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WEEK OF DECEMBER 19-25, 2013

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Vol. VI, No. 10 • FREE



THE NAPLES ZOO / COURTESY PHOTO  
The cotton-top tamarin is one of several South American animals making their debut at the Naples Zoo at Caribbean Gardens

## South American animals make their debut at the Zoo

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The newest arrivals at Naples Zoo at Caribbean Gardens make their public debut Saturday, Dec. 21. Among them: tiny monkeys that live in a small range in the forests of Colombia, giant relatives of the guinea pig found in the scrub deserts of Argentina and the knuckle-walking, sharp-clawed, long-faced giant anteater of the South American grasslands.

Zoo members will enjoy admission at 8 a.m., an hour before the Zoo opens to the public. All visitors will be able to watch the giant anteater with its iconic snout, shuffling through the tropical foliage and playing in the water. They'll spot cotton-top tamarins, tiny monkeys with a shock of hair, and Patagonian caviés, large rodents related to guinea pigs that are known for their monogamous lifestyle. Living in the branches above the caviés in the new exhibit is the Zoo's longtime resident female two-toed sloth, seen for the first time outside the regular safari canyon shows; nearby are red-footed tortoises, known for their crimson spots and a taste for flesh.

Thanks to generous support from The Martin Foundation, the new species can be seen in the southern gardens where the Zoo updated existing animal habitats with additional plantings, water elements, glass viewing and thatch shelters to create this diverse new wildlife experience for guests.

Naples Zoo's commitment to New World species like these extends far beyond the care they receive at the Zoo to the wilds of Central and South America itself. Naples Zoo supports field conservation projects for a variety of rare species including the giant anteater as well as another oddity, the giant armadillo, an Ice Age leftover that

SEE ZOO, A16 ▶

VANDY MAJOR / FLORIDA WEEKLY

▲ Florica survived an earthquake and has since received a new limb.

Once hobbled by Haiti's earthquake, a young girl emerges with a miracle limb

## A walk with Florica

BY ATHENA PONUSHIS

aponushis@floridaweekly.com

FLORICA SAT ON THE EXAMINING table, waiting for a doctor she had never met before to come in and tell her if strangers would have to take more of her leg before they could fit her with a better prosthesis. She wore a shirt with butterfly wings that spread across her chest like a sequined open heart. The 8-year-old swung her right leg back and forth under the table. She lost her left leg to the 2010 earthquake in Haiti. The prosthetic leg she received in her home country looked doll-like and clumsy. She had painted its toenails with nail polish to make them sparkle.

Pediatric orthopedic surgeon Brett Shannon walked in and introduced himself to Florica as a children's bone doctor. He opened up a laptop to show her an X-ray image of her leg, which came to abrupt end below her knee. He seemed pleased with the look of the growth plates. He spoke with his eyebrows raised in optimism. She looked at him more

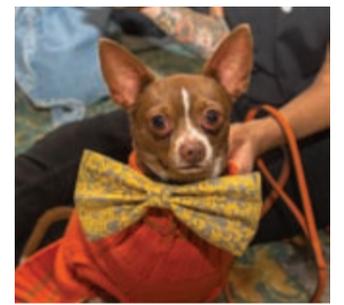
SEE FLORICA, A8 ▶



COURTESY PHOTO

A U.S. Air Force pararescueman searches for people after a 7.0-magnitude earthquake hit Haiti Jan. 12, 2010. More than 100,000 people died and many more lost their homes or were injured in the quake.

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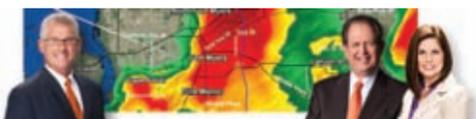


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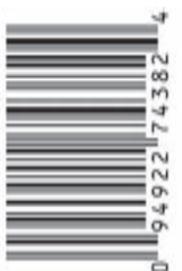
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## COMMENTARY

## Crossing the other Delaware: a personal view of Christmas



In the American cultural vernacular, which may prove as confusing to you as it frequently does to me, the first Christmas did not occur 2,013 years ago.

Instead, the first Christmas took place exactly 237 years ago on a frigid night a few miles north of Philadelphia.

In this whimsical, transformative nation, holidays that began as one thing inevitably become another, and none more so than Christmas.

During the evening of Dec. 25, 1776, Christmas Love (defined as the love of Christ come, for Christians) must have seemed as remote as the North Pole to the 2,400 men who crossed the Delaware River out of Pennsylvania. They moved out in sleet and snow equipped with newly issued flints for their weapons on George Washington's command, gathering on the riverfront from positions near McKonkey's Ferry.

At that point the self-declared United States of America — where you and I will eat to our heart's content this Christmas — amounted to 174 days worth of upstart nation. Brand new, the nation was also under siege, wrapped in a winter storm, and starving.

Most of Washington's men couldn't swim, but they swallowed their fear. Ice floes in the river presented a significant danger to their heavily-laden boats as they labored in

frigid darkness toward the Jersey shore.

None of it was pretty. In sloppy, struggling fashion, commanders and a regiment of experienced seamen from Marblehead, Mass., with others, finally landed the force mostly intact at Trenton, on the east bank of the river.

There, things changed forever. That fact remains the nation's most singular Christmas gift to itself.

The Americans caught the winter-encamped Hessian troops (competent professional soldiers in the pay of the British army) completely off guard and drunk. Thus they won the first real victory in our history, at the end of what had been a very bad year.

Had Washington been killed or captured — a distinct possibility since he was among the first to land on the far shore — history would have gone barking up a different tree.

It almost did, anyway. Previously, his men had succeeded only in having their rear ends kicked out of New York and chased all over New Jersey by the British and their allies.

But only six days before Christmas, Thomas Paine came out with a feisty pamphlet called "Common Sense," in Philadelphia. It included the most famous lines he ever wrote. The language was so compelling that against all reason it boosted morale among the half-frozen, half-sick, woefully undernourished Americans.

"These are the times that try men's souls," Mr. Paine wrote. "The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of his country; but he that stands it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like

hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph."

No doubt many would have settled for an easier conflict and reduced rations of glory along with a hot meal, but they weren't given the choice.

For all those Americans, including women, children and the old people left to manage farms and homes, Christmas Love required sacrifice and the recognition of imminent mortality.

To all of them, everything must have seemed tenuous.

I've always thought of Christmas that way, too — as a time when existence can become, paradoxically, both sumptuous and desperate.

In such a time, each of us must cross our own Delaware, which means that each of us must define Christmas Love as any force or energy that allows us to make the crossing, no matter how tenuously or what shape it takes.

If, for example, you haven't spoken to a relative or an old friend with whom you've fallen out, you're facing the river.

If you haven't forgiven yourself for a mistake made in another time — which means confronting your own weakness or blindness, and moving on — you're facing the river.

If the echoes of the dead or the memories of Christmases past become not the voices of angels but a chorus of tyrants beckoning you to surrender the joyous moment in order to suffer the once-upon-a-time, you're facing the river.

Charles Dickens, the great British novelist, knew the music of this tune intimately,

which was why he wrote "A Christmas Carol."

In any case, something has to be faced and changed. And you have to face it and change it. Christmas is a time to do that, just as it was for Washington and the men, women and children who faced his Delaware River.

For somebody I never knew, here's one more Delaware. Late on Dec. 24, 1976, I drove out of the gates of Camp Lejeune, N.C., home of the Second Marine Division, bound toward Wilmington 50 or so miles to the south. I was bent on attending midnight Mass at an orthodox church.

The narrow two-lane blacktop ribboned a North Carolina night so black in the flat piedmont that I could see nothing beyond my own headlights for miles, until a flashing of red and blue came distantly into view.

I slowed, approached and passed. Two cars had collided head on. The bodies of five dead lay under sheets near the devastated wreckage. Midnight was 90 minutes away.

At the church, a packed Christmas celebration of such candlelit, incense-infused magnificence occurred — with chanting, bells, the sprinkling of holy water and all the sensuous ornamentation of celebratory life — that I've never been able to forget either the blood or the glory.

And now it's only Christmas Love I want for them: for those nameless souls who may still cherish the victims of that long ago night. May they, with all of us, find it in themselves to cross the other Delaware. ■

— A version of this column originally ran on Dec. 21, 2011.



# 8 Dangers of Foot/Ankle Deformities

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# OPINION

## The war on inequality



**richLOWRY**

Special to Florida Weekly

President Barack Obama has his answer to Lyndon Johnson's "War on Poverty." It is a war on inequality.

The president's formal declaration of hostilities came in a speech this month at the Center for American Progress, predictably praised as brilliant by his journalistic cheerleaders and touted by the White House as setting out the cause that will define the rest of his presidency.

While LBJ's war on poverty is nothing to emulate — it costs \$900 billion a year, yet has manifestly failed in the stated goal of uplifting the poor — at least it had a clear, compelling rationale. Who can disagree that it would be better if fewer Americans were poor? Obama's implicit argument is that it would be better if fewer Americans were rich, or at least if they weren't quite so offensively rich.

He relied on dubious research and tendentious analysis to make his case, without ever admitting what, for him,

must be the crux of the matter. Surely, income inequality offends his egalitarian sense of justice and aesthetics, and even if he didn't believe it had harmful real-world effects, he would wish the top 1 percent weren't so wealthy as a social good in and of itself.

There is no doubt that we long ago exited the economic Golden Age of the mid-20th century, and we aren't going to return to it. President Obama could give a speech about that and never need to make a questionable claim. But he wants to make a case for war.

In his speech, the president said that inequality is bad for the economy and cited "one study" showing that greater income inequality means more fragile growth and more frequent recessions. Of course, "one study" can show almost anything. The study in question analyzed developing economies.

He could just as easily have said that "one study" by a Harvard economist showed a correlation between increasing inequality and higher economic growth in the U.S. and other developed countries between 1960 and 2000.

To maintain that rising inequality is a threat to the American Dream, the president insists that it is reducing

income mobility. Here the evidence is just as weak. According to Scott Winship of the Manhattan Institute, the gap between the middle class and the poor hasn't grown much during the past few decades. It has been the very top of the income distribution that has gained the most.

America does indeed have a serious mobility problem, especially in getting people out of poverty. But it has nothing to do with a small fraction of people being spectacularly rich. Mark Zuckerberg could be stripped of all his wealth tomorrow, and it wouldn't help anyone further down the income ladder. It wouldn't increase wages, or reduce out-of-wedlock child rearing, or lead to less incarceration, or revive the work ethic, all of which would enhance mobility and lift more people into the middle class. It would just make Mark Zuckerberg poor.

Which is why Obama's war on inequality is so misconceived. We aren't beset by a wealthy 1 percent destroying opportunity and immiserating the rest of the country. The president needs to reconsider his *casus belli*. ■

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

## Mandela: The man and the movement



**amyGOODMAN**

Special to Florida Weekly

Nelson Mandela's passing last week at the age of 95 has been met with a global outpouring of remembrance and reflection. A giant of modern human history has died. Mandela is rightly remembered for his remarkable ability to reconcile with his oppressors, and the political prescription his forgiveness entailed for the new South Africa. "Never, never and never again shall it be that this beautiful land will again experience the oppression of one by another," Mandela said in his inaugural speech in Pretoria, on May 10, 1994. In the same speech, he pledged, going forward, "to liberate all our people from the continuing bondage of poverty, deprivation, suffering, gender and other discrimination." Mandela has passed, but what he has passed on to succeeding generations is his deep belief in the power of movements to make change.

He spent his early years in the African National Congress (ANC) organizing non-cooperation, like the Defiance Campaign in 1952, when he was photographed burning his passbook, the dreaded photo documentation without which black South Africans could not travel within their own country. By 1960, following the Sharpeville Massacre, where the white government's police forces killed at least 69 people who were protesting the pass laws and the passbooks, the government banned the ANC. Mandela and others went underground, forming the ANC's armed wing, calling it Umkhonto we Sizwe, or "Spear of the Nation."

They led a campaign of sabotage, using crude bombs to damage and disrupt key elements in South Africa's infrastructure, from rail lines to power plants. In 1962, Mandela was picked up at a police roadblock, disguised as a chauffeur. The New York Times reported in 1990 that it was the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency that

provided the South African Special Branch with the specifics of Mandela's whereabouts and appearance. The report went on to say that the CIA spent more on surveillance of the ANC than the apartheid regime did itself. Mandela spent the next 27 years in prison.

At his trial for sabotage with nine others, known now as "The Rivonia Trial," Mandela spoke for the accused, defending their actions. "During my lifetime I have dedicated myself to this struggle of the African people. I have fought against white domination, and I have fought against black domination. I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities," he declared from the dock, facing the death penalty. "It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to achieve. But if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die." To the surprise of many, and likely thanks to intense domestic and international attention to the trial, the activists were sentenced not to death, but to life imprisonment on South Africa's notorious Robben Island.

The international campaign to end apartheid began in earnest then. Campaigns to divest from companies doing business in South Africa became a central strategy. In 1970, Caroline Hunter and Ken Williams, two African-American employees at Polaroid in Cambridge, Mass., noticed that their company was supplying the photo technology for the hated passbooks. Hunter and Williams organized a movement of Polaroid workers that forced it to withdraw all its involvement with South Africa.

Under increasing pressure, the apartheid regime cracked down even more on black South Africans, and the violence was broadcast globally, propelling students on campuses to action. A global movement formed, pressuring university boards to pull their endowment funds from South African investments. In Washington, D.C., Randall Robinson, the founder of TransAfrica, began a protest movement in front of the South African embassy. He told us

on "Democracy Now!" "Three of us were arrested, followed by 5,000 Americans who came to the embassy over the following years to be arrested ... of course that helped to propel through the Congress the Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act of 1986. And then American investments in South Africa began to tumble."

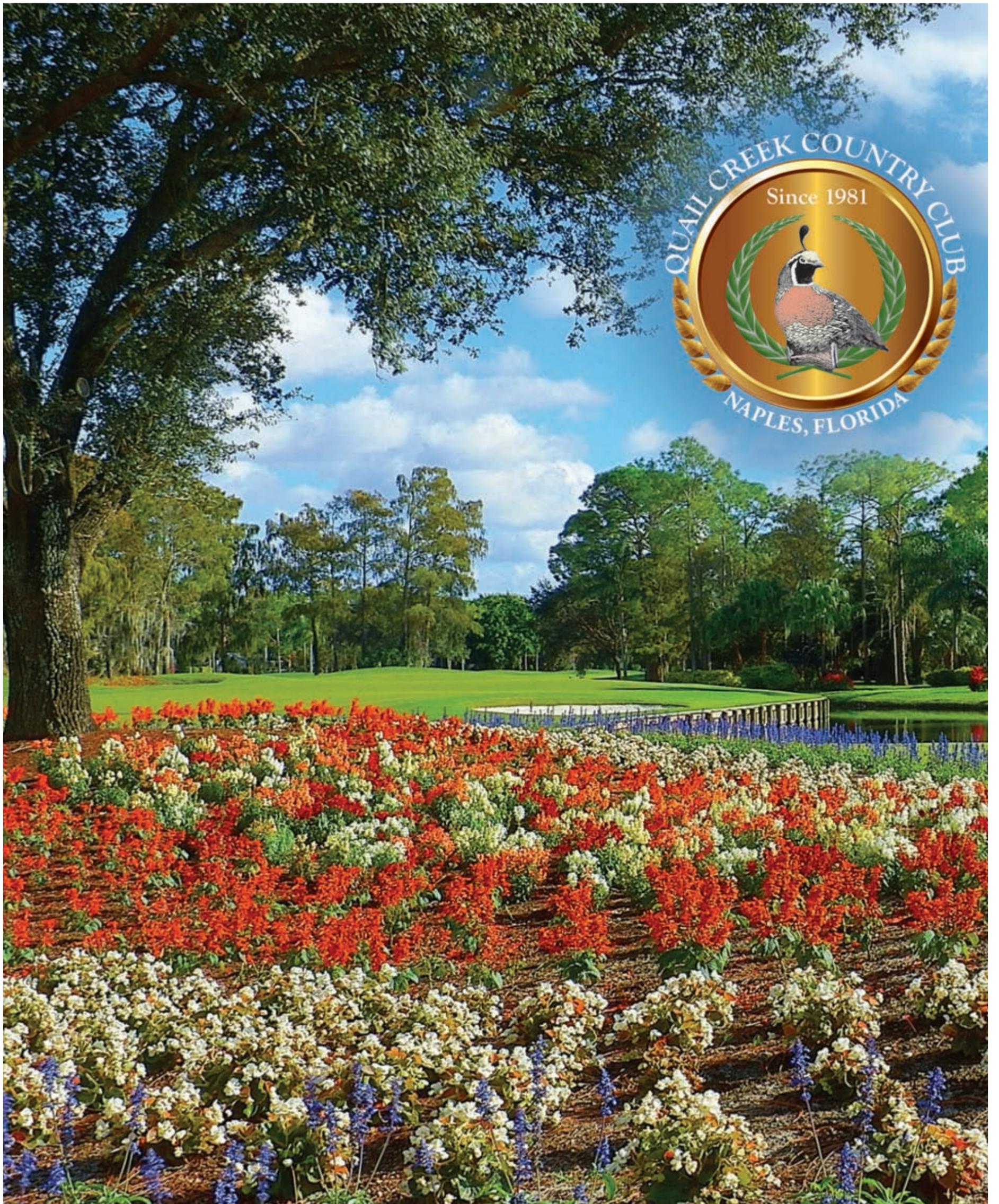
Robinson was referring to the bill that California Congressman Ron Dellums introduced, which passed with bipartisan support. President Ronald Reagan vetoed the bill, but, in a sign of the nation's determination to fight apartheid, both houses of Congress voted to override Reagan's veto, imposing crushing sanctions on the apartheid regime in Pretoria. "That, combined with the internal pressures in the country," Robinson continued, "produced the circumstances in the government there, the readiness to negotiate and to ultimately release Nelson Mandela."

President Barack Obama spoke at Mandela's memorial service in Soweto this week, and provoked a firestorm of criticism back in Washington for shaking the hand of Cuban President Raul Castro. Mandela was a devoted friend of Fidel Castro, who always supported the ANC. The U.S., on the other hand, did not remove Mandela from its "terrorist watch list" until 2008, 14 years after he was elected president of South Africa.

Nelson Mandela ended his autobiography by saying, "When I walked out of prison, that was my mission, to liberate the oppressed and the oppressor both. ... The truth is that we are not yet free; we have merely achieved the freedom to be free." ■

— Denis Moynihan contributed research to this column.

— Amy Goodman is the host of "Democracy Now!," a daily international TV/radio news hour airing on more than 1,000 stations in North America. She is the co-author of "The Silenced Majority," a New York Times best-seller.



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# PROFILES IN PARADISE

## Sharing a passion and appreciation for all things Italian

bobHARDEN

e-mail: bobharden@outlook.com



A small group of "Italophiles" who wanted to bring to the Paradise Coast the joy of experiencing Italian arts and culture on a regular basis, split off from the Italian American Club in 1998 to become the Italian Cultural Society of Naples. They continue their work today under the deft guidance of Tom Turicchi as president.

The society's goal is to enrich its 500-plus members with an appreciation of all things Italian. Programs embrace the many and varied elements of the culture — music, art, film, history, literature and the beautiful Italian language, among other things.

In addition to enhancing their awareness of Italian culture, members often build on the friendships they form while participating in the diverse opportunities the programming provides throughout the season.

Being Italian is not a prerequisite of membership; you just have to have a love for the Italian experience. If you have enjoyed traveling in Italy or are simply full of curiosity and want to learn more, you are a candidate

for membership. If you're planning a trip to Italy but have questions, you're likely to meet someone at a society event who will have good advice and ideas for your destination.

Mr. Turicchi was born and raised in Rhode Island, where his favorite subjects at St. Raphael Academy were math and music. Following his bliss, he earned an undergraduate degree in mathematics from Providence College and a doctorate in musicology from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. After graduation, he became a professor of music history and the director of instrumental music at Texas Woman's University. During his career, he conducted ensemble performances in the U.S. and 14 countries throughout Europe and Asia.

He left the world of teaching and eventually became managing partner in a marketing research and strategic planning firm. He and his wife, Lee, moved to Naples four years ago after she took a nasty fall on the ice on Christmas Eve.

The Turicchis have two loves: the arts and traveling to Italy. They discovered the Italian Cultural Society soon after moving to Naples and felt it was the perfect fit. Tom joined the board in his second year as a member and became president the following year. Along with Ken Pedini, he is co-chair of programming for the new season.

Society members and guests can look forward to programs about finding the fun in Italian opera and the beauty in modern Italian design; about Rossini's music and the mosaics of Ravenna; about Raphael, the genius of the Italian Renaissance; and about Duke Federico of Montefeltro, "The Light of Italy." Two dinners celebrating the cuisine of the Emilia-Romagna region of Italy are also on the schedule. For the season's full schedule and details about membership, visit [www.italianculturalsociety.com](http://www.italianculturalsociety.com).

Each year Mr. Turicchi is a featured speaker at one of the society's programs. He also lectures regularly at the Center for Lifelong Learning at Hodges University and the Renaissance Academy of Florida Gulf Coast University.

When past president Adam Crescenzi became president six years ago, his vision was that the society become a beacon of light in Collier County that illuminates the best aspects of the Italian culture in art, literature, history, architecture, music, food and wine. "Tom has made this vision a reality," Mr. Crescenzi says. "I am very proud that I recruited him and he became my successor." ■

— Bob Harden is the producer and host of "The Bob Harden Show," airing from 7-8 a. m. weekdays at [www.bobharden@outlook.com](http://www.bobharden@outlook.com).

### Talking points with Tom Turicchi

**Something your father was always right about:** Trust must be earned.

**Teacher who most influenced you:** Robert Bly.

**First job:** In high school, I worked as bookkeeper for my uncle's food import business.

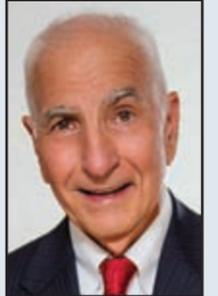
**Something people might be surprised to find out about you:** I was a consultant in the rock 'n' roll record industry for several years.

**Advice for grandkids:** Do what you love and do it well.

**Favorite authors:** Daniel Silva, David Baldacci and Bernard Cornwell.

**Favorite things about Paradise Coast:** The rich cultural life, the friendliness of the people and the fact that everything is within 30 minutes of home.

**What I miss about the Paradise Coast when I'm away:** The beauty, warmth and sunshine.



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VANDY MAJOR / FLORIDA WEEKLY

Dr. Brett Shannon (center) shares X-rays and a prognosis with Florida, her family and Bob Ayers, Miracle Limbs founder.

# FLORICA

From page 1

than at the picture of her leg bones. She seemed trusting yet wary of his confidence and her future. How could she not be, for in one of her most formative memories — the earthquake — she sat playing on the floor, when the walls came crashing down, crushing her leg.

All she wanted was to run with her friends. But the earthquake left her with only one foot to put on the ground.

The trauma would set Florida's life on an unexpected trajectory: She could not run, but she would be carried across the Caribbean to the care of a Naples nonprofit that would find a Southwest Florida doctor willing to

perform reconstructive surgery on her residual limb, giving her a new leg with which she could learn to run again.

The third grader sat fidgety on the examining table, someplace between sadness and gratitude, trying to take this all in. She knew how to be strong, not to be scared, but now she was learning she could be ambitious.

Her amputated leg looked mystical. When she bent her knee, what she had of a lower leg would curl up under her thigh, like an elephant trunk lifting food to mouth. Also like an elephant trunk, the end of her leg had a point and a lip, a reverse teardrop shape. But the point, Florida's tibia, was going to keep growing sharper and sharper.

Dr. Shannon, who had been called in as a consultant on the case, explained to Florida that when she lost her leg, the bone did not know what happened, so it kept growing. This was good. She was young. The doctor who would operate on her leg did not want it to

stop growing, but he didn't want the bone to grow sharp and skinny like a spike, so he would have to surgically smooth the bone, contouring it to comfortably slip into the cradle of her prosthesis.

"What time are you going to cut the leg?" Florida asked, her English improving more and more as she spoke less and less Creole.

"Well, that's a thing called scheduling. That's really hard compared to doing the surgery itself," Dr. Shannon said. Acknowledging that the surgery to touch up Florida's crude amputation would be relatively simple in comparison to the financial challenge of outfitting the child with a prosthetic limb, the doctor turned to Bob Ayres, the founder of Miracle Limbs—Courage in Motion, and said, "I think you will do a lot more good than I will."

Miracle Limbs strives to show amputees that though they have lost a limb, they need not lose hope. The 501(c)

(3) has helped provide prostheses for amputees of combat, accident, diabetes and natural disaster. The organization also helps them and their families pay rent, utility bills and phone bills, hoping to ease life stresses until loved ones can return to work.

Mr. Ayres and his wife, Diana, find money to buy groceries and fill gas tanks. They build ramps and modify homes. They arrange counseling sessions and job skills training. They say Miracle Limbs is one of only a handful of nonprofits nationwide helping to provide prostheses. Doctors and prosthetic companies have told them Miracle Limbs could be the only organization of its kind, one that tends to all needs of amputees.

## Propping up the future

From the moment the Ayres met Florida, they were determined that although she had been a victim of circumstance, she would not be a victim



Prosthetist Jillian Hitchcock helps Florida learn to walk with her new leg. Before her surgery, Florida would wear three socks on her residual limb to try to pad the pain of her old prosthesis.



**Diana Ayers and Florica sit in a pew at the First Congregational Church of Naples two days after Florica received her new leg.**



**The Ayres will continue to help provide new legs for Florica as she grows.**

of neglect. It pained them to see her walk. Like a bird whose leg seems to bend backward when it steps forward, Florica's short leg bent in toward her long leg, looking like it was going to sweep her stability right out from under her. Every step looked like a slip.

Prosthetic advances could correct this "knock-kneed" gait. Florica would need a new leg every eight to 12 months. The Ayres would be there for her forevermore.

"We want to find out what she wants to be, what her natural-born talents are," Mr. Ayres said that day in Dr. Shannon's office. He expressed this sentiment often. "Athletics, music, whatever she wants to do, we want to help her in that endeavor." Beyond giving her a leg, they wanted to help her find and fulfill her life dream.

Florica could muster only one wish at the moment: "I want to run with my

friends."

Dr. Shannon tried to assure her that she would run with her friends again, consoling the room that some semblance of carefree childhood would be returned to this little girl. Wrapping up the office visit, he asked Florica if she had any more questions.

She started telling a story of when she was in Haiti. A whimsical childhood story, it was hard to follow: She's with all of her friends — no, not all of them, just girls — they're at school, they're at church, they're thirsty, they want something to drink, someone tells her something, she's off and running, running in her memory, running in her storytelling.

That's where Florica runs, in her storytelling. As she talks faster and faster, her eyes run with possibility, her smile runs into her cheekbones. If only she could run backwards, be standing up, sitting somewhere else on the day that wall came crumbling down.

### Beneath the rubble

When Florica tells the story of the earthquake, it does not sound rehearsed. It sounds like a chore.

With a shrug and a sigh, her body seems to beg, "Please don't make me tell this story again. Why do I have to tell this story, always this story, all the time?" She gives in. She rattles her arms and makes the sound she has attached to her memory of the earthquake: "Gudugudugudugudugu!"

She says she was pinned under the wall for seven days. She remembers her mother pouring water through the rubble for her to drink.

When her father, Gaethjens, flew to Florida to sign custody papers over to his sister, hoping Florica

would find a better life in Immokalee with her aunt, he told a different story. Florica was not living with her father at the time of the earthquake. She was living with her mother. It typically took him a half hour to drive to their house. The day of the earthquake, it took him four hours to walk there. He saw the house in shambles. "I think she die," Gaethjens said of his daughter. (Miracle Limbs asked *Florida Weekly* not to print the family's last name.)

The house collapsed; he could not find her. According to Gaethjens, when communications were back up three days later, he received a phone call. Florica was in a makeshift hospital of tents. He said medics were not giving her medicine because she had no money. He ran home, fetched the equivalent of \$100 and had Florica transported to another hospital where doctors told him they would have to amputate her leg to keep an infection from reaching her heart.

Regardless the rendition, Florica lost her leg.

### 'Mom, don't cry'

Bob and Diana Ayres first met Gaethjens at his sister's apartment in Immokalee on a rainy day. Florica was the subject of conversation. She sat on the couch. Her hair was braided in ponytails, clipped with barrettes. She fiddled with a rubber band around her wrist when she didn't know what to say.

She showed everyone the toy she had made: a magic wand. "It doesn't work for real," she said. "But I pretend it works." She told them when she grows up she wants to be a doctor. She talked about when her mom called her cry-



**An earthquake rocked Port au Prince on Jan. 12, 2010.**

ing from Haiti: "I said Mom, don't cry. Everything going to be OK. People are dead. People have arm broken. They cannot do anything. Don't be crying, Mom, 'cause I'm OK."

She thought about sharing her story with others, about what she wanted people to know most about her. "I can do anything," she said. "In the dark, I'm not scared."

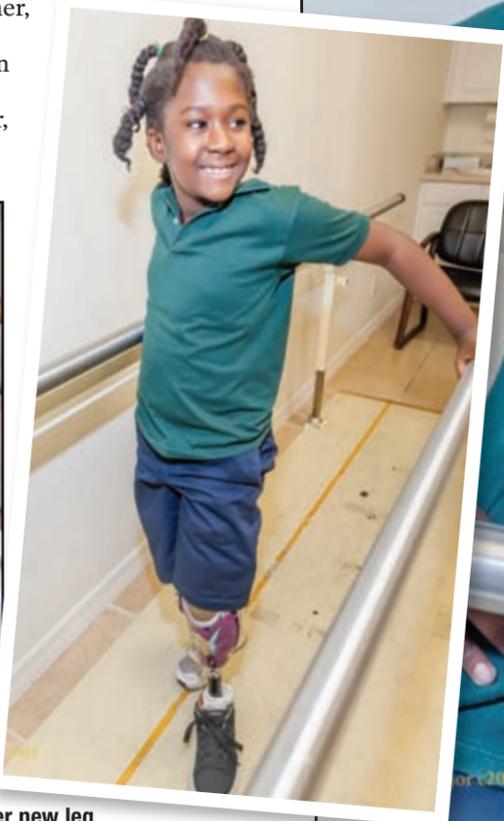
She told the Ayres she was scared, however, to play outside because there were alligators in the pond out back and if they were to chase her, she could not run away. "I think they're going to bite me," she said.

She sat on the couch next to Mr. Ayres. "Bob, I have to tell you something," she said, pointing to the toe on her primitive prosthetic leg. "That is almost going to fall off."

"Oh, this one here? Well, don't you worry about that," Mr. Ayres said. "You're going to get a whole new leg. All brand new."

He wiggled her prosthetic toe around. "Does that tickle? Does that hurt your toe?" he asked.

"No," Florica laughed. "I don't feel it." "Yeah, don't worry about it," Mr.



**Florica walks toward her reflection in the mirror, learning to trust her new leg.**

Ayres said. "You're going to get a whole new leg."

Florica wondered if her leg would look like her new friend Bob's leg.

### A visit from an angel

Mr. Ayres was hit by a speeding car while changing a tire on the side of the road. The impact threw him more than 80 yards, shattering his legs, breaking his arms, his ribs, every bone in his body except for two fingers and his spine. After years and years of surgeries and physical therapies, he had his right leg amputated above the knee. He was angry. He started popping pills. He drank himself into a coma. He saw an angel. He knew he did not survive his accident by mistake, hence the beginnings of Miracle Limbs.

Mr. Ayres now walks with a Symbionic leg. It has a sporty, stylish, superhero look. Some might argue that war has accelerated the acceptance of bionic limbs by society, but Mr. Ayres knows society can still be unforgiving.

He remembers a woman at the grocery store looking at his leg and telling him: "If something like that ever happened to me, I'd want somebody to pull the plug." Sometimes when people ask him if he's a veteran and he tells them no, they cast off his injury like, "Oh, well." He feels like saying, "Well, wait. It still hurt."

The day before her reconstructive surgery, Florica sat beside Mr. Ayres in a waiting room. She looked up at him with her bright brown eyes that so badly wanted to believe in magic. "Is it



**Bob Ayres believes adversity introduces a man to himself. Through Miracle Limbs, he has helped more than 50 amputees.**

going to be hurting?" she asked him.

He wanted to tell her the procedure would feel as soft as her pillow. He chose thoughtful words. "If you have a positive attitude it will heal faster," he said.

"What does that mean?" she asked.

"It means you shouldn't be sad," he tried to explain.

"I'm not sad," Florica asserted. "After they cut the leg, I'm going to have a new leg and I can run again. The end."

Her thoughts turning to worries too big for her age, she asked, "How much is it going to cost?"

The cooperation of doctors and prosthetists would save Miracle Limbs tens of thousands of dollars in the mission to help Florica. Miracle Limbs will continue to provide limbs and services for Florica as she grows, spending an estimate of \$8,000 to \$10,000 a year, but Mr. Ayres did not want her to think about the money. "Don't you worry about that," he told her.

The two walked back to see the orthopedic surgeon who would do the operation. Florica's residual limb was so tender now, she walked with crutches. If anyone went to touch her leg, she scampered back, making a whimper sound.

In walked Robert Casola, D.O., looking disheveled in his scrubs, like a man who starts work early and never sleeps enough. His comportment was that of a man who is hard on himself, like no matter how much good he does, he can

never do enough.

Dr. Casola had wanted to go to Haiti in the aftermath of the earthquake, but his health kept him from it. He had bone cancer. He was immuno-compromised. Looking at Florica, he said, "This is my payback. I didn't make it down there, but any way I can help the less fortunate, that's what we're here for."

### A surgeon's artistic touch

When Dr. Casola speaks of amputation, he uses the words "limb salvage." That's what he put on his business card.

"An amputation does not mean a failure," he said. "An amputation sometimes is a heroic salvage of the person."

No matter how crude Florica's limb salvage may have been, he feels it was courageous. "In the field, anything is acceptable," he said. "Anything that will save a child's life or a person's life is acceptable, so it's not a question of could he have done the surgery differently or what the quality of the surgeon was. He saved her life. Period. That's all that matters."

Other doctors who looked at Florica's leg suggested a clean start, an above-the-knee amputation. But Dr. Casola wanted to save her knee. The next morning at Gulf Coast Medical Center, he did a technique he calls feathering, whereby he surgically elongated the muscle, like a feather, covering bones and nerves to give her residual limb a cushion.

Prosthetic professionals say what Dr. Casola does cannot be found in books, that he has an innate way of manipulating tissue and advancing muscle. He did have to remove part of Florica's bone, as it had grown infected waiting on health-care politics to clear the way for the procedure. But Florica had her knee. Her residual limb was round. She went home with the Ayres to recuperate.

### Matters of trust

A few weeks later, Florica kept asking Mr. Ayres, "How many minutes, Bob? How many minutes?" They were driving to her fitting for her new prosthetic leg.

Florica wanted a pink leg. She got Tinker Bell, a leg colored in pastel hues, emblazoned with the fairy that only exists when children believe.

Paul Weott, the owner of Orthotic & Prosthetic Centers, wanted Florica to believe in her new leg. Teaching her how to walk again, he said, "Bend your knee. Put all your weight on it. Walk through it." It was like hearing someone say: 'Fall back. I'll catch you. Don't worry. Trust me.' Florica was learning to trust her new leg.

Within the hour she was walking

### in the know

#### More about Miracle Limbs

Miracle Limbs—Courage in Motion is a Florida-registered nonprofit committed to providing amputees and their immediate families the resources necessary to overcome the physical, emotional and financial hurdles that accompany the loss of a limb. Founders Bob and Diana Ayres of Naples made a list of things they need and ways you can help:

- Donated office space in the North Naples area
- Corporate sponsors for event sponsorship or annual grants
- An appropriate vehicle to accommodate participant and equipment transfers (preferably a compact, cost-efficient SUV)
- Volunteers for specific events, professional development and marketing expertise
- Airline travel vouchers allowing Miracle Limbs to broaden its outreach to assist veterans
- Personal donors, private family foundation grants, corporate grants
- People willing to spread the Miracle Limbs mission through Facebook and social media

For any questions, suggestions or support, call Mr. Ayres at 591-8393 or Mrs. Ayres at 300-8156, or send an email to Robert@miraclelimbs.org.

Financial contributions can be made online at [www.miraclelimbs.org](http://www.miraclelimbs.org) or can be mailed to Miracle Limbs, 6017 Pine Ridge Road, #303, Naples FL 34119.

backwards, taking side steps, making lunges down the hallway. She wanted to look in the mirror. Seeing herself — not yet running, but believing — she announced: "It looks pretty to me."

Mr. Weott and his team made that pretty leg — starting with a cast of Florica's residual limb, filling it with plaster, making a mold of her leg, fitting prosthetics to the mold, putting her in a clear test socket so they could see the inside mechanics while she walked, shaping it all up into Tinker Bell — they made a way for Florica to run with her new friends at Lake Trafford Elementary School in Immokalee. "You're ready to go now," Mr. Weott told Florica.

"Yes, I am," she said.

Looking up at him with her arms outstretched, she squealed, "Hug!"

"Oh, my goodness," Mr. Weott stumbled. "I didn't expect that from you. You're a tough girl."

Her perseverance and her spirit — rather, her magic — almost took the legs right out from under a man who makes legs.

On the ride home she turned to her driver and said, "Bob, I will never forget you."

Mr. Ayres had no words. ■



**Dr. Robert Casola saved Florica's left knee by elongating her muscle to cushion her amputation.**

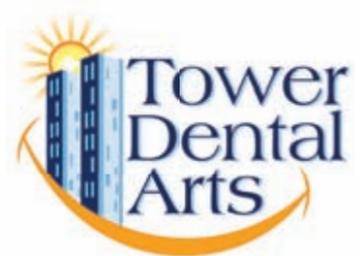
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Fifth Avenue South named its annual Holiday Decorating Contest and Best Dressed Tuba winners during the 18th annual TUBA Christmas on Sugden Plaza. The winners were:

**HOLIDAY DECORATING CONTEST**  
 Window Display: Most Creative, Castaway's/Tracy Negoshian; Most Classic Tradition, Little Luxe; Best in Show, Wind in the Willows  
 Building Entry: Most Classic Tradition, the Colonnade; Best in Show, Vergina's  
 Storefront Entry: Most Creative, Bellini Ristorante on 5th; Most Unique, Kay's on the Beach; Most Classic Tradition, Bella Maria

**BEST DRESSED TUBA CONTEST**  
 First Place: Nicholas Lyon  
 Second Place: Pete Kinney

1. Hildegard Carney and Nancy Kerns  
 2. Best Dressed Tuba Player, second place, Pete Kinney  
 3. Best Dressed Tuba Player, first place, Nicholas Lyon

BOB RAYMOND / FLORIDA WEEKLY

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Waterside Shops hosted the fourth annual holiday party for the Guadalupe Center on Dec. 14. Special guests were 130 children from Immokalee and, of course, Santa and his helpers, including 45 volunteer high-school students. Employees of stores throughout Waterside donated toys, and staff from the Golisano Children's Museum of Naples organized a craft activity. Whole Foods sponsored the morning of fun for everyone.

1. Santa brings cheer — and hugs.
2. Santa wonders if she's been naughty or nice.
3. Julie Chirichella, Hal Kaelin and Anne Fleming of Waterside Shops
4. Santa arrives with Elf Melissa Workinger
5. Don and Susan Popejoy
6. All he wants is hugs.
7. Here comes Santa Claus!

COURTESY PHOTOS

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Edward Jones financial services for individual investors in the United States and through its affiliate in Canada. Every aspect of the firm's business, from the types of investment options offered to the location of branch offices, is designed to cater to individual investors in the communities in which they live and work. The firm's 12,000-plus financial advisors work directly with nearly 7 million clients to understand their personal goals -from college savings to retirement- and create long-term strategies for their investments that emphasize a well-balanced portfolio and a buy-and-hold strategy. Edward Jones embraces the importance of building long-term, face-to-face relationships with clients, helping them to understand and make sense of the investment options available today.

Edward Jones, which is ranked No. 2 on FORTUNE magazine's "100 Best Companies to Work For" in 2010, is headquartered in St. Louis. The firm's interactive website is located at www.edwardjones.com, and its recruiting website is www.careers.edwardjones.com.

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# NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD

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## Nuclear tractor pull

Edward Teller, the famous theoretical physicist known as the "father of the hydrogen bomb" for his work on the World War II-era Manhattan Project, died in 2003, but his daughter Rene told *The Free Press* of Kinston, N.C., in November that she had recently discovered two of her father's precious mementos at a thrift shop near Kinston during a road trip to visit relatives. "(Father's) work was so demanding"

she said, that he needed "recreational activities" and tried "the things you'd suspect," like chess. However, the two mementos were awards Mr. Teller had won at tractor pull competitions. "He'd show up at major tractor pulls" riding just a Cub Cadet mower, Rene said, and "leave the competition in the dust." (Mr. Teller's secret, she said, was using "nuclear fusion-based engines," which sponsors ultimately had to ban.) ■

## The entrepreneurial spirit

■ "It will be sort of my unique factor," said indulgent customer Lucy Luckayanko, describing her then-upcoming \$3,000 eyeball jewelry implant from New York City's Park Avenue Laser Vision — the insertion of a piece of platinum between the sclera (the white part) and the clear conjunctiva. Actually, said the shop's medical director, Dr. Emil Chynn, to WNEW-TV in November, it's "pretty safe." (WNEW-TV (New York City, Nov. 20, 2013)

■ Japan's "cat cafes" allow the pet-starved to relax while dining by caressing house kittens that roam the facili-

ties, but similar eateries have opened recently featuring owls (the Fukurou Sabou in Tokyo, Owl Family in Osaka). (The owls are not caressable and are easily spooked by excessive noise.)

■ Liu Pengfei's Five Loaves and Two Fish restaurant in Fuzhou, China, is losing money rapidly despite overflow dining crowds, according to a December China Daily report, because he allows customers to pay only what they wish. (They must also wash out their bowls.) "I want to continue," he said, "as I believe the feeling of trust is contagious." ■

## Cutting-edge science

■ It may be a cliché of domestic conflict, but physicists have earnestly tackled the dynamics of toilet bowl "splash back." A stream delivered by a standing male, because it travels five times farther than a seated male's, produces a splash easily reaching seat and floor — even without factoring in the "well-known" Plateau-Rayleigh instability — the inevitable disintegration of a liquid stream "six or seven inches" after its formation. Short of recommending that men be seated, the researchers (speaking to a November conference) suggest "narrowing the angle" by "standing slightly to one side and aiming downwards at a low angle of

impact." (BBC News, 11-6-2013)

■ University of British Columbia researchers, intent on judging whether blocking dopamine D4 receptors can reduce the urge to gamble in subjects other than humans, claimed in October to have devised a test that works on the dopamine receptors of rats — especially those with a gambling problem. With a slot machine-like device dispensing sugar pellets, the researchers claimed they offered rats measured risks and even determined that rats are more likely to take risks immediately following a close loss (as are humans). (Science Daily, Oct. 29, 2013) ■

## Medical marvels

Seven years ago, Michael Spann, now 29, suddenly doubled over in pain that felt like he "got hit in the head with a sledgehammer," and began crying blood. Despite consulting doctors, including two visits with extensive lab work at the venerable Cleveland Clinic, the Antioch, Tenn., man told Nashville's *The Tennes-*

sean in October that he is resigned to an "idiopathic condition" — a disease without apparent cause. Mr. Spann's main wish now is just to hold a job, in that fellow workers, and customers, tend not to react well to a man bleeding from the eyes (even though his once-daily episodes have become more sporadic). ■

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# ZOO

From page 1

can tip the scales at 70-plus pounds.

## Wild facts

■ Giant anteaters can shoot out their tongue up to 24 inches, 2.5 times a second, to snatch up the 30,000 insects they must eat each day. They can unleash deadly force with their 4-inch-long claws.

■ When giant anteaters sleep, they often use their tail like a blanket to camouflage them and keep them warmer.

■ Cotton-top tamarins sleep in late to avoid some predators that are active around dawn and dusk and at night. These small monkeys wait over an hour after sunrise to start foraging and carefully select a sleeping tree well before sunset.

■ While most tortoises eat only plants, the red-footed tortoise also



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 Cotton-Top Tamarins

consumes the meat of deer, wild pigs, birds and snakes. But having neither the speed nor teeth required to hunt, they scavenge these meaty meals — or eat

snails and insects they can catch.

■ Two-toed sloths are built to live upside down. Their vise-like claws retain their grip even after death.

■ Two-toed sloths move at just 6.5 feet a minute. Their slow lifestyle and grooved hair also allows algae to grow on them, which helps hide them from predators such as the harpy eagle.

Naples Zoo welcomes guests from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day, with the last ticket sold at 4 p.m. Entrance to the Zoo is at 1590 Goodlette-Frank Road across from Coastland Center. The Zoo is closed on Christmas Day, but is open New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

Admission is \$19.95 for adults, \$12.95 for ages 3-12, and free for 2 and younger. Zoo memberships and discount tickets are available at [www.napleszoo.org](http://www.napleszoo.org).

For more information, call 262-5409, visit the website or follow the Zoo on Facebook. ■

**in the know**

>> **Through Dec. 24**, the animals at Naples Zoo receive special presents to "open" — i.e., brightly wrapped treats into which they claw and bite to onlookers' delight. Here's the present opening/feeding schedule:

>> **Thursday, Dec. 19, and Monday, Dec. 23:** 9:30 a.m., South African lions; 12:15 p.m., giraffe herd; 2:30 p.m., honey badgers; 4 p.m., fosas of Madagascar. Feature show at 3 p.m.

>> **Friday, Dec. 20, and Tuesday, Dec. 24:** 10:45 a.m., striped hyenas; 11:45 a.m., alligators; 3:30 p.m. leopards. Feature show at 11 a.m.

>> **Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 21-22:** 9:30 a.m., South African lions; 10:45 a.m., striped hyenas; 11:45 a.m., alligators; 12:15 p.m., giraffe herd; 1 p.m., Malayan tigers; 2:30 p.m., honey badgers; 4 p.m., fosas. Feature show at 3 p.m.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Cotton-top tamarins sleep in late to avoid some predators active at dawn and dusk.

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1



3



4



5



2

Staff and volunteers from the Naples office of Quarles & Brady joined members of the Florida Gulf Coast University Anthropology Club to greet 170 curious third graders from Golden Terrace Elementary School and help them learn all about bones.

1. The Quarles & Brady teams consisted of several attorneys, staff members and other volunteers.

2. FGCU Anthropology Club students point out some of the differences in human bones and animal bones.

3. FGCU student Brandy Hyde tells her rapt audience about the skull structure of various animals.

4. Curious kids knew just what to do as Samantha Wade of the forensic anthropology department at FGCU explains the teeth and bone structure in different animals.

5. The students proved to be an attentive audience.

COURTESY PHOTOS



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## Donate a crib for sweet dreams

Collier County has had four sleep-related infant deaths this year. Sudden Unexpected Infant Death is the leading cause of death of children ages 0-18 months in Collier County.

The Collier County Sheriff's Office joins with the NCH Safe & Healthy Children's Coalition of Collier County and others to raise awareness of the dangers of adults sharing a bed with an infant and to encourage the community to donate new pack 'n' play portable cribs for distribution to local families.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends babies sleep ALONE, on their BACKS and in a CRIB. The risk of infant death is 40 times higher for babies who sleep in adult beds.

A pack n play set is an economical

solution to provide a safe sleep environment for a newborn or an infant. Here's how Collier County residents can donate a portable crib:

■ Through the Safe and Healthy Kids Coalition at [www.safehealthychildren.org](http://www.safehealthychildren.org).

■ At the Walmart Supercenter at 11225 Tamiami Trail N., where pack 'n' play sets for donation can be purchased at the online price of \$49.88.

The Florida Department of Health in Collier County (3339 Tamiami Trail E., Building H) and North Naples Fire Control & Rescue District, Station 45 (1885 Veterans Park Drive) will serve as drop-off locations for donations.

More information, visit [www.safehealthychildren.org](http://www.safehealthychildren.org). ■

## Don't let a ticket spoil your holidays

The Collier County Sheriff's Office gives drivers a heads-up that traffic enforcement deputies will be posted at the following places the week of Dec. 23-27:

■ **Monday, Dec. 23**

Vanderbilt Beach Road and Collier Boulevard: Speeding

U.S. 41 North and Pine Ridge Road: Aggressive driving

Immokalee Road at Tarpon Bay Boulevard: Aggressive driving

■ **Tuesday, Dec. 24**

Radio Road and Santa Barbara Boulevard: Red-light running

Collier Boulevard at I-75 northbound exit: Aggressive driving

Naples Boulevard: Aggressive driving

■ **Wednesday, Dec. 25**

Immokalee and Airport-Pulling roads: Speeding

Pine Ridge and Livingston roads: Red-light running

Golden Gate Parkway and Sunshine Boulevard: Red-light running

■ **Thursday, Dec. 26**

Vanderbilt Beach Road and Strada Place: Speeding

U.S. 41 East and Lakewood Boulevard: Red-light running

Santa Barbara Boulevard and Golden Gate Parkway: Aggressive driving

■ **Friday, Dec. 27**

Orange Blossom Drive and Livingston Road: Speeding

Radio and Airport-Pulling roads: Speeding

U.S. 41 North and Immokalee Road: Red-light running. ■

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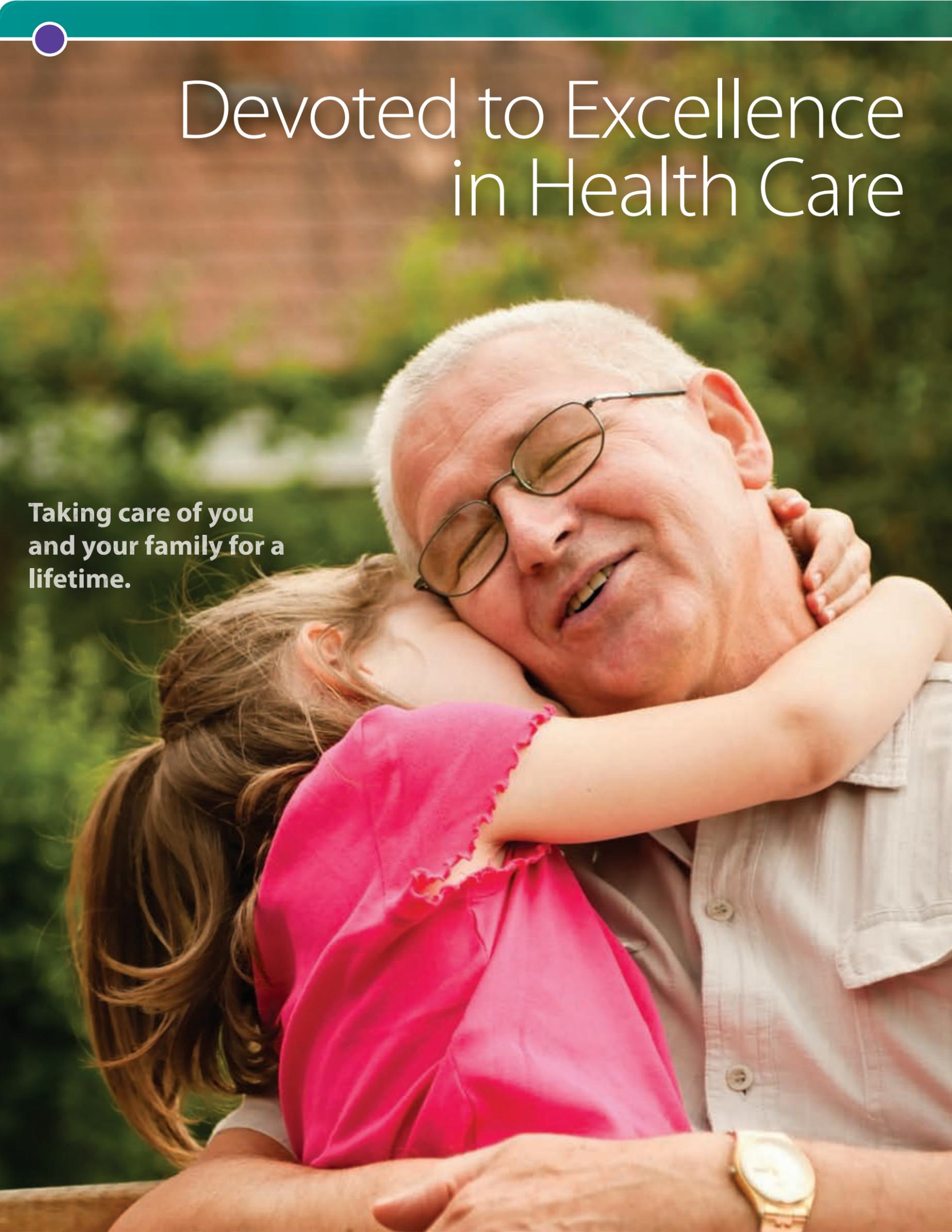
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# CLUB NOTES

■ Experts from the **Naples Orchid Society** will be on hand at Naples Botanical Garden from 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21, to offer free advice to those who bring in their ailing orchids or pictures of them. For more information, visit [www.naplesorchidsociety.org](http://www.naplesorchidsociety.org).

■ **Boston College Alumni of Southwest Florida** hosts the Boston College luncheon at Brio in Waterside Shops from noon to 1:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 13. Cost is \$18 per person (cash please). For reservations, call Diane Van Parys at 431-5224 or email [bcswfloridaalumni@gmail.com](mailto:bcswfloridaalumni@gmail.com).

■ The **Naples Doll Club**, under the umbrella of the United Federation of Doll Clubs, meets on the first and third Wednesdays of every month, November-April. Members promote the love of doll collecting, both antique and modern, and learn about doll making, history and fashion, during meetings and workshops.

The club's annual doll show and sale takes place Friday and Saturday, Jan. 17-18, at Moorings Presbyterian Church.

Hours are 1-5 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

For more information about the club, call Myrna Eby at (574) 780-0951 or email [mydoll\\_2@yahoo.com](mailto:mydoll_2@yahoo.com).

■ The **Naples Woman's Club** is cooking up its second annual Naples Kitchen Tour showcasing kitchens in Port Royal area homes. The date is Wednesday, Jan. 22, with tours setting out from the Naples Woman's Club at 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and noon. Transportation is provided.

Tickets include an open house from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at club headquarters, where entertainment, a gift boutique and food will be provided. Each home on the tour will also have gourmet samplings, musicians, floral designs and boutique shopping.

Tickets are \$100 for general admission, \$150 for patron level. Proceeds will benefit Friends of Foster Children, the David Lawrence Center, Youth Haven and the Naples Woman's Club philanthropic efforts.

To purchase a ticket, call Ann Palmer at 262-2259.

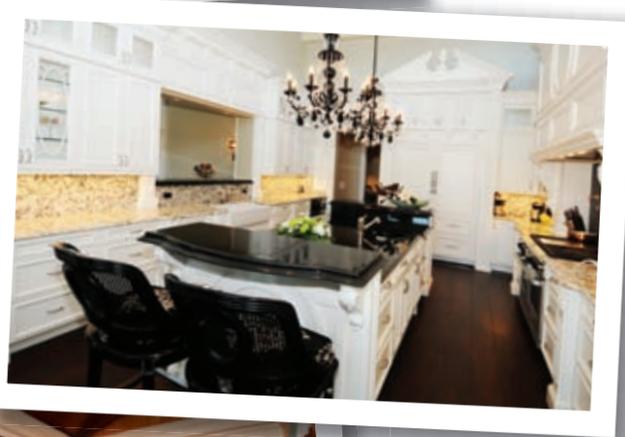
■ What could be better for an orchid aficionado than a free orchid plant and tips from an expert on how to make it bloom? That's the holiday gift attendees will receive at the **Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance's** Third Thursday event from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Dec. 19 at Vanderbilt

Presbyterian Church, 1255 Piper Blvd.

Award-winning hobbyist Jim Longwell will play "Orchid Santa," handing out seedlings (subject to limited supply), along with pots, mounts and potting mix and giving instruction on how to pot the plants. Everyone is asked to bring clean clippers or scissors to



Three of the kitchens that are on the 2014 tour organized by the Naples Woman's Club.



use. The hybrid seedlings will all be several years old and will have high possibilities of getting awarded, Mr. Longwell says. As a fun challenge, everyone will be asked to bring his or her grown seedling to the December 2014 Third Thursday meeting for a friendly competition to see who grew the best plant.

The Dec. 19 meeting will also have an orchid raffle, and several orchid plants will be available for purchase, some of which will

be bare root blooming size plants that allow orchid aficionados to add to their collections without spending big bucks.

Attendance is free, and all are welcome. Annual membership in the alliance is \$25 for individuals, \$45 for joint members and

free for ages 18 and younger. For more information, call 498-9741 or visit [www.GulfCoastOrchidAlliance.com](http://www.GulfCoastOrchidAlliance.com).

■ The **Naples chapter of PFLAG, Parents Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays**, a support, education and advocacy group for families with gay or transgender members, meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. The next meeting is Dec. 19. Call 513-4568 for location.

■ The **Florida Poetry Club** meets for open mic readings at The Norris Center from 4-5 p.m. on the second Tuesday of every month. The next meeting is Jan. 14. Members and guests are welcome to enjoy dinner together at Alberto's on Fifth afterward. For more information, call Jan Cosner at (440) 554-1144 or email [formulawriting@hotmail.com](mailto:formulawriting@hotmail.com).

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# CLUB NOTES

■ The **Jewish Genealogy Shared Interest Group** meets at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 14, at the Jewish Federation of Collier County, 2500 Vanderbilt Beach Road. All who are interested in getting starting and/or continuing to explore the world of Jewish genealogy are welcome. No experience is necessary. RSVP by emailing [genresearch13@yahoo.com](mailto:genresearch13@yahoo.com).

■ The **Genealogical Society of Collier County** meets at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 14, at Moorings Presbyterian Church. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Guest speaker for the first meeting of the New Year will be Ron Benson, who will discuss using DNA to trace your ancestors.

Attendance is free and all are welcome. Regular meetings take place on the second Tuesday evening of every month. The society celebrates its 29th anniversary with a dinner for members and their guests on Tuesday, April 8, at Moorings Presbyterian Church. A regular meeting and program will follow and is open to all. For reservations or more information about the anniversary dinner, call 593-4550 or visit [www.thegscc.org](http://www.thegscc.org).

■ The **Collier County Democratic Club** celebrates its silver anniversary with a gala evening and memorial tribute to co-founder Chuck Mohlke the evening of Saturday, Jan. 25, at the Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club. Guest speakers will include Allison Tant, chairman of the Florida Democratic Party; Debbie Wasserman Schultz, chairwoman, Democratic National Committee; Joe Garcia,

U.S. Representative, 26th Congressional District; and Florida Sen. Dwight Bulard of Broward County.

VIP admission is \$250; general admission is \$125. For more information, visit [www.collierdems.org](http://www.collierdems.org).

■ Members and guests of the **Kappa Alpha Theta Alumnae Chapter of Naples, Bonita Springs and Marco Island** will celebrate the sorority's Founders' Day with a luncheon beginning at 11 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 26, at the Naples Yacht Club. Several 50-year Thetas will be honored, and guests will hear from Peggy Post, director of the Emily Post Institute and author of numerous etiquette books. For reservations or more information, call Mary Lynn Myers at 431-5434 or e-mail [mlm2817@aol.com](mailto:mlm2817@aol.com).

■ **Zonta Club of Naples** invites members and visiting Zontians to its monthly meetings at Brio at Waterside Shops at noon on the first Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is Jan. 7. Cost is \$17. For reservations or more information, call Erica Vanover at 434-1112.

■ The **Naples Newcomers** helps those who are new to the area make new friendships centered on various social activities. Members meet to share a variety of interests and activities, including couples and singles groups, bridge, mahjonn, crafts, gourmet cooking, coffees, movies, card games and book discussions. Membership is for

women who have been permanent residents of Naples for no more than five years.

Luncheon meetings are on the second Thursday of each month at Naples area country clubs. An orientation coffee for prospective members takes place on the first Thursday of each month. For more information about the January meetings, call 298-4083 or visit [www.naplesnewcomers.com](http://www.naplesnewcomers.com).

■ Chess players of all ages and levels of ability are welcome to join **Chess at Moorings** for friendly competition from 9 a.m. to noon every Saturday at Moorings Park, and Chess at Lutheran from 9 a.m. to noon Monday at Marco Island Lutheran Church. Each morning begins with a brief discussion by a local expert about some aspect of the game.

Participation is free. Bring your own chess set or use one provided by the Moorings.

Moorings Park is on the east side of Goodlette-Frank Road just south of Pine Ridge Road. Stop at the entrance gate for directions to the Chess Club meeting. Marco Island Lutheran Church is at 525 N. Collier Blvd.

For more information about playing chess at either location, call Wade Keller at 389-2525 or visit [www.chess7.net](http://www.chess7.net).

■ **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 Moorings Professional Building, 2335 Tamiami Trail N., Suite 208. Call Robert Rizzo at (407) 493-8584.

■ **Marco Island Toastmasters:** 6:30 p.m. every Wednesday at Centennial Bank, 645 Elkcarn Circle, Marco Island. Email Chris Pritchard at [colliertoastmasters@gmail.com](mailto:colliertoastmasters@gmail.com).

■ **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. ■

— E-mail club news to Cindy Pierce at [cpierce@floridaweekly.com](mailto:cpierce@floridaweekly.com).



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# HEALTHY LIVING

## Pig kidneys for transplantation could help thousands of patients

BY REBECCA BURTON  
Special to Florida Weekly

Kidney failure patients in the not-too-distant future could have a new option that sidesteps the current organ shortage, lengthy wait and potential rejection: grow your own.

University of Florida researchers are using a pig kidney as a “scaffold” in which they are building a human version by injecting it with stem cells grown from the patient. Those cells will “take over” the pig kidney, allowing it to be transplanted into humans.

If successful, the researchers say, the process could reduce the wait for a kidney from years to several months and save tens of thousands of lives annually.

“It is so exciting, this whole new therapeutic path,” said Dr. Edward Ross, a nephrologist and professor of medicine at UF Health. Dr. Ross is collaborating on the project with Chris Batich, a professor of materials science and engineering and biomedical engineering at UF.

The challenge that prompted them and their team into action is daunting. More than 106,000 people in the United States await kidney transplants, according to data from the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network. But because so few kidneys are available, fewer than 17,000 receive transplants each year and nearly 500,000 undergo chronic dialysis treatments.

Mr. Batich and Dr. Ross want to change that, and they say the process for doing that is relatively simple in theory.

Step one is to take a kidney failure patient’s skin cells and turn them back to stem cells by adding certain chemicals and growth factors.

Step two is to wash the pig kidney of all of its cells, a process called decellularization. This is a crucial step, Dr. Ross says, and must be done carefully to avoid harming the structure of the organ, or washing away the chemical signals that cause the cells to differentiate.

After pumping in just the right amount of detergent to clean out the swine cells, the almost translucent organ becomes a scaffold — something like a building in which the human cells can grow.

“The idea was to use a natural architecture, something we could never craft synthetically,” Dr. Ross says. “The idea is if you put the human stem cells in, they will start to differentiate and remodel the scaffold.”

He adds the team is moving forward with the next steps of seeding the cells and then incubating them for growth. To get the human skin cells to turn into structures such as blood vessels, they need to be placed in the correct region of the scaffold. The kidneys are hooked up to devices containing pumps and vacuums to help push the cells to their new homes.

“There are certain chemicals in the scaffold that tell them what to become, so different parts of the scaffold have different signals,” he explains. “If stem cells land in a particular spot, they will know how to develop.”

The cells could then begin to “talk” to each other, reproduce and claim the pig kidney’s blood vessels and other structures as their own. Although the team is still waiting to see that happen in the pig kidneys, they have successfully proved it using rat organs in a study the group published in the journal *Organogenesis* in 2012.

Because the kidney would contain the patient’s own cells, modified pig kidneys could ultimately reduce the need for anti-rejection drugs that cause harsh side effects.

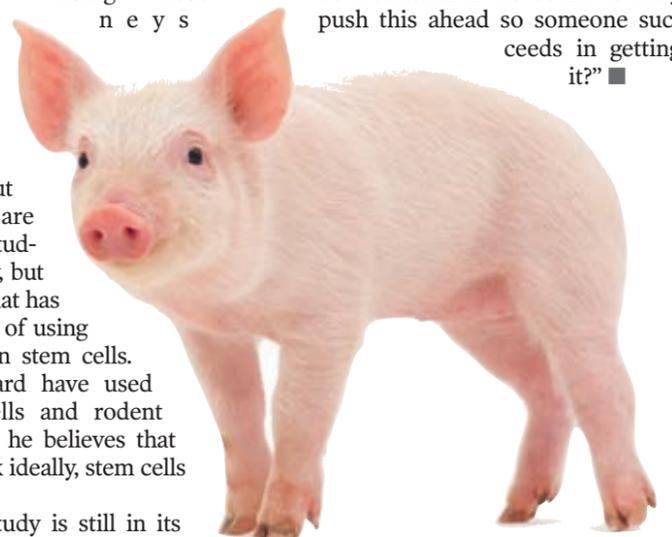
Dr. Ross says about six research teams are working on similar studies around the country, but UF is the only group that has tinkered with the idea of using a human patient’s own stem cells. Researchers at Harvard have used somewhat mature cells and rodent scaffolds, he says, but he believes that for the process to work ideally, stem cells are the way to go.

Although the UF study is still in its preliminary stages and a transplant using a converted pig kidney could be 10 years away, the team is optimistic.

“Our next step is to overcome the barriers to get the cells to grow long enough and to differentiate,” Dr. Ross says.

Mr. Batich stresses that success will depend on the amount financial support given to support this area of research. “UF is probably the only place in the country that has so many departments and groups in walking distance of each other and so it’s a really unique opportunity to be able to do this type of work,” he says. “Wouldn’t it be wonderful if we could actually push this ahead so someone succeeds in getting it?” ■

using these kidneys



## Clinical Documentation Improvement: the way of the future in health care



“Teamwork” might be the most over-used word in the English language. But in health care, never has there been a greater need for collaboration among patients, physicians, hospital systems, payers and regulators; in other words, for teamwork.

In last week’s column, I discussed the three dominant trends — payer ascendancy, consumerism and steering — that have motivated successful health-care communities such as NCH and those physicians who practice on our medical staff to examine how we can best work together to serve patients, payers and regulators.

The most recent and ongoing exam-

ple of teamwork is our implementation of a Clinical Documentation Improvement system led by Mike Stephens, our relatively new CFO, and his colleagues. Simply translated, that means recording and having at the ready, accurate and updated clinical records on all our patients.

This demands a robust computer system for our medical records. And I’m pleased to say that ours is among the best in the nation; indeed, NCH has been among the approximately 250 hospitals named Most Wired for the past two years, an indication that our hospital can be trusted to record accurately what is happening for patients, physicians, payers and regulators.

The coded data that are captured from the documentation in the medical record is used for appropriate reimbursement, as well as to compare NCH patient outcomes against our peers. More than 40 different organizations, including the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Ser-

vices, use this codified data to profile hospitals and individual physicians.

The CDI program enables us to tell the whole patient story accurately. Chief Medical Officer Dr. Doug Ardoin, who joined our staff six weeks ago, has observed that the relationship between NCH and physicians is changing — from a primarily transactional one to a more integrated one.

In the past, physicians in private practice (and that was me for 23 years) were relatively independent. Today’s model calls for physicians and systems becoming mutually interdependent and supportive. Synergy among all the participants will facilitate better outcomes for everyone.

This does not mean that doctors will necessarily be employed by health-care systems. But it does mean that everyone together has a real interest in documenting all of a patient’s current or preexisting conditions along with all of the treatments rendered. Just as

hospital rankings are easily accessible online at [www.medicare.gov/hospitalcompare](http://www.medicare.gov/hospitalcompare) and other websites, comprehensive physician attributes and descriptions will ultimately be posted on various websites. We already have the rudimentary Physician Compare at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov), and it’s expected to share more data in the near future. The Internet will make everyone more knowledgeable and ultimately improve the way we deliver health care.

In this age of increased transparency, NCH’s new CDI team will partner with physicians to help everyone. Our goal is to be fair to ourselves and everyone else, as we document episodes of care that accurately reflect the severity of illness, comprehensive treatment and quality of care that our colleagues deliver every day. ■

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



## New Bonita Springs Office Opening...

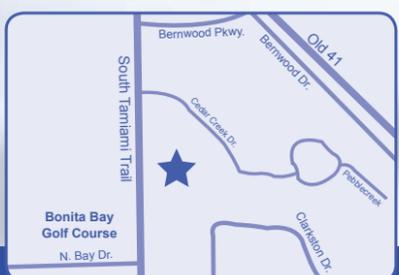
# January 6, 2013



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## Pull up a chair for weekly yoga

Master registered yoga instructor Jean Erlbaum will offer chair yoga from 10:30-11:15 a.m. every Thursday starting Jan. 9 in the Ole Movie Theater at Lely Resort. All are welcome. Beginners and people in wheelchairs are most welcome.

In chair yoga, all stretches are done on a chair or with the support of a chair, making the workout great for people

who can't get down on a yoga mat (or back up from one). The classes offer a good stretch as well as strengthening for muscles, moves for bone strength and balance and release for the joints.

Cost is \$7.50 per session. For more information, contact Ms. Erlbaum by calling (413) 230-1518 or emailing jean.erlbaum@verizon.net. ■

## Sign up now for 'spiritual intensive'

Registration is open for the winter "spiritual intensive" based on the teachings of Eckhart Tolle. Classes with facilitator Linda Allen meet from 6:30-8 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 16-March 6, at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Greater Naples, 6340 Napa Woods Way.

A student of Mr. Tolle for 13 years, Ms. Allen led intensives in Madison and Wausau, Wis., for several years before moving to Southwest Florida. She has been a student and practitioner of

meditation for more than 40 years. Her upcoming program consists of guided meditations and viewing/discussion of DVDs from Mr. Tolle's 2012 India retreat.

Cost of the eight-session class is \$35. Participation is limited to 40 people, and reservations are required. Call Donna Carty at 784-7734 or email JourneyTo-Presence@gmail.com. Or send a check for \$35 payable to Ms. Carty to 1725 Supreme Court, Naples, FL 34110. ■

## Planned Parenthood hosts navigator to help with Affordable Care Act

The Affordable Care Act gives the 80,000 Collier County residents who are without health insurance the chance to obtain it. To help those people understand the law and determine if they are eligible and, if so, if they qualify for financial aid, Planned Parenthood of Collier County hosts an Affordable Care Act navigator for free counseling every Wednesday at the Naples PPCC clinic.

"We support the ACA and the preventive health benefits it offers to women, and we applaud its efforts to expand access to care that so many of our uninsured residents have gone without," says Stephanie Marshall, PPCC president.

The open enrollment period for health insurance exchanges is through March 31. The law requires most Americans to have health insurance through their jobs, government plans such as Medicare or the exchanges by 2014.

Planned Parenthood of Collier County is an affiliate of Planned Parenthood Federation of America. PPCC health centers are at 1425 Creech Road in Naples and at 419 N. First St. in Immokalee.

The ACA navigator is at the Naples clinic on Wednesday mornings. Counseling is free, but appointments are recommended. Call 262-0301 or visit [www.plannedparenthood.org/collier-county](http://www.plannedparenthood.org/collier-county). ■

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# Give the Gift of Hope This Holiday Season

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LEE MEMORIAL HEALTH SYSTEM

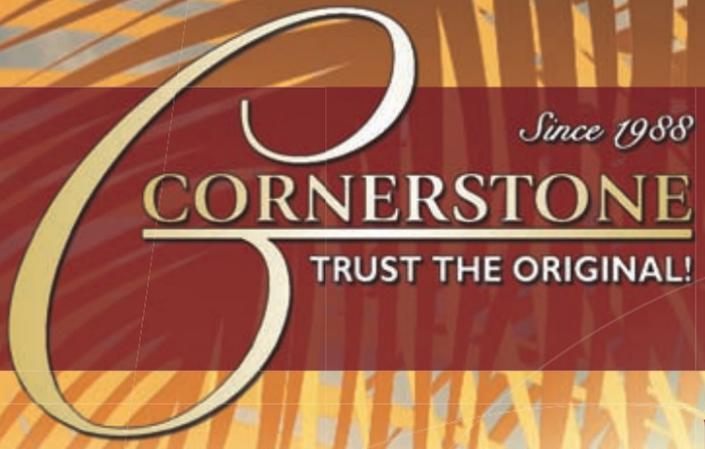
We are honored to introduce Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, a new state-of-the-art pediatric medical facility being built on the campus of HealthPark Medical Center. This new facility will provide hope and healing to thousands of Southwest Florida children and their families. Children from Collier, Lee, Charlotte, Hendry and Glades counties will be able to receive world-class medical care close to home.

Your personal or corporate gift to Golisano Children's Hospital will help save the lives of children in our community.

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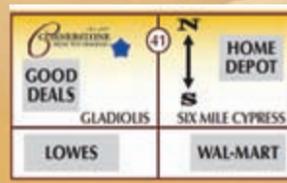
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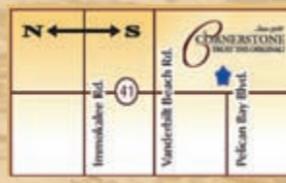
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## Clear your household of expired, unused meds

With the rise of prescription drug abuse and overdose deaths reaching epidemic proportions in recent years, pharmaceutical take-back programs are necessary tools for keeping harmful drugs from falling into the wrong hands.

Although the proliferation of pill mills contributed significantly to Florida's problem, stockpiles of medication found in medicine cabinets have also become a source for accidental poisoning, overdose and abuse.

Data shows that more than one in five teens in America has taken a prescription pain medication not prescribed for them, and one in 10 reports abusing cough medicine to get high.

There is good news, though. Thanks to efforts such as Operation Medicine Cabinet and other state and local initiatives, there was a sharp drop in illicit prescription pill abuse and deaths caused by prescription drugs during 2012 in Collier County and throughout the state.

A recently released Florida Department of Law Enforcement report shows that the number of drug-related deaths in Florida is at the lowest it's been since the Florida Medical Examiner's report was first compiled in 2008. Locally, the number of accidental deaths caused by prescription drugs dropped almost 20 percent, from 41 deaths in 2011 to 33 deaths in 2012.

In collaboration with the Collier County Sheriff's Office and the Naples and Marco Island

police departments, Drug Free Collier encourages residents to bring unused or expired prescriptions, controlled substances and over-the-counter medication to the following drop-off sites. No questions asked, no ID required and it's free.

■ CCSO main administration building, 3319 Tamiami Trail E., Naples; 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday

■ Marco Island Police Department, 51 Bald Eagle Drive, Marco Island; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday

■ Naples Police Department, 355 Riverside Circle, Naples; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday

■ Collier County Medical Examiner's Office, 3838 Domestic Ave., Naples; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday

■ Marco Island Recycling Center (no controlled substances), 990 Chalmers Drive, Marco Island; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday

■ Naples Recycling Center (no controlled substances), 2640 Enterprise Ave., Naples; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday

■ North Collier Recycling Center (no controlled substances), 9950 Goodlette Frank Road, Naples; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday

■ Everglades City Hall, 102 Copeland Ave., Everglades City; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday

For more information, call 377-0535, email [info@drug-freecollier.org](mailto:info@drug-freecollier.org) or visit [www.drugfreecollier.org](http://www.drugfreecollier.org). ■



## You watch what you eat... Do you watch what you breathe?



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# PET TALES

## Choosing a new dog

The best person to make the pick might be someone else

BY KIM CAMPBELL THORTON

Universal Uclick

Would you let someone else choose a dog for you? I have done so twice, and both times I hit the proverbial jackpot.

The first was when my family purchased a tricolor cavalier puppy from a breeder overseas. She emailed us photos and then shipped Darcy to us. We loved her. Her only flaw was succumbing too early to the heart disease that stalks her breed.

The second time was last year. When our black-and-tan cavalier Twyla died last November, I wasn't sure I was ready for another cavalier just yet. The two shelter dogs I inquired about through Petfinder didn't pan out. Fostering for my friend Maryanne Dell, who does rescue through her Shamrock Foundation, seemed like a good compromise.

"Do you want me to look for one that you might potentially adopt?" Maryanne asked. "Tell me what you're looking for, in case I run across a dog that might be a fit."

I asked for a dog that was 4 to 6 years old, so our 5-year-old cavalier, Harper, could have a playmate. As far as size, I was interested in going a little bigger than a cavalier, say, up to 30 pounds. Our rule is that we have to be able to carry the dog up and down the stairs in the event that it becomes sick or injured or is debilitated in old age. I preferred



Even in a single litter, dogs come in a range of personalities. An experienced breeder or shelter employee can help you decide which one is right for you.

a spaniel type, but I didn't want a dog with a really heavy coat. And in a perfect world, the dog wouldn't be much of a barker, since we live in a condo and stay frequently in hotels with our dogs.

What she brought us was a 6-pound ball of short black fur with a long, narrow bare patch on her back, a pointy gray muzzle and a howl that suggested she was part banshee. Labeled a Pomeranian-Chihuahua mix, she had been pulled from the shelter in Riverside, Calif., and was estimated to be 12 or 13 years old. She was a doll, though, and I told Maryanne I would be happy to foster her for as long as necessary.

Gemma, as I named her, arrived on Jan. 23. By Feb. 8, she was sleeping on the bed. Her fur started growing back, and we soon discovered that she had a beautiful long black coat with a ruff

around her neck and pantaloons on her legs.

My friends, I suspect, were taking bets on how long it would be before we adopted her. We made it official on March 19, signing the adoption papers that made her ours.

"Who didn't see that coming?" one of my friends remarked.

What are the advantages of letting someone else choose your dog? It can be a good idea whether you are purchasing from a breeder or adopting from a shelter.

■ A breeder has been watching her puppies for a minimum of eight weeks. If you accurately describe your personality and lifestyle, she is going to be able to tell you which puppy is upbeat and active and will make a great jogging buddy, and which one is easygoing enough to enjoy being a couch potato with you.

■ Shelter employees, rescue volunteers and foster owners have been observing their charges for weeks as well. Tell them what you want in a dog, and they can often steer you to the one that will suit you best.

■ And sometimes, what you think you want and what turns out to be perfect for you are two very different things.

I've told Maryanne that she can pick a dog out for me any time. ■

### Pets of the Week



>>**Chuckie** is a 1-year-old domestic shorthair. Handsome and friendly, he likes to be held and petted and promises to be a great forever buddy.



>>**Louie** is a Pekingese mix who's about 1 year old and weighs almost 15 pounds. He's playful, happy and good on his leash.



>>**Mitten** is a beautiful 5-year-old calico who loves to be petted and would prefer to be the only cat in the household. As a cat over 5 years old, Mitten's adoption is free to a qualified senior citizen and a complete care package is included.



>>**Zensah** is a 1-year-old Labrador retriever mix. She weighs about 50 pounds and still considers herself a lap dog. Friendly, calm and happy, she knows all the basics, is good on her leash and likes to go for walks.

### 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](http://www.colliergov.net/pets).



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# THE DIVA DIARIES

## All I want for Christmas is a getaway for two



The retail madness that defines the holidays is hitting its highest pitch as we get closer to Dec. 25 — and the radio and TV commercials are getting unusually loud, literally and figuratively. The ads that seem the most convincing are from jewelry stores — “What she REALLY wants for Christmas, is DIAMONDS!” Apparently, regardless of what she says, you can’t go wrong with sparkly rocks.

Recently, my husband posed the what-do-you-want-for-Christmas question to moi, and I just stared at him blankly.

When we started dating — and even during our first couple of years of marriage — I might have lusted after some fancy, expensive baubles.

And yes, I’d probably take a photo of myself wearing my glittery new jewelry to post on Facebook with the caption: “OMG! LOOK WHAT MY HUSBAND GAVE ME!” And of course, it wouldn’t be bragging at all. Well, never mind, obviously it would be bragging, as that’s one of the primary functions of Facebook.

But, honestly, now that Todd and I have been married for seven years, I’m thinking I would look at those diamond earrings and all I’d see is a vacation to wine country.

I’ve never been to California, and ever since I saw “Sideways” (and any other movie set in Sonoma), I’ve pictured Todd and me taking a car through wine country complete with ocean views, mountain views and juicy vineyards everywhere.

Or I might look at diamond earrings and see a Caribbean cruise, or a New Orleans weekend, or even a trip to Ohio to see family. It seems I’m not alone. I did an informal social media poll querying women about what they

wanted from their husbands or significant others for Christmas, and out of 40 answers, only two requested jewelry: From one: “Inside-out diamond hoop earrings about 1-1.5 inches in diameter.” Mind you, she and her beau have been dating only a couple of years. The other, from a young married woman, was more modest: “A silver ring or bracelet from an antiques store.”

Almost all of the 38 other responses (and these were from women either married or in long-term partnerships) had to do with travel.

Four of my friends want to go to Italy, one to Argentina, another to China. But the majority don’t care where, they just want to go away. One friend said: “Surprise me. I’ll go anywhere — anywhere, but Hoboken.” My favorite was the girlfriend who wants her partner to give her and five of her best girlfriends an all-expenses-paid weekend in New York City, while he stays at home — truly a selfless gift.

I hope my jeweler friends don’t hate me, but I think it’s clear that most women want to get the hell out of Dodge. “Calgon, take me away!” is more than a slogan. The ladies of Southwest Florida wish to flee — and at least most of them want to run off with their significant others in tow.

Finally, to Todd, my darling husband, please take this column personally, honey (hint, hint). ■

— *Ciao for now, my lovelies! Stay tuned for another divalicious diary entry next week ...*

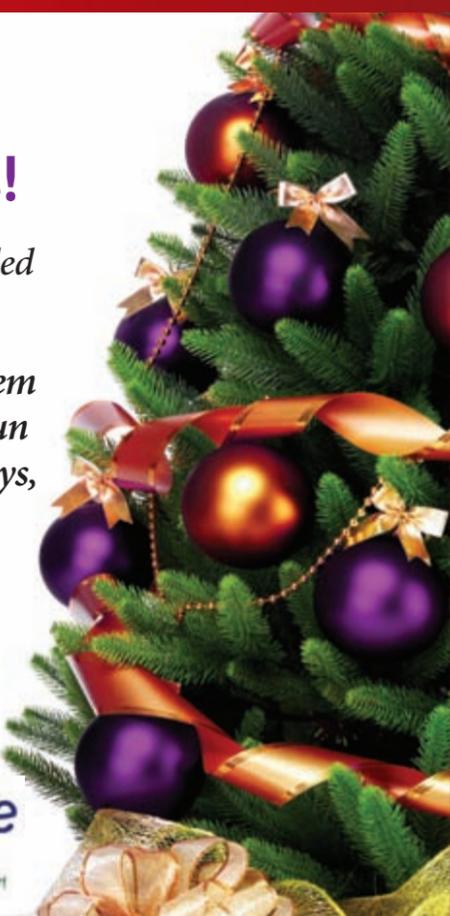
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### ENGLEWOOD

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Lynette Llerena, D.O.  
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Englewood FL 34223  
941-681-3690

Todd Chace, D.O.  
Julian Gershon, D.O.  
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Englewood FL 34224  
941-474-9314

Donald Robertson, D.O.  
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Englewood FL 34224  
941-474-8154

Walk-in Medical Center  
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Englewood, FL 34224  
941-474-8154

### PORT CHARLOTTE

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Numa Tamayo, M.D.  
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Manuel Martinez, M.D.  
George Nackley, M.D.  
Odel Ruano, M.D.  
Karen Pham, M.D.  
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Cathy Criss, D.O.  
David McAtee, D.O.  
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Jean Murphy, M.D.  
Janice Nord, M.D.  
Dana Planer, D.O.  
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Stéphane Calvino, M.D.  
Juan Rivera, M.D.  
Navija Valladares, M.D.  
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# BUSINESS & REAL ESTATE

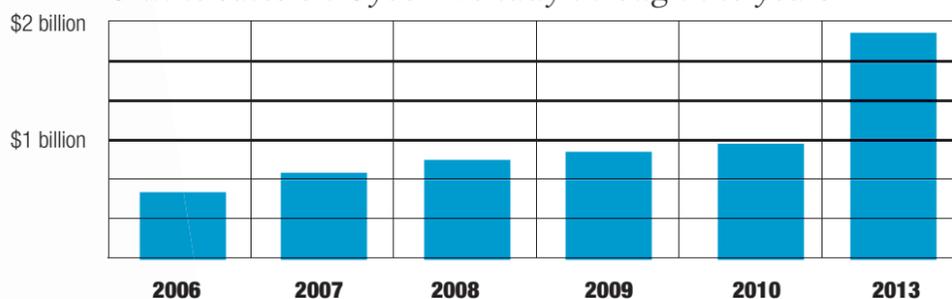
WEEK OF DECEMBER 19-25, 2013

A GUIDE TO THE LOCAL BUSINESS & REAL ESTATE INDUSTRIES

## Small businesses benefiting from online shopping shift

# Cyber awesome

Online sales on Cyber Monday through the years



BY ROGER WILLIAMS

rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

IT'S ONE OF THOSE BELL-RINGING MARKETING terms instantly definable, at least in the context of the season: "Cyber Monday."

Economic pundits say it was coined by www.Shop.org in 2005, because online sales in the United States jumped significantly on the Monday after Thanksgiving, a holiday that once preceded only one other marketing day important enough to have its own name, Black Friday.

And that's been true right through the recession and into the current re-booted economy, according to a data analyst called ComScore: In 2006, people returned to work from the Thanksgiving weekend to spend \$608 million. The figure came in at \$733 million the next year, \$846 million the year after that, and \$887 million in 2009.

The first year consumers spent more than a billion in online purchases on Cyber Monday was 2010, and by this year, 2013, they were able to get close to the \$1.8 billion mark nationwide, putting the icing

SEE CYBER, B4 ►

### INSIDE



#### On the Move

Who's going where, doing what on the local business scene. **B5** ►



#### House Hunting

A second-floor condominium at The Colony for \$769,000. **B9** ►



#### More Real Estate

NABOR's annual banquet. **B25** ►



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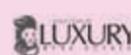
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# MONEY & INVESTING

## Commodities futures explained



There is much confusion about the various types of commodities related investment vehicles. They sound alike but have scant similarity in construction, function and performance.

Commodities futures and managed futures (including financial index futures) are sold by commodities brokers. ETFs, managed futures mutual funds, and certain commodity indices are sold by stock brokers.

Commodities futures are contracts to buy or sell, at a predetermined price and date, a set amount of a commodity including: grains, meats, metals, energies, softs, stock indexes, financials and currencies. Futures' liquidity and price discovery is found in worldwide markets that trade 24/7.

Commodities futures have beneficial taxation treatment in that a large percentage of any gain is designated as long-term capital gain regardless of how short a period of time it was owned/held.

The commodities futures contract is a leveraged contract. It allows a small amount of capital to carry a very large contract position. They are sold by commodities brokers who earn a commission.

Most importantly and uniquely, they are not a "long biased" market. It is a zero sum market in that every purchase of a futures

contract (or a "long") is balanced by a sale of a futures contract (or a corresponding "short commodities-related products"). This compares to equities markets, which are "long biased" (e.g., owners selling to new owners.) In equity corrections/crashes, there can be little liquidity as all are attempting to sell in unison.

Commodities indices are an index average of certain commodity prices based on underlying futures prices, either for a broad base or a specific subset of commodities.

ETFs are investment funds traded on a stock exchange. The funds can specialize in equities, bonds, commodities-related products, etc. Commodity ETFs are intended to track an underlying single commodity or several commodities futures contracts.

Both commodity indices and ETFs became popular in the wake of explosive growth in developing countries and their need for basic commodities. Stockbrokers wanted to offer commodity-like products to their clients yet are not licensed to sell commodities. Commodity indices and ETFs were created/promoted under the headers of 1) diversification and 2) inflation hedging. Yet, the prices of commodity ETFs crashed (and were illiquid) in 2008-2009 alongside equities. Since 2008, inflation has been a non-issue and most long only indices/ETFs have performed abysmally in this deflation.

ETFs have added fees for executive compensation, marketing and administration. They are notorious for price slippage in their commodities futures

execution. ETFs lack the preferential tax treatment of commodities futures.

Managed futures are a portfolio of long and short futures positions traded by a commodities trading adviser or CTA. Most CTAs use layers (upon layers) of portfolio management techniques to manage the risk of each commodity futures position and the overall portfolio's risk. At the client's discretion, the portfolio's leverage can be lowered by capitalizing the account with additional equity.

Uniquely, managed futures can lower overall portfolio risk of a traditional stock/bond portfolio while increasing overall portfolio return. It has capacity to adjust to changing economic conditions (e.g., inflation or deflation) and suddenly changing market conditions (e.g., equity crashes.) For many trend following CTAs, there is no presupposing what markets will do; their algo systems react to existing trends across: grains, metals, energies, stock indexes, financials, currencies, etc. Unlike ETFs which were shown to be positively correlated with equities and of little value in an equity crash, managed futures offers a near zero correlation with equities in normal times and, most importantly, a nearly perfect negative correlation in times of equity crisis.

Managed futures are important to equity investors who know that equity crises cannot be precisely timed and that the Fed is undertaking Herculean monetary feats to generate inflation.

Managed futures (mutual) funds are funds that sounds like managed futures

— but they aren't. By securities law, any fund sold by equities brokers must qualify as securities. Based on multiple prospectuses of managed futures mutual funds, these funds have frequently placed 75 percent of the portfolio in securities and have placed 25 percent in an offshore subsidiary that manages the commodities-related portion (either through a CTA or ETFs and indices). In sum and substance, smart lawyers have found a way to create another commodities-related product with a complicated-structure such that equity brokers can sell it.

In summary, it is managed futures that can have the capacity to perform well in crises, retains the beneficial tax aspects, trades in markets with world wide price discovery and liquidity, does not charge layers of executive, administration and marketing fees, and exactly tracks the prices of commodities futures. ■

— Jeannette Showalter, CFA is a commodities broker with Worldwide Futures Systems. Find her on Facebook at Jeannette Showalter, CFA.

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## Survey shows Floridians plan to make New Year's resolutions about finances

### SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

According to a report released Dec. 19 by BMO Harris Financial Advisors, 55 percent of Floridians surveyed will make at least one New Year's resolution for 2014. Further, 29 percent of all resolutions Floridians plan to make before the clock strikes midnight Dec. 31 will focus on setting goals related to personal finances.

The BMO report says 2014 New Year's resolutions related to dollars and cents will be more popular than those related to the following topics:

- Personal (learn a new skill, read more, etc.), 27 percent.

- Health and fitness (join gym, diet, quit smoking), 27 percent.

- Love life (start dating, get married, etc.), 16 percent.

- Career (work more/less, get a promotion, etc.), 13 percent.

"Your personal finances have an impact on so many other aspects of your life, so it's a positive sign that many in Florida will be setting financial goals for the year ahead," says Larry Skolnik, regional sales manager, BMO Harris Financial Advisors.

The BMP study also found that 46 percent of those surveyed living in the state currently have a financial plan. Of this group, 92 percent reported a plan has helped them achieve their goals in the past, and 93 percent are confident that their financial plan will help them achieve their goals in the future. Half of the respondents who have a financial plan indicated the wish they had created it sooner.

Of those Floridians who do not have a financial plan, the most commonly cited reasons include:

- Do not think they have enough money to justify having a financial plan, 36 percent.

- Never thought of doing a financial plan, 22 percent.

- It is not a priority, 15 percent.

- Personal financial situation too volatile, 12 percent.

"A financial plan can benefit anyone, regardless of their current fiscal situation," Mr. Skolnik notes.

The BMO survey was conducted by Pollara with an online sample of 1,001 Americans 18 years of age and older, including 100 Florida residents, between Nov. 20-26. Among the survey's national findings:

- Sixty-eight percent of those Americans surveyed will be making a New Year's resolution for 2014.

- Setting goals related to personal finances will account for 28 percent of all resolutions made; other areas include health and finance (39 percent), personal goals (27 percent), love life (16 percent) and career (16 percent).

- Fifty-three percent of those who have made financial New Year's resolutions in the past have kept them, with women seeing them through more than men (57 percent vs. 46 percent).

- Forty percent of those Americans surveyed have a financial plan.

- The top reason identified for not having a financial plan is "do not have enough money to justify having one" (39 percent). ■

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# CYBER

From page 1

on the five-day cake, so to speak, with sales jumping 16.5 percent over the previous year, according to reports in the *Los Angeles Times* and other media outlets.

## Local traction on the web

For businesses in Southwest Florida that sell online, success on Cyber Monday requires a sometimes complicated and ever-changing formula for competition in which several factors play prominent roles: the cost of shipping, for example, ranging from free to reduced, depending on the size of an order; the longevity of the product — does it need to be shipped overnight? The sophistication and ease of access of the company website.



RENDA

However they play it, and whether consumers are making the purchases from their office computers,

their cell phones or other mobile devices, it's a world of promise for marketers.

"Our online sales doubled from last year for Cyber Monday, but we started offering promotions on Thanksgiving, like a lot of companies now," says Deanna Renda, CEO and founder of the Naples Soap Company, with brick-and-mortar storefronts in Key West, Sarasota, Punta Gorda and on Fifth Avenue in Naples.

"This year started slower," she adds, "and then we lowered what the minimum dollar purchase was for free shipping to \$35 — typically it was over \$50."

And suddenly, it wasn't just Cyber Monday, it was Cyber Thanksgiving week.

## Competing with Amazon

Other regional businesses found themselves playing with their formulas for storefront and online sales too — and like Ms. Renda, keeping one anxious eye on the biggest most muscular competitor they face: Amazon.

"Competing against Amazon is very difficult — especially for price and speed, since they have the fastest shipping," explains Cathy Graham, co-owner of the lively Copperfish Books in Punta Gorda, which completed its first year with a brick-and-mortar storefront in October, after eight years of selling books — many rare and



GRAHAM



COURTESY PHOTOS  
Products ready to ship, clockwise from above: Books at Copperhead Books, body scrubs at Naples Soap Company and Norman Love Confections sweets.



collectible, or antiquarian, as well as new and used books — online.

Now, the store's online offerings number about 3,000 volumes, while the inventory at the Copperfish store itself ranges from 12,000 to 15,000.



WYCKOFF

"The brick and mortar has taken some of our energy," Ms. Graham notes, "but we compete (with Amazon, for example) by taking care with every book. Especially with folks who are collecting, they want to make

sure the shipping is good." Still, she concludes, "Price is always going to be a big thing. It's a race to the bottom, and we're a discount kind of culture. Amazon is pressuring everyone to (go lower), and they have the deepest pockets in the world, and they have no lms

about selling for less than they buy something, to get the business."

Perhaps the most singular and successful foray into online sales springing from Cyber Monday and the Thanksgiving weekend marketing paradigm comes in the high-quality perishables made and sold by Norman Love Confections, the hugely successful purveyor of fine chocolates.

"We began through the advice of our PR company (Gravina, Smith, Matte & Arnold, based in Fort Myers) to try Cyber Monday last year, because it appeared that the e-commerce part of our business for the last 10 years was the fastest growing sector," Mr. Love explains.

In truth, his company didn't just try the new Cyber Monday model, it mastered it, at least judging by the numbers.

With a database of 13,000 to 14,000 repeat customers, Norman Love Confection

tions boosted its cyber sales a spectacular 59.6 percent by the close of business on Cyber Monday, Mr. Love reports.

"We were brutally beat up — the influx of orders that came in, in a 24 hours period, was astonishing. Orders were coming in at three or four a minute, around the clock."

Fortunately, he was prepared for that eventuality.

What it means in the store, however, is an immense amount of very hard work, with a logistical execution that could rival a sophisticated military deployment.

On Monday afternoon this week, Mr. Love and his hard-working crew were set to meet Federal Express flatbed trucks with containers designed for the job at his back door. Into those instantly transportable containers, he would put some 3,000 packages — each package carefully insulated and prepared for its journey here or across the country, with no spoilage or melting, within a day or two.

The lesson in all this is simple, if not the science and art of online selling itself, Mr. Love says.

"If you have a website — if you manage and market that well — it's the most comfortable way for American consumers to buy.

"So when they see opportunities like Black Friday or Cyber Monday for which they can wait to shave \$10 off the shipping, for example, that's big.

The question for a merchant then becomes how much to reduce the shipping price in order to compete, without going in the hole.

"The way we do it is to offer a \$10 flat fee for a box of chocolates to ship to most parts of the country," Mr. Love says. "That's about a \$20 or \$25 savings for same day or next day service. Consumers are taking advantage."

None of this means that Southwest Florida's savvy cyber merchants will give up their brick and mortar anytime soon, however.

There are some things you just can't do online, all of them agree — like indulge the five senses. Like shop by feel, taste, touch, smell or sound, whether the product is chocolate, elegant soaps or books.

"Wine and words (and classical music) — the social, cultural and literary events with readers like Robert Macomber or Tim Dorsey or Dianne Gilbert Madsen — there's some depth in those things. It's that social and cultural aspect that people are still hungry for," Ms. Graham explains — along with that sensory indulgence.

"You can't do that online." ■

- in the know**
- >> Norman Love Confections: [www.normanloveconfections.com](http://www.normanloveconfections.com)
  - >> Naples Soap Company: [www.naplessoap.com](http://www.naplessoap.com)
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# ON THE MOVE

## New Location

The law firm of **Osterhout & McKinney, P.A.** has opened an office in Collier County at in the Executive Center at 999 Vanderbilt Beach Road, Suite 200.

## Awards & Recognition

**Elisabeth Novakovich**, assistant director of the Emergency Department at NCH-North Naples, has received a Patriot Award from the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, an arm of the Department of Defense. The award is presented to an individual who has shown exceptional support of the National Guard and Reserve forces.

## Board Appointments

**Trisha Hare**, vice president, Key Private Bank, has been named chair of the board of directors for Grace Place for Children & Families. She previously served a two-year term as treasurer.

**Otto Immel**, a partner in the Naples office of Quarles & Brady LLP, has been appointed to the board of directors of The Naples Zoo at Caribbean Gardens to assist in fundraising and grant making as well as to provide leadership during the Zoo's planned expansion. Mr. Immel is involved with a number of local professional and civic organizations, including service as a board member of both H.R. Collier and Fun Time Early Childhood Academy and as a neutral hearing officer for the Board of Collier County Commissioners to preside over appeals of county personnel actions.



IMMEL

**Lacey King** has been named incoming chair of the board of trustees for The Shelter for Abused Women & Children. A former diplomat for the U.S. Department of State, Ms. King has been a devoted community activist in Naples since 1995. She has worked on behalf of Hope for Haiti, Greater Naples Leadership, Friends of the Library and Chaîne des Rôtisseurs, among others. She joined the Shelter's board of trustees in 2009 and co-chaired the Mending Broken Hearts with Hope luncheon in 2010.



KING

**Gerri Miller** has joined the board of directors of Grace Place for Children & Families. Ms. Miller held a leadership position on The Campaign for Grace Place committee that acquired the Grace Place campus in 2010, remodeled the chapel into a multi-purpose classroom building in 2012 and raised the annual fund from \$465,000 in 2010 to \$1 million in 2013. She joins the following board members: Phillip Plessinger, Robert Furek, Stanley Russell, William Hazzard, Kristen Petry, Mario Valle and John Wasmer III.

## Construction

**Tammy Kaminski** has been named director of project management and construction for all new Discovery Village senior-living communities. Her first project, Discovery Village At Naples, is already underway. A certified general contractor in Florida, Ms. Kaminski graduated from Catholic University in Washington, D.C., with a bachelor's degree in architecture with a concentration in construction management. She began her career with The Whiting-Turner Construction Co. in Baltimore and moved to Florida in 1997 as a project manager for Owen-Ames-Kimball Co. She most recently was with Lodge Construction.

## Hospitality

**Angela Robertson Morales** has been promoted to general manager of Angelina's Ristorante in Bonita Springs. A graduate of the Culinary Institute of America, she has served as sommelier at the restaurant since March and was also in the position from October 2007 through 2012.



MORALES

**Lance Washington** has been promoted to district manager of the South Florida region for Truly Nolen. A 15-year employee of the company, he has held the position of branch manager in Naples, Bonita Springs and Fort Myers and has been a member of the company's President's Club for the past four years. As district manager, he will oversee six Truly Nolen branches in Naples, Marco Island, Key Largo and Miami.



WASHINGTON

**Bruce Ronty** has been named general manager of Avenue5, the restaurant scheduled to open in January at the Inn on Fifth in downtown Naples. Mr. Ronty has more than 25 years of experience in the food and beverage industry. In Naples since 2001, he worked as director of food and beverage operations at the La Playa Beach and Golf Resort and its award-winning Baleen restaurant, and later as director of operations The Dock and Riverwalk restaurants. He previously served as director of food and beverage operations for Jillian's Entertainment and Restaurant Corp. in North Carolina, and as general manager of Joe's American Bar and Grill on the Waterfront in Boston. He has completed the first of three parts of the sommelier test.

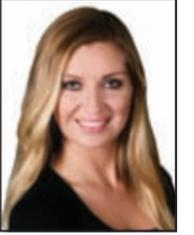
## Environment

**Kevin Cuniff** has joined the staff at Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve as research coordinator to manage and oversee the reserve's staff of five biologists. He earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Fairfield University and a master's in biology from Florida International University.

**Julie Drevankar** has joined the staff at Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve as water quality program coordinator. She holds a bachelor's degree in biology, with an emphasis on ecology and marine biology, from Coastal Carolina University.

## Interior Design

**Alexandra Hutchinson** has joined Renée Gaddis Interiors as an interior design associate. She is a recent graduate of Southwest Florida College with a bachelor's degree in interior design. As a student, she received eight awards for commercial, residential and product designs from the American Society of Interior Designers. In her new position, she is responsible for renderings and conceptual design boards for presentations.



HUTCHINSON

## Insurance

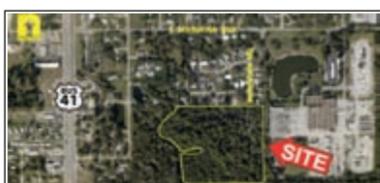
**Senta Padilla** has joined Private Client Insurance Services as a commercial lines advisor based in Naples. With industry experience since 2007, Ms. Padilla obtained an associate in insurance production from the Florida Association of Insurance Agents and a license 2-20 from Southern Association Insurance Academy at Edison State College. She was previously a Florida-certified paramedic. She is a member of the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce, Community Association Managers of Marco Island and the Condominium Owners, Managers and Associates Networking Club of Naples. ■



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 <p style="text-align: right; font-size: 0.8em;">(Ref #002294)</p> <p><b>FOR SALE</b> - Oversized Riverfront lot in the Gold Coast Estates area off Everest Parkway in Cape Coral. Spectacular views, perfect for your dream home. \$600,000</p>	 <p style="text-align: right; font-size: 0.8em;">(Ref #002319)</p> <p><b>FOR SALE</b> - 12.78± acs. in N. Ft. Myers with 700' of frontage on Powell Creek. Current zoning allows 7,500 SF lots, up to 75 units possible. \$337,500</p>

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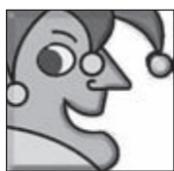
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## Fool's School

### How Long Should Your Mortgage Be?

If you're planning to take out a mortgage, don't assume that the typical 30-year loan is your best choice. For some folks, a 15-year mortgage makes the most sense.

With a 15-year mortgage, you'll enjoy a lower interest rate, pay less in interest over the life of the loan and build equity faster. In exchange for these benefits, you'll make higher monthly payments.

With a 30-year loan, although your payments will be lower, you'll end up paying much more in interest, and your interest rate will be higher. But the payments can be more affordable, and you may be able to buy a bigger home. (A longer loan will also give you hefty interest deductions — but that's only because you'll be paying so much in interest. It's better to pay less interest, if you can.)

Consider this example: You take out a \$200,000 mortgage. With a 30-year loan with an interest rate of 4.5 percent, you'll likely pay more than \$160,000 in interest over the life of the loan. If it were a 15-year loan at 3.5 percent, you would

pay less than \$60,000. That's a massive difference, don't you think?

The 30-year option can still make sense, though. It is, after all, dangerous to take on steeper loan payments than you can handle. Make sure you can afford the monthly payments and won't be living too close to the edge. And make sure you're not neglecting saving and investing for retirement just to swing a 15-year mortgage.

If you opt for a 30-year loan and enjoy lower payments than with a 15-year one, you might decide to invest the difference. That can be an effective way to build wealth.

Another clever trick is to take out a 30-year loan but treat it like a 15-year one, making extra payments against the principal every month, or as often as you can. (Be sure to get a mortgage that permits you to do so without penalty.) That way you build equity faster but aren't strictly tied to the higher payments. ■



## Name That Company

Founded in New York City in 1837, I began publishing my "Blue Book," America's first mail-order catalog, in 1845. I'm known for jewelry, which generates about 90 percent of my sales, but I also offer timepieces, silverware, china, crystal, stationery, fragrances and more. In 1878, a fancy 128.54-carat yellow diamond was named after me, and Picasso's daughter Paloma has designed for me. I have about 275 stores worldwide. I took in \$4.98 on my first day and now rake in close to

\$4 billion annually. I don't serve food, but many associate me with a particular meal anyway. 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 Take This Stock for a Spin

Not so long ago, American carmakers were gasping for air. Times have changed, though, and Ford Motor Co. (NYSE: F), for example, is in the midst of a terrific turnaround. Credited for much of it is CEO Alan Mulally, who is nearing retirement — and who is reportedly being considered for the top post at Microsoft.

Ford has been redesigning its vehicles to deliver more value and better fuel economy, and it has consolidated its vehicle platforms. It's all paying off. Ford's Fusion could top 300,000 in sales this year and is threatening the Camry's dominance. And Ford has sold more than 645,000 F-series trucks so far this year.

Another key to Ford's ultimate success

will be its performance abroad. Its sales in emerging markets are still far smaller than its domestic sales, but those economies and sales numbers are growing far more briskly. Sales in China recently grew by 55 percent over year-ago levels, and it is investing heavily in India. Even in the U.S., sales popped by 14 percent in October. In Europe, where Ford and others have struggled, losses have been narrowing.

After reinstating its discontinued dividend in 2012, Ford doubled it this year, and it recently yielded 2.4 percent. Consider parking some shares in your portfolio. (The Motley Fool's newsletters have recommended Ford.) ■

## My Dumbest Investment

### Amazing Grace

W.R. Grace probably isn't my dumbest investment, but close to it. Not that it was a bad investment — it's just that after buying shares at \$1.50, when they hit \$2.50, I sold, feeling good about it. But the stock has recently topped \$95.

— R.P., online

**The Fool Responds:** It's a common mistake. You made a solid 67 percent gain, but it could have been much more had you focused not on the stock's price alone, but on how much more you thought the company would grow. If, when the stock was at \$2.50, you didn't have much faith in Grace's future, selling would have been the right thing to do.

W.R. Grace is an interesting case, in that it voluntarily filed for bankruptcy protection in 2001, after a sharp rise in asbestos claims due to a leak at one of its mines. It has yet to emerge from it, though that's expected to happen soon.

The maker of specialty chemicals and materials has been performing well recently, and its stock has averaged nearly 15 percent annual growth over the past 20 years. ■



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

Launched by a 17-year-old in 1943, I introduced furniture in 1948, published my first catalog in 1951 and opened my first store in 1958. Today, based in Sweden, I oversee roughly 300 stores in 26 nations and employ about 140,000 people. More than 187 million copies of my catalog were distributed last year. I offer close to 11,000 products, though not every item is available in every store. I sell everything from footstools to plants to meatballs. My name is derived from my founder's name and his home. I rake in 27.6 billion euros, or \$37 billion, annually. Who am I? (Answer: IKEA) ■



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

### Floating a Question

Q What is "float," in reference to insurance?

— S.B., Opelika, Ala.

A Warren Buffett, who heads insurance giant Berkshire Hathaway, explained it well in his 1997 letter to shareholders:

"(F)loat is money we hold but don't own. In an insurance operation, float arises because premiums are received before losses are paid, an interval that sometimes extends over many years. During that time, the insurer invests the money. Typically, this pleasant activity carries with it a downside: The premiums that an insurer takes in usually do not cover the losses and expenses it eventually must pay. That leaves it running an 'underwriting loss,' which is the cost of float.

"An insurance business has value if its cost of float over time is less than the cost the company would otherwise incur to obtain funds. But the business is a lemon if its cost of float is higher than market rates for money."

Learn more about the fascinating insurance world from the industry itself at [iii.org](http://iii.org).

\*\*\*

Q I see that General Electric is rated with four stars (out of five) at your CAPS site. What does that mean?

— P.W., Bremerton, Wash.

A Our CAPS community features tens of thousands of investors weighing in on thousands of stocks. A stock's CAPS rating reflects its potential to outperform the S&P 500 based on community opinions. With five-star stocks, for example, most CAPS participants think that they'll outperform the S&P 500 in the future. One-star stocks are deemed most likely to underperform it.

Better still, the highest-ranked members have more influence on a stock's CAPS rating than others, rendering the ratings more meaningful.

Visit [CAPS.Fool.com](http://CAPS.Fool.com) to check out how your favorite stocks are rated, and to rate stocks yourself, too. ■

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

# 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](mailto:kluk77@comcast.net) or visit [www.napleschamber.org](http://www.napleschamber.org).

■ Consultants from the **Small Business Development Center** at Florida Gulf Coast University are available at the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce, 2390 Tamiami Trail N., every Thursday. To make an appointment for a free session, call Suzanne Specht at 745-3704.

■ The **Council of Hispanic Business Professionals** holds its next networking meeting at 5:30 p.m. Thursday,

Dec. 19, at McCormick & Schmick's in Mercato. Call 449-8668 or e-mail [webmaster@chbnaples.org](mailto:webmaster@chbnaples.org).

■ The first **Wake Up Naples** of 2014 for members of the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce starts at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 8, at the Hilton Naples. Bascom Palmer Eye Institute is the morning's sponsor. Guest speaker is Jeff Butzke, president of the Southwest Florida Soccer Foundation. \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Sign up at [www.napleschamber.org/events](http://www.napleschamber.org/events).

■ The **Leadership Collier Foundation Alumni Association** hosts Richard Broome, executive vice president of corporate affairs and communications

for the Hertz Corp., as guest speaker at a luncheon from 11:30-1 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 15, at the Professional Development Center, 615 Third Ave. S. \$15 for alumni, \$20 for thers. Sign up at [www.napleschamber.org/events](http://www.napleschamber.org/events).

■ The **Collier Building Industry Association** holds its next business mixer from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 16, at Executive Electronics of Southwest Florida, 28741 S. Diesel Drive in Bonita Springs. \$15 for members, \$25 for others. Sign up by calling 436-6100 or visiting at [www.cbia.net](http://www.cbia.net) (no walk-ins).

■ **Business After Five** for members and guests of the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce takes place from 5:30-

7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 16, at The Hotel Escalante, 290 Fifth Ave. S. \$8 for members, \$25 for others. Sign up at [www.napleschamber.org/events](http://www.napleschamber.org/events).

■ Plans are underway for the 2014 **East Naples Business Expo and Taste of the Expo** from 2-6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 21, at new Hope Ministries on Davis Boulevard. Sponsors are Minto Communities, The Arlington and Windstar on Naples Bay. The association's next regular networking meeting takes place from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Jan. 9, at Physicians Regional-Collier Boulevard. For more information, call Shirley Calhoun at 435-9410 or Natalie Anguilano at 643-3600, or visit [www.eastnaplesmerchantsassoc.com](http://www.eastnaplesmerchantsassoc.com). ■

# NETWORKING

## Celebrating Naples Municipal Airport's 70th anniversary



Bill Keating and Ron Soulard



Jakob Pearson in the flight attendant relay



Mick Thorstenson, Bill Hummel and Dick Smith



Kathy Macumber with Arlene and Joel Banow



Dan Hanson, Al Allison and Gordy Gill



Front row: Raul Estrada, Sheila Dugan, John Allen Dick Evans and Ted Soliday  
Back row: Ryan Frost, Ernie Linneman, Gary Price, Dave Hill and Kerry Keith



Jennifer Green, Jessica Marsh and Samantha Marsh

COURTESY PHOTOS

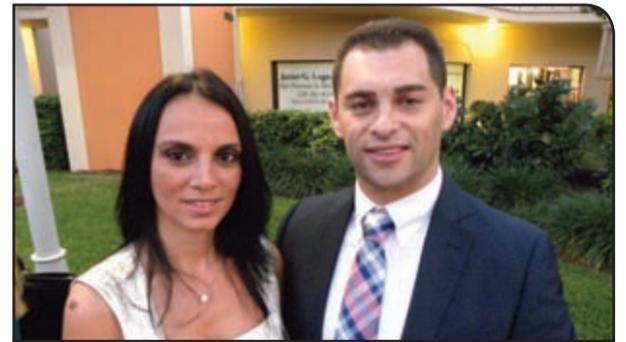
## Happy holidays for clients and friends of Andrew Hill Investment Advisors



Andy Hill and Ted Hudgins



Jennifer Figurelli, George Leamon and Diana Noble



Batya Sabag Maman and Paul Sukholinskiy



Bob and Linda Erbstein



Dennis Lynch and Sharon Fay



Andy Hill and Pete Quasius

COURTESY PHOTOS

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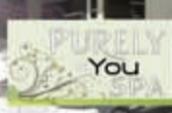
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Guess-Fisher Gallery



# NETWORKING

## Networking with William C. Huff Companies and the Domestic Estate Managers Association



Yochi Melnick and Mark Schwartz



Amanda Wishmanowski and Tracy Colleran



Mark Gabel and Keno Yoke



Donna Feinsmith and Michael Wright



Frank and Allison Pezzuti with Diane Pisani



Ingrid Molina, Jeanne Sweeney and Sue Huff



Joel, Nan and Jim Henderson



Kelly Capolino, Jason Abidin, Batya Sabag and Karole Davis



Tom Lear, Sandi Wilson, Sue and Rob McNaghten



Skip Soper, Carrie Kerskie and Patrick Trittler

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# REAL ESTATE

WEEK OF DECEMBER 19-25,

A GUIDE TO THE LOCAL REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY

B9



COURTESY PHOTOS

## House Hunting:

24011 VIA CASTELLA DRIVE #2104

This three-bedroom, three-bath, second-floor residence, originally a model decorated by Robb & Stucky International, is the only corner unit available in the Castella neighborhood at The Colony Golf & Bay Club in Bonita Springs. Double entry doors open to a spacious foyer with custom paneled and mirrored walls lit by three chandeliers. The designer furniture, window and wall treatments, wainscoting, mirrors and art all are included. In addition to a private extended sun deck and large lanai, residents and guests will enjoy use of Castella's pool and screened cabana. Other community amenities include Bay Club waterfront dining on two levels and a private island beach park. Equity golf is optional at The Colony Golf Club.

Entrance to The Colony is 10 minutes from the proposed new headquarters of the Hertz Corp. in Bonita Springs. This residence is offered for \$769,000 by Thomas Ostrander of Engel & Völkers Olde Naples. For more information or to arrange a showing, call (860) 304-1037. ■



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WHO'S WHO IN  
**LUXURY**  
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<p><b>Olde Naples</b> \$5,750,000</p>	<p><b>Bay Colony Shores</b> \$4,400,000</p>	<p><b>Gordon Drive Estates</b> \$3,375,000</p>	<p><b>Aqualane Shores Lot</b> \$2,599,000 ~ 81x151x139x159</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">PENDING</p>
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 INTERNATIONAL REALTY

# Port Royal

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**775 Galleon Drive**  
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**224 Little Harbour Lane**  
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**23 Lantern Lane**  
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# 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 connect to Naples Bay.



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## OLD NAPLES

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premiersir.com/id/213506852 \$4,395,000



## AQUALANE SHORES

**440 15th Avenue South**  
Vincent Bandelier 239.450.5976  
premiersir.com/id/213504288 \$4,300,000



## AQUALANE SHORES

**445 16th Avenue South**  
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## AQUALANE SHORES

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## OLD NAPLES

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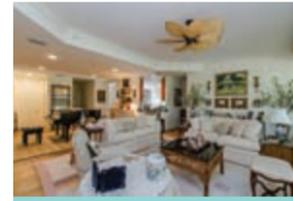
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## OLD NAPLES

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## OLD NAPLES

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## OLD NAPLES

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# Coquina Sands | The Moorings

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



## THE MOORINGS

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## THE MOORINGS

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premiersir.com/id/213508707 \$3,950,000



## THE MOORINGS

**261 Harbour Drive**  
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## THE MOORINGS

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premiersir.com/id/213009657 \$2,000,000



## THE MOORINGS

**723 Moorings Line Drive**  
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## THE MOORINGS

**Martinique Club #101**  
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**Royal Palm Club #503**  
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# Pelican Bay

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**813 Bentwood Drive**  
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[premiersir.com/id/213508676](http://premiersir.com/id/213508676) \$1,595,000



**Coronado #1102**  
Linda Perry/Judy Perry 239.404.7052  
[premiersir.com/id/213512024](http://premiersir.com/id/213512024) \$1,295,000



**St. Raphael #11**  
Jean Tarkenton 239.595.0544  
[premiersir.com/id/212006994](http://premiersir.com/id/212006994) \$895,000



**507 Bay Villas Lane**  
Jerry Wachowicz 239.777.0741  
[premiersir.com/id/213011513](http://premiersir.com/id/213011513) \$875,000



**Crescent #A-32**  
Beth McNichols 239.821.3304  
[premiersir.com/id/213013984](http://premiersir.com/id/213013984) \$850,000



**Coronado #504**  
Gilman/Hamilton/Briscoe 239.213.7463  
[premiersir.com/id/213505796](http://premiersir.com/id/213505796) \$850,000



**Lugano #304**  
Jeannie McGearthy 239.248.4333  
[premiersir.com/id/213512069](http://premiersir.com/id/213512069) \$539,500



**Pebble Creek #102**  
Gayle Fawkes 239.250.6051  
[premiersir.com/id/213512636](http://premiersir.com/id/213512636) \$419,000

# Pelican Marsh

Pelican Marsh is located in North Naples, 1.5 miles from some of the finest beaches on Florida's West coast. Inside this exclusive, gated community, enjoy tennis, fitness, spa facilities and more. Sophisticated shopping and dining are just blocks away at Mercato. Or, take in a show at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts.



**8695 Purslane Drive**  
Terri Moellers 239.404.7887  
[premiersir.com/id/213501942](http://premiersir.com/id/213501942) \$2,475,000



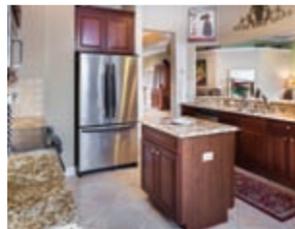
**9069 Terranova Drive**  
Cheryl Turner 239.250.3311  
[premiersir.com/id/213501918](http://premiersir.com/id/213501918) \$1,599,000



**9085 Terranova Drive**  
Cheryl Turner 239.250.3311  
[premiersir.com/id/212028971](http://premiersir.com/id/212028971) \$1,595,000



**1010 Spanish Moss Trail**  
Terri Moellers 239.404.7887  
[premiersir.com/id/212015596](http://premiersir.com/id/212015596) \$895,000



**Osprey Pointe #202**  
Dave/Ann Renner 239.784.5552  
[premiersir.com/id/213021139](http://premiersir.com/id/213021139) \$619,000



**8919 Ventura Way**  
Roya Nouhi 239.290.9111  
[premiersir.com/id/213512362](http://premiersir.com/id/213512362) \$570,000

# North Naples

North Naples boasts beautiful beaches, fine dining, shopping and essential amenities. Single-family homes, villas and towering high-rises dot the landscape. Public and private golf courses, water sports, tennis and more.



## MEDITERRA

**16017 Trebbio Way**  
Jane Bond 239.595.9515  
[premiersir.com/id/212034345](http://premiersir.com/id/212034345) \$3,499,000



## QUAIL WEST

**5817 Glenholme Circle**  
Paul Graffy 239.273.0403  
[premiersir.com/id/212030811](http://premiersir.com/id/212030811) \$2,750,000



## QUAIL WEST

**4341 Brynwood Drive**  
Jane Bond 239.595.9515  
[premiersir.com/id/213500850](http://premiersir.com/id/213500850) \$2,150,000



## TIBURON

**2924 Tiburon Blvd. East**  
Barbi Lowe/Trish Lowe Soars 239.213.7227  
[premiersir.com/id/213507223](http://premiersir.com/id/213507223) \$1,895,000



## OLDE CYPRESS

**3088 Strada Bella Court**  
Jane Bond 239.595.9515  
[premiersir.com/id/212032281](http://premiersir.com/id/212032281) \$1,399,000



## THE DUNES - THE GRANDE PRESERVE

**Grande Geneva #1104**  
Jennifer/Dave Urness 239.273.7731  
[premiersir.com/id/213505187](http://premiersir.com/id/213505187) \$1,300,000



## COLLIER'S RESERVE

**1023 Barcarmil Way**  
Linda Roberts 239.450.2864  
[premiersir.com/id/213506614](http://premiersir.com/id/213506614) \$1,250,000



## MEDITERRA

**16487 Felicita Court**  
Fahada Saad 239.659.5145  
[premiersir.com/id/213502555](http://premiersir.com/id/213502555) \$1,200,000



## PELICAN ISLE

**Residences I #802**  
Suzanne Ring 239.821.7550  
[premiersir.com/id/213510488](http://premiersir.com/id/213510488) \$1,165,000



## AUDUBON COUNTRY CLUB

**783 Brentwood Point**  
Gilman/Hamilton/Briscoe 239.213.7463  
[premiersir.com/id/213508627](http://premiersir.com/id/213508627) \$995,000



## AUDUBON COUNTRY CLUB

**213 Charleston Court**  
Fern Ritacca 847.361.3376  
[premiersir.com/id/213023494](http://premiersir.com/id/213023494) \$970,000



## INDIGO LAKES

**14681 Beaufort Circle**  
Sherrie Pfeffer 239.734.0539  
[premiersir.com/id/213503012](http://premiersir.com/id/213503012) \$699,900



## CROSSINGS - MILL RUN

**6897 Wellington Drive**  
Dave/Ann Renner 239.784.5552  
[premiersir.com/id/213005688](http://premiersir.com/id/213005688) \$695,000



## VILLAGE WALK

**3396 Cerrito Court**  
Carol Sheehy 239.340.9300  
[premiersir.com/id/213023771](http://premiersir.com/id/213023771) \$689,000



## OLDE CYPRESS

**2893 Lone Pine Lane**  
Dave/Ann Renner 239.784.5552  
[premiersir.com/id/213508063](http://premiersir.com/id/213508063) \$639,000



## IMPERIAL GOLF ESTATES

**1981 Imperial Golf Course Blvd.**  
Tess/Tom McCarthy 239.207.0118  
[premiersir.com/id/213009969](http://premiersir.com/id/213009969) \$548,000



## LEMURIA

**Lemuria #1501**  
Tom Gasbarro 239.404.4883  
[premiersir.com/id/213503702](http://premiersir.com/id/213503702) \$475,000



## IMPERIAL GOLF ESTATES

**1984 Imperial Golf Course Blvd.**  
Pat Callis 239.250.0562  
[premiersir.com/id/213510321](http://premiersir.com/id/213510321) \$475,000



## NAPLES PARK

**711 104th Avenue North**  
Fahada Saad 239.659.5145  
[premiersir.com/id/213022427](http://premiersir.com/id/213022427) \$455,000



## IMPERIAL GOLF ESTATES

**2091 Imperial Circle**  
Dean/Kim Rose 239.404.7466  
[premiersir.com/id/213506029](http://premiersir.com/id/213506029) \$439,500



## VILLAGE WALK

**3202 Benicia Court**  
Debbi/Marty McDermott 239.564.4231  
[premiersir.com/id/213511421](http://premiersir.com/id/213511421) \$399,000



## NORTH NAPLES

**6199 Ashwood Lane**  
Gayle Fawkes 239.250.6051  
[premiersir.com/id/213505242](http://premiersir.com/id/213505242) \$365,000



## IMPERIAL GOLF ESTATES

**1191 Imperial Drive**  
Pat Callis 239.250.0562  
[premiersir.com/id/213505585](http://premiersir.com/id/213505585) \$325,000



## STONEBRIDGE

**Carrington #101**  
Dave/Ann Renner 239.784.5552  
[premiersir.com/id/213504849](http://premiersir.com/id/213504849) \$189,000

# Park Shore

Glistening beachfront towers, bedside mansions and finely crafted inland homes make Park Shore the perfect blend for desirable living. Enjoy superlative shops and bistros at The Village on Venetian Bay plus beach and boating amenities.



**Regent #PH1**  
Bet Dewey 239.564.5673  
[premiersir.com/id/213508022](http://premiersir.com/id/213508022) \$14,400,000



**334 Pirates Bight**  
Michael G. Lawler 239.261.3939  
[premiersir.com/id/GEIG071412IHE](http://premiersir.com/id/GEIG071412IHE) \$5,950,000



**Regent #6N**  
Amy Becker/Leah Ritchey 239.272.3229  
[premiersir.com/id/213503230](http://premiersir.com/id/213503230) \$5,900,000



**Provence #PH3**  
Susan Barton 239.860.1412  
[premiersir.com/id/2120196866](http://premiersir.com/id/2120196866) \$5,500,000



**4215 Crayton Road**  
Michael G. Lawler 239.261.3939  
[premiersir.com/id/GEIG111813IHE](http://premiersir.com/id/GEIG111813IHE) \$4,995,000



**310 Neapolitan Way**  
Roxanne Jeske 239.450.5210  
[premiersir.com/id/2135079745](http://premiersir.com/id/2135079745) \$4,300,000



**311 Neapolitan Way**  
Michael G. Lawler 239.261.3939  
[premiersir.com/id/2120350925](http://premiersir.com/id/2120350925) \$3,795,000



**Le Jardin #403**  
Marion Bethea/Anne Killilea 239.571.5614  
[premiersir.com/id/2130042332](http://premiersir.com/id/2130042332) \$2,695,000



**4010 Old Trail Way**  
Michael G. Lawler 239.261.3939  
[premiersir.com/id/NERI041913IHE](http://premiersir.com/id/NERI041913IHE) \$2,695,000



**750 Fountainhead Lane**  
Sherree Woods 239.877.7770  
[premiersir.com/id/2135032292](http://premiersir.com/id/2135032292) \$2,495,000



**4790 Whispering Pine Way**  
Debbi/Marty McDermott 239.564.4231  
[premiersir.com/id/212030241](http://premiersir.com/id/212030241) \$2,225,000



**Park Plaza #1903**  
Susan Barton 239.860.1412  
[premiersir.com/id/2130039312](http://premiersir.com/id/2130039312) \$2,095,000



**Park Plaza #1704**  
Michael G. Lawler 239.261.3939  
[premiersir.com/id/2120370051](http://premiersir.com/id/2120370051) \$1,999,000



**Horizon House #PH-2A**  
Ruth Trettis 239.571.6760  
[premiersir.com/id/2120019231](http://premiersir.com/id/2120019231) \$1,750,000



**Park Shore Tower #12B**  
Amy Becker/Leah Ritchey 239.272.3229  
[premiersir.com/id/213508071](http://premiersir.com/id/213508071) \$1,295,000



**Colony Gardens #4041**  
Michael G. Lawler 239.261.3939  
[premiersir.com/id/213503526](http://premiersir.com/id/213503526) \$1,250,000



**Allegro #7C**  
Marlene Suarez 239.290.0585  
[premiersir.com/id/213023694](http://premiersir.com/id/213023694) \$827,500



**Colony Gardens #401**  
Jerry Wachowicz 239.777.0741  
[premiersir.com/id/213010888](http://premiersir.com/id/213010888) \$820,000



**Terraces #505**  
Polly Himmel 239.290.3910  
[premiersir.com/id/213012814](http://premiersir.com/id/213012814) \$799,000



**Horizon House #204**  
Adrienne Young 239.825.5369  
[premiersir.com/id/213512407](http://premiersir.com/id/213512407) \$795,000



**Terraces #PH-03**  
Heidi Deen 239.370.5388  
[premiersir.com/id/213505732](http://premiersir.com/id/213505732) \$794,500



**Terraces #904**  
Polly Himmel 239.290.3910  
[premiersir.com/id/213512356](http://premiersir.com/id/213512356) \$575,000



**Hidden Lake Villas #B-35**  
Gary Blaine 239.595.2912  
[premiersir.com/id/213512152](http://premiersir.com/id/213512152) \$249,900



**Hidden Lake Villas #D-38**  
Angela R. Allen 239.825.8494  
[premiersir.com/id/210038630](http://premiersir.com/id/210038630) \$215,000

# 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 and elegant villas.



**1223 Gordon River Trail**  
Melissa Williams 239.248.7238  
[premiersir.com/id/213502713](http://premiersir.com/id/213502713) \$7,495,000



**2133 Canna Court**  
Jutta V. Lopez/Al Lopez 239.659.5113  
[premiersir.com/id/2135041505](http://premiersir.com/id/2135041505) \$5,200,000



**2614 Bulrush Lane**  
Jutta V. Lopez/Al Lopez 239.659.5113  
[premiersir.com/id/2135005735](http://premiersir.com/id/2135005735) \$3,700,000



**2708 Buckthorn Way**  
Gilman/Hamilton/Briscoe 239.213.7463  
[premiersir.com/id/213011148](http://premiersir.com/id/213011148) \$2,995,000



**1315 Noble Heron Way**  
Dan Guenther 239.357.8121  
[premiersir.com/id/209007310](http://premiersir.com/id/209007310) \$2,049,000



**1331 Noble Heron Way**  
Lynn Anderson 239.290.6674  
[premiersir.com/id/2120349831](http://premiersir.com/id/2120349831) \$1,800,000



**1568 Marsh Wren Lane**  
Fahada Saad 239.659.5145  
[premiersir.com/id/213010788](http://premiersir.com/id/213010788) \$1,684,900



**L'Ermitage #26**  
Fahada Saad 239.659.5145  
[premiersir.com/id/213504744](http://premiersir.com/id/213504744) \$1,350,000



**1268 Osprey Trail**  
Melissa Williams 239.248.7238  
[premiersir.com/id/2120020731](http://premiersir.com/id/2120020731) \$1,300,000



**2634 Trillium Way**  
Fahada Saad 239.659.5145  
[premiersir.com/id/2120340251](http://premiersir.com/id/2120340251) \$1,050,000



**Traditions #101**  
Fahada Saad 239.659.5145  
[premiersir.com/id/213511675](http://premiersir.com/id/213511675) \$799,000



**Terra Verde #2362**  
Fahada Saad 239.659.5145  
[premiersir.com/id/213504761](http://premiersir.com/id/213504761) \$650,000

# 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 #PH-22**  
Barbi Lowe/Trish Lowe Soars 239.213.7227  
[premiersir.com/id/2110148345](http://premiersir.com/id/2110148345) \$6,000,000



**Toscana #1603**  
Leah Ritchey/Amy Becker 239.289.0433  
[premiersir.com/id/213503858](http://premiersir.com/id/213503858) \$1,795,000



**Toscana #202**  
Leah Ritchey/Amy Becker 239.289.0433  
[premiersir.com/id/213506357](http://premiersir.com/id/213506357) \$1,225,000



**Toscana #203**  
Sharon Kiptyk 239.777.3899  
[premiersir.com/id/213504542](http://premiersir.com/id/213504542) \$1,195,000



**Mansion La Palma #203**  
Barbi Lowe/Trish Lowe Soars 239.213.7227  
[premiersir.com/id/213011428](http://premiersir.com/id/213011428) \$1,095,000



**Mansion La Palma #402**  
Amy Becker/Leah Ritchey 239.272.3229  
[premiersir.com/id/213015266](http://premiersir.com/id/213015266) \$1,050,000

# 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.



**NAPLES CAY**

**The Seasons #1903**  
Gilman/Hamilton/Briscoe 239.213.7463  
premiersir.com/id/211516035 \$5,995,000



**PINE RIDGE**

**367 Ridge Drive**  
Terri Moellers 239.404.7887  
premiersir.com/id/212035176 \$2,975,000



**GOLDEN SHORES**

**1320 Osprey Avenue**  
Patrick O'Connor 239.293.9411  
premiersir.com/id/213508930 \$2,795,000



**NAPLES CAY**

**76 Seagate Drive**  
Barbi Lowe/Trish Lowe Soars 239.213.7227  
premiersir.com/id/213507962 \$2,650,000



**SEAGATE**

**5115 Starfish Avenue**  
Cheryl Turner 239.250.3311  
premiersir.com/id/213016246 \$2,100,000



**NAPLES CAY**

**Baypointe #PH105**  
Julie Rembos 239.595.1809  
premiersir.com/id/213506374 \$2,095,000



**PINE RIDGE**

**600 Ridge Drive**  
Sue Black 239.250.5611  
premiersir.com/id/213508989 \$1,199,000



**WYNDEMERE**

**324 Edgemere Way East**  
Kathryn Hurvitz 239.290.0228  
premiersir.com/id/213012825 \$1,100,000



**VINEYARDS**

**420 Terracina Way**  
Pat Callis 239.250.0562  
premiersir.com/id/213505586 \$995,000



**LIVINGSTON WOODS**

**6381 Sandalwood Lane**  
Pat Callis 239.250.0562  
premiersir.com/id/213002571 \$899,000



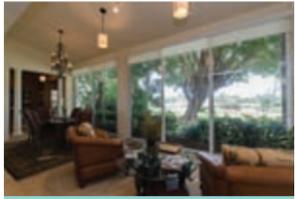
**HAMMOCK BAY**

**Lesina #1106**  
Helga Wetzold 239.821.6905  
premiersir.com/id/213512359 \$899,000



**WYNDEMERE**

**186 Edgemere Way South**  
Kathryn Hurvitz 239.290.0228  
premiersir.com/id/213022930 \$725,000



**WINDSTAR**

**2217 Paget Circle**  
V.K. Melhado 239.216.6400  
premiersir.com/id/213018573 \$580,000



**WYNDEMERE**

**260 Edgemere Way East**  
Joe Garabed 239.571.5700  
premiersir.com/id/213023827 \$575,000



**QUAIL CREEK VILLAGE**

**10378 Quail Crown Drive**  
Erik David Barber 323.513.6391  
premiersir.com/id/213512056 \$534,000



**WYNDEMERE**

**910 Wyndemere Way**  
Gary L./Jeff/Becky Jaarda 239.248.7474  
premiersir.com/id/212035106 \$529,000



**WATERFRONT IN NAPLES**

**Waterfront In Naples #2174**  
Linda Ohler 239.404.6460  
premiersir.com/id/213010829 \$499,900



**WYNDEMERE**

**157 Edgemere Way South**  
Patrick O'Connor 239.293.9411  
premiersir.com/id/213510346 \$499,000



**ROYAL PALM GOLF ESTATES**

**18402 Royal Hammock Blvd.**  
Michelle Thomas 239.860.7176  
premiersir.com/id/213512561 \$446,600



**EAGLE CREEK**

**53 Grey Wing Point**  
ML Meade 239.293.4851  
premiersir.com/id/212027690 \$349,000



**BEAR'S PAW**

**Bear's Paw #622**  
Fahada Saad 239.659.5145  
premiersir.com/id/213510399 \$299,900



**NAPLES LAKES COUNTRY CLUB**

**Lake Arrowhead #104**  
Susan R. Payne 239.777.7209  
premiersir.com/id/213019469 \$299,000



**VERONA WALK**

**8395 Borboni Court**  
Torry Sigvartsen 239.595.5525  
premiersir.com/id/213509356 \$250,000



**MARCO SHORES**

**Fairways II #1622**  
Michael/Maureen Joyce 239.285.6275  
premiersir.com/id/213014768 \$229,999



**BERKSHIRE VILLAGE**

**1403 Monarch Circle**  
Susan R. Payne 239.777.7209  
premiersir.com/id/213500209 \$200,000



**WYNDEMERE**

**36 Water Oaks Way**  
Kathryn Hurvitz 239.290.0228  
premiersir.com/id/213503753 \$190,000



**ISLES OF CAPRI**

**Tarpon Villages Apartments #D-1**  
Cynthia Corogin 239.393.6747  
premiersir.com/id/213512043 \$183,000



**GOLDEN GATE ESTATES**

**2690 56th Avenue NE**  
Fahada Saad 239.659.5145  
premiersir.com/id/213501239 \$170,000



**VINEYARDS**

**Tuscany #1206**  
Amy Atherholt 239.592.6343  
premiersir.com/id/213508433 \$164,900



**WYNDEMERE**

**Courtside Commons #202**  
Kathryn Hurvitz 239.290.0228  
premiersir.com/id/213015911 \$127,500

# Vanderbilt Beach

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



**165 Channel Drive**  
Frank Pezzuti 239.216.2445  
premiersir.com/id/213018593 \$2,650,000



**239 Channel Drive**  
Cheryl Turner 239.250.3311  
premiersir.com/id/212023672 \$2,350,000



**327 Flamingo Avenue**  
Jennifer/Dave Urness 239.273.7731  
premiersir.com/id/213008195 \$1,695,000



**Vanderbilt Bay #211**  
Pat Callis 239.250.0562  
premiersir.com/id/213508100 \$695,000



**279 Heron Avenue**  
Ruth Trettis 239.571.6760  
premiersir.com/id/213018782 \$600,000



**Anchorage #201**  
Gayle Fawkes 239.250.6051  
premiersir.com/id/213018498 \$545,000

# Strada Residences at Mercato

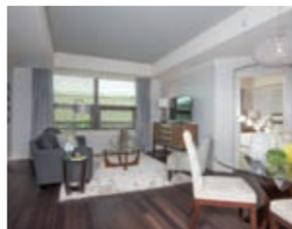
Live a lifestyle that puts a world of shopping, dining and entertainment within walking distance of home. These 1-, 2- and 3-bedroom condominiums are spacious, lavishly appointed and fully-amenitized examples of ultra-chic living at one of Naples' best addresses.



**The Strada #7502**  
Barbi Lowe/Trish Lowe Soars 239.213.7227  
premiersir.com/id/211500266 \$1,250,000



**The Strada #5502**  
Mary Kavanagh 616.957.4428  
premiersir.com/id/213006113 \$1,199,000



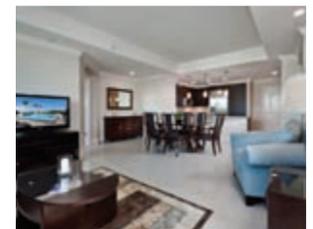
**The Strada #7406**  
Mary Kavanagh 616.957.4428  
premiersir.com/id/211505590 \$599,000



**The Strada #7504**  
Susan Gardner 239.438.2846  
premiersir.com/id/213006422 \$599,000



**The Strada #7404**  
Susan Gardner 239.438.2846  
premiersir.com/id/213510024 \$599,000



**The Strada #5205**  
Susan Gardner 239.438.2846  
premiersir.com/id/213017713 \$519,000

# 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.



**306 Seabreeze Drive**  
Jim/Nikki Prange-Carroll 239.642.1133  
[premiersir.com/id/PETR0813131HE](http://premiersir.com/id/PETR0813131HE) \$4,500,000



**1670 Copeland Drive**  
Paul Strong 239.404.3280  
[premiersir.com/id/21300702953](http://premiersir.com/id/21300702953) \$3,495,000



**1026 Bald Eagle Drive**  
Paul Strong 239.404.3280  
[premiersir.com/id/213501901](http://premiersir.com/id/213501901) \$2,395,000



**580 Barfield Drive South**  
Jim/Nikki Prange-Carroll 239.642.1133  
[premiersir.com/id/213016569](http://premiersir.com/id/213016569) \$2,250,000



**Royal Marco Point II #922**  
Jim/Nikki Prange-Carroll 239.642.1133  
[premiersir.com/id/213508301](http://premiersir.com/id/213508301) \$2,000,000



**1167 Bluehill Creek Drive**  
Jim/Nikki Prange-Carroll 239.642.1133  
[premiersir.com/id/212035110](http://premiersir.com/id/212035110) \$1,750,000



**1408 Butterfield Court**  
Laura/Chris Adams 239.404.4766  
[premiersir.com/id/213512324](http://premiersir.com/id/213512324) \$1,750,000



**Belize #1903**  
Cullen Shaughnessy 239.248.3978  
[premiersir.com/id/213508265](http://premiersir.com/id/213508265) \$1,699,000



**Dunnfoire #301**  
Michelle Thomas 239.860.7176  
[premiersir.com/id/21300809651](http://premiersir.com/id/21300809651) \$1,495,000



**1221 Stone Court**  
Cynthia Corogin 239.393.6747  
[premiersir.com/id/212026671](http://premiersir.com/id/212026671) \$1,349,500



**1230 Stone Court**  
Cathy Rogers 239.821.7926  
[premiersir.com/id/212034994](http://premiersir.com/id/212034994) \$1,259,000



**Royal Marco Point I #610**  
Jim/Nikki Prange-Carroll 239.642.1133  
[premiersir.com/id/21350863251](http://premiersir.com/id/21350863251) \$1,200,000



**357 Morning Glory Lane**  
Cathy Rogers 239.821.7926  
[premiersir.com/id/212032910](http://premiersir.com/id/212032910) \$1,199,500



**1211 Ember Court**  
Jim/Nikki Prange-Carroll 239.642.1133  
[premiersir.com/id/213508431](http://premiersir.com/id/213508431) \$1,150,000



**815 Caribbean Court**  
Helga Wetzold 239.821.6905  
[premiersir.com/id/21300493351](http://premiersir.com/id/21300493351) \$1,095,000



**1389 Bayport Avenue**  
Roe Tamagni 239.398.1222  
[premiersir.com/id/212028132](http://premiersir.com/id/212028132) \$799,000



**1901 Kirk Terrace**  
Brock/Julie Wilson 239.821.9545  
[premiersir.com/id/213005335](http://premiersir.com/id/213005335) \$795,000



**Duchess #605**  
Cathy Rogers 239.821.7926  
[premiersir.com/id/212033719](http://premiersir.com/id/212033719) \$725,000



**1131 Vernon Place**  
Brock/Julie Wilson 239.821.9545  
[premiersir.com/id/213005779](http://premiersir.com/id/213005779) \$695,000



**Les Falls #101**  
ML Meade 239.293.4851  
[premiersir.com/id/213508216](http://premiersir.com/id/213508216) \$599,000



**601 Somerset Court**  
Brock/Julie Wilson 239.821.9545  
[premiersir.com/id/213005749](http://premiersir.com/id/213005749) \$425,000



**970 Daisy Court**  
Lura Jones 239.370.5340  
[premiersir.com/id/213512075](http://premiersir.com/id/213512075) \$385,000



**524 Barfield Drive North**  
Angelica Andrews 239.595.7653  
[premiersir.com/id/212022708](http://premiersir.com/id/212022708) \$375,000



**Wexford Place #9**  
Angelica Andrews 239.595.7653  
[premiersir.com/id/212028298](http://premiersir.com/id/212028298) \$116,000

# 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.



**3283 Hyacinth Drive**  
Lura Jones 239.370.5340  
[premiersir.com/id/21002324251](http://premiersir.com/id/21002324251) \$1,095,000



**3812 Mahogany Bend Drive**  
Michelle Thomas 239.860.7176  
[premiersir.com/id/212035872](http://premiersir.com/id/212035872) \$899,000



**3860 Mahogany Bend Drive**  
Lura Jones 239.370.5340  
[premiersir.com/id/209002716](http://premiersir.com/id/209002716) \$799,900



**7698 Mulberry Lane**  
Lura Jones 239.370.5340  
[premiersir.com/id/211006401](http://premiersir.com/id/211006401) \$799,000



**Montreux #204**  
Michelle Thomas 239.860.7176  
[premiersir.com/id/213003909](http://premiersir.com/id/213003909) \$524,900



**Serena #201**  
Lura Jones 239.370.5340  
[premiersir.com/id/208034226](http://premiersir.com/id/208034226) \$499,900



**3770 Cotton Green Path Drive**  
ML Meade 239.293.4851  
[premiersir.com/id/213011615](http://premiersir.com/id/213011615) \$399,000



**Laguna #102**  
Michael/Maureen Joyce 239.285.6275  
[premiersir.com/id/213511771](http://premiersir.com/id/213511771) \$349,900



**Varena #104**  
Michael/Maureen Joyce 239.285.6275  
[premiersir.com/id/213021320](http://premiersir.com/id/213021320) \$310,000



**Whisper Trace #201**  
Michelle Thomas 239.860.7176  
[premiersir.com/id/213021663](http://premiersir.com/id/213021663) \$199,900



**Hawks Nest #101**  
Lura Jones 239.370.5340  
[premiersir.com/id/213511834](http://premiersir.com/id/213511834) \$174,900



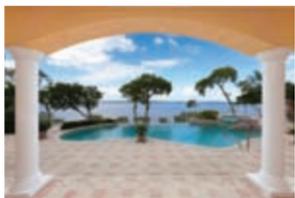
**Whisper Trace #102**  
Lura Jones 239.370.5340  
[premiersir.com/id/213012187](http://premiersir.com/id/213012187) \$159,900

# 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.



**3411 West Gulf Drive**  
Jane Reader Weaver 239.850.9555  
[premiersir.com/id/21350650653](http://premiersir.com/id/21350650653) \$740,000



**11340 Longwater Chase Court**  
Deb Smith/Augustina Holtz 239.826.3416  
[premiersir.com/id/212038400](http://premiersir.com/id/212038400) \$3,250,000



**11522 Andy Rosse Lane**  
Jane Reader Weaver 239.850.9555  
[premiersir.com/id/21350469952](http://premiersir.com/id/21350469952) \$4,450,000



**428 Bella Vista Way East**  
Augustina Holtz 914.648.8888  
[premiersir.com/id/21350208751](http://premiersir.com/id/21350208751) \$1,986,000



**2507 Blind Pass Court**  
Jane Reader Weaver 239.850.9555  
[premiersir.com/id/213505551](http://premiersir.com/id/213505551) \$1,049,000



**Bougainvillea #210B**  
Cindy Sittton 239.810.4772  
[premiersir.com/id/213018795](http://premiersir.com/id/213018795) \$999,000

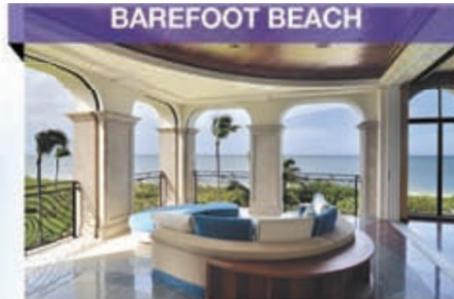
**WE MAKE  
IT EASY.  
YOU MAKE  
IT HOME.**



**RoyalShellSales.com**  
**239.261.9101**

**Florida:** Bonita Springs, Fort Myers/Cape Coral, Naples, Ocala, Sanibel and Captiva Islands

**North Carolina:** Cashiers, Franklin, Highlands, Lake Glenville, Lake Toxaway and Sapphire Valley



**BAREFOOT BEACH**  
**Majestic Gulf Front Dreams**  
• Unique Contemporary Design w/European Flair  
• An Impressive Home w/ a Technology Brain  
• \$9,975,000 MLS 213504028  
Loretta Young's Team Lavita 239.450.5022



**BAREFOOT BEACH**  
**Barefoot Beach**  
• Three Gorgeous levels of Living  
• 6 Bedroom, 6.5 Baths  
• \$4,750,000 MLS 212027127  
Steve Suddeth & Jennifer Nicolai 239.784.0693



**QUAIL WEST**  
**Quail West Estate Home**  
• 6 Private Suites & 7.5 Baths  
• Water & Golf Course Views  
• \$3,400,000 MLS 212031883  
The Taranto Team 239.572.0066



**NAPLES**  
**Luxury Estate Home**  
• NEW Construction  
• 4 Bedrooms + Den, 4.5 Baths  
• \$2,295,000 MLS 213504407  
Roger Stening, The Fischer Group 239.770.4707



**TALIS PARK**  
**Tuscan Villa**  
• Former Model, 3 Bedroom + Den, 4 Baths  
• Courtyard Area  
• \$1,895,000 MLS 213501277  
Steve Suddeth & Ben Maltese 239.784.0693



**BONITA BAY**  
**Spring Ridge**  
• Elegant & Spacious Home w/ Golf Course Views  
• Well-Appointed Master Suite w/ 2 Additional Bedrooms on Main Level  
• \$1,795,000 MLS 213509624  
Dotti Fagan, The Fagan Team 239.272.4946



**BONITA BAY**  
**Cranbrook At Bonita Bay**  
• Well Maintained 2-Story Home, 3BR + Loft, 3.5 Baths  
• Beautiful Pool Area w/Spa & Waterfall  
• \$644,000 MLS 213023987  
Linda Ramsey 239.405.3054



**MEDITERRA**  
**Monterosso**  
• 2665 s/f of Living Area  
• 3 Bedrooms + Den  
• \$600,000 MLS 213502197  
Corye Reiter, The Lummis Team 239.273.3722



**MEDITERRA**  
**Mediterra**  
• Furnished 1st Floor Coach Home  
• Tropical Lake Views  
• \$559,000 MLS 213507626  
Kristin Cavella-Whorrall 239.821.6330



**GOLDEN GATE ESTATES**  
**Charming & Cozy**  
• Spacious, Well Maintained 3BR/2BA  
• Over 1 Acre of Private Wooded  
• \$450,000 MLS 213508093  
Loretta Young's Team LaVita 239.450.5022



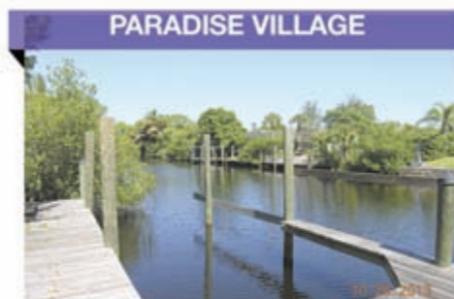
**BONITA FARMS**  
**Bonita Springs**  
• Gulf Access w/ Electric Boat Lift  
• Heated Pool Overlooking Canal  
• \$429,000 MLS 213508852  
Cory Lauer 239.465.9290



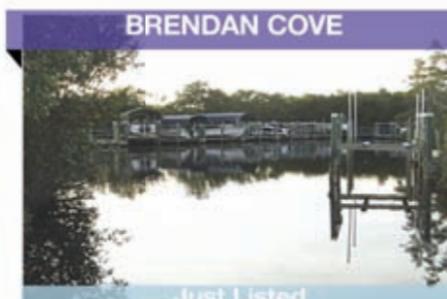
**ISLANDS END CONDOMINIUM**  
**Gorgeous Lover's Key View**  
• Direct Beachfront, South-Most Condo on the Island  
• 9-Foot Ceilings, Tile Floors  
• \$429,000 MLS 213503804  
Michael May 239.949.0000



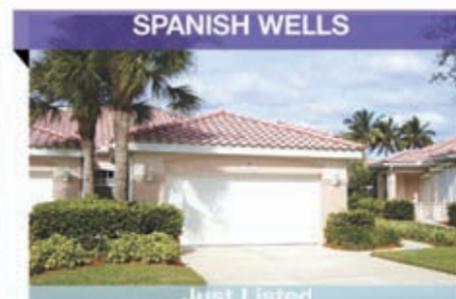
**SPANISH WELLS**  
**Spanish Wells**  
• Pristine Condition  
• 3 Bedrooms + Den, 3 Baths  
• \$324,000 MLS 213505225  
The Boeglin Team 239.287.6414



**PARADISE VILLAGE**  
**Bonita Springs**  
• Canal Front Building Lot w/ Dock  
• Direct Gulf Access  
• \$295,000 MLS 208046532  
The Bordner Team 239.989.8829



**BRENDAN COVE**  
**Bonita Springs**  
• Build Your Dream Home!  
• Western Exposure w/Beautiful Sunset Views  
• \$249,900 MLS 213511669  
Connie Lummis, The Lummis Team 239.289.3543



**SPANISH WELLS**  
**Bonita Springs**  
• Turnkey Furnished 2BR, 2BA Attached Villa  
• Long Lake & Golf Course Views  
• \$249,000 MLS 213512115  
The Boeglin Team 239.287.6414



**CROWN POINTE**  
**Naples**  
• 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath Coach Home  
• Situated on Lake  
• \$195,000 MLS 213501791  
Zach Fischer, 239.777.7500



**BERMUDA PARK**  
**Bonita Springs**  
• Beautiful Lake View  
• 1-Car Garage  
• \$185,000 MLS 213024154  
Bette Pitzer 239.560.2627



**HARBOR LAKES**  
**Naples**  
• Bay, Gulf and Golf Views  
• Updated w/Granite Counters, New Impact Windows  
• \$179,000 MLS 213024971  
Ben Maltese & Jennifer Nicolai 239.273.8700



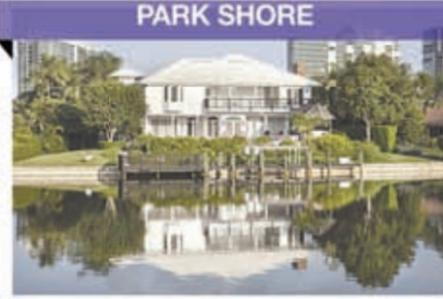
**GOODLAND ISLES**  
**Boaters Joy**  
• 3 Marinas - Open Launch  
• 2/2 - Carport  
• \$169,900 MLS 213005941  
Darlene Rice 239.325.3537

**MEDITERRA****Just Listed**

**Verona**  
 • Newly Constructed Verona Residence  
 • Outdoor Kitchen and Bar Area  
 • \$3,250,000 MLS 213511479  
 Martinovich & Nulf 239.564.1266

**MARCO ISLAND**

**Exquisite Estate Home**  
 • 5 Bedrooms, 4.5-Baths, Over 4,800 Sq. Ft. Under Air  
 • Situated on Prestigious Roberts Bay  
 • \$2,800,000 MLS 212030384  
 Carolyn Rzaca 239.877.1006

**PARK SHORE**

**Delight on Devils Bight!**  
 • 3 Bedrooms, 3.5-Baths  
 • 140' on the Water & Wide Bay Views  
 • \$2,800,000 MLS 212021154  
 Steve Suddeth & Jennifer Nicolai 239.784.0693

**QUAIL WEST**

**Luxurious Masterpiece**  
 • 4BR + Den, 4.5BA 4,927sqft of Living  
 • Turnkey with Exquisite Furnishings  
 • \$2,495,000 MLS 213510116  
 The Taranto Team 239.572.3078

**GULF HARBOUR**

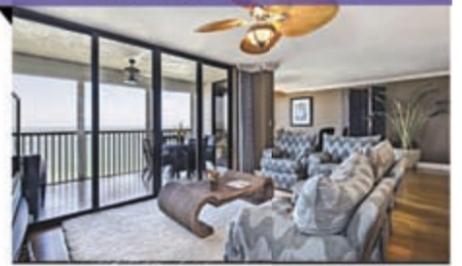
**Spectacular Penthouse**  
 • 3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths, 2,800 Sq. Ft.  
 • Panoramic River View  
 • \$1,199,000 MLS 201310953  
 Katie Brady 239.770.6061

**SHADOW WOOD AT THE BROOKS**

**Ochid Ridge**  
 • Private Estate Home Overlooking Lake & Golf Course  
 • 4 Bedrooms + Den, 4.5 Baths  
 • \$1,000,000 MLS 213503305  
 Gary Ryan 239.273.6796

**ST. RAPHAEL**

**3-Story Villa, High End Finishes**  
 • 3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths  
 • Tropical Garden & Private Pool  
 • \$1,000,000 MLS 213000158  
 Martinovich & Nulf 239.398-3929

**VANDERBILT BEACH**

**Amazing Water & City Views**  
 • Completely Updated Throughout  
 • Wonderful Bamboo Hardwood Floors  
 • \$850,000 MLS 213016531  
 Doug Haughey 239.961.1561

**OLDE NAPLES**

**South Beach Club**  
 • Top Floor West Facing 2 Bedroom + Den, 2 Bath Condo  
 • Totally Renovated & Furnished  
 • \$550,000 MLS 213020958  
 Liz Appling 239.272.7201

**PELICAN MARSH**

**Pelican Marsh**  
 • 3 Bedroom + Den w/2 Car Garage  
 • Turnkey w/Lake Views  
 • \$525,000 MLS 213013455  
 Debbie Dekevich 239.877.4194

**LELY RESORT**

**Lely Resort**  
 • 3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths  
 • Paved Courtyard with Pool  
 • \$495,000 MLS 213022803  
 Vivienne Sinkow 239.405.0638

**MARINA MANOR**

**Olde Naples**  
 • Walking Distance to Olde Naples and Beaches  
 • Remodeled 1st Floor Unit with 2 Master Bedrooms  
 • \$469,000 MLS 213500339  
 Frank Dekevich 239.877.4193

**VANDERBILT COUNTRY CLUB**

**Assessment Fully Paid**  
 • 2 Bedroom + Den, 2 Bath, Beautiful Built-In Cabinets  
 • Extended Lanai w/Complete Privacy  
 • \$398,500 MLS 213009162  
 Barbara Irons 239.821.2510

**COPPERLEAF AT THE BROOKS**

**Copperleaf At The Brooks**  
 • Bundled Golf  
 • Pool & Spa  
 • \$379,900 MLS 213509144  
 Bette Pitzer 239.560.2627

**RESIDENCES AT COCONUT POINT**

**Fantastic Panoramic Views**  
 • Ideal Location in The Heart of Fashion Drive  
 • 2+Den/2 Bath/1 Assigned Parking Under Building  
 • \$355,000 MLS 213501478  
 Jamie Lienhardt 239.565.4268

**SPANISH WELLS****Just Listed**

**Bonita Springs**  
 • Spacious 3BR + Den, 3BA, 2nd Floor Condo  
 • Lake and Golf Course Views  
 • \$325,000 MLS 213512124  
 The Boeglin Team 239.287.6414

**GLEN EAGLE**

**Attention Golfers!**  
 • Outstanding Lake & Golf Course Views w/Sunset Skies  
 • 2 Spacious Bedrooms, 2 Baths  
 • \$229,900 MLS 213016313  
 Lauren & Mike Taranto 239.572.3078

**LUCAYA**

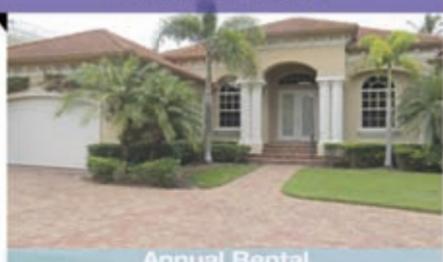
**Lucaya Fort Myers**  
 • 2 Bedroom, 1 Car Garage  
 • Totally Upgraded  
 • \$229,000 MLS 201336146  
 Katie Brady 239.770.6061

**BONITA GOLF CLUB VILLAS****Just Listed**

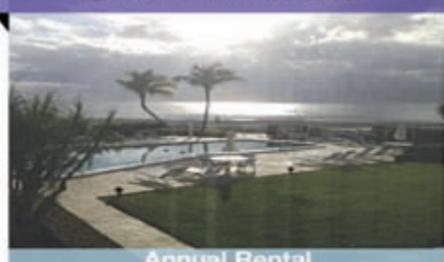
**Bonita Springs**  
 • Charming 4 Bedroom / 2.5 Baths / 2 Car Garage  
 • Tile, on Diagonal & Open Floor Plan  
 • \$229,000 MLS 213510756  
 Beth James 239.287.4663

**WILSHIRE LAKES**

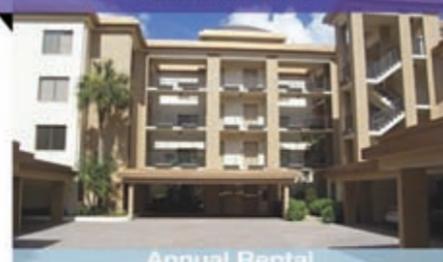
**Naples**  
 • Former Model with Wide Lake View  
 • Light, Bright, Move-In Condition  
 • \$209,000 MLS 213507159  
 Vivienne Sinkow 239.405.0638

**ROYAL HARBOR****Annual Rental**

**Naples**  
 • 3 Bedrooms + Den, 3.5 Baths  
 • Custom Built Pool Home  
 • \$7,500 / Month MLS 213023646  
 Debbie Hunt 239.398.5529

**ROYAL PALM CONDO****Annual Rental**

**Furnished**  
 • 2 Bedrooms, 2 Baths  
 • Midrise Condominium  
 • \$2,500 / Month MLS 213511032  
 Diane Myers 239.253.4478

**PELICAN BAY****Annual Rental**

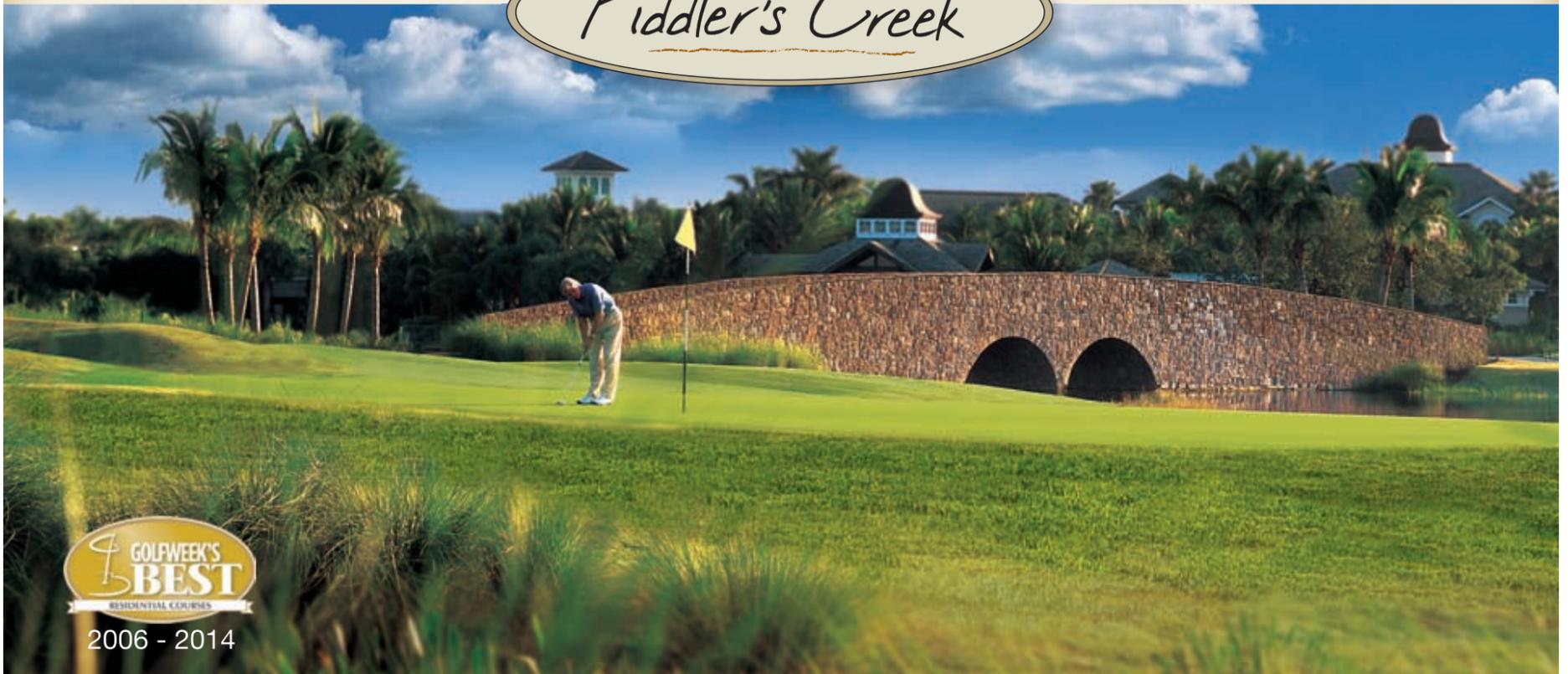
**Interlachen**  
 • 2 Bedrooms, 2 Baths  
 • Perfect Location!  
 • \$2,500 / Month MLS 212033153  
 Marjorie Workinger 239.325.3516

**MARIPOSA****Annual Rental**

**Whippoorwill**  
 • 2 Bedroom + Den, 3 Baths  
 • Over 2,100 Sq. Ft. 2nd Floor Residence  
 • \$1,700 / Month MLS 213510746  
 Jeff Windland 239.285.1198

# A FINELY TUNED LIFESTYLE

## Fiddler's Creek®



### PRE-CONSTRUCTION FROM THE \$300s

**AMADOR** by D.R. Horton  
From \$404,990

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From \$529,990

**MILLBROOK** by Lennar  
From \$337,990

**RUNAWAY BAY** by Lennar  
From \$612,990

**SONOMA** by Lennar  
From \$284,990

**MAJORCA** by Stock  
From \$619,990

**MAHOGANY BEND** by Stock  
From \$739,990

**ISLA DEL SOL** by Stock  
From \$979,990 plus homesite

### PLUS...MOVE-IN-READY HOMES

**Amador - Offered by D. R. Horton**

9193 Campanile Circle	3BR/2BA	1,983 A/C Sq. Ft.	\$474,912
9197 Campanile Circle	3BR/2BA	2,159 A/C Sq. Ft.	\$502,028
9241 Campanile Circle	3BR/2BA	1,983 A/C Sq. Ft.	\$470,222

**Sonoma - Offered by Lennar Homes**

3149 Aviamar Circle #3012	3BR/2BA	1,741 A/C Sq. Ft.	\$283,655
3149 Aviamar Circle #3022	3BR/2BA	2,110 A/C Sq. Ft.	\$303,655

**Millbrook - Offered by Lennar Homes**

3014 Aviamar Circle	3BR/3BA	2,032 A/C Sq. Ft.	\$442,120
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**Runaway Bay - Offered by Lennar Homes**

3425 Runaway Bay Lane	3BR/4BA	3,659 A/C Sq. Ft.	\$899,365
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**Isla del Sol - Offered by Stock**

3832 Isla del Sol Way	4BR/5.5BA	4,224 A/C Sq. Ft.	\$1,653,963
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**Mahogany Bend - Offered by Stock**

3772 Mahogany Bend Dr.	4BR/4.5BA	3,174 A/C Sq. Ft.	\$1,143,888
3733 Mahogany Bend Dr.	4BR/3.5BA	3,255 A/C Sq. Ft.	\$1,261,745

**Mulberry Row**

7710 Mulberry Lane	3BR/3.5BA	3,025 A/C Sq. Ft.	\$845,000
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**Callista**

2731 Aviamar Circle #10-104	3BR/3BA	2,502 A/C Sq. Ft.	\$335,000
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**Serena**

3195 Serenity Court #7-201	3BR/3BA	3,010 A/C Sq. Ft.	\$369,000
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Fiddler's Creek Information Center: Open 7 days a week, 9am to 5:30pm  
8152 Fiddler's Creek Pkwy., Naples, FL 34114 | (239) 732-9300 | www.fiddlerscreek.com



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STRADA  
RESIDENCES



MERCATO

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GOLF. BEACH.  
HAVE IT ALL.



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OVER 90%  
SOLD



Something new and wonderful at The Strada Residences at Mercato.

Now, you can not only live a lifestyle that puts a world of shopping, dining and entertainment within walking distance of home, but for a limited time when you purchase a 3-bedroom residence, a social membership at the fabulous LaPlaya Beach & Golf Club is included. Have it all—enjoy access to special beach and golf amenities. Hurry, we only have five 3-bedroom residences remaining.

Strada Sales Center – 9123 Strada Place, Suite 7125, Naples, FL 34108 | 239.645.4712

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**GREAT LOCATION!** Oakmont 3BR, 2.5BA plus den and 2 car garage. This lovely single family is nicely upgraded and **MOVE IN READY!** Features include freshly painted neutral interior, upgraded tile in the living areas and guest bedroom, updated master bath, plantation shutters, brand new stove and microwave, built-in entertainment center, hurricane shutters, and large screened lanai with private pool and lake views. Perfectly located in the community just step from the amenities Center! Visual Tour Available ! Call to schedule you private showing today! **VISUAL TOUR AVAILABLE!** **\$390,900**



**EXTENDED LAKE VIEW 2/2 CAPRI** villa on the West side of Village Walk featuring French doors in the extended den area with Murphy Bed and desk built-ins, extra large screened patio with partial covering, built in wall unit, newer a/c and more! **\$279,500**



**MAGNIFICENT** details set this **4BR, 3.5BA 3 Car Garage Stately Manor** apart from all the rest! The open floor plan is stunning, offering plenty of room to entertain family and friends with formal dining and living rooms, a large family room and Florida room, 3 guest suites, and a private master suite that is a self contained hideaway designed to give the homeowner a private retreat. The master suite offers a sitting room, walk-in closets, and a fabulous master bath that has just been **completely updated** with new shower, new counter tops, and cabinets. This lovely home also features new Granite counters, cook top, microwave, and double oven. The very private screened lanai features a heated pool, lush tropical landscaping and is sure to be a favorite gathering place. This meticulously maintained home also has newer A/C units, **electric hurricane shutters** for the entire home, and a paver brick driveway creates get curb appeal! **VISUAL TOUR AVAILABLE! A MUST SEE OFFERED AT \$559,900**



**EXTENDED CAPRI VILLA 2/2 WITH 2-CAR GARAGE** in the cul-de-sac across the bridge from the Town Center and all amenities in Village Walk. Roll down shutters, very large screened patio, fountain and lake views, "blank pallet" ready to sell. Close soon and enjoy Season here this winter!! **\$280,000**

## ISLAND WALK ♦ FEATURED PROPERTY ♦ ISLAND WALK



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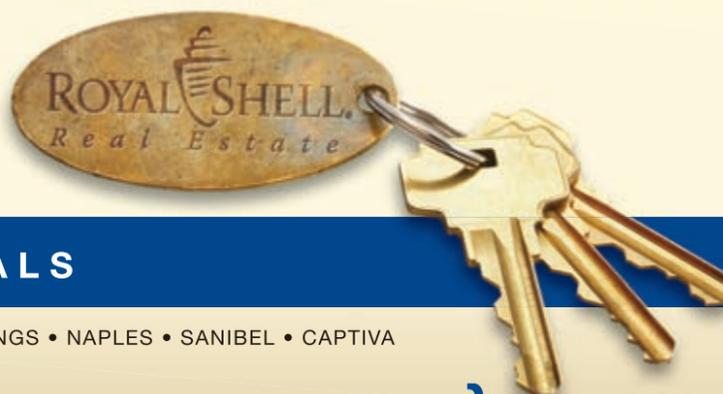
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**LIVINGSTON WOODS - 6480 Sandalwood Ln. - \$1,050,000**



**MARBELLA AT PELICAN BAY - 7425 Pelican Bay Blvd., #1405 - \$725,000**



**CHESAPEAKE POINTE - 1322 Chesapeake Ave., #C2 - \$549,000**



**OLD NAPLES - 280 Gulf Shore Blvd. N. - \$3,850,000**



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# New officers, board members will lead NABOR in 2014

**SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY**

The Naples Area Board of Realtors installed its 2014 board of directors and officers at NABOR's 64th annual installation banquet held Dec. 7 at a private club in Port Royal. In attendance were 16 past NABOR presidents.

The following new officers were installed: Patricia Pitocchi, president; Mike Hughes, president-elect; Richard Fioretti, vice president/secretary; and Harley Conrad, treasurer. New directors installed were: Richard Baranski, Robert Hewes, Jeffrey Jones, Eben Moran, Dominic Pallini, Carmen Vasquez and Coco Waldenmayer.

Outgoing President Wes Kunkle presented President's Awards for service above and beyond to NABOR directors Bob Hewes and Rick Fioretti for their leadership and guidance during the organization's conversion to a new MLS system this past summer. In addition, NABOR staff members Carl Russell, CFO, and Charlie Willits, CIO, were recognized for their 20-plus years of employment.

Incoming President Patricia Pitocchi announced four goals of her presidency:

- Education: This goal involves keeping professional development a priority at NABOR and adding attention where

needed in an effort to increase the skill set of its members.

- Communication: Ms. Pitocchi has set up a special email, presidentpat@NABOR.com, and encourages members to reach out to her with questions or ideas. She also will host "Coffee with the President" once a month to encourage open dialog with members and the community.

- Global thinking: NABOR members will have access to global resources that will make them more adept to the global market and its needs.

- Planning for the future: Ms. Pitocchi believes NABOR's 4,000 members

can benefit from a comprehensive and new strategic plan to guide them through the next five and 10 years.

The evening was made possible by the following sponsors: *Naples Daily News*, Comprehensive Building Consultants, Ballenger Law Firm, Aqua at Pelican Isle, Downing-Frye Realty, Housemaster Home Inspections, Homecheck Systems, Turn Key Construction and Realtors Robyn Pfister Griffin and Harley Conrad. Professional photography was donated by David DiMartino and John Fernandez.

For more information about NABOR, call 597-1666 or visit [www.NABOR.com](http://www.NABOR.com). ■



Richard Baranski, Dominic Pallini, Harley Conrad Coco Waldenmayer, Robert Hewes, Patricia Pitocchi, Mike Hughes, Jeffrey Jones, Carmen Vasquez, Richard Fioretti, Jim Pilon, Eben Moran and Mike Richardson



Maria Wells and Pat Pitocchi



Incoming President Pat Pitocchi receives the gavel from outgoing President Wes Kunkle



NABOR past presidents Michele Harrison (2005), Jim Pilon (2003), Al DiNicola (2002) and John Steinwand (2001)



NABOR past presidents Marilyn Evanish (1991), Phil Wood (1986), John Vaughn (1977) and John R. Wood (1963-64)



Wes Kunkle with President's Award winners Rick Fioretti and Robert Hewes



Wes Kunkle with 20-year employees Charlie Willits and Carl Russell

# NETWORKING

## The Terraces at Bonita Springs grand opening celebration



Gloria Kennedy, Dr. Andrew Oakes-Lottridge



Jimmy Underwood and Erik Eaton



Jamie Berkovitz and Michelle Krumm



Valerie Relay and Von Demosthenes



Jeanne Beaulieu and Maureen Oravec



Doug Potts, Rebekah Sidener and JoAnn Burns



Doug Potts, Ross Dickmann and Troy Hart



Kelly Gregory and Michelle Krumm



Sharon Hutson, Maureen Oravec, Brett Dalziel, Shaun Miller and LeAnna Bates



Lisa Dolan, Jamie Fox and Lori Priselac



Kelly Gregory, Kerri Pyne, Jimmy Underwood, Michelle Krumm and Kim Kane



Mark Andrews, Steve Alexander, Gene Guskowski, Steve Smilie, Troy Hart, Mike Gallagher, Christine Ross, Mayor Ben Nelson, Ross Dickmann and Mike Lanaham



Cheri Piglia, Dawn Legan, Lisa Nakfoor, Ginny Curran, Stephanie Theberge and Sam Munn

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# House Hunting:



## 256 CHESHIRE WAY: AUDUBON COUNTRY CLUB

Surrounded by four of the area's top beaches, a few miles from Southwest Florida's best shopping and nestled on a tree-lined street, this custom-built, four-bedroom Mediterranean-style home offers lake and golf views. It spans more than 4,200 square feet and has formal living and dining rooms, a gourmet kitchen with breakfast area and butler's pantry, a two-story light-filled family room, large den, luxurious master bedroom suite, powder room, guest bedroom and full bath, all on the first floor. The second floor has a loft/sitting room adjacent to two guest bedrooms and a full bath. The outdoor living space boasts a covered lanai, large pool/spa and built-in gas BBQ. Equipped with full hurricane protection for doors and windows, the home also has a whole-house generator and a four-car garage.

Complete with designer furnishings, it's offered at \$1.325 million. For more information or to arrange a showing, contact Sharon Saunders and Associates of Downing-Frye Realty by calling 269-7632 or 272-9480 or by visiting [www.AudubonCCHomes.com](http://www.AudubonCCHomes.com). ■

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\*Pool incentive valid on Ready Now homes closed on or before December 31, 2013. Pool Package (\$40,200 value) includes a paver deck with screen enclosure, 14' x 28' pool, four jets, lights, filter, and gem coat finish. Limited time offer is subject to change without notice. Pool layout varies per home. Not valid with any other discounts or promotions.



**KOLTER**



The Muirfield III by Stock Signature Homes is in the Mahogany Bend community at Fiddler's Creek.

## Stock unveils new model in Fiddler's Creek

### SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Stock Signature Homes has completed construction on the Muirfield III in the village of Mahogany Bend at Fiddler's Creek.

Mahogany Bend has 53 sites for single-family homes that range from 3,174 square feet under air to 3,525 square feet under air. All floor plans have three-car garages.

The Muirfield III has 3,255 square feet of air-conditioned living space and 4,823 total square feet. The fully furnished model has four bedrooms and 3½ baths. There is a formal dining room as well as an eat-in kitchen with a walk-in pantry. Other features of the Muirfield III model include a covered lanai, an outdoor kitchen and a sundeck surrounding the pool and spa.

Interior design features of the Muirfield III model include upgraded kitchen cabinets and granite countertops. The kitchen and great room boast natural stone floors, while the den, dining room

and master suite have hardwood floors.

The Muirfield III is available for purchase fully furnished on a leaseback option for \$1,261,745. Interior design is by KVS Interiors.

The entrance to Fiddler's Creek is just off Collier Boulevard between Naples and Marco Island. Community amenities include the 54,000-square-foot club and spa, a swimming complex, tennis courts, tot lot and casual and formal restaurants. Fiddler's Creek residents have the opportunity to join The Golf Club and The Tarpon Club for the beach and boating lifestyle. A limited number of non-resident annual and seasonal memberships with term date flexibility are currently available at both The Golf Club and The Tarpon Club.

For more information, call 732-9300, stop by the information center at 8152 Fiddler's Creek Parkway or visit [www.fiddlerscreek.com](http://www.fiddlerscreek.com). ■



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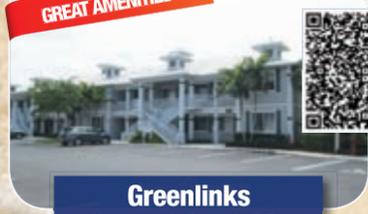
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# Start the New Year at real estate outlook conference

Registration is open for the 14th annual Southwest Florida Real Estate Outlook Conference set for 7:30 a.m. to noon Thursday, Jan. 29, at Harbor-side Event Center in downtown Fort Myers. Presented by the Southwest Florida CCIM District, the conference provides networking and educational opportunities for any individual or company that deals with, or wants to learn more about, commercial real estate transactions.

The conference is open to the public, with an early registration fee of \$50 for non-members and \$40 for Southwest Florida CCIM District members.

Tickets will also be available at the door on the day of the event for \$60.

Business leaders from throughout the community will discuss where the economy is today, what the expectation is for 2014 and what business leaders need to prepare for in the future. All commercial real estate categories will be addressed — retail, industrial, land and office.

Panel speakers will include Matt Stephen, Premier Commercial Office; Jim Boback, Boback Commercial Group; and Wilson Bradsaw, president of Florida Gulf Coast University. In addition, Randy Anderson of the

economics department at the University of Central Florida will discuss the economic outlook for 2014 as it pertains to real estate.

Attendees will receive a booklet containing data about real estate transactions, as well as a current membership listing for the Southwest Florida CCIM District that includes Collier, Lee and Charlotte counties.

The conference is made possible by the following sponsors: Wells Fargo Private Bank; First Citizens Bank; LandQwest Commercial; CBC National Bank SBA Lending Group; University Place; CRE Consultants;

Premier Commercial; the City of Cape Coral Economic Development Office; Naples Area Board of Realtors; Achieva Credit Union; Florida Gulf Coast Chapter of the Appraisal Institute; Velocity Engineering Services; Re/Max Realty Group; Maxwell, Hendry & Simmons; The Law Office of Kevin F. Jurinski & Associates; Coldwell Banker Commercial; 1031 Tax Free Strategies; Suite Life Magazine; Southwest Florida Business Today; and Business Observer. Sponsorships are still available.

For registration or more information, visit [www.swflccim.com](http://www.swflccim.com). ■

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# Florida Weekly's Open Houses

**Open Houses are Sunday 1-4, unless otherwise marked**

## >\$200,000

**1 • PELICAN LANDING - SOUTHBRIDGE** • 3441 Ballybridge Circle #201 • \$300,000 • Premier Sotheby's International Realty • Jack Despart • 239.273.7931

## >\$300,000

**2 • BONITA BAY - GREENBRIAR** • 4111 Bayhead Drive #202 • \$375,000 • PSIR • Cathy Lieberman/Cindy Reiff • 239.777.2441

**3 • THE BROOKS - SHADOW WOOD - CYPRESS HAMMOCK** • 9560 Cypress Hammock Circle #102 • \$379,000 • PSIR • Roxanne Jeske • 239.450.5210

**4 • WYNDEMERE - WATER OAKS** • 120 Water Oaks Way • \$395,000 • PSIR • Kathryn Hurvitz • 239.290.0228

**5 • WYNDEMERE - WATER OAKS** • 104 Water Oaks Way • \$399,000 • PSIR • Catherine Bordner • 239.560.2921

## >\$400,000

**6 • OLD NAPLES - PIERRE CLUB** • 1222 Gordon Drive #11 • \$439,000 • PSIR • Debbi/Marty McDermott • 239.564.4231

**7 • MERCATO - THE STRADA** • 9123 Strada Place • From \$498,500 • PSIR • Call 239.594.9400 • Open Monday-Saturday 10am-8pm & Sunday 12-8pm

## >\$500,000

**8 • PELICAN BAY - LUGANO** • 5940 Via Lugano #304 • \$539,500 • PSIR • Jeannie McGearty • 239.248.4333

**9 • PARK SHORE - ALLEGRO** • 4031 Gulf Shore Blvd. North #22 • \$549,000 • PSIR • Marlene Suarez • 239.290.0585

**10 • PELICAN MARSH - VENTURA** • 8919 Ventura Way • \$570,000 • PSIR • Roya Nouhi • 239.290.9111

## >\$700,000

**11 • CASTELLA** • 24011 Via Castella Dr. #2104 • \$769,000 • Engel and Völkers • Thomas Ostrander • 860.304.1037

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

**13 • PARK SHORE - TERRACES** • 4751 Gulf Shore Blvd. North #505 • \$799,000 • PSIR • Polly Himmel • 239.290.3910

## >\$800,000

**14 • FLORENCIA** • 23851 Via Italia Circle #1105 • \$825,000 • Engel and Völkers • Thomas Ostrander • 860.304.1037

**15 • FLORENCIA** • 23850 Via Italia Circle #1702 • \$859,000 • Engel and Völkers • Thomas Ostrander • 860.304.1037

**16 • FIDDLER'S CREEK - MAHOGANY BEND** • 3812 Mahogany Bend Drive • \$899,000 • PSIR • Michelle Thomas • 239.860.7176

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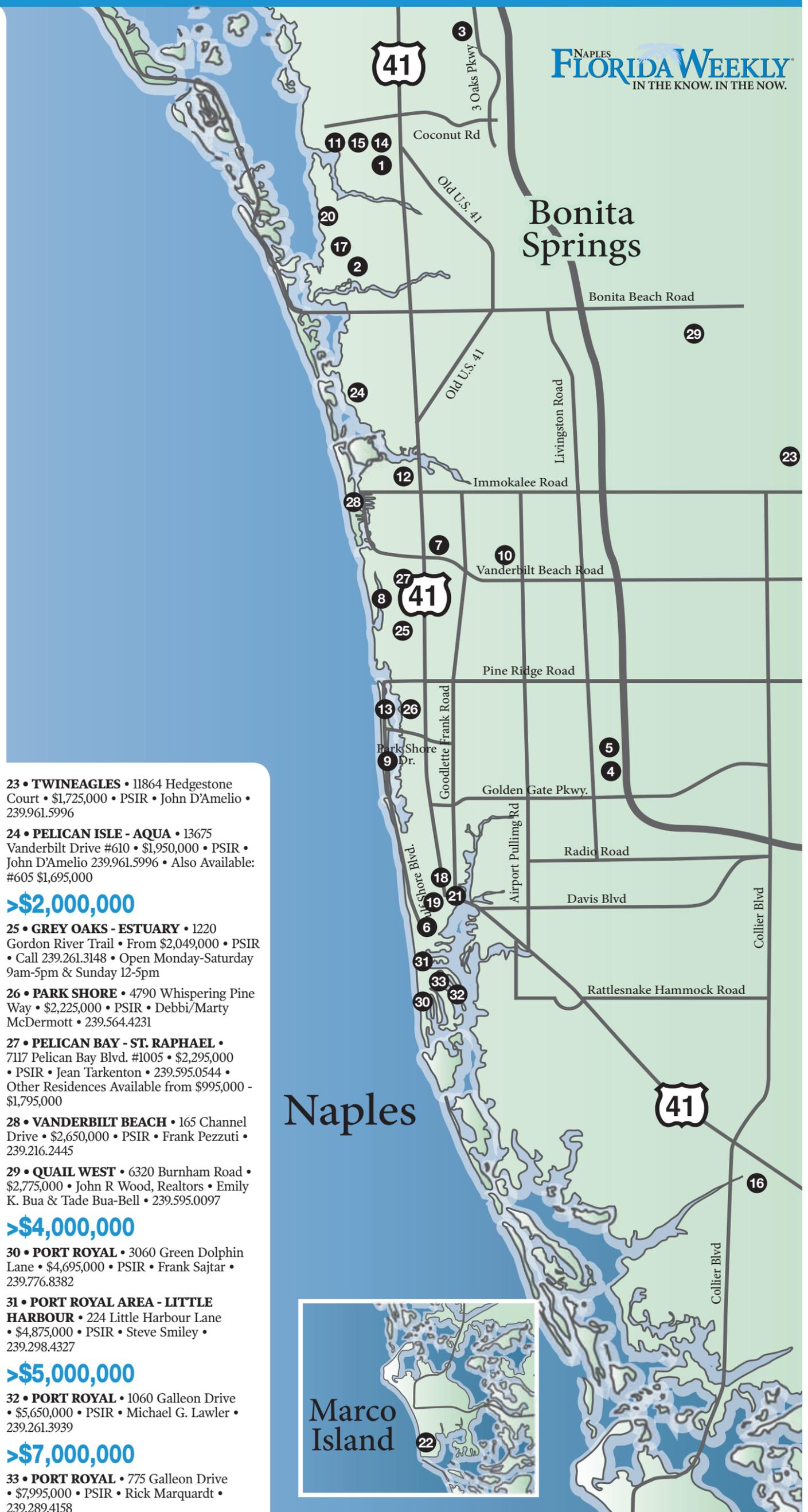
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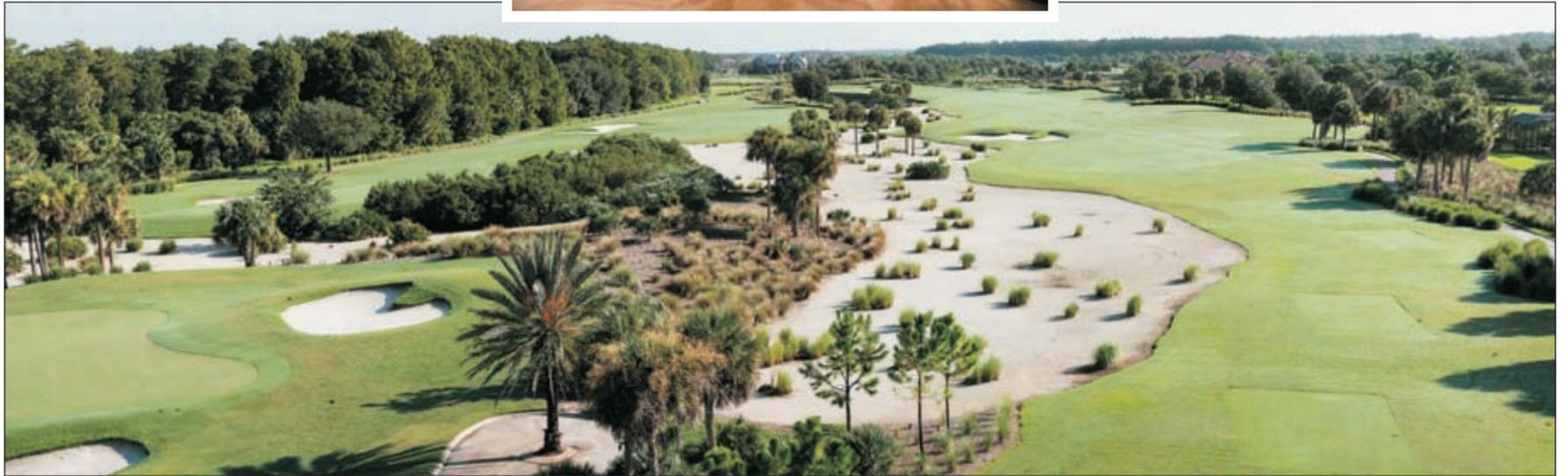
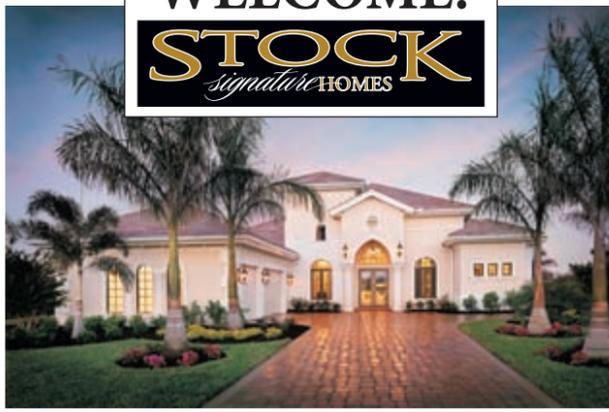
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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

WEEK OF DECEMBER 19-25, 2013

A GUIDE TO THE LOCAL ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SCENE



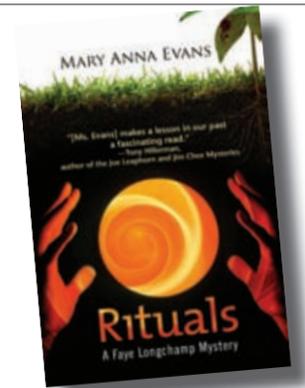
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## | INSIDE |



### To hell and back

Theater critic Nancy Stetson enjoys every minute of Jacob Marley's Gulfshore Playhouse adventure. **C8** ▶



### Faith and folly

Book reviewer Phil Jason finds intrigue in the new Faye Longchamp mystery. **C22** ▶



### Creative cuisine

Restaurant reviewer Karen Feldman enjoys an imaginative meal at Wylde Café. **C31** ▶

  
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The High-Rises at Bonita Bay	495-1105
Estuary at Grey Oaks	261-3148
The Strada at Mercato	594-9400
The Village	261-6161
The Gallery	659-0099
Broad Avenue	434-2424
Vanderbilt	594-9494
The Promenade	948-4000
Fifth Avenue	434-8770
Marco Island	642-2222
Rentals	262-4242

## Enjoy the nightlife at Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary

### SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Audubon Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary honors the winter solstice with a star-themed after-hours evening Friday, Dec. 20. Visitors can take guided forest walks under the stars at 5:30 and 7 p.m., enjoy views of the stars and planets through a telescope stationed on Corkscrew's boardwalk from 6-9 p.m. and sit in on an "Astronomy Mythology" presentation with Michael Usher, president

of the Everglades Astronomical Society, at 6:30 p.m.

Sunset is at 5:38 p.m., and the late moonrise at 8:42 p.m. promises superb star-gazing against the dark sky.

Mr. Usher's "Astronomy Mythology" discussion is suitable for adults only due to the nature of the myths, but on an outside deck of Corkscrew's nature center, an interpretive discovery station will be set up with activities appropriate for kids of all ages from

5:30-8:30 p.m.

Music and art blend with nature at each monthly after-hours event. This month, Florida folk musician Wayne Bryan, a Naples native who grew up hunting, fishing and camping in the wilds of Collier County, will perform original songs on guitar, mandolin, keyboard and bass from 6-8 p.m.

"Corkscrew at Night," an exhibit of

SEE SWAMP, C4 ▶

# SANDY DAYS, SALTY NIGHTS

## Making a (naughty) list and checking it twice



For some of us, the sparkle has already gone out of the holiday season. The tinsel has clogged up the vacuum cleaner and the mistletoe jokes are all falling flat. I might slap someone if I hear one more rendition of "Jingle Bells."

Can we please get to New Year's already?

Mired in this unfortunate state of bah-humbuggedness, I decided my festive spirit just lacked inspiration. What could spice up the dull countdown to Christmas?

Naughty gifts, of course.

Luckily I know someone who's a professional in this area. My friend Kathy Kulig writes erotic novels for a living, and thankfully she knew exactly what I needed to add to my holiday shopping list. Here are some of my favorites, which you might want to add to yours.

■ Mrs. Kulig started by suggesting sensual massage oils, shower gels and bubble bath. They smell luscious, and they imply all kinds of lascivious activities. While on first blush these might seem like women-only gifts, if you've ever lived with a man you know he's

the first to steal all the good-smelling bath products. And I've never met a man who would turn down a bubble bath. Mrs. Kulig recommended combining these gifts with a bottle of wine and a few candles for a romantic gift basket that would look decadent under the tree.

■ If you want to ratchet the sexy gift giving up a notch, try exchanging sensual clothing. Mrs. Kulig said lingerie of all kinds works well for women, not to mention stockings of every kinky sort, from fishnets to thigh-highs. Silk boxers make sexy and classy gifts for men, she added.

■ For the more daring on your list, try a selection of erotic books. These might include Mrs. Kulig's own "Summer Sins" and "Spring Break," as well as titles by authors Cris Anson, Desiree Holt and Joey W. Hill. If these books and their steamy story lines feel a little too risqué, try a leather-bound edition of "Lady Chatterley's Lover." It's got sex and fine literature.

■ As long as we're shopping in the naughty aisle, we might as well consider seductive movies. Mrs. Kulig suggested films that are sexy and sensual without being pornographic. Among her favorites "Wild Orchid," "Lolita," "Eyes Wide Shut" and "Ghost." Not exactly what you'd find in the 18-and-up aisle of the video store, but still not suitable for family

viewing. And isn't that the point?

Of course, this is all relatively chaste.

■ If you really want to go wild this holiday season, Mrs. Kulig recommends a trip to the local adult store. There you'll find straps, blindfolds and other items I would name if I weren't already blushing. Better to browse the aisles yourself and see what titillates.

■ Finally, Mrs. Kulig told me about the absolute best gift she's ever given her sweetie — a surprise trip to the Baseball Hall of Fame. I had to laugh. It was the least kinky of all her suggestions and still it was perfect. Maybe all we really need this holiday season is more time with the people we love. And a naughty book or two. ■



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# Marco bookstore will welcome author Sue Monk Kidd in March

Sunshine Booksellers on Marco Island will welcome bestselling author Sue Monk Kidd ("The Mermaid Chair," "The Secret Life of Bees") for a discussion and signing of her newest novel at 4 p.m. Wednesday, March 12, at the Marco Island Center for the Arts. "The Invention of Wings" is set for release on Jan. 7.

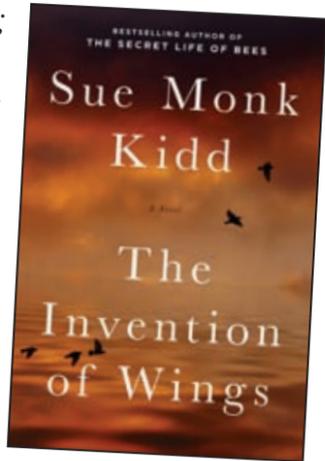
Tickets for \$39 go on sale Monday, Dec. 23, and include a copy of the book and priority seating at the March event. A portion of ticket sales will benefit the center for the arts. Only 150 tickets will be sold initially. At a later date, an additional 50 tickets will be made available for \$10 each that will be standing room only and will not include a copy of the book.

For those who buy the \$39 tickets, the book will be available for pick-up at Sunshine Booksellers or mailing (\$6 charge for mailing) any time after Jan. 7.

An Oprah's Book Club 2.0 selection, "The Invention of Wings" is described on amazon.com as "a masterpiece of hope, daring, the quest for freedom



Sue Monk Kidd



and the desire to have a voice in the world ...

"Hetty 'Handful' Grimke, an urban slave in early 19th century Charleston, yearns for life beyond the suffocating walls that enclose her within the wealthy Grimke household. The Grimke's daughter, Sarah, has known from an early age she is meant to do something large in the world, but she is hemmed in by the limits imposed on women. (The novel) is set in motion on Sarah's 11th birthday, when she is given ownership of 10-year-old Handful, who is to be her handmaid. We follow their remarkable journeys over the next 35 years, as both strive for a life of their own, dramatically shaping each other's destinies and forming a complex relationship marked by guilt, defiance, estrangement and the uneasy ways of love ...

"This exquisitely written novel is a triumph of storytelling that looks with unswerving eyes at a devastating wound in American history, through women whose struggles for liberation, empowerment and expression will leave no reader unmoved."

To purchase tickets for Ms. Kidd's appearance or for more information, call Sunshine Booksellers at 393-0353 or stop by the store at 677 S. Collier Blvd. on Marco. ■

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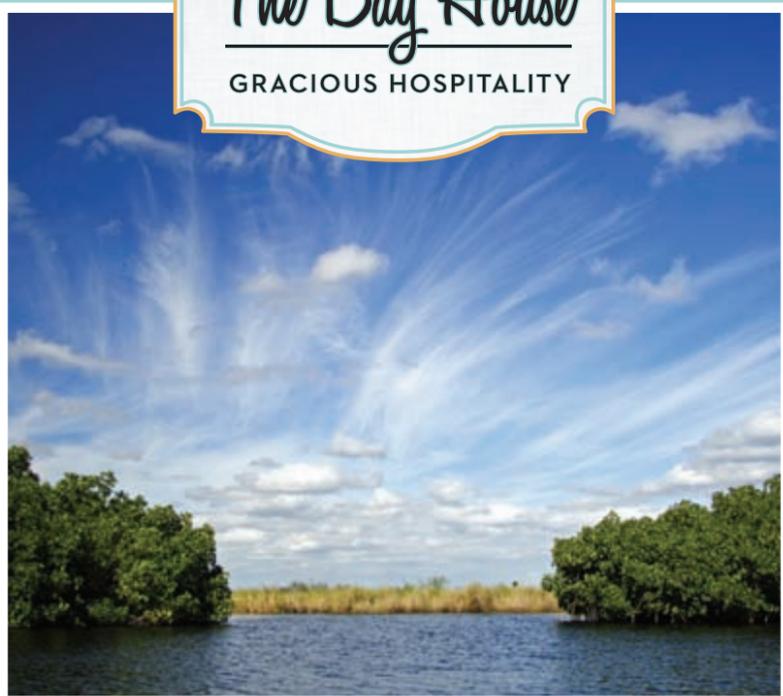
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CORKSCREW AT TWILIGHT WADDY THOMPSON / COURTESY PHOTO

**SWAMP**

From page 1

photographs by R.J. Wiley and Waddy Thompson, is featured through the end of December in the nature center. Refreshments will be served in the tearoom, and the gift shop will remain open through the evening.

The last after-hours admission is at 8 p.m., and the event wraps up at 9 p.m. The first after-hours of the New Year is set for Wednesday, Jan. 23.

Audubon Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary is open year-round from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., every day. Admission is \$12 per adult, \$6 for college students with ID, \$4 for ages 6-18 years and free for ages 5 and younger. Every admission is valid for two consecutive days in the sanctuary. National Audubon Society members who present their ID card

**in the know**

**Corkscrew After Hours**  
 Friday, Dec. 20

- >> 5:30 p.m. Naturalist-guided walk
- >> 5:38 p.m. Sunset
- >> 5:30-8:30 p.m. Interpretive discovery stations and children's activities
- >> 6-8 p.m. Entertainment by Florida folk musician Wayne Bryan
- >> 6-9 p.m. Night sky exploration with Rick Piper of the Everglades Astronomical Society and Linda Jacobsen of Linda's Night Sky Tours
- >> 6:30-7:30 p.m. "Astronomy Mythology" discussion by Michael Usher (not suitable for children)
- >> 7 p.m. Naturalist-guided walk
- >> 8 p.m. Last admission
- >> 9 p.m. Close

enjoy a 50 percent discount. For more information, call 348-9151 or visit [www.corkscrew.audubon.org](http://www.corkscrew.audubon.org).

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# WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

## Theater

■ **Nutcracker Goes Pop!** – By KidzAct of The Naples Players on select dates through Dec. 21 in the Tobye Studio at the Sugden Community Theatre. 263-7990 or [www.naplesplayers.org](http://www.naplesplayers.org).

■ **Our Town** – By The Naples Players through Dec. 21 on the main stage at the Sugden Community Theatre. 263-7990 or [www.naplesplayers.org](http://www.naplesplayers.org).

■ **Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol** – By Gulfshore Playhouse through Dec. 22 at The Norris Center. 261-7529 or [www.gulfshoreplayhouse.org](http://www.gulfshoreplayhouse.org).

■ **A Christmas Carol** – By Laboratory Theater of Florida through Dec. 21 at 1634 Woodford Ave., Fort Myers. 218-0481 or [laboratorytheaterflorida.com/](http://laboratorytheaterflorida.com/).

■ **Babes in Toyland** – By Broadway Palm Children's Theatre, Fort Myers, on select dates through Dec. 23. \$18 for lunch and the show for all ages. 278-4422 or [www.broadwaypalm.com](http://www.broadwaypalm.com).

■ **We Will Rock You** – At the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, Fort Myers, through Dec. 22. \$34-\$69. 481-4849, [www.bbmanna.com](http://www.bbmanna.com), [wewillrockyou.com](http://wewillrockyou.com) or [schoolswillrockyou.com](http://schoolswillrockyou.com).

■ **My Three Angels** – Through Dec. 22 by Florida Repertory Theatre in the Historic Arcade Theatre, Fort Myers. 332-4488 or [www.floridarep.org](http://www.floridarep.org).

■ **The Santaland Diaries** – Through Dec. 29 by Florida Repertory Theatre in the ArtStage Studio Theatre, Fort Myers. 332-4488 or [www.floridarep.org](http://www.floridarep.org).

■ **Away in the Basement: A Church Basement Ladies Christmas** – By the Off Broadway Palm Theatre, Fort Myers, through Dec. 25. \$28-\$49. 278-4422 or [www.BroadwayPalm.com](http://www.BroadwayPalm.com).

■ **Swingin' Christmas** – Through Dec. 25 at the Broadway Palm Theatre, Fort Myers. 278-4422 or [www.broadwaypalm.com](http://www.broadwaypalm.com).

## Thursday, Dec. 19

■ **Smooth Moves** – Take a tai chi class from 10-11 a.m. at Naples Botanical Garden. \$10 for Garden members; \$15 for non-members. 643-7275 or [www.naplesgarden.org](http://www.naplesgarden.org).

■ **Wine Throwdown** – Decanted Wines hosts a tasting competition with more than 50 wine companies from 5:30-7:30 p.m. \$25. Reservations required. 1410 Pine Ridge Road. 434-1814 or [www.decantedwines.com](http://www.decantedwines.com).

■ **Night Lights** – "Night Lights" at Naples Botanical Garden begins at 6 p.m. and continues evenings through Dec. 23 and Dec. 26-30 with musical performances, family activities and thousands of lights throughout the Garden. 643-7275 or [www.naplesgarden.org](http://www.naplesgarden.org).



"Night Lights" at Naples Botanical Garden begins at 6 p.m. Dec. 19-23 and 26-30 with musical performances, family activities and thousands of lights throughout the Garden. Shown here is the Chattel House in the Caribbean Garden. 643-7275 or [www.naplesgarden.org](http://www.naplesgarden.org).

■ **Thursdays on Third** – Musicians Quiet Storm, Sistas and Patchouli perform along the sidewalks of Third Street South from 6-9 p.m. [www.thirdstreetsouth.com](http://www.thirdstreetsouth.com).

■ **Big Band** – The Center for the Arts Bonita Springs presents the Southwest Florida Big Band at 7 p.m. Enjoy an evening under the stars complete with culinary samplings and music made for dancing and reminiscing. \$45 members; \$50 non-members in advance; \$55 at the door. 26100 Old 41 Road. 495-8989 or [www.artcenterbonita.org](http://www.artcenterbonita.org).

■ **Holiday Pops** – The Naples Philharmonic Chorus and Youth Chorus perform a Holiday Pops concert tonight through Dec. 22 at Artis—Naples. 597-1900 or [www.artisnaples.org](http://www.artisnaples.org).

■ **All About Orchids** – The Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance welcomes members and guests from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church. Jim Longwell plays "Orchid Santa" as he hands out free Christmas seedlings along with pots, mounts and potting mix. 1255 Piper Blvd. 498-9741 or [www.GulfCoastOrchidAlliance.com](http://www.GulfCoastOrchidAlliance.com).

■ **Grandma's Christmas Goose** – By Compton & Bennett at Fred's Food, Fun & Spirits. \$39.95 for dinner and the show. 2700 Immokalee Road. 431-7928 or [comptonandbenneett@aol.com](mailto:comptonandbenneett@aol.com).

■ **A Stand-Up Guy** – Bob Zany takes the stage tonight through Dec. 22 at the Off the Hook Comedy Club, Marco Island. 389-6901 or [www.offthehookcomedy.com](http://www.offthehookcomedy.com).

## Friday, Dec. 20

■ **Artsy Party** – Astratta Art Gallery hosts a holiday open house with wine and hors d'oeuvres from 5-8 p.m. Free. 1170 Third St. S. 331-1841 or [www.astrattagallery.com](http://www.astrattagallery.com).

■ **Corkscrew After Hours** – Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary stays open late by the light of the moon. 348-9151 or [www.corkscrew.audubon.org](http://www.corkscrew.audubon.org). See story on page C1.

■ **Paul Todd & Friends** – Paul Todd & Friends present a holiday concert to benefit the Greater Naples YMCA beginning at 6 p.m. in the East Clubhouse at Vi at Bentley Village. \$75 includes cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. Sponsored by Ciccarelli Advisory Services. Reservations required. 262-6577.

■ **Cook's Corner** – Chef Kristina San Filippo of The Good Life leads a class in cheeses from around the world for holiday entertaining from 6-8 p.m. \$75. 2355 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 514-4663 or [www.goodlifefl.com](http://www.goodlifefl.com).

■ **See You at Stan's** – Rasta Roni & Papa Rasta perform from 6-9 p.m. at Stan's Idle Hour on Marco Island. 394-3041 or [www.standsidlehour.net](http://www.standsidlehour.net).

■ **Piano Tunes** – Larry Moss performs from 6-9 p.m. at Capers Kitchen & Bar. 2460 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 431-7138.

■ **Live Tunes** – Mercato hosts guitarist Jon Dunn from 7:30-9:30 p.m. [www.mercatoshops.com](http://www.mercatoshops.com).

■ **Last Laugh** – Wayne Felber and Sheena Reagan take the stage at the Old Naples Comedy Club tonight and Dec. 21. 1100 Sixth Ave. S. \$15. 455-2844 or [www.oldnaplescomedyclub.com](http://www.oldnaplescomedyclub.com).

## Saturday, Dec. 21

■ **Muck Around** – Guided swamp walks set out in the wet wilderness behind Clyde Butcher's Big Cypress Preserve gallery off U.S. 41 in Ochopee. \$50 for adults; \$25 for ages 18 and younger. Reservations required. 695-2428 or [www.clydebutchersbigcypressgallery.com](http://www.clydebutchersbigcypressgallery.com).

■ **Farmer's Market** – The Third Street South Farmer's Market takes place from 7:30-11:30 a.m. in the parking lot behind Tommy Bahama. [www.thirdstreetsouth.com](http://www.thirdstreetsouth.com).

■ **Touch-a-Truck** – Golisano Children's Museum of Naples hosts "Touch-a-Truck" from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. compliments of the Cape Coral Traveling Military Museum. 514-0084 or [www.cmon.org](http://www.cmon.org).

■ **Book Signing** – Bestselling author Karna Small Bodman signs copies of her latest thriller, "Castle Bravo," from 12:30-4 p.m. at Petunia's. 852 Fifth Ave. S. 262-2128.

■ **Live Tunes** – The Raiford Starke band performs at Joanie's Blue Crab Café from 2-5 p.m. today and Dec. 22. 39395 Tamiami Trail E. 695-2682 or [www.joaniesbluecrabcafe.com](http://www.joaniesbluecrabcafe.com).

■ **Let It Snow** – Flurries fall on the Village on Venetian Bay for a holiday celebration with entertainment, photos with Santa, carolers and more from 5-8 p.m. 4200 Gulf Shore Blvd. [www.venetianvillage.com](http://www.venetianvillage.com).

■ **Piano Tunes** – Lynn Carol tickles the ivories from 6-9 p.m. at Capers Kitchen & Bar. 2460 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 431-7138.

■ **It Takes Two** – Pablo Repun Tango hosts a beginner's class from 7-8 p.m. and Milogna from 8-11 p.m. \$15. 1673 Pine Ridge Road. 738-4184 or [www.pablrepun.com](http://www.pablrepun.com).

■ **Little Bar Jam** – Big Buck & The Biscuit Boys perform at the Little Bar Restaurant in Goodland on Marco Island. 394-5663 or [www.littlebarrestaurant.com](http://www.littlebarrestaurant.com).

■ **More Tunes** – Devon Meyers performs at Vandy's & 5 Brothers on Marco Island starting at 11:30 p.m. 1089 N. Collier Blvd., Marco Island. 394-8767.

## Sunday, Dec. 22

■ **Stretch and Breathe** – Start the day with yoga from 10-11 a.m. at Naples Botanical Garden. \$10 for Garden members, \$15 for non-members. 643-7275 or [www.naplesgarden.org](http://www.naplesgarden.org).

■ **Brunch with Santa** – Gordon's on the River hosts Sunday brunch and photos with Santa from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. \$27 for adults; \$12 for children. Reservations required. 475 North Road. 213-1441.

■ **Carolers on Fifth** – Bellini on 5th presents The Naples Carolers from 7-8 p.m. 445 Fifth Ave. S. 261-1117 or [www.BelliniOnFifth.com](http://www.BelliniOnFifth.com).

## Monday, Dec. 23

■ **Jazz Jam** – Fred's Food, Fun, and Spirits hosts Jebry and friends for a jazz jam from 6-9 p.m. 431-7928.

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# WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO



“Super Circus Heroes” of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus comes to Germain Arena Jan. 2-6. The colorful Ringmaster, above, will introduce acts including the Shaolin Warriors, right, as well as Asian elephants, horses, camels, acrobats, aerialists, clowns and more. (800) 745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com.



■ **Holiday Wine Pairing** – Decanted Wines hosts a holiday wine tasting and pairing event from 5-7 p.m. Taste the dishes of the season with the perfectly paired wines. \$15 (\$10 for Inner Circle members). RSVP required. 1410 Pine Ridge Road. 434-1814 or www.decantedwines.com.

■ **Tryout Time** – The Center for the Arts Bonita Springs holds teen auditions for “Little Shop of Horrors” from 5-7 p.m. Call for an appointment. 26100 Old 41 Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

**Tuesday, Dec. 24**

■ **Cooking Class** – Sur La Table in Mercato holds a “Family Fun: Bake & Decorate Holiday Cookies” starting at 11 a.m. \$39. (800) 243-0852 or www.surlatable.com.

**Wednesday, Dec. 25**



**Coming up**

■ **West Side Story** – At Artis-Naples Dec. 26-29. 597-1900 or www.artisnaples.org.

■ **Village Nights** – The Village on Venetian Bay hosts live entertainment with Fuse Duo from 5-8 p.m. Dec. 26. 4200 Gulf Shore Blvd. www.venetianvillage.com.

■ **Last Laugh** – Duncan Jay takes the stage at Old Naples Comedy Club Dec. 27-28. 1100 Sixth Ave. S. \$15. 455-2844 or www.oldnaplescomedyclub.com.

■ **South Pacific** – At Broadway Palm Theatre, Fort Myers, Dec. 28-Feb. 15. 1380 Colonial Blvd. 278-4422 or www.broadwaypalm.com.

■ **Art Fest** – The third annual Coconut Point New Year’s Weekend Art Festival is set for Dec. 28-29. www.artfestival.com, info@artfestival.com or (561) 746-6615.

■ **Big Band** – The Southwest Florida Big Band performs a free concert at Cambier Park from 2-4 p.m. Dec. 29. 755 Eighth St. 394-0470.

■ **Movie Mania** – Bring the family for a binge of nature films at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. at Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Dec. 30-31 and Jan. 2-4. 417-6310 or www.rookerybay.org.

■ **The Nutcracker** – Moscow Ballet’s Great Russian Nutcracker starts at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 30 at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, Fort Myers. 481-4849 or www.bbmannpah.com.

■ **Polar Plunge** – Big Dave’s Polar Plunge takes place at 9 a.m. Jan. 1 at Lowdermilk Park. Donations benefit Drug Court Kids and PAWS Assistance Dogs. 435-0939.

■ **Dancing Under the Stars** – Mercato hosts “Great Gatsby Night” as part of its Dancing Under The Stars series from 4:30-9:30 p.m. Jan. 1. 227-4405 or www.dancingunderthestarsnaples.com.

■ **Mercato Music** – Mercato hosts national slide guitar champion Kraig Kenning from 6-9 p.m. Jan. 2. www.mercatoshops.com.

■ **Look Who’s Laughing** – Jamie Morgan and Joe Simmons take the stage at the Old Naples Comedy Club Jan. 1-4. 1100 Sixth Ave. S. \$15. 455-2844 or www.oldnaplescomedyclub.com.

■ **The Big Top** – “Super Circus Heroes” of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus comes to Germain Arena Jan. 2-6. Enjoy Asian elephants, horses, camels, acrobats, aerialists, clowns and more. (800) 745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com.

■ **Rockin’ on the Bay** – A Journey tribute band takes the stage at Riverside Park in Bonita Springs as part of the Rockin’ on the Bay series from 5:30-9 p.m. Jan. 3. 331-7371 or www.mcquaid-marketing.com.

■ **Improv Comedy** – Naples Performing Arts Center hosts “Night at the Improv” with the WOW Improv troupe from 7-8:30 p.m. Jan. 3. Audience participation encouraged. \$10. 6646 Willow Park Drive. 597-6722 or www.WOWimprov.com.

■ **New Year’s Art Fair** – The 18th annual Naples New Year’s Art Fair takes place on Fifth Avenue South from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jan. 4-5. 262-6517 or www.naplesart.org.

■ **More Art** – The 13th bi-annual Estero Fine Art Show is set for 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Jan. 4-5 at Miromar Outlets in Estero. Free admission. www.hotworks.org.

■ **Jazz it Up!** – Naples Botanical Garden presents The Rick Howard Trio as part of its “Jazz in the Garden” series from 2-4 p.m. Jan. 5. 643-7275 or www.naplesgarden.org.

■ **Movie Night** – The Center for the Arts Bonita Springs presents a screening and discussion of “Shall We Dance” beginning at 7 p.m. Jan. 6. \$9. 26100 Old 41 Road. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

■ **Day of Adventure** – Betty Maclean Travel, in partnership with Clive Daniel Home, hosts a day of travel presentations from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Jan. 7. 2777 Tamiami Trail N. RSVP required by Dec. 27. 513-0333 or Adventures@BettyMacleanTravel.com.

■ **Opening Reception** – The Marco Island Historical Museum hosts an opening for the exhibit “Enchantments: The Photographic Adventures of Julian Dimock” from 5-7 p.m. Jan. 7. Free. 180 S. Heathwood Drive, Marco Island. 642-1440 or www.colliermuseums.com.

■ **Art Alive** – Art Alliance Naples hosts an evening of artist demonstrations and exhibits from 5-8 p.m. Jan. 8 in the Naples Art District (north of Pine Ridge Road, west of Airport Road). Free. 821-1061.

■ **Everglades Photography** – The Everglades Society for Historic Preservation hosts “Enchantments: Julian Dimock’s Photographs of Southwest Florida” at 5:30 p.m. Jan. 8 at Everglades City Hall. Jerald Milanich, emeritus professor at the University of Florida, discusses the photographs taken by Julian Dimock and his father in the Everglades from 1904-13. Free. 695-2905 or www.evergladeshistorical.org.

■ **Grenache Glam** – Decanted Wines hosts “The Grenache & Glam Gala” from 5-7 p.m. Jan. 9. Black & White attire requested. \$25. Reservations required. 1410 Pine Ridge Road. 434-1814 or www.decantedwines.com.

■ **Wildlife & Wildlands** – The 16th annual Delnor Wiggins Pass State Park Art Show takes place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Jan. 18 at the park. www.delnorwiggins.org. ■

– Submit calendar listings and high-resolution photos to events@floridaweekly.com. Email text, jpegs or Word documents are accepted. No pdfs or photos of fliers. The deadline for calendar submissions is noon Sunday.

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# ARTS COMMENTARY

## Go to hell and love every second with Jacob Marley



You've probably seen "A Christmas Carol" — maybe numerous times — but you've never seen it like this.

At Gulfshore Playhouse's production of "Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol," we see the classic tale in a fresh way, through the eyes of Ebenezer Scrooge's dead partner.

The play starts the way Charles Dickens' timeless novel does: "Marley was dead, to begin with. There is no doubt whatsoever about that ... Marley was dead. This must be distinctly understood, or nothing wonderful can come of the story I am going to relate."

But though the play begins with Dickens' own words, playwright Tom Mula takes over and seamlessly weaves his own tale. In this version, Marley winds up in hell and, in order to redeem himself, has to do the impossible: convince Scrooge to have "a willing and irreversible change of heart" — before sunrise.

It's a tall order. A seemingly impossible one. But Marley is desperate.

Playhouse Artistic Associate Cody Nickell narrates the story and portrays Marley, as well as 17 other characters in this play.

If this sounds a little too gimmicky, rest assured, it's not.

It's gripping theater, and immensely entertaining.

I was so captivated that I felt like a little child, hanging onto every word and plot twist. I was thoroughly enthralled.

Mr. Nickell delivers a virtuoso performance, giving each character a distinct voice and personality. He even, somehow, manages to appear to change shape and size.

He is, for example, the Record Keeper, a St. Peter/gatekeeper figure, who's "as small as a chair." He also plays a bogle, a little demon-like character who flies about and likes to hang out in Marley's right ear. Then he transforms into an imposing figure who suddenly grows in height. (Mr. Nickell is so convincing physically that I feared he would break through the roof and tower over the theater. It is a feat even more spectacular than the growing Christmas tree in "The Nutcracker.")

And when, as the Grim Reaper, he points a bony index finger toward a gravestone, it's chilling.



COURTESY PHOTOS



Cody Nickell gives a bravura performance in "Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol."

Yet, even more important than the voices and the physicality of all these various characters is Mr. Nickell's real talent: He conveys the heart and personality of each one. These people are genuine and authentic. We feel Marley's despair, Scrooge's fear, Bob Cratchit's resignation.

This is a testimony, too, to Gulfshore Playhouse founder and Artistic Director Kristen Coury, who directed the show. Both actor and director have paid atten-

tion to every tiny detail, every single movement.

Everyone involved in this production is playing at the top of his game, and this collaboration gives us something quite special.

Steven Kemp's set looks as if Victorian London has exploded. Everything is upside down and fragmented: planks of wood, doors, chairs, molding. Upside-down gas-lit streetlights grow out of the floor like stalagmites. It skillfully serves

as the setting for a variety of locales. Mr. Kemp even does the impossible: He makes The Norris Center's small stage seem expansive.

David Upton's lighting transforms the stage from an eerie hell to a star-lit London, aided by Christopher Colucci's sound effects that give us, among other things, a door slamming in hell with great finality. Jennifer Bronsted has costumed Mr. Nickell in clothing quite proper for the era, but she includes, at one point, some magic fairy dust that gives him an other-worldly sparkle. (Plus — a nice touch here — she makes him look like a young Dickens, with goatee and wings of hair on either side of his head.)

But in the end, it is Mr. Nickell, and he alone, who's on the stage for the duration of this two-act play. It is a breathtaking, amazing feat of acting, and he does not falter at all.

His Ghost of Christmas Present is especially praiseworthy, exuding joy, goodwill and kindness without one ounce of sappiness. He is sheer goodness and happiness, and watching him onstage, I was transported back to the pure childlike joy of Christmas.

"Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol" cuts right to the heart of the season. It's a tale of redemption, a story of true repentance and a new heart.

Scrooge keeps insisting, "I'm too old to change!" He says it in stubbornness, but also in fear.

But this play — and Dickens' original story — tells us otherwise.

"You're not stuck. No one is stuck anywhere," a character declares.

In lesser hands, this one-man show could be mawkish, saccharine, a wagging finger of a morality tale.

But here is is sheer delight: moving and funny and dramatic.

With "Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol," Gulfshore Playhouse has given us an incredible and heartwarming Christmas gift.

I've already called friends and told them not to miss this production. Now I'm urging you: Go! ■

in the know

'Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol'

- >> Who: Gulfshore Playhouse
- >> When: Through Dec. 22
- >> Where: The Norris Center, Naples
- >> Cost: Starting at \$33
- >> Info: (866) 811-411 or www.gulfshoreplayhouse.org

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GENE	ORIOLES	AAH	IRA
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INC	FAN	ROE	FEASTS
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RHINE	ACAPPELLA	LAZINGER	
READS	MOTHERED	ECARTE	
ERNST	PASADENA	SKEETS	

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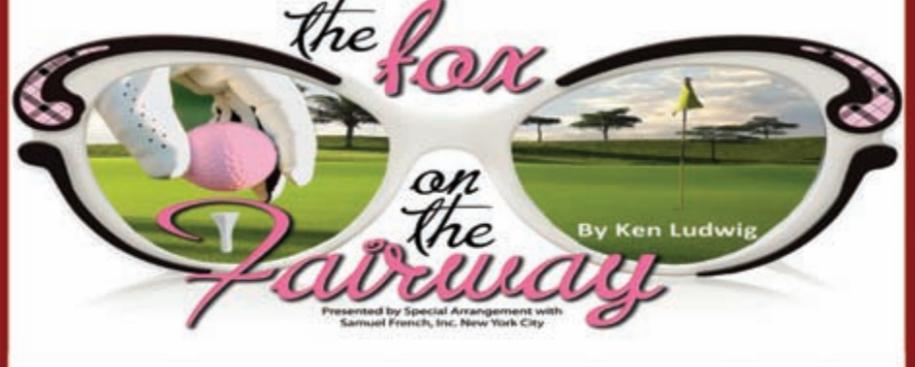
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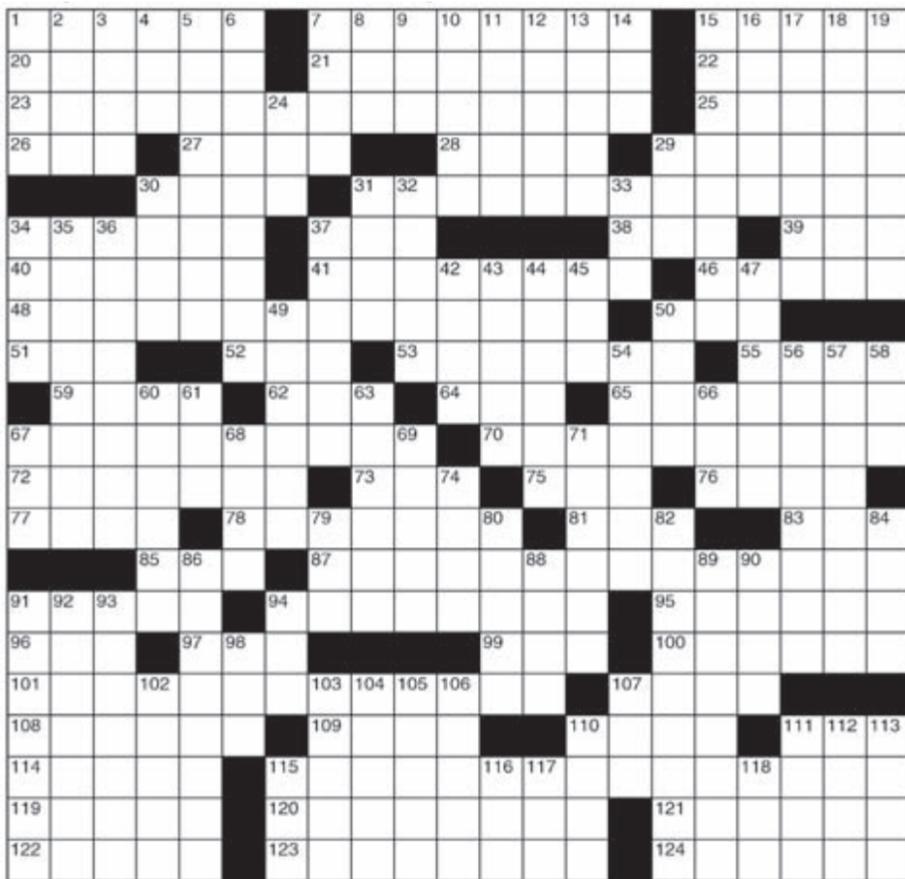
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# PUZZLES

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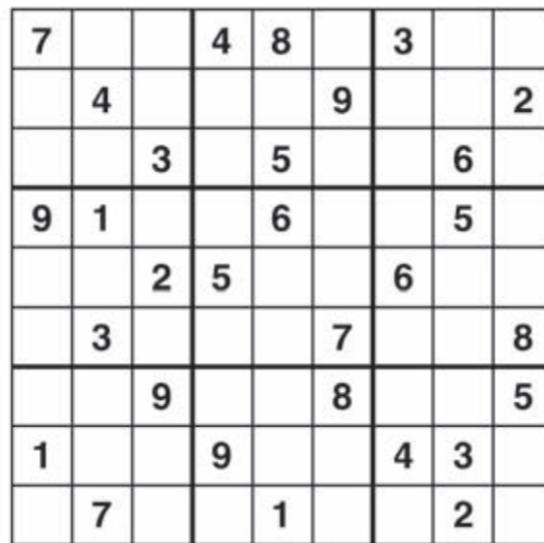
- ACROSS**
- 1 Place
  - 7 Installs in advance, as software
  - 15 Using ink, as a signature
  - 20 Really stuck
  - 21 Its capital is Bogotá
  - 22 Dewy-eyed
  - 23 Plate a World War II battleship with a certain metal?
  - 25 Iron emission
  - 26 Downed
  - 27 Sea dogs
  - 28 Biology subj.
  - 29 Actor Guy
  - 30 Fuzzy image
  - 31 Woman on "Friends" being fervent?
  - 34 Long guns
  - 37 Grassy turf
  - 38 "— that time"
  - 39 "Boy oh boy!"
  - 40 Disquietude
  - 41 Commercial forest area
  - 46 "The Grapes of Wrath" migrants
  - 48 African warrior answering to a captain?
  - 50 "Put — Happy Face"
  - 51 Summer, in Montréal
  - 52 NYPD rank
  - 53 Advanced study group
  - 55 Gibson and Brooks
  - 59 "My life — open book"
  - 62 Chew the —
  - 64 Notes after dos
  - 65 Dye anew
  - 67 Put lollipops in the microwave?
  - 70 Greek god who's a physician?
  - 72 Walking so as not to make a peep
  - 73 Hither and —
  - 75 Cambodian leader Lon —
  - 76 Safecracker
  - 77 Critic Shalit
  - 78 Baltimore ball team
  - 81 Massage response
  - 83 Investment option, for short
  - 85 Investment options, for short
  - 87 Pigskin-passing actor Efron?
  - 91 Juice, as a goose
  - 94 Units of GIs
  - 95 Glowing with light
  - 96 Corp. name ender, often
  - 97 Enthusiast
  - 99 Sushi eggs
  - 100 Huge meals
  - 101 Place where injured animals are brought to recuperate?
  - 107 Pre-'91 world power
  - 108 Garments
  - 109 Hit tune by the Kinks
  - 110 Having a tiff
  - 111 Flip — coin
  - 114 Basel's river
  - 115 Witty remark belted out without instrumental backup?
  - 119 Uses a Nook or a Kindle
  - 120 Gave birth to
  - 121 Trick-taking card game
  - 122 Young's partner in accounting
  - 123 City near Los Angeles
  - 124 Varieties of trapshooting games
  - DOWN**
  - 1 Ms. Minnelli
  - 2 Doing the job
  - 3 Sugar type
  - 4 One side in the Pro Bowl: Abbr.
  - 5 Least large
  - 6 Very tired
  - 7 Toxic chem. pollutants
  - 8 French "king"
  - 9 High trains
  - 10 Willy of "Death of a Salesman"
  - 11 Dweller in Muscat
  - 12 Bric- —
  - 13 Decrees
  - 14 Hefty's Cinch —
  - 15 Ripe
  - 16 Birth-related
  - 17 Potato-filled dumpling
  - 18 Bolter before a hurricane, perhaps
  - 19 Archenemies
  - 24 Be off target
  - 29 Rat, to some
  - 30 Cordon —
  - 31 Forenoon
  - 32 Playwright Clifford
  - 33 "Invader" on Nickelodeon
  - 34 Regulation
  - 35 Set in motion
  - 36 Boon on "Wheel of Fortune"
  - 37 Plaza figure
  - 42 Weizman of Israel
  - 43 Was irate
  - 44 Writer Lurie
  - 45 Part of RBI
  - 47 Ini — of reggae
  - 49 One of a making-out couple
  - 50 Filled cookie
  - 54 Schoolroom for painting and sculpting
  - 56 Mourns in verse
  - 57 Ed Asner TV series
  - 58 Sophs., two years later
  - 60 Viewpoint
  - 61 Filbert, e.g.
  - 63 Get sober
  - 66 Have a bawl
  - 67 Veer back
  - 68 Talks sweetly
  - 69 — eclipse
  - 71 Crude
  - 74 Roman tyrant
  - 79 Mensa stats
  - 80 Cache
  - 82 12 1/2 and 20 1/2, say, in women's clothing
  - 84 Isn't idle
  - 86 Rid of trees
  - 88 Heroic verse
  - 89 Pool ball striker
  - 90 Old Chrysler
  - 91 Strange
  - 92 One after —
  - 93 Nova — (certain Canadian)
  - 94 German link
  - 98 Is, pluralized
  - 102 Chances on
  - 103 Foil giant
  - 104 Castle protectors
  - 105 Greek letter
  - 106 Stared in amazement
  - 107 Stage star
  - 110 Pierce Hagen
  - 111 British sort
  - 112 "Star Wars" character
  - 113 God of war
  - 115 Crank (up)
  - 116 Afore
  - 117 Cager Bias
  - 118 No, in File

## HOROSCOPES

- **SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)** An early impulsive act causes confusion. But all is smoothed over once explanations are made. Expect a friend or family member to ask for your kind and always wise advice.
- **CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)** You might have to do some juggling of your priorities, as a personal matter appears to require more time and attention. Put your pride aside and accept help from those who offer it.
- **AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)** Your creative aspect is strong. Not only does it help you accomplish your goals, but it also inspires others. This could lead to a potentially rewarding collaboration opportunity.
- **PISCES (February 19 to March 20)** Be careful about making major decisions when you're not really committed to them. And resist any pressure to do otherwise. Better to delay action until all doubts are resolved.
- **ARIES (March 21 to April 19)** You might be busier than you had expected right now. But between the socializing rounds and the workplace tasks, there are opportunities for special moments with that certain someone.
- **TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** Your creative approach leads to a quicker-than-expected solution to a workplace problem. Now you can devote more time to that proposal you hope to introduce by midmonth.
- **GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)** Technological glitches create problems early

- on. But by midweek, all runs smoothly once again, and you're well and truly on your way to meeting all your deadlines.
- **CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** Your energy levels are high, and you feel you can handle everything that comes along. But try to take a break from your hectic pace for some quiet time with someone close to you.
- **LEO (July 23 to August 22)** Before you pounce on that shiny new opportunity, take more time to check it out to see how much substance actually lies beneath all that glitter. A family member has important news.
- **VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)** A personal situation you thought was resolved resurfaces, thanks to a possibly well-intentioned move that went awry. Deal with it as soon as possible. Accept the help of a trusted friend.
- **LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)** That goal you set way back when is finally in sight. Maintain your focus on achieving it, and don't allow yourself to be distracted by unimportant demands for your attention.
- **SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)** A temperamental flare-up creates negative feelings that need to be dealt with immediately. But things once again go well after the apologies are made and hurt feelings are soothed.
- BORN THIS WEEK:** You set goals and are rarely distracted by any attempt to move you off the path you've chosen to reach them. ■

By Linda Thistle



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Puzzle Difficulty this week:

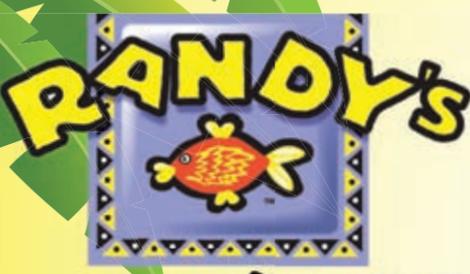


Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging  
★★★ Expert

◀ SEE ANSWERS, C9

◀ SEE ANSWERS, C9



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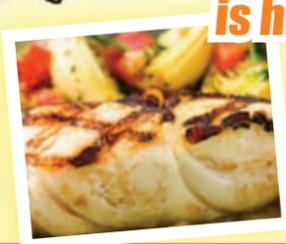


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# LATEST FILMS

## 'The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug'

danHUDAK  
www.hudakonhollywood.com



★★★  
Is it worth \$15 (3D)? Yes

At the end of last year's overlong "The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey," our heroes stood on a high-rise and looked off in the distance at their destination, the Lonely Mountain. In "The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug," it takes another two hours (which is five hours of total story time, for those counting) to finally(!) reach the mountain. Then, after standing around looking for a way in for 10 minutes (no, really) they meet Smaug, a villainous fire-breathing dragon who's so verbose he clearly needs a friend. Perhaps that's why he's desolate.

Considering the success of the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy, it's hard to blame co-writer and director Peter Jackson for stretching author J.R.R. Tolkien's "Rings" prequel "The Hobbit" into three films, though even greedy studio execs know that's excessive. Given that "Journey" was a lot of exposition and featured a 45-minute dinner scene showcasing dwarves talking about their feelings, the least Mr. Jackson could have done was refrain from dragging things out more. But he did not (refrain, that is).

However, given that "Smaug" includes a number of exciting action sequences and a more purposeful, driven story than its predecessor, this time we at least enjoy going along for the ride.

Hobbit Bilbo (Martin Freeman), wizard Gandalf (Ian McKellen), dwarf leader Thorin (Richard Armitage) and 12 other dwarves are travelling to Smaug's (voice of Benedict Cumberbatch) lair so the dwarves can reclaim their land. On their way they encounter giant spiders, dastardly Orcs, frenemy elves in Legolas (Orlando Bloom) and Tauriel (Evangeline Lilly) and Bard (Luke Evans), a helpful local in the lake town that borders the mountain.

The film looks fantastic; it is showing in 48 fps (frames per second running through the projector) in select theaters, which essentially offers twice the visual clarity and crispness of regular theaters. The 24 fps 3D screening I saw was wonderfully vivid, with no blurring or headache-inducing effects that look cheap.

The production design, costume design and makeup are top notch. The entire film sings with vibrant colors and stunning images, but the real showstopper is a sequence in which the dwarves are escaping down a river in wine barrels as elves and Orcs battle around them. The music by Howard Shore, along with Jackson's creativity, pacing and editing make this one of the better action scenes this year.

Regardless of its visual splendor, any time you look at your watch after two hours and are stunned by the realization that there's still 40 minutes to go,



it's a problem. "Smaug" is a sequel that's good enough to keep the "Hobbit" trilogy going strong, but it's nonetheless an unremarkable work with an ending that's still a year away (the ending we do get here is an abrupt cliffhanger, which is understandable). For some, that's part of the fun. For those who might be less patient and/or more financially conservative, renting the first two parts prior to seeing the third installment in theaters next December might be the way to go. ■

in the know  
» The third installment of the trilogy, "The Hobbit: There and Back Again," opens Dec. 17, 2014.

# CAPSULES

### Out of the Furnace ★★

(Christian Bale, Casey Affleck, Woody Harrelson) Ex-con Russell (Mr. Bale) tries to find his brother Rodney (Mr. Affleck) after Rodney disappears at the hand of a scumbag drug dealer (Mr. Harrelson). The A-list cast is game to make this work, but poor structure and pacing from director Scott Cooper ("Crazy Heart") never give the cast a chance. Rated R.

### Homefront ★★

(Jason Statham, James Franco, Winona Ryder) Looking to get away from his law enforcement career, former DEA agent Phil Broker (Mr. Statham) retreats

to a small Louisiana town, only to find trouble with an ambitious local drug dealer (Mr. Franco). It's a by-the-book action flick that gets more boring as each of its 100 minutes passes. Rated R.

### Frozen ★★½

(Voices of Kristen Bell, Idina Menzel, Jonathan Groff) Forced to live in solitude when its discovered she has the ability to turn the world to ice, Princess Elsa (Ms. Menzel) retreats to the mountains to live in peace. Her sister Anna (Ms. Bell), however, needs Elsa to unfreeze the home they left behind. The 3D animation is top notch, the songs are wonderful and it has a wonderful message for youngsters. Rated PG. ■

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# THIS WEEK ON WGCU-TV

**FRIDAY, DEC. 20, 8:30 P.M.**  
**Great Performances Barbara Streisand: Back to Brooklyn**

The legendary Barbra Streisand makes a historic home-coming to Brooklyn joined by special guests Il Volo and Chris Botti. Ms. Streisand performs an extensive selection of songs, including a touching duet with her son, Jason Gould.



Great Performances, Dec. 20

This special family comedy with a nose-clenching twist is based on David Walliams' best-selling book and stars Downton Abbey's Hugh Bonneville in the title role.

**MONDAY, DEC. 23, 10 P.M.**  
**The National Christmas Tree Lighting**

Now in its 91st year, the ceremonial lighting of the National Christmas Tree signals the start of the holiday season across the country. Taped at President's Park in Washington, D.C., and featuring performances by musical artists.

**TUESDAY, DEC. 24, 9 P.M.**  
**Christmas with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir**

This program features renowned TV personality Tom Brokaw and Tony Award-winning Les Misérables tenor Alfie Boe in a concert of holiday favor-



Christmas with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, Dec. 23

ites. Highlights include Mr. Boe's moving signature performance of "Bring Him Home" and a surprise guest, Gail "Hal" Halvorsen, the famous candy bomber of the Berlin airlift. ■

**SATURDAY, DEC. 21, 8 P.M.**  
**John Sebastian Presents: Folk Rewind**

Featuring a treasure trove of historical footage, plus performances by Pete Seeger and Judy Collins singing "Turn, Turn, Turn," Harry Belafonte's hit "Jamaica Farewell," Trini Lopez' rendition of "If I Had a Hammer," Bobby Darin's heartfelt "Simple Song of Freedom" and many more.

**SUNDAY, DEC. 22, 8 P.M.**  
**Mr. Stink**



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## KOVEL: ANTIQUES

### Top to bottom, tree decorations enthrall collectors

BY TERRY AND KIM KOVEL  
Special to Florida Weekly

Holiday-related collectibles are especially popular if they relate to Christmas, Halloween, Fourth of July, Easter, Thanksgiving, Valentine's Day and even St. Patrick's Day. But the most popular holiday for collectors is Christmas. Families save tree ornaments, toppers, trim and lights, but it is harder to find a Christmas tree stand or fence. Early commercial tree stands were made of cast iron. Three or more legs held a tube large enough for the trunk of a tree and had large screws that dug into the tree trunk. The designs for the iron legs were much like the patterns found on iron stove feet or garden benches. The stands kept changing in style to match dominant furniture styles. By the 1920s, cone-shaped metal stands with lithographed tin pictures of Santa were popular. They resembled lithographed tin toys. Some of these stands were electrified for lights or hid a mechanism that made the tree revolve. Noma, the American

company that made strings of Christmas tree lights and developed the bubble light in 1945, had started making stands in about 1926. By the 1960s, the Art Deco aluminum tree was popular, and stands with colored lights were made of shining metal to match.

The most expensive antique stands are the early 1900 figural iron stands that look like a small Santa, a group of people or even reindeer. They sell for \$200 to \$750 each. Noma stands sell for about \$200 to \$300, and old aluminum stands with lights are \$250 to \$350. But beware. These have all been copied.

**Q:** I have a six-pack of 1955 Blatz Holiday flat-top beer cans. The pack has never been opened and it includes cans in all six colors. I think the cans, especially the pink and light blue, are valuable. What is the whole set worth?

**A:** There are many dedicated collectors of old and rare beer cans. Some would be eager to buy your rare set of 1955 Blatz



**This Noma Christmas-tree stand was made in the late 1920s or 1930s. The base is 14 1/2 inches in diameter. The stand is made of lithographed tin and pictures Santa's sleigh and reindeer. It sold for \$270 at a November 2013 Rich Penn auction in Iowa.**

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holiday steel cans. In addition to light blue and pink, the set included green, chartreuse, dark blue and orange cans. Beer, previously sold in bottles, was first sold in cans in 1934. The cans were made of steel until 1958, when aluminum cans were introduced. Blatz Brewery opened in Milwaukee in 1846 and continued to operate under various owners until 1958, when it was sold to Pabst. The brand name is owned by Pabst today, too, but the original Blatz brewery has been converted to condos. We have seen a single green 1955 Blatz holiday sell for more than \$250, so your complete set could top \$1,000. To sell your cans, do some research and find the right market. Contact experts at the Brewery Collectibles Club of America (BCCA.com) and at Breweriana.com.

**Q:** I have a 6-foot-tall silver metallic Christmas tree that's at least 50 years old. Does it have any value? Should I sell it?

**A:** Aluminum Christmas trees were popular in the 1960s. The first ones were made by the Aluminum Specialty Co. of Manitowoc, Wis., in 1959. The trees have wire branches wrapped with aluminum strips to represent "needles." Early trees had collapsible tripod bases. Later, revolving bases were made, some with music. The trees came in various sizes and colors, but silver was the most popular. Since lights couldn't be put on aluminum trees, most people used a lighted revolving color wheel at the base of the tree. Millions of aluminum trees were made in the 1960s by several manufacturers. They went out of fashion by the end of the decade and could be picked up at garage sales for just a few dollars. Reproduction and new aluminum trees are being made. Collectors have recently become inter-

ested in the old aluminum trees, and prices have risen. Some sell for over \$100. If you like the tree, you may just want to keep it and display it during the holidays.

**Q:** About 25 years ago, I bought an "M.I. Hummel" signed print of the Madonna for \$12. It's 12 by 18 inches. My children had it framed for me. My daughter tried to search online for information about Hummel prints, but all she could find were figurines. Can you help?

**A:** Sister Maria Innocentia (Berta) Hummel (1909-1946) is most famous for the Goebel figurines based on her artwork. But before and after she became a nun in 1933, she drew and painted pictures that were also published as prints. The signature she used on yours is her convent name and means the original painting was done in 1933 or later. Your print would not sell today for much more than you paid for it, even with the frame.

**Tip:** Store fragile Christmas tree ornaments in plastic zip-lock bags. Be sure there is some air in each bag when you zip it. The air bubble protects like bubble wrap. ■

— Terry Kovel and Kim Kovel answer questions sent to 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 photographs, but if a stamped envelope is included, we will try. The amount of mail makes personal answers or appraisals impossible. Write to Kovels, (Florida Weekly), King Features Syndicate, 300 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019.

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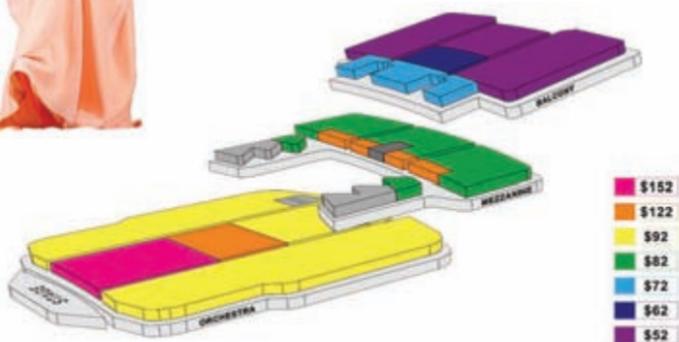


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**"I enjoyed the evening very much...quite imaginative...the costumes were wonderful."**

- Daisy Soros, Director of Lincoln Center, Board Member for the Metropolitan Opera

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The Shen Yun show is a fusion of classical arts with modern appeal. As one audience member put it, "It's like a fashion show, opera, concert, and dance performance all rolled into one." The passion of the artists spurs them to bring all these elements together into one extraordinary experience.

### CLASSICAL CHINESE DANCE

Classical Chinese dance as audiences see in Shen Yun shows is a vast dance system tempered over thousands of years. It is one way in which 5,000 years of Chinese culture have been passed down and retained. It is a dance form built on profound traditional aesthetics. Richly expressive, it portrays personalities and feelings with unparalleled clarity, depicting any scene in a strikingly vivid way.

### THE SHEN YUN ORCHESTRA

The Shen Yun Performing Arts Orchestra master-

fully blends two of the world's greatest classical music traditions, Chinese and Western. Ancient Chinese instruments such as the soul-stirring erhu and the delicate pipa, lead the melody on top of a full Western orchestra, creating a fresh, glorious sound.

### EXQUISITE COSTUMES

Apparel has always been an essential part of China's five-millennia-old culture, and Shen Yun Performing Arts brings this heritage to life on stage. From radiant golden-hued Tang Dynasty gowns to elegant Manchu chopine shoes, each costume is designed and tailored with meticulous care.

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# THE SHEN YUN ORCHESTRA

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Music written exclusively for the show

Is it possible for the disparate sounds of East and West to find harmony? Many have tried and failed. But the ability to seamlessly blend these two systems to create one fresh, harmonious sound is what makes the Shen Yun Performing Arts Orchestra unique.

This is how the effect is achieved: A Western philharmonic orchestra plays the foundation, while traditional Chinese instruments lead the melodies. The sound produced is uniquely pleasing to the ear. The ensemble at once expresses both the grandeur of a Western orchestra and the distinct sensibilities of China's 5,000-year-old civilization.

The Chinese instruments include the erhu, dizi, pipa, and suona. While each of the Chinese instruments differs greatly in character, the emotions that these instruments are capable of invoking are as refined and subtle as they are complex. Through the performer's technical excellence and emotive expression, any human emotion can be depicted.

The focus of Chinese music is not merely on people, however. Perhaps due to the fact that their materials originate from the natural world, they are adept at evoking scenes both natural and heavenly. Truly, the things that Chinese music is capable of expressing are both lofty and profound.



"The orchestra is top-notch... Very powerful and well played!"

— Gary Daverne, conductor of the Auckland Symphony Orchestra, New Zealand



"It's great to hear the Chinese instruments in this kind of orchestral setting. As we know, most of those Chinese instruments were...meant for solo instruments, but it's really nice to see it. I was actually very impressed and very flattered, musically flattered, by the sound."

— Peter H. Gistelink, executive director of The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia



"Many people had tried to put Eastern and Western musical instruments in an orchestra but they never succeeded. Shen Yun did it. It sounds so unique and terrific!"

— Kang Mang Ho, renowned South Korean conductor

EXPERIENCE SHEN YUN

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### VOCAL SOLOISTS

The primary trait that distinguishes the singers of Shen Yun is their use of bel canto technique to sing Chinese text. This means that the singer must, while continuing to meet the challenges inherent in bel canto technique, retain proper Chinese pronunciation and diction. Today, their ability to do this is unparalleled.

Moreover, the song texts the singers perform are original works written for these pieces. Brimming with philosophical reflection about human life and containing deep layers of meaning, the texts go beyond the boundaries of nation, race, and culture, and have been fondly received and appreciated the world over. Some audience members have even expressed that Shen Yun's vocal pieces are reminiscent of sacred music, calling them "hymns."



WATCH WHAT AUDIENCES ARE SAYING:





# Start the New Year with something artsy

Whether you're dressing to the nines in a tuxedo or evening gown or slipping into your favorite pair of jeans, there's an arts event that will welcome you to ring in the New Year.

From Viennese waltzes to Broadway shows to circus performers, Southwest Florida offers a variety of ways for arts lovers to say hello to 2014.

Here are some of the options:

■ **Sunday, Dec. 29**  
**Moscow Ballet's "Great Russian Nutcracker"**

Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall  
777 Tamiami Trail, Sarasota  
1 and 5 p.m.

The Moscow Ballet presents its "Great Russian Nutcracker" with a company of 40. In addition to the traditional tale, the company adds "The Dove of Peace," a tribute to world peace, for which two dancers transform into a bird with a 20-foot wingspan to escort Masha and Prince to the Land of Peace and Harmony.

This year's production contains 200 new, hand-embellished costumes designed by Shakespearean expert Arthur Oliver.

Tickets: \$34-\$192  
Info: (941) 953-3368; www.vanwezel.org.

■ **Monday, Dec. 30**  
**Moscow Ballet's "Great Russian Nutcracker"**



COURTESY PHOTO

**Mosco Ballet's "Great Russian Nutcracker"**

Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall  
13350 Edison Parkway, Fort Myers  
7:30 p.m.

See above.  
Tickets: \$31-\$187  
Info: 481-4849; www.bbmanna.com.

■ **Monday, Dec. 30**  
**Sailor Circus "Holiday Spectacular"**

Sailor Circus Arena  
2075 Bahai Vista St., Sarasota  
7 p.m.

Sailor Circus, a youth circus that has

been called "The Greatest 'Little' Show on Earth," presents "It's a Wonderful Life," featuring more than 100 local students juggling and performing feats of grace and athleticism.

Tickets: \$10 and \$16  
Info: (941) 355-9805; www.circusarts.org.

■ **Tuesday, Dec. 31**  
**"South Pacific"**

The Broadway Palm Theatre  
1380 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers  
6:30 p.m.

Ring in the New Year with much-loved Rodgers and Hammerstein songs such as "Some Enchanted Evening," "I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Out of My Hair" and "There is Nothin' Like a Dame." The evening begins with live music and hors d'oeuvres in the lobby, followed by dinner at 7 p.m. and the musical at 9 p.m. After the show: noise-makers, hats, champagne and a countdown to midnight.

Tickets: \$100  
Info: 278-4422; www.broadwaypalm.com.

■ **Tuesday, Dec. 31**  
**A Viennese New Year's Eve with the Naples Philharmonic**

Artis—Naples  
5833 Pelican Bay Blvd., Naples  
9 p.m.

Led by conductor Andrey Boreyko, the Naples Philharmonic performs the music of Strauss and other classics to



COURTESY PHOTO

**"South Pacific" at Broadway Palm Theatre**

ring in the New Year. A reception follows the performance.

Tickets: \$79-\$113  
Info: 597-1900; www.artisnaples.org.

■ **Tuesday, Dec. 31**  
**"Holiday Spectacular"**

The Herb Strauss Theatre  
2200 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel  
7 p.m.

Celebrate the season with this original musical production written and directed by Herb Strauss Theatre Production Manager Bobby Logue and Herb Strauss Theatre favorite, John Ramsey. Tickets: \$35 for adults, \$5 for children and students  
Info: 395-0900; www.bigarts.org.

■ **Thursday-Sunday, Jan. 2-5**  
**"Super Circus Heroes" of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus**

Germain Arena, Estero  
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COURTESY PHOTO

“Super Circus Heros” at Germain Arena

is filled with superhuman athleticism, power and pageantry that will have young and old alike discovering their own superhuman strength. Asian elephants, horses, camels and more march alongside acrobats, aerialists and some over-the-top clowns that will have audiences in stitches.

Info: (800) 745-3000; www.ticketmaster.com.

■ **Thursday, Jan. 2**  
**“Salute to Vienna” New Year’s Concert**  
 Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall  
 13350 Edison Parkway, Fort Myers  
 8 p.m.

Returning for the 15th year in a row to the Mann Hall, “Salute to Vienna” features the Strauss Symphony of America, led by Alexander Steinitz and featuring soprano Iva Mihanovic, tenor Valeriy Serkin and dancers from the Vienna Imperial Ballet and International Champion Ballroom Dancers. The program includes waltzes, polkas and excerpts from “Die Fledermaus,” “The Merry Widow” and more.  
 Tickets: \$51-\$73



BARRY RODEN / COURTESY PHOTO

“Salute to Vienna” at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall

Info: 481-4849; www.bbmah.com.

Tickets: \$37-\$78

Info: (941) 953-3368; www.vanwezel.org.

■ **Friday, Jan. 3**  
**“Salute to Vienna” New Year’s Concert**  
 Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall  
 777 Tamiami Trail, Sarasota  
 8 p.m.  
 See above.

■ **Friday, Jan. 3**  
**Fort Myers Art Walk**  
 Downtown Fort Myers

It’s the first Friday of the New Year, and the first Friday of the month, which means downtown Fort Myers’ shops and galleries stay open late and music fills the air.

Info: www.fortmyersartwalk.com.

■ **Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 4-5**  
**Downtown Naples New Year’s Art Fair**  
 Along Fifth Avenue South  
 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Showcasing the works of more than 230 professional artists and artisans from around the country.

Free admission.

Info: 262-6517; www.naplesart.org.

■ **Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 4-5**  
**The 13th bi-annual Estero Fine Art Show**  
 Miromar Outlets  
 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
 Free admission.  
 Info: www.hotworks.org.

Have a happy and arts-filled New Year! ■





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- 5:00 PM Traditional & Contemporary Blended ~ Sanctuary
- 7:00 PM Traditional Candlelight with Communion ~ Sanctuary
- The previous services will have child care available for infants through age 5.*
- 9:00 PM Contemporary Candlelight with Communion ~ Sanctuary
- 11:00 PM Traditional Candlelight with Communion ~ Sanctuary

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# New Year's Eve celebrations are all over town

■ **Fireworks at the Naples Pier**  
Beginning around 7:30 p.m. Free

■ **Third Street South**  
434-6533; www.thirdstreetsouth.com  
The party atmosphere will stretch all along Third Street South from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Snow will fall at 8:15 p.m., and music by Felix Jiles will fill the Fleischmann Courtyard.

■ **AZN Asian Cuisine**  
Mercato  
593-8818; www.aznrestaurent.com  
Serving the regular menu until 11 p.m.

■ **Agave Southwestern Grill**  
2380 Vanderbilt Beach Road  
598-3473; www.AgaveNaples.com  
Serving the regular menu on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

■ **Aura at the Waldorf Astoria**  
475 Seagate Drive  
597-3232; www.waldorastoria.hilton.com/naples  
Serving a New Year's Eve buffet from 7-11 p.m.

■ **The Bay House**  
799 Walkerbilt Road  
591-3837; www.bayhousenaples.com  
Serving the regular menu until 10 p.m.

■ **Bistro Soleil**  
100 Palm St., Marco Island  
389-0981

Serving a special New Year's Eve menu for \$60 per person.

■ **Blue Martini**  
Mercato  
591-2583; www.bluemartinilounge.com  
The night's theme is "Casino Royale: New Year's Eve Bond Style," with live entertainment beginning at 8 p.m. Table reservations available.

■ **Burn by Rocky Patel**  
9110 Strada Place  
653-9013; www.burnbyrockypatel.com  
It's a night of champagne, cigars and celebration from 8 p.m. on New Year's Eve to 5 a.m. New Year's Day. Live jazz from 8-10 p.m. and DJ dancing after that. Choose from three options: 1) The elevated VIP area, \$3,500 for a party of 12, includes three bottles of Dom Perignon upon arrival and three more at midnight, small plates delivered at 9, 10 and 11 p.m., of a box of premium cigars and party favors; 2) main floor tables, \$350 per couple, includes a bottle of Dom Perignon upon arrival, small plates at 9, 10 and 11 p.m., and a champagne toast; 3) general admission advance tickets \$50 for men, \$25 for women, with guaranteed admission and a champagne toast.

■ **Caper's Kitchen & Bar**  
2460 Vanderbilt Beach Road  
431-7438; www.caperskitchen.com  
Celebrate early at happy hour from 2-7 p.m. and check out the dinner specials.

■ **Captain Brien's Off the Hook Com-**

**edy Club**  
599 S. Collier Blvd., Marco Island  
389-6900; www.captbriens.com  
New Year's Eve three-course dinner followed by the show with three nationally touring comedians and a champagne toast.

■ **Cruise Naples**  
Tin City  
263-4949  
www.CruiseNaplesFlorida.com  
Fireworks cruise aboard the Double Sunshine sets sail at 6:30 p.m. \$70 for adults, \$60 for ages 12 and younger.

■ **Fleming's Prime Steakhouse**  
8595 U.S. 41 N.  
598-2424; www.flemingssteakhouse.com  
New Years Eve dinner for \$69.95., dessert \$9.95 and Gloria Ferrer Sonoma wine special.

■ **Hilton Naples**  
5111 Tamiami Trail N.  
659-3174; www.hiltonnaples.com  
Rock this town with the aptly named band, Rock This Town, straight from Orlando with dance music to keep you on your toes all night long (with time out to enjoy a four-course dinner, of course). \$195 per person includes open bar, party favors, balloon drop and midnight toast.

■ **Hotel Escalante**  
At the intersection of Third Street and Fifth Avenue  
659-3466

Celebrate with a four-course dinner by chef Michael Kang under the palms at the hotel's Veranda E restaurant. 6:30-9 p.m. seating includes a welcome glass of champagne; 9:15 p.m. seating includes welcome champagne, four-course dinner, live entertainment and midnight champagne toast.

■ **The Local**  
• 5323 Airport-Pulling Road  
596-FARM  
Choose from two New Year's Eve four-course dinners for \$50 to \$75 per person, with a \$40 wine pairing option.

■ **M Waterfront Grille**  
The Village on Venetian Bay  
263-4421; www.mwaterfrontgrille.com  
Open for lunch and dinner on New Year's Eve. Dinner served from 4:30-11 p.m., with the holiday ala carte menu from 4:30-5:45 p.m. and pre fixe dinner from 6:15-11 p.m. for \$85 per person.

■ **The Marco Princess**  
Marco River Marina  
642-5415; www.themarcoprincess.com  
Choose from a New Year's Eve buffet lunch (\$33.95), sunset cocktail cruise (\$48.95) or late-night dinner cruise from 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. (\$99).

■ **Noodles Italian Café & Sushi Bar**  
1585 Pine Ridge Road  
592-0050; www.noodlescafe.com  
New Year's Eve seating at 9 p.m. includes four-course celebration dinner, party favors, a bottle of champagne at



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**in the know**

>> Calling ahead is advisable. Plans are subject to changes; space is limited and reservation books fill up fast.

>> If you're too drunk to drive on New Year's Eve, take advantage of the free Tow and Go program sponsored by AAA and beer companies. They'll pick up your car and take you home, too — free of charge. Dial or have your bartender or more sober friend dial 1-800-AAA-HELP.

your table and dancing with Live DJ from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. \$75 per person.

■ **The Real Macaw**

3275 Bayshore Drive  
732-1188  
www.therealmacawnaples.com  
Live entertainment with Mike Brookshire. Special New Year's Eve menu available for early and late seatings.

■ **The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort**

280 Vanderbilt Beach Road  
598-6644; www.ritzcarlton.com  
The Grill offers a holiday menu and live entertainment, with seatings from 5-6:30 p.m. (\$175 per person) and 8-10 p.m. (\$275 per person, includes champagne toast).

■ **Roy's**

475 Bayfront Place, Naples  
261-1416  
26831 South Bay Drive, Bonita Springs  
498-7697  
www.roysrestaurant.com  
Enjoy a four-course prix fixe menu on New Year's Eve showcasing the bold Asian spices and European flavors for which Pacific Rim cuisine is renowned.

■ **Sea Salt**

1186 Third St. S.  
434-7258; www.seasaltnaples.com  
A la carte dinner menu will be served for the first seating from 4:30-6:30 p.m. The second seating, from 7-10 p.m., will be for a five-course celebration menu with champagne toast and live entertainment for \$175 per person.

■ **Seminole Casino**

506 First St., Immokalee  
(800) 218-0007  
It's the "Moulah Rouge" on New Year's Eve, with rollover drawings at 1, 2, 3 and 4 p.m. for \$2,014 and at 5 p.m. for \$10,000. Live entertainment in the Zig Zag Lounge from 5 p.m. to 3 a.m., with holiday cheer on the house from 11:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Midnight breakfast, party favors and more.

■ **Shula's at the Hilton Naples**

5111 Tamiami Trail  
430-4999; www.donshula.com  
5:30 p.m. to midnight, New Year's Eve prix fixe menu with appetizer, salad, entrée and dessert for \$65 per person. Regular menu also available.

■ **The Stage**

9144 Bonita Beach Road  
405-8566; www.thestagebonita.com  
Uptown Express plays '50s, '60s and Motown tunes to ring in the New Year. Dinner seating begins at 5:30 p.m. and the show starts at 7:30 p.m.

■ **Table 82 of Naples**

13800 Tamiami Trail N.  
431-6482; www.table82ofnaples.com



Two New Year's Eve seatings for a four-course dinner, 7-9 p.m. for \$60 per person and 8-10 p.m. for \$75 per person (includes midnight champagne toast). Entertainment from 5-8 p.m. by Lynn Carol and from 9 p.m. to 2014 by Rick Valentine.

■ **Tavern on the Bay**

489 Bayfront Place  
530-2225; www.tavernonthebay.net  
"2014 Bash on the Bay" (no cover, no reservations) includes prime rib dinner for \$22.95; champagne toast, party favors, high-energy dance music and watching the ball drop on the big screen.

■ **Tulia Osteria**

466 Fifth Ave. S.  
213-2073; www.tulianaples.com

Open for dinner with a festive New Year's Eve menu.

■ **Vergina**

700 Fifth Ave. S.  
659-7008; www.verginarestaurant.com  
5:30-8 p.m. seating includes three-course dinner and a glass of champagne, \$75 per person; 8 p.m. seating, \$130 per person.

■ **And setting out at 8:30 a.m. Jan. 1**

The New Year's Day 5K or 10K Lovers Key State Park Fort Myers Beach  
A Real Run event as a benefit for Friends of the Park. Register at www.endurancesportstiming.com  
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# FLORIDA WRITERS

## Faith and folly vie in mystical murder mystery



■ **“Rituals” by Mary Anna Evans.**  
**Poisoned Pen Press. 286 pages. Hard-**  
**cover \$24.95, Trade Paper \$14.95.**

In her eighth Faye Longchamp Mystery, Mary Anna Evans sets her archaeologist heroine down in a Spiritualist enclave in western New York. Her rather tedious task here is to help professionalize a town museum in fictional Rosebower, lending her credentials and industry to assessing the archives and artifacts that have piled up over the years.



Evans

Faye’s scientific training makes her a skeptic regarding the psychic readings industry that flourishes in Rosebower, but she’s curious — as is her recently adopted daughter, 17-year-old Amande, who is assisting her on this assignment.

The big mystery is whether or not all this Spiritualist stuff is simply artful quackery — or is it earnest mass delusion? the immediate mystery, however, has to do with the death of Tilda Armistead, the

community’s most prominent practitioner of channeling communication with the dead.

Soon after performing an eerie séance that Faye attended, Tilda miraculously escaped from her burning home only to expire soon after from smoke inhalation. Avery, the fire inspector assigned to investigate, feels that the evidence points to arson and probably murder. Indeed, the door to the room Tilda escaped from had been nailed shut just ahead of the conflagration. But who would murder one of the town’s most revered citizens? And with what motive? And how in the world did Tilda get out of that room?

The cautious, deliberate and determined fire inspector unofficially teams up with Faye, multiplying the investigative brainpower.

Ennis LeBecque, in a stumbling and suspicious fashion, cares for his great-aunt Sister Momma, a semi-invalid whose herb and root elixirs are in great demand. Ennis is learning the business and building its online presence. However, he has something at stake that might lead him to doctor his aunt’s medications in ways harmful to her and to patrons such as Tilda and Tilda’s sister, Myrna.

Tilda, after all, had been the town council leader and a key property owner controlling land on which a shady entrepreneur, Gilbert Marlowe, plans to build an attractive tourism development. Ennis is looking for part of that action, as is Wil-

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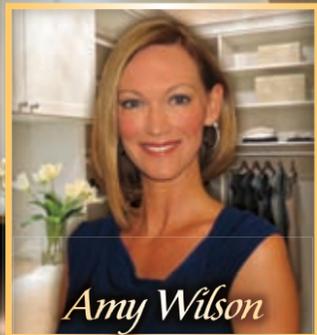


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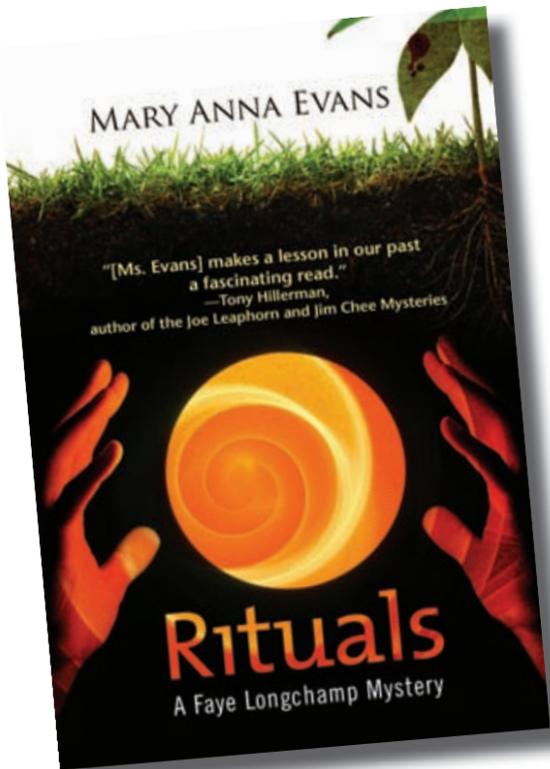
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in her younger days as the magician Toni the Astonisher, Antonia is preparing an exposé of what she believes is fraud in the Spiritualism business. Interspersed among the numbered chapters of the novel are delightfully mean-spirited excerpts from her work-in-progress titled "Working notes for Pulling the Wool Over Our Eyes: An Unauthorized History of Spiritualism in Rosebower, New York."

The author Evans uses this alternate narrator to good purpose. As the main line of the novel progresses, readers become more and more suspicious of even the most selfless and renowned practitioners of the psychic arts. Little tricks of deception are revealed.

But Toni the Astonisher — who is also Antonia the doubter — becomes less and less interested in bringing harm to the town and its citizens through her exposé. She comes to have some sympathy

for the Armistead sisters and for those whose lives are touched in positive ways by sincere practitioners. Indeed, she recognizes that a bit of showmanship does not turn a believing psychic into a quack.

Suspense, atmosphere and intriguing characters all coalesce within an unusual premise to make "Rituals" and its award-winning author likely candidates for even greater recognition. ■

— 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.

low, Tilda's son-in-law and assistant to his wife, Dara, who practices the psychic arts in a showy manner that has not been respected by her mother or her Aunt Myrna.

If Dara believes that she is her mother's heir, she could have a lot to gain, as could Willow, by inheriting land needed for Marlowe's project. If Myrna, already a significant landholder, is the heir, then her life could be in jeopardy. Is it a coincidence that her health is deteriorating with alarming speed?

Watching events unfold in Rosebower is the novel's most intriguing supporting character, Antonia Caruso. Better known

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# CELEBRITY EXTRA

## Sting on a roll with PBS, upcoming tour

BY CINDY ELAVSKY

**Q:** I can't wait to see Sting and Paul Simon touring together this spring — Sting has always been one of my favorite artists. Until then, do you know of anything that can tide me over?

— Nina T., Omaha, Neb.



Sting

**A:** Well, Nina, I'm sure you already know that Sting's most recent album, "The Last Ship," was released in September 2013. But did you know that on Feb. 21 at 9 p.m. on PBS, you can catch Sting on Thirteen's "Great Performances"? The concert was filmed this past year on Sting's birthday (Oct. 2) at a special fan-club performance during a 10-night run of benefit concerts where Sting performed songs from his new album. A friend's husband was fortunate enough to attend this event, so I can tell you with certainty it's a concert that should not be missed.

**Q:** Can you tell me when "American Idol" will be back? I'm so excited that Jennifer Lopez has returned for this next season.

— Kendra W., via email

**A:** The singing competition that started it all returns for its 13th season on Fox beginning Wednesday, Jan. 15, at 8/7c. Along with Jennifer Lopez, Keith Urban

returns to lend his expertise to the judging panel. Ryan Seacrest will continue to be our fearless host, and Harry Connick Jr. upgrades his season 12 mentor status to becoming a season 13 judge. Former judge Randy Jackson will return for a few episodes as an in-house mentor.

**Q:** It seems like forever since "Vikings" ended its first season. When will it be back?

— Danny J., via email

**A:** "Vikings" will return for a 10-episode second season on the History Channel in February, and you can count on plenty more drama, gore, sex and political intrigue. According to "Vikings" creator Michael Hirst: "The first episode of the new season will be absolutely gobsmacking. There are huge dangers at the personal level (for Ragnar). Certain things are resolved in conflict and certain things continue. The scale will be bigger. He's gone into business now with a king. So, he can raid with bigger parties. He can be more ambitious."

"There is going to be a new big, big character who is the King of Wessex. Wessex is a much larger kingdom than Northumbria, with a much more powerful king and also a cleverer king, a king who spent half of his young life at the court of Emperor Charlemagne. Ragnar is going to be up against a very formidable foe in the King of Wessex." ■

— Write to Cindy at King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475; or email her at [letters@cindyelavsky.com](mailto:letters@cindyelavsky.com).

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# SAVE THE DATE

■ The **Community Foundation of Collier County** hosts its annual Celebration of Philanthropy luncheon Friday, Feb. 28, at the Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Resort. More than 250 friends and partners of the Community Foundation are anticipated to attend the luncheon honoring winners of the Harvey Kapnick Award, recognizing a nonprofit that has distinguished itself by exemplifying program excellence; the Robert C. Cosgrove Award, acknowledging an individual's devotion to the well-being of our community; and the award for Outstanding Corporate Philanthropy, recognizing an organization that consistently helps to reinforce the community by making intelligent use of its own strengths and social capital.

Last year's honorees were: First Book of Collier County, the Harvey Kapnick Award; Lavern Gaynor, the Robert C. Cosgrove Award; and Preferred Travel of Naples, Outstanding Corporate Philanthropy Award.

Tickets for \$100 per person and \$1,500 per patron table are available at [www.cfcollier.org](http://www.cfcollier.org).

■ **Florida Cancer Specialists Foundation** has named the executive committee for the inaugural "Rio Carnival" set for Saturday, April 5, at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort. Chairwoman Jackie Bearse will work with committee members Lori Bassano, Jared Brancazio, Sandra Buxton, Ron Ciesla, Joy Dickey, Therese Everly, Kirsten Ferrara, Barbara Franks, Jean Hertzog, Emily James, Kevin Johnson, Sheila Lester, Lyn Mayes, Michele McKenney, Lory Rodriguez, Anne Rubin, Tennessee Sevigny, Angela Smith, Jerry Thirion,



Roy and Nancy Threet, Kathy Totterdale, Kathleen Wolter and Dr. Vance Wright-Browne.

The South American-themed "Rio Carnival" will feature live dance performances, a silent auction, plated dinner, music and dancing. Tickets to the benefit for the Florida Cancer Specialists Foundation are \$500 per person; underwriting and sponsorship opportunities are available. The foundation provides short-term financial support to individuals undergoing cancer treatment in the state of Florida.

For tickets to "Rio Carnival" or information about sponsorships, call (855) 585-5433 or visit [www.foundation.flcancer.com](http://www.foundation.flcancer.com).

■ **StarStruck 2014**, the ninth annual dance-off to benefit the American Red Cross, Florida's Southern Gulf Region, takes place Saturday, March 29, at StarStruck 2014 will be held Saturday, March 29 at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point in Bonita Springs. Local celebrities on the dance floor will be: Gary Aubuchon of the Aubuchon Team of Companies, Cindy Brown, Patient Care Services and the Heart and Vascular Institute; Betsy Opty, Healthy Concepts Consulting; Brian Pitman, Sabadell Bank & Trust; Mike Randall, MAR Events & Marketing; and Trudi Williams, TKW Consulting Engineers.

For ticket information, visit [www.crowdrise.com/starstruck2014](http://www.crowdrise.com/starstruck2014).

■ **Jewish Family & Community**

**Services of Southwest Florida** presents Planting Seeds for Better Tomorrows from 5:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 14, at Artis—Naples. Guest speaker Kim Lear will discuss "Four Generations of Family and Philanthropy." Guests will be able to wander the center's galleries while enjoying cocktails and hors d'oeuvres before the program.

The evening's sponsor is BMO Private Bank. Event co-chairs are Marvin and Carol Lader and Dr. Nat and Susan Ritter. Tickets are \$225. For reservations or more information, call Jaclynn Faffer at 325-4444 or email [jfaffer@jfcswfl.org](mailto:jfaffer@jfcswfl.org).

■ **Harmon-Meek Gallery** hosts the inaugural Visionaries of the Visual Arts awards and benefit dinner Tuesday evening, Jan. 14, at the Naples Sailing and Yacht Club. Three individuals will be recognized for their contributions to the visual arts in Southwest Florida. Keynote speaker Charles Shepard is director of the Fort Wayne Museum of Art in Indiana.

Tickets are \$125 per person, with proceeds benefitting art programs for children and at-risk youth in the community through the Harmon-Meek Gallery Fund at the Southwest Florida Community Foundation. Co-chairs are Kristine and Juliana Meek. Purchase tickets by sending a check made payable to the Southwest Florida Community Foundation to Harmon-Meek Gallery, 599 Ninth St. N., Suite 309, Naples, FL 34102.

For more information, call the gallery at 261-2637.

■ **The David Lawrence Center and Foundation** holds its signature destination-themed gala Friday, Jan. 17, at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort. Guests at "Under the Eiffel Tower: A Journey to 1920s Paris" will be transported to the City of Lights in an era when soulful jazz played through the evening streets and gas-lit promenades were filled with people dancing, dining and indulging in economic prosperity and social and artistic dynamism of the day.

Tickets are \$500 per person, \$1,200 per VIP patron and \$10,000 per premier sponsor table of 10. For more information or to reserve a ticket, contact Monica Biondo at 304-3505 or visit [www.davidlawrence-center.org](http://www.davidlawrence-center.org).

■ The eighth annual **Wishmaker's Ball for Make-A-Wish Southern Florida** takes place Saturday, Jan. 18, at the Hilton Naples. Engle Dentistry is the presenting sponsor of the "When You Wish Upon a Star" evening. Chairs are Jenny Foegen, Dylan Sanders and Amy Sedlacek; honored guests will be Lavern Gaynor and Michele Eddy.

This year's goal is to raise enough funds to grant 30 wishes to local children with life-threatening medical conditions.

Tickets for \$225 can be purchased by



calling Lesley Colantonio at 992-9474 or emailing [lcolantonio@sflawish.org](mailto:lcolantonio@sflawish.org). Sponsorships are also still available starting at \$2,500. For more information, visit [www.sflawish.org](http://www.sflawish.org).

■ **"Rebuilding Children's Lives,"** Youth Haven's fourth annual benefit luncheon, is set for Wednesday, Jan. 22, at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort.

Guest speaker Antwone Fisher, award-winning film and literary writer, was the subject of the eponymous movie co-starring and directed by Denzel Washing-

ton. Like Youth Haven's children, Mr. Fisher's young life was scarred by abandonment and abuse. The loving support of a special therapist, friends and, ultimately, a reunion with his family, changed everything for the better.

Chair and co-chair of the 2014 luncheon are Liz Jessee and Diane McGinty. Tickets are \$300. Sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information, call Aileen Carroll at 687-5155 or email [aileen.carroll@youthhaven.net](mailto:aileen.carroll@youthhaven.net).

■ The **Greater Naples YMCA** holds its ninth annual Sneaker Ball on Friday, Feb. 21, at Seacrest Country Day School. Proceeds will help the Y continue the rebuild and repair efforts that have been ongoing since a Labor Day fire. Guests are encouraged to wear sneakers with their black-tie optional attire. Dinner will be by Artichoke & Company and Quantem Aviation. Dance music will be by the Robert Williamson Band. The evening's Premier Sponsor and event chair is Lavern Gaynor.

Tickets range from \$150 for a single ticket to \$1,200 for a table for 10. For reservations or more information, call 289-2348 or visit [www.greaternaplesymca.org](http://www.greaternaplesymca.org).

■ **Charity for Change** holds its inaugural signature fundraising event, "The 'Giver' Challenge," from 6-11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, at Vi at Bentley Village. The night of minute-to-win-it fun will include name-that-song and other games relating to the Charity for Change character education program. The safari-themed fundraiser will include an open bar, appetizers, plated dinner, deejay and silent auction. Committee members are Kathleen and John Passidomo, honorary chairs, and Beth Amico, Mary Birr, Sara Dewberry, Kathy Feinstein, Marjorie Johnson, Gordon Kellam, Joe Keith, Debbie Newman, Amy Owen, Meredith Parsons, Jackie Reesa and Brooke Stone.

The evening's title sponsor is Vi at Bentley Village, and the auction sponsor is Arthrex. Additional sponsorship opportunities are available.

For more information, call Suzanne Todd at 784-7945 or visit [www.charityforchange.org](http://www.charityforchange.org).

■ **The Seven Sisters of Southwest Florida** hold their fourth annual networking social from 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5, at Galerie du Soleil in Old Naples. All alumnae of Barnard, Bryn Mawr, Mount Holyoke, Radcliffe, Smith, Vassar and Wellesley colleges are invited to reconnect, renew old friendships and make new ones.

Cost is \$20, and reservations are required by Jan. 30.

For more information, call Karen Kayser Benson (Mount Holyoke) at 293-0354 or email [kbccoach@comcast.net](mailto:kbccoach@comcast.net).

■ **The NAACP of Collier County** holds its 31st annual Freedom Fund banquet Saturday evening, Feb. 8, at the Hilton Naples. This year's gala has a "Let the Good Times Roll" Mardi Gras theme and includes a cocktail reception, dinner, silent and live auctions and live music and dancing.

For tickets or more information, visit [www.naacpcolliercounty.com](http://www.naacpcolliercounty.com) or email [freedomfund@naacpcolliercounty.com](mailto:freedomfund@naacpcolliercounty.com).

■ **The 11th annual Neighborhood Health Clinic Block Party** takes place Saturday, Feb. 15, at the Waldorf Astoria Naples. Susan Jones, R.N., returns to chair the clinic's signature event that includes cocktails, dinner and dancing to Cahlua and Cream.

The party generates approximately 25 percent of the Neighborhood Health

Clinic's annual operating budget. Using a professional volunteer staff and funded by private philanthropy, the clinic delivers medical and dental care to low-income, working but uninsured Collier County adults.

Invitations will be mailed in early January. Tickets are \$300 per person.

Sponsorship opportunities are available now. For information, call Marsha Stefan at 529-2247 or email [communityoutreach@neighborhoodhealthclinic.org](mailto:communityoutreach@neighborhoodhealthclinic.org).

■ **The Children's Advocacy Center of Collier County** holds its 18th annual Beach Ball on Saturday evening, Feb. 15, at a private beach club in Naples. Leave the gown and tuxedo at home and have a ball on the beach. Tickets are \$250 per person. Call 263-8383 or email [info@caccollier.org](mailto:info@caccollier.org).

■ **New York Times** bestselling author and former Washington Post Magazine general editor Leslie Morgan Steiner will present the keynote address at The Shelter for Abused Women and Children's 2014 Mending Broken Hearts with Hope luncheon on Monday, Feb. 17, at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort.

Ms. Steiner's memoir, "Crazy Love," details how she survived four years of domestic violence in her first marriage before escaping and rebuilding her life. A Harvard graduate with an MBA in marketing from Wharton School of Business, she has been a regular on the "Today Show," NPR, ABC, CBS and MSNBC as an advocate for the awareness and prevention of domestic violence.

Tickets for \$350 per person include admission to a designer boutique at the hotel. Sponsorships are available. For more information, call Susan Utz at 775-3862, ext. 261, or email [sutz@naplesselter.org](mailto:sutz@naplesselter.org).

■ **"Fete du Cirque,"** a circus-themed gala for Opera Naples, will unfold under a big top starting at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19, at The Ritz-Carlton Tiburon. Colorful performers from Circus Sarasota will help build excitement for the opera company's staging of "Pagliacci" (Clowns), which will take place under the same tent a few days later.

Gala guests will enjoy dinner and entertainment emceed by ringmaster and celebrity auctioneer Scott Robertson.

Ticket options for "Fête du Cirque" include a table of 10 for \$5,000 (premium location) or \$3,000, and individual tickets for \$500 per person (premium) or \$300 per person. For reservations or more information, call 963-9050 or visit [www.OperaNaples.org](http://www.OperaNaples.org).

■ **The 2014 Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest** takes place Friday and Saturday, Feb. 21-22, at Miromar Lakes Beach & Golf Club. Northern Trust is the title sponsor.

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. Last year's event netted \$2 million. The primary beneficiary is The Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida. For more information, call 278-3900 or visit [www.SWFLWine-Fest.org](http://www.SWFLWine-Fest.org).

■ **Voices for Kids of Southwest Florida** hosts "Make the Night Bright," an evening of food and libation, silent and live auctions to benefit abused, neglected and abandoned children, from 6-8:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, at The Naples Depot. Sponsorship opportunities are available now. Call 533-1435 or visit [www.voicesforkids.org](http://www.voicesforkids.org) for more information. ■

# SOCIETY

## The Humane Society Naples' 15th annual Tea and Fashion Show at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort

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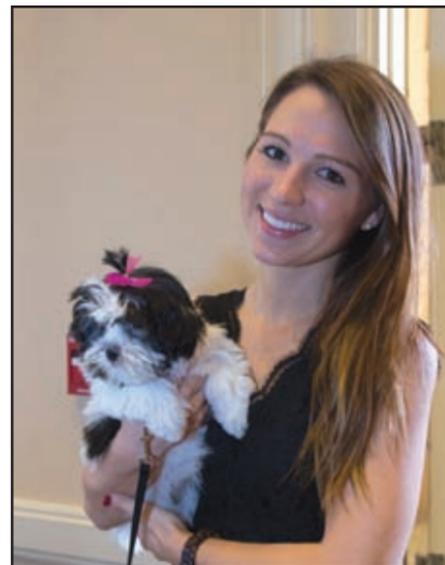
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STEPHEN WRIGHT / FLORIDA WEEKLY

# SOCIETY

## Christmas tea for the women of St. John the Evangelist



Ann Kerns and Marianne Squire



Bernadette Summers and Linda Weitzel



Bob and Jeanne Stamant



Clare Fanta and Helene Powers



Gerry Van Ginkel and Liz Inglis



Liza Smith and Ron Sbrocco



Ruth Griffin



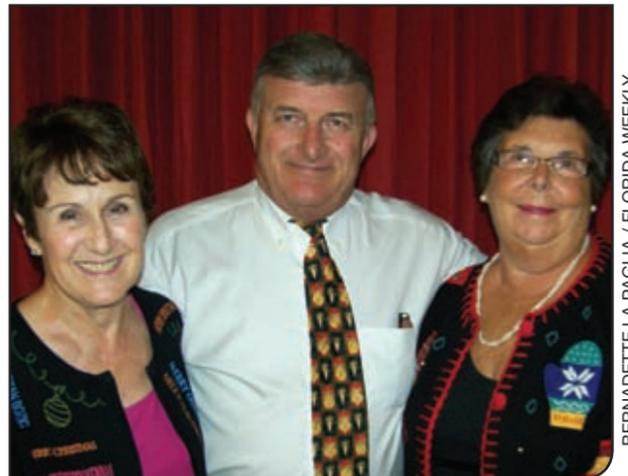
Sherry Stephens and Jack Stamant



Jo-Anne Taylor, Joan Fischetti and Regina Weisheit



Jeanne Stamant with Joe Gagnier and Martha Mador



Mary Ingrassia with Don and Maureen Ehrmentraut

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# SOCIETY

## High tea at The Ritz for Make-a-Wish



Alison Anderson and Joe Frontiero



Livia and Lisa Ferrante



Nina Avren, Sue Avren, Cassidy Bloom and Michelle Hill



Kimberly Darr, Cindy Stegemann and Trisha Darr



Holly Bevan, Briana Nanda and Jackie Stamerro



Stacey Herring, Andy Anderson and Maggie Bock



Wanda Trouba, Craig and Kelly Chasnov



Ursula Pfahl, Delores Sorey, Debbie Olson and Dylan Sanders

SUE HUFF / COURTESY PHOTOS

## Celebrity Bartender night at Noodles for Collier Child Care Resources



Jeanne Sweeney and Sue Huff



George Leamon and Joe Davidow



Amy Landrum and Niccole Howard



Joyce Ardolino and Frank Duggan



Mary Ramos, Matthew Berman, Lauren Maxwell, Ann Margaret Ross



Adoni Kokkinos and Dorothy Ferguson

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# SOCIETY

Kicking off the Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest with signature vintner dinner at Angelina's



Cheryl Copham and Dorothy Fitzgerald



Dave Pitbladdo and Cheryl Copham



Elaine Hawkins and Rose O'Dell King



Michael Browne and Elaine Hawkins



Michael and Helene Hall



Jim McCracken, Michael Browne and Karen Feldman

COURTESY PHOTOS

## The Italian Cultural Society holiday party at The Strand



Donna and Dave Lenzi



Judy and Don Hendrickson



Melissa and Jeffrey Bennett



Carolyn Dickinson, Nelia Howard, Enzo and Grace Mannino



Josephine McNiff, Loenardo Mirra and Gail Lemieux



Patti Taylor, Sonja Benson and Laurance Taylor

COURTESY PHOTOS

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# VINO

## Some simple guidelines make picking holiday wines a breeze



**jimMcCRACKEN**

vino@floridaweekly.com

Time and energy are precious commodities to be lavished on family and friends during the holidays, not on stressing over what wines to serve. Here are some tips that can help you to pair wines with your favorite dishes.

Wines should match the complexity of the food so start with what you are serving and then pick a wine that is light-, medium- or full-bodied to match the heft of the dish. Wines are considered fuller in body when the alcohol and tannins are higher.

A light-bodied wine will have clean fruit flavors with an alcohol level around 11 percent to 12 percent. There is no legal definition of "body," so wines are often described in a range, such as light-to-medium. Grapes that make lighter bodied wines include Riesling, moscato, sauvignon blanc, crisp unoaked chardonnays, and gamay (in Beaujolais).

Medium body means more extracted flavor (usually a function of the grape variety), and light tannins or oak flavors, along with a slightly higher alcohol content. These wines are made from many grape varieties; the body depends on the region and how the winemaker styles his wine. Look for lighter alcohol wines made from sangiovese, merlot and zinfandel in reds, and higher alcohol whites

from sauvignon blanc and un-oaked chardonnay grapes.

Full-bodied wines are made from grapes with higher sugar levels (so higher alcohol) and thicker skins; they have alcohol levels of 13.5 percent and up. The higher the alcohol level, the higher the viscosity and the weightier the wine feels in the mouth. These are generally red and come from warmer regions. Grapes used include syrah/shiraz, zinfandel, sangiovese, nebbiolo and some cabernet sauvignon.

Now onto the dishes on your table.

Pork dishes are a favorite this time of year. The lighter flavors of baked ham pair well with light- to medium-bodied red wines, including California pinot noirs and lighter French reds such as Beaujolais. For a white wine, try a crisp chardonnay that has not been aged in oak or a dry Riesling. Richer flavors such as roasted pork loin do well with a fuller-bodied red, perhaps a syrah or a full-bodied zinfandel.

Lamb is a versatile dish when it comes to wine. Rhone style wines pair well, as do southern Italian reds and Spanish Rioja because they have distinct flavors with mineral undertones that will not overwhelm the meat. Cabernet sauvignons, especially Bordeaux, have sufficient tannins to match the protein and tone down the fat. If you need a white, go with a fuller bodied chardonnay (one that has been fermented in oak) to stand up to the more complex flavors.

Cabernet sauvignon partners well with roast beef, but malbec also works



Enjoy Villa Antinori Toscana with your holiday dinner.

likely to be, so something like beef bourguignon pairs well with more complex wines like Barolo or Chateaufort du Pape.

Duck is often prepared with a cherry or berry sauce, and a medium- to full-bodied pinot noir or grenache is the perfect choice because of their more pronounced berry flavors. If using an orange sauce, try a white wine from Alsace, such as gewürztraminer, which has complex layers of fruit.

Fish and shellfish could go with a light pinot noir for a red wine. White choices depend on the preparation. Lobster and scallops with a cream sauce work well with a richer chardonnay that has some oak. If you serve a citrus sauce or mari-

nade, try a sauvignon blanc from New Zealand, with plenty of citrus flavor, or a minerally Sancerre from France.

Do not get stuck on needing to have a red or a white. It is just as much fun to serve more than one wine if you have enough guests. That way everyone can find a wine they enjoy.

### Wine Picks of the Week:

■ Carmel Road 2012 "Liberated" Chardonnay (\$18): This one is lighter in body because it is stainless-steel fermented. The nose starts with citrus blossom aromas and is followed on the palate with lime and citrus mixed with apple. It finishes with a crisp, clean acidity and underlying mineral notes.

■ Patz & Hall Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Chenoweth Ranch 2010 (\$26): The bright ruby red color matches fruity aromas of raspberry and cherry, with concentrated cherry on the palate. Rich flavors and full body with a dusting of tannins on the balanced smooth long finish.

■ Rust En Vrede Shiraz Stellenbosch 2011 (\$32): Full body with rich fruit flavors of blackberry and plum mixed with chocolate and spice, with fine tannins on the extended finish.

■ Villa Antinori Toscana Rosso (\$18): Medium in body with rich, ruby red color. Aromas of dark fruits and spice merge into the luscious palate, ending with a well-balanced finish of smooth tannins mixed with fruit, spice and vanilla. ■

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# CUISINE NEWS

## At Wylds Café, the secret ingredient is imagination

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Wylds Café in Bonita Springs is one of those restaurants that closes up during the less lucrative summer months. The seasonal break gives the staff a chance to recharge the batteries and refresh the menu. It also builds anticipation among loyal patrons for the fall reopening, and Wylds clearly has given fans reason for excitement over the years.

Three local, classically trained chefs opened the restaurant in 2005 with a broadly American but certainly European-influenced menu. It's been a few years since I've visited the Bonita Beach Road establishment, but it does not appear to have lost any of its luster. The food remains creatively conceived and consistently well executed, and the service staff exhibits a level of polish you'd expect in tonier settings than an older strip center populated by a pet groomer, hair salon and other small businesses.

Wylds' website describes the dining room as casual but elegant, which it is. It also is extremely dark, though pendant lights suspended over the tables help illuminate the menu when you're considering options. The burgundy walls sport colorful abstract paintings, the work of local artists.

Wine selections are wide-ranging and offered by the glass as well as half- and full bottle, and a nice variety of beers is served. I enjoyed a glass of Geysler Peak Uncensored (\$10), a versatile red blend with deep, dark-berry notes and an inky purple hue. My companion had a glass of malbec (\$9), but I failed to note the vintner.

Wylds offers some of the same appetizers available all over the place — but with a twist. The ubiquitous calamari, for instance, are tossed with crimini mushrooms, roasted red peppers and scallions in a scampi soy broth. You can get seared tuna if you must, or you can have it nacho-style on fried wontons.

Even escargots (\$13) benefit from a dash of imagination. Sautéed and draped with garlic cream sauce, the tender little snails were served in a little boat of crisp prosciutto (presumably baked to retain its firmness and shape). The salty ham was a good counterpoint for the lush

sauce, as was a petite salad of peppery baby arugula. All in all, it was good variation on the usual garlic butter preparation and hit a noteworthy range of flavor notes.

In contrast to the restraint of that dish, the roast duck Napoleon (\$12) was over the top portion-wise. Truly, it could have served as an entrée. Flaky, buttery layers of puff pastry were layered with sautéed shiitake mushrooms and roasted duck and laced with a garlic bechamel sauce. The meat was tender and juicy, with the texture of pulled pork but decidedly ducky. It's a bit much for an appetizer, but it did not go to waste.



**Above: Escargots with garlic cream sauce spill out of a prosciutto box. At right: For a twist on crème brulee, the custard is tucked into a crêpe envelope.**

It was a good thing that the server asked if we preferred to have an interval before the next course. We needed it, and sometimes I do feel rushed when the main course comes too quickly on the heels of the first.

Whatever your taste and appetite, they're likely to be satisfied at Wylds. For comfort food, try the braised lamb shank or cranberry barbecued boneless short ribs. For a richer meal, lobster and boursin baked stuffed shrimp or a blue-cheese-topped filet mignon with a mountain of pommes frites will likely fit the bill.

Walleye (\$27) is commonly served in my homeland, Wisconsin, but it's not often seen in Southwest Florida. I don't think the Wylds folks have Midwestern roots, because they put a spin on the fish I've never seen: a Parmesan

crust. It's certainly an effective and tasty way to seal in the fillet's natural juices while adding a nutty, buttery grace note that accents but doesn't outshine the main attraction. A drizzling of tomato-basil beurre blanc complemented the fish, which was accompanied by skin-on mashed potatoes and tender-crisp green beans.

We're hearing and reading a lot more about heirloom pork these days, and Wylds exploits the buzz with its select Kurobuta chop (\$30). Kurobuta, or "black hog," is the Japanese term for the Berkshire breed noted for its deep red meat and fine marbling. It's fatty compared to mainstream American pork, which has been bred toward the healthier but less flavorful lean side. The Kurobuta's fat streaks equate to more flavor, juiciness and sweetness. The tender chop was

KAREN FELDMAN / FLORIDA WEEKLY  
**Left: The Kurobuta pork chop is exceptionally tender, juicy and sweet. Below: A napoleon is layers of puff pastry, roast duck and mushrooms.**

beautifully charred, but the interior retained a blush of pink and a great deal of moisture. A blanket of grilled onions made for a simple, sweet garnish. Instead of potatoes, I upgraded to a creamy risotto studded with butternut squash and tweaked with fresh sage.

Despite a hardy dinner, we could not resist Wylds' sweet confections. The bread pudding (\$8) was fluffier than most, flecked with pecans and trickled with caramel without becoming overly sweet. Another feat of fancy is the crème brulee (\$8); the custard is tucked into a crêpe, which is then topped with sugar and bruleed.

Bravo! Here's to another season of Wylds' creative cuisine. ■

### in the know

#### Wylds Cafe

4271 Bonita Beach Road, Bonita Springs; 947-0408

#### Ratings:

**Food:** ★★★★★

**Service:** ★★★★★

**Atmosphere:** ★★★½

>> **Hours:** 4:30-9 p.m. daily

>> **Reservations:** Accepted

>> **Credit cards:** Accepted

>> **Price range:** Appetizers, \$8-\$14; entrees, \$18-\$38

>> **Beverages:** Beer and wine served  
>> **Specialties of the house:** Modern American cuisine

>> **Volume:** Low

>> **Parking:** Attached lot

>> **Website:** www.wyldscafe.com

★★★★★ Superb  
★★★★ Noteworthy  
★★★ Good  
★★ Fair  
★ Poor

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