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Statewide, prescription drugs caused about three times the number of deaths (3,601) as all other drugs combined, legal or illegal, the Medical Examiners report showed.

**COLLIER COUNTY’S DEADLIEST DRUGS COME WITH PRESCRIPTIONS**

**SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY**

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The wounds were treated with a therapeutic low-level laser for several weeks to help them heal.

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**SOUTHWEST FLORIDA’S MOST NOTORIOUS DRUGS**

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**BY EVAN WILLIAMS**

evwilliams@floridaweekly.com

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**warning:** may cause addiction

**collier county’s deadliest drugs come with prescriptions**

**its injuries healed, bald eagle returns to the wild**

**special to florida weekly**

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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 swam ashore. All eight of them.

I’ve swum in New York Harbor myself. It was sharply, strikingly cold, and I smelled the oil from other ships as I swam and coughed and couldn’t see, they’d arrived in New York Harbor — the only way they knew.

Maybe that’s how the Tarnowers felt. Their original name had been a little longer, but Tarnower is what they settled on, 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, which made me feel like an oil-soaked bird.

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 to Hall to catch the shows. He also contracted rheumatic fever, which almost killed him.

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 later 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 star struck with 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-tost 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 it had easier than African Americans, it was never easy for any of them: the Irish or Italians, the Germans or Poles or Russians, the Norwegian or Swedes, or the many Chinese, and later the Japanese and Vietnamese.

They got equal rights handed to them on a silver-and-turquoise bolo ties when they arrived in New York Harbor — the only way they knew.

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 her car 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.
Breast health is one of a woman’s top priorities, so we made it one of ours.

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For NDIC Scheduling, call 593-4222.
To talk with our Breast Health Resource Nurse, call 593-4204.

www.NCHmd.org
Defending our national anthem

To the Editor:

Please allow me to respond to an article written by Ms. Peg Goldberg Longstreth in your paper.

I am outraged by her suggestion to change this country’s national anthem, which she alleges is a “song about war.” This couldn’t be further from the truth. The Star Spangled Banner” was written by an American patriot, Francis Scott Key, who was sent on a mission to negotiate differences between Great Britain and the fledgling United States of America, and who witnessed the attack on Fort McHenry in Baltimore Harbor. The inspiration comes from witnessing the American flag flying high over a beleaguered U.S. military installation as representing the courage and heroism of the defenders of our American liberty. It is about our nation’s flag and all it stands for, not the war.

Ms. Goldberg Longstreth also alleges “the tune is essentially unchangeable.” I’m among the many of us who have heard more than one beautiful, moving rendition of our national anthem, perfectly executed. I am also certain there are many of us, myself included, who cannot sing “The Star Spangled Banner” in perfect tune. But to suggest changing our national anthem to empower even non-professionals to sing it in perfect key is a silly rationale.

To participate with everyone singing the national anthem in unison, filled with pride and emotion, each uninhibited and in their own comfortable key, is its own beauty.

If you have never experienced that particular American pleasure, I suggest you attend a major league baseball game.
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Wellness guru hopes to change the world, ‘one joy at a time’

BY KELLY MERRITT
Special to Florida Weekly

For Jenny Craig, every day is the beginning of a new life. As a licensed clinical social worker with a background in psychology, neurology and sociology, Ms. Craig spends most of her time as a ray of light piercing through other people’s dark spots. Her mantra: “Changing the world. One joy at a time.”

Ms. Craig is a national educator, consultant, published author, personal coach and CEO of Insite Strategist. She may specialize in wellness from the neck up, but at the end of the day, she’s only human, just like the rest of us. With so many hours logged helping others, how does this emotional intelligence powerhouse stay motivated?

From her private outpatient psychotherapy practice to her work with educators and families on topics ranging from bullying prevention to basic psychology, she’s has picked up a few tips that keep her inspired. But she says it’s per personal commitment to joy and positive thinking that keeps her going.

“I stay motivated by choosing to think positive,” she says, allowing that her background in neurology and psychology helps her understand the importance of each and every thought. “After we think a thought, within 20 seconds our bodies are flooded with chemicals that correspond to that thought,” she says. “The resulting feeling, she explains, either inspires action toward a goal or causes one to become fearful and do nothing.

She uses awareness tools to train her brain toward positive thought. She wears an “I AM” wristband to remind herself that she is everything she thinks she can be and to help keep her focus on taking action. She also maintains relationships with what she calls “accountability buddies” — people with whom she has shared her biggest dreams.

“Staying in contact with my support system forces me to face my fears, ask for help, be accountable and celebrate my progress,” she says.

She also wears a ring that’s inscribed: “I am grateful for.” She says feeling grateful “can quickly remind my brain how truly beautiful life really is and what really matters.”

Craig says over time she has finally learned to listen to her instincts and follow her passion of helping people find authentic joy in their lives. Her journey has been one of challenges, difficult circumstances and people who have helped her understand that journey. She says her life has been shaped by arduous, formidable people and experiences combined with “amazing, beautiful, inspirational people and experiences.”

“I appreciate difficulties just as much as the amazing times in my life, as it has been in my darkest moments that some of my biggest growth spurts have occurred, making me who I am today,” she says. “And it is when I have felt supported to follow my dreams that I have worked through any personal fears and taken huge leaps of faith to fulfill them.”

With her education as an anchor, she created tools to help rewire negative, limiting thoughts to positive expansive thoughts, which changed her mood, choices, behavior and ultimately her life. Those lessons have culminated into a grassroots project called “Enjoy It,” which she now teaches to others. Segments of the program are being filmed for a documentary and research project.

Naples has provided the perfect platform for Ms. Craig’s latest project. She says her best ideas come to her when she is feeling joyful, and that her soul is happiest when she is in or around the water. “I love watching a sunset over the water, eating delicious cuisine and laughing with friends, all of which are very easy to find in Naples,” she says.

A perfect day for her includes deep sea fishing with her significant other, Capt. Justin Finch. In their down time, she adds, the two are avid scuba divers and travelers.

Jenny Craig

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A freeze frame from the WGCU “Your Voice” television program and documentary on pain clinics. Lee County Sheriff's Officer Ted Sementi arrested a person who allegedly tried to obtain prescription meds with fake IDs. (courtesy photo)

PILLS

From page 1

“Prescription medication is the number one cause of violent deaths today now,” says Kevin Lewis, CEO of South- west Florida Addiction Services. “If it’s not a crisis, it’s as close to a crisis as one.” Mr. Lewis says 70 percent of patients at the SWFAS detox unit are there to fight addiction to prescription medications. Ten years ago, the majority of the center’s patients were alcoholics, not addicts.

These issues are at the heart of WGCU Public Media’s latest “Your Voice” program, a quarterly exploration of a topic through public television, radio and Expressions magazine. The topic this time is addiction. (See below)

During nearly three months investigating the topic of addiction, veteran reporter and “Your Voice” creator Rachelle Grossman heard a common theme.

“As soon as we started looking into the numbers behind the prescription medications issue, we saw the enormity of it,” Ms. Grossman says. “They’ve kind of eclipsed any other drug that’s out there.”

Mr. Lewis of SWFAS suggests the number of prescriptions going out is just huge, “It’s not even comprehensible to think about it.”

And then they do and they don’t fund it. That’s the prescription drug threat is underestimated because there’s an assumption that because it’s prescription it’s somehow more legitimate. It’s not, says Deborah Comella, executive director of Drug-Free Southwest Florida. But she adds, “You can’t paint all pain medication clinics with the same brush. It’s really a complicated issue because you’re dealing with so many people who use the drugs recreationally, and a lot of people who use the drugs in a very appropriate way and a few who abuse them.”

Mr. Lewis of SWFAS suggests the problem also stems from a society in which people feel entitled to medicate away pain or anxiety. “Anxiety is part of life,” he says. “Pain is something that we chemically are able to control.”

In the majority of cases, autopsies showed that at least a few different drugs had been taken and contributed to a death, even if a narcotic prescription medication was deemed the primary cause.

In 2006 when Mr. Sloan opened First Choice Pain Clinic in Fort Myers, there was little regulation of pain clinics. Although he’s not a doctor, Mr. Sloan was not required by law to register his clinic or to run background checks on the doctors he employs — those things he did voluntarily.

To curb illegal activity, his clinic does not accept walk-in patients, and Mr. Sloan works with only two other local pharmacy wholesalers. Before running his clinics, he designed house-arrest bracelets for law enforcement.

“I wanted to meet those requirements that made you better and prove to the powers that be that we weren’t reprehensible,” he says.

He was surprised that opening up a pain clinic was, for him, even an option. “I said, ‘Are you kidding me? I can open up a doctor’s office tomorrow and I don’t need a license or anything?’ He says, “I went home and read the statutes that night and said, ‘This is insane.’ I did it.”

“You could go open up a pain clinic in a bathroom in a bar, and a patient could sit in one stall and a doctor could sit in one stall and write prescriptions, and there (was) nothing in this state that said that can’t happen.” That’s what’s happened in this state from day one, and that’s why it’s become the wild west.

But not everyone in the wild west of Florida pain clinics is a drug dealer, he suggests.

“There is also the mentality that if you take away the medication, the problem goes away, which we know is not true,” Mr. Sloan says. “But the problem is, we’re not dealing with heroin or cocaine. We’re dealing with a medication that is a legitimate medical treatment.”

But the line between what is necessary to prescribe and what is excessive has been crossed, says Mr. Lewis of SWFAS. “The amount of prescriptions going out there is just huge,” he says. “It’s not even comprehensible to think about it.”

By the numbers

Deaths caused by drugs

January-December 2009

Heroin:

Naples: 3
Fort Myers: 12
Port Charlotte: 1
Florida: 624

Cocaine:

Naples: 3
Fort Myers: 12
Port Charlotte: 1
Florida: 529

Marijuana:

Naples: 0
Fort Myers: 0
Port Charlotte: 0
Florida: 95

Prescription medication total:

Naples: 96
Fort Myers: 134
Port Charlotte: 10
Florida: 3,601

Alprazolam (brand name: Xanax):

Naples: 7
Fort Myers: 27
Port Charlotte: 0
Florida: 822

Diazepam (brand name: Valium):

Naples: 3
Fort Myers: 13
Port Charlotte: 0
Florida: 248

Oxydose and Roxicodone (brand names: OxyContin, Oxycodone and Rocecodone):

Naples: 31
Fort Myers: 41
Port Charlotte: 3
Florida: 1,185

Hydrocodone (brand name: Vocolon):

Naples: 5
Fort Myers: 0
Port Charlotte: 0
Florida: 265

Methadone:

Naples: 2
Fort Myers: 24
Port Charlotte: 2
Florida: 720

Morphine:

Naples: 7
Fort Myers: 0
Port Charlotte: 0
Florida: 302

Propoxyphene (brand names include Darvon or Darvocet):

Naples: 2
Fort Myers: 4
Port Charlotte: 0
Florida: 59

Ethyl alcohol

License: Not available
Florida: 559

Source: Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Florida Medical Examiner’s Report

Tune in to WGCU

>> Television

• 8 p.m. Thursday, July 16: “Addicted!” Simulcast on WGCU-FM

A panel of experts and people struggling with addiction will discuss the problem. Callers can take calls from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday, July 17, from 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday, July 20, and from 8:30 p.m. to Friday, July 16, “Pain, Pills & Profit”

>> Radio

• 8 p.m. Sunday, July 12: “On the Coast” on Gulf Coast Live!

Airs at noon Monday-Friday, July 12-16.

• July 12: Legal Addictions — A live studio audienc

Show will feature experts discussing the different types of prescription drugs and addiction.

• July 14: The Pharmacological Treatment of Addictions

A discussion with experts regarding the proper use of prescription medications.

• July 15: The Lois Wilson Story of Al-Anon

A program to inform and educate families about addiction.

• July 16: A National Look at Addiction

A program to present a national perspective on addiction, treatment, and recovery.

>> Internet

• July 15: A freeze frame from the WGCU “Your Voice” television program and documentary on pain clinics. Lee County Sheriff’s Officer Ted Sementi arrested a person who allegedly tried to obtain prescription meds with fake IDs.

The Lois Wilson Story of Al-Anon

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Source: Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Florida Medical Examiner’s Report
Construction begins for Conservancy’s von Arx Wildlife Clinic

A ceremonial wildlife release celebrated the start of construction on the Conservancy’s new von Arx Wildlife Clinic, the latest phase of its multi-million-dollar sustainable campus initiative and part of its “Saving Southwest Florida” capital campaign.

Namesakes Sharon and Dolph von Arx, Conservancy staff, board members, donors and Capital Campaign Committee members were on hand when a rehabilitated mourning dove was returned to the wild, symbolizing the mission of the new clinic: to treat and release injured wildlife back into its native habitat.

Mr. and Mrs. von Arx made a $1.5 million gift to the capital campaign to fund a large portion of the new wildlife clinic. When complete, it will have the essential room, tools and resources to treat and save diverse native wildlife species. The couple also pledged $50,000 to fund the Sharon von Arx Flight Recovery Aviary.

Other major donors helping to fund the clinic include Barbara W. Moore, Sidney and Nancy Sapakle, Fred and Sue Schulte, Deki Stepheason, Edward and Susan Yawney and one anonymous donor. Additional support was provided by Dr. Robert Schultheis and Chuck and Jean Zboril. The total cost of the new Wildlife Clinic is $2.6 million.

The Conservancy’s wildlife current clinic was built to handle approximately 600-800 cases per year, but is now treating more than 2,500 injured, sick and orphaned wildlife annually in outdated, cramped quarters. The von Arx Wildlife Clinic will have the capacity to treat more than double that number. Its 4,500 square feet will include larger medical facilities and an upgraded interpretive area to educate visitors about the Conservancy’s wild-life rehabilitation work.

“The Wildlife Clinic will be a significant enhancement to our Nature Center, enabling us to treat animals in a less stressful environment and increase their chances of being released into the wild,” says Andrew McElvain, president and CEO of the Conservancy of Southwest Florida. The new facility will be one of the largest wildlife rehabilitation facilities in this part of the country, he adds.

The space will include separate recovery areas for mammals, reptiles and birds, an animal nursery and new operating and X-ray rooms. The clinic will also serve as an education center where the public can learn about rehabilitation efforts without disturbing the wildlife or their treatments. While almost half of the “patients” are released back into the wild, native wildlife that are either recovering or not able to care for themselves will be placed in an outdoor viewing area.

Completion of the von Arx Wildlife Clinic is estimated for second quarter of 2011. In the interim, the original clinic remains operational.

That’s not all

The von Arx Wildlife Clinic is part of a campus-wide renovation that will turn the 21-acre Conservancy Nature Center into a model for sustainable design and environmental responsibility. Work was started in April 2009 on various aspects of the project that include:

➤ A total remodel of the Discovery Center
➤ A new Environmental Planning Center with updated research laboratories
➤ A new Conservation Hall and theater created from the existing auditorium that will be used for increased environmental education programming, meetings and events.

The project also includes Smith Pre-school, a new entrance to the Conservancy Nature Center from Goodlette-Frank Road that will bring the vision of a “Central Park” closer to reality. The new entrance will potentially provide access to the Gordon River Greenway and the Naples Zoo.

Green building practices, sustainability features and best management practices are being incorporated into all aspects of the project. Completion is expected sometime in the first quarter of 2012.

For more information about the Conservancy’s campus renovation and additional naming opportunities, visit www.conservancy.org.

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

A bald eagle being treated with a therapeutic low-level laser at the Conservancy Wildlife Clinic.

EAGLE

From page A1

The Conservancy Wildlife Clinic used a Multi Radiance TQ Solo laser to produce deep-tissue stimulation, which was vital to restoring and proliferating healthy cells at the wound site. On May 30, the eagle was placed in an outdoor recovery area to complete its healing process.

“When we found the eagle, it was in really bad shape; we honestly weren’t sure if it would make it,” Mr. Healy says. “It was wonderful to see it fully recuperated and going home.” On June 30, he did the honors of releasing the eagle back into the wild at the general area where it had been found.

Although reluctant to fly at first, the raptor eventually returned to the woods behind Wiggins Pass Road. Prior to its release, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission banded the eagle with identification for possible future research. If the eagle is found injured in the future, the banding allows for information to be tracked back to FWC.

The bald eagle being treated with a therapeutic low-level laser at the Conservancy Wildlife Clinic.
Our Numbers Add Up to One Children’s Hospital

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The Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida is the only accredited children’s hospital between Tampa and Miami. More than 5,000 children were admitted last year.

- **103**-bed hospital
- **8** specialized medical programs: neonatal neurodevelopment follow-up, medical day care, cystic fibrosis, neurobehavioral, cancer, sickle cell, neuroscience center, and cancer counseling center
- **1** of the top 3 ranked neonatal intensive care units in Florida
- **56** fellowship trained pediatric specialists
- **6** certified child life specialists
- **2** certified pediatric pharmacists
- **1** certified music therapist
- **1** certified full-time school teacher

And, our numbers are growing!

The Children’s Hospital is opening a specialty clinic in Naples in January 2011.

For more information, call 239-433-7799 or visit www.LeeMemorial.org.
It’s time to check your political party affiliation

Planning to vote in the Aug. 24 primary election? Then make sure you are a registered voter and remember to check your political party affiliation.

Florida is a closed primary state and the District 2 race for the Collier County Commission is a closed race. Accordingly, only registered Republicans in District 2 will be eligible to vote in this primary election. The winning Republican will face a write-in candidate in the November general election.

The District 4 County Commission race is open, and all registered District 4 voters are eligible to participate regardless of party affiliation. The Florida Constitution provides that if all candidates have the same party affiliation, and the winner will not face opposition in the general election, all qualified voters, regardless of party affiliation, may vote in the primary for that office. In this race, the winner will be determined in the primary election.

Those who wish to register to vote or change their party affiliation in order to vote in the Aug. 24 election must do so by the Monday, July 26, deadline. To verify registration and party affiliation, visit the Supervisor of Elections office website at www.CollierVotes.com. Under the voter information tab, select “review my registration status” from the pull-down menu and follow the online instructions.

The Naples City Council has set the following workshops and special meetings:
- 2 p.m. Monday, July 19: Workshop about the Community Redevelopment Area and Tax Increment Financing District Financing.
- 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, July 26: Budget workshop.
- 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 27: Budget workshop (if necessary).
- 2 p.m. Monday, Aug. 2: Workshop about the land and building development process.
- 5:15 p.m. Monday, Sept. 27: Final budget hearing.

The Naples Zoo at Caribbean Gardens is holding a straw vote to gauge citizen interest in Collier County’s purchase of 22 acres of land north of the Zoo. Votes can be cast between 6:30 and 9 p.m. Monday, July 12, during the Golden Gate Candidates and Issues Forum at the Golden Gate Community Center.

The acreage would increase the size of the Zoo by 50 percent. Zoo representatives and county officials are awaiting an appraisal of the property being conducted by the Trust For Public Land and expect to have the figures about the land and building development process. The acreage would increase the size of the Zoo by 50 percent.

Bonita meetings will cover BP loss claims

Alvarez Sambol & Winthrop, P.A. and Briers CPA, together with the Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce, are holding general information sessions about BP loss claims. Sessions are set for 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 14, and 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 20, at the Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce, 2571 Chamber of Commerce Drive, Bonita Springs.

There is no charge to attend, but space is limited. To reserve a seat, call 390-8882.

Zoo will hold straw vote on land purchase

The Naples Zoo at Caribbean Gardens is holding a straw vote to gauge citizen interest in Collier County’s purchase of 22 acres of land north of the Zoo. Votes can be cast between 6:30 and 9 p.m. Monday, July 12, during the Golden Gate Candidates and Issues Forum at the Golden Gate Community Center.

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HEALTHY LIVING

TO YOUR HEALTH

Workshop focuses on healthy eating

Beyond Motion founders Amy and Rick Lademann will present their third “What Should I Eat?” workshop from 12:30-2:30 p.m. Saturday, July 10, at their studio, 2037-28 Tamiami Trail North, Suite A, in the Olde Naples Commerce Center. The workshop is available to the public for evaluation.

Cost is $30 per person, $50 for two, and includes a cookbook by Ms. Lademann, nutrition coach and founder of Beyond Motion. For registration, call 254-9090 to register. Beyond Motion is at 11985 Tamiami Trail North, Suite 254-9300 in the Olde Naples Commerce Center.

Heart Walks raise money to fight illness

More than 8,000 pairs of feet will hit the pavement in Collier and Lee counties this fall to take steps toward fighting heart disease and stroke, the nation’s number one and number two killers. The walks are encouraged to lace up their shoes and participate in the Southwest Florida American Heart Association’s Start! Heart Walks. Last year, the local walks raised $555,000 for cardiovascular disease research, education and prevention initiatives.

This year the 7th annual Collier County Start! Heart Walk, which is locally sponsored by an anonymous donor in memory of Kyle Fernstrom, an Arthrex and Physicians Regional donor in memory of Kyle Fernstrom, will take place Sat., Nov. 6, at Cambier Park. For details, visit their website at go2beyondmotion.com.

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Anti-aging supplements made up of mixtures might be better than single compounds at preventing decline in physical function, according to researchers at the University of Flori-

da’s Institute on Aging. In addition, it appears that such so-called neuroceuticals should be taken before very old age for benefits such as improvement in physical function. The findings from rat studies, pub-

lished in the journal PLoS One, have implications for how dietary supplements can be used effectively in humans.

“I think it is important for people to look past single food or supplement, but for those of advanced age who are running out of energy and not moving much, we’re trying to find a supplement or mixture that can help improve their quality of life,” said Christiane Leesewburgh, senior author of the paper and chair of the biology of aging division in the UF College of Medicine.

Scientists do not fully understand all the processes that lead to loss of function as people age. But more and more research points to the mitochondria, the cell’s powerhouse, and oxidative stress. The aging process and many age-related disorders is dysregulation of the cell’s energy producing powerhouse, known as mitochondria, and oxidative stress.

The researchers fed the supplement to middle-aged 23-month-old and late-middle-aged 29-month-old rats — corresponding to 50- to 65-year-old and 65- to 80-year-old humans, respect-

ively — for six weeks, and measured performance in humans.

Grip strength in rats is analogous to physical performance in humans, and deterioration in grip strength can provide useful information about muscle weakness or loss in older adults. Grip strength improved 12 percent in the middle-aged rats compared with controls, but no improvement was found in the older group.

Measurements of the function of mitochondria is correlated with the grip strength findings. Stress tests showed that mitochondrial function was improved compared with controls in middle-aged rats but not in the older ones. The researchers said that intervention might be of greater effect before major age-related functional and other declines have set in, the researchers said.

“It is possible that there is a window during which these compounds will work, and if the intervention is given after that time it won’t work,” said Feng Zhang, lead author of the paper and a postdoctoral researcher at UF.

The researchers are working to identify the optimal age at which various interventions can enhance behavioral or physical performance. Very few studies have been done to show the effect of interventions on the very old.

Interestingly, although the older rats had no improvement in physical perfor-

mance or mitochondrial function, they have lowered levels of oxidative damage.

That shows that reduction of oxi-

dative stress is not always manifolded by functional changes such as exercise.

As a result, research must focus on compounds that promote proper functioning of the mitochondria, since mitochondrial health is essential in older animals for reducing oxidative stress, the researchers said. And clini-

cal trials need to be performed to test the effectiveness of the supplements in humans.

STRAIGHT TALK

Eying opportunities for growth and development

allenWEISS

alex.reaves@anjelina.org

There has been a great deal of dis-

cussion about the idea of investing more than a quarter billion dollars of taxpayer money in a local operation of Jackson Labs, a leading genetics research laboratory.

I’ve been asked what NCH’s position is relative to Jackson Labs. Here is the essence of what I told the Naples Daily News:

The real question is: What is the senior administration decision on education, economic benefit, community benefit, individual benefit, etc.) divided by the cost ($360 million, with $130 million from the state, $130 million from Col-

lier County, and $200 million from philanthropy).

Stated another way: Is Jackson Labs the best use of $360 million in eastern Collier County, or are there better ways to add value for the county?

In any health-care initiative, we must think first of what will bring about the greatest good for the greatest number — present and future patients, coun-

ty government, local business, land owners, business organizations (e.g., chamber of commerce and Economic Development Council), potential new or different businesses and taxpayers.

Such thinking has helped guide NCH in its evolution as a large community hospital. One major evolving initiative is the University of Florida Health—University of Florida’s Institute on Aging. In addition, it appears that such so-called neuroceuticals should be taken before very old age for benefits such as improvement in physical function. The findings from rat studies, published in the journal PLoS One, have implications for how dietary supplements can be used effectively in humans.

“I think it is important for people to look past single food or supplement, but for those of advanced age who are running out of energy and not moving much, we’re trying to find a supplement or mixture that can help improve their quality of life,” said Christiane Leesewburgh, senior author of the paper and chair of the biology of aging division in the UF College of Medicine.

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mance or mitochondrial function, they have lowered levels of oxidative damage.

That shows that reduction of oxidative stress is not always manifolded by functional changes such as exercise.

As a result, research must focus on compounds that promote proper functioning of the mitochondria, since mitochondrial health is essential in older animals for reducing oxidative stress, the researchers said. And clinical trials need to be performed to test the effectiveness of the supplements in humans.

Distant hospital systems. The advantages of embracing GME include cost-effective coverage/access for patients, improved quality out-
comes and operational improvements, access to graduates who have a ten-
dency to remain in the area for their careers, and financial diversification for both the hospital system and community. We will keep you posted on developments in this area.

We live in times of unprecedented change. The health-care system is transforming, how we as a community and a hospital system plan, manage and lead with our limited resources will determine our future success. Jackson Labs and GME are just two opportunities we are studying to ensure responsible growth and development.

Finally this week, I want to recognize our White Elephant volunteers, who received their first-ever nomination for Best Thrift Store from Gulf- shore Life. The team earned second place, and at last week’s volunteer appreciation dinner, supervisor Cam-

er Johnson declared they’re aiming for first place next year.

— Dr. Allen Weiss is president and CEO of the NCH Healthcare System.
NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY  WEEK OF JULY 8–14, 2010  A13

MUSEUM NEWS

Free history lessons presented at the Collier County Museum

The Collier County Museum in Naples presents a series of free lectures at 2 p.m. every Wednesday. The museum is in the Collier County Government Complex at U.S. 41 and Airport Pulling Road. Here’s what’s coming up:

• July 14: Comets: Strange Visitors from Outer Space — Learn about the different classes of comets and their highly elliptical orbits.

• July 21: The Second Spanish Colonial Period: 1763 to 1819 — Great Britain relinquished the colonies of East and West Florida to Spain in 1783. Spain had little interest, and soon Florida became a refuge for displaced Indian tribes, renegades, pirates and soldiers of fortune.

• July 28: Plume Hunting and its Effects on Florida’s Wading Birds — When fashion-conscience consumers ushered in an era of feather trade that developed to ornament ladies’ hats, plume hunting grew from a small scale interest to wholesale slaughter.

• Aug. 1: The Florida Plant Flat Woods — Discover Florida history infused with a little dramatic stage presence when the Collier County Museums’ theater company debuts in the fall. The Historically Speaking Theatre Company will present “Killing Mister Watson” as its inaugural production in October. Celebrating its 100th anniversary, the story recounts how Edgar Watson, a shy yet reserved sugarcane farmer in the mosquito-infested Ten Thousand Islands, was murdered by residents of Chokoloskee.

• Aug. 4: Epiphytes of Florida — Learn about native orchids, bromeliads, ferns and other “air plants.”

• Aug. 11: The Pine Flat Woods — Learn about native orchids, bromeliads, ferns and other “air plants.”

• Aug. 16: Florida’s Indigenous Tribes — When Ponce de Leon set foot on the Florida peninsula in 1513, more than 30 Native American cultures, both agriculturalists and hunter-gatherers, made their home there.

• Aug. 25: The Second Spanish War: 1755 to 1763 — Known as the “Seven Years War” in Europe, the French and Indian War was the first real “world war,” as it was fought on every major continent (except Antarctica) and every major ocean throughout the world.

For more information about the free lecture series at the Collier County Museum, call 252-8476.

Company will add drama to local history

Kids can audition for museum video

The Golisano Children’s Museum of Naples and Waterman Broadcasting are searching for a child anchor and meteorologist to be featured in a museum video. Sponsored by NBC2 and ABC7, the summer portion of “Mother Nature’s House: The Four Seasons” exhibit will provide children the opportunity to interact with a green screen and prepare meteorologist to news and meteorologist reports.

Children ages 8-12 can upload their video auditions to the NBC2 and ABC7 websites through July 31. Live casting calls are scheduled at Robb & Stucky showrooms in Fort Myers on Friday, July 9, and in Naples on Friday, July 16. A 30-second script is available at www.nbc-2.com and www.abc-7.com and will be handed out at the live auditions.

Winners will be selected in August by a panel of judges including NBC2/ABC7 anchors and meteorologists and C’mon Executive Director Joe Cox. The announcements will take place during hurricane seminars at the winning children’s schools in September.

The “Mother Nature’s House” video will be produced on the NBC2 and ABC7 news sets in October, with the final video unveiled at the Naples International Film Festival in November.

For more information, visit the websites above or call C’mon at 513-0084.
Disaster planning must include your pet

By Dr. Marty Becker & Gina Spadafori

Universal Uclick

Disaster planning must include your pet. Disasters have brought home to us all in recent years that a crisis can happen at any time, in any community.

Just as you can’t leave preparing for your human family members to chance, you need a plan to ensure the safety of your pets. Here are some steps to get you started.

Make a plan. Prepare for all possibilities, including that you may be away from home when disaster strikes. Get to know your neighbors, and be prepared to help each other out.

Keep ID on your pets. Most animals can’t get to your home phone, you can still be reached and reunited with your pet.

Put your pet’s records in one easy-to-grab spot. Make a simple file with updated records of your pet’s vaccinations and other health records, as well as his license and microchip information, and details on his pet-health insurance provider. Include some good pictures of your pet with simple, uncluttered backgrounds, so if you need to make “lost pet” posters, you can. Put this material with the rest of your important papers in a place safe from fire or flood.

Have carriers and restraints at hand. You’re not going to get advance warning of some disasters, such as earthquakes. But if you know a storm is on the way or a wildfire may turn your way, make sure you get your pet inside. Sturdy crates and carriers belong on the list of “must-haves,” along with restraints, including comfortable box muzzles for dogs and soft face- shield muzzles and restraint bags for cats. While you may trust your pet to remain calm, it’s better to be prepared: An injured or scared pet may lash out in self-defense.

Include your pet’s needs in your emergency kit. Always keep ample supplies on hand of your pet’s food, medications, litter and enough water to cover your pet as well as your human family members. (And rotate all supplies regularly.) A first-aid kit should cover your pet’s needs as well as your own — and should include a compact first-aid guide geared to pets. If your pet eats canned food, don’t forget to throw in a spare can opener and a spoon. Disposable dishes and litter boxes can be useful as well.

One of the best investments you can make when it comes to preparation is to make sure your pet is vaccinated up to date. Your veterinarian and local emergency response plans are and what help they can provide for you and your pet.

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One of the best investments you can make when it comes to preparation is to make sure your pet is vaccinated up to date. Your veterinarian and local emergency response plans are and what help they can provide for you and your pet. Crates and carriers are essential to keeping pets and people safe in a crisis.

A really cool deal for Florida residents during the dog days of Summer

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DISCOUNTED FEE, OR REDUCED FEE SERVICE, EXAMINATIONS, OR TREATMENT. THE RISKS, BENEFITS AND ALTERNATIVES WILL BE DISCUSSED DURING THE PATIENT’S CONSULTATION. SOME RESTRICTIONS.
Don’t get touchy when I ask. I don’t mean to get under your skin. I just want you to respond to the word “super-organism.” Do you imagine a ripped sexy bionic body? Or does your fancy go to a genetic engineer’s laboratory? Maybe you simply see red capes and spandex with logos.

As I see it, a super-organism is an organism consisting of many organisms. The technical Wiki definition is: “a col- lection of agents which can act in concert to produce phenomena governed by the collective.”

Ant hills and bee hives are examples of super-organisms. Each individual is clearly a part of an enterprise larger than itself. Each creature has its own job to do to benefit the greater community.

Some examples of these phenomena are uncanny. Consider the deluded singular- ity of the sponge.

If a living sponge is passed through a sieve into water, the individual cells will float about, flailing it seems, until they sieve into water, the individual cells will reconstitute themselves, good as new as if nothing has happened, into another sponge. Even unamiable is the naked mole rat. These creatures live underground in the tough, dry conditions of East Africa. They cleverly cope with dire lack of envi- ronmental resources. A single tuber can be a food source over many years because only the inside of the tuber is eaten. This allows the tuber to regenerate, creating a kind of underground feeding of the multitudes miracle. Naked mole rats are also amazing in other ways: They have the longest rodent life span: 28 years. They are cancer resistant. And due to the absence of a neurotransmitter, they do not receive pain signals from their skin. If this were not enough to make a claim to fame, there is more. The naked mole rat community is a mammalian super-organism. Like bees and ants, each colony has one queen mother, from one to three studs, and many workers. The workers are larger, sterile and more reactive to the environment.

Each individual naked mole rat can also be seen as a kind of super-organism. Each one is, after all, made up of cells. Cells are the basic functional units of life, the smallest unit that is classified as a living thing. So we could view all multi-cellular life forms as super-organisms.

The goal of the NIH Human Microbiome Project is identifying and characterizing the microbial flora of humans. The number of non-human cells found in a body outnumbers the human body cells ten to one. The non-human genes outnumber body genes by a hundred to one. Human cells are minorities in their own super-organism.

Of the five body sites of focus in this project, the one of most interest to me is the skin. In the two square meters of skin covering each human, there are over a thou- sand species of bacteria from 19 different phyla. Each alien skin squatter brings to the skin its own unique contribu- tion. I particularly enjoy the ones who create the uniquely lovely softness of the inside of the arm in front of the elbow. Just feel right there right now.

The common enterprises of the human skin cells and of the majority skin aliens include protection, temperature regula- tion and evaporation functions. But the usual view is that all these skin aliens and their human skin cellular minority neigh- bors work together to create the frame of the human body, the barrier that both defines and separates that body from the world surround.

But I do not want to grasp at this con- ceptualization.

For me, the beauty of skin is not the separating, but the possible interfacing. Intertriginous areas, skin areas within a body that can touch or rub, like arm- pits or cleavage or buttocks, compel. But more compelling is the possibility of contact with the skin of the other. The movement from wall and frame and bar- rier to emergent haptic communication interface is the touchstone of compassion and shared project. And ecstasy.

In the Gaia hypothesis, earth itself and its surrounding biosphere are also super-organism. In this view our com- pletely skinned singularity, touching and untouched, is mere component, not entire universe.

No one is left behind by the primordial Earth goddess who reveals the earth as a single organism. This gets under my skin. This touches me.

— Rx is the FloridaWeekly muse who hopes to inspire profound mutiny in all those who care to read. Our Rx may be wearing a pirate cloak of invisibility, but emanating from within this shadow is hope that readers will feel free to respond. Who knows: You may even inspire the muse. Make contact if you dare.
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Don’t let a hurricane sneak up on you

BY EVAN WILLIAMS
ewilliams@floridaweekly.com

It’s been five years since the last hurricane hit Southwest Florida in the form of Hurricane Wilma’s Category 3 wind. Couple that with an economy struggling to break free of two years of weak sales, and area businesses could be unprepared for a major storm.

This hurricane season, which runs through Nov. 30, is forecast to be more active than most, with as many as seven major hurricanes predicted by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

“I think like everybody else, (businesses) have probably become a little complacent,” said Gerald Campbell, chief of planning at Lee County Emergency Management. “And with the economic times, they are having to make some really hard decisions, particularly regarding preparing and planning. If they’re short sighted, they may not see any immediate payback with that stuff.”

U.S. Department of Labor statistics suggest that many companies are unprepared for disasters. More than 40 percent of small businesses that experience one never reopen and another 25 percent close down in two years, the federal government says.

Investing a little extra time and money in a business continuity plan, on the other hand, could pay off in the wake of an event that is cataclysmic to competitors.

“We figured out a long time ago, if you’re the only popcorn stand going after the storm you’re going to sell a lot of popcorn,” said Brian Rist, president of Storm Smart Industries, a hurricane shutter manufacturer.

Purchasing disaster insurance can be a significant cost. So can supplies such as a generator or professional data backup services. But there are also plenty of lower-cost options, especially for small businesses.

“With businesses trying to conserve costs, spending money on items they may or may not need is harder to justify,” said Katie Wynn-Traina, a spokesperson for Ace Hardware. “(But) there are little things that at the very least businesses need to keep up to date on so they can prepare themselves to get back up and running after a storm. A preparedness plan that employees are aware of is the first step.”

Volunteers still welcome to conduct EDC surveys

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The Economic Development Council of Collier County has launched “Grow Collier: Celebrating Collier’s Existing Businesses,” a campaign to show appreciation to businesses for the contributions they make to the economy and further identify programs and services that will help them succeed.

“The EDC has always devoted significant time and resources to serving existing businesses through Economic Gardening and other programs, and this summer we want to reach out to more of those businesses and celebrate their success,” says Tammie Nemecek, EDC president and CEO.

The third major outreach effort of the EDC over the past year.

Grow Collier is the evolution of the Southwest Florida JOBS! program that started in April 2009. The goal of the campaign is to reach out to 300 businesses in 60 days.

“The EDC is setting its sights very high for this campaign, but we have a dedicated group of volunteers who are willing to go the distance,” says Tim Cartwright, EDC board member and vice president of the Economic Gardening initiative. “By using members of the Business Outreach Committee and Economic Gardening Task Force who are already involved, and asking each of them to bring a friend or colleague to assist in this effort, we feel confident we will be able to reach our goal.”

Is your business ready for the next big one?

“...businesses have probably become a little complacent...”
— Gerald Campbell, chief of planning at Lee County Emergency Management

WEEK at-a-glance

Hosts with the most
See who attended the Southwest Florida Concierge Association to-do, and more business events. B7-8 »

On the money
The Motley Fool has advice, insights to educate, amuse and enrich. B6 »

Coastal living
Check out great beach homes from coast to coast. B9 »

Campaign seeks to cultivate success for Collier businesses

Volunteers still welcome to conduct EDC surveys

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Searching for the equity market bottom

Since the equity bottom was reached in March 2009, the U.S. equity market climbed some 80 percent and along the way had only two significant corrections. Each was 9 percent in size and each lasted only one month, until now. This current decline is different; it has taken the U.S. equity market down 17 percent. The advance from the March 2009 low reached a peak, at least an interim peak, on April 26, 2010, with the S&P500 at 1220. In little less than 75 days, the market has retreated to 1011 as of the July 1 close, a level that was seen some 10 months earlier, in September 2009.

At junctures such as this, investors want to know how far the market will retreat and when they will be able to tell that it has “bottomed.” In hindsight, the answer will be perfectly clear. Until then, only postulations to these questions can be offered.

Fundamental analysis is the mainstay of equity investing. It suggests ranges of multiples to be applied to ranges of earnings to determine valuation levels, all based on fundamental analysis of earnings, interest rates, inflation expectations, dollar strength, the economy, etc. But in corrections, technical talk and observations seem to dominate, and many well-known technicians are paraded on investment cable TV. In declines, no one is asking portfolio managers at what P/E multiple the market will bottom.

There are many tools that technicians use, but some measures are considered mainstays. In declines, technical analysts frequently calculate specific percentages of retracement when determining how far a market will retrace. One formula is: the gain from the bottom (March 2009) to the nearest top (April 2010) which is then multiplied by certain well-established percentages: 38 percent, 50 percent and 62 percent. These are called Fibonacci levels, which is an article in and of itself.

For the U.S. equity market, the corresponding levels in the S&P500 would be 1010 (a 38 percent retracement of the gain); 944 (a 50 percent retracement) and 876 (a 62 percent retracement). It is thought that any market correction exceeding 62 percent might not be just a correction within a bull; it might be resumption of a bear, with the market dropping to previous lows (in this case March 2009 lows) or lower. Ouch!

So, as of July 2, with the S&P500 at 1022, many technical analysts would consider the last several months’ decline to be well within the ranges of normal retracements and further substantive losses could still be within the range of a normal correction.

Besides wanting to know “how low will it go,” investors want to know when it has bottomed. Again, while the answer is best known in hindsight, technicians are looking for price action and con-firming volume. Frequently, the market bottom will not be marked by good news or any specific event. The market just gets to a point where the sideline cash says “this is cheap” and they provide the floor. They often provide huge vol-ume on an “up” day. A thrust up and big volume is often a significant signal of a reversal of a downtrend.

Look at the resumption of the upward trend in February 2010. It was marked by big “up” volume on Feb. 5 and Feb. 5 marked a halt to the decline on big volume (a strong hammer in Japanese candlestick charting — a large thrust down in price, but price closes at the day’s high) and Feb. 9’s big volume on a rising day after several days of uptrend. Take a look at the decline since April. It has been marked by larger than average volume on down days. The decline is characterized by several days of thrusts down throughout.

Another characteristic of a market bottoming is the performance of the market leaders. The idea is that these stocks were leading the market before the decline and these same “story stocks” can lead the market out of the decline. They bottom earlier than the market, unless the parameters for investing have totally shifted.

Leaders in 2010 include: Apple; VMWare; Dollar General; NetFlix; Baidu, sand SanDisk. Goldman Sachs; Amazon and Google have faded in recent months.

In declines, many people just want to forget about their portfolio. They think it is just best to sit with what they have. In rising markets, they do not feel that way. They are more willing to switch from a non-performer to a performer and improve relative performance. The opportu-nities still exist but the psyche freezes.

Working with a financial adviser can be easier than assessing portfolio issues in volatile markets. These professionals have weathered many declines and they still can frequently see opportunities that some investors find too painful or too fearful to address.

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

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Beautifully conceived living space overlooking the natural habitat of Lantern Lake. Designed by the well-known Naples firm of Herscoe-Hajjar, Architects, Inc. Port Royal Club membership eligibility. $5,950,000

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One of Naples' most sought after beachfront locations. Expansive beach frontage on south Gordon Drive with older home. $10,495,000

Sancerre
Luxury beachfront living at its finest. Over 4,000 A/C square feet consisting of three bedrooms plus den. Private elevator and Gulf views. In close proximity to all downtown Naples has to offer. $3,550,000

Nelson’s Walk
Sensational vistas from this stunning residence situated on two Port Royal lots with expansive water frontage. Port Royal Club membership eligibility. $12,900,000

Fort Charles Drive
Spectacular long water view estate site. Close to the Port Royal Club. Expansive lot and one-half creates a large building envelope along Morgan’s Cove. Port Royal Club membership eligibility. $5,990,000

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Sale Pending

Sale Pending

Pristine estate lot on Curlass Cove provides a remarkable safe harbor just around the bend from Gordon Pass and the Gulf of Mexico. Curlass Cove Beach Club and Port Royal Club membership eligibility. $2,750,000

Just Sold

Just Sold

Galleon Drive
Three and one-half Port Royal lots overlooking Naples Bay with multiple building opportunities. Port Royal Club membership eligibility. $17,900,000

Gordon Drive
Dramatic views over Treasure Cove from this architectural masterpiece designed by renowned architect Kasimir Korybut. Elegant, yet comfortable, tropical living. Port Royal Club membership eligibility. $3,950,000

Just Sold

Just Sold

Sancerre
A unique beachfront condominium exquisitely finished in the modern tradition and reflecting a passion for the arts and comfortable contemporary living. $3,875,000

Spyglass Lane

Kings Town Drive
Dramatic views over Treasure Cove from this architectural masterpiece designed by renowned architect Kasimir Korybut. Elegant, yet comfortable, tropical living. Port Royal Club membership eligibility. $3,950,000

Just Listed
TIB Financial Corp., the parent company of TIB Bank and Naples Capital Advisors, has announced that the bank holding company North American Financial Holdings Inc. has agreed to invest approximately $75 million in TIB through the purchase of newly issued shares of TIB common stock and convertible preferred stock. In addition, during the 18-month period following the closing of its initial investment in TIB, NAFH will have the right to invest up to an additional $75 million.

“The more we studied TIB, the more impressed we were with its management team and their commitment to their customers and to the excellent service that has long been a hallmark of NAFH chairman and CEO, “TIB has a solid foundation in its current markets. We intend to build on this platform by expanding the bank’s product line and also through our continued investment in Florida and the greater Southeast.”

CFO Christopher Marshall says NAFH’s investment is expected to immediately reestablish TIB as a profitable bank. “With one of the strongest capital bases of any community bank in Florida, we will be able to expand our lending activity into communities that are clearly in need of credit,” he says. The investment is subject to satisfaction of certain closing conditions. UBS Investment Bank served as financial advisor and Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz served as legal advisor to NAHF.

Companies gain when employees volunteer

Joel Soorenko, Broker
VR Business Brokers
239-593-7475 (Office)
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Employees who leave the office to volunteer in the community may actually boost the company’s bottom line by performing better on the job, a new University of Florida study finds.

Ms. Rodell’s research “takes a critical step toward understanding how involvement in corporate volunteerism influences employees’ behaviors on the job,” says Adam Grant, management professor at the University of Pennsylvania. “Corporate volunteering can help employees develop skills, build connections with coworkers and experience gratitude and pride toward their employers for facilitating their efforts to contribute to a meaningful cause.”

Despite the growing popularity of volunteering in the United States and in corporations, there was little research available on how volunteering affects productivity. Ms. Rodell says, adding most studies focus on how volunteering boosts a person’s self-esteem rather than the company’s economic growth. “We have this idea that if employees volunteer, it distracts them from their work. They take lunch breaks or work early for fundraising events or — in the case of the proverbial parent coach — spend most of their time on the phone coordinating kids’ games.”

On the contrary, however, her research found that employees who volunteer feel more connected to their companies and are more likely to work harder on tasks. (Employees) spoke positively about their employer in public and were less likely to daydream, cyber loaf or take extra time off work.”

About 27 percent of Americans donate time to a non-profit organization, and nearly 35 percent of U.S. companies have a volunteer program, Ms. Rodell says. Her study showed that employees perform better at work when companies have a formal volunteer program in place — even if they don’t take advantage of it. “If I wasn’t running one of those programs at a company and nobody used it, I would start to think that maybe we shouldn’t have it anymore,” she says. “But it seems to be a signal to employees that there is good in the company — and they respond by being better employees.”

Economic Gardening, the business assessment tool that will help the EDC recognize other needs identify other EDC programs — International Trade, Business Retention & Expansion for example, as well as referrals to partner organizations — for which those businesses do qualify.

Grow Collier is sponsored by Ban-yanBrown, Lurgett Insurance, BB&T and GrowFL. At the recent launch of the campaign, volunteers shared hard data on the information and materials needed to begin speaking with businesses. They also received an overview of programs and services as well as an introduction to the evolution of economic development doctrine.

“Volunteers will be entered into a raffle for a prize, and the three volunteers who collect the most surveys also will win prizes. Additional volunteers are welcome, and anyone interested is encouraged to call 239-9898 or e-mail edc@NaplesFlorida.com.”
**HURRICANE**

From page 1

The store is hosting a free Hurri- cane Preparedness Seminar with Florida Gulf Coast University's Small Business Development Center at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 17, at Sunshine Ace Hardware in Bonita Springs.

**Ounce of prevention**

Encouraging employees to be prepared is a key first step.

“You need to be sensitive to the needs of the employees’ families and help them make that effort first,” said Wayne P. Sallade, director of Charlotte County Emergency Management. “You stand a lot better chance in having those employees protect your critical inven- tory and equipment and batten down to make sure you’re ready for whatever may come.”

Rich Smolucha, business develop- ment manager for Golden Technologies, agrees.

“There is no larger consideration than how clients, partners and staff can be kept informed in the event and after- math of a catastrophe,” he wrote in a business continuity plan.

Storm Smart’s Mr. Rist prepares in a number of ways. For example, the company established “phone trees” to keep employees in contact. In the event of a storm, they can find out the answers to questions like "Am I getting paid?” and "Should I come to work?" He also has an agreement with a com- petitor in Venice. If his location is put out of business because of a hurricane, his business can set up shop there for a while, and vice versa.

Mr. Rist also recommends being aware of your building’s elevation, and getting all computers up on top of desks if there should be a flood.

“Another great idea is water-resistant storage for documents and office equip- ment,” suggests Ms. Wynn-Traina of Ace Hardware. “A few plastic totes with tight-fitting lids can make transporting easier (and) protect business records and pricey office gear.”

There are many plans available online that lay out basic planning points for businesses. The Florida Department of Emergency Management’s website, for example, walks you through the process and allows you to create a personalized plan you can save to your desktop. It includes an alternate location to do business, contacts such as employees and suppliers, back-ups for goods and services you depend on, data and records that are crucial, and what to do after a disaster.

“For businesses, there are so many examples and references on the web of business continuity planning that it’s mind boggling,” Mr. Sallade said. “All you have to do is Google search ‘busi- ness continuity planning.’”

**Data backup**

Mr. Smoluchas Golden Technologies helps businesses keep their data safe. Backing up crucial documents twice and keeping one copy in an off-premise loca- tion is recommended.

And don’t just back up your data, also have a backup of your computer operat- ing system and applications that allow you to run that data.

“If you’ve got the data but lose the application you’ve got, basically noth- ings,” he said.

Depending on how much data you need to back up, purchasing professional services like his could be needed. Flash drives wear out eventually and are rela- tively small in size, backing up on tapes is less expensive, but the technology is outdated and accessing information on them takes longer.

Backing up data on a disc drive at least twice, and storing the second backup at an alternate location, is the most reli- able plan. Prioritizing what to backup is also recommended. For example, there are some papers a business might be mandated to keep. Then there’s informa- tion that is critical, like contracts with customers or inventory systems. Losing it could put you out of business. Then there’s less critical but still important data, like the new employee handbook. Even lower on the totem pole are works of art, like the new employee handbook. Always have a backup plan. Prioritizing what to backup is also recommended.

**After the storm**

Businesses may have a few extra hours to put response plans into action this year. Following NOAA’s lead, weather- casters will be issuing warnings about approaching storms 12 hours earlier than normal, or 36 hours before a storm arrives.

But cleaning up after a storm is always a fact. If a region like Southwest Florida is declared a disaster area, business own- ers can apply for a low-interest loan of up to $2 million through the U.S. Small Business Administration. The loans help with repairs on buildings or other loss- es.

Some insurance plans cover damage specific to a hurricane, like flooding. “Interruption insurance” might help pay back a business for three or four days of lost profits.

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**Mediation... A Positive Resolution to a Difficult Situation.**

Gail Markham, Florida Certified Family Civil Mediator, listens carefully to facilitate a positive resolution.
Texas Instruments Shouldn't Be Cheap

Texas Instruments (NYSE: TXN) recently raised its quarterly projections a quarter in progress — for the third time.

It pointed to increased orders in the industrial sector as a driver of its strong business. Its book-to-bill ratio has recently been above 1.0, meaning that it's getting orders faster than it can fill and bill for them.

Moreover, the chip slinger is expanding its internal manufacturing capacity while churning out more chips. Texas Instruments and Qualcomm all depend on the same group of outsourcing plants. This gives Texas Instruments a strong competitive edge. Texas Instruments is reshaping its business to get out of the commoditized, low-growth portion of the mobile phone market. Its new focus is on high-end mobile processors, where its current OMAP series competes. It's also working on a next generation Snapdragon and other designs based on architectures from ARM Holdings. In the past, my OMAP450 chips helped fit your smartphone to the body and are worn by athletes and others around the world. My prescription is simple: Wear your HeatGear when it's hot, ColdGear when it's cold, and AllSeasonGear between the extremes. I'm the official outfitter of many sports teams, and my marketing campaigns have used the “Protect This House,” “Click-Clack” and “Finally, It's Game Time” slogans. My revenue grew by an annual average of 32 percent over the past five years. Who am I? (Answer: Under Armour)
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1. Jacques Trouse, Lynda Rizzo and Marilyn Soffer
2. Nina Christensen and Luiz Bolin
3. Patty and Dennis DeMauro
4. Robin Belladona, Jill Barry and Rhona Saunders
5. Nicole Reynolds, Kent Morse, Gail and Chris Desmond
6. Frank and Gina Russen
7. Dale and Steve Kubala
Coastal living

Top 10, plus one, great homes by the shore

#1
Kahala Avenue, Honolulu
$29 million

Minutes from the famed Waialae Country Club, home of the PGA Sony Open, this 1.4-acre property has 125 feet of beach frontage and includes a main house with two separate guest cottages with four bedrooms each.

#2
The Strand
Manhattan Beach, Calif.
$13.5 million

On the market for the first time, this 5,000-square-foot-plus, concrete and stone home was designed by Ray Kappe and built in 1985. It has a rooftop pool and panoramic views from Palos Verdes to Malibu.

#3
Hideaway Beach
Montauk, N.Y.
$14.5 million

Boundaries between interior and exterior dissolve in this modern marvel. Stairs lead down to a private beach and some of the best surfing and fishing around.

#4
Hideaway Beach
Marco Island
$8.9 million

In a gated community with two miles of beach and a challenging executive golf course, this Italianate masterpiece has nearly 9,000 square feet under air and a total of more than 17,000 square feet.

REAL ESTATE NEWSMAKERS

Brokers Mark DiSabato and Rick Armalavage have opened Encore Realty in Naples. The company is a member of a vertically integrated group of companies that includes Encore Realty, Encore Development, Encore Asset Management of Florida/Ohio and Gateway-Encore Resort Management Services. Mr. DiSabato began his career in real estate while attending The Ohio State University. Upon graduation in 1978, he became a broker and worked the next eight years in real estate sales, building and management. Over the next two decades, he was directly involved in the land acquisition, zoning, financing, development and sales for apartments, town homes and four-plex condominiums in the Columbus, Ohio, area. He moved to Naples in mid-2006. Mr. Armalavage is a 1982 graduate of Indiana University. He has worked with hundreds of banks, attorneys and private owners, consulting on every aspect of development, including programming, sales and construction with leading developers in Southwest Florida. The Naples office of Encore Realty is at 2240 Venetian Court. For more information, call 566-2350 or visit www.EncoreRealty.com.

Victor Cuccia has joined Florida Home Realty Collier County as sales person. Formerly of DiVosta Homes’ Venetianwalk in Naples, Mr. Cuccia has earned the Sand Dollar and Pinnacle awards for top-producing on-site salesperson for five consecutive years. He is a member of the Naples Area Board of Realtors and the Florida and National associations of Realtors.

Keith Dasbach has joined Downing-Frye Realty Inc. as a sales associate. Originally from Cleveland, Ohio, Mr. Dasbach is launching his real estate career with Downing-Frye. He holds a bachelor’s degree in marketing from the University of Toledo and has been a resident of Florida since 2003. He belongs to the Naples Area Board of Realtors and the Florida and National associations of Realtors.

Brooker/owner Jerry Osinski and sales manager Kathy Paglia of the Naples-headquartered franchise of Weichert, Realtors – On the Gulf recently attended the eighth annual “Weichert Real Estate Associates Homecoming” in New Jersey. More than 120 owners, brokers and managers from Weichert affiliates around the country were in attendance.
5. Kai Ala Drive
Kaanapali, Hawaii
$23.8 million
The azure Pacific presents a dramatic backyard of this incredible estate that has two master suites, six guest suites and separate caretaker’s quarters. There’s also a yoga pavilion and an exercise room.

6. Ribera Road
Carmel, Calif.
$13.95 million
At the southern end of Carmel Bay and with easy access to Carmel and Pebble Beach, this 8,700-square-foot residence has views of the ocean and the rugged Point Lobos coastline.

7. Riviera Drive
Abalone Point
Laguna Beach, Calif.
$31.5 million
On a prestigious point that’s “an enclave within an enclave,” this home is on more than ½ acre adjacent to another ½ acre of open beachfront owned by the association. There are five bedrooms and eight baths. The infinity pool and spa are in a private courtyard. The formal dining room seats 16, and loggias afford seating for 24 more guests.

8. St. Lucie Boulevard
Stuart, Fla.
$6.95 million
This post-Modern mansion sits on 1.25 acres along the shores of the St. Lucie River, considered by sportsmen to be the Sailfish Capital of the World. The main house has five bedrooms and 7½ baths; the guesthouse has two bedrooms. The state-of-the-art dock has a self-propelled tram that moves passengers and equipment to deepwater dockage for a boat up to 150 feet in length.

9. Oceanfront Walk
Pacific Beach, Calif.
$6.5 million
The entrance to this ultimate contemporary beach house is a 30-foot atrium capped by a fully retractable roof. The indoor-outdoor living room has floor-to-ceiling sliding glass walls and an enclosed Jacuzzi.

10. Loveladies
Long Beach Township, N.J.
$7.25 million
“Serenity” is a fitting name for this home that enjoys 125 feet of Atlantic coastline. There are five bedrooms and 4½ baths, plus a three-stop elevator, Swarovski pendant lighting and numerous plasma TVs.

11. Point Place
Laguna Beach, Calif.
$11.85 million
Access to the beach far below this hilltop home is via a secured staircase. Even cooler than that, however, is the garage with subterranean parking accessed via a clever hydraulic lift.
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Authentic beach cottage, 2642SF, amazing views, fl  replace. $999,000

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6 • PARK SHORE - ALLEGRO • 4101 Gulf Shore Blvd. #32E • $699,000 • Premier Properties • Susie Culp 290-2200

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>$1,500,000
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>$2,000,000
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18 • OLD NAPLES - GARDEN RACER • 378 - 6th Street South #1 • $2,199,000 • Premier Properties • Richard Culp 290-2200

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19 • VANDERBILT BEACH - MORAYA BAY • 1125 Gulfshore Drive • From $2,500,000 • Premier Properties • Call 239-594-5050 • Mon. - Sat. 10-5 and Sun. 12-5

>$4,000,000
20 • OLD NAPLES • 272 - 11th Avenue South • $2,800,000 • Premier Properties • Mitch/Sandra Williams 370-8879

>$5,000,000
21 • MOORINGS • 265 Springline Drive • $2,995,000 • Premier Properties • Call 239-261-3148

>$6,000,000
22 • GREY OAKS - ESTUARY • 1280 Osprey Trail • $4,995,000 • Premier Properties • Call 239-263-3448

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Opportunity isn’t just knocking... it’s kicking in the door.
Two Jessicas take the lead in summer show

BY NANCY STETSON

Sitting in on rehearsals for “Annie” at the Sugden Community Theatre would be enough to make you believe in alternate universes. Because there, on the stage, exist not one, but two Little Orphan Annies and two compete sets of 11 orphans.

And both young actresses playing Annie happen to be named Jessica. There’s Jessica Cohen and Jessica Daniels. They — and the two sets of orphans — perform on alternating weeks.

Miss Daniels had the pleasure of opening the show July 2, and Miss Cohen has the honor of closing The Naples Players’ production Aug. 1.

The girls are members of KidzAct, the junior branch of The Naples Players, led by KidzAct director and child wrangler Megan McCombs. Dallas Dunnagan, artistic director of The Naples Players, directs the show.

Having two sets of child actors is common at the Sugden, and is done for a couple reasons: It doesn’t tax them as much, as they don’t have to participate in every performance, and it gives more children an opportunity to perform on stage.

It might be a hard-knock life, but these two Jessicas are enjoying playing Little Orphan Annie. To find out more about them, see page C4.

Mockingbird’ marks 50

BY FLORIDA WEEKLY STAFF

To Kill a Mockingbird is a phenomenon. It continues to enjoy mainstream success, even amid a pop culture saturated by social networks and viral videos. A staple of high school curricula, the novel garners a reaction wherever its name comes up.

“It still sells very well here,” said Don Poole, owner of One For All Books in Cape Coral. He sold three copies of the book on the day we called. “It’s really a throwback to another time, and it brings up a lot of nostalgia.”

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the book, and bookstores, websites and literary publications are abuzz, celebrating the Pulitzer prize-winning bestseller.

Joann Ellis assigned and read the book six times when she taught English at Lehigh Senior High School. She rereads the adventures of Atticus Finch, Scout, Dill and Boo Radley every couple of years.

“I taught ‘Romeo and Juliet’ (and) ‘The Outsiders,’ but ‘To Kill a Mockingbird’ was the best one,” she said. Reading it in public, as she often does, is an unspoken invitation to bond with strangers. “It’s the only book that everybody would come up to me and want to talk about it (saying), ‘Oh, I love that book.’ Or ‘I’ve been meaning to read that.’”

Despite the book’s firm place as an American classic, some critics argue that it is pop-culture pablum, a simplistic work that miraculously — in the way mainstream works often do — gained overwhelming and perhaps unwarranted attention. Like the friend who thinks the Beatles are overrated or that “The Godfather was just a so-so movie, there are those who believe all the hoopla surrounding Harper Lee’s story of life in the south during the 1930s doesn’t warrant all the attention it receives.

Here’s what some Southwest Florida fans and critics had to say about the book that has become an institution:

“Teaching the novel to students at Fort Myers High School holds special meaning as the students learn about the difficulties of integration at their own school. We bring in guest speakers who attended school at Fort Myers during the riots. The students learn from these individuals how tense the atmosphere was and how students from both races came to an understanding and learned new cultural values. I also have my students interview parents, grandparents and even neighbors about their experiences during the Civil Rights Movement. Toward the conclusion of the unit, students know that ‘To Kill a Mockingbird’ isn’t just a novel about a tomboy named Scout and her odd neighbor named Boo. They know that 1954 was the year Brown vs. Board of Education was decided, and that Jim Crow laws were alive and visible in our own city.”

— Kimberly Jones

English teacher
Fort Myers High School

SEE “MOCKINGBIRD,” C4

Go nuts

Antiques expert Terry Kovel explains the attraction of vintage nutcrackers.

Inexplicable ‘Eclipse’

Guys might have trouble understanding latest vampire flick.

Sweet!

Even though it’s a chain, Sweet Tomatoes rates a review.

‘Bright at Home’

New show opens Fridays at Sweet Art Gallery, and more arts and entertainment listings.
SANDY DAYS, SALTY NIGHTS

Belle and the righteous beauty

‘She flipped her hair over her shoulder and cut her big blue eyes in our direction. I hated her instantly...’ 

to realize that another attendee, too, was missing: the righteous beauty with the nose ring. She slunk in a half hour later, and the Annapolis grad arrived a full hour after her. The attendees fussed over him and the belle joined them, beaming her big, innocent smile up at him. 

Four of us, early arrivals for a weekend conference in Tampa, slogged down concrete alleyways in search of a bar, a bistro — any respite from the heat. We found a dark pub off the main drag where we could order cold beer and watch the World Cup on the big screen. I surveyed my new companions as we sipped our drinks. There was a gangly, awkward man, the kind of guy who talks too much and buys rounds too early in the night; a Norwegian, tall and blond, fiercely bright but unsure of himself; and a recent Annapolis grad, with dark hair cut short and biceps that strained the fabric of his polo shirt, a sort of Gerard Butler when Gerard Butler still wore leather skirts and fought the Mongol horde. The kind of man I might fall for if I were 10 years younger and not a recent Annapolis grad in a low voice, she spoke to the Norwegian, tall and blond, fiercely bright but unsure of himself; and a recent Annapolis grad, with dark hair cut short and biceps that strained the fabric of his polo shirt, a sort of Gerard Butler when Gerard Butler still wore leather skirts and fought the Mongol horde. The kind of man I might fall for if I were 10 years younger and not a recent Annapolis grad. 

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By the time we got back to the hotel, registration for the conference had begun. Other attendees stood in small groups, laughing nervously, trying to lay-in friends for the weekend. At the back of the registration line, a young woman with long, dark hair smiled shyly toward our group. I realized with a start that she was eyeing the Annapolis grad. When she said something to the woman next to her, I could hear her southern drawl. She flipped her hair over her shoulder and cut her big blue eyes in our direction. I hated her instantly.

After the first series of workshops, a group of us headed to the hotel’s pool-side bar. The southern belle worked her way to the Annapolis grad until she was sitting next to him, dangling her feet in the pool. At breakfast the next morning, she dragged her chair close to his, squeezing herself into the space alongside him. She stood next to him during breaks and gave him meaningful looks across the conference room. Late in the day, a new attendee arrived. She was older than the southern belle, and without her guileless expression. She wore ripped jeans and a ring in her nose. When she introduced herself to the crowd in a voice that sounded like she had spent her life surfing off the coast of California, the Annapolis grad in the row behind me said, “Righteous.”

That night, again at the bar, I watched the belle have her own mini breakdown. She spoke to the Norwegian in a low voice, confessing some worry, and tried to hold the Annapolis grad’s hand. I slipped out of the bar into the hot Tampa night. In the morning, the belle sat behind me, cooing in her soft southern accent. The Annapolis grad, though, was late. As we searched for him, trying his cell phone, checking his room, people began to realize that another attendee, too, was missing: the righteous beauty with the nose ring. She slunk in a half hour later, and the Annapolis grad arrived a full hour after her. The attendees fussed over him and the belle joined them, beaming her big, innocent smile up at him.

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Saturday
7:30 - 11:30 a.m

Third Street South Farmers Market

Fruits, vegetables, baked goods, cheeses, fresh fish, food, flowers, plants, herbs, soaps, and much more can all be found.

Music fills the air.
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Breakfast & Lunch, Sunday Brunch

Glorious Food, Great Shops & Graceful Byways
I think my favorite thing about

Favorite thing about playing Annie: I choose the book this year so that they would understand what it was like when I was growing up.

“They’re amazed and they don’t get it. They don’t understand how Tom Robinson could be convicted even though he hadn’t done it. And so they keep asking questions. And you just keep explaining that’s the way it was and it didn’t matter if he was guilty or not. They’re so convinced that rightness will always prevail and goodness will always come out on top.”

— Joann Ellis
former English teacher

Favorite song from “Annie”:

“The amazing thing about this novel is that it has been a bonding element in the experiences of American youth for a half century. I’m not sure it’s a great cultural touchstone for the American experience. As a staple in school curricula for so many decades, it has shaped our collective memory of our past. We have come to agree that its vision of America’s struggle with race is one we share. For all its cultural power, it is not a novel I have returned to as an adult — except to teach it once or twice.”

— Philip K. Jason, professor
emeritus, U.S. Naval Academy

FORT MYERS

CAPITOL THEATRE

“Mockingbird”
From page C1

“I enjoy teaching this book because of the point of view from which the story is told. A grown woman looks back and reminisces about a period of her childhood that impacted her significantly, yet she relays the events with the innocence and naivety she had as a child. The writer’s tone allows the reader to reflect on the issues of racism, class and justice from a neutral position.”

— Marge Dougherty
English teacher
Canterbury School, Fort Myers

“Harper Lee ingeniously engineered the narrative point of view and the structure of the novel to include the epiphanies of both children and adults and sometimes blend them together to show that children can possess uncanny wisdom and that not all grown-ups are mature adults. The lessons of this novel are endless.”

— Jennifer Tomlinson,
English teacher
Fort Myers High School

“‘The real event that inspired this story, the courage of the real African American men and women who endured injustices regularly, and the implications of a white woman’s attraction to a black man, were all perspectives and topics that our teacher did not address. It was just easier in those days to side-step these issues and ‘protect’ our young sensibilities. ... Some would claim that this book is dated in the age of Obama. I think it’s as relevant now as ever.”

— Ad Hudler
Fort Myers author,
emeritus, U.S. Naval Academy

JESSICA DANIELS

> Dates playing Annie: July 14-18, 28-30
> Age: 10
> School: Vineyards Elementary
> Grade in the fall: Fifth
> Other plays or previous stage experience: This is my first one. I haven’t been in any other plays before.

> Favorite song from “Annie”: “Tomorrow,” because there’s always hope for tomorrow.

> Thinking about acting as a profession: Yes. I’d like to be on Broadway.

> Favorite actor and actress: Don’t have any, really.

> Acting tips learned from this show: I learned how to turn, how to cross on the stage, and to act very well and fake a cry. Dallas (Dunnagan, the director) taught me a lot.

> Other than “Annie,” favorite musical: “Annie” is my favorite one.

> Thinking about acting as a profession: Yes. I’d like to be on Broadway. But if I could be an actress, I would love it.

> Favorite thing about playing Annie: I think my favorite thing about playing Annie is that she’s always a very positive, happy character.

JESSICA COHEN

> Dates playing Annie: July 7-11, 14-18, 21-25, 31, Aug. 1
> Age: I’m 11. I turn 12 in August.
> School: Oakridge Middle School
> Grade in the fall: Seventh
> Other plays or previous stage experience: This is the eighth show I’ve done at the Sugden, but my first with The Naples Players. It’s exciting to be part of KidzAct, and it’s a new thing to work with adults. Some other shows I’ve done: “Dear Edwina,” “A Year with Frog and Toad,” “The Nutcracker Goes Pop,” “Annie,” and “Willie Wonka,” I played Veruca Salt, which was my biggest role up to now.

> Favorite song from “Annie”: “Maybe.” I think the words really speak to the audience. It’s just a very nice song.

> Acting tips learned from this show: The directors, Dallas (Dunnagan, the director) and musical director Charlie Fornara and (choreographer) Dawn Fornara have taught me not only acting skills and singing... They’ve taught me about teamwork and responsibility.

> Other than “Annie,” favorite musical: “The Sound of Music” and “Into the Woods”

> Thinking about acting as a profession: Yes. It would be fun to be able to work on stage and bring joy to people with my music.

> Favorite actor and actress: Johnny Depp, because he puts so much effort into everything he does and it is a comical character all the time. And Rachel McAdams from “The Notebook.”

> Favorite thing about playing Annie: Working with the adults and with new actors and actresses, and the dog (Twister Willis). I’d never worked with an animal before... The entire show is filled with new experiences for me, which is a great thing.}

LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIES

From page 1

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Need Plans for Friday Night?

From 5:00pm to 8:00pm every Friday Shula’s presents Bob Zottola and the Expandable Jazz Band in the Shula’s lounge.

Come enjoy happy hour and complimentary hors d’oeuvres while you kick back to the masterful selection of jazz classics.

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This week’s theater


■ Cinderella - Through July 31 at Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre, 278-4422.

■ Dinner Show - By Naples City Improv at Fred’s Dinner at 6:30 p.m. July 10 and 24 and Aug. 7 and 21. 2700 Immokalee Road. Reservations: 451-7928.


Thursday, July 8

■ A Night Out - Evening on Fifth is set for 6-9 p.m. Stroll the avenue, shop, dine or enjoy a cocktail while listening to live bands. 435-3742 or lisa@naples-chamber.org.

■ Girls’ Night - The Grape at Coconut Point hosts Ladies Night Out at 6 p.m. Enjoy drinks, hors d’oeuvres, music and complimentary tarot card readings. Fashions and accessories will be available for trying and buying, courtesy of Patchington. 25$ 992-5040.

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

■ Quiz Night - The English Pub hosts Quiz Night at 8:30 p.m. 775-3727, 2408 Linwood Ave. www.naplesenglishpub.com.

Friday, July 9

■ Comedians - Paul Hooper and Karen Fitzgerald perform at the Laugh In Comedy Cafe at 8 and 10 p.m. tonight and Saturday. 479-LAFF.

Saturday, July 10

■ Feelin’ Groovy - Jim Witter returns to the Philharmonic Center for the Arts with a tribute to Simon and Garfunkel at 8 p.m. $49. 597-1000 or www.thephil.org.

■ Mango Mania - The Mango Mania Festival takes place today and Sunday at the German-American Social Club, 2108 Pine Island Rd., Cape Coral. 283-0888.


■ Jazz Tunes - The Naples Jazzmasters perform

from 2-4 p.m. every Saturday through the summer at the Norris Community Center, 213-3058.

■ Free Concert - Gulf Coast Town Center presents The Bunche Band from 8-10 p.m. under the stars in Market Plaza. 267-0783 or gulfcoast-towncenter.com.

■ Chess Anyone? - The Southwest Florida Chess Club invites players of all ages and abilities to gather at Books-A-Million at Mercado from 1:30-5 p.m. 896-0458 or e-mail swflchess@yahoo.com.

■ Farmers Market - The North Naples Green Market, Naples’ only indoor and air-conditioned farmers market, is open from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. every Saturday through Sept. 25 at the Collection at Vanderbilt. 249-9480 or www.northnaplesgreenmarket.com.

Sunday, July 11

■ Summer Films - FGCU’s Renaissance Academy presents summer foreign films from 1-4 p.m. on occasional Sundays at the Naples Center, 1011 Fifth Ave. S. Admission is $4 for RA members and $5 for others. Today: “spirited Away.” July 18: “Bus 174.” July 25: “Rashomon.” 425-3722 or e-mail jguerra@fgcu.edu.

■ Hot Stuff - The Hyatt Place Coconut Point hosts a preview party to celebrate Estero Fire Rescue’s first firefigh
ter calendar from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Enjoy barbecue, entertainment and raffles to benefit Partners in Breast Cancer and the Estero Safety Fund. $20. 990-8000 or www.shopcoconutpoint.com.

Monday, July 12

■ Theater Camp - KidAct, The Naples Players Youth Theatre, has Summer 2010 Theatre Camp, for ages 4-18, session three, from today through July 23. 434-7340 ext. 10.

■ Love Trivia? - The Pub at Mercato has Trivia Night every Monday at 7:30 p.m. 594-9400.

Tuesday, July 13


■ Pet Party - Every Tuesday is Yappy Hour at The Dock at Crayton Cove from 5-6:30 p.m. By and their people can get acquainted, have a drink and a snack, with contributions accept-
ted for the Naples Dog Park.

■ Movie Night - Gulf Coast Town Center hosts Cinema Under the Stars on Tuesdays, with movies starting at 8:30 p.m. in Market Plaza Courtyard. Tonight: “The Little Rascals.”

■ Team Trivia - Boston Beer Garden Team Trivia is played at 9 p.m. every Tuesday at 2386 Immokalee Rd. 999-2337.

Wednesday, July 14

■ Accessory Evening - Join Signatures at Mercato from 6-9 p.m. for “A Night of Accessories” with champage, sweets, raffles and surprises. 254-5800.

■ Free Kids Movie - “Astro Boy” plays at 10 a.m. at Hollywood Stadium 20-Naples; 597-4252. Free tickets, first-come, first-served.

■ Pirate Night - Join The English Pub every Wednes-
day for Pirate Night and Hermit Crab Races as well as live entertainment at 6:30 p.m. 275-3727 or www.naplesenglishpub.com.
WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

- **Dance Nights** - Verginia hosts a Dancing under the Stars Summer Dance Contest at 8 p.m. every Wednesday, with prizes for winners. The contest finals are Nov 17. 659-7008 or www.verginarestaurant.com.

- **Song Night** - Wednesdays are Singer-Songwriter Night from 7-10 p.m. at Fred's Diner, 2700 Immokalee Road, Naples. 431-7928 or www.fredsdiner.com.

- **Doggie Stroll** - The Naples Botanical Garden hosts Dogs in the Park from 9-11 a.m. July 15. $4.95 for non-members and free for members. www.naplesgarden.org or 643-7275.

- **Funny Guy** - Comedian Billy Gardell performs July 15-17 at the Off The Hook Comedy Club on Marco Island. 389-6900.

- **Island Tunes** - The Art League of Bonita Springs’ “Live at the Promenade” presents island sounds with John Frinzi and John Patti from 7-9 p.m. July 15 at the Promenade at Bonita Bay. $15 members/$20 non-members.

- **Music and More** - Third Thursday on Third is set for 6-9 p.m. July 15 on Third Street South, with music and entertainment. 434-6533.

- **Solid Gold** - Barry Newman performs “Memories of Gold,” celebrating hits from the ’50s and ’60s, at noon July 17 at the Big Cypress Dinner Theater in the Big Cypress Marketplace. $25 in advance for lunch and the show. 774-1690 or www.bigcypressmarketplace.com.

- **Beauty Event** - “Makeup Madness” starts at 11 a.m. July 17 at Nancy Joseph Makeup Studio, 4049 Tamiami Trail N, Ste 102. Experience styling sessions with professional makeup artists and skin professionals. Enjoy cocktails, appetizers, door prizes and music. $20. 643-5477.

- **The Cove** - Collier County Friends of the Library present a free screening of the Academy Award-winning documentary, “The Cove,” at 2 p.m. July 21 at Headquarters Library and at 2 p.m. July 22 at Naples Regional Library, 593-9377 or 263-7768.

- **Carnival of Madness** - Germain Arena presents Carnival of Madness, featuring Shinedown, Chevelle, Puddle of Mudd, Sevendust and 10 Years, at 5 p.m. July 21 at the Big Cypress Dinner Theater in the Big Cypress Marketplace. $25 in advance for lunch and the show. 774-1690 or www.germainarena.com or 800-745-3000.

- **Comedy Show** - Comedian Nick Di Paolo performs July 22-25 at the Off The Hook Comedy Club on Marco Island. 389-6900.

- **Art Party** - The “All About Color” opening reception is set for 6-8 p.m. July 23 at the Art League of Bonita Springs’ Center for the Arts. The exhibition will remain on display through Aug. 26. 495-8989.

- **Photo Show** - The FGCU Renaissance Academy presents “Pictures at an Exhibition by Mussorgsky” from 10-11:30 a.m. July 23 at the Naples Center. 425-3272.

- **Laser Shows** - The Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium hosts laser light shows at 4, 7 and 9 p.m. July 23 and 24, and 4 and 7 p.m. July 25 and 26, 279-3435.

- **Feline Fest** - The 19th annual Cat Show is set for 9 a.m.-4 p.m. July 24-25 at the Araba Shriners Hall, 2010 Hanson St, 772-5399 or Jcampb4244@aol.com.

- **Birthday Event** - Henry Ford’s Birthday Celebration starts at 10 a.m. July 30 at the Edison & Ford Winter Estates, 334-7419.

- **Ol’ Blue Eyes** - Ray Livisi performs his tribute to Frank Sinatra at noon July 31 at the Big Cypress Dinner Theatre at Big Cypress Marketplace. $25 in advance for lunch and the show. 774-1690 or www.bigcypressmarketplace.com.

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**Dance Nights** - Verginia hosts a Dancing under the Stars Summer Dance Contest at 8 p.m. every Wednesday, with prizes for winners. The contest finals are Nov 17. 659-7008 or www.verginarestaurant.com.

**Song Night** - Wednesdays are Singer-Songwriter Night from 7-10 p.m. at Fred’s Diner, 2700 Immokalee Road, Naples. 431-7928 or www.freds-diner.com.

**Doggie Stroll** - The Naples Botanical Garden hosts Dogs in the Park from 9-11 a.m. July 15. $4.95 for non-members and free for members. www.naplesgarden.org or 643-7275.

**Funny Guy** - Comedian Billy Gardell performs July 15-17 at the Off The Hook Comedy Club on Marco Island. 389-6900.

**Island Tunes** - The Art League of Bonita Springs’ “Live at the Promenade” presents island sounds with John Frinzi and John Patti from 7-9 p.m. July 15 at the Promenade at Bonita Bay. $15 members/$20 non-members.

**Music and More** - Third Thursday on Third is set for 6-9 p.m. July 15 on Third Street South, with music and entertainment. 434-6533.

**Solid Gold** - Barry Newman performs “Memories of Gold,” celebrating hits from the ’50s and ’60s, at noon July 17 at the Big Cypress Dinner Theater in the Big Cypress Marketplace. $25 in advance for lunch and the show. 774-1690 or www.bigcypressmarketplace.com.

**Beauty Event** - “Makeup Madness” starts at 11 a.m. July 17 at Nancy Joseph Makeup Studio, 4049 Tamiami Trail N, Ste 102. Experience styling sessions with professional makeup artists and skin professionals. Enjoy cocktails, appetizers, door prizes and music. $20. 643-5477.

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Don’t wait for tomorrow to book tickets to ‘Annie’

While watching “Annie” at the Sugden Community Theatre opening night, I was reminded of the joke about the boy who was presented with a roomful of horse manure. Others might have been upset, but he was excited. When asked why, he said, “Well, with all this manure, there’s bound to be a pony in there somewhere!”

And that epitomizes Annie — both the play and the character, which are equally and irresponsibly sunny and upbeat.

As a little orphan, Annie possesses in seemingly limitless supply what used to be called moxie. She’s a scrappy little kid, ever confident that things will work out. She’s 10, and though she’s still in the orphanage where her parents dropped her off as a baby, she’s certain they will return, some day, to claim her.

Initially a comic strip that originated in the 20s, “Annie” became a Broadway musical 33 years ago. After many reviv- als and multiple national tours, the show remains an audience favorite.

The production at the Sugden proves why.

The songs are catchy (just try to get “Tomorrow” or “Easy Street” out of your head), and everything moves along at a good pace. There are lots of adorable kids and one really cute dog. And there’s a fairy-tale ending.

The Naples Players artistic director Dal- las Dunnagan has done a masterful job directing this musical, working with two teams of young actresses who alternate from week to week in the roles of Annie and the 11 orphans (Team One performed opening night; Team Two will close the show on Aug. 11). The remaining cast, more than two dozen adults, is the same for every performance.

It’s difficult to believe that Jessica Dan- iels (who we saw opening night and who alternates as Annie with Jessica Cohen) has never been on stage before. She’s a natural, belting out songs with ease and making you fall in love with her.

Miss Daniels sings “Tomorrow” with such sincerity, it’s almost as if you’ve never heard the song before. She really tells the role.

And 6-year-old Kylie Campbell as Molly, the youngest orphan, is also a standout. She almost steals the show, especially when imitating Miss Hannigan, the mean and spiteful head of the orphanage.

Ditto for another 6-year-old — Nova Scotia duck tolling retriever Twister Wil- lis, who plays Sandy. Although he doesn’t have a speaking role, he expresses himself with soulful eyes and wagging tail.

Great adult acting, too

Adult actors have always been warned against portraying kids or dogs because they tend to steal the show, and in this musical, they bravely act with both. Because there are so many, and because some of them play multiple characters, it’s difficult to name every one who stood out. Some gems scattered throughout the pro- duction include:

Suzanna Reed as Daddy Warbucks’ chef, Mrs. Pugh, made me laugh as she recited the menu choices, especially when she came to “Baked Alaska.”

Jasmine Vizena as a wannabe star arriv- ing in New York City gained applause after belting out a verse of “NYC.”

And Jason Eugenides as slick radio host Bert Healy and the all-girl trio consisting of Beverly Canell, Ellen Cooper and Ms. Vizena. The ensemble numbers are just as power- ful as the solos, particularly the songs performed by Daddy Warbucks’ maids, servants and butlers, and “We’d Like to Thank You, Herbert Hoover,” sung by a group of unemployed and homeless.

Jim Corsica, who shaved his head for the role, portrays a solid Daddy War- bucks; initially stiff and not sure how to deal with a little girl, he warms up to Annie and wants to adopt her.

The attraction between him and his sec- retary, Grace (Katie Raleigh), seems to be downplayed in this production. Ms. Raleigh per- sonifies her character’s name and is almost a fairy godmother, with her appearance at the orphanage changing Annie’s life forever.

Debi Gutherie is hilarious as the villain Miss Hannigan, head of the orphanage. As she harangues the children and makes them mop the floors at 4 a.m., she’s the most cartoonlike of the cast, and for good reason: It would be a very dark show if she played her role straight. (As it is, it’s pretty creepy that she forces the kids to say “I love you, Miss Hannigan,” even as she berates and abuses them.) But you can’t help but laugh as she sneers lines such as “Did I hear happiness in here?”

Miss Hannigan listens to radio romances and songs for love, and her flask is never far from her lips. She has a solo in “Little Girls” (in which she dreams of wring- ing their necks), but the showstopper is “I’d Be Your Lover,” which she performs with her brother Rooster (Randall Jones) and his floozy girlfriend Lily (Mary Anne McKernan). Ms. Gutherie demonstrates that she not only possesses great comedic timing, but can do physical comedy as well, as she shimmy and shakes and r Vive her own.

Theater is a collaborative effort, and musical director Charles Fornara and cho- rographer Dawn Lefebre Forsnera deserve kudos for their substanc- tial roles in making this produc- tion of “Annie” as bright and shiny as a brand new penny.

I especially liked the way the adults in Hooversville seemed to echo the orphan’s dance in ‘Hard Knock Life’.

Dot Aшихcoody’s costumes serve the show well. Annie’s iconic red dress, with its white and black trim, seems as if it were drawn with pen and ink. (The orphans’ complementary outfits at the end of the musical were also a clever touch.)

Matt Flynn’s scenic design is outstand- ing. Of special note are the backdrop of New York City and the muscular-looking street corner (where Sandy strays into Annie’s life) that looks as if it were painted by George Bellows.

Unfortunately, the sound was not top- notch on opening night. The speaker on stage right seemed to work intermittent- ly, and sometimes you couldn’t hear the orphans’ individual lines, whether sung or spoken.

Even if you’ve seen it before…

“Annie,” in some ways, is a strange little musical. It contains some New York jokes, a Jersey joke and a couple of jabs at Demo- crats. (Daddy Warbucks, of course, is a Republican, having made his fortune from Wall Street.) There’s a love song to New York City, a number performed by the homeless section of the audience that’s like—behind-the-scenes at a radio program, and even a meeting of the President’s Cabinet.

If not directed well, it can be shockingly sweet and irritating. Lazy directors can depend purely upon the cuteness of the kids (and a canoe) to carry the show.

That isn’t the case here.

This “Annie” is pure entertain- ment and highly enjoy- able — even if you think you couldn’t possibly stand to hear “Tomorrow” once more.

The show has played here before, including a national tour and a run at the Naples Dinner Theatre. It’s also slated to play at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre next summer.

But this is a production you shouldn’t miss.
GIVING

New children’s garden grows at YMCA

The YMCA of the Palms Child Care Center has a new hands-on learning laboratory thanks to a recently completed 2,000-square-foot garden at the Greater Naples YMCA. Designed for children up to age 5, the garden will let youngsters tend plantings and learn about plants, insects, the seasons and the sun. At the same time, they will develop core values when they take on responsibilities such as watering and weeding.

“The children’s garden encompasses the YMCA’s three main areas of focus, from youth development to healthy living to social responsibility,” says Brandon Dowdy, CEO of the YMCA of the Palms. “It provides an ever-changing, outdoor classroom for daily exploration that enhances our curriculum in a very tangible, real-world way.”

The garden, which includes tomatoes and zucchini, herbs such as cilantro and rosemary, and flowers that attract butterflies, took shape with the help of 12 volunteers from Goldman Sachs Community TeamWorks in Miami. Spearheaded by the YMCA leadership team and cheered on by 50 children from the voluntary pre-kindergarten classrooms, in just a few hours the volunteers planted five raised beds, watered and mulched the garden, installed four children’s benches and planted a shade tree. Preparation of the garden layout, soil and irrigation had been completed prior.

In addition to Goldman Sachs Community TeamWorks, YMCA members and child-care family Elisabeth and Jacob Nassberg are supporting the garden. While children will assist in caring for the garden, the YMCA is enlisting volunteers for ongoing maintenance. Anyone who is interested should call Beth Hatch at 597-5437 or e-mail bhatch@ymcapalms.org.

Dealership collects school shoes, backpacks

John Marazzi Nissan is joining forces with the Boys and Girls Club of Collier County to equip local children with new sneakers and backpacks for the upcoming school year. Anyone is welcome to collect information about a specific child at the dealership at 3640 Pine Ridge Road. They will then purchase the new tennis shoes and backpacks and return them to the store in time for a student party at the dealership on Saturday, Aug. 7.

The Boys and Girls Club provides after-school programs at its Arlene & Jerry F. Nichols Campus at 7500 Davis Blvd. For more information, call 325-1765 or visit www.bgccc.com.

Grants awarded to Voices for Kids

Voices for Kids of Southwest Florida has recently received almost $40,000 in grants: $30,000 from The United Way of Collier County, $4,000 from Trinity-by-the-Cove Episcopal Church Community Grant Commission and $5,000 from the Levin, Ray and Shoup Foundation.

VFK recruits, trains and supports Guardian ad Litem volunteers, who speak up for local children removed from their homes because of abuse, neglect or abandonment. VFK raises funds to provide financial assistance and other resources for these children’s accompanying health, educational and social needs. For more information, call Connie Sudbrook at 860-0297.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

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Indulge. It’s Italian, redefined.
FLORIDA WEEKLY PUZZLES

RHYME TIME

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

HOROSCOPES

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) It’s a good time to buckle down and tackle those unfinished tasks so you’ll be ready to take on other projects. This week’s end could bring an invitation from a most surprising source.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Mixed signals could create a few stressful moments for the Lion. But by midweek, explanations should help ease the tension. The weekend is party time! Share it with someone special.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) This is a good “catching up” week for finishing tasks, calling old friends and maybe reading that book you haven't opened yet or renting that movie you wanted to see again.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Money matters should be worked out, even if it takes time away from a more romantic situation. Better to settle things before feelings turn hard and angry on all sides.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) A job-related problem could turn out to be less troublesome than it seemed at first. Just a few moments of talk ‘twixt the parties resolves everything to everyone’s satisfaction.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) The Sagittarian Archer takes aim at health and fitness issues this week. Watch your diet, and try to put more exercise time into your typically busy schedule.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) As you continue to focus on a career or job change, it’s a good time to look over some of your rarely used skills and see where they can fit into your future workplace plans.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A friend or health might be worrisome, but there’s good news by midweek. Expect people who share your ideas and your goals to try to contact you by the week’s end.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A colleague’s request that makes the typically perceptive Pisces feel uncomfortable is a request you probably will want to turn down. The weekend favors family get-togethers.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Starting something new is always exciting for the adventurous Aries. And here’s the good news: This time you might be able to get some assistance in helping you finish what you’ve started.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Put your daydreaming penchant on hold for now, and face the facts as they are, not as you’d like them to be. Your customary hardheaded approach to “deals,” etc., would be called for.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Problems beyond your control might delay some of your plans. But things should start to get back to normal by midweek. The weekend could bring an unexpected (but welcome) visitor.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a gift for making others feel warm and wanted. Even newcomers feel like old friends.
True dialogue from “The Twilight Saga: Eclipse,” spoken by Jacob to Bella as he explains his virtues over Edward’s: “Hey, at least I’m alive.”

He’s got a point there. Too bad the movie isn’t alive with decent dialogue, a more interesting story and better acting. This isn’t quite as bad as the last installment, “New Moon,” but it’s not much better either.

Still trying to set the record for most whining ever by a teenage girl, Bella (Kristen Stewart) is committed to her love for Edward (Robert Pattinson), but groans about him not making her a vampire. No teenager should have to make such eternal mortality decisions. Danger lurks in the return of evil vamp Victoria (Bryce Dallas Howard), as she’s creating an army of newborns led by recent convert Riley (Xavier Samuel).

Through a variety of circumstances, all supposedly derived from Stephenie Meyer’s best-selling book (which will continue to rack up sales by me!), Bella also spends a good amount of time with Jacob (Taylor Lautner, still with great abs) and his fellow werewolves. Even though Edward and Jacob are natural enemies and both love Bella, their clans unite in order to stave off Victoria’s attack and keep Bella safe. The playful but serious rivalry between Edward and Jacob is amusing, notably in a tent late in the film. And the history of werewolves is explained, which provides needed context. More amusing, relevant scenes like these are needed to keep the tone brisk and lively.

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As a teen girl fantasy, “Eclipse” will likely suffice to generate ample “Twihard” interest leading into the two-part fourth film. As anything else, it’s a dull, occasionally amusing soap opera that leaves a lot to be desired.

— Dan Hudak is the chairman of the Florida Film Critics Circle and a nationally syndicated film critic. You can e-mail him at dan@hudakonhollywood.com and read more of his work at www.hudakonhollywood.com.
FLORIDA WEEKLY FICTION CHALLENGE

BY LISA MULLARKEY, PELICAN BAY

I sit, trembling like a school boy despite the heat, pretending to read the newspaper, while she lies on the beach right before me, sleek; her limbs, back and the slope up her thigh gleaming with oil. I can’t live in this dump forever.

I saw her first, she was in a provoking strip of fabric, she was purposefully positioned herself where I can see her, to remind me that if I don’t act soon, she’ll move on — find someone else. She understands how her physicality affects me, how the sight of her makes me shiver with desire. What I must do is kill the wizened creature at my side — my wife of 40 years, who’s reading, of all things, the Bible. I wonder if the choice is specific, meant to be a subliminal deterrent.

She knows, I suddenly think, and my poor, compromised heart executes a somersault. I glance at my wife. She sits, oblivious in her beach chair, lost in scripture. She has no idea that my blood sizzles and burns for the 20-year-old beauty lying only two yards away.

And then, at two, exactly as planned, I see the Russian. He strolls by, unashamed of his distended belly and scanty black suit. He raises both hands in the air, as if stretching. But it’s a signal. He’s telling me he’s ready. He’ll be on the lake to do what I’ve paid him to do. Tonight.

Tonight, equipped with wine and fishing poles, we’ll take out our boat, as we often do. I’ll be solicitous, pour her wine generously, encourage her to drink, content in what she calls our elderly camaraderie. When we arrive at the place where there are no houses, just mangroves winding deeply into themselves, she, the Russian, will arrive in his boat.

I’ll pretend to need help. I’ll steer to his craft, as if to offer assistance. I’ll lean toward him, and he’ll lean toward me. Then he’ll seize my wife, thrust her overboard, and plunge her into the deep, black water.

Inexplicably, she can’t swim, never learned. To be sure she drowns, he’ll clunk her hard in the head with an oar. We’ll pull away; watch her life ebb out of her. When we’re sure she’s dead, we’ll overturn our own boats, wet ourselves, make it look like there truly was an accident. Then we’ll retrieve her corpse. I’ll tell the police how, when I tried to assist the Russian, we overturned and she hit her head and drowned before I could save her. I’ll tell them how difficult it was for me, given the poor condition of my heart.

The thought of our plan excites me. My heart bangs and flips. I feel it cartwheel in my constricting chest. This isn’t good.

The thought of our plan excites me. My heart bangs and flips. I feel it cartwheel in my constricting chest. This isn’t good. I fumble for the beach bag, which contains my pills. I flip my left hand outwards, grasping, but the bag is too close to her, and my arm feels rubbery; it doesn’t work properly, and …

These were his last thoughts, that afternoon on the beach.

I tried to help him, his wife later told the authorities. But it was too late. He died, right before my eyes.

— Florida Weekly is asking readers to tell us stories. We’ve already done some of the work to help you get started. Using the photo seen here as a starting point for the creative process, we’d like you to come up with a narrative story of 600 words or less. Florida Weekly will accept stories in Word format or written out in the body of an e-mail until Friday, July 23. E-mail submissions to opadilla@floridaweekly.com and we will print the best submissions on these very pages.
“Hearts on a String,” by Kris Radish.
Bantam Books. 336 pages. $15.

REVIEWED BY PHILIP K. JASON
Special to Florida Weekly

What happens if you mix together five women, strangers to one another, in a Tampa airport restroom as killer storms shut down air travel across the country? Read Kris Radish’s latest novel, and you’ll find out. You’ll also enjoy an interesting blend of personalities, the semi-claustrophobic heightening provided by the circumscribed setting, and Ms. Radish’s sassy, edgy brand of sentimentality.

An aging lounge singer, a high-strung businesswoman, a super-mom, an overly self-conscious young hairdresser and a deep-around-babe get tossed together once they decide to wait out the storm (and the cancelled air transport) in a beachside resort hotel. How did they get there to stay until they could resume their travel plans? Well, one of them dropped her cell phone in the toilet, where it got stuck, and their mutual plight of needing something to bond over finally brought them together. And, indeed, they come to reveal that the wish and the delight in imagining the other’s surface concerns; then, slowly they come to reveal more and more to one another, finding a common thread that allows them to open up, to listen and ultimately, to bond.

Along the way, their situation is complicated by rumors of threat, by the convention of psychics also at the hotel and by supreme, significant (and yet hugely comical) agreement the women make to avoid using their cell phones. For this reader, the best parts of the book are the one-to-one conversations. In these chapters, Ms. Radish creates utterly believable transitions from guardedness and one-to-one conversations. In these chapters, Ms. Radish creates utterly believable interactions can become overwhelming and a bit confusing. Generally, though, Ms. Radish meets the challenge of keeping a large cast of equally important major characters clearly differentiated.

Ms. Radish left Wisconsin for Florida to write. She decided that she’d move to the un-N.Y. side of Florida. Where Go Where Goodlette Frank meets 41 in downtown Naples. For several days, we watch their interaction. At least half of the time, they get on one another’s nerves. They are, after all, contrasting types with very different agendas. Given the procession of fierce storms and their need to stay near the airport, they strive to make the best of the situation.

At first, each is a reluctant listener to her suite-mates’ surface concerns; then, slowly they come to reveal more and more on to one another. And, indeed, they come to reveal their cell phones. “They do have to sleep, I would read all night long.”

Ms. Radish suggests that the plot premise of being stranded is the dream of many women. Rather than bringing peril, such a situation brings an opportunity to escape their busy lives, slow down and let go. And she insists it would take courage to do so. She writes, “If that would happen, how many would be brave enough to let go?”

Although she says she benefits from using an outline as a safety net, Ms. Radish also says she lets her characters speak to her and tell her where to take the story. And, as she puts it, “They do have very big mouths.”

Her favorite authors: “I think Alice Munro is the greatest living writer. Barbara Kingsolver and Louise Erdrich are vibrant real writers. I also read a ton of nonfiction and I love poetry. If I didn’t have to sleep, I would read all night long.” Reading, she adds, is “my only bad habit.”

You can follow this daring author at www.krissradish.com.

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FLORIDA WRITERS

Five storm-stranded women: Imagine the possibilities

“We have All Major League Baseball

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### Dancing Under The Star

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### COMING UP AT THE PHIL

**Jim Witter**

**Three Dog Night**

**COURTESY PHOTOS**

Get into the groove of the ’60s

After wowing local audiences with “The Piano Man,” his Elton John/Billy Joel show, Jim Witter returns to the Philharmonic Center for the Arts with a tribute to Simon and Garfunkel at 8 p.m. Saturday, July 10.

“Feelin’ Groovy” promises to take fans on a musical journey back through the ’60s and the days of flower power, peace signs, VW buses and Mrs. Robinson, with selections including “The Sounds of Silence,” “Scarborough Fair,” “Bridge Over Troubled Water” and “Homeward Bound.”

Tickets to “Feelin’ Groovy” are $39. For more information, call 597-1900 or visit www.thephil.org.

Mama told you to come

Three Dog Night, with founding members and lead vocalists Danny Hutton and Cory Wells, performs at the Phil at 8 p.m. Saturday, July 31.

The group had 21 consecutive top 40 singles, including three hits that topped the charts. Its music continues to wind through the fabric of pop culture today, on radio and in films and television commercials. The concert will include performances of “Joy to the World,” “One,” “Mama Told Me (Not to Come)” and “Black and White.”

Tickets to Three Dog Night are $60. For more information, call 597-1900 or visit www.thephil.org.

### Travel Fur Paws

A Charity Luncheon & Travel Show to benefit

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Kindermusik isn’t just for kids

Kindermusik classes at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts offer a world of discovery and adventure for children from newborns to age 7, along with their parents and/or caregivers. In a nurturing environment filled with energy, imagination, music and dancing, children develop skills in language, literacy, listening, problem-solving, self-esteem and musicality. Each age-appropriate program acts as a stepping stone to the next. Here’s what’s coming up:

- **Peck-A-Hoot** For newborns to 18 months, with parent or caregiver present — 9:30-10:15 a.m. Mondays and Thursdays, July 8, 12, 15, 19, 22; $125
- **Zoo Train!** For ages 18 months to 3 years, with parent or caregiver present — 10:30-11:15 Mondays and Thursdays, July 8, 12, 13, 19 and 22; and also 9:30-10:15 a.m. Tuesdays, July 20, 27 and Aug. 3, 10 and 17; $125.
- **Movin’ and Groovin’** For families with children newborn to 7 years — 11-11:45 a.m. Tuesdays, July 20, 27 and Aug. 3, 10 and 17; $200.
- **Confetti Days!** For children 4-7 years, with parent or caregiver joining class for the last 15 minutes — 10-11:30 a.m. Aug. 4, 9, 12, 16 and 19; $150.

For registration or more information, call 254-2642 or e-mail Joy Ann Lawfer at jlawfer@thephil.org.

September auditions set for Youth Chorale

Young people between the ages of 7 and 17 who love to sing are invited to audition for the 2010-11 season with the Philharmonic Youth Chorale on Saturday, Sept. 5, at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. The chorale performs with the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra.

Those wishing to audition should prepare a song of their choosing that showcases their vocal talents. Selections should be no longer than two minutes. All auditions must be with piano accompaniment, not to recorded music or a cappella, and a copy must be provided for the piano accompanist. 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 Philharmonic Youth Chorale rehearses weekly on Saturday mornings with breaks that coincide with public school vacation schedules. Annual tuition for the Philharmonic Youth Chorale is $100. The music fee is $25. Some scholarships are available.

For more information or to schedule an audition, call 254-2642 or e-mail jlawfer@thephil.org.
Arts organizations issue call to the creatives

It’s not the season for art shows, but summer is the time for area artists to prepare entries and submit applications for a host of exhibits and juried shows on the calendar in the months ahead.

In Naples
• The Naples Art Association invites entries for consideration for “National Art Encounter 2010,” the fine art and contemporary craft exhibition at The von Liebig Art Center from Sept. 11 to Oct. 30. The NAA will present $2,500 in awards to artists selected by exhibition juror and awards judge Denise Gerson, associate director of the Lowe Art Museum, University of Miami, and a member of the annual Curator’s Panel sponsored by Art Nexus during Art Basel Miami Beach.

Deadline for entries is July 26. There is a $29 entry fee for two works ($22 for Naples Art Association members). Membership in the NAA is not required. To enter, go to www.juriedartservices.com and click on “National Art Encounter 2010.”

The NAA also announces that online registration at www.juriedartservices.com is open for the following national art festivals:
• The Naples Fall Fine Art & Craft Festival (formerly the Naples Renaissance Fall Art Festival) on Nov. 26-27. The application deadline is Sept. 19.
• The 15th annual Downtown Naples New Year’s Art Fair on Jan. 1-2, 2011 (application deadline Sept. 29).
• The 32nd annual Naples National Art Festival on Feb. 26-27, 2011 (application deadline Nov. 3).
• The second annual Mercato Fine Arts Festival on March 5-6 (application deadline Dec. 19).

• The 23rd annual Downtown Naples Festival of the Arts on March 26-27 (application deadline Dec. 29).

For more information, call Marianne Megela at 262-5007, ext. 103, or e-mail marianne.megela@naplesart.org. Visit www.JuriedArtServices.com for complete registration details for the individual festivals.

In Bonita Springs
• The 2011 Bonita Springs National Art Festivals are set for Jan. 15-16 and March 12-13 at the Promenade at Bonita Bay. Entries for the jurying process must be received by Oct. 8 for the January exhibit and by Nov. 8 for the March festival. For more information, call 992-1243 or e-mail artfest@artunsa.com.

In Fort Myers
• The Alliance for the Arts is accepting members’ entries for “I Foot by 1 Foot or Smaller,” a big exhibit of little works that runs Aug. 13 through Sept. 4. Artists are to drop off entries between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 9-10.

Specifications: One entry per member. Artwork must be 12-by-12 inches or smaller. Medium is open (too crafts). All artwork must be wired and ready to hang; must have been completed in the last two years and not been previously shown at the alliance. Artists are responsible for all delivery or shipping costs. A 40 percent commission will be retained by the alliance on all work sold during the exhibition.

The show is open to all Alliance for the Arts members free of any additional charge. Non-members wishing to enter must have the option of paying the “Buy It Now” price or making a silent bid for the item of their choice. Bids will close at 3 p.m. Thursday, July 22.

From 2-3 p.m. every day through July 31, Marco Island Art League members will give free demonstrations in art restoration and rejuvenation techniques. Here are the topics:
• Tuesday, July 13: “Give New Life to Aging Frames” with Betty Newman.
• Thursday, July 15: “A Striptease for Old Cars” with Tara O’Neill.
• Tuesday, July 20: “Rescue Broken Ceramic Pieces” with Sandy Moore Haines.
• Wednesday, July 21: “CPR for Photographs” with Carol Kinkead.
• Thursday, July 22: “Recycle Faded Jewels into Stylish Treasures” with Tara O’Neill.

The center is open from noon to 5 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

For more information, call 939-2787 or visit www.ArtInLee.org.

July 12-22 are ArtBild days at Marco Island’s Center for the Arts. Shoppers and art aficionados are invited to visit the center and select something from the treasure trove filled with artwork plus frame and materials for artists. They have the option of paying the “Buy It Now” price or making a silent bid for the item of their choice. Bids will close at 3 p.m. Thursday, July 22.

From 2-3 p.m. every day through July 31, Marco Island Art League members will give free demonstrations in art restoration and rejuvenation techniques. Here are the topics:
• Tuesday, July 13: “Give New Life to Aging Frames” with Betty Newman.
• Wednesday, July 14: “Conquer the Art of Hanging Art” with Nancy Garri son.
• Thursday, July 15: “A Striptease for Old Cars” with Tara O’Neill.
• Tuesday, July 20: “Rescue Broken Ceramic Pieces” with Sandy Moore Haines.
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For more information, call 939-2787 or visit www.ArtInLee.org.
Opera aficionados can enjoy encore performances of productions by The Metropolitan Opera on Wednesday nights at three cinemas in Southwest Florida this summer. The high-definition programs, all recorded live at The Met in New York City, begin at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $15 per person. Here’s the lineup:

- **July 14: “La Bohème”**
  - Franco Zeffirelli’s classic production of Puccini’s “La Bohème” features Angela Gheorghiu as Mimì, Ramón Vargas as Rodolfo, Ainhoa Arteta as Musetta and Ludovic Tézier as Marcello. Nicola Luisotti conducts. Running time: 2 hours, 50 minutes.

- **July 21: “Turandot”**
  - Director Franco Zeffirelli’s production of Puccini’s last opera is a favorite of the Met repertoire. It stars Maria Guleghina in the title role in “Turandot,” showing July 21.

- **July 22: “Carmen”**
  - Director Richard Eyre’s acclaimed new line-up:

  - July 28: “Carmen”
  - Director Franco Zeffirelli’s classic production of Bizet’s “Carmen” features Elina Garanca in the title role as the生产 of Georges Bizet’s classic feature.

  - August 4: “Don Giovanni”
  - Rising maestro Yannick Nézet-Séguin conducts. Running time: 2 hours, 5 minutes.

- **August 11: “Tannhäuser”**
  - Nicola Luisotti conducts. Running time: 2 hours, 5 minutes.

- **August 18: “Rigoletto”**
  - Angela Gheorghiu as Mimì, Ramón Vargas as Rodolfo, Ainhoa Arteta as Musetta and Ludovic Tézier as Marcello. Nicola Luisotti conducts. Running time: 2 hours, 5 minutes.

The Metropolitan Opera’s Encore screenings can be seen at these theaters:

- Bell Tower 20
- Hollywood Coconut Point 16
- Hollywood Stadium 20

HD Encores at these theaters:

- Bell Tower 20: 13609 Bell Tower Drive, Fort Myers
- Hollywood Coconut Point 16: 18021 Cinema Way, Coconut Point, Estero
- Hollywood Stadium 20: 6006 Hollywood Drive, Naples

Tickets are available at the box office or online at www.metopera.org/hdlive.

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Check out ‘summer school’ at FGCU’s Renaissance Academy

The Renaissance Academy of Florida Gulf Coast University has the following programs coming up in Naples and Bonita Springs:

• 10 a.m. to noon Wednesdays, July 14, 21 and 28, at the Naples Center: "Survey of Selected Poems by Garrison Keillor," with instructor Jeffrie Jihan. Requires a copy of Mr. Keillor’s "Good Poems." $85/$100.

• 10 a.m. to noon Thursdays, July 8, 15, 22 and 29, at the Naples Center: "Creative Writing," a workshop with instructor James Robison for those who pen short stories, poems or novels. $85/$100.

• 9:30 a.m. to noon Friday, July 9, at Bentley Village: "Join the Fraud Squad."

• 10:30 a.m. to noon Tuesdays, July 13, 20 and 27, at the Steinway Piano Gallery in Bonita Springs: "Unlocking Your Creativity," based on the teachings of G. Altshuller, a rogue Russian inventor.

The Naples International Film Festival announces its collaboration with The Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts for its second annual film festival. As it did for its inaugural year, NIFF will have its opening gala and closing ceremonies at the Phil.

"The Naples International Film Festival is a right idea, and we are grateful to have it in our hall," Myra Daniels, chairwoman and CEO of the Phil, says. "Last year’s award-winning film, 'The Cove' (a documentary that went on to win an Academy Award), was very exciting, and we look forward to another wonderful experience." NIFF Executive Director Rowan Samuels is thrilled. "The Phil is a world-class facility, and working with them has been a great experience," he says.

The 2010 NIFF is set for Nov. 4-7. The festival’s mission is "to nurture and support a diverse, artistic and cultural experience in Collier County through the operation of a creative, cutting-edge boutique film festival." NIFF showcases some of the most creative cinematic works in the world and at the same time supports, organizes and provides an outlet for Southwest Florida filmmakers and film lovers.

For information about NIFF and the benefits of membership, visit www.naplesfilmfest.com.

Instructor Alex Crandall will discuss the psychological secrets of creative thinking and problem solving, as well as ways to help children and adults develop up their creative talents. $50/$65.

• 1-4 p.m. Sunday, July 11, at the Naples Center: Screening and discussion of "Spirited Away." This 2002 animated film from Japan follows the fanciful adventures of a 10-year-old girl named Chihiro, who discovers a secret world when she and her family get lost and venture through a hillside tunnel. $4/$5.

• 1-3 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, July 12, 14, 21 and 26, at the Naples Center: "Editing Photos with Picasa 3."

• 10 a.m. to noon Mondays and Wednesdays, July 12, 14, 19 and 21, at the Naples Center: "PCs for Beginners."

• 1-3 p.m. Mondays, July 12, 19 and 26, at Bentley Village: "War, Native American Genocide, the Holocaust and Armenian Genocide."

• 10 a.m. to noon Wednesdays, July 14, 21 and 28, at Bentley Village: "Digital Photography Boot Camp."

• 6-9 p.m. Wednesdays, July 14 and 21, at the Naples Center: "eBay: Beyond the Basics."

• 1-4 p.m. Thursday, July 16, at Bentley Village: "Understanding Classical Music."

• 1-4 p.m. Sunday, July 18, at the Naples Center: Screening and discussion of "Bus 174," a documentary about what happened in Rio de Janeiro the day a dismembered slum-dweller hijacked a bus and threatened to kill all of the passengers. Jose Padilha’s 2001 film was voted “one of the 10 best films of the year” by The New York Times. $4/$5.

• 10 a.m. to noon Thursday, July 22, at the Naples Center: "Pictures At An Exhibition by Mussorgsky."

• 10-11:30 a.m. Friday, July 23, at Bentley Village: "The ‘Bad War,’ World War II’s Pacific Theatre"—For registration or more information about the Renaissance Academy at FGCU, call 425-3272 or e-mail John Guerra at iguerra@fgcu.edu.

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**KOVELS: ANTIQUES & COLLECTING**

**Art deco nutcrackers were popular items in early 1900s**

What can this painted iron elephant do? The sleek art deco design suggests that it was made between about 1925 and 1940. The trunk moves up and down. Think elephants and peanuts, because this is a nutcracker. Put a nut in his mouth, quickly lower the trunk, and crack the nut’s shell. Red paint with white and black accents covers the 5-inch-by-10-inch figure. One source says it was made by Hubley of Lancaster, Pa., another that it was made by Bendix Corp. At least four of these nutcrackers have been offered for sale in the past few months, proving that it was a popular best-seller when new. Today, the nutcracker sells for about $800 and still works perfectly.

Ms. Kovel answers your questions:

Q: I have a set of outdoor furniture that has been in my husband’s family since the late 1940s. The chairs have metal frames and rope seats and backs. A few years ago I had the frames reupholstered. The company that did the work told me that the furniture was original Brown Jordan outdoor furniture. Can you tell me the value of these pieces?

A: Brown Jordan was founded by Robert Brown and Hubert Jordan in Pasadena, Calif., in 1915. The company claims to be the first to make furniture specifically for “full-time outdoor use.” Walter Lamb designed a line of bronze and cord outdoor furniture from materials salvaged by the U.S. Navy from ships that sank during the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. Brown Jordan bought the patent for Lamb’s design and began making the furniture after 1945. When the salvaged material was no longer available, similar materials were used. Brown Jordan is still in business and makes a line of Walter Lamb furniture in brass. A 1940s or early 50s lounge chair with original rope sells for about $1,500.

Q: Should I save the little ceramic figures in Red Rose teabag boxes? I understand they are collectible.

A: Most people can’t resist saving the tiny figures packed with the teabags. They are made by Wade Ceramics Ltd. of England. The figures, known as Wade Whimsies, were made from 1935 to 1959 to sell to the public. When they were just given away as premiums. Whimsies were packed with Red Rose teabags in Canada beginning in 1967. In the 1980s, they were finally given away in the United States. Whimsies were made in sets. In 2005, the set was a pet shop; in 1998, a set of endangered species; and in 1993, a circus. This year you will find calendar figures. Dealers at some antique shows offer a selection of whimsies for prices ranging from $2 to $20 each. A few early rarities sell for more.

Q: I collect kitchen pots and pans and have a very old cupcake pan made before 1850. When were the earliest muffin or cupcake pans made in the United States? At the first recipe book to mention muffins was written in 1828. Nathaniel Waterman, owner of a store in Boston, patented a “muffin pan” or “roll pan” in 1859. Some pans are found today with the 1859 patent date marked in the iron. There are many similar pans we call muffin pans today. Roll pans, cornstick pans, popover pans, Vienna roll pans and French roll pans are all classified as muffin pans, but each has a special shape needed for a specific type of muffin. The “gum pan” is used to make miniature muffins or cupcakes. All of these variations were made in the 19th century and most are still made today. Almost all of these pans were iron until recently, because iron heats evenly and quickly. Today there are some plastic muffin pans that are used because the pan bends and the finished muffin can be popped out with little trouble. Collectors pay the most for unusual iron pans made by the top manufacturers, Wagner or Griswold. Prices vary from about $25 to over $500 for rarities. You can cook in any of the iron pans. Clean the pan, remove any rust, season it with oil, heat it and then use it. Don’t use steel wool to clean iron pans.

Q: My pitcher and matching wash basin are in a pink floral pattern with gold trim. The bottom of each is marked with a crown above a circle. The inside of the circle are the words, “Ridgway, Royal Semi-Porcelain.” The word “England” is in the center of the circle, and the word “Mascarene” is under the circle. Please tell me how old the set is and who made it.

A: Ridgways was the name of an English pottery company in Shelton, Hanley, Staffordshire, from 1879 to 1920. It used the mark you describe between about 1905 and 1920. Your set is 100 years old or close to it.

Tip: Use silicone, not soap, on the bottom of drawers that stick.

— 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 e-mail addresses will not be published. We cannot guarantee the return of any photograph, but if a stamped envelope is included, we will try. The volume of mail makes personal answers or appraisals impossible. Write to Kovel, Florida Weekly, King Features Syndicate, 300 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019.
This week on WGCUTV

➤ THURSDAY, JUNE 8
9 P.M.
Ken Burns American Stories
The West: The Geography of Hope (1877 - 1887) – Part 7
Newcomers arrive by the millions, bringing a new spirit of conformity to the West.

➤ FRIDAY, JUNE 9
8:30 P.M.
Connect! Real Value
Redefining prosperity in times of economic challenge; reflecting on the value of creativity through a theater class for kids with autism; supporting sustainability through local farmer's markets; and dipping into the healing waters of Warm Mineral Springs in North Port. Hosted by Jim McLaughlin.

➤ SATURDAY, JUNE 10
9 P.M.
As Time Goes By
Lionel Hardcastle and Jean Pargeter try to rekindle their flame after a 38-year separation.

➤ SUNDAY, JUNE 11
9 P.M.
Masterpiece Mystery! Poirot: Murder on the Orient Express
Poirot solves the greatest case of his career aboard the world's most glamorous train. Starring David Suchet with Dame Eileen Atkins, Barbara Hershey and Hugh Bonneville.

➤ MONDAY, JUNE 12
9 P.M.
History Detectives
Andrew Jackson's Mouth; Barton Letter; Spybook.

➤ TUESDAY, JUNE 13
8 P.M.
NOVA: The Deadliest Plane Crash
A gripping investigation into what went wrong when two Boeing 747 airliners collided in thick fog at a tiny airport in the Canary Islands, killing 583 passengers and crew.

➤ WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14
8 P.M.
Breakfast Special
A celebration of going out for a morning meal in America with Rick Sebak, who visits unusual breakfast spots from Florida to New England to Hawaii.

9 P.M.
Baseball: The Capital of Baseball – Part 7
The seventh “inning” of Ken Burns’ landmark 1994 series features rare newsreel film and interviews celebrating the glorious heyday of New York City baseball with some of its most memorable moments.

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➤ JULY 10: “Sherlock Holmes Faces Death” (1943)
➤ JULY 17: “My Favorite Brunette” (1947)
➤ JULY 24: “Meet John Doe” (1941)

➤ JULY 31: “Ghosts on the Loose” (1943)
➤ Aug. 7: “You Can’t Take It With You” (1938)
➤ Aug. 14: “Mr. Smith Goes to Washington” (1939)
➤ Aug. 21: “It Happened One Night” (1934)
➤ Aug. 28: “Cross Creek” (1983)

Take a step back in time with Collier County Museum's classic movie matinees every Saturday throughout the summer. Relax and cool off out of the heat with Errol Flynn, Bob Hope, Dorothy Lamour and more stars of the silver screen from the '40s and '50s comedies, mysteries and dramas.

Movies are free and begin at 1 p.m. every Saturday in the Collier Government Complex at U.S. 41 and Airport Road.

Coming up:

➤ JULY 10: “Sherlock Holmes Faces Death” (1943)
➤ JULY 17: “My Favorite Brunette” (1947)
➤ JULY 24: “Meet John Doe” (1941)

For more information, call 252-8476 or visit www.colliermuseums.com.
Make-A-Wish seeks help to raise funds, work with children

The Make-A-Wish Foundation of Southern Florida needs volunteers with two kinds of expertise: fundraising leaders who have organizational skills and community contacts, and people who can work as wish granters.

Fundraisers plan and execute activities such as recruiting sponsors, selling tickets/tables and soliciting in-kind donations of auction items, entertainment, catering, etc.

Wish granters work directly with children to discover their heartfelt wishes and then help bring those wishes to fruition. Bilingual Spanish or Creole-speaking volunteers are in great demand, as many Make-A-Wish children have parents for whom English is not their first language.

Many local children are looking forward to having their wishes granted this summer. Two new wishes identified recently among local youngsters are: 9-year-old Jaeleigh, who would like to meet Michelle Obama, and 16-year-old Forrest, who would like to travel to Rome, Italy.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation of Southern Florida grants wishes to children with life-threatening medical conditions.

A volunteer orientation meeting is set for 5:45 p.m. Wednesday, July 21, at the foundation’s office in Bonita Springs. For more information, call 992-9474 or visit www.sfla.wish.org.

Spay Neuter Clinic seeks donations

The Collier Spay Neuter Clinic needs donations to help in its mission to provide low-cost spay/neuter services that will reduce the number of homeless animals killed in Collier County every year. The following items can be dropped off at CSNC anytime during business hours:
- Photocopy paper; index cards, bleach, distilled water, laundry detergent, fabric softener, dryer sheets, Sam’s Club gift cards, bath towels, rubber dog and cat toys, hard plastic or vinyl crates/carriers in all sizes, plastic spray bottles, scrub brushes of all sizes, PineSol and Lysol spray, large-screen LCD television for education purposes and a hand truck.
- CSNC is also seeking monetary donations at various levels, including: to fund the entire clinic, $120,000; a surgical suite (two available), $25,000; entrance lobby, $15,000; dog or cat room, $32,500 each; surgical prep and treatment room, $20,000; storage/laundry room, $5,000.
- The Collier Spay Neuter Clinic is at 2544 Northbrooke Plaza Drive. For more information, call 764-SNIP (7647).

Conservancy thrift shop offers bargains

TREASURE HUNTERS will find an ever-changing selection of high-quality, pre-owned household merchandise, including name brand, nearly new furniture at prices reduced by 10 percent after 60 days.

Conservancy thrift shop offers bargains

Shelter gears up for storm season

With upwards of 50 adults and children, as well as their pets, residing in The Shelter for Abused Women & Children’s residential/emergency safe-haven this summer, the nonprofit organization needs community support for hurricane season.

Just as the average family needs to have storm supplies on-hand, The Shelter needs those same supplies, times 50 to 60, for the children, adults and pets in our emergency shelter,” says Danielle Mordaunt, residential manager.

The Shelter welcomes donations of the following new items to assist with its hurricane preparedness plan: batteries, flashlights, canned tuna fish, apple juice, peanut butter and jelly, cereal, Spaghetti-ti-oo’s, canned ravioli, juice boxes, canned fruit, pudding cups, snack foods and baby wipes.

Donations can be dropped at The Shelter’s two thrift stores during normal business hours:
- • Options Thrift Shoppe, 968 Second Ave. N., 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday.
- • Another Option Thrift Shoppe, 5248 Golden Gate Parkway, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

For more information, visit www.naplesshelter.org.

Historic tours on tap this summer

The Naples Historical Society offers summer tours of Palm Cottage, Naples’ oldest house (1895), from 1-4 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays. The requested donations is $8 for adults and $5 for children.

For a unique, intimate setting surrounding-by historic significance and beauty, rent historic Palm Cottage for a business or family occasion. For more information, call Ellen Fischer at 261-8164.

“Personalized Pickets in Paradise”

Naples Historical Society

nonprofitnews
Sponsors sought for October pub crawl

The third annual Pubs 4 Paws pub crawl to benefit the Collier Spay Neuter Clinic is set for Saturday, Oct. 24. The clinic is soliciting bars and restaurants to become sponsors by providing a free drink and appetizer to Pubs 4 Paws customers who take part in the progressive dinner party-style evening that goes from pub to pub around town.

Sponsorship benefits include prominent name placement and advertising on the CSNC website, Facebook page and in all media materials. In addition, last year’s sponsors report pub crawl participants also purchased additional items and invited friends and family to meet them at stops along the crawl. For more information and details about sponsorship amounts and benefits, contact Tereza Marks at 390-0869 or terzemarks@hotmail.com.

‘Sock It To Me’ for PACE girls rescheduled

PACE Center for Girls-Collier has moved its ’60s-style benefit to 6:30 p.m. Saturday, July 24, at Collection at Vanderbilt. The “Sock It To Me!” evening will entail comedy skits, the Beatnik Café and the Flower Power VIP Room, the famous wall from Rowan and Martin’s “Laugh In,” groovy music, dancing and more hip happenings.

Tickets are $150 per person. For more information, call Jacqueline Buyze at 404-6926 or visit www.pacesockittome.com.

Let’s go to the hop for Laces of Love

Swing dancing and hula hoop contests will be part of the fun when the Naples Area Board of Realtors holds a sock hop to benefit Laces of Love from 5:30-9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 13, at NABOR headquarters, 1455 Pine Ridge Road.

Laces of Love provides new sneakers to deserving kids and raises awareness about the needs of children in the local community.

Sock hop tickets are $20 per person in advance and $25 at the door. Guests are encouraged to bring new shoes and socks in any size to donate to the cause. Sock hop auction items and sponsorship opportunities are available for those who want to get more involved. Sponsors to date include the Naples Daily News, Bank of American Home Loans, HomrCheck Systems and Homes & Land Magazine.

For more information, call Marti Conrad at 249-2850 or visit www.NABOR.com.

KIDSCAN plans sportswear show

KIDSCAN, the junior volunteer program of the Cancer Alliance of Naples, is planning “Swing Into Style,” a benefit fashion show at the PGA Tour Superstore in Naples Plaza at 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 1.

Members of five Collier County high school golf and tennis teams and their friends will model the best in golf and tennis clothes to raise college scholarship funds for local high school students who are battling cancer.

Guests will be able to win rounds of golf or tennis lessons at country clubs, hotel weekends, dinners and other prizes, by playing virtual golf or chip- ing in sand inside the PGA Tour Superstore. Tickets are $10 for students, $20 for adults and can be purchased online at www.cancerallianceofnaples.com.

For more information about KIDSCAN, call the Cancer Alliance of Naples at 436-4673.

50 is nifty for Fun Time

Fun Time Early Childhood Academy celebrates its 50th birthday in 2011, and a big party is taking shape for Saturday, Feb. 12, at the Naples Beach Hotel and Golf Club. Watch here for more information, or call 261-8284.

Clinic sets date for block party

The Neighborhood Health Clinic holds its annual block party on Saturday, Feb. 19, 2011, at the Naples Beach Hotel and Golf Club. For ticket information, call 264-6600.

Literacy volunteers getting in step for dance-off

The fourth annual Dancing with the Stars to benefit Literacy Volunteers of Collier County takes place Friday, Nov. 19, at the Naples Beach Hotel and Golf Club. Community leaders will be paired with professional dancers from the Fred Astaire Dance Studio to rehearse for several weeks before the dance-off. Judges will consider the contestants’ prowess and finesse on the dance floor as well as their success raising funds for LVVC.

Tickets are $150 per person. Watch here for details as they become available.

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SAVE THE DATE

Marco rescue group is having a ‘Hairball’

The annual “Hairball” to benefit For the Love of Cats, Marco Island’s no-kill rescue organization and shelter, is set for 5-8 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 14, at the Island Country Club. Bill Wood from “Fox 4 News Rising” will host the evening, which includes dinner, silent auction, a hole-in-one “Purrfect Putt” game and a reverse raffle for a 42-inch LCD television.

Coug’d up $90 per person and purchase tickets by calling 642-8674 or by visiting www.floridacatrescue.com.

Auction, a hole-in-one “Purrfect Putt” evening, which includes dinner, silent auction and in all media materials. In addition, last year’s sponsors report pub crawl participants also purchased additional items and invited friends and family to meet them at stops along the crawl. For more information and details about sponsorship amounts and benefits, contact Tereza Marks at 390-0869 or terzemarks@hotmail.com.

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SAVE THE DATE

Doctors showcase their other talents

The Steinway Piano Society presents the sixth annual Physicians Talent Showcase on Tuesday evening, Oct. 19, at Sugden Community Theatre.

Doctors from Lee and Collier counties already are tuning up to sing and play jazz, rock, country and classical numbers in the popular program that benefits the Neighborhood Health Clinic and the Steinway Piano Society Scholarship Fund.

Tickets for $75 per person will be available at the Sugden Community Theatre box office beginning Aug. 1.

Talented doctors who would like to be in the show should call the Steinway Piano Gallery at 498-9884. Sponsors and volunteers are also welcome to call for more information about becoming involved.

Have a heart for Hospital Ball

Young at Heart,” the NCH Healthcare System 2010 Hospital Ball, will be held Saturday, Oct. 23, at The Ritz-Carlton, Naples, and will benefit NCH Cardiology Program. Peter and Stella Thomas are honorary co-chairs; ball co-chairs Sharon Treiser and Ellin Gotzj join auction co-chairs Stacey Herring and Vicki Tracy, along with sponsorship chair Jeannette Simmermon in leading a committee of more than 50 volunteers who are working on the event.

“Young at Heart” will feature silent and live auctions, cocktail reception, formal dinner, NCH Physician and Nurse of the Year awards and dancing to The Kenny Lehman Band. Tickets are $475. Sponsorships and underwriting opportunities are available. For information, call 436-4811 or e-mail foundation@ncfmd.org.

Red Kettle drive starts in November

The Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign for the 2010-11 holiday season kicks off with dinner and an auction at 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 18, at the Naples Sailing and Yacht Club on River Point Drive.

Myra Daniels is the honorary chair of the campaign. Chair of the black-tie-optional kick-off event is Jeannette Batten.

Tickets are $75 per person. For reservations or information about sponsorships, call Ms. Batten at 697-6485.

League Club will welcome ‘The Help’ author

The League Club will welcome Kathryn Stockett, author of “The Help,” as the guest speaker at its luncheon on Friday, Feb. 11, 2011, at the Naples Grande. Tickets will be available for sale late this calendar year. For more information, call 353-3100.

NAPLES FLORIDA WEEKLY | WEEK OF JULY 8-14, 2010 | A&E | C23
FACES AND FUN FROM THE FOURTH

We take more society and networking photos at area events than we can fit in the newspaper. So, if you think we missed you or one of your friends, go to www.floridaweekly.com and view the photo albums from the many events we cover. You can purchase any of the photos too.

Send us your society and networking photos. Include the names of everyone in the picture. E-mail them to society@floridaweekly.com.
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Send us your society and networking photos. Include the names of everyone in the picture. E-mail them to society@floridaweekly.com.

1. Rod, Claire and Julie McDaniel, Ann Comer, Brian McDaniel and Mary Komas
2. Rebecca Shae
3. Jennifer, Orice and Ian Kuborsky
4. Danielle Wasser with Paige, Ava, Madelyn and Juliana Long
5. Ellie and Grace Clissold
6. Elizabeth Cabreza
7. Lauren Hampton, Baylee Crouse and Samantha Mannering
8. Emma Neve
Wine lovers can savor summer savings and specials

In an effort to lure year-round residents out of their air-conditioned cocoons, proprietors of restaurants, bars and retail establishments have come up with some tempting summertime events and promotions.

Wine tastings abound, such as the July 23 Summer Sippin’ event at Tony’s Off Third in Naples, now in its 15th year. Co-owner Suki Honeycutt says summer-appropriate wines will be featured — “clean, crisp, refreshing whites, dry rosés and soft and supple reds.”

For $15 per person, Summer Sippin’ includes a $10 credit toward a wine purchase. “Easy on the palate, easy on the wallet,” Ms. Honeycutt says. Reservations are required. Call 262-7999.

Summer is also a good time to learn about new wines at a seminar or class, such as the July 13 session about noteworthy blended wines at Austin’s Wine Cellar in Fort Myers. “Winemakers blend grapes together to create something exciting and showcase their winemaking skills in a wine that is both profitable and economical.” Austin’s owner Frank Pulice. “They want to winemakers bringing in their best wines for the quarterly competition; $25. Reservations suggested.

Handsome Harry’s, 1205 Third St. S.; 434-7258; 6 p.m. Thursday, July 15, attend a cooking class with Dennis Genge, the Fort Myers restaurant’s general manager, in a news release. “To get a $1,200 bottle of 2001 Chateau Lafite Rothschild for $600 is an incredible value.” The Veranda is at 2222 Second St.; 352-2065. Here are some other seasonal savings available around the region:

Naples

■ Decanted Wine, Beer, Tastings, 1410 Pine Ridge Road; 434-1044: From 5-8 p.m. Thursday, July 22, it’s the Ultimate Wine Th WOW, down with suppliers bringing in their best wines for the quarterly competition; $25. Reservations suggested.

■ Handsome Harry’s, 1205 Third St. S.; 434-7258: From noon to 6 p.m. July 23-25, sample Washington state wines. Throughout July, the store will feature the World of Whites on Wednesday, July 21, Racy Reds on Aug. 8 and The Classics on Sept. 8. Each one is $15 and reservations are required.

■ Total Wine and More, 5048 Airport Pulling Rd. N.; 434-7258; 6 p.m. Thursday, July 15, attend a cooking class with Danielle Stazler will feature the World of Whites on Wednesday, July 21, Racy Reds on Aug. 8 and The Classics on Sept. 8. Each one is $15 and reservations are required.

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Sweet Tomatoes delivers fresh, healthful take on buffet concept

This column traditionally focuses on independent restaurants of the mom-and-pop variety. That’s because most chains are widely known and don’t vary much from location to location, so they don’t really need a review.

But I make an occasional exception when warranted, and I believe the new Sweet Tomatoes in Naples qualifies. Yes, there are 21 other locations around Florida—including the one in Fort Myers—but the Naples branch marks a new concept in design that the company calls a “contemporary farmers market.” There are exposed ceilings and high, barn-like windows to allow for extra light. Large photographs of tomatoes, apples, blueberries, peppers and other produce, all at the peak of ripeness, hang on pale yellow and lime walls, creating a cheery setting that positively vibrates with healthiness.

What makes Sweet Tomatoes different from most buffets is that the focus is on quality rather than quantity. The food is aimed at offering healthy choices, not simply a lot of carbohydrate-laden casserole and confections to fill you up. As you might expect at a place called Sweet Tomatoes, the salad bar dominates. It’s the first thing you see upon entering, a gleaming silver expanse that runs the length of the room and presents salad fixings on both sides. The choices are dizzying. There are already-made salads—such as Oriental chicken, Caesar and coleslaw—as well as dozens of items you can mix and match. There are various greens—romaine, iceberg and spinach—followed by carrots, peas, cauliflower, broccoli, beets (fresh and pickled), various beans, pickles and many more, about a dozen dressings and a variety of toppers such as raisins and nuts.

Along a rail above the salad bins are large photographs of each item. On the salads, those that are vegetarian are also labeled as such, making it easy for those who need to know what’s in each item. A cherry muffin, another seasonal feature, was fresh and warm. The four-cheese focaccia had plenty of cheese but was on the soggy side.

There were sweet potatoes as well as white ones along with crumbled bacon, acorn squash, corn, cheese and salsa. We split one with butter and cheese. It had good flavor and was just the right consistency. At the other end of that line were three pasta dishes, including one for vegetarians and one with whole-wheat pasta. But I was getting full and had yet to visit the desserts.

Make-your-own-salads appeared the big favorite with the kids at many tables around us. The sundae bar started with frozen yogurt, another of the more healthful choices offered here. I liked the cherry apple cobble and a chocolate muffin that was better still with a bit of frozen yogurt on the side.

Besides being mindful of the health of its customers, Sweet Tomatoes keeps in mind the health of the Earth, using 100 percent recyclable paper trays, napkins, compact fluorescent lights, tankless hot water systems and recyclable takeout containers. With 115 locations around the country, the savings add up.

Yet another concept the chain employs is taking advantage of seasonal items to keep the menu interesting. While cherries starrred in June, July’s focus is on tropical flavors. Special items include sweet mango salad, island coconut chicken and lime soup, pineapple coconut slaw, creamy cilantro lime pesto, pineapple upside-down cake and sugar-free mango coconut mouse.

The staff works hard at making customers feel welcome, making sure they have everything they need, checking to make sure they are happy with the food and thanking them for coming in. Tables are cleaned quickly so patrons don’t have to look at soiled plates on nearby tables. Sweet Tomatoes is a great deal for the budget. In addition to feeling good about spending so little, customers can leave feeling good about having eaten a healthful meal, one that was healthy for the planet, too.
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This property is sold for land value! The mobile home is in good condition and it is move in ready. It is sold ‘As Is’. Ask for 802NA10017820.
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Bank owned, not a short sale. Sold as is with right to inspect. Direct floor unit located close to everything. Ask for 802NA10019532.
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This is a potential short sale subject to lender approval. Beautiful lake front view to enjoy with your family/AS IS Ask for 802NA1001921.
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First floor end unit over looking pool. 3 bedroom, eat in kitchen formal dining area. Ask for 802NA10011064.
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3 BED 2 BA 2 CAR GARAGE

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Bank owned, not a short sale! Adorable 2nd floor condominium, in move in ready condition. Located in Spring Brook community Ask for 802NA1000722.
1-866-657-2300
Existing-home sales remained at elevated levels in May on buyer response to low mortgage rates, characterized by stabilizing home prices and historically low mortgage interest rates, according to the National Association of REALTORS®. Gains in the West and South were offset by a decline in the Northeast; the Midwest was steady.

Existing-home sales, which are complet-ed transactions that include single-family, townhomes, condominiums, and co-ops, were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 5.66 million units in May, down 2.2 percent from an upwardly revised surge of 5.79 million units in April. May closings were 19.2 percent above the 4.75 million-unit level in May 2009. April sales were revised to show an 8.0 percent monthly gain.

Buyers Face Purchasing Delays

Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist, said he expects one more month of elevated home sales. “We are witnessing the ongoing effects of the home buyer tax credit, which we’ll also see in June real estate closings,” he said. “However, approximately 180,000 home buyers who signed a contract in good faith to receive the tax credit may not be able to finalize by the end of June due to delays in the mortgage process, particularly for short sales. “In addition, many potential sales are being delayed by an interruption in the National Flood Insurance Program, Florida and Louisiana, also impacted by the oil spill, have the highest percentage of homes that require flood insurance.”

As the leading advocate for homeowner-ship issues, NAR is supporting Senate amendments to extend the home buyer tax credit closing deadline through September 30 for contracts written by April 30, and to renew the flood insurance program. “Sales and related local economic activity would have been higher without delays in the closing process or flood insurance issues,” Yun noted.

Housing Still Affordable

According to Freddie Mac, the national average commitment rate for a 30-year, con-ventional, fixed-rate mortgage fell to 4.89 percent in May from 5.10 percent in April; the rate was 4.86 percent in May 2009.

The national median existing-home price for all housing types was $179,600 in May, up 2.2 percent from May 2009. Distressed homes slipped to 31 percent of sales last month, compared with 33 percent in April; it was also 33 percent in May 2009.

NAR President Vicki Cox Golder said home prices have been stabilizing all year. “With distressed sales at roughly the same level as a year ago, the gain in home prices is a hopeful sign that the market is in a good position to stand on its own without further government stimulus,” she said. “Very affordable mortgage interest rates and stabilizing home prices are encourag-ing home buyers who were on the sidelines during most of the boom and bust cycle.”

Pending home sales are expected to decline notably in May and June from the spring surge, but Yun added that job growth and a manageable level of fore-closures are keys to sales and price perfor-mance during the second half of the year.

Inventory Falling

A parallel NAR practitioner survey shows first-time buyers purchased 46 per-cent of homes in May, down from 49 per-cent in April. Investors accounted for 14 percent of transactions in May compared with 15 percent in April; the remaining sales were to repeat buyers. All-cash sales were at 25 percent in May, edging down from a 26 percent share in April.

Total housing inventory at the end of May fell 3.4 percent to 3.89 million exist-ing homes available for sale, which repre-sents an 8.3-month supply at the current sales pace, compared with an 8.4-month supply in April. Raw unsold inventory is 1.1 percent above a year ago, but is still 14.9 percent below the record of 4.58 mil-lion in July 2008.

Single-family home sales declined 1.6 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.98 million in May from a pace of 5.06 million in April, but are 17.3 percent above the 4.24 million level in May 2009. The median existing single-family home price was $179,400 in May, which is 2.7 percent above a year ago.

Single-family median existing-home prices were higher in 16 out of 20 metropolitan sta-tistical areas reported in May from a year ago. In addition, existing single-family home sales rose in 18 of the 20 areas from May 2009. Existing condominium and co-op sales fell 6.8 percent to a seasonally adjusted an-nual rate of 680,000 in May from 730,000 in April, but are 32.6 percent above the 513,000-unit pace in May 2009. The me-dian existing condo price was $181,300 in May, up 3.4 percent from a year ago.

By Region

• Existing-home sales in the Northeast fell 18.3 percent to an annual level of 890,000 in May from a surge in April, but are 12.7 percent higher than a year ago. The median price in the Northeast was $240,200, down 2.2 percent from May 2009.

• In the Midwest, existing-home sales were unchanged in May at a pace of 1.33 million and are 22.0 percent above May 2009. The median price in the Midwest was $150,700, up 2.2 percent from a year ago.

• In the South, sales increased 0.5 per-cent to an annual level of 2.15 million in May and are 22.9 percent above a year ago. The median price in the South was $159,000, up 1.0 percent from May 2009.

• Existing-home sales in the West rose 4.9 percent to an annual rate of 1.29 million in May and are 15.2 percent higher than May 2009. The median price in the West was $221,300, up 7.4 percent from a year ago.

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www.LevitanMcQuaid.com
WHAT A GREAT HOME! Located on the lake, this home has no more dock. In 2008, the house was completely remodeled and has a large kitchen and family room with fireplace. All the main living is on the first floor with a master up on the second floor and a bonus loft area. Perfect for guests or a home office. New Air Conditioning Unit - This house is truly a home...

AMAZING OPPORTUNITY! This magnificent "BELMONT" model offers a HUGE LANAI AREA, and the PRICE is well below the Seller’s investment YET not a short sale. This incredible home boasts 2 bedrooms plus den and a 2 ½ bath. Granite counters with an amazing amount of cabinets, stainless steel appliances, plantation shutters, and built-in safety features such as pool safety & security system.

Beautiful Like View with Water Display Fountain? This IR128A home comes with paver floors and tile throughout, heated pool, outdoor kitchen, kitchen sink and a grill. Totally remodeled kitchen with 40,000 in upgrades, new granite countertops, new plumbing, new electricity, new appliances. Wonderful community, clubhouse, and our list goes on. These are just some of the features that this fantastic community offers you.

Grasp this Opportunity! This home in Quail Creek Village is an exceptionally fine residence with two bedrooms plus den and a 2.5 car garage! Enjoy the birds from your stately trees with a view that you will truly enjoy. This home is spotless and is waiting for you!