

NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY[®]

YOUR NEWS AND ENTERTAINMENT SOURCE

WEEK OF AUGUST 20-26, 2009

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>>inside:
Ha! Ha!
Some pretty
good jokes
A8&9



MAKE THEM LAUGH

THE BEST JOKES IN
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

BY BILL CORNWELL

bcornwell@floridaweekly.com

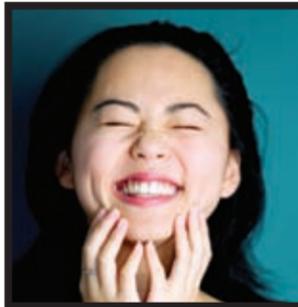
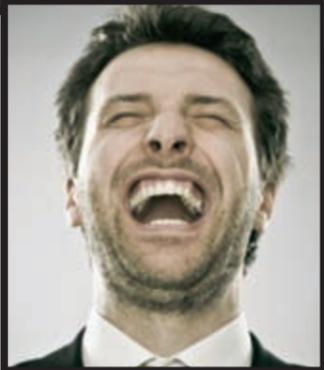
AS HE DEPARTED THIS LIFE, SIR DONALD Wolfit, a zesty British thespian, is said to have pulled a protégé close and uttered these now famous words: “Dying is easy; comedy is hard.”

Whether Sir Donald actually made this marvelous deathbed utterance is a matter of some debate, but for our purposes, it is of little consequence where or from whom it originated, for it is beyond dispute that comedy — the art of making another person laugh — is excruciatingly difficult.

The primary means of eliciting a laugh is through the telling of a joke. As most of us learned long ago, a joke is only as good as the person conveying it. We all know people who can tell a perfectly rotten joke and bring the house down, while others can mangle the funniest of tales, leaving their audience stone-faced and staring at their shoes.

But virtually all of us are irresistibly drawn to jokes. We love to laugh and to make others

SEE JOKES, A8 ▶



Lucky dogs

Canines and their companions enjoy Yappy Hour at The Dock, and more fun things around town. C23, 24 & 25 ▶



‘Pier Pressure’

Sweet Art Gallery showcases local landmarks. C1 ▶



He saw the future

Wesley Downing was a Naples pioneer who recognized great thing. A10 ▶



Repo man

A once-lucrative business has tailed off recently. B1 ▶

Film festival opening set for the Phil

FLORIDA WEEKLY STAFF REPORT

The inaugural Naples International Film Festival will open with a Hollywood-style, red carpet gala Thursday, Nov. 5, at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. The announcement was made last week by festival founders Eric Raddatz, Dan Linehan and Rowan Samuel.

The black-tie evening will include an independent film premiere along with

additional entertainment and the chance to mix and mingle with directors, producers and stars from the indie films that will be featured at the three-day festival.

“We’re so excited to be partnering with Myra (Daniels, president and CEO of the Phil) and the Phil,” Mr. Raddatz, executive director, says. “We have an ongoing somewhat insatiable desire to vitalize the local



COURTESY PHOTO

The Naples International Film Festival opening night gala will take place Nov. 5 at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts.

SEE PHIL, A12 ▶

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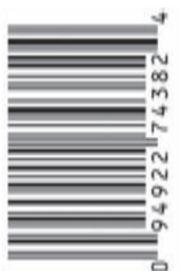
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COMMENTARY

I'm just kidding: Why jokes are serious



rogerWILLIAMS

rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

Jokes are never really just jokes.

When they're done well, they're truthful little mirrors. Hold them up and you'll see not only yourself, but everyone around you.

That's always been true.

In Shakespeare's plays — "Twelfth Night," for example — the fool is always wise, and he employs only jokes, riddles or verbal tricks in speech. Nevertheless, he speaks the truth when nobody else wants to say it or can see it, which is always the talent of joke-telling, riddle-wielding "fools."

Chaucer's "Canterbury Tales," which he wrote about 200 years before Shakespeare, is loaded with jokes — or at least with tales that are so amusing or bawdy they seem like jokes. (In a late-life fit of religious fervor, Chaucer renounced his "Tales," which became a joke on him since they now number among the most celebrated stories in English literature.)

And long before that, in ancient Greece, there were wise guys: When Alexander III of Macedon sought a meeting with the philosopher Diogenes, who fascinated him, he introduced himself by declaring, "I am Alexander the Great."

Without hesitation Diogenes replied, "I am Diogenes the Dog" — a joke of sorts that somehow created a collision of the

classes, head on, which everybody, Diogenes especially, lived to tell about.

But all that was then, and now it seems more than ever (this is the kind of thing a fool might say).

One of the many things I love about Americans is our occasional ability to criticize ourselves — to laugh at ourselves and tease each other outwardly. In a civilization where joking goes back more than 2,300 years, Americans put a freight-train spin on humor, I figure.

The first and most sacred amendment to the Constitution protects free speech, and that means jokers in this day and age can celebrate the world in their own sharply comic fashion, without fear of reprisal. In other words, without being banished, imprisoned or killed.

Our jokes can be firecrackers — ribald, brassy, bold, earthy or vulgar little explosions. They can also be political, social, sexual or psychological missiles. They reflect and reveal the best of us, and sometimes the worst of us. Almost always they're merry, and frequently they're unrestrained by etiquette or political correctness.

My own tastes lean to jokes that dispel pretension, or disabuse people with money, power and family influence of the notion that they are superior.

So I always liked the one about three old friends who had spent years wandering around the vast emptiness of West Texas — a buzzard, a rabbit and a turtle:

When they came over a rise one day, Buzzard pulled up hard to study the little valley below.

"Boys," he said, "this here's the place. Our wanderin' days are done. Here's what I want you boys to do. Turtle, you come with me and we'll go build us a big ol' mansion in that sweet spot down yonder."

He nodded at the sun-baked ground below him.

"Rabbit, you get a wheelbarrow and go out there and get us some buffalo chips to make fertilizer for the lawns and gardens." Buzzard waved in the general direction of nowhere to suggest where Rabbit might find some buffalo chips.

By and by, Buzzard and Turtle walked down the hill. Rabbit got himself a wheelbarrow and disappeared for two years, pushing his load all over West Texas.

One fine day Rabbit finally finished filling that wheelbarrow and staggered back over the little rise where Buzzard had first made his plan.

Down below him Rabbit saw a huge white mansion with columns on a big front porch. A lovely green lawn surrounded the place, and a fountain pushed water high into the parched air. In back he could see a pretty little well with a pretty little wellhouse built up around it.

Rabbit hoisted his wheelbarrow and went down the hill and across the lawn. When he came to the porch steps, he turned the wheelbarrow around and backed it up on the porch, lifting it one step at a time. Then he set it down and knocked loudly on the massive front door.

About five minutes later the door opened slowly, and a tall man dressed in a tuxedo appeared.

"YES?" he said.

"Ah, I was wonderin', I thought you might tell me... well, I didn't want to bother you or anything, but... do you know if Buzzard is here?" asked Rabbit.

The man looked down at Rabbit and wrinkled his nose, as if he smelled something very unpleasant.

"Mr. BuzZARD is in the YARD," he said curtly, in an accent Rabbit had never heard before in West Texas — probably English or French or Italian or something like that, Rabbit figured.

Rabbit couldn't see anybody in the yard, so he said, "In that case, would you mind tellin' me — I mean if it's not too much trouble — is Turtle hereabouts?"

Now the man flat-out scowled. "Mr. TurTEL is in the WELL," he said stiffly.

Rabbit looked out at the dry prairie. He scratched his ears. He considered the wheelbarrow full of buffalo chips parked beside him. Then he looked back at the man in the tuxedo and smiled.

"Well then," he said, "When Mr. BuzZARD gets back from the YARD, and Mr. TurTEL gets back from the WELL, tell 'em Mr. RABBIT is here with the S - - T!"

And then there's this, a Shakespearean joke from "Twelfth Night," in which the fool, Feste, jokes around in an attempt to draw his friend Olivia out of her grief:

Feste: Good madonna, why mourn'st thou?

Olivia: Good fool, for my brother's death.

Feste: I think his soul is in hell, madonna.

Olivia: I know his soul is in heaven, fool.

Feste: The more fool, madonna, to mourn for your brother's being in heaven. ■

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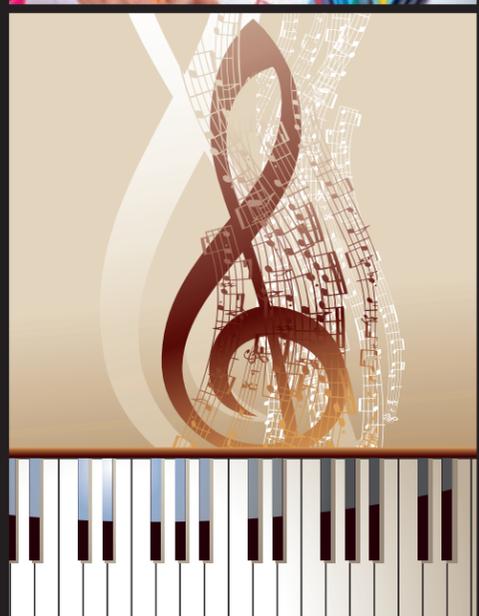
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OPINION

A not-so-silent majority

BY RICH LOWRY

Like Richard Nixon, Barack Obama wants to govern on the strength of a silent majority, although with a twist. Obama wants the majority that opposes or questions his policies to stay silent.

Obama's White House and its allies have unleashed a barrage of criticism and condescension at people daring to show up at town-hall meetings and ask their elected representatives pointed questions. "Fired up and ready to go!" apparently works only one way. If engaged citizens shower Obama with adoration at stage-managed rallies, they are the very stuff of American democracy. If they boo their congressman, they are a scandalous eruption of fake or hateful sentiment.

The Democratic National Committee has called the hostile questioners and protesters at town halls a "mob." White House spokesman Robert Gibbs said that they represent "manufactured anger" ginned up by nefarious corporate interests, and referred to them as "the Brooks Brothers brigade." California Sen. Barbara Boxer, too, took offense at the

untoward lack of shabby dress, noting with disapproval that the protesters are "well-dressed." It's the attack of the haut-polloi.

All of these Obama mouthpieces must forget that the president once was a community organizer. As a young man in Chicago, he got people to meetings and primed them with questions to ask city officials. By the Gibbs standard, when Obama prodded his community activists to get the Chicago Housing Authority to remove asbestos from a public-housing complex in the 1980s, it was contemptible "manufactured" outrage.

Conservative groups are publicizing the times and locations of town-hall meetings on the Internet. They are calling and e-mailing people on their membership lists and urging them to make their voices heard. No one prior to the troubled career of ObamaCare thought town-hall meetings should be closely held secrets, or considered basic block-and-tackle political organizing as out of bounds.

Obama once extolled such organizing as one of the marvels of American democracy. The same DNC operative

who attacked the "angry mobs of a small number of rabid right-wing extremists" ran a union-funded group in 2005 opposing President George W. Bush's Social Security reform. It organized protests and town-hall meetings, and ran TV ads. But never mind — it's activism for me, not for thee.

The Obama team labors under the misapprehension that its sweeping, \$1 trillion health-care plan is popular. Pluralities in almost every poll disapprove of the Democrats' proposals and disapprove of Obama's handling of health care. Polls show that opponents of ObamaCare feel more intensely about the issue than supporters. It's not surprising, then, that town-hall meetings would be uncomfortable for members of Congress plugging for ObamaCare.

Obama is sinking toward a 50 percent presidency, with the public evenly divided over him. In New Jersey and Virginia gubernatorial races this year, Republicans are both leading by 14 points in the latest polls and appealing to the center. No matter how fervently Obama may wish it to be so, his skeptics won't be silent. ■

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

GUEST OPINION

Say thanks for education with a scholarship

BY BRUCE SCHULTZ

President & CEO, Southwest Capital Bank
Chairman, Edison State College Foundation
District Board of Directors



SCHULTZ

Over my many years in the banking industry, I have witnessed the generosity of numerous clients as they've made charitable gifts to local organizations. More recently, as district chairman of the Edison State College Foundation, I have had the good fortune to see first hand how such gifts are directly affecting the lives of those on the receiving end.

Going into debt and making personal sacrifices to get an education is nothing new. I did it, and you probably did as well. Edison State College students sacrifice, too. A larger majority of Edison students work more than 30 hours a week when compared to their counterparts nationwide. But when these students are also dealing with illness, injury or a recent divorce, have lost their job, or are caring for a family member, their plans to make a better future for themselves and their families are often derailed.

In the 2008-09 fiscal year, nearly 800 students received \$2 million in privately-funded scholarships through the Edison State College Foundation. In most cases, these scholarships are awarded when all other sources of federal financial aid have been tapped and a financial need remains. In many cases, the funding provides the margin of difference between the student graduating or dropping out.

Thankfully, there are bighearted people in our community who are making a positive impact by donating to the Edison State College Foundation. They believe that education changes lives for the better and makes a difference not only for the students, but also contributes to a better community and stronger economy. Their gifts, large and small, help Edison students to pay tuition and buy their textbooks so they can use personal funds for groceries, childcare, rent and car repairs. In their own words, our grateful students say thanks:

"I want to personally thank you for taking me into consideration for your scholarship. Words are voiced from my heart and I deeply appreciate this. I am planning to major in business management as a background, get an MBA and then a Ph.D. in education. I am passionate to change a negative into a positive and I will do so by guiding the youth. You have shined light into my future".

"Please accept my deepest thanks for the scholarship I was recently awarded. This award does not simply help with my tuition and book costs — it makes my nursing education possible. As a single-income family, there is simply no way that we could afford the high cost of tuition and books without assistance. This scholarship is helping to make my dream a reality and for this I will be eternally grateful."

As you think about which charitable cause you would like to support, please consider the one in which you will receive the greatest return on investment — education. This year alone, more than 18,000 students are choosing Edison State College to master a new technol-

ogy, begin a career or learn a new skill. Edison's faculty and staff are committed to access and see the potential for growth in every individual. They educate academically gifted students as well as those who have never considered themselves to be "college material." They make it possible for motivated individuals from all walks of life to acquire the education and competencies needed to be a productive citizen. Now, more than ever, these students are in need of our help to accomplish these goals.

On behalf of Southwest Florida's future nurses, teachers, paramedics, accountants, engineers, small business owners, and business executives, I would like to thank you for supporting the good work of Edison State College and ask that you continue to be supportive of your fellow community members who are working to make a better life for themselves and the communities in which we live.

For more information, call 732-3718. ■

— Bruce Schultz is president and chief executive officer of Southwest Capital Bancshares Inc. and president and chief executive officer of Southwest Capital Bank. Mr. Schultz has more than 24 years of banking experience on the west coast of Florida. He is president of the Children's Advocacy Center, district president of Edison College Foundation and president of the Uncommon Friends Foundation. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Lee County United Way, Lee County Public Schools Foundation and The Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Schultz is a graduate of Florida State University with a bachelor's of science degree in finance.

MOMENTS IN TIME

► On **Aug. 19, 1921**, TV producer Gene Roddenberry, best known as the creator of "Star Trek," is born in El Paso, Texas. Although "Star Trek" ran for only three years and never placed better than No. 52 in the ratings, Rod-

denberry's sci-fi series became a cult classic and spawned four television series and nine movies.

► On **Aug. 20, 1911**, a dispatcher in the *New York Times* office sends the first telegram around the world via

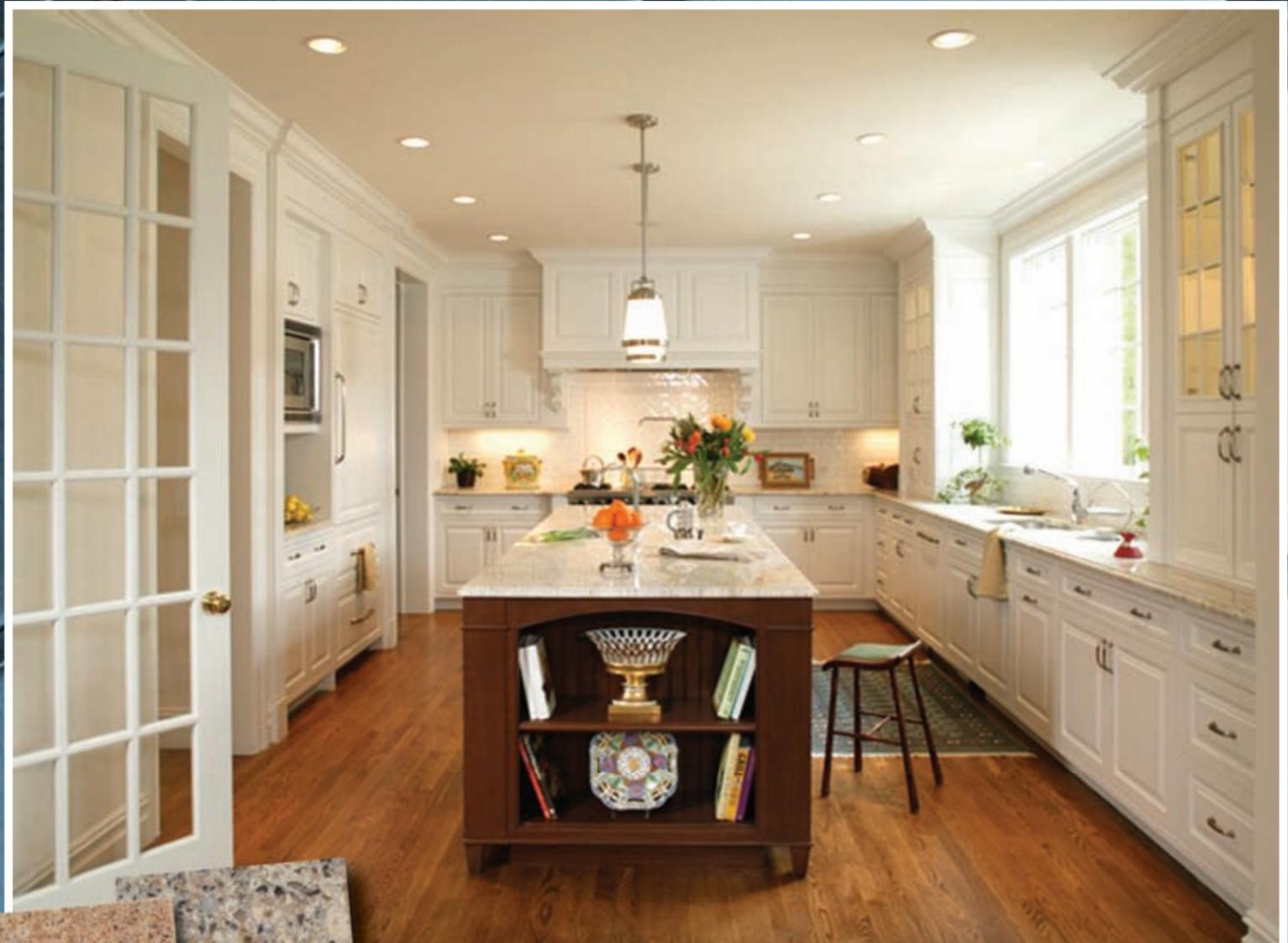
commercial service. The message left New York at 7 p.m. After it traveled more than 28,000 miles, being relayed by 16 different operators, the reply was received by the same operator 16.5 minutes later. ■

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15 MINUTES

Stan Gober: Goodland's 'codgy old guy with mass appeal'

BY PAMELA V. KROL
Special to Florida Weekly

Who wants to do the chicken dance when they can do the Buzzard Lope?

At least that's the thinking of the wildly loyal "Stan fans" that flock to Stan's Idle Hour Restaurant in Goodland. The place has such a following that CNN and TBS have reported on the "Stan phenomenon"—the irresistible draw that has turned the regular Sunday afternoon party at the Idle Hour into a state attraction.

What's so great about the Idle Hour that makes people from all walks and from all around the world come back again and again? Mostly it's Stan Gober and his original music — including "The Buzzard Lope," which he typically performs in full panoply of buzzard feathers, invariably prompting the crowd to break out into the dance by the same name.

It started back in 1985, when Stan, on advice from a friend, hosted Goodland's first Mullet Festival as a contest for community's fishermen. "I thought, while the guys are out fishing, let's get the gals into a dance contest..." he recalls. "And we'll let the audience select a Mullet Queen."

The rest is history.

The highly coveted title of Mullet Queen eventually changed to the Buzzard Queen, and the success of the annual event gave Stan the idea for the beloved Stan's Idle Hour Sunday Show that takes place each week from 1 to 6-7 p.m., depending on the crowd.

It's become a Marco Island staple and

part of the pulse of the city.

"Stan is my favorite high-tech red-neck, a codgy old guy with mass appeal," says Wes Bates, CEO of Stanley Carpet Cleaners. "At Stan's, you have millionaires pretending to be bikers, boaters pretending to be boaters, and regular people trying not to be regular. And everybody gets along."

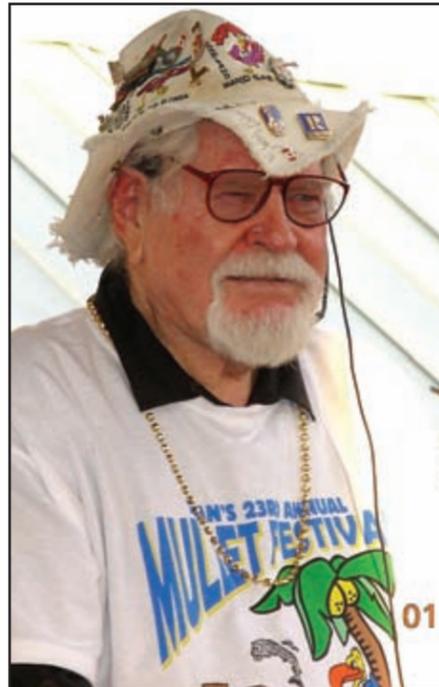
"It works because of the special atmosphere that only Stan could create. One reason I live on Marco Island is because of Stan's."

As a restaurateur, comedian, singer and songwriter, Stan is doing what he always wanted. But getting to where he is today was hardly easy.

He was born at home, with the help of a midwife, in Bessemer, Ala., in 1926, and describes his childhood as "comin' up hard." The second of four children, Stan was only 4 when his father left and his mother had to go on welfare to make it through the Great Depression.

Stan's older brother Wally got a job at Acme Lunch, a lunch counter with 26 stools, when he was 15. Later, when the restaurant needed a cook, Wally suggested his mother. And not long after that, 12-year-old Stan got a job at Acme, too, washing dishes.

By the time he was 17, he had dreams of becoming a singer/songwriter and spent all of his spare time singing at his high school and recitals around town. "The announcer on radio station WJLD ate lunch at Acme every day. He offered to give me 15 minutes of air time on Wednesday nights. So suddenly I became



Stan Gober

COURTESY PHOTO

a little celebrity. It was a great time."

Fast forward to 1952, when he married Faye Campbell and was working for the Alabama phone company — "In those days there was only one," he laughs. A notice on a company bulletin board offering transfers to anyone interested in moving to Southwest Florida, which they predicted was on the verge of a boom, caught Stan's eye. "Faye was all for it, so off we went," he says.

While he was working for the phone company in Naples, Stan and Faye bought a 10-room hotel in Goodland. The couple had three boys by then; the family lived in two of the rooms and rented out the other eight. A few years later, the Gobers bought the restaurant across the street that is now known as Stan's Idle Hour.

They sold the hotel in 1978, after Faye was diagnosed with colon cancer. The family lived above the restaurant for a while, but Stan had promised Faye he would buy her a house, and he did that before she died in 1983, at the age of 47. He still lives in the house.

Today, in addition to the Sunday shows (October through late August) and the regular bar business, Stan's host a lot of charity benefits.

"I'm the type of guy who has helpfulness in his heart because of my background," he says. "I just want to give back, I guess. I feel like the good Lord put me in a place where I can do that."

Collier County Commissioner Donna Fiala knows Stan well and says, "Nobody has ever met Stan who doesn't love him instantly. But the big puzzle for me has been... how does he ever fit that huge, wonderful heart in to his regular size body?"

There are enough remarks about Stan Gober like that one to fill a book — and they do. In 2006, Wade Keller wrote and published "Stan: An American Story." Even if you don't get down on the dance floor to "The Buzzard Lope," it's worth the trip to Stan's Idle Hour to pick up a copy. ■

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JOKES

From page 1

laugh. The problem that most of us face — and this includes those blessed with an abundance of comedic skills — is a dearth of material.

“I can never remember jokes, even the really funny ones,” is a common lament.

That excuse will fly no more. What follows is a compilation of jokes assembled by the staff of *Florida Weekly*. Some are uproarious, others are dreadful. What is good and what is bad is a matter of taste, of course, but all are indisputably jokes. Someone at some time has laughed at each and every one of these gags. Commit to memory the ones you like and keep them at hand for the perfect moment to amuse and entertain friends and family. Don't worry about the others, you'll forget them soon enough.

Oh, it wouldn't hurt to practice a little. Hone your delivery, as best you can. You don't have to be Jerry Seinfeld or Jay Leno to get a laugh on occasion. Sir Donald said comedy is hard, but he didn't say it is impossible. ■



» **Larry died.** His will provided \$40,000 for an elaborate funeral. As the last guests departed the affair, his wife Sarah turned to her oldest and dearest friend. “Well, I'm sure Larry would be pleased,” she said.

“I'm sure you're right,” replied Jody, who lowered her voice and leaned in close. “How much did this really cost?”

“All of it?” said Sarah. “Forty thousand.”

“No!” Jody exclaimed. “I mean, it was very nice, but \$40,000?”

Sarah answered, “The funeral was \$6,500. I donated \$500 to church. The whiskey, wine and snacks were another \$500. The rest went for the memorial stone.”

Jody computed quickly. “\$32,500 for a memorial stone? My God, how big is it?”

“Four and a half carats.”

— a *Florida Weekly* staff favorite



» **A man was leaving a convenience store** with his morning coffee when he

noticed a most unusual funeral procession approaching the nearby cemetery.

A long black hearse was followed by a second long black hearse about 50 feet behind the first one.

Behind the second hearse was a solitary man walking a dog on a leash.

Behind him, a short distance back, were about 200 men walking single file.

The man couldn't stand the curiosity. He respectfully approached the man walking the dog and said, “I am so sorry for your loss, and this may be a bad time to disturb you, but I've never seen a funeral like this. Whose funeral is it?”

“My wife's.”

“What happened to her?”

“My dog attacked and killed her.”

The curious onlooker inquired further, “But who is in the second hearse?”

The man answered, “My mother-in-law. She was trying to help my wife when the dog turned on her.”

A poignant and thoughtful moment of silence passed between the two men.

“Can I borrow the dog?”

The man replied, “Get in line.”

— Sal Dickinson, Dickinson & Associates, Fort Myers



» **How many elephants** can you fit in a VW?

Four, two in the front and two in the back.

How do you know there's an elephant in your refrigerator?

A set of footprints in the butter.

How do you know there are two elephants in your refrigerator?

Two sets of footprints in the butter.

How do you know there are three elephants in your refrigerator?

(Three sets of footprints?) No, the door won't close.

How do you know there are four elephants in your refrigerator?

There's a VW parked outside.

— Daniel Catron



» **Bubba and Billy Bob are fishing** in a boat.

Bubba says, “Billy Bob, I'm thinking about divorcing my wife. She hasn't spoken to me in two months.”

Billy Bob takes a sip of his beer, spits out some tobacco juice, and after a minute he says, “Bubba, you better think mighty hard and long about that decision. Women like that are hard to come by.”

— Frank Mann, Lee County commissioner



» **Question: What's the difference** between a seagull and a financial advisor?

Answer: A seagull can still make a big deposit on a brand new Mercedes.

— Jack O'Brien, curator at The von Liebig Art Center



» **An old man who couldn't see**

too well still loved to drive. So one day he was out on Highway 90 headed for New Orleans when a state trooper pulled him over.

“Did you know you were going 90 MILES AN HOUR?” the man said.

“Shore did, officer,” that driver told him.

“That's way over the speed limit,” said the policeman.

“No it ain't,” said the old man.

“It sure is too fast,” said the policeman. “Why are you driving so fast?”

“Well that's what the speed limit IS, it says so right on the sign — 90!” said the old man.

“Lord a'mighty,” the policeman told him, “it's lucky I stopped you before you got to 301 (another highway in Louisiana).”

— Burdie Baker, honorary mayor of Charleston Park



» **On the first day of second grade,** the teacher asked her students to use “I” in a sentence.

The first student said, “I am happy to be in school.”

“Perfect,” said the teacher.

The second said, “I am happy when it's time for recess.”

“Perfect,” said the teacher.

Johnny was next. He started, “I is...”

“Oh, no,” the teacher interrupted him. “It's 'I am...' Begin again.”

Johnny said, “But Miss Teacher...”

“No buts, Johnny. Do as I say,” the teacher insisted.

Johnny took a deep breath. “OK, Miss Teacher... I am the ninth letter of the alphabet.”

— Lois Bolin,

FW Undercover Historian, who in a previous life used the joke in corporate training exercises to illustrate the importance of listening in order to build trust.



» **Sister Alice joined** a special order of nuns and was allowed to say two words per year. At the end of the first year, Mother Mary asked her, “Sister Alice, what two words do you have to say?” Sister Alice replied, “Bad food.” Mother Mary left but a year later came back to Sister Alice and asked for her next two words. Sister Alice said “Hard beds.” Mother Mary grimaced and left and returned the following year and asked the same question. Sister Alice said, “I quit!” Mother Mary said, “I am not the least bit surprised. You have been bitching from the time you got here!”

— Jeannette Showalter, Naples resident



» **There was a man named John,** lived on a farm — a plantation, you know — and the corn was getting ripe. The farmer, a big old' slow-moving fat man, came to John one day and he said, “John, somebody or other is eatin' at my corn. If you can catch him and put him in the crib, I'll give you \$50.”

“Yessir,” said John.

That night, John got his shotgun and went and sat by the crib. And he come to find out it wasn't no human, it was a bear eatin' that corn.

“How am I gonna get that bear in the crib?” John wondered.

So he got himself some of that corn, and threw it in the crib and jumped in, acted like he was eating it. That bear jumped in right after, and they went round and round, the bear chasin' him.. And before long John jumped out and shut up that crib, just as quick as you please.

Then he went to the boss and said, “Boss, I got him.”

Well, the boss went and got his whip and came on back, figurin' to whip a thief. But when he opened that crib the bear slapped him up one side and down the other — got him right in the crib. That bear and the boss went round and round and round, and finally the boss shouted, “John, what did you do to get out of this crib?”

And John said, “I done the same thing you're doing, only I did it at about 65 miles an hour.”

— Burdie Baker, honorary mayor of Charleston Park



» **Mr. Johnson, a bank executive,** was well known as a great and entertaining speaker. So the bank president, Mr. Fields, tapped him to open the annual meeting for the shareholders and company employees with a speech.

The morning of the meeting, Mrs. Johnson handed her husband his briefcase and coat, eagerly wished him luck, and sent him on his way.

Unfortunately, Mr. Johnson forgot to pack his notes, leaving them at home on his night table. As he faced the expectant crowd in the auditorium, he figured he would have to draw on a subject he felt he knew a lot about — and gave an absorbing speech about sex.

That evening, Mrs. Johnson asked, “Honey, you forgot your notes! What did you talk about?”

“Uh... sailing!” he replied, feeling too embarrassed to admit he'd given a talk about sex.

The next morning, Mrs. Johnson ran into Mrs. Fields at the beauty salon. The bank president's wife had been at the meeting.

“Your husband gave a wonderful talk yesterday! So informative and interesting. He must be a real expert,” she gushed.

With a look of confusion, Mrs. Johnson replied, “Well, that's surprising. He's only done it twice. The first time he threw up, and the second time his hat blew off!”

— Kat Smith, managing editor at Naples Illustrated



» **What did the fish say** when he ran into the concrete wall? Dam!

— Gay Thompson, president, Cement Industries



» **A man in the Safeway Store**

in Texas tries to buy half a head of lettuce. The very young produce assistant tells him that they sell only whole heads of lettuce.

The man persists and asks to see the manager. The boy says he'll ask his manager about it.

Walking into the back room, the boy says to his manager, “Some idiot wants to buy half a head of lettuce.” As he finishes his sentence, he turns to find the man standing right behind him, so he adds, “And this gentleman has kindly offered to buy the other half.”

The manager approved the deal, and the man went on his way.

Later the manager said to the produce assistant, “I was impressed with the way you got yourself out of that situation earlier. We like people who think on their feet here. Where are you from, son?”

“Canada, sir,” the boy replied.

“Well, why did you leave Canada?” the manager asked.

The boy said, “Sir, there's nothing but whores and hockey players up there.”

“Really?” said the manager. “My wife is from Canada.”

“No kidding?” replied the boy. “Who'd she play for?”

— Sal Dickinson, Dickinson & Associates, Fort Myers



» **How do you make friends** with a squirrel? Climb a tree and act like a nut.

— Emily Phillips, seventh grade, Three Oaks Middle School



» **A duck walks up to a fruit stand** and he says to the fruit vendor, “Got any grapes?”

And the guy says, “No we don't have any grapes and we don't serve ducks here.” The next day the duck comes back to the fruit stand and says the same thing. “Got any grapes?” And the vendor says, “No, and I told you we don't serve ducks here.” The third day the duck comes back again to the fruit stand and you know what the duck says. The fruit stand guy says, “If you ask me that question one more time I'm gonna get a hammer and nails and nail your webbed feet down to the pavement.” So the duck says, “You got any nails?” And the guy says, “No.” So the duck says, “Got any grapes?”

— Karen Schaeffer, pastry chef, JBistro



» **Q: How many mental health therapists** does it take to change a light bulb?

A: Only one, but the light bulb really has to want to change.

Q: How many art directors does it take to change a light bulb?

A: “... er ... does it HAVE to be a light bulb?”

Q: How many surrealists does it take to change a light bulb?

A: Fish

Q: How many mothers-in-law does it take to change a light bulb?

A: None ... I'll just sit in the dark.”

— Stuart Brown, documentary film producer



» **A young boy was struggling**

with his math class and was in danger of failing. His parents were very concerned, so they sent him to the local after-school tutoring program, but no results. They sent him to a fancy math seminar, but no results. The end of the year was getting close — what could they do?

Then, a neighbor told them about a group of Catholic nuns in the town with a special math-tutoring program. Desperate, they sent their son to

The best jokes of Southwest Florida

program and immediately he started improv- ing. They didn't want to say anything at first out of concern that it might backfire. So, they just watched. By the end of the year he had improved so much that he passed with honors. Finally, they had to ask him what had the nuns done that made the difference? He said, "the first time I went into that room and saw the man up on the plus sign, I knew they meant business!"

— Lydia A. Black, executive director, Lee County Alliance of the Arts



» **A horse walks into a bar.** The bartender says, "Why the long face?"

— "Long John," Larry's East Pawn



» **John R. Wood tells Florida Weekly** this actually happened to him not long ago. When he was in the middle of delivering a speech to about 250 Realtors, Mr. Wood's friend Paul stood up and asked politely:

Paul: "John, do you know how to keep a turkey in suspense?"

John (rather surprised and helpless): "No, Paul, I don't. Please tell me how to keep a turkey in suspense."

Paul: "Ok, John, I'll tell you tomorrow!"

— John R. Wood, Naples Realtor



» **Q: What did the sadist** do to the masochist?

A: Nothing.

— D.P. Workman, student



» **Noah and his wife are hanging** over the rail on the ark, bored with looking at the water after days at sea. Noah suddenly perks up and says to his wife: "Hey, I know how we could pass the time, we could do a little fishing. I wonder if we'd catch much?" His wife replies: "Probably not much. We've only got two worms."

— Capt. Ralph Allen, Punta Gorda



» **An old woman was having trouble hearing,** so one day she went to the doctor.

"Doctor, I can't hear a thing out of my left ear," she told him.

So the doctor looked in her ear, and he noticed there was something stuck in it. Very carefully, he put a small ear pick in there and finally drew the thing out, then held it up.

"Ma'am, this looks like a suppository," he said.

"Well NOW I know where my hearing aid is," she said.

— Gail Day,

hairstylist and business owner (this joke came from an elderly woman, a customer, who was seated in Gail's styling chair last week)



» **Q: Why didn't the skeleton**

cross the road?

A: He had no guts.

— Nash Williams, student



» **With the current concern about socialized medicine,** one could understand about the young couple from England who went to see their doctor for the wife's examination. The wife went in alone while the husband waited in the waiting room.

After about an hour, the wife came out and the husband quickly asked her: "What did he do? What did he say?"

The wife said to him, "Not now, I'll tell you when we get home."

After arriving at home, the husband was beside himself to know what the doctor said and did. The wife told him the doctor examined her and then took

out rubber stamp and neatly stamped the middle of her stomach.

The husband said, "What did the stamp say?"

And the wife answered, "I don't know, it was so small I couldn't read it."

The husband looked at her stamped stomach but couldn't read the tiny print, either. So they got out a magnifying glass and finally were able to read: "When this lettering is big enough to read with the naked eye, come back to see me."

— John R. Wood, Naples Realtor



» **Q: What's brown and sticky?**

A: A stick.

— Amy Bennett Williams, writer



» **"I tend to be like Garrison Keillor,** who appreciates a good yarn more than a joke (the one about the talking parrot, for example, who learned his language ways from a sailor), but repeats that "joke" about two penguins standing by the shore, where one says to the other, "You look like you are wearing a tuxedo." And the other says, "Who says I'm not?"

Which leads me to the line about planners, whose mascot is the penguin, because penguins gather in groups, speak in ways no one can understand, and collectively have cold feet.

But I will close with the traditional: A penguin walks into a bar and orders a beer. The bartender says, "That'll be \$10."

The penguin pays and the bartender serves him his drink, saying, "You know, we don't get many penguins coming in here."

The penguin says, "At \$10 a beer, it's not hard to understand."

— Wayne Daltry, planner (in an e-mail about jokes)



» **Q. What are the three** rings of marriage?

A. Engagement ring. Wedding ring. Suffering.

— Mitch Schwenke, proprietor of Blue Coyote Supper Club, Fort Myers



» **A pastor's wife** was expecting a baby, so he asked the congregation for a raise. After much discussion, they decided that whenever the preacher's family expanded, so would his paycheck.

After six children, this started to get expensive and the congregation decided to hold another meeting to discuss the preacher's expanding salary. A great deal of bickering ensued as to how much the clergyman's additional children were costing the church, and how much more it could potentially cost.

After listening to them for about an hour, the pastor rose from his chair and spoke, "Children are a gift from God, and we will take as many gifts as He gives us."

Silence fell on the congregation.

In the back pew, a little old lady struggled to stand, and finally said in her frail voice, "Rain is also a gift from God, but when we get too much of it, we wear rubbers."

The entire congregation said, "Amen."

— Samantha Scott, Pushing the Envelope Inc., Fort Myers



» **Q. What do you call a ship** that lies on the bottom of the sea and shakes?

A. A nervous wreck.

— Tanya Forrester, SunTrust Bank business banker



» **A guy walks into a bar** covered in jumper cables and the bartender looks at him and says, "Don't you start anything!"

— Cindie Barker, Bistro 41 manager



» **A woman walks into a bank**

in New York City and asks for the loan officer. She says she's going to Europe on business for two weeks and needs to borrow \$5,000.

The bank officer says the bank will need some kind of security for the loan, so the woman hands over the keys to a new Rolls Royce. The car is parked on the street in front of the bank, she has the title and everything checks out. The bank agrees to accept the car as collateral for the loan.

The bank's president and its officers all enjoy a good laugh at the woman for using a \$250,000 Rolls as collateral against a \$5,000 loan. An employee of the bank then proceeds to drive the Rolls into the bank's underground garage and parks it there.

Two weeks later, the woman returns, repays the \$5,000 and the interest, which comes to \$15.41. The loan officer says, "Miss, we are very happy to have had your business, and this transaction has worked out very nicely, but we are a little puzzled. While you were away, we checked you out and found that you are a multimillionaire. What puzzles us is, why would you bother to borrow \$5,000?"

The woman replies, "Where else in New York City can I park my car for two weeks for only \$15.41 and expect it to be there when I return?"

— Lauren Rotchford, The Ritz-Carlton, Naples



» **A grasshopper walks into a bar** and the bartender says to him, "Hey, I've got a drink named after you."

The grasshopper looks puzzled and says, "Why would anyone name a drink Bob?"

— Jim McCracken, Vino columnist



» **An Irishman was terribly overweight,** so his doctor put him on a diet.

"I want you to eat regularly for two days, then skip a full day, and repeat this procedure for two weeks. The next time I see you, you should have lost at least 5 pounds."

When the Irishman returned, he shocked the doctor by having lost nearly 60 POUNDS!

"Why, that's amazing!" the doctor said, "Did you follow my instructions?"

The Irishman nodded..."I'll tell you though, by geez, I t'out I was going to drop dead on dat third day."

"From hunger, you mean?"

"No, from all dat skippin'," the Irishman said.

— Lauren Rotchford, The Ritz-Carlton, Naples



» **Hospital regulations require**

a wheelchair for patients being discharged. However, while working as a student nurse, I found one elderly gentleman — already dressed and sitting on the bed with a suitcase at his feet — who insisted he didn't need my help to leave the hospital. After a chat about rules being rules, he reluctantly let me wheel him to the elevator. On the way down, I asked him if his wife was meeting him.

"I don't know," he said. "She's still upstairs in the bathroom changing out of her hospital gown."

— Richie Oliva, Punta Gorda



» **"Anyone who needs to be prayed over,** come forward, to the front at the altar," the preacher says one day.

Leroy gets in line, and when it's his turn, the preacher asks: "Leroy, what do you want me to pray about for you?"

Leroy replies: "Preacher, I need you to pray for my hearing."

The preacher puts one finger in Leroy's ear, and he places the other hand on top of Leroy's head and prays and prays and prays — he prays a blue streak for Leroy.

After a few minutes, the preacher removes his hands, stands back and asks, "Leroy, how is your hearing now?"

Leroy says, "I don't know, Reverend, it ain't 'til next Wednesday!"

— Bruce Strayhorn, attorney



» **A termite walks into a pub,**

stops just inside the door, and takes a look around. He calls out to everyone within earshot: "Hey, where's the bar tender?"

— Kathy Grey, Florida Weekly



» **I simply CANNOT come up with a funny joke.** But I can tell you of my encounter with a homeless man in Boston.

One morning after breakfast, having paid and with change in my pocket, I was passing a man with a large "homeless" sign who greeted me with a cheery "Good morning!"

I returned the greeting and dropped the change in his cup. A few hours later I had a sandwich for lunch, which I cut in half because that's all I wanted. I wrapped the remainder with the pickle. It so happened that I passed the same corner, saw the same man and this time I asked him if he'd like a sandwich. "What kind?" he asked.

"Ham and cheese, lettuce and mayo," I answered. "Pickle?" he asked.

"Of course," I replied, as he smiled broadly and held out his hand.

This led me to believe that the Boston homeless, like the proper Bostonians, are very enlightened and particular people.

"Pickle," indeed!

— Audrey Bender, Neapolitan and social activist



» **Q: How many feminists** does it take to change a light bulb?

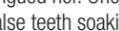
A: That's not funny.

— Anonymous



» **While working for an organization that delivers lunches to elderly shut-ins,** I used to take my 4-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. The various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs, intrigued her. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, "The tooth fairy will never believe this!"

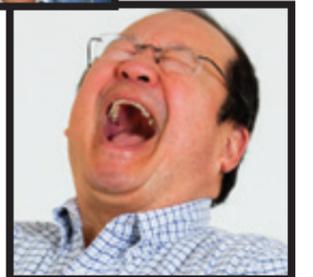
— Pat Oliva, Punta Gorda



» **Two guys are playing baseball** and one says there's baseball in heaven and the other one says "You don't know there's baseball in heaven."

A couple weeks later one guy dies and goes to heaven, and he comes back with news for his friend. He says, "The good news is there's baseball in heaven. The bad news is, you're playing tomorrow."

— Emilio Rodriguez, customer, Sunoco gas station on Palm Beach Boulevard



UNDERCOVER HISTORIAN

Remembering Wes Downing, one of Naples' 'fabulous five' pioneers

BY LOIS BOLIN

Special to Florida Weekly

"They were in a sense pioneers, these year-round settlers who came to Naples in the early 1930s, '40s and '50s. They didn't fight savages, but they did fight mosquitoes, snakes and the wilderness beyond."

These pioneers, of which Doris Reynolds wrote in a January 1984 commemorative edition of the *Sun Times*, endured oppressive heat and bugs, few conveniences and seemingly little promise. At least that's how the frontier of Naples must have seemed to the average person back then. But these pioneers weren't average folk, and more specifically, the five who were honored in the *Sun Times* had a spirit and vision for Naples that was key to our community's development.

Those fabulous five were Roy Smith, Don Wynn, Mamie Took, Ad Miller and Wesley Girard Downing.

His future was Naples' future

"There is no future in real estate." These were the words from a Naples broker in 1952 to the now legendary Mr. Downing, who died last month at the age of 87, leaving a legacy of community service and a real estate company whose name is known throughout Southwest Florida.

It's funny that the comment was made to Mr. Downing just when the city of Naples was beginning its transformation as outlined in The Make Naples A Better Place to Live Plan.

Or is it?

Mr. Downing, who was involved in real estate in Cincinnati before moving to Naples, took the advice of the broker and bought into the Gardner Glass Company — for which, Mr. Downing noted, he was ill suited. "I was a real klutz. I couldn't work with my hands, and still have scars where I cut myself," he was quoted in Ms. Reynolds' article.

He was told that if he left the glass business, he would not make it in Naples for six months on his own, so he set out to prove his former partner wrong. He took his real estate exam and went to work as a salesman for the aforementioned pioneer, Mr. Smith.

Seven years later, Mr. Downing made Naples history by becoming the first Republican elected as a Collier County commissioner. Six years after that, in 1966, he ran for and was elected to the Naples City Council and in 1968 was elected mayor.

With the explosion of growth after Hurricane Donna in 1960, the energies of all city and county officials were taxed. They were not financially taxed, however, as much as the folks who had greatly funded The Naples Plan. It seemed that 20 percent of the city's



From a commemorative issue of the *Naples Sun Times*, Jan. 12, 1984, left to right Don Q. Wynn, Ad Miller, Mamie Tooke, Roy Smith and Wes Downing.

population was paying 80 percent of its taxes. Mayor Downing set out to equalize that burden.

Needless to say, that was not a popular decision. A rally cry was heard and a group formed to throw the mayor and city council out of office, but it soon died down. Mr. Downing noted in the article that this is when he learned that what the majority wanted was not always in the best interest of the community.

Learning from the past

After reading about Mr. Downing's legacy and the problems of back then, it is easy to track the character and identity issues that the city of Naples has con-

tended with since her birth.

The founding families, right up to The Make Naples A Better Place to Live Plan, had their vision of this charming community. Many of those who have come since have also had their vision, often forming two very distinct groups: those who were looking after the identity and character of the community in which they lived, and those who wanted another kind of Naples, one like the high-profile, high-density destinations on Florida's east coast and elsewhere around the country.

Historically, those looking after the city's character and identity, like Mr. Downing, never wanted the city to have an "East Coast" culture. They understood that what made Naples what it is today is still her greatest asset.

I guess in some way Mr. Downing's glass partner was right. Mr. Downing did not make it on his own; he made it with a little help from his friends, the good people of Naples — the place we're glad to say he called home for 57 years.

Thanks for the memories, Wes.

Those who wish may send remembrances in Mr. Downing's name to The Conservancy of Southwest Florida, 1450 Merrihue Drive, Naples, FL 34102. ■

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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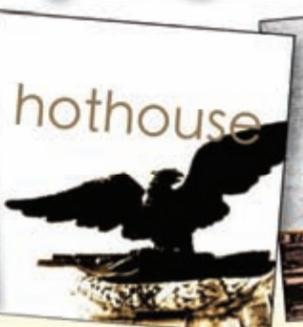
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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD
DISTRIBUTED BY UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Compelling explanations

► When motorist Timothy Pereira, 19, rammed Christine Speliotis' car head-on in Salem, Mass., in March, there was no doubt in police officers' minds what the cause was: Pereira was driving 85 mph in a 35 mph zone and had swerved into Speliotis' lane. However, in July, Brandon Pereira, 17, an injured passenger in his cousin's car, filed a lawsuit against Speliotis for negligence, claiming that if she had been quicker to get out of the way, the collision would not have occurred.

► A woman in Kansas City, Mo., told

police in June that the reason she had stabbed her sleepwalking 24-year-old boyfriend in the face was that she feared he would hurt her if she didn't wake him up. (She said the man had also just finished urinating in her closet.)

► In Britain's Chelmsford Crown Court in July, Sultan Al-Sayed, 40, was convicted of peeping under the next stall in a department-store changing room despite his claim that the only reason he placed his face on the floor was to relieve pain from a toothache. ■

Ironies

► When the tenant failed to pay \$87,000 in rent in April and May on two townhouses and a retail property at Trump Plaza in New York City, the landlord did what Donald Trump would surely do: It began eviction proceedings. However, the tenant in this case is Donald Trump's Trump Corp., which leases the space from the current landlord, the Trump Plaza Owners co-op. Said the co-op president: "If you don't pay the rent when Donald Trump is your landlord, he comes down on you like a hammer. Well,

lo and behold..."

► In July, Mexican authorities accused one of the country's newer drug cartels, La Familia, of murdering 12 federal agents following a 2007 debut in which it rolled five severed heads into a dance hall in a show of intimidation. According to an April Reuters report, captured documents indicate that La Familia gang members are strictly required to attend regular prayer meetings, to never drink alcohol or take drugs, and to attend classes in "ethics" and "personal improvement." ■

I want my rights

► Relatives of two British convicted murderers, claiming a breach of "privacy" under the European Convention on Human Rights, filed lawsuits recently against the Greater Manchester Police over a crime-prevention campaign. High-profile gangbangers Colin Joyce, 29, and Lee Amos, 32, had been sentenced to long prison terms, and the GMP, trying to turn youths away from gangs, created computer images on billboards of the two men as they might look when they are released, sometime after the year 2040. Their families were outraged. (GMP reported that gang-related shootings are down 92 percent since Joyce and Amos were caught.)

► Schoolteacher Charlene Schmitz, convicted in February 2008 of using electronic messaging to seduce a 14-year-old student in Leroy, Ala., was fired and is now serving a 10-year prison sentence. However, under Alabama law, she is still

entitled to draw her \$51,000 salary until all legal issues are concluded, and Ms. Schmitz is both appealing her conviction and suing the school board for firing her. Another aspect of state law requires the settlement of all criminal issues before the lawsuit can even be addressed. The school board, with an already limited budget, must thus pay Ms. Schmitz and her replacement during the process.

► A Canadian public employees' union local had been on strike in Toronto for weeks, causing an otherwise popular public park to fall into disuse because of high grass and lack of maintenance. Fed-up neighbors brought their own mowers to the park and cleaned it up, making it once again a valuable community resource for dog-walking, ball-playing and picnics. Said the local union's president, in July, of the neighbors' effort: "You could use the word 'scab.'" ■

Fetishes on parade

Christopher Bjerkness, 31, was arrested in Duluth, Minn., in July and charged with another episode of breaking into a gym facility and slashing numerous large rubber exercise balls. He had acknowledged a sexual urge to slash that type of ball following a conviction in 2006 for cutting

up 70 balls in three incidents at the University of Minnesota Duluth. This time, 40 balls were damaged at a St. Mary's/Duluth Clinic West building. Police were told by a psychologist last year, after Mr. Bjerkness abandoned court-ordered therapy, that he "continues to be a risk to society." ■

Least Competent Criminals

► Lonnie Meckwood, 29, and Phillip Weeks, 51, were arrested in Kirkwood, N.Y., in June after allegedly robbing the Quickway Convenience Store. Their getaway ended about a mile from the crime scene as their car ran out of gas, even though the Quickway is also a gas station.

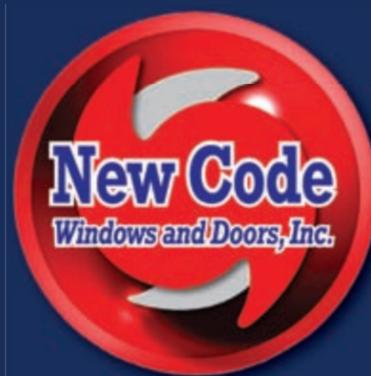
► Hatim Gulamhusein, 48, was arrest-

ed at Toronto International Airport in April, suspected of bringing 76 swallowed packets of cocaine into the country as a drug mule, despite a mighty effort to avoid being charged. Mr. Gulamhusein managed to control his bowels so well that it took three weeks for all the packets to pass. ■

Recurring themes

It should be well-known by now to News of the Weird readers that a DNA test disproving fatherhood will not necessarily relieve a man of child-support obligations. Frank Hatley's case is especially alarming. He was finally released in July in Cook County, Ga., but only after having spent 13 months in jail because he had missed a few payments for another man's child. Hatley had paid

conscientiously, albeit incompletely, from 1987-2000, out of meager wages, and continued (even during periods of unemployment and homelessness) for several years after he learned he was not the father. In 2001, a court absolved him of the duty to make future payments, but the state interpreted that ruling as not affecting the overdue amounts from the past, and in 2008 jailed him. ■



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PHIL

From page 1

arts community, not much unlike Myra when she started the Philharmonic Center for the Arts in the '80s... The gala will be a merging of kindred souls, passions and interests."

After the opening gala, the center of activity for the NIFF will be at the soon-to-open Silverspot luxury cinema at Mercato in North Naples. Screenings, discussion and other activities will take place through Sunday, Nov. 8.

The festival will screen full-length feature films, shorts and documentaries from around the world, with a special focus on Southwest Florida's filmmakers.

NIFF is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to nurture and support a diverse artistic experience with a creative, cutting-edge festival that showcases the work of independent filmmakers. NIFF intends to benefit the community at large by contributing to film education in Collier and Lee county schools and by collaborating with local artists and arts organizations to enrich the collaborative artistic culture.

All local filmmakers are encouraged to submit their films for consideration to be screened during the November festival. Deadline for entries is Tuesday, Sept. 8. For more information, visit www.naplesfilmfest.com.

For several weeks last spring and over the summer, Mr. Raddatz and festival board members hosted Thursday-night screenings at Six Degrees Exhibitions at Tin City. Each week, the public was invited to view three or four films under consideration for the festival. Lively discussions followed each showing, and



VANESSA ROGERS / COURTESY PHOTO

Naples International Film Festival founders Daniel Linehan, Eric Raddatz and Rowan Samuel.

informal votes were taken as to whether the films should be included in the festival.

"Our Thursday-night screenings were my favorite thing I've organized in town," Mr. Raddatz says. "People came from out of the woodwork to share ideas and insights that were beyond anything I could have imagined. It proved we have strong cultural and intellectual support for art in film here."

"If you love raw independent film, you will love this festival," he adds. "Sure, you can see the blockbusters anywhere, but enjoying a collection of movies that go directly from the writer/producer to a finished film without having to filter through big corporations and stuffy executives can be truly satisfying."

Tickets to the opening-night gala at the Phil are \$150 for VIP admission and \$29 for general admission. For more information, call 775-FILM (3456). ■

Miami mayor will address AIA FlaSW dinner

American Institute of Architects Florida Southwest chapter will welcome Miami Mayor Manny Diaz as keynote speaker at its annual dinner Saturday, Sept. 12, at the International Design Center in Estero. Elected officials, design, construction and real estate professionals as well as the public are invited.

Mr. Diaz received the American Architectural Foundation's 2009 Keystone Award in recognition of his leadership in demonstrating the influence of architecture and design to improve lives and transform communities. He is only the third politician to be honored in the history of the award.

The AAF cited the mayor's commitment to sustainable design and smart growth principles for Miami and for Miami 21, a revolutionary land-use and zoning master plan that incorporates transit-oriented development, increased open spaces and smart growth.

Guided by principles of conservancy and sustainability, Mr. Diaz has launched an expansive effort to "green" the city, erasing decades of environmental neglect.

if you go

- >> **What:** Miami Mayor Manny Diaz, keynote speaker at the AIA FlaSW annual dinner
- >> **When:** 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12
- >> **Where:** The International Design Center, Estero
- >> **Tickets:** \$50-\$60
- >> **Information & registration:** www.aiaflasw.org

He has also promoted green building throughout the city and has committed to converting the city fleet to hybrid or other fuel-efficient vehicles by 2012.

His efforts have earned him recognition by Vanity Fair Magazine as one of North America's leading environmentally conscious mayors. In 2008 he was named one of America's Best Leaders by the U.S. News Media Group in association with the Center for Public Leadership at Harvard Kennedy School.

AIA FlaSW chapter serves more than 200 members in Collier, Lee, Charlotte, Glades and Hendry counties. For more information, visit www.aiaflasw.org. ■

Village Day includes school supplies for Youth Haven

Village Day at The Village on Venetian Bay from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 20, will give kids and parents one last blast of summer before the new school year begins.

Representatives from Youth Haven, Collier County's only emergency shelter for abused, abandoned and neglected children, will collect school supplies for residents and clients of its family support services programs. Donations of backpacks, lunch boxes, colored pencils, crayons, glue sticks, pens and pencils, erasers,

pencil sharpeners, markers, composition notebooks, rulers and binders will be welcome from 2-4 p.m. near the fountain on the north side of the Village.

In addition to live entertainment and fun in and around the center, merchants in the Village will have end-of-summer sales and special offers throughout the day.

Venetian Day on the 20th of every month through October celebrates more than 20 years of art and enterprise at the Village's 50 shops and eateries. ■

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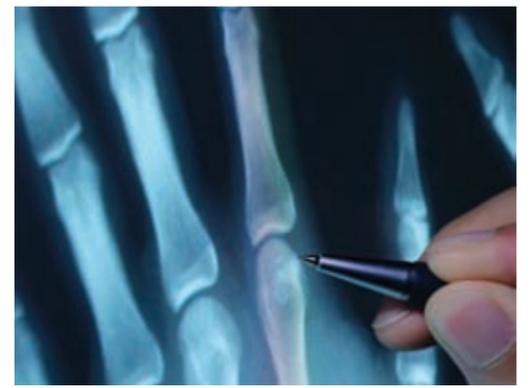
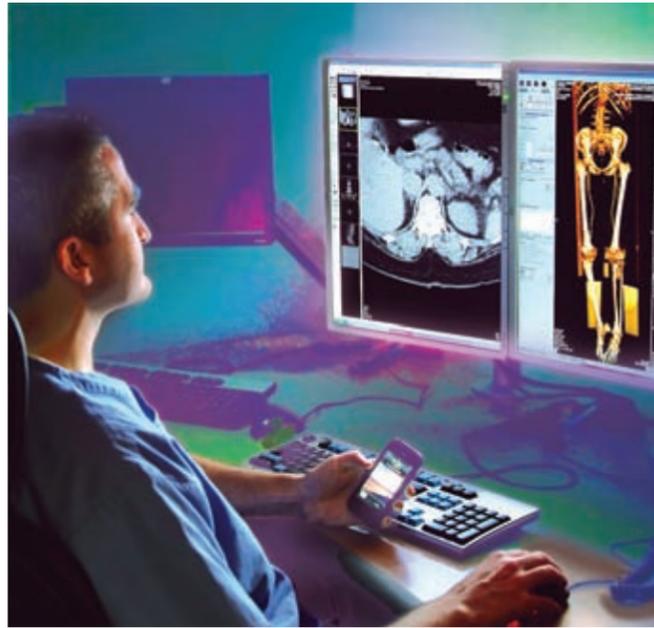
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HEALTHY LIVING

Back to school: What parents need to know about swine flu

BY DANA THIMONS
Special To Florida Weekly

We're only days away from buses, backpacks and the first days of school. And that means back to sharing germs, especially as the H1N1 influenza virus, commonly referred to as swine flu. The virus has remained active in Southwest Florida. This has led many health experts to speculate that there will be large numbers of local residents affected during our normal "flu season" later this year.

"It's important that neither the children nor the parents should be particularly frightened or think that having swine flu means something bad will happen to them," says Nancy Witham, M.D., a pediatrician with Lee Physician Group. "It's key to know the factual information and not worry about the flu being worse than reality. When most people get swine flu, they don't typically experience the same thing as the most severe cases which are shown on the news." Dr. Witham also says that medications can be effective against swine flu.

Dr. Witham suggests that parents and caregivers visit the American Academy of Pediatrics Web site, www.aap.org, to learn more about H1N1 and for tips on talking to your children about staying healthy this flu season.

Getting your child vaccinated

Several strategies are known to help prevent the spread of influenza, including widespread vaccination, frequent hand hygiene, coughing into our sleeves and avoiding crowded areas when possible. "Unfortunately, the novel H1N1 vaccine may not be available until October or later," says Stephen Streed, system director of infection control for Lee Memorial Health System. "We need to be especially diligent with the other prevention strategies to help slow this disease. When the vaccine does become available, everybody should take the vaccine according to the government recommendations."

Many parents have already asked

about the vaccine.

"All school children are recommended to get the seasonal flu vaccine anyway, so it's a good idea to call your child's doctor around Labor Day for more information," Dr. Witham says. "The office may be able to give you more information about the swine flu vaccine at this time."

Preventing the spread of germs

The symptoms and health effects of swine flu appear to mirror seasonal influenza, and there are some precautionary steps parents can teach their children:

- Educate your children about hand hygiene and practice good hand washing by using soap and lathering for at least 15 seconds, or using a hand sanitizing gel or spray and following the manufacturer's instructions

- Children should wash their hands before and after lunch or snack time with soap and water or alcohol-based hand cleaners.

- Encourage children to cough into a tissue or sleeve.

- Avoid large crowds and enclosed spaces when possible.

"We continue to recommend the same precautions to the public that we always recommend during the flu season: that everyone should wash their hands frequently, stay home from work or school if they feel ill, and cover their mouths with a tissue or their sleeve if they are coughing," said Dr. Judith Hartner, director of the Lee County Health Department.

Parents should be thinking about



these precautionary steps as normal hygiene and good basic health care, says Dr. Witham.

"As a health care provider, I think it's important that parents shouldn't think what they're doing is special or unique to swine flu. These steps will prevent other infections, such as the regular flu, strep throat and other viruses that may arise."

Call the doctor if your child displays symptoms

If you or a family member are exhibiting flu-like symptoms — fever, cough, headache or fatigue — then you should seek medical attention. The first step should be to call your doctor, Dr. Witham says.

"If you are exhibiting these symptoms and choose to seek medical attention or go out in public, we recommend that you wear a mask and inform the medical staff immediately that you believe you may have the flu," Mr. Streed says.

It is also recommended that children stay home from school until they are well enough to return.

Just because it's back-to-school, doesn't mean it's also "back-to-germs" for your children. Taking proper precautions, plus excellent hand hygiene, may just help your family beat the flu season this year. ■

More info

Where to find more information about the H1N1 virus:

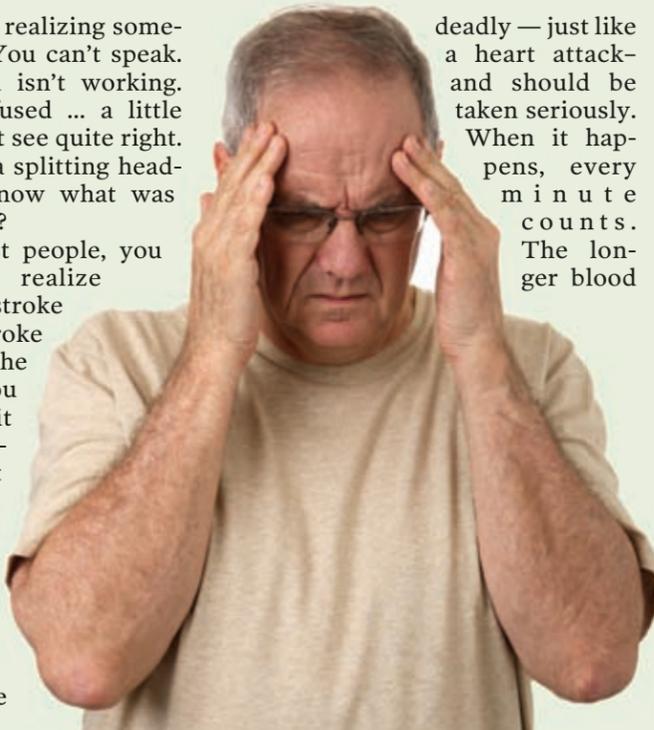
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Web site: www.cdc.gov
- American Academy of Pediatrics Web site:
www.aap.org
- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
Flu Web site: www.flu.gov
- Call the Lee County Health Department
information line at **461-6180**

Stroke: Know the signs, act in time

Imagine suddenly realizing something is wrong. You can't speak. Your right hand isn't working. You're a little confused ... a little dizzy ... and you can't see quite right. You suddenly have a splitting headache. Would you know what was wrong or what to do?

If you're like most people, you probably wouldn't realize you are having a stroke — that's because stroke injures the brain. The people around you might not know it either, and it's possible you may not be able to dial 911 on your own. That's why it's vital for everyone to know the signs of stroke and how to seek treatment quickly.

A stroke can be



deadly — just like a heart attack — and should be taken seriously. When it happens, every minute counts. The longer blood

flow is cut off to the brain, the greater the damage. According to the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, more than 700,000 Americans experience a stroke each year, and it is the third leading cause of death.

For the record, the symptoms of a stroke are:

- Sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm, or leg;
- Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding speech;
- Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes;
- Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination;
- Sudden severe headache with no known cause.

The likelihood you'll have a stroke depends on your age and race. Nearly three-quarters of all strokes occur in people over the age of 65, and the risk of having a stroke more

than doubles each decade after the age of 55. For African Americans, stroke is more common and more deadly than for any other racial group in the United States.

On average, a stroke takes the life of a loved one every three minutes, with seniors most vulnerable. By recognizing symptoms and getting a stroke patient to an expert stroke team quickly, you not only improve the chances of surviving the brain attack but also improve the quality of life after stroke.

Speak to your physician about the signs of stroke and if you could possibly be at risk for one. Your physician can perform a physical examination to assure that you are in good health and are not at a higher risk for stroke.

Make sure you know the symptoms of a stroke ... it just may save your life or the life of a loved one. ■

Give blood before the Labor Day holiday

The Community Blood Center, Cruise Naples, Pincher's Crab Shack and Lovers Key Resort are teaming up to "Tailgate for Life in Paradise." The blood drive will take place from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, Aug. 25-26, at Mission Square Plaza on Pine Ridge Road.

Limited local blood supplies, coupled with hurricane season and the upcoming Labor Day holiday weekend, have

blood center officials hoping to boost their reserves. All donors will receive a complimentary "Cruise-and-Crab" package with a gift certificate for a day or sunset cruise aboard the Double Sunshine and an entrée at Pincher's. They will be entered into drawings for a 15-person Cruise Naples and Lovers Key Resort Staycation packages.

For more information, call 436-5455 or visit www.givebloodcbc.org. ■

Grant will help center treat Collier children who are victims of abuse

The Children's Advocacy Center of Collier County has received a \$6,000 grant from the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida. The grant is designated for therapeutic games, toys, furniture for a counseling room and testing materials for the center's Sexual Abuse Treatment Program.

The funding also addresses critical needs due to the center's number of new referrals.

The center is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping children who have been abused or neglected. When families are in crisis, the CAC provides a compassionate and safe place to turn.

In the 2008-2009 fiscal year, the CAC saw nearly 2,000 new referrals to its various programs. Through collaborative partnerships with Catholic Charities of Collier County and the Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, the center has been able to meet the ever-increasing need for services. For more information, call 263-8383 or visit www.CACcollier.org. ■

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Staff goes green at Naples Zoo

Bikes replace golf carts for on-the-job transportation

Oftentimes the reason why you do something is simply because it's always been done that way. Until recently, one of those traditions at Naples Zoo was keepers using golf carts to transport tools and animal diets. Today, however, keepers as well as numerous outside staff move throughout the 43-acre zoo on bicycles. The change benefits cardiovascular health, the environment and even the budget.

The impetus for change began when Zoo Director David Tetzlaff brought in his bicycle from



Zookeeper Bre Bain rides her work bike pulling a custom-built trailer.

COURTESY PHOTO

home to be able to get around his workplace more rapidly, which prompted other staff to think along the same lines.

As part of the Zoo's conservation efforts, switching to bicycles made perfect sense — but keepers transport large quantities of food for the Zoo's animals that wouldn't fit in a standard bicycle basket. So Director of Facilities Ralph Williams and the maintenance staff built custom trailers to meet the needs of the Zoo's animal care staff.

The changeover from golf carts to bicycles will save many hours of labor each year, enabling the Zoo's maintenance staff to focus on other projects

that benefit animals, staff and guests.

For zookeeper Bre Bain, it's also a win-win. "It's really good exercise," she says. "I also like that it sets an example for others to remind them that bicycles are a great way to get around. Beyond

that, it's also a lot easier for us to move through the Zoo on a bike than with a big golf cart."

In addition to being good for staff productivity and the environment, it's good for the budget. Even with initial start-up costs, the Zoo could save more than 40 percent in the first year vs. annual golf cart upkeep and replacements. Year two will likely generate more than a 90 percent savings.

The bicycles came from Naples Cyclery in The Pavilion on Vanderbilt Beach Road, which has participated in the Zoo's annual Earth Day celebration for the past two years. ■

Don't be shy; head to Fred's for wolf sanctuary benefit

Fred's Diner will host a fun fundraiser to benefit Shy Wolf Sanctuary and Kowiachobee Animal Preserve from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 22. The restaurant will serve a kid-friendly lunch, followed by ice cream from P.J. Skinny's.

Guests will meet Promise, the Shy Wolf ambassador, and will learn about the sanctuary and the animal preserve from representatives of each organization. McGruff the Crime Prevention Dog will also be on hand.

Activities will include games, coloring and a sidewalk chalk drawing contest. A hoop dance will be performed by Kismet, and kids will receive their own hula-hoops. Goody bags for everyone will have gift certificates from Learning Express.

Cost is \$9.95 for kids; adults will be able to partake of a beverage and special appetizers for \$5.

Fred's Diner is at 2700 Immokalee Road. For more information, call 431-7928. ■



Kevin Pearson, a Shy Wolf volunteer, with Koda, left, and Mia

COURTESY PHOTOS



Christene Johnson, Shy Wolf volunteer and board member, with Promise

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Anoles can change colors, but they're no chameleons

BY LEE BELANGER
Special to Florida Weekly

Remember mood rings? When you were angry, the stone turned grey or brown; when you were happy, it turned violet. The clever green anole (*Anolis carolinensis*) can also change color, turning from bright green to brown, tan or gray, depending on temperature, habitat, mood or light.

Against light backgrounds or in temperatures over 70 degrees, it's usually green. Against a dark background or at lower temperatures, it turns brown.

Predators have difficulty seeing this animal because of this natural camouflage. Males also turn green when fighting for a female or territory. The loser then turns brown. (Perhaps Kermit the Frog should be happy being green!)

Green anole males are about 8 inches long, and females slightly shorter. Only the females have a white stripe down their back. Both males and females sport a showy pink or cream-colored skin flap under their chin. The animal inflates this dewlap during breeding and territorial displays.

Both sexes also do "push-ups" to appear larger when threatened. You may unknowingly cause this display as you enter an anole's territory. When I inadvertently do this, I feel I should apologize for disturbing this tiny but feisty creature.

Green anoles live throughout Florida

and range as far north as Tennessee, Arkansas and North Carolina.

The slightly larger brown anole (*Anolis sagrei sagrei*) doesn't like the cold, but has migrated north into most parts of Florida. This non-native anole originated in Cuba. The eggs likely arrived in the United States on imported tropical landscape plants. Brown anoles live on the ground and the lower parts of trees, competing with green anoles. Where both populations exist, the smaller green anole is forced to higher tree branches.

Green anoles lay one to two white eggs every two weeks in tree leaf litter. The hatchlings must find their own tree, usually by climbing to the ground first. But once they're on the ground, they're often eaten by brown anoles. As a result, the green anole is declining in areas where both species exist.

Domestic cats are another threat to the anoles, as are people who catch them for pets. Neither brown nor green anoles adapt well to handling.

The brown anole can be gray, brown or speckled but never green. These males turn black during territorial displays. Their dewlaps are red to orange with a yellow border.

All anoles have padded toes with suction cups for gripping, and like all lizards,



A green anole inflates its dewlap

they also have scales. Unlike snakes, they shed their skin in flakes and then eat the pieces. This unique recycling system prevents them from losing essential minerals. They also eat insects, spiders and flies during the day. Dewdrops provide much of their water needs.

Anoles are sometimes mistakenly called chameleons. True chameleons are not related to anoles and do not live in North America. They are larger animals that have impressive collars and are much better at changing colors than anoles.

Whether it's the crafty green anole or a peeling gumbo limbo tree that excites you, get out into Florida's great out-

doors and explore. ■

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

Take a hike or grab a paddle (and bring bug spray)

Although guided canoe tours and hikes have ended for the summer, there's much to discover on your own at Collier-Seminole State Park:

>>**Rent a canoe** - Paddle down the Blackwater River through a mangrove forest toward the Gulf of Mexico. Enjoy birding, fishing (salt water license required) or just a relaxing paddle in this outdoor wonderland. Rentals available from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily.

>>**Hike 11 miles of trails** - Experience pine flatwoods, cypress areas and rare royal palm hammocks. One of three trails is interpretative, another allows for off-road biking, and a third has a remote campsite. Be sure to stop to register at the ranger station for the two longer trails and call ahead to reserve the campsite. Trails are open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

The park also offers picnicking, birding, fishing, camping, a boat ramp and a chance to see the historic "walking dredge" that was used to build the Tamiami Trail.

The entrance to Collier-Seminole State Park is at 20200 U.S. 41 East, eight miles east of Highway 951. Park entrance fee is \$4 for up to eight people in a car; there is an additional fee for camping.

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PET TALES

Flea-free felines

Use special care when choosing and using flea products on cats

BY DR. MARTY BECKER & CHRISTIE KEITH
Universal Press Syndicate

Not reading directions may be a point of pride for many people, but when it comes to flea products, it's an attitude that can kill a cat.

"Pet owners need to read and follow the labels on flea and tick products, and to never use dog products on cats," said Dr. Steven Hansen, a veterinary toxicologist at the ASPCA's Animal Poison Control Center (www.asPCA.org/apcc). "Never."

Hansen's warning is aimed at the class of products known as "spot-ons," liquid insecticides that are applied directly to the skin. While they're normally safe and effective when used as directed, products intended only for use in dogs can cause serious illness or death in cats.

"Cats are very sensitive to a class of insecticides known as pyrethroids," said Hansen. "That includes permethrin, which is a common ingredient in many flea and tick products made for dogs. And in dogs, it has a good record for being safe and effective. But put these products on cats, and it can be very bad, even lethal."

That doesn't stop people from using them, and then rushing their pets to the

veterinarian's when the cat gets sick. Most cats will recover if emergency veterinary treatment is sought immediately, but keeping a cat from the pet ER in the first place is a much better plan. Only around 2 percent of cats treated with feline-approved products according to label directions have an adverse reaction, but that number jumps to 20 percent when instructions aren't followed.

And it's not as if the labels aren't clear. "I've met with the EPA and the companies, and we've worked hard to come up with creative ways to make sure people don't miss the message," said Hansen. "The product labels say, 'Do not use on cats.' Some of them even have a cat inside a big red circle with a slash."

"The companies struggle with this, the EPA struggles with it, and we at the Animal Poison Control Center struggle with it. We try to find ways to make it so people can't make mistakes, and they still make mistakes."

Part of the problem is that many people assume that risks are the same in animals of the same size, even if they're different species.

"If you have a 20-pound dog and a 15-pound cat, and you see three tubes in the container, it's easy to say, 'Why not?'"



Many of the problems with flea-control products could be prevented by following label directions and by not using dog products on cats.

said Hansen. "But with cats, the 'why not' is that it can kill them. It's not a risk you want to take."

Protecting your cat from pyrethroid toxicity is easy. Never use a flea preventive on your cat unless it's labeled for use in cats. Read and follow all label directions carefully, especially when it comes to size.

"Cats come in sizes from 3 pounds to 22 pounds," said Dr. Hansen. "Make sure you know your cat's weight, and choose the right dosage for your cat's size."

Make sure you know to the nearest pound by weighing a cat carrier or cardboard box on a bathroom or shipping scale, putting the cat in the holder, reweighing and then subtracting the difference. Weights change, so make sure you don't rely on what your cat weighed the last time he visited the veterinarian.

And make sure his next trip isn't because you didn't read the label. ■

Pets of the Week



>>Dotty is a 1-year-old Dalmatian mix. She's very sweet and gentle, and would love nothing more than to curl up on the couch with you in her new home.



>>Smiley is a 1-year-old red boxer mix who loves water. She's a playful, fun-loving girl who wants an owner who loves the water, too.



>>Boots is a 2-year-old grey and white tiger cat who loves to play hide-and-seek.

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

Wanderlust



Boundless experiences await the summer traveler. Bound for climes exotic, we go. In and out of wonders we wander, lusting for new sight and sound and taste and smell. It's touch and go, and clearly touched we are by the lust of nomadic necessity. We traipse, meander, stray and roam. We are like plants putting out tendrils that pull us beyond ourselves. Just like the wandering Baudelaire albatross, we spread vast wings that grounded merely hamper. Such is our summer romance.

But wandering, lonely as a cloud, I might find myself in Britt, Iowa. There I might encounter full time wanderers.

In that town, in August every year since 1900, there meets the National Hobo Convention. Some in rags, some in tags, and some in velvet gowns: they come. Covered with the moon they are, asleeping in the open, they bring a language and symbols and heritage uniquely theirs. Among the ranks of hobos are some of our greatest verbal artists: John Steinbeck, George Orwell, Eugene O'Neill, Jack Kerouac, Jack London, Jack Black. And hobos have composed their own ethical code. The first rule is to decide one's own life, not allowing

another to rule over you. Other rules call for respect of nature, law, and all others, particularly children and the vulnerable. There is also injunction to be clean, to help others, and to work well, especially at jobs that no one else wants.

H.L. Mencken draws lines of distinction. He defines hobos as wandering workers, different from tramps who wander, but work only when forced to do so, and from bums, who do no work and do not travel.

Is home really where the heart is? And what is home and where is hearth? And what is the heart of the matter?

Do we go abroad, shaking the dust from our feet, taking with us no extra cloak? Is this the sacred heart?

Are we peripatetic philosophers, roaming from particulars to essences? Is this the work?

Perhaps we hobos are, in the midst of it all, poete maudit, accursed poets with noses pressed against pane glass too thick and too expensive for penetration.

We are on earth, among the scornful, albatross exiles hampered in grounded walk by too giant wings. Like heroes on a journey we are unbounded out of common appearances and conceptions.

We are on a walkabout.

We have gone utterly beyond.

This we sing, our pirate ditties, chantings that sound simultaneously, from our one throat, an impossible harmony. The winds lift us, continually depositing us in

technicolor lands on the other side of non-existent rainbows.

So wonderful it all is. But then, the Sartrean nausea beckons.

What is more emetic? Is it the vertiginous boundless, the kaleidoscopic changings of our hobo meander?

Or do we vomit more in the face of our fossilized capture by time and space and expectation and prescription?

There are more than 100 million homeless worldwide. The National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty reports a growing trend in American cities to criminalize homelessness by making it illegal to sleep, eat or sit in public places.

And all the while, even in our own safe homes, we still struggle to find a balance between the seas of entrapment and vertigo, of fossilization and evaporation. Annihilation comes in matching pairs of smothering and abandonment.

In our hobo hearts we all work to be, to be freely comfortable, neither toiling nor spinning, lilies of fields, dancing daffodils, rooted and rootless. This is our true lust: to defy both existence and non-existence.

This homeboy homebody, close to home, at home, brings it home this way. On the road there must be syzygy, the sacred meeting, the merger. There must be hieros gamos. There must be apotheosis.

In the ever-changing waves of the pirate sea this is the home of homeless-



ness beyond nausea.

With you at heart I wander in the wonder of lust that is both unsatiable and fully satisfying. The farthest shore is home here and now. Everywhere I look you kiss my face. ■

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

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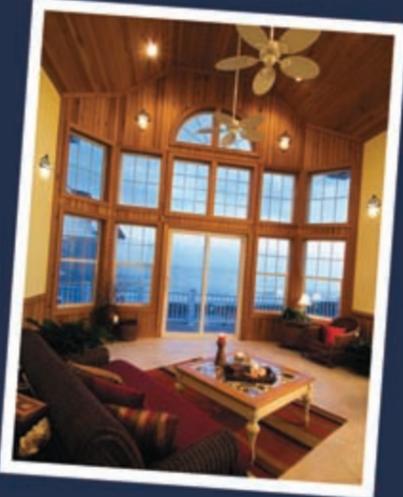
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BUSINESS & REAL ESTATE

WEEK OF AUGUST 20-26, 2009

A GUIDE TO THE NAPLES BUSINESS INDUSTRY

"It's gone down the toilet." — repo man William Glover



EVAN WILLIAMS/ FLORIDA WEEKLY

Repo man William Glover inspects a repossessed automobile at his lot in Fort Myers. Repossessions are down this year from a record in 2008.

Recession trickles down to repo man

BY EVAN WILLIAMS
ewilliams@floridaweekly.com

Repo men experienced their own bubble in 2008 — in some cases doubling the number of cars they took back for car lots, banks or large corporations that financed them — as more people failed to meet payment deadlines.

Now, that pace appears to be slowing to pre-recession days and for others coming to a dead halt. In Southwest Florida, where repo man William Glover has since 1997 slipped vehicles right out of debtors' driveways, in the rain, at night, from work-place parking lots or wherever he can track them down, business is off 80 percent from last year.

"It's gone down the toilet," he said.

In 2007, he was repossessing 50 cars per week on average; in 2008, 100 cars per week. He's down to about 20 per week this summer. But those numbers

are difficult to confirm in an "industry that is largely unregulated," according to a report last year in *USA Today*. Repo men in Southwest Florida must be licensed by the Florida Department of Agriculture. But law enforcement agencies in Lee, Collier and Charlotte counties say they don't keep complete lists of repossessions.

Financing companies also keep a lid on what they say about repossessions. Giants like GMAC financial services and Ford Motor Credit claim they used repo men's services about the same this year, last year, and for many years before that. According to their numbers, about 2.5 to 3.5 percent of the vehicles they finance are repossessed.

"Historically, we have not provided any information on local credit performance," was an e-mailed response from Fort Motor Credit.

And five repossession agencies last

week in Southwest Florida were unwilling to discuss their business with a reporter. Some said it would compromise the expensive insurance policies they must hold in a high-risk business.

Mr. Glover, who has before allowed newspaper and television reporters to ride along with him, was the sole exception to that rule in spite of his own policy which insures the cars he repossesses and his lot for \$3 million. He did decline to reveal the names of finance companies that hire him.

A 49-year-old ex-U.S. Army helicopter pilot with the looks of a bedraggled Santa Claus, it usually takes Mr. Glover and a helper a grand total of 10 seconds to hook a car up to an unmarked tow truck and be gone. In some cases, he can just get in and drive away. That's because Mr. Glover's firm, the Richardson

SEE REPO, B8 ►

WEEK at-a-glance



Ladies who lunch

Women's Networking of Collier County, and more from the local business scene. **B8 & 9**



Buy the book

Stuart Unsworth's customers do just that at Sunshine Booksellers on Marco Island. **B2**



Cottages coming

Construction begins on two new homes in Miromar Lakes. **B10**

Chamber's new membership numbers could be a good sign for all

POWER POINTS

AlysiaSHIVERS
ashivers@floridaweekly.com



You might have to wade through a lot of negative press, but there are nuggets of positive news to be found these days. For instance, the Naples Greater Chamber of Commerce reports that 30 new members joined in July, up from 20 who

joined in June, and way up from the first five months of 2009 and even the last quarter of 2008, when new member levels sunk to an all-time low.

Don Neer, who heads up the chamber's new member services and retention of current members, is "tinkled pink" to see this influx. He adds the bulk — about 40 percent — of those joining are busi-



NEER

nesses that have been here for some time and are just now considering the Chamber as a way to help grow their operations; the remainder are a mix of brand new businesses coming to the area and start-ups by residents who are newly unemployed.

"It's such a mixed bag now," Mr. Neer says, noting that for years new members were typically just new businesses coming to Naples.

He gets leads from the Collier County Tax Collector's office, which sends him a list each month of all the new business

licenses. There are hundreds of new businesses on the list every month, he says.

As the largest in Southwest Florida with approximately 2,100 members now, the Naples chamber offers great exposure and lots of networking events for a nominal fee. "They are seeing us as a modest expense for a lot of value," he says.

Members receive a free directory listing on the chamber Web site, which

SEE POWER POINTS, B7 ►

BUSINESS PROFILE

Independent bookseller crafts a success story on Marco Island

BY PHILIP K. JASON
Special to Florida Weekly

In 1993, the American Booksellers Association roster included 4,700 independent bookshops. By April 2009, the number was down to 1,400.

Scores of smaller cities and towns no longer have independent booksellers. Many long-lived bookstores in major cities now exist only in memory: The Couth Buzzard in Seattle, Gotham Book Mart in Manhattan and Cody's in Berkeley, Calif., all have closed, as has Warenbrock's, a San Diego institution for more than 70 years.

Earlier this year, Mina Hemingway's Florida Bookstore, the last of its kind in Naples (handling both new and used books), vanished. Wickham Books South, which deals exclusively in used books, maintains a presence in the Treasure Island antique mall, but is primarily an Internet business. Remainder shops in outlet malls don't count.

Stuart Unsworth knows the downward trend is deep and ongoing. He and his wife, Theresa, own and operate two branches of Sunshine Booksellers on Marco Island. After working in London's financial district for more than 20 years, the Unsworths needed a change. They had vacationed in the Naples area for many years and came back to buy the bookstores in January 2006.

Given the hard times facing the book industry, and especially independent booksellers, the Unsworths' effort may seem quixotic. Yet, there they are, per-

haps the last independent bookseller standing in Collier County, looking for ways to survive and to grow.

Each branch of Sunshine Booksellers provides products and services beyond just books. The northerly store, at 1000 N. Collier Blvd., includes a FedEx packaging and shipping service. The larger store, at 677 S. Collier Blvd., houses a branch U.S. Post Office. Both stores mix bestsellers, Florida-focused volumes, cookbooks, and children's books along with an assortment of general interest titles.

"Our clientele is generally highly educated," Mr. Unsworth says. Customers who are vacationing, he adds, "generally prefer Florida books, and both fiction and nonfiction beach reads."

The Sunshine stores also carry inexpensive gift items and, indeed, whatever can bring additional income: Marco-specific souvenirs, designs featuring shells and palm trees, and goods associated with beach going.

The Unsworths enjoy developing personal relationships with their customers, to whom they gladly offer expertly tailored advice about books, gifts and enjoying Marco Island. As independent, versatile, hands-on owners, they have learned to be good listeners. "Our buying is not driven by a corporate office, so we can buy what we know our customers actually want," Mr. Unsworth explains.

Booksellers generally purchase titles from book distributors, but Mr. Unsworth prefers to buy directly from



PHIL JASON / FLORIDA WEEKLY
Stuart Unsworth

publishers. "Publishers offer better terms, and we benefit in other ways from such a direct business relationship," he says. He also sees his decision as part of an industry trend.

The Unsworths are pleased that their south branch is in the shadow of a new luxury timeshare, Crystal Shores by Marriot. Anticipating that the turnover of short-term vacationers will bring additional business, they are planning

to add food and beverage service at that location.

They also know that book signings are an important part of bookstore culture. When they can meet the author, hear a presentation about the book, and get the book autographed, people tend to buy.

In the past, Sunshine Booksellers has hosted signings with regional authors including Kristy Kiernan, Sara Williams, Karna Small Bodman and Marco resident Tom Williams. They did an off-site signing for Karen Harper, and another is coming up for Lisa Unger. Best-selling author Sue Monk Kidd is coming in February for a book signing and discussion.

Not only do the Unsworths delight in recommending titles and helping to promote local authors, but they also delight in reading.

"We both have a passion for reading books," says Stuart, adding Theresa likes autobiographies and is reading "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo." He enjoys "political thrillers, detective novels, self-help books, New Age and alternative therapies" and is about to finish David Baldacci's "First Family."

What makes Mr. Unsworth happy? When new customers come in to Sunshine Booksellers who have been recommended by regular, local customers and say, "We were told to avoid such-and-such and to visit the Unsworths' stores."

And what makes him mad? "Having someone drop in to ask directions to the nearest Barnes & Noble." ■



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Is this a possible conversation between an investment advisor and a client?

Advisor: "Your portfolio did really, really well."

Client: "So I made a lot of money?"

Advisor: "Well, not exactly. Actually, you lost money but your relative performance was great!"

To most, this would be double-talk but, in the world of investments, it is quite legitimate and accurate. The investor is talking in absolute terms while the advisor is speaking in relative terms.

Most investors understand what investment performance means: how well your portfolio performed. What most investors do not understand is what is meant by the terms "relative performance" versus "absolute performance" or how it applies to them and to their portfolios or mutual fund holdings.

Starting at square one, every investment or mutual fund manager (and everyone managing their own account) identifies a goal. This is done before anything else... or at least should be done. You don't get into a car and just start driving; you get into a car with a destination and a route to get there — a game plan.

In investing, there are myriad game plans but there are two that dominate.

The first, and most common, is to target specific returns (capital gain or income) of "x" dollars per year or "x" percentage return per year. It is an absolute goal. Because the goal is specific in dollar or percentage terms, results are judged based on that criteria and not whether the portfolio outperformed market averages or a neighbor's investment results. Much of middle America and most retirees focus on absolute results because they are budget sensitive; they need cash each month or each quarter to cover their expenses.

In the world of "absolutes," the asset most often chosen to meet goals is a fixed income instrument ranging from risk-free U.S. Treasuries to minimal risk (bank CDs) to guaranteed interest rate annuities. A goal of absolute performance can be set with equities but, given historical volatility and most recent extreme volatility, equities are less frequently chosen. And if chosen, equities are managed in such a way that there are sales when upside (profit) targets are met and are sales if downside (loss) thresholds are crossed.

Simply put, Joe and Sue have \$500,000 in assets to invest. They need a \$35,000 increase in value (whether gain or income) from these assets. Since they absolutely need this income, they structure their portfolio so that they have the bulk in bonds and CDs and a portion in equities, invested in dividend paying stocks. Now, the portfolio may not ultimately achieve their goals, but they constructed it with specific profits/income in mind.

The second game plan is to outperform various investment benchmarks. It is a relative goal. In the world of relative performance (and by the way, this is by and large the mind set of most mutual fund managers), specific increases in value/dollar amounts are not targeted. Surprising to some but true. The goal is to outperform the relevant benchmark.

For instance, a manager of a mutual fund consisting of large caps stocks (stocks of companies that are very, very big) has a goal to outperform the S&P 500. The manager is not concerned with performance relative to small cap stock indices or foreign stocks. The fund is sold on the basis, "If you want to invest in large caps, look at our fund as an alternative to an S&P index."

Now, no one is supposed to be buying investments based on historical performance; the past is not an indication of future results. But the truth is that is exactly what people consider most important. Investors want to know how well a manager did in the past compared to just buying an index. People seek performance better than the index. Why? Because, if the index does better, then they will just buy the index and not sort through all different types of funds and managers.

In the world of relatives, a manager can claim great performance and still have lost money. How? For instance, if the market or benchmark index drops 25 percent but your fund has dropped only 10 percent, well, by-gosh-by-golly, the fund has hugely outperformed. So it

is really not financial double-talk when you are told you did really, really well in your portfolio, but, alas, you lost money. For the absolute return investor needing, for instance, a 7 percent return, this relative outperformance is of no comfort; there was a loss. In a different market environment, the same investor might be exceedingly happy with a 12 percent return even though the market's return was 25 percent.

Can you combine the two and get a "combo deal?" Sure, there are many ways to accomplish such. One way is to create a portfolio of stocks that you expect to outperform, collect their dividends and sell call options against the stock. Named a "covered call." You are covered in that you own the stock should the stock be "called away" as opposed to a "naked call" in which you do not own the underlying stock. And this is worthy of an article in and of itself.

So, next time your friends, spouses, colleagues tell you how well they are doing in their investments, just ask them what was their absolute return, what was their benchmark and how well did they performed relative to their benchmark. Suddenly you will sound like an investment guru. ■

— Jeannette Rohn Showalter is a Southwest Florida-based chartered financial analyst, considered to be the highest designation for investment professionals. She can be reached at jshowaltercfa@yahoo.com.

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ON THE MOVE

Banking



AMARIS

Carlos Amaris has been named vice president, wealth management advisor, in the investment advisor division of Fifth Third Bank-South Florida. Mr. Amaris has more than 22 years of financial management and banking experience. He most recently provided financial solutions for high net worth families across the nation for a global wealth management institution.



SCUDERI

Stephanie Scuderi has been named vice president/director of sales for the Florida region of Centennial Bank. She joined the Marathon, Fla.-based bank two years ago as assistant vice president/marketing director. She earned an undergraduate degree in communications from Cornell University and a graduate degree in marketing communications from Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism. Centennial Bank has 60 branch offices in Florida and Arkansas, including one on Marco Island.



FIGURELLI

trustees for a three-year term and will serve as a member of the Development Committee and as chairman of the newly formed Donor Recognition Subcommittee. Ms. Figurelli is a certified trust and financial advisor specializing in personal trust and estate administration, wealth planning and planned giving programs. She belongs to the Institute for Certified Bankers, Estate Planning Council of Naples Inc., and the Corporate Fiduciaries Association of Southwest Florida. She has been an active volunteer and supporter of the David Lawrence Foundation for many years, having most recently served as a member of the Finance Committee. The David Lawrence Foundation raises funds to support the programs and services of David Lawrence Center, a not-for-profit, community mental health center that provides affordable mental health and substance abuse services in Southwest Florida.

June Miller and **Richard Fain** have joined the board of directors of the Island Coast AIDS Network. Ms. Miller is a financial advisor who provides per-

sonalized wealth management services as part of the Norton Miller Group of Morgan Stanley/Smith Barney. She has worked with Morgan Stanley for 18 years. Mr. Fain is a senior relationship manager with Wachovia Bank.



MILLER



FAIN

Business Services



NARGI

Carol Nargi, payroll services manager for Dax Enterprises Inc. received a certificate of continuing education for the completion of a program about payroll law. Dax Enterprises offers a variety of services to meet business needs, from simple bank reconciliations or payroll to full-service office administration and bookkeeping, including employee benefit coordination.

Fine Art

David and Lee Ann Lester, owners of the Bonita Springs-based International Fine Art Expositions, have taken over the marketing and organizing of the 37-year-old London International Fine Art Fair at Olympia. The Lesters organize art fairs in Palm Beach and Miami, as well as aboard the megayacht SeaFair. The London International Fine Art Fair at Olympia will be held June 4-13, 2010.

Insurance



WENKE

Jennifer Wenke of Lutgert Insurance received the Distinguished Service Award at the Florida Association of Health Underwriters recent annual meeting in Orlando. The award honors FAHU members who have performed special service at the local or state level over the past year. Ms. Wenke was recognized for her contributions as secretary of the association board of directors. She has been involved with the statewide association for more than 10 years and also is active in the Southwest Florida Association of Health Underwriters. ■

Board Appointments

Jennifer Figurelli has joined the David Lawrence Foundation board of

NEW IN BUSINESS

Photography studio opens in North Naples

Photographer Reagan Rule has opened a studio at 5760 Shirley St. By appointment only, Ms. Rule offers a full range of photography services, from creative, fashion, portrait and commercial product photography to interior design and architecture, food, events and wedding photography. She also offers design services for fliers in online and print formats.

Ms. Rule's work has been published in several regional magazines, including



RULE

Concierge's Image, Bonita Living, Gulfshore Life and Naples Illustrated. Her clients include Kaufman Rossin & Co., Blu Sushi, Marissa Collections, Rocky Patel Cigars, Melanie Pugh DMD, Hotel Escalante, Me and My Chef Inc., and Ultimate Golf Seats Inc. She earned her bachelor's degree in communications from Florida Gulf Coast University and her master's degree in interpersonal communications from the University of Central Florida.

For more information, call 249-1089. ■

Cattywampus Consulting offers marketing services

Managing partner Amy Scott announces the formation of Cattywampus Consulting, a marketing communications company specializing in bridging traditional marketing approaches with evolving online media platforms for business-to-business, professional services, manufacturing and not-for-profit clients.

The company offers brand and product strategy, online and offline advertising, e-mail and social media, public relations and team building.

The Cattywampus portfolio features marketing solutions for leading capital equipment brands, global nutritional products and national contracting firms. Ms. Scott was also recently appointed to the city of Bonita Springs Community Branding Initiative, serving in a pro-bono capacity as lead strategist and project planner. For more information, visit www.cattywampusconsulting.com. ■

Designer boutique coming to Mercato

Vogue Couture has announced its first Florida west coast location will open later this year Mercato. The flagship Vogue Couture boutique is on Las Olas Boulevard in Fort Lauderdale. The store offers clothing for men and women by designers including Just Cavali, Ted Baker, Moschino, Dolce & Gabbana, Hugo Boss, Pal Zileri, Debonair Collection, Salvage, True Religion, Bejeweled, Monarchy, Robin Jeans, Replay, Sky and Taverniti So Jeans. Accessories are from Versace, Gucci, Dior and GF Ferre, among others.

Vogue Couture provides a fashion stylist for a one-on-one consultation to help shoppers style and edit their wardrobe to fit their lifestyle needs. These services include complimentary wardrobe pre-selection, invitations to trunk shows, individually styled look books delivered to customers via post or e-mail, and custom fitting and tailoring.

Mercato is at the intersection of U.S. 41 North and Vanderbilt Beach Road. ■

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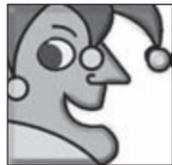
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Do you have enough international stocks in your portfolio? If not, this is a great time to consider adding some.

From 2004 to 2007, world stock markets, as measured by the MSCI EAFE index, rose at a faster pace than stocks here at home — 17 percent annually, compared to just 9 percent for the S&P 500. But international stocks have suffered in our recent bear market, with many fundamentally sound companies dropping substantially.

In addition, the U.S. recession has sent waves of fear rippling around the world. But that doesn't mean that the Shanghai index and other international markets won't rebound to new highs — they've already resumed their upward motion in the recent rally. Like a game of musical chairs, you don't want to be the last one to buy into soaring international stocks before a major correction occurs, but you also don't want to be the last to recognize when it's time to get back in the game.

Traditionally, many financial advisers have recommended that investors keep most of their stock investments within the

U.S., typically allocating just 10 percent or so to foreign stocks. They point to lower levels of investing regulation, less transparent financial disclosure, and political and economic instability abroad.

However, advisers are now reconsidering. As the global economy continues to evolve, national identity among corporations becomes less important every year. Given that the U.S. economy makes up only about a quarter of the world's gross economic product, ratcheting up international stock allocations makes plenty of sense — but it could also have a huge impact on stock valuations going forward.

It's true that if you own only American stocks, you still have a wide exposure to the worldwide economy. However, just as diversifying across sectors of the economy is prudent to avoid risks to specific types of companies, diversifying across national borders can give you some protection against an economic downturn that hits a particular country.

For a list of our recommended global stocks, try our Global Gains newsletter for free at www.globalgains.fool.com. ■

My Dumbest Investment

Three-Day Wonder

When I first started investing, I bought 200 shares of Exide Technologies at \$15 apiece because my brother and I happened to watch the end of a NASCAR race in which the sponsor of the winner was Exide batteries. I really didn't follow NASCAR, but the guy drove a Ford (which is where I worked) and had a battery that I knew was good. Anyway, I had owned it less than three days when Robert Lutz was named chairman and CEO and the price shot up to around \$30 per share. I sold, having doubled my money in less than a week. I came out smelling like a rose, but that was still my dumbest investment. That was the first (and last) stock I ever bought without researching it first. — E.M., online

The Fool Responds: You're smart to call it dumb, because it was dumb (good) luck. Remember that a great investment involves not only buying a great company, but also buying at a compelling price. Fortunately, these days you can find a lot of great companies selling at great prices. ■



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

I'm the world's largest restaurant company in terms of system units, sporting more than 36,000 restaurants in more than 110 countries and territories. Under my roof, you'll find Taco Bell, KFC, Pizza Hut, Long John Silver's and A&W All-American Food Restaurants. Based in Louisville, Ky., I ring up more than \$11 billion in sales annually and employ more than 1 million people. In 2008, I opened more than four new restaurants daily outside the U.S., making me the world's largest retail developer. In 2002, I changed my name from Tricon Global Restaurants. My ticker symbol is tasty. Who am I? ■

(Answer: Yum! Brands)



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. *The Motley Fool* tells the truth about investing, and hopes you'll laugh all the way to the bank.

Ask the Fool

Dividend Too High?

Q What does it mean if a company's annual dividend is more than its earnings per share?

— A.S., Charlotte, N.C.

A It's a red flag. Imagine that Wanton Punctuation (ticker: ?#\$@!) has paid out \$2 per share in dividends in the past year, but reported earnings (also known as net income) of just \$1.50 per share over that period. A glance at the company's balance sheet might reveal sufficient cash to cover the payments. Still, no company would want to keep generating less cash than it's paying out in dividends. That's unsustainable, and there are other demands for the cash, such as fueling growth or paying down debt.

With any luck, Wanton is simply experiencing temporary underperformance. If its troubles are deeper, then it's likely to consider reducing or eliminating its dividend.

Also, keep in mind that reported earnings are not the same as actual cash generated. Due to various (legal) accounting practices, the earnings number can be manipulated quite significantly. You often get a better picture of how much cash a company is generating by studying its statement of cash flows.

Q What's hyperinflation?

— F.E., Vero Beach, Fla.

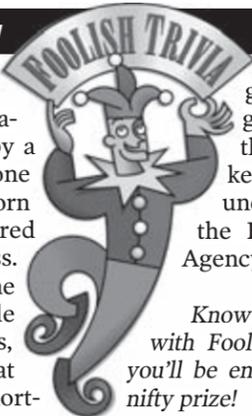
A America is used to conventional inflation, where prices tend to rise by around 2 to 4 percent per year. Some countries have experienced hyperinflation, though, where prices may rise 50 percent or more — per month!

Zimbabwe, for example, has recently experienced the chaos of hyperinflation, with prices doubling in the time it might take you to read this newspaper page. You might buy a loaf of bread with a bill that sports 12 zeros on it. A month later, you'd need to add several more zeros. Yikes.

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

Name That Company

Some people know me as the Federal National Mortgage Association, but most people know me by a name that makes me sound like one of the Beverly Hills Clampetts. Born in 1938, I'm a government-sponsored enterprise, chartered by Congress. My mission is to help keep the American housing market stable and liquid by working with banks, brokers and others to ensure that they're able to offer affordable mort-



gages. I buy many mortgages, securitize them, and then sell them on the markets. Last year I was put under the conservatorship of the Federal Housing Finance Agency. 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

A Promising Drugmaker

A strong dollar isn't always a good thing. Consider pharmaceutical giant Novartis (NYSE: NVS). It managed a solid 8 percent sales increase in local currencies recently, only to see all of that disappear when converted into U.S. dollars, its reporting currency. Sales were down 2 percent.

A major contributor was Diovan, Novartis' blood pressure medication. It may not be as big a household name as Lipitor or Plavix, but it generated \$2.9 billion in the first half of the year. Still, just like Lipitor and Plavix, it faces generic competition in the next few years.

Fortunately, Novartis seems to have a

solution for the lost revenue: new drugs. Recently launched products, such as its new cancer drug, Afinitor, contributed 16 percent of pharmaceutical revenue recently, up from 10 percent last year.

New growth may also come via follow-on biologics from its generic Sandoz division. While making generic versions of biotech drugs will have a lot of competition from companies such as Teva Pharmaceutical and Merck, Novartis has established itself as a leader in making these drugs and should be at the front of the line when the U.S. opens its doors.

As long as it can keep growing sales, Novartis looks rather inexpensive, with its relatively low P/E ratio and high dividend yield. ■

BUSINESS MEETINGS

► **The Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce Trade Show 2009** takes place from 3-7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 20, at Edison State College, 2007 Lely Cultural Blvd. Admission is \$10.

► **Lee-Collier Networkers** meets for lunch once a month in Bonita Springs and also in Naples. The Naples meeting is at 11:15 a.m. on the fourth Friday (next meeting Aug. 21) at the Naples Beach Hotel and Golf Club; \$30 at the door or \$25 in advance. The Bonita Springs meeting is at 11:15 a.m. on the second Thursday (next meeting Sept. 10) at the Elks Lodge on Coconut Road; \$21 at the door (cash only), \$16 in advance. www.leecolliernet.com.

► **Collier County Women's Bar Association** holds its lunch meeting beginning at noon on the fourth Wednesday of

the month (next meeting Aug. 26) in the community room at Northern Trust, 4001 Tamiami Trail N.

► A series of programs on social media presented by **The Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce** continues with "Part 2: Facebook" from 1:30-2:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 26, at chamber headquarters. Subsequent programs will take place Sept. 8 ("Part 3: Twitter") and Oct. 13 ("Creating Movement: Now What Do You Do?"). Sessions are conducted by Cyndee Woolley of C2 Communications. Cost is \$15 each. Register at www.napleschamber.org/events.

► **The Collier Building Industry Association Lunch 'n' Learn Series** for members takes place from noon to 1 p.m. the first Wednesday of every month at CBIA headquarters, 4779 Enterprise Ave. Coming

up Sept. 2: "Understanding and Leveraging IT." Call 436-6100 for more information.

► **The Naples Area Professional League of Executive Services**, N.A.P.L.E.S., meets from 7-9 a.m. on the first and third Thursdays of the month at The Club at Naples Bay Resort. Visit www.naplesgroup.net for more information.

► **WNOCC Women's Networking of Collier County** meets at 11:30 a.m. on the second Tuesday of the month (next meeting Sept. 8) at the Collier Athletic Club. For more information, call Nancy Dalaskey at 280-3803.

► **The Jewish Business Network of Southwest Florida** meets for breakfast and business on the second Friday of the month (next meeting Sept. 11) from 7:30-9

a.m. in the conference room at Robb & Stucky, 13170 Cleveland Ave., Fort Myers. Cost for members is \$5 in advance, \$10 at the door; non-members pay \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. To RSVP and for more information, call 433-7708 or e-mail yourjbn@chabadswf.org.

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

► **Goal Setters Business Network International** holds its weekly breakfast meeting at 8 a.m. Wednesdays at Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church, 1225 Piper Blvd. For information, call Lola Moore at 398-3006 or Kelly Salmons at 597-0787. ■

REPO MAN

From page 1

Detective Agency, owns a computerized key cutter available to licensed repo men or "recovery agents." It can produce keys for many models of cars if the financial company supplies him with the correct code. Using the machine is expensive and adds to his average fee of \$300 per car he repossesses.

Experiencing hard times

Richardson Detective Agency is one of the oldest repossession businesses in the region, having been around for 35 years. The original owner did personal investigations, but Mr. Glover only does repossessions because it's more lucrative. He bought the business in 1997 with his brother and two sisters.

Last year he had 14 employees but is now down to six — all family members — because times are tight. They still maintain four tow trucks, which have cost him \$28,095 so far this year in maintenance costs; because of the slowdown, that means he's on pace to spend less than last year's \$90,000 maintaining the fleet.

Business has been so slow that Mr. Glover has had to put up his home, which is paid off, as collateral for loans.

"I've had to borrow money against my house," Mr. Glover said, with an entertaining profane flourish. He uses it with just as much relish when telling tales of his years as a New York City taxi driver in the 1980s. Once, he was shot in the thigh and in another episode cut with a butterfly knife and booted in the jaw by a woman in a drunken stupor. Mr. Glover says he's also written six novels. Some are about working for the U.S. Army as a helicopter pilot and transporting small nuclear bombs. Although times are tough for his repo business, he's not about to give up Richardson Detective Agency. "I'll hawk my house," he said. "I'll run this to the end."

Where the cars go

The lot where they take the cars and run the business out of a beaten-up trailer surrounded by plenty of foliage — an intentional decision so as not to draw attention to the location — is in



William Glover in his office by case files for repossession

COURTESY PHOTO

Lee County. But they will repossess cars, trucks, heavy machinery, boats, and occasionally other items within a 75-mile radius.

Mr. Glover has mostly avoided the repo man's work hazard: confrontations with debtors who cannot or will not pay for the vehicles that Mr. Glover comes to take. In fact, he's legally obligated not to breach the peace and says he isn't allowed to carry a gun.

"I'm not paid to take that risk," he said. He'll put the matter directly in the hands of the court system if that happens rather than risk violence.

Still, staying safe in the repossession business takes some doing and, if he personally hasn't taken any lumps, the dents on the sides of his tow trucks (people trying to escape in their cars), the bashed-in gate at the entrance to his repo lot in Fort Myers, and the chunks missing off the side of the double-wide trailer home that houses his offices are proof that some people really don't like this guy. To counteract some of that ill will, Mr. Glover stays scruffy looking.

"I look like something the cat dragged in," he says. "Typically I look like somebody that doesn't care. And I know nothing of the personal situation. I'm here to pick up this truck, this motorcycle, this jet ski, this boat, this construction

equipment. Anything with a loan against it. I've done palm trees; I've done coffee pots."

He also gets the cars mostly out of work parking lots during the day to avoid a scene. He's never been attacked, although some of his employees have — a few have even been shot at.

"One guy came out stark naked and busted the headlights and driver's side window (out of the car being repossessed) as the (repo man) was towing it away," he said. "We've had half a dozen people on the (tow) truck, with the vehicle already attached, attempt to drive the truck off the tow truck when it's already four feet in the air. We've had several individuals assaulted with bats."

In some ways, it's a life of looking over his shoulder. Mr. Glover doesn't like to go shopping at large department stores and doesn't enjoy meals out very often.

"When you're working for some ridiculous wage plus tips, who's got a likelihood of not paying their bills?" Mr. Glover asked. "People in the service industry."

His advice for people getting their vehicle towed: let it happen. But as soon as it does, do whatever you have to get current on the payments. Otherwise, it will likely be sold at auction for a fraction of what you still owe — and you'll be charged the difference. ■

POWERPOINTS

From page 1

posted 700,000 visits last year; display space in the welcome center and exposure in the monthly magazine Business Currents.

Members also have access to numerous events for networking and educational purposes. They can host or simply attend Business After Five, Accelerated Networking and Wake Up Naples meetings. The Capital Grille at Mercato, for example, just hosted a sold-out Business After Five event.

As Mr. Neer continues to sign up new members, he urges them to participate in all the chamber has to offer.

"Don't just fill out an application, hand me a check and think customers will come flooding through your doors because you're a chamber member," he says. "You are only going to get out of it what you put into it."

In all, the chamber puts on more than 130 events annually for members. Its biggest event, The Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce Trade Show 2009, is happening from 3-7 p.m. today at Edison State College.

Even though businesses have had to close their doors during this recession, Mr. Neer hopes the increase he's seeing in new members is a sign that the economy is starting to turn around. Although August started a bit slow, he says, things have picked up and he expects the chamber could see its third consecutive good month.

The newest chamber members are: American Airboat Tours, Blue Martini, City I Center, Cleaning Connection, Collier CPR and Safety Training, Cote D'Azur, David Scott Madwar MDPA, Davidson and Nick CPAs, Dax Enterprises, Entrust Freedom, FDG Communication & Services, G.B. Handyworks, Glass Doctor SWFL, Global Title Company, Idearc Media, iWannaHelp.net, Just Like Family Home Care, Maxim Healthcare Services, Naples Dock & Marine Service, PACE Center for Girls, Progressive Employer Services, R.E.A.L. Transportation, Solex Physical Therapy & Wellness Center, Specialists in Urology, State Farm Insurance — Kelly Richards, State Farm Insurance — Pam Adams, Teksoft Ventures, The Fresh Market, The Wigglebutt Inn and White Star Movers of SW Florida.

To learn more about the Chamber, visit www.napleschamber.org. ■

Blue Chip award honors businesses that overcome adversity

Owners of small businesses that have overcome adversity are invited to apply for the 15th annual Southwest Florida Blue Chip Community Business Award. Oswald Trippe and Company Inc. coordinates and sponsor the program to recognize successful small businesses and share their stories as models for other entrepreneurs.

Award winners use stamina, creativity and hard work to meet challenges head on, overcome adversity and vault financial hurdles. The competition is open to for-profit companies that have operated under the same ownership for at least three years, that have a principal office in Collier, Lee or Charlotte county, and that employ five to 400 people.

The 2009 Southwest Florida Blue Chip Community Business Award winner will be recognized during a ceremony Thursday, Nov. 5, at Harborside Event Center in Fort Myers.

Recent winners who have demon-



strated the entrepreneurial spirit and viewed obstacles as opportunities are: The Indigo Room (2008); LeeSar Healthtrust Partners and Media Vista Corp. (2007); Fox Electronics and Mikkelsen's Pastry Shop (2006); Congress Jewelers and Island Café (2005); Arturo's Ristorante Italiano and Invest SW Title Services (2004); Clean Air & Allied Supply and Priority Marketing (2003); The Thomas Riley Artisans Guild and Christ Centered Book and Music (2002); and Gulf Coast Printing Services and Ark Naturals Products for Pets (2001).

Deadline for submissions for the 2009 award is Monday, Sept. 14. Business owners may nominate themselves or be nominated by someone else, and help is available to draft applications. For information and applications, contact Stacey Mercado at 433-7189 or smercado@otcl.com. ■

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Ted Todd agency commended

The Ted Todd Insurance Agency has earned Allstate Insurance Company's Premier Service Agency designation. The agency has more than 30 licensed professionals providing home, auto, business, commercial, retirement and life insurance products at six regional offices throughout Collier, Lee and Sarasota counties.

Earthcare adds to its services

Earthcare Landscape Services announces it is now licensed for irrigation installation, repair and maintenance. The company has been providing landscaping and lawn maintenance services in Collier County for 18 years.

DeAngelis Diamond projects under way

DeAngelis Diamond Construction Inc. has started construction on a 17,500-square-foot Ethan Allen retail store at Coconut Point in Estero. It



COURTESY PHOTO

American Renal Associates in Naples

will be the 17th Florida store for the home furnishings and interior design firm. DeAngelis Diamond Construction is also building the 4,000-square-foot Vitamin Shoppe adjacent to the Ethan Allan store at Coconut Point.

ARA expansion complete

Gulfcoast Consulting Group Inc. has completed the expansion project for American Renal Associates Inc. at 4529 Executive Drive in Naples. ARA is one of the largest dialysis providers in the United States. The expansion project, with Moore & Spence Architects P.A. as the architect, included four new treatment stations and two new patient training rooms. ■

NETWORKING

Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours at Buca di Beppo in Naples



Donna Di Martino and Dawn Lutz



Errol Clark and Terri Waring



Jerry Kumin, Randy Stanek, Laurie Beste and Rich Walker



Joe Chirichella and Eddie Romero



Kori Gowan and Amy Sowder



Randi Davis, Linda Davis, Marcia Fox and Janet Den Hartog



Ryan Uhler, Pat Vavrik and Tiffany Esposito

DAVID MICHAEL / FLORIDA WEEKLY

See all the images from this event and more at www.FloridaWeekly.com.
Send us your society and networking photos. Include the names of everyone in the picture. E-mail them to society@floridaweekly.com.

NETWORKING

Women's Networking of Collier County

August luncheon meeting at the Collier Athletic Club



Nancy Dalaskey and Patty Armstrong



Rosalie Rhodes, Pat Kazor and Barb Schiering



Samia Markhart, Ramia Macdonald, Wendy Ihrig, Patty Armstrong and Celinda Freeman



Amy Bright, Silvia Dillon and Lynn Gray



Laurie Leppo and Marjorie Ziff-Levine



Marie Jackson and Dellene Hasen



Dr. Nadia Kazim, Pam Lazarto and Betty Ann Mighell

PEGGY FARREN / FLORIDA WEEKLY

See all the images from this event and more at www.FloridaWeekly.com.
Send us your society and networking photos. Include the names of everyone in the picture. E-mail them to society@floridaweekly.com.

REAL ESTATE

Life's a beach in Costa Amalfi at Miromar Lakes

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The first two home sites have been sold and construction has commenced in Costa Amalfi, the newest waterfront neighborhood at Miromar Lakes Beach & Golf Club.

Mark and Carolyn Ain, who have owned a coach home in Miromar Lakes for three years, felt a larger home was needed to accommodate their six children who frequently visit. Distinctive Communities is building their new Costa Amalfi home.



MARK AIN



CAROLYN AIN

"We travel back and forth from our home in Massachusetts during the winter months, and the proximity to the airport here makes it easy," Mr. Ain says about the couple's decision to stay in Miromar Lakes. "We can be passing through the security checkpoint at Southwest Florida International Airport only 15 minutes after leaving our garage."

New Jersey buyers Carol and Len Szkotak fell in love with the private beach and the view at Costa Amalfi and are having a custom home built by Michelangelo Homes.

Michelangelo Homes' four floor plans in Costa Amalfi range from 1,860 square feet to 3,284 air-conditioned square feet, with



COURTESY RENDERING

An artist's rendering shows the new beach cottage-style homes available in Costa Amalfi at Miromar Lakes Beach & Golf Club. The first two home sites have been sold and construction has commenced.

up to four bedrooms and four bathrooms. Distinctive Communities Inc. offers two floor plans with a choice between 1,897 square feet or 2,557 square feet and up to three bedrooms and four bathrooms. Both builders offer numerous exterior and interior custom details.

Only 14 home sites remain, featuring frontage along a wide stretch of private white sandy beach. Southwest views from most sites sweep across 250-acre Lake Como, which adjoins 450-acre Lake Maggiore. Costa Amalfi will have neighborhood boat slips available. Waterfront packages including home and home site are priced

from the low \$800,000s.

Miromar Lakes Beach & Golf Club has more than 700 acres of contiguous aquamarine freshwater lakes, three miles of private, white sandy beach and championship golf, along with a 39,000-square-foot Beach Club.

Residential options in the community include beach and waterfront homes, grand estates, luxury villas and coach homes priced from the mid-\$200,000s to more than \$6 million.

For more information, contact the sales center at 425-2340 or visit www.MiromarLakes.com. ■

Summer means 'buy now' for those seeking homes

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Summer home sales continued with a strong performance in July, according to a report released by the Naples



Area Board of Realtors, which tracks home listings and sales within Collier County (excluding Marco Island).

"Overall, this is shaping up to be one of our best summers; interest is extending past the traditional buying season," says Mike Hughes, vice president of Downing-Frye Realty.

Statistics compiled by NABOR show overall home sales increased 67 percent and inventory decreased 12 percent in July 2009 compared to July 2008, a positive sign that the "buy now" message is being heard.

"Every geographic area experienced an increase in both pending and closed sales, which is encouraging when looking at the bigger picture in Southwest Florida," says Tom Bringardner, president of Premier Properties.

Pending sales for properties under \$300,000 saw a 165 percent increase, with 682 pending sales in July 2009 compared to 257 in July 2008.

SEE SUMMER, B11 ►

REAL ESTATE NEWSMAKERS



THIRTYACRE

Ken Thirtyacre has been named president of Toll Brothers' Florida Central Division headquartered in Orlando. As such, he will be responsible for all land acquisition, land planning, project management, construction, marketing and sales in the division. Mr. Thirtyacre has been president of Toll Brothers' Florida West Division, which include Collier and Lee counties, and will continue to serve in that capacity as well. He began his career with Toll Brothers 10 years ago as a construction

manager and over the years has worked as assistant project manager, project manager, senior project manager, assistant vice president, vice president and senior vice president. Prior to joining the company, he was vice president of construction for Wyman Stokes Builder.



BONAQUIST

Robyn Bonaquist of B-Squared Advertising has been named as a judge for the Greater Atlanta Home Builders Association's 2009 Obie Awards. The Greater Atlanta HBA is a 2,000-member,

not-for-profit association and the fourth largest local homebuilders association in the nation. Its OBIE Awards feature more than 100 building, remodeling, marketing and personal achievement categories. B-Squared Advertising has received numerous industry-related awards, including Excel Awards from the Southeast Builders Conference and Sand Dollar Awards from the Collier Building Industry Association. The agency's clients include local, regional and national accounts in the businesses of real estate and development and custom home building.

Robert Schuerman, construction administrator for Gora/McGahey Archi-



SCHUERMAN

itects, recently served as a judge for the Masonry Association of Florida annual awards competition. The program honors the workmanship and ingenuity of mason contractors and architects and engineers who build with masonry. Mr. Schuerman joined GMA in 2004 and has 38 years of construction industry experience. He has been the GMA construction administrator for Bonita Springs City Hall and for clubhouses at The Quarry in Naples, among others. ■

<p>BRISTOL PROPERTIES INTERNATIONAL</p> <p>239.352.6400 877.352.6404 WWW.BRISTOLRE.COM</p> <p>Career Opportunities Available Call to find out how to join Naples new leader in marketing luxury homes.</p>	<p><i>Audubon Country Club</i></p> <p>From the moment you enter the courtyard thru a wrought iron gate this stunning home exudes the feel of an elegant Italian Villa. 3+den / 3.5</p> <p>The Hyland Team 239-269-6113</p> <p>Charleston Ct. \$1,250,000</p>	<p><i>Heritage Bay</i></p> <p>Live the Naples lifestyle in this fantastic home that has all the upgrades and shows like a MODEL, in a terrific bundled golf community. 3/2</p> <p>The Hyland Team 239-269-6113</p> <p>Gator Bay Ct. \$475,000</p>
	<p><i>Cypress Trace</i></p> <p>Fantastic views of lake & golf course make this unit one of the most desirable in the community. Incl. bundled golf & turnkey furnishings. 2+den/2</p> <p>The Hyland Team 239-269-6113</p> <p>Cypress Trace Cir. \$171,000</p>	<p><i>Victoria Shores</i></p> <p>Lovely condo with 3rd floor view of lake. Community pool and tennis. Turnkey furnishings can be incl. in the sale and are negotiable. This condo is a must see. 2/2</p> <p>D. David Ison 239-963-7825</p> <p>Victoria Lane \$149,900</p>

"Offering a Whole New World of Real Estate Services"

SUMMER

From page B10

The NABOR report provides annual comparisons of single-family home and condo sales (via the SunshineMLS), price ranges and geographic segmentation. It also includes an overall market summary. The statistics are presented in chart format, along with the following analysis:

- Overall, pending sales saw a 121 percent increase with 924 in July 2009 compared to 419 in July 2008.

- Single-family pending sales increased 117 percent with 543 in July 2009 compared to 250 in July 2008.

- Condo sales increased 61 percent with 283 in July 2009 compared to 176 in July 2008.

- The average days on the market decreased 13 percent to 166 compared to 191 in July 2008.

Activity in condo sales increased in July 2009, with overall condo pending sales up 125 percent. The \$2 million-plus category increased 33 percent from July 2008 compared to July 2009.

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

Heritage Bay condos start at less than \$150,000

Forty-one luxury terrace condominiums under construction at Heritage Bay Golf & Country Club will be ready for occupancy Dec. 1. Lennar Homes is building the residences with top model upgrades in its gated community off Immokalee Road.

Matt Devereaux, director of sales for Lennar's Southwest Florida Division,

said the two- and three-bedroom condominiums with 2½ baths begin at less than \$150,000 and include golf membership at the Heritage Bay Golf Club. The club's 27-hole championship course was designed by Gordie Lewis.

Model upgrades in the homes include stainless steel appliances, wood cabinets, Corian countertops and 18-inch tile floors.

Heritage Bay also offers a two-story clubhouse with fine and casual dining, a resort-style swimming pool, seven lighted Har-Tru tennis courts with stadium seating for tournaments, and a fitness area.

For more information, call Mr. Devereaux at 278-1177 or visit www.heritagebay.net. ■

Interior design firm wins Auroras for residential projects

Collins & DuPont Interior Design won three Aurora Awards and one Grand Aurora Award at the recent Southeastern Builders Conference. Collins and DuPont were presented with the following:

- An Aurora Award in the Interior Detailing category for a private residence in Mediterra in North Naples, designed by Lana Knapp, built by BCB Homes, Inc.

- An Aurora Award in the Interior Merchandising category for the Metro Luxe Model at the Strada at Mercato in Naples, designed by Kim Collins, ASID, and Deborah Martinez, Allied ASID, and developed by The Lutgert Companies and The Barron Collier Companies.

- An Aurora Award in the Interior Merchandising category for a private residence in Aqualane Shores in Naples, designed by Kim Collins, ASID, and built by BCB Homes, Inc.

- A Grand Aurora Award and Aurora Award in the Single Family Detached Home Spec/Model category for the Antica Model in Verona, Mediterra, designed by Sherri DuPont, ASID and built by Harwick Homes. ■

RECENT TRANSACTIONS

Beadniks has leased 1,447 square feet at 360 12th Ave. S. in Naples from SVM Building LLC. George Atkinson, Doris Taylor and Bill Young of CB Richard Ellis, Fort Myers/Naples, brokered the transaction.

Fifth Avenue Footware by Salvatore Cantone has leased 1,340 square feet of retail space from Minanis Inc. at 659 Fifth Ave. S. Paige Eber of Investment Properties Corp. negotiated this transaction.

Naples Fire Protection Inc. has leased 1,873 square feet at 25270 Bernwood Drive, Suite 1, Bonita Springs, from Bay's Mere Company LLC. Charles Jans and Mary Pepin Kazor with Grubb & Ellis1st Commercial brokered the transaction. ■

Home Grown Girl!



Resident in Naples since 1969



Doreen Vachon 643-0636

OWNER FINANCE OR LEASE OPTION



161 4th St
3/2, tiled floors updated kitchen/baths. New windows. Cul-de-sac, wrap around covered deck, carport.
\$859 per month*
\$159,500



3587 Bolero Way
3/2 garage, all updated, oversized lot backs up to golf course.
\$1,080 per month*
\$199,900

*owner finance with 10% down PITI, amortized over 30 years at 6% interest

"YOU CAN HAVE IT ALL"



5325 Cypress Ln
4/3 newer 2 stories, large barn/workshop, in-law suite, 2 laundry rooms, plenty of storage for RV, boats, 4 car garage
\$529,000

Hurry, when they're gone, they're gone.



One new residence (406E) is only \$253,900!
Other 2 bed + den + 2 bath are only \$356,000.
Penthouses from \$629,900.

All in Fort Myers' best waterfront community with unsurpassed views and location. Plus, quality finishes and unending, resort-style amenities you simply won't find elsewhere.



NORTH STAR YACHT CLUB
Legendary waterfront living.

NorthStarYachtClub.com | Sales Center & Models Open Daily
239.995.8200
3420 Hancock Bridge Parkway, North Fort Myers, FL 33903

Directions from I-75, take exit 138 west onto Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd. Make a right turn onto Monroe Street, followed by a quick left onto Main Street. Merge onto US 41 North. After crossing the bridge, make a left onto Hancock Bridge Parkway.



EXCLUSIVE SALES & MARKETING
THE MARKETING DIRECTORS
LOCAL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

Limited time offer. Prices subject to change. See agent for details.

GOLFING COMMUNITIES



TIBURON - ESCADA ▲
Three master bedroom suites, 2 guest rooms with adjoining baths. Gym, home theater, elevator. Golf course views. A *Christie's Great Estates Property*.
\$5,600,000 | Julie Rembos | 595-1809



ESTATES AT BAY COLONY ▲
Alluring signature home. Thoughtfully designed, five bedrooms, five full and two half baths. Brazilian cherry wood.
\$4,450,000 | Leah D. Ritchey/Ray Courret | 293-5899



QUAIL CREEK ▲
Over 8,000 SF, all 4 bedrooms are master suites. Spectacular pool with spa, waterfall & slide. Fantastic sights.
\$2,450,000 | Julie Rembos | 595-1809



OPEN SUN. 1-4
VINEYARDS - TERRACINA ▲
432 Terracina Way - Estate home on 1.5 lots overlooking double fairway views. Five bedrooms en suite, home theater, and three gas fireplaces.
\$2,199,000 | Julie Rembos | 595-1809



AUDUBON COUNTRY CLUB ▲
Exquisitely appointed 4BR+den/3.5BA custom built home. Separate casita, heated pool, spa, wide golf course views.
\$1,799,000 | Connie Lummis | 289-3543



OPEN SUN. 1-4
KENSINGTON ▲
5212 Old Gallows Way - Expansive golf views. Large pool, lanai, three bedroom plus den and 3.5 bath. Guard-gated entry, golf equity membership.
\$1,475,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



VINEYARDS ▲
Lakefront views, a 1,500 SF covered lanai w/heated pool/spa and kitchen. Southeast exposure. Seller will consider trade.
\$1,299,000 | Ted Dudley | 860-2498



TIBURON - VENTANA ▲
#PH502 - Furnished penthouse southwest views of preserve & golf course, 3 BRs, den, wraparound balcony, wood & tile floors.
\$1,175,000 | Kathryn Tout/Beverly Dale | 250-3583



VINEYARDS - TERRACINA ▲
Wonderful estate home 4BRs, den, 4.5BAs and golf course views from screened lanai w/heated pool/spa. Three-car garage.
\$999,000 | Marty/Debbi McDermott | 564-4231



OLDE CYPRESS ▲
Mediterranean inspired courtyard home features tile/wood flooring, heated pool, & outdoor bar. Golf, tennis & more.
\$995,000 | Patrick O'Connor | 293-9411



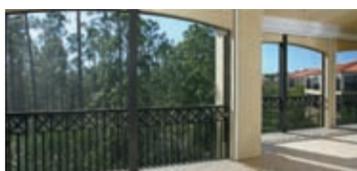
WYNDEMERE - VILLAGES ▲
Beautiful home with gorgeous tile floors, crown moldings, & coffered ceilings. Fabulous lake & golf course view.
\$895,000 | Kathryn Hurvitz | 659-5126



IMPERIAL GOLF ESTATES ▲
Stunning lakefront home. Completely remodeled. Lake views. Vaulted ceilings, chef's custom kitchen. Pool/spa.
\$849,000 | Dina L. Moon | 370-1252



KENSINGTON - KENSINGTON PARK ▲
Updated villa offers great room with gas fireplace, formal dining, three bedrooms and den. Renovated master bath with marble.
\$840,000 | Mary Morris | 784-8599



TIBURON - CASTILLO IV ▲
#103 - Gorgeous preserve views and many upgrades. Faux finishes, granite counters. Hand-scraped hickory flooring.
\$774,900 | Julie Rembos | 595-1809



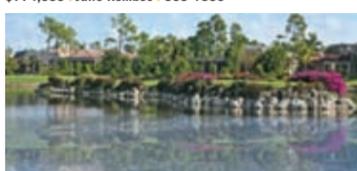
OLDE CYPRESS - STRADA BELLA ▲
Golf course view with southern exposure. Three bedrooms plus den, three baths, and 3-car garage. Turnkey furnished.
\$750,000 | Sandra McCarthy-Meeks | 287-7921



OLDE CYPRESS - SANTA ROSA ▲
Long lake and golf course view from this four bedroom, 4.5 bath. Tropical landscaped pool area. Tasteful furnishings.
\$725,000 | Sandra McCarthy-Meeks | 287-7921



AUDUBON COUNTRY CLUB ▲
Cheerful 4BR villa with heated pool, spa, summer kitchen, golf course & lake views. Diagonal tile, Jacuzzi tub.
\$725,000 | Mitch/Sandi Williams | 370-8879



OLDE CYPRESS ▲
Beautifully landscaped! Impeccably maintained three bedroom plus den Rutenberg home. 2,738 SF A/C, and a 3-car garage.
\$699,000 | Sandra McCarthy-Meeks | 287-7921



VINEYARDS - ARBOR GLEN ▲
Private lake views by the heated pool with large paved lanai. Four bedrooms and oversized family room.
\$695,000 | Mara/Michael Muller | 272-6170



VINEYARDS - VALLEY OAK ▲
Custom built executive home. Volume ceilings, gourmet kitchen, heated pool & hot tub, 4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 3-car garage.
\$629,000 | Isabelle Edwards | 564-4080



OPEN MON-SAT 10-5; SUN 12-5
BONITA BAY - ESPERIA & TAVIRA ▲
26951 Country Club Drive (Sales Center) - Breathtaking views over Bay Island Golf Course, Estero Bay and the Gulf. An idyllic community devoted to golf courses, parks, natural areas, marina and more! New construction priced from the \$600s. Please call 800-311-3622



VINEYARDS - CAMELOT PARK ▲
A quiet enclave of 35 single-family homes. Quality built 3BR+den Arthur Rutenberg pool home overlooking fairways.
\$595,000 | Patrick O'Connor | 293-9411



WYNDEMERE - PRESERVE ▲
Gorgeous lake and golf course views. Large living room, family room with fireplace. Membership required.
\$595,000 | Kathryn Hurvitz | 659-5126



OLDE CYPRESS ▲
Upgraded 3 bedroom plus den, 2.5 bath Rutenberg home. Brick paved pool/spa, preserve views. Wood-burning fireplace.
\$579,900 | Sandra McCarthy-Meeks | 287-7921



STONEBRIDGE - MIDDLEBURG ▲
#203 - Golf course view! Upgrades galore, 3 bedrooms, 20" diagonal tile, glassed-in lanai, granite counters. Bundled golf.
\$545,000 | Kathryn Hurvitz | 659-5126



WYNDEMERE - PRESERVE ▲
Long lake/golf course views. Attached 3 BR + family room villa, heated pool. Original owner. Membership required.
\$525,000 | Kathryn Hurvitz | 659-5126



WYNDEMERE - GOLF COTTAGES ▲
Great views of the golf course. Two-story home offers 2 master bedrooms with 3rd bedroom used as a den.
\$499,900 | Kathryn Hurvitz | 659-5126



IMPERIAL GOLF ESTATES ▲
A private oasis - lagoon pool, lush landscaping on 1/2 acre. Split-plan 3BR+den, huge kitchen and formal dining room.
\$499,900 | Fred Alter | 269-4123



VINEYARDS - MONTELENA ▲
#3103 - Pristine two-story townhome offers four bedrooms (2 masters), loft, 3.5 baths and attached two-car garage.
\$450,000 | Patrick O'Connor | 293-9411



STONEBRIDGE - BRAEBURN ▲
#202 - Turnkey furnished 3 BR w/preserve views. Bundled golf, clubhouse, Har-Tru tennis, pool, spa, and 3 miles to beach.
\$449,000 | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552



STONEBRIDGE - SHOREHAM VILLAS ▲
Sunset views over fairway & lake. Peaceful villa with a double garage & 10 foot ceilings. Golf membership included.
\$360,000 | Vickie Larscheid | 250-5041



WYNDEMERE - GOLF COTTAGES ▲
Cozy cottage with 2BRs+ den, 2BAs, & 2-car garage. Views of golf course. Membership is required for all residences.
\$350,000 | Kathryn Hurvitz | 659-5126



NEW LISTING
VINEYARDS - VILLA VERONA ▲
Convenient location. Immaculate, updated 2BR+den single family pool home. Walled-in yard, lush tropical plantings.
\$315,000 | Patrick O'Connor | 293-9411



WYNDEMERE - COMMONS ▲
#303 - Furnished 3BR with large tiled lanai overlooks golf/lake. New furniture in living/dining room. Membership required.
\$290,000 | Kathryn Hurvitz | 659-5126



WYNDEMERE - COURTSIDE COMMONS ▲
Contemporary & dramatic! All new cabinetry, stainless steel appliances, slate floors on lanai. Membership required.
\$285,000 | Kathryn Hurvitz | 659-5126



WYNDEMERE - COURTSIDE COMMONS ▲
Exquisitely appointed garden condominium. Furnished. Glassed-in lanai, split floor plan. Membership required.
\$260,000 | Kathryn Hurvitz | 659-5126

KENSINGTON

HAMLET 3300 Hamlet Drive #4
Southern exposure lake/golf views from this Arthur Rutenberg coach home. Mint condition 2 bedroom plus den. **\$397,000 | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552**

QUAIL WEST

13740 Pondview Circle
Wonderful expansive homesite with southern exposure. Every amenity available. Build your dream home here. **\$450,000 | Roxanne Jeske | 450-5210**

WYNDEMERE

COURTSIDE COMMONS 609 Courtside Drive
Wonderfully updated 3BR/2BA. Social membership required. Fitness center, tennis, and golf memberships available. **\$219,000 | Ann Marie Shimmer | 825-9020**

COURTSIDE COMMONS 407 Courtside Drive
Furnished, 2 masters, 2 glassed-in balconies, wood burning fireplace & volume ceilings. Club membership required. **\$149,900 | Kathryn Hurvitz | 659-5126**

STONEBRIDGE

CARRINGTON 2395 Harmony Lane
Full golf membership included! Two bedroom condominium with views of the green and fairway. Turnkey furnished! **\$274,900 | Pat Duggan | 216-1980**

CARRINGTON 2345 Carrington Court #104
Amazing opportunity! Two bedroom, 2 bath and a lovely view of the 13th green. Bundled golf membership included. **\$187,000 | Gayle Fawkes | 250-6051**



THE VILLAGE
239.261.6161

OLD NAPLES
239.434.2424

THE GALLERY
239.659.0099

FIFTH AVENUE
239.434.8770

MARCO ISLAND
239.642.2222





GREY OAKS - ESTUARY ▲
This exquisite home offers 5 BRs, 5.5 BAs, resort pool area, marble floors, wine room and 7,659 SF under air. Furnished.
\$6,995,000 | Sam Heitman | 261-3148



GREY OAKS - ESTUARY ▲
Furnished. Marble and wood floors, wine cellar, media room, lanai, fireplace, and outdoor kitchen. Lake and golf views.
\$5,695,000 | Carolyn Weinand | 269-5678



GREY OAKS - ISLE ROYALE ▲
This majestic estate home has five bedrooms plus den, 6.5 baths, floating staircase, elevator, gas cooking, lake and golf views.
\$5,675,000 | Carolyn Weinand | 269-5678



GREY OAKS ▲
Furnished home with 5 BRs, 6.5 BAs, private elevator, 2-car attached garage plus a 2-car detached garage. Covered lanai.
\$5,550,000 | Lynn Anderson/Carolyn Weinand | 434-2424



GREY OAKS - ESTUARY ▲
Stunning 4 BR + den residence w/lake & golf course views. Expansive veranda with summer kitchen, fireplace, pool/spa.
\$5,499,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



GREY OAKS - ESTUARY ▲
Elegant home with five bedrooms, private 2-story guest cabana with suites, theatre room surrounded by full bar, library.
\$4,850,000 | Lynn Anderson/Carolyn Weinand | 434-2424



GREY OAKS ▲
Estate home with 4 bedrooms, den, loft, 4.5 baths, marble floors, and fireplace. Gas cooking, outdoor kitchen, pool/spa.
\$2,995,000 | Carolyn Weinand/Lynn Anderson | 269-5678



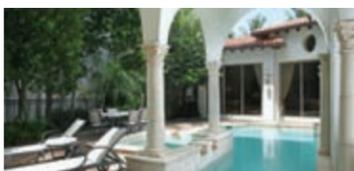
FIDDLER'S CREEK - ISLA DEL SOL ▲
Decorated and furnished custom 4 BR, 5.5 BA (includes casita with separate guest quarters) overlooking golf course.
\$2,990,000 | ML Meade/Natalie Kirstein | 293-4851



GREY OAKS ▲
Former Santa Rosa model furnished in tasteful style. Coffered ceilings, double crown mouldings. Large pool and spa.
\$2,950,000 | Carolyn Weinand/Lynn Anderson | 269-5678



GREY OAKS - PALM ISLAND ▲
Gracious home with 180 degrees of breathtaking water & golf views from most rooms. Custom design, 4BRs, den/study.
\$2,490,000 | Carolyn Weinand | 269-5678



GREY OAKS - ESTUARY ▲
Spectacular golf course views! Private 4 BR + den villa finished at the highest level. Pool, spa, fireplace, and outdoor kitchen.
\$2,395,000 | Carolyn Weinand/Lynn Anderson | 269-5678



GREY OAKS ▲
Charming 2-story brick home with lake and golf course views, 3 BRs plus den, 2-sided fireplace, and full outdoor kitchen.
\$2,295,000 | Philip N. Collins | 404-6800



FIDDLER'S CREEK - MAJORCA ▲
Stately 2-story 3 bedroom home. Designer ceiling treatments, faux paint, fireplace, full game room, den, pool/spa.
\$2,190,000 | Jim/Nikki Prange | 642-1133



GREY OAKS - ISLA VISTA ▲
Lake/golf views. Customized "Cadiz" floor plan with over 4,800 total SF, 3 bedrooms plus study and summer kitchen.
\$2,145,000 | Lynn Anderson/Carolyn Weinand | 434-2424



GREY OAKS ▲
Custom home overlooking the 18th hole. Corinthian columns, winding staircase, and soaring ceilings. Pool/spa.
\$1,995,000 | Angie White | 821-6722



GREY OAKS - ESTATES ▲
Recently remodeled with Appalachian-Piazza maple flooring, new carpet and paint. Land golf course views. Furnished.
\$1,995,000 | Philip N. Collins | 404-6800



GREY OAKS - VENEZIA ▲
Serene setting with pool and spa facing west with golf/lake views. Three bedroom plus den villa with 3,600 A/C SF.
\$1,950,000 | Carolyn Weinand | 269-5678



FIDDLER'S CREEK - MAJORCA ▲
Luxury model home, 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, office. Designer ceilings, crown moulding, pool/spa. Amenities galore!
\$1,850,000 | Jim/Nikki Prange | 642-1133



ESTUARY AT GREY OAKS ▲ 1485 Anhniga Pointe
The perfect Naples life! Sophisticated amenities and superlative homes set amid the serene beauty of natural preserves. Championship golf; only minutes from beaches, shops and dining. Villas from \$1,795,000. Estate homes from \$2.9 million. Estate homesites from the \$795,000.
Please call 261-3148 for more information.



TWIN EAGLES ▲
This residence features 4 bedrooms, 4 baths, limestone floors, wide crown mouldings, summer kitchen, loggia, and fireplace.
\$1,599,999 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



FIDDLER'S CREEK - BELLAGIO ▲
Beautifully furnished 3 BR + den home on the creek bordering a preserve. Negative-edge pool/spa. Private boat dock.
\$1,299,000 | Michelle Thomas | 860-7176



FIDDLER'S CREEK - MAHOGANY BEND ▲
Brand new custom 3BR + den pool home. Southern golf course views. Never lived in. Award-winning Club and Spa. Amenities galore!
\$1,299,000 | Michelle Thomas | 860-7176



FIDDLER'S CREEK - BELLAGIO ▲
Infinity pool overlooks lake. Three bedrooms, 3.5 baths includes casita (1 bedroom/1 bath) plus den & family room.
\$1,100,000 | ML Meade/Natalie Kirstein | 293-4851



HAMMOCK BAY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB - LESINA ▲
#1806 - Sky home-180-degree views. Three balconies, 4 BRs, 3.5 BAs. Pool-side pavilion, lap pool, fitness & more.
\$1,100,000 | Darlene Roddy | 404-0685



FIDDLER'S CREEK - CRANBERRY CROSSING ▲
Turnkey furnished former model features decorator touches throughout, 3 bedrooms + den. Pool/spa overlooking lake.
\$990,000 | ML Meade/Natalie Kirstein | 293-4851



FIDDLER'S CREEK - MAHOGANY BEND ▲
New, luxury home with western exposure golf course views, 3BRs plus den, 3.5BAs, 3-car garage, and pool/spa.
\$950,000 | Michelle Thomas | 860-7176



FIDDLER'S CREEK - MALLARDS POINT ▲
Quiet cul-de-sac, 3,927 SF of living area, five bedrooms including cabana, four baths, loft. Wide lake views. Pool/spa.
\$850,000 | Michelle Thomas | 860-7176



TREVISO BAY ▲ 9004 Tamiami Trail East
Five miles from downtown Naples. Located adjacent to the 110,000 acre Rookery Bay National Estuarine Reserve. A lifestyle, TPC golf course community with coach homes from the \$500s, villas from the \$800s, grand villas from \$1.15 million, executive homes from \$2.35 million and estate homes from \$4 million. **Please call 643-1414 for more information.**

GREY OAKS

Single Family Homes

ESTATES 2610 Bulrush Lane
Recently remodeled with Appalachian-Piazza maple flooring, new carpet and paint. Land golf course views. Furnished. **\$1,995,000 | Philip N. Collins | 404-6800**

Condominiums/Villas

ESTUARY 1335 Noble Heron Way
Exceptional 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath home. Gourmet kitchen with Sub-Zero & Dacor appliances. Lake and golf course views. **\$1,999,999 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420**

ESTUARY 1326 Noble Heron Way
Almost-new 4,000 SF former model w/Saturnia marble floors, gas fireplace, vaulted ceilings, & pool/spa. Furnished. **\$1,895,000 | Lynn Anderson/Carolyn Weinand | 434-2424**

ESTUARY 1306 Noble Heron Way
Elegant yet comfortable, clean and open floor plan with 3 bedrooms, a den and 3.5 baths. Offered furnished. **\$1,895,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420**

ESTUARY - MARSH WREN 1580 Marsh Wren Lane
Gorgeous finishes in this 3 bedroom plus den, 4.5 bath furnished former model overlooking the golf course, lake and clubhouse.
\$1,595,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420

ESTUARY - MARSH WREN 1553 Marsh Wren Lane
Former Dahlia model finished in 2008 w/3BRs + library has wonderful views of a lake/golf, 2,985+ A/C SF, pool/spa. **\$1,550,000 | Dan Guenther | (239) 261-3148**

ESTUARY 1369 Noble Heron Way
This 3 bedroom plus study, 3.5 bath villa overlooks lake & fairway. Faux paint, marble flooring. Pool/spa. **\$1,495,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420**

TRADITIONS 2325 Residence Circle #202
At close to 4,000 SF, this elegant home features a long lake view, marble & wood floors, & library w/cherry doors. **\$1,450,000 | Jutta Lopez | 571-5339**

GREY OAKS

Lots

ESTUARY 1381 Great Egret Trail
Both adjoining lots are developed, so it's a great time to design your home & maximize views of golf course & lake. **\$1,600,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420**

ISLE ROYALE 2121 Canna Way
One of the remaining unbuilt lakefront lots in Grey Oaks. Superb homesite offers outstanding lake and golf views. **\$1,595,000 | Karen Van Arsdale | 860-0894**

FIDDLER'S CREEK

Single Family Homes

MAJORCA 8540 Majorca Lane
Former model decorated by Agostino's Design Group and on a oversized corner lot. Three bedroom plus den, 3,200+ A/C SF. **\$998,500 | Jim/Nikki Prange | 642-1133**

MULBERRY ROW 7630 Mulberry Lane
Landscaping surrounds the lanai, waterfall, heated pool/spa, and built-in grill. Three bedrooms plus den, 3 baths. **\$899,000 | ML Meade/Natalie Kirstein | 293-4851**

MALLARDS LANDING 8511 Mallards Way
Custom single family home with gas heated screened pool/spa, lake views, open kitchen, diagonal tile and granite. **\$599,500 | Michelle Thomas | 860-7176**

PEPPER TREE 8575 Pepper Tree Way
Single-family 3 BR home with family room, formal living and dining rooms. Granite countertops, plantation shutters. **\$499,000 | Michelle Thomas | 860-7176**

CRANBERRY CROSSING 9127 Cherry Oaks Lane
Priced to sell! Beautifully furnished 3 BR home. Award-winning Club & Spa, golf and marina memberships available. **\$475,000 | Michelle Thomas | 860-7176**

Condominiums/Villas

SERENA 3198 Serenity Court #201
Beautifully furnished residence with private elevator. Over 3,000 SF of living area, 3 bedrooms plus den, 3 baths. **\$829,000 | Michelle Thomas | 860-7176**

FIDDLER'S CREEK

Condominiums/Villas

MENAGGIO 9274 Menaggio Court #101
Brand new coach home with over 2,900 SF A/C, 3 BRs + den, family room. Large lanai overlooking lake, 2-car garage. **\$695,000 | Michelle Thomas | 860-7176**

CASCADA 9042 Cascada Way #102
Panoramic golf/water views! Three bedroom plus study with coffered ceilings and expanded kitchen. **\$689,000 | Brock/Julie Wilson | 595-5983**

VARENNA 9221 Museo Circle #204
The best of everything: granite, stainless appliances and tile. Over 3,000 SF under air, and long lake views. **\$675,000 | Darlene Roddy | 404-0685**

SERENA 3202 Serenity Court #201
Furnished home w/large lanai overlooks lake. Three bedrooms + den, 3 baths, family room & living room, 2-car garage. **\$499,000 | Michelle Thomas | 860-7176**

DEER CROSSING 3990 Deer Crossing #201
Lake and golf views. This 3 bedroom plus den is very private with large lanai and 2-car garage. Turnkey furnished. **\$495,000 | ML Meade/Natalie Kirstein | 293-4851**

CARDINAL COVE 4586 Cardinal Cove Lane
Quiet and private lake view. Beautifully decorated popular 'Silverthorne' plan. Corner 2 bedroom + den, furnished. **\$350,000 | ML Meade/Natalie Kirstein | 293-4851**

DEER CROSSING 3990 Deer Crossing Court #101
Beautiful lake view and golf course view. Immaculate 3BR coach home, 2-car garage. Beautiful decor. **\$349,000 | ML Meade/Natalie Kirstein | 293-4851**

WHISPER TRACE 8385 Whisper Trace #102
Beautifully decorated and furnished former model is light and bright. Attached garage. Steps to the village pool. **\$229,000 | Michelle Thomas | 860-7176**

HAMMOCK BAY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

SERANO 1065 Borghese Lane #PH-2106
Penthouse with breathtaking views in 3 directions, 3 bedrooms, and over 2,500 total SF. Wraparound lanai. **\$799,000 | Carolyn Weinand | 269-5678**

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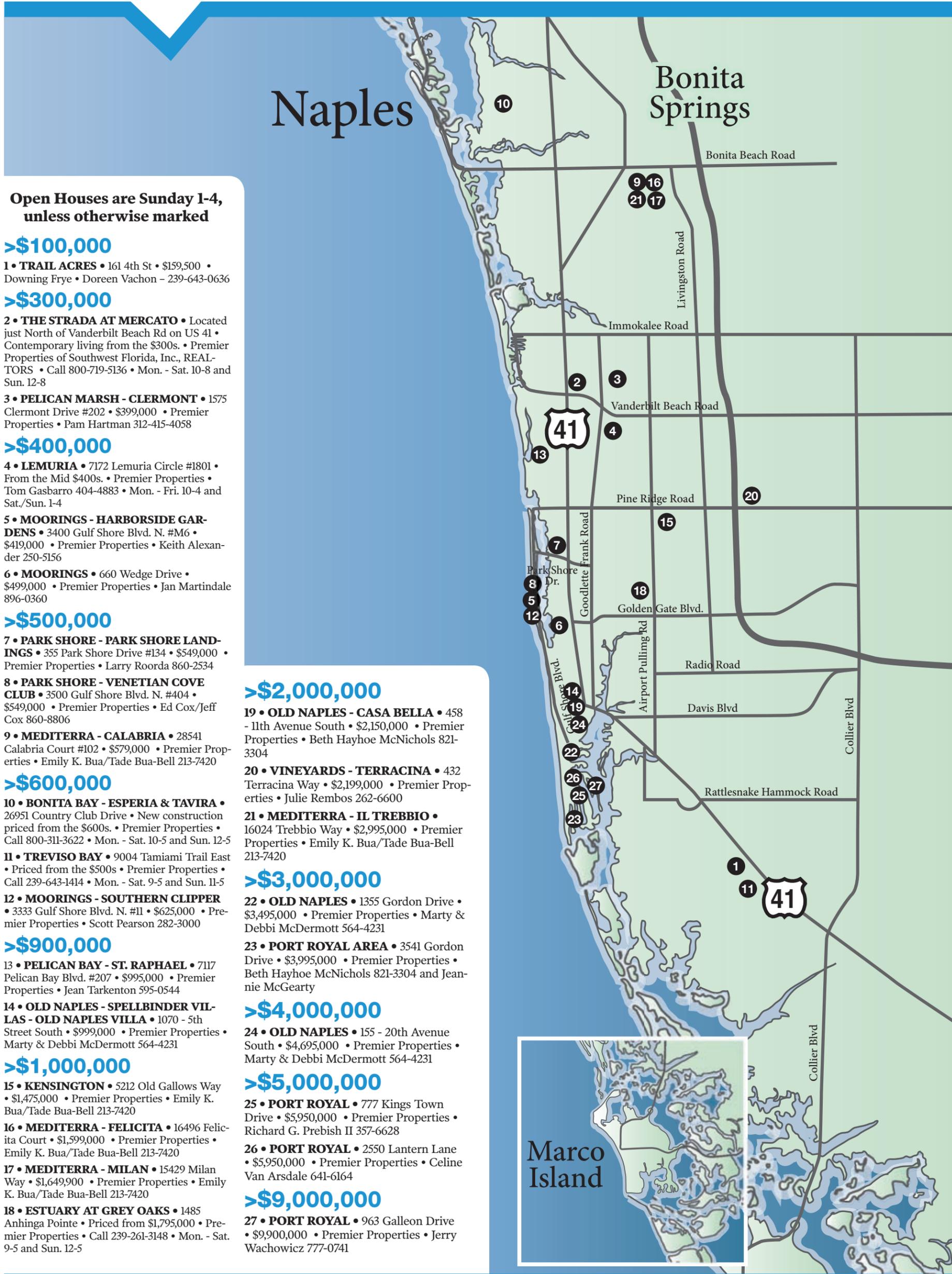
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Florida Weekly's Open Houses



Open Houses are Sunday 1-4, unless otherwise marked

>\$100,000

1 • TRAIL ACRES • 161 4th St • \$159,500 • Downing Frye • Doreen Vachon - 239-643-0636

>\$300,000

2 • THE STRADA AT MERCATO • Located just North of Vanderbilt Beach Rd on US 41 • Contemporary living from the \$300s. • Premier Properties of Southwest Florida, Inc., REALTORS • Call 800-719-5136 • Mon. - Sat. 10-8 and Sun. 12-8

3 • PELICAN MARSH - CLERMONT • 1575 Clermont Drive #202 • \$399,000 • Premier Properties • Pam Hartman 312-415-4058

>\$400,000

4 • LEMURIA • 7172 Lemuria Circle #1801 • From the Mid \$400s. • Premier Properties • Tom Gasbarro 404-4883 • Mon. - Fri. 10-4 and Sat./Sun. 1-4

5 • MOORINGS - HARBORSIDE GARDENS • 3400 Gulf Shore Blvd. N. #M6 • \$419,000 • Premier Properties • Keith Alexander 250-5156

6 • MOORINGS • 660 Wedge Drive • \$499,000 • Premier Properties • Jan Martindale 896-0360

>\$500,000

7 • PARK SHORE - PARK SHORE LANDINGS • 355 Park Shore Drive #134 • \$549,000 • Premier Properties • Larry Roorda 860-2534

8 • PARK SHORE - VENETIAN COVE CLUB • 3500 Gulf Shore Blvd. N. #404 • \$549,000 • Premier Properties • Ed Cox/Jeff Cox 860-8806

9 • MEDITERRA - CALABRIA • 28541 Calabria Court #102 • \$579,000 • Premier Properties • Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell 213-7420

>\$600,000

10 • BONITA BAY - ESPERIA & TAVIRA • 26951 Country Club Drive • New construction priced from the \$600s. • Premier Properties • Call 800-311-3622 • Mon. - Sat. 10-5 and Sun. 12-5

11 • TREVISO BAY • 9004 Tamiami Trail East • Priced from the \$500s • Premier Properties • Call 239-643-1414 • Mon. - Sat. 9-5 and Sun. 11-5

12 • MOORINGS - SOUTHERN CLIPPER • 3333 Gulf Shore Blvd. N. #11 • \$625,000 • Premier Properties • Scott Pearson 282-3000

>\$900,000

13 • PELICAN BAY - ST. RAPHAEL • 7117 Pelican Bay Blvd. #207 • \$995,000 • Premier Properties • Jean Tarkenton 595-0544

14 • OLD NAPLES - SPELLBINDER VILLAS - OLD NAPLES VILLA • 1070 - 5th Street South • \$999,000 • Premier Properties • Marty & Debbi McDermott 564-4231

>\$1,000,000

15 • KENSINGTON • 5212 Old Gallows Way • \$1,475,000 • Premier Properties • Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell 213-7420

16 • MEDITERRA - FELICITA • 16496 Felicita Court • \$1,599,000 • Premier Properties • Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell 213-7420

17 • MEDITERRA - MILAN • 15429 Milan Way • \$1,649,900 • Premier Properties • Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell 213-7420

18 • ESTUARY AT GREY OAKS • 1485 Anhinga Pointe • Priced from \$1,795,000 • Premier Properties • Call 239-261-3148 • Mon. - Sat. 9-5 and Sun. 12-5

>\$2,000,000

19 • OLD NAPLES - CASA BELLA • 458 - 11th Avenue South • \$2,150,000 • Premier Properties • Beth Hayhoe McNichols 821-3304

20 • VINEYARDS - TERRACINA • 432 Terracina Way • \$2,199,000 • Premier Properties • Julie Rembos 262-6600

21 • MEDITERRA - IL TREBBIO • 16024 Trebbio Way • \$2,995,000 • Premier Properties • Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell 213-7420

>\$3,000,000

22 • OLD NAPLES • 1355 Gordon Drive • \$3,495,000 • Premier Properties • Marty & Debbi McDermott 564-4231

23 • PORT ROYAL AREA • 3541 Gordon Drive • \$3,995,000 • Premier Properties • Beth Hayhoe McNichols 821-3304 and Jeanie McGearty

>\$4,000,000

24 • OLD NAPLES • 155 - 20th Avenue South • \$4,695,000 • Premier Properties • Marty & Debbi McDermott 564-4231

>\$5,000,000

25 • PORT ROYAL • 777 Kings Town Drive • \$5,950,000 • Premier Properties • Richard G. Prebish II 357-6628

26 • PORT ROYAL • 2550 Lantern Lane • \$5,950,000 • Premier Properties • Celine Van Arsdale 641-6164

>\$9,000,000

27 • PORT ROYAL • 963 Galleon Drive • \$9,900,000 • Premier Properties • Jerry Wachowicz 777-0741



MEDITERRA - BENVENUTO ▲
Spectacular Kurtz-built home. Mouldings, niches, and superior finishes. Coffee bar, wine cellar, and fireplaces!
\$6,295,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



MEDITERRA - PADOVA ▲
An extraordinary custom home featuring 9,171 total SF, panoramic golf views & is also a certified Florida Green Home.
\$4,850,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



MEDITERRA - RAVELLO ▲
Luxury living with 4 bedrooms plus study. Loggia with summer kitchen and fireplace. An attached cabana. A *Christie's Great Estates Property*.
\$3,499,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



MEDITERRA - PADOVA ▲
Gracious 4BR plus den furnished home with 7,015 total SF. Stone detail, marble flooring, pool, spa & fireplace.
\$3,485,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



MEDITERRA - SAVONA ▲
An elegant custom-built residence on a private .57 acre lot overlooking the lush fairway. Exquisite architecture.
\$3,350,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



MEDITERRA - VERONA ▲
Custom-built McGarvey home overlooks preserve. Four bedrooms, family room, den/study, fireplace, and pool.
\$3,195,000 | Dru Martinovich | 564-1266



MEDITERRA - MARCELLO ▲
Custom-built 4 bedroom + den w/oversized bedrooms & large bathrooms for each guest suite. Lanai w/summer kitchen.
\$2,997,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



MEDITERRA - IL TREBBIO ▲
16024 Trebbio Way - Tuscan-style 4BR home with stone flooring, loft & stone fireplace. Pool/spa overlooking the golf course. Furnished.
\$2,995,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



MEDITERRA - VERONA ▲
Stunning 4 bedroom, den, 4.5 bath home has private & protected preserve views. Private pool, luxurious master suite.
\$2,995,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



MEDITERRA - CELLINI ▲
Custom-built home with stone and hardwood flooring, media room, large guest suites, fireplace, lagoon pool/spa.
\$2,395,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



MEDITERRA - IL TREBBIO ▲
Magnificent BCB-built estate home on a 3/4 acre golf-view lot. Exquisite finishes, 4BR+den, nearly 5,600 SF A/C.
\$2,299,000 | Thomas Gasbarro | 404-4883



MEDITERRA - PADOVA ▲
Better than new! Four bedrooms plus den. Pristine lake and preserve views. Pool, spa, outdoor kitchen & pond area!
\$2,190,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



MEDITERRA - AMARONE ▲
Four bedroom plus den with atrial light and lake view to preserve. Custom-designed by an interior designer.
\$1,850,000 | Dru Martinovich | 564-1266



MEDITERRA - BELLEZZA ▲
Immaculate, sun-splashed retreat. Carefully chosen colors and fabrics, appliances and electronics. Furnished.
\$1,800,000 | Thomas Gasbarro | 404-4883



MEDITERRA - BELLEZZA ▲
Capri II plan overlooks fairway. Oversized site, expanded pool/spa area. Interior by Collins & Dupont. Furnished.
\$1,749,000 | Dru Martinovich | 564-1266



MEDITERRA - MILAN ▲
15429 Milan Way - Custom built three bedroom plus den, 3 and one-half bath villa. A tropical screened outdoor living area and loggia.
\$1,649,900 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



MEDITERRA - FELICITA ▲
16496 Felicità Court - Lakelakefront furnished home with southern exposure. Floor-to-ceiling sliders open to pool/spa and outdoor kitchen.
\$1,599,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



MEDITERRA - MILAN ▲
Panoramic fairway views. Stunning 3 bedroom plus den w/5,036 total SF. Outdoor living, pool, spa & summer kitchen.
\$1,497,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



MEDITERRA - VILLORESI ▲
Glistening lake views from this 3 bedroom villa. Golf course views. Columns, cherry flooring and granite counters.
\$1,375,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



MEDITERRA - VILLORESI ▲
This Mediterranean-style 3 bedroom villa is open to glistening lake and outdoor spaces. Courtyard pool and spa.
\$1,225,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



MEDITERRA - VILLORESI ▲
Tropical setting w/screened pool, summer kitchen & outdoor bar. Three BRs, 3 BAs and over 2,400 SF of living area.
\$1,095,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



MEDITERRA - VILLORESI ▲
Views beyond open salt water pool/spa. Professional decor, integrated sound system, home generator. A/C garage.
\$995,000 | Mitch/Sandi Williams | 370-8879



MEDITERRA - BRENDISI ▲
Beautifully furnished former model w/granite counters, stainless appliances, large diagonal tile, & faux finishing.
\$825,000 | Jane Darling | 290-3112



MEDITERRA - PORTA VECCHIO I ▲
Dramatic lake and golf course views. Elevator & exquisite finishes. Furnished 3 bedroom plus den residence.
\$799,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



MEDITERRA - MONTEROSSO II ▲
Views of glistening lake. Open plan, tile flooring and a vibrant color palette. Spacious master has lake views.
\$729,900 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



MEDITERRA - VERONA ▲
Privacy plus serenity is afforded on this lot, which overlooks a lake and a natural preserve.
\$695,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



MEDITERRA - CALABRIA ▲
28541 Calabria Court #102 - Beautiful 3 bedroom plus den furnished coach home. Lake views. Kitchen with granite & stainless steel appliances.
\$579,000 | Emily K. Bua/Tade Bua-Bell | 213-7420



MARCELLO 29171 Marcello Way
Build the home of your dreams in this beautiful Marcello neighborhood. This lot features preserve and lake views.
\$595,000 | Angie White | 821-6722

BONITA BAY



BONITA BAY - SPRING RIDGE ▲
Beautiful golf course home with 4BRs + den, 4BAs, fauxed tray ceilings and double crown moulding. Heated pool/spa.
\$2,100,000 | Harriet Harnar | 273-5443



BONITA BAY - HORIZONS ▲
Luxury tower among lakes, golf course and wildlife. Expansive walls of glass offer breathtaking views from Naples to Sanibel Island.
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BONITA BAY - IBIS COVE ▲
On a cul-de-sac, this lake front home provides wonderful views. Spacious lanai featuring heated pool and spa.
\$1,375,000 | Carol Wood | 822-3709



BONITA BAY - CREEKSIDE ▲
Custom built Harwick Home located on the 13th hole. Desirable southern exposure, large pool, and outdoor kitchen.
\$1,350,000 | Teresa Rucker | 281-2376



BONITA BAY - HIDDEN RIVER ▲
Lake view, pristine 4 BR/4.5 BA, 3-car garage, expansive lanai & pool area. Many quality upgrades throughout.
\$1,325,000 | Cathy/George Lieberman | 777-2441



BONITA BAY - ESTANCIA ▲
Captivating Gulf views! Luxurious residential tower, semi-private elevator vestibules. Upscale finishes. Resident manager, fitness center and tropical pool/spa area.
FROM \$895,000 | Please call 948-4000



BONITA BAY - ESPERIA SOUTH ▲
Luxurious high-rise living. Explosive views of Estero Bay, Gulf and golf course. Lagoon-style pool, game rooms and more.
FROM \$660,000 | Please call 948-4000



BONITA BAY - VISTAS ▲
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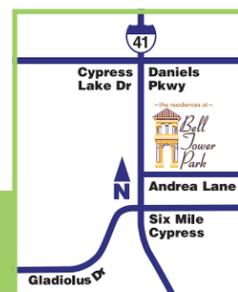
(R) 2nd Floor DEVONSHIRE 2,315 sq. ft.
3 bedrooms | 2.5 baths | Media room & 2-car garage
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2-Car Garage not shown.

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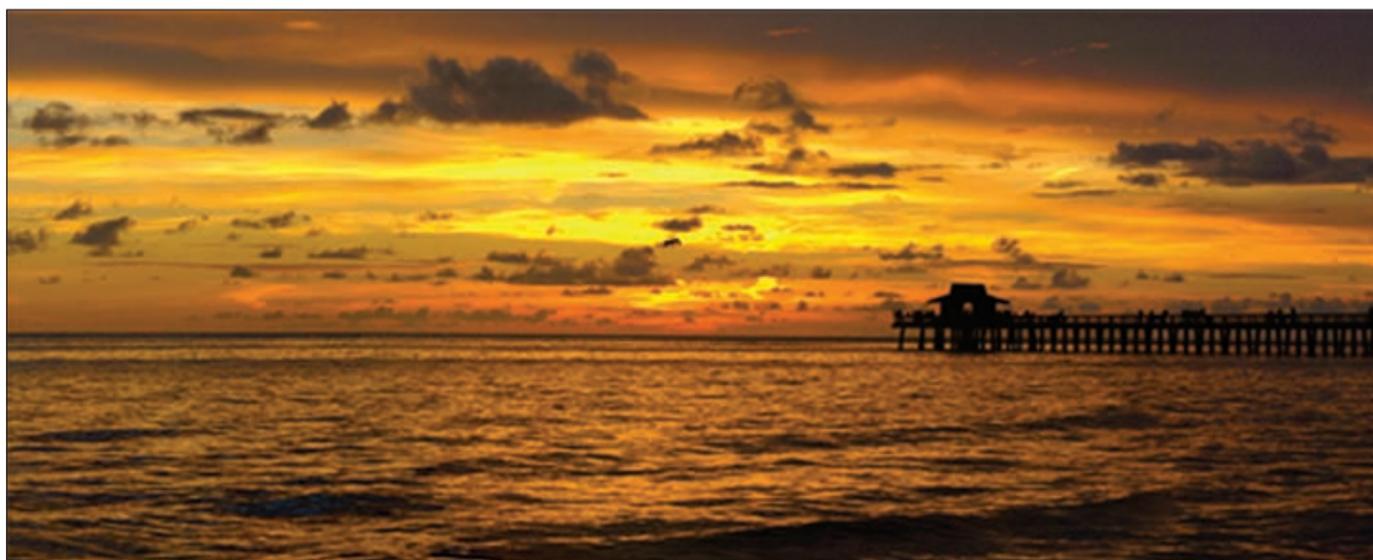
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

WEEK OF AUGUST 20-26, 2009

A GUIDE TO THE NAPLES ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SCENE

'Pier Pressure'



The Naples Pier inspires an art show — and not just because everyone loves it

FLORIDA WEEKLY STAFF

JUTTING INTO THE GULF OF Mexico at the end of 12th Avenue South, the Naples Pier attracts visitors and longtime locals alike for fishing, sunsets, photo ops, star-gazing and dolphin-spotting. The picturesque pier also draws artists, as an exhibit opening Friday, Aug. 21, at Sweet Art Gallery attests.

"Pier Pressure" includes paintings and photographs of the landmark pier, as well as images of other local spots known for their beauty and common appeal.

"Everyone knows the pier is a must-see for tourists and a favorite spot for locals to visit again and again," says

SEE PIERS, C7 ►



if you go

>> **What:** Pier Pressure, an exhibit of works depicting local landmarks

>> **Where:** Sweet Art Gallery, 2054 Trade Center Way, North Naples

>> **When:** Opening reception 6-9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 21; exhibit hangs through Sept. 10. Regular gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

>> **Info:** 597-2110 or www.thesweetartgallery.com

COURTESY IMAGES

Top: Naples Pier Sunset Panorama by Wayne Wilmoth. Above, Naples Pier by A.J. Catalano.

WEEK
at-a-glance

'I'm an alcoholic'

Broadway Palm presents the story of "Bill W. and Doctor Bob." C4 ►



They're b-a-a-a-ck!

Naples Beach Hotel presents Women's Blues Revue for the 11th time at SummerJazz on the Gulf. C13 ►



Signs of 'season'

Save the dates for these nonprofit galas and other fundraisers. C18-22 ►

Passion for poetry: Write it, read it at open mic night

BY ELIZABETH KELLAR

Special to Florida Weekly

Would-be wordsmith or accomplished author, a new Naples open mic night aims to appeal to anyone with a passion for poetry, and to grant them a forum to share their works.

The first "Spoken Word. Verbal Canvas." poetry reading will take place from 6-9 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 23, at Six Degrees Exhibitions, 1100 Sixth Avenue South. A \$3 donation is suggested.

In addition to providing a place for poets to read their works, organizers hope "Spoken Word. Verbal Canvas." will foster the growth of the area's poetry community.



SOKOL

that some poets were even hired to read at cocktail parties. She also remembers the quality of the work, especially among the area's youngest poets.

"It was a very exciting time, because you could hear young talent," Ms. Sokol says.

Susan Sokol, one of the event's organizers, recalls a period in the mid-1990s when she could attend poetry readings in Naples several times a week. The major bookstores held them, she says, and the area's demand for poetry was so strong

The "Spoken Word. Verbal Canvas." nights might be a first step to bringing back that local love for poetry — at least that's what Nathaniel Elisha Gromalski hopes. A full-time artist, Mr. Gromalski paints and writes. With Ms. Sokol and local poet Tom Burke, he is helping organize the event. The three will be the featured poets at Sunday's reading.

Like Ms. Sokol, Mr. Gromalski is especially enthusiastic about the chance to hear poetry penned by young writers. Recently, he met an 8-year-old poet who shared some of her works with him. He says her writing was the "most profound, in-depth piece of poetry I had

SEE POETRY, C7 ►



The right whites

Weary of chardonnay and pinot grigio? Surprise your palate — and your wallet — with lesser-known wines. C26 ►

SANDY DAYS, SALTY NIGHTS

A return to real men



I'm what you'd call a late adopter. Five years after people started rocking their iPods, I got my first Nano. Flat-screen TVs? I just bought one. And don't even get me started on GPS units. They still feel newfangled to me.

It's no surprise, then, that a full two seasons after the world fell in love with the AMC series "Mad Men," I'm just now discovering the entertainment powerhouse. If you happen to be a late-late adopter, it goes like this: In the '60s-era drama, soaked in alcohol and cigarette smoke, we follow the people behind the Manhattan-based Sterling Cooper Advertising Agency. At the forefront of the social and business interweaving is Don Draper, played by actor Jon Hamm, a mysterious and brooding character who oozes sex appeal the way a cool glass of water will bead on a hot day; it rolls off him.

As my girlfriends and I squeal over episodes and analyze plot points,

we keep coming back to Mr. Draper: Why is he so sexy, we ask? He's a cad. And a womanizer. He drinks, smokes, and cheats on his wife. But if he threw any of that our way? We'd jump on it faster than bridesmaids at the bouquet toss.

So, what's his secret? He is handsome, true, and he does have the perfect amount of chest hair, yes, but there are a lot of other characters out there who have good looks and are talented manscapists. Don Draper's appeal is bigger. In our modern age, where men practice meditation and embrace Mr. Mom culture, Don Draper represents a throwback to unapologetic masculinity. And it's hot.

Tom Schiavon, a South-

west Florida-based writer, blames the feminist movement for maneuvering men away from their masculine birthright. "I have begun to recognize that the feminist domestication of the formerly wild beast known as man was more regress than progress, a process that has left men emasculated and confused," he writes. "As men, we have become afraid to move or breathe lest we commit an unpardonable chauvinist sin."

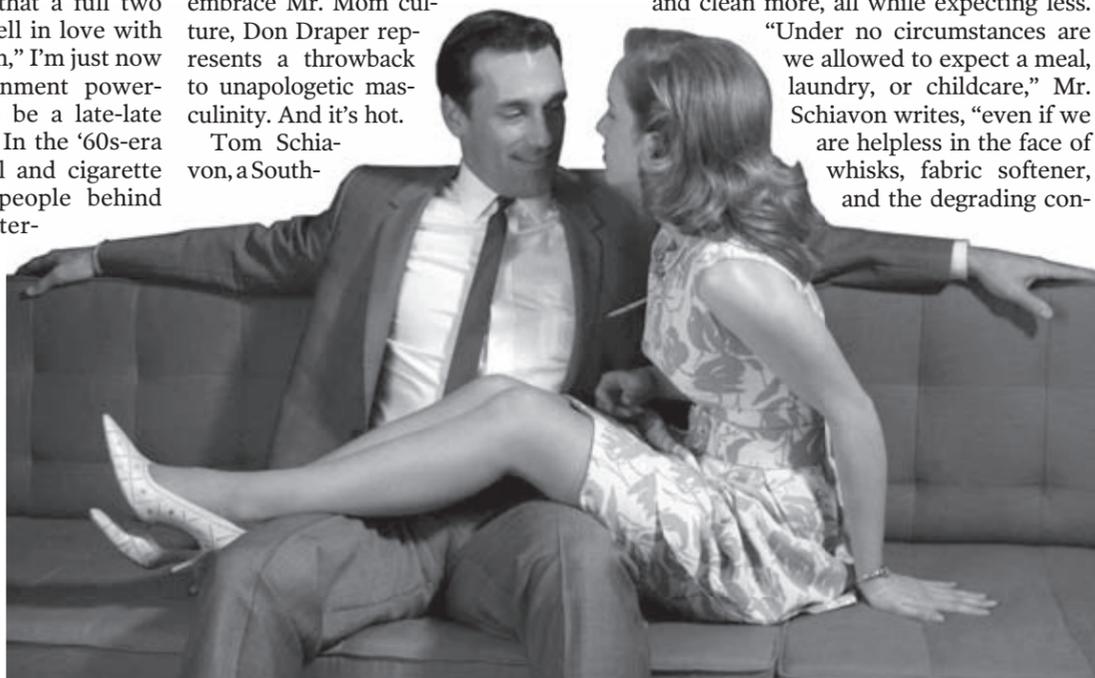
Now, I'm as feminist as they come — my inner Betty Friedan bucks at his premise — but I can see his point. Since the women's movement, women have been flexing our muscles in relationships. We demand that men listen more, cook more, and clean more, all while expecting less.

"Under no circumstances are we allowed to expect a meal, laundry, or childcare," Mr. Schiavon writes, "even if we are helpless in the face of whisks, fabric softener, and the degrading con-

"... a mysterious and brooding character who oozes sex appeal the way a cool glass of water will bead on a hot day; it rolls off him..."

dition of only having formula to offer our offspring due to inoperative nipples which are, apparently, only for show." Women have cut down on football and beer and converted our partners to yoga and lattes. In our zeal to make men our best friends, we have turned them into our girlfriends.

Which is why Don Draper is so appealing. Despite our pleas for sensitive partners, on a primal level, women respond to real men. Perhaps, then, guys should step away from the organic-eating, fair trade-promoting trend and back into the whiskey-swilling, Lucky Strike-smoking "Mad Men" mentality. We could all do with a dose of that kind of masculinity. ■



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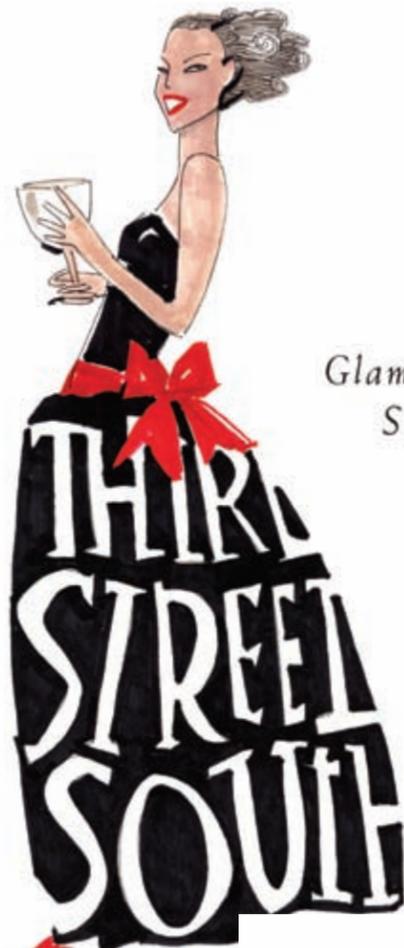
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'My name is Bill W., and I'm an alcoholic'

Art imitates life for director, star in Off-Broadway Palm production

BY NANCY STETSON
nstetson@floridaweekly.com

Most people's lives possess their fair share of drama; an alcoholic's contains more than most.

Gary Kimble knows this firsthand.

A recovering alcoholic, Mr. Kimble directs and stars in "Bill W. and Doctor Bob." The play about the men who founded Alcoholics Anonymous opens Thursday, Aug. 27, at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre in Fort Myers.

Staged in the Off-Broadway Palm black box venue, the play tells the story of Bill Wilson, a New York stockbroker who lost his money in the crash of 1929, and Bob Smith, an Ohio surgeon. It also tells the story of their wives, Lois Wilson and Anne Smith, who started Al-Anon.

When it played Off-Broadway in New York, *The New York Times* called it "an insightful new play" and NYTheatre.com dubbed it "the sleeper hit of the season."

Mr. Kimble saw it four times, and he hastens to assure local audiences that it's not "preachy" or didactic. "It absolutely has a wide appeal," he says. "It's about two very ordinary people who are drunks, and who discover, or have revealed to them, what to do about their common problem and how to solve it.

"It's a play about hope and redemption, and transformation, perseverance, not giving up. Ultimately, I suppose, it's about faith... about how these ordinary people end up doing, by grace and mercy, something extraordinary that changes the world forever... In a sense, it ushers in the age of Oprah."

Understanding the humor

"Bill W. and Doctor Bob" is set during a period in American history not unlike today. In addition to the economic difficulties of the Great Depressions, Mr. Kimble says, "There was great despair in the nation, a general lack of hope."

And alcohol plagued a large part of the population.

"Before they knew it was a disease, they thought it was a moral weakness," Mr. Kimble says. "In this world of 1935, if you had this problem, you were shunned by your family, quickly locked away into an asylum and forgotten about. And that's how you lived out your days. To admit that you had it brought a great deal of shame and fear."

The play, however, is not devoid of humor.

"It's hilarious," Mr. Kimble says. "It's dark, but very funny.

"There's a passage in 'The Big Book of AA,' and I'm paraphrasing, that people are often jarred by the raucous laughter and conviviality one will find in an AA meeting. (The book explains that) this is common among people who have survived a shipwreck, because they have survived this horrendous thing and they have that as a common bond.

"There's great laughter. Someone will talk about a very dark thing, and everyone laughs. It's because everyone identifies, and they feel free from it. It can't hurt them anymore."

A whole new audience

"Bill W. and Doctor Bob" is highly unusual fare for the Broadway Palm, which typically stages musicals.

Mr. Kimble recalls Tom Prather, co-founder of the family-owned theater, asking him one day if he had heard of



ERIC RADDATZ/ FLORIDA WEEKLY

Gary Kimble as Bill W. and Richard David Springle as Dr. Bob at the Off-Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre.

the show.

Mr. Kimble said yes.

Then Mr. Prather said, "Do you think we should do it?"

And Mr. Kimble said yes again.

Mr. Prather asked, "Who would come?"

And Mr. Kimble replied, "A whole new audience, that's for certain."

And while the show hasn't opened yet, that's already proving to be true.

Mr. Kimble has been talking it up at various AA meetings, and the theater is selling blocks of tickets for groups of up to 20.

And numerous people have called to volunteer their services for the play. "A number of people involved in various 12-step programs are involved in the production," and they're finding a great deal of support for the show, Mr. Kimble says.

He acknowledges that not only was the subject matter a risk for the theater, the timing was, too. "They've never been able to sell a play successfully in late August/September," he says.

But "Bill W. and Doctor Bob" has sold effortlessly, he adds. "Groups are coming — church groups, educators, therapists, therapists bringing patients."

The play, which was written by Stephen Bergman and Janet Surrey, is neither affiliated with nor endorsed by AA World Services.

After this run, Mr. Kimble would like to take the show to Broadway Palm's sister theater in Arizona, and then maybe take it on a small tour of cities around Florida.

"We're thinking of maybe eventually riding this pony back to New York and opening it in a 99-seat black box theater," he says. "It was in a 450-seat theater the last time (it played in New York), and it sold well. But it had an enormous budget for advertising." At the time, he adds, the authors thought there might have been a different way to do it.

The Broadway Palm's grassroots way of marketing the show "is working very well for us," he adds. "Instead of doing

if you go

>> "Bill W. and Doctor Bob"

>> When: Aug. 27-Sept. 26

>> Where: The Off-Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre, 1380 Colonial Blvd.

>> Cost: \$35 for dinner and show, \$20 for show only

this through media, we're spreading the word through the right community."

They plan to donate a portion of ticket proceeds to the YANA Foundation, which stands for You Are Not Alone. Owned by a private nonprofit, it's a local clubhouse where approximately 12 meetings take place every day. Thousands of people have gained sobriety through attended YANA meetings, Mr. Kimble says.

"A lot of young people are remanded there through halfway house programs and court programs, and they wind up getting clean," he says. "It's a profound thing to watch. They do great work there."

The foundation has the opportunity to purchase land across the street; Mr. Kimble hopes the theater will be able to give them a significant contribution toward the purchase.

A close call

A familiar face to Broadway Palm audiences, Mr. Kimble just finished playing Capt. Hook and Mr. Darling in "Peter Pan," and last season portrayed the sheriff in "Best Little Whorehouse in Texas." He's toured nationally and internationally and has performed with Paul Lynde, Maxine Andrews, Kitty Carlisle-Hart, Tommy Tune and Mickey Rooney.

But he almost didn't make it to rehearsals for "Bill W. and Doctor Bob."

While visiting family in Ohio, he was in what could have been a fatal car accident. The accelerator stuck, and he crashed into a stationary, half-ton steel-loading bulldozer — at 100 mph — when he decided to hit the bulldozer rather than crash into other cars filled

with people.

Mr. Kimble went through the windshield and suffered lacerations to his face, broken ribs and a broken sternum.

"I am feeling blessed and highly favored," he says. "I have some aches and pains. The miracle of this experience is not lost on me."

Still, he's recovering so rapidly that he'll portray Bill W. as planned, with Scott Moreau playing a younger version of the character in flashbacks.

Robert David Springle will play Doctor Bob.

Mr. Kimble and Mr. Springle performed together in the award-winning world tour of "My Fair Lady," with Mr. Springle playing Pickering to Mr. Kimble's Henry Higgins.

"We're great old friends," Mr. Kimble says. "When I hit bottom... I looked like an animal and was living in abject squalor, my heart had stopped, and I was unable to function at all, it was this man who picked me up off the floor and got me to rehab.

"And when I got out, it was Richard who walked me to AA meetings and sat outside the door so I wouldn't run away.

"I am very excited to play Bill to his Bob... It's a full-circle moment 13 years later to play this role, and direct him. I love him like a brother."

Mr. Springle and his wife, Bonnie, nursed Mr. Kimble back to health. "Everything I have today I owe to them and to AA," he says. "I'm very proud to say that I am in recovery and I attend 12-step meetings. They have transformed my life and restored my life to sanity."

Mr. Kimble is thrilled to have his personal and professional lives overlap in "Bill W. and Doctor Bob."

"To have these different worlds come together — the power of theater, the ministry and entertainment — to carry the message of spiritual sobriety and healing in such a direct way, through my art form, just puts me over the moon," he says. "It doesn't get any better than that." ■



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WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Best bets for this weekend

■ **Exhibit opening** — “Pier Pressure” at Sweet Art Gallery, 2054 Trade Center Way. Opens Friday. 597-2110 or www.thesweetartgallery.com. See story on page C1.

■ **Waterside Jazz** — Enjoy the sounds of James Michael Evans, “From Jazz to the Caribbean,” 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at Waterside Shops, 5415 Tamiami Trail N. 598-1605.

■ **SummerJazz on the Gulf** — The Women’s Blues Revue plays on the lawn at the Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club, 7010 p.m. Saturday. Free. 851 Gulf Shore Blvd. N. 261-2222. See story page C13.

■ **Jazz Masters** — The Naples Jazz Masters play at 2 p.m. at The Norris Center. 755 Eighth Avenue South. 213-3049.

■ **Double Feature** — Two exhibits remain on display at The von Liebig Art Center: Kathy Spalding’s “The Rookery Bay Continuum” and Joel B. McEachern’s “Conversations with the Light.” Friday and Saturday. 262-6517 or www.naplesart.org.

■ **Good Vibrations** — The juried show “Color Vibrations” continues at the Marco Island Center for the Arts, 1010 Winterberry Drive. 394-4221 or www.marcoislandart.com.

This week’s theater

■ **Married Alive** — Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre in Fort Myers presents “Married Alive” through Sept. 26. Wedding bells are ringing in this new musical that takes a peek at two married couples, one newlywed and one... more experienced. 278-4422 or www.broadwaypalm.com.

■ **A Killer Act** — The Murder Mystery Dinner Train presents “A Killer Act,” a comical production that departs from Fort Myers and whisks passengers back to the golden age of Railroads in the 1940s. 275-8487 or www.semulf.com.

■ **What the Butler Saw** — Theatre Conspiracy presents “What the Butler Saw” Aug. 21-Sep. 5 at the Foulds Theatre at the Alliance for the Arts in Fort Myers. 936-3239 or www.theatreconspiracy.org.

This week’s live bands

■ **The Bay House** — 6-9 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday: Jazz with Stu Shel-

ton and Patricia Dean. 799 Walkerbilt Road. 591-3837.

■ **Capri, A Taste of Italy** — 6 p.m. Thursday: Jebry’s Jazz Jam; 6:30 p.m. Saturday: soft rock and country with Symon; 6 p.m. Monday: Bob Zottola and the Expandable Jazz Band; Wednesday: Cahlua and Cream. 1140 Tamiami Trail N. 938-1342 or www.capriofnaples.com.

■ **Naples Flatbread & Wine Bar** — 6:30-9 p.m. Thursday: Blues and jazz with Rick Howard, Dave Tregether, John Lamb and Bob Zottola; 8-11 p.m. Saturday: “Acousticlectic Music for the Easily Amused” featuring Beck; 6:30-9 p.m. Sunday: Bob Zottola and The Expandable Jazz Band. 6436 Naples Blvd., 598-9463.

■ **Paddy Murphy’s** — Thursday: Justin; Friday: Barefoot Geno; Saturday and Tuesday: Michael “Maxi” Courtney; Monday: Patrick. 10 p.m. to closing. 457 Fifth Avenue South, 649-5140.

■ **Pioli**: 6-9 p.m. Sunday: Greg Gadoua singer/songwriter playing a variety of live music/ 9118 Strada Place, 239-592-5056/ In Mercato

■ **Ridgway Bar and Grill** — 7-10 p.m. Friday and Saturday, live entertainment under the stars. 1300 Third Street South, 262-5500.

■ **South Street City Oven and Grill** — Thursday: Casey on guitar; Friday: acoustic rock with Maxi Courtney at 5:30 p.m. and Alter Boy at 9:30 p.m.; Saturday: Brown Truck at 9:30 p.m.; Sunday: reggae with Spread the Dub! at 9:30 p.m.; Monday: Meagan Rose on the piano from 7-11 p.m.; Tuesday: karaoke at 9 p.m.; Wednesday: Maxi Courtney at 9:30 p.m. 1410 Pine Ridge Road. 435-9333.

Thursday, Aug. 20

■ **Venetian Day at the Village** — Enjoy entertainment and special from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at The Village on Venetian Bay in honor of the center’s 20th year. The North Naples Firefighters will sell their calendars to benefit the Ronald McDonald House, and Youth Haven will welcome donations of school supplies for its residents. 403-2204 or www.venetianvillage.com.

■ **An Evening on Fifth** — Enjoy live music as you stroll the avenue from 7-10 p.m. 435-3742.

■ **Pets in Paradise** — The Humane Society Naples will have adoptable pets at Tommy Bahama from 6-9 p.m. Get a gift with purchase when you make a donation to the society. 643-1880 or www.hsnaples.org for more information.

■ **Photography Exhibit** — The Southwest Florida Museum of History in Fort Myers hosts an exhibit of historic Florida architecture and American landscape photography by Niki and Clyde Butcher. The exhibit opens with a reception with the artists from 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$10 per person, reservations required. 321-7430.

Friday, Aug. 21

■ **Kids Free** — Kids 12 and under enter the Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center free with one paying adult. Activities include touch tank explorations, story time, coastal crafts, nature films and more. Opens at 10 a.m. 300 Tower Road. 417-6310.

■ **Parents Night Out** — Drop the kids off at King Richards Family Fun Park and let them enjoy dinner, games, rides and a movie while you have a night on the town. \$25 per child. 598-2042 or e-mail krfunapr@yahoo.com.

■ **Improvise** — Naples City Improv performs at 8 p.m. at The Norris Center. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. 755 Eighth Avenue. 213-3049 or www.naplescitiyimprov.com.

■ **Rear Window** — The Bell Tower Shops in Fort Myers presents a free showing of Alfred Hitchcock’s “Rear Window” with James Stewart and Grace Kelly beginning at dusk in the courtyard. Popcorn and movie treats provided; coolers not permitted. Lawn chairs suggested. 489-1221.

Saturday, Aug. 22

■ **Ha! Ha! Ha!** — Laugh it up with the Naples Laughter Club from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at Lowdermilk Park. Free. 821-1073 or e-mail napleslaughterclub@yahoo.com.

■ **Be Prepared** — The Boy Scouts hold a recruitment event from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park. Scouts will man stations of fishing, canoe races, volleyball, a sand castle competition and Ultimate Frisbee. The public is welcome. Park entry fees apply. 821-8277.

■ **Made in Florida** — This week’s free screening beginning at 1 p.m. at the Collier County Museum is “Cocoon” (1985), filmed in St. Petersburg and starring Don Ameche, Hume Cronyn and Jessica Tandy and directed by Ron Howard. 3301 Tamiami Trail East, in the Collier County Government Center. 252-8476 or www.colliermuseums.org.

■ **Cruising for Gummi** — Join the animal rescue organization Friends of Gummi for a fundraising cruise aboard

the Naples Princess beginning at 6 p.m. Onboard entertainment will be by Erica Wagner and Nate Huffman, two teens who turn back time with their Sonny and Cher act. \$100 per person. 248-2599 or 404-6539.

Sunday, Aug. 23

■ **Summer Show** — JoAnn Sanborn is the featured artist at Blue Mangrove Gallery through Aug. 31. 1089 N. Collier Blvd., Marco Island. 393-2405.

■ **I Do!** — Brides get in free, and the rest of the party pay \$5 each, for the bridal show beginning at 1 p.m. at Germain Area in Estero. 431-7565 or www.germainarena.com

Monday, Aug. 24

■ **Trivia Night** — Test your knowledge of the small stuff beginning at 7:30 p.m. at The Pub at Mercato. 594-9400.

■ **Sunset Cruise** — Enjoy a two-hour cruise along Rookery Bay aboard the Conservancy of Southwest Florida’s Good Fortune. \$25 for Conservancy adult members and \$12 for member children ages 3-12. Non-member cost is \$30 for adults and \$15 for children. Reservations required. 403-4236 or www.conservancy.org.

■ **Get Creative** — Spend “An Evening Of Creativity” with Patty Kane at Rosen Gallery and Studios and take home a watercolor of your own creation. 6-9 p.m. \$30 per person includes all materials and even some refreshments. For reservations, call (312) 277-9880 or e-mail patty@artbypattykane.com.

Tuesday, Aug. 25

■ **Story Time** — Moms and tots are invited to story time beginning at 10 a.m. at Barnes & Noble in Waterside Shops. 598-5205.

■ **Team Trivia** — It’s team trivia night beginning at 9 p.m. at Boston Beer Garden. 2396 Immokalee Road. 596-2337.

■ **Twilight Time** — It’s free family movie at Gulf Coast Town Center. “Twilight” will begin around sunset. 267-0783 or www.gulfcoasttowncenter.com.

Wednesday, Aug. 26

■ **Play Date** — Ages 6 and up are invited to Learning Express to make animals, people and buildings using Wikki Stix. \$7 per child. 2460 Vanderbilt Beach Road. 594-2525.

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COURTESY IMAGES

About the artists and their work, clockwise from left:

Photographer Gareth Rockliff, a native of Southport, England, says he enjoys the challenge of catching a shot "in camera" and using minimal digital manipulation.

Ruth Mueller Taylor says her favorite painters are the American Impressionists. Her medium of choice is oil, which she applies with a palette knife or impasto brush strokes. She titled this painting *Free Ride*.

A.J. Catalano has been passionate about photographic art since 1955, when he captured an image of a lone oak tree in New England with his Kodak Brownie.

Micheala Castaldi retired to Naples from Rhode Island and has since turned a much-loved hobby into a full-fledged career. She titled this painting *Naples Bayfront*.

PIERS

From page 1

gallery owner Dede Sweet. "The idea for 'Pier Pressure' is to show how painters and photographers interpret this and other landmark spots around town, each in their own way."

The pier was built in 1888 as a freight and passenger dock. Narrow-gauge

train rails spanning the length of the pier transported people and products in the early 1900s. In fact, the pier was the only point of entry into Naples until 1915, when the oyster shell road between the town and Fort Myers was completed.

Today the city-owned pier is purely for pleasure — and artistic inspiration.

The three featured artists exhibiting in "Pier Pressure" at Sweet Art Gallery are Michaela Castaldi, A.J.

Catalano and Wayne Wilmoth. Other pieces in the show are by Gareth Rockliffe, Jane Ruprecht and Ruth Mueller Taylor.

The exhibit opens with a reception from 6-9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 21, and will hang through Sept. 10. Regular gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. The gallery is at 2054 Trade Center Way. Call 597-2110 or visit www.thesweetartgallery.com. ■

POETRY

From page 1

ever read. It moved me to tears."

To participate in the open mic event, attendees will be asked to add their names to a sign-in sheet at the door. The night will begin with readings from the three featured poets. A question and discussion period will follow.

After a break, the open mic will begin. Although original works of poetry are preferred, Ms. Sokol says there is no prohibition against reading another poet's writings. There will be a time

limit on readings, however.

All experience levels are encouraged to attend, either to read or simply listen. The only guideline is that the work be poetry, although Ms. Sokol notes "all poetry doesn't have a set format."

"The classical writing styles of poetry are one thing, but we welcome free verse," she says.

Open mic night for poets will be held every Sunday at Six Degrees Exhibitions. Mr. Gromalski says he would like to see the evenings "be the spearhead for an entire artistic renaissance" in Naples — one that could affect food, fashion, literature, painting, dance and more. "I hope it generates an interest in the arts."

Poetry readings are a good fit for Six Degrees Exhibitions, says Dan Linehan, owner of the art studio that recently screened films for the Naples International Film Festival and that has held music and photography events and plans to offer acting seminars.

Mr. Linehan describes some of these offerings as "perhaps nontraditional" for an art studio, but adds, "We don't like to rule out any idea that's going to give awareness to the arts here in Naples."

"We will definitely push the limits, but we're very respectful of what has made Naples what it is."

For more information about "Spoken Word. Verbal Canvas." e-mail Ms. Sokol at shsokol@comcast.net. ■



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ARTS COMMENTARY

Missing the bliss, 'Married Alive' shows little signs of life

NancySTETSON

nstetson@floridaweekly.com



After seeing "Married Alive" at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre opening night, I think being buried alive would be a less agonizing way to go.

The musical by Sean Grennan and Leah Okimoto looks at the joys and foibles of marriage with two sets of characters: a just-married couple (Kara Farmer and Jeff Ostermueller) and an older pair who've been married for a while (Cheyenne Nelson and Kevin T. Murphy).

The show begins and ends on a hopeful note, but there's not much in between to make the idea of matrimony even remotely enticing. There's little substance and nothing new. We've seen these situations and heard these jokes many times over already, and the show brings no new slants or insights.

We've all seen the husband sitting slack-jawed in front of the TV, remote in hand, watching sports.

We've all seen the wife who talks so much her husband can't get a word in edgewise.

You get the feeling Mr. Grennan and Ms. Okimoto are trying to imitate the highly successful musical "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change," but they fall far short.

Mr. Grennan, who wrote the book and lyrics, seems to go for the easiest jokes. The lyrics are at best pedestrian, at worst cringe-worthy. His "This Game Takes Two" has couplets such as, "This game takes two/Just like chess" and "This game takes two/It's not luge." (Don't they have two-man luge in the Olympics?)

In "Oh, Knocked Up!" set to gospel-tinged music, the inane lyrics include a line about having a baby on a Gerber box who'd make "other babies look as if they have the pox."

And in "The Lucky One," Mr. Ostermueller sings, "She married down/It lifts me up."

Oh, please.

All the old clichés...

"Married Alive" seems to traffic in clichés, trotting out all the standard situations that accompany the institution of marriage: money problems, in-law troubles, communication difficulties, having a baby versus not having a baby,



COURTESY PHOTO

If you go

- >>What: "Married Alive"
- >>When: through Sept. 26
- >>Where: Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre, 1380 Colonial Blvd.
- >>Cost: \$35 for dinner and show
- >>Information: Call 278-4422 or go to www.BroadwayPalm.com

how sex changes over the years.

The writers do try to modernize things by having a skit about a young couple trying to maintain a long-distance relationship. And they throw a hip-hop tune in the mix when singing about teens.

But much more often than it hits the

"Married Alive" runs through Sept. 26 at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre.

target, this show misses.

Among the bright spots: There's the line, "Men are from Mars... where there is no intelligent life." And there's the 50-year-old woman unfairly passed over for a promotion who declares, "I'm too young to retire and too old to suck up to idiots."

But one of the funniest lines of the evening didn't get one laugh opening night; a young couple contemplates moving to Fort Myers, and the husband seriously says, "I hear it's the Paris of the southeast."

The musical's most clever moment comes at the very end, when the two

couples are on stage together. The older couple is moving out of their home, the younger couple is just moving in. The dialogue overlaps, with the actors in two different households sometimes echoing each other, sometimes saying the same line simultaneously. It's a brilliant piece of writing, and it makes you wish the rest of the show leading up to this point had been as clever.

The bliss is missing

Ms. Farmer and Mr. Ostermueller are fresh out of college. Ms. Farmer has a funny turn playing twins home for Christmas; Mr. Ostermueller seems miscast, as he looks too young to be legally married.

Mr. Murphy gets stuck playing the hapless husband a lot, but has his moment as an aggressive dad who hates his son-in-law.

But it's Ms. Nelson, as the older wife, who shines in this otherwise dull production. She shows her comedic chops playing a mother at Christmas: "I don't ask for much," she moans. "I just want everything to be perfect." (Costume designer Jim Conti has dressed her perfectly, in a platinum bouffant wig complete with a poinsettia flower over the ear, and an atrocious holiday sweater.)

And she's poignant and touching when, passed over for a promotion, she wonders what her life is about, what it adds up to. "We Haven't Come So Far," her duet with Mr. Murphy, is one of the highlights of the evening, a paean to a love that's endured the years.

Ms. Nelson makes the most with the material she's given.

The set, by Robert Andrew Kovach, is minimalist. It's a nice, simple, polished stage, with a repeating labyrinth design and a backdrop with abstracted puzzle pieces.

Musical director Loren Strickland provides the show's sole accompaniment on piano. The music is predictable: pop tune, gospel tune, doo-wop '50's-ish tune, and yes, even a singer impersonating Elvis moves.

Director Michael Brindisi didn't have great material to work with, but I wish he'd pushed the envelope to at least stage it more creatively. (In one scene, an actor is driving a car. When he gets to his destination, what does he do? He winds up carrying the steering wheel into the house with him!)

In the end, "Married Alive" is as schlocky and as predictable as corny, self-penned wedding vows. ■



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GIVING

When we all invest in education, our community reaps the rewards

BY LISA CHURCH
Special to Florida Weekly

Now more than ever, working together toward common goals is the surest way to achieve the kind of quality community that we all want.

Most of us do not have the resources we had two years ago. This is true whether you have had great wealth, or have struggled for some time. As history reminds us, however, adversity gives rise to great things — sometimes things we may never have conceived of in better times. These experiences remind us that we are not islands, and that we rely on one another for our mutual success.

We are reminded what it feels like to help each other, and how that feeling rekindles a sense of security and hope; we remember that we are not alone.

We are reminded of what was done by those who came before us to ensure our future, which in turn, reminds us that we have a commitment to our children to ensure theirs.

■ **It's about all of us. It's about our future. It's the Heart of the Apple.**

This summer, our community has come together in a way that should make us all proud.

Normally, when students sit down for breakfast in school cafeterias on Monday morning, there is noisy chatter all around. But last spring, principals and staff noticed an alarming trend — complete silence on Mondays. Students were focused on eating. Their hunger was palpable.

Consider this: 54 percent of Collier County students are in need of free and reduced meals provided by schools.

While the weight of that realization must have been staggering, the immediate next thought was to ensure our students would not go hungry over the summer months.

Collier County Parks and Recreation — in collaboration with the Collier County Public Schools, Collier County Hunger and Homeless Coalition, Kids Against Hunger, the NAACP and Volunteer Collier — kicked into high gear to expand and implement the federally funded “Kids’ Cafeteria” program during the summer months.

This summer, through 30 different sites, approximately 275,000 meals (breakfast or lunch) have been served to children ages 18 and under in our community.

■ **It's about all of us. It's about our future.**

The entire community reaps the reward when young people are well educated and understand that our commitment to each other is to play some part in our mutual success. Our community recognizes the importance of helping children come to school ready to learn — and it shows.

Several local organizations have traditionally made the back-to-school time of year easier for parents by conducting school supplies and sneakers collection drives. This year,



COURTESY PHOTO
Collier students enjoying a Connect with a Classroom grant project.

however, more businesses, organizations and individuals than ever are recognizing that strained family budgets make it difficult to send children to school with the supplies they need to be successful in the classroom.

Five companies have asked The Education Foundation to help facilitate their efforts to collect school supplies. Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union, Fifth Third Bank, Costco, State Farm and AT&T have organized drives and other ways to contribute to schools and families with school supply needs and uniforms. In addition, The Education Foundation has created a Back-to-School Grant Fund to accept contributions for this purpose as well.

By getting involved and contributing toward any of the back-to-school initiatives in Collier County, you can help our community's children have a positive start to the school year.

■ **It's about all of us. It's about our future.**

This year marks 20 years of The Education Foundation working to engage our community and schools in pursuit of a quality education for every child. Founded with the core belief that teachers have the greatest impact on student learning, The Foundation's initiatives have evolved to support teachers and principals and individual student success within Connect Now, a community articulated framework to support education.

Please help us continue to serve our community and make education a priority for your giving. A contribution, large or small, to our annual campaign will help us to continue to support our community's desire to make education the best it can be.

It's about all of us. It's about our future. It's the Heart of the Apple. ■

Lisa Church is senior vice president at The Education Foundation of Collier County. Founded in 1990, the Foundation is an independent not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose purpose is to engage our community and schools. To make a contribution or get involved, call 643-4755 or visit www.EducationForCollier.org.

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	MOSS	TAHOE	ANTENNA						
KEVIN	COSTNER	STEAL							
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RADIAL	CHARLIE	CHAPLIN							
ATONCE	KALE	FLEE	SONY						
TERSE	STEM	FLEX	ETTA						



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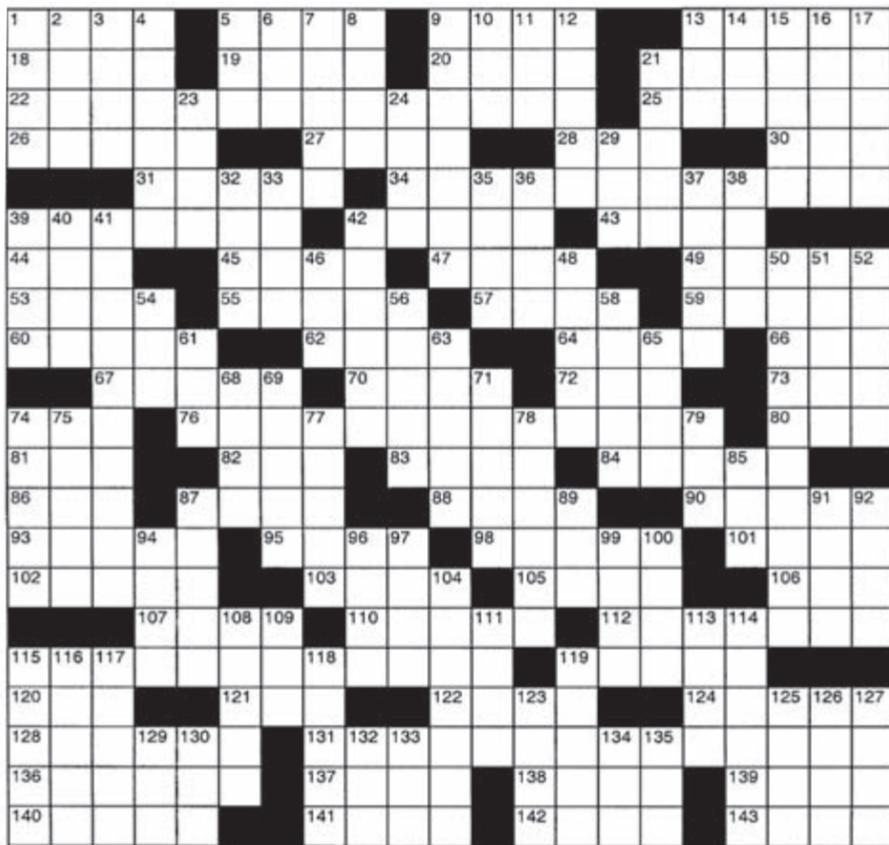
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FLORIDA WEEKLY PUZZLES

SELF-DIRECTED



- ACROSS**
- 1 Way through the forest
 - 5 Enthusiastic
 - 9 Rappers — -n-Pepa
 - 13 Encrypted
 - 18 Sweet sandwich
 - 19 Son of Isaac
 - 20 "Zip — -Doo-Dah"
 - 21 Big name in chocolate
 - 22 Self-directed in "Henry V"
 - 25 Hockey's Yashin
 - 26 Facilitated
 - 27 Queue tip?
 - 28 Stirrup site
 - 30 Taxing org.
 - 31 A little night music?
 - 34 Self-directed in "Bulworth"
 - 39 Vacation home
 - 42 Friday's creator
 - 43 "Stop!"
 - 44 Ransom — Olds
 - 45 Broccoli
 - 47 Lots of time
 - 49 It gets wet as it dries
 - 53 Ohio city
 - 55 First-class
 - 57 Wool gatherer?
 - 59 Atlanta campus
 - 60 Peter of "Casa-blanca"
 - 62 Seeks change?
 - 64 Parent
 - 66 Lennon's lady
 - 67 Frequently
 - 70 Mille., farther south
 - 72 Supply with Stens
 - 73 Uproar
 - 74 Geldof or Goldthwait
 - 76 Self-directed in "The Bridges of Madison County"
 - 80 "Definitely!"
 - 81 Clerical garb
 - 82 Slangy suffix
 - 83 Actress Louise
 - 84 Stage stuff
 - 86 Wahine's wreath
 - 87 TV's "Family —"
 - 88 Floor model
 - 90 Gush forth
 - 93 Actress Dominique
 - 95 Behalf
 - 98 Hurried
 - 101 — vera
 - 102 Photographer Adams
 - 103 Cheerful song
 - 105 Turner of "Peyton Place"
 - 106 Be human
 - 107 Velvety plant
 - 110 Lake near
 - 112 Aphid apparatus
 - 115 Self-directed in "Dances with Wolves"
 - 119 Break a commandment
 - 120 Actress Tatyana
 - 121 GI's address
 - 122 Promise
 - 124 Discernment
 - 128 Tire type
 - 131 Self-directed in "Modern Times"
 - 136 Pronto
 - 137 Cabbage cousin
 - 138 Absquatulate
 - 139 JVC competitor
 - 140 Pithy
 - 141 Goblet part
 - 142 Pop one's pecs
 - 143 Sundance's sweetie
- DOWN**
- 1 Jab
 - 2 Neck of the woods
 - 3 Hamilton bills
 - 4 Candid
 - 5 Fathom
 - 6 Deciduous tree
 - 7 Building feature
 - 8 Atmosphere
 - 9 Southwestern capital
 - 10 Orthodoxists' org.
 - 11 Poultry
 - 12 Snicker sound
 - 13 Mil. rank
 - 14 Dryden work
 - 15 "ipse —"
 - 16 Tennis player Chris
 - 17 Dagwood's dog
 - 21 "Ninotchka" star
 - 23 Best of films
 - 24 "— forgive those . . ."
 - 29 Plus
 - 32 Brute
 - 33 Genuine
 - 35 Inn offering
 - 36 Nevada city
 - 37 Computer key
 - 38 Mighty mite
 - 39 Battery
 - 40 Hodgepodge
 - 41 Self-directed in "Bob Roberts"
 - 42 Do more than dislike
 - 46 Chest protector
 - 48 Skimmer material
 - 50 Self-directed in "Annie Hall"
 - 51 Singer Maresca
 - 52 French port
 - 54 Word from a whippet
 - 56 Snowy bird
 - 58 Biblical tyrant
 - 61 Catchall abbr.
 - 63 Formal
 - 65 "Porgi —" (Mozart aria)
 - 68 Wells creatures
 - 69 Frasier's brother
 - 71 Ed of "Roots"
 - 74 Hobby wood
 - 75 City on the Allegheny
 - 77 Twangy
 - 78 Hot stuff?
 - 79 Smidgen
 - 85 "— culpa"
 - 87 Crow's toe
 - 89 — -Locka, FL
 - 91 Podiatric problem
 - 92 Jealous Olympian
 - 94 Half (Pref.)
 - 96 Singer Eartha
 - 97 Dash
 - 99 — the finish
 - 100 Hamlet or Kierkegaard
 - 104 Proposition
 - 108 It'll give you a weigh
 - 109 Soak up
 - 111 Spoken
 - 113 "Cheerio!"
 - 114 Slip by
 - 115 Metal measure
 - 116 Gladden
 - 117 Director King
 - 118 Darned things
 - 119 Seashore souvenir
 - 123 Petty clash?
 - 125 Job opening
 - 126 Add color
 - 127 "Only Time" singer
 - 129 Officeholders
 - 130 Expert
 - 132 Arlen's "The Green —"
 - 133 Flagon filler
 - 134 Artichoke heart?
 - 135 Spell

SEE ANSWERS, C9

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HOROSCOPES

LEO (July 23 to August 22)

Keeping your claws sheathed and using good humor instead to counter someone who's bad-mouthing the Big Cat isn't easy. But it's the best way to avoid more problems down the line.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)

A workplace situation could improve if you're less critical and more supportive of those who are, after all, trying to do their best. Let them know you're there to help when necessary.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)

A new job offer might not carry all the benefits you're seeking. Make sure you know what you're entitled to, what is off the table and what is negotiable before you make a decision.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)

A social obligation you would rather get out of could hold some surprisingly positive aspects. Why not go and see for yourself? A family member makes a curious request.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)

Before tackling that new project awaiting you at home or on the job, take time out for some much-deserved pampering to help lift your spirits and restore your energy levels.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)

Your social calendar begins to fill up more quickly than you expected. And that's great. You deserve to enjoy some good fun after so much time spent on serious matters.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)

A domestic situation continues to improve, thanks to all the

tender, loving concern you've shown. A colleague makes a questionable move that you might want to check out sooner rather than later.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20)

A sudden turn in a romantic relationship calls for both a rational and passionate response. Keep the love level high, but also find out why the problem arose in the first place.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)

Be careful not to allow the backers of a new financial "deal" to pull the wool over the Lamb's eyes. It could hold fewer pluses and more negatives than you were first led to believe.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)

It's a good idea to finish all incomplete tasks so that you can devote your attention to next week's projects. The weekend could hold surprises for romantic Fernandas and Ferdinands.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)

A workplace suggestion you made a while ago that you might have forgotten could come back with a request to turn it from idea to reality. Your social life picks up considerably this weekend.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)

Someone from the past could return with an intriguing opportunity for a future project. Check into it, by all means. But don't neglect your current responsibilities in the meantime.

BORN THIS WEEK:

You often set high standards for others. But to your credit, you set the same expectations for yourself.

By Linda Thistle

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Puzzle Difficulty this week:



Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ Expert

SEE ANSWERS, C9

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LATEST FILMS

'District 9'

★★★
Is it worth \$10? Yes



There's nothing subtle about "District 9," an instantly gripping, up-tempo action movie that imagines aliens and humans trying to peacefully co-exist. The action is tense, the story is interesting, and the visual effects seamlessly integrate with the documentary-style photography. This is abrupt, in-your-face filmmaking that immerses us in the story and keeps us captivated throughout.

Writer/director Neill Blomkamp does, however, find trouble when his movie becomes an overt allegory for United States foreign relations in the Middle East. If you play along, and substitute the "aliens" for "Iraqis," the movie may take on a deeper meaning. But the energy is too intense for most to want to think about the real world and why should you while watching such escapist fare? The hidden message is distracting and unnecessary, and takes away from a story that works perfectly fine without sociopolitical commentary.

For 20 years, aliens have lived peacefully among humans in an area called District 9 inside Johannesburg, South Africa. Unsure of what to do with the



1.8 million aliens, government leaders have placed control of their handling to Multi-National United, a private company that only cares about the aliens' advanced weaponry.

At the center of the tale is Wikus van der Merwe (Sharlto Copley), a low-level field operative charged with moving the aliens from District 9 to an even grittier slum. In the process of evicting aliens from their homes, Wikus contracts a mysterious virus that begins to change his body. As he slowly becomes an alien, MNU hunts him down in an effort to extract his newfound DNA, as he is now the key to unlocking alien technology.

Peter Jackson (the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy) produced the film. Mr. Blomkamp shares Mr. Jackson's ability to tell a compelling story with great urgency and efficiency. Mr. Blomkamp also used motion capture animation (recording an actor's movements into a computer, then animating the character) to create the aliens, similar to how Mr. Jackson

created Gollum and King Kong.

Indeed, the visual effects of all the aliens, their ship, weapons, etc., are impressive, especially when combined with the realistic feel of documentary-style footage. Inexplicably, though, Mr. Blomkamp all but abandons the documentary feel half way through and the movie becomes a full-fledged action/chase pic, leaving one to wonder how much more different, original and creative it could've been if it stuck to its documentary format.

Some may argue "District 9" works because of its social message. Fair enough, though I think it works in spite of it. Yes, movies are always a reflection of the society in which they're made, but a bit more subtlety in its theme of fairness and equality would've been more true to the movie's formula for success. ■

— Dan Hudak is the chairman of the Florida Film Critics Circle and a nationally syndicated film critic. You can e-mail him at dan@hudakonhollywood.com and read more of his work at www.hudakonhollywood.com.

Did you know?
The project came to fruition after Mr. Jackson's adaptation of the video game "Halo," which Mr. Blomkamp was supposed to direct, fell through. Mr. Blomkamp then pitched a feature-length story based on a low-budget short he made a few years earlier called "Alive in Jo'burg," and new plans quickly fell into place.

CAPSULES

Julie & Julia ★★★
(Meryl Streep, Amy Adams, Stanley Tucci) With two storylines set roughly 50 years apart, writer/director Nora Ephron ("Sleepless in Seattle") balances Julia Child's (Streep) rise to fame with that of an aspiring writer (Adams) who uses Child's cookbook to find purpose in her life. The performances are expectedly solid, but more importantly, the story has heart and is inspiring without being too schmaltzy. Based on two true stories. Rated PG-13.

Funny People ★★½
(Adam Sandler, Seth Rogen, Eric Bana) A famous comedian (Sandler) with a terminal illness hires an aspiring comic (Rogen) as his assistant in the third film from writer/director/producer Judd Apatow ("Knocked Up"). There are jokes throughout, but the first 90 minutes is so dour and serious that it's hard for the comedy to shine through. The latter half of the 140-minute movie — thanks in part to inspired turns from Leslie Mann and Bana — is refreshing and fun, but never fully escapes the serious tone. Rated R.

(500) Days of Summer ★★★★★
(Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Zooey Deschanel, Geoffrey Arend) Greeting card writer Tom (Gordon-Levitt) is a hopeless romantic who loves his sprightly co-worker/girlfriend, Summer (Deschanel). She, however, doesn't believe in love. This very smart, very original and very wonderful romantic comedy is as honest and endearing a movie as you can imagine. Rated PG-13.

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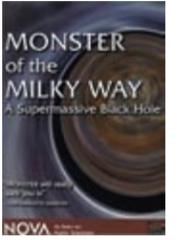
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- **FRIDAY, AUG. 21**
8:30 p.m., Connect! Grassroots Activism
 Providing the uninsured with access to health care through grassroots efforts in Southwest Florida: Offering health services through volunteer physicians at The Neighborhood Clinic in Naples, and meeting the needs of the uninsured through St. Vincent de Paul in Charlotte County. Hosted by Jim McLaughlin.
- **MONDAY, AUG. 24**
8 p.m. Antiques Roadshow, Los Angeles - 3
 Anna Richards Brewster paintings and original "Peanuts" comic strips and artwork.
- **TUESDAY, AUG. 25**
8 p.m., NOVA Monster of the Milky Way
 This mind-bending investigation delves into one of the most bizarre corners of cosmological science: black holes.
- **WEDNESDAY, AUG. 26**
8 p.m., Great Performances Harlem in Montmartre
 The story of the Jazz Age in Paris between the First and Second World Wars explores an often-neglected era in African-American cultural history. Includes archival material from France and America, with footage of key figures such as James Reese Europe, Josephine Baker, Sidney Bechet, Bricktop, Eugene Bullard and Django Reinhardt. ■
- **SATURDAY, AUG. 22**
9 p.m., As Time Goes By Reunion Special
 Jean's anticipation for grandchildren is much to her husband Lionel's dismay. Judi Dench stars.
- **SUNDAY, AUG. 23**
9 p.m., Masterpiece Mystery! Inspector Lewis: Expiation
 When a housewife is found hanged at home, it appears to be a clear case of suicide. But the lack of a note and the fact that her life seemed perfect makes Detective Inspector Robbie Lewis (Kevin Whately) skeptical. Laurence Fox co-stars.



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Women's Blues Revue returns to SummerJazz on the Gulf

The Women's Blues Revue returns to SummerJazz on the Gulf at the Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club from 7-10 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 22.

This marks the popular band's 11th appearance at SummerJazz, which takes place on the picturesque Watkins Lawn overlooking the Gulf of Mexico. The fun, free, and family-friendly concerts are open to the public. Lawn chairs and blankets for seating are welcome, but coolers are not permitted.

Known in the Florida Jazz scene for many years, Women's Blues Revue is made up of eight of Florida's best female blues, R&B, rock and jazz musicians. All are working musicians who

have regular gigs with other bands, but they come together a few times a year for special shows like SummerJazz on the Gulf. Headlining the group on lead vocals and guitar is Patty Sanphy.

The final concert in the 2009 SummerJazz on the Gulf series will feature Big Night Out on Saturday, Sept. 19.

Jazz fans headed for the concert should consider dining at the resort's H.B.'s on the Gulf, the city of Naples' only beachfront restaurant. Patrons also can enjoy a specialty drink at the Sunset Beach Bar. For information about special rooms rates at the hotel on concert nights, call 261-2222 or visit www.NaplesBeachHotel.com ■



Women's Blues Revue

COURTESY PHOTO



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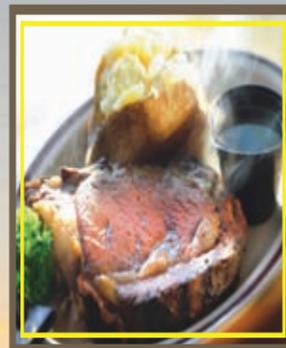
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Saturday, August 29th at 11 am the festivities begin.
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Brush up on song and dance for TheatreZone auditions

TheatreZone, Naples' professional equity theater company, announces auditions for its 2009-2010 season will take place Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 19-20.

Artistic Director Mark Danni says equity and non-equity performers are encouraged to make an appointment for an audition time between 10 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. on either day. Equity members without appointments will be seen throughout the audition day, as time permits.

Auditions will take place in the G&L Theatre at The Community School of Naples, 13275 Livingston Road.

Actors should bring a photograph and resume, stapled together, and should prepare 32 bars of a song and have a contrasting selection ready if asked. Bring sheet music in the correct key; an accom-

panist will be provided. Be prepared to dance. Sides will also be provided at the audition. Visually impaired performers may request an advance copy of the sides when making an audition appointment.

TheatreZone's schedule for the season is as follows:

- "Man of La Mancha," Dec. 3-13 (rehearsals begin Nov. 23)
- "High Spirits," Jan. 7-17 (rehearsals begin Dec. 28)
- "The Beast of Broadway," March 4-14 (rehearsals begin Feb. 15)
- "I Love My Wife," June 10-20 (rehearsals begin May 31)

For more information about auditions, call Mr. Danni at 249-2090 or visit www.TheatreZone-Florida.com. ■

Everblades seek Gator Girls for dance team auditions

The Florida Everblades will hold auditions for the new Everblades Gator Girls on Sunday, Aug. 30.

Candidates should be cheerleaders and dancers who are high-school graduates over the age of 21 and who want to support Everblades hockey all season long. Although skating is not required, the team is always looking for skaters to add to the dynamic of the team.

Auditions will take place in the Olde Florida Room inside Germain Arena,

with registration at 1 p.m. and try-outs beginning at 2 p.m. There is a \$20 registration fee. Attire is dance shoes or sneakers, a sports bra or dance-crop top with dance shorts; and nude/flesh-colored tights or panty hose.

All contestants should be prepared to do a 45- to 60-second dance to music of their choice; they will also learn a group dance and sideline dance to be performed in small groups.

For more information, e-mail gator-girlsinfo@yahoo.com. ■

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Try your hand at watercolor in classes at Rosen Gallery

Have you always dreamed of painting in watercolor, but never held a brush in your hand? Did you used to paint, but haven't done it in years?

Perhaps it's time for "An Evening of Creativity" with watercolor artist Patty Kane at Rosen Gallery & Studios. Ms. Rosen holds classes from 6-9 p.m. Mondays, Aug. 24 and 31, and Sept. 14, 21 and

28. For \$30 per person, participants get all materials and instruction, plus hors d'oeuvres. At the end of the night they have a painting to take home.

The Rosen Gallery & Studios is at 2172 J&C Blvd. Reservations are required and can be made by calling Ms. Rosen at (321) 277-9880. ■

Naples Art Association calls for artists to apply for shows

The call for artists is out from the Naples Art Association for its 2009-2010 schedule of festivals. For more information about any of the following festivals, contact NAA Festival Director Marianne Megela by calling 262-6517, ext. 103, or e-mailing festivals@naplesart.org.

• **The Naples Renaissance Fall Art Festival**, Nov. 28-29, Thanksgiving Weekend, along 10th Street South near the Naples Depot — This is an invitational festival for 145 national, regional and local artists.

• **The 31st annual Naples National Art Festival**, Feb. 20-21, 2010, along Eighth Street South and in Cambier Park — Three hundred of the nation's top artists are juried into this show to display and sell ceramics, fiber/leather, furniture, glass, graphics/printmaking, jewelry, metal, mixed media 2D, mixed media 3D, painting, photography, sculpture and wood.

Apply online at www.juriedartservices.com or download an application from www.naplesart.org. The downloaded applications deadline is Sept. 1. The poster contest deadline is Sept. 7, and the online application deadline is Oct. 1.

View the Call for Artists video on YouTube entitled "31st Annual Naples National Art Festival A Call To Artists."

• **Mercato Fine Arts Festival**, March 6-7, 2010, at Mercato, U.S. 41 and Vanderbilt Beach Road in North Naples — This brand new juried show will feature works in all media by 125 artists from across the country. Deadline for entries is Nov. 1.

• **The 22nd annual Downtown Naples Festival of the Arts**, March 27-28, 2010, along Fifth Avenue South — Artists and festival guests alike enjoy the set-up along the street. Apply online at www.juriedartservices.com or download an application from www.naplesart.org. Deadline for entries is Dec. 1. ■

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KOVELS: ANTIQUES & COLLECTING

Colorful, collectible salt and pepper shakers are easy to find



several Indestructo brand scoops, all nickel-plated brass, made in the 1920s by the Benedict Manufacturing Co. of Syracuse, N.Y. Your scoop is medium-sized: 20 scoops total a quart of ice cream. Indestructo scoops ranged from the large eight-scoop size (just eight scoops filled a quart) to the small 30-scoop size. Most Indestructo scoops sell for \$75-\$100.

Looking for an inexpensive, colorful collectible? Figural ceramic salt and pepper shakers are easy to find, and not only are they colorful and fun to display, but you can use them, too.

“Kovels’ Antiques & Collectibles Price Guide” lists them at \$6-\$200, but you can find much lower prices are yard sales.

The most expensive are “huggers,” two shakers that actually hug each other by touching. The most famous of the huggers are sets by Van Tellingen.

“Nodders” are sets with a base with two holes that hold the shakers; each shaker has a tubelike part that sits in the hole. Touch the base, and the shakers nod up and down or sideways. “Stackers” are when one shaker sits on top of the other, like a pipe in an ashtray. You can also find shakers that rock, some that make a noise when lifted from the table and many that reflect personal interests such as sports, food, animals or comic figures.

Q: I have an ice-cream scoop marked “Benedict Indestructo” and “pat. -- 20 to a quart.” What is it worth, who made it, and how old is it?

A: Your ice-cream scoop was one of

Q: Is ironstone ware really made with iron?

A: The first products called “ironstone ware” were shaped pieces of cast iron covered with a heavy tin glaze, usually white, and decorated to look like ceramic pieces. It was indestructible but expensive. In 1813, C.J. Mason developed a china body that was made with cinders from iron furnaces as well as clay. Patented “Mason’s ironstone” sold for many years. Other makers publicized their products by using the name “ironstone” or “graniteware” on pieces, even though their dishes were not like Mason’s.

Q: My heavy 1-gallon, copper-clad and brass fire extinguisher has a pressure gauge, T-shape handle and short hose at the top of the cylindrical container. It’s marked “Phister No. 1 carbon tetrachloride fire extinguisher.” Patent numbers on its metal label range from 1,467,980 to 1,794,982. It was made in Cincinnati. When was it made and what’s the best way to sell it?

SEE KOVEL, C17 ▶

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KOVEL

From page C16

A: If there's still carbon tetrachloride in your extinguisher, take the extinguisher (carefully) to your fire department so experts can safely dispose of the chemical. The patent numbers on your extinguisher range in date from 1923-1931. From the 1920s through the '40s, many fire extinguishers were filled with carbon tetrachloride. It can quickly put out a liquid or electrical fire, but by the 1950s scientists figured out that the chemical's fumes can be fatal if inhaled or absorbed through the skin. So this type of extinguisher was no longer made. Empty extinguishers sell best at auctions or shows featuring fire-fighting memorabilia. Yours could sell for \$50-to \$75.

Write to Kovels, Florida Weekly, King Features Syndicate, 300 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019. We cannot guarantee the return of any photograph, but if a stamped envelope is included, we will try. The volume of mail makes personal answers or appraisals impossible.

CURRENT PRICES

Current prices are recorded from

antiques shows, flea markets, sales and auctions throughout the United States. Prices vary in different locations because of local economic conditions.



COURTESY PHOTO

This pair of Laurel and Hardy salt and pepper shakers dates from about 1950 and is marked with a paper sticker that says "Japan." It sold for \$173 at a Hake's Americana & Collectibles auction in York, Pa.

- California hunting license, 1916, cast-lead grizzly bear, 2¾-by-1⅞ inches, \$125.
- Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co. poster, 1895, titled "Look Mama, Little Rose Bud," New York, 18-by-32 inches, \$215.
- English brass candlesticks, tulip-form nozzle, twist shaft on ball and bell base, c. 1840, 5¼ inches, pair, \$420.
- American cut glass punch bowl, on stand, cut with hobstars, hobnails, cross-hatched miters, raised on flared matching base, 12½ inches, \$650.
- Louis XV French Provincial ladder-back chaise longue, oak, scalloped, tapered splats, rush seat, turned arms and legs, 1780s, 37-by-28 inches, \$1,175.
- Salesman sample hay tedder, 1900 model, walnut and machined brass, used to turn hay for drying, carrying case, 12-by-5½ inches, \$1,850.
- Zsolnay bowl, large female figure and three mythological figures atop sculpted waves, covered in blue and green metallic eosin glazes, signed, 14 inches, \$5,400.
- Arts & Crafts tabouret table, hexagonal, top over slab sides, pressed and carved design, 16-by-14-by-19 inches, \$6,600. ■

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Save the date for fifth annual Physicians Talent Showcase

A dozen of the finest physicians in Southwest Florida will forgo the "art of healing" for one magical evening this fall and will embrace the "art of performing" to benefit the Neighborhood Health Clinic and the Steinway Piano Society Scholarship Fund.

"Music Meets Medicine," the fifth annual Southwest Florida Physicians' Talent Show, will begin with a reception at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 20, at Sugden Community Theatre. Show time is 7:30 p.m. Tickets will be \$75 per person.

Last year's event generated more than

\$15,000 for the clinic and more than \$5,000 for scholarships. Nearly 200 local physicians volunteer their services to treat the Neighborhood Health Clinic's patients, who are uninsured, low-income residents of Collier County. The Steinway Piano Scholarship Fund helps local music students in middle school, high school and college.

Sponsorship opportunities are available for the 2009 talent show. For information, call Greg Billings, founder of the Steinway Piano Society, at the Steinway Piano Gallery, 498-9884. ■

Seventh annual Handbag Happy Hour will benefit Island Coast AIDS Network

The seventh annual Handbag Happy Hour, an evening that includes live and silent auctions of designer and celebrity purses to benefit the Island Coast AIDS Network, takes place Friday, Oct. 30, at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point in Bonita Springs.

Handbag Happy Hour is sponsored by Oswald Trippe and Company/Westfield Insurance, Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort, Planned Perfection and pearl brand communications.



The event begins at 5:30 p.m. The \$85 admission includes open bar, hors d'oeuvres, cigar terrace and hundreds of handbags for auction. Online registration is available at www.icanswfl.org.

ICAN's mission is to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS and assist individuals infected and affected in Southwest Florida. For more information, visit the Web site or call 337-2391. ■

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Anticipation grows for Garden grand opening

The expanded and renovated Naples Botanical Garden is well on the way to its grand opening in November. A new children's garden, Brazilian garden and Caribbean garden, as well as the River of Grass and a family butterfly house, will welcome their first visitors beginning Tuesday, Nov. 10.



Naples Botanical Garden

den, the Garden's signature annual luncheon. Tickets begin at \$500; tables of 10 begin at \$7,500.

• **Friday, Nov. 13:** Royal Palm Society brunch and member preview. Complimentary for Royal Palm Society members.

• **Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 14-15:** Public grand opening. The official ribbon cutting will be at 11 a.m., Saturday, followed by activities and entertainment both days. Admission is \$9.95 for adults, \$4.95 for children ages 4-14, children 3 and under are free.

For more information, contact Lisa Juliano at 643-7275 or ljuliano@naplesgarden.org, or visit www.naplesgarden.org. ■

Grand opening festivities will include:

- **Tuesday, Nov. 10:** A late afternoon into early evening stroll through each of the new gardens, with entertainment, cocktails and dinner under a grand tent. Tickets are \$250 per person; table packages are available.
- **Wednesday, Nov. 11:** Hats in the Gar-

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Thursday, August 20th, at the SWFL Museum of History 6:30-8:30 pm.

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Beloved black & white photographer Clyde Butcher shares his experience and stories during this special presentation followed by a book signing and dessert from Mason's Bakery. During the evening be sure to visit Clyde & Niki's Butcher's joint exhibit at the museum: "Historic Florida Architecture and American Landscape Photography" now thru October 31st.

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Sept. 10 - 7pm • Sept. 11 - 7pm • Sept. 12 - 3 & 7pm • Sept 13 - 5pm

Try 'If the Shoe Fits' on for size

Kicking off a season of fun (and kicking up your heels) is always the idea behind "If the Shoe Fits," a pre-holiday girls' night out to benefit The Education Foundation of Collier County. The seventh annual event takes place Wednesday evening, Dec. 2, at Saks Fifth Avenue in Waterside Shops.

Fabulous shoes, handbags and jewelry go hand in hand with shopping for a good cause — the foundation's Take Stock in Children scholarship and mentoring program — every year at "If the Shoe Fits." A raffle and silent auction are part of the fun, as are hors d'oeuvres, wine and



the signature "Shoetini" cocktail.

Guests also have the opportunity to congratulate the newest recipient of the foundation's annual Glass Slipper Award, a woman celebrated for her dedication and service to public education in Collier County.

As it has since 2003, Naples Illustrated continues to be the presenting sponsor of "If the Shoe Fits," with support this year from Florida Weekly.

Tickets are \$75 per person. Call the Education Foundation of Collier County at 643-4755 to make your reservation. ■

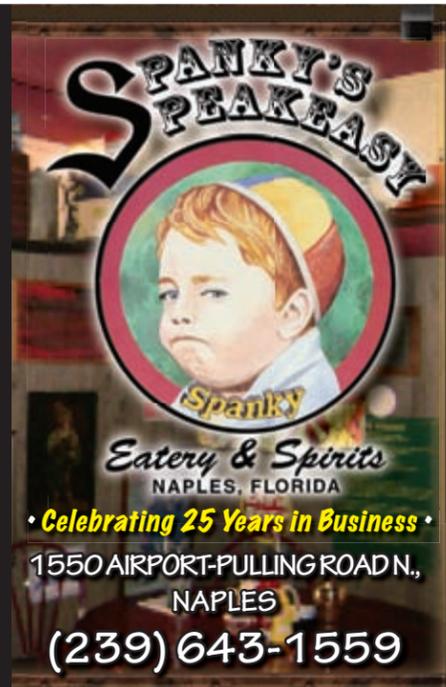
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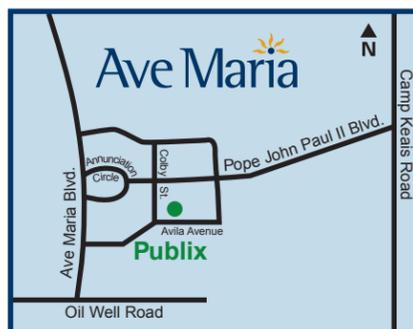


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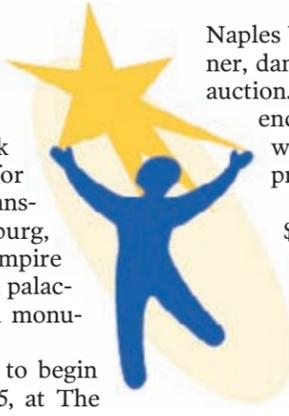
From Camp Keais Road:
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Save the date for a trip to the land of the tsars

The David Lawrence Foundation's signature fundraising event every year is a creative, destination-driven black tie gala. Ticketholders for the 2010 to-do will be transported to St. Petersburg, capital of the Russian Empire and the land of splendid palaces, imperial estates and monuments.

The adventure is set to begin at 6 p.m. Friday, Jan. 15, at The



Naples Yacht Club and will include dinner, dancing, entertainment and a silent auction. Russian attire is welcomed and encouraged. A VIP patron party will be held the evening before at a private residence in Naples.

Tickets are \$500 per person, \$1,200 per VIP guest or \$5,000 per table of 10. For more information and to make a reservation for "Saint Petersburg: Land of the Tsars," call 354-1416 or via e-mail to carols@dclmhc.com. ■

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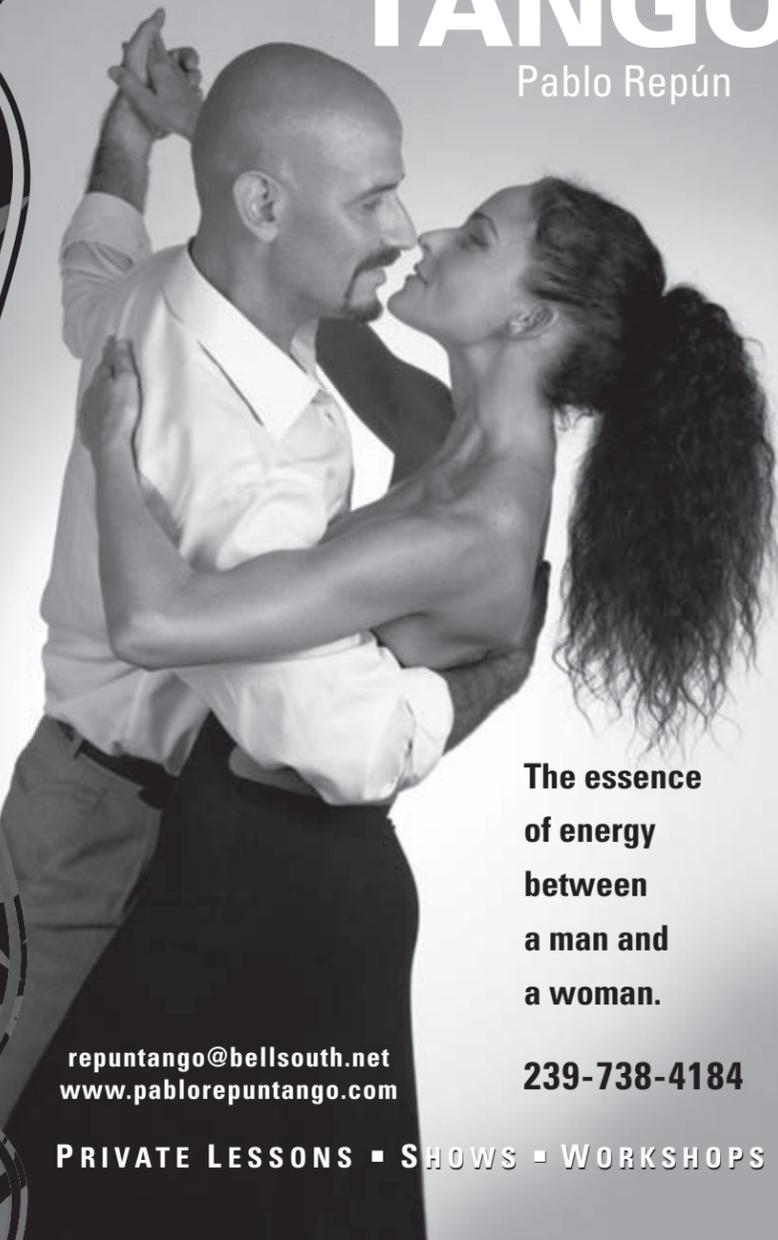
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PRIVATE LESSONS ■ SHOWS ■ WORKSHOPS

Dining, French lawn game will benefit NAA

Among the fundraiser coming up this season to benefit the Naples Art Association at The von Liebig Art Center are:

• **5-9 p.m. Wednesday, March 3: Dining for Philanthropy** —Throughout Collier County, NAA supporters open their homes so guests can experience good food, good fellowship and good philanthropy. After theme dinner parties in the private homes, guests will visit The von Liebig for a dessert reception and live art auction. The joint fundraiser benefits the scholarship programs of the Naples Woman's Club and the Naples Art Association at The von Liebig Art Center. Tickets are \$125 and can be purchased by

calling Ginamarie Pugliese at 262-6517, ext. 107, or Jalna MacLaren at 262-6331.

• **4 p.m. Sunday, March 21, Pétanque: An Evening in Provence** — Pétanque is a French game similar to bocce. Overlooking the Gulf of Mexico on the lawn of the Naples Beach Hotel, this event promises to be casual and social, encouraging fun and participation. It includes drinks, hors d'oeuvres, a Pétanque demonstration and tournament-style play, dinner and silent auction. Tickets are \$125 and can be obtained by calling Lori Fowler at 262-6517, ext. 115. Judith Liegeois of Judith Liegeois Design is the honorary chair. ■

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FLORIDA WEEKLY SOCIETY

Family and friends reception for summer ARTSchool at The von Liebig

- 1. Michael, Laura and Barbara Zion
- 2. Nicole DuPont Strub with Rich, Paige and LouAnn Stevens
- 3. Raquel Crespo with her mom and dad, Jean and Ariel Crespo
- 4. ARTScool instructor David Hammel, left, with John Fumagalli and his children Lucie, David and Alexi
- 5. Charlotte Rosenquist with Emma, Joe and Agnes Papisidero



COURTESY PHOTOS

12-Step Fantasy Football Addicts at Hooter's for the 2009 Draft

- 6. Mike Simpson, Kurt Kalles, Neva Kalles, John Rosse, Craig Bamberg, Corky McAvoy, Dan Butchko and Doug Kimmel

COURTESY PHOTOS



See all the images from this event and more at www.FloridaWeekly.com.
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FLORIDA WEEKLY SOCIETY

Tuesday Yappy Hour at The Dock

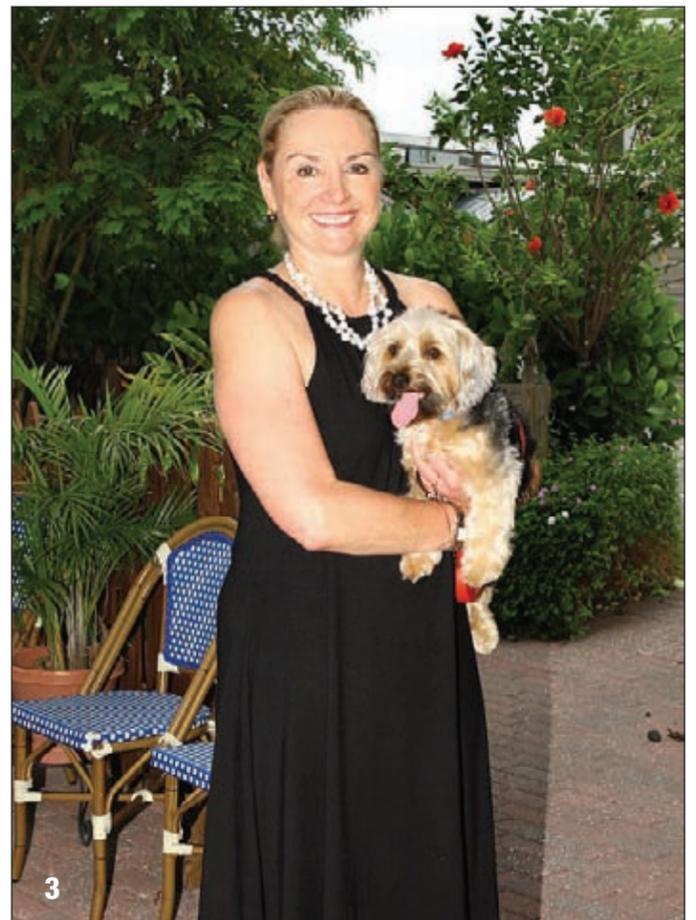
Canines and their companions mingle at Crayton Cove

1. Debby DePasquale and Shadow
2. Ginger Moxam and Wren Zeller
3. Bobbi Mitchell and Shadow
4. Charles Giddens and Zeus
5. Julia and Jim Valentine with Tiffany and Abella
6. Terry Edwards and Zeus

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FLORIDA WEEKLY SOCIETY

More doggone fun at The Dock

1. Joanne Giddens with her granddaughter Skylar Giddens and Prince Baby Man
2. Tiffany sees a friend
3. Vin and Jonathan DePasquale
4. Heel, Shadow! Good boy!
5. Zeus and Tiffany get acquainted
- 6 & 7. Caroline Martino with Chili and Crumpet



1



3

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2



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VINO

Cool off by uncorking some of these hot new whites

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Trebbiano. Godello. Reuilly. Torrontes. Basa.

For those grown weary of chardonnay, pinot grigio and sauvignon blanc, who dismiss whites as mundane, these lesser-known whites could be a pleasant surprise — on your palate and also on your wallet. All of them are available in our market, and they earn enthusiastic reviews from area wine aficionados.

“Trebbiano is the most widely planted grape in the world,” says Angela Robertson, sommelier at Angelina’s Ristorante in Bonita Springs. “It is a crisp and lovely wine, somewhere between a pinot grigio and sauvignon blanc” in flavor. One she recommends is Masciarelli Trebbiano d’Abruzzo 2007 (about \$12), which has light lemony grassy notes and some minerality without the grapefruit blast many New Zealand wines possess.

Sukie Honeycutt of Tony’s Off Third in Naples sips a Spanish favorite called Costello do Papa Godello.

The godello grape variety isn’t widely known in this country, but it’s one Ms. Honeycutt loves. She picked out the Costello do Papa at a recent blind tasting recently at I M Tapas because she knows the grape so well, she says. The 2007 vintage is not too crisp but has enough acid to be refreshing, she adds. A good aperitif wine, it has well

integrated flavors of white peach and melon and sells for about \$18.

Another Spanish wine Ms. Honeycutt likes is Basa by Telmo Rodriguez. A crisp and fresh blend of mostly verdejo grape, it has flavors of red apple and a touch of pear and sells for about \$20.

Frank Pulice of Austin’s Wine Cellar in Fort Myers has his favorite under-the-radar whites too.

“The Chateau de la Dimerie Muscadet 2007 is really interesting because they ferment it in clay vats that are underground, imparting a unique mineral or flinty taste,” he says. “It is bottled sur lie (with the yeasts and grape pieces at the bottom of the vat), giving a creamy, yeasty flavor and slight effervescence.”

Light and refreshing with floral and peach flavors, good acid and a light sparkling (petillance) sensation on the tongue, the Chateau de la Dimerie Muscadet 2007 is priced at about \$12.

Mr. Pulice also likes the Baroncini Orvieto Classico Libra 2007. A light, crisp and acidic wine with green apple and white peach essences, it pairs well with shellfish, especially raw oysters, and mild fish. It sells for about \$14.

Following are some other value white wine picks from local wine experts.

From Adrian Dederling, assistant manager at Haskell’s The Wine People in Naples:

• **Sebeka Sauvignon Blanc 2008:** A crisp, clean South African wine that’s excellent when well chilled. The taste is fruit forward with balanced grapefruit and peach. Sells for about \$11.

• **José Maria da Fonseca 2007 Twin**

Vines Vinho Verde:

Portugal is famous for port wine but is becoming popular once more for table wines. Back in the day, roses by Mateus and Lancers were staples in U.S. homes and college dorms. This refreshing white is made by the producer of Lancers Rose and is light bodied (with 10 percent alcohol), making it a perfect aperitif. Its crisp citrus and peach notes with an acidic dryness pair well with seafood and chicken. And at \$8, it’s a great buy.



JIM MCCRACKEN / FLORIDA WEEKLY
Sukie Honeycutt of Tony’s Off Third

• **Valley of the Moon Pinot Blanc 2007:** Rich flavors of pear, tropical fruits and apple with good acidity and mineral notes make this perfect for afternoon snacks or sandwiches. Priced about \$15.

From Thom McKay of The Wine Merchant in Naples:

• **Pierre Sparr One 2006:** This medium-bodied Alsatian blend of five grapes has refreshing hints of mango, peach, apricots and crushed almonds. This pairs well with spicy Asian foods or can be enjoyed as a refreshing aperitif. Priced about \$16.

• **Domaine de Reuilly Les Pierres Plates Reuilly 2007:** This racy selection from the Loire Valley has aromas of green apple, mineral and flint. Flavors are crisp and bright with green guava, lime and herbs and a min-

eral finish. Priced about \$19.

• **Botalcura Reserve Sauvignon Blanc 2007:** Powerful and elegant, this crisp Chilean wine has notes of white peaches and pears, as well as herbs and lavender. Priced about \$15.

• **New Age White Wine NV:** A refreshing blend of sauvignon blanc and malvasia grapes from one of Argentina’s oldest wineries. Flavors of apricot, melon, peach and citrus fruit combined with sparkling effervescence make this a pure beverage wine, traditionally served on the rocks with slices of lemon and lime. Priced about \$13.

From Skip Westerhold of Gulf Points Liquors in Fort Myers:

• **Alamos Torrontes 2008:** Argentina’s signature white wine from Bodega Catena Zapata. Fragrant honey and tropical fruit nose with light pear and peach notes. It’s crisp, dry and well-balanced. Priced about \$9.

• **Alexander Valley Vineyards Chardonnay 2007:** Lush apple and pear flavors along with some tropical fruit notes, citrus and a hint of minerality. “Although it’s a chardonnay, I’m including it because it has very little oak and finishes with a touch of sweetness,” says Mr. Westerhold. Priced about \$16.

These selections run the gamut from serious estate-bottled wines to those for casual, just-for-fun consumption. What they have in common is that they are refreshing and affordable choices for summer. ■

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FLORIDA WEEKLY CUISINE

Roy's brings flavor, spirit of Hawaii to Southwest Florida

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KAREN FELDMAN / FLORIDA WEEKLY

A generously proportioned hog snapper is fried whole and presented in dramatic fashion.

Although its primary influence comes from Hawaii, with an emphasis on fresh fish, light citrusy sauces and tropical drinks, Roy's and its offerings fit well into the Southwest Florida lifestyle.

It was no accident that when chef/founder Roy Yamaguchi decided to open his first restaurant east of the Mississippi about a decade ago, he chose to do so in Bonita Springs, which was then a far smaller and less sophisticated spot than it is today. Yet he knew it was a good fit. It was so successful, he opened another in Naples. As a result, Southwest Florida is home to two of the 27 Roy's situated in the continental United States.

Despite being corporately owned — it's part of OSI Restaurant Partners, which also operates Outback Steakhouse, Carrabba's, Bonefish Grill, Fleming's Prime Steakhouse and Lee Roy Selmon's — Roy's delivers an experience that's more like an independent, locally run establishment.

Service is gracious and customer-oriented, with everyone in the open kitchen greeting guests as they head toward the dining room. Each restaurant has an executive chef, rather than a kitchen manager, who clearly displays pride of ownership in the food served. The night I visited, Executive Chef Ryan Leto was off, but the sous chef had things well in hand and made table checks to ensure everyone's dinners were satisfactory.

Mr. Yamaguchi calls his style Hawaiian fusion cuisine, a result of his upbringing in Hawaii, his Japanese heritage and his European culinary training. While some fusion combinations have the subtlety of a composition pounded out on an untuned piano, his skilled touch results in pairings that create a harmonious meal.

Attention to detail is evident from the start, beginning with the list of cocktails and wines that includes 45 available by the glass. The offerings lean heavily toward California, but there's a smattering from places more distant, and the domestic selections are well chosen, including some rarely seen on a by-the-glass list. We enjoyed glasses of Duckhorn sauvignon blanc and Mer Soleil chardonnay with our entrees.

We began dinner with two signature cocktails. The 1988 Martini, named for the year the Roy's opened in Hawaii, is a tart and refreshing drink made with Absolut Ruby Red Vodka, Soho Lychee Liqueur and Patron Citronge Liqueur, a touch of grapefruit and pomegranate and a lychee garnish. My companion enjoyed an Original Hawaiian Martini, with pineapple-infused Skyy Vodka, Stoli Vanil Vodka and Malibu Coconut Rum, a combination that tasted like a pina colada with a kick.

These went well with the plate of salted edamame offered in lieu of bread, a fitting touch for an Asian-inspired restaurant.

Throughout the summer, Roy's is offering a \$35 meal that includes a choice of appetizer and entrée followed by Roy's Melting Hot Chocolate Souffle. While the selections looked interesting, we went the a la carte route instead, kicking things off with an order of crunchy golden lobster pot stickers (\$10.50) and a bowl of sweet summer corn soup (\$6.50).

The pot stickers were crunchy as advertised, filled with tender lobster and veggies, accompanied by both a sweet and a slightly hot sauce. A mix of pickled veggies, reminiscent of kimchee, finished the plate.

The sweet summer corn soup was creamy yet light. Pureed corn and carrots gave it a velvety texture, while chunks of tempura shrimp and a drizzle of basil oil added interest.

The menu does have meat dishes, but

we found Roy's seafood choices more plentiful and more intriguing.

My companion enjoyed Roy's Classic Trio (\$29.95), which included small portions of hibachi-grilled salmon, blackened ahi tuna and Hawaiian-style misoyaki butterfish. The salmon had a light citrus ponzu sauce, the butterfish sat on a spritely ginger soy beurre blanc, and the ahi was paired with spicy soy mustard butter sauce.

The showstopper was my crispy whole fish (\$27.95) accompanied by peanut ginger soy vinaigrette. It was indeed a whole hog snapper, complete with eyes and teeth. It had been scored so the fish was easy to pick off in crisp squares and it was served sitting upright next to a mound of stir-fried vegetables. The presentation was gorgeous, and the fish tasted as good as it looked.

We concluded the meal with pineapple upside down cake (\$8) served warm with a scoop of coconut ice cream, and the chocolate soufflé (\$9), which is often imitated but rarely equaled. This elegant dessert consists of warm, dark chocolate cake with a molten chocolate middle served with vanilla ice cream.

Service was consistently good throughout the meal, as is always the case at Roy's.

There was just one glitch that could be easily solved. Our server asked if we'd been there before. Yes, we replied. Nonetheless, she then reviewed the menu — pointing out that in the section marked sushi we'd find sushi rolls, under appetizers there were appetizers, etc. I fail to

If you go

Roy's

The Promenade at Bonita Bay, 26831 South Bay Drive, Bonita Springs; 498-7697

Ratings:

Food: ★★★★★

Service: ★★★★★

Atmosphere: ★★★★★

>> Hours: 5:30-9 p.m. daily

>> Reservations: Accepted

>> Credit cards: Major cards accepted

>> Price range: Appetizers, \$6.50-\$12.50; entrees, \$22.95-\$31.95

>> Beverages: Full bar

>> Seating: At the bar, at the counter in front of the open kitchen, booths and conventional tables and chairs

>> Specialties of the house: Crunchy golden lobster potstickers, toasted garlic calamari, Roy's Original Hawaiian Blackened Island Ahi, wood-grilled Szechuan baby back ribs, hibachi grilled salmon, Hawaiian misoyaki butterfish, crispy whole fish, braised beef short ribs, Roy's Melting Hot Chocolate Souffle

>> Volume: Moderate

>> Parking: Free lot

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

understand why managers require staff to do this. Mentioning a few specialties of the house would be fine, but reviewing the menu as if guests are too addled to discern appetizers from entrees has no place in an establishment where service is otherwise so polished.

In all other respects, the front of the house performed as well as the kitchen.

Making Roy's in Bonita Springs more enjoyable still is the spacious dining room, with its floor-to-ceiling windows, mauve walls and artwork that suggests the tropics without resorting to kitsch. It all combines to create a cool and soothing respite from oppressive summer heat.

It's a great time to try Roy's. Besides the \$35 prix fixe offer, the restaurant is waiving corkage fees for those who want to bring their own wines. With the winter crowd still up north, there's lots of parking, too.

After a meal here, it's clear that Hawaiian hospitality melds well with Southwest Florida living. ■

diningCALENDAR

* **Friday, Aug. 21, 10 a.m., Whole Foods Market:** Kids learn some tricks to make their school lunches the envy of all their friends while also receiving a Sheryl Crow Better Bag to carry it in; no cost, but a school supply donation is suggested; 9101 Strada Place; 552-5100.

* **Saturday, Aug. 22, 7:30-11:30 a.m., Third Street South:** The weekly farmers market features local farmers, artisans, chefs and fishmongers selling a variety of goods; Third Street South and Gordon Drive; 434-6533.

* **Saturday, Aug. 22, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Fred's Diner:** Enjoy lunch, drinks and lots of fun activities, including the chance to hug Promise, the ambassador wolfdog of Shy Wolf Sanctuary while raising money for the wolf charity and Kowiachobee, another local animal sanctuary in need

of financial support; Immokalee and Airport-Pulling Roads.

* **Saturday, Aug. 22, Naples Princess:** Board the Naples Princess for a sunset dinner cruise to benefit Friends of Gummi, a rescue group that's found homes for thousands of animals; \$100, Port O' Call Way; 4044-6539.

* **Sunday, Aug. 23, 2 p.m., Whole Foods Market:** Learn to bake great pies and tarts featuring abundant summer fruits at this class sponsored by Whole Foods and Sur La Table; free, 9101 Strada Place; 552-5100.

* **Tuesday, Aug. 25, 6 p.m., Whole Foods Market:** Cheese lovers will eat up this course on cheeses from around the United States, with beer pairings; free, 9101 Strada Place; 552-5100. Advance registration required.

* **Wednesday, Aug. 26, 6-7 p.m., Sea Salt:** Explore wines of New Zealand at a complimentary wine tasting and receive 50 percent off any wine featured in the tasting when purchased that evening with dinner; free, 1186 Third Street South; 434-7258.

* **Thursday, Aug. 27, 6 p.m., Whole Foods:** Chef David Schue of Naples Grande Beach Resort presides over a class on barbecue favorites, just in time for the Labor Day weekend; \$5; 9101 Strada Place; 552-5100. Advance registration required.

* **Thursday, Aug. 27, Two Brothers Baci:** Comedienne Laurie Fondiler entertains during a dinner show; \$40, Imperial Golf Course Blvd.; 597-4800.

* **Saturday, Aug. 29, 7:30-11:30 a.m., Third Street South:** The weekly

farmers market features local farmers, artisans, chefs and fishmongers selling a variety of goods; Third Street South and Gordon Drive; 434-6533.

* **Saturday, Aug. 29, 10 a.m., Ridgway Bar & Grill:** Chef/owner Tony Ridgway leads a class on soups, during which students will learn how to make 30-minute New England clam chowder and crab and corn chowder; \$20; Third Street and 13th Avenue South; 262-5500. Reservations required. ■

Submit event listings to Cuisine@floridaweekly.com.



www.CapeCoral.com

www.G21Sunbelt.com



Call Toll Free

1-866-657-2300

Barbara M. Watt Broker/Owner



Pre Construction Mariner's Harbor
To be completed Late 2008-Only 2 of 7 units left. 3+ den 3 1/2 bath . On Canal w/ direct access - no bridge 20% down.
802NA52442 \$2,299,700



New Construction 7 Unit Condo
Pre construction Mariner's Palm Harbor. Will be 7 Units over Parking. South end of Marco - slip's available.
802NA51982 \$2,217,900



New Boating Condo Direct Gulf Access
Building design is fantastic 3 Bed 3 1/2 Bath Under construction. Boat slip available-mins to Gulf South end of Island.
802NA08843 \$1,631,000



New Construction 5 Bedr/Guest House
Palatial Estate - Two Pools - 5 Total Garage Spaces - 8 Total bedrooms - Custom tile flooring throughout.
802NA07703 \$1,329,000



One Block To Beach - Marco Island
9 Unit condo on Collier Blvd Several floor plans from the low 900's Can be rented weekly- Upgraded appliances.
802NA14980 \$1,105,000



New Construction 1 Block To Beach
Pre construction Mixed use...only 9 condos...great location across the beach from the new Marriott Stainless appliances
802NA14988 \$944,000



New Construction Marco Island
Pre construction new 9 unit condo. Several floor plans from the low 900's. Stainless steel appliances - walk to the beach
802NA15000 \$936,000



One Block To Beach
Pre construction Several floor plans from the low 900's . Volume ceilings-Stainless steel appliances-One block to beach
802NA14984 \$927,000



One Block To The Gulf Of Mexico
To be built new 9 unit condo on Collier Blvd - Marco Island. Several plans from low 900's. Can be rented weekly!
802NA14993 \$927,000



Oasis In Paradise 5 Bed + Den - 4 Bath
This lovely home sits on beautifully manicured property of 4.78 acres that includes 2 ponds.
802NA36451 \$679,900



Better Than New - Beautiful Floor Plan
Expansive pool lanai area - tile and wood flooring - large workshop / storage - fenced property horses & pets welcome.
802NA26354 \$539,000



Three Bedroom Home With Dock
Charming 3 Bed 1 1/2 Bath Home in Everglades City with 25 Ft Dock leased from City.
802NA14662 \$525,000



Beautiful Canal Front - Gulf Access
Great canal front 4 BR,3.5 BA home near end of cul-de-sac 15 minutes from Gulf of Mexico and Lovers Key. 3 story home
802NA25727 \$499,900



Hemingway Cabin On Private Island
2 Bed 2 bath beautifully decorated cabin on 4.2 Acre Island in the Fishing Capital of Florida. Private Ferry to Island.
802NA17808 \$399,000



Bayfront place 1bed+den condo
Turnkey, 3 balconies w/ awesome views on top floor.Downtown Naples.
802NA03517 \$399,000



Two Story Beauty
RARE FORECLOSURE IN LELY! This property is located in beautiful Lely Resort which has been rated as one of the best comm
802NA20964 \$339,900



Vineyards At It's Best
Ground floor end unit, 2 bed plus den. Large Eat in kitchen with island. Private back yard and great Florida living!
802NA17986 \$329,900



Wonderful 2 Story Home on 2.72 Acres
This home is a must see. The main home is upstairs with a mother-in-law apt. downstairs. It has two separate air condit
802NA30621 \$299,990



Fort Myers Beach Condo
Deeded Boat Slip included! Townhouse style condo on 3rd floor, 2 screened lanai's, assigned under building parking, new
802NA25389 \$299,900



Beautiful 2-2 Plus Den End Unit
Serene views of lake and 7th green. Being sold furnished, if need be. Gorgeous clubhouse, tennis courts and exercise rm
802NA34578 \$289,900



Beautiful 3 bed/2 bath 1 car garage
The original owners of this well maintained condo have methodically and tastefully added upgrades to many of the areas.
802NA26365 \$274,400



Bank Owned Gulf Access
Wonderful home in Cape Coral. Bank owned, being sold as is with right to inspect. 4 bedroom, 2 bath home with pool.
802NA22244 \$265,905



Private Heated Pool / Spa On Preserve
Like new 3/2/2 overlooking preserve. Upgraded stainless steel appliances.
802NA10010 \$250,000



Beautiful Home
2 bed plus room that can be converted to a 3rd bedroom by adding 1 wall, 209 deep and 380 frontage
802NA24393 \$249,900



Minutes From Downtown and Beaches
2 Bed 1 bath upstairs - Office 1/2 bath and work shop on ground floor. Front and back garage doors for easy access.
802NA13893 \$215,000



Huntington Lakes Coach Home
Turnkey, designer furnished coach home in Huntington Lakes. Impeccably maintained two bedroom, two bath end unit
802NA27027 \$200,000



Tuscany Cove
3 bedroom 2 bath 2 car garage - almost new home overlooking a private preserve, community pool and tennis.
802NA03439 \$185,000



3 Bedroom 2 Bath Carport Condo
Water and golf course view with morning coffee. Close to downtown Naples and major shopping. Clubhouse - pool etc !!
802NA21636 \$179,000



Lakefront Condo
Established Assn - 2 bed, 2 bath, carport 2 pools and clubhouse. Lighted tennis and shuffleboard court. Priced to sell!
802NA13754 \$159,900



Gulf Access
This charming home is located in the boating community of Henderson Creek Park, which has direct access to the Gulf.
802NA24291 \$149,999



Over Looking The 17th Tee
Spacious 2 Bed 2 Bath on the Golf Course - oversized Lanai - many upgrades. New AC / Hurricane Shutters Must See
802NA37262 \$130,000



Possible Short Sale Golden Gate Estates
This house is in good condition, has 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, two car garage. Tile floors, under truss lanai fruit trees.
802NA33623 \$120,000



Golden Gate Estates Great Price
Potential Short Sale, spacious 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, 2 car garage, tile throughout, vaulted ceilings. \n2,020 sq under air
802NA46224 \$119,000



2/2 End Unit Condo Great Location
Furnished - very convenient location - close to shopping/ Vacant-good size lanai. Exterior newer paint and roof. Must see
802NA45829 \$119,000



Huge Back Yard
Foreclosure., 3/2 fenced home large living area and huge back yard.
802NA10011 \$94,900



Golden Gate Estates
Foreclosure- Light and bright 3 bed 2 bath concrete block home available. Here is your chance to own a quality home
802NA22647 \$79,900



Large Spacious Home - Short Sale
What a view! 4/2/2 with long lake view, a little TLC makes this a great deal.
802NA45562 \$73,900



Foreclosure
. Sold "AS IS" with right to inspect. This 3 bedroom 2 bath condominium is located close in to Golden Gate City.
802NA19747 \$69,900



Second Floor 2 Bed 2 Bath
Foreclosure sold "as is" with right to inspect. Great unit with water view! Close to shopping, restaurants, schools.
802NA28142 \$64,900



Foreclosure Priced Right
Cute 3 bed 2 bath home situated on a cleared, gated and fenced .50 acre lot. Recently remodeled with tile floors.
802NA46206 \$40,000