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WEEK OF DECEMBER 24-30, 2009

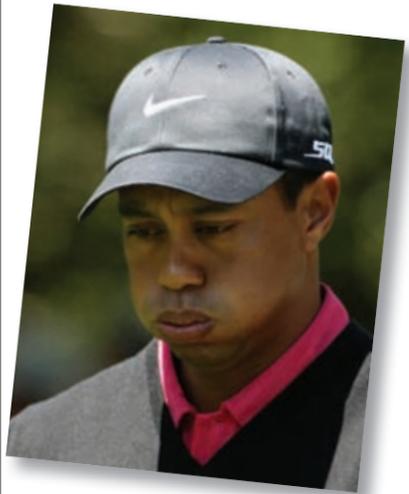
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INSIDE



Out with the old
Check out Florida Weekly's guide of places and ways to welcome the New Year. **C1** ▶



Crouching Tiger
Local PR pros chime in on how the golfing great might polish his tarnished image. **B1** ▶



Sweet!
Dreams comes true at The Ritz during Willy Wonka Weekend, and more holiday fun. **C27, 28 & 29** ▶



Sounds like...
Florida's state bird, the mockingbird, is a "many-tongued mimic." **A17** ▶

2009: THE YEAR IN IDEAS

BY ROGER WILLIAMS
rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

Dazzling, compassionate, soaring, ambitious, complex, simple, farseeing and extraordinarily well organized — all these qualities and a treasury of others characterize *Florida Weekly's* choices for the best ideas of 2009.

Inevitably, by presenting nine ideas we have been forced to ignore many others, perhaps hundreds, in the region encompassing Collier, Lee and Charlotte counties, where more than 1 million people reside.

In each of the ideas we selected, many minds and hearts helped to fashion a program, a place or a technology that has the potential to change all of our lives for the better.

In the end, some or many of these ideas may succeed in that ambition and some

SEE IDEAS, A8 ▶

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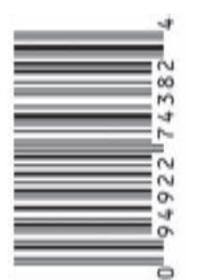
Photographer Nancy DeNike went around her Naples neighborhood and captured a series of shots that confirm the holiday spirit is alive and well along Frank Whiteman Boulevard and Wisconsin Drive — one Grinch notwithstanding.

"The reason I photographed the decorations is simple," Ms. DeNike told us. "I appreciate that no matter what is going on in these peoples' lives, they have taken the time to find the spirit of Christmas in their hearts and share it with others through the lights. It feels magical. Like anything is possible..."

In the true spirit of the season, Ms. DeNike graciously shared her photographs with *Florida Weekly*. We in turn bring them to you, here and on page A16. Enjoy, and happy holidays! ■

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PRSR STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID FORT MYERS, FL PERMIT NO. 715	ROGER WILLIAMS A2	BUSINESS B1	EVENTS C6 & 7
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COMMENTARY

Christmas: Just give a little more



Every one of us who celebrates Christmas also faces the post-partum blues.

I happen to be a lover of the blues, but mostly of the kind that come from Mississippi or Chicago and from a time and place that defined the United States as a "Christian" country only in theory.

I don't cotton to post-partum blues, that drop in temperamental weather from the giddy highs of the moment with all its meaning — when we give birth to a renewed spirit of giving and hope — to the melancholy lows of exhaustion, despair and repair, when the moment is gone and its meaning seems a long, long ways away.

Do you find yourself suddenly reduced in circumstances now, immediately after Christmas? Falling into economic or convivial decline? Suspended in the ether of a disquieting lethargy that seems — and is — unreasonable given the massive ingestion of joy, not to mention calories, you've just experienced?

Well, I have a solution: Just give a little more.

This is based on centuries of determined research summarized by the scholarly phrase, "the hair of the dog." That's why I've always liked the notion of 12 days of Christmas — the 12 days

from the storied birth of Christ to epiphany, celebrated in the Greek Orthodox Church, for example, on Jan. 6. You give, and then you get up and give some more (or at least try to remember what giving is all about) and then you get up and do it some more, until it's all partum the whole, and there is no post-partum.

Many of the researchers I've known have applied the same principle to drink, often in the Christmas season, which is where hair of the dog comes in. You drink, and then you get up and drink some more, and then you do it again, and so on. Pretty soon it's all parsnips or partum the whole.

Or maybe it's part of the whole, which is the cure — something that can't leave you deflated. After Christmas, after all, one does not want to feel departed from the whole. One aims for part of the whole, or in some cases — greedy politicians, gluttons, fascists and didacts — one aims for the whole thing, without leaving so much as a crumb of otherness for anybody else.

In my opinion, therefore, we should have Christmas in July, or maybe even conduct a quarterly Christmas, moving from one to another without respite. There wouldn't be time for depression, or for not giving just a little more.

If I could be queen for a day (this is not another subject, this is the same subject, so pay attention) I'd be Aretha Franklin, circa 1969 — a woman who understood that black is not just black, and white is not just white, and blues are not just blue, and Martin Luther King Jr. was not

just Martin Luther King Jr. (he was an icon), and the American republic was not just a democracy in those days but also still an apartheid state, more or less, I hope a little less at Christmas, which is what gave rise to the blues in the first place — and I'd sing you this song:

"BABY, PLEASE JUST GIIIIVVVVE A LITTLE MOOORE, baby, please just give a little more, to me and to you and don'tchu be blue 'cause we got Christmas, it's true, so BABY PLEASE JUST GIIIIVVVVE A LITTLE MOOORE..."

Something like that, you see?

What this will do (according to the hair-of-the-dog theory), this having more Christmas, is end the melancholy.

So in that spirit, let me present you with a few gifts that might keep on giving, each contributed by *Florida Weekly* readers or subjects in the past year.

Please accept them in the spirit of giving just a little bit more, baby — and pass them on.

A. "I don't want none of this, myself. All these flowers and nice words and hoop-de-da — don't give me that. If you're going to do something, do it while I'm alive. Do it while I'm standing here. You want to give me flowers? Well, pick 'em and come on over. I can smell 'em and see 'em now. I won't be smelling any flowers later. You want to say something nice about me? Come on over here and say it. I won't mind hearing it. Won't do me any good later."

— *Burdie Baker, honorary mayor of Charleston Park, on funeral customs*

B. "What's the difference between a seagull and a financial advisor? Answer:

A seagull can still make a deposit on a brand new Mercedes."

— *Jack O'Brien, curator at The von Liebig Art Center*

C. "I don't make my face look pretty when I sing. My face will contort. It's like delivering a pitch with a baseball. It starts in your heels and goes up through your legs and it comes through your diaphragm and up through your larynx and your mask and your lips guide it."

— *Joe Virga, a singer and guitar player*

D. "One morning after breakfast I passed a man with a large 'homeless' sign who greeted me with a cheery 'good morning.' I returned the greeting and dropped some change in his cup. A few hours later I had a sandwich for lunch, which I cut in half because that's all I wanted. I wrapped the remainder with the pickle. It so happened that I passed the same corner, saw the same man, and this time I asked him if he'd like a sandwich.

"What kind?" he asked. "Ham and cheese, lettuce and mayo," I answered. "Pickle?" he asked.

"Of course," I replied, as he smiled broadly and held out his hand.

"This led me to believe that the Boston homeless, like the proper Bostonians, are a very enlightened and particular people. Pickle, indeed!"

— *Audrey Bender, Neapolitan*

E. "Call us anytime, in the day or the night, if you have any questions. ANY questions. We WANT you to call us. OK?"

— *Dr. Jignesh Patel, neonatologist at Peace River Regional Memorial Hospital, speaking to a patient*

So, Merry Christmas, baby, and please just give a little more. ■




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OPINION

Job one: Foster entrepreneurship

BY RICH LOWRY

The White House didn't invite the firms that will create new jobs to its "job summit" — dominated by the CEOs of big firms, Ivy League economists and union officials — because they weren't available. Many of them don't even exist yet.

Our economic gospel says that small businesses create most jobs, although size doesn't matter as much as age. In a new study on job creation, the Kauffman Foundation found that "from 1980-2005, nearly all net job creation in the United States occurred in firms less than five years old."

The ultimate source of jobs is the vast, chaotic entrepreneurial churn that has always characterized the American economy at its best. No recovery is sustainable without it, yet the White House remains fixated on the gewgaws of new government programs and quick gimmicks.

It's newness that really drives the job market. First, there are the startup firms. Without startups, according to Kauffman, "net job creation for the American economy would be negative in all but a handful of years." But startups often go

bust. About a third close down in their second year, half by year five. Those young firms that survive are key.

The Kauffman study posits a symbiotic relationship between those well-established firms and the younger ones. As the new firms succeed, the older firms ape their innovations or acquire them. And on it goes, an endless process of creation and destruction that — as long as entrepreneurial spirits run high — nets out as new jobs.

It's the state of this churn that should matter to policymakers more than the health of any specific industry or firm, yet it's been ignored in the ongoing bailouts and the inaptly named \$787 billion "stimulus."

Most of the spending in the stimulus (\$280 billion out of \$499 billion — the rest was for tax credits) went to payments to states and localities. According to *Governing* magazine, states devoted 63 percent of the funds to Medicaid and 13 percent to their general-fund budgets. In other words, much of the stimulus acted to preserve the programmatic status quo in the states, not foster new job creation.

And the stimulus has precluded major new policies favorable to the churn.

Entrepreneurs must hire workers and acquire capital, and they benefit from anything that makes it cheaper and easier to do so. A cut in the payroll tax would have provided tax relief to individuals at the same time that it removed a drag to hiring. But it's expensive and basically out of the question after President Barack Obama's \$787 billion budget-buster.

Worse, every business owner or would-be business owner in the country has the uncertainty of the health-care bill, card-check legislation and cap-and-trade hanging over him. All would increase taxes and the cost of labor and of doing business.

Every recession ends and jobs inevitably return, but there's a daunting path ahead. David Smick, author of "The World Is Curved," notes that if the unemployment rate is to drop to 5 percent during the next five years, we'll need to create 250,000 new net jobs a month. The average has been 90,000 a month since 1989.

We'll never get there without a truly vibrant churn. ■

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

GUEST OPINION

Who is President Obama?



helenTHOMAS
Special to Florida Weekly

After nearly a year in office, the defining political image of President Barack Obama has yet to emerge. Is he a hawk or a dove, a liberal or a moderate?

His Nobel Peace Prize speech exposed his ambivalence. He harkened back to the Roman Catholic theologians to defend his "just war" in Afghanistan — but he also expressed his ideals for a better world.

Measuring Obama's performance is truly in the eyes of the beholder. To those who were enthralled with Obama's eloquence in the presidential campaign, reality is setting in. News flash: He doesn't walk on water.

But then he has had to deal with more monumental problems than most freshmen presidents — two wars and the biggest economic breakdown since the Great Depression in the 1930s.

Like all chief executives, Obama has had to learn the difference between campaigning and governing. He is a gifted politician who understands the art of compromise and the need to play the game to achieve those goals.

Half a loaf is better than none for the president, who nonetheless has been trumped on key issues by the obstructionist "just say no" Republicans — and

a smattering of so-called moderates, including the unctuous Sen. Joe Lieberman, I-Conn.

As a result of his need to collect Senate votes for a health-care-reform bill — if for no other reason than to show some "reform" this year — Obama has abandoned a government insurance plan and given up on a proposal to permit Americans who reach the age of 55 to buy into Medicare.

The liberals in his party were the losers — along with the millions of people with no insurance. Dr. Howard Dean, former chairman of the Democratic National Committee and former governor of Vermont, said Wednesday that the bill pending in the Senate has been so diluted that it's not worth passing. The only winners were the insurance companies that poured millions of dollars into the campaign to mold the legislation more to their liking. "This is the insurance companies' dream," Dean said on ABC-TV.

Obama's policy toward Afghanistan is another disappointment for the liberal wing of the Democratic Party. His decision to send 30,000 more American troops — bringing the total in Afghanistan to about 100,000 — showed that Obama was gambling on the side of the generals.

The war supporters include the ranks of all GOP lawmakers, who seem to care more about the cost of universal health care than the multibillions of dollars spent for war.

It's an Afghan war that has yet to be

explained. Is it a geopolitical power play involving rivalry with China and Russia? Or is it to "defeat, destroy and demean" al-Qaida? Or is it to nation-build in Central Asia?

The administration's standard public rationale has been that the U.S. cannot afford to have al-Qaida regroup in Afghanistan, a scenario that could evolve if Afghanistan is a failed state.

Here's a question that needs to be addressed: Are we going to run around the globe and prop up other failed states just to keep al-Qaida out?

Will we send troops to Somalia or Sudan to prop up weak central governments that seem unable to impose law and order in their own territories?

We are begging the reluctant Pakistani and Afghan governments to fight their internal opponents — the Taliban and the motley nihilist al-Qaida network. Is it their cause or ours? Do they really want our help or not?

I sometimes think that Obama's policies are morphing faithfully into those of his predecessor, former President George W. Bush.

The president has yet to take his gloves off against the greedy Wall Streeters and oligarchs in Congress who led the country down the garden path right into the Great Recession and its tragic landscape of job loss, home foreclosures, poverty and hunger.

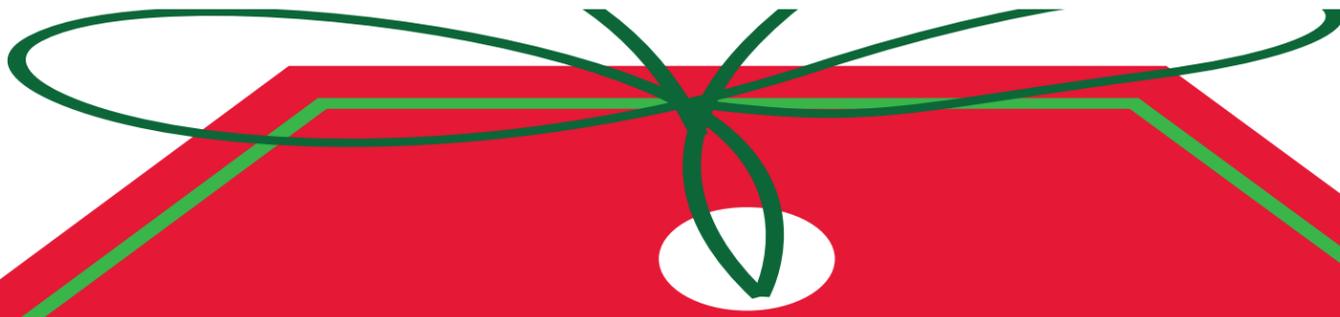
I say to the president: The time has come for you to get tough. No more Mr. Nice Guy. ■

MOMENTS IN TIME

► On **Dec. 24, 1851**, a devastating fire at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., destroys about two-thirds of its 55,000 volumes, including most of Thomas Jefferson's personal library. Today, the collection, housed in three enormous buildings in Washington, contains more than 17 million books.

► On **Dec. 26, 1946**, in Las Vegas, mobster Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel opens The Pink Flamingo Hotel and Casino at a total cost of \$6 million. The 40-acre facility wasn't complete. Because gamblers had no rooms at the hotel, they took their winnings elsewhere. The casino lost \$300,000 in the first week of operation.

► On **Dec. 27, 1900**, prohibitionist Carry Nation smashes up the bar at the Carey Hotel in Wichita, Kan., causing several thousand dollars in damage and landing her in jail. Nation became famous for carrying a hatchet and wrecking saloons as part of her anti-alcohol crusade. ■



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15 MINUTES

30,000-plus plants and counting, George Wilder cultivates his obsession

BY SUSAN BROWN
Special to Florida Weekly

George Wilder has loved nature for as long as he can remember. As a boy in Yonkers, as a young man in college, as a college professor and now more than ever in his retirement, botany has been his obsession.

And as herbarium curator and botanist for the Naples Botanical Garden, he spends each day immersed in that obsession.

He studied biology at Cornell University, obtained a Ph.D. in botany at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and spent four years doing post-doctoral research work at Harvard University. From there he taught at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Cleveland State University and most recently as an adjunct professor at Florida Gulf Coast University.

The beauty of academia, he says, is that teaching and research each strengthen the other. "I emphasize both in my career."

A test to determine his interests during his college years yielded high scores in both science and art. No doubt the latter played a role in meeting Rebecca, an accomplished pianist and his wife of 28 years. She was playing Brahms at a place she refers to as a soiree when the pair first met.

"We were both smitten," Dr. Wilder says. The couple married after a brief courtship. "The combination of her physical and emotional beauty plus her excellent piano playing won me over," he

says adding their differing interests create a source of mutual attraction.

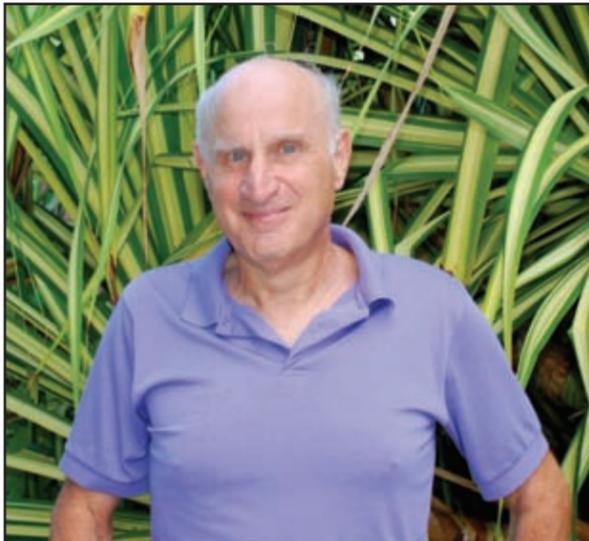
There were no differences, however, when it came to deciding upon Naples. The Wilders vacationed here 20 years ago, and knew immediately they wanted to live here when they retired.

"We fell in love with it instantly," Dr. Wilder recalls. "I remember, we were in the vicinity of the Everglades; it was nighttime. We heard the sounds of the night, smelled the aroma of the plants... It was magnificent."

They purchased a condominium in Old Naples the following year and paid the mortgage off with the rental income. They moved to Naples permanently in 2002, after Dr. Wilder retired from CSU. He moved his herbarium to FGCU and transplanted it again to the Garden 2½ years ago, where he devotes every day to the field of floristics (the study of flora).

"I work seven days a week," he says. "I love doing what I do. I have a symbiosis with the Garden."

The Garden gives him space and support to do his work, and in exchange, Dr. Wilder provides a role for science and is a source of expertise on native plants there. His precise, purposeful manner demonstrates that Dr. Wilder's passion



George Wilder

SUSAN BROWN / FLORIDA WEEKLY

serves not only an inner calling but a greater good.

His interest in floristics began late in his career. Regardless, this late-bloomer's collection is now numbered to 30,617 – and climbing. He collects and identifies each flora specimen; Garden volunteers help with the process involved with creating a herbarium sheet. After the specimen is collected, it is pressed, dried and affixed to a sheet of archival paper, then labeled with the necessary information. Specifically, the label includes the species name, the location of collection, collection date, name of collector(s) and the collection number.

"The number is critical," he says, add-

ing the information associated with the collection number allows precise reference for documentation, publication and authentication purposes.

It's a combination of both art and science, he says. "Preparing a plant specimen is an art—the way they're arranged on a sheet, the way they're presented. There's art in doing that."

His work documents existing plant life. "This is the last opportunity that I have now to provide proof of what is growing here. That is the most important thing about what I'm doing," he says. "With Marco Island, for example, there was a species there that is now extinct worldwide. That's the only place it is known for certain to have grown. I looked hard for it, and I believe it is extinct now. I went to Marco Island 11 times and I never saw it once." The documented collection sites have long been replaced by developments, he says.

Brenda Thomas, the environmental educator for the CREW Land and Water Trust, and Jean Roche, membership coordinator for The Conservancy of Southwest Florida and a former student of Dr. Wilder, are two of five volunteers who assist him at the herbarium.

Ms. Thomas praises Dr. Wilder's absolute commitment to excellence; Ms. Roche describes her mentor as a prolific botanist and says, "With Dr. Wilder, everything is a teaching and learning experience."

"I'm very happy here," he says, gesturing toward the Garden. "This is heaven. I have my obsession, and I do it here in paradise. Who could want more?" ■



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IDEAS

From page 1

may not. Some may be arguable and some indisputable. Some are complete and some will carry on into the New Year as works in progress. In success or failure, however, all of them will remain a testament to the talent and innovative power of our coastal community, and to its great heart and soul. These ideas are proof positive that in Southwest Florida, change is not considered mere novelty or nuisance but taken opportunity and fat chance.

Here, then, are only a few of the ideas that reached fruition or were hammered out and presented on the public stage in the year now ending.

FGCU'S INNOVATION HUB

You won't see the I-HUB yet, except on the books where a million-dollar gift from the Backe Foundation appears (reinforced by an additional \$750,000 state grant), or in the still-unbroken 241-acre parcel sandwiched between Southwest Florida International Airport and Florida Gulf Coast University, off Alico Road in Lee County. But the notion — to bring together renewable energy research and applied science — is more than mere whimsy.

On 5 acres of the site, FGCU has announced plans to build a 50,000-square-foot renewable energy research center devoted to studying solar, wind, biotech and green technologies — or any others — that show promise as energy producers. The Backe Foundation grant, provided by former CBS President John D. Backe, will support the Backe Chair in Renewable Energy, a professorship for which the university is now seeking a scholar of national or international repute, officials say.

The university is partnering in the I-HUB with Galvano Development, which provided the land, and the elder



COURTESY PHOTO

The Naples Botanical Gardens opened in the fall, completing the first and major step in a multi-year, \$36 million project.

the fields of energy, environment, economics, education and health to Naples in a program called Imagine Solutions, on Feb. 22 and 23.



ANTIK

Calling these “the top five issues facing America and the world,” Mr. Antik aims to connect well-known academicians, entrepreneurs and scientists, along with local citizens who wish to share their ideas and help “pool knowledge.” Participants are paying \$2,000 for the two-day event, which will include such noteworthies as Susan Eisenhower, an analyst of energy, space and international security issues; Dean Ornish, M.D., founder of the Preventive Medicine Research Institute and author of six books, including the bestseller “Eat

More, Weigh Less” and “The Spectrum”; National Geographic Explorer-in-Residence Sylvia Earle, an oceanographer and author who has led more than 60 expeditions and logged more than 6,000 hours under water; inventor and entrepreneur Dean Kamen, creator of the Segway and founder of US FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology); and former U.S. controller David Walker, advocate for fiscal responsibility and star of the documentary “I.O.U.S.A.,” according to Lynne Groth, executive director of the Imagine Solutions conference.

Modeled on TED and Aspen-Institute thought-leader conferences, Ms. Groth says, the conference will unite those “who have the resources, connections and desire to make the world a better place.”

SOLAR FIELDS — FP&L and FGCU

With the advent of a 2008 Florida legislative bill allowing utilities to produce as much as 110 megawatts of power from renewable sources, FP&L began work on a huge (by contemporary standards) 25 megawatt photovoltaic array of 90,000 panels

on 181 acres, in DeSoto County. The project, which can provide power to about 3,000 homes by producing some 42,000-megawatt hours of electricity, went on line this year, complete with a presidential nod when Barack Obama arrived to celebrate the pioneering moment.

The panels not only convert sunlight and its ultraviolet radiation directly into electricity, but the entire system relies on a novel tracking technology that allows each panel to move with the sun as its position changes in the daytime sky, much like sunflowers, morning glories or other plants capable of taking maximum advantage of sunlight.

Not only did this renewable energy plant provide 400 jobs in the making, but at \$150 million in total cost it came in about \$22 million under budget, and will cost customers about 6 cents a month, says Jackie Anderson, an FP&L spokeswoman.

“Over its lifetime of about 30 years,” she adds, “it will avoid 575,000 tons of greenhouse gas emissions.” That’s because it uses no fuel. The new solar field also uses no water, a huge additional benefit as water becomes scarcer and an unheard of luxury compared to traditional power plants, which require seeming oceans of water for cooling.

At FGCU, the remarkable new 19-acre solar field, 15 of it under solar module (akin to a solar panel, 10,818 of them) and 4 acres devoted to sur-

rounding plants that can provide both protection and aesthetic value, comes fully on line this week. The field, temporarily holding claim as the largest on any campus in the world (a larger one will come on line in Arizona shortly) will supply about 18 percent of the power required on campus, or 2 megawatts, says Joe Shepard, vice president for administrative services and finances.

At a cost of \$14 million, \$9 million provided by the state and the university itself, and the remainder by private industry, the solar field will ultimately save the university about \$700,000 a year, estimates Mr. Shepard. One other exceptionally good idea here: The field has been placed on gravel, not grass. That design feature will require much less upkeep and water. Additionally, the gravel was made on campus, from rocks that came from pond excavation required to retain water.

THE OTHER KIND OF GROWTH

While economic and technological growth captured a significant portion of American and regional expertise in 2009, some of the other most innovative minds have devoted themselves not to cultivation of the American greenback, but to the nurture and sustenance of flora.

The dazzling new Naples Botanical Gardens opened in the fall, completing the first and major step in a multi-year, \$36 million project to harness



COURTESY PHOTO

FGCU's I-HUB will bring together renewable energy research and applied science.

Backe's son, John E. Backe, owner of Backe's Digital Brand Marketing. With the university, they plan to lure both business and other academic interests to the research hub (officials from the University of Florida and Clemson University have already shown interest in the I-HUB, representatives say), providing opportunities for professors of various academic interests and for FGCU students to explore new energy uses by creating and using them on site.

“We want an independent utility district there that can convert waste to energy, so members will take power from the site's own utilities, and the University can grow companies on site that will develop in the region,” says Rich Galvano, principal of Galvano Development.

IMAGINE SOLUTIONS

“Knowledge is a critical commodity,” and networking may be the critical mortar that makes such a commodity muscular, notes Randy Antik, CEO of a nonprofit foundation called Searching for Solutions Institute. Last month, SSI announced plans to bring a cadre of the best and brightest minds now exploring



COURTESY PHOTO

FGCU solar fields become operational this week.

world-class landscape designers to the passion for growing things and the energy of Neapolitan volunteers and philanthropists. This garden is now one of the finest of its kind and size — 170 acres — in the United States.

More precisely, the Naples Botanical is not one but five gardens, each designed by an internationally renowned landscape designer. They include an Asian (still in progress), a Brazilian, a Caribbean, a Children's and a Florida Garden.

"For a while (making this happen) was like herding cats, the most painful thing you can imagine," recalls Ellin Goetz, the only Neapolitan to qualify as an A-list designer among the international set (she designed the Florida garden). But in the end, perhaps, it became more like herding a disciplined, carefully choreographed company of fine dancers.

With a new FGCU research center, a sophisticated herbarium, the leadership of Brian Holley (executive director) and far-sighted volunteer leaders including Juliet Sproul (a Collier by birth), along with such powerful engines of philanthropy as Scott and Kathleen Kapnick, this garden may be the single most enriching gift of the decade's final year in Southwest Florida.

FUTURISTS

If *Florida Weekly* were to award a first place for Social Futurists, it would likely go to the five Lee County commissioners. In a rare moment of unanimity and — should we say it? — solidarity, commissioners here adopted a "complete streets" policy, resolving to allow no future road construction without accommodating bicyclists, pedestrians and public transport. That's a major step toward a much healthier, safer, less expensive and more sustainable quality of life for future residents.

Such a step should not be underestimated for its potential impact on our lives. In 2007 and 2008, there were 32 pedestrians and 10 bicyclists killed by motor vehicles in Lee, and nine pedestrians and two bicyclists killed in each neighboring coastal county, Collier and Charlotte. In addition to the devastation of hearts and minds when such a tragedy occurs, the economic cost per death is about \$4.1 million, according to the National Safety Council (the much greater number of injuries average about \$53,000 per incident in economic cost).

And nowadays, traveling without a motor vehicle anywhere on the southwest coast can prove more dangerous than almost anywhere else in the United States. Charlotte County ranks as the most dangerous place in Florida for pedestrians, and the second most dangerous in the nation; Lee County ranks 23rd on the list of most dangerous American places for pedestrians and bicyclists, and among the top 10 in Florida; and Collier County is rated as twice as lethal for pedestrians as the national average.

"Complete Streets," according to the new Lee County resolution, "are no more inexpensive than incomplete streets."

Retrofitting incomplete streets is a different matter, however, and it remains to be seen how much county commissioners — in any county here

— will commit themselves to the "complete streets" concept in the new year.

RED MAN RISING

In a striking first or at least an unheard-of rarity, the Seminole tribe of Native Americans, who claim the distinction of being the only Indians never to surrender to U.S. Army units in the 19th century, are now being celebrated off the reservation and in the heart of the occupiers' kingdom, downtown Fort Myers.

The special moment comes courtesy of Woody Hanson, a fifth-generation native whose grandfather, W. Stanley Hanson, was embraced as the "white medicine man" by the tribe. The contemporary Mr. Hanson, owner of Hanson Real Estate Advisors in Fort Myers, has turned his downtown property on Hendry Street into "Seminole Lodge," a new museum housing more than 1,000 never-before-seen photos, writings and drawings from the Hanson family archive. Many of these unique records of the lives of Seminoles come from the time of Mr. Hanson's grandfather, who was born in 1883 and died in 1945. He helped the tribe as it faced illness, intense bigotry and animosity, and changing times and environments, winning the trust of its leaders and earning an unprecedented access to tribal life.

The museum, open at no cost to all comers, comes itself from the heart of a passionate and selfless philanthropist whose stellar idea appears to be very simple: Do not embark for the future unless you've armed yourself with the past. Seminole

Lodge allows visitors to read, print and use the information freely, or to study Mr. Hanson's collection of Seminole artifacts and clothing — or just to talk, drink coffee, or carry on at the reminiscent nerve center of an entire, and now mostly lost, culture.

THE BIG BANG FOR THE BIG BUCK

Maybe it's still iffy. But it's a lot less iffy than it used to be, back when Murray Hendel first presented the idea to the Tourist Development Council in Collier County — bring the Chicago Cubs to Naples for spring training, build them a stadium, and you get them for 11 months not just one month (like the Red Sox or the Twins up in Lee County). That's because the Cubs "do things a little differently," Mr. Handel says. They conduct their business all year out of their spring training accommodations (currently in Mesa, Arizona).

Along with that, you'll harvest huge economic benefits over time: jobs for construction of a new stadium, massive influxes of cash to the tourist and commercial development industries, and a much greater national profile, since 57 million listeners tune in to Cubs games on radio and television.

Mr. Hendel's voice carried some weight — he's vice chairman of the

TDC, after all, which directs the tourist tax, about 4 percent or \$14 million. But that didn't count for much, at first. The other TDC members turned him down flat, refusing even to allow the proposal to be put on the agenda, he recalls.

But now that's changed. Recently the TDC voted 7 to 1 to pursue a public-private partnership that would build the stadium — a 15,000-seat confection, in one idea — and do it all without costing taxpayers too much money. A consortium of Naples business leaders and officials now stand behind the project, too.

"The whole concept is, if you get them the Cubs you have to build a stadium. But your sales taxes will not be raised, nor will your property taxes," Mr. Hendel says. "It will all be done utilizing funds excluding those two."

Meanwhile, the Cubs are still negotiating both with Naples officials and with those in Arizona. And nobody is yet sure just where a new stadium would go, or exactly how it would be paid for.

"Right now, we're waiting for a signal from the Cubs," Mr. Hendel explains — he hopes a curve ball won't follow that signal. When it happens — probably soon, he figures — details will be hammered out. So stay tuned, along with 57 million other listeners.

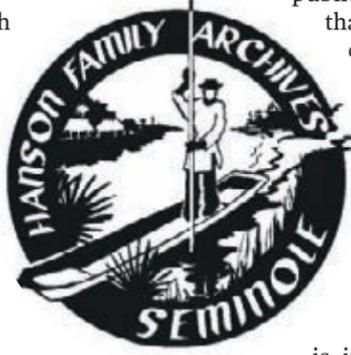
THE PUBLIC SPIRIT

Public Art is a phrase that always resonated in places like New York and Boston and Chicago and Hartford, Connecticut, where town leaders once saw fit to spend a huge sum on a bunch of big rocks that were transported into the town center by dump truck, and dropped in not much of a pattern at the direction of an avant-garde artist on the town green.

But times, and places, have changed. When then-Mayor Jim Humphrey and other Fort Myers officials decided to make "public art" a necessary part of city development a few years ago, they weren't thinking of big rocks — and probably not of four-story parking garages like the new county garage on Broadway, across from the Justice Center.

But now the city will get something entirely new, a first-of-its-kind series of 38-foot panels covering 30,000 square feet of the garage, and meant to be visible from all over downtown. Created by the internationally renowned, New York-based artist, Marylyn Dintenfuss, the work will effectively render the garage "art" rather than "eyesore," suggests Barbara Hill, the city's public art program consultant.

"Art can help the public get a better sense of place, and it serves as a landmark or a point of community pride," she says.

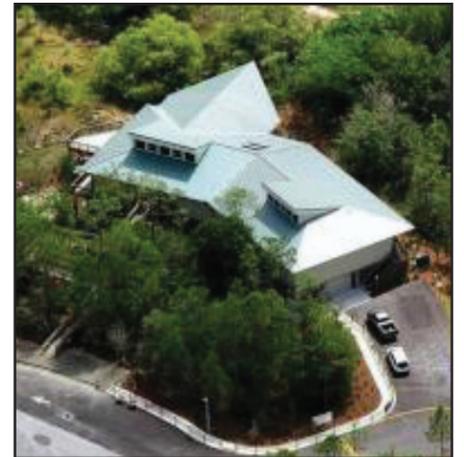


Ms. Hill worked with the city's volunteer public art committee to choose a design from among those submitted both by regional and national bidders.

The cost is surprisingly low — roughly about \$40,000 — and the money comes from a county pool and developer-paid fees collected in boom times by the city, for art. That low cost arises in part because the artist became intrigued with the technology required to expand her work, done as a storyboard, digitally onto massive fiberglass scrim panels that will fit in the screens or bars now visible on the side of the building, Ms. Hill says.

It's functional art, too, which is another good idea. "It's a resin material and scrim, which means it's perforated so you can actually see through it and it allows for sufficient air circulation so exhaust fumes from cars in the garage will not be an issue," she says.

Look for it to appear before spring.



COURTESY PHOTO
Six Mile Cypress Slough Interpretive Center

THE NEW ARCHITECTURE

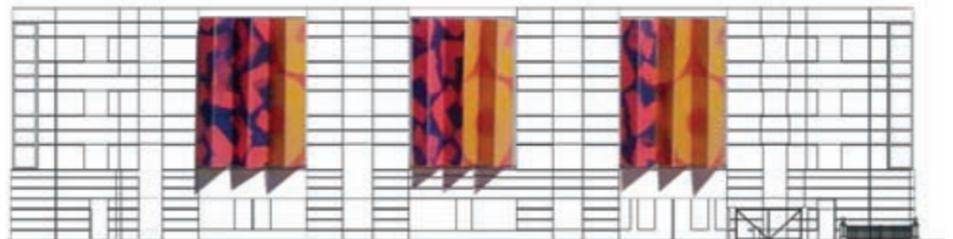
When the Six Mile Cypress Slough Interpretive Center opened its doors in February in Lee County, it marked a first-of-its-kind "green" building on the Southwest coast. The building was the first to receive the prestigious LEED certification, a green building rating system developed by the U.S. Green Building Council to separate the green wheat from the chaff.

"We had to place it within a very sensitive ecosystem on a very little bit of the site already disturbed, and we had to work around trees and with other factors," says architect Jeff Mudgett of Parker, Mudgett & Smith, who designed the building.

Result: A beautiful structure that almost appears to grow out of the woods, demanding little in the way of resources from the land around it, but providing a light and airy space inside. There, visitors may study the nature of life just outside and round them in the slough, more academically than they do in walking out.

"It started just with volunteer passion," says Mr. Mudgett, who grew up in Fort Myers and also chairs the city's public arts committee, and expresses great pride in the work.

It's an idea-made-real, and one we hope inspires others in the new decade. ■



COURTESY RENDERING
An artist's rendering of the public art project in downtown Fort Myers.

UNDERCOVER HISTORIAN

'Twas the night before Christmas, Old Naples style

BY LOIS BOLIN

Special to Florida Weekly

'Twas the night before Christmas when all through Naples' town
It was silently eerie as the sun settled down

When all of a sudden, in a moment of flash
Came a sound of loud creaking — as this spirit did dash

“What was that?” I asked to an old man who happened by
“Sounds like Papa Pier hunting Nonnie Naples,” he sighed through his reply

“Papa Pier loved Nonnie Naples” this old one told this tale
“So did all who came before them, by water, roads or rail”

This siren was something, this Nonnie of lore,
Luring men from all ages to the promise of her shores

It was love at first sight when Papa was birthed
From blood, sweat and tears, he rose from this earth

Companions they were — birthing this community, 'tis true
Bringing all connections together, including crackers and bloods of blue

Their children called pioneers carry forth their love of this land
Being kinships of support, always there to lend a hand

As time has gone by, Papa sees her less and less
So he searches at high tides or when the Gulf peaks its crest

The old man then paused and studied my face
As if to see into beyond or feel my sense of place

He nodded then said “You are a lucky one
To have been chosen tonight to feel what many have shun

No harmony is sweeter than Nonnie Naples and Papa Pier
They represent the best in us all — all those things we hold dear

Papa loved the water — her animals, her breeze
Nonnie loved neighbors and family, always looking to help or please”

He went quiet after that, as the moon stood on high
I pondered and questioned then the winds breathed replies



ORIGINAL ART OF THE NAPLES PIER / KEN ANDEXLER

I turned to make comments, but the stranger no more was there
Where once he stood with stories — now gone, yet I do solemnly swear

On this night before Christmas, in the silence I heard
“A Merry Christmas to you! Please give Nonnie my love”

Could it be it was he leaving these thoughts in the wind
Asking help to spread the message from a newly found friend?

As I walked toward the Pier past Beardy Banyan I heard
A calling of praise saying, “He’s the one” was their word

In a moment of still all the trees seemed to bow
Like sentinels on duty acknowledging the now

'Twas the night before Christmas from our Naples Pier all was bright
“Merry Christmas,” I whispered, from behind me was a “Good night” ■

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Welcome the New Year at Mercato's First Friday

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The celebration of good fortune for the New Year has been a tradition observed since ancient Babylon around 4,000 years ago. Since, then, countries around the world have adopted their own unique good luck rituals.

In Spain, when the clock strikes midnight, the Spanish eat 12 grapes, one with every toll, to bring good luck for the 12 months ahead. For the Chinese New Year, every front door is adorned with a fresh coat of red paint, red being a symbol of good luck and happiness. In the U.S.A., we enjoy the kiss shared at the stroke of midnight.

In the same spirit of promoting goodwill, Mercato will celebrate the first day of the New Year from 6-10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 1. In the North Naples center's First Friday fashion, the streets will be energized by live musical entertainment set up across from The Pub and also next to Whole Foods Market.

You won't have to be a sommelier to appreciate the fine wine sampling at Whole Foods Market. For \$5, you can taste up to 20 vintages. Elsewhere throughout Mercato, enjoy First Friday special discounts, in-store drawings and more.

At Mercato, the concept of goodwill and helping our neighbors is promoted at every First Friday throughout the year. Each month, someone in the Collier County community who is struggling with medical issues and related costs is honored through Neighbors Helping Neighbors, an offshoot of iWannaHelp.net.

Cody Mading, January's recipient, is a 16-year-old Estero High School student who is fighting brain cancer and remains on hospital homebound status. Medical costs with stem cell therapy alone will cost \$250,000, and Cody's family has no medical insurance.

iWannaHelp.net provides an Internet-based home for nonprofits, businesses and the public to share information about charitable events, volunteer opportunities and other ways to get involved and give back. Registration is free, and members have access to make tax-deductible donations on line, offer in-kind services, set up sponsorships or nominate persons in need. Anyone who knows of someone in need is encouraged to submit a nomination on iWannaHelp.net.

To learn more, visit www.iWannaHelp.net. ■



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2010 Men of Distinction announced

The Education Foundation of Collier County has announced its Men of Distinction for 2010. All 10 community leaders will be honored at the ninth annual Men of Distinction awards ceremony on Wednesday, Feb. 10, at the Hilton Naples. They are: Gary Bigam, John Fumagalli, Dr. Kent Hasen, Andrew Krause, Leo Mediavilla, Thomas Moran, Patrick Neale, Tom Schneider, Joseph Waite and Skip Zink.

These men have distinguished themselves through extensive philanthropic service to the Collier County community. In addition to presentation of the awards, the evening includes a cocktail reception, dinner, auctions and premium-rolled cigars. Tickets are \$100. Along

with Hilton Naples, The Education Foundation is pleased to have the continued partnerships of the Naples Media Group and The ACE Group Classic.

In conjunction with the awards celebration is the Men of Distinction Golf Tournament on Friday, Feb. 5, at The Golf Lodge at the Quarry, host of the 2010 ACE Group Classic, which begins Feb. 8. The Men of Distinction tournament will begin at 12:30 p.m. with registration and lunch, followed by a shotgun start at 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$900 per foursome, which includes a hole sponsorship as long as they are available, or \$200 per golfer.

All proceeds of the tournament and awards celebration benefit Take Stock in Children, the scholarship and mentoring program of The Education Foundation. For tickets or more information, call 643-4755 or visit www.Education-ForCollier.org. ■

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Date set for Founders Fund biennial tourney

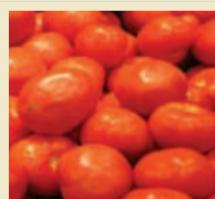
The Founders Fund Inc. will hold its 2010 Biennial Ed Brennan Memorial Golf Tournament on Monday, April 12, at The Club Pelican Bay. The tournament is the main fundraiser

for scholarships that are given to 25 Collier County high school graduates based on financial need and academic merit. As students keep their grades high, the scholarship is renewed each year until graduation.

There are many ways to be a part of the golf tournament, from being a player or sponsor to donating items for the raffle and silent auction. Donations for the auction and raffle can be accepted up until the day of the tournament. Sponsors receive two playing spots and four places at the awards dinner, as well as publicity in all of The Founders Fund materials and publications and invitations to the scholarship award ceremony.

The Founders Fund was created in 1991 by the Founding Golf Members of The Club at Pelican Bay. The fund is supported by golf and social members of The Club as well as corporate sponsors.

For more information, contact Sue Davenport at 593-0124 or 597-0086 or visit www.thefoundersfundinc.org. ■



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Youth roller hockey camps help fill holiday break time

Kids enjoying the holiday break from school can sign up for roller hockey camp conducted by Pro Elite Hockey in the rink at Veterans Community Park. The camps take place Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 28, 29 and 30. Morning sessions from 8 a.m. to noon are designed for ages 7-9, while afternoons from 1-5 p.m. are best suited for ages 10-12.

Each session will include one hour of land training and conditioning, a 30-minute lecture, a 30-minute lunch and two hours of skills and skating. Players will practice all aspects of the game, from power skating to stick handling, passing, shooting, scoring, speed and agility. The importance of team play also will be stressed as players learn about each position as well as offensive, defensive, neutral zone and breakout strategies.

Attendees are required to bring lunch, drinks, sneakers and shorts in addition to hockey skates. Cost is \$99 per player, with free attendance for goalies.

"Training youth, high school and college students is the future of hockey," explains Sam Lyons, who has coached and trained more than 100 professional hockey players and has had 12 players sign directly to the National Hockey League from Pro Elite Hockey camps. "If you want to compete



with the best, you need to train with the best," he believes.

Coach Lyons has assembled a stellar coaching team that includes three-time National Roller Hockey Champion Tyler Landers of Team USA and three-time national Roller Hockey Champion Coach Doug Landers. Pro Elite Hockey camps have a 5:1 ratio of players to qualified coaches so the players get the best drills taught by the best instructors.

Coach Lyons' program places a large focus on a facet of the game that is so integral: mental conditioning and confidence.

"Hockey is a game of mistakes.

Those who learn to rebound quickly from their mistakes will become the great hockey players," he reasons. "We want kids leaving our camps confident in their abilities on and off the rink," he declares.

Since 1983, Pro Elite Hockey has conducted hockey schools and clinics in the United States, Canada and Russia. Coach Lyons relocated to Naples earlier this year, bringing more than 40 years national and international hockey experience including 17 years as a scout for the NHL's Boston Bruins.

For more information or to register for Pro Elite Hockey camps, call Coach Lyons at 431-7090 or e-mail joelyons@proelitehockey.com. ■

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Lee Memorial Health System Foundation is the fundraising arm of Lee Memorial Health System and supports lifesaving programs and care in our six-hospital system.

As a "safety-net" health system, we treat *all* patients, regardless of their ability to pay for our services. Lee Memorial Health System depends on the philanthropic support of our community to continue to provide excellence in medical care to all who call Southwest Florida home.

Among a myriad of services — including high-level cardiac and stroke care — we house the only Children's Hospital between Tampa and Miami and provide hope and healing to those treated at our comprehensive Regional Cancer Center located in Fort Myers.

We hope you will join us in our lifesaving mission.

Call **239-985-3550** or take time to visit www.LeeMemorial.org/Foundation to make a year-end gift that will help *save the lives* of people in our community.

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Pediatric dental clinic celebrates its first year

The CHS Healthcare partnership with the University of Florida College of Dentistry celebrates its first anniversary this month. Since December 2008, CHS staff has worked with five UF student dentists who are in residency to receive their pediatric specialty.



The CHS/UF Pediatric Dental Clinic is an innovative collaboration between the Naples Children & Education

Foundation, which provided funding to construct the building, the University of Florida College of Dentistry, which provides the residents and conducts the training program, the Collier County campus of Edison State College, on whose land the building is located, and CHS Healthcare, which operates the practice.

"As we expected, the program has provided pediatric dental treatment to thousands of children in Southwest Florida," says Lesa Peterson, CHS's dental line director. Ms. Peterson adds the practice has served more than 2,800 pediatric patients with approximately 6,000 visits.

The dental office in the NCEF Pediatric Dental Center at Edison State College accepts insurance, Medicaid and Medicaid Healthy Kids-CompDent. For those without insurance, the practice offers private payment with sliding fee scale.

For more information on this and all CHS locations, both medical and dental, go to www.collier.org. ■

STRAIGHT TALK

NCH team makes several presentations at national forum

allenWEISS

allen.weiss@nchmd.org



Six NCH board members and 16 colleagues recently attended the 21st annual National Forum of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (www.IHI.org). Joining us in Orlando were more than 5,300 other health care leaders (with an additional 15,000 on satellite) from around the world, learning and discussing the core topic of how to provide the best, most efficient and safest care for everyone we serve.

NCH first attended IHI four years ago with the encouragement of John Morrison, who had just assumed the chairmanship of the board's Quality Committee. We were impressed then, and remained so this year, with the passion and competence of the organizations leading the way to better quality. NCH was privileged this year to have its teams share our best practices on eight different projects:

- **Physician rounding:** Dr. Jeff McCartney led the way with clinical rounds, in which an independent physician goes around with a clinical team and makes suggestions as needed for safer patient experience.

- **Expedited access to our Post-Acute Rehab Unit on 5S:** Heather Baker shared the fact that patients are now admitted about a full day sooner with vigorous therapies leading to a

faster return of function and, overall, more efficient care.

- **Reduced pressure ulcers:** R.N. Joan McInerney shared our years of sustained improvement in avoiding this dreaded complication of skin breakdown.

- **Antibiotic timing for pneumonia patients:** R.N. Lisa Leonard was on the team that helped standardize the administration of the appropriate antibiotic within six hours of coming to the ER for patients with pneumonia. The promptness in treatment improves prognosis and shortens the hospital stay.

- **Patient flow improvements:** RNs Sally Cowan and Susan Theroux along with Mark Milner addressed a country-wide problem and how our "door-to-doctor" time is 33 minutes Downtown and 40 minutes at North Naples, where we just opened the new Bruce and

Cynthia Sherman waiting room.

- **Improving nursing documentation:** Interim CNO Michele Thom-an and R.N. Robin McCarl-Galbavy shared the process to reduce duplication in nursing documentation, which can take up to a third of a nurse's day. Associate CNO Laurie Zone Smith led this huge nursing team project.

Nurses want to spend their time caring for patients and families, not documenting unnecessarily.

- **Reducing harm from anticoagulation therapy:** R.N. Jon Kling shared our collaboration among pharmacy, lab and clinical folks to help avoid harm with this common group of medications.

- **Falls prevention:** Our Florida Hospital Association award-winning, system-wide project has decreased falls by 20 percent at NCH. Sue Manning explained this significant accomplishment.

We also held a board Quality Committee meeting one evening during the IHI forum. Summing up a highly productive several days, board member Mariann MacDonald reminded us that everyone at NCH, no matter what our job is, should know our primary goal — namely, to provide the safest and highest quality healthcare services to our community. ■

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



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Health department has H1N1 vaccine clinics

The Collier County Health Department is now giving the H1N1 flu vaccine to:

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, heart disease (except high blood pressure), kidney disease, liver disease, cognitive disease, blood disorders like anemia, metabolic disease and immunosuppression.

The vaccine is free at Community Vaccination Clinics scheduled for the following:

• **10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 28**, at North Collier Regional Park Exhibit Hall, 15000 Livingston Road

• **10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 29**, at the former Kmart, 12693 Tamiami Trail East

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. Seasonal flu vaccine costs \$30; pneumonia vaccine costs \$40. Medicare Part B will be billed if card is presented.

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. ■

Race for the Cure registration

The 2010 Susan G. Komen Southwest Florida Race for the Cure is set for March 13 at Coconut Point mall. Online registration for individuals and teams is now open. Those who register by Dec. 31 will have a chance for an American Airlines or American Eagle round-trip ticket anywhere in the continental U.S. Sign up and raise \$100 by Dec. 31 and get two entries in the drawing.

More than 8,100 people participated in the 2009 Race for the Cure and raised more than \$914,000.

James Denton of "Desperate Housewives" is the honorary chair for the 2010 race.

For more information and to register, call 498-0016 or go to www.komenswfl.org. More than 100 ideas for individual and team fundraising are also on the site. ■



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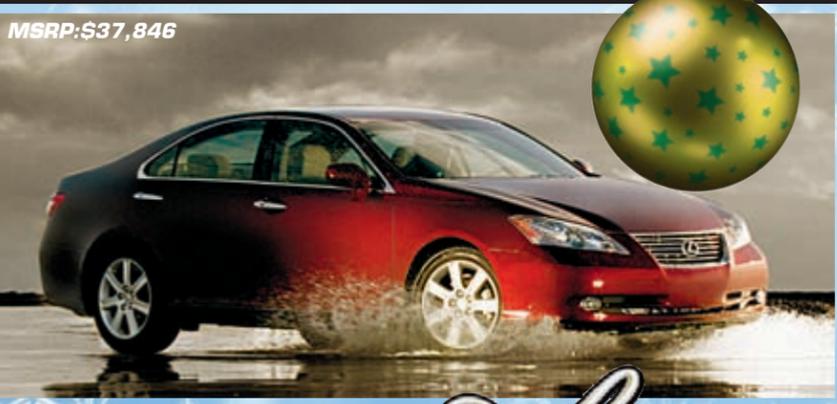
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Happy Holidays!

Photographer Nancy DeNike canvassed her Naples neighborhood and captured a series of shots that confirm the holiday spirit is alive and well.

In the true spirit of the season, Ms. DeNike graciously shared her photographs with Florida Weekly.

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OUTDOORS

AT COLLIER-SEMINOLE STATE PARK

'Many-tongued mimic' is Florida's state bird

BY LEE BELANGER

Volunteer Collier-Seminole State Park

I'm sure you've heard Florida's state bird, the northern mockingbird, sing even if you don't know it.

Mockingbirds sing a medley copied from more than 40 other birds, singing each birdcall two or three times before changing to a new tune. Both males and females sing, but bachelor males sing for hours during the day and on moonlit nights.

Because of the mockingbird's beautiful voice, it is sometimes called the American nightingale.

The northern mockingbird's scientific name, *Mimus polyglottos*, means "many-tongued mimic." Mockingbirds can mimic a barking dog, a squeaky door and even piano notes so well that electronic detection devices have trouble telling the difference. These birds continually add new sounds to their collection. It's no surprise they are classified as songbirds and as such, are protected by local, state and federal laws.

The mockingbird is a non-migrating, year-round resident throughout most of North America. Despite its name, however, the northern mockingbird is present in the highest concentration in the south.

This light gray bird has a white underside and white patches on its wings. It grows to 9-11 inches long, including its relatively long tail, and has a wingspan of about 14 inches.

Striking yellow eyes and a slightly



COURTESY PHOTO

Northern mockingbird (*mimus polyglottos*)

curved bill accent this otherwise plain bird. Sexes cannot be distinguished by their appearance.

Mockingbirds live in deserts, woodlands and even cities, but they prefer open grassy areas for feeding and thick shrubs for nesting. They use trees or poles for perching, singing and to keep an eye on their territory so they can defend their nests and their environment. And defend they do.

Dogs, cats, other birds and people are fair game if they get too close. Mockingbirds are territorial all year, but between March and August, they're particularly aggressive. Sometimes they single out individual people and attack them while ignoring others.

In Florida, both sexes of mockingbirds build several cup-shaped nests of twigs, dry leaves and grass, plus cigarette filters, string, paper and cotton if they find it. The female incubates three to six blue-green speckled eggs for 11-14 days, and then both parents feed the hatchlings. If broods overlap, the male care for fledglings while the female incubates the next clutch. After 12 days chicks will leave the nest and hop on the ground. Parents still feed their young during this time.

Mockingbirds mate for the season and occasionally for life. One documented pair lived together for eight years, their normal lifespan in the wild.

Mockingbirds are omnivorous, meaning they eat both plants and animals. They consume spiders and insects, earthworms and small lizards as well as fruits and seeds. Feeders don't usually attract them, but they might stop on a platform feeder for a few bites of millet, cracked corn or sunflower seed.

Mockingbirds control pests by eating beetles, ants, wasps and grasshoppers. They disburse berry and fruit seeds. Best of all, they cheer us with their melodious songs.

Next time you hear one singing, stop and enjoy the melodies. You'll be glad you did. ■

Paddle, hike with park guides

Guided day and moonlight canoe trips and hikes are booking up quickly at Collier-Seminole State Park. This season's schedule is as follows:

>>Guided daytime canoe trips take place from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday. Participants paddle through a mangrove wonderland along the Blackwater River and listen to a park ranger tell 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. Dec. 28 and 30, Jan. 27 and 29, Feb. 26 and 27, and March 27 and 29. Join a park naturalist and 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. Jan. 11 and 13, Feb. 10 and 11 and March 10 and 13. 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 the park's 11 miles of hiking trails from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Enjoy picnicking, birding, fishing, camping, a boat ramp and the historic "walking dredge" that was used to build the Tamiami Trail.

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

Bring 'em inside

Dogs are happier when allowed to be family members

BY GINA SPADAFORI
Universal Press Syndicate

Why get a pet if you don't want a pet in your life? I have often wondered this as I walk my dogs down streets lined with fences behind which lonely outdoor dogs bark as we go by.

I don't know what they look like and can only guess their size by the deepness of their voices. But I know what the lives of these dogs are too often like. They are animals born to be part of a social structure, a pack or a family, yet this is denied them. They spend their lives on the outside, looking in.

The experts say many of these dogs will never really bond with owners who interact with them so little. When the puppy is no longer cute and the children grow tired of the care they promised to provide, when the destructiveness escalates or the neighbors complain about the noise, it's often just easier to dump the dog than solve the problem.

I have always had difficulty understanding why people want to keep dogs outside. If keeping a beautiful house and yard are of the utmost importance to you, then don't get a dog. If you know someone in your family can't abide a dog in

the house, for whatever reason, then don't get a dog. If you can't let a dog be part of your family, then don't get a dog.

You don't get the benefits of companionship from a dog you see so little. You don't even get much in the way of protection from the pet who has no access to the house. And don't count on outdoor dogs as an early warning system. These animals often become such indiscriminate barkers that you couldn't tell from their sound whether the dogs are barking at a prowler or at a toddler riding a tricycle down the street. Besides, people who keep outdoor dogs seem to become quite good at ignoring the noise they make, as any angry neighbor can vouch.

Outdoor dogs often become a problem to their owners. Bored and lonely, these animals develop any number of bad habits. They dig craters in the yard. They bark endlessly day and night. They become chewers of outdoor furniture, sprinkler heads and siding. And sometimes, without the socialization all dogs need, they become aggressive, ready to bite anyone who comes into their territory.

If you're considering getting a puppy or dog with the intent of keeping him exclusively outside, please reconsider — for the animal's sake as well as your own and your neighbors'. For those who love pets, a pristine home is nothing compared to the pleasures of living with an



Many dogs enjoy time outside, but even those well-equipped for cooler weather are lonely and often loud when left alone.

animal who's really bonded to you.

If you have a dog who has been banished because of behavior problems, find someone to help you turn the situation around. Ask your veterinarian for a referral to a behaviorist or trainer who can show you how to overcome the things that are driving you crazy, whether it's house-soiling, uncontrolled chewing or just the ill-mannered exuberance of a dog who doesn't know any better.

Allergies are a tad trickier, but an allergist may be able to help, along with attention to keeping the house and pets cleaner, using air cleaners and turning bedrooms into no-pet zones for allergy-free sleep.

It's worth the effort. Once you have a dog you can welcome into your home and your heart, you'll start to reap the benefits of a relationship that's finally being realized to its fullest potential. And that's good news for you both. ■

Pets of the Week



>>Yukon Cornelius is a 2-year-old, 45-pound, neutered merle cattle dog. He has beautiful coloring and is a nice guy.



>>Candy Cane is a 2-year-old spayed boxer mix who weighs about 35 pounds. She's a very happy girl with lots of love to share.



>>Tipp is a 3-month-old spayed red point Siamese mix. She'll gladly keep you company wherever you go.



>>Gingerbread Cake is a 1-year-old neutered wirehair dachshund/terrier mix who's about 12 pounds of adorable.

To adopt a pet

This week's pets are from Brook's Legacy Animal Rescue and are living in foster homes. Brooks Legacy volunteers take adoptable pets to Petco on Naples Boulevard from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Saturday. For more information, call 434-7480, e-mail bookeslegacy@gmail.com or visit www.brookeslegacyanimalrescue.com.

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MUSINGS

Full blown



There lived in the sixth century BCE a man we refer to as Thales of Miletus. Miletus was an ancient Greek Ionian city at the mouth of the river Meander. Today, this area is referred to as Turkey. But I can now imagine Thales still, sitting at that river, observing the flow of it, feeling it, breathing it in fully with all his senses. Then his magic perceptions must have bumped and collided and exploded, falling into becoming a real miracle, falling like the fruits of a slot machine binging and chinging into place, apprising the prize, the fullness of philosophical victory.

And in that long ago and far away Thales said: "Everything is full of gods."

Must we take this cosmological thesis seriously in the now of post-modern, post-quantum, information technology astuteness?

I think that Thales believed secrets told to him by the waters of the Meander. And so, I fully believe, he went on to speak from the river mouth to the source. I believe that it was She, this river, that said that the god-full world came from water. Whether he was full of the sort of inspiration I have conjured or not, it is clear that Thales agreed fully with these words, and said so.

But did the world come from the water or from the words, Thales' or mine, that constructed it in that image? In the beginning is the word. And so we say and essay and re-say.

Not as long ago and not as far away, Nietzsche wrote: "God is dead." This view seems opposite of the fullness Thales posited. But in his "Tragic Age of the Greeks," Nietzsche wrote that even though god fullness and water origin are absurd, we must take Thales' words seriously. His words are full, Nietzsche says. The words of Thales address the fully important question of primal origin using a method of direct inquiry. There is no fable, no story in his answer. He just looked, and said. Nietzsche found this compelling, full of sense.

Beyond this importance, we, Nietzsche and I, are in fullest agreement that Thales' fuller importance rests in his positing the oneness of all. If all is full of gods, all is of one divine essence. All is of the same fullness, the same nature, the same *quiddity*, the same truth. With this we are all in full-blooded philosophical agreement. With the fullness of one voice, we say it clearly.

With the fullness of one vision we see the water over flowing rills into rocks beyond locks beyond the trappings of names, gamey and untrappable. Full blast, this water is moving beyond satiety into complete and perfect plenary possibility unfolding one divine wonder. It is full blown.



This divine articulation is clearly full and fully clear. I say so, fully, in the beginning with the word.

Right here and now, stable and moving, Ganges and Galilean lake, bo tree under star and crescent moon, shamanic drums cross into dreamtime. In the longest night of the year, full of longing an infant cries out the word of being into a sky full of the arias of angels and stars, and cries out a tear, sharing water in a land dry and trapped no more.

Everything is full of gods.

So watered I hear Handel and Lady GaGa. I touch sheep and a wireless mouse. I frolic and fester and ferment and flop, fully aware and hopelessly

insensate. Full blown, blown away. The bliss overflows, full-blown wonder, water of tears become bridges of light. Light rains down, streaking cheeks substantially. And back to the beginning, the pirate watches at the Waters' indescribable lack of edges. Come with me, merry, marry.

Everything is full of gods. ■

— 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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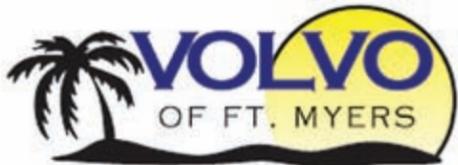
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Florida Weekly asked Southwest Florida public relations pros ...

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FLORIDA WEEKLY STAFF REPORT

Now that Tiger Woods has driven himself out-of-bounds with a series of alleged extramarital affairs and alleged links to a Canadian doctor under investigation, *Florida Weekly* asked local marketing and public relations professionals to weigh in on how they would get Tiger out of the rough and back into the hearts of the golfing and general public.

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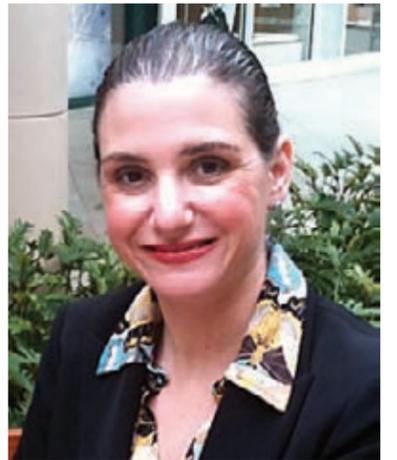
Is Tiger Woods in danger of losing his famous brand?

WEEK at-a-glance



Holidays After 5

Chamber members spread cheer at Hilton Naples, and other business events. **B7 & 8** ►



Minding the stores

Meet Jill Kobe, general manager at Waterside Shops. **B2** ►



Welcome to the club

Kensington Country Club shows off clubhouse improvements. **B9** ►

What a difference a Dubai makes!

Any way you cut it, Dubai is an interesting story. Beyond that, it speaks volumes about the current international investment scene.

On Thanksgiving Day, normally an uneventful day for financial markets worldwide, Dubai announced that it needed and was taking a six-month moratorium on paying \$80 million to \$100 billion of Dubai World debt. Ouch!

Most investors know of Dubai. They know it is an Arab state that has made the headlines for its many real estate projects of gargantuan proportion, including: the

world's tallest building; an indoorski resort; the world's most expensive hotel; and the largest man-made islands, among other distinguishable projects.

Dubai is a "happening" place in the eastern hemisphere and, while NYC is unlikely to be overtaken as the financial capital of the world, Dubai was making a run at it and certainly looked to eclipse Hong Kong

MONEY&INVESTING

JeannetteSHOWALTER, CFA
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as the financial capital of the eastern world. As Panama is to South America and Central America, maybe Dubai would be neutral territory for India, China and the Arab

states. Maybe.

For further perspective on Dubai, here are some salient facts. Dubai is one of the seven states within the United Arab Emirates, more commonly known as the UAE. The UAE is a very important member of

the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, better known as OPEC. The best-known UAE state is Abu Dhabi, which has a lot more oil and wealth than Dubai and it boasts the world's largest sovereign wealth fund (a fund of financial assets either run by a central bank or a government entity and, in this case, \$850 billion managed by the UAE Central Bank).

Dubai is a financial and real estate center but it is not an oil gorilla as are the other sister states or neighboring members

SEE MONEY, B5 ►

BUSINESS PROFILE

For Waterside boss, minding the stores also means giving back

BY ALYSIA SHIVERS
Special to Florida Weekly

Jill Kobe, general manager-marketing director at Waterside Shops, answered the phone with a slight giggle in her voice. She confessed that I had just caught her and her staff in a funny moment.

Turns out, a few weeks earlier Ms. Kobe had been so touched upon meeting the children of the Guadalupe Center of Immokalee that she decided to hold a holiday party for them at Waterside, complete with a visit from Santa and lots of donated toys for gifts. She was anticipating about 150 children, but just minutes before I called she was informed that the number was going to be closer to 400.

She was a bit stunned, a lot excited and a little anxious as to whether or not they could manage to collect that many toys in the four days left before the party. But the thought of being able to give to all of those youngsters overrode any initial doubts. "I can't turn anyone away. We'll figure it out," she said.

Even in the midst of her huge responsibility of maintaining the reputation and growing the customer base of Waterside, philanthropy tops Ms. Kobe's list of what's most important. "My mentality is if you are not giving back, none of it really matters," she said. "Everything I do has a charitable element to it."



KOBE



Waterside Shops' VIP holiday guests from the Guadalupe Center

COURTESY PHOTO

And looking ahead to 2010, she's got tons of event ideas that will likely bring the community together at Waterside and present ways to better use the center's space, including fashion shows (maybe even one for dogs, considering she's a big animal activist), cocktail parties and movie nights around the fountains. She's even toying with hosting an event in conjunction with the Academy Awards.

While all of these are certainly fun for Waterside and for those who attend, each will include a way to give back. In fact, if you come to Waterside for its intended purpose — to shop — and you happen to drop a coin into one of the fountains, even that goes to charity. Ms. Kobe's goal for the New Year is to collect 1 million pen-

nies from the fountains for The Children's Museum of Naples.

The other facet of her job revolves around her approximate 60 retailers. Rather than hole up in her office, she's typically out and about the shops, visiting with managers and employees and listening to their needs. "I am committed to their success," she said. And during challenging economic times, she does her best to create a team atmosphere — or a "team Waterside" as she likes to call it.

She understands that sales, or the lack of, over the course of one day can make or break them, which is why she uses humor to lighten the mood. "During these times, people need to laugh," she said. She also coordinates nights out for the store manag-

ers so they can build relationships outside of the business arena.

Surprisingly, while Ms. Kobe adores her work, this Milwaukee, Wis., native never dreamed of a managerial role, and the idea of marketing never even crossed her mind during her years at the University of Wisconsin. Back then, she was focused on becoming an artist, and sometimes thoughts of Broadway would linger. "I thought I would do something artistic, but I was always recruited to do marketing," she said.

Right out of school she was offered a marketing coordinator position with Blockbuster, a job she loved because she got to be creative and social.

After a couple of years she chose to take some time off to raise her children, who are now 18 and 15 and twins who are 11. She returned to the workforce with some part-time gigs and says her big break came when she was offered the corporate marketing director position for Panera Bread, where she worked directly with the company founder. That led to becoming manager of Aspen Grove, a lifestyle/shopping center in Colorado. But being manager of a large property and overseeing a huge staff meant her creativity went by the wayside for a while; that is, until she met someone with the Forbes Company who described a general manager position at Waterside with a heavy marketing slant.

It was a perfect fit, and today, just six months after accepting the post, Ms. Kobe and her kids are spending time at the beach collecting shells — an activity so unlike their days in Denver skiing. "This is a new experience for us," she said. ■

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TIGER

From page 1

and well-paid athlete in the world has essentially dropped off the planet in terms of explaining his mounting transgressions as former mistresses line up for a piece of the action. So how can the Associate Press "Athlete of the Decade" salvage his lucrative brand? Here is some of the advice our local image-makers have for Tiger:

□ □ □

>> **John Sprecher**, *chairman and chief creative officer of NOISE, a marketing and branding firm on Sanibel:*

"If Tiger Woods was a client of NOISE, we would already be working off of the Crisis Communications Plan that would've been drafted earlier, as one of the cornerstone elements of a Global Brand Plan. Therefore, we would be doing or suggesting the following:

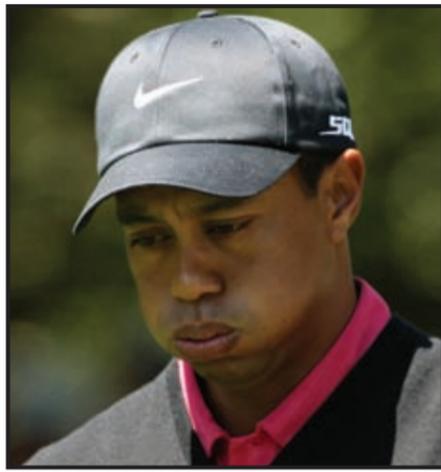
■ **Suspend your golf play indefinitely (already done)**, and if you really love your wife, get to work on your marriage, including some serious counseling on addictive behaviors. Whatever you do in the short term, do it honestly and true to your soul, and in no way manipulatively. This is about your life and your family.

■ **Open your Facebook Fan page to allow comments from fans** — currently more than 1.3 million — which it does not now. Give your fans a chance to express their opinions, whatever their opinions. It gives them ownership and a connection to you. It makes them feel empowered and valued. It gives them a 'controlled' place to vent, versus dissing you on other social networking sites. Plus it gives you a finger on the pulse of the fandom, almost market research, if you will.

■ **Go ahead and post something on your Facebook page.** Apologize and engage your audience. Your last post was Nov. 6.

■ **Tell Phil Knight to shut up.** He's not doing you favors right now. This is more than 'a blip' on your career.

■ **At some point, thinking longer**



term, negotiate with '60 Minutes' for an exclusive. Maybe early February, after the Super Bowl. Prepare to be brutally honest. Prepare for some brutal questions.

■ **If you have undergone counseling to this point, and your marriage may be repaired, let the media know you're trying to do the right things.** If your wife wants to talk, let her talk. If she wants to be seen with you, be seen.

■ **Make a large donation** in late spring to a family charity.

■ **Try to drop it as quickly as you can, next summer.** You've gone through hell, you've repented, you've been forgiven. You're moving on, and the public will, too.

□ □ □

>> **Samantha Scott**, *principal of Bonita Springs-based Pushing the Envelope:*

"Even called 'Tigergate' by some, Tiger's attempt at secrecy only fueled the media's hunt for blood and the public's rumor mill. It could have been a shorter firestorm, but it's still one he can recover from.

"In the age of social media where transparency is the buzzword, trust is even more important in the relationship a celebrity has with their fans. As Peter Bordes, CEO of MediaTrust said, 'Consumers trust, respect, and admire brands and celebrities who are real. If you are being real, you have nothing to hide.' Tiger is an icon, but he is also a human being who is imperfect as we all are.

"Now that he's admitted to his fall from grace and imperfections, he should release a clear, prepared statement about his plan for both his personal and professional life. Pointing to a brighter future, his true supporters will back him.

"If he's honest, genuinely apologetic and sincere, people will forgive him and move on, especially since he's a first time offender, but it has to be authentic and believable. After all, Americans believe in second chances and redemption. And, it's not the first celebrity case of adultery or of recovery from a similar situation."

□ □ □

>> **Nancy Farris Dagher**, *Wind and Water Consultants, President, Public Relations, Advertising and Marketing Association of Collier County*

Ms. Dagher recommends a three-pronged plan of action for the belea-

"Now that he's admitted to his fall from grace and imperfections, he should release a clear, prepared statement about his plan for both his personal and professional life. Pointing to a brighter future, his true supporters will back him."

— Samantha Scott, Pushing the Envelope

guered Mr. Woods:

■ **1. Focus on the children:** Tiger must always be there for his own children no matter how his personal life evolves. In addition, he needs to connect with and publicize the fact that the Tiger Woods Foundation has had a positive impact on more than 10 million young lives.

■ **2. Focus on the game of golf:** Tiger must continue to play golf to achieve his dream to be the World's Best Golfer.

■ **3. Focus on the Future:** Tiger needs to come out in public and say, "It stops now... I made mistakes... I am sorry... I am getting help... Let's focus on the future."

□ □ □

>> **Phyllis Ershowsky**, *principal of PKE Marketing & PR Solutions Inc.:*

"Dear Tiger:

"If your situation were presented as a public relations case study, one would think it was too far-fetched to be true. But since it is, you must face the fact that this is a crisis, and your PR people should have implemented a crisis communication plan from the very first text message. Here are six recommendations consistent with crisis management guidelines:

■ **Manage your existing relationships** - Posting missives on your Web site is not enough to stem the surging tide. You need to develop a statement addressing your sponsors, fellow golfers and your fan base. These are the people who have supported you and will be the first to help you in your rebuilding phase. And you know those voicemails from your celebrity friends? Call them back.

■ **Consider the media-as-ally** - Technically your personal life is not anyone else's business. But as a public figure and a brand, the story is out and there's no stopping it. The more resistance you have toward the media, the more scrutiny you will invite. You've had good media relationships in the past — connect with just a few.

■ **Your reputation is top priority** - Hire a PR counselor to start rebuilding your reputation and your brand. In the big picture, there has never been anyone like you in the world of golf. You brought the sport to life with your youthful energy, amazing talent and outstanding work ethic. Remind the world why they love you.

■ **Develop a quick response** - You've already ignored this one, but respond anyway. While it makes sense to back off from golf and focus on your family, indefinite is not an acceptable timeframe — give an outside return date included in your brief "live" statement. A public apology to your family and supporters would help too.

■ **Full disclosure, please** - Sorry, you need to let the world know how many women you estimate there are — otherwise you will get right back in the news cycle each time a new one speaks up. Just say it and get it over with.

■ **Speak in one voice** - That voice should be yours. With a clear, concise, honest message."

□ □ □

>> **Mary Briggs**, *principal of Fort Myers-based Briggs & Rogers:*

"Tiger Woods blew the first rule of apology PR when he didn't get ahead of the story. When you are caught messing up, you need to fess up and you need to do it quick. Tiger's stonewalling escalated the story; he left too many questions unanswered. If he had been fully forthcoming about what really happened the night of his accident he may have been able to nip the story in the bud. It's always better to get bad news out in one fell swoop and on your own terms.

"The long-term picture for Tiger is not a bleak one. Granted, he's let a lot of people down and lost trust with his core constituency, but all is not lost. He needs to work toward rebuilding his relationship with his fans. A little time away from the game, a sincere community relations project, the obligatory tear fest on the 'Oprah' show, and he'll be primed for a return.

"It will help if Tiger can reconcile with his wife; if he can't, he needs to be attentive to how the divorce is handled because that will set off another avalanche of media coverage.

"Americans love a good redemption story. We like to give people a second chance, especially our sports heroes. If you're honest and you're sincere, people forgive you. Most importantly, he's got to be genuine. We can spot a fake a mile away."

□ □ □

>> **Susan Bennett**, *principal of Susan Bennett Marketing & Media LC:*

"Can Tiger recover from the damage to his image caused by his sexual infidelity? Absolutely. The bigger question is whether he can put his personal house in order to allow him to focus on golf.

"The initial apology posted on his Web site is a good start, asking for private time away from the spotlight to heal. During his hiatus from golf, he should develop a strategy for recovering both his personal and professional images.

"I recommend a five-point plan:

■ **Evaluate his 'trust bank'** and ask those who have benefitted from his generosity, friendship, and professional advice to step forward publicly and remind the public of his good work. The PGA already has publicly announced its support. Other supporters need to do the same.

■ **Call his sponsors and apologize**, offering to suspend all agreements until he proves himself to be worthy of their endorsements.

■ **Step up his charitable giving.** The Tiger Woods Foundation has distributed more than \$30 million in grants and scholarships in its 10-year history. A steady series of announcements about Tiger's charitable work will help win back fans.

■ **Go public with an interview very soon** — maybe even consider an appearance on 'Oprah' to win back female fans.

■ **Separate his professional life from his personal life.** After a few weeks of privacy, Tiger needs to resume playing golf and reinforce his reputation as the Athlete of the Decade.

"When Tiger is back playing golf — and winning — his sponsors and fans will rally around him once again." ■

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MONEY

From page 1

of OPEC. Only 6 percent of Dubai's GDP comes from oil and natural gas. Dubai has approximately 1.4 million people and most (some 80 percent) is not nationals; most of the expatriates come from India — about 40 percent of the entire population. It would also seem that most of its loans were originated outside Dubai and mainly from European banks. (So far the U.S. and Canada have not surfaced as major lenders but the onion is only slowly being peeled.) For sure, Dubai is truly international.

But, to get perspective on the size of Dubai's borrowings of \$80 billion to \$100 billion, consider the fact that the estimated GDP for 2009 is expected to be \$80 billion. (For comparison, the U.S. government debt is estimated to be \$12 trillion versus GDP which is estimated to be \$14.5 trillion.)

Up from \$37 billion in 2005, Dubai's GDP grew fast — mostly on the back of real estate.

The bad news of this story is that the real estate crisis is unfolding EVEN in OPEC territory. The good news (as of Dec. 14) is that the wealthy sister state, Abu Dhabi, is coming to the rescue and provid-

ing some \$10 billion interim help. While some of the billions are to hold creditors at bay through April, much of the billions are to pay for Dubai's domestic creditors and contractors (i.e., a large chunk of money is to stay within the UAE). The bad news is that Dubai expects the creditors to agree to this standstill and to work out new terms by April. The good news... the bad news... so on and so forth.

What does it all mean to the lowly U.S. investor? Watch out for the sovereign debt funds because there are a whole slew of countries which are considered likely to default on their government debt. Second, it is worthwhile to ponder whether the wealthiest sovereign fund in the world (at some \$850 billion) will pony-up any more cash to salvage the Dubai debacle or the European banks will take it on the chin. (There is a lot of speculation that the European banks have not done proper house cleaning/ accounting for bad loans to date... and now this new mess.)

Maybe there are more "long tail" liabilities associated with the story. Maybe there will be weakness in oil pricing as OPEC recoils from losses in Dubai or sells more oil to fund losses. (Wouldn't that be nice for the U.S. consumer? Oops, green projects back on the back burner!) Hopefully, the concept will remain intact that losses are first to the equity investor and then to the lender, but it



COURTESY PHOTO

Aerial view along Sheik Zayed Road in Dubai

is the first time around the block for a debt moratorium by a meaningful OPEC state... at least to this columnist's knowledge.

The issue of sovereign debt defaults and currency weakness are often intertwined and oft mentioned in regard to the U.S. Not that the U.S. is coming out smelling like a rose... not at all. But, even with ALL of our problems, the U.S. has not announced a moratorium on its debt. Maybe the dollar continues a recent rally or maybe gold will seem to be the best haven in lieu of any currency.

Again, there is nothing to be clearly

forecasted and it is somewhat akin to reading tealeaves. Best to talk to your investment advisers and counselors and review your portfolio. You might choose to keep some sovereign debt risks but you should attempt to ascertain the degree of your risk exposure. ■

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

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.bestcompaniesfl.com. ■

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- First, find out what the offer applies to. Balance transfers? New purchases? If you plan to use the card to move an existing balance over, make sure the balance you transfer falls within the credit limits of the new card.
- Check how long the low rate lasts. The best rate offers apply for the life of the transferred balance. But those are rare, particularly these days. So look for one that lasts for a reasonable period of time, such as six months.
- Make sure you qualify. The best place to start looking for a better deal is in your wallet. Start with your current lender, and negotiate for a lower inter-

est rate. If you don't get one, start shopping around. Although lenders have tightened their requirements, those with good credit may still snag a deal.

- Be diligent about paying your bill. Make minimum payments (hopefully more than that) on time, or else you can pretty much kiss that low rate goodbye. Lenders are always looking for a way to get more money from you — whether through interest or late/penalty fees. Late payments are just one reason for them to hike that interest rate. A couple of mistakes could ruin your credit for a while.
 - Avoid putting new charges on the card. Most of the time, new purchases are subject to a higher interest rate. Plus, they will be the last charges to which your payments are applied.
- If you plan to move any remaining balance over to a new credit card once the special rate expires, make sure you line up the new line of credit ASAP. Learn much more at www.fool.com/credit. ■

My Dumbest Investment

Blind Buying

My worst decision in investing was to invest in a company and not know what it does. I was basically gambling that its stock would go up. The company was eToys, and I guess I read somewhere that someone thought it was a good business. I was a little disappointed watching my investment slip away slowly each day until finally it slipped below the surface of the water. It was this experience that led me to The Motley Fool, which helped me learn how to research a bit more and not just gamble.

— M.R.C., Houston

The Fool Responds: Some people think of stock investing as gambling, but it's not, if you've done your research and buy into healthy and growing companies at reasonable prices. But as you learned, buying just on someone's glowing words without knowing much about a company is indeed gambling. And so is buying into a good company at any price. If it's overvalued, it may well head south before it ever turns a profit for you. By the way, the eToys.com Web site is now owned by Toys R Us. ■



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

My roots can be traced back to 1833. Today, based in Manhattan, I'm a world leader in odors and tastes. About 54 percent of my 2008 revenue came from fragrances and 46 percent from flavors. Some 75 percent of my sales are generated abroad. I help you and many of your household purchases smell or taste better. My flavors are used in processed foods, snacks, beverages, dairy products, confectionery, baked goods, pharmaceuticals, beauty products, cleansers and oral care products. I sell nothing directly to the public, but I still rake in more than \$2 billion annually. Who am I? ■

(Answer: International Flavors and Fragrances)



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

Which CDs are Better?

QI just graduated from college, have a steady job and am socking money away in my 401(k) plan. I'm thinking about investing in a nine-month or 12-month CD, too. Which should I choose?

— K.M., online

A Consider skipping CDs entirely, depending on your situation. Even the best CD rates these days (which you can look up at bankrate.com) are not that generous. If you know you won't need a sum of money for at least five years, you might want to invest it in stocks instead.

One-year CDs, for example, have recently been paying less than 2 percent interest. On a \$10,000 investment, all you can hope for is almost \$200. But the energy company BP is offering a dividend yield of nearly 6 percent, which would give you close to \$600. Caterpillar's yield is nearly 3 percent, while AT&T and Verizon recently offered yields near 6 percent. Dividends are never guaranteed, but many companies have been regularly paying — and raising — them for decades. Plus, on top of the dividend, the stock price of healthy and growing companies will increase over time, delivering additional wealth.

QBetween reading financial magazines and watching CNBC and checking out Motley Fool opinions on stocks, I often see one source recommending buying a stock and another source recommending selling it. What gives?

— H.V., online

A Every investor or analyst has her own opinion. Some might be looking for good long-term investments, others for "safer" companies with strong competitive advantages. Some look for very undervalued stocks, while others will take a smaller margin of safety in exchange for greater possible growth. Read the various arguments and make up your own mind.

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

Name That Company

Based in Houston, I'm the globe's top marketer and distributor of food-service products. I deliver fruits and vegetables, prepared packaged meals, fresh and frozen meats, seafood, poultry, canned and dry products, paper and disposables, and more. I serve some 400,000 customers, including restaurants, hotels, schools, hospitals and retirement homes. I rake in close to \$40 billion per year and have raised my



dividend each year since I went public in 1970. I'm not a telecommunications equipment giant, but I sound like one. My name is an acronym for Systems and Services Co. 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

HP Tackles Dell

Hewlett-Packard (NYSE: HPQ) is crushing archrival Dell with a nonchalant smile. The enterprise-class storage and servers division reported sales up 13 percent (to \$4.2 billion) in this past quarter over the previous quarter, and the personal systems group saw 17 percent higher sales over last quarter. By way of comparison, Dell's best-performing division — small and medium business systems — reported a 5 percent sequential gain recently.

The conclusion is obvious: HP is achieving serious regrowth, while Dell is falling behind and losing market share. Dell's deal with Perot Systems is starting to look smart because that business plugs into the

services sector — and Dell might need a plan B if it can't sell systems anymore.

The trend couldn't come at a better time for HP — or a worse one for Dell. In case you forgot, Microsoft released Windows 7 a few weeks ago, and it looks ready to fuel a massive rebound in corporate IT spending, starting in the next couple of quarters. Not a good time to show weakness, but great timing for flexing your biceps in front of prospective customers.

And with its purchase of 3Com, HP moves into the networking arena, too. HP is kicking butt and taking names, thanks to its disciplined growth-by-acquisition strategy. (Dell and Microsoft are Motley Fool Inside Value picks. Microsoft is a Motley Fool Options selection.) ■

BUSINESS MEETINGS

► **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*. Cost is \$20 per person. Register in advance by calling the EDC at 263-8989, ext 105, or online at www.enaplesflorida.com.

► **The Remodelers Council of the Collier Building Industry Association** holds its next dinner meeting from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 7, at LarsonAllen LLP, CPAs, Consultants & Advisors, in the Bank of Naples headquarters. Representatives of the firm will discuss "Remodeling Your Business: Ways to Adapt and Survive in Today's Economy." Cost is \$15 for Remodelers Council members and \$20 for CBIA members. Call 436-6100.

► **The Chartered Financial Analysts 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. RSVP 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.

► **Network International, the Downtown Networkers chapter**, meets weekly at 7:45 a.m. Thursday at IHOP, 1921 Davis Blvd., East Naples. Guests are welcome. Cost is \$10. Call Jamie Bergen at 572-3720.

► **WNOCC Women's Networking of Collier County** meets at 11:30 a.m. on the second Tuesday of the month at the Collier Athletic Club. For more information, call Nancy Dalaskey at 280-3803.

► **Women's Empowered Network** has two local chapters: The North Naples Chapter meets at 11 a.m. every second and fourth Friday at Buca di Beppo, 8860 Tamiami Trail N.; RSVP to NorthNaples@EmpoweredNetworking.com. The

Central Naples Chapter meets at 11 a.m. every first and third Wednesday at Patricia's, 1485 Pine Ridge Road; RSVP to CentralNaples@EmpoweredNetworking.com

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

► **The Naples Speakeasy Toastmasters Club** meets from 6-7:30 p.m. on the second Monday of the month at the North Naples Collier Government Building, 2335 Orange Blossom Drive. Guests are welcome. For more information, call 262-8183 or visit www.naplesspeakeasy.org. ■

NETWORKING

Membership Directors Association of SWF holiday party at Stonebridge Country Club



Jennifer Tweedie and Linda Hammer



Jamie Brown, Eileen Phillips and Jackie Stephens



Marcie Hughes, Jennifer Johnson and Tina Raymond



Patti Siddall and Jill Miles



Francine Caveseno, Jackie Stephens, Debbie Lohan, Joan Bilson (Santa Ted below sitting), Jamie Brown, Claire Pera, Michelle English, Melody Kappauf and Max Passino

CHARLIE MCDONALD / FLORIDA WEEKLY

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.

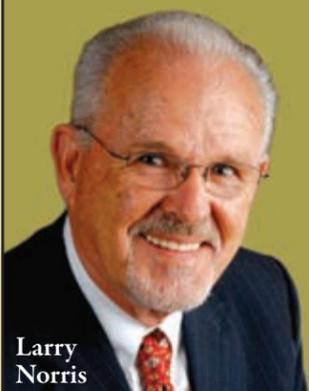
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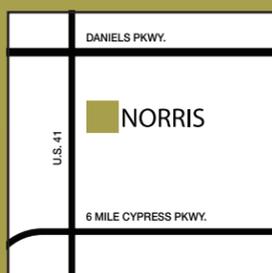


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I opened my first store in Fort Myers in 1983. After nearly two decades of sales and customer service with locations in Fort Myers and Naples, I sold my company in 1998. Over the next eleven years I focused on a busy retirement. I developed a subdivision and remodeled several homes in Lee County as well as the North Carolina mountains. Our family loves it here. We have stayed active and we are 100% dedicated to this community and to our neighbors.

With recent changes in the Southwest Florida market, my wife, Renee and I saw an opportunity to return to the marketplace. We believe this is an exciting time not only for our business but for our hometown. Even though Norris Home Furnishings is new, our commitment is the same as it was when I opened my first store 26 years ago.

- We are committed to selling the highest quality of furniture at the lowest prices — guaranteed.

- We are committed to providing outstanding customer service each and every day.

- We are committed to surrounding ourselves with the highest caliber of staff who are dedicated to our customers and take pride in a job well done.

We hope these are things that you, too, are looking for when furnishing your home. We appreciate the opportunity to serve you, our loyal customers.

Sincerely,

Larry Norris



NETWORKING

Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce Holiday Business After 5 at the Hilton Naples



Frank Zhou, Blais Ciabaton and Brian Psota



Kena Yoke and Dave Arter



Barbara Collins and Angelica Torres



Sue Huff and Vicki Hall



Rick Braddock and Dimitra Arneson



Tracy Coghill, Brenda O'Connor and Amy Atherholt



David Garza, Kristen Niebel, Doris and Michael Sinclair



Dr. Robert Caco, Mary Znamecz, Roxane Stagg and Frank Fontana

CHARLIE MCDONALD / FLORIDA WEEKLY

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.

REAL ESTATE

DECEMBER 24-30, 2009

A GUIDE TO THE NAPLES REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY

B9

\$5 million in improvements considered a sound investment at Kensington Golf & Country Club

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Some renovations are intended to add square footage to a home or business. Others are meant as an update, a way to give a fresh face to an old space.

A recent remodel of the clubhouse at Kensington Golf & Country Club did all that — and more. It banished the box.

When the clubhouse was constructed in 1994, it was built with few design flourishes. Staff and members concede that it also failed functionally, as the layout of important facilities, such as the kitchen, proved insufficient.

By investing \$5 million in its clubhouse, the Kensington community has revitalized the obsolete structure and created a showplace that satisfies an array of club needs.

“The positive buzz in the community is just tremendous, and it has really brought our members together,” says Chet Evans, president of the club’s board of directors.

An investment in the future

Cliff Thompson, the board treasurer, describes the remodel project as an investment in the community’s tomorrow. “All of the things we’ve done are about the future and lifestyle,” he says.

Kensington’s golf course might be one of the most acclaimed in Southwest Florida, but Mr. Thompson recognizes it’s the clubhouse that makes the first impression with visitors and potential homebuyers and members. With that as a guiding principal, Kensington members opted to move forward with the renovation.

“We talked about putting it off because of the economic crisis,” Mr. Thompson says. “But we also know the economic crisis isn’t going to last forever.”

Ultimately, the struggling economy proved beneficial, as Kensington was able to secure favorable prices for the materials and services required for the project. Also, thanks to Kensington’s capital reserve plan, members were spared a hefty special assessment for the cost of the renovation.

Mr. Thompson believes that the remodel has helped prepare Kensington to be more appealing to a variety of country



COURTESY PHOTOS

McWard Architects banished the boxy design that pervaded the circa-1994 clubhouse.

club consumers, today and in the long-term. “We are now prepared to compete with anybody,” he says.

Kensington entrusted Naples firm McWard Architects to redesign the clubhouse, a process that Janice Ward, the

project architect, likens to going through the building with a magic wand.

“We basically went in and refurbished the entire clubhouse,” she says.

SEE KENSINGTON, B10 ►

Incentive package at Lely Resort ends Dec. 31

Cordoba Development has unveiled a sales incentive package for the Cordoba neighborhood at Lely Resort. Through Thursday, Dec. 31, Cordoba is offering

homebuyers a \$15,000 discount off standing inventory homes, including the two furnished models, both of which offer leaseback options.

The Cordoba neighborhood’s 50 custom single-family homes offer a maintenance-free lifestyle surrounded by a golf course, nature preserves and lakes. In the heart of Lely Resort, Cordoba is within walking distance of two golf clubhouses, three championship golf courses and the Players Club & Spa.

Two floor plans in six variations are available.

The three-bedroom, 2½-bath San Sebastian is a

great-room style home with 1,544 square feet under air and 2,105 square feet of total living area.

The two-story Barcelona model offers 2,219 square feet of living area under air with two master suites and 3½ baths and a total of 2,780 square feet.

Homes at Cordoba are priced from \$400,000. Owners have full access to the award-winning Players Club & Spa and a separate non-golf clubhouse with a casual, tropical atmosphere. Lely’s three championship golf courses are designed by Robert Trent Jones Sr., Lee Trevino and Gary Player.

The Lely Resort Sales Center is at 8020 Grand Lely Drive, on U.S. 41 and C.R. 951. For more information, visit www.lely-resort.com or www.cordobanaples.com. ■



The Barcelona

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KENSINGTON

From page B9

More than skin deep

David Portman has lived in Kensington for nine years and chaired the renovation committee. He's been conducting tours of the new clubhouse since it reopened in November and so far has led 150 members through the redesigned building. There's a waiting list for future tours, he says.

As part of the clubhouse tour, he points out repairs and alterations that are obvious, as well as some that are not. For example, hidden from view is an estimated \$150,000 of fire safety improvements. Overhead is a new roof installed by D. Garrett Construction and foam insulation that is expected to save \$10,000 annually on energy costs. There is also a new speaker system, security cameras and wi-fi capability.

Another easily overlooked — but certainly vital — renovation area was the Kensington kitchen, where staff had struggled for years with inefficient space. In addition to an improved layout, the kitchen staff received new equipment, including a walk-in cooler and pantry and dishwashing area. To compliment the kitchen's new capabilities, the clubhouse menu has also been redesigned.

Downstairs, the locker rooms were renovated and other areas remodeled to update or repurpose them. Kensington staff was also treated to new administrative offices, and Kensington community artists gained a gallery



where they can exhibit their works.

Since the renovation was completed — on time and under budget, tour guide Mr. Portman adds — he has heard several comments about the result. Some members praised the “timeless elegance” of the décor. Others who were initially skeptical about the remodel have confessed themselves converted.

Mr. Portman has a favorite comment, though: One resident remarked that before, they had a box, but now they have a clubhouse.

“People are just so excited that it turned out so well, and that they can come and use it and bring friends,” he says. ■

— Kensington Golf & Country Club is at 2700 Pine Ridge Road in Naples. For more information, call Lindsey LaCroix, marketing director, at 213-1983 or visit www.kensingtoncc.com.

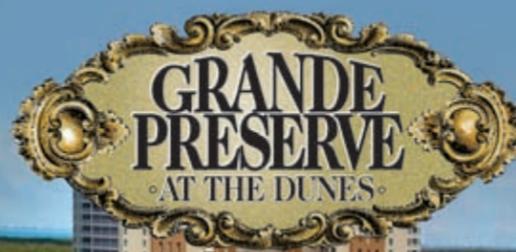
COURTESY PHOTOS

Top: the Chelsea Lounge, home of the new wine room that holds 1,000-plus bottles.

Left: A curved terrace is accessible from the lounge as well as from the Kensington Room and the Mayfair Grill.

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Here's what's coming up in the showroom at 2777 Tamiami Trail N. Seating is limited and reservations are requested. Call 261-3969, ext. 7000.

• 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 7: Lely model home tours - Robb & Stucky and Stock Development invite you on a tour of two models at Lely Resort. Interior designers Molly Grup and Joanne Wilseck will lead

tours and explain the design process involved in outfitting these sophisticated yet casual models. This event is offsite. Call early to reserve your space and no cameras, please.

• 2 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 14: Trunk show and visit from artist/designer Larry Laslo (trunk show will be in place through Sunday, Jan. 17) - Mr. Laslo creates contemporary art inspired by the world around him for Rosenbaum Fine Art.

• 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 19: What's New, What's Next in Home Furnishings? - Join Kris Kolar, Robb & Stucky vice president of interior design, and design consultant

Harriet Mitchell to discover what's new in home furnishings and accents for this season.

• 11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 22: Wall Art: An Essential Piece trunk show and seminar with photographer Jennifer Deane (trunk show will be in place through Sunday, Jan. 24) - Join Jennifer Deane and design consultant Bruni Darwin as they explain why art is so vital in our homes. Stay and enjoy a tour of Ms. Deane's exhibit showcasing her latest travels, a glimpse of Europe as it has never been seen before.

• 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 28: Mercato model homes tour - Designers Molly Grup and Janice

Maskell have created three classic contemporary models inspired by harmony, clean lines and chic uptown living at Mercato. Call early to reserve your space and no cameras, please.

In Bonita Springs

The following seminars are held at Robb & Stucky Interiors at 3181 North Bay Village Court in Bonita Springs (unless otherwise noted). Seating is limited and reservations are requested. Call 949-3001, ext. 8000.

• 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 9: Designonomics: Make Every Design Dollar Count - Discover which design

CONTINUED ON B13 ►



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• **10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 13:** Tavira model tour -Interior designer Janice Maskell will lead the tour through Residence 403 in Tavira at Bonita Bay, a home inspired by natural elements and scenic views. Call early to reserve your space and no cameras, please.

• **11 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 19:** Renovate with Robb & Stucky, at Robb & Stucky Casual • Outdoor Living - Remodeling offers numerous benefits to homeowners who want to change their lifestyle without uprooting and



COURTESY PHOTO

Seminars at Robb & Stucky Interiors are led by the firm's award-winning designers.

moving. Join interior designer April Campbell and licensed professionals from Sandstone Builders and Ruffino Cabinetry to learn how easy it is to get the look you want, for one project or your entire home.

• **2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29:** World of Design with Joe Ruggiero - A multimedia presentation by home furnishings authority Joe Ruggiero showcasing his design inspirations gleaned from his world travels. Mr. Ruggiero will share design and color insights from some of the world's top architects and designers featured on his HGTV show, "World of Design." He will also review his Sunbrella fabric collection for residential interiors.

• **10 a.m. to noon Friday, Jan. 29:** Trunk show and visit from jewelry designer Dorian Webb (The Dorian Webb Collection will remain in place through Sunday, Jan. 31) - Dorian Webb's jewelry creations use the finest semiprecious stones, sterling silver and Venetian glass. ■

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'Love Your Home' at first-ever Interior Design Society show

The Interior Design Society of Naples will hold its first-ever Love Your Home Show from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13, at The Conference Center, 1455 Pine Ridge Road. Nearly three dozen booths and seminars by the area's top interior designers and home improvement specialists will present the latest design trends for the home.

The IDS will donate a portion of proceeds to Habitat for Humanity. Sponsors include Bay Builders, CNL Bank, Classic Floors and Countertops, DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen, Fenton Davis Painting,

Kobie Kooling, Rod Ashmore & Associates, Staples, Gulfshore Life and Florida Weekly.

The IDS has more than 4,000 members in 38 chapters around the country. Members are residential designers, interior decorators, home furnishing stores, design studios, general contractors, architects and select manufacturers and distributors of design-oriented products or services.

The IDS of Naples was established in 2001. For more information, call Lynn Royal at 659-7494 or Beth Ann Tuyls at 947-2555, or visit www.IDSnaples.com. ■

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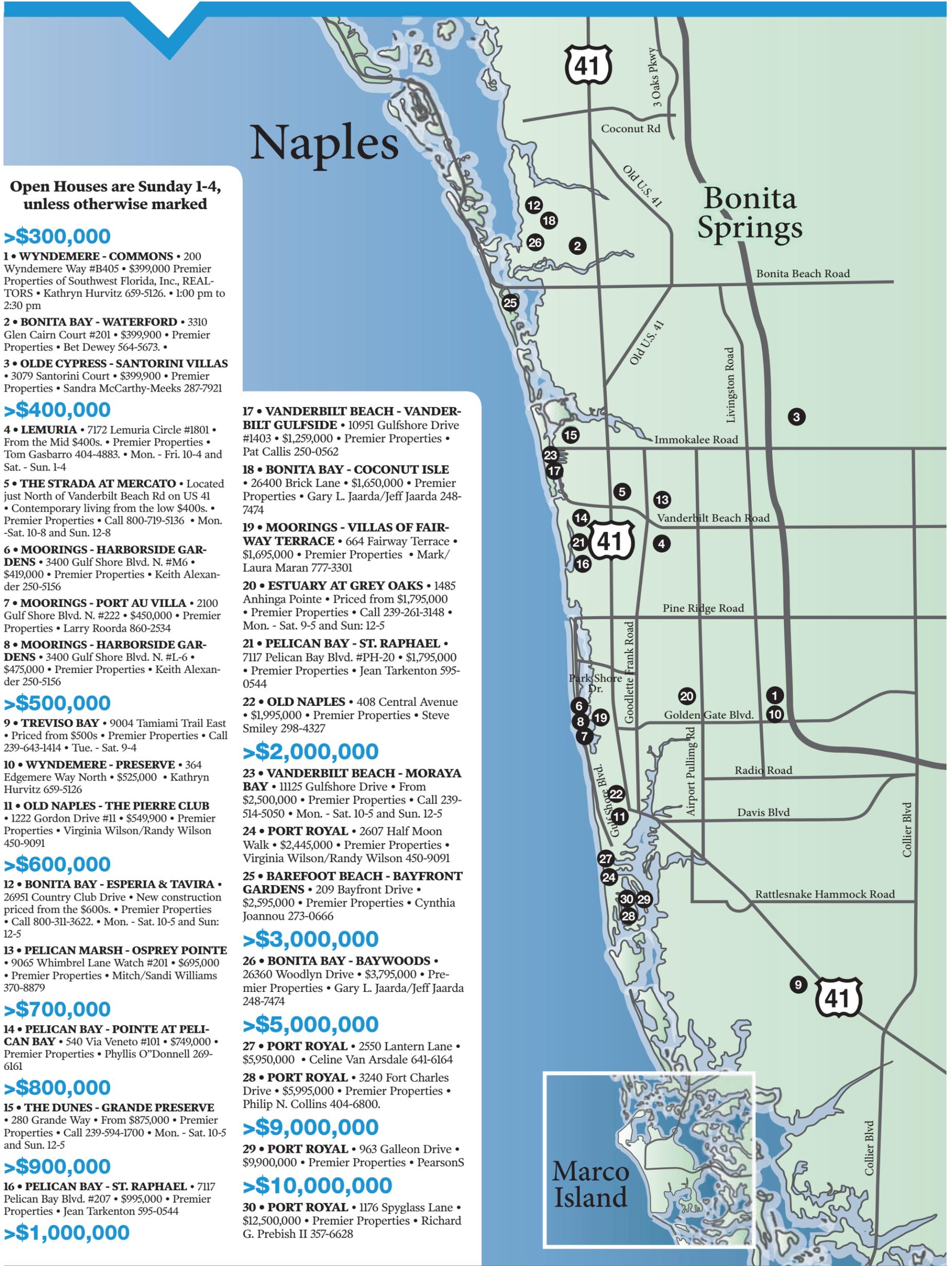
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BAY COLONY - REMINGTON ★ #PH2104 - Breathtaking panoramic Gulf views! Contemporary elegance, approx. 6,400 A/C SF, 4BR, rooftop cabana/spa. Furnished. **\$8,900,000** | Tom McCarthy | 243-5520



PINE RIDGE ★ Magnificent country estate home on 3.32 acres. Masterfully planned main residence encompasses 15,298 total SF. **\$7,375,000**
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PARK SHORE - LE JARDIN ★ #PH102 - On the beach. Over 6,000 SF of living area, 4 bedrooms, den, 5.5 baths. Great feel and flow in the plan. Furnished. **\$5,900,000** | Larry Rorda | 860-2534



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MEDITERRA - IL CORSINI ★ Custom 2-story 5 bedroom home. Fairway views. Stone flooring, 11-14" ceilings, summer kitchen, and pool/spa. **\$4,875,000**
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TIBURON - ESCADA ★ Elegant golf course estate home, 6,000 SF A/C, 6BR/5.5BA, resort-style pool & lanai. Exclusive member privileges. **\$4,495,000**
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NAPLES CAY - SEAPOINT ★ #4N - Dramatic and never-ending views of the Gulf and Clam Bay. FURNISHED. 4,950 A/C SF, 4BRs & family room. **\$4,450,000**
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MOORINGS ★ Exceptional Bay views, 131 feet on the water, 2 docks & boat lift, 3BR/4.5BAs, office, covered lanai, pool & spa. **\$3,995,000** | Michael Lawler | 571-3939



GREY OAKS - ESTUARY ★ Magnificent California-inspired, customized 'Bacara IV' 4BR. Vaulted beam ceilings & lake, golf and preserve views. **\$3,575,000**
Sam Heitman/Dan Guenther | 261-3148



OLD NAPLES ★ Custom-built in 2006, fully furnished, 2 blocks to beach. Over 4,700 A/C SF, 5BR+den, heated pool/spa. **\$3,495,000**
Marty/Debbi McDermott | 564-4231



BONITA BAY - BAY WOODS ★ Exquisitely detailed 4 bedroom + den, 4.5 bath home with 3-car garage. Private view of lake and nature preserve. **\$3,395,000**
Carol Wood/Claire McMahon | 822-3709



GREY OAKS ★ Former Santa Rosa model furnished in tasteful style. Coffered ceilings, double crown mouldings. Large pool and spa. **\$2,950,000**
Carolyn Weinand/Lynn Anderson | 269-5678



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



OLD NAPLES ★ Craftsmanship and livability combine to make this 5BR+den Old Florida-style home perfect. Pool, huge 4-car garage. **\$2,650,000** | Mary Yon | 572-3274



BAY COLONY - BRIGHTON ★ #1402 - Absolutely magnificent 3BR/3BA+den beachfront residence with unbeatable Gulf views! Private Beach & Tennis Clubs. **\$2,650,000**
Leah Richey/Ray Couret | 293-5899



PELICAN BAY - GEORGETOWN ★ A stately manor with many new and artful upgrades. Four bedroom, study, media room & pool overlooking lake. ACGEP. **\$2,600,000** | Kathryn Teut | 250-3583



PELICAN BAY - ST. RAPHAEL ★ #1105 - Luxury, pristine 3BR/3.5BA tower residence has a spacious single-family home feel plus spectacular high-rise view. **\$2,285,000** | Jean Tarkenton | 595-0544



ROYAL HARBOR ★ Bermuda-style 4 bedroom + den, 4.5 bath home. Coral stone fireplace, hazelnut wood floors, & elevator. Heated pool. **\$2,195,000**
Marty/Debbi McDermott | 564-4231



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



OLD NAPLES ★ Restored Old Naples cottage, guest house, 3BR+study on a beautifully landscaped lot. Just 2 blocks to Gulf beach. **\$2,175,000** | Karen Van Arsdale | 860-0894



MARCO ISLAND - CAPE MARCO BELIZE ★ #2105 - Beautiful dream home in the sky. Over 3,600 SF of living area, 11'4" high ceilings, 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. **\$1,975,000** | Chris Adams | 404-5130



VANDERBILT BEACH CASA GRANDE ★ #501 - Rare opportunity for a beautiful corner residence with wraparound lanai providing endless view of the Gulf. **\$1,495,000** | Fred Alter | 269-4123



THE BROOKS - SHADOW WOOD CHARTWELL ★ Custom 3BR+den/4BA home. Lake views, outdoor living area, private golf and beach club available by membership. **\$1,450,000** | Kevin Smith | 641-2942



FIDDLER'S CREEK - MAHOGANY BEND ★ Brand new custom 3BR + den pool home. Southern golf course views. Never lived in. Award-winning Club and Spa. **\$1,299,000** | Michelle Thomas | 860-7176



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BONITA BAY - COCONUT ISLE ★ Fabulous 3BR + den villa. Many upgrades: Hardwood floors, newly painted interiors & salt water pool filter system. **\$1,295,000** | Connie Lummis | 289-3543



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



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Tom McCarthy/Tess McCarthy | 243-5520



COQUINA SANDS - COLONIAL CLUB ★ #402 - Luxury beachfront residence with magnificent views of the Gulf. Newly renovated with two generous master suites. **\$999,500**
Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



FIDDLER'S CREEK - CRANBERRY CROSSING ★ Turnkey furnished former model features decorator touches throughout, 3 bedrooms + den. Pool/spa overlooking lake. **\$990,000**
ML Meade/Natalie Kirstein | 293-4851



THE BROOKS - SHADOW WOOD SWEET BAY ★ Lovely home appointed with volume ceilings, tile throughout, French doors, & breakfast area opening to pool area. **\$989,000**
Cathy/George Lieberman | 777-2441



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



PELICAN LANDING ★ Perfectly maintained and well constructed 4BR+den, 6,607 total SF on a beautiful lakefront lot. Oversized garage. **\$979,000**
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OLD NAPLES - 780 FIFTH AVENUE SOUTH CONDOMINIUM ★ #307 - This 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath has high ceilings, 2 skylights, and beautifully detailed mouldings. Completely furnished. **\$975,000** | Judy Perry/Penny Lyle | 261-6161



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



MARCO ISLAND ★ Old Florida style home w/quick direct access and 160 ft of waterfront, large wraparound verandas, new floors & paint. **\$899,000** | Brock/Julie Wilson | 595-5983



WYNDEMERE - VILLAGES ★ Beautiful home with gorgeous tile floors, crown mouldings, & coffered ceilings. Fabulous lake & golf course view. **\$895,000** | Kathryn Hurvitz | 659-5126



MOORINGS - WINDEMERE ★ #704 - Direct Gulf/Bay views! Charming 7th floor 3BR penthouse, direct Gulf access boat slip included. Turnkey furnished. **\$799,000** | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552



BONITA BAY - BERMUDA COVE ★ Well-kept 3BR/2BA, former model offered turnkey. South facing pool & spa overlooking lake. Private guest cabana. **\$795,900** | Cheryl Mease | 691-8104



PELICAN MARSH - IVY POINTE ★ Elegant, model quality 2BR+den. Lushly landscaped expanded tropical pool area. Designer furnishings included. **\$747,000** | Pam Hartman | 216-7949



PELICAN LANDING - CAPRI ★ Meticulously maintained 3BR+den villa with heated pool. Private lake view, many custom architectural details. **\$618,000** | Maryanne Kennedy | 405-0266



THE BROOKS - SHADOW WOOD LONGLEAF ★ Oversized Kingfisher model has 3 bedrooms plus den, over 4,300 total SF and is furnished. Many upgrades. **\$599,000** | Jack Despart | 273-7931



BONITA BAY - ARBOR STRAND ★ Charming cottage-like villa, 3 bedrooms or 2 bedrooms+den, 2.5 baths & family room. Private pool & spa. Furnished. **\$599,000**
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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



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WEEK OF DECEMBER 24-30, 2009

A GUIDE TO THE NAPLES ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SCENE

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a guide with style ...

HAPPY NEW YEAR 01.01.10

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If you're looking for a place to do all of that, we've done most of the work for you. *Florida Weekly's* New Year's Eve party guide lists your favorite restaurants and night spots and tells you what they're doing to celebrate 2010.

So eat, drink and be merry, because there seems to be a light at the end of the tunnel. Let's hope it's not an oncoming train.
— Cheers.

Celebrate

>>**C14:** When you have to work

NYE guide

>>**C15:** All the best parties in SW Florida

Cuisine

>>**C13:** Low-stress entertaining

party**Artsy**

>> **SOUTHWEST FLORIDA'S STAGES ARE SET FOR AN ARTFUL NEW YEAR'S EVE**

BY NANCY STETSON
nstetson@floridaweekly.com

People seem to fall into one of two categories on New Year's Eve: homebodies and those who go out on the town. If you're among the latter but you don't want to spend the evening in a bar or restaurant, Southwest Florida offers a myriad of arts-related events where you can ring in 2010. Black-tie or casual, there's something for everyone. Some events run right through midnight, so you can celebrate the New Year with a crowd; other performances

end early, so you can attend another event or be home in time to watch the ball drop on TV (if you're still awake). Plays, musicals, concerts: Take your pick.

Celebrate with the symphony

The Gulf Coast Symphony presents "Broadway Goes Hollywood" at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall in Fort Myers. The program features popular Broadway songs that also appeared

SEE ARTSY, C12 ▶

WEEK at-a-glance



Music to their ears?
Arts writer Nancy Stetson finds out what holiday tunes others in the arts like – and don't like – to hear. **C8** ▶



Part 2: Fiddling around
A weekly glimpse behind the scenes as The Naples Players' spring musical takes shape. **C4** ▶



Eye candy and action
Film critic Dan Hudak says despite its cheesy script, "Avatar" is a groundbreaking cinematic event. **C11** ▶



More than a taste
Neapolitan Nora Butler fills a new gallery with her whimsical art. **C20** ▶

SANDY DAYS, SALTY NIGHTS

Line spectator



ArtisHENDERSON
sandydays@floridaweekly.com

Growing up, I accumulated pick-up lines like most people collect fine wines. I gleaned them from R-rated movies and Stephen King novels, treasures filed away in my pubescent mind. I was thrilled when I finally came of an age to actually use these gems of sexual wisdom, pulling them from the cellars of my brain.

Several months shy of my 18th birthday, at a youth in government convention in Tallahassee, I found myself flirting with another member of the high-school aged court. We thrust and parried, trading innuendoed witticisms until he threw down a line that caused me to stumble.

“Your clothes would look great in a crumpled heap on my bedroom floor tomorrow morning.” He raised his eyebrows and turned up the corners of his lips in a wet grin.

For a brief, inexplicable moment, I was thrilled. Here, finally, was one of the lines I’d been storing away. He had descended into the wine cellar of my heart and returned with a dusty Chateau Lafite-Rothschild.

Unfortunately, though, the vintage had long since soured. Rather than sounding suave, like I had always imagined, the line was awkward and tawdry, too much

and heard every line in the French book.

“Quels beaux yeux” (“What beautiful eyes”) they said on the subway, hot-blooded Frenchmen clasping my hands in their own. “Vous êtes charmante” (“You are charming”) on sidewalks as they matched their strides to mine. “Je te paie à boire?” (“Can I buy you a drink?”).

Being a line connoisseur for years, I knew exactly what those French men were up to. But, the words had a class to them, an old-world charm that all of my collected English versions lacked. It was as though I had been drinking Napa Valley reds for years, content in my limited range, but now I had tasted a vintage Bordeaux.

I’ll admit, I became something of a wino on those heavy, sultry French lines. And when it came time for me to return to the States, I experienced my own version of withdraw.

Recently, I visited France again, the first time since that year in Paris. At dinner, the gentlemen next to me poured wine as he slipped a note into my hand. “You have the head of an empress,” it read. “And beautiful eyes.”

It was headily familiar and intoxicating. I smiled and raised my glass to him. “Vous êtes charmant.” ■



“Your clothes would look great in a crumpled heap on my bedroom floor tomorrow morning...”

lines. And when it came time for me to return to the States, I experienced my own version of withdraw.

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Contact Artis
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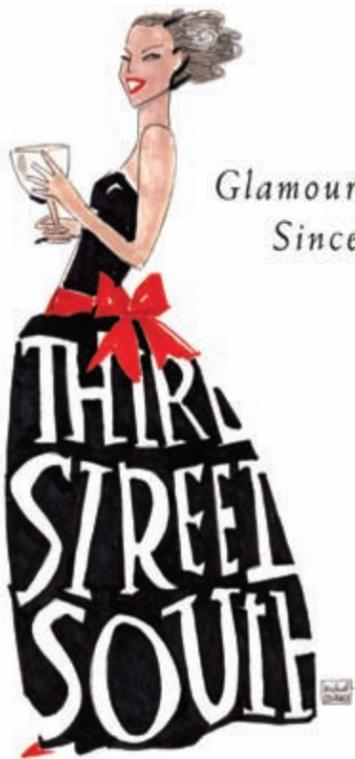
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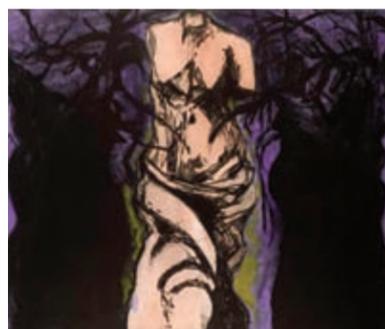
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Part 2: Tuning up for 'Fiddler'

Florida Weekly is keeping track behind the scenes as The Naples Players' spring production of "Fiddler on the Roof" takes shape. With its memorable score and universal theme of tradition, "Fiddler" has touched audiences around the world with humor, warmth and honesty. The full-scale musical opens Wednesday, March 3, and runs through Saturday, April 3, at Sugden Community Theatre. Dawn Lebrecht Fornara is the director/choreographer; Charles Fornara is the musical director. Callbacks, shown here, took place the week after auditions in early December. Next week: Getting ready to begin rehearsals.

COURTESY PHOTO

Top left: Director-choreographer Dawn Lebrecht Fornara works with potential "Fiddler on the Roof" Eric Sengson.

Top right: Musical Director Charles Fornara listens to Ellen Cooper during "Fiddler" callbacks.

Right: As Carol Fox waits her turn, Laura Needle sings her bit.



Also at the Sugden

You don't have to wait until "Fiddler" to be entertained at the Sugden Community Theatre. Here's what's ahead for The Naples Players in the coming weeks:

- **Jan. 13-Feb. 6:** "Almost, Maine," an enchanting comedy by John Cariani set in the far, far north. On the main stage with performances at 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and at 2 p.m. Sunday.
- **Sunday, Jan. 17:** Films on Fifth, The Naples Players' series of foreign and independent movies, presents the Israeli film "Waltz with Bashir," a Golden Globe winner and Oscar nominee (English subtitles). Show time is 7 p.m. in Blackburn Hall at the Sugden Community Theatre.
- **2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 24:** Auditions for the Tobye Studio production of A.R. Gurney's "Crazy Mary." The show will be staged March 24-April 17 in the Tobye Studio at the Sugden. Audition appointments not necessary. For more information, call 434-7340, ext. 10.

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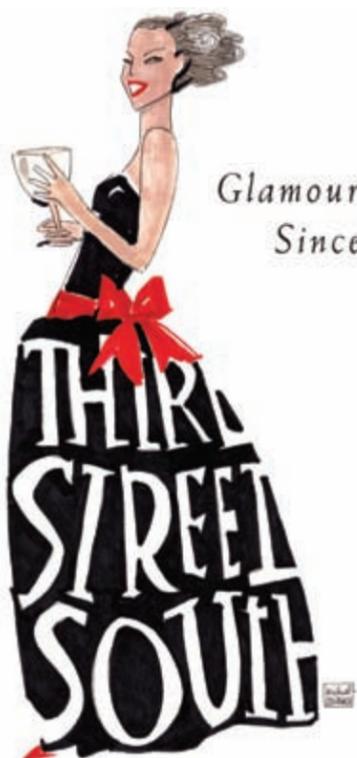


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■ **Bice** - Live entertainment from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday. 300 Fifth Avenue South. 262-4044.

■ **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** - Tim McGeary hosts singer/songwriter night at 7 p.m. every Wednesday. 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.

■ **The Jolly Cricket** - Every Saturday starting at 10 p.m.: The soulful sounds of Kim Page. 720 Fifth Ave. S. 304-9460 or www.thejollycricket.com.

COURTESY PHOTO

Photographs by Brynn Bruijn make up "Images of Hope, Immokalee: Looking Forward, Looking Back" on exhibit in the Drackett and Kohan galleries at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts through Feb. 7. A book of Ms. Bruijn's Immokalee photographs is on sale to benefit the Immokalee Initiative of the Community Foundation of Collier County. For more information, call 597-1900. At right is *Maryjean* by Brynn Bruijn.



COURTESY PHOTO

Creighton-Davis Gallery presents "Valerie Whitaker Nudes," a collection of 12 different photographers' images of the glamour and art model, through December. Also on exhibit at the gallery in The Village on Venetian Bay are nudes by Picasso, Matisse, Zorn, Renoir and others. Call 304-3000.

■ **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.

■ **Riverwalk at Tin City** - Thursday: John Lowbridge; Friday: Merril; Saturday: Sal DeSatis; p.m. Sunday: Sal DeSatis. 1200 Fifth Ave. South. 263-2734.

■ **South Street City Oven and Grill** - Thursday: Open mic night; Friday: Maxi Courtney at 5:30 p.m. and X-Mas Bash at 9:30 p.m.; Saturday: Ocean Roads; Sunday: Reggae with Chaefin; Monday: Meagan Rose; Tuesday: Karaoke. 1410 Pine Ridge Road. 435-9333.

Theater

■ **Chicago** - The musical "Chicago" plays at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts in Naples Dec. 26-28. 597-1900.

■ **Nutcracker** - Moscow Ballet's "The Nutcracker" is performed at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 28 at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall in Fort Myers. 481-4849.

■ **George M!** - Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre in Fort Myers presents "George M!" Dec. 31-Feb. 14. www.BroadwayPalm.com or 278-4422.

■ **Santaland Diaries** - Florida Repertory Theatre presents the thorny comedy, "The Santaland Diaries" through Dec. 31 in the new Studio Theatre next to the main stage in downtown Fort Myers. 332-4488 or www.floridarep.org.

■ **Every Christmas Story** - Sanibel's Herb Strauss Schoolhouse Theater presents "Every Christmas Story Ever Told (And Then Some)" through Dec. 31. 472-6862.

■ **A Christmas Carol** - Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre presents "A Christmas Carol" through Dec. 26. 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.

Thursday, Dec. 24

■ **Let It Snow!** - Perhaps to pave the way for Santa, snow will fall on Third Street South beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 25

Merry Christmas!

Saturday, Dec. 26

■ **New Year's Art Festival** - Start the New Year a bit early at the Naples New Year' Art Festival from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and Sunday along Fifth Avenue South.

■ **Micosukee Festival** - The



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WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

35th annual Miccosukee Indian Arts Festival takes place today through Jan. 3 at the Miccosukee Indian Village on U.S. 41 at mile marker 70. Events include live alligator wrestling, Native American foods, arts and crafts exhibits and air boat rides. (954) 370-3900.

■ **Laugh Out Loud** - Dezy's Laugh Out Loud Music Show starts at 7:30 p.m. at Europa Bistro in Pebblebrook Plaza at Immokalee Road and Collier Boulevard. Cost: voluntary contribution; 398-3024 or www.dezy.biz

■ **Free Music** - Gulf Coast Town Center presents Wildfire with classic rock under the stars in Market Plaza beginning at 8 p.m. 267-0783 or gulfcoasttowncenter.com.

Sunday, Dec. 27

■ **Makin' Music** - The Music Makers Show Band presents a concert at 2 p.m. in Cambier Park. Bring blankets or beach chairs for seating. Free, but donations welcome. 348-3675.

Monday, Dec. 28

■ **Sweat the Small Stuff** - The friendly competition for Trivia Night begins at 7:30 p.m. at The Pub at Mercato. 594-9400.

Tuesday, Dec. 29

■ **Marco Arts** - The 12th annual YMCA Fine Arts and Fine Crafts Show takes place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and Wednesday at the YMCA on Marco Island.

■ **All That Jazz** - Woody Allen and his New Orleans Jazz Band perform at 8 p.m. at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. 597-1900.

■ **More Trivia** - Bring your smartest friends for Team Trivia beginning at 9 p.m. at Boston Beer Garden, 2396 Immokalee Road. 596-2337.

Wednesday, Dec. 30

■ **Local History** - The Naples Historical Society offers guided tours of historic Palm Cottage in its holiday finery from 1-4 p.m. today through Friday, Dec. 31. Guided tours of The Norris Gardens at Palm Cottage are at 10 a.m. on the first and third Thursday of each month. Walking tours of the city's Historic District step out at 9 a.m.

on the first Wednesday of each month. 261-8104.

■ **Stand-Up Comedy** - Pauly Shore performs tonight through Jan. 1 at the Off the Hook Comedy Club on Marco Island. 389-6900.

Upcoming events

■ **First Friday** - Mercato hosts its concert series from 6-10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 1, with raffles, entertainment and food. 403-2204.

■ **Acoustic Music** - The Acoustic Music Society of Southwest Florida and Miromar Outlets present The Laws and Brent Moyer in the second concert in The Heritage Music Series from 6-9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 2, at Miromar Outlets. 390-5100 or 287-2035.

■ **Art In The Park** - The von Liebig Art Center and the Naples Art Association present the monthly Art in the Park from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 2, on Park Street alongside The von Liebig Art Center. 262-6517.

■ **Violinist** - Israeli violinist Sania Whitaker performs in the Toni Stabile Building at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 4.

■ **American Voices** - Crystal Gayle, Larry Gatlin and Andy Cooney sing at 8 p.m. Monday, Jan. 4, at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. 597-1900.

■ **Songbird** - Bernadette Peters performs at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 5, at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. 597-1900.

■ **Author Speaks** - A reading/signing for Stephen Valentine's "Time-ship: The Architecture of Immortality" is set for 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 7, at Barnes & Noble in Waterside Shops. 598-5200.

■ **Ghostly Theater** - Theatre-Zone presents "High Spirits," starring Georgia Engel, at 8 p.m. on select dates Jan. 7-17 in the G&L Theatre at Community School of Naples. (888) 966-3352.

■ **Art Event** - The Art Gallery at Florida Gulf Coast University and Romero Britto Studios present an evening of art, gourmet food and fine wine to benefit FGCU's Art Gallery from 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 7. "An Evening with Britto" takes place at the FGCU Arts Complex gallery. 590-7199.

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ARTS COMMENTARY

Love it/hate it: Do you hear what I hear?



Nancy STETSON
nstetson@floridaweekly.com

Written by Irving Berlin, it was once performed on the Phil stage by Mandy Patinkin, who announced he was going to sing the song in Mr. Berlin's native tongue. He then sang the entire song in Yiddish.

Susan Johnson, general manager of the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre, confessed to disliking "Santa Baby," even if it's performed on her own stage. She's just overdosed on the song.

I learned that one person's favorite might compel another to shut off the radio, and that sometimes we have reasons for what we like or dislike and sometimes we don't. And, like the music seller at Barnes & Noble, sometimes our favorite Christmas songs are tied up with our childhood memories.

Here's what they had to say.

Myra Daniels
CEO/founder
Naples Philharmonic
Center for the Arts

"White Christmas" is my favorite. That's the one thing I miss here. I miss that one day you look out the window and see all that snow. I

I was doing some last-minute Christmas shopping when I started talking to the clerk working in the music department of Barnes & Noble.

"I was here last night," I told him as he rang up my selection. "You were playing some pretty horrendous Christmas music then."

"Yeah, it can be pretty bad," he cheerfully agreed.

(It had been male vocal histrionics set to overly-produced operatic music. No names. In a burst of holiday goodwill, I'm protecting the guilty here.)

"Well, not all of it's bad," I told him, clarifying. "Just the stuff that was playing last night. I don't hate Christmas music. I just hate the bad stuff."

But he'd been subjected to a steady diet of Christmas music since before Thanksgiving, and wasn't feeling as friendly about it, especially about the stuff he's been forced to listen to over and over and over again.

A steady diet of anything *would* get pretty tiring.

He didn't seem that enthused about Christmas music, but then mentioned Vince Guaraldi's CD of music from "A Charlie Brown Christmas."

"That I love!" he said. "I really like that music. I could listen to that over and over again."

Not only does he like the style of music, but it reminds him of growing up and watching the shows each year.

And that started me thinking about favorite (and least favorite) Christmas songs.

I'm still trying to figure out what mine might be, but I called some local people in the arts to see what theirs are. Surprisingly, no one mentioned Nat King Cole or Johnny Mathis, who've both recorded what we now consider Christmas classics. No one mentioned Bob Dylan's recent Christmas offering.

Some named songs that have been performed in their own venues. Myra Daniels, CEO and founder of The Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts, mentioned "White Christmas" as being her favorite Christmas song.

bought a little etching of a snow scene to hang up (to remind me,) because that's what Christmas to me looked like.

"I don't have a least favorite."

Scott Saxon
General manager
The Barbara B. Mann
Performing Arts Hall

"My favorite Christmas song is really two songs: 'The Heat Miser Song' and 'The Snow Miser Song.' They're not specifically Christmas songs. They're from an old (stop-motion) animated special, 'The Year Without a Santa Claus,' from the mid-70s.

"Santa gets sick. The mayor of South Town tells one of the elves they'll let Santa take the day off if they could make it snow.

"Basically, it snows and he gets the day off, but then Santa winds up delivering the toys anyway.

"It's from when I was a kid. It's about the memories.

"The song I like the least is 'Jingle Bell Rock.' No particular reason, other than it's replayed so much, and not to my taste."

Bill Taylor
Producing artistic
director
Theatre Conspiracy

"Off the top of my head, I'd say that my favorite song is 'Jingle Bell Rock.' Nothing special attached to it.

"Most Christmas songs are annoy-

ing. But that one I enjoy. It's a good tune.

"My least favorite: none I can think of. For the most part, (Christmas songs) are just annoying. As soon as Halloween's over, they start playing Christmas music.

"(Play it) Christmas Eve and Christmas day. That's enough."

Susan Johnson
General manager
The Broadway Palm Dinner
Theatre

"Probably my favorite is 'Angels We Have Heard On High.' This will sound so corny, but I was in chorus for most of school. Audiences loved it.

"I get choked up every time. I think it's beautiful. I love singing it. I love hearing it, especially if a group is singing it. It's beautiful.

"My least favorite: 'Santa Baby.' Any version with anyone singing it, Eartha Kitt or Madonna. I've heard it so much and I've seen it so many times here (at the theater.) I just hope I don't have to hear it again."

Dallas Dunnagan
Artistic director
The Naples Players

"The one song I love, and everybody loves, is 'Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas.' It's warm and endearing.

"I dislike Paul McCartney's 'Wonderful Christmastime.' It's inane and repetitive. He sings 'simply having a wonderful Christmastime' about 12 million times.

"The rhythm is inane. It's ridiculous."

Julia Guzman
Public relations manager
Asolo Repertory Theatre

"My favorite Christmas song is John Lennon's version of 'Happy Christmas (War is Over)' with Yoko Ono.

"I've always loved John Lennon and his music all my life. My son, when he was little, was obsessed with John Lennon. He loved all his music.

"John Lennon was killed the day before my son's 4th birthday. We waited until after his birthday to tell him. He cried and sobbed. He always wanted to hear that song. Every year, I call him on his birthday, and he'll say, 'God bless John Lennon.' We listen to that song when we celebrate his birthday. It's a really positive song.

"My least favorite: 'Grandma Got Run Over By a Reindeer.' I hate that song. Well, I don't hate it, it's just really annoying to me." ■



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BOOKS

“The Hunted”

By Wayne Barcomb
(Minotaur Books/St. Martin's. 309 pages. \$24.95)

REVIEWED BY PHILIP K. JASON
Special to Florida Weekly

With “The Hunted,” Sarasota resident Wayne Barcomb offers a sizzler of a mystery thriller. Executed with confidence and skill, it has all the ingredients of a bestseller.

In homicide detective Frank Russo, Mr. Barcomb has devised an attractive, personable and authentic protagonist with which to launch an effective series. I wanted to portion out my enjoyment of this tightly constructed entertainment, but I found that every time I forced myself to put it down, it jumped right back into my hand.

The novel opens with the ugly but gripping scene of a young girl, nicknamed “Lucky,” cringing in terror as her father murders her mother and threatens the girl as well. Lucky’s testimony at trial leads to her father’s conviction.

Eighteen years later, Paul Gale is released. His violent streak, repressed in prison, is clearly not under control. As he seeks to reunite with his daughter, his feelings oscillate between a lust for revenge and a desire to rebuild the relationship. When he discovers his grown daughter is living in New York, he pursues his dangerous, long-delayed encounter.

Detective Russo, rebounding from a short-lived, intense relationship with a glamorous model on the edge of stardom, finds himself and his partner investigating a grotesque murder case that is soon established as one in a chain of murders. A serial killer is murdering men in their apartments, leaving behind signs of uncontrollable rage. The psychological profile of the killer suggests someone who

suffered extreme abuse as a child. Although the victims have nothing in common, the evidence suggests that in each case the murderer was invited in. A prostitute perhaps?

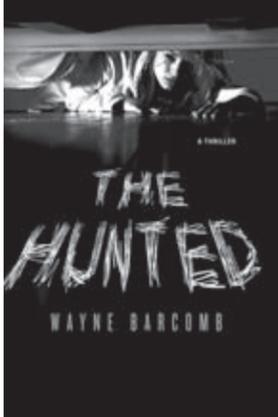
During this same period, Detective Russo is hesitantly stepping into a romance with Denise, a statuesque young woman whom he encounters at his fitness club. She works for a textbook publisher (a role the author knows firsthand) and, as the detective is the author of professional articles and book chapters on police work, they have some unexplored common ground.

Detective Russo and Denise both move cautiously, but before long his commitment to the case interferes with his availability for relationship building, just as it had with the model. Naturally, there’s a lot of pressure from the higher-ups to close this high profile case.

Mr. Barcomb teases us with alternating points of view. He not only enters the minds of the detective and Mr. Gale, but also of Denise and the murderer (who says her friends call her Lucky), often juxtaposing their actions and thoughts. Early on, evidence suggests that the perpetrator is a tall, attractive, physically fit woman, and the reader (though not Frank Russo) is led to suspect that Denise, whose background is a bit mysterious, might just be... but maybe not.

Mr. Barcomb meticulously develops his plot and characters, wringing every ounce of suspense and misdirection out of his material. The conclusion to “The Hunted” is a stunner.

Find out more about Mr. Barcomb and his earlier books at www.waynebarcomb.com. These include two well-received “Sam Wallace” mysteries set in Sarasota. ■



“The Language of Bees”

By Laurie R. King.
(Bantam, \$25)

REVIEWED BY EALISH WADDELL
Special to Florida Weekly

Laurie R. King’s excellent Mary Russell books follow the adventures of an extraordinary crime-solving duo: a feisty, whip-smart feminist of the 1920s and her husband, retired beekeeper (and former world-famous detective) Sherlock Holmes. “The Language of Bees,” the latest in the series, opens with the couple returning home to Sussex from an extended trip abroad to find an unexpected visitor on their doorstep — Detective Holmes’ son, whom they had thought lost for good to drugs and despair.

The relationship between the estranged father and son has been volatile and strained, but Damian Adler is desperate.

His wife and young daughter have vanished into the vast, Bohemian underworld of London, and he will do anything to find them.

It seems that Mr. Adler’s wife was caught up in the religious fervor of the sinister Church of Lights, a society with beliefs both fashionably modern and very, very ancient. As more is revealed about the bizarre and shady doings of the church, the circle of suspects expands to include even Damian himself.

As always, Ms. Russell and Detective Holmes are perfectly matched, their mutual intelligence and respect informing their affection for each other in a way that feels real and satisfying. Mr. Adler adds an interesting dynamic to the relationship, bringing in elements of Detective Holmes’ past that predate Mary’s presence in his life.

With characters and settings this intriguing, “Bees” is a welcome addition to the mystery shelves. ■

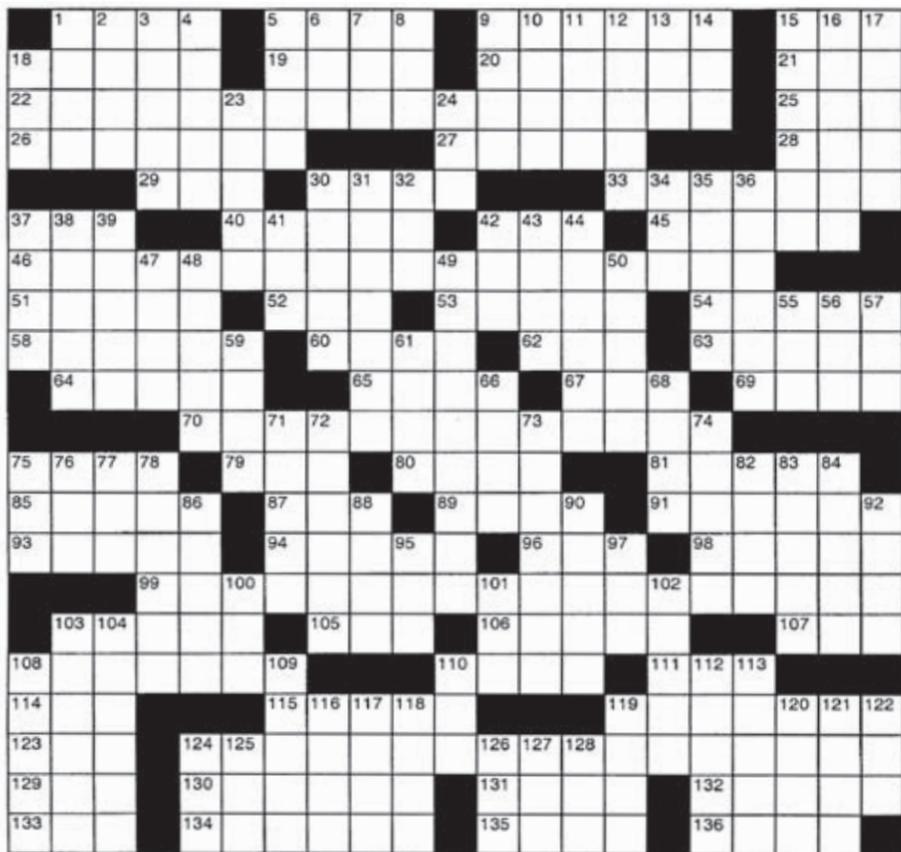
PUZZLE ANSWERS

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FLORIDA WEEKLY PUZZLES

COMPLETE THE THOUGHT



- ACROSS**
- 1 Skilled
 - 5 1492 vessel
 - 9 Proclaimed pompously
 - 15 With 103 Across, present-day Ceylon
 - 18 Flynn of films
 - 19 Tart
 - 20 Texas city
 - 21 Flat hat
 - 22 If at first you don't succeed . . .
 - 25 Actress Gardner
 - 26 Long-running Western
 - 27 Ed of "Lou Grant"
 - 28 Actor Young
 - 29 Turner or Cole
 - 30 "Yo!" at the library
 - 33 Triangle type
 - 37 — Na Na
 - 40 Build
 - 42 Cartoon cry
 - 45 Nitrous —
 - 46 Save the whales . . .
 - 51 Conductor Dorati
 - 52 Maglie or Mineo
 - 53 — the Sheriff" ('74 hit)
 - 54 Spiked the punch
 - 58 Keanu of "Speed"
 - 60 Forsaken
 - 62 Erwin or Gilliam
 - 63 Night noise
 - 64 No-nonsense Athenian
 - 65 Musical finale
 - 67 Poem of praise
 - 69 "My Favorite —" ('82 film)
 - 70 He who laughs last . . .
 - 75 Type of pear
 - 79 Mine find
 - 80 Act like a Crabbe
 - 81 Sample the soufflé
 - 85 Activist Medgar
 - 87 Unwell
 - 89 Italian rumbler
 - 91 California town
 - 93 Robert of "The Citadel"
 - 94 Insomnia cure?
 - 96 Tiriac of tennis
 - 98 Tales
 - 99 A penny saved is . . .
 - 103 See 15 Across
 - 105 Maestro de Waart
 - 106 More appealing
 - 107 It may be white
 - 108 Grisham characters
 - 110 — Shame" ('70 song)
 - 111 Excellent
 - 114 Citrus cooler
 - 115 Eventual oak
 - 119 Returns from a trip
 - 123 Sundial numeral
 - 124 Honk if you . . .
 - 129 "Cheers" prop
 - 130 Negative terminals
 - 131 — Spumante
 - 132 Travis or Quaid
 - 133 — blond
 - 134 "The — Trap" ('61 film)
 - 135 Competition
 - 136 Incites Rover
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Singer Guthrie
 - 2 Fiber source
 - 3 Theatrical salesman
 - 4 Actress Verdugo
 - 5 Out-of-this-world org.
 - 6 Hosp. area
 - 7 Pen point
 - 8 Commotion
 - 9 Auto pioneer
 - 10 Eaves dropper?
 - 11 "Rule, Britannia" composer
 - 12 "The — of a Clown" ('70 song)
 - 13 PA hours
 - 14 Buck's beloved
 - 15 Put on
 - 16 Deep gorge
 - 17 Persona
 - 18 Peter out
 - 23 Montezuma, for one
 - 24 "The Wind in the Willows" critter
 - 30 Pansy part
 - 31 Junk
 - 32 Sault — Marie, MI
 - 34 — Cob, CT
 - 35 Jumps on the ice
 - 36 Catalogue
 - 37 Trauma aftermath
 - 38 Sharpened a skill
 - 39 Change
 - 41 Certain line-men: abbr.
 - 42 Surprised sounds
 - 43 Reacts to fireworks
 - 44 "Martha" composer
 - 47 89 Across output
 - 48 Vote in
 - 49 Like some beaches
 - 50 Practice piece
 - 55 Runner Sebastian
 - 56 Age
 - 57 Augsburg article
 - 59 Manhattan area
 - 61 Writer MacDonald
 - 66 Disembarked
 - 68 Punta del —
 - 71 Coming from Cork
 - 72 Nervous —
 - 73 Literary collection
 - 74 Roberts or Tucker
 - 75 You can retire on it
 - 76 "Ab —" (from the start)
 - 77 DC figure
 - 78 Nook's companion
 - 82 Strike-breaker
 - 83 Innsbruck's locale
 - 84 Boredom
 - 86 Tend the fire
 - 88 Expect back
 - 90 Major artery
 - 92 Word form for "bone"
 - 95 Conceit
 - 97 Dundee denial
 - 100 Pine product
 - 101 UN Day month
 - 102 Splendid
 - 103 "Good Night —" (1853 song)
 - 104 USNA anthem word
 - 108 First dog in space
 - 109 Relish
 - 110 Claire or Balin
 - 112 Alphabet sequence
 - 113 Neighbor of Oahu
 - 116 Surrender
 - 117 Ready for business
 - 118 Be still
 - 119 Component
 - 120 Pres. Bush, e.g.
 - 121 Converse competitor
 - 122 Pig's digs
 - 124 Fold over
 - 125 "Sat — tuffet . . ."
 - 126 Machine part
 - 127 Language suffix
 - 128 Tackled a taco

SEE ANSWERS, C9

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HOROSCOPES

■ **CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)** Forming a renewed connection with a former associate is only the first step toward working out your new plans. Be prepared for problems, and deal with them as soon as they arise.

■ **AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)** A romantic situation that was going smoothly not too long ago might take a new turn. Be honest about your feelings before you decide whether to follow it or take another path.

■ **PISCES (February 19 to March 20)** The wise Pisces (that's you, of course) will make sure everyone knows you plan to keep your options open and listen to all sides of the situation before making any decisions.

■ **ARIES (March 21 to April 19)** Events could inspire adventurous Lambs looking to make a major career or personal move. But as always, get all the facts before rushing into any sort of deal or commitment.

■ **TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** What seems to be a great opportunity could cause even usually practical Taureans to ignore their inner caution cues. Best to move carefully to avoid falling into unseen traps.

■ **GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)** Need a holiday now that the seasonal festivities are behind you? Good idea. Plan to go to someplace wonderful. You'll return refreshed and more than ready for a new challenge.

■ **CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** Progress continues to be made on that

pesky workplace problem. Meanwhile, don't assume a personal situation will work itself out. Best to get more involved earlier than later.

■ **LEO (July 23 to August 22)** Catnaps are definitely recommended for Leos and Leonas who had been going at a hectic pace over the holidays. Adding relaxation time to your schedule helps restore your overdrawn energy reserves.

■ **VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)** Sure, some of the new friends you made over the holidays might move out of your life at some point. But at least one might show significant "staying power" with some encouragement.

■ **LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)** Encourage family members to join you in supporting a relative who could be facing a difficult emotional challenge in the New Year. Showing your love and concern helps keep his or her hopes up.

■ **SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)** While a long-deferred decision suddenly might take on some urgency after news on a related matter, you still need to weigh all factors carefully before deciding one way or the other.

■ **SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)** This is a good time to reassess the earlier plan you made for the New Year. Some elements you felt you could depend on to make it work might no longer carry that assurance.

■ **BORN THIS WEEK:** Your honest approach to life and living is always an inspiration for others fortunate enough to know you.

By Linda Thistle

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		2	5	3	7
2	8		4		3
		7	6	2	8
9		7		1	2
	4	1	5	7	
5	9	2			6
		8	9	4	5

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Puzzle Difficulty this week:



Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging ★★★ Expert

SEE ANSWERS, C9

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LATEST FILMS

'Avatar'



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★ ★ ★ 1/2

Is it worth \$10? Yes



COURTESY PHOTO

In "Avatar," humans have traveled to a distant moon called Pandora, which is home to the Na'vi tribe.

Ordinarily, excess style and little substance would not make a movie a must-see. But "Avatar" plays with a different set of rules. In his first film since "Titanic," writer/director James Cameron has created one of the most ambitious, visually dazzling films ever made. Does that make it a great movie? No. The script is cheesy, and the story is predictable. But that doesn't mean it's not a groundbreaking cinematic event, told with imagination and a vitality that's missing from most modern science fiction dramas.

The year is 2154, and humans have traveled to a distant moon called Pandora, which is home to the Na'vi tribe. The Na'vi have blue skin, are 10 feet tall and have tails. Because the planet is inhospitable to humans, Dr. Grace Augustine (Sigourney Weaver) has created the Avatar program, in which humans are linked to a Na'vi body while their human bodies sleep in coffin-like cells.

What this means is that a Marine named Jake Sully (Sam Worthington), who is paralyzed from the waist down, is able to be a fully functional Na'vi on the surface of Pandora. His mission is to extract information about the tribe so Col. Quaritch (Stephen Lang) can exploit their weaknesses and forcefully obtain a precious mineral that sits deep below the surface. After a few rough spots Jake succeeds at infiltrating the tribe, but things become complicated when he falls in love with his Na'vi teacher, Neytiri (Zoe Saldana).

If you're lucky enough to live near a theater offering the film in 3-D, be sure to see it in that format. The visual effects are clear and stunningly vivid, so much that you feel like you're flying through the sky with Jake and Neytiri.

What's more, the Na'vi look like real creatures inhabiting a real place, and there's nothing cartoonish or fake about them. Only time will tell if "Avatar" will change the way movies are made and seen, but it's safe to say at least some aspects of Mr. Cameron's creative process will become commonplace.

Given that the actors were shot against a green screen (similar to how "300" was created), this marks a notable advancement in visual effects technology. For their part, Mr. Worthington, Ms. Saldana, Ms. Weaver and Mr. Lang breathe as much realistic life into the estimated \$400 million production as possible, which is an accomplishment given the sentimental dialogue and lumbering storyline.

The likely divide between lovers and detractors of "Avatar" is simple: Those who value eye candy and action will not mind the 160-minute running time, while those more concerned with plot and narrative will find it tiresome and leave with a headache. You know who you are, so don't say you weren't warned. ■

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?

>>One innovation created for "Avatar" was the Virtual Camera, which allowed Mr. Cameron to see the Na'vi during production. For example, although Saldana and Worthington were wearing motion-capture suits, Mr. Cameron was able to see their giant blue avatars on monitors, complete with tails and huge golden eyes.

CAPSULES

REVIEWED BY DAN HUDAK
www.hudakonhollywood.com

Crazy Heart ★★★

(Jeff Bridges, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Robert Duvall) Faded country singer Bad Blake (Bridges) battles alcoholism and dates a young journalist (Gyllenhaal) as he tries to come to terms with his life and career. The story has flaws — it's nearly impossible to buy the love story — but Mr. Bridges gives a performance that will likely earn him an Oscar nomination, and darn if you're not rooting for Bad to pull through in the end. Rated R.

Did You Hear About The Morgans? ★★

(Hugh Grant, Sarah Jessica Parker, Sam Elliott) On a date to "celebrate" the three-month anniversary of their

separation, married New Yorkers Paul (Grant) and Meryl (Parker) witness a murder and are forced to enter the Witness Relocation Program. They're then shipped to Wyoming, where their city-slicker ways are frowned upon. Mr. Grant has some funny one-liners, but the rest is bland and boring. Rated PG-13.

Everybody's Fine ★★★

(Robert De Niro, Kate Beckinsale, Drew Barrymore) A widower (De Niro) visits his grown children (Beckinsale, Barrymore and Sam Rockwell) and learns their lives are not what they've described. This nice, thoughtful drama from writer/director Kirk Jones features a solid performance from Mr. De Niro and some deft storytelling touches (seeing the children as kids rather than adults, etc.) that make it truthful and heartwarming. Rated PG-13. ■

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ARTSY

From page 1

on the silver screen in movies such as "Bye Bye Birdie," "Funny Girl," "Guys and Dolls" and "Phantom of the Opera." Broadway performer Sal Viviano, who's sung in "The Three Musketeers," "City of Angels," "Falsetto" and "The Full Monty," is guest vocalist.

"He's performed with hundreds of orchestras," says Andrew Kurtz, the Fort Myers-based symphony's music director and conductor. "This is his third time with us."

The evening will also include Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 19, performed by Toby Blumenthal, former member of the Philadelphia Piano Quartet. A Naples resident, Ms. Blumenthal has performed with prestigious orchestras including the Chicago Symphony and the Houston Symphony.

"Our New Year's Eve concert is always very much eclectic," says Maestro Kurtz, noting that the evening also includes Strauss waltzes, polka and march.

The 9 p.m. performance is preceded by a 7 p.m. gourmet buffet, with seating available for everyone. At midnight, the audience will usher in the New Year with a champagne toast while the ball drop in New York City's Times Square is televised. A jazz trio will perform after midnight for those who want to dance.

Tickets are \$125 per person (\$47.50

for concert only and champagne toast). There's also a package deal that includes two tickets to the gala and an overnight stay at the Hilton Garden Inn across the street from the Mann Hall, breakfast on New Year's Day, two tickets to the Edison/Ford Estate and round-trip shuttle service from the hotel to the hall, for \$349.

For tickets to the gala, call 481-4849 or go to www.gulfcoastsymphony.org.

Downtown doings

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center in downtown Fort Myers is having a "Slave to Vanity" VIP New Year's Eve celebration. The evening includes a preview of an art installation, food to nosh on, an open bar, music and a champagne toast at midnight. Tickets are \$79 per person. Call 333-1933 for tickets or more information.

In conjunction with the event, Hotel Indigo has a "Slave to Vanity" package that takes you right into the New Year and the first Downtown Art Walk on Friday evening, Jan. 1. Two can stay at the Hotel Indigo Thursday and Friday nights for \$299, including valet parking and breakfast. For more information or to make reservations, call 337-3446.

New Year's Eve is also closing night for "The SantaLand Diaries" in Florida Repertory Theatre's new Studio Theatre next to the main stage in downtown Fort Myers. This one-man show is based on David Sedaris' essay about being an elf at Macy's department store in New York City. Tickets are \$38 and the 70-minute show starts at 8:30 p.m. For tickets or more informa-

tion, call 332-4488.

Dinner and a show

"George M!" opens on New Year's Eve at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre in Fort Myers. Based on the life of George M. Cohan, America's first show business mega-star, the musical includes his famous songs such as "Give My Regards to Broadway," "Yankee Doodle Dandy" and "You're a Grand Old Flag."

Tickets for this special New Year's Eve celebration are \$100 apiece and can be purchased by calling 278-4422 or going to www.BroadwayPalm.com.

All aboard

Or, you can celebrate on the rails with the Seminole Murder Mystery Train New Year's Eve Gala. Beginning at 8 p.m., the to-do includes a five-course meal, a murder mystery, a champagne toast at midnight and party favors. The train departs from and returns to the Colonial Station in Fort Myers. Tickets are \$125 per person. For tickets or more information, call 275-8487.

A symphony salute

"Salute to Vienna," an annual celebration of the New Year by the Strauss Symphony of America, takes place at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall at 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 2. Andras Deak conducts. In addition to Melanie Holiday, soprano and Neal Von Osten, tenor, the evening includes dancers from the National Ballet of Hungary and International Champion Ballroom Dancers. Tickets are \$67, \$62, \$57 and

\$47 and available by calling 481-4849 or going to www.bbmannpah.com.

Celebrate island-style

New Year's Eve is also closing night for "Every Christmas Story Ever Told (And Then Some!)" at the Herb Strauss Schoolhouse Theater on Sanibel. The 8 p.m. show consists of three actors performing a play of every popular Christmas tale. Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$20 for children 16 and younger. For tickets or more information, call 472-6862.

Swing into 2010

"Jazz, pop and swing into the New Year" with the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra performing at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts.

"This is the most exiting New Year's ever," says Phil CEO and founder Myra Daniels. "The full orchestra will perform, with our new principal pops leader, Jack Everly. We'll have a program of jazz, swing, pops and entertainment led by Ann Hampton Callaway with her silky voice and her slinky ways."

String trio Time for Three, a group that blends classical, country, gypsy and jazz, will also perform.

The evening begins at 7 p.m. with what Ms. Daniels calls "a scrumptious buffet." The performance begins at 8 p.m.

"It's a beautiful evening," Ms. Daniels adds, "ending with everyone holding hands and singing 'Auld Lang Syne.'"

Tickets are \$135. For reservations or more information, call 597-1900 or go to www.thephil.org. ■

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Simplicity is the key to successful, low-stress entertaining

If you're going to entertain on New Year's Eve, remember to KISS. No, we aren't referring to the midnight smooch. We're talking acronym here: Keep it simple, stupid.

Don't attempt to make your first seven-layer torte along with a dozen other dishes just hours before your guests arrive. Instead, select four or five relatively easy recipes you've already tested and perfected. Even better would be dishes you can make the day before so you aren't stuck in the kitchen all day and well into the evening once your guests arrive.

Include several items you don't have to prepare, such as three to five good cheeses, chunks of fresh bread, an assortment of olives, a good tapenade or smoked fish spread you buy rather than make yourself.

What follows is a plan that allows you to get almost everything ready before the guests arrive.

The recipes form a substantive table of hors d'oeuvres rather than a sit-down dinner. It's far easier, and it doesn't require everyone to be there at a specific time or seating for a large group.

Area chefs were generous enough to share their recipes, creating an ethnic melting pot that should satisfy carnivores and vegetarians alike.

Up to one week before the party

Finalize menu and compile shopping list (checking it twice). Don't forget napkins, plates and serving items.

Buy beverages. Beer and wine are less complicated and take up less space than a full bar. See wine recommendations in accompanying story. Don't skimp on soft drinks.

Purchase non-perishable groceries.

Three days ahead

Clean the house. Yes, it's early, but then you'll just have to do a quick touch-up on party day.

Two days ahead

Finish shopping.

Make the cous cous and refrigerate.

Decorate.

Clean and prepare the grill.

Day ahead

Set up the bar.

Set out all the silverware, serving utensils, plates, paper goods.

Bake truffles.

Place satay skewers in water.

Party day

Buy fresh bread and ice.

Do a quick check of the house and touch up cleaning.

Assemble empanadas and clafoutis before guests arrive.

Check bar and set out everything you'll need.

Just before party starts, set out cheeses, breads, olives, dips, cous cous and other dishes that aren't cooked.

Place empanadas in oven about 45 minutes before serving. (Turn down oven to 315 degrees to warm it up for clafoutis.)

Marinate beef two hours before cooking. Grill satay 15 minutes before serving.

Put clafoutis in oven about 45 minutes before you plan to serve it.

With the exception of brief excursions to the kitchen to pull hot items or refill platters, you should have plenty of time to mingle and party.

Recipes:

• Asian-marinated Beef Satay with


karenFELDMAN

cuisine@floridaweekly.com

Thai-style Mandarin Orange-Peanut Sauce

Beef tenderloin

1½ pounds beef tenderloin

15 8-inch bamboo skewers

Place skewers in water and soak for at least two hours. Slice tenderloin into 1½-ounce pieces (against the grain) and skewer onto tips of skewers.

• Asian marinade

2 cups soy sauce

1 cup rice wine vinegar

1 ounce sesame oil

2 TBS garlic, minced

1 TBS red chili flakes

2 TBS black and white sesame seeds

Whisk together. Reserve 2 cups for peanut sauce. Marinate the beef tips in remaining 1 cup for 2 hours.

• Thai-style mandarin orange-peanut sauce

2 cups Asian marinade

1 cup smooth peanut butter

2 TBS sriracha (or other Asian hot sauce)

1 can mandarin oranges (8 ounces)

¼ cup pickled ginger, drained or chopped

1 TBS each black and white sesame seeds

½ cup scallions, diced

Directions:

Puree first five ingredients in food processor until smooth. Remove and fold in sesame seeds and scallions. Heat at medium-low until warmed.

Grill skewers over high heat for 1 minute per side (careful not to burn bamboo) and serve vertically in half a small melon with peanut sauce on the side. Sprinkle with more scallions as garnish. Eat!

Note: For variety, make some skewers with shrimp but marinate only 30 minutes. This recipe makes enough for four to six generous appetizer portions but will feed more when served with other dishes. Multiply recipe as needed for larger gatherings.

*Steve Iadevaia, executive chef
River City Grill, Punta Gorda*

• Potato and Chorizo Empanadas

Ingredients:

3 or 4 red or white potatoes, peeled and diced

1 tsp salt

1 pound chorizo sausage (casing removed), diced

1 Spanish onion, diced

2 garlic cloves, minced

½ tsp ground cumin

1 tsp dried oregano

Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste

½ cup chicken broth

12 large pimiento-stuffed green olives, chopped

½ cup golden raisins

1 package (20 ounces) Goya refrigerated turnover pastry

Directions:

Put potatoes in pan filled with cold water, add salt and bring to boil uncovered. Simmer until tender.

Meanwhile, place a large skillet over medium heat, add chorizo and cook about 5 minutes. Add onion, seasonings, broth, olives and raisins and cook until mixture is soft and a lovely red color.

Drain potatoes and fold into meat mixture. Allow filling to cool.


jimMcCRACKEN

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Place pastry circles on counter then roll each out with lightly floured rolling pin. Add 2 generous tablespoons of filling to the center of each pastry circle, leaving a 1/2-inch border. Seal edges tightly with fork.

Bake in 400-degree oven for 20-25 minutes. Serve with your favorite sauce.

Note: This makes enough for one package of turnover pastry. Multiply recipe as needed for larger groups. Also, you can substitute the filling, using chicken or shrimp or making it vegetarian. Other fillings might make dessert, such as mangoes and oranges, apples or pears. Be creative!

*Gloria Cabral-Jordan
Trattoria Café Napoli, Fort Myers*

• Apple mint couscous salad

Ingredients:

2 TBS butter

2 TBS plus ¼ cup olive oil

1 cup couscous

1 tsp cumin

1 tsp garlic

1 tsp cardamom (optional)

Salt and pepper to taste

1 TBS green onion, chopped

1 TBS parsley, chopped

1 cup apple juice

2 Granny Smith apples, peeled and cubed

1 large cucumber, peeled and cubed

½ cup fresh mint, chopped

Juice of one lemon

¼ cup plain yogurt

Preparation:

Heat the butter and 2 tablespoons of olive oil in a large sauce pan.

Stir in the couscous when the butter and oil are hot. Add the cumin, garlic, cardamom, salt and pepper. Mix well.

Incorporate the green onions and parsley. Stir gently until the spice aroma is detected. Stir in the apple juice.

Remove from stove and wrap the lid in a napkin or a clean towel and place firmly on the pot. Let ingredients and pan rest for 10 minutes.

Uncover and fluff up couscous with a fork. (If the mixture is too dry, add more apple juice). At this point the couscous can be kept in the refrigerator for up to two days.

Just before serving, add the apples, cucumber, mint, lemon juice, olive oil and yogurt. Toss. Garnish with fresh mint and serve.

*Chef/owner Michael Mir
Bha! Bha! Persian Bistro, Naples*

• Chocolate Macadamia Truffles

Truffle ingredients:

½ cups toasted nuts (macadamias or any you prefer)

½ cups flour

¾ cup sugar

¾ tsp salt

3 ounces butter

9 ounces dark chocolate, melt and whisk into butter

3 eggs

Directions:

Grease a 9-by-13-inch pan and dust with cocoa. Heat oven to 350 degrees.

Combine nuts, flour, sugar and salt in food processor and process until crumbly.

Combine butter, chocolate and eggs. Add dry ingredients to wet.

Bake for 20-30 minutes until dry on top. Cool then top with icing (recipe follows).

• Icing

Ingredients:

2 cups cream, boiled

18 ounces chocolate

2 TBS butter

Directions:

Pour hot cream over chocolate and butter. Stir then pour over truffles, cool and cut to desired size.

Note: These are easy to make, and can be made with any nut you like. Cut small, there should be 30-40 pieces.

*Jeanie Roland, chef/owner
The Perfect Caper, Punta Gorda*

• Cherry Clafoutis

Ingredients:

2¾ ounces regular flour

2 eggs

2 ounces caster sugar

6½ ounces milk

1¾ ounces heavy cream

1¼ ounces unsalted butter, melted

12¾ ounces fresh cherries, washed and pitted (see note)

Confectioner's sugar

Directions:

Preheat oven to 315 degrees. Sift flour into a mixing bowl and make a well in the center. Add the eggs and whisk until smooth. Add the sugar, milk, cream and melted butter, mixing well after each addition. Strain to remove lumps.

Butter a 9-by-12-inch pan. Sprinkle the cherries over the bottom then pour in batter. Bake for 30 minutes or until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean. Dust generously with confectioner's sugar.

Serve warm.

Note: Use well-drained canned cherries if fresh aren't available.

*Rocio Pinault
French Bread Oven,
Fort Myers and Naples*

A festive selection of wines

>> While the recipes in the accompanying story encompass a world of flavors, don't fret about finding one to match everything. Some people only drink white; others prefer red. Offer a variety and let guests decide.

Some suggestions follow with dessert wines at the end.

• **Zind-Humbrecht Gewurztraminer:** This Alsatian white is crisp and dry with hints of spice, citrus and acid, making it a great match for cheese. About \$35.

• **Hawkes Vineyards Chardonnay:** An unoaked chard, it has clean citrus notes and good acidity. About \$25.

• **Ponzi Pinot Noir Willamette Valley:** This Oregonian beauty offers blackberry and dark plums on the nose and palate with nice acidity. About \$35.

• **Rosenblum Rockpile Road Zinfandel:** With rich color, zesty black raspberry and spice, it pairs well with meat dishes. About \$35.

• **Peter Lehmann Barossa Shiraz:** This is another good choice with savory dishes, offering cherry and spice and a lingering finish. Less than \$25.

• **Juan Gil Monastrell 2007:** This Spanish wine is a great match for empanadas but its berries and tannins will stand up to other rich foods, too. Less than \$20.

• **Graham's 10-Year-Old Tawny Port:** A full-bodied, medium sweet port, it pairs well with chocolate. About \$25.

• **Quady Elysium:** Made from black muscat grapes, this port is fruity and floral and works well with desserts. Less than \$25.

• **St. Supery Moscato:** A good match for the clafoutis, it has peach and orange notes with a crisp clean finish. Less than \$15.

• **Banfi Rosato Regale:** A sparkling wine with fresh raspberry and floral nose and flavors it would balance the clafoutis well. Less than \$25.



What it feels like to work the NYE party

BY EVAN WILLIAMS

ewilliams@floridaweekly.com

"Some people like to go out dancing and other people have to work." — Lou Reed

For most of his adult life, trumpet player Bob Zottola never had to wonder what family dinner or glitzy party to attend on New Year's Eve. He'd be working instead.

"I've been a musician all my life, since childhood, and holidays are the exact opposite of a holiday for professional musicians," said Mr. Zottola, 73. "While everyone else is whooping it up and having a good time, we're engaged in entertaining. It's not exactly a bad experience because it's what we love to do."

To satisfy the demands of partygoers means a night of work for thousands. For example, Mr. Zottola will perform with his nine-piece Expandable Jazz Band at the Hilton Naples on Dec. 31.

Pam Lemmerman, owner of the French Connection bar and café in downtown Fort Myers, is planning on a "crazy-busy" night that includes managing a staff of servers, as well as helping clear tables and serve drinks and meals.

"It generally involves cramming two days worth of business into one evening," she said. "We celebrate while we're working. In this business, it's just



COURTESY PHOTO

Bob Zottola, New Year's Eve musician

what you do. You have all your close friends who you're working with and all your other friends come by anyway."

Anne Omme, night manager on duty at Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites in Port Charlotte, agreed to work on New Year's Eve so a co-worker could take the night off. She forecasts a slow night at work.

"New Year's Eve is a time when we're here, checking in people who are coming in with their reservations," said Ms. Omme, 71. "It's a very quiet night. I'm here until 11 or 11:30 p.m., and then I usually go home and have a drink with my husband."

Not everyone has to work. While Ms. Omme is at the Holiday Inn, Myra Daniels will be in the audience at the Naples

Philharmonic Center for the Arts.

"I am going to see the greatest show around and that is at the Philharmonic," said Ms. Daniels, founder of the Phil. "We have a great show on stage with a full orchestra and a full buffet. It's going to be jazz, pop, swing into the New Year."

Phil staff members will prepare for three days beforehand so an estimated 1,400 guests can enjoy dinner and a show.

"Of course, the performers don't eat before the performance, so I'll have a special party for them afterwards," said Ms. Daniels.

She also remembered her first New Year's party in Gary, Ind., when she was 4 years old.

"My family had a lot of friends in from all over and my mother sang and my father played the violin, and I did a gypsy dance and played the tambourine," she said. "It was wild because I'd never really been to a New Year's party."

Keith Cronebach's night will involve taking many phone calls. He's director of reservations for Chop City Grill, Yabba Island Grill and Pazzo! Italian Café in Naples.

"I'm definitely working on New Year's Eve," he said. "I'll be taking reservation all day long, then going down to Yabba and collecting the cover charge. If you're in the restaurant business you get used to not celebrating holidays.

We are fortunate enough to work for a (restaurant group) that's not open on Christmas or Thanksgiving."

Trumpet player Mr. Zottola might also take other holidays off, but Dec. 31 is a career must.

"Without exception, I'm engaged in performing on New Year's Eve," he said. "That's prime time for musicians or entertainers. It's rare you would turn it down to go to a party with friends."

From 1987 to 2003, he spent that night in an orchestra pit on Broadway in New York City, playing trumpet for Les Misérables. That was only the first show of the night.

"Once the performance was over about 10 o'clock, I'd have to walk through massive crowds waiting for the ball to drop (in Times Square) and get over to the Waldorf Astoria and play over there," said Mr. Zottola, who lives in Naples. "That was a typical New Year's Eve in New York City."

At the Morgan House in downtown Fort Myers, owner Patti Price will also ring in the New Year by working the party.

"For me, (New Year's Eve) is just making sure everything goes to plan, goes fluently, every station is kept up," she said. "My husband (Michael) and I make sure we monitor the bathrooms and the front doors. We're also having an outside bar this year to help with the flow of traffic. We want to make sure it's a great time for our guests." ■

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Happy New Year! 2010 has tons of options

New Year's Eve is a big night for restaurants. Many offer special menus, often with a bit of bubbly included. The most popular spots fill up quickly, so make sure to call your favorite early. Here's a sampling of what's happening around Naples:

■ Alexander's

4077 Tamiami Trail N.
262-4999
Four-course dinner with wine, \$80 per person. Open 4:30 to close.

■ Aura

Naples Grande Beach Resort
475 Seagate Drive
597-3232
Serving an elegant five-course menu. First seating 6:30-8:30 p.m., second seating 9-10:30 p.m. \$125 per person.

■ AZN at Mercato

593-8818
5:30-6 p.m. seating for a three-course dinner, \$25 per person; 7:30-8 p.m. seating, \$50 per person for three-course dinner and a glass of champagne; 9:30-10 p.m. seating \$100 per person for a four-course dinner, live music, dancing, party favors and a split of Piper-Heidsieck champagne.

■ Baleen

LaPlaya Beach & Golf Resort
9891 Gulf Shore Drive
598-5707
9 p.m. seating for a celebration dinner that includes a seafood station, risotto station, a French market charcuterie display, saute and carving stations and grilled-to-order filet and lobster tails. \$195 per person, not inclusive of alcohol. Live entertainment.

■ Bamboo Cafe

755 12th Ave. S.
643-6177
5-6 p.m. seating, \$72 per person for a four-course meal and one glass of house champagne; seating after 6 p.m., \$85 per person for dinner and a glass of champagne, piano music by Marc Meyer, party favors, French celebration via satellite TV and the best view of the fireworks at the Naples Pier.

■ Bayfront Inn

1221 Fifth Ave. S.
649-5800
Celebrate from 8-12:30 p.m. and enjoy hors d'oeuvres, champagne toast, dessert and coffee bar, party favors and dancing to tunes by a DJ. \$60 per person, or \$135 per person including open bar.

■ Bayside

270 Gulfshore Blvd. N.
In The Village On Venetian Bay
649-5552
Serving regular hours, special menu.

■ Bellini

445 Fifth Ave. S.
261-1117
Special a la carte menu with items from \$12 to \$30. Enjoy a complimentary glass of Italian bubbly with dinner.

■ Bice Ristorante

300 Fifth Ave. S.
262-4044
Al la carte menu for seatings at 5 and 7:30 p.m.; 10 p.m. seating for \$120 per person and includes a complimentary glass of champagne.

■ Bistro 821

821 Fifth Ave. S.
261-5821
5-6 p.m., two courses and a glass of champagne, \$50; 5-7:30 p.m., three courses and a glass of champagne, \$75; 7:30 to close, four courses and champagne toast, \$110. Reservations required.

■ Blue Martini at Mercato

591-2583 or Sabrina@bluemartini-lounge.com
From 8 p.m. to 5 a.m., complimentary appetizers, champagne toast at midnight, live music by REMIX beginning at 9 p.m. and a complimentary candy bar buffet.

■ Café Lurcat/Bar Lurcat

494 Fifth Ave. S.
213-3357
\$90 per person for a special prix fixe menu, champagne toast and live music by Greg Miller and the Tributes with Motown classics.

■ Campiello

1177 Third St. S.
435-1166
Four-course prix fixe menu and live entertainment, \$90 per person.

■ Capital Grille

9005 Mercato Dr
254-0640
Regular menu with a complimentary midnight champagne toast

■ Chops

837 Fifth Ave. S.
262-4677
Three dining options through the evening, \$55, \$85 and \$119.

■ The Dock at Crayton Cove

845 12th Ave. S.
At the City Dock
263-9940
Full menu plus chef's specials. Open for lunch and dinner on New Year's Eve. Reservations accepted.

■ The English Pub

2408 Linwood Ave.
775-3727
Dining room open from noon to 7:30 p.m. Gala dinner dance begins at 9 p.m. Champagne and party favors at midnight, dancing until 3 a.m. \$29.95 a person (\$25 per person for parties of six or more).

■ Erin's Isle

6190 Collier Blvd.
774-1880
New Year's Eve from Ireland: 4:30-6:15 p.m. "early celebration" with regular menu and \$10 per person cover charge for party favors, entertainment by Bobby Gideons and a glass of champagne to celebrate; 8 p.m. and after, New Year's Eve Grand Party features special menu and music by Bobby Gideons, Marty Krebs and more, \$25 per person cover charge.

■ Fleming's Steakhouse

8985 Tamiami Trail N.
598-2424
Start with a glass of Veuve Clicquot champagne and then choose from special holiday menus (\$69.95 for lobster and seafood; \$75.95 for filet mignon and lobster tail). Reservations accepted.

■ The Hilton Naples

5111 Tamiami Trail N.
659-3111
7 p.m. to 1 a.m., enjoy jazz trumpeter Bob Zottola and

The Expandable Jazz Band. \$195 per person includes open bar and hors d'oeuvres; dinner, music and dancing, a keepsake photograph, party favors and a champagne toast at midnight.

■ The Keg

8990 Fontana Del Sol Way
566-9616
New Year's Eve all-inclusive menu, \$39.95.

■ M Waterfront Grille

4300 Gulf Shore Blvd. N.
263-4421
Serving a festive three-course dinner from 5-11 p.m., \$75 per person. Live jazz in the lounge from 5-11 p.m. Reservations accepted.

■ McCormick & Schmick's

9114 Strada Place
591-2299
Open til 1 a.m. with a special celebration menu.

■ Mira Mare

4236 Gulf Shore Blvd. N
430-6273
Regular menu offered at 5 and 7 p.m. seatings; 9 p.m. seating for \$95 per person includes prix fixe menu, champagne toast, live music and party favors.

■ The Naples Beach Hotel and Golf Club

851 Gulf Shore Blvd.
261-2222
Be a "guest" at "Joey & Maria's Wedding." \$95 per person includes cocktails beginning at 8:30 p.m., ceremony and reception with a five-course dinner and entertainment by Michael Palumba performing the hits of Frankie Valle and Dion. Cash bar. Call 431-6262 for tickets.

Or dine in Broadwell's restaurant from 6-10 p.m. and enjoy a four-course dinner complete with a champagne toast, \$59 per person.

■ The Naples Princess

550 Port-O-Call Way
649-2275
Several cruises throughout the day. Gala evening cruise has open bar, hors d'oeuvres and dinner, dancing to live entertainment, party favors and a champagne toast at midnight.

■ Noodles

1585 Pine Ridge Road
592-0050
Full dinner menu available. Live entertainment and DJ for dancing from 6:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Complimentary champagne toast at midnight.

■ Olio

1500 Fifth Ave. S.
530-5110
6:30 p.m. seating for a four-course dinner, \$75 per person.

■ Paddy Murphy's Irish Pub

475 Fifth Ave. S.
649-5140
Welcome the New Year with live entertainment.

■ Ridgway Bar & Grille

1300 Third St. S.
262-5500
Regular menu available 4:30-10 p.m. Live music and a view of the fireworks in the courtyard.

■ The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort

2600 Tiburon Drive
593-2000
Hotel guests and locals invited to a Family Carnival from 7 p.m. to midnight. \$45 for adults, \$25 for children

10 and older, free for younger children, includes games, barbecue dinner and live entertainment on the lawn, in the Court of Palms and in Tiburon Ballroom.

■ The Ritz-Carlton, Naples

280 Vanderbilt Beach Road
598-3300
Partake in a four-course a la carte holiday meal at the Grill. 5-8:30 p.m. seating, \$225 for adults and \$50 for children; 8:30 p.m. and later seating, \$250 (includes champagne toast).

■ Riverwalk at Tin City

1200 Fifth Ave. S.
263-2734
Full menu plus chef's special additions. Open for lunch and dinner New Year's Eve.

■ Sea Salt

1186 Third St. S.
434-7258
Special celebration menu and live entertainment.

■ Shula's Steakhouse

5111 Tamiami Trail N.
430-4999
A la carte menu available from 5:30 p.m. to midnight. Guests will receive a complimentary glass of champagne and noisemakers at midnight. Reservations accepted.

■ South Street City Oven & Grill

1410 Pine Ridge Road
435-9333
Celebrate with live entertainment.

■ Stoney's Steakhouse

403 Bayfront Place
435-9353
Special celebration menu. 6-8:30 p.m. seating, \$80 per person; 8:30 p.m. and later, \$115 per person includes a champagne toast, party favors and live entertainment.

■ Third Street South Historic District

Let it snow! Felix Jiles will perform in the Gattle's courtyard beginning at 6 p.m. Fireworks from the City Pier start at 7:30 p.m.

■ Vergina on Fifth Avenue

700 Fifth Ave. S.
659-7008
Prix fixe menu, 4-7 p.m., \$60 per person; 7 p.m. and later, \$120 per person, includes a glass of champagne and live music.

■ Vision nightclub

11901 Tamiami Trail N.
821-0640
DJ Vinny Fu in the main room; DJ Mr. Big Shot in V Lounge; DJ Anthony Martin and DJ Gerard on the outside terrace. Open 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. \$35 per person for open bar all night. VIP bottle service with host Mike Messina, \$250 and up for a table of four includes a bottle from the list and a bottle of champagne; 298-0284 for VIP reservations. There will a live remote with B103.9.

■ Yabba Island Grill

711 Fifth Ave. S.
262-5787
Early dining 4:30-5:30, \$25 per person includes a three-course menu with glass of champagne; a la carte menu available 5:30-8 p.m.; New Year's Eve special begins at 8 p.m., \$125 per person for a three-course dinner and entry to the DJ dance party beginning at 10:30 p.m.



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COMING UP AT THE PHIL

Back to the glitz of 1920s 'Chicago'

Celebrating 11 years of girls, glitz and glamour across the country, the record-breaking hit musical "Chicago" is back in town for four performances Dec. 26-28. Tom Wopat stars as Billy Flynn in the story of murder, greed, corruption, exploitation, adultery and treachery amidst the razzle-dazzle decadence of the 1920s. Tickets are \$64.

New Orleans jazz out of New York

In a rare, non-New York appearance, Woody Allen's New Orleans Jazz Band performs at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 29, as part of a limited tour of Florida and California. The band's sound is firmly rooted in the classic jazz music that Mr. Allen has loved since childhood. The group regularly sells out The Café Carlyle in Manhattan and was the subject of the documentary film, "Wild Man Blues." Tickets are \$89.

Three great American voices

Crystal Gayle, Larry Gatlin and Andy Cooney bring "American Voices" to the Phil at 8 p.m. Monday, Jan. 4.

Ms. Gayle and Mr. Gatlin, each with a long Grammy Award-winning career, team up with Irish America's favorite son for a stirring celebration of patriotism, honoring the American songbook and celebrating country, heritage, faith and friendship. The three superstars will be joined by a 30-piece orchestra. Tickets are \$52.

Bernadette is back

Bernadette Peters, who has dazzled audiences and critics with her performances on Broadway, on television and in concert, performs at the Phil for one night only at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 5.

Two seasons ago, Ms. Peters wowed Naples at the Philharmonic Orchestra's 25th Anniversary Gala celebration. One of Broadway's brightest stars, she returns in the company of a 28-piece orchestra to deliver some of her best-known songs with her distinctive charm and style. Tickets are \$79.

Mester conducts Classical 3

The Naples Philharmonic Orchestra presents "Symphonic" Journeys, the third program in the orchestra's Classical Series, led by Music Director Jorge Mester, at 8 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Jan. 7-9. The Conductor's Prelude begins one hour before each concert.

The program includes "Swedish Rhapsody," a symphonic portrait of a night-long wedding festival; Bruch's "Scottish Fantasy," based on lively folk melodies; Mozart's Symphony No. 33; and Britten's "Variations on a Theme by Henry Purcell," which introduces all of the instruments in the orchestra. Violin virtuoso Ilya Kaler is the guest artist. Tickets are \$64 for adults and \$25 for students. ■

— *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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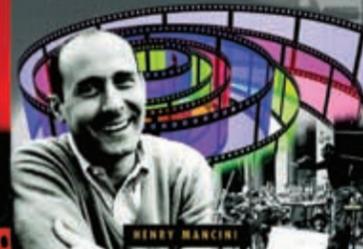


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 Saturday, February 13, 2010 • 7:30 pm
 Teri Dale Hansen and Neil Chandler perform the scores of Henry Mancini's most beloved classic movies.
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 Don't miss the chance to see the 15th concert for an elegant gala to celebrate our 15th Anniversary. Separate Reservations Required. Gala starts at 5:30pm.

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 Sunday, March 14, 2010 • 7:30 pm
 A musical tribute in honor of our veterans to mark the 65th Anniversary of the battle of Iwo Jima.
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SAVE THE DATE

David Lawrence Center plans Russian adventure

Ticketholders for the David Lawrence Foundation's 2010 gala fundraiser will be transported to St. Petersburg, capital of the Russian Empire and the land of splendid palaces, imperial estates and monuments. The adventure begins at 6 p.m. Friday, Jan. 15, at the Naples Yacht Club and includes dinner, dancing, entertainment and a silent auction.

Tickets are \$500 per person, \$1,200 per VIP guest or \$5,000 per table of 10. For more information about "Saint Petersburg: Land of the Tsars," call 354-1416 or e-mail carols@dclmhc.com. ■

Saddle up for the Cattle Baron's Ball

Break out your sexiest stilettos, tallest 10-gallon hat and best bandana for the American Cancer Society of Marco Island's annual Cattle Baron's Ball coming up Saturday, Jan. 30, at the Marco Island Marriott Resort. Celebrity emcee will be Bill Wood of Fox4's "Morning Blend." The Wild, Wild West evening begins with cocktails following by dinner, dancing to the sounds of Fakahatchee, a silent auction, gaming tables and pony races. Prizes will be awarded for best stilettos, hat and western outfit.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Bea Ferretti at 642-8800, ext. 112, on Monday, Wednesday or Friday

or stop by the American Cancer Society office at 917 N. Collier Blvd. For the best seats, purchase tickets by Jan. 10. ■

The stars come out for Naples Players

Glamour. Sparkle. Culinary delights. And a splash of Broadway. Find it all at "A Starry, Starry Night," the annual gala to benefit The Naples Players on Saturday, Feb. 13, at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort. After cocktails and dinner, The Naples Players will entertain with some of their biggest show stoppers. Saks Fifth Avenue will showcase fashions for the season, and a live auction will offer an array of items. One very lucky guest will win a drawing for a five-carat diamond necklace.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Patty Baker at 643-4824 or The Naples Players at 434-7340, ext. 10. ■

Fun Time academy bound for Land of Oz

Fun Time Early Childhood Academy's third annual "play date fundraiser" will have the theme of "Follow the Yellow Brick Road." The evening of fine dining and fun will have a silent and limited live auction with Mayor Bill Barnett as auctioneer.

The adventure unfolds Thursday, Feb. 18, at the Naples Beach Hotel and Golf Club. Fifth Third Bank is the presenting sponsor; event co-chairs are Carol

Munro and Kenneth Deedy.

Proceeds will help support the Fun Time academy mission to provide safe, affordable early childhood education and quality childcare for the children of low-income working families in the community.

Tickets are \$250 per person. Patron tickets for \$350 include a private party the week before the main event. For more information, call 261-7411, 263-2673 or 262-4878. ■

Step out to The Ritz for Step by Step

Step by Step Early Childhood Education and Therapy Center, an inclusive early child care and education program that provides children ages birth to 5 years, regardless of their diverse abilities, a nurturing environment that supports their social, emotional, cognitive, language and physical development, holds its annual gala and auction event Sunday evening, Feb. 21, at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort.

Charles and Marve Ann Alaimo are chairing this year's event. Tickets are \$125 per person, and sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information, call Jean Mekeel at 455-9525. ■

Former NFL player will help mend hearts

Former NFL offensive guard Vic-

tor Rivas Rivers, spokesperson for the National Network to End Domestic Violence, will be the keynote speaker for the 10th annual Mending Broken Hearts with Hope luncheon to benefit The Shelter for Abused Women & Children. The event, which typically draws a sell-out crowd, is set for Friday, Feb. 26, at The Ritz-Carlton, Naples.

In his *New York Times* best-selling book, "A Private Family Matter," Mr. Rivers chronicles his journey from gang member to class president, including details of the child abuse and domestic violence he endured and witnessed as a child.

Tickets are \$300 per person. Sponsorship opportunities are available at several levels from \$1,000 to \$10,000. Call Mary Ann Green at 775-3862, ext. 211, or e-mail mgreen@naplesshelter.org. ■

Designer Boutique will help The Shelter

Shop The Shelter for Abused Women & Children's annual Designer Boutique from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Feb. 26-27, at The Ritz-Carlton, Naples, and support adult and child victims of family violence.

Chaired by Cindy Halle, the boutique will have fashions and accessories from more than a dozen exclusive vendors including: Anita Ford Collection, Balbianello Inc., Campus Peddler, CatchAll Gifts, The Clara Williams Collection, Haberdashery of New England, Lalo

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DATES

From page 1

Handbags, Marg of Pepper Pike, Melanie White Designs, Monogram Goods, Needlepoint To Go, Nina McLemore Collection, Shibui, Sissy Pie Originals, The Romantic Room, Trillion, Vanderbilt Collection and A Wreath of Wishes.

Fifteen percent of all sales will benefit the life-transforming programs and services offered by The Shelter. Admission to the Designer Boutique is free. For more information, call 775-3862. ■

Get your ducks in a row for race

Plans are going swimmingly for the 2010 Great Venetian Duck Race on Saturday, Feb. 27, at The Village on Venetian Bay. On that morning, 10,000 "adopted" rubber duckies will be dropped into Venetian Bay for a

race to the finish line. Top placing lucky ducks will win thousands of dollars worth of prizes.

Ducks are \$10 each and can be purchased online at www.naples.com/duckrace. The day of family fun is free to watch, open to

the public and will feature contests and prizes for children, including a best-dressed duckling contest.

The 2009 Duck Race raised \$87,000 for the Children's Museum of Naples, and the goal for 2010 is \$150,000. Sponsors include The Lutgert Companies, TIB Bank and Gigi's Boutique at Mercato. Sponsorship packages ranging from \$2,500 to \$20,000 are still available. Contact Joe Cox at 514-0084 for details.



Volunteer opportunities are also available for events and activities leading up to the race, as well as on race day. To learn more, contact Vicki Tracy at missvickit@earthlink.net. ■

Magic is in the air

The Conservancy of Southwest Florida hosts its sixth annual Magic Under the Mangroves gala on Thursday, March 4, under a tent at Cap d'Antibes at Pelican Bay. The mangrove-fringed property will be transformed into an eco-chic environ for an evening that will begin with cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and a silent auction. A seated dinner and live auction will follow.

Patron packages begin at \$3,500, and individual tickets are \$550. For more information, call 403-4219 or visit www.conservancy.org/magic. ■

Christopher Lawford will address Lawrence foundation luncheon

Actor, best-selling author, mental health and substance abuse activist and member of the famed Kennedy family, Christopher Kennedy Lawford will be the keynote speaker at a luncheon to benefit the David Lawrence Foundation on Thursday, April 29, at The Ritz-Carlton, Naples. Mr. Lawford will also attend a VIP patron party for sponsors at a private residence in Naples the evening before the luncheon.

In an honest portrayal of life as a Kennedy, Mr. Lawford will share intimate details about his deep and long descent into near-fatal drug and alcohol addiction, and his path back to the sobriety he has preserved for the past 20 years.

Luncheon tickets are \$250 per person, \$1,000 per VIP guest and \$2,500 per table of 10. For more information, call 354-1516 or e-mail carols@dlcmhc.com. ■



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Artist Nora Butler settles in near the Dock at Crayton Cove

Devotees of artist Nora Butler's fanciful coastal-themed creations no longer have to wait for a weekend art show to enjoy her work. A Neapolitan for 25 years, Ms. Butler has opened a boutique near the Dock at Crayton Cove that's chock full of her colorful original art and limited edition giclee prints as well as stationery, clothing and assorted gift items imprinted with her designs.

Nora Butler Designs also features other select artists' work, including Sarasota artist Steve Whitlock's popular game fish prints and nautical "chart-art."

The space also serves as Ms. But-



Loggerhead Rhythms

COURTESY PHOTO

ler's studio, where patrons can see her meticulous designs come to life.

Ms. Butler's work has been described as "pictures within pictures." Beginning with a classic shape — usually local flora or fauna — she uses colored pencils to marry whimsy and realism in intricate designs and rich colors that suggest a fascinating "interior life" of the subject.

Childhood summers spent on Sanibel Island's sandbars inspire Ms. Butler's strong appreciation for tropical wildlife. Hundreds of hours spent searching for perfect shells, snorkeling, fishing and bug catching resulted in a fascination with the combinations of pat-

tern, color and design found within the realm of coastal and marine life.

As a student of the School of Fine Art at the University of South Florida, Ms. Butler was encouraged by her instructors to pursue a unique illustrative style using colored pencils, a drawing medium that has gained popularity due to its versatility, portability and light-fast pigment.

She has created posters for many local and regional events and has been commissioned for the last four years to create the artwork for the Taste of Collier. Locals no doubt will recognize the

SEE BUTLER, C21 ▶

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Service, Handling & facility fees may apply. Limited number of Front Row and VIP floor seats available.

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BUTLER

From page C20



COURTESY PHOTO

Seafood Sundae by Nora Butler was the poster art for Taste of Collier 2009.

designs, including "Fish Fry," "Shrimp Tee" and last year's "Seafood Sundae."

Until now, Ms. Butler spent her winters exhibiting at art shows throughout Florida. Her work is also sold in select shops and galleries nationwide, the Caribbean and at www.norabutler.com.

Fellow artist Phil Fisher has a gallery next to Nora Butler Designs. "I think it's great that Nora's devoted fans, along

with those who are experiencing her work for the first time, can come to one place and see her entire collection," he says. "Her work is such a fun interpretation of our natural world, people really gravitate to it."

Designs by Nora Butler is open daily from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. For more information, call 572-4701 or e-mail Ms. Butler at nora@norabutler.com. ■

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Guess-Fisher Gallery showcases 'Gentle Interpretations' in January

The newest exhibit at Guess-Fisher Gallery showcases the works of three women artists: Christina Wyatt, Bonny Hawley and Holly Manneck. "Gentle Interpretations" opens with a meet-the-artists reception from 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 7, and runs through Monday, Jan. 31.

"Gentle Interpretations" features works in a variety of art mediums including oil, acrylic and mixed media on linen and various surfaces. Through their creative endeavors, Ms. Wyatt, Ms. Hawley and Ms. Manneck offer a uniquely feminine viewpoint of contemporary issues.

Guess-Fisher Gallery is at 824 Fifth Avenue South. For more information, call Natalie Guess at 659-2787 or e-mail guessfisher@comcast.net.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Top: *The Sanctuary*, Christina Wyatt

Above: *Yellow Circles in Field of Cyan*, Holly Manneck

Right: *Go With The Flow*, Bonny Hawley

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Harry Connick Jr. and Orchestra coming to Fort Myers

The Harry Connick Jr. and Orchestra "Your Songs In Concert" Tour will perform at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall in Fort Myers at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 11. Ticket are on sale at the box office, by calling 481-4849 or online at www.bbmannpah.com.

Over the past two decades, Mr. Connick has taken a hands-on approach to his recording career, calling the shots at the numerous phases of his album projects — writing original material or picking songs, choosing the ensemble settings and writing arrangements, singing and playing piano, and with the aid of co-producer and longtime confidant, Tracey Freeman, overseeing mixing and mastering.

For "Your Songs," his newest collection on Columbia Records, Mr. Connick expands his vision to encompass 14 classic popular songs.

Clive Davis, the producer and chief creative officer of Sony Music Entertainment, is the driving force behind the change.

"As my co-producer on this album, Clive was very involved in the overall concept, song selection and choice of tempos," said Mr. Connick. "And, although he didn't come to the studio when we recorded, he

gave me lots of comments on the mixes."

It was Mr. Davis who suggested that the album be built around pop classics. "He wanted to feature me as a singer," Mr. Connick said. "... It was a new role for me, and it was invigorating." ■



Harry Connick Jr.

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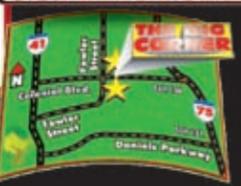
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FLORIDA WEEKLY SOCIETY

A sweet Willy Wonka Weekend at The Ritz-Carlton, Naples



1. Story time
2. Willy Wonka and the Oompa Loompas
3. Dave and Dara Pettinato with children, Hannah and Spencer
4. Kristin Lawhorn, Emily Trebilcock, Lauren and Jordan Lawhon
5. Madeliene, Alexa and Theo Dahl
6. Brittany and Melissa Merrell
7. Francis Palter, Albert Arillotta and Leslie Palter
8. Emma and Dawn Langdon
9. Mckenzie Campagnella, Nicole Mazzola and Tatiana Goldberg
10. Samantha, Sidney and Beckham Donovan

CHARLIE MCDONALD / FLORIDA WEEKLY

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FLORIDA WEEKLY SOCIETY

Chanukah on Fifth Avenue South with Chabad Naples



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4. Chaya Zaklos
5. Zachary Hildstein
6. Yitzi Zaklos
7. Mendel Zaklos

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FLORIDA WEEKLY SOCIETY

The Village on Venetian Bay annual Christmas Boat Parade



- 1. Sandra and Phil Hall
- 2. Lainey and Mathew Solanski
- 3. Anna, Ed and Elizabeth Boeder
- 4. Lin Lemnicky, Therese Harden, Kathy Harden, Carol Kiebach
- 5. Lauren, Brian and Abby Rogich
- 6. Blakely and Charlie Mus
- 7. Macauley, Glenn and Ellis Cole

CHARLIE MCDONALD / FLORIDA WEEKLY



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'George M!' comes to Broadway Palm

Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre in Fort Myers presents "George M!" Dec. 31 through Feb. 14. The musical show follows the first giant of American musical theater, George M. Cohan, over a 60-year period from his childhood on the vaudeville circuit with his family as "The Four Cohans," to New York where he starts his 25-year control of the Broadway stage. Included are tunes that have become part of the American musical landscape, among them "Give My Regards to Broadway," "Over There," "You're a Grand Old Flag" and "Yankee Doodle Dandy."

John Ramsey, whose Broadway Palm credits leading roles in "Cabaret," "White Christmas," "The Wizard of Oz" and "Singin' in the Rain," stars as Mr. Cohan.

Performances are Tuesday through Sunday evenings with selected matinees. Ticket prices starting Jan. 2 range from \$27 to \$53, with group discounts available for parties of 20 or more. New Year's matinee ticket prices are \$27 to \$55. The New Year's Eve Gala performance is \$100 per person for the evening. Tickets can be reserved by calling 278-4422 or visiting www.BroadwayPalm.com. ■

Printmakers have option for studio, exhibit space

If 10-12 new members join the local Printmakers Guild, the group will have the opportunity to occupy its own space in the Artisans Plaza at 5760 Shirley St. The large space, freshly painted and with walls that are ideal for exhibition, can be divided into a print studio and a teaching studio.

Depending on how many new mem-

bers participate, cost would be about \$75 per month for each member, plus some start-up fees for necessities such as proper lighting and a mop sing,

If you are interested in learning more about the possibility of a permanent home for the Printmakers Guild, call Joan Dunkle at 435-3547 or e-mail joan818@aol.com. ■

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. ■

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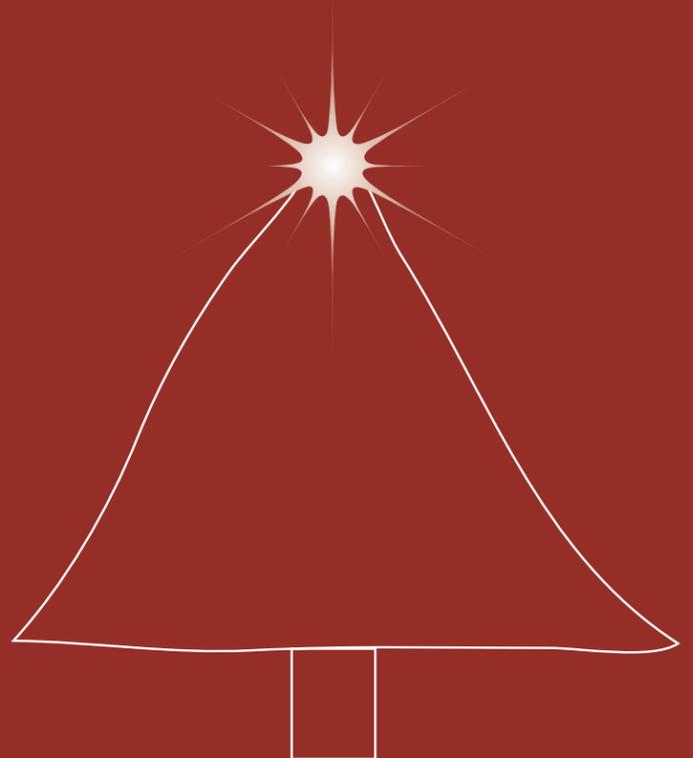
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This week on WGCU TV

► **THURSDAY, DEC. 24, 8 P.M.**
Faith Hill: Joy to the World, A Soundstage Special

Faith Hill, backed by an orchestra, sings favorites from her holiday album, a collection of standards amped up with challenging vocals and ambitious melodic structure.

► **FRIDAY, DEC. 25, 8:30 P.M.**
Untold Stories: Summerland in Wintertime

In 1885, two friends from Kentucky “discovered” a pristine paradise 30 miles south of Fort Myers and decided to build a winter resort: Naples. Accessible only by boat, the town languished until the 1920s, when trains and the Tamiami Trail opened the town to development. By 1945, the backwater was becoming a boom town.

► **SATURDAY, DEC. 26, 9 P.M.**
Keeping Up Appearances Christmas Special: Angel Gabriel Blue

Hyacinth is in search for her dream kitchen while Richard has developed a fungal infection. Hyacinth claims it is gout, a disease supposedly caught by “good living.” Meanwhile Daddy has gone missing again and there is a stranger in his place. Trevor Bannister guest stars.

► **SUNDAY, DEC. 27, 10 P.M.**
Augustus Saint-Gaudens: Master of American Sculpture

Among the greatest American sculptors and monument builders of the late-19th and early-20th centuries was Augustus Saint-Gaudens.

► **MONDAY, DEC. 28, 9 P.M.**
American Masters - Louisa May Alcott: The Woman Behind “Little Women”

The author’s reputation as a morally

upstanding New England spinster in the 1800s is firmly established. However, raised among reformers, Transcendentalists and skeptics, Alcott was a free thinker with democratic ideals and progressive values — and she penned scandalous works under the pseudonym A.M. Barnard

► **TUESDAY, DEC. 29, 8 P.M.**
NOVA: What Darwin Never Knew

Stunning breakthroughs in a new science — nicknamed “evo devo” — reveal answers to riddles that Darwin couldn’t explain.

► **10 P.M.**
Weird Florida: Roads Less Traveled

From Possum Monument in Wausua to Rooster Graveyard in Key West to Ripley’s Believe It or Not Headquarters in an undisclosed location, this wacky jaunt around Florida includes stops at Pyramid Village in San Carlos Park and the Koreshan Settlement in Estero.

► **WEDNESDAY, DEC. 30, 10 P.M.**
P.O.V. - Patti Smith: Dream of Life



A remarkable plunge into the life, art, memories and philosophical reflections of the legendary rocker, poet and artist, shot over 11 years by acclaimed fashion photographer Steven Sebring.

► **THURSDAY, DEC. 31, 8 P.M.**
Live from Lincoln Center: New York Philharmonic New Year’s Eve

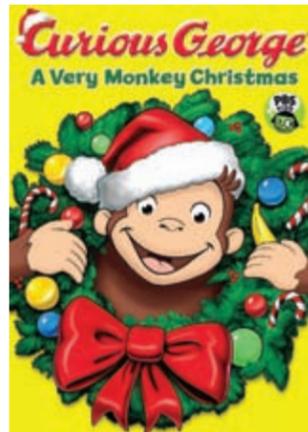
The New York Philharmonic’s New Year’s Eve glamorous gala celebrates all-American favorites conducted by Alan Gilbert. Alec Baldwin hosts. ■

Just for kids on PBS

Following is the special holiday lineup from WGCU-HD 30.1/Cable 3 for children’s programming on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

CHRISTMAS EVE
 ► **THURSDAY, DEC. 24**

► **8 a.m., 3 and 5 p.m. - Curious George “A Very Monkey Christmas”** - Curious George and The Man with the Yellow Hat are having a wonderful time getting ready for Christmas. There’s only one dilemma: Neither of them can figure out what to give the other for a present! In the end, the gift-giving predicaments are beautifully resolved to reveal the true spirit of the holiday season.



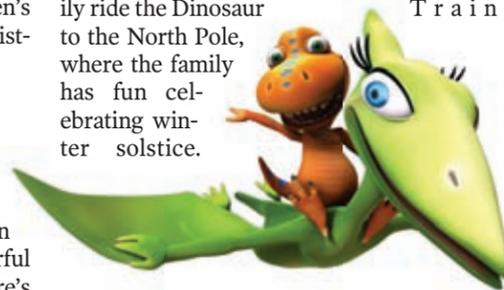
► **7 a.m. and 4 p.m.** - Arthur “Arthur’s Perfect Christmas”- Everyone’s favorite aardvark shows children many ways to celebrate “the holidays” while making preparations for Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and even “Baxter Day.”

CHRISTMAS DAY
 ► **FRIDAY, DEC. 25**

► **9 a.m. - Super Why! “The Nutcracker”** - Super Why and his friends dance their way into the story of The Nutcracker, accompanied by Tchaikovsky’s memorable music, to find out why the Mouse King is so cranky and give an innovative twist to the holiday classic.

► **9:30 a.m. - Dinosaur Train “Dinosaurs in the Snow/Cretaceous Coni-**

fers”- Buddy and his Pteranodon family ride the Dinosaur Train to the North Pole, where the family has fun celebrating winter solstice.



They learn about big conifer trees and help decorate for a holiday party.

► **2:30 p.m. - WordWorld “The Christmas Star” and “A Christmas Present for Dog”** - In “The Christmas Star,” it’s the night before Christmas and Frog needs a star to hang on his Christmas tree. While he sleeps, someone leaves him a wonderful present: the letters S-T-A-R. In “Christmas Present for Dog,” it’s Christmas morning, and all the WordFriends are excited by the presents Santa has brought for them.

► **4:30 p.m. - WordGirl “Oh, Holiday Cheese” and “Change Day”** - In “Oh, Holiday Cheese,” the Botsfords kick off the holiday festivities with a cheese party. With lots of cheese and sing-a-longs, the party is a huge success — until Dr. Two Brains shows up with his cheese-swiping ray. In “Change Day,” everyone is bringing their loose change to the bank to convert it into savings. What will happen when the Butcher locks Becky and Bob in the vault? ■

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KOVELS: ANTIQUES & COLLECTING

What sparks demand for fad items often a mystery



terryKOVEL
news@floridaweekly.com

character in some Japanese ads. Toys 'R' Us has sole rights to sell CWC's annual limited-edition Blythe doll every Christmas. The new doll's success led Ashton-Drake Galleries to make a Blythe doll to sell to adults. These sell today for less than \$100 apiece.

All of this interest has led to amazing prices for the first dolls. Originally \$25, today a 1972 doll in great (but not perfect) condition can sell for \$2,000. In an original package, doll clothes can be worth \$300 to \$400. Doll collectors are very concerned about a Blythe doll's skin color, hairdo, original accessories and original clothes with original labels. Although there were originally blondes, redheads and black-haired dolls, the highest prices are for dolls with original black hair.

Q: I just bought a mysterious silver spoon that's 15 inches long. It has a small deep bowl and a long twisted handle with 3-D grape leaves and bunches of grapes at the top. The grapes made me think it was used for wine. It's marked with the letters "G" and "X" and the word "sterling."

A: You have a brandy ladle. It was used to scoop up some brandy, light it, then pour it on a flaming dessert like cherries jubilee. The G is the mark of Gorham Manufacturing Co. of Providence, R.I. The X is a date symbol for 1886. Because it's a one-purpose serving utensil, it usually sells near meltdown price, perhaps \$100. But a wine collector or a gourmet cook would pay much more.

Q: What can you tell me about a Mission settee that has been in my family for more than 65 years? It's oak with no upholstery. The back has vertical slats and the seat lifts up on hinges to reveal a storage area. The printed label on the bottom says, "R.S. Nicholson Co., Jax., Fla." and "Warsaw Furn. Mfg. Co., Warsaw, Ky."

A: Warsaw Furniture Manufacturing Co. was in business from around the turn of the 20th century until at least the 1930s. The company is listed in a 1937 Grand Rapids, Mich., furniture show magazine. R.S. Nicholson was probably the retail store where the settee was originally purchased. The Mission style (also called "Arts and Crafts") was at its peak of popularity during the first two decades of the 20th century, so that's probably when your settee was made. Settees with storage under the seat were meant to be kept in a front hall. You could sit on the settee to remove your boots, then store them with your hat and gloves under the seat. Mis-

sion settees by famous makers like Gustav Stickley sell for thousands. Yours, by a relatively unknown maker, is worth a few hundred dollars.

Tip: To avoid break-ins, be sure the hinges on your exterior doors are on the inside of the door.

CURRENT PRICES

Current prices are recorded from antiques shows, flea markets, sales and auctions throughout the United States. Prices vary in different locations because of local economic conditions.

- Art deco silver-plated coffee spoons, black leatherette case with gold tooling, engraved "C.P. Walker Co. Ltd. EPNS," c. 1920, set of six, \$75.
- Pet Milk carton bank, wax-coated cardboard, Palmer Cox-style Brownies, circus animals, teddy bears and clowns, Pet Dairy Products Co., 1955, 2 7/8-by-3 1/2 inches, \$80.
- Depression glass candy dish, Honeycomb pattern, iridescent marigold, ruffled, 1900s, 6 3/4 inches, \$100.
- Little Orphan Annie Ovaltine Shake-Up mug, image of Annie and Sandy dancing, blue Beetleware mug, red lid, 1938, 2 3/4 inches, \$170. ■



COURTESY PHOTO

This original 1972 Blythe doll, 11 1/2 inches tall, sold in an online auction for \$920. She has a tagged dress and eyes that change to four colors, but her face is slightly damaged and her hairdo is incorrect.

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PAST REPASTS

Here are some capsule summaries of previously reviewed restaurants:

➤ **Alexander's, 4077 Tamiami Trail North, Naples; 262-4999**

A splendid courtyard and equally lovely dining room afford customers plenty of charm that pairs well with chef/owner Alexander Bernard's food, a mix of European and American fare. There are also several dishes marked as healthier — lower in calories, fat and/or salt. Jumbo lump crabmeat in garlic butter was simple and succulent. Equally good was a wild mushroom and goat cheese strudel served with caramelized apples and sun-dried cherry gastrique. Miso-crusted butterfish was another simple but elegant dish and the duck, with its crisp skin, moist flesh, and tart-sweet lingonberries and port wine reduction, was excellent. Leave room for the house-made desserts, such as apple nut cake with ice cream and Monika's crepe of passion. Beer and wine served.

Food: ★★★★★½ Service: ★★★★★½ Atmosphere: ★★★★★½

➤ **David Wong's Pan Asian & Sushi, 25301 S. Tamiami Trail, Bonita Springs; 992-5600**

David Wong's is a welcome addition to dining in Bonita Springs. From its subtle gold and maroon dining room to the knowledgeable and accommodating wait staff to the menu that affords diners a well-executed taste of several Asian cuisines, it's a delightful choice for lunch or dinner. The Thai-style papaya salad with peanuts, long beans and a chili lime dressing was a resplen-

dent starter, along with a sampler platter of flavorful but not sweet coconut shrimp, savory chicken satay and tender Vietnamese shrimp ravioli. The crispy duck was, indeed, crisp yet still moist within, served with sautéed bok choy and three sauces. The ahi tuna two ways showcased the fish sushi style and as lightly seared fillets with stir-fried veggies and citrus sauce. Tempura cheesecake — yes, that's fried cheesecake — with vanilla ice cream was a decadent and delicious finale. Beer and wine served.

Food: ★★★★★½ Service: ★★★★★ Atmosphere: ★★★★★½

➤ **Escargot 41, 4339 Tamiami Trail North, Naples; 793-5000**

Naples is blessed with several excellent French restaurants, but Escargot 41 is one of the best. Never mind that it's tucked into the corner of the non-descript Park Shore Shopping Center. Step inside and it's as if you've traveled to a well-to-do Parisian bistro with food and service to match. Chef Patrick Fevrier is a master of French cuisine, while his wife, Jackie, is a gracious hostess. Choose from several escargot dishes (I liked Peter's Fricassee 41). The salmon



KAREN FELDMAN/
FLORIDA WEEKLY
Yellowtail snapper, a nightly special at Escargot 41, shines in a simple but elegant lemon butter and caper sauce.

cured in sea salt, coated in coffee and smoked, is superb. The lobster bisque was classic and rich. Yellowtail snapper in lemon butter and caper sauce was a nightly special that was worthy of the designation. No cloyingly sweet duck here. Fevrier's version is rubbed in garlic salt, roasted until the skin is just lightly crisp and the flesh still moist, then finished with a savory plum port wine sauce. For dessert, an ethereal raspberry soufflé was worth every calorie. Beer and wine served. (The wine list is exceptional even for a much larger establishment.)

Food: ★★★★★ Service: ★★★★★ Atmosphere: ★★★★★

➤ **Noodles Italian Café and Sushi Bar, Mission Square Plaza, 1585 Pine Ridge Road; 592-0050**

Pasta and sushi doesn't seem a natural combination to me, but Noodles makes it work, offering upscale Italian fare, first-class sushi and a handful of low-carb options served by an able staff in a swanky club setting. Items from both East and West were excellent, including a nightly special of grilled shrimp and the whimsically named Paisano roll (fried snapper, scallions and cucumber topped with smoked salmon, avocado, sesame and sweet sauce). The lamb shanks were tender and delicious,

served with natural juices enhanced by a bit of wine, garlic, rosemary, bay leaves and celery over house-made fettuccine. The cioppino featured a fresh mix of seafood also served over pasta. For dessert, one wedge of light, creamy Key lime pie was plenty for two. Full bar.

Food: ★★★★★ Service: ★★★★★ Atmosphere: ★★★★★

➤ **Ridgway Bar & Grill, Third Street South and 13th Avenue South; 262-5500**

Chef Tony Ridgway and his business partner, wine expert Sukie Honeycutt, have been integral members of the Naples dining scene for more than two decades and they still deliver inventive food and intriguing wines with gracious hospitality. The menu features top-drawer ingredients — crab cakes full of big chunks of crab, shaved slices of grana padano atop a well-balanced Caesar, fresh Florida seafood and a house-made apple galette with cinnamon ice cream that caused sighs of contentment from all at our table. Whether it's comfort fare, such as a Bell & Evans herb-roasted chicken, or something more contemporary, like the grilled red snapper with mango salsa and potato and artichoke gratin, it's perfectly prepared and purposefully plated. The staff is as polished and appealing as the menu. Full bar.

Key to ratings

★★★★★ Superb	★★ Fair
★★★★ Noteworthy	★ Poor
★★★ Good	

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FLORIDA WEEKLY CUISINE

Bohemian fare enhances ethnic diversity at Pavilion Shopping Center



karenFELDMAN
cuisine@floridaweekly.com

Add Czechoslovakian to the international flavors available at the Pavilion Shopping Center in Naples.

The Bohemian Schnitzel House opened recently right next to the movie theaters, bringing its meaty cuisine to a mix that already includes Chinese, regional American and Persian.

The little restaurant is informal and down-to-earth, with an array of tables indoors and still more out front beneath the covered walkway. One side of the restaurant is occupied by a large section of the kitchen. So far, there's nothing on the walls but paint, although I suspect that will change. The place has only been open for about a month, so it's understandable that it's still a work in progress.

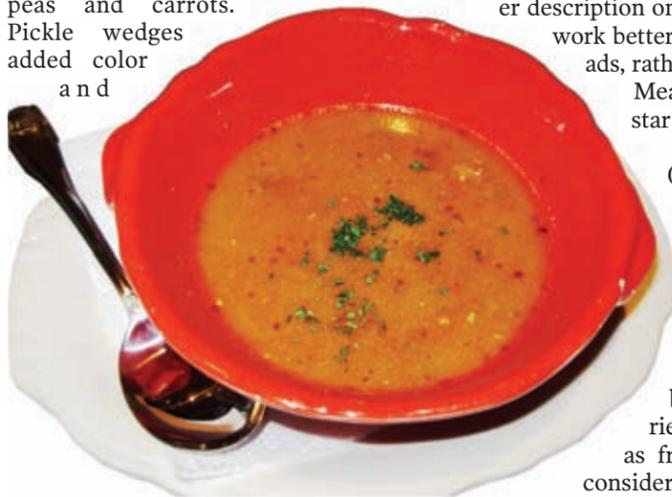
The straightforward menu caters to carnivores. Virtually every dish features some sort of meat with nary a morsel of seafood to be found. There's no wine list, either, but when we said we'd like chianti, our accommodating server produced a respectable bottle of Villa Torrigiani Chianti Superiore.

We began with the goulash soup (\$5.99) and something called a Russian egg (\$5.99).

The soup had a rich brownish-orange hue with big chunks of beef and the aroma of a hearty stew. The broth was richly flavored and the meat tender.

The Russian egg turned out to be something like a salad. Hard-boiled egg was quartered and placed over a slice of ham, which covered a mound of well-seasoned potato salad studded with corn, peas and carrots.

Pickle wedges added color and



KAREN FELDMAN / FLORIDA WEEKLY

Goulash soup is a classic Germanic dish, featuring beef in a savory broth.



KAREN FELDMAN / FLORIDA WEEKLY

A crisp radegast schnitzel came with chewy spaetzle and tangy sweet and sour red cabbage.



KAREN FELDMAN / FLORIDA WEEKLY

Whipped cream and chocolate sauce dress up this version of apple strudel.

crunch. A small cup of mild horseradish sauce came on the side. My companion and I both liked the dish but thought it could have used a better name that would more clearly describe it (or at least a clearer description on the menu) and would work better if listed under the salads, rather than appetizers.

Meat was, of course, the star of both entrees.

The radegast schnitzel (\$19.99) consisted of a large portion of pork loin covered in a potato breading that was fried until crisp and golden brown. The menu said it was accompanied by pears and cranberries, which I envisioned as fresh versions of both, considering they are in season. However, what came with the schnitzel was half of a canned pear, which was mealy and unappetizing, and a dollop of cranberry sauce. Otherwise, it was a



KAREN FELDMAN / FLORIDA WEEKLY

Russian egg is something of a salad, including a mound of potato salad, with a layer of thin-sliced ham, hard-boiled eggs and pickles served with horseradish sauce.

good dish, completed by what tasted like homemade spaetzle and tangy red cabbage. Some lightly cooked chopped pears and cranberries would have added great flavor and balance.

Our other entrée, koprovka (\$16.99), consisted of sliced beef topped with a creamy dill sauce. The meat was tender, and the mild sauce paired well with it. This dish came with spaetzle as well, but no cabbage. Given the light color of the sauce and the beige hue of the noodles, this plate sorely needed some pickles, red cabbage or both to add contrast in both color and flavor.

A thick wedge of apple strudel (\$7) ended the meal. This classic dessert was served warm with lots of whipped cream and a touch of chocolate sauce. The whipped cream was good, but the strudel crust was soggy and the apples had been finely chopped, making the filling mushy as well.

Our server was friendly and accommodating, answering our questions and

offering suggestions when asked. To his credit, he allowed us time to talk and enjoy our wine, making it clear that we should relax and not feel pressured to eat and run. However, because he was the only server on duty, he was juggling several tables — at one point, there were nine occupied — so he wasn't able to get back to us in a timely fashion when we were ready for him to take our order or bring us the check.

I'll assume that because the restaurant is relatively new, the management is still refining its staffing. Still, given the proximity to the movie theaters, it's reasonable to assume many diners are grabbing a meal prior to seeing a film and so should be able to expect to get in and out within 90 minutes.

Bohemian Schnitzel House shows promise. It's still young and obviously working out some of the initial kinks. The majority of what's served here is fresh and well prepared. Some fine tuning should take care of the minor problems we encountered.

There can never be too many locally owned, moderately priced establishments serving fresh, original food. It's heartening to see another one open its doors. When the mood for a hearty meal strikes, Bohemian Schnitzel House stands ready to fill the bill. ■

If you go

Bohemian Schnitzel House,
Pavilion Shopping Center, 835 Vanderbilt Beach Road; 287-8048

Ratings:
Food: ★★★★★
Service: ★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★

>> **Hours:** Breakfast served 8 a.m.-2 p.m.; lunch served 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; dinner served 5-9 p.m. every day

>> **Reservations:** No

>> **Credit cards:** Major cards accepted.

>> **Price range:** Appetizers, \$5-\$9; entrees, \$13.99-\$19.99

>> **Beverages:** Beer and wine served.

>> **Seating:** Conventional tables indoors and on the sidewalk in front of the restaurant

>> **Specialties of the house:** Goulash soup, sauerkraut soup, smoked salmon, Russian egg, Prague ham rolls, chicken paprikash, wiener schnitzel, radegast schnitzel, chicken schnitzel, koprovka

>> **Volume:** Low to moderate

>> **Parking:** Free lot

★★★★★ Superb
★★★★ Noteworthy
★★★ Good
★★ Fair
★ Poor

diningCALENDAR

> **Saturday, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2,** 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Coconut Point mall: The Coconut Farmers Market takes places weekly through April, featuring produce and other goods; U.S. 41 adjacent to Panera Bread at the mall, Estero; 249-9480.

> **Saturday, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2,** 7:30-11:30 a.m., Third Street South: The weekly farmers market features fresh produce, baked goods, hand-crafted items and more; behind Tommy Bahamas; 434-6533.

> **Wednesday, Dec. 30,** 4-7 p.m.,

Whole Foods: The store's specialty department will offer samples of a host of goodies tailored to a great New Year's Eve bash, including champagne, cheeses and more; 9101 Strada Place; 552-5100.

> **Tuesday, Jan. 5,** 6:30 p.m., Angelina's Ristorante: JUSTIN wines will pair with duck breast and pancetta-wrapped bison, among other dishes, during a special wine dinner; \$110, 24041 S. Tamiami Trail, Bonita Springs; 390-3187. Reservations required.

> **Wednesday, Jan. 6,** 6 p.m., Robb

& Stucky Culinary Center: Chef Martin Murphy helps start the new year off with health recipes to enjoy all year long; \$25, 26501 S. Tamiami Trail, Bonita Springs; (866) 206-3840. Reservations required.

> **Friday, Jan. 8,** 7 p.m., Robb & Stucky Culinary Center: It's date night, a great time to gather a group of friends or that special someone for a three-course dinner and wines to match; \$90 per couple; 26501 S. Tamiami Trail, Bonita Springs; (866) 206-3840. Reservations required.

> **Saturday, Jan. 9,** 7 p.m., Robb & Stucky Culinary Center: Savor a multi-course dinner paired with just the right wines; \$75; 26501 S. Tamiami Trail, Bonita Springs; (866) 206-3840. Reservations required.

— Submit event listings to Cuisine@floridaweekly.com.



www.CapeCoral.com

www.C21Sunbelt.com



Call Toll Free

1-866-657-2300

NO TRANSACTION FEE/NO PROCESSING FEE

Barbara M. Watt
Broker/Owner



NEW CONSTRUCTION 5 BEDROOM
\$1,329,000
Palatial Estate - Two Pools - 5 Total Garage Spaces - 8 Total bedrooms - Custom tile flooring throughout. Ask for 802NA9007703.
1-866-657-2300



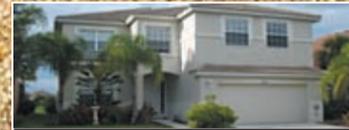
HORSE LOVERS ESTATE
\$985,000
10 Acre estate w/5 bed 4 Bath. Large lanai w/in-ground heated pool. Pole barn, workshop, beautiful uplands property. Ask for 802NA9031803.
1-866-657-2300



INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY
\$700,000
Great location in middle of Sable-Bay Development. Close to boating gulf access. Ask for 802LE808633.
1-866-657-2300



BETTER THAN NEW
\$539,000
Beautiful Floor Plan. Expansive pool lanai area - tile and wood flooring - large workshop / storage - fenced property horses & pets welcome. Ask for 802NA9026354.
1-866-657-2300



WATCH SUNSETS FROM BALCONY
\$529,900
Dream home! Custom 5BR/3BA+bonus room. Ultimate views of pristine lake, sparkling pool, & spa! Huge master suite & bath. Ask for 802FM940625.
1-866-657-2300



4 BEDROOM POOL HOME CLOSE IN
\$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 acre Ask for 802NA9035061.
1-866-657-2300



BAYFRONT PLACE 1BED+DEN CONDO
\$399,000
Turnkey, 3 balconies w/ awesome views on top floor. Downtown Naples. Ask for 802NA9003517.
1-866-657-2300



STUNNING 2,174 SQ FT CONDO
\$360,000
3 bed 3-1/2 bath Sky Home, Kitchen features granite Counters, Whirlpool Gold stainless appliances, Tile in the Living, Ask for 802NA9033296.
1-866-657-2300



5 BED + DEN - 4 BATH
\$349,900
This lovely home sits on beautifully manicured property of 4.78 acres that includes 2 ponds. Ask for 802NA8036451.
1-866-657-2300



GATED TENNIS COMMUNITY
\$315,000
Sterling Oaks a beautiful gated tennis community 2 bed + den and huge 20x20 bonus room over garage. Ask for 802CC9039477.
1-866-657-2300



INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY
\$300,000
Great location in middle of Sable-Bay Development - close to boating gulf access. Ask for 802LE805735.
1-866-657-2300



LIGHT AND AIRY
\$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



CANAL PROPERTY
\$285,000
Move In Condition. Perfectly maintained property sits on 2.73 acres with canal frontage on a dead end, great location west of 951. Ask for 802NA9033631.
1-866-657-2300



BEAUTIFUL 3 BEDROOM
\$274,400
WaterView. The original owners of this well maintained condo have methodically and tastefully added upgrades to many of the areas. Ask for 802NA9026365.
1-866-657-2300



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.
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.
1-866-657-2300



2 BED 2 BATH CONDO
\$239,900
Second floor unit - Beautifully appointed - Stainless Steel appliances - 1,351 sq ft under air - luxury pool a must see Ask for 802NA9029720.
1-866-657-2300



VINEYARDS COUNTRY CLUB
\$230,000
3BR/2.5BA+den. Home in Naples. Lowest priced. Ask for 802FM830708.
1-866-657-2300



NAPLES PARK - CLOSE TO BEACH
\$228,000
Enjoy the Convenience to Shopping and Vanderbilt Beach with this Spacious 3/2/2 Home Built in 2001. Ask for 802FM838029.
1-866-657-2300



INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY
\$200,000
Great location in middle of Sable-Bay Development. Close to boating gulf access. Ask for 802LE806206.
1-866-657-2300



OVER 1 1/2 ACRES
\$199,000
Built in 2003, pool, deck, over 1500 under air. Ask for 802CC917156.
1-866-657-2300



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.
1-866-657-2300



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



2BR/2BA CONDO ON LAKE!
\$169,900
Beautiful Tuscany floor plan. Granite countertops, stainless appls. Overlooks lake & pool. Fabulous community amenities! Ask for 802FM940089.
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.
1-866-657-2300



NAPLES-BAYSHORE DRIVE
\$160,000
Corner lot plus - owner will consider financing - 24hr Notice tenant occupied. Ask for 802NA906985.
1-866-657-2300



3 BED 2 BATH 2 CAR GARAGE
\$159,900
Foreclosure "sold as" with right to inspect. Great ranch style home, close in and yet has plenty of room. Light, bright Ask for 802NA9041357.
1-866-657-2300



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.
1-866-657-2300



LAKEFRONT CONDO
\$149,000
Established Assn - 2 bed, 2 bath, carport 2 pools and clubhouse. Lighted tennis and shuffleboard court Priced to sell! Ask for 802NA9013754.
1-866-657-2300



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.
1-866-657-2300



GREAT LOCATION
\$133,800
Short sale. Close to shopping, restaurants, beaches and more Ask for 802SS943090.
1-866-657-2300



STUNNING 3 BED CONDO
\$132,900
Foreclosure Available! Large light and bright living areas surround this affordable home. With over sized rooms, Ask for 802NA9041232.
1-866-657-2300



GOLDEN GATE ESTATES 2.50 ACRES
\$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.
1-866-657-2300



GOLDEN GATE ESTATES GREAT PRICE
\$119,000
Potential Short Sale, spacious 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, 2 car garage, tile throughout, vaulted ceilings. 2,020 sq under air Ask for 802NA8046224.
1-866-657-2300



GOLDEN GATE CITY
\$100,000
Open floor plan, tile living area, snack bar, roof replaced 2008, well system 2008, new counter in bath. Ask for 802NA9040062.
1-866-657-2300



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-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



3 BED GOLDEN GATE ESTATES
\$50,000
WOW! Foreclosed being sold as is with right to inspect. Over an acre with home nestled in for under market value. This w Ask for 802NA9042422.
1-866-657-2300



ONE BED-ONE BATH PLUS DEN
\$24,500
Granite counter tops, stainless appliances, tiled throughout unit cute as a button and priced to sell! Ask for 802NA9040535.
1-866-657-2300

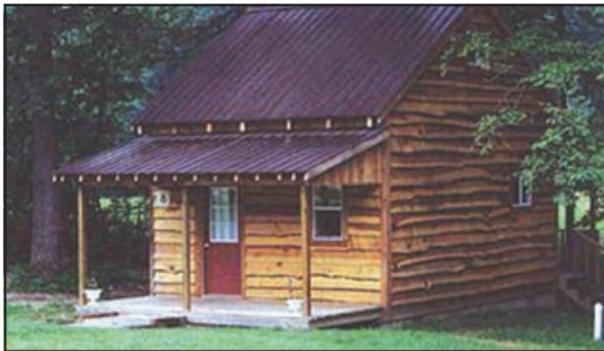


Your House As Seen By:

YOURSELF...



YOUR BUYER....



YOUR LENDER....



YOUR APPRAISER....



YOUR COUNTY'S TAX ASSESSOR...



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](http://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!

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HOT HOME

OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME!



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 Over 1 acre golf course lot!
NOW \$849,000!

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 tiffmcquaid@gmail.com



QUAIL WEST



28901 Cavell Terrace
\$1,995,000
 • 4 Bedrooms + Den ~ 3-1/2 Baths
 • Modern Style Estate Home
 • Expansive Lake View
 • Covered and Open Lanai with outdoor kitchen

13710 Pondview Circle • \$2,795,000

- 4 Bedrooms + Den ~ 5-1/2 Baths
- Fully Decorator Furnished
- Western Exposure with Golf Course View
- Full Golf Membership Included

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 AnnLevitan@gmail.com



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11625 TALON DRIVE 	11637 TALON DRIVE 	11776 CARRADALE CT 	11797 BRAMBLE CT 	LOTS FOR SALE
11857 BRAMBLE CT 	11872 HEDGESTONE CT 	11901 HEATHER WOODS CT 	11910 HEATHER WOODS CT 	12022 COVENT GARDEN #201

 JANET CARTER (239) 821-8067 JANETRCARTER@GMAIL.COM	 PAM MAHER (239) 877-9521 AGENTPAM007@GMAIL.COM	 SANDY SIMS (239) 595-2969 SUNNYNAPLES@GMAIL.COM	 KIM BOYER (239) 784-4401 KIMABOYER@YAHOO.COM
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Hope your Holidays are
Merry & Bright!
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QUAIL CREEK VILLAGE
 10338 Quail Crown Drive **\$410,000**
 TURNKEY FURNISHED!



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 10332 Quail Crown Drive **\$380,000**
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 11749 Quail Village Way **\$255,000**
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Carl Brewer (239) 269-3757
Tiffany McQuaid (239) 287-6308

Directions: From I-75, take Immokalee Road 1/2 mile east to Valewood Drive, turn left (north) and follow road to Community Gate.

HOT HOME



OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME!

Quail Creek Estates

4301 Snowberry Lane
 Over 1 acre golf course lot!

NOW \$849,000!

Tiffany McQuaid
 (239) 287-6308
 tiffmcquaid@gmail.com



Up on the Rooftop

*QUICK
QUICK
QUICK*

*“Buy a home
NOW, while you
have your pick!!”*



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(SOUTH GULF COAST CHAPTER)

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4749 TURNSTONE COURT
\$499,000



11679 LONGSHORE WAY EAST
\$695,000



11080 PHOENIX WAY
\$599,900