

# NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY®

YOUR NEWS AND ENTERTAINMENT SOURCE

WEEK OF MARCH 19-25, 2009

www.FloridaWeekly.com

Vol. I, No. 24 • FREE



COURTESY PHOTO  
Dream Team members join soloist Sam Bostic during a Meet the Kids Day presentation

## \$7 million handed out to children's charities

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

As a result of the 2009 Naples Winter Wine Festival, 26 Collier County children's charities received nearly \$7 million in grants. Trustees of the Naples Children & Education Foundation, founders of the wine festival, presented checks to the deserving nonprofit organizations last week during a ceremony at Mediterra.

"These checks will help children in ways both big and small," said Connie Galloway, co-chair of this year's festival with her husband, Tom Galloway. "Children will have a safe haven from abusive homes; early literacy training for a good start in school; vision screenings and eyeglasses needed to do schoolwork; and, for many, their very first books to foster reading skills."

This year's largest grants were \$1 million each for Collier County's Boys & Girls Club (to fund summer programming for 1,250 children in Naples and Immokalee who otherwise would have no place to go) and Guadalupe Center (to double the capacity to 270 children ages newborn to 4 years old who receive day care and early education at the center, and to fund after-school programs at several Immokalee elementary schools).

One agency, the Able Academy, received an NCEF grant for the first time. The academy, which provides behavioral and social therapies and academic instruction to children with autism, received \$125,000.

The February festival raised more than \$5 million, with all proceeds allocated for distribution in 2009. However, NCEF trustees determined that grant applicants' needs surpassed the

SEE WINEFEST, A8 & 9 ►

"I think for many people in Naples, Palm Beach can be a bit too snobbish to suit their tastes. But, if you ask me, Palm Beach is not quite as highfalutin' as it used to be."

— Doris Reynolds, Naples City Historian, author and longtime resident



## THE SOCIETY PAGES

**NAPLES AND PALM BEACH: CITADELS OF MANNERS AND MONEY**

BY BILL CORNWELL  
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For generations, Palm Beach has reigned supreme in matters of high society. Its Mediterranean-style villas, with their barrel-tiled roofs and sweeping ocean vistas, may rest at sea level or slightly above, but the view from their wind-swept balconies is decidedly Olympian.

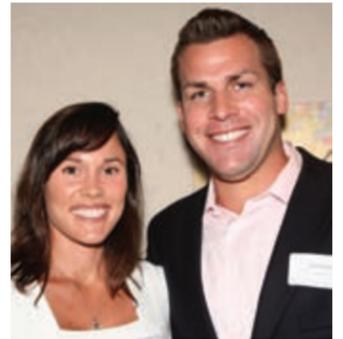
Looking back, across Lake Worth and toward the far-less-exclusive municipality of West Palm, the inhabitants of Palm Beach see a Florida that is far poorer, far more ethnically diverse and far more ravaged by a howling recession than anything they know or, more tellingly, care to know.

Against this backdrop, the gentry of Palm Beach brook no apology for their ferocious addictions to conspicuous consumption, grand living and high times. Moreover, they feel no threat — none whatsoever — to their peculiar status from other well-known areas of the state. South Beach is hipper, Orlando more prized as a tourist destination, and the beaches of the Gulf Coast more idyllic, but Palm Beach is without peer in the realm of pure snob appeal.

Those who view Palm Beach from

SEE SOCIETY, A8 ►

## INSIDE



### Warhol at The von Liebig

See who had their 15 minutes of fame and other happenings of note. **C23, 24 & 25** ►



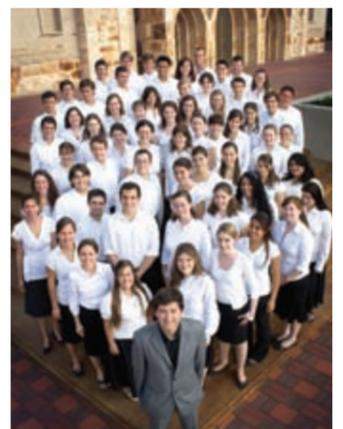
### Back to school

Enrollment numbers on the rise at Hodges and Edison. **B1** ►



### Mr. Endurance

Meet Pete Lefferts, happy to be one extreme athlete extraordinaire. **A6** ►



### In concert for Immokalee

Ave Maria chorus, Naples Philharmonic make music for workers coalition. **C10** ►

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