

FORT MYERS FLORIDA WEEKLY®

YOUR NEWS AND ENTERTAINMENT SOURCE

WEEK OF APRIL 8-14, 2009

www.FloridaWeekly.com

Vol. III, No. 3 • FREE

"It's very personal — that's what makes this organization strong."
—Stefan Strickland, national director of affiliates, Susan G. Komen for the Cure



Symbols of HOPE

BY EVAN WILLIAMS

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Linda Oluwek will never forget the day, 11 years ago, when her doctor told her how lucky she was to have identified the lump in her breast. She was a single mother who had given birth to her third child just six months earlier.

"I had just been diagnosed with breast cancer," Ms. Oluwek says. "I was furious. He told me, 'Someday you'll understand this.'"

She beat the disease and lives on — one of about 2 million women in the United States to do so. Last year, she joined the

SEE PINK, A8 ►



JIM MCLAUGHLIN/ FLORIDA WEEKLY

Top: Cancer survivors Janet LoFranco and Melinda Monroe share a special moment of accomplishment after last month's Race for the Cure. Above: More than 8,000 runners lined up for the race at Coconut Point.

Komen's young SWFL affiliate is fast becoming a major presence in the fight against breast cancer

Arabian days: Answering the call in a land of cultural contrasts

BY BILL WAITE

Special to Florida Weekly

So far away! So exotic! The mere mention of the name causes friends to ask in amazement: "Why Abu Dhabi?" My reply: "The call of a distant, exotic place that I otherwise would never travel to."

After sleeping through a 12-hour flight, there we are, greeted by a different kind of call — the morning call to prayers for the followers of Islam.

Abu Dhabi is filled with contrasts and contradictions. Although Islamic traditions are evident throughout the emirate, many concessions have been made to accommodate non-Muslim visitors.

Our first impression is that Abu Dhabi is of a city of walls. Every home, every palace, every space that is not a park or a median has a wall around it. The homes behind the walls appear huge by any

SEE ARABIAN, A14 ►



COURTESY BILL WAITE

Sue Clare Mosque in Abu Dhabi.

INSIDE



Nothin like a Dame

Dame Edna's "First Last Tour" makes a stop at the Phil in Naples on April 10 and 11. C1 ►



Chillounge Night

And other society events in Lee County. C27, 28 & 29 ►



Contretemps

Florida Weekly's muse, Rx, trades letters with a new friend, MaX Origen. A39 ►



By the book

Just like everything else, the business of publishing is changing. B1 ►

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