



TELLS TAILS:  
Lisa Manzione

# GONE TO THE DOGS (BOOKS)

**Lisa Manzione is one of those rare individuals to excel at both math and English.** The Delray Beach accountant crunches numbers by day and by night writes her successful series of children's books, "The Adventures of Bella & Harry."

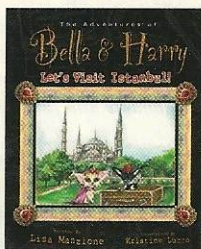
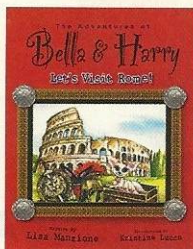
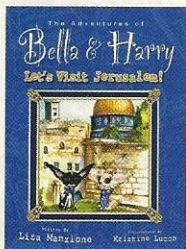
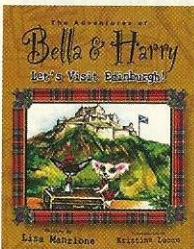
The series, which is based on a pair of globetrotting Chihuahuas who explore different languages, foods and cultures, has caught on with the 5- to 10-year-old set, with sales exceeding 75,000. Young readers are drawn to Boca Raton resident Kristine Lucco's whimsical illustrations and Manzione's tales of Paris, Venice, Edinburgh and other cities. The dogs' latest sojourn: Jerusalem.

The 49-year-old single mother of two came up with the idea after realizing her kids knew nothing about geography.

"We need to be able to compete with the kids across the world," says Manzione, whose books will be sold on QVC this August. "Our children need to be able to think globally, not just specifically to the area in which they live."

Why use Chihuahuas as protagonists? Let's just say Manzione is a dog lover—she has seven of her own, and donates 5 percent of book sales to the ASPCA.

— Linda Haase



(ART)

# THE PEANUTS GALLERY

Parents can share with their kids the simple joys of Charlie Brown, Snoopy and the rest of the Peanuts gang this summer at the Art and Culture Center of Hollywood, where the "Charles M. Schulz: Pop Culture in Peanuts" exhibit will showcase the largest collection of drawings and memorabilia outside the cartoon creator's namesake Santa Rosa, Calif. museum. The exhibit kicks off June 8 with a Snoopy Jazz Party, with Peanuts-themed music, cartooning workshops, photos with Snoopy, and the famous beagle's favorite snack, chocolate chip cookies and root beer. Coinciding with the exhibit, which runs through September 1, will be the statewide Florida Comic Strip Challenge, an amateur cartoonist competition. For more information, call 954-921-3274 or visit [ArtandCultureCenter.org](http://ArtandCultureCenter.org).



(STATS)

## STERN WARNING

\$40.8 MILLION

**THE VALUE OF THE MANSION SHOCK JOCK**  
Howard Stern and wife Beth Ostrosky are reportedly seeking to purchase on the Island of Palm Beach, according to Jose Lambiet's Gossip Extra website. Should the sale come to fruition, Stern will be neighbors with another controversial radio personality—Rush Limbaugh.

Source: [gossipextra.com](http://gossipextra.com).