It takes a village to break barrier of autism

BY KAREN FELDMAN
Special to Florida Weekly

Nate and Maggie were born in December 2006, about a month premature, but otherwise happy and healthy babies with that special bond twins share. They learned to crawl and walk right on schedule. Nate was the first to speak. He'd wave “bye-bye,” point to things and ask, “What’s that?” But by the time he turned 2½, Nate no longer made eye contact or spoke. He didn’t respond when his mother called his name. He stopped running around with his five siblings in the sprawling backyard.

>>Fun facts:
Cool things to know about this sweet treat.

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Flavor and the summer
canes in southwest Florida this summer? We asked ice-cream makers about their favorite flavors for cooling off.

As it turns out, chunks are a good thing. But so are lighter flavors as appropriate to the season as a billowy white linen shirt. In other words: There’s something for everyone. So grab some extra napkins for your sticky fingers and enjoy this look at some of the tastiest and most unique flavors around.

 Abbott’s Frozen Custard, Naples
• Radio Ball

The frozen custard at Abbott’s (a derivative, extra creamy, luxurious ice cream made with eggs) is world-class. Abbott’s staff also makes fruity flavors of Italian Water Ice (a non-fat, non-diary sweetened, blended mix of fruit juice and ice similar to sorbet — not to be confused with shaved ice cream).

See Ice Cream, A8

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NATE LOWERS / COURTESY PHOTO

Nate Lowers peers out the front door.
It does not surprise me that the people of Florida are disgusted with our governor. That was inevitable. What is surprising is that they caught on to this snake oil salesman so quickly.

It’s not as if we didn’t know what we were getting when we elected this hypocritical toady of big business and special interests. After all, this is a man who disdains any sort of federal or state assistance that might benefit the poor and defenseless, yet he became obscenely wealthy by presiding over a health-care company that engaged in the most massive fraud involving Medicare and Medicaid in the history of those programs. His company paid a $35 billion fine — a record punishment — and the board of directors sent him packing, but not before they bestowed upon him more than $300 million for the simple act of getting the hell out of Dodge. For a guy who hates federal or state assistance to the needy, I’d say Gov. Scott did pretty well by plundering programs that are funded by the taxpayers and state workers.

Gov. Scott has come up with so many mean-spirited and loony ideas that it is hard to keep track. He has tried to eviscerate the state parks system. He wants to slash corporate taxes to as close to nothing as possible, which doesn’t make a hell of a lot of sense in a state that doesn’t have an income tax. He wants to drug test welfare recipients and state workers.

In one move that hasn’t attracted a lot of attention, he got Florida Power & Light to agree to give discounted electrical rates to new and growing businesses. PFL — an outfit that no one would ever mistake for a charity — will recoup these discounts from its existing customers. (That means you and me.) Some people might call this an indirect tax on the common folk, but the governor is not among them.

This is shameful. I invite you to conduct a little test. Wherever you live in Southwest Florida, take a drive on a hot day through an impoverished neighborhood. On even the most suffocating of days, you will find few home air conditioners running. The people simply cannot afford the electric bills that air conditioning generates.

What I find odd about Gov. Scott’s vehemence toward government assistance to the poor and downtrodden is the fact that he himself benefited from the sorts of programs he now hopes to slash. As a boy, he lived in public housing. From what I understand, his parents were good, hard-working people who had a run of bad luck. I wonder how Gov. Scott would have felt if his parents had been subjected to drug testing as a condition of their residency? Gov. Scott’s indifference to the welfare of his constituents was on full and embarrassingly display last week when he appeared on CNN and said he did not think the federal government defaulting on its financial obligations was a bad thing.

“We need to stop spending money,” he said.

When the interviewer pointed out that cutting spending and default were separate issues, Gov. Scott dipped deeper into what seems to be his inexcusable well of ignorance.

“What we’ve been (raising the debt ceiling), and it hasn’t helped our economy,” he said.

Exasperated, the interviewer spoke for many when he said, “Governor, why is this so hard for you to understand?” Why is Gov. Scott is so rationally unpopu-

lar? He ran a gauzy campaign that was short on details, and he went to great lengths to avoid answering questions from the press. Still, we knew about his checkered past. We knew he was a tool of corporations and moneyed interests. But I don’t think most voters understood the mirthless, soulless quality of the man. He is hopelessly obtuse and totally oblivious to the suffering of the state’s most vulnerable residents.

In what can only be described as a Marie Antoinette “let them eat cake” moment, the governor’s office last week issued a press release announcing that John Minas, Gov. Scott’s personal chef, and Mr. Minas’s sous chef are entering the 2011 Great American Seafood Cook-Off. “John is a talented chef and cooks up some of the best food I’ve ever tasted,” the governor said.

Children go to school hungry in Florida. The elderly wrestle with the choice of buy-

ing medication or food, and the homeless eat from garbage cans. Gov. Scott, mean-

while, is eating better than ever. A man of more sensitivity would have kept that little nugget of information to himself.

To be fair, Gov. Scott did not cause all of our woes, nor can he readily fix them. But the least he can do is try. And, beyond that, it would be nice if he cared — or even pretended to care — that such suffering exists. The truth is that he has no interest in addressing these problems, and he really doesn’t give a damn. His world is that of private jets, shady deals and scratching the backs of corporate bigwigs.

And that, my friends, is why Rick Scott is the most unpopular governor in the United States.

It’s another beautiful day in the neighborhood.

The world-class neighborhoods of Naples’ premier Lely Resort are the renowned easy of Southwest Florida, the state and the nation. Little wonder that The Naples Daily News has once again honored Lely Resort and its visionary developer, Stock Development with its prestigious, best-in-class awards.

The Arlington of Naples congratulates

Lely Resort as Community of the Year and Stock Development, Collier County’s Top Developer.

We are proud to be located within this award winning community whose innovative leaders bring only the highest quality, most desirable residential lifestyles to the Naples and Marco Island area. It’s a big reason why Lely Resort is the exceptional location of our future resort retirement community.
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You have a heart of stone not to feel a pang of sadness at the passing of the bookstore Borders. The retailer is liquidating its 399 remaining stores and letting go appr-oximately 11,000 employees. Gone will be the era when no shopping-mall parking lot in America seemed complete without an adjoining Borders, offering up its capacious aisles to browse for books you had no idea you needed.

Nostalgia aside, the extinction of Borders is the very model of a free- market economy at work. The store fell victim to the same kind of insuf- ficiency of a truly creative economy: “Adapt, or die.” It failed to keep up with the technological change and shifting consumer preferences, and so has been forced to make way for more adequate competitors.

This ruthlessly efficient realloca-
tion of resources took place because Borders wasn’t big or politically connected enough to get a bailout; because its employees didn’t belong to a powerful union favored by the company’s White House; and because it didn’t sell something, like green energy, deemed worthy of taxpayer support. The upshot of the changes that bur- ied the store, and were allowed to unspool without governmental inter- ference, will be cheaper and more readily available books.

Read about Borders circa 1995 and it is lauded as “a chain that uncom- pletely was exposed to a corrupt contract- ing system, its stored enorm- ous stores with tens of thousands of titles. Borders thrived by providing choice and convenience, two of the pillars of the consumer economy. Then it didn’t recognize quickly enough the new ways of delivering consumer products, and it had to rely on Amazon to sell its books online, a boost to the online retailer that would destroy and shift-consumer preferences, and so has been forced to make way for more adequate competitors.

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County staff sets meetings for public to hear about redistricting proposals

A series of public meetings have been scheduled to review proposed changes to district boundaries of the Collier County Board of Commissioners and the District School Board of Collier County. After a brief staff presentation, time will be designated at each meeting for questions and comments from the audience. Everyone is welcome.

Meetings will take place from 7-9 p.m. as follows:
- **District 1**: Tuesday, Aug. 16, in the Board of County Commission chambers at the Collier County Government Center, 3299 Tamiami Trail E., Naples
- **District 2**: Thursday, Aug. 18, at Veterans Community Park, 1895 Veterans Park Drive, Naples
- **District 3**: Tuesday, Aug. 23, at the Golden Gate Community Center, 4701 Golden Gate Parkway, Naples
- **District 4**: Tuesday, Aug. 30, at the county’s Growth Management Division Planning & Regulation office, 2800 N. Horseshoe Drive, Naples
- **District 5**: Monday, Aug. 29, at Immokalee Community Park, 321 N. First St., Immokalee.

The proposed redistricting maps can be viewed in advance at www.colliergov.net/redistricting.

For more information, call David Weeks at 252-2306 or e-mail DavidWeeks@colliergov.net.

Runway expansion takes off at Naples Municipal Airport

With environmental approval of the Federal Aviation Administration, the Naples Airport Authority is proceeding to pave the safety areas at both ends of the main runway at Naples Municipal Airport. The FAA’s action, a Finding of No Significant Impact, cleared the project useful and efficient.”

The airport authority’s priorities are sound attenuation, safety and service. Adding runway pavement furthers all three,” says Executive Director Ted Soliday. “This may be the most significant step we can take to reduce aircraft-takeoff noise.”

Work is under way to add pavement that will extend the runway’s declared takeoff distance from 5,000 feet to 5,800 feet. The landing distance will remain the same. The extra length will help mitigate noise by allowing aircraft to achieve higher altitudes before leaving the airport, reducing sound under the flight path.

Extra runway length also means more room for aborted takeoffs and other emergencies. In addition, it improves the airport’s chances of resuming commercial air service with regional jets, which can require more runway length to take off when fully loaded with passengers.

In approving the airport’s layout plan, which includes the paving project, the FAA found “the proposed airport development shown on the plan useful and efficient.”

The airport authority, which receives no federal or state funds, has the complete $3.2 million cost of the project make it worthwhile.”

The airport’s timing of approval allows us to complete the runway work when the airport is less busy,” Mr. Soliday says. “Closing the runway is a regrettable inconvenience for some pilots, but the long-term benefits of the project make it worthwhile.”

Airport lands a perfect score from the FAA

For the 10th consecutive year, Naples Municipal Airport has passed its annual inspection with a perfect score. The Federal Aviation Administration recently found the airport 100 percent in compliance with all required standards.

The inspection includes all aspects of airport operations as well as an assessment of record keeping, training procedures and aircraft rescue and fire-fighting safety drills.

Although the airport serves as a general aviation airport, it complies with federal safety standards for airports with commercial airline service. The airport also maintains the same level of security as commercial-service airports and adheres to all Transportation Security Administration directives.

Naples Municipal Airport is home to flight schools, air charter operators and corporate aviation and non-air aviation businesses as well as fire/rescue services, police and special events. EMS, car rental agencies and the Collier County Sheriff’s Office aviation unit.

The airport’s law enforcement was recently found the airport 100 percent in compliance with all aspects of airport operations, including procedures and aircraft rescue and fire-fighting safety drills.

The Federal Aviation Administration annually inspects the airport. For more information, visit www.FlyNaples.com.
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-Lillian Love, MD, Oncologist practicing at NCH for 32 years.

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www.NCHmd.org
ICE CREAM
From page 1

ice that's been flavored) on premises. And if you mix the two, you have what Philadelphia locals call a Radio Ball, said manager Sarah Stack. Recommended Radio Ball: vanilla custard and Mango Italian Water Ice.

Abbot's Frozen Custard
491 Fifth Ave. S.
Naples 793-7300


Royal Scoop, Bonita Springs
Death by Peanut Butter is probably not a bad way to go if you’re at Royal Scoop in Bonita Springs.

“This particular item, I was inspired by Death by Chocolate and we’d just come across these mini peanut butter cups, so we had the swirl and flavor and it was just putting it all together,” said ice cream maker and store manager Steve Cummings. This fall, Mr. Cummings will whip up a few seasonal flavors: Georgia Pecan and Sweet Potato Swirl. The latter “was one of my favorite things for Thanksgiving,” Mr. Cummings said. It’s his homage to the hot version, with sweet potato, pecans and marshmallows.

Royal Scoop
15 Eighth St.
Bonita Springs 950-2000

Naples Ice Cream Factory
• Bake Sale • Milla Vanilla
It was one of the shop’s employees, 19-year-old college student Ashley Gaffney, who created help two unique flavors. One, Milla Vanilla, was for the owners’ 9-year-old son, who doesn’t care for chocolate but requested a cookie cutter for his cream flavor. The vanilla wafers in vanilla ice cream ended up a hit with customers, said owners Tom and Amy Spinelli.

Mrs. Spinelli and Ms. Gaffney collaborated on another flavor called Bake Sale.

“When I went to a bake sale, I cared about the Rice Crispies treats, brownies and chocolate chip cookies,” said Mrs. Spinelli. And that’s exactly what’s mixed in with vanilla ice cream and a fudge swirl.

Naples Ice Cream Factory
2379 Intransoake Road
Naples 594-0022

Bees’ Ice Cream, Marco Island
• Cookie Monster • Garbage Can
Cookie Monster is a bright blue ice cream made with cookie dough and Oreo cookies that has become a hit with kids, said manager Tamara Stolinias. And Garbage Can ice cream is something “a soda fountain “suicide” thing like a soda fountain “suicide” Oreo cookies that has become a hit with customers, said owners Tom and Amy Spinelli.

“The flavors are concentrated and rich. It was a mistake, sort of. A batch of peach and mint ice cream was thrown together and called Creamy Impeachment, said a little summer cabin vacation,” said ice cream maker and store manager Steve Cummings. This fall, Mr. Cummings will whip up a few seasonal flavors: Georgia Pecan and Sweet Potato Swirl. The latter “was one of my favorite things for Thanksgiving,” Mr. Cummings said. It’s his homage to the hot version, with sweet potato, pecans and marshmallows.

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Public invited to help ‘Remember 9-11’

A billboard-size canvas that’s traveling around Southwest Florida in preparation for a “Remember 9-11 Tenth Year” commemoration comes to Naples on Sunday, April 7.

Artist Leoma Lovegrove and her work-in-progress canvas will be at Dennison-Moran Gallery from noon to 6 p.m. The public is invited to stop by and add to the canvas names of those who died in the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

The 48-by-10-foot canvas already holds 2,753 victims’ names, painted by hundreds of people at last month’s Art Walk in downtown Fort Myers and at Cape Coral’s “Red, White and Boom” Fourth festivities.

The public signing have become “a gathering place where people share stories and reflect on where they were that day 10 years ago,” Ms. Lovegrove says. “We all want to make sure those who died are never forgotten, and we want to honor those who helped with rescue efforts.”

After the Dennison-Moran Gallery, Ms. Lovegrove and her traveling canvas are lined up for:
- Iberiabank, 1715 Cape Coral Parkway W, Cape Coral: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Aug. 12.
- Sam Galloway Ford, 1800 Boy Scout Drive, Fort Myers: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 13.

For more information, contact John Guerra at 434-4838 or jguerra@fgcu.edu.

For more information about the opportunity to paint a name on the canvas on Sunday, Aug. 7, at the Dennison-Moran Gallery in Naples, call 263-0950. Owners Kathleen and Robert Dennison and Mary Moran recently moved from their longtime location on Fifth Avenue South to a larger space with a courtyard garden at 360 12th Ave. S. in the historic Third Street South district.

LOVEGROVE

The “Remember 9-11” logo created by Leoma Lovegrove.

Keep Children Close to Home for Health Care

We are responding to the increasing need for specialized pediatric services in Southwest Florida by building a new state-of-the-art Children’s Hospital. Our new Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida will house 148 beds and many specialty services to treat the most critically-ill children and their families.

For more information on how you can help save a child’s life, please call 239-343-6950, or visit www.LeeMemorial.org/Foundation
Hundres of summer campers at the Boys & Girls Club of Collier County tied themselves up in a giant game of Twister one recent sunny morning. More than 100 game boards were painted on the lawn, and teams of four twisted and stretched as the instructions were called out.

Blind and visually impaired young clients of Lighthouse of Collier have delighted in a variety of camp experiences this summer, from exploring Naples Bay with Cruise Naples and the Freedom Waters Foundation to riding at Naples Equestrian Challenge and learning tennis from the pros at Cambier Park using special audible foam balls.

1. Zachary selecting his horse
2. Tennis group
3. Sarah with tennis pro Steve Bogdanoff
4. Xavian on board the Double Sunshine
Urology problems can have a huge impact on one’s quality of life. Our experts at Specialists in Urology offer leading-edge treatments, innovative research and the most advanced minimally invasive surgical procedures. From urinary incontinence to pelvic disorders, sexual dysfunction to cancer, our fellowship trained physicians in female urology are here to help.

Specialists in Urology provides a comfortable, private, specialized place for women to go where people who care will listen, evaluate their problem and provide treatment that will truly make a difference in their lives.
A more reputable career

Thomas Heathfield was a well-paid banking consultant with a promising career in Maidenhead, England, but gave it up this year to move to South Africa and endure rigorous training as a “sangoma” (witch doctor). After five months of studying siSwati language, sleeping in the bush, hunting for animal parts, vomiting sangomas’ blood and learning nature dances, Mr. Heathfield, 32, was given a new name, Gogo Mndawe, and is now qualified to read bones and prescribe herbal cures (among the skills expected of sangomas by the roughly 30 percent of South Africa’s population that reveres them). He admitted considering this acceptance as a white man calling out African spirits, “but when (the people) see you go away,” perhaps those questions go away.

Cultural diversity

➤ Hundreds of blondes paraded through Riga, Latvia, on May 28 at the third annual “March of the Blondes” festival designed to lift the country’s spirits following a rough stretch for the economy. The wealth was until now believed to be the property of India’s royal family, but the Supreme Court ruling turns it over to India’s people. Authorities believe the $22 billion worth of gold, diamonds and jeweled statues given as offerings to the deity by worshippers over several centuries has been properly honored.

➤ Zhou Xin, 68, failed to get a callback from new judges for the “China’s Got Talent” TV reality show in June, according to a CNN report (after judge Annie Yi screamed in horror at his act). Mr. Zhou is a practitioner of one of the “72 Shaolin skills,” namely “iron crotch gong,” and for his “talent,” he stoically whacked himself in the testicles with a weight and then began. (At the end of the night, taxis are called for the students.)

Latest religious messages

➤ In July, after India’s Supreme Court ordered an inventory, a Hindu temple in Trivandrum was found to contain at least $22 billion worth of gold, diamonds and jeweled statues given as offerings to the deity by worshippers over several centuries. The wealth was once believed to be the property of India’s royal family, but the Supreme Court ruling turns it over to India’s people. Authorities believe the $22 billion figure is conservative.

Questionable judgments

➤ Yousef Miracle, 80, of Newark, Ohio, passed away in July, and his family honored him and his years of service as a granulater and superfine of the Ohio State Buckeyes with a commemorative photo of three of Miracle’s fellow obsessives making contorted-body representations of “O,” “H” and “O” for their traditional visu-al cheer. In the photo, Miracle assumed his usual position as the “I” on, or rather, his corpse did. (Despite some criticism, most family and friends thought Miracle’s behavior appropriate.)

Cutting-edge research

It’s good to be an Arizona State University student, where those 21 and older can earn a dose of vodka drunk. Psychol-ogy professor Will Corbin, operating with National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism grants, conducts studies of drunk students’ memories, response times and decision-making processes through extensive questioning — after he has raised their blood-alcohol level to precisely 0.08 percent (which Arizona regards as pre-sumed-impaired for drivers). Students are served one type of vodka cocktail, three drinks’ worth, in a bar-like room on cam-pus, and after 15 minutes to let the alcohol be absorbed, the questioning and testing begin. (At the end of the night, taxis are called for the students.)
Sports celebrity luncheons coming to Marco

The Greater Marco Family YMCA will hold the first of its Sports Celebrity Speaker Series luncheons on Wednesday, Aug. 31, at the Hilton Marco Island. Luis Tiant, former right-handed starting picture for the Cleveland Indians, Boston Red Sox and New York Yankees, will be the guest of honor.

Host for the four-part luncheon series is Mike Vanderjacht, owner of Vandy’s 5 Brothers restaurant on Marco and a former kicker for the Indianapolis Colts.

Subsequent luncheons will feature players and/or coaches from the National Basketball League, the National Hockey League and the National Football League.

Tickets are $35 for each luncheon or $120 for a “season pass.” Ticket stubs will be drawn for sports memorabilia prizes at each event.

Each luncheon will be followed by a free event for local children with the guest speaker.

For tickets and sponsorship information, call Leslie Drake at the Marco Y, 394-1844, ext. 205.

Caxambas Republican Club formed

The newly formed Caxambas Republican Club includes Marco Island, the Isle of Capri, Goodland, Everglades City and the Collier Boulevard/951 corridor.

Programs feature Republican candidates and discussions about various political issues. All are welcome.

For information about meeting dates and locations, contact Lisha Berger, club president, at 594-4990 or lishaberger@gmail.com.

Practice your Spanish with native speakers

The Hispanic Institute at Hodges University offers several two-hour sessions to provide adult learners the opportunity to practice speaking Spanish with people for whom it is their native tongue. Topics include everyday situations, current events and cultural areas. Participants should already have some knowledge of the language.

Free sessions are scheduled for 3-5 p.m., Fridays, Aug. 12 and 19. For more information, call Carmen Rey-Gomez at 938-7793.

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NATE
From page 1

“With a special-needs child, you have to celebrate every small improvement they make, rather than mourn the skills they have not yet mastered.”
— Kathy Lowers, Nate’s mom

of their Naples home, preferring to page through books alone or complete intricate puzzles that were too advanced for Maggie. He also had a penchant for lining up items according to the color spectrum — red, orange, yellow, green, blue, violet.

Kathy Lowers figured her son was just an intellectual kid who liked to play independently. “I thought it quirky,” she says, “but did not worry until it got to the point where he would line up just about everything in a room.”

When a friend saw how Nate had regressed, she gave Mrs. Lowers a book on autism, a developmental brain disorder that affects social interaction and communication skills. Researchers estimate it strikes one child in every 100 and four times as many boys as girls.

“Autism had been staring me in the face, screaming in my face, but I had been in denial,” Mrs. Lowers says. She took Nate to a neurologist and a team of diagnostic specialists, but didn’t wait for the results before sending out a desperate e-mail to her home-school group. Someone told her about the Center for Autism & Related Disabilities, an organization run by the University of South Florida to help families coping with autism. They referred her to Tina Gelpi, an assistant professor of occupational therapy at Florida Gulf Coast University.

Although it might sound like something related to career development, occupational therapy for children with autism helps to encourage appropriate responses to information received from the senses, such as touch, sound and movement. Therapeutic activities aim to develop social, play and learning skills as well as the ability to perform tasks such as getting dressed and playing with others.

Dr. Gelpi began working with Nate several times a month, then recruited a class of her graduate students in the summer of 2010 to enhance the work with Nate and his family. “We set goals based on Nate’s needs and his family’s interests,” Dr. Gelpi says. “It’s such a wonderful learning experience for the students and me.”

It would have been difficult to find a better family with which to work.

Mrs. Lowers, who has a master’s degree in education and taught community college, had been home-schooling Nate’s older siblings — Abraham, 12; Victoria, 10; Catalina, 8; and Isabella, 6. Adding Nate and Maggie created a “one-room schoolhouse with a peer (his twin) and suitable role models (his older siblings),” Dr. Gelpi says.

They started with basic activities most people take for granted: climbing steps. Then they progressed to swimming, helping Nate develop coordination and muscle strength.

A group of occupational therapy students took Nate and his siblings to Pump It Up, a Fort Myers party place filled with inflatable slides and other equipment, where climbing and romping in stockinged feet are the primary activities. He also began attending Naples Equestrian Challenge, a non-profit therapeutic riding program that helps those with disabilities improve balance, self-discipline and concentration.

At the family’s sole breadwinner, Nate’s father, Charles, spends most of his time working as a software developer. But he had teaching experience, so he helps with the children’s schooling and handles the most physical aspects of Nate’s therapy.

Mrs. Lowers explains the multidimensional approach this way: “The theory is that there’s a window of opportunity that closes, an opportunity to form new pathways of communication in the brain. If you don’t reach them before they are 4 or 5, they may never speak. I’m trying everything there is.”

Among the behavioral problems common to children with autism are frequent emotional meltdowns, which aptly describe the daily episodes when Nate crumbled to the floor, crying inconsolably.

Dr. Gelpi thought a therapy dog might be the answer, even though it’s rare for children younger than 6 or 7 to get them.

“Used the therapy games they made every day in our home therapy regimen, and Nate is definitely gaining skills from them,” she says.

Speech therapists work with him at the house a couple of times a week. Dr. Gelpi also guided the family in using something called therapeutic listening, which increases his attention to what he hears in the environment.

The combination of therapies has made a vast difference — and it’s not just Nate who’s benefiting.

“Whether it’s the everyday things that he can do now, or the whole process of the benefit he’s received from it,” Dr. Gelpi says. "It’s productive, meaningful time for Nate and his siblings."
“They are developing family bonds. The household is a community of learners, all working on strengths, all getting the attention they need to blossom.”

Mrs. Lowers says Dr. Gelpi and her students have helped her tremendously as well.

“When I first met Dr. Gelpi, I was in a fog, confused about what therapies were out there and not sure how to start,” she says. “I had talked to doctors and read websites, but they all seemed to focus on the problems of autism and it was all such a downer. In contrast, the first thing Dr. Gelpi told me was that we would be focusing on what Nate could do, not what he could not do. We would find his strengths and praise and encourage him in those, and then work step by step on the areas he needed help in.”

It changed her thinking.

“I went from being overwhelmed with bad news to seeing that there was a way to work with my son and help him improve. Sessions with her not only helped Nate tremendously, but they were a boost to me, too. I always left feeling so proud of Nate’s accomplishments.”

There have been many occasions for celebration over the past year.

This spring Nate suddenly began writing numbers and words using capital and lowercase letter.

He now makes frequent eye contact and smiles. He runs and jumps, runs up stairs and climbs ladders with glee. He is learning to dress himself and brush his teeth. His sister Isabella taught him American Sign Language, which he uses when he wants something. He’s also begun talking more.

“He’s making tremendous progress,” says Dr. Gelpi. “He’s in a loving environment and he is learning to be loving toward others. His creativity is being tapped and he’s able to express it.

“He’s a very sensitive child with amazing thoughts that someday he’s going to share with everyone.”

—Reprinted from the summer 2011 issue of FGCU’s Pinnacle magazine. For more information, visit www.fgcu-pinnacle.com.

About autism

• Autism affects one in 110 children and one in 70 boys.
• Boys are four times more likely than girls to have autism.
• More children will be diagnosed with autism this year than with AIDS, diabetes and cancer combined.
• Autism is the fastest-growing serious developmental disability in the United States.

“I’ve got my buddy, do you have yours?”

How it works:

✔ Find a Buddy
Choose a family member, friend or coworker
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Traveling from Indiana to Southwest Florida, Harlo Conklin complained of chest pain. He and his wife attributed it to fast food and long hours in the car. A stop at a Gainesville hospital showed his vitals were good and he felt better. Though physicians thought Harlo should stay overnight, he and Frances returned to the road. Twenty-four hours later, Harlo went into cardiac arrest. His daughter performed CPR, paramedics used a defibrillator to restore his heartbeat and a special treatment that induces hypothermia to save Harlo’s life. To read more of Harlo’s story, please visit www.LeeMemorial.org/caring

Caring people, caring for people.
Captiva triathlon for kids and adults

The inaugural Galloway Captiva Triathlon is set for Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 17-18, at South Seas Island Resort on Captiva Island. The Saturday competition for ages 6-9 will consist of a 100-yard swim, 1.5-mile bike ride and 1.6-mile run. Ages 10-13 will compete in a 200-yard-swm, a 3-mile bike ride and a 5-mile run.

The adult triathlon on Sunday will consist of a 4/5-mile swim, a 10-mile bike ride and a 5K run, all on Captiva Island. Registration is capped at 500.

The Galloway Captiva Triathlon is the first event organized by Southwest Florida Events Inc., a nonprofit corporation dedicated to combining fun, fitness and support for local charities through multisport events. Community Cooperative Ministries Inc. will benefit from the Captiva event. For registration or more information, call Angie Ferguson at 246-2920, go to www.captivatri.org or find Captiva Tri on Facebook.

5K fun walk/run will benefit FGCU health education center

The Kleist Health Education Center on the campus of Florida Gulf Coast University will host the “Come Run With Us” 5K fun walk/run Saturday morning, Sept. 17. Fees from registration will help the center continue its health education programs throughout the Southwest Florida community.

Registration begins Aug. 20. Details are at http://www.fgcu.edu/khec/events.asp. For more information, call 590-7499.

Help make strides against breast cancer

The American Cancer Society-Collier County’s “Making Strides Against Breast Cancer” 5K walk steps out Saturday morning, Oct. 29, from the Village on Venetian Bay. Participants in the noncompetitive walk follow Gulf Shore Boulevard from the Village north to the end and back.

For information about starting a team, volunteering or becoming a sponsor, call Stacey Deffenbaugh at 839-0680 or e-mail stacey.deffenbaugh@nbc-2.com.

For more information about the event, visit www.putonyourpinkbra.com/naples, or contact Melissa Wolf at the American Cancer Society-Collier County by calling 261-0337, ext. 3860, or e-mailing Melissa.wolf@cancer.org.

Hit the links

Here are some charity tournaments coming up in the area:

- A tournament to benefit Drug Free Collier takes place Saturday, Sept. 17, at Lely Resort. For more information, call Drug Free Collier at 377-0335.

- The second annual Golfing for Charity to benefit the Harry Chapin Food Bank is set for Friday, Oct. 7, at West Bay Club in Estero. The $100 registration includes cart and green fees, two beverages on the course and a post-tournament party. Registration begins at 8 a.m. and the shotgun start is set for 9 a.m.

- Registration and payment may be made by sending checks, payable to SERVPRO of Collier County/Fort Myers South, 5605 Second St. W., Lehigh Acres, FL 33917. For more information, call Shannon O’Neill at 430-9300.

- The 20th annual Florida Gulf Coast University Founders Cup to benefit the FGCU Foundation is set for Friday, Oct. 14, at Pelican’s Nest Golf Club in Bonita Springs. Registration is $2,000 per foursome. A championship sponsor level for $2,500 includes a four-player team and logo on a sponsor’s golf towel.

- For more information or to register, call Michele Kroll at 390-1074, e-mail mkrollfo@gfcu.edu or visit www.fgcu.edu/foundation.

- First National Bank of the Gulf Coast hosts its third annual charity tournament Saturday, Oct. 15, at the Hideout Golf Club. Beneficiaries are Eden Autism Services Florida and Voices for Kids of Southwest Florida. Continental breakfast will precede the 8:30 a.m. shotgun start, and lunch will also be provided.

- For information about registration and sponsorship opportunities, call Heather Gessel at 325-3750 or e-mail heathergessel@fnbofgc.com.
Economic uncertainty doesn’t thwart employee rewards

One goal at NCH is to be the “employer of choice” in Collier County, by being market competitive while adding value for those who deliver care, as well as for those who receive care in our community. To achieve that goal, “we plan for the worst and work for the best” to create competitive rewards and job security.

In assessing our rewards and recognition structure, we first consider the local labor market — Lee and Collier counties — as well as the regional areas of Tampa and Orlando. We also factor in national comparisons as we look at salaries and benefits.

Of prime importance in our calculations is the ability of our major payer, Medicare, to continue to pay for care at the same rate that it has in the past. We must be concerned with the prospect that the federal government’s current crisis may well affect the more than 60 percent of NCH employees is well deserved and a reflection of our collective success. Our goal — to continue to be an economic beacon of Southwest Florida and the “employer of choice” in Collier County.
HEALTH
From page 22
7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. to noon Sunday. For more information, call 949-1050.

Women’s wellness topic of lectures at Miromar
A health-focused afternoon and evening, the first in a series of quarterly wellness lectures organized by Pinwheel Presentations, is set for 2:30-9 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 6, at Miromar Design Center.

HEARTBURN
From page 22
Dr. Bass notes that the procedure is not for everyone and there are some things that heartburn sufferers can do to reduce the attacks. For most people, symptoms are improved with lifestyle changes.

Losing weight helps ease stomach pressure and can resolve reflux. Others find that eating smaller meals or avoiding foods like chocolate, spicy foods, citrus fruits, alcohol and caffeine can help alleviate symptoms.

A range of medications can help, too. Proton pump inhibitors, such as Prilosec, can alleviate symptoms.

Alleviates symptoms.
rus fruits, alcohol and caffeine can help
ing foods like chocolate, spicy foods, cit-
find that eating smaller meals or avoid-
changes.
symptoms are improved with lifestyle

Naples Lions Club.
Reservations required and can be made by calling 365-9302 or e-mailing reservations@pinwheelpresentations.com.

Conference set for caregivers
Florida Gulf Coast University and Lee Memorial Health System, in conjunction with The Southwest Florida Palliative Care Coalition, will host a palliative care conference for hospice workers, caregivers, volunteers working with an aging population, religious leaders and interested community members 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday, Oct. 14, at the Holiday Inn Fort Myers Airport.

“Body, Mind, Spirit – An Interdisciplinary Approach: Palliative Care” will feature leading health professionals who will provide updates and insights on the physical, psychological and spiritual aspects of palliative care.

Contact hours will be available for certified health education specialists, chaplains, social workers, marriage and family therapists, mental health counselors, physicians, nursing home administrators, nursing, occupational therapists and physical therapists.

Early bird registration at reduced rates is available through Aug. 15. For more information, call Christina Gallagh-
er at 425-3277 or e-mail cgallagh@fcca.edu.

By: Physician
Regional Health-care System operates two hospitals in Collier County with 301 licensed beds, an affiliated multi-specialty physician group and a staff of more than 300 physicians.

some people.
Unfortunately, for a small percentage of sufferers, chronic acid reflux is more than a discomfort and an inconvenience: It’s a factor in making esophageal cancer the fastest growing cancer in the country.

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Feline groovy
Open your heart to a special-needs

BY GINA SPADAFORI
Special to Florida Weekly

Listen to your head or follow your heart? When it comes to choosing a cat, it’s possible to do both, as long as you know what you’re getting into.

For many, a kitten is the only choice: A healthy feline baby is nearly irresistible, and the choices are many during “kitten season,” which is at its height now. But feline experts say that for many people, saving a cat others pass on — an older cat, or one with special needs — can be intensely satisfying on a personal level, and that benefit is one that should not be discounted.

“This is all about what you get for the giving, and sometimes when you choose the cat who’s being overlooked, what you get is a really deep bond with that animal,” said Donney Brown, director of the Reno-based Nevada Humane Society. “Many have cared for a cat for a lifetime after what started as a really hard-luck kitty, you may find that the one with special needs — can be intensely satisfying on a personal level, and that benefit is one that should not be discounted.

Veterinarians know the appeal of special-needs pets — often because they adopt such animals themselves.

“A lot of us have this desire to nurture,” said Miami veterinarian Dr. Patricia Khuly, a popular blogger and frequent contributor. “I know there are plenty of veterinarians who advise not to take on a sick pet, but we veterinarians are often the worst at taking our own advice.”

Adopting a cat who’s older or has special needs can be a deeply satisfying experience.

“Anyone who has a really deep bond with their own pet and realizes how special their pet is — they should consider a special-needs cat,” said Khuly.

The place to start is with a clear-eyed evaluation of a pet’s health and behavior. An initial read on the health of a cat or kitten isn’t difficult, said Khuly. “Eyes clear and bright, devoid of crustiness or secretions. Notostrils clean, nice pink gums, a clean, full coat and ears free of debris. Breathing should be easy and not labored,” she said, adding that a kitten should also be able to walk and eat on his own, follow a finger and show interest in his surroundings.

Nevada Humane’s Ms. Brown said asking shelter staff or rescue volunteers for advice is sometimes the worst at taking their own advice.”

“Many have cared for a cat for a lifetime after what started as a really hard-luck kitty, you may find that the one with special needs — can be intensely satisfying on a personal level, and that benefit is one that should not be discounted.

“Anyone who has a really deep bond with their own pet and realizes how special their pet is — they should consider a special-needs cat,” said Khuly. “Eyes clear and bright, devoid of crustiness or secretions. Notostrils clean, nice pink gums, a clean, full coat and ears free of debris. Breathing should be easy and not labored,” she said, adding that a kitten should also be able to walk and eat on his own, follow a finger and show interest in his surroundings.

Nevada Humane’s Ms. Brown said asking shelter staff or rescue volunteers for advice can help narrow the choices. “We ask people to think about what they’re looking for. A quiet companion? A playful kitty? Are there children in the house? Other pets? The shelter staff usually knows the animals, and can help you choose one to meet your expectations.”

Behavior problems can be more difficult to predict than medical ones, since some cats react so badly to losing their homes that they shut down emotionally. Brown said shelters have tried to help cats maintain their true personalities by trading small cages for large rooms where cats can share space, or by increasing the number of volunteer foster homes so cats don’t have to stay in the shelter while waiting for a new home.

She also notes that the behavior problem that pushes many to give up a cat who’s been a house-sitting — in many cases cured by the change of scenery. “We often find the problem so specific to the cat’s previous environment that the problem doesn’t shift from one home to the next,” she said.

Ms. Brown and Dr. Khuly agree that knowing what you’re getting into is the key to a successful adoption, whether you’re dealing with the craziness of a kitten, the normal readjustment period of a newly adopted adult cat or the special needs of an animal with chronic health problems or behavior issues.

“You need a working relationship with your veterinarian,” said Dr. Khuly, who stresses this is even more true when considering a special-needs cat.

In the end, of course, the decisions are yours. But when you open your heart to a hard-luck kitty, you may find that the one who benefits most from the relationship is not the cat... but you.
COMMUNITY COLLECTION DRIVES

Children’s Home Society seeking school supplies

Children’s Home Society is collecting donations of school supplies to make sure that children and families in Southwest Florida are ready to succeed in the new school year. Supplies collected will be given to more than 700 children and teens in CHS programs in Collier, Lee, Charlotte, Hendry and Glades counties.

Backpacks and school supplies are needed for children from preschool through high school. Supplies will benefit youth in foster care through the CHS Independent Living Program as well as those enrolled in the Developmental Disabilities Program. Supplies will benefit youth in foster care through the CHS Independent Living Program as well as those enrolled in the Developmental Disabilities Program.

In Naples, the drop-off location Title Connection, 1415 Panther Lane; in Fort Myers, donations can be delivered to Waterman Broadcasting, 3719 Central Ave. For more information, call CHS at 334-0222.

Marco chamber wants back-to-school supplies

The Marco Island Area Chamber of Commerce is collecting back-to-school supplies so area children can return to the classroom with everything they need to get the new academic year off to a good start. In addition to supplies, monetary donations are welcome. Appropriate supplies include: composition notebooks and spiral notebooks, 5-inch blunt scissors, 3-by-5 index cards, Kleenex, three-ring binders (1, 0.5 and 2 inches), crayons, colored pencils and glue or glue sticks.

Supplies or checks can be dropped off at the chamber, 1102 N. Collier Blvd, anytime between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call 394-7549.

‘Undy Sunday’ involves 45 organizations

Organizers of the 15th annual ‘Undy Sunday’ drive for socks and underwear hope for more donations than ever this year, as more school children than ever are in need. The collection drive benefits students at 34 Collier County public elementary schools, as well as young clients of Youth Haven and The Shelter for Abused Women & Children.

Forty-five churches and synagogues will set out donation boxes on Sunday, Aug. 14 and 21, to collect new socks and underwear for boys and girls sizes six through 12. Monetary donations also are needed to purchase backpacks and school supplies.

Donations of new shoes or money to help purchase them are welcome and should be made by Friday, Aug. 12. The drive can be dropped off at the Guadalupe Center Resale Shop at 8000 Trail Blvd, corner of U.S. 41 and Vanderbilt Beach Road, in North Naples. Monetary donations can be made online at www.guadalupecenter.org.

A gift of $25 will fund a trip to Snyderman Shoes, where staff will fit each youngster for a new pair of sneakers. Laces of Love provides new socks for each child, and the shoe store adds lunch to make the back-to-school shopping trip complete.

The Seminole Casino and Guadalupe Center’s corporate coaches provide transportation to and from Immokalee.

The mission of the Guadalupe Center is to break the cycle of poverty by providing education, social and other support programs for at-risk children and families of Immokalee. For more information, call 657-7711 or visit www.guadalupecenter.org.

Shelter hopes donors will ‘Give Back: Stuff a Pack’

The Shelter for Abused Women & Children is conducting its annual “Give Back: Stuff a Pack” drive for back-to-school supplies. In addition to the standard pens and pencils, notebooks and paper, items on the list include:

- Gift cards to stores such as Target, Wal-Mart and Payless Shoes; school clothes; uniforms and shoes; backpacks, pencil boxes, lunchboxes and thermoses; Kleenex; glue sticks; highlighters and washable markers; watercolors and primary paints; pocket folders with prongs, 3-inch binders and dividers; construction paper; calculators and protractors.

Items are distributed to children residing in the 60-bed Bea Verney Home emergency shelter, as well as children receiving support through outreach offices in Naples and Immokalee.

Back-to-school donations can be dropped between 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday at the Shelter’s Options Thrift Shoppe, 968 Second Ave. N. For more information, call 775-3862 or visit www.sheltershoppe.org.

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A griot, or jeli, is a wandering West African poet musician. The word griot is a French transliteration of a Portuguese word that means “servant.” The jelis, the knowledge of the oral tradition of the jeli, comes from the root word for “blood.” This refers to griots being endogamous; they marry other griots. Their love language is the life blood bearing the oral tradition itself, ever revitalized by their personal interpretation and rendition. This is living mission of ever-changing present communication to all the surrounding communities. The griots might play talking drums. These hourglass shaped drums are constructed to mimic the tone and prosody of human speech. The messages are sent using short words and extra phrases, often repeated. While these phrases might seem redundant in speech, they serve to create meaning context in the drum signal. Extra beats and stock phrases reduce ambiguity of context in the drum signal. Extra beats are also beautiful. This non-digitized internet is ultimately and primordially embodied: Let’s look at our original drums. Enter through pinna, the auricle, into the canal. Inside, the tympanic membrane, the ear drum, sends encountered oscillation on to the ossicles, the three ear bones. As the world pulses, these ear drums send blood as breath-bearer to the heart. The right side of the set up, auricle and ventricle, brings blood to receive breath; both left chambers send blood as breath-bearing into body. The heart beat has two sounds: lub, dup. Receive breath, give breath. Life isounded, each part loving the other, in and out, on and on. The beat goes on.

The word beat comes from a Germanic root, which means “slay.” What is slain? There is the extinguishment of past, future, and present. There is the striking of the knell, a violent inviolate. And what walks into the light? Well, really, baby, baby: You slay me. Inviolable.

— Rx is the FloridaWeekly muse who hopes to inspire profound mutiny in all those who care to read. Our Rx might 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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Prices Include:
- Expert Wall to Wall Installation
- Includes Removal of Old Carpet & Pad
- Includes Furniture Moves
- Includes Lifetime Warranty

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“A couple of years ago, we were screwed by the recession, and we knew it, and last summer we had BP — it was a total disaster as far as the tourism industry on the west coast of Florida was concerned, or in all of Florida.”

— Phil McCabe, owner and innkeeper, The Inn on Fifth, Naples.

Maximum occupancy
Hotels filling up during the traditionally slow season

BY ROGER WILLIAMS
rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

As British Petroleum’s Deepwater Horizon platform hemorrhaged oil for almost 100 days into the northern Gulf of Mexico beginning on April 20, 2010, a world-class column of smoke filled the broad expanse of sky above. Disappearing into that towering toxic mushroom — the subject of unforgettable satellite photos seen around the globe — were the anticipated summer profits of hoteliers and tourist rental agents up and down the Southwest Florida coast, hundreds of miles distant and unaffected by the physical consequences of the spill.

That worst-ever summer of 2010 came on top of a recession officially declared dead but unofficially still strangling the tourist economy.

But now things are looking up instead of choking off or burning up, officials and business owners say. Summer numbers are higher than they have been in years.

“A couple of years ago, we were screwed by the recession, and we knew it, and last summer we had BP — it was a total disaster as far as the tourism industry on the west coast of Florida was concerned, or in all of Florida,” notes Phil McCabe, owner and innkeeper of The Inn on Fifth, Naples.

“But now our hotel occupancy for most of the year has been exceeding even our best year in 2008, and in the last two months it’s significantly more.”

Across the tourist industry here the hotels filling up during the traditionally slow season

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Cultural industries are economic powerhouses and states have the data to prove it, according to a new analysis from the National Endowment for the Arts. Drawing on data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, Arts and the GDP: Value Added by Selected Cultural Industries is a new NEA research note that examines the value added by three selected cultural industries: (1) performing arts, sports, and museums; (2) motion pictures and sound recording; and (3) publishing (including software). Combined, these three cultural industries contributed a total of $278.4 billion to the U.S. economy in 2009. The NEA research note also looks at dollars and jobs added to individual state economies by these cultural industries.

Each year, the Bureau of Economic Analysis estimates the value added by major industry groups, including performing arts, sports, and museums. “Value added” refers to an industry’s contribution to the U.S. economy through its labor and capital, excluding material and energy costs.

More detailed industry breakdowns that isolate the performing arts and museums from sports are conducted every five years, most recently for 2002 data. That year, for example, value added from sports was $16.9 billion, value added from the performing arts was $7.2 billion, and value added from museums was $4.7 billion.

Key findings of the study include:

• In 2009, the performing arts, sports, and museums added $70.9 billion to the U.S. economy. That same year, the motion picture and sound recording industries contributed $59.8 billion, while publishing (including software) added $147.7 billion.

• Cultural industries have contributed increasingly greater amounts to the U.S. economy. Between 1987 and 2009, for example, inflation-adjusted value added by the performing arts, sports, and museums nearly doubled.

• The 2007-2009 recession affected cultural production. Real value added from the performing arts, sports, and museums fell by 14 percent in 2008; it dipped 5.5 percent the following year. Contractions also occurred in the motion picture and sound recording industries and in publishing.

The NEA research note Arts and the GDP: Value Added by Selected Cultural Industries is available for download in the Research section of www.arts.gov.

New research shows the value of cultural industries

Real estate news
$7 million sale makes ‘Significant’ list

See Tourism, B11

By Roger Williams
rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

Artists, architects, and local business leaders converge on Naples for AIA conference and more.

ARCHITECTS ALL AROUND
Statewide AIA conference convenes, and more.

B9-10

On the Move
See who’s going where and doing what on the local business scene.

B4

Real estate news
$7 million sale makes ‘Significant’ list.

B11
A lot of people outside the U.S. thought the debt ceiling crisis has been beyond insanity. These outsiders look at us in disbelief — that we would allow, or come close to allowing, the world’s greatest power to default on its debt and to allow its credit rating to slip from AAA. The U.S., after all, is the country designated as the world’s reserve currency and also the country with the largest GDP.

Having spoken with many foreigners who visit and live in Florida, it’s clear to see that the deficit brinksmanship in Washington D.C. has been risky business, for us and for the world.

True, the Europeans have their own problems. Many Germans know elements of the ridiculous as they are dealing with the Greek, Irish, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish, etc. sovereign debt issues. In those cases, the burden falls disproportionately on German shoulders. While economic growth continues in Brazil, India and China, nobody, but nobody, would want to yield our political system in favor of these countries. But taking a closer look at these countries, there could be some elements of jealousy when you see the relative ease with which they undertake economic reform.

In China, for instance, the economic, financial, tax debates are non-existent. The Communist Party has fiscal and monetary decisions made by a selective group (mostly men) who are all on the same political and economic page. Political wrangling, wrestling and show time is diminimous.

That, of course, is not to say that the Chinese leadership do everything capitalist-right, not that they do anything transparently, or with proper accounting or capital structure or with proper labor relations and practices. There is a lot done in total contravention of U.S. values. But the Chinese do make decisions quickly and get the economic job done efficiently, and this has significantly helped in their rapid growth. In the past 10 years, the Chinese aggressively bought and developed offshore sources of energy; they continue to create new infrastructure of roads, ports, water systems, not only in their country but in ports critical to their trade (i.e. Panama Canal); created a formidable military and a “string of pearls” (quasi naval bases etc.) And as to net exports, no one in the world’s greatest power to drive expansion? Absolutely they do, and they have huge cash balances. But will they? Their decision-making involves a myriad of factors and their utilization of their cash will not necessarily be deployed within the 50 states. Overseas markets offer increasingly more competent skilled labor and professional services. As with prior recessions, growth often hinges on the small business start-up and small business expansion, the real drivers of employment.

As the U.S. has a dearth of political leadership uniting people under a common vision and constrained purse strings at federal, state and municipal levels, the baton is seemingly passed to our political system. And in any environment in which government spending is curtailed (the G in the above GDP equation), then just to keep GDP at current levels will require a significant increase in spending by the only sector that has meaningful cash… businesses.

— Jeannette Rohn Showalter, CFA, can be reached at 444-5633, ext. 1092, or jshowaltercfa@yahoo.com. Her office is at The Cresent Business Center, Bonita Springs.
Rum Row
Marvelous waterfront estate with over 9,500 square feet of living space. With architecture in the Bermudian tradition and breathtaking views over Buccaneers Bay, this immaculate estate offers the unique opportunity for elegant entertaining and luxurious family living. Quick access to the Gulf. Port Royal Club membership eligibility. $12,950,000

Galleon Drive
From the engaging driveway entrance, through the interior of this masterpiece of comfortable elegance, unfolds a panorama without equal. One immediately recognizes that a striking clarity of conception was turned into a remarkable reality. Port Royal Club membership eligibility. $14,900,000

Gordon Drive
This exceptional South Naples beachfront residence is the personification of the much admired and beloved individual who commissioned its construction. The house is finished with engaging attention to detail. Port Royal Club membership eligibility. $14,000,000

Nelson’s Walk
Absolutely magnificent environmental views of Naples Bay. Two and one-half planted Port Royal lots with approximately 509 feet (per plot) on the water. Properties may be purchased separately. Port Royal Club membership eligibility. $12,500,000

Nelson’s Walk
Sensational views from this stunning residence situated on two Port Royal lots with expansive water frontage. Beautiful Southern exposure facing the confluence of Naples Bay and the picturesque inland waterways leading to Rookery Bay and the pristine coastal estuaries. Port Royal Club membership eligibility. $11,990,000

Cutlass Lane
Perhaps the finest waterfront property in all of Naples. Designed by architect Jerry DeGimma and built by Newbury North Associates. A perfect combination of New England and Old Florida style architecture. Port Royal Club membership eligibility. $10,800,000

Admiralty Parade
Supelative new construction situated on an expansive lot and one-half overlooking Harbour Head waterway. Light interior finishes are wonderfully complemented by the abundant green spaces which surround. Port Royal Club membership eligibility. $9,990,000

Sygulass Lane
Situated on two wide water estate lots with magnificently landscaped grounds. Originally built in 1993 and renovated in 2006 & 2008 by Newbury North Associates. Port Royal Club membership eligibility. $9,750,000

You are invited to inquire about our private placement listings.

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Paragraphs from the document:

**Automotive**

John Marazzi has resigned as managing partner at John Marazzi Nissan in Naples. Mr. Marazzi took over Naples Nissan in 2008, renamed it and went on to become a two-time Circle of Excellence winner and one of the Top 20 Volume Nissan dealers in the country.

**Awards & Recognition**

Greg Billings of the Steinway Piano Gallery of Bonita Springs accepted a Top 100 Dealer Award at the recent convention and trade show of the Native American Association of Music Merchants in Nashville, Tenn.

**Banking & Finance**

Naples native Eric Poell has joined Moran Edwards Asset Management Group of Wells Fargo Advisors as a client associate. He will be responsible for performing extensive quantitative analysis and maintaining existing trading models as well as developing new ones. Mr. Poell earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from the University of Pennsylvania.

Keith Embree has joined FineMark National Bank & Trust as senior vice president and senior lending officer in Naples. Mr. Embree recently retired after nearly two decades with Northern Trust in Southwest Florida. He serves on the budget review committee for the United Way of Collier County.

Cell Mosher has joined FineMark National Bank & Trust as vice president/private banking at the Pine Ridge Point office. Mr. Mosher comes to FineMark with more than 20 years of banking experience in Lee County. A resident of Estero since 1992, she volunteers at Bonita Middle School and at Hope Hospice.

**Board Appointments**

Charles Campbell and Peter Neri have been elected to the board of directors of The Immokalee Foundation.

**Health Care**

Internal medicine physician Cristina Scavolino-Day has joined Physicians Regional Medical Group, a strategic affiliate of the Physicians Regional HealthCare System. Dr. Scavolino-Day earned her medical degree from SUNY Health Science Center in Brooklyn, NY, before completing her residency at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center. She is board certified in internal medicine and has more than 10 years of primary care experience. Dr. Scavolino-Day's specialties include: heart disease and stroke prevention; cholesterol, diabetes and hypertension control; cancer prevention screens; proactive annual physicals; pre-operative evaluations; and osteoporosis/osteopenia. She is accepting patients ages 10 and older at the Physicians Regional Pebblebrook location.

**Job Recruitment**

Jill Snyder Caballero and Todd Reynolds have joined the staff at The Marisot-Dart Group, an executive recruitment firm that specializes in placing mid-management to high-level executives across various industries. During the past eight years, Ms. Caballero and Mr. Reynolds have successfully partnered with hundreds of companies to assist in the identification and placement of key employees.

**Nonprofit Organizations**

Raelyn Means, assistant director/operations manager for the 20th Circuit Guardian ad Litem program for the past three years, has been promoted to director of the program. She will lead staff and volunteers in Collier, Lee, Charlotte, Hendry and Glades counties in their best interests of abused, neglected and abandoned children.

Theresa Shaw has been named president/chief professional officer for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Collier County. She previously was president of the Nash/Edgcombe County Boys & Girls Clubs, overseeing five sites from headquarters in Rocky Mount, N.C. She serves on the Boys & Girls Club National Commission and is the chair of the 2012 BGCA SouthEast Leadership Conference.

**Automobiles**

**Awards & Recognition**

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Sancerre - Unit 401
Dramatic views over Tarpon Cove from this architectural masterpiece designed by renowned architect Ramin Rikhab.
Elegant, yet comfortable, tropical living. Port Royal Club membership eligibility. $3,950,000

Sancerre - Unit 702
A classically beautiful residence with intricate detailing and marvellous millwork. A very rare example of creative architecture designed to be lived in and enjoyed while taking full advantage of the remarkable wide water views of Gallows Cove. Port Royal Club membership eligibility. $5,950,000

Fort Charles Drive
Spectacular long water view estate site. Close to the Port Royal Club. Expansive lot and one-half creates a large building envelope along Morgan’s Cove. Port Royal Club membership eligibility. $3,950,000

Aqualane Shores
A gracious Aqualane Shores waterfront home situated with long views down both Aqualane Shores and Old Naples. Magnificently finished home is light and cheery with a well-appointed kitchen serving formal and informal dining areas inside and out. $3,950,000

Just Sold

Kings Towns Drive
Dramatic views over Tarpon Cove from this architectural masterpiece designed by renowned architect Ramin Rikhab.
Elegant, yet comfortable, tropical living. Port Royal Club membership eligibility. $3,950,000

Lantern Lane
Nestled in the heart of Port Royal, this property offers a quiet environment in close proximity to all Port Royal amenities. Rarely offered in the Port Royal area, the rear of the property is situated on Dead End Lane, which offers additional access to the property from the Sam Port Royal Club membership eligibility. $2,500,000

Lancaster Drive
Beautifully appointed 2nd floor condominium with spectacular lake and water views. Finishers include an updated kitchen with new appliances and gorgeous marble and wood flooring. Bathrooms newly finished with granite counters, custom mirrors, and hardware. Kensington offers a range of membership opportunities. $148,000

Pelican Bay
A spacious split bedroom floor plan on a comfortable living level combined with a large wrap-around lanai overlooking the expansive terrace and beautiful preserve makes this a perfect offering in the highly acclaimed community of Pelican Bay. This southwest facing residence within Pelican Bay, the Drescher has convenient access to the tennis courts and the two beach pavilions. $485,000

Galleon Drive
This enchanting Port Royal residence offers a tropical motif, including rich wood finishes, stone flooring, and gorgeous ceiling treatments. There are direct views of Limpkin Cove with ample green space for gardening and outdoor entertaining. Port Royal Club membership eligibility. $3,950,000

Old Naples
Enter this professionally decorated Villa Escalante residence and you will feel transported to a tropical oasis of quintessential relaxation and warmth. Enjoy al fresco dining on the sun-drenched patio, complete with private pool and grill area. $3,450,000

Rum Row
A classically beautiful residence with intricate detailing and marvellous millwork. A very rare example of creative architecture designed to be lived in and enjoyed while taking full advantage of the remarkable wide water views of Gallows Cove. Port Royal Club membership eligibility. $5,950,000

Spyglass Lane
The minimalist design of this well remodeled home encourages a soothing tranquility and contemporary comfort. Expansive long water views, with remarkable privacy. Port Royal Club membership eligibility. $6,750,000

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Management Quality

When evaluating a company as a possible investment, you want to show strong numbers on its financial statement and display strong management. It might seem that the first is a quantitative matter and the second a qualitative one. You actually tell a lot about management by examining financial statements. Well-run companies tend to display stronger numbers over the past few years. Have a look at the statement of operations and compare lower the rates, the better.) Another barometer of manage- ment excellence is a company's return on (ROE), measuring how well the company is using its reinvested earnings to generate additional income. You'll find ROE via stock data sites such as at http:// quote.fool.com and http://finance.yahoo.com. ROE varies by industry, so compare a firm's ROE with those of its peers. And review several years' worth, as one good number does not a great company make. Note, too, that high debt can inflate ROE. You might also look for executives who own big stakes of the company stock, and access company communications, to get a feel for how candid the bigwigs are. Invest in companies only after you're sure that their highly compensated execu- tives are earning their keep.

Name That Company

Founded in 1984 and based in Milan, Italy, I'm a global leader in eyewear. I measure prescription frames, sunglasses, and accessories through more than 6,000 retail locations. In 2010, I produced about 57 million units. My brands include Ray-Ban (which I bought in 1999), Oakley (2007), Sunglass Hut (2002), Len- sCrafters 1993 and Pearl Vision (2004). My licensed brands include Prada, Dolce & Gabbana, Tiffany:

Don't Write Off Encana

Canada's natural gas specialist Encana (NYSE: ECA) recently failed to ink a lucrative $5.5 billion deal with Chinese petroleum giant PetroChina. But that's temporary. Writing off Encana’s gas. Its financial statements don't inspire. appear to be temporary. Profitability has been struggling lately, but these problems do look challenging for the company unless it strikes up one or two joint ven- tures. It shouldn't be too difficult to bag a better deal in the near future, though.

Encana's stock currently looks under- valued, and the company has tremen- dous potential. I'm interested in a glass and developed seamless insulation for copper wire. I lost roughly 80 percent of my assets after World War II, but grew my business into an electrical engineering giant again. In 2005 I was commissioned to electrify all of Ireland. I have developed or improved elec- tronic microscopes, locomotives, telephone communication, radios, cardiac pacemaker- s, computer memory chips, fuel cells and power generators. Today I focus on industry, energy and health care. I have 5,970 active patents and rake in 76 billion euros annually. What is it? (Answer: Siemens )

The Motley Fool Take

I trace my roots back to Berlin in the 1840s, when I was founded during the decline of the textile industry. I developed new technology, such as fluorescent seeds, that were used to grow highly productive plants. I have now diversified into the production of high-quality fibers, such as synthetic and natural. I am not just a textile company, but also a manufacturer of chemical products, such as dyes and plastics. I have a long history of innovation and growth. I am a very successful company, and I expect my stock to continue performing well.

Last week's trivia answer

I trace my roots back to Berlin in the 1840s, when I was founded during the decline of the textile industry. I developed new technology, such as fluorescent seeds, that were used to grow highly productive plants. I have now diversified into the production of high-quality fibers, such as synthetic and natural. I am not just a textile company, but also a manufacturer of chemical products, such as dyes and plastics. I have a long history of innovation and growth. I am a very successful company, and I expect my stock to continue performing well.

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.

Auditing the Auditors

I was burned twice, investing in compa- nies that had overstated their income. In both cases, their auditors were from Arthur Andersen. Soon after their respective quarters, the Fool solicited from an investment newsletter, recommending a rock-solid energy stock. When I researched the company, I found that the auditor was Arthur Andersen, so I walked away. The stock was Enron. I learned two lessons: Be wary of deals that look too good to be true, and check the auditors. — A.L., via email The Fool Responds: In such cases, it's more than the auditors who are at fault. Enron fooled many people, Wall Street pro- fessionals and employees alike. You'll right to be careful with any investment recom- mendations, though. It's best to do your own digging and to look at any red flags, such as deteriorating performance or a regulatory investigation. Seek green flags, too, such as growth, a healthy balance sheet and com- petitive advantages.

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. Get one that looks like My Smarter Investment. If we print yours, you'll win a Fool's cap! Do you have a nifty prize?
Job search support group meets weekly

A job search support group for down-sized employees of local businesses meets at 10:30 a.m. every Monday at the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce. The group is geared toward white collar, administrative and professional workers, rather than trade and service workers. It is not a job placement service. Emphasis is on networking, resumes, interviewing skills and best practices for a successful transition.

Participants should come prepared to discuss who they are, what type of opportunity they seek and what makes them good candidates for jobs. Assistance is available to those who are still working through these topics. Each session offers an in-depth look at tools and critical elements for a successful transition.

For more information, e-mail Karen Klasiewicz at kklk77@comcast.net. No advance registration is required, and there is no charge to attend.

Marco chamber welcomes 10 new members

The Marco Island Chamber of Commerce welcomes the following new members: Arrow Environmental Services; Caxambas Republican Club of Southwest Florida; Collier Foot & Ankle Specialists; Dr. Carlos Porto, Internal Medicine; March of Dimes; Marco Island Brewing Company; Marco Island Homeowners; Premier Plus Realty Company; PrePaid Legal Services; and Zinfandel Lounge at Vandy’s.

For information about joining the chamber, visit www.marcoislandchamber.org.

Bonita chamber has refreshing summer programs

Summer Refreshers, the Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce’s series of free classes and workshops to help invigorate business, continues through August with the following sessions:

- Networking at Your Best: 4-5:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 11 – Presented by Mary Lynn Ziemer, author of “Living a Joyful Life”.
- Build Your Plan! Marketing & PR Strategies: 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 17 – Presented by Phyllis Ershowsky of PKE Marketing and Public Relations Solutions, and Jessica Macera of Business Dynamics Solutions. Lunch provided by Royal Scoop.
- The Secret to High Performance: 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 23 – Presented by Kelly Townsend of Townsend Consulting Group. Learn “the three laws of performance” to help elevate your company’s performance, internally with employees as well as externally with clients. Lunch provided by Old 41 Restaurant.
- Payroll: What You Think You Know Could Be Costing You Money: 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 31 – Presented by Cheryl Willett, president of Willett Business Management Inc., and Karen Tarpin, senior sales representative with Paychex. Lunch provided by Capri Pizza.

Summer Refreshers all take place at chamber headquarters, 2501 Commerce Drive in Bonita Springs.

SCORE, Naples chamber join forces for workshops

SCORE Naples and the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce offer the following two workshops:

- Master the Inner Game of Business: 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 10 – Most people accept stress as normal, but it can cause work and relationship issues and undermine your ability to achieve the success you deserve. This workshop helps you learn how to recognize and dismantle the stressors that are sapping your energy, creativity and health.
- Avoid the Six Business Killers: 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 16 – Mistakes happen. We all make them. Find out about the six common mistakes business owners make that can jeopardize what they’ve worked a lifetime to create. Chances are you’re making one or more of them in your business right now.

Registration is $35 for each workshop, and both take place in the Leadership Collier Foundation meeting room at the chamber of commerce, 2390 Tamiami Trail N. Sign up at www.napleschamber.org/events.

Invest in the future via SCORE program

SCORE Naples’ new Education Alliance program gives local businesses and corporate foundations an opportunity to contribute to and benefit from an umbrella program with area high schools, colleges, universities and adult learning organizations. The objective is to keep the local talent here by fostering entrepreneurship and providing financial assistance to deserving students.

The elements are a sustainable scholarship, an intern program for college juniors and seniors and career advisory services for adult students — all utilizing 60 of SCORE Naples’ experienced counselors.

Area businesses that become sponsor and educational partners can make tax-deductible contributions and gain philanthropic credits as well as promotional benefits. For more information, contact Vincent Izzzi, director of SCORE Naples, at 401-4445 or vinizzi45@gmail.com, or the SCORE office at 430-0881 or info@score-naples.org.

Business can apply for Blue Chip Award

The 17th annual Southwest Florida Blue Chip Community Business Award co-sponsored by BB&T-Oswald Tripe and Company and B.B.T. Bank recognizes small businesses that have over- come adversity to achieve success. Applications are being accepted from for-profit businesses in Collier, Lee and Charlotte counties that have been in business for at least three years and that employ between five and 400 people.

The application deadline is Sept. 15. The award will be presented during a luncheon Thursday, Nov. 3, at Harbourside Event Center in Fort Myers. To receive an application form, contact Stacey Mercado at 433-7189 or Smercado@bbandt.com.
promise of 2011 numbers hasn’t come without suffering. And it probably shouldn’t be compared to last year’s season-long losses.

“Our overall numbers are better than last year's, but you have to go back to 2009 to look at a fair comparison of where we are,” explains Bob Wells, owner of the Cabbage Key Inn in Pine Island Sound, along with the highly regarded Tarpon Lodge, on Pine Island.

“You need to take 2010 out of the equation, because the year was so bad for many reasons. We had a tremendously cold winter to start things off, we had the huge misunderstanding (by marketers and tourists) about BP — they just weren’t aware we were a long way from those issues.”

“But to go back to a 2009 comparison, I’m somewhat optimistic because our numbers are bouncing off the floor now, and moving toward 2009 numbers. We hope it can stay that way.”

It will take a lot of bouncing to make up for what happened.

From the Naples Grande Beach Resort to the Hyatt Coconut Point to the Crown Plaza Fort Myers; from Fort Myers Beach to Sanibel and Captiva Islands and the South Seas Resort; and from Punta Gorda’s stately Wyvern Hotel to the lustrous, unspoiled beaches of San Pedro Island and its sisters, Thornton Key, Knight Island and Little Gasparilla Island, profits plummeted to near nothing last summer.

“We lost 42 percent of our gross profits simply because of perceptions about the oil spill last summer,” admits Bob Madden, co-owner with his wife, Robin, of Islander Properties on Don Pedro Island, a ferry-accessible barrier key with a single paved road, no stop-lights and a traditionally loyal clientele. There, the Maddens rent homes and villas to visitors both winter and summer.

“But this year we’re having our best summer since 2007. We attribute that to a recovering economy, up from 2008 and 2009. Then, our return guests were just not returning, and some had been coming for 18 to 20 years.”

Officials themselves remain cautiously optimistic about the numbers, and exuberant about the anecdotal evidence, even when it makes life a little harder for them.

“‘We’re up over last year, and I said I was talking about the oil spill again, but we would expect them to be up after that (disaster),’” says Tamara Pigott, executive director of the Lee Visitor and Convention Bureau.

“Some of the sporting events are helping the inland hotels — the National Association of Roller Hockey Champions, for example, put 350 teams in the area. And quite frankly there’s a high demand at coastal properties. I know this because I’m bringing in my new advertising agency (a Kansas City-based outfit, MMG Worldwide), soon to begin encouraging an even more robust tourist trade.”

“When I called a hotel, they said, ‘Sorry, we don’t have 10 rooms that night, we don’t even have one room in the middle of the week.’”

“I said, ‘You don’t? That’s great!’ Her colleague to the north, Jennifer Huber, public relations manager for the Charlotte Harbor Visitor and Convention Bureau, points out that the oil spill was not the only factor in killing the healthy numbers last year.

“We hear that hotel, home and condo rentals are up and owners are having a better summer this year — and one major reason is that the oil spill is out of the way this year, and mostly forgotten.

But it’s a misperception that the phones stopped ringing just because of the oil spill,” Ms. Huber explains.

“There were other big events going on — international travelers (such as the Germans or British) were going to the World Cup rather than going to Florida, or to other events. And this year, people with vacation fatigue, who held off taking a vacation for a couple of years, are saying, ‘We’re going on a vacation.’ The economy is still shaky, but people are optimistic. Everyone is so tired of living like they have been living.”

One factor helping to bring in tourist dollars are new or almost new air travel routes from near and far, and marketing employed to capitalize on them.

“Allegiant Air, for example, has been flying non-stop out of Knoxville into Punta Gorda for more than a year, the flights are full, the numbers are good, but most passengers seem to be headed south to Fort Myers or Naples, or north to Sarasota, Ms. Huber explains.

So this summer the Charlotte Visitor and Convention Bureau has gone after their business aggressively.

“We did a campaign in two malls there, we did a table tent that drove us to a Facebook promotion where people could win a getaway to Charlotte County, we did radio promotions, and I went up there for a week and did TV promotions,” Ms. Huber says.

“And that’s not all. ‘We’re bringing in journalists on a familiarization effort, and we have partners who are so good to work with — our hotels, attractions, restaurants all donate components to make up a vacation package.’

At Southwest Florida International Airport, meanwhile, the Vikings are coming. There’s a new flight arriving beginning this summer from Denmark, which can help make up for the flat numbers still showing out of Germany (where people are very environmentally sensitive) and Britain (where the economy is very sluggish), notes Ms. Pigott.

“The Outrigger Resort just hosted folks from Denmark, Bill Lawson from Geraci Travel helped book their flights — they love to fish — Miromar Outlets saw a significant swing on their website from Denmark when those folks found out where the outlet was and were excited to open their wallets. The exchange rate is great — there are a lot of reasons why this is a great market for them,” she says.

With all that going on, there will be no repeat of last summer for anybody, hoteliers hope.

“Last summer, we lost hundreds of thousands of dollars, and not just in revenue but we had to spend tens of thousands in increased costs,” recalls Mr. McCabe at the Inn of Fifth.

“Now the prognosis is better. Just looking at the Dow Jones average and the economy at large, and it increases in tourism, our estimation is these trends will continue.”

Continue, that is, unless there’s a major hurricane, or another oil spill, or a Japanese-style disaster, or Congress simply can’t get its act together.

“But I’m an optimist,” he concludes. “As a business owner, you have to be.”
NETWORKING

The American Institute of Architects statewide convention at Naples Grande

1. Amy Nowacki, Michael Lingerfelt and Joyce Owens
2. Robert Monk, Amy Nowacki, Scott and Lauren Anderson
3. Don Beers, Walter Trujillo and Antonio Auadeo
4. Enrique Woodruffe, Larry Schnider and Rhonda and Dick Pritts
5. Gus Paras, Cindy and Pat McLaughlin and Valerie Childs
6. Eileen Johanson, Joel Silver and Michele White
7. Amy and Brad Schiffer
8. Rick Logan, Scott Anderson, Joyce Owens and Michael Lingerfelt of AIA-Florida Southwest, winner of the Anthony Pullarg Chapter Award
9. Chris Ressler and Faith Sloman
Taste of the Tropics at Fifth Avenue Design Gallery

1. Krystal Olivarez, Thomas Replogle, Caryn Murphy, Henry Jeannin and Jacob Huntoon
2. Ben Riley, Matt Riley, Linda Donnelly and Tony Spano
3. Mike Assaad, Jay DeAngelis and Jeff DeAngelis
4. Thomas Replogle, Gary Knutsen, Christopher Smith and Jacob Huntoon
5. Eric Tibbetts, Michel Saadeh, Sam Semaan and Martha Graham
6. Bob and Lorraine McCashin
7. Kirsten and Greg Griffin

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.
SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Premier Sotheby’s International Realty had one of the top sales in the Sotheby’s International Realty network for the month of May. The Naples affiliate’s sale of a historical beachfront home on Broad Avenue for $7 million was included in the Sotheby’s “Significant Sales” brochure featuring 10 of the top sales in its network. Karen Van Arsdale was the listing agent.

NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY

REAL ESTATE

WEEK OF AUGUST 4-10, 2011

A GUIDE TO THE NAPLES REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY | B11

SOLD

Opportunities abound at Florida Realtors convention

New homes under way on Barefoot Beach

Collins & DuPont Interior Design has been selected to complete the interiors for two of four homes on Barefoot Beach under construction by Windover Development. The first home, the Dominica, has four bedrooms and 4½ baths under 4,200 air-conditioned square feet. It will feature a coastal design created by a team including Renee Gaddis and Joanna Drake. All four homes will be sold completely furnished.

Based in Manchester, Mass., Windover Development has been in Southwest Florida for two years, with projects in Fort Myers Beach and Port Royal in Naples.

The Dominica was designed by Kukk Architecture & Design for Windover Development.

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38 Broad Ave. S.

COURTESY PHOTO

$7 million sale makes Sotheby’s ‘Significant’ list

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Star Redd

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The latest gadgets, advice from top motivational speakers and a chance to network with other real estate professionals: That’s what the Florida Realtors 2011 Convention & Trade Expo has to offer — opportunities to learn new best practices and innovative marketing approaches, all to boost business. Realtors from across Florida will gather for the Florida Realtors Association’s 95th annual convention Aug. 24-28 at the Rosen Shingle Creek resort in Orlando. The event features more than 54 educational sessions on topics as varied as handling short sales, social media trends, personal branding and home pricing strategies.

“Once our members have the chance to learn from the best in the business, network with colleagues and have fun at the same time,” says Patricia Fitzgerald, president of the association. “For me, the convention is a high-light of the year,” she adds. “I always come away with new contacts, fresh ideas and a renewed passion for this profession.”

This year’s attendees will also be able to relive the excitement that was “Flip This House” on The Learning Channel. Chandra Hall, a certified instructor on short sales and foreclosures; and Doug Devitre, a nationally recognized consultant on technology and social media solutions, among others, will share their insights into the latest trends, technology and business practices in the industry.

Other highlights include the trade expo, where more than 100 exhibitors will demonstrate the latest real estate products and technology, and the keynote awards luncheon, featuring personal development expert Mike Rayburn. In his presentation “What If … and Why Not?”, Mr. Rayburn uses his guitar and comedy to demonstrate how to access one’s professional potential.

FRA members can register online through Aug. 16 at floridarealtors.org/convention or by calling (800) 669-4327. ■

Larsen Educational Services offers continuing education

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Larsen Educational Services presents several opportunities for licensed real estate professionals to complete 14 hours of continuing education credits to maintain their state licenses. The two-day course covers recent changes to Florida law and FREC rules, as well as new information on property tax bills, mortgage debt forgiveness, short sales and more.

Dates and locations are:

• Aug. 10 and 11, 1400 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers
• Aug. 27 and 28, 3073 Horseshoe Drive S., Naples
• Sep. 24 and 25, 1400 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers

Classes meet from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuition is $99. For registration or more information, call 344-7510 or visit www.LarsonEd.com.

Real Estate Investment Society brings in experts for seminar

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Local government officials and real estate experts will be the guest pan-elists for “Challenges and Strategies for Property Development Today,” a seminar presented by the Real Estate Investment Society of Southwest Florida from 8 a.m. to noon Thursday, Sept. 22, at Pelican Preserve Town Center in Fort Myers. Topics include:

• How can government agencies assist with difficult properties?
• What issues need to be addressed in the due diligence process?
• Where are the legal land mines, and what can you do about them?
• What are the options for re-positioning challenged properties?

The presenters will conduct a question-and-answer session at the end of each segment.

Registration is $25 for REIS members, $35 for college students and $45 for others. Seating is limited and reservations are required by Sept. 16. Sign up at www.reis-swfl.org. ■
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• 15th Floor Residence
• $239,000   MLS 211007843
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• 2 Bedrooms, 2-Baths

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NAPLES
• 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 3-Baths
• Just Steps to the Beach
• Over 3,700 S.F. of Living
• Beautiful Pool & Spa
• $2,450,000   MLS 211506409
• Kristin Porter 239.253.2099

TUSCANY RESERVE
• 3 Bedrooms, 4-Baths
• Stunning Details Throughout
• Gorgeous Pool w/Retracting Screens
• Lake & Golf Course Views
• $1,925,000   MLS 211105153
• Jordan Dalaney & Steve Sudduth 239.404.3070

CUSTOM COACH HOME
• 3 Bedrooms, 3-Baths
• Expansive Lanai
• Custom Features Throughout
• Stunning Lake Views
• $1,195,000   MLS 211506168
• Steve Sudduth & Jordan Dalaney 239.784.0693

CORKY REITER
• 2 Bedrooms, + Den, 3-Baths
• 2-Car Garage
• Over 1,400 S.F. of Living Space
• $1,250 / Month   MLS 211505726
• Debbie Hunt 239.325.3523

THE DUNES
• 3 Bedrooms, 3-Baths
• Beautiful Carriage Home
• 2-Car Garage
• Gated Community
• $2,800 / Month   MLS 211502006
• Jeff Windland 239.325.3519

WILSHIRE LAKES
• 5 Bedrooms, 3.5-Baths
• Overlooking Private Preserve
• Beautiful Golf Flooring & Fireplace
• Screened Pool and Lanai
• $2,800 / Month   MLS 211505750
• Debbie Hunt 239.398.5529

COCONUT SHORES
• 2 Bedrooms, + Den, 3-Baths
• Tranquil Lake & Preserve Views
• 1st Floor Coach Home
• World Class Amenities
• $1,950 / Month   MLS 211505491
• Corye Ratter 239.273.3722

ARUBA AT COVE TOWERS
• 2 Bedrooms, + Den, 2-Baths
• Stunning Sunset Views
• Resort Style Amenities
• $2,650 / Month   MLS 211505929
• Jeff Windland 239.325.3519

BONITA SPRINGS
• 2 Bedrooms, + Den, 2-Baths
• Tranquil Lake & Preserve Views
• Over 1,800 S.F. of Living Space
• 2-Car Garage
• $1,400 / Month   MLS 211505491
• Corye Ratter 239.273.3722

CENTRAL BONITA SPRINGS
• 2 Bedrooms, + Den, 2-Baths
• Park, Pool & Spa Views
• Over 1,700 S.F. of Living Space
• $1,250 / Month   MLS 211505796
• Steve Sudduth 239.404.3070

RESIDENCES AT COCONUT POINT
• 2 Bedrooms, 2-Baths
• Over 1,400 S.F. of Living Space
• Beautiful Community Pool & Spa
• World Class Dining & Shopping
• $1,250 / Month   MLS 211505726
• Corye Ratter 239.273.3722

NAPLES
• 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 3-Baths
• Expansive Lanai
• Gated Community
• $2,800 / Month   MLS 211505750
• Debbie Hunt 239.325.3519

THE STRAND
• 3 Bedrooms, 2-Baths
• Beautiful Golf Course Views
• Beautifully Appointed Kitchen
• Remodeled Just Completed
• $319,999   MLS 211505094
• Liz Appling 239.272.7201

ARUBA AT COVE TOWERS
• 2 Bedrooms, + Den, 2-Baths
• Stunning Sunset Views
• Resort Style Amenities
• $2,650 / Month   MLS 211505929
• Jeff Windland 239.325.3519

BONITA SPRINGS
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• $1,250 / Month   MLS 211505726
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3,786 sq ft. 4bed/4bath. Built in 2007. Private lake views. $1,999,999 at Mediterra

Built in 2007. 3,925 living sq ft. Private lake views. $1,995,500 at Mediterra

2,873 sq ft. Rarely occupied 2nd floor coach home. Southwest golf course view. $599,800 at Mediterra

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Moraya Bay

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State condo sales up 8 percent in June

Florida's existing condo sales rose 8 percent in June with a total of 7,941 units sold statewide compared to 7,330 sold in June 2010, according to the latest housing data released by Florida Realtors. The state-wide existing condo median sales price last month was $93,900; a year earlier, it was $92,300 for a 2 percent increase. The national median existing condo sales price was $165,400 in May 2011, according to the National Association of Realtors.

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TOTALLY COSMIC

New imaging capabilities allow FGCU observatory to capture Hubble-like vistas

T HE HUBBLE SPACE TELESCOPE’S painterly images of the cosmos captured the minds and imaginations of Americans in 1990. New stars sparked like neon pinpricks atop watercolor washes of crimson, blue and gold clouds in the now-famous pictures. With the recent purchase of color filters and a high-resolution camera, Florida Gulf Coast University’s Evelyn L. Egan Astronomical Observatory now produces its own Hubble-like images to advance research and spark the next wave of star-struck students.

“They open the door to a brand-new line of research efforts, which we were previously not able to do,” says Physics and astronomy Professor Michael Fauerbach and undergraduate assistant Salvatore Grasso inside the upper deck of the observatory.

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Back on the “Street” for four performances Friday-Sunday, Aug. 5-7, at the Sugden Community Theater are: Chris Campbell, Jacob Carberry, Joe Federico, James Giordano, Lauren Raleigh, Matt Reed and Dustin Schlairet. Mr. Campbell served as a dance captain and was in the chorus for the adult production. In addition to serving as dance captain for the KidzAct show, he also plays the role of choreographer Andy Lee. Mr. Giordano moves from the chorus into a leading role, that of Billy Lawlor.

BY CINDY PIERCE
cpierce@floridaweekly.com

SEE STREET, C3

SEE COSMIC, C4

Perfect pitch
Now’s the time to sign up for Opera Naples’ seventh season.

Call to artists
Naples Art Association solicits applicants for the season’s first shows.

Crazy, stupid... bad
Film critic Dan Hudak is not enamored.

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When my friend Susie called last week, I hardly recognized her voice. “I have a date,” she said.

“A date?” I tried not to sound surprised.

“A sort of date. Drinks.”

I could hear her smiling on the other end of the phone. I hoped she didn’t sense my disappointment.

Susie — like me, like many of us — has written her relationship narrative for so long that I’ve come to know the script well. She moans over the same perennially unavailable men. They exchange innuendo-laden texts, meet after work while his girlfriend is otherwise occupied, and then progress to her apartment for a quick roll in the hay. Susie likes to chase it all with a good dose of self-loathing.

So when she phoned to say she’d met a sympathetic ear during the rebound. I’ve come to rely on my role as her provider. I root for the relationship during the brief happy moments and lend

I forced a smile. “That’s great news,” I said. “You’ll have to tell me how it goes.”

I was, despite my best efforts, depressed. As much as I want Susie to be happy, I rebelled at the contentment in her voice. She had traded all the tragic vulnerability that defines her and was suddenly smug in her newfound romantic equilibrium. She sounded like she didn’t need me at all.

As she extolled her new beau’s good looks over the phone, I could feel the ground shift beneath our friendship. After years of repeating the same lines, Susie was finally erasing the parts of her narrative she didn’t like. She rewrote the scenes to fit her new outlook, eliminating the sections about obsessing over unobtainable men and drafting a passage that focused

I nodded sympathetically, even though I didn’t have to wonder if I would play in this new drama.

“I have a date,” she said.

“I don’t understand why this keeps happening to me,” she said. “Why do I always pick the wrong guys?”

The rewrite had been a temporary affair, after all. We were back to the original script. I assumed my good listener pose and Susie took up her role as wounded romantic.

“Disaster,” she said.

“We had drinks,” she said.

“And?”

“He has a girlfriend.”

“I let out the breath I had been holding. “I don’t understand why this keeps happening to me,” she said. “Why do I always pick the wrong guys?”

She sounded like she’d been playing the part her entire life.

It’s a rough way to live, romantically speaking, but she’s chosen her drama.

On my end, I know my part in the narrative: that of comfort-giver and advice-provider. I root for the relationship during the brief happy moments and lend a sympathetic ear during the rebound. I’ve come to rely on my role as her friend in the way she relies on her men to be unavailable.

So when she phoned to say she’d met someone new, I experienced a moment of rocking self-doubt.

“He’s so cute,” she gushed. “He’s funny. And smart. He walked me to my car after work. He even suggested we have drinks later this week.”

I nodded sympathetically, even though I didn’t have to wonder what part I would always pick the wrong guys?”...”
**ARTISTS AMONG US**

**Bob Zottola, musician**

>> What is your instrument of choice?

Trumpet, flugelhorn and voice.

>> Describe your music and your style.

I perform mainstream jazz and music from the Great American Song Book. I prefer to play in a lyrical, melodic way so as to satisfy my creative parameters, while always wanting to reach and communicate well with my audience — I fondly call them “Naples Jazz Lovers,” no matter where they originate from.

>> Where were you born?

Greenwich, Conn. I grew up there and in Portchester, N.Y.

>> When did you discover your creative talents?

When I was an infant, my father had rehearsals with his band in our living room. Although I can’t say that I recall these regular occurrences, I’m sure they had a profound effect on what my adult life would be all about. Throughout my childhood, it just seemed a given that I would be a musician.

>> Where do you work?

Along with some of the finest creative jazz musicians in Southwest Florida, I perform throughout the area with the Expandable Jazz Band — in restaurants, cafes, concert halls, churches, country clubs and for private events.

>> What inspires you?

Nature, people, great works of art — and, of course, an enthusiastic, appreciative audience.

>> Are you a full-time entertainer?

Yes, and I always have been. I left my career on Broadway in 2004, where I played in the orchestra for “Les Miserable.” I also did freelance concerts and recording, playing as a musician for Sinatra, Bennett, Nat Cole and host of other stars.

>> Outside of your art, what are you passionate about?

Health, organic eating, meditation and of course my wife, Terry. The recent addition of our grandson has brought a wonderful new perspective to life!

>> Tell us about some awards you’ve received.

As a boy, I won the Ted Mack Amateur Hour national prize in Madison Square Garden. The Paul Whiteman TV Teen Club award and The Arthur Godfrey Talent Scout TV Show award.

>> What would you want to be if you weren’t a musician?

A painter.

>> What entertainer would you like to meet?

I would love to have a conversation with Bach, Mozart or Bartok. They were great improvisers, and I would treasure the opportunity to interact musically rather than intellectually with them.

>> Do you have a favorite quotation?

“Setting an example is not the main means of influencing others; it is the only means.” — Albert Einstein

>> Any “guilty pleasures?”

Ice cream!

>> Website:


>> Newsletter:

E-mail bobzottola@naplesjazzlovers.com to receive a weekly update about performance schedules, etc.

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**STREET**

From page 1

Other stars in the KidzAct production are: Charley Jauss as the director Julian Marsh; Mary Louise Mitchell as the fading diva Dorothy Brock; Juliet Jewett as the starlet Peggy Sawyer; and Erica Wagner as Anytime Annie. An ensemble of nearly two dozen energetic teens completes the cast.

The production gives the youth company the chance to utilize and experience the sets, costumes, basic live orchestra and production values of a Naples Players adult production and to better prepare them for the challenges of performing at an adult level.

Dawn Lebrecht Fornara, director of the adult show and a veteran of the national tour of “42nd Street,” directs the KidzAct production as well.

Show time is 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Aug. 5-6, and 2 and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 7. Tickets are $10 for students, $15 for adults.

Also coming up from KidzAct, “Wonderland!” The show that puts some interesting twists on Lewis Carroll’s classic “Through the Looking Glass” will be presented at 7 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, Aug. 9-13. Tickets are $6 for students, $12 for adults.

Tickets to “42nd Street” and “Wonderland!” can be purchased at the box office, 701 Fifth Ave. S., or by calling 239-331-3345.

Find KidzAct on YouTube, at www.naplesplayers.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/tnkidzact.
COSMIC

From page 1

Michael Fauerbach, professor of physics and astronomy. “They are an excellent tool to combat the ever-increasing light pollution around the observatory. The beautiful images we can now produce will inspire a new generation of people to become interested in astronomy and related STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) fields.”

Not normally accessible to the public, the observatory occasionally opens for members of area astronomy clubs.

The enhanced imaging capability — made possible by an FGCU Office of Research and Sponsored Programs grant — expands opportunities for studying celestial bodies at the 9-year-old observatory, which boasts a state-of-the-art Ritchey-Chretien reflective telescope. It shares the same dual-mirrored optical design as Hubble but on a smaller scale: The primary mirror is 16 inches in diameter compared to Hubble’s 8 feet.

“In astronomy, bigger is better,” quips Dr. Fauerbach, comparing the mirror’s size to a large pizza. “It’s not the biggest telescope, but it’s the sexiest.”

The optical tube’s outer shell is dressed up in a stylish metallic herringbone pattern and sits atop a racy-red robotic mount that controls the telescope’s movement.

The filters, the observatory’s latest addition, are used to capture a series of 10- to 15-minute exposures over several hours that computer software turns into a composite or mosaic image. A new electronic imaging camera also boosts the resolution of the astrophotographs by eight times over what was formerly possible at the observatory.

That all means long nights in the observatory for undergraduate assistant Salvatore Grasso, a sophomore biology major from North Salem, N.Y. When the sky cooperates, he tracks and maps stars.

“When it’s clear, we’re here,” he says. The observatory’s aluminum dome has to be rotated every 20 minutes throughout the night during observation periods to follow the targeted star. Mr. Grasso ascends a narrow spiral staircase to the upper deck, where the telescope is aimed through an open slot in the roof. The dome is not air-conditioned because a sharp difference in indoor-outdoor temperatures would create air currents that distort the telescope’s resolution. The slot in the roof is opened several hours before sunset to allow the room temperature to adjust to the outdoor level.

“It’s like an oven in here in the summer,” Mr. Grasso says. At 19, he represents the next generation of star gazers using the latest technology to further our understanding of space. He caught the astronomy bug when he was 9; now an experienced image-maker, he maintains galleries of his stellar snapshots at his own website — www.gastrophography.com.

“My first memories with astronomy were waking up with my parents for a meteor shower yielding 2,000 to 3,000 meteors per hour,” he says. “I couldn’t believe my eyes.”

“This was after 1999, but it was clear all over Southern hemispheres. This is where you were waking up with your parents for a meteor shower yielding 2,000 to 3,000 meteors per hour. I couldn’t believe my eyes.” — Salvatore Grasso, FGCU undergraduate assistant

The Egan Observatory includes deep-sky objects such as the Eagle Nebula, a cloud of gas and dust some 7,000 light years away, where stars form and fade. First catalogued in the 18th century by French astronomer Charles Messier, the nebula is so named because of a feature that resembles an ascending raptor.

“There are usually very stable skies — very good observing conditions — during our dry season,” Dr. Fauerbach says. “Being close to the equator allows us great access to stars in both the Northern and Southern hemispheres. This is where you want to be.”

Reprinted from the summer issue of FGCU’s Pinnacle magazine. For more information, visit www.dgp阜pinnacle.com.
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WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

**Weekend Best Bets**

- **Aug. 5:** Kids Free Fridays. Rokey Beach. 401-6130 or www.rokeybeach.org.
- **Aug. 5-7:** Rob Storter Collection. Marco Island Historical Museum. 642-1440 or www.colliermuseums.com.
- **Aug. 5-7:** Historic Palm Cottage tours. Naples Historical Society. 261-8664 or www.napleshistoricalsociety.org.
- **Aug. 6:** Celebration of Dixieland Jazz. Norris Center. 231-3058 or www.naplesgov.com.
- **Aug. 6:** Oral History Film at Palm Cottage. Virginia Corkran. 261-8664 or www.napleshistoricalsociety.org.

**United Arts Council**

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- By the Center for the Arts youth theater department at the Center for the Arts of Bonita Springs, Aug. 5-6. 495-8899 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

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**Annie**  

**Auditions**  

**Theater**

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**Elsewhere**  

**Run For Your Wife**  

**Annie**  

**Auditions**  
Postcards in my Mind

BY MELANIE WARD

Daddy, Daddy, Daddy why you gotta go?
Daddy, Daddy, Daddy I miss you so!
Are you goin’ out to work
Or are you goin’ out to play?
Daddy, Daddy, Daddy why you gotta go?
I see through the rain your suitcase,
Muddy sleeve dragging down
Banjo case across your back and
Your hat turned around
Daddy, Daddy, Daddy why you gotta go?
Daddy, Daddy, Daddy I miss you so!

Remembering you like a postcard pic-
ture. That’s what I see. Daddy postcard
sent to a young girl who never got to say
goodbye. I know these pictures must
come in a 12-pack, because so many
other girls seem to have similar pictures in their
heads.

What did you think would happen to me
that day you walked out?

Mama was long gone deep in the
ground over there in Picnic Cemetery
with no headstone.

Was your sister Mabel going to come
in a 12-pack, because so many
other girls seem to have similar pictures in their
heads.

I no longer play with my daddy post-
card and whisper, “I miss you, Daddy,”
every morning as I
wake up and ask myself, “When’s Daddy coming
home from work?”

I tell her, “Soon, just another 15 minutes or so.”

She says, “I miss my Daddy!” I walk over to the window, stand next to her, and
look out at the rain. I unlock my
mind, and sneak a quick look at my
daddy postcard and whisper, “I miss Daddy, too.”
Here’s a look at a few books I’ve read lately:

■ “If You Ask Me (And Of Course You Won’t),” Betty White ($25.95, Putnam)
  Earlier in my career, when I began freelancing for the Chicago Tribune, I interviewed a photographer. For a while he had photographed businessmen — CEOs in suits and ties — but then switched to shooting celebrities for magazines.

He was full of stories about his experiences with various performers and what it was like behind the scenes.

But sometimes you don’t want to know. Sometimes, someone who has great acting or musical abilities just isn’t that great at being human. And that’s disappointing to learn.

The photographer had recently done a photo shoot of the actress/comedian Betty White. And, he was glad to say, she was wonderful — warm, hospitable, easy to talk to.

You might be suspicious that the book’s just an attempt to cash in on her recently burgeoning fame, but there are plenty of interesting stories and anecdotes in there.

One of my favorites is about her visit to Koko, the gorilla who can communicate through sign language. The two of them hit it off immediately, and Koko names Ms. White “Lipstick,” because of the red lipstick she was wearing.

There’s a photo of the two of them sitting face-to-face.

Another is a story about her late husband, game-show host Allen Ludden, who was the love of her life, and how her coworkers on “Hot In Cleveland” kept asking her questions about him. Finally, they asked them why they kept asking about him. They told her: We love the look on your face when you talk about him.

■ “Embassytown,” China Mieville ($26, Ecco)
  There was a big buzz about China Mieville’s “Embassytown” when it was released, so I was anxious to see what all the fuss was about.

I confess, I was puzzled as I struggled through the opening chapters. The work seemed dense, almost impenetrable, like trying to swim through quicksand.

The reader is thrown into another world so strange and different from ours, it’s difficult to figure out what’s happening at first.

Mr. Mieville uses so many made-up words that it’s initially frustrating. If you’re looking for an easy read, this isn’t for you.

It’s like reading a novel in a foreign language, but not having the vocabulary; you’re trying to figure out what words mean by their context, but not always succeeding.

William Gibson’s superlative futuristic novels do this to a certain extent, but his terminology is a lot easier to figure out than Mr. Mieville’s.

And then, after about the first 60 or 70 pages, something clicked, and I was captivated. It was like suddenly understanding an algebraic equation.

Set in the future, “Embassytown” takes place on a planet that’s an outpost at the edge of the known universe. Arice Benner Cho grows up there, and while a child, becomes a living simile for the Ariekei, the Hosts of the planet, who speak with two voices simultaneously. The Hosts cannot lie. The only people who can speak the language of the Hosts and be understood by them are Ambassadors; genetically engineered duos who, like the Ariekei, think with one mind and can also speak simultaneously with two voices.

The Scotsman called it “a book fundamentally concerned with the role of language as an imaginative liberation.”

It’s not your typical science-fiction novel, but then again, Mr. Mieville isn’t your typical writer. From what I understand, he’s exploring and stretching the conventions of various genres in his novels. I want to read more by him. I think next on my list from him will be “The City and the City,” about a private eye trying to solve a murder; it involves alternate universes, two cities occupying the same space, overlapping each other.

■ “Claire DeWitt and the City of the Dead,” Sara Gran ($24, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)
  The thing that first grabbed me about Sara Gran’s “Claire DeWitt and the City of the Dead” was its cover, designed by Gregg Kulick. (It looks like a woodcut, although I’m not sure if it is.)

Bright lemon yellow, it sports a green parrot midcentury, wings stretched out in flight — and not much else, save the title, the author’s name and, in tiny print, the words: “A Mystery.” There’s also a short, four-word blurb by best-selling mystery writer Sue Grafton on the upper right corner: “I love this book!” I’m not swayed much by blurbs, but Ms. Grafton doesn’t seem to do many, and that simple, declarative sentence would’ve surely sealed the deal if I’d been wavering.

It’s a striking, uncluttered cover, and it really stands out.

Ms. Gran’s writing is just as fresh and unexpected.

The plot revolves around Claire DeWitt, a young private investigator summoned to New Orleans to find a missing man who was a respected district attorney.

Her methods of detecting arts, to say the least, unconventional. She consults the I-Ching, searches her dreams for omens, and follows a manual, “Detection,” by a French detective named Jacques Silette.

The manual says things like: “You cannot follow another’s footsteps to the truth. A hand can point a way. But the hand is not the teaching. The finger that points the way is not the way. The mystery is a pathless land, and each detective must cut her own trail through a cruel territory.

“Believe nothing. Question everything. Follow only the clues.”

Claire DeWitt is a tattooed, pot-smoking, hard-drinking woman who seems to stumble her way through this case.

At times, this mystery book that seems to be more about a journey than the destination.

And the city itself — a post-Katrina New Orleans — is as much a character as any of the people in the book. Ms. Gran describes the physical and emotional aftereffects with a keen, unflinching eye.

“Claire DeWitt and the City of the Dead” is mystical and lyric, dark and gritty.

Ms. Gran has taken the mystery genre and played with it and reshaped it as if it were taffy.

The inside jacket says the book’s a “knockout start to a bracingly original new series.”

I can’t wait for the next one.
Ambitious Immokalee students get a glimpse of medical school

The students — Luis Parra, Stephanie Alcime and Cheheadline Fredrick — were among more than 50 selected from throughout the state based on grades, leadership, volunteerism and a passion for science and medicine. After submitting applications and receiving a visit from Elizabeth Foster, the college’s assistant director of research and graduate programs (who traveled around the state to meet with students interested in medicine and the Summer Institute), the three Immokalee students were accepted into the program.

"The selection process is competitive," Ms. Foster says. "We sought the best and brightest at their schools. They should feel proud about being selected. We were certainly proud to have them here."

Noemi Perez, student advocate for The Immokalee Foundation, says the Summer Institute, known as a "mini-med school," provides a tremendous opportunity for students to further their academic and career goals.

"The institute shows them the possibilities of what they can do with their lives and how they can do it," she says. "It encourages them to look beyond Immokalee."

Students are recruited from rural, underserved and minority backgrounds who have an interest in medical knowledge and a desire to serve those in need. This focus on minority recruitment stems from the college’s founding mission to help train physicians for Florida’s traditionally underserved populations.

The program consisted of sessions designed to provide an inside look at what it means to be both a doctor and medical student. Perhaps most importantly, it encouraged the junior and senior students to consider a career in medicine — something they might not have thought possible.

Stephanie Alcime, a junior at Immokalee High school, wants to be a surgeon and recognizes that opportunities like this don’t come around often in her small community.

"When you have a chance to go somewhere and do something important, you have to do it," she says. "Don’t just sit around and let it pass you by."

The students stayed on the campus of FSU. Throughout the week, they shadowed physicians and medical students, visited rural health centers and received college testing and application advice. They also attended faculty lectures on topics such as medical ethics, migrant health care and doctor-patient relations. In several activities, they went through training similar to what real medical students face and received hands-on experience in things like taking blood pressure and performing CPR.

"We got to witness a lot of things that medical students don’t get to see until their third year of medical school, and we’re in high school," he says. Mr. Parra plans to attend FSU after graduation and pursue his dream of becoming a surgeon. He would then like to return to his hometown of Immokalee.

"It’s important to remember where you came from and all the people that helped you along the way," he says. "It’s not just about me. I want you to give back."

— The Immokalee Foundation has a range of programs that focus on building pathways to success through college and vocational school, mentoring and tutoring, and opportunities for broadening experiences and life skills development. To learn more about the foundation, including how to volunteer as a Take Stock In Children student mentor, call 430-9122 or visit www.immokaleefoundation.org.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

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FLORIDA WEEKLY PUZZLES

I APPEAL

HOROSCOPES

L E O (July 23 to August 22) You might have started to question the wisdom of being open with someone you hoped you could trust. But be assured you won’t be disappointed. You’ll soon hear good news.

V I R G O (August 23 to September 22) You have a reputation for honesty and integrity, and that will help turn around a situation that was not only disappointing but also quite unfair. Good luck.

L I B R A (September 23 to October 22) A happy event creates a closer tie with a family member who seemed hopelessly estranged. Positive aspects also dominate in important career matters.

S C O R P I O (October 23 to November 21) Your ruling planet, Pluto, helps you adjust to change. So, stop putting off that long-delayed move, and make it with the assurance that you’re doing the right thing.

C A P R I C O R N (December 22 to January 19) Good news: You suddenly find that you’re not facing that new challenge alone. You now have someone at your side, ready to offer whatever support you might need.

S A G I T T A R I U S (November 22 to December 21) You have a wonderful capacity to learn quickly and well. This will help you when you are faced with the opportunity to move on to a new path in life.

C A N C E R (June 21 to July 22) With all (or most) of those pesky problems behind you, take time for your family and friends. Travel aspects are favored, with long-distance journeys high on the list.

B O R N THIS WEEK: You give your trust openly and easily. People find you easy to be with and enjoy your wit, your good sense, and your capacity to love and be loved.

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Is it worth $10? No

Steve Carell, Julianne Moore, Ryan Gosling, Emma Stone, Kevin Bacon and Marisa Tomei star in “Crazy, Stupid, Love.” It is unlikely you will find a better assemblage of talent anywhere. But wow, what a mediocrity movie they’ve made.

The film’s flaws are both structural and in execution, so in a sense, everyone is to blame.

Whenever you have a mix of comedy and drama, the comedy needs to be especially funny because, obviously, it doesn’t come as often as it normally would. That a decent portion of the comedy in this film misses, including a ridiculous graduation scene toward the end, is the biggest disappointment of all.

Mr. Carell plays Cal, a sad-sack corporate athlete whose high-school sweetheart wife Emily (Ms. Moore) wants a divorce. Something about sleeping with a co-worker (Mr. Bacon), she says. Ever the one to take things lying down, Cal retreats to moping, incessant rambling and feeling sorry for himself. For a middle-aged divorcé whose only sexual partner is leaving him, this is expected.

On the flip side, Cal’s 13-year-old son Robbie (Jonah Bobo) is infatuated with his babysitter Jessica (Analeigh Tipton), who’s D’ and wants nothing to do with him. Never giving up on true love, his father ironically tells him, which leads Robbie to a series of uncomfortable and unfunny scenes of stalking and emotional declarations.

As for Cal, ladies-man Jacob (Mr. Gosling) takes pity on him (these two at the same bar is unlikely, but we have to go with it) and gives Cal a much-needed makeover. With this comes a renaissance for Cal, who knows not the dangers of a loving couple (Ms. Tipton) to pursue an irrelevant “young love” angle was a terrible decision. Worse, at no point do any of the love stories in “Crazy, Stupid, Love” really complement one another, so all the switching back and forth suffocates the flow of the story.

In short, crazy and stupid decisions were made in making this movie, all of which ensure that you will not love it.

— 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.
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BEACH READING

‘A Dance With Dragons’

By George R.R. Martin
(Bantam, $35)

REVIEWED BY EALISH WADDELL
Special to Florida Weekly

One season into a successful TV adaptation and nearly six years after the last installment, the fifth book in George R.R. Martin’s sprawling fantasy saga “A Song of Ice and Fire” has finally arrived to transport readers back to the land of Westeros and the never-ending machinations of its game of thrones.

To the glee of fans, favorite characters absent from the previous volume have returned, like sharp, sardonic dwarf Tyrion, now a fugitive from the wrath of his sister, the queen. He, along with many others, has journeyed across the sea to seek out Daenerys, last of the previous royal line, hoping to aid her in her ongoing campaign to win back her family’s throne. But even armed with three powerful dragons and a host of warriors, the young rebel queen is having trouble holding on to the lands she’s already conquered, as foes emerge from all sides, and even within her ranks.

Back in Westeros, Night’s Watch commander Jon Snow does his best to strengthen the mighty barrier Wall against the foul magic forces that threaten it from the far north. Surprising faces from the past reappear, and every where men fight, words betray and allegiances change with the ever-icy winds as the long winter grows ever nearer.

Much of this installment takes place in previously unseen corners of the continent across the sea, whose ancient civilizations differ intriguingly from the medieval European ambience of Westeros, giving Mr. Martin a chance to draw his universe ever larger and more complex. The density of the world-building and the intricacy of the interwoven plots have drawn comparisons to Tolkien, but Mr. Martin’s world is a grittier sort of place, raw and earthy, often brutal and cruel, but with a fierce devotion to its own realism. This may be a fantasy realm, but here good and evil are never black and white.

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Opera Naples announces 2011-12 season

Opera Naples celebrates its seventh season in 2011-12 with a lineup that promises a mix of nationally recognized and locally developed talent. “I am especially pleased that we are able to collaborate with two local arts organizations,” says Artistic Director Steffanie Pearce, adding Opera Naples will co-produce “Show Boat” with TheatreZone will produce “Eugene Onegin” for the inaugural ArtsNaples World Festival.

“Show Boat”
Nov. 5-6 at Naples High School
The season opens with one of the latest revivals of one of the most popular American musical works of all time. Mark Danni, founder and artistic director of TheatreZone, makes his directing debut with Opera Naples in this production by Jerome Kern.

“Hansel and Gretel”
Dec. 16 and 18 at Naples High School
Englebert Humperdinck’s rendition of his classic fairy captures the magic for all ages. It will feature a chamber orchestra and members of ONcore, the professional young artist program of Opera Naples, as well as local young voices, including Neapolitans Luciano Marsalli and Zofia Majewski starring in the title roles.

“Don Giovanni”
Jan. 20 and 22 at Gulf Coast High School
Metropolitan Opera regulars Leroy Lehr and maestro Franz Vote will highlight this production of Mozart's emotional tale. Performed in Italian with projected English translations.

“Faust”
Feb. 24 and 26 at Gulf Coast High School
Irish tenor Anthony Kearns (Edgardo in last season’s “Lucia di Lammermoor”) returns to take on the title role in this tale of love, eternal youth and redemption. Performed in French with projected English translations.

“Eugene Onegin”
May 14-20 at ArtsNaples World Festival
For ArtsNaples World Festival, Opera Naples presents a semi-staged production of Tchaikovsky's classic, which will feature the St. Petersburg Symphony Orchestra.

Tickets are on sale now for Opera Naples’ fourth annual “Eurofest” set for 6-9 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 13, at the Naples Sailing & Yacht Club. Previous events have been staged in the home of maestro William Noll. Celebrating Italy, France and Germany, this year’s program will feature soprano Steffanie Pearce and Anne Leonard, mezzo-soprano Melissa Vitrella and baritone Joseph Ryan. Tenor Brian Cheney, who will appear as Don Ottavio in Opera Naples’ upcoming production of “Don Giovanni,” will make a special appearance. At the piano will be Robin Shuford-Frank and Mr. Noll. Dinner and a live auction will be part of the evening.

Tickets are $120 per person. For reservations or information, call 963-9050. ■

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Naples Art Association calls for artists to apply for shows, festivals

The call is out for artists to show their work at several exhibits and festivals sponsored by the Naples Art Association at The von Liebig Art Center. There’s a place for all types of original work. Entry rules and regulations are noted in the formal prospectuses for each event, which can be found at www.naplesart.org/callforartists. For more information, call 262-6617.

- Fourth annual Non-Juried All Artist Members Show of Shows Exhibition (Sept. 12-Oct. 1) – The NAA kicks off the season with a show designed to give all artists an opportunity to share their work in a public forum. There is no jury process and all registered artwork will be displayed. The only requirement for participation is membership with the NAA.

- Deadline to enter: Monday, Aug. 22

- 49th Founders Juried Awards Exhibition (Oct. 15-Dec. 3) – One of Naples’ most established art exhibitions, this includes top awards with cash prizes. $2,500 in total will be presented to artists selected by exhibition juror Diane Camber, director emeritus of the Bass Museum of Art in Miami Beach.

- Deadline to apply: Wednesday, Aug. 17

- Eighth annual Naples Fall Fine Art & Craft Festival (Nov. 25-26) – Market your work to holiday shoppers at this show that draws crowds to 10th Street South. The first of the NAA’s five major shows during the season, this one features more than 100 artists.

- Deadline to apply: Thursday, Sept. 1. Go to www.juriedart-services.com

- Art in the Park (Nov. 5, Dec. 3) – In its 55th years, Art in the Park showcases NAA members’ paintings, photographs, decorative items, wearable gifts. Juried art fairs take place on the first Saturday of the month November through April.

- Deadline to apply: Monday, Oct. 24, Monday, Nov. 21

- Members’ Gallery Opening Show (Oct. 28-Dec. 6) – All NAA members are invited to apply to this juried show.

- Deadline for submissions: Wednesday, Oct. 19

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- Members’ Gallery Opening Show (Oct. 28-Dec. 6) – All NAA members are invited to apply to this juried show.

- Deadline for submissions: Wednesday, Oct. 19

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- Members’ Gallery Opening Show (Oct. 28-Dec. 6) – All NAA members are invited to apply to this juried show.

- Deadline for submissions: Wednesday, Oct. 19
Antiques and collectibles are named for their age. Antiques must be more than 100 years old to be legally called “antiques.” Collectibles can be anything made less than 100 years ago. The quality of the design or the material does not matter. At today’s shows, you can expect to find porcelain, silver, toys, furniture and pictures. But you’ll also see large wooden gear molds, filing cabinets and factory work tables, pallets and lockers. They are all used to decorate homes these days, whether the home is traditional, modern or created from unexpected space in a loft or an old school. At a recent antique show, we saw some old hand-carved wooden screws that were once part of a cider press. The largest, about 7 feet tall, was mounted on a base and being sold as piece of sculpture.” The asking price topped $2000. A wooden filing cabinet with the brass label “Shannon Filing Cabinet, manufactured by Schlicht and Field, Rochest, N.Y., Patented March 30, 1861,” sold for $375.

Q: I have four teapots in light blue, dark green, gold and maroon with the word “Lipton’s” stamped on the bottom of each one. I’m told they’re from the 1930s and were given out as premiums. Are there any other colors? Should I be on the lookout for matching creamers and sugar bowls? What are they worth?

A: Lipton teapots were made by Hall China Co. of East Liverpool, Ohio, and were given out as premiums beginning in 1935. The teapots were made in light blue, dark green, mustard, maroon, black and light yellow on the company’s “French” shape. Your gold teapot is probably the same as mustard, so you are missing black and light yellow. Matching sugar and creamer bowls were not made. If your teapots have a strainer inside the spout, they are early versions. Later versions didn’t have the strainer. Hall China Co. was founded in 1903. The company made dinnerware, kitchenware, institutional ware and other wares. It merged with Homer Laughlin China Co. in 2010. Value of each of your teapots: about $25.

Q: I inherited a number of Pfeffer Porcelain figurines from Germany. Most are dogs, but I also have a full-size parrot and dancing figures. Tell me something about the maker.

A: Fritz Pfeffer established the Fritz Pfeffer Porcelain Factory in Gotha, Thuringia, Germany, in 1892. The company made decorative porcelain. Animal figurines were introduced in 1900. After Fritz died in 1922, his son Max took over the business. The firm went bankrupt in 1934 but was revived by Max’s wife and continued to operate until 1942. The porcelain figures sell for $75 to $250.

Q: My father started collecting Prince Valiant comics from the very beginning, starting with the first comic book and

SEE KOVELS, C19

KOVELS: ANTIQUES & COLLECTING

What’s in a name?

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SEE KOVELS, C19
KOVELS
From page 18

continuing with the Sunday comic strips. The very complete series has been bound in leather books for all these years. I continue to collect the strip every week from where my dad left off. He even has an original letter from Hal Foster saying my dad has a more complete collection than he does. I’m just wondering if the whole collection is worth anything.

A: Prince Valiant is a weekly comic strip created by Hal Foster and first published on Feb. 13, 1937. Foster retired in 1971, and the strip has been illustrated by several other artists since then. Original comic art sells for several thousand dollars, but the newspaper strips produced from the art are worth a fraction of that. All the Prince Valiant strips have been reprinted in books, some in newspaper size, and this has driven down the price of “tear sheets.” A complete run of strips from 1937 on would have brought $2,000 20 years ago but is worth $300-$500 today. The letter from Hal Foster is worth $100 at most.

Q: I have inherited a beautiful Japanese woodblock print titled “Moon at the Niji Castle” by Miki Suizan, dated 1924. I discovered he was primarily a painter and had only produced 14 woodblock prints. I’m interested in learning more about this print and Miki Suizan.

A: Two sets of woodblock prints were designed by Miki Suizan (1887-1957). Six prints of beautiful women and eight landscapes. The sets were titled “Selected Views of Kyoto” and were published in 1924-'25 by Sato Shuta-ro in Kyoto, Japan. Each set had a first edition of 200 or fewer. Miki Suizan designed the prints, but they were carved into the wood blocks by someone else and printed by a third person. Suizan prints were exhibited at the Toledo (Ohio) Museum of Art in 1930.

Tip: To remove a stain from a polished granite top, mix the center of some slices of white bread with 6 percent hydrogen peroxide. Put the paste on the stain overnight. Wash off the next day, and the stain should be gone.

— Terry Kovel answers as many questions as possible through the column. By sending a letter with a question, you give full permission for use in the column or any other Kovel forum. Names, addresses or email addresses will not be published. We cannot guarantee the return of any photograph, but if a stamped envelope is included, we will try. The volume of mail makes personal answers or appraisals impossible. Write to Kovels, (Florida Weekly), King Features Syndicate, 300 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019.
**APPETIZERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dish</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sugar Shrimp, black beans and rice</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Stack of homemade onion rings, chips &amp; BBQ</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken Caesar Spring Roll</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tequila Roasted Oysters, chal-a-peño stuffing</td>
<td>7.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nectar Island Hot Wings add Ghost Chilie (and waiver!)</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuna 3 Way: Tatak, Poke, Sushi</td>
<td>11.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Crab - Lobster Cake, Palm Island remoulade</td>
<td>11.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crunchy Calamari, sweet and sour citrus sauce</td>
<td>9.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morning After Mussels, bloody mary broth, jalapeno - citrus spiced</td>
<td>9.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coconut Shrimp in a Basket</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homemade Tortilla Chips, fresh tomato salsa</td>
<td>3.7</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**PASTAS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pasta</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicken Shanghai - grilled chicken, spicy peanut infused soy, noodles</td>
<td>13.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shrimp Vodka Penne - crispy prosciutto, hearts of artichoke, potato</td>
<td>14.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spaghetti and Crab - pasta with jalapeno, blue and king crab, red</td>
<td>14.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King Crab Alfredo - cracked crab legs, fettucine, black pepper</td>
<td>15.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COMBOS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dish</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fried - hand breaded shrimp, scallops, calamari, fresh haddock, slaw</td>
<td>15.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broiled - fresh Atlantic flounder, large dry pack scallops, little</td>
<td>16.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>grilled - Maine lobster tail, skewed shrimp, flounder, large dry</td>
<td>20.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shrimp - hand breaded shrimp, shrimp scampi, Gulf shrimp cocktail,</td>
<td>14.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paradise - Maine lobster tail, crab, shrimp scampi, fried shrimp</td>
<td>20.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SPECIALTIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dish</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fresh Gruper Scampi - black grouper, Gulf shrimp, sun dried tomato</td>
<td>19.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seared Tuna - No. 1 quality - coconut, pineapple rice, togarashi</td>
<td>21.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Great Fish Sandwich - beer battered, lettuce, tomato, onion,</td>
<td>21.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Grouper Baby Back Ribs - with bistro slaw and choice of fries,</td>
<td>18.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahi - macadamian encrusted mahi mahi, grilled pineapple, togarashi</td>
<td>18.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Captain's Cut - glazed sea bass, wasabi crumb, carrot miso-soy,</td>
<td>23.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classic Snow Crab dinner - with bistro slaw and choice of fries,</td>
<td>14.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackened Salmon - bourbon brown sugar glaze, jalapeño - pecan</td>
<td>15.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STEW AND TURF**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dish</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Steak and Shrimp - 12oz. center cut NY strip steak or 7oz. filet,</td>
<td>20.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steak and Lobster - 12oz. center cut NY strip steak or 7oz. filet,</td>
<td>23.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steak, Shrimp and Lobster - 12oz. center cut NY strip steak or 7oz.</td>
<td>26.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STEAKS AND CHOPS**

Served with your choice of 2 sides

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dish</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NY Strip Steak (12oz.)</td>
<td>19.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Filet of Beef (7oz.)</td>
<td>20.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BURGERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dish</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classic - ½ lb bistro burger, lettuce, tomato and onion</td>
<td>8.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black &amp; Blue - black peppercorn seared, gorgonzola and American blue</td>
<td>9.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BEERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dish</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bud Light</td>
<td>4.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miller Light</td>
<td>4.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SIDE 3.9**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dish</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Steamed Broccoli</td>
<td>add 1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild Mushroom Risotto</td>
<td>add 1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roasted Sweet Potato</td>
<td>add 1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sea Salt Baked Potato</td>
<td>add 1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loaded Baked Potato</td>
<td>add 1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Fries</td>
<td>add 1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coconut Sticky Rice</td>
<td>add 1.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SAUCES 1.5**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dish</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wasabi Citrus Soy, Mango Sweet and Sour, Lemon Butter Sauce, Mango</td>
<td>11.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresh Tomatoes, Garlic and Wine, Coconut Green Curry, Tomato</td>
<td>11.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tomato Salsa, Cilantro and Lime</td>
<td>11.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
If you’ve always wanted to act... Naples Players set auditions for fall productions

The casting call is out for two fall productions by The Naples Players. Tryouts for “Always, Patsy Cline” will take place Saturday, Aug. 6 and for “Later Life” on Saturday, Aug. 13. All auditions are at the Sugden Community Theatre.

“Always, Patsy Cline” is a two-person salute to the famed country singer and her enduring friendship with Louise, a Texas housewife and staunch fan. Audition appointments are required and can be made by calling 263-7990.

The actress in the title role must be able to sing in Ms. Cline’s signature style and be between the ages of 25-30. The role of Louise calls for a woman between the ages of 40-60; singing is not required. Those auditioning for Louise should prepare a short monologue to deliver in a Texan accent. The monologue does not need to be memorized and can be chosen from sides that are posted online or marked in scripts that are available at the box office.

John McKerrow will direct “Always, Patsy Cline,” with musical direction by Charles Fornara. Rehearsals begin Sept. 1, and performances on the main stage are set for Oct. 5-29.

“Later Life” Open auditions for “Later Life” will begin at 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 13. The insightful comedy by A.R. Gurney calls for a cast of two middle-aged women. At a Boston cocktail party, Austin, a stoic banker type, is reintroduced to Ruth, an early lover and a warm-hearted, multiple divorcee. All the other party guests — 10 different characters who continually interrupt the tentative reunion of Ruth and Austin — are played by the other two actors.

Paul Graffy will direct “Later Life.” Rehearsals begin Sept. 12, and performances are set for Oct. 26-Nov. 10 in the Sugden’s Toby Studio. Perusal scripts are available for 72 hours, with a $20 deposit, at the box office, 701 Fifth Ave. S. For more information, call 263-7990 or visit www.naplesplayers.org.
SIGN UP FOR SEMINOLE CASINO'S PLAYER'S CLUB & GET ONE OF THESE TWO GREAT OFFERS. IT'S FREE TO JOIN!

$50 MATCH PLAY
Present this coupon to the Seminole Casino Immokalee Player's Club to receive your MATCH PLAY*. 

*You will receive $50 instantly. Must be at least 21 years old and a Seminole Player's Club member to participate. Valid ID required for redemption. Valid for new members only. Use of a match play voucher requires an even-money bet. Voucher may only be used on even-money wagers at authorized blackjack tables. Offer valid through 8/31/11. Limit one coupon per person. No cash value. Nontransferable. No substitution. Management reserves the right to change or cancel this promotion at any time based on operational and/or business concerns. Persons who have been trespassed or banned by the Seminole Tribe of Florida or those who have opted into the self-exclusion program are prohibited from participating. If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, please call 1-888-ADMIT-IT. PRIZE CODE: INWNMP811

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*You will receive $50 instantly. Valid for New Members Only. See Player's Club for complete details. Must be at least 21 years old and a Seminole Player's Club member to participate. Offer valid through 8/31/11. Limit one coupon per person per day. Alteration or unauthorized use voids this offer. Management reserves the right to change or cancel the offer without notice based on operational and/or business concerns. Persons who have been trespassed or banned by the Seminole Tribe of Florida or those who have opted into the self-exclusion program are prohibited from participating. If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, please call 1-888-ADMIT-IT. PRIZE CODE: INWNMP811

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SAVE THE DATE

‘Love That Dress!’ for the girls of PACE

PACE Center for Girls Immokalee is having its first “Love That Dress!” sale and party from 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 31, at the Naples Grande. Guests will get to stake their claim on new and gently worn dresses and accessories to benefit the center that provides girls and young women an opportunity for a better future through education, counseling, training and advocacy.

Tickets are $25 per person and can be purchased at www.pacecenter.org/collier-at-immokalee. For more information, call 657-2400 or e-mail Marianne. learn@pacecenter.org.

Guys will set sail for Make-A-Wish

A manly afternoon of cigars, beer, Shula’s steaks and steaks drums aboard the Naples Princess will benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17.

Tickets are $25 per person. RSVP to Lesley Colantonio at 992-9474 or iscolantonio@stflawish.org.

Step out and dance for Sunlight Home

Sunlight Home for expectant women and teens invites everyone to put on their dancing shoes for an evening with Calhia & Creem on Friday, Nov. 4, at the Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club.

Tickets are $60 per person. Proceeds will benefit mothers and babies at Sunlight Home, where they are empowered to overcome poverty, abuse and homelessness through education, training and spiritual growth.

For more information, call Linda Hale at 352-0255 or e-mail Linda_lee_hale@yahoo.com.

Getting in step for literacy

Literacy Volunteers of Collier County will hold the fifth annual “Dancing with the Stars for Literacy” on Friday, Nov. 11, at the Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club. LVCC teaches illiterate and non-English speaking adults to read, write and speak English.

A number of prominent Neapolitans are paired with professional dancers to perform. Prizes are awarded based on dancing ability as well as the amount of money dancers raise for LVCC.

For tickets or more information, call LVCC at 262-4448 or visit www.literacy.org.

Saddle up for ‘Bootstrap Boogie’

Naples Equestrian Challenge holds its sixth annual “Bootstrap Boogie” barn dance Saturday evening, Nov. 12, at NEC headquarters off Goodlette-Frank Road north of Pine Ridge Road. Live country-western music, a mechanical bull, line dancers and “Pony Pie Bingo” are all part of the fun.

NEC provides therapeutic riding and other equine-related programs for Collier County children and adults with disabilities. For more information, call 596-2088 or visit www.naplesquestrianchallenge.org.

Be a goddess for an evening

Goddess Night 2011, an evening of pampering and enlightenment sponsored by the Naples Art Association, takes place Thursday, March 29, at The von Liebig Art Center. A champagne reception begins at 6 p.m., and guests enjoy a seated dinner and keynote speaker as well as their choice of informative breakout sessions.

For more information, call Aimee Schlehr at 262-6507, ext. 120, or e-mail aimee.schlehr@naplesart.org.

Have a ball at The Ritz for NCH

The patients, staff, volunteers, donors and friends of NCH Healthcare System inspired the theme for the NCH Hospital Ball 2011: “This Is My Hospital.” The black-tie evening begins at 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 29, at The Ritz-Carlton, Naples.

Tickets are $475 per person. Proceeds will help create 64 Smart Rooms at the NCH North Naples hospital.

For tickets or more information, call Cynthia Bennett at the NCH Healthcare Foundation, 436-4511, or e-mail foundation@nchmd.org.

Hispanic business council plans gala

The Council for Hispanic Business Professionals will hold its third annual gala on Saturday, Oct. 8, at Kensington Golf & Country Club.

School on Wheels, an outreach of Guadalupe Services/Catholic Charities, has been chosen as the beneficiary of this year’s event. School on Wheels helps migrant women in Immokalee learn basic English skills.

All are invited to enjoy the evening of Hispanic-style food and entertainment. For information about tickets and sponsorships, e-mail events@CHBPnaples.org.

On your mark, get set, sprint!

The second annual Stiletto Sprint to benefit the Garden of Hope and Courage and Susan G. Komen for the Cure—Southwest Florida takes off at 6:15 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 21, along 500 yards of Fifth Avenue South. Runners, walkers and all styles of footwear are welcome, but only those in heels at least 2 inches high will qualify for the first-place prize.

Registration is $25 for adults and $10 for kids younger than 15. Participants who raise $50 for the cause will receive a Stiletto Sprint T-shirt, and those who raise $250 will be invited to the VIP cool-down party at Café & Bar Lurcat.

Sign up in advance at www.womenonwheels.org or beginning at 5 p.m. on the day of sprint.

For more information, call 498-0016 or 484-6697.

Your chance to win a trip to the beaches

Save The Date information about galas and other fundraising parties to epierce@floridaweekly.com.
FLORIDA WEEKLY SOCIETY

The annual Summer Sippin’ Tasting at Tony’s Off Third

1. Al and Jean Tarkenton
2. Yon and Liz Joyoprayitno
3. Jason Weston and Danielle Stalzer
4. Laurie and Terry Storke and Ann Bennett
5. George and Joyce Kreggel and Julie and Jerry Kerr
6. Tony Ridgway and Sukie Honeycutt
7. Sheila Mondo, Peggy Butler, Jaroslaw Szczerbaniuk, Phyllis Rathch and Pam Sutton
8. Eric Gladd and Kate Carolthers
9. Tyrus Thomas, Karen Klukiewicz, Patrick Neal and Dave Bradach

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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‘Hot Nights... Cool Sights’ with the United Arts Council at Sheldon Fine Art Gallery

Summer fun for residents of Fiddler’s Creek

1. Deborah Turner with sous chef David Robbins at a cooking class
2. Robert Prince at a wine and cheese class at Caxambas
3. Torben and Inga Christensen and Richard and Elizabeth O’Roarke at a martini tasting
4. The cooking class
5. Jim and Eileen Robertson at the wine and cheese class

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Send us your society and networking photos. Include the names of everyone in the picture. E-mail them to society@FloridaWeekly.com.
Chat with a winemaker: David Ready Jr., Murphy-Goode Winery

I’ve enjoyed the moderately priced, well-crafted wines of Murphy-Goode from Sonoma County many times over the years and had the chance to talk with founder David Ready at a wine dinner about a decade ago. Mr. Ready has since died, but his son, David Jr., now runs the company and made a stop in Naples last week for a wine dinner at Latitude. I had a chance to speak with him about the family-run winery and the upgrades he’s made to the wines.

Q. Was there a particular wine that made you realize you liked wine?

A. There was a wine in my youth that really got me started. I was living in Minnesota with my father, and he was having a party. He had a bottle of Jordan Cabernet Sauvignon. I was blown away on my first sip. Every time my dad entertained after that, I asked him to get some more Jordan. I think that drove the market back to sauvignon blanc. This was when New Zealand wine was becoming popular, and I went out in the five years ago, we noticed that the sales for us and also the customers who drink them. It helps me stay up on trends, which helps give direction to the wines.

Q. What challenges do you see ahead of you?

A. A big challenge is keeping up with the market. I enjoy going out on the road and meeting the people who sell the wines for us and also the customers who drink them. It helps me stay up on trends, which helps give direction to the wines.

Q. How did you become interested in winemaking?

A. I never thought of wine as a career direction. I followed the Grateful Dead touring the country… went to 175 concerts. My dad was a partner in Murphy-Goode Winery, and 1988 the new winery certs. My dad was a partner in Murphy-Goode Winery, and 1988 the new winery certifications. I followed the Grateful Dead touring the country… went to 175 concerts. My dad was a partner in Murphy-Goode Winery, and 1988 the new winery certifications.

Q. What does the winemaking process involve?

A. The Fume in ’85 was our first wine, says Mr. Ready. “That’s our new merlot,” and Dad looked at me strangely, like, ‘Shut up!’ I said, ‘No, I’m pretty sure it is. We just tried that last week.”

Q. If you could make wines somewhere else, where would that be?

A. I’d go back to Australia. I worked for a while at Wirra Wirra in McLaren Vale. I had the practical knowledge of doing the cellar work that the University of California-Davis winemakers there did not yet have. I learned new ways of making wine, like submerged cap fermentation (it raises the fruit level and concentrates the flavors), that we still use today.

Q. What do you see ahead of you?

A. A big challenge is keeping up with the market. I enjoy going out on the road and meeting the people who sell the wines for us and also the customers who drink them. It helps me stay up on trends, which helps give direction to the wines.

Q. How did you become interested in winemaking?

A. I never thought of wine as a career direction. I followed the Grateful Dead touring the country… went to 175 concerts. My dad was a partner in Murphy-Goode Winery, and 1988 the new winery certifications.

Q. What gets you excited about winemaking?

A. Wine is a lifestyle experience… It creates experiences that people love and enjoy, and that is the reward. Winemaking is about passion and sharing that passion by sharing the wine. Also, in the last five years, wine has become more accessible, mostly because the mental- ity used to be, “I don’t know enough about this to drink it.” Young people are not intimidated by this, so they’re trying wine and liking the experience.”

Murphy-Goode wines from the wine dinner (tasting notes are mine unless noted):

- **Fume Sauvignon Blanc 2009 ($22):** Big, ripe apple and spice nose with a touch of melon and grapefruit. The palate is full bodied with flavors of pear and green apple.

- **Island Block Chardonnay 2007 ($22):** Big, ripe apple and spice nose with rich layers of green apple and orchard fruit flavors, and a long, smooth, balanced finish.

- **Snake Eyes Zinfandel 2006 ($40):** Dark and rich, with jammy red and black fruit and spice followed by a smooth, integrated finish. This is a big-bodied wine, good for grilled meats and lamb dishes.

We would like to thank our loyal customers for their support!
If you judge a restaurant by its cover, it’s extremely unlikely that you’ve ever patronized Buffalo Chips Restaurant. Situated on Old 41 Road, a collection of tired mobile homes framing its parking lot and the vintage Ranch House Motel attached to its northern flank, the 30-year-old restaurant doesn’t look like much from the outside.

The interior is what founder-owner Al Greenwood has described as “an upscale dive” and I think he’s at least right. It’s covered, steam to stem, with knickknacks and memorabilia — license plates from various states, countless sports trophies, photos and paintings and a framed and mounted round, brown-mound with “Buffalo Chips The Real Thing” printed above it. It would be easy to discount this place as a neighborhood dive where folks go to drink — the kind of place where food is a secondary, and second-rate, commodity. But that’s far from the case. Everything we ate here was good and some of it was better than that.

Take the chicken wings, which are the genuine article. So says Mr. Greenwood, who bills Buffalo Chips, N.V., as a former colleague of mine who grew up there. I tasted these little delicacies at the Anchor Bar in Buffalo, where they are said to originate, and have to say they taste just the way I remember them.

The wings at Buffalo Chips are about as authentic as you can get outside the Anchor, the wings themselves crisp and well cooked, dressed in tangy-hot red sauce — or at least that’s what you get when you order them medium or hot. Other options include mild, spicy, zippy Cajun, killer death, original, barbecue or garlic. Another plus: They come with a generous side of French fries and blue cheese dressing, meant for cooling the palate. (Be warned, though, that they aren’t over-the-counter extra. They are a key part of this dish.) I ordered 10 for $9.20, but for larger parties there are 20 wings for $16.75, and 50 wings for $42.22. Another plus: They come with a basket of corn bread, which is cost extra. 

Foods: Appetizers, $3.50-$7.95; Entrees, $3.50-$17.95. Service: Unprompted, slightly slow. Atmosphere: Rustic, not unlike one you might find at a roadside bar in, say, Missouri.

Another highlight of the meal was an order of fried green tomatoes ($3.95), a key part of this dish. I ordered 10 for $17.67, and 50 wings for $42.22. One of the best things about the place is that you can order as much or little as you want of this extraordinary dish. The wings are coated in a cornmeal batter and lightly fried then served with the restaurant’s “special sauce.”

The buffalo burger ($8.95) contained a ½-pound patty of buffalo meat, topped with cheddar cheese, lettuce, tomato, onion and pickles. It, too, was flavorful, tasting not much different from a beef burger but containing less fat and cholesterol. We ordered this one with curly fries ($2.50) and found the seasonings on them obscured the flavor of the potatoes. For purists, the fries are the better choice.

Buffalo Chips offers a surprising range of items, but clearly understands that it’s a bar and its mission is bar food. To that end, there are baby back ribs, fried chicken, pizzas, salads, nachos, sandwiches and chili, allowing for plenty of choice without attempting to get too fancy.

Service throughout the meal was friendly and efficient. Our server knew the menu well, readily made suggestions when we requested them, kept us well stocked in beverages and seemed genuinely happy to have us there. You can’t ask for a whole lot more than that.

The clientele that shared the place with us was relatively sparse. I suspect that’s because we were eating lunch in the middle of summer. This is the sort of place you want to unwind with friends and a cold brew after work.

While the name might not be the most appetizing and the look of the place may prompt caution, I heartily recommend ignoring such concerns and checking it out. It has, after all, been in business for close to 30 years under the same family ownership. You don’t achieve that sort of longevity without doing something right.

If you’ve been to Buffalo Chips, you know the place. If you haven’t, it’s worth the trip. The buffalo wings are terrific, the bar is always packed, the music is loud, and the food is good. In short, it’s the place to go on a steamy summer afternoon.

Karen Feldman - Florida Weekly
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