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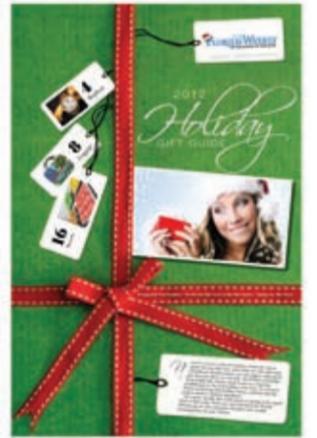
IN THE KNOW. IN THE NOW.

WEEK OF DECEMBER 6-12, 2012

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INSIDE



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Local group hopes for volunteers to help pack meals. **A12** ▶

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The rise of the GOURMET BURGER

BY EVAN WILLIAMS

ewilliams@floridaweekly.com

WITH BURGER JOINTS POPPING UP all over Southwest Florida like spittles of grease flying off a hot griddle, restaurateurs are tapping into a seemingly insatiable appetite for that most American of sandwiches. This country's best-selling and (arguably) best culinary invention is experiencing resurgent popularity at restaurants that sell updated and gourmet versions of meat-on-bun deliciousness. Among the burger places to open recently in Southwest Florida: Elevation Burger, The Counter Custom Built Burgers, Ford's Garage, Gyrene's Burger Co. and Five Guys.

"It seems like everybody and their mother wanted to open a burger stand this year," said Todd Brooks, who took over an old burger joint in Naples

SEE BURGERS, A8 ▶

At left: The Distinguished Gentleman, Black-n-Bleu and The Model A are gourmet burgers served at Ford's Garage.

Retro trend lifts American favorite to new heights



COURTESY IMAGES

Get to know JOE as part of a night out in Naples

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

There's a new, free ride in town with the arrival of the Jump On Express — or JOE — starting Thursday, Dec. 6. Owned and operated by Naples resident Shannon Livingston, JOE provides complimentary transportation between historic Third Street, downtown Fifth Avenue and Mercato in North Naples, connecting shoppers and diners to the high-end districts

and nightlife of Naples.

Rather than driving and parking for dinner and then driving and parking again for drinks or a movie, JOE delivers the freedom to drive to one destination, park and then enjoy your night out without limitations.

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standards of Naples, JOE only utilizes interior high-definition video screens for advertising.

JOE will operate from 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. Thursday-Saturday, with stops approximately every half hour across from Bravo in Mercato, at Third Street and 12th Avenue and on Fifth Avenue at Sixth Street and again at East Lake. Text JOERIDE to 97063 to have JOE's schedule sent to your mobile device. ■

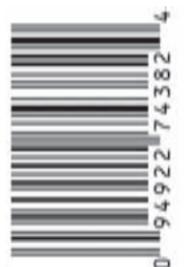
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EVERY TOMORROW STARTS WITH 2 NEWS TODAY



COMMENTARY

Conversion: L'Chaim



rogerWILLIAMS
rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

My grandfather, Walter Nash, sat straight in the saddle on his quarter horse, Cherokee, watching me become a Jew last Saturday night. It was the fifth night of Chanukah.

His rope, neatly looped, remained secured to the saddle and hanging over his right leg. He wore blue jeans and a long-sleeved white shirt that rose, buttoned, all the way to his neck. Above that, his dark Stetson, the working hat, sat straight on his head. His left hand closed the reins in a calloused grip about a foot above the horse's mane, and his right rested where it should on his upper thigh, ready for anything required.

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

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

My grandfather said nothing as we played dreidel, the playful gambling game, in the living room, while a Chanukah meal evolved in our kitchen. My wife, Amy, opened the Chanukah CD she'd picked up at the supermarket, and pretty soon I was clapping and

hopping and crowing with all the grace of an injured rooster, while some men apparently shouted, "Schlemiel! Schlemiel! Verklemp! Schlemiel!" over and over again. In every song.

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

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

The guys singing Chanukah songs tried very hard, although none of us knew what their words meant or whether they kept them. But the way he held his horse told me that my grandfather approved of my new religion, with a caveat: When you ride into unknown country keep your eyes open and think for yourself.

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

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

Nash stumbled into a moment of magical good fortune at his public elementary school, and with him, us: He became the ward of an extraordinary teacher. Somehow, without sentimentalizing it or patronizing them, Ms. Chernow teaches the world and

its basics to children arriving from almost every corner of our national experience.

She fetes a variety of cultures and customs the same way, giving some of her children their first glimpses of a world beyond their own.

But in this case, she drew on her own experience. Her mother was a Scottish immigrant and her father a Jew who owned one of the only shops maintained by an Anglo in New York City's Chinatown decades ago, she told me. Her tales of battles and food and candles that wouldn't stop burning (a huge appeal to a candle-loving kid) captured the fancy of young Nash. Why couldn't we become Jews, too, he reasoned? But how, and which Jews, we asked, applying typical adult obfuscation? Should we become the orthodox or Hassidic ones, the irreverent ones, the eastern European ones, the Israeli ones, the American or Canadian ones, the wandering ones, the sad ones, the mad ones, the tolerant ones, the judgmental ones or the happy ones?

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

We decided to define it for ourselves. Amy and I have long admired what we take to be the classic middle-of-the-road American Jew: not orthodox, and not entirely lost to ancient traditions, either. Someone who reveres family, celebrates the culture, loves the democracy, refuses to hit anybody over the head with Judaism or patriotism, and takes great pleasure in the gifts and opportunities of the world: food and intellectual sparring and sex and achievement and philanthropy and the arts and sciences.

Someone passionate about education, and someone who isn't afraid to debate or question authority — the authority of parents, politicians, police, preachers or rabbis, or even the authority and judgment of God,

in true old Testament and new American comedic fashion. Someone who remains a good-hearted skeptic and a sobered optimist.

And finally, someone who loves food.

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

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

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

And then we ate and laughed and fancied for an hour or more, while Nash's great-grandpa Walter Nash, framed in an old photo on my desk, road off into the eternal night, almost grinning. Another day, no doubt, we'd be celebrating something else, and we'd become something else. But on this night, we were the chosen ones. And we celebrated only l'chaim. ■

"Conversion: L'Chaim" first appeared in these pages in 2007. It has become a holiday tradition at Florida Weekly.

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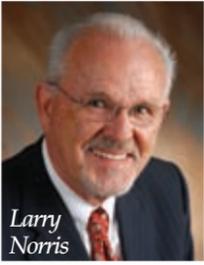
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GUEST OPINION

Stupid, purposefully misleading or ill-informed

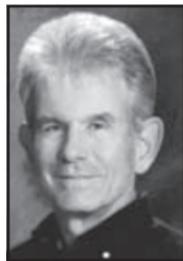
BY STEPHEN BRAZINA

Special to Florida Weekly

Although I probably wouldn't have used such a coarse title, it does appear that the writer Amy Goodman of the Opinion piece titled "In Gaza, it's the occupation, stupid" (*Florida Weekly*, Nov. 29-Dec. 5) is either stupid, purposefully misleading or ill-informed, ignorant and uneducated as to the circumstances surrounding the recent fighting between Hamas and Israel.

Completely missing from Ms. Goodman's piece is any historical background, which could help the reader understand the current situation. She fails to mention that Gaza was occupied and ruled by Egypt from 1948-1967, and that Gazans were confined there without the rights of Egyptian citizenship during those years.

Adding further to confusion and misunderstanding is the fact that Ms. Goodman fails to mention that Israel completely evacuated from Gaza in 2005, and that there has not been a single Israeli soldier on the territory of Gaza — except for the kidnapped Israeli soldier



Gilad Shalit, who was held captive by Hamas for five years. She doesn't mention how the high hopes for Gaza, when Israel evacuated, were quickly dashed when the infrastructure that Israel built was destroyed, Hamas violently seized control from the Palestinian Authority, broke security agreements with Israel and launched unrelenting attacks across the border into Israel.

Ms. Goodman also fails to mention that instead of developing Gaza and providing a better life for its residents, Hamas has spent the years since Israel's evacuation bringing in vast quantities of weapons and executing an unrelenting series of attacks including thousands of rockets fired against Israeli citizens.

Most glaringly, Ms. Goodman fails to mention that Hamas has sworn itself to the destruction of Israel and that it considers all of present-day Israel as occupied territory.

Can Ms. Goodman cite any countries with defensive capabilities that would allow its citizens to live under this constant assault? Does not the Israeli government have an obligation to defend its citizens? She apparently resents the fact that the Israeli government is concerned with protecting the lives of its citizens by building bomb shelters, which has kept their casualty count low, whereas Hamas uses the poor citizens of Gaza

as human shields to create a high body count for the international media. Does she suggest that Israel deserves these attacks and should not respond? Does she consider the Allied bombing of Japan and Germany during World War II "illegal" acts of collective punishment?

She simply states that "there were other alternatives," without mentioning what they were, and that "it's time for the international community to take some responsibility for protecting the people of Gaza," while she denies Israel's right and duty to protect its citizens.

Wouldn't it be more accurate to say that it's time for the Hamas government to take some responsibility for creating a better life for the citizens of Gaza, rather than devoting itself to the destruction of Israel?

If Ms. Goodman wants to make a difference in making the world a better place to live, she should stop blaming the innocent suffering citizens of Israel and Gaza and demand that Hamas give up its fanatical and suicidal mission to destroy Israel — a mission that has only brought suffering and misery to the peoples of the area. ■

— Stephen Brazina is the co-chair of the Israel Affairs Committee and the Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation of Collier County.

LETTERS

To the Editor

Life is just full with ironies. I write a weekly newsletter under the title "The Israeli Advocate." My articles are often published in American Thinker as well as other publications. In preparation for an article submission, I serendipitously came upon "In Gaza, it's the occupation, stupid," by Ms. Amy Goodman (Nov. 29).

As she glowingly spoke and took up the banner of my subject — Gideon Levy, who wrote a similar piece titled "Gaza Accounting" — I immediately became impressed that there is an antithesis to the cliché that "Great minds think alike."

Ms. Goodman, like Mr. Levy, is also Jewish and likewise shares the convoluted belief and absurd notion that Israel is somehow the guilty party, having taken far fewer casualties in the recent conflict with Hamas.

To the Editor

Gaza has not been occupied since Israel completely disengaged from this land in 2005. Whether Israel likes it or not, they have to occupy their perimeter because there are those who believe it is their right and obligation to murder Israelis.

Israel has signed peace treaties and accords, seceded lands they captured in self-defense and even evicted their own Jewish citizens from their homes in an attempt to coexist. For this they received a continuously escalating onslaught of mayhem and a violation of

every promise ever made to them. When the level reaches intolerable and they are forced to respond in self-defense, they are vilified.

There is nothing humane about destroying one's enemies, and collateral damage is always an inevitable consequence. And yet out of a sense of moral duty, Israel announces by text message, audio announcements and printed fliers where they will next be targeting. No other defense force in the world does this.

Only when this defense demonstrated wars to begin with. Within her agitprop there is ample mention of Israeli F-16s in action, but the author fails to mention their targets, namely tunnels dug for smuggling sophisticated weaponry from Iran and Egypt into Gaza. Also conveniently omitted are these same planes dropping leaflets on the population forewarning them of an imminent Israeli response in their area — a courtesy no other nation in the history of warfare ever bestowed upon an enemy.

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"In Gaza, it's the occupation, stupid" is a propagandist piece so replete with prevarication, Joseph Goebbels, the former Nazi minister of propaganda, would drip with envy.

Respectfully yours,
Jerrold Sobel
Naples

that Israel would no longer tolerate the murder of their civilian population did the world intervene. At which point, Hamas' rockets stopped falling and Israel again responded by standing down.

This matter has nothing to do with occupation, and Ms. Goodman's article served no purpose but to erroneously vilify and promulgate anti-Israeli propaganda.

Gene Sipe
Fort Myers

Something on your mind?

Whether you're prompted by something you read in our pages or by an issue you believe is of local, regional, national or global concern, *Florida Weekly* welcomes your thoughts expressed in letters to the editor (200-300 words) or in longer Guest Opinion pieces (up to 750 words). E-mail to Editor Cindy Pierce, cpierce@floridaweekly.com.

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PROFILES IN PARADISE

Helping people at their greatest time of need



Dr. Mark Rubin has been a hematologist/oncologist with Florida Cancer Specialists since 1994. He and his family were our neighbors for several years, and came to enjoy his friendship and to admire his commitment to his patients and his keen insight into current events.

When a good friend of ours was diagnosed with myelodysplasia, a group of disorders that would likely result in leukemia and eventually, death, we called Mark. He saw our friend after hours the next day, which was the day before Thanksgiving.

Under Mark's care, our friend eventually received a bone marrow transplant, which is the most promising cure for the disease. While it's still early, initial indications are that our friend is healthy and on the road to a clean bill of health. We will never forget the kindness that Mark extended on Thanksgiving Eve.

Having met several other patients of Mark's, I've learned that the doctor makes himself extremely accessible to them all.

The son of a real estate developer and the youngest of four children, he grew up in Toronto, Ontario, and graduated from Forest Hill Collegiate Institute. He was always especially interested in American history and the origins of democracy.

He earned a degree in biology from Harvard in 1984. It was in his senior year when he received a life-changing phone call bearing the news that his 28-year-old sister had been diagnosed with acute leukemia. Instead of accepting his invitation to Harvard Law School, Mark decided to pursue medical school.

He attended the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University in New York, and completed his residency in internal medicine at UCLA Medical Center and a fellowship in hematology and oncology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Institute.

Along with serving his patients, Mark has been an innovator in medicine. He developed a new colon cancer treatment using the drug Erbitux, and he also developed a specialized EMR (electronic medical record) that is now used in oncology practices nationwide.

"I've had the honor and privilege of being able to help people at their greatest time of need," he says. "I am always impressed by my patients' inner strength and fortitude. My job can be very emotionally demanding, but it reminds me every day of how important life is, and that we should always appreciate what we have."

He believes that these are exciting times, with many wonderful developments occurring almost daily in the treatment of cancer. But there are also storm winds brewing on the verge of significant changes in the delivery of health care that will affect all of us.

"There is much to be done, and I am looking forward to the work ahead," he

Talking points with Dr. Mark Rubin

Something your dad was always right about: Honesty above popularity. Integrity above success. Courage above pleasure.

As a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up? President of the United States (even though I was Canadian!).

What are you most proud of? Becoming an American citizen.

What would you be doing if you weren't doing this? I'd think be a ski bum.

Guilty pleasures: Not too many left since I went gluten- and dairy- free, but I do love French fries.

Most recent vacation: France.

Next vacation: Australia.

One thing on your bucket list: To be an extra in a Warren Miller ski film.

Best thing about having kids: How they let you be a kid yourself.

Advice for your kids: Be in the moment and enjoy your life.

What makes you laugh: The things my children do and say.

Last book you read: "The Hare with the Amber Eyes: A Hidden Inheritance," by Edmund de Waal.

Pet peeve: I must have my favorite gluten-free and dairy-free foods stocked all the time.

Favorite thing about the Paradise Coast: The weather.

What you miss most about the Paradise Coast when you're away: The sense of community here.



says. "As my father taught, I want to turn problems into challenges and challenges into successes."

Although Mark ended up practicing medicine, he maintains his interest in political science and current events. Dinner conversation with him can be wide-ranging because he is so conversant in so many topics.

Mark and his wife Anne have 7-year-

old twins, Charles and Caroline. In his free time, they enjoy skiing, sailing, traveling and "showing the world to our children." ■

— Bob Harden is the producer and host of "The Bob Harden Show," airing from 7-8 a.m. weekdays at www.bobharden.com. The show is archived for listeners' convenience.

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BURGERS

From page 1

a few years ago and turned it into the thriving Brook's Gourmet Burgers & Dogs. A doughnut burger is a best-seller there, with two glazed doughnuts replacing the bun. The place also features a burger with peanut butter.

Those offerings are unique to Brook's. But they seem less unusual among the latest burger joints, where a much wider variety, and higher quality, of buns, toppings and beef — and in some cases bison, elk and alligator — has helped drive the so-called “better burger” trend. That's according to a widely circulated study, Technomic's 2011 Center of the Plate: Beef & Pork Consumer Trend Report. It found that nationwide, fast casual burger sales grew 20.8 percent from 2010 to 2011 while burger sales as a whole grew at 3.7 percent; and 80 percent of consumers eat burgers away from home once a month while nearly half do so once a week.

The “burger explosion,” suggests Mr. Brooks, has also been fueled by a recessionary instinct to do more with less, creating new twists on an old favorite that would excite palates while being easy on the pocketbook.

“Restaurants need to figure out how to make comfort food that people want to eat, but something they can't get at home,” he said.

The price point for burgers — those mentioned in this article range from \$6 to \$15 — have made even burgers laden with luxurious veggies and cheeses recession friendly.

Angelo Salvador, general manager of Five Guys at Coconut Point, has another theory: that a resurgent gourmet burger has been driven by well-off baby boomers looking for the tastes they grew up with, only better.

“The baby boomers grew up going to the diner or getting a nickel burger with the girl on the roller skates at the drive in,” Mr. Salvador said. “Well, society has changed a little bit but these people are older and make a lot of money or have a lot of money, but they still want that taste of their youth, that burger. They may not necessarily want a lesser quality nickel hamburger; they want something better. So it's kind of a marriage between nostalgia and ‘my tastes have evolved.’”

A new breed of burgers also seems to promise not just better quality or more choices but a healthier product, noted Anthony Ilczuk, who was waiting for his order last week at Jimmy P's Butcher Shop and Deli, a Naples establishment that specializes in Wagyu Kobe beef. “You go to a place like this or Five Guys and, I don't think it's accurate, but you feel like it's going to be healthier,” he said.

Even if it's still pretty bad for you, the taste might be enough to make you forget. Dr. Manuel Mon, a professor at Florida Gulf Coast University, warns that he doesn't like a burger with too much grease. But he groans with pleasure at the mere thought of a Five Guys burger topped “all the way.”

Naples retiree and children's book author Nancy Poffenberger prefers her burgers “very simple — some dill pickle, lettuce, tomato, maybe mayonnaise,” she said adding, “Mushrooms, onions. Maybe a little cheese.”

You'll be able to find a burger to suit your own taste on this veritable tour of just some of the best new and not-as-new Southwest Florida burger joints.

Brook's Gourmet Burgers & Dogs

Besides a full menu of burgers from the old-fashioned, turkey, bison and chicken burgers are also offered at this



EVAN WILLIAMS / FLORIDA WEEKLY

At Brook's in Naples, a Donut Burger and Twice Baked Potato Burger await fries that cook George Kiesel is grabbing.

Naples eatery.

Under tables' glass tops are napkins and pieces of paper with notes expressing great appreciation from customers, including those from France, Germany, Italy and the Ukraine.

One of owner Todd Brooks's favorites is the Twice Baked Potato Burger. He also offers a Goober Burger, which includes peanut butter and bacon, an idea culled from the Missouri State Fair, he said.

A customer favorite, The Donut Burger, sells at a rate of about five per day at Brook's. “It's a great seller,” said cook George Kiesel. “You get pretty jacked up after eating one though.”

A former vice president of a Kansas City steakhouse, Mr. Brooks moved here about two years ago with his wife, Sandra, and their two children. He transformed the old Lindburgers into a place that is his own.

330 Ninth St. S., Naples
262-1127
www.naplesburgers.com

Elevation Burger

Mercedes Zambrano is a vegan who approves of Elevation Burger, where she works at Gulf Coast Town Center. That's because the beef is of the free-range, hormone free, grass-fed variety.

The cows that gave their lives for the burgers here led a relatively pleasant life and are killed in a humane manner, pointed out manager Mike Murphy.

The meat is fresh ground every day and less greasy than some of its competitors. The cheddar the restaurant uses has a nice tang to it. The caloric count of each menu item is posted beneath it. A standard two-patty burger has 510 calories, for instance. It also offers vegan patties, fresh-cut fries and shakes.

“People I think are wanting to go more retro, which means healthier,” said Mr. Murphy.

The franchise began in Virginia in 2005 and opened its first Southwest Florida location in January. The store features a Super Griddle, a conveyor belt of sorts, which can cook up to 450 burgers per hour.

9902 Gulf Coast Main St., Fort Myers
437-2377
www.elevationburger.com

Gyrene Burger Co.

Gyrene's claim to fame: The delivery of hot, fresh burgers in less than 15 minutes. Founded by Domino's Pizza founder Tom Monaghan last November, Gyrene's delivery staff uses bicycles and scooters to deliver within a limited 1.5-mile radius of the restaurant. There are currently two stores in Naples.

“Tom had thought about doing burger delivery back in the '70s and '80s with Domino's and he decided to just stay focused on pizza,” said operations officer Jason Rummer.

Already in Ohio, New York, and elsewhere in Florida, the business has people interested in franchises, Mr. Rummer said. But for now, all the profits from the two Naples stores go to Ave Maria University, part of the town of the same name that Mr. Monaghan created from the ground up.

A former vice president for Domino's in the early 1980s, Mr. Rummer saw that pizza chain explode in growth as well.

“The growth now on both sides of it (burgers and pizza) is more about quality,” he said. “Speed of service and high quality product at a fair price always wins with consumers. Always wins. And people love burgers; it's a staple American food. Our goal with pizza was we were going to deliver one pizza per week to every house in America. And burgers, I would dare to say, that burgers are somewhat the same way.”

51 Ninth St. S., Naples
263-4110
9331 Tamiami Trail, North Naples
254-1001
www.gyreneburger.com



Square 1

This Tampa-based gourmet burger house began in 2010 and has five stores, including its Fort Myers location, which opened last spring.

There is an eye-popping menu of choices here: Red Angus beef burgers and more exotic fare (specials have

included gator, ostrich, bison and buffalo burgers, a server said), including the Apple Duckling Burger with seasoned duck, caramelized apples, red onions and teriyaki ginger sauce on a sesame bun. A mushroom cheddar burger ordered by this reporter was cooked to juicy medium rare perfection.

“I think people really like burgers, number one I think because a cheeseburger, hamburger, it's American fare,” said manager Christian Siwek. “And gourmet burgers are getting big, I think, because people want choices.”

5031 S. Cleveland Ave., Fort Myers
931-8111
www.squareburgers.com



The Counter: Custom Built Burgers

Speaking of choices, The Counter boasts that among its gourmet buns, meats, toppings and sauces that customers may mix and match, there are 312,120 combinations.

One of those is a 1/3 pound beef patty on a wheat bun (they are also offered in a salad bowl) with Tlaxcala cheddar, roasted green chilies, Applewood smoked bacon, pickles and jabañero salsa: a thing of beauty.

The California-based franchise began in 2003 and opened in Naples at the Mercato earlier this year. Customers check off on a clipboard which items they'd like on their burger or may order off a set menu.

1395 Panther Lane, Naples
566-0644
www.thecounterburger.com

Ford's Garage

In downtown Fort Myers, Ford's is overflowing with craft beer and illustrious Black Angus burgers named after local luminaries like Mayor Randy



Interior of Ford's Garage

Henderson or car dealer Sam Galloway.

Here, burgers are given the royal treatment, with each bun branded with the Ford's log, fries served in a miniature fry basket, and a vintage Ford buggy replica hanging over the bar that can emit "exhaust" on command.

Even with all the bells and whistles, the concept stays true to keeping burgers reasonably priced.

"If you can go out and get a premium burger with some great toppings, really an ideal meal at an affordable price, it's a good situation for a lot of people



Mercedes Zambrano cooks burgers made from humanely treated cows on The Super Griddle at Elevation Burger in the Gulf Coast Town Center.

these days," said owner Daniel Kearns.

One of his favorite burgers includes cheddar cheese, a fried egg, bacon and pico de gallo.

A bartender returned to check on how this reporter was enjoying The Bootlegger burger named for Dr. Randy Bartholomew, with its signature topping of cheese, coleslaw and BBQ sauce.

"What's the verdict, honey?"
Yum.

2207 First St., Fort Myers
332-3673
www.fordsgaragefl.com

Five Guy's Burgers and Fries

This long-time Washington, D.C.-born business exploded in popularity after franchising in 2003. Located throughout the region, there are six Lee County stores, the latest opening a few months ago, with plans to open another

four in five years, said Angelo Salvador, general manager of the Coconut Point location.

"You know, all throughout the recession we were booming," Mr. Salvador said. "We hit a little slowdown now system-wide but we're still as a company growing." Besides its burgers, which fairly ooze with meat and toppings, Five Guys distinguishes itself by offering fresh-cut fries and advertising where in Idaho or Washington or wher-



ever else the potatoes came from.

"People like it, especially because we get a lot of visitors here from the Midwest and from Idaho," Mr. Salvador said.

And more of them tend to show up this time of year.

"It was a pretty hectic day today," Mr. Salvador said last Wednesday. "We were busier than I expected. But it was nice. We had a lot of people in there and we were able to serve them and serve them well."

www.fiveguys.com

Jimmy P's Butcher Shop & Deli

At Jimmy P's, you can buy \$100-per pound marbled Kobe steaks cut from Wagyu beef, or just about any other cut of the famous cow. Every morning, workers here grind up Kobe meat: sirloin tips along with scraps from New York strips and ribeye to create a hamburger patty with the perfect fat content, said butcher Matt Deason, shortly before the small store, located in a humble strip mall on U.S. 41, became overwhelmed with a lunch hour crowd out for meat.

Besides steak, diners may order a full pound, half pound or 1/3 pound Kobe burger. Mr. Deason noted the Kobe beef has "as much or more Omega 3 as salmon." While other burger joints are newer, this one (which is a butcher shop first and foremost) has been at this spot for a decade.

"Our burger sales have been exceptional just because of the quality of the beef," Mr. Deason said.

The company's logo, emblazoned on T-shirts, also reflects that sentiment: "You can't beat our meat." ■

1833 Tamiami Trail N., Naples
643-6328
www.jimmypbutchershop.com

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The Southwestern gourmet burger served at Ford's Garage.

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'Tis the season to give to toy and food drives

Here are some organizations that are collecting toys and other gifts to give to the less fortunate this holiday season:

■ **Fallen Angel Tattoo Studio** presents the inaugural "Tats for Tots" holiday fundraiser, with all contributions going to Toys for Tots via the Leathernecks, a motorcycle club of Marines and former Marines.

Owner Johnny Rizz explains how it works: For a minimum donation of \$50, Fallen Angel Tattoo Studio will give one hour of a tattoo session that's booked for Thursday, Dec. 13. Reservations are first-come, first-served. "We hope it's our busiest day yet," Mr. Rizz says, adding the studio's artists are donating their time and all materials.

In addition to the tattoos, Fallen Angel is selling \$20 raffle tickets for chance to win a \$300 tattoo. All proceeds will go to Toys for Tots. Also between now and Dec. 13, anyone who drops off a new, unwrapped toy with a value of at least \$10 will receive a Fallen Angel Tattoo Studio t-shirt.

Fallen Angel Tattoo Studio is at 20041 S. Tamiami Trail, in Estero Ridge Plaza. For more information, call 221-7508.

■ **The Naples Area Board of Realtor** is collecting toys that will be distributed to children in need in cooperation with Collier County Public Schools and the East Naples Fire Department.

Unwrapped toys can be dropped off at NABOR headquarters, 1455 Pine Road, between now and Dec. 14.

For more information, call 597-1666 or visit www.NABOR.COM.

■ **Bala Vinyasa Yoga** is collecting food for the pantry at St. Matthew's House. Non-perishable staples — canned goods, cereal, mac 'n' cheese boxes, peanut butter, coffee, tea, powdered milk — can be dropped off at 6200 Trail Blvd. N. 598-1938 or info@bvयोग.com.

■ Donations to the **Guadalupe Center of Immokalee** holiday gift shop can be dropped off at the Guadalupe Center Resale & Consignment Shop at 8100 Trail Blvd. (on U.S. 41 just south of Vanderbilt Beach Road) in Naples, or at the Guadalupe Center at 509 Hope Circle in Immokalee.

The shop, which will be set up in Immokalee for a few days in December, is designed to let parents select presents for their children. For more information, call 657-7711 or visit www.guadalupecenter.org.

■ **The Marine Corps League of Naples** has Toys for Tots collection boxes in place at all Collier County Publix stores, Walgreens and Regions Bank locations and also at Synovus Bank, 8850 Tamiami Trail N.; Shamrock Bank, 905 Fifth Ave. S.; The Boathouse Restaurant, 990 Broad Ave. S.; Blue Martini in Mercato; and Coastland Center mall (near the food court).

Toys will be collected through Dec. 21 for distribution on Dec. 22. Families with children born in 1998 or later are eligible and can register at Toys for Tots headquarters at the former DeVoe Buick/GMC Dealership at 2601 Airport-Pulling Road at these times: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6; and 8 a.m. to 5

p.m. Friday, Dec. 7. Signing up requires proof of Collier County residency and a birth certificate for each child. For more information, visit www.MarineCorps-LeagueNaples.com.

■ **The Shelter for Abused Women & Children** welcomes donations of new, non-violent, unwrapped gifts and necessities for babies, children, teens, adults, seniors and their pets who are recipients of the Shelter's many services. See a list of suggested donations at www.naplesshelter.org.

To adopt a Shelter family or to host a holiday drive or a Spirit of Giving Tree, call 775-3862, ext. 235, or e-mail RThompson@NaplesShelter.org.

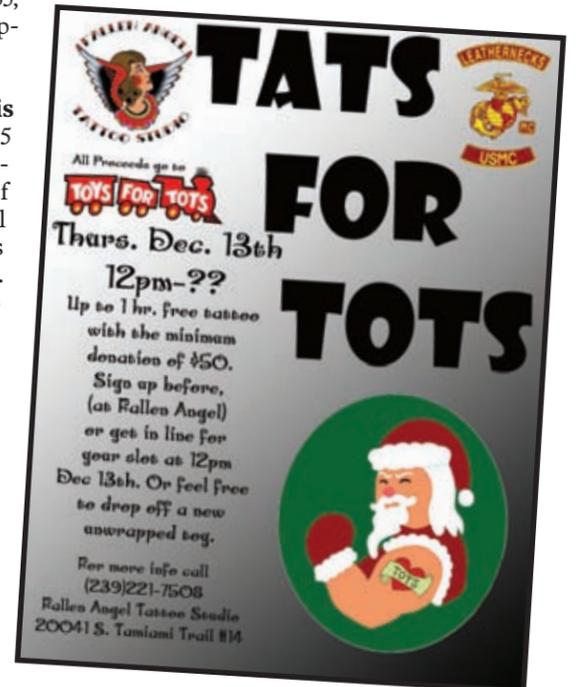
■ Through Dec. 11, **Norris Home Furnishings** at 5015 Tamiami Trail N. is collecting toys for the children of Pinecrest Elementary School in Immokalee. Gift donations should be new and unwrapped. Store hours are 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Saturday. For more information, visit www.norrishomefurnishings.com.

■ Through Dec. 14, **Preferred Travel of Naples** is a drop-off point for donations to PACE Center for Girls-Collier at Immokalee, Toys for Tots and the Shelter for Abused Women & Children.

PACE Center for Girls is seeking small items to be used as rewards for the com-

pletion of goals for girls in grades seven through 12. Ideal items include journals, scrapbook supplies, photo albums, jewelry, hair and bath products and manicure/pedicure items. Small items for parents, siblings and other family members are appreciated. PACE girls use points to "buy" Christmas gifts for family members.

Preferred Travel of Naples is at 801 Laurel Oak Drive, Suite 300. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. For more information, call 261-1177. ■



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Holiday spending tips can help ensure a healthy financial outlook for 2013

BY KATHY LEAVESLEY
Special to Florida Weekly

Between travel, holiday parties, charitable giving and gifts, the expenses can add up — and lead to credit card debt and overspending. These tips can help you plan for shopping excursions big and small, during the holiday season and throughout the New Year.



LEAVESLEY

■ **Include everything when budgeting.** One of the easiest ways to bust your budget is to fail to acknowledge the soft costs of shopping like parking, lunch at the mall, babysitting, gift wrapping, etc. Receipts and records from last year can be a great place to start. Remember, it's better to overestimate than underestimate.

■ **Write it down.** It's not really a budget until it's on paper and provides a way to measure your success and keep you on task. Post it in a place that's easy to see.

■ **Consolidate your cards if making purchases on credit.** Spreading purchases across multiple cards makes it more difficult to track expenses and maintain your budget. Think of it as a short-term loan and select the card with the lowest interest or the one that gives reward points or frequent-flier miles.

■ **Don't shop for sales, shop for prices.** While it's easy to find sales, bar-

gains can be harder to come by. Use the Internet to compare prices and research product price history.

■ **Consider the gift of giving to others.** Making a contribution to a worthy nonprofit organization in the name of a loved one can be a wonderful gift. You might also benefit from a tax deduction at the same time.

■ **Find the best deal when shipping gifts.** The price to ship gifts across the country can vary greatly depending not only on the weight of the package you're sending, but the carrier and the type of service you select. Shop around, and prepare your packages for mailing at home to save on packing supplies.

■ **Ask about sales adjustments and monitor prices after you purchase.** Ever purchase an item only to see it go on sale the following week? Many retailers allow you to get a credit or refund for the discounted amount. Savvy shoppers use price comparison websites to receive alerts when prices drop.

■ **Save your receipts.** Examine your receipts carefully before you leave the store to be sure all the appropriate discounts were applied. It's also a good idea to compare your receipts with your credit card statement to ensure there are no price discrepancies.

Keep these things in mind over the next few weeks and then ring in 2013 with a healthy financial outlook. ■

— Kathy Leavesley is senior vice president for marketing at Fifth Third Bank (South Florida).

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Help prepare food for delivery to storm-ravaged Haiti

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Since the first days after the storm in late October, volunteers and staff from Naples-based Hope for Haiti, operating out of Les Cayes in southern Haiti, have been distributing emergency relief buckets and medical supplies to those hardest hit by Hurricane Sandy. Many of the most rural areas, the hardest hit, were not reachable until flood waters receded, and Hope for Haiti workers are still traveling by foot to reach those who have been cut off from any aid.

So far, the organization has distributed more than 5,000 emergency buckets filled with critical supplies for families who lost their homes and livelihoods. The buckets contain enough supplies — food, soap, candles, matches and water purification tablets, among other things — for a family of five in the aftermath of an emergency.

Six weeks after the storm, the need is still overwhelming and there is worry about a food crisis across the entire Caribbean country.

“The Naples office staff spent Thanksgiving weekend in Haiti,” says Elizabeth Davison, Hope for Haiti’s executive director. “The situation is dire. We can’t get food there fast enough. Lives were lost, crops were destroyed, homes and livestock were swept away.”

In coordination with Naples resident Steve Popper and his organization, Meals of Hope, Hope for Haiti has organized a food-packing event from 9-11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 8, in the cafeteria at Gulf Coast High School. Volunteers are needed to help pack 75,000 meals consisting of rice, beans and nutrients.

In addition to hands-on help, monetary donations of any amount will be grate-

fully accepted to help defray the cost of the food and shipping to Haiti. Donations can be made at the school on Saturday morning or can be made online at www.hopeforhaiti.com. A donation of \$100 will pay for one emergency relief bucket.

To stay up to date on how Hope for Haiti is helping, follow the organization on Twitter at @HopeforHaitiFL or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/hopeforhaiti. ■



These photos were taken in late October during Hope for Haiti’s first post-Hurricane Sandy trip to the storm-ravaged Caribbean island. Above and below right: Young and old alike help carry relief buckets to those most in need. Left: Paula Prince, Hope for Haiti program manager, comforts a young storm victim. Below: Ms. Prince explains the contents of the relief buckets to recipients.



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Make plans for field trips and presentations at Rookery Bay

Registration is open for the almost 40 field trips as well as the keynote presentation taking place during the ninth annual Southwest Florida Nature Festival, hosted Jan. 18-20 by the Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve.

Naturalists will lead birding walks, swamp buggy tours, canoe and kayak trips, sunset boat rides and other adventures to more than two dozen wildlife hot spots. Tours are offered with partnering organizations such as Big Cypress National Preserve, Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary, Naples Botanical Garden and Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge. Fees range from \$10 to \$50.

From noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 19, four guest lecturers will make one-hour presentations in the Rookery Bay Environ-

mental Learning Center:

■ Rachel Frieze, a wildlife biologist with the Ecostudies Institute, will discuss "Research and Discovery in Southern Florida's Mangroves: Unlocking the Secrets of the Mangrove Cuckoo."

■ Dennis Giardina, Everglades region biologist with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, will discuss "Managing Florida Panthers: A Tree Climber's Perspective."

■ Author and "Butterfly Man" Mike Malloy will discuss "Butterfly Gardening Made Easy for Southwest Florida."

■ And, Paul Andreadis, a scientist affiliated with Denison University in Ohio, will discuss "Exotic, Gigantic, Problematic: Pythons in Southwest Florida."

Two keynote presentations

To accommodate anticipated interest, award-winning filmmaker Elam Stoltzfus will deliver the keynote presentation twice this year, at 6 p.m. on Jan. 18 and Jan. 19.

Mr. Stoltzfus will show behind-the-scenes video and photos while discussing the Florida Wildlife Corridor Expedition, a 1,000-mile expedition he took over a 100-day period January-April 2012 to increase public awareness of and generate support for the Florida Wildlife Corridor project. Bear biologist Joe Guthrie, conservationist Mallory Dimmitt, photojournalist Carlton Ward Jr. and Mr. Stoltzfus made the trek from Everglades National Park to the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge in

southern Georgia. The group traversed the wildlife habitats, watersheds, public and private lands and working farms and ranches that comprise the Florida Wildlife Corridor opportunity area. Admission to the keynote presentation is \$25 per person.

Admission to the Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center on Jan. 19 is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 12 and younger. The fee includes entrance to the four afternoon feature presentations. Admission on Jan. 18 is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children and free for members.

To sign up for a field trip or for one of the keynote presentations, visit www.rookerybay.org. For more information, call 417-6310, ext. 401. ■

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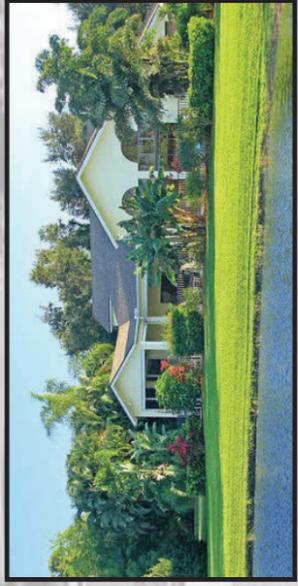


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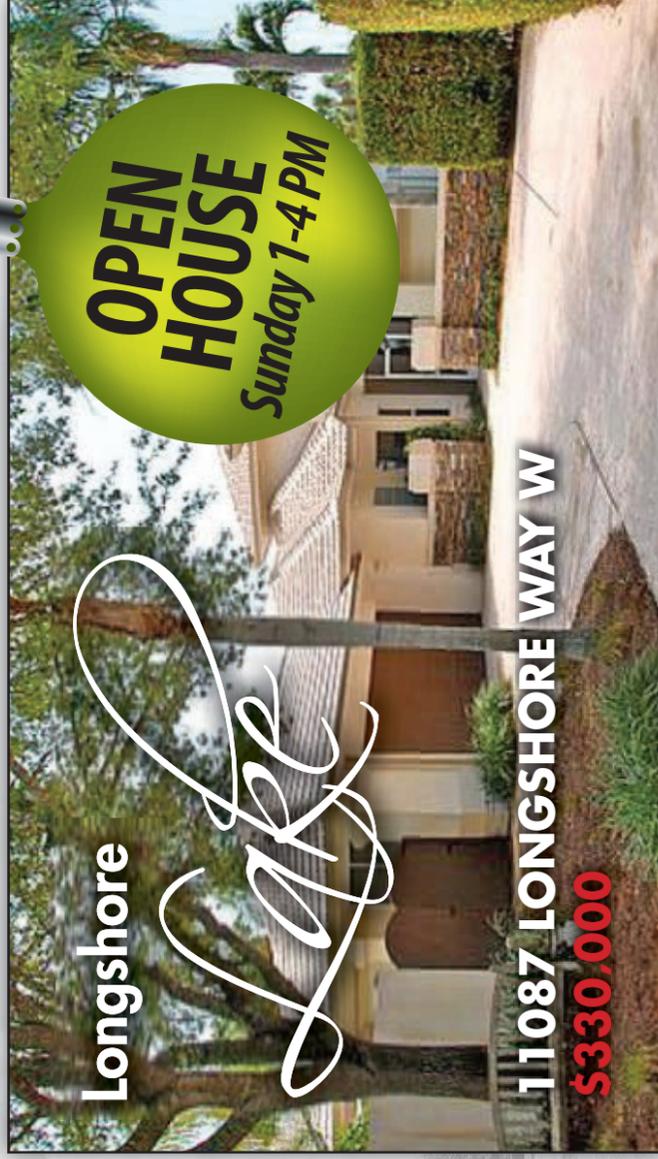


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■ The **Pi Beta Phi Alumnae Club** of Naples holds its holiday party from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6, at Marbella Lakes Clubhouse, 6678 Marbella Lane. All Naples, Bonita Springs and Marco Island alumnae of Pi Beta Phi collegiate chapters are welcome. Spouses and significant others are welcome. Members bring hors d'oeuvres to share; beverages are provided.

Cost is \$10 per person. Reservations are required and can be made by calling Connie Kindsvater at 597-7878 or e-mailing conskind@aol.com.

■ The **Genealogical Society of Collier County** holds its annual business meeting and holiday dessert party at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 11, at Moorings Presbyterian Church, 791 Harbour Drive. After the election of officers, Marie Overman will present the evening's program, "Christmas in the Marshall Islands," after which dessert will be served. Members are encouraged to bring a small plate of their favorite holiday goodies to share.

Guests are always welcome. For more information, visit www.thegscc.org.

■ The **Ohio State Alumni Club of Naples** holds its holiday social from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 20, in the clubhouse at The Strand, 5840 Strand Blvd, Naples. Members will welcome students from the OSU Buck-I-Serv program who volunteer their time and talents in Immokalee and surrounding communities to help less fortunate families. Buck-I-Serve founders Cal and Donna Wible will also attend.

For reservations, call Debbie Scartz at 248-7408 or e-mail jimdebs@comcast.net.

■ The newly formed **Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance** holds its first Third Thursday monthly membership event from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 20, at Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church, 1255 Piper Blvd. (look for the steeples across from Sam's on Immokalee Road). All are welcome.

For more information, call 498-9741 or visit www.GulfCoastOrchidAlliance.com.

■ The **Naples Newcomers Club** welcomes women who have been permanent residents of Naples for no more than five years and who want to meet others who are new to the area.

The club meets for lunch at 11:30 a.m. on the second Thursday of every month at country clubs throughout the area. In addition, groups within the club plan outings and dates to share varied interests, such as mah-jongg and duplicate bridge, gourmet cooking and discussions about philosophy.

Prospective members are invited to coffee at 10 a.m. on the first Thursday of each month. For meeting locations and more

information, call 298-4083 or visit www.naplesnewcomers.com.

■ **Toastmasters International** teaches public speaking and leadership skills through a worldwide network of meeting locations. Guests are always welcome. Local Toastmasters chapters, meeting times and locations include:

Bonita Toastmasters Club: 7 p.m. every second and fourth Wednesday at the Bonita Springs Fire Station, 27701 Bonita Grande Drive. For more information, call Scott Vail at 777-3642.

Collier Communique Club: 6:30 p.m. every Thursday at Books-A-Million in Mercato. Call Robert Rizzo at (407) 493-8584.

Naples Sunrise Bay Toastmasters Club: 7:30 a.m. on the first and third Tuesday in Moss Hall at Moorings Presbyterian Church, 791 Harbour Drive. Call Steve McCann at 777-8851.

Naples Toastmasters Club: 7 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday at Naples General Aviation Center, 200 Aviation Drive N. Call Steve Jallad at 776-5398.

Toast of the Coast Toastmasters Club: Noon on the second and fourth Friday at Stantec (previously Wilson Miller), 3200 Bailey Lane, Naples. Call Gwen Greenglass at 431-0931.

Naples Advanced Toastmasters: 6:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Monday at the North Collier Government Center, 2335 Orange Blossom Drive. Call Linda Valentine at (954) 780-6683. This club has prerequisites for membership.

Toastmaster Academy: 6:30-8:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday at the North Collier Government Center, 2335 Orange Blossom Drive. Call R. Sunde at 594-3828.

For more about the organization, visit www.toastmasters.org.

■ The **Greater Naples Branch of AAUW** is accepting applications for tuition scholarships for women seeking an associate or a bachelor's degree. Candidates who can demonstrate a need for financial assistance must be:

- 21 years of age or older.
- Currently accepted or enrolled (and with a satisfactory academic record) at an accredited college or university.
- A resident of either Collier or southern Lee county.

Previous recipients are encouraged to apply.

Application forms can be downloaded at www.aauwgnb.org.

The deadline for submitting an application is Feb. 18. Recipients will be notified no later than March 19.

For more information, contact Rose DiBiasi by calling 254-1371 or e-mailing rosed7172@gmail.com. ■

Heads up for traffic deputies

The Collier County Sheriff's Office gives drivers a heads-up that traffic enforcement deputies will be posted at the following spots the week of Dec. 10-14:

Monday, Dec. 10

- Shadowlawn Drive at Shadowlawn Elementary School - Aggressive driving
- U.S. 41 East and Palm Drive - Red light running
- Davis Boulevard and King's Way - Red light running

Tuesday, Dec. 11

- Golden Gate Parkway and Airport-Pulling Road - Speeding
- Radio and Livingston roads - Red light running
- Devonshire and Santa Barbara boulevards - Speeding

Wednesday, Dec. 12

- Pine Ridge Road at Pine Ridge Middle School - Aggressive driving
- Naples Boulevard - Speeding
- Orange Blossom Drive and Livingston Road - Red light running

Thursday, Dec. 13

- Golden Gate Parkway and Sunshine Boulevard - Speeding
- Green Boulevard - Speeding
- Collier Boulevard and I-75 southbound exit - Aggressive driving

Friday, Dec. 14

- 11th Avenue North at Naples Park Elementary School - Aggressive driving
- Livingston and Immokalee roads - Speeding
- U.S. 41 North and Vanderbilt Beach Road - Speeding ■

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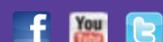
Adam Thompson, EMT-P
Lee County EMS

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

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BY DUDLEY GOODLETTE
Special to Florida Weekly



GOODLETTE

In order to strengthen and sustain a strong economy in Southwest Florida, the business community must collaborate with our education partners. In that regard, the Alliance of Educational Leaders has established a template for success in pursuit of excellence in education.

Established in 1999 for the purpose of building a strong future for Southwest Florida by providing the programs, partnerships and choices necessary to serve the educational needs of our citizens, the alliance is comprised of the superintendents of the public school systems of Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee counties and the presidents of all the regionally accredited, nonprofit public and independent colleges and universities in the five-county area.

A principle focus of our regional endeavor is responding to the workforce demands

of the area. These needs have been clearly identified in data that is available and being pursued by The Partnership for Collier's Future Economy, an initiative of the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce. In particular, it is critically important that our workforce has affordable access to post-secondary educational opportunities.

In the brief time that I was afforded the opportunity to serve as interim president at Edison State College, it became apparent to me that it makes good business sense and terrific economic sense to work with our area industries to identify and deliver the education and training skills to fulfill those workforce necessities. Workforce careers range from education, information technology, nursing, business, accounting, economics, finance, environmental and civil engineering to criminal justice, forensics, health sciences, paralegal studies, fire science technology, emergency medical services technology and architectural design and construction technology. Indeed, it is these careers and more that help make our community an attractive place to live and work and raise our families.

Led by Michael Wynn, chairman of the Greater Naples Chamber of commerce and CEO of Sunshine Ace Hardware, and Edward Morton, past chamber chair and managing director of Wasmer Schroeder & Company, The Partnership has joined with Florida Gulf Coast University and the Lee County Horizon Council to craft a regional business attraction effort.

First steps include work to help FGCU become the center for all data needed to attract new companies to Southwest Florida. A task group including myself and Collier County business leaders Al Reynolds, president and CEO of Stantec, and Richard Grant of Grant Fridkin Pearson, P.A., is working to establish annual regional business climate surveys and conferences to broadcast to all that our region is open for business development.

In this initiative, we are working with James Moore, director of the Fort Myers Regional Partnership; Ron Toll, FGCU provost and executive vice president; Kitty Green, CEO of Habitat for Humanity in Lee and Hendry counties and chair of the Horizon Council; Mei Mei Chan, publisher of

The News-Press; Laura Holquist, president of LAH Group Advisors LLC; and Dennie Hamilton, CEO of the Lee County Electric Cooperative.

Also, The Partnership has joined The News-Press Media Group, The Lee County Industrial Development Authority the Southwest Florida Workforce Development Board, Arthrex, Busey Bank, Chico's, Edison State College, FGCU, Hodges University and Manhattan Construction to invest in Workforce Now!, a regional assessment of future labor requirements and opportunities in the region.

I am enthused about these vigorous, private sector collaborations and believe that within the next few years, these efforts will help us build a thriving, sustainable economy in Southwest Florida noted for its excellent, educated workforce. ■

— Attorney Dudley Goodlette, chair-elect of the Greater Naples Chamber, served as a Florida State Representative from 1998-2006, as trustee for FGCU from 1994-2007 and as a trustee for Edison State College from 1990-94.

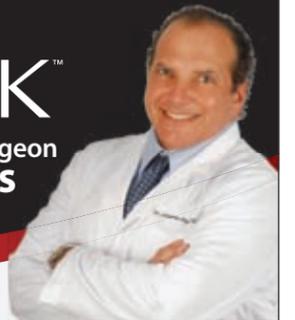
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High school seniors line up for All-Star Football Classic

The football stars will be out and on the field when the Rotary Club of Naples North presents the fifth annual All-Star Football Classic on Thursday, Dec. 13, at Barron Collier High School. Kickoff is set for 7:30 p.m. General admission is \$5 at the gate. Parking is \$5 and includes a game program.

The All-Star game serves as a fun-

draiser to provide scholarship opportunities for Collier County graduating seniors attending Edison State College and Lorenzo Walker Institute of Technology.

The Rotary Club of Naples North is organizing the event with the cooperation of the following high school athletic departments and coaches: Barron Collier, Community

School of Naples, First Baptist, Gulf Coast, Golden Gate, Immokalee, Lely, Naples, Palmetto Ridge and St. John Neumann.

The North All-Star squad will be comprised of players from Barron Collier, Gulf Coast, Palmetto Ridge, First Baptist and Immokalee. The South All-Star squad will be comprised of players from Naples, Golden

Gate, Community School of Naples, St. John Neumann and Lely.

Only seniors are eligible to play.

The Rotary Club will also sponsor an All-Star banquet for the athletes on Monday, Dec. 10, at the Country Club of Naples. Tickets for parents of the athletes are \$35. Players can contact their head football coach for details about ordering tickets. ■

Three cheers for new youth program at the Y

The Greater Naples YMCA introduces cheerleading to its youth sports program in January, adding to t-ball, soccer, basketball and volleyball programs already in place.

For children ages 5-13, the cheerleading instruction will include chants and a progressive dance in which new moves will be added each week. The



basics of tumbling and stunting, along with safety measure for both, are also part of the curriculum.

Practice will take place at 5:30 p.m. every Tuesday; performances will be on Saturdays. Parents are encouraged to participate as volunteer coaches, team parents and officials as well as fans from the stands.

Registration for the

new cheerleading program and all other youth winter sports offered at the Y is open now at www.ymcapalms.org

or at the front desk at the Y, 5450 YMCA Road. For more information, visit the website or call 597-3148. ■

Kids invited to 'Golf with Giver'

Children are invited to participate in the inaugural "Golf with Giver" mini-golf tournament teeing off at 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 15, at Coral Cay Adventure Golf, 2205 Tamiami Trail E. The \$5 fee includes a round of golf, snack, one raffle ticket and photo with Giver, Charity for Change's costumed orangutan mascot.

Pre-registration is required at www.charityforchange.org

by Dec. 10. All children must be accompanied by an adult but do not need to be School "Giver" Program participants. For more information, call Charity for Change at 592-6787.

For information about sponsorship opportunities, call Suzanne Todd at 784-7945. ■



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maureenSULLIVAN-HARTUNG
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“Here are no lofty peaks seeking the sky, no mighty glaciers, or rushing streams wearing away the uplifted land. Here is land, tranquil in its quiet beauty, serving not as the source of water but as the last receiver of it. To its natural abundance we owe the spectacular plant and animal life that distinguishes this place from all others in our country.”

So spoke President Harry S. Truman in his opening address at the dedication of Everglades National Park, 65 years ago today, on Dec. 6, 1947.

There were several other notables on hand that day, among them Deaconess Harriet Bedell, the Episcopalian who helped the local Indians, and Marjory Stoneman Douglas and Ernest Coe, who were affectionately regarded as the “mother and father” of the Everglades. Their foresight and steadfast determination helped in the establishment of the park itself.

Thousands of others, including members of the press from around the country, attended the dedication, and the ceremony was broadcast nationwide over the airwaves. Somehow, even back then, many knew that this 1.3-million-acre park was different.

America’s 28th national park was established not because of its spectacular scenery, but because its delicate environment needed to be protected.

It was Mr. Coe, a landscape architect, who in 1928 wrote the proposal for a national park to be established within the Everglades. The Great Depression and World War II would intervene and take precedence before the Florida legislature appropriated the necessary \$2 million to purchase privately owned



1. President Truman arrives at the ceremony.



2. President Truman receiving gifts from the Seminoles
3. President Truman and John Pennekamp.
4. Secretary of the Interior Julius Albert Krug addresses the crowd.
5. Wah Nese sings “The Star Spangled Banner.”

lands within the designated area. With the acreage acquired through both public and private contributions, Congress authorized the creation of the park in 1934.

Today’s Everglades National Park

faces three major environmental threats: rapid urbanization, water manipulations and the invasion of exotic flora and fauna. Each threat brings its own series of problems with it.

Ever since the park was established, the areas to the east and west of its expanse have been in a continuous state

of exponential growth in population. That growth has subsequently impacted the park’s wildlife population tremendously.

Man’s interference with the natural flow of water through the Everglades has had a detrimental effect on the population of wading birds and has contributed to the rise of exotic, invasive species — including Burmese pythons,



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Details and auction link at www.charityforchange.org



Vineyards Country Club in Naples, Florida, generously donated the Lifetime Full Golf Membership to Charity for Change, a Naples-based not-for-profit organization, as a fundraiser. No existing members holding a promissory note may bid on the membership.



which in recent years have wreaked major havoc in the park.

The park needs water, yes, but that water must come with the right quality, quantity, timing and distribution, stresses Park Superintendent Dan Kimball.

While Everglades National Park does, indeed, face many challenges, Mr. Kimball says progress is being made, step by step, toward restoring the endangered ecosystem, rebuilding the hurricane-battered infrastructure and completing a general management plan for the next 20 years.

So what can we, mankind — as individuals and collectively — do to assist those working in the park to help ensure we have

an Everglades National Park 25 years from now?

The most important thing that the public can do, Mr. Kimball says, is continue to support the park and the ecosystem restoration effort. “Tell your

friends about what a spectacular, but threatened, place the park is,” he says. “Encourage them to visit and experience the park and the Everglades firsthand.”

President George W. Bush, during a visit to the park in 2001, reminded us all that, “Our job here is to be good stewards of the Everglades, to restore what has been damaged and to reduce the risk of harm.

“The park is not just a beautiful place to visit, but as everyone down here knows, it is a vital part of South Florida’s ecosystem.”

Mrs. Douglas had it so right when, back in 1947, she declared, “There are no other Everglades in the world,” in the opening lines of her book, “The Everglades: River of Grass,” that was destined to become a bestseller.

Here’s to the next 65 years. ■

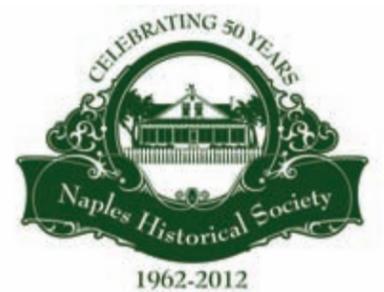
— *Maureen Sullivan-Hartung arrived in Naples in 1981 and began freelance writing after a yearlong stint as a reporter for the former weekly Everglades Echo newspaper. Her first book, “Hidden History of Everglades City & Points Nearby,” was published in 2010 by The History Press in South Carolina. Look for her Undercover Historian column every other week in Florida Weekly.*

in the know

The main entrance to Everglades National Park is 10 miles southwest of Homestead on State Road 9336, about a three-hour drive from Naples. Check www.nps.gov/ever for details about entrance fees and other applicable fees.

For more information, call (305) 242-7700.

Happy holidays from historic Palm Cottage



As is its longstanding tradition, the Naples Historical Society has decorated Naples’ oldest house, the circa 1895 Palm Cottage, for the Christmas season. Residents and visitors are invited to step back in time for an old-fashioned holiday experience.

Showcased this year at “Christmas at Palm Cottage” is an exhibit of American cut glass on loan from Neapolitans Barbara and Bill Meek. Dozens of items hint at times gone by, including a fanciful vinaigrette that dates to 1886. Younger women typically carried vinaigrettes, which held smelling salts, as a fashion statement and a symbol of wealth.

Also on display are recent additions to the historical society’s permanent collection, including three large William Henry paintings originally commissioned by one of Naples’ early bankers, Mamie Tooke.

Historic Palm Cottage is at 137 12th Ave. S., one block east of the Naples Pier. Through Dec. 29, “Christmas at Palm Cottage” is open from 1-4 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday and 1-8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday. Admission is \$6 per person (free for ages 10 and younger). No reservations are necessary.

For more information, call 261-8164 or visit www.NaplesHistoricalSociety.org. ■

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HEALTHY LIVING

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MENSA hosts free lecture on vaccines

The Naples chapter of MENSA and members Dr. Sam and Bunny Sewell host pediatrician Brian Thornburg for a discussion about childhood immunizations at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 8. All are welcome. Admission is free; contributions to the Mensa Gifted Youth Scholarship Fund are appreciated.

Dr. Thornburg will discuss the history and controversy of vaccines in America and from an international perspective, and will also talk about how healthy nutrition and detoxification can prevent illness by strengthening the immune system naturally.

The program will be held at 10202 Vanderbilt Drive (the northeast corner at 102nd Avenue). Although attendance is free, reservations are requested. Contact the Sewells by calling 591-4565 or e-mailing bunnysam@bestselfusa.com.

Tips to laugh away the holiday blues

Holidays are a time of mirth and cheer; at least that's what the folks at Hallmark tell us. For many adults, however, the holidays can be a challenging time.

In a free presentation titled "Laugh Those Holiday Blues Away," Margot Escott, LCSW, will provide tips on ways to decrease the stress that comes with "the most wonderful time of the year."

The Mental Health Association of Southwest Florida hosts the program from 9:30-11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 22, at MHASWF headquarters, 2335 Tamiami Trail N. Reserve your place by calling Brian Follweiler at 261-5405 or e-mailing bfollweiler@mhaswfl.org.

Pain relief study shows rats experience placebo effect

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY
The University of Florida

Rats and humans have at least one thing in common: They both react the same way to a placebo, according to a new University of Florida study.

"That was the big finding — that the animals that expected pain relief actually got

pain relief when you gave them an inert substance," says co-author Dr. John Neubert, a pain specialist and an associate professor in the department of orthodontics at the UF College of Dentistry. "It helps validate our model that what we do in the rats, we believe, is a good representation of what's being seen in humans."

The investigation of placebo effects might lead to the identification of new therapeutic targets in the brain and of novel treatment strategies for a variety of health conditions.

A placebo response is a response seemingly to a treatment that has not actually been administered.

For this study, researchers looked at placebo responses in reference to pain and pain relief by evaluating how an animal responds when it "thinks" it's getting a pain reliever.

UF researchers conditioned rats to expect morphine or salt water by giving injections of one or the other for two sessions. Then during the third session, researchers gave both groups the saline injection. About 30 to 40 percent of the group that had previously received morphine acted as if they had received morphine again and showed pain relief.

"What that means is we can then go ahead and do more mechanistic studies and do pharmacological studies tar-

geting different receptors," Dr. Neubert says. "We could do different procedures and try to apply that knowledge to what we think is going on in humans."

The two-year study published in the October issue of the journal PAIN was the result of collaboration between Dr. Neubert and Niall Murphy, an addiction specialist and adjunct associate professor at the University of California Los Angeles. The two decided to look at placebo responses because they deal with pathways and mechanisms that relate to pain, reward and addiction.

"We know basic things about placebo response, but the study we did is important because now we can look at placebo response in ways that you can't in humans due to practical and ethical issues," Dr. Neubert says. "You can do different manipulations in a preclinical model that just couldn't be done in humans."

Early results from another study the researchers are conducting have demonstrated similar results in mice.

"This was a really exciting finding for us because we used our novel testing system that was developed here at UF, with the support of my department, the College of Dentistry, and funding from

the National Institute on Drug Abuse at the NIH," Dr. Neubert says. "That will allow us to now closely model things that we see in humans. We're more confident in doing these preclinical studies and in doing translational research, where you take studies from the basic side of things and try to apply them to the human condition."

Dr. Jianguo Cheng, a professor and director of the Cleveland Clinic's Pain Medicine Fellowship Program, says the study has established a novel and useful model to investigate the mechanisms of placebo effects.

Dr. Cheng, who was not involved in the study, believes the placebo effect deserves further study. "The authors ought to be commended for their innovative experimental design and rigorous and sophisticated analysis of the results," he says. "This combination constitutes a solid basis for the credibility of their findings."

"This elegant model convincingly demonstrated the cardinal features of placebo responses to sham or control intervention that are commonly seen in humans." ■



CHENG



Hospital exec shares a personal view of the patient experience

BY BRAD POLLINS

Special to Florida Weekly

On Christmas Day 1997, I received a message on my answering machine from my dad wishing me a Merry Christmas and telling me how much he loved me. At the time, he was visiting a friend in Cape Canaveral for the holidays. He didn't realize his voice was still recording as he hung up and I heard him say to his friend: "You can call the ambulance now."

I left immediately and drove from Atlanta to the hospital in Cape Canaveral. Upon my arrival, I learned my dad had had a stroke that left him completely paralyzed on his left side. As it turned out, cancer had metastasized to his brain.

Since I was his only family, I took a leave of absence to care for him.

Prior to this event, I had never worked in health care. However, as a result, I became passionately committed to helping create and deliver the best patient experience possible. It is my memory of our shared experiences that fuels the flame that burns within me.

First and foremost, I loved my dad and wanted to honor his memory. During the seven weeks I cared for my dad



POLLINS

— until his passing on Feb. 18, 1998 — I had no basis upon which to evaluate the quality of care he was receiving. Fair or not, my only foundation was to judge how he was being treated as a human being.

Over the course of his care, I encountered hundreds of care providers — nurses, doctors, technicians and support personnel. What stands out most were those who were simply "indifferent" — as if they had been taught to keep an emotional distance from the patient and family when, in actuality, empathy and compassion is what we needed most.

They say the small things can be the big things. For example, even though the stroke had left my dad paralyzed on his left side, guess where meals, remote controls and call buttons were placed? That's right, on his left side.

Nevertheless, there was one neurologist I will always remember. I don't know how the doctor found out about my dad's background — perhaps he overheard us speaking, or maybe the doctor spoke to one of my dad's friends.

Regardless, his subsequent actions were unforgettable.

The doctor came into the room, pulled up a chair beside my dad, gently touched his hand and began to ask about World War II. He then proceeded to engage my dad in trivia questions about U.S. presidents. You see, the doctor had invested the time to discover my dad was a World War II Marine veteran and enjoyed studying U.S. presidents. You should have seen my dad's face — for a brief moment, he was pleasantly distracted and, for the first time, I felt like someone really cared.

From that moment, I have dedicated my professional life to making a difference by creating great patient experiences. What I have discovered through my own experience, plus the countless patient and family focus groups and interviews I have conducted, is that compassion is the No. 1 driver of the patient experience. We have to remember that patients are afraid, uncertain, distracted, hurting and emotionally stressed. They are in unfamiliar surroundings. They have lost their routine, control and their peace of mind. The only feeling we can give in return to offset these types of emotions is compassion.

Please don't misunderstand me. Safe,

quality care is vitally important. In fact, health-care consumers are becoming savvier in shopping for their needs, and safety and quality outcomes are a primary driver over their decisions. However, what drives their perception of the experience is how we treat them as a person.

Perhaps Fred Lee, the author of "If Disney Ran Your Hospital," says it best: "Customers hold in their minds a mental picture of how a person should be treated, and that picture becomes the standard by which their experience is judged. But precluding a catastrophe, patients judge their experience by the way they are treated as a person, not by the way they are treated for their disease."

I joined Physicians Regional Health-care System seven months ago as the system director of performance improvement. Every day, my purpose is to be catalyst for positive change with a particular focus on delivering the best patient experience possible by bringing warmth, kindness, empathy and compassion to everyone who enters our doors. It doesn't get much better than that. ■

— Brad Pollins can be reached at brad.pollins@hma.com.

TO YOUR HEALTH

Doctor will discuss test for Parkinson's

The Parkinson Association of Southwest Florida Inc. presents a free presentation by Dr. Igor Levy of Neuroscience/Spine Associates at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 12, at Hodges University, 2655 Northbrooke Drive.

Dr. Levy will discuss DaTScans, a new imaging technique that can provide a more definitive diagnosis of Parkinson disease. He will also raise the question of how much a patient should be told about test findings. Attendees will be encouraged to join the conversation.

Other programs and services PASFI offers Parkinson's disease patients and their families and caregivers include:

■ A voice aerobics class is held at 10:30 a.m. every Tuesday at PASFI headquarters.

■ A "My Story" workshop takes place immediately after voice aerobics every week for those who want to preserve their family memories in writing.

■ A support group for caregivers meets at 7 p.m. every Tuesday.

■ A support group for PD patients or others with movement disorders as well as their caregivers begins at 10:30 a.m. every Thursday. Students from FGCU recently attended and asked for volunteers to complete a short assessment about physical activity. They will share their findings with the group in a few months.

Naples Equestrian Challenge offers horseback riding as a therapeutic tools for Parkinson's patients. Tuition for PASFI members is covered by an anonymous gift.

The next session of the speech and swallowing class will begin in February.

Unless otherwise noted, classes and programs take place at PASFI headquarters, 1048 Goodlette-Frank Road in Naples. For reservations or more information about any of the above, call PASFI at 417-3465 or e-mail Ruth Hubing, executive director, at pasified@aol.com.

Hazelden hosts free recovery lectures

Hazelden in Naples presents "Inspiration to Strengthen Recovery," a series of four free programs starting Tuesday, Dec. 11, and continuing from 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesdays, Jan. 8, Feb. 12 and March 12, at First United Methodist Church, 388 First Ave. S.

Guest speaker for the December session is Heather Burton. Ms. Burton holds a master's degree in addiction studies and began her clinical work at the Hazelden Foundation in Center City, Minn. She helped open the Naples facility in 2010 and is now director of clinical services here. Her topic of discussion will be complacency or "resting on our laurels" as it affects those in recovery for alcohol or substance abuse.

The series continues with:

■ "The Blessings



LOECHER



BURTON



CASEY



MOYERS

of a Thorough 11th Step" on Jan. 8, by author Karen Casey, Ph.D.

■ "Now What? For the Whole Family" on Feb. 12, by William Cope Moyers, vice president of public affairs and community relations for Hazelden.

■ "Transitions: Coping with Change" on March 12, by Elene Loecher, who retired after 25 years as spiritual care and program coordinator at Hazelden's Dan Anderson Renewal Center in Minnesota.

For more information, call Hazelden's Theresa Feller at 659-2367.

MHASWF plans 55th annual meeting

The Mental Health Association of Southwest Florida holds its 55th annual meeting Friday, Dec. 14, at Hodges University. Guest speaker Dr. Robert Albanese will discuss "New Mental Health Care Laws and their Impact on our Diverse Culture." Gail Williams, chief diversity officer at Hodges U., will host the meeting.

Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. at the university's the Science and Technology Building, 2647 Northbrooke Drive.

Registration is \$25 and is open to all. Scholarships are available, and professionals can earn one CEU. For more information, call Brian Follweiler at 261-5405 or e-mail bfollweiler@mhaswfl.org.

Workshop will give lifeline to caregivers

More than 65 million Americans provide care for a chronically ill, disabled or aged relative or friend each year. The help them learn strategies for coping, a free workshop will take place from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 15, in the clubhouse at Moorings Park.

Family caregivers, health-care professionals and clergy all are invited to "A Lifeline for Caregivers" presented by Kenneth J. Doka, Ph.D., professor of gerontology at the Graduate School of The College of New Rochelle and a senior consultant to the Hospice Foundation of America.

Dr. Doka's topics for family and other caregivers will include managing stress, setting goals and expectations and taking care of oneself. For health-care professionals and clergy, he will discuss psychological and spiritual reactions at end of life and the effects of caring for the terminally ill.

A light dinner will be served. The evening is sponsored by Vita Hospice, Dignity Memorial, IberiaBank, Moorings Park and 21st Century Care.

RSVP by Jan. 10 by calling 597-3101.

Parenting power topic of classes

David Lawrence Center offers free parenting courses starting in January to empower parents and provide them with communication skills and other tools to help them meet challenges associated with raising children. Classes will meet from 6-8 p.m. once a week for six weeks, with several starting dates available for sessions in both English and Spanish. Space is limited, and registration is open now.

"Making Parenting a Pleasure" is designed for busy, stressed-out parents of children ages 5-12.

"Parenting a Problematic Teen" is for parents of older children who are strong-willed or even out of control.

For registration or more information, call 263-4013 or visit www.davidlawrencecenter.org. ■

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NCH, Florida Blue collaborate in pursuit of accountable care



— too many scans, too many blood tests, too many procedures — is costing our nation's health-care system at least \$210 billion a year and taking a human toll in pain, emotional suffering, severe complications and even death."

Florida Blue, the new incarnation of Blue Cross and Blue Shield, has entered into an arrangement with NCH Healthcare System and the NCH Healthcare Group (comprised of 64 physicians and 25 nurse practitioners/physician assistants, including the Naples Heart Institute). I see it as the first step toward a revolutionary accountable care organization.

America's health-care spending alone is equivalent to the fifth largest economy in the world. Clearly, we cannot succeed as a nation if our health-care costs continue to outpace our resources. So what can we do?

Our goal in this collaboration is simple: to improve patient outcomes by providing the right care at the right time, while avoiding unnecessary overutilization of resources. Together we are building a new delivery care model that shifts toward value-based reimbursement, while improving the overall quality of care for Florida Blue members who are cared for by the NCH Healthcare Group.

Pat Geraghty, the chairman and CEO of Florida Blue, sums it up by saying we must create "new models of care that deliver the highest quality of care while reducing the cost burden for all stakeholders."

Indeed, a recent survey of primary-care physicians published in the Archives of Internal Medicine found that 42 percent of respondents believe patients in their own practices are getting "too much care." Only 6 percent think their patients are getting "too little care."

The NCH-Florida Blue partnership is an exciting first step to becoming an accountable care program. Our patients, families and community all will benefit by using evidence-based medicine while avoiding unnecessary emergency room visits, hospital admissions, tests and procedures.

According to the Institute of Medicine, "This epidemic of overtreatment

"First, do no harm," is the mantra every physician embraces at graduation from medical school; it's the motivation for all of us in this noble profession of health care. Our newest collaboration responds to this worthwhile cause, augmenting Southwest Florida's allure as a healthy community and a medical destination.

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

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NCEF dental center earns high marks

DentaQuest Institute has recognized the NCEF Pediatric Dental Center as a Safety Net Solutions Center of Excellence. Only four centers in the United States received the designation, which is given in recognition of leadership and excellence in oral health practice management that results in a greatly improved oral health status of their patients.

west Florida and Naples Children & Education Foundation (founders of the Naples Winter Wine Festival).

Since opening in 2008, the NCEF Pediatric Dental Center has provided a comprehensive range of routine and specialty services to its patients. The center operates as a partnership among the University of Florida's College of Dentistry, Healthcare Network of South-

The impetus for NCEF Pediatric Dental Center came from a 2005 needs assessment commissioned by NCEF that revealed an estimated 17,000 children in the county lacked adequate dental care. Comprehensive dental care, including specialty services such as sedation and hospital-based dentistry, is provided at the facility by residents of UF's Pediatric Dentistry Residency Training Program. The center is managed by Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida and to date has provided care through more than 30,000 patient visits. ■

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PET TALES

Couch-potato canines

If you don't have time to exercise a high-energy dog, choose one who's a better fit

BY GINA SPADAFORI
Universal Uclick

Every month I go to my local public radio station for a short feature on pets and their care. While I'm always prepared for the topic we've chosen for the show, I'm sometimes caught off-guard by the questions other guests ask me in the "green room" before the show.

These are all extremely accomplished people in their own fields, but in my area of expertise, they can have some pretty off-the-mark ideas. Such was the case recently when a top atmospheric scientist asked me to confirm for him that the vizsla, a Hungarian hunting breed, would be a "low maintenance" pet.

Low maintenance? Not unless your idea of that includes a couple daily exercise sessions that would exhaust someone training for a marathon. Like many hunting dogs, the vizsla is bred for a hard day's work in rough terrain. For someone looking for a dog who'd snooze the days away alone in a downtown condo, his choice of dog could hardly be worse.

He told me he wanted shorthaired, medium-sized and laid-back dog, and he was surprised when I suggested he consider a retired racing greyhound, likely a female to come in on the smaller size. He thought that a racing dog would have nonstop energy, but on the contrary, greyhounds are lovingly known by their families as "40 mph couch potatoes." You want a dog to snooze the day

away? This is that dog.

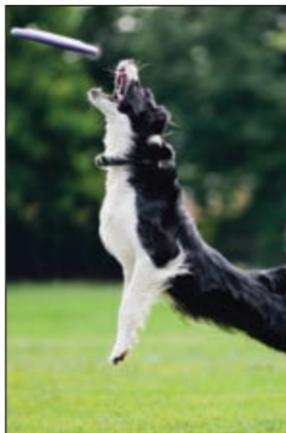
That doesn't mean the vizsla isn't a good dog ... for someone else. I have high-energy dogs of a similar hunting breed, and I manage their exercise needs by making sure there's room for lots of fetch in my schedule. If I couldn't or didn't want to exercise them constantly, I wouldn't have dogs like these. But too many people don't consider a dog's energy levels when choosing an animal companion, and that often leads to frustration for both dog and owner.

Look at the big, active dogs we adore, such as the Labrador, golden retriever and German shepherd. These breeds are high on the American Kennel Club's list of the most popular, and they're also well-represented as adoption candidates in shelters, both pure-breeds and mixes. You don't have to go far down the popularity list to find other active breeds as well — dogs whose genetics have prepared them to work both hard and often.

What are they doing to burn off all that natural energy? Barking, digging, chewing and often making their owners very unhappy.

If you're thinking of getting a dog, think seriously about which breed you want and whether you can provide an active dog with the exercise he needs. If you can't honestly say that your dog will get 30 minutes of heart-thumping aerobic exercise at least three to four days a week — daily is better — then you really ought to reconsider getting an active large breed.

Instead, consider the alternatives. For



Herding and hunting dogs tend to have high energy requirements that are hard for many families to meet.

large breeds, look at the sight hounds, such as the greyhound I suggested, the saluki or even the massive Irish wolfhound. These breeds were not developed to work all day like the retriever, husky and sheepdog, but rather to go all out for a short period of time and then chill out for hours. They're big, but they're couch potatoes by choice. Many guarding breeds, such as Rottweilers, boxers and Akitas, also have relatively minimal exercise requirements. All dogs love and need their exercise, but not all dogs will go crazy if they don't get a ton of it.

Most small breeds are easy in the exercise department, too, not because they don't need a lot of it, but because it's not as difficult to exercise a small dog with short legs. A Yorkie, pug or corgi can get good exercise in a small yard or on a brisk walk. ■

Pets of the Week



>> **Chloe** is a beautiful 2-month-old domestic shorthair. She's classy and sweet, and her stunning gold eyes contrast perfectly with her lovely glossy black coat.



>> **Dewey** is a handsome 4-month-old white-footed orange tabby who gets along very well with everyone.



>> **Buddy** is a 1-year-old Tibetan terrier mix who likes people, cats and other dogs.



>> **Rhina** is an 8-month-old tricolor black mouth cur mix. She's alert, beautiful and good on her leash as well as friendly with people, cats and other dogs.

To adopt or foster a pet

—This week's pets are from **Collier County Domestic Animal Services**. Adoption fees for cats are \$60 and dogs are \$85 and include sterilization surgery, vaccinations, pet license, ID microchip and a bag of food. Visit DAS at 7610 Davis Blvd. from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Saturday. For more information, call 252-7387 or visit www.colliergov.net/pets.

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MUSINGS

Agape



“Begin to be now what you will be hereafter.”
— William James

“These are phenomena of such overwhelming givenness or overflowing fulfillment that the intentional acts aimed at these phenomena are overrun, flooded — or saturated.”
— John D. Caputo

“Belief creates the actual fact.”
— William James

“Deconstruction exists in the interval between constructions and undeconstructibility.”
— Jacques Derrida

“My gaze, for the first time, sees an invisible gaze that sees it.”
— Jean Luc Marion

“Metaphysics means nothing but an unusually obstinate effort to think clearly.”
— William James

open this mouth:
not to issue forth speech
nor to rest in goatness dull

nor in deathly rictus
and not the signal for desire to feed in
birds or beasts or babies

open that mouth:
awed into silence
poised
like a dancer waiting for the next

movement
to coalesce between vertebrae and
verisimilitude

open sesame
like the cave mouth leading to the
treasure of thieves
not forty: count less

and open wider
insinuating sinews where there are
none at all

open beyond opine
open beneath breath
open into emerald cities and rhythm
and blues
open over tones atonal, the whore
monets of light

open arms, bare
open air, spacious
open season, without guile or gilding
or foil

before the love feast
before the dawning dark
before the pupil, lit or knot, becomes
wide or narrow

after the fact
after the mourning after
after living as if we know what
a bout is

love feast of possibility out of
minding the impossible ■

— Rx is the FloridaWeekly muse who hopes to inspire profound mutiny in all those who care to read. Our Rx may be wearing a pirate cloak of invisibility, but emanating from within this shadow is hope that readers will feel free to respond. Who knows: You may even inspire the muse. Make contact if you dare.

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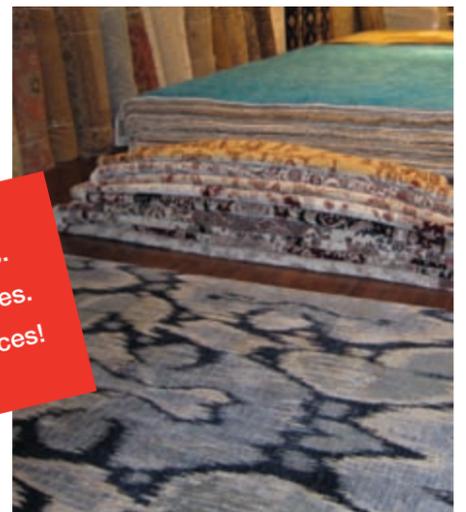


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BUSINESS & REAL ESTATE

WEEK OF DECEMBER 6-12, 2012

A GUIDE TO THE LOCAL BUSINESS & REAL ESTATE INDUSTRIES

“When a public school is poor, it goes on for 50 years. When a charter school is poor, it gets closed down. And that’s as it should be.”

— **Jon Hage,**
president of Charter Schools, U.S.A.



Charter Schools, USA students in a computer lab.

COURTESY PHOTO

Charters chart big-growth course

BY ROGER WILLIAMS
rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

Charter schools — tuition-free schools funded by taxpayers, reviewed for quality by a nonprofit oversight board and often managed by a for-profit business or a public agency — have exploded with growth in Southwest Florida.

The epicenter appears in Lee County, where 14 percent of almost 84,000 public school students, or about 11,400, are now enrolled in 23 charter schools,

according to school district numbers and a report published last month by the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools. Those statistics tie the county at 18th in the nation and put it near the top of Florida school districts serving children in public charters, behind Miami-Dade and Broward counties.

Say what you will about their quality — school performance ratings are strong in some areas, and spotty or poor in others — the charter business appears to be booming.

“We’ve been in Lee for about 10

years, and our original involvement was based on fast growth — so it was a quantity issue, rather than the quality issues you find in urban cores,” says Jon Hage, president and CEO of Charter Schools, USA, a for-profit business that operates six schools in Lee County, and 48 schools across five states.

But now it’s a quality issue in Lee and other Florida communities, as well, he argues — although school district figures show that charter schools in

SEE CHARTERS, B5 ▶

INSIDE



Homes for the Holidays

Norris Home Furnishings and CBIA get into the spirit, and more good-for-business fun. **B7-8** ▶



On the Move

Who’s going where, doing what on the local business scene. **B4** ▶



House Hunting

A spacious condominium in the heart of Old Naples. **B9** ▶



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MONEY & INVESTING

Fix your finances in 2013 by starting to plan now



As a new year approaches, new resolutions will abound. Besides resolutions to lose weight or enroll in a gym, you might think about some resolutions for building a better financial future for yourself.

Instead of whipping out a yellow pad the day before or after year's end and memorializing some half-baked financial goals, you might want to read this column and begin pondering a broad scope of financial issues. The process may well entail fact-finding, an accounting review, conversations with loved ones and experts, etc. And it might take you a fair amount of time and effort to cross the Dec. 31 finish line with financial resolutions that are truly worthy.

Discussions about money and investing most often focus on amounts of money, levels of earnings, investment returns and allocations, taxation, etc. As such, past years' resolutions might have included: To earn x percent more than the S&P; to read a major financial journal one time a week; to pay less in taxes (even if higher rates are passed); to pay down mortgage debt and others.

These resolutions are measur-

able, easily discussed with family and friends and are topics covered in the media. But they do not address other critical elements: Attitudes, values and emotions as they relate to money. From my perspective, these are foundational elements, just as important as the mechanics and art of successful investing or career building. Making all the money in the world yields little benefit if you fail to grow as a person and if you fail to appreciate financial blessings.

These non-technical topics are not often discussed in meetings with investment advisers, in investment clubs, in newsletters, or in coffee shop talk. They are very personal and might well disclose the core of a person and violate boundaries or personal turfs. They often remain topics within the confines of a spousal relationship — or self-talk.

Here is a list of some money issues about which you might consider making 2013 resolutions. They will take time and effort to be uniquely figured for you.

Square one for everyone is how much money you have, how much you earn and how you spend it. That's easy to do but often time consuming. Most people are surprised by the details of the cash in/out and assets/liabilities.

Why surprised? Because people do not like to think of themselves as spend thrifts or having a lifestyle that is above their means. People

tend to remember their good ways in handling money, akin to investors forgetting or ignoring their losses yet remembering the glory of the gains. Loss denial is very much like spending denial. Until people get enthused about understanding and effecting change in their spending habits, they prefer to forget their wanton ways.

Second, figure your money values, as they will determine your money goals. Values to provide and protect a family, to give to those less fortunate, to save for education of children and grandchildren will manifest in different resolutions than if you value first and foremost becoming a mega-millionaire. Relationships, especially healthy and long-running marriage relationships, are founded on compatibility, shared values and shared goals. And money, not infidelity (which we all know is a widespread problem), is the number one issue cited for divorce. So, you might as well work to create shared money values and money goals in your marriage.

Third, through feedback by those who know you and love you, discover your emotions surrounding money, as others perceive it. Your emotions are key drivers of your behavior. All financial theory plays second fiddle to behavioral theory in which emotions of fear and greed take leading roles. Greed is often manifest in chasing investment markets that have already had big bull runs (buying at

the top) and fear is often manifest in cashing out of markets that have just had a large correction (selling at the bottom.) If you can withstand hearing the candid assessment of others about your monetary emotions, then you can possibly grow beyond these limitations. No one wants to hear that they are greedy or fearful, but it is extremely unrealistic to think that these core limitations of human character are to be found in your fellow man but not in you.

Fourth, you might want to make a commitment to be thankful for all you have. Starting my mornings without heartfelt thanks for current abundance leaves me feeling short-changed. Counting my financial blessings allows me to see my relative good fortune and allows compassion and a desire to help those less fortunate.

Consider beginning an internal dialogue about building better financial behaviors and attitudes. This self-talk might morph into a discussion with your spouse or close friends, and then you might find yourself inspired to grow and make changes and create resolutions that are truly worthy. ■

— Jeannette Showalter, CFA, is a commodities broker with Worldwide Futures Systems. She can be reached at 571-8896 or jshowaltercfa@yahoo.com.

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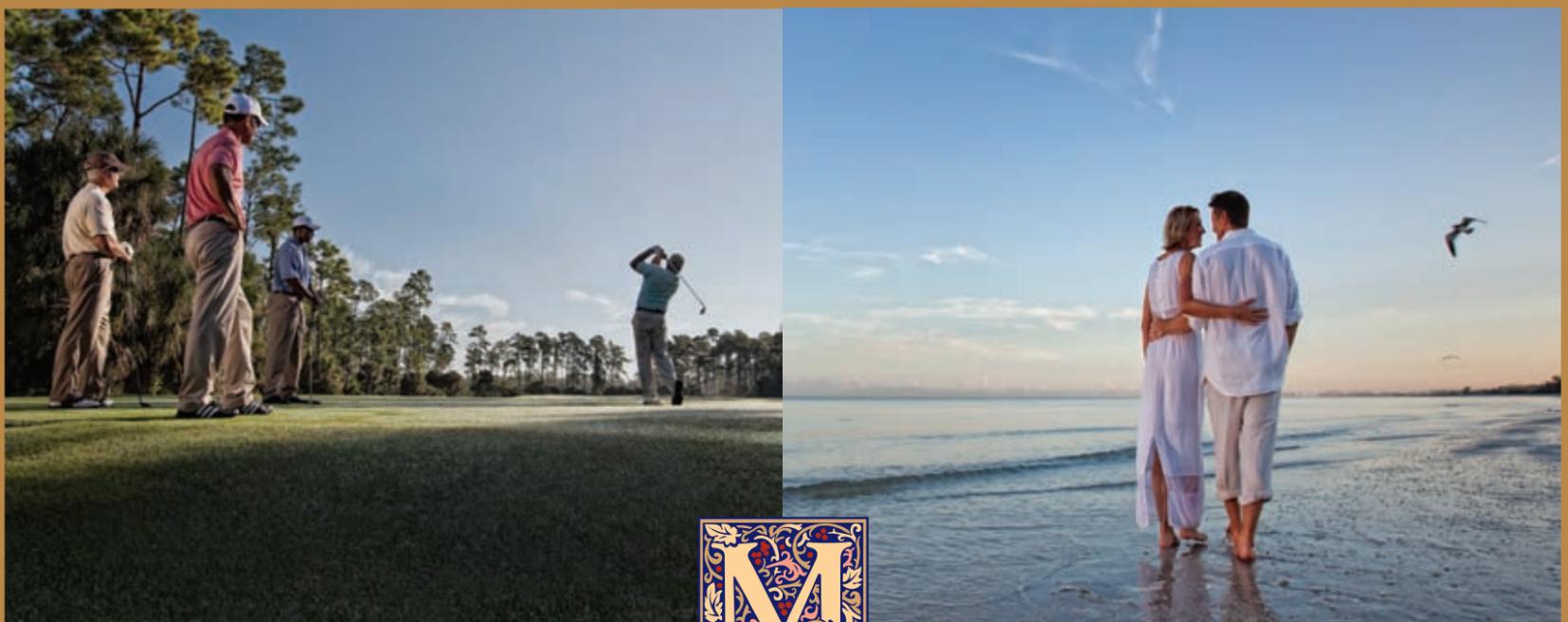
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ON THE MOVE

Awards & Recognition

The **Marco Beach Ocean Resort** has been ranked No. 1 among hotels on Marco Island in the TripAdvisor Popularity Index rankings. The rankings are listed on the world's largest travel site featuring reviews and advice on hotels, resorts, flights, vacation rentals, vacation packages and travel guides.

Banking

Meriem Blevins has been named commercial banking team leader and senior vice president at Capital Bank. She will manage the bank's commercial loan portfolio in Southwest Florida, including soliciting, negotiating, underwriting and closing loans. A Florida native, she has more than 22 years of experience in the Southwest Florida market. Ms. Blevins earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Central Florida and worked for five years at Fifth Third Bank as senior vice president and senior relationship manager. She also worked for Bank of America in various roles for 20 years.

Health Care

Podiatric surgeon **Eliot Sherr** has opened Naples Foot Doctor. Formerly based in Peabody, Mass., Dr. Sherr's practice focuses on non-invasive procedures using laser technology. He holds a bachelor's degree in chemistry from the University of New Hampshire and earned his medical degree from the Dr.

William M. Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine at Rosalind Franklin University. He completed training St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Boston and is on staff at Boston's North Shore Medical Center.

Executive Services

Monika Kment has been named business manager for Executive Support Services Inc. in downtown Naples. The company provides administrative services and executive and virtual suites for start-up businesses and entrepreneurs.

Hospitality

Randi Durgin has been promoted to assistant food and beverage manager at the Waldorf Astoria Naples. She joined the property in May as a restaurant server and previously worked for eight years at Real Seafood Company.



DURGIN

Dale Encinosa has joined the sales and marketing staff at the Inn on Fifth to focus on group sales for both the newly renovated hotel and the new club level suites. Ms. Encinosa has more than 30 years of marketing and sales experience in the hospitality industry, including more than 17 years at The Registry Resort (now known as the Waldorf Astoria Naples). She also worked as national sales manager at the Wyndham Rio Mar Beach Resort & Spa in Puerto Rico.

Nick Fallon has joined the staff at the Inn on Fifth as sales assistant. A former intern at the hotel, he graduates this month from Florida Gulf Coast University with a bachelor's degree in resort and hospitality management. He will manage corporate accounts and provide administrative assistance while training for the position of revenue manager.



FALLON

Evita Reyes has been promoted to group sales manager at the Inn on Fifth. She has been working at the property for more than five years, most recently as revenue manager.

Julie Blauman has been promoted to assistant human resources director at the Waldorf Astoria Naples. She joined the property as employment manager in 2005 and has also served as human resources manager and training manager. She helped transition the Naples Grande Beach Resort to the Waldorf Astoria Naples by facilitating brand standards training for more than 400 staff members. She holds certification as a Senior Professional in Human Resources from the Society of Human Resources Management and was recently elected as certification chairperson on the board of directors for HR Collier.



BLAUMAN

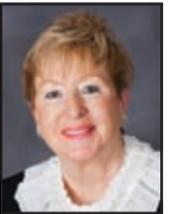
Crystal Steere has been promoted from spa supervisor to spa director at the Golden Door Spa at the Waldorf Astoria Naples.

Real Estate Development

James Moyle has been named land development manager for Hacienda Lakes, a new 2,262-acre development in East Naples. A licensed general contractor and real estate sales professional, Mr. Moyle most recently owned and operated the Fort Myers-based Southern Comfort General Contracting. Locally, he has also worked with Kimball Hill Homes and the Bonita Bay Group. And he was project manager for Strittmatter Metro in Washington, D.C., directing civil site development, and a roadway and bridge inspector for Stottler, Staggs and Associates in Cape Canaveral.

Retail

Ursula Pfahl has been named vice president of business development for Bigham Jewelers. With a broad background in higher education, nonprofit management and business operations, Ms. Pfahl most recently held the position of COO and chief marketing officer at Yamron Jewelers. Her new responsibilities include marketing, public relations, customer relations, client events and the administration of Bigham Jewelers' extensive philanthropic activities. ■



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SCHOOLS

From page 1

general are not more likely to produce exceptional students than traditional public schools.

In Collier and Charlotte counties, charter school interest has ranged from lukewarm to cautious. Collier County offers three charter schools with two more coming next year already approved by the Collier school district. Currently, only 844 of Collier's 44,300 public school students attend a charter. A Collier school district spokesman, Joe Landon, would not comment on their performance or quality.

Charlotte, meanwhile, has one — Edison Collegiate High School, with 380 of the county's 15,800 public school students. "There was a charter school many years ago that did not do well, and that may be a reason we don't have more now," says Diane Junaeu, principal of Edison Collegiate, whose first graduating class of seniors — about 85 — will receive their diplomas in May. The school started with 100 freshmen in 2009, and added roughly 100 students each year because the results have been good.

Advantages promote growth

In the eyes of Mr. Hage at Charter Schools, USA, charters are succeeding nowadays — his company's, at least — not because of growth needs but because they have some advantages, and thus the educations they provide are equal to or better than traditional public school educations in the eyes of consumers (the parents and students).

His is not the only voice to cite distinct advantages for charters. Since charters don't have to meet the stringent building codes of public schools, the brick and mortar cost is less expensive. And if they aren't building their own, they can lease, officials say.

In addition, the schools tend to be neighborhood institutions not restricted by minority-enrollment marching orders that traditional public schools must follow (for the most part, it's first come-first served).

Another significant advantage is smaller class size — sometimes.

"That's why so many people come away from public schools — it's the biggest issue," explains Elizabeth Elliott, a professor of education at FGCU who sat on the governing board of the four Cape Coral charter schools when they got under way in the last decade. At the time, the city borrowed the money and built them, then leased them to the management teams.

But that may have changed somewhat since she and others helped Terry Stewart, then Cape Coral city manager and

now Fort Myers Beach city manager, create a charter alternative to the school district's traditional schools.

Now, only about half of charter schools in Lee have smaller class sizes than other public schools. And only a quarter (six) have been given the coveted high-performing designation of schools that receive A grades from the state at least two years running. Three of those are Cape Coral municipal charter schools.

That points to another advantage: parent involvement.

"One of the core principals in establishing charter schools is that there has to be parental involvement at and with the school for the child to continue to qualify to go to school there," says Mr. Stewart.

"All the studies about education will tell you that one of the prime indicators of success is parental involvement."

In the end, even their champions can express ambivalence.

"I've seen them do good work," says Professor Elliott. "They're not all bad. They've taken the pressure off school districts with increasing populations who can't afford to build buildings. And they tend to be in neighborhoods or communities (where their students live)."

And if they're not good, they don't last. "When a public school is poor, it goes on for 50 years," says Mr. Hage. "When a charter school is poor, it gets closed down. And that's as it should be."

How it actually works

Quality may be an arguable point, but this isn't: Lee County offers a business model detailing both the complications and the successes that overseeing charter schools can entail.

For any charters, there has to be a nonprofit or public agency that applied for a charter, and that signed a contract with the school board.

Sometimes the school district pays the governing board, which hires staff and secures a facility.

"However, what is more common is for the nonprofit governing board to contract with a third party to run the school, and in most cases these contractors are for-profit corporations," explains Jeff McCullers, director of grants and the program liaison of the public charter schools division in the Lee County schools.

For-profit businesses managing charters in the county come from Florida (Charter Schools, USA, based in Fort Lauderdale, with six); Tennessee (Accelerated Learning Solutions Inc., with two schools); Massachusetts (Nonpublic Educational Services Inc.) and Oklahoma (Advanced Academics Inc.) with one school each.

In addition, a specially appointed Cape Coral board, a public agency, oversees four schools; an Ohio nonprofit,

EdVantages Inc., has three schools; and Goodwill Industries Inc., has one school, along with Edison State College.

Watching all of that in its various stripes and spots is the county's school district. In fiscal year 2012, it paid out \$71.68 million to the schools, which receive most of their money based on a state mandated price for each FTE student, or full-time equivalent student.

School districts that oversee charters are allowed by state law to hold back 5 percent of fees that charter schools are entitled to receive for their service as overseers, but it's never as easy as it sounds, says Dr. McCullers.

"There are numerous obligations for which districts receive no reimbursement," he explains. "For example, the staff time cost of reviewing charter applications is considerable. In the current round, 19 different employees have provided dedicated time to this process in reviewing applications, preparing application analyses and summaries, communicating with applicants and maintaining the web-based information system used by applicants and reviewers."

Then there's the oversight.

"The fiscal year-12 district investigation that led to the closing of Richard Milburn Academy in Fort Myers used over 200 hours of staff time. These closures have required an enormous contribution of time from school board attorneys, cabinet members, and many department staff members. Major changes in budgeting, billing, programming, reporting, mail and other courier service, student support staff scheduling, inventory, mainframe account security, District e-mail account management, and warehouse operations have been required. Numerous inquiries from the media have taken up more staff time."

That's probably what it takes to rank number three in Florida and number 18 in the country for the percentage of students attending charter schools instead of traditional public schools.

But it still stands in sharp contrast to the top dogs in the charter-school world.

New Orleans, ranked at number one, sends 76 percent of its public school children to charters, for example, followed by Detroit and Washington, D.C., both at 41 percent; Kansas City, Mo., at 37 percent; Flint, Mich., at 33 percent; and Gary, Ind., along with St. Louis tied at 31 percent.

Although Southwest Florida education issues may differ significantly from those in such urban centers, growth appears to be possible in both environments.

Charter Schools, USA, grew by 40 percent last year, with 10 new schools in Florida, says Mr. Hage.

He predicts similar growth again this year. ■

in the know

>> Jon Hage, president Charter Schools, USA:

How the for-profit company works: "We have a nonprofit board. They hire us, we'll come in, we help develop the school, we find a builder, we put together a whole plan, and we operate the school for the board. The board pays for the schools."



HAGE

"(When we build a school) We have to follow local codes that a private school would have to follow — but not the public schools. That allows us to go in and build schools in more efficient and effective ways."

"Our average school is built in about six months. The average school-district school in the state takes 30 months, with average costs 2½ times ours."

"The average 'kid station' for us costs \$10,000. The state average is about \$22,000 to \$25,000."

How money is leveraged:

"So we'll go to market and sell tax-exempt bonds, and they will help finance schools under long-term debt. We're a larger operator and we do things in the marketplace a small mom and pop would have a harder time doing."

"We're the largest seller of charter school bonds in the United States — we sold \$60 million last week."

"Banks like Oppenheimer & Co., or Lord Abnett & Co. — all the major banks that buy bonds — they'll look to this as a major place to buy debt."

"After the school is built and students show up, we will borrow the debt for the school, and the school will eventually pay it off."

>> Professor Elizabeth Elliott, advice for parents shopping for schools:

"Research what the charter school has, as opposed to public schools. What services to do they offer, what curriculum do they use? There are different ones."

I would want to see how the curriculum compares to what's being taught in public schools.

"I would also want to see where the charter is in district school grades compared to other schools. Where they are in AYP — it's

called Adequate Yearly Progress, and it's public record. Are they equal to or better than other public schools?"

"So I would do my homework — look at class size, teacher qualifications, those types of things."



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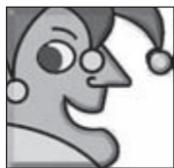
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Signs of a Great Company

When investing in stocks, focus your money on the best companies you can find. (Make sure they're attractively priced, too.) Here are some marks of great companies:

- Powerful brands. Think of well-known brand names in America or, better yet, the world. For example: Coca-Cola, GE, McDonald's and Ford fit the bill. Strong brands offer pricing power.

- Significant products or services. Seek firms selling things people really need or want. People won't easily give up their prescription drugs or phone service, for example. Firms such as Starbucks and Apple offer consumers things they crave. Also appealing are repeat-purchase items that people buy over and over again — such as shampoos, burgers, socks and gum, instead of items bought only sporadically, such as cars or refrigerators.

- Strong competitive position. Ideally, a company will have advantages over its peers. These can include brand value, economies of scale (if it's making so much that its costs per item are relatively low), and bargaining power. (Wal-Mart,

for example, is so big that it can make demands of suppliers.)

- Consistent, reliable growth and robust profit margins. Look for steadily increasing sales and earnings, reflecting capable management. Compare gross, operating and net profit margins with those of competitors to see who's wringing the most value out of each dollar of sales.

- Lots of potential. A stellar past isn't enough. Is the company expanding abroad? Is it coming out with promising new products or services that are being embraced by consumers? Is it spending significantly on research and development?

Finally, consider how well you know the company and industry and how much you'd enjoy keeping up with its developments. If reading about a certain company puts you to sleep, it might not be the best candidate for your portfolio.

(The Motley Fool owns stock in some of these companies and we've recommended them in our investing newsletters. For a list of recommended stocks, try our "Motley Fool Stock Advisor" newsletter for free at newsletters.fool.com.) ■

My Dumbest Investment

Dropping Like Rocks

My shares of Groupon have been dropping like a rock since I bought them. I heard that it's paying a 5 percent dividend, which sounds good. But am I better off getting out of the stock now?

— F.B., online

The Fool Responds: First of all, Groupon does not pay a dividend, and it seems unlikely that it will initiate one any time soon, as the company is not yet posting consistent profits.

Many folks jumped into Groupon when it had its initial public offering (IPO) last year. It was trading in the \$20s back then and has been below \$3 per share recently, with its stock plunging some 28 percent after it reported disappointing earnings.

Groupon offers great lessons with its many red flags. It faces competition, and it's easy for customers to stray to others. The "daily deal" market itself is seeing its novelty wear off. On the plus side, the company's revenue and subscriber base is growing, but revenue per subscriber is shrinking. Net losses are growing, too. Some see the stock as a bargain now, but it's risky and may fall further. ■

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



Last week's trivia answer

Founded in 1997 and based in Connecticut, I'm already a giant in the travel business, with a market value topping \$30 billion. I'm the world's top online hotel reservation network, with more than 235,000 participating hotels worldwide. My brands include Booking.com, Agoda.com, Rentalcars.com, and the flagship site that bears my name (which helps folks secure low prices for flights, cruises, vacations and more). I serve customers in more than 40 languages and more than 180 countries. My bookings, revenue and earnings have been growing at hefty double-digit rates for many years, and I'm growing internationally. Who am I? (Answer: priceline.com) ■



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

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Ask the Fool

The Market Price Tag

What is General Electric's "market cap," and what does it mean?

— T.L., Goshen, Ind.

A company's market capitalization reflects the value the stock market is placing on it right now. To get it, you multiply the total number of shares outstanding by the stock price. The result can help you get a sense of whether the firm is overvalued or undervalued if you compare it to peers.

In GE's case, 10.5 billion shares times a stock price of about \$20.70 yields a market cap of \$217 billion.

That \$217 billion is a hefty number. It's more than the market cap of Coca-Cola (which was recently \$162 billion), PepsiCo (\$106 billion), Verizon (\$121 billion), Oracle (\$146 billion), IBM (\$214 billion), McDonald's (\$85 billion), Merck (\$134 billion) and Boeing (\$55 billion).

To compare, Apple's market cap is the largest, recently near \$510 billion, followed by Exxon-Mobil, near \$400 billion, and PetroChina and Walmart, each around \$244 billion.

(The Motley Fool owns stock in some of these companies and we've recommended them in our investing newsletters.)

What does it mean when I see that "today's volume" for a stock is 15,800,000?

— D.B., Victoria, Texas

Imagine Mops 'n' Brooms (ticker: SWABZ), "Providing actionable domestic engineering solutions that leverage and optimize client excellence with a relentless focus on driving shareholder value going forward." If its average volume is 15,800,000, that just means that 15.8 million shares of the stock typically change hands each day.

Volume can vary widely — Apple averages about 18 million shares per day, vs. 5.7 million for Boeing. If a stock's volume is much higher than its average, then something is probably going on, such as good or bad news.

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

Name That Company

I was born in 1923 as a small yarn company in Boston, but today I'm an international conglomerate based in Providence, R.I. I employ more than 30,000 people and rake in more than \$11 billion annually. My wares include Bell helicopters, E-Z-GO golf carts, Jacobsen turf-care machines and Cessna planes. (I boast the largest business jet fleet in the world.) I'm also very involved in telecommunications equipment and services, financial services, military vehicles and more. Some of



my other brands include Kautex, Lycoming, AAI and Greenlee.

During World War II, I made parachutes. Who am I?

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

The Motley Fool Take

Apple Looking Tasty

Shares of Apple (Nasdaq: AAPL) have fallen 20-something percent from their 52-week high. That makes this stock even more attractive.

Apple is one of the most innovative companies of our time. Its detractors think it has lost its edge, and the loss of visionary founder Steve Jobs also hurts it. But Apple continues to innovate within its established product lineup. Think: retina display, battery technology, Siri and its user interface.

One of the key things binding customers to Apple is a uniform integration of hardware, software and third-party apps into its different products. Apple's iCloud is a great example of this as it wireless-

ly syncs and stores your media content (music, contacts, apps, calendars, etc.) on all of your iOS devices. Therefore, users are less likely to move outside Apple's ecosystem to an Android or Samsung device.

Heading into the holiday shopping season, new product launches, including the iPhone 5 and iPad Mini, bode well for the tech giant. Demand is strong. Bears worry, though, about competition and legal challenges, and whether Apple will continue to innovate successfully.

Still, with a price-to-earnings ratio of 13, billions in cash and zero debt, Apple presents a solid buying opportunity for patient investors.

(The Motley Fool owns shares of Apple and we've recommended it in our investing newsletters.) ■

BUSINESS MEETINGS

■ **A Job Search Support Group** meets from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Mondays at the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce. Contact Karen Klukiewicz at kluk77@comcast.net or visit www.napleschamber.org.

■ **The Women's Network of Collier County** meets for lunch at 11:30 a.m. on the second Tuesday of every month at Shula's at the Hilton Naples. Cost is \$22 for members, \$25 for others. The next meeting is Dec. 11. Sign up at www.wnocc.org.

■ **The Collier County Lodging & Tourism Alliance** holds its holiday mixer from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 12, at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort. All business owners and individuals involved in the local tourism industry are welcome. Attendance is free for CCLTA members and their guests, \$10 per person for others. Reservations are

required by Friday, Dec. 7, and can be made by e-mailing Pam Calore at pam.cclta@gmail.com.

■ **The Collier Building Industry Association** holds its annual banquet and installation of officers at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 12, at Olde Cypress. Cost is \$45. For reservations, call Cathy Curatolo at 436-6100 or visit www.cbia.net.

■ **The Gulf Coast Venture Forum** meets from 4-6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13, at Venture X, an office and event space for entrepreneurs in Mercato. Reservations are required and can be made at www.gcvf.weebly.com. For more information, e-mail Deborah@gcvf.com.

■ **The East Naples Merchants Association** meets for Business After Business at 5:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month. The Dec. 13

networking takes place at Physicians Regional Medical Center-Collier Boulevard. For more information, call 435-9410 or 643-3600 or visit www.eastnaplesmerchantsassoc.com.

■ **The Collier County Bar Association** holds its family-friendly holiday party from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13, at Naples Bay Resort. Sign up at www.colliercountybar.org.

■ **The Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce** will hold its holiday party from 5:30-8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13, at the Club at Grandeza. Cost is \$35 in advance, \$45 at the door. Sign up by calling 992-2943 or e-mailing Caitlin@bonitaspringschamber.com.

■ **The Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce** holds its Business After 5 holiday party from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Tues-

day, Dec. 18, at the Hilton Naples. Cost is \$20 for members in advance, \$40 at the door and for non-members. Sign up at www.napleschamber.org/events.

■ **The Marco Island Area Chamber of Commerce** invites members and guests to Business After Five from 5:30-7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 19, at the Marco Beach Hilton Resort. \$10 admission for all. For more information, e-mail Katie@marcoislandchamber.org.

■ **The East Naples Merchants Association** will host the East Naples Expo & Taste of the Expo from 2-6 p.m. Friday, Jan. 18, at Edison State College. Admission will be \$5 in advance, \$10 at the door. Purchase in advance at www.ticketderby.com. For information about being an exhibitor, call Shirley Calhoun at 435-9410 or Natalie Anguilano at 643-3600. ■

NETWORKING

Norris Home Furnishings hosts CBIA holiday toy drive and party



Renee and Larry Norris



1. The Anderson String Quartet
2. Claudine Wetzel and Judy Seale
3. Kelsey Miklavcic and Debbie DeMaria
4. Claudia Lozano and Mario Valle
5. Jackie Drake and Michelle Price
6. Terrilyn Van Gorder, Scott Kish and Jessica Schneider
7. Alison Whalen, Stephanie Gray and Deborah Chase
8. Susi Husty and John Bremseth
9. Dayle Bailey and David Smith
10. Randy and Brenda Thomas
11. Jan Erik and Caitlin Hustrulid

STEPHEN WRIGHT / FLORIDA WEEKLY

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

NETWORKING

National Philanthropy Day celebration at Arthrex



Fr. John Gallagher, Elizabeth Hinkle and Michael Windfeldt



Sharon Mahar, Rob Moher and Christine Kruman



Mike and Rosemary Coyne with Patrick Quirk



Karen Bartlett, Pat Classen and Wilma Boyd



Marsha Murphy, Connie Dillon and Bob Morantz



Tiffany Doeringer and Nicole Muley



John and Bunny Brooks



Debra Haley and Wendy Kephart



Beth Sterchi and Westley Weidenmiller



Karen Conley and Rachel Bridger



Brandon and Rhonda Dowdy



Armando Galella, Tina Streeter and Richard Rogan

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



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REAL ESTATE

WEEK OF DECEMBER 6-12, 2012

A GUIDE TO THE LOCAL REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY

B9



384 Fifth St. S., #202 | Lantana

Living in the heart of Old Naples doesn't mean you have to give up space. This pet-friendly, oversized condominium offers a two-car garage and more than 3,000 square feet of living area. Spacious rooms create an open floor plan that's ideal for easy living and entertain-

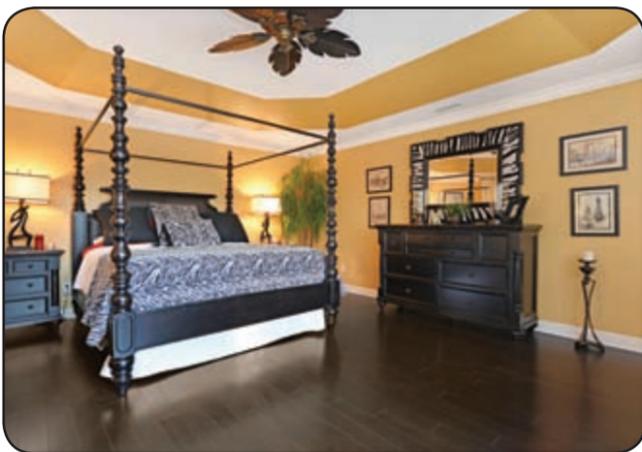
ing, and each of the three bedrooms has a private bath, making those extended stays of guests and family even easier. The warm and stylish neutral décor is complete with high ceilings, crown molding and plantation shutters.

The convenient location allows for an

easy walk to the beach, restaurants and shopping. In addition, the unit boasts two large lanais from which to enjoy morning sun and evening sunsets. Lush tropical gardens and two resort-style pools are just a few steps away.

This property is listed for \$1.299 mil-

lion. For a virtual tour, visit www.tours.napleskenny.com/87008. For more information or to arrange a showing, contact Kelly Capolino of Keating Associates Real Estate Professionals by calling 877-6700 or e-mailing kelly@naples.net. ■



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MEDITERRA



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MOORINGS BEACHFRONT



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\$2,400,000
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 1230 Galleon Drive
 Pat Duggan/Rhonda Dowdy
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239.216.1980
\$4,700,000
- 3
The Dunes
Grande Preserve - Grand Dominica #PH03
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239.273.7731
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Cindy Thompson 239.860.6513
premiersir.com/id/212015773 \$575,000

Old Naples | Aqualane Shores

Vintage cottages, contemporary mid-rises and majestic manors are interwoven among lush, mature flora in Old Naples. Just south is the community of Aqualane Shores with waterfront estates on deepwater canals that overlook Naples Bay.



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AQUALANE SHORES
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417 Palm Circle West
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Coquina Sands | The Moorings

These quiet, tree-shaded neighborhoods are a mix of single-family homes and condominiums; some enjoy water-front access on Moorings Bay, Compass Cove, Venetian Bay and Hurricane Harbor. The Moorings has a private golf and country club.



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Pelican Bay

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North Naples

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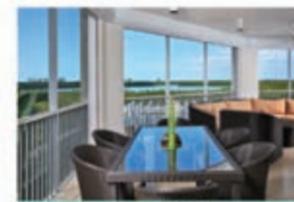
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premierair.com/id/212005253 \$1,495,000



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premierair.com/id/212012678 \$1,450,000



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premierair.com/id/212007394 \$929,500



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premierair.com/id/212002725 \$825,000



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Gary Blaine 239.595.2912
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premierair.com/id/212005519 \$228,500

Bay Colony

Bay Colony is the very definition of privileged living. From the beachfront high-rises to the golf course estate homes to the villas in quiet alcoves, this is luxury living at its best. Golf and beach club memberships.



Contessa #PH2001
Dorcas Briscoe 239.860.6985
premierair.com/id/211517687 \$6,500,000



Contessa #PH-22
Barbi Lowe/Trish Lowe Soars 239.216.1973
premierair.com/id/211014834 \$6,000,000



Brighton #803
John Hamilton 239.641.3270
premierair.com/id/212037372 \$2,995,000



9927 Brassie Bend
Cliff Donenfeld 239.398.0335
premierair.com/id/211518146 \$2,975,000



Contessa #1001
Sarah Theiss 239.269.0300
premierair.com/id/212034946 \$2,800,000



Brighton #702
Leah Ritchey/Amy Becker 239.289.0433
premierair.com/id/212034910 \$2,750,000



Trieste #1104
Carol Gilman 239.404.3253
premierair.com/id/212014368 \$2,495,000



8800 La Palma Lane
Leah Ritchey/Amy Becker 239.289.0433
premierair.com/id/211004528 \$2,145,000



8812 La Palma Lane
Pat Callis 239.250.0562
premierair.com/id/210032590 \$1,795,000



Toscana #601
Tom/Tess McCarthy 239.243.5520
premierair.com/id/211518051 \$1,750,000



Marquesa #1201
Carol Gilman 239.404.3253
premierair.com/id/212005977 \$1,595,000



Marquesa #602
Carol Gilman 239.404.3253
premierair.com/id/212008665 \$1,295,000

Grey Oaks

Grey Oaks' 54 holes of award-winning golf serve as the centerpiece in this heart-of-Naples community interspersed with luxurious single-family estate homes of a grand scale.



1275 Osprey Trail
Michael G. Lawler 239.261.3939
premierair.com/id/21203049355 \$995,000



1245 Gordon River Trail
Melissa Williams 239.261.3148
premierair.com/id/212019049 \$4,795,000



1473 Anhinga Pointe
Melissa Williams 239.261.3148
premierair.com/id/209007441 \$4,280,000



1368 Noble Heron Way
Carolyn Weinand 239.269.5678
premierair.com/id/212022331 \$1,595,000



1260 Gordon River Trail
Sam Heitman 239.261.3148
premierair.com/id/212002066 \$1,500,000



Terra Verde #2396
Jutta V. Lopez/Al Lopez 239.571.5339
premierair.com/id/211522083 \$595,000

Naples & Surrounds

With sun-drenched sugary-sand beaches, stretching over 10 miles, temperate year-round weather and abundant fishing and boating activities, Naples has been a natural attraction for affluent travelers and sun seekers from around the world for decades. Choose from stylish single-family homes, lifestyles and family-friendly neighborhoods.



NAPLES CAY

The Seasons #1903
Carol Gilman 239.404.3253
premiersir.com/id/211516035 \$5,995,000



PINE RIDGE

367 Ridge Drive
T. Moellers/S. Kaltenborn 239.213.7344
premiersir.com/id/212035176 \$3,750,000



LOGAN WOODS

5237 Mahogany Ridge Drive
Fahada Saad 239.919.5270
premiersir.com/id/212034251 \$1,890,000



KENSINGTON

5180 Old Gallows Way
Laura/Chris Adams 239.404.4766
premiersir.com/id/212036916 \$1,475,000



ISLES OF CAPRI

24 Pelican Street East
Dave Flowers 239.404.0493
premiersir.com/id/212030140 \$1,300,000



HAMMOCK BAY

Lesina #801
Darlene Roddy 239.404.0685
premiersir.com/id/212000277 \$999,000



VILLAGES OF MONTEREY

8004 Vera Cruz Way
Dave/Ann Renner 239.784.5552
premiersir.com/id/212036689 \$974,000



LOGAN WOODS

4950 Teak Wood Drive
Kathryn Tout 239.250.3583
premiersir.com/id/212022611 \$899,000



THE STRAND

5860 Marble Court
Ryan Batey 239.287.9159
premiersir.com/id/212029750 \$899,000



PINE RIDGE

146 Myrtle Road
Bill Charbonneau 239.860.6868
premiersir.com/id/212034952 \$874,900



HAWKSRIIDGE

2309 Harrier Run
Cheryl Turner 239.250.3311
premiersir.com/id/212024121 \$825,000



VILLAGES OF MONTEREY

2119 Mission Drive
Sue Black 239.250.5611
premiersir.com/id/212034444 \$779,000



VINEYARDS

5973 Hammock Isles Circle
Lisa Tashjian 239.259.7024
premiersir.com/id/212034501 \$760,000



THE STRAND

5954 Barclay Lane
Paul Graffy 239.273.0403
premiersir.com/id/212021182 \$715,000



WYNDEMERE

422 Rosemeade Lane
Kathryn Hurvitz 239.659.5126
premiersir.com/id/212011031 \$695,000



LOGAN WOODS

4840 Teak Wood Drive
Kathryn Tout 239.250.3583
premiersir.com/id/212017744 \$685,000



AVION PARK

1575 Airway Drive
Beth McNichols 239.821.3304
premiersir.com/id/212036952 \$685,000



LEMURIA

Lemuria #904
Tom Gasbarro 239.404.4883
premiersir.com/id/212004008 \$569,000



LEMURIA

Lemuria #1001
Tom Gasbarro 239.404.4883
premiersir.com/id/212019241 \$529,000



WYNDEMERE

898 Wyndemere Way
Kathryn Hurvitz 239.659.5126
premiersir.com/id/212010007 \$525,000



WYNDEMERE

187 Edgemere Way South
Kathryn Hurvitz 239.659.5126
premiersir.com/id/212037142 \$495,000



LOGAN WOODS

5090 Mahogany Ridge Drive
Fahada Saad 239.919.5270
premiersir.com/id/212029524 \$424,500



ISLES OF CAPRI

La Peninsula #502
Michelle L. Thomas 239.860.7176
premiersir.com/id/212002834 \$339,900



HAMMOCK BAY

Fairways II #1622
Michael/Maureen Joyce 239.777.3745
premiersir.com/id/212014272 \$245,000



EAGLE CREEK

Eagle Creek #202
Michelle L. Thomas 239.860.7176
premiersir.com/id/212035656 \$205,000



PINEWOODS

Misty Pines #C102
Fahada Saad 239.919.5270
premiersir.com/id/212029557 \$199,900



THE STRAND

Wedgewood II #803
Lori Pheasant 239.289.5720
premiersir.com/id/211011279 \$189,900



ISLES OF CAPRI

Tarpon Village Apartments #B-8
Cynthia Corogin 239.963.5561
premiersir.com/id/212022116 \$169,000



WILDERNESS

Wilderness Country Club VII #256
Fahada Saad 239.919.5270
premiersir.com/id/212032567 \$159,000



ISLES OF CAPRI

Tarpon Village Apartments #A6
Cynthia Corogin 239.963.5561
premiersir.com/id/212027439 \$155,000

Vanderbilt Beach

Vanderbilt Beach is home to The Ritz-Carlton, trendy shops, cafes and a host of businesses. Single-family homes, luxurious beachfront and waterfront condominiums and mid-rise living are found here.



Moraya Bay #506
Frank Pezzuti 239.514.5050
premiersir.com/id/210035838 \$3,900,000



Moraya Bay #305
Frank Pezzuti 239.514.5050
premiersir.com/id/210035789 \$3,500,000



339 Channel Drive
Cheryl Turner 239.250.3311
premiersir.com/id/212025672 \$2,395,000



375 Connors Avenue
Fahada Saad 239.919.5270
premiersir.com/id/MAT090112IHE \$1,475,000



330 Tradewinds Avenue
Teri Purvis 239.860.6226
premiersir.com/id/212028034 \$1,199,000



Anchorage #201
Gayle Fawkes 239.250.6051
premiersir.com/id/212028061 \$549,000

Strada Residences at Mercato

Live a lifestyle that puts a world of shopping, dining and entertainment within walking distance of home. These 1-, 2- and 3-bedroom condominiums are spacious, lavishly appointed and fully-amenitized examples of ultra-chic living at one of Naples' best addresses.



The Strada #7502
Barbi Lowe/Trish Lowe Soars 239.216.1973
premiersir.com/id/211500266 \$1,250,000



The Strada #7406
Mary Kavanagh 239.594.9400
premiersir.com/id/211505590 \$599,000



The Strada #5414
Susan Gardner 239.594.9400
premiersir.com/id/212013476 \$599,000



The Strada #5312
David Milner 239.594.9400
premiersir.com/id/212013492 \$599,000



The Strada #5511
David Milner 239.594.9400
premiersir.com/id/212002311 \$539,000



The Strada #7309
Mary Kavanagh 239.594.9400
premiersir.com/id/211505554 \$390,000

Marco Island

Graced with miles of powder-white sand beaches, Marco boasts luxurious real estate, shopping, dining, entertainment and a bounty of recreational activities from boating and fishing to golf and tennis and more.



198 Beach Drive South
Jim/Nikki Prange-Carroll 239.642.2222
premierstir.com/id/2120071225 \$4,500,000



Madeira #PH202
Laura/Chris Adams 239.404.4766
premierstir.com/id/2120325195 \$4,500,000



350 Seabreeze Drive
Cathy Rogers 239.821.7926
premierstir.com/id/212018810 \$3,950,000



781 Caxambas Drive
Cathy Rogers 239.821.7926
premierstir.com/id/212015974 \$3,199,900



616 Crescent Street
Jim/Nikki Prange-Carroll 239.642.2222
premierstir.com/id/212006520 \$2,950,000



Madeira #704
Laura/Chris Adams 239.404.4766
premierstir.com/id/211012766 \$2,299,000



Madeira #908
Laura/Chris Adams 239.404.4766
premierstir.com/id/211012829 \$1,999,000



1221 Stone Court
Cynthia Corogin 239.963.5561
premierstir.com/id/212026671 \$1,349,500



1816 Woodbine Court
Jim/Nikki Prange-Carroll 239.642.2222
premierstir.com/id/212033327 \$1,279,000



357 Morning Glory Lane
Cathy Rogers 239.821.7926
premierstir.com/id/212032910 \$1,175,000



Duchess #306
Cynthia Corogin 239.963.5561
premierstir.com/id/212032885 \$825,000



Sandpiper #1403
Cynthia Corogin 239.963.5561
premierstir.com/id/212022090 \$720,000



1633 Barbarosa Court
ML Meade 239.293.4851
premierstir.com/id/211512065 \$625,000



921 Heron Court
Jim/Nikki Prange-Carroll 239.642.2222
premierstir.com/id/212033113 \$599,000



701 Nautilus Court
Cynthia Corogin 239.963.5561
premierstir.com/id/212032871 \$595,500



Royal Marco Point I #504
Darlene Roddy 239.404.0685
premierstir.com/id/212032702 \$595,000



South Seas Tower IV #704
Cynthia Corogin 239.963.5561
premierstir.com/id/212022129 \$545,000



South Seas Tower I #302
Helga Wetzold 239.821.6905
premierstir.com/id/212008654 \$479,500



South Seas Tower I #1505
Helga Wetzold 239.821.6905
premierstir.com/id/212031913 \$440,000



Prince #103
Jim/Nikki Prange-Carroll 239.642.2222
premierstir.com/id/212032480 \$435,000



524 Barfield Drive North
Angelica Andrews 239.595.7653
premierstir.com/id/212022708 \$395,000



Sussex #603
Brock/Julie Wilson 239.595.5983
premierstir.com/id/211016271 \$369,000



South Seas Tower IV #410
Helga Wetzold 239.821.6905
premierstir.com/id/212032009 \$339,000



Pelican Perch #203
Cynthia Corogin 239.963.5561
premierstir.com/id/212022867 \$319,000

Fiddler's Creek

Fiddler's Creek is a master-planned community offering luxury residences, resort-style living, golf and access to a full-service marina.



3835 Isla Del Sol Way
Michelle L. Thomas 239.860.7176
premierstir.com/id/211006248 \$1,995,000



3852 Isla Del Sol Way
ML Meade 239.293.4851
premierstir.com/id/211511963 \$1,995,000



7669 Mulberry Court
Michelle L. Thomas 239.860.7176
premierstir.com/id/212022495 \$825,000



3084 Aviamar Circle
Lura Jones 239.370.5340
premierstir.com/id/212029409 \$775,000



Menaggio #201
Michelle L. Thomas 239.860.7176
premierstir.com/id/210009455 \$745,000



Callista #101
Lura Jones 239.370.5340
premierstir.com/id/212029413 \$419,000



Montreux #202
Michelle L. Thomas 239.860.7176
premierstir.com/id/212010602 \$380,000



Montreux #102
Lura Jones 239.370.5340
premierstir.com/id/212029173 \$369,000



Cranberry Crossing
Lura Jones 239.370.5340
premierstir.com/id/212029405 \$359,000



Deer Crossing #203
Maureen/Michael Joyce 239.784.1288
premierstir.com/id/211515969 \$328,700



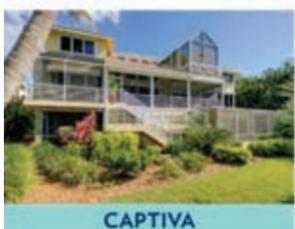
Deer Crossing #202
Michelle L. Thomas 239.860.7176
premierstir.com/id/212010106 \$293,000



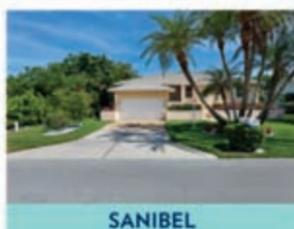
8511 Bent Creek Way
Lura Jones 239.370.5340
premierstir.com/id/212036607 \$207,500

Sanibel, Captiva & Surrounds

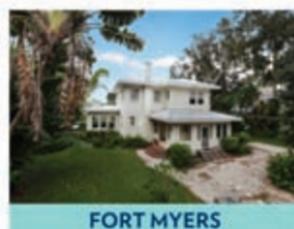
Long beloved for their white-sand beaches, prolific seashells, and flora and fauna, the Islands provide a haven for families, vacationers and those who simply enjoy a slower pace of life. From condominiums to resorts to villas to cottages, the Islands are the perfect refuge for living year-round or as a getaway in the sun.



1121 Schefflera Court
Denise Chambre 239.247.2868
premierstir.com/id/211522273 \$5,400,000



1216 Par View Drive
Cindy Sitton 239.810.4772
premierstir.com/id/212018762 \$699,000



101 Fairview Avenue
Stephanie Bissett 239.292.3707
premierstir.com/id/212030139 \$629,000



6021 Tidewater Island Circle
Denise Chambre 239.247.2868
premierstir.com/id/212025614 \$374,900



133 Butterknife Place
Deb Smith 239.826.3416
premierstir.com/id/212015644 \$324,900



808 52nd Street SW
Stephanie Bissett 239.292.3707
premierstir.com/id/212018248 \$319,000

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- Incredible Architecture
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- Lauren & Michael Taranto 239.572.3078

BONITA BAY



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- 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 3.5-Baths
- 21st Floor Premier Residence
- Exquisite Kitchen w/ Wine Refrigerators
- Multiple Terraces & Outdoor Summer Kitchen
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- Martinovich & Nulf 239.564.1266

PARK SHORE



LA MER

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- NW View Extends up to the Beach & Sanibel
- 5th Floor Residence
- Rooftop Deck, City & Gulf Views
- \$1,095,000 MLS 212036675
- Suddeth & Delaney 239.784.0693

FIDDLERS CREEK



PROFESSIONALLY DECORATED & FURNISHED

- 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 3-Baths
- Immaculate Condition
- Over 3,000 S. F. of Living Space
- Gated Community / Corner Lot
- \$449,000 MLS 212035857
- Kurt Petersen 239.777.0408

LOGAN WOODS



BEAUTIFULLY UPDATED 2-STORY HOME

- 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 2-Baths
- New Ceramic Tile Throughout
- Pool w/ 2-Story Screened Lanai
- 2.5-Car Garage & Golf Cart Garage
- \$255,000 MLS 212006480
- The Fischer Group 239.777.7500

BONITA BAY



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4:00

26410 WOODLYN DRIVE

- Exquisite Custom Estate Home
- 5 Bedrooms, 5.5 Baths
- Cul de Sac Lot w/ Golf Course & Lake View
- Marina w/ Gulf Access
- \$3,400,000 MLS 212024973
- Dotti Fagan, The Fagan Team 239.272.4946

VANDERBILT BEACH



OPEN SATURDAY 1 - 4:00

152 CONNERS AVENUE

- 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 3 Full & 1- Half Baths
- Soaring Ceilings & Open Floor Plan
- Large Master Suite w/Fireplace
- Gulf Access, Boat Dock & 10,000 Lb Lift
- \$1,970,000 MLS 212017871
- Jo Ellen Nash 239.537.4785

PARK SHORE



OPEN SAT & SUN 1 - 4:00

4101 BELAIR LANE

- 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, Western Exposure
- Expansively Open Floor Plan
- Luxurious Appointments and Brand New Pool
- Great Schools in Prestigious Neighborhood
- \$899,000 MLS 212019611
- Jim Hiester 239.919.9508

ESTERO



MARSH LANDING

- 2 Story Stunner
- 4 Bed, 2.5 Bath w/ Huge Bonus Room
- 3 Car Garage w/ Separate Doors
- Large Corner Lot w/ Curb Appeal Galore
- \$399,900 MLS 212033231
- Cory Lauer 239.465.9290

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SITUATED ON OVER 2.5 ACRES

- 3 Bedrooms, 2-Baths
- Beautiful Stone Fireplace
- Tray Ceilings & Terra Cotta Flooring
- Separate 1200 S.F. Workshop
- \$215,000 MLS 212028259
- Kurt Petersen 239.777.0408

MEDITERRA



EXPANSIVE LAKE & GOLF VIEWS

- 4 Bedrooms, + Den, 6.5-Baths
- Over 5,000 S.F. of Grand Living Space
- Movie Theatre, Wine Cellar, Faux Finishes & Soaring Ceilings
- Resort-Style Lagoon Pool & Spa
- \$3,395,000 MLS 212026860
- Martinovich & Nulf 239.398.3929

BAREFOOT BEACH CLUB



GULF FRONT PENTHOUSE

- 3 Bedrooms, 2-Baths
- Unobstructed Views from Naples to Captiva
- Luxuriously Appointed & Completely Renovated
- Soaring Ceilings, Crown Molding & Electric Shutters
- \$1,850,000 MLS 212035798
- Denise Stilwell 239.273.0990

ESPERIA SOUTH AT BONITA BAY



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4:00

4951 BONITA BAY BLVD., #801

- 3 Bedrooms, 3-Baths
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- Enjoy the Resort Lifestyle
- \$847,500 MLS 212023955
- Martinovich & Nulf 239.564.1266

VINEYARDS



CLUBSIDE RESERVE

- 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 3-Baths
- End Unit Coach Home
- Steps to the Pool & 2-Car Garage
- Great Amenities & Location
- \$334,900 MLS 212036984
- Annette Villano 239.248.6798

PIPERS GROVE



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4:00

2635 MAGNOLIA PARK LN., #101

- 2 Bedrooms, 2-Baths
- End Unit w/Lake View
- Gated Community
- Great Community Amenities
- \$189,000 MLS 212023859
- Annette Villano 239.248.6798

BONITA BAY



SPRING RIDGE

- Magnificent, Unique Custom Designed Home
- Spacious, Timeless Décor, Architectural Masterpiece
- Soaring Lanai Encourages Entertaining
- Private Guest Cabana, 4 Bedrooms + Den
- \$3,390,000 MLS 212034553
- The Lummis Team 239.289.3543

PINE RIDGE



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- 4 Bedrooms, + Den, 4.5-Baths
- Wood & Satin Marble Floors Throughout
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- Faux Finishes & Soaring Ceilings
- \$1,850,000 MLS 212007630
- Michael & Lauren Taranto 239.572.3078

PARK SHORE



GULF SHORE BOULEVARD

- 3 Bedrooms, 3-Baths, 2 Balconies
- Lovely Kitchen w/Dry Bar & 2 Wine Coolers
- Gulf, Bay & Cityscape Views
- Electric Hurricane Shutters Throughout
- \$799,900 MLS 211507508
- Liz Appling 239.272.7201

MOORINGS



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- 2 Bedrooms, 2-Baths
- Charming 1st Floor Residence
- Offered Beautifully Furnished
- Boat Docks Available for Lease
- \$329,000 MLS 212021076
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WIGGINS BAY



COLONY AT WIGGINS BAY

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- Beautiful Updated Tile Throughout
- Beach Access
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SHADOW WOOD



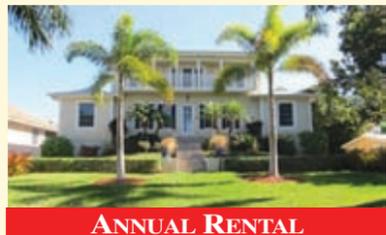
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• Bardmoor Model, Expanded Kitchen/ Great Room
• Extensive Upgrades Throughout
• Private Lush Tropical Setting
• \$765,000 MLS 212036303
• Bob Nemecek / Greg Lewis 239.273.2556

PELICAN LANDING



SANDPIPER GREENS
• 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 1 Car Garage
• Turnkey Furnished
• Pelican Nest Golf View
• Western Exposure
• \$325,000 MLS 212018566
• Darlene Rice 239.325.3537

OLDE NAPLES



NESTLED IN OLDE NAPLES
• 5 Bedrooms, + Den, 3.5-Baths
• Gorgeous Kitchen w/Stone Counters
• Brazilian Cherry Floors
• Open Heated Pool & Fountains
• \$7,000 / Month MLS 212037113
• Debbie Hunt 239.398.5529

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15179 BROLIO WAY
• 4 Bedrooms, + Den, 5-Full & 2-Half Baths
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• Unbelievable Master Suite & Bath
• 2 Grand Pools, Spa and Fireplace
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• Kristin Cavella-Whorral 239.821.6330

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• 5 Bedrooms Plus Den, 4.5 Baths
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• \$1,500,000 MLS 212018053
• Dotti Fagan, The Fagan Team 239.272.4946

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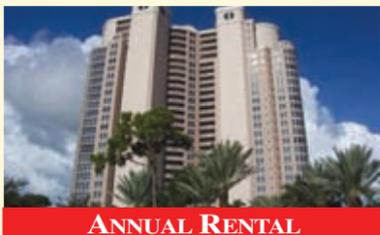
CUSTOM DESIGNED COACH HOME
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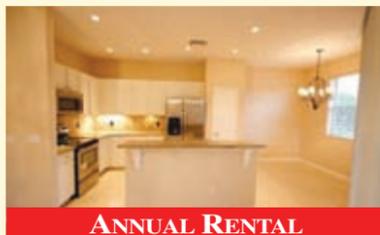
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15501 MONTEROSSO LN., #202
• 3 Bedrooms, 3-Baths
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• Private Beach Club
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REAL ESTATE NEWSMAKERS

■ Graduates of the **Naples Area Board of Realtors 2012 Leadership Academy** are: John Austin, Florida Home Realty; Justin Cottrell, Cottrell Law & Title Group; Aysim Eserdag, Engel Völkers; John Fernandez, John Fernandez Photography; Debi Foss, Heather Haynes and Paula Schatz, John R. Wood Realtors; Jeff Grant, Gulfshore Title Company; Lauren Melo, Florida's Realty Specialists; Jolene Munzenrieder, Downing-Frye Realty; Kim Ouellette, Prudential Florida Realty; Mike Pagliccia, Premiere Plus Realty; and Karen Scileny of Beach & Luxury Realty.

The NABOR Leadership Academy offers an opportunity to enhance professional skills as well as personal growth. Participants in the intensive seven-month program learned to apply cutting-edge leadership theory to handle complex management challenges. The class project for 2012 included refurbishing the library/activities room at Manor Care Health Services in Naples.

"The future of the industry will depend largely on the ability of young real estate professionals to harness their passion and develop into effective leaders," says Bill Poteet, president of the NABOR board of directors. "These graduates are our future leaders."

■ Environmental agencies have given the green light for the development of a 2,262-acre tract of land east of Naples that eventually will include more than 1,700 homes, retail businesses, medical offices, senior housing, a public school and a business park.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



COURTESY PHOTO

The Naples Area Board of Realtors recently donated \$10,000 to the Realtors Relief Foundation of the National Association of Realtors to help with Hurricane Sandy relief efforts. "We have been blessed that our shores were not hit this year by a storm, and we are in a position to help others," says Bill Poteet, NABOR president. Shown here are, left to right: Mike Richardson, Dominic Pallini, Harley Conrad, Moe Veissi, Mr. Poteet, Wes Kunkle and Jeff Jones. With the exception of Mr. Veissi, a representative of the National Association of Realtors, everyone pictured serves on the NABOR board of directors.

and the South Florida Water Management District have given approval for **Hacienda Lakes**, says David Torres, president of Hacienda Lakes of Naples LLC. "This has been a long process," he says, adding the project was started nearly 10 years ago by other developers.

East of Collier Boulevard, the parcel encompasses land around Florida Sports Park to the north and stretches south of Physicians Regional Medical Center. The Sports Park and Swamp Buggy track will not be affected. More than 1,500 acres will be left as a preserve area.

The development process will include an extension of Rattlesnake-Hammock Road east of Collier Boulevard as well as other roadwork within the project that will also serve the public, such as a

wider bridge and improvements at the intersection.

"Our next step is to proceed with the site work and infrastructure," Mr. Torres says, adding development will take place in phases over the next eight years.

For more information, e-mail info@napleshacienda.com.

■ **Clive Daniel Home** has been awarded a contract for the newest model home by **Fox Custom Builders in Talis Park**. Kelley Bridwell and Chad Elkins will be the lead designers for the Barlovento, a 3,248-square-foot, three-bedroom, 3½-bath courtyard home. With completion expected in early spring, the furnished model will be offered for \$1.4 million. In addition to the selection of all

furnishings, Mr. Bridwell and Mr. Elkins will guide the builder on interior architectural details and floor plans, exterior paint selection, roof tile, stone pavers, flooring, wall and ceiling details, plus kitchen and bathrooms. They will also design and specify the entire outdoor living areas, including pool and spa, fireplace, summer kitchen and entry courtyard landscape design.

Formerly known as Tuscany Reserve, Talis Park encompasses 461 acres off Livingston Road in North Naples. Homes are priced from the \$700,000s.



A rendering of the Barlovento, a new model under construction in Talis Park by Fox Custom Homes.

■ **Lennar Southwest** recently opened 10 premium home sites for sale in the next phase at the **TwinEagles** golf course community off Immokalee Road in North Naples. New home prices in the community begin at \$399,990.

In addition to an 18-hole championship golf course and 47,000-square-foot clubhouse, TwinEagles offers miles of biking, jogging and walking paths. A fitness center and swimming pool are part of future plans. ■



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15509 Monterosso Lane #102 **\$479,000**
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28570 Calabria Court #102 **\$465,000**
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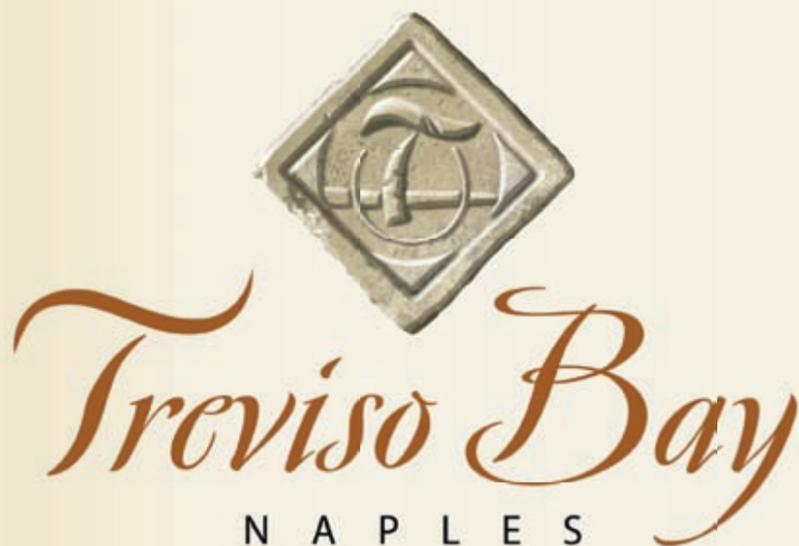
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1. Paul Weddick, Eric Spitzer and Martin Ivins flanked by the Go Go Girls
2. Kathryn Birch with Vince and Kathleen Crawford
3. Go Go Girls Erin Dunbar and Angeliki Pantelaras, far left and right, with Richard VanBuren, Avrom Kniaz, Claire VanBuren, Mary Kniaz and Krista Santora
4. Larry Weinstein, Christine Wenninger and Cookie Weinstein
5. Robert Williamson
6. Larry and Beverly VerHusen
7. Earl and Sandra Klein
8. Sue Wilson, center, with Go Go Girls Erin Dunbar and Angeliki Pantelaras of Moondance Productions
9. David and Christina Martin

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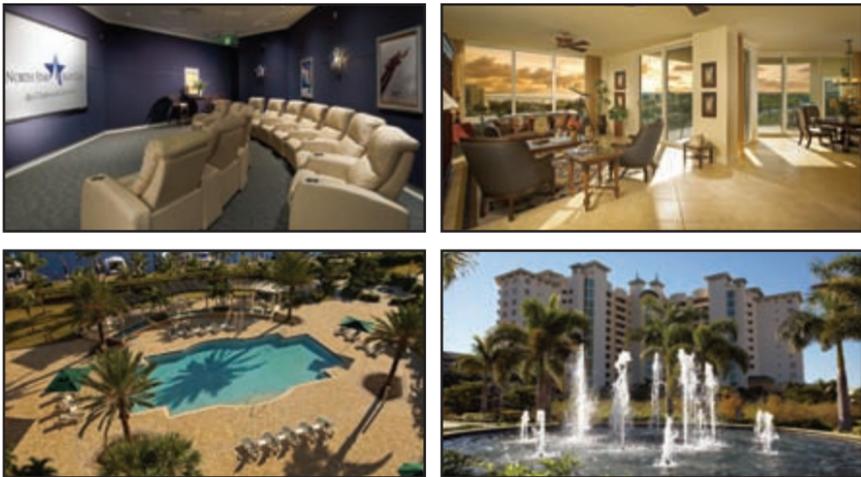
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NETWORKING

Talis Park 'Preview the Park' party raises \$10,000 for Big Brothers Big Sisters



1. Philippe Fontanelli, Linda and Dave Dart, Georgia Hinchman and Bill LoPresti
2. Debbie Kyle, Sandy Cotter, David Copley and Sonya Shaheen
3. Jorse and Gisselle Calleja
4. Jenny and Gregg Stupinski
5. Jack and Judy Corsten
6. Lia Estrada and Stan Witcomb

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Florida Weekly's Open Houses

Open Houses are Sunday 1-4, unless otherwise marked

>\$300,000

1 • BANYAN WOODS - RESERVE II • 5030 Blauvelt Way #101 • \$345,000 • Premier Sotheby's International Realty • Pat Duggan • 239.216.1980

>\$400,000

2 • MERCATO - THE STRADA • 9123 Strada Place • From \$400,000 • PSIR • Call 239.594.9400 • Monday-Saturday 10am-8pm & Sunday 12-8pm

3 • TIBURON • 2659 Bolero Drive • \$449,000 • Engel & Voelkers Olde Naples • George Safrany • 239.908.7826

4 • VINEYARDS - VALLEY OAK • 268 Monterey Drive • \$499,000 • PSIR • Roya Nouhi • 239.290.9111

>\$500,000

5 • MOORINGS - COMMODORE CLUB • 222 Harbour Drive #402 • \$519,900 • PSIR • Jeff Cox • 239.777.0078

6 • LELY RESORT • 6460 Caldecott Drive • \$520,000 • Engel & Voelkers Olde Naples • Tom Walsh • 239.250.9386

7 • SPANISH WELLS • 9985 Treasure Cay Lane • \$535,000 • Engel & Voelkers Olde Naples • Aysim Eserdag • 239.404.6891

8 • PELICAN LANDING - LAKEMONT • 24721 Sweet Gum Court • \$549,000 • PSIR • Mark Leone • 239.784.5686

9 • WORTHINGTON • 13840 Tonebridge Court • \$579,900 • PSIR • Gerald Grass • 248.391.0121

>\$600,000

10 • BONITA BAY - ESPERIA • 26951 Country Club Drive • From \$600,000 • PSIR • Call 239.495.1105 • Monday-Saturday 10am-5pm & Sunday 10am-5pm

>\$700,000

11 • PELICAN LANDING • 23853 Sanctuary Lakes CT • \$719,900 • Engel & Voelkers Olde Naples • Thomas Ostrander • 860.304.1037

12 • PELICAN BAY - THE POINTE • 565 Via Veneto #101 • \$725,000 • PSIR • John D'Amelio • 239.961.5996

13 • TWINEAGLES • 12312 Wisteria Drive • \$795,000 • PSIR • Dayle Cartwright • 239.595.7853 • Also Available: 12300 Wisteria Drive \$660,000

14 • THE DUNES - GRANDE PRESERVE • 280 Grande Way • From \$799,000 • PSIR • Call 239.594.1700 • Monday-Saturday 10am-5pm & Sunday 12-5pm

>\$800,000

15 • MARCO ISLAND - DUCHESS • 220 South Collier Blvd. #306 • \$825,000 • PSIR • Cynthia Corogin • 239.963.5561

>\$900,000

16 • PARK SHORE - TERRACES • 4751 Gulf Shore Blvd. North #PH-7 • \$950,000 • PSIR • Polly Himmel • 239.290.3910

17 • PELICAN BAY - TIERRA MAR • 532 Tierra Mar Lane East • \$968,000 • PSIR • Joe Garabed • 239.571.5700

18 • VANDERBILT BEACH - PHOENICIAN SANDS • 9155 Gulfshore Drive #502 • \$985,000 • PSIR • Patricia Bucalo • 239.552.5529

>\$1,000,000

19 • GREY OAKS • 2618 L'Ermitage Lane • \$1,075,000 • Naples Estate Properties • Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell • 239.465.4645

20 • BONITA BAY - CREEKSIDE • 3371 Oak Hammock Court • \$1,095,000 • PSIR • Teresa Rucker • 239.281.2376

21 • BONITA BAY - TAVIRA • 26951 Country Club Drive • From \$1,000,000 • PSIR • Call 239.495.1105 • Monday-Saturday 10am-5pm & Sunday 10am-5pm

22 • THE COLONY & BAY CLUB • 2381 Addison Place CT • \$1,100,000 • Engel & Voelkers Olde Naples • Thomas Ostrander • 860.304.1037

23 • OLD NAPLES - VILLA VERONA • 259 4th Avenue South • \$1,150,000 • PSIR • Marty/Debbi McDermott • 239.564.4231

24 • PARK SHORE • 502 Whispering Pines Lane • \$1,195,000 • PSIR • Linda Ohler • 239.404.6460

25 • BONITA BAY - COCONUT ISLE • 26424 Brick Lane • \$1,195,000 • PSIR • Gary L./Jeff Jaarda • 239.248.7474

26 • PINE RIDGE • 106 Eugenia Drive • \$1,395,000 • PSIR • Jesse Moreno • 239.405.0065

27 • MEDITERRA • 29071 Amarone Court • \$1,450,000 • Engel & Voelkers Olde Naples • Thomas Ostrander • 860.304.1037

28 • PELICAN MARSH - ARBORS • 1332 Little Blue Heron Court • \$1,495,000 • PSIR • Terri Moellers/Sharon Kaltenborn • 239.213.7344

29 • GREY OAKS - ESTUARY • 1220 Gordon River Trail • From \$1,500,000 • PSIR • Call 239.261.3148 • Monday-Saturday 9am-5pm & Sunday 12-5pm

30 • MEDITERRA • 14878 Bellezza Lane • \$1,685,000 • Naples Estate Properties • Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell • 239.465.4645

31 • TIBURON • 14512 Marsala Way • \$1,695,000 • PSIR • Julie Rembos • 239.595.1809

32 • PELICAN ISLE - AQUA • 13675 Vanderbilt Drive #610 • \$1,925,000 • PSIR • Dayle Cartwright • 239.595.7853

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33 • QUAIL WEST • 4430 Wayside Drive • \$2,495,000 • Naples Estate Properties • Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell • 239.465.4645

34 • VANDERBILT BEACH - MORAYA BAY • 11125 Gulfshore Drive #407 • From \$2,500,000 • PSIR • Call 239.514.5050 • Monday-Saturday 10am-5pm & Sunday 12-5pm

35 • COQUINA SANDS - NAPLES CASAMORE • 1752 Gulf Shore Blvd. North • From \$2,800,000 • PSIR • Call 239.963.4242 • Open Daily 12-4pm

36 • AQUALANE SHORES • 2211 Forrest Lane • \$2,850,000 • PSIR • Ruth Trettis • 239.571.6760

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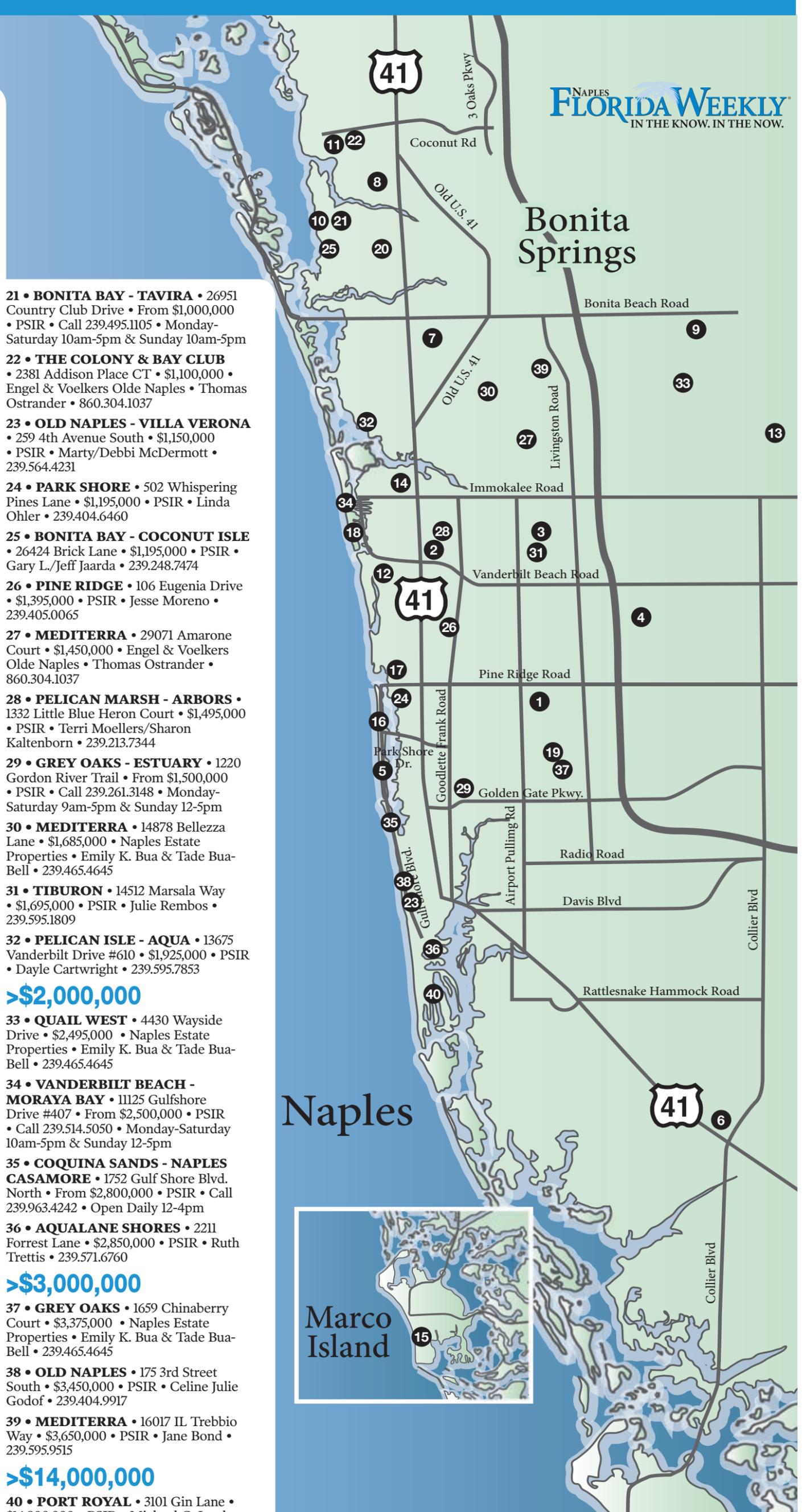
37 • GREY OAKS • 1659 Chinaberry Court • \$3,375,000 • Naples Estate Properties • Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell • 239.465.4645

38 • OLD NAPLES • 175 3rd Street South • \$3,450,000 • PSIR • Celine Julie Godof • 239.404.9917

39 • MEDITERRA • 16017 IL Trebbio Way • \$3,650,000 • PSIR • Jane Bond • 239.595.9515

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40 • PORT ROYAL • 3101 Gin Lane • \$14,900,000 • PSIR • Michael G. Lawler • 239.261.3939





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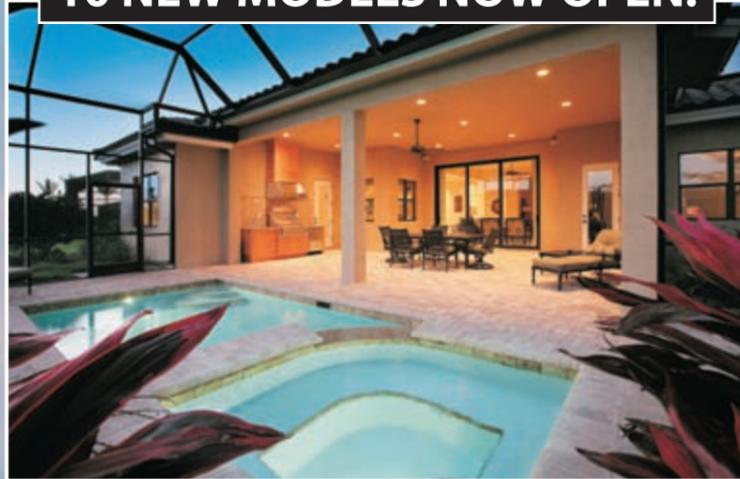
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WEEK OF DECEMBER 6-12, 2012

A GUIDE TO THE LOCAL ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SCENE

CHECK **THIS** LIST TWICE

Some not-so-typical holiday shows
are coming to town



The Hot Club of San Francisco, bringing "Cool Yule" to the Phil Dec. 7-8. COURTESY PHOTO

BY NANCY STETSON

nstetson@floridaweekly.com

SOME FOLKS LIKE TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS in traditional ways.

They're the ones who went to see the Miami City Ballet dance "The Nutcracker" at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts in Naples.

They're the ones enjoying "A Miracle on 34th Street" at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre.

If you're looking for atypical holiday entertainment fare, however, — something a little off the beaten path — you

have to search a little harder.

But you're in luck. Some unusual holiday shows are coming to town this year. Here's a look at what promises to be the best of them.

The Hot Club of San Francisco: Cool Yule

The Hot Club of San Francisco is well worth seeing, no matter what the season.

When the ensemble played at the

SEE HOLIDAYS, C4 ►

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| **INSIDE** |



A canine Christmas

Pups on parade on Marco, and more fun around town. **C21-25** ►



A KidzAct tradition

"The Nutcracker Goes Pop!" comes back to town. **C3** ►



Reindeer portraits

Marco art center welcomes Dasher and Dancer and all of their friends. **C16** ►

Two exhibits, one reception at The von Liebig

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The Naples Art Association presents "National Art Encounter 2012-13" and the "Members' Gallery All-Media Exhibition" at The von Liebig Art Center. Each features a wide variety of mediums including acrylic, oils, watercolor, drawing, printmaking, photography, fibers, metals and found objects.

A preview reception for the two exhibits takes place from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7; both shows open to the public Dec. 8 and will remain on display at the center through Jan. 26.

"National Art Encounter 2012-13" showcases original works by artists from through-

out the United States. More than 800 works by more than 400 artists were received when the call to artists went out last May. Jurors Margaret Miller, Corrina Peipon and Dulce Roman made the exhibit selections and nominated six artists for cash awards totaling \$2,500. The exhibition is installed throughout The von Liebig Art Center on the ground floor and second level.

The "Members' Gallery All-Media Exhibition" celebrates work by members of the Naples Art Association. The gallery is in the Cuthbert Studio on the first floor of The von



Scorched, watercolor, Grace Alexander, Bonita Springs

SEE EXHIBITS, C18 ►



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The Promenade	948-4000
Fifth Avenue	434-8770
Marco Island	642-2222
Rentals	262-4242

SANDY DAYS, SALTY NIGHTS

When our cup runneth over, it's our own doing



A friend recently told me this story of an old girlfriend, one who didn't make it for the long haul. While they were dating, my friend said, the young woman had no close friends. No family she contacted regularly. No hobbies outside work. Her boyfriend — my friend — became her hobby, her family and her buddy.

"It was," he said, "a big responsibility."

As often happens in these situations, their relationship soon began to buckle.

"I'd come home at night and she'd be waiting for me," my friend said. "She'd want to hang out — to watch TV together on the couch. But I needed my own time."

My friend is an avid runner and he started missing his nightly jog in order to make his girlfriend happy. What came next is no surprise. My friend needed space and his girlfriend needed him, but neither got enough of the thing they needed to keep them going. How exhausting for him, I thought, and how frustrating for her.

"Needing a man for everything will ultimately sabotage a relationship," writes psychologist John Gray in "Mars and Venus on a Date." "No man can



satisfy all of a woman's needs. He may think he can, but he can't, and it is a big mistake to expect him to."

When my friend told me this story, I mentally tsk-tsked his former girlfriend. Didn't she know that every relationship expert says that men desire

women with a full life? Women who are independent, active — who need a man, yes, and a want a man, yes that too — but who aren't sitting around waiting for him to complete them. It's Relationship 101.

But how easily we forget the most

basic lessons.

Most dating advice books tell us that our soul mate comes not when we're searching for a partner, not when we're hoping and praying, but just the opposite — when we're already fulfilled.

When our lives are busy and productive, when we have a good job and good friends, when our social calendar is booked — essentially, when we don't have room in our lives for one more thing. That's exactly the moment when we meet the perfect man or woman.

Our mistake, then, is confusing the sense of completion that follows with our new partner. We think we feel good about our lives — our jobs, our friends, our families — because of the new love in our life. Often we forget that we created that feeling for ourselves and our new partner is only the icing on the proverbial cake.

I remember reading an interview with Lance Armstrong's first wife. What struck me in the article was her sense of regret. She had been working in Austin when they met, in an active and promising career, but as soon as they married she quit her job, rented out her house and packed up everything she owned to follow him across the world. They divorced just four years later, and the former Mrs. Armstrong blamed her own willingness to sacrifice herself to their relationship. If only she had maintained the independence that had attracted him in the first place, she said, theirs would have been a very different love story. ■

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COURTESY PHOTO

A favorite holiday tradition among young thespians, their friends and families is the KidzAct production of "The Nutcracker Goes Pop!" The youth troupe of The Naples Players presents the modern song and dance version of the seasonal classic at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Dec. 7-8, and at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9, at Golden Gate High School. The production involves more than 150 students from Golden Gate and Gulf Coast high schools. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for ages 18 and younger and can be purchased at the door or in advance at the box office at the Sugden Community Theatre, 701 Fifth Ave. S. For more information, visit www.naplesplayers.org. Shown here are scenes from the 2011 production.



Enjoy an evening of three new plays

Three new one-act plays written by two Neapolitans and one Fort Myers resident, the winners of The Naples Players' ETC... Readers Theatre "Evening of New Plays" contest, will be presented at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Dec. 7-8, in the Toby Studio at the Sugden Community Theatre.

The winning playwrights are: Noah Samotin and Marc Simon of Naples and Wallace Kain of Fort Myers. Stephen Schwandt, also of Naples, was awarded honorable mention for his entry titled "Fishy."

Mr. Samotin, 17, entered the first play he has ever written. He says he idea for "Compulsion" came from a conversa-

tion he had with a psychology/English teacher about hoarders and obsessions.

In "Sex After Death," Mr. Simon asks, "If there's life after death, what about sex?" The play is about an aging couple preparing for the world to come.

Mr. Kain, a second-time finalist in the "Evening of New Plays" contest, won this year for "The Grey and The Blue." Set at the end of the Civil War, the story revolves around Union forces whose homeward march is blocked by Confederates holed up in a farmhouse.

A reception will follow the Dec. 7 presentation.

Tickets are \$10. Call 263-7990 or visit www.naplesplayers.org ■



PHOTOGRAPHY

Hands on Learning

NAPLES

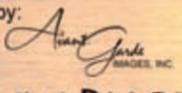
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HOLIDAYS

From page 1

Phil in early 2009 as part of its Silent Surrealism tour, it was the dark horse concert of the year; not many people seemed to know about them.

But those who saw the show were stunned by its musical craftsmanship and virtuosity. The group performs jazz in the style of Django Reinhardt and the Hot Club of France. (As a friend of mine proclaimed, "If you see 'hot club' in a name, you know it's going to be good.")

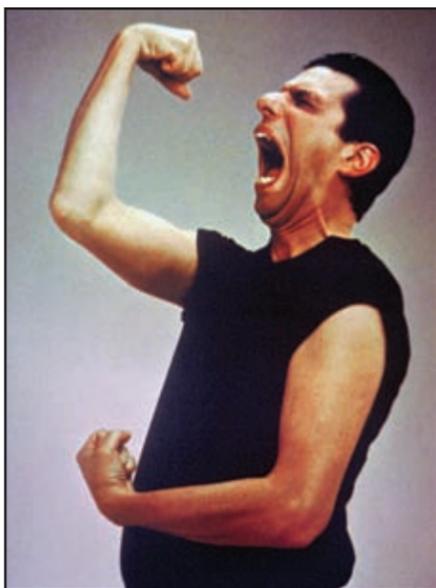
The Hot Club of San Francisco comes to town with numbers from its "Cool Yule" album Friday and Saturday, Dec. 7-8, in the Daniels Pavilion at the Phil (two performances each night, at 6 and 8:30 p.m.). Though it plays the classic "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," "Carol of the Bells," "I'll Be Home for Christmas," "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" and others, it promises to put their singular swing to them.

As Dan Forte in Vintage Guitar Magazine wrote about its "Cool Yule" album: "...the HCSF takes Gypsy jazz to new places. It's certainly one of the most original, wittiest Christmas albums ever."

in the know

Hot Club of San Francisco: Cool Yule

- >> **When:** 8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7, and 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7-8
- >> **Where:** The Daniels Pavilion at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts
- >> **Tickets:** \$39
- >> **Info:** 597-1900 or www.thephil.org



COURTESY PHOTO

Bowzer

Bowzer's Rock 'n' Roll Holiday Party

If Bowzer of the doo-wop cover group Sha Na Na threw a holiday party/concert, who would he invite to perform?

Now we know: Little Anthony and the Imperials, Jay Siegel's Tokens and Little Peggy March, all backed by Rocky and the Rollers.

If the '50s are your era and you love that harmonizing doo-wop sound, if you want an onomatopoeic holiday, this is the Christmas concert for you.

The groups, along with Bowzer and the Stingrays, will perform Christmas songs (and possibly their own hits) at 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9, at the Phil.

Little Anthony and the Imperials are known for "Tears on My Pillow," "Shimmy, Shimmy, Ko-Ko-Bop," "Goin' Out of My Head" and "I'm on the Outside (Looking In)." The Tokens, of course, are known for "Tonight I Fell In Love" and "The Lion Sleeps Tonight." And Little Peggy March made the charts with "I Wish I Were a Princess," "Hello Heart-

ache, Goodbye Love" and her No. 1 hit, "I Will Follow Him."

Rocky and the Rollers have been the back-up band for '50s and '60s headliners including The Drifters, The Platters, Gary Puckett and Peter Noone.

If you're wondering who put the ram-a-lam-a-ding-dong in "Jingle Bells," look no further.

in the know

Bowzer's Rock 'n' Roll Holiday Party

- >> **Starring** Little Anthony and the Imperials, Jay Siegel's Tokens, Little Peggy March and Bowzer and the Stingrays
- >> **When:** 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9
- >> **Where:** The Philharmonic Center for the Arts
- >> **Tickets:** \$69 and \$79
- >> **Info:** 597-1900 or www.thephil.org

Tuba Christmases

Consider the tuba, easily one of the most underappreciated instruments.

Due to their enormous size and their ability to create incredibly loud, honking sounds, you think they'd be impossible to overlook. Yet, they are... loved only in parades and German polka bands.

But you haven't lived until you've heard a few dozen tubas — or more — play Christmas songs.

An all-volunteer, all-tuba band will perform Christmas carols in Sugden Plaza in downtown Naples beginning at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13.

Another Tuba Christmas concert is set for 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 22, at Fishermen's Village in Punta Gorda.

(The bands also include other instruments in the family, such as sousaphones, baritones and euphoniums.)

Tuba Christmases are held in more than 200 cities all over the world. The first was held in Rockefeller Center in New York City in 1974, with more than 300 tuba players participating. Harvey G. Phillips started the event to honor his tuba music teacher, William Bell, who was born on Christmas Day in 1902.

If you're tired of cloyingly sweet Christmas music, try some brassy Yule tunes.

And yes, they do play "Silent Night."

in the know

Tuba Christmases

- >> **When:** 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13
- >> **Where:** Sugden Plaza, 701 Fifth Ave. S., downtown Naples
- >> **When:** 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 22
- >> **Where:** Fishermen's Village, Punta Gorda
- >> **Cost:** Free



COURTESY PHOTO

The Rose Ensemble

The Rose Ensemble Christmas

The St. Paul, Minn.-based Rose Ensemble is known for its vocal skill. Its music, which spans 1,000 years and 25 languages, ranges from Medieval to modern. It will perform a program Early American/Appalachian-style holiday fare at 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, in the Daniels Pavilion at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts.



COURTESY PHOTO

Link Union Christmas

You can be assured you won't hear "Grandma Got Run Over By a Reindeer" or "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus."

If its album "And Glory Shone All Around: Early American Carols" is any guide, its Christmas music has both sacred and folk sounds. Many songs are performed a cappella or with minimal instrumentation.

The intimate Daniels Pavilion seems an ideal place for this concert. The room will ring with the Rose Ensemble's rich tones and choral harmonizing.

in the know

The Rose Ensemble

- >> **When:** 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16
- >> **Where:** The Daniels Pavilion at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts
- >> **Tickets:** \$15-\$45
- >> **Info:** 597-1900 or www.thephil.org

"The Santaland Diaries"

If you're turned off by the commercialism of Christmas and your attitude's more "bah, humbug" than "ho, ho, ho," "The Santaland Diaries" is right on your wavelength.

Based on David Sedaris' fictionalized



Jason Parrish portrays Crumpet the Elf in "The Santaland Diaries" at the Florida Rep.

CHIP HOFFMAN / COURTESY PHOTO

essay about the time he worked as an elf at Macy's in New York City, this one-man show takes a skewed look at the holiday season: frantic shoppers, pushy mothers and screaming kids.

Jason Parrish plays David Sedaris and his elfin alter-ego, Crumpet, a role he's perfected over the past three years. This year, he performs it Dec. 19-30 in Florida Repertory Theatre's newly renovated ArtStage Studio Theatre in downtown Fort Myers.

Attending this funny, cynical, snarky play has become something of a tradition among those who like their Christmas plays... well, un-traditional.

in the know

"The Santaland Diaries"

- >> **When:** Dec. 19-30
- >> **Where:** The ArtStage Studio Theatre at Florida Repertory Theatre, downtown Fort Myers
- >> **Tickets:** \$25 (\$10 for local college students with I.D.)
- >> **Info:** 332-4488 or www.floridarep.org

Link Union Christmas Show

The band called Link Union is the Link family, which hails from the Ozark Mountains of Missouri. This award-winning group, which has been performing together since 2001, will play Americana and holiday music at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Dec. 21-22, at the G & L Theatre at Community School in Naples.

The Links — all top-notch musicians — play banjo, fiddle, mandolin, accordion, stand-up bass, cello, keyboards and guitar. And they have a pure sound, harmonizing the way only family members can.

Their Christmas show includes songs such as "Carol of the Bells," "Joy to the World," "What Child is This," "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen" and "Winter Wonderland."

Two years ago Link Union received an award for Bluegrass Album of the Year from the Midwest Society for The Preservation of Bluegrass Music of America, and this year was named Vocal Group of the Year by the society.

This is music that's sure to touch your heart and spirit. ■

in the know

Link Union Christmas Show

- >> **When:** 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Dec. 21-22
- >> **Where:** The G&L Theatre, Community School of Naples
- >> **Tickets:** \$25, \$30 and \$35
- >> **Info:** 771-0106 or www.tincitymagic.brownpapertickets.com

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It's no secret giving to others is always in fashion. Choose an angel from the tree. Please purchase a gift of new clothing, shoes and/or toys for a child in need. Unwrapped gifts and/or monetary donations accepted.

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Dec. 9 | 11am - 6pm

Dec. 10 - 14 | 10am - 8pm

Dec. 15 | 10am - 9pm

Dec. 16 | 11am - 7pm

Dec. 17 - 22 | 10am - 9pm

Dec. 23 | 11am - 7pm

Dec. 24 | 9am - 5pm

Closed Christmas Day

Dec. 26 | 8am - 8pm

Dec. 27 - 29 | 10am - 8pm

Dec. 30 | 11am - 7pm

Dec. 31 | 10am - 5pm

Jan. 1 | 12pm - 6pm

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WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Theater

■ **Nutcracker Goes Pop!** – By KidzAct of The Naples Players at 7 p.m. Dec. 7-8 and 2 p.m. Dec. 9 at Golden Gate High School. \$10 at the door or in advance at the Sugden Community Theatre box office. 264-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org. See story on page C3.

■ **Evening of New Plays** – By Etc... Readers' Theatre of The Naples Players Dec. 7-8 at the Sugden Community Theatre. 263-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org.

■ **Leading Ladies** – By The Naples Players through Dec. 15 at the Sugden Community Theatre. 263-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org. See review on page C8.

■ **A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum** – By TheatreZone through Dec. 9 at the G&L Theatre. (888) 966-3352 or www.theatrezone-florida.com.

■ **The Nerd** – By Theatre Conspiracy through Dec. 15 at the Alliance of the Arts, Fort Myers. 936-3239. See story on page C18.

■ **Talley's Folly** – By Florida Repertory Theatre through Dec. 16 at the Arcade Theatre, Fort Myers. 332-4488 or www.floridarep.org. See review on page C8.

■ **Elves and the Shoemaker** – At the Broadway Palm Theatre, Fort Myers, through Dec. 23. 278-4422 or www.broadwaypalm.com.

■ **Miracle on 34th Street** – At the Broadway Palm Theatre, Fort Myers, through Dec. 25. 278-4422 or www.BroadwayPalm.com.

■ **I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change** – At the Off Broadway Palm Theatre, Fort Myers, through Dec. 25. 278-4422 or www.BroadwayPalm.com.

Thursday, Dec. 6

■ **Book Talk** – Elaine Newton's series of Critic's Choice book discussions continues with Nadine Gordimer's "No Time Like the Present" at 10 a.m. today and Saturday at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. \$34. 597-1900 or www.thephil.org.

■ **Library Concert** – The Night Train Band performs holiday tunes at the Naples Regional Library at 3:30 p.m. Free.

■ **Anniversary Party** – Blue Mangrove Gallery on Marco Island and featured artist Tara O'Neill invite the public to the gallery's sixth anniversary celebration from 5-7 p.m. 1089 N. Collier Blvd. 393-2405 or www.bluemangrovegallery.com.

■ **Mingle & Jingle** – The Collier Community Cat Coalition holds its second annual Mingle & Jingle Holiday Party from 5-9 p.m. at The Inn on Fifth. \$40. Reservations: 431-0331 or megan.catcoalition@gmail.com.

■ **Christmas Walk** – Fifth Avenue South hosts the 38th annual Christmas Walk & Tree Lighting Ceremony from 5-9:30 p.m. www.FifthAvenueSouth.com.

■ **Little Carolers** – Third graders from Naples Park Elementary School sing holiday songs in the café at Whole Foods in Mercato at 6 p.m.

■ **Book Signing** – Naples author Karna Bodman signs her new thriller, "Castle Bravo," from 6-8 p.m. at Petunia's of Naples, 852 Fifth Ave. S. 262-2128.

■ **Reggae at Mercato** – The roots reggae band Jahgape performs under the stars at Mercato from 6-9 p.m. 594-9400 or www.mercatoshops.com.

■ **Boat Parade on the Bay** – A procession of boats decked out for the holidays makes its way down Venetian Bay, with live entertainment and a "snow show" beginning at 6 p.m. at the Village on Venetian Bay. www.venetian-village.com.

■ **Classical Music** – The Center for the Arts of Bonita Springs presents an evening of clas-

sical music with Naomi Niskala and Salley Koo at 7 p.m. at the Promenade at Bonita Bay. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

■ **Christmas Concert** – The Barron Collier High School Band performs holiday music from 7-9 p.m. in the band shell at Cambier Park. Free. 213-3058.

■ **Tribute Show** – The Stage presents a Neil Diamond tribute show at 7:15 p.m. 9144 Bonita Beach Road. 405-8566 or www.thestagebonita.com.

■ **NPO Concert** – Guest artist Branford Marsalis joins the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra at 8 p.m. tonight through Saturday at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. A prelude with conductor Andrey Boreyko begins one hour prior. \$45 for adults; \$35 for students. 597-1900 or www.ThePhil.org.

■ **Funny Lady** – Diane Ford performs today through Sunday at the Off the Hook Comedy Club, 599 S. Collier Blvd., Marco Island. 389-6900.

Friday, Dec. 7

■ **Holiday Crafts** – The Goodland Civic Association hosts its third annual Christmas Arts & Crafts Show from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. today and Saturday at the Collier County Boat Park in Goodland. 734-5523 or goodlandfl@aol.com.

■ **Champagne Tasting** – Tony's Off Third and Sukie Honeycutt host the 14th annual Holiday Champagne & Sparkler Tasting from 5:30-7 p.m. \$20 admission includes 20 tastings as well as a \$10 coupon. Reservations required. 1300 Third St. S. 262-7999 or www.tonysoff-third.com.

■ **Cheers!** – Whole Foods in Mercato hosts a beer and wine tasting from 6-8 p.m. with live music by Brandon Anthony. \$10 to benefit the Whole Foods Foundation.

COURTESY PHOTO
The Naples International Film Festival and Silverspot Cinema present a screening and discussion of "Sleepwalk With Me," a 2012 Sundance Film Festival Audience Award winner, on Dec. 11.



COURTESY PHOTO
Artist Arturo Correa invites the public to a discussion of "Concept vs. Aesthetic" as it applies to his work at 7 p.m. Dec. 7 at his Spheres of Life Art Center. Free. 1826 Trade Center Way. www.arturocorrea.com. Shown here is Mr. Correa's four-panel "Un camino y un jardin," acrylic on canvas.

■ **Holiday Party** – Provident Jewelry hosts a holiday party to benefit The Immo-kalee Foundation from 6-8 p.m. at both of its locations on Fifth Avenue South. 541 Fifth Ave. S. and 766 Fifth Ave. S. 649-7200 or www.ProvidentJewelry.com.

■ **Yule Tunes** – The Hot Club of San Francisco presents "Cool Yule," a swinging trip to the North Pole, at 8:30 tonight and at 6 p.m. Saturday at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. Tickets start at \$39. 597-1900 or www.thephil.org.

■ **Tree Lighting** – The lights go on the Christmas tree and the entertainment begins at 7 p.m. at Mercato, with performances by the Backstage Dance Academy, Dance City Productions and Victorian Carolers. www.mercatoshops.com.

■ **Perfect Harmony** – The Paradise Coastmen Barbershop Chorus and the Seacrest Country Day School Choir present an evening of holiday music from 7:30-9 p.m. at The Norris Center. \$15. 213-3049.

Saturday, Dec. 8

■ **Cookies with Santa** – Marco Island Parks & Recreation invites kids of all ages to enjoy cookies and milk with Santa from 10 a.m. to noon at Mackle Park. Bring your Christmas list and your camera. 642-0575.

■ **Art Show** – The Naples Artcrafters Fine Art & Craft Show runs from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in Cambier Park, 755 Eighth Ave. S. 250-0804.



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WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

■ **More Arts & Crafts** – Art-In-The-Glades runs from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in McLeod Park in Everglades City. Shop for hand-made crafts and local artwork and baked goods and enjoy a hot dog lunch and live music while you're there. 695-2905 or www.evergladeshistorical.org.

■ **Lunchbox Lesson** – The Marco Players Theatre presents "The Dance of the Muses," a program by Lynn Holley, executive director of the Marco Island Center for the Arts, from noon-1 p.m. \$25. www.themarcoplayers.com.

■ **Boat Parade** – The Bonita Springs Holiday Boat Parade sets sail on the Imperial River at dusk and can be viewed at various spots along the river. 495-0455.

■ **Art at Mercato** – Mercato showcases works of local artist Betty Newman in the pop-up gallery (next to Pandora) from 6-9 p.m. Live music and other performers will also take to the sidewalks of Mercato this evening. 254-1080 www.MercatoShops.com.

■ **Art After Dark** – The shops and galleries of Crayton Cove stay open late with refreshments and entertainment from 6-9 p.m. Participating locations are Random Acts of Art, Arsenault Gallery, Vallez Gallery, Art Gallery Old Naples 2, Guess-Fisher Gallery, Nora Butler Designs, Earth & Fire and the Phil Fisher Gallery.

■ **Boat Parade in the Bay** – The 23rd annual Marine Association of Collier County Christmas Boat Parade sails the waters of Naples Bay starting at 6:30 p.m. Prime viewing areas are Pincher's Crab Shack, Riverwalk Restaurant, Naples City Dock, Naples Landing, Kelly's Fish House, The Boathouse Restaurant and Bayview Park.

■ **Abracadabra!** – The Norris Center presents the family-friendly comedian, musician, mind reader and illusionist Gary Goodman at 7 p.m. \$20. 213-3058.

■ **Reggae & Rock** – Rock Island performs from 7-9 p.m. in Market Plaza at Gulf Coast Town Center. 267-0783 or www.gulfcoasttowncenter.com.

■ **Pop & Soul** – The legendary R&B group The Spinners performs pop-soul hits at 7:30 p.m. at Seminole Casino Immokalee. \$20 in advance; \$30 VIP; \$25 at the door. (800) 218-0007.

■ **Classic Rock** – Crossroads performs from 8-11 p.m. at Fred's Food, Fun & Spirits. 2700 Immokalee Road. 431-7928 or www.fredsiner.com.

Sunday, Dec. 9

■ **All That Jazz** – The Naples Dixieland Jazz Band performs from 2-4 p.m. in the band shell at Cambier Park. 213-3058.

■ **Holiday Cheer** – The Bonita Springs Concert Band performs traditional holiday favorites from 2-4 p.m. at Riverside Park on Old 41. www.bonitaspringsconcertband.com.

■ **Doo Wop Concert** – An all-star doo-wop concert starring Little Anthony and The Imperials, Jay Siegel's Tokens, Little Peggy March, Bowzer & The Stingrays and Rocky & The Rollers starts at 8 p.m. at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. Tickets start at \$59. 597-1900 or www.thephil.org.

Monday, Dec 10

■ **Keyboard Virtuoso** – Paul Todd's "Illuminated: The Music of the Lights" takes the stage tonight and Tuesday at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, Fort Myers. 481-4849 or www.bbmannpah.com.

■ **Book Signing** – Naples author Karna Bodman signs her new thriller, "Castle Bravo," from 5-8 p.m. at Books-A-Million at Mercato. 514-0783.

■ **Play Your Cards Right** – The Jewish Congregation of Marco Island hosts Monday night bingo starting with a free kosher hot dog supper at 5:30 p.m. The first game is called at 7 p.m. 642-0800.

■ **Film Series** – The Center for the Arts of Bonita Springs presents a screening and discussion of "The Band's Visit" at 7 p.m. \$8. 26100 Old 41 Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

■ **Holiday Jazz** – The Naples Jazz Orchestra performs "Jazz for the Holidays" from 7-9 p.m. in the band shell at Cambier Park. 207-8299 or www.thenjo.com.

Tuesday, Dec. 11

■ **Downtown Parade** – The Downtown Naples Christmas Parade steps out at 6 p.m. along Fifth Avenue South. 692-8436.

■ **Indie Film** – The Naples International Film Festival and Silverspot Cinema present a screening and discussion of "Sleepwalk With Me," a 2012 Sundance Film Festival Audience Award winner, on Dec. 11. Doors at the cinema in Mercato open at 6:30 p.m. and the film starts at 7 p.m. \$25 include the movie, savory bites and sweet treats and a glass of beer, wine or soda. www.silverspotcinema.com.

Wednesday, Dec. 12

■ **Opera Talk** – Retired Metropolitan Opera singer Joy Davidson talks with Stefanie Pearce, founder and artistic director of Opera Naples, for a behind-the-scenes look at "Tosca" at 10 a.m. at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. \$32. 597-1900 or www.thephil.org.

■ **Holiday Brass** – The Naples Philharmonic Orchestra Brass Quintet performs traditional Christmas carols at noon and 2 p.m. in the pavilion at Waterside Shops. Free. 597-1900 or www.ThePhil.org.

■ **Book Signing** – Naples author Karna Bodman signs her new thriller, "Castle Bravo," from 2:30-5 p.m. at Barnes & Noble at Waterside Shops. 598-5200.

■ **Sip & Sample** – Sample top wines and cheeses for holiday entertaining from 4-7 p.m. in the specialty beer, wine and cheese department at Whole Foods in Mercato. Free.

■ **Bouquets & Bubbly** – Create a lovely floral arrangement and enjoy a glass of champagne in a class from 6-8 p.m. at Whole Foods in Mercato. \$15 includes flowers and a vase. Register in advance: 552-5100.

■ **All That Jazz** – The Naples Philharmonic Jazz Orchestra's All That Jazz series continues with trombonist Steve Turre as the special guest at 6 and 8:30 p.m. in the Daniels Pavilion at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. Tickets start at \$42. 597-1900 or www.thephil.org.

■ **Funny Guy** – Comedian Martin Short takes the main stage at 8 p.m. at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. Tickets start at \$69. 597-1900 or www.ThePhil.org.

Coming up

■ **Candlelight Yoga** – Relieve the stress of the holidays by stretching out for candlelight kundalini yoga with instructors from Bija Yoga from 6-7:30 p.m. Dec. 13 at Cambier Park. Donations will be welcome for the Anahata Christmas tree drive.

■ **Choir Concert** – The Center for the Arts of Bonita Springs presents the Bay Singers Choir at 7 p.m. Dec. 13 at the Promenade at Bonita Bay. Members \$15, nonmembers \$20. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

■ **Holiday Movie** – Bring the family and settle in under the stars for a free screening of "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" beginning 15 minutes after sunset Dec. 14 at Veterans Community Park on Marco Island. 642-0575.

■ **Holiday Sounds** – The Symphonic Chorale of Southwest Florida presents "Holiday Evergreens" at 8 p.m. Dec. 14 at Moorings Presbyterian Church. 791 Harbour Drive. 560-5695.

■ **Nutcracker Ballet** – The Naples Ballet presents "The Nutcracker" at 5 p.m. Dec. 15 and 4 p.m. Dec. 16 at Gulf Coast High School. 732-1000 or www.naplesacademyofballet.com.

■ **Jazz Sounds** – Late Night Brass performs from 6-9 p.m. Dec. 15 at the Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club. 851 Gulfshore Blvd. N. www.naplesbeachhotel.com.

■ **Blues Rock** – American blues rock guitarist and singer Joe Bonamassa performs at 8 p.m. Dec. 15 at Germain Arena. (800) 745-3000 or www.germainarena.com.

■ **Variety Show** – FGCU Theatre Lab presents the third annual Thistletoe Cabaret at 8 p.m. Dec. 15. \$7. 590-7268 or http://theatrelab.fgcu.edu.

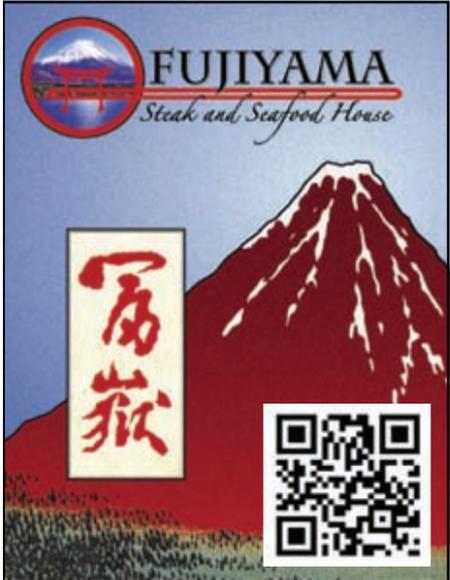
■ **Deck the Halls** – The Gulf Coast Symphony, Gulfshore Ballet and the Symphonic Chorale of Southwest Florida present "Deck The Halls!" at 5 p.m. Dec. 16 at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, Fort Myers. 481-4849 or www.bbmannpah.com.

■ **Holiday Ensemble** – The Rose Ensemble choir, renowned interpreters of early American music, presents "An Early American Christmas" at 8 p.m. Dec. 16 at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. Tickets start at \$25. 597-1900 or www.the-phil.org.

■ **Book Signing** – Sunshine Booksellers South on Marco Island presents author Karna Bodman, who will sign copies of "Castle Bravo," during a holiday open house from 4-6 p.m. Dec. 18. 677 S. Collier Blvd. 393-0353 or www.sunshinebooksellers.com.

■ **Movie Night** – Bring the family along with blankets or chairs for seating and enjoy a screening of "Elf" beginning at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 18 at Mercato. Free. 254-1080 or www.mercatoshops.com. ■

— Submit calendar listings and photos to events@floridaweekly.com. E-mail text, jpegs or Word documents are accepted. No pdfs or photos of flyers, please. The deadline for submissions is noon Sunday.



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ARTS COMMENTARY

You'll fall in love with romantic, comedic 'Talley's Folly'



There are things that separate us, that differentiate us, that divide us.

And there are things that unite us, that draw us together.

Sally and Matt have both in spades.

He's in love with her and wants to marry her.

But it's 1944 in rural Missouri, and her bigoted Methodist family hates him because he's Jewish, an immigrant and 11 years older than she is.

Since meeting Sally the previous year, Matt has been writing her a letter every day, wooing her by mail. Now he's driven back to her home to ask for her hand in marriage.

He sees the things they have in common.

She sees only the differences.

And therein lies the dilemma and drama of "Talley's Folly," playing at Florida Repertory Theatre through Dec. 16.)

This engrossing play by Lanford Wilson premiered in 1980 and received the Pulitzer Prize for Drama and the Drama Critics' Circle Award. It's one play of a trilogy that also includes "Fifth of July" and "Talley & Son."

Florida Repertory Theatre does a superb job with this production. Without a single misstep, it's as perfect as a poem, as heartfelt as a love letter.

It stars two of the most powerful actors in the ensemble: Chris Clavelli as Matt Friedman, and Rachel Burttram as Sally Talley. (Ms. Burttram has not been on the Florida Rep stage in a year and a half, since "August: Osage County"; it's wonderful to see her back.)

Mr. Clavelli has a way of disappearing into his characters and embodying them fully, with complete personalities, quirks and histories. He opens the play by talking directly to the audience, even telling them that the play will take 97 minutes.

It's a clever device by the playwright, because before we even meet Sally, we're rooting for Matt. We like this witty, intelligent man with the Old World charm. Of course, it is Mr. Clavelli's keen acting skills that bring Mr. Lanford's words to life.

In the beginning, he tells us "this is a waltz." And then he reminds us once again.



Rachel Burttram (Sally Talley) and Chris Clavelli (Matt Friedman) in *Talley's Folly*.

DAVID DACK MAKI / SNAPFLASHPHOTO

And it is a waltz, this strange courtship that takes place in a dilapidated boathouse. Matt takes a step forward, Sally steps back. He steps back, she steps forward.

It's a dance, both verbally and physically.

At one point, Mr. Clavelli's character even dons a pair of ice skates and has Sally teach him how to skate. This is part Matt's quirky sense of humor and part ploy to get Sally physically closer. It's also insanity, because he's attempting to skate on the wooden plank floor of the boathouse.

But it's the similar gliding motion and rhythm as a waltz.

Though the two verbally spar and chase or follow each other around this exquisite set, it's interesting to note all the times they're physically in sync with each other, crossing their legs or folding their arms the same way, placing their hands behind their backs, echoing and mirroring each other — the way couples often do unconsciously.

Director Jackson Phippin, making his Florida Rep debut, is a maestro not

only with the play's staging but also its pacing; it never lags, and we are pulled along by the drama that seems to unfold naturally.

Ms. Burttram is a chameleon on-stage.

Initially, she's brusque and businesslike, trying to convince Matt to leave. But then, there are times that she allows a smile, and it's as if the sun's suddenly shining through the clouds. We see her as Matt sees her.

Her character goes through a variety of emotions, from anger to indifference to fear to compassion. Ms. Burttram is especially talented at expressing one emotion while trying to mask another that she doesn't want to reveal.

Though there are two actors on stage, the space is populated with others, as they recount conversations or re-enact them. (Mr. Clavelli's impersonations of Sally's redneck family are particularly humorous.)

The set, by Richard Crowell, presents such a strong sense of place that it's virtually another character in the play. A Victorian boathouse that has

seen better days, it was constructed by Sally's uncle, who built many such "follies" around town. The boathouse is secluded, a place of refuge. It's beautiful but, like Sally and Matt, has been damaged by the years.

The efforts of lighting designer Matthew McCarthy and sound designer Kate Smith complement Mr. Crowell's set. Mr. McCarthy's skillfully dimming light and sunset would make us swear we were seated outside, while Ms. Smith's ambient sound made me half-expect to see a frog jump out of the rushes onto the dock.

Roberta Malcolm has dressed Mr. Clavelli in a brown suit, complete with vest and hat, Ms. Burttram in a blue patterned dress with short blue jacket. Both, in their own way, have dressed up for the other.

The boathouse is considered a folly; is this unlikely courtship a folly, too?

Though Sally sees only their differences, Matt believes it's their differences that make them simpatico.

"We're a lot alike, you know, to be so different..." he tells her.

They're both wounded people, private, wary. In one way or another, both are outcasts or outsiders. Because of the war, and because of their personal histories, life seems so uncertain, so unpredictable, for each of them.

Ms. Burttram and Mr. Clavelli give us portraits of two complex, layered people, rich in nuance. There is definite chemistry between their characters, as much as Sally might try to deny it, and it's wonderful when we catch glimpses of it.

At the beginning of the play, Matt promises us "a no-holds barred romantic story."

And that's exactly what we're given in this magnificent production.

"Talley's Folly" is so touching and moving that when it ended, I somehow wanted to cradle it tenderly and spend time thinking about it. From the soft expressions of others in the audience, it was obvious they felt the same way. ■



in the know

"Talley's Folly"

- >> **When:** Through Dec. 16
- >> **Where:** Florida Repertory Theatre, downtown Fort Myers
- >> **Cost:** \$45 and \$40
- >> **Info:** 332-4488 or www.floridarep.org



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

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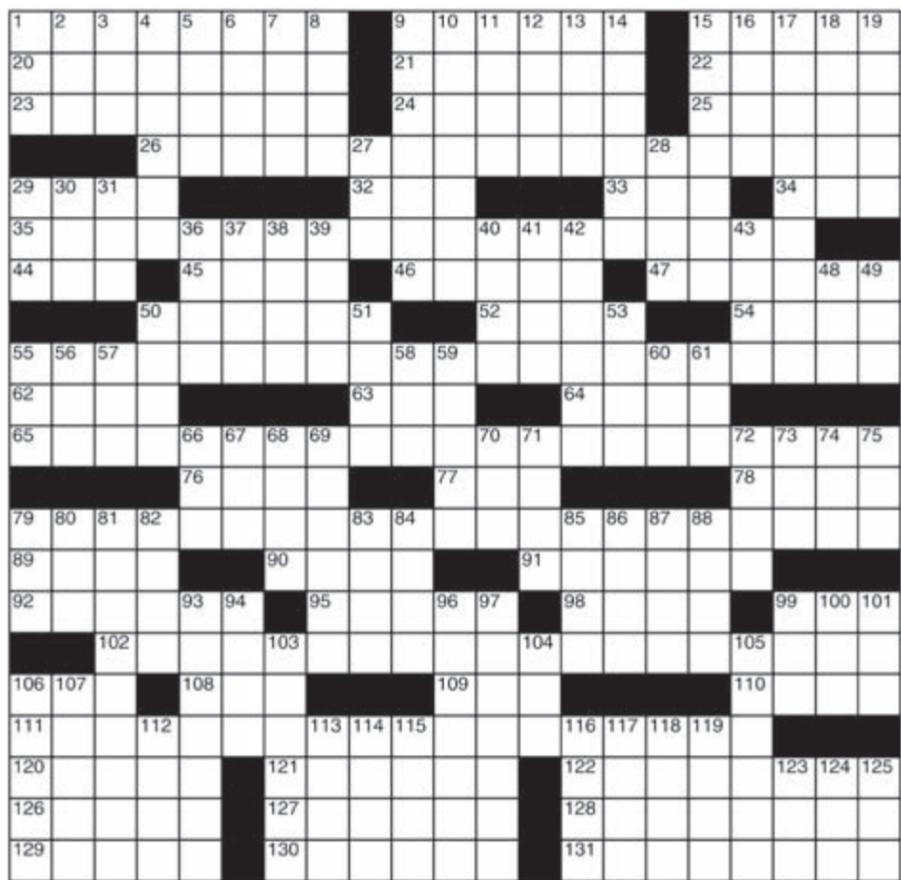
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PUZZLES

FRESHENING FRANCHISES



- ACROSS**
- 1 Fellow crew member
 - 9 Social levels
 - 15 Set of morals
 - 20 Food of the gods
 - 21 Orange-and-black bird
 - 22 Hotel queen Helmsley
 - 23 Camp shelter with a rounded roof
 - 24 1982 Fleetwood Mac hit
 - 25 City on the Rhone River
 - 26 Start of a riddle
 - 29 Skiing need
 - 32 Sterile hosp. areas
 - 33 Make believe
 - 34 Mag. team
 - 35 Riddle, part 2
 - 44 Category
 - 45 Off-dunked cookie
 - 46 Knocked off
 - 47 "Hava —" (Jewish folk song)
 - 50 12-step affiliate group
 - 52 Neutral, e.g.
 - 54 Certain Scot
 - 55 Riddle, part 3
 - 62 Congeal
 - 63 Here, to Pierre
 - 64 Help wrongly
 - 65 Riddle, part 4
 - 76 Anecdote
 - 77 Roxy Music's Brian
 - 78 "— Rock" (Simon & Garfunkel hit)
 - 79 Riddle, part 5
 - 89 Guesstimate words
 - 90 Gas in lights
 - 91 Nebraska natives
 - 92 Neighbor of Croatia
 - 95 Jury's event
 - 98 "The heat —"
 - 99 Longoria of TV
 - 102 End of the riddle
 - 106 "Gimme —!" (start of a cheer at Iowa)
 - 108 Cartoon shriek
 - 109 "— Town"
 - 110 "I do," e.g.
 - 111 Riddle's answer
 - 120 Part of POW
 - 121 City in southwest Ireland
 - 122 "Get Smart" star
 - 126 "— Turkish War
 - 127 Some fishers
 - 128 Optometric exams
 - 129 Paint coat
 - 130 Can't stand
 - 131 Sudden drop
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Doleful
 - 2 Doc bloc
 - 3 Big name in early PCs
 - 4 Before a big early 20th-cen. conflict
 - 5 Light-loving insect
 - 6 Cruising
 - 7 Color shade
 - 8 Scarfs down
 - 9 Accomplices
 - 10 Stimulation
 - 11 Window component
 - 12 Rundgren or Bridges
 - 13 Tickled red Muppet
 - 14 Spotted in the vicinity of
 - 15 Hyundai model
 - 16 Byte beginner
 - 17 Of detective Sherlock
 - 18 "— some advice"
 - 19 Houses, to Jorge
 - 27 Tillage tool
 - 28 Inflation subj.
 - 29 Biol. or zool.
 - 30 Bobby Orr's org.
 - 31 With 113-Down, acorn producer
 - 36 — me tangere (touch-me-not)
 - 37 Port near Algiers
 - 38 — shui
 - 39 Carrot, e.g.
 - 40 Othello's betrayer
 - 41 Gladly
 - 42 Speak sharply to
 - 43 Waffle brand
 - 48 Grassy tract
 - 49 Wholly
 - 50 High: Prefix
 - 51 Film style
 - 53 Yank rivals
 - 55 Learning loc.
 - 56 1960s TV Tarzan Ron
 - 57 Kirk's diary
 - 58 M.Sgt., e.g.
 - 59 Cube's six
 - 60 Home: Abbr.
 - 61 Erwin of early films
 - 66 King James Bible suffix
 - 67 Rural "uh-uh"
 - 68 Personal flair
 - 69 Old Spanish money
 - 70 Pa's bro
 - 71 North Pacific salmon
 - 72 Smokes
 - 73 Old witch
 - 74 — Darya River
 - 75 Singer Cooke
 - 79 Irate crowd
 - 80 Spanish gold
 - 81 Ill-fated 1940s warship
 - 82 "Sula" author Morrison
 - 83 Tooted thing
 - 84 Camelot wife
 - 85 Discharge
 - 86 Seattle loc.
 - 87 Flapjack eatery, briefly
 - 88 Mama's ma
 - 93 Not correct
 - 94 To — (perfectly)
 - 96 Penitent types
 - 97 Least soft
 - 99 Pindar's H
 - 100 Dog treater
 - 101 Eruption emission
 - 103 Did an axel
 - 104 Sky sphere
 - 105 Laid turf on
 - 106 Seething
 - 107 U.S.-Can.-Mex. pact
 - 112 Cube of hay
 - 113 See 31-Down
 - 114 Desist
 - 115 Sheltered, nautically
 - 116 Garden west of Nod
 - 117 Vary wildly
 - 118 Billfold fillers
 - 119 — the Great (kiddie-lit detective)
 - 123 "A Fool Such —"
 - 124 "Jersey Shore" ailer
 - 125 Compass dir.

SEE ANSWERS, C9

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HOROSCOPES

■ **SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)** Your artistic talents not only help you express yourself these days, but they also set up a line of communication between you and someone very special.

■ **CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)** It's fine to appreciate the importance of "proper form" for doing things. But relax a bit in order to allow newcomers on the project to feel less intimidated by you.

■ **AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)** Use your boundless reserve of optimism to persuade others to work with you to resolve a difficult workplace problem before it can ruin your holiday fun.

■ **PISCES (February 19 to March 20)** You brim over with self-confidence as you begin to tackle a new challenge. And, before you know it, you're not alone: Others have taken the plunge with you.

■ **ARIES (March 21 to April 19)** Make a start on that new workplace challenge. But get more information before you find yourself too deeply involved without knowing in which direction you should go.

■ **TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** You might find things becoming tedious as your schedule slows down for the holidays. Use this time to get information about a possible post-New Year job change.

■ **GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)** The creative Twin finds outlets for her or his

ideas in the early part of the week. The practical Twin takes it a step further and rallies support to turn the ideas into reality.

■ **CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** It's time to stop being intimidated by someone's negative behavior. Start taking positive steps on your own to help strengthen your position down the line.

■ **LEO (July 23 to August 22)** Look closely at that so-called golden opportunity. Best to be a cautious Cat who pounces without knowing where you'll land.

■ **VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)** Your apology can resolve that personal situation before it overshadows the holidays. You'll feel better, even if you're only partly to blame for what happened.

■ **LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)** Avoid overtaxing yourself, even if your energy levels are high and you feel that you can do it all. Best to pace yourself so you won't run yourself down before the holidays.

■ **SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)** Your sense of humor helps get you through a stressful period. Some of your quick quips can take the edge off any remaining negativity being aimed at you.

■ **BORN THIS WEEK:** You have a highly defined sense of commitment to others. You would make a fine social worker. ■

By Linda Thistle

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4				7		8

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Puzzle Difficulty this week:



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

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging ★★★★★ Expert

SEE ANSWERS, C9

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2012 BEST OF THE GULF SHORE

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130 minutes.

The real letdown, sadly, is Mr. Taylor-Johnson ("Kick-Ass"), who possesses none of the magnetism needed to get us to believe Anna would be drawn to him. With a baby face, blond surfer hair and a sorry excuse for a mustache, his Vronsky barely looks like a man, let alone a lustful object of desire. What's more, Mr. Taylor-Johnson and Ms. Knightley share little chemistry; the screen needs to sizzle with their affair, but instead it

★★★
Is it worth \$10? No

If you're going to adapt a 700-plus page novel into a movie, turning it into a stage play isn't a good idea. Not even if the screenwriter is renowned playwright Tom Stoppard, who won an Oscar for writing "Shakespeare in Love." And especially not if you cast such an uncharismatic lead who's supposed to be an object of affection.

But such is the case with "Anna Karenina," a disjointed Russian soap opera played entirely by actors with noticeable British accents. To explain: Director Joe Wright's ("Atonement") film opens inside a theater, and the action begins on the stage. Subsequent scenes take place backstage, in the rafters, in the balcony and elsewhere inside the theater, including an ice-skating scene for which the seats were removed and the floor was turned into an ice rink. There are also a few scenes that break from this conceit, begging the question of why Mr. Stoppard and Mr. Wright would bother at all if they weren't going to stick to it.

Granted, this is a unique, daring way to adapt Leo Tolstoy's 1877 novel. It just doesn't work. Sure there's a certain theatricality to a story about an unhappily married woman, Anna (Keira Knightley), who cheats on her boring husband (Jude Law) with a cavalry officer named Vronsky (Aaron Taylor-Johnson), but the stage setting does nothing to enhance telling the story. Some of the scenes are nicely choreographed, but it's reminiscent of Mr. Wright's long take sequence on the battlefield in "Atonement": It's showy and looks great, but it symbolically means nothing, and therefore has little artistic value. A movie has to offer more than, "Hey, look at this clever gimmick!" to keep our attention.

Costume designer Jacqueline Durran does a nice job with 1870s Russian attire; too bad the actors wearing it don't give better performances.

Ms. Knightley is sufficient as the embattled Anna, and Mr. Law has little to do but look stuffy and constipated for



feels stale and distant.

Aside from the decision to set "Anna Karenina" on a stage, one must also question why it was adapted at all. It's one thing to study the book for the profound work of literature that it is, but it's yet another to put this dated story in front of modern audiences.

Simply, the social customs, specifically the restrictive rights of women, are confounding to any reasonable citizen of 2012. Worse, Anna doesn't do anything to change the social mores that afflict her; she just defies them. This isn't progressive, it's asking for it. She knows she has no true hope of being happy. And we know it, too — and quite frankly, we have better things to do than watch her devolve into misery. ■

in the know

>> Robert Pattinson and James McAvoy were considered for Vronsky and Levin, respectively.

CAPSULES

Life Of Pi ★★★½

(Irrfan Khan, Suraj Sharma, Rafe Spall) Teenager Pi (Sharma) is trapped with a Bengal tiger while lost on a lifeboat in the Pacific. The 3D is breathtaking, and the story comes together nicely in the end. Next to "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon," this is one of director Ang Lee's ("Brokeback Mountain") best. Rated PG.

Silver Linings Playbook ★★★

(Bradley Cooper, Jennifer Lawrence, Robert De Niro) After time in a mental institution, Pat (Cooper) wants to reunite with his estranged wife, but only the equally messed-up Tiffany (Lawrence) can get a message to her. It's supposed to be oddball-funny, but the characters are so unlikeable that it's hard to care about anyone. Rated R.

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Image: Shelley Lake, Winter Park, FL, Modern Family, 2010, Ultrachrome ink on canvas, 66 x 38 inches

FLORIDA WRITERS

Professor immerses readers in the daily life of Colonial America



philJASON

pkjason@comcast.net

■ **“Desperate Sons: Samuel Adams, Patrick Henry, John Hancock, and the Secret Bands of Radicals Who Led the Colonies to War,”** by Les Standiford. Harper. 336 pages. \$27.99.

Breathing new life into an already lively story, Les Standiford takes as his focus the self-styled “Sons of Liberty” who helped energize Colonial Americans to see their future as citizens of an independent nation rather than as subjects of England.

In bringing us from the catalytic acts of perceived British (actually, Parliamentary) oppression to the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, Mr. Standiford underscores the contributions of a handful of determined individuals whose words and deeds pressed issues to the breaking point. They were unwilling to settle for expedient, short-lived, artificial bandages of conciliation.

The author does a splendid job of



MARLA COHEN/
COURTESY PHOTO
STANDIFORD

building a sense of daily life in Colonial America during the 1760s and early 1770s. Without being showy about it, this Florida International University creative writing professor immerses his readers in the texture of life: its tastes and smells, its architecture and technology, its economic and physical realities. Charleston, Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Providence come alive with the urgent concerns of tradesmen, laborers, landowners, militiamen and politicians.

What affects the growing minority of discontents is, of course, British oppression in the form of parliamentary actions intended to refill England’s depleted coffers at the expense of the “thankless” colonists. The Stamp Act, essentially a tax on transactions, sets the angry, loquacious and not particularly likeable Samuel Adams into motion as a rabble-raising force whose speeches and scribbles assault the audacity of British lawmakers, fomenting resistance and refusal to comply.

Mr. Standiford’s narrative has a pulse. He details the repeated pattern of proposed legislation, threats of resistance, completed legislation, noncompliance, threats of enforcement and ebbs and flows of brinkmanship in a series of sturdy chapters clearly demarking stages on the road to war.

In each chapter, rebellious agitators, nervous governors, British soldiers, frustrated negotiators and people from various walks of life populate a world being swept inevitably into radi-

cal change. The author distinguishes the key and subordinate players with the skills of the assured novelist that he is, but the facts he transmits are meticulously researched, and the meanings of those facts are persuasively advanced.

Crucial to the achievement of verisimilitude is Mr. Standiford’s handling of primary sources. Over and over again, he draws shrewdly upon documents contemporaneous with the events: letters, newspaper reports, proclamations, broadsides and early historical accounts by witnesses and participants. As much as possible, he allows the “Sons of Liberty” and their adversaries to speak for themselves.

Of particular interest is the role of the two dozen or so colonial newspapers in presenting timely information and advocacy. Mainstream media bias? Probably.

Along the way, Mr. Standiford measures the issues and events leading up to the Boston Tea Party against the principles and tactics of today’s Tea Party movement within Republican Party ranks. The comparisons and contrasts that he draws are at once

illuminating and droll. They give his narrative leavening and additional relevance for today’s reader.

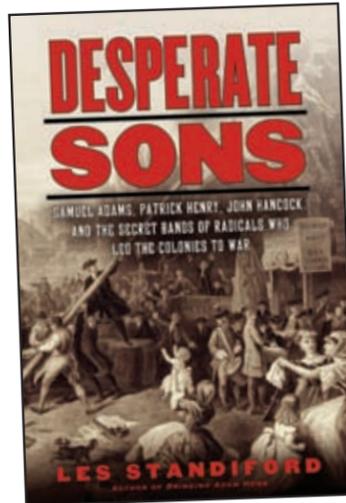
More than anything else, Mr. Standiford communicates the participants’ growing understanding of what is at stake and the courage that is tested by that awareness. He fleshes out the oft-repeated shorthand slogans of “No Taxation Without Representation” and “Give me Liberty or Give me Death” with a rollicking tale that over and over raises the question of the thin line between the patriot and terrorist.

In so doing, he creates a book that is likely to win a readership

that goes far beyond the history buffs who will surely welcome it.

“Desperate Sons” deserves a space in the American history classroom as an alternative to the safe and dry texts that tend to defang and declaw the often-brutal realities of how change happens. ■

— Phil Jason, Ph.D., United States Naval Academy professor emeritus of English, is a poet, critic and freelance writer with 20 books to his credit, including several studies of war literature and a creative writing text.



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The Met at the movies

Get caught up in political intrigue

The Metropolitan Opera's Live in HD series continues with "Un Ballo in Maschera," Giuseppe Verdi's classic drama of political intrigue and thwarted romance. The performance will be broadcast live in HD in cinemas across the country beginning at 12:55 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 8. In Southwest Florida, screenings are at the Hollywood Stadium 20 in Naples, Coconut Point 16 in Estero and the Bell Tower 20 in Fort Myers.

Staged by acclaimed opera director David Alden and conducted by Fabio Luisi, the production stars Marcelo Álvarez as the ill-fated King Gustavo III; Dmitri Hvorostovsky as his best friend and eventual rival, Count Anckarström; and Sondra Radvanovsky as Amelia, Anckarström's wife and the object of the king's secret passion.

Soprano Deborah Voigt hosts the transmission and conducts backstage interviews with the stars.

Running time for "Un Ballo in Maschera," including two intermissions, is approximately 3 hours, 20 minutes. An encore presentation will begin at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 9.

Up next in The Met's Live in HD series is Verdi's "Aida," starting at 12:55 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15.

Tickets are \$25 per person (\$23 for seniors, \$19 for children). Order online at Fandango or at www.metopera.org/hdlive. ■



Above: Sondra Radvanovsky as Amelia and Marcelo Álvarez as Gustavo III in Verdi's "Un Ballo in Maschera." Taken Nov. 12 at The Metropolitan Opera in New York City.

Below: A scene from "Un Ballo in Maschera." Taken Nov. 5 at The Metropolitan Opera in New York City.



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KOVELS: ANTIQUES

The mystery of the puzzling pitchers

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news@floridaweekly.com



In the 1980s, collectors tried to solve the mystery of who made a series of red, black and cream-colored pitchers shaped like animals and birds. They were all marked "hand painted Erphila" in a round cartouche. Some were also marked "est. 1926," some "Germany" and some "Czechoslovakia." Years of research has finally solved the riddle. The pitchers come in two sizes, 9 inches or 6 inches high. The set includes a toucan, rooster, parrot, cat, dog, ram, goat, elephant, duck and perhaps others. They were made in Czechoslovakia at the Ditmer Urbach Factory. The history of the factory is uncertain, but separate Ditmer and Urbach factories merged sometime before 1913 into the Ditmer-Urbach Factory. The Nazis took it over in 1938, and it was still working in 1945. The marks provide some clues. The word "Czechoslovakia" indicates a date in the 1920s. "Germany" was used later. Ebeling and Reuss, a Philadelphia importing company, ordered the set of pitchers for its customers and had them marked "E" for "Ebeling," "R" for "Reuss" and "Phila" for "Philadelphia" (Erphila). That mark was used on many types of imported decorative wares.

Ebeling & Reuss is still in business in Allentown, Pa., and still uses the same

mark on pieces it imports. The vintage cat pitcher is the most expensive, selling for as much as \$1,000. Other prices: rooster, \$235; ram, \$440; toucan, \$485; and goat, \$775. It sometimes pays to buy an unidentified piece that you like. The pitchers were about \$25 each in the 1980s.

Q: Years ago, we bought a grandfather clock from a friend whose ceiling was not high enough for the clock. The clock is marked "Royal Furniture, Grand Rapids." Can you tell us something about the maker and age of our clock?

A: Royal Furniture Co. was in business in Grand Rapids, Mich., from 1892 to 1931. But the company's ownership changed in 1919, and the new owner's name, Robert W. Irwin, was added to Royal's marks that year. So your clock was made between 1892 and 1919. Royal made high-quality furniture, including grandfather clock cases, but the internal clock mechanism was made by another company, probably the Charles Jacques Clock Co. of New York City. Charles Jacques was known to supply some grandfather clockworks to Royal.

Q: At a local thrift store, I recently

purchased a Punch and Judy mechanical bank for \$18. It looks old and is made of heavy cast iron. The bank is in the shape of a puppet-show stage, with Punch and Judy performing. If you place

a coin in the plate Judy is holding and push a lever on the side of the bank, Judy turns to deposit the coin in the bank while Punch moves forward and brings down the club he's holding in his hand. The bank is 6 inches high by 5 1/2 inches wide by 2 inches deep. What is my bank worth?

A: The original and now antique Punch and Judy Bank was patented in 1884 by Shepard Hardware Co. of Buffalo, N.Y. Shepard produced high-quality cast-iron

mechanical banks until the early 1890s. Reproductions of the bank have been made in abundance since the 1950s, and it is extremely likely that your bank is one of the many reproductions. Originals are 6 1/8 inches wide; most reproductions were cast from originals - and, like yours, are smaller than originals. Genuine old Punch and Judy banks sell for close to \$4,000 if the original paint is in good condition. Reproductions, depending on quality and age, sell for under \$20

up to about \$150. Consult an expert about the age and quality of your bank.

Q: My very old upright piano is marked "Starck Cabinet Grand, Chicago, U.S.A." How old is it? What is it worth?

A: Starck Piano Co., also known as P.A. Starck, was in business in Chicago from 1891 to 1968. It is likely that your piano dates from the 1920s or '30s, but you can verify that by looking for a serial number on your piano; it might be on the back of the piano or inside the case. The value of a piano is based not just on age and quality, but also on condition. A professional technician would have to look at it. Most old uprights don't sell for a lot of money, though, because moving a piano is expensive.

Tip: Switch dishwasher detergent brands periodically. This helps to keep the inside of the dishwasher and your dishes free of any chemical buildup. Glass will have more sparkle. ■

— 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.



COURTESY PHOTO

This 9-inch toucan pitcher is marked "Ditmer-Urbach, Made in Czechoslovakia, hand painted." It was bought at a flea market in 1982 for \$25. Today it's worth almost \$500.

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Thursday, Dec 13 | 5:45pm
Jewish Federation Community
Chanukah Celebration

Friday, Dec 14 | 6pm
Naples Performing Arts Center

Saturday, Dec 15 | 10am - 3pm
Holiday Collector Car Show

Sunday, Dec 16 | 1pm
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Herd of reindeer portraits takes up residence on Marco

It's not just Santa who's coming to town. His favorite reindeer — and many of their friends — already have arrived in portrait form at the Marco Island Center for the Arts. Commissioned for the center, the 40 paintings are stabled in the center's La Petite Galerie, creations of Santa Barbara, Calif., artist Brad Nack.

"I'm thrilled this unique collection has arrived and is for sale in time for the holidays," says Lynn Holley, executive director of the Center for the Arts.

Mr. Nack's reindeer reflect basic human emotion, including pensiveness, sorrow, worry, happiness, optimism, cheerfulness and acceptance.

"I think people respond to the reindeer's expressions, which aren't necessarily cheery or Christmasy," he says. "They're morose, quizzical, melancholy... which is how many people feel, especially at Christmas."

Mr. Nack says he had no idea he was starting a holiday tradition when he first began creating his reindeer 15 years ago, but 1,000 portraits later, he's still responding to a large demand with no end in sight.

Done in vibrant colors and a whimsical, quirky style, the paintings have attracted a cult-like following throughout the world. Collectors have even

been known to bring along their own red dots (indicating a sold piece) to claim their selection as soon as they see it.

It could be said that Mr. Nack was born with colored pencils in his hands. Both of his parents, Ken and Jonella, were well-known artists, and his father was the chairman of the local college art department.

"I remember being a kid and saying 'I'm bored,' and my parents saying, 'Oh well, here's some paper, here's some pens, do some art,'" he says. "I

didn't necessarily plan on becoming an artist, I just ...inherited the concept that I already was an artist."

In addition to his art, Mr. Nack serves as a curator and event coordinator for the MichaelKate Gallery in Santa Barbara.

The reindeer portraits are on display through December, sharing the spotlight with the annual pottery show of the Marco Island Clay Guild and a display of tabletop Christmas trees. An opening reception is set for 5:30-7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 11. The reception is free to center members and one guest; non-members are asked to make a \$5 donation to help defray the costs of the evening.

The Center for the Arts is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday through Dec. 21. ■



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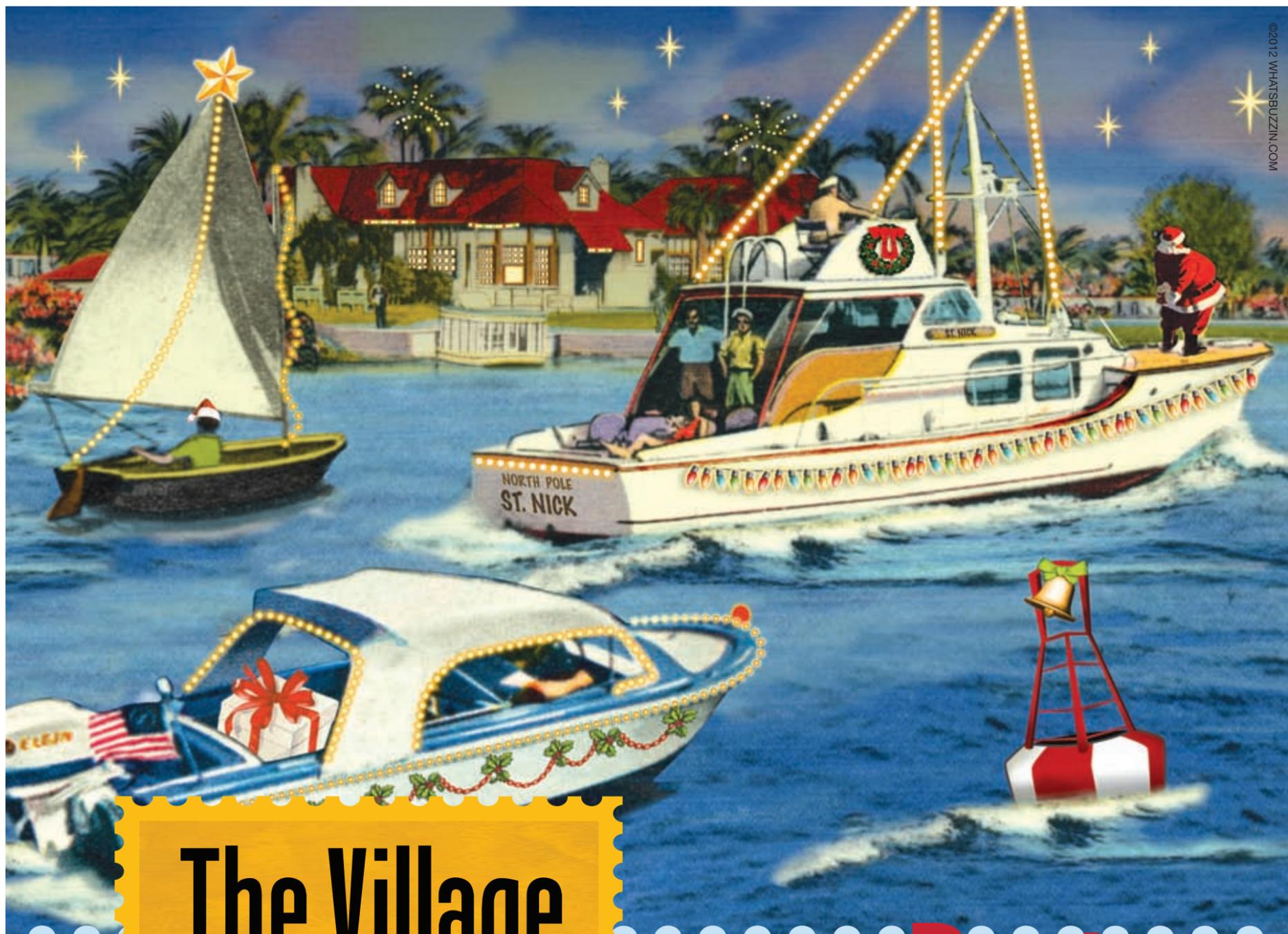
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Along the Lakeshore, fiber-batik on cotton, Natalie Guess, Naples



EXHIBITS

From page 1

Liebig Art Center. "National Art Encounter 2012-13" is sponsored by Physicians Regional Healthcare System, the *Naples Daily News*, Lite 93.7 FM and Happenings Art & Entertainment Magazine. Artwork shipping and receiving is provided by ARTMove LLC. The opening reception is sponsored by Alexander's Restaurant, Fine American & European Cuisine. ■

in the know

Preview reception

>> **What:** "National Art Encounter 2012-13" and the Naples Art Association "Members' Gallery All-Media Exhibition"

>> **When:** 5:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7

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

>> **Cost:** Free for NAA members, \$10 for others

>> **Other:** Both exhibits will hang through Jan. 26. The art center is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Saturday. Admission is free; donations welcome.

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Motown Big Hits & More, Dec. 7

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stars that defined the history of comedy, in their prime doing their original acts. The line-up includes bits from Jack Benny, Bob Hope, Red Skelton, George Carlin, Richard Pryor, Flip Wilson, Joan Rivers, Alan King, Jack Paar and Jackie Gleason.

MONDAY, DEC. 10, 10 P.M.
Use Your Brain to Change Your Age with Dr. Daniel Amen

Award-winning psychiatrist, brain imaging expert and bestselling author Dr. Daniel Amen shows you how to look and feel younger by boosting the physical power of your brain.

TUESDAY, DEC. 11, 8 P.M.
The Heart of Perfect Health with Brenda Watson

In this program, internationally renowned digestive care expert Brenda Watson shares compelling evidence of the connection between digestive health and heart health, as well as easy, simple ways to protect and

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SAVE THE DATE

■ The **Wine Tasters of Naples** hosts its fourth annual charity event Saturday, March 16, at Olde Cypress Country Club. This year's beneficiaries are Youth Haven, St. Matthew's House and The Shelter for Abused Women & Children. With a "Spring Fling" theme, the evening will include wine tasting, dinner, dancing to The Manhattan Connection and live and silent auctions. All are welcome. Cost is \$95 per person. Checks made payable to The Wine Tasters of Naples can be mailed to Dan Leaman, 5637 Whisperwood Blvd. #601, Naples, FL 34110.

For more information about the organization, visit www.thewinetastersofnaples.com.

■ The **Naples Players** celebrate their 60th anniversary with a **Diamond Jubilee** on Monday, March 18, at the Naples Beach Hotel and Golf Club. The evening will include dinner, an auction and a one-time-only performance by members of the community theater company. Event chair is Delores Sorery; honorary chairs are Patty Baker and Eva Sugden Gomez; Jay Baker will serve as auctioneer.

Tickets are \$500 per person. For reservations or more information, call 263-2673 or e-mail soreysan@aol.com.

■ **Our Mother's Home** holds its third annual Hearts of Love gala on Saturday evening, Feb. 16, at Spring Run Golf Club in Bonita Springs. Guest speaker Thomas Monaghan, founder of Ava Maria University and Domino's Pizza, will discuss "The Five Top Priorities of Life."

Our Mother's Home provides a safe, nurturing environment for young mothers who are victims of the foster system and/or human trafficking.

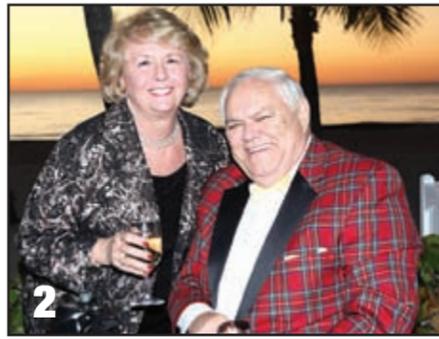
Silver, gold and platinum sponsorship opportunities are available. Gala tickets are \$145 per person. For reservations or more information, call 267-4663 or visit www.ourmothershome.com.

■ The seventh annual **Wishmaker's Ball** to benefit Make-A-Wish Southern Florida is set for Friday evening, Jan. 11, at the Hilton Naples. Tickets are \$225; sponsorships begin at \$2,500. RSVP to Lesley Colantonio at Make-A-Wish by calling 992-9474 or e-mailing lcolantonio@sflawish.org.

■ The **David Lawrence Center and Foundation** host An Evening in Venice Masquerade Ball on Friday, Jan. 18, at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort. Tickets are \$500 per person, \$1,200 per VIP patron and \$10,000 per premier sponsor table of 10; a variety of additional sponsorship opportunities also are available. For more information or to reserve a ticket, call Monica Biondo at 304-3505.

■ Plans are cooking for the inaugural **Naples Woman's Club Kitchen Tour** showcasing kitchens in some of the loveliest homes in Port Royal. Set for Wednesday, Jan. 23, the tour will include area chefs offering their finest gourmet samplings, musicians, floral designs, gift boutiques and prize drawings at each home. A party at the Naples Woman's Club the day of the event will feature entertainment as well as Mikkelsen's desserts, Norman Love chocolates, artist Emily James, cookbook author Patsy Wright, olive oil tastings and more.

Tickets are \$50 per person and \$85 for patrons. Proceeds will benefit the Naples Historical Society, Baby Basics and the Naples Woman's Club philanthropic efforts. For tickets or more information, call Anne Palmer at 262-2259. For information about the club and its 80-year history, visit www.napleswomensclub.org.



PEGGY FARREN / FLORIDA WEEKLY
The Guadalupe Center hosts a carnival-style Taste of Brasil, a celebration of all things South American, beginning at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 16, at the Naples Botanical Garden. For more information, visit www.guadalupecenter.net. Shown here at last year's Taste of China to benefit the center are:
1. John Riley and Peachy and Shel Johnson
2. Mary and Phil Beuth
3. Sandy and Roger Vasey with Bette Aymar

■ Erik Weihenmayer, the first blind man to climb to the top of Mount Everest and the only one to reach the top of all Seven Summits, will speak at **Youth Haven's** third annual **Home Hope Healing** luncheon set for Wednesday, Jan. 30, at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort.

Tickets are \$250 per person or \$1,500 for patrons, who get two seats at the luncheon as well as invitations to a VIP reception beforehand. For more information, contact Carol Shaw at Youth Haven by calling 687-5155 or e-mailing carol.shaw@youthhaven.net.

■ **Planned Parenthood of Collier County** will welcome feminist writer and activist Gloria Steinem as guest speaker at "The Choice Affair" on Saturday evening, Feb. 2, at The Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club. Tickets are \$350 at the Friends membership level; sponsorships range from \$1,500 to \$10,000. For reservations or more information, call 262-8923, ext. 309.

■ Graduates of the Seven Sisters colleges will gather for their third annual **Seven Sisters Artful Reception** from 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 6, at DeBruyne Fine Art Gallery, 275 Broad Ave. in Old Naples. All alumnae of Barnard, Bryn Mawr, Mount Holyoke, Radcliffe, Smith, Vassar, and Wellesley colleges are invited, as are spouses and significant others. One of the gallery's artists will be painting on site.

Reservations are required and can be made by e-mailing Carol Goode (Wellesley, 1964) at carolgoode@alum.wellesley.edu.

■ **Fun Time Early Childhood Academy** holds Have a Heart for Fun Time on Valentine's Day evening, Thursday, Feb. 14, at the Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club. Pat Cacho is this year's honorary chair, and event co-chairs are Connie Messner and Joanne Halstead.

Tickets are \$250 per person, \$500 for patrons. Sponsorship opportunities remain available. Proceeds will provide tuition assistance for preschool children of low-income working families.

For reservations or more information, call 261-8284.

■ **Zoobilee 2013** to benefit The Naples Zoo at Caribbean Gardens is set for 5:30-10 p.m. Saturday, March 9, at the Zoo. Guests will enjoy a gourmet feast prepared by Naples' top chefs and will

be able to bid on experiences including an African safari in the company of Zoo staff.

Tickets are \$250 per person. Patron tickets for \$400 include a sunset cruise aboard the Naples Princess on Saturday, Feb. 9. For tickets or more information, call 262-5409, ext. 135, or visit www.napleszoo.org.

■ The 10th annual **Neighborhood Health Clinic Block Party** is set for the evening of Saturday, Feb. 16, at the Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club. The goal is to raise 25 percent of the annual operating budget for the clinic, whose volunteer staff delivers medical care to low-income, working but uninsured Collier County adults.

Tickets are \$250 per person. Invitations will be mailed in January, and sponsorships are being solicited now. For more information, call Nikki Strong at 260-2080 or e-mail nstrong@neighborhoodhealthclinic.org.

■ The third annual **Celebrity Martini Glass Auction** to benefit the **Naples International Film Festival** is set for Monday, evening, Feb. 18, in the Daniels Pavilion at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. This year's sponsor is the law firm of GrayRobinson, P.A.

Up for bid will be more than 40 martini glasses signed by celebrity musicians, actors, athletes, artists and more. After the signatures are in place, local artists decorate each glass to reflect the celebrity personalities.

For more information, call 775-3456 or visit www.naplesfilmfest.com.

■ The **SWFL Wine & Food Fest 2013** takes place Friday and Saturday, Feb. 22-23, at Miromar Lakes Beach & Golf Club. Northern Trust is the title sponsor for the fifth consecutive year. The festival begins with chef/vintner dinners in private homes throughout Southwest Florida on Friday and concludes with a grand tasting and auction at Miromar Lakes on Saturday.

The primary beneficiary is the Goli-sano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida; others are Edison State College's pediatric nursing program and Florida Gulf Coast University's endowed music therapy program.

For more information, call 278-3900 or visit www.SWFLWineFest.org.

■ The **Mending Broken Hearts with Hope** luncheon to benefit the Shel-

ter for Abused Women & Children is set for Friday, Feb. 22, at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort. Guest speaker Dr. Susan Weitzman is the founder and president of The Weitzman Center, a nonprofit educational and resource center dedicated to helping survivors of upscale violence, increasing public awareness and educating professionals who respond to these survivors. The luncheon will also feature a silent auction and the Designer Boutique (Feb. 22-23).

Tickets are \$350 per person, \$1,500 for patrons. Sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information, call 775-3862, ext. 261, or e-mail cdalessandro@naplesshelter.org.

■ The **Little Black Dress Garden Party** to benefit the Garden of Hope & Courage is set for Tuesday, Feb. 26. The ladies-only evening begins with cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and a silent auction in the garden on the downtown campus of NCH and continues with "dinner in motion" at numerous Naples restaurants. For reservations or more information, contact Amy Lane at 437-6697 or amy@gardenofhopeandcourage.org.

■ Humane Society Naples holds its 13th annual **Pet Lovers Ball** from 7-10 p.m. Friday, March 1, at the Naples Botanical Garden. Rufino Hernandez of The Garden District is this year's chair. The gala will include cocktails, fine dining, furry fun and music by Alan James and The Powerhouse Band. A highlight of the evening will be the recognition of HSN's 2013 Pet Lovers Awards.

Guests are encouraged to bring their furry family members.

Tickets are \$350 per person. For reservations or information about sponsorships that provide VIP seating and other benefits, call 643.1880, ext. 18, or visit www.hsnaples.org.

■ **Magic Under the Mangroves**, the annual gala for the Conservancy of Southwest Florida, is set for Thursday, March 7, on the grounds at the Conservancy Nature Center. Jeannie Smith is the 2013 chairwoman, and Northern Trust returns as presenting sponsor. Details about tickets and reservations are TBA and will be posted at www.conservancy.org/magic.

■ The Ohio State Alumni Club of Naples will host the **Buckeyes in Paradise** gala on Saturday, March 9, at the Hilton Naples. Honorary chairs for the evening are OSU football Coach Urban Meyer and wife, Shelley.

The gala is the club's signature event to raise funds for scholarships to help local students to attend OSU.

For registration information, call Sue Goldsberry at 405-7068 or visit www.NaplesBuckeyes.com.

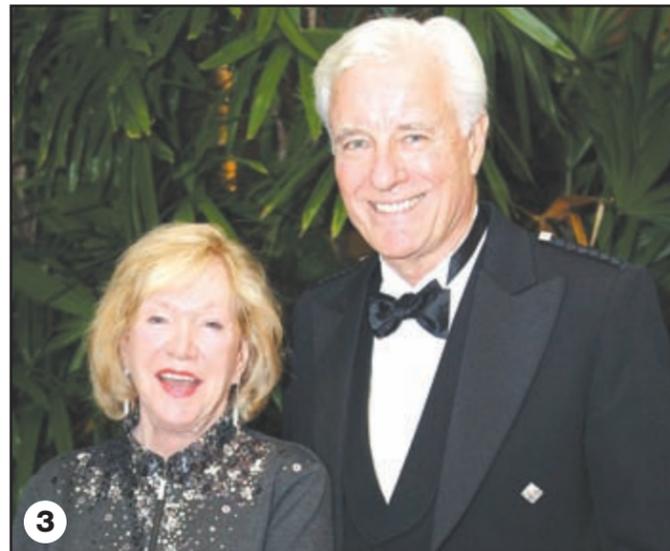
■ The **Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation-Suncoast Chapter** hosts its annual Hope Gala on Saturday, March 9, at the Waldorf Astoria Naples. The evening will honor David Collar for his ongoing dedication to JDRF as well as to the community. For more information, call 591-2825 or visit www.jdrf.org.

■ The 29th annual **Emerald Ball for Catholic Charities of Collier County** takes place Saturday, March 16, at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort. This year's chairs are Dr. Francisco and Ruth Smith. Tickets are \$300 per person. Sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information, call 455-2655.

— Send Save the Date details to editor Cindy Pierce at cpierce@floridaweekly.com.

SOCIETY

The St. Andrew's Society annual holiday ball at The Club



1. Carol and Tom Stuart with Carolyn Hickman
2. Suzanne and David Wallace
3. Sharon and Ian Wright
4. Beverly and George Metcalf
5. Lea and David Smith

COURTESY PHOTOS

A luncheon honoring members of The Shelter's Monarch Circle



1. Dylan Sanders and Adria Starkey
2. Tiffany Doeringer, Georgia DallePezza and Cyndi Fields
3. Hon. Christine Greider and Linda Oberhaus
4. Sandi Moran and Kirsten Ferrara
5. Carol Dinardo and Sherri Abruzzese
6. Arlene Shapiro and JoAnn Remington
7. Gwyn Sanford and Jackie Pierce

CHARLIE MCDONALD / FLORIDA WEEKLY

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

SOCIETY

A Canine Christmas Parade at The Esplanade on Marco Island

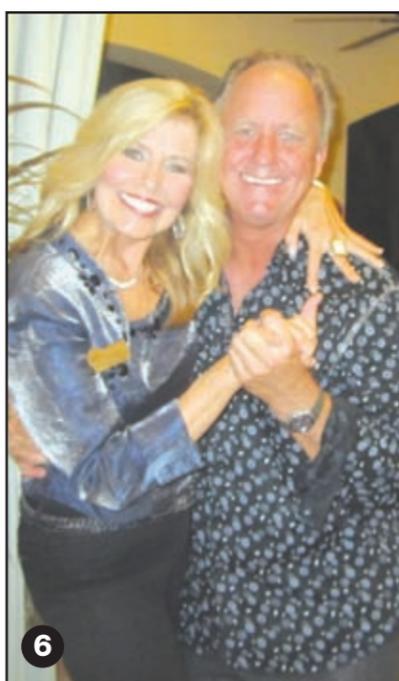


1. Steve and Shrilean Hackman with Duncan
2. Bethany Deming with Princess
3. Annie and James Mueller with Pippa
4. Cathy Bressan with Brady

BERNADETTE LA PAGLIA / FLORIDA WEEKLY

Lauren Dehaan with Abbie

Sipping and socializing with The Wine Tasters of Naples



1. Raymond Ho, hosts Paul and Rosemari Schilt and Dan Leaman
2. Kathleen Scanlin and Bill Harding
3. Ulysses Kollecias and Amy Van Slambrook
4. Angela Leary and Tom Cleland
5. Cindy Griner and Connie Minett
6. Sherri Weidman and Ron Guthrie
7. Debbie Foss and Fred Heavside

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SOCIETY

The Forum Club gathers at the Naples Beach Hotel



1. Dave Rismiller, guest speaker Jim Clifton, Tom and April Bringardner



2



3

PEGGY FARREN / FLORIDA WEEKLY

The Immokalee Foundation Celebrity Classic Celebration at The Ritz-Carlton



1



2



3



4



5

1. Don and Ellen O'Neill
2. Lisa Wilson and Jay Spiller
3. Don and Ellen O'Neill
4. Tom and Ann Stallkamp with Immokalee student Ilbia Perez
5. Barbara Brown and Louis Bittolo-Bon

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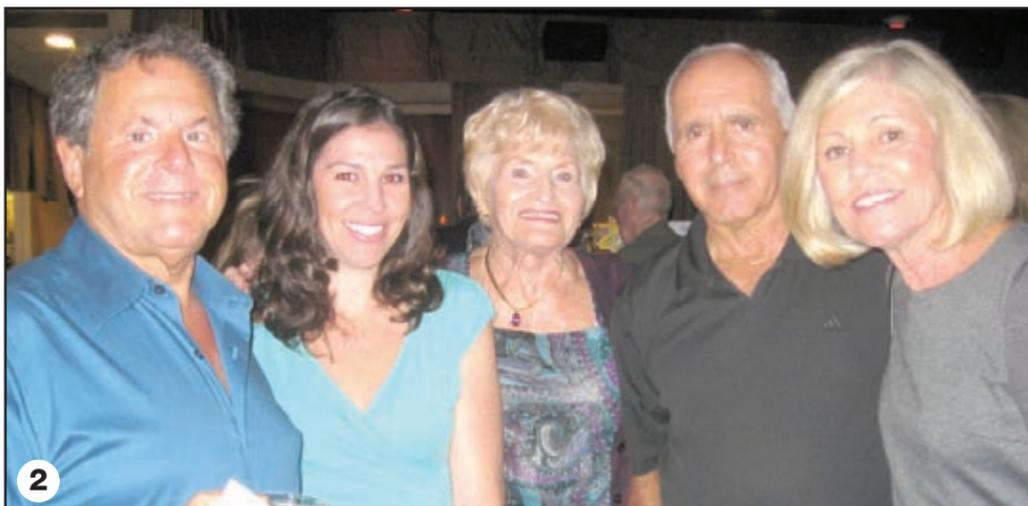
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SOCIETY

Noodle's hosts Celebrity Bartender Night for three good causes

Tips and more benefit Friends of Foster Children, the American Red Cross and Collier Child Care Resources



1. Esteban Valencia, Dianne Reed, Matt Berman and Nannette Staropoli
2. Jeff Nevins, Jessica Delf, Elsie Hilton, Jerry Cancelosa and Carol Polk
3. Miranda Sharkey, Todd Foege and Rose Scarisbrick
4. Seth Berman and Amy Landrum
5. Bill Wilkins, Deenie Ballard and Paul Greystone

COURTESY PHOTOS

Former Girl Scouts hear about today's troops in Collier County



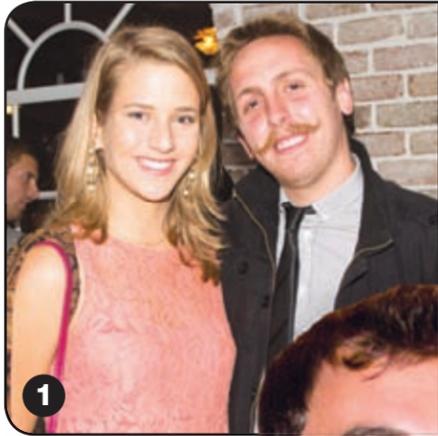
2. Cynthia Carlson and Colleen Murphy
3. Nancy Randall and Amy Hance
4. Barbie Hauser, Jeanette Showalter, Diane McMeekin and Sherri Weidman

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SOCIETY

The 2012 Perry Awards ceremony at Etudes de Ballet



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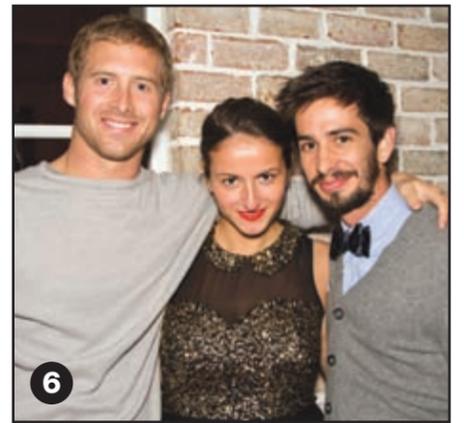


4

Jesse Roberts and Kristi Sharpe



5



6



7



8

1. Sincere Nolan and Anthony Vacca
2. Shahean Shariati and Danielle Christman
3. Megan Garrett and Cassandra Dennis
4. Christine Stevenson and Kelly Simmons
5. Brooks Hamer, JP Montoulieu, Angelina Bayer and Dalton Groves
6. Chris Grief, Laurretta Ostertag and Kirk Kaiser
7. Sean Smuk and Tori Hanifin
8. Matt Watts and Chris Farren
9. Derek Perry, Robin Perry and Eric Perry

PEGGY FARREN / FLORIDA WEEKLY



9

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PAST REPASTS

Here are some capsule summaries of previous restaurant reviews:

➤ **Margarita's Mexican Restaurant, 8971 U.S. 41, Naples; 431-6206**

Margarita's is an offshoot of a Mexican restaurant by the same name that's been on Marco Island since 2005. Succulent hand-pulled meats and fresh seafood are tucked into tender tortillas, served with brightly flavored house-made salsas and sauces. Bracing margaritas in fruit flavors such as watermelon and pomegranate are served on the rocks or frozen, headlining a tequila-heavy cocktail list that goes on for days. The rustic charro beans, whole pintos laced with oregano and chunks of pork, are a revelation — and they're just a side dish. The taco trio — miniature corn tortillas overflowing with shredded beef, chicken and pork — is a good way to start, as is the sumptuous queso fundido, a fondue of warm, silky white cheese garnished with diced scallions, jalapenos and chorizo. Available with three stuffings, the tamales are exemplary. A seafood-packed Cancun burrito was big enough for two, and its ingredients all perfectly cooked. Full bar.

Food: ★ ★ ★ ½
Service: ★ ★ ★
Atmosphere: ★ ★ ★
Reviewed December 2011

➤ **Shula's Steak House, Hilton Naples, 5111 Tamiami Trail, Naples; 430-4999**

You don't have to love football to enjoy a meal at Shula's, but Miami Dolphins fans get a bonus of dining amidst a host of memorabilia from the legendary unde-

feated team of 1972. Oh yes, and the cuts of beef are listed on a Don Shula-signed football served to the table. Beyond that, the place has the feel of a well-appointed men's club with service to match. Although steak is the star here, seafood lovers aren't ignored, with offerings such as crab cakes and lobster bisque. I enjoyed a salad of beefsteak tomatoes and tangy gorgonzola and, as with most items here, it could have been a meal in itself. Both a prime rib and a 24-ounce Porterhouse steak were properly cooked and seasoned just enough to enhance the meat's natural flavor. Grilled asparagus and lobster mashed potatoes were well-done (a la carte) side dishes. Lava cake with vanilla ice cream was just the right finish to an indulgent meal. Full bar.

Food: ★ ★ ★ ½
Service: ★ ★ ★ ★ ½
Atmosphere: ★ ★ ★ ★
Reviewed September 2010

➤ **A Table Apart, 4295 Bonita Beach Road, Bonita Springs; 221-8540**

The small but diverse menu spans the globe, embracing classic French techniques, bold Asian flavors and even a bit of Italian pasta panache while emphasizing a commitment to sustainable seafood and seasonal ingredients. The food is sophisticated but unfussy, ambitious but not overworked, classical yet novel. The chorizo mejillones is one of the best mussel preparations I've eaten in a couple of decades of reviewing restaurants. Imagine the flavor explosion of spicy Mexican chorizo sausage, acidic white wine and tomatoes, grassy cilantro pesto and creamy queso fresco. Picture these color-

ful toppings mingling with a dozen and a half plump mussels sautéed until they are just barely cooked through and not a second more. The fish of the day, Arctic char, was simply grilled and simply perfect. Meats are executed equally well, as evidenced by an expertly crusted, juicy flatiron steak topped with rich blue cheese that's smoked in-house. Order it with a side of the best French fries you will ever eat in Southwest Florida (they're sprinkled with Parmesan and fresh herbs and drizzled with earthy truffle oil). Beer and wine served.

Food: ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Service: ★ ★ ★ ★
Atmosphere: ★ ★ ★
Reviewed December 2011

➤ **Tarpon Bay, Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort and Spa, 5001 Coconut Road, Bonita Springs; 444-1234:**

For a casual seafood bistro, it would be hard to beat Tarpon Bay. It features a ceviche bar, several varieties of raw oysters and lots of fresh fish. We loved a sampler platter of eight varieties of ceviche (choose from one, two, three or eight types), particularly the Peruvian, a mix of scallops and mahi in a spicy marinade, and the shrimp with roasted corn, tequila, coriander, cumin and cayenne. Grilled red snapper paired well with both the young soy white miso sauce and a slightly sweet ponzu sauce, but a spicy tropical salsa was a little overpowering. A lobster pot featured clams, mussels, lobster tail, fingerling potatoes, corn and roasted tomato. We added seafood sausage, which was delicious. For dessert: a flight of house-made ice creams. Both the peach and mas-

carpone cobbler were first rate. Full bar.
Food: ★ ★ ★ ★ ½
Service: ★ ★ ★ ★ ½
Atmosphere: ★ ★ ★ ★
Reviewed January 2012

➤ **Tierney's Tavern, 799 Walkerbilt Road, Naples; 591-3837**

Owners of The Bay House now offer a more casual concept in what used to be a bar next to the restaurant. At Tierney's Tavern, you can savor similarly Southern-inspired and equally well-executed food for much less money. Entrees top out at \$24, and it's possible to dine well for much less. The menu's coastal cuisine spans a broad range, from the North Atlantic to Carolina Low Country, around the Florida peninsula and up the Gulf to New Orleans. The Southern Collection is a good way to sample a range of appetizers, including Charleston crab dip, pimento cheese, house-made pickles. The Sea BLT — layers of arugula, fried green tomatoes and fresh seafood salad sprinkled with roasted corn and crumbled bacon — would delight any discerning palate. Perched on the banks of the Cocohatchee River, the restaurant and bar are nestled among old oaks and mangroves and have plenty of windows for enjoying the unique vista. Full bar.

Food: ★ ★ ★ ★
Service: ★ ★ ★ ★
Atmosphere: ★ ★ ★ ★
Reviewed January 2012

Key to ratings

★★★★★ Superb	★★ Fair
★★★★ Noteworthy	★ Poor
★★★ Good	





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has put considerable effort and creativity into its bar program, we decided to start with cocktails. The telmig akdov — that’s vodka gimlet backwards, for whatever reason — (\$10) was a silky blend of Ketel One, balsamic-laced strawberries, lime juice, white pepper and fresh basil. The Calvinist (\$10) was a spicy elixir of Woodford Reserve bourbon seasoned with The King’s Ginger liqueur, lemon juice and a kiss of cloves that tingled on the lips.

Rolls arrived while we were waiting for our first course. You won’t find the same old sliced baguette and olive oil dip at Chapel Grill. No, it’s freshly made pretzel rolls with salty brown crusts and soft, warm interiors.

Appetizers, which range from the ubiquitous crab cakes and ahi tuna to more interesting items like boeuf Bourguignonne risotto, start at a pricey \$12. But it’s worth it when Executive Chef Jorge Nolasco can manage to make even tired, old calamari interesting. His Coco Loco rendition (\$11.90) of lightly breaded rings of squid is strewn with chorizo sausage and tem-



COURTESY PHOTO

ments the calamari nicely.

A duck spring roll (\$11.80) was simpler but just as pleasing. Bits of the tenderest duck confit were tucked into the crisply fried roll, which shattered in the mouth. It was accompanied by a small next of wakame slaw, but I think at that price, they could afford to spring for more than one roll.

Our attentive server and his battalion of colleagues kept the table clean and our glasses filled as the meal progressed. The GM even stopped by when she noticed us looking around the dining room (or perhaps it was the camera flash that drew her attention).

We congratulated her on the restaurant’s transformation and well-trained staff.

When our waiter arrived with the main course, he noticed immediately that we had been given a single portion of Brussels sprouts when we’d asked for a double (\$9.20). He returned with a second dish in short order. Offering side dishes in two portions is a very thoughtful gesture. My companion and I both happen to love roasted sprouts, and these were tossed with copious bits of crispy pancetta and caramelized garlic. Both servings were devoured.

Also from the a la carte menu was the New York strip (\$36.70), which was perfectly grilled to medium-rare yet achieved a crusty exterior that most home grillers would envy. The well-marbled 14-ounce cut was dry-aged for 21 days, which imparted a noticeable richness. It was simply adorned with a pat of roasted garlic-Merlot butter with a tinge of truffle essence and was

crowned with golden onion straws.

From the regular menu, we opted for red rock cod Florentine (\$27.60), which I discovered on the Internet also goes by the menacing moniker of scorpionfish. It was a hefty fillet with thick flakes of moist white meat within its crisp oven-baked Parmesan crust. The fish was served on layers of spinach and mashed potatoes; the menu had said sundried-tomato risotto would be the starch, and that would have been more interesting. Nevertheless the fish was spot-on, and the spinach had a tantalizing hint of Pernod.

The Chapel Grill is no slouch when it comes to desserts, either. We tucked into a wondrous dome of chocolate-peanut butter cake enrobed in chocolate ganache (\$6.40) and a creamy panna cotta with strawberries and mangoes (\$5.80) that could have been a touch sweeter.

Naples diners should count their blessings to have The Chapel Grill and a forward-thinking businessman like Mr. Fleischer willing to preserve local history. ■

— Send items to cuisine@floridaweekly.com.



Above: One duck spring roll cut into four pieces is not much for \$11.80.



Left: Berries and mangoes top a panna cotta.

DREW STERWALD / FLORIDA WEEKLY

pura-fried julienned carrots. Marinara would be too mundane for such a concoction, so the chef dreamed up a delicious mango-rum sauce that comple-

in the know

The Chapel Grill

811 Seventh Ave. S., Naples; 206-4310

Ratings:
Food: ★★★★★½
Service: ★★★★★½
Atmosphere: ★★★★★

- >> **Hours:** 5 p.m. to closing daily; tavern opens at 2 p.m., with light fare offered at 4 p.m.
- >> **Reservations:** Highly recommended
- >> **Credit cards:** Accepted
- >> **Price range:** Appetizers, \$11.90-\$15.30; entrees, \$23.50-\$42.70. Tavern menu has less expensive appetizers, salads and sandwiches
- >> **Beverages:** Full bar
- >> **Specialties of the house:** Steaks and seafood
- >> **Volume:** Moderately high
- >> **Parking:** Street and valet
- >> **Website:** www.chapelgrill.com

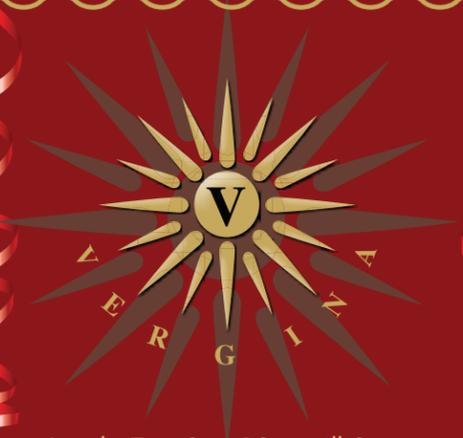
★★★★★ Superb
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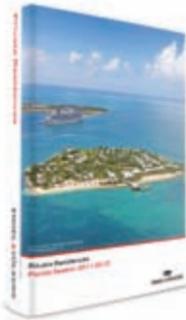
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13487 ROSEWOOD LANE

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23650 VIA VENETO

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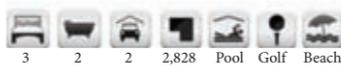
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1829 MISSION DR

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2012

Holiday

GIFT GUIDE



Designed by Eric Raddatz • Written by Ella Nayor & Jim McCracken • Images by Ella Nayor

N AUGHTY OR NICE, EVERYONE DESERVES SOMETHING SPECIAL under the tree this year. And while we can't gift wrap a Southwest Florida sunset, we can suggest some great gift ideas for those on your list. You'll find everything from bright blue Italian suede boots to a standup paddleboard to the best holiday wine buys. So, if you're intent on blowing that holiday bonus, consider this the perfect guide to holiday happiness.

Of course, the gift that really keeps on giving is the Apple iPad or iPad mini. Then you can download the *Florida Weekly* app for free and enjoy Florida's best weekly newsmagazine all year. Cheers.



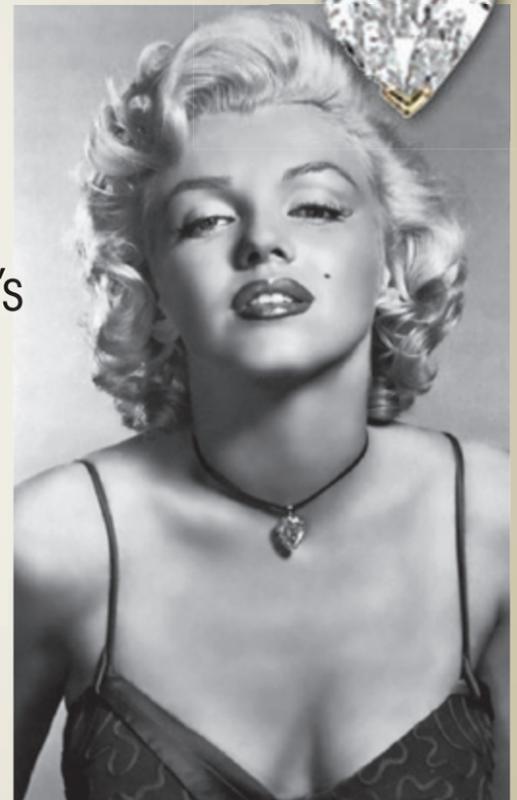
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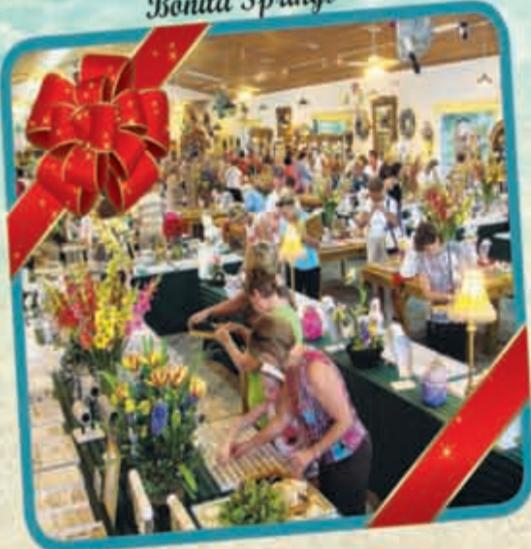


The Best Christmas

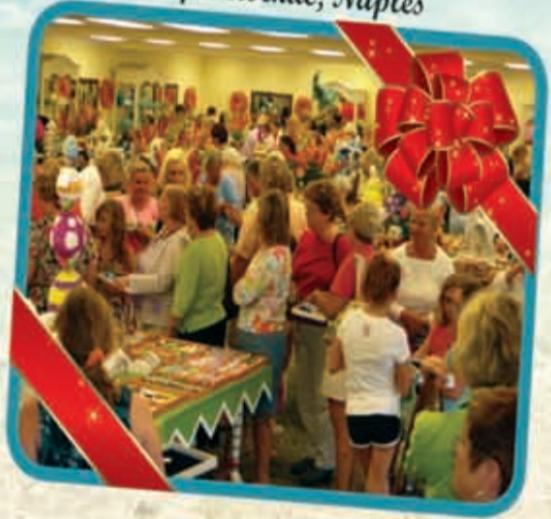


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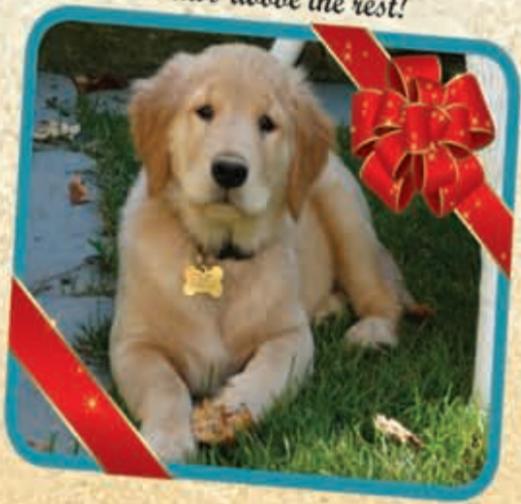
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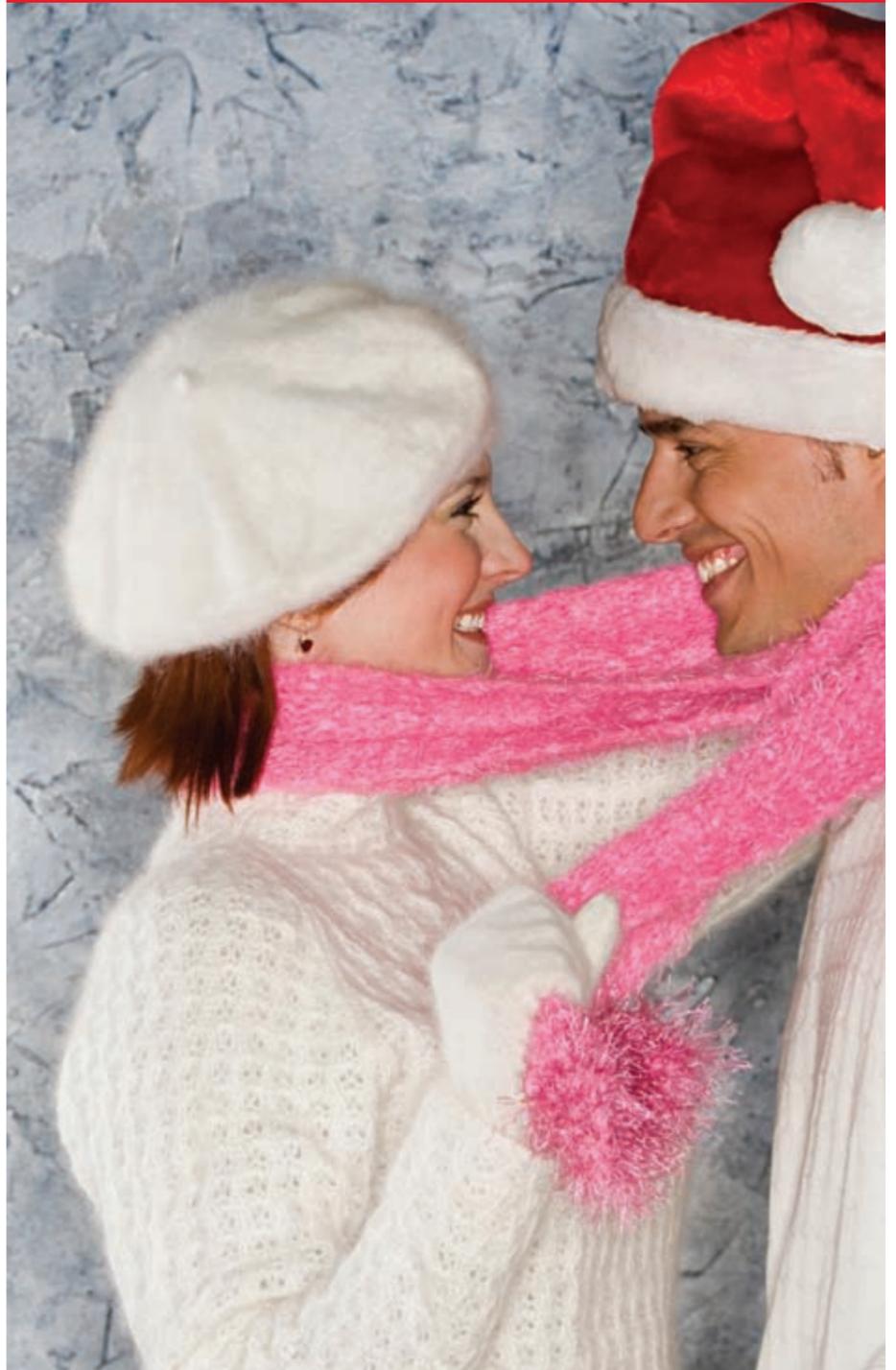
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The Eight Days of Hanukkah

The eight-day holiday of Hanukkah, or the "Feast of Lights," which this year is observed from the evening of Saturday, Dec. 8, to Sunday, Dec. 16, commemorates what many historians as well as religious scholars consider to be the first organized revolt by a nation against tyranny.

The story of Hanukkah goes back well over 2,000 years to when the Jewish people, under the leadership of Judah Maccabee, revolted against the Greco-Syrian forces of Antiochus, who had despoiled their holy temple in Jerusalem and who tried to force them to worship their many gods instead of the one God. When the

conquerors were routed, the temple was reclaimed. However, the lamp for the Eternal Light (which had to be kept lit at all times over the ark containing the sacred scroll called the Torah) had only enough oil for one day. But that one-day supply burned for the eight days it took for more oil to arrive. Ever since, Jews have celebrated Hanukkah in commemoration of that miraculous event.

Hanukkah is a family holiday. Small gifts are handed out to the children on each one of the eight nights. Charitable donations also are made as a reminder that since we are all part of the same human family, we

must share our blessings. Games are played, including one using a top called a dreidel. Usually made of clay, it's marked with four Hebrew letters that stand for "A Miracle Happened Here."

On Hanukkah, small candles are placed in an eight-branched candelabra called the Menorah, with one additional candleholder set higher than the other eight. This is called the shamus, which some people believe stands for God who oversees the lights. On the first night, one candle and the shamus are lit; on the second night, two candles plus the shamus are lit, and so on until the eighth night, when all eight candles, plus the shamus, glow in memory of the miracle of that first "Feast of Lights."

The following is a way of recalling significant concepts that make up the Hanukkah message on each of the eight days of candle lighting:

H is for Hammer, the English word for Maccabee

A is for Awareness of the blessings of our liberty

N is for Never submit to tyranny's call

U is for Universal - because freedom is for all

K is for Kindness - because we are morally committed to practice

K is for Knowledge - that lights our way through the darkness

A is for Always appreciating our families and friends

H is for Hope, which never, ever ends ■



Old-Fashioned Hot Chocolate

- 3 ounces unsweetened baking chocolate
- 1 ½ cups of water
- Dash of salt
- 4 ½ cups of milk

1. Heat chocolate and water in 1 ½ quart saucepan over medium heat, stirring constantly, until chocolate is melted and mixture is smooth

2. Stir in sugar and salt. Heat to boiling, and then reduce heat to low. Simmer, uncovered 4 minutes stirring constantly. Stir in milk. Heat just until hot (do not boil, because skin will form on top).

3. Beat with hand beater until foamy, or stir until smooth. Serve. ■

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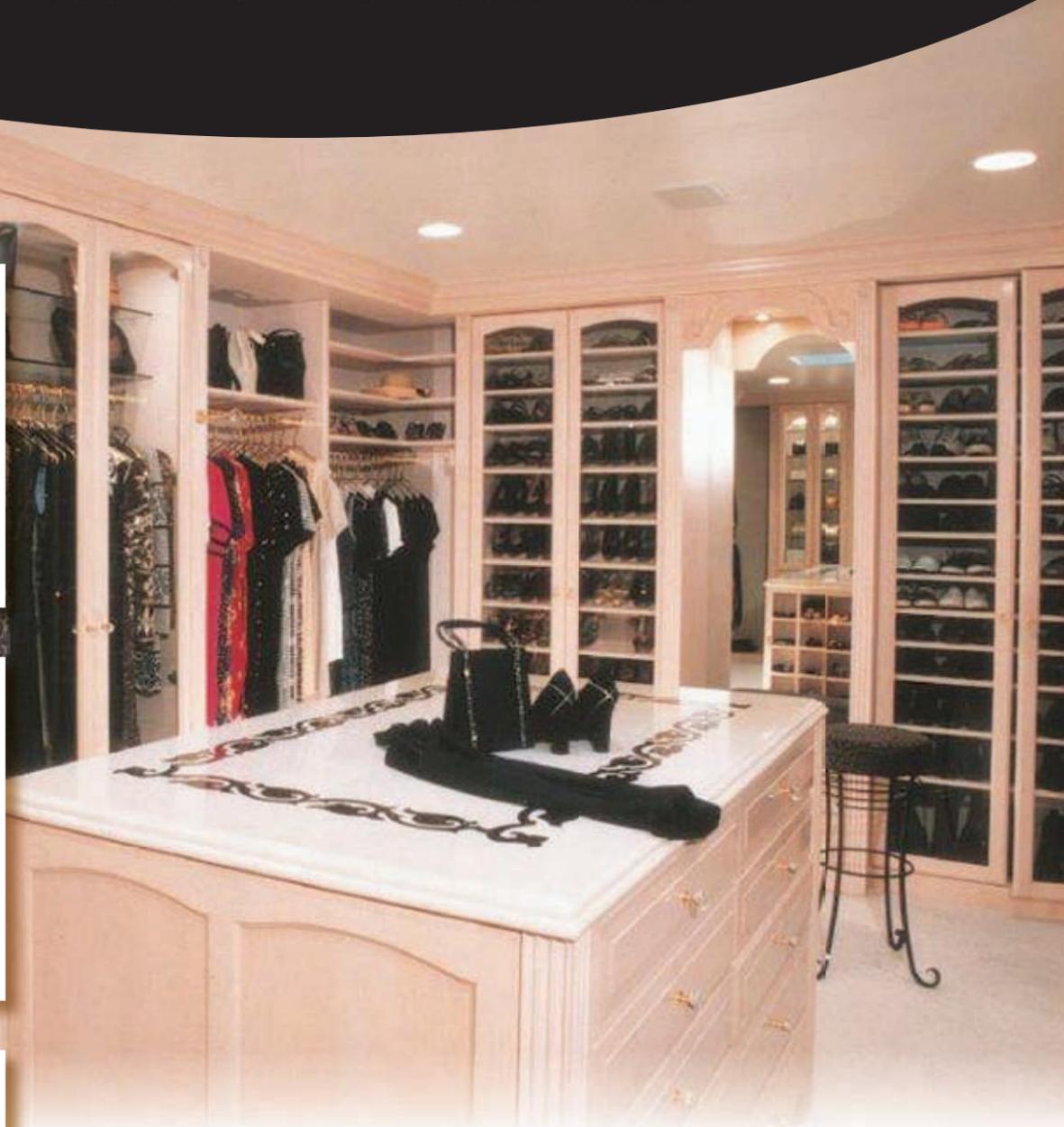
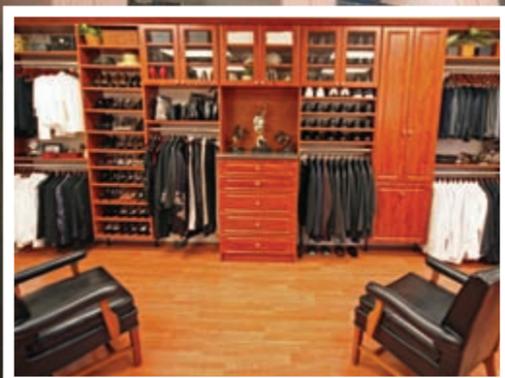
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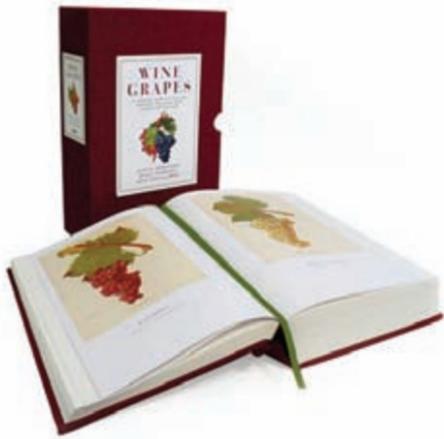
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Gifts for wine lovers they will savor all year long

Thank goodness for wine lovers. It's a cinch to find them something they'll enjoy this holiday season whatever your budget.

Following are just a few gifts that wine devotees are likely to find enjoyable, useful, educational or some combination of the three, including a few bottle suggestions.



Best new wine books:

■ **“Wine Grapes: A Complete Guide to 1,368 Vine Varieties, including their Origins and Flavors”** (\$110) by Jancis Robinson. The Financial Times wine writer and author of a dozen books on wines knows her topic well. The beautifully designed, 1,200-page, full-color book contains comprehensive details on all 1,368 vine varieties currently used in commercial production - including their origins, how they grow, where they are planted and how wine made from them tastes.

■ **“The One Minute Wine Master: Discover 10 Wines You'll Like in 60 Seconds or Less”** (\$11) by Jennifer Simonetti-Bryan. Written by a wine expert and judge, this book is for anyone who regularly or occasionally enjoys wine. Start with the One Minute Wine Master Quiz and answer simple questions such as how you like your coffee, if you like apple juice, what kind of cologne you prefer, etc. You are classified into a profile that contains examples of wines and brands that you might prefer based on your likes and dislikes, all without breaking the bank.

Best corkscrews:

■ **Chateau Laguiole Corkscrews** (\$100 to \$300): Produced by a French artisanal cutlery manufacturer (the company also makes cutlery, kitchen knives and other goodies), this is the classically designed corkscrew made with more than 30 handle types of wood and other materials. Light weight and well balanced, they fit the hand perfectly. You can also personalize it with a name inscription and a carrying case.

■ **Pulltaps Corkscrews** (\$7 to \$70): The double-lever action corkscrew has revolutionized uncorking wine bottles, providing an effortless way to extract the cork in two steps without breaking



or damaging it. It's the choice of waiters worldwide because of its low price and



COURTESY PHOTOS

ease of use. Available in many stores.

Best wine glasses:

■ **Chateau Baccarat Wine Glasses** (\$85 per stem, \$70 for tumbler, and \$495 for decanter): This revolutionary design allows the wine to fully express itself. The glass features a rounded angle and wide base, which allows the wine to move horizontally in the glass without climbing the walls. The sloped bowl allows the alcohol to condense, leaving the bouquet to fill the glass while the wine is swirled. The narrow aperture at the top of the

glass concentrates the aromas while providing a comfortable mouth-feel.

■ **Luigi Bormioli Burgundy Glass Set** (\$50 for eight): This set of 18.5-ounce glasses features fine rims and bowl shape, and is durable yet functional for everyday use. Bormioli has a 25-year guarantee against chipping on the rims or foot, as well as discoloration of the bowl or stem due to washing.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE ►

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WINE GIFTS

From previous page



Best wine gift basket:

■ **Penfolds Grange & Opus One Wine and Chocolate Perfection** (\$940):

Gift Tree offers a wide range of customizable baskets and accessories for the holidays. The Grange and Opus One selection features two top tier wines from very good vintages, along with a hand-selected assortment of gourmet delicacies. The Opus One 2008 is a Bordeaux blend, with flavors of cassis, raspberries and chocolate with a polished finish. Penfolds Grange is considered one of the world's finest wines, and is rich purple in color. This fuller bodied shiraz blend shows flavors of blueberry, blackberry and plum, with an extended powerful finish.

The seven gourmet delicacies include Godiva Dark Chocolate and Guylian Dark Seashell Truffles, all set in a double-tray organizer.

■ **Steeplechase Vineyards Trio** (\$80): I was not familiar with Steeple-

chase Vineyards when I received this gift last year but found it to be a great gift. Offered by Wine Country Gift Baskets, it includes a bottle of Steeplechase California Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay and Pinot Noir, with a wide assortment of goodies in the package, including Godiva dark chocolate French vanilla truffles and various cheese spreads and crackers. The quality of the food items was very good, and the wines were quite drinkable as well. The affordable price includes shipping.

Individual bottle selections:

■ **Ch. d'Yquem Sauternes 2009** (\$800): The quintessential dessert wine, Ch. d'Yquem, is lush and concentrated with aromas and flavors of honeysuckle, apricot, pear and apricot. The finish is exquisitely long and supple, and this is the finest Bordeaux wine from one of its best vintages.

■ **Ch. Guiraud Sauternes 2009** (\$60): An excellent first growth Sauternes, it opens with honeysuckle, apricots and peaches. The flavors on the palate have luscious fruit and honey with a fine underlying acidity, ending with a touch of almond and spice on the lingering finish.

■ **Two Hands Shiraz Bella's Garden 2010** (\$70): Rich and dark in color and complex in nature, with plums and dense dark cherry aromas and palate, ending in a smooth and complex finish.

■ **Torbreck Woodcutter's Shiraz 2010** (\$23): Ripe aromas and flavors of plum and blueberry linger in the mouth, leading to a long, well-structured finish. ■

— Jim McCracken

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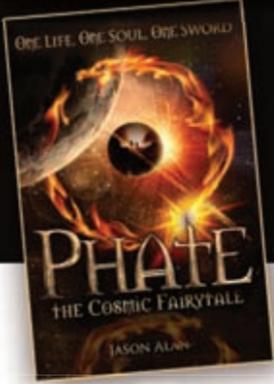
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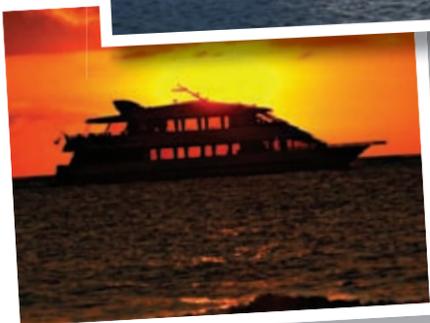
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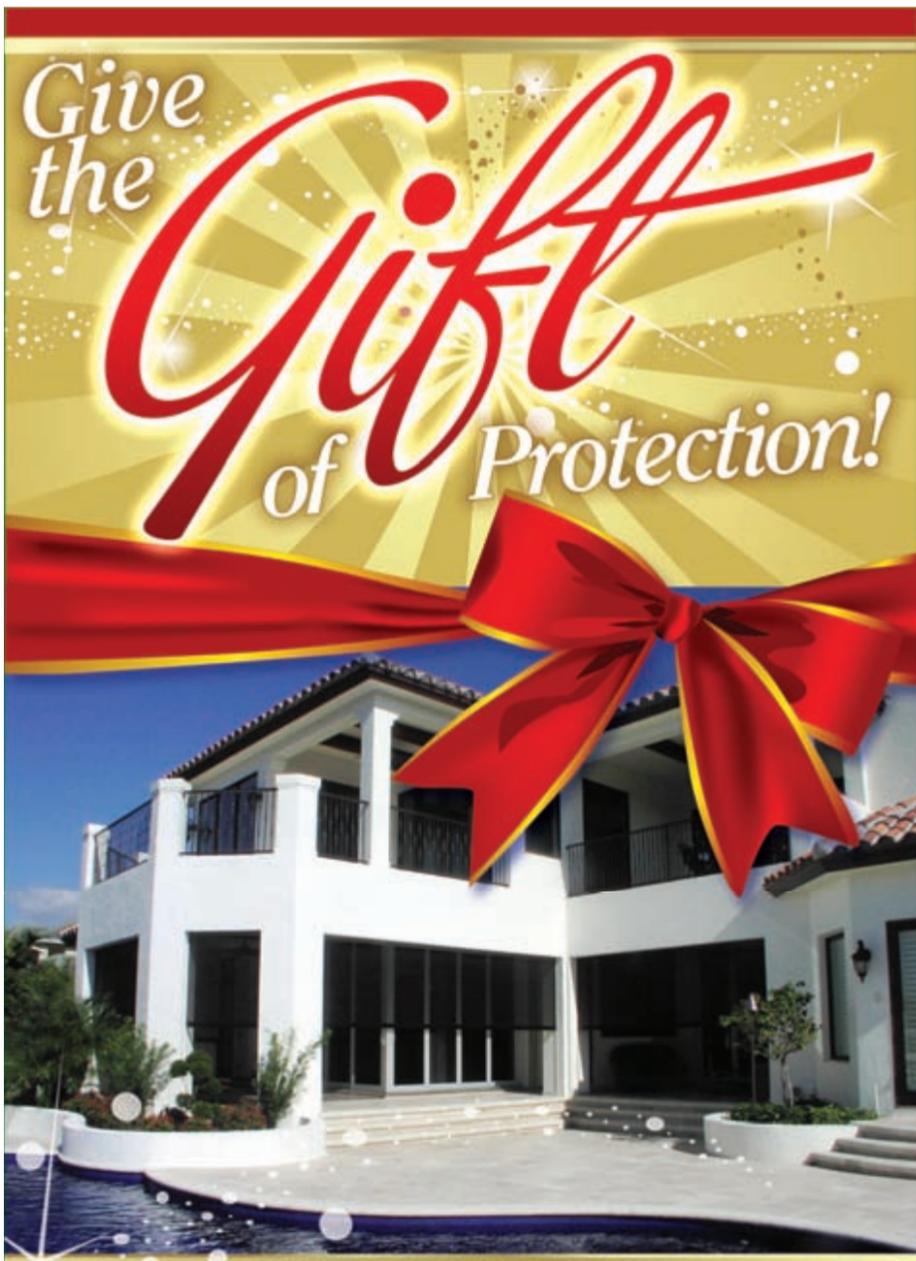


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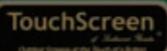
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Jewelry can make holidays sparkle

No red or green gemstone is prescribed for the Christmas season, but if you are committed to making a holiday statement with jewelry, here are a few suggestions:

■ Establish your own signature holiday look by wearing the same poinsettia, Christmas tree or ornament brooch every day from Dec. 1 through Christmas — with you as the star. And the brooch will acquire the patina and status of aging, just as you do.

■ An inexpensive green stone is peridot, which is mined in the United States. It is the birthstone of August, and looks great with green or brown eyes. Peridot is brilliant, but soft, so pierced earrings would be nice.

■ Two red stones are reasonably priced — pyrope or almandine garnet, and pink tourmaline (also known as rubellite). Have your jeweler show you the reddest pyrope or almandine that he can find — you want to avoid the brownish-tinged pyrope garnet. Pink tourmaline is a reddish-pink and very lovely for a ring.

■ A perfect holiday green-red combination does exist: emerald and ruby stones. A bracelet with these precious stones set in gold or gold surrounded by white (champleve) enamel is festive incarnate.

■ Create a festive look by affixing an old rhinestone brooch to a black velvet ribbon and tying it around your neck for a great choker. (This is for women with discernible, attractive necks only.)

■ Dress up your Christmas tree with large, gaudy old rhinestone brooches hung by red satin ribbons.

■ Hats are a cool look for the winter for those who to live in an area with seasons. So take that old brooch and pin it on a beret or felt hat for a festive look.

■ Trying to create a Christmas gift? Take apart all of your really disposable, old, junky, rhinestone jewelry and glue the parts or large stones (individual simulated pearls look great) in the shape of a Christmas tree onto a velvet-covered cardboard rectangle. Frame same, and the lucky recipient has a decoration for a lifetime of Christmases. ■

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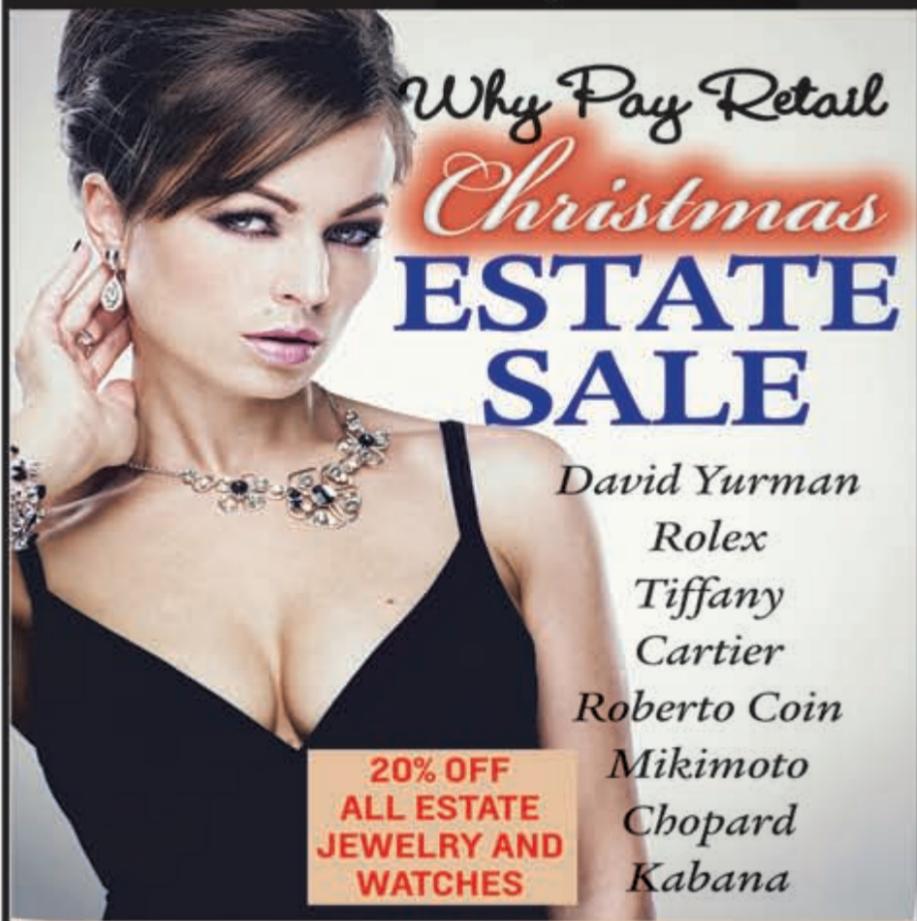
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.97 ct. round.....	\$1,777	1.56 ct. pear.....	\$3,897
1.00 ct. round.....	\$1,877	1.58 ct. round.....	\$7,277
1.17 ct. round.....	\$1,977	2.01 ct. round.....	\$7,995
1.18 ct. round.....	\$1,977	2.19 ct. round.....	\$7,677
1.24 ct. round.....	\$2,677	2.59 ct. round.....	\$11,977
1.26 ct. princess.....	\$2,977	3.00 ct. marquise.....	\$14,777
1.43 ct. round.....	\$3,577	3.02 ct. round.....	\$15,777
1.51 ct. round.....	\$4,777	5.00 ct. round.....	\$59,777

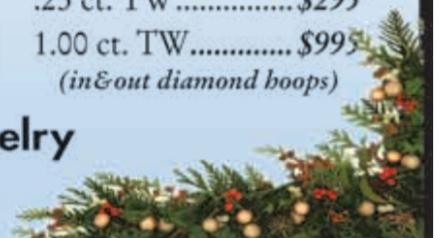
Diamond Hoop Earrings



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1.00 ct. TW.....\$995
(in&out diamond hoops)

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