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How low can jobless rate fall in region?

Unemployment dropped to 3.1% in Fort Myers

Laura Layden
Naples Daily News
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

The labor pool continues to tighten in Southwest Florida. In March the Naples area saw one of

the lowest jobless rates in the state. Unemployment fell to 2.9%, down from 3.3% a year ago, according to a monthly report released Friday by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

The unemployment rate in the Fort Myers area also dropped over the

month, landing at 3.1%. That compared with 3.4% a year ago.

In the five-county region unemployment stood at 3.2% last month, lower than the state's average of 3.3%.

In a news release, Gov. Ron DeSantis said the Naples area added 3,300 new private-sector jobs and the Fort Myers area gained 8,300 new private-sector

jobs over the past year.

Construction jobs lead the way

The construction industry added the most jobs over the year — 2,000 in Naples and 2,800 in Fort Myers.

See **JOBLESS**, Page 8A

Pricey home hits market



The outside of a home that is on the market in Estero. The home, owned by Vince and Joanne Galifi of Toronto, is listed for \$3.595 million. PHOTOS BY MORGAN HORNSBY/NAPLES DAILY NEWS

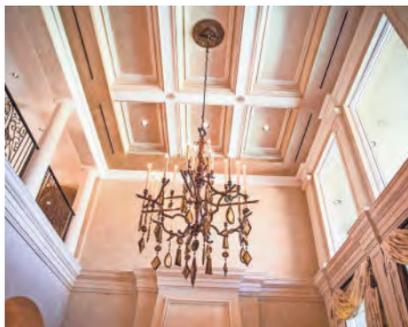
Estero area's most expensive in a decade listed for \$3.59M

Jennifer Beeson
Naples Daily News
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

An Estero home has entered the market for \$3.595 million, making it the highest-priced area listing in the past 10 years for the area.

The five-bedroom, five-and-a-half-bath home in Laurel Oaks of the West Bay Club community at 22070 Red Laurel Lane is owned by Vince and Joanne Galifi of Toronto.

"This home was designed with the utmost precision and an unprecedented level of detail facilitated by artisan



A chandelier in the living room of the estate for sale in Estero for \$3.595 million.

craftsmen from Canada," Vince Galifi said. "We have loved living in West Bay Club, for its small community feel and its luxury amenities like the private beach and golf club."

Galifi is executive vice president and CFO of Magna International, a multi-billion-dollar global automobile parts supplier that employs 174,000 people in 29 countries.

In March 2018, Magna announced its collaboration with the ride-share company, Lyft, and invested \$200 million to supply high-tech kits that turn

See **HOME**, Page 8A

First 2020 Democratic candidate visits SWFL

Rep. Ryan likely stopped for snowbirds from Ohio

Michael Braun and Brooke Baitinger
Fort Myers News-Press
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

Who is Timothy John Ryan?

He is one of nearly two dozen people already announcing their presidential candidacy in the 2020 election. And he is the first to swing through Southwest Florida.

And why is he running for president?

"I think (President) Trump spoke to fear, anger and insecurity," Ryan, the U.S. Representative for Ohio's 13th congressional district since 2003, said about the 2016 election outcome during a fundraising visit. "But he has zero plans to fix it."

He is the first of the crowded field of left-leaning contenders to swing through the region. He talked with local reporters on Sunday.

He has high-profile Democratic competitors, including Vermont's Bernie Sanders, New Yorker Kirsten Gillibrand, Eliabeth Warren from Massachusetts, California Kamala Harris, Pete Buttigieg of Indiana, Cory Booker from New Jersey and Texan Beto O'Rourke.

"There's something for everyone," said Gabriele Spuckes, chairwoman of the Democratic Party of Lee County. "There's so many issues important to people on a personal matter, and there

See **CANDIDATES**, Page 6A

Headquarters opens

Scouts Comics holding open house today in Fort Myers. **3A**

Making the right pick

Quarterbacks could make the draft a tough one for NFL teams. **1B**

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