



COURTESY PHOTO

An exhibit of Princess Diana gowns is coming to The von Liebig Art Center.

Dresses to Di for

The von Liebig prepares for gowns fit for a princess

BY KELLY MERRITT

Special to Florida Weekly

She was the people's princess, and more than a decade after her death, Princess Diana lives on in the minds and hearts of people around the world. The Naples Art Association and The von Liebig Art Center expect thousands of admirers from near and far will come here next spring and summer to see an exhibit of 20 of Diana's dresses, some of her shoes and handbags and an assortment of royal memorabilia.

"Princess Diana: Dresses of Inspiration" opens at The von Liebig on Saturday, March 13, and will remain there through June 27. A portion of ticket sales will benefit the Pink Ribbon Crusade for breast cancer awareness and research.

The collection includes several gowns that were auctioned for charity at Sotheby's just weeks before the princess died. At least two of the dresses have never been exhibited in America.

"I think it will be a blockbuster," Joel Kessler, CEO and executive director of the NAA, predicts about the exhibit. "Diana may have been a royal princess, but she's also the

SEE DRESSES, A12 ►

GOING GREEN

WHAT DOES IT EVEN MEAN

BY EVAN WILLIAMS

ewilliams@floridaweekly.com

IN AN ATTEMPT TO TRACK down a recent copy of Consumer Reports at a local library, the reference desk aide wondered what search term to plug into the computer. She was looking for an article on solar hot water heaters, as it wasn't available free online.

"Would it be under alternative energy?" her co-worker wondered out loud. "Solar power? Water heater? Green?"

The silver-haired librarian wrinkled her nose at the last suggestion. "That's kind of ambiguous," she said.

The meaning of "green" is vague because it has been used loosely to describe almost any environmental topic or claim. It has been used by newspapers, magazines, marketers and public speakers everywhere to refer to solar power, "clean coal," building codes, organic cotton pants, a brand of paper towels, recycling, eating leftovers and many other things.

"A lot of the green thing is hype," said Santiago De Choch, manager of the GreenMarket at Alliance for the Arts in Fort Myers. "Companies now want to brand themselves as green, and doing things in an environmentally sound way, and in a lot of cases, it's a public relations

SEE GREEN, A8 ►

>>inside:

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A9



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► **EDITOR'S NOTE:** As Chanukah begins this holiday season at sunset Friday, Dec. 11, Mr. Williams recalls a family celebration that took place two years ago.

My grandfather, Walter Nash, sat straight in the saddle on his quarterhorse Cherokee, watching me become a Jew. It was the fifth night of Chanukah (a.k.a. Hanukkah, or Hannukah).

His rope, neatly looped, remained secured to the saddle and hanging over his right leg. He wore blue jeans and a long-sleeved white shirt that rose, buttoned, all the way to his neck. Above that, his dark Stetson, the working hat, sat straight on his head.

His left hand closed the reins in a calloused grip about a foot above the horse's mane, and his right rested where it should, on his upper thigh, ready for anything required.

Cherokee was wired tight, a muscled mahogany bay with three white socks. His nostrils flared while his ears turned backward to listen to the rider, who could track a cow across glass or cut a calf from a herd of nervous mothers as easy as slipping a knife from butter.

Walter set his boots deep in the stirrups with the heels down, rarely employing his small spurs; none had a better seat than he did. He was ready to ride, and would — after our ceremony.

My grandfather said nothing as we played dreidel in the living room while a Chanukah meal evolved in our kitchen, where exceptional fare is the rule. My wife, Amy,

opened the Chanukah CD she'd picked up at the supermarket, and pretty soon I was clapping and hopping and crowing with all the grace of an injured rooster, while some men apparently shouted, "Schlemiel! Schlemiel! Verklemp! Schlemiel!" over and over again. In every song.

It was arguably the most awful joyous music I'd ever heard — awful not because of the music itself, I suspect, but because of its execution — and I mean murder — by a bunch of brassy singers from New Jersey or somewhere.

My grandfather didn't care. His character was a tight weave of tolerance and a lifelong determination to judge other people only by whether they kept their word, minded their own business and tried hard.

The guys singing Chanukah songs tried very hard. Neither my grandfather nor I, however, had any idea what the words meant, or whether they kept them. But the way he held his horse told me that he approved of my new religion, with a caveat: When you ride into unknown country, keep your eyes open and think for yourself.

So we did. Amy and I, with our two youngest boys, D.P. and Nash, had decided that since no one was going to choose us, we'd just up and choose ourselves to join the tribe of Israel, the chosen people.

One of the wonderful things about the Jews we've known is that they don't proselytize. We were compelled to conversion only by Nash, who at 5 years of age has no problem proselytizing, or at least asking insistently.

Nash has stumbled into a moment of magical good fortune this year, and with him, us: He's become the ward of a public school kindergarten teacher who is extraordinary, to use that word precisely. Somehow, without sentimentalizing it or patronizing them, Ms. Chernow can teach the world, and its basics, to 18 children arriving

from almost every corner of our national experience.

She can coax from each little person a triad, joining their delight, their understanding and even their the first semblance of hard, factual knowing.

Now, they can count, they can write and they can read. They can even ask how or why.

So Nash, with his classmates at Alva Elementary School, had been drawing dreidels, and then playing that little top-spinning gambling game since Chanukah's eight-day celebration began on Dec. 4.

His teacher fetes a variety of cultures and customs the same way when they appear on the calendar, giving some of her children their first glimpses of a world beyond their own.

In this case, she drew in part on her own experience. Her mother was a Scottish immigrant and her father a Jew who owned one of the only shops maintained by an Anglo in New York City's Chinatown, decades ago, she told me. Her tales of battles and food and candles that wouldn't stop burning (a huge appeal to a candle-loving kid) captured the fancy of young Nash. Why couldn't we become Jews, too, he reasoned?

But how, and which Jews? we asked, applying typical adult obfuscation.

Should we become the orthodox or Hasidic ones, the irreverent ones, the eastern European ones, the Israeli ones, the American or Canadian ones, the wandering ones, the sad ones, the mad ones, the tolerant ones, the judgmental ones or the happy ones?

And then we answered our own question with another: Who cares?

We decided to define it for ourselves.

Amy and I have long admired what we take to be the classic middle-of-the-road American Jew: not orthodox and not entirely lost to ancient traditions, either. Someone who reveres family, celebrates the culture, loves the democracy, refuses to hit anybody over the head with their Judaism or their

patriotism, and takes great pleasure in the gifts and opportunities of the world: intellectual sparring and sex and achievement and philanthropy and the arts and sciences.

Someone passionate about education, and someone who isn't afraid to debate or question authority — the authority of parents, politicians, police, preachers or rabbis, or even the authority and judgment of God, in true Old Testament and new American comedic fashion. Someone who remains a good-hearted skeptic, in other words — an experienced, and perhaps a sobered optimist.

And someone who loves food.

Amy and the boys manned the kitchen, where she had them peeling potatoes and making latkes and applesauce. They bent to it with a will, shying away from the special bean dip she made to go with the broccoli, and wary (in Nash's case) of the darkly burnished cast of the Sephardic chicken, roasted and fragrant with fruits and nuts.

The Chanukah menu, of course, came from a food resource named after some old Greek — Epicurious.com. But that's a Jewish tradition: adopt and adapt and make the best of the moment. Which is pretty much what my grandfather, that tougher-than-rawhide rancher, thought, too.

When Amy finally settled the feast on the table, Nash and D.P. lit the candles on the hanukiah (as distinguished from the Temple menorah, which originally had seven oil-burning wicks). The hanukiah, which many call the menorah, has a single shamash or helper candle mounted above a star of David, flanked by four candles on each side. The shamash is used to light the others.

And then we ate and laughed and fancied for an hour or more, while Nash's great-grandpa Walter Nash, framed in an old photo on my desk, rode off into the night, almost grinning.

Another day, no doubt, we'd be celebrating something else, and we'd become something else, but on this night, we were the chosen ones.

And we celebrated only l'chaim. ■

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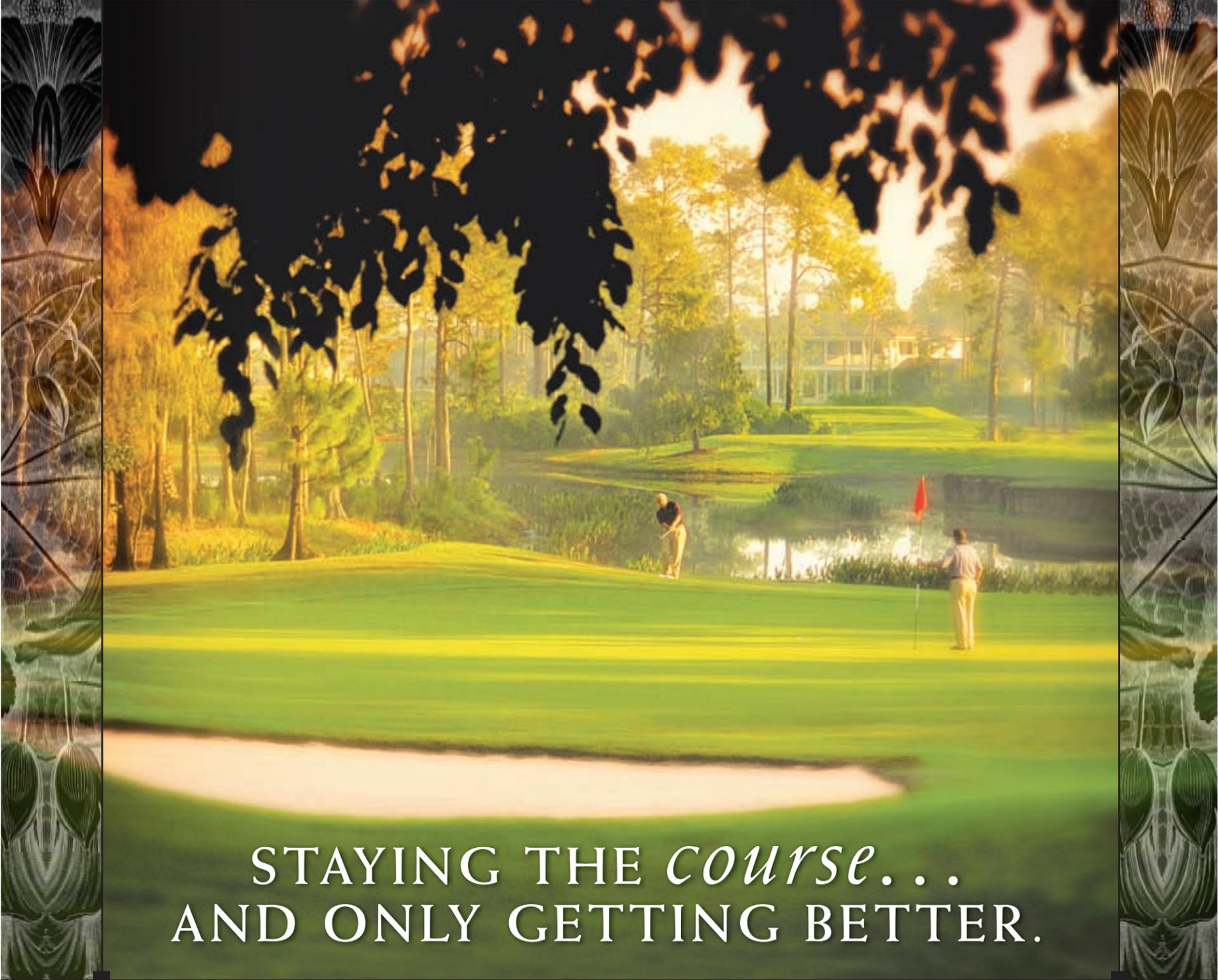
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OPINION

Democrats waist deep in the Big Muddy

BY RICH LOWRY

Otto von Bismarck at one point called the prospect of Germany waging preventive war against other European powers "committing suicide out of fear of death."

Little did the Iron Chancellor know that he was forecasting 21st-century Democratic political strategy. Democrats so fear the consequences of failing to pass ObamaCare that they've convinced themselves that embracing \$370 billion worth of tax increases and more than \$400 billion worth of Medicare cuts is good for them. This will long make for a compelling case study in the Annals of Abnormal Political Psychology.

Tax hikes undid Presidents George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton (Bush lost his presidency, Clinton his congressional majority), and Medicare cuts undid Speaker Newt Gingrich (taking the air out of his "Republican revolution"). All of those figures undertook their foolhardy exertions in order to reduce the deficit. Democrats will ingest their double dose of taxes and Medicare cuts on behalf of legislation that almost certainly will increase an already \$1 trillion deficit. It's fiscal pain for no

fiscal gain.

If Democrats can't afford failure on this course, what makes them think they can afford success? They created a hellish dilemma for themselves by refusing to scale back their bill once it became persistently unpopular.

As it stands now, the sprawling monstrosity of Democratic health-care reform violates almost every major reassurance President Barack Obama has made about it. Its latest iteration, the Reid bill in the Senate, costs more than \$1 trillion over 10 years when fully implemented; bends the cost curve up; covers abortion; and knocks people out of their current coverage.

For all that, it only covers half the uninsured. Republican Sen. Tom Coburn counts no fewer than 11 studies that say provisions in the bill will raise premiums. According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, a family of four headed by a breadwinner making \$66,000 annually still would pay almost 10 percent of its income on health insurance — even after it gets a federal subsidy.

If Obama meant his major promises about health care, he'd start over. But all his soothing words were just sugar to make the medicine of a vast left-

wing project go down in a center-right country.

The White House has lived up to its promise of "post-partisanship" in only one sense. It's wielding health care as a wedge issue against its own side, forcing moderates like Arkansas Sen. Blanche Lincoln into possibly career-ending votes out of fear of an aroused liberal base.

Democrats desperately want to keep the health-care debate from dragging too far into next year. Obama plans to pivot onto jobs and deficit reduction come January. This shift will be even more ludicrously incredible if he's still occupied with creating a new entitlement set to grow at 8 percent a year and cost \$2.5 trillion during its first 10 years of full operation. As Democratic Sen. Dick Durbin said, in an understatement, in 2010 the health-care debate becomes "more complex."

When they elected Mr. Obama, most voters wanted competence, bipartisanship, sobriety and responsibility. On health care he's 0-4, but the only option the Democrats have is to keep going. In fear of death, they'll risk suicide. ■

— Rich Lowry is editor of the *National Review*.

COMMENTARY

Afghanistan looks more and more like Vietnam



President Barack Obama insists that his decision to escalate the war in Afghanistan by sending in 30,000 more troops is not Vietnam all over again.

Well, it sure reminds me of the perils and the price of that unwinnable war in Southeast Asia and the political chaos it wreaked at home.

In Afghanistan, the designated enemies are remnants of the weakened al-Qaida network and the native Taliban, which has been growing in strength despite the eight-year war started by President George W. Bush in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 catastrophe.

Mr. Obama was too young to remember the national turmoil during the Vietnam War that resulted in the deaths of more than 58,000 Americans and thousands of Vietnamese. That war also ended the political careers of Presidents Lyndon B. Johnson and Richard M. Nixon. Johnson decided not to seek re-election, and Mr. Nixon was forced to resign in the ensuing Water-gate scandal.

In his remarks at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Mr. Obama rejected any comparison between Afghanistan and Vietnam, calling it "a false reading of history." He claimed that the U.S. effort in Afghanistan is supported by "a broad coalition of 43 nations," that "unlike Vietnam, we are not facing a broad-based popular insurgency" and that, unlike Vietnam, "the American people were viciously attacked from Afghanistan."

Well, yes and no.

The U.S. effort in Vietnam had its

own coalition of anti-communist allies, including South Korea, the Philippines, Australia, New Zealand, Thailand and Laos. As is the case in Afghanistan, the U.S. provided vastly more manpower than any of its allies in the Vietnam War.

Broad-based insurgency? By his own statements, Mr. Obama acknowledged Tuesday night that "momentum" has been with the Taliban, and said his goal is to reverse that trend and deny the Taliban "the ability to overthrow the government."

That sounds like the makings of a civil war, as was the case in Vietnam, where the U.S. intervened to prop up the corrupt Saigon government against the Viet Cong insurgents and their North Vietnamese allies.

There is another huge — but unspoken — similarity between the U.S. war in Afghanistan and the Vietnamese War. In both cases, the American people became fed up with pouring more and more men and women and money into wars that went on for years, with no end in sight. (We've been in Afghanistan for eight years; U.S. military involvement in Vietnam also lasted eight years, 1965-1973.)

War fatigue in the U.S. is aggravated by the devastating 2003 U.S. invasion of Iraq, where we still have more than 100,000 military personnel and where we have lost more than 4,000 Americans.

Mr. Obama omitted the single biggest difference between Vietnam and Afghanistan when he failed to mention that the military draft was roaring through every American town, suburb and city during the Vietnam War. Now, the U.S. military relies exclusively on volunteers.

The draft focused public attention — and ultimately, public outrage — on our

strategy, our allies, the corrupt South Vietnamese leadership, the colonial legacy we inherited from the French and the failure of Presidents Johnson and Nixon to articulate credible goals that would justify the continued loss of lives. The American people ended up rejecting both the Vietnam War and the national leaders who took us there.

President Obama, take note.

By choosing to deliver his historic address at West Point, Mr. Obama also evoked memories of the times when both Mr. Johnson and Mr. Nixon could travel only to military bases and aircraft carriers without encountering loud crowds of protesters.

Our investment in the Vietnam quagmire was incremental. But Gen. William C. Westmoreland's strategy of wearing down the insurgents through attrition required more and more U.S. troops. LBJ obliged -- up to a point.

That point was reached in 1968, when General Westmoreland told the White House he needed 206,000 more troops, a surge that would have brought U.S. military forces in Vietnam to more than 700,000.

President Johnson griped to reporters at the time that "all the generals wanted was more and more" troops. The president gave Westmoreland 13,500 reinforcements, but shortly thereafter replaced him as the U.S. military commander in Vietnam.

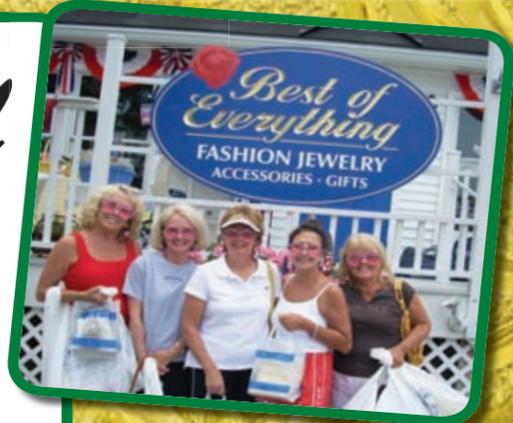
President Obama won a mandate in the 2008 election to pull up Mr. Bush's war stakes. He should listen to the people, not the generals, not the neocons and certainly not former Vice President Dick Cheney.

That would be the same Dick Cheney who notably dodged the Vietnam draft but now is gung-ho for more war in Afghanistan. ■

Merry Christmas!



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15 MINUTES

On the football field and at home, young athlete knows the score

BY SUSAN BROWN
Special to Florida Weekly

Breon Brown knows what it means to be part of a team, on the field and off.

This Naples 14-year-old is one of an elite group of athletes nationwide selected to participate in the 2010 second annual Football University Youth All-American Bowl in San Antonio, Texas.

Many contenders attend and are discovered at Football University's invitation-only summer training camps where they work on agility, power and speed, but all hopefuls must wait until November to learn whether they've made the team. Ultimately, the top 44 players are selected (22 for the East team and 22 for West) for the game that will be played Sunday, Jan. 10, and broadcast live at www.footballuniversity.org and at www.AllAmericanGames.TV/.

These All-Americans represent the nation's top youth talent and are selected in a variety of ways: from highlight tapes and with assistance from youth coaches, local media and a national network of scouts and Football University's regional directors. Once a youth is nominated, highlight tapes are reviewed, skills assessed, interviews completed and rankings assigned.

More than 6,000 middle-schoolers vied for the opportunity to play in the 2010 East vs. West classic, in which the crème de la crème will match skills at the Alamodome. "These kids are the best of the best," says Breon's mother, Kerren Laitaille.

Although this is his second year suiting up for the event, Breon remains a humble standout who takes things in stride. As a running-back last year, he earned his game's co-MVP after rushing 133 yards and scoring a touchdown for the East team.

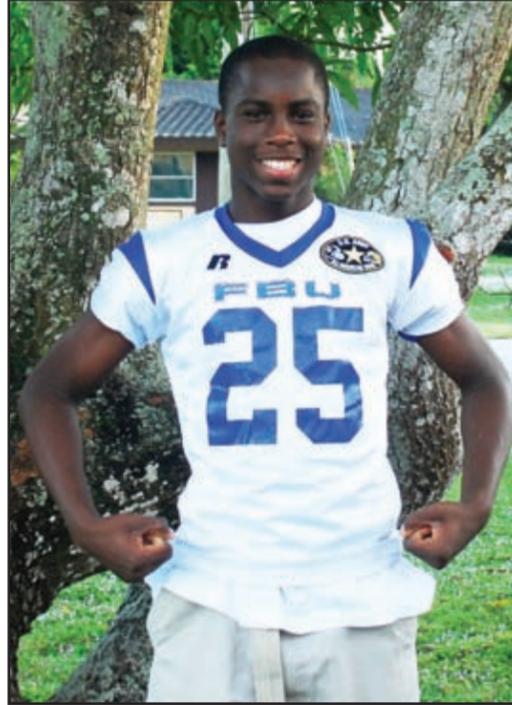
"As a running-back, you have to have speed, strength and vision," he says. This January in San Antonio, he'll play starting safety, where good eyes and quickness are key.

Breon says going to the All-American Bowl is the most exciting thing he's ever done. A student at Golden Gate Middle School, he plays for the Naples Gators Youth Football League and has advanced through the years from Pee-Wee to All-American. He's excited about playing for Golden Gate High School and hopes to secure a commitment letter to play college ball.

Steve Quinn, Breon's coach and Naples Gators president, says, "Breon has grown into a very special football player... but even more important, he's a great kid, a strong role model to his brothers and sisters, and a good leader and friend to his teammates."

At home, Breon belongs to a large, but more intimate team. He's the third of 10 children, nine of whom are between the ages of 4 and 17 and living at home with their mother.

Black sneakers, pink Crocs and several other pairs of shoes are lined up neatly against the wall on the screened porch outside the front door; inside, their home



Breon Brown

COURTESY PHOTO

is peaceful and spotless. Breon and his siblings rotate chores, and he helps take care of his younger brothers and sisters.

When asked what it's like being part of such a large family, Breon says, "Sometimes it's good. There's a lot of boys who play football."

In a broader sense, Breon and his family encountered an unparalleled team of givers within the Naples community in March 2006 after a fire. Fortunately,

everyone escaped safely, but the family's home and possessions were destroyed in the blaze. Then they experienced an outpouring of love and generosity that changed their lives.

"I never knew Collier County had so many caring people," Ms. Laitaille says. "They helped this family stay strong by showing us there's outside people who care."

Breon especially thanks someone named Greg Davenport. "He's a blessing," he says.

Ms. Laitaille's eyes well up with tears at the mention of the name. "He was an angel from the sky," she says. "He came out of nowhere. That man, every day he'd come by and check on us. 'Kerren, you okay? Kerren, are your kids OK?'"

Mr. Davenport's daughter read about the tragedy, showed the article to her father and told him, "Dad, these people need help," says Ms. Laitaille. She adds Mr. Davenport took a special interest in the family and did everything from grocery shopping to dropping by to check on them to helping Breon get to the 2009 All-American Bowl.

When asked about his heroes, Breon never skips a beat. "My mom," he says. She encourages him to work hard and to utilize what he learns playing football to become a better person overall. "Sometimes we get her mad, but she's behind us still. Even though we mess up stuff," he says, elbows on his knees, head tilted to one side. "She's a good mom."

One might call her a safety, as well. ■



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GREEN

From page 1

ploy. Sometimes it's kind of hard to figure out what's real and what's just a marketing tool."

"Going green" may have something to do with reducing carbon emissions, but it's also a multi-billion dollar industry. From nationwide retail operations such as Kmart and Target, to schools such as Florida Gulf Coast University and Edison State College, the word "green" has served many agendas.

Alliance for the Arts Green Market manager Mr. De Choch, eco-consultant Pauline Kathe in Fort Myers, civil engineer Heidi von Korff in Naples and furniture designer Marilyn Brazill in Punta Gorda all work in what might be considered "green" trades. Each has a view of what "green" means.

"Green is such a broad topic," said Ms. von Korff, founder and principal of Sustainable Civil, a Naples-based consulting firm for builders. "It could be recycling or changing a light bulb. 'Green' is a very easy term to use loosely."



VON KORFF

Ms. Brazill, owner of Interiors by Decorating Den in Punta Gorda, says "Green can be beautiful." She applies the concepts of reuse, renew and recycle to high-end furniture.

"What I'm a big proponent of is sustainable furnishings," she said. "We're in such a throwaway society — whereas in Europe, they've been recycling for 50, 60 years. We're spoiled brats in America. Here, most folks are buying throw-away furniture from big box stores. By the time they pay it off, it's time to throw it away."

The concepts of reuse, renew and recycle "is not a joke," she said. "This is not a fad. The reason why is, consumers are demanding it. The more consumers demand it, the more things will change."

To Mr. De Choch, being "green" doesn't mean buying expensive organic foods. Organic raspberries may impress your friends, he notes, but they aren't very environmentally friendly if you get them out of season, flown in from Chile on a 747. It's also out of reach for many families.

"If you go to the store with \$50 and try to buy groceries for the family and make it all organic, you're not going to get very far," he said. "Being a local farmer is more important than being USDA organic. Local is the word, local is the concept you want to promote if you really care about (the environment)."

Many initiatives associated with "green" have real value. Jeff Good, project manager for Benchmark General Contractors, is pursuing the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED certification on First Community Bank at The Forum in Fort Myers.

A long list of measures have been taken, including parking spots with plug-ins for electric cars; floor and ceiling tiles, window blinds, wallpaper and furniture made from recycled materials; waterless urinals, low-flush toilets and hand dryers that only stay on for 11 seconds, rather than the average 33 seconds.

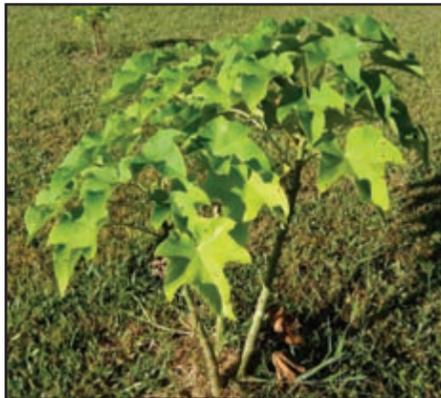
"It really boils down to performance of the building and sustainability," he said. "— maintenance on the building and how it functions."

Mr. Good has become an expert in LEED requirements, but like the reference librarians, he's unsure of the meaning of "green."

"I think, historically, it's always meant products or techniques that are less

"Green is such a broad topic. It could be recycling or changing a light bulb. 'Green' is a very easy term to use loosely."

— Heidi von Korff, founder and principal of Sustainable Civil, a Naples-based consulting firm



COURTESY PHOTOS

Clockwise from top, do these images say "green?": Green Market manager Santiago De Choch tends to heirloom vegetables in Fort Myers; First Community Bank at the Forum is pursuing U.S. Green Building Council's LEED certification; in Punta Gorda at Interiors by Decorating Den, a zebra-stripe chair made of renewed, reused and recycled material; a Jatropa plant being developed for biodiesel fuel in Southwest Florida.

demanding on energy resources — for example, adhesives or cleaners that have less toxic elements in them," he said. "But it's really gotten to be kind of a broad-brush term for almost anything these days that is environmentally friendly or less hazardous. It's getting to be almost ubiquitous. It's kind of losing its meaning a little bit."

Even so, the word has helped bring an environmental message, though perhaps a vague one, to a wide audience.

"I think these things compel (people) to at least consider the implications of everything we do — whether it's the electricity we use or the number of miles we drive in our car — to really look at the benefit we get (from it)," he said.

Buying into green

A July *New York Times* article touched on the idea that Americans can buy their way into a healthier environment. "That vision of an eco-sensitive life as a series of choices about what

to buy appeals to millions of consumers and arguably defines the current environmental movement as equal parts concern for the earth and for making a stylish statement," wrote Alex Williams of the *New York Times*.

Fort Myers eco-consultant Ms. Kathe advises homeowners or businesses about making energy-saving purchases such as light bulbs, cleaners, appliances and taking steps to conserve energy, such as taking shorter showers. In her view, the fewer products purchased, the better for the environment — whether they claim to be "green" or not.

"Look under one person's counter, they have three products. Look under another, there's 50 products. How many products do you need to keep your house clean?" Ms. Kathe said. "I mean, really."

In some cases, consumers who paid extra for goods and services to help the environment didn't get the type of "green" they expected.

Florida Power and Light was forced

by the state's Public Service Commission last year to discontinue a program called Sunshine Energy. According to reports, more than 38,000 of the company's customers paid extra on their bills so that FPL would use clean energy sources such as solar. But a state audit found that 76 percent of the money went to pay for marketing and advertising.

That was before FPL opened the nation's largest photovoltaic solar energy field in DeSoto County.

"We are completely focused on building a portfolio of renewable energy," FPL spokesperson Sarah Marmion said.

This year, the Federal Trade Commission pursued civil action against Kmart Corp., Tender Corp. and Dyna-E International for making "false and unsubstantiated claims that their products were biodegradable." That included Kmart's American Fare brand of disposable paper plates, Tender Corp.'s Fresh Bath brand of moist wipes and Dyna-E's Lightload brand of compressed dry towels.

On a popular Web site, WebEcoist, a link to Target's online store advertises "green" products. A click on the "green movement" link takes one to the Target Web site, where items such as Green Eggs and Ham Speedy Diner Game, Green Bay Packers wristwatches, a toy garbage truck painted green and a copy of the movie "The Green Mile" can be found. These products have no environmental themes at all.

On the other hand, many such companies aggressively pursue programs aimed more at the public good than sales or publicity. For example, Charlotte County Public Schools partnered with Florida Power and Light to install solar laboratories in schools to teach students about renewable energy. L.A. Ainger Middle School is one of six schools in Florida to be chosen for the program.

Michael E. Riley, community relations officer for Charlotte County Public Schools, said the school system has saved \$5.3 million in utility costs since it began a program to save energy about three years ago.

Other large-scale clean energy projects include a photovoltaic solar field at Florida Gulf Coast University and a grant to develop a biofuel curriculum at Edison State College's Charlotte County campus. The Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council, an economic development group, is recruiting vendors to retrofit homes and businesses in Southwest Florida with solar hot water heaters.

Protecting consumers

Claims made by advertisers — including terms such as "sustainable," "natural," "chemical free," "tree free," "composite" and others associated with environmental cleanliness — have been used to sell such things as food, plastics, clothes, cars, building materials and appliances.

Taking action on a wave of ad campaigns that claimed products as being "green," the Federal Trade Commission began an early review of a "Green Guide" for product marketing.

"The commission began its review about a year earlier, just because of the rampant green claims that are out there," said Janice Frankle, an attorney in FTC's division of enforcement.

In June, the FTC released a report called "It's too easy being green: defining fair green marketing principles."

The panel that created the report also struggled to define the term "green."

"Some panelists suggested that definite features of a 'green' product should include social responsibility, energy efficiency, and/or water conservation," the report states. "Others indicated that 'green' encompasses an extensive list of possible environmental considerations."

The FTC's new "green" marketing guidelines haven't been released yet.



COURTESY PHOTOS/ KRAFT CONSTRUCTION
Above and below: A 2-megawatt solar field at Florida Gulf Coast University is expected to be on before Christmas and generate almost one-fifth of the university's electricity. Another photovoltaic solar field more than 12 times this size (not shown), operated by Florida Power & Light, was activated in November in DeSoto County.

"Stay tuned," Ms. Frankle said.

But already, marketers are turning away from the term "green."

The 2008 Australian Competition & Consumer Commission released guidelines that advise marketers to avoid using the word "green."

"This statement is very vague, and conveys little information to the consumer — other than the message that your product is in some way less damaging to the environment than others," the report states. "This term invites consumers to give a wide range of meanings to the claim, which risks misleading them."

Investment = savings

The librarian found the Consumer Reports article on solar hot water heaters after looking through a stack of magazines. It read, "Unless you live in the Sun Belt ... our tests show you could wait decades before some systems pay off at the current average electricity rate, even with federal and applicable state tax credits."

Southwest Florida has abundant sun, so investment in solar power may be paid back more quickly.

Some business owners feel clean energy is the way of the future.

"I think the movement has finally grown legs," said Randy Vann, who has owned RJ Vann Mechanical for 34 years, a plumbing and air-conditioning company in Fort Myers. He sold solar hot water and pool heaters in the 1980s, but gave it up because clean energy was a lesser concern in the 1990s. He recently added Solar Tech Energy Systems to his division, which sells solar water heaters, photovoltaic panels and other energy-saving products.



An average price for a solar water heater is \$4,500, but the state will refund \$1,500 and the federal government will refund 30 percent of the pre-tax price. With monthly water bill savings of about 25 percent, the cost is paid back in a few years.

Mr. Vann acknowledges that photovoltaic panels, which convert sunlight to electricity, are out of the price range of most homeowners. The cost of a 5-kilowatt system is between \$7,000 and \$9,000 after rebates and tax incentives. Such a system could produce \$1,000 of energy savings a year. Mr. Vann is confident the price will come down in a few years, and wants to be ready when it does.

"I think it will be commonplace," he said. "Even the least-expensive homes will have photovoltaic power. The efficiency in manufacturing and the desire to harness the sun's energy — for me it's a slam dunk. I want to be positioned to be a part of it."

When gas prices rose to nearly \$5 per gallon two years ago, the anxiety spurred renewed interest in alternative energy sources. This was compounded by former Vice President Al Gore's award-winning global warming documentary, "An Inconvenient Truth."

Later, President Barack Obama and others raised awareness by promoting "green" jobs and energy sources, such as wind and solar, touting them as measures that would not only control global warming, but help fix the ailing economy.

Social movement

Today's green movement has roots in 19th century transcendentalist writers such as Henry David Thoreau, and has had many incarnations through the decades.

"Not since that famous 1970s TV commercial of a Native American crying at the sight of trash by the side of the road has there been a message or a campaign that speaks to cause and effect yet is easily understandable," wrote William McDonough in "The Green Book: The Everyday Guide to Saving the Planet One Simple Step at a Time." If the term "green" isn't really that understandable, at least it's recognizable.

Naples engineer Ms. von Korff, who is in her mid-20s, set off with her mother last April on a six-month road trip to learn more about the history of environmentalism and energy-saving initiatives. Dubbing the trip "The 1st Sustainable Tour of North America," they traveled

to 19 states and 10 national parks, as well as Canada.

"I think we're having the whole cycle again of the green movement," Ms. von Korff said. "We had it once in the '60s and '70s. We have the baby boomers coming out, so they're looking at the green movement, looking at something to rejuvenate their youthfulness. Then we have Generation X, I think that's my generation — X or Y — and we want innovation."

"Biofuels is actually a really cool thing. Running your car on peanut oil is a really cool thing. These things are 'green,' but whatever, it's cool. It's very innovative. It's fun. Not having to buy gas? That's nice. That's what the diesel engine was made for. It was actually made for peanut oil. Those are things the younger generation wants and people have to adapt to it. And if they're not, they're not keeping up with the times."

For Ms. von Korff, who never quite pinned-down what "green" means, the trip was a "once-in-a-lifetime experience." She test drove a car that ran on compressed air, saw homes in the Southwest made of tires, and visited the Ford Rouge Center near Detroit. Located on the Rouge River, the 600-acre site is an industrial complex the Web site describes as "the flagship of Ford's vision of sustainable manufacturing for the future."

The property "had wildflowers growing on it," Ms. von Korff said. "It had fireflies. It had honeybees coming back to this industrial area. Now you have employees going outside, enjoying their environment. It's definitely more than just sitting in a building doing your work. That's the way as designers we should build. The pollutants are down (in the Rouge River). The fish are coming back to the river. There's been a remarkable transformation of the area."

Ms. von Korff declined to say what kind of car she took on the trip, only that she wished it ran on something other than plain old boring gasoline.

"Gas was definitely a major expense, I'll tell you that," she said. ■

UNDERCOVER HISTORIAN

'East Side' hits home, no matter where or when you're from

BY LOIS BOLIN

Special to Florida Weekly

"Family life is full of major and minor crises — the ups and downs of health, success and failure in career, marriage and divorce — and all kinds of characters. It is tied to places and events and histories. With all of these felt details, life etches itself into memory and personality. It's difficult to imagine anything more nourishing to the soul."

— Thomas Moore

History is simply the sum of families' lifestyles and economic situations, along with their actions, reactions and interactions — no matter what generation you came from.

After 11 years of trying to understand my family (translated: myself), the awareness came into focus for me while I was reading a generational marketing book one fall evening, fireside at a small restaurant in Kent, Conn. Imagine. I had spent all those years and a boatload of money searching for something that was in a generational marketing book.

So that's why they do that

Generational marketing, a term coined by The Yankelovich MONITOR, was the new buzz in the last millennium. It became one of my favorite consulting programs, so much so that I went to Atlanta in 1997 to interview the author of "Rocking the Ages: The Yankelovich Report on Generational Marketing," for a 13-week TV series called "The Changing Tides of Business."

Dr. Walker J. Smith reconfirmed my

fireside chat with myself: Each generation has its own cultural values that play a significant role in the lifestyle choices of its members. Basically, what this means is that cultural values are what drive us to do what we do.

There are five general generational segments:

1. The Greatest Generation: Born pre-1946, their cultural values are duty, honor, teamwork.

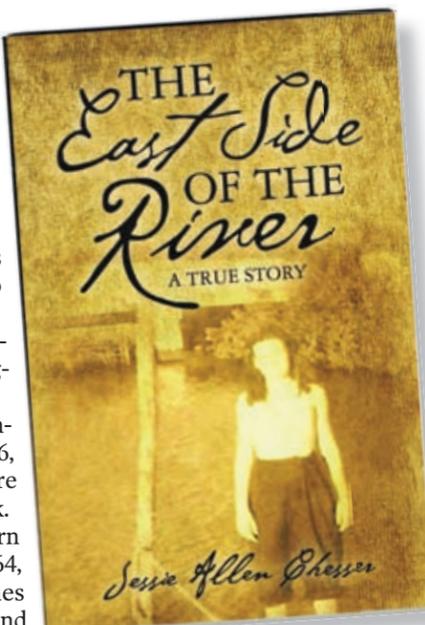
2. Baby Boomers: Born between 1946 and 1964, this generation values individualism, youth and self-absorption (think taking time to search for oneself).

3. The Gen-Xers: Born between 1965 and 1978, this group is defined as savvy, diverse and entrepreneurial.

4. The Echo-Boomers: Born between 1979 and 1991, this demographic valued authorship, autonomy and authenticity.

5. The Millennials: Born between 1980 and 1995 and formerly called the Gen Y generation, this group has a mind of its own. Not wanting to be associated with Gen Xers, they changed their name and now "attack" every paradigm held sacred by business hierarchy.

What became apparent to me as time went on is that everyone, regardless of generation, goes through life stages,



rites of passage, so to speak, and comes out at some point knowing that no matter what your family was like, to feel and be connected is still is one of the deepest yearnings we have as humans.

Jesse Allen Chesser did not need a marketing book to tell her that.

Her true story

A proud local Oldtimer and new author, Ms. Chesser made sure this connection to family would be

passed on for generations to come by writing a compendium of stories called "The East Side of the River: A True Story."

She proudly (and lovingly) gave her lineage when we met through an introduction via Jackie Sloan, whose daddy was the first real estate broker in Naples. "I come from the Walker-Kirkland family," she stated. As she was verbally laying out her genealogy, I thought of my family and how, no matter where I went every time I was home, someone there was bound to be my cousin. And so it was with Ms. Chesser, whose family came here in the late 1890s and produced six generations to carry forth the stories contained in her book.

"East of the River" is about growing up

on the east side of the Gordon River. It's a tribute to Ms. Chesser's heritage and to a group of hard-working fishermen and farmers who helped shape the early culture of this place we call home.

"I spent the last year taking care of my mama and began taking notes on the stories she'd tell me — stories I'd heard hundreds of times before, but this time I thought, I don't want my children to not know these stories," she told me.

She dedicates her book to her mama, Grace Allen, "the kindest woman I ever knew." From the tender look on the face of Ms. Chesser's daughter, Donna Bare, she must feel the same about her mama.

As I watched these two generations talking about a past generation, I realized Ms. Chesser's book was more significant than she knew. My guess is although there's probably no Pulitzer Prize in her future, there is a chance her book will prompt a new tradition among those who read it: Maybe they'll make a point to get to know more about their heritage, and to record what they learn in some way.

Come sit a spell, west of the river

From 4-9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, at Tin City, you can meet Ms. Chesser and her daughter, Ms. Bare, at a book signing and a sneak preview of the new Naples Backyard History Working Waterfront Museum, which is a stone's throw from where the stories in Ms. Chesser's book actually happened. Both the book and the museum are small, but no matter what generational position you hold, they are guaranteed to nourish your soul. ■

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COURTESY PHOTOS/ BDG PUBLISHING INC.

During their official Canadian Royal Tour in June and July 1983, the Prince and Princess of Wales visited Edmonton, Alberta. Two days before Diana's 22nd birthday, the Royal Couple were guests of honor at an evening barbecue at the historic recreation of Fort Edmonton. The invitation requested "Dress semi-formal, Klondike Era," reflecting the annual celebration of the 1898 Klondike Gold Rush. Both royals wore period ensembles. Diana chose this pink/peach silk day dress and hat. The outfit will be publicly displayed for the first time in the United States at The von Liebig Art Center as part of its exhibition titled "Princess Diana: Dresses of Inspiration" (March 13-June 27). It belongs to Dr. Michael Smith of Laguna Beach, Calif.

DRESSES

From page 1

world's princess. The whole world adopted her as princess."

And the whole world saw her in just about everything she wore.

Several of the dresses coming to Naples are from the private collection of Ocala, Fla., resident Suzanne King, whose husband has presented her with Diana's gowns and other royal memorabilia for gifts over several special occasions.

"Diana raised a great deal of money for breast cancer research in the two years before she died, and these dresses are a continuation of her charitable activities," Mrs. King says, adding, "These are working dresses — they don't just sit around."

The community of people who own a gown that once graced Princess Diana at a social, commemorative or royal function is rather small, and Mrs. King knows several of them here in the United States.

"Some people bought Diana's dresses to actually wear and others to add to their collections," she says. Although most did not buy a dress for chari-

table purposes, she adds, "When Diana died, everyone who had a dress had to rethink what they were going to use it for."

Mrs. King decided to do something positive with her Diana dresses and other royal items, as a way to honor both the princess and honor her own family. She was named for a grandmother she never knew who died of breast cancer. Her father, Dr. William Shields, was a well-known breast surgeon in Texas.

Among the dresses in the exhibit, Mrs. King adds, are some by Diana's favorite designer, breast cancer survivor Catherine Walker.

Fashionable fundraiser

This isn't the first time owners have

"It's evokes tremendous emotion when you see all of Diana's clothes and memorabilia."

— Joel Kessler, CEO and executive director of the NAA

loaned out their royal fashions to raise funds for breast cancer, but many of the gown in "Princess Diana: Dresses of Inspiration" have never been shown together as a group. Several photos and historical items never before displayed will also be included, including Christmas cards Diana sent from 1981 to 1996, a collection belonging to Wendy Rogers-Morris.

"It's evokes tremendous emotion when you see all of Diana's clothes and memorabilia," Mr. Kessler says. "Everyone I've talked to is so excited and wants to be part of this exhibit, especially with the charity aspect involved."

Prior to the public exhibit opening, The von Liebig Art Center will present "Princess Diana: Dresses of Inspiration, Legacy of Giving Gala" on Wednesday, March 10. Sharon R. Treiser, senior director of BNY Mellon Wealth Management, is co-chairing the black-tie affair. Guests will have the first peek at the exhibition before adjourning for dinner under a tent on the grounds.

Gala tickets are \$250 per person or tables of 10 for \$3,500 per table. Each 10-top table will seat a dress owner, and everyone at the table will receive a signed copy of "Eating Royally," the cookbook by Princess Diana's personal chef, Darren McGrady.

Two local breast cancer charities, Bosom Buddies and the NCH Hospital Foundation Mammogram Fund, will share as beneficiaries of the gala, Ms. Treiser says.

Enduring fascination

Nicole DuPont Strub is in charge of the docent program at The von Liebig Art Center and says several core docents have already started their training to be guides for "Princess Diana: Dresses of Inspiration." After their training, the core docents will assist in training new docents recruited specifically for the exhibit.

Docent Susanne Kuhn believes the exhibit will require all hands on deck due to Diana's popularity. "I think it will bring in lots of kids who perhaps don't know who Princess Diana was, the way she lived and led her life, and her great charitable interests."

Mr. Kessler and Mrs. King also believe the exhibit will benefit youngsters as they bear witness to what Diana did for the world.

"It's important not to be sad, but go out and be motivated by this exhibit," Mrs. King says. "Young people aren't as familiar with Diana, but just look at what she did... and she was just one person. Wouldn't it be great if everyone who attends can just do one thing?" ■



The above dresses worn by Diana, Princess of Wales, will be featured in The von Liebig Art Center's exhibition, "Princess Diana: Dresses of Inspiration," March-June 27. The dresses were created for Diana by some of her favorite designers, including Catherine Walker, David and Elizabeth Emanuel, Victor Edelstein and Gianni Versace.

the royal details

>> **What:** "Princess Diana: Dresses of Inspiration," an exhibit of 20 gowns worn by Princess Diana

>> **When:** March 13-June 27

>> **Where:** The von Liebig Art Center

>> **Gala benefit:** For more information about the March 10 gala benefit, call 262-6517, ext. 115.

>> **Preview reception:** 5:30-7:30 p.m. March 12, along with the Naples Art Association's Members Gallery Final Show of the Season; free for NAA members, \$12 for non-members and \$5 for children under 10.

>> **Exhibit admission:** \$10 for NAA member, \$12 for non-members, \$5 for children under 10

>> **Info:** Call 262-6517 or visit www.naplesart.org.

>> **More:** For more information about the dresses in the collection or about the Pink Ribbon Crusade, go to www.DianaDresses.org.

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Grant a teacher's wish, enrich the learning experience

BY RAINER OLBRICH
Special to Florida Weekly

CONNECT With A CLASSROOM

Want to share the spirit of giving and have an immediate, positive impact in the lives of local school children? The Education Foundation of Collier County invites you to consider any of the more than 80 Connect With A Classroom grant requests that remain unfunded.

Ranging from \$107 to \$2,000, these requests can be considered the "wish list" compiled by dedicated public school teachers who want to improve and enhance their students' learning experience. See the entire list by visiting www.EducationForCollier.org and clicking on "Grant a teacher's wish" on the main page. Here we take a closer look at three requests.

Picture this

"A Picture's Worth 1,000 Words" is the title of a request for \$871.95 from Melissa Ruby for her fourth-graders at Lake Park Elementary School. By introducing her

students to digital photography and integrating that technology with other traditional teaching methods, Ms. Ruby hopes to enrich the learning of language arts, math, science, and social studies. Her principal, Tamie Stewart, describes Ms. Ruby as "a very creative teacher who successfully utilizes technology to enrich students' learning opportunities in a variety of subject areas."

Drawn to magnets

At Veterans Memorial Elementary, Gabriel Mazorra is asking for \$398 to help him provide his fourth and fifth grade science students a better understanding of how magnets work and how they are used in today's society. Mr. Mazorra plans many experiments and projects, including the creation of a "magnetic levitation vehicle using Styrofoam and magnets."

Junior scientists

Jennifer Dawson-Corneil and her colleague Cindy Block at Calusa Park Ele-



COURTESY PHOTO

Jennifer Dawson-Corneil's kindergarteners at Calusa Park Elementary are eager to be junior scientists.

mentary aim to enrich and expand the school's kindergarten science curriculum if they receive funding for their grant totaling \$1,401.97. The money will enable them to purchase materials for weekly experiments that will begin developing the youngsters' understanding of the scientific method, give them a science vocabulary and help encourage their nat-

ural curiosity. Ms. Corneil believes the hands-on science activities she plans will help her students develop creative-thinking and problem-solving skills.

Over the past 20 years, hundreds of Collier County educators and their students have benefitted from classroom grants sponsored by caring individuals and corporations via the Education Foundation's Connect With A Classroom program. The need is ongoing, however, and new sponsors are always welcome. ■

— Rainer Olbrich is a volunteer with the Education Foundation of Collier County. Founded in 1990, the foundation is an independent, not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose purpose is to engage our community and schools. To make a contribution or get involved, call 643-4755 or visit www.EducationForCollier.org.



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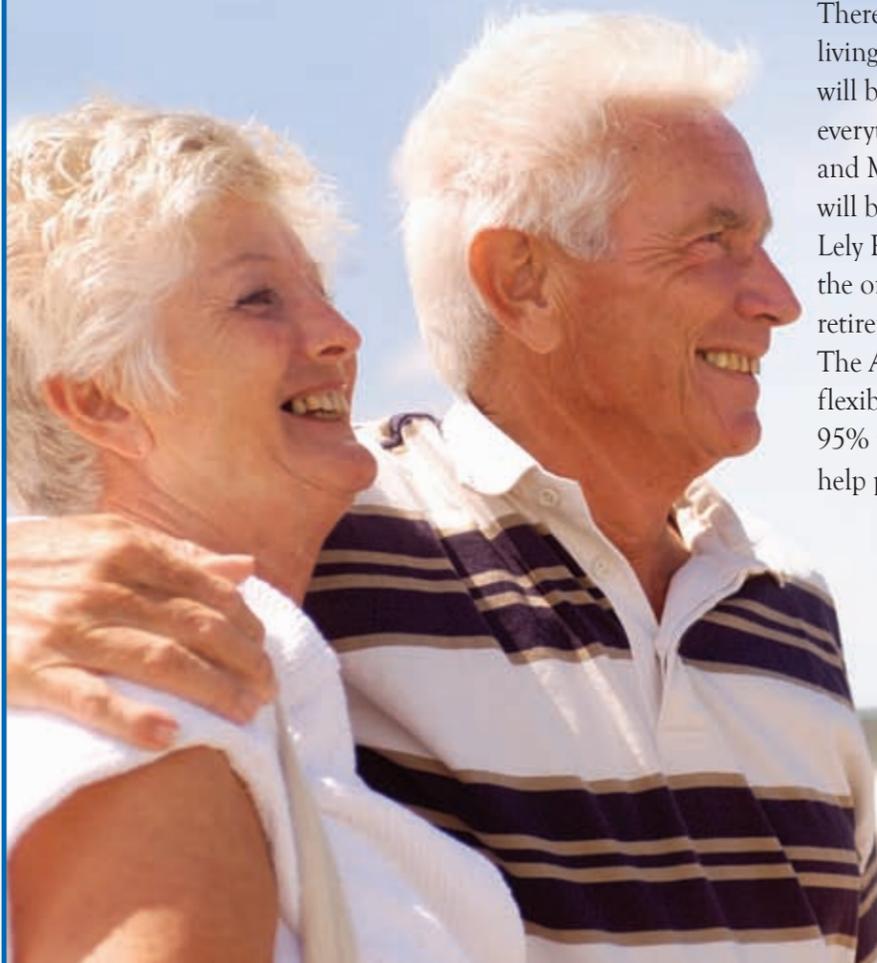
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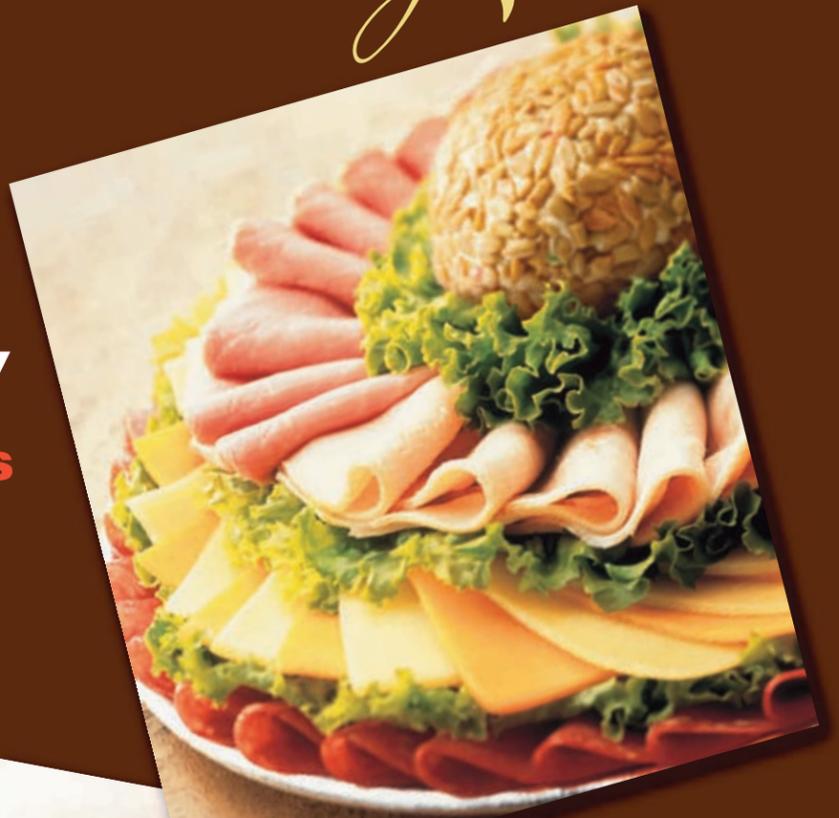
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Drug Free Collier plans town hall meeting

Drug Free Collier invites members of the community to participate in a town hall meeting and panel discussion about substance abuse.

“Voice of Collier County: The Unspoken Trust about Substance Abuse” will take place from 3:30-5 p.m. Jan. 13, in the MLK School Administration Building at 5775 Osceola Trail.

Lois Thome of WINK News will moderate the panel. Keynote speakers will be Collier County Sheriff Kevin Rambosk and Collier County Schools Superintendent Dennis Thompson.

erate the panel. Keynote speakers will be Collier County Sheriff Kevin Rambosk and Collier County Schools Superintendent Dennis Thompson.

To learn more about sitting on the panel, to RSVP as a guest or to submit a question you would like the panel to address, call Maribel De Armas, Drug Free Collier executive director, at 377-4994 or e-mail mdearmas@drugfreecollier.org. ■

All invited to league's holiday luncheon

The League of Women Voters of Collier County are having a “No Work and All Play” holiday party in lieu of its regular monthly meeting from noon to 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14, at the Collier Athletic Club. League members and non-members are invited for hospitality hour followed by luncheon and musical entertainment.

Cost is \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. For reservations, phone 263-4656

or e-mail Hospitality@lwvcolliercounty.org by 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10.

The league is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Membership is open to women and men. For more information, visit <http://www.lwvcolliercounty.org> ■

Learn about Girl Scouts at holiday party

The Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida are holding a recruitment party for girls in kindergarten through fifth grade from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, at the Collier Girl Scout House in Cambier Park.

Parents are welcome to drop off their daughters and enjoy a night out (or finish their holiday shopping) while the

girls enjoy holiday songs, games, arts and crafts and snacks. Current Girl Scouts are also invited, and older scouts are welcome to help out.

Cost is \$12 per person. RSVP by Thursday, Dec. 17, by calling Deborah Gittes at 262-5236 or e-mail deborahg@gsgcf.org. ■

AAUW seeks scholarship applicants

The Greater Naples AAUW Charitable Foundation Inc. seeks applications for tuition scholarships from women in need of financial assistance as they work toward an associate or a baccalaureate degree. Candidates must be 21 years of age or older, accepted at or enrolled at an accredited college or university, and a

resident of Collier or southern Lee counties.

Applications can be downloaded at www.aauwgnb.org. Deadline for submissions is Saturday, Feb. 20. Recipients will be notified no later than March 20. For more information, call Ann Trivisonno at 530-2492 or e-mail atr121933@aol.com. ■

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handicapped accessible). Stop by to see examples of what's available.*

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Jewish Federation announces Human Needs grant recipients

The Jewish Federation of Collier County has presented its 2009 Human Needs Award grants to Baby Basics of Collier County and Bedtime Bundles.

Baby Basics provides diapers to children of working low-income families in Collier County. Bedtime Bundles provides necessities to migrant farm families in Collier County. Pillowcases with toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, sweatshirt, a small pillow, blanket, towel, socks, a teddy bear and a book are put together to fit on a farm-worker's lap when they leave the area.

The Jewish of Federation has given out its Human Needs Awards since 2003 as a way to practice tikkun olam, "bettering the world." Grants have been made to the Harry Chapin Food Bank, the Shelter for Abused Women & Children, the Ronald McDonald Caremobile, Catholic Charities, St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Collier County Council on Aging, the NAACP and the Education Foundation of Collier County, among others.

For more information, call David Wilens, executive director, at 263-4205. ■

Book a cruise, give kids some 'Sunshine'

Prudential Florida Realty has partnered with Preferred Travel of Naples and Celebrity Cruises for an Eastern Caribbean cruise with G.W. Bailey to benefit the Sunshine Kids Foundation.

Celebrity Cruises will donate \$50 for every booking on the cruise that sets sail Jan. 31-Feb. 7 from Fort Lauderdale.

Sunshine Kids provides special activities and programs for young cancer patients and their families nationwide.

A veteran of stage, screen and film, Mr. Bailey stars in TNT's "The Closer" and

was Staff Sgt. Luther Rizzo in "M*A*S*H" on television. He was introduced to Sunshine Kids by his goddaughter, Brandy Aldridge, who was diagnosed with leukemia. He dedicates his work with the organization to Brandy's memory.

Prudential Real Estate Affiliates Inc. adopted Sunshine Kids as its network-wide charity in 1991.

For more information about the cruise with G.W. Bailey, call Preferred Travel of Naples at 261-1177 or visit www.preferrednaples.com/sunshinekids. ■

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Town Hall speakers series starts with former Israeli prime minister

A former U.S. president and his former Florida governor brother, a former Israeli prime minister, a world-renowned art scholar and two colleagues from the staff of The New Yorker magazine make up the 2010 lineup of Naples Town Hall Distinguished Speakers.

Tickets are on sale now for the nonprofit series that begins Wednesday, Jan. 13, with "Why Israel Matters," a lecture by Ehud Olmert, who was prime minister of Israel from 2006-2009.

Considered one of the most influential and respected leaders in Israel's history, Mr. Olmert forged intimate relationships with prominent world leaders including George W. Bush, Gordon Brown, Nicolas Sarkozy and Angela Merkel, which unified the global community with a shared vision for peace in the Middle East. As a speaker, he offers an in-depth analysis of the world's most difficult and complex issues, including international security, urban infrastructure, universal health care and education reform.

George W. Bush, 43rd president of the United States, and his brother Jeb Bush, 43rd governor of Florida, will participate in a moderated discussion at the Town Hall series on Tuesday, Feb. 16. Guest moderator Jim Angle is the chief Washington correspondent for

FOX News and also serves as a substitute anchor for "Special Report with Bret Baier."

The Town Hall lecturer on Sunday, Feb. 28, will be Phillippe de Montebello, the former director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. After 31 years at the helm, Mr. de Montebello became the first-ever director emeritus of the MMA and is recognized throughout the world as one of the field's most influential and articulate champions of integrity, authority, education and public access. Upon his retirement in December 2008, he was the longest-serving director in the Met's nearly 140-year-long history.

Bringing the 2010 Town Hall season to a close, Malcolm Gladwell, best-selling author of "Outliers," "Blink" and "The Tipping Point," will take the stage on Friday, March 26, with co-New Yorker essayist Adam Gopnik.

A staff writer for The New Yorker since 1996, Mr. Gladwell was named one of Time's 100 Most Influential People in 2005 and received the American Sociological Association's first Award for Excellence in the Reporting of Social Issues in 2007.

Mr. Gopnik is best known as a staff writer for The New Yorker and as the



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SPEAKERS

From page A20

five years he and his family spent in the French capital. His new book, "Angels & Ages: A Short Book about Darwin, Lincoln, and Modern Life," explores the way we live today by looking at the birth of the modern era through the lives of two extraordinary people born within hours of each other 200 years ago this year.



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About the Town Hall series

Throughout its 27-year history, the Town Hall series has enriched the com-

Basketball fans will help make boy's wish come true

The Make-A-Wish Foundation needs fans to attend a Florida Gulf Coast University basketball game on Tuesday, Dec. 22, to cheer on a child who is getting his wish to become a basketball star.

Nine-year-old Patrick suffers from a seizure disorder and is unable to travel very far from home. The word "basketball" is the only word he can say clearly. He'll make his debut as the honorary team captain at the Eagles vs. DePaul game and will receive his official FGCU uniform #1 during halftime in Alico Arena at FGCU.

"We want this child to feel the excite-



ment of being a basketball superstar," says Judith Yevick,

operations manager for Make-A-Wish-Southern Florida. "We hope people will come out to greet Patrick as he arrives in his limo and create a flurry of paparazzi with cameras flashing," she adds. "It will be his dream come true."

The game begins at 7:05 p.m., and "Captain P.J." fans are asked to arrive in time to greet the special young superstar when he arrives at 6:20 .m.

For information about purchasing tickets, call the Alico Arena box office at 590-7145 or visit www.fgcuathletics.com. ■

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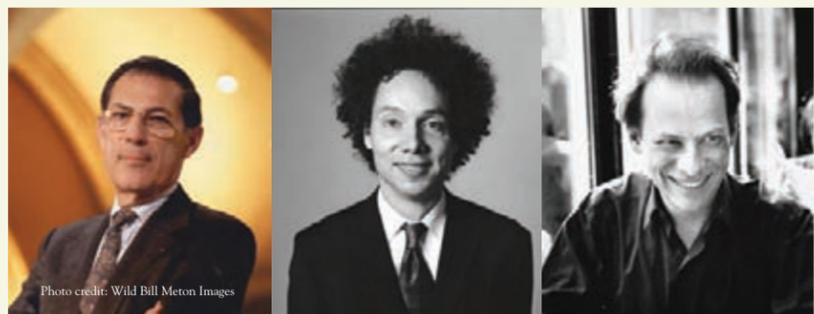
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Wednesday, January 13, 6:00 pm

Ehud Olmert, *Former Israeli Prime Minister (2006-2009)*



Jim Angle

The Special Moderated Event

Tuesday, February 16, 6:00 pm

George W. Bush, *43rd President of the United States*

Jeb Bush, *43rd Governor of the State of Florida*

Jim Angle, *Fox News – Moderator*

The Hidden Met

Sunday, February 28, 6:00 pm

The Story Behind the Metropolitan's Exhibitions & Acquisitions

Philippe de Montebello, *Director Emeritus, Metropolitan Museum of Art*

Insight on Modern Life & Culture

Friday, March 26, 6:00 pm

Malcolm Gladwell, *Modern Social Reformer & Author, "Outliers"*

Adam Gopnik, *Author and Essayist for "The New Yorker"*

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Bank of Florida collects PJs and books

Employees of Bank of Florida-Southwest are counting pajamas and books as well as money this month, as they support the Pajama Program to deliver warm sleepwear and nurturing books to children in need.

Bank clients and friends are invited to help by donating new pajamas, in infant through teen sizes, and children's books by Dec. 15 at any of the bank's five financial centers: Immokalee Road at Collier's Reserve, Vanderbilt Beach Road at Airport Pulling Road or Anchor Rode Drive on U.S. 41 in Naples; in Bonita Springs across from Coconut Point; and in Fort Myers on Daniels Parkway.

The Southwest Florida Pajama Pro-

gram supports the Shelter for Abused Women & Children, Youth Haven, Bedtime Bundles, Children's Angel Network, Immokalee Child Care Center, New Horizons of Southwest Florida, Gabriel House, Our Mother's Home, Grace Place and Sunlight Home. Parenting magazine described the national program, which was founded in 2001, this way: "Every child should have a pair of cozy PJs to wear while listening to a bedtime story. That's the theory behind this innovative charity." To learn more, log onto www.PajamaProgram.org.

Bank of Florida-Southwest is also collecting food for the Barron Collier High School ROTC canned-food drive. ■

Toys, food, clothing needed for The Best Is Yet To Come

With only a couple of weeks until Christmas, toys, clothing and non-perishable food are still needed for the third annual The Best Is Yet To Come toy drive. Drop-off boxes will be at area Gold's Gyms and Starbucks cafes until Dec. 22.

Cay Woodard, founder of The Best is Yet to Come, says the organization

received requests even on Thanksgiving Day from families in East Naples, Golden Gate and two areas of Immokalee who did not have enough food.

To find the closest drop-off box, request a drop-off box for a business, make a donation, become a volunteer, or donate storage, call Ms. Woodard at 465-3640 or Kay Miller at 898-3693. ■



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Off-airport valet parking service coming soon

Executive Valet Parking Fort Myers is scheduled to open soon at Commerce Park off Treeline Avenue near the Southwest Florida International Airport.

The off-airport valet parking company will have a 3,155-square-foot facility with a reception area and approximately 1,000 parking spaces. The company will begin service with five new shuttle buses picking up and dropping off at RSW airline terminals. Additional services available include vehicle detailing, washing and oil changes.

Executive Valet Parking is headquartered in Suffield, Conn., near Bradley International Airport. Owner Guy Piccolo says when he first traveled to Fort Myers, he realized the only parking option was at RSW. "We believe there is a demand for a more cost-effective valet service," he says. "Additionally, we can make the experience better because we'll have your car started and cooled down when you return."

The parking service will be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The lot will have around-the-clock security and

closed-circuit camera surveillance. Travelers will be brought directly to their car and assisted with their luggage.

"Business travelers won't have to inconvenience people to constantly drive them to the airport, nor will they have to spend a significant amount of money for extended trips," Mr. Piccolo says. "Single travelers will have the security of door-to-door service instead of walking through an isolated parking area. Families will have an easy way to transport bulky items such as strollers and golf bags. With our on-demand service, the shuttle will be at the curb ready to pick you up within minutes."

Executive Valet Parking also will be a convenient option for senior citizens and offers a special service for those who need wheelchair assistance. An Executive Valet Parking employee will be able to operate the customer's own vehicle to and from the terminal.

The company expects to be in full operation by Friday, Dec. 18. The grand opening special price will be \$5.99 per day. For more information, call Stee Lepow, director of sales and marketing, at (860) 878-5410. ■



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Nonstop service to Montreal takes off

Air Canada is now offering weekly nonstop service to Montreal, Quebec, from Southwest Florida International Airport. The flight arrives from Montreal's YUL airport at 4:12 p.m. and departs from RSW at 5:05 p.m. on Sundays. This is the second

nonstop destination offered by Air Canada to/from Southwest Florida International Airport. The airline also offers year-round nonstop service to Toronto, Ontario.

For more information, visit www.aircanada.com. ■

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To make a donation, please call **239-985-3550** or visit www.LeeMemorial.org/Foundation

This season, wrap up gifts that deliver health benefits

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

This holiday season, experts at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center encourage gifts that offer health benefits for recipients. “Living a healthy lifestyle plays a large role in reducing a person’s chances of developing cancer,” says Dr. Therese Bevers, medical director of the Cancer Prevention Center.

Among the gifts suggested to encourage recipients to exercise more, improve their diet and protect their skin from the sun’s harmful rays are :

- **Gym membership** — A gym membership gives people a way to work out no matter what Mother Nature has in store. Or you can also wrap up an exercise DVD for home workouts.

- **Active gear for kids** — Children should be active for at least 60 minutes every day to lower their chances of getting cancer as adults. Rollerblades, a bike or scooter, jump rope and hula hoop are all good ideas.

- **Dark chocolate** — Moderate amounts of dark chocolate may play a role in cancer prevention because of the antioxidants in it. Find beautifully packaged chocolates at gourmet chocolate shops, online or at your local drugstore. Just be sure to check the label before buying; to deliver the cancer prevention benefits, chocolate should contain at least 65 percent cocoa. Also, look for boxes that offer smaller serving sizes. The rec-



ommended serving size is 1 ounce per day.

- **Green tea sampler** — Studies suggest that antioxidants in green tea protect against cancer by stopping cancer cells from growing. Find pretty sampler packs at coffee shops, tea houses and gourmet grocery stores.

- **Fruit-of-the-month club** — Buy a gift membership from a fruit-of-the-month club. Fruit is a great gift because it contains tons of antioxidants and plant chemicals that help the body fight cancer. A more affordable option is to make your own fruit basket by purchasing a woven basket, tissue paper and fresh produce.

- **Steamer** — A steamer cooks food without using oil or butter. Even better, steamers make it easy to cook vegetables, which means busy family and friends will be more likely to eat the recommended five to nine servings of fruits and vegetables each day.

- **Sun-protective clothing** — For active family members and friends, nothing says love like sun-protective clothing. UPF clothing is an easy and reliable form of sun protection that lasts through many washes. It’s perfect for children, runners, gardeners, boaters, fishermen and anyone who spends time outdoors.

After you’ve purchased a healthy gift for everyone on your list, don’t forget to include a card that explains how your present helps the recipient reduce their chances of getting cancer.

Get more healthy strategies for the holiday season at www.mdanderson.org/focused. ■

Start off the New Year at New Beginnings Expo

Learn how to change the way you feel at the inaugural New Beginnings Expo set for the Hilton Naples on Sunday, Jan. 17.

Organizers Philip Douglas, Doug Olsen and Peggy Sealfon say they have taken matters into their own hands in the face of the international economic tsunami and have planned the expo to reconnect people with hope and optimism in tangible ways.

“After 300 people came to learn how to enter the zero-stress zone with Yogi Master Gurudev Amrit Desai in September and having several friends lose jobs in the same week, Philip, Doug and I felt motivated to do something that could make a difference in our community,” Ms. Sealfon explains.

A melting pot of practical information presented in an entertaining way, the day will focus on self-improvement both inside and out.

A major component will be information about job opportunities and re-training options. Area colleges, universities and technical schools will have information about acquiring new skills and adapting to the changing marketplace.

Products to help you feel and look better will also be featured. As the national spokesperson for Borghese, Philip Douglas will demonstrate new mineral makeup, and Marissa Collections will present style shows.

Representatives from Valpak of Southwest Florida will share ways to save money, and Stonewater Studio will display gemstone jewelry to reduce stress and improve health. Panache Desai will discuss ways to connect with your spiritual side.

A limited number of booths are still available. Registration deadline for exhibitors is Monday, Dec. 28.

Admission will be \$25 in advance and \$35 at the door.

To reserve a booth or purchase tickets, visit www.NewBeginningsNaples.com or call 821-2266. ■

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Chiropractor opens Clinical Nutrition of Naples

Chiropractic physician Vivian Ebert has opened Clinical Nutrition of Naples. The practice assists patients with dietary and lifestyle evaluations and develops nutritional programs to help them goals concerning weight, sleep, chronic pain, osteoporosis prevention, detoxification and more.



EBERT

Nutrition plays a

major role in the health of Dr. Ebert's patients. She believes nutrition and supplements can be effective in not only treating pain but also in preventing problems.

Dr. Ebert is a graduate of Leadership Collier County and a member of the Collier County Medical Society and the Collier County Chiropractic Society. She co-founded the Naples chapter of Executive Women's Golf Association. Clinical Nutrition of Naples is at 1044 Castello Drive, Suite 102. Call 417-1237. ■

Physicians Regional seminars will explain robotic knee surgery

Patients suffering from the early to middle stages of osteoarthritis of the knee have a new option for relief. Available only at Physicians Regional Medical Center-Pine Ridge Road, MAKOplasty treatment uses robotic arm technology that enables surgeons to precisely target only the diseased portion of the knee, without compromising the healthy bone and tissue surrounding it.

Potential benefits of this minimally invasive procedure include:

- Shorter hospital stay

- More rapid recovery
- A more natural feeling knee

Physicians Regional doctors are holding seminars about the procedure to help patients determine whether MAKOplasty treatment is right for them. The next seminars at the Pine Ridge campus are set for:

- 6-7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, with Dr. Frederick Buechel Jr.
- Noon to 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15, with Dr. Jon Douchis

The seminars are free, but reservations are required. Call 348-4180. ■

Need a doctor on the weekend?

Lab and primary care services will be offered at Physicians Regional Medical Center-Pine Ridge from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays, Dec. 12 and 19. Participat-

ing physicians include Drs. Rebekah Bernard, Kelly Fontana, Samuel Parish and Ketan Trivedi. For more information, call 348-4400. ■

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HEALTHY LIVING

Getting enough vitamins?

D, B12 deficiencies account for many complaints

BY KELLY MERRITT

Special To Florida Weekly

Fatigue and broad-spectrum complaints about a lack of energy drive millions of Americans to their family doctors every year, and many get a diagnosis of vitamin deficiency.

Naples family medicine doctor Alex Owens, D.O., sees what he considers an alarming number of patients who are deficient in one or more vitamins. And when it comes to fatigue and vitamin deficiency, he says, the two outstanding vitamins we're talking about are vitamin D and B12. "I see patients who are vitamin D deficient on a daily basis," he says. The B12s, he adds, have a more profound role in things like fatigue.

Vitamin D and the B12 vitamins are the two Dr. Owens generally starts with when a patient presents with symptoms that could mean they are vitamin deficient. "I basically test everyone when they come in for fatigue or a yearly physical," he says.

The Mayo Clinic defines the function of vitamin D as sustaining normal blood levels of calcium and phosphorus. Vitamin D aids the body in absorbing calcium, which most people know helps form and preserve sturdy bones. Research has also concluded that vitamin D can provide a level of protection from osteoporosis, high blood pressure, some forms of cancer and multiple autoimmune diseases.

Sources for vitamin D include fish, eggs, fortified milk, cod liver oil and sunlight.

Humans synthesize vitamin D3 in the skin upon exposure to ultraviolet-B

(UVB) rays from sunlight. Daily sun contributes to production of vitamin D, and many experts say as little as 10 minutes of sun exposure each day helps prevent deficiencies. Foods can also be fortified with vitamin D2 or D3.

According to the Merck home edition online medical manual, few patients consume enough vitamin D from foods to prevent deficiency in lieu of adequate time in the sun.

Proper levels of vitamin D are largely individualized, however, and those who spend time in the sun and drink lots of milk can still be deficient.

"You really can't predict who will be vitamin D deficient, so the only way to know for sure if you fall into this category is to get your level checked and for your doctor to prescribe customized therapy and adjust the levels accordingly," Dr. Owens says. Supplemental doses of the vitamin are most often necessary to normalize levels.

Once people have allowed their vitamin D level to become deficient, it can't be disregarded. Symptoms of vitamin D deficiency can include achy and weak muscles and bone pain. For people who suffer from extreme cases of vitamin D deficiency, the effects can be painful and disrupt daily life.

"You can't ignore vitamin D deficiency once you've identified it," Dr. Owens says. Once the patient gets their vitamin D back under control with supplements, which can include high levels of the vitamin only available by prescription, he retests them about once a year.

Plan B

Vitamin B12 (folic acid) sustains

healthy nerve cells as well as red blood cells. It's also required in the creation of DNA, the genetic material of all cells.

Sources for B12 vitamins include fish, shellfish, meat and dairy products. Mayo Clinic's recipe for a perfect B12 day calls for one chicken breast, one hard-boiled egg, a cup of plain low-fat yogurt and a cup of milk with a cup of raisin bran.

B12 deficiency is specifically dependent on a problem with absorbing the vitamin. Deficiency can be associated with pale skin, numb feet, memory issues and difficulty in the thought process. Significant deficiency can pose serious health risks and can cause shortness of breath, dizzy spells and elevated heart rate, says Dr. Owens.

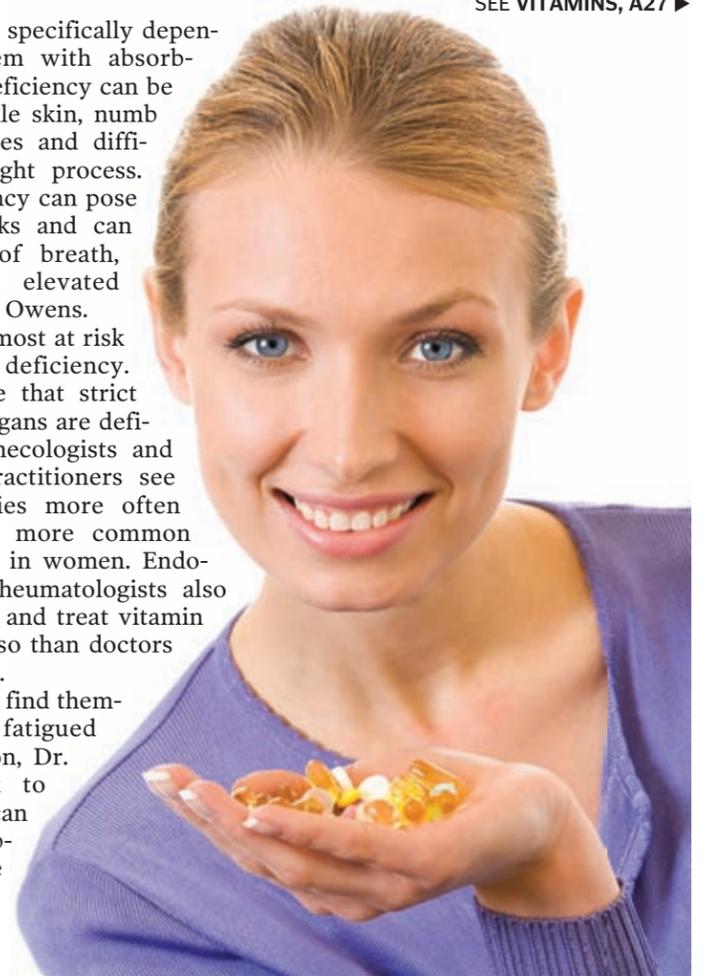
The elderly are most at risk for vitamin B12 deficiency. Experts also agree that strict vegetarians and vegans are deficiency prone. Gynecologists and family medical practitioners see vitamin deficiencies more often because they are more common in the elderly and in women. Endocrinologists and rheumatologists also regularly diagnose and treat vitamin deficiencies more so than doctors in other specialties.

For patients who find themselves seriously fatigued without explanation, Dr. Owens says talk to your doctor, who can evaluate your symptoms and determine whether there is a correlation that

can be accounted for in vitamin deficiency. When that turns out to be the case, supplements can make a dramatic difference in the way you feel.

Americans spend billions on vitamin supplements, largely because we don't get all the vitamins we need from our diets.

SEE VITAMINS, A27 ►



STRAIGHT TALK

Services for newborns and children continue to grow at NCH

allenWEISS

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Providing the highest quality local care is an overriding mandate at NCH. Nowhere has this been more true than in our delivery of pediatrics and neonatal services. In the past two years, we've opened the 24-bed MacDonald SeaCarium Pediatric Unit, which has four intensive care beds, and have added 24/7 in-house neonatology coverage.

NCH now offers more and better options than ever for newborns, children and their parents.

I was reminded of this during Thanksgiving week, when Chief Medical Officer Dr. Aurora Estevez sent me an e-mail that had been written by Dr. Todd Vedder, our co-chair of pediatrics. Entitled "Another Reason to be Thankful," the message was addressed to pediatric hospitalist/intensivist Dr. Debra Lopez, ENT specialist Dr. Patrick Reidy and anesthesiologist Dr. Bruce Caldwell, with a copy to Jayme Roberts,

R.N., our nurse manager of pediatrics.

Other than making this e-mail HIPAA-compliant to protect the patient and family's privacy, here it is, in its entirety:

I just wanted to extend my sincerest thanks for the marvelous team effort put forth in the care of my patient. It was truly wonderful for the family to be able to have their son's procedure performed close to home.

You may not have realized this, but the family was in the process of moving with their 9-month-old (former 28-week preemie) son who had been having respiratory difficulties. By having this child's surgery at NCH, all these other stressors became a little more manageable.

Thanks again for taking care of this very special child with very special

needs. I wish I had the names of all the anesthesia/post-op and peds nurses who played an integral role in his care as well. The family felt the entire process went flawlessly smooth.

This is just another fine example of what we can accomplish when talented and committed professionals come together with a common purpose.

This wonderful message underscores our commitment to newborns, children and their parents. The goal for patients, families, philanthropists and healthcare providers in Southwest

Florida is to provide the best possible care as close to home for all of the newborns and children in the region.

For newborns, this means:

- We have appropriate level nurseries in close proximity to birthing centers.
- We have regional specialty nurseries to

maximize scale and scope.

- We minimize the need to transfer, but we have transfer facilities available when necessary.

For children, this means:

- We provide access to pediatric primary outpatient care, 24/7, in all geographic regions.

- We have specialty outpatient pediatric care as close to home as possible.

- We have inpatient care as close to home as possible for all children with normal needs.

- We have psychiatric care and dental care for children.

We are on the right track with an increase in pediatric admissions year-over-year at NCH. This includes some children transferred into our facility from nearby counties due to our capabilities and capacity. Whenever we have to transfer a baby or child elsewhere due to complex surgical needs or other complications, we will first call the nearest appropriate and available facility before proceeding to other children's hospitals in Florida. We will continue to grow as we serve our young families. ■

— Dr. Allen Weiss is president and CEO of the NCH Healthcare System.



VITAMINS

From page A26

But the kind of supplements a vitamin deficient patient will require is relative to the deficiency and how well their body will absorb the vitamin supplement.

Low levels of vitamin B12 require treatment in the form of supplements. However, getting enough of the vitamin is dependent on how the body can absorb it. Most patients can't absorb enough oral vitamin B supplements to correct that deficiency, so doctors often prescribe injections, which can be administered at home by the patient, for faster absorption. Treatment usually lasts at least a month



but can go on for much longer. The doctor will prescribe regular tests to monitor B12 levels during the course of the treatment.

Medical experts say it's best to work with your individual doctor before taking any supplements, including over-the-counter one. The

only way to diagnose vitamin deficiency is through specific blood tests when a patient presents with symptoms and a history that would point to vitamin deficiency.

Many over the counter multi-vitamins are contraindicated to medication — for example, vitamin K, commonly found in most multi-vitamins, interferes with the powerful, life-saving blood thinner Coumadin, which many heart patients take to maintain good health. ■

Regional HIV/AIDS council honors Immokalee doctor

Dr. Jose Quero has been named Patient Care Provider of the Year by the Southwest Florida Regional HIV/AIDS Council. Nominations for the award came from Collier, Hendry, Lee, Glades, Charlotte, DeSoto and Sarasota counties.



QUERO

Dr. Quero has practiced at CHS Healthcare's Marion E. Fether Clinic in Immokalee since 1987. He is the head of specialty at MEF and chairman of its Pharmacy and Therapeutic Committee. Over the years, he has also served on the boards of several HIV support organizations and currently serves on the board for the Island Coast AIDS Network.

Ellen Cordoba, R.N., nominated Dr.

Quero for the award and said Dr. Quero strives to help each patient achieve his/her maximum level of wellness. "There are numerous stories of truly miraculous recoveries, but in addition to this, there are just as many stories of the many times he has reached out with acts of kindness well beyond his duties as a practitioner," she said.

The Immokalee clinic cares for a culturally diverse, rural, migrant community, and patients present at Marion E. Fether "with diverse cultural beliefs, speaking various languages and dialects. The obstacles in this community have never deterred Dr. Quero" in all the years he has provided care there, Ms. Cordoba said.

When he learned of the honor, Dr. Quero said, "The award should be for my team. I could not achieve the success I have without this staff." ■

Free H1N1 flu vaccine offered through Collier Health Department

The Collier County Health Department has begun offering the H1N1 flu vaccine to expanded risk groups. Those eligible for the vaccine are:

Pregnant women, health care and emergency medical services personnel who have direct patient contact, persons who live with or provide care for infants younger than 6 months, persons aged 6 months to 64 years of age, and persons 65 years of age

and older who have one of the following medical conditions: Chronic lung disease (including asthma), heart disease (except high blood pressure), kidney disease, liver disease, cognitive disease, neurologic/neuromuscular (example: seizures or cerebral palsy), blood disorders like anemia, metabolic disease and immunosuppression.

Clinics are scheduled for the following dates and locations:

• **10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10**, at the North Collier Regional Park Exhibit Hall (15000

Livingston Road)

• **10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Tuesday, Dec. 15, and Friday, Dec. 18**, at the former Kmart at 12693 Tamiami Trail E.

• **10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14, and Saturday, Dec. 19**, at North Collier Regional Park Exhibit Hall

The H1N1 vaccine is free through the Collier County Health Department's Community Vaccination Clinics.

Although the risk groups have expanded significantly, healthy individuals 65

years of age and older are not yet eligible for the H1N1 vaccine. While waiting for the chance to get vaccinated, these people are encouraged to obtain their seasonal flu vaccine (and pneumonia shot if appropriate). Seasonal and pneumonia vaccine will be available at the clinics listed above for \$30 and \$40, respectively.

For more information and the latest dates and times for vaccination clinics, visit www.CollierPrepares.org or call 252-8200 and chose option 2 on the message line. ■



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Michael Y. Wang, M.D.

Dr. Wang is a Board Certified Family Medicine physician. Originally from Philadelphia, he received his medical degree from Temple University's School of Medicine and completed his residency at Montgomery Family Practice Residency Program in Norristown, PA.

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OUTDOOR NEWS

Take a nature walk at Clam Pass Park

The Conservancy of Southwest Florida conducts free, guided nature walks along the boardwalks, beach and bay at Clam Pass Park at 9 a.m. Monday-Saturday through April.

No reservations required. Meet your guide at the tram stop for a relaxed, informative stroll that takes about two hours. For more information, call 262-0304 or visit www.conservancy.org.

will discuss what we know thus far, possible ways to combat the problem and what lessons we can learn for the future.

Cost of the four-course dinner and "Pythons in our Midst" lecture is \$23 per person. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 695-2905 or by visiting www.friendsoffakahatchee.org and click on Events Schedule. ■

Get more from a morning at Barefoot Beach

Friends of Barefoot Beach Preserve host nature walks from 9-10 a.m. and guest speakers from 10-11 a.m. every Saturday at the Barefoot Beach Preserve Learning Center. Lectures take place in the chickee hut between the park's butterfly and cactus gardens. Programs are free, but there is an \$8 charge for parking for visitors who do not have a Collier County Beach Parking Permit.

Guest speakers coming up are:

- **Dec. 12:** Park ranger Mauricio Araquistain, "Plants of Barefoot Beach"
- **Dec. 19:** Fort Myers News-Press outdoors writer and columnist Byron Stout, "Native Plants and Humans"
- **Dec. 26:** Kay Thorpe Bannon, "Gimble the Gopher Tortoise"

The park also offers a guided beachcombing and shelling walk at 10 a.m. every Monday, plus guided canoe tours from 8:30-11 a.m. every Sunday. The canoe trips are suitable for ages 6 and older; reservations are required, and there is a \$5 per person charge.

For more information, call 252-4024 or 252-4060. ■

Learn about pythons in the Everglades

The invasion of the Burmese python in the storied Everglades is the topic of a program hosted by The Friends of Fakahatchee beginning at 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at Port of the Islands on Tamiami Trail East.

Guest speaker Larry Perez is a lifelong resident of south Florida, and author of "Words on the Wilderness: Place Names of South Florida's National Parks." Mr. Perez has spent more than 15 years working in parks as a naturalist and interpreter and has spent nearly the past decade conducting outreach for Everglades National Park.

Nowhere else on the planet has such a large snake escaped its native range and established a breeding population. Though the implications of this new reality are still being studied, Mr. Perez



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OUTDOORS

AT COLLIER-SEMINOLE STATE PARK

Miss the changing leaves? Pay attention around Southwest Florida

BY LEE BELANGER
Special to Florida Weekly

Even in Florida, some leaves change color each fall. But why?

Is it the shorter days? What about evergreen trees? Let's find out.

Deciduous trees drop their leaves each year and usually do so in the fall. But the story begins long before autumn. First, in spring, green leaves appear. Chlorophyll is the pigment that gives them color. Together, the sun and chlorophyll turn water and carbon dioxide into sugar that feeds the tree. This is photosynthesis, "putting together with light."

All summer trees make food and store it for winter. When fall arrives, bringing less light and cooler nights, deciduous trees note the signal: "Winter is coming. There won't be enough light or water to make food. It's time to rest."

A corky layer at the base of each leaf begins to swell, and water to the leaves is cut off. Glucose and leaf waste materials are trapped. Without water, the chlorophyll disappears, leaving other colors behind. Orange carotene and yellow xanthophylls are already in leaves but hidden by the green chlorophyll. Tannin, the brown of oaks, comes from leaf waste materials. The reds and purple colors form after cool nights, which is why there are more reds the farther north you go.

Eventually leaves fall or are blown off, an annual shedding that rids trees of old leaves damaged by wind or insects.

What about evergreens such as pines?



LEE BELANGER / COURTESY PHOTO

Admire the changing colors, but don't touch pretty poison ivy leaves.

They also shed, but intermittently. If you look closely at a pine, you will see some yellow or brown needles. These modified leaves drop to make room for new ones as needed. They continue photosynthesis in the winter, but at a slower rate.

Holly trees also drop leaves irregularly. They have a waxy coating that protects them in colder weather. In Connecticut where I lived for many years, our holly leaves curled when temperatures were in the teens. This prevented water loss from evaporation.

Different species of trees drop leaves at different times. Streetlights can also fool leaves into staying attached longer.

Color changes begin in the northern states. In Maine "peak color" can be late September, while color changes in Florida often are best in late October or November. Frost is not necessary for color change. In fact, frost can wither leaves or cause them to drop more quickly.

Although color changes are most noticeable in northern Florida, colors do occur here in Southwest Florida. Look particularly for red maples and firebush. Even poison ivy is pretty in the fall — just don't touch.

Come to Collier-Seminole State Park and hike the trails or take one of our guided canoe trips to view fall at its best.

The bugs are gone and the scenery is stunning. ■

— Lee Belanger is a seasonal volunteer trail and canoe guide at Collier-Seminole State Park. To contact her, e-mail Lungwort@aol.com.

The guides have returned to Collier-Seminole park

The park rangers have returned and guided trips have resumed for the season at Collier-Seminole State Park.

>> **Guided daytime canoe trips** take place from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday. Paddle through a mangrove wonderland along the Blackwater River and listen to stories about the Seminoles' survival. These trips are fun for ages 6 and older; cost is \$25 per person.

>> **Guided moonlight paddles** take place from 7:30-10 p.m. Monday, Dec. 28, and Wednesday, Dec. 30. Discover the changes nighttime brings along the Blackwater River. These trips are great for ages 12 and older; cost is \$30 per person.

>> **Guided night hikes** take place from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, Dec. 14 and 16. These walking adventures are ideal for ages 6 and older; cost is \$10 per person.

Those who want to discover Collier-Seminole State Park on their own can explore 11 miles of hiking trails from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Entrance to the park is at 20200 U.S. 41, eight miles east of Highway 951. Reservations are required for the guided hikes and canoe trips. Call 392-3397 for more information.

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PET TALES

Keeping old cats young

BY DR. MARTY BECKER & GINA SPADAFORI
Universal Press Syndicate

The common wisdom used to be that we didn't "own" cats.

We fed them, admired their beauty and enjoyed their company. We let them in and out of our homes with a degree of good humor, and we grieved for them after they left us, sometimes without ever really knowing what happened to them.

While we wouldn't suggest telling your cat that he's "owned" — because he still doesn't think so — we can do a lot better by our cats than we ever have before. And that's really true for older cats.

The popularity of cats has led to an explosion in knowledge of how to care for them at all stages of their lives, and geriatric care is no exception. Barring accidents, cats can live healthier, happier lives years longer than they ever have before — 10, 12, 14 years. Protected from the outside world, cats can live even longer, with 16, 18 and even 20 years — or more — a possibility.

But longer, happier lives do require effort on the part of cat owners. Sadly, study after study shows that cats aren't seeing that effort: Pet owners dedicate more time and money into keeping their dogs healthy than their cats.

You love your older cat, right? So change that. Why throw away good years you could share? The place to start: a visit to your veterinarian.

Regular physicals — for geriatrics, twice a year is best — are even more impor-

tant as your cat ages. These need to be more extensive than when your cat was younger: Your veterinarian may suggest blood and urine tests, for example, to determine what's normal for your cat so that subsequent changes in the test values are more apparent.

Work with your veterinarian to address chronic health issues, or those that can lead to them. Key among them:

- Don't let your cat be fat. Obesity shortens a cat's life and makes the time they have less enjoyable.

You'll need a plan, though, because you can't starve a cat thin without risking serious health problems. So talk to your veterinarian and take it slowly.

Once you and your veterinarian have addressed all the health problems, you'll want to keep your cat active and comfortable.

- Play is important, even to older cats, but especially to indoor ones. You don't have to spend a lot of money on toys to come up with ways to keep your cat busy. Cats can chase, hide, climb and explore with an endless variety of toys, many of them recycled household objects. Keep



Keeping cats healthy and active is key to helping them act younger for longer.

your older cat active, but avoid the flying leaps of youth. Shoot for low-impact play more often.

- You'll also want to make rest easier. Your cat may have problems getting up on to high beds or cat trees, so make sure there are plenty of low-level spaces for your cat to enjoy a good nap. Make litter boxes easier to get to as well, perhaps by adding them on every floor, even if your cat has been used to using stairs over the years.

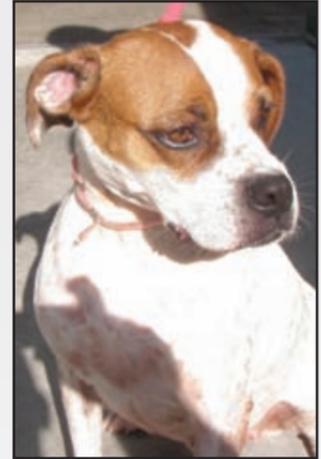
The bottom line: Look at your aging cat in a new way, and do what it takes to accommodate the changes brought on by aging, with the help of your veterinarian.

You and your cat will both be happier for it! ■

Pets of the Week



>>Tasha is an 8-month-old pit bull mix. She has been spayed.



>>Nora is a boxer mix. She's about 5 years old.

To adopt a pet

Collier County Domestic Animal Services is at 7610 Davis Blvd. Hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Adoptions begin at 11 a.m. and are processed through closing time. Adoption fees are \$60 for cats and \$85 for dogs and include spay/ neuter surgery, a bag of pet food, pet's license and a micro-chip ID. Call 252-PETS (7387) or visit DAS online to search for a lost pet or find a new pet at www.collierpets.com.

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MUSINGS

Interstice



Perhaps no one would think of Robert Fulghum's message when reading these musings. Perhaps these wandering wonderings are not of the stuff learned in kindergarten. But I do very much enjoy the more perverse childhood writings of unlearning.

"To pervert" comes from the Latin meaning "thoroughly to turn." An about-face, perhaps. Dancing red shoed and red faced, pirouette supreme, our point of view turns on being inextricably altered.

Today I find myself humming from A. A. Milne. The life of balance I enact is not the Fulghum variety, but one of dancing mindfully, fully conscious of being watched by bears that "try to pretend that nobody cares whether you walk on the lines or squares." Remember: Step on the crack, break your mother's back. Children experience the full perversity, but without awareness or assent.

But I, later, still humming Milne, find myself in the familiar space, one which isn't up and isn't down. "Halfway down the stairs/ Is a stair where I sit. There isn't any other stair quite like it." More or less than an about-face, it is in the midst of betwixt and between, in the mist of coming and going, of initiation

and cessation, in the miss of self and other. Perhaps it is all about the face of it, of facticity, of what you see, of what you get.

To pervert is to misinterpret. Got it? All interpretation emerges out of context. (Get any lately?)

Then bears, bare in squares, barely there, a-lined, aligned, see. And their seeing maligns. And this is the conception of all suffering. We are deluded, for sure. We are the Danse Macabre.

What we need right here is to take a break. It is that simple, really. We need a short time between, a gap in the continuous, an intervening amidst the closely placed. We need a categorical vacation.

So come with me, into interstitial space. Be bathed in the sea surrounding the cell. We will be beyond failed prophecy and cognitive dissonance. Merely between, slipping betwixt line and square, we will not matter.

Here and there are still many mysteries.

Justus Hecker, a German physician and medical writer, studied disease in relation to human history.

In his writing about epidemics of the Middle Ages, he has collected reports about dancing mania, a social phenomenon that occurred in Europe during the 14th through 18th centuries. It is reported that over that time in various locations thousands were subject to extended uncontrolled fits of bizarre dancing. In many cases the dancing culminated in the dancer's death.

In one incident, the Dancing Plague of 1518, a Frau Troffea danced continuously for some five days, in which time 34

others joined her. In a month, some 400 dancers were involved.

There is no agreement about etiology. Was it due to some kind of poisoning or virus? Or was it a mass psychogenic illness?

And what about the modern Tanganyika laughter epidemic of 1962? In Kashasha, on the west coast of Lake Victoria, a school was the origin of a fits of laughter of children and parents that spread to the village and beyond to the surrounding area.

Again the question is raised: Was it toxicity or mass hysteria? And how to control the reported resulting pain, fainting, crying, respiratory problems, and gas?

I am forewarned, as are you. Who said the pirates' life would be easy? ■

— Rx is the FloridaWeekly muse who hopes to inspire profound mutiny in all those who care to read. Our Rx may be



wearing a pirate cloak of invisibility, but emanating from within this shadow is hope that readers will feel free to respond. Who knows: You may even inspire the muse. Make contact if you dare.



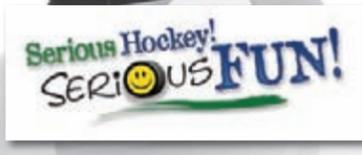
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BUSINESS & REAL ESTATE

WEEK OF DECEMBER 10-16, 2009

A GUIDE TO THE NAPLES BUSINESS INDUSTRY

“If you don’t support who supports your table, you aren’t very smart,”
— Horace Brittain, local farmer and market vendor



COURTESY PHOTOS

On Third Street South, the Saturday morning farmers market has much more than fruits and vegetables. Fresh flowers, above, and handmade basket, below, are among the offerings that draw crowds to the parking lot behind Tommy Bahama's week after week.

To market, to market

Commerce meets local flavor at area farmers markets

BY OSVALDO PADILLA
Special to Florida Weekly

Jeff “Rusty” Troop waves a plastic baggie inches from an inquisitive man’s nose. A burst of clean, pure vanilla wafts head on. Mr. Troop then takes the baggie he just pulled from his breast pocket, holds it in his palm and rubs a weather-beaten thumb across the long brown stalks inside the bag.

“See the oils there, that’s how fresh it is,” he says of the whole vanilla beans.

A few steps away, the sweet scent of vanilla fades as the earthy smell of fist-sized beets on their long leafy stalks takes over. A bit farther down the aisle, comforting notes of fresh-baked bread break through.

It’s farmers market season in Southwest Florida, the time when many markets



open for their runs until May, and when the year-round ones have more vendors and shoppers alike. Markets continue to sprout and blossom throughout the region. Sanibel Island and Coconut Point mall in Estero both host new markets this year,

and the North Naples Green Market has moved to a larger space to accommodate more produce, products and people.

The popularity of farmers markets is happening at a time when Florida’s agricultural identity is changing.

While the amount of farmed land in Lee County is declining, the number of farms is increasing. There were 134,649 acres of farmland in Lee County in 1997, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. In 2007, the last time the state tallied it up, there were 85,742 acres; however, the number of farms increased from 725 to 944. Collier County’s 278,417 acres of farmland in 1997 had shrunk to 109,934 in 2007, while the number of farm operations rose from 285 to 322. Charlotte County also witnessed significant

SEE MARKET, B8 ►

WEEK at-a-glance



Smooth holiday sailing

Celebrating with the MIACC and other business events. B9 & 10 ►



Cleaning up

Naples Soap Company opens in historic Tin City. B5 ►



Magnificent Mariana

\$4.9 million model nears completion in Grey Oaks. B11 ►

Making a fortune – large or small

Millionaires are richer than 90 percent of U.S. households and earn, on average, \$350,000 annually. But who are they? How did they make their fortune? For those who aspire to create great wealth, are there insights to be garnered?

It seems that there are widely held misperceptions about how most millionaires got their money. Many think a very large percentage of millionaires inherited their money or were phenomenally successful as investors — granted there are a fair amount of trust fund types walking Naples’ Fifth Avenue and granted a lot

of their time is spent investing their fortune.

All this sounds plausible but it is factually incorrect. Less than 10 percent of today’s millionaires cite inheritance as the source of their wealth; some studies put that as low as 3 percent. But this was not such a fallacy in the 1980s when close to 30 percent of millionaires said inheritance was the source of their wealth.

MONEY&INVESTING



JeannetteSHOWALTER, CFA

jshowaltercfa@yahoo.com



The Federal Reserve keeps track of “millionaire row” and a variety of groups have created businesses just to track wealthy people, how they think, what

they spend, etc. Here are some facts. Most of today’s millionaires came from middle-class families and most have amassed their fortune within just the past 15 years. Half made their money running their own business and a third made it in

a professional practice or through a corporate career. The percentage that made their fortune by investing is... well, it is so small that this data is not typically noted.

How does this relate to wealth accumulation? It means that specific career paths are really important and that investing is not that important.

Clearly, if 80 percent of millionaires made their money in one of three career paths, you might want to think long and hard about: 1) starting your own business 2) opening a professional practice

SEE MONEY, B4 ►

BUSINESS PROFILE

New bank founded on family values

BY EVAN WILLIAMS
ewilliams@floridaweekly.com

CEO Gary Tice asks that his partners and employees at his new bank, First National Bank of the Gulf Coast, practice the same hometown ethics he grew up with. His mother and father operated a coin laundry and cleaners during the 1950s and '60s near his childhood stomping grounds, Sharpville, Pa., a small town near the Ohio border. Even if clichéd ideas like being true to your word and The Golden Rule seem "ironic" to some worldly teenager or irredeemable cynic, his parents based their livelihoods on them. Mr. Tice learned these deceptively simple lessons and never stopped practicing them, even as his ambitions skyrocketed beyond his humble beginnings.

He moved to Naples in 1977 and took a leadership position at Citizens National Bank of Naples, later reopening a bank of his own by the same name. In 1989, he opened another new bank, First National Bank of Naples, with his now long-time friend and business partner, local state Sen. Garrett S. Richter. Over 16 years, they grew it to 77 locations and \$5.4 billion in assets. Then they agreed in 2004 to sell those assets for \$1.5 billion to Fifth Third Bank, one of the highest-paid transactions in the state.

"They made us an offer we couldn't refuse," Mr. Tice said.

Just last month, Mr. Tice, Mr. Richter and their partners opened First National Bank of the Gulf Coast, with two locations in Naples and one in Lehigh Acres. The

poor economy added a challenge. Federal regulators, skeptical after a glut of bank closings, initially told Mr. Tice to raise more start-up capital than \$32 million. Mr. Tice's agreement to merge with a small Lehigh bank provided the needed capital. With that and his established record of success, the FDIC gave him the go ahead.

Like his last project, this one will thrive, Mr. Tice said, on the philosophy of service first and profit second. Almost all of his current partners and employees also held positions at his old bank.

"We thrive on customer service, not customer transactions," he said. "Because without the customer we don't have a bank. But it really starts at the top. If you don't treat your people properly, if you don't treat them with respect, they will not emulate that to the customer. You can't dictate that. You have to express it, be part of it. You have to live your life that way."

In other ways, Mr. Tice's life is a far cry from that of his parents. They didn't graduate high school and raised Mr. Tice and his sister in the Shenango Valley metropolitan area around Sharpville. But the values by which both the son and his parents went about their respective lives have far more in common than mere dollar figures and diplomas indicate.

"Everything I did was really related to my father and mother and the background they gave me," Mr. Tice said, "My dad, whenever he stuck out his hand, he lived by his word, by his bond. My mother was one of the most caring people you could find and treated people the way



Gary Tice

COURTESY PHOTO

they wanted to be treated."

Mr. Tice's duty at the family laundry was to help wash loads of greasy or dirty rags they collected from local businesses, such as the ones left by auto-repair shops at the end of the day. That was back when he hadn't yet decided to be a banker.

"In my early days, I thought I was going to be a disc jockey," he said. "I loved music. In high school, I was a master of ceremonies, and did all of the record hops."

From 1965 until 1972, he worked full time, took college courses and was in the Army Reserve on the weekends.

He graduated from Youngstown State University with a major in industrial management, and minors in economics, speech and mathematics.

"I started working when I was really young," he said. "So I worked full time and went to college and I was in the Army Reserves. Basically it was a work-ethic community that I lived in and that's how I was brought up."

While attending night classes, he worked days for General American Transportation Corp., keeping track of computer maintenance records. After college, a fellow Army Reservist and high school alum suggested Mr. Tice take a job in the computer department at a bank he worked at. Mr. Tice was quickly promoted to supervisor and stayed there about five years. He learned how to work every position at the bank. But he was already feeling the irresistible tug of the subtropics.

"The one thing I wanted to do is live in warm weather," Mr. Tice said.

He and his wife, Joyce, moved to Naples in 1977 and soon had two children, a son and a daughter. Mr. Tice started out with a leadership position at a small bank. The Tices now have three grandsons who are part of the family bond that he says has made his career possible.

"The real reasons I'm able to do everything I can do is because of the family support that I have," he said. "My family supports me in everything I do. And that goes from my grandkids to my wife. I believe if you have family support you can do anything you want to do. They will always be able to encourage you to succeed."

Mr. Tice may eventually grow the new bank beyond its three current locations.

"To be continued," he said. ■

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Higher Education



PEGNETTER

Dr. Richard Pegnetter, dean in the Lutgert College of Business at Florida Gulf Coast University, was recently selected by the Florida Economic Council as the 2009 recipient of the Richard L. McLaughlin Award as Volunteer of the Year, Southwest Region, in recognition of his outstanding volunteer contributions to economic development in Florida. The award was made at the 2009 Florida Economic Development Conference.

Travel



CONTRERAS

Sal Contreras has joined Betty Maclean Travel Inc. as an independent travel consultant. Mr. Contreras has been involved in the travel industry for more than 10 years in California and Washington. He is a graduate of San Marcos College and

the Travel University. He is fluent in English and Spanish and holds a degree as an American Sign Language Interpreter.

Banking

Bob Daggett has joined Centennial Bank as a residential loan officer at the Marco Island branch. A Minnesota native, Mr. Daggett moved to Naples from Detroit Lakes, Minn., seven years ago to begin his lending career in Naples and for the past five years he has focused on commercial and real estate lending.

Printing / Direct Mail



MUSCHONG

Nancy Muschong has joined Intech Printing & Direct Mail Inc. as an account executive. She joined the company as marketing manager in January 2008. ■

Law

Casey Weidenmiller of the law firm Salvatori, Wood, Buckel and Weidenmill-



WEIDENMILLER

er has been named a Rising Star by the publishers of Law & Politics and Super Lawyers. Inductees are 40 years old or younger. Mr. Weidenmiller graduated from Northwestern

University with a bachelor's degree and departmental honors in political science before earning his J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. He is a member of the American, Florida and Collier County bar associations. His areas of practice include business, civil, commercial, construction and probate litigation, in addition to business law and construction law. ■

Business magazine seeking 'Best Companies to Work For'

Florida Trend business magazine is commencing its search for Florida's best workplaces in the second annual Florida's Best Companies To Work For program. Participation is free, and companies with at least 15 full-time, regular employees are eligible to participate. Registration deadline is Jan. 29.

"Our goal is to recognize companies that strive to build even better workplaces for their employees, thereby strengthening their own as well as Florida's competitive advantage in the national and global arenas," Andrew Corty, publisher of the

monthly magazine, says.

Conducted by Best Companies Group, the rating process is based on an assessment of the employers' policies and procedures combined with the results of an employee survey. The list of winners will be published in Florida Trend's August 2010 issue.

The statewide Best Companies To Work For program is endorsed by the HR Florida State Council, the state affiliate for the Society of Human Resource Management. For more information on the program and the registration process, go to www.best-companiesfl.com. ■

MONEY

From page 1

or 3) working for a corporate firm that offers the potential for a very large salary

and oodles of wealth benefits (generally the largest corporations or corporations with the potential to go public). And, of course, directing your children or grandchildren along such venues. Roadmaps for professional practice and corporate careers are generally established earlier in one's life and are often impossible

without a specific education.

Starting your own business is much less age-constrained but there are so many factors to consider. Here are a few important ones:

You want to try to create a business that is scalable. After you start it, you can make it grow without equal increases in capital, effort, staff, etc. Other elements to consider are capital requirements (keep as low as possible) and barriers to entry (make barriers as great as possible so that others do not follow after you.) Develop a client base that finds it difficult to leave yet easy to buy more products and services. If you can get one of these attributes working for you, you might be able to make a go of it. Two could work a charm, and three would probably make a home run.

In Southwest Florida, where service businesses dominate, application of any of these is difficult but should be considered. Reality might be to just have a business where you can hire others and make a premium on their labor. Consider that too.

One of the best things about being an accountant or a banker is that you get to look at (financially evaluate) an incredible number of businesses and possibly find a one seeking a new CEO or a buyer. Over time, these professionals see business failures and successes, learn how to raise capital, get comfortable with business expansion plans and execution, learn to size up financials in a heartbeat, get familiar with typical problems and their solutions, etc. And, very importantly, your exposure can lead to a very important job placement or an opportunity to buy out one of the client firms. As such, these are professions that can open more doors and some very large doors. Not always the barnburner job from the get-go but you are sitting in

the cat bird seat.

The fact that NOT many fortunes are made through investing suggests that there is a LOW probability that you will become a millionaire that way. Becoming a George Soros, John Templeton or Warren Buffett — oft mentioned as the world's most successful investors — is less probable than becoming an NBA superstar. So you need to seriously consider the value added — if any — by attempting more aggressive investing.

You might be thinking, "What the heck? Why bother with investing at all? Why not just keep it in CDs? Or Treasuries?" Well, if you do not have good internal disciplines or you do not know what you are doing or you do not have time to allocate, then clearly you should do something very simple or hire someone to do it for you. The problem with "simple" is that "simple" pays nothing today and those who are only familiar with CDs or Treasuries are ill-equipped to consider anything outside that realm, even though they're desperate for other sources of income. Equally true is that a complicated and demanding career life is not bettered by complicated and time-consuming investing.

Investing offers intrigue, interest, challenge and great remuneration. But the hard, cold facts are that the recent years' millionaires were not made watching CNBC or other "money" shows. The money was made in their business or profession or through hefty corporate perks. Knowing this might change the time you allocate to becoming an investment whiz. ■

— *Jeannette Rohn Showalter is a Southwest Florida-based chartered financial analyst, considered to be the highest designation for investment professionals. She can be reached at jshowaltercfa@yahoo.com.*



WELCOMES VETERAN TRUST OFFICER SHELLEY D. ANDERSON

Joseph R. Catti, President and CEO of FineMark National Bank & Trust, and Dennis Landfried, President of FineMark's office in the Bonita Springs area, are pleased to announce the addition of Shelley D. Anderson as Vice President. Ms. Anderson, a highly experienced Trust Officer, will provide service to clients from the office located at 10010 Coconut Road in Bonita Springs.

Ms. Anderson joins FineMark following a long tenure with Northern Trust in SW Florida. She brings to FineMark 31 years of experience serving Trust and Investment clients. Ms. Anderson received a BA from Campbell University and also completed the American Bankers Association Trust School and Graduate Trust School Programs. She is a Certified Trust and Financial Advisor (CTFA). Ms. Anderson is very active in the community in activities including: Literacy Council of Bonita Springs, Hope Hospice, Bonita Springs Historical Society and Hope Lutheran Church. "I am thrilled to join FineMark which has quickly established a reputation as the premier provider of Trust and Investment, Banking, and Brokerage Services in SW Florida. I look forward to building deep relationships with FineMark clients throughout the area." said Anderson.

Catti commented, "Shelley has established a wonderful reputation by building extraordinary relationships and by going above and beyond. She will be a terrific addition to our team and personifies our unique service oriented culture." Landfried added, "The combination of Shelley's experience, skills and dedication to personal service are a perfect fit for our clientele. Her commitment to clients is well known and widely respected throughout the community."

FineMark National Bank & Trust offers a comprehensive array of banking, trust, investment, and brokerage services to clients interested in establishing long term, high touch relationships. FineMark is dedicated to providing a culture of service to clients and making a positive difference in the communities it serves.



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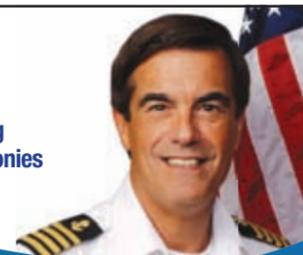
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Naples Soap Company sets up shop at Tin City

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Looking for some good, clean fun? Step into Naples Soap Company, the newest specialty shop in the historic Tin City waterfront marketplace.



Owner Deanna Kelly has fused her chic personal style with 20 years of luxury sales and marketing experience to create a cleansing experience beyond the ordinary at Naples Soap Company. Cashmere grey and mystic green walls set off the knotty pine floor. White and silver vases and galvanized steel buckets and tins combine with heavenly scents and whimsical accents, such as the retro shower nook.

Shoppers can sample more than 60 artisan soaps made with natural and organic ingredients, shea and cocoa butters, goat's milk, honey, herbs, spices and pure essential oils chosen for their skin-care benefits. The products are handcrafted in the United States using

a centuries-old method beginning with cold-press olive oil.

"All soaps are completely natural... they're good for you and good for the environment," Ms. Kelly says. "We do not use artificial dyes, fragrances or sulfates. They are not tested on animals, and they do not contain animal products."

Soaps are available in blocks and sold by the pound starting at \$16 per pound. Naples Soap Company also carries an extensive selection of Himalayan, Pacific and Dead Sea bath salts in fine, medium and coarse grades, as well as natural sponges from Tarpon Springs, sisal soap sacks, washcloths and 100 percent cot-



The displays at Naples Soap Company are as attractive as they are fragrant.



COURTESY PHOTOS

ton bath mitts. Natural baby products and organic pet shampoos complete the inventory.

Ready-made and customized gift baskets, starting at \$35 with free local delivery, are prepared in a variety of reusable containers, from galvanized pails to

vase sponges from the Gulf of Mexico. Naples Soap Company is at 1200 Fifth Avenue South. Store hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. For more information, call 352-7627 or visit www.naplesssoapco.com. ■

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Greater Naples chamber welcomes new members

The Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce welcomed the following 21 new members in October: American Momentum Bank; Batteries Plus; Bobby Chan; Boston Retirement Advisors LLC; Cafe La Mer & Bistro LLC; Camp Bow Wow Naples; Florida Virtual School (Orlando); For Smiles; Healthcare Professional Solutions LLC; Mongello's Restaurant and Lounge; Jane's Restaurants; Mugs Across America Inc.; Naples Sail and Power Squadron; PGA Tour Superstore; Physicians Weight Loss Centers; RexAir Sales & Leasing LLC; The Terraces of Bonita Springs and The Limtaco Company.

To learn more about these new chamber members, visit the online business directory at www.napleschamber.org. For more information about chamber membership, call Don Seer, new member services manager, at 403-2906. ■

Bonita chamber needs volunteers

The Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce needs a few good volunteers to

staff its visitor center. Four-hour shifts are scheduled from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Duties include answering phones, assisting walk-ins and working on office projects. Computer skills are required. For more information or to schedule an interview, call Cissy Prentiss at 992-2943 or e-mail info@BonitaSpringsChamber.com. ■

Ted Todd Insurance opens new office

Ted Todd Insurance Agency has opened a new office in Bonita Springs. The agency's seventh location in Southwest Florida is at 10020 Coconut Road in the Brooks Sweetbay Shopping Center. The 3,000-square-foot space will function as a centralized customer service and training center. For more information, call 949-1111. ■

Company serves local health care professionals

Healthcare Professional Solutions has launched a new brand and identity with a series of presentations to local health care systems, physicians and related business leaders. HPS provides professional and personal management and consulting services

to physicians, health systems and ancillary providers. The company's strategic resource group includes experts in practice management, risk management, physician recruitment, marketing, advertising, construction management and legal, financial and accounting concerns. For more information, call 596-0305 or go to www.hps.us.com. ■

The IDC is now called Miromar Design Center

The International Design Center in Estero has changed its name to the Miromar Design Center. The center's 45 showrooms offer furniture, fabrics, flooring, lighting, kitchen and bath products, art, accessories, wall coverings and more to interior designers and builders as well as to the public.

Other changes are also taking place at the center. The main atrium has been transformed into a product showcase with vignettes containing furnishings and accessories from several showrooms, allowing consumers and design professionals a glimpse of what can be found on all three floors. The vignettes will change periodically.

Hours for the center are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Effective Jan. 4 the center will be

open from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Saturday hours will remain the same. For more information, call 390-5111 or visit www.MiromarDesignCenter.com.

Miromar Design Center is on Corkscrew Road in Estero across from Miromar Outlets, Interstate 75, exit 123, between Naples and Fort Myers. ■

Synergy Contractors endows FCGU business program

Nelson C. Nieves, Verne Nieves and Nelson Nieves Sr., owners of Synergy Contractors Inc., have pledged an endowment to Florida Gulf Coast University. The \$30,000 endowment was given to the Lutgert College of Business Lucas Institute for Real Estate Development and Finance to enhance the activities of faculty and students within the Lucas Institute. The endowment will support student involvement in community real estate organizations as well as faculty and student research, and will help with the purchase of equipment and software.

Synergy Contractors Inc. is one of Southwest Florida's premier concrete, masonry, tilt and shell contractors. For more information, call 543-2938 or visit www.synergycontractor.com. ■

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Asset Allocation Matters

One of the most important factors in determining your ultimate portfolio performance is your overall asset allocation among broad investment categories such as stocks, bonds and cash. So how can you figure out if you have it right?

Well, the key to optimizing your asset allocation is your own personal financial situation. In general, if you foresee withdrawing money from your investment portfolio in the next few years, then cutting back on stocks is smart.

On the other hand, if you can meet your income needs from other sources, then you can afford to take the higher risk involved with stocks to boost your overall returns.

Many factors can actually cut either way. For instance, if you have more than enough saved to cover your expenses in retirement, then you have two equally good choices: You could move all your money into safe investments, sacrificing growth but locking in a secure lifestyle.

On the other hand, you could also afford to take some risk with your extra money — money you could afford to lose but that could boost your retirement lifestyle or leave something left over for heirs after you die if you invest well.

Note that these same factors could lead you to make changes within asset classes, too. To generate more income from your portfolio, for instance, switching from high-growth stocks to solid dividend payers such as ExxonMobil or Kraft can be just as effective as moving from stocks to bonds or cash.

Make sure, too, that you don't let any stock holding grow so big that it holds too many of your eggs in its basket. And aim to invest in some global stocks, too.

It's crucial to make sure now that your money is allocated in a way that's consistent with your financial plan. Given the great opportunities in the markets right now, waiting even a short while could hurt you. ■

My Dumbest Investment

Try Losing \$207,000

All you people who've written in about your dumbest investment — you think you've suffered losses? Hahahahaha. Try beating my \$207,000 loss in just two weeks! I had invested in a stock and was down a huge amount. I was then stupid enough to listen to a broker who said, "You must sell, it's going to crash, and we can work together to recover the loss on other shares."

Well, the stock soon started to recover, and today I would be looking at only a \$10,000 loss. The stock is STILL recovering. But what really stinks is that just after I bought, it went up by \$74,000, but I didn't sell — I got greedy and thought I'd wait to make \$75,000, only that never happened.

— K.B., online

The Fool Responds: The broker was right in this regard: It can be smart to not wait to recover in a stock in which you no longer have confidence. Instead, you can move what's left of your money into a more attractive stock, and aim make your money back there. ■



Do you have an embarrassing lesson learned the hard way? Boil it down to 100 words (or less) and send it to *The Motley Fool* c/o *My Dumbest Investment*. Got one that worked? Submit to *My Smartest Investment*. If we print yours, you'll win a Fool's cap!

Last week's trivia answer

Based in a New York town that bears my name, I lead the world in specialty glass and ceramics. I manipulate the properties of light to develop and commercialize innovative products, and I serve the consumer electronics, mobile emissions control, telecommunications, semiconductor, aerospace, defense, astronomy, metrology and life sciences industries. I trace my history back to 1851. I pioneered Pyrex and ceramics for automotive catalytic converters. My products include glass substrates for LCD televisions and optical fiber. There's a good chance you have some of my wares in your cupboard. I rake in nearly \$6 billion annually. Who am I? ■

(Answer: Corning)



Write to Us! Send questions for *Ask the Fool*, *Dumbest* (or *Smartest*) *Investments* (up to 100 words), and your *Trivia* entries to Fool@fool.com or via regular mail c/o this newspaper, attn: *The Motley Fool*. Sorry, we can't provide individual financial advice.

What Is This Thing Called The Motley Fool?

Remember Shakespeare? Remember "As You Like It"? In Elizabethan days, Fools were the only people who could get away with telling the truth to the King or Queen. The Motley Fool tells the truth about investing, and hopes you'll laugh all the way to the bank.

Ask the Fool

A Sketchy Investing Strategy

Q What do you think of the following investing strategy? Follow and buy the stocks recommended in the Fool's Rule Breakers newsletter. After one goes up four or five points, sell it and then buy again after it drops two to three points. These holding periods would be anywhere from two weeks to two months. What are the tax consequences?

— D.H., online

A Yikes. That looks like a recipe for trouble. Sure, some Rule Breakers recommendations have doubled or tripled in value — but only for those who hung on for many months, if not years. (Learn more at www.fool.com/shop/newsletters.) Big fortunes tend to be made that way. After all, Warren Buffett has said his favorite holding period is "forever." Remember too that some stocks surge strongly for a while without retreating — you'd lose out on a lot of gains if you were waiting on the sidelines for a dip in price.

Frequent trading will rack up lots of trading commissions for you. As for taxes, while gains from stocks held more than a year get a lower tax rate (15 percent for most of us), shorter-term gains are taxed at your ordinary income rate, which could top 30 percent. We'd much rather invest in companies we really believe in, aiming to hang on for years.

Q When someone talks of taking profits, how is that done?

— Varn, online

A It involves selling all or part of your position in a holding that has appreciated. For example, if your stock in Scuffy's Chicken Shack has tripled, you're sitting on a nice gain, but it's just a "paper" gain until you actually sell. So by selling shares, you take some or all of your profit.

Got a question for the Fool? Send it in — see Write to Us.

Name That Company

When my founder was 19, he opened The Green Frog restaurant, featuring "Service With a Hop." Born in 1968 and based in Orlando, Fla., I'm the world's largest full-service-dining restaurant company. I own nearly 1,800 Red Lobster, Olive Garden, Bahama Breeze, LongHorn Steakhouse, Seasons 52 and Capital Grille restaurants, raking in more than \$7 billion annually. I own all my North American eateries, offer



no franchises and employ about 180,000 people. I became a public company in 1995 when I was spun off from General Mills. I serve more than 400 million meals per year. Who am I? ■

Know the answer? Send it to us with *Foolish Trivia* on the top and you'll be entered into a drawing for a nifty prize!

The Motley Fool Take

Warning: Bank Fees

Bank fees are rising fast, especially on the two accounts consumers use most for transactions — credit card accounts and checking accounts. Banks are desperate for any incremental revenue they can find, as credit costs remain elevated.

Credit card fees are rising quickly, as banks seek to get increases in before new regulations make such changes more difficult. That means higher over-limit fees if you charge more than your credit line, and higher late fees if you don't make a monthly payment in time. Many banks are also reintroducing annual fees on accounts that don't generate enough income through charge volume or carrying balances. Don't

be surprised to see new monthly maintenance fees soon, too.

Most of us have gotten used to the idea of "free" checking with few fees, but that's changing, too. "Free" checking has been profitable for banks because of stiff fees — often \$30 to \$40 — when customers overdraw their accounts. According to the FDIC, about one quarter of customers pay all these fees, essentially subsidizing the other three quarters. However, Washington may restrict banks' ability to charge these fees, since they fall disproportionately on low-income or elderly customers who can least afford them.

These fees are a warning sign for investors. They risk driving off customers, so revenues may be at risk at the banks that depend most on these fees. ■

BUSINESS MEETINGS

► **The Leadership Collier Foundation** holds its holiday party from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, at Hamilton Harbor Yacht Club. The party is sponsored by Arthrex. Register at www.napleschamber.org.

► **The Jewish Business Network of Southwest Florida** meets for breakfast and business from 7:30-9 a.m. Friday, Dec. 11, in the conference room at Robb & Stucky, 13170 Cleveland Ave., Fort Myers. To RSVP and for more information, call 433-7708 or e-mail yourjbn@chabadswf.org.

► **The Naples Speakeasy Toastmasters Club** meets from 6-7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14, at the North Naples Collier Government Building, 2335 Orange Blossom Drive. Professional sto-

ryteller Mary Lou Williams will be the speaker. Guests are welcome. For more information, call 262-8183 or visit www.naplesspeakeasy.org.

► **PRACC, the Public Relations Association of Collier County**, members will meet for their holiday mixer from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15, at McCormick & Schmick's in Mercato. Members are reminded to bring gift baskets to be raffled off to raise money for the PRACC scholarship fund. Call 436-2105 to RSVP.

► **Insurance Professionals of Collier County** holds its next meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, at the Naples Harbour Yacht Club, 475 North Road. E-mail info@picconline.org or visit www.ipconline.org.

► **The Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce** holds its Holiday Business After 5 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, at the Hilton Naples. Bring an unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots. Admission is \$20 in advance and \$40 at the door. Register at www.napleschamber.org.

► **The Economic Development Council of Collier County** will hear from Collier County Manager Leo Ochs at its regular luncheon meeting beginning at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 5, in the Community Room at the *Naples Daily News*. All interested parties are invited to participate. Cost is \$20 per person. Register in advance by calling the EDC at 263-8989, ext 105, or online at www.enaplesflorida.com.

► **The Chartered Financial Ana-**

lysts Society of Naples will host a luncheon meeting at noon Tuesday, Jan. 12, in the Chokoloskee Room at the Naples Beach Hotel, 851 Gulf Shore Blvd. N. Members, \$30; Guests, \$40. www.cfanaples.org

► The next **Gulf Coast Venture Forum** meeting takes place from 4-6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 14, at the Tiburon Golf Course Members Club, 2610 Tiburon Drive. Meeting sponsor is TIB Bank. For more information, call Tim Cartwright at 262-6300.

► **Business Network International** holds its weekly meeting at 7:15 a.m. Thursdays at St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church, 7100 Airport-Pulling Road N., North Naples. For more information and to make a reservation, call 354-3224. ■

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MARKET

From page 1

losses in acreage. Unlike its neighbors to the south, there was a modest 16 percent decrease in farm operations during the same 10-year period.

From Marco Island to Port Charlotte, an abundance of farmers markets offer fresh fruits and vegetables as well as a variety of vendors with seafood, sauces, soups, cheeses, chutneys, honey, herbs, spices and baked goods not found in grocery stores. Most markets also have a colorful assortment of handcrafted, non-food goods for sale, from soaps and cosmetics to candles, jewelry and artwork.

Some are taking advantage of the environmental zeitgeist, calling themselves green markets and enforcing strict guidelines that their products be organic or from recycled materials. However, most people use the terms "green market" and "farmers market" interchangeably. Whatever you call them and wherever you find them in Southwest Florida, they usually have these things in common:

- They take place outside, once a week.
- Prices are cheaper, typically, than at grocery stores.
- There are several produce stands, some featuring resellers and others with organic or regularly grown produce from their own acreage.
- There's often live music, lots of dogs on leashes, tots in strollers and at least a few hippies.

"When I first started doing this, the crowd was a little older. Now there's a huge range of ages," says Claudia St. Onge, coordinator for the Cape Coral Farmers Market, which during season can attract a crowd of nearly 7,500 to Club Square every Saturday morning. "With an international focus on the environment and with a struggling economy, a market like this is going to pull in all kinds of people," she adds.

Local flavor

Striking up conversations with vendors who proudly divvy out free samples and brag about their growing methods is commonplace and part of the fun. Then there are those who also deliver another kind of local flavor along with their goods.

Horace Brittain isn't afraid to speak his mind about the produce business, and then some. One minute he's cracking a smile at a baby perched on a young father's hip at the Downtown Fort Myers Farmers Market while talking up his corn. The next minute, when the customer is gone, he's trash-talking a fellow vendor. The most important thing, he says, is that shoppers "buy local and support local growers, not peddlers."

"If you don't support who supports your table, you aren't very smart," Mr. Brittain maintains. He rails against the automotive industry outsourcing jobs and



COURTESY PHOTO

The farmers market on Marco Island happens every Wednesday morning through mid-April.

makes it clear that he don't care much for President Obama before getting back to the topic of carpetbaggers messing up the farmers markets for true locals like him.

After a few minutes at Mr. Brittain's booth of tomatoes, beets and cucumbers, one comes away having touched a down-home, self-proclaimed follower of "hillbilly life lessons." He's a bit rough around the edges and completely unashamed of it.

Green begets green

While satisfying the increasing demand for fresh produce markets, the events also serve secondary motives. Most are invaluable marketing tools in and of themselves.

"It's something we do to bring footprints to downtown Punta Gorda on a Saturday," says Jerry Presseller. The head of the Downtown Merchants Association took it upon himself to learn the ins and outs of hosting a market and launched one just a year ago. Restaurants and shops that once might have found it more practical to shutter their doors on the weekends are now seeing crowds intent on shopping, eating and drinking after they've strolled between the kiosks.

In Naples, Terry Banks, market manager for the Saturday morning Third Street South Farmers Market, agrees. "It brings exposure," he says about the market that sets up year-round in the parking lot behind Tommy Bahama's. "It definitely brings people to the restaurants and shops."

The Third Street South market celebrates its 15th year by moving from the parking lot to the street for one day, Saturday, Dec. 12. Third Street South will be closed from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. from Broad Avenue South to 13th Avenue South.

"We see this as a great opportunity for

our visitors to linger and mingle, perhaps with a fresh muffin and coffee, relaxing in one of our courtyards," says Justin Collins of Neapolitan Enterprises. "It's also a great time to get in some Christmas shopping, and maybe lunch at one of our restaurants."

Among the more than 50 vendors will be Naples Citrus with fresh fruit and juice, Captain Kirk's Seafood with local fish and shellfish, Farmer Mike with local produce, The Sauce Lady with homemade Italian meals and sauces and Jimmy P's Butcher Shop and Deli with meat and spice rubs. The market will return to its traditional parking lot location Saturday, Dec. 19.

Good for all

"I grow for flavor," says Mr. Troop, the vendor with the fresh vanilla beans at the Downtown Fort Myers Farmers Market. Every Thursday before dawn, he packs his truck at the 100-acre farm he owns in Venus, Fla., west of Lake Okeechobee, and

heads to the market that sets up under the Caloosahatchee Bridge near Centennial Park. On Saturdays he's a fixture at the Cape Coral Farmers Market, while his wife runs their stall at the North Naples Green Market. Sundays finds the Troops at the Sanibel Island Farmers Market.

For many local farmers like the Troops, fresh markets are their primary source of distribution and income. "If it weren't for the farmers markets," Mr. Troop says, "I'd end up shipping. I'd have to change my product. Instead of more quality and taste, I'd have to focus on production."

Fresh markets continue to blossom and grow, giving farmers like Mr. Troop a profitable way to deliver the fruits of their labor from outlying fields to urban kitchens and dining rooms throughout Southwest Florida. The city slickers who frequent the markets, on the other hand, soak up a taste of the agrarian lifestyle.

Week after week, everyone benefits from the harvest. ■

area farmers markets

COLLIER COUNTY

North Naples Green Market

Collection at Vanderbilt
8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays through May 8
www.northnaplesgreenmarket.com

City of Marco Island Farmers Market

Veterans Community Park
7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesdays through April 14
www.marcoislandfarmersmarket.com

Third Street South Farmers Market

In the parking lot behind Tommy Bahama's (except Dec. 12, when it moves to the street)
7:30-11:30 a.m. Saturday year-round
261-8936

Fairgrounds Flea Market and Farmers Market

Collier County Fairgrounds
Immokalee Road at 39th Avenue NE
7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday year-round

Immokalee State Farmers Market

424 New Market Road East
Sun-up to sundown every day through May
658-3508

LEE COUNTY

GreenMarket at the Alliance for the Arts

10091 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers
9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday year-round
939-2787

Sanibel Island Farmers Market

Tahitian Gardens Shopping Center
8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sundays through April 25

Coconut Point Farmers Market

Coconut Point, Estero
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursdays
249-9480

Downtown Fort Myers Farmers Market

Centennial Park

Under the U.S. 41 Caloosahatchee Bridge
7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursdays through May
321-7100

Cape Coral Farmers Market

4706 SE 11th Place
8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays through May 8
www.capecoralfarmersmarket.com

Bonita Springs Farmers Market

Riverside Park
27300 Old 41 Road
7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesdays through April
980-9626

Battista Farms Farmers Market

19490 South Tamiami Trail, Estero
8 a.m. to noon Saturdays

CHARLOTTE COUNTY

Punta Gorda Farmers Market

Intersection of West Olympia Avenue and Taylor Street
8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays year-round
(941) 391-4856

Fishermen's Village/Worden Farms Market

1200 W. Retta Esplanade
9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesdays, January through March
(941) 637-4874

Cultural Center of Charlotte County Farmers Market

2280 Aaron Street, Port Charlotte
8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sundays
(941) 625-4175, ext. 253

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NETWORKING

Marine Industries Association of Collier County holiday party



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Phil and Lisa Osborn

SHELLEY LUND / FLORIDA WEEKLY

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Mary Alice Armstrong and Abby Dickson



June Kumin, Barbara DuFrane and Jerry Kumin

COURTESY PHOTOS

Collins & DuPont Interior Design holiday party



Minka Brown and Jodi Viseth



Kim Collins and Sherri DuPont

COURTESY PHOTOS

We take more society and networking photos at area events than we can fit in the newspaper. So, if you think we missed you or one of your friends, go to www.floridaweekly.com and view the photo albums from the many events we cover. You can purchase any of the photos too. Send us your society and networking photos. Include the names of everyone in the picture. E-mail them to society@floridaweekly.com.



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REAL ESTATE

DECEMBER 10-16, 2009

A GUIDE TO THE NAPLES REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY

| B11



\$4.9 million model in Estuary has it all, and more

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Covelli Development Group, a preferred builder at Estuary at Grey Oaks, is nearing completion of the Mariana model on an expansive home site overlooking a lake and the championship Estuary golf course. The home has six bedrooms plus a theater, library, wine room, five full baths and a pool bath and power bath.

The Mariana will be certified as a Florida Green home by Florida Green Building Coalition. The first completed green-certified model in Estuary, it will also earn Florida Power and Light's highest efficiency rating, the Energy Gold Star.

The Mariana is offered furnished for \$4,995,000.

Numerous amenities throughout the home's 6,910 square feet of living area

will provide owners with an enhanced sense of security and touch-of-a-button conveniences. Among the state-of-the-art technologies will be programmable Crestron lighting system, indoor controls for the pool and spa, digital security system and a sound system with LCD keypads throughout the home.

A landscaped brick paver circular auto court and steps lead up to a portico and front porches. Interior appointments include marble/stone flooring, volume and tray ceilings of varied heights, detailed crown molding and baseboard, an 1,100-bottle wine room and a wood-paneled library with detailed coffered ceiling adjacent to the master wing. The master suite has a sitting area with lake and golf course views, two walk-in closets, a spa tub

and his-and-hers marble showers.

Open to the family room, the kitchen has easy access to the wine room and a pantry. The expansive lanai has a tongue-and-groove cypress ceiling, power screens, and a summer kitchen with Wolf grill fueled by environmentally friendly natural gas. The pool and spa are both gas heated.

Luxurious extras in the Mariana include a 12-foot screen and THX sound in the dedicated theatre/media room between two of the guest suites, central vacuuming system and a three-car garage with stained wood panel doors.

Premier Properties of Southwest Florida is the exclusive sales and marketing representative of Estuary at Grey Oaks. For more information, call 261-3148 or visit www.estuaryatgreyoaks.com. ■

Naples named as one of eight great coastal cities for retirement

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Beginning with its January/February 2010 issue, Where to Retire magazine, the only magazine geared to helping people with retirement relocation decisions, launches a yearlong series spotlighting destinations that are great for retirees and now offer unusually good buys in housing.

"Ready for the Rebound: Hot Spots for Retirement Real Estate Discounts" will give insight into the current bargains in places chosen by the editors from extensive research into home prices over the last decade.

Naples is included in the first installment as one of the country's eight best coastal towns and cities for retirement. The magazine says the city "... has an elegant downtown district and beaches on Florida's Gulf coast with high inventory in high-rise waterfront condos and extraordinarily lowered



prices on single-family homes."

Joining Naples in the list of choice coastal locations are:

Barnstable Town, Mass.; Hilton Head, S.C.; Ormond Beach, Fla.; Galveston, Texas; Oceanside, Calif.; Florence, Ore.; and Whidbey Island, Wash.

Subsequent issues will look at such diverse options as cities for urban lifestyles, mountain and lake retreats and college towns.

Editor Mary Lu Abbott says the "Ready for the Rebound" features will light on opportunities for baby boomers and retirees to snap up dream retirement real estate at discounts, thanks to record low housing prices, low interest rates and high inventory existing.

Each year, 700,000 Americans move to new towns to retire. Generally healthier, better educated and more affluent than retirees who stay

SEE RETIREMENT, B12 ▶

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Seagate	\$1600
The Cottages	\$1500

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RETIREMENT

From page B11

put, relocating retirees bring significant economic benefits to their new states and hometowns. Nationally, two dozen states and hundreds of towns seek to attract retirees as a source of economic development.

Where to Retire magazine was launched in 1992 with the goal of helping its readers find the ideal place to retire. Published six times a year, the magazine has a national average circulation of 220,000 and an average readership of 500,000.

A one-year subscription to Where to Retire is now \$18. The magazine is also

found on various newsstands and at Barnes & Noble and Borders bookstores. For a magazine subscription, visit www.



wheretoretire.com or send a check or money order to: Vacation Publications, Attn: Where to Retire, 5851 San Felipe Street, Suite 500, Houston, TX 77057. Phone orders can be placed by calling (713) 974-6903. ■

Glean great ideas from free design seminars

Miromar Design Center in Estero and Robb & Stucky Interiors offer the following free seminars in the weeks ahead:

• **Home for the Holidays: 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, at Robb & Stucky** Enjoy this guided tour featuring stunning table décor by design consultants Bob Jones, Karli Mateja, Todd Stevenson, Susie Petril and Catherine Baker.

• **Feng Shui for the Holidays: 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at Miromar Design Center** Design consultant and Feng Shui master Jeannie Bloomfield will discuss the ancient Chinese art form of spatial harmony in architecture and interior design. Sponsored by Baker.

• **Chinese Antiques Show: 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, at Robb & Stucky** Interior designer Catherine Baker dis-

cusses the many styles of Chinese antiques and how to integrate one-of-a-kind treasures and Asian accents into your existing décor.

• **Becoming Computer Savvy: 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, at Miromar Design Center** "Viruses, Trojans and Worms, Oh My!" Web site consultant Shelly Osterhout will discuss what makes your computer slow and how to prevent it, as well as how to know when you need a new one. ■

— *Miromar Design Center is in Estero across from Miromar Outlets. Call 390-5111 or visit www.MiromarDesignCenter.com.*

— *Robb & Stucky Interiors is at 2777 Tamiami Trail N. in Naples. Seminar space is limited and reservations are requested. Call 261-3969, ext. 7000, to register.*

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NEW CONSTRUCTION MARCO ISLAND
1979 San Marco Rd. - This newly constructed 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom Marco Island home is as cozy as it is peaceful. The home features granite countertops, premium tile flooring, custom cherry cabinets, stainless steel appliances and pool. Call Danielle Smith, 239-398-0910
List Price: \$495,000

NEW CONSTRUCTION MARCO ISLAND
151 Shorecrest Ct. - Brand new 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with large great room, study, formal dining room, screened lanai overlooking the canal with 80' of water frontage. Master suite has master bath with jetted tub and walkthrough shower. Call Danielle Smith, 239-398-0910
List Price: \$874,500

NEW CONSTRUCTION MARCO ISLAND
768 Bluebonnet Ct. - Newly constructed 3 bedroom + study, 2 bath, and 2-car garage home with canal access. Features include custom cherry cabinets, premium tile flooring, stainless steel appliances, crown moldings, covered lanai and private pool. Danielle Smith, 239-398-0910
Reduced Price: \$874,500

NEW CONSTRUCTION MARCO ISLAND
805 Caribbean Ct. - This home includes 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, study, and 2-car garage. Features include custom cherry cabinets, premium tile flooring, wet bar, stainless steel appliances, boat dock and lift, lanai with summer kitchen private pool and spa. Danielle Smith, 239-398-0910
List Price: \$984,500

NEW CONSTRUCTION MARCO ISLAND
353 Rockhill Ct. - Newly constructed home is professionally decorated and furnished with Gulf access and excellent water views. The luxurious home has 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, office, and 3-car garage. Enjoy the water views off the lanai, pool & spa. Danielle Smith, 239-398-0910
List Price: \$1,540,000

NEW CONSTRUCTION PARK SHORE
3747 Fountainhead Ct. - This brand new 3,337 square-foot home has 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, and a 3-car garage. Professionally decorated and furnished. Includes granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, lanai with summer kitchen, pool and spa. Call Danielle Smith, 239-398-0910
Reduced Price: \$1,599,000

NEW CONSTRUCTION OLDE NAPLES
1001 5th St., S. - This Olde Florida styled home is professionally decorated and furnished with 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths and gourmet kitchen. Features include elevator, granite countertops, custom cherry cabinets, stainless steel appliances, & summer kitchen. Danielle Smith, 239-398-0910
List Price: \$2,640,000

NEW CONSTRUCTION OLDE NAPLES
950 8th St., S. - This brand new home has 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, pool and spa. Features include spiral staircase, gourmet kitchen, summer kitchen, granite, stainless steel appliances, natural stone flooring, crown moldings, 2 laundry rooms and fireplace. Call Danielle Smith, 239-398-0910
List Price: \$2,750,000

SPECTACULAR WATER VIEWS PARK SHORE
3755 Crayton Rd. - This charming and gracious residence includes 4 bedrooms, den, 4.5 baths and 2-car garage. Kitchen features custom cabinets, granite countertops, and GE appliances. The exterior includes boat dock, boat lift, pool and spa. Call Danielle Smith, 239-398-0910
List Price: \$3,195,000

SECURE CAR STORAGE ON MARCO ISLAND
Progressive Car Condos - Purchase a Car Condo and protect your valuable classic and seasonal cars, jet-skis, and motorcycles from Florida's harsh weather in a state-of-the-art climate-controlled building meeting requirements for museum quality storage. Call Rebecca Hayden, 239-340-3302
Individually For Sale: \$13,500

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE NEWLY CONSTRUCTED HOMES, CALL 239-213-0900!

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Renovations set at The Glenview

Stevens Construction Inc. has been awarded the contract for renovations at The Glenview at Pelican Bay. Company president Mark Stevens says interior renovations will begin this winter and will occur in two phases in the 12-story skilled nursing and rehabilitation center at 100 Glenview Place. The community will remain in operation during construction. Design services were provided by Caffey Architecture. ■

GATES completes work at Ave Maria

GATES Builders recently completed renovations to four buildings at the Ave Maria School of Law. Completed ahead of schedule and under budget, the project consisted of more than 70,000 square feet. Project architect Jason Tramonte transformed the existing spaces into a law library with study rooms, classrooms of various sizes, faculty and administration offices, a moot court room, computer labs, a chapel, clinical offices and common areas for studying and social activities.

GATES, with offices in Florida and the Republic of Panama, is a fully integrated construction, development and real estate services company. For more information, call 593-3777 or visit www.GATESinc.com. ■



Web site has info on Aging in Place

Naples-based Lazer Construction has published a Web site containing information for Aging in Place, a universal design concept for homes that was created with the assistance of AARP and the National Association of Home Builders. Aging in Place universal design is about building or modifying a home to create a more functional and usable living space for our aging population. Chris Alley, president of Lazer Construction, holds the designation of certified Aging in Place specialist from the NAHB. For more information, visit www.certifiedaginginplacespecialist.com or call Lazer Construction at 793-6800. ■

Bonita acreage purchased for The Terraces

Closing on the land purchase for the future site of The Terraces at Bonita Springs, the area's newest senior living community, has been finalized. The planned development will be on approximately 20 acres off S. Tamiami Trail, near Highland Woods Golf and Country Club. The land was purchased from Joseph Nicola, owner of Nicola's Keg Liquor Store.

Construction on The Terraces is anticipated to begin in 2011. The community will feature maintenance-free, independent living in 150 one-, two- and three-bedroom apartment homes. As an Unlimited Lifecare community, The Terraces will also provide lifetime

access to on-site health care, including 48 assisted living, 40 skilled nursing and 18 dedicated memory support residences.

The Terraces is sponsored by SantaFe Senior Living, a sister company of AvMed Health Plans, a not-for-profit health plan that has been serving Floridians since 1973. For more information, call 221-8907 or visit www.TheTerracesAtBonitaSprings.com. For more information about SantaFe HealthCare, visit www.santafehealthcarefl.org. ■

Design experts offer holiday decorating tips

Refresh your home's décor with tips from the professionals at Robb & Stucky Interiors. Here's what's coming up on the schedule of free seminars at the showroom at 2777 Tamiami Trail N. Space is limited and reservations are requested. Call 261-3969, ext. 7000, to register.

► **"Home for the Holidays,"** 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 10 - Whether you're celebrating Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa or the New Year with friends and family, enjoy this guided tour featuring festive presentations and creative ideas to incorporate into your holiday celebration. Table décor by Bob Jones, Karli Mateja, Todd Stevenson, Susie Petril and Catherine Baker will be showcased.

► **"Chinese Antiques,"** 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 17 - Catherine Baker will discuss the many styles of Chinese antiques and how to integrate one-of-a-kind antiques and Asian accents into your existing décor. ■

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■ The Florida Cooperating Business Brokers Association has elected the following officers for 2010: President: **Richard Green**, Naples; vice president: **Dick Naedel**, Naples; secretary: **Edna Richards**, Tampa; and treasurer: **Brad Welborn**, Fort Myers. The FCBBA is a statewide professional association of business brokers licensed through the Florida Real Estate Commission whose purpose is to unite its members who are engaged in the selling and evaluating of business opportunities and related real estate, and whose members adhere to a code of ethics to better serve the public. The FCBBA sponsors and promotes education for its members in better methods and techniques by which to practice their chosen profession.

■ **Karen Fletcher** and **Kandace Kaiser** has joined Downing-Frye Realty Inc. as a sales associate. Originally from Burlington, Iowa, Ms. Fletcher has resided in Florida for 34 years. Prior to joining Downing-Frye, she was a paralegal and senior closer at First American Title in Naples. She belongs to the Florida, Bonita Springs-Estero and National associations of Realtors. Originally from Birmingham, Mich., Ms. Kaiser has more than 27 years of real estate experience, managing family business and real estate investments in Florida and Michigan. She moved to Naples in 1999 and prior to joining Downing-Frye Realty was a sales associate with Premier Properties, the Bonita Bay Group and John R. Wood. Ms. Kaiser has earned several real estate designations, including the CSP and ABR. She belongs to the Naples Area, Florida and National associations of realtors.

■ **Bearce Carter** has joined the sales and marketing team at Vineyards as a new home specialist responsible for educating customers about Vineyards and assisting with new home purchases. Originally from Maine, Mr. Carter graduated from the University of Southern Maine and went on to own and manage a heating oil and gasoline distribution company for 30 years. He has been living and selling homes in Naples since 2000.



CARTER

■ **Michele Harrison** has been named the referral Realtor or "community adviser" with www.55Places.com for the Southwest Florida region. www.55Places.com pairs interested parties with retirement homes in active adult communities, active retirement communities and age-restricted communities across the country. The site gives users information on preferred communities within certain states and regions and then pairs them up with real estate professionals to answer detailed questions and get them into their new homes. Recently featured SWFL communities include Ave Maria, Del Webb Naples and Lely Resort. Ms. Harrison has 32 years of real estate experience and stands as a broker associate with



HARRISON

John R. Wood Inc. She is a certified residential specialist, certified real estate brokerage manager and a certified new home professional. She belongs to the Institute of Residential Marketing, serves on the board of directors for the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce and is a past president of the Naples Area Board of Realtors and the Collier Building Industry Association.

■ **Marci Hughes** has joined Naples Realty Services as a sales associate at the ONESource Real Estate Services Center. Ms. Hughes was a registered nurse before launching her 25-year career in real estate sales. She has been a Naples area real estate agent for the past 17 years and has earned the certified new home specialist as well as the luxury home specialist designations.

■ **Pat Cantwell**, a real estate agent for 20 years and a broker since 1993, has joined Miromar Realty as a sales associate for new homes sales at Miromar Lakes Beach & Golf Club.

■ **Jacqueline Nary** of Keller William Elite Realty in Bonita Springs has earned the certified distressed property expert designation, having completed extensive training in foreclosure avoidance and short sales.

■ Prudential Florida Realty Naples Park Shore & The Ritz-Carlton offices welcomes the following associates:

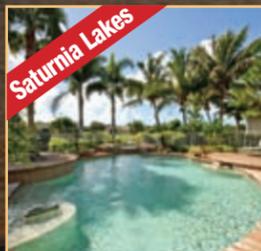
Wanda Baldwin started her career at Coldwell Banker and previously had her own brokerage firm called Freedom

SEE NEWSMAKERS, B15 ▶

The Right Place.....
The Right Time.....
The Right Price....



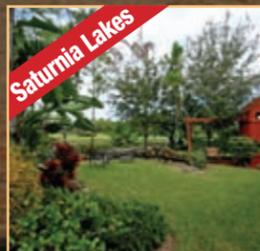
Just Listed Lux. Est. Home on 5 acres in Livingston Woods.
Tennis and Basketball court, Barn, Guest House and TONS of upgrades. \$3,000,000



Former Model 4 /3 pool home \$525k



Just listed 1.39 million 4 plus den pool home



Former Model 4 bedroom home on lake \$450k



Just listed High Rise Condo w/ lake-golf views \$369k

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NEWSMAKERS

From page B16

Brokerage. She is also a licensed air-line pilot.

Dale Buettner started his real estate career in Cleveland, Ohio. A Vietnam combat veteran, he specializes in working with veterans and first-time home buyers. He previously worked as a new home manager for a

dozen builders.

Thomas Jay Campbell was a general sales manager for Airco Alloy Div. Airco Inc. in Pittsburgh, Pa., before moving to Florida in 1992.

Larry Cowell has been a licensed Realtor since 1986 and specializes in commercial real estate and has joined the Sharon Cohan Team. He was a builder and developer of luxury homes for several years in Indiana.

Laurie Singer was an international cargo sales manager for Northwest Airlines for 10 years. ■

Members purchase Club at Mediterra

The Club at Mediterra is now officially owned by and under the control of its members. Bonita Bay Group and the Mediterra Members' Advisory Board have completed the sale of the club assets to the members of the club for \$6.8 million in cash and the assumption by the new club entity of approximately \$15 million in Community Development District debt. The purchase of the club received unprecedented support from the residents and members of Mediterra with 633 residents joining the New Club as golf, sports or social members.

"This is a great day for Mediterra members and residents who worked together as a cohesive team focused on a mutual goal," said Richard Schmidt, chairman of the Mediterra Members' Advisory Board. "Our club is now on firm financial footing and since the announcement of our planned purchase in late October there has been a major surge in buyer interest for homes in our community."

The purchase includes The Club

at Mediterra and its two Tom Fazio-designed championship golf courses, an 1,800-square-foot golf learning center with short-game practice area, a 25,000-square-foot clubhouse, named best clubhouse twice by the Collier Building Industry Association, and a Sports Club with tennis courts, an outdoor pool, three spa rooms and a recently expanded fitness center. It also includes the private Mediterra Beach Club on the Gulf of Mexico with an elevated swimming pool, sundeck and indoor and al fresco dining overlooking 200 feet of shoreline.

Mediterra has been named Community of the Year by the Collier Building Industry Association five times, received the Award of Excellence for Open Spaces from the Florida Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects and has been honored with the Environmental Leaders in Golf Award from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and Golf Digest magazine in the private course category. ■



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\$799,500



Glen Eagle

2 Bed + Den / 2 bath

1727 sq. ft.

\$329,000



Royal Wood

2 bed + Den / 2 bath

1410 sq. ft.

\$150,000



Matt Klinowski

239-370-0892

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TROPICAL TREATS AT A SWEET PRICE



The Residences at Bell Tower Park has some very tasty new home prices that you'll find very easy to swallow! Courtyard residences with 1,746 square feet of living area are now priced from \$250,000, and carriage homes with 1,748 square feet of living area are from \$187,000. These are brand new homes in a park-like community with resort amenities close to all that Southwest Florida has to offer. Stop in and savor the moment!

Better hurry...Limited Time Opportunity!

(L) 1st Floor AVALON (Carriage Home)

1,748 sq. ft.
2 Bedrooms | 2 Baths
Den & 1-Car Garage
\$187,000

(R) ASHFORD (Courtyard Home)

1,746 sq. ft.
2 Bedrooms | 2 Baths
2-Car Garage
From \$250,000



the residences at

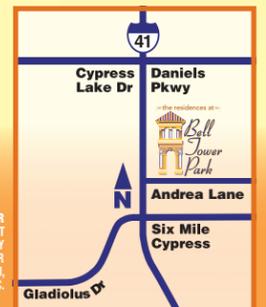
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NORTH NAPLES & SURROUNDS



PINE RIDGE ★
Magnificent country estate home on 3.32 acres. Masterfully planned main residence encompasses 15,298 total SF. \$7,375,000
Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



LIVINGSTON WOODS ★
Four bedrooms, den, billiard room, wide-plank wood floors, fireplace. Lazy river pool, waterfall pool/spa.
\$2,795,000 | Rod Soars | 290-2448



BAREFOOT BEACH - BAYFRONT GARDENS ★
Stunning home with bay views, pool/spa, boat dock and lift, 2 gourmet kitchens, 3 guest suites, and 3-car garage. \$2,595,000
Cynthia Joannou | 273-0668



THE DUNES - GRANDE PRESERVE GRANDE GENEVA ★ #1103 - Brand new 3BR/3.5BA with over \$120,000 in upgrades! Endless resort amenities, Beach Club eligibility, concierge. \$1,699,000
Frank J. Pezzuti/Meghan C. Reed | 594-9494



THE CROSSINGS - STONEGATE ★
Builder's own home! Marble floors, fireplace, gourmet kitchen, screened-in outdoor area, grill, heated pool/spa. \$1,699,000
Terri Moellers/Sharon Kaltenborn | 659-0099



PINE RIDGE ★
Over 1.5 acres of pristine & picturesque grounds complemented by charming home. Fabulous pool setting, 4-car garage.
\$1,575,000 | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552



CROSSINGS - STONEGATE ★
Four bedroom & den, 3 bath Coleman home on 2/3 acre. Stone floors, granite kitchen, pool, spa and 3-car garage.
\$1,275,000 | Mara/Michael Muller | 272-6170



THE DUNES - GRANDE PRESERVE GRANDE PHOENICIAN ★ #1102
Magnificent water & golf course views! Tastefully furnished 3BR/3BA. World-class amenities, private beach club. NOW
\$1,019,000 | Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731



PINE RIDGE ★
Tropical paradise! Great room concept 4BR pool home. Fenced in back yard, 1.3 acres, guest house, 5+ car garage. \$999,999
Dina L. Moon/Esther Van Lare | 370-1252



VILLAGES OF MONTEREY WOODBRIDGE ★
Stunning complete renovation, 5BR/4BA on prime oversized lot, picturesque lake views and more than 7,000 total SF.
\$999,000 | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552



THE DUNES - GRANDE PRESERVE GRANDE DOMINICA ★ #301
Furnished, 3 BR's. Views of Gulf & Turkey Bay. Private elevator, marble & hardwood floors. Beach Club available.
\$995,000 | Ellen Eggland | 571-7192



THE DUNES - CAYMAN ★
#807 - Breathtaking Panoramic Views! Model perfect turnkey furnished 3BR/3BA condominium. Resort lifestyle near beach.
\$995,000 | Susan Barton | 860-1412



THE DUNES - GRANDE PRESERVE GRANDE GENEVA ★ #605 - End residence with fabulous views and wonderful light, 3BRs, 3.5BAs, gourmet kitchen. Floridian Beach Club included.
\$990,000 | Sharon Kipytky | 777-3899



PELICAN ISLE YACHT CLUB II ★
#703 - Incredible views! Three bedrooms, three baths and 2,600+SF of living space. Yacht club membership available.
\$975,000 | Ann Marie Shimmer | 825-9020



WILSHIRE LAKES ★
Absolutely magnificent Mediterranean lakefront home built by BCB Custom Homes. Heated pool with aqua link system.
\$875,000 | Alison Kalb | 564-0714



THE DUNES - GRANDE PRESERVE ★
280 Grande Way - Magnificent views over Gulf, preserve and golf! Very spacious 3BR+family room, floor plans. Membership to private Floridian Beach Club and the Plantation Club. Guard-gated entry. Grande Phoenician from \$875,000. Grande Geneva from \$900,000 | Call 239-594-1700



WILSHIRE LAKES ★
Lakefront, 5 bedroom, 3-bath pool home. Upgraded cabinetry, granite, crown moulding, tray ceilings, pool/spa.
\$849,000 | Bernie Garabed | 571-2466



PELICAN ISLE YACHT CLUB III ★
#403 - Broad views to Gulf! Almost touching the water, 3BR/3BA on a private island. Membership to Yacht Club available.
\$785,000 | Suzanne Ring | 821-7550



COVE TOWERS - BEQUIA ★
#801 - Unobstructed views of Gulf, Bay, River & Naples skyline. Tarpon Cove Yacht & Racquet Club membership. Pet friendly.
\$715,000 | Marsha L. Moore | 398-4559



WILSHIRE LAKES ★
Unique 5 bedroom plus den, lakefront estate home. Cypress ceilings, wood floors. Two-sided fireplace, pool/spa.
\$699,000 | Bernie Garabed | 571-2466



VILLAGES OF MONTEREY ★
Spacious pool home with multiple balconies overlooking long southwestern lake views & oversized 3-car garage.
\$699,000 | Mara/Michael Muller | 272-6170



THE DUNES - CAYMAN ★
#704 - Freshly painted, turnkey furnished, and brand new wood floors throughout. Remodeled kitchen, hurricane shutters.
\$650,000 | Marsha L. Moore | 398-4559



WILSHIRE LAKES ★
Nature preserve views. Completely renovated 4BR home with bonus room & study. Heated pool & spa. Guard-gated entry. \$650,000
Patrick O'Connor/Bernie Garabed | 293-9411



EDEN ON THE BAY ★
Overlooking lake, 3 bedrooms + den, 3 full baths. Granite countertops in kitchen, heated pool/spa. Outdoor kitchen. \$640,000
Marty/Debbi McDermott | 564-4231



VILLAGES OF MONTEREY ★
Southern lake views from paver pool & spa. Cherry, granite & stainless kitchen, hurricane shutters, 12' ceilings.
\$599,900 | Mara/Michael Muller | 272-6170



PINE RIDGE ★
Four bedroom with 2,200+ SF. Many updates; new kitchen, wood flooring and new roofing. Screened-in lanai.
\$599,000 | Sue Black | 250-5611



EDEN ON THE BAY ★
Three bedrooms, 3 baths, a den and 2-car garage with pool. Tiled living areas, granite counters & crown moulding.
\$599,000 | Roxanne Jeske | 450-5210



THE DUNES - CAYMAN ★
#1107 - Reduced \$100,000. Motivated seller. Outstanding Bay/Gulf views, bright corner 3BR/3BA. Resort amenities.
\$599,000 | Gayle Fawkes | 250-6051



COVE TOWERS - ARUBA ★
#302 - Stunning, furnished 3BR/2BA. Fabulous views of Pass, club membership included, boat docks for purchase or lease.
\$559,000 | Marsha L. Moore | 398-4559



COVE TOWERS - ARUBA ★ #303 - A 3BR/2BA Bahama decor condominium! Club membership included, resort amenities. Pet friendly, boat dock available.
\$549,000 | Marsha L. Moore | 398-4559



THE CROSSINGS - MILL RUN ★
Beautifully maintained true 4 bedroom pool home on private lot with updated granite/stainless kitchen. Covered lanai.
\$548,900 | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552



COVE TOWERS - ARUBA ★
#403 - Spectacular view of Wiggins Pass from this totally remodeled high-rise. Full pool service, tennis. Furnished.
\$529,000 | Marsha L. Moore | 398-4559



VILLAGES OF MONTEREY ★
Charming and beautifully renovated 4 bedroom home. Gorgeous cherry kitchen with new hardwood floors. Many updates.
\$524,000 | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552



VILLAGES OF MONTEREY ★
Charming, picture perfect pool home on cul-de-sac. Granite kitchen, travertine and wood floors, marble pool deck.
\$499,000 | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552



COVE TOWERS - NEVIS ★
#302 - Nearly 2,700 SF with granite, stainless appliances, Sematic cabinetry and bamboo flooring. Double-gated community. NOW \$449,000 | Trey Wilson | 595-4444



LEMURIA ★ 7172 Lemuria Circle
New luxury community of 3 or 4 bedrooms, 3 bath condominiums with open floor plans, high ceilings and attached 2-car garages. Prices from the mid \$400s.
Thomas Gasbarro | 404-4883



THE STRADA AT MERCATO ★
Located just North of Vanderbilt Beach Rd. on U.S. 41, Mercato features residential, retail, Whole Foods Market, restaurants and more. Upscale contemporary living from the \$400s. Call 800-719-5136



TARPON COVE ★
Amazing 3 bedroom courtyard villa with private pool, privacy wall, 2-car garage, surround sound. Great room plan.
\$399,900 | Judy Congrove | 269-7538



WIGGINS BAY VILLAS ★
Renovated 3 BR villa. Granite counters. Updated baths. Tarpon Cove Yacht & Racquet Club membership.
\$398,500 | Wendy Hayes | 777-3960



WIGGINS BAY - HARBOURSIDE ★
#505 - Totally remodeled 3BR, 3BA is offered furnished with new granite counters, cabinetry, appliances and flooring.
\$299,000 | Jack Despart | 273-7931

PELICAN ISLE YACHT CLUB

410 Dockside Drive BS #N-47 - Slip N47 is a fixed dock with a 27,000 lb. lift. Only minutes to the Gulf of Mexico and no bridges.
\$175,000 | Suzanne Ring | 821-7550

7556 San Miguel Way - Gorgeous lake views, meticulously maintained 3BR/2BA home. Expansive lanai overlooks beautifully landscaped yard.
\$399,000 | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552 **NEW LISTING**

WIGGINS BAY
WIGGINS PASS WEST 242 Wiggins Bay BS #242
Boat dock has a brand new 30,000 lb. lift and dock can handle up to a 52'-54' boat; approx 14' height restriction. \$259,000 | Jack Despart | 273-7931

VANDERBILT BEACH - MORAYA BAY

11125 Gulfshore Drive • Naples newest beachfront condominium. An architectural masterpiece offering the ultimate in sophisticated resort living. Sweeping views of the Gulf, Bay and preserves. From \$2,750,000 | Call 239-514-5050



THE DUNES - GRANDE PRESERVE

280 Grande Way • Magnificent views over Gulf, preserve and golf! Very spacious 3BR+family room, 3BA floor plans. Membership to private Floridian Beach Club and the Plantation Club with resort amenities. Additional Concierge Center & guard-gated entry.
Grande Geneva from \$900,000. Grande Phoenician from \$875,000 | Call 239-594-1700



THE VILLAGE
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239.434.2424

THE GALLERY
239.659.0099

FIFTH AVENUE
239.434.8770

MARCO ISLAND
239.642.2222





VANDERBILT BEACH - THE VANDERBILT ▲
Magnificent beachfront Penthouse, panoramic Gulf views! Three bedroom plus den. Membership to Beach Club included. \$3,400,000 | Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731



VANDERBILT BEACH - MORAYA BAY ▲ 11125 Gulfshore Drive - Naples newest beachfront condominium. An architectural masterpiece offering the ultimate in sophisticated resort living. Sweeping views of the Gulf, Bay and preserves. From \$2,750,000 | 239-514-5050



VANDERBILT BEACH ESTATES ▲ Beautiful waterfront views from this 2 BR, 2 BA with 2,120 total SF single-family home. Being sold in "as is". \$1,899,000 | Jerry Wachowicz | 777-0741



VANDERBILT BEACH CASA GRANDE ▲ Rare opportunity for a beautiful corner residence with wraparound lanai providing endless view of the Gulf. \$1,495,000 | Fred Alter | 269-4123



VANDERBILT BEACH ESTATES ▲ Fantastic bay home. Two-story plan, 5BR/4.5BA including full guest apartment. Heated pool, spa, boat dock with lift. \$1,399,000 | Teri Purvis | 597-2993



MERCATO - THE STRADA ▲ #7502 - Encompassing over 2,200 sq. ft., 3BR/3BA. Club room, poolscape, fitness center. Restaurants, shops, movie theatre. \$1,370,000 | Barbi/Steve Lowe | 216-1973



VANDERBILT BEACH GULFSIDE II ▲ #505 - Preferred 3 bedroom corner residence with wraparound vistas of Gulf, New A/C system & electric hurricane shutters. \$1,350,000 | Pat Callis | 250-0562



VANDERBILT BEACH - VANDERBILT GULFSIDE ▲ #1403 - Renovated to tasteful perfection, incredible Gulf views! Two master suites. Gated, 8 acres of park-like grounds. \$1,259,000 | Pat Callis | 250-0562



BONITA SPRINGS - ARROYAL ▲ This riverfront property includes a 30' x 19' covered boat dock with lift. Solid furnished with 4 bedrooms & 3 baths. \$1,200,000 | Connie Lummis | 289-3543



VANDERBILT BEACH ESTATES ▲ Complete renovation! Waterway/preserve views. Large lanai and oversized pool. Dock lift can accommodate a 40' boat. \$995,000 | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552



IMPERIAL SHORES ▲ This 3 bedroom villa has direct Gulf access and is situated on the Imperial River. Boat dock, boat lift, pool/spa. \$999,000 | Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



VASARI COUNTRY CLUB - AREZZO ▲ 28623 Via D Arezzo - Estate home boasts 3 large bedrooms, den, many upgrades. Granite, tumbled marble, moldings, golf course views. \$949,900 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



BANYAN WOODS ▲ Outstanding design & upgrades. Expanded "Balboa II" with western lake views. Four bedrooms, study & 3-car garage. \$899,000 | Ruth Tretis | 403-4529



VANDERBILT BEACH ESTATES ▲ Build your dream home on this waterfront lot with access to Vanderbilt Beach & the Gulf via Wiggins Pass Waterway. \$897,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



VANDERBILT BEACH SAUSALITO ▲ #6 - A unique Bayfront property across from the Gulf of Mexico, 3BR/3BA penthouse. Deeded boat dock and beach access. \$875,000 | Gayle Fawkes | 250-6051



VANDERBILT BEACH - GULFSHORES ▲ #211 - Beach! Beach! Beach! Gorgeous Gulf views! Direct beachfront living, 2BR/2BA, boatslip available for sep. purchase. \$865,000 | Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731



VANDERBILT BEACH ESTATES ▲ This is a great boating neighborhood where you can build your dream home. Walk to the beach. Southern exposure lot. \$864,000 | Teri Purvis | 597-2993



VANDERBILT BEACH - VANDERBILT SHORES ▲ #402 - Two bedroom + den on the beach. Great location with access to shopping, dining, & theatres. Offered furnished. \$860,000 | Jack Despart | 273-7931



BANYAN WOODS ▲ Custom designed & professionally decorated southern exposure courtyard home. Lap pool, cabana, and outdoor shower. \$830,000 | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552



VANDERBILT BEACH - REGATTA II ▲ #604 - Beautiful Bay views! Former model 3BR+den end residence. Buyer must assume any current rental bookings. Near beach. \$825,000 | Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731



VANDERBILT BEACH LA SCALA ▲ #203 - Beautiful wide water views! Beautifully updated 3 bedroom with over 1,750+ total SF. Boat dock with lift included. \$814,000 | Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731



VANDERBILT BEACH - REGATTA II ▲ #1102 - Gulf, Bay and city views from this 3 bedroom, 3 bath turnkey furnished residence. Community clubhouse, pool, spa. \$799,000 | Leah Ritchey/Ray Couret | 293-5899



VANDERBILT BEACH - REGATTA II ▲ #705 - A beautiful 3 bedroom, 3 bath residence with gorgeous water view, light & bright. Beach closeby, great amenities. \$795,000 | Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731



VANDERBILT BEACH SAUSALITO ▲ #1 - Over \$70K in upgrades, 3-story townhouse across from beach & on the bay. High-impact glass, 4 balconies, boat slip. \$739,000 | Gayle Fawkes | 250-6051



VANDERBILT BEACH - THE VANDERBILT CLUB ▲ #302 - Smack on the sand, feels like your own private beach house with ease of condominium living. Turnkey. \$695,000 | Marion Bethea & Anne Killilea/Adrienne Young | 261-6200



VANDERBILT BEACH REGATTA III ▲ #303 - A beautiful 3BR/2BA condominium. Magnificent amenities, excellent rental history. Walk to beach. Nicely furnished. \$599,999 | Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731



VANDERBILT BEACH REGATTA III ▲ #302 - Upgrades galore in this 3 bedroom residence. Granite kitchen with backsplash, tile throughout & faux finishes. \$599,000 | Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731



VASARI COUNTRY CLUB BELLINO ▲ Fantastic 3BR+den, 2BA home. Private pool, spa, quiet location all in a bundled golf community with many amenities. \$499,000 | Roxanne Jeske | 450-5210



BONITA SPRINGS BONITA VILLAGE III ▲ #3301 - Gated resort community with private beach shuttle. Quality construction, 2 pools, spa, fitness center & clubhouse. \$479,000 | Cheryl Mease | 691-8104



BONITA SPRINGS BONITA VILLAGE III ▲ #3507 - Two bedroom, two bath wide open floor plan with volume ceilings. Custom paint, tile in all living areas. Furnished. \$459,000 | Roxanne Jeske | 450-5210



VASARI COUNTRY CLUB ALTESSA ▲ #101 - Model perfect, "WOW" S. exposure golf course view! Barely lived in 2BR+den, 2BA in a "bundled" golfing community. \$419,000 | Roxanne Jeske | 450-5210



THE STRADA AT MERCATO ▲ Located just North of Vanderbilt Beach Rd, on U.S. 41, Mercato features residential, retail, Whole Foods Market, restaurants and more. Upscale contemporary living from the \$300s. Please call 594-9400 for more information.



VANDERBILT BEACH AREA PAVILION CLUB ▲ #201 - Turnkey furnished corner residence. Hurricane shutters, pergio floors & built-in grill on the lanai of this 2BR+den. \$399,000 | Carolyn Weinand | 269-5678



VASARI COUNTRY CLUB ALTESSA ▲ #22-102 - Tastefully decorated 2 BR plus den with tile floors, crown moulding and granite counters. Views to the 17th green. \$395,000 | Gayle Fawkes | 250-6051



BEACHWALK VILLAS ▲ One-of-a-kind 2BR/2BA villa owned and designed by an interior decorator. Overlooks a peaceful lake. Walk to beach. \$365,000 | Carol Loder | 860-4326



BEACHWALK VILLAS ▲ Fabulous view over the lake and fountain to the south sets this lovely 2 bedroom, 2 bath villa. New tiled roof. \$355,000 | Carol Loder | 860-4326



BEACHWALK HOMES ▲ Walk to beach! Near everything. Well-maintained 2BR/2BA home, clubhouse, great amenities, 24-hour security guards. \$350,000 | Carol Loder | 860-4326



VASARI COUNTRY CLUB TOSCANA I ▲ #101 - Tastefully finished home overlooks lush green and lake. Two bedroom + den corner residence. Bundled golf community. \$299,999 | Susan DeShong | 253-3434



COCONUT POINT - RAPALLO ▲ #204 - New and never lived in 3BR/2BA near beach, shops & dining. Long lake views, private garage. Five star amenities. \$297,000 | Cynthia Joannou | 273-0666



VASARI COUNTRY CLUB TRIESTE II ▲ #201 - Two bedroom plus den corner residence. Fabulous views out every window and privacy galore! Diagonal tile, moulding. \$285,000 | Roxanne Jeske | 450-5210

VANDERBILT BEACH

VANDERBILT YACHT & RACQUET CLUB 11030 Gulfshore Drive #401 - Magnificent long water views. Bayfront, 2 master suites, meticulously cared for. Gated community across from beach. \$549,990 | Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731

VANDERBILT SURF COLONY II 15 Bluehill Avenue #205 Panoramic bay views and gorgeous sunsets from every room. Open kitchen, wraparound lanai. Freshly painted. \$529,000 | Marsha L. Moore | 398-4559

REGATTA Flageship Drive BS #23 - Rarely available 40 ft. boat slip with Gulf access. May only be purchased by a Regatta owner. \$99,000 | Leah Ritchey/Ray Couret | 293-5899

REGATTA 425 Launch Circle BS #25-B This 30' boat slip with 14' beam is a corner, finger dock & quick Gulf access. Must be an owner in Regatta. \$65,000 | Bernie Garabed | 571-2466

COCONUT POINT

RAPALLO 8597 Via Giribaldi Circle N. #PH305 A southwest penthouse with lake views. Two bedrooms plus den with many upgrades. Many wonderful amenities. \$199,500 | Barbara Bardsley | 784-6024

BEACHWALK

BEACHWALK GARDENS 643 Beachwalk Circle #D-202 Walk to the beach! Furnished, 2nd floor, 2 bedroom, with 1,780+ total SF, vaulted ceilings and a lake view. \$324,000 | Pat Duggan | 216-1980

BEACHWALK GARDENS 565 Beachwalk Circle #203 Furnished 2 bedroom, 2 bath residence with split floor plan, vaulted ceilings, and lovely views over 1 of 3 lakes. \$320,000 | Carol Loder | 860-4326

BANYAN WOODS

RESERVE II 5055 Blauvelt Way #202 Upgrades galore! An incredible lake front 3BR+den, 3BA coach home, private elevator. Lanai with Jennair grill. \$545,000 | Pat Duggan | 216-1980

RESERVE II 5050 Blauvelt Way #201 This 3 bedroom plus den freshly painted, new carpeting, granite, plantation shutters, views of lake from lanai. \$480,000 | Pat Duggan | 216-1980

BONITA SPRINGS

SAN CARLOS ESTATES 24677 Rodan Drive - Quiet country living on a 1.25 acres site, near shops. Newer, spacious 3BR+den home. Family room, heated pool. \$485,000 | Pam Umscheid/Stephanie/John Colours | 948-4000

BONITA SPRINGS

NEW LISTING SPANISH WELLS 28440 Sombbrero Drive Tastefully updated pool home with panoramic lake & golf views. Several levels of optional memberships available. \$450,000 | Sharon Kaltenborn/Teri Moellers | 659-0099

Lots & Acreage

BRENDAN COVE 9124 Brendan River Court Magnificent homesite located on the Imperial River. SW exposure, surrounded by beautiful homes. Direct Gulf access. \$749,000 | Dan O'Dea | 250-2429

BONITA FARMS 27025 Belle Rio Drive Corner lot at end of waterway with Gulf access or boat to the backwaters for fishing. Your dream homesite. \$299,000 | Dan O'Dea | 250-2429

BONITA FARMS 27151 Mora Drive Beautiful waterfront site is perfect for your waterfront dream home to be built. Gulf access from this site! \$199,000 | Mark/Laura Maran | 777-3301

NUTTINGLIKIT GROVE 10251 River Drive Enjoy the serenity of this riverfront site. A perfect setting for your home to be built. \$199,000 | Mark/Laura Maran | 777-3301



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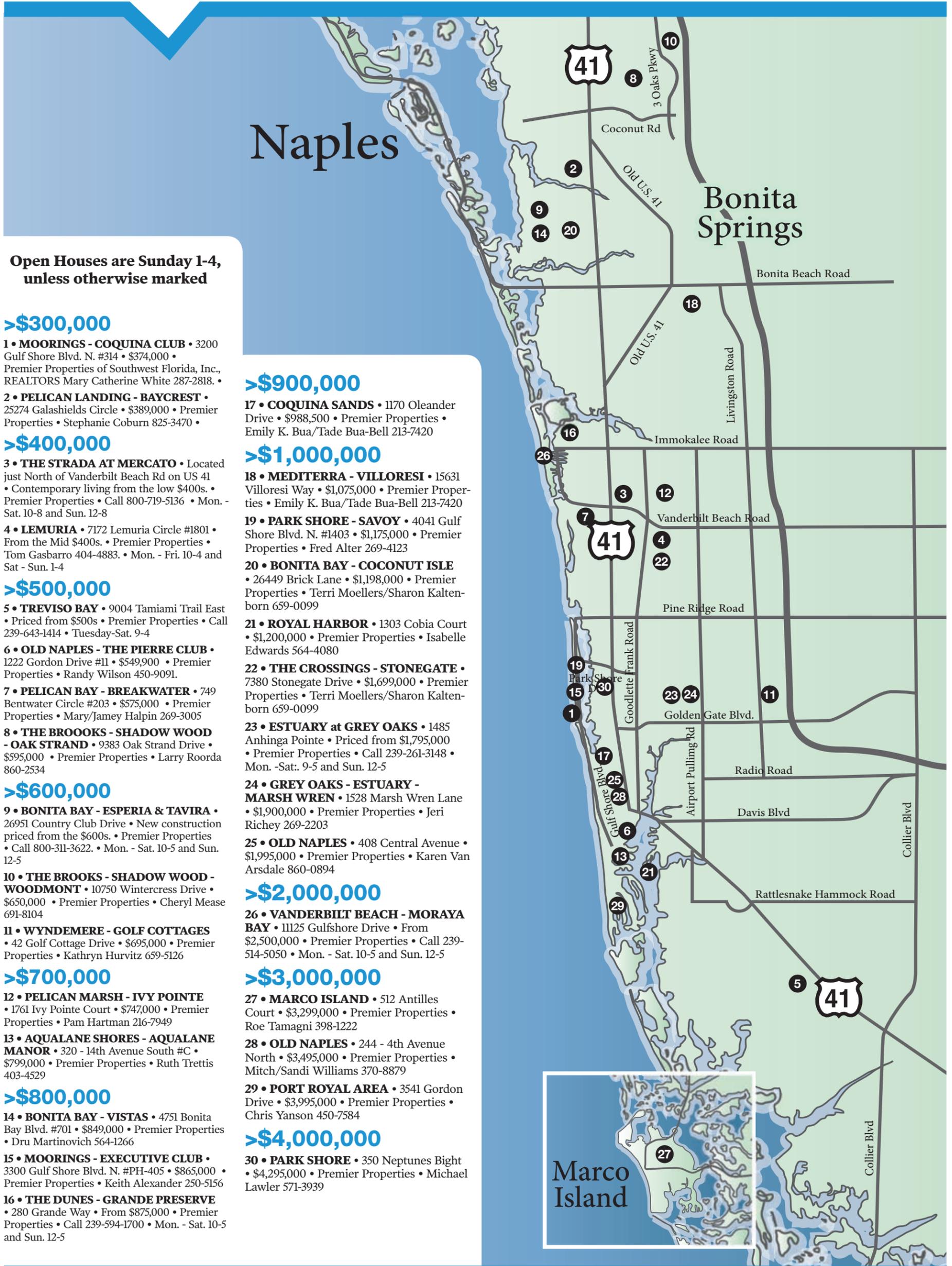
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Florida Weekly's Open Houses



Open Houses are Sunday 1-4, unless otherwise marked

>\$300,000

1 • MOORINGS - COQUINA CLUB • 3200 Gulf Shore Blvd. N. #314 • \$374,000 • Premier Properties of Southwest Florida, Inc., REALTORS Mary Catherine White 287-2818.

2 • PELICAN LANDING - BAYCREST • 25274 Galashields Circle • \$389,000 • Premier Properties • Stephanie Coburn 825-3470

>\$400,000

3 • THE STRADA AT MERCATO • Located just North of Vanderbilt Beach Rd on US 41 • Contemporary living from the low \$400s. • Premier Properties • Call 800-719-5136 • Mon. - Sat. 10-8 and Sun. 12-8

4 • LEMURIA • 7172 Lemuria Circle #1801 • From the Mid \$400s. • Premier Properties • Tom Gasbarro 404-4883. • Mon. - Fri. 10-4 and Sat - Sun. 1-4

>\$500,000

5 • TREVISO BAY • 9004 Tamiami Trail East • Priced from \$500s • Premier Properties • Call 239-643-1414 • Tuesday-Sat. 9-4

6 • OLD NAPLES - THE PIERRE CLUB • 1222 Gordon Drive #11 • \$549,900 • Premier Properties • Randy Wilson 450-9091.

7 • PELICAN BAY - BREAKWATER • 749 Bentwater Circle #203 • \$575,000 • Premier Properties • Mary/Jamey Halpin 269-3005

8 • THE BROOKS - SHADOW WOOD - OAK STRAND • 9383 Oak Strand Drive • \$595,000 • Premier Properties • Larry Roorda 860-2534

>\$600,000

9 • BONITA BAY - ESPERIA & TAVIRA • 26951 Country Club Drive • New construction priced from the \$600s. • Premier Properties • Call 800-311-3622. • Mon. - Sat. 10-5 and Sun. 12-5

10 • THE BROOKS - SHADOW WOOD - WOODMONT • 10750 Wintercress Drive • \$650,000 • Premier Properties • Cheryl Mease 691-8104

11 • WYNDEMERE - GOLF COTTAGES • 42 Golf Cottage Drive • \$695,000 • Premier Properties • Kathryn Hurvitz 659-5126

>\$700,000

12 • PELICAN MARSH - IVY POINTE • 1761 Ivy Pointe Court • \$747,000 • Premier Properties • Pam Hartman 216-7949

13 • AQUALANE SHORES - AQUALANE MANOR • 320 - 14th Avenue South #C • \$799,000 • Premier Properties • Ruth Trettis 403-4529

>\$800,000

14 • BONITA BAY - VISTAS • 4751 Bonita Bay Blvd. #701 • \$849,000 • Premier Properties • Dru Martinovich 564-1266

15 • MOORINGS - EXECUTIVE CLUB • 3300 Gulf Shore Blvd. N. #PH-405 • \$865,000 • Premier Properties • Keith Alexander 250-5156

16 • THE DUNES - GRANDE PRESERVE • 280 Grande Way • From \$875,000 • Premier Properties • Call 239-594-1700 • Mon. - Sat. 10-5 and Sun. 12-5

>\$900,000

17 • COQUINA SANDS • 1170 Oleander Drive • \$988,500 • Premier Properties • Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell 213-7420

>\$1,000,000

18 • MEDITERRA - VILLORESI • 15631 Villoresi Way • \$1,075,000 • Premier Properties • Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell 213-7420

19 • PARK SHORE - SAVOY • 4041 Gulf Shore Blvd. N. #1403 • \$1,175,000 • Premier Properties • Fred Alter 269-4123

20 • BONITA BAY - COCONUT ISLE • 26449 Brick Lane • \$1,198,000 • Premier Properties • Terri Moellers/Sharon Kaltenborn 659-0099

21 • ROYAL HARBOR • 1303 Cobia Court • \$1,200,000 • Premier Properties • Isabelle Edwards 564-4080

22 • THE CROSSINGS - STONEGATE • 7380 Stonegate Drive • \$1,699,000 • Premier Properties • Terri Moellers/Sharon Kaltenborn 659-0099

23 • ESTUARY at GREY OAKS • 1485 Anhinga Pointe • Priced from \$1,795,000 • Premier Properties • Call 239-261-3148 • Mon. -Sat.: 9-5 and Sun. 12-5

24 • GREY OAKS - ESTUARY - MARSH WREN • 1528 Marsh Wren Lane • \$1,900,000 • Premier Properties • Jeri Richey 269-2203

25 • OLD NAPLES • 408 Central Avenue • \$1,995,000 • Premier Properties • Karen Van Arsdale 860-0894

>\$2,000,000

26 • VANDERBILT BEACH - MORAYA BAY • 11125 Gulfshore Drive • From \$2,500,000 • Premier Properties • Call 239-514-5050 • Mon. - Sat. 10-5 and Sun. 12-5

>\$3,000,000

27 • MARCO ISLAND • 512 Antilles Court • \$3,299,000 • Premier Properties • Roe Tamagni 398-1222

28 • OLD NAPLES • 244 - 4th Avenue North • \$3,495,000 • Premier Properties • Mitch/Sandi Williams 370-8879

29 • PORT ROYAL AREA • 3541 Gordon Drive • \$3,995,000 • Premier Properties • Chris Yanson 450-7584

>\$4,000,000

30 • PARK SHORE • 350 Neptunes Bight • \$4,295,000 • Premier Properties • Michael Lawler 571-3939



PELICAN BAY - CAP FERRAT #PH11 - Extraordinary Penthouse! World Class Views! Elegant & quality interiors, expansive terraces encompassing 6,800 SF. \$5,990,000 | Barbi/Steve Lowe | 216-1973



PELICAN BAY - CAP FERRAT #PH22 - 4,600+ SF A/C, 2,300 SF of terraces, private rooftop terrace. \$160,000+ in backgrounds, 5BR+den, Gulf/preserve views. \$3,275,000 | Philip N. Collins | 404-6800



PELICAN BAY - GEORGETOWN Borelli-built, French Provincial 2-story manor home. 5 BR with elevator, media room & library. Turnkey furnished. \$2,895,000 | Jane Darling | 290-3112



NEW LISTING
PELICAN BAY - JAMESTOWN Breathtaking lake views, prime SW exposure, gated community. Exquisite 4BR/5BA + den/office. Heated pool and spa. \$2,500,000 | Sharon Kiptyk | 777-3899



PELICAN BAY - BARRINGTON Spectacular lake views! Large screened lanai with pool & outdoor kitchen. Master suite wing plus 3 other bedrooms. \$2,395,000 | Mary Halpin/Jamey Halpin | 269-3005/



PELICAN MARSH - BAY LAUREL ESTATES Pool, spa, and waterfall on quiet preserve. Lovely main home, 2-story 5 room cabana. Large outdoor living area. \$2,390,000 | Mary Catherine/Larry White | 594-9494



PELICAN BAY - ISLE VERDE This villa is absolutely stunning and offers 4,000+ SF under air. Over \$300,000 in recent improvements. \$2,195,000 | Jane Darling | 290-3112



PELICAN BAY - BARRINGTON Pristine 4 BR+den/5.5BA pool home on golf course. Tram to beach, golf/social memberships, fitness center, tennis. \$2,000,000 | Sharon Kiptyk | 777-3899



NEW LISTING
PELICAN BAY - BARRINGTON Immaculate! Built by Imperial Homes with 6,608 total SF, marble master bath, 3BRs+den. Great golf course views. \$2,000,000 | Jane Darling | 290-3112



PELICAN BAY - MONTENERO #508 - Warm beachfront home with western exposure, 3,400 SF A/C, & private elevator. Panoramic views of Gulf/preserve. \$1,975,000 | Judy Perry/Penny Lyle | 261-6161



OPEN SUN. 1-4
PELICAN BAY - ST. RAPHAEL 7117 Pelican Bay Blvd. #PH-20 - Spectacular sunsets over Gulf with totally unobstructed views from this penthouse. Sunrise terrace overlooks golf. \$1,795,000 | Jean Tarkenton | 595-0544



PELICAN BAY - COCOBAY Lakefront courtyard villa with guest cabana. Three bedroom plus den. Private pool/spa. \$1,665,000 | Cathy Owen | 269-3118



OPEN SUN. 1-4
PELICAN MARSH - TERRABELLA 9108 Terrabella Court - WOW! Incredible SW view of pool/spa to lagoon. Detached 4BR/4.5BA+den villa, formal living, dining & family rooms. \$1,425,000 | Rod Soars | 290-2448



OPEN SUN. 1-4
PELICAN BAY - ST. RAPHAEL 7117 Pelican Bay Blvd. #1607 - Spectacular views over Gulf, Bay & golf! Exquisitely appointed 3BR/3BA. Health club, pool, tennis, 4 guest suites. \$1,395,000 | Jean Tarkenton | 595-0544



PELICAN MARSH - GRAND ISLE Spectacular lake & golf course view! Mediterranean inspired 4BR/4.5BA+den courtyard villa, 3,861 SF A/C. Pool, spa. \$1,200,000 | Ray Couret/Leah Ritchey | 293-5899



PELICAN MARSH - TERRABELLA Contemporary villa with European-style finishes. Three bedrooms, upgraded cabinetry, guest cabana & courtyard pool/spa. \$1,185,000 | Rod Soars | 290-2448



PELICAN BAY - TIERRA MAR Rare lakefront 3 BR villa sits on oversized Tierra Mar lot with southern exposure. Vaulted ceilings & lots of glass. \$1,150,000 | Linda Platt | 269-2322



PELICAN BAY - ST. LAURENT #705 - Spacious corner 3 bedroom with Bay, Gulf and golf views. Panoramic sunsets from open air lanai. Large master suite. \$1,150,000 | Michael Lawler/Janet Rathbun | 571-3939



PELICAN BAY - GROSVENOR #1705 - Extremely open and airy standout. Modified plan. Granite countertops, marble flooring, 3M film on all windows. \$1,090,000 | Jerry Wachowicz | 777-0741



PELICAN BAY - LAS BRISAS Gorgeous 2-story 3 bedroom, 3 bath villa, plus a powder room. Private pool and brick lanai. New roof & A/C. \$995,000 | Jane Darling | 290-3112



PELICAN BAY - BEAUVILLE Charming 3 BR+den villa with 2,900 total SF on oversized corner lot. Gated entry. Family room open to pool. \$895,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



PELICAN MARSH - PORTOFINO Tile & marble floors, volume ceilings, and plantation shutters. Private pool & spacious lanai overlook preserve. \$895,000 | Jean Tarkenton | 595-0544



OPEN SUN. 1-4
POINTE AT PELICAN BAY 540 Via Veneto #101 - Light & bright 1st fl., 3BR, 2,600 total SF, southern exposure & screened lanai. 2-car garage. Private beach club. \$749,000 | Linda Platt | 269-2322



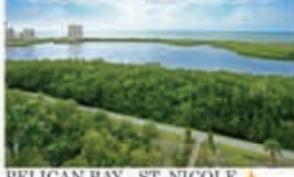
OPEN SUN. 1-4
PELICAN MARSH - IVY POINTE 1761 Ivy Pointe Court - An elegant, model quality 2BR+den. Lushly landscaped expanded tropical pool area. Corner lot. \$747,000 | Pam Hartman | 216-7949



PELICAN BAY - ST. RAPHAEL #14 - Elegant garden residence, private pool and luxuries of condominium living. Two bedrooms, great room, marble floors. \$745,000 | Cynthia Joannou | 273-0666



OPEN SUN. 1-4
PELICAN MARSH - OSPREY POINTE #9065 Whimbrel Lane Watch #201 - Wraparound fairway and lake vistas! Exquisite custom features, over 2,700 SF A/C, 3BR/3BA+den, 2-car garage. \$695,000 | Mitch/Sandra Williams | 370-8879



PELICAN BAY - ST. NICOLE #1202 - Sunsets from balcony! Pristine 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom residence. Gorgeous Gulf views, beautiful furnishings. \$645,000 | Pat Duggan | 216-1980



PELICAN MARSH ISLAND COVE Stunning lake views! Over 2,785 total SF, 2BR plus den/3BR and extended lanai. Room for pool! \$620,000 | Judy Perry/Penny Lyle | 261-6161



PELICAN BAY - ST. NICOLE #203 - Very nice recently updated 2BR/2BA condominium with outstanding Gulf/Bay views! Wonderful amenities, private beach. \$595,000 | Fred Alter | 269-4123



PELICAN BAY - CALAIS #102 - New 20" tile, carpet, cabinets, granite & marble counters, stainless appliances, & crown moulding. Attached garage. \$559,000 | Barbi/Steve Lowe | 216-1973



PELICAN BAY - L'AMBIANCE #205 - A great price for a 3BR furnished condominium with attached garage & beautiful lake view. Tram to private beach. \$525,000 | Roya Noshi | 290-9111



PELICAN MARSH - OSPREY POINTE #101 - Quiet location overlooking golf course. Southern exposure, 2BR+den, many upgrades. Clubhouse with pool & spa. \$499,000 | Janet Rathbun | 860-0012



PELICAN BAY - L'AMBIANCE #108 - Beautifully renovated! Open and bright corner 2R/2BA with 1,823 total SF. Turnkey furnished. One-car garage. \$479,000 | Adrienne Young/Anne Killilea | 261-6200



PELICAN BAY - HYDE PARK #A402 - Fantastic lake and golf course views from the terrace of this 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath condominium. Convenience to all. \$430,000 | Pat Biernat | 269-6264



PELICAN BAY - GLENCOVE #1205 - Volume ceilings, light, bright, and open floorplan. Nicely furnished and finished in neutral decor. Charming! \$318,000 | Jean Tarkenton | 595-0544

PELICAN BAY

BARRINGTON 6999 Green Tree Drive - Overlooking lake and golf, 3,946 A/C SF, 3BRs plus den. Gourmet kitchen, Australian cypress floors, 3-car garage. \$1,995,000 | Jane Darling | 290-3112

PINECREST 801 Slash Pine Court - Renovated inside and out, 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath home. Cook's kitchen, family room, heated pool/spa, 3-car garage. \$1,795,000 | Janet Rathbun | 860-0012

Condominiums/Villas

CAP FERRAT 6597 Nicholas Blvd. #1001 - SW corner residence, panoramic Gulf/Bay views. Den, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, high-end finishes, pool, secured entry. \$2,800,000 | Ellen Eggland | 571-7192

MONTENERO 7575 Pelican Bay Blvd. #1403 - Unobstructed Gulf views! Luxurious 3BR/3.5BA, family room, grand salon and two guest suites. World-class amenities. NOW \$2,549,000 | Cynthia Joannou | 273-0666

ST. RAPHAEL 7117 Pelican Bay Blvd. #1105 - Luxury, pristine 3BR/3.5BA tower residence has a spacious single-family home feel plus spectacular high-rise view. \$2,265,000 | Jean Tarkenton | 595-0544

ST. RAPHAEL 7117 Pelican Bay Blvd. #1504 - Stunning views from this gorgeous 15th floor, 4 bedrooms plus a den, 4 baths and 3,100 SF under air residence. \$1,950,000 | Jane Darling | 290-3112

COCOBAY 7857 Cocobay Drive - Lakefront villa with 3 bedrooms, den, 4 baths includes charming guest house. Screened courtyard. \$1,650,000 | Linda Platt | 269-2322

RENAISSANCE 5850 Pelican Bay Blvd. #3A - Charming 3BR/3BA residence with high ceilings, granite, wood-burning fireplace, loft library, skylights. Furnished. \$1,147,000 | Susan Barton | 860-1412

L'AMBIANCE 2000 L'Ambiance Circle #201 - Sensational view! Tropical aqua-scape view enhances the open spaciousness of this coach home. Incredible amenities. \$995,000 | Ellen Eggland | 571-7192

OPEN SUN. 1-4 **ST. RAPHAEL 7117 Pelican Bay Blvd. #207** Peaceful, tropical setting with sunsets galore. Bamboo flooring, 3 bedrooms, hurricane shutters & 2,200+ total SF. \$995,000 | Jean Tarkenton | 595-0544

PELICAN BAY

Condominiums/Villas

ST. RAPHAEL 7095 Pelican Bay Blvd. #14 - Corner 3 bedroom, 3 bath villa with private elevator, sunny private pool, fireplace and "Juliet" balcony. \$995,000 | Karen Conroy Coplin | 261-1235

HERON 5555 Heron Point Drive #802 - Your home in the sky awaits. Stunningly remodeled. Unobstructed bay and Gulf views. Two bedrooms, den, 3 baths. \$925,000 | Kathryn Hurvitz | 659-5126

MARBELLA 7425 Pelican Bay Blvd. #1105 - Wonderful Gulf views from this 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath with approx. 2,000 total SF. Full service building. \$899,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420

INTERLACHEN 6732 Pelican Bay Blvd. - Spacious floor plan with 3 bedrooms and 2-car garage. Wonderful lake/pool views. Beach access, pool, tennis. \$699,500 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420

ST. MARISSA 6573 Marissa Loop #1002 - Endless Gulf of Mexico views from this 2BR plus den condominium. Beautifully updated building with great amenities. \$639,000 | Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731

INTERLACHEN 6760 Pelican Bay Blvd. #333 - Lovely 3BR/2BA condominium is all about location & space. Tram to beach facilities. Beautiful golf course views! \$599,000 | Carol Leder | 860-4326

PEBBLE CREEK 7671 Pebble Creek Circle #403 - Panoramic golf & lake views! Meticulously maintained, tasteful decor, 3BRs. Pool, access from private beach tram. \$599,000 | Dave/Ann Renner & Esther Van Lare | 784-5552

ST. MAARTEN 6101 Pelican Bay Blvd. #602 - WOW Gulf/beach view, great building, excellent location! Den, 2BR/2BA. Private beach tram. Near shops/restaurants. \$595,000 | Roxanna Jenke | 450-5210

OPEN SUN. 1-4 **BREAKWATER 749 Breakwater Circle #203** This 2 bedroom + den features picturesque southern lake views, a glass-enclosed lanai, huge oversized 2-car garage. \$575,000 | Mary Halpin/Jamey Halpin | 269-3005

ST. NICOLE 5550 Heron Point Drive #203 - An outstanding 2BR/2BA furnished condominium with a terrific view of the mangrove preserve. Private beach access. \$439,000 | Fred Alter | 269-4123

CHATEAUMERE 6060 Pelican Bay Blvd. #201 - Beautifully renovated! Spectacular lake/golf views. Enclosed lanai with sliding glass doors. Turnkey furnished. \$425,000 | Linda Ohler | 404-6460

PELICAN MARSH

TERRABELLA 9033 Terranova Drive - Large, private lake-front property. Separate guest cabana, 4BR+den, open-air courtyard, pool, spa and 3-car garage. \$1,690,000 | Rod Soars | 290-2448

9392 Sweetgrass Way - Golf course backdrop. Four bedroom, 4.5 bath home. Master with office, heated pool/spa, fireplace in family room. \$1,525,000 | Terri Moellers/Sharon Kaltenborn | 659-0099

GABLES 1004 Spanish Moes Trail - Four bedrooms, 4 BAs, 3-car garage, pool, lake view. Granite counters, fireplace, tray ceilings, 2 new A/C systems. \$1,145,000 | Ray Couret | 293-5899

ISLAND COVE 2325 Island Cove Circle - Tropical lake views. Spacious 2BR, den, 2.5BA, sunny lakeside breakfast nook. Wood floors, marble in master bath. \$599,500 | Terri Moellers/Sharon Kaltenborn | 659-0099 **NEW LISTING**

ISLAND COVE 2267 Island Cove Circle - Beautiful 2BR+den/3BR, 2.5BA lake front home. Many community amenities, optional social and golf club memberships. \$595,000 | Terri Moellers/Sharon Kaltenborn | 659-0099 **NEW LISTING**

VENTURA 8816 Ventura Way - Expansive great room & kitchen. "Spinnaker" floor plan, 3 BR plus loft/den, lanai with pool. Attached 2-car garage. \$525,000 | Pat Duggan | 216-1980

TIMARRON 1908 Timarron Way - Airy, exquisite 3BR/3BA + loft villa on a corner lot. Private pool with southern exposure. Golf, tennis, clubhouse. \$499,000 | Pam Hartman | 216-7949

Condominiums/Villas

IVY POINTE 1809 Ivy Pointe Court - Lovely villa with 3 bedrooms plus a den/study and 2,900+ total SF. Spectacular lake/golf views! Pool, wet bar, grill. \$870,000 | Carol Leder | 860-4326

CLERMONT 1575 Clermont Drive #202 - Three bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, and a 2nd floor location. Lake views and palm tree-lined sunsets. Tastefully updated. \$399,000 | Pam Hartman | 216-7949

ARIELLE 2245 Arielle Drive #2101 - New wood flooring & great decor! This corner 3 bedroom plus family room/den residence enjoys a peaceful lake view. \$357,500 | Jean Tarkenton | 595-0544

CLERMONT 1560 Clermont Drive #102 - PRICED TO SELL! Mint condition, recently renovated 3BR/2BA coach home. Clubhouse, pool, tennis & community ctr. \$335,000 | Wendy Hayes | 777-3960

ARIELLE 2190 Arielle Drive #907 - Beautifully decorated 2 BR + den on the golf course with 2,065 total SF. Close to the beach. Amazing amenities. \$305,000 | Vickie Larscheid | 250-5041



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WEEK OF DECEMBER 10-16, 2009

A GUIDE TO THE NAPLES ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SCENE



color her world

As Alice Walker's Celie, **Kenita Miller** discovers a sense of triumph and a taste for humanity

BY NANCY STETSON
nstetson@floridaweekly.com

aCTRESS KENITA MILLER LOVES "THE COLOR PURPLE," both the book and the movie, but when she heard it was being turned into a musical, it gave her pause. "A musical adaptation?" she says. "I thought, 'I don't know...'"

But the more she learned about it, the more she liked the idea. After all, the people behind

>>inside:
"The Color Purple"
plays the Phil through
Dec. 13
C4

SEE PURPLE, C4 ►



COURTESY PHOTO

Kenita Miller (Celie), Felicia Fields (Sofia) and Lesly Terrell Donald (Buster) in "The Color Purple"

WEEK at-a-glance



If The Shoe Fits

See who found the perfect party pair, and more from soirees around town. **C28, 29, 30 & 31** ►



It's fun to be at the...

YMCA of the Palms has served the community for four decades. **C9** ►



Happy Holidays

Watch the boats. Light the menorahs. Enjoy the sounds. Take your pick of ways to celebrate the season. **Holiday Happenings, C12-19** ►

Henry Koerner masterfully combined the real with the imagined

FLORIDA WEEKLY STAFF REPORT

The first major U.S. retrospective of Henry Koerner's works since 1984 opens Saturday, Dec. 12, at The von Liebig Art Center. Most of the works in "Henry Koerner: The Real and Imagined" are for sale, making this a unique opportunity for collectors.

The Holocaust Museum of Southwest Florida simultaneously presents "The Henry Koerner Photographs: Vienna 1946." Both exhibits will hang through

Sunday, Jan. 10.

The late artist's son, Joseph Koerner, professor of art history and architecture at Harvard University, will present a lecture about the legacy of his father at 3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, at The von Liebig. The lecture is \$10 for Naples Art Association members and \$15 for non-members and includes admission to the exhibition preview reception at 5:30 pm.



COURTESY OF THE HENRY KOERNER ESTATE

Children's Palace

SEE KOERNER, C21 ►



Breaking out of Bach

40-voice ensemble is poised to expand its repertoire. **C22** ►

SANDY DAYS, SALTY NIGHTS

Being the partner we wish to have



Some people are their own worst enemies. Like Rebecca, a girl I know who I hesitate to call a friend. She once invited me for coffee on the pretext of soliciting dating advice, but really it was an excuse for her to unload about the sorry state of her love life. During that extended session — which felt like therapy, and I still wonder if I shouldn't send her a bill — Rebecca confessed that she's never been able to hold down a relationship.

"Nothing longer than two months," she said. "I guess there's something wrong with me."

"Oh?" I asked, seizing the opportunity for a teachable moment. Even after her hour-long kvetching session, I still wanted to help her find love. After all, she's an attractive, smart girl — a good catch if she can keep her mouth shut. "Can you think of anything you might be doing to drive men away?" I mentally willed her to realize that she talks too much, that people can't squeeze a word into her personal monologue.

"I don't know," she said. She paused. I thought she might actually be considering the question, but then, "I guess I just have bad luck."

In "The Wedding Date," hunky Dermot Mulroney's character — a male

escort — says that every woman is in exactly the relationship she wants to be in. Even the bitter singles, he says, have created their non-relationships.

If we follow this reasoning — written in a script for the character of a male hooker, but still — then we are all responsible for the state of our relationships. It's frightening, on one hand, to think we might be the cause of all those bad dates with useless people, or that the reason we can't go the distance with a potential mate is not something extrinsic to our nature — bad luck or a dark curse — but rather something wholly and completely within us.

But if this is terrifying, it's also empowering. If we have the power to push people away, to create barriers with our poor behavior and nervous tics, then we also have the power to draw them closer, to weed out the parts of our personality that don't work in healthy relationships and to cultivate mannerisms that make for good mates.

In a recent *New York Times* piece, the writer tells the story of C a m i

Walker, who began a 29-day gift-giving program as a way to shift her focus away from her multiple sclerosis. The gifts were more personal than financial, and they changed her outlook on her life and disease. "It's about stepping outside of your own story long enough to make a connection with someone else," she said in the article.

Perhaps we should all try this. After all, relationships take generosity.

If we want something from a

"After all, she's an attractive, smart girl — a good catch if she can keep her mouth shut...."

partner, we must first learn to give it. "You must be the change you wish to see in the world," Gandhi told us. For people like Rebecca, that means sitting back and listening for a change. Whether she takes my advice — and whether love follows — will have to be seen. ■



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Send your dating tips, questions, and letters to: sandydays@floridaweekly.com

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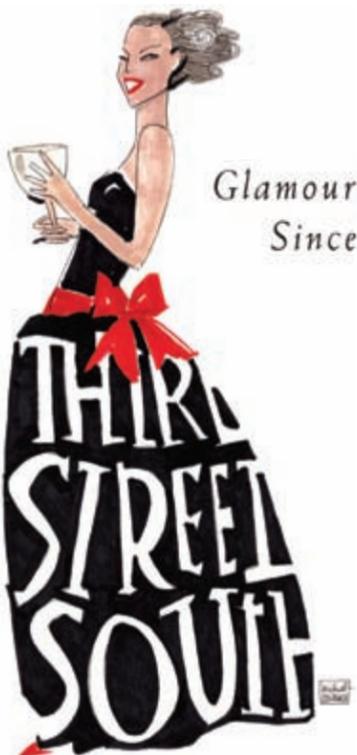
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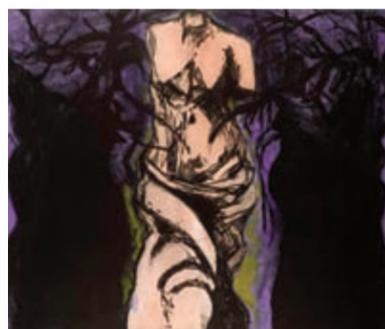


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PURPLE

From page 1

the scenes were well respected in the arts and entertainment world.

Oprah Winfrey, who was nominated for an Academy Award for her role as Sofia in the film version, is one of the show's producers, as well as a major investor. Marsha Norman, recipient of a Pulitzer Prize for the play "night, Mother," wrote the book for the musical, and Brenda Russell, Ailee Willis and Stephen Bray wrote the music.

Ms. Miller was introduced to "The Color Purple" at an early age.

"I saw the movie first," she says. "My older sister had the book in her room. When she left home, I was in her room all the time. My mom was saying 'Not yet,' but I read it anyway. I couldn't understand a lot of the dynamics of the book, but there was something very captivating and charming about it. I read it several times, and each time understood more."

The novelist Alice Walker, who received the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize for "The Color Purple," is one of Ms. Miller's favorite writers. "I really respect her work," she says. "She's such a powerful force." When she finally had the opportunity to meet the author, Ms. Miller adds, "My encounter wasn't more than 'Hi' and 'Thank you for your work.' I couldn't drum up more to say. I'm in such awe of her and her work, and the way she articulates herself through her work."

And that musical adaptation the actress initially wasn't too sure about?

Ms. Miller performed in the lead as Celie on Broadway, and now she's reprising the role in the musical's first national tour, which plays at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts through Sunday, Dec. 13.

Something to strive for

"The Color Purple" tells the story of Celie, a young black girl in rural Georgia in the 1930s. By age 14, she has been raped by her father and given birth to two of his children. When the children disappear, she assumes her father has killed them.

Celie then marries a man she calls Mister, who's physically and emotionally abusive. Her sister Nettie lives with them, but is sent away when she refuses Mister's advances. Nettie goes to Africa, and Mister hides all the letters she sends back to Celie.

When Mister's mistress, a nightclub singer named Shug, comes to live with them, Celie and Shug become intimate and their relationship empowers Celie to recognize her own beauty and abilities.

Although the story is told from an African-American perspective, "Celie's a human, she's a woman first," Ms. Miller says, adding anyone, even men, can identify with the story. "Men go through abuse as well," she says.

For Ms. Miller as an actress, it's been "almost spoiling" to tell a story that's so versatile in its own right and that reaches such a diverse dynamic of people, she says.

After one Broadway performance, she says, a white woman came up to her, crying. "She hugged me and said, 'I just want you to know that the story was so powerful. I didn't know if I wanted to come at first, because this is my story. I lost my sister, but I never got her back.'"

Ms. Miller didn't know what else to do but hug the woman.

"I feel very honored to help heal somebody (though my acting)," she says. "That's important to me, Kenita, that I'm doing something for a reason, not letting life pass me by without connecting to others."

Her role as Celie, she adds, "has given me something to strive for — to play



COURTESY PHOTOS

Above: Kenita Miller (Celie) and LaToya London (Nettie). Left: Angela Robinson (Shug Avery) in the "Push Da Button" scene.



more human, not the stereotype that I easily fit into.

"Celie has given me a taste for humanity."

A tough act to follow?

Ms. Miller says she wasn't at all intimidated by playing a role so many people associate with Whoopi Goldberg, who portrayed Celie in the movie. She met the actress/comedian a year and a half ago, when Ms. Goldberg joined the cast of "Xanadu," in which Ms. Miller was performing on Broadway.

"The very first night she went on, I looked over and saw her profile and said 'Oh my God, that's Celie.' She's such a remarkable human being. I don't think anybody could fill those shoes, or give what she gave. There was something very unique and extremely genuine with her portrayal of Celie."

"Xanadu," she adds, was "such a satire, such a goofy show." (A national production of the roller disco musical plays at the Phil next spring, April 23-25.)

In "Xanadu" Ms. Miller played a muse, wearing spandex, a big Afro and roller skates. In contrast, she says, "The Color Purple" "makes people think. It's big, more intimate... it takes you inside of yourself. It's a gift."

Ms. Miller loves that the role of Celie isn't a stereotype.

"People can easily say it is, because

of the setting and the time period," she says. "But you can put it in any time period. I know people in my family whose story this is, to a T. Not just ancestors, people back in the day, but more recently in my generation.

"You can take it out of the culture, even," she adds. "It's a very human story. I would hate for that to be overlooked."

Finding the love

As for whether Celie and Shug are lesbians, "I feel it depends on the person, as far as perspective," Ms. Miller says. "For me, I believe that if you connect with it being a lesbian dynamic, that's what it is for you.

"I think of myself as a person who doesn't categorize. These are people who fall in love with different spirits they're attracted to, the soul they're attracted to, and that comes down to a sexual chemistry, for them.

"If society wants to categorize them, it limits us as human," she adds. "I think these are two women who fall in love with each other, yes. Shug is the first person who besides her sister says 'Celie, I love you. You're beautiful. You have a grace I've never seen before.' She helps Celie fall in love with herself."

The fact that the men in her world are so abusive also affects Celie's perspective. "She clings to whoever is going to give her love," Ms. Miller says. "You

cling to wherever love is."

Celie's journey takes her to the song "I'm Here," which Ms. Miller sings just before the finale, declaring powerfully:

*"I believe I have inside of me
Everything that I need to live a
bountiful life.
With all the love alive in me
I'll stand as tall as the tallest tree.
And I'm
Thankful for every day that I'm given,
Both the easy and the hard ones I'm
livin'.
But most of all
I'm thankful for
Loving who I really am.
I'm beautiful.
Yes, I'm beautiful,
And I'm here."*

"This song is like her theme song," Ms. Miller says. "It's her coming into herself, accepting herself. She's always been a person accepting of what life has brought her. I think she's more a survivor than a victim. When she gets to saying, 'I'm here, I am beautiful, I love myself, I can be loved, I receive love,' I think she comes full circle.

"It's a very powerful journey I take every night. It makes me aspire to be a person that whatever life brings me, I love who I am, I love who I'm becoming through these experiences."

No matter how she feels going into a show, by the end, she feels as if she's gained something, she says. "I've conquered something by going through the journey. It's such an uplifting story.

"No matter how hard it is to jump into it, at the end I feel triumphant." ■

if you go

>> "The Color Purple"

>> When: through Dec. 13

>> Where: The Philharmonic Center for the Arts

>> Cost: \$79

>> Information: Call 597-1900 or go to www.thephil.org

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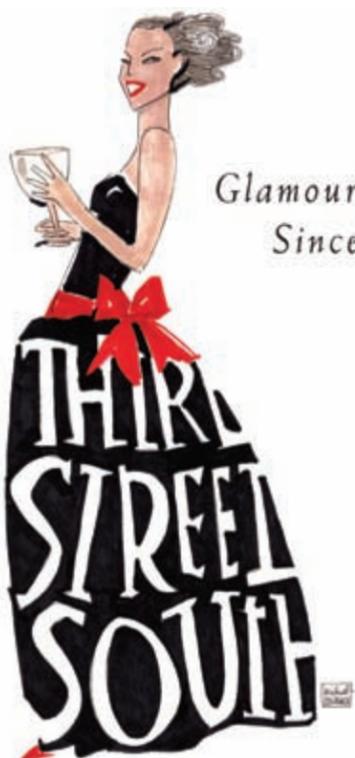
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Third Street South Farmers Market



On Saturday, December 12,

the Third Street South Farmers Market will kick off its 15th year by moving the market to the street. For this one day, Third Street South will be closed from 7:30 am to 2:00 pm from Broad Avenue South to 13th Avenue South, allowing visitors to purchase fresh fruits, vegetables, flowers and plants as well as homemade prepared foods and baked goods, soaps, cosmetics, jewelry and other items while strolling on Third.



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Live bands

■ **The Bay House** - 6-9 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday: Jazz with Stu Shelton and Patricia Dean. 799 Walkerbilt Road. 591-3837.

■ **Bayside Seafood Grill & Bar** - 6-9:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday: Lynn Carol on the piano and vocals. In the Venetian Village, 4270 Gulf Shore Blvd. N. 649-5552.

■ **Bice** - Live entertainment from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday. 300 Fifth Avenue South. 262-4044.

■ **Brio Tuscan Grille** - 6:30-9:30 p.m. Wednesday: Nevada Wilkens Trio with jazz, Motown and '60s and '70s tunes. In Waterside Shops. 593-5319.

■ **Capri, A Taste of Italy** - Thursday: Jebry's Jazz Jam; Friday: Manhattan Connection; Saturday: Bill Jollie; Monday: Bob Zottola and The Expandable Jazz Band; Tuesday: Karaoke with Steve Roberts; Wednesday: Cahlua & Cream. In Riverchase Plaza, 11140 Tamiami Trail. 594-3500.

■ **Fitzgerald's Famous Pub** - Country and bluegrass every Saturday night. 9070 Bonita Beach Road. 949-2111

■ **Fred's Diner** - 7 p.m. Wednesday: Tim McGeary hosts singer/songwriter night. 2700 Immokalee Road. 431-7928.

■ **Jack's Bait Shack** - Thursday: Soapy Tuna; Friday and Saturday: Ocean Roads; Monday: Overthrowing Amy; Tuesday: Geek Skwad; Wednesday: Love Funnel. 975 Imperial Golf Course Blvd. 594-3460.

■ **Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club** - Thursday and Monday: Guitarist Kevin Ribbel; Friday and Tuesday: Guitarist JoRey Ortiz. Saturday and Wednesday: Guitarist Barefoot Gino. All from 6-9 p.m. at the Sunset Beach Bar. Sunday: Mixed Nuts poolside from 6-9 p.m. 851 Gulf Shore Blvd. N. 659-4309.

■ **Naples Flatbread & Wine Bar** - 6:30-9 p.m. Thursday: Blues and jazz with Rick Howard, Dave Tregether, John Lamb and Bob Zottola; 8-11 p.m. Saturday: "Acousticlectic Music for the Easily Amused" featuring Beck; 6:30-9 p.m. Sunday: Bob Zottola and The Expandable Jazz Band. 6436 Naples Blvd. 598-9463.

■ **Paddy Murphy's** - Thursday: Justin; Friday: Barefoot Geno; Saturday and Tuesday: Maxi Courtney; Monday: Patrick. 10 p.m. to closing. 457 Fifth Ave. S. 649-5140.

■ **The Pickled Parrot** - 5-9 p.m. Thursday: Nevada Smith; 5-10 p.m. Friday: Steve Hill; 5-9 p.m. Saturday: Maxi Courtney. On the boardwalk at 1100 Sixth Ave. S. 435-7900.

■ **South Street City Oven and**



COURTESY PHOTO

"Bad" sister Meg Magrath (Victoria Diebler) and her ex-sweetheart Doc (Bill Bridges) embrace in a scene from Beth Henley's Pulitzer Prize-winning comedy "Crimes of the Heart," on stage by The Naples Players at Sugden Community Theatre through Dec. 19. 263-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org.

■ **Grill** - Thursday: Open mic night; Friday: Maxi Courtney at 5:30 p.m. and Dave T. at 9:30 p.m.; Saturday: Brown Truck; Sunday: Reggae with Chaefin; Monday: Meagan Rose; Tuesday: Karaoke; Wednesday: PA Trick and the PR Icks. 1410 Pine Ridge Road. 435-9333.

Theater

■ **The Color Purple** - At the Philharmonic Center for the Arts through Dec. 13. 597-1900. See story on page C1.

■ **Man of La Mancha** - TheatreZone presents "Man of La Mancha" at the G&L Theatre on the campus of Community School of Naples through Dec. 13. (888) 966-3352 or www.theatrezone-florida.com.

■ **Crimes of the Heart** - The Naples Players presents "Crimes of the Heart" on the main stage at Sugden Community Theatre through Dec. 19. 263-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org.

■ **Dial 'M' For Murder** - Florida Repertory Theatre in downtown Fort Myers presents "Dial 'M' For Murder" through Dec. 20. 332-4488 or www.floridarep.org. See review on page C8.

■ **Santaland Diaries** - Florida Repertory Theatre presents David Sedaris' thorny comedy, "The Santaland Diaries," Dec. 10-31 in the new Studio Theatre. 332-4488 or www.floridarep.org.

■ **Over the River and Through the Woods** - Theatre Conspiracy in Fort Myers presents "Over the River and Through the Woods" Dec. 10-12 and 17-19. 936-3239 or e-mail info@theatreconspiracy.org.

■ **A Christmas Carol** - Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre in Fort Myers presents "A Christmas Carol" through Dec. 26. 278-4422 or www.BroadwayPalm.com.

■ **Alice in Wonderland Jr.** - The Broadway Palm Children's Theatre presents "Alice in Wonderland Jr." on select dates in December. 278-4422 or www.BroadwayPalm.com.

■ **Winter Wonderettes** - The Off-Broadway Palm Theatre presents the musical comedy "Winter Wonderettes" through Dec. 26. 278-4422 or www.BroadwayPalm.com.

Symphony

■ **Hallelujah!** - The Naples Philharmonic Orchestra and the Philharmonic Center Chorale perform seasonal treasures at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at First Presbyterian Church of Naples. 597-1900.

■ **Many Moods** - The Naples Orchestra and Chorus presents a Christmas and Chanukah program a 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at Golden Gate High School. Free. 348-0938.

■ **Holiday Pops** - The Naples Philharmonic Orchestra performs Holiday Pops at 8 p.m. Dec. 15-20 at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. 597-1900.

Thursday, Dec. 10

■ **Think Spring** - Marissa Collections a trunk show of spring fashions and accessories by Phillip Lim. 1167



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WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Third Street South. 263-1167.

■ **Fascinating Women** – South Regional Library presents Janina Bertolo in “Fascinating Women,” sketches of five historical characters from St. Teresa of Avila to Lucille Ball, at 2 p.m. 252-7542.

■ **Remembering Pets** – Coconut Point mall hosts “Lights of Love,” a candlelight ceremony honoring pets, from 6-9 p.m. In partnership with the Animal Refuge Center, the event includes an animal food and supply drive, pet photos with Santa and live entertainment. 992-9966 or www.simon.com.

■ **Book Talk** – A discussion of “The Reader” by Bernard Schlink starts at 2 p.m. on the patio at the Marco Island Branch Library. 394-3272.

■ **Child’s Christmas** – “A Child’s Christmas in Wales” is presented at 6 p.m. at South Regional Library. 252-7542.

■ **Stand-Up Comedy** – Jennifer Coolidge performs today through Sunday at the Off the Hook Comedy Club on Marco Island. 389-6900.

Friday, Dec. 11

■ **Kids’ World Café** – Children’s Museum of Naples and Waterside Shops invite youngsters to C’Mon and explore the holidays around the world and make their own holiday cards. Free from 11 to 3 p.m. at Waterside Shops. 514-0084.

■ **Caribbean Christmas** – Celebrate the holidays island-style beginning at 7:30 p.m. at The Norris Center. \$25. 213-3058.

■ **Historic Holiday Nights** – The Edison & Ford Estates in Fort Myers present Holiday Nights throughout the 20-acre riverfront property near downtown Fort Myers through Jan. 2. 334-7419.

■ **Sandi Patty** – Enjoy “A Sandi Patty Christmas” at 8 p.m. at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall in Fort Myers. 481-4849.

■ **Cottage Art** – Riverside Park in Bonita Springs comes alive from 5-8 pm. when artists turn out to greet visitors in six scenic riverside cottages.

Saturday, Dec. 12

■ **Santa Cruise** – Set sail with Santa for a 45-minute cruise aboard a Cococohatchee Nature Adventure cruise at 9:45 a.m. and 11 a.m. \$10. Reservations required. 592-1200.

■ **Craft Show** – The Naples Art-crafters Fine Art & Craft Show takes place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Cambier Park. 352-3036.

■ **Coffee & Art** – Enjoy “Coffee with the Curator” at 10 a.m. at the Patty & Jay Baker Naples Museum of Art. 597-1900 or www.thephil.org.

■ **Cookies with Santa** – Marco Island kids are invited to have cookies and milk with Santa at 10 a.m. at Mackle Park.

■ **Krystals for Cancer** – Shop for Swarovski crystal and sterling silver jewelry crafted by a group that supports cancer patients throughout Southwest Florida. Trunk show is from 9 a.m. to noon at Collection at Vanderbilt. 992-

8670 or 495-3393.

■ **Masters Art** – The Naples Masters Winter Art Festival takes place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and Sunday at Collection at Vanderbilt. 293-9448.

■ **Kids, Pets & Santa** – “Kidz & Canines” takes place from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Fred’s Diner. The special brunch and chance for photos with Santa is a benefit for Golden Retriever Rescue of SW Florida. 431-7928 or e-mail Freds08@live.com.

■ **Holiday Parade** – Marco Islands’ island-style Christmas parade starts at 6:30 p.m. at the corner of Balfour and San Marco roads, turning south on Barfield Drive. 394-7549.

■ **Teddy Bears on Ice** – Bring a new, unwrapped stuffed animal to Germain Arena and let it fly onto the ice when the Everblades score their first goal. Bears will be distributed to various children’s charities. Game begins at 7 p.m. 948-7825.

■ **Hyacinth Series** – Moorings Presbyterian Church presents Tim Zimmerman and the King’s Brass at 3 p.m. today and 7 p.m. Sunday. Free. 213-5246 or e-mail rcrofts@moorings-presby.org. See story on page C23.

Sunday, Dec. 13

■ **Barbershop Chorus** – The Paradise Coastmen Barbershop Chorus, a 60-man singing group, presents an afternoon of holiday song at 2 p.m. in Cambier Park. \$15. 213-3058.

■ **Films on Fifth** – A screening of “Elsa & Fred” begins at 7 p.m. at Sugden Community Theatre as part of The Naples Players’ series of Films on Fifth. 263-7990.

■ **Concert Band** – The Bonita Springs Concert Band performs a Christmas concert at 2 p.m. at Riverside Park on Old 41 in Bonita Springs.

■ **Light the Lights** – Celebrate Chanukah with a menorah lighting, live music, food and more from 5-7 p.m. at the Village on Venetian Bay. Free. 404-6993.

Monday, Dec. 14

■ **Life’s a Beach** – Go beach-combing and shelling with a park ranger setting out at 10 a.m. from the Learning Center at Barefoot Beach Preserve off

Bonita Beach Road. Free, but there is an entrance fee for those who do not have a Collier County Beach Parking permit.

■ **Music and Laughs** – Singer/songwriter Mario “The Catman” Infanti and comedian Jimmy Keys team up for an evening of fun to benefit Eden Autism Services Florida beginning at 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14, at Sugden Community Theatre. \$75 per person includes wine and hors d’oeuvres before show time at 7:30 p.m. 263-7990.

■ **Must be Magic** – The Fort Myers Magicians Association presents its ninth annual Christmas Magic Show at 7 p.m. at the Arcade Theatre in downtown Fort Myers. Proceeds benefit the Harry Chapin Food Bank. 332-4488.

■ **Love Trivia?** – The Pub at Mercato has Trivia Night beginning at 7:30 p.m. every Monday. 594-9400.

■ **An Evening of Creativity** – Paint in an artist’s studio at Rosen Studios and Gallery and take home an original after an evening of fun with friends. \$39. Reservations required. 821-1061.

Tuesday, Dec. 15

■ **Story Time** – Moms and tots are welcome to join story time and fun activities with Miss Jessica and Miss Felicia beginning at 10 a.m. at Barnes & Noble in Waterside Shops. 598-5205.

■ **Team Up** – Boston Beer Garden has Team Trivia starting at 9 p.m. 2396 Immokalee Road. 596-2337.

Wednesday, Dec. 16

■ **See the Lights** – Hop aboard a trolley, sit back and enjoy the sights of some of the best holiday lights in town. Boarding starts at 1010 Sixth Avenue South at 6:15 p.m. today and Thursday, Dec. 17. The two-hour tour includes refreshments and caroling along the way. Cost: \$25 adults; \$10 children 4-12. 262-7300 for reservations.

■ **Free Film** – See “Trouble in Paradise,” the slick 1932 flick about a jewel thief and a con artist who fall in love. Show time is 2 p.m. today and Thursday, Dec. 17, at Headquarters Library, 2385 Orange Blossom Drive. 593-0334 or 593-0177.

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ARTS COMMENTARY

Dial T for thrilling

Nancy STETSON

nsetson@floridaweekly.com



I won't tell you how "Dial M for Murder" ends, but I can tell you this: The butler didn't do it.

The husband did.

And I'm not breaking the critic's cardinal rule to not give away the ending, because I'm not telling you anything you don't learn early in the play.

This mystery thriller isn't a whodunit but a does-he-get-away-with-it-and-what-happens next?

In the first act, we learn that Tony (Giles Davies), a former tennis pro, married Margot (Deanna Gibson) purely for her money. And now he wants her murdered so he can inherit it.

He's learned that she had an affair with an American mystery writer, Max (Brendan Powers), but has broken it off.

Tony, for whom it seems more a matter of greed than revenge, blackmails a former schoolmate, Capt. Lesgate (Jesse St. Louis), to do the deed for him.

The scheme: Tony will hide a key for Capt. Lesgate, then attend a stag party on the night of the murder, so he'll have an alibi. While Tony is out at his party, Capt. Lesgate will let himself into the apartment with the hidden key. At a pre-arranged time, Tony will call his wife. When she gets out of bed to answer the phone, Capt. Lesgate will step out from behind the curtains and strangle her.

The action's set in 1952 England, so there are, of course, no cell phones, no cordless phones, no caller ID. Tony knows exactly where his wife will stand to answer the phone. (Is there anything more ominous than a phone ringing in the middle of the night, waking you out of a deep sleep?)

Mr. Davies, new to Florida Rep, is perfect as Tony, with his angular face and dark, brooding looks. You can see the delight in his eyes as he plots his wife's death and blackmails Capt. Lesgate. This is a villain you love to hate, and Mr. Davies portrays him very skillfully. (He also has a nice bit where he impersonates a woman talking.) I look forward to seeing him onstage again.

Mr. Powers, a familiar face at Florida Rep, is brash and earnest as a TV mystery writer Max Halliday. Slightly polished around the edges, he's a rough and tumble guy who plots 52 murders a year. As he explains to Margot, there are five motives for murder: fear, jealousy, money, revenge and protecting someone you love.

Mr. Powers also has a nice section where he lists the wide variety of ways he's killed people in his scripts, "poison, shoot, strangle, stab, slug and suffocate" among them.

In this mid-century era when everyone's terribly mannered and extremely civil with each other, Mr. Powers' character provides many of the show's outbreaks of emotion. As an American, he's allowed to display his passions.

Ms. Gibson has the unenviable position of portraying a role so associated with the stunning Grace Kelly, who played Margot in the 1954 Alfred Hitchcock movie. Instead of an icy beauty, Ms. Gibson embodies a kind of gawky elegance that makes her more ideal for a comedic romance. Though she sometimes veers into melodrama, she displays a certain vulnerability that makes the audience want to protect her.

While Mr. St. Louis makes his Florida Rep debut with this play, audiences might know him from his many performances with Theatre Conspiracy. He's totally believable as an old schoolmate now living life on the shadier side. Watch his face as Tony talks to him; composure drains as he realizes that not only have his secrets been unearthed, but he's also being backed into a corner.

Directing the details

Director Robert Cacioppo's attention to details makes this thriller even more effective. Lighting by Aaron Meadow adds to the creepiness of the play, especially highlighting characters at the end of scenes. And sound designer Kate Smith brings in music that heightens the tension. (The only quibble I have with the sound is that it doesn't seem as if the phone itself is ringing; we hear a ring, but it doesn't seem to emanate from the phone on the desk.)

Unfortunately, the key scene of the play, where Capt. Lesgate strangles Margot, isn't in keeping with the high quality of the rest of the play. It's just not believable. The actors are too timid; you can almost see them counting off the various steps they're supposed to take, like a choreographed dance. At least on opening night, they seemed more concerned about hitting their marks than anything else; it didn't come across as a genuine struggle.

To add to the dilemma, Mr. St. Louis is a large man while Ms. Gibson is petite; it's difficult to believe there would be much of a struggle at all, let alone one that lasts as long as this one does.

When Inspector Hubbard (Tad Ingram) comes on the scene, late in the play, he almost steals the show. Kind of a British precursor to Columbo, he portrays the inspector as devilishly clever, with a twinkle in his eye as he investigates the murder.



COURTESY PHOTO

Deanna Gibson and Jesse St. Louis in "Dial M for Murder"

And Daniel Benzing, who was so wonderful in "Indian Blood," has two minor roles as a reporter and a policeman. The roles are walk-ons, but he still manages to get a laugh.

Originally a play by Frederick Knott, "Dial M for Murder" is perhaps best known as an Alfred Hitchcock movie. (And Mr. Hitchcock makes a cameo appearance in this play, as he does in his movie version; you might not notice him from your seat, but he's in a school reunion photograph that Tony picks from a bookshelf to show Capt. Lesgate.)

Robert F. Wolin's set is spectacular. Before the play begins, the stage looks like a sepia photograph of an English apartment. When the lights come up, we see some slight color — the walls, for example, are actually a dim raspberry — but there's nothing jarring or blatant. It's an old photograph come to life.

And Mr. Cacioppo's choice of costuming is superb. Costume designer Janelle Turco gives us film noir outfits, all blacks and whites and grays. When we first meet Tony and Max, they're almost the reverse of each other. Max, the good guy, sports a white shirt and dark tie, while Tony wears a black shirt and gray tie. Later, when both

are dressed in formalwear, Max's jacket is white. Tony's suits get progressively darker as the play goes on, until finally, he's wearing funeral black.

In addition to top-notch acting, it's Mr. Cacioppo's vision and attention to details like this that make Florida Rep the quality theater it is.

"Dial M for Murder" is good, classic entertainment at the theater: witty dialogue, clever plotting and suspense that makes you lean forward in your seat in anticipation.

Florida Rep has brought an old-fashioned thriller to Fort Myers, and it's well worth seeing.

Even if you do have to leave a night light on afterward. ■

If you go

>> What: "Dial M for Murder"

>> When: through Dec. 20

>> Where: Florida Repertory Theatre, 2267 Bay Street, in the historic Arcade Theatre in downtown Fort Myers, between Hendry and Jackson

>> Cost: \$20-\$42

>> Info: Call 332-4488 or go to www.floridarep.org

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GIVING

YMCA of the Palms: Serving the community for more than 40 years

BY RAINER OLBRICH
Special to Florida Weekly

Whether you're an early bird or a night owl, the YMCA of the Palms has something for you as its celebrating 40 years of serving the Naples and Collier County community. With a membership of more than 9,000, the Y aims to build strong kids, strong families and a strong community based on core values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Youth sports involve hundreds of children and volunteer coaches and referees.

The word "YMCA" has long been synonymous with volunteerism, for volunteers are truly the lifeblood of every Y. Our success is made possible only through the dedicated efforts of countless volunteers — fathers, mothers, students, professionals, retirees, etc. — including some 250 coaches or referees of its various sports programs.

YMCA of the Palms is not just a fitness center. Among the ways the YMCA continues to reach out to the community through special events and programs is through Project Graduation, an alcohol- and drug-free social event for graduating high school seniors held since 1985. There's also YMCA Splash Week, a week of free water safety lessons for kids in the community, and periodic Family Movie Nights and Parents' Nights Out.

A volunteer board of trustees administers the YMCA's annual budget exceeding \$5.5 million. There is also the endowment fund board, a branch board of managers and a large corps of volunteer leaders.

Overall administrative responsibility rests with Brandon Dowdy, a YMCA pro-

fessional since 1992 who, as president and CEO, supervises a highly trained and professional staff of nearly 200 in the Naples and Bonita Springs facilities.

Originally founded as the Young Men's Christian Association, the YMCA was founded in 1844 in London to help indigents living on the streets. While continuing the basic philosophy of its original mission, the organization has grown into a worldwide family of more than 120 autonomous national movements, each committed to building a positive future for youth and families.

In the USA alone, more than 2,600 YMCAs serve more than 72 million families. Although each Y is an independent entity with its own local governance, all adhere to the founding principles of the organization — putting Judeo Christian principles into practice, and doing so through programs that build a healthy spirit, mind and body for all.

40 years of highlights

Some important highlights of our local YMCA during four decades of service include:

- During the '70s: Purchase of YMCA grounds for the Naples campus; construction the swimming pool, west wing and athletic pavilion; start-up of the childcare and after-school programs.
- During the '80s: Establishment of the tennis center and annual support/endowment boards; completion of the comprehensive Naples facility in 1988.

• During the '90s: The opening of the child development center; expansion of the tennis and fitness facilities; addition of Bonita Springs to the service area; and ground breaking for the Norris Aquatic Center in 1999.

• Since 2000: Opening of the Norris Aquatic Center in 2001; grand opening of the Bonita Springs facility in 2005; change in corporate name in 2007 to YMCA of the Palms; and in 2009, the opening of the Gaynor Child Development Center on the site of the former Teddy Bear Museum.

YMCA of the Palms continues to reach out daily to serve the community countless ways. Check out either location: 5450 YMCA Road, Naples; or 27200 Kent Road, Bonita Springs. ■

— Rainer Olbrich is a volunteer and longtime member of the Greater Naples YMCA. Incorporated in 1969, it is now the YMCA of the Palms and operates facilities in Naples and Bonita Springs. To become a YMCA member, get involved as a volunteer, or make a contribution, call 597-3148 or visit www.ymcapalms.org.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

2	3	1	4	5	6	7	9	8
4	8	6	3	7	9	1	5	2
9	7	5	8	1	2	4	6	3
8	6	9	7	4	5	3	2	1
7	5	3	2	9	1	6	8	4
1	4	2	6	3	8	9	7	5
6	1	4	5	8	7	2	3	9
3	2	8	9	6	4	5	1	7
5	9	7	1	2	3	8	4	6

TILE	ROAN	TASK	AQUA
ARIA	ARLO	CANTOR	RUSS
ROOSEVELT	GRUYERE	FIAT	
ANNEX	MARIE	ABC	EGO
LAB	HERMAN	MUENSTER	
CUL	MOB	DEVO	TNUT
ATOP	SAKE	ERR	TROPHY
DAVID	CHEDDAR	ARMAN	SPREE
SHEER	GIRLS	SAME	IMA
DADS	FAO	TOE	MAR
JOB	BENNY	GOUDAMAN	ANN
APE	JOE	FUSU	IDOL
MEG	CARP	ALANA	VISTA
ERATO	TAMMY	FETABAKKER	
SATIRE	LEA	SOLO	EIRE
LOTTY	ETAS	FEZ	PIA
WILT	THESTILTON	RUB	
INA	ITE	DARES	LUISA
EDGE	CHARLES	LIMBURGER	
LIES	SETTER	OLEO	SOME
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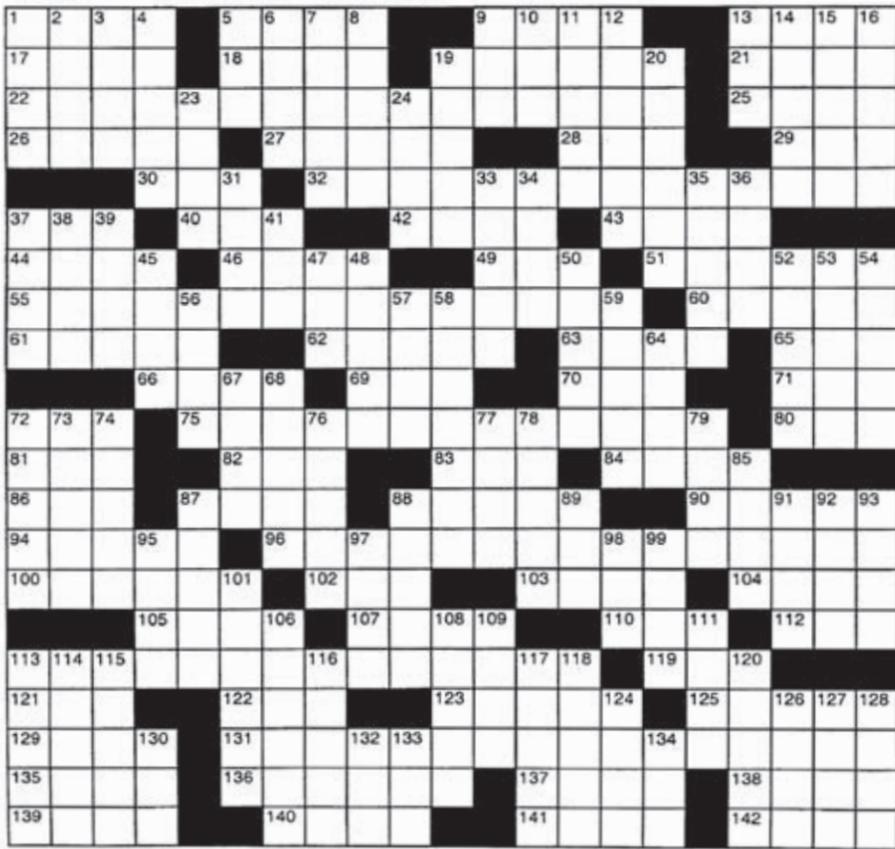
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FLORIDA WEEKLY PUZZLES

BIG CHEESES



- ACROSS**
- 1 Scrabble piece
 - 5 Colt color
 - 9 Chore
 - 13 Marine leader?
 - 17 "Tosca" tune
 - 18 Woody's boy
 - 19 Synagogue singer
 - 21 Columbo or Tamblin
 - 22 Cheesy football player?
 - 25 Decree
 - 26 Incorporate, as territory
 - 27 Madame Tussaud
 - 28 English trio?
 - 29 Self-esteem
 - 30 Scientific site
 - 32 Cheesy TV character?
 - 37 — -de-sac
 - 40 Throng
 - 42 Robotic rock group
 - 43 Bit of hardware
 - 44 Perched on
 - 46 Beppu brew
 - 49 Miscalculate
 - 51 Award
 - 55 Cheesy late-night host?
 - 60 Binge
 - 61 Gossamer
 - 62 They just want to have fun
 - 63 Close as can be
 - 65 —
 - 66 TV's "My Two —"
 - 69 Toyshop initials
 - 70 Stocking stuffer?
 - 71 Deface
 - 72 Old Testament book
 - 75 Cheesy clarinetist?
 - 80 Sheridan or Sothern
 - 81 Copy
 - 82 Singer Tex
 - 83 Tallahassee sch.
 - 84 Baal or Elvis
 - 86 Actress Tilly
 - 87 Find fault
 - 88 George Hamilton's ex
 - 90 Chula —, CA
 - 94 A Muse
 - 96 Cheesy televangelist?
 - 100 Swift stuff
 - 102 Where flocks frolic
 - 103 Go it alone
 - 104 Green land
 - 105 Mississippi senator
 - 107 Hellenic letters
 - 110 Red cap
 - 112 Actress Zadora
 - 113 Cheesy basketball player?
 - 119 Massage
 - 121 Tempest — teapot
 - 122 Mineral suffix
 - 123 Throws down the gauntlet
 - 125 Soprano Tetrazzini
 - 129 Brink
 - 131 Cheesy aviator?
 - 135 Is inexact
 - 136 Sporting dog
 - 137 Toast topper
 - 138 — Came Running ("58 film)
 - 139 Pub missile
 - 140 Director Nicolas
 - 141 Request
 - 142 Baseball's Speaker
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Reid of "Just Visiting"
 - 2 Nutritional need
 - 3 Pride papa
 - 4 Blackboard support
 - 5 —4 (Toyota model)
 - 6 38 Down city
 - 7 Islamic deity
 - 8 — Dame
 - 9 Kind of cross
 - 10 "— Day Now" ('62 hit)
 - 11 Word with bath or shovel
 - 12 Agile Olga
 - 13 Pound sound
 - 14 Peace's partner
 - 15 Custom
 - 16 Mary of "The Maltese Falcon"
 - 19 — de menthe
 - 20 Just out
 - 23 Final
 - 24 Encircle
 - 31 Cornice kin
 - 33 Maintains
 - 34 Comic Crosby
 - 35 — shark
 - 36 Defeat by a knockout
 - 37 No gentlemen
 - 38 A Four Corners state
 - 39 A many-splendored thing
 - 41 "Pshaw!"
 - 45 The — Piper
 - 47 Beer barrel
 - 48 Uplift
 - 50 Jamaican cultist
 - 52 — ballerina
 - 53 Macho type
 - 54 Long for
 - 56 Olive —
 - 57 Lug
 - 58 With detachment
 - 59 Campbell or Judd
 - 64 Knight's quaff
 - 67 — vu
 - 68 Stallion sound
 - 72 Maestro Levine
 - 73 Wagner work
 - 74 Biblical repetition
 - 76 Katmandu's country
 - 77 Lofty initials?
 - 78 Sahara sights
 - 79 — Scotia
 - 85 Relish
 - 87 French painter
 - 88 Cremona craftsman
 - 89 From — Z
 - 91 Omit
 - 92 Hatcher of "Lois & Clark"
 - 93 Geometry calculation
 - 95 Joust
 - 97 Encounter
 - 98 Landon or Kjellin
 - 99 Johannes-burg resident
 - 101 Standards
 - 106 Restrict
 - 108 Furniture wood
 - 109 Railroad depts.
 - 111 '64 Michael Caine film
 - 113 Brandish
 - 114 Where to eat biryani
 - 115 Light beer
 - 116 Cold-war assn.
 - 117 Certain deck
 - 118 Sam of "Jurassic Park"
 - 120 Pop
 - 124 Hook's right hand?
 - 126 Oistrakh or Stravinsky
 - 127 Word form for "somewhat"
 - 128 Pugnacious Olympian
 - 130 Cornerstone abbr.
 - 132 AAA offering
 - 133 Poultry serving
 - 134 Stole

SEE ANSWERS, C9

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HOROSCOPES

■ **SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)** You always bring your own wonderful sparkle and light to the holidays, and don't be surprised if this year someone special reaches out to respond to your warmth in kind.

■ **CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)** Don't put off making decisions about Togetherness is the dominant theme for the Goat's holiday celebrations this year. That means reaching out to bring everyone you care for into your very own special circle of light.

■ **AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)** A reminder of a very special moment from the past makes the holidays more memorable for the romantic Aquarian. New friendships hold the promise of a romantic future as well.

■ **PISCES (February 19 to March 20)** Getting into the swim of things for all you party-loving Pisceans is easy enough this holiday season. And, of course, you can expect to impress people wherever you go.

■ **ARIES (March 21 to April 19)** Your love of the holidays creates a special bond between you and the people in your life. Use this as a way of building stronger relationships that will carry over well beyond this time.

■ **TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** A new approach could go a long way toward resolving a painful estrangement, especially at this holiday time. And since your aspects favor friendship this week, why not go ahead and try it?

■ **GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)** Your positives continue to dominate, and any negative factors that squeeze in can

be dealt with easily. The secret is to tackle them at once and not allow them to benefit by your neglect.

■ **CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** Good news: A colleague's remarks could help you move toward ultimately resolving that persistent workplace situation. Meanwhile, enjoy the holidays with loved ones.

■ **LEO (July 23 to August 22)** No one reflects the bright holiday more than all you Leos and Leonas who love the shimmer and glimmer of the season. P.S.: There just might be a very special something from Santa.

■ **VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)** Celebrate the holidays by being more receptive to new experiences. Overriding the Virgo reluctance to try new things could be the best gift you've given yourself in a long while.

■ **LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)** Good news about a loved one makes the holidays even more festive. Expect some unexpected gifts, so be prepared with a few nicely wrapped packages of goodies to offer in return.

■ **SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)** The holiday season provides an opportunity to meet new people, some of whom you might even consider "worthy" enough to join the Scorpio's select group of friends.

■ **BORN THIS WEEK:** Your dedication brings you the success you strive for, and your generosity impels you to reach out and help others on their way up Your dedication brings you the success you strive for, and your generosity impels you to reach out and help others on their way up.

By Linda Thistle



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Puzzle Difficulty this week:



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★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ Expert

SEE ANSWERS, C9

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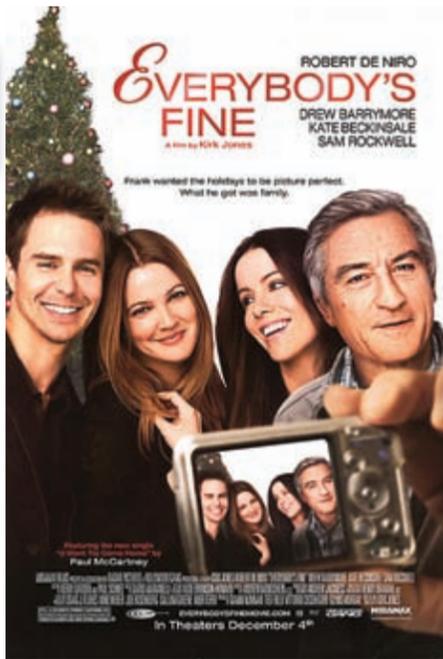
★ ★ ★
Is it worth \$10? Yes

"Everybody's Fine," an oft repeated and rarely true idiom spoken by distant family and friends for the ease of unemotional conversation, is the perfect ironic title for a story in which nobody is fine. This isn't a holiday movie per se, but the release date fits nicely with the spirit of the story, which is a solid family drama that is surprisingly honest.

The recently widowed Frank (Robert De Niro) has fibrosis of the lungs, and his only wish is to have his four children around the dinner table for a good old-fashioned family dinner. When each bails on a weekend visit, Frank takes it upon himself to surprise his offspring during an impromptu road trip, where he learns that the "everybody's fine" he's been hearing from them is far from the truth.

After he can't find David in New York City, Frank travels to Chicago to visit Amy (Kate Beckinsale), a successful advertising executive. Everything seems fine with her son and husband, but an underlying tension suggests to the contrary. In Denver, his son Robert (Sam Rockwell) is part of an orchestra as expected, but he doesn't have the job Frank thought he had. And in Las Vegas, actress Rosie (Drew Barrymore) takes her father in a limousine on the way to her penthouse apartment, which seems too good to be true.

Mr. De Niro gives an understated yet highly effective performance, and makes Frank instantly identifiable with many of our own fathers/grandfathers. Often told by his children that he's a perfectionist and difficult to talk to, you can see the pain and frustration in Frank's eyes: That's not how he wants them to view him, and he's disappointed that's what they think. He knows they were more comfortable speaking to their mother, and understands that, but that doesn't mean he can't handle or doesn't want to know the good and bad of their lives now.



Writer/director Kirk Jones paces the story well, and throws in some nice touches to help us understand Frank, namely by showing that he often sees his children as kids rather than the adults they've become. Jones is also sly in that the issues the adult children face are not immediately obvious, but are apparent enough that Frank could put the clues together.

Family dramas used to be common in Hollywood, but now feel like a rare breed. Both "Everybody's Fine" and "Brothers" (which also opens this weekend) are reminders of how good these dramas can be when done right. "Everybody's Fine" has difficult truths at its heart, but it also has happiness and moments of sadness that never overwhelm the story. Everybody may be far from fine, but the movie is nicely done. ■

— Dan Hudak is the chairman of the Florida Film Critics Circle and a nationally syndicated film critic. You can e-mail him at dan@hudakonhollywood.com and read more of his work at www.hudakonhollywood.com.

Did you know?

>>This is a remake of a 1990 Italian film named "Stanna Tutti Bene." Marcello Mastroianni ("La Dolce Vita") starred as the patriarch, and it was director Giuseppe Tornatore's first film after his Oscar-winning hit "Cinema Paradiso."

CAPSULES

REVIEWED BY DAN HUDAK
www.hudakonhollywood.com

'Brothers' ★★★★★
(Jake Gyllenhaal, Natalie Portman, Tobey Maguire) With his brother Sam (Maguire) presumed dead in Afghanistan, ex-con Tommy (Gyllenhaal) helps Sam's wife, Grace (Portman), around the house and with her two little girls. Bravura performances (especially Maguire) and a story that's more complicated than you'd expect overcome the slow pacing in director Jim Sheridan's ("In America") latest. Rated R.

'The Blind Side' ★★★★★
(Sandra Bullock, Tim McGraw, Quinton Aaron) Based on the true story of Baltimore Ravens offensive lineman Michael Oher, a wealthy family in Tennessee adopts an oversized, undereducated African-American with a gentle soul and helps him earn a football scholarship. Ms. Bullock is brassy fun as the family matriarch, and it's a nice, simple

and sweet story that works. Rated PG-13.

'Planet 51' ★★½
(John Cusack, Amanda Peet, Thandie Newton) A failed writer (Cusack) tries to keep his ex-wife (Peet) and two children safe as earth destroys itself. The story, directed and co-written by Roland Emmerich ("Independence Day"), has plenty of disaster movie clichés (martyrs, near escapes, family turmoil, etc.), but it's also amusing throughout and good popcorn fun. Rated PG-13.

'The Fourth Kind' ★★
(Jake Gyllenhaal, Natalie Portman, Tobey Maguire) With his brother Sam (Maguire) presumed dead in Afghanistan, ex-con Tommy (Gyllenhaal) helps Sam's wife, Grace (Portman), around the house and with her two little girls. Bravura performances (especially Maguire) and a story that's more complicated than you'd expect overcome the slow pacing in director Jim Sheridan's ("In America") latest. Rated R. ■

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HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Fifth Avenue Christmas Walk

Reschedule because of threatening weather last week, the annual Fifth Avenue South Christmas Walk is set for 6-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10. The avenue will be closed to traffic and filled with local entertainment including bands, carolers, dancers and orchestras. The festivities are sponsored by the Downtown Naples Association. Call 435-3742 for more information.

It's Christmastime at Palm Cottage

The Naples Historical Society presents Christmas at Palm Cottage from 1-4 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday and 1-8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday (closed Christmas Day). Requested donation is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children.

Santa will greet young visitors in The Norris Garden from 4-7 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Dec. 10, 11 and 12. Children under 10 years of age will be admitted free with a maximum of two children accompanied by one adult. Palm Cottage and The Norris Garden are at 137 12th Avenue South. For more information, call 261-8164 or visit www.napleshistoricalsociety.org.

Library presents a holiday classic

Members of The Naples Players will present Dylan Thomas' holiday classic, "A Child's Christmas In Wales," at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, at South Regional Library, 8065 Lely Cultural Parkway. Admission is free.

Almost as familiar to many as Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," this piece showcases Mr. Thomas' genius for language and remains a beloved piece of prose. For information, call 252-7542.

Boats will parade along the bays

The Village on Venetian Bay presents its annual boat parade beginning at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10. Boats will pass the judges' table overlooking the water from MiraMare Ristorante and travel down Venetian Bay. Landlubbers can enjoy the spectacle along with entertainment throughout the evening at The Village on Venetian Bay.

For registration and more information, call 403-2204.



The 20th annual Naples Bay Christmas Boat Parade will ply a new route beginning at 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12. After staging in the area of Naples Boat Club and Naples Sailing & Yacht Club, boats will travel south past the Naples City Dock to just north of marker 27 before turning around to head up the bay to Pincher's Crab Shack at Tin City and the Gordon River Bridge.

Prime viewing spots will be Pincher's Crab Shack, Riverwalk Restaurant, Naples City Dock, Naples Landing, Kelly's Fish House, The Boat House Restaurant and Cove Inn. The new route will not pass Bayview Park.

For more information, call 261-0882 or e-mail the Marine Industry Association of Collier County, director@miacc.org.

Marco art league has trunk shows

The Art League Marco Island Center for the Arts has two holiday trunk shows coming up. There is no charge for admission, and gift-wrapping will be provided

for every purchase. Each show takes place from 5:30-7 p.m.

• Thursday, Dec. 10: Yvonne Feaveyear will unveil her "Towdah Collection" of paintings representing her perception of faith and worship among women. "Towdah" is one of the seven Hebrew words used to describe praise.

• Thursday, Dec. 17: Joni Gotthelf and Babs Snyderman will present their annual jewelry trunk show.

The Art League Marco Island is a non-profit organization with headquarters in the center at 1010 Winterberry Drive, Marco Island. For more information, call 394-4221 or visit www.marcoislandart.com.

Physicians Regional has WonderFest

A Winter WonderFest comes to Physicians Regional-Collier Boulevard from 5-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11. The public is invited to meet Santa, show him your Christmas list and sit for a free photo. Decorate your own holiday cookies and orna-

ments, enjoy holiday dancing and singing performances and play in the bounce house. Horse and carriage rides will be offered, as will holiday face painting.

For more information, visit www.PhysiciansRegional.com.

Breakfast with Santa at Vineyards Park

Start the day at breakfast with Santa from 9-10:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at Vineyards Community Park, 6231 Arbor Blvd. W. Cost is \$10. Sponsored by Collier County Parks and Recreation.

Collection hosts jewelry show

Krystalz for Cancer volunteers will hold a holiday trunk show of their Swarovski crystal and sterling silver jewelry from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 12, at Collection at Vanderbilt. The shopping center is at the corner of Vanderbilt Beach and Airport Pulling roads.

Krystalz for Cancer is an all-volunteer creative arts program that supports cancer patients through the Lee Memorial Health System Foundation. Its mission is to provide need-based financial assistance to those in Lee and Collier county struggling with the financial burden of being uninsured or under-insured and in treatment for cancer.

Volunteers make the jewelry at workshops and sell it to raise money for the organization. For more information about joining a workshop and making jewelry, call Sarah Smith at 992-8670 or Annie Knouse at 495-3393.

All aboard the Polar Express

Bring the children to greet Santa aboard the Polar Express from noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at the Collier County Museum, 3301 E. Tamiami Trail. All ages are welcome. Don't forget the camera.

Philharmonic presents 'Hallelujah!'

The Naples Philharmonic Orchestra presents "Hallelujah!," an uplifting program of sacred and popular seasonal music, at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at First Presbyterian Church of Naples. The Philharmonic Center Chorale, led by James Cochran, joins the orchestra.

MORE HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS, C14 ►

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HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

▶ CONTINUED FROM C12

Selections from Handel's musical and spiritual masterpiece "Messiah" will be featured, including the beloved "Hallelujah! Chorus." Other highlights will include Ralph Vaughn Williams' charming and moving "Fantasy on Christmas Carols," Gustav Holst's "Christmas Day," a set of variations based on the popular chorale "Good Christian Men, Rejoice" and contemporary composer John Rutter's soaring "Gloria."

Tickets to "Hallelujah!" are \$38 for adults and \$15 for students. First Presbyterian Church of Naples is at 250 Sixth St. S. For more information or to order tickets, call 597-1900 or visit www.thephil.org.

Pub crawl will benefit kids

Make-A-Wish Foundation and Toys for Tots will benefit from "Claus for a Cause," a grown-up pub crawl starting at Mercato at 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12. Don a festive outfit or holiday hat and board the trolley for transportation to some of the best party spots around town. Bring a new toy to drop off in the donation box at Blue Martini.

For more information, call Craig Ekonomos at (941) 704-9593 or e-mail craig@crifasirealestateinc.com.

Orchestra and Chorus tunes up

The Naples Orchestra and Chorus presents "Many Moods," a Christmas and

Chanukah program at 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at Golden Gate High School. Admission is free. For more information, call 348-0938.

Gay and Lesbian Chorus in concert

The SWFL Gay and Lesbian Chorus celebrates the holiday season in Naples with a concert at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 6340 Napa Woods Way. The program includes traditional favorites as well as festive new numbers. Admission is \$15 per person, and the chorus will donate \$1 from each ticket to support local food banks.

For more information, call 691-2532, visit www.gaychorus.org or e-mail swfl-gaychorus@aol.com.

Light the menorah at the Village

The Village on Venetian Bay and Chabad Jewish Center of Naples invite the community to celebrate the Festival of Lights at Chanukah Fest and a menorah lighting ceremony at 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Village on Venetian Bay. Mayor Bill Barnett, county commissioners and an anticipated crowd of 800 will attend.

Lighting the Chanukah menorah commemorates a great miracle in Jewish history, but is also relevant on a deeper level as a symbol of freedom over oppression, spirituality over materialism and light over darkness.

MORE HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS, C16 ▶

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HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

► CONTINUED FROM C14

"We want this celebration to be an innovative way of bringing the message of freedom and unity to Southwest Florida. We have expanded and improved this year's program by offering lots of interesting and exciting activities for both children and adults," says Ettie Zaklos, program director of the Chabad Jewish Center of Naples.

The Lutgert Companies and management at the Village have agreed to close the south end of the Village for the evening to accommodate Chanukah Fest's 12 activity centers. Featured are the building of a giant Lego menorah, oil pressing the way it was done 2,200 years ago, rock-climbing, face painting, dreidel making with sand art or sugar candy and a special children's performance.

For more information, call Chabad of Naples at 404-6993 or e-mail info@chabadnaples.com.

Celebrate Italian-style at Noodles

Soroptimists International of Naples/Greater Fort Lauderdale are holding a Holiday Dinner and Dance from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at Noodles Italian Café & Sushi Bar. Proceeds from will benefit the PACE Center for Girls-Immokalee and the Alzheimer's Support Network (ASN).

Naples vocalist and Soroptimist Jeanie Upton will sing songs from the 1930s until present day, including Brenda Lee's holiday classic, "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree." She will also lead a traditional sing-along of Christmas carols. Accompanying Ms. Upton on guitar and vocals will be dentist Avin Jensen, known throughout Southwest Florida as "Dr. J."

The buffet will feature classical Italian twists on holiday fare, including baked spiral ham, cheese ziti, roasted chicken Marsala, roasted potatoes, mixed fresh vegetables, salad and focaccia bread.

While the dress code is casual, guests are encouraged to wear festive holiday outfits. Tickets are \$20 per person. For more information or to purchase tickets, call Rita Albaugh at 821-5562.

Bonita Springs Concert Band

The Bonita Springs Concert Band, directed by Dennis Hill, former music director at Edison State College, presents its free holiday concert at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at Riverside Park on Old

41 in Bonita Springs. On the program are Christmas favorites including "White Christmas," "Jingle Bells Rhapsody" and "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas." Bring a chair and picnic and come enjoy the show.

Mercato is new home for Hanukkah celebration

A community-wide Hanukkah celebration begins at 5:45 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14, at The Strada at Mercato, U.S. 41 and Vanderbilt Beach Road in North Naples. The Mercato is a new location for this event, which has been held at Sugden Plaza downtown for the last several years.

The celebration will include greetings from Mayor Bill Barnett, the lighting of the menorah, performances by the Naples Jewish Congregation Adult Choir and the Naples Klezmer Revival Band, plus Hanukkah dreidels and chocolate coins. Lawn chairs are encouraged.

The event is sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Collier County and the community synagogues and organizations, including Hadassah, Naples Jewish Social Club and Jewish War Veterans Post 202. For more information, contact David Willens at the Jewish Federation of Collier County, 263-4205.

Coconut Point plans menorah lighting

Coconut Point will host a menorah lighting at 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14, on Fashion Drive near Teavana and Brighton Collections. The evening will include live music by the Mike Eisensdat Band from Tampa, kosher and Israeli food from Jona's Deli & Grill in Miami, educational crafts and gifts for children and fun for all ages. Greetings will be given by local and state dignitaries.

'Holiday Pops' for the family

Maestro Stuart Malina returns to lead the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra in "Holiday Pops" at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15, and Thursday-Sunday, Dec. 17-20, and at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19. The Philharmonic Center Chorale and Youth Chorale will join the orchestra for the family concerts. Santa and Rudolph make special appearances. Tickets are \$47 for adults and \$22 for students. Call 597-1900 or visit www.thephil.org.

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HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Norris Center presents the tin soldier's story

The toy room comes to life in Hans Christian Anderson's classic tale, "The Brave Tin Soldier," on stage at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, at The Norris Center. A toy soldier with a damaged leg falls in love with a music box ballerina and must overcome his limitations to save her from the Evil Renegade Rat, who wants her as his bride.

This show is appropriate for ages 2-12. Santa will make an appearance, and each guest will be able to make a holiday craft or two. Cookies and hot chocolate will be served.

Cost is \$8 per child. Call 213-3058.

Marketplace 'Holiday Jamboree'

Big Cypress Marketplace presents "Holiday Jamboree: A Celebration of Giving" from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19. Decked out for the holidays, the marketplace will feature special shopping opportunities and host charities that provide assistance to Collier County's needy residents. Live music will be by Sudden Impact, and everyone will receive 10 free Market Dollars upon their arrival. One Market Dollar equals \$1 off of every \$5 spent with a vendor.

Activities for children will include games and crafts, an appearance by Santa Claus and photos with the jolly

old soul. Children and parents can shop for toys to donate to the Marine Corps' Toys for Tots, and experience the joy of placing their donations under the marketplace Christmas tree.

Opportunities for Christmas shopping and giving also include: The sale of elaborately decorated Christmas trees and live, fresh trees to benefit Renew Thrift Store's Food Pantry; free gift-wrapping by students from the Lely High School Key Club, with freewill donations to benefit local charities; and the Salvation Army's Red Kettle campaign.

A raffle for six hard-to-find Zhu Zhu pets and a Zhu Zhu house will create a buzz as the winning tickets are announced periodically throughout the event.

Big Cypress Marketplace is on U.S. 41/ Tamiami Trail East, four miles east of Collier Boulevard. Call 262-3210 or 774-1690, or visit www.BigCypressMarketplace.com.

Ring in the New Year with the Philharmonic

Ring in 2010 at the Phil's New Year's Eve Gala featuring conductor Jack Everly and the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra along with jazz and pop vocalist Ann Hampton Callaway and the Time for Three trio. The elegant evening begins with a buffet reception at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, and is followed by the

MORE HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS, C18 ►



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HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS



► CONTINUED FROM C17

concert at 8 p.m. One of America's most gifted improvisers of jazz and pop standards, Ms. Callaway is known for her stirring concert performances. Joining the festivities will be the category-shattering Time for Three, which blends elements of classical, country, gypsy and jazz. Tickets are \$135. Call 597-1900 or visit www.thephil.org.

Ring in the New Year with stars from 'Dallas'

A dozen cast members from TV's "Dallas" will host a two-day capital fundraising celebration for the J. Timothy Hogan Foundation in Naples on Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 30-31.

The Ewings of Dallas New Year's Eve Safari Gala will open with cocktails and dinner for sponsors and VIPs hosted by the cast at the Hilton Naples. High tea will take place Dec. 31 at the Naples Grande Beach Resort, where the New Year's Eve gala for 900 guests will also take place.

More than a dozen cast members from the soap opera will be on hand, including Larry Hagman (JR Ewing), Charlene Tilton (Lucy Ewing), Steve Kanaly (Ray Krebbs), Christopher Atkins (Pete Richards) and Joan Van Ark (Valerie Ewing).

The J. Timothy Hogan Foundation provides treatment options for children of working families with mental health issues. The foundation's mission is to reduce and prevent teenage suicide.

For more information, visit www.jthogan.org or e-mail Don McHugh at don.mchugh@jthogan.com or Jeanne Jackson at jeanne.jackson@jthogan.com. ■

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COURTESY PHOTO
"Amahl and the Night Visitors"
 will be performed by Opera
 Naples Dec. 11-12.

North Naples church sets stage for holiday performances

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

North Naples United Methodist Church and Opera Naples present "A Night in Bethlehem" and "Amahl and the Night Visitors" on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 11-12, at the church.

The church's annual production of "A Night in Bethlehem" includes a live nativity scene and also gives visitors a glimpse back to a first-century marketplace and a Jewish home of that time. They watch a carpenter working in his shop and also enjoy a Middle Eastern dinner.

"A Night in Bethlehem" will be performed from 4:30-7:15 p.m.

Michael Simons World Music will entertain from 7:15-8 p.m., after which Opera Naples will present "Amahl and the Night Visitors." Gian Carlo Menotti's opera was the first opera commissioned specifically for television and was given its premier by the NBC Television Opera Theater in New York City on Dec. 24, 1951.

Sung in English and a family friendly 50 minutes long, "Amahl and the Night Visitors" unfolds in a shepherd's hut on the first Christmas Eve, when a poor crippled boy and his mother have an inspiring encounter with the Three Wise Men. The production features a cast of emerging regional artists, members of the Opera Naples Young Artists Program and an original Opera Naples set and costumes.

Luciano Marsalli, a 10-year-old treble voice and veteran of several Opera Naples productions, performs as Amahl. A home-schooled fifth-grader, Luciano has studied voice with Opera Naples' Steffanie Pearce for two years and also plays violin. He performed last March with The Bach Ensemble of Naples as a Bach Festival Outstanding Young Artist.

Soprano Annie Leonardi of Fort Myers performs the role of Amahl's mother. In her second season with Opera Naples, Ms. Leonardi graduated from Westminster Choir College with a degree in vocal performance.

Opera Naples' first Artist in Resi-

dence, baritone Stephen Mumbert, sings the role of King Melchior.

Featured in the first Opera Naples production of "Amahl and the Night Visitors" in November 2006, tenor Calvin Lee of Miami returns to sing the role of King Kaspar. Mr. Lee has traveled the world from San Francisco Opera to Teatro Real in Madrid, Paris Opera and Tokyo Opera singing the lead role of Robbins in "Porgy and Bess."

St. Petersburg native Todd William Donovan, bass-baritone, performs as King Balthazar. Mr. Donovan has sung a variety of roles in opera and operetta with the Florida Lyric Opera, Bay Area Civic Opera, New Century Opera, Opera Tampa and St. Petersburg Opera.

In addition to the Friday and Saturday performances in conjunction with "A Night in Bethlehem," Opera Naples will also present "Amahl and the Night Visitors" at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the church at 6000 Goodlette-Frank Road north of Pine Ridge Road.

Tickets to "A Night in Bethlehem" are \$15, with a family of four admitted for \$50 (free for children 3 and younger).

Tickets to "Amahl and the Night Visitors" are \$25, with a family of four admitted for \$50.

Admission to both events is \$30 for individuals and \$75 for a family of four.

For more information and to purchase tickets, contact Opera Naples at 514-7464 or Sandy Rubinoff at North Naples United Methodist Church, 593-7600, ext. 211. Tickets can also be purchased online at www.nnumc.org.

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- >> **When:** 4:30-7:15 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Dec. 11-12
- >> **"Amahl and the Night Visitors" by Opera Naples**
- >> **When:** 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Dec. 11-12, and 2 p.m. Sunday,
- >> **Where:** North Naples United Methodist Church
- >> **Tickets:** Priced individually and for families of four, for each performance or as a package
- >> **Information:** 514-7464, 593-7600, ext. 211, or www.nnumc.org.



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Gulfshore Playhouse earns Equity status

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Just as it announces its new season, Gulfshore Playhouse has earned status as Equity Theatre under an SPT 8 contract. All performances take place at The Norris Center.

"I am ecstatic to have achieved the status of an Equity Theater," says Kristen Coury, founder and producing artistic director. "I look forward to our season filled with remarkable plays and terrific actors."

The company's new season presents an eclectic mix of Broadway, Off-Broadway and Florida-based performers.

"Honour" by Joanna Murray-Smith opens the season Jan. 22-30 (previews Jan. 20-21). This masterful drama examines what happens when a comfortable,



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upper middle-class, middle-aged marriage suddenly stalls. When shared values and responsibilities no longer coalesce, and when the opportunity arises for one life to be renewed but at the expense of another's happiness and security, how is the family impacted?

Broadway, Off-Broadway and TV actress Elizabeth Hess will portray Honour, the central character. Broadway veteran Allen Fitzpatrick ("Les Miserables," "Sweet Smell of Success," "Damn Yankees") will star as Gus. Gulfshore Playhouse welcomes back Amy McKenna (last season's "Tartuffe") as Claudia.

The second show of the season is James Sherman's heart-warming family comedy, "Beau Jest," Feb. 19 through March 6 (previews Feb. 17-18). When her parents don't approve of Sarah Goldman's choice of boyfriend, she begrudgingly hires an out-of-work actor to portray their idea of an ideal mate — Dr. David Steinberg. Of course he isn't Jewish, either, but it's OK. He's toured with "Fiddler on the Roof" and is sure he can pull it off. Hilarity

ensues in this charming comedy.

Lori Wilner ("A Catered Affair," "Fiddler on the Roof" and "Awake and Sing" on Broadway) and Stephen Berger ("Laughter on the 23rd Floor," "Little Me" and "Into the Woods" on Broadway) will play the parents, Miriam and Abe.

Playwright James Sherman will attend the show Feb. 25-26 and conduct a talk-back after each performance. On Feb. 27, he will lead a workshop about the building blocks for creating a play.

"A Doll's House" by Henrik Ibsen, translated by Frank McGuinness, closes out the Gulfshore Playhouse season March 26-April 10 (previews March 24-25). In this classic work, Nora is a happy housewife. Devoted to her husband, playful with her children, fun and frivolous with those around her she doesn't have a worry in the world. Or does she? This production examines the gender politics involved when a woman in a man's world tries to take matters into her own hands. Known as "the door slam heard around the world," this play features one of the most famous, and scandalous, climaxes in 19th century drama.

Larry Bull ("The Coast of Utopia" at Lincoln Center) will play the role of Torvald and regional and Off-Broadway performer Beth Hylton will play Nora. Steve Brady (Orgon in Gulfshore Playhouse's "Tartuffe") returns to play Dr. Rank.

Subscribe now

For the first time, Gulfshore Playhouse has a season subscription package for its 2010 lineup. For \$99 per person, theatergoers get front/center seating ticket to each of the three mainstage productions.

In the spring, Gulfshore Playhouse and The Norris Center will stage the cabaret-style "I'll Be Seeing YOU... A Bronx Boy's Musical Perspective of World War II." The world premiere by Franc D'Ambrosio will play April 23-24.

Gulfshore Playhouse patrons will remember Mr. D'Ambrosio from 2005's "Franc D'Ambrosio's Broadway." His playful new show features the lively and lovely tunes made popular during World War II and delivers a humorous snapshot of The Greatest Generation. Cabaret tickets are \$42. The show is not part of the subscription series.

For more information, call (866) 811-4111 or visit www.gulfshoreplayhouse.org. ■

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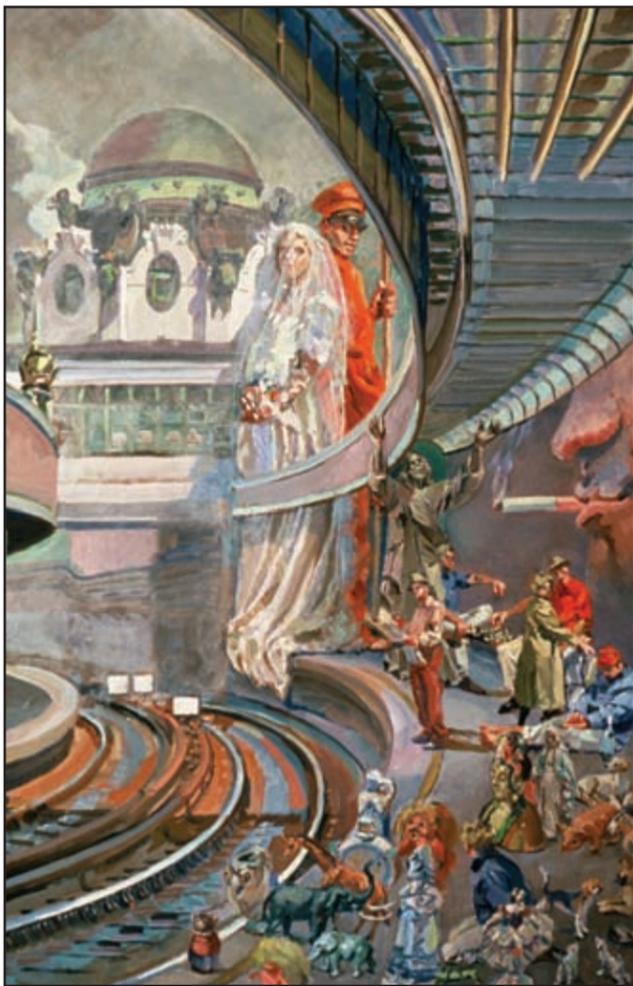
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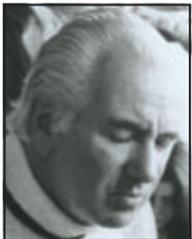
COURTESY IMAGE/THE HENRY KOERNER ESTATE
Hietzing Station and Bride, oil, Henry Koerner. Can you spot Naples Art Association board member Frank Russen in this painting? As a college student, he was a model for Mr. Koerner.

KOERNER

From page 1

An extraordinary vision

A passionate artist who did not concern himself with how the world saw him, Henry Koerner defied classification. His body of work does not fit neatly into



KOERNER

an art movement or school of painting.

Mr. Koerner's people, places and objects are all based on the real, but the scenes he created with them are from his imagination. The figures in his paintings are his friends, family, neighbors;

at least one is a homeless person he befriended on the street. For hours on end, his subjects sat, stood or lied motionless under his relentlessly observant eye.

He painted his landscapes and cityscapes under an open sky with the legs of his easel planted firmly in the dirt or on the pavement. Sculpture is a common subject. Intrigued by the form and shape of cars, Mr. Koerner often visited auto-wrecking yards.

Toys are also frequently figure into his work.

A carnival escape

Born to Jewish parents in Vienna, his prolonged fascination with plush toys probably began at the Prater, where he passed much of his free time. Famous for its historic and extraordinarily large Ferris wheel, the Prater offered an escape from everyday reality for the young Mr. Koerner.

He he trained as a graphic designer in the Viennese art studio of Victor Slama, a renowned illustrator. Following Germany's annexation of Austria in 1938, Mr. Koerner fled Vienna. After emigrating to the United States, he began working in New York as a commercial artist designing book jackets.

Throughout much of World War II, he designed posters for the Office of War Information with Ben Shahn, a leading social realist painter. His poster "Someone Talked" won an award from the Museum of Modern Art.

In 1943, Mr. Koerner was drafted into the United States Army and was ordered to the Office of Strategic Services in Washington, D.C., and London. After the

war, he was reassigned to Berlin as a court artist to sketch the Nazi war criminals at the Nuremberg trials.

Following his discharge from the Army in 1946, he returned to Vienna to learn the grim reality that his parents and all of his relatives were victims of the Holocaust and died in extermination camps in Poland. Like many survivors of the Holocaust, he was forever haunted by a sense of remorse at having survived while the rest of his family perished.

In 1947, Mr. Koerner had his first solo exhibition in Berlin, to immediate world acclaim. Upon his return to New York he held his first American exhibition and was subsequently included in the Whitney Museum of American Art's 1949 annual exhibition.

He moved to Pittsburgh in 1952 to serve as artist-in-residence at the Pennsylvania College for Women (now Chatham College) and teach at the Art Institute of Pittsburgh.

Between 1955 and 1967, Mr. Koerner painted more than 50 Time Magazine covers (always from life), including covers of John F. Kennedy, Robert F. Kennedy, Maria Callas, Barbra Streisand and Leonard Bernstein.

His works are in the permanent collections of several major museums, among them the Whitney Museum of American Art, The National Portrait Gallery and The Smithsonian American Art Museum.

Henry Koerner died an untimely death July 4, 1991, as result of a hit-and-run accident while riding his bicycle with his wife Joan on the Danube River in Vienna.

The von Liebig exhibition is sponsored by Jackye and Curtis Finch, Bentley Village, Life in Naples magazine, the Jewish Federation of Collier County and Comcast. ■

if you go

>> "Henry Koerner: The Real and Imagined"

>> **Where:** The von Liebig Art Center

>> **When:** Dec. 12-Jan. 10

>> **Joseph Koerner lecture:** 3-5 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 11; \$10 for Naples Art Association members, \$15 for others

>> **Preview reception:** 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 11; sponsored by Whole Foods; free for NAA members, \$10 for others

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It's 9 a.m. on an atypically wet, windy, gloomy Saturday, but I arrive at the Community School of Naples on time to hear nearly 40 voices already hard at work — singing, as they do for three hours every Saturday, perfecting their art.

They are the members of The Bach Ensemble, now in its seventh season. As the ad intones: "You've come a long way, baby!"

I reviewed their very first concert and well remember that as a fledgling group of Bach devotees, they were quite respectable. In the years since, however, they've developed a sound quite apart from the original.

As I rounded the corner into their practice room, I think my mouth dropped open in frank astonishment at the pure, beautifully balanced and wonderfully articulated voices — in German, no less — under the directorship of Ron Doiron.

"Ein Son ist UNS geboren! UNS!" Doiron said, one of myriad tiny corrections in sound and inflection and vocal phrasing he continues to drill into their minds and mouths. His ear for details is developing this totally focused group of singers (who range from 17 years

old to their mid-70s) into a sound to be reckoned with.

Doiron received his bachelor's degree in music from Chapman University and has a master's of music and his DMA in choral music and choral conducting from the University of Southern California. He's possessed with seemingly boundless energy, and everywhere he teaches and conducts, his insistence upon perfection is unmistakable.

In addition to his position as artistic director and conductor for The Bach Ensemble, he serves as organist and choirmaster at St. Mark's Episcopal Church on Marco Island, is adjunct professor of voice at Edison College in Fort Myers and has a host of private students. In 2008 he received the United Arts Council's "Stars in the Arts" award.

I asked some questions during a break and learned that 14 members are or have been music professionals, and 19 sing in church choirs. Although none sing with the Philharmonic Chorale at present, several have in the past. Five sing with the Opera Naples chorus. Eight are Europeans who live here part time. More American snowbirds are expected back for the season shortly.

"Why don't you ask us how many moved here after we heard The Bach Ensemble perform?" one man asked, grinning. Several hands went up.

In many respects, The Bach Ensemble can be classified as a well-kept secret. Think of music, let alone choral music,



COURTESY PHOTO

The Bach Ensemble

and the average citizen in this community would be hard pressed to mention anything besides the Philharmonic Chorale or maybe Opera Naples, or a handful of church choirs.

But Doiron and the ensemble board are working to change that.

For one thing, they revised the mission statement so the group is no longer restricted to Bach and Baroque. Now they can sing 20th century greats (I'm looking forward to the spring performance of none other than PDQ Bach). They're establishing a solid benefactor base and have forged excellent relationships with a number of Philharmonic Orchestra musicians, as well as with other instrumental musicians in the community who freelance.

"An artistic community can't just be one organization," Doiron told me. "The Bach Ensemble was created to fill

a niche, and that is what we believe we are doing."

Fans of choral music can enjoy The Bach Ensemble at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20, at Moorings Presbyterian Church. The program for "Holiday Gavotte: Songs of the Nativity" includes the Bach Cantata 142, "Uns is ein Kind Geborn (Unto us a Child is Born)," which will be sung in German, and the late, great Randall Thompson's "Glory to God in the Highest."

Try not to miss this concert. If the rehearsal is any indication, it will be a wonderful afternoon of choral music.

The ensemble's season continues with:

- "Winter Sarabande: Come Let Us Sing" at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 18, at Moorings Presbyterian Church. Guest pianist will be former Neapolitan Toby Blumenthal, who with her late husband Bert Phillips founded Classic Chamber Concerts.

- "Spring Gigue: Out of the Bach" at 7 p.m. Saturday, April 17, at St. Mark's Episcopal Church on Marco Island, with vocal soloists and chamber orchestra. ■

if you go

- >> **The Bach Ensemble in "Holiday Gavotte: Songs of the Nativity"**
- >> **Where:** Moorings Presbyterian Church
- >> **When:** 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20
- >> **Tickets:** \$20 per person
- >> **Info:** 732-1055 or www.thebachensemble.org

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Hyacinth Series presents sacred brass music

The Hyacinth Series presents Tim Zimmerman and The King's Brass in concert at 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at Moorings Presbyterian Church.

These professional musicians have shared their talent for 20 years with audiences around the world and have produced numerous recordings of "the best in sacred brass music." Consisting of three trumpets, three trombones, a tuba, keyboards and percussion, they perform more than 100 concerts each year.

This concert brings their Christmas renditions to the area for the first time.

In addition, they will participate in Sunday morning worship services at Moorings Presbyterian Church at 9 and 11 a.m. Dec. 13.

Since 1983, The Hyacinth Series has brought inspiring programs of varying musical genres to the Naples community. Presented at the church, the popular concerts are open to the public without charge. Offerings are received, as the concerts are not financed by the church's operating budget.

Up next in the series: the Westminster Concert Bell Choir, at 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 17. ■

Marco Island Marriott hosts music festival

Warming to the cause of Marco's biggest gift-giving charity, the Joy of Giving, the Marco Island Marriott Resort has planned a music festival to help kick off fundraising for the 2010 season.

The Joy of Giving enables parents of underprivileged children to buy them Christmas gifts. The festival takes place Friday and Saturday, Dec. 18 and 19, and features Super Bowl performers the Landsharks, who have also opened for the Beach Boys and appeared with Jimmy Buffet.

Opening for the Landsharks is local singer/songwriter Casey Weston, making her Marco Island debut after win-

ning the Colgate Country Showdown in Arcadia.

Other festival highlights will be the crowning of the "Best Burger in Paradise" among local restaurateurs, skim boarding, sailing and sandcastle building. Tickets are \$5 each per day with 100 percent of the proceeds donated to Joy of Giving.

The resort is offering a special overnight package on Dec. 18 that includes an island-view guest room and a pair of tickets for the two-day event. Rates are \$129 for Florida residents and \$209 for others.

For more information, visit www.marcoislandbeachmusicfestival.com. ■



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COMING UP AT THE PHIL

Here's what's happening at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts in the week ahead:

► **Book discussion** - "The White Tiger" by Aravind Adiga is next in the Critic's Choice discussion series by Elaine Newton. Program begins at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, in Hayes Hall. Tickets are \$30.

► **Coffee with the Curator** - Michael Culver, director and chief curator of the Patty & Jay Baker Naples Museum of Art, will guide visitors through the museum beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 12. Admission is \$8 for adults and \$4 for students.

► **The Fab Four** - Cast members

from "Beatlemania" join the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra at 8 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 21-22. Tickets are \$55 for adults and \$33 for students.

► **Chicago, Chicago** - The hit musical "Chicago" is back for four performances Dec. 26-28. Tickets are \$64.

► **All that jazz** - In a rare, non-New York appearance, Woody Allen's New Orleans Jazz Band performs at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 29. Tickets are \$89.

— *The Philharmonic Center for the Arts is at 5833 Pelican Bay Blvd. For more information or to order tickets, call 597-1900 or visit www.thephil.org.*



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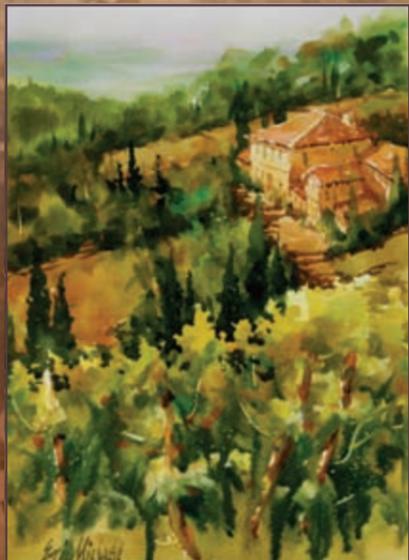
▲ "Moorish Mill - Cordoba, Spain"
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Call for photographers for Rookery Bay exhibit

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve and the United Arts Council of Collier County have put out a call to artists for the 2010 All Photography Exhibition.

Deadline for submissions is Monday, Jan.4; exhibition dates are Feb. 2 through April 2 at Rookery's Bay's Environmental Learning Center.

Renowned Everglades photographer Clyde Butcher is the juror. Artists can submit up to three jpegs to abrowne@uaccollier.com. A \$10 application fee made payable to United Arts Council must also be sent to UAC, 2335 Tamiami Trail N., #504, Naples, FL 34103. Fees are waived for members of the UAC or Friends of Rookery Bay.

Artwork sales throughout the exhibition will be split among the artist (70 percent) and UAC and Friends of Rookery Bay (30 percent). For more information, contact abrowne@uaccollier.com or download the prospectus and application at www.rookerybay.org.

The 110,000-acre Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve is home to more than a dozen species of coastal birds as well as endangered sea turtles, manatees, dolphins and many mammals. A "nursery of the sea," it provides crucial habitat for commercially important species of fish and shellfish, and a recreational paradise for boaters, kayakers, swimmers, birders, hikers, photographers and others. ■



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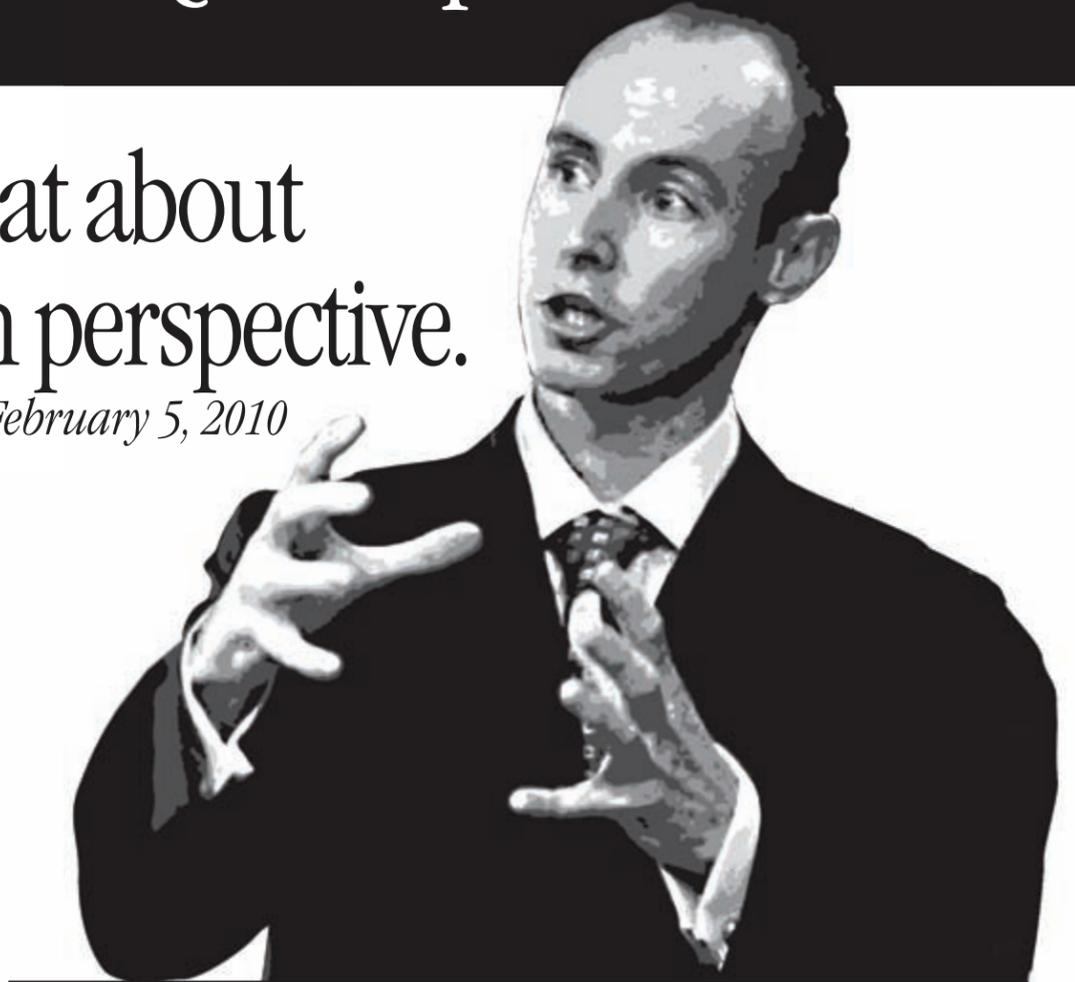
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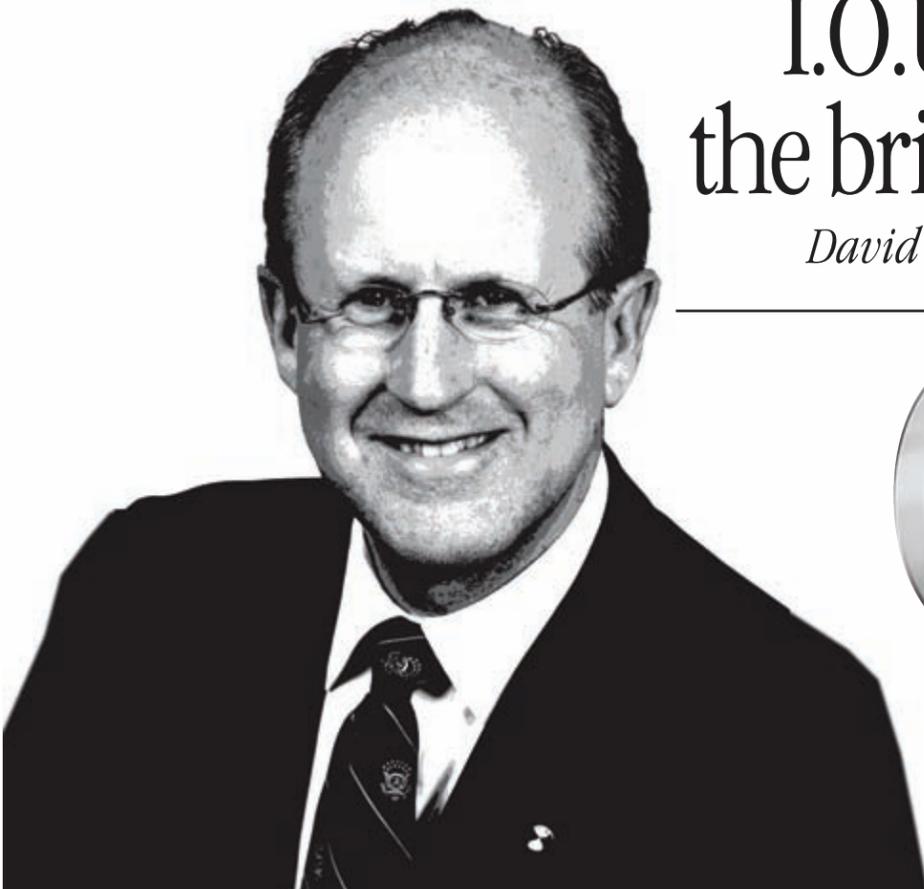
Remarks
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Mitt Romney – Friday, February 26, 2010



I.O.U.S.A.: America on
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David M. Walker – Friday, March 12, 2010



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The Education Foundation's fundraiser for Take Stock In Children



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2. Mary Lynn Hill, Ally and Joan Loos
3. Debi Brown and Marylee Valvano
4. Amanda Blind and Nicole Stocking
5. Trisha Borges, Joe-Jo Jennings
6. Rachelle Youmans and Sandy Waite
7. Maria Lamb, Hollie Morton, Lauren Gentile and Shannon Morton
8. Rosie Johnson

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The Education Foundation's fundraiser for Take Stock In Children



1. David Brown, Tania Gatt-McGill and Joe Cox
2. Nicole Lebid, Jill Jesiolkewic, Kelley Bridwell and Shannah Mallard
3. Connie Dickinson and Claudine Wetzel
4. Joy Brown
5. Jacqui Privitere, Dottie Ocepek and Monica Baker
6. Kristin Cartwright and Kerry Geroy

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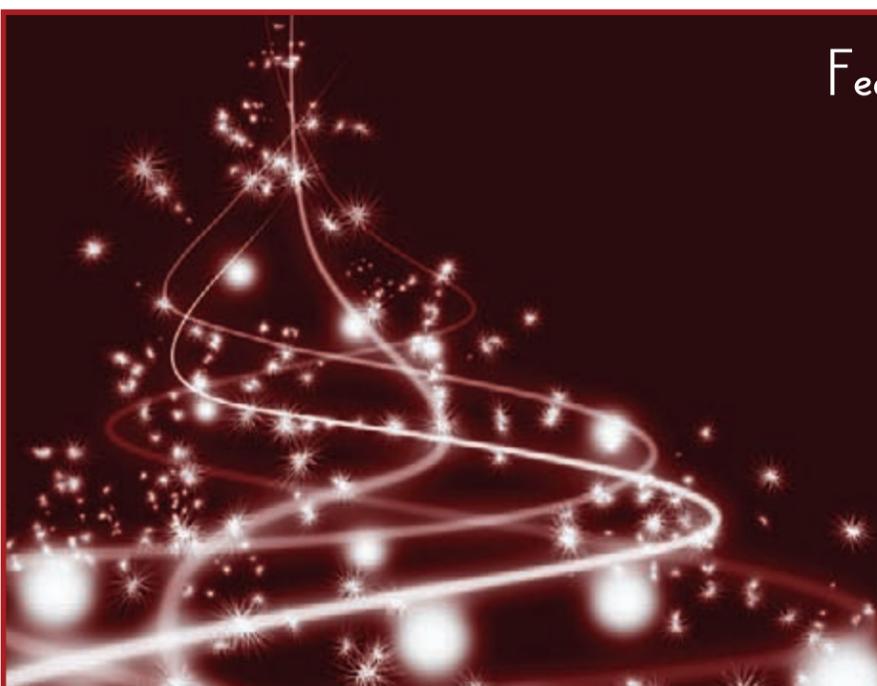
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FLORIDA WEEKLY SOCIETY

The Italian Cultural Society's 'Welcome Back Brunch' at The Plantation, The Dunes



1. Bill and Joan Reiling
2. Bill Spina and Carol Bock

RICHARD CAPPELI / COURTESY PHOTOS

3-5. Young and old alike came to tea at the Bay House to benefit the cancer care program at The Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida.

DENNIS GOODMAN / FLORIDA WEEKLY

6. Author Virginia Saalman and illustrator Pattie Tedesco Jones
7. Art and Sue Bookbinder with author Virginia Saalman
8. Pam and Mark Calore

COURTESY PHOTOS

Teddy Bear Tea Party at the Bay House for Barbara's Friends



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KOVELS: ANTIQUES & COLLECTING

Elaborate dreidels ring in the Hanukkah celebration



terryKOVEL
news@floridaweekly.com

Holidays have special objects connected with their celebrations. One used during the eight-day Jewish holiday of Hanukkah is the dreidel, a four-sided top about 2 inches tall.

Spin the dreidel (rhymes with "ladle") and soon it lands on one side. There's a Hebrew letter on each side that tells the player to pay into the pot or to take all, nothing or half of the pot.

Recent examples of dreidels have become quite elaborate, with spinning figures or flashing lights or noise. Some designers have ignored the four-sided idea and created dreidels in unusual shapes using metal, ceramics, plastic or wood.

Although dreidels date back more than 2,000 years, a collector today is lucky to find an example more than 100 years old. Prices range from more than \$200 for old rarities to \$75 for unusual examples made after 1948, the year Israel was founded.

Q: I inherited three sets of porcelain dishes that were hand-painted by my grandmother around the turn of the 20th century. My grandmother emigrated from Germany (Prussia) to the United States in 1895 and settled in Abingdon, Ill., about 1906. The dishes were painted on blanks ("whiteware")

that have the marks of Haviland, Limoges or Bavaria. I am not interested in the value of the dishes, but I am curious about how my grandmother might have accomplished the multistep process of painting and firing this many dishes.

A: From the late 1870s until World War I, thousands of American amateur artists painted decorations on porcelain tableware, dresser sets, vases and other household items for pleasure rather than for profit. Instructions were regularly included in art magazines. Most people did not have their own kilns and had to ship their items to a studio for firing.

Q: We own a carved wooden armchair that has been in our family for years. The top third of the chair back is decorated with a carving of a gargoyle face. The paper label on the bottom says, "August Hausske & Co., Weed Street, Chicago, Ill."

A: You have a North Wind chair, a style that was popular during the late Victorian era (1880-1900) into the early 20th century. The face, from folklore, was supposed to blow evil spirits away. August Hausske was involved with the Northwestern Parlor Suite Manufacturing Co. before he opened his own firm in 1880. In 1891, Mr. Hausske's parlor furniture was displayed at the Chicago Furniture Exposition. August Hausske & Co. was still in business in Chicago in the 1920s, but moved to Peru, Ind., in the 1930s or '40s. Depending on the condition of your chair, it could sell for up to \$500.

Q: I have an old pop-up book titled "The Pop-Up Popeye in 'Among the White Savages.'" It's in great condition, with all the pop-ups intact. I'm wondering what it's worth and how I can sell it.

A: Your book was written by Elzie Crisler ("E.C.") Segar, the cartoonist who created Popeye. It was published in 1934 by Blue Ribbon Press of New York City. Copies show up regularly at auctions and antiquarian book Web sites. If you want to sell, consider using a dealer who regularly handles children's books. Prices for your book range widely, depending on condition. But if yours is excellent, with all the pop-ups, it could sell for more than \$500.

Q: I have a big old cream-colored tin that once held 10 pounds of "Dixie Mammoth Brand Salted Nuts." The label on the front pictures a woolly mammoth and also says "The Kelly Co." I haven't been able to find any information about the company. Can you help?

A: Kelly Co. was founded in Cleveland in 1884 and was in business until at least the 1940s. It made Dixie and Jackie Coogan brand nuts and also wholesaled seeds. A 10-pound can like yours auctioned for \$600 a few years ago. Collectors of old advertising like the woolly mammoth graphics on the tins.

Q: When we were remodeling our bedroom, we found an old roll of wallpaper under the carpet. Our house was built in 1890. The back of the roll, which lists self-help instructions, is labeled



COURTESY PHOTO

This unusual enameled silver dreidel made in Israel was offered for sale online this fall by Mir-el Antiques of Ramat Gan, Israel, for \$175.

"Fleming Wallrite." Is the wallpaper worth anything?

A: The wallpaper is not as old as your house. Fleming & Sons, the paper's manufacturer, was in business in Dallas between about 1933 and the mid-1960s. Hang-it-yourself wallpaper became popular in the United States after World War II, and Fleming's Wallrite brand was widely advertised in the 1950s and '60s. Some people like to use vintage wallpaper. If your roll is in usable condition, it might sell online for about \$20.

Tip: Check the picture hooks holding your paintings and photographs every few years. Eventually, heavy pictures will loosen nails and hooks, and paintings can crash to the floor. Also check the wires holding your pictures. ■

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This week on WGCU TV

► **THURSDAY, DEC. 10, 8 P.M.**
The Big Band Years

This swinging retrospective features the songs that brought the country through the 1930s and World War II, and kick-started the baby boom. Peter Marshall hosts.

► **FRIDAY, DEC. 11, 8:30 P.M.**
Connect! Grassroots Activism

Burrowing owl activism, a puppy-love program and feral cat activism in Southwest Florida. Hosted by Jim McLaughlin.

► **SATURDAY, DEC. 12, 10 P.M.**
The War of the Worlds Live

In 1978, acclaimed musician Jeff Wayne composed and produced the best-selling concept album, *The Musical Version of the War of the Worlds*. In 2006, this seminal work of progressive/literary rock was brought to the stage for the first time, playing to sold-out arenas across the United Kingdom. Here it is presented as a spectacular mix of music, theater, multimedia and visual arts on a grand scale.

► **SUNDAY, DEC. 13, 9 P.M.**
Celtic Woman: Songs from the Heart

The sensational vocal group, with vio-

linist Mairead Nesbitt, performs at Ireland's historic Powerscourt House and Gardens. Their repertoire ranges from spirited Celtic fiddle and bodhrán pieces to lush arrangements of Irish classics, contemporary covers and original compositions.

► **MONDAY, DEC. 14, 9 P.M.**
Anatomy of a Pandemic

Ray Suarez reports from the frontlines of the effort to combat the H1N1 virus outbreak and examines pandemics of the past.

► **TUESDAY, DEC. 15, 9 P.M.**
Frontline From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians — Part 1

The epic story of the rise of Christianity, tracing Jesus of Nazareth's life and death, and the bloody revolt that followed. New evidence suggests that Jesus' followers, because of their cultural and linguistic diversity, interpreted his teachings in many different ways.

► **WEDNESDAY, DEC. 16, 9 P.M.**
Great Performances at the Met Tosca

A new production of Puccini's *Tosca*, staged by Luc Bondy in his Met debut, opens the program's fourth PBS broadcast season. James Levine conducts. ■



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PAST REPASTS

Here are some capsule summaries of previous reviews:

► **AZN, Mercato, 9118 Strada Place, Naples; 593-8818**

This chic Pan-Asian establishment does a fine job of delivering the best of Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Thai, Indian and Vietnamese fare as well as intriguing cocktails, sake and a well-chosen wine list. Both the Shanghai spring roll and a dumpling combination (two each of shrimp, vegetable and pork) were beautifully plated. The spring roll was crisp, with great texture and enhanced with a side of mango vinaigrette. Wanchai walnut shrimp wasn't as colorful as other dishes, but the fried shrimp bathed in lemon aioli and topped with honey-coated walnuts lacked nothing in the flavor department. Crispy duck is the restaurant's take on Peking duck and was quite crisp, as advertised. A creative signature dessert, a Fuji apple dipped in chocolate, caramel and nuts, then sliced, managed to taste both healthy and refreshing as well as rich and decadent.

Food: ★★★★★ Service: ★★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★★

► **Food and Thought, The Gateway of Naples, 2132 Tamiami Trail; 213-2222**

Organic fast casual may seem like an oxymoron, but not at Frank Oakes' Food and Thought. Step up to the counter secure in the knowledge that whatever you order will be organic and healthy, whether it's an all-fruit-and-vegetable smoothie (I loved the pina colada, with

pineapple, papaya, mango, banana and pineapple coconut juice), a freshly made glass of juice (like The Doctor, a tangy blend of carrots, beets, celery, apple, lemon, ginger and parsley) or the solid food. The menu changes daily, but always features a vegetarian entrée as well as poultry and seafood, lots of side veggies, salads and wraps. The salmon cakes were excellent, as were the smashed yams and pinto bean side dishes. I also liked the dilled potatoes and bright, still-crunchy collards. A large, chewy chocolate chip cookie and a slice of strawberry shortcake proved that food can be healthy and delicious at the same time. Dine at one of the well-shaded outdoor tables if weather permits.

Food: ★★★★★ Service: ★★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★★

► **M Waterfront Grille, Village on Venetian Bay, 4300 Gulf Shore Blvd. N., Naples; 263-4421**

Maxwell's on the Bay has undergone a fabulous update with a sleek new look and a sophisticated menu to match. There was no improving upon the view of Naples Bay, which remains a focal point, but the dining room, done in lots of woods and earth tones, gives the restaurant a contemporary, stylish air. Executive Chef Brian Roland's menu features cutting-edge Continental cuisine, with dishes such as heirloom beets with fried goat cheese, escargot with wild mushrooms, spinach and Boursin cream, orange miso-glazed sea bass with goat cheese dumplings and milk chocolate lava cake. Polished service

and an exemplary wine list further enhance the meal. Full bar.

Food: ★★★★★ Service: ★★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★★

► **Saffron, 2059 Pine Ridge Road; 331-3319**

Saffron is a little tough to find tucked into a shopping center obscured by a gas station, but it's well worth the effort. The hospitable owners are friendly and helpful so even novices will find something they'll enjoy. With the help of several friends, I sampled several dishes and found them all well prepared, combining fresh ingredients and that heady mix of seasonings that makes Indian food so addictive. Spinach dip with house-made cheese spread on fresh naan was a delicious beginning. We also enjoyed a sampler plate containing samosas, pakoras and kabobs served with mint chutney. Salmon cooked in a tandoori oven was moist and well seasoned. Rogan josh, a classic lamb curry, paired well with Bombay dal, a savory cumin-scented lentil, onion and tomato dish. From the dozen or so breads, we sampled keema naan, which was stuffed with ground lamb; kabuli naan, which contained cashews and raisins; and paneer kulcha, filled with house-made cheese, coriander and onion. All were tender, warm and delicious. Mango kulfi, a frozen blend of mango puree, cream and sweetened condensed milk, proved a great ending to a delicious and economical meal. Beer and wine served.

Food: ★★★★★ Service: ★★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★★

► **Tarpon Bay, Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort and Spa, 5001 Coconut Road, Bonita Springs; 444-1234**

For a casual seafood bistro, it would be hard to beat Tarpon Bay. It features a ceviche bar, 16 varieties of raw oysters, a dozen fresh fish options plus a number of signature dishes, such as banana leaf-wrapped mahi-mahi and crispy whole snapper. Wine devotees will find a host of interesting selections from which to choose. Every dish is painstakingly prepared and plated, served by a well-informed staff that fully grasps the definition of good service. In addition to two excellent varieties of ceviche (shrimp with roasted corn and coriander and salmon with sweet chili, almonds and cilantro), we enjoyed the tuna tataki and stone crab claws (in season only). Entrees of Applewood bacon-wrapped grouper balanced salty and smoky flavors with creamy leek fondue and asparagus and red onion confit. The showiest entrée was a crispy whole snapper that was perfectly fried and served with tender-crisp vegetables and a light ponzu sauce. Chocolate lava cake and a trio of Key lime desserts finished the meal nicely. Full bar.

Food: ★★★★★ Service: ★★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★★

Key to ratings

★★★★★ Superb	★★ Fair
★★★★ Noteworthy	★ Poor
★★★ Good	

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FLORIDA WEEKLY CUISINE

Thai Star serves as shining example of great ethnic cuisine



Unless you have eagle eyes, chances are you've never noticed Thai Star, a terrific little restaurant tucked into one of those strip centers that line U.S. 41 from Naples to North Fort Myers.

This one happens to be in Bonita Springs on the east (northbound) side of the road just north of John R. Wood Realty and almost directly across from the main entrance to Bonita Bay.

For the past five years, Bill and Vong Vilaysack have run this modest but noteworthy little restaurant. He works the front of the house while she cooks. That they have survived when countless other restaurants have opened and closed as the economy has spiraled downward speaks to the quality of what they offer: excellent food served in an intimate and nicely appointed dining room at reasonable prices.

Thai Star recently expanded its menu, adding at least a couple dozen appetizers as well as some entrees. The appetizers are particularly appealing, as they are the types of dishes one might find sold by vendors on Thai streets. Essentially, they are a Thai version of tapas, small plates of authentic, flavorful Thai standards. The recent expansion means there are now about 50 appetizers from which to choose. That's a great opportunity, but it also makes it very hard to choose just a couple from this intriguing list. Should it be a green mango salad or tom kha kai, a chicken soup with coconut milk galangal and lemongrass? Fish kabobs or hot pot? Satay or stuffed squid?

Of one thing I'm certain: On my next trip to Thai Star, I'm going hungry and will work my way through as many of the appetizers as I can manage.

As we were obligated to sample from the entrees and desserts as well, we limited our first course to two selections: som tum (\$6.95) and larbkoong (\$8.95). The first is a green papaya salad, in which the papaya is shredded and tossed with tomato, peanuts, fish sauce, garlic and chilis. Fish sauce, the primary condiment in Thai and Vietnamese cuisines, adds a piquant note to the spice, crunch and heat of the other ingredients. It was heavenly.

The second dish consisted of steamed shrimp served with scallions, red onion, mint, kaffir leaves, lime and roasted crushed jasmine. It was that last ingredient that most intrigued us, but the



KAREN FELDMAN / FLORIDA WEEKLY

Above: ginger talay brings together shrimp, mussels, scallops and squid along with a variety of vegetables in a plum-based sauce.



Left: Vong Vilaysack, left, is the restaurant's chef, while her husband, Bill, manages the front of the house. They've owned Thai Star for five years.

Below: red curry melds coconut milk, red curry paste, vegetables and meat, seafood or tofu in a spicy-sweet stew that's a favorite.

milk, bamboo shoots, bell pepper, fresh basil, peas and red curry paste. We ordered it relatively mild (the choices include mild, medium, hot and Thai hot), and that's just how it came. At that level it's possible to taste all the flavors that contribute to this delicious dish. Too much heat and all else is overpowered by the burn.

The ginger talay melded shrimp, scallops, mussels and squid with a plum-based brown sauce, lots of ginger, onions, mushrooms, scallions and bell peppers. The seafood was fresh and of good quality, the sauce fragrant with ginger.

The fried bananas came as four spring-roll-wrapped packages, crisp outside, creamy within, sitting atop a pool of honey. It was a tasty way to clear our palates of the multitude of onions, garlic and spices we'd just consumed.

Next time I'm going to save just



more assertive kaffir leaves and onions left little room for the delicate flavor of jasmine. It was, nonetheless, an excellent dish, again melding a variety of textures and sweet, spicy, sour and umami flavor.

Pad Thai (\$11.95), red curry with tofu (\$14.95) and ginger talay (\$20.95) made for a colorful and filling main course.

Pad Thai can be found at virtually every Thai restaurant. It's an excellent gauge of a chef's prowess in that it requires a fine balance of chewy rice noodles with ground peanuts, bean sprouts, egg, scallions, a hint of fish sauce and other ingredients such as chicken, shrimp or tofu. For this dish to be successful, the chef must be as sensitive as the conductor of an orchestra, making sure that all the components perform in perfect balance. This version was just right, the noodles perfectly cooked then tossed with just the right mix of the other ingredients, including lots of chicken.

Both of the other dishes proved just as good. The red curry is another ubiquitous Thai dish, and this one possessed a masterful balance of coconut

enough room for the black sticky rice with mangoes, another specialty of the house.

The wine selection isn't large here, but you wouldn't expect it to be. Nonetheless, there are several brands available, rather than a single house brand covering both red and white offerings. I tried Sho Chiku Bai sake, because I find sake complements the spicy and sometimes astringent seasonings of Asian cuisine. Offered hot or cold, I ordered the latter, which turned out to be room temperature rather than well chilled, which is the state at which it tastes best. Mr. Vilaysack willingly chilled it in the freezer for a few minutes for me and it was better but still not cold enough. I'd recommend keeping a supply chilled.

With just Mr. Vilaysack and one assistant working the room, it felt as if we were dining in someone's home. Our host was friendly and hospitable, making the few parties who were there on this chilly weeknight feel welcomed and wanted.

There are quite a few Thai restaurants around the region, and many do a good job. I've yet to visit another that offers the impressive range and excellence available at Thai Star. ■

If you go

Thai Star
26521 South Tamiami Trail, Bonita Springs; 992-9825

Ratings:
Food: ★★★★★½
Service: ★★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★★

>> **Hours:** 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday through Friday, 5-9 p.m. every day
>> **Reservations:** Accepted
>> **Credit cards:** Major cards accepted.
>> **Price range:** Appetizers, \$3.95-\$10.95; entrees, \$10.95-\$20.95
>> **Beverages:** Beer and wine served.
>> **Seating:** Booths or conventional tables and chairs
>> **Specialties of the house:** Yummango, shrimp satay, stuffed squid, lemongrass chicken, tom yum kai, hot pot, pho, pad Thai, basil frog legs, green curry, red curry, panang fish, ginger talay
>> **Volume:** Low
>> **Parking:** Free lot

★★★★★ Superb
★★★★ Noteworthy
★★★ Good
★★ Fair
★ Poor

diningCALENDAR

> **Thursday, Dec. 10, noon,** Robb & Stucky KitchenAid Culinary Center: Executive Chef Martin Murphy uses fresh local seafood in dishes that are ideal for the holiday season; \$30, 26501 S. Tamiami Trail, Bonita Springs; (866) 206-3840. Reservations required.

> **Thursday, Dec. 10, 5:30-7:30 p.m.,** ABC Fine Wine & Spirits: Sample some 50 wines from around the world along with hors d'oeuvres and chat with the store's wine experts; \$10, 2755 E. Tamiami Trail; 775-6411.

> **Friday, Dec. 11, 7 p.m.,** Robb &

Stucky KitchenAid Culinary Center: Executive Chef Martin Murphy creates a multi-course food and wine pairing dinner; \$65, 26501 S. Tamiami Trail, Bonita Springs; (866) 206-3840. Reservations required.

> **Saturday, Dec. 12, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.,** Fred's Diner: Santa and a professional photographer visit Fred's for brunch and photos with kids and canines; kids' breakfasts \$1.99; box lunch \$2.99; \$20 donation for photo sitting and print benefiting Golden Retriever Rescue of Southwest Florida; 2700 Immokalee Road; 431-7928.

> **Saturday, Dec. 12, noon-2 p.m.,** Alexander's Restaurant: Chef Alexander Bernard offers delicious ways to entertain for the holidays; \$45, 4077 Tamiami Trail; 262-4999. Reservations required.

> **Sunday, Dec. 13, noon,** Robb & Stucky KitchenAid Culinary Center: Executive Chef Martin Murphy welcomes kids into the kitchen to prepare their own pizzas; admission is a donation of an unwrapped toy to be donated to charity, 26501 S. Tamiami Trail, Bonita Springs; (866) 206-3840. Reservations required.

> **Sunday, Dec. 13, 2 p.m.,** Whole Foods: Denise Petersen demonstrates how to make beautiful and delicious gifts in your own kitchen; \$5, Mercato, 9101 Strada Place; 552-5100. Reservations required.

— Submit event listings to Cuisine@floridaweekly.com.



www.CapeCoral.com

www.C21Sunbelt.com



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Barbara M. Watt
Broker/Owner



NEW CONSTRUCTION

\$1,329,000

5 Bedroom. Palatial Estate - Two Pools - 5 Total Garage Spaces - 8 Total bedrooms - Custom tile flooring throughout. Ask for 802NA9007703.

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\$985,000

10 Acre estate w/5 bed 4 Bath. Large lanai w/in-ground heated pool. Pole barn, workshop, beautiful uplands property. Ask for 802NA9031803.

1-866-657-2300



BETTER THAN NEW - BEAUTIFUL FLOORPLAN

\$539,000

5 Bedroom. Expansive pool lanai area - tile and wood flooring - large workshop storage - fenced property horses & pets welcome. Ask for 802NA9026354.

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MODEL HOME 2.5 ACRES

\$499,000

4 Bedroom plus Den - Three Car Garage - Gated with fabulous pool. Waterways model with every upgrade imaginable Ask for 802NA9035071.

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4 BEDROOM POOL HOME

\$399,000

Wow Former model with all the bells and whistles. 4 bedroom 2 bath 3 car garage, great pool, gated property on 2.50 acr Ask for 802NA9035061.

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HEMINGWAY CABIN

\$399,000

On Private Island. 2 Bed 2 bath beautifully decorated cabin on 4.2 Acre Island in the Fishing Capital of Florida. Private Ferry to Island. Ask for 802NA8017808.

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BAYFRONT PLACE 1BED+DEN CONDO

\$399,000

Turnkey, 3 balconies w/ awesome views on top floor. Downtown Naples. Ask for 802NA9003517.

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STUNNING CONDO

\$360,000

W/Wrap Around Balcony. 3 bed 3-1/2 bath Sky Home. Kitchen features granite Counters, Whitepool Gold stainless appliances, Tile in the Living. Ask for 802NA9033296.

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INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

\$350,000

Great location in middle of Sable-Bay Development. Close to boating gulf access. Ask for 802LE805680.

1-866-657-2300



OASIS IN PARADISE

\$349,900

This lovely home sits on beautifully manicured property of 4.78 acres that includes 2 ponds. Ask for 802NA8036451.

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STERLING OAKS

\$329,900

Sterling Oaks a beautiful gated tennis community 2 bed + den and huge 20x20 bonus room over garage. Ask for 802CC9039477.

1-866-657-2300



EXCELLENT CONDITION

\$299,900

Large lot community pool. Excellent condition light and airy with screened porch. Hardly lived in 1.5 years collectively Ask for 802CC950072.

1-866-657-2300



MOVE IN CONDITION

\$285,000

Perfectly maintained property sits on 2.73 acres with canal frontage on a dead end, great location west of 951. Ask for 802NA9033631.

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FORT MYERS BEACH CONDO

\$275,000

Deeded Boat Slip included! Townhouse style condo on 3rd floor, 2 screened lanai's, assigned under building parking, new Ask for 802NA9025389.

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BEAUTIFUL 3 BED - WATER VIEW

\$274,400

The original owners of this well maintained condo have methodically and tastefully added upgrades to many of the areas, Ask for 802NA9026365.

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TWO STORY BEAUTY

\$264,900

RARE FORECLOSURE IN LELY! This property is located in beautiful Lely Resort which has been rated as one of the best comm. Ask for 802NA9031118.

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NAPLES HOLLY TERRACE

\$250,000

Property in center of East Naples Development near Bayview Park and Botanical Garden Boating and Golf near. Ask for 802LE910251.

1-866-657-2300



BEAUTIFUL HOME

\$249,900

2 bed plus room that can be converted to a 3rd bedroom by adding 1 wall, 209 deep and 380 frontage Ask for 802NA9024393.

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VACATION EVERY DAY

\$239,900

Second floor unit - Beautifully appointed - Stainless Steel appliances - 1,351 sq ft under air - luxury pool a must see Ask for 802NA9029720.

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VINEYARDS COUNTRY CLUB

\$230,000

3BR/2.5BA+den. Home in Naples. Lowest priced. Ask for 802FM830708.

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THE PERFECT SPOT IN NAPLES

\$199,000

Location, location, location! The perfect spot in Naples. 2BR/2BA end unit. Immaculate condo. Adorable with many extras. Ask for 802FM939641.

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TUSCANY COVE

\$195,000

3 bedroom 2 bath 2 car garage - almost new home overlooking a private preserve, community pool and tennis. Ask for 802NA9003439.

1-866-657-2300



BEAUTIFUL END UNIT 3/2/2

\$189,000

Bundled Golf. NOT a foreclosure, NOT a short sale. This beautiful end unit has 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, two car garage. Gated community Ask for 802NA9039650.

1-866-657-2300



5 ACRE FARM

\$179,000

Built in 2004 this home has lots of potential 3 plus den or 4 bedrooms - very private and close to major airport. Ask for 802NA9031179.

1-866-657-2300



HUNTINGTON LAKES COACH HOME

\$169,900

Turnkey, designer furnished coach home in Huntington Lakes. Impeccably maintained two bedroom, two bath end unit Ask for 802NA9027027.

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NAPLES-BAYSHORE DR. - HOLLY

\$160,000

Corner lot plus - owner will consider financing - 24hr Notice tenant occupied. Ask for 802LE906985.

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LAKEFRONT CONDO

\$159,900

Established Assn - 2 bed, 2 bath, carport 2 pools and clubhouse. Lighted tennis and shuffleboard court. Priced to sell! Ask for 802NA9013754.

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HIDE AWAY HOME IN BONITA

\$152,000

Sheltered by live scrub oaks, this peaceful 3/2/2 home sits on a huge corner lot. Ask for 802SS934223.

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GULF ACCESS

\$149,999

This charming home is located in the boating community of Henderson Creek Park, which has direct access to the Gulf. Ask for 802NA9024291.

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GOLDEN GATE ESTATES

\$140,000

No need to look further if you are a first time buyer, a retiree looking for a smaller home, this is the one for you. Ask for 802NA9028804.

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GOLDEN GATE CITY

\$139,000

Open Floor plan - tiled living area, snack bar, roof replaced 2009, well system 2008, new counters in bathroom. Ask for 802NA9040062.

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POSSIBLE SHORT SALE

\$120,000

This house is in good condition, has 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, two car garage. Tile floors, under truss lanai fruit trees. Ask for 802NA8033623.

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SECOND FLOOR CONDO

\$119,900

2 + Den. Great condo 2 plus den priced to sell yesterday. Pool, tennis, BBQ, club house and low fees, will go fast. Ask for 802NA9029766.

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GOLDEN GATE ESTATES

\$119,000

Great Price. Potential Short Sale, spacious 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, 2 car garage, tile throughout, vaulted ceilings. 2,020 sq under air Ask for 802NA8046224.

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BERKSHIRE LAKES 1ST FLOOR END UNIT

\$85,900

Foreclosure, "sold as is" with right to inspect. Lovely first floor condominium in beautiful Berkshire Lakes. New paint Ask for 802NA9037645.

1-866-657-2300



GREAT BUY IN GOLDEN GATE ESTATES

\$79,000

This cozy 3 bed 2 bath is a great opportunity for a first time home buyer or investor. Call and make an offer. Ask for 802NA9023648.

1-866-657-2300



BANK OWNED CONDO 2/2/FIRST FLOOR

\$69,000

Winter Park 2/2 just minutes to beach and shopping. First floor unit with storage unit. Ask for 802NA9040819.

1-866-657-2300



PRICED TO SELL

\$50,000

Nice 3/2/2 in Cape Coral - eat in kitchen nice yard and priced for sell today! Ask for 802NA9024760.

1-866-657-2300



GREAT 2 BED 2 BATH TOWNHOUSE

\$39,900

Two bed two full bath town home in very nice gated community Two pools two tennis courts and low fees make this great! Ask for 802NA9037808.

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ONE BED/ONE BA PLUS DEN

\$24,500

Granite counter tops, stainless appliances, tiled throughout unit cute as a button and priced to sell! Ask for 802NA9040535.

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LEVITAN - MCQUAID

REAL ESTATE SERVICES | WEEKLY

DECEMBER 10-16, 2009

www.LevitanMcQuaid.com

Real Estate Outlook: Real Estate Market Is Active



BY KENNETH R. HARNEY

This week it's all about sales. They're up in all four major regions of the country, and we're even seeing bidding wars breaking in some scattered markets, according to the latest survey from the National Association of Realtors.

Sales of single family homes, townhouses, condos and co-ops surged by a little over 10 percent in October, and were 24 percent above where they were a year before.

Closed transactions rose by nearly 12 percent in the Northeast, 14.4 percent in the Midwest, 12.7 percent in the South and by 1.6 percent in the West.

Why the big jump in activity? The number one reason, according to Dr. Lawrence Yun chief economist for the National Association of Realtors, was that first time buyers rushed to wrap up deals before the scheduled November

30th original expiration date of the \$8,000 federal tax credit.

That program has now been extended through next June 30th.

Another factor: The near record-breaking affordability of housing - as measured by the prices of homes in local markets around the U.S. compared with household incomes and monthly payments at current mortgage interest rates.

The affordability equation is now at its most favorable point for buyers since 1970. Interest rates for 30-year fixed loans have been hovering around five percent for weeks -- and recently dropped below that into the upper four percent range. A year ago, by comparison, the average 30-year rate was 6.2 percent.

House prices meanwhile have remained well below where they were a year ago -- down by 7 percent to a median price of about \$173,000. In the southwestern states, Florida and the sub-

urbs of Washington D.C., low prices, especially for entry-level houses, are triggering multiple-bid situations -- something that hasn't been seen since the heady days of the housing boom in 2004 and 2005.

The Realtors' Yun warns, though, that encouraging though this may appear, the market is not static and some of these dynamics could change in the months ahead.

Prices are flattening out and could even move up surprisingly in some areas in the coming months, if the economy cooperates. Interest rates could rise next Spring if the Federal Reserve phases out its program of heavy-duty investing in mortgage securities, as it says it plans to do.

In the meantime, inventory levels of unsold houses continue to drop ... and are now down to just a seven month supply nationwide on average. Since a six month supply is considered to be a balanced market, favoring neither sellers nor buyers, it looks like we're not too far off.



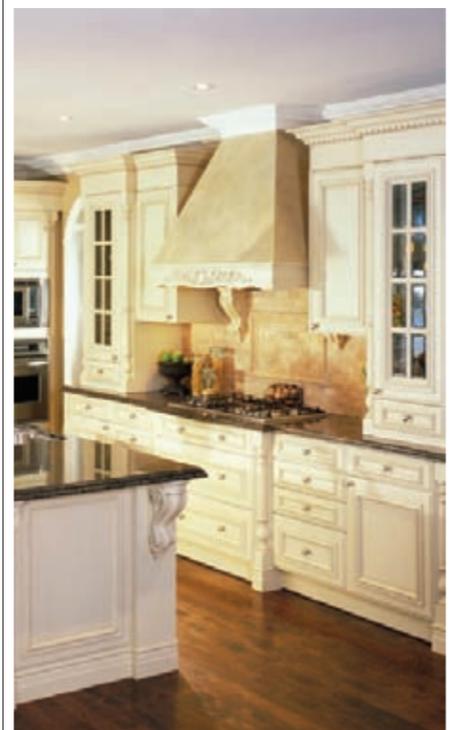
FREE CREDIT REPORT!

All consumers are entitled to a FREE credit report each year from the three credit bureaus. As we end 2009, take the time to review your report for inaccuracies and/or potential identity theft. This service is free on an annual basis at www.AnnualCreditReport.com. Take advantage of this FREE service.

TAX CREDITS FOR ALL!

The First-time Homebuyer Credit has been in place for individuals or couples who have not purchased a home within the last three years. The name of this credit can be deceiving.

Also, in November an additional credit was added for current homeowners up to \$6,500! Call our office for a complete breakdown of this credit and its requirements before you purchase at (239) 594-5555.



REMODELING VALUE

Have you ever wondered how much of a kitchen renovation would get recouped from a sale of the property? Visit www.RemodelingMagazine.com/cost-vs-value and you can view a complete report with a geographical breakdown on the entire country. It is a good tool to give you an approximate idea before you demo your bathroom!

HOT HOME



OPEN HOUSE
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THE ESTATES OF QUAIL CREEK!
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Hope your Holidays are Merry & Bright!

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QUAIL VILLAGE

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10338 Quail Crown Drive - NEW LISTING!
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10393 Quail Crown Drive - NEW LISTING!
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11392 Quail Village Way
 4+ Loft built in 2001! \$399,000 WOW!

11400 Quail Village Way
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11638 Quail Village Way
 2+ Den- Furnished \$275,000

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4487 Wayside Drive • 4BR + Den • \$3,895,000

OPEN HOUSE Sunday 1-4 PM

28870 Cavell Terrace • 5BR + Den • \$2,950,000

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4172 Brynwood Drive • 5BR+Den • \$1,795,000

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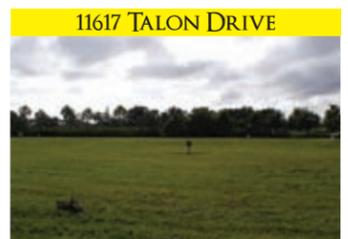


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