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WEEK OF JANUARY 1-7, 2009

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"If I could wave a wand, Collier County would look like a mosaic of developed and natural lands in the urban area, with large swaths of natural lands in the urban fringe and even larger natural 'flow ways' or corridors traversing the rural lands so wildlife has somewhere to live and a way to move through the county." — Alexandra Sulecki, coordinator of Conservation Collier

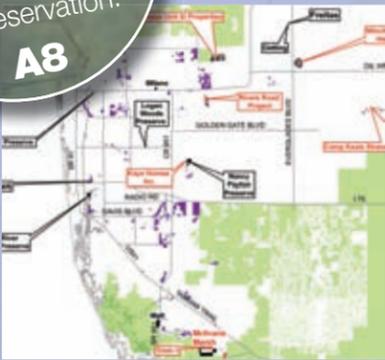
CONSERVATION

WHY COLLIER COUNTY CONSIDERS IT A PRIORITY



PHIL AVRAM/SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

>>inside:
Collier County
areas purchased
for preservation.
A8



BY ROGER WILLIAMS

rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

Never let it be said that a capitalist can't dance with a government program. And while you're celebrating that truth, don't forget this one: A local government can do fair-market business with a capitalist, too, and pay the big bucks to further the public good.

When it comes to conserving the last once-upon-a-time wildness in Collier and Lee counties, local governments and private sellers alike have formed a striking buyer-seller alliance. A capitalist alliance, in other words, with local government playing the role of big spender.

In Collier County, it's called rather prosaically the Conservation Collier Land Acquisition Program. As an example of its good business practices, Conservation Collier

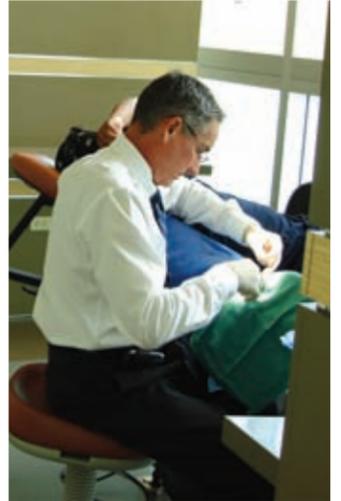
SEE CONSERVATION, A8 ▶

INSIDE



Holiday cheer

A Children's Museum ball and other festivities. **C15, 16 & 17▶**



Get well soon

Urgent-care clinics can be the cure for non-emergency ailments and injuries. **B1 ▶**



Turtle Island tunes up

Classically trained string quartet knows no borders when it comes to their music. **C1 ▶**



Gardening lessons

Lifelong Learning lecture, seminar coming up at Naples Botanical Garden. **A14 ▶**

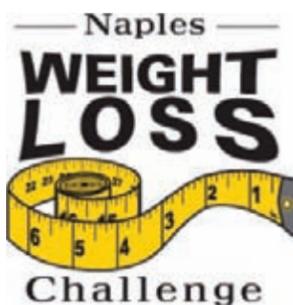
Join the citywide challenge to shape up in the New Year

FLORIDA WEEKLY STAFF REPORT

The calorie countdown is on toward the second annual citywide Naples Weight Loss Challenge. Just in time to jump start ubiquitous New Year's resolutions, the challenge begins Saturday, Jan. 10, and consists of 12 Saturday group workouts, motivational tips from coaches Mindy Sylvester and Livio Ferrari, plus fitness and nutritional advice via the Web site www.napleschallenge.blogspot.com.

Participants will also have access to group fitness classes at NCH Wellness Center as well as nutrition and cooking seminars throughout the 12 weeks of the program.

The inaugural challenge helped more than 300 Neapolitans, work-



ing individually and as part of corporate teams, lose more than 3,000 pounds in the first quarter of 2008, Ms. Sylvester says. The goal is to get neighbors, friends, families and co-workers teamed up to help one another improve their health; a little friendly competition keeps

SEE LOSS, A22 ▶

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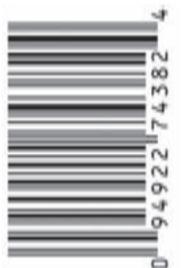
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The (un)Official 2009 Guide To New Year's Resolutions of Some Very Important People



(Note: To help start the new year right for the prominent men and women named below, the columnist has generously volunteered the following resolutions on their behalf, in case they're too busy to make their own.)

Gov. Charlie Crist: First, I swear by Richard and Pat, Ronald and Nancy and George and Barbara, that we, Charlie and Carol, will make our new marriage work. Because Lord knows, otherwise I won't be on the Republican presidential ticket in 2012 or 2016. Then what would be the good of the marriage yoke in the first place?

Second, I will NOT spend the 2009 year explaining why I couldn't balance the state's !##x*!@##!!! budget.

If I can't do it by selling Alligator Alley to those !##x*@!!! foreigners, I'll just sell Lee and Collier counties. That's 3,225 square miles of mostly swamp with a million residents looking for handouts from my administration every time some little wind blows. The Spanish prime minister, what's his name, Zapatero? — he sent troops to Iraq, so he's sucker enough. I'll bet you a Seminole casino against a donut that I can sell him Southwest Florida.

Smart Growth Director Wayne Daltry:

I vow to be more of a green activist in 2009, which my wife has been pushing me to do for years. I'll start with golf courses, because they're already green — too green. There are 35 public or private golf courses in Naples, four on Marco Island, 17 in or near Bonita Springs, 28 in Fort Myers, four on Sanibel and Captiva Islands, and seven in Cape Coral or on Pine Island. That's 95 suck-holes into which we pour water like a drunk pours booze. By the time I'm through seeding them all with salt, they'll look like the Bonneville flats. Then, unless I'm mistaken (and I haven't been mistaken since 1978), the two counties together will save 1.8 billion gallons of water by the time 2010 rolls around.

Collier County Manager Jim Mudd:

I vow on my commission from West Point to hire at least 10 department managers for Collier who went to Ranger School then retired from Army careers at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel or higher, by February. Then I'll whip my staff into shape, because I'm tired of fat-bodied complainers sniveling about the economy. If these peons think a prissy little 40-hour work week and a paycut is hard, I'll show 'em the Ranger way. Besides, I love the smell of pushups 'n' puke in the morning.

Collier County Commission Chairman Tom Henning:

Every morning before I report to the office, I resolve to mutter the following mantra:

"I love Dev-el-op-ment, De-vel-op-ment loves me, And if we play our cards just right We'll cut down all the trees."

Note to self: Don't let Jim Mudd or Fred Coyle hear me. They might make me do pushups in the morning.

State Sen. Dave Aronberg: Every morning before I report to the office, I resolve to mutter the following mantra:

"I think I can, I think I can, be President, be President, I think I can, I think I can, be President, be President...."

FGCU President Wilson Bradshaw:

Every morning before I report to the office, I resolve to mutter the following mantra:

"Barack and me We're twins, you see But if you don't Then look at me — I was 'president' FIRST, hee-hee!"

FGCU Division I Head Basketball Coach, Dave Balzac:

I vow this year to join Jumpers Anonymous (JA) before I fly even one mile to recruit a center, a forward or a guard. And every morning from now until Dec. 31, 2009, I'll repeat the JA motto three times:

"White men CAN jump, White men CAN jump, White men CAN jump..."

Andrew McElwayne, president and CEO, Conservancy of Southwest Florida:

I resolve in 2009 not to drink one drop of water unless it comes directly from the Fakahatchee Strand. Of course, that means I'll have to buy a couple hundred bottles of that peat-smoked malt whiskey from the land of my Scottish ancestors to kill the toxins those developers north of the Strand will dump into the flow way, which means I'll be drunk all the time... boy, this is going to be a good year.

Rick Johnson, general manager of WFCU-FM:

I vow to track down Kathleen Davey and pay her back for burying classical music in Southwest Florida, because I can't stand these Brits whining all day in mock horror about bloody politics in Pago Pago, or some other godforsaken place.

It was Ms. Davey's last act before she retired — to kill classical music by moving it to HD radio. What a joke. She stole the horses and left me with the cart. So if it's my last act at WFCU, I'm going to wire a recorded loop of the melodies from "Romper Room," "The Jetsons," "Leave It To Beaver" and "Gilligan's Island" into her house, and run it 24-7. See how she likes ugly noise all day. ■

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OPINION

Farewell to the war presidency

BY RICH LOWRY

Holding forth in the Oval Office, President George W. Bush is as upbeat and self-confident as ever, even if markedly grayer. Yet a sense of yesterday hangs about him, not just because Barack Obama is already de facto president, but because the war on terror that animated his presidency has faded in the public mind.

To talk to President Bush about his presidency is to enter a time warp, a world where the 9/11 attacks loom large, where the transformation of the Middle East is an urgent priority, and where the president's energy is devoted to managing a very hot war in Iraq.

The most consequential event of President Bush's presidency was a terror attack, and the most consequential decision was an invasion of another country. The world will hold nasty surprises for Mr. Obama, but he clearly hopes to focus on the homeland — and not in the sense of "homeland security." The central indices of his presidency probably won't be people liberated and terrorists killed, but jobs created and energy-efficient light bulbs installed.

The public has done worse than reject President Bush, it has — despite all the heat still generated by his administration's controversies — passed him by. As the Arabs say, the dogs bark, but the caravan moves on. And Bush feels it.

"Over time," President Bush says, "because we were effective at protecting the homeland, the fear of an attack began to dissipate. People knew that there was an attack in London and that would raise concerns, but there wasn't this, you know, on-edge awareness anymore. And so the job of the government is in some way self-defeating toward keeping the country alert and aware."

In defending his decisions, President Bush harkens back to that bygone era. "You cannot isolate Iraq without placing it in the post-9/11 environment and what life was like," he says.

As Condi Rice recently said, "If you were in a position of authority on Sept. 11th, then every day since has been Sept. 12th." So it was for President Bush, with the management of two wars on top of it.

Recalling Iraq's descent toward full-scale civil war in 2006, President Bush

says: "This was all-consuming during this period of time."

With the surge, President Bush set out to create conditions in Iraq that would make the war sustainable for his successor. He succeeded. The new Iraqi-U.S. security agreement, President Bush says, "enshrines a presence and the doctrine of return on success that gives the president, the new president, some latitude."

John McCain campaigned on the success of the surge and on the same sense of urgency about the war on terror as President Bush. People didn't reject Mr. McCain's views so much as the very notion of another war presidency.

President Bush has been diminished by events and his own failures, but there's a largeness to his character — in his sincerity and courage — that will only be appreciated long from now. He's confident "conservatives will rebound," with "new ideas" and "new blood." A first step is adjusting to a world where a war presidency seems passé. ■

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

GUEST OPINION

Rural Lands Stewardship proves success of collaboration

BY BRAD CORNELL
AND DANE SCOFIELD

As we look back on the first five years of the landmark Collier County Rural Lands Stewardship Program, we want to acknowledge the extraordinary difference teamwork can make in addressing important community issues.

This revolutionary plan, which is already proving its value to the vibrancy of the environment, the economy and agriculture, will become even more beneficial once the lessons of its first five years are incorporated. In fact, the Rural Lands Stewardship Program will sustainably accommodate the population growth we expect in eastern Collier County while protecting in perpetuity 150,000 acres important to the environment and agriculture — without requiring tax dollars for implementation. So, not only will we avoid the sprawl that so many communities have experienced, we'll preserve the delicate balance of nature and man.

All of this, though, would not have been possible without a truly collaborative effort.

Prior to the initiation of RLS, there was a deep divide between landowners and conservation groups as to the future of Collier's eastern lands. Everyone realized that traditional public land buying

and regulations alone could not protect all the habitat needed to recover the endangered Florida panther. However, the disagreement in how to move forward seemed destined to end in a protracted lawsuit, as had so many similar disputes had in the past.

Instead, conservationists, landowners, citizens, business leaders and county representatives determined they would work together to find a solution that would serve the community's best interests. The planning took several years, more than 30 meetings and a great deal of hard work.

In time, we developed real trust in one another. And as a result, we made a true breakthrough: a program based on rewarding landowners for protecting environmentally important land. RLS emerged from this principle, which complemented existing regulations and land acquisition, and produced a real solution to a complex problem.

As agreed in the original planning process, the program allows for periodic review and is now being considered for possible improvements. Leading up to the review, conservationists questioned, in particular, if provisions for protecting the endangered Florida panther were adequate. So again, conservationists and landowners came together to address the issue, and developed an innovative

plan called the Florida Panther Protection Program (www.floridapantherprotection.com). Additional measures and funding to enhance the future of this important species are incorporated into the strategy. Also, the functional details of this innovative approach are fundamentally based on good science, with at least two objective teams of biologists reviewing them.

In January, the RLS five-year review committee, again a cooperative effort among representatives of environmental groups, landowners, the business community, county government and citizens, will publish its recommended improvements to the original RLS plan. The report is the culmination of more than 25 meetings, each including public participation.

It is clear to us that this nearly decade-long journey has brought us to a destination that otherwise never could have been reached. We believe RLS will have a timeless, positive effect on our community, both ecologically and economically. But just as significant is the impact of experiencing the value of collaboration. We hope this approach will become the customary means of finding solutions for our community. ■

Brad Cornell is with the Collier County Audubon Society. Dane Scofield owns Half Circle L Ranch.

MOMENTS IN TIME

• **On Jan. 1, 1962**, the Beatles audition for London record company Decca on the same day as Brian Poole and the Tremeloes. Decca signed the Tremeloes, but not the Beatles. The Tremeloes first hit the charts with "Twist and Shout," later also done by the Beatles. The Tremeloes band is still active today.

• **On Jan. 2, 1811**, Sen. Timothy Pickering of Massachusetts becomes the

first senator to be censured by the Senate. Pickering was accused of violating congressional law by publicly revealing secret foreign-policy documents communicated to the president to the Senate.

• **On Jan. 3, 1938**, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, an adult victim of polio, founds the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, which he later renamed the March of Dimes Foundation. In response

to a fundraising appeal, the public flooded the White House with 2,680,000 dimes and thousands of dollars in donations.

• **On Jan. 4, 1974**, President Richard Nixon refuses to hand over tape recordings and documents that had been subpoenaed by the Senate Watergate Committee. Marking the beginning of the end of his presidency, Nixon would resign from office in disgrace eight months later. ■

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THERE IS A DIFFERENCE



15 MINUTES

Understanding and imparting the dialogue of dance

“O body swayed to music, O brightening glance,
How can we know the dancer from the dance?”

— W.B. Yeats

BY ROGER WILLIAMS
rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

Fluent in English and Italian, Helaine Treitman is nevertheless most conversant in a sophisticated language of the body known as Argentine tango — a physical communion of man and woman at once sensuous, rhythmic, lyrical and passionate.

When she flew into Naples from Italy about six weeks ago after two decades in the Umbrian hill town of Perugia, Ms. Treitman finally brought the dance home with her, alive in her body and mind, a thing to be shared.

What the Italians lost, the new world Neapolitans have now gained: a master at the art of conversation in tango, a dark and supple beauty of 55, who teaches both group and private lessons.

Here is how she described the dance in a recent conversation:

“Learning Argentine tango is simply learning a language... The elements are like the alphabet. And you study a few points of movement that start *here* (she pauses), and end *here*. If you use that structure, then all your dancing is a matter of deconstructing and connecting elements of it. It becomes a continuous improvisation.

“It tends to attract intelligent people fascinated with the challenge of learning a language that you speak with your body, and in

dialogue with another person.”

Especially in America and Northern Europe, she notes, Argentine tango also butts heads with sexual role models laid out for men and women.

“In dance, people talk about lead and follow, and what they mean by that is the man leads and the woman follows.”

But Argentine tango is more sophisticated, more realistic and a lot more thoughtful, she explains. And it doesn't play merely to the wooden and lumpish stereotypes sometimes imposed on men and women, both in daily life and in dance.

Tango is not merely leading and following, but something else.

“Instead, it's always a conversation between a man and a woman,” Ms. Treitman says.

“Every movement by the man is a proposal or a question, and the woman's response is an answer. So when you get to a certain level, it's a real dialogue.

“That's how I dance and how I teach my students to dance.”

Although Ms. Treitman has been dancing the tango for more than 15 years — first traveling from her home in Umbria 100 miles to Rome to study, and later flying to Buenos Aires to dance with the world's greatest masters — she is looking not only for intermediate or advanced dancers, but especially for beginners, even those who have never



Helaine Treitman

COURTESY PHOTO

danced much of anything, she says.

If they come willing to converse, willing to pour themselves into this physical conversation between a man and a woman, she can teach them, she insists.

“When somebody says, ‘I'm not cut out for dancing,’ I say, ‘If you can walk, or you can embrace a woman, you can dance. And if you have problems with either of those, I've got a program for you.’”

In the Argentine tango, one learns a good embrace, a good communication, and how to walk, but with pauses and variations, she says. And in a mere three months, her students can learn enough to take pleasure and joy in the dance.

In her case, though, it didn't take three months to get to that point; it took many years.

Born and raised in Bergen County, N.J., after high school Ms. Treitman began study-

ing art — drawing, painting and sculpture — in New York City, at the New School and at Parsons School of Design. She supported herself as a waitress in Greenwich Village and spent her evenings, she remembers, crowding into smoky jazz clubs to hear the likes of John Coltrane and the Charlie Parker spin-offs of the early 1970s.

Talented, young and independent, before long she found herself in Italy, running a school for artists in Umbria, one of the most famous physical locations for great Western painting. Ultimately that school began hosting students from such American universities as Yale, the University of Pennsylvania and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

While the Umbrian blue sky is famous in painterly circles for its unique hue, Ms. Treitman didn't see it that simply. Instead of describing the sky in itself, she draws it into a communion with the earth.

“That sky changes a lot with clouds and other elements of weather,” she says. “It speaks to the hills.”

But none of that was enough. Her long personal relationship with another artist had become merely collegial. “I started dancing tango because I was missing passion in my life, and I could do it without (misbehaving),” she says.

For three minutes, in her experience, each dance is a beautiful and intimate conversation, not only like sex, but like life and love.

And when she tangos, perhaps all of the eloquence of that trinity becomes real at once, spoken and written in the dance. ■

Contact Ms. Treitman at either 776-6535 or at the Fred Astaire Naples Dance Studio, 592-7737.

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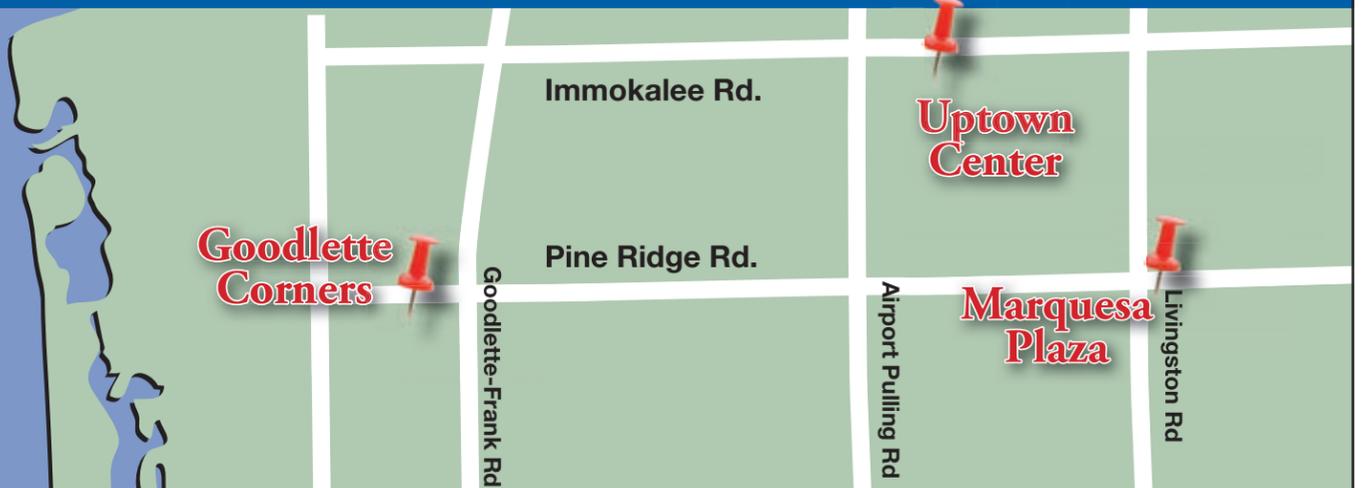


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CONSERVATION

From page 1

just spent \$33.9 million to buy the 2,500-acre Pepper Ranch from owners who might have developed it or mined it.

"These programs are all willing seller programs. They're completely voluntary, with market-based incentives for land preservation," explains Jennifer Hecker, the natural resource policy manager for the Conservancy of Southwest Florida, which works with government officials in both Collier and Lee to buy land.

Although county officials are not allowed to solicit sales from the owners of desirable properties, the non-profit, private Conservancy can and does, acting as point man to a beneficial buy.

"Part of why people will participate is because they have no fear that, as a result of these programs identifying environmentally sensitive lands, the government will take them," Ms. Hecker explains.

Eminent domain it isn't.

"Instead, it's about offering landowners a viable alternative (to development)." And paying them a competitive-enough price to make it attractive.

Good news, therefore: By the end of next month when the deal is finally closed, you — Mr./Ms. Collier County Taxpayer — will own "18 locations and 3,848 acres," says Alexandra Sulecki, coordinator of Conservation Collier.

"An additional small amount of acreage adding to existing preserves will trickle in at the beginning of 2009, as deals are closed."

Pretty good, isn't it? And if you just let Ms. Sulecki do the buying for you on that last deal, you might consider guiding her on the next.

"Our process is very responsive to public input," she says. "If people would become engaged, they could certainly shape our outcome more than is being done."

If you like the notion of spending your tax money on the good earth, then things are even better in Lee, where the program name was invented by an ophthalmologist, apparently — the clear-sighted Conservation 20/20 program.

Its officials have just purchased the 1,726-acre Argo Ranch on the Caloosahatchee River in Alva, for \$24 million. (That deal will be finalized at the end of January, too, like the Pepper Ranch.)

So now in Lee, officials have finally broken the 20,000-acre barrier in conserved lands owned by Mr./Ms. Lee County Taxpayer. (The program started in 1995, when county residents voted to tax themselves \$50 for every \$100,000 of property value to purchase and protect environmentally critical lands.)

One reason the acreages in the two counties are so different is that Collier — a vast 2,025 square miles — is already rich with public land holdings from federal and state programs in the western Everglades.

But in 1,200-square-mile Lee, one of 67 Florida counties where the average conservation of lands runs about 28 percent, only about 16 percent are public lands. That figure includes both government-owned and managed property, and private land trusts, explains Lynda Thompson, the 20/20 lands program coordinator in Lee.

So officials in Collier and Lee aren't looking to slow down their buying, even though their bank accounts are puckering up as money grows scarce.

A good time to buy, but...

In both county programs, the ability to buy land depends on a robust real-estate market and healthy property values that provide tax revenue, officials say. In the down market, there's simply less money.

Ironically, though, "This may be our last opportunity to buy a bounty of really outstanding, environmentally significant lands from willing sellers, at favorable market conditions," says Ms. Thompson. "There's an abundance of willing sellers

with astounding properties right now, so we're trying to make hay while the sun shines," she says. "I'm just sorry our resources are limited."

By the accounting of many, the two county programs have been wildly successful (pun intended). And they could become more so if officials can continue purchasing pristine or near-pristine lands from willing sellers.

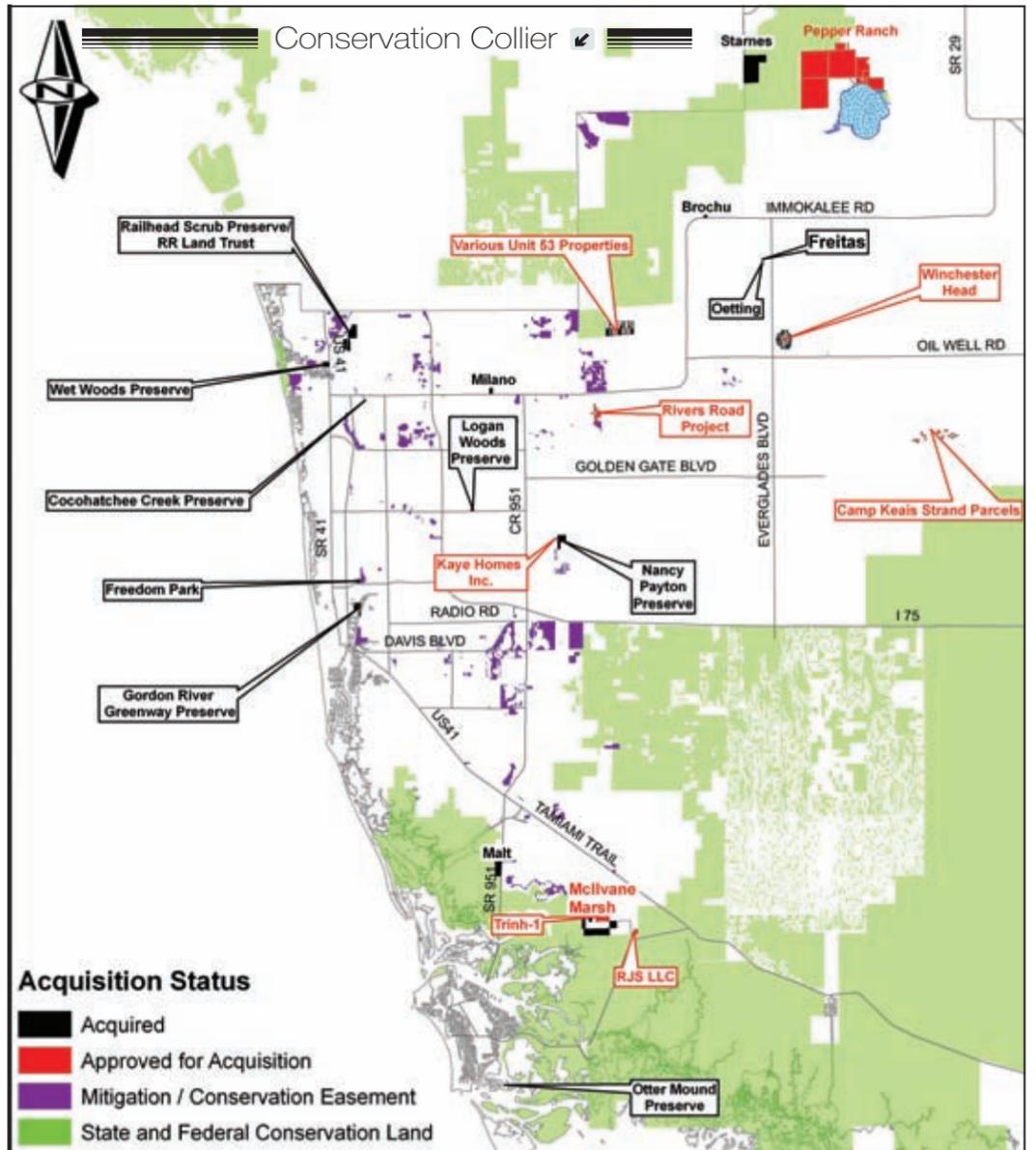
"I'm ecstatic about this, about putting more than 20,000 acres in the 20/20 program," says Carl Veaux, a Lee resident and Audubon Society member who has lobbied for public land preservation in both counties.

Up in Lee, he recommends, "We should develop a new goal of maybe 40,000 acres and aim to reach it by the year 2030."

In Collier, similarly, the county should do anything it can to buy more, Mr. Veaux says, pausing to praise its most recent purchase.

"They just bought the Pepper Ranch, which I thought was noble of them because the economy was so bad. They could afford it, and it probably helped out the seller — which is something akin to the Argo Ranch, in Lee."

All the land is public, although not all of it is accessible. But if you aren't violating explicit rules — no guns or four-wheelers, for example — you won't be arrested if you crawl under a fence and enter the county-owned acreage in either Collier or Lee, officials say. Still, that doesn't mean they want you there on some properties (on 16 of the 18 in Collier, for example) — not, at least, until they can make their new



purchases ready for public use.

"Absolutely they'll all be open to the public someday," says Ms. Sulecki.

Which is one point of conserving public land — so you can see what once-upon-a-time was like.

But there's another point, too, says Ms. Hecker at the Conservancy — especially at the Pepper Ranch.

The base of the pyramid

"Water recharge, water preservation — we need to preserve critical habitat for

a lot of reasons. This is primary panther habitat, and that almost always means it's also high recharge habitat, which is preserving our water.

"So if we don't have and preserve the land, not only are the panthers at risk, but we as Floridians are at risk of losing the basics and necessities. We are a tourism and agriculture-based economy, depending on where you are, and those are completely intertwined with the environment. Preserved lands are at the base of our pyramid." ■

q&a

Florida Weekly asked the two key officials in Collier and Lee counties — Alexandra Sulecki, the Collier coordinator, and Lynda Thompson, the Lee manager — about their land preservation programs. Here's what they said.

FW: What's the most difficult thing about trying to buy and conserve lands now?

Ms. Thompson: "That this may be our last opportunity to buy a bounty of really outstanding, environmentally significant lands from willing sellers and at favorable market conditions. The difficult part is that we can't buy it all because of limited funds."

Ms. Sulecki: "The most difficult thing is meeting everyone's expectations in regard to what lands should be purchased... Some believe properties should be pristine, ecologically sensitive lands; others look at lands as green space and are more concerned with where lands are. It's sort of a science vs. politics debate. One of the directives in the Conservation Collier ordinance is for "geographic equity," meaning that lands should be acquired throughout the county.

"We are a willing seller program, so we don't always have the best lands offered in the areas we might like. Nevertheless, we have managed to acquire good lands scattered fairly evenly throughout the county."

FW: What are the ultimate goals of your program, and if you could wave a wand, what would the county look like in 20 years?

Ms. Thompson: "When I look at a map of Florida conservation lands, very little land shows up in Lee County. I would like to see Lee County have... open green space winding through urban areas and in large rural tracts in an amount equal to (conservation lands owned by surrounding counties and the State of Florida). "Such open space will greatly preserve the quality of life here as well as provide a cost-effective way to improve water quality, maintain our drinking water supply, keep housing out of vulnerable flood-prone

areas and protect large enough areas of native habitat to protect sustainable populations of our distinctive and rare plants and animals.

"It will also help to maintain the thriving eco-tourism industry in Lee County and boost property values on and near preserves. This industry requires very little public costs to maintain it."

Ms. Sulecki: "If I could wave a wand, Collier County would look like a mosaic of developed and natural lands in the urban area, with large swaths of natural lands in the urban fringe and even larger natural 'flow ways' or corridors traversing the rural lands so wildlife has somewhere to live and a way to move through the county."

FW: How has the economy affected what you can acquire? Is it easier to pick up lands since property values have dropped, or harder?

Ms. Thompson: "It's definitely easier."

Ms. Sulecki: "The down economy is both positive and negative. The positive aspect is that prices are lower than they were in 2004-06, when we started buying, and there are many properties being offered for sale that might not have been offered previously.

"The downside is that many people do not understand that the funds Conservation Collier uses are separate from the general county funds, that they can only be used for buying conservation lands. We can't shift Conservation Collier funds, for example, to libraries so they can stay open longer. People are not happy when their government services are cut and think that money should be shifted from conservation land buying to services, which can't be legally done.

"Another challenge is that property values are dropping so fast that appraisals are becoming stale much faster. Our process takes time, so we have been in the situation that people are saying we are paying too much if the property is not purchased immediately upon receipt of the appraisal. Sometimes complications need to be worked out, such as negotiations for cleanup or removal

of structures, and that requires additional processes and time to resolve. Appraisals are typically good for six months, but in this market the reality is that values are changing faster.

"Also... since nobody else is buying large tracts of land besides government at this point, many of the comparable sales used to establish appraisal value are from recent government buys. So we are essentially trading comparable values between government entities, in a sense setting the market. So on larger tracts, we might not be getting the best deals. The best deals appear to be on smaller parcels, where speculators got caught and are selling short — like in North Golden Gate Estates, where we have two multi-parcel projects. It's a good time to buy them, but we want the larger parcels, too."

FW: Can you talk about your budgeting and finance?

Ms. Thompson: "Ten percent of our budget is set aside for management. Management uses only the interest on the revenues it receives so that management can operate in perpetuity. Acquisition spends all of the revenues it receives.

"The county has closed on all board-approved contracts except for one... Argo Ranch next to Babcock Ranch is scheduled to close Jan. 31 at a purchase price of \$23.9 million. That will leave an estimated \$3 million in the budget. As remaining property taxes are paid in 2009, an additional \$12 million to \$15 million is expected. We have 14 properties on hold for board prioritization and approval... Like every other government program, we will see a sharp decline in funds because the funding is tied directly to the value of properties.

Ms. Sulecki: "Our current rough projections give us approximately \$28 million coming in for land acquisition through the remaining levy period — now through 2013. That works out to be just under \$7 million each year. This number can change, as it's based on projections of property values, which could be lower in reality." ■



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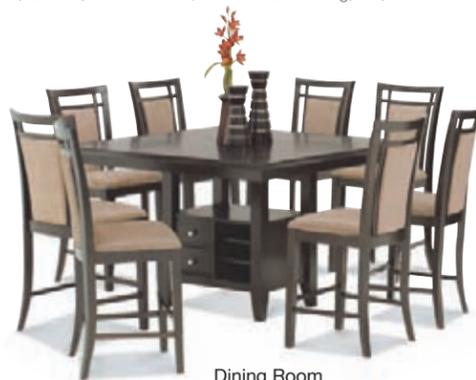
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UNDERCOVER HISTORIAN

The tales and tails of a revered Naples banker, Mamie Tooke

BY LOIS BOLIN
Special to Florida Weekly

Susan B. Anthony's words of wisdom, "Failure is impossible," inspired many women facing the new frontier of equality in the late 1800s. By the 1940s and '50s, Naples offered many challenging adventures in the business community, and Mamie Tooke most assuredly embraced them.

Mrs. Tooke, regarded by many as the mother of Naples, is still revered as one of Southwest Florida's most formidable women in banking. Known for her courage and managerial skills, she could have written a book on leadership, trust and other proficiencies she either learned or honed from her beloved husband, Clarence. Another teacher in business and life for Mamie was Judge Tibbetts, her faithful "loan officer," who was willing to simply work for cookies and a scratch on the back.

Banking in Naples

Prior to 1949, bank transactions and loans for the Naples area were conducted in Fort Myers. Bubba Frank, who opened the first commercial building on Fifth Avenue South and made this banking trek daily for himself and for a few others, dubbed himself "The Collier County Courier." Other local residents, however, grew tired of traveling for their banking needs and decided to pool their money and open a bank.

W. Roy Smith, Ed Frank and Ansel MacSwain were among those who founded the Bank of Naples in 1949. Mr. Smith, Naples' first modern-time mayor, who served from 1946-1960, became president of the bank and hired Mr. Tooke as the bank's first manager. Mrs. Tooke was offered the job as head cashier.

Sadly, one year after opening the bank, Mr. Tooke suffered a major stroke and passed away a short time later. Mrs. Tooke then became bank manager and proceeded to develop a strong and loyal clientele.

Mamie's rules and regs

Mrs. Tooke was a natural at customer service. Some think it was Florida Sen. Garrett S. Richter, the former CEO of First National Bank, who thought free, fresh-baked cookies equated to satisfied customers, but the idea was actually Mrs. Tooke's.

The concept of an open-door policy might not have begun with Mrs. Tooke, but she embodied the philosophy. Since the building was not air-conditioned, the doors of the Bank of Naples stood open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, and the first face everyone saw upon entering was hers. This policy not only encouraged the general public to visit and visit often, it also offered her loan officer the ability to sniff out any necessary details in order to do his job effectively.

Judge, the loan officer

One of the bank's early customers, Joan Tibbetts, often did her banking and other errands accompanied by Judge, her basset

hound. Judge would wait patiently for his cookie, like all of the other satisfied customers, and one day decided not to follow Mrs. Tibbetts home. Instead, he would assume his position next to Mrs. Tooke, wherein for hours he would go about his new job of sleuthing or sleeping.

When Mrs. Tooke assumed the manager's position, she also inherited a seat on the Loan Committee. As the stories go, she soon noticed that during some of the loan interviews, Judge would get up and leave the bank, while during others he would remain next to her desk. She began to recognize that if Judge's tail wagged or he stayed, the candidate was destined to be approved for a loan.

Our city historian got her loan

When Naples city historian Doris Reynolds came here in 1952 to work for the Chamber of Commerce, Mrs. Tooke, who served on the board of the chamber, offered to house the new employee, and the two became fast friends.

In 1954, Ms. Reynolds had the opportunity to purchase John Hachmeister's photo negatives of Naples. Mr. Hachmeister, a well-known photographer in his time, had given the rights to his photos to his grandson, who offered them to Ms. Reynolds for the sum of \$500. It took Ms. Reynolds about a nano-second to run over to the bank to ask Mrs. Tooke (and Judge) for a loan. Thirty minutes, two cookies and a tail wag later, she had procured the negatives that still serve as the archival foundation for the Naples Historical Society, the Collier County Museum and Naples Backyard History.

Failure was impossible

By 1975, the Bank of Naples merged into Barnett Bank and Mrs. Tooke became its president. Four years later, she became chairman of the board and CEO. By the time of her passing in 1984, she had reached status of beloved icon.

Gene MacSwain, son of one of the founders of Naples' first bank, remembers Mrs. Tooke, Mrs. Tibbetts and Judge very well. Over coffee a few weeks ago, he matter-of-factly relayed, "You know, that dog could decide if you got a loan or not. It made some people really mad."

He then smiled that sly Cracker smile, leaned in and whispered, "She knew who'd pay back that loan — we all did. Now she had a scapegoat. Actually, I guess it was a scape-dog."

With the likes of Judge by her side, failure was, indeed, impossible for Mamie Tooke. ■



Judge, Joan Tibbetts' basset hound

Lois Bolin is the co-founder of Naples Cultural Landscape, a fund at the Community Foundation of Collier County. Naples Backyard History is the fund's educational initiative. For more information, visit the NBYH Mini-Museum at 1300 Third St. S., call 594-2978 or visit www.naplesbackyardhistory.org.

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD
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Can't possibly be true

► In a March change of regulations, the Pentagon began saving money by reducing "combat-injury" benefits for all except those wounded while actually fighting, explaining that combat-related injuries were simply not worthy of full compensation. Thus, in examples offered by The Washington Post in November, Marine Cpl. James Dixon and Army Sgt. Lori Meshell were not entitled to full combat-injury coverage for their Iraq wounds (Mr. Dixon from a roadside bomb and a land mine, and Mr. Meshell while diving for cover during a mortar attack) because neither was actually fighting at the time. (Mr. Dixon, initially denied about \$16,000 by the classification, recently won a hard-fought reversal, but Mr. Meshell, drawing \$1,200 less per month because of the change, is still appealing.)

► *The Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, reporting the latest of 10 lawsuits against dentist Thomas Laney, 55, found "flaws"

in Washington state's medical disciplinary system, in that Dr. Laney was apparently doing "full-body cosmetic surgeries." Dr. Laney was being sued this time by a woman for allegedly botching her breast-reduction. His attorney told a reporter that negative outcomes happen, but that Dr. Laney should not be held responsible unless the patient suffers deformities that are "terribly, terribly wrong." (When an earlier patient of his died after surgery, Dr. Laney was "disciplined" with a fine and an order to get additional training.)

► The British Federation of Herpetologists announced in November that the number of reptiles kept as pets in the U.K. is probably greater than the number of dogs (8.5 million to about 6 million, with cats at 9 million). One benchmark the federation uses for its calculation is the booming sales of reptile food, such as locusts, frozen rodents and crickets (now about 20 million a week). ■

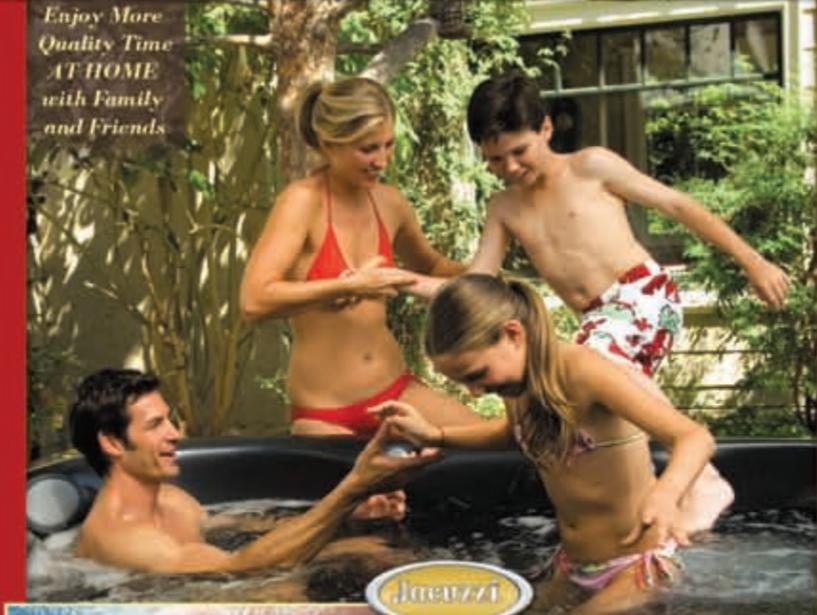
Inexplicable

► The Wishroom lingerie shop on Japan's Internet shopping mall Rakuten announced in November that it had already sold more than 300 of its new bras specially made for men (about \$30 each) since the product launch earlier in the month. A Wishroom official told a Reuters reporter: "We've been getting feedback from customers saying, 'Wow,' we'd been waiting for this for such a long time."

► Twice recently (in November, off Atlantic Beach, N.C., and in October, off Amble, Northumberland, England), anglers encountered (and rescued) dogs that were swimming about a mile from land and headed toward the open sea. The pooches, a Labrador retriever and a cairn terrier, were both said to be disoriented and uncooperative with rescuers. ■

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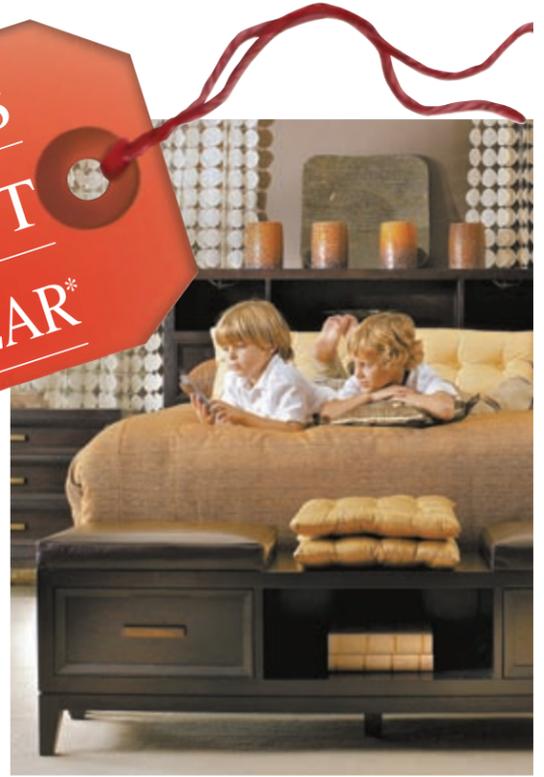


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Lifelong Learning series continues at the Naples Botanical Garden

Lifelong Learning at the Naples Botanical Garden continues in January with the following two programs:

► **“Supermarket Botany: The Botanical Nature of Common Fruits and Vegetables Grown in Gardens”** takes place at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 6. Just how much do plants affect each of



“Supermarket Botany”

us every day? George Wilder, the Garden’s herbarium curator and botanist, will discuss botany basics about some of your favorite foods, ensuring you’ll never look at an onion the same way. Cost is \$15 for Garden members and \$20 for non-members.

► **“Green Clean: Safe and Inexpensive Ways to Improve Your Home and Protect Your Planet”** is a hands-on workshop planned for 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 20. Jill Barry and Hallie Deegan Lundon will guide participants in creating eco-friendly household cleaners. Participants will take home the products they make along with recipes and other eco-friendly home tips. Cost of the workshop is \$20 for Garden members and \$30 for others.

Register by phone with a credit card during normal business hours, 8 a.m.



“Green Clean”

to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call 643-7275.

For more information and to print out a mail-in registration form, visit www.naplesgarden.org. Registration forms will be processed in the order they are received. ■

Orchid society meets Jan. 8



Lc. Tropical Pointer grown by Martin Motes

The Naples Orchid Society welcomes guest speaker Martin Motes of Motes Orchids in Homestead, Fla., for the society’s first meeting of the New Year. Dr. Motes has been breeding and growing orchids for more than 40 years and is considered to be an expert on growing Vandaceous orchids.

The meeting takes place Thursday evening, Jan. 8, in the auditorium at The Conservancy of Southwest Florida, 1450 Merrihue Drive. Plant registration begins at 6:30 p.m., meeting begins at 7:30 p.m., and the program begins at 7:45 p.m. Visitors are welcome.

For more information about the Naples Orchid Society, call 403-7155 or visit www.naplesorchidsociety.org. ■

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Let's help each other...let's spend our money with our neighbors...our friends...our fellow Americans. Please consider our home-grown businesses when shopping. Businesses like Bill Smith Appliances and Electronics, Sunshine Ace Hardware, and the small boutiques and gift shops owned and operated by locals. Consider the long established small businesses at Flamingo Island and Fleamasters...and the newly established small businesses at Big Cypress Market.

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NON-PROFIT NEWS

It's Time for the Glitz fashion show luncheon

Temple Shalom Sisterhood presents Time for the Glitz, a designer fashion show and luncheon beginning at 11 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 8, at The Club at Olde Cypress. Fashions and accessories will



The Education Foundation

be from Saks Fifth Avenue in Waterside Shops. A \$65 donation will benefit the Temple Shalom Children's Education Program. For reservations and more information, call 592-7353 or 430-4510. ■

High tea and fashion for financial aid

The Secret Ingredient, Cottontails and Beckner Jewelry will star in a afternoon of high tea and fashion in the Student Union Ballroom at Ave Maria University from 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 15. Marjorie Monaghan is the hon-

orary chairwoman of the event hosted by the Naples Founders Club. Proceeds will benefit the Student Financial Aid Fund at AMU. Tickets for \$40 must be purchased by Saturday, Jan. 10. Call 649-5323 or e-mail vivk7@yahoo.com. ■

If the shoe fits...

The Education Foundation of Collier County presents an evening of shopping for shoes and jewelry and enjoying signature "Shoetinis" along with wine and other treats on Thursday evening, Feb. 5. The girls' night out, which also includes a silent auction, takes place in the Avena

model home in Mediterra. Ooh! Ooh! Shoes and Amanda Jaron Jewelry are the sponsors. Tickets are \$75 per person. For more information, call the Education Foundation of Collier County at 643-4775 or visit www.educationforcollier.org. ■

Sweet dreams for preemies

The Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida presents Rockabye Collier, a casually chic evening under the stars atop the parking garage at the Waterside Shops, on Saturday, March 28. Guests will enjoy food provided by the restaurants of the Waterside Shops, dancing to classic rock and an innovative prize drawing with gifts provided by the stores of Waterside Shops. The event will benefit the Neonatal Intensive Care Level 3 Unit at the Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida. Admission of \$500



per person includes one drawing ticket; those who cannot attend can purchase a drawing ticket for \$350. The grand prize will be worth more than \$5,000. For tickets and more information, call 261-6800. ■



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NON-PROFIT NEWS

Conservancy seeks Earth Day partners

The Conservancy of Southwest Florida is seeking volunteers to participate in its 2009 Earth Day Festival, a weekend-long event that will feature an organic farmers market, special exhibits, carnival activities and educational presentations. Partners can include entertainers, guest speakers, face painters and special exhibitors who can donate services.

The Earth Day Festival will take place April 18-19 at the Conservancy Nature Center, 1450 Merrihue Drive in Naples. For more information about participating as a partner, call Meghan Clancey at 403-4200 or e-mail meghanc@conservancy.org.

The Conservancy is a grassroots organization focused on the critical environmental issues of Southwest Florida. Partnering with like-minded organizations, the Conservancy works to manage growth and protect area waters, land and wildlife. The Conservancy of Southwest Florida promotes sound environmental policies and practices based on solid scientific research while providing environmental education to residents and visitors. ■

Northern Trust signs on as Wine & Food Fest sponsor

The Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest welcomes Northern Trust Bank as the main sponsor of the festival that takes place Friday and Saturday, Feb.

27-28. Northern Trust joins local chef vintner dinner hosts, local and visiting chefs and vintners from California and the northwestern states, and from around the world in supporting the Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest.

The event is presented by SWFL Children's Charities to benefit The Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida and the pediatric nursing program at Edison State College.

The 2009 Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest begins Friday evening, Feb. 27, with chef vintner dinners at several private homes; the festival continues Saturday afternoon, Feb. 28, with a grand tasting and auction at Miromar Lakes Beach & Golf Club.

In addition to Northern Trust and Miromar Lakes, event supporters and sponsors include Lee Memorial Health System Foundation, Grandeur Magazine, Saks Fifth Avenue, Specialty Risk Management and Private Client Insurance Services, Oswald Trippe & Co., Pure High Net Wealth Insurance, Edison State College, Bank of Florida, Angelina's Ristorante, Palm Printing and Strategic Solutions.

The Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest is a signature event of SWFL Children's Charities, Inc., a non-profit organization that provides funding to local charities serving local children. For more information, visit www.swflwinefest.org or call 432-9722. ■



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OUTDOORS

A primer on Florida's prolific saw palmetto and cabbage palm

BY LEE BELANGER
Special to Florida Weekly

I bet you've heard the name saw palmetto (*Serenoa repens*), even if you can't identify the plant. For centuries, people used this dwarf palm for medicinal purposes, and some still do. You'll find saw palmetto supplements in most drug stores today.

You probably also know the name cabbage palm, or sabal palm (*sabal palmetto*). This common palm is Florida's state tree. Both the saw palmetto and cabbage palm are native to North America and found throughout Florida.

Many animals depend on the cabbage palm for food and shelter. Raccoons, squirrels, other mammals and birds eat its fruit and seeds.

People still eat the leaf buds which are sold as "swamp cabbage" or heart of palm. Unfortunately, however, removing the bud kills the palm. Most of today's store-bought heart of palm comes from Mexico and Central America, where stands of wild cabbage palms are cut and their populations are severely depleted. Commercially growing the trees takes too long to be profitable.

Cabbage palm fronds and boots (remnants from broken fronds) make ideal hiding places for lizards and bats. These broken fronds also provide a perfect spot (moist and secure) for ferns, orchids and mosses.

You can see why the cabbage palm is known as the "tree of life."

Telling one from the other

When saw palmettos and cabbage palms are mature, only their fan-shaped fronds appear similar. The mature cabbage palm grows up to 80 feet, towering over the tallest 8-foot saw palmetto.

When the trees are small, differentiating these palms is more difficult. Begin by looking at the leaf stems. The saw palmetto has sharp, saw-tooth spines along its stem; the cabbage palm has a smooth stem.

Next, note if the leaf stem ends abruptly at the edge of the fan-shaped leaf blade (saw palmetto), or if the stem continues into the leaf, forming an upside down V (cabbage palm).

Leaf size provides another clue. Saw palmetto leaves are only 3 feet across, while

cabbage palm fronds can exceed 6 feet. Also, saw palmettos do not have the criss-crossed left stem pattern on their trunks, as young cabbage palms do.

Now look how the plant is growing. If the fronds grow from thick, rough stems running along or under the ground, it's a saw palmetto. You can see colonies of hundreds or more growing as a ground cover in pine forests.

Black bear, white-tailed deer and feral hogs all eat the berries of both trees. Native Americans did too. They fed saw palmetto berries to Jonathan Dickinson and his wife after the Dickinsons' ship sank off Florida's east coast in 1696. Mr. Dickinson described the berries as tasting like "rotten cheese steeped in tobacco juice," but their nutrition likely saved his life.

What the doctor ordered

Native Americans used saw palmetto berries to treat impotence, inflammation of the prostate and bronchial congestion. In the 1800s, settlers made extracts to treat cystitis, gonorrhea and enlarged prostate. After the discovery of antibiotics and improved surgical procedures, interest in saw palmetto for medical purposes decreased in the United States.

Currently there is renewed interest in saw palmetto berries. Workers harvest berries commercially from wild crops in Central Florida. The dried berries are ground into powder, and the active ingredient is isolated. Although the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has not approved the extracts, they are sold as dietary supplements and touted as an aid to prostate health. In Germany, up to 95 percent of patients with benign prostate hyperplasia are first treated with an herbal extract from saw palmetto berries.

Both the saw palmetto and the cabbage palm are easily spotted along the trails at Collier-Seminole State Park. Come and see if you can identify each of them. As you do so, imagine what Florida would look like without these native palms.

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



Saw palmetto frond



Cabbage palm frond

PHOTOS BY LEE BELANGER

Grab a paddle at the park

Collier-Seminole State Park has canoe tours on the schedule for those who want to spend some quality time in the great outdoors:

► Guided daytime canoe trips through the mangroves along Blackwater River push off from park headquarters at 9:30 a.m. Friday, Saturday, Monday and Wednesday, Jan. 2, 3, 5 and 7. Listen to stories of Seminole survival and keep your eyes peeled for colorful crabs, tarpon and even manatees. The three-hour trip is appropriate for ages 6 and older; \$25 per person in your canoe or a park canoe. Spe-

cial group, family or club trips can also be arranged. Reservations required.

► Guided moonlight paddles are planned for 7:30 to 10 p.m. Saturday, Sunday and Monday, Jan. 10, 11 and 12. Join a park naturalist and discover the dynamic changes and reflections nighttime brings along the Blackwater River. Fun for ages 12 and older; \$30 per person. Reservations required.

The entrance to Collier-Seminole State Park is at 20200 U.S. 41 in East Naples. To sign up for a canoe trip, call Lee Belanger at 394-3397. ■

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PET TALES

New products offer both fun and convenience for pet lovers

BY DR. MARTY BECKER
Universal Press Syndicate

Last week I wrote about the promising products that made me take notice as a practicing veterinarian. This week, my focus is on those nonmedical products that caught my attention as a pet lover and that will make taking care of your pet easier or more fun. Just as with the veterinarian breakthroughs, this week's products were gleaned from suggestions from more than 100 experts.

We have the full list of all my "Dr. Becker's Best" products on our Web site, PetConnection.com, so drop in for more information. (Prices can vary widely, so I've listed suggested retail.)

• Food puzzles. Veterinary behaviorists say it's important to reduce or eliminate the mind-numbing boredom from just eating food out of a bowl. Boredom equals behavioral problems, and behavioral problem may mean a homeless pet. Food puzzles, such as these from Premier (www.premier.com), can help.

The Kibble Nibble appeals to dogs' natural prey and stalking drives. For the kibble or treats to dispense, dogs must roll, push and chase the toy. The Kibble Nibble holds up to 2 cups of kibble or treats. Unscrews for easy loading and quick cleanup. (\$20)

The Bristle Bone is a refillable dental toy made with nylon bristles and rubber nubs that gently scrape and clean teeth as dogs chew. (\$10-\$15)

• Easier nail-trims. Find the quick for a no-blood, no-pain nail trim with the Quick Finder nail clipper. The product has a light source mounted on it to shine through the nail and colors that tell you when it's safe to cut: red for no, green for go. (www.quickfinderclipper.com, \$33)

• Perfect portions, every time. Petmate's new Electronic Portion Control LeBistro measures meals just as carefully as you do, to ensure that your pet gets the right amount of food, right on time. Program it like an alarm clock, and it dispenses pre-set portions of food up to three times a day. The 5-pound capacity is ideal for those with cats and small dogs. (Petmate.com, \$80-\$90)

• Promote prey play. Based on the preying and social behavior of dogs, the Flappy Dog toy simulates the excitement of catching a prey and proudly shaking it. This toy was a major hit with the Becker family dogs. (ourpets.com/products_flappy.html, \$13-\$17)

• No more water slops. The DrinkBetter pet bowl encourages dogs to drink at a slower rate and makes less mess while they're doing it. The Drink Better bowl uses a floating obstacle to control the flow



The Bristle Bone helps clean teeth.

of water, encouraging dogs to drink slower and take only as much as they need, without soaking their ears and muzzles or slopping water around the feeding area. (contech-inc.com/products/drinkbetter, \$25)

• Get the pet hair. Eureka Boss 4D Pet Fresh vacuum comes with tools to help pet owners eliminate odors naturally and remove pet hair and dander from stairs, furniture and the floor. We've given this one a good workout, and it works. (Eureka.com, \$138)

My Pet Connection co-author, Gina Spadafori, says if you're looking for a handheld, the new Dyson DC-16 kept up with the mess at her home. (Dyson.com, \$150)

• A party for pets. The Puppy Pinata is a plush toy containing treats that stimulate a dog's natural desire to search and investigate. Our dogs smelled the product through the packaging and got as excited about the pinata as a stick-swinging 6-year-old at a birthday party. (www.puppy-pinata.com, \$7-\$11)

• Making balconies safer. A great idea, long overdue. Puppy Bumpers fit around the necks of puppies and small dogs to protect them from getting through baby gates and balcony railings. With so many people keeping small dogs in upper-floor apartments, this is one product that really could save a life. (puppybumpers.net, \$20)

• Food and water to go. The collapsible Zuka Bowl has colorful and fun prints and features a carabiner-type clip to attach it to a belt or bag. It'll also fit easily in a purse or in a car. (itzadog.com, \$16)

With so many great products to choose from, it's hard to limit myself to just a few. But don't worry: We'll be writing about the best throughout the year. ■

Community blood drive

The Community Blood Center needs donors now through the New Year holiday to ensure local supplies remain adequate for area patients. Here is a partial listing of places and times to donate:

• Community Blood Center: Medical Plaza Building, 311 Ninth Street N., 436-5455. Regular hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday; and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday. The center is closed Christmas and New Year's days and will be open 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31. Through Jan. 2, donors will receive a \$10 gas card.

• Hollywood 20 Theaters: Donors from noon to 6 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 26, 27 and 28 will receive a free movie ticket.

• Tropical Smoothie Café, Carrillon Plaza: Donors will receive a \$10 gas card and a low-fat smoothie from noon to 4 p.m. Monday, Dec. 29.

• My Angel's Attic, Mission Square Plaza: Donors will receive a \$10 gas card from noon to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 30.

• Church of Latter Day Saints, Naples and Golden Gate: Donors will receive a \$10 gas card from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31.

Donors must be at 17 years or older and weigh at least 115 pounds. For more information and a complete list of places and times to donate, call 436-5455 or visit www.givebloodcbc.org. ■



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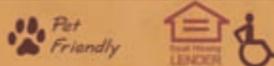
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'All About Me' designed to build girls' self-esteem

Youth Haven knows it's "All About Me" when it comes to helping girls build self-esteem and improve their peer relations and the overall happiness of their young adult years. The emergency shelter's six-week program titled "All About Me" for girls ages 11-14 in Collier County takes place Jan. 13 through Feb. 17.

"Self-esteem issues undoubtedly affect all aspects of a child's life and behaviors both at home and school," says Michael D'Amico, COO of Youth Haven. As teen pressures are being experienced at younger and younger ages, he adds, oftentimes an individual's emotional development may not be strong enough or diverse enough to enable her to deal effectively with those pressures. "We are looking forward to offering young girls in our community with a trusting, confidential and emotionally safe environment in which to discuss real issues significantly impacting their positive growth, educational success and everyday relationships," Mr. D'Amico says.

Led by Youth Haven clinical social workers Kim Weisberg and Kristina Klimaitis, "All About Me" will run Tuesday

evenings at Youth Haven, 5867 Whitaker Road in East Naples. The curriculum will guide girls in discovering how to:

- ▶ Increase their self confidence and sense of individualism;
- ▶ Recognize their strengths and best attributes;
- ▶ Interpret and dispute negative media messages and triumph over peer pressure; and
- ▶ Improve relationships with their parents and friends.

Youth Haven is Collier County's only emergency shelter for abused, abandoned and neglected children as well as the sole provider of an array of successful home-based parenting education and family support programs that divert children from the foster care system.

"All About Me" is part of Youth Haven's expanded Children & Family Counseling Center that provides mental health counseling and support services on an outpatient basis. Cost for all six session of "All About Me" is \$40. To register, contact Ms. Weisberg at 777-2904, ext. 241, or at kim.weisberg@youthhaven.net. ■

LOSS

From page 1

things interesting, she adds. "Not only can people challenge themselves, they can challenge their family and friends."

Entrants pay \$30 (\$15 for NCH Wellness Center members) to take part. At the end of the quarter, the person who's made the greatest transformation will win a \$1,000 prize. One corporate team will also win a \$1,000 prize based on

average weight loss per person.

"Everyone will walk away with a new body and improved health, and someone will walk away with \$1,000. So everyone wins," Mr. Ferrari says. "Whether you want to lose just that last five pounds or 50 or more, now's the perfect time to get started."

The competition runs Jan. 10 through April 4. In addition to NCH Wellness Center, this year's sponsors are Real Olive Oil and Smoothie King. For entry forms and more information, e-mail fitnessproductions@comcast.net or visit www.napleschallenge.blogspot.com. ■

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MUSINGS

Talk to me



First, a little quiz: What do you call a person who speaks three languages? (Tri-lingual.)

And what do you call a person who speaks two languages? (Bi-lingual.) So, what do you call a person who speaks one language? (American.)

Truth be told, I'm amazed that anyone speaks anything at all. And more amazed that anyone ever understands anything that is said. Or do we?

But then hope springs eternal: There is the recent scholarly work out of the department of zoology at Australian National University confirming that birds of different species, living in the same area together, learn each others' languages. The sounds and meanings of bird calls are very different from one species to another. The inter-species meaning differences are not known automatically. Birds who have not had studied contact with birds of a different species do not automatically understand the idiosyncratic calls of the other.

The birds put effort into this study because it is of amazing benefit. It is good to have the benefit of the knowledge of your different neighbors. More eyes aware of predators or weather

changes or approaching environmental disasters make for longer life. They have an innate understanding of the call of the Three Musketeers: "All for one and one for all."

Who knows what else they may be saying? Especially since we humans, American or otherwise, tend to deny or ignore communication in foreign packages. Whether the communication package is from a different human culture or a different species, we tend to label the different as barbarian, as less capable of containing meaning. Or, at least, there is often the assumption that the meaning of the other is not meaningful enough to inspire translation or decoding. I remember the Three Stooges adding their own refrain to the Musketeers: "And every man for himself (sic the patriarchal usage)."

If we accept that meaning can come in very different packages, what could change? Could we not undo, in one fell swoop, the chaotic result described by many ancient mythologies in their attempt to explain the origin of different languages? Many mythologies explain the formation of various languages as the emanation of fear or punishment from gods concerned about the unlimited potential of humans acting as one with one voice. We recall the Tower of Babel or Brahma's destruction of the World Tree as just two instances of forced fractionization that emerged as response to this mythic concern.

Noam Chomsky, the formidable philosopher and linguist, posits a universal grammar, the knowledge of which is innate, built into the very fabric of what it is to be human. He highlights, in cur-

rent academic format, that which the ancient mythologies found to be the mythic concern of the gods. Like all great pioneers of human knowledge, he opened doors of new vision. And like all pioneers, he has left us with the urgent task of expanding his work. We need to take his essential pirate understanding and make it even more radical.

For if obliterating the elitist walls that stifle communication among human types is so noteworthy to the gods, how much more powerful would be the destruction of inter-species elitism?

Language is a system to communicate in which signs, sounds, gestures, or other marks are understood to convey meaning. How can the meaning be unveiled if we do not see the veils?

How can the meaning by unveiled if we do not see that the effort required to remove the veils is of incalculable benefit?

Perhaps what is required first is deep realization that, even with our sophisticated systems of mark up languages that expose the logical structure of electronic messages, we are all speakers of pidgin. The term pidgin came into use in the 16th century to describe the simplified speech used to communicate between people of different languages so that the basics of trade could be accomplished. The communication required for the



pragmatics of the newly blossoming world trading was mastered.

Beyond that pragmatic mastery, little else was of concern.

So this pirate envisions a new pragmatic, a new necessity. We can no longer afford to create small frames that leave any living being outside the mother tongue. We can no longer afford the scattering into pieces of isolated meaning that take us from the reality of our interdependence, our inter-being. It is the realization of this largest framed one that will propel us all into a new mythology.

It's time to write this new story: Let's talk, all. ■

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

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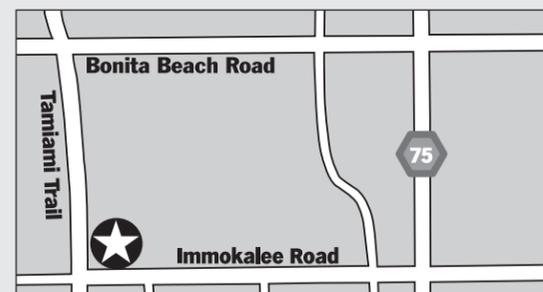
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BUSINESS & REAL ESTATE

WEEK OF JANUARY 1-7, 2009

A GUIDE TO THE NAPLES BUSINESS INDUSTRY



COURTESY PHOTO

Advanced Medical Center in Naples

Walk-in clinics becoming big business in Southwest Florida

Urgent-care facilities increasingly ease the pain of non-emergency illness and injuries

BY EVAN WILLIAMS
ewilliams@floridaweekly.com

Walk-in, urgent-care medical centers are catering to a growing market in Southwest Florida by offering immediate care to patients who are having acute medical problems. For some, their primary care doctor might be too busy to see them, and an emergency room visit would mean hours of waiting and a high cost.

“There’s a huge gap in patients who have doctors and don’t have access to them,” said Dr. Tyrone Median, an ER doctor in Naples who also runs the Naples Medical Center Walk-in Clinic across from Naples Community Hospital.

Like many urgent-care physicians, Dr. Median sees a wide variety of patients. Many clinics, like his, are set up to do X-rays, CAT scans, MRIs and blood work, so patients can get a full diagnostic work-



EVAN WILLIAMS/FLORIDA WEEKLY
Dr. Dana Killiam examines Cape Coral resident Lance Dunning at the Accident & Urgent Care Center in the Cape Coral Surgery Center.

up on the same day of their visit. “I enjoy it because of the variability in terms of what I tend to see and what I tend to treat,” Dr. Median said. “I see children

and I see geriatrics; medical illnesses and surgical illnesses. It’s not limited care.”

Urgent-care clinics help take the burden off emergency room, said Sally Leach, director of Advanced Medical Center, an urgent-care clinic and family doctors office on Pine Ridge Road. “Walk-in centers are good for unexpected illnesses and minor injuries such as lacerations,” Ms. Leach said. “What’s more, many family practices with an urgent-care component have extended hours. This is especially good for people who have 9-to-5 jobs.”

“Another part of the market is parents of school-aged children. Parents come home from a busy day at work to find out one of their children isn’t feeling well. They don’t want to go through the night with a sick child, but they also know the ER isn’t the place to go.”

SEE CLINICS, B7 ▶

WEEK at-a-glance



Bonita chamber cheer
And other business events around town. **B8 ▶**



It’s all about them
PR, marketing maven Dolly Roberts puts her clients in the headlines. **B2 ▶**



A view to adore
Forget Park Avenue. Check out the scenery from this Bay Colony penthouse. **B11 ▶**

Hoteliers go for the green and will help others do the same

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The Collier County Hotel & Lodging Association has formed a Green Committee to grow and enhance the benefits of sustainable lodging practices in the region and to assist hotels that strive to gain certification.

The new committee consists of representatives from the following 12 hotels that already have earned official Green Lodging certification from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection: The Ivey House; Hilton Naples; DoubleTree Guest Suites,



COURTESY PHOTO

The green committee of the Collier County Hotel and Lodging Association

Naples; Hilton Marco Island Beach Resort; Bellasera Hotel; Inn at Pelican Bay; Naples Grande Beach Resort; The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, Naples; The Ritz-Carlton, Naples; Hawthorn Suites of Naples; Marco Island Marriott Beach Resort, Golf Club & Spa; and the Naples Beach Hotel and Golf Club. All have been certified at the One

SEE GREEN, B7 ▶

BUSINESS PROFILE

Dolly Roberts prefers clients' names, not hers, in headlines

BY BILL CORNWELL
news@floridaweekly.com

Dolly Roberts, the gracious and well-spoken doyenne of marketing and public relations in Naples, is living the consultant's dream: She can pick and choose her clients.

Not many in her field have that luxury — especially in today's faltering economy. But Ms. Roberts, founder and president of DBR Marketing, has established the sort of wpresence that allows her firm to prosper while keeping its client list relatively small.

"Kathy Wheeler (Ms. Roberts' business partner of some 15 years) and I made the decision to be a small agency," Ms. Roberts says. "Our clients want to talk directly to us, and you can't do that if you have a really long list."

Another advantage of maintaining a selective client list is that Ms. Roberts has avoided becoming too heavily involved in any one area.

"We're not so involved in real estate, for example, that we have been adversely affected (by the economic downturn)," she says. "Because of that, we're much less vulnerable than many other agencies. Selectivity also has allowed us not take on clients with competing interests."

DBR's clients tend to be highly visible and highly successful. The firm's list includes: Collier Enterprises, Barron Collier Companies/Ave Maria, The Old

Collier Golf Club, Premier Properties, Naples Botanical Garden, The Dock and Riverwalk Restaurants and Naples Diagnostic Imaging Centers.

Ms. Roberts arrived in Naples in 1988. Like many transplants, she and her husband, Tony, fell in love with the area after vacationing here.

At that time, Ms. Roberts had a successful career as a vice president at J. Walter Thompson, the New York-based advertising powerhouse known now as JWT, where she had worked for a decade. Mr. Roberts worked as a human resources consultant to ad agencies, and the couple commuted into Manhattan daily from their home in Darien, Conn. They began to tire of the long commute and their high-pressured jobs. The final impetus for the move came when Ms. Roberts slipped on an icy sidewalk in front of the J. Walter Thompson building and broke her ankle.

The lure of the Sunshine State seemed stronger than ever, although Ms. Roberts admits there were second thoughts on her part. "As we were driving across the Tappan Zee Bridge (headed to their new life in Naples), I wondered what I had done," she says. "I'm really not a major risk taker, so this was a bit out of character."

She initially considered affiliating with an established firm once they were settled here. But, she recalls, "There were no agencies in Naples large enough for me to join." She realized she would have to make her own way.



COURTESY PHOTO

Dolly Roberts

Her first clients — The Dock and Riverwalk Restaurants — signed on soon after she opened her doors for business, and they remain with her today.

"My specialty had been advertising, but when I got here and was dealing with smaller companies, I found out very quickly that I needed to be a generalist," she says.

DBR consists of two full-time employees: Ms. Roberts and Ms. Wheeler. They keep a "stable" of 25 to 30 specialists on call to help with clients' needs.

Ms. Roberts says her work involving Ave Maria, the town and the university, has been extraordinarily fascinating and rewarding. "The notion of a university and an oratory being so integrated into a community is a very European concept and has attracted international attention," she says. "This is a monumental project that has enormous impacts for this area. I get calls from Paris asking about it. It's as if we are recreating what used to be the ideal of a hometown, where generations of people lived and where people really knew their neighbors."

A native of Pennsylvania, Ms. Roberts is a graduate of Vassar, where she majored in French. Away from work, she's been involved in a variety of civic activities, including the Immokalee Foundation, the Community Foundation of Collier County and Collier Health Services.

"A lot of the community work is closely related to my business and the lines sometimes get fuzzy, but it is truly feel-good stuff that is worthwhile," she says.

Her husband is now retired, and the couple retreats to their second home in Asheville, N.C., when a true break is needed.

For someone who often deals in publicity, Ms. Roberts keeps a surprisingly low personal profile.

She explains: "I don't have to have my name in lights to be successful. But my clients do." ■

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ON THE MOVE

Banking



Cicinelli

Linea Cicinelli, vice president for training and development for **Bank of Florida Corporation**, has received the 2008 Trainer Excellence Award from the local chapter of the American Society for Training and Development. The chapter, which includes the five-county Southwest Florida region, presents the annual award in recognition of training in an innovative, motivational and inspiring

way. Ms. Cicinelli joined Bank of Florida in 2006 and has facilitated more than 700,000 hours of training during the last 18 months. She holds a bachelor's degree from Purdue University and an MBA from Lake Forest Graduate School of Management in Illinois. She has more than 20 years of experience in course curriculum development, management training and employee development in the homebuilding, telecommunications, hospitality and financial industries. At Bank of Florida, she has coordinated training about new payroll, timekeeping and client relationship management systems and implemented diversity training.



Bassett

Robert B. Bassett, **Colonial Bank's** area president for Lee and Collier counties, has been selected to serve on the 2009 board of directors for the Lee Building Industry Association. The LBIA is a nonprofit organization providing technical assistance, information and educational services to members of the building industry throughout Lee, Hendry and Glades counties. Mr. Bassett has nearly 30 years of experience in the banking industry. He holds a bachelor's degree in business from Marquette University and an MBA from Husson College. Additionally, he is a graduate of the New England School of Banking and the Commercial Lending Graduate School at the University of Oklahoma.

Insurance

Michael Sparks, a commercial client advisor in the Naples office of **Gulfshore**

Insurance Inc. since 2007, has earned the Accredited Adviser in Insurance designation from the Insurance Institute of America and the Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of America.

Interior Design



Minella

Domnick Minella of **Robb & Stucky Interiors** has been named vice president of the national board of directors of the Interior Design Society. Mr. Minella has been with Robb & Stucky since 1990, previously serving with a design firm in Milwaukee for 16 years. He is well known in Southwest Florida for conducting a variety of Robb & Stucky educational seminars. A member of IDS since 1979, he served as president and vice president of the local chapter for five years and presided as membership chairman before being nominated for his new position. The IDS is an independent national organization of more than 4,000 members that is dedicated to serving the residential interior design industry.

Real Estate



Naso

Linda Naso has joined the staff at **Florida Home Realty**. A native of Ohio, Ms. Naso has been in Naples since 1998 and obtained her real estate license in 2002 and her real estate broker's license in 2007.



Mitchell

Julie Mitchell, a top-producing Realtor with **VIP Realty in Naples**, has been installed as a director for a two-year term on the Naples Area Board of Realtors. Ms. Mitchell is a multi-million dollar producer who achieved membership in the VIP President's Club. NABOR honored her with the 2007 Realtor Rising Star of the Year Award and nominated her for the Florida Association of Realtors 2008 Humanitarian Award. She has been a member of the Women's Council of Realtors since 2006 and the VIP broker liaison for Prestige Builders Group since 2005. She is a graduate of the 2007 NABOR Leadership Development Class. As a volunteer for HOPE Worldwide since 1993, Ms. Mitchell has assisted the poor in Africa, Afghanistan, Cambodia, Brazil, Mexico and the United States. Locally, she donates time to Habitat for Humanity and the Humane Society.



Yelvington

Adam Yelvington, a specialist in residential sales, foreclosures and HUD/government homes, has joined the sales staff at **Weichert, Realtors on the Gulf**, to serve clients in Lee County and surrounding areas as a member of the Realtor Association of Greater Fort Myers and the Beach. Mr. Yelvington has a background as a mortgage broker, notary public and notary signing agent. ■

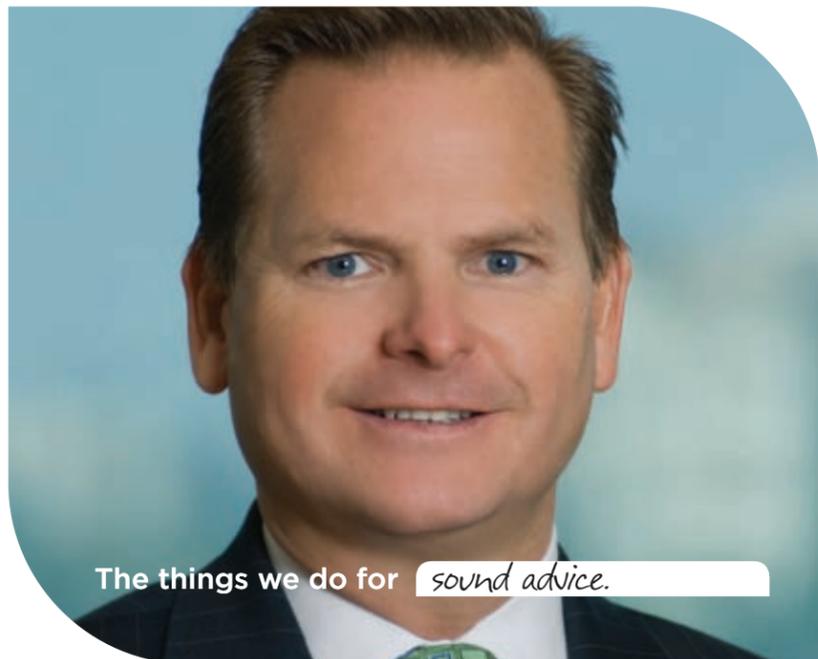
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My Smartest Investment

Banked On It

In 1976 I had a checking account at Franklin State Bank in New Jersey. The bank had a promotion deducting a voluntary amount from accounts to purchase bank shares. Before moving from New Jersey, I made 26 monthly purchases of \$25, for a total of \$650. Franklin was bought by United Jersey Bank, which became Summit Bank, which was purchased by Fleet Boston, which became Bank of America. Except for reinvesting dividends, I never added another penny to the \$650. By 2004, the investment was worth nearly \$50,000. Not a bad return!

— Oscar F., Greenacres, Fla.

The Fool Responds: We should say not! Bank of America shares have plunged lately, amid our recent credit crisis and overall market swoon. But your profit is still north of \$20,000, and you may still reach new heights by hanging on. Of course, remember that if and when you find more promising investments, it's often smart to move your money into them, as long as you're not trading in and out of stocks too frequently. Patience has made many investors wealthy. ■



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

In 1886, I was founded by a man as the California Perfume Co. I'm "the company for women," with a female CEO. I offered women an income long before they were allowed to vote. In 1939 I changed my name to the home of a famous European playwright. My more than 5 million sales reps distribute hundreds of millions of catalogs and sell beauty products, fashion jewelry and apparel in more than 100 nations. I'm the largest direct seller in the world, with annual revenues topping \$10 billion. My brands include Anew, Skin-so-Soft, Advance Techniques and Mark. Who am I? ■

(Answer: Avon)



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

Signs for Buying Stocks

Q What are good signs for buying stocks?

— R.S., Pittsburgh

A If you're referring to the economy, it may seem counterintuitive, but a slumping economy can actually offer more stock bargains than an economy firing on all cylinders. In good times, stocks often get bid up beyond their intrinsic worth. In bad times, they can fall below their intrinsic value. There are bargains galore these days.

But not all stocks are alike. For any stock you're considering, you need to get to know the underlying company well, since you'll essentially be buying a piece of it — and its future. You should study its annual and quarterly reports, evaluating things like its debt load, profit margins, free cash flow and growth rates. Superinvestor Warren Buffett says he concerns himself with these questions when evaluating stocks: Can I understand the company? Does it have sustainable competitive advantages? Is the management exceptional? Is the price attractive?

Q I keep reading about "points" in financial articles. What are they?

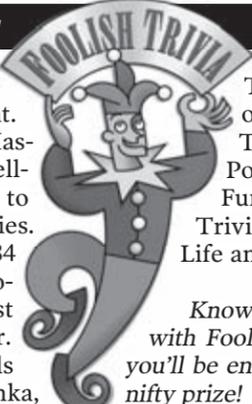
— P.V., Telluride, Colo.

A There are several different kinds of points in the financial universe. When securing a mortgage, in order to get a lower interest rate, you usually have the option of paying some points up front, each of which is 1 percent of the value of the loan. Indexes such as the Dow Jones industrial average or S&P 500 are often quoted in points, not dollars, even though their components may be stock prices. Finally, a "basis point" is one one-hundredth of a percentage point. So an interest rate that rises from 6 percent to 6 1/2 percent has advanced 50 basis points. We hope we've made our points. ■

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

Name That Company

Based in little Rhode Island, I'm a global toy and leisure giant. I was founded in 1923 by the Hasenfeld Brothers and began by selling textiles, but soon moved on to pencil boxes and school supplies. I bought Milton Bradley in 1984 and Parker Bros. in 1991. I introduced GI Joe, the world's first "action figure," in 1964, and Mr. Potato Head in 1952. My brands today include Playskool, Tonka,



Transformers, Monopoly, Cranium, Magic: The Gathering, My Little Pony, Nerf, Easy Bake Oven, FurReal Friends, Baby Alive, Trivial Pursuit, Candy Land, Life and Clue. Who am I? ■

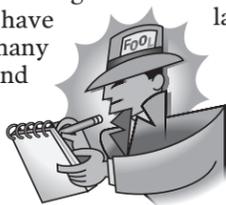
Know the answer? Send it to us with Foolish Trivia on the top and you'll be entered into a drawing for a nifty prize!

The Motley Fool Take

Kraft Foods

Enough top-performing CAPS members have turned bullish on Kraft Foods (NYSE: KFT) recently to boost it to the highest-possible five-star rating. A total of 1,673 members have weighed in on Kraft, with many of them offering analysis and commentary explaining the recent optimism.

As the largest North American food maker, Kraft has taken steps to cut costs and spend more on advertising to attract customers. Price hikes have also helped improve revenue, with Kraft's sales rising 19.4 percent to \$10.5



billion in the third quarter. The sale of the Post cereal brand helped earnings per share more than double, and management expects an easing of pressure from commodity price increases.

Investors are looking harder lately at large-cap stocks that pay a healthy dividend. In addition, stocks with strong retail value propositions are nice to have in portfolios during bad economies, thanks to their recession-resistant qualities. With Kraft holding both qualities, more than 93 percent of the CAPS members rating the company expect it to outperform the market. ■

BUSINESS MEETINGS

■ **The Naples Area Professional League of Executive Services** meets for networking at 7:30 a.m. and program at 8 a.m. Thursdays, Jan. 1 and 15, at Shula's Steak House in the Hilton Naples. For information, contact either Tim Tillapaugh with Prudential Florida Realty, 825-7711, Jay Civetti with Stock Financial, 449-3700, or visit www.naplesgroup.net.

■ The next Accelerated Networking Luncheon for members of the **Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce** takes place from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 8, at M Waterfront Grille in The Village on Venetian Bay. Admission is \$15; reservations must be made by Thursday, Jan. 1, at www.napleschamber.org.

■ **The Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce** kicks off a new year of busi-

ness networking with Business After Hours from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 8. The event is co-hosted by the Law Offices of John D. Spear, P.A., RBC Bank and Wiebel, Hennells & Carufe, P.A., all at 9420 Bonita Beach Road. Bring plenty of business cards to exchange. Cost is \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door for members and \$20 for non-members. To secure the advance rate and a pre-printed nametag, make your reservation no later than 5 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 7, at www.BonitaSpringsChamber.com. For more information, call 992-2943.

■ **The Southwest Florida Chapter of the Florida Public Relations Association** presents PR University 2009: "Weathering the Storm," a one-day seminar for public relations professionals from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 9, at Hodges University in Fort Myers. Public relations professionals

from throughout Florida will share their insights and innovations about crisis management, surviving tough economic times and fool-proofing your career in a series of dynamic, fast-paced presentations. Attendees will also hear from a lively keynote speaker and participate in a crisis-related tabletop exercise. To register or find more information, visit www.fpraswfl.org.

■ **Catch the Buzz and Young Professionals of Naples** are planning "Diamonds are Forever," an evening of mixing and mingling along with food, wine, music and diamonds from 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 15, at The International Diamond Exchange. For more information, e-mail JoeJo Jennings of YPN at JoeJoJennings@yahoo.com.

■ **The Institute for Responsible Corporate Governance at the Lutgert**

College of Business at Florida Gulf Coast University presents "Seismic Changes in the Washington Landscape and Their Effect on Corporate Governance" from 3 to 5 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 15, at FGCU's Sugden Welcome Center. Guest speaker will be John Castellani, president of The Business Roundtable and frequent guest on "The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer" and "Meet the Press." Cost is \$25. Seating is limited and reservations can be made by calling Kay Wingert at 590-7381 or e-mailing kwingert@fgcu.edu.

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

CLINICS

From page 1

An urgent-care clinic is relatively inexpensive (an office visit may cost about \$120, but most major forms of insurance are accepted), and patients can get a prescription for antibiotics, for example, or stitches, without enduring a long wait in an ER. Other common ailments treated at urgent-care centers include headaches, rashes, sore throats, fevers, stomach aches and ear aches — which, according to the Florida Hospital Association, are the top reasons cited for ER visits.

At Lee Convenient Care, a trio of urgent-care clinics in Fort Myers and Cape Coral run by Lee Memorial Health System, Dr. Avry Bowers said many patients come in during their lunch break. “We have it set up so that we do everything possible to get these people in and out in an hour and a half, max,” he said.

As tourist season hits full stride, urgent-care centers throughout Southwest Florida are busier than ever. “We see a lot of the seasonal visitors,” Dr. Median said.

An emerging specialty

Urgent care is an emerging specialty, like emergency room care was 40 years ago, said Dr. Larry Hobbs, president of the Florida College of Emergency Physicians and medical director at Southwest Florida Regional Medical Center. “Forty years ago, we were filling a need (with emergency room doctors) and we developed into a specialty,” Dr. Hobbs said, adding urgent care now is at that same point.

As the population grew in Collier and Lee counties, more clinics opened. “It’s pretty clear that the urgent-care market is a flooded market,” said Rob McGann, CEO of Naples Urgent Care and Estero Urgent Care. His father, a cardiovascular surgeon, founded



COURTESY PHOTO

Advanced Medical Center

the family’s urgent-care business in 1996. As more clinics open in Southwest Florida, Mr. McGann said, the best ones will emerge.

“Like other businesses (in the down economy), I think you’re going to see a shakeout,” he said. “The best ones will continue to be around and provide a valuable service.”

Dr. Hobbs said the best urgent-care clinics are run by a doctor and staff, including nurses, with strong credentials and experience in emergency medicine. A doctor, not a nurse practitioner, should see each patient, he added. The doctor also should be well established enough to use his or her experience and connections to refer the patient to emergency care or other appropriate doctors when necessary.

“Just because an office puts the words ‘urgent care’ on their sign doesn’t mean they’re capable of providing it,” he said. ■



COURTESY PHOTO

Team at Advanced Medical Center in Naples

GREEN

From page 1

Palm level; as properties continue to enhance their green practices, they may reach the Two Palm and Three Palm certification levels.

Six more Collier hotels are working toward certification.

Jack Wert, executive director of the Naples, Marco Island, Everglades Convention and Visitors Bureau, issued a challenge to the Collier County Hotel & Lodging Association last year for at least 10 hotels to be designated as certified Green Lodging properties in calendar year 2008. “The lodging association not only met the challenge, they exceeded it, and with their new Green Committee, we are well on our way to seeing a significant increase in certified properties

in 2009,” Mr. Wert said.

International travel is increasing to Collier County and those travelers tend to be concerned about sustainable energy practices and green living initiatives. “The Green Lodging program’s rapid progress in Collier County is very beneficial in terms of raising our profile with both domestic and international visitors as a conservation-minded and sustainable destination,” Mr. Wert said.

Jennifer Robbins, general manager at DoubleTree Guest Suites, Naples, chairs the Green Committee and says members will mentor properties that are interested in going green and will partner with Florida DEP to implement ongoing environmental improvement projects in the community.

Since gaining certification, some of the hotels in Collier County have begun to notice significant improvements in energy consumption and conservation.

The Hilton Naples, certified in December 2007, reports natural gas usage for laundry and kitchen equipment is down more than 9 percent. Water consumption is down 23.3 percent, and because of its recycling initiatives, the hotel’s landfill tonnage is down by more than half compared to prior years. The hotel has planted a Confederate jasmine vine garden on the roof over the ballroom area to eliminate direct exposure to the sun and decrease the amount of energy needed to cool the ballroom, says general manager Clark Hill. The vine garden will also provide an enhanced view from the guest rooms overlooking that area of the hotel, he says.

Since being certified 10 months ago, Naples Grande Beach Resort has cut its kilowatt usage by 240,811 for a savings of \$21,612. Total estimated savings at the resort for electricity, natural gas, water, sewer and recycling to date \$93,000.

Statewide there are 365 Green Lodges. The 12 Collier County properties account for 3,173 guest rooms. Based on statewide numbers, DEP reports that Florida Green Lodges are saving, per day per occupied room, an average of 17 gallons of water, 14 kilowatt hours of electricity and six pounds of waste. Assuming an average occupancy rate of 63 percent, DEP estimates the 12 Green Lodges in Collier County are collectively saving 34,000 gallons of water, 28,000 kilowatt hours of electricity (the equivalent of taking 3.6 passenger cars off the road) and six tons of solid waste per day.

“Collier County’s mentoring project stands to be a real asset to the lodging community,” says Laura Comer, Green Lodging coordinator for Florida DEP. “The green teams are trendsetters and innovators and play an important part in taking Collier County’s green initiative to the next level.” ■

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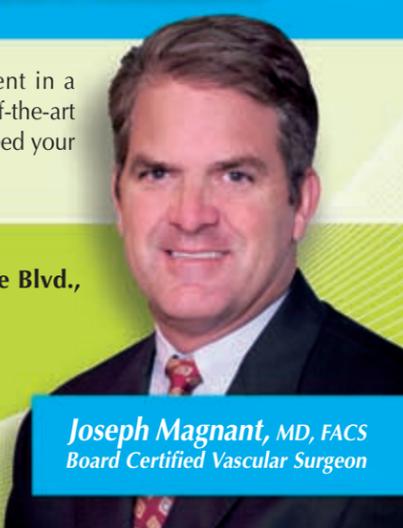


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NETWORKING

Bonita Springs Chamber Holiday Party at Shadow Wood Country Club



Annette and Jim Dati, Kristen O'Neill



Bobby Sarver, David Arter, Lisa Adams and Rebecca Sarver



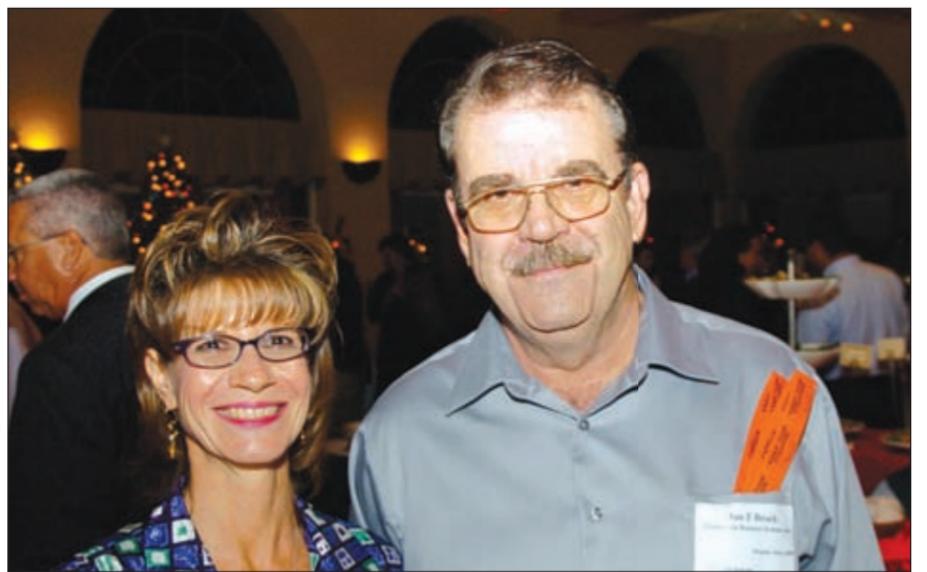
Todd VanBuskirk and Helen Bolstad



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REAL ESTATE

WEEK OF JANUARY 1-7, 2009

A GUIDE TO THE NAPLES REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY

B11



A penthouse view to adore

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Forget Park Avenue. The Gulf of Mexico views from this spectacular 19th-floor penthouse in The Windsor at Bay Colony simply can't be beat. The seven-bedroom, seven-bath residence has more than 8,500 square feet filled with opulent upgrades. There's also a three-car private underground garage. And when you have to leave the premises, you're only steps from The Ritz-Carlton, Naples, and the Colony Beach Club. Jim Amirsakis of Remax Results Realty has the \$10,799,000 listing. For more information, call Mr. Amirsakis at 438-0000. ■

ULI Winter Institute will focus on real estate development trends

FLORIDA WEEKLY STAFF

The Urban Land Institute Southwest Florida District Council presents its 12th annual Winter Institute on Thursday, Jan. 29. The half-day program will focus on the current and future trends in five distinct areas of real estate development: lending economics, responsible and sustainable master planned community development, real estate development financing, development in metropolitan cities and Florida's economy.

Guest speakers will include Greg Miller, chief economist for SunTrust Bank; Ed McMahon, ULI trustee; Ron Glass,

president of GlassRatner Advisory & Capital Group; and Tom Murphy, former mayor of Pittsburgh, Pa. Florida CFO Alex Sink will also provide perspective on the state's current and future financial conditions and the overall economy as well as an update on insurance discounts for home hardening.

The ULI Winter Institute takes place from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Pelican Sound Golf and River Club in Estero. Breakfast and lunch will be served. During lunch, ULI will recognize outstanding local community service with its 2009 Pathfinder Award.

The ULI is a nonpartisan research

and educational institute directed by its members and supported by dues. ULI neither lobbies nor acts as an advocate for any single profession or industry. Its mission is to provide leadership in the responsible use of land in creating and sustaining thriving communities worldwide.

Cost of the Winter Institute is \$85 for ULI members, \$100 for non-members, \$50 for young leaders and government members, and \$25 for students. For more information or to register, call the ULI Southwest Florida District Council at (800) 321-5011 or visit www.uli.org. ■



Sea Pines model by Robb & Stucky brings 1950's glamour to Lely Resort



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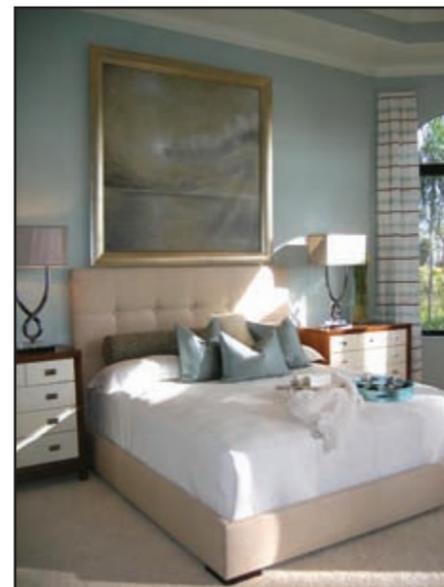
Robb & Stucky Interiors has completed the interior design for the Sea Pines, a courtyard home in The Estates at The Classics in Lely Resort Golf & Country Club. The three-bedroom, 3½-bath residence with den and cabana has a total of 3,333 square feet of living space.

Robb & Stucky interior designer Donna Grose and design consultant Susan Petril directed the design project. The theme of the Sea Pines model is soft contemporary with a touch of 1950's glamour. The design team incorporated colors of oyster shell, sea spray

and taupe to complement the theme. Founded in 1915, in Fort Myers, Robb & Stucky has retail showrooms in Florida, Texas, Arizona, Nevada, and Costa Rica. For more information, visit www.RobbStucky.com.

Lely Resort Golf & Country Club is a 3,000-acre community built around three championship golf courses. Residential options range from garden condominiums, coach and town homes to custom estate homes. The Estates at The Classics, where the Sea Pines model has opened, features oversized lots with preserve, lake and/or golf-course views. The Sea Pines was built by Stock Development; other builders in the Estates at The Classics include A.R.B.C. Arthur Rutenberg Homes, Divco Construction Corp. and Lundstrom Development. Prices begin at just over \$1 million.

The Sea Pines model is open for viewing by contacting the Lely Resort Realty office at 793-2100. ■



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Rutenberg Homes continues 'Building Better Lives' in Collier and Lee

FLORIDA WEEKLY STAFF

For the past eight years, charities in Collier and Lee counties have been helped by Building Better Lives, a local fundraising initiative of Arthur Rutenberg Homes. The program has enabled Southwest Florida's two Arthur Rutenberg Homes builders — A.R.B.C. Corp. in Naples and Lyons Housing Corp. in Fort Myers— to donate more than \$705,000 to local organizations.



Tim Rose, Bobby Lyons and John Globetti

At the eighth annual Building Better Lives awards ceremony recently at the Arthur Rutenberg Homes offices in Naples, representatives from Immokalee Child Care Center in Collier County and Partners for Breast Cancer Care in Lee County received \$10,000 each.

John Globetti, franchise owner of the Naples-based A.R.B.C. Corp., and Bobby Lyons, owner of Lyons Housing Corp. in Fort Myers, are founding members of the program. Each company set aside \$1,000 from every home sold from Nov. 1, 2007, through Nov. 1, 2008, with an additional \$1,000 donated every time a home sold for more than \$1 million.

The Clearwater-based Arthur Rutenberg Homes, founded in 1980, is the nation's largest network of independently owned franchises. Its franchisees build in more than 75 communities across Florida, in Baldwin County in Alabama and coastal southern Georgia.

For more information on Building Better Lives, call Mr. Globetti at 597-1120 or Mr. Lyons or Tim Rose at 768-3003. ■

Estero community hosts blood drive this Saturday

Belle Lago, a community of new single-family homes by Toll Brothers in Estero, hopes to draw visitors and donors to a blood drive in cooperation with the American Red Cross from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 3.

The blood drive will be held at the Belle Lago Sales and Information Center. From I-75, take the Corkscrew Road exit and travel west to Three Oaks Parkway. Turn right and proceed north to Estero Parkway. Make a left, heading west, and travel one mile to the Belle Lago entrance on the right.

For more information, call 344-0600 or visit www.BelleLago.com. ■



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<p>CASSIANO</p> <p>2,423 A/C sq. ft., 1 story, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, den, 2 car garage, estate sized lot</p> <p>\$344,459 Lot 79/1A</p>	<p>TORINO</p> <p>4,377 A/C sq. ft., 2 story, 5 bedrooms, 4½ baths, bonus room, 3 car garage, estate sized lot</p> <p>\$493,735 Lot 57/1A</p>

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Gated estate with lake views, 9,200 SF A/C, 5 bedrooms, den, theater and elevator. A *Christie's Great Estates Property*. **\$4,400,000** | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552



BAREFOOT BEACH ▲
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PINE RIDGE ▲
Private gated California mission-style estate on 1.4 acres. Four bedrooms plus library. Natural slate floors and 20'ceilings. **\$2,395,000** | Jerry Wachowicz | 777-0741



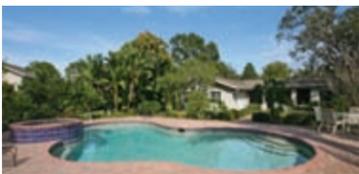
BANYAN WOODS ▲
Lakefront home with extra den off master, cherry kitchen, gas stove, whole house generator, and heated pool/spa. **\$1,185,000** | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552



THE DUNES - GRANDE PRESERVE GRANDE DOMINICA #504 ▲
Five-stars! Gulf/Bay views. Private elevator entry, oversized balconies. Master suite & 2 guest suites. **\$1,150,000** | Cynthia Joannou | 273-0666



THE DUNES - GRANDE PRESERVE GRANDE DOMINICA #301 ▲
Furnished 3 bedroom. Views of Gulf and Turkey Bay. Private elevator, marble/hardwood floors. Beach club. **\$1,095,000** | Ellen Egglund | 571-7192



PINE RIDGE ▲
Wonderfully remodeled with 4 bedrooms and 3 baths. Free-form pool/spa and paver deck. Huge garage. Owner financing available. **\$1,088,777** | Esther Van Lare/Dina L. Moon | 404-3045



THE DUNES - CAYMAN #PH7 ▲
Inviting 3 bedroom, 3 bath has stunning Gulf and Bay vistas. Custom kitchen, wraparound lanai with electric shutters. **\$999,000** | Pat Callis | 250-0562



BANYAN WOODS ▲
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BAREFOOT BEACH BAREFOOT BEACH CLUB #201 ▲
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This 4 bedroom plus den, 3.5 bath pool home features volume and tray ceilings, crown moldings and tile flooring in main areas. **\$795,000** | Patrick O'Connor/Bernie Garabed | 293-9411



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THE DUNES - CAYMAN #802 ▲
Forever views of Bay and Gulf from this fully furnished residence. World-class pool, fitness center, and tennis club. **\$750,000** | Barbi/Steve Lowe | 216-1973



VILLAGES OF MONTEREY ▲
Charming and beautifully renovated 4 bedroom home. Gorgeous cherry kitchen with new hardwood floors. Many updates. **\$699,000** | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552



EDEN ON THE BAY ▲
Overlooking a lake, this home features 3 bedrooms plus den, 3 baths, and ceramic tile throughout. Heated pool/spa. **\$699,000** | Marty/Debby McDermott | 564-4231



COVE TOWERS - NEVIS #302 ▲
Nearly 2,700 SF with granite, stainless appliances, Siematic cabinetry and bamboo flooring. Double-gated community. **\$678,000** | Thomas Gasbarro | 404-4883



BAREFOOT BEACH BAREFOOT BEACH CLUB II #7-304 ▲
Steps to the beach! Gulf sunsets and Bay sunrises! Furnished 2 bedroom with storm shutters and wood flooring. **\$675,000** | Cynthia Joannou | 273-0666



WILSHIRE LAKES ▲
Recently updated 3 bedroom plus den pool home overlooks private preserve. Gas fireplace, family room, plantation shutters. **\$645,000** | Patrick O'Connor | 293-9411



THE STRADA AT MERCATO ▲
Located just North of Vanderbilt Beach Road on U.S. 41 - Mercato features residential, retail, Whole Foods Market, restaurants and more. Upscale contemporary living from the \$500s. Please call 594-9400 for more information.



LEMURIA ▲
A new community off Goodlette Road and south of Vanderbilt Beach Road. Three and 4 bedroom plans, 2-car garages and high-end interiors. Clubhouse with fitness center, pool and tennis. From **\$499,000** | Jean Smith | 450-8202



VILLAGES OF MONTEREY ▲
Robb & Stucky designer has created a stunning renovation of this 3 bedroom home. Large lanai and backyard. **\$499,000** | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552



VILLAGES OF MONTEREY ▲
Single family home on large lot, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, new granite counters and fireplace in spacious family room. **\$479,000** | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552

VILLAGES OF MONTEREY

2098 Mission Drive
Beautifully renovated! Five bedroom plus den, 3.5 bath with wood floors. Terrific yard and oversized garage. **\$899,000** | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552

7562 Cordoba Circle
Fabulous living space in the heart of Monterey. Stone pool and spa, fireplace, 4-car garage, and large backyard. **\$774,000** | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552

WILSHIRE LAKES

8123 Wilshire Lakes Blvd.
Impeccable 5 bedroom, 3 bath home with granite counters, 3-car garage and oversized screened lanai with large pool. **\$699,900** | Sandra McCarthy-Meeks | 287-7921

8117 Lowbank Drive
Modified Arthur Rutenberg 'Amelia IV' floor plan. Spacious master retreat and study. Lanai with pool and a 2-car garage. **\$499,000** | Patrick O'Connor | 293-9411

3894 Midshore Drive
Arthur Rutenberg 3 bedroom plus den great room home. Spacious master suite wing with private den. Pool and 2+ car garage. **\$425,000** | Patrick O'Connor | 293-9411

6063 Shallows Way
Single-family living with pool and worry-free villa lifestyle. Solid Brazilian cherry wood flooring. Close to it all. **\$379,000** | Kevin Rathburn | 269-4575

ANDALUCIA

1407 Serrano Circle
Sunny southern lake view is enjoyed from this popular "Arabella" floor plan with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and a 2-car garage. **\$399,000** | Please call 659-0099

COVE TOWERS

ARUBA 430 Cove Tower Drive #403
Spectacular view of Wiggins Pass from this totally remodeled high-rise. Full pool service, tennis. Furnished. **\$675,000** | Marsha L. Moore | 398-4559

ARUBA 430 Cove Tower Drive #604
Corner residence partially furnished, 2 bedrooms, den, hurricane shutters. Club membership included. Pet friendly. **\$655,555** | Marsha L. Moore | 398-4559

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7164 Lemuria Circle #1601
Brand new 3 bedroom with volume ceilings, hurricane code windows, and granite and marble appointments. Furnished. **\$575,000** | Sue Black | 250-5611

7116 Lemuria Circle #404
ELEVATOR INCLUDED with this lake view, over 3,000 SF, 4 bedroom, 3 bath. Many amenities. Numerous upgrades throughout. **\$629,000** | Larry Roorda | 860-2534

LIVINGSTON WOODS

6870 Hunters Road
Southern exposure, nicely treed and perfectly located lot. A great neighborhood to realize your dream and build your home. **\$599,000** | Chris Adkins | 229-3209

THE CROSSINGS

THE CROSSINGS - MILL RUN 7114 Mill Run Circle
Lake and preserve views. Soaring ceilings, kitchen open to family room, lanai with pool. Master suite views lake. **\$589,000** | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552

GLEN EDEN

14559 Juniper Point Lane
Single-family villa home never lived-in. Neutral décor, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, tropical pool/spa. Private gated neighborhood. **\$470,000** | Connie Lummis | 289-3543

THE DUNES

CAYMAN 325 Dunes Blvd. #1107
Outstanding views of Bay to Gulf from this spacious, bright corner residence. Amenities included. **\$785,000** | Gayle Fawkes | 250-6051

SEA GROVE 320 Grove Court #102
Move right into this tastefully furnished 3 bedroom condominium 1 block from the Gulf. Open floor plan with lanai. **\$649,000** | Fred Alter | 269-4123

BANYAN WOODS

4979 Rustic Oaks Circle
Outstanding design and upgrades. Expanded 'Balboa II' with western lake views. Four bedrooms, study and 3-car garage. **\$999,900** | Ruth Trettis | 434-2424

RESERVE II 2685 Lewis Lane #202
Outstanding 3 bedroom plus den coach home with upgrades. Private elevator. Walk to shopping! Beautiful lake/pool views. **\$769,950** | Carolyn Weinand | 269-5678

EDEN ON THE BAY

396 Mallory Court
Three bedrooms, 3 baths, a den and 2-car garage with pool. Tiled living areas, granite counters, and crown moulding. **\$599,000** | Roxanne Jeske | 450-5210

AUTUMN WOODS

6765 Southern Oak Court
On a double lake with southern exposure! Great room design, open floor plan, volume ceilings, and ideal location. **\$399,000** | Beth Hayhoe McNichols | 821-3204

6445 Autumn Woods Blvd.
Charming home. Gorgeous, private lot with lush landscaping and beautiful gardens. Tile floors, Corian, island kitchen. **\$345,000** | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552



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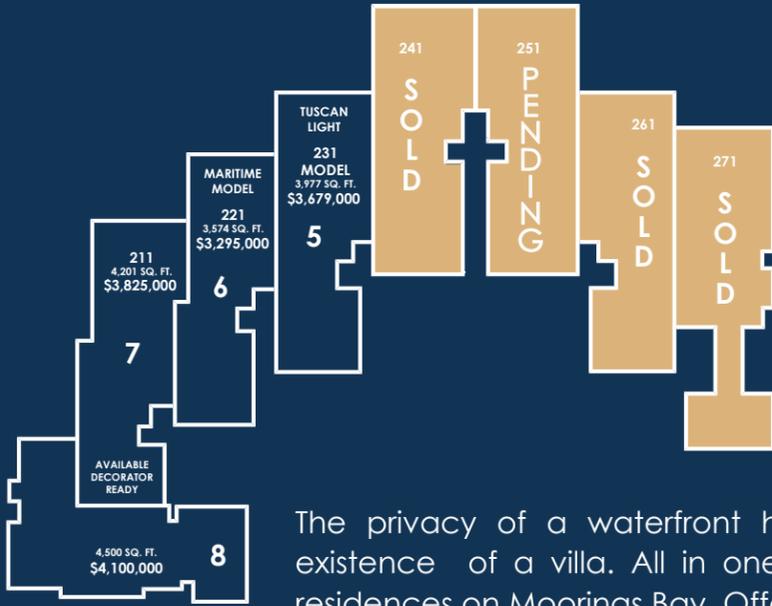
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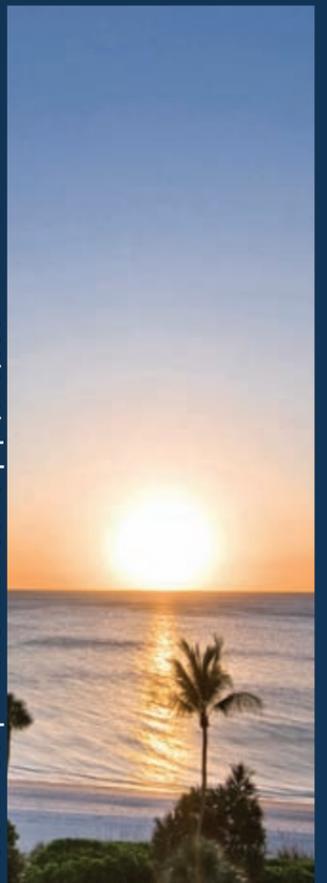
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

WEEK OF JANUARY 1-7, 2009

A GUIDE TO THE NAPLES ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SCENE



COURTESY PHOTO

>>inside:
Turtle Island String
Quartet plays John
Coltrane at the Phil.
C4

The Turtle Island Quartet: Mads Tolling, violin, David Balakrishnan, violin, Mark Summer, cello, Jeremy Kittel, viola, plays the Phil in Naples, Jan. 7 and 8.

“It’s a typical evolution for a string quartet going from music played from hundreds of years ago to playing music in the styles that my generation grew up listening to.”

— Mark Summer, Turtle Island String Quartet

BY NANCY STETSON
nstetson@floridaweekly.com

LIKE EVERYONE ELSE, THE TURTLE ISLAND STING QUARTET HAS TO GO through customs when traveling. But when it comes to music, they simply don’t recognize borders. Musically, the quartet plays everything from Robert Johnson to Chick Corea to Miles Davis. Yes, they play Vivaldi. They also play Jimi Hendrix. And original compositions.

“We’re a classically trained ensemble in which we’re all jazz improvisors,” says cellist Mark Summer, a founding member of the group.

He doesn’t see their expansive repertoire as anything out of the ordinary.

“It’s a typical evolution for a string quartet, going from music played from hundreds of years ago to playing music in the styles that my generation grew up

listening to: jazz, blues, rock ‘n’ roll, fiddle music, using all those elements together.

“It’s not all that uncommon now,” he says, citing musicians such as Yo-Yo Ma and Edgar Meyer. “There’s a whole wonderful contingent of musicians who disregard these borders and broke them down.”

SEE TURTLES, C4 ▶

The lights go up on a colorful season at the Norris Center

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

From a teenage mandolin sensation to a saucy blues man who cooks while he sings with his band and then serves his gumbo to the crowd, to several evenings of improv, a nationwide comedy-club headliner, an operetta and two one-woman dramatic performances,

the City of Naples’ Norris Community Center has assembled a widely varied lineup for 2009.

The season starts with a 16-year-old mandolin phenomenon who has toured with Alison Krauss and performed at the Grand Ole Opry and Carnegie Hall. Sierra Hull, considered by many to be



COURTESY PHOTO

SEE NORRIS CENTER, C14 ▶

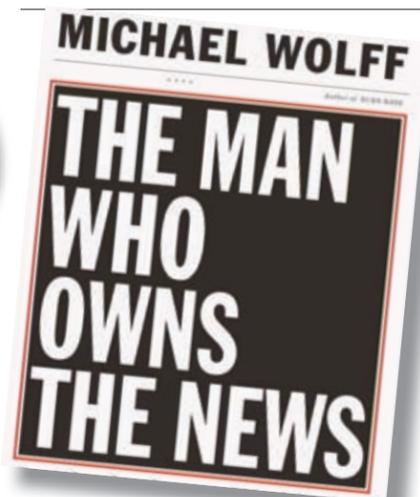
Sierra Hull

WEEK at-a-glance



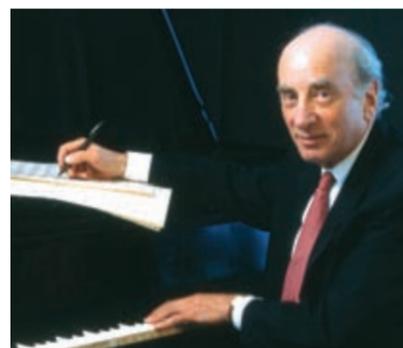
Still a sensation

Peg Longstreth remembers him as a wunderkind and says violinist Joshua Bell is still fabulous at 40. **C5** ▶



The inside scoop

With the twists and turns of a novel, “The Man Who Owns the News” tells Rupert Murdoch’s story. **C11** ▶



Ragtime, blues, stomp

Dick Hyman and his all-star band bring a bit of everything to the Phil. Details about the show and more. **C6&7** ▶



Here’s to value wines

Resolve to discover something new at your favorite wine store in 2009. **C18** ▶

SANDY DAYS, SALTY NIGHTS

What Detroit needs



ArtisHENDERSON

sandydays@floridaweekly.com

The ephemeral brightness of the holiday season is behind us, and the new year looms dark with the threat of credit card debt and home foreclosures. In Washington, politicians struggle to bail out our foundering economy, and in Detroit automakers write their obituaries. It's a sad state of affairs for the U.S. economy.

In 2009, we'll sift through the ashes of the American financial system and wonder how we could have diverted this crisis. For most sectors, there will be no answers. But for the American auto industry, at least, there will be a clear culprit: not enough sex appeal.

My rational? It begins with a coup de foudre. At a stoplight near Interstate 75, I watched a jet-black sports car cruise perpendicular to my street. It sported two doors, chrome trim, and the most sensual lines I'd ever seen. My breath caught in my throat. When the light changed to green, I pulled into the turn lane and followed the exquisite automobile. Finally, I neared close enough to read the silver text scrolled across its bumper: Maserati.

The Italian car designer, who recently re-released its iconic GranTurismo, is not

alone in the ranks of sexy imports. British-origin Bentley (now made by Volkswagen) has a hot number in the Continental GT, and the new Jaguar, redesigned under Indian auto giant Tata, is show-stopping.

As a matter of fact, I got so caught up in the sleek lines of a silver Jaguar during my Christmas shopping that it almost backed into me. "If you're going to get run over," the driver said as he pulled alongside, "it might as well be by a Jag." I laughed and shook my head. What could I say? He was right.

But why is it so important for a car to have sex appeal? According to a study commissioned by the high-end British auto insurer Hiscox, people experience a measurable physical attraction when exposed to desirable cars. In the study, both male and female participants listened to the revving engines of a Ferrari, Lamborghini, and Maserati. Then scientists swabbed their saliva and took a reading of the testosterone levels, an indicator of arousal. Every one of the participants showed increased amounts of testosterone after the engine test. Women posted higher levels than men, and the Maserati generated the highest state of arousal (no surprise to me).



What's especially interesting is the study also tested the arousal levels of participants after hearing a VW Polo (the European equivalent of a Ford Fiesta). The results? Decreased testosterone in all of the participants.

Does this mean fuel-efficient cars aren't a turn-on? Not so, says EcoGeek blogger Hank Green. In a post written in May, Mr. Green points to a study that indicates nine out of 10 women would rather chat with a

man who drives a fuel-efficient car than a sports car. "That's hot," he says.

Detroit automakers take note: you can make sexy cars and you can make green cars. But those clunky fuel-guzzlers you've been churning out? To quote my new favorite bumper sticker, "That SUV makes you look fat." ■

Contact Artis

>>Send your dating tips, questions, and disasters to: sandydays@floridaweekly.com

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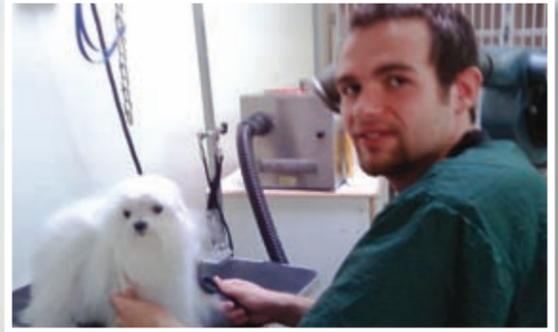
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January Events at the Centers

January 17-19th.

Tahitian Gardens' sidewalk sale.

Shop for the luxurious to the whimsical, fun shopping and good buys. Enjoy breakfast, lunch and dinner at Tahitian Gardens daily. Stop in for a gourmet coffee or tea and home baked pastry.

The Village Shops

Support our Blue Ribbon Sanibel School- \$50 car raffle tickets available at **Friday's Child**. Win a Lexus, Saturn Sky or \$20,000 in cash. Details in store.

Orchid Sale January 17-19th

Over Easy Café is now open and serving all meals 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday with half price appetizers from 3-5. Same great breakfast and lunch every day. Pet friendly patio and take out available.

Get ready for Valentine's Day at **Suncatchers' Dream!** New products and exclusive jewelry lines in all price ranges! Stunning, handmade and reasonable! Let your sweetheart know they are the bright spot of your life! Free gift wrapping!

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Sanibel Resort Wear • Seaweed Gallery • The Cedar Chest Fine Jewelry • Shiny Objects • Wilford & Lee

The Village Shops • 2340 Periwinkle Way

Friday's Child • Massage & Bodywork of Sanibel (MA34034 MM18960) • The Polish Pottery Shoppe • Why Knot
• William E. Wilson Fine Jewelry • Tribeca Salon • Watson MacRae Gallery • Sanibel Tropical Wines • Head to Toes by Tina

Olde Sanibel Shoppes • 630 Tarpon Bay Road

Amy's Something Special • CROW • Island Paws • Over Easy Café • Suncatchers Dream

New Shops in The Village!

Watson MacRae Gallery

Sanibel Tropical Wines

Head to Toes by Tina

**Tribeca Salon
& barbershop**



TURTLES

From page 1

Doing so, he says, brings jazz audiences, rock audiences and classical audiences all into the same room to listen to their music.

They plan to draw a similarly diverse audience Jan. 7 and 8, for their four performances in the Daniels Pavilion at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts in Naples. (The quartet will play twice nightly, at 6 and 8:30 p.m.)

"The audience for classical music is getting older and older," Mr. Summer notes. "If you want to keep chamber music thriving, it has to be relevant to the audience. There are all sorts of ways to do that. We play the music we love. We're championing jazz, blues, and also even such elements as music from India."

The group's main composer, violinist David Balakrishnan, has a love of classical, jazz, and Indian music. (His father's from South India.)

"He puts it all together, and it's something quite unique and potent," Mr. Summer says.

The quartet, which began 23 years ago, now consists of Evan Price on violin, Mads Tolling on viola, Mr. Summer and Mr. Balakrishnan. They'll play John Coltrane's "A Love Supreme" at the Naples concerts, in addition to other music. Not only is "A Love Supreme" heralded as one of Coltrane's best works, but is typically mentioned on lists of the greatest jazz albums of all time.

Mr. Summer sees Trane's iconic 1976 album as "a jazz musician's search for God and meaning, and putting it into his music. On 'Psalm,' he's actually praying on his saxophone. He wrote a prayer to God. He's kvelling, he's praying to God through his saxophone."

Mr. Balakrishnan took Trane's improvised solos and composed music for the string quartet to reflect them.

"It was a great challenge," Mr. Summer says. "He's got a lot of compositional chops anyway; he has a master's degree in composition."

Mr. Summer is no slouch either; a crack composer himself, he arranged "Moment's Notice," the opening cut on their latest album, "A Love Supreme: The Legacy of John Coltrane." The group received a Grammy for the CD. (It's their second; they also received one for their "4 + Four" album recorded with the Ying Quartet.)

The album pays tribute to Coltrane, from "Round Midnight," (a Theolonius Monk composition) on which Trane

"We're doing our job if people who didn't know who Coltrane was are now thinking about John Coltrane." — Mark Summer

solloed, playing with the Miles Davis Quintet, to "Moment's Notice," from Coltrane's classic 1957 recording, "Blue Train," to "Countdown" and "Naima" from his 1959 album "Giant Steps."

The Turtle Island String Quartet perform on violins, viola and cello, tunes that were originally played on tenor saxophone, piano, bass and drums.

"The selections we play are not completely representative of his whole career," Mr. Summer says. "We picked music we liked and give some kind of picture of his whole oeuvre. I love 'Moment's Notice' and wanted to arrange it. It's not his most important piece, but it's on 'Blue Train,' and he considered that his best recording."

The quartet have played all over the world, continuing to expand people's opinions of what a string quartet is and what kind of music they can play. When they performed at the Carnegie Hall recital hall in New York City, Mr. Summer says, he overheard an elderly person exclaim after the concert: "I can't believe I liked it, but I liked it."

He says he also overheard someone say: "So, have you heard of this Coltrane fella?"

"We're doing our job if people who didn't know who Coltrane was are now thinking about John Coltrane," he says.

He explains that their performances are a revelation to some people: "I didn't know jazz pieces could be in four sections, a suite modeled upon classical compositional modalities." They have a lot of power and impact.

When Mr. Summer was a teen, he studied classical cello with one of the top cello teachers for young people in Los Angeles. But he was also in a rock band, playing drums, guitar, keyboards.

"It really did prepare me for being in Turtle Island," he says. He studied at a music conservatory, then played in an orchestra. Then he quit.

"I started improvising spontaneously with a friend," he says. "The fact that I played guitar, sang songs, helped enormously. For a classically trained musician to play our music, to improvise, is challenging."

He notes that a friend who plays cello finds it difficult to play his com-



COURTESY PHOTO

The quartet, which began 23 years ago, perform on violins, viola and cello, tunes that were originally played on tenor saxophone, piano, bass and drums.

on the web

- >> **When:** 6 and 8:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, Jan. 7 and 8
- >> **Where:** The Daniels Pavilion of the Philharmonic Center for the Arts, 5833 Pelican Bay Blvd., Naples
- >> **Cost:** \$39
- >> **Information:** For tickets or more information, call 597-1900 or go to www.thephil.org

position "Julie-O," because it draws on fiddling styles, jazz and rock 'n' roll.

"These are styles that she's not very comfortable playing on the cello," he says.

But, he insists, the music they write and play is still chamber music.

"We're sitting in chairs paying in concert halls," he says. "We're drawing upon a great deal of the classical idiom. Our arrangements are very intricate. Our composition takes advantage of a lot of counterpoint and harmony you'd find in a classical

string quartet."

The group is constantly pushing the boundaries and often collaborate with different artists. They've played with the Assad Brothers, a guitar duo who just recorded with Yo-Yo Ma, and performed with Paquito D'Rivera, who played clarinet with them.

"It just changes everything," Mr. Summer says. "It gives us a new body that's not a string player to play off of... It's really exciting. We keep coming up with all these interesting collaborations."

For example, in the near future they plan to play with jazz pianist Cyrus Chestnut.

Whether collaborating with other musicians or performing as a four-some, the Turtle Island String Quartet continues to ignore musical borders.

"It's pretty wonderful," Mr. Summer says. "It's like great theater: you have four people, minimal staging: four music stands, four chairs, four people. We're doing a musical dance while never leaving our chairs." ■

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THE MUSIC GOURMET

Once a wunderkind, violinist is still a virtuoso at 40



Peg **GOLDBERG LONGSTRETH**
plongstreth@floridaweekly.com

My, how time flies! It seems just yesterday that I first heard about a young violin wunderkind in Bloomington, Ind. Only 12 or so, he was already creating quite a buzz in a community with no lack of extraordinary musical talent housed within the confines of Indiana University's renowned School of Music.

As I prepared to interview Joshua Bell a couple of weeks ago, I tried to flesh out those memories.

I remembered that his parents were psychologists, that he did not want to relinquish playing baseball (even though he might injure his hands) to focus on the violin, and perhaps most important of all — I remember that he was, at that young age, already a student of Josef Gingold at IU. I thought such a privilege was somewhat akin to being selected as a student of God's.

The first time I heard Bell perform live was a couple of years later, outdoors with the Indianapolis Symphony during its Summer Series at Conner Prairie. I had bribed a couple of non-classical music enthusiast friends to join me, telling them it would be one of the most amazing performances they had ever heard.

They were not disappointed.

Out strolled this slightly built, slender teenager, violin tucked safely at his side. Then, in front of God and everybody, he simply blew the audience away with an incredibly passionate performance of Mendelssohn's "Violin Concerto in E Minor." Only twice before in my life had I heard such a brilliant performance of the concerto by "children" in this age category: Itzhak Perelman and Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg.

Now Bell is 40, the proud parent of a 14-month-old son, with whom he keeps in daily contact via Skype, since he lives

on the road. (No wife awaits him, however, since Bell and his ex-significant other mutually agreed they wanted a child — but not a permanent relationship.)

The Mendelssohn I heard all those years ago at Conner Prairie was merely a beginning of a life of non-stop kudos. Given the vast amount of violin repertoire, Bell tries to perform one new concerto annually. Next on his "hope-to-perform list?" The Bartok Violin Concerto, he told me.

Bell's recent recording, with St. Martin of the Fields, of Vivaldi's "The Four Seasons," is ranked No. 1 on the classical music charts.

"Defiance," the widely heralded movie scheduled to open nationwide on Jan. 16, recounts the extreme heroism of the Bielski Brothers, who saved thousands of Eastern European Jews from certain death by hiding them in the forest, while thousands of others were massacred in 1941 during World War II. The movie score? Filled with the haunting violin melodies that are so much a part of Eastern Europe Jewish culture, it's performed by Joshua Bell. (Incidentally, although I have not spoken with members of the Bielski family for two years, at least two of their descendants reside in Naples and Bonita Springs.)

Bell continues to perform on his 1713 Stradivarius, which he'll do for admiring Naples audiences and violin aficionados on Wednesday evening, Jan. 21, at the Phil. Bell and his pianist, Jeremy Denk, will surely mesmerize the audience with four violin sonatas: Janacek's "Sonata for Violin and Piano," Brahms' "Violin Sonata No. 3 in D minor, Op. 108," Ysaye's "Violin Sonata No. 2 in A Minor, Op. 27" and Franck's "Violin Sonata in A Major."

It promises to be one of the program highlights of this season ■

Peg Goldberg Longstreth was trained as a classical musician. She owns Longstreth-Goldberg Art Gallery in Naples.



Joshua Bell

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WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

This week's theater

■ **Singin' in the Rain** - Broadway Palm Dinner Theater presents "Singin' in the Rain" through Feb. 14. "Singin' in the Rain" is set in the era of Movieland in the late '20s, when the arrival of talking pictures is striking terror in every silent film star. It tells the story of the wild and often wacky world of Hollywood where silent pictures are coming to an end. Don Lockwood, Kathy Seldon and Cosmo Brown take center stage in this all-singing, all-dancing extravaganza. You'll hear "Good Mornin'," "Make 'Em Laugh," "Fit as a Fiddle" and the title song, "Singin' in the Rain." For reservations and show information, visit www.BroadwayPalm.com, call 278-4422 or stop by the box office at 1380 Colonial Blvd.

This week's symphony

■ **Big Band Bash** - Celebrate the New Year with a spectacular Big Band Bash, featuring conductor Jack Everly and the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra, Friday, Jan. 2 at 8 p.m. Joining the orchestra for this unforgettable, fast-paced evening of music and fun will be Broadway singing star Judy McLane, acclaimed clarinetist Jon Manasse and the one-and-only Capitol Quartet saxophone ensemble. Tickets are \$79. For more information or to order tickets, contact customer service at 597-1900 or toll-free at (800) 597-1900 or visit www.thephil.org.

■ **Salute to Vienna** - Celebrate the New Year with "Salute to Vienna" as it returns to the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall at 8 p.m., Friday, Jan. 2. Fall in love with Vienna's "Waltz King," Johann Strauss Jr., in an unforgettable and uplifting performance of music, song and dance. "Salute to Vienna" continues to feature an astounding cast. The Strauss Symphony of America, an exciting maestro, talented European singers, and costumed dancers performing the popular Viennese waltzes, polkas and operetta excerpts are guaranteed to inspire and delight the audience. Featuring The Strauss Symphony of America, Gerhard Track, conductor (Vienna), Ute Ziemer, soprano (Vienna), Joachim Moser, tenor (Vienna) with dancers from Vienna International Ballet. For tickets, contact the box office at 800-440-7469 or 481-4849.

Saturday, Jan. 3

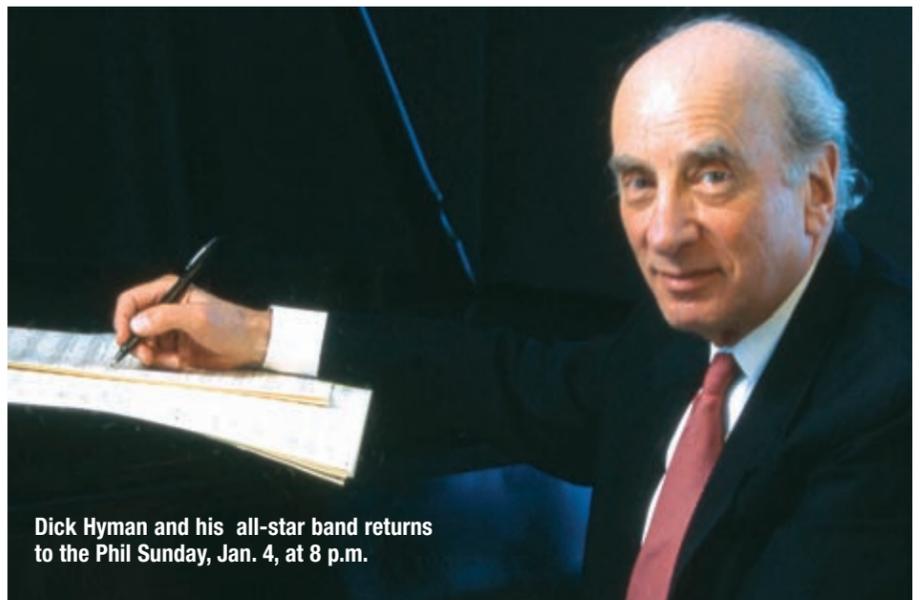
■ **Art in the Park** - The Naples Art Association at The von Liebig Art Center in Naples hosts Art in the Park from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Park Street, alongside The von Liebig Art Center. Naples' oldest outdoor art festival celebrates its 52nd season by showcasing artwork from Naples Art Association members. This juried festival, held the first Saturday of the month from November through April, is a great way to meet the artists and enjoy their original work in a relaxing atmosphere. Free admission. This month's featured artist is Charles O'Neal. The center is located at 585 Park Street and features an extensive art library and gift shop. Call 262-6517 or visit naplesart.org for more information.

■ **Barrage** - Barrage, a high-octane fiddle fest that features an international, multi-talented cast performing an eclectic mix of music, song and dance, will perform at the Philharmonic Center at 8 p.m. The group of six violinists/vocalists, a drummer, bass player and guitarist offers up a diverse fusion of cultures, musical styles and performance vitality. Tickets are \$39. For more information or to order tickets, contact customer service at 597-1900 or toll-free at (800) 597-1900 or visit www.thephil.org.

■ **Last Comic** - You've seen them on TV, you voted for them, and now they are here. An evening of great stand-up comedy featuring the five finalists from NBC's Emmy-Nominated laughfest, "Last Comic Standing," plays at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall at 8 p.m. Come see Marcus, Jeff Dye, Louis Ramey, Iliza Shlesinger, and Jim Tavaré as they ignite the stage with the jokes and laughter that made them the final five in America's funniest reality show. For tickets, contact the box office at 800-440-7469 or 481-4849.

Sunday, Jan. 4

■ **Dick Hyman and Friends** - Dick Hyman's all-star band returns to the Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts at 8 p.m. With a spirited new show featuring some ragtime favorites, lively stomp music and a little blues. Hyman's veteran jazz band will delight audiences. For more information or to order tickets,



Dick Hyman and his all-star band returns to the Phil Sunday, Jan. 4, at 8 p.m.

contact customer service at 597-1900 or toll-free at (800) 597-1900 or visit www.thephil.org.

■ **Golden Dragons** - The Golden Dragons perform at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall at 7:30 p.m. The ancient art of Chinese acrobatics is an old and long-running tradition that began in China well over 2,000 years ago. The Golden Dragons are recognized throughout the United States and abroad as the premiere Chinese acrobatic touring company of today. World-renowned impresario Danny Chang and choreographer Angela Chang combine award-winning acrobatics, traditional dance, spectacular costumes, ancient and contemporary music and theatrical techniques to present a show of breathtaking skill and spellbinding beauty. For tickets, contact the box office at 800-440-7469 or 481-4849.

Monday, Jan. 5

■ **Aaron Lewis** - Aaron Lewis of Staind brings his solo/acoustic tour to the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall at 7:30 p.m. Aaron Lewis and Staind have produced six albums: Dysfunction, Break the Cycle, 14 Shades of Grey, Chapter V, The Singles Collection and most recently, The Illusion of Progress. For more information, visit www.staind.com. For tickets, contact the box office at 800-440-7469 or 481-4849.

Wednesday, Jan. 7

■ **Underground Art** - The North Naples Arts Alliance is holding its "Underground Art Wednesday" from 6 to 9 p.m. in the industrial park north of Pine Ridge Road, west of Airport Road. Art lovers, decorators and designers are welcome to view the 15 artists' studios and five galleries. Many galleries will have new pieces on display. Brochures and information sheets with maps are available. For information, call 821-1061.

■ **Menopause** - "Menopause The Musical Out Loud: Breaking the Silence of Ovarian Cancer." will be presented by the Jeanie C. Linders Fund at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall at 7:30 p.m. The musical is a spirited celebration of real women during an unsettling time in their lives called "The Change." A portion of the proceeds will benefit local and regional ovarian cancer chapters. For tickets, contact the box office at 800-440-7469 or 481-4849.

■ **Bluegrass** - The Norris Center welcomes Sierra Hull and Ron Block at 7 p.m. Sierra Hull is regarded as the future of bluegrass and is a 16-year old mandolin phenomenon. For the past 15 years, 13-time Grammy Award winner Ron Block has been the spiritual touchstone of Alison Krauss and Union Station, contributing sterling musicianship on banjo, guitar and vocals. The Norris Center is at 755 8th Ave. South, Naples. Tickets are \$18 and all ages are welcome. Call 213-3049.

Ongoing events

■ **Student art** - As is its fall tradition, the Naples Art Association presents an exhibition of works created by students ages 3 to 15 who participated in summer ARTScool classes at The von Liebig Art Center. During ARTScool, students learn about various forms of art, what can be used to create art and about the greatest artists in history. At the end of the session, some of most creative pieces are selected to go on to Naples City Hall. The show runs through Jan. 14 and greets visitors to City Hall at 735 Eighth Street South. To learn more about classes at The von Liebig Art Center, call Abigail Miles, 262-6517, ext. 110, or visit www.naplesart.org.

■ **Visiting Artists** - The Art League of Bonita Springs presents Visiting Artist Workshops with Janet Rogers (Expressive Flowers & Portraits in Watercolor) and Caroline Jasper (Power Color Painting) from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jan. 5-9 at the Center for the Arts, 26100 Old 41 Road, Bonita Springs. Cost varies with artist and length of workshop. The Roberts workshop is sold out. Ms. Jasper's workshop is for intermediate/advanced students. Space is still available. \$525 member/\$575

non-member. Contact the Art League for further information at 495-8989.

■ **Workshop** - The Naples Art Association at The von Liebig Art Center in Naples presents a workshop, "Ultimate Arting: The Essence of the Creative Event" Jan. 5-7. This fast-moving workshop with instructor Genie Kell explores the having, doing and being of art-making. It takes a group of artists who are active, but dissatisfied with their work, to a new level of appreciation of their individual talents, skills, and uniqueness. The center is located at 585 Park Street in Naples and features an extensive art library and gift shop. Call 262-6517 or visit naplesart.org for more information.

■ **John Henry** - Internationally acclaimed sculptor John Henry, known for his sky-high steel sculpture, will kick off his seven-city Florida exhibition, "Drawing in Space: The Peninsula Project," at the Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts through Feb. 3. Incorporating new works as well as some of his most recognized pieces, the indoor and outdoor exhibition brings together his colorful,

monumental works. For more information, visit www.PeninsulaProject.com

■ **NASA Art** - The Art League of Bonita Springs presents "NASA Art: 50 Years of Exploration," a Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition, running through Jan. 24. More than 200 NASA-commissioned artists experienced a behind-the-scenes look at the agency — the scientists, astronauts, and other personnel who shaped the missions and programs. This fascinating look at our nation's space program will appeal to all ages. Call 495-8989.

■ **Boys of Summer** - North Collier Regional Park showcases rarely published photographs chronicling the "Boys of Summer" as seen through the lens of award-winning Brooklyn Dodgers' photographer Barney Stein. The 32 black and white images feature Dodger greats Jackie Robinson, Gil Hodges, Ralph Branca, and legendary batboy Charlie DiGiovanna. The "Brooklyn Dodgers Photographs of Barney Stein" exhibit runs through Feb. 1.

■ **Juried exhibition** - The Naples Art Association at The von Liebig Art



Eileen Collins photographed by Annie Leibovitz is part of "NASA Art" at the Art League of Bonita Springs.

Center is having its 47th Founders Juried Awards Exhibition through Jan. 18 at the art center, 585 Park St. in Naples. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 1 to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Suggested donation is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children 10 and older. The public may call 239-262-6517 or visit naplesart.org for more information

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Upcoming events

■ **Stepping Out** - "Stepping Out," starring Donna McKechnie, opens at TheatreZone Thursday, Jan. 8, and runs through Jan. 18. This is a hilarious comedy about eight women and two men trying to conquer their inhibitions and an overabundance of left feet in a seedy dance studio. An ex professional chorine tries her hardest to teach the bumbling amateurs some dancing skills for an upcoming recital. For information or tickets, call (888) 966-3352 or visit www.theatrezone-florida.com

■ **Man Made** - Florida Gulf Coast University Art Gallery invites the public to an opening reception for its "Man Made" exhibition featuring the environmental art of Mary Ellen Croteau, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 8, at the Art Gallery. The exhibition runs through Feb. 7, and is free and open to the public. For more information about this exhibition or upcoming events, contact interim gallery director Anica Sturdivant at 590-7199 or visit www.artgallery.fgcu.edu.

■ **Brass Quintet** - Western Brass Quintet from Western Michigan University will play Thursday, Jan. 8, at 7:30 p.m. at Moorings Presbyterian Church, 791 Harbour Dr. The quintet has entertained audiences with cutting edge, virtuosic repertoire for more than four decades. They perform with a philosophy of including in their repertoire "something for everyone." The concert is open to the public. A free-will offering will be taken. Doors open at 6:45 p.m.

■ **The Sauce Boss** - The Sauce Boss brings his blues, his band, his spices and his ladle to The Norris Center for one performance Jan. 9 at 7:30 p.m. The Sauce Boss cooks gumbo while he sings and plays the blues. At last count, sauce man Bill Wharton has fed about 100,000 concert-goers. He's also the man Jimmy Buffet sings about in his "I Will Play for Gumbo." Mr. Wharton's songs "Let the Big Dog Eat" and "Great Big Fanny" appear on the Jimmy Buffet compilation album "Margaretville Café Late Night Menu." For ticket information, call 213-3049. For more information about The Sauce Boss, visit www.thesauceboss.com.

■ **Three Exhibitions** - Florida West hosts Three Exhibitions Jan. 10-28. Exhibition I is the first exhibition in a series of three, featuring paintings, collage, photography, pottery sculptures and more. Participating artists are competing for a series of awards. The second exhibition features oil paintings by Regis Bobitski. The third exhibition is a group show featuring the Florida West Arts "Gallery Artists." There will be a Meet the Artists" open house from 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 10. For information, e-mail info@floridawestarts.com, call 948-4427 or go to www.floridawestarts.com. The Florida West Arts Showcase at the International Design Center in Estero has moved to Suite 182. The much larger gallery and performance space is now open

■ **Art Fest** - The Art League of Bonita Springs presents the Bonita Springs National Art Festival from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Jan. 10-11 at The Promenade at Bonita Bay, U.S. 41 in Bonita Springs. A \$3 donation at entrance gates benefits the Art League of Bonita Springs. The first of two highly ranked outdoor festivals hosted by the Art League of Bonita Springs during 2009, the Bonita Springs National Art Festival welcomes thousands of visitors to view and purchase artwork from 208 artists. Participating artists come from the U.S., Canada, Mexico, South America,

and Europe. Known for high quality artwork and a very pleasing venue, the festival continues to grow in popularity. For information, call 495-8989.

■ **KidzAct** - KidzAct classes begin Jan. 12 and continue through the winter at the Sugden Community Theatre, 701 Fifth Avenue South, Naples. Call 434-7340, ext. 10 or 39, or visit www.naplesplayers.org.

■ **Mamma Mia** - Benny Andersson and Björn Ulvaeus' "Mamma Mia!" the smash hit musical based on the songs of ABBA, comes to the Philharmonic Center from Jan. 13-18. "Mamma Mia!" is celebrating six sold-out years at the Winter Garden Theatre on Broadway, and is currently playing record-breaking engagements in Las Vegas and on National Tour in the United States. Tickets are \$84. For more information or to order tickets, contact customer service at 597-1900 or (800) 597-1900 or visit www.thephil.org.

■ **Moon Over the Brewery** - The Naples Players presents the comedy "Moon over the Brewery" Jan. 14-Feb. 7 on the main stage at the Sugden Community Theatre, 701 Fifth Avenue South, Naples. Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$10 for students. Call 263-7990 or visit www.naplesplayers.org.

■ **Singing Down the House** - Gulfshore Playhouse and the Norris Center present "Singing Down the House!" featuring Brian Lane Green, Johnny Rodgers and The Johnny Rodgers Band in two jazz club-style performances at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Jan. 16 and 17. Tickets for "Singing Down the House" are \$40 (\$20 for students). For more information or tickets, call the Norris Center at 213-3058.

■ **Mist, Myth, and Mystery** - World Fusion, Jazz, and Elemental Music will be performed in a fundraiser for Florida Repertory Theatre at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 19, at the Arcade Theatre, 2267 First St., Fort Myers. Emmy Award-winning and Grammy nominated flutist and composer Kat Epple will be joined by many renowned musicians. This annual event is notorious for being an evening full of unique music, performance art, fun, and surprises. Ms. Epple will be playing flutes from around the world, including Celtic, Native American, African, Sluing, and bass flute. She will be performing with special guest musicians and performers, including: Chuck Grinnell, keyboard, DL Turner, harp, Darrell Nutt, percussion, Shirley Lorene, guitar and vocals, Pond Water Experiment, and surprise guest performers. Tickets are \$20. Call the box office at 332-4488.

■ **Hitmakers** - Three hitmakers — The Belmonts, The Classics and The Chantels — perform for one unforgettable evening at the Phil at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 20. The Belmonts topped the charts with numerous hits, including "I Wonder Why," "A Teenager in Love" and "In the Still of the Night." Pop and R&B stars The Chantels became nationally known for the song "Maybe." The Classics released their first million-selling record, "Till Then." Tickets are \$49. For more information or to order tickets, contact customer service at 597-1900 or (800) 597-1900 or visit www.thephil.org.

■ **Joshua Bell** - Grammy Award-winner Joshua Bell will perform at the Phil, joined by piano sensation Jeremy Denk, at 9 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 21. Since his debut at age 14, Mr. Bell has captured



>>The Sauce Boss cooks gumbo and plays the blues at the Norris Center on Friday, Jan. 9, at 7:30 p.m.

the public's imagination with his poetic musicality and charismatic artistry. Tickets are \$69. For information or to order tickets, contact customer service at 597-1900 or (800) 597-1900 or visit www.thephil.org.

■ **Classical Series** - The Naples Philharmonic Orchestra presents Shostakovich, Ravel and Grieg, the third program in the orchestra's Classical Series, led by Music Director Jorge Mester. The concerts take place at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Jan. 22-24, at 8 p.m. The Conductor's Prelude begins one hour before each concert. Tickets are \$64 for adults and \$25 for students. For more information or to order tickets, contact customer service at 597-1900 or (800) 597-1900 or visit www.thephil.org.

■ **La Boheme** - Opera Naples presents Puccini's "La Boheme" Friday and Sunday, Jan. 23 and 25, at the Performing Arts Hall of Gulf Coast High School, featuring singers from the New York City and Santa Fe operas. To purchase tickets, call (800) 771-1041 or go to www.operanaples.com

■ **Mark Nadler** - Singer, pianist and dancer Mark Nadler will present his wacky tour de force, "Mark Nadler in a Nutshell," as part of the Cabaret at the Phil series at the Phil at 6 and 8:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday evenings, Jan. 23-24. Mr. Nadler's cabaret show has been the toast of New York City for the past several years. Cabaret at the Phil presents intimate, cabaret-style concerts in the Daniels Pavilion. Drinks and hors d'oeuvres will be available for purchase and may be enjoyed during each performance. Seating is limited, so reserve your tickets now. Tickets are \$39. For more information or to order tickets, contact customer service at 597-1900 or (800) 597-1900 or visit www.thephil.org.

■ **Prina Becher** - Pianist Prina Becher will present an evening of Scarlatti music with a wine-tasting in the Daniels Pavilion at the Phil at 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25. The music will be presented as it was experienced in Scarlatti's day, with guests sitting in courts around draped tables, sipping wine. Tickets are \$49. For more information or to order tickets, contact customer service at 597-1900 or (800) 597-1900 or visit www.thephil.org.

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ARTS COMMENTARY

Doubt: 'When you are lost, you are not alone.'

NancySTETSON

nstetson@floridaweekly.com



I don't know how you spent Christmas, but my day included a trip to the movies to see "Doubt."

I know to some, that might seem a peculiar way to spend part of Christmas, to not only see a movie that examines the nature of doubt but one in which a priest may be molesting a boy.

But I'd long been wanting to see it, and Christmas Day was the day it opened.

I've seen the play on which it's based three times — once on Broadway with the original cast (including the amazing Cherry Jones and Brian F. O'Byrne) and twice at the Florida Repertory Theatre last season, with a different, but equally as powerful cast.

And I know Gulfshore Playhouse plans to stage a production in Naples in February.

The Pulitzer Prize-winning play by John Patrick Shanley also received the Drama Desk Award and the Tony Award for Best Play. And it's no wonder: it's extremely well-crafted. It lingers with you long after you've left the theater.

"Doubt" is set in 1964, in the Bronx. Sister Aloysius, principal of a Catholic elementary school, suspects Father Flynn of taking liberties with Donald Miller — the school's first black student. The boy's teacher, a young, good-hearted Sister James, has seen some unusual behavior, but nothing that's indisputable. But Sister Aloysius doesn't need proof to start her witch hunt.

"I have my certainty," she declares.

On a very elemental level, you can look at the movie as a mystery: Did he do it? Is the priest guilty?

That's left up to you to decide. (And that left one online reviewer unhappy, because everything isn't tied up neatly and explained at the end. I suspect she probably hated the ending of "The Sopranos" too.)

Many say they ping-pong back and forth, first believing the priest, then the nun, then the priest again... And a case can be made for both.

In a time when it's public knowledge that so many priests have molested children, and the church



COURTESY PHOTO

merely shuffled them off to other parishes, it's easy to believe Father Flynn's guilty.

And in a time when the church still seems to lack compassion for gays, it's easy to see Sister Aloysius as guilty. (She believes Father Flynn is gay, and therefore, also a pedophile.)

But "Doubt" works on a variety of other levels too. It not only causes you to examine what you believe, but why.

The movie is powerful. It fleshes out the play a little more, showing us the school, the children, the other nuns, the congregation, the Bronx neighborhood.

Mr. Shanley, who wrote the screenplay and directed the movie, has kept most of the dialogue, placing some of it in different environments. He's also expanded on the theme of wind — wind as a destructive force, as the voice of God, as an agent of change.

The benefit of film is that not only can it show you wide, panoramic shots, but close-ups. And I found myself mesmerized by the faces of the four major actors: Meryl Streep, Amy Adams, Philip Seymour Hoffman and Viola Davis.

It's no surprise all four have been nominated for Golden Globes, as well as for Screen Actor Guild Awards and Chicago Film Critics Association

Awards.

When I interviewed Mr. Shanley last year, he called doubt "the black sheep of emotion and ideas. Doubt doesn't reduce down, it expands," he said. "I see doubt as a positive force. Certitude shuts all the doors."

And in his play's opening sermon, he has the priest address "the secret of (an) alienating sorrow.

"There are those of you in church today who know exactly the crisis of faith I describe," Father Flynn says. "I want to say to you: Doubt can be a bond as powerful and sustaining as certainty. When you are lost, you are not alone."

There are those whose faith allows for doubting, for struggle, for questioning, and those whose faith doesn't.

Last year, I attended a friend's funeral. She was only in her mid-40s, intelligent and talented, but the last years of her life had been filled with tremendous struggle. She had difficulty coping and began drinking. There was talk of possible drug use.

Her memorial service was packed with family, friends, colleagues. (Sometimes I think we should hold these services when people are alive, so everyone can see how loved they are, how

many people's lives they've affected.)

What I remember from this service is how saddened everyone was by such a young life being so needlessly and suddenly cut short. And how the minister who led the service didn't address her struggles at all.

It would've been comforting to hear him acknowledge her pain, her grappling, her inner torment. But he didn't. He just gave a glowing eulogy and glossed over the difficulties of her day-to-day life.

Perhaps he did so out of respect to the family. But it didn't seem honest to me. It felt as if he were whitewashing the facts.

He claimed he knew her, but I had a hard time believing that.

And his comments didn't help anyone sitting in that church that day who were, themselves, struggling, including those wrestling with the fact and circumstances of her death.

During that time, I could've used a sermon like the one Father Flynn gives in "Doubt" — something that acknowledges the dark night of the soul, the struggles that we all, each and everyone of us, go through.

Something honest, something real, instead of religious platitudes. ■

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GIVING

Part Four: Meet some members of the Professional Advisors Council

Volunteers who serve on the Professional Advisors Council provide a wealth of knowledge and experience that guide all aspects of the Community Foundation's work. The PAC is made up of attorneys, financial planners, accountants, insurance professionals and trust officers who share a commitment to philanthropy and an understanding of the benefits they can provide their clients through the Foundation.

The PAC meets quarterly to review what's new at the Foundation and to exchange ideas about how we can improve our services for donors and the professionals who assist donors with their charitable planning. Members of the PAC also serve as resources when



legal, accounting or financial questions arise. Many also write articles and present seminars regarding the benefits of charitable giving.

The Community Foundation views its relationship with professional advisors as a pivotal element of its efforts to educate the public about the value and benefits of planned giving strategies and tax-deferred charitable vehicles. This is the final in a four-part series of articles contributed by members of the Professional Advisors Council. ■

Thoughts for women about taking estate planning, retirement seriously

BY JOAN K. CRAIN & SHARON R. TREISER
BNY Mellon Wealth Management

Consider these statistics:

- Women live an average of seven years longer than men.
- Women spend an average of 19 years longer than men in retirement.
- 90 percent of women will be responsible for their own and possibly their family's finances at some point in their lives.

These facts lead to one conclusion: Women need to take estate planning very seriously. In the hectic pace of our own lives, we often forget to take care of our own planning, and thereby jeopardize and undermine the financial health and security of the much loved ones we have nurtured and protected over the years.

Even at the most basic level, you need to put your wishes in writing. Verbally expressing your intentions is not sufficient. You also must sign everything in accordance with specific legal procedures.

The backbone of your estate planning documents are your will, a power of attorney, health care directives (which include a health care surrogate and a living will) and a revocable living trust.

Remember that beneficiary designations for IRAs, life insurance policies, annuities and other contracts trump the provisions in your will and trusts. To carry out your overall estate plan, you

must coordinate these with your other documents.

Estate planning is not just about avoiding taxes and probate. It is about protecting yourself in case you become incompetent, and it is about protecting your loved ones and leaving a legacy that passes on your values and life experiences. This can be accomplished through philanthropy, by utilizing charitable trusts and by having charitable discussions with family members.

Legal and tax aspects of estate planning are complex and ever changing, and family issues are often challenging. Let a team of specialists with whom you are comfortable help you state and execute your goals.

Remember, it is not enough to prepare your money for your family; you need to prepare your family for your money.

For more information, please contact William Franz at the Community Foundation, 649-5000, or contact your professional advisor. ■

With assets of more than \$61 million, the Community Foundation of Collier County manages more than 400 funds established by charitable individuals and organizations. Investment earnings on these funds are used to address community needs. Since 1985, the Foundation has granted \$30 million back to our community. For more information, call 649-5000 or visit www.cfcollier.org.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

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



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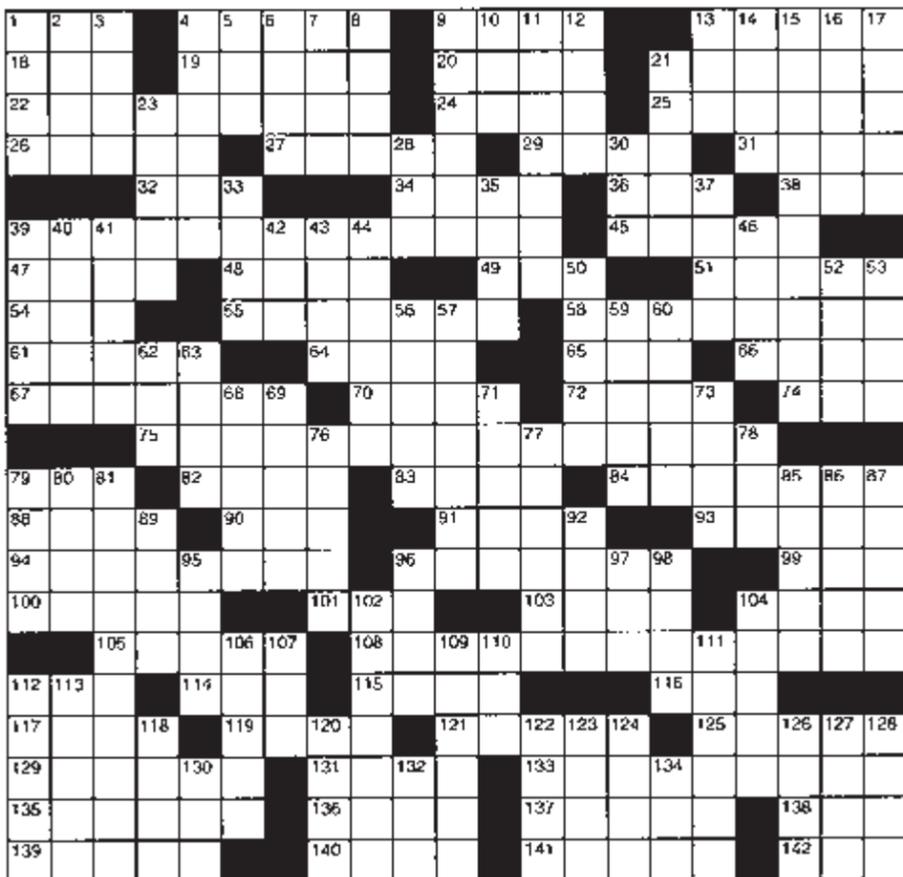
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FLORIDA WEEKLY PUZZLES

CROSSWORD

SWEET GNAW-THINGS



- | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ACROSS | 51 "Taras Bulba" author | 99 Winter hazard | DOWN | 41 Sib's kid | 87 McCarthy's trunkmate |
| 1 Pugilistic poke | 54 Emulate | 100 Tratorra treat | 1 Secure spot | 42 On the — vive (alert) | 89 West alliance |
| 4 Silenced a squeak | 55 Brandy cocktail | 101 TV chef | 2 — malar | 43 Summer col | 92 Brace |
| 9 Fuel source | 56 Protect with plastic | 103 "— Shuffle" ("77 song) | 3 Rosary part | 44 Tristan's tootsie | 95 Asta's mistress |
| 13 "Turandot" tenor | 61 Resident | 104 Saaweed product | 4 Speak freely | 46 Actress Skye | 96 Snarl |
| 18 Heady quaff | 64 "Yours, Mine and —" ("68 film) | 105 Bobby's flashlight | 5 Roin ... | 50 Take the honey and run | 97 Banned pesticide |
| 19 Savanna sight | 65 Keatsian creation | 108 Roden's Olympic motto? | 6 Exist | 9 Living room | 98 London district |
| 20 Lhasa — | 66 Redact | 112 Broad st. | 7 Temptation location | 10 Antipollution grp. | 102 Shake up |
| 21 Arbus apparatus | 67 "The Bartered Bride" composer | 114 "Gorchaf" | 8 Earl — Biggers | 11 "The — Jungle" ("50 film) | 104 Actor's act-? |
| 22 Rodent's favorite | 70 Serenade accompaniment | 115 Article | 9 Living room | 12 Carry | 106 Soassky's game |
| 24 Lost in thought | 72 TV's "South —" | 116 "— Night" ("58 hit) | 10 Antipollution grp. | 11 "The — Jungle" ("50 film) | 107 Pillbox, e.g. |
| 25 Nuclear | 74 Road curve | 117 Apt rhyme "or squirm moi" | 11 "The — Jungle" ("50 film) | 12 Carry | 109 Bit of a beach |
| 26 Brimming | 75 Roden's educational "level"? | 121 Matches | 12 Carry | 13 Puffed pet? | 110 Medical grp. |
| 27 Join up | 79 Dit's cousin | 125 Incaption | 13 Puffed pet? | 14 Granopa McCoy | 111 TV's "Eight is —" |
| 28 Take into account | 82 Read quickly | 129 Cartoonist: Charles | 14 Granopa McCoy | 15 Rodent refreshment? | 112 About to sink |
| 31 Hook's mate | 83 Actress Verna | 131 Writer: Charles | 15 Rodent refreshment? | 16 Pisces tolower | 113 Screwdriver ingredient |
| 32 — reaction | 84 Peeper protectors | 133 Fictional rodent? | 16 Pisces tolower | 17 Sapphire side | 118 Spouse |
| 34 Diva Ponselle | 86 Dymph | 135 Rink rental | 17 Sapphire side | 21 Future officer | 120 Composer Wilber |
| 35 Moon crawler | 90 Tokyo, once | 136 List ender | 21 Future officer | 23 "We've Only Just —" ("70 hit) | 122 Proc |
| 36 Relative of -ator | 91 Like some cellars | 137 "Peer Gynt" composer | 23 "We've Only Just —" ("70 hit) | 28 Hockey legend | 123 Binchy's "— Road" |
| 39 Rodent cheese-cake? | 93 It may suit you | 138 Psychic Geller | 28 Hockey legend | 30 Urban transport | 124 Tend the sauce |
| 45 Laundry problem | 94 Closet freshener | 139 Veronica of "Hill Street Blues" | 30 Urban transport | 33 Sugar arnts. | 126 Wallop |
| 47 Frigga's fellow | 96 Calculator features | 140 Surrender | 33 Sugar arnts. | 35 Barbecue | 127 Architect Saanen |
| 48 Young boxers | | 141 Big revolver? | 35 Barbecue | 37 Christmas visitors | 128 Small samba |
| 49 Relished a roast | | 142 Sticky stuff | 37 Christmas visitors | 39 Voting venue | 130 Gibson or Tillis |
| | | | 39 Voting venue | 40 Turn of phrase | 132 Unbalanced |
| | | | 40 Turn of phrase | | 134 Wager |

SEE ANSWERS, C9

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HOROSCOPES

■ **CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)** Working with a trusted colleague could open your mind to exploring some considerations you previously dismissed out of hand. The week-end brings news from a loved one.

■ **AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)** Resolving a recent problem leaves you in a good position to strengthen your influence on how things get done. But continue to encourage ideas and suggestions from others.

■ **PISCES (February 19 to March 20)** A new friend suggests an interesting opportunity. But check it out before you snap at it. It might be a good deal for some people, but it might not work in helping you reach your goals.

■ **ARIES (March 21 to April 19)** Romantic aspects are high at this time for single Lambs looking for love. Warm and fuzzy feelings are also at enhanced levels for Rams and Ewes in paired relationships.

■ **TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** This week favors what Taureans dote on -- namely, love and money. Look for more meaningful relationships for both singles and pairs, as well as an improved financial outlook.

■ **GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)** All lingering shreds of that recent bout with boredom are dissipated as you eagerly accept a challenging offer. Your positive mood persuades others to join you in this venture.

■ **CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** You might need validation for a possible solution to a situation involving someone

close to you. Consider asking a trusted friend or relative to help you with this problem.

■ **LEO (July 23 to August 22)** Investigate carefully before agreeing to assist a friend or colleague with a personal problem. There might be hidden factors that could emerge later that will create problems for you.

■ **VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)** Your decision to work with an associate rather than go it alone, as you first proposed, brings an unexpected bonus. Be careful not to be judgmental. Allow for free and open discussion.

■ **LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)** A loved one's health problem could, once again, make demands on your time and attention. But this time, make some demands of your own, and insist that others pitch in and help.

■ **SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)** This is a good time for the traditionally staid Scorpion to plan adjustments in your day-to-day schedules. Be more flexible and allow for more impromptu, off-the-cuff actions.

■ **SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)** Avoid creating unnecessary fuss over a situation you don't approve of. If it's going to work, it will do so despite your objections. If it fails, it will do so without a push from you.

■ **BORN THIS WEEK:** You have a way of helping people solve their problems, making you a most-respected counselor and trusted friend.

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SUDOKU

By Linda Thistle

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3			2				4
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9				8			7
	3		4		1	6	

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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

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SEE ANSWERS, C9



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BEACH READING

The Man Who Owns the News: Inside the Secret World of Rupert Murdoch

By Michael Wolff
(Broadway Books, \$29.95)

REVIEWED BY CHRIS LARRY COX
Special to Florida Weekly



Rupert Murdoch, head of News Corp., the \$70 billion global media conglomerate, was asked during the recent U.S. presidential campaign if he had a preference between the two candidates. He didn't hesitate for a second before answering Barack Obama. He then added that Mr. Obama was his pick because his election would sell more newspapers. In a fascinating new biography, it is clear that even though Mr. Murdoch is involved with numerous enterprises, including both international magazine publications and network TV, he is first and foremost a newspaperman.

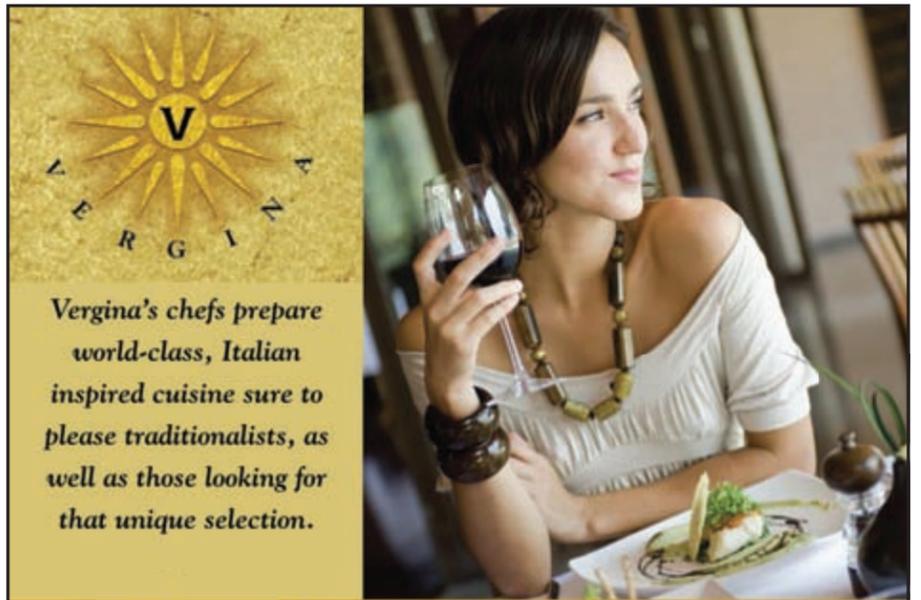
When Michael Wolff, a columnist for Vanity Fair and a two-time National Magazine Award winner, approached Mr. Murdoch to discuss the possibility of a book, he did so with caution. He was amazed when Mr. Murdoch agreed to cooperate and even more so when the mogul granted unprecedented access that included nearly 50 hours of one-on-one interviews conducted over a nine-month period. In addition to Mr. Murdoch's help, Mr. Wolff also received help from other family members, including his four children, his current and former wives, and even his 99-year-old mother, Dame Elizabeth Murdoch. The result is a

deliciously written biography that reveals a wickedly astute portrait of a man who, even at the age of 77, shows no signs of slowing down or retiring.

How did this Australian who came into the publishing business as an outsider build such a global media empire that includes more than 100 newspapers, the Fox movie studio and television networks, satellite TV systems in Europe and Asia, the book imprint Harper-Collins, and MySpace? According to Mr. Wolff, Mr. Murdoch achieved most of his major goals because he is focused and sees no middle ground, no compromise and no ambivalence when it comes to getting what he wants.

One of his more intriguing goals was his acquisition of Dow Jones in 2007. How he teamed up with Dow Jones CEO Richard Zannino to wrest Dow Jones and the *Wall Street Journal* from the Bancroft family underscores his incredible determination. After adding the Bancroft holdings to his brand, there appears to be just one prize he has yet to acquire: *The New York Times*.

Written in a breezy, irresistible style, Mr. Wolff serves up a narrative that has all of the drama and unexpected twists and turns of a novel. Even though Mr. Murdoch has reached an age when most people think of retirement, he remains at the top of his game. Many also believe that there are still chapters of his colorful life yet to unfold. ■



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COUCH THEATER

[DVD PREVIEWS & RELEASES]

PICK OF THE WEEK

► “Pineapple Express” - I’m usually not a fan of stoner movies. I liked Cheech and Chong’s “Up in Smoke” and “Cheech and Chong’s Next Movie,” and more recently “Harold and Kumar Go to White Castle,” but that’s about it.

I think the reason I don’t go for the stoner humor is because most stoner movies are funny only to audiences who are already stoned. And let’s face it; it doesn’t take much to make a stoner laugh. A french fry can provide hours of hilarity.

“Pineapple Express” is one of those rare pot pictures that is funny to audiences who aren’t ripped on the wacky tabacky. It stars Seth Rogan and James Franco as two lovable potheads who get mixed up in a mob war after Mr. Rogan’s character witnesses a murder of an Asian gangster by a mobster and a crooked cop (Gary Cole and Rosie Perez).

The script is hilarious, the acting is better than you’d expect from a movie like this, and the action scenes are well-executed.

Definitely worth a look.

DOG OF THE WEEK

► “Babylon A.D.” - This is perhaps the worst science-fiction movie ever made that doesn’t have Uwe Boll’s name attached to it. French director Mathieu Kassovitz’s dystopian tale of a genetically manipulated “messiah” is a convoluted, plodding mish-mash of “Blade Runner” and “Children of Men.” This movie was hacked up so badly in the editing room by the studio that Mr. Kassovitz publicly denounced the film. What was intended to be a commentary on organized religion and commerce and corruption became, instead, a bunch of action



Seth Rogan and James Franco from “Pineapple Express”

scenes strung together and no context. This isn’t even one of those movies that’s so bad it’s good. It’s just plain awful.

“Righteous Kill” - The big hoo-hah hype about this movie was that it was the Robert De Niro/Al Pacino movie that fans have been awaiting for some 30 years. Sadly, it should have been made 30 years ago. After more than a decade of phoning it in, Mr. De Niro and Mr. Pacino look old, tired and bored — just like the audiences who got suckered into seeing this stinker in the theaters.

TV SERIES

- “Battlestar Galactica” Season 4.0
- “The Tudors” Season 2
- “Duckman” Four-Season Pack
- “Anthony Bourdain: No Reservations” Collection 3
- “Secret Diary of a Call Girl”
- “The Waltons” The Complete Eighth Season
- “Frisky Dingo” Season 2
- “Mannix” The Second Season
- “Transformers” Season Two ■

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Naples Originals restaurants cook up a week of lunch and dinner specials

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Naples Originals, a group of independent, locally owned restaurants, holds its third Restaurant Week with special lunch and dinner offerings Jan. 5-11. Participating restaurants will offer three-course prix fixe lunches for \$12.50 and dinners for \$25 (excluding beverage, tax and gratuity).

"Locals and visitors alike benefit from the savings offered by budget-wise Restaurant Week menus as well as by enjoying their favorite local restaurants' authentic dishes based on original recipes," said Naples Originals founder and president, Lisa Kelly Boet. "Culinary tourism is among the fastest growing segments of travel,"

she continued. "When visitors come to Naples, they want to eat at restaurants they can't find at home. Naples Originals' member restaurants answer that need."

Naples Originals' first two Restaurant Weeks, held in July and October 2008,

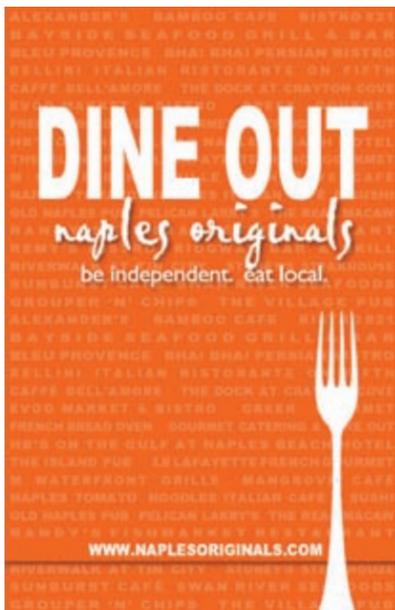
were resounding successes, with participating restaurants reporting higher numbers of diners than expected. Restaurants that have participated in past Restaurant Weeks include Alexander's,

Bamboo Café, Bay-side Seafood Grill & Bar, Bha Bha, EVOO, Randy's Fishmarket, Ridgway Bar & Grill and The Real Macaw.

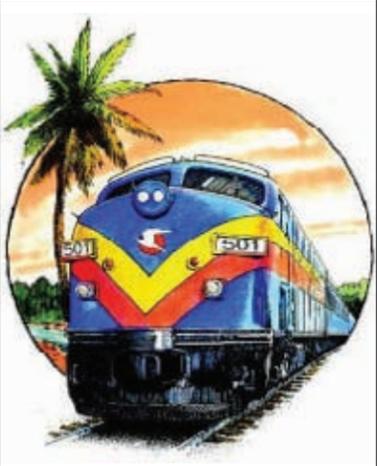
Naples Originals' nearly 40 members are neighborhood restaurants, locally owned and operated, serving a broad spectrum of culinary style, service and ambience. The restaurants share a desire to raise awareness of independent restaurants as well as all locally owned and operated businesses. Research shows that every

\$100 spent at an independent restaurant generates \$68 of local economic activity compared with just \$43 for every \$100 spent in a chain.

Diners will find more information, participating restaurants and menus at www.naplesoriginals.com. ■



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NORRIS CENTER

From page 1

the future of bluegrass, appears with 13-time Grammy Award winner Ron Block at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 7. The "Music with a Mission" concert will benefit St. Matthew's House. Tickets are \$18.

To purchase tickets for **Sierra Hull and Ron Block**, and for any of the following evenings at the Norris Center, call 213-3049.

The season continues with "**The Sauce Boss**" **Bill Wharton**. "The inventor of the gastronomical boogie," Mr. Wharton happily cooks up a batch of gumbo while he sings and plays the blues. At last count, he estimated he's

fed about 100,000 concertgoers. He brings his blues, his band, his spices and his ladle to The Norris Center for one performance at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 9. Tickets are \$30.

Naples City Improv has several family-friendly performances on the schedule, beginning with an 8 p.m. show Thursday, Jan. 15. As the players perform their fast-paced, unscripted games, the audience can sit back and enjoy the hilarity or get involved by offering suggestions. Additional shows this season at Saturday, Jan. 31; Thursday, Feb. 5; Saturday, March 7; and Friday and Saturday, April 24 and 25. Tickets are \$15.

Gulfshore Playhouse joins The Norris Center to present "**Singing Down the House!**" featuring Brian Lane Green, Johnny Rodgers and The Johnny Rodgers Band in jazz club-style performances at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Jan. 16 and 17. Tickets are \$40 (\$20 for students).

Writer/dramatist Rusty Brown presents her one-woman show, "**Painted Women,**" at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 22. What are the stories behind the women immortalized by the brush strokes of famous artists? Their haunting portraits look out from museum walls, but what would they tell us if they could speak? These are the questions Ms. Brown explores. Tickets are \$12.

Since the early '80s, **Uptown Express** has recreated the memorable sounds of the '50s and '60s for appreciative audiences throughout Southwest Florida and beyond. Get into the groove with them again at 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 23. Tickets are \$18.

Bluegrass comes back to The Norris Center when the instrumental duo **Cory and Jarrod Walker** brings banjo, guitar, resonator guitar and mandolin to the stage at 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24. Tickets are \$10.

Tim Walkoe will keep the audience in stitches with his rapid-fire delivery and shoot-from-the-hip style of stand-up comedy. The veteran headliner at comedy clubs around the country brings his humor (appro-



COURTESY PHOTO

Kennedy's Kitchen

ropriate for ages 15 and older) to The Norris Center at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 30. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for ages 15-18.

Lorraine presents "**A Tribute to Patsy Cline**" at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Feb. 6-7 and 13-14. Tickets are \$18.

Naples' own writer/dramatist **Janina Birtola** brings her original one-woman show, "**The Black Queen,**" a portrayal of Catherine de Medici, the Italian commoner who became one of the strongest Queens of France, to the stage at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 12. Tickets are \$12.

Kennedy's Kitchen brings Irish tear-up-the-floor, break-your-heart songs, jokes, stories and dance to the center at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 6. Rowdy and toe-tapping, sweet and sentimental, Kennedy's Kitchen has grown over the past 10 years from its beginnings during weekly sessions at Lula's Café in South Bend, Ind. Tickets are \$30.

Manhattan Lyric Opera presents "**The Merry Widow**" at 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 10. The Franz Lahar operetta peeks into a Paris filled with waltzes, folk tales, sentimentality and naughty fun. Tickets are \$30.

The second annual **Naples Festival of Magic** starring John Calvert and produced

by Eddy Lester magically appears at 7 p.m. Friday, March 13, and 2:30 and 7 p.m. Saturday, March 14. Tickets are \$15 and \$20.

"**Lilli Marlene: A Musical Play about Friendship and Survival**" is the gripping story of three friends who met at the Vienna Academy of Music between the wars. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 20-21. Tickets are \$18.

Comedian Bobby Hunt, aka "**Circus Boy,**" skillfully combines good-natured wit with things like fire-eating and juggling for a delightful performance at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 27. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for ages 15-18.

Another night of bluegrass wraps up The Norris Center season when **The Special Consensus** performs at 7 p.m. Saturday, April 18. The four-person acoustic bluegrass band initiated the Traditional American Music program in schools across the country and has appeared on cable television and National Public Radio shows since 1984. Tickets to their show at the Norris Center are \$15.

The Norris Center is at 755 8th Avenue South in Naples. For more information, call 213-3049. ■

FLORIDA WEEKLY SOCIETY

Bonita Springs Holiday Boat Parade



1. Tim Harrison, Eileen Vargo, Jeff and Rhonda Kershaw
2. Don Grundtisch, Buggy, John Minerva and Grace Grundtisch
3. Darrell Brown, Karla Ritter, Jenny Moreland, Mark Taylor, Alex Martin, Kevin and Samantha Morrison, Chadwick Saunders
4. Sophia and Vince Modarelli

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5. Lisa Peterson, Judith Infield, Mitzi Nicholas, Deb Newman, Vicki Davis and Nancy Freeman
6. Jonathan Ozuna

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FLORIDA WEEKLY SOCIETY

Ave Maria 'Pizza & Art' in Bonita Springs



1. Carole Capenter, Dick and Missie Greiwe
2. Frank and Sandy Paniccia, Tom Monaghan
3. Jeff McManus and Di Eddy
4. Lori and Ben Nelson
5. Noel Gregory, Rebecca Barclay and Cathy Dailey
6. Rosie Oshinsky and Jo Makley
7. Trish Zingaro, Kristen Shaneyfelt, Christine Mastandrea and Reyna Hernandez
8. Sally Baker, Rita Pagura, Sandy Paniccia and Joan Taylor

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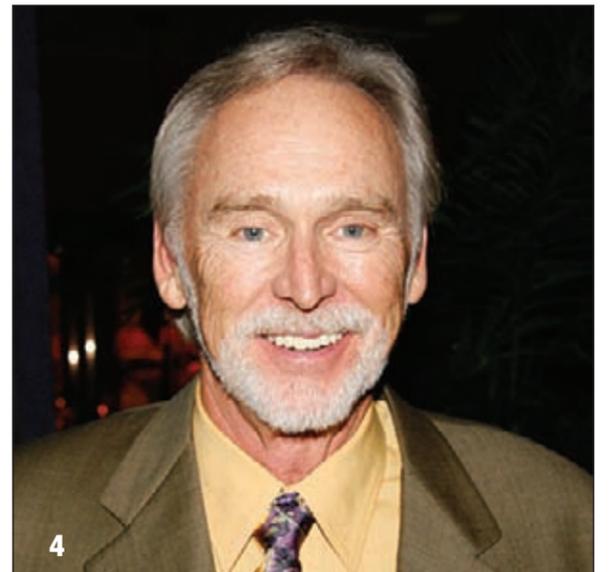
Chops City Holiday Ball for the Children's Museum of Naples



- 1. Auna Mizernkic and Monika Huber
- 2. Karen and Bob Gerry
- 3. Kim and Curt Artis with Santa
- 4. John Kemfer
- 5. Ida and Max Mazzone, Erik and Yasman Papenfuss
- 6. Jan Kerrigan, Olga and Jim Metzler
- 7. Laura and Max Press
- 8. Victoria Watts and Sara Farley

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VINO

Resolve to explore tasty value wines available year-round



Jim McCracken
vino@florida-weekly.com

There's a lot of talk about bargains these days as retailers try to salvage what can only be described as an anemic holiday season. While there might be more than the usual share of discounts this time of year, however, savvy wine shoppers can find great value wines year-round.

That doesn't necessarily mean buying the least expensive bottle available. Value means getting the most bang for your buck, so value wines can be found at all price levels. Given the state of the economy, it just makes sense to look for better prices without sacrificing quality.

Martin Kelley, wine manager for Total Wine and More in Fort Myers, has noticed a change in customer buying habits. "Our bottle volume is about the same, but the dollar price per bottle is down," he says. "People are always looking for suggestions - those 'sleeper wines' that are popular because the prices are lower, but that have not yet been discovered."

Mr. Kelley says wines from the south

of France, especially the Rhone district, are good values that also drink well.

Recently Total Wine in Naples and Fort Myers featured two Rhone district wineries as part of the stores' ongoing Meet the Maker wine-tasting series. Audrey Fouet was pouring wines made by her family-owned winery, Domaine de La Presidente. Among the bargains she pointed out were the 2007 Cotes du Rhone (\$9.99), which she described as "very fruity with berry and strawberry nose and flavors." Her top



Olivier Mousset, wine-maker-owner of Clos St. Michel

seller, she said, is the 2005 Cotes du Rhone Villages Cairanne. Oak aged for a year, it's drier, with medium body and good fruit, she said, adding at \$14.99, "it's a value compared to our Chateaufort du Pape."

Olivier Mousset is the winegrower and owner along with his brother at their family firm, Le Clos Saint-Michel and Domaine Guy Mousset. He said his personal house wine is "Domaine Guy Mousset Cotes du Rhone 2007, "... made from grenache and syrah and has good strawberry fruit and reasonably priced at \$9.99." He also was pouring a tasty Cotes



Audrey Fouet of Domaine de La Presidente

du Rhone Rosé 2007, which was crisp and dry with a good fruity bouquet and priced at \$10.99.

Angelo Fantozzi of Haskell's The Wine People on Pine Ridge Road in Naples said now more than ever, he's finding great wines from some unusual wine districts. "I found a wonderful wine from Greece called Boutari Moschofilero 2007," he said. For about \$10 a bottle,

this light and crisp white wine with "a touch of melon and fruit flavors and a long finish... is a great alternative to pinot grigio at a great price."

Mr. Fantozzi recommended some other unusual wine finds as well.

"I have a nice red called Egri Bikaver, which means 'bull's blood of Eger' and is Hungary's most famous wine," he said. A full-bodied wine with plum and grape notes, it goes well with a nice steak, and for \$8.99 a bottle it's definitely a value wine, he added.

The South African Mulderbosch winery has a medium-bodied rosé that has a mix of cherry and fruit notes and is a great value at \$10.99, he added. "They also make a very nice chenin blanc, which is off-dry with lime and green apple notes," for about \$10.99.

Trying new varietals will reveal hidden treasures as well. Instead of a

cabernet or merlot, try a malbec from Argentina. Or search for other districts known for offering good value. Many Alsatian producers offer a selection of wines at less than \$20 that are dry to off-dry with good fruit. These are perfect for seafood or enjoyed by themselves well chilled. ■

Wine picks of the week

>>Domaine de La Presidente Chateaufort du Pape 2006: This blend of grenache, syrah and mourvedre is aged six to eight months in old oak, giving it elegance and finesse. It is very young, but made to be enjoyed right now. About \$35.

>>Domaine Guy Mousset Cotes-du-Rhone Villages Cuvee Les Garrigues 2006: This blend of grenache and syrah has big black raspberry notes with good fruit and finish. About \$20.

>>Helfrich Riesling Alsace 2007: "A pretty, floral Riesling, with a creamy texture and hints of lychee... yellow peach and light mineral notes," according to Wine Spectator, which named it a Smart Buy. "Lively and clean, with a light smoky finish." About \$13.

>>Alamos Malbec Mendoza Selección 2007: "Round and fleshy, with enticing spice, blueberry, fig and boysenberry flavors backed by hints of fruitcake and melted licorice. Stays fresh and vivid on the finish, with a lingering mocha hint," says Wine Spectator, which named this a Smart Buy as well. About \$15.

>>Windmill Estates Old Vine Zinfandel 2006: One quarter petite syrah, with sweet black cherries and juicy licorice on the nose and a jammy flavor. About \$12.

PHOTO JIM MCCRACKEN / FLORIDA WEEKLY

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FLORIDA WEEKLY CUISINE

Randy's a big fish in a sea of dining options



There's no shortage of fine dining in Naples and the choices just seem to grow. But what about those occasions when you just want something comforting and casual without the fine napery, trendy fishes, gastriques and accompanying top-drawer prices?

Sometimes I just crave fish, fresh and local without the frills. And throughout the winter, when our homes become hotels much sought after by chilled northern friends and family, the demand for such unfussy fare grows exponentially.

Enter Randy's Fishmarket Restaurant, an unpretentious kind of place that serves fresh seafood in copious quantities along with serious Key lime pie. And as the name implies, Randy's also has a well-stocked fish market where you can buy the makings of a seafood feast to cook at home.

I thought I'd get the jump on the crowds by arriving at 6 p.m. on a recent Saturday, but that wasn't early enough to get in without waiting. There was a table open on the patio, but because most of the action appeared to be indoors, we decided to wait. It took only about 10 minutes for a table to become available, and we spent the time outdoors speaking with a personable man who poured samples of wine, took names and addresses for the restaurant's mailing list and handed out coupons for free Key lime pie to those who registered.

Obviously Randy's is accustomed to crowds, because there is also plenty of reading material out front along with seating. It was a balmy evening, so sipping a bit of wine under the stars didn't pose a hardship.

The dining room has the feel of a pair of well-worn jeans. The floors and metal tables bear the scrapes and scuffs of legions of diners. Table settings feature paper placemats and napkins. The open rafters are home to

a flock of plastic pink flamingoes, some of which are perched on nests. A few colorful prints hang on the walls while oversized reprints of newspaper stories about Randy's stand in windows on the U.S. 41 side of the building.

Randy's, which opened in 2003 and is named after owner Randy Essig, excels at feeding large numbers of people in a relatively short time. Our server quickly took our drink order — viognier for me, albarino for my dining companion — and delivered them in a matter of minutes. Our appetizers arrived within seven minutes of when we ordered them.

A crab cake was massive, golden brown and filled with lots of lumps of crabmeat.

A large crab cake contains lots of lumps of crabmeat and a judicious amount of seasoning.



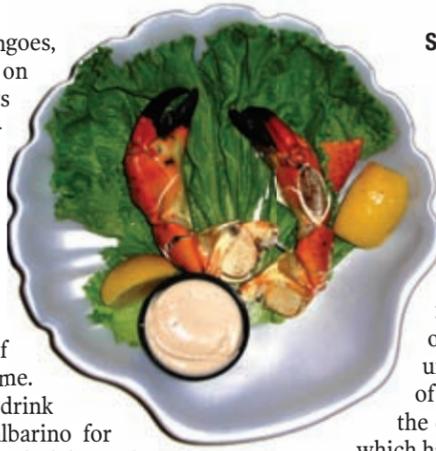
The remoulade that accompanied it was rather bland. What went better with it was the zesty mustard sauce that came with my stone crab claws.

Randy's specializes in stone crabs, offering them in large and small appetizer and entrée portions. I had the half-pound appetizer, which consisted of two good-sized claws that had been nicely cracked, leaving me with little work to do. The claws were sweet and firm, needing little but a squeeze of fresh lemon, although that mustard sauce proved a tasty accompaniment.

Salads, which come with all entrees, contained fresh mixed greens, grape tomatoes and olives. Both dressings — a vibrant raspberry vinaigrette and a chunky blue cheese — tasted homemade.

After well-executed appetizers and salads, our entrees surprised us, but not in a good way.

My companion ordered one of several fresh fish options available that night: yellowtail snapper, broiled (it also comes fried or blackened). We should have asked whether broiled meant it was cooked beneath a hot element until it browns, in the fashion most people consider broiled, or was salamandered, which involves cooking in a dish beneath a heating element. Many restaurants call the latter broiling, but the



Stone crab claws, a seasonal dish, get royal treatment at Randy's Fishmarket and are available in large and small portions.

result is all too often a pale and uninteresting piece of protein. That was the case for this dish, which had a scant amount of seasoning and was woefully lacking in color or flavor. A few items on the menu come grilled, a preparation that would have served this fish best.

I tried the captain's platter, blackened (also offered broiled or fried). It contained shrimp, grouper and scallops. Heavy sea-



A well-stocked fish market allows customers to experiment with cooking seafood at home. Randy's sells a cookbook plus lots of accompaniments as well as fresh fish.

soning obliterated the flavor of the grouper, and the shrimp were overcooked and rubbery. The scallops, which were sweet and juicy once I'd scraped off half the seasoning, saved the dish. A side of homemade potato salad was excellent, as was my companion's sweet potato with a side of brown sugar. The green beans were overcooked.

We finished with one slab of Key lime pie, which was the requisite pale yellow, velvety smooth and slightly tart, precisely what a good Key lime pie should be. It probably didn't need the mound of whipped cream on top, but that didn't stop us from devouring it.

Dinner took just a bit over an hour from start to finish, making it a speedy meal but not one during which we felt rushed or

pressured to leave.

Service throughout was very good, with staff functioning like a well-oiled machine. Our server knew the menu well and was able to answer our questions and offer recommendations. He made sure dishes came quickly but didn't overlap. Other staff members quickly cleared plates and readied tables so there was no unappetizing pileup of dishes to be seen.

While our meal had some flaws, Randy's does many things well. I would bypass the blackened and broiled items on a return trip and ask to have the fish grilled. Considering how well the stone crab claws were presented, an entrée size would surely be a treat. And although there was an impressive array of gargantuan desserts in a glass case at the front door, I wouldn't miss the Key lime pie.

Given the range of choices, the emphasis on fresh seafood, the friendliness of the staff and the relatively modest prices, it's easy to see why Randy's remains in the swim while some of its showier competitors have sunk. ■

If you go

Randy's Fishmarket Restaurant
10395 Tamiami Trail N., Naples; 593-5555

Ratings:
Food: ★★ ★★
Service: ★★ ★★ 1/2
Atmosphere: ★★ ★★

>>Hours: 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m. daily
>>Reservations: Large parties only
>>Credit cards: Major cards accepted
>>Price range: Appetizers, \$3.95-\$10.95; entrees, \$13.95-\$36.95
>>Beverages: Beer and wine served
>>Seating: A few booths plus conventional tables inside and on the patio
>>Specialties of the house: Steamed mussels, clams or oysters on the half shell, homemade mozzarella salad, crab cake, gator bites, house clam chowder, fish and chips, stone crabs, black and bleu grouper, fried calamari, surf and turf
>>Volume: Moderate to loud
>>Parking: Free lot

★★★★★ Superb
★★★★ Noteworthy
★★★ Good
★★ Fair
★ Poor

diningCALENDAR

* **Friday, Jan. 2, noon-8 p.m., Robb & Stucky KitchenAid Culinary Center:** Salads as a Meal cooking class with recipes for healthy, easy and time-efficient main-course salads, \$45, 26501 S. Tamiami Trail, Bonita Springs. Call 390-2222.

* **Wednesday, Jan. 7, 6-8 p.m., Robb & Stucky KitchenAid Culinary Center:** Wine Pairings with Seafood, Chef Kristina San Filippo and wine expert Julie Glenn team up to show how white and red wines complement seafood tapas, \$55, 26501 S. Tamiami Trail, Bonita Springs. Call 390-2222.

* **Thursday, Jan. 8, 6-8 p.m., The Good Life:** Mad About Mediterranean cooking class featuring recipes with Greek, Italian and Middle Eastern fla-

vors, \$50, Collection at Vanderbilt, Suite 176, Naples. Call 514-4663.

* **Thursday, Jan. 8, noon-2 p.m., Robb & Stucky KitchenAid Culinary Center:** Florida's Growing Season cooking class featuring seasonal produce from local farms in dishes with Florida flavors, \$45, 26501 S. Tamiami Trail, Bonita Springs. Call 390-2222.

* **Saturday, Jan. 10, 7-9 p.m., Robb & Stucky KitchenAid Culinary Center:** Wine dinner with Australian wines presented by Frank Pulice of Austin's Wine Cellar, paired with a five-course meal by Chef Kristina San Filippo, \$95, 26501 S. Tamiami Trail, Bonita Springs. Call 390-2222.

* **Tuesday, Jan. 13, 6-8 p.m., The Good Life:** Alive, Alive Oh! cooking class with Annie DePeiro preparing seafood, \$50, Collection at Vanderbilt, Airport Pulling Road at Vanderbilt Beach

Road, Naples. Call 514-4663.

* **Tuesday, Jan. 13, 6-8 p.m., Robb & Stucky KitchenAid Culinary Center:** Cooking class, World of Pizza, with demonstrations of dough-making techniques and recipes including a dessert pizza, \$45, 26501 S. Tamiami Trail, Bonita Springs. Call 390-2222.

* **Wednesday, Jan. 14, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Artichoke & Co.:** A Tour of Napa Valley wine tasting with wines from Bell Winery, Flora Springs, Raymond Vineyard, Stags Leap, Duckhorn Estate and Clos du Val with food pairings, \$28, The Village on Venetian Bay, 4370 Gulf Shore Blvd. North, Naples. Call 263-6979.

* **Wednesday, Jan. 14, 5:30 p.m., Naples Tomato:** Five-course wine-maker dinner with Mauricio Lorca of Enrique Foster in Argentina and Sabrina Tedeschi from Tedeschi in Italy, \$79 plus tax and gratuity, 14700 Tamiami

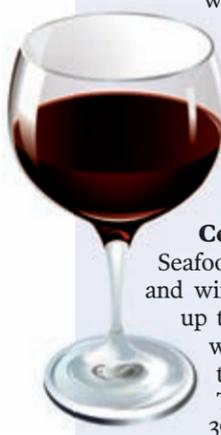
Trail North, Naples. Call 598-9800.

* **Wednesday, Jan. 14, 5 p.m., Ridgeway Bar and Grill:** Justin Vineyards wine tasting and dinner, wine tasting 5-6:30, \$12; dinner at 6:30 p.m., \$85 plus tax and gratuity; attend both for \$90 plus tax and gratuity. 1300 Third Street South, Naples. Call 262-7999 or e-mail Sukie at sukieh@tonysoffthird.com.

* **Thursday, Jan. 15, noon-2 p.m., Robb & Stucky KitchenAid Culinary Center:** Flavors of Korea cooking class with Chef Kristina San Filippo, \$45, 26501 S. Tamiami Trail, Bonita Springs. Call 390-2222.

* **Friday, Jan. 16, 7-9 p.m., Robb & Stucky KitchenAid Culinary Center:** California wine dinner with a five-course tasting menu, \$95, 26501 S. Tamiami Trail, Bonita Springs. Call 390-2222.

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