

# GRANDEUR

LUXURY LIVING ON THE GULF COAST

## Opening impressions

A grand front door holds the key

**How sweet it is** Revival of the supper club, Sanibel-style

**Highway couture** Luxury motor coaches rule the road

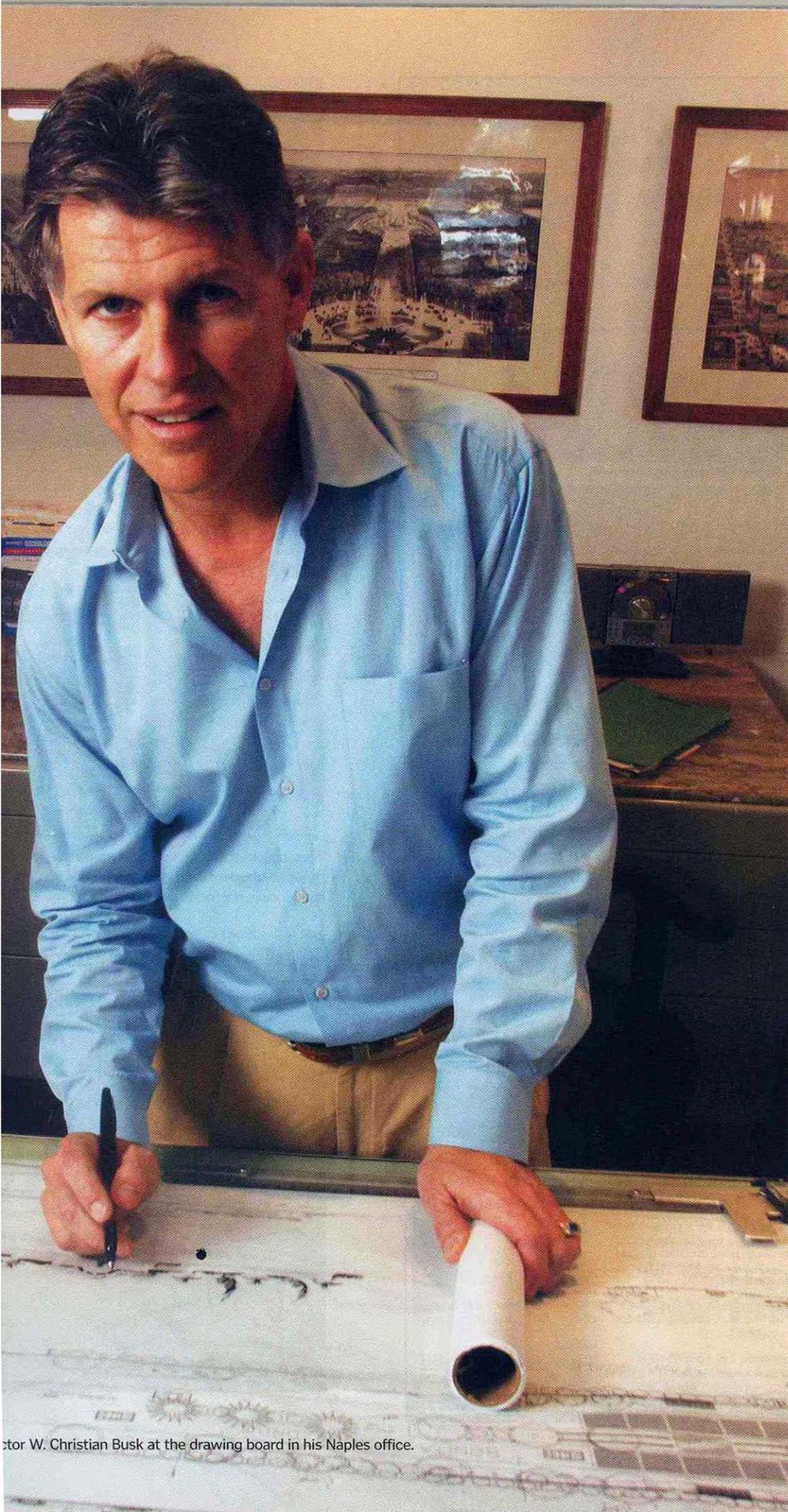
SPRING 2004

# The land is his palette

While some prefer oils or pastels, Christian Busk works with dirt

**W**hen Ian McHarg wrote of the need for landscape architects “who are conservationists by instinct, but who care not only to preserve but to create and manage,” he might have been describing Christian Busk’s career path.

By **AMY BENNETT WILLIAMS**  
Photography by **GARTH FRANCIS**



ector W. Christian Busk at the drawing board in his Naples office.



## WEALTH ENHANCEMENT GROUP

We are a full service financial advisory firm. Educating our clients and the community through our radio show, one on one meetings and in-depth workshops.

National Host    Local Hosts



Bruce Helmer



Teresa and Dave Hess

### Tune in Sundays to "Your Money"

11:00-Noon on Sunday    Noon-1:00 on Sunday

WINK #WNOG-AM  
1240 NewsTalk 1270

POWERTALK  
1200 WINK

Call in "Live" on Sunday with your financial questions  
or e-mail Dave at: [questions@wealthenhancement.com](mailto:questions@wealthenhancement.com)

1415 Panther Lane • Naples, FL 34109 • 239-591-6656 • 800-492-1222

Securities offered through SII Investments, Inc.,  
a registered broker/dealer (Member NASD & SIPC). Investment advice offered through  
WEALTH ENHANCEMENT ADVISORY SERVICES, LLC, a registered investment advisor.

Delivering your world



# details make the difference

#### A golden opportunity.

Get the latest news about the economy, the markets and corporate America. The advice of experts on real estate, career advancement and investments.

Don't settle for a stock ticker streaking across the screen. Get in-depth news and information every day in the Business section. Keep up with the marathon of growth and development in Southwest Florida. Get the big picture

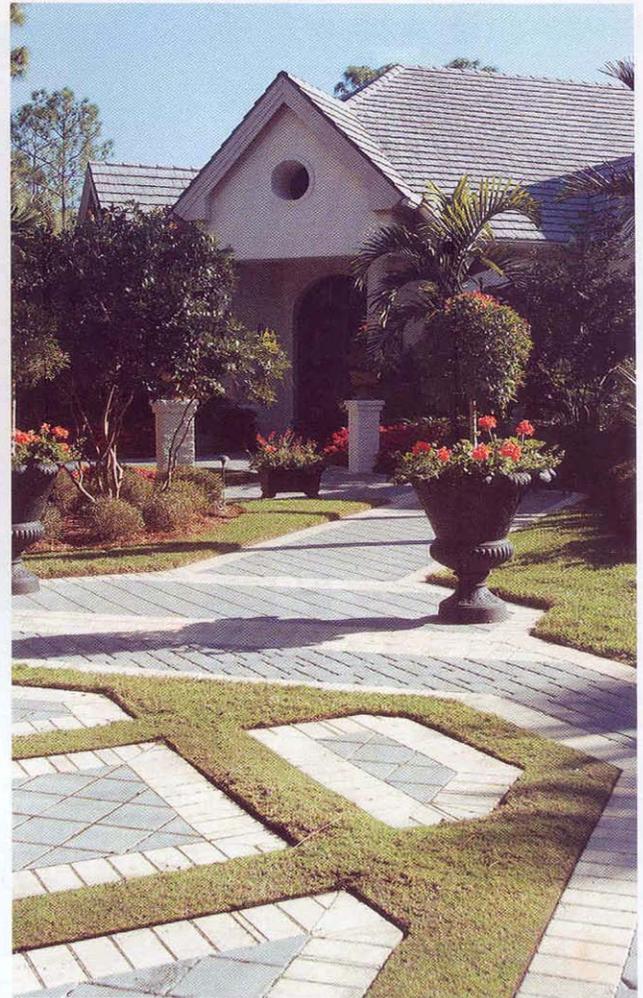
about interest rates, business trends and tax issues. And take a look at Business Monday and its useful tips about career advancement, technology and local companies to watch.

On news-press.com, get hourly updates on the major markets and local company stocks, and enjoy common-sense financial advice from The Motley Fool.

The News-Press - delivering the details on Business.

Delivering your world  
**THE NEWS-PRESS**  
news-press.com

For convenient home delivery, call 239.335.0233



Tiles, pavers and patches of sod come together in an elaborate, "tailored tropical" checkerboard effect designed by Christian Busk for this private residence in Naples' Grey Oaks community.



Yet, while those words from the most influential landscape architect since Frederick Olmsted aptly characterize the man Busk has become, they don't go nearly far enough.

Busk is an artist as well, one whose materials just happen to have a life of their own. His work requires a seamless synthesis of right- and left-brain skills: color, scale and composition balanced with a knowledge of construction, subcontractors and plain old dirt.

These seemingly contradictory talents have made the Naples-based Busk one of the best-known — and most sought-after — landscape architects in Southwest Florida. To those who've watched him work (and win award after award) during the last 17 years, that should come as no surprise; the man just fizzes with creative energy (in his spare time, he's a jazz pianist, vintage home renovator, world traveler and antiques collector).

Though Busk's landscapes have a distinctive style, no two jobs are alike. He tailors each installation to fit the client and the site.

"Tailored tropical" might be the best way to characterize the Busk look: graceful palms, green-framed vistas and striking interplay of light and shadow, usually laced together with gleaming stretches of water.

His work requires a seamless synthesis of right- and left-brain skills: color, scale and composition balanced with a knowledge of construction, subcontractors and plain old dirt.

"I love to take a home or a site that needs some work, get rid of all the bad stuff, knock down the ugly things and keep what's beautiful," he says. "I'm always looking out for those sow's ears."

"Making things — even good things — much better is what it's all about for me."

His two firms (of which he's president and chief executive officer), W. Christian Busk Landscape Architects Inc. and Busk and Associates Landscape Contractors, employ more than 20 people, from fellow landscape architects to maintenance workers. He provides health insurance and retirement benefits for all of them — an increasing rarity among local small business owners.

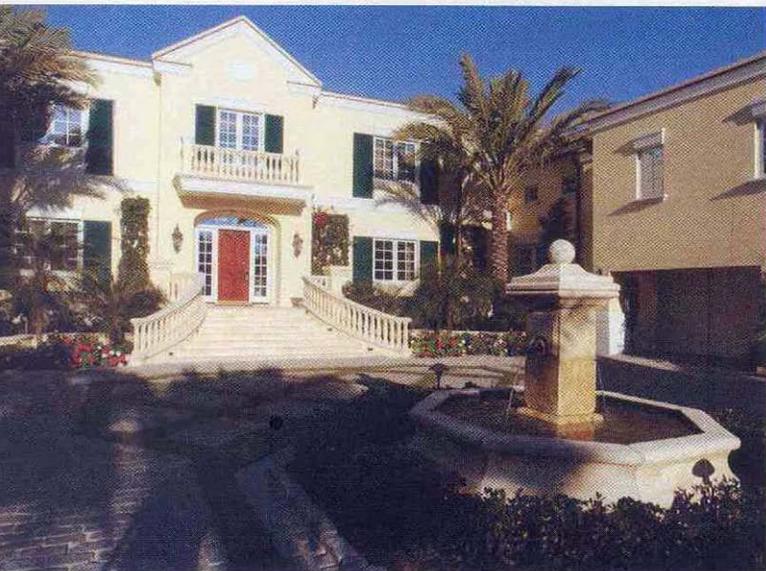
"Well, if I don't, who will?" he asks. "I figure if I have the ability to do it, I should do it. Plus, I never have to worry about them leaving!"

Busk's portfolio includes residential as well as commercial sites. One of Busk's most visible projects was the Promenade Mall in Bonita Springs; he's also worked on The Village on Venetian Bay, Quail Creek Country Clubs and the Northern Trust building, all in Naples.

We recently persuaded him to pause for a few minutes and answer some questions about his life and work. ▶



A fountain figures prominently in the landscape design at the front of this house in the Port Royal neighborhood in Naples.



# Zola Keller

Florida's Largest Selection of Special Occasion Wear  
Gowns • Suits • Bridal • Pageant

## A Gown for Every Occasion!

For over 25 years, Zola Keller has provided a world-class selection of designer gowns, suits and cocktail dresses. Zola also offers a complete in-house bridal salon.

Come join us at our newest location in The Promenade at Bonita Bay and see why Zola Keller has been providing quality choices for all of your eveningwear needs.

Gowns from  
\$200-\$10,000

Sizes 2-24  
& Custom

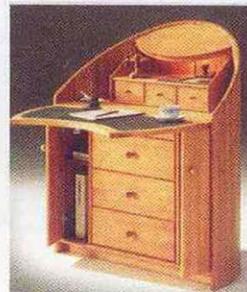
All Alterations Done on Premises



Naples/Bonita Springs  
Promenade at Bonita Bay-2nd. floor  
U.S.41 & South Bay Drive  
239-948-0006

Fort Lauderdale  
The Shoppes of Las Olas  
818 East Las Olas Boulevard  
954-462-3222

[www.zolakeller.com](http://www.zolakeller.com)



Complimentary Design Services Available  
When you purchase your furnishings from Denmark Interiors

**DENMARK INTERIORS**  
SIMPLY FABULOUS

FORT MYERS • N. E. corner of Metro & Daniels • 561-5656  
NAPLES • Greentree Center, corner of Airport & Immokalee • 513-  
ASID Interior Designers on Staff • [www.denmarkinteriors.com](http://www.denmarkinteriors.com)



Kieselstein-Cord  
 Oliver Peoples  
 Chrome Hearts  
 Maui Jim  
 Daniel Swarovski  
 Air Titanium  
 Matsuda  
 Cartier  
 Fred  
 Gold & Wood  
 Swiss Horn

Exclusive dealers of the  
 Perfect Focus Lens

Eye Exams available  
 by Independent Doctor  
 of Optometry.

**CHROME HEARTS**

EYETOPIAN Optical

THE PROMENADE  
 (239) 498-4420

THE BELL TOWER SHOPS  
 (239) 482-8763

## Mediterranean Style...

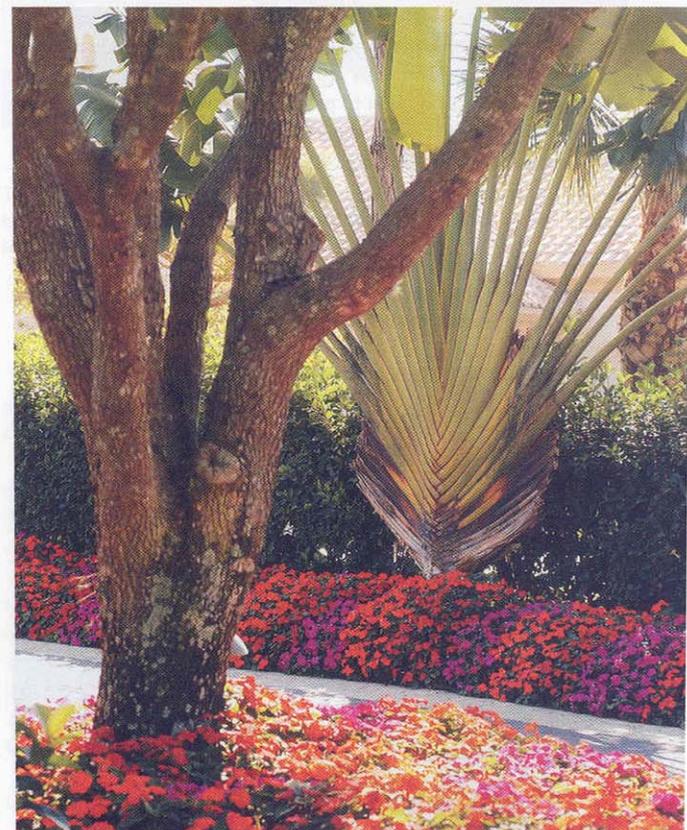
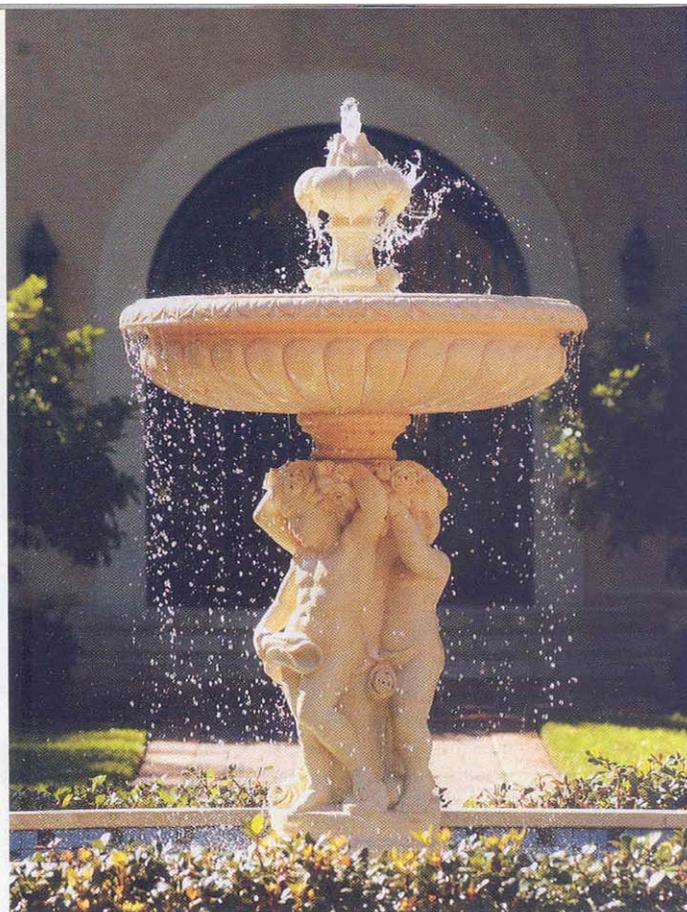
❖ HOME ACCESSORIES ❖ ARTIFACTS ❖ IMPORTS



**SOCORRO**  
 IMPORTS

1325 Cape Coral Pkwy. E., Big John's Plaza, Cape Coral  
 (239) 541-1005

socorroimports@earthlink.net



Although each project is distinct, elaborate fountains and exotic-looking pal are hallmarks of landscape designs by Christian Busk.



LEFT: The entire meandering, multilevel pool area of George Beasley's Naples estate is screen-enclosed. Extensive remodeling of the Gulf-front property included a landscape design by Christian Busk.

CLOCKWISE FROM BELOW: Anything but typical, oversized ornaments fit right in to Christian Busk's plans.

A grand home in Port Royal in Naples called for statuary and fountains.

Until he works them into a landscape plan, Busk stores statues discovered at auction houses and architectural salvage operations, including these two graceful cupids, in the backyard at his office.

**Q: Where were you born?**

A: In Manchester, Conn. I moved to South Florida when I was 1. My parents live in Plant City, where they were both born and raised — my mother was even the Strawberry Queen one year!

**Q: What was your education?**

A: I have two bachelor of science degrees from the University of Florida: landscape architecture and agriculture, specializing in turf grass and golf course maintenance.

**Q: How old are you?**

A: 48.

**Q: Where do you live?**

A: On Bonita Beach on Estero Bay.

**Q: What exactly do you do for clients?**

A: We design high-end commercial and residential solutions for outdoor architecture and blend the hard- and softscape together. We design and provide construction management for the projects we're involved with as well as install and maintain them.

My passion is working on design challenges and being involved in the whole process, making a difference for people building their dreams. ▶





**Q: How is your home landscaped?**

A: The front is very tailored with lots of color. The bayfront is open, but framed with large tropical palms, waiting for the perfect pool.

**Q: What are your three favorite plants?**

A: Crown of thorns, artillery fern and firecracker fern.

**Q: What do you see in the Southwest Florida landscape that makes you cringe?**

A: When people don't respect the native plant communities, they destroy existing landscapes that don't require any maintenance and replace them with high-maintenance landscapes requiring constant care.

**Q: Do you have time for hobbies?**

A: I have a grand piano I got in college for \$500 and I love to play it — I was taking lessons again a year or so ago, but then I fell off the wagon. I have a real passion for antique collectibles, mid-century modern, especially — I get a big thrill out of nostalgia.

I like tennis, boating, fishing and waterskiing. Plus I snow ski whenever I get a chance. ☐





OPPOSITE PAGE, TOP: A lion fountain guards the pool area of a home in Port Royal.

OPPOSITE PAGE, CENTER LEFT: An ornamental column awaits placement in one of Busk's grand landscape plans.

OPPOSITE PAGE, CENTER RIGHT: An intricate pattern of decorative pavers leads to archways just outside the front door of a home in Pelican Landing, Naples.

OPPOSITE PAGE, BOTTOM, and THIS PAGE: Life-size bronze statues take their places poolside at the same Pelican Landing home. On this page, The Ritz-Carlton, Naples, lights up the night sky in the background at left.

STYLE • DESIGN • FINE ARTS • PEOPLE • DESTINATIONS

# GRANDEUR

LUXURY LIVING ON THE GULF COAST



Whatever the style... Grandeur opens the door to Southwest Florida living. Whether it's furniture, design, home accessories, fine arts, destinations or people, Grandeur will captivate your customers.

Grandeur reaches over 104,000 adults living in Lee County with a household wealth over \$400,000 through The News-Press Sunday home delivery.

Grandeur, a full-color, glossy tabloid magazine, is the ideal medium for any business selling upscale products, from merchandise to real estate. Content categories include Style, Design, Fine Arts, Destinations, People and Local Happenings.



Place your ad in the 2004 editions today.

Sun., Oct. 24, 2004

Sun., Dec. 12, 2004

Call now to place your ad.  
Retail advertising: 239.335.0315

Delivering your world  
**THE NEWS-PRESS**  
news-press.com