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Local artists shine at

ArtiGras

The 26th annual festival will bring about 150,000 people to Abacoa Feb. 19-21

BY SCOTT SIMMONS

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ARTIGRAS IS NORTHERN PALM BEACH County's big draw.

Now in its 26th year, the festival is expected to bring upward of 150,000 people to Abacoa, where they can buy paintings, sculpture, jewelry and fine crafts from about 300 artists from around the country.

What's the best thing about it?

"Getting to see the work from people throughout the country and people from your own backyard," says Suzanne Neve, director of programs and services at the Northern Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce, which hosts the event. "We get more than 1,000 applications, so these are the best of the best."

The art show, which takes place

Feb. 19-21, also attracts a fair number of local artists.

"ArtiGras is a very well-orchestrated show," says Beth Williams, creator of this year's ArtiGras poster. "The chamber puts it on and they really treat their artists well. People come from all over the place. I've seen the jurying process — it's pretty intimidating."

That process is part of what sets ArtiGras apart from other shows, Ms. Williams says.

"Everybody is juried. To be accepted is an honor right there."

Painter Sue Archer and her husband, photographer Dave Archer, have been selling at ArtiGras since its early days.

Mrs. Archer is known for her still lifes of fruit and tropical foliage.

Mr. Archer specializes in landscape



COURTESY IMAGE

SEE ARTIGRAS, A8 ► This year's ArtiGras poster by Beth Williams.

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Fans take pennies to Perry's gravesite in Tequesta



SCOTT SIMMONS/FLORIDA WEEKLY

Pennies, nickels and other coins sit atop Mr. Como's headstone, to pay homage and bring luck to the visitor.

BY SCOTT SIMMONS

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Unpretentious in life, unpretentious in death.

That's how Perry Como liked it.

The singer and his wife, Roselle, lie beneath twin headstones in the shadows of the oaks and the pines at Riverside Memorial Park in Tequesta.

It's peaceful there.

The cemetery was founded in 1907, when the area was still part of Dade County.

Many of the area's pioneers were brought here for eternal rest.

Bessie DuBois lies here. So does her husband, John. If their names sound familiar,



COMO

it's because they lived at Jupiter Inlet and DuBois Park is named for the family.

Their graves are to the south of the Comos, in the "Pioneer" section of the cemetery.

And you see the earlier grave stones, which give way to slightly grander tombs, then finally, the mausoleum complex.

The Comos are buried just east of that mausoleum.

SEE COMO, A13 ►



Wee swans

Florida Classical Ballet Theatre teaches with heart. **A6** ►

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COMMENTARY

Let's all buy Smart Cars before gas hits \$9 a gallon

c.b.HANIF

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I'm leaving it to the good folks in Egypt to get their governmental thing together. What I'm really concerned about in all the turmoil on the Nile is the price of gas.

"Me too," said Jeff Moore, though perhaps not as facetiously as me.

Mr. Moore is owner of the Shell gasoline station at Military Trail and PGA Boulevard. The intersection is one of South Florida's busiest crossroads.

His station was doing brisk business when I stopped by for some thoughts on all this.

That was Feb. 1, the same day (or was it the day before; rascally time difference) that Egyptian President Mubarak gave his "I'm sorta kinda gonna be leaving y'all" speech.

It also was the same day an online Bloomberg Businessweek headline was proclaiming, "Gas prices seen steady despite uncertain recovery."

So much for the steadily escalating pump prices around South Florida. But the Geneva-dated story continued:

"Energy experts and commodities traders expect oil and gasoline prices to remain steady this year despite uncertainty surrounding the global economy's outlook."

The article reported that in the diplomatic city that is fast becoming a commodities capital, "a U.N. conference of government ministers, CEOs and traders

expressed some optimism Monday over oil prospects. They indicated that U.S. gas prices — which now top \$3 a gallon — are unlikely to reach the shocking \$4-level seen in 2008."

No mention of the revolution going on in Tahrir Square.

Meanwhile, back in Reality, USA, Mr. Moore was pointing to the Bloomberg site that he and other station owners follow each day.

"Today if you go to this Bloomberg site it will tell you the barrel is down 45 cents, but the gasoline futures are up 50 cents," he said.

"Now 50 cents doesn't mean 50 cents a gallon. Usually if it closed at this number that would equate to about half a cent, half a penny. So every \$1 here equals a penny. It doesn't mean that Shell's going to raise their price by that amount. But it's a good indicator that's where the prices are going."

That was even before the escalation of violence in Cairo.

"If you look when the Egypt thing first started," Mr. Moore said, "this number was up like \$9.94, which means that there should have been a 9-cent increase. And I was surprised there wasn't."

In fact, barely two weeks earlier, travel guru Arthur Frommer was announcing:

"The big news in travel is the current price, recently announced, of \$90 for a barrel of oil. Who would have dreamed that fuel would surge so soon? What this means is an inevitable rise in airfares and fuel surcharges."

Like most folks I don't keep an eye on the price of barrels. I'm just another guy

trying to stay on the road.

And while our prayers, hopes and best wishes are with the Egyptian people, some of us are keeping an eye on the fallout here. Or should I say, the uptick.

"One of the myths," Mr. Moore said, "is that certain customers think it's the dealers — me — that is adjusting the prices up, and really it starts with geopolitical issues, it starts with the market, the oil and gasoline futures that are traded on the open market."

One result of British Petroleum's Deep Water Horizon mess over in the gulf last year — the largest offshore oil spill in U.S. history — seems to have been...higher gas prices.

So there's no telling what that little matter of some folks trying to get an upgrade from their latest pharaoh — er, dictator — is going to cost us.

Egypt is home of the Suez Canal. Through it, eight percent of the world's seaborne goods flow. Including a lot of oil.

That brings to mind the lines extending for blocks from gasoline stations as part of the 1973 oil crisis. And when rationing related to the 1979 energy crisis led to incidents of violence.

That was back when a friend's Honda Civic was basically a glove compartment on wheels but easily yielded 40-plus miles per gallon in city driving, 50- to 60-odd on the highway.

Today, notwithstanding Toyota's greeny, 50-70 combined m.p.g. Prius, cars that holler "great gas mileage" don't deliver half that.

So little m.p.g. progress in four decades? That don't impress me much.

It's one reason I've been scheming on a Smart Car ever since I saw Le Car cruising around Paris. And don't get me started on why we don't have more European-style train travel and other quality public transportation. That's a rant for another column.

Forgive me if I seem a bit obsessed. It's just that we pay more for living in the only state that on a recent day had no snow. Tourists get to help finance Florida, of course. And part of that is the price of gas.

Which got me thinking about reduced-priced fuel cards for residents. But nah, imagine the illicit market in those. ("Psst — Hey fella, wanna cop a buncha gas cards real cheap?")

There are serious social and geopolitical implications in what's unfolding in Egypt. People getting their freedom can be messy.

But that'll all be worked out way above my pay grade. What's really important here is: gas prices.

OK, I confess I jest. Just a tad though, because I can envision those gas-pump dials whirring: to 3.99. To 4.99. To 5.99. To — yikes! — 6.99.

And let's not forget the ubiquitous additional .9 cents.

Yet while some of us in the U.S. are whining, people elsewhere (Cairo, perhaps?) already are paying those amounts.

Does anybody really know what a fair gas price is? Does anybody really care?

Most of us know only that to get up and go, we gotta have it.

Thus my mantra (with apology to the Stones): "It's not about Mubarak. It's the gas, gas, gas." ■

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OPINION

Egypt's ambiguous revolution



richLOWRY

Special to Florida Weekly

Every revolution against autocracy is initially stirring. Who wouldn't have cheered when Louis XVI was forced to convene the Estates General, or when a liberal provisional government took over from Czar Nicholas, or when the rank and file of the Shah's army refused to fire on protesters in the streets?

All these inspiring events were mere prelude to catastrophe, making the years 1789, 1917 and 1979 synonymous with the onset of tyranny and bloodshed.

This is why our applause at the imminent political demise of Egypt's Hosni Mubarak should be decidedly provisional. For all his ruinous failings and disgusting crimes, we may miss him when he's gone.

In Cairo in 2005, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice famously said that we had "pursued stability at the expense of democracy in this region here in the Middle East — and we achieved neither." Her statement is now hailed as prescient, but it was wrong by any

reasonable standard.

During the first three decades of Israel's existence, Egypt fought wars with the Jewish state in 1948, 1956, 1967 and 1973. Since the beginning of Hosni Mubarak's presidency in 1981, there have been none. Most of the credit goes to Anwar Sadat, who signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1979 that cost him his life. Yet, a 30-year peace between the largest, most important Arab state and Israel is no small feat of stability.

As for democracy, we didn't actively trade it for order, but took Egyptian political culture as we found it. After decades of British occupation, the revolution of 1952 eventually gave rise to Gamal Abdel Nasser. Historian David Pryce-Jones calls him "the first Arab to have created a police state," complete with the "whole grim and bloody apparatus of control through bureaucratic terror."

Nasser died in 1970, but his system lived on. Egypt has been ruled by emergency decree almost continuously since 1967. The Egyptian police state didn't exist because of American support (initially it was pro-Soviet); we supported it because it existed, and over time became pro-American.

What now? It is heartening to see Egyptians revolt against the indignities

and misery visited upon them by Mubarak. But marches and riots — and even elections — are one thing. Creating a functioning, liberal democracy is quite another.

Egypt has no experience with true constitutional democracy, and its strongest institution is the relatively Westernized military. We should urge Mubarak to leave without attempting a crackdown that will further radicalize the streets and risk splintering the army (the meltdown of the Iranian army in 1979 was a boon to the ayatollahs). Then, with luck, the military can manage a gradual transition to a more open political system.

The Bush administration undertook a push for democratization that created a tentative democracy at a great cost in Iraq, but otherwise petered out. Weirdly, it may be that the slimy anti-American info-activist Julian Assange, by leaking documents detailing the extravagant corruption of Tunisia's since-deposed dictator, has inadvertently done more to stoke an Arab Spring.

We know how hopeful it is now in its early days; we don't know how it's going to turn out. ■

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

GUEST OPINION

When corporations choose despots over democracy



amyGOODMAN

Special to Florida Weekly

"People holding a sign 'To: America. From: the Egyptian People. Stop supporting Mubarak. It's over!' so tweeted my brave colleague, Democracy Now! senior producer Sharif Abdel Kouddous, from the streets of Cairo.

More than 2 million people rallied throughout Egypt Tuesday, most of them crowded into Cairo's Tahrir Square. Tahrir, which means "liberation" in Arabic, has become the epicenter of what appears to be a largely spontaneous, leaderless revolution in this, the most populous nation in the Middle East. Defying a military curfew, this incredible uprising has been driven by young Egyptians, who comprise a majority of the 80 million citizens. Twitter and Facebook, and SMS text messaging on cell phones, have helped this new generation to link up and organize, despite living under a U.S.-supported dictatorship for the past three decades. In response, the Mubarak regime, with the help of U.S. and European corporations, has shut down the Internet and curtailed cellular service, plunging Egypt into digital darkness. Despite the shutdown, as media activist and professor of communications C.W. Anderson told me, "people make revolutions, not technology."

The demands are chanted through the streets for democracy, for self-determination. Sharif headed to Egypt Friday night, into uncertain terrain. The hated Interior Ministry security forces, the black-shirted police loyal to President Hosni Mubarak, were beating and killing people, arresting journalists, and smashing and confiscat-

ing cameras.

On Saturday morning, Sharif went to Tahrir Square. Despite the SMS and Internet blackout, Sharif, a talented journalist and technical whiz, figured out a workaround, and was soon tweeting out of Tahrir: "Amazing scene: three tanks roll by with a crowd of people riding atop each one. Chanting 'Hosni Mubarak out!'"

Egypt has been the second-largest recipient of U.S. foreign aid for decades, following Israel (not counting the funds expended on the wars and occupations of Iraq and Afghanistan). Mubarak's regime has received roughly \$2 billion per year since coming to power, overwhelmingly for the military.

Where has the money gone? Mostly to U.S. corporations. I asked William Hartung of the New America Foundation to explain:

"It's a form of corporate welfare for companies like Lockheed Martin and General Dynamics, because it goes to Egypt, then it comes back for F-16 aircraft, for M-1 tanks, for aircraft engines, for all kinds of missiles, for guns, for tear-gas canisters (from) a company called Combined Systems International, which actually has its name on the side of the canisters that have been found on the streets there."

Hartung just published a new book, "Prophets of War: Lockheed Martin and the Making of the Military-Industrial Complex." He went on: "Lockheed Martin has been the leader in deals worth \$3.8 billion over that period of the last 10 years; General Dynamics, \$2.5 billion for tanks; Boeing, \$1.7 billion for missiles, for helicopters; Raytheon for all manner of missiles for the armed forces. So, basically, this is a key element in propping up the regime, but a lot of the money is basically recycled. Taxpayers could just as easily be

giving it directly to Lockheed Martin or General Dynamics."

Likewise, Egypt's Internet and cell phone "kill switch" was enabled only through collaboration with corporations. U.K.-based Vodafone, a global cellular-phone giant (which owns 45 percent of Verizon Wireless in the U.S.) attempted to justify its actions in a press release, "It has been clear to us that there were no legal or practical options open to Vodafone ... but to comply with the demands of the authorities."

Narus, a U.S. subsidiary of Boeing Corp., sold Egypt equipment to allow "deep packet inspection," according to Tim Karr of the media policy group Free Press. Karr said the Narus technology "allows the Egyptian telecommunications companies ... to look at texting via cell phones, and to identify the sort of dissident voices that are out there. ... It also gives them the technology to geographically locate them and track them down."

Mubarak has pledged not to run for reelection come September. But the people of Egypt demand he leave now. How has he lasted 30 years? Maybe that's best explained by a warning from a U.S. Army general 50 years ago, President Dwight D. Eisenhower. He said, "We must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex."

That deadly complex is not only a danger to democracy at home, but when shoring up despots abroad. ■

— 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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15 MINUTES

Plenty of heart in Florida Classical classes for pint-sized ballerinas

BY MARY JANE FINE
mjfine@floridaweekly.com

Miss Jessica gathers them into a circle, a wide one to encompass all nine little girls. In their black leotards and pale-pink tights, they look like a scene from "Honey, I Shrank the Ballerinas." They wear pink ballet shoes held on by pink elastic straps across the instep. Their hair is pulled tightly back from their faces, in ponytails and buns and braids. They sit on a gray, marley-vinyl floor, arm's-length apart, feet pointed toward the center. Toes pointed, too, a must for maybe-future-ballerinas. "NICE feet," Miss Jessica reminds them. No "NAUGHTY feet," with ankles flexed and toes aimed at the ceiling.

These are Level III dancers, 5 and 6 and 7 years old. Not the Baby Ballerinas of 3 and 4. Not the Early Sophisticates of 8 and 9 and 10. This class has a language all its own, a jargon to translate ballet into child-speak.

Miss Jessica is fluent.

"One slice of pizza, please" means heels-together-feet-apart-pizza-slice-wide. (Translation: First Position.) "Zip the zipper" means zip-that-pretend-jacket-down-and-up-so-your-tummy-is-sucked-in. (Translation: Ramrod-straight posture.) And NICE-feet, of course. A ballet essential.

The ballet school at Florida Classical

Ballet Theatre in Palm Beach Gardens operates with a philosophy that blends art and heart. It opened 19 years ago because its founder and artistic director, Colleen Smith, felt the need.

"I just couldn't find a place where I wanted to teach," says Ms. Smith. "I feel like, in the dance world, it can be really abusive, emotionally. It's not healthy. And I know because I lived it."

She lived it as a dance student and a professional. Her own training was lacking, she came to believe, even though it led her to dance for the Tulsa Ballet Theatre and the New Dance Ensemble in Ohio and even, for a summer, for the acclaimed Joffrey Ballet. Teaching came easily and early. Too early, she thinks, now that she has 34 years behind her, years that began when she was just 16.

"I don't know that I was qualified to teach when I was 16," she says, "but somebody let me. I would never let a 16-year-old teach for me." Teachers here must complete teacher training. And be, first, her friend. That way, she knows them and can trust them.

Miss Jessica — Jessica Haley — is one of her teachers, a graduate of the school and a student at FAU, pursuing a degree in exercise science and health promotion. She teaches four classes a week, including 3- and 4-year-olds. With dancers this young, teaching is about so much more

than dancing.

"It takes a lot of energy," Miss Jessica says. "They all have different personalities. Some are more focused. They're set and determined, and they push themselves. The hardest part? Picking your battles. Sometimes, it's exposure to steps. Sometimes, it's discipline and behavior. Paying attention. Being cautious of your friends."

And sometimes, she sees genuine talent. "I have this one 4-year-old," Miss Jessica says. "She watches ballet videos at home all the time. She just has this . . . artistry. And she's FOUR!"

On this day, artistry is less apparent, effort more so. The afternoon's first exercise is the jellybean one. Legs stretched apart as far as tendons and ligaments allow, a near side-split. Then, "Everybody, get out your magic jelly bean jar," Miss Jessica instructs. "Now, take out one jellybean." Nine little dancers concentrate: focused, unsmiling. They mime reaching into a jar, extracting a tiny bean between thumb and forefinger, placing it on their right kneecap. "Now, take out another jellybean." Repeat. Repeat. But, this time, left kneecap.

"Now, what happens if my knees go like this?" Miss Jessica asks, letting her straight-to-the-side legs tip inward, toward the circle's center.

"It fell off!" one voice pipes up.

"Right, so keep your legs straight, knees like this," Miss Jessica says, snapping her own back into position. She is gentle, aware of not pushing them too much at so young an age. A full First Position, she says, might overtax ankles not yet fully developed.

"How do you get anything out of anybody, physically, if you're not nurturing them?" asks Colleen Smith. Her school has 201 students, all of whom are nurtured, some of whom — like Miss Jessica — graduate and go on to teach or to dance in the company Ms. Smith founded a decade ago. The company is rehearsing for a March 25 and 26 production of "Don Quixote." Ms. Smith is concerned about turnout — the audience variety, not the ballet stance.

"If we're doing 'Cinderella,' we sell lots of tickets," she says. "If we're doing 'The Nutcracker,' we sell lots of tickets. If we're doing 'Sleeping Beauty,' we sell lots of tickets. But if it's 'Coppelia' or 'Giselle' or 'Don Quixote,' we don't. I wish I could rename everything 'Rapunzel.' We did 'Giselle,' and it was so beautiful last year, and it was so undersold: only 700 of 2,200 seats."

Still, half of the company's money comes from ticket sales and a significant amount from small donations. "I'd rather have a lot of \$100 donations from people who come to see us than \$1,000 plopped down by someone who never



MARY JANE FINE / FLORIDA WEEKLY
Dancers in the class don red skirts and dance to "Swan Lake" at the end of each session.

comes to see us."

Awareness is key to building an audience. People need to know a company exists, and that performances are worth their time and money. "They keep calling us an 'emerging' company," Ms. Smith says. "We've been emerging for 10 years."

The company enjoys a loyal following, which she hopes will expand beyond its regulars, especially as the economy improves. "Everybody's struggling," she says. "It's a very expensive art form to produce." And, despite everyone's financial worries, the school is growing; it added a new class and five new students just last week.

The students in Miss Jessica's class — Morgan and Karys and Olivia and Gabrielle and Madison and Madeleine and Lucila and Sophia and Elle — twirl and leap, point their toes or forget to point them, balance on one leg or wobble and sway. They are mermaids one minute, lying on their tummies; kitty-cats the next, backs arched. They call out three-syllable words — CAR-NI-VAL and VAL-EN-TINE — to help count off: plié and jump and clap-hands.

"Verrrry nice!" their teacher says. She says it often. "Verrrry nice!" she tells Madeleine, whose legs are very straight, whose toes are very pointed in a not-so-easy developé leap.

Then, at the end of class, Miss Jessica puts "Swan Lake" on the CD player and her little dancers don red tulle skirts, maybe the very best part of the day. And for those final few moments, there is nothing but lilting music and petite bourré steps and gliding turns and arms that flutter like swans' wings because, in the ballet, this is when the maidens turn back into swans and return to the forest.

After they're done, after they take their curtsy, after they return their handkerchief-hem skirts, Miss Jessica sticks a ladybug sticker on the back of each girl's hand, and they line up straight at the barre — "Ballet bags over your shoulders, please" — and file out of the studio, little girls once more. ■



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ARTIGRAS

From page 1

photography.

"When it comes to photography, there are so many photographers. When you're trying to do realism, everybody's realism is the same building," Mr. Archer says. "It's hard to do something that a thousand people haven't done before you. But I do think my stuff looks different from everyone else's."

For the Archers, art is a second career.

"I was a phys-ed teacher and my husband was an engineer at Pratt & Whitney and we work well together," Mrs. Archer says. "He does all my giclee prints. The computer and computer printing have pulled many of the arts together. It all goes through the digital darkroom."

The technology is one thing that has changed the world of photography for Dave Archer.

"I started off with a traditional darkroom with chemicals and enlarger. Nobody wants to even go back to that," Mr. Archer says. "This new technology is so much faster and probably is a better product and it looks better."

But Mike Bacon is one photographer who has not given in to the new technology.

"You caught me on my way out of the darkroom," Mr. Bacon says when a reporter calls.

Mr. Bacon, who grew up in North Palm Beach, is known for the deeply saturated color of his nature and underwater photography.

"Amazingly enough, I still shoot film," he says. "I'm probably the last photographer who does it this way."

His camera? "My underwater camera is a Nikon F that I bought used 31 years ago. I'm not really set up to print digital. I still do it the old-fashioned way."

That old-fashioned approach has taken him around the globe.

"I've been to every continent. Don't know how many countries," he says. "And I love underwater photography. If it doesn't turn out, it doesn't matter because at least I've had a great time."

His favorite dive sites? "If you want to pursue photography, it's Papua New Guinea, the Red Sea, Fiji and the Solomon Islands. Micronesia — that whole South Pacific chain of islands.

"All the corals are just vibrantly colored. It's just absolutely fabulous."

The colors are the draw for painter Nancy Tilles.

"Every time I work with the color, another color next to another color is always a bit of a surprise," Ms. Tilles says. "I will know what color I am looking for and something else helps. And that's serendipity."

Ms. Tilles says her father inspired her to become an artist.

"My dad was an artist at the Art Student League in New York," she says. "He never made a career of it but he was always drawing on napkins. And I was always bringing my work to him for approval."

She came back to her art full-time as an adult.

"I married, had children, had a career as a graphic artist at The Palm Beach Post. ... Then there was a time I was able to quit and started taking art classes again and started painting again," she says.

But Ms. Tilles didn't know how to make a living from her work.

"After a couple of years I wanted to sell my work and didn't know how to do it," she says. "Then a couple of friends showed me that there were art festivals around. Then I bought my

tent — can't really set up without the tent. ... I was very lucky to have a mentor who allowed me to borrow her tent, then I was able to go ahead and buy my own."

Ms. Tilles' works aren't just at art festivals.

"Right now, I have my work displayed in Wellington at their new governmental building. And I also have a peacock in a show at Palm Beach International Airport. I have some work in the Hurricane Cafe and at Palm Beach Jewelers," she says. "The owner wanted an underwater scene for his shop to harmonize with nautical jewelry."

I also just recently had my turtles — "Loggerhead Sea Journey" — up at Gallery 14 in Vero Beach and it's being considered for purchase by the Harbor Branch [Oceanographic Institute]."

Laurie Snow Hein also started painting professionally as an adult.

Ms. Hein, who is known for her Florida landscapes and botanicals, went to high school in Clewiston and took classes with her grandmother at the Lantana studio of noted illustrator Graham Ingels.

"He didn't like to work with children, but I worked with him all the way through high school," Ms. Hein says. "When I was 16, he had too many students, so he allowed me to teach some of his students."

That continued beyond high school.

"When I went off and got married, I came back home and I would teach. It was good money," she says. "I started making my living as an artist when I turned 40. When my husband lost his job as a tennis pro, I started doing portraits."

It wasn't easy at first.

"I had to borrow money to take an ad in (a) magazine. It cost me \$5,000. No response. I was dying in my shoes. Ran a second ad, still nothing. A third ad, and suddenly I had too much work," she says.

And one commission started a 20-year commitment with doing portraits in Louisiana.

"It just continued to snowball," Ms. Hein says. "That's what God meant me to do."

And the next generation is creating art as well.

"I've got six children. My son Carl can draw beautifully. Now he's a magician. My daughter Lauren is going to Furman University to learn art and drama. She exhibited last year at ArtiGras as a new and emerging artist. She paints — she's predominantly painting nudes."

Local artists say setting up at ArtiGras is a no-brainer.

"ArtiGras was one of my favorites," says Nancy Tilles. "I even went as far as Virginia Beach, then made the financial decision to stay close to home. You ever know how well you're going to do at a festival. Going out of town, you can spend a thousand dollars just on the travel." ■

in the know

>> ArtiGras is 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Feb. 19, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Feb. 20 and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Feb. 21 at Abacoa Town Center, on Central Boulevard and University Drive just north of Donald Ross Road in Jupiter. Admission is \$6 advance, \$10 at the gate; free for children 12 and under. Advance tickets are available at Ticketmaster outlets, The Gardens Mall information desk, the Maltz Jupiter Theatre box office, Roger Dean Stadium box office and online at www.artigras.org. Free parking is available. Satellite parking lots are available at Dwyer High School and Jupiter Middle School. Each of these lots is accessible from Military Trail. Free shuttles run every 5 minutes to and from the lots to festival gates. Call 748-3946. On the web artigras.org.



COURTESY PHOTO

Dave Archer and Troll

Dave Archer

Palm Beach Gardens
Medium: Photography

■ **How long have you been doing photography?** "Probably since I was as kid. Not as a business at first."

■ **How long you have been setting up at ArtiGras?** "Since the third ArtiGras. It was held at North Palm Beach Country Club — on the driving range. It's been off and on. I don't try to do every show there is. I skip around. Throughout the '90s, it was part time, now it's all I do."

■ **What is most satisfying about your work?** "It's probably two spots. One is when you capture the image it always makes you feel good. And when you finally see a print that you like. It doesn't always happen on a one-to-one basis. But only a handful only makes you feel good when they're printed."

Sue Archer

Palm Beach Gardens
Medium: Watercolor

■ **How long have you been painting?** Since 1980. As a business since 1985.

■ **How long have you been setting up at ArtiGras?**

"Since it started. Since it was on the golf course over in North Palm Beach. That's where it started. I've done most of them."

■ **What is most satisfying about your work?** "I took classes. I have degrees in several other things. Went to Palm Beach Junior College and took drawing, design and color theory, then went off on my own into watercolor. I liked showing strong light on objects in

close-up imagery. I've just worked on the best way of showing it for my paintings and that is what I teach when I do workshops."

Mike Bacon

Palm Beach Gardens
Medium: Photography

■ **How long have you been shooting?** "I've been a professional photographer for 31 years."

■ **How long you have been setting up at ArtiGras?** "More than 20 years."

■ **What is most satisfying about your work?** "I think it gives me the opportunity to share the wonderful experiences that others can't share. Photography is just a way to share that with other people."



BACON

Laurie Snow Hein

Palm Beach Gardens
Medium: Oil and teach in all media

■ **How long have you been painting?** "Close to 50 years. I've been painting and doing commission work since age 13."

■ **How long you have been setting up at ArtiGras?** "More than 10 years."

■ **What is most satisfying about your work?** "When I'm painting, I'm in another time warp. No matter what else is going on in my life, nothing else exists. The next best reward is when someone likes my work and buys it."



HEIN



ARCHER



COURTESY PHOTO

Mike Bacon's *Crown Jellyfish*, above and *Percula Clownfish*, right.



Philippe Laine

Palm Beach Gardens
Medium: Fiber arts
“I specialize in original work on silk. It’s a kind of watercolor. I used to do paintings. Now I specialize in lampshades, pillows and funky ties. They’re all original. I like to do the ties.”

■ **How long have you been creating the items?** “Since 1987. I used to work for Club Med. They had a workshop, then I started doing it in my down time.”

■ **How long have you been setting up at ArtiGras?** “I have been doing more it than 10 years. And I travel from May to the end of October doing shows, up North in Michigan and Ohio.”

■ **What is most satisfying about your work?** “Being self-employed and to go and decide where I am going to go with no pressure.”

Nancy Tilles

Palm Beach Gardens
Medium: Oil

■ **How long have you been painting?** “Since about 1998.”

■ **How long have you been setting up at ArtiGras?** “I’ve been doing ArtiGras about seven years.”

■ **What is most satisfying about your work?** “Working with the color is the most exciting thing. Every time I work with the color, another color next to another color is always a bit of a surprise. I will know what color I am looking for and something

else helps. And that’s serendipity.”

Beth Williams

Palm Beach Gardens
Medium: Acrylic and mixed media

■ **How long have you been painting?** “On canvas, about 10 years. Prior to that, I was doing faux finishes and murals at art shows in North Carolina.”

■ **How long you have been setting up at ArtiGras?** “This is my fourth year.”

■ **What is most satisfying about your work?** “It’s that it’s all painted out of emotion. It’s kind of like a roller coaster and a surprise to see the finished product.”

in the know

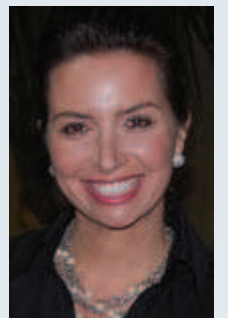


Poster artist looked to sea for inspiration

When ArtiGras officials approached Beth Williams about creating the 2011 poster, she made one thing clear: She didn’t want to paint a palm tree.

“They first told me, could I paint a palm tree scene. I looked at the previous years — holy cats. But can we break the repetitive string?” she asked.

“What represents Florida more than sea turtles?” she says. “We so hard to protect them. It’s just such a gentle creature and is so South Florida to me.”



She took her mixed-media turtle to another level, and painted its shell to look like a medalion, or a badge of honor.

“Let it show all the places he’s been,” Ms. Williams says. “I decorated him up. He’s so silent, so gentle. I think he looks pretty smart.”

Ms. Williams also teaches painting classes at the Ritz-Carlton in Jupiter, and when it comes to creativity, she isn’t the only artist in her family.

“My three kids are completely artistic,” she says. “They have no choice and they embrace it. It only thrills me to see what they’ll teach me.”

Painting is not difficult for her, either. “I always make a big joke. People always say I make it look so easy. But I don’t sew. I don’t quilt,” she says. “This is what I do. I just love it.”

And she remains in awe that she can earn a living doing something she loves so much. “With art, you have to be humble pie. When people open their wallets and pay for it, especially in these times, that knocks my knees out.”

— Scott Simmons



COURTESY PHOTO

Nancy Tilles



COURTESY PHOTO

Sue Archer painting

PET TALES

Show your love

Want a happy pet?
Give attention, exercise
and preventive care

BY GINA SPADAFOR
Universal Press Syndicate

Study after study shows that people are not only crazy about pets, but they also love to spend money on them — even when money is tight.

We're certainly not arguing against buying that perfect dog collar or cat toy, but we do want you to know that you don't have to buy a lot of things for your pets to care for them well.

In fact, some of the best gifts you can give your pet don't cost any money at all and require only your attention. In this week's Valentine's Day spirit of giving the best to those we love, we offer a few suggestions that will make you and your pet happier and healthier — and may even save you money in the long run.

The gift of health. Preventive veterinary care can spare your pet from suffering and may also catch little problems before they become life-threatening (and expensive). Develop a healthy relationship with your pet's veterinarian, starting with regular "well-pet" examinations. These visits are no longer about "shots" — most vaccinations are no longer recommended on an



COURTESY PHOTO

The effort put into caring for a pet is returned in love.

annual basis — but rather about catching and correcting problems as they develop. A dental examination is part of that well-pet visit, and follow-up preventive care may require a dental cleaning under anesthesia. A healthy mouth not only keeps your pet free of pain — imagine eating with rotting teeth and infected gums — but also spares your pet's internal organs from struggling to combat the shower of bacteria from an infected mouth.

The gift of fitness. By now we've all read the news that pets have their own obesity crisis. The reasons are similar to ours — too much food and not enough exercise. But pets can't open the refrigerator on their own or hit the drive-through: They need our help to get fat. Cut back on the treats, and get your pet moving. You can use your dog's enthusiasm for a daily walk to help

get yourself in shape, too, which is the message of "Fitness Unleashed: A Dog and Owner's Guide to Losing Weight and Gaining Health Together" (Three Rivers Press), Dr. Becker's book with human physician Dr. Robert Kushner.

The gift of time. Many pets spend most of their lives alone, while our busy lives keep us from home. While much of this alone time is unavoidable — someone has to work for food and shelter, right? — some simple changes will give you more time with your pet. Skip some of your TV or computer time, and play fetch with your dog or get out the laser pointer for your cat. Look for opportunities to include your dog on family outings.

The gift of training. A well-trained pet has a better, closer relationship with his owner because they speak a common language and spend more time together. If your pet has behavior problems — from house-training to aggression, from leash-pulling to furniture-destruction — ask your veterinarian for a referral to a local trainer or behaviorist.

The gift of safety. Be sure your home offers a safe, secure environment for your pet. Inside the house, garage and basement, keep cleaning supplies and other troublesome household chemicals out of reach, and clean up spills promptly. Cats are drawn to warm spots, so make sure to keep the door on your clothes dryer shut. Choose plants inside and out that aren't toxic. Finally, because your pet can become lost even with the most careful prevention, be sure your pet has a collar with current ID, and a microchip as a backup.

Got all the basics covered? Good for you! You can now celebrate by going out and buying your pet something special, just because. ■

Pets of the Week



>>Spot is a 1-year-old male pit bull terrier. He is fun and frisky and would be an excellent running partner. He would benefit from the free structured training lessons offered at Peggy Adams.



>>Alley is an 8-year-old spayed female domestic short hair cat. She is friendly and petite. She is available for the senior-to-senior adoption program; adopters 55 and older pay no adoption fee.

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.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD

DISTRIBUTED BY UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Questionable regulations

► William MacDonald, restricted by state law wherever he and his wife relocate to because he is a "registered sex offender," told *The New York Times* in January that his case is particularly "galling," in that his only crime was violating Virginia law by having oral sex with consenting adults, which most legal scholars believe is not a crime (following a 2003 U.S. Supreme Court

decision). (Virginia still believes that its law is valid.)

► Tennessee, the "second-fattest" state, according to a recent foundation report, continues to pay for obese Medicaid recipients to have bariatric surgery (at an average cost of about \$2,000), but to deny coverage for an overweight person to consult, even once, with a dietitian. ■

Unclear on the concept

► From a December memo to paramedics in Edmonton, Alberta, by Alberta Health Services: Drivers should "respond within the posted speed limits even when responding with lights and siren." "Our job is to save lives," AHS wrote, "not put them in jeopardy." According to drivers interviewed by Canadian Broadcasting Corporation News, police have been issuing tickets to drivers on emergencies if they speed or go through red lights.

► In January, Thalia Surf Shop of Laguna Beach, Calif. (named by *OC Weekly* in 2009 as Orange County's best), ran a special Martin Luther King Jr. promotion featuring "20 Percent Off All Black Products," illustrated with a doctored photograph of Dr. King, himself, in one of the shop's finest wet suits (black, of course). (Following some quick, bad publicity, the shop's management apologized.) ■

Health-care horror

► Vietnam veteran Ronald Flanagan, in the midst of expensive treatment for bone cancer, had his medical insurance canceled in January because his wife mistakenly keyed in a "7" instead of a "9" in the "cents" space while paying the couple's regular premium online, leaving the Flanagans 2 cents short. Said the administrator, Ceridian

COBRA Services, that remittance "fit into the definition in the regulations of 'insufficient payment'" and allows termination. (Ceridian said it warned the Flanagans before cancellation, but Ron Flanagan said the "warning" was just an ordinary billing statement that did not draw his attention.) ■

First things first

► As of early November, 150 people had been killed by the 2-week-old, erupting Mount Merapi volcano in Central Java, Indonesia, and the government had created shelters in stadiums and public halls for 300,000 jammed-together evacuees. By that time, however, some had petitioned authorities to open up private shelter locations so that the displaced could attend to certain romantic, biological needs. Apparently some evacuees had become so frisky that they had left the shelter and returned to their homes in the danger zone just so they could have sex.

► Jerrold Winiecki, 56, was lifted

into an ambulance on Dec. 8 for the 25-minute ride to a hospital in a Minneapolis suburb, after paramedics were unable to keep his airway fully open because of infection. Minutes later, the struggling-to-breathe Mr. Winiecki noticed the ambulance stopping at a familiar location enroute — a Subway sandwich shop near his home, thus increasing his distress. The stop was brief; Mr. Winiecki later recovered; and doctors said the ambulance ride was not life-threatening. The ambulance company said proper protocols were met, in that the driver did not stop for food but to use a restroom because of diarrhea. ■

Incentive plans

► It was a prestigious hospital on a worthy mission (to recruit hard-to-match bone marrow donors to beef up dwindling supplies), but UMass Memorial Medical Center (Worcester, Mass.) went hardcore: hiring young female models in short skirts to flirt with men at New Hampshire shopping centers to entice them to give DNA swabs for possible matches. Complaints piled up because state law requires insurance providers to cover the tests, at \$4,000 for each swab submitted by the love-struck flirtees, and the hospital recent-

ly dropped the program, according to a December *New York Times* report.

► In December, McCaskey East High School in Lancaster, Pa., established a dynamic new program to improve their students' educational outcomes: racial segregation. At least three of the 11 junior class homerooms were designated as black-only with black girls "mentored" during homeroom period by black female teachers and black boys mentored by black male teachers (on the theory that kids will learn more from people who look like them). ■

Mounts Botanical hosts workday, demonstrations

The Friends of Mounts Botanical Garden is seeking volunteers for its second annual workday, sponsored by the Florida Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture.

The free public event will feature tree care demonstrations by professionals and their respective companies on Feb. 12, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend and observe.

Mounts Botanical Garden is Palm Beach County's oldest and largest public garden. Mounts displays tropical and subtropical plants from around the world, including plants native to Florida, exotic trees, tropical fruit, herbs, citrus, palms and more. As a component of the Palm Beach County Cooperative Extension Service, and through its affiliation with the University of Florida, Mounts is the place to connect with Extension Horticulturists, Master Gardeners, the Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Program, and professional horticultural advisors. In addition, Mounts offers a variety of horticultural classes and workshops.

Located at 531 N. Military Trail in West Palm Beach, Mounts is open Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. (Closed on all county-observed holidays.) The suggested donation for entry to the garden is \$5 per person. For more information, call 233-757 or mounts.org. ■

An absentee ballot may be requested in person at any one of the supervisor's offices, in writing, over the telephone, or by completing an on-line application at pbcelections.org. Telephone, written or facsimile requests should be directed to Supervisor of Elections Main Office, P.O. Box 22309 West Palm Beach, 33416; call 656-6200; fax 656-6220 or Northeast County Courthouse Branch Office, 3188 PGA Blvd. Room #2401 Palm Beach Gardens, 33410; call 624-6555; fax: 624-6572.

For more information, visit the supervisor of elections website at pbcelections.org. ■

Absentee voters reminded to request ballots

Voters in Palm Beach Gardens are reminded by Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections Susan Bucher that voters must make new request for absentee ballots, even those who signed up for the ballots last year.

Voters who expect to vote by absentee ballot in the March 8 municipal election must request a ballot from the supervisor of elections office. The voted and signed ballot must be received by the main office of the supervisor of elections by 7 p.m. on Election Day in order to be counted. Branch offices close at 5 p.m. on Election Day and ballots cannot be turned in at the polls.

Telephone, written or facsimile requests should be directed to Supervisor of Elections Main Office, P.O. Box 22309 West Palm Beach, 33416; call 656-6200; fax 656-6220 or Northeast County Courthouse Branch Office, 3188 PGA Blvd. Room #2401 Palm Beach Gardens, 33410; call 624-6555; fax: 624-6572.

For more information, visit the supervisor of elections website at pbcelections.org. ■

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Spaces are \$25 each. Refreshments will be available for purchase. See pbgfl.com or call 630-1100. ■

Send us your news

Do you have news for *Florida Weekly*?

Send your items to pbnews@floridaweekly.com.

Or use snail mail and send to Editor Betty Wells, Florida Weekly, 11380 Prosperity Farms Rd., Suite 103, Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. 33410. ■

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HEALTHY LIVING

Yes, men, there is a way to do Valentine's Day right



lindaLIPSHUTZ
llipshutz@floridaweekly.com

There is a handful of men who look forward to Valentine's Day, claiming it's a wonderful occasion designated to express heartfelt feelings to their special person.

But if you are like so many men that I know, you might feel that this holiday unfairly puts you on the spot. This is the day that obligates you to not only clarify the intensity of your feelings, but also to come through for your lady in a way that meets (and exceeds) her expectations. The annoying pressure.

It's hard to go anywhere this time of year without being accosted by garish red satin and lace displays adorned with cupids: imploring you to purchase lavish greeting cards, jewelry, lingerie and chocolates for your sweetheart. It's no wonder that so many men cynically proclaim that Valentine's Day has become a commercialized conspiracy imposed on the public by retailers, restaurants and Hallmark, obligating them to shell out too much money to outdo each other (in an attempt to please their sometime's unappreciative mate.) Some men are resentful that no matter how much effort they put in they just can't seem to get it right.

Women will often say that what the man gives them is not very important. It's the way that he speaks to her and treats her that matters the most.

OK, I'll restate that. Most women are thrilled when the man in her life picks out something sentimental that also is

realistic in the budget.

However, if you ask most of us, we will say, yes it's wonderful to receive a thoughtful gift, but what we really want is to be listened to and understood.

Oh, that again. Yes, that again. Most women are not nearly as complicated as our men like to make us. (I'll insert my disclaimer right now, so I get it out of the way. I am about to speak in generalizations that obviously do not apply to everyone. So if you are in that minority, please accept my apologies and disregard.)

What does a woman mean when she says that she just wants to be listened to and understood? Does it mean that she is unhappy with you and is blaming you for all of her problems? Does it mean that she wants you to solve her problems for her?

A lot of the men I speak to feel put on the spot when their partner is unhappy or if she complains about some aspect of her day. Men often perceive her unhappiness as blaming and critical. To them it's as if she said: "You've let me down. You'll never come through for me."

Believing that, a lot of men feel tremendous pressure to figure out the exact words they can say that will be meaningful and make a true difference. And in frustration, they will put their hands in the air in defeat because they don't believe that there is anything they can say or do that will relieve their loved one's stress.

The irony is that the solution is often much simpler than one would expect. In most cases, a woman is not expecting her partner to have something specific or brilliant to say. Rather, she is looking for a relationship that feels totally safe. Most women I speak to state: If only he would

hug me when I'm hurting and look deep into my eyes, saying some variation of: "Sweetheart, I feel terrible that you had such a tough day. You can count on me. I'm here for you, and will listen carefully to whatever matters to you."

Having said the above, the following statements are sure-fire ways to get her back up and to put her on the defensive.

"You think you had a tough day? That's nothing! My day was worse. Let me tell you what happened to me." Life is not a contest about who has it the toughest.

"You're being ridiculous. It's no big deal." No one likes to feel dismissed or diminished by their partner.

All you did today was stay at home with the kids and had lunch with your girlfriends. What are you complaining about?" The worst thing that you can do is trivialize the importance of your partner's responsibilities. When you imply that your work is much more demanding you inject a tone of superiority into your relationship that gets in the way.

Now, here's something big that will take her quite by surprise. Make a short list of a handful of things that you can do that will put a smile on her face. Don't you dare say you can't think of anything. I can assure you that you more than anyone else in the world know what you can do that would please her. But the reality is, too much of the time we are stubborn or spiteful and will not do the very things that truly makes a difference with our partner.

Let's suppose you called your wife unexpectedly at work and said "I know that you have a crazy day today. I'll make sure to have dinner waiting for you. Can't wait to see you later." Would she be shocked?

What if you complimented her in front of your friends? Would she be beaming?

What if you were to complete the list of chores she's been nagging you to take care of, without her asking again?

And then if you added: "Sweetheart, I know you have so many things to do. Please tell me what I can do that would make your life easier?" Would she be shocked? Maybe? Suspicious? Probably. But if you come through for her like this on a regular basis, you may set in motion a positive spiral of goodwill.

Please don't think that this is some form of sentimental drivel, because this is actually powerful stuff. The woman in your life is actually just looking for the safety and security of knowing that she can speak to you about anything that is important to her, and that you will not judge, ridicule or ignore her.

When we feel truly soothed and cared about, we can feel free to let down our guard and let another person in. That is the environment where true intimacy flourishes.

(By the way, I am well aware that this article addresses the woman's point of view. I am mindful that a lot of men might take issue and see this differently. I would appreciate hearing from you at llipshutz@floridaweekly.com so I can present the other side.) ■

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

GIVING

Lingering effect from oil spill a challenge for charities



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



Community Foundation
FOR PALM BEACH AND MARTIN COUNTIES
Improving communities through the power of giving

One of my duties in preparation for the annual conference hosted last week by the Florida Philanthropy Network was to moderate a panel on the Gulf oil spill. I wasn't surprised to be tagged to moderate the session. As a grantmaker with environmental interests, I had keen interest in this topic. Despite the relief of distance that was a barrier to experiencing here the immediate effects of the disaster, it felt like a near miss.

The Gulf Stream is an oceanic, super highway that affects Florida's entire coastline. Now, months after the spill, there is continued unease because we recognize we don't know what we don't know. The environmental consequences in the long term are still unknown. This is a real time challenge for those of us asking what will be philanthropy's role in responding to communities affected by the spill and in addressing the legacy of environmental damages we expect to inherit. A vast network of fellow Floridians, coastal friends, business colleagues and government officials all have a share in the story. Time

spent now in mining our experience with the immediate issues has utility toward future problem-solving.

The Gulf oil disaster is one of several recent events that have prompted the engagement of philanthropy. The result is that philanthropic infrastructure is in place with experience in dealing with issues of magnitude. Katrina, the Haiti earthquake and cholera epidemic had wide-spread consequences for thousands if not millions of domestic and off-shore residents touched by the social and economic upheavals that followed. So it was no surprise when news of the Deep Water Horizon explosion first ricocheted through the grantmaking community, a conference call among Florida grantmakers was hastily organized and mobilization began, and our attention was turned to something that, 24 hours earlier, was of little concern.

The formality typically associated with the edifice of philanthropy sometimes creates the perception that grantmakers inhabit a bubble of professional detachment from the issues many communities are struggling to address. Stiff backs and upper lips and a veil of neutrality sometimes create the assumption that passion is absent in philanthropy. I was reminded of how different the reality sometimes is as when the voice of a leading grantmaker, Linetta Gilbert, her voice raw with emotion, began her narrative describing how panhandle communities were being turned upside down by the sickening waves of oil roiling their beaches. This was her coast,

her community, her community of interest and place. Her pain was the pain being suffered by local residents whose businesses rely on tourism and who suddenly saw their livelihoods implode. My colleague's grief was genuine. The question on every grantmakers mind, in the face of such an overwhelming challenge, was what can philanthropy do?

Philanthropy's role in addressing community issues is central to deveining its mission and sustaining its relevance in the face of change. It is not enough to figure this out once and the complexities of change can easily persuade one into a comfortable corner. After many years spent as a grantseeker, I was elected to serve as a trustee of a major foundation. What an education it was. Eighteen individuals engaged as one board in a process whose purpose was to conclude in a shared vision of strategic grantmaking. Though guided by experienced staff, the board was required to traverse together across a chasm of diversity toward singular agreement.

After nearly 10 years as a trustee, I developed a deep appreciation for the how difficult it is to do an effective job giving money away. The task does not get easier when challenges are unprecedented, demand is great and the competition for resources has grown exponentially.

All my oil spill panelists were asked to address the question "What can philanthropy do?" and, as it turns out, their list was very long. This is another of philanthropy's challenges: the list is always long.

Foundations respond to issues as individual institutions. We recognize alignment of charitable resources is value-added when the continuum of need is broad. The incentive is strong to achieve a higher math based on reaching a totality of philanthropic investment that is greater than the sum of its parts. But getting to this result is a factor of all those ingredients which characterize a particular institution. To reach a conclusion together in the interest of a more powerful "yes" is a complicated affair. As a grantmaker, you soon learn making change has always been that way. ■

— As one of Florida's largest community foundations, the Community Foundation of Palm Beach and Martin Counties advances quality of life, citizen engagement, and regional vitality through its promotion of philanthropy. We have been in existence for more than 35 years, with permanent endowment now totaling more than \$100 million. Last year, the Foundation awarded more than \$3.4 million in grants and led initiatives to address critical issues of common concern among our region's communities, including hunger, homelessness, affordable housing and the conservation and protection of water resources. We are the trusted steward of more than 250 funds created by area families, philanthropists, corporations and private foundations for charitable investment in our region's communities. For more information, visit our website: yourcommunityfoundation.org.



Perry and Roselle Como are buried in a peaceful spot in a cemetery in Tequesta. For 14 years, George Kalman, right, co-hosted "Weekends With Perry," a syndicated radio show in which Mr. Como would reminisce about his music.

Perry and Roselle Como are buried in Riverside Memorial Park in Tequesta. The cemetery was founded in 1907.

SCOTT SIMMONS/FLORIDA WEEKLY

COMO

From page 1

Mrs. Como died in 1998 and was buried near the "Pioneer" section, but Mr. Como had her moved to their current spot. A cemetery official remembered Mr. Como contemplating his wife's grave while sitting on the bench that faces their headstones. He joined her permanently in May 2001.

At first glance, you'd never know Mr. Como was one of the biggest stars of his day.

Their headstones are simple, bearing their names and dates.

A prayer card adorns the front of the stone, which is topped with colorful silk flowers.

Then you see the pennies. And nickels. And dimes, all in neat piles atop their headstones. A stone or two nestles among the coins.

The fans remember.

Mr. Como was known as one of the mellowest men in show business. Bing Crosby described him as "the man who invented casual."

His renditions of novelty songs, from "Hot Diggity (Dog Ziggity Boom)" to "Papa Loves Mambo," and such romantic ballads as "And I Love You So" and "It's Impossible," made him popular with a cross-section of society.

His annual Christmas specials on television were a holiday tradition.

And he always remembered to mention "that little piece of paradise called Jupiter, Florida," when he closed a show. He and Roselle raised their family here.

It doesn't surprise some of his Jupiter associates that people choose to pay homage to him.

"I met Perry several times; however, I wasn't a personal friend," writes long-time Jupiter radio personality Jan Davisson. "He would frequently call the old WRZY radio station during my 'Morning Show' whenever I played a Como record. He'd then tell me what great taste I had in music!"

Ask any old-timer about him, and there's a story to share.

Perry Como on the golf course. Perry Como in Publix. Perry Como on the dock of his home at Jupiter Inlet Colony.

And the stories?

They are the tales of the quintessential family man.

"He was nicer in person than he was on TV," says radio producer George Kalman, known on the air as "Johnny Knox."

For 14 years, Mr. Kalman co-hosted "Weekends With Perry," a syndicated

radio show in which Mr. Como would reminisce about his music.

"In the years that I did the radio show, we became great friends," Mr. Kalman says.

He was a very humble man, Mr. Kalman says.

"He would say, 'I'm still cutting hair,'" when someone mentioned his fame. Mr. Como had started out as a teenage barber and never forgot his roots.

"He would greet you at the door and walk with you through the garage, arm in arm," says Mr. Kalman.

The men met on a New Year's Day in the 1980s, Mr. Kalman says.

"I'm in 'Too-Jay's and in walks Perry and Roselle with another couple," says Mr. Kalman. "We met in the restroom, and I spoke to him, then wrote him" about doing some radio specials.

Next thing Mr. Kalman knew, Mr. Como's manager, Mickey Glass, was in contact with him.

The rest was magic on the airwaves once a week for Mr. Kalman, who divides his time between Jupiter and Carmel, N.Y. He also owns the AM radio station, WFLN, in Arcadia. He still produces a Perry Como holiday show that Jupiter's WJTW airs each year.

Then he tells a Perry story:

"He was playing the Palladium in London. When Perry was ready to leave the theater, it was raining. They drove past people standing at the stage door. He got out of the car to sign autographs."

And another:

"A fan stops at his house and rings the bell. Perry answers the door and talks to the man for 30 minutes, then sends him away with a bag of oranges."

The last time Mr. Kalman saw Mr. Como was a couple of weeks before he passed away.

After Mr. Como died, Mr. Kalman continued to produce "Weekends With Perry." At times, Mr. Como's daughter Terri Thibadeau would join Mr. Kalman on the air and help introduce the songs, including Mr. Kalman's favorites "Magic Moments" and "Some Enchanted Evening" — "Ezio Pinza did it on Broadway, but Perry's version was No. 1."

That No. 1 success continued on television for Mr. Como.

When Mr. Como hosted "Kraft Music Hall" in the 1960s, he reportedly was the highest paid entertainer in the country.

"Yeah, but they paid me in cheese,"

Mr. Como told Mr. Kalman.

And now they pay him in change.

It's an old tradition.

Pennies cover the grave of Benjamin

Franklin in Philadelphia. They're said to bring the penny-tosser luck.

Other people say it's a way of paying the deceased's way into heaven, or it signifies that someone has been there and has remembered the dead. In some traditions, people leave small pebbles atop the stone.

It's contagious.

You start to hum to yourself, "Catch a Falling Star," and you reach into to your pocket and add another coin to the pile.

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**LAUREL SAUER
ON ASSIGNMENT**

Three female rabbis featured at forum

Three of the country's prominent female rabbis will be featured at a forum entitled "The Female Rabbinate: A Journey of Trials and Triumphs," on Feb. 17 at 7 p.m. at the Palm Beach County Convention Center, 650 Okeechobee Blvd. in West Palm Beach. The forum is sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County and The Ewa & Dan Abraham Project, along with other community organizations.

The forum will feature three rabbis from the Forward's list of the top 50 American Influential Women Rabbis for 2010.

Rabbi Jacqueline Koch Ellenson (Reform) is director of the Women's Rabbinic Network, the international organization of women who are Reform rabbis and rabbinic students, and chair of the board of the Hadassah Foundation, which is dedicated to funding programs of social change for women and girls.



Rabba Sara Hurwitz (Orthodox) is a former Boca Raton resident and is on the rabbinic staff at the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale, N.Y., and dean of Yeshivat Maharat, the first institution to train women to be spiritual leaders in the Orthodox community.

Rabbi Naomi Levy (Conservative) is founder and spiritual leader of Nashuva, an outreach organization in Los Angeles that combines Jewish study with social action.

The program is free, but seating is limited. Call 242-6643, e-mail Mandy.Burkart@

JewishPalmBeach.org or visit www.JewishPalmBeach.org/rabbis to register.

The event is co-sponsored by the Lorraine and Jack N. Friedman Commission for Jewish Education, Federation's Women's Philanthropy, the Jewish Women's Foundation of the Great-

er Palm Beaches and the Palm Beach County Board of Rabbis.

The Ewa & Dan Abraham Project, funded by S. Daniel Abraham in cooperation with the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County, is designed to broaden the scope of Jewish education and outreach in the greater Palm Beaches by creating programs for all ages and interest levels on Israel, current events, and Jewish traditions, holidays and culture.

The Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County serves residents from Boynton Beach to Jupiter and west to Wellington as the central Jewish community-building organization of the greater Palm Beaches. ■

Author to speak on presidents' book

Dr. Harold Kirsh, who traveled to the birth site of every U.S. president and wrote a book about it, is speaking about his self-published tome at a number of communities this month.

He'll discuss "Thank You America" at the Carlyle Retirement Community, 450 E. Ocean Ave., Lantana, on Feb. 21 at 2 p.m., phone 533-9440; at the Prosperity Oaks Retirement Center, 11380 Prosperity Farms Road, phone 694-9709, on Feb. 22 at 1 p.m.; and at Mangrove Bay Retirement Community, 110 E. Man-

grove Bay, Jupiter, phone 575-3123, on Feb. 23 at 3 p.m.

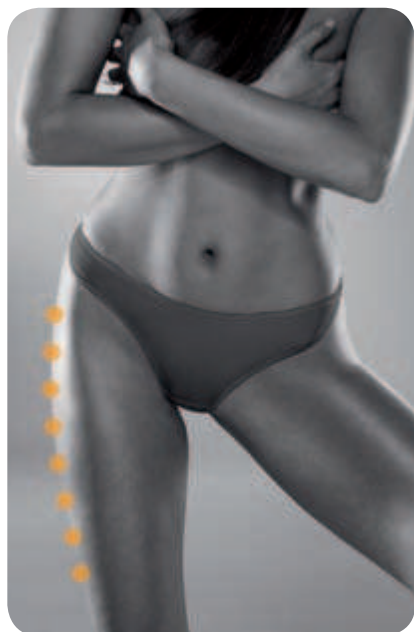
The discussions are free, but RSVPs to the individual phone numbers are needed to reserve a seat.

Dr. Kirsh, a retired physician, traveled more than 14,000 miles to visit every president's birth, burial site and more than 115 associated museums. The purpose was to pay homage and say "Thanks" to each of them for their efforts, he says.

He is retired and lives in Palm Beach Garden. ■

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Teen draws art from experiences with autism

BY SCOTT SIMMONS
ssimmons@floridaweekly.com

Haley Moss is a young woman with a mission.

The Fort Lauderdale teen wants to help others with special needs.

Miss Moss, who was diagnosed at age 3 with high-functioning autism, is gaining prominence for her art.

Her bold graphic illustrations will be part of a show commemorating Jewish Disabilities Awareness Month on Feb. 13 at Onessimo Fine Art Gallery in Palm Beach Gardens. Works will be for sale, and proceeds benefit JCC special needs programming.

Initially for Miss Moss, her art was born from pain.

"I started painting as an escape from school and pressure," she says by phone. "It was an escape from the social world."

Some of her influences come from Asia; others are drawn from pop art.

"I was really fascinated by anime,"



COURTESY PHOTO

Artist Haley Moss, 16, works mostly in acrylic and digital media.

she says. "It's pop art meets anime. I was inspired by Peter Max and Romero Britto."

Miss Moss, now 16 and a high school junior, works mostly in acrylic and digital media. She hopes to create a jewelry line, too.

"I can envision my characters on charm bracelets," she says. "Things that little girls and their families really would like."

But art isn't the only thing Miss Moss enjoys.

She also has published a book, "Middle School — The Stuff Nobody Tells You About: A Teenage Girl with ASD



COURTESY PHOTO

Haley Moss says she is inspired by Peter Max and Romero Britto.

Shares Her Experiences." She will head to Washington, D.C., later this year to collect an international Yes I Can Award.

And how does she deal with autism?

"In certain situations, we think differently or act differently," she says, adding that it's not necessarily a bad thing. "I'm happy with having autism. I treat it as a positive thing."

Most of the proceeds from her work go to charity, and for that, she says she is grateful.

"Right now, I'm still, like wow, it's really helping other people right now," she says. "It's just really cool." ■

Chef Curtis Aikens featured at literacy luncheon

Considered one of the original "celebrity chefs," Curtis Aikens is the featured speaker for the 20th annual Love of Literacy Luncheon. The luncheon is set for March 11 at 11:30 a.m. at the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts' Cohen Pavilion in West Palm Beach.

The Love of Literacy Luncheon raises awareness of our county's literacy needs and provides funds to the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County to support a multitude of literacy programs serving the community from Boca Raton to Jupiter, and west to Belle Glade.

A native of Georgia, Curtis Aikens has entertained and educated food lovers since 1988. Known for his infectious presence and on-camera abilities, Aikens has been with the Food Network since its inception. However, long before he was widely known, he was a businessman with a secret. He did not learn to read until he was 26.

Today, he is a college graduate, acclaimed chef, best-selling author and, as a former adult literacy student, he is an avid advocate for adult learners and volunteer tutors. Aikens has been featured on "Good Morning America," "Oprah" and "Entertainment Tonight." He also has cooked for the Dalai Lama.

"NBC Nightly News" covered his remarkable struggle with illiteracy and his devotion to helping adults with the same issue. Aikens is the author of four



COURTESY PHOTO

Celebrity Chef Curtis Aikens

books — "Curtis Cooks with Heart and Soul," "Greengrocer's Guide to the Harvest," "Curtis Aikens' Guide to the Harvest and Reading Rainbow" and "How to make an Apple Pie and See the World," co-authored with actors LeVar Burton and Debbie Herb.

For the 10th year in a row, the luncheon has been made possible by Bank of America. "So many people in our community struggle everyday with low literacy skills, said Fabiola Brumley, president,

Palm Beach County Bank of America. "Many of these people cannot fill out a job application or read the dosage on a bottle of medicine. The Literacy Coalition is here to help these people obtain the skills they need to better their lives and that of their families. Bank of America is proud to be a part of the Literacy Coalition's efforts and its mission of achieving literacy for adults, children and families in Palm Beach County."

It is estimated that one in seven adults in Palm Beach County function at the lowest level of literacy and approximately one third of fourth-grade students cannot read at grade level. The Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County is committed to promoting and achieving literacy for adults, children and families. For more information about the Love of Literacy Luncheon, call 776-7659 or 800-273-1030. ■

Gator Club hosts fundraiser at Norton for scholarships

The Palm Beach County Gator Club is hosts the 2011 Palm Beach Gator Gala with special guest University of Florida President Dr. J. Bernard Machen. The gala is Feb. 19 at the Norton Museum of Art in West Palm Beach from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

The gala will feature a tour of exclusive art exhibits, fine dining, silent and live auctions, music and dancing. All proceeds benefit the Palm Beach County Gator Club Scholarship Fund, which has provided more than \$250,000 in scholarship funds over the past six years, and the Florida Opportunity Scholars Program. The Florida Opportunity Scholars Program is an initiative to ensure first-generation students from low-income

families have the resources they need to be academically successful at the University of Florida. The goal of the program is to retain these students and have them graduate at rates equal to or greater than the undergraduate population at large

The Palm Beach County Gator Club is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization and an affiliation of the University of Florida Alumni Association. The primary focus of the club is to raise money to provide scholarships to deserving students from Palm Beach County.

For more information, to purchase tickets or to purchase one of the limited sponsorship packages, see pbcgatorclub.com or contact Sonja Capps at 718-9976 or capps.sonja@yahoo.com. ■



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Each month dog owners can have their pooches pampered and give to a good cause at the same time. This month's event is Feb. 23.

Every Dog Has Its Day, a shop in Abacoa in Jupiter, provides mini-makeovers; at home care tips and help for dogs to make new friends. Raffles are held for res-

taurant gift certificates and gift baskets.

All proceeds benefit Cancer Sensibility Foundations. Vendors are invited to attend and must meet certain requirements.

For more information, call the shop at 370-3945. Every Dog Has Its Day is located at 1155 Main St. ■

BUSINESS

WEEK OF FEB. 9-15, 2011

A GUIDE TO THE PALM BEACH COUNTY BUSINESS INDUSTRY

▲ John Clements opened Confusion Records along downtown Stuart's Confusion Corner in 1987. He moved to Lake Park a few years ago and says he has more than 40,000 recordings in his store.



FLORIDA WEEKLY PHOTO

For the love of vinyl

Confusion Records has 40,000 opportunities to update your LP collection

BY SCOTT SIMMONS
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AT FIRST APPEARANCE, CONFUSION REIGNS AT Confusion Records.

There are stacks of LPs. Piles of CDs. And books are everywhere.

Then you realize there's logic to it.

John Clements, the master of this domain, knows where everything is.

"Here, I've got a Velvet Underground — 'Some Kind of Love,'" he says. "The best organized thing I have is the Velvet Underground."

In that same vein, here's a Lou Reed rarity, "Metal Machine Music." The price? \$45.

Lou Reed's "Ecstasy"? "Don't ever see that record," he says.

And his "Egg Cream"? "I think he was writing about New York."

And then Mr. Clements laughs.

"The way things work in here, you go looking for something and find something else."

For Mr. Clements, music is his passion.

"I had 35 jobs and was pretty forced into it," he says. "Everyone is pretty much the same for ultimate collectors."

Mr. Clements opened his store in 1987 in downtown Stuart. The store takes its name from the town's traffic circle, Confusion Corner.

He grew up in Stuart and attended St. Joseph Catholic School.

He lived in Orlando for a time, then came back to Stuart.

"I said, 'This is the fertile ground to make my nest,'" Mr. Clements says. "I didn't have any competition."

The high point in Stuart?

"Dan Marino came in and I didn't even know who he was," Mr. Clements says. "I asked 'Are you with the FBI?'"

Mr. Marino was killing time while his wife shopped elsewhere, Mr. Clements says.

"He went over to the soul section."

Country singer Gary Stuart would come in and lean his guitar in the corner.

It was a Les Paul and made quite a racket when it was knocked over, he says.

He opened in Lake Park in 2006, after rents began to rise in downtown Stuart. He had tried opening in Jensen Beach near Rio, but business wasn't what he had hoped.

Then he got a lucky break.

"Someone who lived in North Palm Beach saw the sign and called me up," Mr. Clements says. "I moved to this place sight unseen."

Lake Park hasn't brought him any stars, so far, but he says the rent is affordable, and his fans can find him.

So what are those fans buying from his estimated stock of 40,000 records?

"Led Zeppelin and Pink Floyd — whatever their parents had, but their parents' collections are long gone."

He pulls out a Russian version of a Led Zeppelin album.

"These so-called oldies are popular," he says.

"The Velvet Underground & Nico," noted for the Andy Warhol banana cover design?

"'Banana' is still a fresh banana."

Other records are more obscure, like

"The Beatles vs. The Third Reich."

"I've got some things that would raise your hair," Mr. Clements says.

He even has the ultra-rare original cover of The Beatles' "Yesterday and Today." The record company pulled the album from shelves after deciding the cover, depicting the Fab Four wearing smocks and holding decapitated baby dolls was disturbing. The price: \$200. "And it's still disturbing today, if you ask me," says Mr. Clements.

He says he buys many records from Japan, where vinyl still is highly coveted.

And the new special issues on vinyl? Mr. Clements calls them upgrades.

He holds up a double LP of Brian Eno and David Byrne.

"Upgrades would be twice as long" as the originals, he says. New LPs sell for \$15 to \$20 apiece.

Other popular new vinyl issues include disks by The Raveonettes, Belle & Sebastian and the Dead Kennedys. A vinyl version of one of Johnny Cash's later album includes a bonus disk of Tim Robbins interviewing Mr. Cash.

What's on Mr. Clements' turntable?

"I mostly listen to stuff I didn't listen to as a kid," he says. "Dr. Hook, because they were too silly. ... All the treasures that you as a kid would have ignored because they didn't have the right haircut — like The Band. I'd have thought they were too country."

Mr. Clements says he buys records online, but selling there has had mixed results. Plus, he has face-to-face time with his customers.

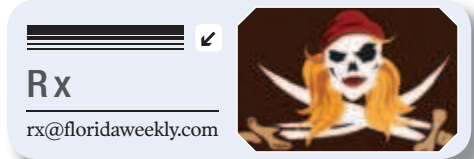
"eBay is pretty much a wash on prices," he says. "In 2000, I sold everything. In 2003, I had terrible odds. A brick and mortar store does much better." ■

in the know

>> Confusion Records, 848 Park Ave., Lake Park; 848-1882.

MUSINGS

Nabokov's *bête noire*



*"They're telling you lies...
Contagious science: It's the emperor's
new clothes and the human bias...
Whisper in the night..."*
— "Gods and Monsters," *Psyche*

Last week the Proceedings of the Royal Society of London supported Vladimir Nabokov's 1945 hypothesis. Nabokov had proposed that a group of species of butterflies, the *Polyommatus blues*, came to the New World from Asia in a series of migratory waves. The butterflies, he thought, traveled from Siberia to Alaska and then all the way down to South America. Though not embraced during his lifetime, Nabokov's ideas have now gained lepidopterological acceptance. Another original Nabokov proposal was to determine butterfly species classification based upon genital structure. There is also current corroboration of this idea, of the merit of this strategy as the best way of identifying species similarity.

But Vladimir Nabokov is not usually remembered for his butterfly theories. He is more often thought of as a writer. His first poem, written at age 15, was inspired by his seeing a raindrop make a leaf flutter.

But it is his novel "Lolita," published

in 1958, that is most often remembered. This is the story of the aging professor Humbert Humbert and his relationship with the 12-year-old nymphet — Nabokov coined this word — Dolores Haze. The first four publishers turned down the work, describing it as lewd. Graham Greene, Christian writer, referred to it as one of the best novels of its time. The *London Times* reviewer called it the filthiest book he ever read.

Nabokov himself commented that "Lolita" was his most abstract, pure and carefully contrived story, a beautiful puzzle. The text allusions are many, including some to Poe, Lewis Carroll, and the French decadent writers. He also noted that no one names their daughter Lolita anymore. Only young female poodles continue to bear the name.

In an afterword, Nabokov claims that his initial shiver of inspiration came from the sketch an ape made after repeated coaxing by a scientific investigator. This ape chose to draw the bars of the cage that imprisoned him.

Needing no coaxing, Nabokov introduced the Russian word "poshlost" into the English language, defining this word as appropriate appellation of corny trash, vulgar cliché, Philistine imitation of imitation, bogus profundity, and crude, moronic, and dishonest pseudo-literature. A pirate's dream.

Thus we play the conceptual game: What do any words have in common?

In the mire of all the common meaning webs, it must be said that the ancient

Greek word for butterfly was "psyche." Psyche is not usually remembered in its guise as butterfly designation, except when referring to leptosia nina or psyche butterfly. This species lives in Southeast Asia and on the Indian sub-continent. Also called the wandering snowflake, its white upper forewing is marked with a pear-shaped black spot. The psyche butterfly barely leaves the ground. Its flight is weak and erratic. Its moving wings cause its little body to bob up and down.

Also notable is the Psychidae, or bag-worm moths. These creatures build small cases out of silk and environmental materials in which they hide, camouflaged. The females often do not ever leave the case. The males extend their abdomen into the female's case to breed. The females may lay eggs, or the offspring might simply emerge from her dying body. The reproduction of some of the females is parthenogenetic: They do not need male fertilization. They make a leap of faith.

In her book "Reading Lolita in Tehran," Azar Nafisi, as she discusses educating young Iranian women, writes about another kind of leap: the imposition of the dreams of the powerful onto the realities of others, making those realities into figments of imagination: the crime of solipsizing another person's life.

We leap to question: what is psyche? Is it Cupid's lover, who, in a moment of faithlessness peeked at him in the night, losing him in the midst of skepticism, the tainted views of others? Or might we hear Jung saying that psyche, more than



simply soul or personality, is all of the processes of mind.

Mindful, seeing this and that, like butterflies landing softly to taste with their feet before moving on, psyche is infinite points of view, infinitely spacious, unbound by likes and dislikes, unfettered by theories or concepts. Psyche is passing through. A light, alighting, noting in a moment, moving on. Pirates are praying that psyche does not lose perspective for a pot of gruel. May the Essau in all of us be wary. ■

— 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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Ag expo to feature latest farming technology

The South Florida Ag Expo will be held Feb. 18 and 19 in Clewiston. The inaugural expo features more than 30 vendors and the latest innovations in agriculture. The University of Florida's Institute of Food & Agricultural Sciences is partnering with the expo to present continuing education classes on-site.

"In a county where 72.5 percent of the land is related to agriculture, it was a natural fit to create an event to highlight that fact," said Roger Harrison, Hendry County economic development council president and CEO. "We're very excited to offer farmers, ranchers and others opportunities to see first-hand the technology that can increase their efficiency in the fields."

The expo is being held in conjunction with the Weeks Auction Company's 16th annual Sugarland Auction and Farm Expo, an event that draws a local and international crowd. Organizers expect more than 700 agri-business people to attend. Sponsors include Hendry County EDC, U.S. Sugar Corp., Southeast Renewable Fuels LLC, Pavese Law

in the know

In 2008 Florida accounted for:

- **71 percent** of the total U.S. value of production for oranges (\$1.5 billion)
- **68 percent** of the total U.S. value of production for grapefruit (\$179 million)
- **52 percent** of the total U.S. value of production for snap beans (\$172 million)
- **51 percent** of the total U.S. value of production for sugarcane for sugar and seed (\$448 million as of 2007)
- **44 percent** of the total U.S. value of production for fresh-market tomatoes (\$622 million)
- **40 percent** of the total U.S. value of production for bell peppers (\$267 million)
- **39 percent** of the total U.S. value of production for cucumbers for the fresh market (\$94 million)
- **29 percent** of the total U.S. value of production for watermelons (\$140 million)
- **27 percent** of the total U.S. value of production for tangerines (\$58 million)
- **21 percent** of the total U.S. value of production for sweet corn (\$157 million)



Firm, EnSite, John Deere/Everglades Farm Equipment, Lake Okeechobee Regional Initiative and Sygenta/Helena/CPS.

The expo is at 610 San Luiz Ave., on the east side of the former Clewiston airport. Hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The event is open to the public. Admission and parking are free. ■

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NETWORKING

Northern Palm Beach Chamber of Commerce BioScience Business Series Luncheon
at Frenchman's Reserve Country Club



RACHEL HICKEY/ FLORIDA WEEKLY

- 1. Joan DeLuca, Jay Eckhous, Rebecca Gould and Ken Montgomery
- 2. Noel Martinez and Branden Gould
- 3. Mike Dyer, Bill Hyland and Mark Burger
- 4. Leonel Rodriguez and Kyle Wheeler
- 5. Dr. Denise Spirou and Dayna Perry
- 6. David Zelner and Marina Popovetsky
- 7. Jane Pike, Tess Lozano and Amy Works
- 8. Ray Norris and Melissa Crisp



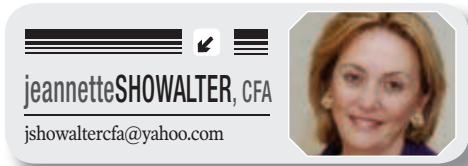
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MONEY & INVESTING

Love and money in the 21st century



As Valentine's day approaches, it's a good time to focus on the elephant in the room for seriously dating couples: money, the lack thereof or the disparity therein. Once a hippo-sized issue in pre-recession days, it has grown to be elephant-sized.

Most agree that the Great Recession impacted every societal element, including corporate and household spending plans and perspectives about money.

Simply put, corporations are hoarding. They are accumulating huge cash coffers.

Households are slenderizing their budgets and focusing on ways to pay down debt.

And, for dating relationships? Whether younger or older, a sense of diminished wealth impacted many an existing and prospective dating relationship.

April Masini, best-selling author of "Think and Date Like A Man" and Southwest Florida's very own relationship expert, makes her own observations. "In the former economic environment, a woman's weight (as in excess) was the most often quoted concern of a man."

Now, ladies, this reality does not mean that we have to like or agree with this being the primary focus of the average man. It does not legitimize its superficiality but, as April says, "While it may not be politically correct to say out loud or publicly... men, very simply, are 'visual' by nature and gen-

erally prefer fit or lean to not."

Largely derived from the comments/questions she receives from men and women who write to her at www.AskApril.com, Ms. Masini's sense is that the dating criteria and focus has shifted over the past couple of years.

And what is the most important factoid about a woman who holds a man's focus today? What are men consistently wondering and trying to size up about prospective dates now? What has become a key issue to be resolved before couples decide to march down the aisle.

"Debt. Specifically, the lack of it," Ms. Masini says. "If you can honestly whisper phrases such as: 'I have no debt'; 'I live within my budget'; 'I have a good job'; 'I have a savings account'; 'I don't carry a balance on my credit cards'; 'My home mortgage is above water', you will discover they have aphrodisiac qualities. Those types of words will play like music to a man's ears."

Not that this issue is one-sided, as in man-sided.

Women who are financially responsible and savvy savers and/or investors, with savings accounts, careers, inheritances or divorce settlements want to make sure their potential mate is not a potential liability (or someone who is looking for a sugar-momma). Like their male counterparts, today's single woman doesn't want a man with a debt burden or irresponsible spending habits.

Now, not all debt was created equal. Credit card debt amassed by a spendthrift has a lot less appeal or chance of acceptance by a man than student loan debt incurred for

college and grad school. And the latter, hopefully, is a foundation or platform for the loans to be repaid.

And, from my perspective, for those seeking an overcomer, a man or woman fulfilling responsibilities and repaying indebtedness can be a negative turned into a positive. Not a whisper, but a strong statement of character. Real character is an admission that you are in a hole and that you have to dig your way out. And many a person would like someone such as that in his or her corner.

So what advice can be given to any dating couple, regardless of age? Ms. Masini offers a lot of advice but possibly the most salient and certainly the easiest to remember is to deal "honestly" with the other person and, to a certain extent, yourself, as your denial is not an effective, long-term life strategy.

Along that line of thinking, that honesty is the best policy, a relevant question is: when and how do you disclose or seek disclosure from the other person? It's not clear. But, as April queries, when is it better to know of a money issue that will derail a relationship: at the onset of the relationship or after many months when hearts, minds, bodies and spirits are already solidified into one embrace?

From this columnist's perspective, it is extremely important to know "to what end" you are dating... from the very start. If the desired "end game" is marriage, then the people in the relationship need to be upfront about the critical issues: children, health, location, faith and, certainly, money. If the relationship is known and agreed to be a casual relationship, the afore-



COURTESY PHOTO
Southwest Florida resident April Masini dishes relationship advice on AskApril.com, ranked by Google as the No. 1 relationship expert site.

mentioned issues are really inconsequential. (Hopefully, mature adults know and communicate their desired end game and do not intentionally/selfishly mislead the other person.)

While it is so very distasteful for a woman to economically "size" a date, it is also equally offensive for a gentleman to prod or poke to elicit a complete balance

sheet of a woman. Yet, with some delicacy, the couple might want to make some form of disclosure early on in a relationship.

Parents of younger and unmarried adult children might consider an ongoing dialogue about these issues. A dialogue is entirely different from a lecture, dictates or a rule set. It raises consciousness and permits the child to explore the issues and take responsibility for their decisions.

Couples will want to explore these issues honestly, as their ramifications are great. ■

— Jeannette Rohn Showalter is a Southwest Florida-based chartered financial analyst, considered to be the highest designation for investment professionals. She can be reached at jshowaltercfa@yahoo.com.

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1003B	2,335 SF	3BR/3.0BA	Furnished	\$1,498,000
1102B	2,660 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	\$1,595,000
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1903A	3,950 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	SOLD
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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
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1004	777 SF	1BR/1.5BA	Furnished	SOLD
608	1,462 SF	2BR/2.0BA	REDUCED	\$225,000
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
1910	1,310 SF	2BR/2.0BA	PENDING	\$250,000
653	3,082 SF	4BR/4.5BA	PENDING	\$1,395,000
1109	1,301 SF	2BR/2.0BA	PENDING	\$199,000

Tiara - 3000 N. Ocean Drive

16-H	1,589 SF	2BR/2.0BA	PENDING	\$350,000
16-G	1,000 SF	1BR/1.5BA	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	Unfurnished	\$1,900,000
12B	4,069 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Unfurnished	\$1,995,000
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	Furnished	SOLD
ET1102	2,011 SF	2BR/3.5BA	Unfurnished	SOLD
ET504	2,011 SF	2BR/3.5BA	Furnished	SOLD
ET2201	2,011 SF	2BR/3.5BA	Unfurnished	\$785,000
OV-1	2,615 SF	3BR/4.5BA	Unfurnished	\$550,000
WT1404	2,011 SF	2BR/3.5BA	Unfurnished	\$650,000
Pent01	2,011 SF	2BR/3.5BA	Unfurnished	\$675,000
WT901	2,011 SF	2BR/3.5BA	Furnished	SOLD
WT804	2,011 SF	2BR/3.5BA	NEW	\$559,000

Beach Front Singer Island - 3920 N. Ocean Drive

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Pent03	2,710 SF	3BR/3.0BA + Cabana		\$1,498,000
1103	2,710 SF	3BR/3.0BA	Unfurnished	\$1,189,000
903	2,710 SF	3BR/3.0BA	Unfurnished	\$1,299,000
1202	2,440 SF	2BR/3.0BA	Unfurnished	SOLD
1702	2,440 SF	2BR/3.0BA	Unfurnished	SOLD
1502	2,440 SF	2BR/3.0BA	NEW	\$899,000

Via Delfino - 5150 N. Ocean Drive

1801	3,456 SF	4BR/5.5BA + Cabana		\$1,900,000
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Ocean's Edge - 5050 N. Ocean Drive

602	3,136 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Unfurnished	\$1,898,000
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Jupiter Yacht Club - 400 S. US1 Hwy

502	2,629 SF	3BR/3.0BA	Unfurnished	\$719,000
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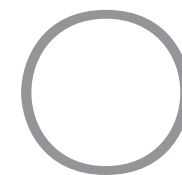
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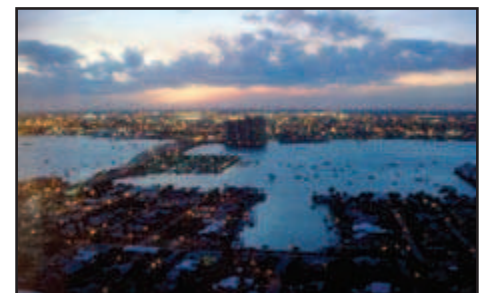
AMENITIES



ne-bedroom and two-bedroom condominiums are available at the Tiara at

3000 N. Ocean Drive, Singer Island. The amenities at the oceanfront building include a 24-hour concierge, gazebo casual restaurant, valet, security, spas, a library, billiard room, card room and a meeting room. There is a saltwater pool, a Jacuzzi and outdoor grilling. The condos are listed at \$249,000 to \$699,000. Call Susan Bennett at Keyes Real Estate, 676-3366. ■

— Keyes Real Estate



COURTESY PHOTOS

Clockwise from top left: The Tiara offers many amenities, including a concierge and valet parking. The beach at the Tiara, on Singer Island. The night view from the Marquis Lounge on the 43rd floor of the Tiara. A saltwater pool is located on the sundeck, along with a Jacuzzi and outdoor grills.



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KOVELS: ANTIQUES & COLLECTING

Disturbing images common on old children's items

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Opinions change with time. Throughout the past 40 years, it has become popular to “think green.” But our ancestors had to hunt for food and killed buffalo, deer and passenger pigeons, making some species endangered and others extinct. It was proper to kill animals, throw garbage out into the backyard without composting it or play with the mercury from a broken thermometer (which today we know is dangerous). Toys reflected scenes of everyday life, so it is not surprising to find an antique child's plate with what we consider a frightening decoration. Some small plates were made with the letters of the alphabet embossed on the border. These alphabet plates were popular from the 1780s to the 1860s. The letters taught a child to read, and the center design usually included a nursery rhyme, proverb or wise saying. Some plates pictured a mother or father doing everyday jobs like cooking or sewing or farming. Alphabet plates were made of pottery, porcelain, glass or metal and sometimes came with matching mugs.

One early-19th-century English plate that recently auctioned caused comment among the bidders. The transfer-decorated Staffordshire plate pictures hunters in a canoe surrounded by swimming seals. The hunters are beating the seals to death with clubs so they can sell the fur. Canada banned hunting baby harp seals in the water in 1984, and Russia banned killing baby seals in 2009. Before various countries' bans, hunting killed many baby seals and lowered the seal population, but the bans have brought seal herds back to a larger size.

Q: Twenty years ago, I bought two antique Windsor chairs from a friend for \$1,500. A dealer recently appraised them for \$1,250 each. I have been unable to find any information about the cabinetmaker. His mark is machine-carved on both chairs and reads “John M. Bair, Hanover, Penna.”

A: The machine-carved marks indicate that your chairs are not antiques. Bair's Cabinet Shop, the name of John M. Bair's business, operated from 1933 to 1964 in Hanover and later Abbottstown, Pa. So your chair dates to Bair's early years in Hanover. Bair's made high-quality reproductions of antique furniture, especially Colonial Revival furniture. So your chairs date from the 1930s at the earliest. They're not antique, but that doesn't mean they're not well-made chairs worth the price you paid or more.

Q: I have a painting on tin of a black woman and a blond girl making a gelatin salad. In the bottom right corner it's signed “Harry Roseland” and dated 1901. Can you help me determine the value of this painting?

A: Harry Herman Roseland (c. 1867-1950) was an American painter. He is known for his paintings of people in turn-of-the-20th-century settings. Your picture was used in an ad for Knox Gelatine. Prints were given to customers as premiums, tin signs with the image hung in grocery stores; and the original painting may have hung in the corporate offices. Charles B. Knox invented a gelatin powder in 1890 and founded the Charles B. Knox Gelatine Co. in Johnstown, N.Y., in 1896. Knox is now part of Kraft Foods. You have a print, not an original painting. A copy of your print in mint condition and framed sold online for \$427 a few years ago.

Q: I have several records marked “Vogue.” The records have a picture printed right on the vinyl. I'd like to know something about them. Are they valuable?

A: Vogue picture records were made by Sav-Way Industries of Detroit from May 1946 to April 1947. Each record has a picture on both sides, sometimes signed by the artist. The records' pictures were applied to an aluminum core and then covered with vinyl. Then the grooves were stamped into the vinyl. Most of the records were 10-inch 78 rpm, but some 12-inch 78 rpm records were also made. The first Vogue picture record was “Basin Street Blues” with “Sugar Blues” on the flip side. More than 70 different Vogue picture records were made. Sav-Way Industries claimed it was making 500,000 records a month in early 1947, but the company went bankrupt a few months later. It is still fairly easy to find Vogue picture records for sale. Most sell for \$10 to \$50.

Q: I am a collector of Occupied Japan ceramics. Another collector I ran into told me that Occupied Japan items were stamped in red, black or blue, and that a



SKINNER INC., WWW.SKINNERINC.COM / COURTESY PHOTO

This 1880s child's plate has letters around the edge to teach the alphabet and a picture in the center to display a method of hunting seals. The plate sold at a Skinner auction in Boston for \$148, below auction estimate, perhaps because the picture of a seal hunt is controversial today.

piece with a red mark is more valuable than a piece marked in blue or black. Is this true?

A: Florence Archambault, the author of books on Occupied Japan, says there is no evidence that what you were


told is true. For one thing, marks on Occupied Japan items can be found in a variety of other colors, including yellow, green, gold and brown. The “Made in Occupied Japan” mark was required on Japanese exports starting in February 1947. In August 1949 the requirement was altered and ceramic exports could be marked “Made in Occupied Japan,” “Made in Japan” or simply “Japan.” That means that identical pieces can be marked differently. But collectors of Occupied Japan ceramics prefer pieces marked “Made in Occupied Japan” or “Occupied Japan.” The occupation ended in April 1952.

Tip: Some tea and coffee stains on dishes can be removed by rubbing them with damp baking soda. ■


— Terry Kovel answers as many questions as possible through the column. By sending a letter with a question, you give full permission for use in the column or any other Kovel forum. Names, addresses or e-mail addresses will not be published. We cannot guarantee the return of any photograph, but if a stamped envelope is included, we will try. The volume of mail makes personal answers or appraisals impossible. Write to Kovel, (Florida Weekly), King Features Syndicate, 300 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019.

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- 2. Susan Winch and Vivian Puls
- 3. John Ule, Doreen Nystrom and Lee Burke
- 4. Ann Melendez
- 5. Seth Cohen and Ron Dunlap

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Ron Insana and Irv Silver

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Field of Beers at Roger Dean Stadium



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5. Tina Mayer, Tim Genecco and Angela Coker

Music on the Plaza at Midtown



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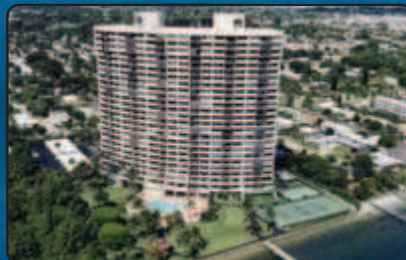
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3 Bedroom, 2-bath, 2-car garage home in gated community. Tile on the diagonal thru-out the open floor plan. Gourmet kitchen with granite countertops and SS appliances.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 10-16, 2011 A GUIDE TO THE PALM BEACH COUNTY ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SCENE



Hopeful thespians gather on the Maltz Jupiter Theatre stage during the daylong "First Step" audition process.

COURTESY PHOTO

fledgling performers

Maltz conservatory program trains youngsters for real stage

BY HAP ERSTEIN
herstein@floridaweekly.com

AS THE MALTZ JUPITER THEATRE CONFIRMED WITH ITS RECENT, SOLD-OUT production of "The Sound of Music," its audience likes family friendly entertainment, preferably with youngsters in the cast. Without compromising on its professional quality, the company is committed to producing some shows with kids from the community. And that has required the creation of programs to train and audition pint-sized performers.

Programs like "First Step to Stardom," a free one-day audition workshop initiated last May to identify stage worthy youngsters for this season's "Academy" and "The Sound of Music."

SEE FLEDGLING, B4 ►

INSIDE



Book 'em

Critic Hap Erstein says several works at 1st Stage should be produced. B4 ►



Don't enter 'Sanctum'

Critic Dan Hudak gives this movie just two stars. B11 ►



Thanks, Xerox

The company put us on the path to smart phones, DVRs. B8 ►

Buy, donate at thrift shops and help good causes

February is a great time for refreshing wardrobes and décor. This time of year also is a good time for decluttering. Area thrift stores welcome donations and remind us that it's better to give than to receive.

Here is a sampling of favorites in Northern Palm Beach County:

1. Adopt A Cat Thrift Store

804 U.S. Highway 1, Lake Park; 848-6930
Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday

- This shop has plenty of frisky felines chilling on counters and such, but they get a nice selection of clothing and used household items. Plus, it benefits shelter for those aforementioned felines.

2. First Unitarian Universalist Congregation Thrift Boutique

635 Prosperity Farms Road, North Palm Beach; 627-6105
Hours: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, noon-1 p.m. Sunday

- The shop is small, but has an enthusiastic staff

of volunteers. During a recent visit, we found a set of Flintridge china from the 1940s or '50s. The price? \$35 for a 28-piece service for six.

3. Hospice of Palm Beach County Resale Shop North

Plaza La Mer, 863 Donald Ross Road, Juno Beach; 624-5495

Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday; accept donations from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

- This large shop has a little bit of everything — antiques, couture fashion, household goods and furniture. Good things for a good cause.

4. Jupiter Medical Center Thrift Shop

205 Center St., Jupiter; 746-1601
Hours: 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday; 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday

- For more than 25 years, this thrift shop has sold a variety of household goods and clothing to raise money for the hospital's auxiliary, which works to improve patient care and visitor services. The shop has had fine antiques and couture items, as well as

good-quality home furnishings.

5. Our Sister's Place

283 S. U.S. Highway 1 (just south of Tequesta Drive), Tequesta; 744-6997

Hours: 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday

- You'll find everything from the ordinary to the sublime at this shop, which benefits victims of domestic violence. It has furniture, glassware, clothing and plenty of gee-gaws.

6. Pennies for Heaven Thrift Shop

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 400 Seabrook Road, Tequesta; 746-4674

Hours: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-noon Saturday

- This shop, tucked along the south side of the church, has a range of household items, jewelry and clothing, and some of the friendliest volunteers anywhere. Be sure to check out the sewing notions, fabrics and such.

— Scott Simmons



Kubo kicks

The Pacific Rim fare at Roy Villacrusis' restaurant is exceptional. B15 ►

SANDY DAYS, SALTY NIGHTS

My passion for Spain beats to an Enrique tune



My roommate, Adele, likes to concoct escapist fantasies for the two of us.

"How about Greece?" she asked one night after we had finished dinner and were sipping cups of herbal tea like two old maids gathered around the hearth.

"We don't speak Greek," I told her. She nodded sagely. "Spain? Spanish boys are beautiful."

I considered it, but all I envisioned were fiery Picassos steeped in Rioja and pickled from all those green olives people eat at tapas bars. I shook my head, no.

"No?" Adele was indignant. "What about Javier Bardem?"

He's gorgeous, I told her, but too much — too handsome, too fiercely sexual. "We can't handle a man like that," I said. "The Spaniards are too passionate for us."

Adele thought it over, no doubt imagining our potential future life in Andalusia, where we would eat Serrano ham at the corner bar and share Manchego cheese with the swarthy herdsman we crossed.

"What about Enrique Iglesias?" she asked finally.

There, she had me. I've had a crush on Enrique since the early 2000s, when his single "Hero" first convinced me of the

sweet sensuality of Latin men. "Would you cry if you saw me crying?" Enrique asks in the song, his voice catching on the words. "Would you save my soul tonight?"

He goes on to make the sort of pop-ballad promises every girl wants to hear.

"I can be your hero," he claims. "I can kiss away the pain. I will stand by you forever. You can take my breath away."

I thought back to that song and to the brown-eyed man, really just a boy when "Hero" hit the airwaves, and I thought that maybe Adele was on to something. Perhaps Spain was exactly where we needed to be, and Enrique's masculine sensitivity would be just the thing for a couple of independent — but lonely — women of the world like us.

I hummed the chorus to "Hero" for the next two days, practically packing my bags for Barcelona. Or maybe Madrid. All I could think about were dark-haired men wrapped in Iberian passion, whispering lines like, "Would you tremble if I touched your lips?" (a direct Enrique quote).

But then I found myself on Gawker one morning, perusing the latest celebrity gossip. It turns out Enrique has a new song, and Gawker has the video. I clicked play, and the opening scene rolled: Enrique in a sex club. Then, Enrique in a naughty tryst.

Finally, Enrique in a compromising situation with two ladies.

What happened to the man who asked, "Would you swear that you'll always be mine?" Now he's singing a song titled "Tonight I'm !@#\$ing You," with lyrics that run to the raunchy rather than the romantic.

"I know you want me," he says. "So put it on me. 'Cause I already know what you want to do. Please excuse, I don't mean to be rude. But tonight I'm !@#\$ing you."

O h , Enrique.

My dreams of a Spanish getaway suddenly felt ill-conceived, and now I have to reconfigure my escapist fantasies. Perhaps Greece wouldn't be so bad after all. ■

"He's gorgeous, I told her, but too much — too handsome, too fiercely sexual..."



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Dramaworks presents "Dinner With Friends"

Palm Beach Dramaworks continues its 11th anniversary season with Donald Margulies' Pulitzer Prize-winning play, "Dinner with Friends" on Feb. 25 at 8 p.m. at their downtown theatre, 322 Banyan Boulevard in West Palm Beach.

Specially priced preview performances are slated for Feb. 23-24 at 8 p.m. The production will play through April 17.

"Dinner with Friends," a candid bittersweet play, examines two married couples who have been close friends for years, and what happens when one marriage falls apart. When Beth reveals to her good friends that she and her husband, Tom, are divorcing due to infidelity, Gabe and Karen feel pressured to pick sides, but soon begin to question the solidity of their apparent happy marriage.

Dramaworks' resident director J. Barry Lewis will direct the production featuring Jim Ballard, Eric Martin Brown, Erin Joy Schmidt and Sarah Grace Wilson. The play will feature scenery designed by Vince Mountain, costumes designed by Brian O'Keefe, lights designed by Joseph P. Oshry and sound designed by Tom Shorrock.

Donald Margulies is a Pulitzer Prize-winning American playwright who is widely recognized for his work. In addition to his Pulitzer Prize for Drama, Mr. Margulies is also the recipient of a Lucille Lortel Award, an Outer Critics' Circle Award, and two OBIE Awards, among others. His notable work includes Time Stands Still, Sight Unseen, Collected Stories, and God of Vengeance. Mr. Margulies is currently



Jim Ballard



Eric Martin Brown



Erin Joy Schmidt



Sarah Grace Wilson

an adjunct professor of English and Theatre Studies at Yale University. The Palm Beach Dramaworks' season

will conclude with "The Beauty Queen of Leenane" by Martin McDonagh (May 6-June 19).

Palm Beach Dramaworks is a non-profit, professional theatre.

Performances are Wednesday through Saturday at 8 p.m.; Sunday at 7 p.m.; matinees are on Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. with select Wednesdays at 3 p.m.

Individual tickets are \$47. Student tickets are available for \$10. Group rates for 20 or more, and discounted season subscriptions are also available.

For ticket information contact the box office at 514-4042, open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. or see palmbeachdramaworks.org. ■

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PALM BEACH STATE COLLEGE

THEATER REVIEW

Family dramas likely have the stuff to make it on to Florida Stage



I see family dramas with dark comic overtones in Florida Stage's future. That describes most of the plays given public readings at last weekend's 5th Annual 1st Stage New Works Festival. The event unveils untested scripts hoping to make it onto the West Palm Beach company's main stage schedule in upcoming seasons.

As has been the festival's tradition, the readings were bare bones events. No sets, no costumes, no props, just three dozen of the region's best actors — Gordon McConnell, Deborah Sherman, Todd Allen Durkin, Antonio Amadeo and Kim Cozort, to name a few — at music stands, performing the words of writers who, for the most part, are already familiar to Florida Stage's audience.

The 5-year-old program took the place of New Voices, the company's former Monday evening reading series. The current format of seven scripts — plus a few panels and a theater celebrity event — in 51 hours makes for a total immersion into the precarious unknown of new plays.

Typical of the theatrical menu and a qualitative standout was the latest script by Carter W. Lewis, whose "Cha-Cha of a Camel Spider" is slated to have its world premiere here in May. His festival play, "The Americans Across the Street," featured a terrific curmudgeonly charac-

ter, Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Derek Slaughterhouse, who mostly sits on his porch and rants against his neighbors and the world at large.

The play deepens when his widowed, destitute sister and her precocious teenage daughter come to stay with him. Fortunately, Derek does not become a changed man in their presence and acerbic McConnell is pitch-perfect as Derek. If Lewis would only trim back an overlong comic sequence involving hallucinatory mushrooms, the play would be ready for full production.

Also well-developed and worth slotting into next season is Israel Horowitz's "Beverley," about two former World War II flyboys, a Yank and a Brit, now in their 70s, and the title character, the love of both their lives. After the war, Beverley married the American, and now the Brit arrives on their Gloucester, Mass., doorstep to convince her to run, or at least walk, off with him. Gloucester is Horowitz's favorite theatrical setting.

Besides this tug-of-war, "Beverley" becomes a family drama, as her West Coast talent agent daughter returns home with all her built-up resentments from her youth. Although contemporary, the play had echoes of Shaw's "Candida" and Ibsen's "A Doll's House." A thoughtful and entertaining play, it gained an added layer of charm by the cast coup of two-time Tony winner Frances Sternhagen as Beverley. Surely she is reason enough to produce the play whenever her schedule permits, isn't she?

A Florida Stage discovery, Miami lawyer Christopher Demos-Brown ("When



COURTESY PHOTO

From left, actors Frances Sternhagen and Richard Henzel, playwright Israel Horowitz and dramaturge Alison Maloof, in a post-show discussion about "Beverley."

the Sun Shone Brighter") brought to the festival a family reunion play, rich with comedy and insight, called "Captiva." At its center are three grown siblings, one unmarried, who has invited the family to their childhood vacation spot to meet her fiancé. But there is trouble brewing with her relationship, just as there is a hurricane barreling toward them.

The script could use some tightening — another frequent impression this weekend — but Demos-Brown again shows what a smart writer he is and, this time, how funny he can be. Durkin scores major points as the older brother, delivering consistently snarky punch lines.

Another frequently produced Florida Stage playwright, Deborah Zoe Laufer ("The Last Schwartz," "End Days") has become fascinated with computer gamers, obsessive young adults hooked on strategy-and-reflexes electronic exer-

cises. The result is "Leveling Up," about a quartet of aimless souls, one of whom gets recruited by the National Security Agency to operate their similar but real war games. Yes, it could happen I guess, but the way it plays out in the script feels improbable and the dull dialogue for these inarticulate characters does not help.

Kew Henry is a new playwright, but she is from the Florida Stage family. The name is a pseudonym for visual artist Kathleen Holmes, who is married to producing director Lou Tyrrell. Her script, "Poet," is a biography of Edgar Allan Poe, inspired by competing muses of poetry and prose. Henry/Holmes has clearly done her homework, as the overlong script brims with research factoids. Her best invention is those muses, but they are detached from the play, observing the action, instead of interacting with Poe.

Also a new playwright, but hardly new to the theater, is Tony nominee John Herrera, whose Hispanic family drama "Tiempo de Amor," looks at two young Cuban lovers, who marry impetuously. Then, 40-some years later, their relationship is strained by family responsibilities and financial pressures. Herrera has a lyrical way with dialogue, but needs to edit his script down. And a plot thread involving revolutionary/poet Jose Marti feels like an uneasy tangent.

Most of the plays heard at this year's 1st Stage need further work, but discovering that is exactly the point of the festival. If past years' events are an indication, expect to see a few of these plays in Florida Stage's season line-up soon. ■

FLEDGLING

From page 1

"I think 'First Step to Stardom' is another way for us to reach out to the community, saying, 'Come play a part. Give it a shot, see what happens,'" explains artistic director Andrew Kato. "I think the job is to create those opportunities, mine those opportunities and support them."

"First Step" works in tandem with the Maltz's Conservatory of Performing Arts, a training program aimed at youngsters in kindergarten through 12th grade, but with classes for adults as well. Offered are courses in acting, musical theater and dance — ballet, jazz, tap and hip-hop — as well as playwriting, improvisation and audition techniques.

"We're not looking to create Broadway's next superstars," notes Kato. "We're looking to create an opportunity for our younger talent to develop a range of skills that can be gained by going to a conservatory. Like collaboration, teamwork, public speaking — skills that go beyond performing in a theater."

On occasion, however, COPA has come across kids with exceptional abilities. "When we see students that have that potential, we actually work hard to put them in touch with agents in New York," says Kato. "So there are opportunities for kids who are interested in a career path. But I would say the majority of our kids just want to come take a class, have an experience in theater and benefit in that way."

Of course, there are plenty of places in Palm Beach County where children and teens can gain theater training, but none with the resources of the Maltz. "We have a theater and we have Broad-



COURTESY PHOTO

Young actors starred in a conservatory production of "Suessical Jr. in July 2010." "Cats" will be produced in May.

way professionals here who are training the students," says director of education Julie Rowe. "And our students perform on the Maltz Jupiter Theatre stage and they get the full attention of the production team."

"For example, 'Cats,' which we're preparing to produce in May, we'll have costume designs by the professionals who design for our professional shows," she says. "So the students are getting the feel of what it actually means to be a working professional."

Asked what she feels sets COPA apart from other training programs, Colleen Broome, 13, who played Louisa in "The Sound of Music," says, "I think the utmost professionalism that everyone shows here at the Maltz. Just breathing the same air is so much of a learning experience."

COPA gives the Maltz a skilled pool of young performers that allows Kato to select a show like "The Sound of Music" or next season's just announced "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat."

But he is quick to add that attending COPA is not a prerequisite for appearing in a main stage show. All of the youngsters in "The Sound of Music," COPA kids or not, went through the same assembly line gantlet of "First

Step to Stardom" to be cast.

"That's really where 'First Step to Stardom' came from," says Kato. "We did not feel it was wise just to say, 'If you are in our conservatory, then you have a leg up at getting onstage.' It's an opportunity to learn and grow, but it's not a fast route to our main stage."

Kato still sounds a little stunned by the turnout last spring for "First Step to Stardom" and the efficiency with which the young hopefuls were seen and evaluated.

"Kids came in, signed up at a registration table, they got their picture taken, there was a gathering station in the conservatory lobby, then 40 kids went into the theater at one time. We saw 400 kids in all."

"First they learned a dance, then they sang 'Doe, a deer...' and we had rating sheets that rated them 1 to 3. One, they could absolutely do it, two, we weren't sure and three, they absolutely could not do it. You can tell instantly whether they can match a pitch, if they have those qualities, if they're friendly, if they're going to be easy to work with."

"All in all, it was a really exciting experience," says Riley Anthony, 9, who was selected to play Kurt in "The Sound of Music." "It was definitely difficult, but it's good practice for those who want a career in the theater, like me. It's something I had done before, except I knew that the stakes were a little bit higher."

For next season's "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," Kato hopes to use even more kids. In fact, he says he will need as many as 240 boys and girls ages 9 to 12, to be divided into as many as eight rotating choirs of 30 children each. Plans are not firm yet, but expect another "First Step to Stardom" audition this spring. Go

online to jupitertheatre.org for more information as it becomes available.

Meanwhile, this May 20 and 21, the public is invited to attend the most ambitious production yet from COPA, a student production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Cats," co-directed by two veterans of the Broadway company of the feline phenomenon, Anna McNeely and Brian Andrews. "They're learning the original choreography from people who have their notes from (original director) Trevor Nunn," enthuses Rowe.

"It's truly the biggest ensemble piece we've ever done," says Rowe. "We have 44 cast members, 12 more than the original Broadway production. We're treating it like anything else that lands on our stage. It just so happens that the cast are students."

Well, actually, few professional shows devote the amount of rehearsal time that COPA will for "Cats." "Because it's such a big project, we knew we had to start early, so we started with a one-week dance-intensive camp in August," recalls Rowe. "Then in the fall semester, we did what we called our 'Cats prep,' an hour and a half on Fridays where we started working on 'The Jellicle Ball,' the show's most frenetic dance sequence. "So that when we began rehearsals in earnest in January, we had some pieces already created."

"Because we have the facilities here, we are able to produce full-scale student musicals that mirror in a less grand way what we do in our season," says Kato. "By providing a live orchestra for the kids, by giving them costumes and production values and lighting and sets. But the conservatory is really about their experience here, not about getting them to a final result. That is just a bonus." ■



Invasive Lionfish fundraiser theme for River Center

Experience Lionfish, Jupiter's newest delicacy, at the River Center's second annual Night on the Loxahatchee evening fundraiser. Taste lionfish hors d'oeuvres prepared live by chef Tommy Williams and whet your appetite with zesty Caribbean catering provided by Foodshack. Enjoy local marine themed art, live music and a silent auction on Feb. 26 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. All proceeds from the Night on the Loxahatchee will benefit the River Center's educational programs and events.

Zack Judd of Florida International University will give a brief presentation on lionfish and their impact on the Loxahatchee River estuary. Randy Jordan, founder of Lion Tamers USA, will provide tips on catching, spearing and filleting these invasive fish. Children's art from the River Center's Lionfish Coloring Contest will be on display and guests may vote for their favorite picture. Winners will be announced during the event.

Lionfish, native to the Indo Pacific region, are increasing in tropical and subtropical Atlantic waters, including our own Loxahatchee River, at an alarming rate. Popular as a decorative aquarium fish, lionfish received their name from the "mane"-like spread of fins used to herd and corner smaller prey fish. This invasive species has no known predators in the area, and feeds voraciously on essential native fish. Lionfish are particularly problematic to marine animals and people alike because of the potent venom found in their dorsal fins.

Tickets to the Night on the Loxahatchee are \$50 or \$40 for Friends of the Loxahatchee River members. Tickets may be purchased at the River Center, by mail, or over the phone. Gold, Silver, and Bronze event sponsorships are still available. For more information about the Night on the Loxahatchee, Lionfish Coloring Contest, or sponsorship opportunities please contact the River Center at 743-7123 or send an email to RiverCenter@Loxahatcheeriver.org. ■

PUZZLE ANSWERS

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WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Thursday, Feb. 10

■ **Starfish & Coffee Story time 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.

■ **Mos'Art Theatre** — Screenings of "Made in Dagenham," 1:30 p.m., "Queen of the Lot," 3:45 p.m. Feb. 10. Tickets: \$8. Performance by Lou Villano and Robbie Carson, 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$10 general admission, \$15 VIP seating. 700 Park Ave., Lake Park; 337-6763.

■ **Midtown's Music on the Plaza** — A free weekly concert series offering an eclectic mix of musical performances, 6-8 p.m. Thursdays through April 30, Midtown Palm Beach Gardens, 4801 PGA Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens. Feb. 10: Tairon Aguilera & His Florida Latin Beat Band. Feb. 17: Terry Hanck Blues. Feb. 24: The Nouveaux Honkies (roots and roll that rock). Free; www.midtownpga.com.

■ **Brother Outsider** — A documentary film about Bayard Rustin, the prominent 1960s activist and strategist whose contribution to the advancement of civil rights was influenced and complicated by the fact that he was an openly gay black man. Preregistration required. 6:30 p.m. Feb. 10, the Gardens branch of the Palm Beach County Library, 11303 Campus Drive, Palm Beach Gardens; 626-6133.

■ **"Defending the Caveman"** — 7:30 p.m. Feb. 10, Maltz Jupiter Theatre, 1001 E. Indiantown Road, Jupiter. Tickets: \$40; 575-2223; www.jupitertheatre.org.

■ **Fusion Lounge** — 7:30 p.m. Feb. 10: Rich the acoustic guitarist; 9 p.m. Feb. 11: Juanita Dixon; 8:30 p.m. Feb. 12: The Fusion Trio. Fusion Lounge is at 758 Northlake Blvd. (east of I-95 next to Dockside Restaurant), North Palm Beach. 502-2307; fusionloungepalmbeach.com.

■ **An Evening of Rodgers & Hart with The John Pizzarelli Quartet** — With Bob Lappin and the Palm Beach Pops, 8 p.m. Feb. 10 at the Kravis Center in West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$29-\$89; 832-7469. And they play Feb. 11-12 and 14 at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton. Tickets: \$29-\$69; (877) 311-7469.

Friday, Feb. 11

■ **The 2nd Annual Palm Beach Marine Flea Market and Seafood Festival** — Buy new and used equipment and eat fresh seafood. There also will be hundreds of vendors selling fishing rods, reels, lures and lines, collectibles and maps, teak furniture, tournament gear, nautical art, crafts and jewelry, marine artifacts, boating apparel, taxidermy and fish reproductions, diving equipment, marine accessories and parts and floating docks. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Feb. 11-12 and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Feb. 13, South Florida Fairgrounds, Southern Boulevard east of U.S. 441, suburban West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$7 adults; \$5 seniors; free for children 12 and under. www.FLNautical-FleaMarket.com.

■ **Mos'Art Theatre** — Screenings of "The Circus," "Oscar Shorts (Animated)" and "Inspector Bellamy." Various times, Feb. 10-16. "Giselle from the Royal Opera House, 7 p.m. Feb. 13. Opening night tickets: \$6. General admission: \$8. 700 Park Ave.; 337-6763.

■ **Downtown's Got Talent** — Show off your talent in singing, dancing or comedy at 7 p.m. Fridays through March 11. Centre Court, Downtown at the Gardens, Palm Beach Gardens. 340-1600.

■ **Lighthouse Starry Nights** — Get a lighthouse keeper's view of the night sky with a personal tour of the watchroom and gallery. Afterward, relax on the lighthouse deck under the stars with refreshments. 6 p.m. Fridays through April, Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse & Museum, 500 Captain Armour's Way (Beach Road and U.S. 1), Jupiter. Tour time is approximately 90 minutes. \$20 per person, \$15 members, RSVP required. No flip-flops allowed. Children must be 4 feet tall and accompanied by adult; 747-8380, Ext. 101.

■ **"Imagine"** — Billed as a "production with a purpose," this show features the Fushu Daiko Drummers, Larry Johnson of Richard Street's Temptations, the One Vision One Love dancers and Terry Bomar. It's 7:30 p.m. Feb. 11 at The Bolland Center, 4885 PGA Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens. Tickets: \$20; 317-5437.

■ **"Oh What a Night"** — The Kravis Center's gala, featuring Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, 7 p.m. Feb. 11, the Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Gala tickets: \$375-\$750. Regular concert tickets: \$25-\$150; 832-7469.

■ **Barrage** — The high-octane fiddle fest, 5 and 8 p.m. Feb. 11, Maltz Jupiter Theatre, 1001 E. Indiantown Road, Jupiter.

Tickets: \$35; 575-2223; www.jupitertheatre.org.

■ **Daddy Daughter Date Night** — Mardi Gras ball for dads with daughters 4-12 years old, 6-8 p.m. Feb. 11, Double Tree Hotel, 4431 PGA Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens. \$42 non-residents, \$35 residents per couple; \$11 each additional daughter; 630-1100.

Saturday, Feb. 12

■ **Kids Story Time** — 11:30 a.m. Saturdays, Loggerhead Marinelife Center, 14200 U.S. 1, Juno Beach. Free; marinelife.org.

■ **"David Willison: Chair"** — A one-man show featuring recent pop art and conceptual works by South Florida photographer and printmaker David Willison, through March 3, Art On Park Gallery and Studios, 800 Park Ave., Lake Park. Opening reception 6-8 p.m. Feb. 12. Admission: Free. 355-0300.

■ **ABBA the Concert** — This tribute group pays homage to the beloved anthems of one of the greatest pop phenomenon in music history, performing such hits as "Dancing Queen," "Fernando," "Mamma Mia" and "Knowing Me, Knowing You," 8 p.m. Feb. 12, the Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$15-\$80; 832-7469.

■ **Eric Culberson** — 9 p.m. Jan. Feb. 12, The Orange Door, 798 10th St., Lake Park. Tickets: \$10; 842-7949.

Sunday, Feb. 13

■ **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.

■ **Auto Show at West Palm Beach** — 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Feb. 13, Waterfront Commons, Flagler Drive, downtown West Palm Beach. Free.

■ **Peking Acrobats** — The gymnasts, jugglers, cyclists, tumblers and clowns perform at 2 p.m. Feb. 13 at the Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$15-\$48; 832-7469.

■ **The Girl Choir of South Florida** — Singers in a presentation of treble choir favorites, settings of Gregorian

chant to modern popular classics. 3 p.m. Feb. 13, St. Patrick Church, 13591 Prosperity Farms Road, Palm Beach Gardens, a half-mile south of Donald Ross Road.

■ **Whitehall Lecture Series** — The Henry Morrison Flagler Museum is hosting a series on the architects who designed Palm Beach's iconic buildings. 3 p.m. Feb. 13: "Architects Carrère and Hastings," by Dr. Laurie Ossman. 3 p.m. Feb. 20: "Architect John Urban," by John Loring. 3 p.m. Feb. 27: "Architects Schultze & Weaver," by Jonathan Mogul. 3 p.m. March 6: "Architect Addison Mizner," by Caroline Seebohm. Held at the Flagler Museum, One Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. Tickets: Free for museum members at the Sustaining level and above; \$5 for individual, family and life Members \$28 per lecture for non-members, includes museum admission; \$100 for a series ticket. You also can stream the lectures live at www.flaglERMuseum.org. 655-2833.

■ **A Tribute to Louis Armstrong** — 8 p.m. Feb. 13, Maltz Jupiter Theatre, 1001 E. Indiantown Road, Jupiter. Tickets: \$40; 575-2223; www.jupitertheatre.org.

Monday, Feb. 14

■ **Jay and the Americans** — The '60s pop legends sing "This Magic Moment" and other hits at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 14, Maltz Jupiter Theatre, 1001 E. Indiantown Road, Jupiter. Tickets: \$50; VIP meet and greet tickets, \$65; 575-2223; www.jupitertheatre.org.

■ **Dmitry Kouzov** — The cellist is joined by pianist Tao Lin for a concert at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 14 at the Kravis Center's Rinker Playhouse, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$30; 832-7469.

■ **Dudu Fisher** — The singer and "Les Miserables" star performs Jewish, Yiddish and Israeli songs, as well as Broadway tunes, 8 p.m. Feb. 14, the Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$25-\$100; 832-7469.

Tuesday, Feb. 15

■ **Play and Sign** — Classes offer a fun way to learn American Sign Language, 9:30 a.m. Tuesdays through March 1, Community Room, Suite 1108, Downtown at the Gardens, Palm Beach Gardens. Sign up at www.tinyhandsigns.com.

■ **Talking Toddlers** — Class tailored to toddlers with little or no expo-

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sure to sign language, 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays through Feb. 8, Community Room, Suite 1108, Downtown at the Gardens, Palm Beach Gardens. Sign up at www.tinyhandsigns.com.

■ **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** — 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.

■ **A Salute to the Greatest Russian Folklore Dance and Music** — Listen to and view folkloric dance and song presentations in this ArtSmart Lecture, 1:30 p.m. Feb. 15, the Kravis Center's Picower Foundation Arts Education Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$25; 832-7469.

■ **Golf and the Wisdom of Your Emotions** — Tim Kremer, founder of My Spirit of Golf, offers a presentation as you learn how to tap into the wonderful power of your thoughts, emotions and beliefs to improve your golf game. It's 7-9 p.m. Feb. 15 at the Jamar Enlightenment Center, 4595 Northlake Blvd. (150 yards west of Military Trail), Suites 110-111, Palm Beach Gardens. Cost: \$25; 630-2280.

■ **David O'Donnell** — The Irish

singing sensation is joined by special guest Mary Duff for a concert at 8 p.m. Feb. 15, the Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$25-\$100; 832-7469.

Wednesday, Feb. 16

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

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

■ **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: Feb. 9. Visitors get an inside look at the nuts & bolts of a working lighthouse watchroom. Tour time approximately 75 minutes. Tours are weather permitting, call for tour time. Must be 4 feet tall to climb, no flip-flops on tour. 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.

■ **Tango Inferno** — The troupe from Buenos Aires takes you on a journey through the history of the dance form at 8 p.m. Feb. 16, at the Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Pre-performance discussion by Steven Caras

at 6:45 p.m. Tickets: \$20-\$55; 832-7469.

Ongoing events

■ **"Contempo" and "ArtyBras"** — A juried exhibition featuring contemporary art completed within the last two years, through Feb. 10. "ArtyBras," an exhibition and silent auction of artist-made bras to support the fight against breast cancer, through Feb. 10, Lighthouse ArtCenter. Gallery Square North, 373 Tequesta Drive, Tequesta. Pink Cocktail Party and Fashion Show, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Feb. 10. Admission: free for members; \$5 ages 12 and up; free for under 12; free admission on Saturdays. 746-3101.

■ **"Natural Observations"** — Works by fine-art photographer Barry Seidman, through Feb. 11 at the Student Resources Building, Florida Atlantic University's MacArthur Campus, 5353 Parkside Drive, Jupiter. Free; 799-8000.

■ **Capitol Steps** — Music and political satire, through Feb. 13. Performance times 7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday. At the Kravis Center's Rinker Playhouse, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$40; 832-7469.

■ **Fine artwork by Liman Gallery Palm Beach** — Through Feb. 17, JCC North Gallery, 4803 PGA Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens. Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. 712-5209.

■ **35th Anniversary Design-**

ers' Show House — Presented by American Red Cross at 3000 N. Flagler Drive, West Palm Beach. Four-week event is open to the public 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mondays-Saturdays, noon-4 p.m. Sundays through Feb. 19. \$30, general admission, \$200, preview party; 650-9131 or www.redcross-pbcc.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; jupiterlighthouse.org.

February events

■ **Theatre of the Absurd** — ArtSmart lecture hosted by Lee Wolf, who discusses and revisits the popular and innovative theatrical form that evolved from the influence of the Post World War II French Existentialist Movement. Dramatists like Albee, Beckett, Ionesco and Pinter. It's at 1:30 p.m. Feb. 17, at the Kravis Center's Picower Foundation Arts Education Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$25; 832-7469.

■ **Free Lighthouse History Lecture Series** — Juno Beach Town Center, 340 Ocean Drive, 6-7 p.m. Feb. 17: Steve Kruspe, Education Specialist at the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse and Museum will lecture on "Rescue at Their Own Risk: U.S. Life Saving Service, Jupiter." Lecture also scheduled March 17. 747-8380, Ext. 101; jupiterlighthouse.org. ■

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March 17 – 7:30pm

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March 19 – 12:00pm

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Changing Shoes
One woman's search for the meaning of life...in a closet full of shoes

Tina Sloan McPherson

March 20 – 8:00pm

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THE MASHUP

Eww. Remember DOS? Thank Xerox for a new path



bradfordSCHMIDT
bschmidt@floridaweekly.com

I'll admit to this: In my youth, I may have had a tendency toward narcissism. Maybe not in the super-human supply found in certain actors or politicians, and less in the self-admiration "my goodness, but don't I look fantastic, and aren't I brilliant" sense than in the self-centered "I operate in a sphere that only I affect" sense, but one could still argue that I had a slightly skewed sense of my own place in the world. Let me be clear: I never, not since I was 9 at any rate, believed that actions didn't have consequences. Instead, I enjoyed the illusion that I was the captain of my own ship, that good and bad times were both results of my actions and mine alone. That's changed with time. I still firmly believe in the importance of taking personal responsibility for one's own life (you plant an orange seed, don't expect an apple tree), but I'm also aware that there are factors beyond my control that do have an influence on me.

Discovering that hidden hands (I'll avoid puppetry analogies: I'm not paranoid — much) contribute to important moments in my life can still surprise me though. I'm not talking about the big picture influences here; we all grow up with the knowledge that many aspects of our lives are decided by people we'll

never meet who work in rooms we'll never see. From something as simple as the school bus route to the rules required to register a car, from how long your grass can be (at least in some overbearing municipalities) to how much you pay in taxes, being told what and how certain parts of our lives work is something most people understand and accept, if begrudgingly.

The things I'm talking about are those that people, or this person at any rate, believe take place in small bubbles that only a select few and we are privy to. No one wants to meditate on the fact that events unknown may affect our lives, but every so often we're reminded that there are people influencing our lives at levels we may have been completely unaware of. It can be a bit of an eye-opener, particularly the first time it causes some sort of major shift in your life. For Dorothy, it was the moment that Toto pulled the curtain aside to expose the true nature of the Wizard of Oz. For me, it was finding out in high school that a young lady I had been courting had been warned away from me by a mutual friend who thought I would be a poor choice of boyfriend (still up for debate — feel free to contact my wife for her thoughts on that one).

Not all of these unseen machinations are negative of course. I got my first job as a recording engineer in New York City, thanks to a recommendation given, unbeknownst to me, by a well-known drummer who happened to be an acquaintance of mine (a posi-

tive and negative: I was flattered that he went out of his way to make the call on my behalf, it was an ego blow to learn that someone thought anything more than my charming personality would be necessary to win the gig). And neither do these sorts of invisible influences affect events on merely personal levels. There are thousands of hidden factors, unknown to most people, that have shaped things from the development of musical styles to changes in technology.

Take a Windows-based computer for example. Some of us are old enough to remember the bad old days of MS-DOS and what it meant to have to create a business document. Graphical user interfaces were found on Apple computers in the early 80s, but the vast majority of business machines were PCs. So that meant learning how to use programs like WordPerfect, which were completely text based, giving documents names like what-a-drag.txt and dealing with files called autoexec.bat and config.sys. Then there was the dreaded "Abort, Retry, Fail?" screen that appeared often enough to enter the lexicon as an example of poor usability.



Oddly, I can't remember a time that choosing any option helped one bit.

But then came Windows. It sat on top of DOS at first, and it wasn't great, but it was better than simple text with no intuitive usability. In the 90s, with the releases of Windows NT and Windows 3.1, it got better, and by the time Windows 95 came out it was good enough not just for businesses and geeks, but for retirement-aged parents, contributing to the widespread adoption of personal computers. About now, Apple fans are screaming that Microsoft stole the idea of using a GUI from Jobs and company, and Microsoft would be nowhere without Apple. And about now a smaller group of people is mumbling to themselves that it wasn't Apple at all. And it wasn't. It was Xerox. Building

SEE MASHUP, B9 ►

MASHUP

From page B8



on the work done at Stanford that used hyperlinks (sound familiar?) for navigation, developers at Xerox PARC built the Xerox Alto computer, which had the first truly graphic-driven computer interface — one that certainly blazed the trail down which Apple and Microsoft ultimately would travel.

Even more interesting, and far lesser known, was the Carterfone. There weren't many of these made (just about 3,500), and the device itself didn't have much impact on the world as we know it. Nonetheless, its existence had enormous influence not only on telephone use, but on cable television and the growth of the Internet.

Invented by Thomas Carter, the Carterfone was designed to link two-way radio systems to phone systems, and was used, for example, by oil companies that needed to reach workers in the field. A phone call made to a

Carterfone-equipped base-station could be patched into a radio network, and direct communication could be carried out with people in areas where no phone lines existed. This was all a bit too much for AT&T, who felt that they should control phone lines end-to-end, just as they had for years, thanks to FCC Tariff 132, which prohibited connecting anything to the phone system that hadn't been purchased from, you guessed it, the phone company.

In response to both AT&T and General Telephone (the last independent phone company in the country at the time) telling customers to keep their damn hands off the Carterfone, Carter sued in federal court, claiming that such restrictions violated the Sherman Anti-Trust act. Before ruling, the court asked that the FCC take another look at Tariff 132. While at one time that would have been an easy layup for the giant telco, the FCC had just been reprimanded by an appellate court which found it had made a ridiculous ruling when it banned the use of the Hush-A-Phone. The Hush-A-Phone was basically a cup that fit over a phone's mouthpiece into which you could speak quietly and "safeguard privacy." The court found that outlawing a device that replicates something a user could do with his hand was absurd, and the FCC, fresh off that embarrassment, found that not only should the Carterfone be allowed, but that Tariff 132 should be stricken.

Once AT&T could no longer tell users what was and wasn't a "prohibited interconnecting device," there were plenty more things attached to phone lines besides the Carterfone. In addition

to the ability of other manufacturers to supply telephones, the market for answering machines opened up, as did the market for modulator/demodulators, or modems. And that easy access to digital data transmission was critical to the explosion and adoption of the Internet. It's not far-fetched to say that were it not for the modem, we wouldn't have the Internet, and were it not for the Carterfone decision, modems might never have been made widely available.

The Carterfone decision has also gone beyond the simple "what can I connect to my phone line?" question as well. It's been instrumental in FCC decisions that allow consumers to use things like DVRs, choose the kind of cable box they wish to use, connect what they want to their satellite radio connections and use purpose-built media devices for Internet-streamed radio and the like. It's even been used by Skype to try to pressure wireless carriers to give consumers (and Skype, obviously) more freedom of choice in handsets.

So the next time you're on your computer checking email while you're recording two shows on your DVR and screening the call from your mother-in-law on the answering machine, take a moment to thank the invisible hands of Xerox PARC and the Carterfone. Without them, you might be adjusting your television antennas and looking at the flashing 12:00 on your VCR while your phone rings endlessly in the distance and you remind yourself to mail those letters on your way to the library to do some research. ■

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

Art and antique show set for West Palm

The eighth annual Palm Beach Jewelry, Art & Antique Show is Feb. 18-22 at the Palm Beach Convention Center. More than 180 international dealers will offer fine art, antique and estate jewelry, furniture, porcelain, Asian art, American and European silver, glass, textiles, sculpture and more, ranging from the antiques to the 20th century.

A daily lecture series will feature industry experts such as Gloria Lieberman, director of Skinner Inc.'s Fine Jewelry Department; Tom Gregersen, cultural director of the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens; Anthony Peter Senecal, historian at The Mar-a-Lago Club; and Gordon Lewis, senior director and vice-president of The Fine Arts Conservancy. Also lecturing will be dealers Janet Drucker of Drucker Antiques, Robert Lloyd of Robert Lloyd Inc. and Elias Martin of Floating World Gallery.

An opening night preview event will benefit the Historical Society of Palm Beach County will kick off the show on February 18 from 7 p.m.-10 p.m. A 6 p.m. early preview ticket can be purchased for \$100 per person by contacting the Historical Society of Palm Beach County at 832.4164, Ext. 0.

The convention center is at 650 Okeechobee Blvd. Hours are Feb. 19 through Feb. 21, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., and Feb. 22, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Tickets are \$15 daily and \$25 for a 4-day pass. For information, see palmbeachshow.com. ■

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Valentine's Week

Thursday, February 10th
Bocce Ball for sweethearts
6-8pm, Downtown Park

Friday, February 11th
Whole Foods Market Meet and Mingle
6-8pm, Whole Foods Market

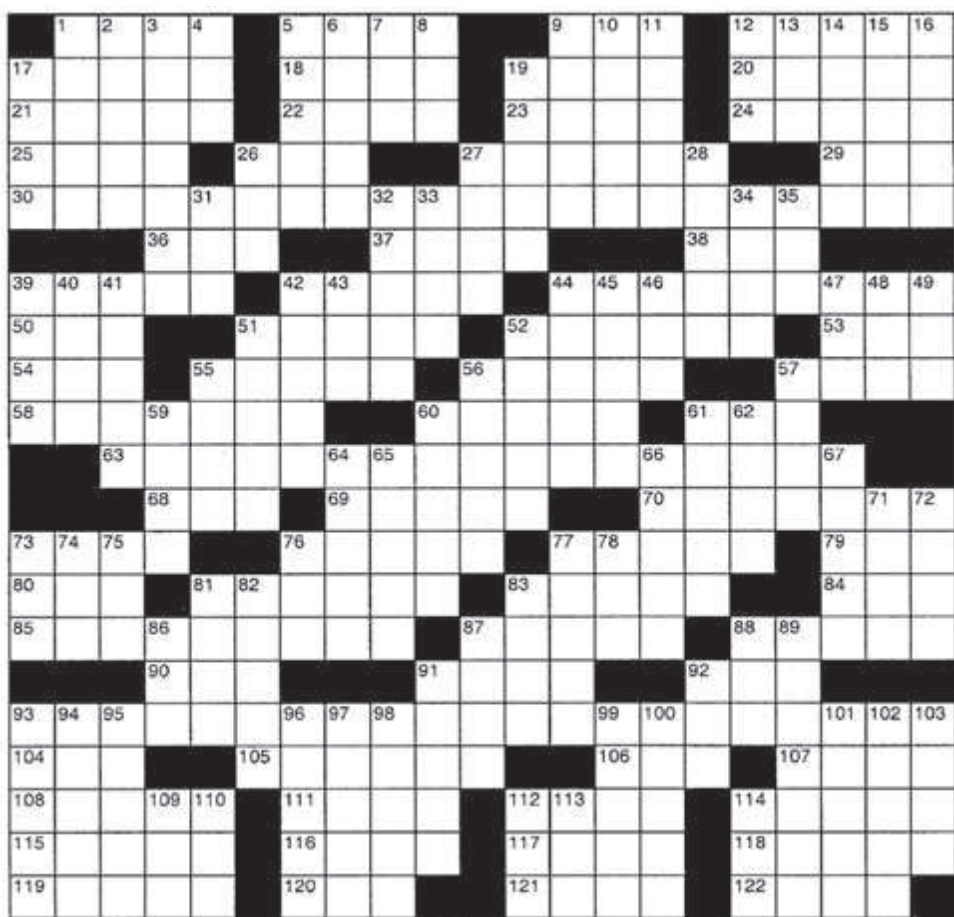
Saturday, February 12th
Champagne Toasts on Cupid's Carousel
5-9pm, Carousel Courtyard

Sunday, February 13th
Kool 105.5 Valentine's Jazz Brunch
12-2pm, Downtown Park



FLORIDA WEEKLY PUZZLES

AROMANCE



- ACROSS**
- 1 Tower town
 - 5 Ditch
 - 9 Married Mile.
 - 12 "— Life" ('66 hit)
 - 17 Acted like grandma
 - 18 Sills solo
 - 19 Tam material
 - 20 Sit in on a class
 - 21 Actor Alex
 - 22 "Aida" river
 - 23 "Meter" leader
 - 24 Actress Rivera
 - 25 Throb
 - 26 Loser to DDE
 - 27 Author Christie
 - 29 Stirrup site
 - 30 Riddle: Part 1
 - 36 Gridiron position
 - 37 Z — zebra
 - 38 Present for pop
 - 39 Dutch export
 - 42 Ms. Silkwood
 - 44 Wine variety
 - 50 Sought office
 - 51 Famed caravel
 - 52 Om, for instance
 - 53 Actress Joanne
 - 54 ABA member
 - 55 Skater Hughes
 - 56 Come out of one's shell
 - 57 Dutch export
 - 58 Sharif role
 - 60 22 Across feature
 - 61 Internet acronym
 - 63 Riddle: Part 2
 - 68 Permit
 - 69 Grows light
 - 70 Studio
 - 73 Word with camp or tree
 - 76 "— Rolling Stone" ('65 hit)
 - 77 Groundwork
 - 79 Before, to Byron
 - 80 Mackie or Marley
 - 81 Wobble
 - 83 Add a lane
 - 84 It may be white
 - 85 Titmouse kin
 - 87 Emulate Elle
 - 88 — Castro
 - 90 "— vous plait"
 - 91 Joyce's land
 - 92 Implore
 - 93 Answer to riddle
 - 104 "Exodus" protagonist
 - 105 Plaza Hotel kid
 - 106 Get a galley going
 - 107 Marineland performer
 - 108 Kanga's creator
 - 111 Construct
 - 112 Crow's toe
 - 114 TV's "Mad — You"
 - 115 Celebrity
 - 116 Mispickel and galena
 - 117 Costa —
 - 118 Rampal's instrument
 - 119 — apso
 - 120 Draft agcy.
 - 121 Dentist's directive
 - 122 French bean?
- DOWN**
- 1 Doggy
 - 2 Restless
 - 3 Left the Union
 - 4 Fuss and feathers
 - 5 A Lennon sister
 - 6 — setter
 - 7 West's "Diamond —"
 - 8 — kwon do
 - 9 Drilling site?
 - 10 Club creed
 - 11 Yale or Root
 - 12 Tic- — -toe
 - 13 "What?"
 - 14 "Farewell, Francois!"
 - 15 Big guy
 - 16 Austere
 - 17 Close the curtains
 - 19 Cart
 - 26 Postfix
 - 27 Exiled dictator
 - 28 Mary of "Dodsworth"
 - 31 Claire or Balin
 - 32 Big revolver?
 - 33 Lost
 - 34 "The Ramayana" heroine
 - 35 Barbie's boyfriend
 - 39 Austrian city
 - 40 Solemn statement
 - 41 "Wait — Dark" ('67 film)
 - 42 Ballet company
 - 43 Santa —, CA
 - 44 Smith or Page
 - 45 Like Machu Picchu
 - 46 Utmost
 - 47 Bizarre
 - 48 Nest, egg
 - 49 Zombie base
 - 51 Debra of "Love Me Tender"
 - 52 Fountain treats
 - 55 Use coupons
 - 56 Shampoo ingredient
 - 57 Middle Eastern airline
 - 59 Electrical measure
 - 60 Librarian Melvil
 - 62 Pindaric poetry
 - 64 Stop on —
 - 65 Delibes opera
 - 66 Blackboard support
 - 67 Cry uncle
 - 71 Cleveland's lake
 - 72 Stagger
 - 73 English channel?
 - 74 Fireworks reaction
 - 75 Kimono cummerbund
 - 76 Peeper protector
 - 77 Senator from Delaware
 - 78 Humorist George
 - 81 Stowe gear
 - 82 Bisect
 - 83 Sported
 - 86 Civil War initials
 - 87 Pixie and Dixie
 - 88 Charge
 - 89 Vile
 - 91 Road curves
 - 92 Luxury car
 - 93 Veronica of "Hill Street Blues"
 - 94 Maestro Leinsdorf
 - 95 Novelist Cather
 - 96 St. — fire
 - 97 Savannah sounds
 - 98 Startled cry
 - 99 Vestige
 - 100 Dubuque denizen
 - 101 Game fish
 - 102 Intense
 - 103 Behind schedule
 - 109 Mil. base
 - 110 Homeric character
 - 112 — Magnon
 - 113 Back talk
 - 114 Sternward

SEE ANSWERS, B5

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HOROSCOPES

■ **AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)** Big challenge coming up? Uncross those fingers and believe that you're going to do well. And keep in mind that so many people have faith in your ability to succeed.

■ **PISCES (February 19 to March 20)** Testing the waters is a good way of learning about an opportunity before plunging right in. Ask more questions and be alert to any attempts to avoid giving complete answers.

■ **ARIES (March 21 to April 19)** Time is on your side in the early part of the week. But anything left undone by midweek will need to be put into rush mode. The weekend offers choices for you and someone special.

■ **TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** Finally getting credit for a contribution is nice for all you idea-generating Ferdinands and Fernandas. But don't sit on your laurels under the cork tree. Use it as a first step to a bigger opportunity.

■ **GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)** Despite the progress made, a hint of doubt might set in. That's OK. You need to stop and consider not only what you're doing but also how you are doing. Make adjustments where needed.

■ **CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** The dreamer is dominant in the Moon Child's aspect, but a dollop of hard-headed practicality is coming up fast and jockeying for space. The challenge is to make room for both modes.

■ **LEO (July 23 to August 22)** It's a good week for Leos and Leonas to

start assessing what they've done and what they plan to do. Moving to a new environment — home or job-related — is a possibility for some Cats.

■ **VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)** The week calls for Virgos to make tough decisions, but in a way that leaves the door open for changes. Ask for advice from someone who has been in the position you're in now.

■ **LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)** Disappointments are never easy to take, but you have the ability to learn from them and go on to success. Meanwhile, continue to build up your contacts. You'll need them soon.

■ **SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)** Things might still be going much too slowly to suit you. But you need the time to make sure they're going in the right direction. It's easier to make a course correction now rather than later.

■ **SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)** Showing some temperament at the way things are going is one way of getting your point across. Just don't overdo it, or you risk turning away more-moderate supporters.

■ **CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)** Things could change more quickly this week than you like. But don't fret; you'll most likely find that you're up to the challenges. The weekend offers much-needed relaxation.

■ **BORN THIS WEEK:** You have a gift for making people — and animals, too — feel special and loved.

By Linda Thistle

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

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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LATEST FILMS

'Sanctum'

danHUDAK

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Is it worth \$10? No

It's great that movies can serve as an escape from the everyday, especially when they take us places we've never seen. "Sanctum" easily has that covered; unfortunately, it takes us somewhere we'd never want to go.

I'm not sure about you, but if someone offered to take me cave diving in a place where some passages are called "Devil's Restriction" and "The Elevator," I'd kindly pass on the offer. I think most non thrill-seekers would, even those for whom spelunking is a hobby. So part of the fun going into "Sanctum" is the promise of watching an expedition team discover a giant, remote cave that heretofore has not been explored.

And then the movie starts.

After a half-hour of painful dialogue and an absurd amount of foreshadowing, a cyclone causes the cave to flood, forcing our explorers to find a new way out. With limited lighting, air supply and patience, the team dives deeper in the hope of finding a new exit.

The five people who embark on the journey encapsulate just about every stock character you can ask for in this situation: There's Frank (Richard Roxburgh), the world-famous cave diver who doesn't get along with his unappreciative but talented son Josh (Rhys Wakefield); there's the millionaire financier (Ioan Gruffudd) who wants to conquer nature, and his girlfriend Victoria (Alice Parkinson), who has no diving experience; and finally there's George (Dan Wyllie), Frank's sidekick who has a history of decompression sickness.

With that brief description, knowledgeable filmgoers can pretty accurately guess how the story will play out. This is not a surprise: The film was executive produced by James Cameron ("Avatar"), who hasn't told a fun, inspired story since "True Lies" in 1994.

To be fair to director Alister Grierson, it's not the predictability of the story that's its biggest problem. Rather, it's the overwhelmingly dreary sense of despair



that just wears you down, to the point where you don't care who lives or dies — you just want the movie to end. Adding to the discomfort is a series of vivid and overly graphic scenes that make you cringe and want to look away. What's even worse is that after they're over, you're not eager to start looking again.

You might be looking, by the way, through 3D glasses; though there's nothing here visually that warrants a third dimension. In fact, if it were possible to take away a dimension from the 2D, that'd be just fine. The more in-your-face this movie is, the more unbearable it becomes, lending credence to the motto that there certainly is too much of a good thing.

"Sanctum" is technically well made; the action is nicely staged and easy to follow, and the characters' actions/motivations are almost always understandable. However, it's hard to appreciate bones protruding through skin and roughly 90 minutes of utter despair after a painfully boring setup. ■

— 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

"Sanctum" is based on the real-life experiences of its producer, Andrew Wight.

CAPSULES

REVIEWED BY DAN HUDAK
www.hudakonhollywood.com

The Rite ★★

(Anthony Hopkins, Colin O'Donoghue, Alice Braga) A skeptical seminary student (Mr. O'Donoghue) is sent to Rome to study exorcisms, but refuses to believe even after Father Lucas (Mr. Hopkins) shows him the real thing. Mr. Hopkins is good as usual, but Mr. O'Donoghue doesn't have the leading man presence needed to carry the movie, and it's a bit of a bore. "Inspired" by true events. Rated PG-13.

Rabbit Hole ★★★

(Nicole Kidman, Aaron Eckhart, Dianne Wiest) Once happily married Becca (Ms. Kidman) and Howie (Mr. Eckhart)

try to move on after their 4-year-old son is killed in an accident. It's depressing, sure, but the performances are so good you can't help but admire the movie. Rated PG-13.

The Green Hornet ★★★

(Seth Rogen, Jay Chou, Cameron Diaz) After his father's (Tom Wilkinson) death, millionaire playboy Britt Reid (Mr. Rogen) teams up with his dad's mechanic (Mr. Chou) to fight crime in L.A., only with a twist: They'll attack the bad guys by being one of the bad guys. It's genuinely humorous and entertaining — and in a welcome change, the live action 3D actually looks good. Rated PG-13. ■

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FLORIDA WEEKLY SOCIETY

Mirabella Neighborhood Walk benefiting Florida Diabetes Camp



RACHEL HICKEY/ FLORIDA WEEKLY

1. Tino DeRosa
2. Diane Brenner and Bruce Shulman
3. Debbie Roosth and Marissa Roosth
4. Dr. Mary Vaccarello-Cruz and Julianna Cruz

FLORIDA WEEKLY
YOUR NEWS AND ENTERTAINMENT SOURCE

Palm Beach Synagogue's 17th Annual Gala at Mar-a-Lago Club



COURTESY PHOTOS

1. Dr. Edward Steinberg, Judy Steinberg and Dr. Sidney Feuerstein
2. The gala committee, from left to right: Amy Szoke, Ayelet Paz Matheson, Barbara Zimet, Nancy Colgrove Heller, Lynn Brodsky, Dinie Scheiner, Patricia Gottenger and Maxine Kaufman
3. Mr. William Langfan, Ohev Israel Award and Rabbi Moshe E. Scheiner

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FLORIDA WEEKLY SOCIETY

Celestial Gala of North Palm Beach benefiting The American Cancer Society
at The Club of Admiral's Cove



JOSE CASADO/ FLORIDA WEEKLY

1. Lorea Thomson, Rob Thomson, Barbara Spitz and Stephen Spitz
2. Kalpana and Ravi Patel
3. Brittany Boyer and Matt Boshier
4. Brian and Jennifer Amarnick
5. Sherrilyn Norwood, Candace Brown, Ryan Dobson and Rhonda Dobson



FLORIDA WEEKLY
YOUR NEWS AND ENTERTAINMENT SOURCE

Celebrity Bartender Event to benefit G-Star Arts & Entertainment Foundation at The Capital Grille



RACHEL HICKEY/ FLORIDA WEEKLY

1. Christine Michele, Greg Hauptner and Cindy Morgan
2. Stacy Sacco and Bob Lynch
3. Debra Levine and Gemma Degasperis
4. Cindy Berrios, Ron Palillo and Aaron Underwood

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.

Barrage promises 'fiddle fest' at the Maltz

BY SCOTT SIMMONS
ssimmons@floridaweekly.com

Barrage isn't Celtic. It isn't country, either. But the show, which is billed as "a high-octane fiddle fest," is a celebration of musical traditions from around the globe.



Barrage has avoided performing strictly Irish or strictly Celtic music because of the numbers of performers in those musical styles.

The Canadian troupe, which plays two shows Feb. 11 at the Maltz Jupiter Theatre, just wrapped a European tour.

They've been resting up in Alberta, where the temperatures are balmy, and hovering somewhere around freezing.

"It's just nicely below freezing," says Anthony Moore, one of the show's creators.

A talented fiddler in his own right, Mr. Moore said he and his partners created the show to spend less time performing and more time creating.

"When we formed Barrage in 1996 one of the plans was to get ourselves off the stage, so we could focus more on the writing

and producing," he says. "It's really an extension of what we've done our whole lives. We like to explore other sorts of music — folk, music, jazz, classical."

And Barrage incorporates all that, in a combination of music, song and dance.

"We've had upward of 40 performers in Barrage since 1996," Mr. Moore says. "It's a wonderful cross-section, which helps us with world music."

The current lineup of eight performers includes three Americans, three Canadians, one person of dual citizenship and one German. The longest tenured member, bassist Tim Harley, has been with the group since 1998 or '99, Mr. Moore says.

Mr. Moore says Barrage has consciously avoided performing strictly Irish or strict-

ly Celtic music because of the sheer numbers of performers in those musical styles.

But he concedes, "My parents were descended from Irish and Scottish people, so I have a proclivity for Celtic music."

Barrage tours about 40 weeks a year, and performs about five shows a week, Mr. Moore says.

"Last year we were in 17 different countries," he says. "We're certainly not shy about reflecting world music and we take it back to the places that gave it to us."

Of all the places Barrage has performed, Mr. Moore says Europe has had the most positive response.

"Culturally, Europe is very good for us. There's a very strong tradition of violin playing there."

And how about Asia?

"We've been to China 11 times," he says. "It's a different ball of wax because you have to create things differently — create your set differently. It's a really

good challenge for that."

Mr. Moore says he no longer actively performs, but is passing the love of music along to his children. And he says that working with Barrage has been satisfying.

"To be in the arts and to face the daily challenges that presents it has to be a labor of love," he says. "We really enjoy the challenges the arts business presents to us. Some are good, some are bad. It's something we've done our whole lives. The fact that our little baby has turned into something that's gone around the world is something else." ■

in the know

- >>What: Barrage
- >>When: 5 and 8 p.m. Feb. 11
- >>Where: Maltz Jupiter Theatre, 1001 E. Indiantown Road, Jupiter
- >>Cost: \$35
- >>Info: 575-2223

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Watching the News Leads To Depression

Is it me or does watching the news make you depressed? Have you ever watched the news without seeing something that made you sad or mad? "Fire kills family," "car crash kills 2 teens." I could make a list a mile long. If the content of the news is not bad enough, they fill all of the ad spots with more content to make you sad. "You're Fat," "You're Bald," "You pay too much for car insurance." Heck, another long list to make us sad, angry and depressed. Would it hurt them to find an advertiser that sells something good? How about an ad for family vacations, swing sets, tasty edible panties ... I would even settle for dog food ads. I was about to mention beer but that is needed to deal with the depression. It seems to me that the news today takes the easy way out by simply turning on the police scanner and leading the newscast with whatever they hear from it. Is it too much to ask that our talented news folk take a little extra time and effort to tell us about the good things happening in our community? Or are we destined to have an epidemic in the country where thousands of people will die each day of a new mental illness called "news depression?"

Share your thoughts with me by emailing joe@seaviewradio.com. Tune in weekdays at 8:40 a.m. and have a chance to win tickets to the Kravis Center, Sunrise Theatre or The Palm Beach Pops.

FLORIDA WEEKLY CUISINE

Kudos to Kubo: Chef brings creative flair to Pacific Rim fare

scottSIMMONS

ssimmons@floridaweekly.com



North Palm Beach is not the place you think of for cutting-edge dining.

Nicely done? Yes. Revolutionary? Forget about it.

But at Kubo Asiatic Cuisine, Roy Villacrusis has turned the town's culinary scene on end with his Pacific Rim fare.

Local diners may remember Mr. Villacrusis as sushi chef at Mark's in City-Place and Mizner Park. After Mark's closed, he took a break from South Florida and worked two years in Las Vegas.

He's been back since, with a culinary bang.

"People say, 'you're crazy for opening in North Palm Beach. There are too many older people,'" Mr. Villacrusis says. "But these are well-traveled people. And we're not for everyone. You have to explore your tastebuds."

Inside, his restaurant at Crystal Tree Plaza, the former home of Lanni's, is more evocative of an urban club, maybe in Tokyo, maybe in San Francisco. Red lacquer and plywood cover the walls, which are lined with low banquettes. Japanese rock videos play on the screen.

The feel? Well, it's slightly industrial, but smart, and provides a stunning contrast to the edgy but refined menu.

And that menu, inspired by Japanese izakaya, or bar, fare, is perfect for grazing.

Sushi and sashimi are on the menu, as are cold and hot dishes that also draw on the cultures of Korea and the Philippines.

When we arrived on a recent Wednesday evening, the place was quiet, perfect for relaxing.

Our waiter brought us each a spoon topped with an amuse-bouche of chopped tuna, with black seaweed, oshinko and daikon. They were tossed with a ponzu sauce.

Mr. Villacrusis says the ponzu "is one of those classic Japanese sauces that's like a vinaigrette, but everyone has one that's a little bit different."

Appetites tempted, we were ready to order.

We started with the Nikumo Maki (\$15). The roll, with soft-shell crab, daikon sprouts and cucumber, with a touch of wasabi chili and sweet soy sauce. The crab was lightly breaded and fried. It was a combination of hot



SCOTT SIMMONS / FLORIDA WEEKLY

Chef Roy Villacrusis' fare at his North Palm Beach restaurant is inventive and delicious.

The escabeche is rolled and fried yellowtail snapper atop coconut black Thai rice and hon shimeji — long, skinny Japanese mushrooms.

and cold, spicy and mild. And the fried soy noodles that accompanied provided a spicy crunch.

The Longonisa Sausages (\$17) piqued our curiosity.

The pork sausages are a nod to Mr. Villacrusis' Filipino heritage, where cooks drew inspiration from their Spanish rulers. But, Mr. Villacrusis says, residents of the Philippines traditionally prefer milder flavors, hence the three sweet links we received. They were juicy and mild, with just a hint of heat. They were served with a rice cake that lent an additional layer of sweetness.

The Escabeche (\$23) was Mr. Villacrusis' pièce de résistance.

It's a fried yellowtail snapper, the meat rolled on either side, with the tail standing. Presentation always draws oohs and ahs — we were glad to finally try it.

It's served with coconut black Thai rice and set on a bed of hon shimeji, the long, skinny Japanese mushrooms.

The crust on the fish was crisp and the meat was piping hot, but sweet and tender with a minimum of fuss — just the way fish should be prepared.

Other visits, we have had the "Fish and Chips" (\$10). Arthur Treacher, move over.

No breading, no grease. The fish was strips of kahawagi fish jerky. The chips? Crispy, fried lotus accompanied by a spiced mayonnaise. The fish, served in a highball glass, was chewy, and tasted of the sea. It made a nice counterpoint to the light-as-air lotus chips. The inspiration? Mr. Villacrusis says it's something he has eaten in the streets of Tokyo and Singapore.

Kubo has a nice wine and sake list, but at its heart, this is bar fare, and this bar fare called for beer. Sake would have overwhelmed the food, and bottles of Filipino San Miguel (\$3.50) beer complemented the delicate flavors.

For dessert we tried the cheesecake sticks (\$8). The three fried sticks of dough were filled with cream cheese and served with a rich banana caramel sauce on the side. "You go to restaurants and people always ask if you have some kind of cheesecake," Mr. Villacrusis says. "This was a way to reinterpret it." The portion was perfect, and provided a sweet ending to the meal.

Service throughout our evening was

in the know

Kubo Asiatic Cuisine

1201 U.S. Highway 1, Crystal Tree Plaza, North Palm Beach; 776-7248

Ratings:

Food: ★★★★★

Service: ★★★★★

Atmosphere: ★★★★★

>> **Hours:** Lunch, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. Dinner, 5-10 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, 5-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday; closed Sundays and Mondays

>> **Reservations:** Suggested

>> **Credit cards:** Major cards accepted

>> **Price range:** Sushi and sashimi, \$6-\$11; cold dishes, \$8-\$23; hot dishes, \$5-\$27

>> **Beverages:** Beer, wine and sake

>> **Seating:** Tables indoors and out, plus bar seating

>> **Specialties of the house:** Liver surf 'n' turf, escabeche, sushi and sashimi

>> **Volume:** Low to moderate

>> **Parking:** Free lot

★★★★★ Superb
★★★★ Noteworthy
★★★ Good
★★ Fair
★ Poor

spot-on, and our friendly waiter made helpful suggestions. Never once did we feel rushed, even as the crowd grew.

That crowd is one that will continue to grow as word spreads about Mr. Villacrusis and Kubo's inventive fare.

Visit once, you'll be back. We'll see you there. ■

food & wine CALENDAR

OPENINGS

> The Bistro restaurant has opened **Bistro to Go** on U.S. 1 in Jupiter. It's "restaurant food to go," including wine. There is an in-house sommelier. Catering is offered, as well as take-out. The menu includes sandwiches, paninis, coffees and bakery items. Full loafs of bread are available. Location is 2123 South U.S. 1. Hours are 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. seven days. Call 744-5054, see thebistrojupiter.com or email thebistrojupiter@msn.

> **Boxo Noodle Bar** has opened in the Concourse Village Plaza at

the corner of A1A and east Indian-town Road in Jupiter. It's Pan-Asian food with items such as coconut fried shrimp and Asian tacos. The menu also includes mini sandwiches and a variety of noodle salads. Hours are Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. and Sunday, noon to 9. Call 746-3636, fax 746-3626 or see boxonoodlebar.com.

> **Gourmet Burger Co.** was set to open Feb. 8 on U.S. 1 just south of Indiantown in Jupiter. The burgers are hand-ground meats with specialty buns. It's located at 251 S. U.S. High-

way 1. Hours are Monday through Thursday, 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m. to midnight, and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Call 746-6200.

EVENTS

> **The 2nd annual Palm Beach Marine and Seafood Festival** is Feb. 11-13 at the South Florida Fairgrounds, 9067 Southern Boulevard in West Palm Beach. Hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$7 a day; senior citizens, \$5; children 12 and under free.

> West Palm Beach

Greenmarket, 8 a.m. Feb. 12, Waterfront Commons, West Palm Beach. Produce, baked goods, seafood, crafts, plants. A traditional European-style farmer's market.

> **Gardens GreenMarket**, 8 a.m. Feb. 13, Palm Beach Gardens, behind city hall complex at Military Trail and Burns Road. Live entertainment, produce, plants, flowers, handmade crafts and prepared food and drink items. ■

— Have an item for foodnotes? Please email it to pbnews@floridaweekly.com.

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