

Norman loves chocolate, desserts and pastries



**Sharon
Kenny**

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS-PRESS

Did you know that local chocolatier Norman Love, besides producing nationally renowned chocolates, also makes the most delicious desserts and pastries? These are only available here in his Southwest Florida stores because of issues with freshness and transportation. All of Love's baked goods are produced in his Fort Myers bakery on Daniels Parkway.

I wandered into his Naples store last week to buy some of his delicious dark chocolate for a friend and was delighted to find that Love is now making cake pops! Cake pops followed on the heels of the cupcake trend — which is starting to cool down — but I've always been more of a cake pop fan. Cake pops are a much denser cake than cupcakes, plus

Norman Love Confections

www.NormanLoveConfections.com

Fort Myers: 11380 Lindbergh Blvd.,
561.7215

Naples: 3747 Tamiami Trail N.,
687.7215

Estero: 10801 Corkscrew Rd. (Miromar
Outlets), 672.8787

they're little, just two or three bites worth, and since they're on a stick, you can keep your hands clean. (More food on sticks in general please!)

Love says he launched the cake pops in his stores about six months ago as a way to use some of the trimmings from his freshly baked cakes and the small, easy to eat bites of luscious cake have

See Pops, Page 7D

Pops

Continued from Page 5D

been so popular he's having trouble keeping them in stock! He's constantly experimenting with flavors and combinations for the cake pops, but they are always based on vanilla or chocolate cake with a flavored filling mixed in with buttercream to make a moist, dense, almost clay-like cake that can maintain a round shape. Combinations, including lemon raspberry, mint chocolate chip, chocolate peanut butter or cookies and cream, are molded and then dipped into chocolate or white chocolate (which is sometimes colored) and then topped with chopped nuts or sprinkles. Because they're encased in chocolate, and are moister to start, the cake pops have a longer shelf life than normal cupcakes. Not that any of Love's cake pops would ever make it that long without being eaten!

Love has also recently launched what he calls "Inclusion bars" which are 3.5 oz. chocolate bars with unusual fillings. "Everyone



SHARON KENNY/SPECIAL TO THE NEWS-PRESS

Norman Love launched cake pops in his stores about six months ago.

loves stuff in bars!" says Love. Crackle & Pop bars are filled with crispy rice and Pop Rocks candy, and the Cookies and Cream bar is a white chocolate bar mixed with cream-filled chocolate cookies. But Love is also producing really wild combinations, including pumpkin seeds with curry in a white chocolate bar! There are eight inclusion bars on the shelf

right now with four more in development. Another new product line is the mousse pop on a stick (yeah!), These are just as advertised — flavored mousses like chocolate or peanut butter or even brownies, encased in chocolate on a stick. Love has a new person in charge of product innovation and it shows. Look for lots more delicious things to come!