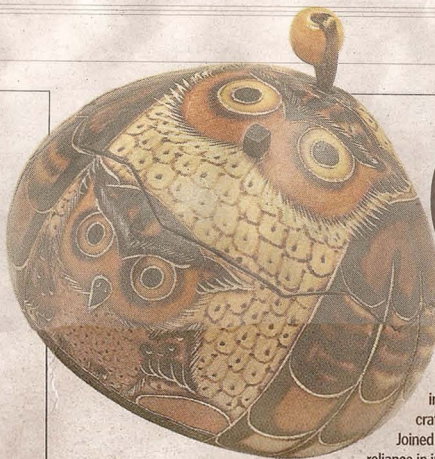


# LAMP WITH PERKS

■ An elegant bamboo-and-paper lamp projects a constellation of flowers (\$28). Handmade in Bangladesh by the fair-trade artisan group Prokritee, the 14-inch-tall lamp takes a 40-watt light bulb and is available at He She & Me/Ahora Rora Florist, 2701 Cleveland Ave. (across from Lee Memorial Hospital), Fort Myers. Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday-Friday; 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday. Call 332-3887, 941-769-6905 or visit [hesheandme.com](http://hesheandme.com). To learn more about fair-trade artisans' work, visit [TenThousandVillages.com](http://TenThousandVillages.com), Internet site for the nonprofit company that helps empower tens of thousands of disadvantaged artisans in 37 countries.



# OWL OR THE PUSSYCAT

■ Choose from an owl or a cat on gourds that Peruvian artisans have dried, carved, tattooed with burned wood, painted, washed and morphed into 4-by-7-inch boxes (\$18). The gourd boxes are crafted by the artisan group Manos Amigas ("Hands Joined in Friendship"), which works to support self-reliance in impoverished areas of Lima and in the Andean highlands. Choose your gourd at He, She & Me.

■ Shopping notes by  
**Joanna Hogan,**  
special to The News-Press

# LEAF: THE BRAND

■ Seagrass leaves, veins up, could have inspired Indonesian artisan group Ceramic Kreatif's 11-by-5-inch ceramic serving bowl (\$58). The bowl is part of the group's leaf collection of hand-formed vases, dishes and bowls (microwave-, dishwasher- and food-safe) available at Southwest Florida's only Ten Thousand Villages store, He She & Me. "Because we are a florist, too (Melody Hull purchased adjoining Aurora Bora Florist earlier this year), our flower customers can shop around the world at He, She & Me for a perfect, one-of-a-kind work of art to hold the flowers, and the person who made the vase or vessel shares the profits," says Hull. She also carries fair-trade items brought to her by missionaries with Fort Myers-based New Mission Systems International (NMSI), which fosters ministries in 24 countries. Just in from Bulgarian artisans: a diverse collection of pottery.



# SUPER BOWL

■ Strong, polished coiled bamboo lacquerware crafted by Vietnamese artisans is marketed globally by Ten Thousand Villages and sold at stores such as He She & Me. Store owner Melody Hull stocks a wide selection of these dazzling decorative pieces (to clean, wipe with damp cloth). Our fave is the 18-by-4-inch orange bowl (\$44), which winds up as a refrigerator-top catchall when it's not center stage for a pile of avocados or bananas.

