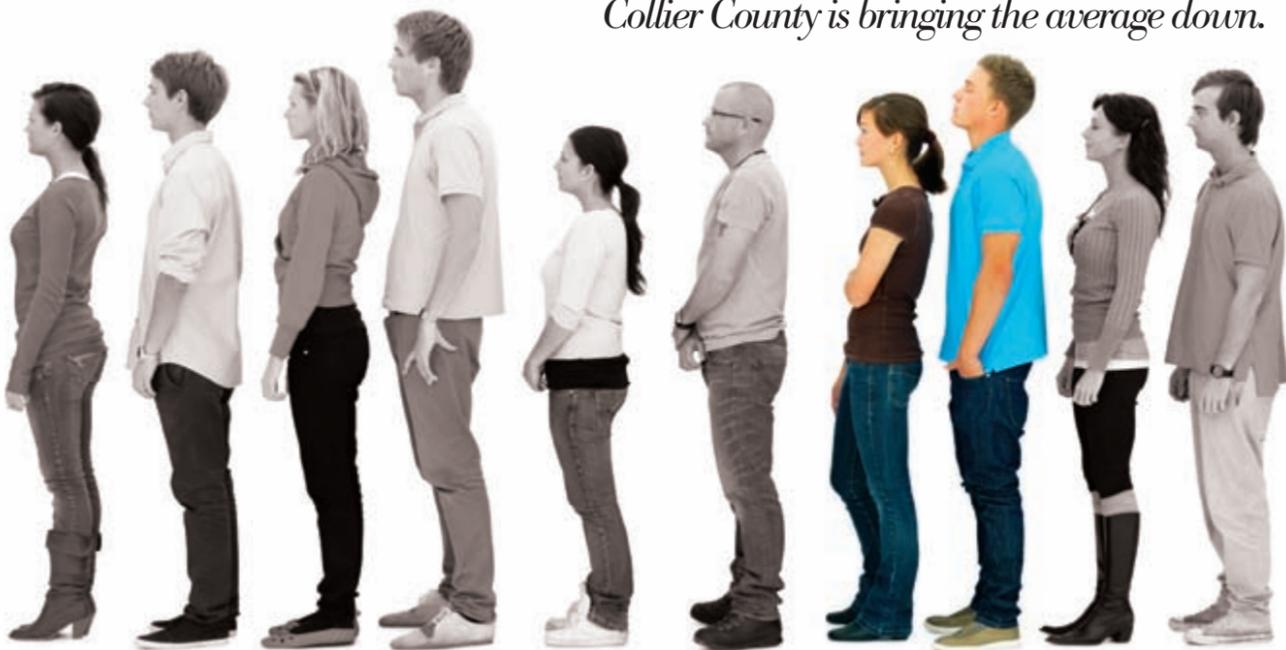


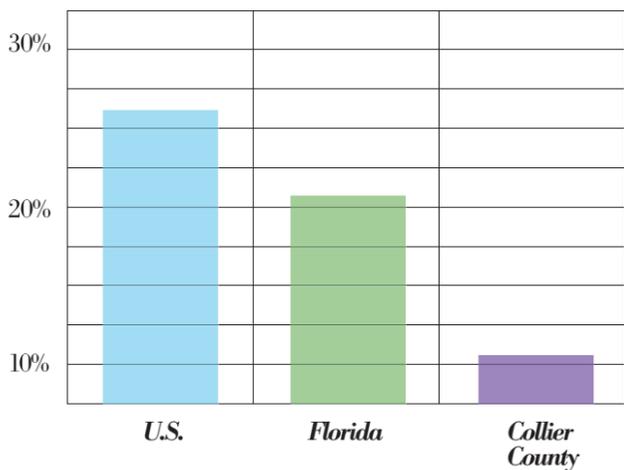
F L O R I D A volunteerism

With only one in five people pitching in, our state ranks second to last.

Collier County is bringing the average down.



Percentage of people who volunteered in 2010



BY ROGER WILLIAMS

rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

THIS ISN'T BASEBALL. YOU DON'T throw curves or hit fastballs. And there's only one kind of pitch: Pitching in.

You play this game in a field of dreams — broken dreams, sometimes. Or magnificent dreams come true on other occasions.

It's called volunteering, and it's a high-contact sport.

When you pitch in, volunteers say, you come in contact with need — people in need, a community in need, a need for something people might not

SEE VOLUNTEERISM, A8 ►



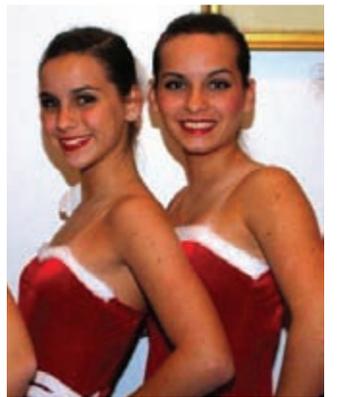
Sculpting sound

Ringling museum has mesmerizing exhibit by Swiss artist. **C1** ►



Playing hard

Area executives unwind with hard-core hobbies. **B1** ►



Happy holidays

Fifth Avenue lights up, and more seasonal events. **A29-31** ►



Suitably framed

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505 is magic number for special 'seniors Santa'

BY ROBIN DEMATTIA

Special to Florida Weekly

Every Christmas for the past 16 years, Pat O'Connor has put on his Santa hat and brightened the holidays for hundreds of seniors in Collier County. Mr. O'Connor enlists his friends and business associates to "adopt" seniors in assisted nursing facilities, buying them a holiday gift that they request. He reached 357 people last year through his "Santa's

Workshop." His goal is 505 this year.

"He's an angel from the sky," says Maria Ramos, area command business manager for the Salvation Army, which works with residents at the Goodlette Arms Apartments affordable housing community for

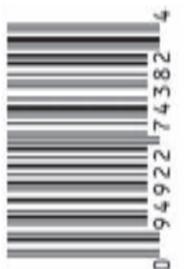
SEE SANTA, A27 ►

COURTESY PHOTO

Pat O'Connor helps Rosemarie, a resident at Tuscany Villa of Naples, unwrap her gifts.



PRSR STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID FORT MYERS, FL PERMIT NO. 715	ROGER WILLIAMS A2 OPINION A4 PROFILE IN PARADISE A6 HEALTHY LIVING A36	PETS A38 NETWORKING B8-9 REAL ESTATE B11 EVENTS C6-7	ARTISTS AMONG US C3 FILM REVIEW C11 SOCIETY C30-33 CUISINE C34-35
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COMMENTARY

The 11th season



rogerWILLIAMS

rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

Among the grand misperceptions held by many on the North American continent, including 68.7 percent of the current residents of the great state of Florida*, is this one: Florida has only two seasons. Wet and too hot, they say, or warm and too dry.

I don't come from Florida, so I hesitate to say too much about it.

As a matter of fact, it's risky to say anything with natives of anywhere reading what you write about anyplace. But somehow I manage. And somehow my editors let me. And somehow, more or less, we all suffer for my big mouth (they suffer more, I suffer less).

I will say this, however: I have personally counted 12 seasons in Florida.

And we are now firmly adrift in one of the most beautiful — the 11th season, the season I call (not fall, not winter, not spring, not summer) the Golden-Moment.

Northerners have this season, too, but it comes in October or even in September away up there. Or in years when somebody proposes drilling for oil in Rocky Mountain National Park at the top of where I come from, it even comes in August, just out of spite. But never in December.

In those distant northern places the

Golden-Moment is stunted, like the Rocky Mountain bristlecone pine that grows up near tree-line between about 10,500 and 11,800 feet — a tree capable of taking root, growing 3 or 4 feet tall, and surviving for 2,435 years (the oldest known specimen in central Colorado). That's more than two full miles above our own Golden Moment.

In the high Colorado Rockies, a Golden Moment lasts about 15 minutes. Then the wind picks up and the world turns gray and dark and as hostile as a deep-freeze nightmare. Clouds with no sense of humor or bluff both above you and below you snow like hell, and if you get caught up there, you better know how to dig a snow cave. When the sun finally punches back through, hours or days later, it explodes off alabaster-white snowfields in a golden light so dazzling you can't see the world without burning your eyes, except through thick snow goggles.

Here, the Golden Moment lasts about three weeks, or maybe three months, I'm not sure which. And it's so gentle it can slip past you like the haunting strain of a melody you heard on the next street over in a crowded city.

If you live in Florida and you get out of that city to search on a Saturday or Sunday now, you'll find our singularly luscious Golden Moment hanging like ripe citrus over the road, waiting everywhere for you.

I recommend driving away from the beach and back into the country — the



COURTESY PHOTO

whole 120-mile-wide swath that somebody, God or Nature, left to dangle off the southeastern tip of the United States like a pizzle without a groin (unless, of course, you think of Georgia as a groin, which many do when the Bulldogs meet the Gators or Seminoles on the gridiron).

The golden is everywhere on the Florida peninsula right now.

In the wild, it's live oaks caught in the lambent light of late afternoon. It's slash pines communing in wind-soaked dreams dancing through sunlight dusted with pollen and ferment. It's the hissing dry-rub of palmettos making love above the restless curl of an eastern diamondback stunned by the daytime — the tough native flora sharp and inhospitable to any but their own, like some people.

But in the country, it's the golden harvest — it's tomatoes and onions and strawberries. It's squash and sunflowers, it's collards and mustard greens,

it's the ripening glory of Meyer lemons or pomelos or tangerines or calamondins, all hung like exotic botanical jewels from the earth's ear. And it's all awash in the light of a Golden Moment.

For me this year, the Golden Moment arrived as a tawny hayfield cut and rolled so clean and dry under a bluebell sky with cotton that I could only stop, and get out of a car in the middle of the road. "Maybe it's better to pull off to the side," my wife said kindly.

My neighbor, Paul Meloy, Florida born and raised, gave us that hayfield along with the dwindling year's 11th season. He knows more about it than I ever will.

But whether you're native or not, you can stop and look for it, too — in a thousand places from Key West to Kissimmee, or Miami to Marco, or from Palm Beach to Punta Gorda.

Then you'll see it. You'll spot colors so warm you could heat with them: ambers and cinnamons and the aureate spangles of light-fused honey and harvest. You'll see that long, slow Florida gift I call the 11th season as clearly as the autumn sun.

* The number of Florida's nearly 19 million residents who don't know their seasons — cited here at 68.7 percent, or about 13.05 million — is a figure based on highly intuitive and thoroughly irrational guesswork likely to bear no relevance whatsoever to the truth. ■

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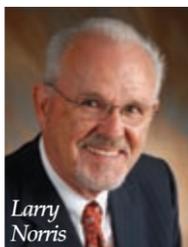
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Publisher

Shelley Lund
slund@floridaweekly.com

Editor

Cindy Pierce
cpierce@floridaweekly.com

Reporters & Columnists

Lois Bolin
Bill Cornwell
Karen Feldman
Artis Henderson
Jim McCracken
Jeannette Showalter
Nancy Stetson
Evan Williams
Roger Williams

Photographers

Peggy Farren
Bernadette La Paglia
David Michael
Marla Ottenstein
Charlie McDonald
Bob Raymond

Copy Editor

Cathy Cottrill

Presentation Editor

Eric Raddatz
eraddatz@floridaweekly.com

Graphic Designers

Paul Heinrich
Natalie Zellers
Nick Bear • Hannah Arnone
Chris Andruskiewicz
Hanna Isotalo

Circulation Manager

Penny Kennedy
pkennedy@floridaweekly.com

Circulation

David Anderson
Paul Neumann • Greg Tretwold

Account Executives

Nicole Ryan
nryan@floridaweekly.com
Cori Higgins
chiggins@floridaweekly.com

Sales and Marketing Assistant

Sandi Hughes

Business Office Manager

Kelli Carico

**Published by
Florida Media Group LLC**

Pason Gaddis
pgaddis@floridaweekly.com
Jeffrey Cull
jcull@floridaweekly.com
Jim Dickerson
jdickerson@floridaweekly.com

Street Address: Naples Florida Weekly
9051 Tamiami Trail North, Suite 202
Naples, Florida 34108
Phone 239.325.1960 • Fax: 239.325.1964

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OPINION**Newt's friend Freddie****richLOWRY**

Special to Florida Weekly

Newt Gingrich racked up between \$1.6 and \$1.8 million in payments from Freddie Mac through the years for, the former speaker maintains, essentially doing nothing.

It's not inconceivable that he's right. Such was the incredible largesse available to the government-sponsored mortgage giant that one or two million dollars over the course of a decade was practically chump change. Gingrich says he didn't lobby for Freddie, and in response to a question about his payments at one of the Republican debates, said he only offered advice to Freddie "as a historian" that its lending practices were insane.

Surely, though, there must have been historians available who were cheaper and had more expertise in the history of foolishly loaning money to poor credit risks. At the very least, Freddie wanted to keep Gingrich on a leash in order to prevent him from blasting it in public. Contra Gingrich, former Freddie officials say they paid him for his advice

on its policy initiatives and his insight on how to reach out to conservatives. If Gingrich did chastise his benefactors, Frederick the Great's line about the hesitant Austrian empress at the partitioning of Poland in the late-18th century applies: "She wept but she took."

Gingrich profited from one of the greatest and most damaging Washington scandals of our time. The whole sorry tale is recounted in detail in Gretchen Morgenson and Joshua Rosner's maddening book "Reckless Endangerment." Fannie Mae realized in the early 1990s that it was in the Washington business as much as the mortgage business; it had to preserve at all costs its government backstop to keep its advantage over other financial institutions. It hired the Washington fixer James Johnson as its CEO, and he perfected the model that allowed Fannie and Freddie to run amok.

He hitched Fannie to the fashionable cause of affordable housing knowing that it provided a handy shield against criticism. When anyone pointed out its reckless profiteering, Fannie could reply that it was only bringing the American Dream to poor households, in keeping with the wishes of Congress. Fannie hired a phalanx of lobbyists and even paid lobbyists simply not to work

against it. One bank lobbyist opposed to Fannie is quoted by Morgenson and Rosner complaining: "I tried to find academics that would do research on these issues, and Fannie had bought off all the academics in housing. I had people say to me, 'Are you going to give me stipends for the next 20 years like Fannie will?'"

As Fannie and Freddie kept their regulators and critics at bay, their risky lending practices rippled throughout the mortgage market. When the bust came, taxpayers ponied up more than a hundred billion dollars, in exactly the bailout Fannie and Freddie denied would ever happen. After everything, the two firms still backstop almost nine in 10 new mortgages.

The entire noxious episode explains why people are so desperate for Washington outsiders. Newt Gingrich channels that impulse masterfully, but he knows too well whereof he speaks. When the more respectable 21st-century equivalent of the Watergate burglars came to him with their black bags, Gingrich took his cut. ■

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

Cry, the beloved climate**amyGOODMAN**

Special to Florida Weekly

The United Nations' annual climate summit descended on Durban, South Africa, this week, but not in time to prevent the tragic death of Qodeni Ximba. The 17-year-old was one of 10 people killed in Durban Sunday, the night before the U.N. conference opened. Torrential rains pummeled the seaside city of 3.5 million. Seven hundred homes were destroyed by the floods.

Ximba was sleeping when the concrete wall next to her collapsed. One woman tried to save a flailing 1-year-old baby whose parents had been crushed by their home. She failed, and the baby died along with both parents. All this, as more than 20,000 politicians, bureaucrats, journalists, scientists and activists made their way to what may be the last chance for the Kyoto Protocol.

How might the conference have prevented the deaths? A better question is, How might the massive deluge, which fell on the heels of other deadly storms this month, be linked to human-induced climate change, and what is the gathering in Durban doing about it? Durban has received twice the normal amount of rain for November. The trends suggest that extreme weather is going to get worse.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is a group with thousands of scientists who volunteer their time "to provide the world with a clear scientific view on the current state of knowledge in climate change." The group won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007. Last week, the IPCC released a summary of its findings, clearly linking changing climate to extreme weather events such as drought, flash floods, hurricanes, heat

waves and rising sea levels. The World Meteorological Organization released a summary of its latest findings, noting, to date, that 2011 is the 10th-warmest year on record, that the Arctic sea ice is at its all-time low volume this year, and that 13 of the warmest years on record have occurred in the past 15 years.

Which brings us to Durban. This is the 17th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, or, simply, COP17. One of the signal achievements of the U.N. process to date is the Kyoto Protocol, an international treaty with enforceable provisions designed to limit greenhouse-gas emissions. In 1997, when Kyoto was adopted, China was considered a poor, developing country, and, as such, had far fewer obligations under Kyoto. Now, the U.S. and others say that China must join the wealthy, developed nations and comply with that set of rules. China refuses. That is one of the major, but by no means the only, stumbling blocks to renewing the Kyoto Protocol (another major problem is that the world's historically largest polluter, the United States, signed Kyoto but did not ratify it in Congress).

In Copenhagen in late 2009 (at COP15), President Barack Obama swept in, organized back-door, invite-only meetings and crafted a voluntary — i.e., unenforceable — alternative to Kyoto, angering many. COP16 in Cancun, Mexico, in 2010 heightened the distance from the Kyoto Protocol. The prevailing wisdom in Durban is that this is make-or-break time for the U.N. climate process.

Exacerbating Obama's failures is the Republican majority in the House of Representatives that largely holds human-made climate change as being either a hoax or simply nonexistent, as do eight of nine Republican presidential candidates. Oil and gas corpora-

tions spend tens of millions of dollars annually to promote junk science and climate-change deniers. Their investment has paid off, with an increasing percentage of Americans believing that climate change is not a problem.

Coincident with the disappointing U.N. proceedings has been a growing movement for climate justice in the streets. Protests against fossil-fuel dependence, which accelerates global warming, range from the nonviolent direct action against mountaintop-removal coal mining in West Virginia to the arrest of more than 1,200 people at the White House opposing the Keystone XL tar sands oil pipeline.

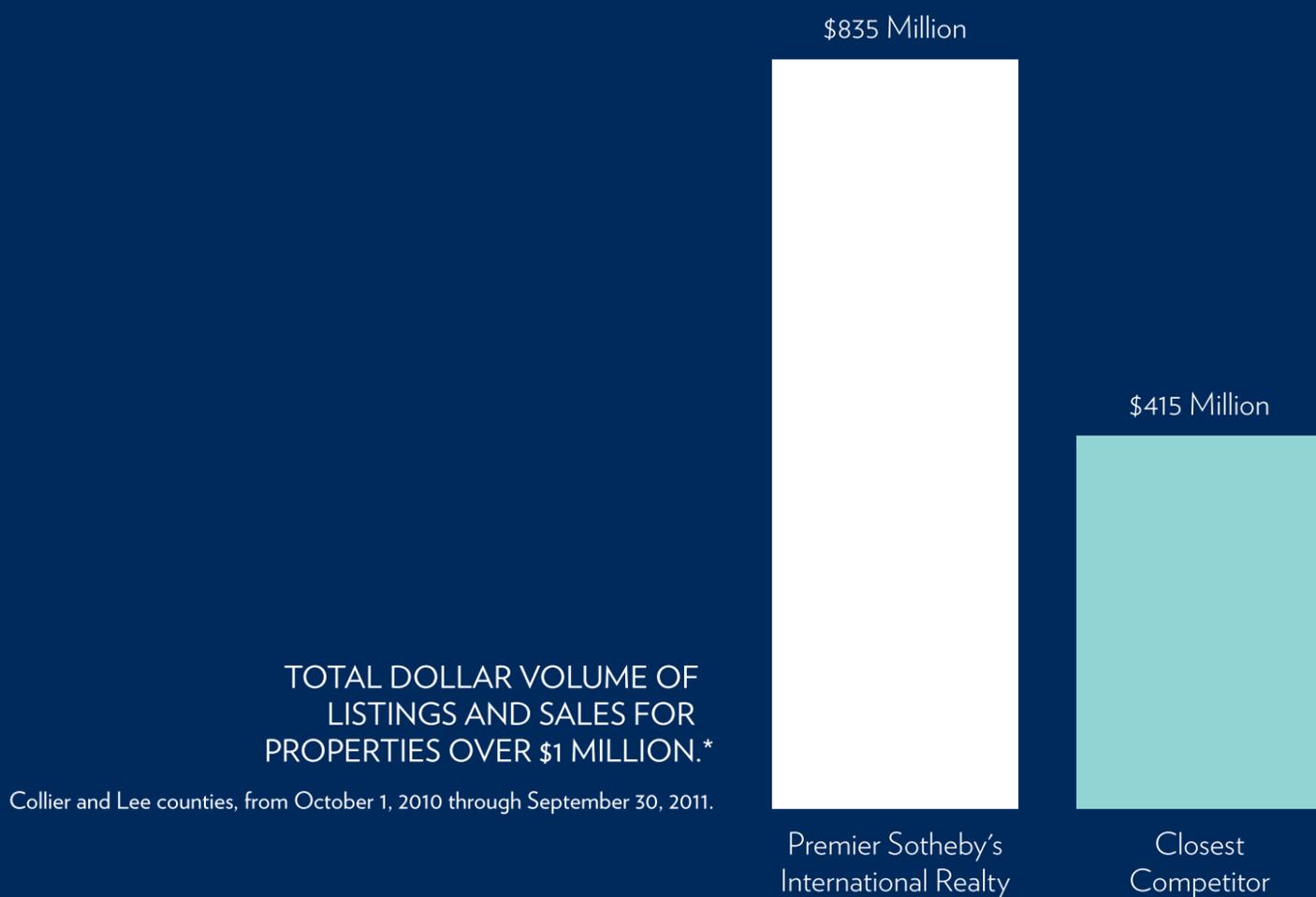
Which is why Durban, South Africa, is such a fitting place for civil society to challenge the United Nations process. The continent of Africa is projected to experience the impact of climate change more severely than many other locales, and most populations here are less well-equipped to deal with climate disasters, without proper infrastructure or a reserve of wealth to deploy. Yet these are the people who threw off the oppressive yoke of apartheid.

South African novelist Alan Paton wrote of apartheid in 1948, the system's first year, anticipating a long fight to overturn it, "Cry, the beloved country, these things are not yet at an end." The same determination is growing in the streets of Durban, providing the leadership so lacking in the guarded, air-conditioned enclave of COP17. ■

— Denis Moynihan contributed research to this column.

— Amy Goodman is the host of "Democracy Now!," a daily international TV/radio news hour airing on more than 900 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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Tarren Bragdon has been an informative guest on my show and has enrolled me to support his new organization, the Foundation for Government Accountability www.floridafga.org.

Tarren is president and CEO of the research and advocacy organization committed to making Florida the most economically vibrant state in America. (He worked with Gov. Rick Scott in 2009 when Scott was leading Conservatives for Patients' Rights. It was with the governor's encouragement that Tarren started the Foundation for Government Accountability.)

The foundation is already making an impact. Earlier this year, the governor and legislature required drug testing for welfare cash beginning July 1. Initially, the only press about the new law was from left-wing groups opposing it.

The ACLU of Florida sued to stop the law, because other states were following Florida's lead.

The Foundation for Government Accountability exposed the facts in two white papers. The studies showed that because of this law, almost one in five people who would have received cash welfare was getting a drug-related rejection. Each rejection saved \$1,125 in no-strings-attached cash welfare going to drug users. Florida taxpayers would save \$1.8 million in the

first three months alone. The facts were covered extensively in the media and on talk radio.

Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi found the report so compelling that she cited it in the state's response to the ACLU lawsuit. Even though a federal judge has temporarily blocked the bill in order to conduct a thorough judicial review, the case will be judged on its merits, not on the bias of the mainstream media.

This is just the beginning of what will be a fact-based defense of transparency and accountability in government.

At just 35 years old, Tarren has an extensive background in policy and government. In 2008, he was named CEO of the Maine Heritage Policy Center, a free market think tank based in Portland, Maine. In September 2010, he received the Thomas Roe Award, given annually by the State Policy Network to the individual with the greatest impact on the nation's free market movement.

From 1996 through 2000, Tarren served in the Maine House of Representatives. Elected at the age of 21, he remains the youngest person ever elected to the Maine House.

A nationally recognized expert on health reform issues with a specialty in Medicaid reform, he has served as a health-policy analyst with the Manhattan Institute's Empire Center for New York State Policy. He has testified before the U.S. Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee; state legislative committees in New York, Illinois, Connecticut and Maine; numerous national conferences; and the American Swiss Foundation in Switzerland. His work

has been featured on Fox News, NPR and PBS, in a *Wall Street Journal* editorial and multiple *Wall Street Journal* op-eds, and in the *New York Post*, *Boston Globe* and *New York Times*.

Politics was a regular topic of discussion at the Bragdon dinner table when Tarren was growing up. His dad, a dentist, was a plaintiff in a court case involving his desire to treat an HIV-positive patient in a more sterile setting. The case made it all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. Tarren witnessed the oral arguments of the case and had the opportunity to see the importance of one vote.

On a personal note, Tarren and his wife Anna decided to grow their family through adoption. One motivating factor is the world has more than 100 million orphans. They adopted their first two children separately from South Korea; son Wyatt is now 5 (adopted at the age of 4 months), and daughter Waverly is 4 (adopted at 7 months). Two years ago, they wanted to adopt again. Realizing so much need for families for children in Africa, they decided to adopt from Ethiopia and were referred premature twin boys who had a medically challenged first few months. They were 4 months old when Tarren and Anna brought them home; now, at 20 months, both boys are doing great, Tarren proudly reports.

Tarren and Anna consider their children to be their biggest blessing. "I thank God every day that He brought our children and family together in such a wonderful way," Tarren says.

Tarren's Bragdon's focus, mission and accomplishments make him and his family



Talking points with Tarren Bragdon

Something that's been on your mind:
The challenges of a start-up business (my own and others) and balancing that with a young family.

What your mom was always right about:
Brush and floss daily (although other people's cavities put me through school).

What makes you laugh:
The antics of my children.

Last book you read:
Ayn Rand's "Atlas Shrugged."

Something you'll never understand:
Why some people love cold weather.

Pet peeve:
Bad manners.

Something people would be surprised to find out about you:
I have six sisters. It's taught me a lot about women.

High school job:
Mowing lawns.

What the Paradise Coast really needs:
More entrepreneurs.

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— Bob Harden is the producer and host of "The Bob Harden Show," airing from 7-8 a.m. weekdays at www.bobharden.com. The show is archived for listeners' convenience.

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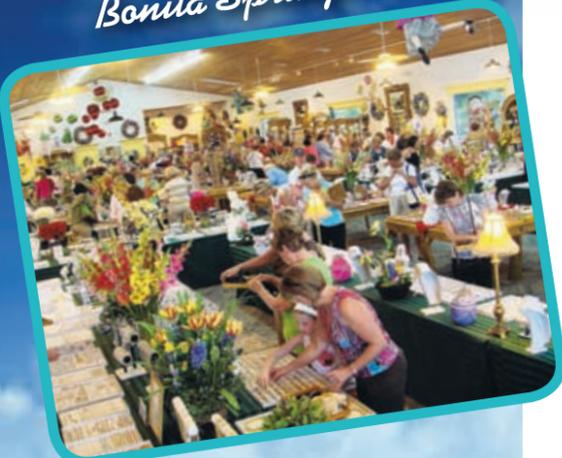
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God Bless You!

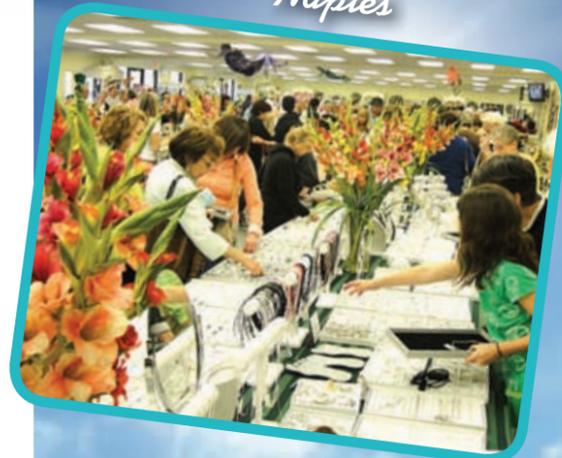


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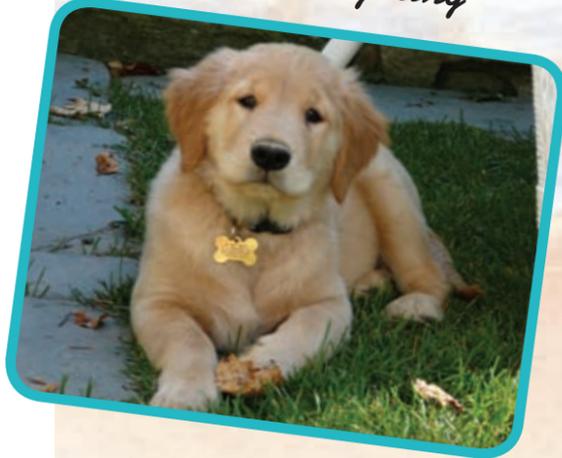
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VOLUNTEERISM

From page 1

even know they need.

Sometimes you raise money, or manage it or give it away on behalf of people in need. Sometimes you cook for them or feed them or teach them or hold them or put them on a horse when they suffer from a debilitating condition.

It isn't easy, but frequently it's something you've seen done before, by a parent or mentor you can't forget.

"My grandmother was a teacher, and she voluntarily taught in a low-income area in Queens, New York. I spent many summers going with her and seeing how she interacted with children at the school — I guess it wore off on me," explains Melissa Titus, the mother of two elementary school children in east Lee County. Mrs. Titus spends at least 25 hours a week helping children in the classrooms where her own children are learning and maturing, and has for the last four years — which amounts to a total of about 3,600 hours.

What you discover, many volunteers say, is a remuneration that benefits the heart and mind, justifying the significant effort and sometimes noteworthy personal expense.

Volunteering, in other words, is good for you, and it feels good, too.

"I have read studies, and it's true for me, that when you volunteer you're happier and healthier. And when you volunteer more — when you become part of the world in a way that allows you to learn from everyone you meet — you're even happier still," explains Mike Sullivan, a retired school principal who spends five days a week volunteering at the Naples Botanical Garden. In about 18 months, he's contributed more than 1,500 hours.

To put it in monetary terms, the estimated dollar value of volunteer time in 2010 was \$21.36 per hour, according to an analysis by independentsector.org.

Mr. Sullivan, therefore, has contributed roughly \$32,000 worth of work to the Naples Botanical Garden.

Mrs. Titus, additionally, has given the equivalent in volunteered work of about \$75,600 to public schools and public school children.

And they're not the only ones.

Up and down the southwest coast, volunteers abound — and so do donors (one particular species of volunteer, perhaps). Together, they make a qualitative and rarely celebrated difference in the way we live.

"They're all volunteers — they help us connect donors who care with the causes they care about," says Debbie Gauvreau, director of nonprofit resources for the Charlotte Community Foundation, describing the brain trusts of individuals who roll up the sleeves on their white-collar shirts to voluntarily help a multitude of folks they may never meet.

"There are 10 board members (of the Charlotte Community Foundation), seven members of the endowment council, four members of the investment committee, 10 members of the grants advisory committee, three members of the marketing advisory council, seven members of the nonprofit leadership advisory council — there are about 100 nonprofit groups that take part in the monthly training programs and workshops they do to build their business skills. They teach them fundraising, marketing, governance, strategic planning — we're the only provider of that kind of help, here."

So who and how many are pitching in, and what does that say about us?



Christi Sarlow and Jan Fifer at Special Equestrians.

COURTESY PHOTOS



Melissa Titus at Alva Elementary.



James Burton works at Olive Garden and volunteers his time at CCMI.

The simple statistics

In the United States, roughly one in four people actually volunteered last year — they pitched in to do something for somebody at a pay level amounting to exactly zero in dollars and cents, according to the Corporation for National and Community Service.

"Sometimes Brian (Holley, executive director at the Naples Botanical Garden) tells me he's going to give me a raise," says Mr. Sullivan, chuckling. "I say, 'Thank you. Zero times zero is zero.'"

But in Florida, ranked 49th among the 50 states for those with the grit and will to come off the bench in their communities and pitch in, only about one in five residents volunteered, notes CNCS. The corporation analyzes data from nonprofit organizations and community groups in all 50 states, and reports the findings at www.volunteeringinamerica.gov.

On the southwest coast, the percentages of volunteers vary widely, depending on the community — and it's difficult to say what this means about particular communities. Is recession a factor? Wealth? Age? Residency status?

Nobody really knows, and the answer probably involves all of the above, say volunteer leaders.

In 2010, with 26.3 percent of Ameri-

cans pitching in but only 21.3 percent of residents in the Sunshine State, a whopping 28.8 percent of Lee County residents pitched in, according to CNCS.

No numbers exist for Charlotte, but in Collier County — defined as Naples — only 12.1 percent of the resident population pitched in to help somebody other than themselves.

That statistic doesn't mean much to Colleen Murphy, president and CEO of the \$67 million Community Foundation of Collier County, the largest monetarily on the southwest coast.

"I'm surprised at that statistic, and the only thing that might explain it is that a lot of people here change their residences from North to South," she says.

Since the statistics analyze the data of residents, those who qualify as snowbirds and may contribute significantly to their part-time communities are not counted there as volunteers.

"I can tell you there are many wonderful people who give of themselves both time and treasure," Ms. Murphy adds. "About 30 percent of the nonprofits here have no paid staff. Their work is done completely by volunteers."

"Not including Naples Community Hospital — that place is a \$500 million revenue organization — the rest of the nonprofits in Collier generate another \$500 million, and there are probably 250 of them serving our citizens."

For Sarah Owen, the newly named CEO of the Southwest Florida Community Foundation in Lee, the statistics are mere leaves in the wind. The volunteers, on the other hand, are rock solid.

"My own personal experience is that I've seen folks really go above and beyond what any nonprofit has ever asked of them," she says. "It runs the whole gamut and it takes everyone, from the people picking chicken off the bones to serve a meal in the community kitchen, all the way up to the host of a fundraiser in a private home."

"To me, it's the fact of giving yourself in whatever way you're inspired to do that, that matters. And agencies like the one I used to work for (Community Cooperative Ministries Inc., or CCMI) could not have been in business without 1,600 volunteers."

People on the ground

One of those, for example, is James Burton, a 57-year-old line cook at an Olive Garden restaurant.

A husband and father who brought his family to the southwest coast from Northern Virginia (he's a Texan by birth and upbringing), after cooking all week Mr. Burton then spends his day off cooking as a volunteer in the Community Café at CCMI.

There, kids who are sleeping in cars (a documented reality in the region), or men and women who were laid off during a recession that ended two years ago but not for them, can get one of Mr. Burton's meals, rather than starve.

"I get here about 10 or 11 a.m. and I help cook the food Richard and I prepare for the day," he explains simply.

"Today, we did stuffed peppers, sweet potatoes, barbecued turkey with mushroom rice, zucchini, orange slices and bread. There's juice and water as well."

Ask Mr. Burton why he wants to spend his day off back in a kitchen, and you know what he's going to say.

"I just want to give back to somebody. Ever since this recession started, you see people walking the street, and they're homeless and hungry...what are you gonna do?"

What are you going to do, indeed.

"There but for the grace of God go I," the mantra of many who act in the interests of the less fortunate, is a sentiment that deeply affects many volunteers, they say. And if you're one of them — If you're Mr. Burton, or Pat Schmidt, for example — you take it upon yourself to do something.

At 7 a.m. on a cool December morning last week, Mrs. Schmidt, a 79-year-old widow who spent more than 70 years of her life in or around Minneapolis-St. Paul, came wheeling into a nearly deserted Publix parking lot in a red Jeep. She hopped out and raced across the asphalt to enter the doors a minute or so after the store opened for the day.

All that is merely a slight exaggeration — she didn't actually hop and she didn't race. She lowered herself stiffly from the vehicle and walked slowly across the lot.

But Mrs. Schmidt appeared just as determined and lively — more so, in fact — than any hopper or racer who ever appeared bent on picking up some groceries.

Each weekday she drives the early morning miles to stores that give away left-over baked goods. She collects them — hauling two full-sized shopping carts at a time from the store's entrance where clerks have filled them for her the night before, to her Jeep — then she transports the food she's offloaded into large plastic bags back to the CCMI food store, known as the pantry.

There, shoppers pay for what they

want in vouchers obtained after they meet with counselors — volunteers themselves who are trained to help determine their need, offer job counseling and the like.

Mrs. Schmidt then manages the pantry, something she's been doing for about six years, since even before her husband died in 2010. So that's about 25 to 30 hours per week, and 35 miles per day, she figures.

There's a proximate cause and a once-upon-a-time cause for Mrs. Schmidt's case of Good Samaritanism in her community.

Proximately, she became part of CCMF after meeting Sam Galloway in church. A prominent businessman and philanthropist in Lee County, he helped found the organization, and his children remain past or current members of its volunteer board.

But her willingness to pitch in, like that of so many volunteers, began decades earlier when she was a small girl walking with her mother through a brutally frigid winter morning in Minneapolis.

"My parents were always the 'be kind and help the next person if you can' kind of people," she recalls.

"So I was going down the street holding my mother's hand one morning when she saw a couple with two small children waiting for a bus. It was so cold, and they had no winter coats.

"My mother walked up and said to them, 'You meet me at the department store.' And we met them there and my mother bought them warm coats."

That single act happened in a single hour in the 1940s — the decision of one woman on a city street who chose in a single moment to spend her extra money warming and protecting a family of strangers, on a single winter morning in another time and another place, far away.

Her name was Darlene Hallgrin, and



Pat Schmidt does 25 hours a week and 30 miles a day for CCMF.

COURTESY PHOTO

she had a little girl named Pat.

Mrs. Hallgrin has been gone from this world for a long time, but her act of love and charity continues to resonate through her daughter, who has now grown old — an act arguably as vibrant and contemporary in spirit as a bright afternoon sun.

Which is just where Christi Sarlow, Jan Fifer and Rudy Cifolelli were standing last week while they brushed and readied a stable of steady horses for the riders about to descend for the afternoon — the Special Equestrians.

That happens to be the name of the organization that brings people with almost every kind of disability together with well-trained horses donated by generous equestrians, and experienced, volunteer instructors and caretakers.

The riders come from the region, sometimes their visits are doctor prescribed, most are children but their ages range from 3 to 70, and their cost is held down to a startlingly low \$12

per hour.

That's due to the many donors and volunteers who maintain Special Equestrians.

Result: The riders benefit from beautifully maintained animals in an immaculate and gentle setting.

The stables are comfortable and clean. The grounds include fenced pastures, broad pole barns and facilities allowing physically disabled people to mount and dismount easily. Trails both open and wooded wind through the property, and a "sensory trail" designed and built by FGCU student volunteers offers riders the chance to feel, taste, smell, see and hear things they could not otherwise experience in their lives.

Volunteer caretakers here share a vast experience both with horses and humans — and everybody seems to benefit from the all-volunteer Florida sunshine.

"There's a magic about people and horses — these people will do things on a horse they wouldn't do in a therapy room, for example," says Ms. Fifer, 60, executive director of Special Equestrians (she's a volunteer, of course) and a retired teacher.

"This is the result of a huge effort and generosity by many (donors and volunteers)," explains Ms. Sarlow, president of the board of Special Equestrians.

Although her clients together show a range of about 25 disabilities, the most frequent she and her volunteer staff embrace are autism, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome and developmental problems.

"I can't do this with a clear eye," says Mr. Cifolelli, a 70-something master of the equestrian art who started riding and training horses as a young teenager in Detroit, of all places.

"I began working at a city stables there when I was about 14," he says.

"Everybody here is well-trained, and to us the safety of the clients and the

care of the horses is paramount. So any risk is washed away."

One of Ms. Fifer's equestrian students, for example, was born without legs. She began at Special Equestrians when was 6, and now — about six years later — she's a wonder on horseback, completely comfortable on her own, Ms. Fifer says.

"She uses a surcingle — a girth and a handle — to ride," she explains.

Many of the students do, too, mounting from a special platform to enter a world of freedom unlike any they know in the course of daily life.

"The movement of a horse's walk is similar to the movement of a human pelvis," says Ms. Fifer. "So it helps them with muscle strength and self control, and it gives those who can't a sense of what it really feels like to walk."

What it feels like to walk in a world where walking has been left out of the equation of living — symbolically and even literally that's the gift that volunteers give each day up and down the southwest coast.

What they get, in return, couldn't buy a cup of coffee or a Maserati, either one.

Instead, perhaps, it pays a dividend of knowing — of seeing.

"I met a Hindu couple one day and they were in the butterfly house, and one of the butterflies had succumbed," recalls Mike Sullivan.

"And they asked the docent on duty if they could hold it in the palms of their hands and do a prayer. He agreed, and they did. Then they set the butterfly down on the ground behind some bushes where it wouldn't be stepped on" — where it might just become part of the earth, again.

"I see those things and that's my gain," he concludes.

"I gain from every experience I have in every garden." ■

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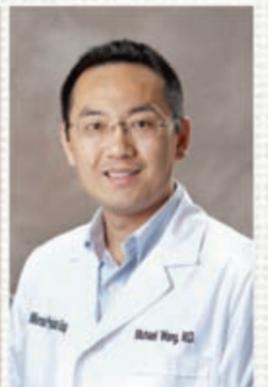
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Soon to turn 88, Lavern Norris Gaynor caught by surprise

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The ever-gracious Lavern Norris Gaynor was the much-surprised guest of honor at "There Will Never Be Another You," an early celebration of her 88th birthday hosted by Susan McManus, Mary Margaret Grutzsky, Greg Garcia and Lois Bolin on Dec. 3. The fete in the garden at the Collier County Museum was planned as a way to thank Mrs. Gaynor for her service to the Naples and Collier County community.

Mrs. Gaynor's parents, Lester and Dellora Norris, purchased the Keewaydin Club on Key Island in 1945, when a ferryboat called the Kokmois was the only means of transportation to the club (except for ill-advised swimmers). The boat is preserved for all to enjoy in the museum garden, which made the garden a most fitting site for the party that was attended by many "royalty" of our local history.

Guests from across the Naples spectrum were escorted by young Aubrey Garcia to the museum's archaeological cottage, where they enjoyed cheeses from the five countries that flew their flags over Florida: Spain, England, France, the Confederated States and the United States of America.

Mrs. Gaynor arrived with longtime friends Rocky and Mimi Scofield under

the false premise of coming to give an interview for a story about the historic Kokomis. To ensure the interviewer understood the full scope of the ferry, Mrs. Gaynor insisted that a painting of the ferry from her family's private collection be brought along for educational purposes.

Greg "Santa" Garcia, vice president of the Museum of Military Memorabilia, welcomed the party of three and informed Mrs. Gaynor that she was to receive an early Christmas and birthday present, at which point guests including John and Dolores Sorey, Mike Watkins, Thelma Hodges, Ursula Pfhall and Peter and Stella Thomas stepped from behind the bushes to congratulate the stunned and misty-eyed guest of honor.

Mrs. Gaynor was then shown to the seat of honor, flanked by two reception chairs for guests to visit.

There was a no-gift guideline, except for thank-you cards and letters that were placed in Santa's bag and will be formatted into a keepsake booklet created by Erika and Jessie Hinson of Hinson's Graphics.

As the evening lights twinkled on, hostess Mary Margaret Grutzsky's predication had come true: Everyone in attendance was talking the talk of friends gathered for camaraderie and fellowship — "just like in the old days when we were young and had no money."

It wasn't a night of jewelry or jets; it was an evening of history and heart, friends and family that crossed decades of fun and fights. It was an evening that



The birthday honoree, right, with "Santa" Greg Garcia and his helper, daughter Aubrey Garcia.

felt like being at home and at peace, if only for a few brief hours.

It was a wonderful tribute to the social entrepreneur whose grace and elegance working for the greater good of the community brought about perhaps the sweetest surprise of the night: a collaboration across several nonprofit lines. The Education Foundation of Collier County, the Collier County Museum, the Museum of Military Memorabilia and Naples Backyard History knew it was not a fundraising night. It was a night for friend raising, reconnecting and reflecting upon a simpler way of living life.

Happy birthday, Lal Gaynor. Indeed, there will never be another you. ■



Aubrey and Greg Garcia present the coconut birthday cake, Mrs. Gaynor's favorite.



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Teachers of Distinction will vie for six Golden Apple awards

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The Golden Apple Teacher Recognition Program's 2011-12 Teachers of Distinction were announced in surprise classroom visits to their schools on Nov. 30. The teachers received congratulations from volunteers at the Education Foundation of Collier County along with a \$200 cash prize provided by the Mary Ingram Fund of the Columbus Foundation.

The Teachers of Distinction will continue in the Golden Apple selection process, which involves more classroom observations and interviews by a community-based selection committee. Six finalists will be chosen to receive a Golden Apple.

The Golden Apple teachers along with the Teachers of Distinction will be honored at the 22nd Annual Golden Apple Teacher Recognition Celebration presented by Suncoast for Kids Foundation on April 11 at the Naples Grande. The celebration will feature video vignettes that will tell an in-depth story of the impact the teachers have on their students. Students, families, educators and the community will watch this premiere together during the celebration.

Media partners WINK-TV and the *Naples Daily News* have supported this teacher recognition program since its inception and thanks to their support, the Education Foundation will be able to share this story of the impact of teachers and delve more deeply into how great teachers make the difference for students.

"As we change the format of the program from a live awards celebration to a video story that engages more students and families about the impact of teachers, it made sense that we make some shifts to utilize the generosity of our community partners in ways that make the best use of resources," Susan McManus, president of the Education Foundation, says. "We are so grateful for the support of the Philharmonic Center for the Arts and the wonderful live Golden Apple awards ceremonies we have had there," she adds. "We look forward to working together to create new opportunities for students and teachers."

Kathleen van Bergen, CEO and president of the Philharmonic Center for the Arts, says the Phil will continue its long-standing partnership with the education community of Southwest Florida.

"Education is an essential component of who we are," Ms. van Bergen says. "We salute the Golden Apple program and particularly look forward to working with the Education Foundation on an event in the fall of 2012."

The Golden Apple teachers, Golden Apple Teachers of Distinction and Collier County Public Schools' Teachers of the Year will be honored at the celebration in April.

Suncoast for Kids Foundation, presenting sponsor, is funded entirely by the Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union, and 100 percent of funds are contributed to organizations and initiatives that assist children in the communities Suncoast Schools FCU serves.

"Suncoast for Kids has supported educators who foster success in their

students, and it's important we recognize their commitment as a community through programs such as Golden Apple," says Greg Pasanen, Suncoast Schools FCU regional vice president. "There is no greater commitment than one that helps our youth's success come to fruition." ■

— Since 1990, the Education Foundation of Collier County has worked to eliminate barriers and create opportunities for students, families, educators and the community to work together so that every student may succeed. For more information, visit www.GetOnTheBusCollier.org.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Manatee Elementary students celebrate with their teacher, Bailey Buck, and with Dave Tobiasz of The Education Foundation after Ms. Buck learned she is a Teacher of Distinction in the Golden Apple process.

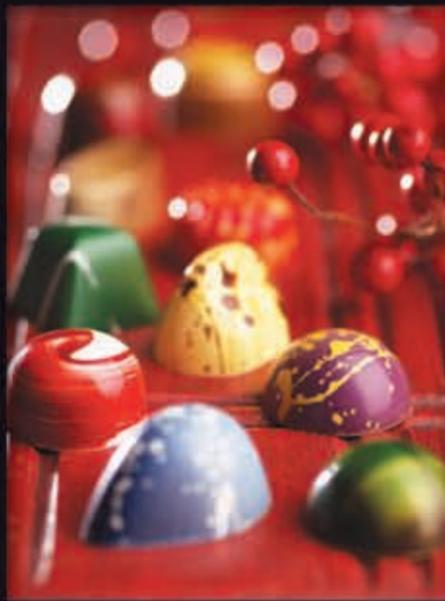


Vineyards Elementary teacher Angela Roche (center back) is joined by her students, Principal Mary Smith and Assistant Principal Susan Jordan as she is congratulated for her recognition as a Teacher of Distinction.

The 2011-12 Golden Apple Teachers of Distinction

Chris Betten-Jutasi, Lorenzo Walker Technical High
Christy Brown, Veterans Memorial Elementary
Bailey Buck, Manatee Elementary
Jodene Cebak, Corkscrew Elementary
Maria Christmas, Vineyards Elementary
Darlene Crete, Lorenzo Walker Technical High
Lorraine Dascani, Veterans Memorial Elementary
Patricia Ann Della Posta, Palmetto Ridge High
Michal Durik, Barron Collier High
Beth Elledias, Golden Gate High
Loren Finger, Big Cypress Elementary
Patricia Galdames, Poinciana Elementary
Marci Garner, Barron Collier High
Paul Horne, Naples High
Jacqueline Jardin, Veterans Memorial Elementary
Andrew Klatzkow, Corkscrew Elementary
Nicole Lavey, Eden Park Elementary
Scarlett LaVite, Gulf Coast High
Diana Levy, Lorenzo Walker Technical High
Lisa Lindsay, Big Cypress Elementary
Rebecca Mahoney, Lorenzo Walker Institute of Technology
Deborah Marino, Sea Gate Elementary
Janet Niebauer, Calusa Park Elementary
Rayna Overmyer, Veterans Memorial Elementary
Kristen Lyn Pukin, Veterans Memorial Elementary
Angela Roche, Vineyards Elementary
Eileen Schoenknecht, Lorenzo Walker Institute of Technology
Sheila Synder, Palmetto Elementary
Sharon Thoenke, Naples High
Kathleen Weitzel, Naples Park Elementary
Janine Ziccarelli, Shadowlawn Elementary

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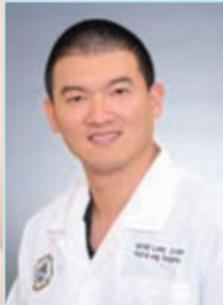
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Michael Male and Judy Feith filming for a grasslands birds documentary.

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NATURE

From page 16

sunset cruises and behind-the-scenes experiences. Locations include Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary, Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park, Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge, Big Cypress National Preserve, Naples Botanical Garden and the Conservancy of Southwest Florida.

"We host this festival to help people understand the beautiful and amazing flora and fauna of Southwest Florida," says Sarah Falkowski, education coordinator at Rookery Bay. "The best way to experience this diversity is up close and personal on these small-group trips guided by expert naturalists."

Field trips range from \$10 to \$50 per person. Dates and details are listed at www.rookerybay.org, with registration available on the website or by calling 417-6310, ext. 401.

Lectures and films

In addition to the field trips, the festival includes a nature film festival and lectures from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14. Here's the lecture schedule:

■ **11 a.m.** - Nancy Richie, environmental specialist for the city of Marco Island, discusses "Life and Times of the Marco Island Burrowing Owl Population."

■ **12:15 p.m.** - Jack Berninger, a retired biology teacher and volunteer with the Fakahatchee Strand State Preserve, discusses "Unique Flora and Fauna of the Everglades."

■ **1:30 p.m.** - Ted Below, a retired National Audubon Society warden and biologist, discusses "Not So Brown Pelicans."

cans."

■ **2:45 p.m.** - Jonee Miller, wildlife rehabilitation specialist at the Conservancy of Southwest Florida, discusses "Tales from the Wildlife Clinic."

Keynote address

A highlight of the festival is the keynote address, "The Big Lives of Florida's Waterbirds," presented by filmmakers Judy Fieth and Michael Male at 5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14. The duo has lent their skills to nature documentaries for LIFE, Planet Earth and Life of Birds, among others. Their labor of love for the last 25 years, between such television projects, has been documenting the private lives of North American birds.

When filming, the pair frequently spends days with an individual bird, often weeks. Their documentaries have won numerous awards and been televised by National Geographic and by the PBS programs NOVA and Nature. They've also filmed segments of many groundbreaking BBC nature series, such as Blue Planet and Life in Cold Blood.

Mr. Male has been nominated for an Emmy Award for the PBS Nature program "Crash." He spent much of this past spring and summer on an arctic expedition to film nesting snowy owls for another Nature show.

The pair's long-term project is a video series of guides to bird behavior, for which they've documented the lives of several hundred bird species so far.

For the festival keynote address, Ms. Fieth and Mr. Male will screen a video presentation featuring intimate portraits of spectacular Florida birds such as the roseate spoonbill, wood stork and limpkin. This lecture, including light refreshments, is \$10 per person. Registration is open at www.rookerybay.org. ■

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD
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Bright ideas

How does an extortionist (or kidnaper) safely collect the money that has been dropped off for him? In July, police staking out a vacant field in Colerain Township, Ohio, after leaving the \$22,000 ordered by alleged extortionist Frank Pence, waited

for about an hour, but Pence failed to show. Then, one officer noticed the money slowly moving across the field and finally caught up to Pence, who was pulling a very, very long, partially concealed rope from a location a distance from the drop site. ■

Cultural diversity

■ Globally (except in Japan), family-run businesses underperform those run by professional managers. Japanese corporations often seem to have a talented son to take over for his father. The main reason for that, according to an August Freakonomics radio report, is that the family scions usually first recruit an ideal "son" and then adopt him, often also encouraging their daughters to marry the men. (Japanese adage: "You can't choose your sons, but you can choose your sons-in-law.") If the man is already married, sometimes he and his wife will both get adopted. In fact, while 98 percent of U.S. adoptions are of children, 98 percent of Japan's are of adults.

■ At an October ceremony in the Satara district in India's Maharashtra state, 285 girls were allowed to change their names, as each of them had originally been named the Hindi word "Nakusa," which translates to "unwanted" (expressing their parents' disappointment at not having had a son). In Satara, only 881 girls are born for every 1,000 boys, reportedly the result of abortion, given the expense of raising a girl (whose family is expected to pay for any wedding and give a dowry to the groom's family).

■ Swedish Judges Get Tough: (1) A court dismissed charges against two 20-year-old men in October, accused of having bared a passed-out, 18-year-old woman's breasts at a party and taken photographs. Since the woman was not "aware" that she was being molested, the act was not a crime, ruled the Stockholm District Court. (2) Also in October, the Falun District Court in central Sweden convicted 23 women of possession of "large quantities" of child pornography, but gave them suspended sentences, merely fining them in amounts as low as the equivalent of \$375. Their male "ringleader" was sentenced to one year in prison.

■ Dubai is a city of towering, architecturally brilliant skyscrapers, but since all were built only in the last several decades, the city's central sewer system has not been able to keep up. Consequently, reported NPR's "Fresh Air" in November, only a few are hooked up to the municipal system, and the remainder must hire fleets of tanker trucks to carry away the waste water. The trucks then must queue up, sometimes for 24 hours at a time, to dispose of it at treatment plants. ■

Least-competent criminal

A lawyer's first rule of cross-examination is to never ask a question you don't already know the answer to, but criminal defendants who act as their own lawyers typically do not get that memo. Philome Cesar, charged with about 25 robberies in the Allentown, Pa., area, began questioning his alleged victims at

his trial in November. Please describe, he asked the first, what the robber sounded like. Answered victim Daryl Evans, "He sounded like you." After Cesar asked a second victim the same question and received the same answer, he decided to stop cross-examining the victims. (He was convicted of 19 counts.) ■

Latest religious messages

■ Factory worker Billy Hyatt, who was fired in 2009 by north Georgia plastics company Pliant Corp., filed a lawsuit in August alleging illegal religious discrimination. Pliant (now called Berry Plastics) required its employees to wear stickers indicating the number of consecutive accident-free days, and March 12, 2009, was the 666th day. When Hyatt refused to wear "the mark of the beast" (embracing that number, he thought, would condemn him to hell), he was suspended and then fired.

■ The International House of Prayer in Kansas City, Mo., recently celebrated 12 consecutive years of around-the-clock musical praying, which Pastor Mike Bickle and his evangelical congregation believe is necessary to fight the devil's continuous infiltration of the realms of power in society (business, media, government, etc.). "To keep the music going," according to an October *Los Angeles Times* dispatch, "the church has 25

bands playing throughout the week in two-hour sets," divided between "devotional" music and "intercessions," in which God is petitioned to help some cause or place. Bickle claims that there are "thousands" of 24/7 prayer groups in the world.

■ Israelis lately experience attacks not just from the outside but from its own ultra-Orthodox communities (about 10 percent of the country, and growing), whose activists have jeered and stoned "immodestly" dressed women and girls (as young as 6) on the street, defaced women's images on billboards, forced illegal gender segregation in public facilities (including buses and sidewalks), and vandalized businesses that treat women as equals (such as one ice cream shop — since female customers lick the cones in public). An especially violent minority, the Sikrikim, employ some tactics reminiscent of the Ku Klux Klan in America. ■

Questionable judgments

Each August in Urakawa, Japan, a "hallucination and delusion competition" takes place among visiting alcoholics and sufferers of mental disorders, who in principle are helped by bonding with fellow patients and revealing their failures and successes. The Bethel Festival, named for its sponsor, brings about 600 people together for on-stage presentations (sometimes in the form of song or dance)

and awards a grand prize to a standout visitor (one year, to a woman who lived for four days in a public restroom after a voice in her head told her to, and in another year, to a man who had overcome a 35-year stretch of never straying more than two yards from his mother). (Some mental-disorder professionals believe the festival is too-easily mockable by insensitive outsiders.) ■

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The HITS Triathlon Series-Naples kicks off the 2012 series as the first qualifier for the HITS Championship. Set for Jan. 7-8, HITS Triathlon Series-Naples will have five distances — something for endurance athletes of all abilities.

Distances for HITS Triathlon Series events range from the beginner in the HITS Open to the experienced triathlete in the USAT-sanctioned Sprint, Olympic, Half and Full distances. The HITS Open, a free competition for novices, consists of a 100-meter swim, a 3-mile bike ride and 1-mile run created especially for first-timers who never thought competing in a triathlon was possible.

HITS Triathlon Series has signed a partnership with Naples Cyclery to

provide onsite repairs and equipment throughout the event. The weekend will also feature a HITS Fitness Festival serving as the gathering place for participants and spectators to interact with local and national sponsors, fitness products, services and other event partners.

For information about participating in the fitness festival, contact Star Exiner-Walters at star@hitstriathlonseries.com or visit www.hitstriathlonseries.com sponsorship.

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Building managers association presents \$1,250 to Youth Haven

At their annual holiday party in November, the Naples chapter of Building Managers International presented Youth Haven with a check for \$1,250. The funds will help create a reflection and refocus room in Brownie's Cottage, Collier County's only residential shelter exclusively for children.

"All of our children arrive at Youth Haven having experienced sexual abuse, physical abuse, neglect and/or abandonment through no fault of their own. They are all suffering serious emotional trauma," says Jinx Liggett,

director of programs at Youth Haven. "This inviting, comforting space will provide the children a private area where they can retreat to when they need some time away from their peers."

The members of BMI "are pleased that we were able to help bring greater awareness of Youth Haven to the members of our group and to give a small gift toward the design of this important therapeutic room for children who are beginning to heal," says Kristi Walmer. ■

Traveling Wall stops on Marco

"The Wall That Heals," a national touring exhibit also known as The Traveling Wall, is at Marco Island's Veterans Memorial Park through sunset Saturday, Dec. 10. The half-scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., is open 24 hours a day; admission is free.

The wall contains all 58,272 names of the American servicemen and servicewomen who are missing or were killed during the Vietnam War that ended in 1975. From 1:30-4 p.m. each day, the names and ranks of all 1,954 deceased Vietnam



Veterans from Florida are read, followed by "Taps."

In the exhibit's transportation trailer, volunteers at computers can help visitors find the location of names on the wall. Tracing paper is provided for those who

wish to trace a name on the wall. Marco island clergy and local psychologists are available to speak with veterans and their families.

Although the exhibit will be open for visitors through sunset, a closing ceremony will take place at 3:30 p.m. Saturday. For more information, visit www.vmf.org. ■



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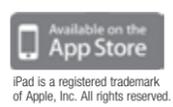
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The Immokalee Foundation celebrates a \$1.6 million event

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Organizers of The Immokalee Foundation's 2011 Charity Classic Celebration announce the events — an evening for nearly 400 guests at The Ritz-Carlton, Naples, as well as the sixth annual Pro-Am golf tournament at Bay Colony Golf Club — raised \$1.6 million to fund the foundation's educational programs for the children of Immokalee.

Joe Zednik, chair of the celebration and a TIF board member, is delighted with the results.



"In tough economic times, a successful event like this one is so important," Mr. Zednik says. "We invited patrons to help us make a real impact on the lives of the Immokalee children — to help make dreams come true — and their generosity simply exceeded our expectations."

The children of Immokalee were the heart and soul of the 2011 Charity Classic Celebration which was dedicated to fulfilling their dreams and providing them with the building blocks for a brighter future. Mr. Zednik says the only thing more exciting than raising funds was giving guests the opportunity to meet the kids and hear their stories during a special presentation by current and former TIF students.

"These kids are why we do what we do," he says. "Hearing their stories and realizing what a difference we are making was incredibly rewarding for all of us in attendance."

The dinner and auction evening overflowed with action, emotion and fun. During the welcome reception, guests bid on an array of auction items while enjoying an Immokalee Cocktail and listening to the sounds of the Immokalee High School Beta Club, recognized as Florida's No. 1 Beta performance group. The silent auction raised \$46,840 and served as an indicator of the generosity still to come.

Now in its second year, Fund A Dream is a live bidding experience organized into eight categories, each providing benefactors the chance to support the young people of Immokalee by giving directly to the children. According to Mr. Zednik, 100 percent of the funds raised during Fund A Dream benefits the bidder's category of choice and is 100 percent tax deductible.

"Fund A Dream provides these children with the kinds of experiences they've only dreamed about — from attending a summer camp in New England to actually going to college," he explains.

The live auction got under way



COURTESY PHOTO
 Jemiah Warren assists Liz and Jeff Allbritten with their Fund A Dream bid.

during the second half of the dinner. With paddles in hand, bidders had the option to bid at the level of their choice and to fund as many dreams as they'd like. And did they ever.

The initial Fund A Dream opportunity raised more than \$60,000 for 122 students to receive one year of tutoring, making way for academic achievement and the accompanying self-confidence. Approximately \$163,000 was raised for the second item, which will send 25 students to a Florida college or university for four years. Realizing a four-year college is not for everyone, enough funds were raised to provide 71 children with two years of voca-

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tional training.

Thanks to numerous paddle raisers, students will be able to participate in summer camps and programs that will provide leadership and life skill opportunities; TIF can purchase a new vehicle so that Immokalee's children — who are often constrained by lack of transportation — can take advantage of the enrichment services, after-school programs and life experiences that TIF offers; and \$60,000 in donations will provide enough for the purchase of 60 new computers for a TIF computer room. Plus, 100 children can now participate in the Immokalee Readers program, a partnership between Collier County schools and The Immokalee Foundation.

In total, Fund A Dream raised \$594,960. The Pro-Am raised \$372,700, making it one of the most success-

ful charity golf events in Southwest Florida.

"It was such a pleasure and a privilege to chair this year's event as we celebrated the 20th anniversary of The Immokalee Foundation," notes Mr. Zednik. "Over the years we have improved the lives of more than 35,000 children by emphasizing education, vocation and life skills. Celebrating this accomplishment with the community and ensuring that we continue providing building blocks for a brighter future made for a magnificent event."

The Charity Classic Celebration would not have been possible without the support of the sponsors, he adds. This year's sponsors were: The Johnson Meland Group at Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, presenting sponsor; Fifth

Third Bank, founding sponsor; and GE Foundation, corporate matching sponsor. Hope Society sponsors included Arthrex Inc. and Texas Roadhouse. The Empowerment Circle sponsor was Kelly Tractor. Education Circle sponsors included Bigam Jewelers, Caterpillar Foundation, Jaguar Naples and Porsche of Naples, and Joseph's Custom Clothiers. Naples Illustrated was the corporate media sponsor. ■

— *The Immokalee Foundation has a range of programs that focus on building pathways to success through college and vocational school, mentoring and tutoring, and opportunities for broadening experiences and life skills development. For more information, call 430-9122 or visit www.immokalee-foundation.org.*

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Grassroots fundraising in Vineyards generates \$1 million for Avow Hospice

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Friends of Avow Hospice living in the Vineyards community have gone door-to-door, written neighbor-to-neighbor letters, held educational socials, a golf tournament, tennis clinics, silent auctions and assorted other activities to help raise funds to contribute toward Avow Hospice's \$10 million Promise Campaign.

George Walters, a Vineyards resident and chairman of the board for Avow Hospice, recently announced that the community has not only surpassed its neighborhood Promise Campaign goal but doubled its original goal by breaking the \$1 million mark.

Mr. Walters initiated the Vineyards fundraising campaign in mid-2009 and has served as chair of the neighborhood effort. The campaign publicly kicked off in November that year with "Swing, Serve & Celebrate at the Vineyards," an event chaired by Vineyards resident Eric Kronen that raised more than \$100,000 for the campaign. Over the months that followed, representatives from the individual neighborhoods within the Vineyards carried the effort to their friends and neighbors.

In addition to raising funds for Avow, the Promise Campaign has focused on raising awareness about Avow Hospice services. Neighborhood campaign leaders shared informational materials and

arranged for educational sessions within their associations addressing advance directives and hospice topics. Other neighborhood leaders conducted letter campaigns and in many instances shared their personal experiences with Avow care.



Neighborhood leader George Merritt shared the impact Avow made on his family when his wife received end-of-life care.

"Avow Hospice became the best friend my wife never knew she'd have" — a line Mr. Merritt wrote in a letter about the family's experience — inspired the central theme in the 2011-2012 Avow Hospice PSA campaign.

The \$1 million raised by the Vineyards Promise Campaign encompasses outright gifts, in-kind donations, pledges and bequests. Funds will support unreimbursable hospice care programs and campus enhancements as well as the endowment of the Avow Hospice annual butterfly release program.

"We're not finished yet," Mr. Walters says. "We have volunteers in the Vineyards who are still in the midst of reaching out to their neighbors. I expect this goal figure to continue to grow into 2012."

Avow Hospice Promise Campaign fundraising activities will conclude in April 2012 with a golf tournament at the Vineyards and an evening celebration for Vineyard Promise Campaign donors at the Avow Hospice campus. ■

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SANTA

From page 1

senior citizens. "He doesn't take just one or two people to help; he takes 50."

That's not how Mr. O'Connor started. He and a friend bought gifts for six nursing home residents the first year. A Realtor with Premier Sotheby's International Realty, Mr. O'Connor told his colleagues and clients about his efforts, and each year the interest grew.

Now, Mr. O'Connor's program supports Heritage Health Care & Rehabilitation Center, Lakeside Pavillion Care and Rehabilitation Center, ManorCare Nursing & Rehab Center, The Roberts Center in Immokalee, Tuscany Villa of Naples and the Salvation Army. In addition to fellow Realtors around town, participants in the program include members of the Health Club of Naples and residents in Grey Oaks.

"All of us do this for the same reason," says Mr. O'Connor. "To show the true meaning of Christmas."

Mr. O'Connor describes his childhood Christmases with his three siblings as "normal," and says that he and his wife, Brenda, "are very blessed." He considers his holiday program a way of "paying it forward." Also, he says, "A lot of people don't realize there are seniors here who need assistance."

He also notes that the nursing homes react with open arms when he approaches them. "Any time they can have people in from the outside to help and visit, it makes their lives easier and brings more joy to the facility."

Sommer Ferguson, activity director at ManorCare, agrees. "They shower our residents with attention, dancing and the holiday spirit," she says of when Mr. O'Connor and his team deliver the gifts. "This makes the biggest difference, because a lot of our residents don't necessarily have family that comes very often or even have family left. The interaction and smiles give the most long-lasting pleasure and joy."

Ms. Ferguson says that although the gifts — sweaters, picture frames, body lotions and the like — are much appreciated, it's the thought that counts even more.

"This program shows that people care enough to bring a gift and provide our residents with something they wouldn't normally get."

Mr. O'Connor concurs. "I just want to spread hope to people and show that we care about them. I want to make sure that everybody I help can get something."

Sometimes, the things people need most are the basic necessities.

"In Immokalee," he explains, "people want non-perishable food, such as canned tuna, because they rent rooms that don't have refrigeration." Last year, when he learned that someone had stolen a homeless man's bicycle, Mr. O'Connor bought the man a replacement bicycle with a good lock. When people request basic items such as pajamas, housecoats, slippers or a sweater, he adds "extras," such as socks, hand cream or razors, so they find another "goodie" with their gift.

He enjoys delivering the gifts — which takes several trips, multiple vehicles and lots of friends — as well as joining in holiday celebrations at the facilities.

"It's so special to see the looks on the residents' faces," he says.

"I don't care what your age, everyone is a child at Christmas." ■

in the know

Spread good cheer

If you would like to join Pat O'Connor and his helpers in spreading some Christmas cheer, call Mr. O'Connor at 293-9411 or e-mail pat.oconnor@sothebysrealty.com. He will provide the name, gift request and facility of an individual or as many people as you would like to support. Gifts can be dropped off at the facilities or at Mr. O'Connor's Park Shore Premier Sotheby's International Realty office, 4001 Tamiami Trail N., Suite 102.



COURTESY PHOTO

Pat O'Connor's office at Premier Sotheby's International Realty overflows with gifts donated to seniors living in local nursing homes.

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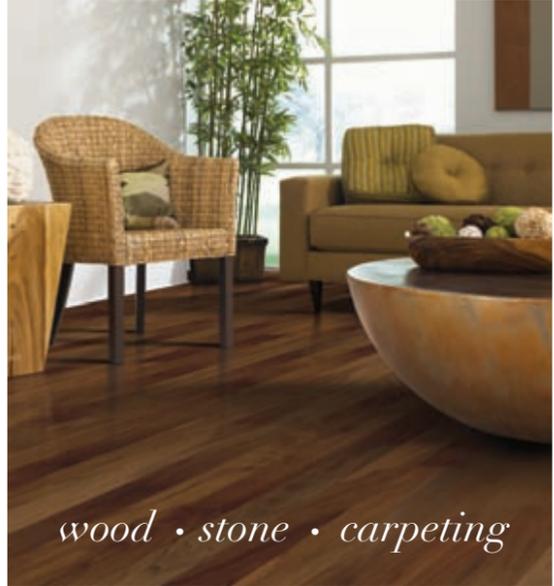
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HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

There's no sign of snow in the forecast, but the holiday spirit is alive and well all around town. Here are some of our favorite traditions of the season:

★ A twinkling procession of decorated boats will ply the waters of **Venetian Bay** from 6:30-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8. Spectators throughout the Village on Venetian Bay will also enjoy live entertainment as they stroll the center and watch the boats. Call 261-6100 for more information.

★ The Marco Island Historical Society, in partnership with St. Mark's Episcopal Church, presents "**The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!**" Thursday through Saturday, Dec. 8-10, at the Marco Island Historical Museum. Show times are 7 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 2 and 5 p.m. Saturday. Admission is free, but donations for needy families will be welcome. For more information, call 394-0080 or visit www.theateronmarco.com.

★ Victorian carolers, the Backstage Dance Academy and Naples Ballet will add to the **tree-lighting festivities at Mercato** beginning at 5:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9. The North Naples center boasts "the largest live tree in Southwest Florida" this season.

★ Ballet students from several academies and adults from the community are taking part in **The Naples Academy of Ballet** presentation of "**The Nutcracker**" at 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11, at Gulf Coast High School. For tickets and more information, call 732-1000.

★ **Marco Island** residents and visitors will enjoy the **boats** sailing by from 6-8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10. Prime viewing spots include the Esplanade and Snook Inn. Free admission. For more information, call 394-7549.

★ "Light It Up Your Way," the 22nd annual **Marine Industries Association of Collier County Christmas Boat Parade**, will launch at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, at Marker 18 and will continue north to the dock and on to the Naples Boat Club Marina and the Gordon River bridge.

Landlubbers can enjoy the procession from several locations, including Pincher's Crab Shack, Riverwalk Restaurant, Naples City Dock, Naples Landing, Kelly's Fish House, The Boat House Restaurant, Cove Inn and Bayview Park.

The annual holiday parade benefits the Ricky King Fund, a foundation that since 1978 has provided financial support for the medical needs of local children. Frank Perrucci, chairman of the parade and president of MIACC, welcomes tax-deductible donations from participants and parade spectators. Proceeds will be presented to the Ricky King Fund at a ceremony in January. For more information, call 682-0900 or e-mail director@miacc.org.

★ The Naples Philharmonic Orchestra presents "**Seasonal Treasures,**"

Happy Holidays along the Avenue

Thousands of holiday revelers filled Fifth Avenue South for the 37th annual Christmas Walk & Tree Lighting Ceremony the evening of Dec. 1. Live entertainment, including a "Dancing With the Stars"-worth performance by Fritz and Camella Rath (the Raths are also energetic volunteers in the Visitor Information Center operated by the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce).

Winners in the Fifth Avenue South window display competition were:

- **Most Creative:** Wind in the Willows
- **Most Unique:** Pucci & Catana Pet Boutique
- **Most Classic & Traditional:** Kari's Creations

In the building decorations category, winners were:

- **Most Creative:** 505 Building (505 Fifth Avenue South)
- **Most Unique:** Vergina
- **Most Classic & Traditional:** The Inn on Fifth

And winners in the storefront category were:

- **Most Creative:** Café Luna
- **Most Classic & Traditional:** McCabe's
- **Best in Show** awards went to Wind in the Willows, Inn on Fifth and Café Luna. ■



HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

a program of sacred and popular seasonal music, at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, at First Presbyterian Church of Naples. The Philharmonic Center Chorale, led by James Cochran, organist Brice Gerlach and soprano Michele Byrd join the orchestra. The chorale celebrates its 20th anniversary with this holiday concert showcasing Handel's "Messiah."

Tickets start at \$40 for adults and \$17 for students. For more information or to order tickets, call the Philharmonic Center for the Arts at 597-1900 or visit www.ThePhil.org.

For its own "12 days of Christmas," Dec. 13-24, **The Naples Zoo** at Carib-

bean Gardens will deliver special gifts to its wildlife residents. Zoo visitors will be able to watch Malayan tigers and South African lions claw into wrapped presents filled with meat treats; alligators swallow a festive turkey leg dinner; apes nibble fruity treats; African honey badgers and Red river hogs play with a rolling ice snow globe; and the new giraffe herd munch into leafy surprises.

In a subtropical Santa's workshop, residents at Brookdale Senior Living communities from Naples to Sarasota are once again creating the tasty treats that will add to the animals' holiday cheer. Some of the senior toymak-



Marissa Carletta, Sophia Moore, Christina, Erica and Nicole Ledesma, Becky Zajaczkowski

ers themselves will also make special visits to the Zoo to watch the animals devour their gifts. Ice sculpture services for the rolling snow globe are being donated by Cold Cuts Inc.

See the full schedule of events at www.napleszoo.org/holiday.

★ **"Trumpet Christmas"** by the Naples Concert Band will be presented as part of **Evening on Fifth** from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, along Fifth Avenue South. Musicians highlighted include the Trumpet Ensemble, J&P Trio, the Saxophone Ensemble and the Stein Family Ensemble. The evening's entertainment is sponsored by IberiaBank and DeVoe Automotive.

For more information about this and other holiday happenings on the avenue, visit www.FifthAvenueSouth.com.

★ Aldo's Ristorante Italiano & Bar hosts its fifth annual **Pizza with Santa** from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17. Children ages 12 and under can have their photo taken with the jolly old soul and then enjoy free pizza, soft drinks and cookies. A full menu will be available for adults.

All proceeds benefit the ABLE Academy, which serves individuals with autism and related disorders. Aldo's Ristorante is at 4820 Davis Blvd. For more information, call 775-2200.



Ruby Kragler, Lee Muse and Pat Peters

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HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Beth Tikvah of Naples, the Conservative synagogue of Collier County, hosts three social events this holiday season.

The annual **New York-style Kosher Deli and Game Night** begins at 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 18, at the Village Walk town hall off Vanderbilt Beach Road. Deli food will be from Ben's Kosher of Boca Raton; the games people play are the ones they bring along: cards, Scrabble, etc.

Admission is \$36 for adults, \$18 children under 13. For reservations, call 513-1950.

A **Latke Lunch Chanukah celebration** begins at noon Sunday, Dec. 25, at the synagogue, 1459 Pine Ridge

Road (just west of Mission Square).

Fill up on potato pancakes and enjoy holiday songs and fellowship for \$15 per person. Call 598-2880 for reservations.

A **meet and mingle** evening begins at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 7, at **Heritage Bay Golf & Country Club** (off Immokalee Road east of Collier Boulevard). While they enjoy desserts and drinks, guests will get to know one another via short presentations focused on personal memorabilia such as an award, a family heirloom, a collectible, etc.

Admission is \$15 per person. For reservations, call 598-2880. ■



Holiday revelers fill Fifth Avenue South for the Christmas Walk & Tree Lighting.



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Toys and volunteer helpers needed for Guadalupe Center holiday gift shop

The Guadalupe Center of Immokalee provides toys and other types of holiday gifts, so underprivileged families will not go without during the holidays. Through generous donations, the center will be able to provide gifts to more than 500 children.

Donations to the center's holiday gift shop can be dropped off at the Guadalupe Center Resale & Consignment Shop at 8100 Trail Blvd., (on U.S. 41 just south of Vanderbilt Beach Road) in Naples, or at the Guadalupe Center at 509 Hope Circle in Immokalee.

Gift shop volunteers are also needed to help parents select and wrap the presents when the gift shop is in operation Dec. 19-22 in Sanders Hall at the center in Immokalee. In addition, any communities or companies that would like to hold their own toy drive for items to be donated would be greatly appreciated.

Faced with challenging economic conditions, many families struggle to put food on the table and don't have money left to buy holiday gifts for their children. The program is designed to help parents give a

personally selected item for their children when they are unable to provide a gift.

The annual holiday gift shop helps put a smile on hundreds of needy children's faces, says Barbara Oppenheim of the Guadalupe Center. "To not be able to give your child a toy during the holidays must be heartbreaking. Through this program, parents and grandparents are able to give a new toy or clothing to their children or grandchildren — often for the first time."

The center has been serving the children and families of Immokalee for 29 years. Its mission is to break the cycle of poverty by providing educational, social and other support programs and resources. From the very young in early childhood education, to after-school tutoring, to providing college scholarships to the next generation of aspiring leaders, to the soup kitchen and clothing room programs, the nonprofit organization makes a real difference in every aspect of the lives of the people it serves, from the cradle to career.

For more information, call 657-7711 or visit www.guadalupecenter.org. ■



COURTESY PHOTO

Fifth Third Bank hosted a reception at Pelican Bay to kick off its Toys for Tots drive that runs through Dec. 15. Marine Corps volunteers and New Beginnings students helped organize toys that have been donated to date. Last year, more than 4,000 local children received a holiday gift through Toys for Tots. Pelican Bay residents, along with the Pelican Bay Foundation, collect more than 30 percent of all locally donated toys every year, making them the largest contributor in Collier County.



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CLUB NOTES

Here are some programs and events in the works among the area's clubs and organizations:

■ Members of the **Naples Garden Club** will meet for their annual holiday luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14, at the Port Royal Club. Attendees are asked to bring a wrapped gift suitable for a man in residence at St. Matthew's House.



Cost is \$36. For reservations or more information, visit www.naplesgardenclub.org or e-mail info@naplesgardenclub.org.

A limited number of tickets remain available for the club's 2012 House & Garden Tour set for Saturday, Feb. 4. Hundreds of visitors will tour four private properties in Port Royal, Aqualane Shores and historic Olde Naples. Tour buses depart from the Naples Botanical Garden at intervals throughout the day beginning at 8:30 a.m. (9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. departures are sold out). General admission is \$85; patron tickets are \$150.

Proceeds from the House & Garden Tour help provide scholarships for students of botany and horticulture at FGCU's Harvey Kapnick Education and Research Center at the Naples Botanical Garden.

For more information or tour reservations, visit the website above.

■ A members-only celebration of the 40th anniversary of **Naples Ikebana International** is set for 1-3 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 11, at a member's home in Naples.

The club will have two events in February open to the public: a regular meeting Wednesday, Feb. 1, and a fundraising luncheon Wednesday, Feb. 15.

The Feb. 1 program will be about the art of classical Japanese dance and will include a performance by Satomi Hirano. The ginza marketplace and library will open at 9 a.m. in Moss Hall at Moorings Presbyterian Church. Admission for members and guests is free.

The Feb. 15 luncheon, floral demonstration by Jennie Sterling and silent auction will begin at 9:30 a.m. at Grey Oaks Country Club. Cost is \$65 for members and guests, and reservations must be made by Jan. 15.

For reservations or more information, e-mail ikebananaples@me.com or visit www.ikebananaples.com.

■ **The Cleveland Club** celebrates its 14th anniversary with a dinner dance on Saturday, Jan. 31, at Heritage Bay Country Club. All Clevelanders are welcome.

The club's second dinner dance of the season will be held Saturday, March 24, at Cypress Woods Country Club.

Tickets to both evenings are \$26. For reservations, call Diane Corcelli at 992-6723.

■ The **Naples-Pelican Bay Rotary Club** invites artists to hit the pavement for Chalk Art 2012 on Saturday, Jan. 28, along Fifth Avenue South. Thousands of spectators will "walk the chalk" as individuals and teams of amateur and professional artists transform the street into a colorful, half-mile-long concrete canvas.

Businesses can participate by purchasing a "canvas" — either a 6-foot (\$200), 9-foot (\$300) or 12-foot square (\$500) — which they, an artist of their choosing or an artist provided to them by the Rotary Club can use to create a curbside masterpiece. A total of 150 artist squares are available, each bearing the name of the sponsoring business. Proceeds will benefit the Pelican Bay Rotary Scholarship Fund.

Artists who wish to participate are encouraged to register at no charge. They will be matched with a sponsor and will receive all the materials needed to complete their artwork.

Registration for sponsors and artists will be accepted through Jan. 21.

Admission to Chalk Art 2012 is free to the public and will include live entertainment, music and fashion shows throughout the day. The public will determine the first-, second- and third-place People's Choice Awards by purchasing voting tickets as they stroll the event. This year's winners will also receive cash prizes.

For more information or to sign up as a business sponsor or a participating artist, visit www.pelicanbayrotary.com, e-mail cathynaples@aol.com or call Jim Richardson at 272-3645.

■ **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 lunch at 11:30 a.m. on the second Thursday of every month at country clubs throughout the area. 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. For more information, e-mail bonitanewcomers@gmail.com or visit www.bonitaspringnewcomersclub.com. ■

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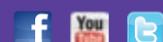
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High blood pressure may point to hidden health problems for kids in the ER

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY
The University of Florida

More than half of children admitted to an urban Florida pediatric emergency department had elevated blood pressure, according to a study published in the journal *Pediatric Emergency Care*.

Elevated blood pressure is often a sign of kidney or other health problems in children. Evaluating the readings thoughtfully and ordering further tests could be a key to diagnosing a serious problem, says Dr. Phyllis Hendry, an associate professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine at the University of Florida College of Medicine-Jacksonville and one of the authors of the study.

Researchers looked at charts of nearly 1,000 patients, 18 years old and younger,

admitted to Shands Jacksonville medical center over a 13-month period in 2007 and 2008. While they expected to see about 100 patients with elevated triage blood pressure, they found more than 500, Dr. Hendry says, adding more than 20 percent had severely elevated levels.

The study also found that elevated blood pressure was recognized on the medical record in only a small percentage of cases.

"In adult emergency patients, we are very focused on blood pressure, and abnormal values are clearly defined," Dr. Hendry says. "In children, it's easy to dismiss a high value because often they are anxious, crying or in pain. There are a number of things that can affect blood pressure."

But as hypertension among children is on the rise — now in 5 percent of American youth, up from 1 percent in the 1970s and

1980s — the ER can play a larger role in flagging potential problems. The standards are based on age, weight and even height — a measurement not usually taken in pediatric ERs. Standards are also based on measuring the blood pressure three times and taking the mean of the three readings, which is not practical in an ER setting.

If patients are in the emergency department for several hours or more, their vital signs are usually checked again or at discharge. Researchers say if a child's blood pressure remains elevated, physicians should suggest a follow-up appointment with the child's primary care physician within a few weeks.

A likely follow-up study will be to look at the blood pressure reading at that next primary care visit to see if it is still elevated, Dr. Hendry says. ■

Hodges University poised to offer physical therapist assistant program

Hodges University will offer an associate's degree in physical therapist assisting beginning in the term that starts Jan. 12. Students will be accepted into the general education/pre-PTA courses in the winter and summer 2012 terms to complete two semesters of general education and prerequisite requirements, working toward application to the PTA program.

Offered at the Naples campus, the full-time, day program encompasses five semesters and includes general education, prerequisite sciences and core PTA courses. The program is in the process of accreditation by the Commission on

Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education and is accepting new students to begin the prerequisites now.

Physical therapy assistants work in a variety of settings from pediatrics and geriatrics to hospitals, sports clinics, outpatient facilities, wellness centers, schools, nursing homes and home health.

Government economists expect job growth for PTAs to be much faster than the average for all careers through 2018. In fact, it is among the 20 fastest-growing careers. The elderly population is particularly vulnerable to chronic and debilitating conditions that require therapeutic ser-

vices. These patients often need additional assistance in their treatment, making the PTA role vital.

Also, medical and technological developments permit an increased percentage of trauma victims and newborns with birth defects to survive, creating added demand for therapy and rehabilitative services.

Registration for the winter 2012 term at Hodges University is open now for new and continuing students. For more information or to set up an appointment with an admissions counselor, call 513-1122 in Naples or 482-0019 in Fort Myers. ■

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HEALTHY LIVING

TO YOUR HEALTH

Take your meds for a pharmacist's 'brown bag review'

A CVS pharmacist will hold a "brown bag review of medications" from 2-4 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14, at the Homewood Residence, 770 Goodlette Road.

Residents are encouraged to throw all their medications — prescription and over-the-counter — into a paper bag and bring them to the motel for review. The pharmacist will answer questions and offer advice about how to avoid errors in taking medications.

Managing stress for caregivers and professionals

More than 65 million Americans provide care for a chronically ill, disabled or aged relative or friend each year. Family caregivers, health care professionals and clergy are invited to learn strategies for coping from Kenneth Doka, Ph.D., professor of gerontology at the Graduate School of New Rochelle, when he speaks at Moorings Park at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 17.

For family and other caregivers will learn how to manage their own stress, set goals and expectations and take care of themselves.

Health-care professionals and clergy will receive insights about the psychological and spiritual reactions at end of life and will identify ways to help terminally ill patients and their families.

Dr. Doka is a senior consultant to the Hospice Foundation of America. His visit to Naples is sponsored by Vitas Hospice, Dignity Memorial, IberiaBank, Moorings Park and 21st Century Care.

A light dinner will be served. Call 597-3101 to RSVP by Jan. 12.

Free seminars at Physicians Regional

The following free seminars are coming up at Physicians Regional-Pine Ridge, 6101 Pine Ridge Road:

■ "What's New and What Works for Painful Knees and Hips," by orthopedic surgeon Robert Zehr at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8 - Dr. Zehr will discuss several of the latest treatment options.

■ "Robotic Hip and Knee Surgery," by orthopedic surgeon Jon Douchis at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13 - Dr. Douchis will discuss the latest advances in robotic techniques to restore hip and knee function, including MAKOplasty joint resurfacing for those with osteoarthritis of the knee.

■ "Living with Back Pain," by neurological surgeon Rick Bhasin at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15 - Dr. Bhasin will highlight the latest surgical and non-surgical treatment options for painful back conditions.

For more information or registration, call 348-4180 or visit www.physiciansregional.com/events. ■

Study suggests a major shift in how to help autistic children socialize



SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Children with autism spectrum disorder or ASD who attend regular education classes may be more likely to improve their social skills if their typically developing peers are taught how to interact with them rather than if only the children with ASD are taught such skills. According to a study funded by the National Institutes of Health, a shift away from more commonly used interventions that focus on training children with ASD directly may provide greater

social benefits for children with ASD. The study was published in the *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*.

"Real life doesn't happen in a lab, but few research studies reflect that," said Thomas R. Insel, director of the National Institute of Mental Health, a part of NIH. "As this study shows, taking into account a person's typical environment may improve treatment outcomes."

The most common type of social skills intervention for children with ASD is direct training of a group of children with social challenges, who

may have different disorders and may be from different classes or schools. The intervention is usually delivered at a clinic, but may also be school-based and offered in a one-on-one format. Other types of intervention focus on training peers how to interact with classmates who have difficulty with social skills. Both types of intervention have shown positive results in studies, but neither has been shown to be as effective in community settings. Connie Kasari,

SEE STUDY, A36

STRAIGHT TALK

Collier leads the way in Florida health outcomes – again



allenWEISS

allen.weiss@nchmd.org

We've done it again! For the second consecutive year, Collier County ranks first in Florida for health outcomes, according to the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute study of 3,200 U.S. counties. The study was commissioned by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Stated simply, out of Florida's 67 counties, we're No. 1!

And no one should feel prouder than the caregivers at NCH. (Ironically, the news came out the day after we hosted a health forum of more than 100 local leaders, organized by the Collier County Health Department and led by Dr. Joan Colfer.)

The healthy environment and high-quality care in Collier County underscore my belief that the health of our population and the health care we offer here will be the economic engine to drive Southwest Florida's well being in the years ahead.

Our goal at NCH is to become a "medical destination" for the southern half of Florida, the southeast United States and even the Caribbean Sea basin, Central and South America. This is no pipe dream, as one in eight patients who spend a night or more at an NCH hospital hail from outside our five-county

area. This is achieved purely through word of mouth, not targeted advertising.

As to the Wisconsin health outcomes survey, its data are the most recent available, with 50 percent of the objective comparison based on mortality and 50 percent based on morbidity information gathered from 2001-2007 for low birth weight and from 2003-2009 for measures of "poor or fair health, poor physical health and poor mental health." Information on tobacco use, adult obesity, excessive drinking, motor vehicle crash death rate, sexually transmitted infections and teen birth rate was obtained by evaluating data from 2001-2009.

Among measures used by the researchers were "access to care" — quantified by numbers of uninsured adults and primary care providers — and "quality of care" — measured by preventable hospital days, diabetic screening and mammography screening.

Additionally included in this study were socioeconomic factors such as educational levels, unemployment, poverty-stricken children, social support, single-parent families and violent crime, plus other objective measures such as air quality, access to healthy foods and recreational factors.

Collier County's continued strong showing is attributable to several things. One is our exemplary average infant birth weight, due largely to our Women's Health Foundation. Now in

its 12th year, the foundation focuses on prenatal care for previously uninsured women and helps them obtain Medicaid insurance. Program administrator Tom Van Pelt and his colleagues do a great job.

Another positive factor is our county's low death rate from heart attack, largely due Code Save a Heart, an NCH program that for the past two years has taken every single heart attack victim from the front door of the downtown NCH campus to the cardiac catheterization lab in under 90 minutes to stop the heart attack.

The most important factor in Collier County's excellent health standing lies in the ability of local health care professionals to execute ??????. In recent years, we have changed the way we care for our community. In this context, we are installing a 211 access line for people who need non-urgent but critical help. Such lines exist in most every other county in Florida but ours. Thanks to the Community Foundation of Collier County, 211 will be available here soon.

As residents and health care practitioners, we have much to be proud of in Collier County. We also share a heavy responsibility. Our county can no longer depend on traditional industries such as tourism, construction and agriculture to lift our economy to the next level. Rather, what we need to focus on is the high growth potential of health care.

For our community to sustain its excellence, the people of NCH can lead the way. ■

STUDY

From page 36

Ph.D., of the University of California, Los Angeles, and colleagues compared different interventions among 60 children, ages 6-11, with ASD. All of the children were mainstreamed in regular education classrooms for at least 80 percent of the school day.

Children with ASD whose peers received training — including those who may also have received the child-focused intervention — spent less time alone on playgrounds and had more classmates naming them as a friend, compared to participants who received the child-focused interventions. Teachers also reported that students with ASD in the peer-mediated groups showed significantly better social skills following the intervention. However, among all intervention groups, children with ASD showed no changes in the number of peers they indicated as their friends.

At follow-up, children with ASD from the peer-mediated groups continued

to show increased social connections despite some of the children having changed classrooms due to a new school year and having new, different peers.

According to the researchers, the findings suggest that peer-mediated interventions can provide better and more persistent outcomes than child-focused strategies, and that child-focused interventions may only be effective when paired with peer-mediated intervention.

In addition to the benefits of peer-mediated interventions, the researchers noted several areas for improvement. For example, peer engagement especially helped children with ASD to be less isolated on the playground, but it did not result in improvement across all areas of playground behavior, such as taking turns in games or engaging in conversations and other joint activities. Also, despite greater inclusion in social circles and more frequent engagement by their peers, children with ASD continued to cite few friendships. Further studies are needed to explore these factors as well as other possible mediators of treatment effects.

For more information, visit www.nimh.nih.gov/index.shtml. ■

— National Institute of Mental Health

TO YOUR HEALTH

Free counseling for caregivers

Caregivers of seniors ages 60 and older who are experiencing stress from changing life circumstances can obtain free peer counseling from the Mental Health Association of Southwest Florida.

Counseling is coordinated by Margot Escott, a licensed clinical social worker with MHASWFL. Call 261-5405 or e-mail mescott@mhaswfl.org. Ms. Escott can also provide information about the association's other services.

Support for Parkinson's patients and their caregivers

The Parkinson Association of Southwest Florida Inc. holds exercise, speech and art therapy classes

at locations in Naples and Bonita Springs for those who suffer from Parkinson's disease. Support programs for families and caregivers are also offered, and various opportunities are available for volunteers at PASFI headquarters, 2950 Tamiami Trail N. Dance classes take place from 1-2:15 p.m. Thursdays at PASFI headquarters in Naples and from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Fitness for Life Center in the Shops of Hidden Lakes in Bonita Springs. Attendance is free.

PASFI has recently signed a contract with NCH Healthcare System to hold speech classes at the North Collier Hospital.

Classes will take place once a week for eight weeks, beginning early in 2012.

To sign up for classes or for more information about services and programs offered by PASFI, call Executive Director Ruth Hubing at 417-3465, e-mail pasfied@aol.com or visit www.PASFi.org. ■

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PET TALES

Pick a pair

What's better than one cat? Two, of course

BY DR. MARTY BECKER
Universal Uclick

We give cats the time we can spare and the love we can share from our busy schedules, but that's not always enough. Sometimes a furry friend of the feline persuasion helps to fill a cat's day when his people are away.

They can hear the flutter of a fly's wings or hear a mouse creeping in a crawl space ... you can't. They can get crazy on catnip together, groom each other with those raspy tongues, chase each other playfully in a game of zoom-around-the-room or just crash on the cat tree with each other while soaking up the sun during a cat nap.

One of the many myths about cats is that they prefer to live alone, but that's not necessarily true. When people ask me about getting a second adult cat, I always encourage them to do so.

There will be a period of adjustment, of course. Shelter and colony studies show that it may take up to one year for a new adult cat to be accepted by other cats. But in many cases, if not most, it's worth the effort: Veterinary studies show that when cats have company, both cats are healthier. Animals with buddies are sick less often, require shorter stays when they are hospitalized and live longer.

The friendship usually works best if the cats are of the opposite sex. Two males or two females may each seek to be top cat, even if they are spayed or neutered.



A bonded pair of adult cats will keep each other healthier and happier — and keep your bed warmer, too.

Another pairing that works well is an older cat and a younger cat. The presence of a youngster can enliven an adult cat who may have lost some of his spark or put on a little pudg.

The easiest way to go about it is to adopt a pair at once. Bonded pairs are commonly available for adoption, typically littermates raised together. They're often overlooked by people who insist on a single cat, or on kittens, but they're ideal for adopting if you don't already have a cat but are ready to open your home and your heart.

If you already have one cat, though, adopting a bonded pair may not be wise:

Cats seem to get along best in even-numbered groups. When there's an odd

cat out, he may get picked on or develop aggression toward the other cats in an attempt to make his way to the top of the tabby totem pole.

Two cats are twice the pleasure, but not twice the effort to care for, especially if you're adopting a pair of healthy, altered adults from a good rescue group or shelter. While most bonded pairs of cats will happily share everything from your bed to the cat tree, one thing many will insist on is not sharing a litter box. To keep your cats from thinking outside the box, have one litter box for each cat, plus one more.

It's well worth the modest extra effort, though. If there's anything better than one loving cat in your home, it's a pair of purring pals. ■

Pets of the Week



>> **Jojo** is a 6-month-old pit bull mix. Beautiful, sweet and friendly, she pulls a bit on her leash and needs more training, although she has the basics. She is OK with other dogs and likes cats.



>> **Mia** is about 1½ years old and has a very sweet, calm and friendly homebody personality. At the shelter through no fault of her own, she needs and deserves a loving forever home.



>> **Tyson** is a classic beauty who's 3 months old. He's very affectionate, loves to be petted and gets along well with his roommates.



>> **Vonn** is a 1-year-old rat terrier mix who's a fun little dog with a great temperament. He's OK with other dogs and likes cats.

To adopt or foster a pet

• This week's pets are from **Collier County Domestic Animal Services**. Adoption fees for cats are \$60 and dogs are \$85 and include sterilization surgery, vaccinations, pet license, ID microchip and a bag of food. Visit DAS at 7610 Davis Blvd. from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Saturday. For more information, call 252-7387 or visit www.colliergov.net/pets.



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MUSINGS

Arabesque



"I would only believe in a god who could dance."
 — Friedrich Nietzsche, "Thus Spake Zarathustra"

"You are not reading Nietzsche completely unless you find his contradiction of the statement you are currently reading."
 — Karl Jaspers

"Dance with me: I want to be your partner. Can't you see the music is just starting? Night is falling and I am calling: Dance with me."
 — sung by Orleans; written by Bobby Ross Avila Jr., Louis Brown, Scott Steven Parker and Isaiah Avila

"The ancient poets animated all sensible objects with gods, calling them by name and adorning them with the properties of woods, rivers, mountains, lakes, cities, nations, and whatever their enlarged and numerous senses could perceive.... And at length they pronounced that the gods had ordered such things. Thus men forgot that all deities reside in the human breast."
 — William Blake, "Marriage of Heaven and Hell"

Coupe:
 tendrils pirouette woven
 this ozymandias serpentine sinew
 knotted and echoed and automated
 that reconnaissance faring well for
 ferrying
 bound for unbinding
 cut

Echappe:
 like dandelion fluff in the wind
 blown to the mote edges
 and overboard
 waves without end
 whirled skins bursting
 escaped

Releve:
 appetizer delight
 trident skewered
 turned out
 turned in
 pique
 lifted

Tendu:
 long dripping longer
 from hair's heading to depths
 flowing fiery ardent
 iridescent feathers becoming
 kaleidoscope jewels
 stretched

Efface:
 from grand-plie depths sounding
 drum beating
 crescent mooning
 lightly delighted
 obscured
 erased

*

Bird's eye:
 Fermata

da capo



— 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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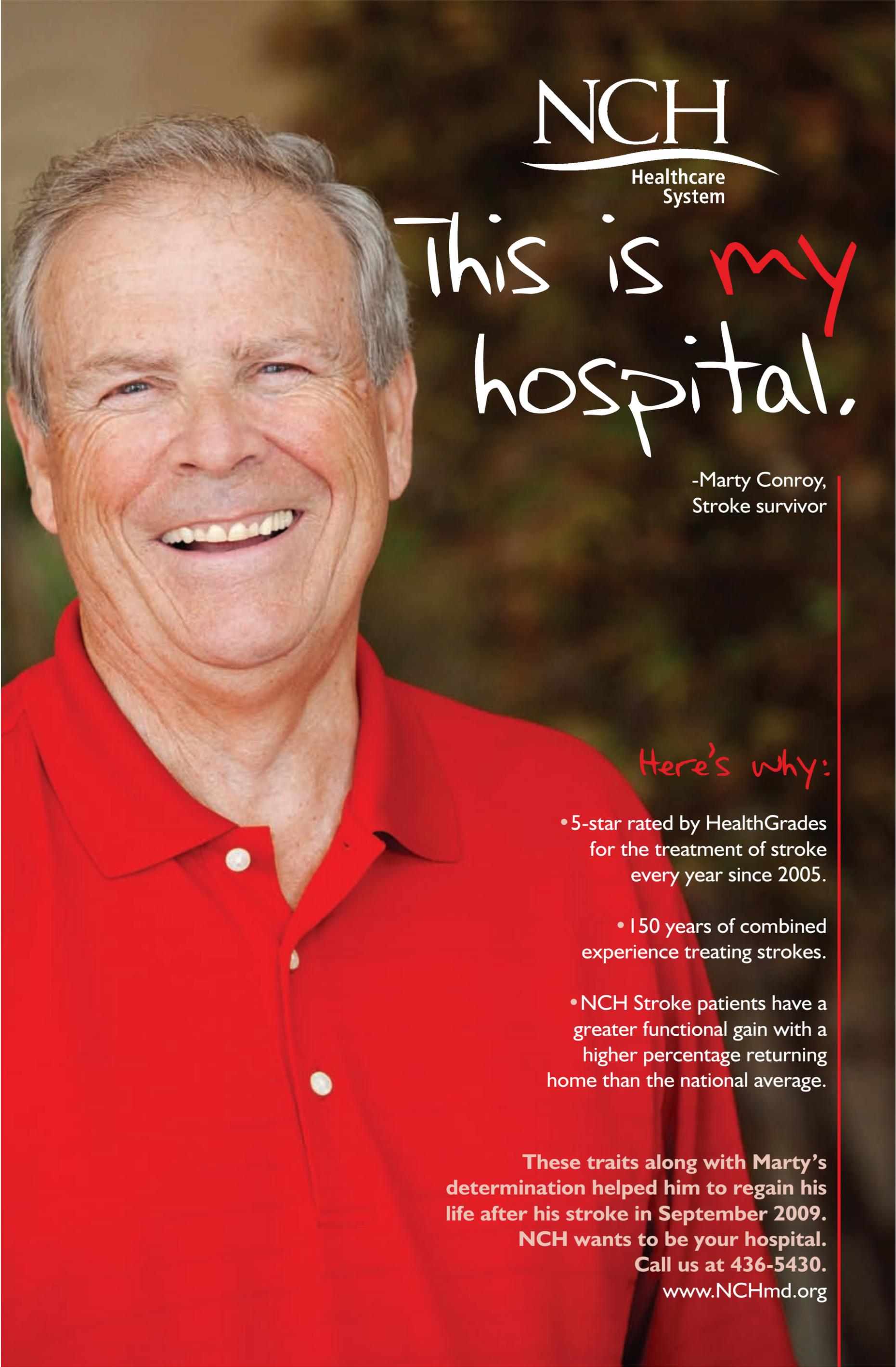
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Stroke survivor

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BUSINESS & REAL ESTATE

WEEK OF DECEMBER 8-14, 2011

A GUIDE TO THE LOCAL BUSINESS & REAL ESTATE INDUSTRIES

"It's been a good thing for me, relaxing and kind of hard to describe."

— Brian Presley

Executives unwind

Hard-working people tend to play hard, too

BY Nanci Theoret

Special to Florida Weekly

By day, some Southwest Florida business executives and professionals might present a guise similar to Clark Kent or Diana Prince. Mild-mannered, suited up and taking on the corporate and nonprofit world. But after hours, the alter egos of these doctors, executive directors and company presidents emerge, taking the form of hockey player, dance competitor, pilot and triathlete.

For these professionals, a leisurely pursuit has transcended mere hobby status. Theirs is a passion that requires complete concentration, expert skill or strength — and in some cases a touch of bravado. Yet as diverse as these pastimes appear, there's an underlying theme of stress release and new friendships that extend beyond the office walls.

David Shimmel

As a child in Pensacola, David Shimmel was fascinated by the roar and spectacle of Navy planes flying training maneuvers overhead. It lit a flame that ignited 20 years later, when the executive director of the David Lawrence Center in Naples started taking lessons at the municipal airport.

"I waited until my kids got through college to get into it seriously," he says. "Taking lessons from Jack McManus, a master instructor, really increased my love of aviation and everything aviation."

Mr. Shimmel owns a four-seat Cessna 182 with two partners, and uses the plane frequently for weekend day trips throughout Florida and also for business meetings and to visit a daughter in Alabama. It can make Charlotte, N.C., on a tank of gas. "An airplane is designed to fly," he says. "The worst thing you can do as a pilot



SHIMMEL



COURTESY PHOTO

Investment advisor and former Neapolitan Brian Presley makes pottery and cares for his cattle ranch in Punta Gorda.

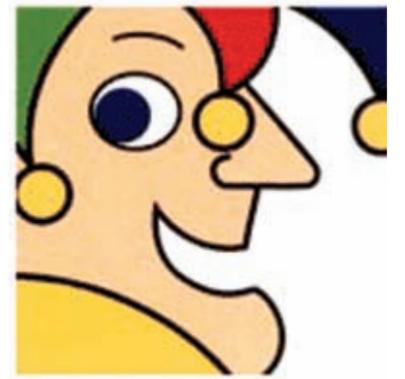
SEE HOBBIES, B7 ►

INSIDE



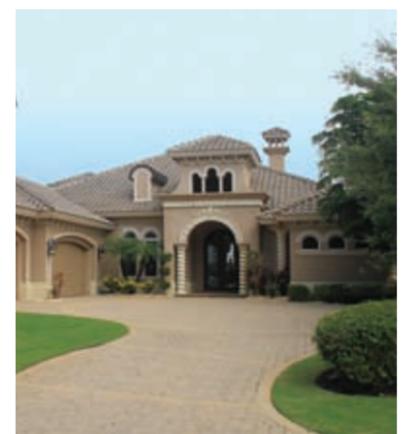
New officers

Women's Council of Realtors-Naples on the Gulf installation ceremony, and more business events. **B8-9** ►



Foolish trivia

What tech giant's name brings Albert Einstein to mind? **B6** ►



House Hunting

Water, water everywhere in Miramar Lakes. **B11** ►

Researcher predicts modest growth in consumer confidence

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The consumer confidence index among Floridians remained at 65 in November, a ranking that matches a revised mark set in October and is only two points higher than the record low of 59 set in June 2008.

The index used by UF researchers is benchmarked to 1966, which means a value of 100 represents the same level of confidence for that year. The lowest index possible is a 2; the highest is 150.

The November survey reveals a mixture of positive and negative percep-

tions.

"Consumers are slightly less optimistic about current conditions than they were last month and slightly more optimistic about long-run conditions," says Chris McCarty, director of UF's Survey Research Center in the Bureau of Economic and Business Research, which conducted the survey.

McCarty noted that of the five categories used to measure consumer confidence, two decreased, two increased and one remained unchanged, resulting in an overall mark of 65. Perceptions, for example, that compare personal finance

levels with those of a year ago fell two points to 52. However, expectations that personal finances will improve a year from now went up three points to 79.

Meanwhile, respondents' overall view that the U.S. economy will improve over the coming year fell two points to 52. However, their expectation that the economy will improve over the next five years remained unchanged at 67.

Finally, the perception that now is a good time to buy big-ticket consumer items, such as televisions and laptop computers, rose four points to 75.

Sources for optimism, however, don't

necessarily indicate a recovery is on the way. Most of the index components, for instance, are lower than they were at the same time a year before. Not only is the consumer confidence level stuck at historically low levels, it "has previously been associated with recessionary levels," McCarty says.

If consumer confidence attitudes are mixed, so, too, are reports of economic activity. The jobless rate for Florida, for example, remains high at 10.3 percent, though there was an encouraging .3

SEE CONFIDENCE, B4 ►

MONEY & INVESTING

Getting a grip on the Euro crisis



The average citizen is easily confused by recent news of a multi-country plan to provide more liquidity to international banks, particularly to European banks struggling to stay solvent. Europe has supposedly agreed to leverage its European Financial Stability Facility up to \$1 trillion — a mindboggling move for many to comprehend.

This must have been great news: international equity markets responded with big gains. Or was it really just a stop-gap measure? Gains in gold and silver on the same news suggest that the crisis worsened.

Frightening recent news prompted the action. Germany (with big GDP and best sovereign credit) failed to get bids for 35 percent of its 10-year debt offering. According to *The Wall Street Journal* (Nov. 17, 2011), "Banks face funding stress, European institutions resort to potentially risky swaps to generate liquidity." In the U.S., the congressional super committee failed to find \$1.2 trillion to cut in cumulative deficits over the next 10 years. And China reported another monthly low Purchasing Managers Index, or PMI, suggesting a slowdown there as well.

All of these topics are big and intertwined; this column offers my opinions on the Euro crisis and sovereign debt in general.

It is no secret that Portugal, Italy, Greece and Spain — the PIGS as they've become known — are facing insolvency. They can't pay their sovereign debts. They don't have

sources of revenue, including tax dollars, to pay for their past and present wanton spending.

Greek debt was horrific until Italy's was worse; Portugal and Spain aren't far behind.

Normally, corporate or personal insolvency is handled by: 1) default on the debt or principal "haircuts" reducing debt to a manageable load; or 2) a very stiff upper lip and adoption of fiscal austerity measures so that the debt can be repaid.

These different approaches were taken by Iceland (defaulted in 2009) and Ireland (received transitional funding and fiscally housecleaned).

But the above options are not considered viable for huge and complex PIGS debt.

First, much of it was bought by "too big to fail" European banks (France, Germany, Belgium, Italy). Losses on this sovereign debt could cause their failure. A full default would probably result in: bank debt and shareholders being wiped out and banks being nationalized (owned and run) by the respective country's government... requiring a massive effort and massive disruption in global finance, etc.

Secondly, austerity by all of Europe could turn into a depression.

Enter some financial engineering to solve the Euro-land problem.

Europe is considering handling the crisis akin to what the U.S. Federal Reserve did in 2008-2011: buy up the bad mortgages from banks and let banks remain afloat. For Europe to buy bad sovereign debt from their banks requires creation of a centralized European bank to function like the U.S. Fed. Eurobonds would be sold to finance and let the PIGS roll their maturing debt and

refinance at interest rates much lower than a rate accorded their individual country's poor credit, as Germany could lend its better credit rating to the Euro bond.

"Not so fast," say many Germans. They fear: 1) money supply exploding if their bank leadership is chaired/membered by spend-thrift countries; 2) their "co-sign" of a Euro bond will turn out to be a German "sole-pay" of Eurobonds.

So, nix the Eurobond plan until the borrowing-gone-wild countries are contractually committed to fiscal responsibility via new EU treaties requiring negotiation, drafts, arguing, political positioning and country-by-country ratification. Are we talking late 2012? 2013?

Will the U.S., England, Canada, Japan and Switzerland provide more interim help? That might be a very tough sell with very poor timing.

England is already on an austerity plan. The American citizenry wants U.S. problems solved first. And slippery U.S. politicians will want to pass until after 2012's elections. Can China help? Sure, but when it's help (in dollars/Yuan) is needed, China sometimes portrays itself as merely a developing country.

Historically, what have governments with excessive debt done? Governments with fiat currency have solutions beyond what is available to corporations or individuals: governments can monetize their debt — just print more of their fiat currency to pay bills and debt. But Greece and Italy can't run Euro presses unless the Germans agree to print Euros. Thus, there is a tug-of-war between easy and tight money policy.

A fiat or paper currency (i.e. one not

backed by hard assets) can retain value if the issuing country does not monetize its debt. But the history of fiat currencies suggests that because they have capacity to print paper money, they ultimately do. Monetizing debt causes assets you own (in that currency) to be worth less and lenders technically get paid in full but with a currency worth less. (As to the U.S., trillions of debt is sold to pay for its deficits and the Federal Reserve has had to buy a bunch of that debt. To many, the Treasury issuing debt and the Fed buying it is tantamount to the U.S. running a printing press.)

The problem comes back to the past and future deficit spending of countries with fiat currencies. And while no one knows how this mess will be resolved, the uncertainty about government stability and the potential that debts will be eradicated through monetization engenders interest in gold and silver.

You might want to consider equity rallies as opportunities to reallocate your portfolio; if you do not feel comfortable with your mix of assets or are not truly diversified, do something about it. Talk to your adviser as he/she can offer counsel suitable for you. ■

— Jeannette Showalter, CFA is a commodities broker with Worldwide Futures Systems, 571-8896. For mid-week commentaries, write to showalter@wwfsc.com.

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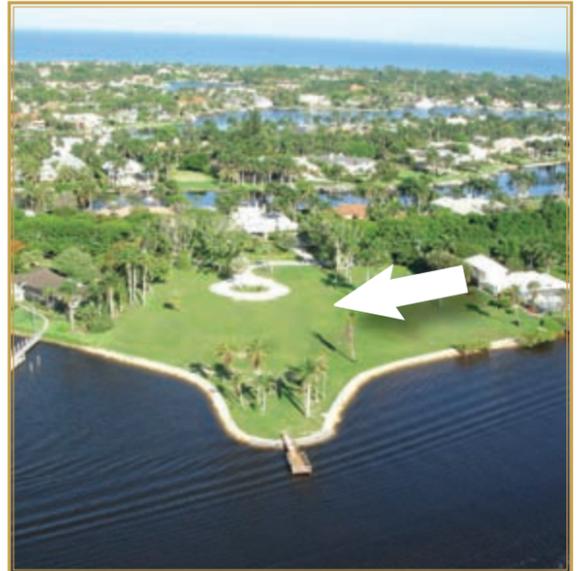
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CONFIDENCE

From page 1

percent decline in unemployment from September to October. Some of the new hiring occurred in the health and education sectors.

An uptick in Florida tourism also spurred job creation in the leisure and hospitality sectors. However, Dr. McCarty cautions, sustained increases in tourism may fade if austerity programs in Europe and the U.S. curtail personal spending on travel.

Meanwhile, Florida's consumer confidence continues to be shaken by a slump in housing activity. The median price for a single-family home at \$131,550 is down from both September and October of last year.

The gloomy housing outlook is accompanied by modest good news of gasoline prices, which command a larger share of lower income consumers' spending. They dropped 7 cents in November from the previous month to \$3.35 for a gallon of regular gas.

Dr. McCarty also anticipates a future with mixed prospects.

"The Gross Domestic Product, though revised downward for the third quarter, was still positive at 2 percent nationally," he says, adding, "Florida's gross state product is forecast to be low, but positive."

Dr. McCarty says that although the U.S. and Florida might avoid experiencing the effects of negative GDP, most economic indicators "suggest sluggish growth for the next few quarters." In addition, worsening economic problems in Europe could drag the U.S. into a lower GDP. ■

'Tis the season for corporate gifts

BY BARBARA SCHEIPE

Special to Florida Weekly

Some business people look at corporate gift giving as just a formality, it really should be considered an investment. Who wants to spend hundreds or thousands of dollars on their clients and business associates without making an impact?

One in three people say gifts from a business partner increase the chances they will do business with that company in the future. And it's not just clients that matter; 75 percent of employees say that receiving a gift has improved their morale, and 33 percent say a gift has motivated them to be more productive.

With the average corporate gift costing \$35-\$100, it is important to make it count. Here are a few tips to make sure your gift stands out during all the hustle and bustle of the season.

- Present your customers with quality gifts. This is your chance to impress your clients; don't let a Frisbee leave a bad impression.

- Just like you do with friends and family, think of the personality of your clients and their businesses when choosing their gifts.

- Include a handwritten card with a personal or meaningful message.

- Whether you work with one person, one department or everyone in an entire company, be sure to bring enough gifts for everyone you work with or want to work with.

- Deliver your gifts personally. This gives you a chance to meet with your customer and have a conversation. ■

— Barbara Scheipe owns Proforma Dynamic Image Solutions.



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PORT ROYAL - RUM ROW

With captivating long water views of Galleon Cove, this beautiful Costa del Sol architectural masterpiece captures the essence of Florida's indoor-outdoor lifestyle. Located on one and one-half Port Royal lots, this five bedroom home is designed for glorious water views. Port Royal Club membership eligibility.

\$6,850,000



PORT ROYAL - KINGS TOWN DRIVE

Dramatic views over Treasure Cove from this architectural masterpiece designed by renowned architect Kasimir Korybut. Elegant, yet comfortable, tropical living. Port Royal Club membership eligibility.

\$5,950,000



PORT ROYAL - FORT CHARLES DRIVE

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



AQUALANE SHORES - 8TH STREET SOUTH

Wonderfully designed by Stofft Cooney Architects, this home captures the true essence of cottage living while providing the finest of modern day conveniences. The home is situated on an extraordinarily deep, Western exposure lot, which provides the owner with expansive green spaces and open vistas to the wide waters of Flamingo Cove.

\$4,990,000



SANCERRE, A CONDOMINIUM - UNIT 401

The turquoise Gulf waters, the ebullient palms, and the fresh white sand merge in the mind's eye with the soft palette of interior finishes. Effortless living with available concierge services.

\$4,290,000



PORT ROYAL - RUM ROW

Beautiful western exposure on Rum Row with inspiring multidirectional views of Man of War Cove and Hidden Bay. Substantial building envelope. Terrific safe harbor, no bridge access to the Gulf of Mexico. Port Royal Club membership eligibility.

\$4,240,000



PORT ROYAL - CUTLASS LANE

Cutlass Cove is a coveted address by people who appreciate its safe harbor, proximity to Gordon Pass, and its membership eligibility to join not only the Port Royal Club but, in addition, the Cutlass Cove Beach Club. The size of the property permits a substantial building envelope with sought after southwest exposure.

\$3,850,000



PORT ROYAL - GALLEON DRIVE

This enchanting Port Royal residence offers a tropical motif, including rich wood finishes, stone flooring, and tongue and groove ceiling treatments. There are direct views of Limpkin Cove with ample green space for gardening and outdoor entertaining. Port Royal Club membership eligibility.

\$3,700,000



OLD NAPLES - 14TH AVENUE SOUTH

Perhaps one of the finest locations on the navigable waters abutting Old Naples. This Southern exposure waterfront bungalow and the lush tropical gardens which surround are nestled just one block to the historic 3rd Street South shopping and dining district.

\$1,750,000



GULF SHORE BLVD. CONDOMINIUM

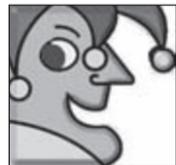
Unique vistas are had from the main living areas and sizable bedrooms of this beautifully updated Admiralty Point II condominium. Admiralty Point's unique setting along the North bank of Doctor's Pass and its on-site amenities are among the finest in the Moorings.

\$674,000

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Picking Mutual Funds

It might seem smart to select mutual funds based on how they've performed recently, but that can be a recipe for trouble. Here are some things to think about.

Funds that beat the stock market average one year won't necessarily beat it the following year. To some degree, a terrific return isn't the result of the fund manager's brilliance, but of good luck — at least over the short term. (And many fund managers invest only for the short term.) Lots of bad funds have occasional terrific years.

Be careful even if a fund has a great three- or five- or even 10-year average. That can be due to one amazing year. After all, a five-year average is just an average of five annual performances. If one is unusually high, the average will be high. If in each of five years, a fund earns 6 percent, 11 percent, 2 percent, 8 percent and 33 percent, its average annual return will be about 12 percent.

That might look respectable, but note that in reality it exceeded 12 percent in only one of five years. That 33 percent return (a

statistical "outlier") skewed the average.

Believe it or not, the majority of stock mutual funds fail to perform as well as the market average (as measured by the S&P 500 index).

So what can you do? Well, consider investing in a broad-market index fund. If you can't beat the average, you can meet it (and outperform most other mutual funds) by investing in, say, the Vanguard S&P 500 index fund (ticker: VFINX) or its Total Stock Market Index fund (ticker: VTSMX). (Vanguard is at www.vanguard.com or 877-662-7447.)

To do even better, seek out those select funds that do tend to fare better than average. Ideally, they'll have no loads, expense ratios (annual fees) below 1 percent, and thoughtful managers who invest their own money in the funds.

Learn more about funds at www.fool.com/mutualfunds/mutualfunds.htm, and research them at www.morningstar.com. Also, check out our recommended low-fee funds via a free trial of our "Rule Your Retirement" newsletter at www.ruleyourretirement.com. ■

My Dumbest Investment

Risky Biotech

One of my dumbest investments was in Bradley Pharmaceuticals. The big problem was that I didn't understand the nature of the business. It was one of my earliest forays into investing, and the pharmaceutical/life sciences/medical area was not one I was sufficiently familiar with. When it fell, I sold.

I learned to write down the reasons why a company is attractive, read up all about it and its industry, and read the 10-K report, too — at least the "Management Discussion & Analysis" section. — *Felix E., Singapore*

The Fool Responds: It's a common mistake to invest in what we don't understand — just think back to Enron. And biotechnology enterprises can be extra-risky. Not only is it good to understand the science behind the treatments being developed, but you also need a good handle on competing treatments that exist or are in pipelines.

Many biotechs aren't very profitable yet, either, with investors pinning much hope on drugs that may or may not get FDA approval. Before buying, be sure you understand exactly how a company makes its money and how reliable its future growth is. ■



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

Founded in 1978 in Atlanta, I had 100 stores open by 1989, and most recently had more than 2,200 open, including some in Mexico, Canada and China. I've been the fastest growing retailer in American history. Today I'm the world's largest home improvement retailer and its fifth-largest retailer. I rake in close to \$70 billion annually and employ more than 300,000 people. My typical store has about 105,000 square feet (plus 23,000 square feet for its garden center) and up to 40,000 items in inventory — making it difficult for many hardware stores to compete with me. Who am I? (Answer: The Home Depot) ■



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

IPOs and Market Size

Q I see that Groupon just went public, raising \$700 million. But I also see that its market capitalization is above \$7 billion. How can that be?

— G.D., Franklin, Tenn.

A The key number to note is 6.3 percent. That's the portion of itself that Groupon issued in stock to the public. Its insiders control the remaining shares. The company issued 35 million shares in its initial public offering (IPO), but there are more than 550 million shares in existence.

When you multiply all the existing shares of the company (those trading on the public market and those that are not) by the current stock price, you get its market cap, which was recently more than \$10 billion.

Q What does it mean when a company has "initiated coverage" on a particular stock?

— T.L., Detroit

A Big brokerages and investment banks typically employ analysts to follow and study various companies. The analysts issue recommendations that are passed on to clients and others.

When a brokerage initiates coverage of a company, it just means that the company is now being followed by the firm and that the brokerage has an opinion on it (perhaps "Buy," "Hold" or "Sell"). There may also be a detailed research report available on the stock, which is typically much more illuminating than a simple one-word rating.

"Sell" ratings have long been relatively rare. That's because since these ratings usually come from organizations with investment banking operations, the organizations haven't wanted to burn any bridges with current or potential investment banking clients by being too negative.

Many brokerages offer gobs of research reports on companies. See what yours offers, or look for a better brokerage, at www.broker.fool.com. ■

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

Name That Company

Founded in 1979 and based in Massachusetts, I'm a tech giant today, helping companies store, manage, protect and analyze information. The first product I sold was a desk for computer users.

Since 2003, I've invested more than \$10 billion in research and development around the world and \$14 billion acquiring companies. In 1995 I overtook IBM as the mainframe storage leader. I rake in more



than \$19 billion annually. My stock has grown by an average of 13 percent annually over the past 15 years. My name might make you think of Albert Einstein. 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

Groupon, Groupoff

Initial public offerings (IPOs) can be exciting, and Groupon's (Nasdaq: GRPN) recent debut certainly attracted a lot of attention. Is the stock a good buy? Opinions differ at Fool HQ, but the case against it is strong. For example:

It faces daunting rivals and potential competition, from the likes of LivingSocial (backed by Amazon.com), Google and others. There aren't many barriers to entry, either, so new competition can crop up suddenly. Its future is very uncertain, unlike more predictable businesses.

Its business doesn't inspire great customer loyalty. If you're a coupon seeker, you're not likely to stick solely with Groupon and ignore other options.

The founders appear to be cashing out: Of the last \$130 million that was raised pre-IPO, \$120 million went out the door to founders. We'd rather see these folks leaving most of their stake intact, aligning their interests with shareholders.

Its accounting has raised eyebrows. The company restated its revenue recently, and has changed how it defines certain expenses.

Hot IPOs tend to cool off. Per Bloomberg Businessweek, 20 of the 25 "hottest" IPOs of 2010 and 2011 have fallen sharply.

And finally, it's not yet turning a profit. Why take a chance on it, when there are lots of undervalued and proven companies around? (The Motley Fool owns shares of Google, and Google and Amazon.com have been recommendations in our newsletters.) ■

BUSINESS MEETINGS

■ **The Collier Building Industry Association** celebrates the installation of new offices and board members on Thursday, Dec. 8, at Olde Cypress Country Club. A cocktail reception begins at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. Cost is \$45 per person. Call 436-6100 or e-mail carrie@cbia.net for reservations no later than Dec. 2.

■ **The Above Board Chamber** meets for lunch and a program titled "Setting Your Business Goals" at 11:30 a.m. Monday, Dec. 12, at the Hilton Naples. Panelists will be Dan Regelski, director of the Small Business Development Center at FGCU, and Robin Richards, owner of Growing Forward Business Solutions;

Sue Huff will emcee. Cost is \$20 for members, \$25 for others. Call 981-7426 or prepay online at www.AboveBoardChamber.com. Reservations are due by Dec. 8.

■ **The Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce** hosts its pre-legislative breakfast with Sen. Garrett Richter beginning at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14, at the Hilton Naples. \$20 for members in advance; \$25 for non-members and at the door. Make a reservation at www.napleschamber.org/events.

■ **The Collier County Lodging & Tourism Alliance** holds its holiday membership mixer from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 14, at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort. All business owners and individuals involved in the local tourism industry are welcome. Admission is free for CCLTA members and guests; \$10 per person for non-members. Reservations are required by Dec. 8. E-mail Pam Calore at pam.cclta@gmail.com.

■ **The Gulf Coast Venture Forum-Naples Chapter** meets from 4-6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort. The primary purpose of the GCVF is to promote the success of Southwest Florida's new and emerging businesses by educating and bringing together the best entrepreneurs and Angel Investors. For information about

membership requirements, call 262-6300 or visit www.gcvf.com.

■ **The Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce** holds its annual holiday party from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, at the Hilton Naples. Guests are asked to bring a donation for Toys for Tots. Register at www.napleschamber.org/events.

■ **The Marco Island Chamber of Commerce** holds its next Business After Five for members and guests from 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 21, the Hilton Marco Island Beach Resort. Cost is \$5 for members, \$10 for others. Call 394-7549 or visit www.marcoislandchamber.org. ■

HOBBIES

From page 1

is let it sit in the hangar.”

Every time he takes flight —whether for breakfast and camaraderie with fellow pilots at airports in Key West, Okeechobee or Bartow — Mr. Shimmel experiences those pinch-me-I-can't-believe-it's-real moments. “I feel very privileged. I was with one of my partners and we were taking off from Naples at 7 in the morning. I looked at him and said, ‘Do we realize how lucky we are?’”

One of his favorite trips is skimming the Gulf of Mexico north over Pine Island and Sanibel en route to Venice. “It’s also pretty up through the middle of the state,” he says. “I like flying to the little airfields that were built in Florida in the 1940s for World War II flight training,” he adds. “I’ve met some incredible people at these airport restaurants. There’s a whole society of people who fly somewhere on Saturday or Sunday morning and talk aviation.”

Sometimes his flights are purely recreational, with no destination planned. “One of my partners and I will just fly on a Sunday. We call it poking holes in the sky. There’s nothing like flying; it’s a blast. It provides a great perspective when you’re 5,000 feet up and have nothing to think about except flying.”

Brian Presley

By day, investment advisor Brian Presley manages the portfolios of wealthy clients — a career that’s even more demanding in these tough economic times. Off hours, like last Friday morning, he and his trusty dog were trying to round up cows running amok along the driveway of his Acorn Ranch — sans horse, cowboy, car or a cell phone to call for backup from wife, Mary. “Somebody left the gate open,” says Mr. Presley, who made a name for himself early in his career as the youngest person to have New York Stock Exchange account.

Such is the life of this gentleman farmer who traded the Naples lifestyle for a working cattle ranch in Charlotte County a few years ago. It was an idea that started small — “a place in the country to take the grandchildren fishing” — but that in reality delivered a full-fledge ranching operation that now encompasses a little under 300 acres and another 120 leased to raise beef cattle.

Four times a year, backup is available: cowboys who sort, brand and tend to the needs of the herd. Mr. Presley’s manager happened to be vacationing during last week’s escape, leaving the investment advisor to his own devices. That’s not to say Mr. Presley isn’t involved in daily or weekly chores. He often begins his day inspecting cows and calves, administer-



Mary Love plays hockey with the Everkegs.

ing salt and minerals and setting strategy for calf sales before heading to the office. Many of the farm hands jokingly call him the “cow whisperer.”

“It’s been a good thing for me, relaxing and kind of hard to describe,” he says. “The investment business is high pressure. With cattle, they take their instructions nonverbally. It’s like someplace between playing chess and dancing. The whole herd knows the word ‘back up’ and when I say ‘Let me through,’ they divide.”

A long-time patron of the arts, Mr. Presley became an artist himself two years ago when he took up pottery. “I’ve never had a hobby like this at all,” he says. “I remember making the casual comment to Mary, ‘I’m not sure I couldn’t do that.’ I’ve never thought of myself as an artsy crafty person, so I said it just like that.

“Next thing I know, Mary had called the visual arts center and signed me up for a class.”

With Punta Gorda gallery/studio owner Jack Vartanian as his private instructor, Mr. Presley has honed his skills, experimenting with different glazes that create a unique end product. He’s made mostly platters and bowls, including one that will be auctioned during a January fundraiser for the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Mary Love

As a child in northern Indiana, Mary Love had the fearlessness of youth. Now as a mother and the wearer of many hats for her husband’s thriving business, Norman Love Confections, she looks back with a bit of unease thinking about skating on those frozen ponds.

Yet six years ago, this hockey mom made the leap from pond to rink, donning skates and padding and a what-the-heck attitude when she helped found a co-ed novice team. “It went from mothers hanging around at

the rink watching our sons play hockey to us saying, ‘Hey, why don’t we try it?’” says Ms. Love, captain of the Everkegs — a title she says she earned by default and a moniker that sums up the team’s intentions. “I’m the oldest and one of the originals on the team. I’m really not a good player. I play for the exercise, the social experience... and the beer. It’s all about the beer in the locker room after the game.”

Although she jokes that her rank, ability and involvement are purely situational or even questionable, Ms. Love experiences the same adrenaline rush as the first time she stepped onto the ice — one in which she was grateful for padding. “It’s still a big-time rush to be out there,” she says. “I get the same nervous feeling every time.”

The Everkegs compete year-round, playing every Sunday at Germain Arena against six other co-ed teams. “It’s mostly men, and one of my sons plays with me,” she says. “But we do have a lady who drives from Port Charlotte every week.”

The team has won several seasonal championships. “We’re probably in the running this year, too,” says a self-deprecating Ms. Love. “Not through any help from me.”

Teri Hansen

It took just one dance lesson for image-maker Teri Hansen to realize she had found a creative outlet to her day job as the president of Priority Marketing, a marketing, advertising and public relations firm.

“I had never taken a single dance lesson,” she says. “I was an athlete growing up. I played sports in school and was a singer. Dancing was just something I did for fun when my dad and I were kidding around.”

But her 20th high school reunion and a discussion with a classmate in 2000 prompt-

ed Ms. Hansen to consider the possibility. “My friend told me she was taking classes and was having a blast. She invited me to come and see.”

One class and Ms. Hansen was hooked. “I’m a very, very competitive person, and it really clicked with me. After taking lessons an hour a week for three months, I was so in love with it I stepped up the hours a week I would practice. I told my instructor I wanted to be a competitor.”

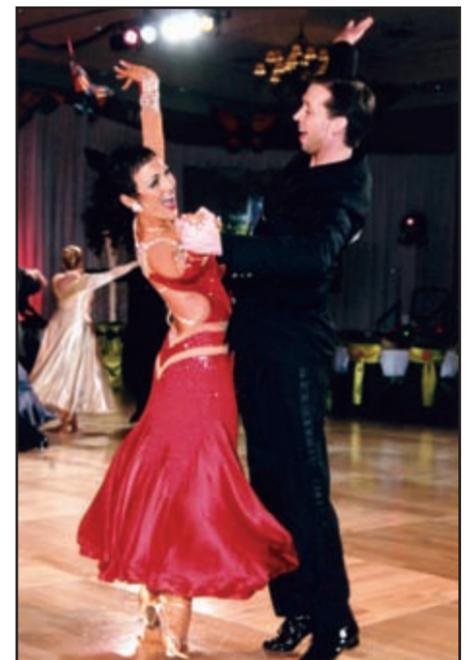
A year later, she took the leap into the competitive world of amateur American smooth and rhythm dances, a nine-dance combo of waltz, tango, foxtrot, Viennese waltz, cha-cha, rumba, swing, bolero and mambo. She finished in the finals, placing fifth.

As she honed her skills, Ms. Hansen set her sights high, deciding just two years ago

she wanted to win the American nine-dance national championship. And she’s close: In September, she ranked second in the U.S. Dance Championships in the 25-50 age division. It was no small feat, considering she competes against women nearly half her age and she trains only sporadically with her professional partner of two years, who lives in Tennessee.

A hobby, albeit a competitive one, Ms. Hansen says dancing fulfills her creative muse and competitive spirit.

“I work 10 to 12 hours a day, so this provides a different kind of creative expression and release,” she says. “Leadership and executive training always talks about the need to work hard and the need to play hard as well. In doing so, it replenishes and balances you.” ■



Teri Hansen, president of Priority Marketing, dances competitively.

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NETWORKING

Women's Council of Realtors-Naples on the Gulf installation of officers



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6



7



8

1. Cathy Driscoll, WCR-Florida president Robin McKeever, Judy Gietzen and Doreen Thomas
2. Barry Zvibleman, Dave Bower, Joni and Jim Albert, John Buehler
3. Sharon Zuccaro, Nancy Dalaskey and Heather Wightman
4. Nella DeCesare, Mark Schwartz and Debra McAlister-Brown
5. Maribeth Shanahan and Robyn DeVille
6. Marie Harris, Terri Speech and Rae Wakelin
7. Brett Brown and Janette Batten
8. Anita Colletti and Debbie Zvibleman, outgoing and incoming presidents, respectively

DAVID MICHAEL / FLORIDA WEEKLY

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.

NETWORKING

The Immokalee Foundation's 'Strides for Education' 5K walk/run

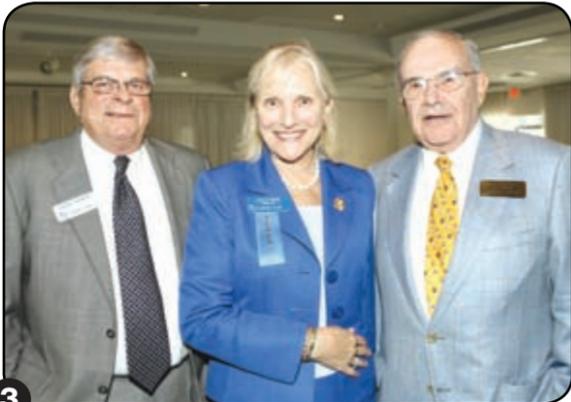


1. Jovenel Benjamin
2. Jesus Velasco
3. Dr. Mary Murray with Immokalee High School first place team
4. Dr. Javier Rosado
5. Liz Allbritten, Kamela Patton and Kathleen Passidomo

COURTESY PHOTOS



The Forum Club welcomes William Isaac



1. Dave Rismiller and William Isaac
2. John Johnson, Bob Nichols and Ken Krier
3. Lloyd Liggett, Polly Eide and Alan Korest
4. Naples High Students with sponsors and William Isaac

PEGGY FARREN / FLORIDA WEEKLY



Celebrating the American Red Cross Tiffany Circle members



1. Melanie Sabelhaus, Pam Sibcy, Donna Boortz, Rob Sibcy and Neal Boortz
2. Steve Donovan
3. Rob Sibcy, Peter and Susan Bonnano
4. Susan Bonnano, Pam Sibcy, Nancy Donovan, Roger LaGreca, Melanie Sabelhaus and Donna Boortz

KHARLE ROSE PHOTOGRAPHY / 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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REAL ESTATE

WEEK OF DECEMBER 8-14, 2011 A GUIDE TO THE LOCAL INDUSTRY

| B11



House Hunting:

18621 Verona Lago Drive, Miromar Lakes

"House Hunting" is a new *Florida Weekly* feature that focuses on one listing in the local marketplace.

Waterfront views of more than 700 acres of freshwater lakes are the hallmark of this estate home designed for the ultimate in outdoor living in the Verona Lago neighborhood at the award-winning Miromar Lakes Beach & Golf Club.

Relax on the expansive lanai warmed on cooler nights by the glow from three fire pits. Awake to the sunrise and enjoy your morning coffee on the second-story balcony. Enjoy a leisurely swim or dip in the spa accompanied by underwater music and fiber optic lighting.

This nearly 4,900-square-foot home has four bedrooms, five full baths, den, theater and exercise room with designer finishes and details including crown molding throughout. The chef's kitchen boasts four ovens, warming and steam trays, six burners and solid stone surfaces. State-of-the-art electronics include a home automation system.

The backyard is steps from the lake for



swimming, boating, water-skiing and fishing. The community boasts three miles of private beach and championship golf.

18621 Verona Lago Drive in Miromar Lakes is listed for \$2.195 million by Jeff Garard and Lee Kitsberg at Miromar Lakes Realty. Call 425-2340 or visit www.MiromarLakes.com. ■



UF survey: Florida real estate market slips once again

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Florida real estate experts and investors were pessimistic for a second consecutive quarter, despite encouraging signs in the rise of occupancy rates and prices in the rental apartment market, a new University of Florida survey finds.

The Survey of Emerging Market Conditions, conducted quarterly by the Kelley A. Bergstrom Center for Real Estate Studies at UF's Warrington College of Business Administration, indicates the main reason for the third-quarter malaise was the falling market for single-family houses, condominiums and most types of land.

Uncertainty over unsettling economic news at the international, national and state levels provides the backdrop for

the declining perspective, says Timothy Becker, director of the Bergstrom Center. The Commercial Real Estate Sentiment Index declined in the third quarter, marking the second consecutive decline of the year.

The survey takers anticipate a sluggish recovery for the real estate market in the coming years. A large inventory of home foreclosures partly explains their gloomy expectation. Respondents also worry about employment. Since January, 70,000 new jobs have been created in Florida, but they were offset by 63,000 lost positions, keeping the unemployment rate at 10.6 percent since April.

Respondents also believe that a weak economy continues to discourage the private sector from adding new hires. Companies instead are likely to squeeze

more productivity from workers and store profits to sustain them through future tough economic times. Concern over stock market turmoil, ongoing gridlock in Washington and the upcoming presidential election added to the overall pessimistic outlook.

The UF survey also reveals worry that securities-backed mortgages on commercial properties became harder to get during the third quarter. And there was wariness over the newly enacted Dodd-Frank Act, which expands federal regulation of banks.

"The problem is that individuals involved in banking don't yet know what the rules are under the new law, and whenever there's uncertainty, people

SEE MARKET, B18 ▶

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furnished, no pets
\$2,300

Marina Bay Club

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views, furnished, no pets
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Park Shore-Horizon House

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furnished
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- Saline Pool, Spa & Waterfalls
- \$5,950,000 MLS 211013938
- Michael & Lauren Taranto 239.572.3078

PARK SHORE



ESTATE HOME IN PARK SHORE

- 4 Bedrooms, + Den, 5-Full, 2-Half Baths
- Theater Room & Private Elevator
- Stunning Pool and Open Lanai
- Meticulous Appointments Throughout
- \$1,999,777 MLS 211013163
- Jordan Delaney & Steve Suddeth 239.404.3070

BRENDAN COVE



NEW LISTING

BEAUTIFUL WATER VIEWS

- 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 2.5-Baths
- Situated on the Imperial River
- Dock w/ 7,000 lb. Boat Lift
- Private Elevator
- \$875,000 MLS 211521187
- Martinovich & Nulf 239.398.3929

DORSET CLUB



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4:00

1050 9TH STREET, #200

- Situated in Olde Naples
- 2 Bedrooms, 2-Baths
- Walking Distance to 5th Avenue
- Beautiful Kitchen w/Wine Cooler
- \$525,000 MLS 211515984
- Debbie Dekevich 239.877.4194

BENT PINES



UNDER CONTRACT

TRANQUIL AND TROPICAL

- 2 Bedrooms, + Den, 2.5-Baths
- Completely Renovated 2-Story Villa
- Volume Ceilings, Wood Flooring
- Centrally Located
- \$249,900 MLS 211520158
- Jordan Delaney & Steve Suddeth 239.404.3070

BONITA BEACH



DIRECT BONITA BEACH WATERFRONT

- 3 Bedrooms, 3.5-Baths, 5,500 S.F. of Living Space
- Direct Gulf Views From 4-Levels
- Ultimate Rooftop Deck w/360 Degree Views
- Pool & Spa w/Fiber Optic Lighting
- \$4,995,000 MLS 211010024
- Michael & Lauren Taranto 239.572.0066

MARCELLO AT MEDITERRA



NEW LISTING

PRECONSTRUCTION HOUSE & LOT PACKAGE

- 4 Bedrooms, + Den, 4.5-Baths
- Over 4,400 S.F. of Living Space
- Pristine Lake and Golf Course Views
- Pool, Spa, & Outdoor Kitchen
- \$1,868,920 MLS 211521223
- Martinovich & Nulf 239.398.3929

PARK SHORE



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4:00

4451 GULF SHORE BLVD., #504

- Solamar at Park Shore
- 3 Bedrooms, 3-Baths, 2 Balconies
- Gulf, Bay & Cityscape Views
- Private Beach Access
- \$829,900 MLS 211507508
- Liz Appling 239.272.7201

PELICAN BAY



SERENDIPITY

- 3 Bedrooms, 3-Baths
- 1,925 S.F. of Living Space
- Beautiful Interior w/Fireplace
- Peaceful Water Views
- \$498,000 MLS 211520567
- Marya Doonan 239.450.4000

WORLD TENNIS CENTER



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4:00

4874 EUROPA DRIVE

- 3 Bedrooms, 2-Baths
- 80k in Stunning Upgrades
- Oversized Private Screened Lanai
- Gated Community w/Generous Amenities
- \$229,000 MLS 211515242
- Corey Cabral 239.963.6590

IL TREBBIO AT MEDITERRA



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4:00

16017 TREBBIO WAY

- 4 Bedrooms, + Den, 4.5-Baths
- In Home Massage Room & Retreat
- 70' Lanai w/ Custom Pool & Spa
- Phenomenal Lake & Golf Course Views
- \$3,650,000 MLS 211518573
- Martonovich & Nulf 239.398.3929

MEDITERRA



UNDER CONTRACT

POSITANO AT MEDITERRA

- 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 3.5-Baths
- Gorgeous Golf Course Views
- Amazing Gourmet Kitchen
- Stunning Pool w/Spillover Spa
- \$1,799,000 MLS 211518721
- Kristin Cavella-Whorrall 239.821.6330

PORTA VECCHIO AT MEDITERRA



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4:00

17005 PORTA VECCHIO WAY, #201

- 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 3-Baths
- Private Residence Elevator
- Large Lanai w/Golf Course Views
- Professionally Decorated
- \$789,000 MLS 211514282
- Martinovich & Nulf 239.565.2139

RIVER REACH



OLDE FLORIDA STYLE HOME

- 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 2-Baths
- Custom Island Kitchen
- Beautiful Master Retreat
- Gulf Access Via Gordan River
- \$400,000 MLS 211513140
- Doug Haughey 239.961.1561

MOORINGS



NEW LISTING

YACHT HARBOR MANOR

- 1 Bedrooms, 1-Bath
- Take Advantage of Beach & Bay
- Located on Gulf Shore Blvd., N
- Offered Fully Furnished
- \$215,000 MLS 211520774
- Doug Haughey 239.961.1561

BAREFOOT BEACH



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4:00

249 BAREFOOT BEACH BLVD.

- 4 Bedrooms, + Den, 5-Baths
- 5-Car Garage, Circular Drive & Motor Courts
- Stunning Views of the Gulf
- Lease Purchase Considered
- \$3,495,000 MLS 211013935
- Michael & Lauren Taranto 239.572.0066

PELICAN BAY



STRATFORD AT PELICAN BAY

- 4 Bedrooms, 3-Baths
- Stunning 22nd Floor Penthouse
- 360 Degree Views of the Gulf, Sanibel & Naples
- Wrap Around Terrace & Sun Deck
- \$1,350,000 MLS 211520537
- Marya Doonan 239.450.4000

COVE TOWERS



NEVIS AT COVE TOWERS

- 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 3.5-Baths
- Over 2,500 S.F. of Living Space
- Bay, Preserve & Gulf Views
- World Class Amenities
- \$785,000 MLS 211016044
- Jordan Delaney & Steve Suddeth 239.404.3070

BEAR'S PAW



BEAUTIFULLY REMODELED VILLA

- 3 Bedrooms, 3.5-Baths
- Vaulted Ceilings, Open Floor Plan
- Courtyard Home, Lanai Overlooks Preserve
- Beautiful Tiled Floors, Granite Counters
- \$399,500 MLS 211013742
- Jo Ellen Nash 239.537.4785

FOREST GLEN



PRICE REDUCED

CARRIAGE HOME

- 2 Bedrooms, + Den, 2-Baths
- Golf Course & Lake Views
- Quiet Cul-de-sac Location
- Great Community Amenities
- \$189,000 MLS 211512582
- Ted Libby 239.572.0403

BONITA



AZURE AT BONITA

- 3 Bedrooms, Plus Den
- Private Elevator Foyer
- Private 2-Car Garage
- 270 Degree Water Views
- \$2,475,000 MLS 211013935
- Martinovich & Nulf 239.398.3929

PELICAN



MARBELLA AT PELICAN BAY

- 3 Bedrooms, 3-Baths
- Extensively Upgraded
- Beautiful Custom Home
- Stunning Spacious
- \$1,195,000 MLS 211520537
- Steve Suddeth & Jordan Delaney 239.404.3070

MONTEROSSO



CUSTOM DESIGNED

- 3 Bedrooms, + Den
- Situated Overlooking
- Numerous Upgrades,
- Western Sunset Views
- \$769,000 MLS 211016044
- Martinovich & Nulf 239.398.3929

PELICAN



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4:00

5635 TURTLE BAY

- St. Simone at Pelican Bay
- 3 Bedrooms, 2-Baths
- Beautiful Granite TH
- Great Community A
- \$379,000 MLS 211013742
- Frank Dekevich 239.877.4194

GOLDEN GATE



SITUATED ON OCEAN

- 3 Bedrooms, 2-Baths
- Beautiful Pool w/Panoramic Views
- Spacious Lanai
- Ceramic Tile Throughout
- \$145,000 MLS 211520158
- Kimberly Reed 239.572.0066

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PORT BEACH



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4:00

BEACH BLVD.
• 5-Baths
• Private Drive & Motor Courts
• Views of the Gulf
• Considered
• 211013935
• Maranto 239.572.0066

PAN BAY



PELICAN BAY
• 3-Baths
• Penthouse
• Views of the Gulf, Sanibel & Naples
• Private Pool & Sun Deck
• 211520537
• 239.450.4000

TOWERS



TOWERS
• 3.5-Baths
• Living Space
• Gulf Views
• Amenities
• 11016044
• Steve Suddeth 239.404.3070

BEAR'S PAW



REMODELED VILLA
• 3-Baths
• Open Floor Plan
• Private Pool Overlooks Preserve
• Granite Countertops
• 11013742
• 239.537.4785

ST GLEN



PRICE REDUCED
• 2-Baths
• Views
• Location
• Amenities
• 11512582
• 2.0403

BONITA BAY



AZURE AT BONITA BAY
• 3 Bedrooms, Plus Den, 3.5-Baths
• Private Elevator Foyer
• Private 2-Car Garage
• 270 Degree Water Views
• \$2,475,000 MLS 210039372
• Martinovich & Nulf 239.564.5717

PELICAN BAY



MARBELLA AT PELICAN BAY
• 3 Bedrooms, 3-Baths
• Extensively Upgraded
• Beautiful Custom Hard Wood Built-ins
• Stunning Spacious Kitchen
• \$1,195,000 MLS 211506186
• Steve Suddeth & Jordan Delaney 239.784.0693

MONTEROSSO AT MEDITERRA



CUSTOM DESIGNED COACH HOME
• 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 3-Baths
• Situated Overlooking the Lake
• Numerous Upgrades, Rosewood Flooring
• Western Sunset Views
• \$769,000 MLS 211520639
• Martinovich & Nulf 239.564.5717

PELICAN BAY



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4:00
5635 TURTLE BAY DR., #9
• St. Simone at Pelican Bay
• 3 Bedrooms, 2-Baths
• Beautiful Granite Throughout
• Great Community Amenities
• \$379,000 MLS 211514996
• Frank Dekevich 239.877.4193

GOLDEN GATE ESTATES



SITUATED ON OVER 2 ACRES
• 3 Bedrooms, 2-Baths
• Beautiful Pool w/Paved Deck
• Spacious Lanai
• Ceramic Tile Throughout
• \$145,000 MLS 211519623
• Kimberly Reed 239.825.6700

OLDE NAPLES



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4:00

190 1ST AVENUE N.
• Charming Olde Naples
• 3 Bedrooms, +Den, 3.5-Baths
• Over 3,700 S.F. of Living
• Beautiful Pool & Spa
• \$2,450,000 MLS 211506409
• Kristin Porter 239.253.2099

THE DUNES



BEAUTIFUL GULF VIEWS
• 3 Bedrooms, 3-Baths
• Beautiful Tower Residence w/Private Entry
• Luxury Amenities & Concierge Services
• Many Upgrades Throughout
• \$1,050,000 MLS 211517422
• Debbie Dekevich 239.877.4194

GREY OAKS



TERRA VERDE AT GREY OAKS
• 3 Bedrooms, 3-Baths
• Beautiful Lake & Golf Views
• Over 2,600 S.F. of Luxury Living
• Private Elevator & 2-Car Garage
• \$699,000 MLS 211012267
• Jordan Delaney & Steve Suddeth 239.404.3070

MOORINGS



NEW LISTING
COMMODORE CLUB
• 2 Bedrooms, 2-Baths
• Corner Penthouse Residence
• Beautifully Updated Kitchen
• Commanding Bay Views
• \$350,000 MLS 211520819
• Doug Haughey 239.961.1561

COUNTRYSIDE



FANTASTIC GOLF & WATER VIEWS
• 2 Bedrooms, 2-Baths
• 1st Floor Corner Residence
• Private and Gated
• Full Club Facilities
• \$124,500 MLS 211517214
• Frank Dekevich 239.877.4193

BELLEZZA AT MEDITERRA



A TROPICAL PARADISE AWAITS
• 5 Bedrooms, + Den, 5.5-Baths
• Courtyard Lanai w/Pool & Spa
• 4,517 S.F. of Living
• 2-Story Guest House
• \$2,200,000 MLS 210027446
• Kristin Cavella-Whorrall 239.821.6330

VILLORESI AT MEDITERRA



STUNNING CUSTOM DESIGNED HOME
• 3 Bedrooms, 3-Baths
• Tropical Lanai w/Heated Pool
• Natural Stone & Wood Floors
• Spectacular Lake Views
• \$895,000 MLS 211000587
• Kristin Cavella-Whorrall 239.821.6330

BONITA BAY



DETACHED VILLA HOME
• 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 2.5-Baths
• Luxurious Deck w/Built-in Spa
• Two Story 3,100 S.F. of Living Space
• Award Winning Amenities
• \$675,000 MLS 211520561
• Marya Doonan 239.450.4000

MOORINGS



NEW LISTING
HARBORSIDE WEST
• 2 Bedrooms, + Den, 2-Baths
• Beautifully and Tastefully Renovated
• Gulf Shore Blvd.
• Turnkey Furnished
• \$299,900 MLS 211521090
• Marya Doonan 239.450.4000

BERKSHIRE LAKES



NEWCASTLE
• 3 Bedrooms, 2-Baths
• Gated Community
• 1,450 S.F. of Living
• Great Location
• \$87,500 MLS 211509967
• Jo Ellen Nash 239.537.4785

VANDERBILT BEACH



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4:00

152 CONNERS AVENUE
• 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 2 Full & 1- Half Baths
• Expansive Bay Views
• Large Master Suite w/Fireplace
• Gulf Access, Boat Dock & Lift
• \$2,000,000 MLS 211520724
• Jo Ellen Nash 239.537.4785

AUDUBON COUNTRY CLUB



ONE OF THE FINEST HOMES IN AUDUBON
• 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 3.5-Baths
• Gorgeous Island Kitchen
• Beautifully Appointments Throughout
• Overlooking the 9th Fairway
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• Martinovich & Nulf 239.564.5717

PORTA VECCHIO AT MEDITERRA



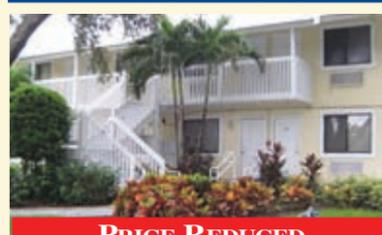
STUNNING COACH HOME
• 3 Bedrooms, 3-Baths
• Golf, Lake & Preserve Views
• Over 2,800 S.F. of Living Space
• Volume Detailed Ceilings
• \$649,000 MLS 211006786
• Kristin Cavella-Whorrall 239.821.6330

BEAR'S PAW



EXCEPTIONAL VIEWS
• 2 Bedrooms, 2-Baths
• Over 1,900 S.F. of Living Space
• Fully Furnished & Golf Cart Included
• Gate Golf Course Community
• \$270,000 MLS 211514969
• Jo Ellen Nash 239.537.4785

NAPLES 701 CLUB



PRICE REDUCED
SOUTH NAPLES CONDO
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• Totally Remodeled
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• Turnkey Furnished
• \$44,900 MLS 211510430
• Liz Appling 239.272.7201

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VILLAGEWALK PRIME VANDERBILT BEACH LOCATION



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Oakmont 3BR,2.5 BA with private pool on wide easement lot. Wood floors, clean, and ready for new owner. **\$379,000**



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Breath taking views of 3 bridges from inside and out. Extended Capri 2BR,2BA with pool and roll down shutters, granite,side patio and more. MUST SEE! **\$265,000**



Verona Walk
Great Opportunity to own a NEVER LIVED in decorator ready 3,BR, 2.5 BA water view Oakmont. Owners purchased as second home and never occupied the property. Great location short walk to Town amenities center. **\$326,900**

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ISLAND WALK PRIME VANDERBILT BEACH LOCATION



Capri Villa-2BR,2BA 2 Car- attached garage. Popular Capri villa features spacious floor plan with extended interior living space of 1680 sq ft under air! Nicely upgraded home offers private pool and is located on oversized home-site! Resort style living at its best! A MUST SEE! **\$242,000**



Luxury, Elegance, and Value in one stunning package! Pristine 4BR,3.5BA Carlyle is sure to please! This southern exposure home features plenty of windows to let in the natural light! Cherry, bright neutral interior is nicely upgraded throughout, screened lanai with lake views and heated pool creates the perfect place to entertain! Don't miss this one! **\$479,000**



Comfortable Elegance 4 BR,3.5BA From the engaging front porch you will love this gracious bright home, formal living and dining, fireplace, and private pool with lake views! A MUST SEE! Furniture package avl. **\$462,000**

The Lutgert Companies invite you to visit one of their innovative model centers!



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From the \$400s to over \$1,000,000.
Designer Furnished Residences Open Daily

ESPERIA
at Bonita Bay

26951 COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE, BONITA SPRINGS, FL 34134
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Esperia at Bonita Bay is comprised of 119 luxury high-rise residences with exceptional Gulf of Mexico views and resort-style amenities. Elegant design and masterful detail are the foundation for a lifestyle that includes championship golf, world-class tennis, private marina, health club, billiard room and more. This is the perfect union of carefree living and unparalleled recreation.

From the mid-\$500s.
Designer Furnished Models Open Daily



26951 COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE, BONITA SPRINGS, FL 34134
239.495.1105 | BONITABAY.COM



Tavira at Bonita Bay is the crown jewel of luxury high-rise living on the Gulf Coast. These estate-sized residences are spectacular and so is the setting. Spacious floorplans with high ceiling and private terraces are merely the stage from which to enjoy panoramic views of the Gulf of Mexico and Estero Bay. Enjoy 5 championship golf courses, world-class tennis, a private beach park and more.

From \$1,200,000.
Designer Furnished Models Open Daily



1220 GORDON RIVER TRAIL, NAPLES, FL 34105
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Estuary at Grey Oaks is located only minutes from 5th Avenue, world-class beaches, shops and restaurants; it offers sophisticated amenities, superlative homes and villas set amid the serene beauty of natural preserves. Enjoy 54 holes of championship golf, 2 magnificent clubhouses and 5,500 square feet of fitness facilities. If your standard is only the best, you truly belong here.

Luxury villas from \$1,500,000. Estate homes from \$2,750,000.
Designer Furnished Models Open Daily

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YACHT HARBOUR COVE

5075 YACHT HARBOR CIRCLE #604

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GRAND PHOENICIAN AT THE DUNES 275 INDIES WAY TERRACE 6

This 3BR/3BA residence includes a private elevator, electric hurricane shutters, community pool & workout facility. Offered at \$669,000



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Incredibly priced 3BR/2BA residence with southern exposure & room for pool. Offered at \$234,900



HIGH POINT COUNTRY CLUB 49 HIGHPOINT CIRCLE S #206

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MARKET

From page 11

tend to drop from the investment horizon," Becker says.

"What we're hearing from the respondents is that because of this uncertainty, there's a freezing up of capital that should otherwise be going to construction projects."

On the bright side

That lack of capital, however, is good news for the rental apartment market, which, according to the survey, is real estate's "best performing asset." Becker says widespread home foreclosures have forced displaced homeowners to rent apartments. In addition, he says, many young job seekers who want flexibility in housing in urban areas are seeking rental units. That trend helps to drive up occupancy, allowing owners to charge more rent.

The survey also identified bright spots in Florida's economy. Condo projects are under way in Miami, which is also enjoying an influx of investment from South America. Respondents are also somewhat cheered by prospects for Florida ports as the Panama Canal expansion project continues.

Still, the overall perception of Florida's real estate market is glum.

"Where we go from here depends on macro-economic forces, ranging from the debt crisis in Europe to the many we have here at home," Becker says.

A total of 231 Florida professional real estate analysts and investors, representing 13 urban regions of the state and up to 15 property types participated in the survey. ■

New homes underway at Quail West

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Thirteen new residences are under construction at Quail West, and work on an additional 16 residences is scheduled to start within the next 60 days.

"We have estate homes, our more modestly sized Tamworth Collection and six of our La Caille single-family villas under construction," says Cheryl Deering, vice president of sales and marketing for the community. "We're experiencing increased activity across the board."

Five of the homes underway will be fully-furnished models: two estate homes, two Tamworth Collection floor plans and a La Caille courtyard villa, Ms. Deering says, adding, "Construction of these models is a reflection of the confidence our featured builders have in both the appeal of their product and in the market in general."

Quail West's featured builders include Castle Harbour Homes, Diamond Custom Homes, Florida Lifestyle Homes of Fort Myers, Imperial Homes of Southwest Florida, London Bay Homes, McGarvey Custom Homes and Robert D'Angelo Jr. Construction Company.

Amenities in the 1,180-acre community, all owned debt-free by the members, include two golf courses designed by Arthur Hills; a clubhouse with casual and fine dining, a ballroom and wine grotto; a full-service spa and beauty salon; a fitness center; and eight lighted red-clay tennis courts.

Quail West is east of Interstate 75, one mile south of Bonita Beach Road. For more information, visit www.QuailWest.com. ■

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\$99,900

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FREE CLUB MEMBERSHIP



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\$399,000

2007 built home. Stunning kitchen, Superior upgrades & detail. 3 BR/2 BA. Lake view.



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Monaco Beach Club, #504 \$695,000

UNDER CONTRACT

Vineyards, 110 Tuscana Ct., \$129,900

HOT PROPERTIES

Arielle – Pelican Marsh
Bright, Spacious, Contemporary,
Golf Course Views \$349,000
Ridgewood – Park Shore
2 Bd, 2 Bath, West of 41 \$149,000
Algonquin Club – Old Naples
1/ 1, 3 Blks to Beach \$150,000

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Residences of Pelican Isle



Pelican Isle II #302: 2677SF, LaPlaya Memb. Avail. & Marina Bay Slip Available. \$749,000



Pelican Isle II #402: Granite kit, wood/tile flrs, Gulf of Mexico views, 3/3 2677SF. \$839,000



Pelican Isle II #404: Waterfront, amazing views, furnished, 4/3.5Ba., end unit. \$1,125,000



Pelican Isle II #602: Waterfront! Marble floors, new decor, 2 lanais, 2677SF \$799,000



Pelican Isle II #702: New A/C units & water heater, W. views of the Gulf of Mexico. \$899,000

PENDING



Pelican Isle III #503: Granite kitchen, carpet, upgrades, spacious 2428SF, Views! \$749,000

PENDING



Pelican Isle III #605: 3096 SF, lanais off living & Master suite, amazing views. \$1,499,000.



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AMERIVEST Realty INTEGRITY - EXPERTISE - DIRECTION FOR REAL ESTATE



PELICAN MARSH - BAY LAUREL ESTATES Southern exposure adds light to this 2-story 4BR/4.5BA home + 4,000 sq. ft. outdoor space with pool, spa, kitchen. \$2,325,000
Terri Moellers/Sharon Kaltenborn | 404-7887



PELICAN BAY - ISLE VERDE Stunning 2-story villa, over 4,000 SF under air. Over \$300,000 in recent improvements. 24-hr guard-gated community. \$2,195,000 | Jane Darling | 290-3112



PELICAN MARSH - BAY LAUREL ESTATES Pool, spa, and waterfall on quiet preserve. Lovely main home, 2-story 5 room cabana. Large outdoor living area. \$1,899,900
Larry/Mary Catherine White | 287-2818



PELICAN MARSH - BAY LAUREL ESTATES Casually elegant 4BR/5.5BA + den courtyard residence with separate 2-story guest cabana. Lake & golf course views. \$1,899,000
Terri Moellers/Sharon Kaltenborn | 404-7887



PELICAN MARSH - MARSH LINKS Exceptional 4BR/4.5BA plus den home features golf views, granite countertops & spacious lanai. Membership included. \$1,800,000
Terri Moellers/Sharon Kaltenborn | 404-7887



PELICAN MARSH - MARSH LINKS Amazingly priced 4BR/6.5BA estate home. Gated community, screened lanai with infinity edge pool/spa & 4-car garage. \$1,790,000
Terri Moellers/Sharon Kaltenborn | 404-7887



PELICAN BAY - OAKMONT Exceptionally furnished & completely renovated 3BR. Top-of-the-line kitchen, new baths, pool/spa & summer kitchen. \$1,595,000 | Carol Gilman/Dorcas Briscoe/John Hamilton | 404-3253



PELICAN BAY - ST. RAPHAEL 7117 Pelican Bay Blvd #901 - Ninth floor 3BR/3BA luxury tower residence with 2,500 SF under air, extensive upgrades and fabulous view of Gulf. \$1,595,000 | Jean Tarkenton | 595-0544



PELICAN BAY - ST. RAPHAEL 7117 Pelican Bay Blvd #501 - Understated elegance, gorgeous polished marble flooring, electric shutters, impact glass & 9' ceilings throughout. \$1,425,000 | Jean Tarkenton | 595-0544



PELICAN BAY - ST. RAPHAEL 7117 Pelican Bay Blvd #1203 - Stunning, immaculate 3BR/3BA luxury tower residence. Incredible enhancements throughout. Spectacular Gulf views. \$1,425,000 | Jean Tarkenton | 595-0544



PELICAN BAY - ST. RAPHAEL 7117 Pelican Bay Blvd #401 - Immaculate 3 bedroom residence has marble flooring throughout, additional upgrades & view of sun sinking into Gulf. \$1,295,000 | Jean Tarkenton | 595-0544



PELICAN MARSH - MUIRFIELD Expansive and serene SW lake views! Impeccably maintained and updated 4BR/3BA+den home. Family room opens to pool. \$1,225,000
Terri Moellers/Sharon Kaltenborn | 404-7887



PELICAN BAY - ST. RAPHAEL #602 - Lives Large. Professionally remodeled, stunning Gulf views, 6th floor 2BR/2BA + den in a premier, luxury high-rise. \$895,000 | Linda Piatt | 269-2322



PELICAN BAY - BEAUVILLE Move right in to this beautifully remodeled 3BR/3.5BA villa with SW views over pool to golf course. Beach tram. \$889,000
Jane Darling | 290-3112



PELICAN MARSH - IVY POINTE Impeccable expanded courtyard home with preferred S exposure. Beautiful lakefront setting. Pool and guest cabana. \$815,000 | Carolyn Weinand | 269-5678



PELICAN BAY - ST. RAPHAEL 7117 Pelican Bay Blvd #608 - This bright, cheerful, nicely upgraded 2 bedroom home has a Gulf view from living, dining, kitchen and bedrooms. \$765,000 | Jean Tarkenton | 595-0544



PELICAN BAY - ST. PIERRE #2104 - Wow - sparkling 2BR/2BA with Gulf panorama & golf views. Updated kitchen & baths. Tennis, pool, spa & beach tram. \$759,900 | Kelli Boehm | 273-8453



PELICAN BAY - CLARIDGE #15B - Highly desirable 2BR + den residence. City, golf course & Gulf views. Move-in condition. Near beach tram access. \$749,000
Larry Roorda | 860-2534



PELICAN BAY - ST. MARISSA #2003 - Breathtaking unobstructive Gulf views! Completely renovated, professionally furnished. Private beach & tennis clubs. \$725,000 | Jennifer/Dave Urness | 273-7731



PELICAN BAY - POINTE I 665 Via Mezner #204 - Beautifully updated. Freshly painted interior, granite & SS kitchen, plantation shutters, upgraded tile/carpeting. \$695,000 | Jerry Wachowicz | 777-0741



PELICAN BAY - ST. KITTS #805 - An immaculate 3BR high-rise condominium with a gorgeous Gulf view. Neutral backgrounds, upgraded living space. \$676,500 | Jean Tarkenton | 595-0544



PELICAN MARSH - MONT CLAIRE #201 - Absolutely striking lake & golf course vistas. Second floor 3BR/3BA + den coach home. Golf club, turnkey furnished. \$620,000
Terri Moellers/Sharon Kaltenborn | 404-7887



PELICAN BAY - ST. MAARTEN #904 - Southwest corner 2BR/2BA + den with direct Gulf views! Screened lanai, neutral tile, updated kitchen. Furnished. \$599,900 | Jerry Wachowicz | 777-0741



PELICAN BAY - ST. MARISSA #1402 - Stunning 14th floor 2BR + den with SW views. Updated kitchen. Pool, private beach access, fitness & tennis centers. \$595,000 | Ann Marie Shimer | 825-9020



PELICAN MARSH - ISLAND COVE Elegant 2BR/2.5BA with lake views, privacy, optional den/3rd bedroom suite, fine finishes and extended lanai. \$575,000 | Linda Perry/Judy Perry & Penny/Bob Lyle | 261-6161



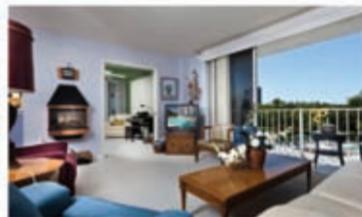
PELICAN MARSH - ISLAND COVE Stunning SE lake view! Beautifully maintained 2BR/2.5BA+den detached villa. Tile floors, newer A/C, 2-car garage. \$570,000 | Terri Moellers/Sharon Kaltenborn | 404-7887



PELICAN MARSH - ISLAND COVE Gorgeous sunset views from expanded lakeside lanai. Furnished 3BR/3BA detached villa. Social/golf club memberships. \$549,000 | Terri Moellers/Sharon Kaltenborn | 404-7887



PELICAN BAY - ST. MARISSA #802 - Panoramic views of the Gulf & private beach access just steps away. This 2BR/2BA+den home has been nicely updated. \$524,000 | Craig Jones | 403-4510



PELICAN BAY - ST. LUCIA #105 - Lovely 3BR+den condominium lives like a single-family home. Walk to private beach. Heated pool/spa, fitness center. \$479,000 | Richard/Susie Culp | 290-2200



PELICAN BAY - ST. KITTS #503 - Tranquil, perfectly maintained 2BR/2BA, stunning Gulf/preserve views. Easy access to beach tram. Turnkey furnished. \$469,000 | Pat Callis | 250-0562



PELICAN BAY - SANCTUARY #125 - Great scenic views! 3BR/2BA with large spacious wraparound balconies. Spectacular amenities with beach tram & golf. \$430,000
Polly Himmel | 290-3910



PELICAN MARSH - CLERMONT #202 - Open, colorful tree-top 3BR/2BA corner coach home. New features, garden views. Tennis, golf membership available. \$389,900
Tess McCarthy/Tom McCarthy | 207-0118



PELICAN MARSH - CLERMONT #102 - Meticulously maintained 3BR/2BA has 2-car garage. Picturesque lake/golf views. Golf & social memberships available. \$384,900
Sue Black | 250-5611



PELICAN MARSH - CLERMONT #202 - Intimate gated enclave, this coach home lives like a single-family home, attached garage. Steps to community pool. \$335,000
Dave/Ann Renner | 784-5552



PELICAN MARSH - ARIELLE #1301 - Long lake views & sunsets from this 3BR plus den. 2,661 total SF upstairs corner residence with 2-car garage. \$310,000
Terri Moellers/Sharon Kaltenborn | 404-7887

PELICAN MARSH - SWEET BAY 9328 Sweetgrass Way - Gracious 2-story 5BR/6.5BA estate pool home in a small tree-lined enclave with lake view to the signature 5th hole. \$2,395,000 | Terri Moellers/Sharon Kaltenborn | 404-7887

PELICAN MARSH - TERRABELLA 9120 Terrabella Court - Tranquil southern lake views. An elegant & finely crafted 3BR/3.5BA+den home. Aqualink pool, spa & summer kitchen. \$1,295,000 | Terri Moellers/Sharon Kaltenborn | 404-7887

PELICAN MARSH - PORTOFINO 1481 Via Portofino - Amazing lake & golf views. Uniquely private, oversized lanai & side yard. Immaculate 5BR/4.5BA + den. S. exposure. \$1,285,000 | Leah Ritchey/Ray Couret | 289-0433

PELICAN MARSH - VENTURA 8816 Ventura Way - Expansive great room & kitchen. "Spinnaker" floor plan, 3 BR plus loft/den, lanai with pool. Attached 2-car garage. \$375,000 | Pat Duggan | 216-1980

PELICAN MARSH - RAVENNA 2449 Ravenna Blvd #102 - This darling, upgraded coach home has it all! Easy maintenance lifestyle. Private end residence. Golf/lake views. \$375,000 | Janet Rathbun | 860-0012

PELICAN BAY - PELICAN BAY WOODS 701 Tamarind Ct. - Prime location, very large 4BR/4BA+den home. Lovely lake view. Expansive storage, 3-car garage, cul-de-sac setting. \$1,695,000 | John Hamilton/Carol Gilman/Dorcas Briscoe | 641-3270

PELICAN BAY - TIERRA MAR 584 Tierra Mar Lane - This exquisitely remodeled, lakeside villa includes upgraded kitchen, renovated bathrooms and pool. \$969,000 | Linda Piatt | 269-2322

PELICAN BAY - VILLAS AT PELICAN BAY 561 Gulf Park Drive #4 - Upgraded 2-story attached villa. Main level mastex 2nd floor master overlooks golf. Owner financing available. \$749,000 | Kathy Morris | 777-8654

PELICAN MARSH - BAY LAUREL ESTATES 8723 Spikerush Lane - Privately gated enclave. Choose your own builder, over one-half acre with southeastern exposure on a cul-de-sac. \$499,000 | Ray Couret/Leah Ritchey | 289-0433

PELICAN MARSH - RAVENNA 2433 Ravenna Blvd. #101 - Breathtaking lake & golf course views from this 2BR + den carriage home. Great space & light-filled rooms, garage. \$315,000 | Terri Moellers/Sharon Kaltenborn | 404-7887

PELICAN MARSH - TERRABELLA 9057 Terranova Drive - In a neighborhood of 58 estate villas, this home has stunning lake/golf views. Large lanai has pool, spa & kitchen. \$1,650,000 | Sharon Kaltenborn/Terri Moellers | 248-1964



AQUALANE SHORES
Wide expanse of Naples Bay. Two docks w/lifts, theater, study/office, 3-car garage, and outdoor kitchen.
\$6,500,000 | Ruth Trettis | 403-4529



OLD NAPLES
Elegantly appointed interiors, spectacular Gulf sunsets! Three-story newly built residence one house from beach.
\$5,495,000 | Philip N. Collins | 404-6800



OLD NAPLES
150 Gulf Shore Blvd. South - A classically inspired 4BR Tuscan home. Sophistication + the natural beauty of Naples' Gulf coast. Steps to beach.
\$3,995,000 | Philip N. Collins | 404-6800



OLD NAPLES
One block to beach! Built in 2008. Over 5,300 A/C SF, 5BRs plus den and bonus lounge. Heated pool/spa. Furnished. \$3,995,000
Karen Van Arsdale | 860-0894



AQUALANE SHORES
Wide water views! Quality finishes. 4BRs, den, elevator, 3-car garage, pool, 80' concrete floating dock, furnished.
\$3,950,000 | Karen Van Arsdale | 860-0894



ROYAL HARBOR
Wonderful bay views! To-be-built 4BR + den home. Outdoor living with cooktop, heated pool/spa. Direct Gulf access. \$3,595,000
Marty/Debbi McDermott | 564-4231



OLD NAPLES
175 3rd Street South - One-of-a-kind 4BR + den European home. Quality materials & attention to detail. Heated pool/spa. Minutes to beach.
\$3,450,000 | Celine Julie Godof | 404-9917



OLD NAPLES
True beach house gem only a block away from gulf beaches & short stroll to shops/dining. Pool-side outdoor kitchen.
\$3,299,000 | Vickie Larscheid | 250-5041



AQUALANE SHORES
Custom, meticulously updated 3BR + family room home. Covered, cut-in boat slip & 135' on the water, direct access.
\$2,950,000 | Ruth Trettis | 403-4529



AQUALANE SHORES
Immaculately kept 3BR+den overlooking Heron Cove. Pool, boat dock with lift provides direct, quick access to Gulf. \$2,695,000
Marty/Debbi McDermott | 564-4231



OLD NAPLES
Spanish-inspired Mizner West Palm Beach-style stand-out! European stone area with pool, spa, summer kitchen.
\$2,550,000 | Jerry Wachowicz | 777-0741



OLD NAPLES
Private retreat - 3BR/2BA lakefront cottage one block to beach. Modern kitchen & oversized master suite.
\$2,150,000 | Karen Van Arsdale | 860-0894



AQUALANE SHORES
An incredible waterfront lifestyle. Deep-water dock, stroll to shops/dining, steps to beach. Charming 3BR/3BA home.
\$1,999,000 | Vincent Bandelier | 450-5976



AQUALANE SHORES
Fabulous homesite (95'x173'), 1 lot from Naples Bay! Wide, deep canal. Grandfathered in boat house & covered slip.
\$1,975,000 | Beth McNichols | 821-3304



OLD NAPLES
Beautifully decorated home with professional decor & furnishings. Private oversized backyard. Open 3BR + den plan.
\$1,699,000 | Celine Julie Godof | 404-9917



OLD NAPLES - ROSE VILLAS
Dynamic villa featuring Bosch appliances, elevator, wood and tile flooring, 4 bedrooms plus den, Private pool.
\$1,699,000 | Jerry Wachowicz | 777-0741



OLD NAPLES - GOLF DRIVE ESTATES Short walk to the beach, golf club and tennis facilities! A magnificent Mediterranean home with superior style!
\$1,650,000 | Vickie Larscheid | 250-5041



AQUALANE SHORES
Desirable waterfront homesite with no bridges to the Gulf of Mexico, deep-water canal. Near beach, shops & dining.
\$1,500,000 | Vincent Bandelier | 450-5976



OLD NAPLES
Build your dream home! Approx. lot size is 100' x 150'. Walk to the Gulf. A rare large lot with southern exposure.
\$1,495,000 | Celine Julie Godof | 404-9917



ROYAL HARBOR
Casually charming, updated home. Expansive outdoor retreat for entertaining with kitchen, chickee hut & waterfall.
\$1,495,000 | Michael G. Lawler | 571-3939



OLD NAPLES - PARKSIDE OFF FIFTH Sophisticated urban living! High-end quality, uniquely designed one-of-a-kind 3BR/3.5BA + den. Walk to beach.
\$1,299,000 | Richard/Susie Culp | 290-2200



OLD NAPLES - GOLF DRIVE ESTATES 386 Golf Dr. S. - Charming Old Florida style 3BR/2BA, detached casita, lap style pool/spa, 3 blocks to beach, golf course & tennis.
\$1,250,000 Linda Perry/Judy Perry | 261-6161



OLD NAPLES - NAPLES BAY RESORT THE RESIDENCES Sophisticated Bay front living, 3BR+den, multiple private terraces, balconies & gorgeous views. Resort amenities.
\$1,195,000 | Michael G. Lawler | 571-3939



OLD NAPLES - VILLAS TORINO
355 9th Avenue South #102 - Well-appointed 3BR/3.5BA+den. Heated pool, 2-car garage, 3 blocks to beach, near shops & dining.
\$1,125,000 Marty/Debbi McDermott | 564-4231



OLD NAPLES - TUSCAN
741 3rd Street South #D - A 3BR/3BA condominium just 2.5 blocks to beach & near shops/dining. Heated community pool & spa, secured building. \$935,000
Marty/Debbi McDermott | 564-4231

AQUALANE SHORES 832 1st Court South - Newly built 2-story open 4BR+den home. Luxurious appointments. Walk to beach, heated pool/spa. Dock, direct access.
\$3,695,000 | Marty/Debbi McDermott | 564-4231

OLD NAPLES 137 North Lake Drive - An impeccable home just steps to beach! With 4BRs, study, office/media room, sunny screened patio, pool & spa.
\$3,450,000 | Ruth Trettis | 403-4529

OLD NAPLES - LA MAISON DES FLEURS 425 5th Street South - NEW CONSTRUCTION 1/2 block to 5th Ave. S. & 5 blocks to beach! Elevator, 4BR/4BA, private pool, spa & 2-car garage. \$3,100,000 | Larry/Mary Catherine White | 287-2818

OLD NAPLES - VILLAS ESCALANTE 270 5th Avenue South #H-2 - Walk to dining, shopping or beach! Magnificent 4BR/4.5BA plus den villa, 3,576 sq. ft. of living area. Patio/pool. \$3,200,000 | Tom McCarthy/Tess McCarthy | 243-5520

AQUALANE SHORES 773 18th Avenue South - Unique Old-Florida style home with 3,514 SF, gourmet kitchen, & exercise room. Remodeled covered boat slip & lift. \$2,999,000 | Philip N. Collins | 404-6800

OLD NAPLES 124 13th Avenue South - Located between gulf beaches & 3rd St. shops/dining. Newly renovated contemporary design has beauty, value & charm.
\$2,995,000 | Vickie Larscheid | 250-5041

AQUALANE SHORES 533 15th Avenue South - Tuscan waterfront home opens to an expansive pool & patio area with a covered covered boat slip. Walk to beach. \$2,995,000 | Karen Van Arsdale | 860-0894

ROYAL HARBOR 1805 Kingfish Road - Build to suit. This homesite is perfect for your custom dream home offering a 60' dock with direct Gulf access.
\$2,595,000 | Michael Jordan/Stefaan Bultinck | 777-3745

OLD NAPLES 645 Broad Avenue South - Walk to beach. Old Florida style home, enjoy coastal living with an open plan & clean line interiors. Pool & spa.
\$2,250,000 | Karen Van Arsdale | 860-0894

OLD NAPLES 81 Gulf Shore Blvd. South - Motivated Seller - homesite is ready-to-go, only one block to Gulf. Plans for a 4BR Stofft Cooney design available.
\$1,890,000 | Ruth Trettis | 403-4529

OLD NAPLES 145 6th Street North - An Old Florida styled home within walking distance to beach & 5th Ave. Sophisticated interiors, open heated pool.
\$1,795,000 | Karen Van Arsdale | 860-0894

OLD NAPLES - ISLA MAR 1006 5th Street South #503 - Coveted top-flr 3BR/3BA condominium! Roof-top patio, low density, 2-car garage, pool/spa for 6 owners in building. \$1,700,000 | Ruth Trettis | 403-4529

OLD NAPLES 663 11th Avenue South - Fabulous new construction! Distinctive Key West style, maple wood floors, 10' ceilings, lanai/pool & 2-car garage.
\$1,495,000 | Virginia/Randy Wilson | 450-9091

OLD NAPLES - GARDEN TERRACE 378 6th Street South #2 - Elegant and innovative new 3BR+den villa steps from beach, near shops/dining. Separate, private outdoor pool/spa. \$1,425,000 | Jerry Wachowicz | 777-0741

OLD NAPLES - VILLA D'ANNA 469 10th Avenue South - South-facing courtyard villa with pool & lush gardens. Superbly renovated & decorated 3BR/3BA plus den. Near beach. \$1,250,000 | Beth McNichols | 821-3304

OLD NAPLES - VILLAS VERONA 259 4th Avenue South #103 - Two blocks to the beach & 1 block to 5th Ave. S. Private heated pool/spa, 2BRs+den, 2 full baths & one half-bath. \$1,195,000 | Marty/Debbi McDermott | 564-4231

OLD NAPLES - VICTOR DEL REY 705 10th Street South #206 - This luxury 3BR/3BA, 3000 SF residence is spacious, bright & airy, includes private garage & personal pool cabana. \$895,000 | Michael Lawler | 571-3939

OLD NAPLES - VICTOR DEL REY 705 10th Street South #204 - Over 2,900 A/C sq. ft., 3BR/3.5BAs opening to pool with cabana. Secured elevator, walk to beach, shops & dining. \$799,000 | Marty/Debbi McDermott | 564-4231

OLD NAPLES - ST. CHARLES 540 10th Avenue South - An updated 3BR/2BA residence just 5 blocks from beach, shops/dining. Screened lanai overlooks community pool/spa. \$769,000 | Marty/Debbi McDermott | 564-4231

OLD NAPLES - DEVON COURT 525 10th Avenue South #B-101 This 3BR is within walking distance to the beach, shops and restaurants. Designed with comfortable proportions. \$699,000 | Lodge McKee | 434-2424

ROYAL HARBOR AREA - OYSTER BAY 1460 Jewel Box Avenue - Unique waterfront opportunity with canals on both sides of this home being sold as-is. Quick, direct Gulf access. \$649,000 | Marty/Debbi McDermott | 564-4231

OLD NAPLES - SHADOWMOSS 350 3rd Avenue South, #A-1 - Charming 2-story end villa includes a private courtyard, natural light on 3 sides & separate 1-car garage. \$599,000 | Karen Van Arsdale | 860-0894

OLD NAPLES - KASOTA BAY 927 8th Avenue South - Sun-filled jewel blocks to upscale dining/shopping & beach. Recently upgraded, park-like setting & pet friendly. \$574,500 | Jutta V. Lopez/Al Lopez | 571-5339

OLD NAPLES - BAY TERRACE 1325 7th Street South #7A - Panoramic southern and western views of the water & Old Naples. Walk to shops & dining, boat slips are available. \$569,000 | Virginia/Randy Wilson | 450-9091

OLD NAPLES - RIDGE LAKE 635 8th Street North - Attractively priced single-family home minutes to beach. Solid 2BR/2BA, potential to upgrade/rebuild. Corner lot. \$549,900 | V.K. Melhado | 216-6400

OLD NAPLES - PARKSIDE 882 7th Ave S #B - A private enclave of four residences. Walk to bistros, shops & beach. Fabulous, renovated loft-styled townhome. \$545,000 | Richard/Susie Culp | 290-2200

OLD NAPLES - PIERRE CLUB 1222 Gordon Drive #15 - Only 1.5 blocks to the beach, this 2BR/2.5BA is the perfect getaway. New kitchen. Walk to shops/dining. Furnished. \$479,900 | Marty/Debbi McDermott | 564-4231

OLD NAPLES - BELLASERA RESORT 221 9th Street South #215 Boutique hotel condominium w/full home amenities. Elegantly decorated, professionally managed, pool, near beach. \$429,000 | Pat Callis | 250-0562

OLD NAPLES - NAPLES BAY RESORT THE COTTAGES 975 Sandpiper Street #A-104 - Beautiful decorator furnished 2BR/2BA condominium. Resort amenities. Near shops, dining, and beach. Weekly rentals. \$425,000 | Michelle Thomas | 860-7176

ROYAL HARBOR AREA - EL NIDO 1481 Chesapeake Avenue #1 - OWaterfront enclave - 4 residences, direct Gulf access near beach! Designer upgrades, 2BR+den, Boat docks, pool/spa! \$414,500 | Patrick D. O'Connor | 293-9411

ROYAL HARBOR AREA - GOLDEN SHORES Pelican Avenue Lot #74 - Waterfront lot to build your new home and dock on. Lot next door is also available, lots can be purchased together. \$399,000 | Kristin Milder/Sue Black | 370-6292

OLD NAPLES - BAYFRONT 401 Bayfront Place #3502 - Immaculate, oversized, top-floor 2BA condominium, 10' ceilings. Priced to sell, all reasonable offers considered. \$389,000 | Thomas Gasbarro | 404-4883

OLD NAPLES - FIFTH AVENUE BEACH CLUB 175 5th Avenue South #207 - Unbelievable location right on 5th Avenue, only 1.5 blocks to the beach. One bedroom, one bath; turnkey furnished. \$279,000 | Marty/Debbi McDermott | 564-4231

OLD NAPLES - TOWN MANOR CLUB 1021 3rd Street South #102 Updated getaway, 2 bedroom, 2 bath only 2.5 blocks to beach, steps to 3rd St. shops and dining; blocks to 5th Ave. \$279,900 | Marty/Debbi McDermott | 564-4231

OLD NAPLES - VILLAGE GREEN - HERON CLUB 464 Broad Avenue S. #H464 - Prime downtown location 3 blocks to shops/beach. Newer kitchen, upgraded baths, 2BR/2BA condominium. Sold 'as-is'. \$233,900 | Tess McCarthy | 207-0118

OLD NAPLES - VILLAGE GREEN HERON CLUB 426 Broad Avenue South #H426 - Prime location 3 blocks from beach, 3rd St. shops/dining! Renovated 1st floor split 2BR/2BA condominium. Low fees. \$224,900 | Tess McCarthy | 207-0118

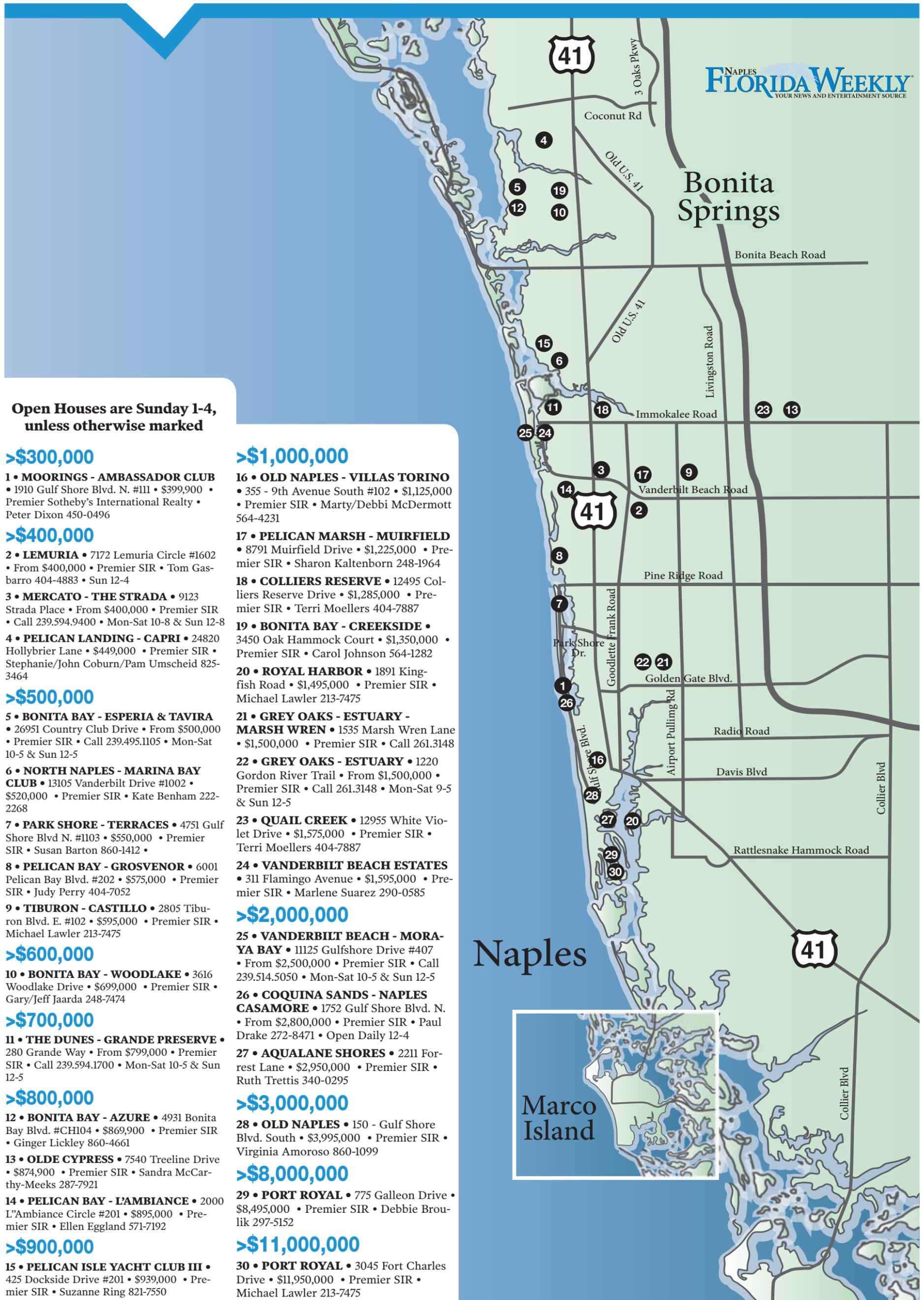
OLD NAPLES - BEAUMER 803 River Point Drive #305B - Walk to shops, dining & boating. Very desirable waterfront 2BR, liberal rental policy, pet friendly. Furnished. \$217,500 | Sue Black/Kristin Milder | 250-5611

OLD NAPLES - BEAUMER 805 River Point Drive #301C - Easy to rent, weekly rentals allowed! Furnished 2BR. Walk to shops/dining. Pool, spa, docks for lease or purchase. \$199,000 | Tom McCarthy | 243-5520

ROYAL HARBOR AREA - SANDPIPER BAY 3021 Sandpiper Bay Circle #305 - Attractively priced 3rd floor 2BR/2BA overlooks a quiet preserve. Boat docks for lease or sale, turnkey furnished. \$161,900 | Vincent Bandelier | 450-5976

Florida Weekly's Open Houses

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 #901 - Panoramic scenes of the Gulf, golf course, lakes & city night lights. Walk to beach, tennis & upscale shops/dining. \$599,000 Larry/Mary Catherine White | 287-2818



INTERLACHEN
 #114 - Expansive views of golf course from this 3BR/2BA 1st floor end residence. Featuring upgraded kitchen, & new A/C. \$595,000 Jane Darling | 290-3112



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 #102 - Not one element has been missed in this 1st floor condominium! Lives like a villa with fairway views, beach tram. \$585,000 Barbi Lowe/Trish Lowe Soars | 216-1973



GROSVENOR
 6001 Pelican Bay Blvd #202 - This 2,500+ A/C SF residence occupies the West/Northwest corner. Two master suites + 3rd BR/den. Large balcony. \$575,000 | Linda Perry/Judy Perry | 261-6161



CHATEAUMERE
 #401 - Beautiful 4th floor 3BR/3BA end residence. Lake, golf/Gulf views. Golf course (membership required), beach access. \$499,900 Sue Black/Kristin Mikler | 250-5611



MARBELLA #302 - Priced to sell, large 2BR/2.5BA, 3rd floor residence with preserve views. Substantial west facing screened terrace. \$485,000 | John Hamilton/Carol Gilman/Dorcas Briscoe | 641-3270



DORCHESTER
 #206 - Open and spacious 3BR/3BA with tranquil preserve and landscaped views from the 3 lanais. Walk to private beach. \$485,000 | Pat Duggan | 216-1980



BREAKWATER
 #103 - Serene SW lake views. Access to beach, fitness center & tennis. Comfortable 2BR/2BA+den, furnished. Pet friendly. \$454,000 | Craig Jones | 403-4510



INTERLACHEN
 #215 - Turnkey furnished, 1st floor 2BR plus den with 1,572 SF. Tram to beach is across street. Renovated amenities. \$429,900 Mara Muller | 272-6170



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MONTENERO 7575 Pelican Bay Blvd, #PH2002 - True top floor Penthouse, 320 degree view across Gulf/skyline. Over 9,700SF A/C. Roof-top terrace, poolside cabana. \$5,950,000 | Dorcas Briscoe/John Hamilton/Carol Gilman | 860-6985

MONTENERO 7575 Pelican Bay Blvd, #1508 - An outstanding custom-designed 15th floor 3BR/3.5BA plus den end residence. Stunning 300 degree skyline/Gulf views. \$2,595,000 | John Hamilton/Carol Gilman/Dorcas Briscoe | 641-3270

MONTENERO 7575 Pelican Bay Blvd, #508 - Panoramic views of Gulf & natural preserve. Generous 3,400 SF of living area. Well-appointed building, beach tram. \$1,695,000 | Linda Perry/Judy Perry | 261-6161

MARBELLA 7425 Pelican Bay Blvd, #1904 - Spectacular Gulf/skyline views, 2BR/2.5BA+den 19th flr. Dining, room services, concierge & attached care facility. \$945,000 | John Hamilton/Dorcas Briscoe/Carol Gilman | 641-3270

MARBELLA 7425 Pelican Bay Blvd, #1705 - Beautifully presented 2BR/2.5BA + den 17th floor residence. Over 2,100 SF with excellent views & 2 large terraces. \$769,000 | John Hamilton/Dorcas Briscoe/Carol Gilman | 641-3270

MARBELLA 7425 Pelican Bay Blvd, #201 - A completely unique residence. Roof top terrace, 2,550 sq. ft., 2BR/3BA + den/3rd bedroom & two good sized lanais. \$720,000 | John Hamilton/Dorcas Briscoe/Carol Gilman | 641-3270

ST. TROPEZ 5501 Heron Point Drive #602 - Spectacular Gulf view by day, sunsets and skyline at night! Beautifully remodeled 2BR+den condominium. Beach club. \$650,000 | Jean Tarkenton | 595-0544

ST. TROPEZ 5501 Heron Point Drive #504 - Panoramic Gulf/Clam Pass views! Spacious corner, 2BR+den with 1,420 A/C SF. Granite kitchen & steps to beach tram! \$622,000 | Dave/Ann Renner 784-5552

ST. TROPEZ 5501 Heron Point Drive #1001 - One-of-a-kind expansive view of Bay, the Gulf & sunsets. Two balconies, updated baths, newly furnished. Beach tram. \$549,000 | Fred Alter | 269-4123

MARBELLA 7425 Pelican Bay Blvd, #204 - Gorgeous 2BR+den with mangrove views. Near extensive health care opportunities, physician's office, 3 dining areas. \$545,000 | Jeannie McGearty | 248-43330

PEBBLE CREEK 7638 Pebble Creek Circle #201 - Light 3BR end residence, S. exposure & lake views. Beach tram, 2 tennis centers, fitness center. Turnkey furnished. \$539,000 | Jane Darling | 290-3112

MARBELLA 7425 Pelican Bay Blvd, #202 - West facing 1,785 SF 2BR/2.5BA. Preserve views, large screened terrace. Resort amenities, dining, health services. \$495,000 | John Hamilton/Dorcas Briscoe/Carol Gilman | 641-3270



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

WEEK OF DECEMBER 8-14, 2011

A GUIDE TO THE LOCAL ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SCENE



SCULPTING SOUND

Ringling visitors
see and hear
Swiss artist
Zimoun's creations

BY NANCY STETSON

nstetson@floridaweekly.com

IF YOU COULD VISUALIZE SOUND, THIS is what it might look like: Zimoun's kinetic sculptures that writhe and rattle and vibrate and quiver.

The Swiss artist puts common industrial items — wire, motors, cotton, cardboard boxes — together in uncommon ways. The effect is surprisingly mesmerizing and hypnotic.

Take, for example, his 2010 piece, "361

SEE SOUND, C4 ►

ZIMOUN / COURTESY PHOTO

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INSIDE



Cheers to volunteers

Naples Winter Wine Festival thanks helpers, and more feel-good to-dos around town. **C30-33** ►



Ad-libbing experts

Naples City Improv prepares for 100th performance. **C5** ►



They'll love it

Great gifts for the wine lovers on your shopping list. **C34** ►

Shining 'Stars' tapped for United Arts Council award

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Six leaders in the local arts community have been named Stars in the Arts for 2012 by the United Arts Council of Collier County. They are: the Naples Concert Band, James Cochran, Brian Holley, William Noll, Peter Thomas and Richard Tooke.

The UAC initiated the award seven years ago to recognize individuals and organizations for leadership in the arts. This year, 47 nominations were received, and a selection committee of past Stars in the Arts winners and lead-

ers in the arts community selected the six recipients.

"These are considered almost 'People's Choice' awards," says Elaine Hamilton, UAC executive director. "The public nominates worthy candidates from the arts and cultural community, and nominees are evaluated by their peers. This year's winners are certainly deserving of this recognition."

Awards will be presented at a luncheon Friday, Feb. 10, at the Naples Grande Resort. For tickets or more information, call 263-8242 or visit www.CollierArts.com.

About the winners

■ The Naples Concert Band is celebrating its 40th season of entertaining Naples residents and visitors. The all-volunteer band has 90 members, and attendance at its free outdoor concerts averages 3,000 in season.

Over the years the organization has awarded more than \$60,000 in student scholarships. The band also assisted the city of Naples with fundraising efforts to build the band shell at Cambier Park that many local performing organizations now enjoy.

SEE STARS, C9 ►



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The High-Rises at Bonita Bay	495-1105
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The Gallery	659-0099
Old Naples	434-2424
North Naples	594-9494
The Promenade	948-4000
Fifth Avenue	434-8770
Marco Island	642-2222
Rentals	262-4242

SANDY DAYS, SALTY NIGHTS

A romantic move to real letters



I remember when the Internet was invented. Not invented, exactly, but when it first appeared on the scene. I'm talking AOL, chat rooms, life before Facebook, when instant messaging and e-mails were still new. I remember the feeling of boundless freedom, the way we could suddenly communicate with people we were too shy to approach in person.

Those early days felt limitless, as if we were suddenly blessed with the ability to cross boundaries and be bold. We thought ourselves pioneers.

We were foolish.

The Internet ushered in a brave new world of communication that we had to figure out as we went along. People took risks online that they'd never take in actual life. Sometimes they got carried away. Over time I learned that e-mail and instant message conversations aren't real. Not real conversations, not real exchanges. Nothing like what is said face-to-face.

The first time a boy told me he loved me on IM, he put the words in asterisks as if to emphasize the sentiment, to assure me that he **really** loved me. He wanted me to know that saying it via computer did not cheapen the experience. Which of course it did.

In the years since the dawn of the Internet, electronic communication has become part of our daily lives. We e-mail, we Skype, we text. It's all there on the computer screen, our emotions writ digitally.

But lately I've become restless with the ease of it. I'm dissatisfied by so much facile communication the way we might be dissatisfied by a microwave burrito. It looks like it should fill us up, but somehow it doesn't.

I must have tapped into the larger consciousness, because my friend Andy recently asked for my mailing address.

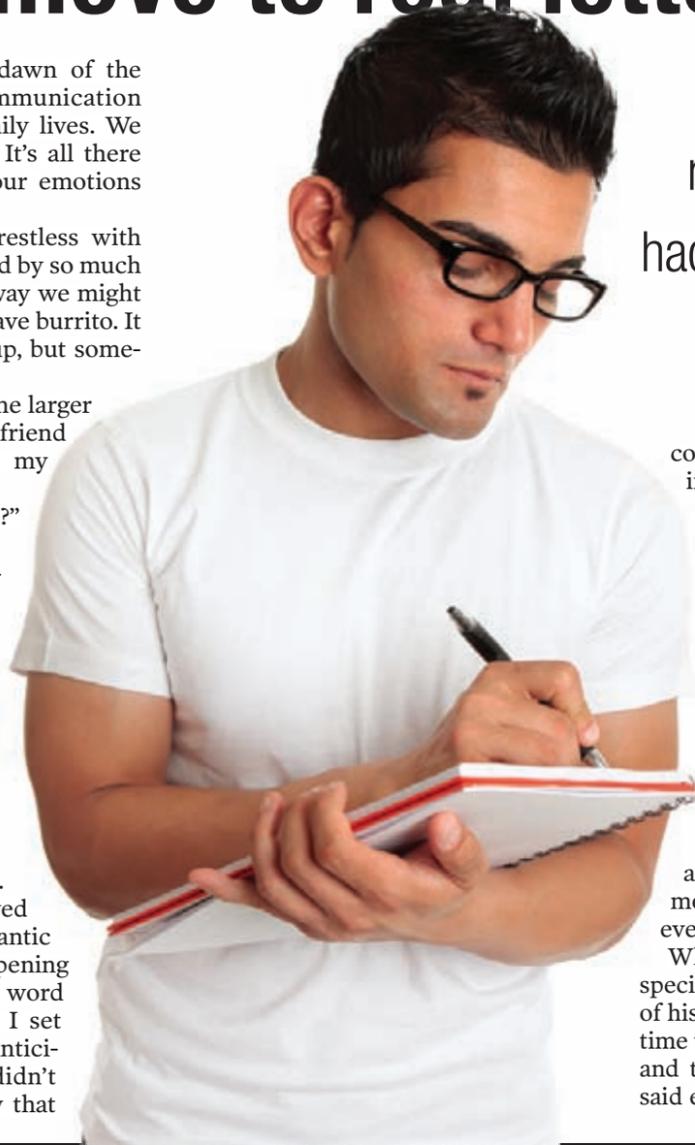
"Are you getting married?" I said.

Andy laughed. Or I imagine him laughing because the whole exchange played out over e-mail.

"No," he wrote. "I was thinking I hadn't written any real letters in a long time. I might give it a try."

I smiled, my face mirrored in the computer screen, touched to be included on his mailing list.

The first letter I received from him had a certain romantic quality. I took my time opening the envelope and read each word carefully. When I finished I set the letter aside, already anticipating my response. I didn't feel the usual tug of worry that



"The first letter I received from him had a certain romantic quality."

comes with an e-mail hanging in my in box.

The most powerful part of the experience was in the content, what Andy had actually written. There was nothing confessional, none of those outpourings of the heart that arrived in my in box after midnight in the early days of the Internet. There was no boldness, no brashness, just an overwhelming quietness to his words.

He talked about everyday concerns — whether to accept a new job offer, if he should stay in his apartment — and yet the letter felt more intimate than any e-mail I've ever read.

What's more, he didn't have to use special punctuation to convey the depths of his feelings. The fact that he had taken time to write, that he had set pen to paper and then posted the letter, these things said everything I needed to know. ■

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ARTISTS AMONG US

Joel Shapses

■ **What is your art form?** I am a sculptor. I meld contemporary design into most of my works, although I also create in the classical genre as well. I use marble and alabaster for most of my stone-work, and my latest creations are created in fused glass. My most exciting breakthrough to date has been incorporating fused glass into stone sculptures. The results have been extraordinary. The photo at the right is an example of this mixed media. I call it "Fire and Ice."

■ **How do you describe your style?** Contemporary and whimsical.

■ **Where can we see your work?** I have recently moved into my new studio and gallery located in the Artisans Plaza, 5760 Shirley St. I look forward to inviting folks to observe me at work in the studio as well as to see my latest works.

■ **Where were you raised?** I was born in Patterson, N.J., and spent my childhood in Pompton Plains.

■ **When did you discover your creative talents?** I'm not really certain if "I" discovered my creative talents. As a child, around the age of 5 or 6, I can remember that I loved to play with modeling clay, especially making animal figures of all types. However, as a child that did not really mean too much to me. I took an elective art course in college and had the privilege of studying sculpture under the tutelage of famed sculptor Alfred vanLoen. He actually recognized my talent, and as an excellent mentor, he continued to encourage and guide me to create.

■ **How has living in Naples inspired you?** The intrinsic peace and serenity in this community has given me such a tranquil state of mind that I am able to create in ways not known to me until now. I commune with my surroundings here in Naples more than I have ever experienced any place else. It is truly a treasure, and it is an ongoing inspiration.

■ **Are you a full time artist?** I have been sculpting since I graduated college more than 40 years ago. I am also a semi-retired dentist working 2½ days a week in Highlands County's Public Health, caring for special-needs patients. I am transitioning toward retiring from dentistry and being in my art studio full time in the not-too-distant future.

■ **How do you use technology in**



your work? Some of my latest sculptural creations are actually illuminated from within. I utilize a technology that incorporates the latest source of continuous color liquid crystal diodes to illuminate. The result is breathtaking.

■ **Outside of your art, what are you passionate about?** I am passionate about living in Naples. I moved here from Fort Lauderdale in 2007.

■ **Tell us about the awards you've won.** I have won more than 70 awards from outdoor shows and art competitions over the years. The latest was last spring at the Winners Circle Awards in Punta Gorda.

■ **What would you want to be if you weren't an artist?** A concert pianist.

■ **What are you reading now?** "The Monk Who Sold His Ferrari" by Robin Sharma. I am a student of metaphysics and enjoy just about anything in this genre. This particular book is a spiritual fable about fulfilling your dreams and reaching your destiny. It's a great read.

■ **Any guilty pleasures?** Chocolate.

■ **Education:** C.W.Post College, Temple University

■ **Website:** www.joelshapsesstudio.com

— Artists Among Us is provided by the United Arts Council of Collier County. The council promotes all the arts in Collier County and provides education in the arts for at-risk students. For more information, call 263-8242 or visit www.CollierArts.com.

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SOUND

From page 1

(Zimoun's titles all sound like hardware store lists; they're functional descriptions of all the elements used.)

The 361 filler wires all turn, courtesy of the dc motors embedded in a square wooden tabletop, planted in straight rows, like a crop. The wires, looking much like metallic grass waving in the wind, create light clanking sounds as they sway back and forth and hit against each other. The patterns they form are simple and beautiful.

The sculpture is one of five works in Zimoun's solo show at Sarasota's Ringling Museum of Art. The exhibit, "Zimoun: Sculpting Sound," is a coup for the museum, as it's the first time the artist's work has been shown in Florida, and one of the few times it's been shown in the United States.

"I think of it as a metallic wheat field," says Dr. Matthew McLendon, the museum's associate curator of modern and contemporary art. "It's a wonderful juxtaposition — the industrial, the mass produced, the electric, with the organic."

Dr. McLendon, who curated the show, first learned about Zimoun's work through Matthew Harmon, the museum's exhibition designer. Mr. Harmon sent him videos of Zimoun's work in action. (The artist himself photographs and videotapes his own work. For a look at the Ringling exhibit, go to www.zimoun.ch/works/2011/sarasota/ringling.html.)

"I thought they were great; I was blown away by the videos," says Dr. McLendon. "I immediately contacted his gallery in New York. We then had an eight- or nine-month conversation leading up to the exhibit."

"This is the largest museum showing he's had, and it's probably the most ideal as a setting. He was very pleased with it."

The Ringling Museum sent the artist diagrams of the galleries, and Zimoun responded by describing what the ideal site would look like. The museum then proceeded to tear down some walls in the West Galleries and build new ones to accommodate the works.

"One of the things that's really important is how you interact with the pieces," says Dr. McLendon, adding that the museum has all-white walls especially for this show, something Zimoun has never had before when exhibiting his works.

Even the floors were painted a high-gloss white, adding to the industrial feel. Heavy plastic vertical strips, the kind you'd see in meat lockers, separate the various rooms, so the sound from one work doesn't bleed into the next.

"I was taking someone from his gallery in New York through the exhibit," Dr. McLendon says. "She'd seen '361 prepared dc-motors' installed elsewhere, and she remarked how great it was that there's so much room around it here. It gives the piece space to breathe... Little things like that make so much difference."

Playful yet complex

Zimoun's work can be experienced on two levels, Dr. McLendon says. As he's watched museum visitors walk through the exhibit, "Their first response is to smile," he says.

"There's something playful about Zimoun's work. It brings out the inner child in us. When we were children, we wanted to take apart our toys to see how they work. You get a sense of that in Zimoun's work."

His work also subverts the history of minimal art by his use of different



COURTESY PHOTOS

The sound sculptures and installations of Zimoun are graceful, mechanized works of playful poetry.

markings on the boxes. The boxes are starting to degrade. They are changing.

"These are works in progress, in a lot of ways."

A learning experience

Zimoun came from Switzerland to assemble the installations earlier this fall, working with assistance from 10 students from the nearby New College of Florida and Ringling College of Art and Design.

"It gave the juniors and seniors the chance to work with an international artist and gain behind-the-scenes experience in how an artist and a museum work together," Dr. McLendon says. "He's great fun. He worked around the clock while he was here."

"Hands down, he's the nicest person I've ever worked with in any capacity. I cannot sing his praises high enough. He's a consummate professional."

Zimoun is a self-taught artist who's always been interested in sound and art.

"He started out playing music as a young kid and has always been involved in music," Dr. McLendon says. "Simultaneously, he was making little comic books and drawing. He started out doing some photography, and then he came into this, all through his own experimentation and self-teaching."

Though the kinetic, industrial sculptures are a far cry from the Old Masters in the museum's permanent collection, patron response has been so overwhelmingly positive that the exhibit, originally scheduled to close Jan. 8, has been extended through mid-February.

The most common reaction from visitors, Dr. McLendon says, is: "I've never seen anything like this before." And that pleases him.

"I want to expose people to new, unfamiliar work that will hopefully get them thinking and seeing in a different way." ■

materials. For example, he uses the geometrical shape of the cube, "but rather than a large, monolithic steel cube, it's a cardboard box. You have a handmade quality to it."

You can also think about Zimoun's work in terms of chance, the aspect of chance that's a part of all our lives, he says.

The first piece patrons see when they enter the gallery is "175 prepared dc-motors, filler wire 1.0 mm."

The 175 thin, spinning wires dangle from a row of small motors set into the wall. It's like seeing straight pencil lines come to life, or like a Cy Twombly painting in motion.

"It's the same type of motor, all receiving the same amount of electricity," Dr. McLendon says. "It's the same wire: same length, diameter. In this system, they all should be acting in the same way. But you have the element of chance at play. The wires start to tangle with each other, and this affects how they rotate."

"It doesn't work as a perfect system. Each motor and wire almost takes on a personality of its own. You can relate this to our lives, and how chance impacts all of our lives."

As the wires spin and hit each other, they also scrape against the white wall, creating marks. "It's fascinating to watch. The markings on the wall become more and more pronounced as the exhibition continues."

Thinking outside the box(es)

The remaining three works all incorporate large cardboard boxes.

"246 prepared dc-motors, wire isolated, cardboard boxes 41x41x41 cm" is a towering semi-circle of boxes. When you step inside the semi-circle, you see a bare light bulb hanging from the ceiling in the middle. Small motors on each

box rotate long curved wires that whip about like snakes. Over and over again, the wires constantly strike the cardboard, like self-flagellating monks.

More than one viewer has compared the sound to that of rain striking a roof or a tent.

"Zimoun's sculpture is abstract," says Dr. McLendon. "It's always fascinating to me how there is this real instinctual need to make meaning where there is no meaning. It's an abstract sound. We layer something onto it, the sound of rain, for example."

And the titles are simple lists of the materials used "so he's not layering meaning onto the work. It leaves space for the viewer to make his or her own meaning."

In the next room is "80 prepared dc-motors, cotton balls, cardboard boxes 71x71x71 cm," a staggered wall of cardboard boxes line one wall. On each face is a tiny motor, from which hangs a wire with a cotton ball at the end. The motors turn the wires, and the cotton balls, looking like timpani mallets, continuously beat against the cardboard. The sound is not dissimilar to taiko drumming. One viewer exclaimed that it sounded like the roar of a subway train. The sound changes the closer a viewer gets to the piece, and the Doppler effect can be achieved by walking along the length of the wall.

The fifth and final piece consists of "49 prepared dc-motors, cotton balls, cardboard boxes 51x51x51 cm," but these boxes are all lying on the floor. The cotton balls at the end of the wires can't fight against gravity, so they vibrate and rumble against the surfaces of the boxes.

"In that last piece with the cotton balls rotating on the tops of boxes, the cotton is starting to degrade," Dr. McLendon points out. "There are

in the know

- >> "Zimoun: Sculpting Sound"
- >> **When:** through mid-February
- >> **Where:** The Ringling Museum of Art, 5401 Bay Shore Road, Sarasota
- >> **Cost:** \$25, \$20 for seniors, \$5 for students with ID and children 6-17
- >> **Info:** (941) 357-5700 or www.ringling.org

Improv troupe set for 100th show

Two-for-one tickets offered as thank-you

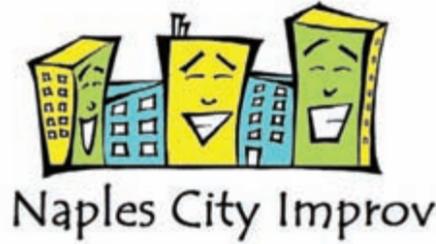
Naples City Improv, Southwest Florida's only professional improvisation troupe, celebrates its 100th on Friday, Dec. 16, at The Norris Center. As a thank you to friends and fans, tickets will be two-for-one instead of the regular \$15 per person.

NCI arose from a series of one-event dates in the spring of 2008, culminating in a one-night stand of comedy and standup in early July 2008. Several of those players wanted to continue and create a group, other players were added and the group evolved from there. The troupe has performed never-the-same brand of family-friendly skits numerous times at The Norris Center, so it is fitting that the celebration of the 100th performance take place there.

Several of the 100 shows have been at various restaurants around Naples for dinner shows and for such private clubs and organizations. In February 2010, Naples City Improv was featured on WGCU-TV's "Connect!" That seven-minute profile can be seen at www.naplescityimprov.com. The website also provides more information about the group.

The 100th show begins at 8 p.m., and doors open at 7:30 p.m. Reservations are recommended and can be made by calling The Norris Center at 213-3049.

Remaining shows of 2011-12 at The Norris Center are set for Saturday, Jan. 21; Thursday, Feb. 16; Wednesday, March 28; and Friday, May 4. ■



in the know

Naples City Improv, the 100th show

- >>When: 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16
- >>Where: The Norris Center (doors open at 7:30 p.m.)
- >>Tickets: Two for \$15
- >>Reservations: 213-3049

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WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Best Weekend Bets

■ **Dec. 9:** Celebrate the holidays barbershop-style. Paradise Coastmen/Norris Center. 213-3058 or www.naplesbarbershopchorus.org.

■ **Dec. 10:** Art-in-the-Glades. Everglades Society for Historic Preservation. 695-2905 or www.evergladeshistorical.org.

■ **Dec. 10-11:** The Nutcracker. Naples Ballet. 732-1000 or www.naplesballet.org.

■ **Dec. 10:** Christmas Angel Show & Sale. Bonny Hawley Studios. 649-1389 or www.bhawley.com.

■ **Dec. 10:** Barbershop Christmas concert. Chorus of the Everglades. 250-0457 or www.evergladeschorus.us.

■ **Dec. 11:** Naples Daily News Jazz Band. Cambier Park. 213-3058 or www.naplesgov.com.

■ **Dec. 11:** Naples Winter Auction. Leslie Hindman Auctioneers. 643-4448 or www.lesliehindman.com.

Theater

■ **The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee** - By TheatreZone at The Community School of Naples through Dec. 11. (888) 966-3352 or www.theatrezoneflorida.com.

■ **Sherlock Holmes, the Final Adventure** - By The Naples Players through Dec. 17. 263-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org.

■ **The Santaland Diaries** - By Florida Repertory Theatre, Fort Myers, Dec. 14-31. 332-4488 or www.floridarep.org.

■ **It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play** - By Florida Repertory Theatre, Fort Myers, through Dec. 18. 332-4488 or www.floridarep.org.

■ **A Christmas Carol** - By Laboratory Theater of Florida, Fort Myers, at 8 p.m. Dec. 9-10 and 14-17 and at 2 p.m. Dec. 18. 1634 Woodford Ave. 218-0481 or www.laboratorytheaterflorida.com.

■ **Becky's New Car** - By Theatre Conspiracy, Fort Myers, through Dec. 17. 936-3239 or www.theaterconspiracy.org.

■ **A Christmas Survival Guide** - At the Off Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre, Fort Myers, through Dec. 25. 278-4422 or www.broadwaypalm.com.

■ **Irving Berlin's White Christmas** - At Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre, Fort Myers, through Dec. 25. 278-4422 or www.broadwaypalm.com.

Thursday, Dec. 8

■ **Critic's Choice** - Elaine Newton discusses the novel "The Tiger's Wife" by Téa Obreht, at 10 a.m. today and Saturday at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. \$32. 597-1900 or www.ThePhil.org.

■ **Local History** - Kathy and Ed Miracco portray Mary and Charles Olds, who arrived on Marco Island in 1901, at 2 p.m. at the South Regional Library, 8065 Lely Cultural Pkwy. 252-7542.



COURTESY PHOTO

Jan Mulder performs in concert to benefit the St. Vincent de Paul Meals On Wheels program at 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, at the Euro Grand Piano Gallery in the Imperial Square shopping plaza. \$30. 775-1667.

■ **Art Opening** - The Sultan Gallery at KVS Interior Design hosts an opening for the "Landscapes" exhibit from 5:30-8 p.m. 3820 Via Del Rey, Bonita Springs.

■ **Boats On Parade** - The Village on Venetian Bay holiday boat parade runs from 6:30-9:30 p.m. 261-6100. See details on page A29.

■ **Holiday Tunes** - The Barron Collier High School Band performs a free concert from 7-9 p.m. at Cambier Park. Bring lawn chairs and blankets for seating. 213-1000 or 450-7863.

■ **Voices Of Naples** - The Center for the Arts of Bonita Springs presents "Live at the Promenade!... The Voices of Naples" at 7 p.m. at the Promenade at Bonita Bay. \$20 members/\$25 non-members. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

■ **Four-Part Harmony** - The Paradise Coastmen Barbershop Chorus performs a Christmas concert at 7:30 p.m. at Our Savior Lutheran Church, 1955 Curling Ave. A reception follows. Free-will offering. 597-4091 or oursaviorlutheran2@embarqmail.com.

■ **Country Legend** - Loretta Lynn takes the stage at 8 p.m. at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. 597-1900 or www.ThePhil.org.

■ **A Stand-Up Guy** - Eddie Ifft performs tonight through Sunday at the Off The Hook Comedy Club on Marco Island. 389-6900.

Friday, Dec. 9

■ **Holiday Favorites** - The Boys and Girls Club choir sings a selection of holiday classics and the club's ballet company performs excerpts from "The Nutcracker" from 6-8:30 p.m. at the Village on Venetian Bay. www.venetianvillage.com.

■ **Barbershop Chorus** - The Paradise Coastmen Barbershop Chorus performs at 7:30 p.m. at The Norris Center. \$15. 213-3049.

Saturday, Dec. 10

■ **Holiday Fun** - Enjoy music, food and Santa and Mrs. Claus from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Barber Parlor in Green Tree Center, 2386 Immokalee Road. Santa visits from 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. 254-1234.

■ **Fine Art and Crafts** - The Naples Artcrafters Fine Art and Craft Show takes place from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in Cambier Park. 250-0804.

■ **Sweets With Santa** - Kids can

snack on cookies with Santa from 10 a.m.-noon at Mackle Park on Marco Island.

■ **Ho! Ho! Ho!** - Waterside Shops welcome Santa from 10 a.m.-noon today and Dec. 17. Kids are welcome to join the jolly old soul as he reads holiday classics. 598-1605.

■ **More Art** - Art-in-the-Glades runs from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in historic Everglades City. Shop for handmade crafts and local artwork and enjoy lunch and live music. 695-2905 or www.evergladeshistorical.org.

■ **Book Signing** - Karna Small Bodman signs copies of her book, "Final Finesse," from 2-6 p.m. at Petunias of Naples. 852 Fifth Ave. S. 262-2128.

■ **Teen Performer** - Jessie Cohen performs from 3-5 p.m. today and Dec. 17 at Waterside Shops. 598-1605.

■ **Snow Show** - Let it Snow runs from 4-7 p.m. at The Village on Venetian Bay. Enjoy holiday entertainment, carolers, face painting and more. 261-6100.

■ **Immokalee Christmas** - Christmas Around the World, featuring a parade through Immokalee, snow, sledding, Santa Claus, music and games, runs from 5-10 p.m. at the Immokalee Sports Complex. 657-1951.

■ **Art After Dark** - The Galleries of Crayton Cove welcome visitors from 6-9 p.m. Enjoy wine, hors d'oeuvres and, of course, art. 659-2787.

■ **Casino Goes Country** - David Allan Coe takes the stage at 7 p.m. at Seminole Casino Immokalee. \$20. (800) 218-0007.

■ **Piano Concert** - St. Vincent de Paul presents a Jan Mulder benefit concert for Meals On Wheels at 7 p.m. at the Euro Grand Piano Gallery in the Imperial Square shopping plaza. \$30. 775-1667.

■ **Seasonal Tunes** - The Naples Philharmonic Orchestra presents "Seasonal Treasures," a program of sacred and popular seasonal music, at 8 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church of Naples. 597-1900 or www.ThePhil.org.

■ **Comedy Night** - Enjoy live stand-up comedy at 9 p.m. at Fred's Food, Fun & Spirits. 2700 Immokalee Rd. 431-7928.

Sunday, Dec. 11

■ **Waterside Shops Show** - The Seacrest Singers perform from 1-2 p.m. in the pavilion at Waterside Shops. 598-1605.

■ **Outdoor Concert** - The Bonita Springs Concert Band performs at 2 p.m. at Riverside Park on Old 41 Road. Bring lawn chairs or blankets for seating.

■ **Jazz in the Garden** - The Naples Botanical Garden presents Steve Uscher as part of the Jazz in the Garden series from 2-4 p.m. 643-7275.

Monday, Dec. 12

■ **Foreign Film** - The Center for the Arts of Bonita Springs presents a screening and discussion of "Paris, Je T'aime" at 7 p.m. at the Promenade at Bonita Bay, 26811 S. Bay Dr. \$8. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

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December 8, 9, 10

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COURTESY PHOTO

The Marco Island Historical Society, in partnership with St. Mark's Episcopal Church, presents "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!" Thursday through Saturday, Dec. 8-10, at the Marco Island Historical Museum. Show times are 7 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 2 and 5 p.m. Saturday. Admission is free, but donations for needy families will be welcome. 394-0080 or www.theateronmarco.com.

■ **Holiday Show** – Paul Todd's "Illuminated Christmas" begins at 7 p.m. at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, Fort Myers. Tickets start at \$25. 481-4849 or www.bbmannpah.com.

■ **B-I-N-G-O!** – Bingo at the Jewish Congregation of Marco Island starts with a free kosher hot dog dinner at 5:30 p.m. at 991 Winterberry Drive. The first game is called at 7 p.m. 642-0800.

Tuesday, Dec. 13

■ **Library Concert** – Take Four performs a selection of holiday songs at

6 p.m. at Headquarters Library, 2385 Orange Blossom Dr. 593-0177.

■ **Holiday Classic** – See George Balanchine's "The Nutcracker" performed by the New York City Ballet at Lincoln Center live in HD at 6 p.m. at Regal Hollywood Stadium 20, 6006 Hollywood Drive, Naples; and Hollywood Coconut Point 16, 8021 Cinema Way, Estero. \$20 adults, \$16 students. Box office or www.fathomevents.com.

■ **Christmas Pops** – The Naples Philharmonic Orchestra presents "Holiday Pops" at 8 p.m. tonight through Dec. 18 at the Philharmonic Center for the

Arts. 597-1900 or www.ThePhil.org.

Wednesday, Dec. 14

■ **Tenor Tunes** – The Irish Tenors' "Christmas Reunion" starts at 7:30 p.m. at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall. \$42.50-\$72.50. 481-4849 or www.bbmannpah.com.

Coming up

■ **Library Show** – Take Four performs a selection of holiday songs at 6 p.m. Dec. 15 at South Regional Library, 8065 Lely Cultural Pkwy. 252-7542.

■ **Cantors Concert** – The Gulf Coast Symphony hosts "Cantors: A Faith in Song" on Dec. 15 at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, Fort Myers. A reception starts at 6:30 p.m., followed by the concert at 8 p.m. \$37-\$102. 277-1700 or www.gulfcoastsymphony.org.

■ **Bonita Art Walk** – The Center for the Arts of Bonita Springs presents Art Walk from 5-8 p.m. Dec. 15 at the Arts Studios at the Promenade at Bonita Bay. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

■ **Hansel and Gretel** – By Opera Naples Dec. 16-18 at the Community School of Naples. 963-9050.

■ **Art Lecture** – Galerie Mourlet owner Eric Mourlet discusses the 20th century masters of lithography at 4 p.m. Dec. 16 at The von Liebig Art Center. 851-5284 or www.naplesart.org.

■ **Christmas Film** – Bring the family for a screening of "Home Alone" beginning at 7 p.m. Dec. 16 in Marco Island's Mackle Park.

■ **Shirley Street Art** – Celebrate original American art while shopping from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Dec. 17 at the Shirley Street Galleries and Studios, 5760 and 5850 Shirley St. 572-3386.

■ **Bluegrass Sounds** – Hearttown Bluegrass performs at 7 p.m. Dec. 17 at The Norris Center. \$22 in advance, \$25 at the door. 213-3049.

■ **Holiday Cheer** – Florida Gulf Coast University Theatre Lab presents "Thistletoe Cabaret and Silent Night Auction," an evening of seasonal cheer, at 7 p.m. Dec. 17 at the FGCU Arts Complex. \$25. 590-7268.

■ **Big Band Sound** – The Gulf Coast Big Band performs from 2-4 p.m. Dec. 18 in the band shell at Cambier Park. 213-3058

■ **Winter Solstice Events** – "Night Lights: A Winter Solstice Celebration" takes place from 6-8 p.m. Dec. 20-23 and 26-30 at the Naples Botanical Garden. Enjoy concerts, a movie night and more. 643-7275.

— Submit calendar listings and high-resolution photos to events@floridaweekly.com. E-mail text, jpegs or Word documents are accepted. No pdfs or photos of flyers. The deadline for calendar submissions is noon Sunday.

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THEATER REVIEW

Sweet, not sappy: 'It's a Wonderful Life' inspires, delights

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Life rarely turns out the way you think it will.

Even if we live in our desired locale, marry the one we love and work at our dream job, life has a sadistic way of pitching curve balls when we least expect it.

Friends die, people betray us, illness robs us of our vitality and mobility, sometimes temporarily, sometimes permanently. Accidents happen. Businesses falter or move overseas. Banks foreclose.

We lose jobs, homes, spouses.

Sometimes we lose faith.

George Bailey, like all young men, nurses big dreams. He's going to go to college, travel and make his mark on the world.

He's bubbling over with excitement about his future and all the myriad possibilities.

"I want to do something big!" he exclaims.

And whatever that "something big" turns out to be, it certainly doesn't include Bedford Falls, N.Y., the small, predictable town in which he's grown up.

But various circumstances conspire to trap him there, even after he falls in love and marries.

His father suddenly dies, forcing George to take over the family's savings and loan and remain in that snooze of a town, his dreams unrealized.

Years later, his uncle's absent-minded mistake and an evil man's plotting drive him to contemplate suicide one Christmas Eve.

But in answer to his desperate prayer, and the prayers of those who love him, heaven sends down Clarence, George's guardian angel. Clarence might be 293 years old, but he's still trying to earn his wings.

Because George wishes he'd never been born, Clarence shows him what the world would be like if he'd never existed.

"Strange, isn't it?" Clarence asks him. "Each man's life touches so many other lives. When he isn't around, he leaves an awful hole, doesn't he?"

The story, of course, is "It's a Wonderful Life."

Through Dec. 18, Florida Repertory Theatre is staging a version of Frank Capra's classic holiday movie. You should catch it while you can. It's the perfect production for the season.

Director Robert Cacioppo has achieved the right balance of tone: The show is sweet, not sappy or overly cloying — not an easy thing to accomplish with a show such as this, one that could dangerously teeter in the wrong direction if directed or performed with too heavy a hand.

Playwright Joe Landry adapted the tale for the stage, cleverly transforming it into a show-within-a-show. In this version, a group of actors gather together on Christmas Eve 1946 to perform a live radio play, "It's a Wonderful Life." So the Florida Rep actors are playing actors who in turn portray various characters.

As was the norm for old-time radio dramas, it takes only a handful of actors to populate an entire town; they play multiple roles, sometimes with one actor portraying two or three people conversing together, changing accents and voices for a line or two, then switching back again. It takes pretty deft acting to do this credibly.

A step back in time

The action begins a half hour before curtain time, as singers rehearse, messengers deliver telegrams, a crusty soundman tests his props (creating a lot of noise during Christmas carols) and the actors arrive, walking down the aisle as if they're strutting on a red carpet, squealing fans at their heels.

Florida Rep provides a complete experience: walking into the Arcade Theatre in downtown Fort Myers feels like stepping back in time.

Designer Richard Crowell's art deco set is painted in shades of blue, just like the actual Arcade Theatre's interior. And thanks to Roberta Malcolm's costumes, the men sport argyle sweaters or double-breasted suits, and most wear bowties.

Peter Thomasson plays Freddie Filmore, the radio host, with great finesse. His elegant, smooth voice introduces the WFRT "Playhouse of the Air" and narrates the tale. Displaying his range, he also portrays the evil Mr. Potter and several others.

Chris Kipiniak does a stand-up job as George Bailey, and he's careful — and smart

— not to attempt a Jimmy Stewart impersonation. He presents George as a young

guy with a strong sense of fairness, trying to do right in this world. He has a couple of speeches throughout the play, and to his credit, none sound like lectures; they're all heartfelt.

It's scary how relevant this play is even now: Mr. Potter

has a vested interest in keeping people poor and in debt to him. A slum landlord, he has them living in shacks. He also has a monopoly on pretty much everything in town: the banks, the department stores, the bus line. He's rich beyond measure, but still greedy for more — more money, and more power.

At one point George challenges him, saying: "Just remember this, Mr. Potter. That this rabble that you're talking about... they do most of the working and paying and living and dying in this community." In other words, George is standing up for the 99 percent. Unfortunately, their own hard work is what's made Mr. Potter rich; they're laboring, but he's the one who profits.

George's wife, Mary, is played with sweet charm by Claire Guy. She portrays Mary as a woman with a gentle spirit and plenty of common sense. We can see why George falls for her. The two have great chemistry together. One of their best scenes occurs when they're listening and talking on the same phone, their heads touching. Mary knows they're meant for each other, but it takes George a little while to catch on.

Brad DePlanche, previously seen in Florida Rep's "Rumors" and "The 39 Steps," once again displays his considerable comedic talent as he plays a flirty, swaggering actor who's quite believable as a fumbling Uncle Billy and also as Clarence, the angel, in addition to numerous other characters.

Playing the rest of the female characters is Carrie Lund, who takes this role and runs with it. Her range is quite impressive, as she plays a bitter older woman

who's lost her only son, a flirtatious young beauty, a maid and a burlesque dancer, to name just a few.

And while he doesn't have a speaking part, Mark Chambers is an essential part of the play as Melvin Swabbington. Melvin provides the sound effects that create a realistic ambience to the scenes — slamming doors, beeping horns, ringing bells, crunching snow. Due to his character's hard work, we can imagine a boy falling through the ice on a lake, a train pull into a station, a family seated around the table at mealtime.

Part of the appeal of Mr. Chambers' role is seeing the unusual way some sounds are created; the other part is his curmudgeonly attitude as he dispassionately goes about his work. It's great fun to watch him, though he's careful not to upstage the others.

A grand finale on opening night

"It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play" gives us a behind-the-scenes look at how radio dramas were performed in front of a live audience (including commercials) and also feeds our need for a holiday show of genuine sweetness.

This production is magical and authentic from start to finish, avoiding cheap sentimentality and faked cheer.

It just might restore your faith in the goodness of others and spur you to reconsider your blessings, despite these difficult times.

And because this is live theater, opening night attendees were treated to an unexpected moment after the curtain calls. Chris Simpson, the company's technical director, came out on stage, dropped to one knee and proposed to Ms. Guy, the actress.

Referencing George Bailey's promise to Mary that he'd "lasso the moon" for her, he said, "Claire, I might not be able to lasso the moon for you, but I can design one to scale. Will you marry me?" Ms. Guy, so overcome she was unable to speak, nodded her reply.

And the audience gave their second standing ovation of the evening. ■



Claire Guy, Chris Kipiniak and Avery King from the cast of "It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play"

in the know

"It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play"

>> **When:** through Dec. 18

>> **Where:** Florida Repertory Theatre

>> **Tickets:** \$45, \$40

>> **Info:** 332-4488 or www.floridarep.org

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STRESSBALL



MEATBALL



The Naples Concert Band

STARS

From page 1

■ **James Cochran**, founder and director of the Philharmonic Center Chorale, is also the resident organist for the Naples Philharmonic Center of the Arts and the director of the Philharmonic Youth Chorale. He serves as director of music at Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church, organizes the annual Naples Organ Festival and teaches and mentors many young local performers.



COCHRAN

■ **Brian Holley** is the executive director of the Naples Botanical Garden, where he leads a team that has created a world-class garden. He has expanded educational programming at the Garden, established college internship programs and strengthened partnerships with universities and local organizations. He also served two terms as chairman of the Collier County Arts Forum. Prior to moving to Naples, he was executive director of the Cleveland Botanical Garden.



HOLLEY

■ **William Noll** serves as artistic director for Classic Chamber Concerts and ArtsNaples World Festival and conductor of the Fifth Avenue Chamber Orchestra and a guest conductor for Opera Naples. A veteran conductor-pianist of both classical and jazz, he has performed with orchestras all over the world and appeared in several TV specials. He is an advocate for music education and has hosted many charitable fundraising events at his Naples home. He also serves as executive



NOLL

director of entertainment for The Ritz-Carlton Resorts of Naples.

■ **Peter Thomas** has had a distinguished career in radio and television as a broadcaster and narrator. Many have heard his voice in national TV commercials and on award-winning documentary films. He has done voiceover work for local charities, including the United Arts Council and the Phil. He serves on the board of directors for the Holocaust Museum of Southwest Florida and the Naples Historical Society. A decorated World War II veteran, he has won numerous awards locally for his philanthropic work.



THOMAS

■ **Richard Tooke** served as president of the Friends organization at the Naples Museum of Art for more than two years and was the driving force behind the museum's "Have A Seat" and "Incognito" events. He also founded the Young Professionals Evenings at The Phil. An avid art collector, he also supports many local artists. Prior to moving to Naples, he worked for 30 years at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City.



TOOKE

Previous winners of the Stars in the Arts awards are: the Philharmonic Center for the Arts; Naples Art Association; The Naples Players; Classic Chamber Concerts; Paradise Coastmen Barbershop Chorus; Marco Island Center for the Arts; Naples Music Club; Opera Naples; Myra Daniels; Patty and Jay Baker; Donna Fiala; Mark Danni; Kristen Coury; Harriet Heithaus; Erich Kunzel; Paul Arsenaunt; Joel Banow; Ron Bowman; Andrea Clark Brown; Clyde Butcher; Ron Doiron; Jonathan Green; Mary Margaret Gruszka; Betsy and Al Harris; Olga Hirshhorn; Charlie Horn; Bill Meek; Jim Rideoutte; Delores and John Sorey; Kathy Spalding; Ted Tobye; Dolph von Arx; Elaine Vreenegeer; Bette Young; Toby Blumenthal Phillips and Bert Phillips; Peg Longstreth; and student star Kylan Moran. ■

PUZZLE ANSWERS



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

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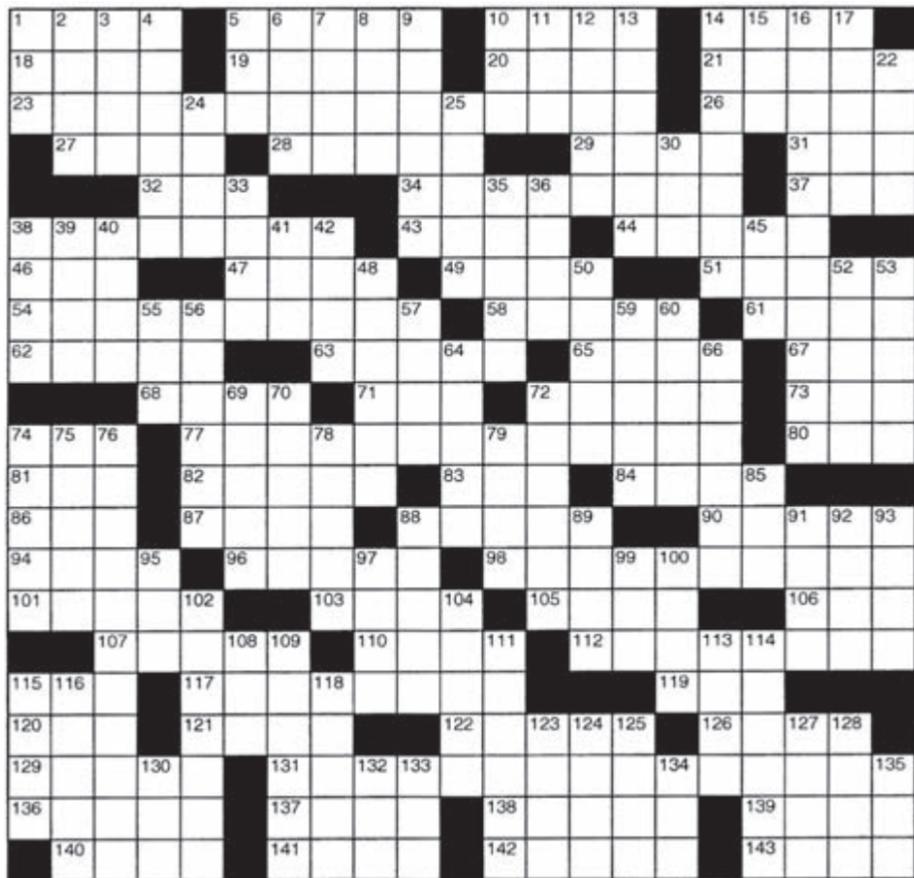
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FLORIDA WEEKLY PUZZLES

ROSE GARDEN



- ACROSS**
- 1 — it the truth?"
 - 5 Restrain
 - 10 Conduit fittings
 - 14 Active volcano
 - 18 "The Green —" (56 hit)
 - 19 Victorian ornament
 - 20 Rachel's sister
 - 21 TV's "The Wonder —"
 - 23 Guns n' Roses hit
 - 26 — nous
 - 27 Soprano Gluck
 - 28 — a day's work
 - 29 Sleuth Nancy
 - 31 Herriman's "Krazy —"
 - 32 Mythical monster
 - 34 In flight
 - 37 Adjective suffix
 - 38 One of "The Three Tenors"
 - 43 Rock's — & the Gang
 - 44 Pine
 - 46 Kimono cummerbund
 - 47 Interrogates
 - 49 Cranny's companion
 - 51 Toomey or Philbin
 - 54 Rose Nylund's portrayal
 - 58 Oketokee, for one
 - 61 Skin problem
 - 62 Irwin of "The Crocodile Hunter"
 - 63 '78 Peace Nobel
 - 65 Pesticide person
 - 67 Unmatched
 - 68 Went like hotcakes
 - 71 Apprehend
 - 72 Cumin or conander
 - 73 Stretch the truth
 - 74 Health concern
 - 77 Billy Rose song
 - 80 Organ of equilibrium
 - 81 Poetic pot
 - 82 Reference volume
 - 83 Patriotic org.
 - 84 Prepare prunes
 - 86 Bar supply
 - 87 Linguist Chomsky
 - 88 Scope
 - 90 Unbroken
 - 94 "Divine Comedy" figure
 - 96 Caroline, to Ted
 - 98 "The Name of the Rose" author
 - 101 Send the money
 - 103 Salt serving
 - 105 — Alto, CA
 - 106 Dover's st.
 - 107 Fight site
 - 110 Temporary wealth?
 - 112 Butcher's offering
 - 115 "The — and I" ('47 film)
 - 117 "Fait —"
 - 119 Ending for "auction"
 - 120 Sought office
 - 121 Penny or peseta
 - 122 Wrong
 - 126 Architect Saarinen
 - 129 Conductor Seiji
 - 131 Rose McGowan movie
 - 136 Murcia mister
 - 137 Take — the chin
 - 138 Spring for
 - 139 Actress Ward
 - 140 Live on lettuce
 - 141 Bean on the bean
 - 142 Hope's "The Prisoner of —"
 - 143 North Carolina campus
- DOWN**
- 1 Pitches
 - 2 Where the tall corn grows
 - 3 Gallagher of Oasis
 - 4 Aftershock
 - 5 New Deal agcy.
 - 6 "Very funny!"
 - 7 Runner Zatopek
 - 8 Room without a view?
 - 9 Alaskan bear
 - 10 Shady character?
 - 11 Wahine's wreath
 - 12 Joe of "Dr. Quinn"
 - 13 '62 Four Seasons hit
 - 14 Glasses
 - 15 Dress size
 - 16 "Ramblin' Rose" singer
 - 17 Stage backdrop
 - 22 Clockmaker Thomas
 - 24 Grocer's measure
 - 25 Tearjerker?
 - 30 Vane letters
 - 33 Gullet
 - 35 Perch
 - 36 Run through
 - 38 Male swans
 - 39 Help a hood
 - 40 Formal ceremony
 - 41 — blond
 - 42 Goes downhill fast?
 - 45 Stephen of "Interview with the Vampire"
 - 48 Loses a lap
 - 50 Phi Beta —
 - 52 79 Down's homeland
 - 53 Passover meal
 - 55 Watching machines?
 - 56 Petty officer
 - 57 Dairy-case purchase
 - 59 "Upstairs, Downstairs" extras
 - 60 Ornamental loop
 - 64 Gulf
 - 66 Most revolutionary
 - 69 Divulge
 - 70 — Lama
 - 72 Cocktail ingredient
 - 74 It makes candy dandy
 - 75 Austen title start
 - 76 "The Rose Tattoo" actress
 - 78 Christened
 - 79 "Elephant Boy" star
 - 85 Wine and dine
 - 88 Moral man?
 - 89 Stowe sight
 - 91 A swan was her swain
 - 92 Summer-time treats
 - 93 Lamebrain
 - 95 Russian space station
 - 97 Tranquil
 - 99 Lilly of pharmaceuticals
 - 100 Morning wear
 - 102 4 p.m. vehicle?
 - 104 Muslim dietary term
 - 108 Sgt. or cpl.
 - 109 Like lemons
 - 111 WWII admiral
 - 113 Shorten a sail
 - 114 Threat words
 - 115 Desire defied
 - 116 Looked longingly
 - 118 — a customer
 - 123 Concerning
 - 124 Lightweight gun
 - 125 Large herring
 - 127 Whirl
 - 128 Christiania, today
 - 130 Affliction
 - 132 Wolfram — Eschenbach
 - 133 Squid's squirt
 - 134 "Wings" abbr.
 - 135 Solo of "Star Wars"

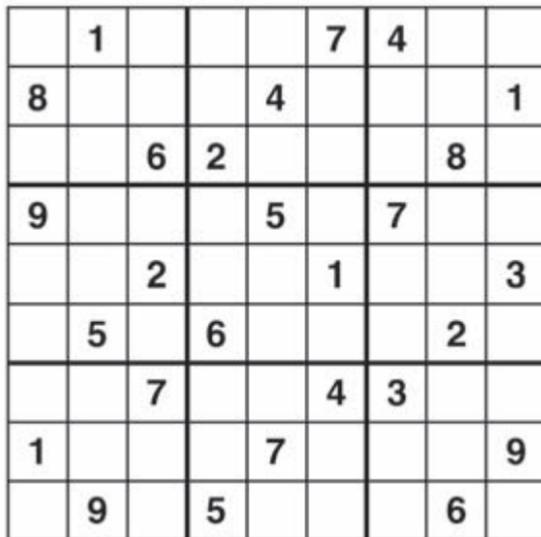
SEE ANSWERS, C9

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HOROSCOPES

- **SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) All signs point to a bright holiday, with all of those pesky problems finally resolved in your favor. Share the good times with people you love and, of course, who love you.
- **CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) Your plans should not be set in stone and cemented over. Leave some openings in case you need to make changes. Spend the holidays with your nearest and dearest.
- **AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) Surprise! This holiday finds you on the receiving end of the generosity of those who are usually the recipients of so much that you give so freely and lovingly.
- **PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) That piece of good news assures that you'll be swimming in clearer, calmer waters this holiday season. There might be a storm or two ahead, but you'll weather it all in fine style.
- **ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) I know, dear Lamb, that you don't like anyone trying to take charge of one of your projects, but try to be a bit more flexible. A new idea could help hasten a positive result.
- **TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) I'm sure, like the time-thrifty Taurus that you are, that you've done much of your holiday shopping. But don't relax yet. Wrap those gifts now to save yourself lots of unwanted pressure.
- **GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Be receptive when a family member or friend asks to confide in you. Your positive reaction could ensure that he or she will have a happy holiday experience.
- **CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) Don't be rushed into wrapping up that workplace problem. Consider leaving it until after the holidays. This way you'll have the facts you need to reach the right resolution.
- **LEO** (July 23 to August 22) You'll get news that will make you glow brighter than the lights of the holiday season. Be sure to use what you learn both carefully and kindly, to avoid giving the wrong impression.
- **VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) That frayed relationship could be mended in time for the holidays if you were more flexible. Give a little, and you could get back a lot more than you imagined.
- **LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) Things might not seem to be settling down as quickly as you would prefer. But it might be just a little holiday time flutter. You'll soon get news that will lead to more stability.
- **SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Stop getting so involved in everyone's personal problems that you lose precious time with loved ones. Remember, even the Supreme Court closes for the holidays.
- **BORN THIS WEEK:** You have a flair for seeing things as you'd like them to be, as well as a gift for turning your perceptions into reality. ■

By Linda Thistle



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Puzzle Difficulty this week:



Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ Expert

SEE ANSWERS, C9

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LATEST FILMS

'Hugo'



danHUDAK

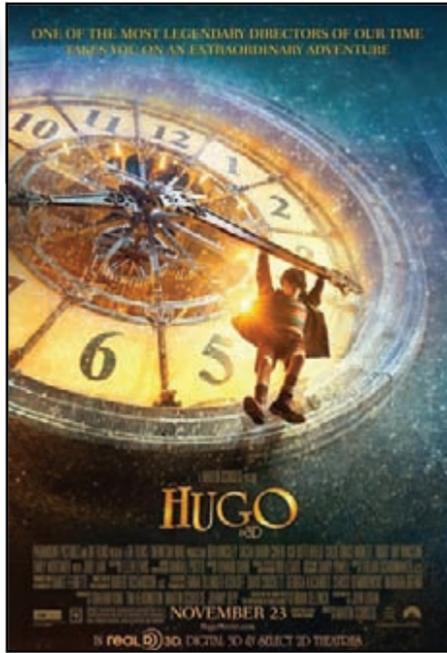
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★★★★

Is it worth \$15? Yes

"Hugo" is a love letter to movies made by a man who's given us numerous movies to love. It's not a masterpiece, but it does demonstrate a masterful use of 3D, camera work and production design, all of which provide a visual splendor unlike anything we've seen in quite some time.

In 1930s Paris, young Hugo's (Asa Butterfield) watchmaker father (Jude Law) dies. Tough break for any 12-year-old, especially when you're then adopted by your often-inebriated uncle (Ray Winstone) and forced to mind the clocks at a Paris train station. Through it all Hugo also searches for a heart-shaped key that he believes will unlock a secret message



ing the patience) of older viewers. Worse, the plot doesn't have the same drive or intrigue that Scorsese's movies often have, and as a result, the narrative sputters when it needs to thrust forward.

But wow, does this movie look spectacular. From the opening moments when it feels as though the show is falling in your lap to the camera breezily moving through walls and around the train station, Scorsese has taken his vast visual creativity and perfectly adapted it for 3D. (The maestro of 3D, James Cameron, reportedly called "Hugo" the best use of 3D that he's seen, including his own films. Based

on the source, that's high praise for any filmmaker, especially considering this is Scorsese's first attempt at 3D.)

More than that, though, the production design provides a plethora of rich and vivid colors that offer a storybook feel while transporting us back to 1930s Paris, and the costumes and visual effects superbly complement the stellar cast.

Scorsese's last foray into a PG-rating was "The Age Of Innocence" in 1993, which dealt with decidedly adult material. "Hugo" is, therefore, his first attempt at a children's movie, and although it's unusual to see him fall short in terms of storytelling, you can rest assured that he's on top of his game in every other regard. ■



his father left behind inside a robot.

The good news is he finds the key around his new friend Isabelle's (Chloe Grace Moretz) neck. The bad news is Hugo's notebook with all the robot's information is in the possession of Isabelle's Papa Georges (Ben Kingsley), and he's not interested in giving it back. And because Hugo lives at the train station, he also must fear the station inspector (Sacha Baron Cohen), who has a reputation for sending children to the orphanage.

Lovers of early film history — which director Scorsese is — will appreciate the direct ties to filmmaker Georges Melies and his impact on cinema. Much to the delight of film geeks (like me,) Scorsese doesn't shortchange these elements.

However, he and screenwriter John Logan also never find a way to get around the easy predictability of the story. It's as if they got lazy and figured, "Hey, this is a children's movie," and stopped worrying about insulting the intelligence (and test-

in the know

>> **The film we see** of a man hanging off a clock is called "Safety Last!" (1923), and it was made by the (often forgotten about) great silent comedian Harold Lloyd.



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Marco library exhibit features works by island resident Rick Granneman

“Legacies,” an exhibit of paintings by Rick Granneman, hangs throughout the Marco Public Library through December. Included are paintings of Southwest Florida as well as landscapes of the rural Midwest and Mediterranean Europe.

Although his style is generally realistic, Mr. Granneman says he is not a devotee of any particular historical art movement.

“Art history over the centuries comprises works of hundreds of talented artists with various philosophies and trainings, ranging from the tender genre depictions by Millet to the dreamscapes of Dali,” he says. “We are all impacted directly and unconsciously by their work.”

His ultimate goal as an artist, he adds, is “to satisfy the elements of art aesthetics, embracing various legacy concepts

regarding design, color and value to construct images of past remembrances and the underappreciated beauty of our current surroundings.”

Mr. Granneman and his wife, Billie, moved to Marco Island five years ago. A member of the Artist Colony at the Esplanade, he is active with the Marco Island Center for the Arts, with several award-winning paintings to his credit, and paints often with the plein air artists of Marco.

The Marco Public Library and the Marco Island Center for the Arts work together to provide monthly art shows at the library. All artwork displayed is for sale. Members of the Marco Island Center for the Arts are eligible to display their work. ■



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Jazz in the Park presents Jerry Stawski Quartet

The Bayshore Cultural and Performing Arts Center presents the Jerry Stawski Quartet as part of its Jazz in the Park series from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 18, at Sugden Regional Park in Naples.

Mr. Stawski, a jazz pianist, plays regularly at both Ritz-Carlton resorts in Naples. He is co-leader of the Naples Philharmonic Jazz Orchestra and has played with the Southwest Florida Symphony and the Naples, Charlotte County

and Southwest Florida jazz societies.

He helped found the jazz school of Florida State University, his alma mater, and his arrangements of composers such as Harold Arlen and songs that defined Frank Sinatra can be heard on QRS piano rolls for player pianos.

Jazz in the Park concerts are free and open to the public. On-site parking is \$5. For information, call 775-2800 or visit www.bayshorecapa.org. ■

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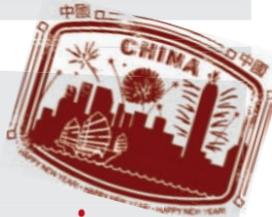
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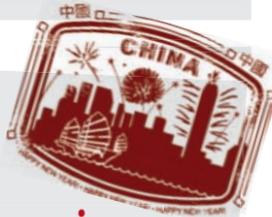
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Singers, dancers of all ages needed for Naples Players' 'Hello, Dolly!'

Auditions for The Naples Players' musical "Hello, Dolly!" will be held by appointment only on Saturday, Dec. 10, at the Sugden Community Theatre.

Cast openings include: five principal women - one age 40-65; two ages 25-45; and two ages 18-30; five principal men - one age 45-60; two ages 25-45; and two ages 18-30.

The show also requires a large singing and dancing ensemble, and anyone 15 years or older is welcome

to try out. Some small speaking parts are also available.

All who audition will be asked to learn a brief choreographed routine and should prepare 16 bars of a song. An accompanist will be provided.

Rehearsals will begin Jan. 9, and performances will be on the main stage Feb. 29-March 31 (preview night Feb. 28). Perusal scripts are available for 72 hours, with a \$20 deposit, at the box office.

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11 12pm - 6pm	12 10am - 8pm	13 10am - 8pm	14 10am - 8pm	15 10am - 8pm	16 10am - 8pm	17 10am - 9pm
18 11am - 7pm	19 10am - 9pm	20 10am - 9pm	21 10am - 9pm	22 10am - 9pm	23 10am - 9pm	24 9am - 5pm
25 Christmas Day Closed	26 8am - 8pm	27 10am - 8pm	28 10am - 8pm	29 10am - 8pm	30 10am - 8pm	31 10am - 5pm
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Marina Poplavskaya as Marguerite in "Faust."

Tony Award-winning director Des McAnuff's new staging of Gounod's "Faust" for The Metropolitan Opera will be screened live at area cinemas as part of "The Met: Live in HD" beginning at 12:55 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10. Four Southwest Florida cinemas will broadcast the performance (see box).

The new staging sets the quintessential tale of a man's bargain with the devil in the first half of the 20th century. Jonas Kaufmann sings the title role for the first time at The Met, opposite Marina Poplavskaya as Marguerite, the woman he loves and destroys, and René Pape as the devil himself, Méphistophélès. Russell Braun sings Marguerite's brother, the soldier Valentin, and Michèle Losier is the lovesick student Siébel.

Yannick Nézet-Séguin, who also led the "Live in HD" transmissions of "Don Carlo"

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THE MET

From page C18

and "Carmen," conducts. Joyce DiDonato, star of The Met's upcoming world premiere "The Enchanted Island," hosts the presentation. Running time is estimated to be 3 hours, 40 minutes, including two intermissions.

Opera for the family

"The Met: Live in HD" presents encore screenings of Humperdinck's "Hansel and Gretel" and Mozart's "The Magic Flute" — in abridged versions and sung in English so as to appeal to families — Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 21-22. Again, four Southwest Florida theaters (see box) will present both shows.

Conducted by James Levine, Julie Tay-

mor's fantastical production of "The Magic Flute" will air at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 21. Running time is 110 minutes.

The classic story follows the hero Tamino as he teams up with the comical bird-catcher Papageno to win the hand of the beautiful princess Pamina. To find her, the two unlikely friends must navigate through a mysterious world of supernatural dangers and avoid the wrath of Pamina's vengeful mother, the evil Queen of the Night.

Conducted by Vladimir Jurowski, "Hansel and Gretel" will air at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 22. Running time is 123 minutes.

The opera follows the famous fairy tale siblings as they wander into the forest in search of strawberries and find themselves in the clutches of an evil witch, who is determined to turn them into gingerbread cookies. The score includes the familiar "Evening Prayer," in which the children, alone in the forest, ask for 14 angels to guard them as they sleep. ■

Young ballet students will dance in Opera Naples' 'Hansel & Gretel'

Students from Naples Academy of Ballet will perform as angels in the Opera Naples production of "Hansel & Gretel" coming up Friday and Saturday, Dec. 16-17, at the Community School of Naples. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday.

The classic fairy tale opera from the Brothers Grimm will be performed in English to the music of Engelbert Humperdinck and will feature members of the ONcore ensemble and a full chamber orchestra.

Naples Ballet Inc. was founded in August 2009 and is a nonprofit company

dedicated to providing the art of ballet as a component of education and promoting cultural enrichment and awareness within the Southwest Florida community. Community outreach includes performance opportunities, scholarship programs and special needs children music/dance programs.

For more information about Naples Ballet, call Jeff Wardrop at 732-1000, e-mail giving@naplesballet.org or visit www.naplesballet.org.

For tickets and more information about "Hansel & Gretel," call Opera Naples at 963-9050 or visit www.operanaples.org. ■

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SYMPHONY REVIEW

Piano prodigy wows Gulf Coast Symphony Orchestra crowd



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

Piano Competition, Tristan is performing to acclaim throughout Europe and North America. Prior to his appearance on Sanibel, I spent some time immersed in watching every performance he has posted on YouTube. He was flawless in all of them, nearly unbelievable during Prokofiev's bombastic "Toccatà op. 11" and masterful in his interpretation of Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue."

Fourteen-year old Lego-playing piano prodigy Tristan Teo wowed yet another audience in the world when he performed as a guest with the Gulf Coast Symphony Orchestra on Sanibel Island on Dec. 4.

Playing Beethoven's "Piano Concerto No. 3 in C Minor" at BIG Arts, this engaging teenager from Vancouver, British Columbia, quickly demonstrated his amazing pianistic skills that are rapidly becoming the talk of piano music lovers everywhere.

An only child, Tristan started at the piano by his mother's side when he was 3 years old. When I spoke with her prior to the concert, the devotion she and her husband have for their son and their determination to afford him every opportunity to develop his remarkable gift came through loud and clear.

Tristan is now a student of Dr. Sasha Starkevich. His mother recounted to me her initial concern that perhaps Dr. Starkevich's other students were even more gifted than her son. But Tristan soon proved his parents wrong.

Already the first-place finisher in the Bosendorfer USASU International

Flawless also perfectly describes his performance of Beethoven for the appreciative, even awed crowd at BIG Arts. If you can't play scales, if you can't trill; if you can't whip up and down the keyboard with arpeggio after arpeggio, you can't play this very early composition by the great composer.

The young Tristan exhibited an amazing fluidity and extraordinary domination of the keyboard during lengthy trills. And runs? He didn't even break a sweat, as one after the other was performed without a single bobble.

Not surprisingly, the audience rewarded him with a rousing standing ovation.

Expect great things from Tristan Teo. His is a remarkable gift indeed.

The Gulf Coast Symphony, now in its 16th season and under the baton of Dr. Andrew Kurtz, proved itself equally up to the challenges of this difficult piece. While the flutes and bassoon anchored the first movement, it was the cellos that shined during the second movement.



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And on to Tchaikovsky

The second selection of the evening was Tchaikovsky's "Symphony No. 1 in G minor," written when the composer was just 26 years old. Emotionally miles apart from the just-performed Beethoven, it was here the Gulf Coast Symphony revealed its ever-strengthening as an orchestra, in a quiet, wooded setting which, except for the palm trees and a 70-degree difference in temperature, could otherwise be imagined to be the quiet countryside in Russia where Tchaikovsky travelled when not in St. Petersburg.

The stage was filled to capacity with musicians, as the brass and percussion sections were added for this selection. You know by the end of the first 12 measures this symphony is Russian to the depths of its being. You also know, while this symphony is the earliest written by Tchaikovsky, that he would become one of the immortals.

Opening with a shimmering violin section, you hear the bassoons, then the oboes and flutes, as their voices add sparkle to the symphony. I was especially taken with the strong performance by the two cellists and the baritone, and then by the entire horn section.



Tristan Teo

COURTESY PHOTO

They stopped to re-tune after the completion of one of the movements, for which I was grateful, as one or two of the violins and violas appeared a hair flat. With that corrected, the third and fourth movements proceeded to build to a full-bore climax: cymbals crashing, bass drum and tympani, along with the bass violins, providing the needed emphasis to the composition.

This orchestra was just in its infancy when first I reviewed it. It continues to gel and build and, like the Charlotte Symphony slightly to the north in Punta Gorda, is making great contributions to the Southwest Florida community.

But, as Dr. Kurtz pointed out during his brief comments, it takes money to fund an orchestra. This orchestra is definitely deserving of that support. ■

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COMING TO THE PHIL

■ Elaine Newton discusses **“The Tiger’s Wife”** by Téa Obreht when the Critic’s Choice series in the Lifelong Learning program continues at 10 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 8, and Saturday, Dec. 10. The novel tells the story of a young pediatrician who investigates the mysterious death of her beloved grandfather. In the process, she remembers the magical folktales that he told her – about an “immortal man” and a runaway tiger.

Tickets are \$32. The series continues with: “The Paris Wife,” Jan. 5 and 7; “The Weird Sisters,” Feb. 9 and 11; “Room,” March 8 and 10; and “The Thousand Autumns of Jacob de Zoet,” April 12 and 14.

■ **Loretta Lynn**, the First Lady of Country Music, takes the stage at 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8. One of the most successful country music artists ever, Ms. Lynn has 70 chart hits and 16 No. 1s. Her bestselling autobiography became the Academy Award-winning film “Coal Miner’s Daughter.”

Tickets start at \$79.

■ Five-time Grammy Award-winner **Michael McDonald** performs his hits and holiday favorites at 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9. From his early work with Steely Dan to his years with the Doobie Brothers to his acclaimed solo albums, Mr. McDonald has been a fixture on the American musical scene for more than three decades.

Tickets start at \$79.

■ **The New Christy Minstrels, The Kingston Trio** and **Livingston Taylor**

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New this season! RUSH tickets for the orchestra

As part of the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra’s 30th-anniversary season celebration, the Phil is offering \$15 RUSH tickets for NPO performances throughout 2011-12.

Two hours before each NPO event in the main performance hall, 50 RUSH tickets for \$15 will be available at the box office on a first-come, first-served basis. For orchestra events in Daniels Pavilion, 15 RUSH tickets will be available.

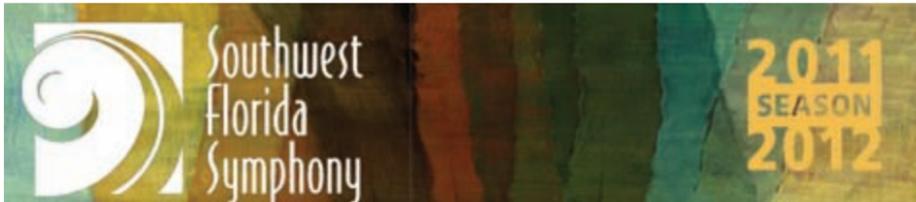
RUSH tickets will be sold for all NPO series concerts as well as special events such as the ABBA and Beatles tributes and the orchestra’s concerts with Ricky Skaggs and Kansas.

This offer does not apply for the New Year’s Eve gala or the “Thank You Myra” gala on Jan. 14.

perform at 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11. The Kingston Trio pioneered the folk music revival with stirring harmonies on such hits as “Tom Dooley” and “Where Have All the Flowers Gone?” The New Christy Minstrels blended choral and folk music on songs including “Green, Green” and “Saturday Night.”

Tickets start at \$39.

■ The NPO Chamber Ensemble presents **“Classic Quartets,”** the third concert of the season in the Sybert Salon series, which features early chamber music from the Baroque era to approximately 1850, at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11. The program includes Haydn’s beloved string quartet, the D Major Quartet, Op. 20, No.



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COMING TO THE PHIL

4, in which the music is divided equally among the four instruments. Also on the program is Schubert's String Quartet No. 15 in G, the composer's last and perhaps greatest work in this form.

Tickets are \$36 for adults and \$18 for students.

■ Maestro Stuart Chafetz leads the NPO in "Holiday Pops," at 8 p.m. Dec. 13 and 15-18 and at 2 p.m. Dec. 17. Broadway's Michele Ragusa, star of "Ragtime," "Titanic" and "Young Frankenstein," joins the orchestra. The Philharmonic Center Chorale and the Philharmonic Youth Chorale, directed by James Cochran, will also be featured, and Santa will make a special appearance.

Tickets start at \$30 for adults and \$22 for students.

■ The national tour of "Million Dollar Quartet" — the Broadway musical inspired by the true story of the twist of fate that brought Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins and Elvis Presley together for the first and only time on Dec. 4, 1956 — comes to the Phil Dec. 20-23 for evening and matinee performances.

The cast will also present live preview performances at noon and 2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 20, in the pavilion at Waterside Shops.

Tickets start at \$59 for adults and \$39 for students.

■ The Philharmonic Jazz Orchestra presents the second concert in this season's "All That Jazz" series at 6 and 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 28, in the intimate setting of the Daniels Pavilion. Trumpet, flugelhorn, sax and flute player Ira Sullivan, an alumnus of Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers, is the guest artist joining Glenn Basham, violin and harmonica; Lew Del Gatto, tenor saxophone; Jerry Stawski, piano; Mike Harvey, drums; Kevin Mauldin, bass; and Dan Miller, trumpet.

Tickets start at \$39. ■

— *The Philharmonic Center for the Arts is at 5833 Pelican Bay Blvd., Naples. For more information or to order tickets, call 597-1900 or visit www.thephil.org.*

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► **THURSDAY, DEC. 8, 8 P.M.**
Victor Borge: Comedy in Music!

Hold on to your sides as PBS presents a compilation of recently rediscovered Victor Borge skits and routines.

► **FRIDAY, DEC. 9, 9 P.M.**
'60s Pop, Rock & Soul

Peter Noone of Herman's Hermits and Davy Jones of The Monkees host this concert spectacular featuring classic songs from the decade of profound social change, performed by groups including Paul Revere and the Raiders, Jefferson Airplane and a host of others.

► **SATURDAY, DEC. 10, 10 P.M.**
Human Nature Sings Motown With Special Guest Smokey Robinson

The Australian pop group Human Nature takes a high-energy walk through the Motown songbook with Robinson at Las Vegas' famed Paris Theatre.



Victor Borge

► **SUNDAY, DEC. 11, 8 P.M.**
PBS Arts From New York: Great Performances Andrea Bocelli Live in Central Park

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To make your New Years Eve dinner reservation, call Aura Restaurant at 239.594.6000 or reserve online at opentable.com

Reservations must be made for dining and brunch on or before December 30, 2011. Please book early to ensure availability.



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SAVE THE DATE

Royal Palm school will honor Donahues

The faculty, staff and families of Royal Palm Academy will honor Jack and Rhodora Donahue at the school's "Denim and Diamonds" gala beginning at 6 p.m. Saturday, March 10, at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort & Spa. The Donahues are longtime Naples residents whose daughter and son-in-law, Carol and Patrick Moore, founded Royal Palm Academy in 1998.

Chair of the event is Diano Boghigian. Tickets are \$100 per person. For reservations or more information, call the school at 594-9888.

Bosom Buddies plan 10th annual luncheon

Bosom Buddies Breast Cancer Support Inc., an organization run solely by volunteers who are breast cancer survivors, holds its 10th annual "Caring Women Bond to Beat Breast Cancer" luncheon on Wednesday, Feb. 1, at The Ritz-Carlton-Naples. This year's theme is "Love, Laughter and All That Jazz."

Tickets are \$135 per person. Sponsorship opportunities are available. For reservations or more information, call Joetta Abbazio at 417-4600.

Hope for Haiti plans garden gala

Hope for Haiti holds its 2012 gala, "A Passport to the Secret Garden," from 6-11 p.m. Saturday, March 3, at the St. Ann Jubilee Center. The evening will include a cocktail reception, dinner, silent and live auctions, raffle drawing, entertainment and more.

Tickets are \$300 per person. Volunteer and sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information, contact Elizabeth Davison at 434-7183 or Elizabeth@hopeforhaiti.com.

Maui-style Beach Ball for children's center

The Children's Advocacy Center of Collier County holds its 2012 "Meet Me in Maui" Beach Ball Saturday, Feb. 25, at the Naples Beach Hotel. Guests will enjoy sunset cocktails on Watkins Lawn followed by dinner under the stars, entertainment by Paul Easton and live and silent auctions.

Sponsorship opportunities are still available. For more information, call Tina Streeter at 263-8383, ext. 232, or e-mail TStreeter@CACCollier.org.

'Pour for the Poor' at Bay Colony Golf Club

Diana and Jerry Thirion host "A Pour For The Poor," a wine tasting featuring select vintages of Shafer Hillside Select wines, on Tuesday evening, Jan. 10, at Bay Colony Golf Club.

Guests will taste pours from 1990 through 1997 of this rare and highly rated wine accompanied by enjoy hors d'oeuvres selected by three top local chefs and prepared by Master Chef Wilhelm Gahabka at a pre-tasting champagne reception.

Proceeds will benefit Casa Jacinta y Francisco, an orphanage and school in Nicaragua that the Thirions manage. Attendance is limited due to wine availability. For more information or to receive an invitation, call Mr. Thirion at 777-1922.

Luncheon to help mend broken hearts

Educator, author, filmmaker, cultural theorist and anti-violence advocate Jackson Katz will be the keynote speaker at the Shelter for Abused Women & Children's 12 annual "Mending Broken Hearts with Hope" luncheon on Tuesday, Feb. 21, at The Ritz-Carlton, Naples.

Internationally recognized for his work in gender violence prevention education in schools, the military and sports culture, Dr. Katz is the co-founder of Mentors in Violence Prevention program, the leading gender violence prevention initiative in professional and college athletics. He also serves as director of the first worldwide domestic and sexual violence prevention program in the United States Marine Corps., MPV-MC.

The afternoon will also feature a designer boutique and silent auction. Tickets are \$350 per person \$1,500 for patrons. Sponsorships are available.

For more information, call 775-3862, ext. 261, or e-mail cdalessandro@naplesshelter.org.

Be a goddess for an evening

Goddess Night 2012, an evening of pampering and enlightenment sponsored by the Naples Art Association, takes place Thursday, March 29, at The von Liebig Art Center. A champagne reception gets thing going, and guests enjoy a seated dinner and keynote speaker as well as their choice of informative breakout sessions. For more information, call Aimee Schlehr at 262-6517, ext. 120, or e-mail aimee.schlehr@naplesart.org.

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SAVE THE DATE

Youth Haven hosts Olympian skater

Olympic speed skater and eight-time medalist Apolo Anton Ohno will be the guest speaker at Youth Haven's "Home Hope Healing" luncheon Thursday, March 22, at the Naples Grande. Tickets are \$250 per person, or \$1,000 for two people and a pre-luncheon reception with Mr. Ohno. Sponsorship opportunities from \$2,500 to \$15,000 for business and individuals are available now. Youth Haven provides a home for children who have been removed from their families by the authorities because they are in grave danger of further physical or sexual trauma, emotional abuse and/or neglect. For more information, contact Jamie Gregor, Youth Haven director of marketing and communications, at 687-5153 or Jamie.gregor@youthhaven.net.

Step back in time to old Havana

Guests will be transported to vintage Cuba for "An Evening in Old Havana" at the David Lawrence Foundation's signature destination-drive gala on Friday, Jan. 20, at The Ritz-Carlton, Naples. From the décor to the cocktails and music, everything will be reminiscent of Havana's opulent social clubs of the 1930s. Tickets are \$500 per person, \$1,200 per VIP patron and \$5,000 per table of 10. A variety of sponsorship opportunities and levels are also available. For more information, call the David Lawrence Foundation at 354-1416.

Counting down to Fun Time fun

The launch date for Fun Time Early Childhood Academy's annual fundraiser, "Fun Time Blasts Off into the Future," is Friday, Feb. 10, at The Naples Beach Hotel and Golf Club. Guests will gather at 6:30 p.m. for a cocktail reception, dinner and silent and live auctions. Fifth Third Bank is the presenting sponsor. Tickets are \$250 per person. Sponsorship and underwriting opportunities are still available. Proceeds will provide tuition assistance for the children of low-income working families. For reservations or more information, call 261-8284.

C'mon to the Dream Gala

The Golisano Children's Museum of Naples will hold its inaugural Dream Gala beginning at 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 23, at C'mon in North Collier Regional Park. Gala chair Shelia Davis and her committee are hard at work planning an evening of adventure and discovery that will benefit Collier County's first learning environment devoted exclusively to the serious business of children's play. The 30,000-square-foot museum is set to open in early 2012. For information about gala sponsorship opportunities, call C'mon at 514-0084 or visit www.cmon.org.

— Send Save the Date information about galas and other fundraising parties to cpierce@floridaweekly.com.



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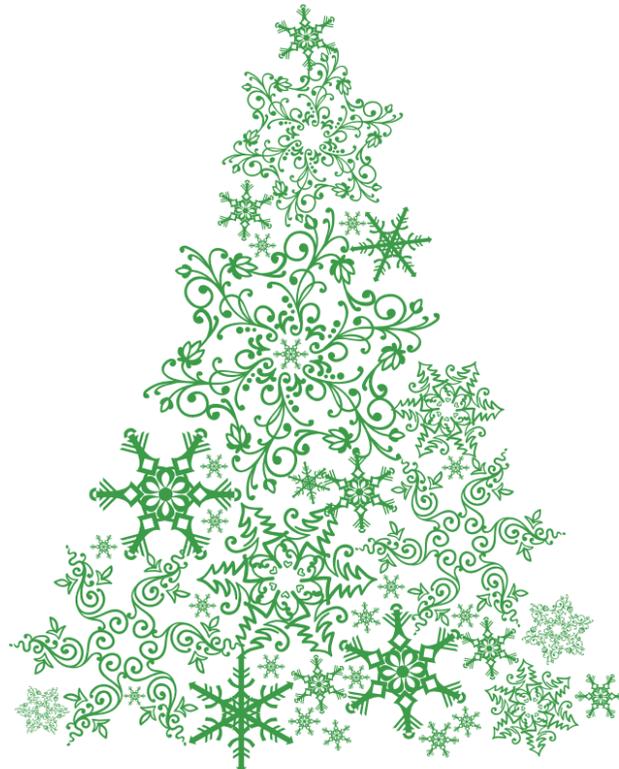
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Call 239.325.1765 for more information. All proceeds benefit the Boys & Girls Club of Collier County.



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Enjoy a festive snow show! Stroll along the waterfront and take delight in holiday entertainment by the **Joseph Osment Band** and the **Antonie Correia Duo** and more.

Snow show starts at 6:30 p.m.

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Feast on recipes from Bay Colony in cookbook

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Award-winning Executive Chef Wilhelm Gahabka and the Bay Colony Golf Club have released "The Bay Colony Golf Club Cookbook."

A native of Germany, Chef Gahabka trained at Nürnberg's Culinary Institute and honed his culinary skills under the direction of many lauded European chefs in St. Moritz, Munich, Milan and Monte Carlo. Locally, he was worked for Culinary Concepts and oversaw the culinary operation of Lafite Restaurant at The Registry Resort for 10 years before opening the Club at Mediterra as executive chef. He joined Bay Colony Golf Club



GAHABKA

seven years ago.

A certified chef, he is a leader in the Southwest Florida chapter of the American Culinary Federation. He has won three gold medals, four silver medals and one Best in Show at national ACF competitions. He has also been featured in CNN's "On the Menu" series and in The Discovery Channel's "Great Chefs of the South."

Inspired by the popular cooking classes he hosted at the club last season, "The Bay Colony Golf Club Cookbook" includes Chef Gahabka's recipes for dishes as varied as his culinary repertoire, from entrees to desserts, each beautifully photographed and presented in step-by-step, easy-to-follow instructions.

"Congratulations to Chef Wilhelm for producing the first 'The Bay Colony Golf Club Cookbook,' yet another example of the professionalism he brings to the club," Bay Colony Golf Club General Manager Jerry Thirion, who has worked with Chef Gahabka for more than 20 years, writes in the cookbook's forward.

For information about obtaining a copy of the cookbook, call Lisa Wilson at 449-4564. ■

KOVELS: ANTIQUES & COLLECTING

Picture frames are works of art in and of themselves

terryKOVEL
news@floridaweekly.com



Picture frames were very elaborate during Victorian times. The rectangular frame for an oil painting could be 3 or 4 inches deep with several different types of carving on the borders. And the frame often was covered with gold leaf. Small frames were sometimes made of carved pieces of dark wood joined in a crisscross fashion. The simple silver frame favored today for photographs was unknown to Victorians. They preferred odd-shaped silver-plated frames with added figures or objects because they liked lots of ornamentation. Their picture frames often were more important than the pictures in them, and added decorative value to a group display.

Today, picture frames and mats are made to enhance pictures. During the past 25 years, museums and serious collectors have tried to keep pictures in their original frames. Artists, after all, often made the frames to go with a special "look" they were trying to achieve. Landscapes were put in frames with wide borders that slanted into the painting, giving added depth. Signed picture frames by known makers sell for hundreds to thousands of dollars. Do not put a new frame on an old painting, print or drawing before you learn what type of frame it ought to have. And if you have some old frames, you might try to sell them. Their prices might surprise you.

Q: A while ago, I purchased a papier-mache duck decoy made by the General Fibre Co. of St. Louis. The decoy is impressed "General Fibre Co., Ariduk, Reg. U.S. Pat. Off., St. Louis 2, Mo." There's a 2/4-inch hole

on the top of the duck. Why the hole? And what is the decoy worth?

A: Your molded-fiber (papier-mache) decoy dates from the mid-1940s or early 1950s. One clue to its age is the postal zone, 2, in the address. Postal zones were first

A jeweled rake and sickle are applied to this 19th-century picture frame. The unmarked mixed-metal frame is 11 inches high. It was made in about 1875, and sold recently for \$225 at Jackson's Auction in Cedar Falls, Iowa.



used in 1943. Another clue is the material your decoy is made of. Molded fiber was first used for factory-made decoys in 1939, but it really took off after World War II. Then, in the early 1950s, molded fiber was replaced by Styrofoam and plastics.

The hole on the top of your decoy originally was covered with a thin layer of fiber. It was designed to be closed with a wooden plug after the decoy was filled with ballast. Ariduk duck decoys sell for \$5 to more than \$100, depending on condition, color and type of duck.

Q: I have a cookie jar that seems to be an ad for Nabisco Sunshine cookies. Did many companies make their own special cookie jars?

A: Cookie jars have long been popular with collectors, and some collectors specialize in advertising jars. Enough can be found to make it an interesting collecting category. Look for jars by Nestle's, Aunt Jemima, Blue Bonnet margarine, Milk Bone dog biscuits, Coca-Cola, Quaker Oats, Barnum's Animal Crackers, M&M's and Quaker Oats. There also are jars for smaller companies, like Haggard's Quality Cream Flake Cookies and Dad's Oatmeal Cookies.

Q: I have a clear glass pitcher that belonged to my grandmother, who died more than 50 years ago. It has a scalloped base and a beautiful pattern. It weighs about two pounds and is almost 9 inches tall. On the inside of the base it says, "Let Hartman

Feather Your Nest." Any information you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

A: The slogan "Let Hartman Feather Your Nest" was used by Hartman Furniture and Carpet Co. of Chicago. Leon Hartman founded a Chicago furniture company called People's Outfitting Co. in 1888. The firm's name was changed to Hartman Furniture and Carpet Co. in 1898. Hartman had stores in several cities and was in business until at least the late 1920s. Furniture and carpets made by other companies were sold through Hartman's stores and by mail order. The company's logo was used on a large pitcher made by McKee Glass Co. in about 1910. The pattern is called "Aztec Sunburst" or "McKee's Sunburst." Your pitcher would sell for about \$100.

Q: My husband and I recently inherited the boots that Sunset Carson wore in all of his cowboy shows. We believe they are one-of-a-kind. We also have many autographed pictures of Carson from the 1950s and '60s. My father-in-law was Carson's booking manager. Are these items worth much?

A: Sunset Carson (1920-1990) was an actor in Western B-movies and TV shows from the 1940s until about 1985. His given name was Winifred Maurice Harrison, but he used the name "Michael Harrison" as a rodeo rider. He was listed as Sonny "Sunset" Carson in an early 1944 movie, and after that became just Sunset Carson. The value of Carson's boots depends on their style and condition. He was a minor star, so the boots probably would sell for about what any good cowboy boots would bring.

Q: A Bavarian tea set has been in my family for several decades. The mark on the bottom of the dishes is "Porzellanfabrik Arzberg, Arzberg, (Bayern)." Please tell me something about the maker and when the set was made.

A: Porzellanfabrik Arzberg (translation: Porcelain Factory Arzberg) has been in business in Arzberg, Bavaria ("Bayern" in German), Germany, since 1927. But the mark you describe was used only from 1930 to 1947.

Tip: Be sure to remove the weights and pendulum when moving a clock. ■

— Terry Kovel answers as many questions as possible through the column. Write to Kovel (Florida Weekly), King Features Syndicate, 300 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019.

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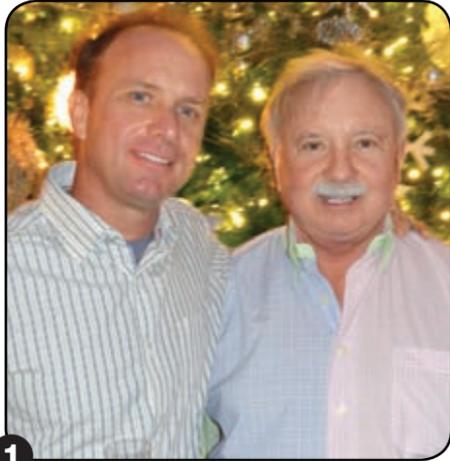
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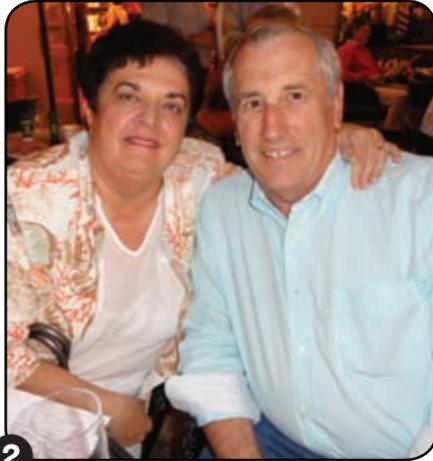
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1



2



3

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MARLA OTTENSTEIN / FLORIDA WEEKLY

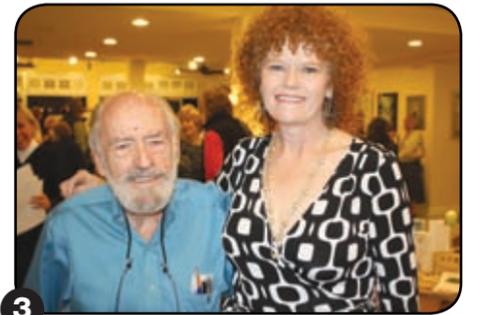
A tribute to artist Jerry Vallez for 40 years in Crayton Cove



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1. Nora Butler, Bobbi Mitchell, Natalie Guess, Jerry Vallez, Lynne Wilcox, Phil Fisher, Marlena Brackebusch and Doug Van Duzee
2. Florida First Lady Ann Scott, Beth Preddy and Miriam Asay
3. Jerry Vallez and Tina Bland

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SOCIETY

A thank-you party at Waterside Shops for Naples Winter Wine Festival volunteers



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2. Brad Heiges and Jim Dixon
3. Pam Galas
4. Chris and Ernie Scheidemann
5. Pat Thompson and Sharon Farmer
6. Bob Scott

CHARLIE MCDONALD / FLORIDA WEEKLY



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SOCIETY

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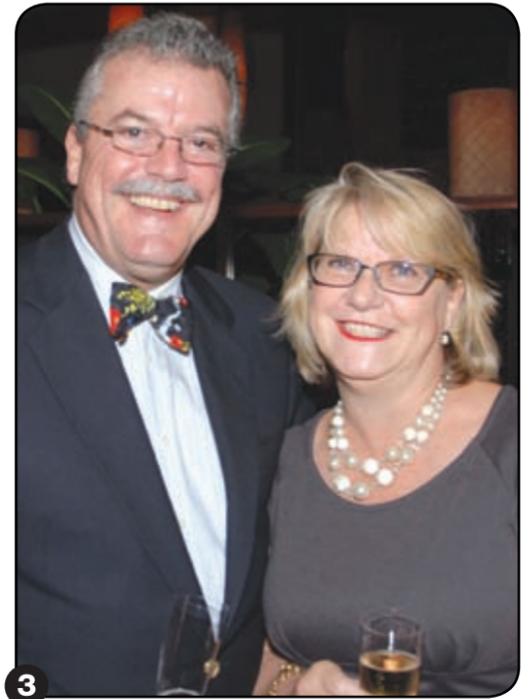
1. Bobbye Raye and Zan Womack, Donna Marie Thomas and Jules McCoy
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6. Shep and Rita Pritchard
7. Susan Venegas, Tom Bachand, Kay and Stuart Hodgson
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9. Jeanne and Phil Reid
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PEGGY FARREN / FLORIDA WEEKLY

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SOCIETY

Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest kickoff at Angelina's Ristorante



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2. Steve Machiz and Larry Antonucci
3. Kevin and Cindy Pierce
4. Ute and Franz Rosinus
5. Ester Lee Machiz and Sandy Stilwell
6. Benovia Winery owners Mike Sullivan, Joe Anderson and Mary Dewane

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VINO

Here's to wine gifts that keep giving all year long



It's gift-giving season and, once again, we struggle to come up with something that will delight and surprise friends and family. While a great bottle of wine is always welcome, it's also fleeting. So how about something wine-related instead? There are plenty of gifts available in all price ranges. Here are some items that have struck my fancy this season:

■ A customized gift basket: ABC Fine Wine and Spirits on South Tamiami Trail in Fort Myers offers a wide variety of gift selections for the holidays.

"We have the ability to make gift baskets on the fly," says Craig Hartman, a store wine consultant, adding "We don't stock many pre-made selections, because guests like the flexibility of pairing a certain wine with their choice of basket accessories."

Spent whatever amount you are comfortable with and end up with a gift customized for your recipient. Check with your local ABC store for details.

■ Chateau Laguiole Sommelier Corkscrew (\$130 and up): Handcrafted in France with polished handles available in a variety of horns and woods, each comes with a certificate and a custom leather pouch. Look for the bee on the

handle for authenticity. Available online.

■ EuroCave SoWine Home Wine Bar (\$400): This attractive wine bar chills and preserves opened wine for up to 10 days. Place an uncorked bottle inside, close the door, slide the cylinder over the bottleneck and set the desired temperature. The two independent compartments preserve red and white wines at the correct serving temperatures. Available online.

■ Grand Tour of Bordeaux (\$5,355 at current exchange rate): Discover the very best Bordeaux has to offer on this unrivalled grand tour. Visit and taste wines at all five red first growths: Chateau Margaux, Chateau Mouton Rothschild, Chateau Lafite Rothschild, Chateau Latour and Chateau Haut Brion, and also at Chateau d'Yquem in Sauternes. Travelers also will taste wines at leading chateaux in Saint Emilion and Pomerol that normally are closed to the public.

Includes gourmet meals at three Bordeaux chateaux and in a Michelin two-star restaurant, while staying at Chateau Coulon Laurensac. All estates visited on this tour are Classified Growths. Contact Bordeaux Wine Experience (bxwinex.com) for details.

■ Kevin Zraly's Complete Wine Course (\$20): The newly revised edition from noted wine educator Kevin Zraly covers vineyards and regions around the world, including new smart phone tags linking to videos of the author talking about wine. Includes sections on wine

basics, tasting and matching wines with foods. Available at local bookstores.

■ Matrix Wine and Beverage Cellar (\$900): Two smoked-glass front drawers hold up to 45 wine bottles in separate temperature zones with exterior touch screen controls. Compact style fits in small areas (33x24x24 inches). Available online at Wine Enthusiast.

■ Private Preserve Wine Preservation System (\$10): This aerosol wine preserver seals open wine to preserve flavor by injecting an inert gas blanket (a mixture of argon, carbon dioxide and nitrogen) under the cap or cork. Can preserve up to 120 bottles of wine per can. Available at Total Wine.

■ Spanish-style wooden box by Wrap-Art (\$14): For fashionable gift giving or just transporting wine with class, this dark wooden box comes with leather straps and buckle. Available at Total Wine.

■ Steady Sticks bottle holder or two wine glass holders (\$15): Use these durable stainless steel glass and bottle holders to keep your favorite beverages from spilling while at a picnic or barbecue. Can be pushed into any kind of ground and holds stemware and regular or champagne bottles upright. Available at Total Wine.

■ Wine cork caddy in wineglass, cask or handbag design (\$25): Perfect for collecting pulled corks from bottles, available in three designs. Available at Total Wine.

■ Wine Wipes by Borracha (\$8):



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CUISINE

Pate's is the place for prime rib and a tableside show

drewSTERWALD

pgnews@floridaweekly.com



The Pate family has been serving high-quality steaks and seafood in Southwest Florida for three decades, so when word got around of a new Pate's place, people naturally wondered what had happened to the old one.

Pate's House of Prime Rib, which opened in October at Coastland Center, has not replaced the old Pate's farther south on U.S. 41, which has changed to a more casual pub setting. Of course, that wasn't the original Pate's anyway. If you've been around Southwest Florida long enough, you might think of "the old Pate's" as being in downtown Fort Myers, on Sanibel Island or at other Naples locations.

The family's latest move is to a former Ted's Montana Grill on the west side of Naples' sprawling mall. The basic bones of the Ted Turner restaurant concept are still there: dark wood paneling, tile floors, pressed-tin ceiling. It's sort of an Old World-meets-New World vibe, but with a decidedly old-school approach to food and service. Think waiters decked out in red Eton jackets and black tuxedo pants. Think tableside preparation of tossed salads and flaming desserts. Think really big hunks of beef served with creamed spinach and house-label steak sauce.

A pianist near the front of the house was playing softly as we were led to a high-backed booth on a recent weeknight. There appeared to be more people sipping cocktails at the bar than supping in the white-tablecloth din-

ing room, but I suppose word is still getting around about the restaurant's opening.

Our server promptly inquired about drinks, but we hadn't been given a wine list when we were seated. We both ended up ordering Murphy-Goode Liar's Dice, a favorite red zinfandel (\$9 a glass). It was served at just the right temperature, allowing blackberry and spice flavors to bloom.

Because we hadn't been able to find the menu on the Internet ahead of time, we weren't sure what was in store — besides the obvious prime rib — until we sat down. Most of the appetizers are fairly pricey: \$14.90 for oysters Rockefeller, \$16.90 for crab cakes, for example. There are five cuts of prime rib, ranging from the "jester's cut" for children at \$12.90 to a whopping 1½-pound "robust cut" at \$35.90.

If standing rib roast isn't your thing, there are other steaks, chops and a couple of fish dishes. Unlike many high-end steakhouses, Pate's includes salad, creamed spinach and potatoes with entrees, and prime rib also comes with Yorkshire pudding. That's nice value-wise, but a bit limiting — what if you don't care for spinach?

We decided to split an appetizer, knowing that pounds of beef and probably an indulgent dessert or two were coming our way.

The escargot dish (\$12.90) was covered with a sheet of puff pastry, which proved problematic. We couldn't manage to fork off a small corner of pastry with each snail, and when we tried to cut the covering with a knife, it made a tremendous mess. Some restaurants serve escargot en croute with a tiny round of pastry on top of each well in the compartmentalized dish, while others place all of the escargot in one ramekin topped with pastry. Both approaches work better than this ill-conceived arrangement. If you can't get the snail and the pastry together in one bite, what is the point of hav-

ing the puff pastry?

The snails were tender and lightly garlicky, but our frustration prevented us from enjoying them as completely as we should have.

This got us off on the wrong foot, and a long delay before the salad cart arrived didn't help matters. The restaurant wasn't terribly busy and appeared adequately staffed, so it's hard to understand the lag.

Pate's is known for its tableside "spinning salad" presentation. The vinaigrette is whisked together and drizzled over a bowl of greens set within a larger bowl so that the server can spin it while dressing the salad. Voila! We liked the citrusy vinaigrette, and it was applied sparingly. The mixed greens were crisp and laced with lots of goodies — crumbled blue cheese, dried cranberries, candied nuts and diced tomatoes.

Getting down the meat of the matter, Pate's certified prime beef is aged a minimum of 21 days on the premises, according to the menu. The prime rib is encrusted with a secret spice mixture (I picked up on paprika and garlic powder) then slowly roasted. The "signature cut" (\$29.90) weighs a pound and should leave you with some leftovers to take home unless you skip appetizers and dessert. The aging helped deepen the flavor, and it was cooked perfectly medium-rare. The salt-baked potato was fluffy and warm, the creamed spinach a bit dry but tasty, with a hint of nutmeg. The Yorkshire pudding was crusty, airy and eggy.

My companion's 10-ounce filet mignon (\$29.90) should have been hotter, but at least it wasn't undercooked or overcooked. It was well crusted, super-tender and rich in beefy flavor. The mashed potatoes were fine, but nothing special. It was disappointing not to see other potato options, such as au gratin or Lyonnaise — lots of better steakhouses offer alternatives to baked and mashed.

Dessert? If we must. It's hard to pass up sweets flambéed tableside, and Pate's offers three choices: bananas Foster, cherries jubilee and peaches Louis (all \$12.95). We opted to share the peachy preparation and sat back to enjoy the show. Like a magician performing just for us, the dessert chef sautéed cling peaches, brown sugar and butter over a gas burner on his cart. He then added splashes of apricot brandy and Wild Turkey bourbon, tilting the pan to light the alcohol in a flash of orange flame and sparks. When the flames



Pate's House of Prime Rib opened in October at Coastland Center.



Flaming desserts are prepared tableside.

settled, he turned out the fruit mixture into a goblet filled with vanilla ice cream. The result? A fruity, creamy delight.

Pate's might have some kinks to work out yet, but it does know how to put on a show. ■



DREW STERWALD / FLORIDA WEEKLY

Top to bottom:
Peaches are flambéed with liquor and served over ice cream.

Escargots are covered with puff pastry.

A 10-ounce filet mignon is one of several alternatives to prime rib.

food & wine CALENDAR

► **Friday, Dec. 9,** 6:30-8 p.m., Whole Foods: Healthy eating specialist Julie Joiner demonstrates healthy dips, finger foods and holiday dishes; \$10, Mercato, 9101 Strada Place; 552-5100. Reservations required. Visit www.acteva.com/go/lifestylecenter.

► **Saturday, Dec. 10,** 12:30-1 p.m., The Good Life of Naples: Dessert cookbook author Bobbie Thompson makes multi-grain cherry-almond scones; The Shoppes at Vanderbilt, 2355 Vanderbilt Beach Road Road; 514-4663. Reservations required.

► **Saturday, Dec. 10,** 6-10 p.m., Pinchers Crab Shack: Pinchers holds a parking lot party to celebrate the holiday boat parade. Bring a new gift or toy to benefit the Kiwanis Club's Christmas in Immokalee program and get a free beer or soft drink; Tin City, 1200 Fifth Ave. S.

► **Sunday, Dec. 11,** 4-6 p.m., Bethany's Cottage: Celebrate the holidays with a raw food potluck party at the home of Bethany Tait, raw chef and holistic health practitioner; free (bring a raw dish to share). Call 216-3468 to reserve a spot and for directions.

► **Friday, Dec. 16,** 6-8 p.m., Whole Foods: This month's beer tasting, featuring 35 varieties. Proceeds benefit Avow Hospice; \$5, Mercato, 9101 Strada Place; 552-5100. Reservations required. Visit www.acteva.com/go/lifestylecenter.

► **Friday, Dec. 16,** and **Saturday, Dec. 17,** 6-9 p.m., The Inn at Pelican Bay: Artichoke and Co. presents a Christmas dinner show with a tribute to Frank Sinatra; \$54, 800 Vanderbilt Beach Road; 263-6979 or e-mail kmurano@artichokeandcompany.com. Reservations required.

► **Friday, Dec. 16,** 7 p.m., Caffe dell' Amore: Chef Fabio prepares a six-course holiday meal of zuppa di pesce, grilled vegetables with tomini cheese, goat milk ricotta gnocchi with sausage fennel ragu, lamb della Mamma Toscana, cheese plate and Christmas sweets; \$89, 1400 Gulf Shore Blvd. N.; 261-1389. Reservations required.

► **Saturday, Dec. 17,** noon-3 p.m., Aldo's Ristorante: Ages 12 and younger can enjoy free pizza with Santa. Full menu available for adults, with proceeds going to the ABLE Academy; 4820 Davis Blvd., Naples; 775-2200.

Farmers markets

► **Wednesday,** 1:30-5:30 p.m., St. Monica's Episcopal Church, 7070 Immokalee Road; 591-4550.

► **Wednesday,** 7:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Veterans Community Park, Marco Island.

► **Friday,** 11 a.m.-2 p.m., the Government Complex, 3335 U.S. 41 E.

► **Saturday,** 7:30-11:30 a.m., Third Street South, behind Tommy Bahama's between Third Street and Gordon Drive.

► **Saturday,** 8 a.m.-1 p.m., North Naples Green Market at the Galleria Shoppes at Vanderbilt, off Airport Pulling and Vanderbilt Beach roads.

► **Sunday,** 8 a.m.-noon, Freedom Park farmers market, 151 Golden Gate Parkway. ■

— Send items to cuisine@floridaweekly.com.

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

If you go

Pate's House of Prime Rib

Coastland Center, 2048 Tamiami Trail N., Naples; 263-1850.

Ratings:

Food: ★★★★★

Service: ★★★★★

Atmosphere: ★★★★★

>> **Hours:** 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday

>> **Reservations:** Accepted

>> **Credit cards:** Accepted

>> **Price range:** Appetizers, \$5.90-\$14.90; entrees, \$12.90-\$35.90

>> **Beverages:** Full bar

>> **Specialties of the house:** Prime rib and other steaks; tableside preparations

>> **Volume:** Low

>> **Parking:** Mall parking lot

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