



>>Inside:
Alcohol, cocaine and opoid addiction compared
A8

Prescription drugs overtake alcohol as the most-treated addiction

BY EVAN WILLIAMS
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Over-the-counter medications like Advil or Tylenol are easy to get for your aches and pains. If that doesn't do the trick, prescription drugs called opoids are available from your doctor or pharmacy. Heroin's an opoid, but so are painkilling pills with brand names such as Vicodin and OxyContin.

And for stress there is benzodiazepine, in drugs like Xanax or Valium.

They are all commonly prescribed but now cause nearly three times the number of deaths in Florida than all illegal drugs

SEE ADDICTIONS, A8 ▶



Local law enforcement, physicians and addiction specialists say Florida is out of control when it comes to prescribed pain medication...



HomeScapes

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Lisa Williams

She talks to the dead but she'll be live in Fort Myers at the Mann Hall on Wednesday Sept. 24. **C1** ▶



Tourist season

It's coming soon and local businesses and government agencies are getting ready. **B1** ▶

New school brings fresh opportunity

BY MICHELLE L. START
Florida Weekly Correspondent

When Misty Scott began looking for childcare for her daughter, she stumbled upon the Montessori school that Community Cooperative Ministries, Inc. operates. She knew almost immediately that it was a good fit.

Situated on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, just behind the soup kitchen, the school was once a typical daycare center, but a year ago officials began the conversion that is still in process.

"We saw a big need to offer high quality, preschool education instead of just daycare," said Sarah Owen, executive director. "We wanted to provide the education that is in a lot of cases reserved to high socioeconomic groups."

Owen said that the Montessori approach is quite different from daycares because the children learn about responsibility, social manners, botany, culture, music and an array of other things.

SEE SCHOOL, A9 ▶



MICHELLE START/FLORIDA WEEKLY

Community Cooperative Ministries has gradually changed a typical daycare into a center using the Montessori approach to teaching.



Weekly Wheels

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