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THE NEWS-PRESS

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Doctors lament 'burnout,' low pay

Lee Health physicians file formal complaints

Frank Gluck

Fort Myers News-Press
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

A majority of family and internal medicine doctors practicing at Lee Health's outpatient clinics have made

formal complaints in recent months about "increasing pressure, stress and burnout" resulting from directives to see more patients.

The doctors, employed at Lee Physician Group clinics throughout Southwest Florida, have also complained in

recent months about changes to their pay that, they claimed, disconnects it from the number of patients they treat.

"We realize that the practice of medicine has changed and all of us working in healthcare have to adjust and we are ready to do it. The problem we encounter at LPG (Lee Physician Group) is how this change is implemented," roughly three dozen physicians wrote to Lee Health's

elected governing board in February.

It continues: "We are being micro-managed at every step by countless administrators, many of them with non-clinical backgrounds. The culture of imposing new rules without meaningful physician input is what at the end negatively affects patient care and safety."

See **DOCTORS**, Page 7A

LAKE OKEECHOBEE

Army Corps approves reservoir to cut discharges

Tyler Treadway and Ali Schmitz

Treasure Coast Newspapers
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

A plan to build a reservoir south of Lake Okeechobee to reduce toxic discharges was approved Wednesday afternoon by the Army Corps of Engineers and hand-delivered to Congress.

The plan now can be included in the federal Water Resources and Development Act, the list of water projects throughout the country to be done by the Corps.

U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson announced the news via Twitter.

See **RESERVOIR**, Page 8A



TAKE A SIP

Southwest Florida cities ditch plastic straws for eco-friendly paper alternative

Callie Schmidt

Naples Daily News
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

You can get one at almost any restaurant, and kids love when they lose a tooth so they can use one between their teeth.

Straws, specifically plastic straws, are the latest on an increasing list of single-use plastic products some U.S. cities

and companies are banning, such as Seattle and Starbucks, the coffee shop giant that plans to eliminate plastic straws globally by 2020. In June, McDonald's announced that it would start testing plastic straw alternatives at certain U.S. locations this year.

And now some Southwest Florida cities are banning plastic straws.

See **STRAWS**, Page 9A

Eco-friendly straws are available at True Food Kitchen in North Naples. The corn plastic straws are certified compostable in commercial compost facilities. KATIE KLANN/ NAPLES DAILY NEWS



Algae and water condition seen around the St. Lucie Lock and Dam along the C-44 canal Monday in Martin County. The Army Corps of Engineers suspended discharges of Lake Okeechobee algae-filled water again late Sunday. ERIC HASERT/TCPALM

Happy birthdays

Local celebrations give residents an excuse to explore. 1D

FSU commits chosen to play

Quashon Fuller and Derick Hunter Jr. selected to play in All-American games. 1C

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