

# FORT MYERS FLORIDA WEEKLY™

YOUR NEWS AND ENTERTAINMENT SOURCE

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## THE LIVES THEY LED

REMEMBERING NEIGHBORS WE WE LOST IN '08

BY EVAN WILLIAMS  
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There were plenty of extraordinary souls who died in 2008. Some were better known than others, but eventually all will become a mere thread in the weave of history.

We chose six of them to portray in these pages.

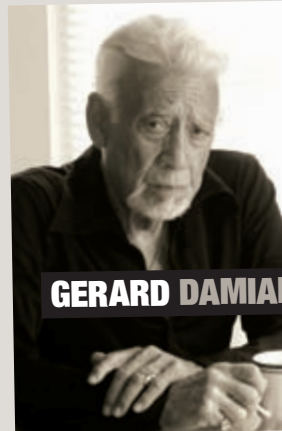
These are people you may have known as friends and neighbors — or not at all — but they are remembered here, generously, by some of the people who knew them best.

In some ways, their stories are similar: whatever recognition they received, a part of them lived quietly among a loving circle of family and friends. Many laid down their deeds and built their lives out of the limelight, like unseen masons. They raised families, sought regular work and helped those in need and near them, when they could.

SEE NEIGHBORS, A8 ▶



BRUCE GORA



GERARD DAMIANO



FRANK BIRELEY



GALE BENNETT



LECLAIR BISSELL



ALAN ARCIERI

“Whatever recognition they received, a part of them lived quietly among a loving circle of family and friends.”

### INSIDE



#### Turtles play Trane

The Turtle Island String Quartet play John Coltrane's "A Love Supreme" at the Phil in Naples, Jan. 7 and 8. **C1** ▶



#### Holiday social scene

See who's out and about in Fort Myers' society. **C20 & 21** ▶



#### Sun power

Solar businesses are set to boom in 2009 as governments ratchet up incentives. **B1** ▶



#### Color your world

A home's hues can reflect your personality **D1** ▶

## Emergency teams assist nurses with problem cases

Lee Memorial says program reduces cardiac arrests on floor

BY MICHELLE L. START  
Florida Weekly Correspondent

When North Fort Myers resident Betty Nickel needed a blood transfusion following knee replacement surgery a few weeks back, Lee Memorial Hospital's Medical

Emergency Team was called in.

Lee Memorial Health System has the teams in place at Cape Coral Hospital, Lee Memorial Hospital, HealthPark Medical Center and at Gulf Coast Hospital, and officials say that it is reducing the number of patients that are going into cardiac arrest on the floor.

“It's made a big difference in the treatment of patients,” said Dr. Razak Dosani, a member of emergency team at Lee

Memorial and Cape Coral Hospitals.

The Medical Emergency Team is available 24 hours a day in case a floor nurse has a question or a concern about a patient.

“A nurse is taking care of multiple patients,” said Dr. Marilyn Kole, MET medical director for Lee Memorial Health System's intensive care units. She said

SEE MET, A14 ▶

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ROGER WILLIAMS A2  
OPINION A4  
15 MINUTES A6  
ON THE MOVE B4

NETWORKING B10&11  
ARTS C1  
EVENTS C6&7  
NANCY STETSON C8

SOCIETY C20 & 21  
CUISINE C23  
HOMESCAPES D1-12  
REAL ESTATE E1-12

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