

BAY WATCH NEWS



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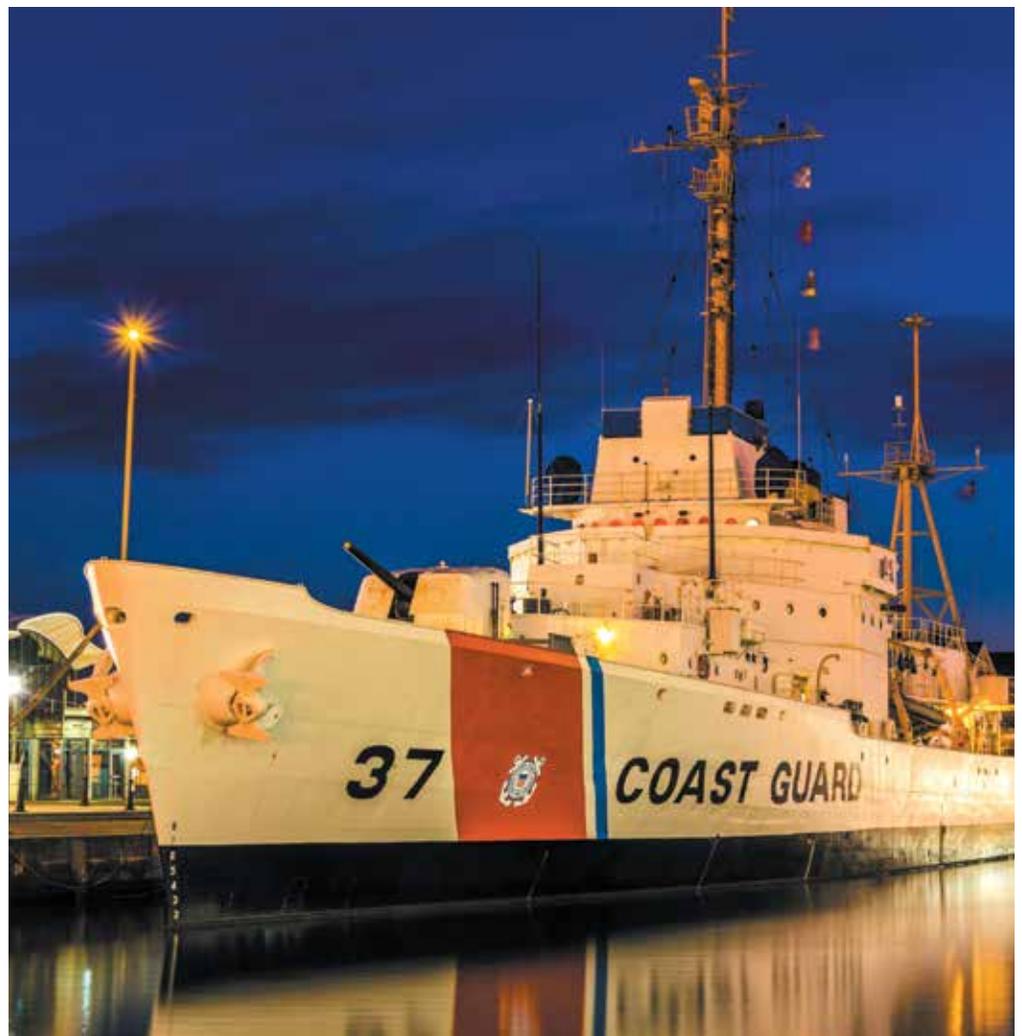
MARCH 2020

Semper Paratus - Always Ready

FLOTILLA 96

By Mike Hanson, Hidden Harbor

LOCATED at the intersection of Vanderbilt Drive and Wiggins Pass Road in North Naples, the headquarters building of Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 96 is home base for approximately 95 volunteers in the local Coast Guard Auxiliary. Among them are a number of Bonita Bay residents, all dedicated to the core mission of the unit: "To contribute to the safety and security of our citizens, ports, and waterways." Established by an Act of Congress in 1939 to assist the Coast Guard in promoting boating safety, the Auxiliary now has approximately 26,000 members who augment the ranks of active duty and reserve Coast Guard units in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa and Guam. Flotilla 96 was founded and chartered in 1973.



continued on page 10

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Editor's Notes

“March, when days are getting long, let thy growing hours be strong to set right some wintry wrong.”

-- Caroline May (1820-1895),

English-American poet, editor and literary critic

We have many wonderful contributors in (and out) of our community that help make *Bay Watch News* possible. We want to thank our long-time contributor of The Inside Story column, June Muehr of Creekside. She has helped us all pick our colors, our cushions, our inside décor for many seasons and has decided it is time to move on. We sincerely thank her for her contributions. And we hope to see her back in our pages from time to time.

We like to remind folks in our March issue that the days are now getting longer and spring and summer are within view. It has been unusually mild across much of the country and feels for many like winter never quite arrived. As our readers begin thinking about returning to their northern residences, we remind you how much there is to do right here in our community. It has seemed (albeit maybe anecdotally) that more folks are staying longer in Bonita Bay rather than dispersing at the first sign of summer.

As usual, a reminder:

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Founder: Don Gorman

Co-Editors and Publishers: Valerie Gorman and Chris Gorman

Senior Contributing Editor: Tommye Fleming

Senior Associate: Lauren Henry

Bay Watch News Banner Photo: Ed Corvelli

Bay Watch News Staff Photographer: Maryle Barbé

Feature Writers and Contributors: Chris Beaudoin; ; Elaine Brotman; David P. Browne, PA; Cinda Carron; Darcy Eikenberg; Marie Gorman; Shirley Gorman; Mike Hanson; Bev LaLonde; Ginger Lickley; Michael Lickley; Laura Moore; Steve Nagy; Lana Novak, CS; John Pinti; Pat Richter; Ken Saksa; Dave Shellenbarger; Peter Simmons; Bruce Stewart; Jim Unland; Charlie Vogt; Isabelle Wells; Sue Wilkening.

Contents

- Page 1 **Semper Paratus - Always Ready**
- Page 3 **Editor's Notes**
- Page 3 **Table of Contents**
- Page 5 **Letters to the Editor**
- Page 6 **Who's Who in Bonita Bay**
- Page 9 **Member-Owned Bonita Bay Club
Celebrating 10th Anniversary**
- Page 14 **NFL Concussions**
- Page 16 **Curious Photographer**
- Page 17 **BBCA Community Meeting**
- Page 18 **What's New at Disney in 2020**
- Page 20 **Do Good Bike Project**
- Page 23 **Special Election Q&A with Chris Corrie**
- Page 27 **Bonita Bay Uncorked**
- Page 28 **Ford vs. Ferrari**
- Page 32 **Bridge Lesson**
- Page 33 **Greetings from the Mayor!**
- Page 34 **Property Values**
- Page 35 **Community Calendar**
- Page 36 **Why Our Lines Are Getting Longer**
- Page 40 **Entertainment Calendar**
- Page 42 **Dining Around Town**
- Page 44 **Animal Adoptions**
- Page 45 **What's Wrong With Being a Mutt?**
- Page 48 **On the Bookshelf**
- Page 52 **Big Screen Movie Reviews**
- Page 55 **The Pendulum Usually Swings Back**
- Page 57 **Scams**
- Page 58 **Expanded Story of Bonita Bay Released**
- Page 60 **Bonita Bay Historical Society –
The Piper Brothers**
- Page 62 **Dining Out With Laura**
- Page 64 **Techno-Savvy**
- Page 65 **Bald Eagle Report**
- Page 66 **Real Estate Transactions**
- Page 68 **Tide Table**
- Page 69 **Fishing Report with Cap't Steve Nagy**
- Page 70 **Sudoku, Jumble, Trivia,
Animals in the (Not So) Wild**
- Page 71 **View From a Different Angle**
- Page 73 **Crossword Puzzle**
- Page 74 **Advertiser List, Classifieds**

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Letters to the Editor

GET THE VOTE OUT ...

The upcoming Bonita Springs City Council special election will be March 17, the same date as the Florida Presidential Preference Primary. The City Council election is important to residents of Bonita Bay for several reasons, one of which is that Bonita Bay provides about 25% of the tax monies to operate the City.

We need to elect a proven leader to represent Bonita Bay. Chris Corrie (a Bonita Bay resident) has proven his leadership during his five years on the Board of the BBCA, including two years as President. He understands that our quality of life and our property values are impacted by actions the City Council takes. The most important task that the City needs to address is where our tax dollars are going as the county and unincorporated towns are receiving a disproportionate share of our tax dollars. The taxpayers of Bonita Springs pay about \$135 million in taxes, of which the City itself only winds up with about \$8 million.

What you can do is to make it a priority to vote in the upcoming election. Early voting starts March 7 at the Supervisor of Elections office located at just north of Bonita Bay at 25987 S. Tamiami Trail. If you can't vote in person, please request an absentee ballot. It is **extremely** important that we have representation.

Ken Mack, Hamptons

SPECIAL ELECTION

Dave Shellenbarger's front page article in the February edition of *Bay Watch News* did a nice job of covering the campaign of Bonita Bay's Chris Corrie, whom I strongly support for the City's District 4 Council seat in the March 17 special election. (*Editor's note: See interview with Chris Corrie on page 23.*)

I recently resigned that position because of City Council's controversial action, by a 4-3 vote, that extended the Council members' own terms by eight months, without the vote of the people of Bonita Springs. As I said at the time of my resignation, I was not comfortable serving a term for which I was not elected. Simply put, extending one's term by legislative fiat is not the democracy I was taught at St. Bernadette grammar school or Columbia Law School.

Of concern to me in Dave's article was the reported statement by Peter Simmons, whose vote extended his own term as mayor, that he did so to "save money on election costs."

Bonita Bay residents should be aware that, in reality, the March 2020 mayoral election cancelled by Council's action would have come at no cost to the city from the election supervisor. That's because that election for Mayor and three City Council seats "piggybacks," for free, on springtime Presidential Primary elections. It's been that way virtually throughout the City's history.

At the time of the Council's controversial action, the City's Charter Review commission, comprised of citizen volunteers, had convened to consider City Charter changes for the March 2020 voter referendum. Charter review would have been the natural, ready-made process for those desirous of extending terms and upending the City's long-established dates for municipal elections. And it would have taken place two full years before the 2022 "off year" election of the three other Council seats, for which the City has traditionally paid reasonable costs.

Most unfortunately, in extending their own terms by legislative fiat, City Council chose to ignore a vote of the people in the Charter Review process that was staring them right in the face.

Peter R. O'Flinn, Ibis Cove

MANGROVE TRIMMING

Acting against a vote of Bayview II owners who endorsed their trimming initiative, Mary Burke, President of Bayview II, wrote *Bay Watch News* to stop the legal trimming of mangroves adjacent to their high-rise building. In her crusade she casts the entire process and Bayview I in a negative light. As its President, I feel compelled to respond.

Years ago, we noted that a small portion of the extensive mangrove area nearest our landscaped property had grown to heights never envisioned by the developer. Wanting to enhance the 'Bayview' view for residents in the lower floors, and improve the value of our building, we investigated our options and obtained full authority to proceed with a trimming of the mangroves. Contrary to Burke's assertions, our trimming didn't produce a 'butchered appearance,' rather it caused the area to regain its former appearance as the entryway to a lush forest extending more than 200 yards into the Bay. The cost of the trimming was minimal, and supported by our residents, who overwhelmingly favored the improvement.

Hurricane Irma extensively damaged numerous mangrove trees in the area. Several residents mistakenly attributed their appearance to trimming. They began a campaign to prohibit future cuttings, even threatening litigation against the Board. Our attorneys reviewed our actions and the applicable approvals we obtained. They advised us that there was no basis for the opponents' objections, and we trimmed the trees once again last summer. No rational person can compare before and after pictures without concluding that the trimming vastly improved the appearance of the mangroves.

Burke implies the trimming harms the mangroves, but that's not so. As we've learned, trimming promotes future growth while allowing all our residents to enjoy a far more pleasant view of the paradise adjoining Bayview I. We are proud of the action we took, consistent with our obligations to our owners and in accord with the advice of both landscape experts and legal counsel. We acted only after first obtaining the thoughtful approval of the BBCA Design Review Committee and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. After the last trimming, in August 2019, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection came to the site and reviewed the actual trimming. They then went on record as having determined the trimming was done in full compliance with their permit.

More than a few qualified, professional experts, including the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the Bonita Bay Community Association, independent consultants specializing in the protection of Florida's environment, and legal counsel, have each endorsed, inspected and approved Bayview I's trimming program.

**Dick Rossi, President
Bayview I Board of Directors**



Who's Who in Bonita Bay

BUD SMITH

By Tommy Fleming, Mahogany Ridge

IT WAS AN ACCIDENT that catapulted Cornelius (Bud) Smith's career at Union Carbide Corporation (UCC). The accident, one of the most famous in modern history, involved a gas leak at the Union Carbide pesticide plant in Bhopal, India. It is still considered to be the world's worst industrial disaster.



Background

On December 2, 1984, a gas leak incident caused the release of 30 tons of highly toxic gases. Government figures estimate 15,000 largely poor Indians living in nearby towns were killed, and more than 500,000 others suffered injuries.

UCC argued water entered the tank as a result of an act of sabotage by a disgruntled employee. The factory was majority owned by UCC, with Indian government-controlled banks and the Indian public holding a 49.9% stake. In 1989, UCC paid \$470 million to settle litigation stemming from the disaster. Dow Chemical Company purchased UCC in 2001.

The Fallout

When the disaster occurred, Warren Anderson, UCC CEO, accepted full moral responsibility. He flew to India to address the issues and was immediately arrested. Amidst the chaos, Anderson plucked Bud Smith from the legal department, where he was serving as Assistant General Counsel, and promoted him to Corporate VP of Health, Safety and Environment, working directly for the Chairman. It was a position Smith would hold until his retirement from Union Carbide in 1992.

Although Union Carbide always claimed the Bhopal release resulted from a human resource issue, not a safety nor environmental issue, Smith was given a new corporate department with **AN UNLIMITED BUDGET**, to establish global Union Carbide processes for the protection of health, safety and the environment that would be "second to none." He hired all his own people, including two plant managers who served as his 'generals.' Smith's staff grew to 95 members, including 40 auditors.

He and his team traveled the world, benchmarking large manufacturers and cherry-picking the best of each company's systems. The result was a system still generally considered the best of the best. They formulated policies and created corporate standards/procedures which cascaded to divisions and plants throughout the world. After the design work, his group was responsible for auditing processes and results. Periodically, audit findings of non-compliance were reported to the company's Board of Directors.

When asked if the new procedures would have prevented the Bhopal incident, Bud said, "Sadly, no. They would have if it had been a mechanical failure – but it was an act of sabotage." He

went on to say that in today's world, nowhere near the number of people would have been killed or injured because of modern emergency response plans. Instead of folks running to town to help, they would have been directed to stay indoors until the toxic cloud blew over.

Smith also commented that apparently very little of the Union Carbide settlement money actually got to the victims and their families.

Before and after the disaster

Bud graduated from Holy Cross College and received his law degree from NYU. Upon graduation, he went on active duty with the US Marine Corps. He served with the JAG – Judge Advocate Group – trying court marshals and providing legal advice to Marines and their families. He retired from the Corps as a major.

He went to work in New York City as an admiralty lawyer; and in 1972, he joined Texaco as Chief Environmental Counsel. He moved to a New York law firm as senior associate for environmental law before joining Union Carbide in Danbury, CT in 1978.

After his retirement from UCC, he consulted for a few large firms and eventually started his own environmental consulting firm. He retired for good in 2015.

Bud and his wife Mary Lou found Bonita Bay while visiting friends in Naples during Thanksgiving 1997. It's something they will be forever thankful for.

They liked the area and started looking at condos – but much of what they saw was essentially landscaped tomato fields which wasn't what they had envisioned. They drove through the gates of Bonita Bay and before they ever saw a home, Bud told Mary Lou, "This is where we are going to live."

They bought in Wedgwood and later moved to Riviera. They enjoy golf, bocce, pickleball and all that the Sports and Lifestyle Centers have to offer. They have five children and 12 grandchildren whom they enjoy entertaining.

Bud's "other" hours are devoted to volunteer mediation work for Lee County. He is one of 8-10 Florida Supreme Court-certified mediators who facilitate cases in the Small Claims Court. All claimants and defendants have to go through mediation before trial ... hopefully coming to some agreement and thus preventing the cost of a trial. About 70% of cases are settled, saving the county the cost of 4-5 additional judges.

The mediators can ask questions and facilitate agreements, but they can't provide legal advice or make legal decisions. When cases are settled, mediators write up the agreements for approval by the presiding judge. Court-approved agreements serve the same function as judicial decisions following a trial.

The mediation assignments aren't as challenging (nor time consuming) as those at Union Carbide, but Smith finds them rewarding nonetheless.



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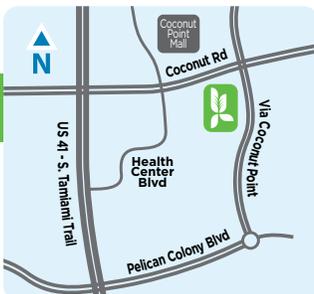
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Member-Owned Bonita Bay Club Celebrating 10th Anniversary

By Dave Shellenbarger, Woodlake

IF YOU WANT AN EXAMPLE of the old saying “Time flies when you’re having a good time,” I believe the saying is: Time flies when you are having fun talking to a member of the Bonita Bay Club (BBC)! It’s been a decade since the members purchased the club from the developer, and it’s certain that life is good today at Bonita Bay Club.

With a full golf membership since 2014, member enrollment has surged as major capital projects have been completed. As we review events of the last ten years, it’s good to consider all that had to happen for the Club to reach this level of achievement.

When members bought the Club in 2010, financial distress across the real estate industry and on Wall Street had everyone anxious and uneasy. Personal portfolios and real estate investments were plummeting in value; international financial institutions were teetering toward bankruptcy, and every local company faced the distressing impact of shrinking consumer spending. The developers of Bonita Bay had a sharp downturn in 2006 and to reduce their financial obligations, they sought to sell Bonita Bay Club to members. Golf clubs in other communities owned by the developer were sold to their members as well. A committed group of BBC members formed a turnover committee in 2009 to negotiate the membership’s purchase of the Club.

The first step was to develop a persuasive message about the importance of the members’ buying the Club, since many were uneasy and sought no change. But Club membership was a big part of the members’ enjoyment of living in the community, and real estate values were inextricably tied to the success of the Club – the better the Club, the higher the value of real estate, a fact that is even more true today. Member support developed slowly as the months passed.

After this energetic campaign to build member support and to overcome members’ anxieties about the economy, approximately 92% of the membership voted to complete the purchase! Bylaws were adopted, the first member board of directors was elected, and the challenges that lay ahead were measured by an Ad Hoc Study Committee that examined all facets of Club usage from rounds of golf, restaurant usage, number of parking spaces, virtually every performance statistic. From this data a strategy for improving the Club was formed.

In undertaking the transformation of the Club, professional leadership was crucial. General Manager Dan Miles, who left Medinah Country Club in Chicago to come to Bonita Bay, worked closely with the board to build the vision that led to the Club we know today. The 2012-2013 clubhouse and golf

operations redesign cost over \$12 million and resulted in a new sports bar dining facility and improved golf operations facilities. Members’ acceptance was enthusiastic, and a sharp increase in new member applications and initiation fees began the momentum that has funded Club improvements.

The next major capital project was the Lifestyle Center, an opportunity that required a quick decision to buy a Lee Health building in the Promenade for use as a Club fitness center and spa. The short planning cycle resulted in project challenges but the resulting value to members is substantial. The Lifestyle Center has experienced increased member usage every year since it opened in 2015, with almost 66,000 fitness visits last year, a 9.3% increase over the prior year. The spa provided over 15,000 services to members last year. The bridge room is consistently busy, and the commercial space in the building has been continuously occupied.

A few years later, Sports Center construction – pool, tennis and Breezeway Cafe – resulted in another membership surge that has supported continuing strong financial results. The ambitious capital spending campaign was largely funded through a tremendous increase in membership activity and strong operating results, with no member capital assessments necessary throughout the expansion program. Focus is on golf course improvements in the next few years, as parity in all Club-owned facilities is pursued.

Looking back over the last ten years, it’s important to recognize the value of professional management, experienced loyal staff and the significant volunteer leadership provided by board and committee members. Dan Miles’ strong professional leadership was central to creating and executing the Club improvement plan. One of Miles’ priorities was to develop and retain experienced hospitality professionals to staff the Club, and the fact that the average seniority of Club department heads is 16 years suggests that this goal has been achieved. The professional staff has been a key component in creating and maintaining high member satisfaction.

It’s also important to recognize the hundreds of capable highly skilled members who have donated unmeasured hours to support and improve the Club. In this time when citizens are remote and largely isolated from national and regional political governance, this Club has been shaped by its members through the hard work of these volunteers. Board members who contribute hundreds of hours each year, participants on standing committees, organizers of sports and other games

continued on page 14



(Editor's note: To learn more about the activities of Flotilla 96, Mike Hanson talked with two experienced volunteers from Bonita Bay who have a combined service of more than 20 years in the unit.)

Jim Mayer of Harbor Landing is Immediate Past Flotilla Commander of Flotilla 96, an annual position he has held three times since joining the Flotilla in the spring of 2007. Asked how he first got involved, Mayer explained that shortly after moving to the Naples area from Los Angeles, he literally stumbled across the Flotilla headquarters building while walking on Vanderbilt Drive. He noticed a sign on the door promoting a safe boating class scheduled to start in a week and said to himself, "Well, I'm a boater, I think I'll take this class." After two sessions, he was hooked. "I liked the people, I liked the knowledge I was picking up, and I liked the opportunity to give back to the country and help boaters. Before the class was finished, I submitted my paperwork to become a member of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary."

During his 13 years as a volunteer, Mayer has held multiple staff officer positions at the Flotilla, Division and District levels. He is a certified boat crew member, and his boat (which he keeps at the Bonita Bay Marina) is also certified by the Coast Guard, a designation that makes it eligible for use in on-water patrols under Coast Guard orders. Within Flotilla 96, four additional privately owned boats are certified and docked at Wiggins Pass, all of them available to assist Coast Guard operations.

Flotilla 96's Area of Responsibility (AOR) extends from Matanzas Pass to Clam Pass. "When we're on the water on patrol, we're observing and providing boaters information and assistance," Mayer explains. "We are not involved in law enforcement in any way."

When an Auxiliary patrol is underway, the Coast Guard Station monitors the mission and knows where the boat is at all times. "If we encounter anything out of the ordinary, we are required to call in as soon as possible, speak to the Officer of the Day and await instructions," Mayer says. "The Coast Guard will never ask us to do more than we're trained to do. They always come down on the side of caution. We're volunteers."

Like Jim Mayer, Len Nuzzo of Deerwood discovered Flotilla 96 "kind of by accident." Eight years ago, a chance encounter with a Coast Guard team conducting vessel safety checks at the Bonita



Dick Etches, Len Nuzzo and Jim Mayer in uniform

Bay Marina inspired him to join the Auxiliary and become deeply involved in its local activities. "I had a boat, and I wanted to learn as much as possible about boating safety," says Nuzzo. "So I signed up and began taking classes."

Nuzzo says he loves the challenge of learning that his Coast Guard service provides, and he holds a number of certifications that classify him as an Aux-Op. "It was a lot of work," Nuzzo says – it took a year of classes and training (both in-port and on-water) just to qualify for boat crew status.

"You need to retain a lot of information," Nuzzo continues. "When you're on a vessel, the commands are very specific and exact – whether for towing, docking, anchoring, throwing lines, even taking a line off a cleat. This is to ensure that crews are completely interchangeable."

Nuzzo's current certifications include Boat Crew, Instructor, Vessel Examiner, Program Visitor and Aids to Navigation (ATON).

"An ATON mission is a good example of the things we do to improve boating safety," Nuzzo says. "Within our area of responsibility, we are given the mission of ensuring that all buoys, markers and lights are in place and working properly. We inspect and verify everything annually, and report all discrepancies for corrective action."

Many of Flotilla 96's operations are based in-port or on land, and include regular course offerings on boating safety and seamanship, vessel safety checks and outreach to the public through program visitations, speaking engagements, distribution of pamphlets to marinas, boat dealers and libraries and participation in local boat shows.

"One of the things I most enjoy about the Auxiliary is the people I've met," Mayer says. "It's an interesting group that includes active military personnel, ex-law enforcement, ex-military, ex-FBI, school teachers, plumbers, retired CEO's. I enjoy getting to know them. We all work together to promote the cause."

"We're always trying to recruit new members," says Mayer.

"While an interest in boating is essential, you don't need to own a boat or have boating experience. We have some members who knew very little about boating when they joined."

Still, Mayer offers a cautionary note. "Volunteers need to know what they're getting into. Participation requires studying, exams, certifications and supervision. It's not for everyone. But for me, the entire experience has been exhilarating, worthwhile and rewarding."

BONITA BAY RESIDENT MEMBERS OF COAST GUARD AUXILIARY FLOTILLA 96:

- Dick Etches, Ridge Lake Court
- John Gaston, Arbor Strand
- Duncan Macrae, Wedgewood
- Jim Mayer, Harbor Landing
- Gregg Ramshaw, Harbor Landing
- Dick White, Creekside
- Len Nuzzo, Deerwood

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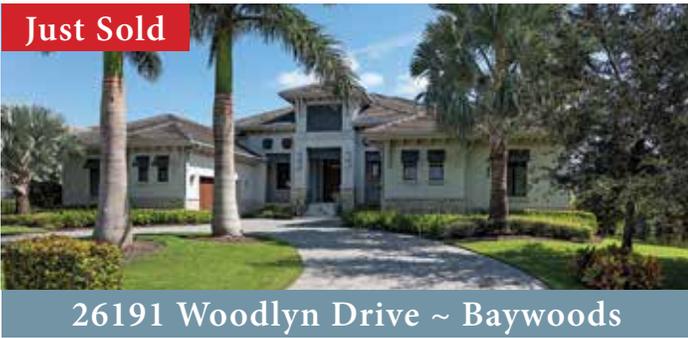
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NFL CONCUSSIONS

By Pat Richter, Oakwood

IN THE JANUARY 2016 ISSUE of *Bay Watch News*, I wrote about the subject of concussions in the NFL and in particular, the NFL Concussion Lawsuit. It has been just over three years since the lawsuit has been settled and recently information on the status and results thus far were communicated to former NFL players by one of their brethren, Jeff Nixon, who is former player and dedicated activist. An excerpt of that communication is here:

As we enter into the fourth year of the NFL Concussion Settlement, there are a few things I would like to highlight from the previous three years.

First, it should be noted that the projections for the end of the third year of the Settlement had estimated that 769 award payments would have been made to former players – and that the total payments would amount to \$265,985,353. The Settlement has blown by both those numbers in amazing speed! As of the most recent NFL Concussion Claims Report, \$724,482,700 in monetary award notices have been issued to 1,051 former players. Of that amount, \$640,310,358 has been paid out to 984 players and representative claimants. Additionally, the amount of individual award payments to former players will probably be going up again for the third straight year. That's because our lawyers and class reps

built an 'inflation adjustment' into the agreement.

It is evident that this issue is much greater than one might hear from the national media. Coming on the heels of a great Super Bowl game, it puts the reality of life in the NFL in a different perspective. News also comes that a possible new collective bargaining agreement between the NFL owners and the NFL Players Association may be ready to go to the players for a vote. Of potential controversy will be the NFL's interest in adding an additional regular season game (to 17). At a time when there is heated dialog on making the game safer, there are a good number of players who see this as a step in the wrong direction. What will it be ... \$\$ or player safety? I think we all know how this will turn out.

(Editor's Note: Pat Richter and his wife, Renee, are longtime residents of Bonita Bay. Pat was a three-year starter for the University of Wisconsin, a first-round draft pick of the Washington Redskins in the 1963 NFL draft and went on to play eight seasons in Washington. Later, Pat served as University of Wisconsin Athletic Director from 1989 to 2003. Pat has written a wide breadth of stories for Bay Watch News over the years, including pieces on the subject of concussions in the NFL.)



Member-Owned Bonita Bay Club Celebrating 10th Anniversary *continued from page 9*

and many more have all been part of weaving the fabric of governance that is BBC today.

These dramatic improvements in Club facilities have had a direct impact on community real estate values. The community's first homes were occupied in 1986; and these aging properties would not be particularly desirable without the Club's lifestyle values that attract new residents to the community. It's generally accepted that Bonita Bay has a six-figure price premium over similar houses and condos located in nearby communities, a premium that results not only because of the wetlands and preserves that enrich our environment but also because the Club is arguably the most attractive Club in southwest Florida. Members have spent approximately \$40 million on new and improved Club facilities, and those improvements continue to raise the value of community real estate.

The 10th anniversary celebration is planned for Saturday, March 28. Highlights currently planned for the event include:

- Live entertainment provided by two bands: doo wop by Uptown Express and party favorites by the ever-popular Brett

Foreman Band

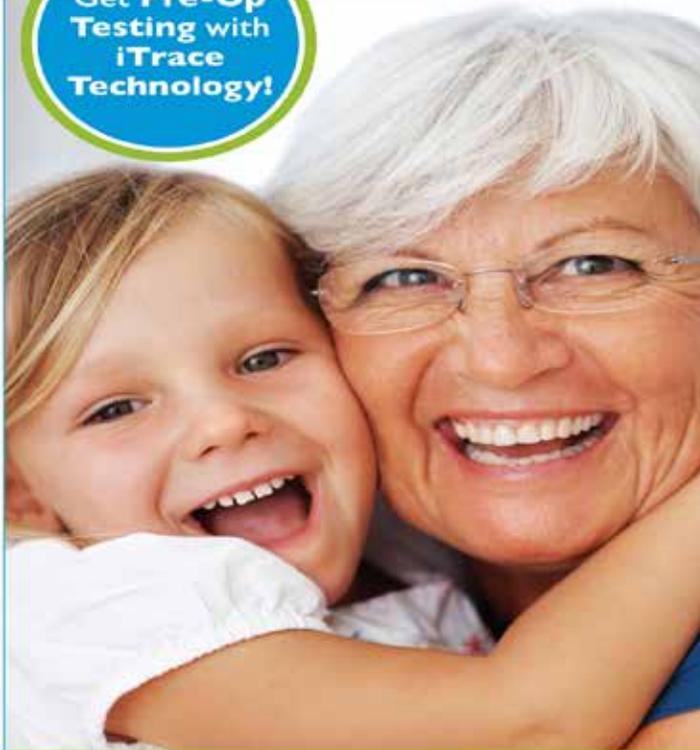
- Hosted at the Marsh Practice Facility, with tented dance floor and seating flanked by upscale food stations featuring diverse cuisine
- The \$75++ event price includes all beverages from multiple bars
- Festive color scheme of Bonita Bay Blue and Yellow décor
- Special recognition of Past Presidents of the Board
- Guest appearance by Dan Miles
- More special surprises!

Some 1,000-1,500 members are expected to attend the event.

The Club is an integral part of Bonita Bay, and those residents who are not members can appreciate the success of the Club and the light that shines on our community and on all of us as the result. We are fortunate to live in this great community where all residents live in an environment that is supportive of our active and satisfying lifestyles. Members will want to be part of this ten-year anniversary celebration!

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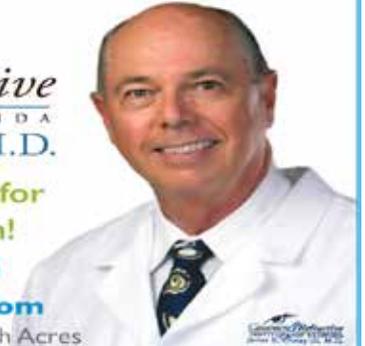
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Curious Photographer

By Maryle Barbé, Spring Ridge

What is something that is considered a luxury for you but that you don't think you could live without?



Jess Bush
CREEKSIDE

If I could play golf every day, a golf membership would be a luxury that I could not live without!



Kathy Bush
CREEKSIDE

The luxury that I could not live without is having my whole family coming to visit from Toronto.



Al Nettler
SANCTUARY

A luxury that I could not live without is my wife!



Annette Addison
PELICAN LANDING

I love getting my hair done so I would consider this a luxury I could not live without!



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BONITA BAY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEETING

FEBRUARY 13, 2020

By Staff Writer

IN ATTENDANCE: President – Hank Gempeler; Vice President – Joe Calabrese; Secretary – Chris Corrie; and Director – Rod McKenzie. The meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm. Approximately 50 people were in the audience.

Agenda

Hank Gempeler, President:

Because there are two qualified candidates to fill the two positions on the Board which will become vacant in March (Hank Gempeler retiring and Kim Sharan, who resigned in January because of relocation), there will be no election. The two Bonita Bay residents who will serve are Brian Garofalo, Bay Harbor, who will chair the Marketing Committee; and Larry Kellam, Riverwalk, who will chair the Strategic Planning Committee. It was unanimously voted upon, that for the purposes of the February meeting, Kellam would fill the fifth Board seat immediately.

Robin Leete, General Manager:

Some 98% of the assessments have been paid through February. Delinquent property owners will have their voting rights suspended and have a lien placed on their property.

Lee County Sheriff has clocked 32 hours in Bonita Bay -- 30 warnings and four traffic tickets were issued (three for stop sign violations and one for speeding).

All Permits have been approved for the pickleball project.

Voting on the proposed amendments to the By Laws is in progress and all are encouraged to cast their vote.

Charles Drake, Treasurer Report:

Revenues of \$9.9M [\$43k better than budget due to investment earnings; expenses of \$9.6M (\$672k under budget) and reserve expenditures of \$1.1M (\$10k over budget]. Additionally, two motions were made and approved unanimously by the Board - Transferring \$640k from Operations to the Reserve; and appointing Patti More, LLC as auditor for 2019 results.

Old Business

Crosswalk Project received unanimous Board approval for funding in the amount of \$145,000. The plans will be sent to the City for permits and construction will begin in summer 2020.

Sand Replenishment Project was put on hold until after April 12 because of possible interruption of beach access during peak season. The BBKA is awaiting a Field Permit and a City Permit. Florida Structural Group submitted a bid for \$57,000 and anticipates that the construction will take five days to complete.

Cane Toad proposal for controlling population of the invasive species is to hire Southern Trappers for three months at a cost of \$25,000. Four trappers would work from 10 pm until 2 am, Monday through Friday. Board voted unanimously to submit to attorney for review.

Public Comments

41 Road Noise has significantly increased since the widening of 41. A video presentation demonstrated the negative impact on the communities that border the roadway. The Board unanimously agreed to grant \$30,000 for a noise study which will be the first step in attempting to gain government funding for abatement.

Mangrove Cutting

After a lengthy presentation and discussion, the Board acknowledged that a policy regarding the cutting needs to be addressed and decided to turn over the information to legal counsel.

Meeting adjourned at 5:47 (Three hours and 26 minutes).

Reminder: On Thursday, March 19, at 9 am, the Annual Meeting of the Association will be held at the Bonita Bay Community Activities Building.

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The practice is run as a partnership. Together Dr. and Mrs. Golumbic (Lizzie) take the time needed to get to know their patients. They listen to their patients' concerns. Their caring approach, together with their years of experience and good clinical judgments set them apart in their field.

Burt and Lizzie have met so many lovely residents of Bonita Bay. It is so wonderful to have many of them as "our dental family of patients."

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What's New at Disney in 2020

THOSE WHO KNOW ME know I'm a Disney fanatic. I try to visit Walt Disney World annually. Wondering what's new at Walt Disney World? Here's a park-by-park look at everything new and coming soon.

EPCOT

- IllumiNations, the laser show that closed EPCOT each evening, has been replaced with EPCOT Forever. HarmoniUS – the largest nighttime spectacular ever – will arrive this autumn.
- Future World is being replaced with three new neighborhoods.
- Spaceship Earth is being reimagined.
- “The EPCOT Experience,” a mix of World of Color and fireworks, will soon feature floating set pieces, dancing water fountains, lasers, spotlights and more (DRONES?!?!).
- Several movies have debuted -- Awesome Planet, Beauty and the Beast Sing-a-long, Canada Far and Wide, and Wondrous China.
- Play Pavilion will arrive for WDW's 50th Anniversary in 2021 ... a one-stop shop of Disney characters.
- Guardians of the Galaxy: Cosmic Rewind, a hybrid roller coaster, will debut in 2021.
- Remy's Ratatouille Adventure, a family-friendly trackless ride, debuts soon in the France pavilion.
- Mary Poppins Expansion is coming, including a Cherry Tree Lane area.

MAGIC KINGDOM

- TRON Lightcycle roller coaster is being built in Tomorrowland for the 50th Anniversary in 2021.
- Jungle Cruise and Big Thunder Mountain RR are undergoing extensive refurbishments.
- Wreck it Ralph will replace Stitch's Great Escape by 2022.
- PeopleMover is undergoing refurbishments, including new scenes.
- Disney Villains After Hours! This separate-ticket evening event highlights Disney's baddies like Hades, Malificent and Jafar.

DISNEY'S HOLLYWOOD STUDIOS

- Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge, the Millennium Falcon Smugglers Run ride and the flagship attraction, Star Wars: Rise of the Resistance, are all newly opened.
- Guardians of the Galaxy Cosmic Rewind indoor “storytelling” coaster is scheduled for 2021.
- Toy Story Land is new if you haven't visited in two years.
- Incredibles have taken over Pixar Place, and Lightning McQueen's Race Academy is now operating.
- Mickey & Minnie's Runaway Railway debuts shortly, taking riders inside a zany cartoon world.

ANIMAL KINGDOM

- Pandora – World of Avatar is still the “hot new thing.”
- Avatar Flight of Passage remains WDW'S most popular ride.
- Rivers of Light: We Are One, AK's nighttime spectacular, received a remix.

DISNEY SPRINGS

This is the entertainment and shopping district previously known as Downtown Disney. Some 75% is new in the last five years.

- Restaurant additions include Boathouse, Jock Lindsay's Hangar



Magic Kingdom's classic Dumbo ride.



Magic Kingdom's Cinderella castle lit up for Mickey's Very Merry Christmas party.

Bar, Morimoto Asia, the Edison and 4 Rivers Cantina.

- Newest attraction is the NBA Experience.
- New Cirque du Soleil will feature acrobatic performances, choreography and musical masterpieces.

RESORTS

- Star Wars Galactic Starcruiser Resort has been announced.
- Gran Destino Tower and Disney's Riviera Resort have opened.
- Disney Skyliner gondola connects some resorts directly to the theme parks.
- Grand Floridian anticipates the arrival of Enchanted Rose, The Beauty and Beast-inspired Bar and Lounge. Citricos will become Victoria and Albert's Bistro in 2021.
- Lakeside Resort, Reflections, is under construction.
- Cove will soon join Swan and Dolphin on Disney Boardwalk.

HINTS

- Don't forget to pack comfortable shoes (not flip-flops); fanny pack, back pack or hands-free cross-body purse; sunglasses, sunscreen; bandages/blister shield; cell phone/charger and external battery chargers; Disney phone apps; Advil, first aid items, hand sanitizer; hats, Dollar Store ponchos; snacks in plastic containers, closeable frozen water bottle to refill (with filters), Ziploc bags for wet rides. And money. Lots of it.
- Your smartphone is essential. Download the Walt Disney World App on your phone to check park hours, wait times for rides, modify FastPasses, make dining reservations and order quick service meals. You can burn a lot of phone battery in the parks. If your phone is about to die, ask a Cast Member where to charge. Better still, bring external battery chargers with you.

THEME PARK TIPS

EPCOT

- Flower & Garden Festival mid-March to mid-May.
- Drinking around the world -- drink a beer in every country as you walk around the lagoon.
- OR buy a snack for everyone to share in each country.

Top rides:

- Frozen Ever After
- Royal Sommerhus
- Soarin'
- Test Track
- Mission: SPACE

ANIMAL KINGDOM

Newer attractions:

- Pandora – World of Avatar Flight of Passage
- Pandora -- Na'vi River Journey
- Tree of Life Awakenings
- Rivers of Light – illuminates the night

Top rides:

- Kilimanjaro Safari
- Festival of Lion King
- Expedition Everest
- Finding Nemo Musical Review

HOLLYWOOD STUDIOS

Newer attractions:

- Star Wars Launch Bay
- “Star Wars: A Galaxy Far, Far Away” stage show
- Galactic Spectacular of pyrotechnics
- Best park on rainy day – most attractions indoors

Top rides:

- Rock ‘n’ Roller Coaster
- Star Tours
- Star Wars Launch Bay
- Toy Story Mania
- Twilight Zone Tower of Terror

MAGIC KINGDOM

- Don't visit MK on Monday when crowds are crazy
- Emporium on Main Street is epicenter of shopping

Top rides:

- Splash Mountain
- Big Thunder Mountain
- Seven Dwarfs Mine Train
- Space Mountain

THEME PARK TICKETS

- To determine ticket type and #/\$, go to the Park Ticket Calculator of touringplans.com.
- Discounts available through Disney: Annual Passes, Florida Residents, Disney Vacation Club, military.
- AAA discounts. Also Undercover Tourist, Kissimmee Guest Services, Maple Leaf Tickets and official Ticket Center. **DO NOT BUY** from others as they sell expiring tickets.
- **Excluding lodging and transportation, it costs a family of four \$800+ per day for admission, parking, food and souvenirs.**
- SAMs Club and Costco sell gift cards at discount.
- Make FastPass reservations two months in advance.
- Make dinner reservations 180 days in advance.
- Book Memory Maker PhotoPass 14+ days out.

WALT DISNEY WORLD TIPS

- Wi-Fi (free) throughout, although spotty and extremely draining to smartphone batteries.
- September/October is the best time to travel; also late August (low crowds, but high heat).
- Check Crowd Calendar at www.touringplans.com.
- Disney World Transportation –
 - Buses start running 2 hours before park opens.
 - Consider Uber or Lyft.
 - Check out the red Minnie Vans with white polka dots – adorable.
 - Orlando is cheapest rental car market in US.
- Arrive before opening, go back to hotel for lunch/swim, return for parades/dinner/ fireworks, leave BEFORE closing time.
- Get to park 45 min. before opening. When park opens, GO LEFT! And head to most popular rides.
- Avoid most-crowded periods.
 - Monday to Thursday are more crowded.
 - Build in rest periods at midday.
 - Avoid overheating, sunburn, dehydration.
- Rent a wheelchair or electric scooter if needed.
- Don't lug purchases -- use park lockers, shop at the end, have bags delivered to front gate or hotel.
- Don't “Wing it” -- gone are the days where Disney can be tackled without a plan.

UNOFFICIAL GUIDE TO DISNEY

FastPass+ & Magic Bands

- FASTPASS essentially reserves you a spot in a shorter line during a specific hour during that day. You can reserve three per person before you arrive. After you have used your first three selections, you can select another at a kiosk.
- MagicBand is a wristband that is an all-in-one device that connects you to all WDW choices made *ahead of time online*. Use it to enter the parks, unlock your hotel room and buy food and merchandise. Plus, restaurant reservations and FastPasses.
- The shortest line times are in the morning. Don't waste FastPasses then; use them between 11 AM and 2 PM when it's the hottest and most crowded.

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Do Good Bike

BAY WATCH NEWS has always loved and admired the charitable work of Steve Nicks, who is the driving force behind Do Good Bike, which fixes up old bikes locally and gets them into the hands of folks who need them to get to work or to school. In fact, Bay Watch News likes Steve's work so much that we have explored starting a similar initiative in our Northern neighborhood under the working name of Spokes for Hope.

We asked Steve for some stories he has from his many years of Do Good Bike and he submitted the following:

Benito

Occasionally I get special requests from an agency I partner with for a hard-to-find bike. These requests were just that ... an adult three-wheeler, a super short yet adult commuter bike and a kid's bike needed immediately for school.

This first request was for Benito, a 60ish, very short Latino gentleman whose ill-fitting bike just no longer fit the bill. Without enough money for a new bike, he needed something quickly. He had no car and biked about an hour each way from an Estero trailer park to his job at a golf course. He came to the Salvation Army station in downtown Bonita for help. Luck smiled and I had just received and fixed a proper multi-speed commuter bike that would fit. I have a 5x7 photo hanging from a nail in my shop of a smiling Benito with his new bike. I look at it by accident every once in a while and I smile too.

A kid I never met

I received an email from the Salvation Army that a middle school kid had come by with his bike "that needed fixing because he kept crashing it." This didn't sound quite right to me, but I went over and got it. It was an absolute rolling disaster. Clearly someone had substituted the rear wheel from a narrower single speed bike for the multi-gear wider one original to the bike. The wrong wheel hung precariously between the rear stays and indeed would fall off if you even looked at it the wrong way. The kid was not exaggerating and had the road rash to prove it. I did not have a correct replacement wheel, but I was able to "MacGyver" the ill-fitting wheel with some homemade spacers so the wheel matched up with the stays and the chain. I put in new brake cables so he could stop without having to put his feet down. I got it back to him the next day, and hopefully it is still taking him to school without further misadventure.

Two curious boys

Recently I was unloading some bikes at the Salvation Army.



Benito in November of 2018 receiving his bike

I usually leave the rear hatch to my van open as I take each one inside. When I came out to get the last one -- a grade school child-sized bike -- there were two brothers about 8 or 9 wistfully looking in the back at the remaining bike. It killed me to have just one, and worse to tell the boys they would have to get on the waiting list. They looked so crestfallen. I hope they got bikes in the end.

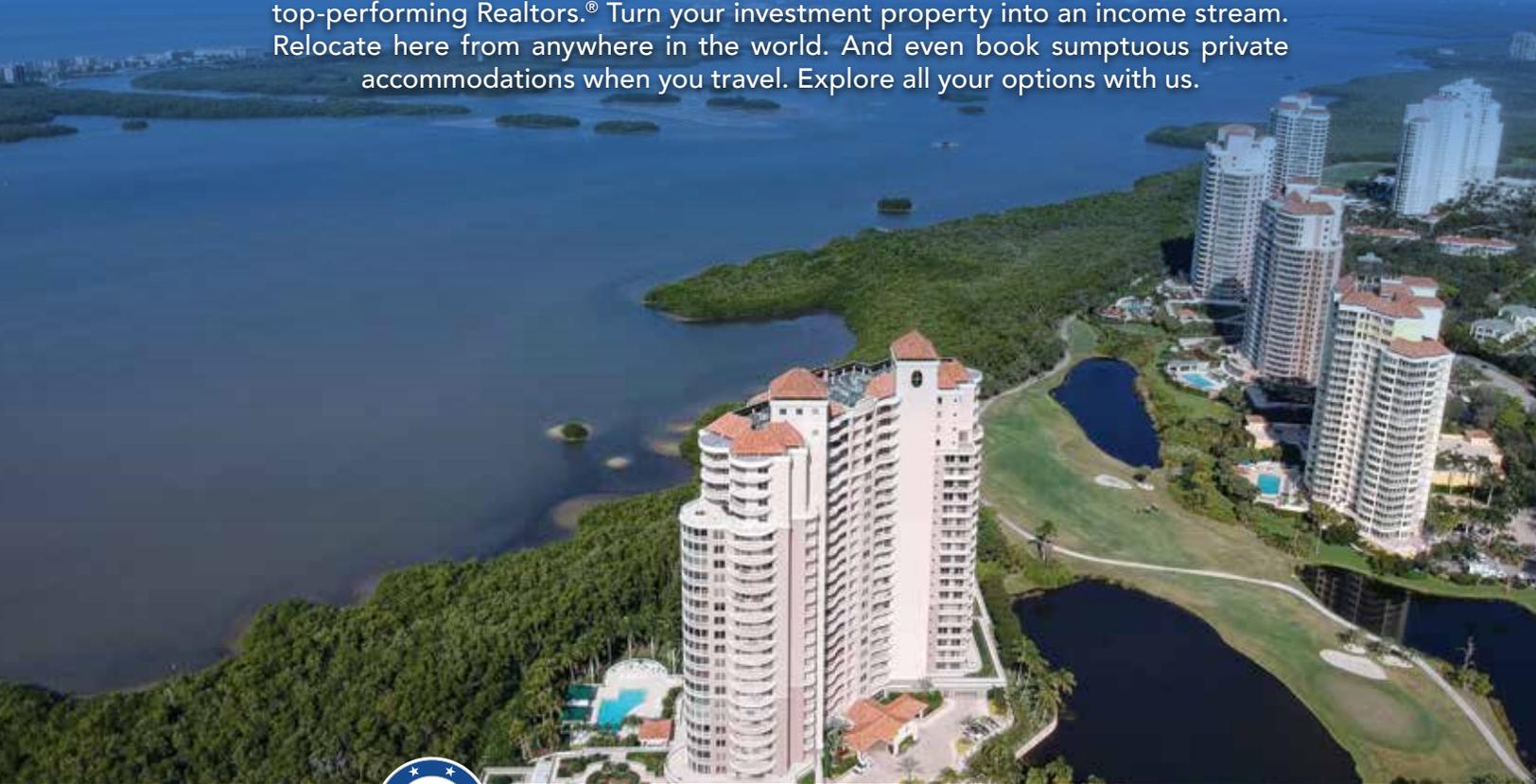
Blue locks

A lot of the bikes that pass through my hands end up with the Salvation Army station in downtown Bonita Springs. Jeff and "the two Sarahs" identify the recipients and handle the distribution. When I deliver the bikes, I give a lock with each. Sometimes I can save a couple bucks on Amazon by buying odd colors. For a time, it was bright blue ... a LOT of them. A few months after the blue locks ran out, my Salvation Army connections told me to cruise downtown Bonita on a Sunday when people are off work to see "Steve Bikes" at the grocery store, the laundry and just around town. There they were -- bike after bike, all tagged with the blue lock. Basic transportation in action.

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Special Election Q&A with Chris Corrie

BONITA SPRINGS WILL HOLD a special election March 17 to fill the empty Bonita Springs City Council seat that represents Bonita Bay. Peter O’Flinn stepped down from that seat in October. Chris Corrie, former BBCA President and still a member of the BBCA Board, is running for that seat. The Q&A below focuses on his qualifications and positions on issues important to Bonita Bay.

BWN: Why are you running for this council seat?

Chris: Bonita Bay is part of the larger Bonita Springs community. What happens in Bonita Springs impacts the value of our property and our lifestyle. My opponent in this election does not live in Bonita Bay.

BWN: What qualifies you to run?

Chris: First, my financial experience with private and public institutions. I am a CPA and a retired audit Partner of PwC, an international public accounting firm. My clients have included major public companies, individual universities and public entities such as state university systems and major county governments much larger than Lee County. I understand how government should operate, with a structured budgeting process and internal controls.

Bonita Bay itself is a small city. We currently have approximately 3,300 front doors and 6,500 full and part-time residents. BBCA maintains parks, offers recreational activities and undertakes public works such as lakes, road and pathway maintenance and the new fiber optic infrastructure. BBCA offers residents instructional programming and community events. The BBCA revenue budget is only slightly less than the tax revenue budget of the City of Bonita Springs.

BWN: What election issues are important to Bonita Bay residents? Why should residents vote?

Chris: I hear about taxes -- but not in the usual way. The City of Bonita Springs tax rate of \$.82 per \$1000 of assessed valuation is less than 20% of the \$4.55 per \$1000 we pay to Lee County. On a home in Bonita Bay that has an assessed valuation of \$1 million, the taxes are \$820 to Bonita Springs and \$4,550 to Lee County. What do we get for our tax from the County?

- Our most visible benefit from Lee County is policing by the Lee County Sheriff’s office; however, the City pays about \$2 million annually to the County to defray some of these costs.
- We do not get fire protection from the County. We pay a separate \$2.26 per \$1000 or \$2,260 to the fire district in the \$1 million assessed valuation example.
- We receive minimal library services from the County in spite of the fact that \$.50 of the County assessment is

specifically identified as relating to library services. Yes, we got a new library but Bonita Springs residents paid for it in taxes in 2½ years. We have been taxed for 20 years.

- We do not get Parks and Recreation funds from the County. When Bonita Springs was incorporated, the parks were transferred without any tax revenue for their maintenance.
- We get no allocation of taxes from the County for storm water management. If we were unincorporated, the County would be responsible.
- We get no protection by the County of our fresh water aquifers. Instead, we get further residential development and mining in the land that was to be protected for our fresh water supply.
- We need better protection of Estero Bay by the County. The reckless running of jet skis through the grasses of the bay destroys the nutrients needed for our fish, dolphins and manatees. Destroy the grasses and you destroy Estero Bay.

Over the next 10 years at current tax rates and assessed values, Bonita Bay will contribute some \$148 million to Lee County. We should get a better “deal” from the County than the one we have now. It is not enough to be a fiscal conservative on City Council and say, as some have, “No tax rate increases while I am in office.” That is a pretty meaningless pledge in regards to the City’s tax rate. As a City, we have to work to get a better deal from the County. Peter O’Flinn worked hard to turn the corner on this crucial issue, as does Councilwoman Amy Quaremba, who represents The Colony and Pelican Landing. I want to continue this fight for a better deal.

The second issue I hear about most often is traffic – particularly congestion on U.S. 41 and Bonita Beach Road. As more people move to this area, we approach gridlock on many days during season. We must move forward with the “quadrant plan” to reduce congestion at this critical interchange. This plan moves traffic behind Ace Hardware and the Publix shopping center at Bonita Beach Road. This will reduce the congestion at the intersection of 41 and Bonita Beach Road. Ground is being purchased to do this now. The Florida Department of Transportation is currently doing the required studies. We need to move quickly and get shovels in the ground.

BWN: What about traffic noise?

Chris: This is a big issue for many of our residents who live close to 41 and even as far west as the BBCA maintenance facilities. Noise is caused by the number of cars and the speed at which they travel. Slower speeds reduce noise levels. BBCA will be working with the City and the State of Florida to remedy the noise. I believe sound studies can convince the State to provide grant money for sound buffering to help resolve the problem, but getting an

continued on page 24



Special Election Q&A with Chris Corrie *continued from page 23*

appropriation or transportation tax dollars is a political process. We need to elect state representatives that live close to us and understand the problem. We need to walk the halls of state government in Tallahassee to tell our story. I want to make sure it happens.

BWN: More residents are using westbound Terry Street to get out to I-75. Do you have a concern about the traffic circle at Terry Street and Old 41?

Chris: The use of Terry to travel out to I-75 via Imperial Parkway has increased because of the congestion at U.S. 41 and Bonita Beach Road. The traffic circle at Old 41 is dangerous and must be improved. It's too small for the traffic load and requires two full lanes. The present lane indicators for cars should be painted on the roads starting much further back from the circle. People are confused about which lane to use, and pedestrian/cyclists crosswalks need to be moved farther back from the circle. There is simply too much happening at the circle for drivers to focus on cars, pedestrians and cyclists at the same time.

In retrospect, the circle may have been a well-intentioned mistake. You can regulate traffic flow by timing traffic lights, but traffic circles themselves cannot regulate traffic flow. People drive around the circle as best they can while watching other cars, pedestrians and cyclists.

BWN: Can you comment on water quality?

Chris: Blue green algae feeds off nitrogen. The Imperial

River is an impaired waterway, and Bonita Springs is under a state order to remove nitrogen and other pollutants. The City has already spent millions on projects, and more are needed. The pilot bio reactor off Felts Avenue, a city staff initiative, has yielded impressive results.

Flooding is an existential risk to Bonita Springs, even for those of us who are not directly threatened. The associated reputational risk overhangs literally billions of dollars in property value. Thankfully, we now have leadership at the South Florida Water Management District that recognizes the problem and the need for a multi-pronged program of flood control. Our small professional staff at the City is working hard on near and long-term solutions.

BWN: What is your biggest concern about voting and where do Bonita Bay residents vote?

Chris: My biggest concern is voter turnout from Bonita Bay. If you want to register to vote in Florida, go to www.registertovoteflorida.gov and follow the instructions. On March 17, election day AND St. Patrick's Day, Bonita Bay residents will vote at St. Leo the Great Catholic Church. To avoid the crowds, early voting will take place March 7-14 at the Supervisor of Elections Bonita Springs office near Figs restaurant and the Lee County Tax Collector's office just opposite the northernmost Bonita Bay sign on U.S. 41. Mail-in ballots can be requested through until March 7.

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Bonita Bay Uncorked

INCOGNITO IN THE GROCERY WINE AISLE

By Lana Novak, Certified Sommelier, Estancia

DINNER GUESTS ARE ARRIVING in a couple of hours and you are still frantically shopping at the local grocery store. Can you get a decent wine there or will you be forced to drive to a wine shop?

My reputation would be ruined if I was discovered buying wine at the grocery store, so in the interest of research, I donned a wig and sunglasses and headed to the local grocery store. You know the one, where you run into everyone from Bonita Bay, especially when you are having a bad hair day.

First some facts about grocery wine shelf displays. The most expensive wines are always on the top shelf, approximately eye level. These are premium to semi-premium wines but are usually not a good buy compared to wine shops prices. If you are desperate to impress your know it all in-laws, this is your “go to” shelf, and you will certainly be paying for the privilege of convenience.

The second from the top is usually your best values in good drinkable wines. These will not embarrass you and are good for everyday drinking. If you consider yourself somewhat knowledgeable about wine, the better your picks in this category will be.

The next shelf is inexpensive but a big step down in quality. Serve this to people who drop ice in their wine or dilute it with soda. They won't know the difference.

The bottom shelf is usually the cheap jug and box wine. Serve only to people you intensely dislike.

Avoid endcap wines. They are usually whatever the big distributor is pushing this week. Not always good.

On the top shelf there were several delicious wines I'd be happy if someone served me at a dinner. In the Chardonnays, I found Chalk Hill, Sonoma-Cutrer, Duckhorn and Louis Jadot Pouilly-Fuisse, but they were all well over \$20. Chards not your thing? There were many other premium whites like Sauvignon Blanc by Groth or Decoy. Once you drop down a shelf, you tend to be under \$20 and you hit what I call the tipping point. These wines are good but reasonable. La Crema, Toad Hollow, Hann and J Lohr are all decent Chards. In the weird white value category, I saw included Mulderbosch Chenin Blanc, Berger Gruner Veltliner and Geyser Peak and Nobilo Sauvignon Blanc.

In the rosé section, there was a dizzying sea of exotic-shaped bottles. Elouan, Âme du Vin and Fleur de Mer are some premium choices I like, while Gerard Bertrand, Charles and Charles, Mulderbosch and Adorada are great values.



There were numerous treasures on the red wine top shelf, with many over \$50. Now you are really paying for the ease of shopping! Franciscan, Educated Guess, Markham, Robert Mondavi, Hall and Stag's Leap Artemis are all delicious high-priced wines. Again, the real values are on the next tier down. Justin, Avalon, Cashmere, Joel Gott and Layer Cake are very drinkable Cabernet Sauvignons or red blends. Penfold's Max is a good Shiraz Cabernet blend, as is Bogle Old Vine Zinfandel and Terrazas, a wonderful Malbec perfect with burgers. I spotted Palazzo Delle Torre, an Italian red blend and Seghesio Zinfandel, both personal favorites of mine.

What about Pinot Noirs under \$20? That's a bit tough. In a pinch I would go with Cloudline Cellars, Stoller and Montinore from Oregon or La Crema and Angeline from California.

When it comes to top shelf bubbles, grocery stores have all the popular French Champagnes, but you are really paying through the nose. Instead, check out the sparkling wines by Chandon, Mumm or Gloria Ferrer. Unfortunately, there were no Spanish cava represented.

If like me you are into cold dead fish, also known as sushi, there is even a fair selection of sake to be served cold.

The answer is yes! There are some decent wines at our local see-and-be-seen food store. While prices aren't great, there are occasional sales. And it does make life easy. So, if you spot me in the grocery wine aisle, pretend you don't know me. I promise I will not be buying wines to serve you for dinner. Cheers!



Ford vs. Ferrari

WITH THE POPULARITY of the 2019 film, “Ford vs. Ferrari,” the staff at *Bay Watch News* recently dug into its archives and resurrected this “Who’s Who” article by Tommye Fleming that ran in March 2014, featuring Neil Ressler of Bay Woods and Ann Arbor.

Neil headed up Ford’s racing division late in his career. This January his wife Doreen got out some of his racing collectibles to create a costume for herself for a Golden Globes party that required guests to come dressed as something or someone from a nominated movie or television show. Her costume, with an authentic Ford helmet and pit crew shirt complete with official logos, won first prize.

And just last month, Ressler finally put his own Ford GT-40 on the auction block in Las Vegas. Along with the Resslers, it too had retired to Bonita Bay in 1999, but Neil finally decided it was time to let it go. It brought an amount that shocked even Ressler ... the kind of money most folks retire on.

Join us in a walk down memory lane.

Neil Ressler was born in Columbus, OH and adopted by a family in Dayton. He was an undistinguished student in grade school and high school. “Mediocre, at best,” says Ressler.

In high school, he got involved in hot rods. He was obsessed. The movie “American Graffiti” could have been his story, not George Lukas’. The 1932 “Deuce” coupe in the film was identical to the car Ressler had in high school.

His dad died between his junior and senior years. What little time he had devoted to studying dwindled. His assistant principal told him he wasn’t college material. He believed it.

But his mother didn’t. She urged him to look into a co-op school called General Motors Institute, later known as Kettering. He applied through Frigidaire, was accepted as an alternate and was finally enrolled just as classes were starting.

Neil wasn’t prepared for higher education, but the folks at GMI taught him how to learn. He went from being in the bottom third of his class to nearly the top. He received a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering and then enrolled in graduate school at the University of Michigan. Within five years, he had an M.S. and a PhD in physics.

His career started with Ford Scientific Laboratory and then moved to Ford Motor Company’s Product Development Group. Near the mid-point of his career, he earned an MBA from Michigan State. He finished his career as VP, Research and Vehicle Technology and Chief Technical Officer. He had a 30-year automotive career, mostly with Ford, but in many different jobs. As he describes it, “I kept fooling them and they kept promoting me.”

He was always looking for new ways to do things and have fun at the same time. Ford’s involvement in motor racing provided one such opportunity. For several years, he offered technical assistance to Indy Car teams using Ford engines, including ones owned by Paul Newman and Carl Haas, as well as by Bobby Rahal.

Another of his extracurricular activities involved Jackie Stewart, three-time Formula One racing champion. Jackie formed the



Neil Ressler with his recently auctioned Ford GT-40

Stewart-Ford Formula One team; eventually Ford bought the team outright and renamed it Jaguar Racing; Neil added “Team Principal” to his other responsibilities.

It was great fun while it lasted, but before a year had passed, his oldest daughter was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. As her condition declined, Ressler abruptly retired, returned from London and tended to her daily needs until she died early the following year.

Retirement made real what a Ford colleague had warned him of: “Retirement means going from “‘who’s who’ to ‘who’s he?’” There he was with nothing to do.

Then, in an unexpected development, Ford lured him back as a consultant. In one of his favorite assignments, Neil was challenged to find a way to put the Ford GT show car into production. The car was a resurrection of the highly successful mid-60s race car known as the Ford GT-40. Only 4100 were built; and demand outstripped production. “They went like hot cakes. It’s the only car I’ve ever owned that is worth more than what I paid for it,” said Ressler.

Let’s rewind to Neil’s birth story ... something he didn’t pay much attention to until 2005. He was adopted by a woman he always considered as his only mother. But later in life, doctors began asking him about his family history of disease. He wanted to know but he didn’t want to ask his mom – it might have been a source of discomfort.

His mother lived to be 98 and died in 2005. His adoptive sister then shared a photo of his birth mother, which his adoptive mother had saved and asked his sister to give to him upon her death. The timing then seemed right, so he began to investigate his background.

He asked his sister, an amateur genealogist, to do some research. It took her just two weeks to locate his certificate of adoption. His birth mother’s name was Helen Wolfe; she and her children, one of whom was named Dan Miller, had lived their lives in Lancaster, OH, about 90 miles from where Neil was raised. It was there that Ressler made some remarkable discoveries about the life he didn’t lead and the family he never met.

“I phoned Miller, whom I believed to be a relative, after searching the local phone book. I introduced myself, assured him I wasn’t selling anything and asked that he not hang up. I told him I was

searching for a Dan Miller whose mother's name was Helen Wolfe. Dan replied that she was his mother. I said, 'Well, she was my mother too.'

There was a moment of silence; and then he said, 'We've been looking for you for a long time. I've got to call Janet.'

Neil and Dorene went out to dinner that evening and when they returned home, there was a message light blinking. The voice on the recorder said: "My name is Janet and I think that you are my brother. Please call back as I am very anxious to talk to you."

The callback started a friendship that carried from 2007 to today. It turns out that Janet had learned she had a brother in her early 20s. She searched for him in vain for 50 years, with no success. At her birthday party the day before Neil made the first call, she announced to her friends that she had finally given up and accepted the fact that she would never find her lost brother.

As it turns out, Neil and Janet are full brother and sister. They actually had the same father ... who had run out on their mother – twice – and was never seen again.

A few weeks after that first call, Neil traveled to The Villages here in Florida where Janet lives and had his first face-to-face meeting with his sister of 68 years. On the one hand, complete strangers,



Dorene Ressler in full Ford racing regalia.

having shared none of life's experiences. On the other hand, biological siblings, with the most natural of connections. "By the end of the weekend, you'd have thought we had spent our lives together," said Ressler.

A few weeks later, they held a family reunion in Lancaster. Within a period of 24 hours, Neil met four half-siblings ... two sisters, two brothers. "We all regretted that our mother hadn't lived long enough to join us in this long overdue coming together. There is no winding the clock back, however. We are better off taking life as it comes rather than lamenting what might have been."

As it is, all the brothers and sisters are now friends and see each other several times a year, including here in Bonita Bay.

"I regret that I didn't try sooner to find my birth family. Perhaps I could have met my birth mother. I'm now writing a book about the experience. It has all proven to be cathartic."

Tapestries are a complex art form, valued for their transportability. In tapestry weaving, yarns are typically discontinuous; the artisan interlaces the various sections to form an overall pattern. Neil is beginning to weave a tapestry from all of his pieces. He cherishes the fact that he finally can see the big picture.



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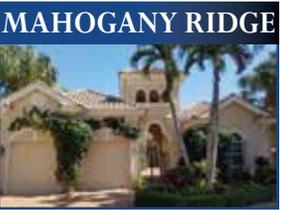
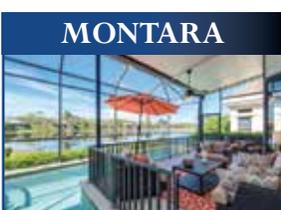
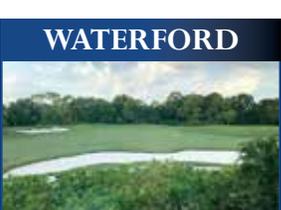
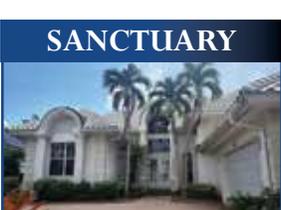
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VISTAS  4751 Bonita Bay Blvd. #302	AZURE  4931 Bonita Bay Blvd. #2103	BAY POINTE  26920 Montego Pointe Ct. #102	GREENBRIAR  4115 Bayhead Dr. #103	MAHOGANY RIDGE  26343 Mahogany Pointe Ct.
ESPERIA  4951 Bonita Bay Blvd. #1804	MONTARA  3322 Montara Dr.	SPRING RIDGE  26100 Mandevilla Dr.	OAK KNOLL  27180 Oak Knoll Dr.	ESPERIA  4951 Bonita Bay Blvd. PH 101
WATERFORD  26280 Devonshire Ct. #203	OAK KNOLL  27201 Oak Knoll Dr.	ENCLAVE  3641 Key Lime Ct.	SANCTUARY  4277 Sanctuary Way	HARBOR LANDING  4461 Riverwatch Dr. #103

*The Lummis Team has worked with sellers and buyers or both in the above listings and sales.

The Lummis Team has represented buyers and sellers of properties in Bonita Bay since 1999. Our team has a combined 45 years experience in real estate sales in Southwest Florida, and has been among the top producing sales teams in closed sales for the past several years.

We thank our many loyal clients for their trust and support.

As year round residents of Bonita Bay and golfing members of the Club, we are in a position to fully understand not only the market, but also the unparalleled lifestyle and amenities Bonita Bay has to offer. Please call us if you are considering buying or selling for a confidential consultation and property valuation.

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Bridge Lesson

LOSER ON A LOSER

SITTING SOUTH AS DEALER, you pick up the following hand and open 1♥. LHO passes, partner bids 1NT, RHO doubles, you bid 2♥ and everyone passes. West leads the Q♦. North puts down the following dummy.

♠ Q 4 3
♥ J 2
♦ 9 8 6 5 3
♣ K 9 4

♠ A 7
♥ A K Q 9 8 5
♦ J 10
♣ 10 5 3

As always, you count your losers; one spade, two diamonds and two or three clubs. If the clubs are off side, you will lose all three. You play low, east wins the K♦ and follows with the A♦ and low diamond. West plays the 2♦ on the K♦. What should south play on the low diamond? West's play strongly suggests a doubleton. If you don't trump the low diamond, West most likely will. So, what trump should you use? You could try the 8 or 9, as several players did, hoping west doesn't have the 10. You could also trump with one of your honors and hope that neither defender has 4 hearts to the 10. However, there is a third option which has no risk -- play the 7♠. Unless the defense falls asleep, you are always going to lose a spade. So, play the loser on the third diamond and keep control of the trump suit.

Here is the full deal.

Board 3
South Deals
E-W Vul

♠ Q 4 3		♠ K 9 8 2
♥ J 2		♥ 6
♦ 9 8 6 5 3		♦ A K 7 4
♣ K 9 4		♣ Q J 8 7

♠ J 10 6 5		♠ A 7
♥ 10 7 4 3		♥ A K Q 9 8 5
♦ Q 2		♦ J 10
♣ A 6 2		♣ 10 5 3

	♠ N	
	W	E
	S	

6
7 13
14

Once again, sitting South as dealer, you pick up the following hand and open 1♣. West overcalls 1♠, North bids 2♦, East passes, you bid 2♥, West passes, North bids 4♥, and everyone passes. West leads A♠ and North tables the dummy.

♠ J 5 4
♥ Q 10 8
♦ A K Q 3 2
♣ 6 5

♠ 7 3
♥ A K J 9
♦ J 10 4
♣ A 8 7 3

As you can see, you as South – the master hand – have two spade losers and at least one club loser. You must bring in the heart suit. West continues with the K♠ and then the Q♠. You cannot afford to trump the Q♠. If you do, you will lose a heart trick unless they split 3-3, a lower probability than a 4-2 split. The answer is to pitch a club. Now, no matter what West leads, you can win the trick, draw trump assuming you don't get a 5-1 or 6-0 split, and pitch your two low clubs on the good diamonds. The idea here is to put a loser on a loser to maintain control of the trump suit. If the trumps do split badly, then you can't make the hand. Here is the full deal.

Board 22
South Deals
E-W Vul

♠ J 5 4		♠ 9 8 6 2
♥ Q 10 8		♥ 7 4
♦ A K Q 3 2		♦ 9 8 6
♣ 6 5		♣ K 10 4 2

♠ A K Q 10		♠ 7 3
♥ 6 5 3 2		♥ A K J 9
♦ 7 5		♦ J 10 4
♣ Q J 9		♣ A 8 7 3

	♠ N	
	W	E
	S	

12
12 3
13

By Sue Wilkening and Fred Scott



As you can see, you always lose two diamonds, one spade and two clubs. Had you ruffed with the 9♥, you would have lost to the 10♥. Had you ruffed with one of the honors, to make the contract you would have to finesse the 10♥.



Greetings from the Mayor!

By Mayor Peter Simmons, Riverwalk

AS THE CITY of Bonita Springs prepares for two special elections this March 17 and as an individual who personally knows both candidates running to represent us in Bonita Bay/District 4, I would like to encourage you to vote for someone who not only has the strong conservative leadership to serve us on City Council, but much more importantly, has the common courtesy and respect for individuals that you would be proud to have represent you.



Ben Hershenson is a true leader, professional and a gentleman. He is a lifelong conservative, fellow New England native whom I met in 2012 during my grassroots campaign for this very district. Make no mistake about it, Ben and I have disagreed on issues over the last eight years, but we have always done so in a professional and respectful manner. We were able to disagree without being disagreeable. In this age of 24/7 news sensationalism, shock jock commentary and divisive negative politics, Ben would be a breath of fresh air, working on bringing all sides and Bonitians of all stripes together for the benefit of our community.

Ben shares my bold environmental stances for our beloved Florida Everglades, commitment to water quality and water quantity; firmly understanding and never losing sight of the premise that our environment *IS OUR* economy and our economy *IS OUR* environment! Ben's business experience and fiscal conservatism will be invaluable as we continue Downtown Old 41 improvements, improve our walkable, bikeable city, all while holding the line against new taxes. With our expanding city comes an expanded tax base, which allows us to keep taxes low and prevent service fees on our taxpayers and small business owners. Ben also supports our traditional "government lite" approach in Bonita Springs.

I strongly urge you to contact Ben Hershenson at beneyw@hotmail.com and have coffee with him, and get to know him if you do not already know him personally. Making political promises is dangerous...I understand that – but I promise you Ben will not hang up the telephone on you when he does get what he wants, will not employ the "my way or the highway" mentality on the Bonita Springs City Council, will not lose his temper and will use "common sense" at public meetings. He will work well with others, even if he disagrees with them. He will treat everyone with respect and dignity, which is a lost art in politics these days. Please vote for a fellow conservative, whom we can

count on to protect our Everglades, fight for water quality, stand firm against new taxes ... a true professional and advocate to improve Old 41. Ben is a down-to-earth and even-tempered individual you can be proud to vote for.

I sincerely appreciate your consideration and urge you to support my friend Ben Hershenson for City Council, District 4 on Election Day Tuesday, March 17.

Thank you.

P.S. Many of you may have heard of the robbery in the Riverwalk neighborhood of Bonita Bay. Please enter this link to see this news story that aired on CBS WINK NEWS). <https://www.winknews.com/2020/01/23/hoa-wont-share-video-of-homeburglary-with-victims-bonita-bay-neighbors/>



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Property Values

Bonita Bay's improvements continue to protect property values.

The Bonita Bay Club and Community Association have invested significant money, time and effort into ensuring that our community continues to provide a sought-after lifestyle.

Bonita Bay has more amenities than any other community in SW Florida. Almost all have been improved and new amenities continue to be added. The fact that Bonita Bay Club has a waiting list to join is against the trend of many golf course communities.

Bonita Bay provides many residential living styles making it easy for residents to stay with their friends and enjoy their activities in Bonita Bay as their lifestyle needs change.

The number of listings in Bonita Bay is low compared with similar local communities.

There are very few resale listings in Bonita Bay. About 3% of our approximately 3,000 residences are currently listed for sale. Two other comparable North Naples communities have a much higher percentage of their homes listed.

Regarding Bonita Bay high rises specifically, the percentage listed for sale is higher, but not necessarily because people are moving away from Bonita Bay, but because they are purchasing new high rise units being marketed by the developer of Seaglass and Omega. Seaglass has sold 80% of 120 residences

and Omega has contracted over one third of 66 residences.

The fantastic improvements to the club amenities, catering services and personal fitness/spa services are surely factors in the low number of listings in Bonita Bay.

Other factors affecting values

Outside of Bonita Bay, buyers have many options as new communities come to the market. There is a large proportion of buyers who are attracted to new products with new interiors and floorplan designs as well as high-tech smart home features.

Many of the homes coming onto the market in Bonita Bay need updating. Only a small percentage of buyers have the desire, or energy, to take on a refurbishment project. The majority of buyers are looking for a well-maintained and upgraded home. If your home is well-maintained, updated and priced according to the market, your home will sell.

Does refurbishment add value?

Consideration should be given to what the market value of a home could be after refurbishment. The reality is, only a percentage of remodeling costs may add to your home's current value. A comparable market analysis (CMA) should be prepared by a qualified local Realtor® who is familiar with Bonita Bay to establish the current value using comparable sales in your neighborhood, both before and after refurbishment.

Always use licensed local general contractors who operate within the confines of local conditions and codes to provide estimates for repair and remodeling.

Many of the Bonita Bay residences are in the floodplain. The FEMA 50% floodplain regulations say that if the main living level of the home is below the current required flood elevation, then a remodel can only cost up to 50% of the appraised or assessed value of the structure over a five-year period. This does not include the land value. It also states, if an improvement is "substantially damaged" or "substantially improved" over 50% of the value of the structure, it must be brought into compliance with the flood damage prevention regulations, including elevating the building to or above the 100-year flood elevation.

Most of the homes that buyers consider remodeling are older, so the structure is not worth a lot. This puts a severe restriction on the potential remodeling.

The future of Bonita Bay's property values

The future remains bright for property values in Bonita Bay. The majority of residences in Bonita Bay are maintained by caring homeowners. The Bonita Bay Club and Community Association have the liquidity to maintain their amenities and beautify their common areas. Bonita Bay is a desired development that will continue to attract buyers for years to come.

*Ginger & Michael Lickley,
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Bonita Springs, Florida
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Bonita Blues FESTIVAL

Friday, March 13th
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Tennessee Redemption featuring Brandon Santini & Jeff Jensen
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Saturday, March 14th
Little Freddie King
James Harman
JP Soars' Gypsy Blue Revue featuring Jason Ricci & Anne Harris
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Sunday Blues & Floodys
Hurricane Ruth & Scott Holt
Reverend Raven & the Chain Smokin' Altar Boys

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Speakers Assembly of Southwest Florida – Business Ethics Panel Lecture

March 5, 4:15 p.m.

Members \$30, Guests \$45

The Center for Performing Arts, 10150 Bonita Beach Road SE

This lecture will feature a panel of business experts: Noreen Harrington, Dawn-Marie Driscoll and Professor Eric Dent discussing business ethics.

Bonita Bay Club Women's Alliance – Jeri Delgado

March 11, 11:45 a.m.

\$26 per person

Bonita Bay Club Founders Room

Stylist Jeri Delgado will speak about her experiences as a stylist for the stars in Hollywood and Europe and will share her secrets for aging beautifully. We will be collecting gently-used purses and jewelry for Dress for Success and their mission of readying women who re-enter the work force.

Bonita Springs National Art Festival

March 7-8, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Riverside Park, 10450 Reynolds Street

View and purchase artwork of 200 national and international artists while supporting the many programs of the Center for the Arts. 100% of the proceeds go back into the community, shaping both our present and future. For more information, visit www.artcenterbonita.org.

14th Annual Bonita Blues Festival

March 13, 1:30 – 9 p.m.; March 14, 11:30 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Friday \$40, Saturday \$45, Two-Day Pass \$60

Riverside Park, 10450 Reynolds Street

Tickets available at www.bonitablues.com.

Bonita Springs Historical Society Speaker Series – How Threatened?

March 26, 7 p.m.

Free for members and students, all others \$5

Bonita Springs Lions Club, 10346 Pennsylvania Avenue, West of Old 41 Road
How healthy is Estero Bay, our irreplaceable natural resource? In the final talk of "Water: At a Crossroads," Stephanie Erickson of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection describes the threats to the bay as well as research, monitoring and restoration efforts to preserve it for generations.

Bonita Springs Historical Society History Walks

March 14 & 28, 10 a.m.

\$20

Meet at the Liles Hotel & History Center

On March 14 join us for the Downtown Landmarks History Walk. Learn about the people, buildings and places that shaped Bonita Springs. On March 28 join us for Places of Wonderment, with stops at the Shell Factory, Seminole Indian Village, The Dome, Mystery House and a VIP tour of the Everglade Wonder Gardens. For reservations, call 239-992-6997 or email info@bonitaspringshistoricalsociety.org.

Operation Opera

March 28, 7:30 p.m.

\$28.50-\$55

Performing Art Center of Bonita Springs, 10150 Bonita Beach Road

Operation Opera is a musical comedy variety show that delights audiences with the powerful voice of its star Adelmo Guidarelli. You will go on a journey through the history of pop music – from Mozart to Elvis. This Music Hall-style show encompasses everything from a night at the opera to a day with Bugs Bunny. Operation Opera shows audiences that we are surrounded by opera every day and gently reminds us that opera can be fun and enjoyed by all.



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Why Our Lines Are Getting Longer: Inside

I WAS THIRD AND LAST in line at Publix with an overloaded cart of goodies to feed weekend guests.

A woman queued up behind me, and I noticed she held only a small pack of deli meat.

“Please, go ahead,” I offered.

“Thanks,” she replied, stepping in front of me. Then she looked around, scrunched up her face and asked, “Why are the lines around here getting *so long*?”

Right then, I had a choice.

Shrug and smile, letting her comment float in the wind like idle chit-chat, or . . . dive into the question.

Since it looked like we’d still be waiting a bit, I chose the latter.

So if you’ve been wondering why our lines are getting longer, services slower and wait times to get appointments farther out, here’s what I’ve been learning and what I shared with my line-mate.

First, the pace of available workers hasn’t kept up with the pace of residents and visitors.

All across Southwest Florida, “Help Wanted” signs are as common as a gator sighting.

In fact, one print shop on US 41 hung a huge “We’re Hiring” over their shop door—and it promptly generated five more orders from other businesses for the same sign.

But this gap is NOT just because of our traditional January-April “season,” when visitors from colder climates flock to Florida like lovebugs on my Volvo.

It’s because our region is expanding—and fast. In fact, Lee County is one of the top ten fastest growing areas in the USA, driven by migration from northern (and often high tax) states.

More growth means more people to support and more work to do—which in many economies should be seen as good news. However, with a local unemployment rate of 2.5% as of December 2019, and less than 50% of our residents between the ages of 20 and 65, there just aren’t enough humans to do all that needs to be done.

Next, Bonita Springs is crunched by the lack of affordable workforce housing -- and the abundance of job options closer to lower-cost communities.

Recently, the Southwest Florida Community Foundation held a series of conversations with local residents, and when asked about the most critical social issue facing their community, 49% of respondents named affordable housing.

That’s not new news.

But what’s new is the popularity—and profitability—of the short-term rental market, aided by tools such as Airbnb and Vrbo.

Lee County has had its share of investors purchasing moderately priced residential rental properties and converting them into short-term vacation rentals, priced at a premium for their location.

It’s a profitable business, and perfectly legal.

But the practice zaps inventory, and accelerates costs for housing that were once priced for low-to-mid income working families.

In fact, the low-end cost of a one-bedroom rental right now in Bonita Springs is \$1400/month. In Cape Coral, similar options are available for \$800/month.

Add in this rough math: if you make \$10/hour (\$8.56 is currently mandatory) and work a 40-hour week, you take home \$1600/month (less taxes, benefits, and other deductions.) That leaves you \$200/month for food and expenses if you live in Bonita, or \$800 if you live in the Cape.

With jobs also plentiful in Cape Coral or Fort Myers, where would **you** choose to live and work?

And yet, this isn’t just an hourly worker’s struggle.

I work with local professionals earning \$100k+ who choose to live as far away as Punta Gorda because they can’t find quality housing at an affordable price nearer to their Bonita Springs workplaces.

In fact, in 2018, Naples’ top candidate for their city manager position declined the role—a \$230,000/year job--after realizing

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the Bonita Workforce Crunch *By Darcy Eikenberg, PCC | Cracker Cove*

she could not afford to live within the city limits, which is a requirement of the job.

“That’s all depressing,” said the lunchmeat lady as she pulled out her credit card. “So, what can we do about it?”

First, acknowledge good—as well as great—service.

Every business owner I meet is trying to balance the needs of their customers with what their workforce can deliver. (Do I believe businesses can do more? Absolutely. Create an amazing place to work where people feel noticed and respected, and your talent will drive hours to be there. But that’s another story for another time.)

So when you experience good, solid service, please don’t hesitate to say so.

Bonita people have a reputation for being the kinder, gentler Floridians, but we can occasionally get distracted and frustrated, too. I know I do.

So I’ve been trying to offer a genuine, eye-to-eye thank you more often. Sharing a few more words of why what they did helped you can turn a hard day around (“I appreciate you taking that second look at the schedule to see when you could fit me in.”).

Managers tell me that when a customer seeks them out to say nice things about one of their team, it makes their week.

Next, stay informed—and if you’re registered, vote.

To be honest, our workforce and housing issues are tricky to follow – partly because there’s been a lot of talk, not much action, and no single source for the latest developments.

But that doesn’t mean we should give up.

If you’re registered to vote here, we’re electing City Council members, County Commissioners, and Mayor this year—in

addition to electing a President of the United States. Elections are March 17, August 18 and November 3.

Even if you’re here seasonally, ask the candidates the hard questions—they all have Facebook pages and host events in the community. Watch these issues ongoing through the free *Bonita Banner*, *Florida Weekly* and *Spotlight*. Of course, keep reading *Bay Watch News*!

Also, the Bonita Springs Chamber will happily include you on its economic development email list, even if you’re not affiliated with a member company. Just email Info@BonitaSpringsChamber.com and let them know the topics you’re interested in. You might also get other local business updates, too, but you’ll be on top of the latest.

Finally, be patient.

Lines won’t shrink overnight—not even after April when our seasonal friends return home. I’ve found I’m less stressed when I budget more time than I think I’ll need—and then get bonus time when things go quickly.

As I stepped off my virtual soapbox, my new grocery store friend paid for her pack of ham, smiled politely and went on about her day.

But the cashier, listening to our conversation all along, looked me in the eye and whispered, “Thank you.” He knows, and now, so do you.

When she’s not waiting in line, Darcy Eikenberg coaches leaders and high performing teams so that they’re ready for career and business change, no matter what the future holds. She also writes regularly at RedCapeRevolution.com, speaks at events around the country, and hosts the [Bonita Business Podcast \(www.BonitaBusinessPodcast.com\)](http://www.BonitaBusinessPodcast.com).

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ENTERTAINMENT CALENDAR

The team here at *Baywatch News* are huge live entertainment fans. There is so much to do “on campus” here in Bonita Bay but there are also so many good venues nearby that are worth taking advantage of. We have had trouble finding a common source for it all and are trying a new feature this year, pulling this information together for our readers from a mix of our favorite venues. Some are nearby, some a bit further away. This list is not inclusive of all that the venues may have scheduled. Have other venues or acts you like? Let us know at team@baywatchnews.com

DATE	WHAT	VENUE	LOCATION	ENTERTAINMENT TYPE	COMMENTS
Most every night	Various	Center Bar Promenade	Bonita Springs	Music	Mon to Thur 7pm-10pm and Fri-Sat 8pm-10pm. Sun 5pm-8pm. Check their website for latest
Most every night	Various	Dog Tooth Sports and Music Bar	Naples	Music	Daily entertainment usually starting about 6pm. Check website for latest
Sun, March 1	Love is a Rose	Center for the Arts	Bonita Springs	Music	Linda Ronstadt tribute singers Paula Hanke and Peggy Ratusz
Mon, March 2	Jodie DeSalvo: Victor Borge	Artis – Naples	Naples	Musical Comedy	Jodie DeSalvo explores the brilliant musical comedy of the “Clown Prince of Denmark,” Victor Borge.
Mon, March 2	Russian National Ballet: The Sleeping Beauty	Barbara Mann Performing Arts	Fort Myers	Ballet	Luminous costumes and elaborate sets complement the graceful movements of gifted Russian dancers
Tues, March 3	Koresh Dance Company	Artis – Naples	Naples	Dance	Known for engaging performances and superb dancers, Koresh Dance Company performs critically acclaimed works around the world
Fri, March 6	Diana Ross	Barbara Mann Performing Arts	Fort Myers	Music	Landmark solo singer and leader of The Supremes
Sat, March 7	Jane Monheit	Artis - Naples	Naples	Music	Blessed with a “voice of phenomenal beauty” Monheit’s effortless jazz vocals have earned her two Grammy nominations and a considerable following
Sun, March 8	Night Train Band	Center for the Arts	Bonita Springs	Music	The band will play some of the greatest music created in the 20 th century from blues, jazz, country, rock, soul, disco and international
Tues, March 10 through Sun, March 15	Miss Saigon	Barbara Mann Performing Arts	Fort Myers	Theatrical production	Legendary musical Miss Saigon
Thurs, March 12	John Mayall	SW Florida Event Center	Bonita Springs	Music	John Mayall is an English blues singer, guitarist, organist and songwriter, whose musical career spans over 60 years
Sat, March 14	Southside Johnny & The Asbury Jukes	SW Florida Event Center	Bonita Springs	Music	The group most closely associated with Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band
Tues, March 17 through Sat, March 21	<i>An American in Paris</i> In Concert	Artis – Naples	Naples	Film/Music	Experience the 1951 classic
Thurs, March 19	Darrell Scott	Center for the Arts	Bonita Springs	Music	Darrell Scot is an American singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist
Sat, March 21	Southwest Florida Symphony - Beethoven @ 250: Birthday Celebration	Barbara Mann Performing Arts	Fort Myers	Music	Nir Kabaretti will conduct Leonore 3, Piano Concerto No 4 and Beethoven Symphony No 4
Sun, March 22	Chatham County Line	Artis – Naples	Naples	Music	This “newgrass” band from Raleigh blends bluegrass, folk and rock ‘n roll for a modern spin on a classic acoustic style
Wed, March 25	Little River Band	Barbara Mann Performing Arts	Fort Myers	Music	Glenn Fry called the Little River Band “the best singing band in the world” and with Top 10 hits in 6 consecutive years they proved it to be true
Sat, March 28 & Sun, March 29	Gulf Coast Symphony: Andrew Kurtz – The Music Man	Barbara Mann Performing Arts	Fort Myers	Music	The symphony will play works by two giants from the Broadway world, Stephen Sondheim and Andrew Lloyd Webber



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Please join us in congratulating William E. Clegg IV on receiving this honor. We encourage you to make use of his time and talents, backed by the global resources of UBS.



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Senior Portfolio Manager
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Forbes Best-In-State Wealth Advisors list is comprised of approximately 2,200 financial advisors. It was developed by SHOOK Research and is based on in-person and telephone due diligence meetings to measure factors such as quality of practice, industry experience, compliance record, assets under management (which vary from state to state) and revenue. Neither UBS Financial Services Inc. nor its employees pay a fee in exchange for these ratings. Past performance is not an indication of future results. Investment performance is not a criterion because client objectives and risk tolerances vary, and advisors rarely have audited performance reports. Rankings are based on the opinions of SHOOK Research, LLC and not indicative of future performance or representative of any one client's experience. In providing wealth management services to clients, we offer both investment advisory and brokerage services, which are separate and distinct and differ in material ways. For information, including the different laws and contracts that govern, visit ubs.com/workingwithus. Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc. owns the certification marks CFP®, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ and federally registered CFP (with flame design) in the US, which it awards to individuals who successfully complete CFP Board's initial and ongoing certification requirements. CIMA® is a registered certification mark of the Investments & Wealth Institute™ in the United States of America and worldwide.
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Want to open your Bonita Bay home to a new friend this year?

OUR RESCUE ORGANIZATION, "Find A Home Give A Home," is dedicated to helping homeless shelter dogs and abandoned street cats. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and our only source of funds to help with veterinarian bills, training and care is donations we get from the public. All our pets are fully vetted and microchipped and we are always in need of volunteers and foster parents. If you would like to help, please contact 239-281-0739 or email us at pets@findahomegiveahome.com. You can also visit our Facebook page Find A Home Give A Home Pet rescue or online at www.findahomegiveahome.com.



Kobe came to us from the shelter after having been found on the street. He had to go through a couple of weeks of TLC due to a big tummy. He was so skinny you could see his ribs. He is doing better with potty training but needs patience. He has separation anxiety so will need to have another dog at home. He needs to be in an active house with lots of walks and play time. He goes to the dog park often and loves it. He has big paws but we don't think he will be more than 40 lbs. Call Isabelle 239-281-0739.



Abu is very cute and loves people and other dogs. He is a lover. Big ears and big heart! He is 3 years old and 17 lbs. and housebroken. Very well mannered. If you are interested in adopting this little guy, please call 239-281-0739.



Creamy is a sweet male who is very healthy and fully vetted. His caretakers both passed away and he is very lonely without them. He may have some Siamese in him as he has orange ears and red eye pupils. Very loving cat who adores being petted. Approx. 8 years old, great for a mature couple. Nice and laid back. Please call Jo at 239-851-3485 or email jksunsurfand@aol.com.



Jordan is a little dog in a tuxedo, all black with only one little touch of white on his chest. Very gentle and loves to play. He is submissive and loves other dogs. Jordan is fostered with another small dog and started to play the next day. He will make a great little dog. He is one year old. Call Isabelle 239-281-0739.



Jasper is a cute little 7-month-old puppy who will love you forever! He is very sweet and will roll over on his back and present his belly. He was in a shelter in West Palm Beach where he was very stressed and fearful. He is adorable and improving every day. Call 239-281-0739.



Ashley is 11 years old and 8 lbs. Her parent had to giving her up due to health issues. She has long orange hair. Please call Jo at 239-851-3485.



Jason and Jake are brothers and just gorgeous. Need to be adopted together. They sleep and play. Call Jo at 239-851-3485.



What's Wrong with Being a "Mutt"?

FIND-A-HOME-GIVE-A-HOME has been rescuing pets since 2011 and 90% of the dogs come from shelters. Lately we have been seeing some funny-looking dogs, which leave us scratching our heads in an effort to figure out what they are mixed with. For me, the choice is clear -- the more the merrier. I believe in mixes, or "all of the above" as I like to call mutts. With mixed breeds, you generally get the best of the breeds, a little bit of this and a little of that ... all mixed together to give you the perfect combination.

Incredibly, there are actually now three categories of dogs: the purebred (a dog with a documented pedigree), the designer dog (a hybrid between two purebreds, usually referred to by a blend of the names of the breeds, such as a labradoodle) and the Heinz 57 (a pure mutt of uncertain ancestry). There is nothing wrong with any of them but if you look at the mixed breeds, breeders have come out with some amazing names. Business is business but in my mind, you can call them whatever you want - a mutt is a mutt and I am proud to say they are the best!!!!

Here is a list of 10 things that make mutts such wonderful dogs:

#10 They are unique. There will never be two mutts who look alike. The standard for breeding purebreds calls for breeding puppies whose appearance and temperament are of exactly the same quality every time. Without these standards, mixed breeds are like a wonderful roll of the dice. Plus, when visiting a shelter or applying with a rescue to adopt a mutt, the selection of choices is more varied than you'd find at a breeder.

#9 They tend to be more flexible and adapt more easily to all kinds of situations. They generally blend very well in all types of households.

#8 They can still compete in competitions, like agility. They even have their own show now.

#7 They can still be trained as service dogs. No need to be a purebred for this!

#6 House training is provided - many of the dogs found in shelters are already housebroken since most of them previously belonged to someone else.

#5 You can skip the puppy stage which is wonderful when you work. Training a new puppy is not an easy task, so take advantage of a dog who already knows their manners and just needs a little time to bring them back. What you see is what you get.

#4 They are healthier. That is actually debatable, but if insurance companies think so, it must be true!



Image credit Shutterstock, Jucadima

#3 You pay less in adoption fees than if you were to go to a breeder or a pet shop. Most pet shops sell puppies for over \$1,500 and they don't come vaccinated, spayed or neutered. Pet adoption can be expensive, but when you adopt a mutt from a rescue, all of the people working there are volunteers and the money goes right back out for veterinarian expenses, food, insurance, etc.

#2 You will be saving a life, pure and simple. For every dog purchased, there is another that gets euthanized that could have been saved and loved. I do believe there is a dog for every home out there.

#1 Their awesomeness is contagious. Love comes in a wide variety of sizes. It doesn't matter if they are puppies, tiny, big, fat or old. A mixed breed will give you pure love and you will fall in love in an instant.

By Isabelle Wells, Find-a-Home-Give-a-Home Rescue

Isabelle Wells started her organization Finahomegiveahome Pet Rescue in 2011 after helping find homes for some cats wandering in her neighborhood. When she's not saving animals, she keeps busy selling houses and raising her 13 year old daughter.

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www.HomesSWFL.com



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CMcMahon@JohnRWood.com
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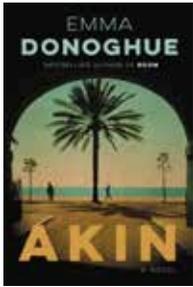
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On the Bookshelf



Akin by Emma Donoghue

Bruce Stewart, Wedgewood

The new novel by Emma Donoghue, author of **The Room**, which was made into a well-received film, has none of the horror and darkness of her earlier work. Fast-paced and very amusing, it explores whether a positive relationship can be created between a boy and a man old enough to be his grandfather on the basis of kinship.

Imagine if you will a just-retired 79-year-old professor of chemistry whose wife and sister have predeceased him and who, to celebrate his 80th birthday, has decided to return to the city of his birth, Nice, France, 76 years after leaving it during World War II. Childless, narrator Noah has pursued a quiet albeit satisfying urban life in Manhattan. He is content to care for himself and like many seniors does not seek new responsibilities and would prefer his life continue without major changes or hassles.

Now, also imagine an 11-year-old boy, homeless, faced with the recent death of his grandmother who has cared for him since his father died of an apparent drug overdose and whose mother is incarcerated for at least 2½ more years on drug-related charges. The boy, Michael, is now in the care of Children's Services; and an overworked social worker (Rosa) wants to find a living relative to care for Michael rather than have him placed in foster care.

The author's imagination produces this collision of interests that has Rosa slyly maneuver Noah into accepting Michael as his constant companion for the long-awaited trip to Nice. Neither is known to the other nor interested in developing a relationship. However, Michael and Noah have met the first meaning of 'akin' – "related by blood" – which the author inserts at the beginning of her novel. The distant, unrecognized blood tie has brought them together but what more can it achieve?

Is it enough to establish a working if not loving relationship between the two? The remainder of the novel addresses that question. From the outset, Michael is not appreciative of the cultural tour awaiting him. Rude, isolated and hilariously profane, he buries himself in the games of his digital device, barely responding or even acknowledging the ideas, suggestions and questions nervously offered by Noah. Donoghue, to liven the tale, introduces a subplot, the attempt by Noah to match up photos of wartime Nice street scenes presumably taken by his mother. This carefree search turns sinister as circumstances increasingly suggest his mother was a collaborator who may have been responsible for sending many Jewish children to their deaths.

Michael, with his loathing of "snitches," responds to Noah's anguish with surprisingly insightful utterances while still rejecting French cuisine, culture and any aspect of life which does not match his limited experience in the slums of Brooklyn. The secondary meaning of 'akin' – "similar in character" – introduced by the author must now be considered by the reader. Let me assure you that the novel is amusing, heart-warming and well worth the reading time.



America's First Daughter by Stephanie Dray & Laura Kamoie

Shirley Gorman, Oakwood

You probably have read a variety of material that discusses Thomas Jefferson and his legacy. Thomas Jefferson was many things; a politician, a scientist, a Virginian, a patriot, a Renaissance man and a paradox. But the person who knew Jefferson best was his daughter Martha.

America's First Daughter relates a Jefferson we know and one we didn't know, through the eyes of his eldest daughter Martha, known as Patsy. She believed it was her duty and honor to protect the great man's legacy. Her own happiness was not important. Her father's honor and reputation were paramount.

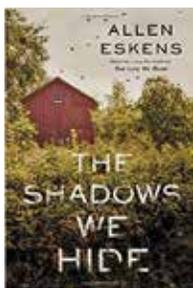
Patsy's story begins with the death of her mother, who charged Patsy with the care of her father, a charge Patsy took most seriously. In fact, the most information we have about Jefferson is based on his letters, which Patsy kept and censored upon his death. Yes, it would be interesting to have the letters she burned. Remember though, she pledged to honor her promise to her mother.

Thomas Jefferson's life was marked by tragedy and success. Among his personal tragedies were the death of his wife and the death of Patsy's two sisters, Lucy and Polly. Not only did Patsy have to bear these tragedies, but she also had to help her father survive them.

Patsy was also part of his success. She was a young girl when she accompanied him to Paris to begin his ambassadorship to France. It was here she met William Short but refused his wish to marry her and returned with her father to Virginia. She would eventually accompany her father to the Capital to serve as his hostess at the White House.

She always provided for her father. She married Tom Randolph, who never gained the love and respect of his father and felt secondary to Jefferson. Patsy not only bore 11 children but also kept the secret of the relationship between her father and Sally Hemmings.

It was only after Jefferson's death that Patsy remembered the second part of her mother's request – Be Happy!



The Shadows We Hide by Allen Eskens

Elaine Brotman, Bay Woods

In **The Shadows We Hide**, award-winning writer Allen Eskens has created multi-layered story lines in a mystery that is totally absorbing, but still extremely easy to follow. The book begins with Joe Talbert, a reporter for the Associated Press in Minneapolis, who lives with his law-student girlfriend and his autistic brother, Jeremy. He has custody of Jeremy because his unreliable mother is an admitted addict living with her current verbally abusive boyfriend.

Joe comes across the stunning report that a certain Joe Talbert has been found murdered in a southern Minnesota town. Joe decides to check out the report and soon discovers that the older Talbert is indeed his father, a man he never knew. He is determined find the killer, which becomes rather complicated because practically the whole town seems to want him dead. His search reveals that his father was an unscrupulous lowlife who cheated his unsuspecting neighbors, threatened his daughter and abused his wife, whose inheritance he received after her sudden death. Using his journalist's skills, Joe investigates his way through the deceit and lies to discover what actually happened.

While this mystery is both entertaining and suspenseful, full of rich detail, colorful local characters and surprising twists and turns, it is so much more than a who-done-it mystery novel. It is also the intimate personal story of Joe and his perilous journey of self-discovery as he puts together the missing pieces of his family's history. (Editor's note: **The Shadows We Hide** is the sequel to Eskens' book **The Life We Bury**.)

READER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Do you have a book you'd like to recommend? Let us know the title, author, your name, neighborhood and your rating up to 5 stars and we'll pass it on in the next issue! Email us at lauren@baywatchnews.com

Name + Neighborhood

BWN Staff

James J. Papandrea, Woodlake

Recommended Book

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Big Screen Movie Reviews

1917

Director: Sam Mendes
Writers: Sam Mendes, Krysty Wilson-Cairns
Stars: Dean-Charles Chapman, George MacKay, Daniel Mays, Benedict Cumberbatch
Runtime: 119 minutes



The feature film *1917* was released in Britain in early December 2019 and on Christmas Day in the U.S. It quickly won Best Motion Picture – Drama and Best Screenplay at the Golden Globes and recently won Academy Awards for Cinematography, Sound and Visual Effects (it had been nominated for ten Academy Awards).

The story by Director Mendes and his co-writer Krysty Wilson-Cairns was inspired by Mendes' grandfather, who told him tales about his experiences as a messenger while fighting for England in northern France during World War I.

Mendes used those tales to create the story about exceptional warriors amid the horrible conditions and brutality of trench warfare.

Lance Corporal Tom Blake (Dean-Charles Chapman) and Will Schofield (George MacKay) are selected by their commanding officer, General Erinmore (Colin Firth), to race and reach on-foot by the next morning a battalion of men preparing to pursue and attack a retreating German force. Erinmore is aware of confirmed intelligence that the retreating Germans are simply moving back to the better fortified and recently built Hindenburg Line. The attacking 1,600 British men are heading into a trap and will be slaughtered unless Blake and Schofield reach them to deliver the message to stand down.

Blake has been picked especially because his brother is a junior officer in the unaware battalion and will be one of those killed if their mission is not accomplished.

Director Mendes and Cinematographer Roger Deakins bring to life the horror of war and the abominable battle conditions of World War I. They used the complex technique of “one-shot” filming to enhance the desperation of the mission. The illusion works.

From the time they are called to meet with the General, the camera quickly moves with Blake and Schofield through miles of trenches as they race to reach the front line and cross the abandoned “No Man’s Land” littered with decaying dead bodies, horses and war machinery.

Schofield finally reaches the battalion and Commander Colonel MacKenzie (Benedict Cumberbatch) and delivers the message but the attack had already begun. It is immediately stopped, saving hundreds of men, including Blake’s brother.

Near the end of the film, MacKenzie delivers to Schofield his eerie assessment on the war “... it’s the last man standing.” The war-to-end-all wars was to last another year and a half. Millions died fighting.

There have been movies about World War I but this may be one of the best.

BAD BOYS FOR LIFE

Directors: Adil El Arbi and Bliall Fallah
Writers: Chris Bremner, Peter Craig and Joe Carnahan
screenplay based on story by Peter Craig and Joe Carnahan
Stars: Will Smith, Martin Lawrence, Vanessa Hudgens, Bianca Bethune
Dennis Greene, Kate Del Castillo, Jacob Scipio
Runtime: 124 minutes



Bad Boys for Life brings back to life the Miami action/comedy cop duo Mike (Will Smith) and Marcus (Martin Lawrence). This is the third installment of car chases, machine guns blasting, hand-to-hand combat, people being thrown out of high-rises, stabbings and various other creative ways of making chaos in the streets of Miami. Before you can even start on the popcorn, you are inside a Porsche traveling with Mike and Marcus at about 100 mph, doing impossible maneuvers on city boulevards and terrorizing pedestrians (presumably because they were going so fast there’s no recall of actually seeing any). Question: How does a detective afford a new car with an MSRP of approximately \$100,000 before upgrades, taxes, licenses, dealer add-ons and fees?

The surprise at the end of the ride is they are not chasing bank robbers, murderers or plain old terrorists. Mike is simply trying to get Marcus to the hospital where his daughter Megan (Bianca Bethune) is having his grandson with boyfriend Reggie (Dennis Greene).

Meanwhile, in a hell-hole Mexican prison, a witchy female prisoner Isabel Aretas (Kate Del Castillo) gets the drop on a guard who suddenly meets his creator and the place goes nuts, allowing the witchy prisoner to escape with the help of her motorcycle enthusiast and probably psychotic son Almando (Jacob Scipio). Off they go home to plot killing all the unfortunate people who killed her drug kingpin husband and put her in jail. The list includes her former lover Mike, who was just doing his undercover narc job at the time. Unbeknownst to him, Mike is the father of the psychotic son. Almando goes off with the list and instructions to snuff out Mike last, with undefined “painful methods.” As they say somewhere, “Love hurts.”

Son reverses the list and immediately puts Mike on life support for six months. Marcus retires but, because this is a buddy movie, returns to assist Mike’s resurrection and final battle. It takes place in Mexico in a huge abandoned, falling apart castle/cathedral/opera house where mom meets her maker. Almando is taken down and now sits isolated in jail but Dad seems to make a deal with him allowing his sequel return. I hope they don’t rush it.

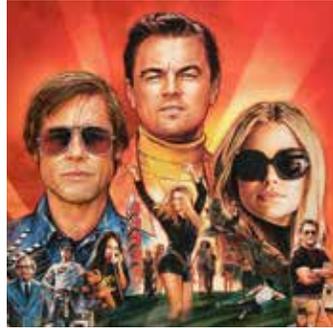


ONCE UPON A TIME ... IN HOLLYWOOD

Director: Quentin Tarantino

Writer: Quentin Tarantino
Stars: Leonardo DiCaprio, Brad Pitt, Margot Robbie, Al Pacino, Julio Butters, Bruce Dern, Rafal Zawierucha

Runtime: 161 minutes



Director Quentin Tarantino has created another historical fantasy/drama/comedy which takes place, this time, in Los Angeles, circa 1968. While incorporating some truths, it is a fictional account of two stories running simultaneously on two different tracks which merge in the final sequences. The first is a story of a middle-aged TV and movie actor Rich Dalton (Leonardo DiCaprio) and his personal stuntman, driver and handy man, Cliff Booth (Brad Pitt). Rich struggles with his declining popularity and Cliff is being blackballed over rumors that he killed his wife.

The second track involves the infamous event that rocked the nation and, in particular, the Hollywood community: the murder of actress Sharon Tate (Margot Robbie) and three of her friends who are members of the *Manson Family* cult. Tate was 26 at the time and 8½-months pregnant. Her husband Roman Polanski (Rafal Zawierucha), a popular movie director (*Rosemary's Baby*), was in the U.K. at the time.

In *Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood*, Los Angeles is portrayed as a city removed from the turmoil that America is experiencing in 1968 - the Vietnam War, assassinations of Bobby Kennedy and Martin Luther King, nationwide rioting, takeovers of universities by students and the migration of free love hippie culture from San Francisco. Tarantino borrows from his past movies, using former and current stars, recreating iconic locations and re-editing past TV shows and movies. What results is a Hollywood/Los Angeles that is an oasis, a playground for the talented, adored and self-centered power players, seemingly isolated and oblivious of the turmoil going on around them.

The parallel story begins to add tension when Tate and her husband return from her filming in England to their rental home, next door to Dalton. Charles Manson (Damon Herriman) arrives in his beat up ice cream truck and knocks on the front door of the Tate/Polanski residence, inquiring about the whereabouts of a former resident, music producer Terry Melcher. There is a real sense that the "Golden Age" of Hollywood is about to end.

The stories in *Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood* are fictional but meticulous in detail to the actual time. The performances are terrific. Brad Pitt received the Oscar for Best Supporting Actor and Leonardo DiCaprio could have just as easily won Best Actor. Margot Robbie is perfectly cast. The movie runs a little too long but is gripping and rarely lets you relax.

THE GENTLEMEN

Director: Guy Ritchie

Writer: Guy Ritchie, Screenplay, Story by Guy Ritchie, Ivan Atkinson and Marn Davies

Stars: Matthew McConaughey, Charlie Hunnam, Michelle Dockery, Colin Farrell, Hugh Grant, Henry Golding, Jeremy Strong
Runtime: 113 minutes



Gentlemen in *The Gentlemen* are few and far between. Director Guy Ritchie has built his filmography making action comedic movies of irreverent, fast talking, backstabbing gangsters with complex story lines.

Mickey Pearson (Matthew McConaughey) attended Oxford University under a Rhodes Scholarship where he began building his profitable marijuana business. He stayed in England and parlayed his Oxford days by moving up to establish a unique structure of leased, underground grow houses, under the land of money-starved Royals struggling in their cash-eating castles.

Mickey has reached the point where he has decided to sell the business and spend more time with his loving wife Rosalind (Michelle Dockery) and family. His buyer of choice is Matthew (Jeremy Strong), an American with lots of money wanting to go international.

Gangsters are not very reliable or loyal. Quickly, another derelict, Dry Eye (Henry Golding), wedges impolitely into the negotiations and things begin to come off the rails. Fletcher, a seedy private eye, investigates Mickey and his ties to Royals and his marijuana empire. He puts together a wealth of information about Mickey, who kills who, etc. He drafts a screenplay of all this, adding the backstabbing of gangsters that explode in and out of scenes. Fletcher explains the screenplay to Raymond (Charlie Hunnam), Mickey's consigliere. His dramatic explanation is used as a comical narrative tool explaining how Mickey's deal and the backstabbing unfolds. It's also used by slimy Fletcher as an attempt to defraud Mickey out of \$20 million. The story progresses into a whodunit hodgepodge of slick killings and a little commentary on the elites. There's also a bit of attempted humor by irreverent, tiresome, fast talking gangsters who preface their lines with cracks about ethnicity which exceed ungentlemanliness and cultural boundaries.

Matthew McConaughey is in the dope business for power and money. His choice to appear in this movie may have been only for the latter.



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The Pendulum Usually Swings Back

WHEN I STARTED practicing law, the federal gift and estate tax exemption was \$600,000. Clinton increased the exemption to \$1 million; Bush increased it to \$3.5 million, but then reduced it to \$1 million; Obama increased it to \$5 million indexed for inflation, and then Trump doubled the exemption through 2025, at which time it will sunset back to Obama's exemption.

Certain advanced "irrevocable" estate planning techniques that were very appropriate years ago based upon the client's net worth and the solid history of the gift and estate tax exemption from the '80s to '90s may not be as appropriate today, given the current higher exemptions, but one should think twice before attempting to unwind or collapse such irrevocable trust planning.

Though there are dozens of different irrevocable trust techniques, each with their own variations and options, two of the most popular are the Qualified Personal Residence Trust (QPRT) and the Irrevocable Life Insurance Trust (ILIT). With Trump's temporary gift and estate tax exemption being higher, several of my clients have reached out to me about unwinding, terminating or collapsing QPRTs and ILITs.

Many clients set up QPRTs in order to pass down their homestead primary residence and/or their secondary residence at a significantly reduced valuation for gift tax exemption purposes. However, with this approach, the children inheriting the residence receive it with their parents' carry-over cost basis, rather than the stepped-up basis which they would enjoy if they inherited it at the death of their parents. Thus, with the QPRT approach, if the residence has appreciated in value and if the children sell it, a capital gains tax will be owed. For example, a client has a QPRT with a cost basis of \$1 million, current value at \$2 million, and a net worth of \$10 million, the client might contemplate that even after the Trump exemption reverts back to the Obama exemption, no estate tax will be due, and maybe it is a good idea to unwind the QPRT and transfer the residence back to the client's own name. With that approach the children would potentially benefit from the possible unrealized gain disappearing at the death of the parents. This requires substantial analysis, and in doing so, one must recognize that there are certain IRS risks and a multitude of variables to consider. What will the client's net worth be if the stock market continues to increase like it has for the last 12 years? Who will be President when the client dies and what will be the makeup of Congress? How will the tax laws change in the future? Will Congress take away the step-up of cost basis at death? Many politicians already refer to the step-up of cost basis as a loophole they would like to see closed.

The ILIT has long been a fundamental tool used to remove the value of life insurance from one's federal taxable estate. The ILIT involves shifting control and ownership of a life insurance policy to an irrevocable trust that often names a spouse or child as trustee. Each year the grantor of the trust gifts cash to the trust, and the trustee uses the cash gifts to pay the insurance premiums.

For years, many insurance agents hosted seminars selling the idea of leveraging the gift and estate tax exemptions by

purchasing life insurance designed to pay future estate tax and have that life insurance owned by an ILIT. Now, many of those same insurance agents are holding seminars recommending that with Trump's doubling of the gift and estate tax exemptions, life insurance may not be needed, and they can help sell it on the life insurance settlement market. The insurance agent receives a nice commission on the initial purchase of insurance and would also now receive a nice commission on its sale. Though we may not fault some insurance agents for adjusting their approach based on current tax conditions, we do take issue when many of them fail to emphasize or even disclose that all of Trump's individual tax laws, including the gift and estate tax exemptions, are scheduled to sunset in 2025, if not sooner, following the November 2020 elections.

It is critical to have a significant and thorough analysis before one attempts to unwind or collapse any type of irrevocable trust as the tax laws have a tendency to oscillate between one extreme and another. The pendulum usually swings back.

David P. Browne, P.A.

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Scams

By Marie Gorman, Bay Watch News

LATELY IT SEEMS we are being inundated by scammers. From time to time I find myself answering a call from an unfamiliar phone number with a familiar area code. “I did just call Orlando to book our trip to Disney next year, this must be a confirmation call.” I cheerily answer the phone only to be hit with a recorded voice telling me my Google listing is expiring. “I have a Google listing?” The sweet voice asking for me by name then proceeds to tell me I am being hunted down by the IRS.

Internal Revenue Service

Let's start with that one. It is terrifying when you get this particular scam call. How can I be in trouble with the IRS? They calmly proceed to tell me I have thousands of dollars past due and that a warrant for my arrest will be issued and my wages garnished immediately. They sound very official and the Caller ID says, “Internal Revenue Service.” This is called spoofing; the act of impersonating someone or something by using their caller ID (or email address). I'm informed that only if I immediately pay by check or credit card will my account be cleared and all collections methods cease. The IRS is so intimidating to many people and we have all heard horror stories of people being entangled in nightmare scenarios with them that getting in trouble seems life-altering. Taxes are daunting; and if you file yourself, there is always the ever-present fear that inadvertent errors were made. Even if your "Spidey" sense kicks in, they have logical answers for all your questions. They will even reroute you to “another department.” Whenever you get anyone asking for payment, be it the IRS or a company, our best advice is to tell them to send the request and latest bill to you via snail mail and then quickly follow up in a separate call to the company. If the call was fraudulent, notify the police.

The technology utilized by “underground commerce” is extremely advanced. Do not ever trust Caller ID or the first sentences out of your unknown caller. All large service providers, FPL, water utility companies, and government divisions, do not call. Their communications come via the United States Postal Service.

Some police departments have reported a scam being perpetrated in which the suspect spoofs a police department phone number and informs the victim they must pay a bond for a missed court appearance with a wire transfer or purchase a gift voucher. The caller identifies himself as Officer X, using the actual name of a local police officer. The police advise you to hang up and call the station if you get a call like this.



Florida Power and Light

This one has been attempted with various degrees of sophistication, but it centers around local electricity providers. In one very believable example, the intended victim gets a phone call that rings once and goes quickly to voicemail. A message is left to the effect that your electricity will be shut off imminently due to non-payments and asks you to call them back. When returning the call, an automated voice menu goes into a very believable, “If your issue is technical, press 1; if your issue is billing, press 2.” You are meant to press 2 and are then subjected to a brief hold complete with elevator music. A live person picks up shortly thereafter and asks you to confirm your name and service address (fairly innocuous stuff at this point ... no credit card nor other suspect information is requested). You are then put on hold again with very believable hold music until the “customer service” agent comes back to inform you they have found your account. They say that payment is delinquent -- despite the fact that you may be on autopay. This should be your first red flag. You are then told that you need to make payment within a few hours or your service will be cut off. You are instructed to go to a local payment center (in some cases, reputable business locations like a CVS) while on the phone with customer service. The scammers apparently have a payment method set up that is untraceable. Get off the phone and call FPL immediately if you have real concerns.

“Inside Job” Email Scam

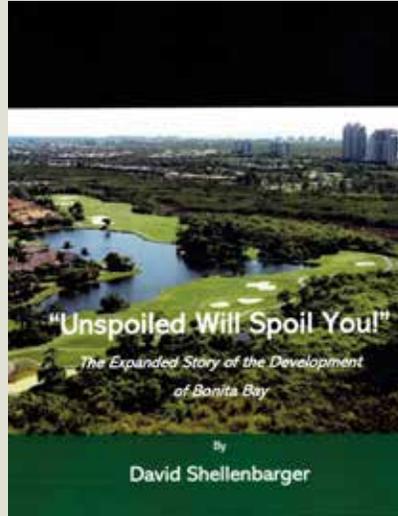
We have become savvier when it comes to email scams; we all know not to click directly from suspicious emails but to navigate directly to the company's website, and to be wary of even the most legitimate looking email. But scammers are getting more sophisticated every day. One day at work, I received an email from someone within my company through Outlook mail, asking for company bank

continued on page 58

EXPANDED STORY OF BONITA BAY RELEASED

A NEW EDITION of *Unspoiled Will Spoil You* has been released by author Dave Shellenbarger. The new edition -- *Unspoiled Will Spoil You, the Expanded Story of the Development of Bonita Bay* -- includes virtually all elements of the original book, along with several supplements to deepen the reader's understanding of the community's story.

The book is a look back into 1970's Bonita Springs, as told by 91-year-old resident Rex Sims, who describes the quaint, undeveloped town he lived in. Through stories about similar ambitious developments funded and promoted by families named Kennedy, Rockefeller and Graham, the new chapters offer context to increase the reader's appreciation for the challenges that were overcome to create today's premier lifestyle community. The difficult years of the financial crisis are explored, with a thorough look at the issues that



confronted Bonita Bay Club members and community residents during the stressful years.

Proceeds of the first book (books don't really have profits) funded a bronze bust of David Shakarian, whose vision led to the creation of a community built with nature preservation in mind. The bust was donated to the Bonita Bay Community Association in January 2018 and can be viewed in the Community Association Activities Center. Proceeds from the second edition may fund additional castings of the Shakarian bust for placement in the community or the public library. The book can be purchased on Amazon or at the Bonita Bay Club

concierge desk, the Club Lifestyle Center reception desk or the Bonita Bay Community Association Activity Center. The author can be contacted at dave.shellenbarger@gmail.com for further information. Bonita Bay's story is an interesting read!



Scams *continued from page 57*

information. I replied asking for confirmation of which accounts he was referring to, but a warning was already flashing in the back of my brain. At this point I walked into the other room and asked my coworker if he had sent the email. Simultaneously, I got an email back requesting "all accounts." I don't think so, buddy. Now here is the scary part ... nowhere in my co-workers' email did it show him sending me the email or him receiving my response. We quickly called the IT department and changed our Outlook passwords. The scammers had been able to hack through all our security and get into our Outlook system, setting up rules within the software so my responses got funneled to an obscure folder that would never be seen. IT said that sadly this was common.

Scam artists are nothing new

Scam artists have been around as long as time. People are gullible and there are always characters of ill repute willing to take advantage of unsuspecting souls. Was Eve the victim of the Devil's con to entice her to eat the apple? We all know what happened "When the devil went down to Georgia" ... failed scam.

In the 17th Century, a counterfeiter by the name of William Chaloner attained great wealth in England. He was

eventually proven guilty by Sir Isaac Newton (Master of the Royal Mint) and hanged in 1699. In the pioneering days of the United States, there was no shortage of scams, con-men, swindlers and snake oil salesmen. The salesmen traveled from community to community selling jewelry made with fake gemstones and magic tonics and potions.

In the 1800's a popular scam was called the Green Goods Game. A victim would respond to a flyer offering to sell counterfeit money printed on stolen engraved plates. The buyer would be shown large amounts of "authentic" counterfeit currency, which would then be put in a bag. While the transaction was being negotiated, a co-conspirator would secretly replace the cash with green paper or saw dust. The scam proved so successful because it was illegal to purchase counterfeit money and victims knew they risked arrest if they reported it.

The trusting nature of humans and the overwhelming desire to get something for nothing or for little or no work makes us easy prey. Today we are more informed about scams trying to separate us from our money, but the scammers have also upped the game. To add insult to injury, not only do we have strangers trying to crack into our identity and accounts, but many have fallen prey to people they know and trust -- just look at the wild success of several Ponzi schemes. It seems no one is exempt.



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Wonder in a Boy's Eyes

By all accounts, Wilford (Bill) and Lester Piper took the concept of “colorful characters” and launched it into the stratosphere. So many stories have circulated they literally fill a book: Everglades Wildlife Barons, carefully researched and superbly written by local historian Charles LeBuff, who worked at the Wonder Gardens as a guide in the 1950s. Many stories are yet to be told, but this one comes from a singular perspective: looking up at the Piper brothers from a young boy's eyes.

FROM THE TIME he was nine until he went away to high school, Don Trew and his older brother Alfred grew up as part of Bill Piper's informally adopted family.

The relationship began when Alfred got a job at the Bonita Springs Reptile Gardens in 1938 as its first tour guide. “The Depression was just about over, and everybody was trying to get back on their feet,” Don recalls. “My parents were divorced and mom didn't have any money, so when Alfred got hired, I followed.”

Like Bill Piper and his wife Frances, the Trew brothers lived and worked at the Reptile Gardens. Both room and board were provided; Alfred's only spending money came from tourist tips.

Don Trew has nothing but fondness for the Piper family, since his own family was broken. Don says Bill treated him like a son and took him along wherever he went: “I was under his arm most of the time.”

Don and Alfred lived in the same travel trailer Bill used during his first trip to Florida, exploring the Ocala National Forest. It was there that Bill discovered his love of wildlife, but the idea of turning his interest into a business came from Ross Allen, famous snake handler at Ross Allen's Reptile Institute at Silver Springs, west of Ocala. Bill learned proper care of reptiles and something even more valuable: that people were intrigued by wild animals and would pay to see them.

Bill Piper's Playground

Reasonably confident of success, Bill came to Bonita Springs in late 1936 and bought four acres with frontage on Tamiami Trail (now Old 41 Road). Lester Piper was still in Wyandotte, MI, where he and Bill had made a good living as bootleggers during Prohibition, running whiskey from Canada across the Detroit River.

Most tourists and locals—then or now—would never dream of venturing far into the Everglades, terrified of running into gators or snakes. But this wild country was Bill Piper's playground. Catching animals was always an adventure, safety a side note. For the Trew brothers, neither youth nor inexperience was an impediment. The Gardens had a bald eagle on display, but it had a crooked wing and Bill wanted a perfect specimen. He sent Alfred, then 19, up a pine tree with an axe to chop through the bottom of an eagle's nest and harvest eggs to be hatched back at the Gardens. The adult eagles swooping overhead had a different idea; Alfred prevailed.

Wildlife was there for the taking, and Bill knew where to find it. He took Don on expeditions deep into the glades, to abandoned farms, and to hidden ponds in the pine scrub.

Don distinctly remembers a trip with Bill to Key Largo to buy a live crocodile from trapper Argyle Henry, himself the stuff of legend.



As young boys, Don Trew (center) and his older brother Alfred (right) did the work of men at the Bonita Springs Reptile Gardens. Bill Piper (left) used a cypress board to transport this crocodile from the wild.

“Bill roped it, tied it to a cypress board and put a wet burlap bag over its eyes so it would keep still,” Don recalls. “This croc was so long his nose sat on the dashboard between me and Bill, and his tail hung out the back of the truck. I didn't have a driver's license, but Bill was so sleepy he had me drive all the way home.”

Croc weren't the only reason Bill took Don along on his frequent trips eastward. Bill's girlfriend and eventual wife, Alida Jane Whittle, lived in Coral Gables. Bill spent many a night in her bedroom, Don on the living room couch.

Many Mouths to Feed

As the Wonder Gardens' collection grew to nearly 2,000 animals, keeping them fed was a full-time chore. For the birds, the Pipers raised rats in tin garbage cans filled with straw. “Except for fish from Charlie Weeks, the food wasn't bought—we went out and got it,” Don says. “We picked up road kill. If someone had a dead animal, they'd call us. Cows, sheep, goats—we'd bring them all back to the slaughterhouse. When we got a horse, it was a gold mine.” What followed was hours of exhausting work, chopping the carcasses and stacking meat in a huge walk-in freezer.

The Measure of the Men

As much as he admired the Piper brothers, Don is not one, as he puts it, to “butter things up.” Don knew their parents, Joseph and Anna May, who were total opposites. “Joe was a nice guy, but Anna was mean as a snake,” he recalls. “She never had a good word for anybody.”

To an extent, this might explain why Bill and Lester grew up to become such different men. Don says Bill was the adventurer; Lester quit school in third grade and never travelled much. Bill rode the rails across America and ended up in Alaska, fishing for salmon. He did a stint in the Navy, which took him to ports in Europe and

continued on page 66

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Dining Out with Laura

HARVEST & WISDOM ORGANIC DINING

IN THE HEART of Bonita Springs sits a unique and beautiful building that is rich in history. The Shangri-La Springs property (originally called the Heitman Hotel) dates back to 1921 when it was opened by the Heitman family. The Heitmans were developing property to the west and constructed the hotel to house potential buyers. Over the years it has changed hands quite a few times until, in 1998, two long-time conservationists Addison Fischer and Heather Burch purchased the property.

Harvest & Wisdom Organic Dining is a farm-to-table restaurant located inside of the Shangri-La Springs property, with an ever-changing menu that utilizes fresh produce from their organic garden, and locally sourced proteins.

On Friday evening of last week, Em (my fiancé, who is also a chef), and I arrived at Shangri-La Springs. We were both in awe of the beautifully uplit old-time Florida hotel. The building itself does not look as if it will be 100 next year, although we all know what a little facelift and good lighting can do for just about anything.

We entered into the main lobby of the soon-to-be renovated hotel, where we were warmly greeted by the receptionist, and directed towards the host stand for Harvest & Wisdom. We were promptly seated at our table on the inside of the restaurant. As soon as we sat down I realized that there was an outside patio area with plenty of heaters. I will admit I was that person and asked to be relocated to the patio as it was such a nice night. Our server said of course without hesitation, and moved us to a beautiful table outside. We settled into our seats and took in the ambiance of the outside garden area, surrounded by the sounds of the breeze in the palms, soft music and light chatter around us.

The menu offers a 3-course dinner for \$58 per person, with the usual choice of appetizers, entrées and desserts. The menu itself looked very promising with a wide variety of unique and intriguing options. We were having a difficult time deciding on exactly what route we wanted to go in. After quite a bit of back and forth, we settled on the carrot and beet tartare and superfood salad as our appetizers, and a bottle of Chilean Cabernet. Side note: I love Chilean wines as they are of great quality with very friendly price tags.

We were not disappointed with our choices. The carrot and beet tartare was incredible. At first glance, we were almost sure that we had read the menu incorrectly. Wait, were they sure this wasn't beef? One bite told you that it was not beef, but something so much more special. The fresh and vibrant flavors of the beet and carrot combination were wonderful, and the mango puree sitting on top to replicate the traditional egg yolk was both creative and delicious. The superfood salad was dressed and seasoned perfectly. Together, the first course options were a great match, as one was much heartier than the other, and as Em and I shared everything, it was an excellent balance.

Next up: The Main Event. After much deliberation, we settled on the tableside banana leaf snapper and the coconut oak-smoked venison.



These two entrees were priced at \$10 and \$15 over the regular prix fixe, but when Em and I go out to enjoy a unique experience and dinner, we go for what we know will surely be the best offerings on the menu. We were not wrong. The snapper came on a wooden plank. On a tray stand next to the table, our server carefully cut open the banana leaves to showcase the snapper, then poured the coconut sauce over the fish. The snapper had a tiny bit of heat to it from the rice kimchi.

The venison came out next. It was perfectly sous vide to a medium-rare and placed over a generous portion of corn pudding. The venison was sweet and savory, a wonderful balance between the two.

By now we are very impressed, and getting a little full, although never too full for dessert. Ever. We

ordered the lemon thyme blueberry cobbler and the chocolate banana decadence. This is where things took an interesting turn. We were sure that they were going to seal the deal with dessert. Not so much. The chocolate banana decadence seemed as though they took a lot of interesting/creative ideas and threw them haphazardly onto a plate. The lemon thyme blueberry cobbler had very little cobbler quality, as it was very soupy and lacked the crumble or biscuit topping you look for in traditional cobbler.

Our experience as a whole at Harvest & Wisdom was pleasant, and for the most part delicious. There were a couple of hiccups throughout the evening that are worth mentioning. We noticed that our water glasses were dirty when we first sat down -- not a major issue, but they needed to be replaced. We also had a couple of awkward moments with our waitress. It felt as though she was not a seasoned server, and had trouble navigating some of the menus while trying to describe details of each dish.

In all, I recommended taking a trip to experience Harvest & Wisdom, both for dinner and a stroll around the property. They also offer lunch, garden tours, a beautiful spa, a wedding venue and the hotel will soon be completely renovated. A unique and beautiful spot in the heart of Bonita Springs that has a long and interesting history.

RATING:

Food: ★★★★★

Decor: ★★★★★

Price: ★★★★★

Value: ★★★★★

Overall ★★★★★

Laura Moore is a hospitality/bar professional who has been in the industry since the age of 15. Her passion for food and hospitality led her to Johnson and Wales University where she graduated with degrees in Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management. She has opened and managed craft cocktail bars and restaurants, judged various cocktail competitions and loves coming up with new cocktail creations for various publications and brands.

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Techno-Savvy

WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH 5G?

MOBILE PHONE TECHNOLOGY is changing fast. One technology you may have heard of in passing that's just over the horizon is referred to as "5G." This raises some obvious questions such as "What is 5G? Why should I care? Is this even relevant to me?" Let's examine these questions in a bit more detail and take a look at the history that has brought us here.

The phone you use these days likely runs on a 4G network, the type of cellular network that started rolling out in 2010. The term "4G" or "Fourth Generation" refers to the cellular (radio wave) network on which your phone communicates. If you've ever made a video call or used FaceTime, you are using the fruits of the 4G network. While we are currently in the era of 4G, the generations go back to the advent of the cell phone in the 1980s.

The first generation could only support voice and nothing more; it was simply a mobile version of a landline on the corded home telephone. As the generations progressed, the capabilities of what you could do with your phone expanded. The second generation (2G) allowed users to send and receive text messages. 3G brought with it web access with the ability to look up local movie times or see restaurant reviews. 4G delivered us into the era of video calling (e.g., FaceTime or Google Duo) along with mobile apps such as Uber or Lyft, which require fast-updating GPS location. The advent of a nationwide 5G network will bring with it the capacity to support not-even-conceived-of-as-yet services that aren't possible on the current 4G network, as well as what might be a surprise -- longer battery life.

Importantly, 5G is not here quite yet. While it is true that it's being introduced in select locations and on a small scale, we are still very much in the 4G era. Part of the reason for this is that the 5G broadcast system requires a denser concentration of transmitter towers and these are tiny (can be placed on top of a building). When 5G becomes really prominent, it's going to need this sort of infrastructure with transmitters placed about every 500 to 1000 feet. As far as what technology you'll be able to use, 4G phones and devices will not work on a 5G network. You'll eventually need a 5G-compatible phone to tap into that powered-up network.

So when is this going to be showing up on your radar? Best estimates are looking at widespread nationwide coverage through the major cell carriers like AT&T, Verizon and T-Mobile in 2020, likely towards the tail end of the year. You won't be missing anything by staying with your current phone for now, but that will be changing within the next year or so.

Ken Saks
21st Century Technology LLC
239-410-8603
krsaksa@gmail.com

Bald Eagle Report

James Unland, Wild Pines

AS I HAVE REPORTED, the seemingly ever-increasing noise from Route 41 has been adversely affecting the adult bald eagles in our treasured Spring Creek nest. When noise causes bald eagles to become “jumpy,” they customarily either leap up onto branches above their nest to take defensive positions or leave their nesting tree entirely to perch in a nearby “lookout” tree until they feel safe enough to return to their nest. Disturbed eagles with eggs or newly hatched young do not completely abandon their nesting area but can temporarily put their babies at risk, especially in unusually cold weather. Such was the case in mid-January when, in addition to the Route 41 noise, the low temperatures were in the 40- to 50-degree range and the daytime highs were quite cool. Unfortunately, one of the two baby eagles did not survive.

The surviving sibling bald eagle, now six weeks old, appears to be healthy thus far. It is my fondest hope that we do not have a repeat of a year ago at Spring Creek, when one baby died relatively early on and the second one was doing well until late February when, at eight weeks old, it suddenly died, possibly from a toxin or poison. The adult eagles left the Spring Creek nesting area for a couple of weeks but returned in March of 2019. They began sprucing up their nest and mating but were driven away in April by the noise from various roofing and construction projects.



The mother and the surviving baby in mid-February

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Wonder in a Boy's Eyes *continued from page 60*

South America. In their friendly days, Bill and Ross Allen hopped a banana boat for Central America to gather rare snakes and other creatures.

Bill captured the animals—Lester tended to them. He and his wife Lucille took turns bottle feeding their Florida panther cubs, believed to be the only ones successfully bred and raised in captivity. In his book, Charles LeBuff writes that Lester felt the welfare of the animals in his care was more important than anything else in his life. Lester was also the horticulturist who planted the many exotic and native plants that draw visitors to the Gardens today.

Bill had a flamboyant side to him. When a gator nearly severed his thumb, he took out a pocket knife and cut off the dangling skin to finish the job. Ever the showman, he entertained customers by feeding Tom, a 400-pound black bear, bottles of Pepsi-Cola—until the bear gave him a swipe that required 27 stitches to close. Bill was later quoted in the *Naples Daily News'* *Neapolitan* magazine: "Florida has many bold bear hunters and trainers, but no OLD, bold bear hunters and trainers." He never performed with Tom again.

Opposite Personalities

Don remembers Lester as a quiet man, easy to spot by his trademark goatee, which his wife touched up with black shoe polish in later years to hide the gray. Even though Lester stayed in the background, he was a force to be reckoned with. "Lester had such a powerful physical presence: thick, strong—he looked like a man who could do anything he wanted," Don says. "People got the impression that Lester was a grumpy old man, but he had a heart of gold."

As generous as Lester was, Bill was an inveterate penny pincher. "Let's just say he was conservative with his money" was Don's measured comment. Bill bartered relentlessly with animal trappers to save a few dollars, even though they badly needed the income and he had money to spare.

Don says that Bill was so cheap he wouldn't give his wife Frances



Bill (left) ventured into the Everglades with his swamp buggy, camping for days at a time.

enough money to buy a decent dress, even though she worked hard in the business and kept all its books. As it turned out, this backfired—Frances fell in love with Alfred Trew and the two went off to San Francisco. "Alfred didn't 'steal' Frances away, and Bill didn't have any hard feelings toward my brother," Don notes. Years later, the couple moved back to Bonita Springs and visited Bill on occasion.

The Partnership Ends

A born entrepreneur, when Bill saw the opportunity to make more money in cattle ranching, he stepped away from the Wonder Gardens. In 1951, he bought huge tracts of grazing land where Mediterra, The Quarry and Twin Eagles communities have since been developed. According to the *Naples Daily News*, Bill's herd in Collier County once had "10 times the number of people living there."

Bill's departure was a sore spot with Lester, and in truth, the Piper brothers never got along all that well. As they aged, the widening rift between them made it impossible to do business. Bill and Lester parted ways at the end of 1981 and split their assets: Lester got the Everglades Wonder Gardens and later gave over operations to his son, David.

Still, 43 years after they began, the brothers had accomplished what they set out to do, well stated in a 1950s brochure: "We have only a sincere desire to give the visitor a clear picture of the thrilling life, dangers, intrigue and constant struggle for existence that goes on in the depth of the impenetrable and fascinating Everglades."

Today, in his 80s, Don Trew says his childhood spent with the Piper brothers did exactly that.

You can buy the book *Everglades Wildlife Barons* in the gift shop at the Everglades Wonder Gardens, which has a museum full of artifacts from the Pipers' collection. If you haven't been to the Gardens in awhile—or ever—it's well worth your time to visit Bonita Springs' most historic, enduring attraction.

By Beverly LaLonde, Bonita Springs Historical Society

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Sold Date	Sold Price	Sub/Condo Name	Address	Bedrooms	Baths	Living Area
2/7/20	\$350,000	Harbor Landing	4411 Riverwatch Dr. 101	2+Den	2	1,607
2/7/20	\$1,295,000	Seaglass	4971 Bonita Bay Blvd 502	3 Bed	3.5	2,889
2/6/20	\$3,200,000	Bay Woods	26191 Woodlyn Dr.	4+Den	4.5	4,207
2/6/20	\$525,000	Wedgewood	26880 Wedgewood Dr. 501	3+Den	3.5	2,841
2/5/20	\$372,500	Harbor Landing	4461 Riverwatch Dr. 103	3 Bed	2	1,607
2/4/20	\$1,925,000	Estancia	4801 Bonita Bay Blvd. PH 202	3+Den	3.5	4,357
2/3/20	\$385,000	Bay Pointe	4706 Montego Pointe Way 101	2+Den	2	1,832
1/23/20	\$500,000	Bay Harbor	27209 Shell Ridge Cir.	4 Bed	3	2,676
1/22/20	\$1,305,000	Mahogany Ridge	26348 Mahogany Pointe Ct.	3+Den	3	2,991
1/17/20	\$710,000	Riverwalk	3310 Oaklake Ct.	3+Den	3.5	2,924
1/17/20	\$716,250	The Hamptons	26841 Wyndhurst Ct. 202	3+Den	3	2,800
1/15/20	\$2,400,000	Azure	4931 Bonita Bay Blvd. 2403	3+Den	3	3,761



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LITTLE HICKORY ISLAND

March, 2020

DAY			TIDES FOR LITTLE HICKORY ISLAND					SOLUNAR ACTIVITY
			1 st TIDE	2 nd TIDE	3 rd TIDE	4 th TIDE	COEFFICIENT	
1 Sun		▲ 6:49 am ▼ 6:29 pm	5:50 am 1.1 ft ▲	9:51 am 0.8 ft ▼	4:32 pm 2.1 ft ▲		48 low	
2 Mon		▲ 6:48 am ▼ 6:30 pm	12:32 am 0.1 ft ▼	5:17 pm 2.1 ft ▲			40 low	
3 Tue		▲ 6:47 am ▼ 6:30 pm	1:55 am -0.2 ft ▼	6:18 pm 2.1 ft ▲			36 low	
4 Wed		▲ 6:46 am ▼ 6:31 pm	3:12 am -0.3 ft ▼	7:36 pm 2.2 ft ▲			41 low	
5 Thu		▲ 6:45 am ▼ 6:31 pm	4:15 am -0.5 ft ▼	8:57 pm 2.3 ft ▲			53 average	
6 Fri		▲ 6:44 am ▼ 6:32 pm	5:07 am -0.7 ft ▼	12:48 pm 1.4 ft ▲	3:50 pm 1.2 ft ▼	10:08 pm 2.4 ft ▲	69 average	
7 Sat		▲ 6:43 am ▼ 6:32 pm	5:52 am -0.7 ft ▼	1:02 pm 1.4 ft ▲	4:52 pm 1.0 ft ▼		85 high	
8 Sun		▲ 7:42 am ▼ 7:33 pm	12:09 am 2.5 ft ▲	7:31 am -0.7 ft ▼	2:17 pm 1.5 ft ▲	6:45 pm 0.8 ft ▼	100 very high	
9 Mon		▲ 7:41 am ▼ 7:33 pm	1:06 am 2.5 ft ▲	8:07 am -0.5 ft ▼	2:33 pm 1.6 ft ▲	7:37 pm 0.5 ft ▼	110 very high	
10 Tue		▲ 7:40 am ▼ 7:34 pm	2:00 am 2.4 ft ▲	8:40 am -0.3 ft ▼	2:51 pm 1.7 ft ▲	8:29 pm 0.2 ft ▼	115 very high	
11 Wed		▲ 7:39 am ▼ 7:34 pm	2:54 am 2.2 ft ▲	9:10 am 0.1 ft ▼	3:12 pm 1.9 ft ▲	9:23 pm 0.0 ft ▼	112 very high	
12 Thu		▲ 7:38 am ▼ 7:35 pm	3:51 am 2.0 ft ▲	9:36 am 0.4 ft ▼	3:37 pm 2.1 ft ▲	10:20 pm 0.2 ft ▼	103 very high	
13 Fri		▲ 7:37 am ▼ 7:35 pm	4:55 am 1.6 ft ▲	9:59 am 0.7 ft ▼	4:05 pm 2.3 ft ▲	11:24 pm 0.3 ft ▼	88 high	
14 Sat		▲ 7:36 am ▼ 7:36 pm	6:16 am 1.3 ft ▲	10:16 am 1.0 ft ▼	4:40 pm 2.3 ft ▲		71 high	
15 Sun		▲ 7:35 am ▼ 7:36 pm	12:38 am 0.3 ft ▼	5:21 pm 2.3 ft ▲			54 average	
16 Mon		▲ 7:34 am ▼ 7:37 pm	2:03 am -0.3 ft ▼	6:16 pm 2.2 ft ▲			41 low	
17 Tue		▲ 7:33 am ▼ 7:37 pm	3:28 am -0.3 ft ▼	7:38 pm 2.1 ft ▲			38 low	
18 Wed		▲ 7:32 am ▼ 7:38 pm	4:40 am -0.3 ft ▼	9:23 pm 2.1 ft ▲			43 low	
19 Thu		▲ 7:30 am ▼ 7:38 pm	5:34 am -0.3 ft ▼	1:26 pm 1.6 ft ▲	4:48 pm 1.4 ft ▼	10:47 pm 2.1 ft ▲	53 average	
20 Fri		▲ 7:29 am ▼ 7:39 pm	6:16 am -0.3 ft ▼	1:36 pm 1.6 ft ▲	5:48 pm 1.1 ft ▼	11:47 pm 2.1 ft ▲	63 average	
21 Sat		▲ 7:28 am ▼ 7:39 pm	6:50 am -0.2 ft ▼	1:47 pm 1.6 ft ▲	6:32 pm 0.9 ft ▼		72 high	
22 Sun		▲ 7:27 am ▼ 7:40 pm	12:35 am 2.1 ft ▲	7:18 am -0.1 ft ▼	1:57 pm 1.7 ft ▲	7:08 pm 0.7 ft ▼	79 high	
23 Mon		▲ 7:26 am ▼ 7:40 pm	1:16 am 2.1 ft ▲	7:41 am 0.0 ft ▼	2:05 pm 1.8 ft ▲	7:42 pm 0.5 ft ▼	84 high	
24 Tue		▲ 7:25 am ▼ 7:40 pm	1:53 am 2.0 ft ▲	8:01 am 0.2 ft ▼	2:13 pm 1.9 ft ▲	8:14 pm 0.3 ft ▼	87 high	
25 Wed		▲ 7:24 am ▼ 7:41 pm	2:30 am 1.9 ft ▲	8:20 am 0.4 ft ▼	2:24 pm 2.0 ft ▲	8:48 pm 0.1 ft ▼	86 high	
26 Thu		▲ 7:23 am ▼ 7:41 pm	3:07 am 1.8 ft ▲	8:37 am 0.6 ft ▼	2:40 pm 2.2 ft ▲	9:25 pm 0.0 ft ▼	83 high	
27 Fri		▲ 7:22 am ▼ 7:42 pm	3:48 am 1.6 ft ▲	8:54 am 0.7 ft ▼	3:01 pm 2.3 ft ▲	10:05 pm 0.1 ft ▼	78 high	
28 Sat		▲ 7:21 am ▼ 7:42 pm	4:34 am 1.5 ft ▲	9:12 am 0.9 ft ▼	3:28 pm 2.4 ft ▲	10:52 pm 0.1 ft ▼	70 high	
29 Sun		▲ 7:20 am ▼ 7:43 pm	5:33 am 1.4 ft ▲	9:29 am 1.0 ft ▼	4:00 pm 2.4 ft ▲	11:48 pm 0.1 ft ▼	61 average	
30 Mon		▲ 7:19 am ▼ 7:43 pm	7:01 am 1.2 ft ▲	9:36 am 1.2 ft ▼	4:38 pm 2.4 ft ▲		50 average	
31 Tue		▲ 7:18 am ▼ 7:44 pm	12:59 am 0.1 ft ▼	5:27 pm 2.4 ft ▲			41 low	

Solunar activity indicates the most favorable days of the month for catching fish. The strongest activity occurs when there is a full moon or a new moon and is weakest when there is a quarter moon and a three quarter moon.



Estero Bay Fishing Report

SPRING IS ALMOST HERE and with the warming temperatures, the fish start to move out of the rivers and creeks and into the bays and inside islands. This is an amazing time of year to be out on the water.

Snook are on the feed as they get ready for the summer spawn. Live pilchards are my bait of choice. Live pinfish and shrimp get the job done too. If artificial is your game, then a top water walk-the-dog style plug like a Skitterwalk works well in early morning. As the sun gets higher up, I like to switch to a subsurface hard plug or a soft jerk bait. My two favorite soft baits are the Wyze Guyz Tackle 5" Bada Boom-Gold Nugget and the Band of Anglers Dart Spin Pro. I like to rig the Bada Boom with just a 3/0 wide gap hook, as this makes it snag proof and gives it fantastic action. The Dart Spin comes pre-rigged with a weighted hook that is perfect.

I love to fish along the mangrove islands and oyster bars for spring snook. You can also find them on boat docks. I think



the best thing about using artificial baits is you can cover a lot of ground and quickly eliminate unproductive water. You can also find redfish, and jack craval in the same places.

This time of year brings perfect temperatures, beautiful scenery and some really good fishing. Book a fishing trip today and enjoy all that Southwest Florida has to offer on the water.

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VIEW FROM A DIFFERENT ANGLE

Warm and Secure????

By Charlie Vogt, Montara

A NUMBER OF “near accidents” occurred with the recent confusing change of bathroom codes for golf course restrooms. It was all in the name of security; rumor had it the venerable “24 Enter” code had been hacked, and outsiders would have lined up from here to Miami to poach on our private facilities.

Before dying, however, the rumor raised the question of who put the devilish code on the doors in the first place, and why anyone thought the code might be a good idea. Currently no one is holding up their hand and claiming credit. As with so many things, we simply attribute it to the original developers of this place, adding one more thing to blame on them. For example, why didn't they foresee the popularity of pickleball and allow ample room for a premiere facility? And why didn't they anticipate the need for another Riverwalk Park restroom for bocce players? At the very least it would have saved a couple hours of spirited discussion at BBCA meetings.

One thing that cannot be blamed on the original developer, though, is a lack of security. We have guard shacks, guard gates, guard vehicles and plenty of guards, day and night. Perhaps because of these precautions, we have a paucity of crime at BB, not counting an occasional “crime of opportunity.” Or perhaps we have wasted the millions of dollars spent over the years for security. Maybe people would have let our stuff alone without all these safety measures. We'll never know. We do know security is here aplenty. Oddly enough, our main danger comes from insiders – the self-important ones that speed and run stop signs.

We can even carry security with us in the form of our smart phones. We can report trouble and ask for help from anywhere at any time. But, alas, robocallers can now find us on our phones anywhere, anytime, with offers to safeguard our Social Security account someplace in Nigeria. And the phone service providers can tell anybody where we are at any time. All our data flows to “them.”

Some residents aren't even content with all of these “basic” protections. They have opted to supplement them with things like the doorbell ring guardian. Or maybe they choose to have Alexa open the door for them (what if someday the ring feature told us Siri was here to talk to Alexa?). On top of that, we're told many have backed up these precautions with firearm(s). Can't ever be too secure ... or can we?

Now we find out that the doorbell ring system can turn around and show everything going on INSIDE rather than OUTSIDE. And “they” can check with Alexa to find out everything that's been said! Fortunately all Bonita homes are bastions of virtue and modesty, so no harm can come from being spied upon by our own devices. But it can make one feel a little uneasy. And make one wonder. And the guns we have for protection are favorite targets of burglars. Everything we try seems to have a dangerous downside.



And now we read the biggest security company in the state is sending felons to guard places like courthouses, malls and even some SWFL gated communities (not ours). Makes one wonder.

The author John Steinbeck was once quoted as saying, “Man is the only varmint to set a trap, bait it and then step his own foot in it.”

Hmmmmmm.

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Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Will Shortz

TAKE THE EL

Helpful advice for both Chicagoans and this puzzle's solvers.

by Lynn Lempel

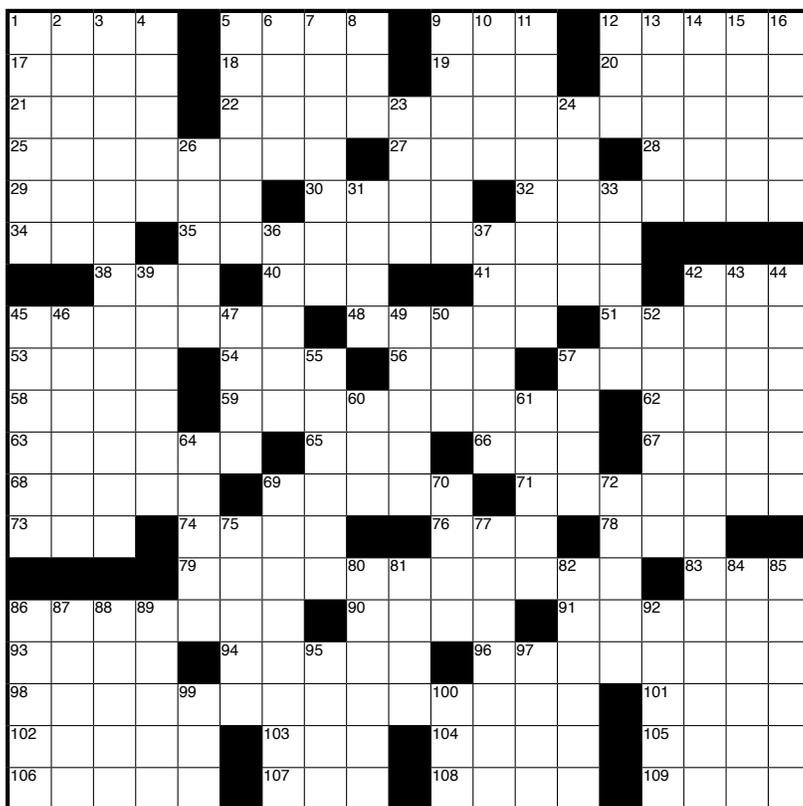
ACROSS

- 1 Pharaohs' sacred serpents
- 5 Part of L.P.G.A.: Abbr.
- 9 Annoy
- 12 Known far and wide
- 17 Fix
- 18 Man with a savings plan
- 19 Buckeyes' campus, briefly
- 20 Garlic section
- 21 State on the Miss. River
- 22 Gastroenterologist's concern?
- 25 Purplish bulb
- 27 Play for time
- 28 "Live" trees
- 29 Nike rival
- 30 Op-ed writer Collins
- 32 "Go ahead, there's no charge"
- 34 ___ Estados Unidos
- 35 "I do" at a shotgun wedding?
- 38 Tax prep pro
- 40 Mahershala with an Oscar for "Moonlight"
- 41 Philosopher Descartes
- 42 Skin pic
- 45 Utterly foul
- 48 Until now
- 51 Despise
- 53 Wanton wish
- 54 Dogpatch diminutive
- 56 Dot follower
- 57 Van Gogh's "The ___ Night"
- 58 Hops-drying kiln
- 59 Part of Nala's wedding dress?
- 62 Wee ones
- 63 Preservers of African oral history
- 65 Compete
- 66 ___ Lanka
- 67 Gibe
- 68 Ease one's conscience
- 69 It has a big mouth
- 71 Type for titles
- 73 ___ compos mentis
- 74 Locking horns
- 76 Degs. needed for many jobs
- 78 One of 100: Abbr.

- 79 Michelangelo?
- 83 Possible results of rushing, in brief
- 86 Accept
- 90 A.P. math class
- 91 Put back in the mail
- 93 Push-ups, maybe
- 94 Site of van Gogh's wheat fields
- 96 Ponchos and overshoes
- 98 Beavers' worries?
- 101 Active European volcano
- 102 Native of a -stan bordered by five other -stans
- 103 Next-biggest bird after the ostrich
- 104 Suffix with major
- 105 "Stop it!"
- 106 Sierra ___
- 107 Music genre
- 108 Ore deposit
- 109 Females in the flock

DOWN

- 1 Starlike
- 2 Small trunks
- 3 Conversation between Hook and Smee?
- 4 Church council
- 5 One likely to create a scene
- 6 London neighborhood
- 7 Only manager to win five consecutive World Series
- 8 Where to find Panthers and Coyotes, for short
- 9 Word before nose or neck
- 10 Court org.
- 11 Swift traveler
- 12 Amer. broadband regulator
- 13 Rather distant
- 14 Wisdom tooth, e.g.
- 15 Conjure up
- 16 Slow on the uptake
- 23 Both sister and wife to Osiris
- 24 London John
- 26 Twangy



30 MINUTES / 118 WORDS

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- 31 Warning tag on a bargain
- 33 Hard work
- 36 Wheel spokes
- 37 Serious plays
- 39 W.W. II general known as "Old Blood and Guts"
- 42 Give a bonus to A.A.A. members?
- 43 Pertaining to a major artery
- 44 Amorous assignations
- 45 Campaign aid
- 46 Page from a twice-folded sheet
- 47 Afflictions
- 49 Group of Sweet 16 winners
- 50 Supporting
- 52 ___ royale
- 55 Country singer Lyle
- 57 Fit of vexation
- 60 Zilch
- 61 St. Patrick's converts
- 64 Razz
- 69 Clutter
- 70 Doomed Genesis shepherd
- 72 Colorado resort town
- 75 Giant of industry
- 77 Increase gradually
- 80 Becomes frozen
- 81 Cartoonist who created the Republican elephant
- 82 Come up
- 84 California pol
- Feinstein
- 85 Nursery rhyme couple with disparate diets
- 86 Singer/dancer Paula
- 87 Be out to pasture
- 88 Iconic Stallone role
- 89 Krupp factory city
- 92 Greta Garbo or Alfred Nobel
- 95 ___ bean
- 97 Piedmont wine province
- 99 Dwight, to Mamie
- 100 Sun. sermon giver

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CORVETTE STINGRAY, 2014 Showroom condition, 16000 miles, \$39,000 Miles, (239) 947-0548, email: eleanor13@gmail.com

Miscellaneous for Sale

WOODEN KITCHEN TABLE, measure 3' wide by 5' long by 30" high. Includes 6 wooden chairs. Very good condition. Asking price is \$250. Location Bay Pointe, 4707 Montego Pointe Way, Unit 101. Contact

John @ jkdragoon@aol.com or 508-208-6581.

6 GRAND OPENING COMMEMORATIVE PLATES of Bonita Bay's golf courses. They are in original box, and never used. There is one for 1990 Creekside, 1993 Marsh, 1994 Bay Island, 1997 Cypress & 2 for 1998 Sabal. Would be a wonderful gift for someone. Best offer. Call (239) 992 3071.

3 WOOD FRAMED DRAWINGS, (approx 28x22). Drawings of 3 different corals in blue ink on cream background; sold together \$150. If interested in seeing please email for file to download helenescolnick@hotmail.com.

BROWN OUTDOOR WICKER CHAISE LOUNGE, with custom made tan sunbrella cushion. Excellent condition. Lost Lake. \$75.00. (239) 221-8799.

BEAUTIFUL VINTAGE FINE CHINA. Two sets in pristine condition have been in the family since the 1950s and 1960s. To see the items, call Carolyn Gallagher (239) 949-0949, or cell (703) 785-3052. Will negotiate. The Rosenthal Aida pattern has service for 8, 84 pieces, many hard to find serving pieces. White background small blue and pink flowers with green leaves. Starting \$300. The Syracuse Arcadia pattern has an ivory background with delicate arches of flowers (pink, blue) around the edges. There are 70 items: 10 each of dinner plates, salad plates, dessert plates, small bowls, soup bowls. Set of 8 cups and

saucers; lidded sugar bowl and creamer; large serving bowl and large platter. Starting \$300.

RENAISSANCE GOWN. Beautiful, handmade, Renaissance gown, historically accurate, \$100. The overdress is a lovely dark green velvet with metallic design. It has a light-green satin underskirt and long, light-green sheer sleeves. In keeping with Renaissance style, the matching velvet sleeves can be attached over the sheer sleeves. Dress fits about a size 8. This was a custom-made dress, worn once for a Mardi Gras ball, and would be a wonderful Halloween costume. Call Carolyn at (239) 949-0949, or cell (703) 785-3052.

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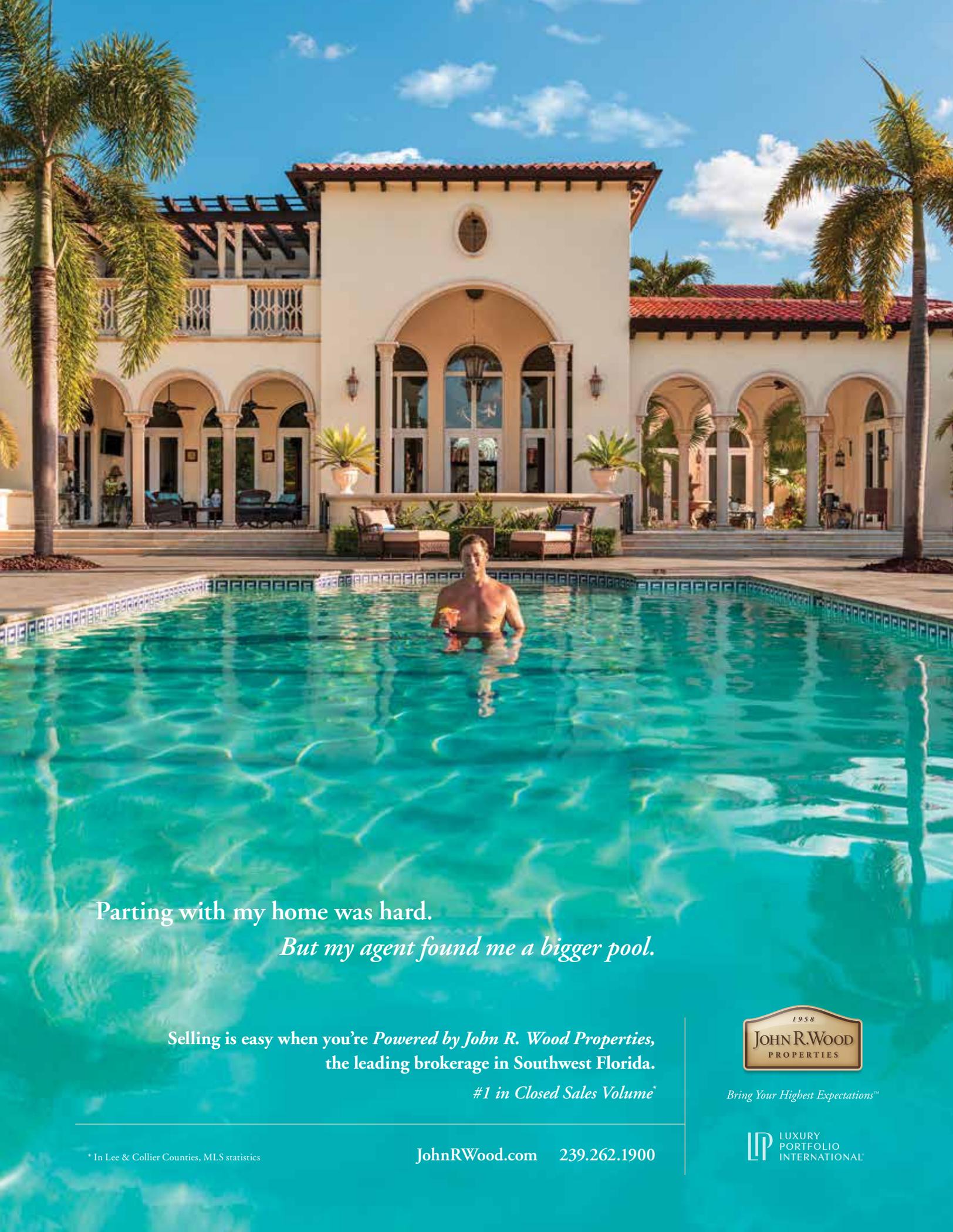
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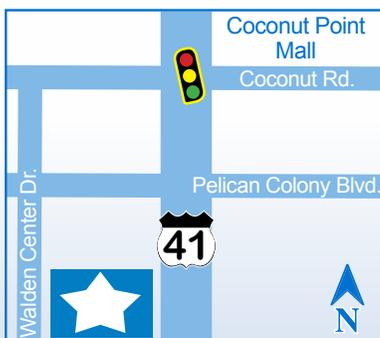
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