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WEEK OF DECEMBER 16-22, 2010

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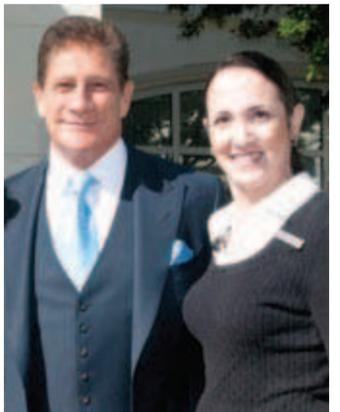
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| **INSIDE** |



Family ties

Florida Stage premieres "Goldie, Max & Milk" a play about lesbians and Orthodox Jews. **B1** ▶



Gardens Society

See who's out and about in Palm Beach County. **B12-14** ▶



Hot duds for pups

Le Posh Pups offers jeweled collars and formal wear. **A8** ▶

precious miracles

ON THE NICU AT ST. MARY'S, RESOLUTE COMPASSION, HIGH-TECH SOPHISTICATION SAVE LIVES

BY ROGER WILLIAMS
 rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

SURROUNDED BY 45 human beings fighting for their lives, Dr. John Bankston is unsentimental. "You want answers?" he asks a reporter. Here in the Neonatal Infant Care Unit at St. Mary's Medical Center in West Palm Beach, Dr. Bankston's answers will not come attached to the sugar-coated term, "miracle baby." Instead, he quotes two characters from the 1992 movie, "A Few Good Men," reciting the lines for both. In the scene, a Marine Corps colonel played by Jack Nicholson challenges a Navy lawyer, played by Tom Cruise.

SEE NICU, A12 ▶

The unit is one of 12 in Florida that offers high-level care. In June, it will begin providing open-heart surgery.

SCOTT B. SMITH/FLORIDA WEEKLY

Warriors in Pink will help lead South Florida Race for the Cure

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The South Florida Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure named eight Warriors in Pink, who represent the courage and strength of breast cancer survivors in the fight to rid the world of the disease forever. The Warriors in Pink will lead thousands of survivors at the 20th Annual Komen South Florida Race for the Cure.



largest fundraiser for the Komen South Florida Affiliate and has the distinction of being the first of Komen Races to be held each year. Sponsorship applications and registration for participants may be completed at komensouthflorida.org. The affiliate serves Palm Beach, Martin and St. Lucie counties.

The 2011 Warriors in Pink are:

■ **Nancy Brinker** of Palm Beach founded Susan G. Komen for the Cure in 1982 after promising her dying sister she would do everything in her power to end breast cancer forever. Ambassador Brinker is considered the leader of the global breast cancer movement for her role in Komen, now the world's largest grassroots net-

work of breast cancer survivors and activists fighting to save lives, empower people, ensure quality care for all and energize science to find the cures.

■ **Arlene Saranik**, 63, of Boca Raton was diagnosed with breast cancer 16 years ago — thanks to a mammogram — and underwent a mastectomy and chemo. Komen has been part of her life for 10 years. After she and her husband first did the race, she was so impressed she volunteered and never turned back. Her children are joining her at the 2011 race. She and husband Herb have three children and two grandchildren. The advice Ms.

SEE WARRIORS, A22 ▶



The Mashup

Stoke up with some protein before facing holiday chores. **B8** ▶

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DATED MATERIAL - REQUESTED IN-HOME DELIVERY DATE: DECEMBER 16, 2010

COMMENTARY

Can I give up the printed page? Power me up

c.b.HANIF

cbhanif@floridaweekly.com



When it comes to what to read these days I find myself simultaneously a traditionalist and a technophile, fighting a losing battle against the biggest blockbuster of this holiday season: the electronic book.

Count me among the holdouts, a defender of the printed volume. I like the touch, the feel, the tradition, the universality of The Real Thing.

It's a longstanding love affair. What was that one thing I desperately missed for weeks that long-ago summer, when for whatever reason I was grounded while my friends were outside playing baseball? A book.

Any book. Not the convenience and great features of the new reading contraptions that keep singing a siren's song to this technology enthusiast.

Yes, I confess. Part of my problem is I love things electronic.

Shipwrecked on a deserted island? I easily can think of the single volume I'd want to have along. I'd rather have my laptop with wireless access to all the world's libraries.

And I don't know anyone else who, even back in the early '80s, rushed over to Radio Shack to pick up that combination car stereo and CB radio.

But I'm trying hard, very hard, to remain Old School on this matter.

You might envision me as the Cowardly Lion from "The Wizard of Oz," only this time chanting:

"I do believe in books, I do believe in books, I do, I do, I do, I do, I do!"

And by book, again, I mean the print volume.

My dissonance was only accentuated when I stopped by the bustling Barnes & Noble bookstore at Legacy Place on PGA Boulevard.

It was nice to walk in and see all the people perusing books. Real books.

Tables in and around the store's café were filled with conversations and/or readers. In an aisle, two stacks of books had proved just the right height to provide a makeshift chair for one engaged gentleman.

It simply was a comfortable place for a reader; as cozy as any library, rivaling many a beach.

And at a display of B&N's proprietary electronic book reader, the Nook, there was a knowledgeable, articulate and witty saleswoman, Sandra, demonstrating its numerous features by way of explaining why it is one of the hottest gifts.

In fact, even as I began crafting this column a couple of days later, a *New York Times* email pushed to my BlackBerry smart phone was proclaiming:

"Forget those bland 'black text on gray, no touch screen' e-book readers. Here's Nook Color, a reader from Barnes & Noble with a color touch screen."

The Times' David Pogue was saying in his "State of the Art" column (almost as much a must-read as my *Florida*

Weekly colleague Bradford Schmidt's "The Mashup"), that:

"E-book readers like the Amazon Kindle may be all the rage this holiday season. But five years from now, they'll seem as laughably primitive as the Commodore 64."

In touting the new Nook as major progress for humanity, Pogue concluded, "Yes, five years from now, we'll laugh at this reader, too — but not derisively. As we unwrap our all-color, all-touch screen e-book readers under the 2015 tree, we'll remember this machine as the one that showed the way."

It was beginning to sink in. The question no longer is what to read, but how.

A few steps away, however, at the Eissey Campus of Palm Beach State College, came yet another take.

"The misperception that people buy more e-books than printed books is widespread and the e-book publishers do nothing to dispell it," said David Pena, director of the school's Library Learning Resources Center.

"They want to make people think print is unhip and on the way out — much bigger profits in selling an electronic file for \$9.99 than a printed book for the same price," said the soft-spoken but always erudite Dr. Pena.

"In 2009, total U.S. book sales were about \$24 billion, e-book sales accounted for only \$313 million of that. Of course e-book sales are growing fast, but they're not even 10 percent of the total.

"PBSC libraries offer over 30,000 e-books to our students, but e-book hits account for less than 10 percent of our

total circulation. Academic librarians can tell you that everyone talks about e-books, but students will choose a print book over an e-book almost every time.

"E-books and e-readers are most convenient and useful for light reading — best-selling fiction and the like," Dr. Pena said. "But a printed book is much better for intense reading and serious study requiring note taking, underlining, rereading, flipping back and forth, etc."

"PBSC libraries offer Nooks, Kindles, and iPads with preloaded e-books for checkout by students. There's plenty of interest in the devices, but that doesn't mean that everyone who borrows from us becomes a regular user of e-readers or goes out and buys one for themselves."

All that warmed the heard of your correspondent. One reason I tend to hold out against being an early adopter of the new electronics is that the gadgets are coming too fast and furious.

No, my BlackBerry isn't perfect. But I don't want an iPhone — I think?

I love my Mac laptop. But during our last Social Media Roundup session over at Store Self Storage and Wine Storage, "Branding Professor" Patrick Barbanes of Really Simple Social Media suggested I give an iPad a try.

I easily could envision his expected result. I'd be like Mikey of the old TV cereal commercial: "He likes it!"

Problem is, I don't wanna like it. Not unless I really need it.

Still, I suspect I already know the outcome of this e-story.

It's probably just a matter of time before Sandra has another sale. ■

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OPINION

Innovation is the thing



richLOWRY

Special to Florida Weekly

This is the miracle of the modern world: In advanced economies, real income per capita is at least 16 times what it was about 200 years ago.

We take this for granted. It is as natural as a grande latte macchiato, or Dish TV. But it's one of the most astonishing and consequential facts ever.

"In 1800 the average human consumed and expected her children and grandchildren and great-grandchildren to go on consuming a mere \$3 a day," Deirdre N. McCloskey writes in her dazzling new book, "Bourgeois Dignity." "The only people much better off than \$3 or so up to 1800 were lords or bishops or some few of the merchants. It had been this way for all of history. With her \$3 a day, the average denizen of the earth got a few pounds of potatoes, a little milk, an occasional scrap of meat."

In short, almost all the world was Bangladesh. Then, everything changed.

What happened? Ms. McCloskey's answer is that it wasn't foreign trade

(too small), it wasn't imperialism (it didn't enrich the imperial countries), it wasn't the establishment of property rights (they had existed before) and it wasn't the Protestant work ethic (hard work wasn't new).

It was simply a new attitude toward wealth and its creation. Ms. McCloskey calls it the "Bourgeois Revaluation." It afforded the shopkeeper the dignity that he had always been denied because he wasn't a manorial lord, a cavalry officer or a priest. Europe became, in the words of the economist Joseph Schumpeter, a "business-respecting civilization."

The combination of liberty and dignity for the bourgeoisie sparked the modern revolution that we wrongly, in Ms. McCloskey's view, attribute to "capitalism." The word is inapt, she argues, because the mere accumulation of capital is beside the point. The kings of Spain collected lots of gold from the New World, and no economic miracle ensued. It's innovation that's the thing, entrepreneurial "alertness," the ceaseless drive for the new, the better, the cheaper.

This offers cold comfort at a time of 9.6 percent unemployment. It suggests, though, that the basic recipe for economic success is simple, if not necessarily easy — celebrate, reward and create

the conditions for *innovation*.

Unfortunately, we have a president of the United States who has been a member his entire adult life of what Ms. McCloskey — borrowing from Samuel Taylor Coleridge — calls "the clerisy." These are the intellectualoids who never lost their instinctual scorn for commercial activity.

Unfortunately, special interests will always pursue anti-innovation trade and regulatory policies to protect their fiefdoms.

Unfortunately, it's easier to prop up what's old rather than foster what's new. A few years ago, the Federal Reserve handed out billions upon billions of dollars to practically every large, established firm in America.

The flip side to bourgeois dignity is governmental humility. Near the end of her tour de force, Ms. McCloskey quotes the great economist Frederic Bastiat: "Nothing is more senseless than to base so many expectations on the state, that is, to assume the existence of collective wisdom and foresight after taking for granted the existence of individual imbecility and improvidence." ■

— Rich Lowry is editor of the *National Review*.

GUEST OPINION

Cancun, climate change and Wikileaks



amyGOODMAN

Special to Florida Weekly

Critical negotiations are under way in Cancun, under the auspices of the United Nations, to reverse human-induced global warming. This is the first major meeting since the failed Copenhagen summit last year, and it is happening at the end of the hottest decade on record. While the stakes are high, expectations are low, and, as we have just learned with the release of classified diplomatic cables from WikiLeaks, the United States, the largest polluter in the history of the planet, is engaged in what one journalist here called "a very, very dirty business."

Dirty business, indeed. In Copenhagen last year, President Barack Obama swept into town and sequestered a select, invite-only group of nations to hammer out what became known as "The Copenhagen Accord." It outlined a plan for nations to make a public "pledge" to reduce carbon emissions, and to submit to some kind of verification process. In addition, wealthy, developed nations would, under the accord, pay billions of dollars to help poor, developing nations adapt to climate change and to pursue green-energy economies as they develop. That might sound nice, but the accord was designed, in effect, to supplant the Kyoto Protocol, a legally binding global treaty that more than 190 countries have signed. The United States, notably, has never signed Kyoto.

The WikiLeaks cables help explain

what happened. One of the most outspoken critics of developed countries in the lead up to Copenhagen, President Mohamed Nasheed of the Republic of Maldives, a nation of small islands in the Indian Ocean, ultimately signed on to the Copenhagen Accord. A secret U.S. State Department memo leaked via WikiLeaks, dated Feb. 10, 2010, summarized the consultations of the newly appointed Maldivian ambassador to the U.S., Abdul Ghafoor Mohamed. The memo reports that the ambassador said, when meeting with U.S. deputy special envoy for climate change Jonathan Pershing, "MALDIVES would like to see that small countries, like MALDIVES, that are at the forefront of the climate debate, receive tangible assistance from the larger economies. Other nations would then come to realize that there are advantages to be gained by compliance." He asked for \$50 million, for projects to protect the Maldives from rising sea levels.

Mr. Pershing appears in a related memo, dated a week after the Maldives memo, regarding a meeting he had with Connie Hedegaard, the European commissioner for climate action, who played a key role in Copenhagen, as she does in Cancun. According to the memo, "Hedegaard suggested the AOSIS (Alliance of Small Island States) countries 'could be our best allies' given their need for financing." Another memo from Feb. 17, 2010, reported, "HEDEGAARD responded that we will need to work around unhelpful countries such as Venezuela or Bolivia." That was from a meeting with deputy national security adviser for international economic affairs Michael Froman. The memo went on, "Froman agreed that we will need to neutralize,

co-opt or marginalize these and others such as Nicaragua, Cuba, Ecuador."

The message is clear: Play along with the U.S., and the aid will flow. Oppose, and be punished.

Here in Cancun, I asked Jonathan Pershing and the lead U.S. negotiator, special envoy for climate change Todd Stern, about the memos, and whether the U.S. role amounted to bribery or democracy. Stern wouldn't comment on the WikiLeaks cables, and said nations "can't ... ask for ... climate assistance and then ... turn around and accuse us of bribery." I followed up by asking about countries that had U.S. aid money for climate stripped, like Ecuador and Bolivia, for opposing the Copenhagen Accord. He and Mr. Pershing ignored the question.

Pablo Solon, Bolivia's ambassador to the United Nations, had an answer. He said the facts speak for themselves: "One thing that I can say for sure is they cut aid to Bolivia and to Ecuador. That is a fact. And they said it very clearly: 'We're going to cut it, because you don't support the Copenhagen Accord.' And that is blackmail." Mr. Solon is not optimistic about what can come from the Cancun negotiations. He told me: "The current pledges on the table will raise up the temperature by four degrees Celsius [7.2 degrees Fahrenheit]. That is catastrophic for human life and for Mother Earth." ■

— Amy Goodman is the host of "Democracy Now!," a daily international TV/radio news hour airing on more than 800 stations in North America. She is the author of "Breaking the Sound Barrier," recently released in paperback and now a *New York Times* best-seller.



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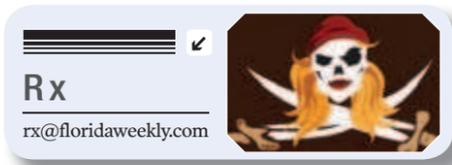
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MUSINGS

Subaudition



"In the jungle, the mighty jungle, the lion sleeps tonight...."
— Solomon Linda, "Mbube"

"And it seemed to me all the more important to get out of this forest with all possible speed as I would very soon be powerless to get out of anything whatsoever, were it but a bower. ... But before I go on, a word about the forest murmurs. It was in vain I listened, I could hear nothing of the kind. But rather, with much goodwill and a little imagination, at long intervals a distant gong. A horn goes well with the forest, you expect it. ... But a gong! ... For a moment I dared hope it was only my heart, still beating."
— Samuel Beckett, "Molloy"

The oldest anthropomorphic figure, thought to be created 32,000 years ago, was found in Germany's Swabian Alps. It is a lion-person, lion head and human body, carved of ivory. Archeologists have debated whether the figure was meant to be male or female. Or perhaps deity.

There is no such identity confusion with the Venus fertility figures. They were also found at this German site 35,000 to 40,000 years ago. These figures are

clearly human female. Only female, really, with their huge breasts and voluptuous vulva: emerging for only fertility, carved out of mammoth tusks.

In 2008, the oldest undisputed musical instrument was discovered at the same site. This flute, carved of a vulture's wing bone with five finger holes, was created during the same time as the Venus and Lion-Man figures. It seems that the oldest human societies were making love and music, vibrating each other and the surrounding air, making air with voice and instrument. And percussing: shaking, rubbing, hitting, scraping to set into vibration. Paleolithic red dots painted onto cave walls marked the spots of best acoustics. It remains only to connect the dots.

Thus have I seen, connected in my imagination, wandering the lion's den of the forest, Lowenmensch and Venuses. In their bacchanalian dancing there arises the illusion of the immortality of the dancers. But ultimately there comes the lion's share of threnody for all and each. The lion's roar reduces to silence the cacophony of the orgy.

The lion's roar is inscrutable, yet unmistakably decisive and absolutely compelling. What seemed beyond question in the forest begins to unravel.

A symptomatic echo of the unsettling is seen in Samuel Beckett's "Molloy," written in the 1940s. This narrative is the interior monologue of what seems to be two discrete characters, the vagrant Molloy and



COURTESY PHOTO

his pursuer, the private detective Jacques Moran. Yet soon their common bicycles and murders and monologues cease to distinguish themselves from each other or to clarify the qualities of the forest.

Moran can only write: "It is midnight. Rain is beating against the window.' It was not midnight. It was not raining."

Thus have I heard, in "Molloy" to be sure, that when someone in a forest thinks he is going in a straight line he is going in a circle. So one might strategize: If one thinks to go in a circle, perhaps then one is going in a straight line. Well, maybe not a straight line, but maybe, perhaps, not a circle.

A circular metal plate struck in the center is a gong. Gong pitch can be defined or undefined, but the vibrations always come from the center of this percussion

instrument. The percussion instruments were, after the voice, the earliest kind of musical instrument. However, not all instruments vibrate in the center. The bell, for instance, vibrates at the rim.

Another type of percussion instrument is the lion's roar. This instrument consists of a drumhead that has a string passing through its center. Moving one's fingers along the string, from drumhead to string end, creates a sound virtually indistinguishable from a lion's roar. It is of interest that it is not the string that vibrates; the sound is created by the vibration of the drumhead through which the string passes.

Listen: Did you expect clarity in the lion's den? Simplicity in the lion's roar? Unity in the imaginary narrative? Getting to the heart murmur, the beat of the matter?

Perhaps tonight, after the roar, the lion will sleep. Perhaps the vibrations of gongs and drums and narratives and indiscrete mind will settle. Under hearing, underhanded understanding: Not even minimally mentally supplying that not expressed. Such is the case. ■

— Rx is the FloridaWeekly muse who hopes to inspire profound mutiny in all those who care to read. Our Rx may be wearing a pirate cloak of invisibility, but emanating from within this shadow is hope that readers will feel free to respond. Who knows: You may even inspire the muse. Make contact if you dare.

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15 MINUTES



Left: Debbie Weinman chose a sweater for her dog Stoli at Le Posh Pup in Palm Beach Gardens. Middle: The pet specialty store in PGA Commons offers holiday ornaments. Right: Stoli, a Havanese, proudly sported a sweater, purchased for a trip to the Washington, D.C., area.

COURTESY PHOTOS

The best-dressed pooches take their owners to Le Posh Pup

BY MARY JANE FINE
mjfine@floridaweekly.com

There's no doggie in the window, but the doggie inside Le Posh Pup is doing his darnedest to wriggle out of the faux-leopard doggie jacket being wrapped around his shaggy little white middle.

"I don't know," Debbie Weinman says, cocking her head to one side, assessing the effect. "He's gonna look like a little old lady. I can't do this to a male dog."

If a dog could sigh with relief, Stoli — "like the vodka," Ms. Weinman says — would do so now. And, really, the next try-on, a rugged green-and-white striped sweater, is so much more him. He's a macho 6½-month-old Havanese, a lively and playful breed developed from Bichons, and he needs his winter-wear for a trip north, to the Washington, D.C., area, where Ms. Weinman will attend her nephew's bar mitzvah.

"He looks very dapper," she concludes, smiling at shop owner Melissa Ayers. "He looks very boyish in this. He looks just beautiful."

Ah, another satisfied customer. Or satisfied customer's owner, at least, although Stoli appears quite content as he trots alongside his departing person, who is calling "thank you's" over her shoulder to Ms. Ayers.

Le Posh Pup, open since June, aims to please. Ms. Ayers and partner Viki Fisher both have owned pet stores before. The experience shows. Economic woes of late have been unkind to pet boutiques, Ms. Ayers says. Doggie frills and baubles slide on the priority scale when times are tough, although the bare-bones pet shops and major chain pet stores seem to have fared well enough. She can't think of a rival to her PGA Commons-based shop, unless one chooses to schlep all the way down to Boca.

But Palm Beach Gardens seems to have more than its share of pampered pooches, and pooch pamperers. The shivery tem-

peratures in recent days caused a run on sweaters, most in the \$30-ish range. "I probably sold 15 yesterday because of the weather," says Ms. Ayers, who admits to hoping for a continued cold snap. "I was just on the phone, ordering more sweaters."

And let's not forget coats. There's a little white mink-look number hanging over here with a price tag of \$129.99. Or the little crushed velvet item in hot pink, for



Dresses for all occasions are available at Le Posh Pup.

a mere \$200.

"For all the spoiled little dogs," Ms. Ayers says.

Not that she truly views them that way. A lot of the pampered ones are rescues, she says. She owns eight dogs herself, a border collie and seven cocker spaniels, six of which are rescues. Their pictures hang on the wall behind the cash register: Seamus, Shannon, Buddy, Clancy, Dublin

— yes, Ms. Ayers is Irish — Connor and Joe Cocker (he's the one wearing the \$700 tux). Clancy (full name: Smoky's Copper Clancy) was the first of her rescued dogs.

"I live out west," she says, gesturing toward the Turnpike and beyond. "Not in an apartment."

She is explaining that, yes, the tiny gold dog on the chain around her neck is a cocker spaniel, too, when a young woman rushes in, announcing in a breathless onslaught of words, "I need to dress up a mini Doberman pincer, almost like a little baby girl, an infant. Pink. I don't know anything about dogs. I'm doing this as a favor. Will that fit? That's perfect."

That is a pink angora turtleneck emblazoned with a white heart, but its \$80 price tag sends the young woman hurrying off to a rack of other pretty-in-pink outfits. "It's for a commercial for Seacoast Bank," she blurts, holding up a rainproof daisy-printed pink cotton dress, followed by a Pepto-Bismol-pink rain slicker. She looks at, and dismisses, a flouncy white confection of a dress with teensy red satin bows and rosettes encircling its ruffled hem.

"So, what do babies wear?" she asks, addressing no one in particular. "Bonnets?"

Nix on the pink-and-white Jackie O beret-and-coat ensemble. Far too sophisticated. But then she spots...yes, yes, YES.

"Oh, my gosh!" she gasps. "Please tell me this is gonna fit!"

"Probably," Ms. Ayers says, lifting a tiny pink-and-white gingham dress from a central display table. "This is a one-of-a-kind. It's part of the new spring collection. It has a matching leash." It also has a matching cap topped with a pom-pom, like a fuzzy white marshino cherry.

"I'll take it," says the young woman, who declines to give her name.

Pink definitely accounts for the most popular purchases, Ms. Ayers says, after her customer has left. But the hit of the season thus far is neither pink nor poufy. It is Italian leather: collars from Lucy's

Luxuries. Some — but, of course; *mais oui* — prefer the French leather collars from Star Dog by Jophi Côte d'Azur.

Your pup doesn't think pink? Isn't into the latest Euro-fad? Maybe a plush toy will entice. Or a braided chew toy. Or how about a bowl imprinted with DIVA or WOOF, SPOILED or PAMPERED, or perhaps just a paw print. Maybe a pillow would please, or a pillow-y dog bed. A hair bow, a rhinestone barrette, a satin-and-lace frock with genuine Swarovski crystals to wear to Yappy Hour (6 to 9 p.m., on the last Friday of each month, but not this month, since that will be New Year's Eve).

Oh, yes, and there's a whole glass-front case of doggie treats, including peanut butter snacks and gingerbread men. All holistic, non-allergenic: no corn, no wheat; the base is oat or rice flour and yogurt.

More and more products are going to the dogs, a fact evident in the array of trade shows in cities from Atlanta to Las Vegas and Atlantic City to Orlando. And, clearly, vendors are barking up the right tree.

Pet owners in the U.S. spent \$45.5 million on their animal companions last year, according to the American Pet Products Association, which estimates an increase to \$47.7 million by the end of 2010. That figure includes food, vet visits, kennel boarding and grooming products, but fails to speculate on wardrobe expenditure. Dog owners spring for an average of \$40 worth of dog toys each year, the APPA notes, just more than twice what cat owners spend on fabric mice and plastic-enclosed jingle-bell balls.

Most of Ms. Ayers' customers are in the 45-and-older age range, she says, their children grown, their expendable income available for those furry family members. It's only fair, only giving back. Studies have shown, after all, that pets help to lower blood pressure and reduce stress. The APPA Web site cites a recent study at SUNY Buffalo, which determined that people with hypertension who adopted a dog or cat had lower blood pressure readings, in stressful situations, than did non-pet-owners.

So, c'mon. You're going to reward your best friend with a bone? A fistful of Kibbles and Bits? If your dog were giving the commands, it would probably scan the Le Posh Pup inventory and say: Sit. Stay. Buy. ■

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD
DISTRIBUTED BY UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Women's rights

Among the oppressive patriarchal customs that remain in force in Saudi Arabia is a requirement that females obtain their father's (or guardian's) permission before marrying — even women who are profoundly independent, such as the 42-year-old surgeon (licensed to practice in the UK and Canada as well as Saudi Arabia) who was the subject of an Asso-

ciated Press report in November. One activist, estimating that nearly 800,000 Saudi women are in the same position, complained that a Saudi woman "can't even buy a phone without the guardian's permission."

The surgeon took her father to court recently, but the judge had not rendered a decision by press time. ■

Entrepreneurial spirit

► Alabama is the only remaining state to ban the sale of sex toys, but nevertheless the Huntsville shop Pleasures recently expanded by moving to a former bank building in order to use three drive-thru windows to sell toys. (Since state law prohibits the sale unless used for "bona fide medical, scientific, educational, legislative, judicial, or law enforcement purposes," customers must provide a brief written description of their medical or other "legitimate" condition in order to make the purchase.)

► Wei Xinpeng, 55, a boatman in a village near industrial Lanzhou, China, collects bodies from the Yellow River (the murdered, the suicides, the accidentally drowned), offering them back to grieving relatives for a price. Distraught visitors

pay a small browsing fee to check his inventory and then, if they identify a loved one, up to the equivalent of \$500 to take the corpse home. Said Mr. Wei, "I bring dignity to the dead"; no overstatement for him since his own son drowned in the river (yet his body was never recovered).

► Nov. 3 was National Sandwich Day, and several U.S. eateries capitalized by mixing up bar drinks in honor of such favorites as the cheeseburger, the BLT (bacon-infused rum), and the PB&J (peanut syrup, strawberry jam, banana and rum). The mixologist at Toronto's Tipicula Fixin's makes his cheeseburger cocktail with beef stock reduction, Roma tomatoes and iceberg lettuce water, garnished with a cheddar crisp and a kosher dill. ■

Cutting-edge science

Researchers at the University of Queensland revealed in November that parrot fish, which reside on Australia's reefs and need protection from blood-sucking, lice-like parasites, shelter them-

selves at bedtime with blankets of "snot." Typically, the fish's mouth-slobber, once it starts dribbling out, takes about an hour to ooze into place. ■

Medical marvels

► Six-year-old Alexis McCarter, of Pelzer, S.C., underwent surgery in December to remove the safety pin that she had stuck up her nose as a baby and which was lodged in her sinus cavity (having sprung open only after it was inside her, causing headaches, nosebleeds and ear infections).

► Sharon Wilson of Doncaster, England, finally got a worthwhile answer for her nearly 10-year odyssey through a range of doctors' complicated misdiagnoses. She had complained of many, many days when she vomited more than 100 times, at "almost exactly" 10-minute intervals. The previous diagnosis was a

tumor in her pituitary gland, but another specialist nailed it: "Cyclical Vomiting Syndrome."

► Researcher Patricia Brennan of Yale University told a conference in July that a duck's penis may vary in length from year to year — depending on their competition that year. Their penises waste away after each mating season and regrow, and Ms. Brennan found that they regrow longer if there are other males around. (Female ducks are known to have corkscrew-shaped vaginas, and thus a centimeter or two can make a big difference for success in mating.) ■

It's legal

The pharmaceutical company Genentech makes both Lucentis (a \$2,000 injection for relieving age-related macular degeneration) and Avastin (an anti-cancer drug that many retina specialists prescribe for age-related macular degeneration because it is just as effective yet costs about \$50). Using Avastin instead of Lucentis saves Medicare hundreds of millions of dollars a year, reported *The*

New York Times in November, and, obviously, every dollar's savings is a dollar less income for Genentech. In response in October, the company commenced a lucrative rebate program for physicians, worth tens of thousands of dollars, that apparently passes as legal according to Medicare guidelines, but said one Ohio specialist, "There's no way to look at that without calling it bribery." ■

Armed and clumsy

People who accidentally shot themselves recently:

► Daniel McDaniels, 31, Sarasota, "trying to ward off a skunk" (October).

► Sanford Rothman, 63, Boulder, Colo., while sleepwalking (October).

► Reserve police officer Kenneth Shannon, 68, Gary, Ind., in the hand while loading his gun (and the bullet went on to hit his partner) (October).

► Sheriff's Deputy Miguel Rojas,

Crestview, in the leg while firearms training (July).

► Darrell Elam, 52, Peshastin, Wash., in the buttocks as he holstered his gun (August).

► A 48-year-old woman, Clover, S.C., in the jaw while trying to kill a rat (September).

► A 25-year-old man, Juneau, Alaska, in the head after jokingly telling friends that there is "one way" to find out whether a gun is loaded (October 2009). ■

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HEALTHY LIVING

Change a negative partnership: Take a step back

lindaLIPSHUTZ
llipshutz@floridaweekly.com



Most people are so busy focusing on the way that they have been hurt and wronged by others that they are unable or unwilling to consider that they may be part of the problem.

Of course, they will admit that they know they are not perfect. They might even confess that they know they can be stubborn or spiteful. But to truly entertain the possibility that they might have to change is just something they're just not inclined to do.

When two people get locked in an angry, demoralizing pattern of pointing fingers at each other, they set in motion a cycle of hurt and frustration that escalates and offers very little relief.

I'd like to tell you about a remarkable couple who have experienced an important breakthrough in their relationship and are very excited to share their experience with others. Carla and Cliff Gordon (not their real names) have been determined to not only save their marriage, but to transform their relationship into an inspiring bond that offers true tenderness and passion.

The Gordons are a professional couple who have been married for 17 years and have two teenage sons. They are deeply committed to each other but have been very discouraged by the name-calling and mutual criticism that has characterized their relationship for many years. No matter how much they each longed for a relationship that felt nurturing and supportive, they found themselves

entrenched in a frustrating spiral that left them feeling depleted and alone.

The Gordons struggled to gain insights and come up with solutions that would enable them to reach out to each other in a different way.

And then, Carla made a very powerful shift in her mind-set.

She decided that she loathed the nagging, critical and negative person she had become. She made a commitment to herself that she was going to take steps to become the kind of woman she herself would be proud of. She was not going to expect Cliff to be the one to initiate positive changes first.

On the face of things, this doesn't sound particularly earth-shattering, now does it? But it was a huge step for her.

Carla decided that she was going to relate to Cliff in a loving, non-judgmental manner no matter how he related to her. She wasn't going to focus on what he was or wasn't doing or saying. There would be no demands on Cliff to come through for her in any particular way.

Now, let's be clear. I would never expect one person to do all of the work in a partnership. Nor would I expect Carla to tolerate abusive, inconsiderate treatment from her husband. But I would definitely support the challenge she took on to address the impact of her behavior on her most important relationships. And, certainly, if she wasn't satisfied with the way things were going, over time, she could reconsider her position and proceed differently.

Carla wasn't sure what to expect, but was really gratified to see how things unfolded. The most important thing

that happened was that Carla began to really like the person she was becoming. She was experiencing a renewed vitality in other important areas of her life and enthusiastically immersed herself in projects and opportunities. She had more patience for her family and friends and was enjoying herself in a very different way.

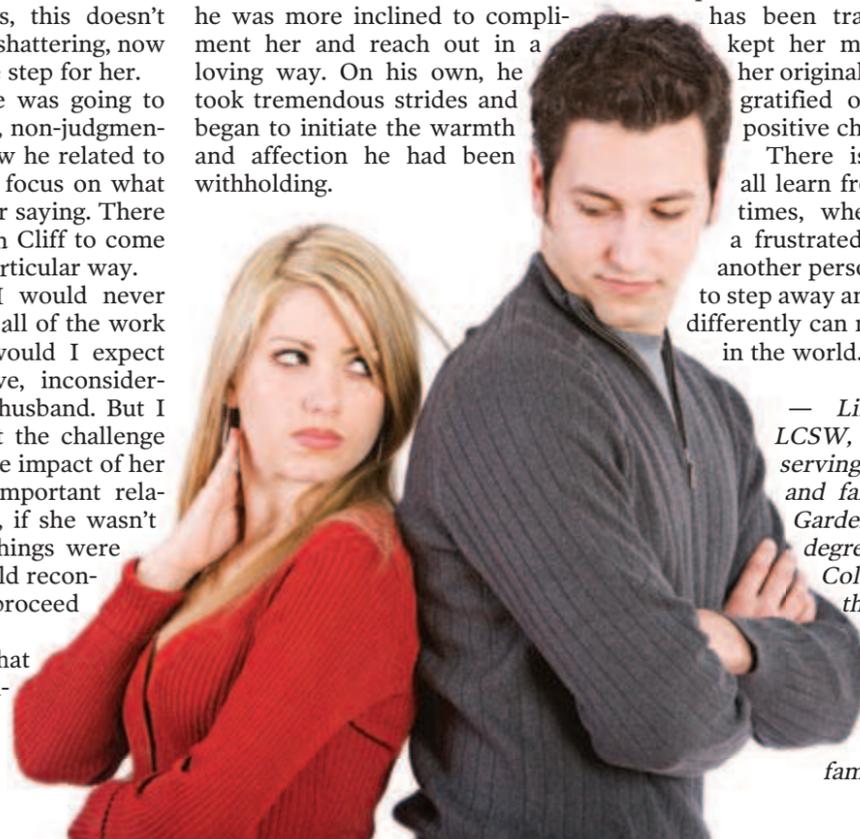
When Carla shifted her focus away from Cliff, some very significant changes occurred. Cliff, who is quite sensitive and astute in his own right, was now free to examine their relationship in a non-defensive way. When he didn't feel attacked or criticized, he discovered that he was more inclined to compliment her and reach out in a loving way. On his own, he took tremendous strides and began to initiate the warmth and affection he had been withholding.

At one point, though, Carla became impatient and discouraged. Even though things had definitely improved, it felt to her as if she was doing too much of the giving and that she wasn't getting enough in return. This is actually to be expected, because we are all emotionally wired with a protective mechanism that shields us from being hurt. She became critical once again, accusing Cliff of not noticing her efforts and not trying hard enough. The negative cycle returned.

But, then she reminded herself, that she had taken on the challenge as much for her own self esteem as she had to improve the relationship. This insight has been transformative and has kept her motivated to stay with her original commitment. She was gratified once again to see the positive changes emerge.

There is much that we can all learn from this couple. Sometimes, when we are locked in a frustrated, unhappy place with another person, taking the initiative to step away and approach each other differently can make all the difference in the world. ■

— Linda Lipshutz, M.S., LCSW, is a psychotherapist serving individuals, couples and families. A Palm Beach Gardens resident, she holds degrees from Cornell and Columbia and trained at the Ackerman Institute for Family Therapy in Manhattan. She can be reached at 630-2827, or online at www.palmbeachfamilytherapy.com.



GIVING

Now's the time to have "helping heart and caring hand"

leslieLILLY
President and CEO of the Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties



As the year winds down, there is much to enjoy in being out and about doing all the things that crowd out, by comparison, the mundane priorities of an otherwise typical workweek. At the Community Foundation, we are actually on the reverse side of this continuum, gearing up and being prepared for the last minute giving at the end of the tax year, as urgent needs often inspire. So instead of shortening hours, or closing down the office as some do to build a modest winter's nap into a routine work week, our staff is advised to be sure we are available to accommodate the clients and donors for whom the issue of giving has now become an immediate cause.

This is not to say we don't all enjoy a small bounty of extra time in the midst of this discipline. We do. But the foundation's unique role in promoting community philanthropy carries an obligation

of duty that distinguishes it from being — for example — a commercial bank. When the philanthropic spirit moves, it's our role to be here to respond to the call. According to a recent report, more than half of American donors intend to maintain their contributions at year-end, no matter the volatility of the economy. Preparedness is thus a prerequisite of fulfilling charitable potential.

You may not be aware that the majority of gifts that come to the Community Foundation are the result of professional advisers proactive in assisting their clients to fulfill their charitable dreams. The Community Foundation's Professional Advisors Council is a regional network of highly credentialed, accomplished men and women in the fields of estate planning, accounting and financial services. Our advisers promote and educate about the many options available for charitable giving, and highlight the Community Foundation as an avenue through which their clients can accomplish charitable goals. The Community Foundation is not always the solution, of course. There are times when a donor's passion for giving is better served by considering alternative options, including giving directly to the charity that has earned their trust and respect. We would never advise otherwise if we believed that were the case. It is this ethical standard of

trust and integrity that has, over the past 30 years, earned the foundation its reputation as a center of philanthropy and a "go-to" place for professional advisers. We are a strategic enabler in support of their clients' philanthropic planning.

In our conversations with our colleagues in the professional adviser community, we know timing is a critical aspect of charitable gift planning. There are still important opportunities to consider before the end of the year that maximize the benefits of a charitable gift made now. For example, in 2010, many big earners had the opportunity for the first time to roll over tax-deferred savings into a Roth IRA. Charitable contributions before year's end could offset a large tax bill on declared income.

But that's just one scenario. For the philanthropically inclined, there are multiple options you might consider. But you must act now before the clock runs out. Depending on the uniqueness of ingredients and circumstance, each option offers a mutuality of benefit to the individual and community charities, also well worth exploring. The process can be simple: contribute a larger gift than normal into a donor advised fund. This also allows the tax deduction in the current year. Your gifts to favorite charities can be made within an extended time horizon. A family foundation challenged

to meet the 5 percent of the IRS-required minimum payout, can gift the full sum into a donor advised fund, meet the requirement, and award grants in the future, too. Establishing a donor advised fund is an option readily accomplished. When a more complex charitable plan is required, we are fortunate in our region to have the expertise of advisers highly skilled in the charitable craft.

As you are wrapping packages and reflecting upon the holidays, we at the Community Foundation extend to you our best wishes for peace, joy and thanksgiving now and into the New Year. Charitable giving at the close of the calendar year is for many Americans as much a part of the holiday as is celebration with families and friends. May your philanthropy inspire conversations that lead to greater justice and equity in the world; promote solutions that advance human learning and dignity; and, lift up the least among us with a helping heart and caring hand. ■

— The Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties improves communities through the power of giving. Since 1972, The Community Foundation has granted more than \$84 million in grants and scholarships through the generosity of our donors. To learn more, visit www.yourcommunityfoundation.org.

PET TALES

The ultimate tool

A parrot's beak is a versatile, lightweight wonder

BY DR. BRIAN L. SPEER & GINA SPADAFORI
Universal Uclick

It can be a delicate tool for feeding a newly hatched chick or for the precise adjustment of feathers while grooming. With their beaks, birds can pick a lock, crush a walnut or peel the skin off a grape.

Beak shapes and sizes vary widely, depending mostly on the kind of food a certain species eats. The short, straight bill of canaries and other finches is ideal for plucking out seeds, grubs and other edibles. Birds of the parrot family — including budgies, cockatiels and the larger parrots such as macaws — are known as “hookbills” because of the shape and function of their beaks.

At its most basic, the beaks on our pet parrots consist of two hard structures, the upper and lower mandibles, along with an amazingly agile and strong tongue.

The beaks of most parrots are remarkably well-designed for one of their most important tasks: cracking, crushing, prying or otherwise destroying the protective coatings around many of the foods they like to eat. Like everything else on a creature designed for flight, the beak is surprisingly lightweight considering its strength — a hard shell of constantly

growing material (similar to that found in antlers) placed over a hollow bony structure. (If a beak were made of solid



The beak of a parrot is light enough to allow these birds to fly, nimble enough for grooming and powerful enough for protection.

bone, its weight would probably force a bird to spend his life on the ground, and on his nose.)

Lightweight it may be, but the hookbill's beak is also very strong. Although a person would need a hammer or nutcracker to get through hard shells to a nut's meat, a bird needs only his beak — and perhaps a foot to hold the nut in place. A parrot will rotate the seed to find the seam with his tongue, apply pressure to crack it at this weak spot, and then rotate it again to slide

the meat free — all in a few seconds.

A parrot has such strength in his beak that owners are often surprised to see even the bars of a metal cage fall victim. Birds have been known to pick off the welds holding bars together — and sometimes get lead or zinc poisoning as a result — or even snap the bars themselves. That's why a cheap cage with shoddy construction will turn out to be no bargain when faced with the destructive abilities of a bird.

Contrary to advice that still can be found in books or on the Internet, beak trims should not be a part of routine health maintenance for birds. Although beaks constantly grow at a rate of 1 to 3 inches per year, depending on the species, the beak of a healthy bird will remain at a healthy length with normal chewing activities.

Overgrowth of the beak is frequently a sign of illness, such as liver disease or malnutrition. Any bird whose beak seems to be too long needs to see a veterinarian expert in avian medicine to determine the cause of the problem and to treat it accordingly.

Using those beaks often is essential to both the physical and emotional well-being of birds. Even finches and canaries will have better beak health if you provide cuttlebone or another hard material for them to work with their beaks while in their cages. As a caring bird-keeper, be sure you're doing more for your bird's beak than just admiring its amazing form and function. Provide your pet bird with lots of things to chew on — an unending variety of toys and perches meant to be gleefully destroyed. ■

Pets of the Week



>>Petunia is a 3-year-old spayed female pit bull mix. She weighs 58 pounds. She is energetic and likes playing with people and other dogs. It's recommended that she be adopted by someone who has had experience with dogs.



>>Darleena is a 3-year-old spayed female short hair cat. She is calm and sweet. Darleena is easy to handle. She is quiet and might do best in a home with no children.

To adopt a pet

The Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League, Humane Society of the Palm Beaches, was founded in 1925 and is a limited-admission non-profit humane society providing services to more than 10,000 animals each year. It is located at 3100/3200 Military Trail in West Palm Beach. Adoptable pets and other information can be seen at www.hspb.org. For adoption information, call 686-6656.

County shelter giving away adult cats

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control has launched a program to give away adult cats.

“If I’m Three I’m Free” is designed to reduce the number of cats that must be euthanized.

Residents may take home for free a cat 3 or older that has been spayed or neutered and given all its vaccinations. In addition, anyone who adopts the cats will be given a free bag of cat food.

Most of the more than 14,000 unwanted pets euthanized at the shelter last

year were adult cats, the staff reports. The fee of \$54 is being dropped during the holiday promotion.

Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control is located at 7100 Belvedere Road, West Palm Beach, about 5 miles west of I-95, and immediately west of the Florida Turnpike overpass.

Shelter hours are Monday through Friday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Residents are asked to arrive at least 30 minutes before closing so the adoption process can be completed.

For more information call 233-1272. ■

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SCOTT B. SMITH/FLORIDA WEEKLY

A tiny patient is monitored closely, above. Dazed but calm parents Marlana Green and Shane Kerfoot, below right, praised staff members for the care they were providing their daughter.

NICU

From page 1

"You want answers?" he snarls.

"I want the truth.

"You can't handle the truth."

The moment is instructive. Shortly after midday in the level 3 NiCu — level 3 is a condition, not a place — the truth may be complex enough to exclude happy-talk, the standard fare of baby stories, as Dr. Bankston points out.

Children born on the inside arc of the survival clock, as early as 23 weeks after conception, are unlikely to lead the lives of normally developed men and women, even if they manage to reach adulthood, caretakers say.

But the truth also glistens. Its light springs from the resolute compassion and high-tech sophistication of more than 150 doctors, nurses and respiratory therapists who staff the 45-bed unit (20 are level 3 beds) day and night, displaying a skill set arguably unmatched.

They help desperately underdeveloped newborns climb from life-threatening circumstances toward robust lives. And with them their often terrified parents.

"We bond with the parents, and we make these babies our own," explains Susan Knapton, a nurse with 28 years in the NiCu.

Her longevity typifies the experience of caretakers here. Most use the world "calling" when they talk about the work.

Around them, infants lie in sophisticated incubators flanked by digital monitors equipped with an elaborate system of sound alarms. Together with the confluence of human voices, they create a low cacophony of noise as clear and distinct to doctors and nurses as the notes of a symphony.

NiCu babies enter the world wizened, shrunken, bald, and seemingly as leathery and worn as the very old, whom they closely resemble.

The smallest are no larger than 16 or

18 ounces, roughly the equivalent of a bottle of soda pop. Their heads are no larger than apples. Their wide-open hands would span the circumference of a dime. Their hearts are roughly the size of a pea. Their sexual organs, exposed when they await a diaper little longer or wider than a woman's hand, are smaller than a fingernail clipping. To say their veins and arteries are no thicker than the eye of a needle is probably gross exaggeration.

Their incubators are frequently shrouded in blankets and quilts to prevent a brain-damaging infusion of light. Each short bell, beep, bong or chime — as many as 10 distinct sounds may be delivered at various levels of insistence from any single bubble and its monitors or IVs — reflects the condition and need of a baby.

For example, if a pulse does not register between 130 and 160, or respiration varies from the 40 to 60 range, or the baby's required oxygen level or temperature rises or falls even moderately, or a problem occurs with an intravenous fluid or medicine, everyone hears about it.

Modified traffic lights have been mounted on the walls above the incubators to help control noise. Too much, and once again these fragile humans can suffer brain damage. But before that can happen, the light will turn from green to yellow, and then to red, signaling an immediate halt to noisy activity.

Inside the NiCu

St. Mary's NiCu is one of only 12 in the state that can offer almost everything required at the highest level of care, all within 30 minutes of a call for help, or less.

A neonatologist, nurses and respiratory therapists are in the unit at all times. Doctors of pediatric surgery, cardiology, infectious disease, neurosurgery, pulmonology, orthopedic nephrology, pediatric ophthalmology, pediatric dialysis, and other disciplines or skills all stand at the ready.

Come June, says Lori Matich, a 20-year NiCu nurse and now the



administrative director of the unit, the NiCu will also be able to carry out open-heart surgeries, the only care it can't now provide.

The hospital is a private, for-profit business, and the NiCu is a money-producing unit, Ms. Matich notes. But it's also as thoroughly egalitarian as any institution in existence.

"We turn away no one," she explains. "We're taking care of the whole family. There's the warm and fuzzy, but it's also highly technical. We have the smallest patients, but they need the most expensive equipment."

And they get it. Rich or poor, offspring of the famous or anonymous, babies arrive with their mothers from as far away as Belle Glade or Vero Beach.

About 800 children spend the first days, weeks, or months of their lives in the NiCu, 650 of them born just yards away among the general population of 4,000 who come into the world at St. Mary's from one Christmas to the next.

For at-risk mothers — those who have fought infertility, those overweight, those with high blood pressure or gastrointestinal diabetes or those addicted to methadone or some other drug (in which case the staff notifies the Department of Children and Families) — giving birth at St. Mary's improves the chances of their children for survival and long-term health, Ms.

Matich says.

About 65 percent of NiCu babies are recipients of Medicaid, in effect a gift of the American people. That can amount to more than \$1 million for children who must remain for many months, she adds.

Care and caretakers

No one here questions the cost, or judges the condition or circumstances of any parent.

"I came into this hidden place knowing nothing," explains Luis Mosos, a respiratory therapist.

In the hospital as a whole, he and his NiCu colleagues are considered the fine artists of the IV, able



MOSOS

to establish a line in a vein so small as to be barely visible — a skill crucial to a child's survival, since so many are fed and medicated through IV lines inserted through their navels. Thus, he is tapped for help on any other ward when no one else can get the job done.

The experience of Mr. Mosos is both personal and professional. His daughter, Lauren, now a robust and healthy 9-year-old, spent her first four months in the NiCu here. The experience

changed her father's life.

"Suddenly everything that was, was no longer important," he says.

Although already trained as a respiratory therapist, Mr. Mosos found the work in the NiCu so compelling he retooled his career. He did the requisite three-month training required to work with level 2 babies — those whose circumstances are not quite so desperate — then six more months of training to care for level 3 children.

Like Mr. Mosos, the spirit of all NiCu caretakers is encapsulated, perhaps, by the words inscribed on a wall outside the hospital's ground floor unit: "Where Hope Is Born."

But hope, it turns out, is no easy walk in the park for the babies or their parents. A 27-year NiCu veteran, Dr. Bankston makes that clear by referring to himself jokingly not as a neonatologist, but as "a professional baby torturer."

It's unsentimental but true. To save these children they have to be hurt, and each caretaker here knows it.

"I tell my parents, everything we do to help has a negative side effect. Touching them, helping them use their lungs, using their gastrointestinal tracts — none of it is something they would do naturally, at first," explains Mr. Mosos.

"What we have to do is not always pleasant," adds Ms. Matich.

At 25 weeks, or 30 or 35 or even as the 40th week approaches — full term — nature has designed children to remain untouched, without the need to breathe, feed themselves or digest. To have to do so before the full term — the state of Florida now deems 39 weeks the minimum ideal gestation — means pain, staff members say.

Unavoidably, therefore, these children suffer.

Truth and miracle

So do their parents.

On a clear Wednesday morning, Marlana Green and Shane Kerfoot look dazed but calm as a swirl of caretakers tend to their tiny infant.

In the first two days of her existence, which began after a cesarean operation on Monday, the little girl has endured two surgeries, one for spina bifida to correct the spine and clean a burst cyst there, and one for hydrocephalus.

The surgical team implanted a shunt that not only will drain fluid from the girl's brain to her abdomen, but can be adjusted to fit her growing needs with a magnet, from outside the body.

Hydrocephalus, unfortunately, is a lifelong malady.

But the couple — gentle and attentive to each other, closely monitoring the work of caretakers as they talk about their daughter — are lavish in their praise of staff, and seemingly awash in love.

"The last 40 hours have been the



SCOTT B. SMITH/FLORIDA WEEKLY

"What we have to do is not always pleasant," said Lori Matich, administrative director.

most exciting and scary of my life, but since she's been born it's easier," Ms. Green says.

"Fear of the unknown has been the worst, and hearing what others went through," her husband adds. "But today, this is the first time we could kiss her and smell her."

Touching, it seems, has suddenly brought home the immense value of this little human being, no matter what her condition.

Nevertheless, no one here pulls any punches when it comes to delivering news or prognoses.

"They've been very straightforward," Ms. Green says. "It's better that way. The worst-case scenario is paralysis, but we just have to wait and see."

And sometimes the worst case is the

worst case.

"The hardest thing for us is to see them die," admits Ms. Knapton, who turns away in tears, calling herself a "wimp," before resuming the conversation. "It never gets easier. If you get callous, you lose your caring. Then you can't connect with the parents and you won't do a good job."

In a relatively recent treatment approach, if parents are nearby and their children are dying, caretakers usher them immediately to their babies.

"It can help with the grieving, later, if something bad happens," explains Mr. Mosos.

And that, adds Ms. Matich, the unit director, is very hard on the staff, who can take advantage of the hospital's extensive pastoral care, if need be.

"We turn away no one. We're taking care of the whole family. There's the warm and fuzzy, but it's also highly technical. We have the smallest patients, but they need the most expensive equipment."

— Lori Matich, a 20-year NiCu nurse and now the administrative director of the unit

Remarkably, however, less than one percent fail to leave the NiCu, an extraordinarily low mortality rate that suggests how well the teams work together — how thoroughly doctors and nurses listen to each other.

To go home or move out, babies have to meet the following standards, explains Ms. Knapton: "Breathing on their own in room air. Eating or nipping by mouth. They have to gain weight. They have to maintain a temperature of 98.6 Fahrenheit."

Usually, says Ms. Matich, that means they've matured to the equivalent of a normal 35-week-old child weighing about 4 pounds.

All that's easier said than done.

If they come to the unit at about 28 weeks or older, their chances of relative normality later go up significantly.

To prove the point, Ms. Matich slips away to return with a recent letter thanking the staff — for work done 17 years ago (many of them were here then, including Ms. Matich). A woman has written that her daughter, delivered at about 28 weeks, is about to graduate from a large Palm Beach County high school. She's ranked No. 3 in her class, she's received a bouquet of scholarship offers for her talent in mathematics, and she's surrounded by a family flooded with joy.

For babies born at 25 weeks or less, however, such a story is much less likely. Modern medicine can often save them — but almost as often, not happily.

"At that threshold, we give the option to the parents, we talk to the families — there's a high mortality rate," Ms. Matich says. The option: palliative or comfort care until they die. "Cerebral palsy, chronic lung diseases, blood in the brain — all that's more likely under 25 weeks. So we like to see babies get to at least 28 weeks (before birth), but it's individualized, as a general rule."

All of which leads to Dr. Bankston's sobering and unsentimental judgment that "sometimes we produce tragedies."

Often long after the baby leaves the NiCu, he reveals, "I see a 23-week-old 'miracle' that still has a tracheotomy, or is fed through a tube. Many have survived who aren't doing well. Nobody wants to hear stories like that."

Fortunately, they're countered by the miracle tales, too — or call them startling successes, if you will.

"We had a set of twins born at 28 weeks, and one was doing well but the other was not," recalls Ms. Matich. "We told the parents, 'You really need to consider saying goodbye.' Sometimes we feel like we're torturing the babies. The mom began to think about it. But the dad said, 'Absolutely not.' And he was right."

That child not only survived but those twins are now healthy and well.

"It makes you stop and think," admits Ms. Matich.

But not for long. Somewhere, an incubator is chiming insistently. ■



Incubators are frequently shrouded in blankets in the unit, staffed by more than 150 doctors, nurses and respiratory therapists.

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Fundraiser for environmental academy a "great success"

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Two hundred and forty people attended "Let the Good Times Roll" at the Jupiter Community Center on Nov. 20.

The event featured live sounds of rock and roll from the band Joe Wood, dinner and silent and live auctions. The event was a fundraiser for Jupiter High School's Environmental Academy, hosted by the Partnership for Environmental Education. The Partnership supports the Jupiter Environmental and Research Academy at Jupiter Community High School.

Land Design South was the event's main sponsor; Cheney Brothers Inc. provided the food. "It was really an incredible value and a great success, thanks to our sponsors," said Tim Graham, president of the partnership. The Partnership is the 501C-3 that funds much of the field experiences the students have over their four years at the school.

Although the academy has been established since 1993, several guests were learning of its efforts for the first time. Since its inception, participating students have engaged in more than 165,000 hours of direct field study benefiting the local environment. Programs include wildlife preserve restoration, local clean-up projects and mentoring of elementary school children.

By funding projects conducted by students, more than \$1 million in service has been returned to local parks, beaches



COURTESY PHOTO

Students of the Jupiter High School Environmental Academy recently toured Florida Atlantic University's Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution's aquaculture facility.

and wildlife preserves. Students also collaborate with the Bureau of Land Management and get actual field experience conducting activities that they would in environmental careers. Students take a science intensive curriculum. Many alumni have ultimately gone into the sci-

ence field.

The partnership will host a 5K run on Feb. 26 at Riverbend Park in Jupiter. Sponsorship opportunities are available. Contact mthayer@jerfsapartnership.org for more information. To learn more, see jerfsapartnership.org. ■

Jupiter Water Utility wins state environmental award

The town of Jupiter's utilities department has won its third award for Plant Operations Excellence from the state Department of Environmental Protection. The award comes as Jupiter Utilities has officially opened its new water treatment facility.

The award, presented at a ceremony Dec. 7 at DEP in Tallahassee, recognizes the town's efforts in the operation, maintenance and compliance of its water treatment plant.

The town's nanofiltration plant is unique in its energy-saving design and environmentally friendly functions. It will replace an aging conventional treatment plant on Central Boulevard. The new system operates in tandem with the town's existing reverse osmosis desalination system to produce 30 million gallons per day of drinking water for Jupiter Util-

ities customers in northern Palm Beach and southern Martin counties.

With the addition of the nanofiltration plant, all of Jupiter's water is now treated with membrane technology.

The town also implemented a plant design that will minimize energy use and maximize the use of water. Based on pilot testing, Jupiter expects as much as a 30 percent reduction in electricity required to operate the nanofiltration process compared to conventional designs, saving customers more than \$100,000 per year in energy expenses. And to ensure that no water is wasted during the treatment process, Jupiter will sell the by-product water to the Loxahatchee River District for irrigation purposes. Usually, nearly 15 percent of the raw water entering a plant would be wasted or disposed of at a cost to the utility. ■

Hair, fashion show to raise money for nonprofits

Hair in the Spirit and Virtuous Women Inc. presents the Winter Wonderland Extravaganza: Hair and Fashion Benefit Show at the Palm Beach County Convention Center on Dec. 18 from 6-9 p.m.

The hair and fashion show will encompass a showcase of designers stretching from central to South Florida and will feature local R&B group C4 and the Sean Dance Factory.

The purpose is to raise funds for non-profit groups.

Founder Lisette Webster started Virtuous Women Inc., a non-profit organization, in February 2009 with a mission to provide continuous education to young women of all ages, in an effort to help raise awareness concerning issues related

to sexual assault and the importance of being tested for HIV/AIDS.

Ms. Webster also owns and operates Makeup By L Inc. Hair in the Spirit, the parent company of All Dolled Up, is a non-profit, 501c3 organization incorporated in December 2001. The mission is to develop future entrepreneurs and professionals in the beauty industry that will proactively seed economic development. Through annual charity events and other fundraising initiatives this organization offers annual scholarships to Deerfield Beach Community at-risk youth.

General admission is \$30 and VIP Tickets are \$45. Call 749-239 or 238-4247. The convention center is at 650 Okeechobee Blvd. in West Palm. ■



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BUSINESS

WEEK OF DECEMBER 16-22, 2010

A GUIDE TO THE PALM BEACH COUNTY BUSINESS INDUSTRY

Half of mortgage holders would consider walking away if underwater, survey finds

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Nearly half of homeowners with a mortgage said they would consider walking away if their mortgage were under water, according to a survey done for two national real estate firms.

Harris Interactive surveyed more than 2,000 people online the first part of November, for Trulia, a major real estate site, and RealtyTrac, a site for foreclosure properties.

Half those surveyed said they have less faith in the mortgage lenders, banks and the government in the wake of the “robo-signing” by lenders initiating foreclosures. The government found that major lenders were signing thousands of documents a day without researching their accuracy. Foreclosures were put on hold; lenders are now said to be picking up the pace again.

And 58 percent of those surveyed said they expect recovery from the real estate bust to take at least another two years.

“More and more, American homeowners, and sellers and buyers, are tamping down their expectations for a swift recovery in the housing market and bracing themselves for a long, slow climb back to a healthy real estate market,” said Pete Flint, co-founder and CEO of Trulia, in a prepared statement. “Fifty-eight percent believe recovery will happen after 2012 and more than one in five U.S. adults believe recovery won’t happen until 2015 or later.”

Flint said, “Government incentives have come and gone and historic lows in interest rates have done little to spur recovery. Then, as if prospective buyers and sellers needed more to be concerned about, the robo-signing issue caused a ‘what’s next?’ fear to surface in the minds of consumers who, frankly, have lost faith in banks



COURTESY PHOTO

and their government to make good decisions.”

The 48 percent who said they would consider walking away from their homes was an increase from 41 percent in May, when the same question was asked.

Fifty-seven percent of men said they would consider “strategic default,” compared with 40 percent of women.

If they became unable to pay the mortgage payments on their current primary residence, two-thirds of U.S. adults with mortgages said they would consider calling the lender and trying to modify the terms of the loan as their first option. The next most popular solution is to have a tenant move in to contribute to the mortgage, but only 10 percent of U.S. adults would do this.

Forty-nine percent of those surveyed said they

are at least somewhat likely to consider purchasing a foreclosed property, up from 45 percent in May. But 81 percent responded that they think there are downsides to buying foreclosed properties, compared to the 78 percent in May.

“It seems like consumer expectations and market realities are beginning to align when it comes to foreclosure discounts,” said Rick Sharga, senior vice president, RealtyTrac, in a prepared statement. “During the

third quarter, foreclosure homes sold for an average of 32 percent less than homes not in foreclosure. It’s also not surprising that we’ve seen an increase in negative sentiment toward foreclosure purchases, where the recent robo-signing controversy has added more confusion to an already complicated process.”

The survey sample included 1,329 homeowners, 1,000 of whom currently have a mortgage, and 652 renters. Figures for age, sex, race/ethnicity, education, region and household income were weighted where necessary to bring them into line with their actual proportions in the population. Propensity score weighting was used to adjust for respondents’ propensity to be online. The online survey is not based on a probability sample so no estimate of theoretical sampling error could be calculated. ■

Postal service ends year with \$8.5 billion loss

The U.S. Postal Service reported its 2010 financial results, showing a net loss of \$8.5 billion for the fiscal year ended Sept. 30.

The recent recession, continuing economic pressures and migration of mail to electronic media had a significant adverse impact on mail volumes and operating revenues. Despite rigorous initiatives that eliminated 75 million work hours and drove productivity to record highs in 2010, the losses mounted.

“Over the last two years, the Postal Service realized more than \$9 billion in cost savings, primarily by eliminating about 105,000 full-time equivalent positions — more than any other organization, anywhere,” said Chief Financial Officer Joe Corbett. “We will continue our relentless efforts to innovate and improve efficiency. However, the need for changes to legislation, regulations and labor contracts has never been more obvious.”

First-Class Mail volume continues to decline, with year-over-year declines of 6.6 percent in 2010, 8.6 percent in 2009, and 4.8 percent in 2008. This trend is particularly disturbing as First-Class Mail, the most profitable product, generates more than half of total revenue. Volume for Standard Mail showed improvement during the year, reflecting some signs of economic recovery in late 2010, but, in total, was flat in 2010, compared to 2009. ■

Simple rules ensure packages arrive on time

Each year, more packages are sent through the mail during the holiday season than any other period. The busiest mailing day is set for Monday, Dec. 20. More than 800 million cards, letters and packages are expected to be mailed on that day alone, compared to 559 million on a typical day. Wednesday, Dec. 22, will be the busiest delivery day.

Careless packaging can cause some to arrive in poor (or no) condition. The U.S. Postal Service has the following packaging tips to help holiday parcels arrive on time and in one piece.

- Choose a container with care. Whether it’s a box, tube, or padded envelope, make sure the container is sturdy enough to handle its contents. If a container is reused, make sure it hasn’t already made one too many trips to go the distance. Do not use liquor boxes or boxes that once contained combustible contents; Aviation Administration regulations prevent the use of these boxes.

- Package parcels properly. Make sure to cushion the contents well. Using polystyrene “peanuts” or bubble wrap will prevent damage to the package’s contents.

- Seal it tightly with reinforced tape. Masking and transparent tapes are not sturdy enough to do the job. Do not use twine or cord to seal the package, and don’t wrap packages in brown paper. Those items tend to catch and bind in mail processing equipment.

- Pay attention to addressing. Write the complete address clearly on the outside of the pack-

age. What constitutes a complete address? The recipient’s name, complete street address with directionals if applicable, apartment numbers, city, state, and correct Zip code are all needed to ensure a problem-free delivery. You can check the accuracy and completeness of your recipient’s address by going to www.usps.com and selecting “Find A Zip Code.” You can also check on a Zip code by calling 1-800-ASK-USPS. Carefully print the address, and don’t use a pen with water-soluble ink, just in case the package runs into wet weather somewhere along the way. If the package is fragile, mark it so. Make sure to include a return address. And, just to be on the safe side, include a slip of paper on the inside of the parcel with the delivery and return address as well.

- Purchase insurance against loss or damage. Postal service pricing does not include contents insurance. Customers are encouraged to purchase insurance based on the value of package contents.

- Mail the package on time. No matter how well it’s wrapped, it’s just not the same if a gift is late. Be sure to mail packages as early in the season as possible.

For more information about purchasing stamps, stamps by mail, postal regulations, a free subscription to USA Philatelic magazine, Post Office events, the location of the nearest postal store or contract unit, or for answers to your specific Postal Service questions, contact USPS at 1-800-275-8777, or visit www.usps.com. ■

MONEY & INVESTING

Denial: An investment strategy that doesn't work



John Mauldin is one of my favorite investment writers, and his weekly newsletter, *Outside The Box*, is available for free and online. It is my supposition that good investment/financial thinkers are constantly reading the work of others. The more you read, you might conclude, the less you really know.

Sometimes, Mr. Mauldin writes his own/original thoughts and sometimes he reprints the very good work of his investment colleagues. The latter is what he did for his Dec 6 issue. "The Three Stages of Denial," written by Dylan Grace of "Societe Generale," was such a reprint. It is a worthy read.

The generic concept is simple: reality hurts so much that reality is denied initially... and multiple times thereafter. "Prodded and bullied along a tortuous emotional path by events unforeseen and beyond our control, we descend through three phases: the first is denial that there is a problem; the second is denial that there is a big problem; the third is denial that the problem was anything to do with us."

Denial is nothing new to the typical investor's mindset. It is well recognized that losses are perceived as an admission of failure of some sort... instead of being perceived as a natural consequence of investing — just one that needs to be well managed. Investors find it very difficult to take losses so they frequently take a psychologically easier

route. Short-term investment losses are morphed into a long-term position that could be, might be, and hope will be profitable with time... just give it time. Until the bye and bye when it turns profitable, it is allowed a permanent home in your portfolio.

This process is totally contrary to an active, disciplined management approach that emphasizes cutting your losses and letting your profits run. Computerized systems — although void of all sorts of economic and other factoids — can fare quite well simply because they are void of a damaged and insecure psyche. Most mechanized systems employ stops, immediately entered with any new position and revised upward if a profitable trend is in place.

Back to the article. Back to the non-computerized world of humans who have deeply ingrained behaviors. Mr. Grace's article focused on how the problem of denial is made manifest by politicians and political appointees in the U.S., in Europe, in Asia, everywhere... in critical situations. The pattern is that the public is denied being told the painful truth of the economic problem. The consequences of such denial are not small portfolio losses. The consequences are very severe as the world listens to these persons of political power. The world's investors, managements, state and local leaders take actions (or non-actions) based on what they hear and accept as truth.

Dylan Grace chronicles the unfolding of the sub prime crisis through the quotes of the key monetary authorities, from 2005 through to 2010. Here are some sample quotes:

In 2005, Ben Bernanke said: "I guess I don't buy your premise. It's a pretty unlikely

possibility. We've never had a decline in house prices on a nationwide basis."

In 2008, when Bear Stearns collapsed, Hank Paulson said, "The worst is likely to be behind us."

Ben Bernanke argued this year (2010), "Economists... have found that only a small portion of the increase in house prices ... can be attributed to the stance of U.S. monetary policy." This was a clear denial that they (monetary authorities et al.) helped make the crisis.

Lest denial by politicians be considered a U.S.-only phenomenon, Mr. Grace recounts the 1997 Asian crisis and then fast-forwards to the crisis in Europe, where, currently, those doing the bailing out are still in denial as to the size of the problem of those needing the bailout. If Europe is at denial's second stage, then the worst is yet to come.

The pattern throughout the tale of delusions is an inability of politicians to tell the truth, to size the problem, to face hard cold facts, to accept responsibility for failure to act or failed actions. Where does that leave the investor? At best, in a state of confusion; at worst, in total distrust.

Is it wrong to invest based on good fundamental information? Absolutely not. Just accept the fact that: you frequently won't be getting it and, even if you got it, it is very difficult to form a plan based on it. For example, those who knew that the sub prime markets were eventual busts were 100 percent right yet they would have lost a fortune if they were playing those themes prior to 2007, as the markets denied the problems until 2008.

Dismiss all fundamental information? Not necessarily. Just accept its limitation and adopt portfolio strategies that offer some

greater protection, including using active risk/loss management techniques and employing true diversification across all asset classes, including commodities and currencies which have historically lessened portfolio risk by their inclusion in a portfolio of stocks and bonds. Per The CME Group, "The main benefit of adding managed futures to a balanced portfolio is the potential to decrease portfolio volatility. Risk reduction is possible because managed futures can trade across a wide range of global markets that have virtually no long-term correlation to most traditional asset classes."

Possibly a plan for next year might be to consider doing something other than buying and holding. It is simple to have "stops" (sell stops and buy stops) in place; not that they will always protect you, but they are possibly a step in the right direction and might help "cut your losses." A trailing stop can allow profits to run until a trend reverses. Another part of your strategy might be to not balance/reallocate until you get "stopped" out of your winners. You also might want to set strict rules for taking losses.

As always, it is recommended that you talk to your advisers as they can determine the suitability of these ideas. But definitely do an analysis of how you lost money in 2010 as it might give you clues to what active strategies could have prevented those losses. ■

— Jeannette Rohn Showalter is a Southwest Florida-based chartered financial analyst, considered to be the highest designation for investment professionals. Her office is at The Crexent Business Center, Bonita Springs. She can be reached at (239) 444-5633, ext. 1092, or jshowaltercfa@yahoo.com.

First Bank of the Palm Beaches announces new executive management team

First Bank of the Palm Beaches has announced a new executive management team.

Joseph B. (Jay) Shearouse III, president and chief executive officer of First Bank of the Palm Beaches, will oversee the bank's daily operations and strategic direction. Shearouse has more than 30 years of community banking experience, and 28 years of service at Fidelity Bank & Trust.

"Our team is well known and respected for their banking and financial acumen, and our approach is proving to be exceptionally successful in this challenging economic environment," Shearouse said.

John Ahrenholz is the new senior vice president and chief operating officer, and

Steve Eassa is senior vice president and chief lending officer. Both Ahrenholz and Eassa are former executives of Fidelity Bank & Trust. Brian Mahoney, also a 23-year veteran of Fidelity, is the most recent addition to the team, and will serve as chief financial officer, pending approval by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. and the Florida Office of Financial Regulation. Cindy Sheppard is vice president and operations officer, and has more than 30 years of community banking experience, 26 of which were with Community Savings of North Palm Beach.

For more information about First Bank of the Palm Beaches, which was established in 2006, visit: www.firstbankpb.com. ■

Northern chamber sets "State of the County" event

The Northern Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce will present a "State of the County" breakfast on Jan. 18 from 7:15 a.m. to 9 a.m.

It's an update on the legislative and economic development changes in Palm Beach County over the past year and a preview of what may be coming over the next year. Palm Beach County Commissioner Karen Marcus will discuss the priorities of the



county commission for 2011 and how it plans to address issues affecting business.

The event will be held at the Palm Beach Gardens Marriott, 4000 RCA Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens.

The fee is \$25 for members who register before Jan. 14 or \$35 at the door, and \$30 for pre-registered non-members or \$40 at the door. Call 748-3945 for more information. ■

Whole Foods will ship gift boxes to soldiers for free

Whole Foods Market, the natural and organic foods supermarket, will ship gift boxes purchased through its web site free for those who want to mail them to APO, FPO and DPO addresses — to soldiers overseas.

Available at www.wholefoods.com/giftbox, Whole Foods Market offers five gift boxes that range from \$40 to \$60 each. The hand-picked assortments are free of artificial preservatives, colors, flavors, sweeteners and hydrogenated fats.

"We are thankful for the sacrifices made by families serving our country, so we are happy to offer this small token of our appreciation to them," said Jim Speirs, global vice president of purchasing for Whole Foods Market, in a prepared statement. "Families can send their loved ones a taste of home with any of our gift boxes varying in theme from snacking to relaxation."

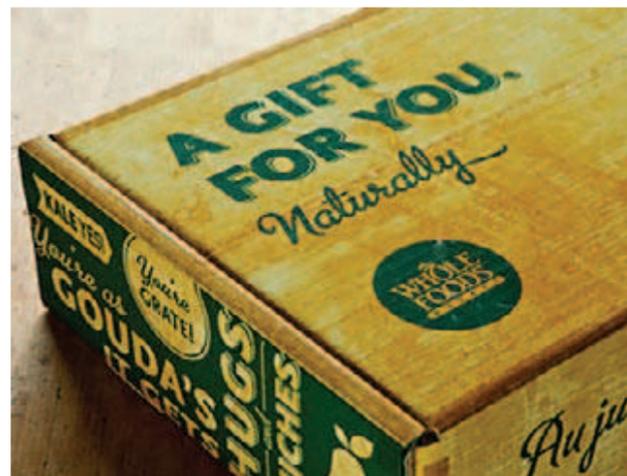
The five gift box themes include:

■ **The Gift of Grub** (\$60) — This includes all-natural summer sausage, pretzel crisps and aged cheddar cheese straws, organic peppermint stick chocolate, classic shortbread and gourmet pecans.

■ **You're Zenzational** (\$60) — This includes lavender lotion and shower gel, mineral bath salts, pillow mist, a sleep mask, a bath pillow and a candle

and tea.

■ **Get Warm, Get Fuzzy** (\$50) — Inside this box is a collection of specialty coffee, tea and hot chocolate paired with sweet treats like gourmet caramel sweetener, fruit-and-nut mix, mocha wafer rolls, biscotti bites and dark chocolate espresso beans.



■ **You Rock Box o' Choc** (\$50) — This box of cocoa-themed items includes: organic and Fair Trade selections of chocolate bars, a gift collection of chocolates, dipped sandwich cookies and brownie bites, peanut butter chocolate wafers, chocolate cherry trail mix and hot chocolate.

■ **Ciao Down** (\$40) — With fixings for a simple Italian supper, this selection includes pasta, Italian herb pasta sauce, basil pesto, extra virgin olive oil crostini, dry roasted almonds and truffled espresso clusters. ■

NETWORKING

Northern Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours at Kretzer Piano & Aspen Falls Aveda



RACHEL HICKEY/ FLORIDA WEEKLY

- 1. Susan Jeck, Tess Lozano and Noel Martinez
- 2. Elle Morrison, Donna Goldfarb and Ellen Cohen
- 3. Merrie Ragosa and Geannine McManus
- 4. The ribbon cutting at Aspen Falls Aveda
- 5. Stacey White and Jill Erskine
- 6. Anna Wnukowski and Lauren Clark
- 7. Gail McCormack, Jessica Tietboehl and Kathi Kretzer

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NETWORKING

Northern Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce Young Professionals host Social Media Mania at PGA National Resort



Nickole D'Angelo, Mary Scott and Noel Martinez



Ryan Smallwood, Darby Collins, Jennifer Sardone-Shiner and Samir Queshi



Jeff Haacke and Tom Spino



Lindsey Janosky and Ed Chase



Tyler Wozniak, Teresa Nesar and Kate Oakley



Tanya Kekki, Mindy Goldberg, Ryan Dinsdale and Stephanie Mitrone



Stephanie Waldrop and William Bruckner



Sarai Claveria and Tess Lozano

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Send us your society and networking photos. Include the names of everyone in the picture. E-mail them to society@floridaweekly.com.

NETWORKING

Women's Leadership Luncheon Meetup at the Hilton Palm Beach Airport



1



5



2



3



4

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1. Joya Nicastro, Susan Erying and Judith Dieker
2. Abigail Tiefenthaler and Lisa Paolo
3. Carolyn Penn and Susan Kingston
4. Kimberly West and Joanne McCormack
5. Marla Gale and Trixy Walker

FLORIDA WEEKLY
YOUR NEWS AND ENTERTAINMENT SOURCE

VIP Dedication Ceremony for the Carousel at Downtown at the Gardens



1



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2



3

1. The carousel
2. Joe Russo and David Levy
3. Jasmine Walker, Brenna Bertram, Kendall Rumsey and Nicki Brower
4. Kevin Berman

We take more society and networking photos at area events than we can fit in the newspaper. So, if you think we missed you or one of your friends, go to www.floridaweekly.com and view the photo albums from the many events we cover. You can purchase any of the photos too. Send us your society and networking photos. Include the names of everyone in the picture. E-mail them to society@floridaweekly.com.

NETWORKING

Women's Council of Realtors' JTHS Chapter – Installation of 2011 Officers at Abacoa Golf Club



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FLORIDA WEEKLY
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1. Domenica Tullio, Michael Brue, Renee Ford, Lynne Rifkin, Ron Jangaard and Constance Huntoon
2. Mike Rouser, Joy Gouyd and Brad Murray
3. Nancy Goldman, Carol Labuhn and Terri Kasnic
4. Martha Gillespie-Beeman, Debra Mackles and Charlene Oakowsky
5. Patty Renna and Robin McKeever



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Jeannie Walker
Luxury Homes Specialist



Jim Walker
Broker-Associate

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Imagine Yourself Living Here

Ritz-Carton Residences - 2700 N. Ocean Drive				
1105B	2,115 SF	2BR/2.5BA	Furnished	SOLD
1904B	1,920 SF	2BR/2.5BA	NEW	\$1,260,000
2403B	2,335 SF	3BR/3.0BA	Finished	\$1,299,000
1502B	2,660 SF	3BR/3.5BA	PENDING	\$1,350,000
1003B	2,335 SF	3BR/3.0BA	Finished	\$1,498,000
1102B	2,660 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	\$1,595,000
1904A	3,605 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	SOLD
1001A	3,605 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Dec Rdy	\$2,199,000
1903A	3,950 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	SOLD
801A	3,605 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	\$2,995,000
303A	3,950 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	\$2,998,000
1603A	3,950 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	\$2,998,000
302A	3,950 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	\$3,198,000
1206B	1,725 SF	2BR/2.5BA	Furnished	SOLD
1704A	3,605 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	SOLD
1603A	3,950 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	SOLD

The Resort (Marriott) - 3800 N. Ocean Drive				
450	2,773 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Finished	\$1,295,000
1251	2,773 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Finished	SOLD
1451	2,773 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Finished	\$1,089,000
1004	777 SF	1BR/1.5BA	PENDING	\$149,000
608	1,462 SF	2BR/2.0BA	PENDING	\$250,000
1909	1,310 SF	2BR/2.0BA	Furnished	\$250,000
2009	1,310 SF	2BR/2.0BA	PENDING	\$250,000
1702	1,289 SF	2BR/2.0BA	Furnished	\$270,000
1801	1,046 SF	2BR/2.0BA	PENDING	\$300,000

Tiara - 3000 N. Ocean Drive				
16-H	1,589 SF	2BR/2.0BA	Dec Rdy	\$399,000
16-G	1,000 SF	1BR1.5BA	Dec Rdy	SOLD
18F	1,547 SF	2BR/2.0BA	Furnished	SOLD

Oasis Singer Island - 3920 N. Ocean Drive				
2A	4,069 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	\$1,290,000
11B	4,069 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Finished	\$1,900,000
12B	4,069 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Finished	\$1,995,000
15B	4,069 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Finished	\$2,299,000
8B	4,069 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	\$2,425,000
14A	4,069 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	\$2,249,000

Martinique II - 4000/4100 N. Ocean Drive				
ET201	2,011 SF	2BR/3.5BA	NEW	\$525,000
ET1102	2,011 SF	2BR/3.5BA	Finished	SOLD
ET504	2,011 SF	2BR/3.5BA	Furnished	SOLD
ET2201	2,011 SF	2BR/3.5BA	Finished	\$785,000
OV-1	2,615 SF	3BR/4.5BA	Finished	\$550,000
WT1404	2,011 SF	2BR/3.5BA	Finished	\$650,000
WT2601	2,011 SF	2BR/3.5BA	Finished	\$675,000
WT901	2,011 SF	2BR/3.5BA	Furnished	SOLD

Beach Front Singer Island - 3920 N. Ocean Drive				
1503	2,710 SF	3BR/3.0BA	Finished	\$1,225,000
1903	2,710 SF	3BR/3.0BA	Furnished	\$1,498,000
1103	2,710 SF	3BR/3.0BA	Finished	\$1,189,000
903	2,710 SF	3BR/3.0BA	Finished	\$1,299,000
1202	2,440 SF	2BR/3.0BA	Finished	SOLD
1702	2,440 SF	2BR/3.0BA	Finished	SOLD

Via Delfino - 5150 N. Ocean Drive				
1801	3,456 SF	4BR/5.5BA	Finished	\$1,900,000

Ocean's Edge - 5050 N. Ocean Drive				
602	3,136 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Finished	\$1,898,000

Jupiter Yacht Club - 400 S. US1 Hwy				
502	2,629 SF	3BR/3.0BA	Finished	\$719,000

www.WalkerRealEstateGroup.com





The Landmark is flanked by water views and is close to world-class shopping and dining.

COURTESY PHOTOS

The Landmark Life



Stunning views are offered from the upper floors of The Landmark, located in the heart of Palm Beach Gardens.



Amenities at The Landmark include an attended lobby, valet parking, a clubroom, sundeck and a fitness center.

A rare 11th floor offering includes a high-end custom-built interior and wraparound balcony

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The Landmark at the Gardens is located at 3610 Gardens Parkway in the heart of Palm Beach Gardens, near world-class shopping and dining. Landmark offers amenities including valet parking, an attended lobby, clubroom, sundeck, heated pool, a media/theater room, outdoor leisure decks for entertaining and a fitness center. Offered is an 11th floor, 3-bedroom, 3-bath residence with 9-foot ceilings and floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors in the master suite and the living room. The doors open to a wraparound balcony with stunning views. The unit, 1101 A, is offered completely built out with wood floors and high-end custom-built interior finishes. The spacious open kitchen is the perfect layout for entertaining and features custom built European cabinetry, rich granite countertops, and a stainless KitchenAid designer appliance package. The bathrooms include marble flooring, Kohler fixtures and frameless glass shower enclosures. The Landmark is more than 70 percent sold and closed. Contact Keller Williams Realty Jupiter listing agents Michael Gozzo, 262-6494, or George Richetelli, 714-8386. ■



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WARRIORS

From page 1

Saranik gives from her experience: "Early detection is your best protection." And to survivors, she says, "Keep the faith, baby. Keep plugging away." Ms. Saranik dedicated her honor to Gale Martin, a special person and friend who lost her battle last year. "She died much too young after a difficult struggle," Ms. Saranik said. "She gave it her best."

■ **Joel Namer**, 74, is a Boynton Beach resident who knows first hand that machismo doesn't protect against breast cancer. The 14-year survivor had a bilateral mastectomy in New York after discovering a lump on his breast while showering that was confirmed cancer by a mammogram. His mother died of breast cancer at age 63, but it didn't lead him to start getting routinely checked out, as it may have a woman. Mr. Namer moved to Florida and took on a new mindset. While he could always turn to family and friends in New York, it wasn't until he moved to Palm Beach County that he discovered incredible support for men as well as women survivors. He became co-chair of the Komen speakers bureau within weeks of his introduction. And he speaks about awareness, telling the women in his audience, "You are the messenger...take this home to the men in your life." Joining the Warriors in Pink was an honor. "I've had many titles, many rewards. This is the ultimate. I am a Warrior. I have fought this for 14 years."

■ **Sandra Spender**, co-chair of the race, is a 10-year breast cancer survivor diagnosed at the age of 30. She met her race partner, co-chair Karen List, as they were both undergoing cancer treatment and they forged a lifelong friendship. Her first race was in 2000, two weeks after her first chemo treatment. She was so moved and inspired by the outpouring of support she received that she knew she'd be involved with Komen and the race forever. Told by the doctors treating her cancer that she would never be able to have children, she now has 9-year-old twins — who were miraculously conceived during the end of her chemotherapy. Ms. Spender credits the support of her family and friends with helping her recover. One of Ms. Spender's goals for the upcoming race is to raise more awareness among the younger members of the community. Ms. Spender, an optometrist, lives in West Palm Beach.

■ **Suzanne Hilton**, 53, of Stuart, lost her mother to breast cancer when she was only a child. She took the measures to spot cancer early, undergoing mammograms every year from age 30 and was examined twice a year. But her cancer went undetected until it was stage 3. "I should have been better



COURTESY PHOTO

The South Florida Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure named eight Warriors in Pink. They are, front row left to right: Lynn Levy, Arlene Saranik and Lynne Kairalla; back row left to right, Cristal Hydo, Suzanne Hilton, Joel Namer and Sandra Spender. Not shown is Nancy Brinker.

about self-exam. I relied more on the doctors than myself," she said. At the time Ms. Hilton was first diagnosed, only one of her six family members with breast cancer had survived. "I figured that was what would happen to me. And I knew I had to change my attitude to survive." Ms. Hilton changed a lot of things, including her career: She became a hypnotherapist and chose a less stressful, more holistic lifestyle. "I think it's very important for people to get help with the whole picture, mind, body and spirit, not just physical." Becoming a Warrior in Pink was huge for her. "Komen has done so much good in the battle against breast cancer, to be asked to be one of the Warriors is a tremendous honor."

■ **Lynne Kairalla**, 64, of Lake Clarke Shores, became involved with Komen when her son was racing one year and she took him. "I was impressed with the whole concept of the race." Ms. Kairalla was diagnosed in 1995. A lump she felt resulted in a lumpectomy, chemotherapy and radiation. The designation of Warrior in Pink is a great honor for Ms. Kairalla, who is a long time volunteer and who chaired the 2004 race. She tells survivors, "Stay positive. I had great support from all my doctors and family and friends and faith. And that's what gets you through. If you reach out for family and friends, it makes the journey a little easier." Ms. Kairalla also urges people to know their family history and take the necessary steps for early detection. Ms. Kairalla and her husband, George, have three grown children and three grandchildren.

■ **Lynn Levy**, 62, of West Palm

Beach, is a 27-year breast cancer survivor whose family had a history with the disease on her father's side. She was young when diagnosed, discovering a lump during a self-exam that led to a diagnosis of Ductal Carcinoma In Situ and a lumpectomy. Today, Ms. Levy is very excited about being a Warrior and "to continue to educate the public and give emotional support to those battling this disease. We're all on the same mission, to find a cure and eradicate breast cancer." Ms. Levy has been a Komen volunteer for 15 years, participating in the races and having served as team captain. She is chair of Boynton Beach Mall race registration and active at health fairs. "I wanted to give back because I was always so fortunate," Ms. Levy said. "I wanted people to know how important early detection is." She and husband Lee have four children and four grandchildren.

■ **Cristal Hydo** of Jupiter was grateful to see her 29th birthday this year, after having been diagnosed with stage 3 breast cancer last November, just two days before Thanksgiving. She had been dismissed repeatedly when inquiring about a lump she found, because she was "too young" for breast cancer. Ms. Hydo also battled the concern her diagnosis caused for her friends and family. "I needed a way to tell them that, 'Yeah, I have cancer. But don't worry, I'm a fighter.'" She started a team for the 2010 race and challenged friends and co-workers to join by pointing out, "If I can run after two months of chemo, then you can, too." On race day, halfway through chemo treatments, she was joined by 101 team members who worked to raise more than \$16,000

for the cure. She's now finished chemo, had a bi-lateral mastectomy and radiation. "The entire way I've had such amazing support from family, friends, friends-of-friends, and even complete strangers! I felt like I was cashing in on all of the good karma I've built up over the years," Ms. Hydo said. Ms. Hydo is a team committee co-chair for the 2011 race, in charge of working with the team captains to set up teams and meet their recruitment/fundraising goals. Being chosen a Warrior in Pink is an opportunity to show "that breast cancer survivors are strong and courageous," she said. "We are fighting to make it easy for the future women (and men) who are yet to be diagnosed, or to find a cure so they never will have to go through any of this," Ms. Hydo said. "Warriors are those who take their breast cancer experience and turn it around to make a positive impact in the world."

The South Florida Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure joins more than a million breast cancer survivors and activists around the globe as part of the world's largest and most progressive grassroots network fighting breast cancer. Through events like the Komen South Florida Race for the Cure, the Komen South Florida Affiliate has invested \$10 million in community breast health programs in our service area of Palm Beach, Martin and St. Lucie counties. Up to 75 percent of net proceeds generated by the affiliate stays in our service area. The remaining income goes to the national Susan G. Komen for the cure grants program to fund research.

Call 998-1995 for more information on the affiliate or the race. ■

IRS adds reporting requirements for small business and property owners

During 2010, two new information-reporting requirements have been added to the duties of property owners and owners of small businesses — including self-employed individuals and independent contractors, the IRS reports. Both provisions are permanent.

Currently, anyone engaged in a trade or business is required to file a Form 1099 for payments of \$600 or more in any year. The business that makes certain expenditures must file a Form 1099 to reflect payments made for items including but not limited to rent, salaries, wages and gains. The rule is imposed to assure that those who have

received payments actually report the income. The payer files the Form 1099 with the IRS and with the party who received payments.

In the case of real estate, persons engaged in a trade or business would include full-time property managers and those whose primary business is property management and other real estate services. Some engaged in leasing activities could also fall within this requirement if they receive rental payments on the lease or otherwise manage the property.

This requirement of current law is different from and in addition to the

requirement that brokers file Forms 1099 for their sales agents compensation and for proceeds related to certain transactions.

There is an additional 1099 reporting requirement for 2011 for landlords.

The recently enacted small business legislation (HR 5297) included an expansion of the 1099 reporting related to a trade or business. To date, only those real estate professionals engaged in property management-type businesses have been required to file Forms 1099.

Congress has extended the Form 1099 requirement to any person who receives

rental income. This requirement would apply to any landlord, including a small investor, rather than only those who are in the business of managing property.

Starting in 2011, any person who receives rental income must provide a Form 1099 for all payments of \$600 or more made to service providers such as plumbers, carpenters, yard services and repair people.

The purchase of goods is not included within the reporting requirement. The Form 1099 is provided to the IRS and to the service provider. The new requirement applies to both residential and commercial property. ■

43.2% of county residential mortgages underwater

A total of 43.2 percent of all residential properties in Palm Beach County had mortgages that were underwater in the third quarter, compared to 44.1 percent in the previous quarter. An additional 4 percent were nearing negative equity in the third quarter compared to 3.8 percent in the second quarter, according to real estate analysis firm CoreLogic.

Nearly half of Florida homes with mortgages are underwater, or nearly underwater, as the state continues to struggle with falling home values.

CoreLogic, based in Santa Ana, Calif., reports 45.5 percent of mortgages in Florida are higher than what the home

is worth and 4.1 percent are within 5 percent of being in a state of negative equity.

Nationwide, 22.5 percent of homes are underwater, with another 5 percent nearing negative equity. That's also a small decrease from the previous quarter.

"Negative equity is a primary factor holding back the housing market and broader economy," said Mark Fleming, chief economist with CoreLogic. "The good news is that negative equity is slowly declining, but the bad news is that price declines are accelerating, which may put a stop to or reverse the recent improvement in negative equity." ■

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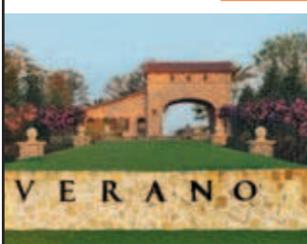
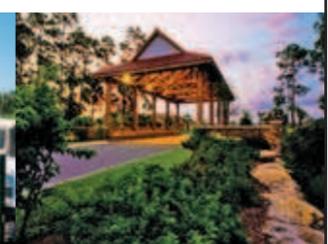
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

WEEK OF DECEMBER 16-22, 2010 A GUIDE TO THE PALM BEACH COUNTY ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SCENE

Community Center sets first wellness expo for Gardens

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The Jewish Community Center North will host the first Palm Beach Wellness Expo on Jan. 9.

The expo, sponsored by Atlantis Orthopaedics, is set for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn, 3505 Kyoto Gardens Drive. The expo is free and open to the public and includes an afternoon of lectures, screenings, exhibits and displays.

Free lectures include:

- "Orthopedic Care to Keep You Active"
- "Live 'Glasses-Free' at Any Age"
- "Weight Management in the New Year"
- "Your Genetics and Breast Cancer Risks"
- "For Women Only"
- "The Cookie Diet"

Other activities and participants include:

- Screenings for skin cancer, laser vision, and glucose.
- Orthopedists, acupuncturists, chiropractors, dermatologists, oncologists and body shaping experts.
- Women's care vendors
- Holistic health vendors
- In-home care agencies
- Area hospitals
- Pilates, yoga and "kid fitness" demonstrations
- "Cookie Diet" taste test
- Whole Foods giveaways
- A chance to win a free weekend stay in the Penthouse Suite of the Hilton Garden Inn.

The stated mission of the Jewish Community Center of the Greater Palm Beaches is to create a strong Jewish community by providing quality programs close to where people live that connect people to Jewish life. The top priorities of the JCC are connecting families to Jewish life, healthy living, high-quality Jewish cultural arts, connecting people to Israel and reaching out to the broader community.

JCC North is in Palm Beach Gardens at 4803 PGA Blvd. Ross JCC is in Boynton Beach at 8500 Jog Road. For more information about the expo, contact Diana Barnes at 712-5276, or DianaB@JCCOnline.com. ■

"Goldie, Max & Milk" asks: Who is your family?

>>inside:
Playwright calls the work her most accessible.
B4

BY HAP ERSTEIN

herstein@floridaweekly.com

LESBIANS AND ORTHODOX JEWS. They are two groups on the social and political spectrum that probably would have few occasions to meet, except in a play like Karen Hartman's "Goldie, Max & Milk," which premiered Dec. 15 at Florida Stage. An audience favorite at this year's 1st Stage New Works Festival, it returns

with much of its cast intact, ready to work its way into theatergoers' hearts.

Max is a single, unemployed lesbian from Brooklyn, with a newborn and no clue about how to nurse a 4-day-old, let alone any of the other mysteries of motherhood. So she calls in a lactation consultant, an Orthodox Jew named Goldie, who is pretty sure that she

SEE FAMILY, B4 ►

Deborah Sherman, Erin Joy Schmidt and Sarah Lord take the stage at the Kravis for "Goldie, Max & Milk."



COURTESY PHOTO

WEEK at-a-glance



Maltz makes a leap

"Academy" shows that Jupiter theater can produce good new works. **B4** ►



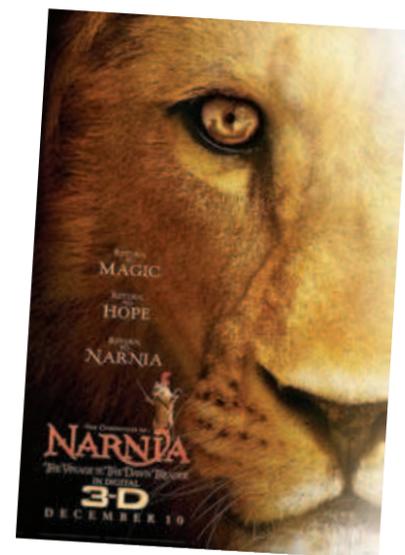
Sandy days, salty nights

Search is not for perfect mate, but one that feels right. **B2** ►



Cuisine news

Chef Roy Villacrusis of Kubo wins food festival throwdown. **B15** ►



Film review

You can skip 'Chronicals of Narnia: 'Dawn Treader.' **B11** ►

SANDY DAYS, SALTY NIGHTS

Less than perfect, but somehow just right

ArtisHENDERSON
sandydays@floridaweekly.com



My friend Lucy says choices can be overwhelming. We shopped together recently at a high-end fabric store, sifting through the reams of white fabric, letting the silks and chiffons trail between our fingers. Lucy tested the heft of a gauzy cream organza, checking its opacity against the light. She's having her wedding dress tailor-made, and she wants it to be perfect.

"If I just had to choose the fabric, that would be one thing," Lucy said. "But the pattern, too? It's too much. I can't decide."

I looked across the store at the options rolled into bricks of fabric, and I knew she was right. With all the possible combinations of color and style and weight — plus the cut and length of the dress itself — I worried that she'd ever get it right.

Later, when Lucy ran off to a cake-tasting appointment, I ducked into a coffee shop for caffeine and a reprieve from wedding insanity.

I sat at a table by the window where I could watch the pre-Christmas crowd stream past.

There, too, was an overwhelming variety of choices.

Like many women, I have trouble lining up my looks and personality with the women around me. Who is prettier? Funnier? Smarter? And which combination is most appealing?

The barista brought over my coffee, and I cupped the mug in my hands as I watched people walk by. I thought about earlier shopping excursions, about a trip long ago to a pottery store in rural North Carolina. The trees around the shop had been cut down for the kiln and the earth dug for the clay to make pottery trays and goblets. I wanted something — a mug or a teacup, maybe — a token

to remember the moment, the trip into the mountains, the feeling of being in that isolated place. I wanted something pretty to show my friends, something that would document my good taste.

There were so many options. Mugs with handles and others shaped like small bowls; glazes in cool blues and greens, others in matte earth tones. I held them all. What felt like hundreds of pottery pieces passed through my hands until I found the one that fit just right. It had a subtle

glaze, with none of the brightness I'd imagined I'd choose. It was bigger than I'd anticipated, bulky, even, without the sleek lines or dainty craftsmanship I thought I liked. But it

"...The search is not for perfection... The search is for something that feels right."

suit me somehow, and I knew from the moment I held it that we were a good fit.

I think of that piece of pottery when I am out with my friends, in bars or restaurants, or even walking the streets. I see so many other women who are beautiful and stylish, and I wonder how men can ever make the perfect choice.

But perhaps I have it all wrong. The search is not for perfection — for the perfect coffee cup, the perfect wedding dress or even the perfect mate. The search is for something that feels right. We might all do well to remember that, even as we compare ourselves to those who seem more perfect than us. ■





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Gardens offers variety of art, dance classes for adults

The Palm Beach Gardens Recreation Department offers a variety of adult art and dance classes.

Day and evening classes take place at the Burns Road Recreation Center, 4404 Burns Road. Listed below are some of the new winter classes for 2011. Classes begin week of Jan. 3.

For fees and more information, call (561) 630-1100 or visit www.pbgfl.com

■ **Watercolor, Oil & Acrylic Painting** — New instructors offer lessons in painting technique, color theory, composition and more as you discover your own creativity and discover the artist within! Individual attention, demonstrations and weekly group critiques enhance the learning process. Supply list available upon request.

■ **Ceramics** — New instructors lead Saturday morning and Thursday evening art classes. Learn both hand-building and pottery wheel work. Initial clay and glaze fees included.

■ **Keyboarding classes** — Researchers say learning to play the piano awakens brain circuitry and increases cognitive abilities. Learn music appreciation, theory, rhythm and more! Note: Students must provide their own keyboards.

■ **Dance Workout** — Class consists of a traditional jazz warm-up, barre stretch, strengthening and toning, across-the-floor exercises and finishes with a combo in various styles. Class will be adapted to meet all skill levels.

■ **Ballroom dancing** — Beginner classes offer an introduction to the dances seen on TV and prepares you for dinner dances, wedding receptions and nightclub dancing. Intermediate classes are designed for those who have command of the basic dance skills and rhythms. Classes expand repertoire of steps, improve leading/following capabilities and increase dance floor style.

Dances include foxtrot, swing, waltz and rumba. No partner necessary.

■ **Digital photography workshops** — Learn the difference between a good image and a great image. Students will be required to print out two to three images weekly for class critique based on home assignments. Bring samples of your work to first class. ■

Loring to sing Streisand for pops series

Singer Gloria Loring will perform hits of Barbra Streisand Jan. 4 through Jan. 11 for the Palm Beach Pops series.

Ms. Loring, and actress and author as well as a singer, had a No. 1 hit, "Friends and Lovers." She will sing "The Way We Were," "People," "Somewhere" and other memorable Streisand tunes, as well as music from Oscar-winning movies, "Funny Girl" and "Yentl."

Performances are Jan. 4-6 at 8 p.m. at Kaye Auditorium at Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton; Jan. 9 at 8 p.m. at Eissey Campus Theatre at Palm Beach State College, Palm Beach Gardens, and Jan. 10-11 at 8 p.m. at the Kravis Center, West Palm Beach. Bob Lappin is music director and conductor of the pops.

Tickets are \$29 to \$89. Call 832-7677 or see palmbeachpops.org. ■



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Idina Menzel with Orchestra

Friday, December 17 at 8 pm
Dreyfoos Hall

Broadway powerhouse Idina Menzel — the Tony award-winning "Elphaba" from international blockbuster *Wicked* — and was featured in last season's *GLEE*

Tickets start at \$25*

Sponsored by Mark and Mary Freitas



Christmas with John Tesh

Saturday, December 18 at 8 pm
Dreyfoos Hall

Join Tesh and his band of four merrymakers for an evening of holiday favorites, comedy and even a few inspirational goodies from his nationally syndicated radio show *Music & Intelligence For Your Life*.

Tickets start at \$20*

Sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. George T. Elmore

Beyond the Stage: Join us for a free musical presentation by Clifford O. Taylor/ Kirkland Elementary School in the Dreyfoos Hall lobby at 7:15 pm.



Regional Arts Concert Series

Carter Brey & Christopher O'Riley

Cello and Piano duo
Sunday, December 19 at 8 pm
Dreyfoos Hall

Bach / Sonata in G minor for viola da gamba and keyboard, BWV 1029

Justin Dello Joio / Due per Due — World Premiere
Grieg / Sonata in A minor for cello and piano, Op. 36

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Series sponsored by Leonard and Sophie Davis

Beyond the Stage: Join us for a free musical presentation in the Dreyfoos Hall lobby at 7:15 pm and a free pre-concert lecture hosted by Sharon McDaniel at 6:45 pm.



Moscow Classical Ballet The Nutcracker

Wednesday through Friday, December 22-24
Wednesday and Thursday at 8 pm; Friday at 2 pm
Dreyfoos Hall

Tchaikovsky's timeless tale of friendship and love never fails to bring family and friends together to enjoy the magic and merriment of this beloved holiday treasure.

Tickets start at \$25*



Monty Python's Spamalot

Sunday, December 26 at 8 pm
Dreyfoos Hall

Winner of the 2005 Tony Award for Best Musical, *Monty Python's Spamalot* is the outrageous musical comedy lovingly ripped off from the film classic *Monty Python and The Holy Grail*.

Tickets start at \$25*

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Monday, December 27 at 8 pm
Dreyfoos Hall

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Thursday, December 30 at 8 pm
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Salute to Vienna World's Greatest New Year's Concert

Saturday, January 1 at 8 pm
Dreyfoos Hall

Showcasing the repertoire of Johann Strauss, the new cast includes the National Ballet of Hungary and lead singers from Europe's concert halls, including soprano Melanie Holliday and tenor István Kovácskazi. Presented by the Kravis Center and Attila Glatz Concert Productions, Inc.

Tickets start at \$25

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*Tickets also available through



THEATER REVIEW

Prep school musical has themes to ponder, lively cast



hapERSTEIN

herstein@floridaweekly.com

The Maltz Jupiter Theatre has a Faustian bargain to offer, and if you are interested in new musicals and emerging talent you would be wise to accept it.

The show is called "Academy," a compact, one-act world premiere musical with music, lyrics and book by John Mercurio, formerly of Tequesta and one-time intern-waiter at the Burt Reynolds Dinner Theatre, on the site of the current Maltz.

It is set at the fictional St. Edward's Academy, a prep school for privileged future captains of industry, whose credo is "Truth and Honor." But those words prove ironic for a pair of seniors, who make a wager about whether they can lead an unsuspecting freshman to break the school's rules in

order to succeed at the academically rigorous institution.

Benji, the out-of-his-depth St. Edward's newcomer (played with touching insecurity by Alex Wyse of last season's "Lost in Yonkers"), has incurred the ire of his affluent cousin Amory (Corey Boardman), for reasons that we only learn late in the show. Amory and his sidekick Michael bet on Benji's ability to be drawn to the dark side, but all three of them will have their moral compasses tested before the school year is over.

In case this premise does not bring to mind Goethe's "Faust" drama, that play has been chosen as the school play-within-the-play. You will get the idea as snippets of the tale are woven into the montage-heavy narrative.

Amory and Michael are like a devil and angel on Benji's shoulders, the former goading him to cheat in order to avoid flunking out and the latter befriending the underclassman and pushing him to take the high road. But do not side with Michael too quickly. He

too has a hidden agenda for his actions.

Already acclaimed by the New York Musical Theatre Festival and a subsequent concert showcase in South Korea, "Academy" is a major step for the Maltz toward making new work a part of its regular menu.

The company's artistic director, Andrew Kato, conceived "Academy," collaborating with longtime colleague Mercurio and staging the show with a strong visual and kinetic sense. The score is full of pleasing pop melodies, though the musical numbers rarely advance the plot. Instead they take us inside the heads of the youthful, all-male characters with hand-wringing power ballads as the boys stress over their futures and yearn for love and approval from their distant fathers. A standout song is the early "There is a Spirit," a group choral number of angst and anxiety, both comic and poignant.

The production features nimble scenery by Michael Schweikardt, enhanced by cinematic projections from Aaron Rhyne. Choreographer

Joshua Rhodes ("Barnum") keeps the cast in near perpetual motion with musical staging that manages to be effective without resorting to much actual dance. And costume designer Michelle Eden Humphrey shows how to infuse variety and character into uniforms of blazers and school ties.

The script contains a little more ambiguity than advisable, as we forage our way through the lies and hazy motives of these young desperate lives. Some editing and tightening would help, but the material still draws us in, asking us to consider how we would handle a dilemma like Benji's. Rough edges aside, "Academy" has worthy themes to ponder, soaring melodies and a very appealing cast. ■

in the know

>> ACADEMY, Maltz Jupiter Theatre, 1001 E. Indiantown Rd., Jupiter. Through Dec. 19. Tickets: \$43-\$60. Call 575-2223.

FAMILY

From page 1

does not approve of Max or her sexual orientation. But it turns out that each of them can learn plenty from the other.

This was not the play that Hartman initially set out to write. Having just written a script called "Goliath," which takes place in the Gaza Strip, the Brooklyn resident was eager to keep writing about Middle Eastern issues. "But I just had a baby, so I couldn't travel and do any research, so I thought I would write a play about Israel-Palestinian issues that took place in Brooklyn."

In fact, there really is an Orthodox lactation consultant in the trendy Park Slope section of Brooklyn and Hartman made up a politically opposite lesbian mother for the sake of wildly conflicting images of family values.

But when Hartman interviewed the lactation consultant, she learned that they almost never meet with their clients more than once. "And so my idea of the story, which was that there would be scene after scene after scene of these two women and their relationship would grow and change was like, totally not going to work," sighs Hartman.

Her disappointment became a creative breakthrough, though, for Hart-

man had to invent a daughter for Goldie, an intermediary who would return to Max, and from there the play of opposite extremes took off. "Basically what's now the plot of the play came out of the dead end of the original idea," concedes Hartman.

Margaret M. Ledford, resident director of Promethean Theatre in Davie, was enlisted to helm the play's 1st Stage reading in March. Her reaction to the script? "That it was adorable. That it really, for me, asked the questions, 'Who is your family? Whether chosen or not, who is your family? And who do you pray to? What is your god?'"

Worried that the audience might find either of the characters alien, Hartman was taken aback by what she heard in the post-reading discussion. "It seemed like it really resonated, because many people — at least many people who spoke up at the talk back — either had a gay child or an Orthodox child," recalls Hartman. "The play is like these two different worlds coming together and for this audience, it seemed like they'd absolutely been to both worlds."

"One of the things I think the play does — in its specificity — is it transcends itself and goes to a very human quality," notes Ledford, who is back to direct the world premiere. "Just like, say, 'The Chosen,' you're dealing with really specific Orthodox Jewish issues,

but it's about a boy finding his place in the world. This is about a mother learning to be a mother, and it doesn't matter that she is a lesbian or an Orthodox Jew."

Married-with-child Hartman is neither a lesbian nor an Orthodox Jew, but she has a definite affinity for both Max and Goldie.

"Both are kind of deeply in me," she says. "I was with women for like 12 years and I was with one lesbian partner for eight years. So that part of the play is a part of who I was. I knew how to write that character."

"And I'm not an Orthodox Jew, but I'm Jewish and I lived in Jerusalem for a year. A while ago I had a Fulbright scholarship and I studied the Orthodox, spending a lot of time with them, like entire weekends in the homes of Orthodox families."

"I've written both lesbian characters and Orthodox Jewish characters before, though not in the same play," said Hartman.

Hartman has had her plays produced at such major regional theaters as Dallas Theatre Center, Cincinnati Playhouse and San Francisco's Magic Theatre, but she is already a big fan of Florida Stage. "First of all, they've been such extraordinary hosts. The quality of the performers is really high, the stage management has it together, the theater's beautiful. It's really great."

"Goldie, Max & Milk" is scheduled to play at Indianapolis' Phoenix Theatre, another National New Play Network company along with Florida Stage, in February. After that, says Hartman, "my hope is to see it in multiple productions and to see it in New York."

She describes the play as "lighter and warmer" than most of her other work. "I'd say this is probably my most accessible play, I hope." Ironically, it could be downright commercial.

"People have used that word about this play and that's kind of strange, because it is a play about lesbians and Orthodox Jews, which are not the people most often seen in the mainstream commercial theater," Hartman says with a tiny laugh. "But it says something about how it catches a person in the middle of a situation — early parenthood — that a lot of people can really connect to. It speaks to what is raw and vulnerable and loving between parents and children and between adults."

"It's only for parents or people who have parents." ■

in the know

>> GOLDIE, MAX & MILK, Florida Stage at the Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Dec. 15-Jan. 16. Tickets: \$47-\$50. Call 585-3433 or 800-514-3837.

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Palm Beach Dramaworks board gains four new members

Palm Beach Dramaworks has elected four new board members.

Esther Dinerstein of Palm Beach Gardens, Daryn Macaulay Kirchfeld of Palm Beach Gardens, Dorothy L. Lappin of Palm Beach and Louise G. Snyder of Palm Beach have joined the board of the theater.

"All of our new board members have an impressive background in corporate management and arts advocacy. We are deeply honored that they will serve as board members during this pivotal point in the evolution of our growing organization," said William Hayes, producing artistic director of the professional theater, in downtown West Palm Beach.

Ms. Dinerstein has been a Florida resident for 20 years. With a bachelor of fine art degree from Pratt Institute in New York, Ms. Dinerstein developed a lifelong appreciation for the performing arts. She also serves on the board of MorseLife, an organization providing health care, housing and support services for seniors of Palm Beach County.

Ms. Kirchfeld is a managing director for Northern Trust, leading the bank's Private Client Services Division

in Northern Palm Beach County. Ms. Kirchfeld's volunteer and fund-raising work have included service with the American Cancer Society, the Junior League, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Ms. Lappin also serves on the International Board of the Salk Institute and is President of the School of the Arts Foundation Guild. A graduate of Emerson College, she has performed in regional theatre, television and as a soloist with the New Haven Symphony Orchestra.

Ms. Snyder is a long-time volunteer and board member of organizations in both Palm Beach and Buffalo. She has a bachelor of science degree from SUNY Buffalo and serves on the board of Planned Parenthood of South Florida and Treasure Coast. She is a member of the Palm Beach United Way Allocation Committee and has served on the East Aurora School Board and on the Junior Board of the Albright Knox Art Gallery in Buffalo.

Palm Beach Dramaworks' next production, "Freud's Last Session," opens Dec. 17. For tickets, call (561) 514-4042. ■

Sign kids up for art, music and dance classes

Have a budding artist in your life? Or maybe a child with musical talent?

The Palm Beach Gardens Recreation Department can help develop that talent with its youth art, music and theater classes.

Winter classes begin the week of Jan. 3 at the Burns Road Recreation Center, 4404 Burns Road. For fees, schedule and other information, call 630-1100 or visit www.pbgrfl.com.

Here is a look at classes scheduled:

Youth art classes

■ **Petite Pals** — ages 3-5 — Kids can experiment with paints, papers, glue and a variety of materials. All supplies are included.

■ **Express Yourself! Petite Painters** — ages 5-10 — Students explore the worlds of impressionism, abstract expressionism, color field painting and more using hands-on, art history-based activities to create their own works. Projects include painting, sculpting, and sketching. All supplies are included.

■ **Mini Acrylics** — ages 8-14 — This class will be a project-based class with an emphasis on painting. The class is geared for the student interested in learning about famous artists and to draw and paint. All supplies are included.

■ **Kids Clay** — Ceramics — ages 5-13

— New instructors will lead Monday or Thursday afternoon art classes. Learn both hand-building and pottery wheel work. Create, play and imagine in clay. Initial clay and glaze fees included.

Theater

■ **TheatreKids Sr.** — Act Up, Dress Up, Makeup! — ages 7-10 — Each week, there will be an hour of wacky theatre games, acting out familiar stories, dressing in costume and putting on makeup! Then, students will perform their favorite story for friends and family during the last class!

Music

■ **Youth Keyboarding** — ages 5-6 — Learn the basics of music theory and rhythm. Go on a "Musical Alphabet" search and learn to play your favorite songs.

■ **Youth Keyboarding** — ages 7-10 — This class for older children is designed for students with little or no piano experience. Music theory, rhythm, music appreciation and more.

Note: Students must provide their own keyboards.

■ **Musikey** — ages infant-4 years — Travel on a musical journey to Musikeyland, where you will explore rhythm, nursery rhymes, story time and more! Strike up the band in an instrument jam session and dance. Kids will experience the joys of music with Mom or Dad. ■

PUZZLE ANSWERS

2	8	7	5	4	9	6	3	1
9	6	4	3	1	8	5	7	2
3	5	1	7	2	6	8	9	4
4	1	3	8	6	7	2	5	9
7	2	8	9	5	1	4	6	3
5	9	6	4	3	2	7	1	8
6	3	9	2	8	5	1	4	7
1	7	2	6	9	4	3	8	5
8	4	5	1	7	3	9	2	6



Southeastern Premiere

Freud's Last Session

by Mark St. Germain

Suggested by "The Question of God" By Dr. Armand M. Nicholi, Jr.

Directed by William Hayes
Executive Producer Virginia Sand

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TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL

Historic Old Northwood, West Palm Beach, bordering between 26th Street to 35th Street, including Poinsettia and Spruce Avenues. Hospitality Tent located at the intersection of 30th Street and Spruce Avenue.

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Thursday, Dec. 16

■ **Starfish & Coffee Storytime Session at the Loxahatchee River Center** — 9:30 a.m. Thursdays, Burt Reynolds Park, 805 N. U.S. 1, Jupiter. Call (561) 743-7123 or visit www.loxahatcheeriver.org/rivercenter.

■ **Judy Collins** — The singer famous for “Both Sides Now,” “Amazing Grace” and “Send in the Clowns,” is 71 and has a new album. She plays two shows for the Kravis Center’s Adults at Leisure series, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Dec. 16, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$25. Individual tickets go on sale Dec. 1; 832-7469.

■ **Mos’Art Theatre** — Screenings of “Howl,” 2 p.m., “Client 9,” 4 p.m., and Eyes and Ears, 8 p.m. Dec. 9. Tickets: \$8. 700 Park Ave., Lake Park; 337-6763.

Friday, Dec. 17

■ **Mos’Art Theatre** — Screenings of “Four Lions,” “A Film Unfinished” and “Carlos.” Various times, Dec. 16-22. Opening night tickets: \$6. General admission: \$8; 337-6763.

■ **Downtown’s Weekend Kick-Off** — Music from 6-10 p.m. Fridays. Centre Court, Downtown at the Gardens, Palm Beach Gardens. Dec. 17: On the Roxx. Dec. 31: Iko-Iko. 340-1600.

■ **Annual Winter Performance** — By Susan Lyle Dance Studio. Show is a dance showcase and story ballet consisting of ballet, pointe, contemporary, modern, jazz, tap and acrobatic dance forms. 6:30 p.m. Dec. 17. Tickets: \$25. Call 966-3650; www.susanlylestudios.com.

■ **Holiday Lights** — The Palm Beach Zoo flips the switch on the lights of its holiday display at 6 p.m. Dec. 17. Display runs 5-9 p.m. daily through Dec. 23. 1301 Summit Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$10.95 adults, \$6.95 children 3-12 and free for kids 3 and younger; 547-9563, www.palmbeachzoo.org

■ **Idina Menzel with orchestra** — The Tony-winning Elphaba from “Wicked” performs hits from “Rent” and “Wicked,” as well as her own compositions, 8 p.m. Dec. 17, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$25 and up; 832-7469.

■ **“Freud’s Last Session”** — Play by Mark St. Germain, Dec. 17-Feb. 6, Palm Beach Dramaworks, 322 Banyan Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$47; 514-4042.

■ **CJ’s Fest** — Doors open at 8 p.m. Dec. 17-18, The Orange Door, 798 10th St., Lake Park. Tickets: \$10; 842-7949.

Saturday, Dec. 18

■ **The West Palm Beach Antiques, Flea and Craft Market** — The 50 or so dealers at the bi-weekly event offer a variety of collectibles, mid-century furniture, crafts and art. It’s at Datura Street and Quadrille Boulevard from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Dec. 18. Admission is free, and free parking is available in the city parking lot on Datura Street across from the market; 833-4440.

■ **Palm Beach Gardens Chess Club** — 9 a.m.-4 p.m., North Palm Beach Parks and Recreation Center, 603 Anchorage Drive, art building. \$2 per player per Saturday. USCF membership

required. Call John Dockery, president/tournament director, at 762-3377.

■ **Boot Camp** — 9-10 a.m., Saturdays; West Jupiter Recreation Center, 6401 Indiantown Road, Jupiter. Adults (13-17 years must be accompanied by an adult); \$5. Call Constonsa Alexander at 694-5430.

■ **Saturday Kids Camp** — weekly camp sponsored by Jupiter Outdoor Center; Session 1 — 9 a.m.-noon; Session 2 — 1-4 p.m., weekly; ages 7-13. \$35 per session; advanced registration required. 747-0063; jupiteroutdoorcenter.com.

■ **Yogaboarding with Cora** — 9:30 a.m., weekly; yoga and guided meditation, while Stand Up Paddling on the waters of the Jupiter River. Jupiter Outdoor Center; call 747-0063.

■ **Kids Story Time** — Loggerhead Marineline Center of Juno Beach, Loggerhead Park, 14200 S. U.S. 1, Juno Beach, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturdays; free. marineline.org.

■ **Holiday Entertainment** — Live performances by choirs and dance groups 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. Dec. 18-19, Downtown at the Gardens, Centre Court, Palm Beach Gardens; 340-1600.

■ **Celebrate Saturdays at Downtown** — Free live entertainment 6-10 p.m. Saturdays at Downtown at the Gardens, Centre Court, Palm Beach Gardens. Dec. 18: Raquel Williams. 340-1600.

■ **Christmas in Abacoa** — Hear caroling by the Jupiter High School Choir, see the Christmas tree in Town Center and shop specialty vendors for one-of-a-kind gifts. There also will be hot chocolate and a holiday performance by ArtStage. For the kids, there will be face painting, puppet shows, and a bounce house sponsored by My Gym. Santa arrives at 6 p.m. It’s 4:30-8:30 p.m. Dec. 18 at Abacoa Amphitheater and Village Green, at Main Street and University Boulevard, in Jupiter; 624-7788.

■ **MacArthur Under Moonlight Concert** — Moonlight and music, with blues musician Ben Prestage, 6-8 p.m. Dec. 18, John D. MacArthur Beach State Park, 10900 Jack Nicklaus Drive North Palm Beach. Concert is \$5 adults, free for children under age 10 and Friends of MacArthur Beach; 624-6952.

■ **Flagler Museum** — Holiday evening tours of Whitehall, include a tour of Whitehall’s first floor, carolers, refreshments, and a special Whitehall Christmas cracker. Guided tours are available each night at 7:05 p.m., 7:15 p.m. and 7:25 p.m. Dec. 18-23. Tickets: \$25 for adults and \$15 for children age 18 and under. Advance ticket purchase is required; 655-2833; www.flaglermuseum.us.

■ **Christmas with John Tesh** — The New Age musician and radio host plays a holiday show, 8 p.m. Dec. 18, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$20 and up; 832-7469.

■ **Voices of Legends in Concert** — With Johnny T, 7:30 p.m. Dec. 18, Jan. 15, Feb. 5, March 19, Mos’Art Theatre, 700 Park Ave., Lake Park. Tickets: \$15 advance, \$18 evening of show; 337-6763.

■ **“The Mixed Nut Cracker”** — An updating of the Christmas classic by Atlantic Theater, at 7 p.m. Dec. 18 and



PHOTO COURTESY OF JEFF LARKIN

The cast of “Academy” includes, from left, Matthew Roscoe, Corey Boardman, Andy Mientus, Alex Wyse, Aaron Riesebeck, Wilson Bridges and Antonio Addeo.

2 p.m. Dec. 19, Eissey Campus Theatre, Palm Beach State College, 11051 Campus Drive (off PGA Boulevard), Palm Beach Gardens. Tickets: \$21. 575-4942; theatlantictheater.com.

Sunday, Dec. 19

■ **Taste in the Gardens Green Market** — Gardens Park, 4301 Burns Road, Palm Beach Gardens; 8 a.m. -1 p.m. Live entertainment, produce, plants, flowers, handmade crafts and prepared food and drink items. Free; no pets. For vendor information, call 772-6435.

■ **Dave & Aaron’s Workout on Stand Up Paddleboarding** — 9:30 a.m. weekly, Jupiter Outdoor Center. For reservations, call 747-0063; visit www.jupiteroutdoorcenter.com.

■ **Holiday Concert** — Hear several local choruses in a concert of sacred and secular music, along with some new takes on holiday classics. Participating choirs include the Sanctuary choir of MCC of the Palm Beaches, Voices of Pride — The Gay Men’s Chorus of the Palm Beaches and the Sanctuary choir of Church of Our Savior MCC (Boynton Beach). 4-6 p.m. Dec. 19 at MCC of the Palm Beaches, 4857 Northlake Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens. 775-5900; www.MCCPalmBeach.org

■ **Carter Brey and Christopher O’Riley** — The cello and piano duo play a concert that includes Bach’s “Sonata in G minor for viola da gamba and keyboard,” Justin Dello Joio’s “Due per Due” (a world premiere) and Grieg’s “Sonata in A minor for cello and piano,” 8 p.m. Dec. 19, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$20 and up. Pre-performance discussion by Sharon McDaniel at 6:45 p.m.; 832-7469.

Monday, Dec. 20

■ **Palm Beach Gardens Concert Band Holiday Concert** — 7:30 p.m. Dec. 20, Maltz Jupiter Theatre, 1001 E. Indiantown Road, Jupiter. Tickets: \$12. 575-2223; www.jupitertheatre.org.

■ **Winter Wonders Camp 2010** — This week will feature the science of snowflakes, making liquid nitrogen ice cream, make your own snow and other hands-on experiments at the South Florida Science Museum, 4801 Dreher Trail N., West Palm Beach. For young scientists ages 4-12 years. Camp runs Dec 20-24 and pay-by-the-day option is available. Call 832-2026; www.sfsm.org

Tuesday, Dec. 21

■ **Art on the Water** — Music and local art, 5:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Riviera Beach Marina, 200 E. 13th St., Riviera Beach.

■ **Tai Chi for Arthritis** — 6-7 p.m. Tuesdays at Lakeside Center, 10410 N. Military Trail or 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Wednesdays at Burns Road Recreation Center, 4404 Burns Road, Palm Beach Gardens. Class focuses on muscular strength, flexibility and fitness. Drop-in fee: \$9; resident discount fee: \$8. 10-class pass fee: \$80; resident discount fee: \$70. 630-1100; www.pbgfl.com.

■ **The Nicki Parrott Trio** — With special guests Rossano Sportiello, piano, and Ed Metz, drums, 8 p.m. Dec. 21, The Harriet Himmel Theater, CityPlace, West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$35, \$15 for students with valid ID. Tickets: \$35; 877-722-2820 or www.jamsociety.org.

Wednesday, Dec. 22

■ **Wimpy Kid Wednesday** — 3-5 p.m., Lake Park Public Library, 529 Park Ave, Lake Park. Events and movie. Free; 881-3330.

■ **Hatchling Tales** — 10:30-11:30 a.m. Wednesdays, Loggerhead Marineline Center, 14200 U.S. 1, Juno Beach. Free; marineline.org.

■ **Lighthouse Sunset Tour** — Take in the sunset views and see the Jupiter Light turn on to illuminate the night sky second and fourth Wednesday of the month. Next tour: Dec. 22. Tour time approximately 75 minutes. Tours are weather permitting, call for tour time. Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse & Museum, 500 Captain Armour’s Way (Beach Road and U.S. 1), Jupiter. \$15 per person, RSVP required, 747-8380, Ext. 101, www.jupiterlighthouse.org

■ **Moscow Classic Ballet in “The Nutcracker”** — Tchaikovsky’s timeless holiday tale, Dec. 22-24, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$25 and up; 832-7469.

Ongoing events

■ **“Academy”** — The world premiere of a Faustian tale set at a prep school, through Dec. 19, Maltz Jupiter Theatre, 1001 E. Indiantown Road, Jupiter. Pride Night is Dec. 17. Tickets: \$43-\$60. 575-2223.

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

■ **“The Velveteen Rabbit”** — The tale of fantasy, loss, self-esteem and the transformative powers of love, presented by Bob Carter’s Actor’s Workshop & Repertory Co., through Dec. 23 at the Borland Center, Midtown at the Gardens, 4885 PGA Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens. Tickets: \$10; 904-3131.

■ **“Peace on Earth” exhibition** — Through Dec. 30, Lighthouse ArtCenter. Gallery Square North, 373 Tequesta Drive, Tequesta. Admission: free for members; \$5 ages 12 and up; free for under 12; free admission to public on Saturdays. 746-3101.

■ **Holiday Light Show** — 6, 7, 8 and 9 p.m. every day in December, Centre Court, Downtown at the Gardens, Palm Beach Gardens. Free. 727-2640.

■ **“Goldie, Max & Milk”** — A world premiere by Karen Hartman, through Jan. 16, Florida Stage, the Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm



COURTESY PHOTO
Arturo Sandoval plays Kravis Dec. 30

Beach. Tickets: \$40 and up. 585-3433; www.floridastage.org.

■ **“Five Thousand Years on the Loxahatchee”** — Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse & Museum, 500 Captain Armour’s Way, Jupiter, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Tuesday-Sunday. 747-8380, ext. 101.

December events

■ **Monty Python’s “Spamalot”** — The 2005 Tony Award winner for Best Musical tells the tale of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table as they embark on their quest for the Holy Grail. Complete with flying cows, killer rabbits and taunting Frenchmen, 8 p.m. Dec. 26, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$25 and up; 832-7469.

■ **NBC’s Last Comic Standing Live Tour** — With winner Felipe Esparza and finalists Roy Wood, Tommy Johnagin, Myq Kaplan and Mike DeStefano, 8 p.m. Dec. 27, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$15 and up; 832-7469.

■ **“The Sound of Music”** — the movie — 7 p.m. Dec. 29, Maltz Jupiter Theatre, 1001 E. Indiantown Road, Jupiter. Free, but tickets required. 575-2223.

■ **Paul Anka** — The singer of “Diana” composer of the English lyrics for “My Way” plays a concert, 8 p.m. Dec. 29, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$25 and up; 832-7469.

■ **Jon Shain** — Doors open at 8 p.m. Dec. 29, The Orange Door, 798 10th St., Lake Park. Tickets: \$5; 842-7949.

■ **Puttin’ on the Ritz** — Cabaret star Steve Ross sings Fred Astaire, Dec. 29-31, in the Kravis Center Cohen Pavilion’s Helen K. Persson Hall, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$30 (\$45 New Year’s Eve toast); 832-7469.

■ **Arturo Sandoval** — The trumpeter is joined by jazz singer Connie James, 8 p.m. Dec. 30, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$15 and up; 832-7469.

■ **Noon Year’s Eve** — Countdown the Noon Year 2011 with carousel rides, games, face painting, A Latte Fun characters, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Dec. 31, Downtown at the Gardens, Carousel Courtyard, Palm Beach Gardens. 340-1600.

■ **New Year’s Eve Gala, A Night in Vienna** — The Indian River Pops performs a traditional European New Year’s Eve celebration with Viennese waltzes and polkas, Broadway and movie music and musical surprises. Special guests include ballroom dancers and vocalists to ring in the New Year. Refreshments provided. Tickets: \$35. Call 561-207-5900; www.indianriverpops.org.

■ **Mandy Patinkin** — “Dress Casual,” with Paul Ford on piano. The Broadway singer and actor sings a range of songs, 8 p.m. Dec. 31, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$25 and up; 832-7469.

■ **The Capitol Steps** — Music and political satire, 5 and 8 p.m. Dec. 31, and 2 p.m. Jan. 1, Maltz Jupiter Theatre, 1001 E. Indiantown Road, Jupiter. Tickets: \$50-\$85; 575-2223.

■ **The Streisand Songbook** — With singer Gloria Loring and the Palm Beach Pops, led by Bob Lappin, 8 p.m. Jan. 4-6 at Carole & Barry Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, and 8 p.m. Jan. 9, Eissey Campus Theatre, Palm Beach State College, Palm Beach Gardens. Tickets: \$29-\$89. Call 561-832-7677 or visit www.palmbeachpops.org/streisand

■ **The Best of Bobby Vinton** — Vinton is joined by an orchestra, and family members, to sing his hits. 8 p.m. Jan. 7, Eissey Campus Theatre, Palm Beach State College, Palm Beach Gardens. Tickets: \$45-\$55; 561-278-7677. He also appears 8 p.m. Jan. 8, Carole & Barry Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton. Tickets: 800-564-9539; www.sunsetet.com.

■ **The Raging Jews of Comedy** — Performance to benefit the American Friends of Magen David Adom. The Raging Jews of Comedy — Gregg Rogell, Sunda Croonquist, Dan Naturman, Jessica Kirson and Tommy Savitt — have appeared on the “Late Night with David Letterman,” the “Tonight Show” with Jay Leno, “The Late Show with Conan O’Brien” and comedy specials on Showtime and Comedy Central. 8 p.m. Jan. 9. Tickets: \$35; \$16 for students with ID. Call 207-5900.

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MEET THE CLASS OF 2010

FINAL WEEKEND!

Palm Beach Gardens Concert Band
Holiday Concert
Hear popular and traditional Christmas songs in celebration of the Holiday Season.

December 20 – 7:30pm

THE SOUND OF MUSIC Movie
FREE EVENT!

December 29 – 7:00pm
TICKETS ARE REQUIRED

A hilarious political satire group
Capitol Steps

Friday, December 31 New Year’s Eve 5:00 & 8:00pm
Saturday, January 1 New Year’s Day 5:00pm

THE MASHUP

You need the right fuel to deal with crazy holidays — and don't take fries with that



bradfordSCHMIDT
bschmidt@floridaweekly.com

It's almost over, the holiday season, but there are still a few final weeks to push through before you can sit back and pretend it'll never be this crazy again. And it's these last few weeks that can be particularly tough to deal with. Work, shop, cook, eat, sleep, wrap, give, receive, return, return, return... it's a cycle that can beat down the most robust holiday aficionado and have them wondering if maybe Ebenezer Scrooge had the right idea — at least he didn't have to deal with crowds, parking issues, exhausting social situations and the depletion of savings accounts.

The one thing necessary to power through and earn the right to a New Year's Day nap on the sofa is fuel. It's also the one thing most overlooked during harried visits to dozens of stores and marathon six-hour online research and shopping sessions. No, I'm not talking about the bottle of Plymouth gin hidden behind the bag of flour in the pantry, either (though that certainly can make parts of the season a bit easier).

I'm talking about food. For me, and you may have guessed this about someone who occasionally goes by the moniker "The Meatist," it's all about meat when I need to fuel up and get through the day. Too heavy a carb load and I'm napping in the car on the way to the store, too much

sugar and I'm likely to run in circles like a possessed dog before falling asleep in the toy aisle of Walmart. The problem is getting quick and meaty meals isn't always easy, whether at home or out gift hunting. But there are ways to keep cranking through the holidays without getting heart palpitations from overindulgence at Dunkin' Donuts.

► **AXIOM ONE.** It's unwise to leave the house without first downing some food. No matter how hurried you are, "I'll just grab something at the food court," and "we'll stop at a fast food place" are bad policies, both in the context of saving time and fueling up. The vast majority of foods at those two places is so rich in carbohydrates, grease and sugar that after a meal you'll want a map of benches to sit on and walls to lean against for the rest of your trip. So take a look at the list below and add a few things to your next shopping list. Then, before leaving on holiday errands, slow down long enough to grab one of these quick fuel sources before heading out.

► **Cube Steak Fuel.** I'm a huge fan of the cube steak, sometimes called a minute steak. They're those thin top round or top sirloin steaks that are tenderized with spiked devices until they resemble the treads on a snow tire. Don't let their appearance, or the fact that many people claim they're only good for chicken fried steak, fool you though. Cooked properly they provide a quick and delicious protein-packed lunch, so buy a tray of them the next time you're at the market or stop by your butcher for a pound or two. Cooking them is dead simple: get a frying pan

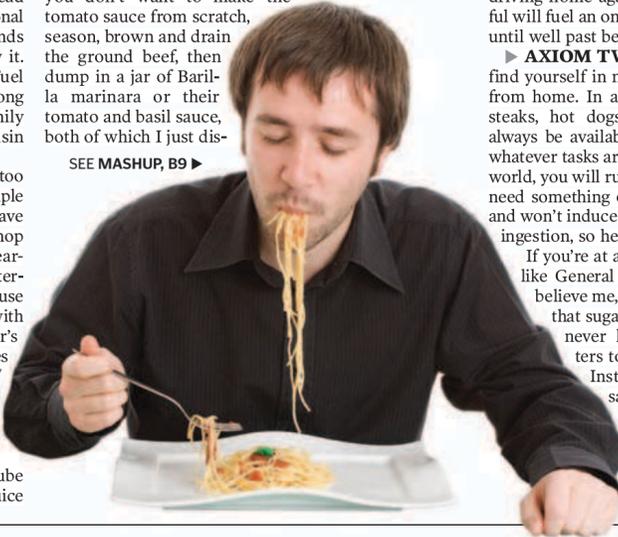
nuclear-hot. While your pan is sucking up the therms from your stovetop, season the steaks with some fresh ground salt and pepper (if you don't have salt and pepper grinders, add peppercorns and sea salt in disposable grinders to your next shopping list to tide you over, then add real grinders to your wish list for Santa). Cube steaks cook quickly, so don't leave them on too long. Pop them in, sizzle them up, flip, repeat. Serve them the same way you would hamburgers (make sure your bread is sufficiently thick to absorb the juices, though) or the way I like them — on a simple white bread sandwich with mayo and the occasional thin slice of red onion. Yes, it sounds odd, but don't knock it until you try it. Total prep time: About five minutes. Fuel sufficient for: Dealing with the mall long enough to shop for two to three family members, give or take a random cousin you're ambivalent about.

► **Hot Dog Fuel.** This one is almost too obvious to mention, but tossing a couple of Nathan's hot dogs into your microwave is the next best thing to being able to shop all day at Coney Island. Don't let the fear-mongers convince you that there are terrible things in those dogs either, because there aren't. Particularly when going with a premium brand like Nathan's, Boar's Head or Hebrew National, what comes in those packages is tasty beef or beef/pork blends wrapped in natural casings, ready to fuel you up and get you on your way. These are your best options for something to run out the door with, too (don't try it with the cube steaks or you're going to get steak juice

all over your car upholstery). Total prep time: Under two minutes. Fuel sufficient for: A full visit to Walmart, Target or any other single mega-mart. But visiting multiple stores like these may require booster shots of caffeine.

► **Spaghetti Fuel.** This carb heavy meal makes the list because slathering it in a meat sauce somehow doesn't create nearly the lethargy one might think. My sauce is made with a minimum of one pound of ground beef. Yup, it's meaty, and it takes thinking ahead, but it's worth the small amount of work required. If you don't want to make the tomato sauce from scratch, season, brown and drain the ground beef, then dump in a jar of Barilla marinara or their tomato and basil sauce, both of which I just dis-

SEE MASHUP, B9 ►



MASHUP

From page B8

covered to be far better than they have a right to be. Make a pound of spaghetti then mix the sauce and pasta together (without rinsing the pasta, please!). Help yourself to a plate and put the rest in Tupperware in the fridge, netting you three or four hearty fast-food platefuls. Heat and eat in the microwave before going out. Total prep time: 30 minutes for the pot, then about three minutes per meal. Fuel sufficient for: Driving to the mall, shopping for four people, a 20-minute search for your car's parking spot, a stop at the supermarket for more meat, and driving home again. Alternately, a plateful will fuel an online shopping excursion until well past bedtime.

► **AXIOM TWO.** You will eventually find yourself in need of food while away from home. In a magical world, minute steaks, hot dogs and spaghetti would always be available and get you through whatever tasks are on your list. In the real world, you will run into times when you'll need something on the road that's quick and won't induce a coma 20 minutes after ingestion, so here are a few tips.

If you're at a food court avoid things like General Tso's Chicken, because believe me, if General Tso had eaten that sugar and fat-laden dish he'd never have left his headquarters to lead anyone anywhere.

Instead, a grilled chicken sandwich from Chick-fil-A will give you the protein to get through the afternoon without incurring an exhaustion penalty, as long as

you pass on the fries (which admittedly are great, but which can bring on nap time pretty quickly). On Sunday, when Chick-fil-A is irritatingly closed, a slice of pizza can serve as a down-and-dirty fuel source, but if you eat too much crust you may find your eyelids a bit heavy. Due to the quantity you're likely to eat, California Pizza Kitchen, although delicious, is far better suited to prepping you for a visit to a cheesy dreamland than a trip to Macy's.

If you're in your car, skip McDonald's and Burger King and hit Five Guys instead (there's one at Legacy Place). The meat is far better (and fresh), and the post-burger drag is comparatively tiny (again, as long as you avoid the fries — a tall order). Plus, they offer fresh jalapeños, which make everything better, always. In a pinch, a Wendy's double has a strong protein-to-carb ratio, and I find that the taco supreme at Taco Bell is one of the few fast food meals that aren't Ambien in disguise (just stay away from the triple fried tacos in gorditas in chalu-pas menu items).

In the end, it's just about taking the time to think ahead when you're not under the gun so that you can be prepared for battle conditions. Stock up with fast and easy meals at your house and take a couple of minutes to fuel up before you go out. If you're out and need fuel, eat protein rich, non-fried foods to get you through regardless of how good a triple Whopper, large fries and a Coke looks. After all, once you're done with your holiday responsibilities there'll be plenty of time to dust a bucket of KFC and fall asleep in front of a Twilight Zone marathon. ■

— For *The Mashup*, Bradford Schmidt writes about meat, technology, music and mashups thereof. He welcomes suggestions, comments, questions and offerings of prime beef.

Tavern showing equine sculptures

Horses and driftwood. They don't go together, unless you're talking about art.

And then, they combine for an interesting mix of subject and medium. The White Horse Tavern in Wellington will present that mix with a display by sculptor Lindsey Molyneaux.

Ms. Molyneaux is known for her life-sized equine sculptures created from driftwood. She also works in copper and bronze to create her works, which are noted for their sense of movement.

Ms. Molyneaux's knowledge of horses began at a young age when she first began riding in the northeast, and continued later in life when she studied Art at Bennington College.

Her works, offered through Beresford Gallery, will be available for sale at the tavern.

The White Horse Tavern is on the grounds of the FTI Winter Equestrian Festival at 3401 Equestrian Club Road in Wellington. For reservations, call 333-1150. ■

Mounts Botanical plans Arbor Day event

Dr. Terry L. Maple, president and CEO of the Palm Beach Zoo, will give the keynote address during the morning event at the Mounts Botanical Garden Arbor Day celebration.

The public is invited to attend this event that will include a ceremonial tree planting, activity booths, guided tours, a native plant sale, the reading of a special proclamation by Palm Beach County Commissioner Shelley Vana and light refreshments. Early attendees will receive a free tree seedling to nurture.

The event is Jan. 23 from 10 a.m. to 4

p.m. Registration starts at 9:30. A donation of \$18 per person is suggested for the morning address. RSVP at 233-1757.

At 12:30 p.m., Mounts will hold a special dedication ceremony as a Moringa oleifera, a unique tree with rare medicinal powers, is planted in the garden. This special tree is known throughout Africa and its tropical neighbors as "The Tree of Life."

There is no charge to attend the afternoon portion but RSVPs are requested by calling 233-1757. Mounts is located at 531 North Military Trail in West Palm Beach. ■

Catch holiday trolley in North Palm Beach

Old-fashioned trolley rides are being offered Dec. 17 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. by the parks department in North Palm Beach.

Riders will sing carols and see homes decorated for the holidays. Catch the trolley at Anchorage Park,

603 Anchorage Drive. Rides will last about 20 minutes. The cost is \$1 a person or \$3 per family. All ages are welcome.

Children can visit with Santa, too. For information, call the North Palm Beach Recreation Dept. at 841-3386. ■

Fantastical new journeys!

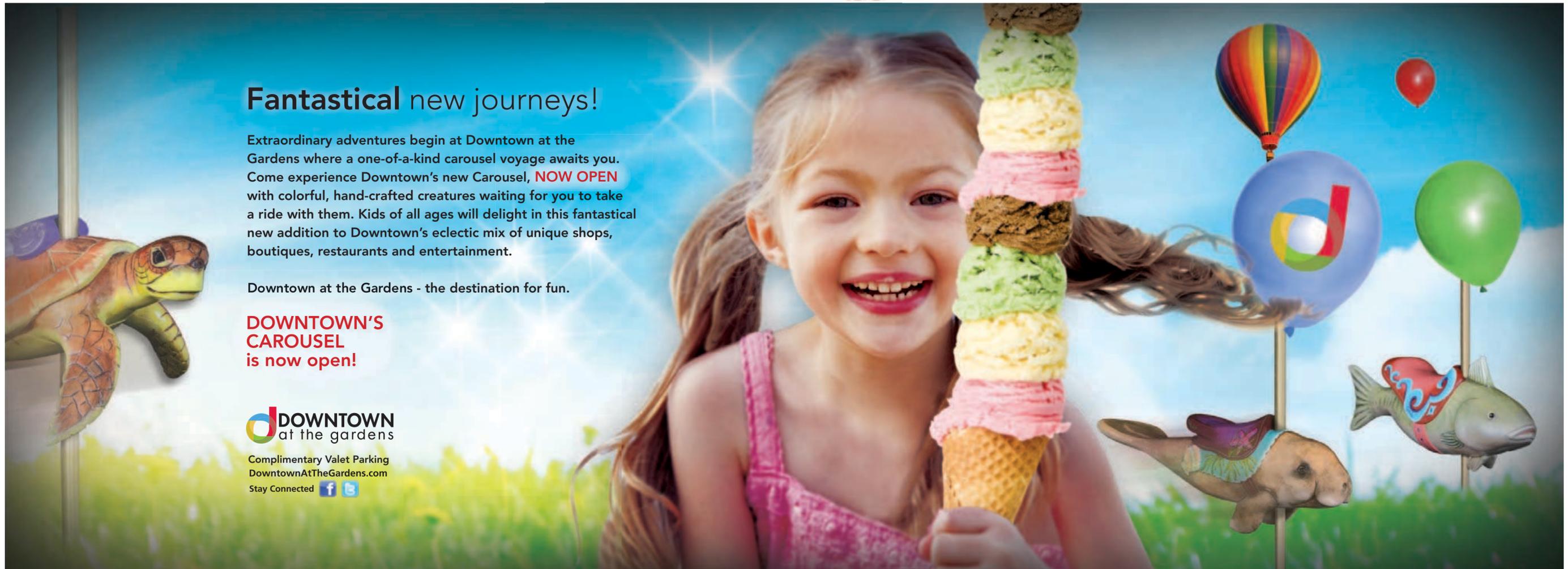
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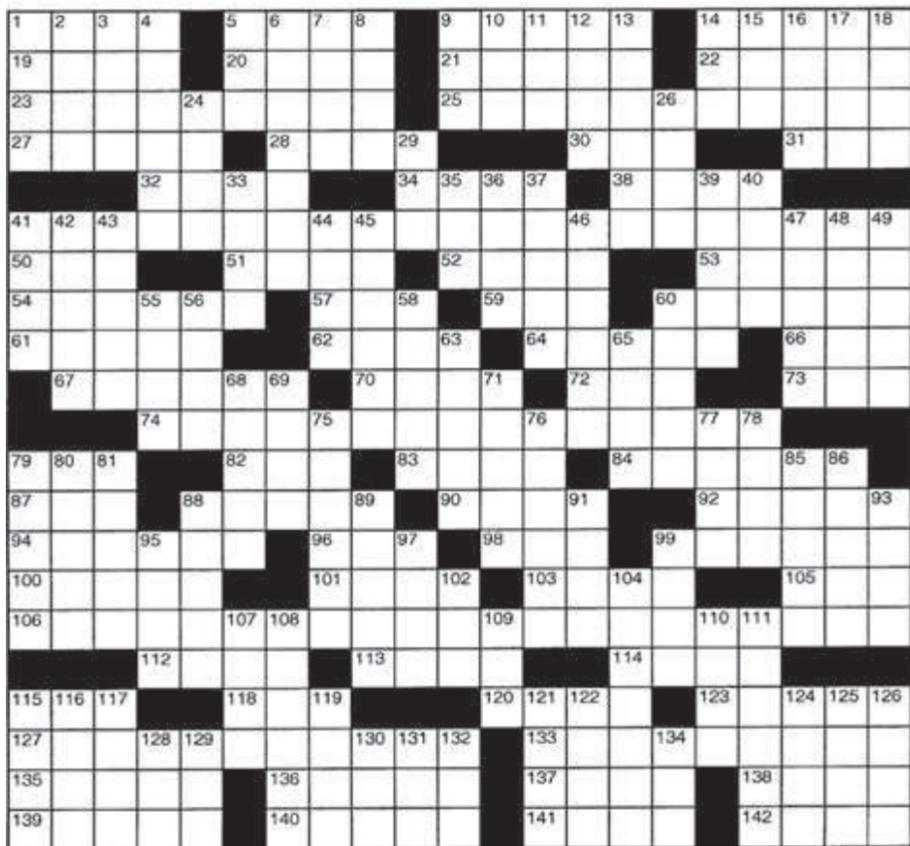


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FLORIDA WEEKLY PUZZLES

LIQUIDITY



- ACROSS**
- 1 Still
 - 5 Little devils
 - 9 Lost a lap
 - 14 '83 Woody Allen film
 - 19 — code
 - 20 Year segment
 - 21 Dodge
 - 22 Beethoven dedicatee
 - 23 Melanie Griffith movie
 - 25 W. Somerset Maugham work
 - 27 Check recipient
 - 28 Marge in the fridge
 - 30 Impresario
 - 31 "Mal de —"
 - 32 More than more
 - 34 Author
 - 38 Dick Tracy's love
 - 41 Laura Esquivel novel
 - 50 Southern st.
 - 51 Green bean
 - 52 Artist Joan
 - 53 Arrives
 - 54 Most painful
 - 57 Drivers' lics., e.g.
 - 59 Bando of baseball
 - 60 Yarn purchases
 - 61 — drum
 - 62 Coolidge or Gam
 - 64 Conspires
 - 66 Where the buoys are
 - 67 Dachshund or dik-dik
 - 70 Pop
 - 72 Antipollution grp.
 - 73 Porker's palace
 - 74 With "The," John Irving book
 - 79 Russian jet
 - 82 Dogpatch's Daisy —
 - 83 Ballet movement
 - 84 "Dreaming of You" singer
 - 87 Private pension
 - 88 Insect stage
 - 90 Canvas cover
 - 92 Layette fasteners
 - 94 Patriot Hale
 - 96 Kind
 - 98 Zilch
 - 99 Sardou drama
 - 100 Be nosy
 - 101 Actress
 - 103 Mount-batten's rank
 - 105 Like Austin Powers
 - 106 Jimmie Rodgers hit
 - 112 — machine
 - 113 Stagger
 - 114 Loretta Young's birthplace
 - 115 Lawyers' org.
 - 118 "— pro nobis"
 - 120 Certain Slav
 - 123 Restaurateur
 - 127 "Angel of the Morning" singer
 - 133 "No, No, Nanette" song
 - 135 Actress Eve
 - 136 Basketball venue
 - 137 Valuable
 - 138 Chiles or Nettleton
 - 139 Baggage checkers?
 - 140 Sociable stalling
 - 141 German river
 - 142 — lily
 - DOWN**
 - 1 "Friday the 13th" setting
 - 2 Sayao solo
 - 3 Painter
 - 4 "You — Feel Like Dancing" ('76 hit)
 - 5 — Jima
 - 6 "The Consul" composer
 - 7 Role for Rigg
 - 8 — terrier
 - 9 Wine word
 - 10 Dam org.
 - 11 Acorn, eventually
 - 12 Poems of praise
 - 13 Spanish explorer
 - 14 Road to enlightenment
 - 15 Antiquity, archaically
 - 16 Novelist
 - 17 Tropical spot
 - 18 Will of "The Waltons"
 - 24 Catty remark?
 - 26 Baldwin of "Outside Providence"
 - 29 Lout
 - 33 It's good in a pinch
 - 35 Morticia, to Pugsley
 - 36 Rainbow goddess
 - 37 Remnant
 - 39 White House pet
 - 40 — gin fizz
 - 41 Glasgow girl
 - 42 Actress Massey
 - 43 Designer Donna
 - 44 Islamic ruler
 - 45 Salad veggie
 - 46 Shout
 - 47 Off the mark
 - 48 Belief
 - 49 Lamb product
 - 55 95 Down's real name
 - 56 Big rig
 - 58 Bend
 - 60 No longer fresh
 - 63 Man or stallion
 - 65 Artistic output
 - 68 Big pitcher?
 - 69 Tragic monarch
 - 71 Laotian native
 - 75 Study for exams
 - 76 More macabre
 - 77 Or — (threat words)
 - 78 "You — Me" ('57 hit)
 - 79 Capital of Belarus
 - 80 Persian, presently
 - 81 Los —, CA
 - 85 Ruth's mother-in-law
 - 86 Chef's shield?
 - 88 Stickpin locale
 - 89 Cabinet wood
 - 91 Realty map
 - 93 Mean Marquis
 - 95 "Bonanza" brother
 - 97 Patella's place
 - 99 Insipid
 - 102 Dug in
 - 104 Pie filling
 - 107 Any time now
 - 108 Flow
 - 109 High rails
 - 110 West. alliance
 - 111 Spirals
 - 115 Trojan War hero
 - 116 Raymond of "Godzilla"
 - 117 "Celeste —" (Verdi aria)
 - 119 Crooked
 - 121 Raison d'—
 - 122 Authentic
 - 124 Nebraska native
 - 125 Baby branch
 - 126 Mediocre
 - 128 Dodger Ron
 - 129 Minnesota twins?
 - 130 Hamilton bill
 - 131 Out — limb
 - 132 Slangy negative
 - 134 Service charge

SEE ANSWERS, B5

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HOROSCOPES



- **TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** It's not too early for the practical Bovine to begin planning possible changes for 2011. A recent contact can offer some interesting insights.
- **GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)** A request for an unusual favor should be carefully checked out. Also check the motives behind it. Your generosity should be respected, not exploited.
- **CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** Party time beckons, but for some Moon Children, so do some workplace challenges. Deal with the second first, then you'll be free to enjoy the fun time.
- **LEO (July 23 to August 22)** A warm response to an earlier request might be a positive indicator of what's ahead. Meanwhile, Cupid could pay a surprise visit to single Leos looking for love.
- **VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)** How you respond to a proposed change in a project could affect your situation. Be prepared to show how well you would be able to deal with it.
- **LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)** The revelation of a secret could cause some changes in how to deal with a workplace matter. It very likely also validates a position you have long held.
- **SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)** An attempt to get too personal could upset the very private Scorpio. Make it clear that there's a line no one crosses without your permission.
- **BORN THIS WEEK:** You like challenges that are both mental and physical, and you enjoy always beating your personal best.

- **PISCES (February 19 to March 20)** Someone might find that it was a fluke to try to use your sympathetic nature to get you to accept a situation you're not comfortable with. Good for you.
- **ARIES (March 21 to April 19)** Handle a potentially awkward situation by warming up your confidence reserves and letting it radiate freely. Also, expect an old friend to contact you.

By Linda Thistle

2			4		6	1
	6		3	1		7
	5	1			6	8
4		3	8		2	
7			9	5		3
	9				2	1
6				5		4
	7	2		9		3
		5	1		3	2

Puzzle Difficulty this week:



Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ Expert

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SEE ANSWERS, B5

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New Year's Eve Gala
Murder Mystery Dinner Party to Ring in the New Year
Friday Dec 31

*No Murder Mystery on Rail/Boat Trips

LATEST FILMS

'The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader'



danHUDAK

www.hudakonhollywood.com

★ ★ ½

Is it worth \$14 (3-D)? No
Is it worth \$10? No

The best thing one can say about "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader" is that it's not as painfully slow as the franchise's last installment, "Prince Caspian," in which after 140 long minutes trees came to the rescue of our heroes. But just because "Dawn Treader" is 25 minutes shorter doesn't mean it's good — it just means it's more watchable.

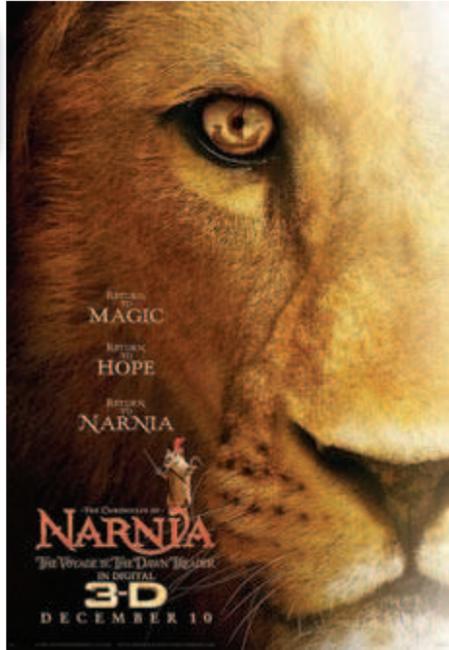
With older siblings Peter (William Moseley) and Susan (Anna Popplewell) away, Lucy (Georgie Henley) and Edmund Pevensie (Skandar Keynes) are stuck living out World War II with their uncle in Cambridge, England. Also in the house is their cousin Eustace (Will Poulter), an annoying little snot who even child abuse activists will want to smack in the lip.

As the three early teens argue in a bedroom, they get sucked into a painting on the wall, and before they know it they're on the Dawn Treader ship in Narnia with hunky but bland Prince Caspian (Ben Barnes).

With Eustace obnoxious every step of the way, they soon learn why they're there: to help Caspian fulfill an oath to find the seven lost Lords of Telmar, the best friends of his murdered father. Their journey takes them to five islands, each of which brings unexpected peril and adventure — but none of which is very exciting. They also discover a green mist that has powers to kidnap people's bodies and minds, but this intriguing idea is wasted.

At the risk of being too harsh, much of director Michael Apted's film feels like aimless wandering on the high seas. Going from one adventure to the next can lead to solid action sequences, such as when the ship encounters a giant sea serpent, but they always feel like disparate pieces of a disjointed whole.

This also needs to be said: A lot of people see Narnia as appealing for children and, yes, the values of self-worth and



morality are important. But that doesn't change the fact that every time Lucy and Edmund are in Narnia, they're nearly killed by oddly shaped, Middle-Earth lookin' freaks. Frequently lured to the dark side by the White Witch (Tilda Swinton), Edmund always resists and barely escapes alive. Their savior is a giant talking lion (voiced by Liam Neeson) with a ferocious roar.

How does everyone miss the fact that there's a war going on in the real world, and yet these kids are still much safer in reality?

In short, "Dawn Treader" is about as mediocre as they come, with a story, acting and visual effects that are decent but unspectacular. And if you're considering seeing this in 3-D, for the love of mercy, don't. The 3-D is flat and lifeless and a waste of what otherwise would be a snazzy-looking pair of sunglasses. ■

— Dan Hudak is the chairman of the Florida Film Critics Circle and a nationally syndicated film critic. You can e-mail him at dan@hudakonhollywood.com and read more of his work at www.hudakonhollywood.com.

in the know

>> **Skandar Keynes** (Edmund) is focusing on Arabic studies at Cambridge University, which is where "Narnia" author C.S. Lewis taught literature from 1954-63.

CAPSULES

REVIEWED BY DAN HUDAK
www.hudakonhollywood.com

Welcome To The Rileys ★★★

(James Gandolfini, Kristen Stewart, Melissa Leo) On a business trip to New Orleans, unhappily married Doug (Mr. Gandolfini) finds himself connected to a young stripper/prostitute (Ms. Stewart) in a paternal way. Add in Doug's wife (Ms. Leo), and a surrogate family is born. Mr. Gandolfini and Ms. Stewart offer strong performances in this moving family drama. Rated R.

Burlesque ★★★

(Cher, Christina Aguilera, Kristen Bell) A small-town girl (Ms. Aguilera) who dreams of being a star moves

to Los Angeles and finds work in a neo-Burlesque club (think stripteases without the stripping) run by an aging singer/dancer (Cher). The story is painfully predictable, but Ms. Aguilera holds her own as an actress, Cher is good, and the movie is exuberantly stylish and fun, which makes it one heck of a good show. Rated PG-13.

Faster ★★★

(Dwayne Johnson, Billy Bob Thornton, Maggie Grace) An ex-con named Driver (Mr. Johnson) is tracked by a cop (Mr. Thornton) and a hit man (Oliver Jackson-Cohen) as Driver tries to avenge his brother's murder. There's some solid action and a good ole' fashion revenge storyline, but the subplots are too overbearing for the story to click. Rated R. ■

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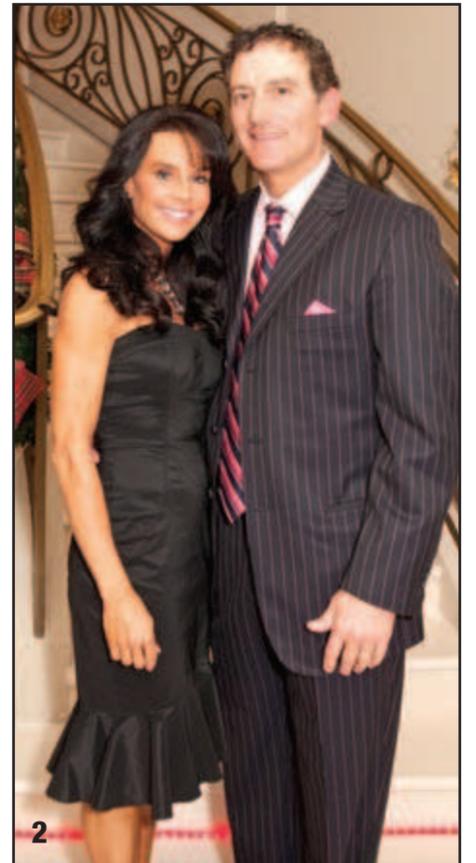
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FLORIDA WEEKLY SOCIETY

A Magical Evening on Jupiter Island, which raised more than \$20,000 for the Maltz Jupiter Theatre



JASON NUTTLE / COURTESY PHOTOS

1. Loreen Farish's home on Jupiter Island
2. Kim and Sal Tiano
3. Rick and Peggy Katz
4. Roe Green, Jay Johnson and Priscilla Heublein
5. Sallie and Bert Korman and Jane Napier
6. Loreen Farish, Tricia Trimble and Marcia Cohn
7. Milton and Tamar Maltz, Penny and Steve Weinberg

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FLORIDA WEEKLY SOCIETY

Worth Avenue Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony



DIANA NARDY / FLORIDA WEEKLY

1. Ryan Moore and Sherry Frankel
2. Tiffany Raborn and Ray Dech
3. Kat Litrenta, Lynne Meryl and Bob Noble
4. Kim Moore, Andrea Peralta and Susan Hoffer
5. Meachan Flenner, Bebe Modell and Laura Michelle

FLORIDA WEEKLY
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Dr. Perricone book signing “Forever Young” at The Ritz – Eau Spa



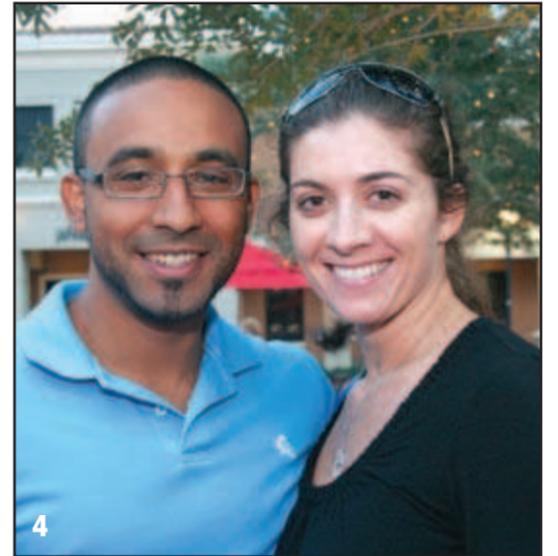
RACHEL HICKEY / FLORIDA WEEKLY

1. Ellen Huxley-Laffer, Dr. Nicholas Perricone and Debra Tornaben
2. Maryellen Pate, Dr. Nicholas Perricone and Tiffany Desouza
3. Rene Bianchi and Joanne Knoetgen
4. Kristin Carpenter and Neri Terem
5. Ilsa Lauretand and Susan Sabias

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FLORIDA WEEKLY SOCIETY

Menorah Lighting Ceremony at the Jewish Community Center – Midtown



JOSE CASADO / FLORIDA WEEKLY

- 1. Griffin, Allison, David and Hayley Miller
- 2. Rabbi Michael Resnick and Roland Roth
- 3. Valerie Roslin and Yuval Stern
- 4. Ricky and Alyssa Remacha

The 4th Annual Karma Kastles on Jupiter Beach



Denise, Gina and Anthony Guadagnino



Daniella Beckerman, Bruce Beckerman, Sue Beckerman, Holly Briscoe and Karen Brunett



Kayla Lawrence, Eddie Lawrence and Donna Lawrence

RACHEL HICKEY / FLORIDA WEEKLY

Blizzard at the beach – MacArthur Beach State Park



1



2



3

JOSE CASADO / FLORIDA WEEKLY

- 1. Reagan and Lyndzie Walsh
- 2. Kids play in the snow.
- 3. Teresa and Riley O'Keeffe

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FLORIDA WEEKLY CUISINE

Payoff for Chef Roy's 15-minute beef flank dish? \$5,000



Chef Roy Villacrusis of the new Asian restaurant, Kubo in North Palm Beach, earned "the most money I ever made per hour," thanks to a \$5,000 win at the Palm Beach Wine and Food Festival.



COURTESY PHOTO

Chef Roy Villacrusis won the \$5,000 throwdown.

Villacrusis was part of a three-way "throwdown" where two area chefs took on Howard Kleinberg, chef/owner of the Bulldog Barbecue in Miami and a Top Chef player on the TV show, in a 30-minute cook-off. Jeremy Hanlon, private chef and "Fresh Chef" caterer, was the third contender.

The chefs had only half an hour to come up with a dish using beef flank steak. Each was allowed to bring only one "secret ingredient" to the contest. Kleinberg brought gray sea salt, Hanlon brought tomatillos, and Villacrusis brought yuzu juice — a tart Japanese citrus fruit that sells for around \$5 each when fresh. Mostly, it's used in juice.

Villacrusis said, "I took a big risk with the weather." The festival was in the two-story open-air atrium at the Esplanade in Palm Beach. "My staff thought I was crazy, serving a cold dish on such a cold night, but I was afraid there would be no way to keep a hot dish really optimally hot or how long it would sit before the judges ate

it. So I went out on a limb and planned to serve it cold."

His dish, the flank steak seared to a crisp on the outside but rare to raw on the inside, was served with a hearts-of-romaine salad, dressed with a mix of the yuzu, soy sauce and sugar. Along with the meat, he offered sliced mushrooms, cooked in the juices and left to cool to soak up the flavor. A hand-held Smoking Gun was used to impart a slight smokiness to the dish after it was plated.

The judges (myself included) were impressed and awarded Villacrusis the \$5,000 prize, plus a \$5,000 donation to Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League on his behalf.

"That's the most money I've ever made for one dish. It really only took me 15 minutes, so that's what — \$20,000 an hour? I joked that 'I'm going to Disney World!' But really, I'm a small new restaurant — it's going to pay the rent."

A Korean beef dish, made with skirt steak but similar to the dish he prepared for the contest, is on his menu.

Kubo, 1201 US Highway 1, North Palm Beach; 776-7248.

Verdea takes over Zia at Embassy Suite

Verdea is the new "farm-to-table" concept restaurant now open at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Palm Beach Gardens. The restaurant, with a focus on fresh, local products and international wines, took over the former Zia Restaurant and Lounge at the hotel.

Rick Netzel, director of sales and marketing, says that the small 40-seat restaurant is aimed at the upscale diner. "We have a wine room, with 200-plus wines by the glass, and the bottles in racks for retail sales as well. We have a humidor and sell cigars for cigar smokers on our patio — they can sit outside and enjoy a glass of port and a good cigar."

A large illuminated bar, with TVs for sports watchers, offers a small menu of its own drawn from the main menu, Netzel said. A 60-seat private room for special events and dinners is available, and will be used for overflow in the main room when not otherwise booked.

Chef James King, who's worked at the Four Seasons Palm Beach, The Breakers



COURTESY PHOTOS

The wine bar at the Verdea offers more than 200 wines by the glass.

and most recently, One Ocean, the Jacksonville (Fla.) Embassy Suite boutique restaurant, is chef at Verdea (Spanish for "green").

Locally sourced produce, when available, and organics from other areas as well as fresh fish are on the menu. Look for starters such as yellow tail ahi crudo, with toasted macadamia nuts, mango, sesame seeds and pickled cucumber or a Loxahatchee goat cheese salad over locally grown Swank Farms herbs and sprouts with baby beets. For main plates, there's a molasses lacquered duck breast with Indian River citrus, mango and lentil stew. A filet of Mishima Ranch Wagyu beef, with a smoked potato dauphine, asparagus and béarnaise sauce with asparagus leads the "farm" side of the menu; the "fields" menu features foraged mushroom gnocchi with Taleggio cream, hazelnuts and tarragon.

The trendy concept of "farm-to-table" dining means chefs who follow this are sourcing more ingredients and foods locally to increase the freshness of their foods, and reduce the carbon footprint left when foods are trucked or flown from long distances to the table.

Verdea is open Tuesday-Saturday, 5 to 10 p.m. (dinner only); reservations are highly suggested. Verdea at the Embassy Suites, 4350 PGA Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens; 622-1000.

Quick bites:

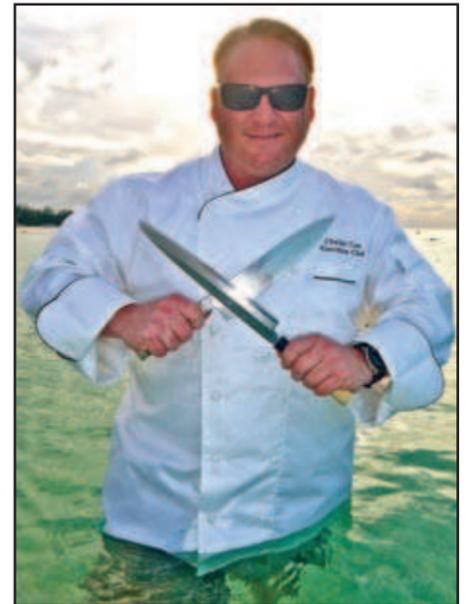
Chef Charlie Coe, who was at Solu at the Resort on Singer Island, is teaming with Russell Beverstein to open Russell's Bluewater Grill. The seafood restaurant will go into the old Texarado Steakhouse spot on PGA Boulevard at Prosperity Farms Road;



Reservations are suggested for the 40-seat Verdea, at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Palm Beach Gardens.

plans are for a first-of-the-year opening. Coe is making waves, no pun intended, with a cable and online TV show — Catch, Clean, Cook — and brings serious fish knowledge to the eatery. Beverstein is another long-timer in the restaurant biz, working in a number of Palm Beach County restaurants.

The Village of North Palm Beach is now in charge of the entire North Palm Beach Country Club. Food and beverage manager Keith Riolino of the Village Tavern, the dining room at the club on U.S. 1, says he's now a "village employee." New menus are in place for lunch, dinner and Sunday brunch, a popular meal served here. ■



COURTESY PHOTO

Chef Charlie Coe and a partner are opening a new seafood restaurant.

Naples wine festival pairs top chefs with fine wines

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The 2011 Naples Winter Wine Festival, which begins Jan. 28, will feature 17 chefs who can count Michelin-starred restaurants and numerous James Beard Foundation Awards among them. Money raised will help children's charities, including a pediatric dental center and an early learning center.

Three participating chefs are 2010 James Beard Award winners: Sean Brock, Curtis Duffy and Jeff Michaud. Jennifer Jasinski of Rioja is a 2010 James Beard Awards semifinalist, and Rioja is a Zagat Guide choice for "America's Top Restaurants" 2010.

Twelve chefs are first-time festival participants, including Art Smith, known for his 10 years as Oprah Winfrey's personal chef.

The chefs and 28 vintners will play a starring role at the festival's vintner dinners, which are hosted at 17 NCEF trustees' homes. Each themed dinner has 20 to 40 guests and is a collaboration

among hosts, chefs and vintners, resulting in courses prepared by the chefs, with vintners pouring their special vintages paired with the cuisine.

Lee Hefter, a four-time festival participant, has been named 2011 chef de cuisine. He is the executive chef of Spago Beverly Hills and managing partner and executive corporate chef of the Wolfgang Puck Fine Dining Group and Wolfgang Puck Catering and Events. He has partnered with Wolfgang Puck for 18 years.

Here is a look at participating chefs:

■ **Michael Anthony** — Won the James Beard Award for "Outstanding Restaurant," 2008, at Gramercy Tavern, New York.

■ **Paul Bartolotta** — Won the James Beard Award for "Best Chef: Southwest," 2009, at Bartolotta Ristorante di Mare, Las Vegas.

■ **Sean Brock** — Won the James Beard Award for "Best Chef: Southeast," 2010, at McCrady's, Charleston

■ **Curtis Duffy** — Won the James Beard "Legacy Chef," 2010, at Avenues at

The Peninsula, Chicago

■ **Ken Frank** — Noted in The Michelin Guide — one star, 2009, at La Toque, Napa, California

■ **Lee Hefter** — Noted in The Michelin Guide — two stars, 2008, Spago Beverly Hills, California

■ **Jennifer Jasinski** — James Beard "Best Chef: Southwest" semifinalist, 2010, Rioja, Denver

■ **Eli Kaimeh** — Restaurant Magazine "World's 50 Best Restaurants" (ranked sixth), 2008, Per Se, New York

■ **Christopher Kostow** — Reviewed in San Francisco Chronicle, four stars, 2010, The Restaurant at Meadowood, Napa Valley

■ **Gabriel Kreuther** — Won the James Beard Award for "Best Chef: New York City," 2009, The Modern, New York

■ **Christopher Lee** — Food & Wine, "America's Best New Chef," 2006, Aureole, New York

■ **Luke Mangan** — G'Day USA featured celebrity chef, 2009, Glass Brasserie Sydney, Australia

■ **Jeff Michaud** — Won the James Beard Award for "Best Chef: Mid-Atlantic," 2010, Osteria, Philadelphia

■ **Carrie Nahabedian** — Chicago Culinary Museum and Chef's Hall of Fame inductee, 2009, Naha, Chicago

■ **Gabriel Rucker** — James Beard "Rising Star Chef of the Year" nominee, 2008-2010, Le Pigeon, Portland

■ **Art Smith** — James Beard "Humanitarian of the Year," 2007, Table Fifty-Two, Chicago

■ **Michael Tusk** — James Beard "Best Chef: Pacific" nominee, 2010, Quince Restaurant, San Francisco

The Naples Winter Wine Festival is hosted annually by trustees of the Naples Children & Education Foundation.

Festival ticket packages are \$7,500 per couple; \$20,000 for reserved seating at the same vintner dinner for two couples. For a schedule of 2011 festivities and more information about the Naples Winter Wine Festival, visit www.napleswinefestival.com, or call the wine festival office at (888) 837-4919. ■

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