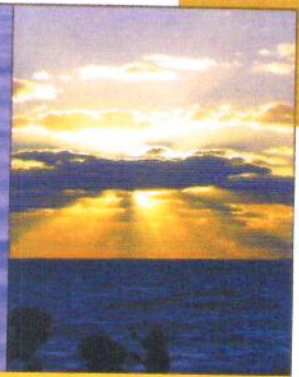


BAY WATCH NEWS



VOLUME 7 NUMBER 2

JANUARY 2015

Bonita Bay Club

BONITA BAY CLUB'S work to transform the former Bonita Bay Medical Center into the new Lifestyle Center is now well underway. Half of the 60,000 square foot, three-story building will remain as medical and other service-related tenant space. However, the big news people are interested in is the massive space remaining that is currently being beautifully converted to comprise the Club's new, expanded Fitness Center, multi-use room and Spa & Salon.

Covering the entire second floor, the Fitness Center will feature a full line of TechnoGym cardio, strength, stretching, kinesis, and functional equipment. In addition, a number of rooms will be dedicated

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Bonita Bay Community Association

THE BBKA BOARD MEETING took place Monday, December 8 at the Bonita Bay Community Activities Center with approximately 20 people in attendance. The official business was taken care of in a short order as there were only a few items on the agenda – the most notable being the announcement of the names of the four-member Nominating Committee for the upcoming election for two seats on the Board of Directors of the BBKA. They are: Jack Palmer, Chairman, and three residents – Roger Brunswick, Terry Ellis and Linda Heckel.

(Editor's note: A letter dated December 15 was mailed to all residents outlining the nominating process and guidelines for self-nominating. According to Florida State law, every Association member that is eligible to serve on the BOD may nominate him or herself in conjunction with the election process. Florida law states that all persons who have self-nominated will have their names placed on ballot.)

The floor was opened to questions and comments from the audience.

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Wonder Gardens Get a Facelift

*Susan Uhlig, Woodlake
President, Bonita Bay Garden Club*



THE EVERGLADES Wonder Gardens on Old 41 in Bonita Springs have been around for years.... since 1936 to be exact. The Piper family who started this botanical jungle to rehabilitate injured animals is now leasing the space to John Brady, a well-known photographer. Brady has a vision for this gem of a property. In the entrance building, with alligator eyes peering over its sign, he displays his outstanding Florida-themed photographs. Walk through the entrance and see what else John has created!

All the animals were gone when John took over, but now it is teeming with new life. Beautiful birds from an umbrella cockatoo that likes to show off,

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Restaurant Review



BREAKING BREAD with Judy Mazukelli, Estancia

MY HUSBAND AND I joined two friends for an exciting dining adventure at a brand new Naples restaurant, **LaMoraga**, specializing in contemporary Spanish cuisine. The minimalistic architectural design of the exterior continues into the dramatic interior space. A rectangular pattern is repeated throughout the building, furnishings, dinnerware and table linens. The sleek stainless steel and glass enclosed center kitchen intensifies the openness of this sophisticated, modern ambience.

The menu showcases a broad variety of tapas—small plates, a dining style originating in the Andalucía region of southern Spain. In addition, diners may opt for customary soups, salads, entrees and desserts. Our dinner group chose to share selections of fish, meat and vegetable tapas dishes, affording a continuous buffet of luscious food. We were served flavorful black olive tapenade with warm bread while enjoying our drinks. In addition to a complete cocktail selection, LaMoraga features several Spanish wines and beers including white and red sangrias – refreshing beverage options.

Our epicurean event commenced with a platter of paper-thin sliced Hamachi carpaccio lightly enhanced with a vinaigrette, chives and sesame seeds (\$13) – a delectable blend of flavors for this delicate, fresh fish! Our expert waiter, Watson, then served a spicy roasted red pepper Iberico roll (\$12) a pork tenderloin stuffed with roasted red peppers, bacon and chipotle sauce rolled tightly and roasted. The mushroom Iberico roll (\$12) had a similar preparation, pork

stuffed with chopped wild mushrooms and sprinkled with parmesan cheese. These delicious items were most worthy of ordering. Our meal was completed with scrumptious tapas – “eggplant LaMoraga” (\$12). The chef marinated the vegetables in rice wine and honey before frying, then finished off the eggplant with a topping of fresh tuna flakes.

It was difficult to conclude our delightful meal without sampling one of the six homemade sweets offered for dessert including coconut bread pudding and flan. As avid chocolate lovers, though, we couldn't resist the warm lava cake with vanilla ice cream (\$9). The flavor of the high-quality chocolate was exceptionally smooth and creamy. I previously have delighted in similar versions of this decadent dessert, but this was the pinnacle of perfection!

Kudos to owner and chef, P.J., who provides a display of culinary treasures at LaMoraga and has created a flexible menu so diners may order full entrees or choose tapas (small plates). The quality of fresh ingredients and interesting flavors is evident in every bite. Our dinner party unanimously agreed we anxiously await returning to LaMoraga to sample additional menu items.

LaMoraga


3936 N. Tamiami Trail, Naples (239) 331-3669

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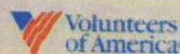
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