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YOUR NEWS AND ENTERTAINMENT SOURCE

WEEK OF MARCH 19-25, 2009

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COURTESY PHOTO
Dream Team members join soloist Sam Bostic during a Meet the Kids Day presentation

\$7 million handed out to children's charities

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

As a result of the 2009 Naples Winter Wine Festival, 26 Collier County children's charities received nearly \$7 million in grants. Trustees of the Naples Children & Education Foundation, founders of the wine festival, presented checks to the deserving nonprofit organizations last week during a ceremony at Mediterra.

"These checks will help children in ways both big and small," said Connie Galloway, co-chair of this year's festival with her husband, Tom Galloway. "Children will have a safe haven from abusive homes; early literacy training for a good start in school; vision screenings and eyeglasses needed to do schoolwork; and, for many, their very first books to foster reading skills."

This year's largest grants were \$1 million each for Collier County's Boys & Girls Club (to fund summer programming for 1,250 children in Naples and Immokalee who otherwise would have no place to go) and Guadalupe Center (to double the capacity to 270 children ages newborn to 4 years old who receive day care and early education at the center, and to fund after-school programs at several Immokalee elementary schools).

One agency, the Able Academy, received an NCEF grant for the first time. The academy, which provides behavioral and social therapies and academic instruction to children with autism, received \$125,000.

The February festival raised more than \$5 million, with all proceeds allocated for distribution in 2009. However, NCEF trustees determined that grant applicants' needs surpassed the

SEE WINEFEST, A8 & 9 ►

"I think for many people in Naples, Palm Beach can be a bit too snobbish to suit their tastes. But, if you ask me, Palm Beach is not quite as highfalutin' as it used to be."

— Doris Reynolds, Naples City Historian, author and longtime resident



THE SOCIETY PAGES

NAPLES AND PALM BEACH: CITADELS OF MANNERS AND MONEY

BY BILL CORNWELL
news@floridaweekly.com

For generations, Palm Beach has reigned supreme in matters of high society. Its Mediterranean-style villas, with their barrel-tiled roofs and sweeping ocean vistas, may rest at sea level or slightly above, but the view from their wind-swept balconies is decidedly Olympian.

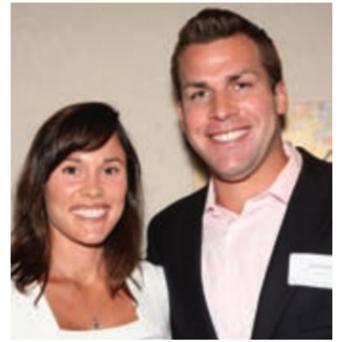
Looking back, across Lake Worth and toward the far-less-exclusive municipality of West Palm, the inhabitants of Palm Beach see a Florida that is far poorer, far more ethnically diverse and far more ravaged by a howling recession than anything they know or, more tellingly, care to know.

Against this backdrop, the gentry of Palm Beach brook no apology for their ferocious addictions to conspicuous consumption, grand living and high times. Moreover, they feel no threat — none whatsoever — to their peculiar status from other well-known areas of the state. South Beach is hipper, Orlando more prized as a tourist destination, and the beaches of the Gulf Coast more idyllic, but Palm Beach is without peer in the realm of pure snob appeal.

Those who view Palm Beach from

SEE SOCIETY, A8 ►

INSIDE



Warhol at The von Liebig

See who had their 15 minutes of fame and other happenings of note. **C23, 24 & 25** ►



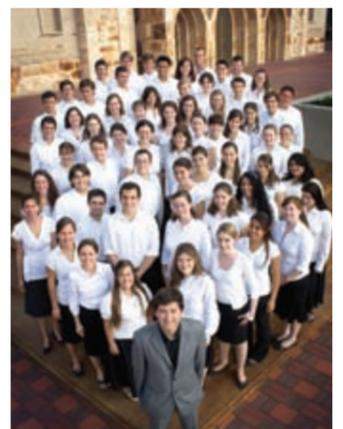
Back to school

Enrollment numbers on the rise at Hodges and Edison. **B1** ►



Mr. Endurance

Meet Pete Lefferts, happy to be one extreme athlete extraordinaire. **A6** ►



In concert for Immokalee

Ave Maria chorus, Naples Philharmonic make music for workers coalition. **C10** ►

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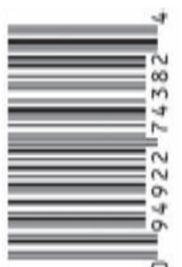
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COMMENTARY

Sunshine Party Week



rogerWILLIAMS
rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

Partying with news reporters, real reporters, is a lot of fun.

I'm not talking about talk show hosts, anchors, entertainment writers, soft magazine writers, or purveyors of puff.

They're all too comfortable to be much fun, although they do have a lot more money.

Reporters are never comfortable. Many are iconoclasts, eccentrics, uncertain. They stand on the world as it rolls away under them, uncertain of their balance, skeptical of the spin. They gaze outward with the heightened senses of people in precarious positions.

As partygoers, therefore, they can become both candid and uninhibited — at least among their own. Real reporters never party with public officials or news subjects, but anybody else is fair game.

Some reporters come into the business because they love the potency of good words used well. They're writers by inclination and appetite, and they think like medics: *If I slap the right words on this baby maybe it'll glitter enough to stop the hemorrhaging.*

And some start as fact junkies. They love to look under the hood at the public engine to see what needs tuning up.

The lieutenant governor spent \$700,000 for his family trips, on our tab? The governor took two long years to talk about

slavery in Collier County tomato fields? Those sparkplugs aren't firing right.

The personalities and characters in a newsroom are countless, and they run the range from generous to greedy, from courageous to complacent.

But two things about them are almost always true: Reporters are moralists who harbor an instinct to right a wrong by writing a wrong. Also, they think everybody has the right to know what's up.

A few reporters can write so beautifully and strongly that whatever they tell, they reveal. Often editors don't figure out how to use that kind of talent, but readers seem to appreciate it. They embrace such writers not just with their consideration, but with their hearts.

However it goes, reporters are something like distance runners: They gather to hob-knob at the start, or they meet up in a local bar at the finish. But over the long road they go it alone.

Set to the music of American values, the work news reporters do is as honorable — as patriotic, if you will — as any that exists, including military service. I'm as proud of having once been a daily newspaper reporter as I am of having once been a Marine, and people who instinctively blame "the media" for asking hard questions or reporting hard facts, in my mind, are pusillanimous pissants.

In Florida it's reporters, not the chamber of commerce, who really celebrate the "sunshine" — the cultural illumination that helps make us free Americans.

Sunshine in this sense means that whatever our chosen or appointed leaders do — the politicians, government staffers,

police officers, school board officials, court officers or the like — all of us can look at the record of how they did it, anytime.

It's easy. You just contact the office of your choice and ask for the records you want to see.

By law they have to provide what you request, promptly.

There are a few exceptions: private companies bidding for public contracts, or police actions or court cases hanging in the balance. Then they don't have to show you the record, at first.

Some public officials (not all) stretch the sunshine laws or ignore them altogether, if they think they won't be sued. They'll do it with stainless-steel arrogance, and then blame "the media."

When I started as a daily newspaper reporter 15 years ago, if you wanted to talk to an official in city or county government, you called that person. Same with hospital officials or the chief of police or anybody else in a public position.

Now you have to wade through a cadre of public relations professionals.

"You need to call our media representative for permission before I can speak," is a common refrain. Sometimes they ask you to forward your questions in writing (you don't have to, it's just obfuscation). Lay-offs do not occur in the spin machine.

I was reminded of all this for a couple of reasons. One, this is "Sunshine Week," so named by journalists to celebrate freedom of information.

And two, one of the best news reporters I ever knew chose to part company with the world three years ago this month.

I doubt he ever heard of Sunshine Week, though he lived by the law and the code.

Mike Hoyem was ornery, funny, loyal, and relentless, at least as a daily newspaper reporter. He put more information into more stories more accurately and in less time than anybody I ever knew — not because he liked filling space, but because he wanted you to know, every single day. And nobody else was going to tell you.

Here's what the folks with public power and money said and did today. If you like it, fine. If not, now you know.

Then he'd party. An Army veteran and the son of a career soldier, Mike did everything well, except, perhaps, love, which had broken his heart.

And if he happened to care about something, he did it faster and better than anybody else: reporting, playing the guitar, running a pool table, shooting a 72 on a golf course where good players were lucky to shoot an 80. Or partying.

How he partied was instructive. The first time I discovered real gumbo, Mike stood across the room ignoring me and everybody else dipping in his 5-gallon pot.

He'd spent 24 hours preparing the rich soup for a cluster of friends, which is what it takes, but he answered only to Bob Dylan, trying to call cadence for an entire generation one more time.

A lot of us coveted that gumbo, but Mike — clutching a beer bottle and the cigarettes that finally killed him — didn't care.

This is the real thing. If you like it, cool, dude. If you don't, talk to somebody else.

Louisiana born, he considered praise a take-it-or-leave-it condiment. That's how Mike wrote news stories, too.

He had come to party, and he was a real reporter. ■

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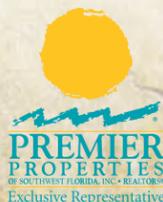
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OPINION

Hey big spender

BY RICH LOWRY

When President Barack Obama wanted to push an \$800 billion “stimulus” or “recovery” bill through Congress, he thought an atmosphere of economic crisis helped his cause. So he repeatedly warned of “catastrophe,” of “a crisis that, at some point, we may not be able to reverse.”

A little more than a week later, Obama moved onto his next priority, proposing an unbridled federal budget that will spend \$3.6 trillion next year and \$5.3 trillion more in the next 10 years than the Congressional Budget Office was projecting just last year. To get revenue for this budgetary explosion, Obama assumes the economy will be recovering at a nice clip next year, at a 3.2 percent annual rate.

What happened to the looming cataclysm? Obama exaggerated the downside of the economy so he could get more spending, and now he’s exaggerating its upside so he can get more spending. The fixed goal is more spending. The means — the rhetoric, the arguments, the assumptions — are flexible so long as they serve

that ultimate goal.

So much for the debate over Obama’s intentions — is he a pragmatist or an ideologue? Obama is a pragmatist in pursuit of an ideological prize, willing to zig and zag so long as his lodestar of expanded government is ahead of him.

A trope of conservative commentary about the stimulus package was that Nancy Pelosi had rolled the neophyte Obama, producing a sprawling monstrosity that betrayed his talk of pragmatism. This missed the point — Obama’s deference to Pelosi was his pragmatism. By giving Pelosi running room and enduring a few embarrassments, he got what he wanted, which was as much new spending as quickly as the political system could bear. If barely any Republicans could support it, so what? Bipartisanship was a means, not an end.

If Obama felt ill-used by this process, he wouldn’t be proposing to duplicate it with his health-care plan. Obama wants to give Congress a few principles and a \$634 billion health-care slush fund, and let Congress go at it and write his health-care plan. How it works out exactly doesn’t

matter so much than it gets done — and government grows.

Nothing can distract from that higher call. The financial crisis is still at the heart of our economic woes, but Obama has refused to grapple with it forthrightly. The contrast with Franklin Roosevelt — who acted immediately and forcefully to stem his (much more dire) banking crisis — couldn’t be starker. Why punt on the financial crisis? Because bold action means courting considerable political risk, and that could threaten the larger spending agenda. In this sense, the spending is evidently more important than recovery for Obama.

Obama’s critics who accused him of “socialism” during the presidential campaign were roundly ridiculed. What rank name-calling! The charge didn’t have much resonance because the best (not particularly convincing) evidence for it was Obama’s proposed tax credit for workers who don’t pay the income tax. But Obama’s opponents read him well. He has the heart, if not the affect, of an ideologue. For him, above all else, the spending is the thing. ■

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

Obama, Carter and the other white meat



Bipartisanship, an endangered species in Washington, is alive and well in at least one area of our political discourse: earmark spending, often referred to by the more rustic-sounding epithet “pork.”

That’s right — pork is something that the Democrats and Republicans can agree upon 100 percent. Just not at the same time.

In 2006, it was the Democrats, hungry to take back Congress from Republican control, who railed against earmarks and vowed to press forward on earmark reform if elected.

When that midterm election brought the Democrats to power in the House and the Senate, it was the Republicans’ turn to discover their distaste for pork. In his final State of the Union address, President George W. Bush demonstrated that he was shocked — shocked! — at Congress’ wasteful ways. Although he had signed, by *The New York Times’* estimate, some 55,000 earmarks into law during his two terms, he attacked earmarks with the zeal of the recently converted, vowing to veto future spending bills in which earmarks were not reduced by half.

Congress, knowing a threat from a lame duck when it heard one, responded by holding on to major spending bills until it had a new president to sign them.

Enter President Barack Obama, and the \$410 billion omnibus spending bill to which he affixed his signature this past week, amid much gnashing of the teeth from Republican opponents of pork and promises from the Democratic leadership — including Obama — that, from now on, by golly, they’ll get that pork under control.

With the economy in free-fall, why is Washington fixated on earmark spending that amounts to less than 2 percent of the current budget? Because, among the thousands of earmarks attached to any spending bill, it’s easy to find examples that either are wasteful or can be made to sound wasteful. Because, when your party isn’t getting the larger share of pork, it can start to look less appetizing.

But maybe there’s more to it than that. Those who remember the Carter administration for more than cardigan sweaters and the Iran hostage crisis might recall what can happen to a president who takes too hard a line on pork.

For one tempted to wonder why President Jimmy Carter, elected in the wake of Watergate and with big Democratic majorities in both houses of Congress, didn’t rack up a pile of legislative victories, the biggest and best answer may be

found in the word “dams.”

Carter, who had campaigned on promises to cut waste and pork-barrel projects in federal spending, took a stand early in his term against a slew of “worthless” (as Carter called them in his memoirs) water projects. Problem was, this was waste generated by some of the more powerful members of Congress, who became irate. After Carter agreed to a compromise brokered by then-House Speaker Tip O’Neill, the president further antagonized members of his own party’s congressional leadership by vetoing a public-works bill that sought to restore funding for some of these projects.

We all saw what happened to the Carter presidency, and this is one of the big reasons why. With President Obama having outlined a hugely ambitious domestic agenda, Republicans would probably like nothing more than for the president to drive a wedge between his White House and congressional Democrats by taking a hard line against earmarks. But don’t hold your breath waiting for it to happen.

Instead, we’re getting some mild promises of reform from the party in power. If you want to see the Democrats get really tough on pork, you’ll have to wait until the Republicans are in charge again. And, strangely enough, the Republicans will probably decide by then that pork doesn’t taste so bad, after all. ■

MOMENTS IN TIME

• On **March 19, 1971**, the Italian American Civil Rights League announces a truce with the producers of “The Godfather.” Upset at the portrayal of Italian Americans as gangsters, the League persuaded the producers not to use the words “Mafia” or “Cosa Nostra.”

On **March 20, 1852**, Harriet Beecher Stowe’s anti-slavery novel, “Uncle Tom’s Cabin,” is published. It sells 300,000 copies within three months. While living in Cincinnati, Stowe encountered fugitive slaves and the Underground Railroad. Later, she wrote “Uncle Tom’s Cabin” in reaction to recently tightened fugitive slave laws.

On **March 21, 1980**, President Jimmy Carter informs a group of U.S. athletes that, in response to the December 1979 Soviet incursion into Afghanistan, the United States will boycott the 1980 Olympics in Moscow. It marked the first and only time that the United States has boycotted the Olympics.

On **March 22, 1908**, Louis L’Amour, the prolific author of scores of bestselling Western novels, is born in Jamestown, N.D. His big break came when a novel he wrote at the age of 46 became the basis for the popular John Wayne movie “Hondo.”

• On **March 23, 1999**, author Thomas Harris delivers his 600-page manuscript for his new novel, “Hannibal,” to Delacorte press. He had promised the follow-up to “The Silence of the Lambs” more than 10 years earlier as part of a two-book contract that paid him a \$5.2 million advance.

• On **March 24, 1958**, Elvis Presley is inducted into the U.S. Army. Although he had been drafted the previous December, the Army granted him a deferral so he could finish shooting the film “King Creole.” ■

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15 MINUTES

How? Why? What it takes to be the toughest of the tough

BY ROGER WILLIAMS
rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

Maybe you've seen him, spinning northward out of Naples on a bicycle enroute to his day job as director of advancement at Florida Gulf Coast University — an easy little 22-mile ride from his home, one way.

Pete Lefferts — Dr. Peter Lefferts, as he is known on campus — grew up in a family of eight children. Captain of the tennis team in college, he joined the cross-country team in the fall for something to do, and to stay fit.

Now a 53-year-old baby boomer who's just under 6 feet and about 165 pounds, he still plays a little tennis. He's married to Jodie, and they have three wonderful daughters.

Here's one more thing to fill out his short 'n' sweet resume: The unassuming Dr. Lefferts is one of the toughest human beings you'll ever meet — that is, unless you make a habit of hanging around ultra-marathoners or sports extremists, the kind of folks who go solo up the world's highest mountains, or walk to the poles and back, or "run" deca-triathlons.

That's Dr. Lefferts for you. In November, he became the only American, and one of only 15 competitors, to finish the Deca Ironman in Mexico: deca, from the Greek word for 10; ironman, from the triathlon of a 2.4-mile swim, a 110-mile bike race and a 26.1-mile marathon.

Multiply that and you can see what

Dr. Lefferts did in a mere 326 hours, 49 minutes and 21 seconds: He swam 23.6 miles, he bicycled 1,118.5 miles and he ran about 261 miles.

"Twenty-one signed up, 18 showed up and 15 finished," he says. "I was the 15th. I finished at midnight, the day before the race ended. And it was precarious all the way."

Precarious because of pain and suffering, the kind of thing Dr. Lefferts doesn't spend a lot of time worrying about, or surrendering to, obviously.

Precarious because at any moment, he might have pulled a hamstring, fractured a bone, blown out a knee.

"I don't know if I'd say the deca was tougher than the (triple) triathlon, because you have to do that in 60 hours," he notes, comparing one devastating-to-the-body ultra-event with another.

In either case, or in the 100-mile runs he does each year, sleep deprivation is part of the game.

That's why he was meeting a friend to run all night long just last week, like he probably will again this week sometime as he prepares to head to Umstead, N.C., for another 100-miler in a couple of weeks.

That's nothing but a little 20-hour soiree.

"We say in this sport, whenever you feel good, don't get too happy; and whenever you feel bad, don't get too depressed. Because in either case, you'll come out of it," he says.

There are probably two questions most of us would ask of Dr. Lefferts:



Pete Lefferts

COURTESY PHOTO

require. But Dr. Lefferts doesn't count.

His times these days are as fast as they were almost 20 years ago when he started, which says something about age, or about wisdom and smarts, or both. Then he was younger and stronger, but not necessarily smarter; now he knows how to use what he has.

"Young guys usually don't have it," he says. In the longest races, such as the Deca Ironman, "these young, chiseled college grads almost without exception will fail."

And why won't they make it, with all that youth and strength? "They have young-man syndrome," he replies.

In other words, they're too proud to slow down or stop and walk. Marathoners also have trouble, he says: They think walkers are beaten runners, and they often struggle in the longer events because of that attitude; they don't know how to martial their resources.

In moments of doubt or despair, exhaustion or pain, experience becomes a teacher, one whose lesson is unexpected, Dr. Lefferts says. "A life's worth of work shows you that you can go into bad places and eventually you come out of them. You learn that the next thing after exhaustion is not necessarily more exhaustion, or collapse. The body is an incredible instrument."

The body and its creator.

"I'm a very religious person, and I feel blessed by God to be able to be out there doing this," he says.

And that answers the question, Why? ■

How? And why? (Although not necessarily in that order.)

The how is a matter of years of training — running, swimming, biking, and weight lifting. "You can pretty much eat anything you want," he says, which suggests how many calories such athletes

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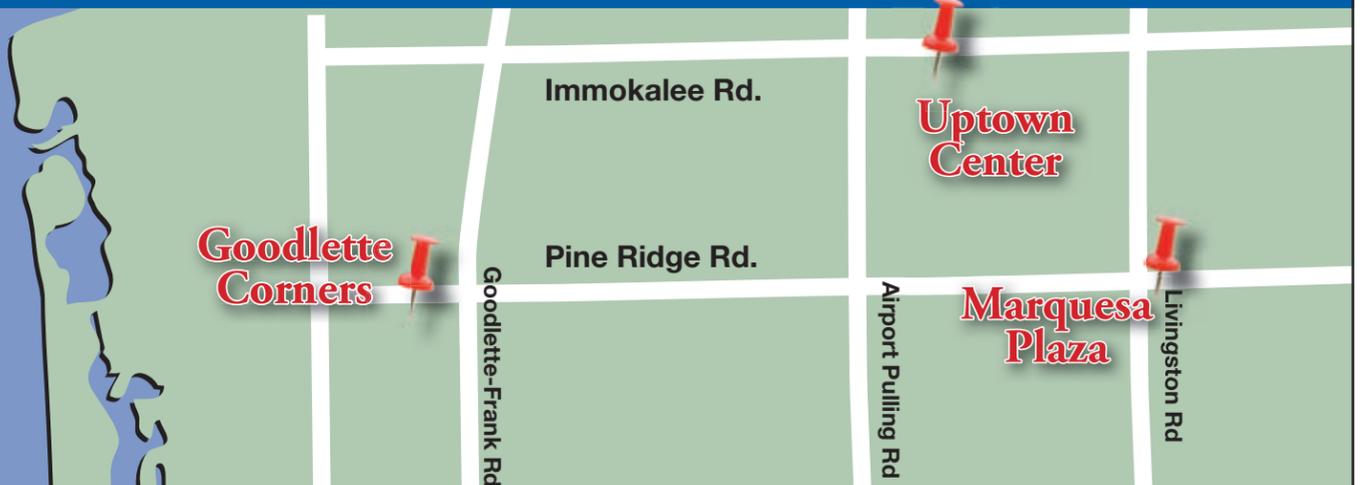


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SOCIETY

From page 1

afar serve as its enablers. There is a fascination that seemingly cannot be satiated. This obsession has fueled innumerable newspaper and magazine articles, scores of nonfiction books and the occasional *roman a clef*.

We who do not live there may find Palm Beach to be vapid and irrelevant, but it seems as if we cannot get enough of its scandals and ridiculous ways.

Carl Hiaasen, columnist, novelist and the Charles Dickens of South Florida, puts his finger on this phenomenon when he writes, "As any journalist can attest, just because a place is shallow, corrupt and infested with phonies doesn't mean it's dull."

Thus, to challenge Palm Beach's iconic status takes some doing, simply because of the mythic spot it occupies in our collective psyche. But over the past decade or so, a pretender has emerged.

Naples.

Yes, dowdy, little, sleepy Naples. Fueled by an influx of CEO-style wealth, which tumbles southward from the Midwest, Naples has carefully crafted a reputation as the state's *other* citadel of manners and money. Along with their substantial bank accounts, these new Neapolitans bring with them a taste for grand parties, chic fundraisers and lavish events that rivals the doings of dear old Palm Beach. Indeed, the Naples Winter Wine Festival, which concluded last month, has earned in nine years an international reputation for grandeur and fundraising that equals or surpasses any single event that Palm Beach hosts.

But with that said, the question remains: Is Naples truly a threat to Palm Beach's standing, not only in Florida but outside of the state as well? And do the two towns truly compete against one another?

In other words, is this the polo-and-caviar set's equivalent of the Red Sox vs. the Yankees?

"Let me tell you this," says Erin Belleville, "the people in Palm Beach don't give two hoots in hell about Naples."

Ms. Belleville, a much-decorated veteran of society wars in Palm Beach, Houston's River Oaks and most recently San Francisco's Pacific Heights, insists that in terms of rivalry, Palm Beach feels none — at least where Naples is concerned.

"It probably goes something like this," she explains. "Naples looks to Palm Beach for validation of its status, Palm Beach looks to Manhattan and Manhattan looks to God."

Ms. Belleville posits that "the hippie snobs of Napa" probably feel more threatened by Naples than the residents of Palm Beach because of the tremendous success of the Florida wine festival, which has diminished the standing of some notable wine events in California.

(For the record, Andrea Steffy, a spokeswoman for the Naples festival, says: "We don't feel we really compete with anyone. Our goal is to raise money to help the children of Collier County, and we applaud anyone who raises funds for other worthwhile causes.")

"What Naples has done with (the wine festival) has truly put them on the map," Ms. Belleville adds.

Many in Naples would concur that a rivalry with Palm Beach does not exist. Yet they maintain that is because their town doesn't wish to emulate its East Coast counterpart, no matter how much appearances may speak to the contrary.

"For years, people in Naples have been saying: 'We don't want to be like Miami, we don't want to be like Miami,'" says Lois Bolin, a knowledgeable Naples historian and a tart-tongued commentator of the social scene. "Well, these people were horrified to wake up one day and realize, 'Oh, hell, we're not like Miami, we're like Palm Beach.' It's not necessarily something a lot of people really aspired to, however."

There are obvious differences between the two towns. A notable one is the way in which Naples clings to its propriety in a

"Why, oh why, do they dislike dear old Palm Beach so much? I wonder. Could it be they are jealous?"

— Mary Sanford (1895-1993), heiress, known as "The Queen of Palm Beach Society" for much of the 20th century



PHOTO BY SLIM AARONS/GETTY IMAGES

April 1959: Mary Sanford attending a charity ball in Palm Beach.

manner that would bewilder much of Palm Beach.

Lapses in behavior in Palm Beach tend to be herculean in nature and national in scope, such as the Pulitzer divorce trial (which made life in Palm Beach sound like the backstage goings-on of the Rolling Stones), the William Kennedy Smith rape trial (replete with tales of Ted Kennedy's pub crawling) and the Bernard Madoff scandal (he owns a home in Palm Beach and was an esteemed figure there). Even minor offenses in Palm Beach have a certain panache, as when Libera had his purse snatched while he dined at one of Worth Avenue's toniest establishments.

The most titillating eruptions in Naples probably were the Steven Benson murder case in the 1980s, in which Mr. Benson, in a failed bid for inheritance money from his family's Leaf Tobacco Company fortune, placed a bomb in a car and killed his mother and his brother, and the David Mobley financial scam that bilked locals and others out of more than \$100 million through a Ponzi scheme that foreshadowed, on a much smaller scale, the later finagling of Mr. Madoff.

Tellingly, it is a rare Naples scandal indeed that involves a name that is familiar outside of the immediate area.

"People who are happy in Palm Beach, probably wouldn't be happy in Naples, and people who love Naples probably would not love Palm Beach," says Doris Reynolds, who has lived in Naples for more than a half century and is acknowledged as the foremost expert on the city's history and lore. Ms. Reynolds also wrote for *Palm Beach Life* for a dozen years, so she has a sense of both places.

"What you have in Palm Beach is a coterie of old, old money," Ms. Reynolds says. "That's not so in Naples, where the money is not as old. And because of that, Naples is a very democratic place, less snobbish and less clannish than Palm Beach. But don't be misled. Money is still the great equalizer in Palm Beach and Naples."

Ms. Reynolds says that while Palm Beach has an almost insatiable desire to air its most guilty secrets, as evidenced by the best-selling tell-all books that are usually written by local authors and crammed full of anecdotes and salacious tales supplied by prominent residents, Naples prefers to keep its scandals in the cupboard.

On this subject, Ms. Reynolds is expert. She was approached a few years back by the publishing house Little, Brown to write an insider's account of Naples. As someone who knows where more than one skeleton is buried, Ms. Reynolds was the perfect choice to pen such a page-turner.

She respectfully declined the opportunity, no doubt to the substantial relief of many of her fellow Neapolitans.

"I had a title: 'Inside Paradise,'" she recalls. "But I decided against it. I didn't want to hurt people by telling everything I know. And, really, nothing has happened in Naples that hasn't happened anywhere else. As long as you've got men and women and lots of money, you're going to have things happen."

"I've been in Naples 56 years," she continues. "If I wrote everything I know, well, I'd probably get death threats and be run out of town. I do not want that. I love it here. I

want to stay."

So, instead of a torrid expose of desire under the palms, Ms. Reynolds wrote a book that combined history and food and bore the title "When Peacocks Were Roasted and Mullet Was Fried." To date, that book has prompted no death threats and no one-way tickets out of town for Ms. Reynolds.

Ms. Bolin echoes Ms. Reynolds' views that Naples chooses to be more subdued in how it displays its wealth. That fact, rather than the sheer amount of wealth itself, which may tilt in Naples' favor, is the greatest differentiator between the two places, she says.

"You have in Palm Beach what I would call 'loud' money," she says. "In Naples, the money is more 'quiet.' This is because Naples attracted a different sort of person."

"People who came to Naples originally were more likely to love nature, to be less pretentious and have less desire to display their wealth. Some of those who first began to come down here enjoyed driving ratty cars and wearing old clothes for three months out of the year. It was a different, more relaxed way of life than they had back home."

"Naples can still be seen as quaint and charming by someone who is from New York. That's not the case with Palm Beach."

Barbara and Ron Balsler serve as trustees of the Naples Winter Wine Festival and divide their time among homes in Naples, the Buckhead section of Atlanta and Santa Fe.

"I've spent a good bit of time over the last 25 to 35 years in Palm Beach," says Mrs. Balsler. "They do have some magnificent events there, some truly magnificent events. But I think we have a goodly number here as well."

"I don't think people from Palm Beach have a clue how wonderful Naples is, and that is all right. We're not in competition, in my mind. I think competition is more of a Palm Beach thing. I feel the people in Naples are a little friendlier. "We don't live in competition here. Part of that is because so many of the people in Naples come from the Midwest, while much of Palm Beach is from New York and the Northeast."

"New York is wonderful; I love it. But it can be a tough life, even if you have money. You've got to elbow your way around there. It is gentler, lower-key in Naples. We have a quiet way of going about our lives."

But if one craves the grand stage where wealth, status and appearance count for everything, or almost everything, then Palm Beach is the place to be.

Consider the marital experience of Ms. Bolin. For a time, she was wed to a godson of Aristotle Onassis, and they lived in Naples. He found the atmosphere to be soporific at best, suffocating at worst.

"He really thought of Naples as sort of a joke," Ms. Bolin says.

Eventually, her husband's disdain for Naples — along with other considerations, of course — led to the dissolution of their union. Ms. Bolin got on with her life in Naples as a consultant and writer.

Her former husband?

"He moved to Palm Beach," she says with a laugh.

Take it from Doris Reynolds, Naples isn't for everyone. ■



FLORIDA WEEKLY/JIM MCLAUGHLIN

Naples Wine Festival Grants Chair Ann Bain

WINE FEST

From page 1

funds raised, and they tapped into money set aside for future strategic initiative projects to make up the difference.

"NCEF's focus is to be good stewards of the money we raise," said trustee Ann Bain, chair of the Grant Committee. "We felt it was very important to use a portion of the foundation's uncommitted dollars to bridge funding gaps necessary to fulfill our mission of making a profound difference in the lives of children in need today."

Mr. Galloway added, "Given the economic downturn, thousands of children in our county need our support more than ever." Through its grants, he added, NCEF "is handing children a lifeline during these tough times and improving their prospects for better days ahead."

Several of this year's grants will help the recipient nonprofit organizations obtain additional funding from other sources.

The David Lawrence Center's grant of \$150,000, earmarked for investing in its pediatric crisis stabilization unit, will be matched dollar-for-dollar by the center's foundation. The \$460,000 awarded to the Collier County Child Advocacy Council, which provides medical and social diagnosis of children suspected of abuse or neglect, positions CAC for a Victims of Crime Act state grant.

Given that Collier County does not provide local government support for social services, children's charities must raise funds privately. To determine grant recipients, NCEF evaluated applications based on program cost per child, return on investment, financial health and leadership of the organization, effective and efficient spending of previous NCEF grants, program sustainability and community impact, along with other factors.

In addition to the yearly grant cycle, a portion of past festival proceeds are held by NCEF for long-term strategic initiatives dedicated to closing severe gaps in four areas: early learning, medical/oral health, out-of-school programs and social welfare. Strategic initiatives undertaken by NCEF include the recently completed NCEF Pediatric Dental Center and NCEF Early Learning Center, both on the Collier County campus of Edison State College.

NCEF was founded in 2000 by a group of Naples families dedicated to improving the physical, emotional and educational lives of underprivileged or at-risk children in Collier County. Since 2001, its wine festival charity event has raised more than \$74 million. It has been ranked the most successful charity wine auction by Wine Spectator since 2004.

Information about the 2010 Naples Winter Wine Festival, to be held Jan. 29-31, and 2010 grant applications are available at www.napleswinefestival.com or by calling the festival office at (888) 837-4919. ■



- recipients
- >> **2009 NCEF GRANT RECIPIENTS**
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 - >> **Boys & Girls Clubs of Collier County**, \$1,000,000
 - >> **Catholic Charities**, \$98,280
 - >> **Children's Hospital of SWF**, \$160,000
 - >> **Collier Child Care Resources**, \$262,500
 - >> **Collier County Child Advocacy Council**, \$460,000
 - >> **David Lawrence Center**, \$150,000
 - >> **Eden**, \$125,000
 - >> **Early Literacy and Learning Model**, \$450,000
 - >> **First Book-Collier County**, \$25,000
 - >> **Foster Care Council of SWF**, \$300,000
 - >> **Fun Time Early Childhood Academy**, \$95,000
 - >> **Guadalupe Center of Immokalee**, \$1,000,000
 - >> **Immokalee Child Care Center**, \$200,000
 - >> **Immokalee Nonprofit Housing**, \$145,000
 - >> **Marco Island YMCA**, \$200,000
 - >> **Naples Equestrian Challenge**, \$250,000
 - >> **PACE Center for Girls**, \$156,000
 - >> **Redlands Christian Migrant Association**, \$266,777
 - >> **Shelter of Abused Women & Children**, \$350,000
 - >> **Step by Step Childhood Education and Therapy Center**, \$337,500
 - >> **Tutor Corps**, \$150,000
 - >> **Vision Quest**, \$61,000
 - >> **YMCA of the Palms**, \$350,000
 - >> **Youth Haven**, \$100,000
 - >> **TOTAL**: \$6,982,057



PHOTOS FLORIDA WEEKLY/JIM MCLAUGHLIN

TOP: Zachary Rosenberg helps Festival Trustees Carol and Tom Lund with bracelets that read "I Dream Do You."

ABOVE LEFT: Five-year-old Jack Maya unwraps his new toothbrush at the Pediatric Dental Center.

ABOVE RIGHT: The Naples Wiine Festival helps kids like these at the Immokalee Child Care Center.

LEFT: Margaret Mondavi accepts a cookie from 5-year-old Guadalupe Center chef Adrian Arevalo.

UNDERCOVER HISTORIAN

Working 9-to-5: What a way to make a living

BY LOIS BOLIN

Special to Florida Weekly

Charles Tebeau said nature made Collier County a part of America's last frontier, with settlements all along the fringe of the county. Each of these settlements had its own unique economic, political and legal connections, and they had little dealings among themselves — that is, until the Tamiami Trail and the railroads made connections possible.

The people residing in the communities under the umbrella of Collier County — Immokalee, HWY 29 (with seven townships), Everglades City, Chokoloskee, Marco (then called Collier City), Goodland, the “rest” of the area now called greater Naples, and the City of Naples — did share two commonalities, however: They worked hard to keep their families fed, and their creative, enterprising spirit built the city and county into what they are today.

Living off the land

The first permanent settlers came to farm and were actually squatters, settling in whenever area they could find a spot high enough above sea level. Today we might find it odd to think of Marco Island, Chokoloskee and the Everglades as thriving agricultural areas with a ready-made market in Key West.

It's amazing how these settlers knew what soil would support which crop without the benefits of formal soil analysis. The tried-and-true “taste analysis” led these farmers to specialize with particular crops in certain areas.

Tomatoes, the money crop even back

then, flourished best on a shell mound. Sugar cane was suited for bottomland in Everglades and fruit was Marco's export — especially pineapples.

One of the best-known areas back then was Deep Lake in the middle of HWY 29. Some consider this to be the birthplace of Collier County. It was home to Deep Lake Groves, which were plentiful with grapefruits and oranges.

But all that was only until imports drove the farmers to new endeavors, and commercial fishing steadily became the most important way of making a living in these parts.

The fish were plentiful in the early years, as were oysters and clams. In fact, clams were so abundant that Collier City supported two clam factories at one time. The Doxsee Company and the Burnham Cannery both thrived. Once Captain Bill Collier developed his contraption that could dig for clams in 12 feet of water, it meant barefoot pickers weren't the only ones who could come up with a good haul.

Birds of a different feather

Many forms of livelihood that were some commonplace in those days are hard for us to imagine in these modern times. For example, turtle harvesting for eggs and meat was a mainstay of pioneers — especially those who were not good at tilling the land or were prone to getting lost in the Ten Thousand Islands.

While birds were always hunted for meat, in the last half of the 19th century a ruthless industry sprang forth — plume gathering.

The feathers of wild birds, especially the egret and roseate spoonbill, were coveted adornments, and agents were always near-

by and eager to purchase them. Because the plumage was best to harvest at nesting time, it did not take long for these divine creatures to come close to extermination, as chicks and eggs were left defenseless. In 1901, the Florida Legislature prohibited the killing of wild birds at nesting time.

Around 1912, the United States government banned imports of feathers. By then, the consciousness of society had been raised.

Cattle, boats and charcoal

Florida has always been known for its cattle country, and Immokalee was at the epicenter. Lesser-known industries were boat building and charcoal making.

The Storter and Collier families were among the area's boat-building pioneers. William Collier's grandson, John Morgan, went on to develop the Morgan Boat Company.

Charcoal making was done by those who had a way to burn cords of wood to package up to send to Key West. One cord of wood made two bags of charcoal.

Project Innovation

Collier's economy began to rely solely upon development, real estate and tourism. As we can see, relying solely upon industries that are intrinsically linked has its drawbacks.



A 1913 hunting camp in Naples (note the wild turkey hanging from the tree left of center)

COURTESY PHOTO

Fortunately, the pioneering spirit of old has left its mark as the Economic Development Council of Collier County. In partnership with other community leaders, the EDC developed Project Innovation, a series of symposiums designed to examine ways for creating a sustainable economy that is not so dependent upon development and tourism.

Clamming and charcoal making were not sustainable economies, but the community leaders back then forged new paths in this last frontier — and so are today's community leaders. For information about Project Innovation visit www.enaplesflorida.com. ■

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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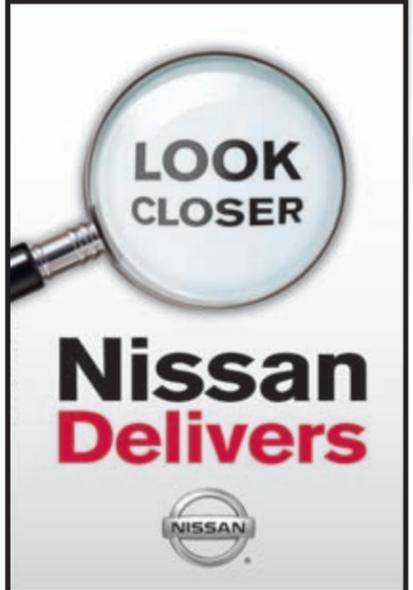
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Oil, trees, Old Naples history are next topics at mini-museum

The Naples Backyard History Speakers Series presents three free programs this week. All take place at the NBH Mini-Museum at 1300 Third Street South. Although there is no charge for admission, reservations are required. Call 594-2978.

► 5:30-6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 19 - Kris Well of the American Oil and Gas Historical Society will discuss "The History of Oil in Collier County." Sponsored by Hodges University.

► 2-4 p.m. Friday, March 20 - Jan Aber-

nathie, senior botanist at The Naples Zoo, who was originally hired by Julius "Junkie" Fleischmann, will discuss "Historic Trees of Naples." Sponsored by Lavern Norris Gaynor.

► 2-3:30 p.m. Saturday, March 21 - The originally scheduled program with sisters Debbie and Dot Wade has been replaced with "The History of Old Naples' Historic District" featuring Florida Weekly Undercover Historian Lois Bolin, Old Naples historian Mary Watkins and Keewaydin historian Lavern Gaynor. ■

Season's last Chickee Chat covers historic home restoration

The last in this season's series of Chickee Chats at the Naples Historical Society's Palm Cottage takes place from 11 a.m. to noon Friday, March 20, and will consist of a panel discussion about historic home restoration in Naples. Homeowners, general contractors and real-estate professionals will be interested to hear city building official Paul Bollenback and floodplain coordinator

Christa Carrera.

"This presentation is historic itself because there hasn't been enough information given to the public on the protocol for restoring an historic home," says Mr. Bollenback, who is head of the city's Building Department.

Although the program is free, reservations are required and can be made by calling 261-8164. ■

Garden architect will discuss Naples Botanical plans

Award-winning landscape architect and designer Raymond Jungles will discuss his plans for Naples Botanical Garden's new Brazilian Garden as part of the Lifelong Learning lecture series at 10 a.m. Tuesday, March 24. Mr. Jungles will also discuss 20 other design projects around Florida. A limited quantity of his new book, "The Colors of Nature," will be available at a book signing following the lecture.

Admission to the Lifelong Learning lecture is \$15 for members of the Garden

and \$20 for others. Seating is limited and registration is recommended.

For the past several months the Garden has been closed for expansion/renovation, with the public permitted in for occasional pre-registered tours. The Garden holds its final visit to the Tropical Mosaic Garden from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 21.

The Garden will open to the general public in November 2009.

To register for the lecture or for the upcoming tour, call 643-7275. ■

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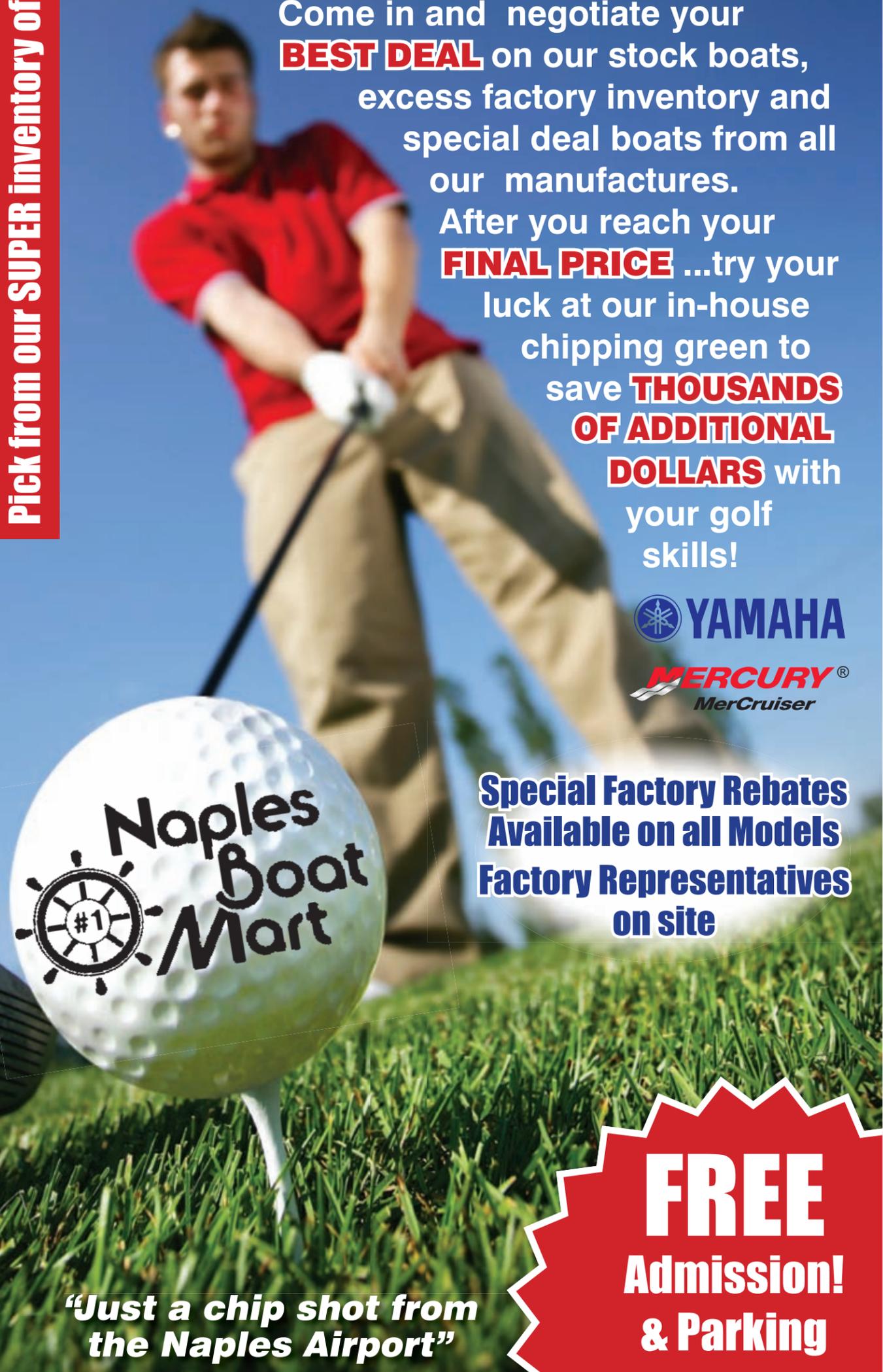
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'Third in Bloom' plants seeds for the Naples Flower Show



Flowers at Concierge Court.

COURTESY PHOTO

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Third Street South, "the official shopping district of the Naples Flower Show," will be abloom with floral displays in store windows plus special events, restaurant menus and gallery exhibits March 19-22 as a precursor to the flower show that takes place March 28-29 at the Naples Botanical Garden.

Here's what's on tap:

Thursday, March 19

Third Street South merchants will unveil their window displays created to honor the Naples Flower Show theme for 2009: "It's in the Bag."

► **10 a.m. - Historic Garden Tour, Palm Cottage** Take a step back in time on a docent-guided tour of The Norris Gardens at Palm Cottage with stories about the landscape of Naples over the past 100 years. Whether you're interested in palms, edible plants, fragrant plants, exotic plants, grasses or shade from the sun, there is something here for everyone. Requested donation, \$8 per person; Naples Historical Society members admitted free.

► **1:30 p.m. - Going Green in the Garden, Gattle's Plaza** Sharon Zaleski will give easy, no-nonsense instruction on how to create a chemical-free garden. Topics include proper pruning, importance of air circulation, introduction of "friendly bugs," watering and the use of natural materials for fertilization. Free.

► **4 p.m. - Floral demonstration by the Naples Garden Club, Gattle's Plaza** Watch as one of the Naples Garden Club's award-winning members creates a floral arrangement. Free.

► **6-9p.m. - Thursday on Third** Enjoy special music celebrating "Third in Bloom." At Gattle's Plaza, hear Quiet Storm; at Tony's Off Third, enjoy the sounds of Easy Street; and at Camargo Plaza, listen to Art Esenberg.

Friday, March 20

► **10 a.m. to 5 p.m. - Fresh Flower Cart in the courtyard at The Garden District** You'll feel like you're in a market in France.

► **10 a.m. to 6 p.m. - Plein air painting with Paul Arsenault in The Garden District courtyard** Watch Mr. Arsenault put "Third in Bloom" on canvas, capturing the colorful magic throughout the day's ever-changing light.

► **10 a.m. - Third Street Horticulture Walking Tour, Gattle's Plaza** Join Jim Bixler for a walking tour that takes you by more than 200 container gardens and hanging baskets, and several tucked-away garden courtyards and alleys. Wear comfortable shoes. Free.

► **11 a.m. - Historic Home Restoration, a Chickee Chat at Palm Cottage** Sit in on a panel discussion with Paul Bollenback and Christa Carrers, both with

the City of Naples. Free, but reservations required by calling 261-8164.

► **2 p.m. - Historic Trees of Naples, the Naples Backyard History Mini-Museum** Join Naples Zoo botanist Jan Abernathie as he shares some shady tales on beloved historic trees in our city. Free, but reservations appreciated. Call 594-2978.

Saturday, March 21

► **7:30 a.m. to noon - Third Street South Farmers Market, behind Tommy Bahama's** More than 50 vendors sell locally produced vegetables, fruits, jams, breads, soups, pasta and seafood. It's also the best people-watching in town.

► **9:30 a.m. - Third Street Horticulture Walking Tour, Gattle's Plaza** A repeat of Jim Bixler's tour described above.

► **10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fresh Flower Cart in the courtyard at The Garden District**

► **10 a.m. to 6 p.m. - Plein air painting, in The Garden District courtyard** A repeat of Paul Arsenault's demonstration described above.

► **1 p.m. - Container Gardening, Gattle's Plaza** A hands-on program with master gardener Dayle Westover, who will cover the basics from choosing your potting mix and your plants to fertilizing and watering. Free.

► **2 p.m. - "The History of Old Naples' Historic District," Naples Backyard History Mini-Museum** Hear it straight from Old Naples historian Mary Watkins, Florida Weekly Undercover Historian Lois Bolin and Keewaydin historian Lavern Gaynor. Free, but reservations appreciated by calling 594-2978.

Sunday, March 22

► **11 a.m. to 3 p.m. - "Pets on Third," in the parking lot behind Tommy Bahama's** Bring your four-legged friends to the inaugural pet adoption event and pet parade. Pet-related vendors, a veterinarian and a trainer, plus micro-chipping and lots of dogs and cats hoping for loving homes. Pet parade on 13th Avenue South starts at 1 p.m. Proceeds benefit the Naples Spay and Neuter Clinic. For more information, call Kimball McIlvaine at 273-5746.

Participating "Third in Bloom" merchants are: Four Winds Gallery, Gallery One Gallery, Gardner Colby Gallery, HW Gallery, Bobby Jones, Lily Pulitzer C'Orrico, Eileen Fisher, Evelyn & Arthur, Fancy Nancy's, Gattle's Lingerie, Jami's, John Craig, The Beach House, Tickled Pink, C.W. Smith, The Garden District, Gattle's Interior, Provenance, The Englishman Fine European Art & Furnishings Gallery, The Workshops of David T. Smith, Tony's Off Third, Ridgway Bar & Grill and Cleopatra's Barge. ■



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Sheriff invites the public to talk safety

Sheriff Kevin Rambosk has scheduled a series of community workshops that will give Collier County residents the opportunity to share concerns about safety in the neighborhoods where they live, work and shop. The sheriff encourages residents and business owners to bring their concerns and their suggestions for improvement to the town hall-style meetings. The schedule is as follows:

► North Naples: 6-8 p.m. Thursday, March 19, at North Naples Regional Park, 15000 Livingston Road. Call 597-1607 for more information.

► Golden Gate: 6-8 p.m. Monday, March 23, at Vineyards Country Club,

400 Vineyards Blvd. Call 455-3121.

► Golden Gate Estates: 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, March 24, at the University of Florida Extension Center, 14700 Immokalee Road. Call 304-3520.

► East Naples: 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, March 25, in the Professional Development Center at Gulfview Middle School, 615 Third Avenue South. Call 793-1844.

► Everglades: 6-8 p.m. Thursday, March 26, in the meeting hall at Everglades Community Church, 101 South Copeland Ave. Call 695-2301.

► Immokalee: 6-8 p.m. Friday, March 27, in the Collier County Park Building, 321 N. 1st St. Call 657-6168. ■

Ave Maria water park has Family Fun Day

The first-ever Family Fun Day at the water park in Ave Maria takes place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 21. Activities include a dunk tank, rock wall and a 4H animal exhibit. Admission of \$10

per person provides entry to all exhibits and to the water park, plus lunch.

Tickets are on sale in the Visit Center at the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce, 2390 Tamiami Trail N. ■

Chabad Center celebrates Purim, Hawaiian-style

The Chabad Jewish Center of Naples hosts its annual "Purim Around the World" masquerade ball on Sunday, March 22. This year's theme of a Hawaiian Purim Luau is expected to draw hundreds of adults and children to take a step into Hawaii to celebrate the holiday of Purim, one of the most joyous Jewish holidays. Purim commemorates Jewish survival and perseverance and bears testimony to the ultimate triumph of good over evil.

The festivities will begin at 5:30 p.m. with the customary reading of the Megillah (scroll of Purim) and a multi-media presentation. This will be followed by a Hawaiian buffet dinner featuring kosher

island cuisine along with the traditional customary Purim Hamantashen. Entertainment will include a clown, limbo game, make your own lei and a costume contest. Guests should bring a donation for the less fortunate, as charity is an important element of Purim.

Earlier in the day, the center invites all area children to participate in baking the unleavened bread that is eaten during Passover. The baking begins at 11 a.m.

The Chabad Jewish Center is at 850 Seagate Drive. Cost of the Hawaiian Purim Luau is \$18 for adults and \$12 for children.

For more information, call 261-0772 or e-mail purim@chabadnaples.com. ■



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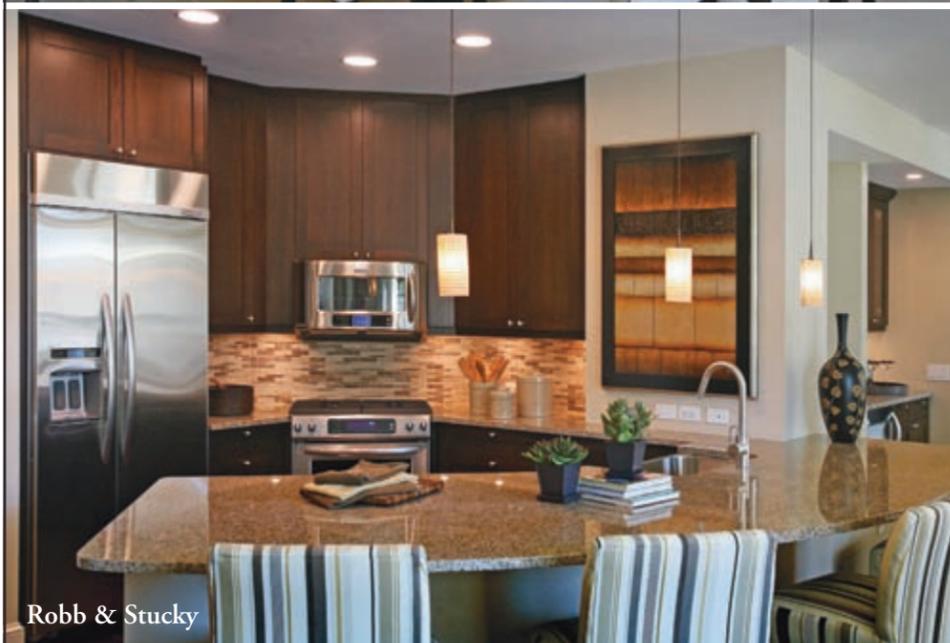
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P.I. 101 teaches users how to use clerk's web site

As the keeper of the public records in Collier County, Clerk of Courts Dwight Brock is committed to making public information more quickly and easily available through the clerk's official Web site, www.CollierClerk.com.



Here's where you can find out if someone has a criminal record. You can look up a legal document like a mortgage, a claim of lien or homeowner's association document. Find out how to get a passport application and a marriage license. Look up your jury service numbers.

In cooperation with the Frances Pew Hayes Center for Lifelong Learning at Hodges University, the Clerk of Courts office is offering "P.I. 101: Using www.CollierClerk.com," a free seminar about using the Web site, from 2:45-4:25 p.m. Wednesday, March 25.

Participants in the interactive tour of www.CollierClerk.com will learn about online services that enable them to dispose of a traffic citation, file a tenant eviction or a small claims case, and more.

To sign up for the session, which takes place at the Naples campus of Hodges University, call 598-6133. ■

This week on WGCU-TV

Here's what to watch on PBS and WGCU-TV (TV 30.1/Cable 3 and 240) during prime time hours this week:

► **Connect! Volunteering** - 8:30 p.m. Friday, March 20

Participating as a volunteer in the grand opening of Gulf Coast Medical Center; offering professional medical assistance to those in need; taking it to the stage for charity at the annual Physician's Talent Show. Hosted by Jim McLaughlin.

► **"Welk Stars: Through the Years"** - 7 p.m. Saturday, March 21

Outstanding musical production numbers from public television specials produced during the past 10 years.

► **Pianist Richard Abel "Elegancia"** - 8 p.m. Sunday, March 22

Mr. Abel and guest singers and soloists perform in the elegant century-old Versailles ballroom in Montréal as 12 couples whirl across the floor in full 18th-century finery.

► **"Mo' Davis"** - 8 p.m. Monday, March 23

From Puccini to Proud Mary, three talented, classically trained singers with diva attitude and the pipes and bravura to back it up perform a fast-paced, family-friendly, standing ovation concert.



► **"Antiques Roadshow: Wichita (Part 3)"** - 8 p.m. Monday, March 23

A 1920s Buddy "L" toy sand and gravel truck; a 19th-century bronze sculpture by British artist Edward Onslow Ford; an 18th-century surveyor's compass.

► **NOVA: "Extreme Ice"** - 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 24

Follow the exploits of a scientific team as they deploy time-lapse cameras to study melting glaciers in risky, remote locations in the Arctic, Alaska and the Alps.

► **"Great Performances: Eric Clapton Crossroads Guitar Festival Chicago"** - 8 p.m. Thursday, March 26

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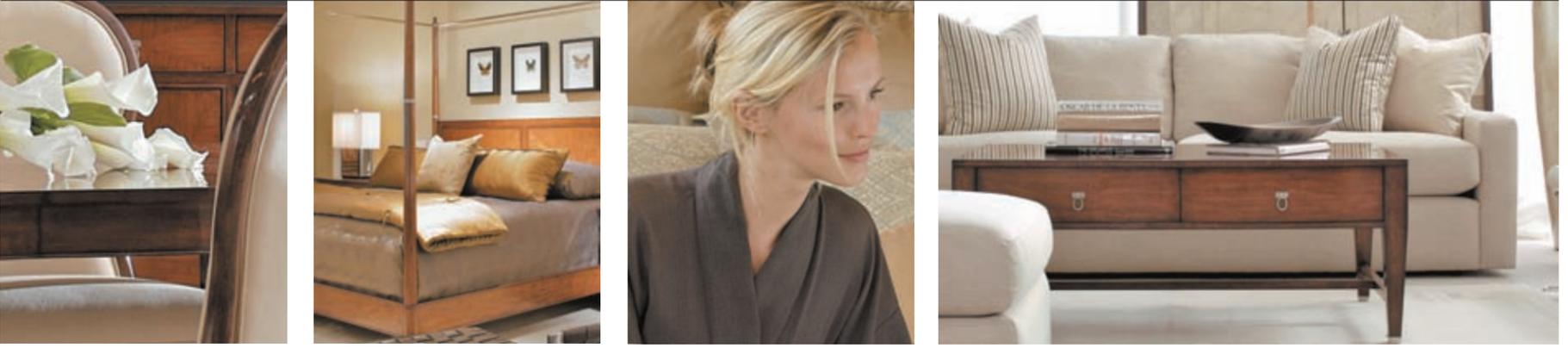
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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD
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Tattooed eyeballs?

In January 2008, London's The Sun found a practitioner of a new art form in which a design is inked, with a tattoo needle, into the sclera, which is the white part of the eyeball. That volunteer (from Canada) may well be the only daredevil, or one of a tiny number. But Oklahoma state senators were alarmed enough that they passed legislation out of committee in February to ban the

practice in their state. "If we can stop ... one person from doing it, we've been successful," said Sen. Cliff Branam. An Oklahoma City tattoo artist told KSBI-TV that the law is useless, in that "common sense" will prevent the problem. (So far, only the senators from Oklahoma seem to believe they have constituents who might actually ask for ink to be inserted into their eyeballs.) ■

Latest religious messages

► Pastor Bob Book of the Church of the Common Ground in Atlanta and his wife scrub the feet of three dozen homeless men every Monday, based on the concept of Jesus washing his disciples' feet, with such pedicures including a soak, pumice-rubbing, nail-trimming and massage, topped off by a clean pair of socks. Book says his crusade makes the down-and-out feel more confident, and the "worst ongoing" threat, according to him, is not Satan in men's minds but fungus in their toes. "It eats away and destroys the toenails and just makes it very hard for people to walk."

► The Vatican said in January that Pope Benedict XVI would soon issue guidelines to help Catholics understand which "sightings" of the Virgin Mary and Jesus are legitimate and which are phony (such as "apparitions" that seem to have been created for quick sale on eBay). When a claim occurs, the local bishop will be expected to convene a panel of theologians, mental-health people and priests who will investigate (and, if the sighting is demonic, summon an exorcist). (A 2003 Vatican paper noted that only 11 of the 295 reported apparitions during the 20th century were "genuine.") ■

Questionable judgments

► In January, Prince William County, Va., supervisors told Robert Bird, the longtime chief of the volunteer firehouse in Gainesville, that it would be shut down if Bird and his wife and 19-year-old daughter didn't move out. They had taken up residence upstairs from the truck decades ago (a Washington Post reporter was not able to track down exactly when) and built a customized kitchen for themselves with room for 16 guests, a weight room, and a large family room with a 50-inch TV set. Said the chairman of the supervisors, "There is a difference between sleeping in the station and living in the station."

► "This adds an extra dimension people will appreciate," said Hobart, Australia, mayor Rob Valentine in December, announcing that at the annual Taste Festival later that month, performance

artists would entertain in the restrooms. According to Valentine, the performers would also supply soap and towels and would "recite (a) favorite poem, or tell ... a story" while concert-goers "used the facilities."

► The Giza Zoo (the largest in Cairo, Egypt) is a broken-down version of its former greatness due to poor management, failed international inspections, animal sickness and attrition, and a deteriorating neighborhood. Among the problems now, according to a February Global Post dispatch, is that employees supplement their tiny wages with \$2 bribes from visitors who want to fraternize with the animals. "(P)osing with elephants" and "feeding seals" are big attractions, but so are visitors' roaming the cages, "holding lion cubs" and "hugging bears." ■

The classic middle name

Arrested recently and awaiting trial for murder: Kevin Wayne Dunlap, Hopkinsville, Ky., October; Richard Wayne Smith, Marietta, Ga., January; Joshua Wayne Cubbage, St. Helens, Ore., February; Timothy Wayne Murray, Slidell, La., convicted on a cocaine possession charge in March while awaiting trial for murder. Indicted for murder: Arnold Wayne McCartney, Lewis County, W.Va., March; Arthur Wayne Blood, Pendleton, Ore., March. Convicted of Murder: Michael Wayne Charles, Beaumont, Texas, October; John Wayne Graves

Jr., Lancaster, Pa., November; Michael Wayne Sherrill, Charlotte, N.C., February; Douglas Wayne Hall II, Richmond, Ky., February. Sentenced for murder: Charles Wayne Warden, Brownsville, Texas, January. Murder conviction upheld on appeal: Thomas Wayne Weaver, Gastonia, N.C., February. Executed for murder: Kenneth Wayne Morris, Huntsville, Texas, March. Died in prison awaiting retrial for murder: Michael Wayne Jennings, Martinez, Calif., convicted of murder in 1984 but granted a retrial in 2002. ■

The economics of class-action lawsuits

On Jan. 20, L'Oreal, Estee Lauder and seven other cosmetics companies offered one free item per customer ("for as long as supplies last") as penance for having allegedly conspired with department stores to fix prices in the 1990s and early 2000s (but did not admit to

any wrongdoing). The total amount the companies agreed to spend on the settlement was \$175 million, even though the benefit to any aggrieved customers was merely the price of one cosmetic item. However, lawyers who brought the case took home \$24 million. ■



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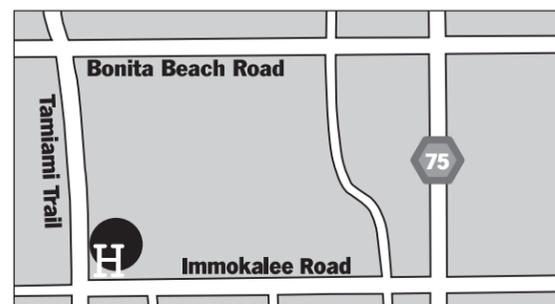
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HEALTHY LIVING



Emotional Eating

Chronic stress can eat away at healthy choices

BY HELENA OLIVIERO

Cox News Service

Beckie Hawk sometimes turns to the fridge when she's stressed.

So the self-employed Web designer posted a sign on it to help her avoid seeking sweets for comfort: "It's not in here."

Most of the time, she says, it works. She pops a piece of sugarless gum in her mouth and walks away. But during these turbulent economic times, the allure of chocolate ice cream can be unrelenting.

"Sometimes, I read the sign and say, 'Forget you — I am diving in,'" says the Atlanta woman, who is trying to lose weight but is satisfied to simply maintain her weight these days.

As the economy spirals downward, mounting stress can trigger nervous noshing — everything from eating too much of a good thing to inhaling a bag of Doritos to dashes to the vending machine. If you find yourself inventing excuses at work to walk by the nearest desk with a bowl of Hershey Kisses, this likely applies to you.

Forget the Freshman 15. Offices — and homes for the newly unemployed — are the new breeding ground for getting chubby. Call it the Reorg 15. The Layoff Lard.

With about 65 percent of Americans overweight or obese, stress eating, sometimes referred to as "emotional eating," is already an issue for many people.

Studies show stress elevates levels of cortisol, known as the "stress hormone," and sparks cravings for pleasurable foods such as cream puffs and mashed potatoes.

But while the pleasure derived from stress eating can disappear one minute after touching the lips, its calories will stick to the hips far longer.

A "Stress in America" survey released in October by the American Psychological Association found that 8 in 10 Americans point to the economy as a major source of stress. And about half of Americans say they overeat or chow down on junk food as a coping mechanism.

Jennifer Slater, who is in her 50s, packed on 15 pounds after losing her job as a real estate paralegal last year.

"I'd go for any carbs: bread, chips and mac 'n' cheese," said Slater. "I was stressed, I was bored, and there was the fridge."

She didn't realize her waist was expanding so much until six weeks ago, when her daughter took her photograph.



BRANT SANDERLIN / COX NEWS SERVICE

Co-workers Christie Dennis (from left), Katie Ingraham, Terry Kennedy and Sonia Favors eat lunch at Foot Solutions in Marietta, Ga. Bringing a healthy lunch and taking a walk during their break keep stress — and weight — down.

"I had a white sweatshirt on and I looked like Orca the killer whale. I kept asking her, 'Do I really look like that?'"

The photograph spurred a major lifestyle change. Now when she feels stress, she drinks water and goes for a walk. She chronicles her successes — and setbacks — on her new Web site, mybootcampdiet.com.

And she uses that "Orca" image as a reminder — a "before" photo posted on her kitchen wall.

Recession-proof?

Beverly Bird is a psychologist who runs Inlighten, a Roswell, Ga., weight-loss program for men and women struggling with emotional eating. She says that in times of economic stress, people often fall back on personal comfort foods, favorites from childhood that they have emotional attachments to — apple pie, mashed potatoes, soft-serve ice cream cones and the like.

Bird says that despite the recession, business is steady, even up slightly from

previous years, for her program, which costs about \$1,000 for 12 weeks.

"We are a cash business — we don't take insurance — and women are coming in and saying they will put other things on hold, that they've got to get a handle on this," she said.

While impulsively eating M&Ms can offer a temporary emotional boost, it quickly evaporates.

"All of a sudden that food is gone and you are still faced with the same problems," said Rebecca Reeves, a nutritionist and assistant professor of medicine at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. "And that guilt comes rushing over you."

Fight the urge to nervously eat, she suggests: Count to 10 before diving into the cookie jar, or take a 15-minute walk.

Keeping a balance

Katie Ingraham, a 24-year-old director of social media for Foot Solutions (a company that makes specially designed sneakers for Nordic pole walking), says she believes stress eating is a given these days.

"Absolutely, I feel stressed and pressure to succeed," she said. "And sometimes, I'll be at my desk, and think, 'Man, I need a Jolly Rancher.'"

And sometimes, that pint of Heath Bar crunch ice cream is calling her name, and

she just can't say no.

But she's taking steps to offset the damage by packing low-fat lunches and walking three times a week with her co-workers during their lunch break. She's managed to maintain her weight but has watched some of her friends and family members get bigger.

"It's a seemingly uncontrollable epidemic," Ingraham said. "Very scary."

Anna Smith, owner of Revolution, a personal training facility in Lawrenceville, Ga., recently hosted a workshop on emotional eating. She says she believes most people — including herself — grapple with stress eating.

"I still struggle with it every day," said Smith, 34, who lost 45 pounds about five years ago.

Smith, who sticks to a low-fat diet and eschews processed food, manages to apply diversion tactics most of the time when she feels the tug to stress eat.

Still, once a week, she gives in to stress-induced cravings for something sweet — a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, chocolate bar or candy. And she doesn't beat herself up over it.

"I count the calories, assess the damage and let it go," she said. "You want to keep moving forward and remember, 'tomorrow is another day.'" ■

Eating on a budget

• **Eat less meat and more eggs:** Think about replacing one expensive meat-based meal for a less expensive egg-based meal per week.

• **Eat more beans:** Make better use of beans as a supplement to a meal or as a main ingredient, keeping in mind that beans are both a vegetable and a protein. They taste good, too.

• **Don't pay extra for what you can do yourself:** Wash your own romaine lettuce rather than buying it pre-washed and you can save \$2 a pound. Same goes for carrots.

• **Make your own turkey slic-**

es: Going to the deli will give your finances a jolt. Here's a better idea: cook a turkey breast for Sunday dinner and use the leftovers for your weekday lunches.

• **Eat seasonally:** Get the fresh produce that is available locally or in season and hasn't required huge transportation costs to bring it to your table (e.g., melons in summer, apples in autumn, etc.).

Sources: Dr. David Whitehouse, chief medical officer for OptumHealth Behavioral Solutions (a UnitedHealth Group company).

Snacking strategies

• **Take five:** Before you inhale that bag of Doritos, step away for five minutes. Take deep breaths or go for a walk. Your urge to eat will likely pass.

• **Plan ahead:** Keep healthy snacks — apples, pears, high-fiber granola bars and small portions of almonds — at your desk. You are less likely to head to the vending machine or the communal tray of Krispy Kremes when you have healthy options on hand.

• **Take more steps:** Take the stairs, go for a walk at lunch. This burns calories — and reduces stress.

• **Be social:** Talk to your spouse. Pick up the phone and talk with a friend. You may just want use your mouth to talk, not eat. ■

Sources: Inlighten weight loss program; Rebecca Reeves, a nutritionist and assistant professor of medicine at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

Golfers, mah jongg players invited to Philharmonic League tourney

The Naples Philharmonic League holds a Golf and Mah Jongg Tournament at the Imperial Country Club of Naples on Monday, March 23, to benefit the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra and its youth music education programs.

Golfers will have an 8:30 a.m. shotgun start preceded by a continental

breakfast. Mah jongg players will compete in the clubhouse after a buffet luncheon at 11:15 a.m.

Cost for the golf event is \$195 and includes breakfast, buffet lunch and prizes. The mah jongg event costs \$65 per person, and includes buffet lunch and prizes. For more information, call 254-2777. ■

Executive Women's Golf Association announces spring membership drive

The Naples chapter of the Executive Women's Golf Association invites members and prospective members to its Spring Kick Off and Membership Drive from 5:30-9 p.m. Wednesday, April 1, at the Beach Club at The Quarry. Guest speakers will be Tom Patri, one of Golf Magazine's Top 100 Teachers in America, and



consultant Nancy Taylor.

Cost is \$25 per person for buffet diner, golf raffle and door prizes.

The EWGA is a not-for-profit association that offers golf, social and networking activities for new and experienced golfers. For more information and reservations, call Diana Johnson at 777-7104 or visit www.naplesewga.com. ■

Support group will help moms connect with babies

"Crazy for You" is a new support group offered by Youth Haven to help working mothers nurture the development of a strong bond with their babies. Starting April 18, mothers and their infants (ages 6 months to 1 year) will come together from 9:30-11 a.m. on four consecutive Saturdays for uninterrupted play, exploration and connection.

"A strong mother/child bond is forged by quality time together, not quantity," said Michael D'Amico, chief operating officer at Youth Haven. Unfortunately, he added, many working mothers experience periods of guilt for leaving their children during this important developmental time when strong and secure relationships are shaped.

The "Crazy for You" curriculum is designed to help mothers discover how to:

- Forge a positive and enriching connection

with their baby

- Enhance the quality of the time they spend with their baby
- Increase knowledge about their baby's development and emotional communication
- Interpret their baby's non-verbal actions and cues
- Encourage greater self confidence in their parenting style

Marliese Vogel, one of Youth Haven's licensed clinical social workers and a certified infant mental health specialist whose primary focus is counseling work with children up to 5 years of age, will facilitate the sessions.

Registration for "Crazy for You" is \$40. All sessions will take place at Youth Haven headquarters, 5867 Whitaker Road in Naples. To register or for more information, call Ms. Vogel at 774-2904, ext. 2031, or e-mail marliese.vogel@youthhaven.net. ■





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If you would like additional services, we can provide a home helath aide to help with meals, laundry, light housekeeping and errands. This would give you time to take a few hours for yourself.

We would be happy to meet with you and your husband before he comes home. We can answer your questions and offer our suggestions. This meeting is a service we offer at no charge. Families have shared with us that it was very helpful in determining and personalizing care.

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Clewiston and surrounds host The Big 'O' Birding Festival

The Big "O" Birding Festival takes flight April 3-6 in Hendry and Glades counties. The festival begins with a welcome reception at 11 a.m. Friday, April 3, at the Clewiston Inn. Programs throughout the weekend include a Birding 101 workshop with Mark Kiser of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, a photography workshop, a Birding by Boat tour on Lake Okeechobee and a late-night Owl Hoot at Fisheating Creek. Saturday evening's keynote dinner speaker is Joan Morrison, an authority on the crested caracara. Sunday's activities conclude

with "Bats are OK," a sunset program at Okaloacoochee Slough State Forest. Monday is an ecotourism seminar and lunch with Anne Glick.

An all-inclusive festival pass is \$125 and affords birders four full days of birding activities, meals and transportation to and from the guided tour sites. Accommodations are not included. One-day passes and single tour passes are also for sale.

For registration and more information, log on to www.bigobirdingfestival.com and download a registration form, or call (863) 612-4783. ■

Bay Days litter cleanup set for March 28; sailing club, Everglades park will follow

The 19th annual Bay Days litter cleanup sponsored by Keep Collier Beautiful Inc. will be held across the county from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 28. Supply and cleanup sites include Delnor Wiggins Pass State Park, Vanderbilt Beach, Lowdermilk Park, Naples Pier, Bayview Park, Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Tiger Tail Beach and the 10,000 Islands Panther Preserve.

Naples Sailing and Yacht Club will hold its cleanup on Sunday, March 29.

Everglades National Park will participate with a cleanup on April 4 and 5.

This event annually brings hundreds

of volunteers out to help keep our county beautiful. Waste Management supplies dumpsters, and many other companies pitch in with teams of volunteers or much need supplies.

Locals as well as snowbirds are welcome. Bring a hat, a pair of gloves and sunscreen. Show up at one of the many supply sites for a free T-shirt and garbage bags. Groups of more than 10 should register with Keep Collier Beautiful by visiting www.litternot@earthlink.net or by calling 580-8319 no later than Monday, by March 23.

For more information on KCB's other cleanup efforts, check out www.keeppcollierbeautiful.com. ■

Urban Farming 101 class is for budding urban farmers

Do you think you have a green thumb for growing fruits or vegetables? Don't have much land, but still hold true to your dream to begin your own produce business?

Urban Farming 101, a beginner's course offered by Collier County's University of Florida Extension Service, could be for you. Sessions will meet every Tuesday evening in April beginning at 6 p.m. at the Collier County Extension Office, 14700 Immokalee Road, adjacent to the fairgrounds.

Urban Farming 101 will cover a number of topics over the course of four weeks. Week one on April 7 will focus on "First Things First," the business of urban farming, getting started and organic and traditional farming methods.

Week two on April 14 will be all about "Small Urban Farming Alternatives and Expectations," including vegetable and fruit

production systems, plant growth characteristics, crop rotations and management strategies and soil types, fertility and pH and organic matter.

Week three on April 21 will be all about "The Nuts and Bolts," such as pest management and diseases affecting fruits and vegetables. In week three, participants also will learn about the process of storing and marketing their farm products.

The final session on April 28 will consist of a field trip for hands-on learning.

Registration for Urban Farming 101 is \$25 and includes materials. Participants must sign up by Thursday, April 2.

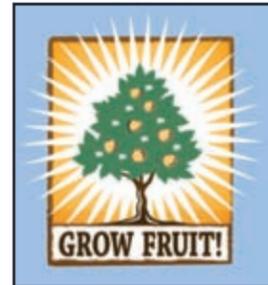
To register, make checks payable to: Collier County BCC and mail to Collier County University Extension Office, 14700 Immokalee Road, Naples FL 34120.

For more information, call 353-4244. ■

Fruit growers sell trees on Saturday

The Collier Fruit Growers Council will hold a fruit tree sale from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 21, at the North Goodlette Farmers Market. The nonprofit council will have on hand numerous varieties of tropical and subtropical fruit trees, from atemoya and allspice to hog plum, pomegranate and sugar apple.

The North Goodlette Farmers Market is held in the parking lot at the North Naples United Methodist Church, 6000



Goodlette Road N.

The council meets at 7 p.m. on the third Monday of every month (except July and August) in the Golden Gate Community Center. Meetings include a guest speaker, a tasting table of ripe fruit, a fruit tree raffle and the chance to share information about cultivating, collecting and propagating

fruit trees. New members are always welcome. For more information, visit www.collierfruit.org. ■



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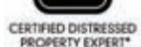
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OUTDOORS

AT COLLIER-SEMINOLE STATE PARK

Giant ground sloths are long gone, but a few skeletons remain

BY LEE BELANGER
Special to Florida Weekly

Two million years ago, giant ground sloths munched and “lunched” their way across Florida. Standing up to 20 feet tall and weighing up to 5 tons, these massive herbivores dined on sweet gum, magnolia, yucca and live oaks.

How do we know they were here? We know because fossil hunters have discovered the mammals’ skeletal remains, first in South America and more recently here, which leads them to believe the sloths migrated north, perhaps in search of food.

In 1986 a University of Florida geology student discovered Eremotherium eomigrans near Gainesville. It remains the largest and oldest ground sloth found in Florida. This sloth’s largest claw was over 12 inches long. As you see in the photo, the fossil remains tower over me.

This pre-Ice Age mammal died out 50,000 years ago. The last of the giant sloths became extinct 10,000 years ago. Some remains were found in caves along with evidence of human occupation. This led to the theory that early man might have raised these animals as a meat source. Climate change, disappearing food sources, viruses and human hunters are among the things that most likely contributed to the giant ground sloth’s becoming extinct.

So what did they look like? They probably resembled an overgrown hamster or a bear with a long, thick tail. Their shoulders were slim and their heads small in propor-

tion to their body. Massive hips allowed them to stand on their hind feet and use their tail for balance.

From 20 feet above the ground, they used claws and a long tongue to grab leaves, fruits and branches from trees. They easily chewed this vegetation using blunt, peg-like teeth.

More often they walked on all fours, stopping to dig up roots. Their thick skin and heavy fur coats protected them from predators as they traveled in herds.

Could they sing? Not likely, but bones in their throats tell us they could make sounds. Their modern relatives, the two and three-toed tree sloths of South America, call to each other during mating season. The size of house cats, they’re unlike ground sloths in that they spend almost all their time in trees.

Ground sloths have fascinated people for generations. Thomas Jefferson, an amateur fossil hunter, even brought sloth bones to the White House to study. Thinking ground sloths might still be alive, he asked Lewis and Clark to look for them during their travels West.



COURTESY PHOTO

Lee Belanger in front of a ground sloth skeleton at the University of Florida

I was quite surprised the first time I saw a ground sloth skeleton. I had seen dinosaur and mammoth skeletons, but I had no idea this huge mammal existed — and right here in Florida.

There are only places in the United States where you can see a giant ground sloth skeleton:

- The University of Florida Museum of Natural History in Gainesville
- The Museum of Arts and Sciences in Daytona
- The Smithsonian Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C.

• The Peabody Museum at Yale University in Connecticut (which has a specimen with skin and preserved hair on parts of its body)

• The American Museum of Natural History in New York City (which has a sample of sloth dung)

Through this column, I try to bring nature’s surprises to your door and entice you to discover all the natural world has to offer. You won’t see fossil ground sloths at Collier-Seminole State Park, but you very well might find fossil seashells.

So come explore. You’ll be surprised! ■

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

Grab a paddle or take a hike in the park

>>Guided, narrated canoe tours from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Monday and Wednesday, March 21, 23, and 25. Paddle through the mangroves along the Blackwater River, listening to tales of Seminole survival while keeping your eyes peeled for colorful crabs, tarpon and even manatees. The three-hour trip is fun and safe ages 6 and older; \$25 per person in your canoe or a park canoe.

>>Guided night hikes will take place from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, March 26 and 27. Unravel mysteries and sharpen your senses as you hike with a park naturalist, watching for things that glow in the dark, shooting stars and other night wonders with no city lights to interfere. Great for ages 6 and older; \$10 per person.

Reservations are required for guided canoe trips and hikes. Special group, family or club trips can also be arranged. To sign up, call Lee Belanger at 394-3397. The seasonal tours will end March 30 and resume in December.

The entrance to Collier-Seminole State Park is at 20200 U.S. 41 in East Naples.



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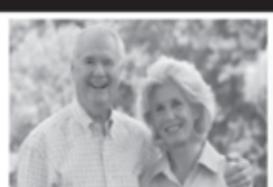
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PET TALES

Wipe your paws

BY GINA SPADAFORI
Universal Press Syndicate

March is when winter finally lets go, although usually not without a final blast or two. The start of spring means many things — the first early blooms, longer, warmer days and a time to clean the house — but for dog lovers, there's one thing spring brings most of all.

Mud, mud and more mud. The soupy remains of winter on the paws of our pets is the constant nemesis of all dog lovers, and it's never so bad as in the spring.

The best way to keep floors clean is to never let them get dirty. And that means catching those muddy paws before they come inside. Here are some tips:

► **Use mats.** Put washable mats both inside and outside the door. A small doormat can be jumped over, so go for something larger, at least during the rainy season. The wider the area of matting, the more chance you have of every paw hitting the mat at least once. Outside the door to my backyard (currently known as The Swamp), I have a 3-foot-by-5-foot black industrial mat I bought at a warehouse store. It catches lots of mud, and it hoses off easily. The more attractive and traditional decorative doormat sits right on top of it, with another decorative mat on the inside of the threshold. Outside the dog door, the entrance ramp is covered with indoor-outdoor carpeting. Just inside is another mat.

► **Teach dogs to wait for wiping.** It's

not difficult to teach a dog to wait on the mat for a paw cleaning. If you're patient and positive, you'll be able to teach your pet to offer each paw in turn and stand



Some dogs — like this Labrador — just seem drawn to the mud left behind.

patiently while you towel it off. One of my dogs used to be so good about this that he'd lift each paw by name: "Front. Now the other. Back. Other."

► **Save your old towels.** When towels get too ratty for guests to see, save them for use with your pets. Old towels are great for wiping paws, drying fur and even swiping a muddy paw print off the floor. My old towels have endured years of hot water and bleach. They're ugly, but they still do the job. You can also find super-absorbent towels and mitts made specifi-

cally for wiping paws, but I've always found old towels to be more than up to the task. If you do need to buy paw wipes, check prices on shop towels. Another option: Shammies, which soak up lots of water, can be thrown in the washing machine and air-dried in a jiffy.

► **Never let a mess settle in.** If a

muddy paw gets past you, don't delay your cleanup. While this isn't such a hard-and-fast rule for such easy-clean surfaces as tile and hardwoods, it's an absolute commandment when it comes to carpets. Keep cleaning supplies well-stocked and at hand, and be sure to jump on a muddy paw print — or any pet mess — before it can set.

With 16 canine paws in my household, keeping on top of mud is a must. What the mats don't catch, I do, and the house stays cleaner for my diligence, even in the muddiest season of the year. ■

Pet of the Week



>>Shyann is a Labrador mix who's full of energy and loves to roll around and play. Like any puppy, she needs training.



>>Snickers is a gorgeous, 7-year-old tortie who enjoys being held but also likes to explore the house and discover new things for herself.

To adopt a pet

Collier County Domestic Animal Services is at 7610 Davis Blvd. Call 252-PETS (7387) or visit DAS online to search for a lost pet or find a new pet at www.collierpets.com. Adoption fees are \$60 for cats and \$85 for dogs and include spay/neuter surgery, a bag of pet food, pet's license and a micro-chip ID.

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MUSINGS

Pedestrian crossing



Just passing through, I am. Like a stranger hardly noticed beyond the first twinge of wondering or fear or judgment itself passed.

I am just passing through, like food from kitchen to diners, through dark alimentary canals, and eventually beyond even these into the sea again. I go with that flow, passed over, disregarded.

In the passing it all seems so comfortable. Ordered and predictable, a veritable Middle Passage that ordinarily cannot recognize its own accomplished obituary. The ordinary, even in the seeming movement of passing, is ossified.

Is it inevitable that a longing emerges? I might find myself wanting to go from here to there. To somewhere.

So we enter the pedestrian crossing. We find a way across the flow. We are all together, safe and protected, even if crossing against the grain of the flow. See, the area is marked with white stripes, either straight across, or on a diagonal like crazy zebras, or like rungs on a ladder held firmly together by vertical side lines. We walk the walk, cross walk. We go from there to here.

Now in the UK there is an addition-

al complication: the Pegasus crossing. Here the illuminated signs are in the shapes of red and green horses. And the buttons that control the signals are mounted high, so that those crossing on horseback can easily reach them.

This twist in the plot redefines the prospect of crossing. A new question begins to lurk. A new wondering takes shape, even if still in mundane swaddling. The enslaved Middle Passage could become walkabout adventure into the wilderness of riding equine beasts.

We could find lands emerge out of mist or Alice in Wonderland tunnels or Hobbit holes. We could journey to the ends of the earth, riding off cliffs into flight. We could carve new possibles, make new trees with infinite rings of growth. We could find our way into ways of mind created by ourselves and others. We could make homes in whispering leaves and dance in fires and become fish that swim so gently that the waters around us would not need to part in the passing.

Or will we see the four horsemen of the Apocalypse, white, red, black, and green, heralding conquest, war, famine, and death? Then will we try to scuttle back like shelled arthropods into the decadent luxury of a decayed familiar safety?

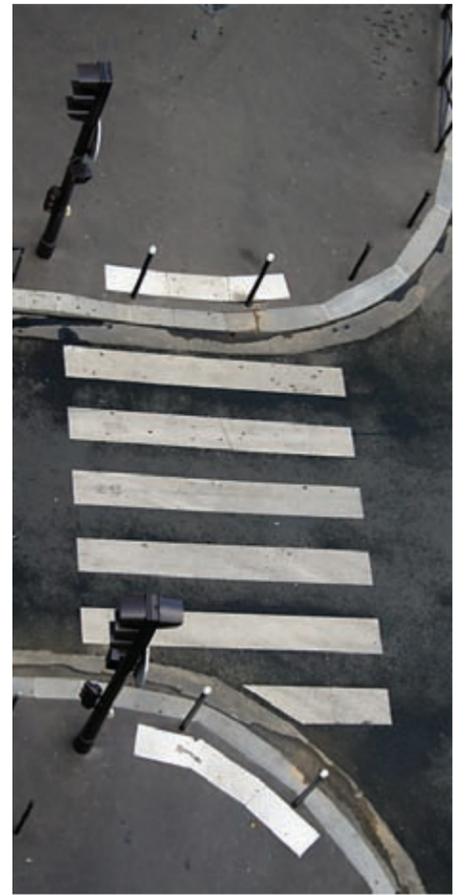
How much can we believe?

How safe is the ordinary?

Is anything inevitable?

How can we mark the lintels of our

“See, the area is marked with white stripes, either straight across, or on a diagonal like crazy zebras...”



minds to ensure the passing over of the Angel of Death?

For my part, I can say only this. Sojourner of the see, I be. No byline for me. Just the seeing, please.

The me, whatever perdures, whatever endures, whatever small voice travels virtually disembodied, might find itself scintillating in the collective archive between existence and non-existence. Any concretized informational repository is merely left behind, like molted skin or the wavy embracings held in the sands as dimensional memory ready to be undone and redone.

There is no seeing me, just the me-seeing. It is just the going along the byways, by the way, passing by, merely walking, albeit on the water or on the backs of beasts or in the instantaneous metamorphosis that is just the passing through. Passing on. Passing over. Again, after 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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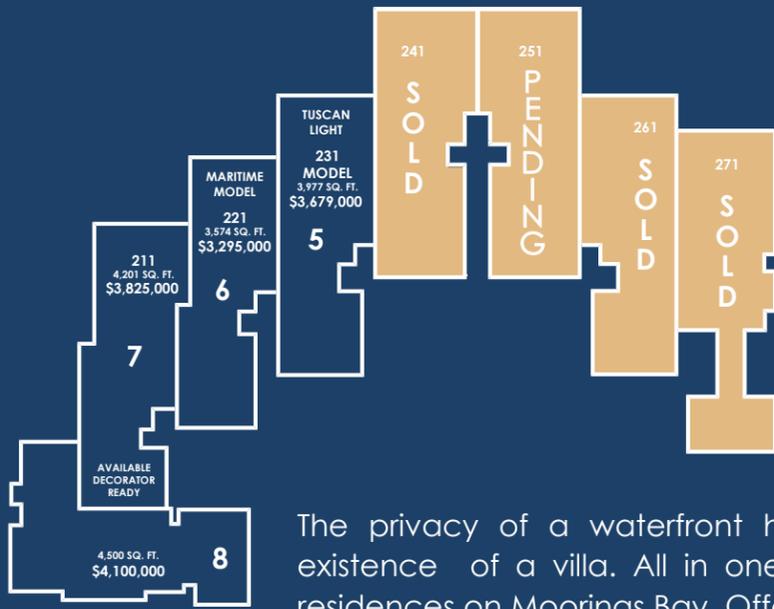
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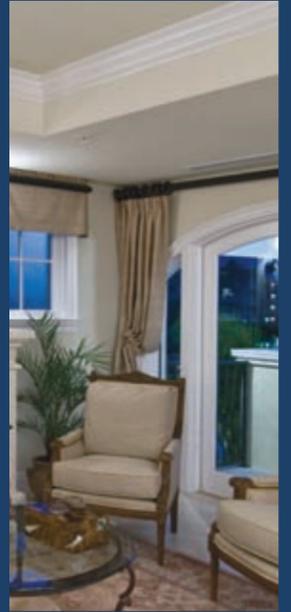
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BUSINESS & REAL ESTATE

WEEK OF MARCH 19-25, 2009

A GUIDE TO THE NAPLES BUSINESS INDUSTRY



COURTESY PHOTO

Back to college

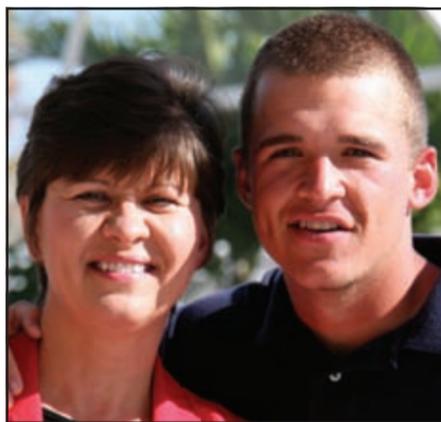
More and more workers are returning to school to learn new skills, enhance resumes

BY ROGER WILLIAMS
rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

Once again, it seems, American colleges and universities, flexible enough to serve regional communities, and do it while the economy bucks wildly or the culture advances technologically, are riding to the rescue.

Case in point: Edison State College, with campuses in Collier, Lee, Charlotte and Hendry-Glades counties, and Hodges University, with campuses in both Lee and Collier counties, have seen enrollment figures rise dramatically in the last year.

At Edison, for example, enrollment figures have been on the rise for five years, with a significant jump from spring 2008 to spring 2009 of almost 15 percent, officials say. Between fall 2007



COURTESY PHOTO

Leslie and Logan Urban

and fall 2008, enrollment at Edison jumped 14.1 percent, from almost 11,400 to about 13,000 students.

Percentage increases at Hodges have been similar. In the fall of 2008, the enrollment of 2,163 students — that includes the campuses and an effective online program for distance learning — showed a jump of 13.2 percent over 2007, says Joe Turner, a Hodges spokesman.

And two years ago, the number of babyboomers returning to study at Edison was down, a trend that sharply reversed itself last year, when the number of boomers suddenly jumped, according to Kevin Coughlin, dean of student services at Edison.

“Something anomalous is driving this change, and it would probably have to be the economy,” he says.

People are reacting to the recession

SEE COLLEGE, B10 ▶

WEEK at-a-glance



The prince did come
Neapolitans welcome Jordanian royalty, and other happenings of note. **B7 8 & 9** ▶



In the driver's seat
John Marazzi knows Nissans. **B2** ▶



On the move
Who's going where, doing what on the business scene. **B4** ▶

NABOR reports: February pending sales are the best in three years

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Pending sales in the Naples area reached their highest peak in more than three years in February, according to a report released by the Naples Area Board of Realtors. NABOR tracks home listings and sales within Collier County (excluding Marco Island).

Overall pending sales, which are a key indicator of buyer activity, continued an upward trend in February, increasing 69 percent with 808 pending last month compared to 479 in February 2008.



HUGHES

“This is the first time since 2005 that we are seeing multiple offers on numerous properties,” said Mike Hughes, vice president of Downing-Frye Realty Inc. “This is shaping up to be the best season we’ve had in four years.”

John Steinwand, president of Naples Realty Services, said inventory continues to decline, thanks to the increase

in sales. Available inventory decreased 7.6 percent to 11,427 in February 2009 compared to 12,377 in February 2008. In a pattern that is occurring throughout Southwest Florida, the Marco Island and Fort Myers areas have followed this same trend, recently reporting a surge in sales and a decrease in inventory.

The NABOR report provides annual comparisons of single-fami-

ly home and condo sales (via the SunshineMLS), price ranges and geographic segmentation and includes an overall market summary. The statistics are presented in chart format, along with the following analysis:

▶ Overall pending home sales for properties less than \$300,000 saw a 178 percent increase, with 587 pending in Feb-

SEE SALES, B5 ▶



BUSINESS PROFILE

John Marazzi keeps his eye on the road at new Nissan location

BY ALYSIA SHIVERS
Special to Florida Weekly

As the auto industry's biggest names face record losses and dealerships confront declining sales and closures, the prospect of selling cars seems like a losing battle. Yet, John Marazzi refused to let his longtime dream of operating his own dealership crumble with the economy and instead opened John Marazzi Nissan in October 2008.

Knowing he would be in for a rough ride, Mr. Marazzi focused on his niche — selling quality, late-model, pre-owned vehicles — a tactic that proved successful during his 17-year tenure at Fort Myers Toyota.

"In my past life, we were the number one used car dealer in the country," he said. "I knew that business going forward was going to be about pre-owned vehicles."

To make the most of that market, Mr. Marazzi needed three things: a great selection of cars, an inventory totaling at least \$2 million and, most importantly, land. At its newest location, just off Interstate 75 on Pine Ridge Road, Nissan's newly built dealership met all of Mr. Marazzi's criteria as well as his family's, who desperately wanted to remain in Southwest Florida.

"My two daughters go to school and are athletes in Lee County; I've been here 18 years; I have my team who wanted to come work for me... we didn't

want to move," he said. "This opportunity opened up and everything just lined up."

Though he now lays claim to the big office, rarely is Mr. Marazzi seen sitting behind his big desk taking in the 18 acres of inventory that stretch before him. If he's not on a corporate conference call in the myriad of offices in the upstairs quarters, he's typically found on the sales floor, conversing with customers and encouraging his crew.

He knows that deals no longer rely just on the product, but on relationships.

After more than two decades selling Toyota products, Mr. Marazzi admits that Nissan offers a comparable product, which is why success today boils down to customer service and a fair deal. "Customers are in the driver's seat, and in order to survive, dealers have to become customer-centric," he noted.

Lessons such as these have been learned throughout his career — maybe not necessarily as a 12-year-old cleaning cars or even as a 15-year-old lot person for Winner Ford in his hometown of Cherry Hill, N.J., but certainly when he started selling cars as a recent high school graduate at the age of 17.

Although scholarships to play college football were available to him, Mr. Marazzi chose to be a student of life instead. He stayed with what he knew and liked best: cars.

"In the car business you can control your own destiny," he said. "I liked the



John Marazzi

COURTESY PHOTO

"Customers are in the driver's seat, and in order to survive, dealers have to become customer-centric..."

From there his career blossomed, taking him from manager of Toyota Clearwater to general sales manager at Templeton Toyota in Sarasota, to eventually managing Fort Myers Toyota with his dad and brother, Joe Sr. and Joe Jr.

Now, his dream is realized at John Marazzi Nissan, where his team consists of 65 employees.

And even though the news continues to report doom and gloom, Mr. Marazzi says January was the best sales month ever for the Naples dealership.

While being number one in this market tops his agenda, he also plans on taking advantage of the weakening economy by purchasing additional stores.

"You don't have to reinvent the wheel. You just have to have the insight to know what's best," he says. ■



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ON THE MOVE

Hospitality



RIVERA

Awilda Rivera has been named general manager of **Coste d'Este Beach Resort**, a Benchmark Hospitality International property in Vero Beach. A graduate of Hodges University, she is the former

vice president of human resources and training development for the Naples-based Coral Hospitality and also was owner/operator of Amador's Italian Restaurant in Naples.

Employer Services



BYERLY

Linda Byerly has been named financial analyst for **Veritas Employer Services**, the Bonita Springs-based company that provides human resources, payroll and employee benefits solutions to businesses

throughout North America. Ms. Byerly is responsible for corporate cash management and forecasting. She holds an M.B.A. from the University of Pittsburgh.

Real Estate

Patti Wilson-Cipolla, a broker associate with **Downing-Frye Realty**



WILSON-CIPOLLA

Inc., has earned the Certified International Property Specialist designation, joining a worldwide referral network of 1,600 real estate practitioners with expertise in working with international clients as well as immigrants. The CIPS designation is awarded by the National Association of Realtors.

New Locations

The Naples-based law offices of **Salvatori, Wood, Buckel & Weidenmiller, P.L.**, have moved into approximately 12,000 square feet of Class A office space on the top floor of a four-story building toward the eastern end of The Mercato. The firm was founded in 2003; its partners are Leo J. Salvatori, C. Lane Wood, Robert M. Buckel, Casey Weidenmiller and Kevin Carmichael. The Mercato is at the intersection of U.S. 41 and Vanderbilt Beach Road.

Health Care



PAUL

Pediatrician **Ashu Paul** has joined the staff at **CHS Healthcare's Marco Island Pediatrics** and is accepting new patients as of April 6. Dr. Paul previously was on staff at CHS/FSU Immokalee Pediatrics. ■

New class of Greater Naples Leadership set to learn about area's volunteer needs

GreaterNaplesLeadershiphasannounced the 42 members of the GNL Masters Class for 2009-10. The nonprofit organization is in its 13th year of educating retired and semi-retired leaders about the issues and needs in Collier County and encouraging them to volunteer in the community.

"GNL has a proven track record of educating and inspiring some of the most talented people who have chosen to make their home here and give of their skills and time in bettering our community," said Jeanne Bolds, president of GNL. "Through ongoing educational programs, our community service efforts and our information sources, we assist our members in finding volunteer opportunities that match their skills and interests."

The members of Master Class XIV are: Sandra Abookire, Alex Anderson, George Barry, James Barton, Richard Blume, Mary Bowman, Richard Cuneo, Martha Davis, Elizabeth Davison, Kathleen Doar, Rick

Fumo, Susan Gallo, Edward Hall, Janice Hannsz, Mary Frances Hirl, Rusty Hubbell, Penny Isermann, Kris Jakel, James Johannsen, Ronald Kaplan, Patricia Kassling, Bethann Kassman, Els Kavanagh, Mally Khorasantchi, Daniel Kozlowski, JoAnn Lekas, George McLaughlin, Paula McNulty, Terrence Moore, John Morse Jr., Mary Lynn Myers, Barbara Oppenheim, Robert Saltarelli, Cherry Smith, Joseph Trachtenberg, Dana Vannoy, Douglas VanOort, Ann Westerfield, Julie Belle White-Newman, Sara Williams, Scott Wollaston and Murray Yost.

The GNL Master Class seasonal program includes 10 all-day sessions on major aspects of the community, from history and the environment to education, government, growth, health care, human services, law and Immokalee.

For information about GNL and the Masters Class program, visit www.gnl-website.org. ■

Bonita chamber seeks applications for Small Business of the Year

The Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce is accepting nominations for its 2009 Small Business of the Year Award that will be presented in conjunction with national Small Business Week as part of a luncheon Friday, May 15, at Bonita Bay Club.

Nominees must complete a detailed application that provides information about the business, its history, challenges, keys to success, growth and community involvement. A panel of judges will score the nominations and select the winner.

Applicants must be members of the Boni-

ta Springs Area Chamber of Commerce. Applications are available at www.BonitaSpringsChamber.com under Chamber News. The deadline for submitting applications is Wednesday, April 15.

Sponsors for the 2009 Small Business Week and Awards Luncheon include Key Bank, Bonita Daily News/The Banner, Scripps Southwest Florida Group, Hillcrest Bank and Willett Business Management. For more information, call Gabrielle O'Boyle at the chamber, 992-2943, or e-mail Gabbi@BonitaSpringsChamber.com. ■

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NEW IN BUSINESS

► **FGCU hosts investment forum.** Florida Gulf Coast University Lutgert College of Business is hosting the second annual Southwest Florida Investment Forum, sponsored by The Chartered Financial Analyst Society of Naples, Friday, March 20, 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., in the Student Union ballroom. There is no charge to attend and it is open to the public.

The event features chief executive officers from major local, publicly traded companies who will speak on a variety of topics relating to the economic outlook for their respective industries and firms.

Featured this year are TIB Financial and Chico's. Associate Dean of the Lutgert College of Business Howard Finch will moderate the lecture.

Space is limited. To reserve a place, go to www.fgcu.edu/cob/events/. ■

► **Towncare Dental Associates** of Bonita Springs has opened at 16565 Vanderbilt Drive. Towncare Dental operates 22 practices in Fort Myers, Fort Lauderdale, Naples and Orlando.

In addition to traditional preventive, restorative and cosmetic dental services, the practice offers treatments including dental implants, ZOOM!® chairside whitening and ViziLite® Plus oral cancer exams. The Bonita Springs office is completely paperless, creating charts, scheduling appointments and filing insurance claims electronically.

Lead dentist Dr. Angela Cossentino is a graduate of the New York University College of Dentistry.

For more information, call 313-1758 or e-mail David North at dnorth@towncaredental.com. ■

► **Gigi's Children's Boutique**, an upscale shop with apparel and accessories for newborns to teens, has opened at The Mercato at the intersection of U.S. 41 and Vanderbilt Beach Road. This

is the first location for the boutique owned by Naples native Kristy Garrett Malloy, who previously worked in the children's buying office for Neiman Marcus. Gigi's has clothing and accessories for newborns, infants, toddler boys and girls, and girls ages 4-16. Store hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday; call 287-8660. ■

► **BCF Management Group, LLC**, a consulting firm specializing in all facets of land management, has opened an office in Estero, providing a variety of services for landowners, investors and other principals related to acquisition, entitlements and the construction of residential and commercial projects in both the private and public sectors. Company president is Brian Farrar, a past president of the Lee County Building Industry Association and current vice president of the Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce. ■



FARRAR

► **Market Pulse event forecasts local economy.** The fourth annual Bonita-Estero Market Pulse event will take place Tuesday, March 24, from 7:30 to 10 a.m., at the Three Oaks Banquet & Conference Center in Estero.

Market Pulse provides local business leaders and business owners with an understanding of the current economic forecast so that they can plan and adapt to changing economic times.

Admission at the door is \$50 and includes breakfast, parking and an economic trend booklet.

For information, call the Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce, at 992-2943. ■

► **ULI holds redevelopment program.** The Urban Land Institute Southwest Florida District Council will host an informative breakfast program regarding the redevelopment of local cities and towns titled "Viewing Yesterday's Vision in Today's Crystal Ball" on Thursday, March 26. The program will be presented at the Spanish Wells Golf and Country Club, 9801 Treasure Cay Lane, Bonita Springs.

Registration and networking begin at 8 a.m., with the program from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. For more information or to register, call the ULI Southwest Florida District Council at (800) 321-5011. ■

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New in Biz: Gigi's Children's Boutique at The Mercato. COURTESY PHOTO

SALES

From page 1

pending in February 2009 compared to 211 in February 2008.

• Single-family pending home sales increased 131 percent overall, with 450 in February 2009 compared to 195 in February 2008.

• Overall condo pending sales increased 26 percent, with 358 in February 2009 versus 284 in February 2008; and pending condo sales under \$300,000 increased 77

percent with 266 in February 2009 compared to 150 in February 2008.

• For the 12 months ending February 2009, pending sales for single-family homes under \$300,000 increased 362 percent.

"With current low interest rates and home prices, buyers are motivated and the momentum is continuing," Bill Coffey, branch manager of Coldwell Banker Residential Real Estate, said.

To view the entire February report, go to www.Naplesarea.com.

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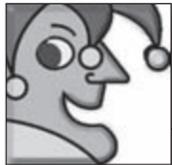
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ETFs Demystified

Consider adding exchange-traded funds (ETFs) to your portfolio. More than \$500 billion is already invested in them (which still pales next to mutual funds' trillions).

ETFs are kind of like mutual funds that trade like stocks. Many are index-based. Invest in one, and you'll instantly be invested in the companies that make up that index. Here are the ticker symbols (and some nicknames) for a few ETFs of major indexes: S&P 500 (Spiders, SPY), the Nasdaq 100 (Cubes, QQQQ), Total Stock Market (Vipers, VTI), Dow Jones industrial average (Diamonds, DIA), Russell 2000 (iShares Russell 2000, IWM), iShares MSCI Japan Index (EWJ).

Often sporting very low fees and tax-efficient infrequent trading, ETFs offer easy diversification into groups of businesses. They're also among the least time-consuming of all investing strategies. If you want to manage some or all of your money passively (not cherry-picking individual stocks), ETFs can provide significant advantages.

Like stocks, ETFs can be shorted, optioned and margined. This isn't necessarily a good

thing. ETFs are almost too easy, and as a result, they have been used extensively as short-term investments, the complete antithesis of index investing. John Bogle, the father of index investing, once likened ETFs to a shotgun, saying, "They can be used for self-defense, or they can be used for suicide." Trading in and out of ETFs eats up any cost benefit by racking up trading costs. (Trading in and out of any stocks rapidly can also hurt your performance.)

ETFs are also not ideal for those who dollar-cost average, investing small sums systematically to build up a portfolio. Since you invest in ETFs like stocks, through your brokerage, you pay trading commissions to do so. Thus, dollar-cost averaging with small sums can be costly. Still, if you want to invest a modest sum in a broad index, you can buy a few shares of it via an ETF.

Before buying any ETF, read up on it to understand exactly what its holdings and fees are.

To learn more about these interesting beasts, click over to www.fool.com/etf/etf.htm or www.morningstar.com/Cover/ETF.html. ■

My Dumbest Investment

Didn't Capture the Gain

My biggest failures have involved refusing to capture big gains. Take Sun Microsystems, where I was working in 2000. It was on a tear, and dot-coms were booming. I was flush with gains and thinking, "Jeez, the taxes I would have to pay if I sold." Well, all told, I missed \$200,000-plus in unrealized gains. The stock plunged when the Internet bubble burst, and I ended up with pennies of gains instead of cashing out a big winner. Coulda, woulda, shoulda. My take-away here is that you must sell when one stock represents a large percentage of your portfolio. Paying taxes means you're making money. All wasn't lost though. I did buy Apple at \$20 and sold for my down payment to purchase my home.

— Fred M., Reston, Va.

The Fool Responds: There are different schools of thought on this. Some say to let your winners run, while others recommend selling after a certain gain. If a stock is way overvalued, selling is right. If you're not sure, you might compromise and sell a portion of your holding, to lock in some gains. ■



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

Born in 1902 and based in Decatur, Ill., I'm one of the world's largest processors of food and operating more than 230 domestic and international plants. I convert corn, oilseeds, wheat and cocoa into products for food and animal feed, and chemical and fuel uses. I run the world's premier crop origination and transportation network, connecting crops and markets in more than 60 countries via 2,100 trailers, 2,200 barges and 23,800 railcars. I make flour, oils, sweeteners, chocolate, fiber and protein supplements and more. My annual sales top \$70 billion. I feed the world. Who am I? ■

(Answer: Archer Daniels Midland)



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

What Is This Thing Called The Motley Fool?

Remember Shakespeare?
Remember "As You Like It"?

In Elizabethan days, Fools were the only people who could get away with telling the truth to the King or Queen.

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Ask the Fool

Much Ado About EPS

Q Are stocks with high earnings per share (EPS) better than ones with lower EPS?

— S.K., Syracuse, N.Y.

An many ways, the earnings per share amount is meaningless, by itself. Here's why. Imagine that Home Surgery Kits Inc. (ticker: OUCHH) has total net income of \$10 million this year. If it has 10 million shares of stock outstanding, then its EPS is \$1 (\$10 million divided by 10 million is 1). If it issues more stock and suddenly has 12 million shares outstanding, its EPS will be lower, at \$0.83 (\$10 million divided by 12 million is 0.83).

You could be looking at two terrific, healthy, growing companies, each of which sports the same net income amount. If one has half as many shares as the other, its EPS will be twice as big. That doesn't mean that it's a better or worse company, and there's no perfect number of shares for a company to have. Some companies have billions of shares, and some have millions.

It's better to just check that the EPS has been rising over time and to examine many other numbers, too. Also, keep in mind that even net income isn't always as meaningful as you might think, since a company's earnings can be manipulated legally via various accounting maneuvers.

Q How can I look up a company's ticker symbol?

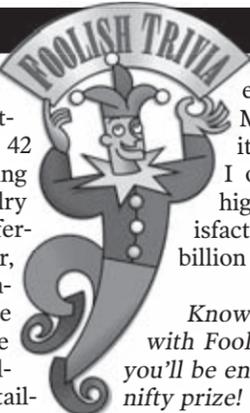
— I.O., Elkhart, Ind.

AOne easy place to look is on your computer. Type the company name into a search box at any major financial Web site, such as <http://finance.yahoo.com>, <http://finance.google.com>, <http://caps.fool.com> or www.morningstar.com, and you'll get the symbol. At such sites, you can look up all kinds of information on a company. ■

Got a question for the Fool?
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Name That Company

Born in 1995, I'm a Seattle-based Fortune 500 online retailer, boasting "Earth's Biggest Selection." My 42 product categories offer everything from books to fresh flowers to jewelry to cameras. One of my newest offerings is the Kindle electronic reader, and I recently introduced "Frustration-Free Packaging." I'm behind the scenes powering the e-commerce at the Web sites of many retailers, such as Target. And other retail-



ers, such as Lands' End and Macy's, simply sell many items through my store. I own imdb.com, too. I get high marks for customer satisfaction and I rake in some \$19 billion annually. 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

Leaner Medtronic

Medical equipment maker Medtronic (NYSE: MDT) recently reported respectable third-quarter earnings, despite our ailing economy.

Sales of cardiac rhythm disease management devices, including pacemakers and implantable cardioverter defibrillators (ICDs), fell 4 percent. The division is still suffering from the fallout of a 2007 recall of one of its ICDs, which helped competitors Boston Scientific and St. Jude Medical grab market share last year (both increased their ICD sales by 8 percent year over year in their most recent quarters).

Medtronic's biggest boost came from a 10 percent increase in sales of cardiovascular products, thanks to sales of its drug-eluting

stent, Endeavor, which wasn't on the U.S. market in the year-ago quarter. The company recently launched a new delivery system for the stent that doctors prefer, which should help Medtronic fend off a push from Abbott Labs and Boston Scientific as they try to continue taking market share.

Combined sales were up just 2.6 percent. But the company did cut costs, helping it boost adjusted earnings per share by 13 percent. Meanwhile, Medtronic increased spending on research and development while still increasing operating margins.

The company won't be able to cut forever, but the leaner Medtronic is easier to love, and stronger revenue growth should return as the company continues to launch new products. ■

BUSINESS MEETINGS

► **The Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce** offers early-bird pricing to those who sign up for its annual golf tournament by April 1. The tournament takes place Monday, April 27, at The Colony Golf & Bay Club in Bonita Springs. Early bird pricing is \$125 per golfer; after April 1, cost is \$150. Register online at www.BonitaSprings-Chamber.com.

► **YP Naples and Greater Naples Leadership** will have a night of speed networking from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, March 19, at Bice on Fifth Avenue South. Bring your business cards and present yourself and your company in a round-table format. Space is limited; RSVP to Christy Barbale at cbarbale@yahoo.com.

► **The Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce** invites members and potential members to March Mid-Season Madness from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 19, at Aura Bar at the Naples Grande. Complementary hors d'oeuvres and the Van Gogh Martini Bar 6-7 p.m.; \$5 drink menu available. Admission is \$10 at the door and \$5 in advance at www.napleschamber.org.

► **Catch the Buzz** invites members and guests to the annual March Madness Buzz Party beginning at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, March 19, at Boston Beer Garden. Clean out your DVD and CD collections and bring some to be distributed to men and women serving in the U.S. military overseas.

► **The Young Professionals of the Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Com-**

merce hold their first networking event at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 19, at Blu Sushi in Gulf Coast Town Center. Cost is \$20 per person, and reservations can be made at www.bonitaspringschamber.com.

► **CIVIC Wine and Cheese Speaker Series**, a program of the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce, plans "Staying Competitive in a Global Market: The China Factor" from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 25, in the second-floor conference room at the Chamber Building, 2390 Tamiami Trail N. The speaker series is a chance for those interested in international affairs to discuss world issues. Guest speaker is Daniel Borgia. Cost is \$5; register in advance at www.napleschamber.org.

► **Gulfshore Insurance** invites busi-

ness owners, managers and supervisors to a free workshop about "Termination in Turbulent Times" from 8:30-10:30 a.m. Thursday, March 26. Dennis Slabaugh, director of risk management and claims, will discuss benefits, workers compensation and EEOC issues. Gulfshore Insurance is at 4100 Goodlette Road North. To register, call 435-7137 or e-mail tdelgado@gulfshoreinsurance.com.

► **The Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce** holds its monthly Business Before Business meeting on the fourth Thursday of the month. The March meeting begins at 8 a.m. March 26 at Germain BMW of Naples, 11286 Tamiami Trail N. To register, call the chamber at 992-2943 or visit www.bonitaspringschamber.com.

NETWORKING

Hodges University Humanitarian of the Year awards luncheon



Seated: Terry and Christine Flynn, Lavern Norris Gaynor, Truly Nolen, Arlene Nichols and Jerry Nichols; standing: Clyde Butcher, Peter Thomas, Earl Hodges, Corbin Wyant and Michael Watkins

JIM HARDESTY / COURTESY PHOTO

Red Cross Heroes Campaign wrap-up party



Dan Gerner, Tim Barone, Amber deLisser and Walter Schacht



Hilda Weber and Mary Storto



Sue Huff, Bruce Conner, Elizabeth Parsell and Edda Liutkus



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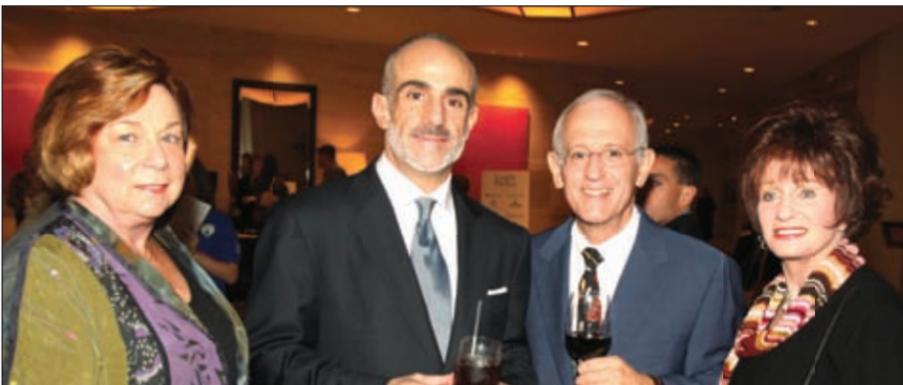
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ABWA Neapolitan Chapter 2009 Women in History awards luncheon



Doshie Crandall and Lois Bolin



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NETWORKING

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Rev. Piotr Paciorek and Tom Monaghan



Mary DePrisco and Brian Scanlan



Jim and Ann Gilligilan from Columbus, Ohio



Paul Roney and Blake Gable



Veronica Abbate, MaryAnn Lagonigro and Clare Guerrero



Veronique Scanlan, Jane and Nick Healy and Pat Crisman



Grace Walker, the Rev. Robert McTeigue, and Nelson Borrego



Erin and Bob Campbell, Rev. Piotr Paciorek and Cathy Dailey



Jim Capazzi, Jamon and Jessica Copeland



Rebecca Barclay, Joseph and Judy Mocerì

COLLEGE

From page 1

and trying to survive by retooling and re-educating, but they're coming back to school for other reasons as well, say administrators and students alike.

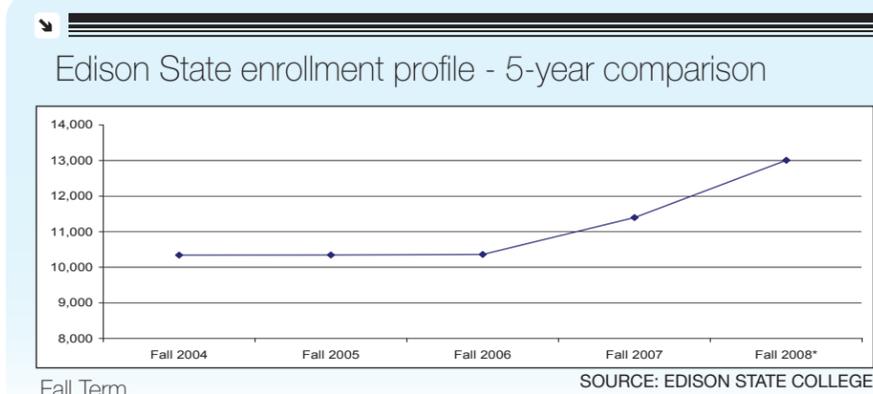
"I chose to go back to school because of the recession — and the lack of employment opportunities," says Leslie Urban, a 49-year-old student who attends some classes at Edison State with her son, Logan, while she works toward a bachelor's of applied science degree in management and supervision.

She's having to use her own savings to do it, but she sees a number of students around her who take advantage of employer benefits that include tuition remission, she adds.

"I worked for a non-profit, but that job disappeared, and I've even considered dumbing-down my resume — something I read about in *The Wall Street Journal* — to get work until this recession ends," Mrs. Urban explains.

Unlike many others, she isn't working while she's studying, so the full-time school work will not only retrain her for another career, but also provide respectable resume-filler while she remains unemployed, she says.

Whether the new numbers at Hodges are strictly a result of the recession or a matter



of the university growing and offering more to students is less certain than another new development, says Mr. Turner, at Hodges: the advent of younger students.

"The economy has forced younger traditional students to look at Hodges, rather than going away to school. We're seeing an increase in those first-time college students. Our focus has been adult learners traditionally, and the median age of our students is 32. But having said that, we're seeing an increase in younger students."

Along with many other kinds of non-traditional students.

About 47 percent of the students were minority students, and 30 percent of the total are Hispanic, many studying English as a second language to better prepare themselves for life in the United States, says Mr. Turner.

Just as in the periods following World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War or the first Gulf War, however, schools such as Hodges are also striving to meet the needs of veterans.

"We're attracting a lot of veteran students coming back from Iraq and Afghanistan," explains Mr. Turner. "We've actually established a veterans club where they can feel comfortable — it helps them assimilate into the civilian life again."

"We have a special fund set up — the American Military Veterans Fund — and with the GI bill it helps pay for their educations."

The veterans of war are matched by the veterans of life, too.

"People don't tell me, 'I'm here because of the recession,' but when you look at the

types of students coming in, with the market changing the types of skills they require, that appears to be likely," says Mr. Coughlin, at Edison.

"Our director of financial aid, for example, told me she had never seen someone in their 60s coming back to school and getting their taxes verified to apply for a Pell Grant before — so older people coming back have not used the entirety of their Pell Grant. Their work may require a post-secondary education. And someone on the verge of retirement, and ill-prepared for retirement — I have to assume that's the economy driving them back."

Both schools accommodate students in ways that wouldn't have happened a generation ago. There are a wide variety of four-year and graduate degrees from which to choose, as well as a much larger course offering at night, and on line.

"Say you were working, and you were downsized, and now you had to take a lesser-paying job to make ends meet," explains Mr. Turner, at Hodges.

"You can't let go of that, but in the meantime you want to get a better education. With an online program, or classes where you can come in once a week for three or four hours, instead of, say, Monday, Wednesday and Friday for an hour, they can juggle all of those things."

One student even earned his master's degree online from Bosnia, adds Mr. Turner. ■



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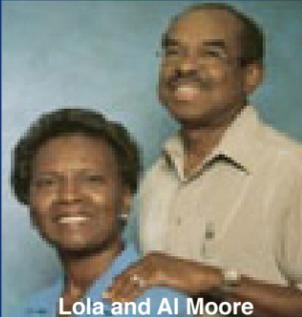


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The entrance to the master suite in Aqua Residence designed by Roz Travis interiors.



The living room of Aqua residence by Roz Travis Interiors.



The living room of Aqua residence designed by Robb & Stucky.



Aerial view of Aqua

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Aqua, the luxury waterfront condominium residence and deepwater yacht harbor that opened earlier this year overlooking Wiggins Pass, continues its program of Realtor open houses from 3-5 p.m. every Thursday through March. The public can arrange a tour by calling the Aqua sales center.

In addition to the common areas inside and out, models by Robb & Stucky Interior Design and Roz Travis Interiors are open.

Residence 506 was completed by the Robb & Stucky team of interior designer Joanne Wilseck and design consultant Susan Petril. They employed earthy elements including reclaimed wood flooring and an artistic stone wall to create the focal point and the foundation for a

SEE AQUA, B12 ▶

Lely Resort leads the way in Stock Development new home sales

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Stock Development reports strong new home sales in February, with 26 transactions posted in its communities of Lely Resort in Naples, Paseo in Fort Myers and Vivante in Punta Gorda. The company reported 24 sales in January.

Brian Stock, CEO, said sales volume totaled \$9.6 million in February, a nearly \$2 million increase over the previous month, for an average sale price of \$370,000. Lely Resort led the way with 15 new home sales.

"We sold a new home nearly every day and indications from the first week of March show the trend continuing," Mr. Stock said. For the month of February, the average sale price increased by \$50,000, he said, adding, "The current buyer is more educated than ever, and they recognize the

overall value found in a Stock Development community."

In its three Southwest Florida communities, Stock Development is building homes priced from the \$160's to more than \$1 million.

Lely Resort has 13 neighbors and homes beginning at \$199,990. Residents have access to The Players Club & Spa at Lely Resort, three championship golf courses, two golf clubhouses and a Village Center in the Olé neighborhood.

Paseo in Fort Myers offers flats and town homes in 14 designs, as well as six casita floor plans. These homes range from 1,200 square feet to more than 2,000 square feet under air. Two neighborhoods of single-story, two-story and courtyard-style single-family homes are also available. Floor plans range from 1,649 to just over 3,000 square feet under air plus

attached two-car garages.

"We had a very busy month with lots of interest in the new model center. Last week we opened four additional models, bringing the total number open to 18," said Tim Clark, vice president of Sales at Paseo. "So far this year we have had more than 1,500 people tour Paseo. It is Lee County's must-see community before buying."

Farther north, in Punta Gorda, Vivante offers two- and three-bedroom condominiums with 1,485 square feet to 2,500 square feet of living space and prices from \$149,990 to \$499,990. Harborfront units begin at \$299,990. The community has a 12,000-square-foot clubhouse.

For more information, visit:
▶ Lely Resort, 8020 Grand Lely Drive, Naples; www.lely-resort.com.

▶ Paseo, 11941 Palba Way, Fort Myers; www.paseo-ftmyers.com. ■

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Originally from South Orange, New Jersey, she received her B.A. in Elementary Education and her M.A. in Counseling and Student Services. A teacher and the director of a private school, she moved to Naples in 1976 to continue a career in teaching at St. Ann's and the Community School.



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AQUA

From page 1

classic yet casual ambience throughout the model, which has two master suites and a theater room.

Two floors up, Residence 710 was designed by Roz Travis Interiors to reflect the colors and textures of sand, shells and the ocean. Called an Estate Residence, the end-unit floor plan has three bedrooms, four baths, a formal living/dining room with adjacent bar, a family room and a den. Two curving balconies bring the total living area of the home to 4,748 square feet.

A community of just 80 residences developed by The Eco Group, Aqua is designed around a private yacht harbor from which boats up to 55 feet long have deepwater gulf



COURTESY PHOTO

One of two master suites in Aqua residence designed by Robb & Stucky.

access. Owners and guests also have for their pleasure a waterside pool and two palm-canopied heated spas; a fitness center with steam and sauna; a Social Salon; indoor/outdoor Sky Lounge; private dining room; theater; business center; landscaped pet-friendly areas; outdoor bar and grill; gardens and water features. A first-floor guest suite is available for owners to accommodate friends and relatives.

Two under-building parking spaces come with each residence; penthouses have a private, air-conditioned two-car garage. Air-conditioned storage is provided to each residence.

Three- and four-bedroom residences at Aqua range from 3,500 square feet to 6,000 square feet and are priced from under \$2 million.

A full-time resident manager at Aqua supervises a staff that includes a concierge, valet, amenities attendant and privacy officer after business hours. Upon request of the concierge, services from valet to pet care can be arranged. Memberships to Collier's Reserve Country Club and LaPlaya Beach and Golf Club are also available for Aqua owners.

Aqua is at 13675 Vanderbilt Drive at Wiggins Pass Road. For more information, call the Aqua sales center at 591-2727 or visit www.AquaPIYC.com. ■



Tierra Mar Courtyard Home in Pelican Bay

- Completely Private Residence
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From I-75: Take County Road 951 (Ext 101) and travel south approx. 1/2 mile to Davis Blvd. Turn right onto Davis Blvd. and proceed 2-3/10 miles to the main Firano entrance on the left.



From the mid-\$300s
BelleLago.com (239) 344-0600

From I-75, take Corkscrew Road, exit 123, west 1/2 mile to Three Oaks Pkwy. Turn right and travel 1-1/10 miles to Estero Pkwy. Turn left and travel 1 mile to Belle Lago and The Reserve entrances on right.



From the low \$200s
TheReserveAtEstero.com (239) 334-3600

Decorated Models Open Monday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m., Tuesday - Saturday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

For information on Toll Brothers communities throughout Florida, visit **TollBrothersFlorida.com**



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10-Acre Equestrian Zoned Estate Livingston Woods-Naples



2 Luxurious New Custom Designed Southern-Styled Homes set on a Lake - completed Dec 2008.

- **Main House** 10,123 S/F with 5 bedroom suites and balconies, 3-bay attached garage.
- **Guest Cottage** 3,625 S/F with 3 bedroom suites, a detached 2-bay garage and office.

The Estate offers state of the art finishes and elegant craftsmanship throughout. Private septic, sewer, reverse osmosis system and 2 back-up gas generators. 20 horses permitted on this high, dry and cleared property west of I-75.

\$8,750,000

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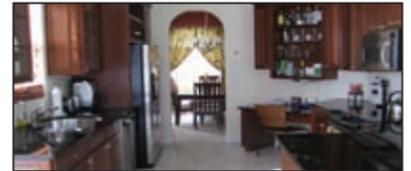
Just Perfect 2BD,2BA, 2 car garage! Stunning home offers all the "Bells and Whistles" Oversized home site, new stainless appliances, granite counters, plantation shutters, fresh paint interior and exterior, private custom pool, and electric hurricane shutters! **\$299,900**



LOCATION LOCATION! 2 BD, 2 BA 2 Car garage. **MAGNIFICENT** home offers open floor plan extended living, screened lanai pool offering BREATHTAKING bridge and water views, HURRICANE shutters and more! **\$280,000 VIRTUAL TOUR**



BEAUTIFUL SOUTHERN EXPOSURE, Extended Capri, 2 BR, 2 BA, heated pool, wide water view. Owner Motivated! Owner financing available. **\$275,900**



PRICED TO SELL!! Oakmont with custom pool and renovated kitchen are just 2 great reasons to see this Oakmont. Kitchen has granite, stainless appliances, and cherry wood cabinets. **\$429,900.**



PRISTINE! 3 BR, Plus den 2.5 BA with UNBEATABLE UPGRADES! Freshly painted interior, plantation shutters, built-in entertainment center, ELECTRIC HURRICANE shutters, PRIVATE POOL! **\$430,000 VIRTUAL TOUR**



3 Br, Plus den 2.5 Ba with custom heated pool & spa, hurricane shutters, great room tile, screened front entry and more! **\$435,000**



Capri Villa located on Los Altos Court. granite in kitchen, wall unit, excellent condition. Western exposure and very light and bright, room for pool. **GREAT Price at \$269,000**



Extended Capri 2BR, 2BA Open floor plan lives like single family home, tile in living areas, entertainment center, white raised kitchen cabinetry. **\$247,500 VIRTUAL TOUR**

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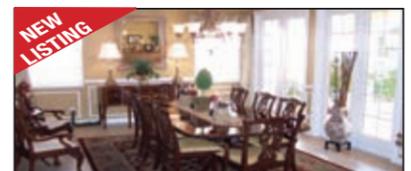
PRIVATE POOL HOME WITH FABULOUS LAKE VIEWS! 4BR,3.5BA Open floor plan offers separate formal living and dining rooms great room for entertaining. Numerous upgrades, tile in living areas, crown and decorative moldings, granite kitchen counters, built-in wine cooler in kitchen, and private pool with water views! **\$469,900 VIRTUAL TOUR**



Tastefully Appointed 3 BR, plus den 2.5 BA 2 Car garage. Loaded with upgrades including New KITCHEN, cabinets appliances GRANITE, crown molding, tile though out, large screen lanai with water views. A GREAT BUY! Asking **\$380,000 VIRTUAL TOUR**



Carlyle 4 BR, 3.5 BA 2 car garage. Pristine home will dazzle the most discriminating buyer! GRANITE, stainless steel appliances, extensive crown molding, fireplace, PRIVATE POOL and much more! **PRICE TO SELL! \$499,000 VIRTUAL TOUR**



FANTASTIC 5 BR HOME! UNIQUE EXTENDED CARLYLE. Features new LARGE TILE and hardwood floors, crown moldings and DECORATIVE trim, STAINLES STEEL appliances. **\$445,000**



Every upgrade imaginable! Large tile throughout, corian, wall unit, fireplace, heated pool, wide lake view, crown moldings wall unit and plantation Shutters. **\$474,900**



PRICED RIGHT! minutes to Vanderbilt Beach 2 BD, 2.5 BA Townhouse w/loft. 1340sq. Perfect for that getaway you been dreaming of! **\$219,000**

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SAN REMO



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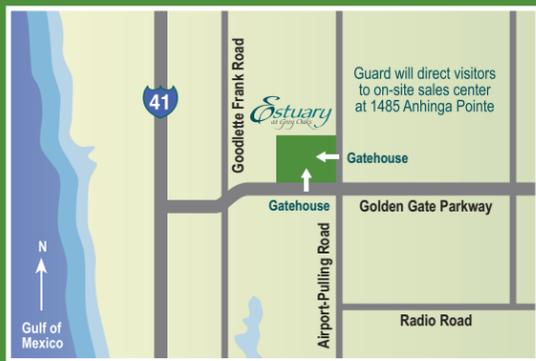
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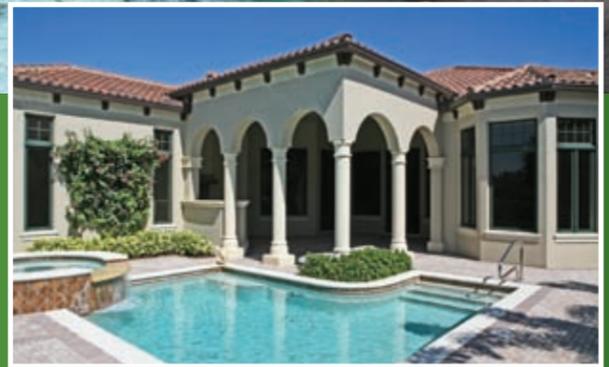
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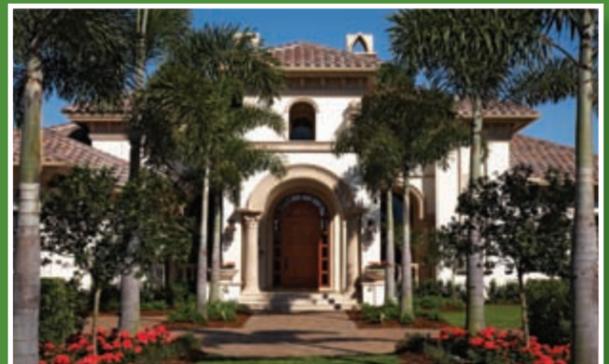
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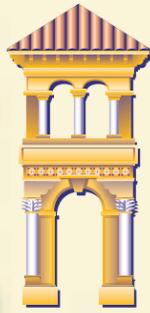
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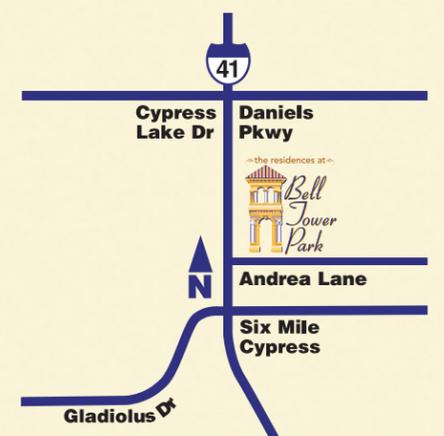
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THE DUNES - GRANDE PRESERVE GRANDE DOMINICA ▲
#PH-02 - Luxurious 4 bedroom residence with private elevator entry and Gulf views from spacious terrace! Private 2+ car garage. **\$2,850,000** | Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731



PINE RIDGE ▲
Private gated California mission-style estate on 1.4 acres. Four bedrooms plus library. Chef's kitchen, detached guest house. **\$2,395,000** | Jerry Wachowicz | 777-0741



THE DUNES - GRANDE PRESERVE GRANDE EXCELSIOR ▲
#T-05 - Exceptional terrace residence with oversized lanai. Volume ceilings, 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, and private elevator foyer. Bay views. **\$1,399,000** | Cynthia Joannou | 273-0666



PINE RIDGE ▲
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#PH-7 - Inviting 3 bedroom, 3 bath has stunning Gulf and Bay vistas. Custom kitchen, wraparound lanai with electric shutters. **\$999,000** | Pat Callis | 250-0562



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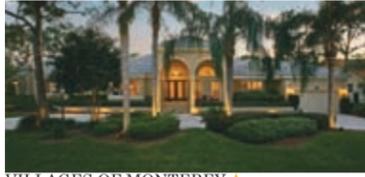
BANYAN WOODS ▲
Enjoy living in this spacious 4 bedroom plus den, 3 bath home with a lake view. Situated in a gated community. **\$895,000** | Claire Catalano | 571-7223



NORTH NAPLES - GULF HARBOR ▲
Waterfront 3-story home. Four bedrooms with guest suite, media room and observation area. Direct Gulf access. **\$895,000** | Mitch/Sandi Williams | 370-8879



WILSHIRE LAKES ▲
Unique 5 bedroom plus den, lakefront estate home. Cypress ceilings, wood floors. Two-sided fireplace, pool/spa. **\$849,000** | Bernie Garabed | 571-2466



VILLAGES OF MONTEREY ▲
Fabulous living space in the heart of Monterey. Stone pool and spa, fireplace, 4-car garage, and large backyard. **\$749,000** | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552



THE DUNES - CAYMAN ▲
#601 - Spectacular views the moment you enter this beautiful 3 bedroom, 3 bath corner residence. Wraparound lanai. **\$748,000** | Connie Lumms | 289-3543



THE DUNES - CAYMAN ▲
#1107 - Outstanding views of Bay to Gulf from this spacious, bright corner residence. Amenities included. **\$725,000** | Gayle Fawkes | 250-6051



THE DUNES - CAYMAN ▲
#802 - Forever views of Bay and Gulf from this fully furnished residence. World-class pool, fitness center, and tennis club. **\$725,000** | Barbi/Steve Lowe | 216-1973



BANYAN WOODS - RESERVE II ▲
2685 Lewis Lane #202 - Outstanding 3 bedroom plus den coach home with upgrades. Private elevator. Beautiful lake/pool views. **\$699,000** | Carolyn Weinand | 269-5678



WILSHIRE LAKES ▲
Impeccable 5 bedroom, 3 bath, 3-car garage home. Oversized screened lanai, large pool, brick paver deck. **\$674,900** | Sandra McCarthy-Meeks | 287-7921



THE DUNES - SEA GROVE ▲
#101 - One block to beach! Spacious, like-new three bedroom, two bath coach home; 2-car garage. Professional decor. Great views. **\$649,000** | Sandra McCarthy-Meeks | 287-7921



NORTH NAPLES - LEMURIA ▲
#404 - ELEVATOR INCLUDED with this lake view, over 3,000 SF, four bedroom, three bath. Numerous upgrades throughout. **\$629,000** | Larry Roordea | 860-2534



VILLAGES OF MONTEREY ▲
Arthur Rutenburg Bimini model. Extra large pool, spa and lanai on private oversized lot. Lake views. Four bedroom plus den. **\$624,900** | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552



COVE TOWERS - NEVIS ▲
#302 - Nearly 2,700 SF with granite, stainless appliances, Siematic cabinetry and bamboo flooring. Double-gated community. **\$599,000** | Trey Wilson | 595-4444



VILLAGES OF MONTEREY ▲
Charming and beautifully renovated four bedroom home. Gorgeous cherry kitchen with new hardwood floors. Many updates. **\$599,000** | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552



NORTH NAPLES - LEMURIA ▲
7168 Lemuria Circle #1701 - New luxury community of 3 bedrooms or 4 bedrooms, 3 bath condominiums with open floor plans, high ceilings and attached 2-car garages. Prices from the mid \$400s. **\$404-4883** | Thomas Gasbarro | 404-4883



COVE TOWERS - BEQUIA ▲
#302 - Freshly painted, new custom window treatments, wood laminate floors in great room. Club membership included! **\$535,000** | Marsha L. Moore | 398-4559



THE STRADA AT MERCATO ▲
Located just North of Vanderbilt Beach Rd. on U.S. 41. Mercato features residential, retail, Whole Foods Market, restaurants and more. Upscale contemporary living from the \$500s. OPEN MON-SAT, 10-5; SUN, 12-4. Please call 594-9400 for more information.

THE DUNES

GRAND PRESERVE - GRANDE DOMINICA 295 Grande Way #301
Furnished, 3 bedrooms. Views of Gulf and Turkey Bay. Private elevator, marble and hardwood floors. Beach club available. **\$995,000** | Ellen Egglund | 571-7192

REDUCED SEA GROVE 385 Sea Grove Lane #202
Wonderful lake views. Wood floors, 4 bedrooms, 2-car garage. Membership privileges to Floridan Beach Club. **NOW \$895,000** | Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731

CAYMAN 325 Dunes Blvd. #704
Freshly painted, turnkey furnished, and brand new wood floors throughout. Remodeled kitchen, hurricane shutters. **\$715,900** | Marsha L. Moore | 398-4559

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. **\$599,000** | Fred Alter | 269-4123

COVE TOWERS

ARUBA 430 Cove Tower Drive #604
Corner residence partially furnished, 2 bedrooms, den, hurricane shutters. Club membership included. Pet friendly. **\$595,000** | Marsha L. Moore | 398-4559

ARUBA 430 Cove Tower Drive #403
Spectacular view of Wiggins Pass from this totally remodeled high-rise. Full pool service, tennis. **\$595,000** | Marsha L. Moore | 398-4559

WILSHIRE LAKES

REDUCED 8117 Lowbank Drive
Modified Arthur Rutenberg plan. Vaulted ceilings, columns and archways, custom pool, and a oversized 2-car garage. **NOW \$450,000** | Patrick O'Connor | 293-9411

6030 Shallows Way
Custom designed 3 bedroom detached villa. Heated pool with cascading spa overlooks tropical nature preserve. **\$399,000** | 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. **\$369,000** | Kevin Rathburn | 269-4575

ANDALUCIA

1407 Serrano Circle
Southern lake view is enjoyed from this popular "Arabella" floor plan with three bedrooms, two baths and 2-car garage. **\$399,000** | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552

NORTH NAPLES

Single Family Homes

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

Condominiums/Villas

LEMURIA 7116 Lemuria Circle #403
Four bedroom, 3 bath with granite and marble countertops, wood panel cabinetry, tiled lanais, tray ceilings and lake view. **\$659,900** | Jean Smith | 450-8202

LEMURIA 7164 Lemuria Circle #1601
Brand new 3 bedroom with volume ceilings, hurricane code windows, and granite and marble appointments. **\$549,900** | Sue Black | 250-5611

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. **\$440,000** | Connie Lumms | 289-3543

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 COLONY 2140 Hawksridge Drive #1704
Bright, open floor plan, 3 large bedroom suites plus den. Relaxing fountain lake views. Tile floors, new paint. **\$449,000** | Mitch/Sandi Williams | 370-8879

WIGGINS BAY

HARBOURSIDE 505 Clubside Drive #505
Totally remodeled 3 bedroom, 3 bath is offered furnished with new granite counters, cabinets, appliances and flooring. **\$349,000** | Jack Despart | 273-7931

PRINCETON PLACE 380 Horsecreek Drive #106
Two bedroom turnkey furnished home with bamboo floors. Screened lanai overlooks lake. Membership included. **\$319,000** | Marsha L. Moore | 398-4559

PINE RIDGE

627 West Street
Wonderfully remodeled with 4 bedrooms and 3 baths. Free-form pool/spa on paver deck. Huge garage. Owner financing available. **\$1,088,777** | Esther Van Lare/Dina L. Moon | 659-0099

128 West Street
Four bedroom with 2,200+ SF. Many updates; new kitchen, wood flooring on new roofing. Screened-in lanai. **\$599,000** | Sue Black | 250-5611

VILLAGES OF MONTEREY

8149 Las Palmas Way
Like-new Rutenberg home. Bamboo and porcelain floors, oversized lanai, poc family room, bonus room, 2-car garage. **\$549,000** | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552

7648 Ponte Verde Way
There is nothing like coming home to this delightful, cheery home on picturesque expansive lot. Room for pool. **\$497,000** | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552

8139 Las Palmas Way
Robb & Stucky designer has created a stunning renovation of this 3 bedroom home. Large lanai/backyard. **\$449,000** | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552

LONGSHORE LAKE

10843 Fieldfair Drive
Four bedroom home with over 2,470 SF of living area. Upgraded kitchen and new remodeled bathrooms. Tropical pool area. **\$469,000** | Jan Martindale | 869-036

TARPON COVE

757 Mainsail Place
Amazing 3 bedroom courtyard villa with private pool, privacy wall, 2-car garage surround sound. Great room plan. **\$399,900** | Judy Congrove | 269-7538

BIMINI 938 Carrick Bend Circle #101
First floor 3 bedroom, 2 bath has western view of large lake with fountains. Membership to the Tarpon Cove Club included. **\$360,000** | Carol Loder | 860-4326

BIMINI 913 Carrick Bend Circle #103
This 3 bedroom, 2 bath coach home views a lovely preserve area. Comes with membership to the Club at Tarpon Cove. **\$327,500** | Carol Loder | 860-4326



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OLD NAPLES
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THE GALLERY
239.659.0099

FIFTH AVENUE
239.434.8770

MARCO ISLAND
239.642.2222





VANDERBILT BEACH ESTATES ▲
New waterfront estate! Bay views, 5 bedrooms, media room, 5,860 SF of living area. A Christie's Great Estates Property. **\$3,999,999 | Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731**



OPEN SUN. 1-4
BAREFOOT BEACH ▲
105 St. Eustacius Lane - Incredible 180 degree Gulf views from all four levels! Renovated in 2002. Spacious guest suites with private baths. **\$3,895,000 | Cynthia Joannou | 273-0666**



VANDERBILT BEACH - THE VANDERBILT ▲
#PH-02 - Views of Gulf, waterways and all the way to Sanibel. Rooftop patio with spa, outdoor movie theater and summer kitchen. **\$3,800,000 | Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731**



OPEN SUN. 1-4
VANDERBILT BEACH ESTATES ▲
222 Channel Drive - Boat in your backyard, steps from the beach! Waterfront, four bedrooms, study, travertine marble floors, and granite counters. **\$3,200,000 | Roya Nouhi | 290-9111**



VANDERBILT BEACH ESTATES ▲
Custom home with panoramic bay views, dock and 10,000 lb boat lift. This home offers 4 bedrooms plus den, and 4 baths. **\$2,950,000 | Pat Biernat | 269-6264**



NEW LISTING
VANDERBILT BEACH ESTATES ▲
Two-story home, 3 bedrooms, loft and over 5,060 total SF. Private boat dock, Gulf access. Walk to private beach. **\$2,975,000 | Pat Callis | 250-0562**



VANDERBILT BEACH ESTATES ▲
Waterfront masterpiece on oversized lot with bay and waterway views, 5 bedrooms, 5.5 baths, and over 6,300 SF. A Christie's Great Estates Property. **\$2,945,000 | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552**



OPEN SUN. 1-4
BAREFOOT BEACH - BAYFRONT GARDENS ▲
209 Bayfront Drive - Stunning home with bay views, pool/spa, boat dock and lift, 2 gourmet kitchens, 3 guest suites, and 3-car garage. **\$2,595,000 | Cynthia Joannou | 273-0666**



VANDERBILT BEACH ESTATES ▲
Large, casual chic home with quality materials and finishes throughout. Two story lanai. Fully equipped boat dock. **\$2,550,000 | Carolyn Weinand | 269-5678**



VANDERBILT BEACH ESTATES ▲
Generous BAY AND GULF vistas. MAGNIFICENT custom finishes throughout. An oversized dock with an electric lift. **\$2,499,000 | Dru Martinovich | 564-1266**



VANDERBILT BEACH - MANSIONS ▲
#6N - Waterfront condominium with granite counters, top-of-the-line appliances, crown moulding and private elevator. A Christie's Great Estates Property. **\$1,899,900 | Ann M. Nunes | 860-0949**



VANDERBILT BEACH - CASA GRANDE ▲
#501 - A rare opportunity for a 3 bedroom, 3 bath corner residence with wraparound lanai providing endless views of the Gulf. **\$1,495,000 | Fred Alter | 269-4123**



VANDERBILT BEACH - REGATTA II ▲
#1102 - Gulf, Bay and city views from this three bedroom, three bath turnkey furnished residence. Cabana, 40' boat slip included. **\$995,000 | Marlene Abbott-Barber/Leah D. Ritchey | 594-9494**



VANDERBILT BEACH - PHOENICIAN SANDS ▲
#201 - Small intimate complex right on the sand. Furnished 2nd floor, 2 bedroom with over 2,052 total SF. Newly decorated. **\$899,900 | Teri Purvis | 597-2993**



VANDERBILT BEACH - GULFSHORES ▲
#261 - Stunning Gulf views from this 3 bedroom on the beach. Totally renovated kitchen. Docks available. Rental potential. **\$899,000 | Gayle Fawkes | 250-6051**



REDUCED
VANDERBILT BEACH - GULFSIDE I ▲
#102 - Light and bright beachfront gem lives like a home with tropical Gulf views, sunsets and glorious sounds of surf. **NOW \$899,000 | Pat Callis | 250-0562**



VANDERBILT BEACH ESTATES ▲
Build your dream home on this waterfront lot with access to Vanderbilt Beach and the Gulf via Wiggins Pass Waterway. **\$897,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420**



BAREFOOT BEACH - BAREFOOT BEACH CLUB ▲
#201 - Light-filled 3 bedroom, 3 bath corner residence. Tastefully decorated, preserve and Gulf views. Electric shutters on lanai. **\$885,000 | Fran Rauschelbach | 287-7393**



VANDERBILT BEACH - VANDERBILT SHORES ▲
#402 - Two bedroom plus den on the beach. Great location with access to shopping, dining, and theatres. Offered furnished. **\$860,000 | Jack Despart | 273-7931**



VANDERBILT BEACH - SAUSALITO OF NAPLES ▲
#1 - Spacious 3-story townhouse located across from the beach and on the bay. High-impact glass four balconies, boat slip. **\$845,000 | Gayle Fawkes | 250-6051**



VANDERBILT BEACH ESTATES ▲
Wide waterway views from this well-maintained home with spacious lanai, 30' pool, and boat dock. Quick access to Gulf. **\$795,000 | Patrick O'Connor | 293-9411**



VANDERBILT BEACH - REGATTA I ▲
#904 - Gulf and Bay views from lanai, living room, and master suite. Marina with dock space available. Turnkey furnished. **\$744,900 | Pat Biernat | 269-6264**



VANDERBILT BEACH - GULF COVE ▲
#302 - Bay views from this beachside retreat. Updated with granite, raised panel cabinets, and mouldings. Private dock. **\$669,000 | Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731**



VANDERBILT BEACH - REGATTA ▲
The perfect resort-style community just steps to the beach! Regatta offers residents the use of two pools, spa, fitness, gazebo grill area and a 55 slip marina. **FROM \$599,000 | Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731**



VANDERBILT BEACH - VANDERBILT YACHT & RACQUET CLUB ▲
#401 - Magnificent long water views. Spacious with two bedroom suites. Bright, crisp and clean. Community across from beach. **\$599,000 | Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731**



VANDERBILT BEACH - REGATTA III ▲
#304 - Three bedroom furnished residence with tile throughout. Tropical pool, exercise room, clubhouse and 55-slip marina. **\$595,000 | Richard G. Prebish II | 357-6628**



VANDERBILT BEACH AREA - BEACHWALK HOMES ▲
Three bedroom home with screened, heated pool and large lot. Freshly painted interiors, new A/C. Two-car detached garage. **\$540,000 | Carol Loder | 860-4326**



VANDERBILT BEACH - VANDERBILT SURF COLONY II ▲
#205 - Panoramic bay views and sunsets from every room. Open kitchen, wraparound lanai. Freshly painted. **\$539,000 | Marsha L. Moore | 398-4559**



VANDERBILT BEACH - VANDERBILT SURF COLONY II ▲
#PH-1106 - Unobstructed views to Gulf, Bay and Sanibel; 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Upgrades; Stainless steel appliances, granite tops and new paint. **\$524,000 | Gayle Fawkes | 250-6051**



VANDERBILT BEACH AREA - BEACHWALK HOMES ▲
Three bedroom, 2 bath home with 2-car garage is within walking distance to beach, dining, and shopping. Sold as-is. **\$435,000 | Carol Loder | 860-4326**



VANDERBILT BEACH AREA - BEACHWALK HOMES ▲
Upgraded 2 bedroom, 2 bath furnished home. Cathedral ceiling, glass-enclosed lanai; pool and tennis nearby. **\$425,000 | Carol Loder | 860-4326**



VANDERBILT BEACH AREA - PAVILION CLUB ▲
#201 - Turnkey furnished corner residence. Hurricane shutters, pergio floors and built-in grill on the lanai of this 2 bedroom plus den. **\$399,000 | Carolyn Weinand | 269-5678**

BONITA SPRINGS

Single Family Homes

IMPERIAL SHORES 4824 Snarkage Drive
Five bedroom, 5.5 bath with 3-car garage, private pool/spa, over 4,800 SF and vaulted ceilings. No bridges to the Gulf. **\$2,450,000 | Linda Sonders | 860-0119**

IMPERIAL SHORES 4819 Snarkage Drive
New home situated on a waterway with Gulf access, 4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 3-car garage, and heated pool/spa with southern exposure. **\$1,950,000 | Linda Sonders | 860-0119**

Condominiums/Villas

IMPERIAL SHORES 4895 Esplanade Street
This 3 bedroom villa has direct Gulf access and is situated on the Imperial River. Boat dock, boat lift, pool/spa. **\$1,195,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420**

VASARI COUNTRY CLUB - ALTESSA III 28520 Altessa Way #201
Golf membership included. Exquisite coach home with elevator overlooks green and fairway and 2 lake views. Brand new. **\$565,000 | Gayle Fawkes | 250-6051**

BONITA VILLAGE 3901 Kens Way #3301
Luxury community with private beach shuttle. Quality construction, 2 pools, spa, fitness center, and 2-story clubhouse. **\$499,000 | Sue Black | 250-5611**

BONITA SPRINGS

Condominiums/Villas

VASARI COUNTRY CLUB - ALTESSA 28610 Altessa Way #102
Spacious two bedroom plus den is meticulously maintained. Cherry cabinetry, tile on the diagonal, and upgraded appliances. **\$449,900 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420**

REDUCED VASARI COUNTRY CLUB - TOSCANA I 12220 Toscana Way #101
Tastefully finished home overlooks lush green and lake. Two bedroom plus den corner residence. Bundled golf community. **NOW \$299,999 | Susan DeShong | 253-3434**

Lots

KINLEYLAND 27771 Kings Kew
This waterfront homesite, 75' X 100', provides the perfect setting for your dream home. Bay views and Gulf access. **\$899,000 | Mark/Laura Maran | 777-3301**

BRENDAN COVE 9124 Brendan River Court
Magnificent homesite located on the Imperial River. Southwest exposure, surrounded by beautiful homes. Direct Gulf access. **\$749,000 | Dan O'Dea | 250-2429**

PIRATES COVE 27261 Arroyal Road
Spectacular views of Imperial River from this Gulf-access lot with existing boat dock. Water views front and back. **\$375,000 | Linda Sonders | 860-0119**

VANDERBILT BEACH ESTATES

452 Heron Avenue
This is a great boating neighborhood where you can build your dream home. Walk to the beach. Southern exposure lot. **\$864,000 | Teri Purvis | 597-2993**

NEW LISTING 380 Tradewinds Avenue
Waterfront lot with southern exposure. Concrete seawall spans 75 feet- ready for dock and lift. Access to Gulf of Mexico. **\$569,000 | Fred Alter | 269-4123**

VANDERBILT BEACH AREA

BEACHWALK VILLAS 871 Reef Point Circle
Fabulous view over the lake and fountain to the south sets this lovely 2 bedroom, 2 bath villa. New tiled roof. **\$399,000 | Carol Loder | 860-4326**

BEACHWALK VILLAS 648 Windsurf Lane
Lovely villa has a long view of the lake and is close to clubhouse. Hardwood flooring. Glass-enclosed lanai. **\$395,000 | Carol Loder | 860-4326**

BEACHWALK GARDENS 565 Beachwalk Circle #203
Furnished 2 bedroom, 2 bath residence with split floor plan, vaulted ceilings, and lovely views over 1 of 3 lakes. **\$350,000 | Carol Loder | 860-4326**

VANDERBILT PALMS 260 Southbay Drive #206
Rare opportunity for this residence that is steps to beach. Turnkey furnished and wonderful bay views. **\$299,900 | Barbara Bardsley | 784-6924**

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- 2 • WIGGINS BAY, PRINCETON PLACE** • 340 Horsecreek Dr. #204 • \$299,400 • Amerivest Realty • Bridgette Foster 239-594-2209

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- 3 • VILLAGE WALK & ISLAND WALK** • 3250 Village Walk Circle • From the mid \$300s • Illustrated Properties • Call 239-596-2520 • Mon. - Fri. - 10-4 Sat - Sun 10-4

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- 4 • VILLAGE WALK & ISLAND WALK** • 3250 Village Walk Circle • From the low \$400s • Illustrated Properties • Call 239-596-2520 • Mon. - Fri. - 10-4 Sat - Sun 10-4
- 5 • LEMURIA** • 7168 Lemuria Circle #1701 • From the Mid \$400s • Premier Properties of Southwest Florida, Inc., REALTORS • Tom Gasbarro 404-4883

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- 8 • TREVISO BAY** • 9004 Tamiami Trail East • Priced from \$600s • Premier Properties • Call 239-643-1414

- 9 • PELICAN MARSH - OSPREY POINTE** • 9061 Whimbrel Watch Lane #202 • \$649,000 • Premier Properties • Ray Couret 293-5899

- 10 • PELICAN MARSH** • 1895 Les Chateaux Blvd. #202 • \$649,000 • Amerivest Realty • Bridgette Foster 239-594-2209

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- 11 • PARK SHORE - COLONADE** • 247 Colonnade Circle • \$775,000 • Premier Properties • Linda Ohler 404-6460

- 12 • BONITA BAY - SANCTUARY** • 4285 Sanctuary Way • \$789,500 • Premier Properties • Cathy/Jim McCormick 850-4278

- 13 • OLD NAPLES - VILLAS RAVELLO** • 842 - 9th Avenue South #105 • \$795,000 • Premier Properties • Bernie Garabed 571-2466

- 14 • PELICAN ISLE CONDOMINIUMS** • 435 Dockside Dr • \$795,000-\$2,175,000 • Amerivest Realty • Bridgette Foster 239-594-2209

- 15 • MARCO ISLAND - CAPE MARCO - MERIDA** • 990 Cape Marco Drive #304 • \$799,000 • Premier Properties • Chris Sullivan 404-5548

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- 16 • BONITA BAY - ESPERIA & TAVIRA** • 26951 Country Club Drive • New construction priced from the \$800s • Premier Properties • Call 800-311-3622

- 17 • PELICAN BAY - CRESCENT** • 8444 Abington Circle #1421 • \$899,000 • Premier Properties • Beth Hayhoe McNichols 821-3304

- 18 • MOORINGS** • 1947 Crayton Road • \$899,900 • John R Wood Realtors • Margaret Hutchison -239-272-7000

>\$900,000

- 19 • PARK SHORE - PELICAN POINT WEST** • 250 Park Shore Drive #403 • \$995,000 • Premier Properties • Paula Sims/Julie Rembos 262-6600.

- 20 • PELICAN BAY - BAY VILLAS** • 554 Bay

Naples

- Villas Lane • \$995,000 • Premier Properties • Mary/Jamey Halpin 269-3005.

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- 21 • SEAGATE** • 5133 Seahorse Avenue • \$1,150,000 • Premier Properties • Lodge McKee 434-2424.
- 22 • COQUINA SANDS** • 1170 Oleander Drive • \$1,295,000 • Premier Properties • Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell 213-7420
- 23 • PELICAN BAY - ST. RAPHAEL** • 7117 Pelican Bay Blvd. #406 • \$1,295,000 • Premier Properties • Jean Tarkenton 595-0544
- 24 • BONITA BAY - IBIS COVE** • 27211 Ibis Cove Court • \$1,445,000 • Premier Properties • Carol Wood 822-3709

- 25 • ESTUARY AT GREY OAKS** • 1485 Anhinga Pointe • Priced from \$1,565,000 • Premier Properties • Call 239-261-3148

- 26 • MEDITERRA - BELLEZZA** • 14898 Bellezza Lane • \$1,800,000 • Premier Properties • Tom Gasbarro 404-4883

- 27 • MOORINGS** • 2999 Crayton Road • \$1,995,000 • Premier Properties • Michael Lawler 571-3939

- 28 • BONITA BAY - AZURE** • 4931 Bonita Bay Blvd. #503 • \$1,998,000 • Premier Properties • Carol Johnson/Michael Lickley 948-4000

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- 29 • MOORINGS - VILLAS OF FAIRWAY TERRACE** • 664 Fairway Terrace • Prices starting at just over \$2.1 million. • Premier Properties • Mark Maran/Jerry Wachowicz 777-3301

- 30 • MOORINGS** • 2201 Beacon Lane • \$2,325,000 • Premier Properties • Trey Wilson 595-4444

- 31 • OLD NAPLES** • 693 - 14th Avenue South • \$2,795,000 • Premier Properties • Steve Smiley 298-4327

- 32 • PARK SHORE - ARIA** • 4501 Gulf Shore Blvd. N. • Priced from \$2,900,000 • Premier Properties • Call 239-261-6200

- 33 • MEDITERRA - MARCELLO** • 29050 Marcello Way • \$2,995,000 • Premier Properties • Dru Martinovich 564-1266

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- 34 • MEDITERRA - IL TREBBIO** • 16041 Trebbio Way • \$3,175,000 • Premier Properties • Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell 213-7420

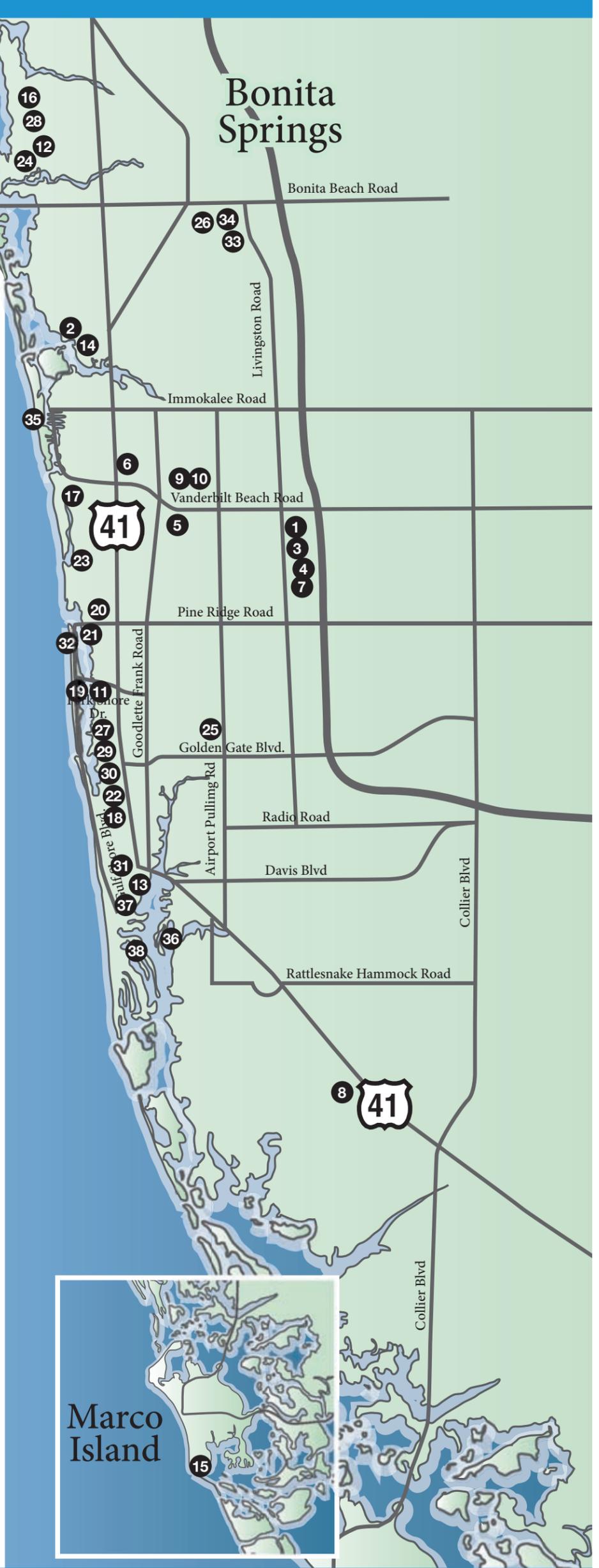
- 35 • VANDERBILT BEACH ESTATES** • 222 Channel Drive • \$3,200,000 • Premier Properties • Roya Nouhi 290-9111

- 36 • ROYAL HARBOR** • 2645 Tarpon Road • \$3,366,000 • Premier Properties • Isabelle Edwards 250-4140

- 37 • OLD NAPLES** • 1355 Gordon Drive • \$3,650,000 • Premier Properties • Marty & Debbi McDermott 564-4231

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- 38 • PORT ROYAL** • 1527 Galleon Drive • \$8,900,000 • Premier Properties • Philip N. Collins 404-6800





PELICAN BAY - MONTENERO ▲
#PH2002 - Privacy and spectacular views make this 9,715 SF gorgeous penthouse a paradise in the sky. Exceptional extras. **\$6,795,000 | Ellen Eggland | 571-7192**



PELICAN BAY - POINTE VERDE ▲
This custom designed estate home features volume ceilings, 4 bedroom suites, a home theatre and library. Pool and spa. **\$3,995,000 | Barbi/Steve Lowe | 216-1973**



PELICAN BAY - GEORGETOWN ▲
A stately manor with many artful upgrades. Four bedroom, study, media room & pool overlooking lake. A *Christie's Great Estates Property*. **\$2,600,000 | Kathryn Tout | 250-3583**



PELICAN BAY - MONTENERO ▲
#508 - Private elevator delivers you to the foyer of a wonderfully warm beachfront home. Panoramic Gulf views. **\$1,975,000 | Penny/Bob Lyle & Judy Perry/Linda Perry | 261-6161**



PELICAN BAY - CARLTON PLACE ▲
Golf course views and totally remodeled 3 bedroom plus den 2-story villa. Sophisticated beach house decor. **\$1,795,000 | Linda Piatt | 269-2322**



PELICAN BAY - PINECREST ▲
Extensively remodeled 4 bedroom plus den, 3.5 bath with gourmet kitchen, electric shutters, and custom cabinetry. **\$1,598,000 | Mary Halpin/Jamey Halpin | 269-3005**



PELICAN MARSH - MUIRFIELD ▲
Magnificent custom-built home. Two home theaters, wine cellar, wood floors, granite counters. Pool, waterfall spa. **\$1,399,000 | Alison Kalb | 564-0714**



PELICAN BAY - CORONADO ▲
#1001 - Corner residence with panoramic Gulf, Bay and preserve views. Cherry cabinetry, wood floors, and electric shutters. **\$1,350,000 | Pat Duggan | 216-1980**



PELICAN BAY - OAKMONT ▲
One house from the lake. Cathedral ceilings, French doors, 4 bedrooms and 3 full baths. Large heated pool. **\$1,350,000 | Sharon Kiptyk/Jane Darling | 777-3899**



PELICAN BAY - RENAISSANCE ▲
#3A - Charming residence with high ceilings, granite, wood-burning fireplace, loft library, skylights. Furnished. **\$1,299,000 | Susan Barton | 860-1412**



PELICAN MARSH - TERRABELLA ▲
Contemporary villa with European-style finishes. Three bedroom, upgraded cabinetry, guest cabana and courtyard pool/spa. **\$1,285,000 | Rod Soars | 290-2448**



PELICAN BAY - MARBELLA ▲
#201 - Marble floors, crown moldings, faux paint, foyer with tray ceiling. Retirement living at its best. **\$1,175,000 | Ted Dudley | 860-2498**



PELICAN BAY - LAS BRISAS ▲
Gorgeous 3 bedroom villa with 2,600 SF A/C, prime southwest exposure, a private pool, and remodeled kitchen. **\$1,175,000 | Sharon Kiptyk/Jane Darling | 777-3899**



PELICAN MARSH - GABLES ▲
Custom built 4 bedroom plus den with a large kitchen that opens onto family room with wood burning fireplace. Lanai overlooks lake. **\$1,150,000 | Mitch/Sandi Williams | 370-8879**



PELICAN BAY - ST. RAPHAEL ▲
#307 - A beautifully appointed residence with a sunset terrace overlooking the Gulf. Enjoy the incredible amenities. **\$1,075,000 | Jean Tarkenton | 595-0544**



REDUCED • OPEN SUN. 1-4
PELICAN BAY - PINECREST ▲
806 Tallow Tree Court - Improvements galore; new roof, windows, shutters, floor. Mint 3 bedroom, .35 acre site. **NOW \$998,000 | Mary Halpin/Jamey Halpin | 269-3005**



PELICAN BAY - ST. MARISSA ▲
#2003 - Gulf views from this residence with an entire new kitchen featuring granite, new cabinetry and new appliances! **\$929,000 | Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731**



OPEN SUN. 1-4
PELICAN BAY - CRESCENT ▲
8444 Abington Cir. #1421 - Rarely available! Three bedroom coach home with private elevator, SE exposure overlooking golf. **\$899,000 | Beth Hayhoe McNichols | 821-3304**



PELICAN MARSH - VENTURA ▲
Expansive great room and kitchen. "Spinnaker" floor plan, 3 bedroom plus loft/den, lanai with pool. Attached 2-car garage. **\$545,000 | Pat Duggan | 216-1980**



PELICAN MARSH - CLERMONT ▲
#202 - Magnificent sunrise views from this beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath with 1-car garage. Open floor plan. Fully furnished. **\$499,900 | Tom McCarthy | 243-5520**

PELICAN BAY

Single Family Homes

6987 Green Tree Drive
Sparkling and sunny SW lake views on 2 sides. Single-family 5600 SF home, 4 bedrooms with en-suite baths. Elegant! **\$2,595,000 | Linda Piatt | 269-2322**

OAKMONT 808 Pine Creek Lane
Lovely 3 bedroom newly renovated with tile and bamboo flooring. New kitchen, tray ceilings, private pool. **\$949,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420**

REDUCED OAKMONT 720 Pineside Lane
Enjoy your own private pool and spa in this light-filled 3 bedroom plus den, 2.5 bath home on a large homesite. **NOW \$799,000 | Marion Bethea | 261-6161**

Condominiums/Villas

OPEN SUN. 1-4 COCOBAY 7853 Cocobay Drive
Lakefront courtyard villa with guest cabana. New flat roof, paint and alarm system. Screened private pool/spa. **\$1,749,900 | Cathy Owen | 269-3118**

TIERRA MAR 568 Tierra Mar Lane
Rare 4 bedroom villa with lake view and southern exposure. Large pool in front courtyard, aviary-screened patio in rear. **\$1,545,000 | Linda Piatt | 269-2322**

OPEN SUN. 1-4 ST. RAPHAEL 7117 Pelican Bay Blvd. #406
Beautifully maintained 3 bedroom! Neutral backgrounds, spacious lanai and a Gulf view! Two-decked parking spaces. **\$1,295,000 | Jean Tarkenton | 595-0544**

ST. RAPHAEL 7095 Pelican Bay Blvd. #14
Corner 3 bedroom, 3 bath villa with private elevator. Private pool, fireplace, screened balcony & lanai, 2-car garage. **\$1,249,000 | Karen Conroy Coplin | 261-1235**

ST. MAARTEN 6101 Pelican Bay Blvd. #PH5
Commanding coastal views from this penthouse with four bedrooms, master is on the 1st floor. Totally renovated. **\$1,195,000 | Mary Johnson | 594-9446**

BRIDGE WAY VILLAS 667 Bridgeway Lane #135
This 3 bedroom, 3 bath villa has a backyard opening up to a creek and views of the lake. New A/C, pool heater. **\$1,195,000 | Mary Halpin/Jamey Halpin | 269-3005**

GROSVENOR 6001 Pelican Bay Blvd. #1705
Extremely open and airy stand-out. Modified plan. Granite countertops, marble flooring, 3M film on all windows. **\$1,090,000 | Jerry Wachowicz | 777-0741**

CORONADO 7225 Pelican Bay Blvd. #1104
Gulf views from every room. Stainless appliances, new A/C unit, granite countertops, tray ceilings. Tram to beach. **\$997,000 | Linda Perry/Judy Perry & Penny/Bob Lyle | 261-6161**

L'AMBIANCE 2000 L'Ambiance Circle #201
Sensational view! Tropical aqua-scape view enhances the open spaciousness of this coach home. Incredible amenities. **\$995,000 | Ellen Eggland | 571-7192**

OPEN SUN. 1-4 BAY VILLAS 554 Bay Villas Lane
Beautifully remodeled, 3 bedroom villa with soaring, vaulted ceilings in the great room, master bath, and kitchen. **\$995,000 | Mary Halpin/Jamey Halpin | 269-3005**

MARBELLA 7425 Pelican Bay Blvd. #1105
Wonderful Gulf views from this 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath with approx. 2,000 total SF. Full service building. **\$975,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420**

HERON 5555 Heron Point Drive #802
Your home in the sky awaits. Stunningly remodeled. Unobstructed bay and Gulf views. Two bedrooms, den, 3 baths. **\$975,000 | Kathryn Hurvitz | 659-5126**

CRESCENT 8440 Abington Circle #25
Lake, golf, sunsets, lush distant horizons, and palm trees. Spacious 2 bedroom, den, 2.5 bath, large SW lanai. **\$899,000 | Mary Halpin | 269-3005**

ST. RAPHAEL 7117 Pelican Bay Blvd. #14
Garden residence with condominium amenities! Private 26'x20' pool, spacious garden, 2 bedrooms, marble floors. **\$825,000 | Cynthia Joannou | 273-0666**

STRATFORD 5601 Turtle Bay Drive #501
Long views of Gulf of Mexico. Over 3000 sq. ft. of living area, 2 bedrooms, study, 3 baths and a quiet location. **\$799,000 | Linda Piatt | 269-2322**

ST. MARISSA 6573 Marissa Loop #1002
Endless Gulf of Mexico views from this 2 bedroom plus den. Beautifully updated building with great amenities. **\$799,000 | Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731**

INTERLACHEN 6732 Pelican Bay Blvd.
Spacious floor plan with 3 bedrooms and 2-car garage. Wonderful lake/pool views. Beach access, pool, tennis. **\$795,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420**

OPEN SUN. 1-4 ST. RAPHAEL 7117 Pelican Bay Blvd. #202
Custom interior finishes throughout modified floor plan. Appointments of marble, polished porcelain and granite. **\$795,000 | Jean Tarkenton | 595-0544**

PELICAN BAY

Condominiums/Villas

OPEN SUN. 1-4 CRESCENT 8456 Abington Circle #1712
First floor! Numerous improvements including paint, carpet, tile, appliances and more! Southern exposure. **\$749,000 | Beth Hayhoe McNichols | 821-3304**

GROSVENOR 6001 Pelican Bay Blvd. #405
Gracious 3 bedroom, 3 bath with unobstructed views of Gulf, preserve and pool/spa area. Two car under-building spaces. **\$749,000 | Wendy Hayes | 777-3960**

GROSVENOR 6001 Pelican Bay Blvd. #202
Three bedrooms, three baths, views of preserve. Some features include marble flooring, tray ceiling, wet bar. **\$745,000 | Lodge McKee | 434-2424**

POINTE II 535 Via Veneto #101
Magnificent 3 bedroom corner residence is bright and sunny. Pristine condition, exquisitely furnished, glassed lanai. **\$725,000 | Alison Kalb | 564-0714**

ST. PIERRE 6825 Grenadier Blvd. #1504
Watch the sun rise over golf course and sun set over Gulf. Wood floors, newer appliances, screened/open balconies. **\$723,100 | Kathryn Tout | 250-3583**

POINTE II 515 Via Veneto #102
Elegant 3 bedroom, 2 bath home features tray ceilings, 18" tile, crown moulding and a large glass-enclosed lanai. **\$700,000 | Philip Mareschal | 269-6033**

CHATEAUMERE 6040 Pelican Bay Blvd. #301
Fabulously updated 3 bedroom, 3 bath corner residence with wraparound lanai and sunset views. Move in and enjoy! **\$699,777 | Esther Van Lare | 404-3045**

BREAKWATER 780 Breakwater Circle #203
Gourmet kitchen, plantation shutters, Italian stone flooring. Two-car garage. Hurricane-glass lanai with lake view. **\$699,000 | Janet Rathbun/Linda Piatt | 860-0012**

OPEN SUN. 1-4 OAK LAKE SANCTUARY 878 Turtle Court
Split bedroom plan with 3 bedrooms, 3baths including a separate guest house. Private pool/spa, 10' ceilings and 2-car garage. **\$699,000 | Linda Piatt | 269-2322**

BREAKWATER 749 Breakwater Circle #203
This 2 bedroom plus den features picturesque southern lake views, a glass-enclosed lanai & a huge oversized 2-car garage. **\$679,000 | Mary Halpin/Jamey Halpin | 269-3005**

ST. NICOLE 5550 Heron Point Drive #1202
Sunsets from balcony! Pristine 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom residence. Gorgeous Gulf views, beautiful furnishings. **\$675,000 | Pat Duggan | 216-1980**

BREAKWATER 815 Breakwater Circle #101
Three bedroom with southeast exposure over the lake, 1,831 SF under air, and 2-car garage. Turnkey furnished. **\$649,000 | Jane Darling/Sharon Kiptyk | 777-3899**

INTERLACHEN 6760 Pelican Bay Blvd. #333
Southeastern views across the Pelican Bay Golf Course & lakes highlight this meticulous three bedroom condominium. **\$649,000 | Ruth Trettis | 403-4529**

VALENCIA 6520 Valen Way #C103
Sunrises over golf from this 2 bedroom, 2 bath condominium. The guest bedroom has private bath and lanai. **\$619,000 | Mary Halpin/Jamey Halpin | 269-3005**

ST. PIERRE 6825 Grenadier Blvd. #103
Upscale high-rise, sunny, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, lush garden view, hurricane shutters, beach access next door! **\$595,000 | Patricia Bucalo | 248-0694**

L'AMBIANCE 800 L'Ambiance Circle #103
Prime location with waterscape, fountain and waterfall vistas. Smartly designed residence for maximum enjoyment. **\$575,000 | Vickie Larscheid | 250-5041**

CALAIS 7016 Pelican Bay Blvd. #102
New 20" tile, carpet, cabinets, granite and marble counters, stainless appliances and crown moulding. Attached garage. **\$559,000 | Barbi/Steve Lowe | 216-1973**

REDUCED BAY VILLAS 547 Bay Villas Lane
Open 2 bedroom plus den, private courtyard, granite counters, stainless appliances and Mexican tile floors. **NOW \$549,000 | Linda Piatt/Jeri Richey | 269-2322**

BREAKWATER 765 Breakwater Circle #102
Spacious 2 bedroom plus family room overlooking lake. Upgraded kitchen. Two-car garage. Great amenities. **\$519,900 | Linda Piatt/Janet Rathbun | 269-2322**

HYDE PARK 6360 Pelican Bay Blvd. #C404
Awesome views of golf course and lake. Spacious 2 bedroom plus den. Updated kitchen, new wood flooring. **\$475,000 | Mary Halpin/Jamey Halpin | 269-3005**

NEW LISTING CHATEAUMERE 6060 Pelican Bay Blvd #201
Beautifully renovated! Spectacular lake/golf views. Enclosed lanai with sliding glass doors. Turnkey furnished. **\$469,000 | Julie Rembos/Linda Ohler | 595-1809**

CHATEAUMERE 6060 Pelican Bay Blvd. #303
Light and bright 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath with over 1,700 total SF and panoramic golf/lake views. Turnkey furnished. **\$459,777 | Esther Van Lare | 404-3045**

HYDE PARK 6300 Pelican Bay Blvd. #A-402
Fantastic lake and golf course views from the terrace of this 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath condominium. Convenient to all. **\$450,000 | Pat Biernat | 269-6264**

PELICAN BAY

Condominiums/Villas

HYDE PARK 6320 Pelican Bay Blvd. #T-6
Walk across street to beach tram from this 2 bedroom. Neutral decor, wet bar, large lanai and garage parking space. **\$449,000 | Jane Darling/ Sharon Kiptyk | 777-3899**

GLENCOVE 5803 Glencove Drive #603
Updated kitchen, granite counters, 18" tile floors, and newly furnished turnkey. Corner location offers privacy. **\$414,900 | Linda Ohler | 404-6460**

GLENCOVE 5818 Glencove Drive #103
This 2 bedroom, 2 bath corner residence has a glass-enclosed lanai, which expands the living area. **\$345,000 | Pat Duggan | 216-1980**

REDUCED GLENCOVE 5809 Glencove Drive #901
Peaceful views of the lake from this furnished 2 bedroom with updated kitchen and newer appliances. Tram to beach. **NOW \$329,000 | Angela R. Allen | 825-8494**

PELICAN MARSH

Single Family Homes

BAY LAUREL ESTATES 8639 Blue Flag Way
Mediterranean-style home with view of golf. Saturated flooring, crown moulding and granite counters. Pool/spa. **\$2,395,000 | Michael Lawler/Ray Couret | 571-3939**

BAY LAUREL ESTATES 8687 Purslane Drive
Furnished home with luxurious appointments, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, crown moulding, and Kot pond, side courtyard. **\$1,875,000 | Ray Couret | 293-5899**

Condominiums/Villas

TERRABELLA 9108 Terrabella Court
Curved cherry staircase, formal living, dining and family rooms. Pool, spa, overlooks lagoon. Completely furnished. **\$1,795,000 | Rod Soars | 290-2448**

TERRABELLA 9001 Terranova Drive
Private 2-story, 4 bedroom plus den and 4+ bath. Stunning 14' ceilings and triple-crown moldings. Free-form pool. **\$1,299,000 | Rod Soars | 290-2448**

TERRABELLA 9025 Terranova Drive
Distinctive Communities built home. Cathedral ceilings, fine woodwork, faux paint, Pool/spa in sun-lit courtyard. **\$1,185,000 | Rod Soars | 290-2448**

PORTOFINO 1456 Via Portofino
Tile & marble floors, volume ceilings, and plantation shutters. Private pool and spacious lanai overlook preserve. **\$999,000 | Jean Tarkenton | 595-0544**

OPEN SUN. 1-4 OSPREY POINTE 9061 Whimbrel Watch LN. #202
Second floor, 3 bedroom plus den, 3 bath floor plan lives like a house. Southern exposure golf course views, 2-car garage. **\$649,000 | Ray Couret | 293-5899**

NEW LISTING OSPREY POINTE 9024 Whimbrel Watch LN. #202
Ultimate in carefree living. Spectacular park views, sunshine all day, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, media room plus den. **\$599,000 | Tom McCarthy | 243-5520**

LES CHATEAUX 1855 Les Chateaux Blvd. #302
Panoramic lake views from this 3 bedroom plus den penthouse. Custom paint, oversized tile; premium carpet. Light and bright. **\$599,000 | Ray Couret | 293-5899**

OSPREY POINTE 9029 Whimbrel Watch Lane #102
Expansive golf views from the large lanai! Loads of upgrades some include diagonal tile floors and crown moulding. **\$595,000 | Janet Gable | 370-5547**

MONT CLAIRE 2365 Mont Claire Drive #101
Turnkey furnished 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath with wet bar, built-ins, diagonal tile, crown moulding and coffered ceilings. **\$580,000 | Ray Couret | 293-5899**

ARIELLE 2245 Arielle Drive #2101
New wood flooring and great decor! This end 3 bedroom plus family room/den residence enjoys a peaceful lake view. **\$379,500 | Jean Tarkenton | 595-0544**

ARIELLE 2130 Arielle Drive #305
Southern exposure, golf course view. Carriage home with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. This is a perfect vacation home. **\$348,000 | Ray Couret | 293-5899**

ARIELLE 2245 Arielle Drive #2107
Lake views from this turnkey furnished 2 bedroom plus den Ibis floor plan. Golf memberships are available. **\$319,000 | Adrienne Kubiak Young/Ray Couret | 825-5369**

ARIELLE 2120 Arielle Drive #202
Amazing lake and golf views with southern exposure. Corner 2 bedroom plus den. Tastefully decorated and sunny. **\$319,000 | Ray Couret | 293-5899**

Lots

AUGUSTA 2546 Augusta Drive
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

WEEK OF MARCH 19-25, 2009

A GUIDE TO THE NAPLES ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SCENE

best seats in the house



▲ JUAN DIAZ *Las Dos Caras del Sol*, Cassie side chair donated by Traditions Classic Home Furnishings

if you go:
"Have a Seat II"
Wednesday,
March 25, at the
Phil. C4

Raffle and auction will raise funds for Naples Museum of Art

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The best seats in the house at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts on Wednesday evening, March 25, will be those hand-painted and otherwise embellished for "Have a Seat II... Artists' Chairs," a raffle and auction to benefit the Naples Museum of Art.

Forty-two chairs and a few tables and other pieces of furniture bearing the imprimatur of 41 Southwest Florida artists of international reputations have been created for the raffle. In styles from traditional to contemporary, the pieces are as practical as they are artful. More than \$6,000 worth of furniture was donated for the artists to add their distinctive touches by these local businesses: Design Within Reach, Workshops of

SEE SEATS, C4 ▶

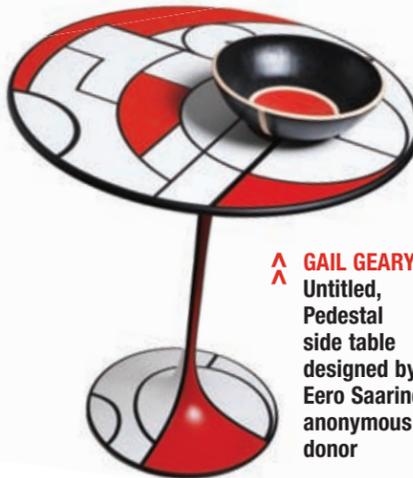
>> STEVE BEYER, *Untitled*, DCM (Dining Chair Metal) designed by Charles & Ray Eames, anonymous donor



>> JOHANNE BENOIT, *Untitled*, Kyoto Chair, DWR Design Studio, anonymous donor



▲ JOSEPH SWENARTON, *Untitled (Coconuts)*, Birch stack table designed by Alvar Aalto, anonymous donor



▲ GAIL GEARY, *Untitled*, Pedestal side table designed by Eero Saarinen, anonymous donor

WEEK at-a-glance



A rousing 'Rigoletto'
Peg Longstreth cheers Opera Naples for its latest production. C5 ▶



A wonderful 'Wicked'
Nancy Stetson was wowed by the touring show at Fort Myers' Mann Hall. C8 ▶



'Made in Florida'
Regional artists shine in exhibit at Osborn.Lizio Contemporary Gallery. C19 ▶

Here's the plan: Hop on the bus for an avant-garde architecture tour of Miami

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

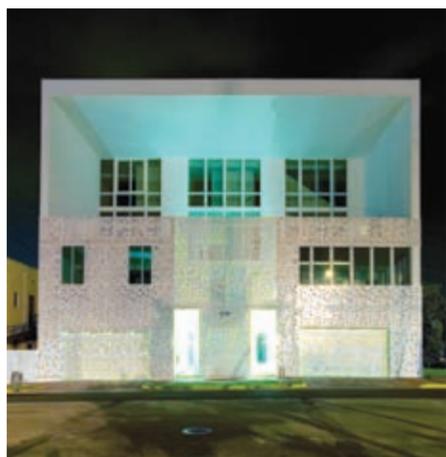
Architects and architecture aficionados are invited to board a Miami-bound bus with the Florida Southwest chapter of the American Institute of Architects to see an array of recently built, avant-garde projects by internationally acclaimed architects.

The all-day excursion departs from Fort Myers at 7 a.m. and from

Naples at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, March 28, and includes a Cuban lunch at the iconic Versailles restaurant and a dinner reception at Florida International University. Cost is \$45 for AIA members and \$55 for others.

First stop in Miami will be at Villa Allegra, the home of Chad Oppenheim of Oppenheim Architecture+Design. Mr. Oppenheim

SEE MIAMI, C4 ▶



OPPENHEIM ARCHITECTURE+DESIGN PHOTO
Park Avenue, Miami Beach, by night



A tasty bit of soul
Mediterranean soul, that is, at Pelagos Café. C27 ▶

SANDY DAYS, SALTY NIGHTS

Date my avatar



ArtisHENDERSON

sandydays@floridaweekly.com

I have this gamer friend, a 17-year-old knock-out with strawberry blond hair and a J. Crew style, who looks nothing like the dark warrior she professes to be. I'll call her "Svenna" — after her gaming avatar — and say that she makes me feel older than the 10-odd years that separate us. Her e-mails are peppered with an Internet slang that is both hip and incomprehensible, so that I'm secretly glad when I puzzle out a new one but feel old and passé when another stumps me. She spends her waking hours glued to a MacBook, interacting online in ways I can only imagine.

Svenna once tried to explain the dimensions of her game of choice — the weaponry, the characters, the geography. I asked about points and lives, as if World of Warcraft were an updated version of Pac-Man. Finally, she offered to let me watch her play, as though seeing Internet gaming in action were the only way to make my outmoded brain understand.

Svenna showed me her avatars and their gear, the outfits they wear and the powers they wield. She introduced me to her world of night elves and gnomes,

pointing out the long-limbed, heavily-muscled trolls. "Trolls are kind of hot," she said. Choosing her healer avatar over one of her warrior characters, Svenna spent the next 30 minutes tending to the online wounded, stopping to chat with other players and blowing kisses at passing trolls.

"Do people ever get together through World of Warcraft?" I asked.

Svenna nodded her head, never taking her eyes off the screen. "It definitely happens," she said.

Which got me to thinking: What a great way of meeting people.

True, dwarves and elves are not exactly my taste, but wouldn't dating be easier if we could have a trial run in the virtual world, where our egos are less fragile and we have a chance for greater boldness?

With this in mind, I turned to the great Google, intent on tracking down an avatar-based dating site. I wasn't disappointed.

Soon, I was signing up for a free trial

membership with OmniDate.com, a Toronto-based online dating site where members select one of six digital representations and then go on virtual dates. According to the site's promo literature, this gives daters a chance to interact before a face-to-face meeting. For my own avatar, I chose a thoughtful-looking brunette, bypassing a cartoon blond in a low-cut dress. From the registration page, I went straight to the profiles list, slinging cyber date invitations left and right. My real-life self would never be so forward, but I had discovered dating freedom in the virtual world. So what if all of my invitations were denied?

After all,

"She introduced me to her world of night elves and gnomes, pointing out the long-limbed, heavily-muscled trolls..."

it was my avatar who got dissed, not me.

Following this trend, Nomoredates.com, a site tailored for "young, stylish, urban professionals," has partnered with OmniDate to offer virtual dating to its online love-seekers.

"The whole thing is a little bit geeky," said No More Dates founder Vekrum Kaushik in a Toronto Star article. Still, he hopes the experience catches on. As for me? Next time, I'm choosing the blond. ■



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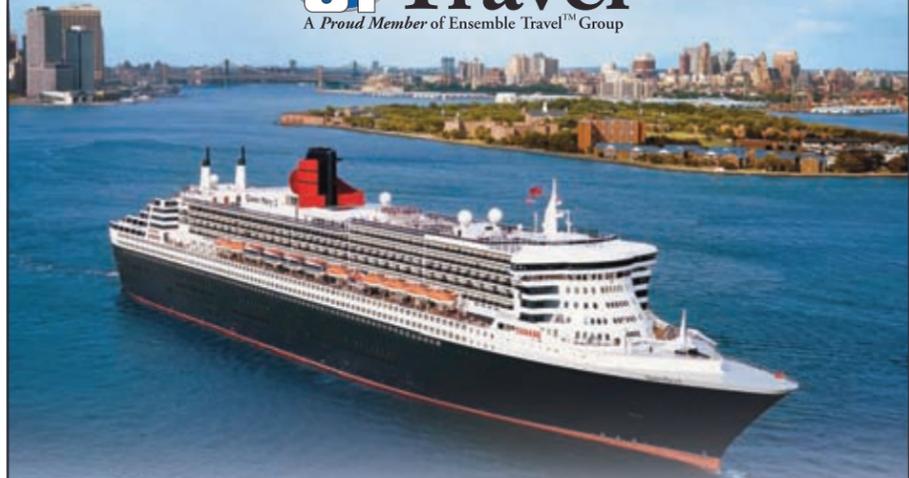
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BEACH READING

“Inheritance Hijackers: Who Wants to Steal Your Inheritance and How to Protect It”

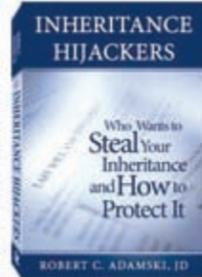
By Robert C. Adamski
(Ovation Books, \$16.95)

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Most people today have learned to be wary of identity theft, credit card fraud and even e-mail scams — but what about inheritance theft? Whether you plan on leaving an inheritance or may receive one in the future, you could be at risk of becoming an unwitting victim of an inheritance hijacking by a family member, friend or associate.

Attorney Robert C. Adamski realized the need to educate Americans about inheritance theft during his 30 years experience in inheritance law and litigation. His enlightening new book, “Inheritance Hijackers: Who Wants to Steal Your Inheritance and How to Protect It,” provides expert advice on how to identify potential inheritance thieves and avoid becoming a victim. As the first book to examine the dangers of inheritance theft, “Inheritance Hijackers” warns that anyone can be targeted by otherwise honest friends and family who may be motivated to steal by the promise of inheritance dollars.

“As old age and physical and mental infirmities set in, once robust and capable people become dependent on others and more likely to become a victim,” said Mr. Adamski, a partner in Burandt, Adamski & Grossman, LLP. “I still believe that most people are hon-



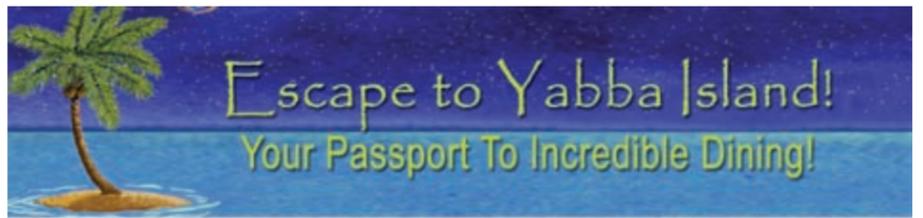
est and want to do the right thing for their fellow man; however, everyone has their tipping point into dishonest behavior. This is especially true in the realm of inheritances, where family dynamics, old grudges and jealousies play a powerful role.”

“Inheritance Hijackers” provides quizzes, Q&As and checklists to help readers determine the security of their estate. Mr. Adamski also includes case studies from his own legal experience that illustrate the many forms an inheritance hijacking can take, from undue influence by a family member, to serial hijackers out for personal gain.

“My goal is not to panic people, but to educate them to keep their eyes and ears open,” Adamski says. “Trusting your inheritance to chance is not wise — it’s better to be vigilant and safe than overly trusting and sorry.”

For more information, visit www.RCAdamski.com or www.ProtectYourEstate.net. ■

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SEATS

From page 1

David T. Smith, Traditions Classic Home Furnishings, Not Just Futons, Denmark Interiors, Laura Ashley Home Furnishings, Judith Liegeois Designs, Inc. and Edward Leman.

The participating artists are: Joan Baron, Johanne Benoit, Steven Beyer, Carmelo Blandino, Tyler Blanton, Jane Borchers, Andy Browne, Carolyn Connors, Marilyn Crawford, Richard Dexter, Juan Diaz, Jean Daniel Dornevil, Ruth Dwyer, Chris Erickson, Gail Geary, Tom

Geyer, Jonathan Green, Gabriela Helesicova, Angelika Kade, Jonathan Kane, Shirley Kelley, Mally Khorasantchi, Betsy Ross Koller, Pat Kumericich, Ysabel Le May, Jo-Ann Lizio, Reynier Llanes, Suzanne Luker, Gisela Miller, Danny Morgan, Laura Mostaghel, Lyn Olsen, Alan Pimental, Sherry Rohl, Loius Salvati, Beth Schroeder,



Anne Shreve, Janis Fey Siegel, Donna Spadafora, Michael St. Amand and Joseph Swenarton.

In addition to the raffle, there will be an auction of four signed original art works by artists not participating in the raffle: Wolf Kahn's oil painting, Fall In Johnson, Vermont, 2001; Bob Kane's Cannes, an undated watercolor; and Roger Weik's Sabre Dance, 2001,

mixed media on canvas.

Raffle tickets are \$150, and only 300 will be sold. Patron tickets for \$500 include two chances in the raffle and a tax deduction of \$200. All proceeds benefit the Naples Museum of Art's lectures, exhibitions, educational programs and endowment.

"Have a Seat..." begins at 4:30 p.m.; guests will enjoy hors d'oeuvres and a full bar along with entertainment while admiring the furniture and artwork and meeting many of the participating artists.

For more information and to purchase tickets, call Richard Tooke at 649-7958. ■

MIAMI

From page 1

will take the group around his property and then will narrate the ride as the bus visits several of his most recent residential projects, including Ten Museum Park, Montclair, Ilona and Ilonabay.

After lunch, the tour continues to the University of Miami and Florida International University, whose renowned schools of architecture are polar opposite in their approach to teaching design. At UM, the Perez Architecture Center and the new School of Architecture are on the itinerary.

At FIU, the group will visit the Frost Art Museum, designed by HOK and completed in 2008; the FIU College of Law, designed by Robert Stern and completed in 2003; and the Chapman Graduate School of Business, designed by Kohn Pederson Fox Associates and completed in 2007.

FIU will host a dinner reception of sandwiches, pizza and Cuban coffees and sodas before the group heads home.

The Florida Southwest chapter of the AIA welcomes other professionals, developers, builders and anyone interested in architecture to join the trip.

"This is not a tour of local architecture in Miami, but a tour of world-class buildings in South Florida," says AIA vice president Joyce Owens of Architecture Joyce Owens, who owned a modern architecture practice in London before relocating to Southwest Florida and opening her firm in downtown Ft Myers. "These buildings are of a modern style not widely seen on our coast... they are exciting and relevant to the advances in global technology and styles of recent years.

The chapter's annual bus tour is a highlight of the year for members and nonmembers. "It's a fun, friendly, informal day that's a real cultural boost," Ms. Owens says. Last year's trip was to Sarasota to visit the mid-century buildings of the Sarasota School of Architecture; several years before that, the Palm Beach tour focused on the elegant Spanish Revival style of Addison Mizner.

Participation is limited to the first 50 people who make a reservation.

For information including photos, complete schedule, lunch menu, pick up locations and registration form, visit www.aiaflasw.org. ■

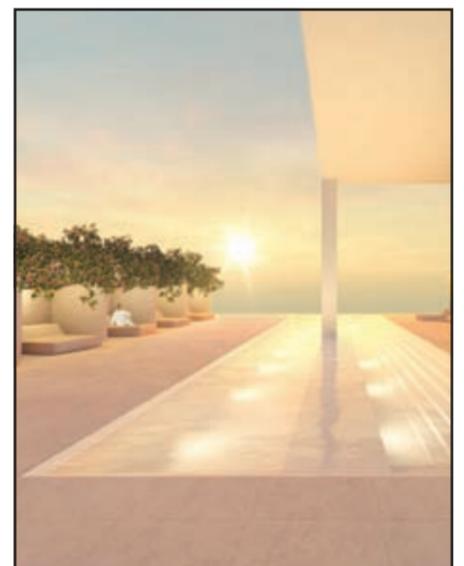


Ilona, Miami Beach

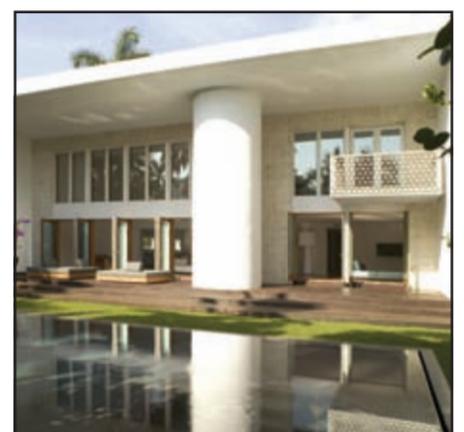
PHOTOS COURTESY OPPENHEIM ARCHITECTURE+DESIGN



Ten Museum Park, downtown Miami



Ten Museum Park, downtown Miami



Villa Allegra, Miami Beach

THE MUSIC GOURMET

Opera Naples chooses a perfect day (or two) for a curse



Peg GOLDBERG LONGSTRETH
plongstreth@floridaweekly.com

The timing of Opera Naples' performances of "Rigoletto," Giuseppe Verdi's masterpiece, could not have been more apropos. The ever-popular, curse-based opera was presented on Friday the 13th and again Sunday, March 15, the Ides of March.

I ventured out to the Performing Arts hall at Gulf Coast High School for the Friday evening performance. If Sunday's show was as good, then it was an absolute blowout, thanks once again to superb backdrops and a finely chosen cast.

Returning to Opera Naples, this time in the title role of the deformed court jester, was Todd Thomas, who first delighted local audiences in the 2006 production of "Tosca."

Thomas, who has performed at the New York City Opera as well as the Metropolitan Opera, was perfectly cast in this role. For three-plus hours, he mesmerized the audience, first taunting the courtiers (who are helpless to protect "their women" from the unceasing desires of the duke), and then trembling as he and the duke are cursed by Monterone (because the duke has defiled Monterone's daughter).

The duke, marvelously performed by lyric tenor Eric Margiore, laughs off the

curse, as he's already planning his next conquest — a luscious, but yet unidentified young woman. It was Margiore who practically caused the audience to swoon with his gloriously rendered "la donna è mobile."

Simultaneous with the duke's plan to add the unidentified beauty to his lists of conquests comes the astonishing news from the cuckolded courtiers (who have, unbeknownst to Rigoletto, been tailing him), that the pathetic creature has a beautiful mistress. How can this be? What no one knows, of course, is that Rigoletto's "mistress" is no such thing — she is his daughter, Gilda.

Passionately, obsessively "in love" with his daughter, determined to protect her virtue at all costs, he has kept her hidden in their cottage, except when she goes to church. What he does not realize, of course, is that Gilda has seen and fallen in love with a young man whose name she does not know, but who — surprise — turns out to be none other than the sex-crazed duke.

Jane Redding, perfectly cast in the soprano role as Gilda, first charmed Opera Naples fans two years ago with her hilarious portrayal of Adina in "Elixir of Love." This time, the audience heard her in a vastly different, tragic role — one I felt she performed magnificently.

Even if you've never seen "Rigoletto," you must know that things are about to go very downhill from this point on. That's precisely what happens.

Blindfolded and clueless about what's



COURTESY PHOTO
Giuseppe Verdi's masterpiece, "Rigoletto," was another hit for Opera Naples.

going on, Rigoletto doesn't realize he's assisting the courtiers in abducting his own daughter. Determined to save Gilda from the duke at all costs, he has already contacted a "hit man," then hesitated about going through with such treachery. Now what choice does he have? His pleas for the safe return of his beautiful daughter have been met with taunts and scorn; he has finally been allowed to see his daughter, who tells her father she has learned the identity of her "mystery man" and believes, in her naiveté, that the duke loves and will be faithful to her.

It's all too much for Rigoletto to bear, and so he finalizes the plan for the duke's murder with Sparafucile, another role wonderfully cast and portrayed by bass Ashley Howard Wilkinson.

Muscles rippling, his knife sharpened, Wilkinson also was a crowd pleaser once again (he appeared here in "Amahl and the Night Visitors" and "Madama Butterfly").

But Sparafucile's sister, Maddalena, who also has the hots for the duke, begs her brother to switch murder victims. On a dark and violently stormy night, he does, killing Gilda (at her own request) and saving the duke.

The deed done, the dying Gilda in a burlap bag, ready to be tossed in the river, Rigoletto begs the assassin to let him have the pleasure of disposing the body. As he prepares to do that, he is staggered by the voice of the man he believed had been murdered. "La donna è mobile," croons the duke, completely unaware that the woman he intended to have for his next conquest had been murdered in his stead.

Tension so thick you can cut it with a dull knife, Rigoletto fearfully peers in the bag and discovers Gilda. "The curse!" he wails. "It is the curse!"

Congratulations are in order once again for Opera Naples, as they are rapidly becoming a much-anticipated operatic blessing in this community. ■

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

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WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

This week's theater

■ **Anything Goes** - The Naples Players present "Anything Goes" through April 4 at the Sugden Community Theatre. Tickets: \$35 (adults), \$10 (students); 263-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org.

■ **Shakespeare Abridged** - Theatre Conspiracy presents "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)" March 19-April 11. Three actors cram all 37 plays and 154 sonnets into two acts. 2711 Park Windsor Drive, #302, Fort Myers; 936-3239 or theatreconspiracy.org.

■ **Art of Murder** - Florida Repertory Theatre presents "The Art of Murder," an award-winning new thriller, March 20-April 12. 332-4488 or www.FloridaRep.org.

■ **Wicked** - The Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall presents the Broadway blockbuster "Wicked" through March 29. (800) 440-7469 or 481-4849 or www.bbman-npah.com.

■ **Little Shop of Horrors** - Sanibel's Schoolhouse Theater presents the gleefully gruesome "Little Shop of Horrors" through April 4. 472-6862 or www.the-schoolhousetheater.com.

■ **All Shook Up** - Broadway Palm Dinner Theater in Fort Myers presents "All Shook Up" through April 11. This musical comedy combines Elvis hits with lots of twists and turns. 278-4422 or www.BroadwayPalm.com.

■ **Dinner With Friends** - The Naples Players perform "Dinner With Friends," a dramatic comedy, March 25-April 18 in the Tobye Studio at Sugden Community Theatre. Tickets: \$20/adults, \$10/students. 263-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org.



>>The Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts hosts George Benson Friday, March 20



>>The Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts hosts Linda Eder Sunday, March 22

This week's symphony

■ **Musical Triumph** - The Southwest Florida Symphony performs "Musical Triumph" at Faith Presbyterian Church in Cape Coral on March 20; at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center in Fort Myers on March 21; and at BIG ARTS on Sanibel on March 22. 418-1500 or e-mail tickets@swflso.org.

Thursday, Mar. 19

■ **Third in Bloom** - Floral interpretations, exotic menus and drinks featuring flowers, custom window displays and special floral shows in art galleries comprise Third in Bloom along Third Avenue South March 19-22; 434-6533.

■ **Salute to the Stars** - The Philharmonic Center for the Arts presents Michael Feinstein's "Salute to the Stars of MGM in Hollywood," a tribute to the Golden Age of Hollywood musicals featuring two of the stars who made the films great, Vic Damone and Arlene Dahl, performing live with Mr. Feinstein. 597-1900 or www.thephil.org.

■ **Family Event** - As part of the Southwest Florida Reading Festival, the Lee County Alliance of the Arts celebrates, "Fantasy & Fairytales in Books and Art" from 4-6 p.m. The event is geared toward children and features storytelling, book art, puppeteering and more. 939-ARTS or www.artinlee.org

■ **Purse Auction** - Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida holds its second annual "Young Chicks, Old Bags" at from 6-8 p.m. at Bell Tower Shops in Fort Myers. The event begins with a silent auction of designer purses, some new and others previously loved. Festivities include raffles, food and drink specials, music and fashion. Cost: \$10; 225-2590 or cstarnold.ja@sfwdb.org.

Friday, Mar. 20

■ **Ikebana** - The Naples Chapter 160 of Ikebana International hosts its annual Japanese floral arts exhibit, "Entering Spring," from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday at St. Katherine's Greek Orthodox Church, 7100 Airport Road. Admission: \$2 per person (free for children); www.ikebananaples.com or 793-4536

■ **George Benson** - The Philharmonic Center for the Arts welcomes George Benson and "An Unforgettable Tribute to Nat King Cole." 597-1900 or www.thephil.org.

■ **Dixieland Jazz** - The Barbary Coast Dixieland Jazz Show Band performs at 7 p.m. at North Naples United Methodist Church. Tickets: \$15 to benefit the programs of Grace Place for Children and Families; 455-2707 or www.graceplacenaples.org.

■ **Celtic Nights** - Celebrate the luck o' the Irish with Tony Kenny and Celtic Nights at 7 p.m. at Big Cypress Market Place. Tickets: \$25; 774-1960, ext. 103.

Saturday, Mar. 21

■ **Estero Concert** - A wide variety of musical styles and instruments will float through Estero Community Park from 7-9 p.m. in a concert featuring Kat Epple, The McClintrot Brothers and Susie Jennings. The evening is a benefit for the Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed. Tickets: \$20 (free for children 12 and under); 657-2253 or e-mail crewtrust@earthlink.net.

■ **Scout Salute** - "A Toast for Leadership: Salute to Scouting," a wine and food tasting to benefit Naples area Boy Scouts, takes place from 2-5 p.m. at Bayfront, complete with live entertainment and food and drink from several

participating restaurants. Tickets: \$50 in advance and \$60 the day of the event; 936-8072, ext.112, or www.SWFLCouncilBSA.org.

■ **Anniversary Concert** - The Naples Orchestra and Chorus presents "Music, Mirth and Memories" featuring violinist Lee Wilkins and his musical saw, strumpet and bag of theatrical tricks to help celebrate the NOC's 15th anniversary. The show will be presented at 7 p.m. Saturday and at 2 p.m. Sunday at Golden Gate High School. Free, but donations are welcome; 445-1912 or 775-8460.

■ **Paul Anka** - The Philharmonic Center for the Arts hosts "An Evening with Paul Anka." 597-1900 or www.the-phil.org.

Sunday, Mar. 22

■ **Bach Ensemble** - The four-voice Bach Ensemble wraps up its seventh season with "A Spring Fantasia: Immortal Harmonies," beginning at 2:30 p.m. with the conductor's preview at Naples United Church of Christ. Tickets: \$35 (preferred seating) and \$30 (general admission); 732-1005 or www.thebachensemble.org.

■ **Linda Eder** - The Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts hosts Linda Eder, concert hall favorite, Broadway star ("Jekyll & Hyde") and hit recording artist whose repertoire includes standards, pop hits, show tunes and original compositions. 597-1900 or www.thephil.org.

■ **Ave Maria Festival** - The second annual Ave Maria Festival of the Arts begins at noon. Sculptor Márton Váró will demonstrate how he is creating a 50-ton marble sculpture that will adorn the façade of the Ave Maria Oratory. Photography, ceramics, paintings, glass and mosaics will be on display. 280-2500 or www.aveherald.com.

Monday, Mar. 23

■ **Classic Operas** - The Philharmonic Center for the Arts presents "Cavalleria Rusticana" (Rustic Chivalry) and "Pagliacci" (Clowns), classic tales of seduction, betrayal and murder that are among the best examples of the Italian verismo (realistic) style. 597-1900 or www.thephil.org.

Tuesday, Mar. 24

■ **Artie Shaw** - The Artie Shaw Orchestra performs at 8 p.m. at Bentley Village, 561 Bentley Village Court. Tickets: \$25. 514-2507.

■ **Broadway Stars** - The Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts hosts "An Evening with Patti Lupone and Mandy Patinkin," two of Broadway's most venerated stars reunited in a critically acclaimed show. 597-1900 or www.thephil.org.

Wednesday, Mar. 25

■ **Chamber Orchestra** - The Philharmonic Center for the Arts presents the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and renowned violin virtuoso Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg. 597-1900 or www.thephil.org.

■ **Opera and Music** - The Art League of Bonita Springs hosts "An Evening With...Unforgettable Opera & Music" from 7-9 p.m. at the Center for the Arts, 26100 Old 41, Bonita Springs. Cost: \$20 members/\$25 non-members (\$30 at door if seating is available). The evening features bass vocalist Christopher Temporelli and concert pianist/composer Quentin Kim. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Ongoing events

■ **Third in Bloom** - A dazzling array of floral interpretations, exotic menus and drinks featuring flowers, custom-designed window displays, and special floral shows in art galleries comprises Third in Bloom, running March 19-22 in Naples. Walking tours and free children's activities will be offered; reservations are required. There will be a "Blooming Pet Parade" on March 22 from noon to 3 p.m. on 13th Ave South in front of Tony's off Third. 434-6533.

■ **Art Exhibit** - The Robert Rauschenberg Gallery hosts Syd Solomon: On Black through Thursday, April 9. Mr. Solomon has exhibited globally and his works are held in numerous permanent collections, including The Baltimore Museum of Art and the Tel Aviv Museum. 489-9313 or bobrauschenberggallery.com.

■ **Warhol Exhibit** - The Naples Art Association features Andy Warhol Portfolios: From the Bank of America Collection at the Von Liebig Art Center through Sunday, May 3. This exhibition features selected portraits from the Bank of America's collection of Andy Warhol silk screen prints.

■ **Art Exhibit** - Artist Jo-Ann Lizio is exhibiting her mixed media "assemblage" abstracts at the BIG ARTS Founders Gallery. "The Work of Jo-Ann Lizio" exhibit runs through March 31. 395-0900, www.bigarts.org or e-mail info@BIGARTS.org.

■ **Juried Show** - BIG ARTS Phillips Gallery will host a juried theme show, Text in Art, which features art with text, numbers or letters as a design element, through Tuesday, March 31. 395-0900, www.bigarts.org or e-mail info@BIG-ARTS.org.

■ **Circus** - Florida's Famous Circus Sarasota will be at the Big Top at Gulf Coast Town Center through Sunday, March 29. Circus Sarasota presents an all-star lineup with an unparalleled array of thrilling acts for its 12th season of performances. There are 32 performances, including matinee and evening shows. Tickets start at \$10 per person. www.CircusSarasota.org or (877) 355-9805.

■ **Ronnie Ford** - daas Gallery features premiere master Scottish painter Ronnie Ford in a March exhibition. Mr. Ford's work features a highly textured surface and use of contrasting colors that captures the French and Scottish landscapes. The exhibition runs through March 27. www.ronnieford.com or www.daasgallery.com.

■ **Art Exhibit** - Florida West Arts' Invitational Fine Art Exhibition, "A Prelude to Spring," featuring the two- and three-dimensional artworks by artists from near and far, runs through March 25. Florida West is located in Estero's International Design Center.

■ **New Exhibit** - The Friends of the Cape Coral Library announce a new exhibit that runs throughout March. The Gallery, located at the Cape Coral Library, 921 SW 39th Terrace, is open Monday through Saturday during library hours. Linda Riczo, youth services director at the library, has gathered an unusual selection of pop-ups and moveable art books. 477-5100 or www.capecfriends.org.

■ **Schwartz Exhibit** - The Art Gallery at Florida Gulf Coast University invites the public to an exhibition of works by nationally recognized painter and printmaker Carl E. Schwartz in the FGCU Library Gallery. The exhibition runs through March 22, and is free and open to the public. 590-7199 or asturdiv@fgcu.edu.

■ **Thursdays on Third** - Enjoy live music from 6-9 p.m. Thursdays and visit the shops and galleries around Third Street South in Naples.

■ **Chef Market** - The Bayfront Chefs Market is held the third Wednesday of the month from 4-8 p.m. in Naples. There will be an organic fresh fruit and vegetable market, with two chef presentations. The chefs will be grilling during their presentations and products will be sold for take-home use. There will be music from 5-9 p.m.; 200-3477.

■ **Weekly Concerts** - The Fort Myers River District offers its free concert series, Friday Night Live, each Friday night through March from 5-8 p.m. in the Patio de Leon. Upcoming performances include: Little Eddie and the Fat Fingers (blues and R&B fun) on March 20. Patio de Leon is located at 2236 First Street; 321-7100.

■ **Art at the Edison** - daas Gallery presents Arts at the Edison the fourth Thursday of every month from 6-9 p.m. Artists do live demos and display their works throughout the venue at The Edison Restaurant & Bar, 3583 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers; www.edisonfl.com.

Upcoming events

■ **Into the Woods** - KidzAct Youth Theater of the Naples Players performs "Into the Woods Jr." March 30-31 on the main stage at the Sugden Community Theatre. Tickets: \$15/adults, \$10/kids. 263-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org.

■ **Film Series** - The BIG ARTS Film Society's Film Series features: "Elsa and Fred" on Monday, March 30. Tickets: \$7. 395-0900, www.bigarts.org or e-mail info@BIGARTS.org.

■ **Dinner With Friends** - The Naples Players perform "Dinner With Friends," a dramatic comedy, March 25-April 18, on stage in the Tobye Studio, Sugden Community Theatre, 701 5th Ave. South, Naples. Tickets: \$20/adults, \$10/students. 263-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org.

■ **Classical No. 5** - Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts presents "Classical No. 5: Beethoven's Immortal Fifth," conducted by Jorge Mester, Thursday, March 26, through Sunday, March 29. Beethoven's "Fifth Symphony" is perhaps the most recognizable of all classical compositions, with its famous four-note "Fate" motif. 597-1900 or www.thephil.org.

■ **Art Luncheon** - The Art League of Bonita Springs hosts its annual Members Luncheon Friday, March 27. Members, potential members and friends gather to enjoy lunch and a special artistic presentation or performance. A variety of unique and elegant raffle items and door prizes are awarded throughout the afternoon. 495-8989 or artcenterbonita.org.



The Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts presents "Legally Blonde The Musical" Tuesday, March 31, through Sunday, April 5.

Upcoming events

■ **Christine Andreas** - The Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts hosts "Love is Good: An Evening with Christine Andreas" Friday, March 27, and Saturday, March 28. Tony-nominated Broadway star Christine Andreas burst onto the New York theater scene starring as Eliza Doolittle in the 20th-anniversary production of "My Fair Lady." 597-1900 or www.the-phil.org.

■ **Requiem** - The Mastersingers, in collaboration with the University Choir of FGCU's Bower School of Music, will present Brahms' timeless masterpiece, "Ein deutsches Requiem" ("A German Requiem") at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 28, at First Presbyterian Church in Bonita Springs and 4 p.m. Sunday, March 29, at Burnt Store Presbyterian Church in Punta Gorda. The power of a 120 voice choir accompanied by full orchestra performing one of the world's most known choral works will provide a memorable experience. Tickets: \$20; 277-7813.

■ **Garden Festival** - The Pine Island Garden Club goes to The Epcot International Flower & Garden Festival at Disney in Orlando March 24 and 25. Non-members are welcome — just eight seats are left. pineislandgardenclub.org, 283-7849 or 283-0415.

■ **Critic's Choice** - The Philharmonic Center's Lifelong Learning arts education program presents "Out Stealing Horses" by Per Petterson on March 28; and "Fieldwork" by Mischa Berlinski on April 18. 597-1900 or www.thephil.org.

■ **Flower Show** - The Naples Garden Club and Naples Botanical Gar-

den are sowing the seeds for the 2009 Naples Flower Show: "It's In The Bag." Demonstrations of horticulture and design will be offered, and vendors will offer plants, jewelry and garden ornaments for sale. Hours will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 28, and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 29, at the Garden, 4820 Bayshore Drive, Naples. Admission: \$5; 643-7275.

■ **Legally Blond** - The Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts presents "Legally Blonde The Musical" Tuesday, March 31, through Sunday, April 5. The hilarious MGM film is Broadway's new smash hit musical. "Legally Blonde The Musical" follows sorority star Elle Woods, an underestimated blonde who doesn't take "no" for an answer. 597-1900 or www.thephil.org.

■ **Exhibition III** - Artescape Florida West 2009 Juried Fine Art and Fine Craft Exhibition III, the third exhibition in a series of three, runs April 4-29, featuring two- and three-dimensional artworks. Participating artists are competing for a series of awards. "Meet the Artists" open house from 1-4 p.m. on Saturday, April 4. Florida West is located in Estero's International Design Center.

■ **Gulf Coast Symphony** - The Gulf Coast Symphony presents a free outdoor pops concert on Saturday, March 28, at 4:30 p.m. at Estero Community Park, 9200 Corkscrew Palms Blvd. No tickets or advanced reservations are required. This concert features "Sounds of the Big Band." Effervescent tunes by Jimmy Dorsey, Duke Ellington and Benny Goodman are on the afternoon's musical agenda. 277-1700 or www.gulfcoastsymphony.org

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ARTS COMMENTARY

Wicked review

Nancy STETSON

nstetson@floridaweekly.com



From the very beginning of "Wicked," it's obvious that not only are we not in Kansas any more, but we've left Southwest Florida far behind too.

Even before the musical starts, we're greeted with a giant map of Oz, with the Emerald City smack in the middle, glowing a magical green. And above the proscenium, an oversized metal dragon with outstretched wings and glowing eyes as red as embers.

As the show begins, terrifying human-sized monkeys scamper across the stage and climb down a rope.

Yep, we're definitely not on home turf anymore.

This mega-musical, which has broken multiple records on Broadway and played around the world, just opened its second national tour in Fort Myers at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall.

It plays here through March 29 before moving on to the rest of the country and is, inarguably, the hottest ticket in town right now.

And for good reason.

It's a fun, special-effects filled extravaganza.

The arrival of this show has been so anxiously awaited that when Glinda the Good first appears, floating down to the stage in a metal bubble and exclaiming, "It's good to see me, isn't it?" she could just as well been speaking for the show itself.

Helene York's Glinda is annoying perky, pathologically shallow and blissfully unaware of her shortcomings.

Or, as her roommate Elphaba (Marcie Dodd) succinctly puts it, "Blonde."

The fun of this show is seeing "behind-the-scenes" at Oz, what happened before Dorothy appeared in Munchkinland, and how things came to be: the importance of the shoes, the origins of the lion, scarecrow and tin man, and how a green-skinned girl came to be known as the Wicked Witch of the West.

It is based, loosely, on Gregory Maguire's bestselling 1995 novel, which, 14 years later, continues to appear on best-seller lists. (The book is more complex and darker in tone. Writer Winnie Holzman and composer/lyricist Stephen Schwartz used it as a jumping-off point.)

The two witches first meet each other at university, where they're thrown together as roommates. But it's actually Glinda who's bad; she's mean-spirited and self-centered. She leads the others in mocking Elphaba. Glinda cares only about her own popularity.

Elphaba is an outcast, because of her green skin color. She isn't wicked at all, but kind-hearted and thoughtful. Though she feels she's less than everyone else, she's also her own person. Marcie Dodd, who was previously playing the role on Broadway, makes us care about her character.

There's a touching scene at a school dance where she's mocked. Yet, she boldly stands alone and does her own lyrical, private dance. It's one of the musical's more powerful and moving scenes. And when she belts out "Defying Gravity" at the end of Act I, you not only cheer for her but believe that for you too, nothing is impossible.

This too, is part of the musical's charm: the rooting for the underdog, the subversive belief that diversity and being different are good things.

Madame Morrible (Marilyn Caskey) as headmistress of the school, teaches the two witchcraft, and introduces them to the Wizard (Tom McGowan.) The Wizard, unfortunately, is one of the show's weaker links; he is out-performed and out-sung by the powerful female actors around him.

The two witches, unfortunately, fall in love with the same boy, Fiyero (played by a preening and self-satisfied Colin Donnell).

The show is fun fluff, with some hints of depth here and there. It teaches that it's important to believe in yourself, and that love and friendship can transform us just as well as a magic spell.

And there are some political messages too: the Wizard says he knows he's mediocre, but became power-hungry because the people of Oz needed someone to believe in and told him he was wonderful. He tells them lies because "they were the lies they wanted to hear."

He hires Madame Morrible as his press secretary to twist the facts to say whatever he wants them to, creating his own version of reality. And they use others as scapegoats to call attention away from their own wrong-doings.

But for the most part, though I would've loved a little more depth, the musical veers away from being too complex. Regardless, it's a fun night at the theater that can be loved and enjoyed



COURTESY PHOTO

Marcie Dodd as Elphaba, the future Wicked Witch of the West.

by both children and adults. (Be forewarned: the flying monkeys are truly terrifying and menacing; I was surprised I didn't hear younger kids crying.)

There are times when the musical goes for the easy laugh, the easy joke, and then there are more subtle jokes (Glinda posing as Evita behind a microphone, arms outstretched, at the top of Act II).

And if you're not sitting in the center seats, or balcony, you'll be unable to see some of the action in the beginning with Elphaba's mother, as the cast is effectively blocking the view on either side of the stage.

But this musical is superlative, theater at its best, especially when it comes to sets, special effects, costumes and wigs. The costumes for the ensemble, whether they're students, Ozians, or citizens of the Emerald City, are quirky and innovative. There are flounces, ruffles, layers, unusual hats and boots that curl up at the toes.

And those who've attended the now-shuttered Naples Dinner Theatre in the past might recognize a familiar face: Jenn Furman, one of the best actors to appear on our stage, who can belt out a song like no one else. She's a member of the ensemble and also plays the midwife at the beginning of the show.

"Wicked" is everything it promises: an over-the-top, exuberant, entertaining musical that makes you leave the theater feeling as if you could defy gravity yourself. ■

If you go

>>What: "Wicked"
>>Where: the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall 8099 College Parkway, Fort Myers
>>When: Through March 29
>>Cost: \$62 to \$146
>>Info: Call 481-4849 or go to www.bbmnpah.com

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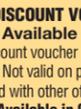
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GIVING

Boran Craig Barber Engel, Stock earn Education Foundation awards

BY LINDA LEPORE
Special to Florida Weekly



The **Education** Foundation
Champions for Learning

Maximizing partnerships is a positive and resourceful way to mitigate the impact of a struggling economy. Two outstanding businesses have shown commitment, creativity and innovation toward assisting with The Education Foundation's mission to enhance learning for Collier County children and their teachers.

The foundation is proud to recognize Boran Craig Barber Engel Construction Company, Inc. and Stock Development to receive this year's Education Commissioner's Business Recognition Awards. For 22 years, the Florida Department of Education, in partnership with the Florida Education Foundation, has rewarded business involvement in education with the CBRA.

The foundation is fortunate to have BCBE as a longstanding partner and supporter of education in Collier County. BCBE stepped forward to provide space in their new corporate office on Enterprise Avenue for our offices. In addition, they invited us to share the building's many meeting spaces for functions supporting our programs and have enjoyed hosting teachers, principals and other staff.

BCBE's Don Barber was a founding board member of The Education Foundation and along with Melvin Engel, president and CEO of BCBE, they have provided close to \$500,000 cumulatively in time, talent and resources to support public education.

"By being directly involved, we have seen first hand that both our financial and human resource contributions have been directly injected into the system," Mr. Engel said. "As a result, we know for certain that our own children and those of our employees have benefited from our proud efforts.

"Education is good business and good for business."

The foundation is also fortunate to have had the support of Stock Development, which through the years has donated more than \$200,000 to support our mission. Their partnership goes well beyond their financial support to include extensive volunteer hours donated by their staff.

"For the Stock family — K.C., Brian and Georgia — education is of utmost importance," says Susan McManus, president of The Education Foundation. "The high quality of the events that they host for us reflects the value they place on helping students and teachers in Collier County."

Stock Development has hosted many foundation events at its properties, including Olde Cypress and The Player Club and Spa at Lely Resort. Their support of foundation events during times of economic challenge has been invaluable. The gracious hospitality and professional commitment from their staff has ensured successful events and true support to the educational needs of our community.

"We are committed to supporting the community in which we build homes," says Claudine Leger-Wetzel, vice president of sales and marketing. "The initiatives of The Education Foundation help to enhance public school educational programs which then improve the quality of life for our communities' families and students."

Both BCBD and Stock Development are doing their part to help supply what is needed to provide an environment

in which all children can reach their full potential. The ongoing support of these two businesses has earned them the 2008-09 Commissioner's Business Recognition Award for Collier County. ■

Linda Lepore is vice president of development at The Education Foundation of Collier County. Founded in 1990, the foundation is an independent, nonprofit organization whose purpose is to enhance learning for Collier County children and their teachers by engaging community support. For more information, visit www.EducationForCollier.org.



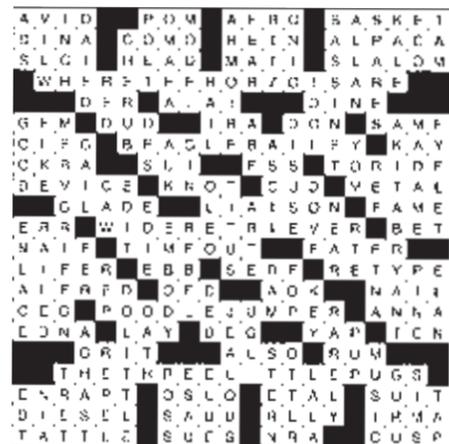
COURTESY PHOTO
Stock Development's Brian Stock, Claudine Wetzel and students from Calusa Park Elementary.



COURTESY PHOTO
BCBE's Melvin Engel, Jay Bunnell and students from Calusa Park Elementary.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

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



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Bryce's life is changing and we honor him for his amazing courage and spirit.

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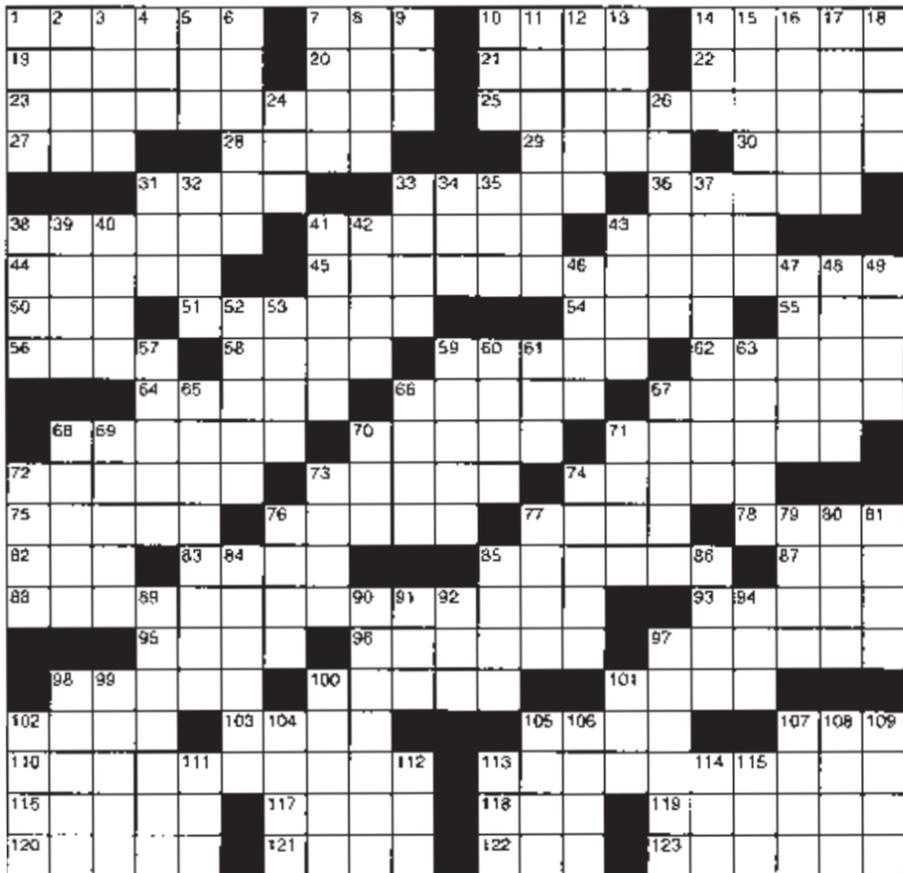
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FLORIDA WEEKLY PUZZLES

CROSSWORD

DOG DAZE



- ACROSS**
- 1 Gung-ho
 - 5 Petite pooch
 - 8 Curly calf
 - 12 Easter essential
 - 18 Actress Merrill
 - 19 Crooner Perry
 - 20 Harness part
 - 21 Llama kin
 - 22 Faction
 - 23 Pin part
 - 24 Swimmer Biondi
 - 25 Alpine event
 - 26 Canine movie?
 - 30 Augsburg article
 - 31 Jai —
 - 32 Sup in style
 - 33 Tiffany treasure
 - 36 Failure
 - 38 Roth —
 - 40 An Every brother
 - 41 Identical
 - 45 Colleague of Yves and Christian
 - 47 Canine comic strip?
 - 52 Kysar or Starr
 - 53 Gumbo veggie
 - 54 "— generic"
 - 55 Road curve
 - 56 "Ticket —" ('65 hit)
 - 58 Gadget
 - 61 It may be square
 - 64 Elsie's chew
 - 66 Platinum or potassium
 - 67 Picnic area
 - 69 Connection
 - 72 Celebrity
 - 73 Act human
 - 75 Canine football player?
 - 79 TV's "You — Your Life"
 - 80 Trusting sort
 - 82 Break
 - 83 Trencherman
 - 85 Certain prisoner
 - 87 Recede
 - 88 Medieval menial
 - 81 Polish a manuscript
 - 94 Batman's butler
 - 96 Brit. lexicon
 - 98 NASA affirmative
 - 100 Brad, for one
 - 101 Co. knigpin
 - 102 Canine aircraft?
 - 107 Dancer Pavoiva
 - 108 — May Oliver
 - 110 Nonclenical
 - 111 P lead
 - 112 Spitz sound
 - 114 Hami ton bill
 - 115 Pfluck
 - 117 Besides
 - 120 Pirate's quaff
 - 122 Canine fairy tale?
 - 129 Captivated
 - 131 Christiania, today
 - 132 List' ender
 - 133 Set of threads
 - 135 Fuel choice
 - 136 "Elephant Boy" actor
 - 137 Depend (on)
 - 138 "La Douce"
 - 139 Blab
 - 140 Alan of "Laugh-In"
 - 141 Pro-gun grp.
 - 142 Astrology term
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Commerce's
 - 2 Survey
 - 3 Foot part
 - 4 Saw socially
 - 5 Meter reader?
 - 6 Cornhusker city
 - 7 Runway figure
 - 8 Wardrobe
 - 9 Dread
 - 10 'Puttin' on the —' ('29 song)
 - 11 Aware of
 - 12 Nursery item
 - 13 Edgar — Poe
 - 14 Shows mercy
 - 15 Cabbage cousin
 - 16 Author Umberto
 - 17 Flat hat
 - 19 Imp's opposite
 - 27 Chianti color
 - 28 — out (help)
 - 29 Supersta
 - 33 Buck's "The — Earth"
 - 34 Actress Sommer
 - 35 Canine TV personality?
 - 37 — Peres. MO
 - 39 Justice Fortas
 - 40 Toy fate
 - 42 Canine singer?
 - 43 Wayland Flowers puppet
 - 44 A hole near the sole
 - 46 Author Sheehy
 - 48 Great bird?
 - 49 Cotton —
 - 50 Computer acronym
 - 51 — Kippur
 - 57 Ring figure
 - 59 Cornfield cry
 - 60 Correct a text
 - 62 Pat on the buns?
 - 63 Colosseum compier
 - 65 Took the plunge
 - 68 Adams or McClurg
 - 70 "Vissi d'—" ("Tosca" aria)
 - 71 Around the corner
 - 73 Intertwine
 - 74 Inveighed (against)
 - 76 Personity
 - 77 Defy a dicator
 - 78 Hwy. — -dance
 - 84 Sicilian smoker
 - 86 Agr.
 - 89 Meadow male
 - 90 Dandy
 - 92 Yearn
 - 93 Cavalry characteris-lic
 - 95 Murphy role
 - 97 Society miss
 - 99 Essential
 - 103 Solemn statement
 - 104 Envious cry
 - 105 Citrus fruit
 - 106 Once in a blue moon
 - 109 Horrified
 - 113 Baby basenji
 - 116 Drive off
 - 118 Draconian
 - 119 Furry fisherman
 - 121 Rap or rock
 - 122 Tare's relative
 - 123 Supreme leader?
 - 124 Jacob's twin
 - 125 Czech river
 - 126 Tra- —
 - 127 Spiritual guide
 - 128 Jazzman Zoot
 - 129 CT hours
 - 130 Long or Peeples
 - 134 Eavesdrop electronically

SEE ANSWERS, C9

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HOROSCOPES

■ **PISCES (February 19 to March 20)** An offer you previously turned down might no longer be available. But if you do some checking around, you could find something else that would suit you just fine.

■ **ARIES (March 21 to April 19)** Putting yourself in someone else's shoes isn't easy for you. But if you do it, you'll gain a better perspective of what you need to do to achieve your goals. Be open to new ideas.

■ **TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** There are still some problems you might have to deal with before moving on to your next project. It's a good idea to accept help from those who share your objectives.

■ **GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)** It's time to recognize the difference between those who are truly concerned for you and those who simply plan to use your good nature to their advantage. New ideas become increasingly attractive.

■ **CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** Depending on a promise made becoming a promise kept could be more than a mite unwise at this time. It's best to proceed on your own rather than wait for aid that might never arrive.

■ **LEO (July 23 to August 22)** A recently revitalized relationship might not be quite what the Big Cat expected. But give yourself more time to deal with the changes. A little flexibility can go a long way. Good luck.

■ **VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)** A major change could

prompt more adjustments. Some of them might be difficult to deal with at first. But hang in there, and before you know it, you'll be coasting to your next goal.

■ **LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)** Your sense of justice prompts you to speak out against an unfair situation, even if you seem to be the only one who feels that way. But you soon learn that many others agree with you.

■ **SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)** Creating a fuss is not usually your style. But that doesn't mean you should tolerate an ill-mannered attitude. Speak up for yourself, and you'll earn the respect of others.

■ **SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)** You might have a few loose ends to tie up before you can stamp your project as complete. But once that's done, you might want to celebrate with someone special in your life.

■ **CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)** Disappointment darkens the Goat's mood. But close friends rally to pull you through with words of encouragement. Use their confidence in you to rebuild your own self-esteem.

■ **AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)** An upcoming decision might be more difficult with inaccurate information. Best to recheck the data you have at hand right now to be sure it won't mislead you later.

■ **BORN THIS WEEK:** You believe in helping those who cannot help themselves. Although it embarrasses you, the fact is, people like you and tell you so.

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SUDOKU

By Linda Thistle

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Puzzle Difficulty this week:



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

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging ★★★ Expert

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

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SEE ANSWERS, C9



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COUCH THEATER

[DVD PREVIEWS & RELEASES]

PICK OF THE WEEK

► **“Quantum of Solace”** -

Daniel Craig returns as super-spy James Bond in this sequel to “Casino Royale.” The film picks up right after the events at the end of the previous movie, and we get a glimpse into 007’s past and a key to who he is as a man. The movie then kicks into gear concerning a plot to control the water rights of a Third World country. OK, not the most intriguing plot for a Bond flick, but they can’t all be about defusing nuclear bombs in underground lairs.



Daniel Craig in “Quantum of Solace”

“Quantum” is a much darker and moodier film than “Casino Royale,” and some critics and Bond fans thought it didn’t live up to its predecessor. I think it worked well as the second act of a much longer film — a kind of “Casino Royale Part Deux.” So, if you liked “Casino Royale,” then I think you’ll enjoy “Quantum,” if you think of it as a continuation of the previous film and not as a stand-alone adventure.

FOR THE COMICS GEEK

► **“Watchmen: Tales of the Black Freighter and Under the Hood”** -

This is a tie-in DVD release to the “Watchmen” theatrical film. This DVD set is basically two major set-pieces that were made for the film but had to be cut for time. “Tales of the Black Freighter” is an “animated comic book” of a story-within-a-story element of the original Watchmen graphic novel. It’s a comic book about the adventures of a pirate (voiced by Gerard Butler of “300”), and his story mirrors the plot of the Watchmen movie/graphic

novel. “Under the Hood” is a live-action film that provides the backstory to how The Nite Owl and the other heroes from the film came together as a team for the first time.

TV SERIES

► **“Andy Richter Controls the Universe: The Complete Series”** -- Holy Moly.

I feel like an angel has been sent down from heaven to give me a puppy. I LOVED this show when it originally aired in 2002, and I never thought it would ever be released on DVD. Fox didn’t know how to market a show this original, so it kept changing its time slot from week to week. Then, after 19 episodes, it pulled the plug. “Andy Richter Controls the Universe” is one of those smart, funny, well-written shows like “Arrested Development” and “30 Rock” that you simply look forward to watching again and again. To try and describe this quirky, delightful show is almost impossible. Just watch it -- because you probably missed it the first time around. ■

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The Orpheus Chamber Orchestra

COURTESY PHOTO

The Grammy Award-winning Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and renowned violin virtuoso Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg team up for one performance beginning at 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 25, at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. The ensemble will be followed March 26-29 by the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra with its fifth program in this season's Classical Series.

The Orpheus Chamber Orchestra has thrilled audiences for 35 years with a repertoire that embraces a wide range of music. Violinist Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg is known for her innovative musicianship and showmanship — “a breathtakingly daring and original artist,” in the words of The Washington Post.

The Naples Philharmonic Orchestra presents “Beethoven’s Immortal Fifth,”

under the baton of Music Director Jorge Mester, at 8 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 26-28, and at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 29. The Conductor’s Prelude begins one hour before each concert.

The program features Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony, perhaps the most recognizable of all classical compositions; Stravinsky’s “Petrouchka,” the second of three ballet scores he wrote for Sergei Diaghilev; and Berlioz’s ebullient “Roman Carnival Overture.”

Tickets to the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg are \$69.

Tickets to “Beethoven’s Immortal Fifth” are \$64 for adults and \$25 for students.

For reservations and more information, call 597-1900 or visit www.thephil.org. ■

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Do the math: Four sessions, three shows equals one fun summer

The Naples Players Youth Theatre will hold its KidzAct Summer Theatre Camps for children ages 5-18 this beginning in June at Sugden Community Theatre. In addition, KidzAct will present three fully-staged, kid-friendly productions this summer: "Rugrats, the Musical," either "Mulan" or "The Jungle Book" (tba) and "Thoroughly Modern Millie, Jr."

Each two-week summer camp session gives participants the basics of acting, dancing and singing, all leading up to a performance for family and friends. No auditions are required, and registrations are accepted up to two weeks prior to the start of class.

Summer Theatre Camps are held Monday through Friday mornings

and run consecutively. The first camp begins June 1.

For session dates, course fees and to enroll, visit www.naplesplayers.org or call 434-7340, ext. 10.

Scholarships are available for all classes. Application deadline is May 29.

The three summer productions include a musical look at the lovable "Rugrats" characters of TV fame; one of the Disney classics ("Mulan" or "The Jungle Book") and a kid-sized version of the 1920s flapper comedy "Thoroughly Modern Millie."

Auditions for the first two shows begin on May 9 for ages 8-14; auditions for "Thoroughly Modern Millie, Jr." are on May 16 for ages 14-18. For audition appointments, call 434-7340, ext 10. ■

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Kids getting their act together for 'Willy Wonka Junior'

Watch out for the Oompa-Loompas, be awed by magic tricks and outlandish props, and hum along with the young performers of KidzAct, the youth theatre of The Naples Players, as they present four performances of "Willy Wonka Junior" at Sugden Community Theatre on Monday and Tuesday, March 30-31.

The musical is based on the beloved 1971 movie starring Gene Wilder and includes songs such as "Candy Man," "Pure Imagination" and the delightfully selfish "I Want It Now." Words and music are by Leslie Bricusse and Anthony Newley, and the show is based on

the book "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" by Roald Dahl.



Show times are 5 and 7:30 p.m. both days.

Tickets are \$10/students and \$15/adults.

Information and tickets are available at The Naples Players Box office, 701 Fifth Avenue South, by phone at 263-7990 or at www.naplesplayers.org. ■

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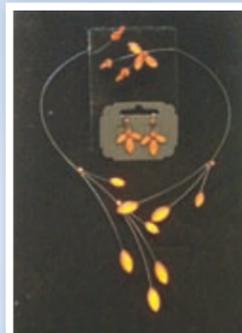
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Six Degrees exhibit focuses on photos

Three Southwest Florida photographers are the focal point of a new exhibit at Six Degrees Exhibitions. The public is welcome to meet the artists at the opening reception from 7-10 p.m. Saturday, March 21.

The work of Doug Heslep evolves from a fashion and commercial photography background. In his fine art photography, Mr. Heslep strives for perfection in capturing details.

The photography of Jonathan Kane is a theoretical glimpse into the private world of self-awareness. Through his work, the photographer attempts to suggest "how

the human psyche interacts with its own perceived identity."

Detlef Schattner integrates innovation and technology into futuristic works that "push the envelope" to challenge attitudes and perceptions.

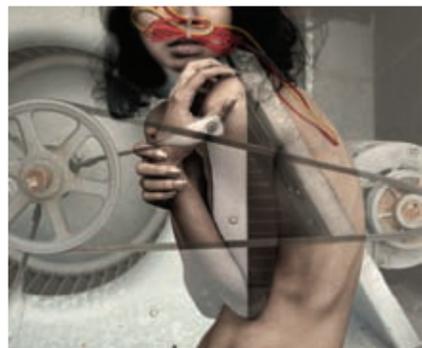
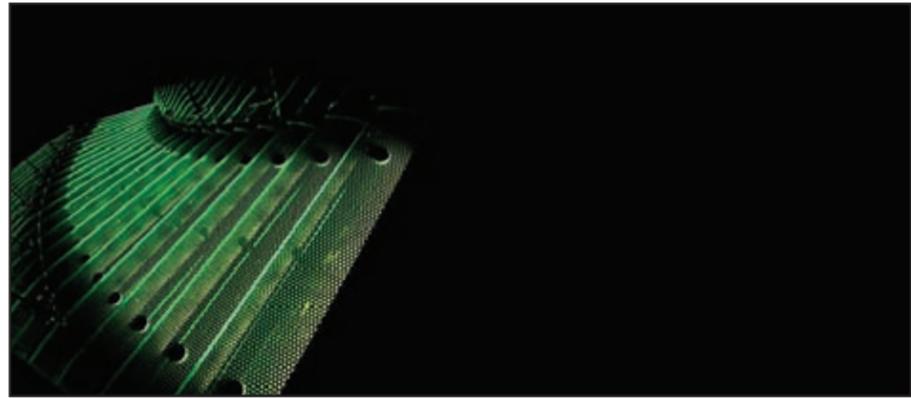
Six Degrees Exhibitions is at 1100 Sixth Avenue South (at the Dockside Boardwalk, one block west of Tin City). Regular gallery hours are noon to 8 p.m. Monday and Tuesday; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday; and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

For more information, call 331-2678 or visit www.sixdegreesexhibitions.com. ■



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(TOP) Photo by Detlef Schattner.

(LEFT) Photo by Doug Heslep.

(RIGHT) Photo by Jonathan Kane.

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'Made in Florida' celebrates artists from the Sunshine State

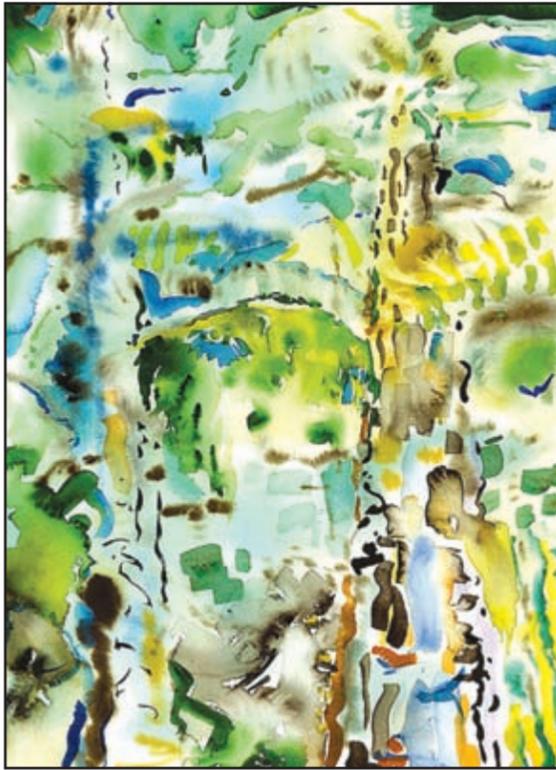
Osborn.Lizio Contemporary Gallery presents "Made in Florida," an exhibit of art from Florida regional artists who use contemporary style in their body of work. The exhibition is composed of vibrant colors, abstract images and intriguing compositions.

The public is invited to meet some of the artists at an opening reception from 5-8 p.m. Thursday, March 19. The gallery at 430 Bayfront Place solely exhibits modern, contemporary work in a variety of mediums from in-state talent.

"When most people think about Florida art what comes to mind is palm trees, sunsets and beach scenes," says Jo-Ann Lizio, one of the co-founders of the gallery. "We feature the other Florida artists; the ones who have a contemporary style to their work and who happen to be from Florida."

Joan Osborn-Dunkle, the gallery's other co-founder, adds, "It's refreshing to break the stereotype usually associated with art from our state."

In addition to the gallery's two owners, artists represented in this month's exhibition are: Sue Boydston, Barbara Brenton, Wendell Brown, A.J. Catalano, Mary Crawford, Carolyn Hartmann, Shirley Kelley, Dot Lingren, Kim Marhoefer, Andi McCarter, Gareth Rock-



Rainforest, Sue Boydston watercolor

COURTESY PHOTO

liffe and Larry Zywica.

There is no admission fee to the reception and exhibition. Regular gallery hours are 1-5 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, 1-7 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and by appointment Sunday and Monday. For more information, call Osborn.Lizio Contemporary Gallery at 262-7329 or visit www.osbornliziocontemporarygallery.com. ■

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Coalition benefit concert will be good for the whole neighborhood

BY ROGER WILLIAMS
rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

What *might* happen on March 31 at Moorings Presbyterian Church — with its newly refurbished, 600-seat venue and superb acoustics — is what happened on occasion in renaissance or romantic Europe centuries ago: Urbane music lovers of wide experience would gather with those who had never before listened to a surging tide of human voices joined by the instruments of a great symphony, to celebrate an evening of music.

On that Tuesday, beginning at 7:30 p.m., the combined choirs of Ave Maria University will join musicians from the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra in a concert to benefit the Coalition of Immokalee Workers.

In works from Haydn, Mendelssohn, Schubert, Brahms and Bach they will offer the music of compassion and peace, with Lenten-season and Easter themes of lamentation, suffering, redemption and resurrection.

Listeners are invited not only to purchase the \$35 tickets for themselves, but to consider buying a ticket for a man or



The Ave Maria Choir with Choirmaster Tim McDonnell.

NATHAN HILL / COURTESY PHOTO

woman who harvests food in the region's farm fields and who is unlikely ever to have heard such a splendor of sound in a single place.

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CONCERT

From page C20

the orchestra, says Geoffrey Day, a violinist who organized the concert with Ave Maria conductor and Director of Music Timothy McDonnell.

"My role was to put together the orchestra; Professor McDonnell selected the program. It was easy for me to do, even in a time when it is difficult to ask people to work for free," says Mr. Day, who relied on the good will of colleagues and friends in the Naples Philharmonic, where he plays.

The program's selections include "an important convergence of themes, both musical and moral," says Mr. McDonnell, who arrived in Southwest Florida two years ago from Europe. Educated in part at Yale University (choral conducting) and the University of South Carolina (orchestral conducting), he was director of Liturgical Music at the Pontifical North American College in the Vatican, and has conducted orchestras in Italy, the Czech Republic and China. He is also founding music director of Schola Nova, the resident ensemble of the International Institute for Culture, in Philadelphia.

Since 2007 he has prepared the Ave Maria choir to take on difficult challenges, although never one as significant as this benefit concert — the first time this choir has ever appeared with the orchestra off campus, he says. "Many of these singers come from large families. They're extended to the hilt to go to college — and they had not had the opportunity to study music and be exposed to classical music until they came here.

"I found them to be so enthusiastic and excited by doing the classics, that I have

pushed them to the limits. They don't know how hard this is, and nobody has told them."

Everyone involved, however, understands and appreciates the importance of the cause for which the concert has come together. "All of us recognize the importance of the work done by the Coalition of Immokalee Workers," Mr. Day says.

Mr. McDonnell adds, "These folks (in Immokalee) are our neighbors, and this is a good way for us to integrate our cultural academic program with giving something to the community.

"In an era when there's no such thing as purely civic art — when everybody wants their name on everything — we're trying to offer something beautiful that will enrich everyone.

"I don't want to have a utilitarian attitude toward classical music, but it serves a vital role — a vital role in the lives of students who perform, and of those who get to enjoy it, and perhaps a role for people who would reap some community benefit from those in attendance. So this is good for the whole neighborhood."

An internationally recognized human rights organization, the Coalition of Immokalee Workers seeks to improve wages and working conditions for migrant and field farmers, and put an end to modern-day slavery in the agricultural industry. Members have aided federal prosecutors in the investigation and prosecution of a number of slavery cases in Florida, helping to free more than 1,000 workers.

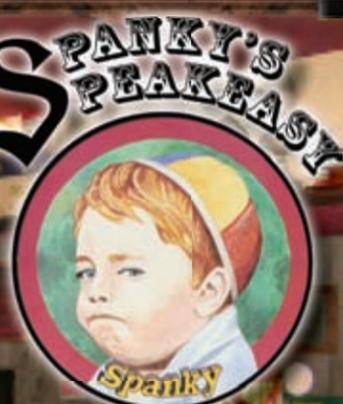
The coalition is a 501(c)(3) charity, and ticket purchases or contributions are tax deductible. Proceeds from the benefit concert will be used to pay down the mortgage on the coalition's new community center in Immokalee.

To buy tickets individually or in groups, go to ciw-concert.org, call 986-0847, or e-mail ciwconcert@gmail.com. ■

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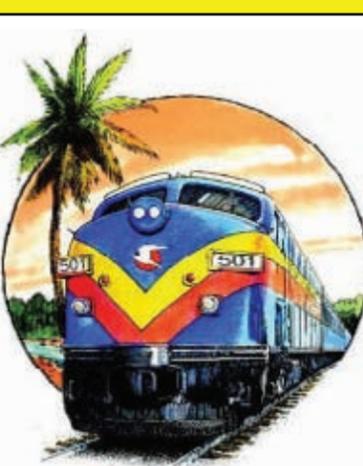
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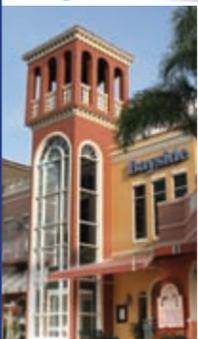
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2. Honorees Toby Blumenthal-Phillips and Peg Longstreth and Bette Young
3. Jay and Lorrie Rasmussin

COURTESY PHOTOS

Opening reception at The von Liebig for "Andy Warhol Portfolios"

4. Jennifer Rogers and Tate Haire
5. Terry and Bob Edwards, Barbara Jordan and Lori Fowler
6. Gail Geary, Gisela Miller and Richard Geary

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1

Naples Womens Club Antique Show

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2. Franco Morello
3. Gail Ensinger
4. Farah and Mahmoud Naghib
5. Jacqueline and Pieter Oosthuizen
6. Lana Harper
7. Robert Zollinoffer
8. Dean and Kate Armstrong
9. Liz Willard and Joyce Fletche
10. Chuck and Sandy Abookire

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FLORIDA WEEKLY
YOUR NEWS AND ENTERTAINMENT SOURCE



2



3



4



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7



5



8



9



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FLORIDA WEEKLY SOCIETY



Groundbreaking for renovations at the Humane Society Naples shelter

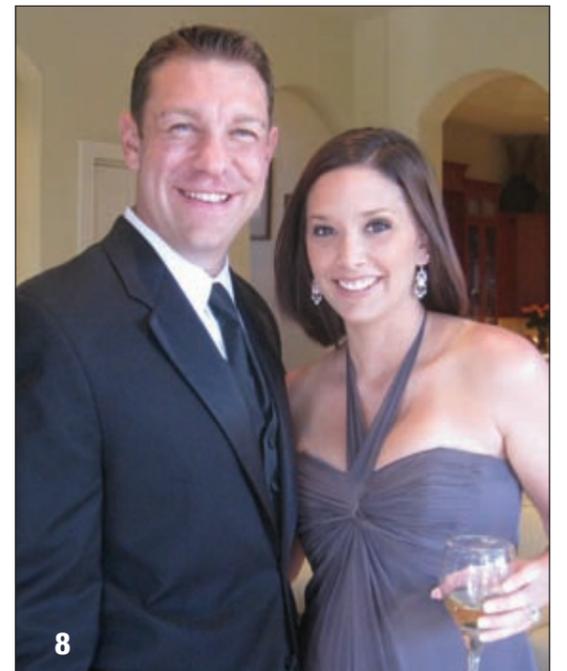
1. Tim Watson and Amy Taylor
2. Nicole and Leslie King
3. Patty Dunker and Rob Roy
4. Tompkins with shelter alumni Fairlane
5. Harriet Bush and Ruth Cangro

COURTESY PHOTOS

Starlight Evening of Hope

6. Marjorie Johnson, Robert Evans and Nicole Weber
7. Sean McVey, Kathleen Wayne and Ann Gardner
8. Trey Radel and Amy Wegmann

MARLA OTTENSTEIN / FLORIDA WEEKLY

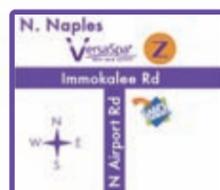


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FLORIDA WEEKLY SOCIETY



Networks Unite at Verginas

1. Pat Kazor, Suzette Feliciano, Wendy Shook, Gianni Valle, Ramia Macdonald and Sandra Gattle
2. Melynda Popadich, Michelle Borders, Don Pinter and Wanda Barr
3. Edison Vasquez, RJ Dempsey and Chad Hartman
4. Kelly Lauman, Ed Larsen and Cassie McMillion
5. Mark Didonato, Amanda Brand, Shelly Osterhout and Javier Fuller
6. Shelly Osterhout and Scott Zaner
7. JP Antonmattei and Craig Ekonomos
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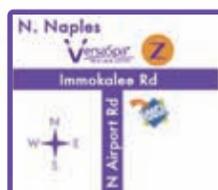
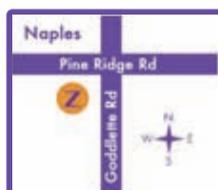
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PAST REPASTS

Capsule summaries of previous reviews:

Angelina's, 24041 S. Tamiami Trail, Bonita Springs; 390-3187

This gorgeous remake of the old Sanibel Steakhouse is knockout, especially the glass-enclosed tower with spiral staircase that shelters Angelina's stellar wine collection. The Italian food of chef Nick Costanzo is vibrant and imaginative. A ceviche trio — tuna, scallops and grouper with shaved fennel, grapefruit-radish salsa and yellow pepper relish — was as much a work of art as an appetizer. The house-made papardelle Capri (pasta with tomatoes, buffalo mozzarella, basil and Sorrento lemon olive oil) made an outstanding second course, followed by savory grilled lamb chops marinated in lemon and mint accompanied by arrancini and yellowfin tuna al griglia with cannellini and lobster ragout. Warm zeppoli with a trio of dipping sauces makes a fine finish as do the \$3 desserts, which included mascarpone cheesecake with lemon curd and crème de menthe and chocolate panna cotta. Our server could have used some polish but those at other tables appeared to be doing better. Full bar.

Food: ★★★★★½ Service: ★★★ Atmosphere: ★★★★★½

Escargot 41, 4339 Tamiami Trail North, Naples; 793-5000

Naples is blessed with several excellent French restaurants, but Escargot 41 is one of the best. Never mind that it's tucked into the corner of the non-descript Park Shore Shopping Center. Step inside and it's as if you've traveled to a well-to-do

Parisian bistro with food and service to match. Chef Patrick Fevrier is a master of French cuisine, while his wife, Jackie, is a gracious hostess. Choose from several escargot dishes (I liked Peter's Fricassee 41). The salmon cured in sea salt, coated in coffee and smoked, is superb. The lobster bisque was classic and rich. Yellowtail snapper in lemon butter and caper sauce was a nightly special that was worthy of the designation. No cloyingly sweet duck here. Fevrier's version is rubbed in garlic salt, roasted until the skin is just lightly crisp and the flesh still moist, then finished with a savory plum port wine sauce. For dessert, an ethereal raspberry soufflé was worth every calorie. Beer and wine served. (The wine list is exceptional even for a much larger establishment.)

Food: ★★★★★ Service: ★★★★★ Atmosphere: ★★★★★½

IM Tapas, 965 Fourth Ave. North, Naples; 403-8272

There's nothing puny about the small plates that emerge from the kitchen at IM Tapas. Each is artfully plated and possesses big, fresh flavors that reveal the passionate dedication of its creators, chefs Isabel Polo Pozo and



IM Tapas' juicy little lamb chops stand in a pool of Romesco sauce.

Mary Shipman, to this classic Spanish cuisine. A polished staff and stylish dining room add to the warmth and conviviality of meal at this little off-the-beaten-path gem. Highlights from a recent meal included fresh anchovies in garlic, chorizo in cider, wild bonito with pomegranate seeds and pomegranate foam, duck breast with figs and port wine reduction, bacalao-stuffed peppers and a plate of stellar artisanal cheeses. While not situated on one of the city's popular dining areas, it could easily hold its own among them, it's a cinch to find and there's plenty of parking. Beer and wine.

Food: ★★★★★½ Service: ★★★★★½ Atmosphere: ★★★★★½

M Waterfront Grille, Village on Venetian Bay, 4300 Gulf Shore Blvd. N., Naples; 263-4421

Maxwell's on the Bay has undergone a fabulous update with a sleek new look and a sophisticated menu to match. There was no improving upon the view of Naples Bay, which remains a focal point, but the dining room, done in lots of woods and earth tones, gives the restaurant a contemporary, stylish air. Executive Chef Brian Roland's menu features cutting-edge Continental cuisine, with dishes such as heirloom beets with fired goat cheese, escargot with wild mushrooms, spinach and Boursin cream, orange miso-glazed sea bass with goat cheese dumplings and milk chocolate lava cake. Pol-

ished service and an exemplary wine list further enhance the meal. Full bar.

Food: ★★★★★½ Service: ★★★★★ Atmosphere: ★★★★★½

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

For fresh seafood served in an ultra-casual setting, Randy's is a keeper. Well-worn tables and floors attest to the popularity of this north Naples restaurant. While I'd advise steering clear of the blackened items, in which the seasoning overpowers the seafood, I can heartily recommend the crab cakes, stone crab claws and the Key lime pie, which is a specialty of the house. There are a few non-fish items as well in case a confirmed carnivore happens in by accident. Service was swift but friendly. The well-stocked seafood market affords home cooks ample options for creating their own fish dishes as well. Beer and wine served.

Food: ★★★ Service: ★★★★★½ Atmosphere: ★★★



Stone crab claws, a seasonal dish, get royal treatment at Randy's Fishmarket.

Key to ratings

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

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FLORIDA WEEKLY CUISINE

Pelagos Café caters to the Mediterranean soul in all of us



It's not all that hard to find a good restaurant in Naples if price is no object. Dining well without paying dearly, however, proves far more challenging. One noteworthy establishment of the latter variety is Pelagos Café, a six-year-old restaurant serving what the management calls "Mediterranean soul food."

Having spent a couple of hours working my way through the menu on a recent Saturday night, I'd have to say it's an accurate description of the café's mission.

The food, which is primarily Greek but includes a smattering of favorite dishes from other countries in the region, was uniformly well prepared, generous in portion and moderate in price. Not only that, the service was better than I've experienced lately at some far more expensive spots.

It's no wonder that by 7 p.m., both dining rooms were full. Reservations are accepted here and I'd recommend making one.

Pelagos stands out from the multitude of other store fronts with which it shares a parking lot because of the profusion of plants that shelter the sidewalk and windows, reminiscent of lush (though generally larger) courtyards that often grace the entranceways of neighborhood cafes in Greece.

Indoors, the authentic atmosphere continues, with the deep blue and white colors of the Greek flag pervading both dining rooms from the blue walls to the blue-over-white linen tablecloths gracing each table. Ceramic tiles line the walls and the arched doorway between the dining rooms.

This was a meal that began well and never faltered.

Warm pita bread and cool tzatziki sauce arrived along with our Greek wine, Makedonikos Tsantali 2007, a light, fruity red that could have been a little cooler but proved quite compatible with the meal.

Either of our appetizers — a vegetable

plate and fried calamari — would have been more than enough to share, especially since entrees come with a choice of soup or Greek salad.

Lots of restaurants serve fried calamari, but Pelagos' version is outstanding — the tender rings of squid encased in a delicate, just-crisp-enough coating. A touch of cinnamon flavored the accompanying tomato sauce and, in combination with the lemon we squeezed over



Grilled mahi mahi is served over rice and topped with fresh asparagus, artichokes, olives and cherry tomatoes.

the rings, added bright layers of flavor.

The vegetable platter contained a quartet of goodies: roasted pepper, grilled artichoke hearts, beet salad and dolmades. Each of the vegetables was lightly seasoned and tossed in a bit of olive oil or vinaigrette. The highlight were the dolmades, soft grape leaves stuffed with rice that were so good we wished we'd ordered a whole plate of them. Those who shy away from this delicacy because previous experiences involved wrestling with tough, leathery grape leaves ought to try these so as to understand what makes this such an enduring favorite.

A bowl of avgolemono soup was creamy and mellow, the chicken stock and hint of lemon making a most palatable pairing. A Greek salad was dressed in a vinaigrette that perfectly balanced the oil and vinegar and didn't allow oregano to overpower all else.



This vegetable plate includes beet salad, roasted red peppers, grilled artichokes and dolmades, comprising an appetizer large enough for two to share.



Tender calamari with a cinnamon-tinged tomato sauce make a delicious start to a meal.

KAREN FELDMAN / FLORIDA WEEKLY

We had to force ourselves to leave some of each item on our plates so as to have any room at all for entrees.

A gyros platter was a classic presentation — strips of spiced meat over rice accompanied by tzatziki sauce, cucumbers and tomatoes. The cool, creamy sauce and fresh vegetables gave balance to the strong seasonings in the meat. I used pieces of pita to help scoop it up, adding yet another textural dimension to the mix. This truly is soul food, Greek-style.

A simple piece of grilled mahi transcended the ordinary with its topping of tender-crisp asparagus, artichokes, green and black olives and cherry tomatoes. The large fillet was juicy despite being grilled and the array of vegetables enhanced the mild flavor of the fish.

It seemed mandatory to sample the baklava. Not surprisingly, we received a large piece of the pastry with multiple layers of phyllo, loads of nuts and cinnamon, all of which oozed honey. As was the case with each course before it, it was just what it was supposed to be.

Our server, a server-attendant and a man I took to be the owner were consistently attentive, filling water glasses, clearing dishes, bringing new courses at just the right time and checking to make sure everything was to our liking. We witnessed the same thing happening at tables around the room. Most parties ambled out slowly, obviously full and possibly reluctant to leave such pleasant surroundings.

A bountiful meal at Pelagos provides proof that it's not necessary to sell your soul in order to feed it well. ■

If you go

Pelagos Café
4951 Tamiami Trail North, Naples;
263-2996

Ratings:
Food: ★★★★★
Service: ★★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★★

>>**Hours:** Lunch is served 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; dinner is served 5-9 p.m. Monday through Saturday

>>**Reservations:** Accepted

>>**Credit cards:** Major cards accepted

>>**Price range:** Appetizers, \$3.95-\$11.95; entrees, \$14.95-\$24.95

>>**Beverages:** Beer and wine served

>>**Seating:** Conventional tables and chairs in two dining rooms

>>**Specialties of the house:** Avgolemono soup, dolmades, saganaki, hummus, calamari, Greek salad, chicken livers oreganato, gyros, lemon-glazed salmon, grilled mahi, brizoles

>>**Volume:** Low to moderate

>>**Parking:** Free lot

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

diningCALENDAR

* **Thursday, March 19, 6-8 p.m., The Good Life:** Guys' Night Out cooking class with Annie DePiero preparing lime tequila drunken shrimp, Annie's barbecued drumsticks and meatballs with red wine sauce with a pasta side; \$50, Collection at Vanderbilt, Airport Pulling and Vanderbilt Beach roads; 514-4663.

* **Thursday, March 19, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Total Wine & More:** The wines from Down Under seminar and tasting; \$25, Carillon Place, 5048 Airport Pulling Road N.; 649-4979. Reservations required.

* **Friday, March 20, 6:30 p.m., Whole Foods Market:** Denise Petersen demonstrates how versatile and tasty tofu can be in both savory and sweet dishes; free, 9101 Strada Place; 552-5100. Advance registration required.

* **Friday, March 20, 7-9 p.m., Robb & Stucky KitchenAid Culinary Center:** Erin White

of Terry Seitz Importers presents a tasting of South African wines paired with a five-course menu prepared by Chef Kristina San Filippo; \$95, 26501 Tamiami Trail, Bonita Springs; 390-2222.

* **Saturday, March 21, 2-4 p.m., Total Wine & More:** The wines from Down Under seminar and tasting; \$25, Carillon Place, 5048 Airport Pulling Road N.; 649-4979. Reservations required.

* **Saturday, March 21, noon-2 p.m., Alexander's Restaurant:** Chef/proprietor Alexander Bernard prepares perfect risotto, classic bouillabaisse and Monika's crepe of passion; \$45, 4077 Tamiami Trail N.; 262-4999.

* **Tuesday, March 24, 6-8 p.m., The Good Life:** Enjoy a traditional Swiss dinner party in which Annie DePiero prepares fondue Bourguignon in advance with the guests cooking their own meat; \$50, Collection at Vanderbilt, Airport Pulling and Vanderbilt Beach roads; 514-4663.

* **Tuesday, March 24, 6 p.m., Whole Foods Market:** Raw foods chef Debbie Greene shows how to prepare flavorful raw food meals such as eggplant manicotti, nut and seed loaf and "raw spaghetti"; free, 9101 Strada Place; 552-5100. Advance registration required.

* **Tuesday, March 24, 6-8 p.m., Robb & Stucky KitchenAid Culinary Center:** Chef Kristina San Filippo shares recipes featuring familiar and unusual herbs and spices; \$45, 26501 Tamiami Trail, Bonita Springs; 390-2222.

* **Thursday, March 26, 6:15-8:15 p.m., Haskell's The Wine People:** Cruise the Gulf of Mexico aboard the Naples Princess while tasting more than 25 wines along with hot and cold appetizers in the boat's air-conditioned interior; \$65, 550 Port O Call Way (south side of U.S. 41 next to Gordon River Bridge); 254-1120.

* **Thursday, March 26, 6:30 p.m., Shula's Steak House:** Partake in a recep-

tion and three-course dinner under the stars on the pool deck at the Hilton Naples. Black Angus beef, fine wines and spirits and cigars rolled on site by Miami Cigars and Company; \$75 plus tax and gratuity, Naples Hilton and Towers, 5111 Tamiami Trail N.; 430-4999.

* **Friday, March 27, 6-8 p.m., Whole Foods Market:** Enjoy champagne and caviar, wine, cheese, chocolate and a silent auction during the Spring Fling fund raiser for the Children's Museum of Naples, cocktail attire suggested; \$50, 9101 Strada Place; 552-5100; reserve a spot at www.cmonfling.wholefoodsrsvp.com.

* **Friday, March 27, 7-9 p.m., Robb & Stucky KitchenAid Culinary Center:** Frank Pulice of Austin's Wine Cellar and Chef Kristina San Filippo collaborate on a wine dinner; \$95, 26501 Tamiami Trail, Bonita Springs; 390-2222.

Submit event listings to Cuisine@floridaweekly.com. ■



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