Grandezza Gazzette

Another Seabreeze Publication







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VOL. 17 NO. 3 *www.seabreezecommunications.com* MARCH 2024

Report from Your Master POA

By the time this Gazette is published, our winter friends will be planning their trips back north or at least skipping some weekly trips to Costco. The year-around residents apologize for the unusually cool and wet "Season" this year but at least there was no snow and ice here to be moved around!

We hoped to celebrate the completion of Phase 1 of the Corkscrew Rd. expansion contract in this issue, but it is still "in progress". Perhaps by the time the March edition is in your hands, the expanded road will be open for all lanes of traffic. The Village is working on the plans for landscaping the new roadway with bike and walking provisions as well as enhancements on the Ben Hill Griffin Blvd. landscaping.

It is very apparent why Corkscrew Rd. needed to be upgraded. The 2023 sales numbers for the various developments to our East were very impressive with a total of over 850 homes closed. This does not include the housing contracts signed but still under construction. If we estimate the sales at $500K for each house (which is very conservative based on the closings in the weekly County reports), this increased the value of Lee County housing by nearly $500 million. Grandezza residences continue to sell quickly which indicates that our community compares well with the new homes to our East.

We are informed that The Place and Corkscrew Shores were closed out in 2023. There are still about 7,600 approved lots remaining on East Corkscrew including 5,200 in the new G L Homes development. This does not include the 10,000 lots that have been approved by the County at the junction of Corkscrew and State Rte. 82.

The Master Board January agenda included accepting the 2022 fiscal audit. The outside CPAs reviewed the December, 2022 financials and expressed a "full opinion" on the final balance sheet. Our Master Board policy requires that an outside CPA firm review our financials every 3 years. Our thanks to the Master Audit Committee (Don Platt -Chair; Joe Spanier and Kevin McCoy) for choosing the audit firm and following its progress.

Mickey Wheeler, the Master Assoc. Treasurer, reviewed our December 2023 financials which show an $85K surplus on total revenues of $2.2 million. The surplus was centered in the $21K of additional interest earned reflecting the higher rates available on our CDs. In 2023 our Pooled Reserve declined to $122K following the repaving of about 80% of our roads. This is by far the largest item in our Pooled Reserve and our actual paving expense came in very close to the reserve estimate which started 20 years ago. We plan to transfer a portion of our 2023 surplus to the Restoration Reserve in 2024 to replace a portion of our Ian expenses. Our financial condition remains strong with a retained surplus of $320K which is within our guidelines of about 15% of our billed revenues.

We were very pleased with the February presentation by the new club ownership. It was well attended, and our residents seemed to come away with a positive feeling about them and their plans for our club facilities and activities.

During January, Naples had its annual Winter Wine Festival, and the bottom line is that they raised over $33 million in one weekend for various child related services and activities in Collier County. The "grand auction item" this year was a one-week Mediterranean cruise for 4 couples on a 300 ft private yacht. The bid was over $2.5 million for this item. Our United Way annual appeal will be completed in March and our hope is that the hard work of our United Way Committee will once again result in our reaching our goal for the needs of our community.

Oh yes, almost forgot to mention the March Madness NCAA Basketball Tournament, perhaps the most fun in college athletics, should be in full action by the time this issue is distributed. Good luck to all your alma maters!

Fred Thompson

Grandezza Girlfriends

By Cindy Fitzpatrick

All you need is love, Norman Love chocolate that is! In January, acclaimed chocolatier, pastry chef, CEO and Founder of Norman Love Confections, shared his interesting history and how his company became one of the top chocolate shops in the world. Norman and his wife Mary started the company in Fort Myers 22 years ago, growing it into a globally recognized brand. His chocolates are free of preservatives and artificial flavors and each one is hand crafted. They truly are a work of art! It doesn't end there, Norman and Mary support more than 250 charities in Southwest Florida. Each girlfriend in attendance took home a sample of two of Norman's favorites, Key Lime Pie and Tahitian Carmel. What a sweet treat for the sell out crowd!

We celebrated the birthdays of Patty Accavallo, Lillian Bennett, Wendy Cohen, Suzanne Goldberg, Betty Harper, Pat Hazelton, Jill McRae, Hilary Moleski, Freda Moore, Joanne Oslosky, Nancy Taylor and Ellen Webster. Janet Doll was the lucky winner of the bracelet.

In case you missed it, we have a private Facebook Group under Grandezza

Grandezza Girlfriends *on page 5*





A Peaceful Legacy



By Yvette Bernosky, B.Ms., Director of Fitness & Wellness, The Club at Grandézza

The tensions were high as we had never faced a global crisis of this magnitude before. The insurmountable amount of stress we were under was hard to contain. Every day, somewhere along the way, it was inevitable that conversations about the pandemic would surface. Understandably, many opinions flew back and forth at times, creating discourse. Some friendships and family ties became strained and crumbled, while many strove to maintain a peaceful environment. What had happened to society? We were once a kinder and gentler nation.

Thinking back in history, the Greatest Generation - the generation of Americans born between 1901 and 1924 who came of age during the Great Depression and the 1940s, many of whom fought in World War II – is a prime example of a time when people worked together for collective best



interests. They raised the bar in work ethics and stood together against evil. And, although they still had different ideas and opinions, when it came down to the greater good of all, the greater good prevailed.

Even today, the Greatest Generation gives back through funding humanitarian efforts, performing arts, and supporting an array of causes. For them, it's not about sacrificing but about nurturing others. Unfortunately, that generation is fading out. As our world shifts, we face new realities and social issues. With the Greatest Generation becoming a thing of the past, the Silent Generation, the Baby Boomers, Generation X, the Millennials, Generation Z and currently, Generation Alpha must decide what legacy they want to leave.

How can we calm aggressiveness that may rise up, dividing families, friends and our nation? How can we co-exist with love and understanding for each other, despite our differences? Some things we can do are:

• Value Others - As we value others, we accept them for who they are and do not hold judgment.

A Peaceful Legacy *on page 4*

Quote & Comments from the Editor

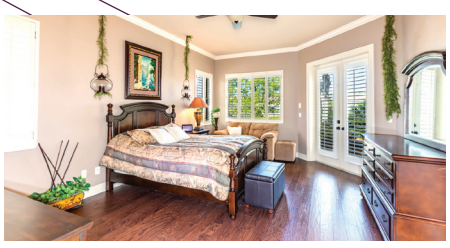
The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched - they must be felt with the heart. - Helen Keller

Susan D. Baker PhD, suzbake1@gmail.com

For Sale In Grandezza!





20132 Markward Crossing - Villa Grande

3 BR + Den. 3 Baths-

Originally $959,000 - Now $879,000 MLS#223036993

Home was just freshly repainted in a bright color in most of the interior of the home! Enjoy lake & golf views from your paver lanai w/solar & electric heated pool w/spa in the lovely & popular "Paloma" great room floor plan by Empire Builders - over 2,600 sq. ft. under air of luxury!

Pending In Grande Estates!



I am honored to be representing buyers of a lovely home in the Grande Estates.

Pending in Saraceno



I am representing the sellers on a gorgeous remodeled villa pending sale in Saraceno.

Just Sold In WildBlue!



(Photo of similar views of former model-not exact home just sold)

I represented buyers of a new construction home in WildBlue. I thank them and congratulations on their new gorgeous waterfront home.

Under Construction In Naples!

I am representing a buyer of a new construction home in Naples. Let me represent you for new construction!



See Alan promote Grandezza on Fox 4 TV - look for future air dates



See more of Grandezza's active MLS Listings and listings outside Grandezza on my website

www.FindMyHomeinFlorida.com

2023'S FIVE STAR LEGENDS
SIXTEEN-YEAR WINNER
As seen in the FORTUNE OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2023 ISSUE

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Grandezza United Way Committee

2023-2024 Campaign Update

Your Grandezza United Way Committee has worked tirelessly to provide activities for you to enjoy this season and have included some of your favorites.

Thank you to those who participated in the Silent Auction and the Grandezza golf days in February, we had good participation. We appreciate each of you that contributed to your neighborhood campaign for auction items included in the silent auction.

The Golf Ball Drop/Activities and Golf Cart Raffle had to be postponed to Sunday, March 3rd. We enjoyed seeing many of you there!



The Grandezza Campaign Goal this year is $205,000. We want you to know **it is not too late for you to donate.** Please give today, as your gift will have a huge impact on our community! You can safely give online at https://unitedwaylee.org/grandezza/. Be a ***United Way Hero*** today and give back to those that need our help**. If your gift has already been sent in, we are so grateful.**

Please recognize that your contribution stays here in Lee County and **95.5% of funds raised goes directly to programs to help people in our community.** There are over 90 agencies supported by United Way such as Childrens Advocacy Center, Salvation Army, Valerie's House, Children's Network, and Mission United just to name few.

Finally, the Grandezza United Way Committee is pleased to announce **that we will once again hold our Grandezza United Way Leadership Reception for those who donate $500 or more to this year's campaign.** The leadership reception, once again made possible by the generosity of FineMark Bank, will be held **on March 27th from 5:30PM to 7:00PM** at the Bank's Bonita Springs Branch. Invitations will be sent to those who are invited.

Your Grandezza United Way Committee,

Chair: Pat and Bill Motzer

Committee: Peter Dersley, Mary Kay and Deemer Durham, Dennis Noice, Don Platt, Patty and John Polczynski, Winnie Powel, Pat and Neal VanDuyn

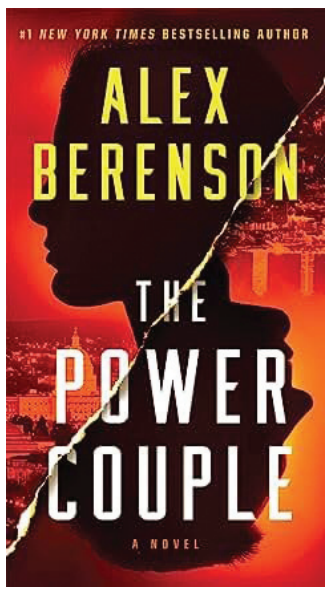
Book Review

Reader's Corner

By Susan Sherwin

The Power Couple by award-winning novelist Alex Berenson is a fast-paced espionage thriller that kept this reviewer glued to the page. What initially appears on the surface is not necessarily what exists.

Let us start with the seemingly successful Unsworth family. Rebecca is a lawyer who has worked herself up the ladder of success for the Federal Bureau of Investigation in counterespionage. Over the years her sixty hour plus work weeks and career at the FBI have often taken priority over responsibilities of caring for the couple's children, Kira and Tony. But, in a modern take on marriage, Rebecca's husband Brian has doted on the children as a stay-at-home dad as Rebecca's assignments relocate them to Birmingham, Houston and finally Washington, D.C. As the kids get older the tech-savvy Brian secures a job as a coder for the National Security Agency to offset the expensive lifestyle of living in the D.C. area. In his spare time Brian has created a new computer app called Twenty-One and has been paid two million dollars for it. They are now able to pay their bills, even buy a house. The couple seems happy. They appear to have the perfect marriage.



Rebecca and Brian's loving spark still simmers although it appears to be showing signs of stresses and cracks. To celebrate their twentieth wedding anniversary and revive their marriage Rebecca and Brian take nineteen year old college sophomore Kira and seventeen year old Tony on a European trip.

Paris and Barcelona—what exciting European cites to visit. In Barcelona with parental instructions to be home by midnight Kira and Tony have the opportunity to enjoy the exciting nightlife at a dance club. Tony keeps a protective eye on his sister but heads back to the hotel when he is tired. Kira, on the other hand, decides to continue hanging out with a cute guy named Jacques she met the night before in Paris and who arranged to meet her in Barcelona. Kira does not make her curfew, and when she fails to show up by 2AM, Rebecca and Brian desperately begin their search for their daughter.

The novel is told through the multiple perspectives of Rebecca, Brian, and Kira. From Brian and Rebecca the reader learns the back story of how the couple met, fell in love, their career trajectories, and what makes them tick. It is Kira's perspective, though, that propels the plot forward to make this novel a nail biter. So, without divulging spoilers this writer recommends you include *The Power Couple* on your to-read list. I think you will enjoy the surprising twists of the ensuing action and the finale.

Happy Reading!

On Being Good

By Sandy Krolick, Ph.D.

Along the Fertile Crescent in the ancient Near East thousands of mist-laden years before the birth of philosophy, the world was engulfed in a peculiar type of thought — what we now call 'myth'. Our earliest progenitors lived in a world where the hard and fast distinctions we draw among things today were not so well-defined — where mystery and magic enlivened a more storied kind of reflection. It was a world appearing to our earliest ancestors as neither inanimate nor empty, but redundant with life; a time when "every phenomenon confronting man — the thunderclap, the sudden shadow, the eerie and unknown clearing in the woods, the stone which suddenly hurts him when he stumbles while hunting" — where anything and everything could appear as passionate, as a vital force to be reckoned with. It was a world where people lived close to the earth, embedded within living, breathing nature.



With the birth of cities approximately 6,000 years ago, things began to change as myth gave way to rational reflection. As early as Fifth Century BC Greece, the intellectual groundwork was already laid and battle lines drawn so philosophers could make the final cut, separating Nature (*physis*) from Culture (*nomos*). *Physis* was understood as that which occurs 'naturally' including that which is 'naturally' human. Nature then, including human nature, was opposed to *nomos* — that which is socially constructed by law and culture. Such thinking provided the early spadework for ideas later articulated by the Sophists, arguing that laws are not natural, but simply a matter of convention — established through negotiation and agreed upon among people in specific communities at specific times.

According to early debates, we find an antagonism emerging whereby the individual is uncomfortably pinned between a Scylla and Charybdis — what's given to us by *nature* on the one hand and the *civil* demands imposed upon us by culture or convention on the other. We may surmise that such conventions were promulgated in response to the apparent exigencies of an all-too-human-nature, a nature needing to be constrained for the protection and benefit of society at large. So we see in these earliest struggles of Western tradition that an apparent conflict between law and nature would lie at the very foundation of civil society and the challenge of 'being good'.

Needless to say, throughout the ancient world and right up to the present day, ethical codes have been viewed as necessary correctives to the apparent egoism, self-interest, or concupiscence of human nature — those allegedly brutish instincts lodged within the folds of our flesh. While Freud made this a cornerstone of his work, Marshall Sahlins confirmed that the concept of "Original Sin pretty much sealed the deal in Christendom for centuries to come." And, as Elaine Pagels argued, "Augustine… offered an analysis of human nature that became, for better and worse, the heritage of all subsequent generations of Western Christians and a major influence on their psychological and political thinking." So we understand that, beginning with the Greeks and early Church Fathers, there lay the essential theoretical groundwork for social and political philosophers. Even with his rather romantic view of primitive humanity, Rousseau presumes this same nature/culture divide — arguing that the function of civil government is sublimation of the natural man in order to recreate him with a new 'moral' coat of armor.

Obviously, the emergent moral order was anything but natural. It was pure artifice, plain and simple; it was a construct of new forces producing citizens (often of disparate origin) who could work and live together within a well-structured and shared social network. But, lost sight of in such contrivance and civil convention, life's fundamentally **wild** nature receded further from view, apparently lurking just beneath the surface, challenging civilization's ability to maintain and control a well-ordered cosmos. Even Rousseau recognized that "it is no light undertaking to separate what is original from what is artificial in the nature of man." Let's conclude with something Einstein once said: Ethics are well and good, but all too often nature just keeps dragging us around by the nose. And so, while 'being good' may satisfy the civilized soul, there is still that vital force to be reckoned with — a passionate underbelly that never quite extinguishes the need for myth and, more importantly, for play. Enjoy it!

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Mosquito Control	(239) 694-2174
Florida Power & Light	(239) 334-7754
Sunshine Before You Dig	(800) 432-4770
Waste Services of Florida	(239) 332-8500
Free Residential Appliance Pickup	(239) 337-0800

Travel Corner

Montreal International Jazz Festival

By Paul LeBlanc

In the interest of full and timely disclosure, I readily admit my biased opinion that Montreal is the best city in Canada. Pat and I were born and grew up there. It is the city where we met and fell in love. It has a distinctive vibe and French culture, la joie de vivre! It is an island city; named after Mount Royal, the mountain in the centre of the city.





It is the home to The Montreal Canadiens, 2nd only to the NY Yankees for the most championship titles of any of the four major North American sports leagues.



With French culture comes French cuisine, but don't forget to try smoked meat at Ruben's, bagels at St. Viateur or fresh pasta dinners at Bellucci Italia.



Montreal is especially vibrant during the summer months. Walk around the Old Port and Old Montreal, take in a few museums, shop, drink, have fun. A series of festivals run one after the other through the summer months.

This past July we travelled to Montreal, via train, with Barrie and Judy Cox to attend the Montreal International Jazz Festival. It holds the 2004 Guinness World Record as the world's largest jazz festival.

On this trip we saw Diana Krall and Emile Clare Barlow at indoor venues and happened upon Thundercat at an outdoor venue around 10:30pm as we were walking back to our hotel after the Diana Krall concert.

We loved the whole trip and I even have the tee shirt to prove I was there. Hope to see you in Montreal some summer ahead!

Oregon

By Paul LeBlanc

Four things happened that led to the trip I am about to describe.

First, in 2019 Don Polyschuk shared Bandon Dunes was on his bucket list of places to go.

Second, in 2020, Dar Polyschuk said if we were to go there, we should add in a visit to Oregon's wine country.

Third, COVID cancelled the planned trip for 2021.

Fourth, in 2022 The Club at Grandezza hosted a wine dinner featuring the wines of Willamette Valley, including the winery representative, Wende Bennette Kirkland.

So, we the trip originally planned for 2021 was postponed until 2023. But, having met Wende, Dar reached out to her, and she agreed to be our tour guide. She booked winery visits and made recommendations for local dining experiences.

On May 25, 2023 Pat and I flew from Toronto to Vancouver where we linked up with Don and Dar. Our flight was delayed, but fortunately so was our connecting flight to Portland. Pat's golf bags never made the connecting flight, but fortunately they were not required for the first two days of winery tours. The clubs caught up to us the next day.



Once in Portland, we picked up our rental car and drove to our first night's accommodations at The Allison Inn and Spa. We highly recommend it. Beautiful gardens and sculptures on the ground and in the hotel. A very serene, relaxing environment.

On the 26th we met Wende at 9:45am and drove to our first winery visit (Andelsheim) followed by lunch. Our 2nd stop was at Eyrie Vineyards tasting room. Eyrie Vineyards is the oldest winery in Willamette Valley. Our 3rd tasting was at Lavenia Winery in Carlton. A quick stop at the Allison Inn to freshen up and then off to dinner at the Painted Lady Restaurant. Each winery visit resulted in wine purchases which were to be shipped to our Florida residences in November. So, the trip had a long lingering experience. The problem was we had co-mingled shipments, and it took a while to figure out who bought what. In fact there were two bottles we never figured out who they belonged to and agreed we would drink them together!



The 27th saw us drive to Bandon Dunes, check in and make our 3:15 tee time on Bandon Preserve. On the following days we played Bandon Trails, Pacific Dunes, Old MacDonald, Sheep Ranch, and Bandon Dunes. Each course was different from the next. Each stunningly beautiful.

Dining options are pretty basic both at Bandon Dunes and in the town of Bandon, so go with lower expectations and enjoy.

So, to recap, great Pinot Noirs from Willamette Valley, great golf in Bandon Dunes. One bucket list item completed.

On June 3, we started the long trip home.

A Peaceful Legacy *from page 1*

• Be an Active Listener - When we listen to hear we understand rather than react.

• Be Curious - With curiosity, we listen with a neutral mind that does not attach feelings but is simply interested in the "what" and "why" of what is being expressed.

• Be Compassionate - *"You never know someone until you walk a mile in their shoes."* As we find compassion for others, we understand that we all come from different backgrounds and life experiences that make up who we are.

Evolution in society is inevitable. However, showing up with emotional intelligence is crucial, not just for the health of interpersonal relationships but for what legacy and message we want to instill in the future. I encourage us all, no matter which generation we are from, to strive to set aside conflicts and focus on creating bonds for the best interest of humanity.



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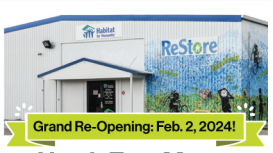
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Do you have a travel story to share?

Travel Stories From Grandezza Residents....

Now that the Covid cases have diminished here at home and in many countries around the world, our Grandezza friends and neighbors are beginning to travel again. Hopefully you noticed we have started a "Travel Corner" in The Grandezza Gazette with the help of our traveling residents. We would like to invite you and your traveling friends to share your travel experiences and tell us about any interesting, or unusual destinations and experiences along the way.

We would love to hear about your best stories/ logs from your past, or present travels. Have you visited an "off the beaten path" place, or discovered a new or special attraction nearby? What was the most interesting/memorable, or the least interesting? Do you have any special/personal tips or advice that would help others planning to visit the same places? Would you recommend your trip to others? If not, why not? You get the idea! We're looking for our Grandezza residents to write a short recap of your highlights (200-600 words) in any direction you wish to pursue. There are no ground-rules except they must be **personal resident experiences** and not travel tips etc. from commercial travel agents. Virtually everyone loves to travel, so we expect the readership to be very high.

Hopefully, you have some travel experiences you would like to share. If so, please send them to Al Meyer at meyer815@aol.com and we'll get them printed as soon as possible.

Thanks in advance for helping to make The Grandezza Gazzette more interesting for our readers.

Bicycle Safety – Rules of the Road

Bicycling is fun, healthy, and a great family activity. But a bicycle isn't a toy, it's a vehicle!

Florida leads the country in most bicycle accident fatalities. According to the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, there were more than 4,000 bicycle accidents and over 100 fatalities throughout the state in 2023. Approximately 90% of bicycle accident deaths are caused by motor vehicles, and even in these types of accidents that don't result in death, the cyclist is often gravely injured.

There are many reasons why this is the case, but the most common are failure to yield the right of way by drivers of motor vehicles, poor visibility, disregarding traffic signs and improper turns. All the more reason for cyclists to be aware of the "Rules of the Road" and to maintain a defensive awareness while riding on the open road.

In all states bicycles on the roadway are considered vehicles. Bicyclists are the drivers with the same rights and responsibilities as motorists to follow these "Rules of the Road".

– Ride WITH the traffic flow NOT against

– Obey all traffic laws. Stop signs and signal lights apply to all vehicles.

– Yield to pedestrians in a crosswalk

– Yield to motor vehicle traffic if you are unsure of the drivers intent

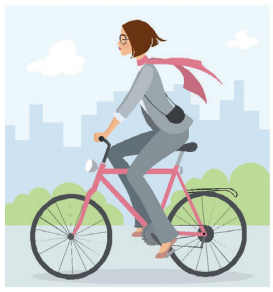
– Look in all directions before turning

– Be predictable. Use verbal and non-verbal communication to signal your intent

– Be alert at all times. Don't use personal electronics while you ride

– Watch for parked cars with unexpected doors opening

– Avoid riding at night



Before riding make sure that you, your family and the bicycles are ready to ride.

Be a "Role Model" for other adults and children while riding your bicycle. For more information on bicycle safety, visit the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration website at: www.nhtsa.gov/bicycles.

Grandezza Girlfriends *from page 1*

Girlfriends Inc. Request to join to see the latest photos and upcoming announcements. If you have any photos from your GG interest groups, please feel free to upload on our page and/or send to Nancy Rajtik for the sunshine newsletter.

Upcoming luncheons:

2/15 The Gatlins will perform (new date) 3/4 Fashion Show

4/11 Designer from Clive Daniel & Art Show







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Grandezza's Trash Pickup Day

Grandezza's **Regular and Recycled Trash** will be picked up every **TUESDAY**, with the exception of six (6) Holidays that collection will not be provided:

1. New Year's Day: 1st Day in January
2. Memorial Day: Last Monday in May
3. Independence Day: 4th Day in July
4. Labor Day: 1st Monday in September
5. Thanksgiving Day: 4th Thursday in November
6. Christmas Day: 25th Day in December

How It Works:

If one of these holidays falls on a Monday, Grandezza's trash pickup will be on Wednesday

If one of these holidays falls on a Tuesday, Grandezza's trash pickup will be on Wednesday

• **Disposal of Large Appliances:** Set at your curb on your regular collection day. Your Hauler will tag the item and send a truck for it within three business days after your regular collection day.

• **Yard waste** such as grass clippings, tree limbs and branches, palm fronds, dead plants, etc. will also be picked up on TUESDAY. Yard waste must be placed at your curb in a container (50 pounds or less), or securely tied into bundles not heavier than 50 pounds and no longer than 6 feet in length.

• Trash containers may be set out **no sooner than 6pm** on the day prior to your trash pick-up day. Do no leave trash in plastic or paper bags out overnight.

• **Questions:** Contact Waste Pro customer service at 239-337-0800.



Needed by Domestic Animal Services for Shelter Animals and Workers Lee County

(leegov.com)

Dog/Cat toys-especially for "heavy chewers"
Large Nylabones
Kong toys
Benebone
Wishbone
K-9
Leashes
Harnesses
Cat litter
Litter boxes
Cat scratch pads
Cat towers
Potty pads
Beds
Dog/Cat treats (unopened)
Pet grooming supplies
Puppy/Kitten replacement milk
Baby bottles with 0-3 month nipples
Paper towels
Pet crates (any size)
Stainless steel food/water bowls
Used: Towels, Blankets, Sheets, Washcloths
Dawn dishwashing detergent
Latex/non-latex gloves
Mops
Buckets
Bleach
Sponges
Nylon brooms
Scrub pads
Laundry detergent
Distilled water
Hand sanitizer
Isopropyl alcohol
Hydrogen peroxide
Disinfectant/Wipes
Garden hoses/Spray nozzles
Trash bags (13 gal and 55 gal)
Squeegees
Home-improvement Store Gift Cards

19906 Markward Crossing (Sandy Gibbs)
19835 Markward Crossing (Mary Jo Sorrento)

Please leave bags on front porch or at garage door, OR for a pickup from your house, call 518-339-4292.

Thank you for your generosity!

Sandy Gibbs, Mary Jo Sorrento

Engage Estero NEWS

Let's Make Estero A HeartSafe Community!

The Facts

Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) is the leading cause of death in the United States, claiming more than 300,000 lives annually. Approximately 95 percent of SCA victims die before they reach a hospital or receive medical attention.

How Can We Help Reduce This Number?

Susan B. Davis, Lee Health's Program Manager, Resuscitation and Education, leads a community-wide initiative to develop a HeartSafe Program for our community. Citizens CPR Foundation, which carries out resuscitation awareness in the United States, has an initiative known as HeartSafe. Susan is on the Advisory Committee of that group for the country and serves as the chair of the HeartSafe initiative in Lee County. The goal is the reduction of deaths from SCA occurring in the community.





This can be achieved by encouraging:

• Widespread hands-on CPR
• AED awareness

Four key lifesaving elements improve survival for cardiac arrest victims:

1. **Early Identification** – Promoting awareness of the signs and symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest to encourage bystanders to call 9-1-1 immediately.

2. **Early CPR** – Increasing the number of individuals trained in Hands-Only CPR increases the chance of effective defibrillation.

3. **Early Defibrillation** – Increasing access to and awareness of automated external defibrillators (AED) throughout the community, a critical survival link.

4. **EMS Intervention** – Basic and advanced care provided by EMS is critical. Steps 1 to 3 by the public aid EMS and give the best chance for a cardiac arrest victim's survival.

Once the SCA victim collapses, they have about five minutes to receive an AED shock to reset the heart's rhythm. Without the AED shock, the chance of surviving decreases by 10 percent every minute that lifesaving measures are not initiated (early identification and activation, early CPR, and early defibrillation). So, you have one shot at initiating this important skill, which is why you have first to call 911 or have someone else do that and quickly carry out CPR and use the AED machine. Most would agree it is a skill worth learning!

Susan and Lee Health (connected to Lee County EMS) want to encourage Estero to become a HeartSafe designated community. So how can that be achieved? Every HOA or other community in Estero, church, and other organizations should become involved. Schools, FGCU, and other educational establishments are already involved in the program.

Each community or organization can achieve a HeartSafe designation by:

1. Having AEDs that can be easily located and accessed in the community.

2. Have 15 percent of the individuals in the community/organization able to administer CPR and have knowledge of AED usage.

3. If Estero achieves 15 percent of residents equipped to carry out hands-on CPR, it will become a HeartSafe designated community.

Conveying the information and teaching large numbers of individuals in each location can be conducted using a pyramid system. Initially, several people should become "champions" for their community or location. These individuals will be trained to pass on their knowledge to others who can do the same until there is ample knowledge in each community/organization to become HeartSafe.

To be eligible, an organization must complete an application and meet certain criteria, which include ensuring an adequate number of individuals are trained in hands-on CPR and that automated external defibrillators (AEDs) are available within a certain distance.

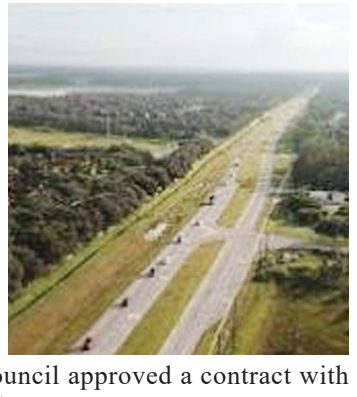
Molly Grubbs at Lee Health Coconut Point has agreed to be the liaison person at Lee Health and should be contacted by those who want to encourage their communities and other organizations to start becoming HeartSafe. Molly's email is molly.grubbs@leehealth.org.



Road Development Updates February 2024

Corkscrew Road Latest Updates

With the assistance of the East Corkscrew Alliance, Engage Estero is providing the latest information on the East Corkscrew Road developments.



Corkscrew Road I-75 To Ben Hill Griffin

The Estero Village Council approved a contract with Johnson Engineering for $214,500, with a contingency of $21,400, for the design and engineering for landscaping along Corkscrew Road from Corkscrew Woodlands Boulevard to Ben Hill Griffin Parkway. This project will fill the 2,300-foot landscaping gap along Corkscrew Road from the DOT's landscape project at I-75 To Ben Hill Griffin Parkway.

***Engage Estero** on page 7*

12th Annual
BREAKING PAR
at Grandezza presented by: Engage Estero

The 12th Annual Breaking Par at Grandezza charity event will be held April 13th and 14th. It starts with a Shotgun Scramble Golf Tournament at 8:30 am on Saturday April 13th. The Gala Dinner is Sunday April 14th beginning at 5:30 pm.



Dress to impress for our Classic Hollywood Theme at the Gala on Sunday evening. The coveted Gala features delicious cuisine and incredible live and silent auction items.

Stacey Deffenbaugh, former NBC 2 News broadcaster will be this years emcee.

This is a fun event and all proceeds go to furthering Education right here in Estero. Last year proceeds of $106,000 were used to create $44,000 in student scholarships, a $25,000 LEAD Estero & Engage Estero Endowment Fund at FGCU and provided funds for Estero High School students to attend a week long Leadership Summer Camp at FGCU Daveler & Kauanui School of Entrepreneurship.



The "Guest of Honor" for the Gala on Sunday April 14th is Nick Batos, the first Mayor of the Village of Estero.

Engage Estero is hosting and the presenting sponsor of Breaking Par at Grandezza, a fundraiser for LEAD Estero, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization created by Estero High School students for Estero High School Students.

For more information, contact donate@LEADestero.com, call 239-707-5418 or visit the website www.Leadestero.com.

To register for either the Shotgun Golf Scramble or the Gala visit LeadEstero.ejoinme.org/BreakingPar24.

***Engage Estero** from page 6*

Corkscrew Road Widening – Ben Hill Griffin To East Side Of Bella Terra

The project widens Corkscrew Road to six lanes from Ben Hill Griffin Parkway to Fire House Lane and four lanes from Fire House Lane to the east boundary of Bella Terra.

The project includes adding road bike lanes and some sidewalks, installing new drainage, and constructing a wildlife crossing approximately 1,000 feet west of the entrance to Cypress Shadows Boulevard. This crossing will coincide with a regional flow-way that crosses Corkscrew Road at that location. Completion is scheduled for March 2024.

The first lift of paving is scheduled for the westbound section from the entrance to the Preserve of Estero to the RiverCreek entrance by the end of February 2024. Once this westbound section is complete, the new lanes will be utilized and the previous crossovers will be curbed, graded and the first lift of paving applied. Once the first lift is applied, the second and final lift is applied. The final step is striping.



Once the contractor completes the project, the Village of Estero will install shared-use paths, lighting, and landscaping.

The Village of Estero efforts are projected to take six to nine months once a contractor has been selected. There may be long lead time items (e.g., streetlight poles) that may extend the timeline.

Lee Department of Transport (LDOT) is installing traffic monitoring devices along the route. LDOT will be able to monitor and adjust traffic signals from the traffic control center.

RiverCreek development, WildBlue commercial, and eventually WildBlue development will fund a traffic signal at Estero Crossing Boulevard and WildBlue Boulevard.

There is no estimated installation date as of this writing.

Corkscrew Road Widening – East Side Of Bella Terra To Alico Road

The Lee Board of County Commissioners voted on Wednesday, Dec. 6, 2023, to approve a contract for constructing Corkscrew Road Widening Phase II from the east side of Bella Terra to Alico Road. The $26.6 million contract is with Bergeron Land Development. Construction is scheduled to begin in the first quarter of 2024 and is expected to be completed in 24 months. The project includes funding from Lee County Utilities. The project encompasses:

- Widening of an existing two-lane road to four lanes
- Drainage improvements
- A 6-foot sidewalk on the north side and a 10-foot asphalt shared-use path on the south side
- On-road bike lanes
- A new traffic signal at Alico Road (complete by January 2025)
- Streetlights
- Traffic monitoring cameras
- Force main and water main relocations/replacements

Engage Estero Plans A Public Forum In April On Road Safety And Traffic Concerns In Greater Estero



The management team at Engage Estero recognizes the concerns of citizens in greater Estero on this topic. We are planning to invite representatives from the sheriff's office, Lee Department of Transport (LDOT), Florida Department of Transport (FDOT), a consultant on traffic safety and a local public advocate to address several key questions. The panel will then answer questions from the audience.

Please keep a lookout on our website for more information or sign up to receive our communications by clicking on our website www.esterotoday.com.

We will have more information on the date, time and venue for this important meeting in the next two to three weeks when our panelists have been confirmed.

Jim Shields Honored At Don Eslick Estero Person Of The Year Award Ceremony

Amongst a crowd of friends, admirers and colleagues, Jim Shields accepted the inaugural Don Eslick Estero Person of the Year award on Feb. 8 at The Club at Grandezza.

While Jim, in his usual manner, focused on how all residents can become more engaged with the community, many of those who have benefited from Jim's kindness and activism stood and praised his accomplishments. The takeaway of the evening was that the world would be a better place if each of us strove to be "more like Jim."



For over 19 years, Jim has provided leadership and commitment to maintaining and improving the quality of life in Estero and, notably, improving education in our community. He created the 2-5-8 Graduate Junior Achievement program, including 135 volunteers, impacting over 2,800 students. The Breaking Par Program he started in 2013 has raised $561,000 for educational programs.

Jim has served on the Engage Estero Board of Directors and the FGCU Daveler and Kauanui School of Entrepreneurship Advisory Board. He worked closely and tirelessly with Don Eslick over the years with the Estero Council of Community Leaders (ECCL) (now Engage Estero) on other community projects, too numerous to mention.

Engage Estero thanks Jim for decades of service to the community and we are so grateful that over 120 of our community were able to join us in honoring him.

For more information on this event and photos go to www.Esterotoday.com.

Whether you grew up in greater Estero, started a business, or retired, please consider supporting and investing in Engage Estero's Community Impact Fund, devoted to ensuring that greater Estero remains a community where you, your family, and your neighbors have continued pride. Please visit https://esterotoday.app.neoncrm.com/forms/donate to invest in maintaining and improving the high quality of life in greater Estero.

Letter To The Editor



By Paul LeBlanc

I am writing to share a few thoughts on communication.

First, I think back to my days in Audit (it was called Inspection back then). For three years I spent over 100 days a year away from home. The bank's policy back then was for every 5 consecutive days away from home, we were entitled to claim one three-minute-long distance phone call. On reflection it is amazing how much information and decision making was done in 3 minutes. Today, we are not restricted by time, so our meaningful conversations are few and far between. We fill time with trivial exchanges. The purposeful conversations are still about 3 minutes a week.

Second, think about the impact technology has had on communications. We have gone from land lines to mobile phones (which keep time, provide driving directions, your calendar, camera, calculator, news and entertainment, …).

I remember a time where I would have to send documents to a department in the bank, if I wanted something translated. It would take days or weeks depending on the volume and language. Today it can be done in seconds using free translation apps.

I wish I had that available in my day. I was never very good in music or other languages. I was dependant on others to speak English, even if it was not their native language. I learnt a few words wherever I went, so that they would know I tried.

A few weeks ago, there was a Spanish speaking labourer working on the irrigation system at my home. He and I conversed in real time using our respective phones' voice translators to exchange information and make a decision on the scope of work to be completed.

So, I leave you with this…

To everyone who accommodated me by speaking English, thanks and I am sorry I could not do the same for you at the time. But I can today!

À tous ceux qui m›ont hébergé en parlant anglais, merci et je suis désolé de ne pas avoir pu faire la même chose pour vous à ce moment-là. Mais je peux aujourd›hui !

A todos los que me atendieron hablando inglés, gracias y lamento no haber podido hacer lo mismo por ustedes en ese momento. ¡Pero hoy puedo!

Спасибо всем, кто помог мне, говоря по-английски, и мне жаль, что я не смог сделать то же самое для вас в то время. Но я могу сегодня!

Spasibo vsem, kto pomog mne, govorya po-angliyski, i mne zhal›, chto ya ne smog sdelat› to zhe samoye dlya vas v to vremya. No ya mogu segodnya!

A todos que me acomodaram falando inglês, obrigado e lamento não ter podido fazer o mesmo por vocês naquele momento. Mas eu posso hoje!

İngilizce konuşarak beni ağırlayan herkese teşekkürler ve o sırada sizin için aynısını yapamadığım için üzgünüm. Ama bugün yapabilirim!

Svima koji su me ugostili govoreći engleski, hvala i žao mi je što to nisam mogao učiniti za vas u to vrijeme. Ali mogu danas!

I would continue with more languages, but my 3 minutes is up.

Stammi bene!

Grandezza Directory

Gatehouse	(239) 498-8895
Gatehouse (DwellingLIVE Automated # to register guests)	(239) 986-8627
Address	11450 Grande Oak
Clubhouse	(239) 948-3569
Grandezza Express - Take Out Food	(239) 738-7113
Golf Pro Shop	(239) 948-2900
Tennis Pro Shop	(239) 738-7111
Wellness Director	(941) 999-1331
Golf Maintenance	(239) 947-6296
Vesta Property Services	
cmcfarland@vestapropertyservices.com	(239) 947-4552 x 932
Gazzette Editor for HOA	
Susan Baker	(585) 615-5961
suzbakgranmb@gmail.com	

GRANDEZZA MASTER WEBSITE
www.GrandezzaMaster.com

Community Boards and Officers

Association		Position
Grandezza Master Board		
	Fred Thompson	P
	Peter Dersley	VP
	Mickey Wheeler	T
	Sarah Hartman	S
	Nancy Reilly	D
	Mike Patricelli	D
	Jack Jones	D
Grandezza Master Committees		
Finance & Long Range Planning	Mickey Wheeler	chair
Communications	Jack Jones	chair
Landscape	Nancy Reilly	chair
Infrastructure, Lakes, Preserves & Fountains	Peter Dersley	chair
Safety & Access Control	Mike Patricelli	chair
Community Affairs	Fred Thompson	chair
Avalon	Laine Hamill	P
	Joe Convertino, Jr.	VP
	Pat Van Duyn	T
	Jim Wilson	D
	Ron Gramazio	D
	Jim Schleifer	D
Cypress Cove A	Andy Anderson	P
	Mike Patricelli	VP
	Dennis Field	D
	Myrna Wernick	S
	Paul Lesser	T
Cypress Cove B	Toni MacLeod	P
	Chuck Dennis	VP
	Kevin O'Neil	T
	Frank Senese	S
	Yvonne Mazzella	D
Grande Estates	Peter Dersley	P
	Cameron Snyder	VP
	Fred Thompson	T
	Laura Reddin	S
	Lanell Shields	D
Oakwood Neighborhood	Sandra Renner	P
	Ted Lewman	VP
	Patricia Collie	S
	Al Meyer	D
	Steve Anderson	T
Oakwood I	Rich Green	P
	Joe Trefaller	VP
	Tom Rajtik	S/T
Oakwood II	Steve Anderson	P
	Richard Zimmerman	VP
	John Fillipo	S/T
Sabal Palm	Lin Rhode	P
	Tom Young	VP
	Mary Kaufmann	S
	Susan Sherwin	D
Santa Lucia	Aramis Sullivan	P
	Joyce Wong	S/T
	Celia Platt	VP
Saraceno	Neil Greene	P
	Skip DeLong	VP
	Bob Hoel	S
	Matt Baumlin	T
	Dean Stefanac	D
Savona	Brian Schultz	P
	Steve Katz	T
	Paul Copper	VP/S
	Jay Montgomery	D
	Nancy Banyard	D
	Ann Cary	D
	Wes Wilkins	D
Solemar	Bob Lindgren	P
	Brian Vance	VP/S
	Dan Williams	T
Villa Grande	Joseph Drummond	P
	Mickey Wheeler	VP
	Jeff Almo	T
	Sarah Hartman	S
	Steve Bajinski	D

Early Bird Home Watch
&
Vacation Rental Management
Keeping a Birds Eye View of your Property!
Tammy McLeod
Owner - Operator
239.699.9559
Office@EarlyBirdHomeWatch.com
EarlyBirdHomeWatch.com
Insured - Bonded - Background Checked



Grandezza Classified Ads

To place a classified ad e-mail suzbakgranmb@gmail.com > An ad will run for THREE [3] MONTHS after first submission (except for Service Offerings). Please notify us when the item has been sold or if you wish to have it deleted from the column so that you do not continue to receive phone calls. You must notify us to continue an ad for an additional cycle after the initial 3-month period has expired or it will be deleted. Submission month is noted at the end of each ad.

Items for Sale

Exercise Equipment: Bowflex bow-style exercise unit for full body workout. Occupies 6' x 3' floor space. Asking $120. Call Bob at 239-949-2949.

EZGO golf cart: Well cared for 2013 EZGO golf cart with 105A lithium battery, multiple USB ports, fan, LED lighting, newer seats. RVX model. Asking $6995. Call 847-217-9310 for additional information. **11/20**

Furniture: Family room 84" fabric sofa in solid brown/gold shade and matching large reading chair with ottoman in patterned beige/brown/gold fabric. Both in very good condition. Call Bob & Sandy at 239-949-2949 to take a look. Items sold as a group or separately. Asking $135 for each.

Furniture: Young girls complete bedroom set including double size canopy bed, two nightstands, desk with bookcase top and chair, 5' dresser with mirror and 4-drawer 31" wide chest. Light wood with a yellowish tinge and green leaf patterning. Asking $750. Call Bob & Sandy at 239-949-2949 to take a look.

Service Offerings

Airport Rides: Airport rides any time or day at affordable rates and a resident of Grandezza. Call or text Sue at (708) 846-1985.

Concierge Service: Assists by Comer. Grandezza resident offering 5-star concierge and home watch services. For assistance call 407-928-4646.

Home Automation Services: Tyler's Technology & Automation Services includingiPad/iPhone/Laptop Assistance & Tutorials. Call or Text (239) 887-5049 for free estimates.

Home Health Care: Fox Private Home Healthcare is a family owned and operated service for in-home healthcare. Custom care options. Experienced, caring, and flexible with overnights and light housekeeping as options. Contact Donna Fox at 424-8968 or (mobile) 607-483-4428.

Nanny & Pet Sitter: Nanny/ light housekeeper/ house manager/ pet sitter with 20+ years of experience. Available evenings and weekends. Newborn through school aged children. CPR First Aid certified. Contact Jessica Ward at 203-556-6130.

Pet Sitting: Planning to travel and cannot take your 4-legged family member with you? Call Kathie Karp at 561-715-7868 or kthka8@gmail.com to stay at your home and watch over the welfare of your dog.

Travel Concierge: Retired fulltime resident, over 35 years travel experience offering the best prices & service for cruises, tours, packages, all-inclusive safaris...The advice is free, the planning priceless. Contact Larry @ Ljackman1@ aol.com.

Tutoring and Pet Sitting: Dog walker/caretaker and K-12 Certified English and Reading Tutor: Grandezza resident who will care for your family. 30 years of experience with pets and 20 years of experience with students. For more information call Shannon at (561) 808-4040 or email: shannonleaschwartz@gmail.com.

Items Sought for Donation/ Purchase/Trade

Towels: St. Mathews House, a home for substance abuse patients, is in need of towels. *Donations* can be dropped off at 19850 Markward Crossing—just leave on the porch.



Neighborhood Watch Coordinators

Grandezza is a safer community because of Neighborhood Watch.

Avalon	Peggy Dempsey	610-662-2082
Cypress Cove A (Buttermere)	Mike Patricelli	239-495-6862
Cypress Cove B	Kevin O'Neil	239-265-5982
Grande Estates	Joy Schachner	239-676-9668
Oakwood I (bldg 1-8 & 23-29)	Al Meyer	239-313-0580
Oakwood II (bldg 9-22)	Lillian Bennett	239-992-5583
Sabal Palm	Mary Kaufmann	216-406-5347
Santa Lucia	Celia Platt	239-498-8158
Saraceno	Neil Greene	239-498-7104
Savona	Sharmin McKenny	239-989-2334
Solemar	Bob Lindgren	651-895-6210
Ville Grande	Steve Bajinski	678-575-2397

Remember-
- **Call 911** for a crime-in-progress (emergency) or
- **Call the police at 239-477-1000** to report suspicious activity/behavior (non-emergency)
- **Call the Grandezza Gate at 239-498-8895** to inform them that the police may be coming and why.
- **Notify your Neighborhood Watch Coordinator**

LOOKING TO BUY OR SELL, CALL STEVE AND MEL!



19985 Markward Crossing - Villa Grande - $829,000
Wonderful golf course and lake views from this 3 bedroom / 2 bath with den and 2 1/2 car garage



19883 Markward Crossing - Grande Estates - $1,399,999
SOLD 17 DAYS!



20072 Palermo Lake Ct - Savona - $779,999
SOLD 27 DAYS!



20024 Markward Crossing - Villa Grande - $945,000
SOLD 19 DAYS!



Call The Borley Team

SUNSHINE STATE REALTY SERVICES

Steve Borley
Realtor
714-497-5143

Melva Borley
Broker/Owner
305-797-4324

