane roads, struggle to move goods into and out of rural areas. The proposed highway should improve transportation in Hendry, Glades and Highlands counties.

Most important, the new toll road will be a shot in the arm for dealing with poverty, opening the way for new businesses in inland Florida. Immokalee could be a big winner. Danny Gonzalez, president of the Immokalee Chamber of Commerce, was quoted as saying, “The proposed toll road could bring year-round jobs to an area that still largely depends on seasonal work.”

Longer-term, the highway could play a role in preparing for ocean rise. Although well into the future, rising waters will eventually swamp much of South Florida, forcing people and businesses to higher ground. The toll connector will be on higher ground, a highway for the future.

None of this is to suggest the environment should be ignored. It shouldn’t be. Accommodating the panther habitat should be possible as long as it doesn’t interfere with the public good.

The DeSantis administration understands this and has established a task force to make recommendations — actual corridor routes, hurricane evacuation, congestion mitigation, shared-use transportation, infrastructure needs, impacts on trade. Based on this input, the Department of Transportation will make the final call.

I’m encouraged. With task force members like Reg Buxton (Collier Metropolitan Planning) and County Commissioner Bill McDaniel, all facets of the program should get careful attention. Even the Florida panther.

President of the Collier Citizens Council, Dave Trecker serves on a number of local boards.

IN THIS FREE WORKSHOP, YOU WILL LEARN:

How Florida residency affects your estate plan (even if your northern attorney told you it’s ok).

How your revocable trust may not avoid probate.

Why you should update your power of attorney, health care surrogate, living will and other ancillary documents.

How recent tax law changes affect your estate plan.

How to keep your legal documents Florida compliant, up-to-date and available at all times.

Tuesday, November 5
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Naples Daily News Community Meeting Room
1100 Immokalee Road
Naples, FL 34110

Thursday, November 7
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Sanibel Community House
273 Periwinkle Way
Sanibel, FL 33957

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‘Quilts of Valor’ a labor of love at VeronaWalk

BY NANCY GEORGE
Special to Florida Weekly

This is the time of year that many communities are finalizing plans for Veterans Day celebrations. Parades are scheduled, ceremonies featuring military color guards are planned and stores and restaurants offer specials and complimentary meals.

At VeronaWalk, a gated community of 2,000 homes in Naples, Veterans Day is a community affair. Our activities director coordinates the annual Veterans Day program with various groups and committees.

In the town center, photos of residents and current service members — or currently serve — in the military are proudly displayed. Our choir rehearses throughout the summer for this day, a distinguished speaker is chosen and a local student is recruited to play “Taps.” Our ballroom is decorated in red, white and blue and several cakes are ordered.

And a special group within VeronaWalk works steady and determined throughout the year and emerges at the Veterans Day program with a flourish. The Quilters of VeronaWalk are busy throughout the year in preparation for this day, when they will award handcrafted Quilts of Valor to veteran residents within the community.

The founding member of the group, Marilyn Czubkowski, researched The Quilts of Valor Foundation, a national organization started in 2003 by a Blue Star mom, to learn the requirements of the program. Each quilt must be deemed quality made with minimum size specifications and must be hand or machine quilted. She keeps a record and photo of every QOV made and awarded to resident veterans by the Quilters of VeronaWalk.

She also registers each quilt awarded and the veteran recipient with the national QOV Foundation. This lifetime award of a Quilt of Valor states on the quilt, “Thank you for your service, sacrifice and valor” in serving our nation in combat and military service. The Quilters of VeronaWalk meet several times a month to share ideas and patterns for new quilts, coordinating fabric selection, and cutting and pressing the fabrics. Some members that travel north in the summer look for patriotic fabric to bring back to the group. All members contribute a variety of red, white and blue fabrics, patterns, thread, sewing tools, sewing knowledge and time, friendship and love.

An official QOV label is attached with the name of the quilt, the quilters involved and the veteran recipient. A pillowcase is also made to store the quilt.

The quilters have been working together since its inception in 2016. Two quilts were awarded that first year. In 2017, nine quilts were awarded, and in 2018, 12 quilts were awarded. It is an honor and privilege for every member of this group to be part of the QOV mission. The goal of the Quilters of VeronaWalk is to award a Quilt of Valor to every veteran in the VeronaWalk community.

The founding member of the group, Marilyn Czubkowski, researched The Quilts of Valor Foundation, a national organization started in 2003 by a Blue Star mom, to learn the requirements of the program. Each quilt must be deemed quality made with minimum size specifications and must be hand or machine quilted. She keeps a record and photo of every QOV made and awarded to resident veterans by the Quilters of VeronaWalk.

She also registers each quilt awarded and the veteran recipient with the national QOV Foundation. This lifetime award of a Quilt of Valor states on the quilt, “Thank you for your service, sacrifice and valor” in serving our nation in combat and military service. The Quilters of VeronaWalk meet several times a month to share ideas and patterns for new quilts, coordinating fabric selection, and cutting and pressing the fabrics. Some members that travel north in the summer look for patriotic fabric to bring back to the group. All members contribute a variety of red, white and blue fabrics, patterns, thread, sewing tools, sewing knowledge and time, friendship and love.

An official QOV label is attached with the name of the quilt, the quilters involved and the veteran recipient. A pillowcase is also made to store the quilt.

The quilters have been working together since its inception in 2016. Two quilts were awarded that first year. In 2017, nine quilts were awarded, and in 2018, 12 quilts were awarded. It is an honor and privilege for every member of this group to be part of the QOV mission. The goal of the Quilters of VeronaWalk is to award a Quilt of Valor to every veteran in the VeronaWalk community.

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Innovation Hotel Hospitality
Job Fair coming up
Innovation Hotel, managed and operated by Mainais Lodging & Development, slated to open this December, is hosting a job fair to fill more than 75 full- and part-time positions at the new hotel from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 6, and Saturday, Nov. 10. Career opportunities include front office, housekeeping, food and beverage, culinary, human resources, information technology, accounting, engineering, loss prevention and more. Applications are available online and will also be provided during the event. Candidates are asked to bring their resume.

Located on the Arthrex campus in Naples off Immokalee Road, the newly built Innovation Hotel is one of a one-of-a-kind state of the art educational facility designed with uncompromising quality, featuring I69 guest rooms and parlors; a lobby bar; and five individual dining rooms.

The job fairs will be held at Naples Conference Center, 1455 Pine Ridge Road, Naples. To apply online, visit www.MainaisHotels.com/careers.

RCMA selling Christmas Cards designed by students
An alligator wearing a Santa hat, orange trees decorated with colorful string lights, and a wreath made of berries are just some of the Christmas card designs created by students at Rcma’s schools and child development centers in Immokalee, Wimauma and Homestead.

Fourty designs are available for exclusive use by individuals or businesses on a first-come first-served basis, and three designs are available for everyone. Exclusive designs can include a logo and personalized message and require a minimum purchase of 100 cards for $150. For the three general designs, packs of 10 with envelopes are $15.

Every dollar raised through the Christmas card sales qualifies RCMA for up to $5k in matching state funds. Proceeds help purchase educational supplies, and offers programs at RCMA’s 66 child development centers, three charter schools and afterschool care programs. The cards can be viewed and ordered at bit.ly/rcmacards. The order deadline is Dec. 13. For more information, call 1-800-282-6540 or email Sonia, tijghi@frrva.com.

Be Smart presentations work to save children’s lives
Mom’s Demand Action for Gun Sense in America launched the Be SMART campaign to raise awareness that responsible gun storage can save children’s lives. The Be SMART campaign brings together all responsible adults to reduce suicides and the number of unintentional shootings that occur when children get a hold of an unsecured firearm.

“Each year in the U.S., nearly 300 children aged 17 and under gain access to a firearm and unintentionally shoot themselves or someone else,” said Susan Cone, Naples, local group lead with Moms Demand Action. “Nearly 500 more die by suicide with a gun. With more and more children’s lives and health being at risk of injury and death from guns, Be SMART presentations are addressing these tragedies.”

Be SMART stands for: Secure all guns in your home and vehicles; Model responsible behavior around guns; Ask about the presence of unsecured guns in other homes; Recognize the role of guns in suicide; Tell your peers to be SMART.

Naples Be SMART volunteer Kim Craig has organized presentations throughout the Naples area. Those interested in organizing a presentation can contact Kim Craig at 720-232-0029 or Kcraig@rcma.com. For additional information, visit http://besmartforkids.org/resources/.

Annual fundraisers ensure Immokalee Foundation students have scholarships
The Immokalee Foundation’s annual fundraisers are critical to providing the college scholarships that some students earn through the foundation. An important aspect of the scholarship program is that students who earn college scholarships are matched with adult mentors who meet with them once a week, mainly for advice and life skills.

The Charity Classic golf festivities in November support the career-based programs and college scholarships available through the foundation. The Nov. 8 Charity Classic Celebration at the Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, Naples, includes the Fund A Dream auction, and a five bidding experience. The focus of this year’s event is the foundation’s recently launched career model, “Career Pathways: Empowering Students to Succeed.”

The Charity Classic Pro-Am held on Nov. 11 begins with registration and breakfast at 7:30 a.m., and the shotgun start is at 9 a.m. The scramble-style tournament features some of Naples’ most philanthropic amateur golfers and two dozen of the biggest names in professional golf.

The Presenting Sponsor is Kelly Tractor. Additional sponsors include BCB Homes, Success Circle Sponsor; BMO Wealth Management, Collier Rambler Classics, entech, IBERIABANK and Synovus, Pathways Circle Sponsor; and Florida Weekly, Gulfshore Life/D/Latinos magazines and Naples Daily News, Media Sponsors.

Tickets to the Charity Classic Celebration begin at $550 per person, and entry into the Pro-Am is $5,000 per golfer. A variety of sponsorship opportunities are now available. For more information or to register, call 239-480-9122 or visit https://immokaleefoundations.org/events/.

Drug Prevention Community Town Hall meeting Nov. 12
The Trinity Life Foundation of Naples, a nonprofit organization, will present a Community Town Hall meeting for children, parents and interested adults from 7-9 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 12, at River Park Community Center, 301 5th Street North, Naples. Guest speakers from David Lawrence Preventive Medicine, organizational management, employee self service (ESS), manager self service (MSS), time management, benefits, and sap SUCCESSFACTORS; sap SUCCESSFACTORS modules – recruitment, onboarding, performance goals and learning management Systems. Certification in sap HCM and sap SUCCESSFACTORS; sap EEC and sap concur. Integration/ interface/file transfer, data migration (ETL), and/or performance testing. Testing business applications running on web, client server, and mobile platforms, including performance of OS and browser compatibility testing, testing relational databases, SQL, oracle or xml. Basic to advanced database querying skills. using HP ALM. Testing emergency application defects in production systems, system patches, maintenance releases, enhancement releases, and implementations of new applications. Analyzing business, functional, and technical requirements/specifications and developing and executing structured/methodical test cases to prove fulfillment of requirements and viability of application usage and functionality. Knowledge of the software development life cycle and SQA’s role in it through proven explanation of the process. documenting test plans, test cases, test results. Project management experience with ability to identify urgencies, risks and competing priorities and constraints; to prioritize tasks for team members; and to meet project deadline leading testing projects and coordinating and managing tasks of team members, preferably in medical device industry.

Send resume to: Kerinn Levine. 1370 Creekside Parkway, Naples, FL 34108
HEALTHY LIVING

Wake up! Avoid the dangers of drowsy driving

LEE HEALTH

A lousy night of sleeping has you yawning like a neighbor’s video of his kid’s musical recital. That red-eye coffee from your barista should help. But it doesn’t. Halfway to work, you’re still yawning. Heads-up. Your drowsy driving could be more dangerous than you think. In fact, drowsy driving can be as dangerous as drinking drunk. The statistics about the dangers of drowsy driving are eye-opening. The AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety estimates that 6,400 people died last year in a car crash involving a drowsy driver. That’s out of 328,000 total accidents in which someone fell asleep at the wheel. What’s more, almost 6,500 people lost their lives and another 110,000 were injured in those accidents. Falling asleep behind the wheel is dangerous, obviously, but drowsiness makes you less able to pay attention to the road. Slows reaction time if you have to brake or steer suddenly and affects your ability to make good decisions. Drowsiness impairs judgment, performance and reaction times the same as alcohol and drugs. If you miss one to two hours of sleep, you double your crash risk. Skip two or three hours and your risk of a crash soars by 400 percent.

The first week of November is Drowsy Driving Prevention week, so here are some essential things to know, courtesy of the National Safety Council.

Get some sleep.

Adults need seven to nine hours of sleep each night. But with so many distractions, responsibilities and stresses, we typically fall short. Seventy million Americans are sleep deprived or have sleep disorders. Not only is our lack of sleep putting us in harm’s way behind the wheel of our cars, but it’s also hurting our health and quality of life. Sleep deprivation has been linked to all kinds of diseases and disorders such as obesity, heart attacks, type 2 diabetes, depression and early onset dementia.

For more information on how to prevent a drowsy driving crash, visit http://www.leehealth.org/sleep-medicine/index.asp.

Lack of consistent sleep is a risk factor for type 2 diabetes, which affects nearly 30 million Americans. A lack of sleep increases blood pressure and insulin requirement, two factors that contribute to type 2 diabetes. Drowsy driving in general is also a major risk factor for type 2 diabetes.

How to prevent a drowsy driving crash.

It’s as simple as this: Don’t drive when you are tired. Don’t drive if your medication warns about drowsiness. Don’t drive when you would normally be sleeping and even if you’ve ingested even the smallest amount of alcohol.

One thing to remember: Belying on loud music or rushing air from an open window will not keep you awake.

In fact, if you find yourself turning up the music, drinking lots of coffee, and putting your head out the window to get refreshed — it’s time to pull over for a 15-20 minute nap. If you are planning a long drive, be sure you bring a friend along so you can take turns. If you can’t find a spot to nap or you have no one with you, try to have someone pick you up.

It may sound like a hassle — but it’s better than endangering yourself and innocent people around you. Motor vehicle crashes from impaired driving are the number one trauma alert during the holiday season. Keep yourself and others out of the trauma ward.

— Drowsy Driving Prevention Week is Nov. 3-8. Learn more at sleepfoundation.org. Need to talk to a Lee Health sleep specialist? Click http://www.leehealth.org/sleep-medicine/index.asp.

Do you suffer from painful varicose or undesired “spider” veins? We can help!

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The von Arx Family Foundation Southwest Florida Diabetes & Wellness Conference, the conference brings together doctors, researchers, medical experts, patients, parents and caregivers whose lives have been affected by diabetes. Top experts provide an educational and professional forum to further public knowledge on diabetes education, wellness, prevention and research.

The von Arx Family Foundation Southwest Florida Diabetes & Wellness Conference is chaired by Dolph and Sharon von Arx, who have been philanthropic and community-minded individuals. Serving as the chairs of this conference are the first and most experienced vascular specialists in Naples to use the VenaSeal™ Closure System.

The conference is an annual mainstay in the Naples area.

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Von Arx Family Foundation Southwest Florida Diabetes & Wellness Conference on for Sunday

The region’s leading conference on diabetes prevention and wellness, the fifth annual von Arx Family Foundation Southwest Florida Diabetes & Wellness Conference, takes place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 3, at Florida Southwestern State College — Collier Campus, 7505 Grand Lely Drive in Naples.

Founded by the Help A Diabetic Child Foundation, the conference brings together doctors, researchers, medical experts, patients, parents and caregivers whose lives have been affected by diabetes. Top experts provide an educational and professional forum to further public knowledge on diabetes education, wellness, prevention and research.

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**Holistic perspective on pain after surgery**

Chances are you have experienced pain syndrome at one time or another, or you know someone who has. Let’s touch on the subject many try to avoid — addiction to medications in the setting of chronic pain and how to avoid it.

In this day and age, when pill pushers have rendered thousands of people addicted to pain medications, dependency on drugs can set in within just a week — literally before you know it. That is why I always recommend refusing opiates for pain in the hospital post-operative setting. This is where the endless addiction journeys start for so many unfortunate people. In the latter setting, pain can be alternatively controlled with cold and hot packs, acupuncture, lymphatic drainage massage, physical therapy, and homeopathic and herbal compounds. It is best to be preventive when you are preparing for surgery.

One reason pain meds are used so often is that pain causes blood pressure to rise and doctors want to avoid a hypertensive crisis. So make sure that you have optimized your blood pressure under the guidance of your physician well before surgery day.

Make sure that your vitamin and mineral blood levels are in perfect order before the surgery. These markers are vital to your post-surgical recovery and pain control because they are essential for tissue repair and healing post-operatively.

The most important things to check are levels of vitamins E, C, B12, zinc, copper, magnesium, calcium, vitamin B12 and folic acid (folate).

Be sure to stock up on the cold and hot packs at home and make plans with a rehabilitation facility or plan to implement physical therapy after the surgery. Motion is life and the faster you get moving, the smaller the risk for blood clots forming in your legs and the better the nutrients can get to its cellular destination via your improved circulation.

Make an emphasis on lymphatic drainage massage. I teach my patients and their spouses how to do it in the privacy of their own home but you can also have this done as a part of your rehab PT program.

After the surgery, take homeopathic Arnica Montana five pellets three times daily and apply topical Topricin or Traumeel, or iced Calendula cubes to the areas of pain. Make sure your doctor is aware of your holistic regimen. Experience has taught me that less medication is better. It is best to avoid addictive prescription drugs that act like a Band-Aid to cover up the symptoms. Keep your body healthy and balanced preventively and, when the time comes, “get out of the way” to let the body work through the pain and heal itself from within.

— Svetlana Kogan is a board certified medical doctor with more than 20 years of experience. For more information about her practice, visit www.customlongevity.com.

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Alfa Romeo Stelvio Quadrifoglio a pure sports car in disguise

Ter is absolutely recommended, even if it clashes with the exter-
ior color, simply because a car like this deserves an aggressive
red heart. Alfa is known for some legend-
ary six-cylinder motors. Its his-
tory is in everything from the cele-
brated pre-WWI 6C to the
more recent fuel-injected multi-
valve versions that had a polished
exhaust manifold to look (and sound) like a trumpet. The one in
the Quadrifoglio beats them all. The V6 is based on a V8 built for
Ferrari and Maserati, but with two cylinders lobbed off and twin tur-
bocharges added to it. It’s three-
fourths an exotic, and the $81,840 base price proves it.

Peg the throttle to the floor and there’s a split second before a
seat-pinning explosion of power and torque. It also unleashes an
exhaust note that’s unmistakably awesome. This 505-horsepower
powerhouse has tones that are
reminiscent of a 1950s Ferrari racer,
including a little backfire crackle.
It’s even more impressive when just
taking the throttle halfway down. The
motor immediately responds with linear
acceleration. It’s not as dramatic as the
full warp-speed reaction, but there’s a
feeling of controlled confidence while
delivering the kind of acceleration that
makes the driver the hero of every on-
ramp. Plus, the exhaust still gives its
satisfying crackle.

Confidence also comes from the chas-
sis. It has a near 50/50 front/rear weight
distribution, which is more like a sports
car than a crossover. The same goes for
the wide and sticky Pirelli P-Zero tires.
Where the Stelvio is like an SUV it’s its all-wheel drive. It makes for
noticeable extra grip. There’s also a
Giulia Quadrifoglio with the same
motor. The sedan is rear-wheel drive,
which makes it slightly slower off the
line. But the Stelvio’s extra crossover
weight lowers the top speed a little
(although we doubt anyone reading
this will get it to 176 mph).

There is no need for an evaluation on
how the Quadrifoglio handles off-road. The ride selector has a race
setting but nothing for mud/muck. Any-
one looking for that has already missed
the point. The crossover body is what’s
popular to drive today. But underneath
the skin is an exotic sports car that bra-
zenly growls with power. ■
BY KIM CAMPBELL THORNTON
Andrews McMeel Syndication

We love learning new things about pets, and we’re always collecting cool bits of information about them. This week we thought we’d share some “cat-tastic” history, geography, breed lore and more with you.

Cats were domesticated — as domesticated as cats can be, anyway — probably 7,500 to 10,000 years ago, most likely in the Mediterranean region. From there, cats spread throughout the world, prized for their ability to protect crops and grain stores from mice, rats and other vermin.

We’ve all heard the story that in Egypt, cats were worshipped as gods, and to this day they have never forgotten it. Cats were associated with three Egyptian goddesses. Mafdet, portrayed as a cat or panther, offered protection against venomous animals and was known as “Slayer of Serpents.” Bast — also known as Bubastis — represented fertility and motherhood. Lion-headed Sekhmet symbolized the sun and bore crops and grain stores from mice, rats and other vermin.

We’ve all heard of a “litter” of kittens, a clowder of cats. Veterinarian and author Grace Elliot blogged in 2014 that she preferred “an independence of cats,” adding that the Harley Manuscript, dating to the 15th century, refers to a “glorious” of cats.

The world’s cats are divided into four distinct areas: Asia, the Mediterranean basin, Western Europe and East Africa. One is the adventurous Abyssinian cat, hailing from Indian Ocean coastal areas. It’s likely that this energetic and fun-loving cat came to Europe by ship in the 17th century.

No one knows exactly when cats first came to the New World, but it was surely by ship. Genetic evidence shows that American cats consistently group with cats from Western Europe, suggesting that North American cats descend from cats brought to the New World by European settlers. They may have arrived with Viking explorers; sailed the Nina, Pinta and Santa Maria with Columbus; or accompanied Spanish colonizers. We know that at least one cat was on the Mayflower with the pilgrims, because although nameless, she is mentioned in ship records. The first known written mention of cats in New England dates to 1604.

The largest number of kittens ever born to a domestic cat was 19. According to Guinness World Records, a Burmese-Siamese cat in the United Kingdom delivered 19 kittens on Aug. 7, 1970. Four were stillborn, but the remaining 15 must have been more than a handful for mama cat and her people.

Bengal cats originated as a cross between Asian leopard cats — small wildcats weighing 5 to 12 pounds — and domestic cats, but today’s Bengals are domestic all the way, with no wild blood.

We’ll leave you with a feline fashion factoid: A cat whose coat is any color or pattern combined with any amount of white — as little as a single spot — is said to be bicolor (sometimes referred to as piebald), and the variations are numerous. Cats who are mostly white with random splashes of color are described as magpie. Van cats have splashes of color between the ears and color on the tail. Mask and mantle? That’s not a cat in costume but one with color on top of the head and on the upper half of the body with white below. And of course there is the classic tuxedo cat, with white belly and paws.

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Pets of the WEEK

To adopt or foster a pet

This week’s adoptable pets are from Brookes’ Legacy Animal Rescue, an all-volunteer, foster home rescue organization. For more information, email info@brookeslegacyanimalrescue.org or visit brookeslegacyanimalrescue.com. Adoption contributions include:

Routinely treated monthly with a flea/tick preventative (if old enough)
Routinely treated monthly with a heartworm preventative (if old enough)
Is current on vaccinations
Routinely treated monthly with a heartworm preventative (if old enough)
Protected by a licensed veterinarian
Neutered/spayed
Most pets are micro-chipped
For information: Visit www.brookeslegacyanimalrescue.org to view pictures and profiles of adoptable dogs and cats, and to complete a Brookes’ Legacy Animal Rescue Adoption Application. Adoption events: Each Saturday at Petco at 6424 Naples Blvd., Naples, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
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Most pets are micro-chipped

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For more information, email info@brookeslegacyanimalrescue.org or visit brookeslegacyanimalrescue.com.

Routinely treated monthly with a heartworm preventative (if old enough)
Is current on vaccinations
Routinely treated monthly with a flea/tick preventative (if old enough)
Protected by a licensed veterinarian
Neutered/spayed
Most pets are micro-chipped

For information: Visit www.brookeslegacyanimalrescue.org to view pictures and profiles of adoptable dogs and cats, and to complete a Brookes’ Legacy Animal Rescue Adoption Application. Adoption events: Each Saturday at Petco at 6424 Naples Blvd., Naples, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
For more information, email info@brookeslegacyanimalrescue.org or visit brookeslegacyanimalrescue.com.
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Entrepreneur profile | Sean and Melissa Stevenson

Sean and Melissa Stevenson’s Kaleidoscope
Home pairs local handmade goods and exotic flowers on trendy Fifth Avenue South

A floral arrangement created and photographed in the couple’s Solano Road studio demonstrates their organic style, incorporating rare flowers. Sean Stevenson handles the flowers while his wife Melissa Stevenson handles the business side.

Pick any item off the shelf at Kaleidoscope Home and Melissa Stevenson will likely tell you it was made right here in Southwest Florida. Take, for instance, the handmade greeting cards by local artist Bridey Lee. Or the dozens of planters, soap dishes and bowls made custom by Naples pottery company Clay More Ceramics. There are leather bags fishing guide Casey Lee whipped up, tote bags that were designed and printed by Marty Walsh of Skunk Ape Print and clay earrings by Half Sister in Fort Myers. If an item wasn’t made nearby, Mrs. Stevenson can still rattle off who crafted the hand-molded tapered candles, the wildflower honey or the hand-woven cotton throws.

“Everything is handcrafted; it’s not stuff you can find on Amazon,” Mrs. Stevenson said.

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No place like HOME

Sean and Melissa Stevenson pose in their new 1,000-square-foot shop, Kaleidoscope Home, on Fifth Avenue South in Naples. The couple built a name for themselves designing floral arrangements inspired by nature for events and weddings in Southwest Florida and beyond.
One stock that recently has been falling faster than a car coaster in one of its 25 theme parks is Six Flags Entertainment Corp. With the overall economy strong and discretionary spending at high levels, analysts and investors were expecting record-breaking revenue and income numbers from the company this past quarter.

But when Six Flags’ numbers came in below these expectations, the stock collapsed. In fact, in the past year, the stock has fallen around 30%. Despite these poor results, I believe that Six Flags will be a good investment for a patient investor. Six Flags Theme Park’s first theme park, Six Flags Over Texas, opened in 1961 in Arlington, Texas. The name came from the flags of the six governments that had ruled the state: Spain, France, Mexico, The Republic of Texas, The Confederate States of America and The United States of America. In 1967, the company built and opened Six Flags Over Georgia and then in 1973 Six Flags Over Mid-America. In the years that followed, Six Flags acquired dozens of other theme parks across the country, mostly using high-yield debt to finance these acquisitions.

Unfortunately for Six Flags shareholders, many of these acquired properties did not meet expectations and the company struggled to meet its debt obligations. The financial crisis in 2007 pushed the company into bankruptcy with the company’s creditors taking ownership of Six Flags in exchange for canceling $3 billion in corporate debt. Six Flags emerged from bankruptcy in 2010 and once again became a public company with the issuance of new stock to the public. From 2010 to 2018, Six Flags performed well, with the stock rising from around $8 a share to over $65. The company’s new management team maintained a reasonaable amount of debt, expanded internationally with new acquisitions and partnerships and grew attendance at many of its theme parks within the U.S. But recently, Six Flags has been struggling to grow both top- and bottom-line numbers.

Ironically, it may be the strong economy which is actually hurting Six Flags. Potential customers are spending more money on vacations and entertainment, taking trips to more expensive theme parks like Disney World or Universal Studios instead of visiting a local Six Flags park. Or these customers are taking trips or cruises instead of visiting a park. The result of this is that in the latest quarter, Six Flags revenue was only up by 1% spending per guest was actually down 1%. Income actually fell by 2%. Both of these numbers were significantly below expectations.

Economically similar, Six Flags’ management team denied rumors that the company was actively pursuing its rival, Cedar Fair, which some analysts were hoping was in the works to drive revenue. So, while it is no surprise that investors sold Six Flags stock after this release, I believe that there is a lot to like about this company besides its thrilling roller coasters.

First, it trades at a reasonable price/earnings ratio of below 14. Second, it pays a very healthy 7.3% dividend. Third, it appears that the reason that Six Flags’ revenue did not meet expectations is that it had a higher mix of season pass holders attend its parks versus higher revenue single-day guests. If the economy slows, as many believe it will, these customers will cut back on their expensive vacation spending and start to visit Six Flag parks once again.

Another cause to be bullish regarding the stock is that the company is not pursuing the Cedar Fair acquisition. This shows that the management team is not pursuing a “grow at all costs” strategy which bankrupted the company in the past. Instead, it is focusing on improving existing parks and growing in a calculated manner. This strategy appears to be working, as attendance at theme parks grew by 3% in the latest quarter. This slow but steady growth should benefit shareholders of the company for years to come.

— 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.
A28 | BUSINESS

WEEK OF OCTOBER 31-NOVEMBER 6, 2019

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NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY

NAME THAT COMPANY

What's a tax inversion?

A move to a company makes it
to reduce its taxes. It involves
becoming a subsidiary of another company in another country — one with more favorable tax rules.

Many American companies have
done this. For example, in 2015,
the huge medical device company
Medtronic moved to Ireland to
cut care concern Coviidien for around $50 billion, and now has its head-
quarters in Ireland, which has lower
corporate tax rates.

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Laird A. Lile, a board-certified wills,
trusts and estates attor-
ney in Naples, has been
named to the newly cre-
ated Florida Court of
Distribution of IOTA Funds.
Under the rules regulating the Florida Bar,
JUDGE MARTORELLA

The Motion Fool Take

Blue Chip Biotech

Asgen’s Nasdaq: AMGN) shares have been
 trading near when they were a year ago,
presenting a buying opportu-
nity for long-term investors interested
in the potential of biotechnology. Its price-
to-earnings (P/E) ratio has been in the mid-
to high single digits, according to a
blue chip biotech company — especially one that recently sold a juicy dividend
yield near 3%. What's keeping investors at bay? Asgen is going through a radical make-
over, in which the company is
restructuring itself as
migraine treatment Aimovig and
cholesterol-lowering drug Keppra —
aren't been able to fully offset declining sales of the biotech's portfolio of aging
superstars. Asgen's top line, in fact, is forecasted to dip by 3.5% in 2019. Another
area of concern is Asgen's oncology portfolio. Some of the company's most
important early-stage cancer assets simply
haven't lived up to expectations. Still, there are solid reasons to con-
ider buying Asgen now. First, its recent acquisition of biotech specialty
company Otsuka is expected to immediately boost earnings and quarterly sales. The com-
pany should, in fact, return to top-line growth by next year. Also, Asgen also has one of the
largest cash positions in its indus-
ty — so there's a good chance it will pursue
more acquisitions to spur more growth.

Amgen is well-equipped to get through this headwinds of a risky game. If you see people snapping
up single bulbs worth more than the price
of a machine shop in Milwaukee. I began by making metal parts for baby
bathes and plastic parts for automobile frame assembly
plant. I was also North America's largest
time leader, offering water heaters,
steel, and I patented a glass-lined water
heaters. I trace my roots back to the 1874 found-
ings of a chemical company, Bencikisen, in
Germany. Over time, it became a con-
sumer goods company, and bought
many other businesses. Today, I'm a privately
held conglomerate, with controlling, or major
ownership positions in Keurig Dr
Pepper, Panera Bread, Pret A Manger, BlackHorse Tea, Caribou Coffee Com-
pany, Einstein Noah Restaurant Group,
(owners of Einstein's Bagels), Kripzy

My Dumbest Investment

Beanie Baby Bust

My dumbest investment is kind of
embarrassing... Beanie Babies.

The Fool Responds: Younger
readers — just know that once a
thing becomes, like, the coolest,
you'll pay off that debt in about half the
time.

Refinance to a lower interest rate.
This type of loan won't worsen your debt
ratio like most other types of debt,
and the amount of interest you'll pay. For
federal loans, the standard repayment
plan, and pay according to the schedule,
and many private loans come with vari-
able interest rates that can fluctuate.

To pay your debt ahead of schedule.
For federal loans, the standard repayment
schedule is 10 years, while private ones
often have you paying off your loan over
15 years. If you can pay more than you're
supposed to pay each month, or if you make
extra payments against your principal,
you can shrink the length of your loan
and the amount of interest you'll pay. For
example, if you borrow $10,000 for col-
lege at 6% interest on a 10-year repayment
plan, and pay according to the schedule,
you'll fork over $3,322 in interest. But if
you add an extra $100 to your monthly
payments, you'll lower your total interest
cost to just $2,840. You'll pay off that
debt in about half the time.

Taxes. However, if you're in a high-
tax area, you may want to consider
the potential tax benefits of
refinancing.

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Name That Company

Amgen, the number one biotech company in the US, has been
named financial advisor to the
Naples Chamber of Commerce, and the
Collier County Bar Association, and the
Court. Mr. Martorella is a member of the
Collier County Bar Association, and the
Business Law Section of the Florida Bar.

Mr. Martorella heads
the firm's Naples office and centers his practice on assisting
individuals involved in complex commer-
cial disputes. He is admitted to practice in Florida and New York, as well as the
U.S. District Court and Bankruptcy
Court for the Southern District of Florida
and the federal courts of the Northern
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“Retail has changed so much with the internet, so for a brick-and-mortar store to survive it has to make you feel a certain way. Everything in this store is something I would like to have myself.” — Sean Stevenson, Kaleidoscope Home co-owner

From page 26

ense South is equal parts local handmade goods and exotic flowers from places like South America, Holland, Africa and Italy. And the aesthetic is similar to that of worldwide retailer Anthropologie, but on a more intimate level. The shop is the brainchild of husband and wife team Sean and Melissa Stevenson, with financial backing from none other than the Hoffmann family. The shop opened at 321 Fifth Avenue South on Oct. 1.

Mr. Stevenson started working at a florist in high school, at a shop down the street where he grew up. It was his fallback job when his band, Fake Problems, returned from a tour a few years later. Mr. Stevenson moved to a competing floral shop, and after a time there, Mrs. Stevenson suggested they go into business for themselves.

“They are luxury items, and knowing people have expendable cash, we knew this was a place where this could work,” Mr. Stevenson said. “And from the beginning our style was different than the other stuff out there.”

They wanted more freedom to express their own style and then underwrote the business behind the work. They booked a friend’s wedding first, and gained traction on social media.

“We started ourselves in our living room as a sole proprietorship,” Mrs. Stevenson said.

Mr. Stevenson does the arrangements still, while Mrs. Stevenson handles the business side of things, booking events, maintaining the finances and interacting with clients.

In 2018, the Stevensons opened Kaleidoscope Floral in a studio space on Solano Road in Naples right before Hurricane Irma hit, and began consulting and designing for elaborate events. Soon, they had an Instagram following and brides from across the country were calling on them for their untamed style: cascading floral installations suspended from ceilings with imported flowers and brides from across the country.

“They didn’t even attend the first meeting with Hoffmann Commercial Real Estate, so set up shop along Fifth Avenue, you can make your own bouquet on the spot. It was their first, but they said hold on that the partnership made sense, and that the two shared eerily similar plans for how a floral shop could bloom in downtown Naples.

“It was very serendipitous. There was a business idea I had and they said hold on one second and came back from another room with the same blueprints,” Mr. Stevenson said.

Mr. Stevenson left the meeting that day excited about the potential, and while the Hoffmanns were eager to open a shop up downtown Naples, the throughfare with perhaps the most expensive overhead in the county. The leap was made possible by a recent partnership with the Hoffmann family, investors with ties in St. Louis, Mo., who have snapped up properties and businesses including everything from the Naples Princess to the Everblades hockey team to Artis Naples and the tower under construction.

At least until they announced their latest venture: a brick-and-mortar store along Fifth Avenue South, the thoroughfare with perhaps the most expensive overhead in the county. The leap was made possible by a recent partnership with the Hoffmann family, investors with ties in St. Louis, Mo., who have snapped up properties and businesses including everything from the Naples Princess to the Everblades hockey team to Artis Naples and the tower under construction.

On an average day before he returned to the florist a third time.

“Around that time I started getting into the design stuff,” Mr. Stevenson said. “I was getting a lot of inspiration from the internet and finding a whole new world of what floral design could be so I went and started working next door.”

Mr. Stevenson moved to a competing floral shop and, after a time there, Mrs. Stevenson suggested they go into business for themselves.

“Flowers are luxury items, and knowing people have expendable cash, we knew this was a place where this could work,” Mr. Stevenson said. “And from the beginning our style was different than the other stuff out there.”

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So what started as a part-time job for Mr. Stevenson, 33, turned into a full-time entrepreneurial adventure thanks to his wife’s urging and partnership. Just a few years later and the duo has launched what they hope will become a mainstay along Fifth Avenue South. It’s all part of a bigger plan of helping successful Naples businesses stay that way, according to David Hoffmann, chairman of Hoffmann Commercial Real Estate.

Hoffmann, of the namesake real estate brand, founded his parent company, St. Louis-based Osprey Capital, in 2002.

The father-son team set its sights on Naples after vacationing in Naples as a family over the years, and selected it as an investment opportunity the same way they chose others.

Mr. Hoffmann said they came across Kaleidoscope Floral after seeing their work at events around town.

Mr. Hoffmann has said he wants Naples to become the Disney World for adults, a vision he defines as a place where adults attend events and parties and get to partake in activities geared toward their demographic. That could include a high-end dinner or putt-putting with the grandkids.

Hoffmann Commercial Real Estate owns two courses in Naples.

Kaleidoscope Home fits in because those parties and events usually need floral arrangements. Plus, when you visit the shop along Fifth Avenue, you can make your own bouquet on the spot.

“Again that’s an activity for adults,” Mr. Hoffmann said.

When it comes to the shop itself, Mr. Hoffmann said his company has been hands off as it has been for its other investments.

“We saw their shop and work and we were really impressed,” he said of the floral business. “We had zero input on the new store. We just let them run. We’ve gotten rave reviews from people already.”

PHOTOS COURTESY KALEIDOSCOPE FLORAL

Above: Melissa Stevenson had just six months to curate a collection of handmade goods from both local and international artists. Kaleidoscope Home sells everything from handmade stationery and earrings from SWFL to hand-poured candles made in France. The shop at 321 5th Avenue S. opened Oct. 1.

Right: Charnele and Joe Dernback say “I do,” surrounded by floral installations created by Kaleidoscope Floral.
The 2019 Recovery Month observance celebrated community members, first responders, the health care community, and youth and emerging leaders highlighting the various entities that support recovery within our society. The 2019 Recovery Month theme, “Join the Voices for Recovery: Together We Are Stronger” emphasizes the need to share resources and build networks across the country that support recovery in all its forms.

Nancy Dauphinais, Hon. Janeice Martin and Trista Meister

1. Blake Becker and Trista Meister
2. Capt. Anthony Maro, Maria Metchea, Scott Burgess and Dale Mullin
3. Andrew Lawrence and Deborah Lewis
4. Brittany Grayson and Maria Metchea
5. Barbara Billman, Martha Scofield and Scott Burgess
7. Ashiranie Beauchamps, Cris Labra, Guy Blanchette and Scott LeMaster
8. Earle K. Borman Jr. and Polly Kele
9. Grace Meier, Jason Monplaisir and Beverly Beli
10. Emily Budd and Dale Mullin

Florida Weekly welcomes submissions for the Networking photo pages from business events, grand openings, professional association meetings, etc. We need 300-dpi photographs of groups of two or more people, facing the camera and identified by first and last names. Questions? Email editor Eric Strachan at eric.strachan@floridaweekly.com.
The Gulf Coast Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America recently hosted its monthly “Lunch and Learn” seminar at the Naples Hilton. The program featured an informative presentation by Janice Essick, regional manager of Business Wire, who addressed current trends in evaluating earned media. The program highlighted best practices in measuring earned media, social media and putting together a valuable report for CEOs and boards.

1. Alisa Marie Coccari, Julie Pedretti, Cindi Withorn, Catherine Bergerson and Pam Fultz
2. Michelle Mambuca and Annmarie Rousseaux
3. Kaydee Tuff and Russell Tuff
4. Ashley Wikovski, Madison Young, Cindi Withorn and Katie Fenn
5. Donna Heiser and Catherine Bogutti
6. Trish Fancher and Russell Tuff

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This waterfront downtown residence is beautifully furnished and offers one-level living for seasonal or year-round residents, with three bedrooms, 3½ baths and a total of 3,548 square feet. The third bedroom is currently being used as an office/den. Details include a private foyer entry with elevator, 10-foot ceilings, 24-by-24-inch ceramic tile, espresso custom wood cabinetry, oak plank flooring, solar tinted impact glass and state-of-the-art wiring for data communications. Three private balconies offer bay and marina views. The open gourmet kitchen has granite countertops, a raised wood breakfast bar and Wolf, Sub Zero and Asko appliances. Amenities include a two-car garage, boat docking facilities and a community pool/spa just steps away.

All residents are members of the Club at Naples Bay Resort, which has a 15,000-square-foot clubhouse, spa, fitness center, Har-Tru tennis courts, five heated pools, beach shuttle, yacht club, full-service marina and more. A 40-foot private dock can be included.

Emily K. Bua and Tade Bua-Bell of John R. Wood Properties have the listing for $1.325 million. For more information or to arrange a showing, call 239-595-0097. See more properties at www.BuaBellSellsNaples.com.
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

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

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

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

Gorgeous Golf Course & Lake Views, thoughtful design, Quiet Location in Portofino community. Furnishings Negotiable, 3+Den/ 3.5 Bath, 2 car garage. $1,295,000

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
Wilderness Country Club offers central location in Naples

Wilderness Country Club reports that more than two dozen residential condominiums are now available for viewing at the private, gated golf course community which is centrally located in the heart of Naples.

Wilderness Country Club sits on 200 forested acres along the east side of Goodlette-Frank Road, just north of Golden Gate Parkway. The community features 300 low-profile condominiums around an 18-hole Arthur Hills designed golf course that was totally refurbished by Hills in 2003.

Many of the existing condominiums have been fully refurbished for resale while others are like a blank canvas allowing buyers to use their imagination and create a residence that suits their unique needs.

Individual condominiums range from approximately 1,700 square feet to more than 3,000 square feet of living space and feature an abundance of glass that brings the striking beauty inside. Each residence comes with its own dedicated golf cart and golf cart garage, and many offer a wood-burning fireplace.

The exterior façade of each condominium building features a cedar shaker style with a mansard roof that blends naturally into the surrounding environment. Each condominium building also was carefully sited to offer long sweeping views of golf course, trees, lakes and native plants, while everything possible was done to protect as much of the existing habitat as feasible.

Established in 1974, Wilderness Country Club is a groundbreaking residential development that holds the honor as the first private, gated golf course community with a mandatory membership built in Naples. The residential development is celebrating its 45th anniversary this year.

Amenities include the community's clubhouse, which sits on the second highest point in Collier County, a full-service golf shop and a practice area featuring a driving range, short-game area and putting green. In addition to golf, members have access to four Har-Tru tennis courts, and five heated swimming pools interspersed throughout the property.

Members also enjoy the 5-acre Frank Park that was dedicated in 2013 to the pioneering Frank family. The lush surroundings at Wilderness Country Club provide the ideal location for the Conservancy of Southwest Florida to use as a safe place to return rehabilitated animals to their native environment.

Wilderness Country Club has been member owned and controlled from its inception. For information, call 239-261-6060 or visit online at www.wildernesscc.com.
Sales at Kalea Bay are swift
Prompting release of third tower

As the second tower at Kalea Bay continues to rise, so too do sales.

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 centerpiece of the community,” she said, “but it’s also an easy decision to launch sales in every quarter of the community.”

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.

“All three pools overlook the lake and provide a multitude of recreation 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 week. 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 and PS4 games, Foosball, WiFi, and multiple TVs, and a kid’s game room with child-size furniture, books, chalkboard and TVs.

Add the clubhouse lies the tennis pavilion with 4 Har-Tru tennis courts, as well as eight pickleball courts. Guests staying for overnight stays are also located nearby. Residents also have a shuttle service from the clubhouse to local beaches.

“Our first tower, Tower 100, has been sold out since it closed in January 2018,” said Lodge. “Knowing our pace of sales in Tower 200 last season and with an anticipated completion next summer, it was an easy decision to launch sales in Tower 300.”

Like Tower 100 and Tower 200, Tower 300 will also offer its residents phenomenal views of the Gulf of Mexico as well as spectacular onsite amenities, both on its roof, and at the community’s main amenity area.

Tower 300 stands 22 stories in height with 120 residences. Specifically, it’s 20 floors of supreme residential living over two floors of parking. It will also have similar rooftop amenities as those found in Tower 100 and 200, including a rooftop pool, open-air fitness center and a sky lounge.

Six floor plans are available ranging from three-bedroom plus den/three-and-a-half-baths to four-bedroom/four-and-a-half-baths. All of the units range between 3,722 to 3,905 total square feet.

Each residence has an open floor plan that allows the living, dining and kitchen areas to spill out onto an expansive open lanai, destined to become a true outdoor living room.

Kitchens include such standard features-like luxury cabinetry, quartz countertops and an oversized island along with Sub-Zero and Wolf appliances.

“Our residents love the fact that the building has natural gas,” she said. “Most others in Naples don’t have that luxury.”

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

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

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

“We take our outdoor living very seriously as evidenced by our oversized lanais found in every residence,” she stated.

High-tech wiring and fully equipped laundry rooms round out the list of features.

Pre-construction prices in Tower 300 begin at $1.5 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.
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For those looking forward
For those looking forward
Final opportunities await at Talis Park’s Watercourse neighborhood

Homebuyers ready to experience Talis Park’s “new-fangled” approach to Naples living can choose from two distinctive, move-in-ready homes and take advantage of special final opportunity pricing in Watercourse, one of the community’s most picturesque waterfront neighborhoods.

An enclave of 29 lakefront single-family residences, Watercourse offers expansive, open floor plans with an abundance of natural light. The homes feature a seamless transition from luxurious interiors to tranquil outdoor living spaces with pools, spas and water views, plus proximity to the epicenter of Talis Park: the Vyne House clubhouse.

Now, with only two move-in ready homes available in the neighborhood’s final phase, homebuyers have a limited opportunity to make a Watercourse home their own.

Built by Artisan Associates, Inc, the exclusive builder for Distinctive Communities, Watercourse offers a unique combination of quality, comfort and character, along with sunset views of Lake II Corso. Watercourse is also Talis Park’s only single-family neighborhood with exterior maintenance included – and its residents love the lock-and-leave lifestyle.

With 2,979-square-feet of living space, the Berolina homes capture the spirit of Watercourse style with a relaxed, everyday elegance at every turn. The Berolina is move-in-ready.

Top: Two waterfront single-family villas in Watercourse’s final phase are now available with special final opportunity pricing. Above Left: Tranquil breezes, coastal living and all that Talis Park has to offer is simply steps away from Watercourse. Above Right: Priced at $1,280,000, the Berolina is move-in-ready.

In addition to Watercourse, Talis Park has a full offering of move-in ready and to-be-built opportunities for future residents. Residences start from the high $600,000s to $10 million. The Talis Park Garden House information and Sales Center is at 16980 Livingston Rd. Models are open daily. Additional information available at www.talispark.com.
351 NEAPOLITAN WAY, NAPLES
• Furnished 3 BR, 2 BA + Den, 3 Car Garage
$239,000 MLS 219039565
Darlene Rice 239.325.3537

26510 SANDYCREST TER., ESTERO
• Pool, 3 BR, 2 BA + Den, 2 Car Garage
$299,000 MLS 219041061
Liz Appling 239.272.7201

28367 DEL LAGO WAY, BONITA
• Great Golf Course & Lake Views
$849,000 MLS 219066429
Corye Reiter, The Lummis Team 239.273.3722

3610 COSTA MESA LN., #512, BONITA
• Meticulously Kept, 3 BR, 2 BA
$299,000 MLS 219009768
Connie Lummis 239.289.3543

5575 LAGO VILLAGGIO WAY, NAPLES
• Lake & Golf Course Views
$510,000 MLS 219053765
Mary Ellen Bonelli 239.776.8737

4971 BONITA BAY BLVD., #303, BONITA
• Panoramic Golf & Bay Views
$419,000 MLS 219062897
Loretta Young 239.450.5022

23566 SANDYCREEK TER., #1404, ESTERO
• 1st Floor, 3 BR, 2 BA + Den, 1 Car Garage
$210,000 MLS 219043769
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1400 L’AMBIANCE CIR., NAPLES
• Great Floor Plan, 3 Master Suites + Office
$435,000 MLS 219037249
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11572 AMALFI WAY, ESTERO
• New-Luxury Home
$698,900 MLS 219065311
Sue Ellen Mathers 239.877.2726

14099 TIVOLI TER., BONITA
• Great Location
$685,000 MLS 219069071
Sue Ellen Mathers 239.877.2726

4277 SANCTUARY WAY, BONITA
• Great View
$599,000 MLS 219098986
Cathy Lieberman & Cindy Neill 239.277.2641

884 VILLA FLORENSA DR., NAPLES
• Great Golf Course View
$555,000 MLS 219062897
Corye Reiter, The Lummis Team 239.273.3722

1019 ROYAL3HELL2EAL%STATEC
• Peaceful Lake View, New Stainless Steel Appliances
$550,000 MLS 219069883
Sue Ellen Mathers 239.877.2726

2909 SANDCRYSTAL WAY, NAPLES
• Meticulously Kept, 3 BR, 2 BA
$299,000 MLS 219041061
Liz Appling 239.272.7201

1572 ANNAPOLIS WAY, NAPLES
• Custom Built Home
$695,000 MLS 219037543
Sue Ellen Mathers 239.877.2726

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• Peaceful Lake View, New Stainless Steel Appliances
$550,000 MLS 219069883
Sue Ellen Mathers 239.877.2726

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Sue Ellen Mathers 239.877.2726

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Sue Ellen Mathers 239.877.2726
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Stock opens beautiful new models at Fiddler’s Creek: grand opening event this weekend

Stock Signature Homes has unveiled three beautifully furnished new models in the March Cove neighborhood at Fiddler’s Creek.

To celebrate, Stock is offering a special sales incentive at the Grand Opening event this weekend, Saturday and Sunday, November 2nd and 3rd from 12:00 – 4:00pm. Homebuyers will receive $30,000 in options and upgrades in the purchase of any new home.

The village of Marsh Cove offers a setting of gently winding roads. Within it, Stock is building in the Livorno, Malaga and Capiistrano neighborhoods.

On offer at Marsh Cove are seven uniquely designed floor plans ranging from 2,627 to 3,396 square feet under air. They offer extraordinary flexibility with options that give the homes a range of three to five bedrooms. There are from three and one-half baths in the smaller homes to four full baths and one half-baths in the largest plans. All of the homes include large great rooms that open to a screened and covered lanai, which features outdoor kitchen and pool bath options. Inside, homeowners may choose a formal dining room, a formal study or extra bedroom suites. The three new models are located within Livorno.

One of these models is the spectacular Madison, which includes 2,947 square feet under air and a total of 4,606 square feet. The great room, is adjacent to a spacious island kitchen and dining area, all of which open to the covered outdoor living area via walls of stacked sliding glass doors with the pool and spa just beyond. The master suite also opens directly to the outdoor living area that can include elegant French Doors. An optional outdoor kitchen and fireplace are also available.

The plan also features three bedrooms, a formal study, four full baths and a half-bath. The fourth bedroom is poolside and its bath serves as a pool bath. The home features an attached, side-loaded three-care garage. The living area opens via an expansive wall of sliding glass doors to an outdoor living area that can include an outdoor kitchen, pool, and spa. The spacious bonus room is adjacent to a pool bath that conveniently serves as a full bath for the fourth bedroom. Soco Interiors has created a beautiful interior design for the furnished Ulyssa model.

The Chandler is being unveiled for the first time as a furnished model in Naples. The plan features four bedrooms, a formal study, four full baths and a half-bath. If offers includes 3,136 square feet under air and a total of 4,867 square feet. The great room is adjacent to a spacious island kitchen and dining area, all of which open to the covered outdoor living area via walls of disappearing sliding glass doors with the pool and spa just beyond. The master suite also opens directly to the outdoor living area that can include French Doors. An optional outdoor kitchen and fireplace are also available.

The Chandler offers an interior design by Robb & Stucky. Stock also has furnished models open in Capiistrano at Marsh Cove. Capistrano is a spectacular enclave of 33 luxury homes offering a variety of spectacular golf course views.

Located on Collier Boulevard on the way to Marco Island, Fiddler’s Creek offers its residents a sensational lifestyle. Among the extraordinary amenities are the 54,000 square-foot Club & Spa, a spectacular sanctuary for the mind, body and soul where residents indulge in the spa, re-energize at the fitness facility, play a round of tennis and swim or lounge at the multi-pool swimming complex. This tropical oasis overlooks peaceful nature preserves and shimmering lakes, providing true emotional and physical well-being for the residents of Fiddler’s Creek. Homeowners also have several membership opportunities. They may join The Golf Club at Fiddler’s Creek, featuring the 18-hole, par 72 Creek Course. It has been ranked in Golfweek’s 100 Best Residential Golf Courses in the country numerous times. There is also The Tarpon Club, which offers a beach and boating lifestyle with a full-service marina, beach pavilion and social events on and off shore.

Fiddler’s Creek is comprised of nearly 4,000 acres and is zoned for 6,000 residences. With a very low-density level of 16 homes per gross acre, the community is comprised of approximately 100 distinct neighborhoods. Less than a third of Fiddler’s Creek will be developed for residential use, while the remainder of the land is dedicated primarily to nature reserves, lakes, parks, golf courses and recreational areas.

To see all that Stock has to offer, please visit the Stock Development website at www.stockdevelopment.com. Email at info@stockdevelopment.com or call (239) 392-7344. Stock Development is on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FLStockDevelopment.
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Tower 300 pre-construction from $1.5M | Tower 200 occupancy Summer 2020

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Boots for Badges
Country Concert headlined by Little Texas to benefit ‘Fallen Officers’

BY MELANIE PEFNIS
Florida Weekly Correspondent

"Many of us in the band have family members that were police officers or firemen. Boots and Badges is very dear to our hearts." So says Del Gray of the band Little Texas who will headline a free concert in Cambier Park on Nov. 8.

The show, the first annual Boots for Badges Country Concert, will benefit Fallen Officers and the Robert L. Zore Foundation. Headliners Little Texas will be joined by Sonny Burgess and Jolie Holliday for an evening-long celebration of those who have given their lives in service to others. Food trucks, Texas BBQ and visits by elected officials will complement the musical event and donations will be welcomed.

The occasion will be capped off with a Blue Light Stick memorial where attendees will be given a blue light glow stick to hold in remembrance, while a roll call of every fallen officer of 2019 is announced. "Most people don’t understand completely the loss till they come to our concert" says Fallen Officers Vice President Mike Randall. "When they see the roll call of the current fallen officers who have been killed, that’s when they get it. That’s when they realize the impact."

"People don’t realize what these families go through. When a police officer is killed and leaves behind not only his spouse but his children… it changes everything. We have seen story after story of children going in unhappy directions and this is what we are trying to avoid. The overall story is that a family is hurting."

– Mike Randall,
Fallen Officers vice president

SEE BOOTS FOR BADGES, C18

GREATER NAPLES
Jewish Book Festival

BY PHIL JASON, CO-CHAIR
Greater Naples Jewish Book Festival

Beginning in November and concluding in March, the 2019-20 Greater Naples Jewish Book Festival offers a dazzling series of author events, building upon the highly regarded and jam-packed 2018-19 season. A project of the Jewish Federation of Greater Naples in cooperation with the Jewish Book Council, the festival comprises 12 events at several venues, covering 19 books with 22 visiting authors.

Many of the events will feature two authors who share a theme or genre; others will have a dynamic solo presenter. One program will showcase a book created jointly by three authors, all of whom will be on hand.

See ticket information, author bios and book

SEE BOOK FESTIVAL, C4

‘Blame It On Betty’
Naples musician Matt Simpson releases new album. C3

ARTS COMMENTARY
Lab Theater tells you what men want (with demonstrations). C10

FILM REVIEW
Dan Hudek reviews "Dolemite Is My Name," starring Eddie Murphy. C17

PREMIER | SOtheby’s INTERNATIONAL REALTY

SEE INSIDE
COLLECTOR’S CORNER

Your teapot is great, but future generations may just want YOU

Feeling depressed? Reach out to someone else with a simple, random act of kindness. Try not to cry for what you’ve lost.

My poor grandmother Dorothy would sit there and weep because, “Everyone I ever loved is dead.” Never mind that your choice of descendants was sitting there in the room at the time.

That was Dorothy at her worst.

Smile at the memories and share the stories. That’s what folks care about.

Forget the bird figurines and forget the Franciscan Ware.

The greatest gift from Dorothy came when my dad and I were cleaning out her house and discovered cassette tapes in a desk drawer. They were labeled simply, “Mama and Cleo.”

We popped them into the tape deck of my dad’s truck and out boomed the voice of Granny, who punctuated each sentence with, “Don’t you know?”

The voice of Aunt Cleo, my grandmother’s elder sister, chirped out from the past, too. We’d not heard her voice for, more than 20 years, but smiled at her stories. That’s what folks care about.

Celebrate your good health. Not in good health? Take a tip from Dr. Dorothy Simmons.

My grandmother, Dorothy Simmons Coulter, stands with my dad, David Simmons, around 1940 on what is now Banyan Boulevard in downtown West Palm Beach. More recent visitors to the area will remember the George Washington Hotel as the Helen Wilkes. It was demolished a few years ago.

Celebrate your good health.

My grandmother that comfortable.

Feel free to ask questions to Granny about her childhood and how the family had come to the town of Ochlocknee, Georgia, so many years ago.

Dorothy chimed in, too, asking about this relative or that, all in her cigarette-tinged voice, and for a moment, they breathed and they sighed and they laughed and they lived again.

That is what future generations long for, more than your grandmother’s teapot (even if it is lovely) or your grandfather’s rocking chair (most of those really aren’t all that comfortable).

Those are the outward signs that acknowledge our existence.

But much of their value exists because of the connections they evoke.

Take the time to tell your story — wars and all, if you need to. Try not to be bitten when you do. The good and the bad are part of history. We all can learn from that.

The kindness and love and support through the good and the bad are what we remember of people, not their physical possessions.

That little bit of you is what they will want when you’re no longer able to answer their questions or dry their tears in person.

Offer them that.

They’ll be glad you did. So will you.

Don’t forget!

West Palm Beach Antiques Festival — The biggest monthly show in the state holds is first big show of the season, expanding into two expo rooms filled with dealers from across the country. It’s Nov. 1-3 at the South Florida Fairgrounds, 9067 Southern Blvd., West Palm Beach. Hours are 9 a.m.-noon Nov. 1 (early buyer, $25 admission; good for all three days), 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Nov. 1 (regular admission), 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Nov. 2, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Nov. 3; Cost: $25 early buyer, $8 general admission, $7 senior. Info: 941-697-7475 or www.wpbaf.com.

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Local musician releases ‘Blame It On Betty’

Local musician Matt Simpson has released his new album, “BLAME IT ON BETTY,” which contains both original music and a contemporary take on covers from Stevie Wonder, Kenny Loggins, Paul Stookey and Ann Murray. Simpson’s original music has a soft contemporary feel that should appeal to fans of early acoustic and contemporary classics.

Mr. Simpson shares credit with local musicians and friends who lent their talents on the CD. Ray Nesbit (RPM Studios; Naples) played many of the instruments on all seven tracks, Simpson and Nesbit collaborated with drummer Darrell Nutt, J. Robert Houghtaling on banjo and dobro, Jake Clayson on violin, Jose Fabio Rojas on saxophone, and world renowned bassist and performer David C. Johnson on keys. “I am a bassist and I guess you could say I am selfish for not using David on the bass,” said Mr. Simpson. “He is so amazing on every instrument he picks up. . . . I was fortunate to get him to play on this album.”

A special contribution came from the co-founder of the Conti Street Band, Mark Fessenden, on organ. Conti Street was the last band with whom Mr. Simpson played publicly. Sadly, bandleader and namesake of the project, Jerry Conti, passed away suddenly in the summer of 2016. Mr. Simpson said the death deprived him of an amazing friend and mentor. “Hearing two former band members play on “BLAME IT ON BETTY” is a tribute to Jerry,” Mr. Simpson said.

Also featured on the album are a deep and sultry solo by professional voice instructor Shannon Gallagher Doerzbacher, and a contribution from popular local musical powerhouse Susie Balcher, who, along with Nesbit and Johnson, sang background vocals.

The album is named for Simpson’s mother, Betty Simpson, who, now 90, has never stopped encouraging her son to share his music. It was her influence that inspired Mr. Simpson to join a youth choral group at church, and because of her support, he persevered. How is it that Mr. Simpson has come to see this album through to a satisfying completion? “Blame it on Betty.”

“It is just a dream of mine to be able to share this with my mother Betty, my family, and friends,” said Mr. Simpson. He attributes the 400 streams from over a dozen countries on Spotify following the release, in part, to his international travels as a corporate jet pilot. “I guess they took notice of my Facebook posts,” Mr. Simpson said. The album is available on Apple Music, iTunes, Spotify and CD Baby.
BOOK FESTIVAL
From page 1

tropes and characters, and reveals the complexity of the woman and her family. It is a powerful exploration of human resilience and the enduring impact of the past.

This story, "The Last Girls of Paris," is a gripping account of the resilience of women during a time of immense suffering and danger. It is a testament to the strength of the human spirit and the importance of remembering the past.

In "Have I Got a Cartoon For You?" by Bob Mankoff, the reader is treated to a collection of cartoons that range from humorous to thought-provoking. Mankoff, known for his work on The New Yorker and Esquire, brings his unique perspective to the page, offering insights into the human condition and the absurdities of life.

The festival is a celebration of the written word and the people who create it. It is an opportunity to engage with authors and learn from their experiences. Whether you are a fan of fiction or non-fiction, art or history, there is something for everyone at the Book Festival.

So mark your calendars and plan to attend the Book Festival. It is a must-see event for book lovers and anyone interested in the arts and entertainment. And don't forget to bring your favorite book — you never know who you might run into!
Boating has always been a call to adventure, exploration and discovery. When you are aboard a vessel that is as durable, seaworthy and safe, as well as comfortable, it is natural that distant ports will beckon. So, cast off for Bimini, the Bahamas, Mexico, the Tortugas, or even to a neighboring state, but be sure you understand and stay compliant with the rules and regulations for each place you visit — even if just passing through. Follow every rule to the letter including those regarding possession, size and bag limits for fish.

Safety first

Smart boating travel is largely a matter of planning and paying attention to common sense safety practices. Make certain that your boat is properly equipped for the voyage, that you have plenty of supplies including food and water aboard, and that you have a contingency plan for weather. Some rules of thumb:

■ Be sure you have all required or needed safety gear and that your safety gear is in excellent working order. This should include routine inspections of your life raft and EPRIB or PLB if applicable. Make certain life jackets are serviceable and appropriately sized for all crew.

■ PLAN, PLAN, PLAN. Make a realistic, detailed plan and don’t travel alone. Solo passages are for experts and charting in case your primary fails. Consider fuel stops, docking accommodations and food/water needs when planning your travel.

■ Discover Boating has excellent, detailed tips on boating travel and safety. Additionally, many books have been written about navigation through certain areas — specifically the Keys, Bahamas and Dry Tortugas. Consider talking to someone who has voyaged to your destination before for hidden tips.

Boating/fishing outside of your own state waters

If you cross into and fish adjacent state waters, nonresident licensing is required. The “Take Me Fishing” website is a great source of information on obtaining both resident and non-resident licensing across the U.S. You can also contact fish and wildlife offices directly in the states you plan to fish. Transiting through the Intracoastal Waterway or around the Great Loop is pretty straightforward, but if you decide to stop and fish along the way be sure you know the rules and regulations in the areas you intend to enjoy. And bear in mind that things can get confusing when you cross into federal waters (3 miles) due to the lack of uniformity between states. Some states allow continuous transit, but others do not; for almost everywhere that allows continuous transit, fishing gear must be stowed and the burden of proof is up to the boaters. The Bahamas require a cruise permit and some research of their own — including restrictions on how fish can be taken. Plan your trip and get the licensing and information BEFORE you leave your dock.

Visit the Take Me Fishing (www.takemefishing.org) website for information on how to get a fishing licensing in any U.S. state.

Visit the Captain John (www.captainjohn.org/GL-ICW2.html) website for good information on the Intracoastal Waterway including the Great Loop.

International trips

The entire crew must have valid passports, and you must clear customs and immigration when entering foreign waters including Mexico and Canada. In the Bahamas, you will need a Bahamas cruising and fishing permit (costs are based on vessel size and trip length). On any international trip, get the latest fishing and cruising regulations in your transit areas and at your destination and follow them to the letter.

This site has excellent information for any boaters planning any international trip: www.getmyboat.com/resources/tips-for-renters/305/tips-for-boating-in-international-waters

So, when the distant ports beckon, research everything you can about relevant safety equipment, fishing laws and licensing laws before you cast off your home dock.

Whether you’re exploring the adjacent state with your family, or voyaging the Atlantic, Caribbean or gulf with fishing buddies, stay safe and have fun.
THEATER

Mystery Cycles — By the FGCU Bower School of Music & the Arts’ Theatre Program. Nov. 1-13 in the Arts Complex. 10:50 FGCU Blvd. 239-745-4268 or www.fgcu.edu

Frozen, Jr. — By Island Theatre Company’s junior ensemble Nov. 2-9 at Marco Lutheran Church. 525 N. Collier Blvd. 239-394-0080 or www.theaterronmarco.com.

Escanaba in Da Moonlight — By The Naples Players through Nov. 17 at Toby’s Studio Theatre. 239-263-7220 or www.naplesplayers.org.

Bedlam’s Saint Joan — By Gulfshore Playhouse through Nov. 3 at The Norris Center. 866-811-4111 or www.gulfshoreplayhouse.org.

Always … Patsy Cline — By Gulfshore Playhouse through Nov. 24 at www.fgcu.edu.

A Doublewide Texas Christmas — By The Marco Players Nov. 20-27 at The Marco Players Theatre, 1089 N. Collier Blvd. 239-642-7270 or www.themarcoplayers.com.

Dames at Sea — By Off Broadway Palm Theatre through Nov. 2-18 at 1380 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers. 239-278-4422 or www.broadwaypalm.com.

Charlotte’s Web — By Broadway Palm Community Theatre through Nov. 15. 1380 Colonial Blvd. 239-278-4422 or www.broadwaypalm.com.

Finding Neverland — By Broadway Palm Theatre through Nov. 16. 1380 Colonial Blvd. 239-278-4422 or www.broadwaypalm.com.


THURSDAY 10.31

Tram Tour — Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park hosts a tram tour of the park starting at 10 a.m. each Thursday. $25. 239-605-4933 or www.orchidwomp.org.

CINEMA

Due to his insistence that he has a six-foot tall invisible rabbit for a friend, a whimsical middle-aged man is thought by his family to be insane. $6 for members, $8 for others. 1010 Fifth Ave. S. 239-414-4737 or www.fgcu.edu.


She Loves Me — By the Naples Players Nov. 27-29 at Sugden Community Theatre. 239-263-7220 or www.naplesplayers.org.


THEmoire
HERE COME THE MUMMIES — Nov. 1, Lyric Theatre, Key West. 305-800-1498 or www.lyrickeywest.com.


ROY ORBISON & BUDDY HOLLY - HOLIDAY SHOW — Nov. 1, King Center for the Performing Arts, Melbourne. www.kingcenter.com.

HABITS — JOKE” TOUR — Nov. 1, Broward Center, Fort Lauderdale. www.browardcenter.org.


GREAT TO BE A KID — Community Market — Eagles Lakes Community Park hosts market with fresh produce, ethnic foods and artisan goods from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Thursday. 2900 Old 41 Road, North Naples. 239-656-2212.

IT’S A WONDERFUL LIFE: A LIVE RADIO SHOW — Nov. 1, Key West Theatre, Key West. 305-800-1498 or www.lyrickeywest.com.

BOO Blues — By the Naples Players Nov. 27-29 at Sugden Community Theatre. 239-263-7220 or www.naplesplayers.org.

Comedy Show — Comician Dean Napolitano performs with performers Ben Gibel performs tonight through Sunday at the Off The Hook Comedy Club. Show times vary. $22 general admission; $32 VIP. 2500 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 239-389-6901 or www.offthehookcomedyclub.com.

Halloween — Happy

FRIDAY 11.1

Community Market — Eagles Lakes Community Park hosts market with fresh produce, ethnic foods and artisan goods from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Friday throughout April. 1356 Tamiami Trail E. 239-206-4339.

Native Arts — The Seminole Tribe of Florida hosts its American Indian Arts Celebration with arts, crafts, activities, musical and dance demonstrations on today and Saturday, Nov. 2, at At-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum. Special performances by Native American sketch comedy group, The 1491s, will also be featured. $7.50; $4.50; 7.5 miles north of I-75 exit 49. 863-902-1113 or www.atahthikh.com.

Classic Film — FGCU’s Renaissance Academy screens “Harvey” (1950) at 2 p.m. at the university’s Naples Campus. Due to his insistence that he has a six-foot tall invisible rabbit for a friend, a whimsical middle-aged man is thought by his family to be insane. $6 for members, $8 for others. 1010 Fifth Ave. S. 239-414-4737 or www.fgcu.edu.

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. under the garden’s banyan tree. $50; proceeds will benefit the garden’s educational programs. 27180 Old 41 Road. 239-992-5931 or www.evergladeswondergardens.com.


MIDNIGHT IN THE SWAMP — Nov. 3-4, Rookery Bay Research Reserve in Naples. 239-495-0889 or www.rookerybay.org.

MURDER & MAYHEM — Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs hosts a teen cabaret performance of spooky musical theater numbers at 7 p.m. $25-$300, included cocktails and hors d’oeuvres. 1050 Bonita Beach Road. 239-492-8989 or www.artsonbonita.org.

Floossy, Floossy — Naples Arts Association hosts Scene to be Scene, an art-as-fashion runway show that also includes a pre-show cocktail hour and after party, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Fleissig’s private terminal at Naples Municipal Airport. $125-$500; proceeds benefit the organization’s children’s programs. 300 Freedom Way. 239-262-6677 or www.naplesart.org.

Italian Film — South Regional Library’s annual “Golden Noodle” (2016) at 8 p.m. 8065 Lely Cultural Blvd. 239-202-7549 or www.collierlibrary.org.

Comedian Dean Napolitano performs with performers Ben Gibel performs tonight through Sunday at the Off The Hook Comedy Club. Show times vary. $22 general admission; $32 VIP. 2500 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 239-389-6901 or www.offthehookcomedyclub.com.

Comedy Show — Comician Dean Napolitano performs with performers Ben Gibel performs tonight through Sunday at the Off The Hook Comedy Club. Show times vary. $22 general admission; $32 VIP. 2500 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 239-389-6901 or www.offthehookcomedyclub.com.

SATURDAY 11.2

To Market, To Market — Third Street South hosts a farmers market offering a bounty of locally grown produce and handmade goods from 7:30-11:30 a.m. each Saturday. 239-649-6707 or www.thirdstreetstours.com.

Fresh Market — The Shoppes at Vanderbilt hosts a farmers market from 8 a.m. to noon each Saturday throughout October. 239-294-0666 or www.vanderbiltfarmersmarket.com.

Seabreeze Beach — Bird expert Adam DiNuevo hosts a talk about the life cycles and migrations of shorebirds from 8 a.m. to noon at Rookery Bay’s Field Station. 239-548-1600 or www.rookerybay.org.

Bazaar — St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church hosts a craft market with over forty vendors, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. 5130 Rattlesnake Hammock Road. 239-919-3130 or www.stpeterbap.org.

Big Cats — Naples Zoo hosts the Florida Panther Festival with exhibits, talks, family activities and more all day. Free with admission. 239-362-5499 or www.napleszoo.org.

Holiday Market — Mayflower Congregational Church hosts a holiday market with handmade goods, collectables, baked goods and more from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 2900 County Barn Road. 239-455-7156 or www.mayflowerpennacles.com.

Om in the Swamp — Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary hosts a swamp meditation in the preserve’s amphitheater at 9:30 a.m. with spiritual guide Bethany Gonzalez. 375 Sanctuary Road. 239-348-9151 or www.corkscrewAudubon.org.

Great to be a Kid — Boys & Girls Club of Collier County hosts Day for Kids, where kids of all ages and their families can enjoy a day of face painting, bounce houses, crafts and more from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the organization’s Nichols campus. Free. 7500 Davis Blvd. 239-322-5700 or www.bgcc.com.
WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Family Fun – Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs hosts a free family day from 10 a.m. to noon at the organization’s Centers for Visual Arts, 26100 Old 41 Road. 239-495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Nature Fun – Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park hosts Nature Fest, where guests can enjoy interactive and educational activities, exhibits, live animals, face painting, crafts and more from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free with park entry fee. 239-997-4046 or www.floridastateparks.org.

Art in the Park – Members of Naples Art Association showcase and sell their works from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Cambier Park. 239-262-6517 or www.naplesart.org.

Free Concert – Artis—Naples hosts a free performance by the Naples Philharmonic and Naples Ballet at 3 p.m. 239-597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Séance – Mentalist and paranormal researcher Wayne Hoffman leads a genuine Victorian séance that begins with a cocktail hour at 6 p.m., and dinner and a show following at 7 p.m. at Venue Naples. $150. 13240 Tamiami Trail N. 239-292-1529 or www.venuenaples.com.

Tribute – The Stage Restaurant in Bonita Springs hosts a Journey and Bon Jovi tribute show at 7:30 p.m. 9144 Bonita Beach Road. 239-405-8566 or www.stagebonita.com.

Space Between – Sammy Hagar & The Circle perform at 8 p.m. at Hertz Arena. 239-948-7825 or www.hertzarena.com.

Hey, Jealousy – Gin Blossoms perform at 8 p.m. at Seminole Immokalee Casino. 800-218-0007 or www.moreinparadise.com.

SUNDAY 11.3

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.

Art Show – Left Bank Art Fest takes place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Greater Family Marco YMCA. 101 Sandhill St. 239-290-7297.


Foreign Film – FGCU’s Renaissance Academy screens “The Dreamlife of Angels” (France, 1998) at 2 p.m. In Lille, two penniless women with few prospects become friends. $6 for members, $8 for others. 1010 Fifth Ave. S. 239-434-4737 or www.fgcu.edu.

Musical Moments – Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs hosts a rock-themed multimedia presentation at 3 p.m. $22-$25. 10150 Bonita Beach Road. 239-495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Tribute Concert – Artis—Naples hosts a tribute concert titled “Neil Berg’s 50 Years of Rock and Roll” that honors the work of artists like Elvis, Chuck Berry, Fleetwood Mac and more at 7 p.m. 239-597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Cool Cars – A Car Cruise-in runs from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. near WINK Playland at Miromar Outlets. See all the favorite makes and models of classic, exotic and custom cars. www.miromaroutlets.com.

MONDAY 11.4

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

SUNDAY 11.4

Celebrate our state’s favorite feline, the Florida panther, at Naples Zoo’s Florida Panther Festival with outdoor exhibits, family activities and practical advice from experts about living with wildlife from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 2.

— napleszoo.org
WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Films for Film Lovers – Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs screens “Memoir of War” (2017) at 7 p.m. Marguerite must navigate through the hardships of the Lib- eration after losing her husband and start- ing a relationship with the enemy during the war. $10. 3050 Bayou Beach Road. 239-495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

TUESDAY 11.5

Panther Encounter – Naples Zoo hosts an encounter with its 1-year-old Flor- ida panther, Athena, from 9-10:30 a.m. each Tuesday. $60. 239-262-5490 or www.napleszoo.com.

Armchair Travel – Naples Regional Library hosts a vicarious tour through the culture and geography of Ukraine from 3-4:30 p.m. in Central Ave. 239- 252-5122 or www.collierlibrary.org.

Cirque at the Movies – The Naples Philharmonic plays some of cinema’s favorite scenes with a live orchestra per- form onstage at 8 p.m. today through Friday, Nov. 8, and at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9, at Arts—Naples. 239- 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

Rev Your Engine – The Revs Insti- tute hosts its inaugural after dark gath- ering, Cars & Corks, where guests will enjoy a night filled with hours of d’oeuvres, live music and more after getting an after- hours peek at the EF Direct’s top car marmalade in the world from 5:30-7:30 p.m. 2500 Horseshoe Dr. 239- 687-7587 or revs institute.com.

Art Reception – United Arts Coun- cil of Collier County hosts an opening reception for Collier County’s second annual “Clothesline: The Wash Day Series,” from 5-7 p.m. Free. 239- 254-8242 or www.uacollier.org.

Color Your World – Interior design- er Lori Weitzer signs copies of her book, “Ode to Color,” and helps guests discover their own color worlds from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 7, at Republic of Dishes and Drinks. The event will be served. 950 First Ave. N. Fee, but reservations required. www.doteocolor- design.com.

Lunch & Learn – Rookery Bay Envir- onmental Learning Center hosts lunch and a lecture about wading bird colo- nization and hurricanes at 11 a.m. today, Friday, Nov. 8, at 300 Tower Road. $50 online or 239-594-0093.

Comedy Show – The Stage Restaurant in Bonita Springs hosts an arts and crafts show from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9, at Cambier Park. www.stagebonitас.com or www.naplesaar- tcaters.com.

Patriotic Concert – The Norris Center hosts a performance of patriotic songs at 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9, 255 8th Ave. E. 213-5023 or www.naplesgos- gov.

Me, Peppers – Christ Kattan and Friends perform at 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9, at Southwest Florida Event Center. IIBS Bonita Beach Road. 239- 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Guitar Concert – Guitar virtuoso Adrian Legg performs at 8 p.m. Satur- day, Nov. 9, at Center for Performing Arts Bonita Springs. $25-$35. 1050 Bonti- a Beach Road. 239-495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Throwing Voices – Arts—Naples hosts a performance by ventriloquist and "America's Got Talent" winner Terry Fator at 7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 10. 239-597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO
WHAT TO DO

Free Concert – Naples Big Band performs a salute to veterans and active military at 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 11, at Cambier Park. 239-777-0446 or www.naplesbigband.com.

Photo Hike – Koreshan State Park hosts a nature hike for photographers at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 12. Free with park entry fee. 3800 Corkscrew Road. 239-992-0311 or www.floridastateparks.org.

Travel Talk – Betty Maclean Travel hosts a talk with Silversea Expeditions about their travel opportunities at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 12. 2245 Venetian Court. 239-510-0311 or www.bettymacleantravel.com.

Naples Yard and Garden Show
9 am - 4 pm Saturday, November 9, 2019
10 am - 3 pm Sunday, November 10, 2019
UF/IFAS Extension Collier County
14700 Immokalee Road, Naples, FL 34120

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Norris Center Presents
Jennifer Golden Note Gilmore Sings
Two Tributes in Two Nights

Broadway Hits: Friday November 8th at 7:00 pm • $25
American Patriotic Tribute: Saturday November 9th at 4:00 pm • $25

Funny Fellas Stand-up Comedy Night
Featuring Nationally Televised and Touring Artists Carmen Vallone and Larry Venturino

Saturday November 9th at 7:00 pm
$18 in Advance • $20 at the Door • $22 VIP Seating

The Norris Center • Box Office 239-213-3049 • 755 8th Ave S, Naples, FL 34102
Lab Theater tells you what men want (with demonstrations)

Nancy STETSON
nancystetson@outlook.com

Men! What's up with you? You have mouths. Don't you talk to your straight partners about what you want in bed? Don't you communicate? Do you really need a gay man to explain to women what to do and how to do it?

Apparently, you do, judging by Laboratory Theater of Florida’s “Sex Tips for Straight Women From a Gay Man.”

Matt Murphy’s freewheeling one-act play is based on the 2008 book of the same name by Dan Anderson and Maggie Berman and Lab Theater’s production is the first licensed performance of the popular off-Broadway comedy in the U.S.

Director Randall Kenneth Jones has set it up as a book lecture, “Rendezvous with Alternative Authors of the Modern Era” at The Laboratory Community College, home of The Beavers. (Go Beavers!)

Building on that clever local premise, he projects a collage of book covers by authors with a Southwest Florida connection on a screen, including those by Robin Cook, Janet Evanovich, Jeff Lindsay, Sue Monk Kidd and David McCullough. (Sue Monk Kidd did live here briefly but moved on. And, to be honest, none of these authors could be considered alternative.)

The premise: the woman originally scheduled to give the monthly college book lecture has suddenly died, leaving Robyn (Madeline Weymouth) with some unexpected changes. And really, we have no choice. And as an audience, we’re willing to go along for the ride.

The set is minimalist and instantly identifiable as a local stage. It’s undeniably light-hearted fare. It’s obvious Stefan and Robyn have feelings for each other, but Robyn won’t allow herself to acknowledge them, let alone express them.

The play takes us through the various chapters of Dan’s book, with each succeeding chapter becoming more explicit. If even the title of this show offends you, this is definitely not the play for you. (It is also for those undergraduate. The Lab Theater will not allow anyone 16 or younger to enter.)

But if you’re fine with continuous sexual innuendo and explicit sex talk and gestures, you’ll love “Sex Tips.”

The comedy is pastiche of script, slide show, strip show, improv and audience participation. (Mr. Kennedy took a 10-week improv class to prepare for the role.)

I have to say, on opening night, the audience participation was superfluous and gratuitous. Many of the evening’s biggest laughs, as each person called onstage embraced his or her role with gusto. (Depending upon which night you attend, your mileage may vary.)

The three women who demonstrated their flair with manual manipulation were very funny; the use of blindfolds added to the absurdity. Their ad libs and comments were provided more hilarity to the evening.

And I couldn’t decide what Peggy Lee would have thought of her song “ Fever” being used as a soundtrack to a specific sexual technique, whether she’s rolling in her grave or giving a big saucy wink from the afterlife.

The set is minimalist and instantly identifiable as a local stage. It’s undeniably light-hearted fare. It’s about as opposite as you can get from Arthur Miller’s “The Crucible,” which was the Lab’s previous offering.

Towards the end, Mr. Kennedy’s character does urge everyone not to rely on techniques and to communicate, but those sentiments are passed over too quickly. “Sex Tips for Straight Women From a Gay Man” has to be one of the oddest and most outrageous shows I’ve seen on a local stage.

What you want to spuce up your sex life or just enjoy blue material, this is the show for you.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
WEEK OF OCTOBER 31–NOVEMBER 6, 2019
www.FloridaWeekly.com
NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY

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ARTS COMMENTARY

Laboratory Theater of Florida

“Sex Tips for Straight Women from a Gay Man”

When: Through Nov. 16
Where: Laboratory Theater of Florida, 1634 Woodford Ave., Fort Myers
Cost: $28
Information: 239-218-5481 or www.laboratorytheaterofflorida.com

In the KNOW
SUNDAY
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for the Whole Family
December 27
St. Leo Parish Life Center, Bonita Springs
December 28
Salvation Army of Naples Chapel, Downtown Naples
A portion of proceeds benefit St. Matthew's House
and the Salvation Army of Naples
Tickets Start at $25!

More information and tickets:
239.529.3925
www.gulfshoreopera.org
Naples Art District kicks off new season Nov. 6

This season will be an exciting year for the Naples Art District, which has more than 60 artists, concentrated in and around the Shirley Street area in Naples. The first Art Alive event of the season will be held from 5-8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 6. Artists open their galleries to the public the first Wednesday of the month and every third Saturday during season. This “Art Hop” offers a unique chance to mingle with local artists and see their work.

The first Art Alive seasonal event coincides with the grand opening of two new unique studios. Sara Wilson, owner of Clay More Ceramics (www.claymoreceramics.com), recently relocated her studio to a larger location at 5560 Shirley Street. Clay More is a major force behind the Empty Bowls Project in Naples, an international grassroots effort to raise both money and awareness in the fight to end hunger.

Each year, Ms. Wilson and her business produce and fire approximately 5,000 bowls for the popular January fundraiser to feed the hungry that is held in Cambier Park. Clay More is an integral part of this effort.

The increased space — 3,700 square feet — allows the business to fire more kilns and produce more bowls for Empty Bowls. The larger space also offers opportunities to hold classes in various types of ceramic art, including wheel throwing and hand building. Clay More is the popular “go-to” place for ceramics in the area from beginners through advanced students.

Another new studio opening within the Clay More space is Naples Glassworks (www.naplesglassworks.com). Owner Judy Belmont transformed her career as a mental health author and retired psychotherapist to that of glass and mosaic artist. Offering various classes to the public and private groups, Ms. Belmont enjoys watching students who say they have no artistic talent create beautiful works of glass and mosaic art. Her work and topics for her classes include fused glass plates, whimsical wall art, jewelry, clocks, Christmas ornaments, and Judaica.

The mission of the Naples Art District is to provide the community and its visitors with a unique visual and cultural destination that promotes the arts and art education for all ages. For information, visit www.naplesartdistrict.com.
It’s a big world. But sometimes, it takes a small ship to see it clearly. So step onboard, and discover the joy of travelling small.

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DO YOU WANT TO?

PUZZLES

SUDOKU

Difficulty level: ★

Place a number in each empty box 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

ACROSS
1 Latin to be 
2 Sherlock 
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431 in front of a 
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461 Swedish
471 Cotton-Jen
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491 Clue
501 America’s
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871 TV personality
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DORIS SAYERS

HOROSCOPES

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 22)
Don’t accept half-way explanations for a situation that requires full disclosure. The more you know now, the better able you will be to handle any complications that might arise.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 22)
The cooperation you relied upon might not be easy to get. Maybe there’s an information gap. See if everyone understands the situation. If not, be sure to offer a full explanation.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)
Problems caused by that recent workplace distraction should soon be easing, allowing you to resume working at a less frantic pace. That personal matter also begins to ease up.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)
Lots of choices could make it difficult to select what is best for your needs. Avoid snap judgments. Take the time to check them all out to find the one that really meets your goals.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
You could once again experience pressure from others who would like to see you move in another direction. But heed your Bovine instincts to stay on your own path.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)
Taking charge of a project that seems to be about to stall or collapse altogether could be a challenge. But once everyone knows what you expect of him or her, things should go smoothly.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)
Avoid the pressures of the upcoming holiday period by setting a time right now to discuss how to divide up the responsibility of helping a loved one come through a difficult period.

leo (July 23 to August 22)
It’s not too early for all you Leonas and Leos to start making long-distance travel plans. The sooner you stop procrastinating and start deciding where, when and how you’re going, the better.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)
Someone you’ve known for years might disappoint you, or even make you feel you’ve been betrayed. But check the facts carefully before you make charges that could backfire on you.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)
A holiday plan might need to be revised to accommodate an unexpected complication. Come up with an alternative arrangement as soon as possible to avoid more problems down the line.

BORN THIS WEEK:
You are emotionally attuned to what’s going on around you, and you easily pick up on people’s needs.

PIECES (February 19 to March 20)
Your unique way of sizing up a situation gives you an edge in resolving that upsetting workplace problem. Stay on your current course regardless of any attempts to distract you.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
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By Linda Thistle
CONTRaK T BRIDGE

Famous hand
BY STEVE BECKER

This famous hand occurred in the 1948 European Championship dur-
ing a match between Norway and Great Britain. West was S.J. Simon, author of the classic ‘‘Why You Lose at Bridge,’’ and East was the British star Terence Reese.

Reese missed the winning play, as he himself relates, but it is likely that most players would have done the same thing. Simon cashed the K-A of clubs — East playing high-low — and led a third club, which Reese ruffed. Reese then returned a heart.

The Norwegian declarer won the heart, crossed to dummy with a diamond, took a trump finesse, returned to dummy with a diamond, took a second trump finesse and so made four spades. His only losers were two clubs and a ruff.

The same series of plays occurred at the second table, where the English declarer also made four spades. The deal was thus a stand-off, but later received wide attention because both Easts could have defeated the contract by making an extraordinary play.

East can stop the contract by discarding a diamond at trick three instead of ruffing the third round of clubs. Declarer can then reach dummy only once, and — since he requires two trump leads from dummy to stop East from making two trump tricks — he must go down one.

The bidding:

West North East South
Pass Pass Pass 1△
Dble 1 NT 2♥ 4♣

Opening lead — king of clubs.

The contract is easy enough to defeat on paper. But at the bridge table, where second thoughts don’t count, practically any player holding the East cards would ruff the third club and then start thinking about what to do next.

The hand is an exceptionally fine illustration of why you can’t afford to play the game mechanically. Never relax.
Naples Big Band opens concert season Nov. 11

Naples Big Band, a non-profit organization with a dual mission to promote, preserve and perform American big band music, and to financially support music education in area high schools, announced it will open its 15th concert season with a Veterans and Active Military tribute on Monday, Nov. 11, at Cambier Park in downtown Naples. The concert is free and begins at 7 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to arrive early and bring portable chairs.

According to Jim Castaldi, Naples Big Band musical director and trumpet/flugelhorn player, “Our first concert each season sets the tone for our concert schedule to follow. This season, we look forward to entertain- ing audiences with the classics they love, plus new material that will delight music lovers of all ages.”

While entertaining is of tremendous importance the organization’s members, the Naples Big Band remains commit- ted to the second part of its mission: to financially support music education in area high schools.

“As a former high school music director, I know from experience that funding for the arts in high schools continues to diminish at an alarming rate,” said Mr. Castaldi. “When we collect donations during intermission at our admission-free concerts, it’s in the spirit of serving high school music departments with much-needed funds.”

In agreement with the need to serve high school music education, Fort Myers-based business RCM 360 has committed a 100% financial match to all donations collected during intermission of the Nov. 11 concert.

Sarah E. Kocses, Golden Gate High School band director said, “As a high school band director, I am overjoyed to see school band programs receive financial assistance in any amount. We are grateful for community collaboration with organizations such as the Naples Big Band, and we are thrilled to have received their 2019 High School Music Education Program Annual Award. We look forward to having our jazz band perform at their evening concert this coming Veterans Day.”

■

PHOTO BY MICHELLE TROCA

Singer Amy Bright performs with Naples Big Band, which opens its 2019-20 concert season with a Tribute to Veterans and Active Military on Nov. 11 in Cambier Park.

Shulas Salutes You

We would like to thank our Brave Men and Women serving in all branches of service. Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard and Veterans by Inviting You to...

bring your veteran to lunch on Veterans Day and we will give them a complimentary lunch entrée

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Borden Shredded Cheese
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2 for $0.99
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CELEBRATING OUR 80+ YEAR ANNIVERSARY
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LATEST FILMS

‘Dolemite Is My Name’

Dan HUDAK
pwdrakmavrari.com

★★★

Is it worth $10? Yes

If ever there was a role Eddie Murphy was born to play, it’s Rudy Ray Moore. Talented, loud and brash, Moore was a forerunner of Murphy’s comedic brand, and in “Dolemite Is My Name” Murphy’s larger-than-life persona allows Murphy to do what he does best: curse, crack jokes and make us laugh. The fact that Murphy gets us to care for Moore as well is an added and significant bonus.

Moore was an African-American comedian, actor, singer and filmmaker. After struggling to get his career going in the 1960s, he works in a record store in Los Angeles in the early 1970s. He hates it, and believes he’s destined for something greater. One day a homeless man named Rico starts telling old slave jokes, and Moore keys into the content and cadence.

He records Rico and friends telling stories, then creates a character named “Dolemite,” a pimp with personality to spare. He records Rico’s routines and makes records of his routines and does well selling the records out of his trunk and touring night clubs.

Moore, however, wants more. He risks his savings to create a blaxploitation flick based on his Dolemite character, predictably titled “Dolemite” (1975). The budget is low, and the cast and crew’s experience is next to nil, but the passion is undeniably high. At this point “Dolemite Is My Name” shifts its focus, and not necessarily for the better. As a viewer, one can’t help but wonder why we just watched Moore struggle for years to sell records only to risk his money by going into the movie business, which he knows nothing about.

We’ve seen plenty of characters, both professional and inept, struggle to make movies in movies. However, we haven’t seen many Rudy Ray Moores, and making him similar to other struggling filmmakers does the wholly unique Moore an injustice.

Thankfully, Murphy is terrific. We knew he’d be fine with the comedy, but he also handles the few dramatic moments impressively well. The film-making process humbles Moore (to an extent), and in doing so it forces him to truly appreciate his friends and collaborators, and what he’s accomplished.

Murphy and director Craig Brewer (working from a script by Scott Alexander and Larry Karaszewski) successfully find humanity amidst all of Moore’s hubris.

You may ask: Why isn’t Rudy Ray Moore better remembered today? One speculates it’s because the Dolemite character perpetuates a negative stereotype of African-Americans, and it was really the only character Moore was known for. In a society in which (at least some) individuals are trying to move away from racist stereotypes and toward equality, Dolemite simply isn’t a good fit.

That said, Moore’s impact is still evident in rappers and comedians today. Give “Dolemite Is My Name” a chance — it’s an opportunity to learn something new about someone who did something cool.

Did you KNOW

» “Dolemite” (1975) is available for streaming on Amazon Prime and is available on Netflix’s DVD service (but not Netflix streaming).

Dan HUDAK
pwdrakmavrari.com

*Special thanks to Netflix*
Mr. Randall is engaged to Rosemary Zore, founder of the Robert L. Zore Foundation. The nonprofit named for her father is her tribute to the former Miami-Dade policeman killed in the line of duty on Christmas Day, 1983. Rosemary, 7 years old at the time, felt a need to honor her father and simultaneously help families similarly impacted. Through its efforts and activities like the Boots and Badges concert, the group lends support to families and provides an opportunity for them to keep their deceased relative’s memory alive.

And alive Cambier Park will be as Little Texas hits the stage. Known for its hits such as “God Bless Texas,” “My Love,” “Kick A Little” and others, this three-time Grammy nominated band has sold over 7 million records. It will be joined by CMA Artist winner Sonny Burgess, a member of the Texas Country Music Hall of Fame. International star Jolie Holiday, boasting hits such as “No Thanks” and “I’m Coming Home” will round out an evening of music and remembrance.

“We’re thrilled with Mike Randall and know how important this mission is,” says Little Texas drummer Del Grey. “Even though we are on a busy tour in November, we’re proud to stop off in Southwest Florida to play at such a worthwhile event. My Mom lives in Port Charlotte and even SHE might come out to the show!”

While the event is free, donations to benefit the organizations will be accepted. VIP perks are also available for an admission fee. VIP seating in rows 1-2 will include your seat, a meet and greet with the bands, and food and beverages. VIP seating in rows 3-4 will include your seat and food and beverages. There are also general admission tickets in Rows 5-6 available for purchase if you don’t want to bring your own chair. Otherwise, grab a lawn chair and be part of a special evening promising to be both uplifting and heartfelt.

“People don’t realize what these families go through,” says Mr. Randall. “When a police officer is killed and leaves behind not only his spouse but his children... it changes everything. We have seen story after story of children going in unhappy directions and this is something we don’t want to see happen.”

The concert is only one of many activities and initiatives backed by Fallen Officers and the Robert L. Zore Foundation. Throughout the year, they strive to unite the community with law enforcement by presenting other musical events, several Blue Bowl Flag Football Tournaments and various fundraisers.

In March, they will host the second annual Blues For the Blue Concert. One of the bands performing for that show is comprised solely of police officers. But the only requirement for the entertainment is an appreciation for the efforts and hard work of those in public service. Says Mr. Randall, “For this Boots for Badges Country Concert, we chose the bands based on our format. The bands are supporters of law enforcement... like Little Texas in their song “Slow Ride Home.” The main factor in choosing bands is their dedication to supporting law enforcement and helping more families. That is what it’s all about.”

Mr. Randall has been encouraged by how the local community has supported his efforts.

“The town of Naples, and Collier and Lee counties have been very supportive. Yes, people come out to have fun and enjoy the music but the main reason we hold these events is to remember the sacrifices and honor the families.”

This is a sentiment shared by Little Texas drummer Del Grey: “We want to lend a hand at this show. These types of organizations are very important both to those they help and to us as a band.”

This importance is echoed in the lyrics of the band’s 2015 song, “Slow Ride Home,” reflections on a funeral procession for a fallen hero sung from the voice of the deceased.

A big salute.

While all flags fly at half-mast.

Tears fill the eyes of the people as we rode past.

They wave and cheer me on.

I see every reason why I had to go.

On my slow ride home...
Since 2016, brothers Zachary and Dylan Zmed, along with their partner and drummer Burleigh Drummond, have celebrated the pivotal music and history of The Everly Brothers with audiences around the world.

“Our aim is not to impersonate but to do our best in honoring the aesthetics of their iconic sound and the important role they played in pioneering the rock ‘n’ roll movement, while allowing a little fun sharing our personal story,” the brothers say about their show, “The Everly Brothers Experience.”

The Everly Brothers recorded 21 studio albums, sold more than 60 million records worldwide and had more than 30 Billboard Top-100 singles. They received numerous accolades in their later career and influenced legendary artists including The Beatles, Simon and Garfunkel, The Beach Boys, The Rolling Stones, Bob Dylan, The Bee Gees and Neil Young.

### The Everly Brothers Experience’ coming to Bonita performing arts center

Soon at the center

**Who:** The Everly Brothers Experience  
**When:** 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 7  
**Where:** Centers for the Performing Arts Bonita Springs, Hinman Auditorium & Film Center, 10150 Bonita Beach Road  

**Info:** 239-459-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org

### Holiday Voucher Sale!

**Book Now & Save!**

Enjoy a tropical drink from the bar or laptop to read from the galley as your adventure begins. Sit back and relax within all of the air-conditioned cabins or take in the sun and soft ocean breezes from the sun decks. You’ll arrive in comfort and luxury with walking distance of all there is to see and do on this idyllic palm lined island surrounded by crystal blue waters.

**Limited Time Holiday Voucher Sale while Supplies Last. Non-refundable, non-transferable, no cash value. Cannot be combined with other offers. Offer valid thru Dec. 31st, 2021, and is subject to change.**

**PROMENADE at Bonita Bay**

### EXTENDED SHOPPING HOURS!

**Monday - Saturday, 10am - 8pm**

**Sunday, Noon - 5pm**

Shop, dine & experience over 25 one-of-a-kind destinations, all tastes, all tasteful. all here!  

**PROMENADE at Bonita Bay**

PromenadeShops.com  
26795–26851 South Bay Drive, Bonita Springs, FL 34134  

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**NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY**

**WEEK OF OCT. 31 - NOV. 6, 2019**  
**C19**

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**Events at the Center for the Performing Arts Bonita Springs, Hinman Auditorium & Film Center, 10150 Bonita Beach Road**

**Monday, November 7**

**7:30 PM**

**High Stax**

**Friday, November 5**

**7:30 PM**

**Steves Reasters & Signature Drum Solo Arrived**

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**10 PM**

**From 97 Lunch**

**Monday-Friday**

**New Lunch Menu Available until 1 pm**

**Lunch Sicilian or Flatbread or Beef Skillet or Beef Grilled Soup Bombs Onion Chicken Wraps Patty Cheeseburger Caprese or Spicy Pig Fritterhouse Sausage & Pepper Sall**

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**COURTESY PHOTO**

In “The Everly Brothers Experience” on Nov. 7, Zachary and Dylan Zmed on acoustic guitar will be joined by drummer Burleigh Drummond and an electric guitarist and bass player.
“Gulfshore Playhouse Punches Above Its Weight” – The Wall Street Journal

www.GulfshorePlayhouse.org
239-354-7955
Performances@The Norris Center
755 8th Ave. S, Naples

ALL TICKETS $38
TWO HOURS BEFORE EVERY SHOW

WOLF STOCK: BREWFEST & FOOD TRUCK RALLY
Saturday, November 16th
4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Riverside Park - Bonita Springs

Featuring performances by:
Justin Russell - 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
The Ben Allen Band - 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Join us for a fun night in support of Sky Wolf Sanctuary

Tickets: $40 in advance / $50 at the gate
858 tickets online today! www.SkyWolfSanctuary.org

THIS WEEK ON WGCU-TV

THURSDAY, OCT. 31, 9 P.M.
Doe Martin
Season 7, Rescue Me
Season 7 opens back in Portwenn, but Louisa has left to visit her mother in Spain and gain some perspective on her marriage. Martin is faced with questions: Will Louisa come back to him? What can he do to make sure that she does?

FRIDAY, NOV. 1, 9 P.M.
Great Performances
42nd Street
Tap-dance along to this musical extravaganza about a starry-eyed performer who gets her big break on Broadway, set to a lively score of iconic songs including “Lullaby of Broadway,” “We’re in the Money” and the title song.

SATURDAY, NOV. 2, 11 P.M.
Miss Fisher
Season 1, Queen of the Flowers
Among the troubled, disadvantaged girls Phryne takes under her wing, one drowns — and it’s murder.

SUNDAY, NOV. 3, 8 P.M.
The Durrells in Corfu
Season 4, Part 6 (Finale)
The future has been looking bright for the eccentric Durrells. Louisa turns the family villa into a guesthouse and cousin Basil moves in. Larry enjoys love with two ballerinas, Leslie throws herself into his job, and Gerry and Margo have business ambitions.

MONDAY, NOV. 4, 10 P.M.
Family Pictures USA, Southwest Florida
See Southwest Floridians tell their stories based on their family photos in this PBS special filmed here with a national crew and the staff of WGCU.

TUESDAY, NOV. 5, 9 P.M.
Frontline
In the Age of AI
Gain insight into the promise and perils of AI, from fears about work and privacy to rivalry between the U.S. and China. It signals a new industrial revolution that will reshape and disrupt our lives, our jobs and our world, and alter the emergence of the surveillance society.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 6, 9 P.M.
NOVA
Dead Sea Scroll Detectives
What can new technology reveal about the ancient Dead Sea Scrolls? Join scientists as they investigate suspicious, newly surfaced fragments to see if they’re forfeited, and use imaging techniques to digitally unravel the charred remains of a scroll.

“Family Pictures USA, Southwest Florida,” 10 p.m. Nov. 4.
What’s on tap this month at Rookery Bay?

Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center
300 Tower Road, Naples, www.rookerybay.org 239-530-5940

Admission is $5 for adults, $3 for kids 6 – 12, and free for kids under 6. Open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Experience hands-on, interactive exhibits including marine-life touch tanks and habitat displays. Enjoy trails, naturalist-led programs, nature-viewing bridge over the water and more. Explore the center and discover the plants, fish and wildlife that call Rookery Bay Research Reserve’s 10,000 acres home.

Birds of the Beach
Nov. 2, 8 a.m. to noon — $40

In this class, Adam DiNuovo of Audubon Florida will discuss the amazing journeys birds make annually. Winter shorebirds are difficult to ID, so practicing the skills learned in this class is essential. The classroom session will take place at the Rookery Bay Field Station on Shell Island Road, followed by a trip to Tigertail Beach, one of the most important winter shorebird sites in Florida. Be prepared to wade in water up to your knees, with adequate footwear that will protect your feet (no flip flops). Collier County beach parking fee applies ($8, free with your feet (no flip flops). Registration required www.rookerybay.org/calendar.

Science Saturdays – Sea Turtles
Nov. 2, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. (Activities for Science Saturdays)
Free for kids 12 and under

Science Saturdays are sure to unleash your inner scientist or marine biologist with hands-on discoveries for all ages. Every Saturday a different theme at Rookery Bay, enjoy eco-arts, a presentation, a featured film and our “Lessons in Laboratories” program from 11 -11:45 a.m.

Homeschool Day – Through Our Watershed
Nov. 5, 9:30 a.m. to noon

Homeschool students and their families can enjoy an exciting day of age-appropriate estuarine learning experiences led by Rookery Bay Reserve’s marine science educators. Programs are designed for students in grades 1 - 10, and help to raise awareness of the connection between the ocean and student's lives. Registration required www.rookerybay.org/calendar.

Lunch & Learn: Wading Birds and the Impact of Hurricanes
Nov. 8, noon to 1 p.m.
RSVP, includes lunch
Anne Mauro, Rookery Bay’s Avian Ecologist and Gina Chandle, Florida Gulf Coast University student, will co-present on the impact extreme weather has on wading bird colonies in Southwest Florida. Lunch is provided. Registration required www.rookerybay.org/calendar.

Science Saturdays – So Much More Than Seashells
Nov. 9, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Free for kids 12 and under

Free for kids under 6

Girls in Science Slumber
Nov. 9 – 10, for ages 8 -14 — $60
Drop off Nov. 9 at 5 p.m. Pick up Nov. 10 at 8 a.m.

Discover the nocturnal side of nature while camping with Rookery Bay Reserve Educators inside our Environmental Learning Center. This program will emphasize Southwest Florida’s unique ecological environment that we call home. Participants are required to bring their own sleeping bag, pillow, and light snacks are included. Registration required www.rookerybay.org/calendar.

Painting Annual Exhibition - Art Reception
Nov. 14, 5:30 – 7 p.m.
Free, open to the public

Attend the opening reception of Rookery Bay’s Annual Painting Exhibition presented by of the Friends of Rookery Bay and the United Arts Council of Collier County. Works are submitted by artists from Collier and Lee counties and juried. Works will share a central theme of flora and fauna and most of the paintings are for sale. The opening reception includes wine and light hors d'oeuvres. Registration required www.rookerybay.org/calendar.

America Recycles Day
Nov. 15
BOGO (Buy one get one free)
Admission. No registration necessary.

Visit the center for buy one get one free entrance to promote the importance of recycling for our economy and environment. America Recycles Day is the only nationally recognized day dedicated to promoting and celebrating recycling in the United States.

Classic Car Show at Rookery Bay
Nov. 16, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. — $10
The Friends of Rookery Bay is teaming up with Island Automotive to showcase more than 40 of the coolest classic cars around at the Rookery Bay Environmental Center. The show is family-friendly with kids’ activities and presentations. Attendees can also peruse a collection of mint car mascots and hood ornaments from the Jon Zuler collection. Registration required www.rookerybay.org/calendar.

Science Saturdays – Days and Days of Sharks and Rays
Nov. 16, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Free for kids 12 and under

Essentials of Digital Photography
Nov. 18, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. — $55
If you want to get the best pictures possible, and truly understanding your camera's features, this camera workshop is for you. The class covers the essentials of your digital camera. You will learn how to use your camera’s shutter, aperture, ISO control and the drive modes to create images with impact and creativity. Sonny Saunders has over 35 years of experience in photography and instruction and is renowned for his ability to communicate to a wide variety of students. Registration required www.rookerybay.org/calendar.

Science Saturdays – Skulls and Bones
Nov. 23, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Free for kids 12 and under

Science Saturdays – Marine Mammal Marathon
Nov. 30, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Free for kids 12 and under

Contact: 239.260.7478
www.rookerybay.org/calendar.

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A ll About Closets is all about innovative design, impeccable craftsmanship and flawless service. Our installations reflect your dreams and your personality, while enhancing your home. We will maximize the storage of your closets, home office, wall units, pantry, garage or anywhere in your home that requires storage solutions. Our team works from Port Charlotte to Marco Island.

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STARability Foundation held its second annual 3K Fun Run, Walk & Roll recently at Cambier Park in downtown Naples. The Fun Run drew more than 140 participants who ran, walked or rolled through the finish line. After the race, attendees enjoyed music, sponsor booths and exhibits, plus healthy food and refreshments compliments of First Watch Daytime Cafe.
ENTERTAINMENT AT SEMINOLE CASINO HOTEL

NOVEMBER 2 | GIN BLOSSOMS
DECEMBER 13 | LEE GREENWOOD: A TENNESSEE CHRISTMAS
DECEMBER 19 | LARRY • STEVE • RUDY
THE GATLIN BROTHERS
COUNTRY & CHRISTMAS SHOW
JANUARY 22 | TANYA TUCKER
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
OF ELECTRIC LIGHT ORCHESTRA
MARCH 27 | CRYSTAL GAYLE
MARCH 31 | THE GUESS WHO

2019 LEXUS GX GIVEAWAY
PLUS $20,000 GIVEAWAY

4 HOURLY WINNERS OF $1,000 | 6PM - 10PM
GRAND PRIZE: LEXUS | 11PM
4 HARD ROCK VIP PACKAGES | MIDNIGHT

2 HARD ROCK TAMPA AND 2 HARD ROCK HOLLYWOOD
PACKAGE INCLUDES 2-NIGHT HOTEL STAY AND $500 RESORT CREDIT

HALLOWEEN NIGHT THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31

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MUST BE 21 OR OLDER. NO PLAYERS CLUB FOR COMPLETE DETAILS. MANAGEMENT RESERVES ALL RIGHTS. PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN TRESPASSED OR BANNED BY THE SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA OR THOSE WHO HAVE OPTED INTO THE SELF-EXCLUSION PROGRAM ARE NOT ELIGIBLE. IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS A GAMBLING PROBLEM, PLEASE CALL: 1.888.ADMIT.IT.

MINUTES AWAY FROM MORE
Andrew Hill Investment Advisors awards grants to local nonprofits at Naples Sailing and Yacht Club

Andrew Hill Investment Advisors Inc., a Naples-based investment and wealth management advisory firm, awarded grants to three local nonprofit organizations that have made a positive impact in the community and that were recognized for their work in the areas of Environmental, Social and Governance. The grants were awarded to The Water School at Florida Gulf Coast University; Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida – Sister Veronica Fund; and the National Alliance on Mental Illness, Crisis Intervention Team Program at the firm’s annual ESG Cocktail Party.

1. Jeanne Haydip, Ginger Figurelli, Dante Figurelli, Jennifer Figurelli and Alyssa Stuve
2. Diana Richter and Garrett Richter
3. Aysegul Timur and Mete Timur
4. Vanessa Kurtz, Dr. Mike Parsons and Tony Lee
5. Dr. Susan Liberski and Andy Hill
6. Jennifer Figurelli and Mike Figurelli
7. Lou Traina, Mary Lynn Hill, Clay Cone, Sandra Buxton and Reg Buxton

Let’s Get Together for the Holidays!

Corporate Events | Private Parties | Holiday Celebrations

Contact
Mari Hornbeck at 239-659-3124 or mhornbeck@cooperhotels.com

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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.
It’s an eternal and persistent question. There are dozens of factors that affect the way a wine tastes, such as where the grapes were grown and when they were harvested. We can’t control any of that, but we do have a choice about the shape of the wine glass (which very much affects the flavor perceptions) and the temperature.

It gets a bit stickier if you keep the wine for months or years before opening. As you probably know, the idea of “cellar temperature” is important in wine storage. For long-term preservation, it’s around 50-55 degrees, and 70% humidity, which keeps the corks moist and helps prevent leakage.

In my experience, most people seem to serve reds at room temperature and whites a bit chilled. But how chilled? And to serve reds at room temperature and prevent leakage. Which keeps the corks moist and helps

It’s well known in the wine world that most people serve their whites too cold and their reds too warm. So, let’s clear this up right now. Whites should be around 55 degrees, and reds around 65 degrees. If you’ve put some left over wine in the refrigerator, warm it up by letting it stand for a while. If you’re in a hurry, put it in a glass, cup it with both hands and swirl it gently. I know of some very impatient people who subject their too-cold wine to a short zap in the microwave, and you can try that if you like, but don’t tell me about it.

You can tell me — and I hope you do — how you enjoy our weekly discoveries.

Villa San-Juliette Chorum Red Reserve 2016 ($30) — The winemakers in Paso Robles are an unconventional lot and this red blend proves it. There are six different grapes in the bottle, including Petite Sirah, Zinfandel, Grenache and even a bit of Alicante Bouschet. The 18 months it spends in French and American oak give vanilla and coffee notes to the predominant blackberry and black cherry. WW 92.

McIntyre Pinot Noir Santa Lucia Highlands 2017 ($38) — The wine region around Santa Barbara is a top area for Pinot Noir cultivation, and this is an excellent example of the style. There is characteristic strawberry on the nose and palate, backed up by notes of baked fruit. The tannins are nicely rounded on the persistent finish. WW 90.

Mondavi Chardonnay Napa Valley 2017 (91) — The Mondavi label needs no introduction. This flavor profile is very traditional, because it is barrel-fermented and aged on the lees. This technical technique imparts a particular richness to the mouthfeel and dense, juicy flavors of peach and pear, along with a bit of bright lemon acidity. WW 88.

Le Calle di Catocci Poggio d’Oro Montecucco Sangiovese 2016 ($30) — From central Tuscany, this wine is produced entirely from organic grapes and offers flavors and aromas that are bold, intense and concentrated. It delivers prominent flavors of black plum and black berries, along with notes of vanilla and spice from the 18 months of oak aging. A biggie. WS 89.

Martini & Rossi Asti Sparkling White NV ($9) — With the holidays approaching, it’s not too soon to think about festive sparklers. This brand has been a leader in sparkling wines from the (very) cool climate of Italy’s northern Piedmont region. The grape is Moscato Bianco, and the low alcohol content makes for a sweet and easy accompaniment to holiday cheese platters and pastry desserts. WW 86.

Ask the Wine Whisperer

Q. What is sediment in wine? What causes it? Is it harmful?

— Pamela F., Punta Gorda

A. First of all, wine sediment is a normal result of the wine sitting in the bottle. In whites, you’ll see little clear sparkling crystals composed of tartaric acid. They’re the result of chilling the wine and they’re harmless. In reds, the sediment is mainly leftover fruit solids from the grape skins, seeds and stems. You can get rid of them by pouring the wine through a fine strainer. Many funnels used for decanting also have a fine screen inside them for exactly this purpose.

— Jerry Greenfield is The Wine Whisperer. He is wine director of the international Direct Cellars wine club. Read his other writings at www.winewhisperer.com
Cuisine News

The Naples Winter Wine Festival announced that the 2020 Honored Vintner, Saskia de Rothschild of Domaines Barons de Rothschild Lafite, will headline this year’s Vintage Cellar event in honor of the festival’s 20th anniversary. The Bordeaux-themed tasting will also feature special guest master sommelier Anton Gillon of Vinous at 9:30 a.m. Jan. 23 at Bleu Provence.

Following a morning of tastings, wine enthusiasts will enjoy lunch and sip on additional wines from Domaines Barons de Rothschild Lafite such as a 2005 and 2011 Château Duhart-Milon and 2018 “R” de Rieussec. Seating is limited and tickets start at $3,250 per person.

Next Thursday’s Vintage Cellar event, festival guests will enjoy the relaxation and conversation of all the wines and its atmosphere.

Friday, Saturday, Sunday

The stage of the stage

The Dock at Crayton Cove

“The Real Taste of Naples”

Established 1976

12th Avenue South at the City Dock

239-263-9940

DockCraytonCove.com

Open Daily • 11am • Lunch, Dinner & Sunday Brunch
Subject to availability, while supplies last.

The stage at Mercato celebrates National Sandwich Day by offering $2 off of its piled-high sandwiches with the presentation of a coupon on Saturday, Nov. 9, which can be found on the restaurant’s website, www.wtcozytavern.com.

Sea Salt hosts its final cooking-demonstration this year where Chef Josh Zeman will teach guests to prepare and eat the best salad and ricotta dumplings at night on Saturday, Nov. 9. A ticket includes admission to the evening of Prosecco and a glass of prosecco, 1180 Third St. S, 239-454-7298 or www.seasaltnaples.com.

Sukie’s Wine Shop hosts a free wine tasting of 16 bottles from its collection from 7-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 6. Free, but registration required. 4280 Gulfsound Blvd. 239-228-8523 or www.sukiewineshop.com.

Lake Park Diner, “The Diner with a Conscience” announced that starting Nov. 1, the diner will be open seven days a week and will begin its breakfast hours from 7 to 10 a.m., offering additional hours for patrons to get their favorite breakfast foods and start their day off right. Lake Park Diner, which opened its doors in October, offers a variety of menu options, using many organic and locally sourced ingredients.

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

For Veteran’s Day, Burntwood Tavern at Mercato invites veterans and active military personnel to eat free on Monday, Nov. 11. 239-631-8964 or www.burntwoodtavern.com.

The Ladies’ Philoptochos Society of St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church are hosting a bake sale every Thursday through Sunday, Nov. 1, where locals can bake delicious baklava, spanakopita and traps of Greek holiday cookies, moussaka and pastitsio for pickup on Nov. 16. All items are frozen and ready to bake. Orders must be placed by Nov. 3 contacting Vasili Vaskens, 239-597-6579 or mmobod26@gmail.com.

Everglades Wonder Gardens hosts its third annual Brewh pub 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 musical performances by Roots Almighty and Emma Arnold, 20-20 in advance, $50 at the door. 27180 Old 41 Road. 239-992-2591 or www.evergladeswondergarden.com.

Friends of Lovers Keys hosts Beach ‘n’ Brews where guests can enjoy live music with beers from local breweries and food trucks from 4-9 p.m. Friday, Nov. 8, at Lovers Key. $50 for general admission, $75 for VIP that includes early admission at 5 p.m., gazebo seating, gift bag and more. 8700 Estero Blvd. 239-463-4588 or events@friendsofloverskeys.org.
The Local hosts dinner to benefit James Beard Foundation

Dining at The Local, with its farm-to-table menu, can make you feel pretty virtuous on an ordinary evening, but it’s even better when the meal is a benefit for a worthy cause.

Executive chef/owner Jeff Mitchell has planned a five-course dinner showcasing the flavors of “A ‘Local’ Taste of Fall” to benefit the Friends of James Beard Foundation on Wednesday, Nov. 13.

Proceeds raised from the dinner benefit the James Beard Foundation’s Impact Programs, which include promoting women entrepreneurs in the industry, encouraging sustainable agriculture and reducing food waste.

The guest of honor is Nick Batty, owner of Inyoni Organic Farms, who will provide the produce for the meal. Qupe, which produces sustainable, cool climate, organic Rhone-style wines in California’s Central Coast, is supplying the wines.

Mr. Mitchell is excited to be hosting this benefit dinner, which will showcase local ingredients, including vegetables that grow here in the fall.

“We’re looking forward to some spring-type flavors during the fall,” he says. “Summer squashes, tomatoes, cucumbers and radishes are some of the first things to come out during the season. We’re kind of holding our breath that the weather cooperates.”

“While he isn’t saying exactly what will be on the menu, it will be farm to table ingredients that will include locally sourced items, many grown specifically for this dinner.”

“I’m honored to host a dinner that benefits one of the most prestigious culinary organizations in the world, while spotlighting some of the best ingredients our region has to offer,” Mr. Mitchell says.

In the KNOW

If you go

➤ What: A ‘Local’ Taste of Fall, a wine dinner benefiting the James Beard Foundation
➤ Where: The Local, 5323 Airport-Pulling Road, Naples
➤ When: 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 13
➤ Cost: $125 per person (plus tax and gratuity)
➤ Reservations: Call 239-596-3276 or visit www.thelocalnaples.com and click on the reservations tab

KAREN’S THREE FOR 3 Spots for sushi lovers

1 ARAYA SUSHI ASIAN GRILL
2650 Immokalee Road; 239-593-3344; arayanaples.com
Chef Jon Augsmeath may come from Thailand, but he is a skilled and inventive craftsman when it comes to sushi. His signature roll is the Lobster Lobster, which starts with a crunchy lobster roll that’s topped with avocado, lobster tempura, masago, eel sauce and spicy mayo. For those with an iron palate, consider the Hot Lady roll, which consists of tuna and avocado roll topped with fresh hamachi, jalapeño, wasabi cream and sriracha. Individual pieces of sushi include ama ebi (sweet raw jumbo shrimp), escolar and octopus. There are interesting specials each day as well. For non-sushi eaters, the cooked Thai and Japanese dishes are excellent.

2 NAMBA, THE MARKETPLACE AT PELICAN BAY
6647 Tamiami Trail N., Naples; 239-592-4992; nambanaples.com
Those who think all sushi is created equal obviously haven’t tasted Chef Koko’s version. Even a simple slice of blue fin tuna belly on sushi rice is a transcendent taste experience — tender, scrupulously fresh, possessing the best flavors of the sea. Sit at the cozy counter and watch as he creates each piece. Other standouts include the salmon roll, with ponzu-dressed beets, spinach leaves and crunchy tamagoyaki; the Hokkaido scallop, with whipped truffle tofu butter, Japanese pickled plum butter, fish Roe, Japanese ginger and shiso; and the spicy yellowtail roll with yellowtail, yuzu kosho, avocado, serrano pepper and shaved bonito. Save a little room for some of his equally exceptional ramen and perhaps a green tea crème brulee.

3 ZEN ASIAN BBQ
10823 Tamiami Trail N., Naples; 239-260-7037; eatazen.com
There’s much to distract at Zen – like the Korean barbecue, robata grilled items, ramen and hot pots – but the sushi is serious business, too. For something a bit exotic, consider the Hawaiian roll, with hamachi, tuna, avocado and cilantro wrapped in soy paper then topped with fried garlic and ponzu sauce. The Sea of Love roll features shrimp tempura, eel and cucumber topped with salmon tataki, spicy mayo, eel sauce, kimchee sauce and a touch of crunch. And for something else out of the ordinary, try the Zen Flaming roll with shrimp tempura, spicy tuna and asparagus topped with mixed seafood and Black Angus ribeye.
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