

Volume 9- Issue 3
Oct./Nov., 2014

A PUBLICATION OF *FRIENDS*
PUNTA GORDA LIBRARY, INC.
PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA



BOOKMARK

"Books permit us to voyage through time, to tap the wisdom of our ancestors . . . I think the health of our civilization, the depth of our awareness about the underpinnings of our culture and our concern for the future can all be tested by how well we support our libraries."

Carl Sagan, *Cosmos*

Dear Friends,

Friends of the Punta Gorda Library was incorporated as a non-profit, 501(c) (3) in 1977. The bylaws state that "Our mission is to promote and foster usage of the Punta Gorda Library, serve as a community advocate for this library and, with its financial support, shall endeavor to augment and maintain the library collection and provide for other library improvements deemed appropriate."

We believe this mission requires us and authorizes the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Punta Gorda Library to advocate on behalf of passage of the Charlotte County Sales Tax Extension on the ballot in November. We do this because the county officials have proposed that some of the revenue from the sales tax extension will be used to build a new 24,000 square foot community library close to our current location. The city of Punta Gorda is donating the land for this new library.

I think of the Punta Gorda Library as the little library that can. The building is only 10,000 square feet and has about 130,000 visitors annually. There are over 240 programs offered yearly and it is the second busiest library in the county while being the smallest. Our librarian and staff do an amazing job of serving the community, both residents and visitors. However, we have outgrown the space and will be able to offer more great programming and services as well as having more books and other media available for borrowing.

In speaking on behalf of the Board of Directors, I urge you to consider the benefits of the new library as you make your decision on how you will vote on the Charlotte County Sales Tax Extension. I will be voting yes and I hope you will too.

Remember to Vote, November 4.

We are starting our fall and winter programming and it is going to be an exciting year. The librarian's theme for the year is "**Travel the World at Your Library**" (page 6). Each



month all the programming will be focused on one area of the world. This theme compliments the *Friends* 2015 Literary Luncheon Series whose topics involve Great Britain and China.

The **Literary Luncheon Series** (page 5) will be held at the Isles Yacht Club.



Barbara Rinella is back by popular demand on Jan. 28, 2015. She is known for her one woman shows dramatizing current literature. Mrs. Rinella will be portraying Queen Elizabeth II. This presentation is based on the biography, *Elizabeth the Queen, The Life of a Modern Monarch* by Sally Bedell Smith.



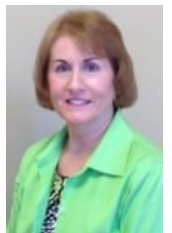
On March 17, 2015, we will welcome **Lisa See**, international best selling author. Lisa is on a national book tour for her latest novel, *China Dolls*. Lisa grew up in her family's antiques store in Los Angeles's Chinatown and listened to the stories of missionaries, movie stars and Chinese Baseball teams. Her critically acclaimed memoir, *On Gold Mountain* shares the story of her Chinese family and history.

We are very proud to announce that *Friends* has a redesigned website that we hope you add to your favorite bookmarks, www.friendspg.org. We are working closely with our librarian, Alison Layne, to keep it up to date with all the programs and events that you can find at the library. We have already posted pictures from earlier this year and will continue to add to the photo albums. Our goal is to make the *Friends* website a place you visit when you are looking for something to do!

I hope you will be joining us to "Travel the World at Your Library".

See you in the library!

Katie Mazzi, president



Friends receive 2014 Non-Profit Business of the Year Award at the Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner.



Accepting the award for *Friends* from Chamber President, John Wright and outgoing chairman Ron Monk are Katie Mazzi and Mary Knowlton. This year's awards proved to be a literary grand slam. Copperfish Books received Small Business of the Year and The Charlotte Sun received the Pinnacle Award. Four Points By Sheraton received the Large Business of the Year award.



BOOKMARK

2013 Award Winning
Newsletter publication of

Friends

Punta Gorda Library, Inc.



BOOKMARK Editors:

Martha Kelley, Mary Knowlton
We welcome comments from our members.

Email: info@friendspg.org
Visit our newly designed website
www.friendspg.org



2014 Board of Directors

Katie Mazzi	President
Celia Eames	Vice president
Sara Benson	Secretary
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Bookstore Manager

Sue Galvin



Alison Layne,

Librarian Supervisor

Punta Gorda Public Library

424 West Henry Street

Punta Gorda FL 33950

941-833-5460

Library Hours:

Tuesday-Wednesday 10am-6pm

Thursday-10am-7pm

Friday-Saturday 10am-5pm

CLOSED

Sundays, Mondays & Holidays

Library Advocacy - Art Bruning

November 4 is an important date for our Punta Gorda library. That's the date on which we will be asked to extend the 1% sales tax in Charlotte County.

We are grateful that Charlotte County has agreed to commit funds from the extension to construct our new library and that the City of Punta Gorda has agreed to donate the site. Your support on November 4 will help bring the plan to fruition.

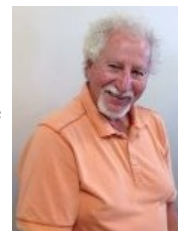
It's exciting to think of what can be accomplished in an expanded library. A larger facility will allow us to provide a more comprehensive collection of materials and technologies and provide appropriate spaces for patrons to access them. We'll have more adequate meeting rooms, quiet reading rooms, special interest areas and areas to use computers or other state of the art technology. And we'll have space to offer more programs for children and young adults, as well as for the growing adult population.

Public libraries are provided in countries throughout the world because they are considered an essential part of having an educated and literate population. Importantly, they also help create and sustain culture and community values.

The new library is important to our library family but it is also a valuable investment in our Punta Gorda community. It will help draw people to the area and help define our common character. We are proud of our library; an expanded library will be even better able to inform and engage people. It will enable people from all walks of life to join side by side in the exploration of common interests and the pursuit of intellectual stimulation.

That's a mission worth pursuing!

Art Bruning is a Board member and former Superintendent of Schools in Hopkins, Minnesota



"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."
H. Jackson Brown Jr.

Friends SCENE IN PUNTA GORDA

ONE NEVER KNOWS WHO MIGHT BE SEEN AROUND THE CITY!



Top: Harvey Goldberg & Nancy Padgett @ Chamber breakfast; Children's Summer Reading finale @ Library; Debi Swinford & Candace Paul @ History Park Farmer's Market; bottom: Dave Heveron & Adam Cummings @ Downtown Farmer's Market; Judy & Chuck Kersch with Mazie & Hogan @ Twin Isles Country Club.



Meet & Greet . . . Sip & Eat

Join Friends at the Punta Gorda Library for these free Membership events

Tues. October 28 and Tues. December 9, 10 am- 4 pm

Coffee, tea, and our famous cookies will be served.



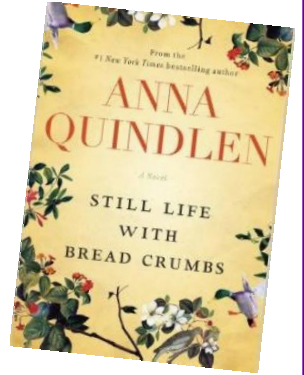


BOOK REVIEW



STILL LIFE WITH BREAD CRUMBS

by Anna Quindlen



Renting a cottage in the country, away from the memories of a Manhattan life that no longer held the thrills of opening nights, big royalty checks and frequent invitations... the life she had known in her thirties and forties... seemed the only route left for Rebecca Winters. She was two months shy of her 60th birthday and no longer the darling of the Manhattan art and photography set, when she found the index card on the Manhattan Arts Club bulletin board, "CHARMING COUNTRY COTTAGE FOR RENT".

Rebecca Winters was a "city girl" who had spent nearly her whole life in Manhattan and had a nearly pathological fear of anything "that smacked of nature". She was the nationally known and adored photographer of the "Kitchen Counter" series, the first of her many photographic series, which had achieved national acclaim. Her career spanned 20 years and had included sold out shows, honorary degrees and auctions of her work. She owned a beautiful Manhattan condo, had been invited to all the best openings in the city and was considered a female icon by the art community. And then she wasn't.

Divorced from a philandering husband, she had a grown son, a mother in a nursing home whose costs she paid and a father who lived in an apartment, whose rent she helped supplement. Moneys received from her art work had long ago begun to dry up and then she realized the exorbitant rent that her condo could command in New York City. In order to survive her rapidly mounting bills she must, she thought, "rent out one place dear while renting another place cheap", at least until she got back on her feet. And so, sight unseen, she signed a lease on the country cottage and rented out her city condo.

The "charming country cottage" was, as she quickly realized, "the real estate version of on-line dating built atop lies, leading downhill to disenchantment". It was not charming at all, this 'furnished cottage' with its four forks and no electrical outlets in the bedroom. It had smells she couldn't even identify along with its mildew, mold and damp linens. The floor boards creaked and moved with every step and a persistent smell of skunk pervaded her nostrils. Her first night was a nightmare of undetermined and terrifying sounds of banging and thrashing in the attic above her bedroom. Terrified, she made haste at daylight to find help in the village and met a woman, Sarah Ashby, who would become her friend and mentor of all things wild and countrified. She introduced Rebecca to her friend, a roofer Jim Bates, who quickly determined that the hole he found under the eaves was the entry and exit point used by a nasty and territorial raccoon who was the cause of the horrific nightly noises. Jim, several years younger than Rebecca, was intelligent, funny and a lover of nature. Through him and Sarah, she learned to trust her unlikely band of neighbors who lived in the village near the "charming cottage". Itching to get back to her photography, she began to explore the nearby woods and streams begrudgingly admiring the natural beauty surrounding her. While on one of her explorations through the woods, she stumbled on a mysterious series of white crosses with accompanying articles posed nearby. As her discovery of new crosses grew, so did her desire to photograph them with the thought of perhaps reigniting her career with a new photographic series. When she discovered the tragedy associated with these crosses and its connection to Jim Bates, whom she was thinking of as more than a friend by then, she realized decisions, as well as sacrifices, had to be made.

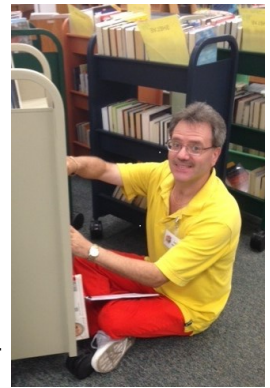
The reader watches Rebecca's change from her city ways; her dislike of anything to do with nature and even dogs and smiles with her adoption of an "exquisitely sensitive" creature... a vagabond, who kept her from lonely despair during her first long and dreadful winter, and who eventually became known as "The Accidental Dog". This is a quietly powerful story of an attractive, healthy and gifted woman in her sixth decade who finds the frailties, as well as unexpected pleasures, that life can present to us at any age. It is a beautiful story about opening oneself up to embracing life and love and second chances. This is a quiet gem of a book which instead of putting down after the last page, I found myself re-reading ... only more slowly this time.

Anna Quindlen is a Pulitzer Prize winning columnist and well loved author of seven novels, a memoir and several collections.

Reviewed by Martha Kelley

Bookmark Feature - Patrick Schlosser, Library Volunteer

"I am 48 years old and moved to Florida from Michigan in the Spring of 2013. We moved down here and needed to keep up with our email using the Punta Gorda Library computers until ours made the trip down. While at the library, I noticed that there were a lot of carts with books needing to be shelved and asked for a job. I was told that the library relies on its volunteers to shelve books so I became a volunteer. I have been doing volunteer work for about 8 years because I am retired with a brain injury from an auto crash and I still want to be a productive member of society. I enjoy being at the library and interacting and helping patrons in a quiet setting. I often find titles that amuse me and I put them on my list of "must reads." The Punta Gorda Library staff is wonderful and makes it such an enjoyable place to be. Our terrific Library Technician, Kathy Harriott, adds, "Patrick is a lot of fun to work with. He has a keen sense of humor and his willingness to work on any project thrown his way, makes him an excellent volunteer." We at the library are so fortunate to have volunteers such as Patrick.



"We can complain because rose bushes have thorns, or rejoice because thorn bushes have roses." Abraham Lincoln



Reader's Advisory Group meets every second Tuesday from 1:30-3:00 p.m. at the library. Please join us to "show and tell" a recently read book. These are excerpts from the shared reviews.

Reader's Advisory Group at the Punta Gorda Library

THE WOMEN IN HIS LIFE, by Barbara Taylor Bradford - This is a story of a remarkable man, Maximilian West and the women in his life...Ursula his mother, Theodora his devoted nanny, Anastasia, Camilla and Adriana. The story, beginning in Nazi Germany, continues to Great Britain and the United States. Maximilian West, his life as a billionaire tycoon and the people in his life, all contribute to this electrifying story!

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THE BEST OF ME, by Nicholas Sparks - It was the spring of 1984 in Oriental, NC and Amanda Collier and Dawson Cole were high school students who fell deeply in love. They were from opposite sides of the tracks and her parents did everything they could to break them up. After graduating, Amanda went off to Duke University and Dawson to work in the Louisiana oil fields. Eventually, they both moved on with their lives, living in different parts of the country. Twenty-five years later, they each received word from a lawyer to go back to Oriental, NC for the funeral of Tuck Hostetler, the mentor who once gave shelter to Dawson and helped them both during their high school romance. Neither had lived the life they thought they would and neither could forget that first love that changed their lives forever. Tuck had left behind instructions for them and they must confront painful memories and undeniable truths about the choices they made.

ONLY TIME WILL TELL, by Jeffrey Archer - This is the first of a series entitled "Clifton Chronicles" and is the story of Harry Clifton, born in London, who had been told that his father died in World War I. Harry is awarded a scholarship to an exclusive boys' school which will change his life forever. As World War II begins, Harry volunteers to serve on an English merchant ship to prepare for his naval career. Before going to sea, Harry learns that the father of his best friend is possibly his biological father and this opens up all sorts of problems dealing with family and inheritance. To solve his problems, he assumes a new identity and prepares to live in America.

THE STORIED LIFE OF A.J. FIKRY, By Gabrielle Zevin - A.J. Fikry is the proprietor of the bookstore on remote Alice Island. His life has not been going as he had wished and in order to cope, he has started drinking heavily. His wife has died, his bookstore is failing, and his prized possession of a rare collection of poems by Edgar Allan Poe, has been stolen. In his funk, he has started alienating the people around him. One day, a mysterious package is left at his bookstore along with a note. This small package gives A.J. a new lease on life that those close to him soon notice. Suddenly A.J. has a reason to make his store succeed.



Judi Roth
Platinum Sponsor

Friends Of The Punta Gorda Library Presents

Friends Benefactor
GOULD
FAMILY TRUST

Barbara Rinella is returning for her fourth performance with *Friends* as Queen Elizabeth II, based on Sally Bedell Smith's best selling book **ELIZABETH THE QUEEN The Life of a Modern Monarch**. Mrs. Rinella calls her witty first person renditions "academic entertainment." By becoming characters in important recent books, Mrs. Rinella has created a lively "living literature" for enthusiastic audiences in the United States and internationally aboard Crystal Cruise Ships.



Wednesday, January 28, 2015
Isles Yacht Club, Punta Gorda
Doors open 11 AM, Friends remarks 11:45 AM
Barbara Rinella's performance 12 Noon
Luncheon 1 PM

Lisa See in her beloved *New York Times* bestsellers **SNOW FLOWER AND THE SECRET FAN**, **PEONY IN LOVE**, and most recently, **SHANGHAI GIRLS** and **DREAMS OF JOY**, has brilliantly illuminated the strong bonds between women, romantic love, and love of country. Now, in **CHINA DOLLS**, which is about Asian-American nightclub performers of the 1930s and 1940s, she returns to these timeless themes.



Tuesday March 17, 2015
Isles Yacht Club, Punta Gorda
Doors open 11 AM, Friends remarks 11:45
Luncheon 12 Noon
Lisa See's presentation and Q & A, 1 PM
Book Signing, 2 PM
Books by Lisa See available for sale courtesy Copperfish Books



To reserve your seats for these events, submit this completed form, along with a check made payable to **Friends of Punta Gorda Library**, in person or by mail to: **Friends of Punta Gorda Library, 424 W. Henry St., Punta Gorda, FL 33950**. Seating, at tables of 8, is assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Payment is required to make a reservation. There are no tickets. You will be given your seat assignment at "Check In" the day of the event. If you have questions, please call Jerri Marsee at 941-613-9048 or e-mail her at jmarsee@comcast.net.

Order Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____ @ _____

<u>Friends Member \$40</u>	<u>Non-Member \$45</u>	
(On-sale beginning Oct. 6)	(On-sale beginning Nov. 19)	<u>Cost</u>

Wednesday, January 28	_____	_____	_____
Barbara Rinella			

Tuesday, March 17	_____	_____	_____
Lisa See			

Total Due _____

If purchasing multiple seats, please list the names of persons attending:

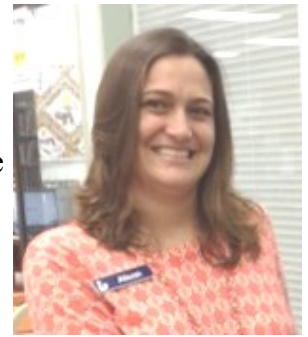
Dear *Friends*,

Have you seen the screen hanging in the lobby of the Punta Gorda Library. We are not watching "our shows" on it. This display monitor is a fabulous new way for us to communicate with you about library programs or special events in the community, notify you of weather emergencies, and to have fun welcoming you into the library. There are pictures of one of our exciting Summer Reading programs when the Master Gardeners took us on a Nature Walk around the library grounds and surrounding areas such as the History Park and Banyan Point. We had 13 Summer Reading programs and 296 people attended.

The gardens in the front of the library have been blooming beautifully this summer thanks to some extra work from the Punta Gorda Garden Club and a new drainage system installed by our Facilities Department. The six air conditioners that keep our building cool and comfortable were replaced in June. We can all look forward to new Self Check machines by the end of the year *fingers crossed*. The fun is just starting as we are gearing up for a busy season of programs, visitors, new technology, and maybe planning a new library in the coming year.

Happy Autumn everyone! Thank you for your continued patronage and support!

Librarian - Alison Layne



OCTOBER—JAPAN

Ramen Noodles for Non-students

**Thursday, October 2, 2014
11:00 a.m.**

Remember those delicious Ramen noodles you and your children survived on in college?

They have helped me through many tight financial spots. Come discover new ways to use Ramen noodles and rediscover your love of this versatile treat.

NOVEMBER—FRANCE

Paper Cone Wreath

**Thursday, November 6, 2014
11:00 a.m.**

The art of paper folding can be traced back as Europe from the year 1440. Origami is a traditional folding art which focuses on the use of colorful paper, and while many people associate it with Japan, there is evidence that the art form popped up in China, Germany, and Spain as well. Come join us as we make a Paper Cone Wreath that you can hang in your home or give as a gift.

The Wine Whisperer Thursday, November 13, 2014 5:30 p.m.

Do you know what wine goes best with Thanksgiving turkey? What wine is best for late night sweets on Christmas Eve? Jerry Greenfield, author of the book, *Secrets of the Wine Whisperer*, is no stuffy sommelier. He is an experienced public speaker, author, and wine educator who makes wine easy and fun to understand & enjoy. Jerry knows that the world of wine can be intimidating and even mysterious. But he "de-mystifies" the subject and offers useful tips and information that add elegance and fun to every lifestyle. Samples will be available.

DECEMBER—GERMANY

Holiday Cookie Swap

**Thursday, December 4, 2014
11:00 a.m.**

Come join the Punta Gorda Library's first annual cookie swap. Bake one or two dozen of your favorite cookies and bring them to our swap. We will provide containers for you to bring your goodies home. If you would like to share your recipe, please bring a

copy to Kathy Harriott by November 21, 2014 so that she can make additional copies to share.

Lorenzo Marion presents Astral Projection: The Souls Journey

**Thursday, December 11, 2014
5:30 p.m.**

Join renowned psychic medium, author, and spiritual teacher Lorenzo Marion, as he takes you on a journey of your soul. Astral projection is a common process of the spirit taking temporary breaks from the physical body that houses it. Lorenzo will explain how we astral travel, what it really is, and how to become more intuitive about the process. More than 17 years of experiences that will spark your curiosity.





Friends of The Punta Gorda Library

424 W. Henry Street

Punta Gorda Florida 33950

Dear *Friends* and Library Patrons,

"Libraries are what is best about us as a society; open, exciting, rich, informative, free, inclusive, engaging." Susan Orlean

We, the *Friends* of the Punta Gorda Library, understand how vital the existence of our library is to our community. Your membership provides support directly to our Punta Gorda Library. Annual Family, Lifetime and Business Patron memberships and donations fund library improvements that would not be possible if not for your continued generosity.

In 2014, thanks to more than 800 Annual Family, Lifetime and Business Patron members, *Friends* accomplished the following:

Funded Annual *Friends* Volunteer Luncheon to honor library and bookstore volunteers and library staff.

Supported the *Friends* Bookstore.

Presented Literary Luncheon Series with actor Ted Zalewski as Teddy Roosevelt.

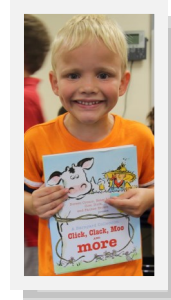
Presented Literary Luncheon Series with author Gregg Hurwitz as guest speaker.

Provided Meet & Greet . . . Sip & Eat membership events.

Funded children's programs including the Summer Reading Program.

Sponsored *Cooking Club*, *The Writing Coach Is In* and other programs throughout the year.

Redesigned our *Friends* website - www.friendspg.org.



In 2015, we have exciting plans which include:

Funding additional Children and Young Adult events/programs.

Presenting Literary Luncheon Series with returning literary actress Barbara Rinella as Queen Elizabeth II, in January.

Presenting Literary Luncheon Series with nationally acclaimed author, Lisa See as guest speaker in March.

Presenting varied fundraisers to benefit our Punta Gorda Library.

We encourage you to be more than a library cardholder - continue to be a *Friend* of the Punta Gorda Library by completing the membership form below. Thank you for your membership, your contributions and your donations of recycled books, magazines and electronic media to the *Friends* Bookstore. Your continued loyalty is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Katie Mazzi

Katie Mazzi
President

Lois Modrow

Lois Modrow
Membership

Alison Layne

Alison Layne
Library Supervisor

[Signature]

Please use this form for your new or renewing membership. Bring or mail this to the library:

424 West Henry St. Punta Gorda FL 33950. Contributions are tax deductible. *Friends* is a 501(C)(3) Corporation.

Date of Application: _____

___ RENEWAL ___ NEW ___ LIFETIME # ___ Adults # ___ Children # ___ Employees (Business Patron only)

Please make checks payable to:

Friends of the Punta Gorda Library

___ FAMILY ANNUAL \$15.00

___ FAMILY LIFETIME \$150.00

___ BUSINESS PATRON \$100.00

___ DONATION \$ _____

NAME (S) _____

ADDRESS _____

TOTAL \$ _____

_____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

email: _____@_____

Yes, I would like to Volunteer (circle area of interest) Bookstore, Library, Board Position, Hospitality, Membership, Advocacy, Fundraising, Marketing, Publicity, other ____ .

BOOKMARK

Friends Punta Gorda Library, Inc.
424 West Henry Street
Punta Gorda, FL 33950-5906



Nonprofit Organization

U.S. Postage

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Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Permit No. 24

Current Resident or:

Friends of the Library Business Patrons

We encourage *Friends* to support our Business Patrons.

Over **130,000** visitors enter the doors of the Punta Gorda Library yearly.

Punta Gorda Downtown Merchants Assoc.

Gould Family Trust

Village Fish Market & Restaurant

Burnt Store Grille

Nolan Family Insurance

Kay's Klose

Pineapple Storage

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GFWC - Punta Gorda Woman's Club, Inc.

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Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association

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Andreae Group at ReMax Harbor Realty

Charlotte State Bank & Trust

Calusa National Bank

Friendly Floors

Twin Isles Country Club

Copperfish Books

Don Gasgarth's Charlotte County Ford

The Orange House Wine Bar

Towles Corp. of SW Florida

Centennial Bank Punta Gorda

Punta Gorda Yacht Brokers

(Businesses are listed in order of becoming Business Patrons)