

NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY®

YOUR NEWS AND ENTERTAINMENT SOURCE

WEEK OF MARCH 26-APRIL 1, 2009

www.FloridaWeekly.com

Vol. I, No. 25 • FREE

"We aren't trying to save just one life, we're trying to save many: the parents who love this child, the future generations — an entire history — that this child might represent."

— Nancy Scribner, 21-year NICU nurse

PRECIOUS MIRACLES



The elite corps of nurses on the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit help make them happen

BY ROGER WILLIAMS

rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

Level 3 is not a floor. It's a condition. People in Level 3 lie in clear plastic cocoons, not necessarily unconscious but unable to respond. They're wizened, shriveled, sometimes shrunken to the size of a Coke can. That description falls short, however, because they're not really shrunken. Instead, they're as big as they've ever been — shrunken only from their potential, not from some larger reality. They appear as old as the hills, too tiny and bald, so fragile and feathery, so lined and leathery, that even mortality seems to lie light beside them. But it's always near, asserting its presence in 10 or so electronic beeps and alarms that indicate vital functions, or their failure. Nothing about these people is normal. Their wide-open hands would span the circumference of a quarter. Their hearts are roughly the size of a pea. Their sexual organs, exposed in unselfconscious nakedness when they lie unswaddled, are smaller than a fingernail clipping. To say their veins and

SEE NICU, A8 & 9 ►



PHOTOS BY JIM MCLAUGHLIN / FLORIDA WEEKLY AND LEE MEMORIAL HEALTH SYSTEM

INSIDE



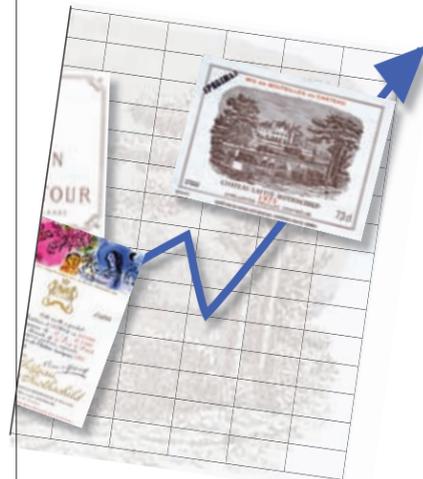
Walking the walk

Joey Pantoliano speaks out on behalf of NAMI, and more great gatherings. **C22-25** ►



Pride and joy

The Naples Zoo introduces lion cubs Masamba and Mandisa to an adoring public. **A24** ►



Looking to the futures

Spring is when wine fanciers' thoughts turn to Bordeaux. **B1** ►



Flowers galore!

We haven't had spring showers, but the Naples Flower Show is in full bloom this weekend. **C1** ►

Naples High student makes the grade for a year in Japan

Rotary Club, Yukihana restaurant helping send Chelsea Neal on her way

BY ALYSIA SHIVERS

news@floridaweekly.com

For most high school students, senior year is a time to shine before heading out into the big, unknown world of higher education. The bittersweet nine months leading up



PHOTO BY NANCY NEAL

Japan-bound Rotary exchange student Chelsea Neal with James Kim at Yukihana restaurant

to graduation are filled with football games, pep rallies, homecoming and prom, trips and class night, each creating a memory that will last a lifetime.

Chelsea Neal will share these milestone moments with her Naples High classmates through e-mails and texts, since nearly 7,500 miles of ocean and land will

SEE JAPAN, A21 ►

POSTAL CUSTOMER

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
FORT MYERS, FL
PERMIT NO. 715

ROGER WILLIAMS A2
OPINION A4
15 MINUTES A6
NAPLES HISTORY A10

BUSINESS B1
NETWORKING B8, 9 & 10
REAL ESTATE B11
ARTS C1

EVENTS C6 & 7
THEATER REVIEW C8
SOCIETY C22, 23, 24 & 25
CUISINE C27

POINT CLICK

FIRST ALERT
DOPPLER
ZOOM

see more than ever before | nbc-2.com

DATED MATERIAL - PLEASE RUSH
POSTMASTER - REQUESTED IN-HOME DELIVERY DATE: MARCH 26, 2009

