



Naples Municipal Airport

Naples Municipal Airport looks to extend runway

Noise issues, quality of life concerns being debated

BY EVAN WILLIAMS

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The Federal Aviation Administration is expected to approve plans to lengthen a runway at Naples Municipal Airport.

In addition to being safer for all pilots who use it, a longer runway would make the airport more amenable to commercial flights that choose not to land there now.

"When you have to kick off some of your best passengers because the runway is not long enough, that's not a good thing," says Ted Soliday, executive director of the airport.

The proposed expansion would add 800 feet to the north end and 510 feet to the south end of the now 5,000-foot-long runway.

Among those who believe a longer runway will have a positive economic impact on the area is the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce. "We think it's a good thing for the airport and a good thing for the community," says Mike Reagen, president and CEO of the chamber.

An old economic study showed the airport had a \$100 million per year positive impact, Mr. Soliday says, adding there aren't any studies on the economic impact the estimated \$2.4 million runway lengthening might have.

Nearby homeowners, however, worry that any economic benefits of a longer runway will come at the cost of the quiet life they now enjoy being disrupted by more frequent and bigger, nosier airplanes coming and going.

"We're very unhappy about this," says Sharon Kenny, president of the Aqualane Shores Association, which includes about 500 homes. "We're very concerned this is going to negatively affect the quality of life for homeowners in this area. What we're known for is our quiet, charming ambience. If you have big planes flying in all the time, you're going to ruin it."

She adds that the sound of planes over the neighborhood has been around for

SEE AIRPORT, A17 ▶

being MUSLIM IN SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

FAITH ENDURES IN A TIME OF ISLAMOPHOBIA

BY BILL CORNWELL
bcornwell@floridaweekly.com

If all of Islam — and not just a fanatical minority bent on carrying out horrific acts of violence and terror in the name of that faith — is indeed at war with the Western world, then someone neglected to send the memo to the three dozen or so men, women and children from across Southwest Florida who gathered on a recent Saturday evening for prayers and the breaking of the daily Ramadan fast at the Islamic Center for Peace on Linhart Avenue in Fort Myers.

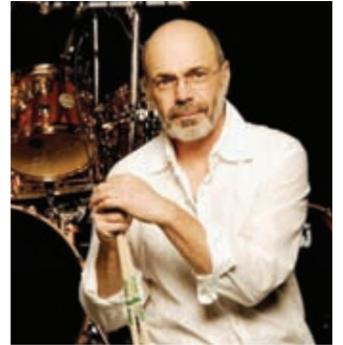
NEWS ANALYSIS

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VANDY MAJOR / FLORIDA WEEKLY

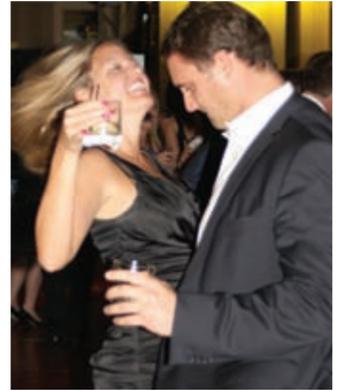
Local women gather for prayer during Ramadan.

INSIDE



The beat goes on

The Phil brings the ninth annual Percussion Summit to town with a bang. **C1** ▶



10 years later

Members of the Class of 2000 from Barron Collier, Gulf Coast high schools enjoy reunion. **C17** ▶



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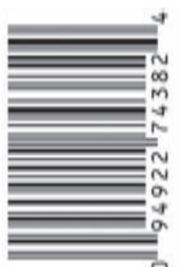
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COMMENTARY

Religion, sin and sacred ground



What happens in Las Vegas should stay in Las Vegas, some say. And what happens in Riyadh should stay in Riyadh.

But in the Land of the Free, they might not. Vegas might come to Gettysburg, Pa., in the form of a casino and resort hotel. And a mosque might come to Ground Zero, complete with — not your mom, not my mom — an imam.

That pleases me to no end. I always like a good stewpot of contention fermenting with religion, sin and sacred ground, don't you?

Before we start clucking and claiming the sky is falling, however, let's look at the stewpot a little more closely.

• **SIN AND GREED:** In southeastern Pennsylvania, some profiteers want to plant a big fat house of sin and greed (I'm defining gambling in religious terms, which is always fun) about 800 yards south of the Gettysburg National Military Park.

There the temperament and character of our modern nation began to take the shape of a promise, instead of a shadowy possibility, when Lee's army was stopped and turned by a bunch of tough Yankees in the first three days of July, 1863.

Casino-crowd claims that the \$75 million gambling resort would create a robust economic boost to southeastern Pennsylvania may be spurious. In Vicksburg, Miss., site of another brutal Civil

War battle where a casino arose, that didn't happen.

"The economic analysis after the fact showed that the war/tourism generated good spin-off income for development and business, whereas the casino was a sucking chest wound in funneling money out of the economy," Wayne Daltry told me. The former director of Smart Growth in Lee County, Mr. Daltry visited Vicksburg after the casino went up.

• **SACRED GROUND:** Separated by 138 years of rough road, the battle at Gettysburg and the destruction at Ground Zero each created something most Americans accept as "sacred ground."

Those two famous places are now owned by all of us. Americans shed their blood there while honoring and practicing our way of life, which encourages tolerance of religious views, equal rights for all, and lots of happy moneymaking.

They broke our hearts doing it, too. More than 51,000 from both South and North were killed at Gettysburg, and almost 3,000 (from everywhere) died at Ground Zero.

But whenever Americans make strident claims about "sacred ground," I get nervous. What's truly sacred is the principle — not the dirt itself.

After all, we own a lot of blood-soaked dirt. The Seminoles, for example, bled all over southern Florida for freedom's sake when the United States tried to eradicate them with a policy of genocide, but we don't consider it sacred ground. Not the way we hold sacred the Gettysburg battlefield or Ground Zero or Pearl Harbor or Arlington National Cemetery.

Perhaps we should. Perhaps all Ameri-

can ground is sacred.

But if it isn't, we should weigh two facts. First, the proposed casino at Gettysburg would not arise on our sacred ground. It would promote its culture of greed from roughly one-half mile away.

And second, the proposed community center and mosque at Ground Zero would not actually arise at Ground Zero. As a New Yorker Magazine writer describes it, "It'll be on Park Place, two blocks north of the World Trade Center site (from which it will not be visible), in a neighborhood ajumble with restaurants, shops (electronics, porn, you name it), churches, office cubes and the rest of the New York mish-mash."

The imam, he adds, graduated from Columbia University (me too), has been in New York for about 30 years (to my two), has often denounced both terrorism and the 9/11 attacks in print (me too), has described himself and his colleagues as "the anti-terrorists" (that defines me and my colleagues at *Florida Weekly*) and accepted the FBI's request that he conduct "sensitivity training" for police and FBI agents.

His wife runs an organization that "promotes 'cultural and religious harmony through interfaith collaboration, youth and women's empowerment, and arts and cultural exchange.'" So does my wife, right out here in the boonies with our two boys and a score of beasts. She even throws in international culinary diversity and lively conversation, both politically correct and not, daily.

So now for both Gettysburg and Ground Zero the question becomes a practical matter of geography and distance: How close is too close to sacred ground for capitalism or religion? Is it a few blocks, or a few hundred yards or a few thousand miles?

If the principle is sacred, the question becomes irrelevant.

• **RELIGION:** The 9/11 terrorists were Muslims and haters. But let's remember this: A much larger group of terrorists, self-described Christians and haters, decided to burn Jews, march over the top of Europe, and kill any and all Americans who got in their way, Christian or otherwise, under the command of Adolph Hitler.

That terrible specter remains visible within breathing distance, since some still number among us who helped stop them. They included other Christians, Jews, Muslims (hundreds of thousands from India, Pakistan, Algeria and elsewhere fought valiantly against the Germans and Japanese in World War II), agnostics, atheists, American Indians, and cowboys. I mention cowboys because their religion is the clearest of all: "Don't bother me and I won't bother you."

And let's remember this, too, as Mr. Daltry reminded me: There were Muslims in the twin towers providing for their families like everybody else on that perfectly clear September morning nine years ago.

If Mr. Lincoln could reappear to speak at Ground Zero this week, perhaps he would repeat what he said at Gettysburg: "But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate — we can not consecrate — we can not hallow — this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract."

What we can do, instead, is honor what they championed, Lincoln added.

He called it, "the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced."

Unfinished work. Sacred principle. ■



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OPINION

The rump majority



richLOWRY

Special to Florida Weekly

The frustrations of minority status can drive a political party batty.

The temptation is to substitute beligerence for thought, insist on a self-destructive purity, lash out at the American public and question the wisdom and viability of the country's institutions. Indulging in these tendencies almost always makes a party's position worse rather than better.

The Obama Democrats may be the first party to engage in this self-defeating behavior — borne of a frustrated desperation — while holding the presidency and both houses of Congress by substantial margins. Through an accident of timing (a national election coinciding with a financial crisis) and the exhaustion of the Bush-DeLay Republicans, liberals took the commanding heights of the federal government while remaining a minority disposition in our national life. In short, they became a rump majority.

Through President Barack Obama's alchemy, these temporarily enlarged congressional numbers were supposed

to be transformed into a permanent realignment. It hasn't worked out, obviously. In the past 20 months, Democrats have had the power to do almost everything they want, except command the allegiance of the public. That has made them feel embattled, isolated and perpetually aggrieved.

The ultimate source of the Democrats' discontent is quite simple: They've lost independents. In 1994, in taking Congress, Republicans won independents by 14 percentage points. In 2006, in taking it back, Democrats won independents by 18 points. In the latest Gallup survey, Republicans lead among independents by 11 points, a trend that puts at risk Nancy Pelosi's misbegotten speakership.

Since 1992, according to Gallup, ideological opinion has been roughly constant: self-described moderates have been 40 percent or a little lower; conservatives in the high 30s (although they've spiked to 42 lately); liberals in the high-teens to low-20s. Both sides need the center, but especially liberals. It'd be foolish to try to govern on the strength of only one-in-five people. But such has been the Obama-Pelosi project — with unsurprising results.

The pollster.com average of Obama's approval rating among independents is a dismal 37.9 percent. This meltdown should have launched a thousand ago-

nized liberal op-eds, conferences and strategy papers on how to win back the center. If, that is, liberalism had any realistic sense of its limits. In the midst of a catastrophic loss of the middle, Obama's supporters exhort him to get more angry, insistent and ambitiously liberal.

There's little acknowledgment that the country is in a different place than they are. To the extent there is, so much worse for the country, which is condemned for its backwardness and intolerance. The majority is not just wrong on immigration enforcement and the Ground Zero mosque, it's contemptible. Who knew that the American public would get accused of bigotry more often after electing an African-American president than before?

As former Bush speechwriter Peter Wehner writes, liberals "are expressing deepening alienation from our nation and turning on the American people with a vengeance." They thought they had a mandate from heaven in 2008, and can't bear the thought that they deluded themselves. They've gone from triumphalism to a petulant and uncomprehending tantrum in less than two years. The rump majority looks more exhausted by the day. ■

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

GUEST OPINION

Eve Ensler: Bald, brave and beautiful



amyGOODMAN

Special to Florida Weekly

Bald, brave, and beautiful: Those words can't begin to capture the remarkable Eve Ensler. She sat down with me last week, in the midst of her battle with uterine cancer, to talk about New Orleans and the Congo. Eve, the author of the hit play "The Vagina Monologues" and the creator of V-Day, a global activist movement to stop violence against women and girls, told me how "cancer has been a huge gift."

Eve's moving essay "Congo Cancer" begins, "Some people may think that being diagnosed with uterine cancer, followed by extensive surgery that led to a month of debilitating infections, rounded off by months of chemotherapy, might get a girl down. But, in truth, this has not been my poison." The poison, she went on, was the epidemic of rape, torture and violence against women and girls in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo.

Eve wrote "The Vagina Monologues" in 1996 as a celebration of women's bodies and women's empowerment. "When I did the play initially," she told me, "everywhere I went on the planet, women would literally line up after the show ... 90 to 95 percent of the women were lining up to tell me how they had been raped or battered or incested or abused. ... I had no idea that one out of three women on the planet will be raped or beaten in their lifetime. Suddenly this door opened for me."

Eve began producing the play to raise funds for rape crisis hot lines and wom-

en's organizations across the U.S. "We came up with this idea of V-Day," she told me, "which was Ending Violence Day, Vagina Day — reclaiming Valentine's Day as a day of kindness and goodwill to women. ... We are now in 130 countries. Last year, there were 5,000 events in 1,500 or 1,600 places. It's raised close to \$80 million, that has all gone into local communities."

The V-Day movement brought Eve to some of the most desperate places on Earth — Haiti, the Democratic Republic of Congo and post-Katrina New Orleans. She spent a year with women in New Orleans, compiling their descriptions of their lives and the impact of Hurricane Katrina into a series of monologues. It's called "Swimming Upstream." Unbelievably, in the middle of her chemotherapy, Eve is directing two special performances in mid-September, in New Orleans and at the Apollo Theater in Harlem.

Eastern Congo, a war-ravaged region of the world's most impoverished country, is where Eve and V-Day have been devoting most of their recent efforts. Since 1996, hundreds of thousands of women and girls have been raped in the eastern DRC, victims of what V-Day calls femicide. Last month, Rwandan and Congolese rebels took over villages in the eastern DRC and gang-raped almost 200 women and five young boys. The rapes occurred between July 30 and Aug. 3 within miles of a U.N. peacekeeping base, and went unreported for three weeks.

These rapes are brutal, leaving the victims with deep wounds and fistulae that require surgery. V-Day has been working with Panzi Hospital in Bukavu, the only facility in the region where the women can receive adequate treatment.

V-Day is also building a woman-controlled safe zone attached to the hospital called "The City of Joy."

Eve said the women themselves developed the plans for the City of Joy, "a place where they could heal, where they could be trained, where they could become leaders, where they had time and a respite to rebuild themselves and redirect their energies towards their communities." If all goes well with her own treatment, she will be joining them to open the City of Joy in February.

The work, Eve told me, defines what she calls a "kind of three-way V between Haiti, Congo and New Orleans."

With a scarf on her head, having lost her hair during cancer treatments, she was days away from starting her fourth round of chemotherapy. I asked her how she does it.

"The women of Congo saved my life," she said. "Every day I get up, and I think to myself, I can keep going. If a woman in Congo gets up this morning after she's had her insides eviscerated, what problem do I really have? And I think of how they dance. Every time I go to the Congo, they dance and they sing and they keep going, in spite of being forgotten and forsaken by the world. And I think to myself, I have to get better. I have to live to see the day when the women of Congo are free, because if those women are free, women throughout the world will be free and will get to continue." ■

— Amy Goodman is the host of "Democracy Now!," a daily international TV/radio news hour airing on more than 800 stations in North America. She is the author of "Breaking the Sound Barrier," recently released in paperback and now a *New York Times* best-seller.

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15 MINUTES

Leading the cheer for local Buffalo Bills Backers

BY EVAN WILLIAMS
ewilliams@floridaweekly.com

Back in the 1950s, when he was a high-school student near Buffalo, N.Y., Richard Doll rarely missed a Buffalo Bills football game. Every Sunday that the Bills played at War Memorial Stadium in downtown Buffalo, he and his friends would load into a parent's car and head out to catch the action. (The team eventually moved to Rich Stadium — now called Ralph Wilson Stadium — in Orchard Park, a Buffalo suburb.)

"All of Buffalo is a Bills fan," Mr. Doll says. "If they lose on Sunday, a pall comes over the city on Monday morning."

Hearing him talk about the Bills now, you'd almost think Mr. Doll, 71, was still back in the team's hometown, where football season segues into a crisp, colorful autumn and a long, snowy winter.

But he moved to Southwest Florida in 1986 and now lives in Naples, where he's president of the Buffalo Bills Backers club. Every game Sunday, fans gather at Tavern on the Bay to cheer on their team.

Mr. Doll describes the club as "a neighborhood of relocated western New Yorkers from Syracuse and Binghamton, as well as Bills fans from Erie, Pa., to Toronto." While membership totals about 200, a typical game-day crowd is about 40-50 fans, he says. At halftime, they raise as much as \$4,000 raffling off Bills memorabilia and other prizes, and donate the money to charities such as United Way.

Anticipation is mounting as the first



Richard Doll

EVAN WILLIAMS / FLORIDA WEEKLY

game of the regular NFL season draws near. The Bills meet the Miami Dolphins on Sunday, Sept. 12.

Mr. Doll, of course, will be there. In fact, he has rarely missed a Bills game in the past 60 years.

In high school he played football, basketball, baseball and ice hockey on teams with his friends. On the Frontier High School football team he played left guard (offense) and middle linebacker (defense).

"Sports was the common bond between all of us," he says. "That's what kept us out of trouble," he adds about growing up in a working-class town. "It was a wonderful environment to grow up in."

After graduating from Michigan State University, he joined the Army for two years, then came back to Buffalo in 1965 and was a Bills season ticket holder for the better part of two decades. He and his wife raised four sons and a daughter. Mr. Doll became a homebuilder, like his

father, who worked hard and had little time to attend games.

"My father came out of the Great Depression, so he was a working fanatic, although on Sundays he would watch three games on three TV sets," he recalls.

Mr. Doll's parents retired to Fort Lauderdale. He and his wife, who died in February, lived on Sanibel Island, Longboat Key, Siesta Key and Marco Island before buying a condo in Naples. They later built the house Mr. Doll lives in now at Riviera Golf Estates.

Aside from keeping up on the Bills, he plays golf, makes the occasional trip to the beach and has "no interest in retiring." He works for a sign-making company called Lykins Signtek, where his job is "solving and preventing problems."

As the first game of the season draws near, Mr. Doll retains the same confidence he's always had in his team.

"I'm always optimistic, as are all Bills fans," he says. "I think they'll have a winning record." ■

in the know

>>What: Buffalo Bill Backers of Naples meet for Bills versus Miami Dolphins

>>When: 1 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 12

>>Where: Tavern on the Bay, corner of Goodlette-Frank Road and U.S. 41

>>Details: Game-day activities include halftime raffles of Bills merchandise, tailgate parties, rounds on the club, raffles and costume contests.

>>Info: Call Richard Doll, club president, at 774-3537 or e-mail billsbackers2007@aol.com.

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MUSLIM

From page 1

As the call to prayers resonated within the tidy mosque, the rhythms of life at dusk on a late-summer day unfolded in the polyglot urban neighborhood outside. Around the corner and about a block to the south, on Grand Avenue, several Hispanic men drank beer, slow-roasted goat and sang in vigorous Spanish as mariachi music blared from a CD player in the front yard of a modest home. Across from this convivial gathering, at the corner of Grand and Kurtz Street, a middle-aged white musician, who is Jewish, sat on his screened front porch poring over the rock-opera he and his band hope to premier soon. And on the opposing corner, a West African émigré stood behind her dwelling (a creased copy of the Holy Bible clutched to her breast), swaying as if in a trance while chanting exultations in Nigerian Pidgin to her chosen savior (Jesus Christ).

It was hardly a tableau that suggested a neighborhood gripped by fear. Indeed a sampling of nearby residents — all of whom could, if they wished, chuck a rock from their front doors and squarely hit the Islamic Center for Peace — revealed no trepidation about the presence of a mosque or the Muslims who come there regularly to worship.

Typical of this blasé spirit was the remark of Jorge Cruz (one of the men roasting goat), “Who the hell cares? They don’t bother nobody.”

Still, neighborhood tolerance does not equate to universal acceptance, say Mohamed Al-Darsani, the mosque’s 53-year-old Syrian-born imam, and other Muslims interviewed for this article. Muslims in Southwest Florida (which for the purpose of this story is defined as Charlotte, Collier and Lee counties) are estimated to number about 3,000, the imam says. Fear of outright physical attack or harm is slight, for the most part, but hostilities, resentments and deep-seated prejudices that simmer just beneath the surface in our society are often apparent and sometimes plainly evident.

Islamic women in Southwest Florida who publicly dress in traditional hijab — which covers their figures but leaves their faces exposed (unlike the more severe burqa that reveals only the eyes) — are not surprised when they encounter cutting remarks or prolonged stares, for example.

Virtually all of those interviewed — Muslim and non-Muslim alike — agree that a full nine years after the events of 9/11 things seem to be getting worse when it comes to religious tolerance and understanding involving Islam. The reasons, they believe, are multiple and include: The heated controversy surrounding the proposed building of an Islamic center roughly two blocks from Ground Zero in Manhattan (which is seen as grossly insensitive and needlessly provocative by many non-Muslims and an issue of religious freedom and property rights by proponents of the project); dire economic problems, which historically spawn resentment against minorities; the ascension of cable television commentators and radio talk-show hosts who thrive on incendiary rhetoric and the promulgation of conflated conspiracy theories; the belief that President Obama — or “Imam Obama,” as Rush Limbaugh is fond of calling him — is a closet Muslim (an opinion harbored by some 20 percent of Americans, according to a recent poll); the protracted and costly wars that have pitted U.S. troops against Islamic combatants in Iraq and Afghanistan; the reluctance of some mainstream imams to force-



VANDY MAJOR / FLORIDA WEEKLY

Above: Families recently gathered to break fast during the holy feast of Ramadan at the Islamic Center for Peace in Fort Myers. **Left:** Visitors must remove their shoes to enter the worship area.

fully denounce the violent misdeeds of the radical fringe; and a growing sense of nativism, stoked by concerns over illegal immigration, that harkens to the 19th Century Know Nothing movement (which cast Roman Catholics and immigrants from Ireland, Germany and China — not Mexicans and Muslims — as the principal bogeymen).

In short, it is a complex and toxic stew of emotions, misunderstandings, contradictory beliefs and history that has led us to this point. And where we go from here is anyone’s guess, although Imam Al-Darsani, a resolutely optimistic man, sees the potential for greater understanding emerging from the current imbroglio.

“If nothing else,” he says, “all of this attention has made people more curious about Islam and what it stands for. That part is good, for I firmly believe the more people learn about Islam, the more they will understand it is a religion of peace and love. The best hope is that non-Muslims will investigate with an open mind and see what we are all about. We are not terrorists, and we don’t condone terror.”

Imam Al-Darsani also adds: “It will probably get worse before it gets better. This is a peaceful religion, but make no mistake, if we are attacked, we are not Jews, and we are not Christians. We don’t believe in turning the other cheek. We believe in defending ourselves.”

A rabbi, a minister and an imam

“What do I expect from Islamic leaders?” Jeremy Barras, rabbi at Temple Beth El in Fort Myers, asks, repeating aloud a question put to him. “I expect them to renounce terrorism and to renounce those who deny the Holocaust. I want to know that they don’t support terror and that they don’t support Hamas or Hezbollah and that they denounce the terrorizing of Jews by Muslims in some communities in Europe.”

Rabbi Barras says he has worked with Imam Al-Darsani on several inter-faith programs and finds him to be a “terrific guy” who works hard to explain Islam to the unenlightened.

“There is no doubt we are in a period

of Islamophobia now, and I think it is terrible,” he continues. “Talk of burning the Koran and things like that are dreadful. No rational person can support such things. This atmosphere is very disturbing and men and women of faith need to speak against it.”

The rabbi believes, however, that Muslims bear some responsibility for the suspicion that shrouds their religion.

“Islamic dictators and tyrants have given Islam a bad name,” he says. “And this controversy involving the building of the mosque in New York is not good. To place a mosque there, in that location, is not right. It is neither the right location nor the right time for that.”

Wayne Robinson, who ministers at the All Faiths Unitarian Congregation in Fort Myers, worries that prejudices involving Islam are intensifying at an alarming rate.

“It is a great mistake for (non-Muslims) to think of Islam in one way,” Dr. Robinson says. “We are being terrorized by the radical use of media that often preaches a hatred of Islam and Muslims in general.”

Like Rabbi Barras, Dr. Robinson has worked with Imam Al-Darsani and considers the Muslim cleric to be a “dear friend.”

Says Dr. Robinson: “What we all need to remember is this: No matter what our religious persuasion, no one has any monopoly on the truth about faith. As a consequence, we must have respect for the person on our right and on our left.”

Dr. Robinson says that Muslims in the United States routinely face higher hurdles when it comes to proving their love of country. Not only must practitioners of Islam loudly denounce terror in any form, he says, they are also expected to refrain from criticizing virtually any aspect of American foreign policy that deals with national security.

“There is no question that the Western powers have a history of using military might to impose their will around the world — including in countries that are predominantly Islamic,” he says. “Yet any American Muslim who speaks on these matters does so at the risk of being branded as a subversive or even as a terrorist sympathizer.”

Abdul ‘Haq Muhammed, executive director of the Quality of Life Center in Fort Myers, is a devout Muslim. He has traveled to Mecca, speaks openly about his faith and is a highly visible member of the community, as evidenced by the numerous awards and honors he has

received for his civic work, including his designation as Person of the Year for 1999 by *The News-Press*.



MUHAMMED

As one local law enforcement official says, “No one does a better job than Abdul ‘Haq Muhammed when

it comes to helping at-risk kids in this area. No one.”

Mr. Muhammed readily concedes that he probably experiences less overt prejudice because he is an African-American whose countenance does not square with the stereotype of the Middle Eastern terrorist and he usually dresses in conservative business attire. Mr. Muhammed, whose center works with disadvantaged young people of all faiths, says Muslims are acutely interested in the workings of American foreign policy because they feel it directly affects them and their homelands.

According to Mr. Muhammed, a large percentage of American Muslims are highly skeptical of their government’s motives in the Islamic world.

“Many people feel our government’s motivation in some regions is oil-driven and not necessarily in the best interest of helping people,” he says. “Yet the very same people who raise these questions are good and loyal Americans who in no way condone terror or violence. They were just as horrified by the events of 9/11 as non-Muslims.”

Of the intense anti-Islamic feelings loose in the country, Mr. Muhammed shrugs, smiles and says, “This, too, shall pass.”

A woman’s place

Another characterization that troubles local Muslims is that of the place of women within the Islamic community. Islam draws sharp distinctions between the sexes (at the mosque, women and men sit separately, with the men upfront). In some areas, educa-



COURTESY PHOTO

The Islamic Center for Peace sits in a diverse urban neighborhood in Fort Myers.

tion is discouraged and harsh penalties are inflicted on women for violations of Islamic moral codes. One of the most shocking and widely publicized incidents involving Islam and women occurred in 2002, when religious police in Saudi Arabia forced schoolgirls back into a blazing building because the young women were not wearing proper Islamic dress. Fifteen girls perished in the fire.

"No one I know has any sympathy for anything like that," says Aisha Ali, a 36-year-old businesswoman and entrepreneur who lives in Cape Coral. "To say that all Muslim women are subjected to things like that is wrong. That should go without saying, really."

Ms. Ali, who came to the United States from England — where she received her undergraduate and graduate education — believes that Americans often misinterpret traditional Muslim attire on a woman as a sign of subservience. She says she wears the traditional hijab as an expression of faith.

"I do not dress this way because a man tells me to," she says. "This is my decision, my choice."

"I think the media is the main problem," says Ms. Ali's friend, 35-year-old Sonia Haddad. "The media likes to present the image of Muslim women as oppressed and timid. That is not true."

"(Ms. Haddad) is right," interjects Ms. Ali. "The relationship between men and women in Islam is based on respect, not obedience."

Despite the prevailing image, Ms. Ali insists that Muslim marriages are probably like marriages in other faiths.

"Believe me, a lot of these men are right under the thumbs of their wives," she says.

Seeing for oneself

Hartmut Krueger, Jr., 47, of Cape Coral is a recent convert to Islam. Raised as a Lutheran, Mr. Krueger says his conversion shocked and angered his family.

"They are very fearful that I am going to embrace terror as a result of converting," he says. "They don't see Islam as a religion; they view it as a dangerous ideology. I understand their feelings, although I certainly do not share them. There is a deep disparity between Islam as reported in the mass media and the Islam that I have discovered."

Mr. Krueger says his newfound faith has sustained him through a period of unemployment and personal turmoil.

"I have found a peace and a serenity that is unlike anything I could have imagined," he says. "It is as if the answers to questions that have troubled me for years have been found."

If there is a recurring theme in the stories of Muslims who were interviewed, it is that the media — particularly cable television and talk radio — have successfully branded Islam — all of Islam — as a hotbed of terror and

radical thought.

"Basically, thanks to the media, Islam has become a derogatory term," says Aisha Ali.

That President Obama (a professed Christian) must "defend" himself against "charges" that he is Muslim is highly offensive to members of the faith.

"What if he is Muslim?" asks Al Haddad, 47, of Fort Myers. "I don't believe he is, but if it were true, would that mean he couldn't be president of all the people? I don't think so. He took an oath to preserve and protect the Constitution. There is nothing in Islam that would contradict that."

Still, Mr. Haddad realizes that while the United States may have progressed to the point of electing an African-American president, it may not have reached the stage that it would tolerate one who is Islamic.

"The media, or perhaps I should say certain segments of the media, have been very good at painting a picture of Islam that is frightening to a lot of people," says Imam Al-Darsani. "This I understand. I may not like it, but I understand it. Knowledge is the best way to counter the portrait that has been drawn (of American Muslims)."

To that end, Imam Al-Darsani is almost frantic in his efforts to work with clergy of other faiths and to open the doors of his mosque to non-Muslims.

Steve Chitwood and Allan Harlick, both of Fort Myers, have visited the mosque on Linhart Avenue on more than one occasion. Mr. Chitwood, a 49-year-old Baptist, and Mr. Harlick, a 61-year-old Lutheran, come not as potential converts but rather as students interested in learning firsthand about Islam and its adherents.

"The anger in America toward Mus-

lims is understandable, because most non-Muslims only know what they see on television," says Mr. Chitwood. "And what you see on television is very frightening and very strange — but not at all what you see if you visit (a mosque) in person."

"Misunderstanding leads to fear," says Mr. Harlick. "The more we understand (about Islam) the less we have to fear. The people (at the mosque) are very friendly and very welcoming, and they are eager to answer any questions."

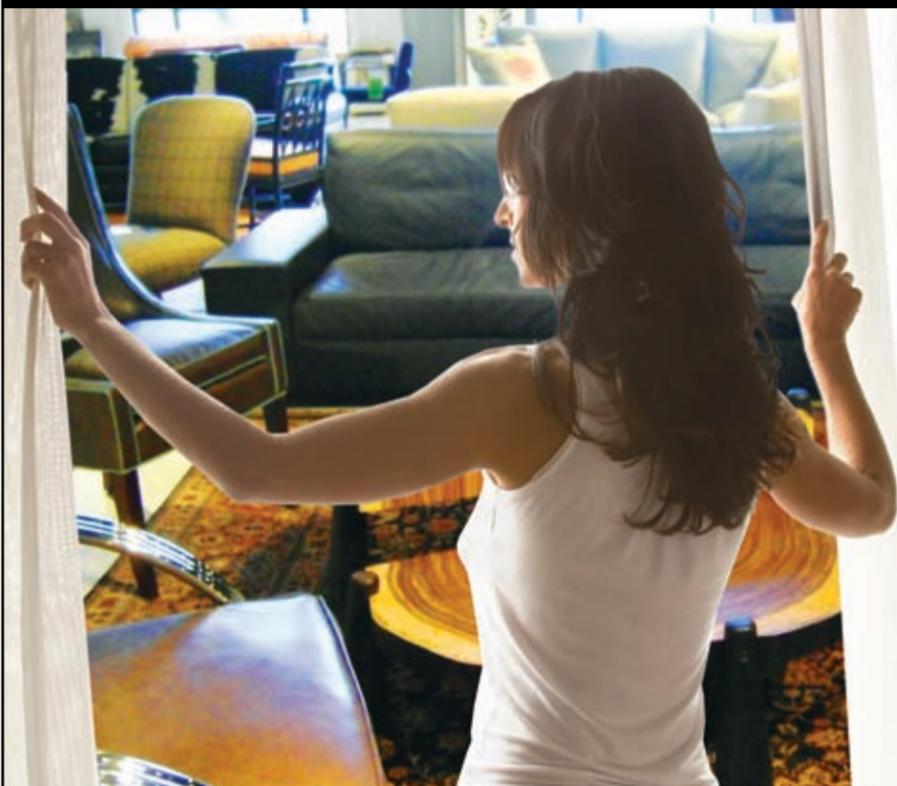
It is doubtful that Imam Al-Darsani can cajole enough non-Muslims through his door to make a discernable difference in how Islam is viewed in these parts. But that will not stop him from trying.

In the end, he believes good will and common values will carry the day.

"Muslims and non-Muslims alike want the same things," he says. "They want peace. They want freedom. They want to raise their families in safety. They want their children to prosper. These are shared goals. We cannot let the actions of a few zealots destroy those things that we all hold dear."

For those who may doubt the sincerity of imam's words and the motivations behind his actions, consider this: the Islamic Center for Peace is located at 2056 Linhart Avenue in Fort Myers and the telephone number is 671-1761. Give them a call and tell them you'd like to visit and see what this Islam stuff is all about. They'll be happy to have you as a guest, and they won't try to squeeze you for money or seek to convert you. You can ask them anything you want, and no one will be offended if you know less than nothing about Islam. Think about it. What have you got to lose? ■

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UNDERCOVER HISTORIAN

Pondering the cultural landscape of Palm Cottage

BY LOIS BOLIN
Special to Florida Weekly

"The causes of events are ever more interesting than the events themselves."
— Marcus T. Cicero,
106-43 B.C.E., Roman statesman

After three years of working to elevate the awareness of local history, I find the above quote speaks to the events that led to the concept that Naples Backyard History brought forth called "cultural landscape" — a new way to promote awareness of our community character and identity.

The "causes" of the events that led to this new language were indeed interesting, but so, too, was the opportunity to explain our local history to Christine DePasquale, our summer intern from Florida Gulf Coast University.

"See those words," I noted to Ms. DePasquale. "This is where the history of Naples Backyard History began."

"See this cottage? This is where our local history was forged long before those words went on that sign."

Over coffee we examined the meaning of those words as well as why Palm Cottage, Naples' second most significant cultural landscape, is essential to our community's character and identity. (Naples Pier is the first.)

Fast-tracking Naples' beginning

Back in the 1870s, Hamilton Disston, a wealthy Philadelphia saw manufacturer, acquired more than 4 million acres from the state of Florida in exchange for

drainage work. Charles F. Adams, one of Mr. Disston's real estate agents, purchased 42 square miles of land (3,712 acres) in October 1886 and 10 days later flipped his piece of paradise to the Naples Town Improvement Company, which later became known as the The Naples Company.

In 1890, the company was liquidated and purchased by the only bidder on hand, Walter Haldeman. He paid \$50,000 for 8,000 acres, which included the Naples Hotel, the pier and the house next to the pier, Gen. William House, now known as the Haldeman House (which has since been moved to Bonita Springs).

In 1895, Mr. Haldeman built a guesthouse as an overflow for the Naples Hotel. Its first guest was Henry Watterson, editor of the *Courier-Journal*, which was formed after the Civil War when Mr. Watterson, editor of the *Louisville Journal*, and Mr. Haldeman, who owned the *Louisville (Ky.) Courier*, consolidated the two papers.

Mr. Haldeman died in 1902 from injuries sustained while running to catch a streetcar. He was 81 years of age.

While there have been only four owners of Palm Cottage, their collective tales bear the imprint this area's cultural landscape.

After Mr. Haldeman's death, a financier



The sign at Palm Cottage

COURTESY PHOTO

and racehorse breeder named Walter Palmer purchased the guesthouse and called it Palm Cottage. After Mr. Palmer's death, David Giles and George Hendrie of Hamilton, Ontario, bought the cottage in 1939 and renamed it The Hamilton Ontario House.

Alexandra and Laurence Brown, perhaps the most idiosyncratic and eccentric couple to grace the Naples scene at that time (maybe of all times), purchased the house in 1944 for \$8,000.

The memories of the Browns' signature cocktail invitation, a hoisted flag noting to all to come on down, almost rivals tales such as their cockfights at the end of Gordon Drive or the PTA meetings they attended with their portable bar in tow.

In 1979 the Collier County Historical Society purchased the Browns' home for \$100,000 (of which Lester and Delora Norris contributed approximately \$68,000). By 1982, Palm Cottage had been placed on the National Registry of Historic Places.

In March 1987, the city of Naples put forth resolution 87-5225 supporting the application for a section of Old Naples to be placed on the National Registry of Historic Places. That was realized on Dec. 17, 1987, along with the Keewaydin Club on Key Island.

Connecting the dots

Since 1987, the Historic District of Naples has had no ordinances to protect its character and identity — which is why, in part, the Naples Cultural Landscape Fund was created by Lavern Norris Gaynor and myself in 2007. Earlier this year, Naples Backyard History formed a 501(c)(3) to continue to raise awareness of the economic and sociological value of our community's character and cultural landscapes, as well as to promote heritage tourism through a partnership with the National Historic Preservation Trust's Heritage Tourism, Inc.

After our intern left, I thought about the events that led to the placement of the words "cultural landscape" on the sign at Palm Cottage. While those events are now a part of our local history, it was infinitely more interesting to think that these events, now woven in with the fabric of Mr. Haldeman and Mr. and Mrs. Brown, are also a part of our city's cultural landscape forever. ■



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Collier teachers welcome good news about connecting with classroom grants

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Many Collier County teachers received a surprise visit on Thursday, Sept. 2, from representatives of The Education Foundation bearing news that the teachers had won Connect With A Classroom grants. In all, 119 grants totaling more than \$54,000 were awarded to educators in 36 schools.

The Connect With A Classroom grant program enables teachers to request money for creative, innovative projects that cannot be funded through regular school budgets. A grant committee of community members and educators reviewed and scored the grant applications and allocated funding. This year's funding is provided by: Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union/Suncoast for Kids Foundation; The English-Speaking Union; License for Learning License Plate Fund; SW Florida Workforce Development Board; Greater Naples Unit of New York State United Teachers Retirees, Florida; and various community members. Grants that did not receive funding remain on the Connect With A Classroom website until October and can still be funded by individuals or organizations. Visit www.ConnectWithAClassroom.org to view projects that have been funded and those that are still available.

"It is refreshing to be able to provide an avenue for teachers to enhance the curriculum and expand the experiences and horizons of students beyond the basics," says Lenore Brakefield, chairman of the grant committee.



Jennifer Crossan, left, a teacher at Poinciana Elementary School, gets the news from Lenore Brakefield that her Connect With A Classroom grant was funded.



Jennifer Crossan and her students are looking forward to working on their Connect With A Classroom grant project.

"The imagination, innovation and inspiration of the teachers combined with strong support from and connection to the community provides a win-win-win experience for the students of Collier County."

License for Learning is another opportunity for members of the community to show their support for education. When you purchase a Florida Education specialty license plate, \$20 of the cost goes directly toward benefiting students, schools and teachers within the county of purchase. To purchase or renew your Florida Education specialty plate, visit www.License4Learning.com.

To view or fund a Connect With A Classroom grant and give educators more opportunities to enhance learning for Collier County students, go to www.ConnectWithAClassroom.org.

The Education Foundation of Collier County began funding classroom grants in 1991-1992, and in 2003-2004, devised the web-based Connect With A Classroom tool, which was groundbreaking in the state of Florida for teachers to use an online vehicle to request community support. ■

— *Founded in 1990, The Education Foundation of Collier County is an independent not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization that engages our community and schools in pursuit of a quality education for every child. Everyone has a role to play in educating our community's children. Get on the bus, find your seat and get involved. Visit www.EducationForCollier.org.*

'Get on the bus' at back-to-school luncheon Sept. 22

The Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club will host a Back-to-School Luncheon for the Education Foundation of Collier County on Wednesday, Sept. 22. Presented by Fifth Third Bank, the afternoon will bring teachers, principals, students and community members together to "get on the bus" in support of education. Tickets for \$75 are available by calling the Education Foundation at 643-4755.

Get On the Bus is the foundation's new initiative to encourage community support of education. The cornerstone of Get On the Bus is an interactive, online space where schools and community intersect. The Education Foundation will soon launch www.getonthebus.org to help build the technology capacity through which community and schools connect in efficient, collaborative ways.

"We are looking forward to serving all students, families, educators and schools to better connect with our community," says Kaleigh Grover, chairman of the foundation for 2010-11.

Fifth Third Bank continues its school supplies collection drive through Friday, Sept. 10. School supplies can be dropped off at any Fifth Third Bank location in Collier County. Suggested items include No. 2 pencils, spiral notebooks, crayons, washable glue or glue sticks, full-size boxes of tissue, anti-bacterial wipes or hand sanitizer and gallon- or sandwich-size zip lock bags. Donations of gift cards to office supply stores or retail school supply vendors are also welcomed. ■

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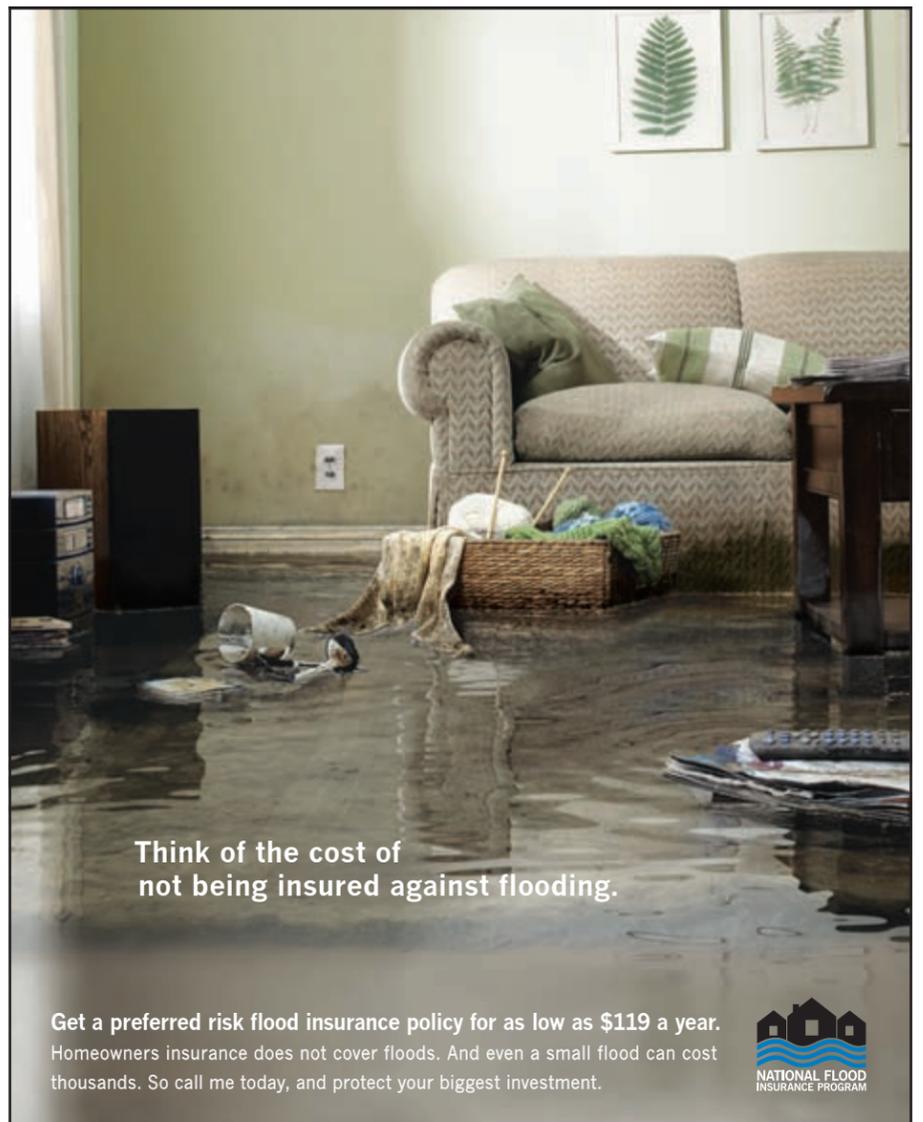
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TRAVEL

Safari in remote Namibia offers inexpensive glimpse of an alien world

BY HARVEY HAGMAN

Special To Florida Weekly

With the dawn, our four-wheel-drive Land Rover heads into the Opuwa Region, the gateway to the remote tribal lands of the Himba. We bounce along rocky tracks in this semi-arid, mountainous land, one of the last untouched areas of southern Africa.

This is the heartland of the Himba, a nomadic people of northern Namibia, a country three times as large as Germany that sits north of South Africa, and south of troubled Angola.

The Himba, friendly nomads related to the 100,000 strong Herero tribes, live a pastoral existence much as their ancestors have for centuries. The tribe is run by the chief, who has one wife, but can take pleasure with all the women of his tribe. The Himba share everything.

Their camp, or kraal, spreads before us, circled by pointed sticks of the popane tree. Beyond, in the dry air, rise distant, violet mountains.

My wife and I are here on an inexpensive camping safari with Explore, a British firm that puts together small group adventures at bargain prices and is marketed in the United States by The Adventure Center (www.adventurecenter.com). The center also books flights at big savings.

Our group of 12, mainly Europeans with one other American, is here in the dry season (August and September) when four-wheel-drive vehicles can travel nearly everywhere in Namibia. In the wet season these dirt tracks would be impassable and the game would be difficult, if not impossible, to spot.

This is but one stop in Namibia's northern wilds as we explore the abundant game lands and tribal heartlands, while traversing thorn scrub and the brittle grass stubble of the savannah dotted with trees and bushes. Along the way we encounter "free-roaming" desert elephants, black rhinos, desert lions, mountain zebra, giraffes, gazelles, roan and sable antelope, greater kudu, oryx, dik-diks, eland, warthogs, jackals, hartebeest, blue wildebeest, impala, spotted hyenas, baboons, caracales, ostrich and a bevy of other birds.

Earlier, we set off from the Namibian capital of Windhoek along a game-fenced, paved road toward the purple, remote Erongo Mountains. The dry, buff-colored hills rise and fall under deep blue skies. Massive boulders form nature's pyramids. Giraffes graze off Camel Cord grasses and white-flowering acacia trees.

We pass game ranches that separate their wild game into small fenced areas and keep black rhinos far from roads and poachers. Our group, however, seeks the "free-roaming" animals in their native territory, far more exciting, but chancy.

The rolling, stratified earth rises and falls under a vast, dry panorama. Massive cracked boulders form natural pyramids. Our two seven-seat Land Rovers have been refitted so everyone gets a window seat, a big bonus. Besides our two leaders, Jakes de Jager and Joe Lungungo, three Namibian helpers set up



HARVEY HAGMAN / COURTESY PHOTOS

A stately impala



An ostrich

and take down our campsites and help prepare meals.

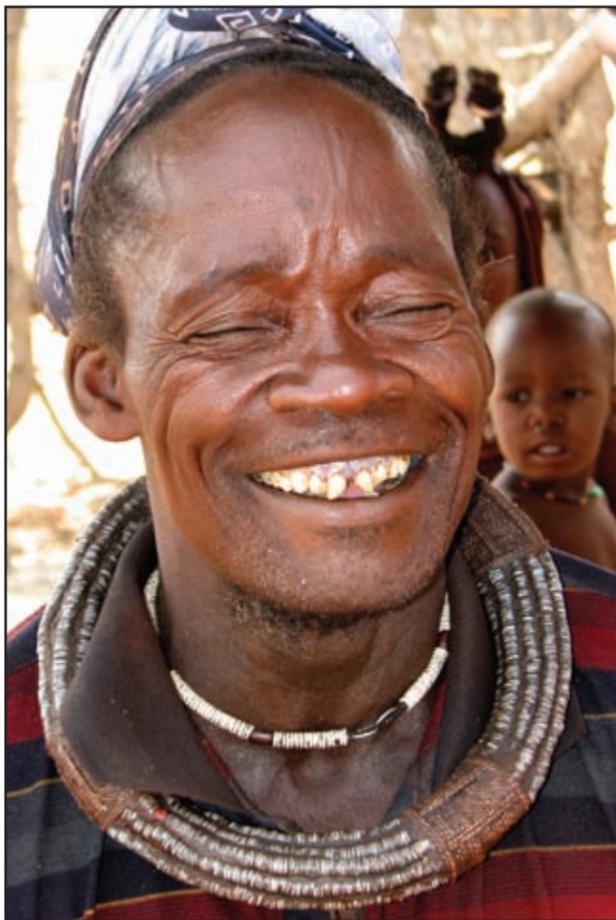
We picnic as our guides let out air from our tires before we head off on dirt tracks. Soon we spot frisky springbok, spear-horned gemsbok, ostrich, oryx, kudu, small, jumpy Damara dikdik, guinea fowl, yellow-billed hornbills and eagles. Roan antelope, with their long ears, sleep on these gravel tracks because they're less rocky. Fellow American Luke Olander says the terrain reminds him of east Texas.

Our first dinner surprised us — sirloin steaks, potatoes, squash and boxes, yes, boxes, of welcome red and white wine. Our campsite has a fireplace, water tap and hot showers, but no electricity. Soon, the universe sparkles. The majestic spread of the Milky Way galaxy is easily seen along with brilliant blue, white and red stars — a night afire with stars.

The next day we chance upon five desert elephants at a waterhole. The herd can reach 50, but our guides say they have often driven for hours and



A smiling Himba woman



A Himba chief

tain," alone contains 2,500 petroglyphs, or rock engravings, of the San, hunter-gatherers of small stature who have lived here for millennia. We climb on hands and knees for a closer look at this remarkable prehistoric art.

Then it's on to Palmwag Lodge, where we observe mountain zebra with their high-pitched braying, sprinting black jackals, giraffe, oryx and little springbok antelope that graze on new grass shoots, ostriches that run 40 mph, and their many hoofed companions in the antelope family.

The concession has the largest predator population outside of Etosha National Park with more than 100 lions, cheetah, leopards and brown and spotted hyena. We come across no black rhino although the concession holds nearly 70 percent of the world's rhino population. But we do come upon our first pride of desert lions.

That night after dinner, young Namibians sing and dance for us around our campfire and then invite us to join in the fun. We dance on into the night.

The Himba people

The next day, continuing north, we swim in clear, sparkling Ongon-gongo Waterfalls and continue to search for game in this dry, untouched land. We see no vehicles or people.

Later we visit the Himba village of 24 people after checking in with the chief. Included are two Herero women from Angola, who dress in bright, long robes and wear boat-like hats, but speak the same language. Today women from neighboring Himba villages have come to sell bracelets, bags, belts and jewelry as they watch their children play.

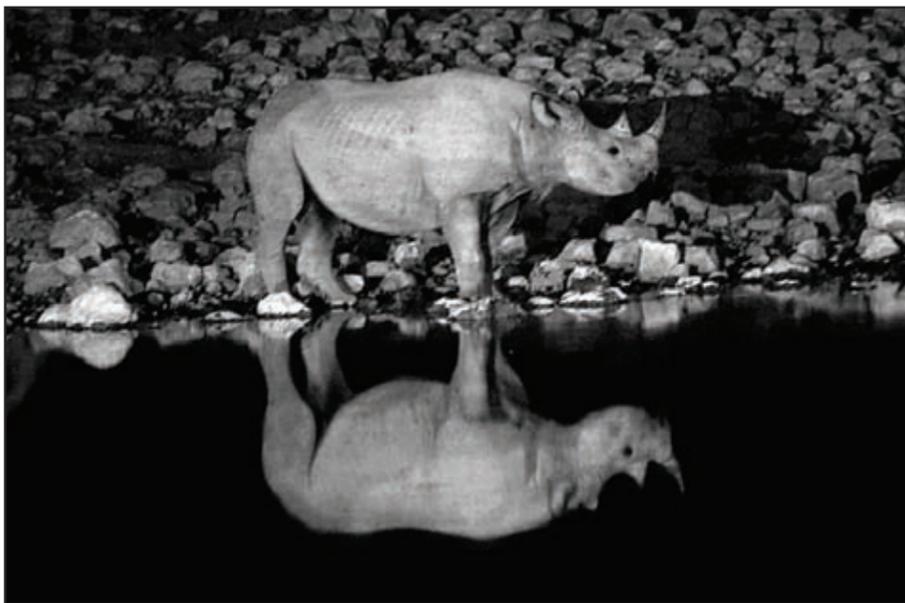
Appearance is important to the Himba; clothes, hair and jewelry hold special mean-

ing. The women, tall and striking, spend hours smearing their bodies with a mix of rancid butter fat, ochre and fragrant herbs to heighten the reddish glow of their skin, a sign of supreme beauty.

seen none. Then our Land Rovers take us high into isolated mountains that hold 50,000 petroglyphs, making the area one of the world's richest sites.

Twyfelfontein, or "Doubtful Foun-

TRAVEL



Nighttime by a watering hold in Etosha National Park



No time for zebras

This mixture, applied three or four times a week, protects their skin from the searing sun and desert insects. Malaria is prevalent in wet summers.

Their only clothing consists of a multi-layered short goatskin or sheepskin apron. They walk barefoot and adorn themselves with a cone-shaped shell worn around the neck. Copper bangles decorate wrists, ankles and necks to signify their married status.

Women lengthen their hair with hair shaved from their brothers' heads. They wear it in long, thin braids over their shoulders. Some wear headdresses signifying they are married. Unmarried girls wear smaller leather aprons, fewer ornaments and draped hair, in plaits, over their faces.

Through an interpreter, I ask the chief how many children he has. He smiles and moves his arm to include the whole village. He asks me. I say none. He shakes his head sadly and with downcast eyes pats me on the shoulder. When he dies, his eldest son will become chief.

Himba life centers on cattle; they draw most of their subsistence from their herds. Their language possesses more than 300 words to describe a cow. The tribe feeds on curdled milk and meat. In the mid-1970s, the Himba became Africa's richest pastoral people, with herds of 130,000 and thousands of sheep and goats.

In summer, when pastures dry up, the tribe may move, setting up rudimentary huts. The Himba allow their cattle to eat only half the length of the grass to preserve it.

The guide leads us to a wooden frame hut made with cow dung mixed with clay. This keeps the huts warm in winter and cool in summer. Containers hang from the ceiling. At night, men who



Lions check out the area

carry guns to protect their herds from lions and leopards return to dance, sing and chat around bonfires or relax in their huts.

When the village moves, its women follow the men and cattle, carrying the food, water and babies. An area of smoldering sticks contains the holy fire where the chief contacts the ancestors to heal the sick, name a child or seek advice. When the chief dies, the tribe mourns for a week around the sacred fire.

I purchase a Himba brass and leather necklace adorned with hair after long bargaining with fingers and gestures. I put my inexpensive treasure in my knapsack. When we prepare to leave, my way is blocked by a concerned group of women.

Hmmm. Our guide says she says I owe her another \$3 in local money. I concede, peace reigns and the young perform more dances. Books could be written about Himba life and rituals.

After we leave, no one speaks as our Land Rover follows an endless dirt track. We are lost in our thoughts about this brief glimpse into another world, another time.



A Herero woman at the Himba camp

Etosha National Park

A special permit allows us to enter Etosha National Park at the western gate of Ojtivasandu. When it was established in 1907, it was the world's largest game preserve. Today it's the size of New Jersey and one of the world's finest game parks. Etosha, meaning "the great white place," is dominated by a massive mineral pan.

Here, we spend hours watching ponderous pachyderms, giraffes, spiral-horned great kudu and herds of blue wildebeest and other antelope intermix as they come to drink at the watering hole. At night, animals appear oblivious to the dim yellow lights as visitors on benches behind protective stone walls watch them. Talking is not permitted as giraffes, jackals, elephants and zebra, the preferred prey of lions, drink.

One short-sighted, short-tempered black rhino watches as an elephant nears her calf. The rhino paws the earth, stamps, snorts and makes a bluff charge. Unconcerned, the elephant moves slowly away.

The savannah surrounding the pan supports tens of thousands of grazing

animals. The sprawling park with dirt trails is home to 114 mammal species, 16 amphibian species, 300 feathered species, including the huge kori bustard, and, surprisingly, one species of fish.

During our two days in the park, our game drives take us through landscapes varying from dusty, white limestone to golden grasslands. At one waterhole we come upon "white elephants." Chalky, white dust covers their hides.

Little dik-diks rarely need a drink, getting their moisture from plants. Now we've seen so many of these small, fast antelope that we've become blasé, but only temporarily. We still pay rapt attention as greater kudu sharpen their spiral horns on bushes.

As the trip winds down, everyone has shared tales around campfires, offered tips on the best ways to spot game, swapped addresses and had a lot of laughs. We sleep soundly in our padded cots and can't wait for the next day to begin.

All too soon we hit a blacktop road and drive to a local woodcarvers market in Okahandja for last-minute shopping. That evening we enjoy our farewell dinner of springbok in garlic butter, squash, potatoes and red wine at Joe's Beerhouse and tip our wonderful guides. ■

in the know

>>For inexpensive safaris, go to www.adventurecenter.com or write the Adventure Center, 1311 63rd St., Suite 200, Emeryville, CA 94608, or call (877) 285-0651.

By going with the Adventure Center, we saved greatly on airfares. The required travel insurance for two cost about \$400. We got malaria pills and necessary shots before leaving.

For information on Namibian tourism, go to www.namibiantourism.com.na.

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Youth Haven seeks girls for 'All About Me' group

Classes are forming for two fall sessions of Youth Haven's popular "All About Me" self-esteem building group for girls. The six-week program is tailored to address emerging self-esteem concerns impacting emotional development, peer relations and overall happiness in all aspects of young adulthood.

Dates for the next sessions are Sept. 16-Oct. 21 and Nov. 4-Dec. 16. Both sessions still have openings.

Open to girls ages 8-14, the classes are presented in an empowering group forum format by Melissa Sarantos, one of Youth Haven's staff clinicians. Sessions meet once a week at Youth Haven.

5867 Whitaker Road in East Naples. Cost per participant, including all course materials and refreshments, is \$40.

"The societal pressures facing young girls nowadays to look a certain way or act a certain way in order to be accepted have never been higher," says Kim Weisberg, supervisor of Youth Haven's Children & Family Counseling Center. "The ramifications of not accepting yourself and having confidence in who you are undoubtedly affect all aspects of a young girl's life and behaviors both at home and at school."

The "All About Me" curriculum guides girls in discovering how to:

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

"No one is perfect. We all have something uniquely beautiful about us. It

is our hope that through this program, girls will learn to love themselves and appreciate others for their differences," Ms. Weisberg adds.

For more information or to register for a fall session of "All

About Me," call Ms. Weisberg at 687-5172 or e-mail her at kim.weisberg@youthhaven.net.



— Youth Haven is Collier County's only emergency shelter for severely traumatized abused, abandoned and neglected children as well as the sole provider of an array of home- and community-based parenting education, child abuse and homelessness prevention, crisis intervention and family support programs. In operation since 1972, Youth Haven provides services to more than 1,600 children and family members annually.



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CenturyLink says 'C'mon' to \$10,000 for kids' museum

Facebook fans in Southwest Florida have a chance to give The Golisano Children's Museum of Naples a \$10,000 boost in preparation for its opening early next year. CenturyLink, a high-speed Internet and telephone provider, will donate \$1 for every person who clicks the "like" button on C'mon's fan page up to \$10,000.

On Facebook, search for "Children's Museum of Naples." Once there, click the "like" button and CenturyLink will



make a donation. Fans can also suggest the page to their Facebook friends in an effort to reach 10,000 even faster.

At North Collier Regional Park, the 30,000-square-foot museum will present exhibits and programs that lead children and their families on a journey from the swamps of the Everglades to the outer reaches of the galaxy and from an experience at an art studio to a day at the beach. For more information, visit www.cmon.org. ■

Rookey Bay needs volunteers for trail duty

Friends of Rookery Bay needs volunteers to help with trail maintenance in preparation of National Estuaries Day later this month. The Snail Trail needs trimming, pruning, weeding and exotic plant removal. Volunteers are needed from 8 a.m. to noon on Thursday, Sept. 16 and 23.

Helpers are also needed from 9 a.m.

to 4 p.m. (shifts available) on National Estuaries Day, Saturday, Sept. 25. This free event offers boat tours, guided kayak trips, lectures, children's activities, music, food vendors and more.

Contact volunteer specialist Donna Young at 417-6310, ext. 412, or e-mail donna.young@dep.state.fl.us for information and to sign up. ■

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Are you one of the millions of people that suffer with back pain? America is in the midst of a back-pain epidemic. The numbers are staggering: There's an 80 percent chance that, at some point in your life, you'll suffer from severe back pain. Treating back pain costs about \$26 billion annually and it currently accounts for 2.5 percent of our country's total health-care spending. Another shocker is that 80% of the people under the age of 45 who are on disability is BECAUSE OF BACK PAIN! The real problem.....Pain is not just "a pain". Pain is a loud, screeching fire alarm telling you that something is seriously wrong. Do

you ever wonder what happens if you never completely address the cause of your pain? Do you keep just taking a pill to cover it up, an injection to numb it or consider dangerous surgery? Are any of those the REAL answer to the CAUSE of the problem? What do you think happens to your posture over time, as a result of this pain. Do you really think that one day you wake up and you can't stand up straight...of course not! This is progressive process that is occurring daily. If you have a condition that is bad enough to cause you pain, do you think it could lead to worse problems down the road? The over-

whelming news is that posture is directly related to your overall health, so if your posture is failing...so is your health. NOW, if someone told you there might be another way to deal with your problems that could give you the life you envision now and in the future... would you be willing to listen? If you could avoid the crippling effects of aging, arthritis, back pain...(you name it) would you take the time to see what you could do? And what if there was a chance that you could wake up in the morning and feel better than you did when you were 20...would you do what it takes to get to there?

Jubilee Chiropractic is your resource center for just that. A place that can give you answers to what could be causing your pain, how it will affect you in the future and real honest answers. If we can't help you...we won't waste your time. If this sounds interesting to you, please call Jubilee RIGHT NOW. **HURRY! ONLY 15 SPOTS AVAILABLE! DON'T DELAY...our Patient Application Appointments fill up SUPER FAST!** **If we can't help you we won't waste your time.**

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- Naples Walk Shopping Center, 2500 Vanderbilt Beach Road; 325-3689

- Coconut Point in Estero; 947-3689
- Summerlin Crossing in Fort Myers, 15880 Summerlin Road; 333-3689

Appointments can also be booked at www.MassageEnvy.com. ■

Free testing
for HIV/AIDS

The HIV/AIDS Network of Collier County offers free Rapid HIV testing and traditional testing Sept. 13-17 as part of National Gay Men's HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. Rapid HIV testing has same-day results; results from traditional testing can take two to three weeks. Tests are offered at:

- The Marion E. Fether Medical Center, Immokalee (traditional testing): 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sept. 13 and 15; 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 14, 16 and 17

- Collier County Health Department, Immokalee (Rapid HIV testing): 1-4 p.m. Sept. 13-17

- Collier County Health Department, Naples (Rapid HIV testing): 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 14 and 16; 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sept. 15

For more information, contact Deborah Harris at the Collier County Health Department, 252-2683. ■

Physicians
Regional
presents lectures

Physicians Regional Healthcare System presents the following lectures Physicians Regional-Pine Ridge, 6101 Pine Ridge Road:

- "Knee Arthritis: A to Z" – 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 14, by Dr. Jon Dounchis.

- "Newest Advances in Shoulder Surgery" – 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 16, by Dr. Steven Goldberg.

In addition, Dr. Frederick Buechel will discuss the latest treatment for early to mid-stage osteoarthritis of the knee at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 15, at the Hyatt Place, Coconut Point in Estero.

Seating for these free programs is limited. Call 348-4180 to make a reservation. ■

Correction: Dr. Joseph Gauta, founder of Especially for Women and the Florida Bladder Institute, is a gynecologist. His specialty was incorrect in a Sept. 2 headline in this column. ■

Research adds weight to
why we hate flies

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
Special to Florida Weekly

Everyone knows that houseflies aren't welcome around food.

But University of Florida scientists have discovered five new reasons why.

Researchers with UF's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences have documented five more bacteria species carried by houseflies, and all of them cause illness in humans, ranging from food poisoning to respiratory infections.

In the latest issue of Florida Entomologist, the researchers describe collecting houseflies near rear entrances and trash bins at four restaurants in Gainesville. About 20 flies from each location were collected in sterile containers and returned to the campus laboratory.

The team used fatty acid analysis and DNA sequencing to identify a total of 11 pathogens carried by the flies — five of them not previously linked to houseflies: *Acinetobacter baumannii*, *Bacillus pumilus*,

Cronobacter sakazakii, *Methylobacterium persicinum* and *Staphylococcus sciuri*. In addition to the 11 bacteria documented in the study, there were five others that could not be positively identified.

The findings reinforce the notion that fly control is key, especially around food sources, says UF's Jerry Butler, a retired entomology professor who led the research team. Fly control is a day-to-day battle because the insects are so mobile, traveling up to 10 miles in just a couple days' time, he adds.

Pest control company Orkin

funded the study. Frank Meek, the company's international technical and training director, says Orkin wanted updated research to stress the importance of fly control in restaurants and kitchens.

"Most people simply wave a fly away and go back to eating, but a cockroach crawling across the table elicits a very different reaction in a restaurant," he says. "However, our research shows that the housefly carries potentially twice as many pathogens as a cockroach. We think it's important to educate our customers and the public about the health risks pests can pose." ■



STRAIGHT TALK

Hospital leadership is analyzing recent labor union decision



allenWEISS

allen.weiss@nchmd.org

As you may know, a union organizing drive was initiated a number of years ago by some of our nursing colleagues. Some of the disputed matters were submitted to the National Labor Relations Board. We have just received a decision from that board and are analyzing the decision and our options.

At the end of the day, we all remain colleagues with a singular mission to provide exceptional patient care, regardless of whether or not we always share the same point of view.

A summary of the decision document includes "orders" going forward related to labor relations. We intend to comply with the spirit of this document. We regret any previous unintended actions, as our motivation was and continues to be the welfare of our patients, colleagues, physicians and

the community we serve.

Times have changed and so has NCH. Our passion is fully directed to patient quality, financial stability and our patients, colleagues and physicians. Growth and sharing our message with the community so that we can continue to serve everyone and receive support are two additional areas of focus.

As I have noted many times, we have state-of-the-art equipment and very comfortable hospitals, but it is the people who work here that together make NCH special. Without everyone working together and placing our patients' needs above our own personal needs, we could not fulfill our mission.

We value everyone's contributions and we all need to understand each other's points of view. Our new Shared Governance, which uses everyone's talents and experience, is a perfect example of a new avenue for communication and empowerment. We need to continue to be smart, innovative, competent and capable as we go forward in these rapidly changing times.

Every challenge creates opportunities. My belief is that we are better now than ever in sharing information and opinions, and that we are even much more collegial when we disagree. Our quality continues to improve and we are more financially stable than we were four years ago, in spite of the general deterioration of economic conditions around us.

Finally, let me mention another important opportunity for all 3,400 NCH women and men as well as our community — that of donating blood through the Community Blood Center. The CBC collects blood for all four Collier County hospitals, ensuring that "What's collected here... stays here!" We have always had a generous community and have never had to cancel surgery for lack of blood (although we have had some close calls). For more information and details about upcoming blood drives, call 436-5455 or visit www.givebloodcbc.org. ■

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

AIRPORT

From page 1

years, but more flights would make things too noisy. "Think about a leaf blower going by your house," she says. "He's done in two minutes. But think about that if it came by 20 times a day."

The FAA has ultimate authority over the runway project — unless it decides the matter is one of zoning, in which case the Naples City Council could vote it down. The city is waiting for the FAA's opinion on the issue.

"The question immediately becomes how much economic benefit is a detriment to our quality of life?" City Councilman Sam Saad says. "The real issue before city council in my mind is: Does the burden on the quality of life outweigh the economic benefit of having a really nice private airport in our city? What is the tipping point?"

The Naples Airport Authority, the board appointed by the City Council to run the airport, maintains a longer runway could reduce the sound of airplanes taking off by a small amount because the pilots would have that extra space to take off and climb before they would be over nearby residential areas.

Scott Cameron, president of Friends of the Naples Airport and CEO of Cameron Real Estate Services, says the airport historically has an "exemplary" safety record. "But if you have the opportunity to improve safety, decrease noise and also add a sophisticated level of commercial air service, why not?" he says.

Although homeowners are concerned that jets as large as Boeing 747s could use the longer runway, Mr. Soliday insists that



is not likely, because no matter how long it is, the runway is designed to handle aircraft only up to 75,000 pounds.

Don Kirkwood, president of the Bayfront Condominium Association, which has about 156 units bordering the airport, says he would like to have that assurance in writing.

The size of the planes that use the airport and how often they land and take off concerns City Councilman Gary Price.

"My only concern is that we can't control the size and frequency of the planes," he said. "(The size and frequency of flights over the airport) is demand driven, that's economy driven." ■

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PET TALES

Snuggle up

Pets on the bed OK for most, but not all

BY GINA SPADAFORI
Universal Uclick

The subject of pets on the bed always makes me laugh, thinking of an old relationship and the new bed that arrived after we'd already split.

The bed in question was the biggest bed I could find. When informed that it would take three months to be manufactured and delivered, I kiddingly asked the man in my life if he would be there when the bed arrived, even though I already had a feeling he wouldn't be.

"Oh sure," he said. "And if I'm not, you have plenty of pets to take up all that space. They'll love it."

Which, of course, is exactly what came to pass.

I'm not sure what that says about the relative constancy of romantic relationships and pets, but I have to give the man credit for being right. The animals did indeed love the big new bed — and they still do, even if they have to share it.

Every now and then I hear from someone who wants me to write about how awful it is to have dogs or cats on the bed. I've had grandparents who want to convince their sons or daughters that a pet on the bed is unhealthy for children, and new sweethearts who disagree about where a pet should sleep.

"To have pets in the house is bad

enough," wrote one frustrated woman, who clearly had much larger issues with her daughter than the younger woman's pets. "But to have them on the bed? That's dirty and disgusting!"

Such folks won't find much agreement from me. I like having pets on the bed. In the wintertime, my cats and dogs are like heating pads I don't have to plug in or recharge — and they'll readjust automatically every time I move. This surely won't mollify anyone who believes pets are disgusting, but I've always kept things clean by putting a washable cover on top of the bedding to catch all the dirt and stray hair.

Still, there are good reasons to keep your pets off the bed, and maybe even out of the bedroom — among them, behavioral problems and allergies.

For dogs who want to be bossy, allowing access to the bed isn't recommended, since it gives the animal the idea that he has status equal to — or better than — the human family members. For these dogs, sleeping elsewhere will likely be part of a retraining program to modify the animal's exalted opinion of his own value. (As with all such issues, please work with a veterinary behaviorist or trainer with experience in aggression to



modify the dangerous behavior of such a pet.)

For people with allergies, turning the bedroom into a pet-free zone is common medical advice that ought to be followed. Maintaining a pet-free bedroom is part of an overall strategy to minimize the impact of pet dander. It will allow allergy sufferers to sleep without sneezing or wheezing, and awake rested without allergy symptoms or headaches. For these pet lovers, keeping pets out of the bedroom gives them enough "breathing room" to make it possible to keep both their pets and their overall good health.

And what about those couples who don't have pet-behavior problems or allergies, but still argue over letting their pets on the bed? That's the sort of thing you have to work out for yourself, since I have enough work giving pet advice without venturing into relationship counseling.

If you're lucky, though, you'll be able to find a bed big enough for everyone to be happy in. ■

Pets of the Week



>> **Boo Boo Brooke** is a 3-year-old, spayed and declawed tortoiseshell. It's believed that these beauties bring good luck.



>> **Capt. Cuddles** is a happy, 3-year-old Maltese/Pomeranian mix who's neutered and weighs in at less than 10 pounds.



>> **Polly Ann** is a 2-year-old spayed Labrador retriever mix who promises to stick by her new best friend.



>> **Villaroy** is a 6-month-old neutered domestic shorthair. He's sweet and playful, and he likes dogs.

To adopt a pet

This week's adoptable pets are from Brooke's Legacy Animal Rescue, an all-volunteer foster home rescue organization. For more information, call 434-7480, e-mail brookeslegacy@brookeslegacyanimalrescue.org or visit www.BrookesLegacyAnimalRescue.com.

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Check out the New Fall Lineup!

MON - FRI		
7am	Arthur	
7:30	Martha Speaks	
8am	Curious George	
8:30	The Cat in the Hat	
9am	Super WHY!	
9:30	Dinosaur Train	
10am	Sesame Street	
10:30		
11am	Sid the Science Kid	
11:30	WordWorld	
2pm	Cyberchase	
2:30	WordGirl	
3pm	The Electric Company	
3:30	Martha Speaks	
4pm	Arthur	
4:30	Clifford the Big Red Dog	
5pm	Curious George	
5:30	Dinosaur Train	
SAT	SUN	
6am	Mister Rogers	Between the Lions
6:30	Angelina Ballerina	FETCH!
7am	Arthur	Arthur
7:30	Martha Speaks	Martha Speaks
8am	Curious George	Curious George
8:30	The Cat in the Hat	The Cat in the Hat
9am	Super WHY!	Super WHY!
9:30	Dinosaur Train	Dinosaur Train
10am		Sid the Science Kid

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MUSINGS

Encryption



"You can make this beggar a king, a clown, or a poet... Bend me, shape me, any way you want me. You got the power to turn on the light..."
— American Breed

What happens when an unstoppable force meets an immovable object?

A story from third century BCE China comes to mind. A merchant who is selling a spear and a shield makes the claim that his spear can pierce any shield, and that his shield can defend against any spear.

The seller cannot answer the heckler who asks what happens when his spear is thrown into his shield.

For reasons beyond the merely de rigueur, answer cannot be given in ordinary language. Perhaps this impossible communication can be accomplished in code. Code is a system of rules for converting a piece of information into another form. One sign becomes another. In the concealing, we hope for a revealing that is beyond ordinary vision. So we encode; we encrypt; we encipher. Voila.

In a hospital context, the word coding is synonymous with emergency. The coding patient is in deep trouble. Code blue means immediate resuscitation is required, perhaps post cardiac arrest.

Code red means fire. Cri de coeur hides to be better seen.

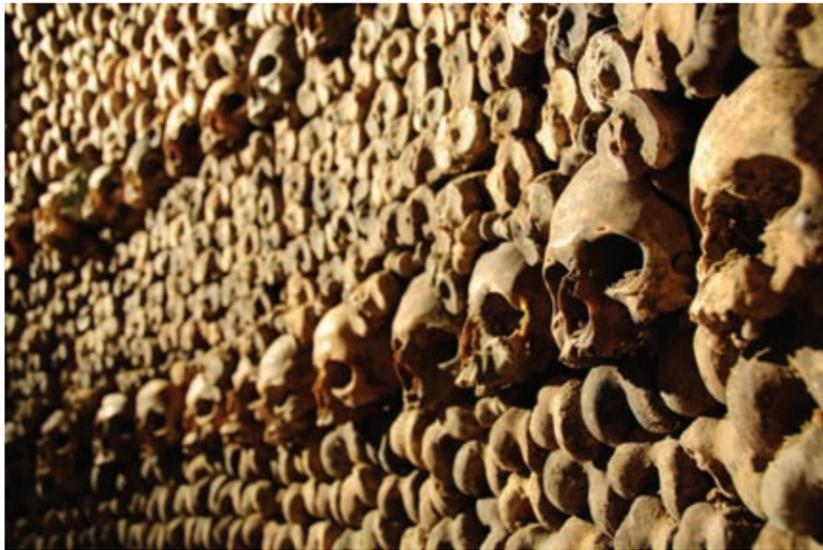
But when does the encoded become merely cipher, existent meaningful and meaningless in its complete lack, in its devastating nil admirari?

Encryption is a dark enterprise. We go down, down into crypt, into catacombs. Vogue la galere.

There are 170 miles of passageways beneath the city of Paris. These underground tunnels were stone mines in Roman times. A small section of the subterranean galleries is called the Catacombs of Paris.

You can descend a spiral stone stairwell into darkness and silence broken only by gurgling water. After an imperative sign demanding that you not enter the empire of death, you can see carefully arranged bone monuments. There is a heart of skulls and tibias, lovingly placed. Volupte.

Beyond this accessible en-cryption, there are many more miles to go for cataphiles, urban explorers who conduct illegal tours. The UX (Urban eXperiment) hosts clandestine art events. And there are tales of innocent picnics and orgiastic parties.



"Do not search." Voila tout.

Yet we must search. Our basic perceptual process is one of decryption: of interpreting incoming stimuli, of converting sensory input into subjectively meaningful experience. No thing is directly given. Nothing is merely found.

We are infinite momentum meeting infinite inertia. We are endless transfer of energy hiding in an encrypting rest/restlessness. Vox et praeterea nihil.

In September 2004, the cataflics (underground police) were on a training exercise underground across the Seine from the Eiffel Tower. They found a tarp in front of a large drain. On this tarp was written "Building Site: No Access." Behind the tarp was a TV camera, recording images of all who entered. And there was playing the recorded sound of barking dogs. Going down beyond, they found a full-size movie screen, projection equipment, and a collection of '50s film noir classics and other contemporary thrillers. There was also a restaurant/bar equipped with electricity and three phone lines.

When the police returned to do a formal investigation, everything was gone. There remained on the floor only a note:

Coding and ciphering and going down into projected light stories and ossuary memories, we are enshrined and yet simultaneously liberated. We are semaphore, plaintext and ciphertext, wind flying and earth buried and water weighed and all fired up. And down. Down. Down and dirty, dark, and yet angels unbearably light, terminally hidden, quintessentially revealed. ■

— 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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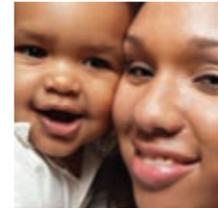
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A GUIDE TO THE NAPLES BUSINESS INDUSTRY

“Because they’ve had to struggle so hard to get into jobs, or be interviewed, they often have a higher level of job satisfaction. They’re grateful. That results in something magic to an employer, called lower turnover.”

— Susanne Homant, ABLE Trust



Disabled workers

— The vast and untapped talent pool

BY ROGER WILLIAMS
rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

Norma Rodenfels is smart. So is Mike Schrider.

Although their businesses are about as similar as the moon and sun, both have tapped into a vast pool of workforce talent, loyalty, guts, good cheer and determination known as “people with disabilities.”

They represent two of a growing number of businesses in Southwest Florida, ranging from such prominent major corporations as Home Depot and Publix Supermarkets to small entrepreneurial operations, whose leaders are discovering that the hiring of people with disabilities is not only cost effective, but exceptionally profitable

over time.

“One used to be able to go out to employers and raise their social consciences by getting them to consider hiring people with disabilities — and frequently they’d go along with that,” recalls Bob Haenggi, vice president of career development services for Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida, which works to place about 500 people with disabilities each year in jobs across Collier, Lee, Charlotte, Hendry and Glades counties.

“Those days are long gone,” he concludes — in part because of the economy and in part because of misconceptions on the part of employers about how they can benefit from hiring disabled workers.

Neither economic pressure nor

prejudice appears to have dissuaded Mrs. Rodenfels or Mr. Schrider.

Mrs. Rodenfels owns Skyline Chili on North Tamiami Trail in Naples, where she employs about 10 people, including two who are intellectually disabled (her brother-in-law owns the franchise in Fort Myers). One of them, Theresa, has worked in the business for five years.

“She started out working dishes, and she’s become one of our star people on the steam table,” explains Mrs. Rodenfels.

“Our steam table is like the kitchen, everything is set up there. Chili comes in various ways — over pasta, with salad, in chicken wraps or baked potatoes, or other ways. Our waitperson calls

SEE DISABLED, B4 ►

WEEK at-a-glance



Tearing it up

A “shred party” on Marco Island, and more business events. **B8-9** ►



The Fool's take

Lessons from the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. **B6** ►



Extra space

Bonus rooms present a big plus for new home buyers in Toll Brothers communities. **B11** ►

Still useful but no longer used electronics? Head to GadgetEase

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

It there's anything that changes faster than the weather, it has to be modern electronic technology.

From cell phones to computers and televisions, the latest things on the marketplace are pretty much old news within a few weeks or months at the latest. With that, gadget junkies head back to the store in their unending effort to keep up with the “Technology Joneses.”

Desk drawers and filing cabinets fill up with outdated cell phones, power cables and chargers. Desktops are clut-

tered printers and scanners that have been replaced. And even though they're nearly new, flat-screen TVs are re-assigned to the lanai or extra bedroom to keep the plants and pets entertained.

Having a drawer full of high-quality but unused electronics prompted Dennis Blum to consider the possibility that he wasn't the only one in Southwest Florida facing this mounting dilemma. While he proudly boasted the latest and greatest smart phone, he couldn't deny or ignore the fact that his earlier-generation cell phones still worked and were perfectly good.

“Here were these cell phones — still practically brand new, still a lot of life in them. And they were going to waste just sitting in the junk drawer,” he says.

As he started taking a good hard look around his house, he quickly discovered several more things he had recently replaced, including a digital camera, not because they no longer worked, but because something bigger/better/faster had come along.

“It occurred to me that they, too, were going to waste,” he says.

So he decided to find them a new home.

Mr. Blum's solution was GadgetEase, a retail store that specializes in buying and selling slightly used electronics. He set up shop at 4445 Bonita Beach Road, one mile west of U.S. 41 in Bonita Springs.

“It's a win-win situation,” he says. “GadgetEase will purchase slightly used electronics after they are thoroughly tested and deemed in good working condition. Those who bring the items in are paid in cash. After we clean the items up, we stock them in our store and resell them to the public at significant

SEE GADGET, B5 ►

MONEY & INVESTING

Investors get a say on CEO compensation



Many hard-core capitalists view government regulation of the private sector in a very negative light. Southwest Florida has a large number of hard-core capitalists in permanent and seasonal residence.

However, CEO compensation — or the excess in such compensation — is possibly an issue where a broad cross-section of our local citizenry would agree that greed had run rampant and something had to be done to curb it.

Free market capitalists rightly argue that regulation:

- Impedes businesses from the normal course of business by requiring paperwork, reporting, approval processes, investigations... all time consuming and slowing the wheels of the corporate machine.

- Costs a bundle of taxpayer money and rarely achieves the purposes for which the regulation was intended.

- Violates the intended role of government.

But recent legislation has some capitalists nodding their heads in approval.

It centers on executive compensation at publicly traded companies. Called "Say-on-Pay," the new feder-

al law requires companies to solicit shareholder opinion on compensation via the proxy statement.

The requirement is now law as it is part of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; it takes effect for shareholder meetings held after Jan. 21, 2011. Some publicly traded companies have already adopted "say-on-pay"; they elected its inclusion in their 2010 proxy, most probably in anticipation that it would be a requirement and knowing that their investor base wanted accountability on compensation issues.

The "Say-on-Pay" provision is included in the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010, better known as the Financial Reform Act. Most know that the law was primarily intended to reform the financial sector and therefore focused on capital levels, risk issues and bank executive compensation. One of the add-on features of the act focused on compensation of executives outside the financial sector. It seems as if there was public outcry about bank and non-bank CEO compensation packages.

The AFL-CIO keeps tabs on worker compensation issues — those who do not like the AFL-CIO can look askance at their findings and could possibly debate a few numbers... but maybe not too much as publicly traded CEO data is readily available. For 2009, the average compensation for the CEOs

for 292 companies included in the S&P 500 was \$9.25 million. That average number broke down into the following component averages:

- ▶ Salary \$1,041,012
- ▶ Bonuses \$203,714
- ▶ Stock awards: \$2,630,574
- ▶ Option awards: \$2,284-595
- ▶ Non-equity incentives: \$1,790,703
- ▶ Pension and deferred compensation: \$1,060,867

Since all that was not enough, there was another category, "Other" which allowed for another \$235,232 in average compensation.

The AFL-CIO does not stop there in its analysis. These averages are compared to average worker compensation. A few more factoids:

- CEO compensation at these 292 companies increased 298 percent over the 1990 to 2005 period. Average worker pay increased 4.3 percent and corporate profits increased 106 percent.

- The ratio of average CEO total compensation to average worker compensation was 42 times in 1980; their numbers indicated that the ratio in 2008 was 319. Ouch! Readers should take solace that this ratio peaked at more than 500 times in year 2000 and it has come down in the past 10 years.

Beyond the analysis of CEO versus average worker, the middle class citizenry is looking at wealth distribution in the U.S. The Federal Reserve does a triennial study, for which many academicians have done studies on the

2004 results. The top quartile held 87 percent of the U.S. net household total wealth (including homes and net of all debt) — some \$44 trillion. The next two quartiles (50 percent of households) held 13 percent of wealth at a total of \$6.5 trillion and the bottom quartile held, in essence, nothing after debt is netted. Those numbers are more heavily skewed in favor of the wealthiest when home assets are excluded from calculations.

Investors interested in giving a thumbs up or down for CEO compensation now have a vehicle for doing so. The yea or nay does not translate into directing corporate pay policy, as the majority vote of the investors is not binding on the directors.

However, it does begin a meaningful and ongoing dialogue about CEO pay. It is an opportunity for those who are repulsed by corporate largesse to voice their opinions. As most stock is held institutionally or in mutual funds, investors might want to consider writing to their respective institutions to voice a general opinion about CEO pay and how one would prefer the institution to vote about these issues. ■

— 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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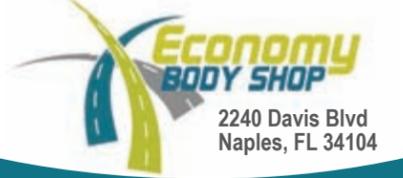
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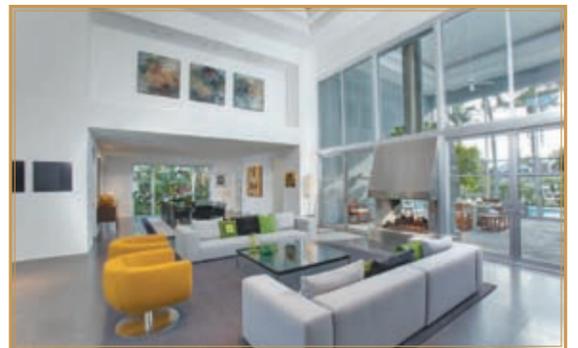
KINGS TOWN DRIVE

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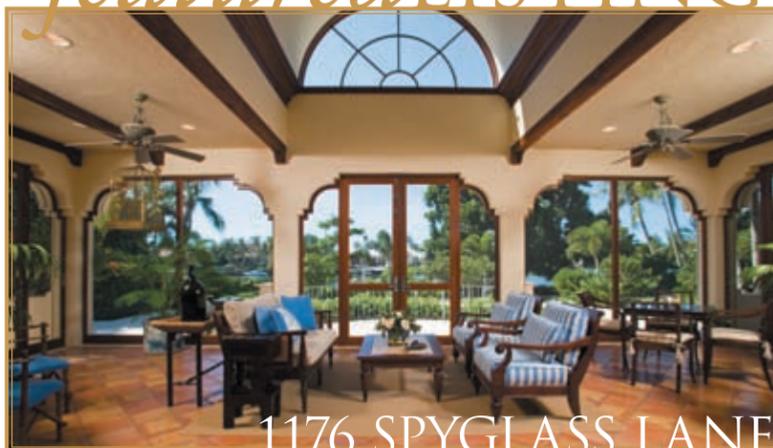
Spectacular long water view estate site. Close to the Port Royal Club. Expansive lot and one-half creates a large building envelope along Morgan's Cove. Port Royal Club membership eligibility. \$5,900,000



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The minimalist design of this well conceived home encourages a soothing tranquility and contemporary comfort. Expansive long water views, with remarkable privacy. Port Royal Club membership eligibility. \$6,750,000

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DISABLED

From page 1

the order — we don't write things down, so Theresa has to remember — and Theresa makes it. She's out there in the public view, in the center of the restaurant where you can see the food being prepared.

"We think it's important to cross-train people, we try to teach people to do everything. And she's been extremely good at learning and doing various things. She can open the store for me. She knows how to set up the front, make the chili — she's a godsend."

Mr. Schrider, on the other end of the business universe, is president of J. Lodge, based in Fort Myers, with 250 or so employees scattered along the southwest coast and across the state and country who can analyze and sharpen up data-service and call-center operations in businesses that rely on telephones and their operators, nationwide.

They include former business owners, company directors, people with advanced degrees and exceptional computer or IT skills, and lots of brains. Ninety percent of his workforce is disabled, physically, in one way or another.

"As far as the expense (of hiring disabled workers) is concerned, it's cost effective," says Mr. Schrider. "The primary reason to hire them is because of their work ethic and what's available in the workforce out there. Most people think of disabled Americans as performing something less than normal — but the opposite is true.

"The demographics of the disabled world are the same as the able-bodied world. Most became disabled through accident or illness, but they're professionals, like you and I. Often they're restricted to working only part-time because of Social Security benefits. Often they have master's degree or higher-level executive experience, and all of a sudden they're reduced to watching Oprah all day long. But they just want to work. It's a return to a livelihood and self importance."

The result, when they get a job? "The work ethic and production benefit is just overwhelming," concludes Mr. Schrider.

Which raises an obvious question: Why aren't more employers tapping into organizations that employ the disabled — there are almost 30 in Collier, Lee and Charlotte counties (for a list with contact information, see www.info@abletrust.org) — instead of ignoring all that talent?

Perhaps partly because of fear and a lack of understanding, says Susanne Homant, president and CEO of the not-for-profit ABL Trust, part of the Florida Endowment Foundation for Vocational Rehabilitation, formed by the state legislature in 1990, the year the U.S. Congress passed the Americans with Disabilities Act.

"There's a perception some businesses have that it will cost money to hire someone with a disability,"



The J. Lodge website makes a strong argument for hiring the disabled.

she explains. "But when you look at the costs of making adjustments (an average of \$500, according to statistics analyzing businesses with disabled workers) that's minor.

"One of the issues is people worrying about disabled workers who come in on what I call a BMW-style wheelchair, too wide, and now you have to tear down walls. But that is so rare it shouldn't even be thought about. The thing we encourage is, at least welcome people with disabilities to apply for the job. Include the tag line at the bottom of your ad: 'People with disabilities are welcome to apply.'"

You might be surprised how much you get out of it, she adds.

ABLE Trust has provided \$26 million in grants to organizations that help the disabled find good work and become "successful" in all 67 Florida counties, notes Ms. Homant — and that has helped businesses and communities. A several-year-old study by ABL shows that for every dollar put into the hiring of disabled workers, between \$13 and \$26 can come back to the community.

"Because they've had to struggle so hard to get into jobs, or be interviewed," Ms. Homant says, "they often have a higher level of job satisfaction. They're grateful. That results in something magic to an employer, called lower turnover.

"By 'successful,' though, we don't mean just entry-level jobs. We're appalled by the 'sheltered workshop,' the notion that you get people in for a day and you give them \$5 or \$10. 'Successful' means reasonably well paid, like anybody else would be, and getting advancement opportunities when they're earned."

Many disabled people willing and able to work can't, because they aren't finding jobs — and the percentage of unemployed among disabled workers is significantly higher than the unemployment rate among able-bodied, able-minded workers, experts say.

James Weisman, senior vice president and general counsel for the United Spinal Association, told the Christian Science Monitor last month that 65 percent of people with disabilities remain unemployed, just as they were 20 years ago when his organization helped create the legislation that resulted in the Americans with Disabilities Act. But he added that disabled workers live longer, and contemporary medicine gives more of them opportunities to be productive, which throws off the

numbers.

Based on her own experience, Ms. Homant estimates that about 50 percent of those workers disabled but willing and able to work, are unemployed in Florida.

For some, the situation can remain bleak indeed, with no help from the state — help, for example, that comes for those who are physically disabled, for disabled veterans, and even for those who are "intellectually or mentally disabled," as Paul Starczyk, executive director of Sunrise Community of Collier County, describes the population of people Sunrise helps.

For the job at hand at Sunrise, the state, with some federal monies, provides about 60 percent of what's required for Sunrise to improve the lives of the 80 or so clients it works with each year in Collier, he notes.

But that's better than zero-sum government help for the hearing impaired, says Kim Gaught, executive director of Hearing Impaired Persons of Charlotte County, one of only 13 organizations for the hearing impaired in the Sunshine State. There is no equipment help (the waiting list for help obtaining a hearing aid is years long, rendering it ineffective). No training programs. No on-site resources that could provide sign language or other ways of communication to the hearing impaired.

"People with hearing loss face discrimination in every aspect of their lives, most especially regarding employment," she says. "Hearing loss is invisible, and it's a disability that isolates people — imagine being fired because you wear hearing aids and no one is willing to take the time to look at you when they speak to you. Imagine not being able to participate in your own health care at a doctor's office or hospital or in your own defense at court, or imagine being arrested and not able to communicate with anyone. Something like this happens to our



RUCKERT

clients in Charlotte County on a weekly basis."

Greg Ruckert, who supervises about 25 people for J. Lodge and found the job, like many of his fellow workers, by looking online at websites devoted to helping those with disabilities, offers some advice and the voice of

in the know

Reasons why business should hire disabled employees

- >> Nearly 30 percent of homes have at least one person with a disability (ODEP statistics).
 - >> The Disability Network is a trillion dollar market nationally: a multi-million dollar market in Florida — discretionary dollars. (U.S. Census)
 - >> People with Disabilities are the third largest market — second only to the aging segment and baby-boomers. (marketresearch.com)
 - >> 73 percent of people with disabilities are heads of their households.
 - >> 58 percent own their own homes.
 - >> 48 percent are principle shoppers for their families (earnworks.com).
 - >> People with disabilities are more likely to return as customers to businesses that make accommodations for access (auto-entry doors, Braille menus, space between displays to allow a wheelchair or person with a walker to get through, good customer service sensitive to special needs, etc.) Once satisfied, they tend to remain loyal, and serve as a source of great word-of-mouth advertising.
 - >> The best way to make sure the basic "shopping" needs of people with disabilities are satisfied is to have employees with disabilities on staff, to advise and help in planning, as well as become a communication channel to the disability market.
 - >> Family, friends and other supporters of people with disabilities often prefer to "shop" at those businesses that are known and visibly promote inclusion and diversity.
- Source: The ABL Trust

experience, take it or leave it, he says.

"The thing I would stress the most to other employers is the enormous commitment and work ethic the people I work with or supervise bring to the business. They generally have years of experience in varying fields, but felt left behind once they were deemed to no longer fit the normal business model."

J. Lodge hired and put to work 90 new people beginning early in early July, which suggests that its business model — one that relies on skilled disabled workers who work from home because technology now allows it — is succeeding.

"They are excited about working, improving and being part of a true team again," said Mr. Ruckert. "And their experience is invaluable. The old fears of people not arriving at a brick-and-mortar building daily have melted away — at least as far as I'm concerned. I have never had less trouble as far as attendance, work ethic, etc., than I have had managing these employees." ■

FGCU Small Business Development Center offers QuickBooks seminar

Florida Gulf Coast University's Small Business Development Center will host a four-week QuickBooks Simple Start Series from 2 to 5 p.m. Sept. 10, 17, 24 and Oct. 1 at FGCU Main Campus - Lutgert Hall #4201.

Cyrine Butler, certified QuickBooks

trainer and owner of DBL Accounting LLC, will teach the course. Ms. Butler teaches the basic fundamentals and understanding of QuickBooks. The 12-hour course provides participants hands-on training such as entering sales information, paying bills, work-

ing with bank accounts, tracking and paying sales tax, and more. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own laptops.

Ms. Butler has been in the accounting field for more than 25 years and has owned DBL Accounting for two years.

Cost to attend the four-week series is \$199, and each attendee will receive a certificate of completion. Reservations are required and can be made online at <http://www.sbdcseminars.org> or call 745-3700 for more information. ■

GADGET

From page 1

savings.”

GadgetEase will buy things that fall into six categories: home electronics, portable electronics, photography and video, media, computers and video gaming.

Home electronics include, but are not limited to, DVD\Blu-Ray players, televisions and home theater systems, projectors and remotes. Portable electronic items include iPods and MP3 players, iPads, cell phones, GPS systems, headphones and portable stereos.

The remaining categories cover things like digital cameras, tripods, digital picture frames, memory cards, video games, Apple computers, LCD monitors, scanners and Playstation\Xbox\Nintendo consoles and portables.

Mr. Blum believes today's economic conditions make now the perfect time to launch GadgetEase.

“Many people are downsizing and can't take every high-tech gadget they own with them,” he says. “Now they



From left, Austin Trenholm, store manager Matthew Christensen and Bill Berry check out electronics before adding them to the inventory at GadgetEase.

COURTESY PHOTO

don't have to put these things in a garage sale or go through the potentially long process of placing them on consignment.”

He says GadgetEase can also take away the worry for sellers who don't want to deal with the uncertainty of online sales

and auction sites, or who worry about having strangers come to their homes to look at something for sale.

“We're also here for anyone who wants or needs electronic technology but who doesn't have the money to buy new,” he adds.

It started with kids' stuff

Mr. Blum and his wife, Lynn, have been residents of Bonita Springs since 2003. Prior to opening GadgetEase, the couple founded Once Upon a Child and Plato's Closet, both national franchises of retail shops now managed out of Minneapolis, Minn., by the Winmark Corp.

Once Upon a Child opened in 1985 in Perrysburg, Ohio, and buys and sells all items related to children. There are 235 stores in the U.S. and Canada, including stores in Southwest Florida.

Plato's Closet, with 243 locations, was launched in Columbus, Ohio, in 1998 and buys and sells teen clothing and accessories.

More recently, the Blums founded and franchised the Clothes Mentor concept, a store for women's clothing, in Columbus, Ohio. Clothes Mentor has 30 stores and is now owned and operated by Clothes Mentor LTD of Minneapolis, Minn.

GadgetEase is a prototype store, Mr. Blum says. “We have plans to franchise the concept and create another national chain.”

For more information, call GadgetEase at 947-3273 or e-mail gadgetease@gmail.com. ■

Hall of Fame tickets available

Tickets for the Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida 2010 Business Hall of Fame, Collier County are available.

At the dinner and awards ceremony Wednesday, Oct. 27, at the Naples Grande, JA will induct Dr. William Figlesthler, managing partner/shareholder at Specialists in Urology, and Len Zaiser III, president, CEO and founder of Structure Medical, into the Business Hall of Fame. in recognition of their profession-

al accomplishments and commitment to the community.

Tables of 10, which include seats for two JA students, are \$1,800; tables of five are \$900 and include a seat for one student. Sponsors also are needed to support student admission, which is \$125 per ticket. Program advertisements are also available for \$500.

For more information, call 225-2590 or visit www.JASWFL.org. ■

SCORE hosts free workshop

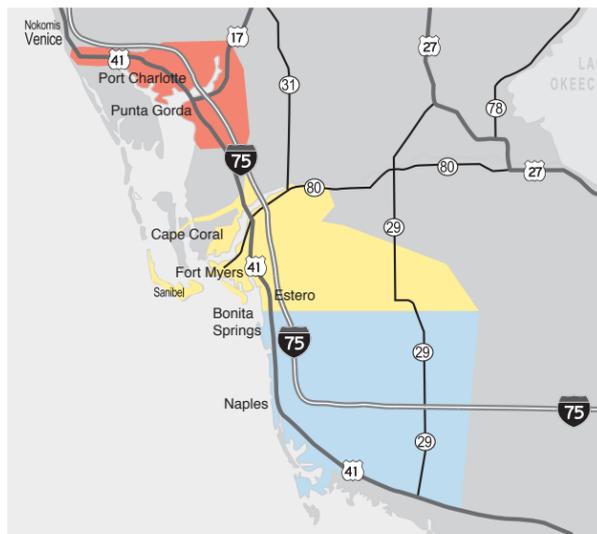
SCORE Naples and the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce present a free workshop about enhancing your business' online presence from 9:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 11, at chamber headquarters, 2390 Tamiami Trail N. Networking and registration will begin at 9 a.m.

Presenters Janis Vargas, an Internet strategist for small and medium-size companies; Andreas Brandt, former

director of IT for SCORE Naples; and Edward Clay, who has 15 years of experience working with media; will discuss how to build a website and find a web hosting package, social media marketing, search engine optimization, e-mail accounts and more.

Reserve your seat online at www.scorenaples.org, or call the SCORE office at 430-0081 weekdays between 9 a.m. and noon. ■

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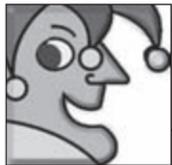
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Much Ado About Splits

Stock splits? Meh. They're not as exciting as they seem.

Imagine shares of McDonald Farms (ticker: EIEIO), trading around \$50 each. If you own 100 shares, they're worth \$5,000. Let's say McDonald splits its stock 2-for-1. For each share that you own, you'll get another, so you end up with 200 shares. You didn't get any richer, though, because while your share count increases, the value of each share decreases proportionately. After the split, the shares will trade around \$25 each. The total value of your shares? Still \$5,000.

Splits can take many forms: 2-for-1, 3-for-2, etc. There are even "reverse splits," which reduce the total number of shares and plump up the price. But beware of reverse stock splits of low-priced stocks. Companies use them to create a (false) sense of higher value and sometimes to avoid getting delisted from a stock exchange, as Rite Aid might need to do. Many well-known companies, such as AIG, E*TRADE, Time Warner and Sun Micro-

systems, have executed reverse splits.

One reason companies split their shares is to keep prices low enough for individual investors. If, in its 91-year history as a public company, Coca-Cola had never split its stock, each share would be priced at more than \$260,000 today and few folks could afford one. In fact, Coke has split so often in its history that if you'd bought just one \$40 share when it went public in 1919, you'd now have 4,608 shares.

It's rare for investors to be shut out of a stock because of a steep price, though. Even with a \$300 stock, shallow-pocketed investors can just buy one or two shares.

While a split can make a stock's price more psychologically inviting and does technically make it cheaper, it doesn't make it a sudden bargain. A stock selling at more than \$200 per share might seem "expensive," but it can be a much better value than many \$10 stocks. Stock prices only matter when you compare them to other numbers, such as earnings or revenue. ■

My Dumbest Investment

Pasta's Done

Several years ago, I had money to invest and remember choosing between the Italian Pasta Co. and the spice giant McCormick. I was impressed with the pasta company's smooth and strong growth of revenue and earnings. I figured I couldn't go wrong with it, and that spices were just a commodity. Well, an SEC investigation into accounting fraud soon after I bought my stock made my stomach churn. I learned that there isn't much brand power to pasta, but spices and condiments can have pricing power.

— Felix E., Singapore

The Fool Responds: The pasta company ended up being investigated by the SEC and the Department of Justice and was slapped with a class-action suit, as well. Several pasta executives pled guilty to deceiving investors by overstating earnings. The American Italian Pasta Co. is now being bought by the food company Ralcorp.

Spices and commodities aren't always boring. McCormick's stock has surged more than 25 percent in the past year, and has averaged 13 percent growth annually over the past 10 and 20 years. ■



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

Last week's trivia answer

I was born in 1981 as the Au Bon Pain Co. I bought the Saint Louis Bread Company in 1993 and in 1999, sold Au Bon Pain and took my current name. My stock has grown more than tenfold since then. I recently bought the Paradise Bakery & Café chain. Today I'm a major player in the café-bakery world, with some 1,400 stores in 40 states and Canada. (About 600 are company-owned and 800 franchised.) You'll typically find me in suburban, strip mall and regional mall locations, where I offer fresh-baked artisan bread, antibiotic-free chicken, and more. Who am I? ■

(Answer: Panera Bread Co.)



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

Talking Tickers

Q What can you tell me about stock ticker symbols?

— M.M., Fort Myers, Fla.

A A ticker symbol is a short identifier for a company's stock. Tickers of companies on the old, respected "big board," the New York Stock Exchange, generally have three or fewer letters — for example, K for Kellogg, V for Visa, BA for Boeing and XOM for ExxonMobil. Tickers of stocks trading on the Nasdaq Stock Market usually have four letters (such as MSFT for Microsoft and SBUX for Starbucks).

Sometimes you'll see a fifth. If so, it's not technically part of the ticker — it's tacked on to reflect something about the company. For example, an F means it's a foreign company and a Q means it's in bankruptcy proceedings.

To look up a company's ticker symbol online, click over to sites such as <http://finance.yahoo.com> and type the company name in the search box. Alternatively, call the company or your brokerage and ask. Newspaper stock listings also usually include ticker symbols.

Q I know that Southwest Airlines has an amusing ticker symbol, LUV. What other clever ticker symbols are out there?

— R.B., Richmond, Va.

A Well, there's Yum! Brands (YUM), the parent of KFC, Taco Bell and Pizza Hut; explosives specialist Dynamic Materials (BOOM); Brinker International (EAT), the parent of Chili's; 3M (MMM); Molson Coors Brewing (TAP); Gibraltar Industries (ROCK); Meta Financial (CASH); Franklin Resources (BEN); Sotheby's (BID); Olympic Steel (ZEUS); and amusement park company Cedar Fair (FUN).

Before it was acquired by the Roche pharmaceutical company, Genentech traded under DNA. Eyewear maker Oakley, before its own buyout, traded under the symbol OO. (Think about that last one, if you don't get it at first.) ■

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

Name That Company

Based in Connecticut, I trace my roots back to 1878's Edison Electric Light Co. My annual revenue now tops \$150 billion. I'm a diversified technology, media and financial services company, dealing in aircraft engines, refrigerators, power generation, water treatment, medical imaging, business and consumer financing, locomotives, lighting, and much more. My "Ecomagination" campaign aims to boost revenue via eco-friendly initia-



tives. My \$6 billion "Healthy-magination" initiative aims to deliver lower-cost care to people, along with business growth. I employ about 300,000 people worldwide. The ZIP code for my original headquarters is 12345 and my logo is a monogram. 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

GM's Bright Idea

Is General Motors serious about electric cars? It sure looks like it.

As GM prepares to sell its Chevrolet Volt electric car to the masses, it's also investing in Hoosier startup Bright Automotive. The companies aim to bring a plug-in gas/electric hybrid van to market in 2013. So hurrah for GM. But don't go storming the barricades just yet.

Sure, at first glance this looks like absolutely the right idea. We know that companies ranging from battery makers such as Al23 and Ener1 to automakers such as Toyota and Tesla are placing big bets on electric vehicles becoming the wave of the future. So on

the one hand, GM has fiscal rectitude on its side. On the other hand, it's most definitely "politically correct."

But despite the size of the idea, check out the size of the investment. GM's investment in Bright is exceedingly tiny: just \$5 million. That's less than what it would pay for a minute's worth of commercial airtime during the Super Bowl. For a company that hit up U.S. investors for tens of billions of dollars, \$5 million isn't an "investment" in electric vehicles. It's chump change.

Then again, maybe that's GM's brightest idea yet. At this price, it doesn't matter whether the new van succeeds or not. GM's bought itself some good PR, at a very good price. ■

BUSINESS MEETINGS

► **The Collier County Bar Association** holds its general membership luncheon from noon to 1 p.m. Friday, Sept. 10, at Carrabba's, 4320 Tamiami Trail N. For more information, visit www.collier-countybar.org.

► **Women's Network of Collier County** meets from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month at the Collier Athletic Club. For more information, call 434-5119. Next meeting: Sept. 14.

► **Wake Up Naples**, hosted by the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by Century Link, is set for 7:30-8:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 15, at the Hilton Naples. Cost is \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. Register at www.napleschamber.org/events.

► **The Marco Island Chamber of Commerce's** next Business After 5 networking event takes place from 5:30-7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 15, at Guy Harvey's Island Grill, 760 N. Collier Blvd. For information, visit www.marcoislandchamber.org.

► **PRACC**, Public Relations, Marketing and Advertising Professionals of Collier County, meets at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 16, at McComick & Schmick's in Mercato for "Lights, Camera, Action," a discussion about the digital marketing success of the Naples International Film Festival and an update from Maggie McCarty of the Collier County Film Commission. Cost is \$35 for members and \$30 for others. RSVP by calling 436-2105 or visiting www.pracc.org.

► **Business After 5** for members and

guests of the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce takes place from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 16, at Al Deleon & Associates, 4060 Tamiami Trail N. Open mic night and karaoke will be part of the fun. Register at www.napleschamber.org/events.

► **The Collier Building Industry Association** holds its 2010 Sand Dollar Awards gala at 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 18, at the Naples Grande. Call 436-6100 or visit www.cbina.net.

► **The Christian Chamber of Southwest Florida** holds its monthly luncheon at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 22, at North Naples United Methodist Church, 6000 Goodlette Frank Road. Guest speaker Frank Shelton of AmeriDry will discuss hurricane preparedness. Call 481-1411, e-mail christianchamber@embarqmail.com

com or visit www.hischamber.org.

► **The Collier County Medical Society** holds its general membership meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 23, at Kensington Golf & Country Club, 2700 Pine Ridge Road. Guest speakers will be Dr. Stephen Kalsko, senior vice president of USF Health, and Karen Holbrook, vice president for research innovation at USF. For reservations, call 435-7727 or e-mail info@ccmsonline.org.

► **The Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce** holds its annual meeting and volunteer awards luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 30, at Worthington Country Club. Cost is \$45 for members and \$60 for others. Registration deadline is Tuesday, Sept. 28. Call 992-2943 or visit www.BonitaSpringsChamber.com. ■

ON THE MOVE

Automotive



OWENS

Eric Owens has joined the staff at John Marazzi Nissan of Naples as parts manager. He worked for 25 years as parts manager at Maroone Nissan of Fort Lauderdale.



BARRIOS

Will Barrios has been promoted from sales consultant to business manager at John Marazzi Nissan of Naples. Mr. Barrios holds a bachelor's degree in business management from St. Thomas University.

Awards & Recognition

Humanities Chairman **Dr. Russell Swanson** and **Marty Ambrose** of Edison State College have received Awards of Excellence from the National Institute of Staff and Organizational Development. Dr. Swanson is chair of the ESC Humanities Department; Professor Ambrose, a 20-year ESC faculty member, is chair of assessment and an English professor at the college.



SWANSON



AMBROSE



SCOTT

Samantha Scott and Pushing the Envelope Inc. received an Award of Distinction from the Florida Public Relations Society at the 2010 Golden Image Awards ceremony in Orlando. Pushing the Envelope is a mixed media marketing communications firm. The award was for the PTE website and the firm's integration of social media done in collaboration with Internet Services Group of Florida.

Gulfshore Life, Gulfshore Business, Gulfshore Life At Home and Naples Health won six awards at the Florida Magazine Association annual confer-

ence in Orlando. **Dan Denton**, president and group publisher was also honored at the conference with induction into the Florida Magazine Association Hall of Fame. Mr. Denton founded what is now Gulfshore Media in 1979, sold the company to CurtCo Media in 2004 and repurchased it, along with its 22 publications across Florida, last spring.

Community Relations

Marjorie Johnson has joined the staff at Vi at Bentley Village as community relations manager. She most recently operated her own public relations and marketing firm, working with profit and not-for-profit clients such as Duke University, Biotronic, Resort Quest Communities and the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Higher Education

Dr. Aysegul Timur has been appointed program chair for the MBA and MPA programs at the Johnson School of Business at Hodges University.

Dr. Rosemary Arway has been promoted to director of the master of science in criminal justice program at the School of Professional Studies at Hodges University. Dr. Arway has been a full-time faculty member at Hodges since January 2009 and brings 28 years of professional law enforcement experience to the position.

The following new members have been appointed to the board of directors of the Florida Gulf Coast University Alumni Association for the 2010-12 term: **Angela Bell**, Gravina, Smith, Matte & Arnold Marketing and Public Relations; **Jennifer Crabill**, FGCU assistant director of procurement services; **Suzanne DeCopain**, assistant state attorney for the State Attorney's Office, 20th Judicial Circuit; **Jonathan Forbes**, Wiebel, Hennells and Carufe, P.A.; **Marie Hebert**, FGCU department of campus reservations; **Rhonda Holtzclaw**, FGCU coordinator for environmental health and safety at FGCU; **Stefanie Ink**, Alliance Financial Group; **Jennifer Laderer**, Bonita Bay Group; **Michael Nacheff**, legislative assistant to Sen. Garrett Richter; C.J. Reed, Gartner Inc.

Landscape Architecture

Michael Ekblad of Johnson Engineering has earned licensure as a Florida Registered Landscape Architect. Among the numerous projects he has worked



EKBLAD

on for private and public sectors are city master planning and revitalization projects, land use analysis and site design, large and small scale commercial designs, urban and streetscape designs, roadway design and installations and stormwater mitigation projects.

Law



HASTINGS

Cheryl Hastings, a shareholder in the transactional real estate and business services practice group of Grant, Fridkin, Pearson, Athan & Crown, P.A., has earned a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Green Associate credential signifying the fundamental knowledge of green building concepts. Ms. Hastings has been practicing law in Southwest Florida since 2002 and focuses on residential and commercial real estate development and finance law. She earned her bachelor's degree with honors from the University of South Florida and her law degree from the University of Florida.

Media



JEROME

Jeff Jerome has joined the staff of *Florida Weekly* as a sales representative. A 10-year resident of Naples, Mr. Jerome previously worked in member services for the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce and as an advertising manager in online sales for the *Naples Daily News*. He is a native of Syracuse, N.Y.

Nonprofit Organizations

Jaclynn Faffer has been named executive director of Jewish Family Services, a division of the Jewish Federation of Collier County. Ms. Faffer holds a bachelor's degree from Boston University and a master's of social work from Tulane University. She earned a doctor of social welfare from the Wurzweiler School of Social Work at Yeshiva University in New York City. Her distinguished career has included clinical practice, supervision, administration, teaching



FAFFER

and research. She has been a member of the teaching faculty of several schools of social work including Barry University, Yeshiva University and Hunter College. Most recently, she served as executive director/CEO of the Ruth Rales Jewish Family Service of South Palm Beach County in Boca Raton, Fla.



GJESDAHL

Leslie Ann Gjesdahl has joined the Naples Town Hall Distinguished Speaker Series as community relations manager. A native of Crookston, Minn., Ms. Gjesdahl studied communications at the University of North Dakota-Grand Forks and has more than 20 years of expertise in human resources and customer relations. Prior to joining Naples Town Hall, she was president and owner of RPA Inc., which specialized in human resources for automotive dealerships and small businesses. She has also held vice president positions for large automotive groups in Minneapolis/St. Paul, and travelled nationally as a featured speaker on the best practices in customer and employee satisfaction. A member of the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce and the Gamma Phi Beta Alumni Association, she has been qualified by the Minnesota Supreme Court as a Rule 114 civil case mediator.

Sheryl Soukup has been named executive director of Naples Equestrian Challenge. Ms. Soukup has most than 10 years of nonprofit management experience and is the former executive director of Immokalee Housing & Family Services. She holds a bachelor's degree in microbiology from the University of Massachusetts and is a 2008 graduate of Leadership Collier. She is a 2010 recipient of the Women of Achievement Award from the Collier County Chapter of the American Association of University Women, and she received the 2005 Citizen of the Year award from the Lee County Chapter of National Association of Social Workers. She belongs to the Rotary Club of Immokalee and volunteers as a mentor in the Take Stock In Children program. She moved to Florida in 2002 from Boston, where she worked for Children's Hospital Boston and Harvard Children's Initiative. ■

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NETWORKING

'Thinking Outside the Box' for nonprofits A seminar sponsored by Sue Huff and Kelly Capolino



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- 2. Jeff Wallace and Marianne Larimer
- 3. Meg Stepanian, Susan Mellen and Tiffany Kuehner
- 4. Deb Cecere and Lynn Ferraina
- 5. Mary Ellen Koy and Suzanne Lester
- 6. Cyndee Woolley and Scott Robertson
- 7. Hope Daley and Karole Davis

The Chamber Executive Club at Hamilton Harbor



Catherine Fay, Blase Ciabaton and Brenda Robson



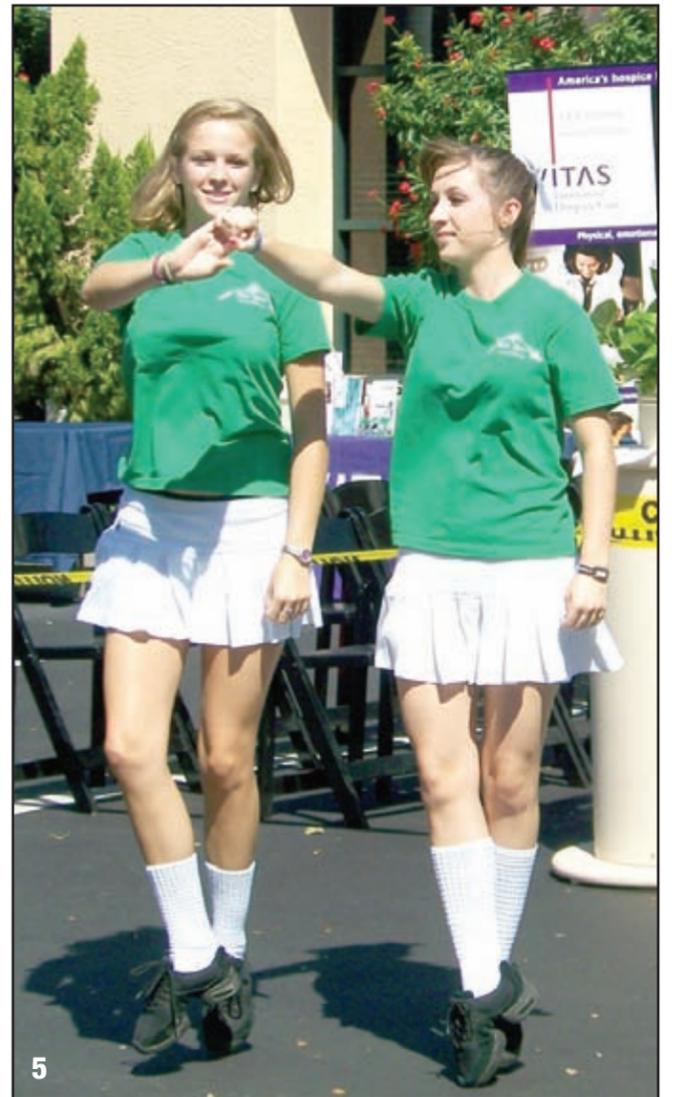
Michelle Smith, Lisa Vinciguerra and Scott Cameron

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NETWORKING

Tearing it up on Marco at IberiaBank shred party



BERNADETTE LA PAGALIA / COURTESY PHOTOS

1. Rony Joel and Bob Abrams
2. Patrick Renda and Keith Dameron
3. Mel Ollma and JRobert
4. Brandon Vox and Jeffrey "Barry" Hogan
5. Claire Gorman and Catherine Gorman of Celtic Spirit Dance
6. Keith Short and Keith Dameron

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Encompassing over 2,200 SF, 3BR. Club room, poolscape, fitness center. Restaurants, shops, movie theatre. **\$1,370,000**
Barbi Lowe/Trish Lowe Soars | 216-1973



THE DUNES - GRANDE PRESERVE GRANDE PHOENICIAN ▲ Magnificent Gulf views! Enjoy wonderful penthouse living in this 3BR/3BA. Gas cooktop, wine cooler, granite. **\$1,299,000**
Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731



COVE TOWERS - CARIBE ▲
Priced below market. Extraordinary Bay, Gulf & River views! Perfect 4BR/4BA+den penthouse, over 4,200 A/C SF. **\$1,295,000**
Kathryn Hurvitz/Marilyn Moir | 659-5126



BAREFOOT BEACH - SOUTHPORT ON THE BAY ▲ Estate home with impact glass on all 3 floors. Vaulted ceiling, fireplace. Lake view. Loft library. Pool/spa. **\$1,249,000**
Mary Catherine/Larry White | 287-2818



THE DUNES - GRANDE PRESERVE GRANDE PHOENICIAN ▲ Magnificent water & golf course views! Tastefully furnished 3BR/3BA. World-class amenities, private beach club. **\$999,000**
Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731



VILLAGES OF MONTEREY ▲
7705 Santa Margherita Way - Lakefront, "like new" stately 4BR/4.5BA home. Family room, loft area, den, 1st floor study, plus heated pool/spa.
\$999,000 | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552



COVE TOWERS - CARIBE ▲
Endless views of the Gulf/Bay & preserves! Impeccably maintained 3BR/3.5BA+den. Resort amenities. Offered turnkey.
\$995,000 | Pat Callis | 250-0562



BAREFOOT BEACH BAREFOOT BEACH CLUB II ▲
Fantastic 3BR/2 BA on beach. Great Gulf views! Tiled living areas. New granite & SS appliances. Community pool.
\$985,000 | Roxanne Jeske | 450-5210



PELICAN ISLE YACHT CLUB III ▲ 425 Dockside Drive #201 - Naples ultimate island! Great views, turnkey furnished 3BR/3BA. Equity membership to private Yacht Club included.
\$939,000 | Suzanne Ring | 821-7550



AQUA ▲ 13675 Vanderbilt Drive - A coveted lifestyle with resort-style amenities. Generous 3 & 4 bedroom floor plans with 3,500 SF of living space. Overlook the Yacht Harbor, Gulf & preserves. Direct deep-water access boat slips. Values beyond belief Priced from the \$900s. **239-591-2727**



THE DUNES - GRANDE PRESERVE GRANDE PHOENICIAN ▲ Very Motivated Seller! SW views over Bay/Gulf. An open 3BR/3BA with granite kitchen. Beach Club & resort amenities. **\$895,000**
Gayle Fawkes/Meghan C. Reed | 250-6051



THE DUNES - GRANDE PRESERVE ▲
280 Grande Way - Magnificent views over Gulf, preserve and golf! Very spacious 3BR+family room, 3BA floor plans. Membership to private Floridian Beach Club and the Plantation Club. **Grande Phoenician from \$875,000. Grande Geneva from \$900,000**
Call 239-594-1700



BANYAN WOODS ▲
Spectacular long lake views, airy custom 3BR/4BA + den. Gorgeous kitchen, huge great room, heated pool and spa.
\$839,000 | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552



VILLAGES OF MONTEREY ▲
Lakeside, elegant 4BR/4.5BA pool home with loads of superb living space. Family room, den, loft and SW exposure.
\$699,000 | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552



WILSHIRE LAKES ▲
Unique 5 bedroom plus den, lakefront estate home. Cypress ceilings, wood floors. Two-sided fireplace, pool/spa.
\$699,000 | Bernie Garabed | 571-2466



COVE TOWERS - ARUBA ▲
True bayfront! Fabulous views, 3BR/2BA + den. Beach shuttle, fitness center, tennis, boat docks for lease/purchase.
\$627,777 | Marsha L. Moore | 398-4559



EDEN ON THE BAY ▲ Overlooking lake, 3 bedrooms + den, 3 full baths. Granite countertops in kitchen, heated pool/spa. Outdoor kitchen. **\$615,000**
Marty/Debbi McDermott | 564-4231



LEMURIA ▲
Newer construction, low-density in a gated community. Built in 2007, 4BR/3BA coach home with superb appointments.
\$595,000 | Thomas Gasbarro | 404-4883



AUTUMN WOODS ▲
Spectacular 4BR/3BA home on a lake with western exposure in a gated community. Beautifully kept, great amenities.
\$549,900 | Fred Alter | 269-4123



WILSHIRE LAKES ▲
Nicely appointed 5BR/3.5BA pool home overlooking a private, wooded preserve. Many community amenities, near beach.
\$535,000 | Patrick O'Connor | 293-9411



VILLAGES OF MONTEREY ▲
Charming, picture perfect pool home on cul-de-sac. Granite kitchen, travertine and wood floors, marble pool deck.
\$525,000 | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552



THE CROSSINGS - MILL RUN ▲
7061 Mill Run Circle - Charming 3BR/2BA Coleman built home, solar heated pool, large backyard. Gated community, pool, tennis and more!
\$484,000 | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552



LEMURIA ▲
S. exposure over lake & fountains! Open 3BR/3BA, beautifully appointed, 2-car garage. Tennis, fitness, pool/spa.
\$479,000 | Kristin Mikler | 370-6292



LEMURIA ▲
Brand new, never lived in! Lake views, luxurious 3BR/3BA, attached 2-car garage. Fitness center, tennis & more.
\$449,000 | Kristin Mikler | 370-6292



THE STRADA AT MERCATO ▲
Located just North of Vanderbilt Beach Rd. on U.S. 41, Mercato features residential, retail, Whole Foods Market, restaurants and more. Upscale contemporary living from the \$400s | Call 239-594-9400



LEMURIA ▲ 7172 Lemuria Circle
New luxury community of 3 or 4 bedrooms, 3 bath condominiums with open floor plans, high ceilings and attached 2-car garages. Prices from the mid \$400s.
Thomas Gasbarro | 404-4883



WILSHIRE LAKES ▲
Quiet enclave with 16 villa residences. Private lake/preserve views. Great room plan. Pools, tennis, 2 clubhouses.
\$395,000 | Patrick O'Connor | 293-9411

THE DUNES - GRANDE PRESERVE - GRANDE PHOENICIAN 275 Indies Way #1003 - Panoramic Gulf views! Luxury, upgraded 3BR/3BA residence. Private Beach Club, on-site Club and concierge services. **\$1,049,000 | Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731**

THE DUNES - GRANDE PRESERVE - GRANDE PHOENICIAN 275 Indies Way #T5 - Outstanding value for a true "Florida style lifestyle" in this model-like furnished 3BR w/extended terrace.
\$997,000 | Roya Nouhi | 290-9111

PELICAN ISLE YACHT CLUB II 435 Dockside Drive #703
Breathtaking Gulf views! Spacious 3BR/3BA. Member owned Club - tennis, pool/spa, fitness center & beach shuttle! **OPEN SUN. 1-4**
\$925,000 | Suzanne Ring | 821-7550

BANYAN WOODS 4992 Rustic Oaks Circle - Custom designed & professionally decorated southern exposure courtyard home. Lap pool, cabana, and outdoor shower. **\$830,000 | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552**

GRANDE PHOENICIAN 275 Indies Way #406 - Exquisitely appointed move-in ready 4th floor 3BR/3BA end condominium. Preserve, water & golf views! Private Club.
\$795,000 | Gayle Fawkes/Meghan C. Reed | 250-6051

THE CROSSINGS - MILL RUN 6633 New Haven Circle
Spectacular complete renovation and addition. Private lake/preserve views, 4BR/3BA, 3 miles to beach, gated entry.
\$739,000 | Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552

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

LEMURIA 7108 Lemuria Circle #204 - New, never lived in! Over 3,000 SF open plan with lake views! Quality features, 4BR/3BA and 2-car attached garage. **\$569,000 | Kristin Mikler | 370-6292**

EDEN ON THE BAY 396 Mallory Court - Three bedrooms, 3 baths, a den and 2-car garage with pool. Tiled living areas, granite counters & crown moulding. **\$549,000 | Roxanne Jeske | 450-5210**

COVE TOWERS - ARUBA 430 Cove Tower Drive #303 - Bahama decor 3BR/2BA getaway! Club membership included, beach access, tennis & boat dock available. Pet friendly. **\$459,000 | Marsha L. Moore | 398-4559**

COVE TOWERS - NEVIS 455 Cove Tower Drive #302 - Nearly 2,700 SF with granite, stainless appliances, Siematic cabinetry and bamboo flooring. Double-gated community. **\$449,000 | Trey Wilson | 595-4444**

LEMURIA 7136 Lemuria Circle #902 - Agressively priced. Many special features in this 3BR/3BA+den coach home. Great amenities, about 2 miles to beach. **\$425,000 | Thomas Gasbarro | 404-4883**

VILLAGES OF MONTEREY 7662 San Sebastian Way - S. exposure, beautiful home has screened-in pool/spa. Split-plan 3BR/2.5BA, many recent updates, newer appliances. **\$399,000 | Kathryn Tout | 250-3583**

HAWKSRIDGE 2143 Harlans Run - Large homesite (149' x 141' x 42' x 177') has a NW exposure and is located on a cul-de-sac. Minutes to the beach! **\$299,999 | Mary Yan | 572-3274**

AUTUMN WOODS 6437 Autumn Woods Blvd. - Priced to sell! Delightful 2BR/2BA + den with southern exposure. Extended lanai. Recreational & social amenities. **\$299,900 | Fred Alter | 269-4123**

HAWKSRIDGE - THE COLONY 2540 Talon Court #501
Lovely 3BR/2BA 1st floor coach home with preserve views. Numerous upgrades, near pool and clubhouse, 2-car garage.
\$279,000 | Beth Hayhoe McNichols | 821-3304

AUTUMN WOODS - CEDAR RIDGE 7134 Blue Juniper Court #202 - Beautifully maintained 3BR/2BA coach home. Expansive views, media rm, cul-de-sac locale. Many community amenities.
\$269,000 | Pat Duggan | 216-1980

REAL ESTATE

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 9-15, 2010

A GUIDE TO THE NAPLES REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY

| B11

REAL • ESTATE
BRIEFSCBIA's 2010
Sand Dollar
Awards

The Collier Building Industry Association has received 162 entries for its 2010 Sand Dollar Awards competition, more than 40 more than were submitted last year. The 20th annual awards presentation takes place the evening of Saturday, Sept. 18, at the Naples Grande.

The CBIA Sales and Marketing Council sponsors the Sand Dollar program for builders, developers, architects, remodelers, interior design firms, landscape architects, trades, marketing, sales and advertising professionals for excellence in building, design and marketing. Homes, communities, building projects and marketing campaigns completed between May 1, 2008, and May 31, 2010, are eligible.

For more information on gala tickets and sponsorship opportunities, contact Carrie Horner at 436-6100 or visit www.cbia.net. ■

NABOR
expects
crowd for expo

The Naples Area Board of Realtors will host its free annual expo from 5-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 16, at the Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club. In keeping with a global theme, the expo will showcase international markets and their colorful cultures. More than 1,200 people attended the expo last year, and a bigger crowd is expected this year.

Realtors and the general community are welcome. A few sponsorship opportunities and vendor booths are still available. For more information, call 597-1666, e-mail Michele@nabor.com or visit www.Nabor.com. ■

Renovations
complete at
The Glenview

Stevens Construction Inc. has completed renovations at The Glenview at Pelican Bay. The two-phase project included interior improvements of the 12-story Continuing Care Retirement Community. The Stevens Construction team included superintendents Todd Welle and Pete Garcia. Caffey Architecture provided design services. ■



Thearena, a two-story villa model at Belle Lago by Toll Brothers, includes a bonus loft study that overlooks the living room.

COURTESY PHOTO

ABOVE
IT ALL

For work or play, lofts are a big plus

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

As two-story homes gain favor with Southwest Florida buyers, architects at Toll Brothers are creating bonus spaces that can be used in a wide variety of ways to suit the homeowner's lifestyle.

"These flexible areas range from lofts with office and computer nooks to children's playrooms and family game rooms," says Ken Thirtyacre, president of Toll Brothers Florida West Division. The company's single-family communities in Southwest Florida with home designs that feature these bonus spaces include The Reserve at Estero and Belle Lago, also in Estero, and Firano at Naples.

SEE SPACES, B16 ►

Summer sales were strong in luxury home market

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Gloomy news that July sales of existing homes dropped more than 25 percent year-over-year has overshadowed new statistics showing summer sales of \$1 million-plus homes significantly outperformed other price ranges.

"Luxury homebuyers have been buying this summer," says Laurie Moore-Moore, CEO of the Institute for Luxury Home Marketing. "After waiting in the wings, many affluent buyers spent the summer shopping for value and snapping up trophy properties."

Statistics from the National Association of Realtors for 2009 indicate \$1 million-plus home sales were 1.2 percent of total sales, or about 61,500 sales nationally. In July 2010, that percentage was up to 1.9 percent. While sales of homes in the \$500,000-plus range rose dramatically in June, the \$1 million-plus market segment was the only price range in July showing positive growth compared to last year.

"The mix of what is selling has shifted in favor of homes priced at \$750,000 and above," Ms. Moore-Moore says. "While I wouldn't say the luxury market is in

recovery," she adds, "the growing market share of luxury sales relative to total sales, a slight downward trend in inventory and sellers who are more realistic about price are factors shifting the affluent into a buying mode."

Dennis Brando of John R. Wood Realtors in Naples, a member of the Institute for Luxury Home Marketing, reports he had a busy summer with upper-end buyers and adds, "I'm booking appointments in October with buyers coming to town."

The ILHM does a weekly analysis of luxury homes for sale in more than 30 major markets. ■



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Living room rescue could be yours

New Modern Home, a Naples decor store, is holding a "Please Rescue My Living Room" contest for a free makeover. Entrants must submit a short essay of no more than 50 words explaining why their living room deserves a face-lift. Entries will be judged on originality, a photograph of the room and sense of humor.

Deadline for entry is Sept. 30. Two runners-up will receive \$100 gift certificates from New Modern Home, and the grand prize living room will get a

new coat of paint, including labor, and decorative elements for a total package value of \$1,000. Winners will be notified via e-mail on Oct. 1.

To enter the contest, go to www.newmodernhome.com and click on make-over giveaway page.

New Modern Home features refreshed, restyled and renewed decorative items and furnishings for the home. The store at 2381 Davis Blvd. in Village Plaza is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday. ■

Robb & Stucky has free seminars

The following free seminars are

offered by design professionals at Robb & Stucky in the showroom at 2777 Tamiami Trail N., just north of Coastland Center:

■ **"Enlightening Design," 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 9** - Robb and Stucky's Catherine Baker and John Richard of Starr Kolacki showcase the latest trends in lighting and illustrate how to use general, ambient, task and mood lighting in your home.

■ **"Design-onomics: Make Every Design Dollar Count!" 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 16** - Joanne Wilseck offers tips to help make every design dollar count. Discover which design elements give your decor the most bang for the buck, and learn how to prioritize in order to obtain as much impact as possible from each item on your list.

■ **"Material World," 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 23** - From slipcovers to accent pillows, design consultant Lynn Scott Royal will discuss how fabric colors, trims, textures and patterns work together to achieve a unique style.

■ **"Decorating Do's and Don'ts," 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 30** - Thinking about painting over old wallpaper, replacing tile or reupholstering? Interior designer Donna Grose will share some do's and don'ts for projects from replacing light fixtures to freshening up your bathroom. Bring your pictures or floor plans.

Seating is limited, and reservations are requested. Call 261-3969 or visit www.RobbStucky.com. ■



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 <p>Sundance Circle \$360,000</p>	<p>Bridgewater Bay</p> <p>Courtyard model with cabana Located in heart of N. Naples w/ wood floorin and crown Olympic size community pool. Potential short sale. 4/4</p> <p>The Hyland Team 239-269-6113</p>
 <p>Wilshire Lakes Blvd. \$619,000</p>	<p>Wilshire Lakes</p> <p>Beautiful custom built home w/ spacious lanai & free form pool and spa. Large ceramic tile, crown moldings and 3 car garage. Great Plan! 3/2.5</p> <p>Gaby Frégeau 239-352-6400</p>
 <p>Paddington Ct. \$360,000</p>	<p>Berkshire Lakes</p> <p>Well maintained 3+den pool home, great room w/ open plan perfect for entertaining. Located on largest lot avail. Potential short sale. 3/2+Dn</p> <p>The Hyland Team 239-269-6113</p>
 <p>Recreation Lane \$359,000</p>	<p>Forest Park</p> <p>Desirable Elissa Grande! Stunning Pool home w/ Pool bath. Fabulous entrance w/ cathedral ceilings and split plan. Won't last long! 4/2</p> <p>D. David Ison 239-963-7825</p>

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60 North Street

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Livingston Woods
6520 Daniels Rd.

10 Acre w/home, can be subdivided, west of 75. **\$3,900,000**



Mediterra
15204 Medici Way

Elegant 4669SF, 4+Den/4.5Ba. w/private guest cabana. **\$2,495,000**



Audubon
148 Chesire Way

4+den/3.5, upgrades, private lot, lake & golf course views. **\$1,399,000**



Estancia Bonita Bay
4801 Bonita Bay Blvd. #603

Authentic beach cottage, 2642SF, amazing views, fireplace. **\$999,000**



Imperial Golf Estates
2119 Imperial Golf Course Blvd.

Completely renovated, lake front, gourmet kit, 3233SF. **\$897,000**



West Bay Club
22129 Natures Cove Ct.

3+Den, oversized pool-extended lanai, like new. **\$695,000**



Anchorage at Vanderbilt
12945 Vanderbilt Dr. #306

Wiggins Pass views, direct Gulf access. Sharp 2/2. **\$349,000**



Spring Lakes
11600 Red Hibiscus Dr.

FURNISHED! Immaculate Home, spacious lanai w/ 33'x13 pool. **\$248,000**



Bay Forest, Bermuda Bay II
15465 Cedarwood Ln. #303

Refurbished, 2/2, Hi-Ceilings, top floor. Owner financing avail. **\$248,000**



Laurel Oaks, S. Ft. Myers
5769 Elizabeth Ann Way

Well maintained, new A/C, carpet, paint, lake view, 3/2. **\$242,000**



Old Naples Seaport
1001 10th Ave. S. Boat Slip #11

LOA of 125'/24', close to 5th Ave. **\$1,349,000**



Marina Bay Club
13105 Vanderbilt Dr. #4

32'x14'x4', slip is permitted for a vessel w/ LOA of 32ft. **\$94,500**



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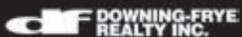


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3587 Bolero Way 3/2 garage, all updated, oversized lot backs up to golf course.

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\$50,000 DOWN PAYMENT

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



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Approx \$143 per month* \$29,900



The pool area of the Pinehurst model home in Avonlea at Lely Resort.

COURTESY PHOTO

Stock passes 90 percent sold mark in Avonlea

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Stock Construction has passed the 90 percent sold mark in the Avonlea neighborhood in Lely Resort, with 31 of the community's 34 homes sold.

"Avonlea has been very popular with homebuyers. So far in 2010, we have sold 14 homes," says Tim Clark, vice president of sales at Lely Resort.

As a special sales incentive, homebuyers in Avonlea can receive \$25,000 toward designer options and upgrades on the purchase of their new home.

In the north half of Lely Resort, Avon-

lea is a private neighborhood of single-family residences situated on three cul-de-sacs and surrounded by nature preserves and vistas across the fairways of The Classics championship golf course. Avonlea offers five Mediterranean-style floor plans ranging from 2,601 square feet to 2,889 square feet under air. Each plan includes a three-car garage and elaborate pool and spa options.

The spacious three-bedroom/three-bath Scottsdale model offers 2,601 square feet under air and a total of 4,142 square feet, including a screened and covered lanai, attached three-car garage and covered entry.

The Monterey's courtyard-style floor plan is a four-bedroom/three-bath home with 2,651 square feet under air and a total of 4,036 square feet, including an attached three-car garage and a screened and covered lanai with outdoor kitchen.

The Harbourtown is a three-bedroom/study/three-bath home that has 2,772 square feet under air and a total of 4,279 square feet. The home is built around a large lanai with a covered liv-

ing area and optional outdoor kitchen and fireplace.

Stock Construction's Greenbriar model provides a large open floor plan. It is a three-bedroom/three-bath home with 2,866 square feet under air and a total of 4,150 square feet, including an attached three-car garage and a screened and covered lanai.

The Pinehurst is a courtyard-style, four bedroom/study/3½-bath home with 2,872 square feet under air and a total of 5,516 square feet including the attached three-car garage, courtyard with pool and covered lanai at the rear of the home. The Pinehurst offers a private detached guest suite that overlooks the courtyard.

Pricing in Avonlea begins from the \$540s.

Lely Resort offers 11 neighborhoods showcasing flats, townhomes, casitas, coach homes, twin villas, single-family homes and custom estate homes. Prices begin in the \$180,000s.

The central sales center is at 8020 Grand Lely Drive. For more information, call 793-2100 or visit www.lely-resort.net. ■

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<p>Falling Waters Beach Resort • \$324,900 Southern Exposure, exceptional lanai. 2/2 upper unit. Total renovation/upgrade.</p>	<p>11441 Riggs Rd. • \$315,000 4.77 acres/agricultural. Cleared, utilities, fenced, lake. New 3 stall barn.</p>	<p>Silver Lakes Mfg/RV Park • \$110,000 Stunning community. Vacant parcel overlooking golf course. Storage shed.</p>
<p>Jacki Strategos SRES, G.R.I., e-Pro 239-370-1222 JStrategos@att.net www.JackiStrategos.com</p>	<p>COLDWELL BANKER Residential, LLC</p>	<p>Richard Droste Realtor 239-572-5117 rddsmd@comcast.net</p>

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Port Royal, 1052 Spyglass Ln - Magnificent estate w/western exp on 1.5 lots. 5BR main hse, 2BR guest hse. Outdoor living & pool. Gourmet kit, home theater, exercise rm, deep water dockage. 6 or More/7.5 (H4323) Robyn Pfister Griffin, 262-7366, Don Winkler, 961-2166 **\$9,900,000**



Park Shore, 4101 Gulf Shore Blvd N, #6 S - With breathtaking Gulf views, this condo is an unbelievably spacious 8,400 sf under air. Spectacular living areas, gourmet kit, library, & 5 bdrm suites. 5+Den/6+2half (C6506) Robyn Pfister Griffin, 262-7366, Don Winkler, 961-2166 **\$5,995,000**



Barefoot Beach, 224 Malibu Cv - Premium location for estate home that was rebuilt in 2007, sweeping views of the Bay. WALK TO BEACH, 2 boat docks w/lifts, chef's kitchen, Jerusalem Stone flrs. 4+Den/4.5 (H4981) Claire Licciardi, 250-4564, Carol McElroy, 659-6395 **\$3,750,000**



Old Naples, 238 9th Ave S - Built in 2001, courtyard home w/ fml liv & din, fam rm, travertine flrs, granite counters, pool & spa, sep guest cabana, steps to beach. 4+Den/4.5 (H4958) Robyn Pfister Griffin, 262-7366, Don Winkler, 961-2166 **\$3,695,000**



Port Royal, 3300 Gin Ln - Situated on Smuggler's Bay, this charming 4 bedroom homes offers beautiful sunsets with its Western exposure. 4/3 (H5039) Robyn Pfister Griffin, 262-7366, Don Winkler, 961-2166 **\$2,999,000**



Port Royal, 960 Galleon Dr - Southern exposure over Runaway Bay & no bridges to Gulf. Great location. Come build your dream home in Port Royal. Immed Port Royal Club membership eligibility. 6 or More/5 (H4789) Robyn Pfister Griffin, 262-7366, Don Winkler, 961-2166 **\$2,750,000**



Vanderbilt Beach, 368 Bayside Ave - Enjoy waterfront living at this large SW exp, bay-front property. Captivating panoramic views, located on a point at the tip Bayside Ave, Gulf access. 2/2 (H4947) Robyn Pfister Griffin, 262-7366, Don Winkler, 961-2166 **\$1,100,000**



Livingston Woods, 6510 Sable Ridge Ln - 2.73 acres, 2 story home w/3 car garage, pool, family room w/FP plus upstairs media room. Commercial pole barn w/1750 SF of storage/work area. 4+Den/3.5 (H3865) Lisa M. Richardson, 250-8008 **\$999,000**



Quail Creek, 13123 Bald Cypress Ln - Incredible 180-degree views on golf course and lake. Estate home on quiet cul-de-sac lot. Largely remodeled. New roof 2008. Huge patio. Extensive marble floors. 4+Den/4.5 (H4748) Dominick Tascher, 839-5688 **\$995,000**



Park Shore, 4000 Gulf Shore Blvd N, #1000 - Venetian Villas. Elegant living directly over the water !!! First floor flat, completely renovated with exquisite touches everywhere. Spectacular views. 3/2.5 (V1226) Michele Harrison, 580-9889 **\$995,000**



Old Naples, 617 6th Ave S #202 - Beautifully furnished condo located a block off 5th Ave. S. Stroll to beach, Cambier Park & all downtown has to offer. Unit boasts 2 covered parking spaces. 2/2.5 (C2574) Robyn Pfister Griffin, 262-7366, Don Winkler, 961-2166 **\$749,000**



Moorings, 2200 Gulf Shore Blvd N, #J4 - Situated at the entrance of Doctors Pass, this updated, turnkey furnished unit offers view of Gulf, Pass & Bay. Steps from beach, 2nd fl unit offers a 1-car gar. 2/2 (C6163) Dustin Beard, 289-2650 **\$729,999**



Old Naples, 555 5th Ave S #PH-4 - The Grand Penthouse - East. Strong value, real asset, close to the beach. Nestled away from the others and offers elegant living at tree top level. 2+Den/2 (C5120) Michele Harrison, 580-9889 **\$695,000**



Pelican Marsh, 9109 Troon Lakes Dr - Superb detail, meticulous 2600 SF home. Open floor plan, lake view, spa, summer kitchen. Tile, gourmet kitchen, granite in baths, shutters & extra storage. 3+Den/2.5 (H4756) Laurie Bellico, PA, 293-9389 **\$675,000**



Eden On The Bay, 352 Steerforth Ct - West of 41! 2004 luxury villa on cul-de-sac lake lot. \$35,000 elec. shutters, lg lanai, pool/spa, summer kitchen, tile, cherry cabinets w/ granite, Jenn-Aire. 3+Den/3 (H4984) Laurie Bellico, PA, 293-9389 **\$619,783**



Autumn Woods, 6556 Chestnut Cir - Spacious, custom home on oversized lake lot in quiet, family-friendly neighborhood. Open kit/fam rm, fml liv & din rms, den, media rm, htd pool & spa. 4+Den/3 (H5226) Robyn Pfister Griffin, 262-7366, Don Winkler, 961-2166 **\$599,000**



Spanish Wells, 28401 Sombbrero Dr - Stunning bright & airy home w/golf course views. 2+ car garage, volume ceilings, pool. Many extras. 2710 SF Golf available. Great value & 3 miles to beaches. 3/3.5 (H5212) Connie Spitzmiller 248-7616 **\$539,000**



Foxfire, 1206 Kings Way - Golfer's Dream! Wonderful home in bundled golf comm. w/granite, crown molding, faux paint + more. Loc. On 9th green w/west exp. Mins to Beaches & Old Naples. 4/3 (H5139) Jim Scartz, 877-9726 **\$529,000**



Eden On The Bay, 312 Steerforth Ct - 2005 SFH, eastern exp, west of 41 in gated community near beaches. Open flr plan, heated pool & spa, nicely upgraded, tiled, crown & custom paint on private lot. 3+Den/2.5 (H5243) Laurie Bellico, PA, 293-9389 **\$489,000**



Old Naples, 705 11th St S, 3 #BS 3 - Old Naples Covered Boat Slip w/new concrete & wood pilings. Park directly in front of slip, gated & full-time dock master. 50' x 20' by 23.5 overhead clearance. (L1075) Michele Harrison, 580-9889 **\$475,000**



Eden On The Bay, 361 Mallory Ct - A casually well-designed & decorated 2005 home in one of Naples' best kept secrets West of 41. Private corner preserve lot, pool, spa, tile, granite & more. 3/2 (H4368) Laurie Bellico, PA, 293-9389 **\$470,000**



Worthington, 13801 Tonbridge Ct - UPDATED & BEAUTIFUL! Panoramic golf views for this SF Estate pool home. Open floor plan & pocketing sliding glass doors bring the outdoors in. 2+Den/2 (H4975) Sharon Hammond-Turnblad, 851-6918 **\$439,900**



Moorings, 2880 Gulf Shore Blvd N, #209 - Price Reduced! Bayside bch retreat! Updated open fl plan, glassed in lanai, 1554 TA, carport, new windows & plumbing. Lovely bayside pool or stroll Moorings Bch. 2/2 (C5890) Lisa M. Richardson, 250-8008 **\$434,000**



Reflection Isles, 11328 Reflection Isles Blvd - Professionally decorated & furnished former model in gated community close to everything. Priced well below replacement value and move in ready. Never lived in. 4+Den/3 (H4929) Michele Harrison, 580-9889 **\$399,900**



Reflection Lakes, 14634 Fern Lake Ct - "St Croix Gold" Furnished former builder model. Two story. 3+Den/2.5 (H4917) Michele Harrison, 580-9889 **\$391,900**



World Tennis Center, 3573 Corinthian Way - Comfortable elegance! Gorgeous courtyard home w/natural light & open floor plan. Tray ceilings, custom closets, SS appls, cambria counter tops & more. 3/3 (H5235) Jim Scartz, 877-9726 **\$369,900**



Kings Lake, 2265 Royal Ln - One of a kind former parade of homes model. Unbelievable architecture. Lg rms, lots of sq footage, huge multi-purpose FL rm. Granite cnter in kit w/walkin pantry. 3+Den/2 (H5123) Kim Ellis, 269-7025 **\$349,000**



Golden Gate Estates, 140 20th St Se - Beautiful 2-story Old Florida Style home. Four bedrooms and four baths including a mother-in-law suite with its own kitchen and large living room!! 4/4 (H4962) Kim Ellis, 269-7025 **\$340,000**



Crescent Lake Estates, 9834 Campbell Cir - Clean impeccably maintained 4 BR home in most sought after school district in the county! Lake views from almost every room. New paint inside & out. New carpet! 4/2 (H5228) Kim Ellis, 269-7025 **\$339,000**



Carlton Lakes, 6078 Highwood Park Ct - Come see the deer! Meticulous SFH on oversized cul-de-sac lot. Preserve view, ext. lanai, 2000+ SF, lg living area, plenty of windows for natural light. 3/2 (H4794) Laurie Bellico, PA, 293-9389 **\$330,000**



Marco Beach, 1337 Collier Blvd N - Updated w/numerous luxury upgrades from gourmet kitchen w/granite, wood cabinets, faux painting to updated bathrooms w/decorative tile accents. Only 2mi to bch. 3/2 (H5186) Natalie Kirstein, 784-0491 **\$280,000**



Saturnia Lakes, 2044 Painted Palm Dr - Lovingly maintained and very private! Nestled on small cul-de-sac street with spectacular lake & golf course views. Neutral décor upgraded and stylish! 2+Den/2 (H5229) Diana McCoy, 404-0793 **\$279,000**



Golden Gate Estates, 3875 29th Ave SW - Two master suites, pool & spa. Conveniently located close to town just off 951. Large private 2.27 acre lot with RV parking pad. 4/3 (H5170) Debra Pelitera, 250-6865 **\$274,000**



Golden Gate Estates, 2911 8th Ave Ne - Gorgeous Waterways Dover Model on quiet street close to everything. 4+Den/3 (H5075) Kim Ellis, 269-7025 **\$265,000**



Worthington, 13030 Southampton Dr - Golf & tennis included! Great lake views! Large detached villa, Fam. Room, Large 2 car garage w/space for golf cart, 1 yr. Home warranty. 3/2 (V1271) Sharon Hammond-Turnblad, 851-6918 **\$259,000**



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COURTESY PHOTO

This bathroom vignette is in the new design studio at Toll Brothers Florida West Division headquarters.

Toll Brothers' design studio relocates

Toll Brothers has recently relocated its design studio for its Florida West Division. The studio has moved from south of Bonita Beach Road in Bonita Springs to division headquarters at 24201 Walden Center Drive off U.S. 41.

Encompassing more than 5,000 square feet, the regional design studio has numerous displays and vignettes that illustrate the choices Toll Brothers offers homebuyers. It is open to Toll Brothers homebuyers by appointment.

"There are thousands of selections available," says Jane Beley, senior design studio manager. "Our vignettes include three different kitchen styles, three bathrooms and even an outdoor kitchen. In addition, there are numerous selections of appliances, cabinetry, carpeting, tile, granite, lighting and hardware, just to name a few."

Toll Brothers single-family home communities in Southwest Florida are Belle Lago on Estero Parkway in Estero; The Reserve at Estero, also on Estero Parkway; and Firano at Naples off Davis Boulevard in Naples.

The company has recently purchased 120 acres in Bonita Springs for a new community of single-family homes.

"We feel that Southwest Florida is a strong market, and we have confidence that it will continue to be an attractive and highly desirable location," says Ken Thirtyacre, president of Toll Brothers' Florida West Division. Permits are in place for the property pending amendment, he adds.

Called Bonita Lakes, the new community is west of Interstate 75 between Corkscrew and Bonita Beach roads on Imperial Parkway. It is targeted to open for sales in the fall of 2011. ■

SPACES

From page B11

At The Reserve at Estero, the Tosara design has four bedrooms and 2½ baths in 2,545 square feet of air-conditioned space. The two-story living room includes an 11-by-11½-foot loft decorated as a private office space.

Also in The Reserve at Estero, The Carmona has three bedrooms and 2½ baths in 2,335 square feet of air-conditioned living area. In this model, the loft space is finished as a study/reading area, complete with a wall of glass-front bookcases, a small desk and a cozy armchair. The loft opens to a private balcony.

The large loft in The Gianna model serves as a game room with paneled walls reminiscent of a classic clubroom. The space accommodates a pool table, lounge seating and a wet bar.

While function is always important, a loft adds considerable aesthetic appeal, enhancing the sense of space and increasing natural light.

The Diplomat, a two-story estate model home at Belle Lago, has five bedrooms, with a loft and three guest suites on the spacious second floor. The loft area has been designed as a casual entertainment area with wood floors, a comfortable sofa and a TV concealed in an armoire.

"Many buyers who purchase the Diplomat design either have a family with children still at home or know that their family will be visiting," Mr. Thirtyacre says. "The loft provides a living space separate from the first-floor public areas."

Also at Belle Lago is the Marena, a villa home with three bedrooms, 2½ baths and a private office on the main floor. The loft is furnished as a second study with comfortable seating, a desk and cabinetry with granite countertops and wiring for computer access.

At Firano at Naples, the bonus loft in the Tiena model has built-in double desks and a game table, making the space suitable for both work and play.

"The flexibility of the designs makes them extremely popular," Thirtyacre says. "One person can be on the first floor in the family room watching TV, while someone else is upstairs working on the computer." Many opt to use the additional bonus space for work or hobbies, he adds.

Homes in Belle Lago are priced from the mid-\$300,000s; in The Reserve at Estero, homes begin in the low-\$200,000s; and in Firano at Naples, prices are from the mid-\$300,000s. For more information, about Toll Brothers communities throughout Florida, visit www.TollBrothersFlorida.com. ■



COURTESY PHOTO

In the Carmona, a three-bedroom, 2½-bath model by Toll Brothers at The Reserve at Estero, the second-story bonus space is decorated as an office and reading area.

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7 • **PARK SHORE** • 4780 Whispering Pine Way • \$650,000 • Premier Properties • Mara Muller 272-6170
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PELICAN BAY

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PELICAN BAY

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GROSVENOR 6001 Pelican Bay Blvd. #1705 - Beautifully updated and renovated residence in the sky! Perfect media room, spectacular views from both balconies. **\$849,000** | Jeri Richey | 269-2203

HERON 5555 Heron Point Drive #1402 - Spectacular Gulf views! Light 14th floor 3BA/2BR+den/study could easily be 3BRs, over 2,400 SF total. Two lanais. **\$795,000** | Jean Tarkenton | 595-0544

ST. PIERRE 6825 Grenadier Blvd. #1802 - Incredible Gulf/sunset views! Premier high-rise, clean, updated, move in ready 2BR/2BA. Tennis, fitness & beach. **\$749,900** | Kathy Morris | 777-8654

INTERLACHEN 6732 Pelican Bay Blvd. - Spacious floor plan with 3 bedrooms and 2-car garage. Wonderful lake/pool views. Beach access, pool, tennis. **\$699,500** | Judy Perry/Linda Perry | 261-6161

ST. MARISSA 6573 Marissa Loop #2002 - Stunning 20th floor Gulf views! This 2BR+den is completely updated & offers 1,573 total SF. Magnificent amenities. **\$687,500** | Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731

ST. TROPEZ 5501 Heron Point Drive #403 - Beautiful SW views over mangroves, Clam Pass/Gulf! Glassed-in/screened lanais, well-appointed 2BR/2BA condominium. **\$675,000** | Mary/Jamey Halpin | 269-3005

PELICAN BAY

CHATEAUMERE ROYALE 6000 Pelican Bay Blvd. #1001 Sunrises and sunsets over lake, golf, mangroves, Bay and the Gulf! Tastefully updated 2BR/2BA south end residence. **OPEN SUN. 1-4**
\$599,777 | Esther Van Lare | 404-3045

ST. KITTS 6585 Nicholas Blvd. #503 - Fabulous vacation home with Gulf views at a fabulous price! Turnkey furnished 2BR/2BA + den. Private Beach Club. **\$499,000** | Jean Tarkenton | 595-0544

PELICAN MARSH

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MUIRFIELD 8791 Muirfield Drive - Expansive and serene SW lake views! Impeccably maintained and updated 4BR/3BA+den home. Family room opens to pool. **\$1,350,000**
Sharon Kaltenborn/Terri Moellers | 404-7887

ISLAND COVE 2324 Island Cove Circle - Stunning SE lake view! Beautifully maintained 2BR/2.5BA+den detached villa. Tile floors, newer A/C, 2-car garage. **\$630,000** | Terri Moellers/Sharon Kaltenborn | 404-7887

ISLAND COVE 2271 Island Cove Circle - Elegant 2BR/2.5BA with lake views, privacy, optional den/3rd bedroom suite, fine finishes and extended lanai. **\$599,000** | Judy Perry/Penny Lyle | 261-6161

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 9-15, 2010

A GUIDE TO THE NAPLES ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SCENE

>>inside:

Chamber ensemble
and full orchestra
are tuning up.

C4

the beat goes on

Percussion Summit sets
the tempo for a new
season of entertainment

BY NANCY STETSON

nstetson@floridaweekly.com

If you hear the sound of distant drumming, don't worry.

It's just season starting up again, the sound of musicians from the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra, the Jacksonville Symphony and Tampa's Florida Orchestra practicing for the Percussion Summit coming to the Philharmonic Center for the Arts.

Now in its ninth year, the summit — a combination daytime clinic for drummers and an evening concert for the public — has become the unofficial sign that summer is over and that Southwest Florida is on the eve of a new arts and entertainment season.



COURTESY PHOTO

**Timpanist
John Evans
founded the
summit.**

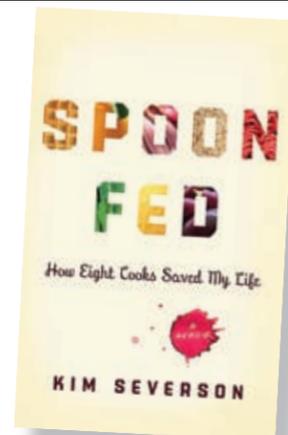
SEE BEAT, C4 ▶

WEEK at-a-glance



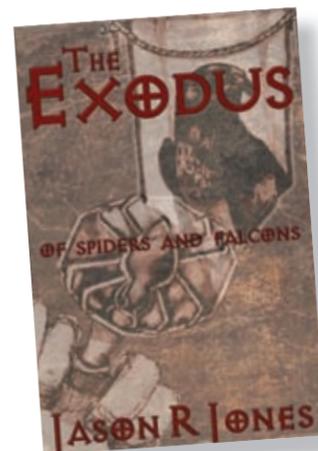
It takes talent!

See who did their best in the Collier preliminaries for 'SWF's Got Talent!' C16 ▶



High cuisine and Peeps

It's the writing, not the topics, that draws Nancy Stetson to some of her favorite books. C8 ▶



Florida writers

Naples F&B director Jason Jones on the first installment of his 18-part fantasy series. C12 ▶

Encounter art from around the country at The von Liebig

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

With an exhibition open to entries from artists across the country, National Art Encounter 2010 at The von Liebig Art Center reflects the mood and interests of today's contemporary visual artists. The show opens with a reception from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 10, and runs through October. It consists of works by 70 artists from 21 states.

Exhibition juror and awards judge Denise Gerson, associate director for exhibitions and curatorial affairs at the Lowe Art Museum in Coral Gables, Fla., says she found the submissions to be quite

provocative.

"I discovered works in all genres pushing idiomatic boundaries, revealing transformative, perceptual and conceptual artistic concerns that challenged me to re-think and expand my definition of what constitutes good art and craft in the 21st century," she says in juror's statement.

She also noted an "overwhelming number" of works that were "informed by nature and the organic world we all share." For example, Celeste Borah captures the vastness of a cloud-filled Southwest Florida sky in "Drama at Dusk," and Jack Megela's



COURTESY PHOTO

**Drama at Dusk, graphite on stretched canvas, by
Celeste Borah, Fort Myers**

SEE ENCOUNTER, C5 ▶



Papa would be proud

Hemingway's at Coconut Point is a handsome and inviting establishment. C19 ▶

SANDY DAYS, SALTY NIGHTS

Doing the same old dirt



ArtisHENDERSON
sandydays@floridaweekly.com

In the August issue of "Elle" magazine, an anonymous male contributor offers a frightening look at the male psyche in his article, "They Like It Like That: Why Every Woman is Desirable."

"You are about to meet three men your mom would be proud to see you marry," Mr. Anonymous writes, "but you won't like them from what you hear coming out of their mouths."

These are the kind of upstanding men we see everyday, he writes. Men who wear polo shirts and khaki slacks, who drive SUVs and grow goatees. Men who have lovely wives and happy children. Men who — like all men, Mr. Anonymous says — think about sleeping with every woman they meet.

"The reason I have to protect our identities is that we don't want our wives to know that we spend our days doing little else besides fantasizing about cheating on them," he writes.

Of course I was appalled when I first read the article. But that's the point. High-end women's magazines do nothing so well as make women doubt themselves. "Here's how to apply eye shadow," they say, "and while you're at it, your man is out doing the same old dirt."

I know this is a well-worn theme, but

even I was dismayed. Doesn't a happy home life mean anything, I wanted to know?

Recently, my sister came to town, bringing her husband and four children in tow. On the first night of their visit, I left the adults upstairs at their rented condo and headed for the pool with my nieces and nephews. There was already another family in the water, and my small crowd maneuvered around them as we stepped in. The dark night pressed heavily on the pool deck, and the water glowed a dim blue as we swam. When I stopped in the shallow end to catch my breath, I heard a man's voice behind me.

"How many of these kids are yours?" he said.

I turned, and there was the father of the little family. His son and daughter swam

around him, but his wife had left the pool. "None of them are mine," I said.

My niece pulled my hand, and I swam to join her in a game of Marco Polo. She ducked under the water and counted. When she surfaced, she called out and swam toward me. I swam backward, and as I answered her, the father's voice joined mine. Before I could turn around, I felt the flutter of his fingertips on my back. I dove forward, away from him, away from whatever he had in mind.

As I kicked into the deep end, his wife walked back into the pool area.

She stepped into the water and he was

"...we don't want our wives to know that we spend our days doing little else besides fantasizing about cheating on them..."

by her side, as if he had never joined in our game, never run a hand over my bare skin.

The next day, I saw the same family at the pool. In the daylight, I could make out their features: him, blond, rugged; her, dark-haired, pretty. Their children were petite, fair, smiling.

It felt like a lie, that picture of a happy family, and I thought of Mr. Anonymous and his dire description of the male mind. ■



RANDY'S FISHMARKET RESTAURANT

Q: Dear Seafood Professor,
I am SW Florida snow bird and I look forward every year to eating raw gulf of Mexico oysters. But as I get older, I am increasingly concerned about the safety issue. Is it safe to eat raw gulf oysters? Am I justified in my concern about safety?
—Joanne, Chicago/Naples

A: Dear Joanne,
I share your love for this delicate mollusk. Raw oysters are like fine wines: There are subtle differences in taste, texture, aroma, and salinity depending on specie and harvest area. However, there are some food safety issues in consuming any raw or undercooked seafood.

The primary safety concern with raw oysters is a nasty little bacterium called *Vibrio vulnificus*. *Vibrio* is a naturally occurring bacterium and can even exist in clean waters approved for shellfish harvest by state agencies. Since oysters are filter feeders, they can concentrate the *Vibrio* bacteria from the water into their system. Healthy people who consume *Vibrio* contaminated oysters may not have a problem or may experience gastroenteritis. But individuals who take immunosuppressive drugs, or who have chronic diseases such as diabetes, cirrhosis, AIDS, cancer, or kidney disease, may experience diarrhea, abdominal cramps, fever, vomiting, nausea, dehydration, septic shock and death.

So, Joanne, if you are in the high risk group, avoid consumption of raw shellfish. Proper cooking of oysters - to 145°F - will kill the *Vibrio* bacteria. Also, I advise against eating self-harvested oysters. If you choose to eat raw oysters, get them from a reputable dealer or restaurant and enjoy a fine wine with your appetizer.

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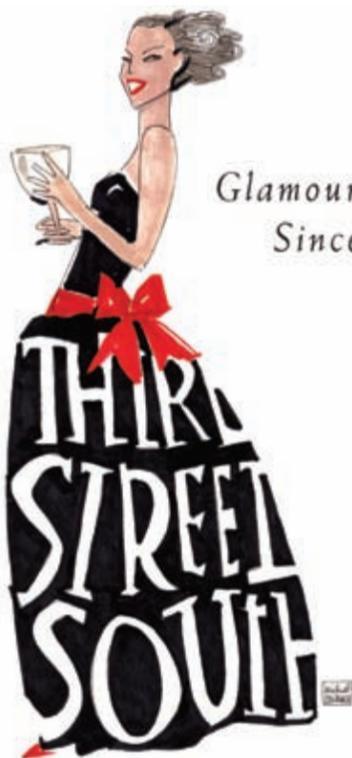
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BEAT

From page 1

This year, however, it almost didn't happen.

John Evans, founder of the summit and principal timpanist for the Philharmonic, says the event originally was dropped from the orchestra's 2010-11 lineup. But after the brochure went out in the mail this summer, he had a call from a gentleman who wanted to know what had happened.

When Mr. Evans told the caller that funding restraints had forced the cancellation of the Percussion Summit, the caller rallied several other orchestra patrons — all of who want to remain anonymous — and together they raised the money for the summit. "This was not going to happen, and now it is, due to several individuals who wanted to see it happen," Mr. Evans says.

Celebrities with sticks

The summit is an audience favorite, attended by many families, teens and young adults.

"We get energized by the audience," says Mr. Evans. "It's completely different than what we do in our orchestral setting, so it's a blast for us to play it."

This year's guest artists include Jeff Queen, a two-time international snare drum champion and solo performer and drum line instructor for the Tony- and



QUEEN

Emmy-winning "Blast," and Danny Seraphine, the drummer for the group Chicago from its start in 1967 through 1990.

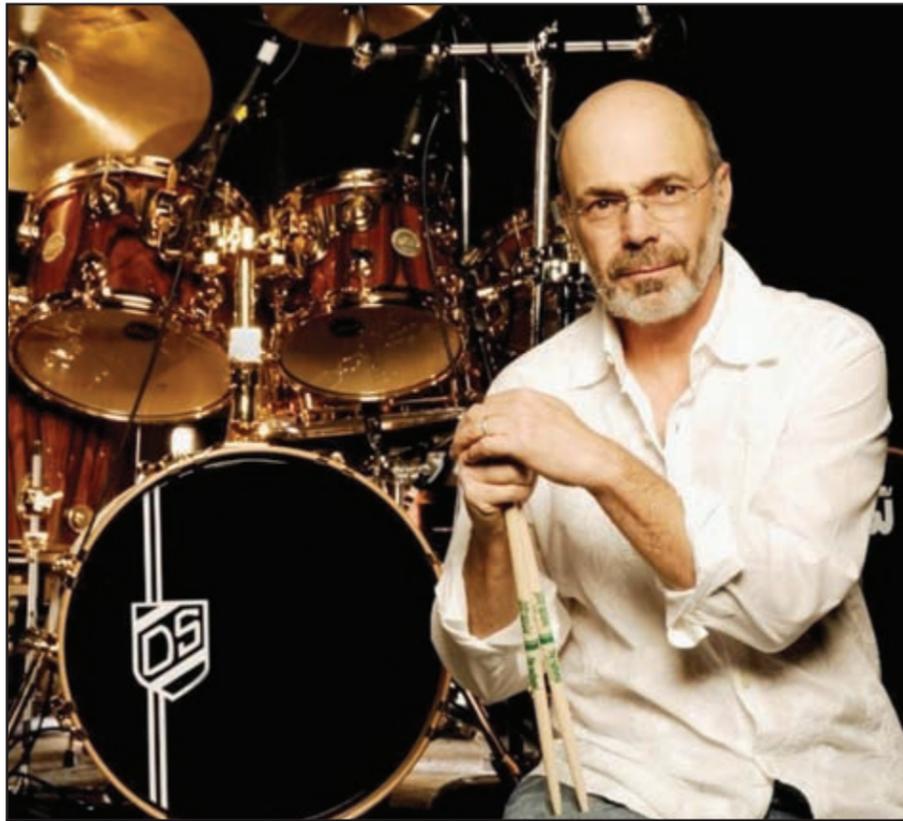
"When Danny was with Chicago, he really took the drum set into a whole different spectrum," Mr. Evans says.

"When you mention Danny Seraphine to guys who play the drum set, their eyes light up. He's the guy they listened to, the guy who inspired them to become percussionists.

In "Does Anybody Really Know What Time It Is?" Mr. Seraphine developed a "rock shuffle" on the drum set that was very different than anything that had been done before, Mr. Evans says. "And then just his use of the drum set and his solos were highly emulated," he adds. "When I told some of the guys he was going to be our guest this year, they said, 'OK, I'll be there. Just tell me when.'"

More than rhythm

Mr. Seraphine, whose style has been described as lyrical and melodic, says he likes to make the drums "as musical as possible" — even though they're not considered a melodic instrument. But they can be, he knows. "Besides being rhythmic, I strive to make it melodic and musical, to be as good a musician as



COURTESY PHOTO

Danny Seraphine, founding drummer of the band Chicago, will perform at the Percussion Summit.

I possibly can be."

One of my strongest attributes as a drummer, he believes, is his ability "to fuse rock and jazz into one style... Sometimes it's more rock than jazz. Sometimes it's more jazz than rock.

"Jazz rock to me is a license to steal, because it just gives you so much leeway to play whatever you're feeling, to fuse the musical styles together."

Along with Blood Sweat & Tears, Chicago was one of the first rock groups to blend R&B, jazz and rock, incorporating a horn section. Originally based in the Windy City (and known as Chicago Transit Authority, which the members shortened when they learned of a possible lawsuit), the band moved to Los Angeles in the summer of 1968 and became the house band for the iconic Whiskey A Go-Go on West Sunset Boulevard.

"We started to take hold in L.A.," Mr. Seraphine recalls about that first major gig. "We started to create a buzz. One night we walked off stage and into the dressing room, and there was Jimi Hendrix in his full rock regalia."

The legendary guitarist invited the band to tour with him.

"He loved (guitarist) Terry Kath's playing," Mr. Seraphine says. "It was a great opportunity, just to hang," he adds about going on the road with the iconic rocker and his band. "He exposed us to his audience."

Chicago also toured with Janis Joplin, who heard them at the Filmore West, he says. "She was so impressed with the musicianship of the band, that she fired Big Brother (and the Holding Company) and formed her own band and brought us out on the road with her."

Chicago's debut album and two subse-

quent releases all were double albums, which was unheard of at the time. Their fourth, recorded live at Carnegie Hall, was a four-disc set.

The band also wrote songs that were much longer than the average rock song. For example, "Ballet for a Girl in Buchannon," a suite with seven parts, some of them purely instrumental, was almost 13 minutes long. In order to make it more radio-friendly, two songs were taken from the suite and edited into singles: "Make Me Smile" and "Colour My World."

Mr. Seraphine remembers hearing them as singles for the first time. "I almost drove off the freeway," he says. "I didn't know they had edited them." He was pleased, though, that they had kept his drum solos. "I had two four-bar sections with drum fills, and I said, 'I'm going to make the most of it.'"

The need for shorter, more commercial songs eventually pulled the band apart, however, Mr. Seraphine says. Disillusioned by the editing their work was subjected to, the writers started writing shorter, less experimental songs.

"It was the de-evolution of the band," he says. Fans differentiate between the adventurous, hard-driving rock jazz songs of early Chicago ("25 or 6 to 4," "Feelin' Stronger Every Day" and "I'm A Man," for example) and the soft ballads that came later.

Though he was one of its founders, Mr. Seraphine was fired from the band in 1990.

He's written a memoir, "Street Player: My Chicago Story," that will be released Nov. 8. He promises it doesn't sugarcoat or whitewash history, the way some memoirs do. It contains lots of sex,

drugs and rock 'n' roll.

"The book covers all that stuff," he says. "The odyssey was pretty interesting. It covers everything (up to where I am today.)"

If anybody really knows...

Where Mr. Seraphine is today is playing with a group of seasoned California studio musicians who call themselves California Transit Authority, or CTA. Their first album, "Full Circle," contains many old Chicago songs. Their next one, scheduled for release the same time Mr. Seraphine's book hits the stands, is called "Promise" — as in "promise fulfilled," he says.

"We made a promise with the first album to keep the genre of rock jazz alive," he says, adding the new album contains a remake of a Blood, Sweat & Tears song and a Chicago song, "But other than that, it's new original material in the jazz rock style.

"In a way, we're crusaders," he says. "No one's doing this stuff, Blood, Sweat & Tears, early Chicago. No one."

Coinciding with his memoir and "Promise," Mr. Seraphine also plans to release an instructional DVD titled "The Art of Jazz Rock."

It all sounds like perfect timing, but for 15 years after his departure from the mega-group he had help found, Mr. Seraphine struggled and played the drums only sporadically.

"I almost waited too long to come back," he says. "I had this great fear of being the athlete who should've stayed in retirement. That kept me back for a long time. It's a head trip, and anything that becomes a head trip is not a healthy thing."

But then he realized that he still had it, that he "could still do it, and at a level I could be proud of (and that) wouldn't disappoint all the drummers who used my style and took it further."

Today, at 62 years old, he feels that he's a better drummer than ever.

"Drums are such a physically demanding instrument," he says. "To play them at the level that I'm becoming known for, I have to stay in shape."

At the upcoming Percussion Summit, he'll perform three Chicago songs with the other percussionists: "Make Me Smile," "I'm a Man" and "Does Anybody Really Know What Time It Is?"

"First and foremost, drumming is the ultimate release, the ultimate primal form of expression," he concludes. "For me, it's my way of expressing myself. It's imperative for me to play the drums. That's why God put me on this planet." ■

in the know

The ninth annual Percussion Summit
 >> **When:** 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 11
 >> **Where:** The Philharmonic Center for the Arts, 5833 Pelican Bay Blvd., Naples
 >> **Cost:** \$28 (\$15 for students)
 >> **Info:** 597-1900 or www.thephil.org

Chamber ensemble and full orchestra turning up

While the upcoming Percussion Summit involves just members of the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra's percussion section, the rest of the symphony is preparing these programs to get the new musical season underway:

• The 2010-11 Chamber Series opens with "Musical Spectrum," a concert of works by Beethoven, Arthur Bliss and Brahms, presented at 3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 12, and 8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 14.

Beethoven composed his Duo for Viola and Cello for his friend Niko-

laus Zmeskall to play the cello part. He nicknamed it the "Eye-glasses Duo" because both men required glasses to read music. Arthur Bliss' Conversations for Flute, Oboe, Violin, Viola and Cello conveys a variety of moods, from playful to sinister, as the five instruments interact with one another. The program closes with Brahms' third and



final string quartet.

Tickets to "Musical Spectrum" start at \$32 for adults and \$15 for students.

• The full NPO showcases the many moods of great Russian music in "From Russia with Love" at 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 25. Stuart Chafetz, pictured left, will conduct the orchestra's performance of works by Rim-

sky-Korsakov, Tchaikovsky, Stravinsky, Prokofiev, Shostakovich and Khachaturian.

Tickets to "From Russia with Love" start at \$37 for adults and \$25 for students.

Performances are at the Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts, 5833 Pelican Bay Blvd. For tickets and more information about the NPO's complete season of classical, pops, family fare, youth programs and more, call 597-1900 or visit www.thephil.org. ■



COURTESY PHOTOS

Above: *Everglades-1*, oil pastel on board, by Ann Dalton, Eastport, Maine

Left: *Loser Buys Dinner*, oil on canvas, by Barney Levitt, Jamaica Plain, Mass.

ENCOUNTER

From page 1

“Along the Tamiami - 12 Trees” is a vibrant line and texture study of Everglades flora.

National Art Encounter 2010 is sponsored by Physicians Regional Healthcare System and Publix Super Markets Charities. ARTMove LLC is the official shipping agent for the exhibition. Awards are sponsored by Physicians Regional Healthcare System, Publix Super Markets Charities and Artisan Framers.

The von Liebig Art Center is at 585 Park St. in downtown Naples. Hours through September are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday; Beginning in October, Saturday hours will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sug-

in the know

National Art Encounter 2010

>> **What:** An exhibit of works by 70 artists from 21 states

>> **Where:** The von Liebig Art Center

>> **When:** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, Sept. 13-Oct. 30

>> **Opening reception:** 5:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 10; free for Naples Art Association member, \$10 for others

>> **Info:** 262-6517 or www.naplesart.org

gested donation through Sept. 30 is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children 10 and older. Beginning in October, admission to the main Watson Gallery exhibitions will be \$5 for adults and \$2 for children ages 10-17.

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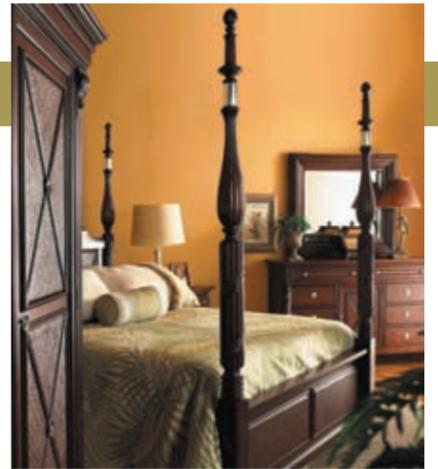
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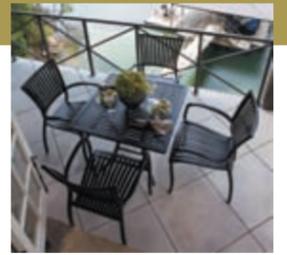
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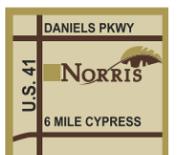


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WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

This week's theater

■ **I Love a Piano** - A salute to Irving Berlin, through Oct. 2 at Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre, Fort Myers. 278-4422 or www.broadwaypalm.com.

Thursday, Sept. 9

■ **Fall Fashions** - Stacey Deffenbaugh hosts Chico's "Fall into Fashion" event at 6 p.m. at The Grape at Coconut Point. Enjoy food and drink, tarot card readings and live music while previewing the newest looks for fall. \$30. RSVP: 992-5040.

■ **Night on the Town** - Enjoy an Evening on Fifth, complete with music, art and dining, from 7-10 p.m. along Fifth Avenue South. 435-3742.

■ **Pet Fundraiser** - Tommy Bahama's on Third Street South hosts "Paws in Paradise" from 5-7 p.m., a benefit for Paws For Love Assistance Dogs and Humane Society Naples. Paws For Love supplies assistance dogs to disabled veterans and children with autism. 775-1660.

■ **Jazz Jam** - Jebry's Jazz Jam happens this evening at Capri: A Taste of Italy, 11140 Tamiami Trail. 594-3500.

■ **More Jazz** - Fred's Food, Fun & Spirits presents the Expandable Jazz Band from 6-8:30 p.m. with Bob Zottola, Stu Shelton and John Lamb. 2700 Immokalee Road. 431-7928 or www.fredsiner.com.

■ **It's a Thursday Thing** - Catch live music from 6-11 p.m. during the Thursday Thing at CJ's on the Bay, Marco Island. Outside entertainment from 6-9 p.m., inside from 8-11:30 p.m. 389-4511.

■ **Open Mic** - Naples Flatbread & Wine Bar locations in Miromar Outlets and on Naples Boulevard host open mic nights from 6:30-9:30 p.m. www.naplesflatbread.com.

■ **Quiz Night** - Trivia night begins at 8:30 p.m. at The English Pub, 2408 Linwood Ave. 775-3727 or www.naplesenglishpub.com.

Friday, Sept. 10

■ **Art Show Opening** - National Art Encounter 2010 opens with a reception from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at The von Liebig Art Center. Free for Naples Art Association members, \$10 for others. 262-6517 or www.naplesart.org. See story on page C1.

■ **Peaceful Evening** - A Tibetan healing event with Robert Austin and Sandra McGill starts at 7 p.m. at Journey Arts, 2950 Immokalee Road. \$20. 455-1455.

■ **Album Party** - Naples singer/songwriter Nathan Brooks performs his first album, "Dream in Truths," at 7 p.m. at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort. \$15.50. Order tickets at <http://nathanbrooks-music.blogspot.com/>.

■ **Fashion Night** - Saks Fifth Avenue at Waterside Shops hosts "Fashion's Night Out" from 6-9 p.m. Check out what's new for fall and enjoy music and makeovers. 592-5900 or www.fredsiner.com.

■ **Pickin' and Grinnin'** - Front-



COURTESY PHOTO

Naples City Improv present an evening of ad libbing at 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 10, at The Norris Center. Tickets are \$15. Call 682-0638. The off-the-cuff experts perform a dinner show at Fred's Food, Fun & Spirits on Saturday, Sept. 11 and 18. Call 431-7928 or visit www.fredsiner.com.

line Bluegrass (aka Ghinko Biloba) opens its fall season from 7-10 p.m. at Fred's Food, Fun & Spirits, 2700 Immokalee Road. \$5 cover. 413-7928.

■ **B-I-N-G-O** - Play your cards from 7:30-11 p.m. at the Dance Studio in Ave Maria, 5068 Annunciation Circle, Suite 103. Proceeds help provide dance scholarships. 261-2606.

■ **Live Music** - Bob Zottola and the Expandable Jazz Band performs from 5-8 p.m. at Shula's Steak House, 5111 Tamiami Trail N. 430-4999.

■ **Tickling the Ivories** - Kary Regragui plays piano in the lounge at Angelina's Ristorante in Bonita Springs beginning at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. 24041 Tamiami Trail.

Saturday, Sept. 11

■ **It's Your Move** - The Southwest Florida Chess Club invites players of all ages and abilities to find a partner at Books-A-Million in Mercato anytime between 9:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. 898-0458 or e-mail swflchess@yahoo.com.

■ **Tell Me a Story** - Kids are invited to story time in the Children's Garden at the Naples Botanical Garden from 10:30-11:30 a.m. every Saturday and Sunday. Regular admission applies; free for Garden members. 643-7275 or www.naplesgarden.org.

■ **Jazz Tunes** - The Naples Jazzmasters perform from 2-4 p.m. every Saturday through the summer at the Norris Community Center. 213-3058.

■ **Bowled Over** - "Dollars for Scholars" starts at 6 p.m. at Beacon Bowl. The fourth annual fundraiser benefits the FGCU Alumni Association Scholarship Fund. Register a team of five or sign up as an individual for an evening of glow bowling, fun, food and Eagle giveaways. 590-1087.

■ **Drum Time** - Drummers Danny Seraphine and Jeff Queen participate in a three-hour clinic at 3 p.m. at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts before the ninth annual Percussion Summit begins at 8 p.m. 597-1900 or www.thephil.org.

Sunday, Sept. 12

■ **Chamber Series** - The Naples Philharmonic Orchestra Chamber Ensemble presents "Musical Spectrum," the first program in the season's Cham-

ber Series, at 3 p.m. today and 8 p.m. Tuesday at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. 597-1900 or www.thephil.org. See story on page C4.

■ **Expandable Jazz** - Bob Zottola and the Expandable Jazz Band perform from 6-8:30 p.m. at Naples Flatbread, 6434 Naples Blvd. 687-3454.

Monday, Sept. 13

■ **Jazz Tunes** - Get into the groove with Jebry's Jazz jam session from 5-8 p.m. at the Island Pub, 600 Neapolitan Way. 262-2500.

■ **Sweat the Small Stuff** - Trivia Night begins at 7:30 p.m. at The Pub at Mercato. 594-9400.

Tuesday, Sept. 14

■ **Accessorize, Accessorize** - Enjoy refreshments and learn from an expert stylist at Tiffany & Co. how to mix, match and layer jewelry from 7-10 p.m. 5435 Tamiami Trail N., Waterside Shops. 592-6188.

■ **Motor City Tunes** - Fred's Food, Fun & Spirits celebrates Motown with Omar Baker performing from 6-9 p.m. 2700 Immokalee Road. 431-7928.

■ **Pet Party** - It's Yappy Hours for pets and their people from 4:30-6 p.m. at The Dock at Crayton Cove. Donations are welcome for the Naples Dog Park.

■ **Go, Team!** - Team Trivia begins at 9 p.m. at Boston Beer Garden. 2396 Immokalee Rd. 596-2337.

Wednesday, Sept. 15

■ **CSI Archaeology** - The Southwest Florida Archaeological Society welcomes Maranda Almy Kles with a program titled "CSI: Archaeology" at 7 p.m. at the Old 41 Community Hall in Bonita Springs. 992-9660.

■ **Save This Dance** - Vergina on Fifth Avenue hosts a dance contest at 8 p.m. Contest finals are Nov 17. 659-7008 or www.verginarestaurant.com.

■ **Song Night** - It's Singer/Songwriter Night from 7-10 p.m. at Fred's Food, Fun & Spirits, 2700 Immokalee Road. 431-7928 or www.fredsiner.com.

— Send calendar listings to events@floridaweekly.com.

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Casting call: Think you can act, sing or play an instrument?

If you've got talent and can commit to rehearsal and performance schedules, these groups would love to hear from you:

■ The Bach Ensemble

Friday, Sept. 10

Thursday, Sept. 16

Tryouts for The Bach Ensemble of Naples will begin at noon on the above dates at Community School of Naples. All singers are welcome to audition; tenors are especially needed. Call 732-1055 or visit www.thebachensemble.org.

■ The Naples Players

Saturday, Sept. 11

The Naples Players will hold auditions for "A Christmas Carol" beginning at noon Saturday, Sept. 11. The show calls for at least 10 women and 11 men, ages 16-60, and six boys and five girls, ages 8-15. Audition appointments are not necessary.

Rehearsals begin Oct. 4. Performances are Nov. 24-Dec. 19 at the Sudgen Community Theatre. Call 434-7340, ext. 10.

■ The Naples Concert Band

Auditions every Tuesday

Auditions take place every Tuesday until all positions are filled. Rehearsals start at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 28, at Gulf View Middle School; the first concert of the season will be at 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 17, in Cambier Park. Call 263-9521 or visit www.NaplesConcertBand.org.

■ Opera Naples

Saturday, Oct. 9

Opera Naples welcomes candidates to try out for paid chorus section leaders, volunteer chorus members, children ages 8-15 for the chorus, professional Young Artists for secondary grand opera roles, and students ages 10-18 for the ON apprentice program. All auditions are by appointment only:

Chorus, teens and children: 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 9, the ON Center for the Arts, 2408 Linwood Ave.

Regional professional Young Artists: 5-8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 9, North Naples United Methodist Church.

To make an appointment, e-mail Robin Shuford Frank at rfrank@operanaples.org. For more information about ON, visit www.operanaples.org. ■

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ARTS COMMENTARY

Reflections on high cuisine and Peeps

To me, one of the signs of a great writer is whether he or she can hold my interest while writing about a topic I really have no innate interest in.

If someone can write about sports without resorting to clichés, jargon and catch phrases, I'm happy to read his or her work. John McPhee can write about almost anything — geology, oranges, freight transportation — and it's entertaining. Ditto for New Yorker essayist and author Susan Orlean and best-selling author Mary Roach, who imbues everything she writes about, from corpses to astronauts, with her trademark humor.

Add *New York Times* food writer Kim Severson to the list.



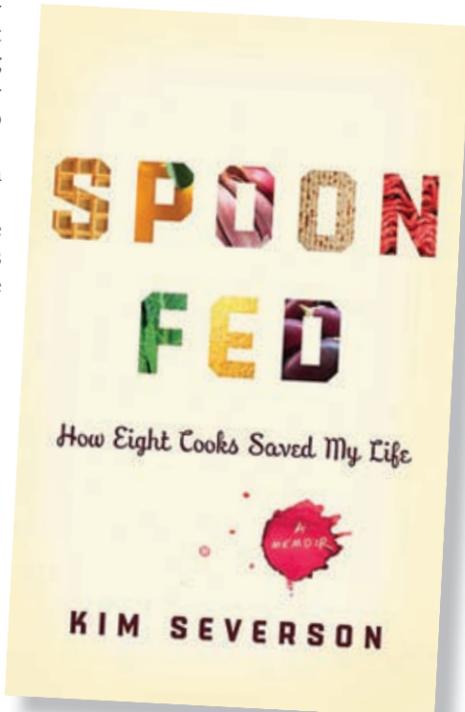
SEVERSON

I'm not someone who peruses recipes and can recite the names of famous chefs and their restaurants. I don't trust recipes; even if I follow them step-by-step, I don't have faith the dish will turn out the way it's supposed to.

But I always look for Ms. Severson's byline in the *New York Times*' weekly Dining section, because her stories are always so interesting. Yes, they're about food, but they're also about people. They're human interest stories. She

wrote about film critic Roger Ebert, who, because he had surgery to remove most of his jaw, can no longer eat but still cooks.

She wrote about returning to Italy to track the evolution of her Italian grandmoth-



Nancy STETSON
nstetson@floridaweekly.com



er's recipe for red sauce. Then there was the article about how she and fellow food-writer Julia Moskin had a cooking contest:

Create a dinner party for six, spending only \$50. Co-worker Frank Bruni, the famed *New York Times* restaurant critic, attended both dinners and critiqued them.

So I made a point of reading her recently published book, "Spoon Fed: How Eight Cooks Saved My Life." It's a mix of memoir, coming-out story and cook profiles, with a dash of recipes for good measure.

She writes about leaving the *Anchor-age Daily News* to be a food writer for the *San Francisco Chronicle*, then leaving the *Chronicle* to be a food writer at the *New York Times* — an enviable career path.

Her life story, and the lessons she learned, are told through the prism of eight women in the food world: Marion Cunningham, Alice Waters, Ruth Reichl, Marcella Hazan, Edna Lewis, Leah Chase, Rachael Ray and Ms. Severson's mother, Anne-Marie Zappa Severson. These women teach her patience and self-confidence, to stay true to herself, and that she can always start over. (Each letter of the book's title on the cover reflects a recipe shared by the various women, ranging from waffles to gumbo z'herbes to matzo brei to her mother's spaghetti and meatballs.)

Ms. Severson is honest about her faults, writing about her insecurities in and out of the newsroom. And while she talks about her struggles with self-acceptance and alcoholism, she's not lurid. One of the more moving chapters deals with prayer and faith — in life and in the kitchen.

These women sound like women I'd like to hang out with.

"The women in this book shined the light on what was ahead for me when I couldn't find the way," Ms. Severson writes. "They showed me that food is the best antidote for anything life throws at you. They became my tour guide, helping me figure out what I really believed in, how to re-make my life and re-create a family, and, finally, how to face death."

One of the funnier stories she shares is about doing an article on Alice Waters, an advocate and leader for fresh and locally grown food. The two shop at a farmers market for ingredients and then go back to Ms. Severson's Brooklyn home so Ms. Waters can cook a meal. But in the excitement of doing the story and being with a food icon such as Ms. Waters, Ms. Severson neglected to call her partner, Katia Hetter, who's home pregnant with their daughter, to let her know they were on their way. So she arrives home only to discover her partner's in the tub, and chicken nuggets and frozen French fries are in the toaster oven.

"Spoon Fed" is not like any other memoir I've read. While revelatory, it's far from sensationalistic. It's warm and friendly, like hanging out in the kitchen hearing stories from a friend.

And, thank God, Ms. Severson's also doing the cooking.

Jersey boy

Paul Rudnick's style of humor could perhaps be described as flamboyantly observational.

"Isn't life absurd?" he seems to ask. "Look at this — and this."

Mr. Rudnick is known for his plays "I Hate Hamlet" and "Jeffrey," which

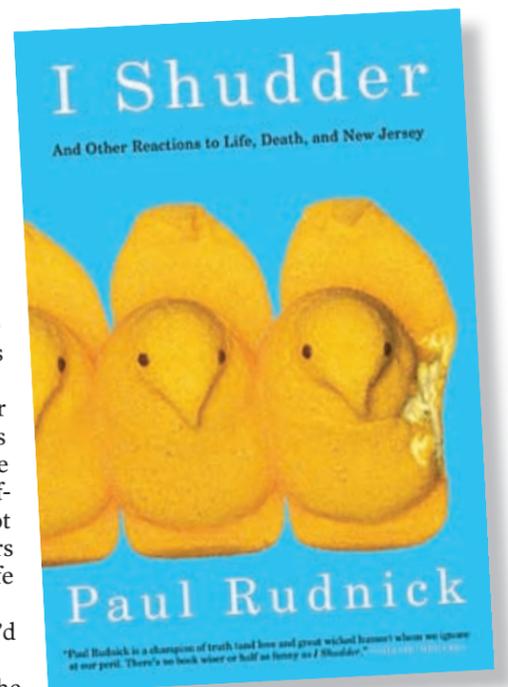


RUDNICK

was also made into a movie, and for his screenplays for "In & Out," "Addams Family Values" and "Sister Act." (The last movie went through so many rewrites he had his name removed from the credits, not thinking

it would become such a success.)

His book, "I Shudder and Other Reactions to Life, Death, and New Jersey," is as good as watching one of his plays or movies. There's an essay about the early days of William Ivey Long, before he won five Tony Awards for costuming Broadway shows, and essays about Mr. Rudnick's early days, too. (His Aunt Hilda was the person to sit next to during a Passover seder, he writes, "because she'd murmur, 'Oh, come on already, get those Jews out of Egypt. Let's eat!'")



Kim Severson on Florida:

"I just never imagined that one of my kitchen heroes, one of the women who helped teach me to cook... would end up in a Florida condo, forced to shop at a grocery store with tomatoes as pale as pink carnations and hybrid artichokes as big as a baby's head.

"Aside from me, a couple of people working the registers and a younger man helping his mother shop, most everyone moving through the wide aisles were well on their way to 70 or beyond. A big display of inflatable alligators and lobsters — beach toys for the grandkids — hung over the entrance, serenaded by what must be the last working Muzak tape in the country.

"To shop here, Marcella had to make her way past a thousand items that one would never find in the markets of Bologna and Venice, where she used to shop and where in my fantasy she would be living out her days. There were jars of sticky-looking bruschetta topping and bags of pre-shredded 'Italian blend' cheese. All the meat had been cut into uniform sizes and laid to rest on white foam trays. There was not a butcher in sight."

Kim Severson on food:

"Can the cold facts of the natural world explain that magic moment that comes when everyone at the table has just settled in to eat? Or the one that comes just when the delicious rush of sharing a good meal has ended? We sit around like grinning, milk-drunk babies who've just pulled away from the breast. Laughing comes easy. People glow. Out of nowhere, you have compassion for the jerk who was bugging you before dinner, so you ask if he'd like seconds on the braised artichokes. You belong to everyone else at the table and they belong to you.

"You can't create that kind of communion alone, and you can't create it without food."

Paul Rudnick on Florida:

"John drove our rental car out to Heritage Acres, the retirement community where the couple was living. My mother and Hilda had been down for a few visits, and while Hilda had been polite, the place was my mother's worst nightmare. 'It's like a warehouse for old people,' she'd told me, 'where all they do, all day long, is play golf and compare their diseases. I love my sister, but if I had to live there, I'd cut my throat.'

"John and I drove through the gates, and we saw hundreds of identical, single-story bungalows, lined up in neat rows beside narrow canals. The sun was merciless, and there weren't many trees. Everything seemed to be covered with stucco and painted the color of a faded Band-Aid. Heritage Acres was like a well-tended terrorist training camp, filled with 85-year-old women in roomy, quilted floral housecoats, and pot-bellied, cigar-smoking men in Sansabelt slacks."

Paul Rudnick on food:

"When I was in college, I developed a deep and lasting fondness for Pringles. I realize that some potato chips might, in a stretch, be considered a vegetable, but Pringles are made from some unholy partnership of potato derivatives and maybe even newsprint or Styrofoam packing pellets, stamped into identical chiplike shapes that nestle conveniently inside the familiar cardboard cylinders. And, I'll confess, while I relish the searing chemical tang of Pringles, although never in the odious Pizza or Sour Cream and Chives flavorings, I also find the product to be aesthetically pleasing. Pringles are the snack equivalent of teakwood nesting tables, or low-cost modular housing. If a Danish architect had created Pringles, he'd have won international design awards. I'd always tried to imagine the marketing prodigy who came up with the Pringles concept: 'I know exactly what the world is waiting for — a food that stacks.' ■

GIVING

Naples International Film Festival funds grant for budding producers

The Naples International Film Festival recently made a donation of \$500 to the Education Foundation of Collier County. The money will fund a Connect With A Classroom grant so that students at Mike Davis Elementary School can produce their own "Nutcracker."

Rowan Samuel, executive director of the film festival, said the gift to the school "ties to NIFF goals to collaborate with other organizations to nurture and grow arts education in Collier County schools."

The inaugural film festival in 2009 drew 1,100 attendees to the Philharmonic Center for the Arts to see the Oscar-award winning film, "The Cove." Independent film showings at Silverspot Cinema in Mercato over the following three days resulted in close to \$1 million to boost the local economy, Mr. Samuel said.

The second annual NIFF is set for Nov. 4-7 and will continue the festi-



COURTESY PHOTO

Standing with students at Mike Davis Elementary School, left to right, Rowan Samuel, Tim Rowe, Patria Sanduk, Sheila Smyth and Bob Spano

an outlet for local filmmakers and film lovers in Southwest Florida."

For more information, visit www.naplesfilmfest.com. ■

val's mission to "nurture and support a diverse, artistic and cultural experience in Collier County" by showcasing "some of the finest and most creative cinematic works in the world, while at the same time supporting, organizing and providing

Locals attend Tiffany Circle Summit in D.C.



SURRATT

Tamara Surratt, founder and president of Legacy Family Office, attended the American Red Cross' 2010 Tiffany Circle Summit in Washington, D.C.

Tiffany Circle members are women who support their local American Red Cross chapters with a minimum donation of \$10,000 or more each year.

The summit was an opportunity for 300 Tiffany Circle members and American Red Cross chapter leaders from around the country to come together to hear speakers, to network and discuss ways to support the American Red Cross. During the two-day event, attendees heard from Kimberly Dozier, who covers intel-

ligence and counterterrorism issues for the Associated Press; U.S. Army Sgt. Denet Oregon, a Wounded Warrior from the Afghanistan War; U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Kathleen Gainey, director of logistics for The Joint Staff; and political reporter Judy Woodruff. Actress Elisabeth Rohm hosted the opening dinner.

"I'm very proud to be a Tiffany Circle member," Ms. Surratt said. "Meeting such talented, savvy, intelligent and philanthropic women from across the country who care and support the Red Cross as much as I do was truly the highlight of the summit."

She was joined by fellow Tiffany Circle member Sonya Sawyer, chief financial officer of Home-Tech, and Susan Bonanno, Heidi Ruster, Kari Hennagin and Deanna Cleary of the Lee and Collier County American Red Cross chapters. ■

Youth Haven gets funds for art therapy

At The Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation's 2010 Community Support Breakfast, CEO Ron McSwiney of Youth Haven accepted a check in the amount of \$500 to support the organization's "Therapy Through the Arts Initiative" for children in the Youth Haven residential emergency shelter.

Youth Haven was one of 48 nonprofit honorees to receive gifts at the breakfast. The "Therapy Through the Arts Initiative" provides a healing and coping outlet for young shelter residents, all of whom have experienced abuse, neglect and/or abandonment. The therapy is implemented by Youth Haven's Children & Family Counseling Center team of mental health professionals and utilizes various art modalities and

activities tailored to helping each child succeed in achieving personal goals as they work to overcome past traumatic experiences.

As the children voice their private pain through creative approaches, they begin to find recovery and hope at the same time they enjoy the fun that comes with making a treasured piece of art, Mr. McSwiney said.

The Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation makes grants to eligible charities in six focus areas: community development, education, human services, arts and culture, civic projects and the environment. The foundation's first priority is to support programs whose chief purpose is to benefit low- and moderate-income individuals. ■

PUZZLE ANSWERS

3	4	8	5	9	1	2	7	6
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ABBA	RHOMBUS	LET	ARTE	
ROBIN	COUSINS	ENE	GETS	
KEENE	DEUS	PEERS	SET	
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EMOTES	NOBEL	SALEM		
SLEW	SINO	REAP	OREL	
AIR	PARTY	OFFIVE	ADAM	
PACINO	AAA	NASA	INA	
	UNIT	SWAT	TIED	NAS
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HAY	ELSA	SARA	VETO	
ADA	ROAM	SHA	OUTCRY	
WEST	URBAN	COWBOY	EUR	
STOP	OPAL	AURA	INNS	
	REESE	PIETY	AGENTS	
MOSTEL	ALOE	CELS		
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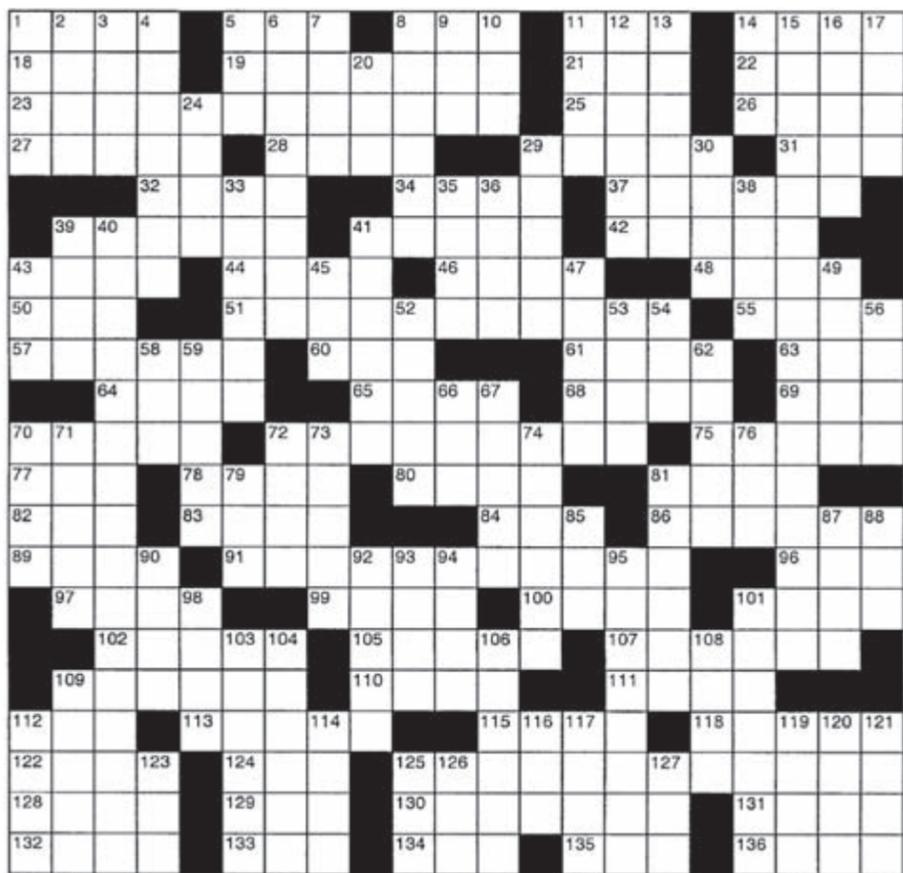
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 - 25 Chemical ending
 - 26 Obtains
 - 27 New Hampshire campus
 - 28 — ex machina
 - 29 Jury members
 - 31 "Ready! —! Go!"
 - 32 Ordered
 - 34 Gilpin of "Frasier"
 - 37 21st President
 - 39 Chews the scenery
 - 41 Annual award
 - 42 Bewitching location
 - 43 Dealt with a dragon
 - 44 — Japanese War
 - 46 Harvest
 - 48 Hurler
 - 50 Rock's — Hershiser
 - 51 Scott Wolf series
 - 55 With 89 Across, "Batman" star
 - 57 Al of "Insomnia"
 - 60 Bond rating
 - 61 High-flying agcy.
 - 63 Claire or Bailin
 - 64 Component
 - 65 Nab a gnat
 - 68 Adjusted an ascot
 - 69 Mil. base
 - 70 Show indifference
 - 72 Scott Baio co-star
 - 75 Column style
 - 77 Flicka's food
 - 78 Lohengrin's love
 - 80 Actress Mia
 - 81 Reject
 - 82 Periodontists' org.
 - 83 Wander
 - 84 With 120 Down, Bowzer's group
 - 86 Uproar
 - 89 See 55 Across
 - 91 Scott Glenn film
 - 96 Liechtenstein's cont.
 - 97 Command at a corner
 - 99 Iridescent stone
 - 100 Atmosphere
 - 101 Hotels
 - 102 Shortstop Pee Wee
 - 105 Vatican virtue
 - 107 99 and 007
 - 109 "The Producers" star
 - 110 — vera
 - 111 "Fantasia" frames
 - 112 Prohibit
 - 113 On — (doing great)
 - 115 Vittle statistics?
 - 118 "April Love" singer
 - 122 Riyadh resident
 - 124 By means of
 - 125 Scott Joplin composition
 - 128 Hint
 - 129 Sixth sense
 - 130 Varnish
 - 131 Pavlova or Paquin
 - 132 Table d'—
 - 133 Dem.'s opponent
 - 134 Predatory fish
 - 135 Theater sign
 - 136 "— my lips!"
- DOWN**
- 1 Conifer covering
 - 2 Bassoon relative
 - 3 Singer Lane
 - 4 Heavenly sight
 - 5 4 Down's shape
 - 6 Zimbabwe, formerly
 - 7 Grimace
 - 8 San Luis —, CA
 - 9 TV's "The Flying —"
 - 10 Sialom curve
 - 11 Merriment
 - 12 Vergil's vagabond
 - 13 — Leone
 - 14 Give in to gravity
 - 15 Scott Turov novel
 - 16 Furry fisherman
 - 17 Try out
 - 20 East Lansing coll.
 - 24 Tidy
 - 29 Damascus dish
 - 30 Normandy site
 - 33 Tyrant
 - 35 Spanish river
 - 36 Shorten a sail
 - 38 Olympic first lady
 - 39 Director Kazan
 - 40 Scott Carpenter's profession
 - 41 "... say — do"
 - 43 Fool
 - 45 New Deal agcy.
 - 47 1492 vessel
 - 49 Hawaiian island
 - 52 Applauds a bore?
 - 53 Self-smitten
 - 54 Language suffix
 - 56 Not fem.
 - 58 Shiba — (Japanese dog)
 - 59 Neighbor of Mail
 - 62 "Farewell!"
 - 66 "I — Rock" ('66 hit)
 - 67 Museum piece
 - 70 Clarinetist Artie
 - 71 Hot spot?
 - 72 "Cormic Dictionary" author
 - 73 Dack of "Dallas"
 - 74 New Jersey city
 - 76 Baseball's "Master Melvin"
 - 79 Bud's buddy
 - 81 Sail with Sinbad
 - 85 — Simbel
 - 87 Kennel features
 - 88 Cen. segments
 - 90 Stocking stuffers?
 - 92 Horribly
 - 93 Brad, for one
 - 94 Role for Liz
 - 95 Prophetic
 - 98 Wilson of "La Femme Nikita"
 - 101 To such an extent
 - 103 Restaurant employee
 - 104 Plaza Hotel kid
 - 106 Tone down
 - 108 Isle near Corsica
 - 109 Mrs. Phil Donahue
 - 112 Baroque composer
 - 114 Certain Finn
 - 116 Pipe connection
 - 117 "I Remember Mama" character
 - 119 Sarah — Jewett
 - 120 See 84 Across
 - 121 "My word!"
 - 123 Hum bug?
 - 125 Flavor enhancer: Abbr.
 - 126 "Gotcha!"
 - 127 System starter

SEE ANSWERS, C9

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HOROSCOPES

■ **VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)** An unexpected development could cause some supposedly resolved disagreements to reignite. Deal with the situation before it leads to some really serious problems.

■ **LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)** A clash of work-linked viewpoints needs to be discussed openly, honestly and calmly by all concerned before it can impede progress on an ongoing project.

■ **SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)** The Scorpion's pragmatic side helps you accept the possibility that a change of plans might be the wise thing to do. Be sure to weigh all your considerations carefully.

■ **SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)** Some people might not take no for an answer. Never mind. Keep your resolve if you're sure you don't want to be involved in a potentially sticky situation.

■ **CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)** All other facts and figures aside, it's what you learn about potential colleagues that can be most helpful in assessing any decisions you're likely to make regarding a new project.

■ **AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)** You might want to reconsider some of your outside commitments if they continue to demand more time than you can spare. Be honest with yourself when making a decision.

■ **PISCES (February 19 to March 20)** Pay attention to that inner voice

of Piscean wisdom counseling you to remove those rose-colored glasses and take an honest look at any decisions you might face this week.

■ **ARIES (March 21 to April 19)** Personal matters claim a good deal of the Lamb's time in the early part of the week. But by midweek, pragmatic considerations (work, school, job-seeking, etc.) begin to take priority.

■ **TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** The seasonal shift ignites the Bovine's creative aspects. You could do well if you try to combine your penchant for innovation with the more pragmatic demands of the week.

■ **GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)** Ideas come easily to you this week. And never mind that some might suggest they're unworkable and/or impractical. It's your vision that counts. Work them out and see what turns up.

■ **CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** Personal matters continue to dominate the early part of the week. By midweek, more workaday issues once again begin to emerge. Balance your time to give both the attention they need.

■ **LEO (July 23 to August 22)** A new contact could provide an expanded opportunity. But be sure you get all the facts before you consider signing on. Ask questions, and be wary if you don't get the right answers.

■ **BORN THIS WEEK:** You have a penchant for persuasion that would make you a fine candidate for a political career.

By Linda Thistle

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6			3			9
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	9			4		8
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						5

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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

'Machete'

danHUDAK
www.hudakonhollywood.com



★★
Is it worth \$10? No



"Machete" is the first movie I've seen in which someone is decapitated and then the severed head is split in two by a machete before it hits the ground.

You must admit, that's pretty original. And disgusting. Either way, by now you probably know whether you want to see this movie or you don't.

And if you do, it's my responsibility to tell you the action comes in spurts, and there's a serious rather than playful tone that takes away from the sophomoric fun.

Character actor Danny Trejo ("Heat") gets his first lead role here as Machete, an ex-Mexican Federale whose family was murdered by a drug-dealing bad guy named Torrez (Steven Seagal, in his first outing as a true villain). Jump to three years later. Along the Mexican border in Texas, Machete works for pittance as a day laborer.

After winning a street fight, Machete is offered \$150,000 by a power broker named Booth (Jeff Fahey) to assassinate a racist U.S. Senator (Robert DeNiro) who wants to construct an electric fence along the border. But when Machete learns he's been framed, he seeks vengeance on Booth's daughter (Lindsay Lohan) and learns of Torrez's connection to the senator.

As long as the film focuses on Machete's vengeance-is-mine storyline, it's fine. Crass and vulgar, but fine. It's when co-writer/director Robert Rodriguez insists on hammering us with commentary on illegal immigration that the movie runs into trouble.

Luz (Michelle Rodriguez) ostensibly runs a taco stand, but she's really the brain behind a smuggling ring that gets people across the border. Jessica Alba is Sartana, the customs and immigrations officer responsible for stopping Luz and, later, helping Machete. Sure Ms. Rodriguez and Ms. Alba are here for sex appeal, but their characters are so virtuous it's as if director Mr. Rodriguez forgot moviegoers pay to see blood splatter, not be preached to.

Ordinarily, films are well into post-

production before a trailer is made. With "Machete," the trailer came first. Mr. Rodriguez made it as one of the "fake trailers" that ran in between "Planet Terror" and Quentin Tarantino's "Death Proof" in "Grindhouse," their 2007 double-feature homage to 1970s exploitation movies. True to form, scenes from that fake trailer are in this movie, though it's hard to believe the rumor that some of the old footage was used.

At times, "Machete" — with its vomiting, excessive nudity and dismembered eyeballs — makes "The Expendables" look like an after-school special. But what's really bothersome is that the movie dares to be more than an exploitation flick after promising so little.

Usually substance is needed to make a movie better. In this case, the message of tolerance for immigration makes "Machete" play like a revenge flick caught between being "so cheesy it's fun" and "too serious for its own good." What was Mr. Rodriguez thinking? ■

— 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.

in the know

>> **Brace yourself:** Another fake trailer from "Grindhouse," Eli Roth's "Thanksgiving," is in development as a feature-length movie.

CAPSULES

REVIEWED BY DAN HUDAK
www.hudakonhollywood.com

The American ★★★½
(George Clooney, Violante Placido, Thekla Reuten) An American assassin (Mr. Clooney) falls in love with a prostitute (Ms. Placido) while hiding out in Italy and trying to complete one last job. The action is scarce, leaving this a nice character study of a man simultaneously trying to stay alive and become human again. It's a bit slow, but it's also Mr. Clooney's best performance to date. Rated R.

The Expendables ★★★
(Sylvester Stallone, Jet Li, Jason Statham) A team of mercenaries (Mr. Stallone, Mr. Li, Mr. Statham) attempts to force a

corrupt South American despot (David Zayas) from power. Co-writer/director Mr. Stallone has assembled some of the greatest action icons of the last 30 years in this loud, over-the-top extravaganza that's like crack for action movie junkies. I was high as a kite throughout, and it felt great. Rated R.

Get Low ★★★
(Robert Duvall, Sissy Spacek, Bill Murray) When a crazy, hermitic old coot (Mr. Duvall) wants to attend his own funeral to hear what people say about him, he hires Frank Quinn (Mr. Murray) and his struggling funeral parlor to make the arrangements. Nice performances from Mr. Duvall and Mr. Murray lend gravitas and humor, respectively, to a melancholic story that should be 10-15 minutes shorter. Rated PG-13 ■



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FLORIDA WRITERS

An interview with Jason R. Jones

BY PHILIP K. JASON
Special to Florida Weekly

Naples author Jason R. Jones recently published "The Exodus of Spiders and Falcons," the first installment of a fantasy series called The Exodus Sagas. It is available from the publisher via author-house.com and also from major online booksellers.

Mr. Jones certainly knows how to put ingredients together, as he is the food and beverage director for the Naples Harbour Yacht Club.



JONES

PKJ: An 18-volume fantasy series is an enormous undertaking. How did you prepare for this marathon literary endeavor?

JRJ: Yes, it is huge. Preparation began over a decade ago with dozens of notebooks that filled "the green laundry basket" up in Wisconsin. Years of writing piled into spirals and pads since my teenage years had accumulated so much that the last few years were a huge organizational effort. A story of epic size demands character and plot continuity. Preparing the maps, charts that outline character, story, subplot, progression, and all the details planned out with a timeline that keeps the story flowing and connected was a monumental task.

I would like to tell you that it just

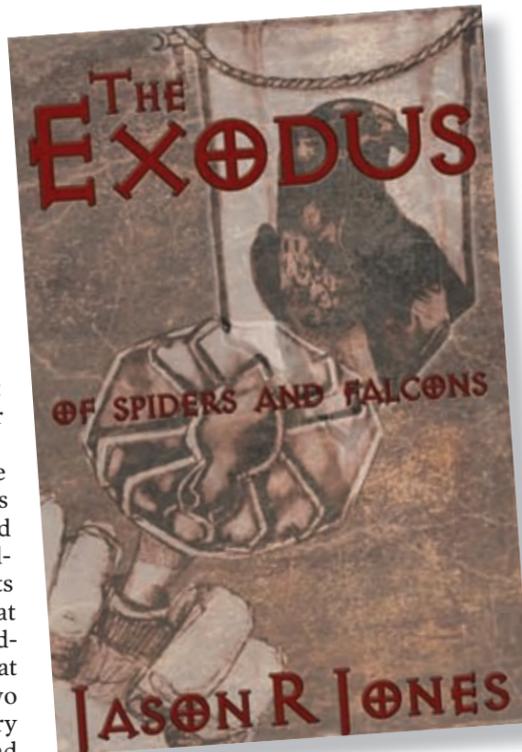
flowed and "poof!" — But no. The story and writing, yes; however, the record keeping and organization took a lot of work over the last few years. I trained myself by reading out my story, seeing the end of chapters and particular books as I began, and unfolding the events of the series — sometimes almost writing backwards in time. Since the earliest notes go back to when I was 15, it's been 20 years of fantasy indulgence.

PKJ: How did you determine that it would take 18 books to fulfill your intention?

JRJ: It is an odd number, but the story evolves over the first quartet as the heroes get their definitions and direction. The next two quartets develop the underlying storylines and plots that lead up to the last quartet that brings everything together into grand-epic-saga-world-gripping fashion. That would put us at 16, but I have a one-two punch at the end. In truth, the story could go on, and I hope my son and my future children will pick it up after book 18.

PKJ: How did you settle on the five characters whose fates interlink them in the first volume?

JRJ: James, Shinayne, Azenairk (Zen), Gwenneth and Saberrak are integral to all 18 volumes. They provide the foundation upon which all is built. The first book's central figure is James Andellis, and each successive book focuses on



another of the five as the story progresses. Shinayne T'Sarrin is the focal character of the second book... These five embody different aspects of failure, heroism, morals, struggle and virtue, and as they follow their paths, it is obvious more and more why they have been fated into companionship with one another.

PKJ: As readers enter the world(s)

you have created, what will be most familiar? What will seem most strange?

JRJ: Familiar will be the medieval/fantasy romance, the epic feel of such dark fated times in history and story, the journey or quest by a few that could affect or save many, and the flashing and dashing swordplay and visual magic that only fantasy can provide in tale and verse.

Strange will be the grim reality of how quickly life can turn and end on a bloody brutal note in times such as these. The spiritual complexities, national and political struggles, outright wicked and maniacal villains, and races and places never heard of or dreamed. It is a world steeped in history, one that was washed and warred away in oppression and divine disaster — now being relearned, uncovered and retold. As if the world were ruined by an evil empire and flooded by the grace of god, only to endure once more — and that is where the story begins. An exodus from the past, to form a new future, and guided by... well... that will have to wait.

PKJ: What kind of readers will enjoy this series?

JRJ: If you like the writings of J.R.R. Tolkien, R.A. Salvatore and the various contributors to the shared world "Dragonlance" novels and games, if you like films such as "Clash of the Titans" and "300," then you'll like The Exodus Sagas. ■

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CLUB NOTES

Republican women resume luncheons

After the summer hiatus, the Women's Republican Club of Naples Federated, Inc. resumes its monthly meetings on Friday, Sept. 10, at the Country Club of Naples. Guest speaker Jim Bloom of the Collier County Sheriff's Office will discuss Homeland Security and immigration.

Social hour begins at 11:30 a.m. and the luncheon and program are at noon. Cost is \$20. For reservations, call Pat Wagner at 598-9833. Future luncheons are set for the second Friday of the month. For more information about the club, call 566-8138. ■

Get acquainted with newcomers

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

The club meets for luncheon at 11:30 a.m. on the second Thursday of each month, year 'round. In addition, groups within the club plan outings and dates to share varied interests, such as mah-jongg and duplicate bridge, gourmet cooking and discussions about philosophy.

Prospective members are invited to coffee at 10 a.m. on the first Thursday of each month. For meeting locations and more information, call 298-4083 or visit

www.naplesnewcomers.com.

The Bonita Springs Newcomers Club welcomes women who have lived in Bonita for less than three years. Luncheons are held at area country clubs on the third Thursday of every month (December meeting is on the second Thursday).

Members must attend five luncheons a year and pay annual dues of \$40. A wide variety of other club activities are organized and directed by an all-volunteer board of directors. A monthly newsletter keeps members informed of programs and activities.

For more information, e-mail bonitanewcomers@gmail.com or visit www.bonitaspringsnewcomersclub.com. ■

WCA announces November luncheon

The Women's Cultural Alliance of the Jewish Federation of Collier County welcomes book critic and lecturer Elaine Newton as guest speaker at the group's luncheon on Friday, Nov. 12, at Grey Oaks Country Club.

WCA has 500 members and presents more than 50 programs throughout the year. Cost for the luncheon and annual WCA membership is \$114. Check made out to JFCC can be mailed to Susan Seiden, 445 Cove Tower Drive, Montego #1203, Naples FL 34110.

For more information, call Jane Hersch at 948-0003 or visit www.womensculturalalliance.com. ■

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adaptation by John Jakes



Directed by Dallas Dunnagan

Very large cast needed for this adaptation of the holiday story, with Scrooge, Marley, the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future, the Cratchits and Tiny Tim – and many more denizens of Victorian London. Though not a musical, some singers are needed; sing at callbacks Sunday, Sept. 12.

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• For information call 434-7340, ext. 10, by 4:00 pm Sept. 10
• Perusal scripts available in the Box Office with a \$20 deposit.

SAVE THE DATE

On your mark, get set for Stroller Derby

Get ready, get set for the inaugural Stroller Derby to benefit Collier Child Care Resources from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 18, at Edison State College. Admission is free. In addition to stroller derby races, the fun will include face painting and a bounce house, plus performances by Robbie the Ringmaster and the No Doubt tribute band.

Proceeds will help pay tuition for low-income families at the NCEF Early Childhood Development Center. For more information, call 643-3908. ■

Tickets to "Remember When" are \$50 per person and include two drinks. For reservations, call 595-4200. ■

Doctors showcase their other talents

The Steinway Piano Society presents the sixth annual Physicians Talent Showcase on Tuesday evening, Oct. 19, at Sugden Community Theatre. Doctors from Lee and Collier counties are tuning up for the popular program that benefits the Neighborhood Health Clinic and the Steinway Piano Society Scholarship Fund.

Tickets for \$75 per person are available at the Sugden Community Theatre box office. For more information, call the Steinway Piano Gallery at 498-9884. ■

'Remember When' for Sunshine Kids

The Parkshore and Ritz-Carlton offices of Prudential Florida Realty present "Remember When," a sock hop for the Sunshine Kids Foundation, on Saturday, Nov. 13, at Heritage Bay Golf and Country Club. Twist the night away at the 1950s-style party and help spread some sunshine for children with cancer. The fun will include jitterbug, twist and hula-hoop contests; costume contest; a silent auction; hors d'oeuvres and buffet dinner; and music hosted by Emma Lee.

The Sunshine Kids Foundation provides programs for young cancer patients in hospitals across North America. Prudential Real Estate affiliates adopted the foundation as a network-wide charity in 1991.

Immokalee agency plans fundraisers

Immokalee Housing & Family Services is planning a "You're My Hero" luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 9, at the Naples Sailing & Yacht Club. Cost is \$50 per person, and funds will help IHFS in its mission to provide decent, safe and affordable rental housing with supportive social and educational services for farm workers and other low-income families in Immokalee.

IHFS is also planning a dinner dance on Tuesday, March 29, 2011, at the Hilton Naples. Tickets are \$100.

For more information or tickets to either of the above events, call 657-8335 or visit www.ihfservices.org. ■

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September 13 - October 30



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09/17: Phil Peterson's 38th Annual Key West Poker Run

09/25: Conch Life Scramble - Marathon

10/22: Goombay Festival

10/23: Christopher Peterson in Eyecons / Las Vegas or Bust

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*Month of September day trips on Monday, Thursday or Saturday. Call for information, qualifications and reservations.

SAVE THE DATE

Place your bet on this 'BIG Event'

A Las Vegas-themed "BIG Event" to benefit the Children's Learning Foundation takes place Saturday, Nov. 13, at the Naples Grande. NBC-S's Chad Oliver is the evening's host.

Tickets for the semi-formal evening are \$35 and include casino chips and light hors d'oeuvres; VIP tickets include additional chips and entry to a VIP lounge. For more information, visit www.NaplesBigEvent.com. ■

Have a heart for Hospital Ball

"Young at Heart," the NCH Healthcare System 2010 Hospital Ball, will be held Saturday, Oct. 23, at The Ritz-Carlton, Naples. This year's gala will benefit the NCH Cardiology Program and will feature silent and live auctions, cocktail reception, formal dinner, NCH Physician and Nurse of the Year awards and dancing to The Kenny Lehman Band.

Tickets are \$475. For information, call 436-4511 or e-mail foundation@nchmd.org. ■

Red Kettle drive starts in November

The Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign for the 2010-11 holiday season kicks off with dinner and an auction at 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 18, at the Naples Sailing and Yacht Club on River Point Drive.

Myra Daniels is the honorary chair of the campaign. Chair of the black-tie-optional kick-off event is Jeannette Batten.

Tickets are \$75 per person. For more information, call Ms. Batten at 659-6185. ■

Literacy volunteers get ready to dance

Community leaders who have been paired with professional dancers from the Fred Astaire Dance Studio are: Lou Traina, Hodges University; Karen Coney Coplin, Downing-Frye Realty; Dr. Lisa Caprio, anesthesiologist; Troy Melancon, nurse anesthetist; Stacey Herring, Fifth Third Bank; and Vicki Tracy, The Arlington.

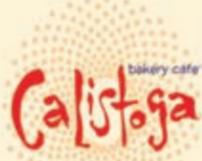
Tickets are \$150 per person. For more information, call LVCC at 262-4448. ■

Try 'If the Shoe Fits' on for size Dec. 1

The eighth annual "If the Shoe Fits," a benefit for the Take Stock in Children program of the Education Foundation of Collier County, takes place Wednesday, Dec. 1, at Saks Fifth Avenue at Waterside Shops. About 300 guests will shop, bid on auction items and enjoy food and drink — including the signature "Shoetini" — provided by sponsors McCormick & Schmick's and Pinnacle Vodka.

The recipient of the Education Foundation's 2010 Glass Slipper Award will also be honored for her dedication and service toward the betterment of Collier County's children.

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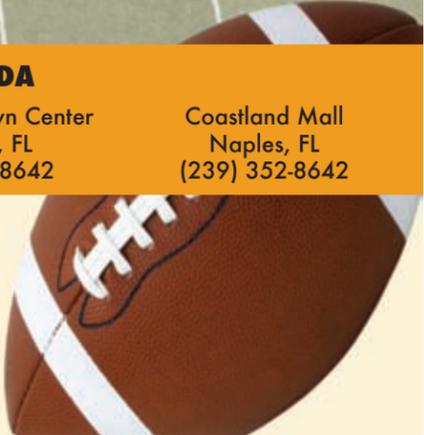


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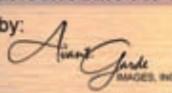
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2. Mickey and Wendy Renee
3. Martin Ycaza and Connie Ramos-Williams
4. Cassandra, Amberly and Rachael Humes
5. Stephanie Ogilvie and Caitlin Cairns

COURTESY PHOTOS

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

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 Barron Collier, Gulf Coast high schools party at the Hilton Naples



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1. Shawna Cretella, Michelle Boyer, Vito Cornelli, Jacob Sousa, Jen Darnell, Brian and Stephanie Boyer Twar
2. Jessica Lange and Phil Reagan
3. Phil Reagan, Kim Slater, Brittney Mahon and Harvey Webster
4. Lauren Baker and Paige Fraley
5. Nachele "Neisha" Nesmith
6. Parents-to-be Cecil and Jessica Engle Riner and Laura and David Born
7. Lauren Baker and Kelly Johnson

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PAST REPASTS



Here are some capsule summaries of previous reviews:

► **Blue Fish Seafood and Sushi**

Buffet and Hibachi, 5425 Airport Pulling Road, Naples; 596-6688.

Blue Fish offers Japanese fare in a variety of styles — hibachi steakhouse style, traditional cooked fare served at a conventional table or wide-ranging sushi — and does a good job all the way around. In recent months, it's introduced a buffet as well. It would take many trips to work through the whole menu, but I can recommend the sea king roll (with tempura shrimp, smoked salmon, eel and tobiko) and the volcano roll (a California roll topped with warm seafood and cream cheese), the artfully crafted sashimi platter and the chicken and scallop hibachi dinner. The service was as good as the food. Full bar.

Food: ★★★★★ Service: ★★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★★
Reviewed 9/09

► **IM Tapas**, 965 Fourth Ave. N., Naples; 403-8272

There's nothing puny about the small plates that emerge from the kitchen at IM Tapas. Each looks like a work of art and possesses big, fresh flavors that reveal the passionate dedication to this classic Spanish cuisine of its creators, chefs Isabel Polo Pozo and Mary Shipman. A polished staff and stylish dining room add to the warmth and conviviality of a meal at this little off-the-beaten-path gem. Highlights from a recent visit included fresh anchovies in garlic, chorizo in cider, wild bonito with pomegranate seeds and pome-

granate foam, duck breast with figs and port wine reduction, bacalao-stuffed peppers and a plate of stellar artisanal cheeses. While not situated on one of the city's popular dining areas, it could easily hold its own among them, it's easy to find and there's plenty of parking. Beer and wine.

Food: ★★★★★½ Service: ★★★★★½
Atmosphere: ★★★★★½
Reviewed 1/09

► **M Waterfront Grille, The Village on Venetian Bay**, 4300 Gulf Shore Blvd. N., Naples; 263-4421

Maxwell's on the Bay has undergone a fabulous update with a sleek new look and a sophisticated menu to match. There was no improving upon the view of Naples Bay, which remains a focal point, but the dining room, done in lots of woods and earth tones, gives the restaurant a contemporary, stylish air. Executive Chef Brian Roland's menu features cutting-edge Continental cuisine, with dishes such as heirloom beets with fried goat cheese, escargot with wild mushrooms, spinach and Boursin cream, orange miso-glazed sea bass with goat cheese dumplings and milk chocolate lava cake. Polished service and an exemplary wine list further enhance the meal. Full bar.

Food: ★★★★★½ Service: ★★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★★½ Reviewed 12/08

► **Noodle Saigon**, 13500 Tamiami Trail N., Naples; 598-9400

This well-appointed but modest restaurant touts itself as "the freshest and healthiest taste of Vietnam," and I fully concur. The menu has lots of photos and descriptions, making ordering easy even for novices. For those who love pho that's not fiery

hot, Noodle Saigon allows you to control the heat by adding the hot sauce yourself. Other noteworthy dishes include shrimp-filled summer rolls, a vegetarian salad (tastes far better than it sounds), a pan-fried crepe and rice noodles with seafood. All were wonderful, but the pho, a soup that's a meal in itself, was the star of the meal. Those who live within a 5-mile radius of the restaurant can have the full menu delivered to their doors. Beer and wine served.

Food: ★★★★★ Service: ★★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★★
Reviewed 10/08

► **Olio on Naples Bay, Naples Bay Resort**, 1500 Fifth Ave.; 530-5110

Italian-inspired, Napa Valley influenced is this stylish restaurant's theme. Dine outside along the waterfront, in the bar or in the main dining room with a prime view of the open kitchen. Small plates abound here. We loved the crispy polenta fries with roasted mushroom demi glace, parmesan cheese and white truffle oil; spicy shrimp and calamari scampi; limoncello-cured salmon with horseradish mascarpone, fried capers and crostini; and roasted red and yellow beet salad with baby arugula, sherry vinaigrette, crumbled goat cheese and hazelnuts. Large plates of seared diver scallops and jumbo shrimp over risotto, sous vide duck breast with root vegetables and seared veal medallions with olive oil whipped potatoes, mushroom demi glace and crumbled goat cheese were first-rate as well. For dessert, Italian strawberry shortcake and cherry pistachio bread pudding with house-made vanilla gelato were excellent. Full bar.

Food: ★★★★★½ Service: ★★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★★
Reviewed 12/09

Key to ratings

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

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FLORIDA WEEKLY CUISINE

Hemingway's Island Grill would make Papa proud

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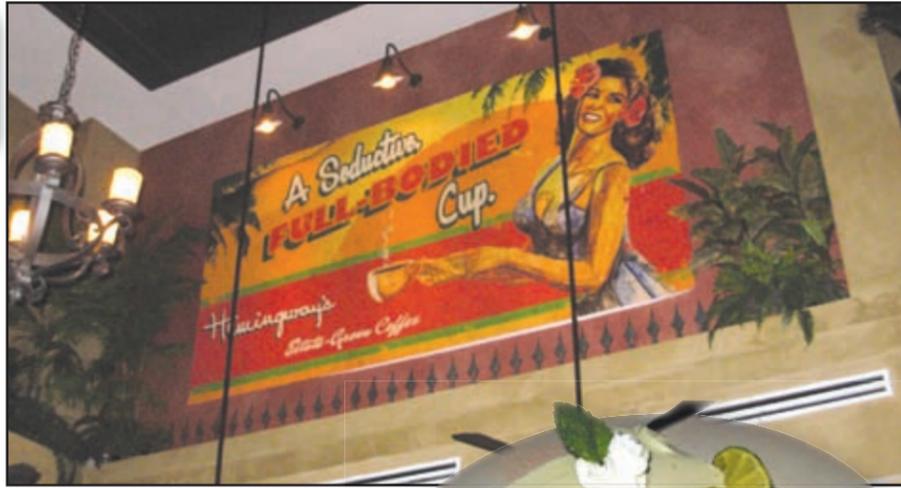


Author Ernest Hemingway was a hard-drinking man's man whose passions ran to hunting, fishing and laying bare the human condition in classic novels such as "The Sun Also Rises," "For Whom the Bell Tolls" and "A Farewell to Arms."

I recall vivid descriptions of sex and war in his works and tales of his prodigious alcohol consumption in writings about him, but cannot recollect that he ever had much to say about food. Nor can I find any reference to Papa visiting this part of Florida, although he spent many years in Key West, where his home and his favorite bar, Sloppy Joe's, are must-sees for visitors.

Until recently, the only connection I knew of was that his niece, Hilary, lived in these parts.

But a few years ago, Hemingway's Island Grill opened at Coconut Point in Estero (there's a second one in Pensacola



KAREN FELDMAN / FLORIDA WEEKLY
A painted advertisement for coffee high above the tabletops helps create the impression that there's a second floor and the dining room is an open courtyard at a well-to-do Cuban's home.

Beach). The restaurant is a handsome interpretation of what Cuba might well have looked like during the years in which the renowned author lived there.

There's a lively bar, where patrons were enjoying libations and one another on a recent weekday evening, and a well-appointed dining room that has the feel of a courtyard patio in some wealthy Cuban's expansive home, complete with wrought-iron balconies on what looks like a lush second floor with potted palms, louvered doors and even an old-fashioned ad painted on the wall depicting a well-endowed and scantily clad woman touting a "seductively full-bodied cup" of coffee.

While it looks like an outdoor space, it has both a roof and air conditioning.

In this inviting setting we settled into a big, upholstered booth that overlooked one of Coconut Point's manmade lakes.

The wine list offers more than 50 choices by the glass as well as several more by the bottle. A house specialty, a classic mojito, seemed a more appropriate choice. It arrived in an extra-tall glass filled with a refreshing blend of rum, simple syrup, lime wedges and vibrant fresh mint leaves. It was a superb rendition of this drink that's ideal for a hot Cuban — or Southwest Florida — summer.

The menu offers a mélange of island dishes, some Cuban, others with a Bahamian, Jamaican or generally Caribbean influence.



Top: Key lime pie comes in big squares at Hemingway's. Above: Spearfish, aka swordfish, gets the kebab treatment along with red peppers, onions and mushrooms.

Papa's black bean chili (\$4.95 a cup, \$6.95 a bowl) was a thick blend of beans, beef and onions topped with tomato, scallions, Monterey cheese and bits of jalapeno. A bowl of this hearty concoction and a salad would make a satisfying meal.

Jack's hurricane shrimp (\$8.95) contained a half-dozen grilled shrimp glazed with spicy-sweet dark rum sauce set on warm garlic bread, served with pineapple-studded island salsa. Very nice.

A nightly special called Spearfish (\$19.95) consisted of jerk-seasoned swordfish chunks on skewers with red peppers, onions and a few mushrooms. It

came with coconut-mango sauce, which worked well with the jerk seasoning. This dish would have been better if the vegetables weren't quite so charred, but the fish was moist and had good flavor.

The menu describes the ropa vieja (\$15.95) as "not your momma's ropa vieja." Well, in my case, that's certainly true. I can't recall my Jewish, Philadelphia-born mother ever making anything Cuban. I learned to love this dish years after leaving home, when I first tasted it at the Versailles Restaurant in Miami, and it's been a favorite ever since. The name essentially means "old clothes," referring to the shredded texture of the skirt steak that is the main ingredient. Slow simmering with tomatoes, onions and garlic tenderizes the meat and infuses it with the flavor of everything that shares the pan.

Hemingway's ropa vieja comes with a tomato chili sauce, which the menu description seemed to indicate was especially spicy. Our server said she was very sensitive to hot spices and she thought it was hot, but that

most people like it. She suggested ordering the sauce on the side, which I did.

While it had a mild bite, the sauce mostly intensified the seasonings already in the dish. I wound up pouring it over the meat.

Maduros (\$4.95) were good as well, although the vanilla rum dipping sauce they came with was cloyingly sweet. The plantains were sweet and rich on their own and needed no enhancement.

Last course: a gargantuan square of Key lime pie (\$7.99). It was too sweet as well, the delicate lime flavor overpowered by the sweetened condensed milk in the filling. The graham cracker crust was overly thick. Unlike the savory dishes we'd sampled, the pie lacked balance.

Our server was cheerful, earnest and attentive, checking to see whether each course was to our liking and if we needed beverage refills or anything else. Less satisfactory was the expediter who delivered our dishes, in each case auctioning them off: "Who gets the hurricane shrimp?" "Who ordered the ropa vieja?" Most restaurants know how easy it is to set up a system by which the service staff knows who gets what without requiring customers to call out and claim their orders.

Hemingway's isn't perfect, but its strengths outweigh its flaws. In that way, it is much like its namesake. ■

in the know

Hemingway's Island Grill,
Coconut Point
8001 Plaza Del Lago, Estero;
495-7240

Ratings:
Food: ★★½
Service: ★★★½
Atmosphere: ★★½

>> **Hours:** 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday and Saturday

>> **Reservations:** Accepted

>> **Credit cards:** Major cards accepted

>> **Price range:** Appetizers, \$4.95-\$11.95; entrees, \$11.95-\$30.95

>> **Beverages:** Full bar

>> **Seating:** At the bar, booths, conventional tables indoors or outside

>> **Specialties of the house:** Coco Cayo calamari, Jack's hurricane shrimp, Jamaican jerk wings, Papa's black bean chili, Havana Gun Club steak salad, ropa vieja, arroz con pollo, Paradise Island shrimp, Havana Harry's pork tenderloin, lobster ravioli, tenderloin churrasco

>> **Volume:** Moderate

>> **Parking:** Free lot

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

food & wine CALENDAR

> **Thursday, Sept. 9-Wednesday, Sept. 29:** Whole Foods Market has teamed up with chef Ann Cooper, aka Renegade Lunch Lady, for a salad bar fundraiser: For every \$2,500 the Naples store raises, a local school receives a grant for a salad bar from Ms. Cooper; Mercato, 9101 Strada Place; 552-5100.

> **Saturday, Sept. 11, 18 and 25,** 7:30-11:30 a.m., Third Street South: The weekly farmers market sets up in the parking area behind Tommy Bahama's between Third Street and Gordon Drive.

> **Saturday, Sept. 11, 18 and 25,** 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., The Collection at Vanderbilt: More than 30 vendors gather for the North Naples Green Market; northwest corner of Vanderbilt Beach and Airport roads; 249-9480.

> **Sunday, Sept. 12, 6:30 p.m.,** Roy's

Naples: Dine and talk with Chef Eric Delano during a seven-course tapas-style dinner; \$55, 475 Bayfront Place; 261-1416. Reservations required.

> **Tuesday, Sept. 14,** 10:30 a.m., Roy's Naples: Enjoy a cooking class followed by a three-course lunch with wine pairings; \$39, 475 Bayfront Place; 261-1416. Reservations required.

> **Tuesday, Sept. 14,** 5 p.m., Naples Tomato: Sample 20 California wines during this tasting; \$10 (credited toward purchase of wine or dinner that evening), 14700 Tamiami Trail; 598-9800. Reservations required.

> **Tuesday, Sept. 14,** 5:30-8 p.m., Decanted: Wine isn't just about cabernet sauvignon and chardonnay. Discover some of the lesser-known varietals at this fun-filled session; \$10

(includes \$5 credit toward purchase), 1410 Pine Ridge Road; 434-1814.

> **Tuesday, Sept. 14,** 6-8 p.m., Whole Foods Market: Chef Eric Delano of Roy's Naples barbecues a variety of items as part of a tribute to the store's Texas roots as the chain approaches its 30th birthday; free, 9101 Strada Place; 552-5100 or register at www.acteva.com/go/LifestyleCenter.

> **Wednesday, Sept. 15,** 5:30-8 p.m., Decanted: Washington State is known for its distinctive wines, including those of Gordon Brothers, Mercer and Charles Smith. Sample several at this tasting; \$10 (includes \$5 credit toward purchase), 1410 Pine Ridge Road; 434-1814. Reservations required.

> **Wednesday, Sept. 15, 22 and 29,** 6-8 p.m., The Sauce Lady: Ela Vivonet-

to, aka The Sauce Lady, demonstrates five-minute meals at weekly cooking classes through October; \$20, 1810 J&C Blvd.; 592-5557. Reservations required.

> **Thursday, Sept. 16,** 5:30-8 p.m., Decanted: Discover some lesser-known varietals at this fun-filled session; \$10 (includes \$5 credit toward purchase), 1410 Pine Ridge Road; 434-1814. Reservations required.

> **Saturday, Sept. 18,** 2-4 p.m., Naples Tomato: Learn how to make mozzarella or burrata cheese in this monthly class; \$35, 14700 Tamiami Trail; 598-9800. Reservations required. ■

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1-866-657-2300



GOLDEN GATE ESTATES
\$120,000
No need to look further if you are a first time buyer, a retiree looking for a smaller home, this is the one for you. Ask for 802NA9028804.
1-866-657-2300



GOLDEN GATE ESTATES
\$119,900
Three bedroom 2 bath home with bonus suite on 1st floor on 2.73 acres! Florida Home Builders Key West style Ask for 802NA10023442.
1-866-657-2300



GOLDEN GATE ESTATES GREAT PRICE
\$119,000
Potential Short Sale, spacious 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, 2 car garage, tile throughout, vaulted ceilings. \n2,020 sq under air Ask for 802NA8046224.
1-866-657-2300



MOBIL HOME CLOSE IN - NAPLES FLORIDA
\$118,000
This property is sold for land value. The mobile home is in good condition and it is tenant occupied. It is sold "As Is" Ask for 802NA10017820.
1-866-657-2300



QUARTZ AT SAPPHIRE LAKES
\$117,900
First floor unit with attached garage. Dual sinks in master, carpet and tile floors. Water View. Close to schools Ask for 802NA10024646.
1-866-657-2300



GOLDEN GATE ESTATES
\$99,900
Bank owned, not a short sale, quick response from seller. Large home 3/2/2 situated on 2.44 acres Ask for 802NA10023152.
1-866-657-2300



GREAT BUY IN GOLDEN GATE ESTATES
\$90,000
This cozy 3 bed 2 bath is a great opportunity for a first time home buyer or investor.Call and make an offer. Ask for 802NA9023648.
1-866-657-2300



GOLDEN GATE ESTATES
\$89,000
Potential Short Sale, this lovely home has 3bed/2bath/2 car-garage on a mostly clear lot. Ceramic tile throughout, Ask for 802NA10012872.
1-866-657-2300



GOLDEN GATE CITY
\$87,000
3 bedroom 2 bath home with tile floors throughout. Screened patio, plenty of room for a pool, potential short sale Ask for 802NA10009288.
1-866-657-2300



4 BED 2 BATH 1 CAR GARAGE
\$79,750
4 bed 2 bath on 1.14 acres priced to sell yesterday needs some paint and carpet and a little TLC. Ask for 802NA10009867.
1-866-657-2300



GOLDEN GATE CITY
\$74,900
Nice home in quite area of Golden Gate City. Two bedroom plus den, tile and carpet, 1 bath home on nice lot, Ask for 802NA10025426.
1-866-657-2300



GREAT VALUE
\$58,900
Two bedroom two bath home with large screened lanai. Great opportunity for the handy buyer. Quick response from seller. Ask for 802NA10025522.
1-866-657-2300