A hamster and his owner share health ordeals

BY EVAN WILLIAMS
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Hammie just might be the luckiest hamster in the world to have an owner like 13-year-old Katie West of Naples. She makes him vegetable soup when he’s sick, supervises his backyard adventures and lets him swim in the bathtub.

When Hammie developed a cluster of tumors near his ribs about a month ago, Katie spent an evening researching his symptoms online, in spite of warnings from her mom, Karrie West, that Hammie probably wouldn’t survive.

“I thought for sure he was a goner,” Ms. West says.

SEE CORRUPTION, A8

A Fond farewell

Naples Illustrated bids goodbye to longtime editor, and more fun around town.

Pedaling and profits

Bicycle sales are pumping up.

Before the polls

Attend or tune in to League of Women Voters forums; cast a straw vote at “Politics in the Park.”

Great reads

Novelist examines what makes for a bestseller.
I lift my lamp beside the golden door

roger Williams

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(Note: Last week, President Barack Obama championed the words inscribed on the Statue of Liberty by signing an executive order to allow illegal immigrants raised and educated in the United States a chance to live and work here legally. This column considering that problem first appeared in July 2010.)

Once upon a time long ago and far away across the Nolichucky River in eastern Tennessee, there lived a man named Davy Crockett.

Word for word, that's how my oldest son's maternal grandfather used to start his stories.

He came from New York, where his own father and seven uncles were Russian immigrants. The family story was that once upon a time, long ago and far away across the Nolichucky River in eastern Tennessee, they'd arrived in New York Harbor illegally, then jumped off the boat and swum ashore.

All of them.

Pve swum in New York Harbor myself. It was sharply, strikingly cold, and I smelled like the water for a couple of days after, which made me feel like an oil-soaked bird.

Maybe that's how the Tarnowers felt. Their original name had been a little longer, but Tarnower is what they settled on, in part because they made a living. And survived to produce Evan's grandfather, Bill Tarnower, who became a doctor. Not only an M.D., but a widely respected psychiatrist at the famous Menninger Foundation in Topeka, Kansas.

Imagine the immense energy and effort it must have taken to move from illegal Russian immigrant to medical doctor and full-blooded American in a single generation. Bill used to wear cowboy boots along with silver-and-turquoise bolo ties when he attended barbecues or fished for bass in a lake at a place called the Roundup Club — the only club he ever joined. It was a "country" club actually located in the country, where his son and three daughters could grow up with horses.

For a New York Jew, country clubbing in the Midwest in the 1980s or '90s was probably fraught with hazards. But the Roundup Club was about horses — not about exclusion. Bill loved horses, along with cows and cowboys and the Western culture. His son later became a long-time rodeo cowboy, riding both broncs and bulls.

As a child and the son of immigrants, though, Bill's life was entirely different from that of his children. He used to skip school and sneak into Radio City Music Hall to catch the shows. He also contracted rheumatic fever, which almost killed him. When he was 10 or 12, his parents sent him from New York to the other end of the universe: Texas.

There, he spent part of his youth convalescing and later went back to attend medical school at the University of Texas. After that, he married a bright, capable woman who had been raised in Wisconsin and had become a psychiatric nurse at Menninger's. That's where they met — a small-town Catholic girl named Doris Sheen and a big-city Russian Jew named William Tarnower. The love between them sparked and snapped like an exposed wire.

From my vantage, everything that happened to all of them was just a little too good fortune, because out of it came my oldest son, who writes for this newspaper. Although my marriage to his mother didn't last, in the end that was the least of it.

Evan is here. Without an immigrant experience — the Tarnowers' — he wouldn't be. And that's only one immigrant experience. Others happened on both sides of that family, and in my own family back a couple of generations, too.

Apparently, somebody had believed the famous words offered by Lady Liberty, standing tall in the middle of New York Harbor: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door."

Many somedodies were willing to face massive discrimination and extended periods of poverty just to prove those words true. Although most arguably had it easier than African Americans, it was never easy for any of them: the Irish or Italians, the Germans or Poles or Russians, the Norwegians or Swedes. Or for the many Chinese, and later the Japanese and Vietnamese. They got equal rights handed to them on the toe of a boot by established Americans. They were all equally ill-treated with a proverbial kick in the ass, right through the middle of World War II and the waning years of the 20th century.

And the beat goes on.

Since the 1960s, people have complained about Cuban immigrants. Since the 1970s, people have complained about Vietnamese immigrants. And since the 1980s and '90s, they've complained about — and in some cases gone out of their ways to mistreat — the newest Americans who arrive from south of the border. Once again, immigrants take the heat while the rest of us sit in the air conditioning, whining about them.

I know one boy, a high school student here in Southwest Florida, who epitomizes the kind of immigrant American we want. Although his parents can't speak the language, his English is so clear and clean you could see through it, if words were glass.

He's enrolled in the accelerated program at his school, where he earns A's. He's tough, he's kind, and since his father often travels to agricultural fields nationwide, he stands in to take care of four little brothers and sisters, with his mom.

But at almost 16, he's the only one of the five children who remains illegal himself. That's because he arrived here from Mexico when he was 1. When his father was arrested and imprisoned as part of a new crackdown on illegal aliens a few weeks ago, the boy was left in charge. His mom, also without the proper papers, can't drive and doesn't work.

Welcome to America, pal. It can suck, I know.

My only hope is that someday, that boy will be an old man sitting in a comfortable home somewhere in the country of my children and grandchildren, telling his own grandchildren an American story. And it will start something like this: Once upon a time, long ago and far away across the Nolichucky River in eastern Tennessee, there lived a man named Davy Crockett.
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Across that bridge, again

As the election season heats up, an increasing number of states are working to limit the number of people who are able to vote, starting with a shamefully low percentage of those eligible to vote actually participating. Florida, a key swing state, has been preparing for the Republican National Convention, five days of pomp promoted as a celebration of democracy. While throwing this party, Florida Republican Gov. Rick Scott, along with his secretary of state, Ken Detzner, are systematically throwing people off the voter rolls, based on flawed, outdated Florida state databases.

Many eligible Florida voters recently received a letter saying they were removed and had limited time to prove their citizenship. Hundreds of cases emerged where people with long-standing U.S. citizenship were being purged. According to the American Civil Liberties Union of Florida, “of those singled out to prove their citizenship, 61 percent were Hispanic or 14 percent who had earlier registered Florida voters are Hispanic,” suggesting an attempt to purge Latinos, who tend to vote Democratic. Recall the year 2000, when then-Florida Secretary of State Katherine Harris systematically purged African-Americans from voter rolls. The U.S. Justice Department has ordered Detzner to stop the purge, but he and Gov. Scott promise to continue. The Justice Department has sued the state in federal court, as have the ACLU and the ACLU of Florida.

For Georgia Congressman John Lewis, efforts to limit access to vote are not just bureaucratic. “It is unreal, it is unbelievable, that at this time in our history, 40 years after the Voting Rights Act was signed and passed into law, that we’re trying to go backward. I think there is a deliberate attack on the part of so many of these states, not just Florida, but across the country, to remove voters. I can’t believe there are three civil-rights workers that were murdered in the state of Mississippi on the night of June 28, 1964. I see today recalling the murder of James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner. While registering African-Americans to vote.

Back in 1964, Lewis, just 21 years old, was a leader of the Freedom Rides, testing new federal laws banning segregation in interstate travel. He and many others were severely beaten when their buses crossed state lines into the Deep South. He sat down at segregated lunch counters, and joined the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee, soon rising to chair the organization. He told me about a pivotal moment in his life, and this nation’s history, the march over the Edmund Pettus Bridge:

On March 7, 1965, a group of us tried to march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, to dramatize to the nation that what happened to him we made a decision to march. In Selma, Alabama, in the beginning of their 50-mile march to Montgomery, Lewis recalled, “we got unwelcomed by the Alabama state troopers, and attacking us with dogs and trampling us with horses. I was hit in the head by a state trooper with a nightstick, and I went down the road. I felt like I was going to die. I thought I saw death.” When I asked Lewis what propelled him forward in the face of such violence, he said, “My mother, my father, my grandparents, my uncle and aunts, people all around me had never registered to vote.”

Universal suffrage, the right to vote, is never safe, never secure, never complete. This election season will be one where money from a few will have enormous influence, while the votes of many are being eliminated, the former often overlooked.

Unless people fight to dramatically expand voter participation, not just prevent the purges, our democracy is in serious danger.

Denis Moynihan contributed research to this column.

Amy Goodman is the host of “Democracy Now!” and a daily international TV/Radio news hour airing on more than 1,000 stations in North America. She is the author of “Fight for the Future: How the Baby Boomers Battler," recently released in paperback and now a New York Times best-seller.
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On the first Wednesday of each month, I look forward to having orthopedic surgeon George Markovich from the Institute for Orthopaedic Surgery and Sports Medicine on my show. He’s always willing to discuss the politics of health care as well as the healing aspects of his profession, and I always appreciate his candor and transparency.

I know Dr. Markovich is a terrific orthopedic surgeon because he performed double full knee replacements on me in May 2006. I had been under his care since 2002, and we had been enjoying monthly Saturday bike rides with breakfast and great conversation since 2004. I consider he and his wife, Amy, great friends.

Dr. Markovich grew up in Miami after his parents emigrated from Chile in the 1950s. His dad was a neurologist and the recipient of a Rockefeller Foundation Award, which brought him and his family to North America.

Dr. Markovich remembers having a terrific group of high school friends who still occasionally meet and maintain their friendships. It was one of them, in fact, who arranged the blind that introduced him to Amy, 28 years ago when he was in medical school. Today they have three sons, the eldest at Boston University.

Dr. Markovich went to college at University of Florida and medical school at University of Miami. He was awarded an Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship and did two additional fellowships in joint reconstruction, restoration and replacement in California and in Florida. He fulfilled his active duty Navy obligation as chief of joint replacement at Portsmouth Naval Hospital, Norfolk Naval Air Station in Virginia. He moved to Southwest Florida in 1998 upon completion of his military service.

It was fun for me to learn that the doctor is also a terrific musician, performing about once a month as the lead male singer with the local band Alter Ego. Linda and I went to see them at The Sandy Parrot for the first time about three years ago and have since returned to see them many times.

Whether it’s medicine or music, Dr. Markovich’s always delivers his best effort to his “audience.” We are indeed lucky to have him here along the Paradise Coast.

Tell the truth. Always try your best. Treat people like you want to be treated. Flush the toilet and wash your hands.

Last book read: “A Million Miles in a Thousand Years” by Donald Miller.


Favorite things about the Paradise Coast: The weather and, especially, the people.
Forums bring candidates together

League of Women Voters of Collier County hosts its first candidates forum of the 2012 election season beginning at 5:30 p.m. Monday, June 25, in the Collier County Commission Chambers at the Government Complex at 3301 Tamiami Trail E. The public is welcome, and the forum will be broadcast on Channel 97, the Collier County Government Comcast channel.

Candidates running for Collier County constitutional offices will participate in this first forum. They are:

- Property appraiser candidates Abe Skinner and Kevin Lilly, who will take the podium at 5:30 p.m.
- Clerk of court hopefuls (incumbent) Dwight Brock and John Barlow (6:30 p.m.)
- Tax collector candidates Larry Ray and Steve Wagner (7:35 p.m.)
- Sheriff candidates (incumbent) Kevin Rambosk and Victor Ortino (8 p.m.)

All registered voters can vote in the Aug. 14 primary for property appraiser, clerk of court and tax collector. The candidate who wins the primary will be elected, and there will be no further vote in November. Only registered Republicans can vote in the primary election for sheriff; this is a closed primary, and the winner of each party’s primary election will face off in November.

The League of Women Voters will sponsor another public forum beginning at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 27, at the above location for candidates in the three Collier County Commission races:

- District 1 – Incumbent Donna Fiala and challenger Steve Cosgrove
- District 3 – Incumbent Tom Henning and Bill McDaniel
- District 5 – Incumbent Jim Coletta and Tim Nance.

The Aug. 14 primaries for District 1 and District 5 commissioners are closed primaries. Only registered Republicans residing in District 1 or District 5 can vote in this primary election for District 1 or District 5 commissioner, respectively. The winners of these two primary elections will face candidates from other parties in November.

The primary election for District 3 commissioner is an open primary. All registered voters who reside in District 3, regardless of their party affiliation or no party affiliation, can vote. The candidate who wins the primary will be elected, and there will be no further vote in November.

For more information about this election season’s races, visit the Collier County Supervisor of Elections website at www.colliervotes.com.

Cast your straw vote on June 28

An old-fashioned political rally with multiple candidates and a straw vote takes place from 4-7 p.m. Thursday, June 28, at St. John the Evangelist Life Center, 625 11th Ave. in North Naples. “Politics in the Park” is presented by the Collier Building Industry Association. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 436-6100 or visit www.cbia.net.

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New Florida, once the pioneer and preeminent innovator in the realm of open government, has taken the number-one ranking for government corruption in the United States for three years running. While Washington, Texas and New York, each of which contains a larger population, Florida’s middle-class culture, which includes Collier, Lee and Charlotte counties and stretches from south of Naples northward to the Georgia line, has placed itself firmly in the sprawling government corruption sphere. Here, Florida Weekly offers a glimpse of that history, as men and women who shaped it, dating back about three decades. Ironically, that’s roughly the lifespan of the Sunshine State’s pioneering open-records laws — laws making public the actions of elected and appointed government officials.

It’s been 45 years since Florida put in place government in the sunshine, and we now hold the leading position in the country and maybe the world for giving government officials tools to hold government accountable,” says Cary Stramaglia, executive director of the nonprofit watch- dog group Integrity Florida. “But that’s changed. Since that law was enacted, the legislature has weakened it with more than 1,000 exemptions, which show Florida is moving in the wrong direction.”

Convictions of corrupt public officials should be the same thing, perhaps. Using numbers from a U.S. Department of Justice report detailing a decade of winning convictions from 2001 to 2010, mostly in local government, Integrity Florida reported that federal prose- cutors convicted 781 men and women for corruption and fraud, most of them working in local government. In the Middle District, according to the report, there were 220 federal convic- tions alone.

That’s not the end. The Florida Commissi- on on Ethics, a relatively toothless arm of state government that cannot undertake investigations, filed a fiasco totaling 40 violations and three probable cause rulings, in which the Ethics Commission took no further action.

Neither officials for the U.S. Attorney’s office in the middle district or the state’s Ethics Commission can provide names and descriptions of the federal convictions or ethics violations by press time. But a glance at the violations and the present suggests that even if history doesn’t repeat itself, its patterns and the recipes for their creation are the same.

Among other things, the numbers of convictions champion open go- vernment that the more things change, the more they remain the same. Which is why history may pay the best teacher.

When corruption meant death, drugs

Within the lifetimes of the oldest men and women who live in the region, corruption could mean blood and an early 20th-century version of slavery, not just financial misbehavior. Across the South, including in Southwest Florida, convict labor camps created a widely accepted form of official corruption unequaled since.

In an era before open-government laws, black male convicts and some poor whites were regularly arrested on trumped up charges and used as convicts labor in the infamous cotton fields — lumper camps, where pine were cut and processed for turpentine. They led brutal lives, too frequently working in the camps and being buried in nameless graves from El Jobean to Babcock Ranch in Charlotte County, and points south, historian report.

The perpetrators were never charged with any crimes and authorities were well paid to provide the conscripts.

Almost everything official was done differently in those days. Travelers found dead along roads or trails, for example, were sometimes simply disposed of in unmarked road- side holes, a solution that required no inquests, no paperwork, and almost no trouble or public expense.

In that era, it was fair and common custom, recalled Vernon Peeples, the Charlotte County historian and former state legis- lator, estimating collaboration with Florida Weekly last year.

If somebody was found dead, they’d have been taken to jail and men of the coroner’s jury would go out and find the body and ask themselves if anybody in the community recognized the body, it was buried on the spot by the side of the road.

Inmates and criminals also used the poll tax to control votes, effectively preventing many blacks and some poor whites from voting. This resulted in uncounted numbers of votes being thrown away by electors,黑白 body, it was buried on the spot by the side of the road.

But Bartow native and United States District Judge Edward Ward and brought a corrupt crime to a halt by sponsoring the 24th Amendment to the Constitution in 1964, which prohibited the poll tax by 1966. By 1966 it had become law in all 50 states.

As Florida grew and the population of the region began to swell beginning in the 1960s, people began to pay more attention to official corruption. Still, it was not until the early 1970s that some sought to hide their official corruption.

During the famous drug busts in Everglades City in 1983, for example, about 1,000 pounds of marijuana and $300,000 for the local officials were found and, excluding inquests, no paperwork, and almost no trouble or public expense.

In another mid-1990s case of local government corruption, Cape Coral Hospital officials hoodwinked a blind-eye board of directors by a middle district judge after a 27-month sentence before President Bill Clinton commuted her sentence late in 2000.

Last year, her conviction was over- turned and expanded from her record by no showing to a revised state Supreme Court ruling (in a different case) that such a conviction could be overturned only if bribes or kickbacks had occurred.

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After all that, he remains skeptical that corruption in local government is on the decline, or that its heyday is behind us.

“When I look at what I deal with on a daily basis now, if it was any worse back in the day of Gov. Reubin Askew, then there were really sad shapes,” he says.

Commissioners “tried to go to court to stop me from auditing what they’re doing. They failed.” They tried to cut off my money supplies to pay employees. That failed. And now they may try to get somebody else elected.

In the case of Stadium Naples, commissioners did what a newer crop of elected leaders seems intent on doing: stop him from auditing how they make deals and spend public money. But eventually his complaints helped bring down Mr. Norris. Commissioners Tim Constantin and Tim Hancock, County Manager Neil Dorrill, and several business promoters, including David Mobley, and real estate attorney Lee Salvatori.

The Rasmussen plan enjoyed a couple of at-bats. After striking out amid controversy and legal challenges the first time, he sought funding a second time with A.S. Goldman & Co., but dropped his bid after Federal authorities. That when the firm was investigated by federal authorities.

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In the case of Stadium Naples, commissioners did what a newer crop of elected leaders seems intent on doing: stop him from auditing how they make deals and spend public money. But eventually his complaints helped bring down Mr. Norris. Commissioners Tim Constantin and Tim Hancock, County Manager Neil Dorrill, and several business promoters, including David Mobley, and real estate attorney Lee Salvatori.

The Rasmussen plan enjoyed a couple of at-bats. After striking out amid controversy and legal challenges the first time, he sought funding a second time with A.S. Goldman & Co., but dropped his bid after Federal authorities.

One financier, David Mobley, was investigated officials and entrepreneurs in the case after Mr. Brock filed notes. He discovered some months ago that when the firm was investigated by federal authorities.

For Mr. Brock, it’s still happening, he says. He discovered some months ago that when the firm was investigated by federal authorities.
Norway is home to perhaps the most inmate-friendly prison in the world (as mentioned previously in “News of the Weird”), but the correctional system has an imminent crisis, as Anders Behring Breivik (the confessed killer of 77 people last year) is nearing formal conviction and sentencing. Officials fear the sociopathic Mr. Breivik will try to kill inmates to add to his toll, yet Norwegian law forbids solitary confinement as cruel. Consequently, according to a May report by Norway’s Verdens Gang newspaper, the officials have begun a search to select, hire and train appropriate “friends” to hang out with Mr. Breivik behind bars to win his trust and prevent further mayhem. Among Mr. Breivik’s favorite recreational distractions: chess and hockey.

Even mass murderers need friends

— Wait — that’s illegal?

In Kent, Wash., in May, Young Hyun Kim, 21, was charged with assault at a movie house. Annoyed by a group of kids in the row behind him who were constantly talking, laughing and throwing popcorn during “Titanic,” Mr. Yong slapped the nearest boy, bloodying his nose and knocking out a tooth.

In a New York City bar in May, Jack Ryan, 33, who was overimbibed and is vulnerable to drownings at the end of the day, even when they have overimbibed and are vulnerable to drownings.

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Today’s quick and virtually painless procedures will leave you wondering why you didn’t take care of your varicose veins sooner. Laser therapy eliminates varicose veins right at the source. You’ll be back to your normal activity the very next day.

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PAM MAHER
(239) 877-9521
AgentPam007@gmail.com

PRIVATE GOLF VIEW..overlooking the new Eagle golf course in TwinEagles. Home sits across from an open park. This immaculate 2-2-1/2 bath den, 2 car garage single family home is a must see! Granite countertops, ceramic floors, heated pool and spa. Nicklaus golf course is a short drive away. The senior tournament played on the Nicklaus course. The new Eagle golf course will host LPGA Titleholders November, 2012.
FOR 2 DAYS ONLY!
June 23rd & 24th 2-4PM

$429,900

PRIVATE GOLF VIEW...overlooking the new Eagle golf course in TwinEagles. Home sits across from an open park. This immaculate 2-2-1/2 bath den, 2 car garage single family home is a must see! Granite kitchen countertops including sitdown desk, upgrade cabinets. Den easily converts to 3rd bedroom. GOLF MEMBERSHIP INCLUDED. TwinEagles is again host to the Ace Classic senior tournament played on the Nicklaus course. The new Eagle golf course will host LPGA Titleholders November, 2012.

JANET CARTER
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LEVITAN - MCQUAID
YOUR TWIN EAGLES SPECIALISTS!
Here are some ways to celebrate Independence Day in Southwest Florida, starting as early as Saturday, June 30:

■ Everglades City gets into the Independence Day spirit on Saturday, June 30. Opening ceremonies are at 9:30 a.m., and a parade steps out at 10 a.m. McLeod Park hosts an arts and crafts sale and the Little Miss Firecracker and Little Mister Firecracker patriotic costume contest. Fireworks begin at 9 p.m.

For more information, call 695-2095.

■ Miromar Outlets hosts its 13th annual Independence Day celebration on Tuesday, July 3. The day includes a chance to donate blood at the Lee Memorial Bloodmobile from 2:30-8:30 p.m. Live music by the Push Band begins at 5:30 p.m., and fireworks over the lake begin at dusk. Bring lawn chairs or blankets. Admission is free. Coolers and personal fireworks are not permitted.

■ “Star Spangled Bonita” begins with the YMCA’s ever-popular bed race at 4 p.m. Wednesday, July 4, along Old 41 Road near Riverside Park. The race is open to the first 10 teams that register. Participants must be at least 18 years old and be in teams of five (one person on the mattress). Beds must be of twin size and decorated in the patriotic spirit of the day. Registration for the bed race is $25, with proceeds benefiting YMCA camp scholar-
Velma is among one in four in Collier County who suffer from a mental illness. One in nine of us will experience some form of substance abuse. When a family member, friend or coworker battles a mental health or substance abuse problem, we suffer with them. Thankfully, David Lawrence Center is here for our community.

A not-for-profit organization founded and still governed by community leaders, the David Lawrence Center is the behavioral health component of our community’s healthcare network. A true local resource, it relies on donations, fees and grants to invest in the health, safety and wellbeing of our community.

When you or someone you love needs help, call on the highly compassionate, committed and competent professionals of the David Lawrence Center to inspire you to move beyond the crisis towards life-changing wellness.

Her Mind is Our Concern.

Mental health is a community issue. Fortunately, there’s a community solution.

Velma is among one in four in Collier County who suffer from a mental illness. One in nine of us will experience some form of substance abuse. When a family member, friend or coworker battles a mental health or substance abuse problem, we suffer with them. Thankfully, David Lawrence Center is here for our community.

After witnessing the unthinkable at 12 years old – her mother shot at the hands of her stepfather – Velma quit school and started picking in the fields of Immokalee to support her brothers and sisters.

Velma remained upbeat and had a family of her own, but then experienced multiple, devastating losses and trauma and was diagnosed with a debilitating health issue. She felt suicide was the only way to escape her sadness, fear and pain. For her children’s sake, she finally asked for help from the David Lawrence Center.

Here she found hope, healing and tools to cope with her mental and physical health problems by working with a case manager, therapist, and utilizing the Center’s new, innovative telemedicine technology to meet routinely with her psychiatrist in Naples remotely from the Immokalee office.

Cost is $24 per person, and all proceeds benefit Opera Naples. For reservations, call 963-9050.

Celebrate with food, fun and fireworks from the Naples Princess as a guest of the Naples Philharmonic League’s final “Party of Note” for the 2011-12 season. All proceeds benefit the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra and its youth music education programs.

Boarding begins at 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 4, at Port-O-Call Way. The three-hour cruise travels Naples Bay into the Gulf of Mexico and gives passengers unsurpassed views of the city-sponsored fireworks off the Naples Pier.

Tickets for $125 per person include buffet dinner with cash bar. For reservations or more information, call the league office at 254-2777 or Jo Ann Ward at 877-4602.
‘Into the Wild’

Into the watery world of dolphins and whales at Rookery Bay

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Capt. Gene Flipse, president of Conscious Breath Adventures, presents “Into the Wild with Dolphins & Whales” from 6-7 p.m. Wednesday, June 27, at the Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center. A United States Coast Guard licensed captain for 27 years, Capt. Flipse was born in Miami and grew up on the waters of Biscayne Bay, the Keys, the Ten Thousand Islands and the Bahamas. He worked for more than 15 years captaining live-aboard dive boats operating between Florida, the Bahamas and the Dominican Republic. During these years, he had his first interactions with wild dolphins and whales in their natural environment.

Over the course of his career, he has had the honor to work with world-class explorers, researchers, environmentalists, conservationists, photographers and documentary and feature film makers, guiding them to experience the thrill of swimming with dolphins and whales themselves. His work has also taken him to California, Japan, Australia and Tonga.

For his program at Rookery Bay, he will introduce guests to some of the most iconic marine species of our subtropical corner of the North Atlantic. Join him on a magical and visually stunning journey into their watery realm to learn how to meet them for yourself and the actions we can take to ensure these ocean sentinels are protected for years to come.

The Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center is at 300 Tower Road, off Collier Boulevard on the way to Marco Island. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for a wine and cheese reception with the speaker. The cost is $8 for Friends of Rookery Bay members and $10 for non-members. Registration is suggested at rookerybay.org/upcoming-events.

The summer lecture series continues Wednesday, July 11, with Denise Boyd, research associate for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Marine Mammal Program, discussing “Helping Stranded Marine Mammals.”


Capt. Gene Flipse at work

COURTESY PHOTO

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• 14 years old, 13-15 lbs
• Green Eyes, Front Declawed
• Indoor Cat - Frightened of People
• Lost last in Suite 61, Ritz Carlton Tiburon, Naples, FL on 10/11/10
• Microchip ID #4535DF192A

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Please call if you find her or have info!
Mary Ann 239-594-3902 or 419-290-6783
Summer fun grows at the Garden

There are plenty of ways to enjoy the Naples Botanical Garden this summer. At 4820 Bayshore Drive, the Garden is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Admission for Garden members is always free; others pay $12.95 for adults, $7.95 for ages 4-14, free for ages 3 and younger. For more information, call 643-7275 or visit www.naplesgarden.org.

Snap It Up! Photography workshops – Master naturalist and photographer Christine Cook will lead basic classes in nature photography techniques from 8-10:30 a.m. Saturdays, June 23 and 30 and July 7 and 14. Cost is $25 per class for Garden members, $30 for others.

W.O.N.D.E.R. – Young Garden visitors Walk, Explore, Navigate, Draw, and Read at 10:30 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays, June’s programming in the Smith Children’s Garden is all about bees.

Dogs in the Garden – Bring your canine friend for a stroll (excluding the Smith Children’s Garden) from 9-11 a.m. Sundays, 8-11 a.m. Tuesdays and 3-5 p.m. Thursdays. Dogs must be leashed at all times. One dog per adult. Admission is $7.95 for non-members.

Early Bird Hours – Painters, photographers and hikers are welcome beginning at 8 a.m. Tuesdays.

Master Gardeners Plant Clinic – Collier County master gardeners diagnose plant problems and answer questions from 9 a.m. to noon and 1-4 p.m. Thursdays. Free.

Lee County’s only high-field open MRI

Our Hitachi OASIS high-field open MRI performs to the highest industry standards—providing superior image quality expected by your physician. While a 270-degree view allows you to see all around, all the time.

Experience MRI in a completely new way.
The Parkinson Association of Southwest Florida Inc. offers numerous programs and services to those who have Parkinson’s dis-
ease and their caregivers. The organization offers exercise classes every week from Bonita Springs to Marco Island. In addition, Parkinson’s holds a voice bo-
aerics class at 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays at its head-
quarters in Naples at 1048 Goodlette Road. Also at the Naples office, support group meetings are held twice a month for people with Parkinson’s disease and other movement disorders and at 7 p.m. Tuesdays for caregivers. At 3 p.m. every other Wednes-
day, a support group is held for those who have lost a loved one to PD. A “PD-101” for those who have been newly diagnosed takes place on the last Thursday of every month but can also be scheduled at other times.

The Naples office also has a lending library of books, VHS tapes and DVDs pertaining to PD. Professional equipment is also available for loan at no charge. For more information about services and programs offered by Parkinson’s, call Executive Director Ruth Hubing at 417-3465, e-mail pas-

A comprehensive program to confront congestive heart failure

Dr. Francisco J. Quiles-Cruz, a hospitalist, is a fre-
quently speaker at CHF seminars and has referred many patients for additional care — the next innovative link in our CHF clinical education programs. Dr. Spilker has started an outpatient CHF clinic speci-
cally to care for patients experiencing exacerbation of their disease manifested by fluid retention, weight gain, shortness of breath and other symptoms of CHF. We treat these sufferers quickly at the Naples Heart Institute, in most cases the same day. Currently an astounding 30 percent of CHF patients are readmit-
ted within one month of discharge, and 50 percent return to the hospital within one year.

Our goal in this multi-level effort is to reduce the number of CHF hospital admissions. Attacking the problem with a team composed of a physician assis-
tant or nurse practitioner along with a dietician, social worker and others who have worked effectively in many communi-
ties.

Next on the agenda is expansion of the CHF initiative. Barbara Evans of the NCH Foundation has spoken with Dr. Spilker to understand how the inte-
grated CHF program, including the patient clinic, might be expanded to benefit everyone in Southwest Florida. Ms. Evans’ next step is to share these thoughts with interested members of our community.

Best of all, our CHF classes are avail-
able, free, to the entire community, not just to NCH patients and their families.

■ “Don’t keep secrets” — You certainly don’t want to overwhelm your child with too much information, but it’s probably best to share some of your family’s financial situation. Reassure him by emphasizing the strong point of your situation, such as staying together as a family. Be honest, but appropriate.

■ Offer alternatives to activities that need to be adjusted because of financial constraints — Community centers and libraries often offer great programs at low or no cost. By setting an example with your own cutbacks, children see that the family must work together. Economize in a way that’s clear and fair.

■ Try to keep things as “normal” as possible — It can seem like routine chores for you, but it may be important for your child to see your day-to-day life, ask for help. And if your child is showing signs of troubled behavior, seek help for him. A mental health professional has the training to help you cope.

— Brian Follweiler is director of programs and outreach for the Men-
tal Health Association of Southwest Florida.

Parenting during tough economic times

Money troubles make life hard for everyone who has them, but par-
ents often feel an extra burden from financial woes. When they have the money to pay bills or find time to pick up a second job, their children still need attention and might have worries of their own.

Here are some steps that moms and dads can take to support the family and preserve their own health and well being during tough times:

■ Take time for yourself — Raising children is a great deal of work and worry. When you feel overwhelmed by economic times, take some time to become isolated. Most important, don’t take your frustration out on those closest to you. No child should think the family’s troubles are his fault.

■ Ask for help — Finally, if you are having trouble dealing with parenting or your day-to-day life, ask for help. And if your child is showing signs of troubled behavior, seek help for him. A mental health professional has the training to help you cope.

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

A18 | NEWS | WEEK OF JUNE 21-27, 2012
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HEALTHY LIVING

Parenting during tough economic times

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Area clinics provide free HIV testing

In recognition of the 19th annual National HIV Testing Day on June 27, and to remind the public that HIV testing is an important step in the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS, the Collier County Health Department and other organizations offer free HIV testing at various locations June 25-29.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that everyone be intimately involved. The health of others with whom you may be in contact is an important step in the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS, the virus that causes AIDS. Approximately 8 percent of those new infections occur in Florida. New CDC data indicate that there are now more than 1.7 million Americans living with HIV, and at least 25 percent of those do not know that they are HIV-positive.

In Collier County, there are more than 1,500 reported cases of HIV/AIDS, and the number of new cases for the past five years has averaged 50 a year. For free testing, visit the following:

- Collier County Health Department, 3339 Tamiami Trail E. – 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 27-29 for free Rapid HIV testing and STD and HEP screening. Call 262-8593.
- Planned Parenthood of Collier County, 1425 Creech Road – 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. June 27-29 for free Rapid HIV testing. Call 508-3300.
- Collier County Health Department, 419 First St., Immokalee – 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 25-29 for free Rapid HIV testing and STD and HEP screening. Call 252-7300.
- Island Coast AIDS Network, 3400 Radio Road – 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 28-29 for free HIV testing. Call 268-0960.

An estimated 52,000 Americans each year are newly infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. Approximately 8 percent of those new infections occur in Florida. New CDC data indicate that there are now more than 1.7 million Americans living with HIV, and at least 25 percent of those do not know that they are HIV-positive.

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A19 NEWS WEEK OF JUNE 21-27, 2012

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BOOK REVIEW

‘Book follows two-year quest to become ‘Drop Dead Healthy’

"Drop Dead Healthy: One Man’s Quest for Bodily Perfection" by A.J. Jacobs (Simon & Schuster, $26)

REVIEWED BY LARRY COX

Bestselling author A.J. Jacobs (“The Year of Living Biblically” and “The Know-It-All”) chronicles his two-year quest to retool his body from a “mushy, easily winded, moderately sickly bloke” to a perfect specimen in his new book, “Drop Dead Healthy.”

Think of it as a “Super-Size Me” in reverse.

His first step was to compile a list of things he needed to do to improve his health. The list soon became a whopping 70 pages that included goals such as eating more leafy green vegetables, watching more baseball (since it lowers the odds of certain types of cancer), he also added raw foods to his diet, learned portion control and figured out ways to eliminate as much sugar as possible.

Part memoir, part adventure story, part how-to manual, “Drop Dead Healthy” is laugh-out-loud funny as it tests our culture’s assumptions and obsessions with what makes for good health. Brimming with data, photographs and a narrative that is both inspiring and witty, it’ll have you laughing so hard it will flood your bloodstream with endorphins, making you feel healthier after just a few pages.

It could be just what the doctor ordered.

The Warnings Signs

■ #1 cause of tooth loss is gum/periodontal disease
■ 80% of all adults have periodontal disease
■ Periodontal Disease may be a contributing factor to:
  - Cardiovascular/Heart Disease
  - Diabetes
  - Osteoporosis
  - Respiratory Disease
  - Low Birth Weight Babies
  - Stroke
  - Pneumonia
  - Over All Health

The Warning Signs

■ Gums that bled during toothbrushing and flossing
■ Red, swollen, or tender gums
■ Gums that have pulled away from your teeth
■ Persistent bad breath
■ Put between your teeth and gums
■ A change in the way your teeth fit together when you bite
■ A change in the fit of your partial dentures
Dr. Piotrowski is a diplomat of the American Academy of Periodontology.

He utilizes the latest techniques in the diagnosis and treatment of gum disease. He has successfully treated thousands of patients with gum problems in over seventeen years of practice. His philosophy of treating gum disease is a conservative non-surgical approach whenever possible.

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Immokalee kids enjoy success on the court

During the last three years, Jim and Sulbey Holt have brought tennis instruction to the children of Immokalee. The partnership with The Immokalee Foundation began with the Holts seeking volunteer opportunities with the organization; they wanted to reach out to the children in Immokalee. Tennis was the perfect match. They are members of the Pelican Marsh Tennis Club, and Jim is assistant coach of the Gwynedd-Mercy College women’s tennis team in Gwynedd Valley, Penn.

This year the Center Court Athletics program served 32 students in grades 2-8. The Holts enlisted the help of 23 Pelican Marsh coaches who volunteered every Tuesday from January through early May. The Immokalee Foundation, coaches, and the Holts also secured donations of tennis rackets, balls, and miscellaneous equipment with the hope that the students will continue to play with family members or friends.

The children were also treated as VIPs with front row seats at an exhibition match between the veteran Pelican Marsh ladies and the Gwynedd-Mercy women’s tennis team at the Pelican Marsh Tennis Center.

The Immokalee Foundation has a range of programs that focus on building pathways to success through college and career development, mentoring and tutoring, and opportunities for broadening experiences and life skills development. To learn more about volunteering as a mentor or for additional information, call 430-9122 or visit www.immokaleefoundation.org.

Healthcare Network receives $20,000

Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida (formerly CHS Healthcare) has received two grants from Trinity-by-the-Cove Episcopal Church and its Archangel Fund for Collier County Charities. Healthcare Network received $10,000 for the Sister Veronica Fund and another $10,000 for the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile program.

The Sister Veronica Fund is a resource of last resort for low-income, uninsured patients who need urgent prescription medications, dental care or eye exams. The Ronald McDonald Care Mobile is a mobile dental/medical unit for children. Use of the vehicle is provided by Ronald McDonald House Charities, while staffing and services are the responsibility of Healthcare Network. The grant will be used to purchase an intraoral camera as well as a printer and will also help pay for screenings and dental treatments onboard the Care Mobile.

For more information, visit www.healthcareswfl.org.

Kiwanians give $1,000 to Junior Achievement

Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida has received a $1,000 donation from the Kiwanis Club of Naples-on-the-Gulf. The funding will enable 50 children in Collier, Lee and Charlotte counties to participate in Junior Achievement programs. Several members of the club have been involved as Junior Achievement classroom volunteers and have seen first-hand the impact of JA programs on local youth.

Charity for Change students know how to give

As participants in the school “Giver” program, more than 3,500 students at five Collier County elementary schools, along with their community partners, raised more than $20,000 for 72 charities during the school year that just ended.

“It is our honor to connect children with their community and teach them the importance of giving back,” says Karen Conley, president and CEO of Charity for Change, which oversees the program.

Charity for Change’s 30-week “Giver” curriculum reinforces character traits such as respect and tolerance, while connecting children to charities that they support with their spare change.

Charity for Change itself is a nonprofit organization, but it offers the “Giver” program for free to schools and does not keep any of the money the students raise. Instead, it relies on contributions, grants and proceeds from fundraising events.

For more information, call Ms. Conley at 592-6787 or visit www.charityforchange.org.

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**HAMSTER**

From page 1

But Katie felt a special empathy for Hammie. After all, only a few years ago she had a tumor, too. Katie’s tumor was growing on the left front temporal lobe of her brain.

Doctors in Michigan (where she grew up) were able to remove it, and today Katie is all over that. She’s preparing for the coming season of “Charmed.” So when Dr. Gregory hooked Hammie up to an anesthetic gas called Sevoflurane and the classic sitcom “Charmed.” So when she discovered Hammie had a tumor, she reasoned that perhaps it could be removed successfully, too.

“She’s like, ‘Mom, we have to save him. I had a tumor and they took it out, so we can do the same thing,’” her mom recalls.

The family couldn’t afford the nearly $400 surgery, but when Ms. West told veterinarian Scott Gregory at Old 41 Animal Hospital in Bonita Springs about the situation, his heart melted like ice cream on the beach. He decided the only thing to do was to try his best to save Hammie’s life.

“Black cats will cross your path for adoption

Clive Daniel Home and the Collier Community Cat Coalition have partnered with the Naples Municipal Airport. Of the 1,000 pets he has rescued to date, 63 have come to HSN; the others have been taken to other no-kill shelters in Florida and throughout the Southeastern United States.

In recognition of his efforts, Mr. Bennett was presented with the Animalitarian Award at HSN’s 2011 Pet Lovers Gala. The annual award, sponsored by Cheryl Deering and Jim Delas, recognizes individuals and agencies that go above and beyond in their service to pets in need.

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Help your pets get along

Don’t expect predators and prey to act like family

BY GINA SPADAFORI
Universal Uclick

Last month, after years of dreaming about it, I moved onto a small property that allowed me to have my horses live in my backyard instead of at a boarding barn. There is also room for my pet chickens and ducks, and of course, my dogs and my cat.

All the animals get along, not only the “farm” animals, but also the more traditional household pets. This happens not because we’re all one happy family, but because I know enough about animals to realize that we are not family at all. In more than 30 years of writing about pets and a lifetime of living with them, I have shared my life with everything from hermit crabs to parrots to bunnies to snakes to horses and a lot in between, along with the more common pets not only to feel at home in their enclosures, and use baby gates to divide to prevent conquering. Good fencing may make good neighbors, but secure barriers have kept many a small pet alive. When you are not actively engaged in overseeing your pets, keep small ones such as rabbits and birds in their enclosures, and use baby gates to add a layer of protection by keeping dogs out of a room where small animals such as hamsters are in cages that can be easily broken into.

In my case, I have my chickens and ducks in a spacious yard with good, standard fencing supplemented by electric fencing, not only to deter any wild predators, but also dogs — my neighbors’ and even my own. I love living with many kinds of animals — I’m adding a pair of pet goats after I’m well settled in — but I’m always aware that my pets would not choose to live with one another if I didn’t make them do so. That means I’m always careful to keep everyone safe, because — we’re family, even if they don’t think so.

Don’t anthropomorphize, but do generalize ... a little. You love all your pets, so it’s natural to expect that your pets not only love you, but also feel at least warm toward each other. Let me put it this way: Even though you loved your siblings growing up, I bet there were times when you punched them, right? And you’re the same species. You love all your pets not only to love you, but also feel at least warm toward each other. Let me put it this way: Even though you loved your siblings growing up, I bet there were times when you punched them, right? And you’re the same species.

I’m always aware that my pets would never forget that. If you want a house and dogs and my cat.

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MUSINGS

Maieutic

Perhaps you didn’t mean to reveal the interconnection of your identities so thoroughly and so unmistakably. Perhaps you forgot about time, about chronos and her ways, about how she traces and marks and makes linear ostensibly inescapable declarations. You can’t quote what has not yet been said or merely said behind veil seven-layered and unparted, knot imparted. That is the ruling consensus in this context. Or maybe you were well aware of all that, wondering if I’d realize. I did see. And this is my very verily happy thought: the concealing that was revealing. Oh, happy date... New turning talking points...

This — the above text — was the prequel.

This — the text below immediately — is the stage set.

There is a being prone, prone to light, supine to light: lit. And this being is in the posture of awaiting delivery, or some might say deliverance. And in the being, clearly filling, is light of beings’ light. And surrounding is another being: Maia, by trade. (Make no mistake: Greek, not Sanskrit illusion and not all Greek to me.)

This — the text following — is the future recollection, becoming present as you see, up to we, knowing:

Texting, texting: Essence necessarily permitting all possibilities. This field of playing: that creative nature spontaneously revealing. And we: Knowing.

And this poesy review is following, following that very verily happy thought on the inviting breath of Socratic in/out Q &A spiral-ation:

the thought/feeling in the way it was there is ever there the thought/feeling in the way it was never there is never where the knowing is a’ moving now from one creating creating to another: all of them all available and knot like putting on clothes and changing masks all cosseted in a closet timeless hung with mirrors in every part fun house frolic

close up and how to go like this in tandem or embrace? or all mixed up? or this know la difference? to se-a-say with the all/feeling/thought/nought dancing like this: how else knowing a we ?

will this sayer for that saying be dressed like sooth? or unthorough by conquistador vermouth? does disclaimer come? or embrace?

And would this know la difference?

Perhaps you forgot about time, about chronos and her ways. The showing is also shadowing conceal-ation (or can the shadow be the show?)

— 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 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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Biking paradise

Sales in town are rolling

BY EVAN WILLIAMS
emwilliams@floridaweekly.com

A SEGMENT OF BICYCLE SHOP CUSTOMERS DISAPPEARED IN the last five years along with many jobs. As employment figures begin to look brighter, active retirees in particular, and others looking for recreation and exercise, are turning the trend around.

Mike Holm said sales at Fort Myers Schwinn Cyclery were off 30 percent at the worst of the recession. He saw a 15 percent jump in sales during

SEE BIKES, B4

Emily K. Bua & Tade Bua-Bell
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Meet the press
Naples Press Club hosts members of the media at Seasons 52, and more Networking events. B6

Ask the Fool
Name the pharmaceutical company whose biggest sellers include Plavix and Abilify. B5

House Hunting
Royal Harbor could be Naples’ best-kept waterfront secret. B7

"... our last two years have been some of the best ever, so I can’t complain now."
— Keith Newman, co-owner of The Bike Route in Naples

Keith Newman, co-owner of The Bike Route in Naples, holding a Giant road bike.

EVAN WILLIAMS / FLORIDA WEEKLY
MONEY & INVESTING
Making sense of gold’s place in the financial world

Gold is an important investment topic because fiat currencies are being challenged and China clearly wants to end the U.S. dollar’s reign as the world’s sole reserve currency.

Short term retail investors want to know whether gold will soon have a meaningful move; long term retail investors ponder whether gold’s ultimate zenith will be $3,000 or $5,000 an ounce — numbers often bandied about by gold bugs.

Quite possibly, the central banks, which have foreign reserve surpluses (and particularly China), will have the greatest impact on gold prices in years to come. So far, in 2012, these dollar-surplus countries have been buyers.

Gold hit a high in September 2011 at $1,921 an ounce and has been contracting on this measure, the U.S. has “a lot” of gold based on the ratio of its central bank’s holdings to GDP size. Based on this measure, the U.S. has “a lot” of gold, but Congressional requests for gold audits are consistently declined by the Federal Reserve. The mystery as to “who has how much gold and where it extends across the Pacific to China. The Bank of China has not shown its cards since 2009 when gold holdings were last reported to be 1,054 tonnes (or 1.6 percent of its foreign reserve exchange reserves)... assuming a then accurate number.

What we do know is that China was a heavy buyer of gold in the first quarter of 2012: “Imports from Hong Kong were 185,291 kilograms... between January and March, (up) from 197,279 kilograms in the year-earlier period,” per Hong Kong’s Census and Statistics Department. That is a jaw-dropping increase! (Bloomberg, May 8, “China’s Gold Imports Jump as Country May Become Biggest User”)

China is not alone in its purchases, according to Gold Core’s May 25 online report: “The IMF central bank gold demand figures for April were very bullish and suggest that (global) central bank demand in 2012 may be even higher than the 456.4 tons added last year — which was the most in almost five decades.” Even the “Bank of Russia plans to keep buying gold on the domestic market in order to diversify their foreign exchange reserves.” So two out of four BRIC countries are meaningful gold buyers.

But the big news is the recent moves by China as part of its long term plan to become a major force in physical gold trading. China recently made a hefty bid (and then tabled it) for the London Metals Exchange, which controls 80 percent of all global metals futures trades and is big in industrial metals, too. This comes on the heels of China’s creation in 2011 of PAGE (Pan Asian Global Exchange) where physical spot gold is sold in KMB to global participants. PAGE is in addition to the Beijing Gold Exchange, which has 60 retail outlets across China.

You don’t need to be a Wall Street whiz to see the picture created by these puzzle pieces: countries that are not broke and that have foreign exchange reserves are buying gold at current levels and are making bigger and longer term plans.

Seems as if the story with gold “ain’t over until it’s over.” And China may be saying, “We’ve only just begun.”

— There is a substantial risk of loss in trading futures and options on futures contracts. Past performance is not indicative of future results. This article is provided for informational purposes only. No statement in this article should be construed as a recommendation to buy or sell a futures/options contract or to provide investment advice.

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

Jeff Showalter, CFA
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Port Royal - Fort Charles Drive
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$11,500,000

Port Royal - Cutlass Lane
Perhaps, the finest waterfront property in all of Naples. Designed by architects Jerry De Gennaro and built by Newbury North Associates. A perfect combination of New England and Old Florida style architecture. Port Royal Club membership eligibility.

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Port Royal - Admiralty Parade
Incomparable views of Naples Bay and beyond. Attention to detail throughout with no expense spared in the use of warm woods and intricate stonework. A rare opportunity. Port Royal Club membership eligibility.

$8,500,000

Port Royal - Galileo Lane
A charming Port Royal home with expansive water footage and multidirectional long water views over Buccaneers’ Bay and Naples Bay. In the style of the islands, the home is artfully constructed with high ceilings, rich wood floors, and epitomizes comfortable elegance. Port Royal Club membership eligibility: $7,600,000

Port Royal - Fort Charles Drive
This property has beautiful panoramic views overlooking Morgan’s Cove, which, allows a substantial building envelope, and is one of the most desired areas of Port Royal as evidenced by the extraordinary quality of the homes recently built around it. Port Royal Club membership eligibility.

$5,295,000

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

Aqualane Shores - 17th Avenue South
Beautiful south facing home with elevated pool that augments the wonderfully appointed first floor living area, thus creating a private indoor/outdoor entertainment environment. Soaring ceilings and carefully placed windows illuminate the interior spaces. Significant recessed boat slip with lift and no-bridge access to the Gulf of Mexico. $3,850,000

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

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the 2011-12 busy season, from October through May, over last year.

“We have to double that again to get back to where we were,” Mr. Holm said amiably as he tuned up a bike at his shop on U.S. 41. “It’ll come back to it. I’m sure it will.”

Cycling is big business in Florida’s Congressional District 14, which includes 800,000-some people in Lee, and parts of Collier and Charlotte counties. There are 76 retail bicycle stores representing $395 million in gross revenue in the district, according to a 2012 report by League of American Bicyclists.

“The recession hurt us bad,” admits Earl Lang, co-owner of Acme Bicycle Shop in Punta Gorda and Port Charlotte. But the 2011-12 season was his best of the last three in sales. He attributes that to “cabin fever” (pent-up demand) and general optimism.

“I think this year people looked tired and over — our last two years have been some of the best ever, so I can’t complain now,” he said.

One of the best sellers at shops in Naples, Fort Myers and Punta Gorda are bicycles that are easier on retirees’ well-worn knees or hips. These are sometimes called “flat foot” bicycles because you can board from a nearly natural standing position and put both feet flat on the ground at a stop.

Kim Campanella, owner of Bicycle Center in Port Charlotte, is one of the top dealers in the country for Trek’s Pure line.

“Most bicycles have you sitting on a stool,” said Ms. Campanella. “This has you sitting on a chair.”

Mr. Lang of Acme said a “flat foot” model, the Electra Townie, has been a best seller. The model, the Electra Townie, has been one of his best sellers.

“‘It really builds people’s confidence,’” he said. “They feel comfortable and safe. Some of the most popular models — such as ‘hybrid’ bikes good for a trip to the store, a ride to the beach, or wherever — cost between $400 and $500, but dedicated cyclists can spend upwards of $8,000 on an ultra-high-end road bike that weighs less than 3 pounds, has electronic gear shifting and carbon fiber wheels.”

Sticking with their cars

Meanwhile, people looking to lower their gas budgets by riding more are the minority, shop owners said. Even $5 or $6 per gallon gas prices wouldn’t change that much, some say, even along with other benefits such as personal and environmental health.

“Every year when the gas goes higher people love to do stories on it, but I’m not seeing it,” said Ms. Campanella.

Mr. Holm of Schwinn is skeptical that there will be a surge in people who use a bicycle as a primary mode of transportation any time soon, even if gas hit $10 per gallon.

“People aren’t giving up their air-conditioned cars yet,” he said. Mr. Newman of Bike Route figures it would take gas prices of $7 or more per gallon to see a significant spike in bicycle commuters.

“Our customer base is pretty much recreational and fitness-type riders,” he said. “Not so much in the transportation end of it. I still don’t find there are many people using the bicycle strictly as a gas substitute.”

“It’s tough to pry them out of their cars. There are plenty of ways around town to use the existing roads, but most people choose to use their vehicle.”

That includes himself most of the time, he admits.

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Pedaling commuters stymied

Bicycle commuters as defined by the federal government — those who use a bicycle only, no car and no public transportation to get to work — are an even more rarified group.

That’s not to say there aren’t thousands of them. For instance, there were 429 people in Cape Coral who said they commuted only by bicycle in 2010 (about .7 percent of total commuters).

By contrast, 6 percent of commuters in Portland, Ore., considered one of the most “bicycle friendly” cities in the nation, get to work by bicycle.

Those who commute only by bike grew by 39 percent nationwide from 2000 to 2010. But many challenges, including large swaths of urban sprawl or showers at the workplace, are holding that group of commuters back.

“People who are commuting to work are those who have no choice, by and large,” said Darla Letourneau of BikeWalkLee, a Fort Myers-based group that advocates alternative transportation. “We don’t do a good job of providing accommodations at the other end.”

Getting to work on your bicycle may depend on the street layout between you and a job.

“I love the idea (of commuting by bike) and I encourage it,” Ms. Campanella said. “But just the way Port Charlotte is laid out you won’t see a lot of people like in Boston (her hometown), or New York or even Fort Myers, doing that.”

Employees often have no other facilities besides a bathroom to clean up or change in after a ride to work.

“When they get to work they feel sweaty and a lot of people don’t provide lockers and showers and things like that,” said Mr. Walthour of Island Bike Shop. While shop owners expect to continue to see strong sales continue with the retiree market, commuter sales aren’t likely to surge as long as the culture and practical considerations for that sector remain the same.
Insiders and Institutions

If you’re studying a small company in order to determine whether to invest in it, it’s good to find out whether insiders or institutions own many shares. Insiders are generally a good thing. If employees own a chunk of a company, they have an incentive to make it succeed. Investors can change their minds as they must expect the shares to rise in value.

Don’t be alarmed by insider sales, though. Company stock is a major portion of many insiders’ wealth. Some may simply be selling some shares to send a kid to college or to buy a car. Still, lots of executives selling is a red flag.

With small companies, we like to see insiders owning at least 10 percent of the company, but little ownership by institutions such as mutual funds and pension funds. When promising small companies have little or no institutional ownership, it’s often because the big players are sidelined. Small firms usually have relatively few shares outstanding, and their total value is modest. Imagine Scruffy’s Chicken Shack ticker:

BUKBRK, with just 10 million shares outstanding, valued at $10 each. (Total market value: $100 million.) Institutions that might typically buy $10 million worth of shares can’t do so without Scruffy’s without buying fully 10 percent of the entire company. Should anything go wrong, they are often prohibited from doing.

Those of us who discover Scruffy’s early and buy shares before Wall Street’s cottoning on to benefit. Once Wall Street gets involved and institutions begin buying lots of shares, high demand will boost the stock price and the wealth of existing shareholders. Discovering a small but growing company with significant insider ownership and low institutional ownership is a promising scenario. The company should be sound, though, with growing sales and earnings and a strong competitive position, among other things. You can call any public company and ask its investor relations department about insider and institutional ownership. Or look them up online, at sites such as finance.yahoo.

Just remember that small companies can be volatile and are often best for investors with some experience.

**Meet National Oilwell Varco**

Though its history goes back to 1841, you probably haven’t heard of National Oilwell Varco (NYSE: NOV). Still, you might want to invest in it.

With a market cap of nearly $30 billion, National Oilwell is 18th in the world in equipment and supplies for oil and gas exploration and production, is bigger than some of the largest oil companies. It produces drilling equipment and rig equipment for both onshore and offshore drilling. The company built some of the biggest oil rigs ever. So far, National Oilwell Varco’s equipment’s sitts on some 90 percent of the world’s oil rigs.

The company’s strengths include a diverse product line, growing oilfield-equipment demand and a healthy balance sheet with a healthy capital base. Great opportunity for the company lies in deepwater drilling and shale drilling, and it is benefiting from shorter construction cycles in Asian shipyards. In addition, several major oil companies have discovered large new reserves and will be investing billions of dollars in new drilling rigs. Already, National Oilwell Varco’s equipment sits on some 90 percent of the world’s oil rigs.

There are risks, too, of course. For example, if natural gas prices stay low or fall further, it might not be worth spending a lot of money drilling for it in difficult locations.

With a low P/E and strong growth rates, the stock looks attractive.

**Meet The Motley Fool Take**

**What Is This Thing Called The Motley Fool?**

Remember “As You Like It”? In Elizabethan days, Fools were the only people who could tell 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**

**What are “fixed income” and “equity income” funds?**

P.T. Kanukaie, Ill.

When you see the term “fixed income,” think bonds. That’s because most bonds have fixed interest rates, letting you know exactly what kind of income they will offer you. Meanwhile, “equity” funds focus on stocks, and “equity income” funds will likely hold stocks that pay relatively high dividends, hoping to provide investors with regular streams of income.

This is different from growth or value funds, which invest in companies whose stock is expected to advance, regardless of whether the companies even pay dividends. Small-cap companies don’t pay any dividends, as they prefer to funnel most of their income into fueling the growth.

Mutual funds that focus on income are generally best suited to those who need regular distributions of cash, as people in retirement. However, even retirees might remain invested in some other funds or stocks simply selling off a portion each year to generate the income they need.

Research funds at Morningstar.com and learn about promising ones via our “Rule Your Retirement” newsletter, which you can try for free at fool.com/shop/newsletters.

**Q**

I own a few stocks. One has lost nearly half of its value over the past several years, and some have done well. I need to pay my son’s college tuition soon, so which stocks should I sell first?—S.N., Narragansett, Conn.

A

Forget how the stocks have done in the past. What matters is what companies are doing today, reasoning by how much confidence you have in their health and growth prospects. Sell the ones in which you have the least faith. Your money should always be concentrated on your best ideas.

Get a question for the Fool? Send it in — see Write Us

**What’s my Dumbest Investment?**

Not so very long ago, I invested in a piddling-piece penny stock. It was purely speculative and purely on a recommendation in an e-mail touting a gold-mining company. I didn’t do anything other than the stock’s past performance. It had surged recently, and once I bought, it kept rising some more. I learned along the way that the e-mail promoting the company had actually been paid for by the company.

— M.M., Abilene, Texas

**The Fool Responds:**

You did indeed luck out. Remember that reputable and established companies don’t send out e-mail promoting their stock and will never sell stocks to you. It’s usually best to avoid stocks trading for less than $5 per share.

Do you have an embarrassing lesson learned the hard way? Send it to Fool@fool.com or via regular mail to The Motley Fool c/o My Dumbest Investment. Got one you think we should work? Submit to My Smartest Investment. If we print yours, you’ll win a Fool’s cap!

**The Fool Responds:**

I trace my roots back to 1847 and to a confectionary company in New England. Known for a certain colorful round treat, I also produce Sweethearts, Mary Janes, Candy Buttons, Clark Bars, Squirrel Nut Zippers, Slap Stix and Sky Bars. In 1847, a newly invented lollipop cutter made my first product possible. I offered profit-sharing to employees back in 1906. During World War II, I produced rations and emergency items for the armed forces. In 2007, I was bought by the private equity firm American Capital Strategies. Based in Massachusetts, I’m America’s oldest candy company. Who am I? (Answer: Necco)

**Last week’s trivia answer**

I’m a construction company with a market cap of nearly $30 billion. My biggest wins include the largest army base in Asia, the Panama Canal, the Panama Canal, the Panama Canal, the Panama Canal, the Panama Canal, and I own a few other army bases. So which company am I? (Answer: Necco)

**Write to Us**

Send questions for The Motley Fool (Dumbest or Smartest) Investments (up to 100 words), and your Fool entries to Fool@fool.com or via regular mail to this newspaper, attn: The Motley Fool. Since we can’t provide individual financial advice.

**BUSINESS MEETINGS**

**A Job Search Support Group**

meets from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday at the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce. Contact Karen Klukiewicz at kluk@napleschamber.org or visit www.napleschamber.org.

**The American Business Women’s Association-Neapolitan Chapter**

meets at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 26, at the Hilton Naples. Contact Karen Johnson at knjohnson@marcoisland.com for more information. www.abwa.org.

**The Collier County Lodging & Tourism Association**

hosts a tourism update beginning at 8 a.m. Wednesday, June 27, at Bellasera Hotel. Jack Wett, director of the Naples Marco Island, Erdogus Convention & Visitors Bureau, will summarize the past winter season and discuss the upcoming season. For CCLTA members, $10 for others. Seating is limited and reservations are required. For reservations, call Pam Calore at 598-1222, or e-mail pam@cclta@marcoisland.com.

**The Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce**

holds its next Wake Up Naples at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, July 11, at the Hilton Naples. Guest speaker Joseph Schmidt of Suntrust’s Investment Banking will discuss his recent time in Kandahar, Afghanistan. The morning’s sponsor is Brown’s Wine & Spirits. Cost is $25 for members, $25 for others. Sign up at www.napleschamber.org/events.

**Members and guests of the Women’s Network of Collier County**

meet for lunch at 12:30 p.m. on the second Wednesdays of every month at Marco Island Princess. For information, e-mail Katie@marcoisland chamber.org.

**SCORE Naples**

meets from 10 a.m. to noon Thursday, July 5, at The Motley Fool, 131 5th Street S., Naples. Cost is $25. Sign up at www.naples chamber.org/events.

**The Marco Island Area Chamber of Commerce**

meets from 10 a.m. to noon Thursday, July 5, at the Chamber of Commerce building, 15th Street and 10th Avenue. For more information, call 239-477-4135.

**Ask the Fool**

**What is the “Rule Your Retirement” newsletter?**

S.F., Narragansett, Conn.

A

Forget how the stocks have done in the past. What matters is what companies are doing today, reasoning by how much confidence you have in their health and growth prospects. Sell the ones in which you have the least faith. Your money should always be concentrated on your best ideas.
NETWORKING

‘The Importance of Importance’ at Clive Daniel Home

1. Mary Anne and John McKerrow
2. Donna Fiala, Randall Kenneth Jones and Val Simon
3. Laura Lee Orey
4. Chris Doyle and Rhona Saunders
5. Derek Wakefield and Ken Gillam
6. Susan Freedman and Beth Feldman

Naples Press Club welcomes the media at Seasons 52

1. Richard Crum and Chuck Togias
2. Sue Huff, Chris Doyle and Michele Stakianos
3. Robert Dean Bair and Denyse Smith Mesnik
4. Dan Sheridan and Robin DeMattia
5. Phil Jason and Dorothy Mills
6. Barbara Miller and George Walmsley

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.
House Hunting:

1443 Marlin Drive, Royal Harbor

When considering waterfront communities in Naples, most buyers think of Port Royal, Aqualane Shores, Old Naples, The Moorings, Coquina Sands and Park Shores. Then there’s Royal Harbor, perhaps the best-kept secret on the local waterfront.

A stone’s throw across the bay from Port Royal, Royal Harbor is a picturesque, quiet, secluded and secure community, just minutes from pristine beaches by day and lively downtown by night.

Royal Harbor offers an array of home styles. Original quaint cottages remain but are selling fast, while renovation, remodeling and new construction show significant growth.

Rebuilt/renovated by South West Shores Construction into an elegant, modern, open floor plan, this home at 1443 Marlin Drive lists for $1,209,000. For a virtual tour, visit www.gerihowardnaplesrealestate.com. To arrange a private showing, call Geri Howard at Keating Associates, 417-2996 or (617) 413-8955. Or stop by during open house from 1-4 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday.

NAPLES AREA

Coquina Sands-Banyan Club
2BR/2BA’s, within walking distance to beach. 2nd floor, unfurnished. $1,175

Old Naples
1BR/1BA, fully remodeled 1st floor condominium. Walk to beach & 5th Ave. Unfurnished. $1,600

Old Naples/Castleton Gardens
Furnished 2BR/2BA, close to shopping and beach. Gated entry. $1,695

Mooring Port-au-Villa
Bayside 1st floor 2BR furnished. $1,800

Wyndemere
Gated community. 2BR+den, 2nd floor with elevator. Covered parking. $2,200

Pierre Club
Unfurnished, 3BR, 2nd floor walk to beach. $2,200

Park Shore-Vistas
Updated, waterfront building. 2BR/2BA, 16th floor, 1,910 sq. ft. Golf views. Furnished. $2,500

Old Naples-5th Avenue
Furnished 2BR/2BA located above shopping district. Pool. $2,800

Pelican Marsh - Island Cove
Beautiful detached villa, 2BR/2BA, 2,867 sq. ft. Golf views. Furnished. $3,000

Olde Cypress
Furnished pool home with 3BR/2BA. With boat dock and lift. Golf access. $9,500

RENTAL DIVISION
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800.749.7368
PremierSothebysRealty.com

Our Portfolio of Southwest Florida’s Rental Properties

FT. MYERS/ESTERO & BONITA SPRINGS AREA

Bonita Bay – Sandpiper
1st floor residence. 1BR/1BA, furnished. $1,900

Pelican Landing - Baycrest Villa
2BR/2BA villa with 2-car garage and private pool. Furnished. $2,500

Mediterra – Calabria
1BR/1BA’s, 1st floor condo home. 2-car garage. $2,700

Bonita Bay - Esperia
Stunning water views. 1BR/1BA, furnished or unfurnished. $3,000

South Ft. Myers - Belle Lago
Single family home with 2BR+ den and pool. Furnished. $3,500

Bonita Bay - Estancia
Gulf and Golf views. 2BR/2BA, 2,867 sq. ft. Furnished. $4,000

The Colony - Bellagio
Furnished pool home. 2BR/2BA. Priced for pets approval. $6,000

NAPLES AREA

Coquina Sands-Banyan Club
2BR/2BA’s, within walking distance to beach. 2nd floor, unfurnished. $1,175

Old Naples
1BR/1BA, fully remodeled 1st floor condominium. Walk to beach & 5th Ave. Unfurnished. $1,600
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Karen Van Andel
premier@pamh.com
$2,495,000

1629 Night Hawk Pointe
Denise Cooper
premier@pamh.com
$5,280,000

1515 Heights Court
Cathy Berger
premier@pamh.com
$7,500,000

1404 La Jolla vPM-102
Marion Bethiau/Aimee Klinke
premier@pamh.com
$2,395,000

60 North Street
Patrick O’Connor
premier@pamh.com
$5,158,000

Royal Harbor
391 660 0286
$950,000

Gray Oaks
391 557 8107
$550,000

Marco Island
391 681 7196
$1,928,000

Park Shore
391 977 5854
$91,296,000

Pine Ridge
391 295 940
$1,518,000

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Port Royal

45 22nd Avenue South
Michael G. Lawler
$1,950,000

907 Galloway Drive
Karen Van Andel
$2,080,000

5306 Gin Lane
Karen Van Andel
$9,500,000

5439 Gin Lane
Frank Saylor
$4,200,000

1451 Galloway Drive
Michael G. Lawler
$8,750,000

3430 Port Charles Drive
Ruth Twiss
$3,800,000

Old Naples

174 3rd Street South
Cece Jule Godol
$4,590,000

Villa Tiziana A1-102
Marty/Debbi McDermott
$1,225,000

Vic Dalley Bay #906
Michael G. Lawler
$975,000

St. Charles #1501
Marty/Debbi McDermott
$2,000,000

Parkside #8
Richard/Sue Culp
$149,000

Pine Club #17
Marty/Debbi McDermott
$419,000

480 15th Street North
V.C. Methodo
$419,000

Naples Bay Resort - The Cottages #8-2104
Peter Chan/Baron Green
$2,400,000

Naples Bay Resort - The Cottages #8-2105
Peter Chan/Baron Green
$2,400,000

Sunny Bay #10
Heather Habrock
$190,000

Aqualane Shores / Royal Harbor

1910 9th Street South
Ruth Twiss
$6,500,000

1910 10th Street South
Marty/Debbi McDermott
$2,695,000

2331 South Pelican Bay
Nick Spencer/Gail Woch
$2,390,000

1047 Key West Island
Ruth McDermott
$795,000

Oyster Bay - Final Weeks #17
Kathy Morris
$455,000

Coquina Sands

1560 Golf Shore Blvd. North
Tom Goldsman
$1,950,000

1970 Crayton Road
Michael G. Lawler
$2,995,000

206 Yacca Road
Leslie Perry/Chad Perry
$1,099,500

Charlotte Square #302
Linda McBee
$1,910,000

1515 Murano Drive
Virginia Imranos
$975,500

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• Picturesque Lake & Golf Views
• Bundled Golf Community
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STUNNING DETAILS THROUGHOUT
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• 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 3-Baths
• Guest Cabana w/ 2 Br, 2-Ba
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6431 BIRCHWOOD COURT
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• Custom Designed Coach Home
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• Martinovich & Nulf 212005488
• Carolyn Rzaca 239.877.1006

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1205 SPYLASS LANE
• 4 Bedrooms, + Den, 4-Baths
• Dramatic Soaring Ceilings
• Gulf Access w/ Boat Dock and Lift
• Beautiful Open Heated Pool
• $6,390,000 MLS 212019138
• Lauren & Michael Taranto 239.572.0066

OPEN SUN 1 - 4:00
1707 NAPOLEON VILLAGE WAY, #101
• 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 3-Baths
• Maple Hardwood Floors & Custom Bookcase
• Custom Designed Coach Home
• Situated on a scenic Lake
• $475,000 MLS 212005488
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OPEN SUN 1 - 4:00
3000 BOKEelia Way
• 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 3-Baths
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BONITA BAY
• Fully Furnished & Golf Cart Included
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• Jo Ellen Nash 239.537.4785

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CUSTOM DESIGNED AND FURNISHED
• 2 Bedrooms, + Den, 4,5-Baths
• Guest Cabana w/ 2 Br, 2-Ba
• Beautifully Upscale & Bespoke
• Beautiful Pool & Fountains
• $7,400,000 MLS 212005117
• Michael & Lauren Taranto 239.572.0066

BONITA BAY
• Beautiful Curb Appeal w/Circular Drive
• Living/Dining Room w/Fireplaces
• Gourmet Open Kitchen
• $1,849,000 MLS 211521962
• The Luminis Team 239.288.3434

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• Beautiful Water Views
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• Martinovich & Nulf 212005488

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• 800 Bottle Wine Room Plus Movie Theater
• 3 Bedrooms, + Den, 3-Baths
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• Soaring Ceilings & Custom Architecture
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• Spectacular Heated Pool & Spa
• $1,399,000 MLS 212003638
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OLDE NAPLES
NEW PRICE

OPEN SUN 1 - 4:00
10250 HERITAGE BAY BLVD., #3616
• Exceptional 2 Bedrooms, + Den, 2-Baths
• Bundled Golf Community
• Exceptional Views
• Full Furnished & Golf Cart Included
• Gate Golf Course Community
• $254,900 MLS 211514696
• Jo Ellen Nash 239.537.4785

BONITA BAY
• Beautifully Upscale & Bespoke
• Beautiful Pool & Fountains
• $7,400,000 MLS 212005117
• Michael & Lauren Taranto 239.572.0066

PARK SHORE
NEW PRICE

• Absolutely Stunning Swimming Pool & Spa
• 800 Bottle Wine Room Plus Movie Theater
• 4+ Bedrooms, 4 ½ Bath Plus Office
• 6 + Bedrooms, 7 Full + 4 Half Baths
• Bundled Golf Community
• Expansive Wrap Around Lanai
• Soaring Ceilings & Custom Architecture
• Large Master Suite w/ Fireplace
• Spectacular Heated Pool & Spa
• $1,399,000 MLS 212003638
• Milton Collins 239.585.2139

OLDE NAPLES
NEW PRICE
Bonita Springs, Barefoot Beach. $1,299,000 3/2.5
SHF# 212013212 The Grant Group 239-948-4450

Naples, Pelican Bay. $1,000,000 2/2.5
SHF# 212017399 Wil Badard 239-263-3300

Bonita Springs, Bonita Bay. $1,781,250 Direct Gulf access 4BR/4.5BA Custom home on the river w/private dock/lift. Many upgrades. Lanai with pool/spa. SHF# 421204387 Debra Gladchun 239-262-7311

Naples, Pelican Marsh. $525,000 2/2.5
SHF# 212018151 Yochi Mesnick 239-262-7311

Bonita Springs, Spanish Wells. $489,000 3/2.5
SHF# 212019058 Boeckin Team 239-992-0059

Naples, Four Seasons. $995,000 5/6
SHF# 212017659 Glenn Bradley Group 239-262-7331

Estero, Wildcat Run. $639,000 3/3
SHF# 212016944 Carol Jones 239-262-7131

Naples, Quail Woods Estates. $869,000 4/3.5
SHF# 212017634 Moorefield Team 239-263-3300

Naples, Logan Woods. $599,000 3/3
SHF# 212019058 Parlante Group 239-263-3300

Naples, Coco Lakes. $599,000 4/4
SHF# 212019057 Saad Team 239-263-3300

Naples, Logan Woods. $599,000 3/3
SHF# 212019058 Parlante Group 239-263-3300

Open Sun 1-4 PM
18504 Royal Hammock Blvd

Bonita Springs, Spanish Wells. $489,000 3/2.5
SHF# 212019058 Boeckin Team 239-992-0059

Naples, Royal Palm Golf Estates. $429,000 4/3
SHF# 212016426 Kay Miller 239-262-7311

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Bonita Springs, Bonita Bay. $1,781,250 Direct Gulf access 4BR/4.5BA Custom home on the river w/private dock/lift. Many upgrades. Lanai with pool/spa. SHF# 421204387 Debra Gladchun 239-262-7311

Naples, Pelican Bay. $1,000,000 2/2.5
SHF# 212017399 Wil Badard 239-263-3300

Bonita Springs, Barefoot Beach. $1,299,000 3/2.5
SHF# 212013212 The Grant Group 239-948-4450
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Obtain the property report required by federal law and read it before signing anything. No federal agency has judged the merits or value, if any, of this property. Oral representations cannot be relied upon as correctly stating representations of the developer. For correct representations, make reference to this and the documents required by section 797.026, Florida statutes, to be furnished by a developer to a buyer or lessee. Prices subject to change without notice. Sotheby’s International Realty and the Sotheby’s International Realty logo are registered service marks used with permission. Each office is independently owned and operated. Equal Housing Opportunity.
Miromar Lakes Beach Club earns Gold Nugget merit award

Miromar Lakes Beach & Golf Club received high honors in the 49th annual Gold Nugget Awards, an international program recognizing exceptional concepts in design, planning and development in the building industry. Judges considered more than 400 entries from as far away as China and Bahrain.

The Miromar Lakes Beach Club earned the Gold Nugget Merit Award for “Best Use of Recreational Space.” In addition, Miromar Lakes was one of four finalists for the Grand Award. The winner will be announced during an awards ceremony at San Francisco’s Moscone Convention Center later this summer.

The Beach Club is the centerpiece of Miromar Lakes. The Beach Clubhouse offers dining indoors and out and has a private beachside dining room as well as wine rooms, a library, billiard room, card room, 50-seat theater and business center. The Blue Water Beach Grill, a 10,000-square-foot pool and a spa with full-service beauty salon complete the club.

Home prices at Miromar Lakes range from $600,000 to more than $5 million. For more information, contact the sales center 425-2340 or visit www.MiromarLakes.com.

FIRST NATIONAL PLAZA OFFICE CONDOMINIUM - 3401 TAMIAI TRAIL NORTH

Entire 2nd Floor. Medical or professional use, just over 5,000 rentable square feet available for an owner / user or an investor. Premier location fronting on the west side of US 41 at a 4-way traffic lighted intersection, just south of Park Shore Drive. Excellent parking and visibility. $1,295,000
your beach home awaits

Private and secluded beachfront home in Olde Naples with Gulf views everywhere you look. Magnificently designed with five bedrooms ensuite, library, theater room, formal dining room with built in temperature controlled wine coolers, glass elevator & shaft, custom glass hemmed balconies, and luxurious pool area with extensive water features. $11,400,00

beach & boating

Gulf Shore Boulevard, a sunny 3 bedroom, 3 bath residence, built in 2004. Private, onsite, deeded boat dock is included. Beach access is just across the street in City of Naples Lowdermilk Park. This comfortably elegant home is in gorgeous, move in condition. $1,295,000

perfect parkshore

WOW .... this updated 4 bedroom, 4 bath home is on a private and quiet, large interior lot. It has impact resistant glass and doors, a newly installed, large, paved pool area with bath access and a beautifully landscaped lot .... ready to move in. $649,000

secluded moorings

Come home to this ideally located 4 bedroom, 4 bath home with lots of terrific features. West of Crayton Road. Surrounded with mature trees and plantings, including the deeded City park and green space that is just across the street with 100+ year old oak trees. Terrific, open back yard with pool area, close to Moorings resident’s beach access and a new Publix. $1,095,000

tranquil & private

Serene 4/3 courtyard design in Pelican Marsh, quiet cul-de-sac, lake & golf course view. $799,000

panoramic vistas

3/2 in Bayfront, large open terrace, shopping & dining within property, walk to 5th Avenue. $599,000

vanderbilt beach

2/2 with Gulf views, turnkey furnished, steps to Vanderbilt Beach & Delnor-Wiggins State Park. $395,000
GOLF MEMBERSHIP INCLUDED!

FOR 2 DAYS ONLY!
June 23rd & 24th 2-4PM

$429,900

PRIVATE GOLF VIEW...overlooking the new Eagle golf course in TwinEagles. Home sits across from an open park. This immaculate 2-2-1/2 bath den, 2 car garage single family home is a must see! Granite kitchen countertops including sitdown desk, upgrade cabinets. Den easily converts to 3rd bedroom. GOLF MEMBERSHIP INCLUDED. TwinEagles is again host to the Ace Classic senior tournament played on the Nicklaus course. The new Eagle golf course will host LPGA Titleholders November, 2012.

JANET CARTER
(239) 821-8067
JanetRCarter@gmail.com

PAM MAHER
(239) 877-9521
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YOUR TWIN EAGLES SPECIALISTS!
We’re here for you. Worldwide.

On Gulf Shore Blvd. in Naples. Make this gulf-front luxury condominium your own with the $40,000 decorating allowance! Wonderful sunset views! 2BD+Den 2BA 1GA $639,000

Quiet Neighborhood in The Colony Golf & Bay Club, Bonita Springs. Expansive courtyard home with guest home is offered fully furnished. 4BD 4BA 2GA $1,250,000

At Horizons in Bonita Bay. Beautiful 21st floor unit overlooks the golf course, lakes, Estero Bay and the Gulf of Mexico from three large balconies. Luxuriously furnished. 2BD+Den 4BA 2GA $1,795,000

Sorrento Tower at The Colony Golf & Beach Club. Unique and spacious mezzanine level residence with southern exposure makes the unit light and bright. Extended patio. 3BD 3BA 1GA $529,000

Quail Creek Estate home with spectacular golf course view. Approx. 7000 total sq ft with 1BD 1BA guest home. 4BD 6BA 3GA $2,150,000 Call for an appointment.

Grand Reserve at Pelican Strand. Immaculate and bright first floor condo has southern exposure, spacious lanai with phenomenal lake and golf course views. 2BD 2BA 2GA $254,900

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Pelican Isle II #404: Waterfront, amazing views, furnished, 4/3.5Ba., end unit. $1,099,000 PENDING

Pelican Isle Boat Slips: Boaters dream 1200 yards from your slip to the Gulf of Mexico

Pelican Isle III #602: Waterfront! Marble floors, new decor, 2 lanais, 2677SF. $799,000 PENDING

Pelican Isle III #803: Expansive water views, turnkey furnished, 2428SF. $759,000

Pelican Isle II #303: Walk into breathtaking views, wood flrs, granite kit. furnished. $829,000

Pelican Isle II #302: 2677SF wood flrs, Gulf views, LaPlaya membership avail. $729,000

Pelican Isle II #403: Granite kit, wood/tile flrs, Gulf of Mexico views, 3/3 2677SF. $839,000

Pelican Isle II #302: Granite kit, wood/tile flrs, Gulf views, 3/3 2677SF. $839,000

Pelican Isle III #601: 3050SF, end unit, 2 lg. wrap around lanais, Views! $989,000

Pelican Isle III #401: 3050SF end unit, 2 lg. wrap around lanais, Views! $989,000

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Sunday,
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Thanks to these companies for their participation in WCI’s 2nd Annual Building the Fight Against Hunger.
On June 2, 2012, together we were able to exceed our goal and pack 305,280 meals for those in need in Collier, Charlotte, Glades, Hendry and Lee counties.

84 Lumber Co. LP
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Apex Global
Aragon Pools & Spas LLC
Bank of America
BB&B Construction SVS of Florida Inc.
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ISLAND WALK

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Florida Weekly’s Open Houses

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$800,000
10 • MOORINGS - CARRIAGE CLUB • 231 Gulf Shore Blvd. North #64 • $690,000 • PSIR • Patricia Bucalo • 239.248.0694

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13 • VILLAS ESCALANTE • 260 5th Street South • $1,000,000 • PSIR • Celine Julie Godof • 239.250.3360

$1,500,000
14 • BONITA BAY - ESPERIA & TA VIRA • 12312 Wisteria Drive • $1,550,000 • PSIR • Jean Tarkenton • 239.595.0544

$2,000,000
15 • PELICAN BAY - ST RAPHAEL • 7117 Pelican Bay Blvd. #209 • $2,095,000 • PSIR • Jean Tarkenton • 239.290.0494

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17 • PELICAN BAY - TIERRA MAR • 532 Tierra Mar Lane East • $3,000,000 • PSIR • Beth McNichols • 239.250.3360

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Over, Under, Sideways,” an exhibit of fine art photographs by celebrity and fashion photographer Jennifer Graylock, opens with a reception from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, June 28, at RAPT art&design, 291 Broad Ave. S. The evening will also include the auction of a chair from Ms. Graylock’s “Sit On My Face” collection, with proceeds benefitting Naples-based ABLE Academy.

The artist describes “Over, Under, Sideways” as a culmination of four years of travel and “experiences with Damien Hirst and the butterfly collection, Jeff Koons and his irreverent view of culture, Marina Abramović and her performance art... and backstage with Valentino, as he held up his show to Photographic exhibit goes ’Over, Under, Sideways’

BY NANCY STETSON
nstetson@floridaweekly.com

What makes a novel a bestseller? What makes millions of people buy one book and not another?

Writers, literary agents and publishers have grappled with these questions for decades, often mystified by the titles that succeed.

Even the most experienced in the industry can’t predict what will be a bestseller.

“If there were a formula, it would make my life easier,” says novelist Jennifer Graylock’s “Sit On My Face” collection, with proceeds benefitting Naples-based ABLE Academy.

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SANDY DAYS, SALTY NIGHTS

Every hero needs a lady in waiting

I listen to pop songs on the radio and here’s what I hear: a litany of pleas from young women begging for a man to save them. And I think, are we still doing this?

Sure, popular dating books like “Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus” tell us that every man wants to be a hero, and in order for him to play knight in shining armor, someone has to be cast as the damsel in distress (that’s us, ladies).

But what happens when those men drop the ball?

A few years back I took a photography class in New York. When the teacher assigned us night shots, I fretted about heading out alone in the city after dark. I e-mailed another student in the class, a guy I knew socially, and asked if we could work on the assignment together. I’m not one to play the damsel, but damn, I needed a knight.

“I’m pretty busy this week,” the guy wrote back. “Better not to rely on me for the night assignment.”

Better not to rely on him? Where was the hero I needed for the city’s mean streets? Unavailable, evidently.

I decided then that perhaps all this hero worship is misplaced. If men aren’t going to step up and save me, I thought, then I don’t need to be the type of woman who needs saving. So I learned to set my jaw and square my shoulders and stop asking for help.

Until this morning.

On my way to work I heard someone holler from across the street and looked up to see a man with frazzled hair and rumpled clothes waving in my direction.

“Hi,” he yelled. I looked around. Was he talking to me? I waved my fingers in a little hello. “Hi,” he said again, louder, waving his whole arm. “Aren’t you going to say hello?”

I picked up a vibe from him, a vibe most women know, that told me to watch out. Still on the far side of the street, the man yelled again. “I’m just trying to get you to say hello. Say hello to me.”

I held my breath and looked straight ahead. A man stepped out of his car on the sidewalk in front of me and our eyes met. He looked at the guy yelling across the street and turned back to me, and in the space of that second something about my face must have said help, because he waited for me at the corner.

“How you doing?” I turned and headed in his own direction.

It took me a moment to see what had happened for what it was: a chivalrous act. Just when I thought I was done needing to be rescued, a stranger swooped in to prove me wrong.

All it took was a moment of distress — and for me to play the damsel.

let’s get naked

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90 days after one treatment. Photo: Flor Mayoral, M.D.
Seven finalists in the 11th annual FGCU-Steinway Young Artists Competition will present a free recital beginning at 6 p.m. Wednesday, June 27, at IberiaBank on Marco Island. Greg Billings, president of the Steinway Piano Society, will emcee the evening.

Taking a seat at the piano bench will be:

■ Martin Smith, a sixth-grade student at Cypress Lake Elementary School in Fort Myers – A student of the piano for the past six years, Martin currently studies with Mingshan Kong and has been a winner in the FGCU-Steinway Young Artists Competition every year since 2008.

■ Amy Wu, a fifth grader at Pelican Marsh Elementary School – Also a student of Ms. Kong, Amy has been playing piano for five years. This was her first year in the FGCU-Steinway competition.

■ Christopher Myers, a Pine Ridge Middle School seventh grader – A winner of the 2011 Naples Music Club competition, Christopher has played piano for six years and studies with Elena Hall.

■ Elizabeth Berg, a home-schooled seventh grader – Elizabeth has been studying piano for seven years and is also a student of Ms. Kong. She is a previous winner in the FGCU-Steinway competition and the Naples Music Club competition.

■ Bennett Lanni, a freshman at Bar- ron Collier High School – Bennett has studied the piano for nine years and is a past winner of both the FGCU-Steinway competition and the Naples Music Club program.

■ Andre Chu, a sophomore at Naples High School – Andre studies with Ms. Hall, has been playing the piano for nine years and is a past winner of both the FGCU-Steinway and the Naples Music Club competitions.

■ Joseph Lang Jr., a senior at St. John Neumann High School – A student of Lan Lam, Joseph has been playing piano for nine years. He is a two-time recipient of the Mary Jane Schneider Outstanding Music Award, the overall winner in the FGCU-Steinway Piano Competition. He has also won awards from the Naples Music Club.

The Steinway Piano Society is dedicated to the advancement of young pianists and conducts numerous scholarship competitions.

IberiaBank on Marco Island is at 605 Bald Eagle Drive. Although attendance is free for this “In the Round” presentation, seating is limited and reservations are required. Call Keith Dameron at 403-5169 or e-mail keith.dameron@iberiabank.com.

For more information about the Steinway Piano Society, visit www.steinwaypianogallery.net/steinway-piano-society.
HI LIT

Page from p:
and writing professor James W. Hall. But the two books he might wish for its existence, a formula for Instant Bestseller (mix A and B with two-third of X) simply doesn’t exist.

Though Dr. Hall’s mysteries have yet to hit the New York Times Bestseller List, they’ve made lists in South Florida, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco and in Europe. They’ve also won Edgar and Shamus awards.

"Pretend this is equal..."

More than 20 years ago, Dr. Hall happened upon a New York Times list of bestsellers year-by-year. He was so intrigued by it that he became inspired to teach a class at Florida International University called Bestselling Fiction. The idea was to have students examine bestsellers with the same academic vigor with which they studied Henry James or Virginia Woolf.

"There's stuff to be learned in these books, if you get over that initial hurdle: Oooh, this is like drinking Thunderbird wine. The prose is rough on the palate and doesn't go down smoothly."

After all, what could "The Godfather" or "The Firm" possibly have in common with "Gone With the Wind"?

After a lot of resistance at first, he says, he randomly picked up a book and "pretend that this is equal to Faulkner" says, he was able to get his students to appreciate these books, he explains. "I think there's some kind of qualitative difference, some other thing that works in these books that put them in the stratosphere," he says. "What I was trying to understand was, is there something that large numbers of readers are consistently drawn to, and if so, what does that tell us about the culture at large? Why do readers love these books?"

Cracking the code

Over the years, Dr. Hall has taught about a dozen sessions of Bestselling Fiction at FIU.

Earlier this year, he released "Hit Lit: Cracking the Code of The Twentieth Century's Biggest Bestsellers" (Silhouette Random House), in which he looks at a dozen of the biggest bestselling novels from 1936 to 2003.

The list, of course, includes works by Stephen King, John Grisham and Tom Clancy, authors who consistently appear on the New York Times Bestseller List.

The books he discusses in "Hit Lit" are what he calls "a unique sampling of bestsellers, the biggest of the big." They are:

- "Gone With the Wind"
- "Peyton Place"
- "To Kill a Mockingbird"
- "Valley of the Dolls"
- "The Godfather"
- "The Exorcist"
- "Jaws"
- "The Dead Zone"
- "The Hunt for Red October"
- "The Firm"
- "The Bridges of Madison County"

Characters who are "rebels, loners and maestros."

And of course, sex, sex and more sex. That bestsellers include a healthy dose of sex scenes didn't surprise him, especially in books such as "Peyton Place" and "Valley of the Dolls." (With his typical humor, he calls Jacqueline Susann's "Valley of the Dolls" an "early incarnation of 'Sex and the City,'" and says it "follows in the tradition of Har- old Robbins, whose 'Carpetbaggers' was once described by a reviewer as a 'collection of monotonous episodes about normal and abnormal sex.')"

"I was surprised to see that each of these books had not just a sexual incident, but one that was pivotal," he says. "That without it, none of the events would've occurred."

For example, he adds, "Jaws" starts with a couple having sex on a beach. The woman then goes for a swim, and the shark, attracted by her scent, attacks her.

Though Dr. Hall only writes about a dozen traits the mega-bestsellers share, he says and his students found "an abundance" of commonalities among the books. One not included in "Hit Lit" is the concept of a sacrificial lamb, a character that has to die in order for the book to work.

"I was surprised by the whole process, that you could actually say interesting and thoughtful things and discover about culture by reading books that were liter- ally not up to snuff," he says. "I didn't try to make an argument that these books are literarily valuable... There is nothing in the prose or the depth of the character that would set these books on the high cultural consideration. They wouldn't be on bestseller lists for academic time to study in a classroom."

"But we found... using the critical language they had developed in reading Faulkner, Hemingway, Edith Wharton... that there was stuff in these books that was interesting to talk about in class."

There is no formula

Dr. Hall was studying bestsellers for personal reasons too.

"I'm a P.H.D. in lit, and I'm supposed to revere a certain set of books," he says. "And yet I'm writing these thrillers that are frequently looked down upon by people in the academic life. I was trying to heal the split."

But, like the novels of authors such as Benjamin Black and James Lee Burke, his books are more literary than the average thriller.

"Increasingly, a lot of these books are getting a lot more literary respect," he says.

He acknowledges that plenty of best-sellers aren't literary, but the techniques he discusses in his book and that the converse is true as well: Plenty of novels are non-literate yet never reach bestseller status.

People who read "Hit Lit" looking for a formula that a writer with a couple having sex on a beach could write a book to try to cash in on it. "That's not the way anybody should be writing books," he says.

Dr. Hall was studying bestsellers for personal reasons too. He doubts Margaret Mitchell, Harper Lee and ANY of the other authors he writes about were consciously aware of the common characteristics their books shared, save for one: They were trying to write the best book they could.

"They were trying to find a thematic issue that was relevant to the time, a hot-button issue of the day. I'm certain that was true. All of them were writing as weather-vanes of their particular moment. They picked up the vibrations of their time and expressed them, encapsulated them, and worked them out in an interesting way."

Hooked on reading by a dead nude woman

BY NANCY STETSON

Author James W. Hall begins "Hit Lit" by recollecting how he transformed from a non-reader into a reader.

"My love affair with books began as most serious romances do, when I was least expecting to fall in love," he writes. When he was 10 or 11, his mother dropped him off at the local library while she ran some errands. He was horrified, scared one of his friends would see him there.

But when he randomly picked up a book and feigned interest in order to look “legitimate” to the librarians, the word “nude" jumped out at him from the first page, captivating him as it would any boy.

He read on and discovered it was a nude woman — a dead nude woman. He’d picked up a mystery book. He kept reading. He was hooked.

That boy grew up to be not only a voracious reader, but a writer of thrillers, creating plenty of fictional dead bodies himself.

To this day, Dr. Hall doesn't know what the book was. It was only when he had to write a guarantee resolution as a writer that he even remembered the incident.

"It was British," he says. "It may have been a kind of Agatha Christie-era book... it depicted this fascination in my memory bank."

"It was a watershed moment in my life."
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Theater

■ Rodgers & Hammerstein’s Cinderella – At the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre, Fort Myers, through June 23. 278-4422 or www.broadwaypalm.com.

■ Click, Clack, Moo – By The Naples Players in the Toby Studio at the Sugden Community Theater through June 24, 263-7990 or www.naplesplayers.org.

■ The Norris Center, 755 Eighth Ave. S. (239) 434.7115.

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Saturday, June 23

■ Grill Skills – Clive Daniel Home presents a complimentary barbecue tasting with tips from Chef Eric of SMH Catering from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Bring a donation of canned food for St. Matthew’s House. 2777 Tamiami Trail N. 261-4663 or info@clivedaniel.com.

■ Dixieland Jazz – Enjoy a celebration of Dixieland jazz from 1-3 p.m. at The Norris Center, 755 Eighth Ave. S. 213-3049.

■ Zumba Fundraiser – Meet Miss Southwest Florida 2012 and take part in a high-energy Zumba workout with proceeds benefitting the Miss Southwest Florida Scholarship Pageant. Registration begins at 3 p.m. and the class starts at 3:30 p.m. at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church on Marco Island. $20 per person. kimou@comcast.net.

■ It Takes Two – Learn the basics in a beginner tango class with Pablo Repun from 7:30-8 p.m. and then practice other dances during the milonga from around 8:30 p.m. $15 per person. 1673 Pine Ridge Road, 738-4184 or 785-8899.

Sunday, June 24

■ All-American Music – The Gulf Coast Symphony presents its “Happy Birthday, America!” youth concert” at 2 p.m. at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Center, Fort Myers. Beginning at 1 p.m. in the lobby, there will be an instrument “petting zoo” and birthday party with cake and favors to celebrate the U.S.A. 488-4849.

Monday, June 25

■ Movie Night – The Center for the Arts of Bonita Springs presents a screening and discussion of “Before Sunset” beginning at 7 p.m. at the Promenade at Bonita Bay, 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

Tuesday, June 26

■ Cinema Under the Stars – Gulf Coast Town Center presents a free screening of “Yogi Bear” beginning around 8:30 p.m. on the Market Plaza Lawn. 267-0783 or www.gulfcoasttowncenter.com.

Wednesday, June 27

■ Love That Dress! – Laser Lounge Spa hosts a dress collection party as a prelude to PACE Center for Girls-Collier at Immokalee’s “Love That Dress” event coming up in August. The spa plans a sushi and sake party from 6-9 p.m. Bring a gently used dress or fashion accessory for donation. 20400 Trailside Drive, Estero. 676-7956.

Art Opening – Sweet Art Gallery hosts an opening reception for the next show in its “Sizzling Hot Summer” series.

Coming up

■ Model Home Tours – Designer Kelly Bridwell of Clive Daniel Home leads tours of the Victoria model by Lenmar Homes in Tresivo Bay at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. June 28. Free. Reservations: 261-4663 or info@clivedanielhome.com.

■ Food & Wine Fun – Decanted Wine & Beer hosts a wine and food pairing to benefit the Ricky King Children’s Fund from 6-9 p.m. June 30. RKCF provides disabled children with medical equipment and services that are not covered by Medicaid or insurance. $25 per person, 1410 Pine Ridge Road. 980-5766. www.decantedwines.com.

■ Art Opening – Sweet Art Gallery hosts an opening reception for the next show in its “Sizzling Hot Summer” series.
WHAT TO DO

series from 6-8 p.m. June 29. The show features new works by expressionist artists Alberto Cruz and Stuart Glazer. Free. 2054 Trade Center Way. 597-2110 or thesweetartgallery.com.

Live Music – The Little River Band, Brian Howe and PUSH perform June 29 at Ballyhooey Irish Pub, 1885 S. Tamiami Trail. Gates open at 6 p.m. and music starts at 7 p.m. 628-1444.

Love That Dress! – Noodles Italian Cafe and Sushi Bar hosts a dress collection party as a prelude to PACE Center for Gulf-Collider at Immokalee’s “Love That Dress” event coming up in August. Bring a dress or fashions accessory for donation and enjoy mingling and dancing from 6-9 p.m. 676-9756.

Art & Fun – The Center for the Arts of Bonita Springs hosts Alla Prima, Alla Fun, “Hearts,” from 5:30-8:30 p.m. July 5 at 2600 Old 41 Rd. Enjoy pizza and wine while learning to paint under the direction of Patsy Kane. $42. 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org.

NIFF Movie Night – The Naples International Film Festival hosts a screening of “Memento” beginning at 7 p.m. July 10 at Silverspot Cinema in Mercato. $25 per person includes a glass of wine, beer or soda, savory bites and sweet treats. 775-4546 or www.naplesspectafilmfest.com.

Be a Kid Again – The monthly grown ups-only evening at the Golisano Children’s Museum of Naples takes place from 5-8:30 p.m. July 12. Enjoy food, drink and “big kid” fun for $15 for C’mon members, $25 for others. 514-0084 or www.cmon.org.

SummerJazz – The Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club continues its “SummerJazz on the Gulf” series with Late Night Brass (July 21), New Groove City (Aug. 25) and Eight to the Bar (Sept. 21). The free concerts are from 7-10 p.m. on Watkins Lawn. 261-2222 or www.naplesbeachhotel.com.

Ongoing Events

Ship to Shore – “Ship to Shore Featuring the Titanic” runs through June 30 at the Patty and Jay Baker Naples Museum of Art. The exhibition includes paintings, drawings, prints, photographs and more, including a 10-foot-long model of the Titanic constructed of 75,000 toothpicks. 597-1900 or www.thenaplesmuseum.org.

Holocaust Museum – The Holocaust Museum and Education Center of Southwest Florida presents “American Cartoonists, Nazi Germany and the Holocaust” through July 31. The exhibit highlights how American artists used comic book superheroes to inspire patriotism and boost the country’s morale during World War II. 4760 Tamiami Trail N. 263-9200 or www.holocaustmuseum-swfl.org.

Submit calendar listings and high-resolution photos to events@floridaweekly.com. E-mail text, jpeg or Word documents are accepted. No pdfs or photos of flyers. The deadline for calendar submissions is noon Sunday.
I resisted at first. I'd been suckered in by TV shows before, only to wind up disappointed. A premise would seem promising, but the characters would be clichéd, the dialogue would ring false or the plot would be too simple or too ridiculous.

I'd fallen in love before and been jilted, left flat. Sometimes a show wouldn't even finish out a season, or the network would shuffle it around like a con man moving it by sleight of hand, so you were never really sure where you'd find it.

So, yes, I resisted at first. I was wary. I didn't want to invest my time, only to be sorry.

But friends who'd started watching "Awake" raved about it, saying it wasn't like anything else they'd seen; they couldn't wait for each week's episode.

I have to admit, the premise intrigued me: A detective is in a car accident with his wife and son. Afterward, however, he seems to be living in two alternate realities. In one life, his wife is alive and their son has died. But then, the detective goes to sleep at night and when he wakes up, the reverse is true: His wife has died and his son is alive.

I began watching, catching up on past episodes on Hulu.com.

And once I did, just like my friends, I was anxiously waiting to see what unfolded next.

Was one of the detective's realities real and the other a dream? Were they both a dream? Was he dead? Dying? In a coma and the other a dream? Were they both a dream? Was he dead? Dying? In a coma and the other a dream? Was someone somehow manipulating his sense of reality?

The irresistible premise

The introductory sequence that played every week showed the crash, and then Detective Britten (Jason Issacs) visiting a psychiatrist in each reality.

Detective Britten answers.

"And this has been happening since the accident?" the other therapist, in the other reality, asks.

First therapist: "You can't tell whether you're awake or asleep at this very moment?"

Second therapist: "Well, I can assure you, Detective Britten, this is not a dream."

"That's exactly what the other shrinks said," he replies.

And basically, he finds it impossible to choose one reality over the other — and who could? — because he doesn't want to let go of either his wife or his son.

Thirteen solid episodes

One reality has warm, red tones, while the other is imbued with cooler, green tones. Sometimes, the realities bleed into each other, and he discovers a clue to a case he's working on in the alternate reality. Sometimes reality is somewhat surrealistic, just like a dream.

"Awake" also has an isolating portrayal of the grieving process, how the loss of someone we love affects us, and how others react to us as we grieve.

The two therapists are played by Cherry Jones and BD Wong.

Known for her work on Broadway, Ms. Jones has received Tony Awards for her roles in "The Heiress" and "Doubt." She's appeared in movies and on TV shows, winning an Emmy for her role as President Taylor in "24."

Mr. Wong won a Tony Award for his work on Broadway in "M. Butterfly," playing opposite John Lithgow. He's appeared in numerous movies and is also known for his television roles in "Oz" and "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit."

Mr. Issacs, the lead, also has a history of performing on stage, in movies and on TV. His recent TV role was the evil, criminal brother in "Brotherhood," and some might recognize him as the villain Lucius Malfoy in the Harry Potter films. "Awake" has quality acting and quality writing.

Not your typical TV network fare.

So, of course, NBC cancelled it in May, after 13 episodes.

Appropriately, I'm not the only one who feels heartbroken.

Fans have taken to the Internet, making comments such as:

"Please, please, please don't cancel this thought-provoking show."

"One of the most intelligent and interesting shows ever."

"This is one of the best-written shows ever on television."

They complain that NBC did little to promote the show and didn't give it a chance.

They question whether the network also tracked viewers who watched the show on Hulu (as I did)."Awake" has quality acting and quality writing.

Fans were split about the last episode of "Awake."

"Some felt that the writer had taken the easy way out and concluded with an episode where Detective Britten wakes up and it was all a dream — his wife and son are very much alive. But according to interviews Mr. Killen gave after the last show ran, those viewers were misreading the plot. In fact, Mr. Killen says, Det. Britten has created a third reality, and in the second season of "Awake," they were planning on examining how the character could deal with three separate realities and what problems that might cause."

It's a shame that when a network finally gets it right, offering something with quality and complexity, they often a) fail to promote it; b) fail to stand behind it; and c) cancel it prematurely.

I don't know about you, but I'm tired of predictable, formulaic TV shows. I like something that keeps me guessing, that makes me think, that gives me something new. Something, in other words, that keeps me tuning in each week.

If you were a fan of "Awake," I urge you to sign a petition and write to the network.

Spoiler alert

Fans were split at the end of the last episode of "Awake."

"Some felt that the writer had taken the easy way out and concluded with an episode where Detective Britten wakes up and it was all a dream — his wife and son are very much alive. But according to interviews Mr. Killen gave after the last show ran, those viewers were misreading the plot. In fact, Mr. Killen says, Det. Britten has created a third reality, and in the second season of "Awake," they were planning on examining how the character could deal with three separate realities and what problems that might cause."
NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY | WEEK OF JUNE 21-27, 2012 | C9

Naples Art Association invites applications for 2012-13 festivals

Artists can apply now to participate in any of five annual festivals hosted by the Naples Art Association. Such festivals are the primary funding source for education programs at The von Liebig Art Center. For its 2012-13 art fairs, the association reduced the entry fee to $25.

■ Nov. 24-25: The ninth annual Naples Fall Fine Art and Craft Festival – This downtown Thanksgiving weekend festival draws about 110 artists and more than 4,000 area residents and guests. Deadline to apply: Sept. 5

■ Jan. 5-6, 2013: The 17th annual Downtown Naples New Year’s Art Fair – This event is distinguished by its Fifth Avenue South location and a set-up that gives every artist gets a corner booth. Deadline to apply: Oct. 3

■ Feb. 23-24, 2013: The 34th annual Naples National Art Festival – This show awards $5,000 in prizes. It takes place in Cambier Park and along Eighth Street South. Deadline to apply: Nov. 7

■ March 2-3, 2013: The fourth annual Mercato Fine Arts Festival – The NAA’s newest festival showcases works in all media by 110 artists from across the country. Deadline to apply: Dec. 3


Applications for the five festivals are available by visiting www.juriedartservices.com. For more information, call Marianne Megela at 262-6517, ext. 103, or e-mail marianne.megela@naplesart.org.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

BROADWAY PALM PRESENTS

Rodgers and Hammerstein’s timeless fairy tale is filled with magical characters, irresistible romance and unforgettable songs. Wicked Stepmothers, a Fairy Godmother, a pumpkin and a prince bring this story to life.

UP NEXT! June 20 – Aug 18
Gracie is the word as we travel back to Skydell High in the ‘50s. The hit songs include Summer Nights, We Go Together, I’m Sandra Dee, Greased Lightnin’, Born to Hand Jive and Beauty School Dropout. $18 – $51. Kids 18 and under just $18.

UP NEXT IN THE OFF BROADWAY PALM
A hysterical sequel to last summer’s hit comedy Run For Your Wife. Two-time taxi cab driver John Smith keeps two separate lives, complete with two separate families. His teenage children, a girl from one family and a boy from the other, get acquainted online and decide to meet in person. $20 – $47

PUSS IN BOOTS
A musical version of Charles Perrault’s tale of a sly cat who wins his master the lordship of a manor and the hand of a beautiful princess. All ages $15 for lunch and show!
FLORIDA WEEKLY PUZZLES

FOREIGN FILMS

HOROSCOPES

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You might feel somewhat “crabby,” as you fuss over plans that don’t seem to work out. Maybe you're trying too hard. Ease up and let things happen without forcing them.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Heed that keen Leonine instinct. It’s trying to tell you to delay making a decision until you’re sure there are no hidden problems that could cause trouble later on.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) This is a good time to reach out to those who might be nursing hurt feelings over recent events. Best advice: Ignore any pettiness that could delay the healing process.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your understanding helps a colleague get through a difficult period. Although you didn't do it for a reward, be assured that your actions will be repaid down the line.

SCORPIUS (November 22 to December 21) Your goal lies straight ahead. Stay focused on it and avoid distractions that could throw off your aim and cause potentially detrimental delays.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) You score some high marks in the workplace, which will count in your favor when you face the possibility of changing direction on your current career path.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Keep that burst of exuberance in check and resist pushing through your new project before it’s ready. In your personal life, a family member again needs help.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Paying attention to your work is important this week. But so are your relationships with those special people in your life. Make time for them as well.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Good news. Someone is about to repay a long-standing debt. But be warned. That same someone could try to charm you into lending it back unless you say no and mean it.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Be prepared to face some challenges stirred up by an envious colleague. Your best defense is the Arian’s innate honesty. Stick with the truth, and you’ll come out ahead.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your sensitivity to the needs of others is admirable. But be careful to avoid those who would take unfair advantage of your good nature, especially where money is involved.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Having an optimistic attitude is fine, as far as it goes. But don’t be lulled into a false sense of confidence. There are still problems to deal with before you can totally relax.

BORN THIS WEEK: You are sensitive to matters that involve your home and family. You would make a fine family-court judge or social worker.

By Linda Thistle

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SEE ANSWERS, C9

SEE ANSWERS, C9
Is it worth $10? Yes

“Rock Of Ages” is like watching a movie star cover band reimagine your favorite ‘80s rock music. Is it fun? Sure!

Is it worth a night out? Yes, if your enjoyment can be derived solely from music. But if you want a decent story, good pacing, above-par acting, etc., look elsewhere.

Given that the only thing “Rock of Ages” is looking to do is entertain with classic rock, it warrants a moderate recommendation. After all, a movie can only be as good as its story is trying to be.

Based on the hit Broadway musical of the same name, the film follows small-town girl Sherrie (Julianne Hough) on her 1987 adventure to L.A. Of course, upon her arrival in the City of Angels, she promptly gets robbed. No matter: New friend Drew (Diego Boneta) gets her a job at the famous Bourbon Room, where rock star Stacee Jaxx (Tom Cruise) is scheduled to appear at the end of the week. This is important because Patricia (Catherine Zeta-Jones), the new mayor’s (Bryan Cranston) wife, is trying to shut down the club and return decency to the Sunset Strip.

Too bad Stacee is unreliable and his manager (Paul Giamatti) is a scumbag. Bourbon Room owner Dennis (Alec Baldwin) and his assistant Lonny (Russo Brand) clearly need all the help they can get, so it’s a good thing Sherrie and Drew are natural music talents.

The story plays out in predictable ways, and to be honest, it’s pretty lame. At 123 minutes, it’s also too long, especially because some songs feel forced in there. But therein lies the problem of jukebox musicals: When every song is a musical number, it’s hard to tell where the storyline ends and the music begins. But, oh, the music. How it takes me back to my youth. Hair bands. Spandex. Perms. It was all so ridiculous. And so awesome.

Some of director Adam Shankman’s (“Hairspray”) music sequences fall flat, but Cruise provides inspired editions of Bon Jovi’s “wanted Dead Or Alive” and Def Leppard’s “Pour Some Sugar On Me.” Boneta (who lacks screen presence) shows off a nice voice with Twisted Sister’s “I Wanna Rock,” and Baldwin and Constantine Maroulis (“American Idol” finalist) sing well with Foreigner’s “Waitin’ For A Girl Like You” and others.

So yes, this child of the ’80s was thrilled to see some of his favorite classic rock ballads on the big screen. But you know how I knew the music in “Rock of Ages” was good beyond that? My father knew how I knew the music in “Rock of Ages” was good beyond that? My father knew.

Some of director Adam Shankman’s (“Hairspray”) music sequences fall flat, but Cruise provides inspired editions of Bon Jovi’s “Wanted Dead Or Alive” and Def Leppard’s “Pour Some Sugar On Me.” Boneta (who lacks screen presence) shows off a nice voice with Twisted Sister’s “I Wanna Rock,” and Baldwin and Constantine Maroulis (“American Idol” finalist) sing well with Foreigner’s “Waitin’ For A Girl Like You” and others.

In the know

>> American Idol! Finalist Constantine Maroulis earned a Tony nomination when he originated the role of Drew Boley in “Rock of Ages” on Broadway.

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In the know

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FLORIDA WRITERS

Staten Island comes alive in tough-guy thriller tradition

“Madman’s Thirst” by Lawrence De Maria. St. Austin’s Press. $4.99 e-book.

“Madman’s Thirst” is the second “Jake Scarnes” novel, following “Sound of Blood.” The author has also launched a second series with “Captari’s Blood” featuring Alton Rhode. While the first Scarnes novel is available as a trade paperback, the other two thrillers by Mr. De Maria are so far offered only in e-book format. Regarding trends in book publication, the future is now.

Who would want a sweet high-school beauty like Elizabeth Pearsall murdered? The two contract killers who tail her home from school couldn’t care less. It’s a payday. They plan to make the murder look like a botched robbery, but one member of the team, Lucas Gallo, gets carried away and rapes her. His partner in the caper, a cancer-ridden old pro named Banaszak, is disgusted. In the world of Jake Scarnes, any lowlife can have a bit of conscience. Banaszak kills Gallo and manages things so that there is no corpse to discover.

What's likely is that Elizabeth's father, the prize-winning newspaper editor of the Richmond Register (Staten Island, N.Y.), is being sent a message. He leaves town in a hurry. What has he been poking into? Well, someone with a shoddy reputation, a former plastic surgeon named Nathan Bimm, has been adding to his real estate investments, buying up land on opposite ends of Staten Island. There's some talk of a NASCAR racetrack on one of the sites. Influence peddling is rampant. A major crime family is involved, perhaps even the borough president. Two of Robert Pearsall's best reporters have been digging into Bimm's activities. Now Pearsall's daughter is raped and slaughtered. The botched robbery ploy doesn't hold up for long.

A guy named Dudley Mack, an Irish gangster and funeral parlor tycoon, has a moral code of sorts. When he hears about a mysterious confession to a priest, perhaps by Banaszak, Mack gets his old buddy, private detective Jake Scarnes, involved.

From here on in, readers can enjoy Jake's mix of cerebral and bull-head-
ed detection. Strange thing, though: Every lead he gets leads to someone who's just been killed. Who's snuffing out everyone who knows about what lies behind the crime before Jake can extract new information? And just what does lie behind the race to buy up all that real estate?

Interesting characters abound. There's gorgeous and brainy Emerald "Emma" Shields, rising star in the Shields family's media empire. Jake is strongly attracted to Emma, but she seems interested in a Donald Trump wannabe named Aristotle Arachne. What's going on? Arachne is clearly among those involved in whatever Dr. Bimm has been up to.

Then there's Jake's secretary, Evelyn Warr, a great sounding board for the private eye and capable in every way. She's also Beldon Popp, managing editor at the Richmond Register, whom Jake thinks is spending way too much time in the company of the rich and famous.

The real hero of this book, however, may well be Staten Island itself. Mr. De Maria does nothing better than evoke the feel of this forlorn piece of New York City. He lovingly paints its neighborhoods, restaurants and saloons; its government buildings; its poorly maintained streets and facades; its history, sounds and smells.

Mostly, he concocts a moral stew in which the good guys and bad guys are all mixed up. This is a place where you can be assaulted by a cop and helped out by a crime boss. It's an ambiguity with a history: "In Italian families of a certain generation, there was a thin line that separated the career paths of cops and robbers." Many people are able to cross back and forth over this line. They are moral magicians: saints one moment, sinners the next.

The book is not without its problems. When Emma asks for a slice of "flowerless" chocolate cake (one of many such gaffes), the reader knows that the author overpaid his proofreader. In spite of its lapses, however, suspense, gritty scenes, clever banter, the visceral rendering of Staten Island and a dogged private eye combine to make "Madman's Thirst" and Jake Scarnes a strong contribution to the tough-guy tradition.
The Naples Players present “All Shook Up,” a rocking musical inspired by the music of Elvis Presley with an all new story by Joe DiPietro, June 29-July 29 at the Sugden Community Theatre.

Based on Shakespeare’s “Twelfth Night” and set in 1955, “All Shook Up” is a story about the magic of romance and the power of rock ’n’ roll in small-town middle America. Chris Valente and Alana Neuman perform the lead roles and are supported by a large ensemble cast from The Naples Players and its KidzAct troupe of young performers. Dallas Dunnagan directs. Charles Fornara is the musical director and Dawn Lebrecht Fornara is the choreographer.

Show times are 8 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are $35 for adults and $10 for children 18 and under. A dinner-and-show ticket is $55. Call the box office at 263.7990 or visit www.naplesplayers.org.
Comedy duo is back with dinner show

“FleaBitten,” the newest dinner-show production by the comedy duo of Compton & Bennett, premiers Thursday, June 21, at Mongello’s restaurant on the East Trail. Rick Compton and Betsy Bennett created and star in the show that they describe as a romp through “a retail experience that’s more garage sale than Macy’s, with staffers who are more carnies than fashion consultants, and where the wine doesn’t breathe... it gasps.”

Among the 15 colorful characters performed by the two creators are Cap’n Baldrick, who financed his flea market stall called “Golden Bud’s” with, well, golden buds; Good Time Charlie, a down-on-his-luck blues guy; and hairdresser/wigmaker Earline, who promises that all her wigs are locally grown.

In true flea market style, tickets originally $199 are marked down to $24.99. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 793-2644.

Register to win each time you participate. *One winner will be selected on June 26 and one on June 28. No purchase necessary.

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American symbols: From Indian Queen to Uncle Sam

Many figures have been used through the years to represent America. The earliest was the Indian Queen, who was the European symbol for North America from about 1570 to 1776. The attractive American Indian woman was represented in figurines and textiles. In 1776 her looks changed to a younger Indian Queen, who remained popular until about 1815.

There was also Miss Liberty, a woman who wore the French cap that represented liberty, and Miss Columbia, similar to Miss Liberty but wearing a tiara and standing near a flag and eagle. They are both seen in paintings as early as the 1770s, but Miss Liberty soon lost favor.

Columbia remained a symbol into the 1860s, when she lost out to Uncle Sam. He was invented in 1812 and is the most important and enduring representative of the United States. Legend says that during the War of 1812, Samuel Wilson, a meatpacker, stamped meat packages for soldiers with the letters “U.S.” for United States. Folks joked that the meat came from “Uncle Sam,” and soon the tall, thin man with white hair and beard, top hat and striped pants was created. He is still a favorite.

The show is archived for your listening convenience.

www.bobharden.com

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KOVELS: ANTIQUES

Q: My mother has a Little Red Riding Hood mechanical bank. It has Grandma in bed and Little Red Riding Hood sitting on the bed. If you pull the lever, Grandma’s head comes up and reveals the Big Bad Wolf’s face underneath. It you put a penny in, Red Riding Hood’s head tilts back as if she is startled. The bank is marked “Red Riding Hood” on the side just below her skirt. On the bottom, below Grandma’s head, are the words “Bits and Pieces.” The paint and condition are excellent. We would like to know if it’s a reproduction or an antique and what its value is.

A: The antique Little Red Riding Hood mechanical bank does not have a maker’s mark but is thought to have been made by W.S. Reed Toy Co., which was founded by William Reed in Leominster, Mass., in 1876. The company was known for its wooden toys. Reed made three different mechanical banks in the 1880s: Old Lady in the Shoe (patented in 1883), Girl in Victorian Chair and Little Red Riding Hood. The Little Red Riding Hood bank came in three variations, with a blue, green or yellow bedspread. The company became Whitney-Reed Co. in 1898. Your bank is marked “Bits and Pieces,” the name of a company in Lawrenceburg, Ind., that sells reproduction mechanical banks, puzzles and other gift items. The original banks sell for more than $80,000. Bits and Pieces sells reproduction banks for about $25 to $35, but the Red Riding Hood bank is no longer listed on the company’s website.

Q: My antique clothes iron has a little
The Uncle Sam image not only represented the United States but was also used to endorse products. This 100-year-old lithographed sign praised the Jackson razor that was used to shave Uncle Sam’s beard. William Morford Auctions in Cazenovia, N.Y., sold this sign for $1,925 last fall.

— Terry Kovel answers as many questions as possible through the column. By sending a letter with a question, you give full permission for use in the column or any other Kovel forum. Names, addresses or email addresses will not be published. We cannot guarantee the return of any photograph, but if a stamped envelope is included, we will try. Write to Kovels, Florida Weekly, King Features Syndicate, 300 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019.
Good timing is extremely important in the play of many hands. When declarer has several different things to do, the order in which he does them frequently makes the difference between success and failure.

Consider this deal where West leads a club against four spades. How should South proceed? Let’s say he starts by winning the club with the king and returns a trump. East takes the ace and plays another club. South must now go down one, losing a trick in each suit, since the diamond and heart finesses both lose when they are attempted.

The outcome is surely unlucky, but it can be traced to a wrong choice of plays. Declarer should not stake his chances on either of the red-suit finesses working when there is a more promising approach available.

When dummy comes down, he should realize that there is more urgent business to attend to than tackling trumps at once. An early trump lead gives the defense time to establish a club trick. Instead, declarer should win the club lead with the king and play the A-10 of hearts, deliberately rejecting the heart finesse in order to establish an immediate heart trick in dummy.

If South plays in this fashion, he winds up losing only a spade, a heart and a diamond, and so makes the contract. West can take his king of hearts and return a club, but South wins with dummy’s ace and discards his remaining club on the queen of hearts.

By attacking hearts first, South wins the crucial race against time. He develops a heart trick before the defense can develop a club trick. If declarer leads the wrong suit at trick two, he loses a vital tempo and goes down one.
Young voices invited to try out for chorale

Young people between the ages of 7 and 17 who love to sing are invited to audition for the Philharmonic Youth Chorale’s 2012-13 season on Saturday, Sept. 8. The chorale performs with the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra.

Candidates should prepare a song of their choosing which they believe showcases their vocal talents. Selections should be no longer than two minutes. A copy of the song should be provided for the piano accompanist. All auditions must be with piano accompaniment, not to record-ed music or a cappella. Applicants will be asked to match pitch and, depending on their musical background, may be asked to sight-read.

Under the direction of James Cochran, the Youth Chorale rehearses weekly on Saturday mornings with breaks that coincide with public school vacation schedules. Annual tuition is $125, and the one-time music fee is $25. Some scholarship assistance is available.

Auditions will be held in the administration building at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. For more information or to schedule an audition, call 254-2642 or e-mail jlawfer@thephil.org.

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walk me through his couture collection, explaining each bead and why he chose that color, that pattern."

Ms. Graylock says her quirky view of the world has been inspired by Man Ray’s innovative approach to bringing life to inanimate objects, combined with Cecil Beaton’s hauntingly beautiful usage of lighting with a touch of film noir, Richard Avedon’s freezing movement, Jean Cocteau’s unusual and eerie juxtaposition of the surreal and Andy Warhol’s use of color and breaking all the rules. She hopes her fine art photographs provoke wonder and curiosity and give the viewer a (sometimes altered) glimpse of ideas and vignettes from her life inspired by the cultural events and artists with whom she has collaborated.

**Up for auction**

Ms. Graylock’s “Sit on My Face” collection consists of vintage chairs that she restores before applying one of her photographs to the seat to make a one-of-a-kind piece. Up for auction to benefit ABLE Academy will be a Michael Thonet chair featuring Ms. Graylock’s image of George Clooney taken the moment he learned he had been nominated for an Academy award. Another chair featuring her photograph of Angelina Jolie at the 2012 Oscars will be on display. Several pillows bearing the artist’s celebrity images will be available for purchase.

ABLE Academy provides services to children with autism, developmental delays and neurological disorders.

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*EXHIBIT*

From page 1
SOCIETY

A send-off for Naples Illustrated's Kathy Becker at Barbatella

1. Maria Ottenstein and Shawn Holiday
2. Roz Travis and Emily James
3. Jeff Starn, Linda Sciuto and Vivian Dawson
4. Lisa Wilson and Linda Harden
5. Alison Whalen and Jan Soderquist
6. Linda and Bob Harden
7. Sherre Dixon and Kellie Jacoby
8. Kat Smith and Kathy Becker
9. Jerry Thirion and Kathy Becker
10. Donna Egles and Mollie Page
11. Connie Dillon

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.
Happy hour at Aqua with the Wine Tasters of Naples

1. George and Helen Pertesis with Marion Roland
2. Mara Murati, Bill McGuigan and Deborah Martins
3. Kevin Kelly and Sandi Wilson
4. John and Sue Lu Goodman
5. Phyllis Dragne and Tom Seltenri
6. “Mr. G.” Goce Sipkoski, Sherri Weidman and Dan Leamon

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COURTESY PHOTOS
4
5
6

COURTESY PHOTOS
1
2
3
4
5
6

1. George and Helen Pertesis with Marion Roland
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COURTESY PHOTOS

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South Street hosts a ‘Mustache Bash’ for Cancer Alliance of Naples

1. Alison Sciacqua, Celine Brouet, Christian Almeida and Gaby Chanen
2. Tom Elrod, Allyson MacLean and Carolyn Warnkin
3. Dick Wood and Kristy Bedell
4. Karl and Sally Kreuscher
5. Claudio Almeida and Bruna Brouet
6. Maureen Bulig and Joe Frackowiak
7. Dave Dunnavant and Craig Barbara
8. Amy Oster and Amy Waters

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SOCIETY

A rainy start for 2012 ‘SummerJazz on the Gulf’ series

1. Barbara Homan, Vicki Tracy and Sally Ince
2. Michelle Alvarez with Samantha and Chris Macklin
3. Jennifer and Andrea Fieland
4. Judson Carr, Joan and Tony Dignoti and Shirley Carr
5. Brandi Torres and Armani
6. Cathy and Bob Kiemperns
7. Mark Bagley and Liz Negron
8. Heather and Michael Milner with Todd Saunders and Rebecca Taylor

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PAST REPASTS

Here are some capsule summaries of previous restaurant reviews:

➤ **Agave Southwestern Grill**, 2380 Vanderbilt Beach Road, Naples; 598-3473

With its blend of Northern Mexican and American Southwestern cuisines, Executive Chef Thomas Rieman’s menu puts a sophisticated spin on humble, homespun food the likes of which hasn’t previously been seen in Southwest Florida. Brought to us by the folks behind Angelina’s Restorante in Bonita Springs, Agave is a great concept executed with panache. The restaurant pays tribute to the agave plant with 200 varieties of tequila, which can be ordered in flights so you can compare; for those less inclined to take it straight, there are delicious fruit-and-herb-infused margaritas. Tortillas are pressed in house, and ginger soup. Portions are realistically sized, just right for a single sitting. And then there’s the casual but plush atmosphere that feels organic, with earthy colors, polished woods and stacked stone.

**Atmosphere:** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
**Food:** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
**Service:** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
**Reviewed November 2011**

➤ **Bokamper’s Sports Bar & Grill**, 8990 Fontana Del Sol Way, Naples; 431-7611

With 70-plus flat-screen televisions, you won’t miss out on your favorite team’s game at this trendy sports bar, the brainchild of former Miami Dolphin Kim Bokamper. What makes this a great choice for sports lovers is an inventive menu that includes shrimp, calamari, tuna wontons and fish tacos in addition to the usual burgers, wings, sliders and chili. Bo’s Banging Shrimp, in a sweet and spicy sauce topped with sesame seeds, were tasty and cooked just right. The signature chicken wings were excellent, too, grilled then topped with a medium hot barbecue sauce accompanied by a bountiful of celery and blue cheese dressing. The fish tacos, made with mahi, were terrific. Apple pie a la mode was a perfect finish to a winning meal. Full bar.

**Atmosphere:** ★ ★ ★ ★
**Food:** ★ ★ ★ ★ ½
**Service:** ★ ★ ★ ★ ½
**Reviewed October 2011**

➤ **Mimi’s Cooking**, Orange Pine Plaza, 2099 Pine Ridge Road, Naples; 566-2275

There’s no bad time to visit Mimi’s, but the slow summer season means there likely won’t be a crush of people there, leaving the staff to lavish its wonderful service and great food on you. The intimate dining room has the charming ambiance of a Parisian café, and the kitchen serves up food to match. Both the classic bouillabaisse and coq au vin were flawlessly executed and served by a well-informed staff. We loved the sampler platter of ceviche bars, several varieties of raw oysters and lots of fresh fish. Wine devotees will find a host of interesting selections from which to choose. Dishes are attractively plated and served by a well-informed staff. We loved the sampler platter of ceviche (choose from one, two, three or eight types), particularly the Peruvian, a mix of scallops and mahi in a spicy marinade, and the shrimp with roasted corn, tequila, coriander, cumín and ceviche. This can be a meal unto itself. A Caesar salad contained fresh ingredients and a tasty white anchovy, but the dressing needed a flavor boost. A grilled red snapper paired well with both the young soy white miso sauce and the slightly sweet ponzu sauce, but a spicy tropical salsa was a little overpowering. A tasty lobster pot featured clams, mussels, lobster tail, fingerling potatoes, corn and roasted tomato (we also added seafood sausage, which was delicious). For dessert we ordered a flight of house-made ice creams, and although we loved the peaches and mascarpone cobbler and the kahala flavor, we’d skip the spiced banana next time. Full bar.

**Atmosphere:** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
**Food:** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
**Service:** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
** Reviewed January 2012**

➤ **Tarpon Bay**, Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort Spa, 5001 Coconut Road, Bonita Springs; 444-1234

For a casual seafood bistro, it would be hard to beat Tarpon Bay. It features a ceviche bar, several varieties of raw oysters and lots of fresh fish. Wine devotees will find a host of interesting selections from which to choose. Dishes are attractively plated and served by a well-informed staff. We loved the sampler platter of ceviche (choose from one, two, three or eight types), particularly the Peruvian, a mix of scallops and mahi in a spicy marinade, and the shrimp with roasted corn, tequila, coriander, cumín and ceviche. This can be a meal unto itself. A Caesar salad contained fresh ingredients and a tasty white anchovy, but the dressing needed a flavor boost. A grilled red snapper paired well with both the young soy white miso sauce and the slightly sweet ponzu sauce, but a spicy tropical salsa was a little overpowering. A tasty lobster pot featured clams, mussels, lobster tail, fingerling potatoes, corn and roasted tomato (we also added seafood sausage, which was delicious). For dessert we ordered a flight of house-made ice creams, and although we loved the peaches and mascarpone cobbler and the kahala flavor, we’d skip the spiced banana next time. Full bar.

**Atmosphere:** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
**Food:** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
**Service:** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
**Reviewed November 2011**

**Key to ratings**

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Big Hickory Seafood Grille has long been a favorite spot to recommend to visitors and friends looking for a dining experience that offers both memorable food and a unique setting.

For years, the restaurant has been known for pairing seafood with unlikely ingredients — grouper and bananas, for example — and thus showcasing the flavors of Florida and the Caribbean in innovative ways. As a result, the restaurant exploits the rustic charm of a marina that dates to 1969 and affords an impressive view of bay waters, mangrove islands and the finned and feath- ered inhabitants of each.

If you're lucky, you might even catch a rainbow arching over the horizon, as we did on a recent stormy night.

It had been a few years since I visited Big Hickory, and the restaurant has changed hands at least once in the meantime, so I was eager to know how it has weathered the tides of change. I am happy to report that it remains a destination worthy of recommendation. And a destination it is, well north of Bonita Springs’ commercial corridors and south of cosmopolitan Estero Island.

The off-the-beaten-path restaurant appears to have expanded its outdoor dining since my last visit, but an approach- ing storm sent us indoors to a nearly packed dining room. An all-you-can- eat Friday night fish fry probably was responsible for the unexpected crowd, but we were just in time to procure a prime window-side table at the back of the house. The room's yellow walls are decorated with marine paraphernalia and colorful original paintings; rope decorated with marine paraphernalia, rope and colorful original paintings; rope decorated with marine paraphernalia, rope and colorful original paintings; rope decorated with marine paraphernalia, rope.

Because our friendly and efficient server expedited our order ahead of the pending kitchen crush, the entrees arrived before we were quite ready for them. To be fair, we were probably partly to blame for gabbing too much over the first course (my friend and I had a lot of catching up to do).

We decided to steer clear of main dishes we'd enjoyed before at Big Hickory, the aforementioned Cuban grouper with plantains and banana licker, and the coconut-crusted mahi-mahi with rum and pineapple beurre blanc. In a similar vein, the apple mango grouper ($26) was offered as a chef’s special and it was indeed special. The fish (noticeably more than the 8 ounces promised on the menu) was nicely bronzed and its thick flakes perfectly moist. The sweetness of the apple-mango salsa served on top was nicely contrasted with the tart passion fruit sauce. A melange of vegetables (broccoli, cauliflower, carrots, zucchini) served in a tender-crisp state.

In all, it was a worthy addition to the restaurant’s fish-and-fish repertoire.

From the seasonal menu, I opted for the shrimp and lobster scampi ($29), which turned out to be a good choice. Surprisingly, the dish contained as much seafood as it did pasta: large chunks of tender, sweet lobster meat and a trio of jumbo shrimp sautéed just until cooked through. The fetuccine was laced with a light wine and butter sauce with just enough garlic to assert its presence without overpowering the seafood. But- tered toasted bread was provided to sop up any remaining sauce.

Noteworthy was the in-season dolphin ($23) served on a bed of crisp greens topped with walnuts, red grapes and crumbled blue cheese. It was a sizeable portion, served with balsamic dressing on the side, as requested.

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Those entrees were a hard act to fol- low, and desserts aren’t made on the premises. The bread pudding ($7) was dry and unremarkable; the Chocolate Madness ($7.50) was a dense, moist cake, its thick flakes perfectly moist. The sweetness of the apple-mango salsa served on top was nicely contrasted with the tart passion fruit sauce. A melange of vegetables (broccoli, cauliflower, carrots, zucchini) served in a tender-crisp state.

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