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WEEK OF JANUARY 17-23, 2013

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INSIDE



**Films of a people**

This year's Jewish Film Festival highlights Israeli works. **B1** ▶



**SUSTAINING THE RACE**

Thousands will support the fight against breast cancer at the 22nd annual Race for the Cure on Jan. 26

COURTESY PHOTOS

BY MARY JANE FINE

mjfine@floridaweekly.com

THE RACE IS ON.

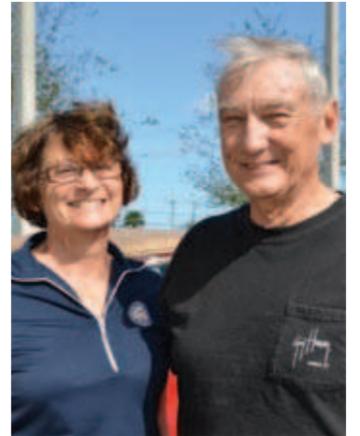
For the 22nd year, the South Florida Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure is holding its annual Race for the Cure. The gathering place for that initial race, back in 1991, was a flatbed truck, long since replaced by the Meyer Amphitheater on Evernia Street in West Palm Beach. Participants in the 5K race — an official USATF event — will run or walk a route that begins on Flagler Drive and ends with a Survivors' Recognition Ceremony.

But there's more, much more, awaiting the thousands who are expected to attend.

SEE KOMEN, A8 ▶



Warriors in Pink Ruby Collins, Djenane St Fleur Gourgue, Sandi Gropper, Andrea Wesley, Michele Vanden Broek and Cyndi Young Arrudap.



**Networking**

A Schumacher Auto event brought out car and Fins fans. **A24** ▶



**Emmy needs a home**

This pup and other pets may be adopted at local shelters. **A6** ▶

Legalization efforts for America's most popular illicit drug gain momentum

BY EVAN WILLIAMS

ewilliams@floridaweekly.com

GERALD KRECICKI HAS SMOKED MARIJUANA for most of his adult life, his habit interrupted only recently after men armed with flash bombs and high-powered rifles burst into his home in the early morning of Friday, Oct. 12.

Mr. Krecicki, a lean and silver-haired 49-year-old who goes by Jerry, was a successful real estate broker before the

SEE JOINT, A10 ▶

BY THE NUMBERS

18

■ U.S. states that allow the use of medical marijuana. \*See Inside

0

■ Deaths that have been attributed to marijuana in Florida

57

■ Percentage of Floridians who support medical marijuana, according to a 2011 poll.



**Money & Investing**

Young adults face significantly higher healthcare costs. **A20** ▶

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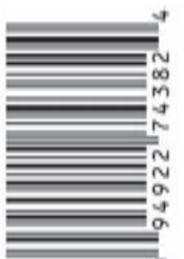
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## COMMENTARY

## The business of auguring



rogerWILLIAMS

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Perhaps you remember this old word: *augur*. It describes either a person who portends, or the act of portending — of looking ahead in order to lead.

As a verb, it could be used this way: American democracy augurs well for mankind.

As a noun, it could describe a president. Lincoln, for example.

“With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation’s wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations,” he said.

An augur of the first order, the president used that single magnificent sentence to conclude his second inaugural address, delivered on March 4, 1865.

Then 56, when Mr. Lincoln spoke from the east portico of the Capitol he had 41 days to live. The late winter had produced weeks of rain in Washington, and Pennsylvania Avenue was a muddy mess. That fact failed to deter thousands of Americans from standing knee-deep in it just to see and hear him.

None had to pay for the privilege. For their trouble, they heard one of the shortest inaugural addresses ever given, at 698 words. It was also one of the greatest, in the estimation of historians.

Length, after all, does not augur quality. On March 4, 1841, President Harrison delivered the lengthiest of the 57 inaugural speeches to date, measured at 8,445 words. Those words have now faded into the most obscure reaches of our national memory. By contrast, the shortest inaugural speech ever given came from the lips of George Washington, his second: It weighed in at 135 words.

Nowadays, each inaugural word is disarmingly expensive. The number of words delivered by the president, divided into the cost of an inauguration, suggests just how pricey they are.

At George W. Bush’s 2005 inauguration, taxpayers spent about \$71,400 for each of the 2,073 words he delivered. Four years later, we paid out \$62,500 per word for Barack Obama’s 2,406-word address. And this week, we’ll likely be spending \$60,000 to \$70,000 per word, again.

Here’s how. Etiquette now requires taxpayers to foot the bill for security and officially sanctioned events, while private donors pay for the swirl of accompanying hoopla.

Sounds simple enough. But it’s not.

After Mr. Obama’s 2009 inaugural, with 10 official balls, the party cost alone was more than \$40 million, or roughly equal to that of George W. Bush’s 2005 event.

Security itself was an even bigger elephant, coming in at about \$115 million in 2005 for Mr. Bush, and roughly the same in inflation-adjusted dollars for Barack Obama in 2009.

This week, Washington, D.C. will host about 800,000 inaugural celebrants, officials predict. Security costs again will equal those of the 2005 and 2009 inaugurals. Each of the president’s inaugural words, there-

fore, will cost taxpayers tens of thousands of dollars, or more.

That fact suggests a national imperative: Every action Mr. Obama takes, and every word he speaks, should augur with bell-ringing American eloquence.

But the eloquence of Mr. Obama’s second inauguration is now deeply in question, although his schedule suggests otherwise.

Since the nation needs to pare down, Mr. Obama is hosting only two official balls, for the most pared-down inaugural in 60 years.

There’s an insidious problem with his 2013 approach, however. This time around, the president is taking big corporate money to help pay for the parties. He’s picked the haves (who will get the best seats this week and possibly for the next four years), over the have-nots.

Four years ago, the president limited the size of donations for inaugural celebrations from any individual to \$50,000. His inaugural committee then announced that it would “not accept contributions from corporations, political action committees, current federally-registered lobbyists, non-U.S. citizens, and registered foreign agents.”

That was a new way of doing business in America, a way that established integrity by ethical leadership. After all, President Bush had accepted basketfuls of checks for as much as \$250,000 from such corporations as Exxon-Mobile, Bank of America and Pfizer, all of whom benefitted hugely from his administration.

Now, says Brian Becker, things have changed (see [www.answercoalition.org](http://www.answercoalition.org)). Mr. Becker organized unemployed workers both for Mr. Obama’s first and again for this week’s inauguration, getting them permit-

ted well in advance to lend their voices to this uniquely American moment from a public space on the parade route.

But the protestors’ permit for that space — in Freedom Plaza, across the street from the hotel where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once wrote, “I have a dream” — got yanked on New Year’s Eve. Officials decided, instead, to erect bleachers and sell seats to “donors.”

So the unemployed are officially out. “They do not have the \$250,000 per person, or the \$1 million per corporation that (Mr. Obama) is collecting for access to inaugural activities,” Mr. Becker wrote to the president’s inaugural committee.

That may be business as usual, but it’s poor leadership.

Americans require no favoritism. Not for rich or poor, not for black, brown or white, not for Republican or Democrat, male or female, corporate or non-corporate, religious or non-religious, and not for those who protest, or don’t.

Let privilege march in the back of the parade.

Anything sanctioned by the president and his inaugural committee should come from us all, as the gift of a free people, to and for us all. Not one ounce or inch of it should be sold away to corporations or any other special interests.

With commercial-free eloquence, in that case, the president could then celebrate the greatest American virtue: the inauguration of all, regardless of race, creed, color, brand name or corporate influence.

Unfortunately, we’ll have to look to the past or the future to see such a glorious inauguration, again. ■

ER

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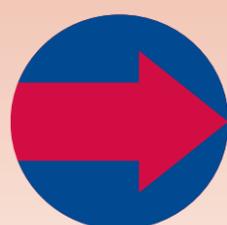
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**OPINION****Take the hostage****richLOWRY**

Special to Florida Weekly

The budget crisis is over. Long live the budget crisis.

Now that the fiscal cliff has been resolved, we're on to the fight over raising the debt ceiling. President Barack Obama wants no part of it. Immediately after Congress passed his tax increases to avoid the cliff, he insisted that there is no way he'll negotiate over the debt ceiling. That would be so inappropriate.

Cue the hostage-taking analogies, the talk of extremism, the lamentations over a broken Washington. But why is the president outraged that someone would use the leverage of an impending event that would damage the economy to his negotiating advantage? It's precisely how he won on the cliff.

No one called him a hostage taker when he didn't immediately accept the House Republican extension of all the Bush tax cuts, and instead insisted on forcing a choice between higher tax rates on the wealthy or going off the cliff.

He got his way. Not because Republicans wanted to raise taxes. But because taxes would go up for everyone on Jan. 1, and very few people (and no Republicans) wanted that to happen. Obama

used every ounce of his leverage to raise taxes on as many people as he could — and succeeded. Congratulations.

Now that the leverage may work the other way, Obama wants an end to all this crazy talk of negotiating things and compromising. "I will not have another

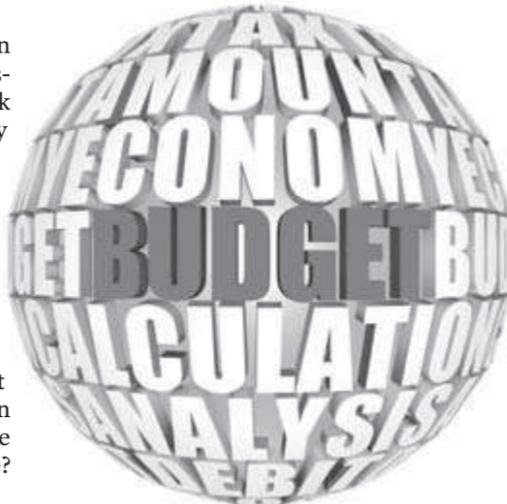
problem. The president always says that we need a "balanced approach" to address it. In the cliff deal, he got one part of the balance.

What about the spending cuts that the president has said in the past should be a disproportionate share of any budget solution? He's not the least bit interested in those, except as a rhetorical device. Which is why Republicans are always in the position of trying to force him to accept some sort of spending discipline.

In a better, more rational world, the debt limit wouldn't be a tool of budgetary policy. But it is one of the few must-pass pieces of legislation that Republicans can use to force spending cuts, and it obviously relates directly to our budget problem. If the president doesn't want the debate over it to go nerve-wrackingly down to the wire, he can set out a serious offer, now.

Of course, he's doing the opposite. His refusal to negotiate isn't sustainable, but he'll spend precious time trying to sustain it. He'll finally agree to talk, and then get Republicans to back off whatever their maximal position is — because Republicans will again fear being blamed if there's no agreement. Another Band-Aid will be applied to the debt, until next time. In the Age of Obama, the new budget crisis always follows the last. ■

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



debate with this Congress over whether or not they should pay the bills that they've already racked up," the president bristled. He has apparently been an innocent bystander while the national debt increased by 60 percent since he took office.

We've hit the debt limit of \$16.4 trillion, and it will need to be extended in a couple of months. When \$16.4 trillion in debt isn't enough, you've clearly got

**John Brennan, Sami al-Hajj and the blight of Guantanamo****amyGOODMAN**

Special to Florida Weekly

It takes courage to enter a war zone willingly, armed with a microphone and a camera as a journalist. That is what Al-Jazeera cameraman Sami al-Hajj was doing in December 2001, as he was entering Afghanistan from Pakistan to cover the U.S. military operations there. While his colleague was allowed in, al-Hajj was arrested, in what was to be a harrowing, nightmarish odyssey that lasted close to seven years, most of it spent as prisoner 345, the only journalist imprisoned at Guantanamo Bay — without charge. Al-Hajj is out now, back at work at Al-Jazeera and reunited with his family. His recollections of the horror of detention by the United States should be front and center in the forthcoming confirmation hearings for President Barack Obama's choice to lead the CIA, John Brennan. It has been 11 years since the Guantanamo prison was opened, and four years since President Obama promised to close it within a year.

"He speaks very eloquently (about) what many hundreds of other detainees suffered, who cannot tell their story," Baher Azmy, legal director of the Center for Constitutional Rights, told me. "The brutality he suffered in Afghanistan, the fact that he was turned over for political reasons or for a bounty, the arbitrariness of his detention in Guantanamo and the brutality of his treatment there."

I sat down with Sami al-Hajj last month at Al-Jazeera's headquarters in Doha, Qatar. He now heads up the network's human rights and public liberties

desk. Tall, dignified, in his flowing white robe that is standard attire for the men in Qatar, al-Hajj told me in his best English what he endured.

"They put me in Kandahar airport with the people there. We submit five months in Kandahar. And in Kandahar also they starting interrogated me, from beginning, from when I was born until they arrested me." Shackled and hooded, he was pushed off the transport plane onto the runway, when he fell and broke his kneecap. He was forced to march anyway, into a building where people were screaming. He was put in the middle of a circle of U.S. soldiers who held guns to his head.

His interrogators believed he had filmed the last known interview with Osama bin Laden. Al-Hajj told me that he told them: "I'm not the person who film(ed) Osama bin Laden, because at that time I was in Doha. And my passport says that, and my ticket with you also says that. I'm not the person. This is my job, and this is my business. If I get chance now to film Osama bin Laden, I will." His captors acknowledged they had the wrong cameraman, and promised to release him. Instead, he remained in a U.S. prison in Kandahar for five months.

On June 13, 2002, al-Hajj was shackled, hooded and flown, he thinks with about 40 others, to Guantanamo. En route they were denied food, water and toilets, and were beaten if they tried to sleep. At Guantanamo, the interrogations continued:

"Three interrogators — one from FBI and one from CIA, one from military intelligence... and one translator. And they told me, 'You are now in Guantanamo, and we wait until we get some

decisions from Pentagon to release you. Until that time, we want you to be patient and to cooperate with our people."

It became clear what exactly his captors meant by "cooperate": "They starting give me some offer to give me a U.S.A. nationality and take care about my family, if I work with them in CIA to continue my job being journalist with Al-Jazeera, just send for them some information about the link between Al-Jazeera and al-Qaida.... Of course, I refused to do that. I told them, 'I'm journalist, and I will die as a journalist.'"

He said he was tortured repeatedly. He eventually went on a more-than-400-day hunger strike, which was met with violent, painful forced feeding. The tubes were not cleaned between prisoners, so they were covered in blood.

John Brennan was the director of the National Counterterrorism Center under George W. Bush, and was said to be President Obama's original choice to head the CIA. Brennan withdrew from consideration for the post amidst protests, as he publicly supported the CIA's policies of so-called enhanced interrogation techniques and extraordinary rendition. As he faces Senate confirmation hearings now to head the CIA, think about what "enhanced interrogation" and rendition really mean. Think about Sami al-Hajj. ■

— Denis Moynihan contributed research to this column.

— Amy Goodman is the host of "Democracy Now!," a daily international TV/radio news hour airing on more than 1,000 stations in North America. She is the co-author of "The Silenced Majority," a New York Times best-seller.

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# PET TALES

## Ease the way

Soft beds, ramps and gentle exercise will keep old dogs more comfortable

BY DR. MARTY BECKER  
AND GINA SPADAFORI

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Regular, gentle exercise is key to health and happiness for senior dogs.

Don't let your older dog sit around: As your dog ages, build him up to regular, moderate exertion and wean him off the intense, leaping games of fetch or the pavement-pounding miles of running you may have enjoyed together in his younger days. Break it up: Instead of taking one long walk a day, take two shorter ones. And look for the opportunity to add low-key "brain games" using food puzzles or nose-work that functions as hide-and-seek for your pet.

Be sure the lowered intensity and duration of activity doesn't turn into weight gain. Extra weight puts more pressure on your dog's joints, and clogs up the efficient engine of his internal systems. If anything, keep your dog on the lean side of normal.

More tips for senior dogs include:

■ **Stop slipping and sliding:** A common problem among senior dogs is increasing unsteadiness on their feet. There are lots of possible contributing factors, including arthritis, hip dysplasia, nonspecific aches and pains, and the association of one unfortunate slip with more to come. If the problem is one small slippery area, such as a tiled entryway, firmly attach a throw rug with double-sided tape. If a whole room or a hallway is an issue, head to the toy store for interlocking foam play mats. These



**A sedentary life isn't recommended for aging dogs, who need regular, gentle exercise for their health.**

mats, designed for toddlers, can be configured in any shape or direction you need, and they'll provide a soft, non-slippery surface for your elderly dog's paws. You can rearrange them or take them up at any time.

■ **It's all about the bed:** Many senior dogs sleep 16 hours a day or more. With all that time spent snoozing, it's not surprising that the most important place to many dogs is the bed. Choose beds that are well-padded and warm. If your dog has arthritis, double up the beds or add egg crate or memory foam padding for extra cushioning. And add more beds; Offering a variety of beds throughout your home will give your dog ways to catch his naps while staying close to you. Finally, mix up the fabrics; You may find your dog's favorite kind of bed covering changes depending on the weather and his mood.

■ **Flavorful food:** If your senior dog is healthy and trim but seems to be losing his

appetite, try a little extra flavoring for his food. A few little jars of strained-meat baby food (look for no- or low-salt varieties, and skip labels with onion and garlic) in the pantry will give you lots of healthy options to "kick it up" for your pup. A small spoonful of baby food will add new flavor and texture to your dog's old food. To really amp it up, try putting the dog food in the microwave for a few seconds. Warming dog food releases its aromas and makes it more pungent. For a dog with sensory loss, the smell of his food warming in the microwave can be just the ticket to increase his appetite and his enjoyment of the meal. You can also make chicken or beef broth without salt, garlic or onions, and add warm to meals.

■ **Ramp it up or give him a lift:** Many companies make stairs and ramps to help dogs get to their usual, favorite places, including in the car or on the couch. These are often lightweight, well-designed and collapsible, or attractive enough (in the case of stair steps) to leave as a permanent part of the decor. And while it's certainly possible to use old towels as slings to help old dogs up and down stairs, you'll find a wide variety of slings with easy-grip handles that make the lifting easier for you — since after a dog's lifetime, you may be no spring chicken, either.

It doesn't take much to make your older dog's life more comfortable, and knowing that you have, will make you happier as well. ■

### Pets of the Week



>> **Shadow** is a 1-year-old neutered American bulldog mix. He is strong and muscular. He likes to show affection and give kisses. Shadow would do well in a home with a savvy owner, and preferably a home with no small children.



>> **Kitty** is a 3-year-old spayed domestic. She's had some rough times — she was adopted once but was brought back to the shelter when her owner

lost his home. She would do best in a home where she would be the only pet.

**To adopt:** The Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League, Humane Society of the Palm Beaches, is located at 3100/3200 Military Trail in West Palm Beach. Adoptable pets and other information can be seen at [hspb.org](http://hspb.org). For adoption information call 686-6656.



>> **Shadow** is a very sweet domestic medium-haired kitty, with gray and white markings. Shadow was in a home and returned to Safe Harbor in

August, 2011. This reserved girl is declawed and would prefer to be an only pet. She enjoys the company of people and will be a nice lap cat.



>> **Emmy** is a playful and sweet hound mix — she is about 7 years old. Emmy could be placed in a home with older children and other compatible pets. She is confident and playful and will make someone a loving and loyal companion.

**To adopt:** For more information on these and other adoptable pets, call Safe Harbor's adoption center at 747-5311, ext. 2. Safe Harbor's new adoption center is at 401 Maplewood Dr. Suite 10, Jupiter.

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# NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD

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## Local weirdness

Unlucky Gary Haines, 59, was arrested in December in Charlotte County, Fla., after he was spotted stealing a trailer by hitching it to his own truck and driving off with it. The “spotter” was the trailer’s owner, David Zehnt-

ner, who was out flying in his private plane and happened to be passing over his property at the moment Mr. Haines was hitching up. He easily followed Mr. Haines from the air and called in his destination to police.

## Jails need locks too?

“Fulton Jail Will Get Working Cell Locks,” read the Dec. 19 *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* headline. The county commission serving Atlanta had finally voted to break a longstanding 3-3 tie that prevented buying new jailhouse locks — even while knowing that inmates could jimmy the old ones at will and roam the facilities, threatening and assaulting

suspects and guards. The three recalcitrant commissioners were being spiteful because a federal judge had ordered various improvements to the jail, costing \$140 million so far, and the three vowed to spend no more. The 1,300 replacement locks will cost about \$5 million — but will not be installed right away.

## The entrepreneurial spirit

■ The Chinese fashion designer “Ms. Lv” told *China Newsweek* in November that her sales had “quintupled” since she began using her 72-year-old grandfather to model her clothing styles for girls. “(It’s) helping my granddaughter,” Liu Xianping said. “I’m very old,” he said, and “I have nothing to lose.”

■ British “medical illustrator” Emily Evans recently created eight pricy, bone china dinner plates emblazoned with the microscope images of tissue slides of the human liver, thyroid, esophagus and testicles (\$60 per plate, \$200 for a set of four).

■ In October, a shop in London’s St. Bart’s Pathology Museum ran a special sale of cupcakes as part of a sexually transmitted disease awareness cam-

paign. Each pastry’s icing was crafted to resemble the lesions, boils and warts of gonorrhea and other maladies.

■ Leading a “jerky renaissance” is Krave, a Sonoma, Calif., company creating nontraditional flavors such as turkey jerky and jerky flavored with basil citrus or lemon garlic. Actually, Krave points out, jerky is rich in protein, with low calories and fat (but with, admittedly, sky-high sodium) and could be reasonably pitched as a healthy snack. However, jerky’s main obstacle (a Krave competitor’s CEO told *The Wall Street Journal* in September) is “jerky shame,” in which some male consumers remain mortified that their girlfriends might see them enjoying the snack.

## Science on the cutting edge

■ Biologist Phil Torres, working from the Tambopata national park in Peru, revealed in December that he had witnessed a tiny *Cyclosa* spider construct a replica of an eight-legged spider in a web made of leaves, debris and dead insects. Since the real spider was found nearby, Mr. Torres hypothesized that the wily arachnid had built a decoy to confuse predators.

■ Artist Maria Fernanda Cardoso, already known for her “circus” of performing fleas at Australia’s Sydney Fes-

tival 10 years ago, has since become a legitimate academic expert on the sex organs of fleas and other insects. She debuted the Museum of Copulatory Organs last year near Sydney, teaching visitors such esoterica as: In many insect species, females are promiscuous; snails are hermaphrodites in which one shoots sperm “darts” that form rigid chastity-belt-like blockages on his mate; and a male flea copulates for eight hours straight (but only mates three times in his life).

## Awe-inspiring animals

A team of French researchers writing recently in the journal *PLOS ONE* described a species of European catfish, growing to a length of five feet, that feeds itself pigeons by lunging out of the water (“cat”-like) and snatching them, even if the leap carries it to shore. Like

Argentinian killer whales, the catfish are able to remain on land for a few seconds while wriggling back into the water where they can enjoy their meal. The lead researcher said he filmed 54 catfish attacks, of which 15 were successful.

## Up in arms

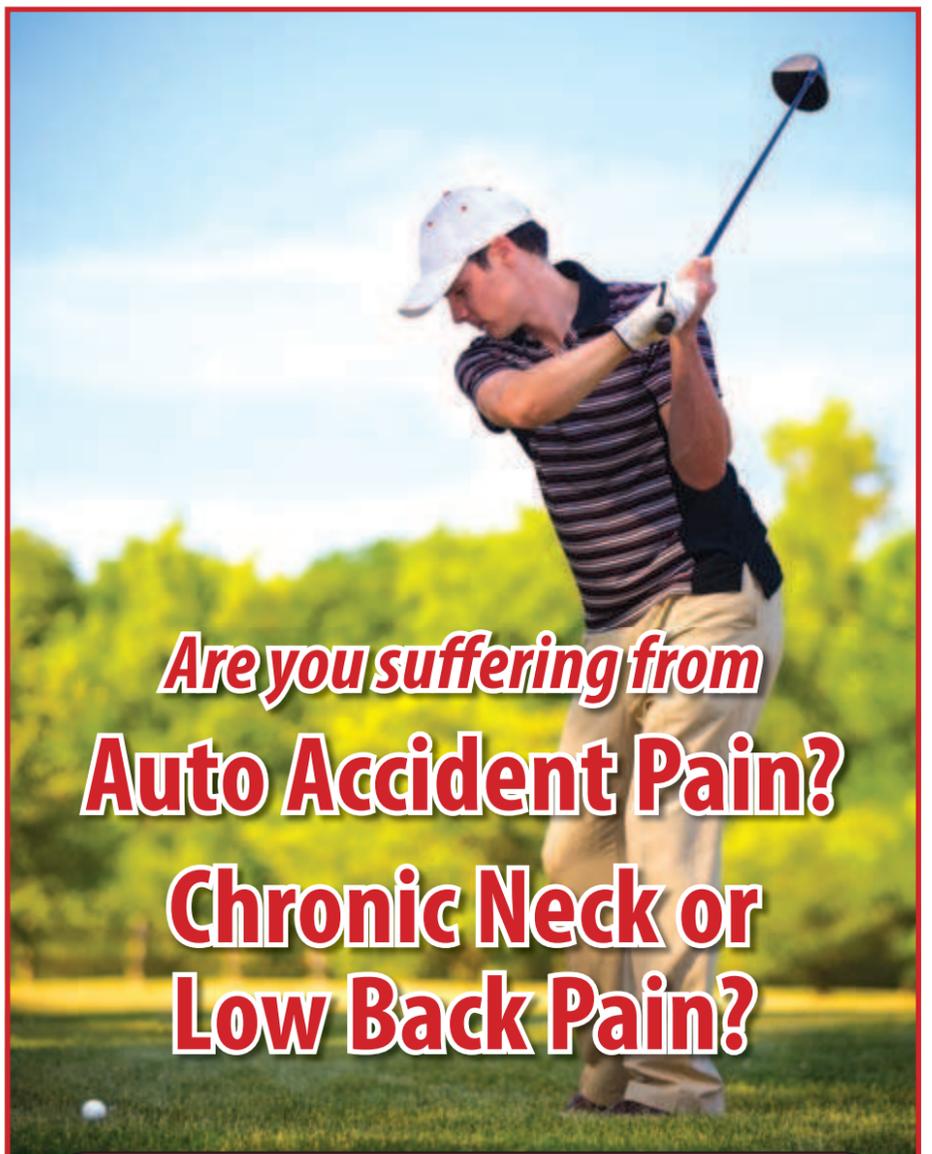
The Jiangdu District kindergarten recognizes that providing a quality education requires supporting the child emotionally as well as helping develop reading and other skills, and toward that end, it now requires teachers to hug each pupil twice a day — provided that the parent has paid the monthly

“hugging fee” of the equivalent of about \$12.80. An education agency investigation is under way, according to a December *Shanghai Daily* report, but one teacher defended the trial program as boosting a child’s confidence and establishing a “good mood” for learning.

## Splitting hairs

■ Researchers writing in the December issue of the journal *Urology* reported a “five-fold increase” over 10 years in emergency room visits for accidents caused by pubic-hair “grooming.”

Unsurprisingly, 83 percent of all injuries appeared to be shaving accidents; 56 percent of the patients were women, according to a summary of the research on *MedicalXPress.com*. ■



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# KOMEN

From page 1

“There’s always a new component every year,” says the planning committee’s Cyndi Arruda, a breast cancer survivor designated one of this year’s Warriors in Pink. “This year, we’re trying to cultivate a Man Cave for the men who stand behind our women. Maybe it’s their mother or sister, it could be their wife. We look at them as co-survivors. They’re so integral to the process.”

The idea, Ms. Arruda says, is to set aside an area where men can congregate, in the hope that that will encourage them “to really talk to one another” about their experience, their feelings. A related Men in Pink Initiative has held a few start-up events and, says Ms. Arruda, “I feel confident that, going forward, we’ll develop that.”

The something-for-everyone event also features a Kids’ Race for ages 6 to 12 and a Tots’ Race for the under-5 crowd. A Kids’ Corner will display winning T-shirts designed by children, designs used on young runners’ T-shirts.

Last year’s race drew some 20,000 participants but, Ms. Arruda says, “This year, our numbers are down a little, so who knows? Maybe in the 15,000 range. Every day, we’re getting more registered. But we started out, for that first race in 1991, with about 1,500. Mary Booher, a member of the planning committee and a board member, has been with us all those years. She couldn’t be more passionate or committed to our cause.”

Perhaps the largest team historically — a team can be as few as two people or several hundred — has come from BallenIsles in Palm Beach Gardens, though, this year, the community is registering individuals rather than teams. “We’ve had a huge following from them every year, a huge team,” says Ms. Arruda. “They’ve been loyal followers for sure, lots of supporters through the years.”

Her own passion for the cause tumbles out in her words: “You know that 75 percent of our funds stay right here, in our community, and help under-insured women. One in eight women in our lifetime will be affected by breast cancer. There are 2.5 million survivors in the U.S. — the largest group of survivors in the world. We’re happy, more than happy, to have anyone come out, no matter what size team.

“People say, ‘I’m not a walker.’ You don’t have to be a walker, you don’t have to be a distance runner. Just come down and be a face in the crowd.”

The rewards, Ms. Arruda says, are many and extend beyond the satisfaction of supporting the cause. She cites a few: an appearance by the Fushu Daiko Drummers from South Florida; live TV coverage by Clear Channel, Kool 105.5, whose on-air personalities Mo and Sally are Honorary Chairs; and an Afterparty along Clematis Street.

“The Afterparty is new,” Ms. Arruda says. “You know how people just kind of linger after the race? Well, we went to everyone on Clematis Street, up and



COURTESY PHOTOS  
Michele Vanden Broek, above, and Michele Donahue, left.



down, and got commitments from several businesses. So anyone wearing a Race bib or T-shirt will be able to benefit from the discounts they offer.”

Registration, she says, continues straight through to Race Day, when it begins at 5:30 a.m., in advance of the 7:30 a.m. Race start.



For 16 years now, Michele Donahue has worked for the Komen organization. She was a founding board member of the Affiliate in Tulsa, Okla., her hometown. She is a breast cancer survivor and a runner, a regular at annual Race events. When her husband Bill retired and wanted to move somewhere near the water, she had but one condition: “I said, ‘OK, but we have to move near a Komen Affiliate.’” Still, becoming Race Chair for the 2013 event took a bit of chutzpah.

“The Planned Parenthood debacle made it hard to find a Race Chair this year,” Ms. Donahue says, “so I said ‘I will do anything for the organization.’”

Ah, yes, the debacle: the backlash that followed the Komen organization’s decision, last year, to cut \$680,000 in funding grants for Planned Parenthood’s education screenings, including breast cancer screenings — a decision viewed as a political slap at Planned Parenthood’s pro-choice assistance with abortion. The overwhelmingly negative response led to a quick reversal of that stance and restoration of the grants, but the damage was done. Many, many thousands of women nationwide — reportedly almost 20 percent — chose to opt out of running last year’s Race for the Cure, and the Komen organization continues to struggle to regain the widespread support it once enjoyed.

“If people will just take the time to understand what we do,” Ms. Donahue says, sounding beleaguered yet determined in a phone interview. “We have never stopped funding Planned Parenthood here. All our organization does is fund breast screening and breast health. We have nothing to do with abortion.

“But onward and upward. We’re doing the best we can. We’re not going

to let this get in our way.”

Ms. Donahue traces her Komen allegiance back to Oklahoma, when she was a corporate attorney and her husband was general manager of Tulsa’s NBC affiliate. She remembers him getting a call from a friend in West Palm Beach, the then-general manager of WPTV, Channel 5, who told him about the city’s Race for the Cure. “He said to my husband, ‘This is a wonderful event,’” Ms. Donahue recalls.

That enthusiasm spilled over, leading to a Tulsa Race, which Ms. Donahue ran. “I was a recent breast cancer survivor and a runner, so it all fit together,” she says. “And then I just kept getting more and more involved.”

After the Donahues moved to Florida — they live in Jupiter — they began, once again, working on behalf of the Komen organization. For Michele Donahue, it was largely a matter of give-back.

“I was so grateful to have had good health insurance and a support group,” she says. “There were some instances when the light went off in my head and I thought, ‘Oh my God, how would someone do if she didn’t have health insurance and support?’ Most of (Komen’s) proceeds go to help people in our community who don’t have insurance or are under-insured.”

On a recent weekend, when Michele and Bill Donahue set up a table at Publix to register Race participants — 30 people signed up in four hours — they were approached by a man who looked, as Ms. Donahue says, “shell-shocked.”

“He came up to us and said, ‘My wife just had a double mastectomy, but she’s gonna be OK,’” she says. “And he just kept saying that: ‘She’s gonna be OK; she’s gonna be OK.’”

Ms. Donahue hugged the man, handed him her card and told him to call if he or his wife needed anything. Half an hour later, the man was back — to sign up for the Race.

“I’ve had so many affirmations that (by being Race Chair) I’m doing the right thing,” she says.



Ketty Etienne’s experience began the way it begins for so many women. In a

quiet voice, with a minimum of words, she recalls it. She was taking a shower one morning. She felt a lump under her left arm, another lump in her breast.

That was in June. June 16, to be precise. Trained as a nurse — she worked in obstetrics at Metropolitan Hospital in Manhattan, at Bethesda Memorial in Boynton Beach — Ms. Etienne, who is 52, knew what she was dealing with, knew what she needed to do. She made an appointment with her primary doctor and got a referral for the necessary exams. But there was a barrier between Ms. Etienne and those exams: She had no health insurance.

She had left her job at Bethesda, she says, because she has diabetes and working a night shift had thrown off her eating schedule. “My sugar was all whacko,” she says in the lilting accent of her native Haiti. “I had health insurance when I was at the hospital but not after.”

But Ms. Etienne knew about Bethesda’s Women’s Health Center and that’s where she found help, thanks to the hospital’s Breast Health Navigation program, which is supported by the Komen South Florida Affiliate. “I spoke to a wonderful woman there, Delmarie Butler. She said not to worry, there are funds to help you out. Because I was really worried.”

The funds Ms. Butler spoke of come in the form of grants to hospital screening centers; patients are directed by an affiliate to the center nearest them, where they fill out a form detailing their financial, insurance and family situation. Based on that information, the screening center determines coverage, whether full or partial, paid for by the Komen grant.

As it turned out, Ms. Etienne had good reason to worry. Her test results showed an aggressive form of the disease: HER2, a quick-growing, quick-spreading form of breast cancer. Without the Komen-funded exams, she might not have been diagnosed.

“Oh, Lord,” she says, in her quiet voice, “I don’t know what I would have done. They helped a great deal. My weekly lab that I have to do, they covered that for me. The lab looks at everything. Hemoglobin, white cell count, everything.”

Since then, Ms. Etienne also has managed to acquire health insurance: PCIP (Pre-existing Condition Insurance Plan), a program run by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. It covers 80 percent of her treatment cost, she says. That treatment, just now, is aggressive chemotherapy. Her surgery has yet to be scheduled; she expects it will be in February. Her voice carries a weariness, but it is clear in expressing gratitude for help provided.



For Michele Vanden Broek, the day that lives in infamy was Tuesday, Dec. 7, 1991. As she says, “My own personal Pearl Harbor,”

The attacker: endometrial uterine cancer.

Her recollection: “I had hemorrhaged, and they did a DNC. The doctor said, on the phone, to sit down and get my life in order because I had cancer. I was very calm. I said, ‘OK.’ But after I got off the phone, that’s when I broke down. When the reality hit. I told my husband. I ran in screaming like a banshee, ‘I’m dying . . . I have cancer.’”

That was just the first time.

Two years later, when she was 43, Ms. Vanden Broek learned she had cancer in her right breast. A lumpectomy and radiation followed. Four years after that, a recurrence sent her back for a radical mastectomy and five years on tamoxifen. This year, she is a 15-year survivor of breast cancer, a timeline



COURTESY PHOTO

**Warrior in Pink Jessica Aguirre died Nov. 8. The 2010 race had been her first.**

she traces from the mastectomy — and one of eight Pink Warriors chosen by the Komen South Florida Affiliate to represent the spirit and the courage of all breast cancer survivors.

“We’re kind of, like, the beacons of hope,” she says. “It’s a recognition that we have survived and also served Komen, that there are women — and there have been men, as well — that have come through. And it’s a way of saying thank you, of holding you up as an example of what research can do.”

One of Ms. Vanden Broek’s first phone calls, back in 1991, was to a friend, Sheila Gropper, who’d had breast cancer and whose husband was Ms. Vanden Broek’s boss at the federal General Services Administration office in Manhattan, where she handled leasing for federal tenants.

“Sheila said, ‘Get Norman Vincent Peale’s “Power of Positive Thinking,” don’t panic, write down your questions (for the doctor), be calm. You’ve got

lots of support.”

Her diagnosis threw into perspective, and tumult, the previously all-consuming events that preceded it: a job offer that would mean selling their co-op and moving to Washington, D.C. But a hysterectomy and nine months of chemotherapy took priority. The job ultimately went to someone else, and Ms. Vanden Broek went back to work in Manhattan.

In January of 1993, a CT scan showed her uterine cancer was gone. “I went running around saying, ‘I’m cancer-free! Everything is great!’ And then I got a voicemail message saying, ‘We’ve scheduled your biopsy . . .’ I’d just finished nine months of hell, just gone back to work.”

The biopsy followed a mammogram’s finding of calcifications in her right breast. She had naively thought that the chemo still coursing through her body would vanquish any breast cancer cells. Not so. For weeks and weeks after her

in the know

About the race

- >> WHAT: The 22nd annual 5K Komen South Florida Race for the Cure
- >> WHEN: Sat., Jan. 26 – beginning at 7:30 a.m. for women; 8:15 a.m. for men; 9:30 a.m. for kids 6-12; 9:45 a.m. for kids under 5.
- >> WHERE: Meyer Amphitheater in West Palm Beach
- >> REGISTRATION: Online and at various locations around Palm Beach County, including The Gardens Mall, Boynton Beach Mall, Boca Town Center and the Wellington Mall. For specific locations and times, go to [www.komensouthflorida.org](http://www.komensouthflorida.org). (Online registration closes on Jan. 23 at 5 p.m., but participants can still register in person on Race Day, beginning at 5:30 a.m.)
- >> PARKING: Free parking at The Kravis Center, with shuttle buses running approximately every 15 minutes to the Race. In case of online race problems, call 888-470-6374

lumpectomy — the precise number eludes her, just now — she took the train in from her home in Westchester to Manhattan, underwent radiation treatment at Beth Israel Medical Center, then reported to work.

At around that time, she followed her friend Sheila’s lead, entering Komen’s Race for the Cure and doing a bit of fundraising. Her battle with cancer, she thought, was winding down. Then came a scare in February of 1994: a biopsy involving her left breast. It was benign, but breathe-easy time lasted only until May of 1997 when cancer showed up again in her right breast, requiring the mastectomy.

“We moved to Florida in December of 2005,” says Ms. Vanden Broek, who now lives in Boynton Beach. “In

January of 2009, I had another scare. I found a lump in my left breast. I was waiting for the other shoe to drop, but it was nothing. I didn’t have to worry about it.”

While at Good Samaritan Hospital in West Palm Beach, she noticed that Komen had an office on the fifth floor so, when her mammogram was finished, she offered her services as a volunteer. “Komen has only a core group of salaried employees,” she says, “so volunteers are the backbone of the organization.” She stuffed envelopes, wound rubber bands around bunches of pens, handed out brochures explaining where and how money for mammograms is available for the underinsured, trained other volunteers. Komen cited her as the 2009-2010 Volunteer of the Year.

On January 26, she and Andrea Wesley, Cyndi Arruda, Djenane St. Fleur Gorgue, Ruby Collins, Sandi Gropper and founder Nancy G. Brinker — designated, as the sister of the late Susan G. Komen, “the Eternal Warrior” — will run the race as Warriors in Pink. The eighth Warrior, Jessica Aguirre, who died on Nov. 8, had written about the 2010 Race for the Cure, her first: “What an inspirational and empowering moment! Thousands and thousands of people with a purpose, a purpose to find a cure for what I had to go through. A purpose for me to be part of something BIG.”

Thoughts of Jessica Aguirre and others who have succumbed to breast cancer hover in the minds of those who survive.

“Every year,” says Michele Vanden Broek, “when I have a mammogram, I still hold my breath. But it’s important. It really is.” ■

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# JOINT

From page 1

housing market meltdown. Now he is self-employed, primarily as a freelance photographer, working for High Times, a nationally distributed magazine dedicated to all things marijuana.

By all accounts, Mr. Krecicki is a peaceful father of two. He came to Southwest Florida at age 16 from Raleigh, N.C. "with two girls on spring break, and I never went back." These days, he's contemplating the possibility of life in a prison cell. The Collier County Sheriff's Office SWAT team that raided his home confiscated 11 pounds of marijuana and a bundle of cash.

Mr. Krecicki's story highlights a national conversation about marijuana, the most commonly used illegal drug, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, and the sometimes use of powerful force and resources to investigate, arrest and incarcerate non-violent offenders.

Advocates of legalization point to polling numbers and changing rules in many states to show that Americans views on the drug are turning in their favor. Karen Goldstein, executive director of the Florida chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML), feels state legislators are softening their stances on pot as well.

"While last year I think what I said was accepted with a wink and a nod, this year it's suddenly become much more legitimate to talk about," she said.

Rand Hoch, a retired civil judge who founded the Palm Beach County Human Rights Council, pointed out that baby boomers, some of whom embraced marijuana in the 1960s and '70s, still make up a large, politically active group. A state senator from Palm Beach County, Democrat Jeff Clemens, is in the process of drafting a bill that would make pot a prescription medication here.

Washington and Colorado's landmark decisions in November as the first states to legalize the drug for recreational use brought the issue "to a head," said U.S. Rep. Earl Blumenauer, a Democrat from Oregon who estimates the country is about five years away from effectively legalizing the drug by letting state rules on the issue supersede federal ones. Currently, 18 states and the District of Columbia allow the use of medical marijuana, clashing with federal rules that say it's illegal. Other states have reduced penalties for being caught with small amounts.

"I'm not sure you'll ever see national legalization," said Robert Capocchi, a legislative analyst with the Marijuana Policy Project, a national group lobbying for regulating and taxing pot. "I think it will be something similar to alcohol prohibition where the federal government takes a hands-off approach. There are still many states in which there are dry counties and dry towns, for instance. I think you'll see a very similar response for marijuana policy."

The drug is still 100 percent illegal in many places, including Florida, though, a point dramatically illustrated by the SWAT team that arrived at Mr. Krecicki's house at 5:40 a.m.

## The raid

Upon hearing officers start to ram in his door — a heavy plate glass they couldn't move — Mr. Krecicki ran downstairs in a panic and opened it for them. Immediately, he dropped to his knees and then lay on his stomach with his hands behind his head as officers



## State marijuana laws

-  Medical Marijuana: A prescription is required to obtain specified amounts of marijuana.
-  Marijuana Decriminalized: Minor penalties for possession and cultivation of small amounts.
-  Decriminalized and Medical Marijuana laws
-  Marijuana legalized for recreational use: Growing, possessing and gifting small amounts of marijuana is legal.
-  Marijuana possession remains classified as a criminal act

Source — NORML; Wikimedia

threw a flash bomb into the room, creating a deafening bang and a blinding flash.

Moments later, Mr. Krecicki could see two officers standing over his 22-year-old son, who was also face down on the floor in the hallway, with a "foot on his back and a gun on the back of his neck." Mr. Krecicki's girlfriend and 16-year-old daughter were also residents at the home in a quiet neighborhood near downtown Naples.

Based on information from an undercover officer, the SWAT team confiscated marijuana in the house that an arrest report estimates to be worth \$27,000, as well as \$54,994 in cash; that's including, Mr. Krecicki says, \$1,300 raised at his daughter's birthday party in September to benefit Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Foundation of Southwest Florida, a nonprofit support group for families. (His daughter survived leukemia when she was a child.) The rest was from a home equity line of credit he was using for home improvements, he says.

The officers also confiscated other evidence, including scales and ledgers found in the house. The CCSO arrest report suggests those were used to help distribute and sell illegal drugs. But Mr. Krecicki said the scales were for his business selling Himalayan salt, and the ledgers were for the minerals and stones he also keeps at home to collect

and sell.

The SWAT team left with the evidence but didn't arrest him on the spot. Six days later, Mr. Krecicki turned himself in after his attorney told him a warrant had been issued for his arrest. He spent a little less than a month in the Collier jail before bonding out, and is at home awaiting a possible trial or some other resolution that could be months away.

Mr. Krecicki is charged with one misdemeanor and four felonies, the

most serious of which is intent to sell marijuana within 1,000 feet of a church, which carries a mandatory three years in prison (Mr. Krecicki's house is just across the street from Naples Church of God).

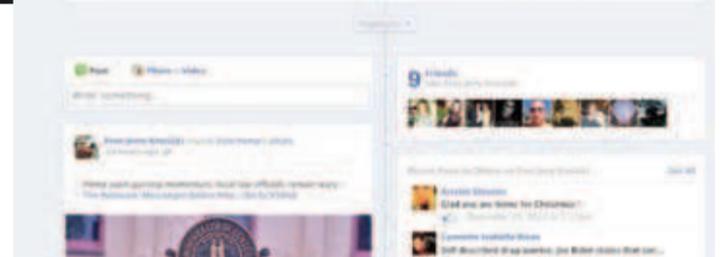
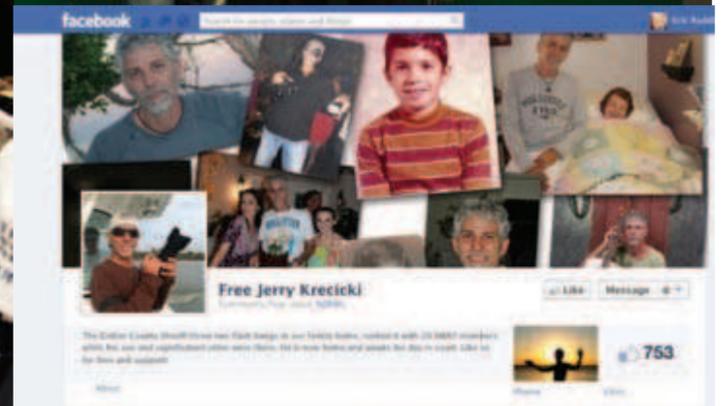


COURTESY PHOTOS

Above right: Jerry Krecicki with High Times editor and friend Bobby Black.

Above: Mr. Krecicki is packing up the contents of his home and preparing for the worst case scenario: a prison sentence.

Right: The Free Jerry Krecicki Facebook page boasts hundreds of supporters.



The worst of his criminal record includes a 1988 felony charge of possession of a controlled substance and a 1992 misdemeanor charge involving the use of fireworks. Mr. Krecicki said he is a pacifist, doesn't own a gun, and lifted up his shirt to show off his motto and wish for mankind, "Peace, Love, and Happiness," which is tattooed vertically along his spine.

Frightened by the incident, his children moved away to live with relatives. Mr. Krecicki wasn't just scared when the SWAT team raided his home.

"Scared is when you watch a movie," he said. "This was traumatizing, terrorizing, it was unbelievable."

His girlfriend, Satya Persaud, was recently helping him pack up everything in the house so they can rent it out in case the worst-case scenario of spending time in prison occurs. The best-case scenario, Mr. Krecicki's attorney Donald Day has told him, is that the charges will be dropped.

"At this point right now, they've punished me enough," Mr. Krecicki said.

### Seeking different answers

Lt. Harold Minch, head of narcotics and vice investigations for the Collier County Sheriff's Office — who oversees raids like the one carried out at Mr. Krecicki's house — didn't comment on whether Florida laws regarding marijuana or their enforcement were too harsh.

"We enforce the laws society gives us," is his disclaimer.

But Lt. Minch concedes that efforts to stop people from using or distributing marijuana have failed. He also suggested that a plan to tax and regulate marijuana might not dramatically change whom or how many people use it.

"I think what we'd be looking at is whether the legalization of it causes people to start using it," he said. "I don't know that that's going to be the case, because it's not all that hard to get now. Will it cause other criminal activities? I don't know. I've been a police officer for 27 years now and I don't know if I've ever arrested anybody for a marijuana-related offense other than the use or cultivation," whereas drugs such as crack cocaine and heroin, he adds, have resulted in arrests for crimes such as theft and prostitution.

"Have we made any headway (toward stopping marijuana use) in the last 25 years? I think the answer is absolutely not," Lt. Minch said. "Is there some benefit to continuing this level of enforcement or should we look at the realities of marijuana itself? I think law enforcement at this point is really looking for better answers."

Some politicians are doing the same. Florida State Sen. Jeff Clemens, a Democrat from Palm Beach County, is leading efforts to make marijuana medicine in the state. In 2011 and again in 2012, he sponsored a joint resolution (really, that's what it's called) in the Florida House that would have put medical marijuana on the ballot.

Those efforts died, but as a newly elected senator, Mr. Clemens is in the process of drafting a bill this term that would allow his colleagues to vote in favor of marijuana as a legal prescription drug for serious illnesses. The bill will be loosely based on Colorado's plan rather than California's notoriously unwieldy efforts toward medical

cannabis, Sen. Clemens said; and it will detail a system of medical identification cards and dispensaries.

Although at least in Florida there aren't formal plans to discuss taxing and regulating the drug, Mr. Clemens believes that is ultimately what will happen. The potential billions of dollars that advocates say would fill government coffers if pot were regulated is a central argument for legalization, as is an already financially choked justice system sending non-violent offenders to prison.

"I just think our laws are draconian when it comes to this one particular drug," Sen. Clemens said. "It's costing us hundreds of millions of dollars a year to investigate, arrest, prosecute or incarcerate small-time drug offenders who are no danger to society. Those are tax dollars that could be better spent in many other ways."

Possession of 20 grams or less in Florida carries a maximum jail sentence of a year; possession of more than that with intent to sell has a top prison sentence of five years. But Palm Beach County attorney Michael Minardi said the stiffest penalties are rarely enforced in Florida. A first or second offense might yield a sentence of six months to a year of probation, and fines and court costs of up to \$500, for instance, depending on the county.

### Aligned with heroin

Just how bad is pot for you? Many users claim it's not addictive. Mr. Krecicki, who said that it helped him relax, and fuel his creativity, insisted that when he went to jail he didn't experience withdrawal symptoms, although he had been a daily smoker.

But Jay Glynn, CEO of Charlotte Behavioral Health Care in Port Charlotte, suggests the drug is addictive.

"Do I think someone should be in prison for a long time for smoking pot? No," he said. "I think if they need to get off it, need some treatment, we should provide something like that. I think some of the criminal penalties may be too harsh. But legalizing it is a whole other thing."

As a federally classified Schedule 1 drug, marijuana is put in the same category as deadlier, more addictive narcotics such as heroin. Jodi James, head of the Florida Cannabis Action Network, was among a group that recently asked Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi to change pot's status, in effect to acknowledge that it has medical uses and is much less addictive than the state says it is now. Ms. Bondi said no.

Others are concerned that if the drug were made available as a medicine, legalized for recreational use, or downgraded in legal status, it would become all the more accessible for children.

"Obviously, if we legalize this in our state, our youth are going to have a higher probability of having access to it," said Melanie Black, executive director of Drug Free Collier. "We are absolutely against legalizing it for any use."

Palm Beach County Sheriff Rick Bradshaw points to the prescription drug epidemic as an example of how out-of-control legal drugs cause thousands of deaths every year in the state.

"Look at what we just went through with the pill mills and prescription

drug abuse," he said angrily. "The abuse is going to be rampant."

It does not sway his opinion that for years zero deaths have been attributed to marijuana in Florida, according to medical examiner reports. The resources used to bust grow houses or marijuana dealers, he insists, "saves people's lives and stops abuse. Every time you stop a grow house, you're just lessening the availability of it."

Silvia Casabianca, owner of Eyes Wide Open, which offers wholistic alternative therapies in Bonita Springs, is ambivalent about legalizing yet another drug.

"I know marijuana has been used successfully for certain medical uses, but I also see some abuses," she said. "So I'm not sure I like the idea of it being legal. The only advantage I see is not medical," she added, noting that legalizing the drug could undermine organized criminal networks. As a medicine, she believes there are better therapies than marijuana — or for that matter, any drug.

"People start finding the pain so they are prescribed the drug," she said. "I think we've created a very addictive society, and I don't

feel being addicted to anything is healthy. People say (marijuana) is not addictive but there are some instances where it actually does create dependency. People cannot socialize without pot and things like that."

For some, whether or not the drug is bad for you is beside the point.

"If alcohol is legal, it's just hypocritical that marijuana shouldn't be," said Fort Myers resident Ryun Horn, a self-published writer who uses the drug recreationally.

Doctors have attributed various negative side effects to marijuana, including lower sperm count, a decrease in ambition, lung cancer, and dulled reaction time or drowsiness.

"I think (marijuana) does have addiction potential," said Dr. Mark Lokitus, D.O., a psychologist in Fort Myers. "There's a withdrawal aspect, too."

Dr. David Rock, a Fort Myers breast cancer surgeon, said marijuana can relieve post-operative nausea but also noted it is a common cause of breast enlargement in young men.

Some users, like Mr. Krecicki, claim to have experienced no negative effects from marijuana at all. Besides smoking pot, he would generally be considered highly health conscious. He refuses to drink tap water in favor of more purified versions, has been a vegetarian for seven years, and gets his teeth cleaned every two months. In fact, the worst part about jail for him was the food, which he complained made him feel sick.

"It was worse than any drug I had ever done — and that's a fact," he insisted.

**State vs. federal law**  
States that allow marijuana use contradict federal rules making it illegal everywhere. The result, said U.S. House Rep. Earl Blumenauer, a Democrat from Oregon, is "the hopeless tangle we're facing now with conflicting marijuana laws and regulations."

From the tax code to veteran's hospitals, it's not always clear how a marijuana user or dispensary in a state

where it's legal should proceed. Rep. Blumenauer is one of about a dozen legislators in the House drafting legislation in the coming months that will address the problems, he said. Mr. Blumenauer hopes to resolve the current conflicts between state and federal law by allowing local governments to decide for themselves how to regulate marijuana, or not.

"I suspect that within five years there will be a federal change that will allow states to take their own direction, exactly like we do with alcohol," he said.

Legislators are working on bills this term that would address state's rights, including making it easier for banks to legally lend money to a state marijuana dispensary, for instance; making hemp, a cannabis-based substance used for clothing and other purposes, legal; and making it easier to research the drug. It is illegal by federal rules to grow cannabis plants anywhere but at The University of Mississippi, home of the only federally owned marijuana farm. *The New York Times* reported that a permit for research there involves getting formal approval from at least three different federal agencies.

U.S. House Rep. Trey Radel, a Republican from Florida, didn't respond to repeated requests for comment about his position on marijuana or if he would support Rep. Blumenauer's efforts.

U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson, a Democrat from Florida, was traveling in the Middle East and couldn't be reached for comment, his office said.

U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio's office responded by e-mail that he would not support federal legislation to change current marijuana rules. A statement from Sen. Rubio's deputy press secretary, Brooke Sammon, read that "illegal drugs" in general have a negative impact on children, and contribute to violent criminal organizations. "More than that, they destroy lives and undermine our society," she wrote. "As you may know, the Ending Federal Marijuana Prohibition Act of 2011 was introduced in the House last Congress and sought to remove marijuana from the list of Schedule I controlled substances. There was no companion legislation for that bill in the Senate, but Sen. Rubio would not have supported the legislation had it come before the Senate for a vote."

### Florida's muffled conversation

A White House press release issued by drug czar Gil Kerlikowske earlier this month stated: "...we're in a serious national conversation about marijuana." But doctors, business owners, law enforcement officials and others are muffled from speaking publicly about it because of the drug's legal status.

A handful of doctors with private pain management practices didn't return calls or also declined to comment. One health industry spokesperson did acknowledge that she had heard, anecdotally, that the drug had been helpful for patients in palliative care, she said, "I wouldn't want to put any of my physicians in the position of being for something that is illegal."

Shops in Southwest Florida that sell pipes and bongs "for tobacco use," didn't return repeated calls or declined to speak on the record. One shop owner who spoke off the record chose his words carefully so as not to implicate the store as a place where people buy items used to smoke pot. The shop owner said that even when out with friends, when the discussion turns to marijuana, he has gone so far as to leave the table for fear of using "the wrong words."

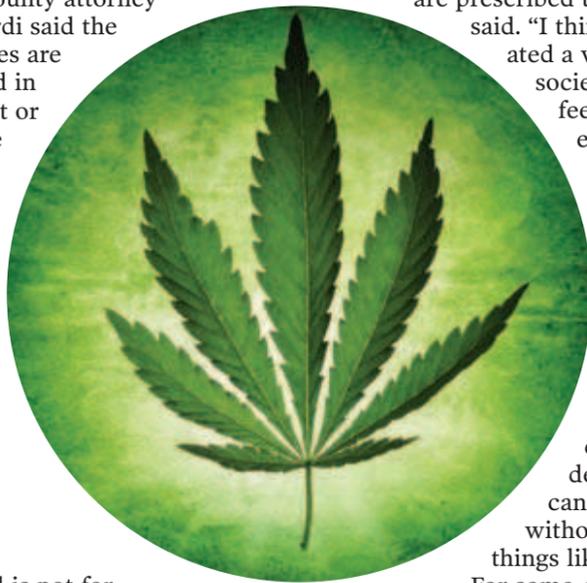
"When we start having 'that conversation,'" he said, "I break into hives." ■



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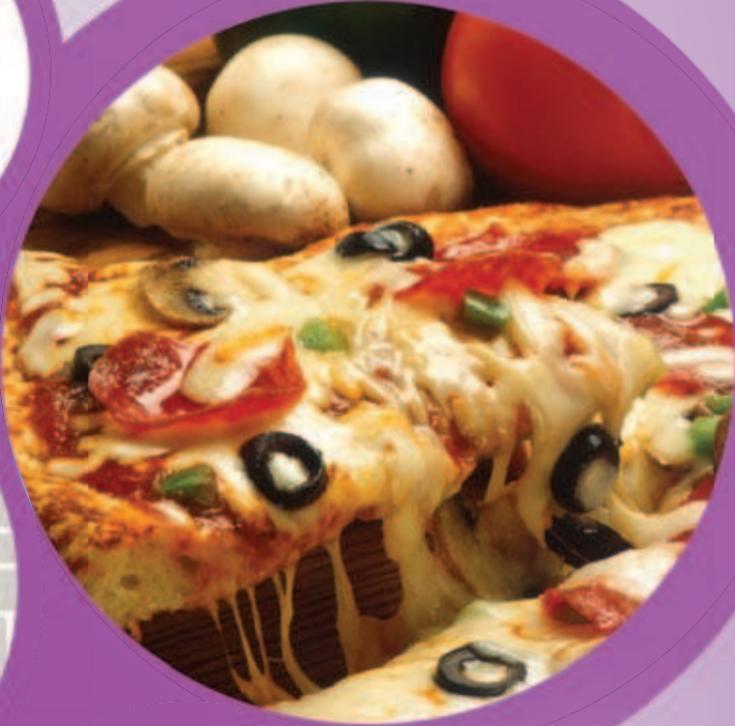
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# HARPING for BETTER BREATHING

Harmonica lessons help COPD sufferers improve breathing

BY MARILYN BAUER  
mbauer@floridaweekly.com

Eighty-one-year-old Murray Rivette of Del Ray Beach, dressed in camouflage shorts and a Santa hat, belted out "All of Me" while a group of about 25 sufferers of COPD sat rapt in holiday spirit.

With a big band CD backing him up, Mr. Rivette raised his harmonica and wailed a verse of "As Time Goes By" followed by an impersonation of Louis Armstrong. The winner of the 2012 Palm Beach Idol contest, Mr. Rivette is a consummate entertainer. He also suffers from COPD.

Mr. Rivette is part of the Better Breathers Club program started by the American Lung Association (ALA) in the 1970s, and locally held at Jupiter Medical Center's Raso Education Center.

On the fourth Tuesday of every month from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., the group ranging in age from 60-something to 80-something gathers for a half-hour harmonica lesson from Mr. Rivette, lunch provided by the hospital, time with Shawn Ballew — a respiratory therapist with more than 20 years of experience — and a lecture from a guest speaker talking on a subject related to their disease. The meetings are free and open to anyone with COPD.

"The Better Breathers program provides an opportunity for patients to continually educate themselves about the care and treatment of their disease. It also gives them a chance to share ideas and solutions in a supportive environment," said Ms. Ballew. "The overall goal is to empower our patients with

skills that will increase the quality of their life."

Jupiter Medical Center launched the Better Breathers Club two years ago. It wasn't long before harmonica lessons became part of the monthly agenda.

"Numerous studies have shown that playing the harmonica can be a beneficial adjunct to a pulmonary rehabilitation program," said Dr. Mike Feinstein, ALA program director for Palm Beach County and the Treasure Coast. "And that is why we offer it as part of our Better Breather Clubs in some of our locations. The harmonica is the only instrument that is played both inhaling and exhaling."

Patients with COPD have a problem with exhalation leaving them with shortness of breath.

"They can't get the air out," said Ms. Ballew who acts as the meeting's facilitator. "The lungs lose their elasticity and the air gets trapped, which leads to shortness of breath. When you play a harmonica you have to exhale as long as you can and this helps with shortness of breath."

Mr. Rivette, who had been playing with a harmonica trio in local venues, had started giving harmonica lessons at Bethesda Hospital in Boynton Beach when he received a call from Dr. Feinstein.

"Now I am involved in both locations," said Mr. Rivette, who has played the harmonica for 65 years. "The harmonica has helped me tremendously. When I was younger, I was too shy to talk to people."

That is certainly not the case now. Mr. Rivette's good-natured patter combined with a stellar voice and a love of the



COURTESY PHOTO

Murray Rivette suffers from COPD himself, but teaches the Better Breathers Club how to improve through the harmonica.

mouth organ acts as the glue that holds the group together.

"I come from a show biz family," he said. "Peter Falk was my third cousin."

Although there were oxygen tanks and wheel chairs in the room, there were also lots of smiles, laughter and groans when Mr. Rivette mentioned he and his first wife divorced for religious reasons.

"She thought she was God," he said. "I didn't agree."

Bada-boom.

"The people here have a common bond," said Ms. Ballew. "They are working to improve the quality of their lives.

This group lets them know they are not alone."

"There are 10 Better Breathers Clubs in Palm Beach County and on the Treasure Coast," said Dr. Feinstein. "Our goal is to fight lung disease and help with associated problems such as clean air and tobacco cessation. We want to help people who suffer from lung disease — from children with asthma to an older population with COPD."

To attend a Better Breathers meeting, call 263-2043 to reserve your free lunch. Jupiter Medical Center is located at 1210 South Old Dixie Highway. ■

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## Coalition seeks volunteers to help count homeless

The Homeless Coalition of Palm Beach County is seeking volunteers at Project Homeless Connect and to join in the concerted effort to count each member of the Palm Beach County community who is homeless.

Three Project Homeless Connect events are set to take place in January: 1 p.m.-5 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 23 at the Life Center, 400 W. Avenue A, in Belle Glade; 6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 23 at the Salvation Army, 600 N. Rosemary Ave., in West Palm Beach; and 9 a.m.-noon, Thursday, Jan. 24 at the Salvation Army, 4051 Kirk Road, in Lake Worth.

The community is encouraged to volunteer to help give out clothing, toiletries, food and other resources. Volunteers are also needed to conduct surveys of homeless individuals and families that will be attending one of the three events in order to be counted as part of the Point-in-Time survey. Project Homeless Connect provides an opportunity for homeless individuals and families to receive healthy

refreshments, get a new haircut, medical screening and meet people who are waiting to help put them in touch with resources and services.

"This is the time of year that we truly call upon the community to reach out to the homeless population and extend a

helping hand by inviting them to attend one of the Project Homeless Connect events," said Marilyn Munoz, executive

director of the Homeless Coalition of Palm Beach County. "We are here to help provide access to services and resources all year long, but now is our chance to get as accurate of a count as possible so we can proactively advocate for resources and much-needed funding to assist those in need."

Volunteers willing to offer haircutting services, transportation services, take surveys, set-up or tear-down events are asked to call, 355-4663, or e-mail homelesscoalitionpbc@gmail.com.

The events are funded by the Town of Palm Beach United Way, TJ Maxx, and Bethesda-by-the-Sea. ■



## 100 Years of Cars Show Jan. 19 at Pine School

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The Pine School hosts the 6th Annual 100 Years of Cars show on Jan. 19 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on its Upper School campus in Hobe Sound. The show has helped underwrite scholarships for seven students at The Pine School.

The show features vehicles from 1900 through the present day. This year, American classics and performance cars are the featured. Other car show categories include brass and antique, classic era and CCCA classics, European production, and modern and race cars.

Prizes will be awarded for Best in Class and in four other categories: Best in Show, The Pine School Award for Most Popular Car, the Manufacturer's Trophy, and the Veterans' Award. The show is a family-friendly event featuring live music and activities for children. Pizza and beverages will be on sale in the school's dining hall during the show. Concession stands will also be open throughout the event site.

The sponsors making the 6th Annual

100 Years of Cars possible include Braman Motorcars, Wallace Automotive Group, UBS, The Bullen Insurance Group, Leighton Security Management, Southeastern Printing, Kemco Performance and Pretend Party Productions.

Admission is \$10 for adults. Active military personnel and veterans get in free, as do children 12 and under. Car registration is \$40. Car club registration is \$300 for up to 10 cars. For more information about the event or to register a car, visit www.100yearsofcars.com. ■



## Clinics Can Help receives \$100,000 from Quantum

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Palm Beach County-based grant-making organization Quantum Foundation donated \$100,000 to Clinics Can Help, a local non-profit that donates surplus durable medical equipment and supplies to financially needy children and adults in the county.

Clinics Can Help, a grass roots organization founded by local hospice nurse Owen O'Neill, started by donating wheelchairs and hospital beds to needy patients in 2005. The organization and to date has assisted more than 1,400 clients by donating more than \$600,000 worth of recycled medical equipment, according to a written statement from the foundation.

"This year we're looking forward to

expanding our service to Belle Glade," said Mr. O'Neill. "We are thrilled and honored that Quantum Foundation has so much faith in our ability to make a difference in this way. We promise to use this opportunity to assist as many people in Palm Beach County who are in need of medical equipment as we can!"

Kerry Diaz, president of Quantum Foundation said in the statement, "Our board of trustees recognized the potential of Clinics Can Help and how a simple concept could really change the lives of those who need medical equipment."

To arrange a loan of medical equipment, call Clinics Can Help at 640-2995 or visit their West Palm Beach office for more information or to complete a simple application. ■

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# HEALTHY LIVING

## Prenups don't have to be insulting — if you negotiate properly



*Helene looked at Harvey with disbelief. This couldn't be happening to her. She had assumed he would bring up the issue of a prenuptial agreement at some point, and had been fully prepared to go along with it.*

*But these terms were insulting. And to broach signing a prenuptial agreement so close to the wedding — when the invitations had already been sent out and her family had purchased airline tickets — was beyond hurtful and demeaning. How could he put her in this position?*

*Helene and Harvey had had a whirlwind romance. Harvey was 15 years older, but Helene couldn't care less. He was handsome, charming and showered her with gifts and attention. Helene knew that Harvey had gone through a very ugly, contentious divorce, and rumor had it that his ex-wife had taken him to the cleaners. Helene's ex-husband had left her with a mess of credit card bills to pay off, but she worked long hours, and was now fully self-sufficient. She longed for the opportunity to take it easier and to enjoy the better things in life.*

*In Helene's eyes, the proposed terms of the prenuptial were woefully inadequate to provide for her should something happen to Harvey or they were to divorce. When she learned the magnitude of his assets, and the provisions in place to provide for his adult children and grandchildren, she was astonished. Harvey was far wealthier than she had ever imagined. There were clearly enough assets to amply provide for his family, and to still do the right thing for Helene. How could he not take sufficient care to make sure Helene was taken care of? Was she being punished for the gar-*

*ish behavior of his ex-wife? Did he truly care about her the way she had believed? She was too stunned to speak.*

There's no quicker way to take the stars out of lovers' eyes than to begin a conversation about prenuptial agreements. Even the most worldly and sophisticated may cringe at the prospect of sitting down with attorneys to draft a contract with their significant other about finances, rights and obligations. Matrimonial and estate lawyers can provide the legal pros and cons of obtaining a prenup, but depending on the lawyer chosen and the circumstances, may provide widely varying advice. Psychotherapists, and "people who have been there," however, may caution the betrothed, underscoring the potential for far-reaching emotional fallout from the negotiations involved.

For this discussion, let's start with the assumption we are talking about well-intended people who are deeply in love and are anticipating years of wedded bliss. (We'll leave out the unfortunate scenario where one party is opportunistic or has an agenda.) There are many reasons people elect to secure a prenup. At the end of the day, however, it's critically important for them to reflect and truly consider the importance of the relationship and what steps and risks they're willing to take to protect the trust and good will they've established.

In today's world, many of us are mistrustful or jaded about the likelihood any relationship can withstand the challenges of time. With the woeful divorce statistics trumpeted in the media and sensational stories about extra-marital escapades and betrayals, it's no wonder many of us go into self-protective mode. Many worry that their partner may be scheming to steal their assets or may leave them for a younger, tighter trophy when they've lost their looks. Those who have been through previous

rancorous marital breakups may feel especially vulnerable. They may have suffered serious financial setbacks and want to secure their futures. Those with children from a previous relationship may wish to ensure there will be sufficient assets for them, as well.

Some couples may enter a chess game of suspicion and insecurity as they attempt to assess the true motivations and loyalty of a partner, while they simultaneously position themselves to best secure their standing. Stepping away from this mistrustful, uneasy place often takes a leap of faith that neither is prepared to do. Importantly, letting down one's guard and showing a spirit of generosity is often what it takes to ease the hurt and discomfort.

On occasion, prenup negotiations become a one-sided power play, where one of the parties has a clear-cut advantage — most often the one with the lion's share of assets. This person may claim to be open-minded and fair, but the spouse can't help but feel an element of coercion. They may believe they're being railroaded into accepting terms that are humiliating and patently unfair. The woeful choice is to go against their better judgment, or consider the devastating prospect of breaking the engagement. Sadly, they may begin to seriously wonder how much the person they believed to love them, in fact, truly cares.

So, from the start, it is important for all parties to remind themselves that this is a negotiation between two people who have stated they love each other and are committed to joining their lives. In too many instances, prenuptial negotiating takes an adversarial direction, putting the relationship at great risk. It will be important that each retains their own professionals to represent their interests. But, in doing so they must ensure that, at all times, the professionals approach the endeavor with respect and sensitivity.

Sometimes, family members are flexing muscles behind the scenes, even though all parties are well aware of who's involved and what's going on. This may happen when there's a family largesse or inheritance at stake. Although the well-heeled family is understandably suspicious of potential interlopers, it would be important to head off antagonizing and insulting their child's future spouse and extended family. While this may be a delicate balance, deciding ahead of time that care will be given to EVERYONE'S feelings and interests may make a huge difference.

Negotiating a prenup can be a daunting prospect, but if both parties are committed to sensitively trying to put themselves in the other's shoes and at all times to approach each other with special care, the legalities do not have to be the undoing of the relationship.

Assuming the best of each other, and not the worst, should define the spirit of the discussions. Approached with the right attitude, negotiating a prenup can actually become an important opportunity to discuss intensely private matters with each other. The negotiations require full disclosure of assets, so both parties will have to be candid about financial holdings and liabilities. Such disclosure may open up a discussion of other important issues the couple may confront about family and lifestyle decisions. This can springboard into valuable considerations of each other's expectations and fears, providing tremendous insight into the other's character. ■

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

## FITNESS PROFILE

### 'There is no magic bullet to getting fit!'



*Get in Shape for Women is a fitness program that combines strength training, cardio, nutrition and accountability, through personal training in*

*an upscale studio. The studio is at 4755 PGA Blvd., in Midtown, in Palm Beach Gardens. Call 799- 0555.*

**Name:** Susan Taluto

**Age:** 66

**City:** Palm Beach Gardens

**Occupation:** Retired environmental professional.

**Family:** Husband Joe, a retired military officer, four children and three grandchildren.

**Activities:** Book club, hospital volunteer, I love the beach, and support and help organizations that help veterans.

**Q.** How did you decide to join the studio?

**A.** I wanted a healthier lifestyle and a healthy diet, and to lose unwanted weight.

**Q.** Did you have a training or exercise routine before you joined?

**A.** Yes. I worked out twice a week but didn't have good eating habits.

**Q.** Some people say they find it difficult to make time for exercise or training. How do you carve out the time in your schedule?

**A.** I'm a morning person, so I come in early — 7:30 — to start my day.

**Q.** Is there an aspect of the program that you like the best? If so, why?

**A.** I like working out with other motivated women and being trained by skilled people who understand women's bodies, and what works best for us.

**Q.** Do you have any specific fitness goals?

**A.** I originally wanted to lose 20-25 pounds, but have modified my goal to just have a body that is fit. I'm more focused on how my clothes fit than the number on the scale. I am leaner and stronger now.

**Q.** How would you describe the atmosphere at the studio?

**A.** Fun! There is a lot of interaction with members and the staff.

**Q.** How has the nutrition program helped you change the way that you eat?

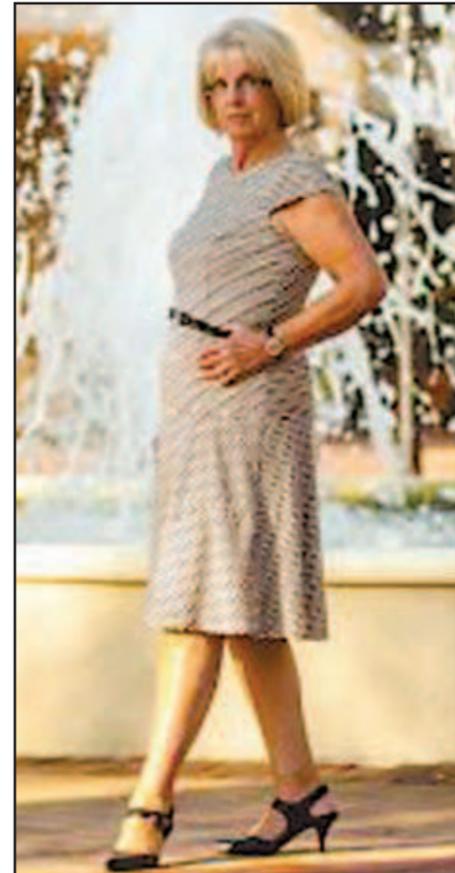
**A.** I understand the parameters of my diet. I eat more frequently, but stick to foods that are high in protein. I don't feel hungry or deprived — I no longer rely on food high in carbohydrates and sugar.

**Q.** Do you have any advice for people who might be considering starting a training program?

**A.** There is no "magic bullet" to getting fit! It is diet and exercise — a little hard work. You need to decide to do this for yourself and join a gym that supports and motivates you.

**Q.** Is there anything else you'd like to say about Get in Shape for Women?

**A.** This program works for me. I have tried many diets with only temporary success. I believe in the combination of nutrition and exercise as key to making the changes you seek. ■



# Jupiter Medical Center ranked in top 5% of hospitals by Healthgrades

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Jupiter Medical Center is ranked among the top 5 percent of hospitals of more than 4,500 hospitals nationwide for clinical performance. JMC received the 2013 Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence from Healthgrades, a leading provider of comprehensive information about physicians and hospitals. JMC announced the award in a prepared statement.

“Clinical excellence is something the entire team strives for every day,” said John D. Couris, JMC president and CEO. “This designation from Healthgrades is a testament to our commitment to quality. Our community can be confident that it will receive world-class care at Jupiter Medical Center.”

Only 262 hospitals in the nation were recognized for their overall clinical care across a broad spectrum of care, according to the hospital’s statement. While many hospitals have specific areas of expertise and high-quality outcomes in certain areas, these hospitals exhibit comprehensive high quality care across multiple clinical specialties.

From 2009 through 2011, Healthgrades Distinguished Hospitals for Clinical Excellence as a group had an overall 30.9 percent lower risk adjusted mortality rate as compared to other hospitals that did not achieve the Distinguished Hos-

pital for Clinical Excellence Award (across 18 common inpatient conditions and procedures), the hospital said.

“Today, consumers have unprecedented access to information on hospital performance as it relates to specific conditions and procedures so that they can make more informed decisions about who to see and where to go for care,” said Evan Marks, EVP Informatics and Strategy, Healthgrades, said in the statement. “The Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence enables hospitals to communicate their commitment to providing outstanding patient care and to show their continued efforts to improve clinical outcomes.”

JMC is a not-for-profit 283-bed regional medical center consisting of 163 private acute care hospital beds and 120 long-term care, sub-acute rehabilitation and hospice beds. JMC provides a broad range

of services with specialty concentrations in orthopedics and spine, digestive health, medical imaging, cancer care, minimally-invasive surgical procedures including robotic surgery, emergency services, men’s and women’s health, weight management and thoracic and lung care. Jupiter Medical Center is the recipient of the Healthgrades ‘America’s 50 Best’ Award for two years in a row (2011-2012) and the

Distinguished Hospital Award - Clinical Excellence for nine years in a row (2005-2013). For more information on JMC call 263-2234 or see [jupitermed.com](http://jupitermed.com).

Healthgrades evaluates hospital performance for more than 4,500 hospitals across the nation in 28 procedures and conditions annually. Healthgrades.com provides information on objective measures of hospital performance, which allows consumers to compare their local hospitals online at [www.healthgrades.com/find-a-hospital](http://www.healthgrades.com/find-a-hospital).

Healthgrades evaluates hospital performance for nearly every hospital in the nation; no hospital can opt-in or opt-out of being evaluated, and no hospital pays to be evaluated. Mortality and complication rates are risk adjusted, which takes into account differing levels of severity of patient illness at different hospitals and allows for hospitals to be compared equally. ■

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PALM BEACH COUNTY COMMERCE

## Jobs filled by El Sol jumped 16% in 2012

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

El Sol's day labor service experienced a 16 percent increase in jobs filled last year when a record 10,616 workers were hired. The previous high was 9,129 jobs filled in 2011.

El Sol Center Director Jocelyn Skolnik attributed the increased hiring to a combination of greater awareness in the community of the skilled El Sol workers and an improved economy, El Sol said in a prepared statement.

"The economy is improving but the reason employers come to El Sol is because we have good workers and people know they can hire someone who will do an excellent job," Ms. Skolnik said in the statement.

The majority of the jobs were temporary in nature and for such tasks as landscaping, lawn care, moving, painting, house cleaning, construction cleaning, shutter installation, general labor and others, but a number of workers have been placed in permanent jobs since El Sol opened in Jupiter September of 2006.

A total of 6,773 employers and 2,703 workers were registered at El Sol as of December 31. The day labor service is open to all Jupiter residents while employers come from throughout the region.

An average of 99 workers were available daily with 30 percent being hired, up from the 25 percent ratio in 2011.

Ms. Skolnik said El Sol plans to expand vocational training to improve workers' skills and to increase job opportunities by attracting more employers. The non-profit El Sol Center has offered various vocational training courses in the past in such areas as landscaping, painting, pressure cleaning, housekeeping, hurricane shutter installation and others.

Workers also have acquired on-the-job training in various skills such as roofing, painting and landscaping through volunteer work on Habitat for Humanity home construction and other community service improvement projects. For information on hiring workers or volunteering at El Sol call 745-9860 or see friendsofelsesol.org. ■

## BBB: Too good to be true? It's probably a scam

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The Better Business Bureau investigates thousands of scams every year. This list of top scams of 2012 was gathered from a variety of sources, including consumers and federal agencies.

■ **Car ads** - A well-known company offers \$400-plus per week to anyone willing to drive around with the company's logo on their car. They send you a check to deposit and then direct you to wire part of the payment to the graphic designer who will customize the ad for your vehicle. A week later, the check bounces, the graphic designer is nowhere to be found and you're out the money you wired.

■ **Mystery shopping** - Many secret shopping job offers are nothing more than a variation of the overpayment/fake check scam (above). The Mystery Shopping Providers Association says it's not the practice of its members to pre-pay shoppers, but if you have your heart set on this type of job, you can find a legitimate gig through its website at [www.mysteryshop.org](http://www.mysteryshop.org).

■ **Grandparent scam** - Even though it's been around for a long time, this one is still so prevalent it's worth mentioning again. A grandparent receives a call from a grandchild/niece/nephew/friend who is traveling abroad and gets into a bad situation where he or she needs money right away. Easy rule of thumb: Before you wire money in an emergency, check with the supposed victim or other family members to verify the information.

■ **Nonexistent loans** - Most of these scams are advertised online and promise things like "no credit check" or "easy repayment terms." The hook: You have to make the first payment or some other fee upfront or you have to buy an "insurance policy" in order to secure the (nonexistent) loan. In 2012, a new, aggressive twist was used: Consumers reported being threatened with lawsuits and law enforcement action if they didn't pay back loans they claim didn't



belong to them in the first place. Some got calls at their workplace, even to relatives. The threats of legal action caused some victims to pay even when they knew they didn't owe the money.

■ **President Obama Will Pay Your Utility Bills** - At the peak of summer with utility costs soaring, consumers got e-mails, letters and even door-to-door solicitations about a "new government program" that would pay their utility bills. Victims "registered" with an official-looking website and provided everything scammers needed for identity theft purposes, including bank account information.

■ **Jamaican phone lottery** - In this old one that flared up again, the calls come from Jamaica (area code 876), but the person claims to represent BBB, the FBI or some other trusted group. The caller claims you've won a prize (typical haul: \$2 million and a Mercedes Benz), but you have to pay a fee in order to collect your winnings. There are lots of variations on this; sometimes it's a government grant. If this happens to you, hang up and then file a phone fraud report with the appropriate government agency.

■ **Fake Facebook tweets** - You get a direct message from a friend on Twitter with something

about a video of you on Facebook ("ROFL they was taping you" or "What RU doing in this FB vid?" are typical tweets). In a panic, you click on the link to see what the embarrassing video could possibly be, and you get an error message that says you need to update Flash or other video player. But the file isn't a new version of Flash; it's a virus or malware that can steal confidential information from your computer or smart phone. Twitter recommends reporting such spam, resetting your password and revoking connections to third-party applications.

■ **Real stars, fake goods** - Sports memorabilia and phony tickets always make the list of top counterfeit goods. Some scammers sell cheap knock-offs in front of stadiums, while others set up websites and steal your money. Buy directly from team stores and websites or from legitimate retailers. Remember, if a deal sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

■ **Scam of the Year: Newtown charity scams** - Within hours of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shootings in Newtown, Conn., the week before Christmas, social media pages began cropping up dedicated to the child victims. Some of these pages were fake and attempting to solicit money from those looking to support the actual victims' families. In response to these reports, BBB Wise Giving Alliance offered tips for donors to help them understand how and when to best support those dealing with such a tragedy.

For more information about these and other scams, go to [www.bbb.org/scam-stopper/](http://www.bbb.org/scam-stopper/). ■

## Fitbella fitness center opens in Palm Beach Gardens

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Fitbella, a weight loss and fitness center, has opened in Palm Beach Gardens.

The weight-loss method was developed in Europe in the 1970s. There are 700 worldwide locations, according to a statement by the local center.

The Fitbella method is a one-on-one personalized workout in the "fitcapsule," where the combination of muscle movements and warmth will reactivate

the metabolism in about 30 minutes — this is the equivalent of about an hour-and-a-half at a regular gym, the company says.

The fitcapsule is heated at a comfortable body temperature, 98 degrees, which maximizes the benefits of reshaping the body.

Then, the client relaxes 20 minutes in the "fitbath," a steam bath designed to detox, smooth, tighten and hydrate skin.

Each workout is customized to each

individual and is very targeted, the center says. During the first consultation with a coach, a client's measurements are taken, and a nutrition and workout plan is developed.

For more information, contact Melissa Rabino at 775-0122 or email at [pbg@fitbella.us](mailto:pbg@fitbella.us).

Fitbella is located at 2401 PGA Blvd., Suite 128, Palm Beach Gardens, in the Harbour Financial Center. See [fitbella.us](http://fitbella.us), [facebook.com/fitbellausa](https://www.facebook.com/fitbellausa) and on Twitter @fitbella\_usa. ■



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# MONEY & INVESTING

## Young adults face significantly higher healthcare costs



In the world of money and investing, there are few things about which we all can agree. Those few things would certainly include these facts: health care costs have skyrocketed; health care is a major expense of the retired; and insurance premiums are difficult to project.

The Health Research and Educational Trust reported in September 2012 that "Annual premiums for employer-sponsored family health coverage reached \$15,745... up 4 percent from last year, with workers on average paying \$4,316 toward the cost of their coverage... This year's premium increase is moderate by historical standards, but outpaced the growth in workers' wages (1.7 percent) and general inflation (2.3 percent). Since 2002, premiums have increased 97 percent, three times as fast as wages (33 percent) and inflation (28 percent)."

That is clearly bad news, and it will be getting a lot more expensive for different demographic groups, especially those aged 40 and under. "Young adults will see higher health insurance premiums under the Affordable Care Act because of a provision that links prices for older and younger patients, according to a new actuarial study." (Contingencies, "Age Band Compression under Health Care Reform," January/February 2012.)

The study suggested "that health care insurance premiums for those aged 21 to 29

could rise some 42 percent, while those in their 30s would see a 31 percent increase and those aged 61 to 64 would see a 1 percent increase." (The Hill, "Study Predicts Health Care Law Will Raise Premiums on Young Adults," Jan. 7, 2013.)

How so? "President Obama's signature health-care law limited the amount insurers can charge older people for their health insurance to a maximum of three times the amount younger people pay." (The Hill.)

The provision capping charges for older people now shifts costs to the younger. Because the costs might be too stiff, many younger folks will likely refuse to buy insurance and, instead, accept the low mandate penalties for being uninsured. Even if younger adults get premium assistance, they still might choose not to buy insurance. Bad for them and bad for the insurance companies that will suffer adverse selection: fewer of the better/younger health risks will be buying coverage.

So would it not be oddities of oddities if Obamacare, designed to get everyone health coverage, results in fewer being covered? And besides resulting in higher costs of insurance, also causes ongoing confusion in pricing structure for insurance companies and businesses and consumers buying insurance?

### Preventive financial health

Here are a few ideas for the financially proactive younger adult.

First and obviously, stay healthy or get healthy.

Second, if you are under age 26, consider staying on your parents' plan. Per the Health

Research and Educational Trust report, "...2.9 million young adults are currently covered by employer plans this year as a result of a provision in the 2010 Affordable Care Act that allows young adults up to age 26 without employer coverage of their own to be covered as dependents on their parents' plan."

Third, younger adults will need to consider less expensive premium health insurance, ie: a high deductible health plan, or HDHP, paired with a health savings account. The latter allows you to take pre-tax money; deposit it into a bank account, brokerage account or even your own self-directed account (offered by a self-directed IRA custodian); let earnings grow tax free; and pay no taxes on principal or earnings withdrawals if used to pay for "qualified health expenses." That triple tax advantageous deal is not available to everyone — just those under HDHP who are not enrolled in Medicare, not covered by another health plan and not claimed as a dependent on another's tax return.

A HDHP is defined as a health plan having annual deductible for an individual of at least \$1,200 in 2012 (\$1,250 for 2013) and \$2,400 in 2012 (\$2,450 for 2013) for a family. The amount of money that can be put into a plan is \$3,100 for 2012 (\$3,250 for 2013) for an individual and \$6,250 for 2012 (\$6,450 for 2013) for a family; the sweetener is for those 55 and over who are allowed another \$1,000 in both 2012 and 2013. Contributions for 2012 need to be made by April 15. (Society for Human Resource Management.)

So why was this seemingly too good to be true HSA created? It was thought that

runaway health-care costs might be curbed if people had to pay more out of pocket yet were given incentives to save and wisely spend.

"Several large private insurers — Well-Point, Aetna and Cigna — all said internal studies have persuasively shown that people with their high-deductible HSA plans actually take better care of themselves than people with traditional health insurance coverage." (Money, "Use of High Deductible Health Care Plans Soars," June 5, 2012.)

An annual census by America's Health Insurance Plans of U.S. health insurance carriers shows that the number of people covered by health savings account/high-deductible health plans is rapidly growing. Five million in 2008 grew to 13.5 million in 2012.

HSAs can pay for current medical expenses. For those who are older, HSA balances might be allowed to build so that they are available in later years when health care costs are most burdensome. For the wealthy, it is best used to lessen the new higher tax bite. For small businesses that are feeling the rising costs (and pricing uncertainty) under Obamacare, HDHP/HSAs offer an alternative health care model to contain rising costs.

It is advised that you go to the IRS website to see specifics of the HSA rules and to visit with a health insurance expert to determine suitability, applicability and affirm the specifics as they apply to you. ■

— Jeannette Showalter, CFA, is a commodities broker with Worldwide Futures Systems. She can be reached at 239-571-8896 or jshowaltercfa@yahoo.com.

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# NETWORKING

Sofie Couture charity fashion show for Toys for Tots, at Breathe in Delray Beach



- 1. Models for charity event with Designer Shivonne Benitez
- 2. Amjad Haad with Miss World Supermodel Haley St. Pierre and Charlie Droog
- 3. Paula Lauro and Anthony Lauro
- 4. Carine Jean
- 5. Cintra Ramgoolam and Haley St. Pierre
- 6. Paula Lauro and Designer Shivonne Benitez
- 7. Carine Jean and Juna Jean
- 8. Juna Jean and Fernel Jean
- 9. Oguena Polissant and Haley St. Pierre
- 10. Clarissa Jimenez and Haley St. Pierre

BETSY JIMENEZ / FLORIDA WEEKLY



Anjad Haad and Haley St. Pierre

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## Exquisite custom estate in Mirasol

**SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY**

This exquisite Castro Homes custom estate is offered fully furnished with all accessories included. Located at 114 Playa Rienta Way in Mirasol in Palm Beach Gardens, the home is fully turn-key. Every imaginable upgrade has been added to this original luxurious model home. It features a gourmet kitchen, custom cabinetry, built-ins, spacious closets and crown molding throughout. It has been professionally decorated with only the finest details, including custom window treatments, designer lighting and elegant furnishings and accessories. It offers four bedrooms and

6½ bathrooms. The spacious outdoor patio, surrounded by lush tropical landscaping and serene rock waterfall flowing into the inviting pool, is perfect for outdoor dining and entertaining. The home is a short distance to the spectacular clubhouse to enjoy Mirasol's Country Club lifestyle with full luxury spa and fitness center, 15 clay courts, two championship golf courses, practice range, year-round social events and more. Fite Shavell & Associates lists the home at a new reduced price of \$2,150,000. The agent is Linda Bright, 561-629-4995, [lbright@fiteshavell.com](mailto:lbright@fiteshavell.com). ■



# As inventory shrinks, home lenders offer incentives, become more flexible

heather  
PURUCKER BRETZLAFF



As inventory is shrinking and the housing market begins to stabilize, our area is experiencing a lower amount of distressed properties on the market. As this begins to happen, I have experienced the banks becoming more flexible in working with sellers and buyers to close properties on a timelier basis, in addition to giving incentives.

Over the past month, there have been several closings in my office where the banks paid additional dollars to the seller when the property has closed. The banks are becoming flexible with closing properties in a shorter time frame. This has created a win-win for all parties involved in the transaction.

Why is this happening? A few years ago this would never have been considered, nonetheless offered to defaulting homeowners. But, foreclosures have come to cost lenders so much money by way of dropping home values, deteriorated properties and on top of legal fees, it is only to their advantage to execute a short sale.

I had a home listed this past year that was in a short sale situation for months. The owner did not have the necessary funds to maintain it, so each week that went by without a contract, the home became less and less attractive to potential buyers. After six months without a contract, the home needed pressure cleaned, the landscaping and trees were

not getting the proper trimming they needed and the pool was in need of much repair. There had been a leak in the spa, which had to be drained, and the pool maintenance was not being done so the pool was green. Meanwhile, the owners were still living in the home. At this point, they were in no hurry to keep the home tidy with the pressure of the bank foreclosing, so it became very difficult to show to potential buyers. After six months, we submitted an offer to the bank, which was denied. They would not come out and reassess the property at the time, and we lost the sale. After another four months, I worked with the bank to get a pre-approved sales price. I received another offer the following month and this time it was \$75,000 less

than the original offer. It was close to the pre-approved sales price and the house ended up closing 60 days later.

This was several months ago. Another agent in my office just had a very different scenario on a property he sold. It was a very affluent executive who owned a property in Palm Beach and was in a short sale situation. There was an offer submitted within two weeks of the property being offered for sale. The bank had a pre-approved sales price. In addition to the bank accepting the offer, they also paid the outstanding balance on the loan, forgave the debt and gave the owner \$15,000 at closing, allowing the owner to rent another home.

There are several banks now offering this type of incentive. At Bank of Amer-

ica, borrowers can receive anywhere from \$2,500 to \$30,000 in cash upon the close of a short sale. The amount the borrower will receive is determined on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration the value of the home, amount owed and other circumstances. They have determined that this program will help a planned transition from ownership when keeping their home is not longer an option.

For this particular program, the seller must have a pre-approved sale price from the bank before submitting the offer. The sale must also close by Sept. 26. Even short sales that have already started but are not closed may be eligible for relocation assistance. This is restricted, however, to borrowers with mortgages owned and serviced by Bank of America.

Other banks offering incentives include Wells Fargo, Citibank and JP Chase Morgan. Wells Fargo offers short sale incentives of \$10,000 to \$20,000 to qualifying homeowners who opt for a short sale or who transfer a home's title back to the bank (DIL: Deed-in-Lieu). The program is aimed at properties in and the money is available only on first-lien loans owned by Wells Fargo, which is about 20 percent of its portfolio.

For more specific information, contact the banks directly. If you are considering purchasing a property in a short sale, ask the agent if there is a pre-approved price. If there is, the sale could move along very quickly and close in a reasonable amount of time. ■

— Heather Purucker Bretzlaff is a broker and Realtor Associate at Fite Shavell & Associates. She can be reached at 722-6136, or at [hbretzlaff@fiteshavell.com](mailto:hbretzlaff@fiteshavell.com).



## KOVELS: ANTIQUES

### Ohio company designed sought-after pieces

terryKOVEL

news@floridaweekly.com



A toy with hidden parts that give it a second use can add to its value, so look carefully at unfamiliar playthings. A teddy bear sometimes has a hidden music box inside or is made to be used as a muff. A tiny bear with a removable head can actually be a valuable perfume bottle. Even more surprising are a pair of seated bisque dolls that double as liquor decanters. The dolls, made by Gebruder Heubach of Germany, are shaped like charming baby dolls with blond hair and side-glancing eyes. At first they look like the more familiar "piano babies." Why a decanter hiding in a doll? They were made in 1910, before Prohibition in the United States, so there was no legal reason to hide alcoholic drinks. Perhaps some people felt that bottled spirits should be stored out of sight in a 9-inch tall ceramic figurine. This type of decanter is very rare, so the dolls as a pair sold for \$969.

**Q:** I recently acquired a 16-inch cast-iron bell and yoke. The bell has the number 2 on the top. The yoke is marked "The C.S. Bell Co.," "2" and "Hillsboro, O." on one side and "No. 2 Yoke" and "1886" on the other side. It's clean and not rusted. What is it worth?

**A:** C.S. Bell Co. was founded by Charles Singleton Bell. He operated a

foundry in Hillsboro, Ohio, beginning in 1858. The company made farm equipment and stoves. One day, while working to develop a new type of metal alloy, Bell accidentally dropped a piece of the metal and discovered that it made a ringing sound like a bell. The company began making bells from the new alloy, and by the 1880s C.S. Bell was the largest producer of bells in North America. Most bronze bells are marked with the name of the company on the bell, but C.S. Bell always marked the yoke instead. The Bell family continued to operate the business until 1974. Bells were made at the Hillsboro site until at least 1984. Another company, Prindle Station, claims to make bells today that are identical to the original bells made by C.S. Bell. A C.S. Bell Co. bell with a No. 2 yoke sold recently for more than \$250.

**Q:** What does it mean when an ad says a Northwood vase is "JIP shape"?

**A:** "JIP" stands for "jack-in-the-pulpit" and describes a vase shaped something like the flower with that name. It's a narrow vase with a wide mouth that has one side pulled upward and the other side folded downward. Vases in this shape were first made by Stevens

& Williams of Stourbridge, England, in about 1854. The term "jack-in-the-pulpit" wasn't used until Louis Comfort Tiffany used it for vases he made beginning in 1900. Northwood Glass Co., of Wheeling, W.Va., was one of several other glass manufacturers that made vases in this shape.



COURTESY PHOTO  
The beheaded doll has a glass decanter hidden inside, and so does her "headed" twin. The pair sold for \$969 at a June 2012 Theriault's doll auction in Annapolis, Md.

**Q:** I own a book of camp songs that I got when I attended a day camp run by the WPA at Niobrara State Park in Nebraska. The song book, titled "Camp Songs," pictures a campfire on the cover. I went to the camp for two years, and then the war started and there were no more day camps in our area. Is the song book collectible?

**A:** The Works Progress Administration was established by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in May 1935 to provide jobs for some of the unemployed during the Depression. WPA projects included building roads and bridges, schools, playgrounds, parks and airport landing fields. There were WPA projects for artists, writers, historians and mathematicians. Job training was offered as well, and day camps for children were established in several areas of the country. More than 8 million people were employed by the WPA during the eight

years it existed. The program, renamed "Work Projects Administration" in 1939, ended in June 1943 after there was no longer a shortage of jobs. WPA items of all types are collected. Your camp song book is an interesting memento of the times. It is worth about \$10 to \$20.

**Q:** I have a plate marked "PL" with a line under it. The words "Limoges" and "France" are beneath the line. Can you tell me who made the plate and how much it's worth?

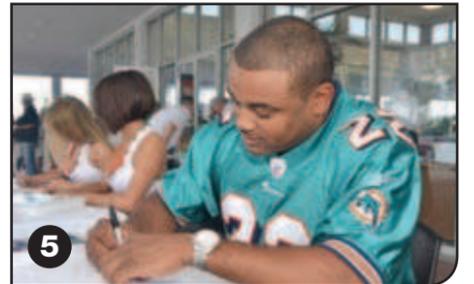
**A:** The mark on your plate was used by La Porcelaine Limousine of Limoges, France. The company was founded by Joseph Redon and P. Jouhanneaud and his son in about 1905, and was in business until about 1938. A 9-1/2-inch plate decorated with roses made by Porcelaine Limousine auctioned recently for \$23.

**Tip:** Don't store pewter near cardboard or vinegar. The fumes will cause damage. ■

— 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, (Name of this newspaper), King Features Syndicate, 300 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019.

# NETWORKING

## Miami Dolphins, classic car event at Schumacher Auto



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3. Jack Blandi
4. Jay Fiorini, A.J. Fiorini and Dennis Blious
5. Shawn Wooden
6. Steve Miller and Kathi Miller
7. Loe Goldwasser, Larry Coe and Gary Goldwasser
8. Joey Figurella and Luke Figurella

JOHN SESSA/FLORIDA WEEKLY

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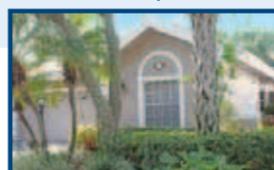
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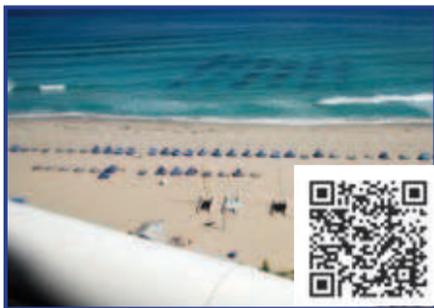
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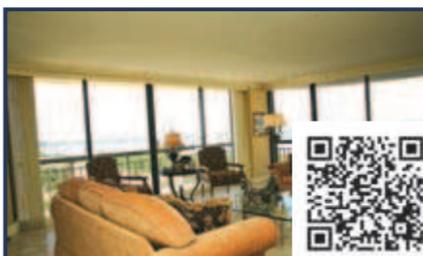
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WEEK OF JANUARY 17-23, 2013

A GUIDE TO THE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SCENE



## FILMS OF A PEOPLE

This year's Jewish film festival highlights Israeli works

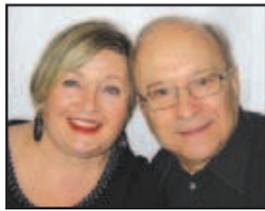


COURTESY PHOTO

This year's Palm Beach Jewish Film Festival opens with "Hava Nagila."

BY SCOTT SIMMONS  
ssimmons@floridaweekly.com

Sandra and Bernard Meyer are excited. This year, the longtime art lovers, who divide their time between homes in Highland Beach and Chicago, are chairing the Palm Beach Jewish Film Festival



Sandra and Bernard Meyer will co-chair this year's festival.

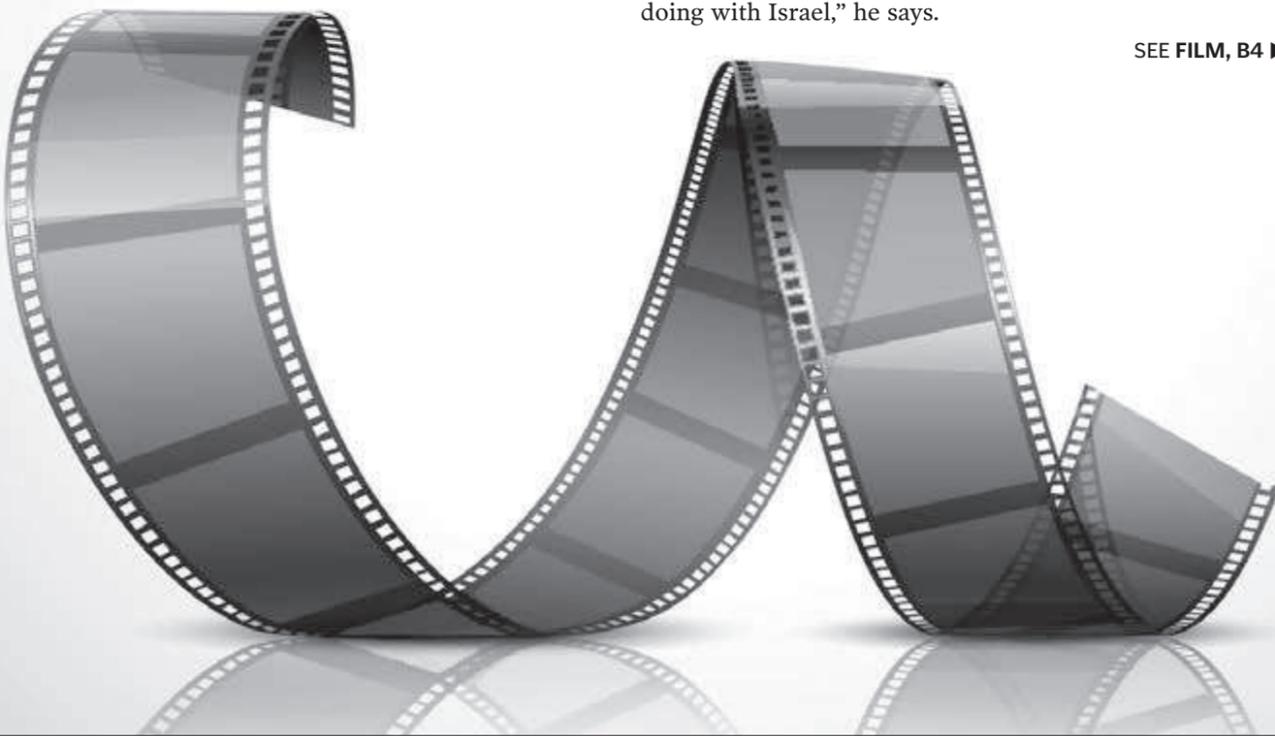
"I've been doing it since the early '90s, and Bernie got caught up in it," Sandra Meyer says.

The festival celebrates its 23rd installment by screening 39 films.

Larry Ferber, artistic director of the festival, has created a program that highlights Israeli films.

"I think that's what's so unique this year is what we're doing with Israel," he says.

SEE FILM, B4 ►



## "Say it Loud" Norton exhibition highlights art of Africa, African-Americans

BY SCOTT SIMMONS  
ssimmons@floridaweekly.com

Walk into the Norton Museum of Art's new exhibition, "Say it Loud," and see Mother Africa herself.

Or at least that is how "... of Prosperity," Mary Sibande's sculpture created from fiberglass and a cotton dress, would appear.

The South African artist looks back with this work, as the dress, with its voluminous skirts recalls colonial times on the continent.

The blue and orange patchwork has a meaning of its own, too.

The blue represents the laborers who sweated out their lives toiling for the Dutch colonial rulers, represented by the orange that peeks out from each quilted patch.

And as for the woman wearing the dress, the figure was cast from Ms. Sibande's own likeness, and repre-

SEE NORTON, B4 ►



COURTESY PHOTO

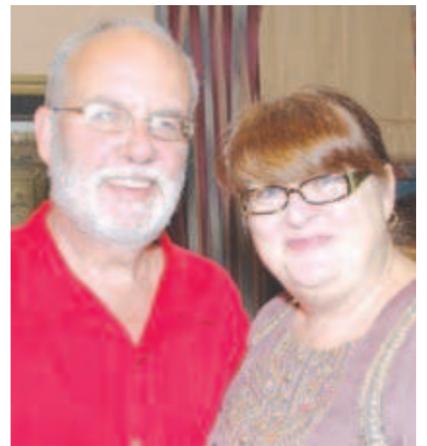
Mary Sibande's "...of Prosperity" is the first thing visitors see when they enter the galleries housing the Norton Museum's "Say it Loud."

### INSIDE



#### Lacking soul

"Singin' In the Rain" is well-executed but lacks soul, our critic says. B8 ►



#### Society

See who was out and about across Palm Beach County. B10-11, 15, 17, 18 ►



#### It's a crime

Save your money and skip "Gangster Squad," our reviewer says. B14 ►



#### How do you prove love?

Perhaps it's impossible to document genuine love. B2 ►

# SANDY DAYS, SALTY NIGHTS

## In love, where's the proof?




  
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On a recent drive to dinner, my friends and I talked about the things women our age discuss — who's getting married, who's getting divorced and who's slinking around. Somewhere in the conversation, one friend mentioned an article she read that profiled newlyweds waiting in the INS office. One partner in each couple was from overseas, and they all were waiting to have the interview portion of their visa application. The story was touching, my friend said, a sweet look at the ways the couples documented their relationships — from photos and plane tickets, to transcripts of IM conversations and letters from family members, all testifying to the validity of their union.

Years ago I worked for a U.S. senator in his constituency services office in the immigration department. Our job was to help Floridians tackle their problems with immigration services. A large number of the cases came from these types of couples after they had been denied their visas. They would

send us their evidence, the photos and ticket stubs and transcripts, and we would petition immigration services on their behalf.

Most of the evidence seemed slim to me, and I could see why they had been denied in the first place. One constituent, a man in his 60s, sent a three-ring binder filled with photos of himself and his new

wise, could have been his granddaughter. They looked convincingly amorous in their pictures, but my built-in bull meter had a hard time believing their relationship was based on passion and not ulterior motives.

In another case, an American woman in her late 30s who had never been married and was a touch on the dowdy side

woman provided the transcripts — and though her new husband's English was not good, he certainly had a handle on the most important phrases: *You are beautiful, I love you, and want to marry you.* Never mind that their in-person courtship numbered only 20 days and consisted of a first visit to Morocco by the woman to meet her suitor and a second visit to marry him. Although I could tell from the file that the woman genuinely had feelings for her new husband, his actions felt manipulative, a classic green-card scam. The INS must have agreed, because their application was denied.

But in the car with my girlfriends on the way to dinner, I had the sudden thought how difficult it must be to prove something so intangible as love.

My friends and I all have partners, men we have known for some time, who we care for deeply, who are woven into the fabric of our daily lives. And yet if we had to provide evidence of our relationships in photographs and trip itineraries and the contents of our e-mails, would our love appear any more sincere than that of the visa applicants?

Maybe I called it wrong with all those heartbroken couples from the senator's office. Maybe love is too difficult to document. Even — especially — when it's genuine. ■



bride. In each of the shots, the white-haired gentleman had his arms around a stunning Colombian woman who, age-

asked that we help secure a visa for her much younger Moroccan husband. The two met in an online chat room — the

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# Playhouse produces "Drowsy Chaperone"

**SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY**

Expect to be wide awake for the Lake Worth Playhouse's production of "The Drowsy Chaperone."

In the show, which opens in a preview performance Jan. 17, a musical comes to life when a die-hard, musical-theater fan plays his favorite album on his turntable, and tells the story of a brazen Broadway starlet trying to find her true love.

Before coming to the playhouse, a community theater, "The Drowsy Chaperone" had its start in 1997, when Don McKellar, Lisa Lambert, Greg Morrison and several friends created a spoof of old musicals for the stag party of Bob Martin and Janet Van De Graaff. In its first incarnation, there was no Man in Chair, the musical styles ranged from the 1920s to the 1940s and the jokes were more risqué. When the show was reshaped for the Toronto Fringe Festival, Mr. Martin became a co-writer, creating Man in Chair to serve as a narrator/commentator for the piece.

Following the Fringe staging, Toronto commercial theatre producer David Mirvish financed an expanded production at Toronto's 160-seat, nonprofit Theatre Passe Muraille in 1999. Box office success and favorable notices led Mr. Mirvish in 2001 to finance further development and produce a full-scale version at Toronto's 1,000-seat Winter Garden Theatre. During that production, New York producer Roy Miller saw potential in the show and he optioned the rights.

With Canadian actor and fund-raiser Paul Mack, Mr. Miller produced a reading for the New York's National Alliance for Musical Theatre in October 2004 and invited Broadway producer



COURTESY PHOTO

The Lake Worth Playhouse relies on an ensemble cast for its production of "The Drowsy Chaperone."

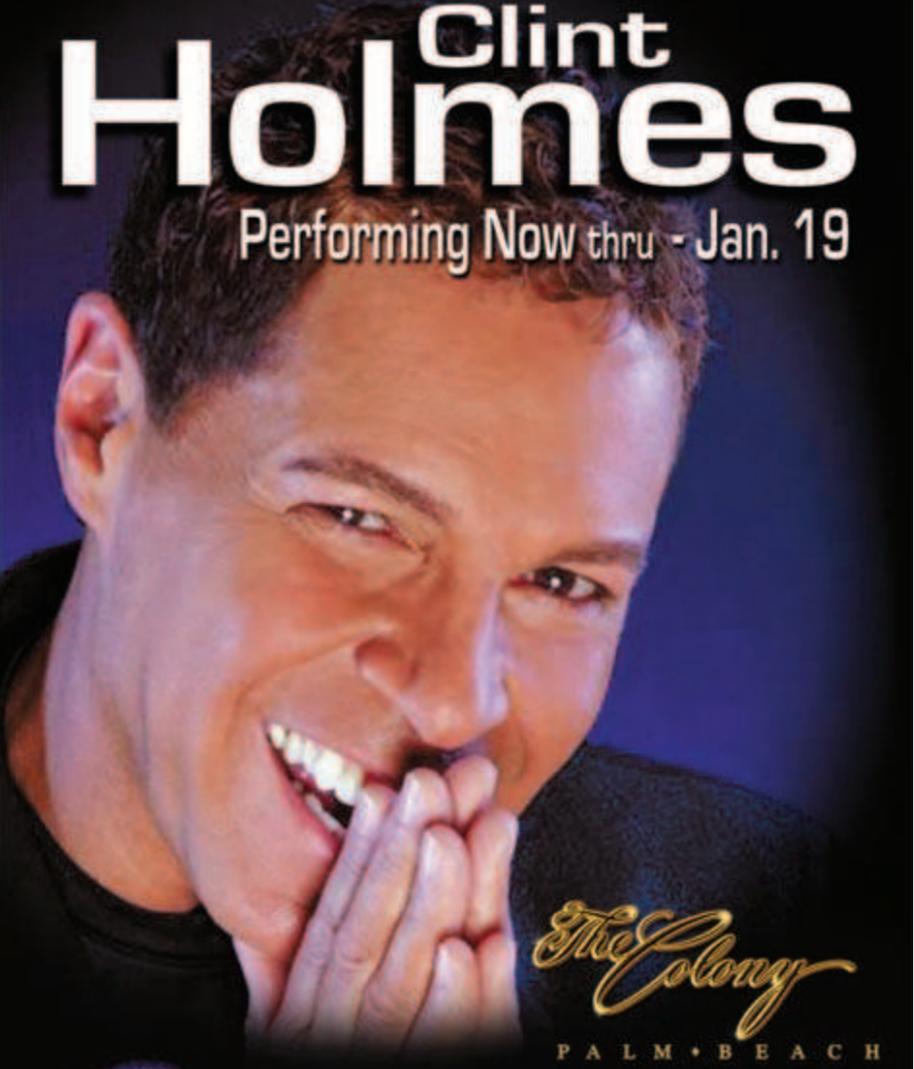
Kevin McCollum. The reading captured Mr. McCollum's interest and eventually resulted in Mr. Miller, Mr. McCollum and Bob Boyett, Stephanie McClelland, Barbara Freitag and Jill Furman's commitment to producing the play. An out-of-town engagement followed at the Ahmanson Theatre in Los Angeles (2005), and after being reworked, "The Drowsy Chaperone" opened on Broadway on May 1, 2006.

The show opens with a preview at 8 p.m. Jan. 17. Its opening night is 8 p.m. Jan. 18, and performances continue through Feb. 3 at the playhouse, 713 Lake Ave., downtown Lake Worth. Tickets are \$23-\$32. Call 586-6410 or visit lakeworth-playhouse.org for more information. ■

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# FILM

From page 1

But the festival also will offer films from the United States, France, Spain and Germany.

Mrs. Meyer credits Mr. Ferber, leading the festival for its second season, for its diversity.

"It's skyrocketed ever since Larry came to southern Florida. I think he was the impetus who got everybody turned on to the bandwagon," she says.

The bandwagon to which she referred is a sold-out Jan. 17 opening night at the Kravis Center's Cohen Pavilion.

"The exciting thing is that it's over-sold. There will be almost 900 people," she says.

That opening night will feature a screening of Roberta Grossman's documentary, "Hava Nagila: The Movie," which explores the history of the song that was a hit for Harry Belafonte and Connie Francis, among others.

Special guest at opening night will be 2012 Olympic gold medalist Aly Raisman, who will speak after the film. Ms. Raisman dedicated her championship-winning floor routine to the music of "Hava Nagila" in memory of the Israeli athletes slain 40 years before during the 1972 Olympics in Munich.

Most screenings this year will be at

Cobb Downtown at the Gardens, Movies of Delray and the Regal Delray 18. Certain films will be screened at The Ross JCC, The Tradition of the Palm Beaches and the Norton Museum of Art.

Festival highlights include "A.K.A. Doc Pomus," about the man who composed many of the rock 'n' roll and pop hits of the 1950s and 1960s, including "A Teenager in Love" and "Save The Last Dance For Me."

"The evening of the film, we have the filmmaker coming in, and we're bringing in The Renditions, a local doo-wop group to sing some of the hits," Mr. Ferber says.

"400 Miles to Freedom" follows the journey of a 2,500-year-old Jewish community that escaped persecution in the Ethiopian mountains after practicing Judaism became illegal.

The film "Numbered" traces the emotional journeys of Holocaust survivors and the numbers they were assigned.

And "Melting Away" is a film about a transgendered youth who reunites with his parents after being disowned.

"The film I'm looking forward to is 'Melting Away,'" Mrs. Meyer says. "Bernie and I sponsored it."

It is one of the few she has not previewed for the festival.

"I usually screen every single one of them, but the format wouldn't play for me," she says, laughing.

It will not be all documentaries,

either.

"We have more feature films this year than we've had in the past," says Mr. Meyer.

And some new programs.

New this year: A student filmmaker series, featuring short films from students across the country.

That student series, called the Promising Young Filmmaker Series, will offer three short films created by students. Matthew Baquero and Kelly Berger, students at the Dreyfoos School of the Arts in West Palm Beach, produced "Marie Goldstein: Perspective of a Survivor."

Four films will be presented in conjunction with Partnership 2gether, which connects Jewish communities outside of Israel with communities in Israel. The partnership, which began in 1995, is a program of the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County between the communities of the Tzohar Region (Tzfat, Rosh Pina and Hatzor Haglilit) and the greater Palm Beaches.

"I was at the Jerusalem film festival last year and I was encouraged to go to this region to visit to see what we might do creatively with them," Mr. Ferber says.

Top Israeli professors and journalists will introduce films from the Cinematheque Theater in Rosh Pina.

This year also marks the first time the festival has chosen a special honoree, lawyer and teacher Rick Stone, a Palm Beach resident who will be laud-

ed for his philanthropy.

But for the festival co-chairs, it comes back to highlighting the cinema of a people in the hopes that they will reach a broader audience.

"Hava Nagila' is going mainstream," said Mr. Meyer. "Some (films) are going to the art houses and they're slowly going mainstream. 'The Flat' is going mainstream."

Adds Mrs. Meyer:

"They're both documentaries but how often do you get to see good documentaries?" ■

## in the know

>>What: Jan. 17-Jan. 27.

>>When/where: Opening night is in the Cohen Pavilion of the Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Screenings will be held at Cobb Downtown at the Gardens, 11701 Lake Victoria Gardens Ave., Palm Beach Gardens; The Tradition of the Palm Beaches, Marilyn & Stanley M. Katz Seniors Campus, 4920 Loring Drive, West Palm Beach; Movies of Delray, 7421 W. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach; Regal Delray Beach 18, 1660 S. Federal Highway, Delray Beach; and the Norton Museum of Art, 1415 S. Olive Ave., West Palm Beach.

>>Cost: Opening night is \$15 general admission. Reel Pass, good for all shows is \$100/ JCC Member / Friend of the J / ACE Members; \$125/ guests. Individual shows priced separately.

>>Info: See palmbeachjewishfilm.org for complete schedules or call 736-7527.

# NORTON

From page 1

sents Sophie, an alter ego of sorts for the artist.

The sculpture, acquired by the museum last year, is one of dozens of works by African and African-American artists pulled from the Norton collection for this exhibition organized by Cheryl Brutvan. It was acquired last year for

the museum by collector Beth Rudin DeWoody.

She was interested in creating a fusion of contemporary South Africa and dress from an earlier time, "perhaps with a little bit of fantasy thrown in," said Norton curator Glenn Tomlinson, who led a tour of the exhibition.

"These intense blues or aqua blues they actually relate to the South African Zionist Church dress," Mr. Tomlinson said.

But the origins of that dress are not necessarily African.

The Zionist missionaries actually hailed from Zion, Ill.; the church leadership still wears these colors.

"She's taking something that's very much a part of contemporary life in South Africa, where this South African Zionist Church is very, very widespread, and sort of enhancing and broadening the context of it in terms of earlier dress," Mr. Tomlinson said.

Other works place themselves in a context all their own.

Rarely seen photographs by James Van Der Zee, a leading figure in the Harlem Renaissance, offer a glimpse into the world of the early 20th century.

And "Gamin," a sculpture by Augusta Savage, offers a sensitive portrait of the artist's 12-year-old nephew, Ellis Ford.

"She never had the funds to cast this in bronze," Mr. Tomlinson said.

There are a few life-size plaster castings of the piece, as well as 10 or so 9-inch versions, like this one the Norton acquired in 2004.

It was during the installation of the exhibition that the Norton learned there was a local connection to the piece. A man stopped by the museum.

"I brought him into the show. Turns out it he was the son of this man portrayed in the sculpture. The man portrayed in the sculpture is her nephew, and the man who actually lives here in West Palm Beach, is her great-nephew," Mr. Tomlinson said.

Miss Savage influenced other artists in the exhibition, including Jacob Lawrence.

Mr. Lawrence's "Man With Flowers," a 1954 tempera on gessoed Masonite, takes an abstracted view of the back of a man looking at a hardware store win-

dow, flowers wilting in his hand.

"This kind of typifies the kind of work Jacob Lawrence did in finding subjects in his urban surroundings when he lived in New York," Mr. Tomlinson said.

Nails and tools spill out in the composition, and screws resemble eyes peering back at the man in the painting and its viewers.

There are photographs by Gordon Parks, whose works formed a memorable Norton exhibition in the '90s. His "American Gothic, Washington, D.C." plays off Grant Wood's iconic painting, but instead of a pitchfork, cleaning woman Ella Watson wields a mop and broom.

The show progresses through a variety of mixed-media works, including Alvin Loving's textile pieces, and Faith Ringgold's thematic canvases.

One of Nick Cave's Soundsuits makes an appearance,

But perhaps it's fitting that the show ends with Yinka Shonibare's costume work, "Victorian Couple," with mannequins fitted in Victorian-style clothing made of African-themed fabrics.

The vivid blue that Ms. Sibande used in "... of Prosperity" reappears here, and serves to underscore the exhibition's — and perhaps the museum's — mission.

"The exhibition really does celebrate the museum's renewed initiative to collect art from diverse artists to better represent the contemporary art world," Mr. Tomlinson said. ■

## in the know

>>What: "Say it Loud"

>>When: Through March 3

>>Where: Norton Museum of Art, 1451 S. Olive Ave., West Palm Beach.

>>Cost: General admission is \$12 for adults, \$5 for students with a valid ID, and free for Members and children ages 12 and under. Special group rates are available. West Palm Beach residents receive free admission every Saturday with proof of residency. Palm Beach County residents receive free admission the first Saturday of each month with proof of residency.

>>Info: 832-5196, or visit www.norton.org.

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# CONTRACT BRIDGE

BY STEVE BECKER

## An auction bridge tale

The late Sidney Lenz used to tell the story of the time, many years ago, when he played against a man he called Mr. Grumpy, who fancied himself a very good bridge player. It was back in the days of auction bridge, and because the bidding at that time was altogether different in purpose from what it is today, it is not given. Suffice it to say that the final contract was four spades played by Lenz (South) and doubled by Mr. Grumpy (East).

A diamond was led, East cashing two diamond tricks and shifting to the queen of clubs. Lenz won with the ace and cashed the A-K of spades, Mr. Grumpy following with the nine and jack.

Having failed to find the trumps divided 2-2, Lenz was now in trouble. He had no entry to dummy to utilize the J-10 of clubs, and as East was marked by his double with the king of hearts, two heart losers seemed inevitable.

So Lenz led the king of clubs, hoping Mr. Grumpy would make a mistake, and that worthy gentleman obliged by ruffing with his seven of spades, establishing dummy's six as an entry to the clubs.

As he ruffed, Mr. Grumpy remarked that his clever falsecard of the 9-J of spades had apparently caused Lenz to miscount the trumps. He further twitted

East dealer.

Auction bridge.

<b>NORTH</b>			
♠	6 4 3		
♥	Q 5 3		
♦	6 3		
♣	J 10 4 3 2		
<b>WEST</b>		<b>EAST</b>	
♠	2	♠	J 9 7
♥	10 7 6 2	♥	K J 9
♦	J 8 5	♦	A K Q 10 7 4
♣	9 8 7 6 5	♣	Q
<b>SOUTH</b>			
♠	A K Q 10 8 5		
♥	A 8 4		
♦	9 2		
♣	A K		

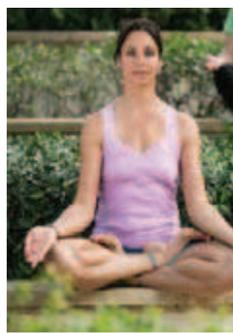
Contract — four spades doubled.  
Opening lead — five of diamonds.

Lenz for having failed to make an over-trick in the doubled contract.

However, when Lenz pointed out that the contract surely would have failed if East had not ruffed the king of clubs, a sadly chastened and deflated Mr. Grumpy was compelled to retire meekly from the field of battle. ■

## Campus on the Lake

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### UPCOMING EVENTS -

Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 9 a.m.  
Yoga with Rassika Rassika Sabine Bourgi  
\$15 per class. No reservations necessary.

Thursday, January 24, 2013 at 2:30 p.m.  
"The Glory of Gainsborough: Thomas Gainsborough and the Golden Age of British Portraiture" with John Stainton  
\$25 • Hosted in partnership with Christie's

Monday, January 28, 2013 at 2:30 p.m.  
"Apollo's Angels: A History of Ballet" by Jennifer Homans  
\$25 • Hosted in partnership with Classical South Florida

Thursday, January 31, 2013 at 2:30 p.m.  
"Historical Architecture: Refashioned" - Graham Haworth  
\$25 • Hosted in partnership with the American Friends of the Victoria & Albert Museum

Monday, February 4, 2013 at 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.  
"The World of Downtown Abbey" - Two Lectures and Tea with Judy Pittenger  
\$60 for the day; or \$35 per lecture, includes tea

Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at 5:30 p.m.  
"The Nine Phases of Marriage" by Susan Shapiro Barash  
No charge

Wednesday, February 6, 2013 at 5:30 p.m.  
"In Celebration of the 200th Anniversary of the Birth of Charles Dickens" with Judy Pittenger • \$10

To register for events, call (561) 805-8562 or email [campus@fourarts.org](mailto:campus@fourarts.org).

View more events at [www.fourarts.org](http://www.fourarts.org).

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# WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Please send calendar listings to pbnews@floridaweekly.com.

## At The Atlantic Arts

The Atlantic Arts Theater is at 6743 W. Indiantown Road, No. 34, Jupiter. Call 575-4942 or visit [www.theatlantictheater.com](http://www.theatlantictheater.com).

■ **Jove Comedy Experience** – 8 p.m. Jan. 19. Improvisation, sketch and musical comedy in a multimedia presentation with audience participation. Tickets: \$15.

## At The Borland

The Borland Center for Performing Arts is at Midtown, 4885 PGA Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens. Call 904-3130 or visit [www.theborlandcenter.org](http://www.theborlandcenter.org).

■ **Mangia! Mangia! Murder!** – 5:30 p.m. Jan. 17. Tickets: \$55, including dinner and the show.

■ **Broadway at the Borland Series: Ivan Rutherford** – 8 p.m. Jan. 18-19. Tickets: \$33 in advance; \$38 at the door. Call 575-4942 or visit [www.BrownPaperTickets.com](http://www.BrownPaperTickets.com).

## At The Duncan

The Duncan Theatre at Palm Beach State College, Congress Avenue, Lake Worth. Call (561) 868-3309 or visit [www.palmbeachstate.edu/theatre/duncan-theatre](http://www.palmbeachstate.edu/theatre/duncan-theatre).

■ **The Equinox Jazz Orchestra** – 3 p.m. Jan. 19, Stage West. Tickets: \$27.

■ **Conrad Tao** – 3 p.m. Jan. 23, Stage West. Tickets: \$27.

## At The Eissey

The Eissey Campus Theatre is at Palm Beach State College, PGA Boulevard, Palm Beach Gardens. Unless otherwise noted, call 207-5900 or visit [www.eissey-campus theatre.org](http://www.eissey-campus theatre.org).

■ **Student Art Exhibition by The Benjamin School** – Jan. 18-Feb. 19. Eissey Campus Theatre Lobby Gallery. Photography, mixed media and paintings from students in grades pre-K through 12.

■ **The Benjamin School presents 17th Annual Variety Show: "Rock On – A Rock n' Roll Revue."** – 7:30 p.m. Jan. 19. Tickets: \$20/\$25. Call 472-3416.

## At The Four Arts

The Society of the Four Arts, 2 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Gallery and box office (561) 655-7226 or visit [www.fourarts.org](http://www.fourarts.org).

■ **Preschool Story Time: Sleep Day: Tasty Thursday** – 10:30 a.m. Jan. 17. Children's Library. Four years of age and younger. Snack creation will follow. Free; no reservations necessary.

■ **Campus on the Lake Lecture Series: "Lesson in the French Decorative Arts: Michael Simon Sheds Light on Designs Produced Centuries Apart that Share Inspiration and Excellence"** – Lecture by Michael Simon, 2:30 p.m. Jan. 17. Tickets: \$25.

■ **Friday Film Series** – "Winter in Wartime" 2:30, 5:15 and 8 p.m. Jan. 18. Tickets: \$5; free for members.

■ **The Met Opera: Live in HD: "Maria Stuarda" by Gaetano Donizetti** – 1 p.m. Jan. 19. Gubelmann Auditorium. Tickets: \$25; \$15 for students.

■ **Music Concert: Rastrelli Cello Quartet** – 3 p.m. Jan. 20. Gubelmann Auditorium. Tickets: \$15.

■ **Preschool Story Time: Fairy Tale Day** – 10:30 a.m. Jan. 21. Children's Library. Four years of age and younger. Snack creation will follow. Free; no reservations necessary.

■ **King Library Book Discussion Group: "The Sense of an Ending" by Julian Barnes** – 5:30 p.m. Jan. 22 and 11 a.m. Jan. 23. Facilitated by Ian Kean. Call 655-2766.

■ **Esther B. O'Keeffe Speaker Series: "America in the 21st Century: The Political Argument Today," lecture by George Will.** – 3 p.m. Jan. 22. Tickets: Members free; \$35 for guests of members. Tickets to live telecast, \$15.

■ **Art Exhibition: "Painting the Beautiful: The Pennsylvania Impressionist Landscape Tradition"** – Through Jan. 20

■ **Art Exhibition: "Florida's Wetlands"** – Through June 30 in The Mary Alice Fortin Children's Art Gallery.

## At The Kravis

The Kravis Center is at 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. For tickets, call 832-7469 or log on to [www.kravis.org](http://www.kravis.org).

■ **Provocative Entertainment at Kravis: "Josh Kornbluth's Take on Andy Warhol"** – 7:30 p.m. Jan. 18-19. Rinker Playhouse. Tickets: \$28.

■ **Palm Beach Opera presents "La Traviata"** – 7:30 p.m. Jan. 18-19 and 2 p.m. Jan. 20. Dreyfoos Hall. Tickets: \$20.

■ **Pink Martini** – 7 p.m. Jan. 21. Dreyfoos Hall. Tickets: \$25. For details regarding the 2012-2013 Kravis Center Gala Black-Tie Dinner Dance immediately following this performance, visit [www.kravis.org/gala](http://www.kravis.org/gala).

■ **Adults at Leisure: "Fanfare for the American Hero" featuring Mac Frampton** – 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Jan. 22. Tickets: \$28.

■ **Regional Arts: China National Symphony Orchestra** – With En Shao, conductor; Chuanyun Li, violin. 8 p.m. Jan. 22. Dreyfoos Hall. Tickets start at \$25.

■ **Motionhouse** – 7:30 p.m. Jan. 22-23. Rinker Playhouse. Tickets: \$28.

■ **Natalie Cole** – 8 p.m. Jan. 23. Dreyfoos Hall. Tickets start at \$25.

## At The Lake Worth Playhouse

The Lake Worth Playhouse is at 713 Lake Ave., Lake Worth. Call 586-6410 or visit [www.lakeworthplayhouse.org](http://www.lakeworthplayhouse.org). For films, call 296-9382.

■ **"The Drowsy Chaperone"** – Jan. 17-Feb. 3. Tickets: Jan. 17 (preview night): \$27 orchestra; \$23 mezzanine; Jan. 18 (opening night): \$35; Jan. 19-Feb. 3: \$30 orchestra; \$26 mezzanine.

■ **"The Speakeasy"** – Limited engagement. 7 p.m. Jan. 23. Tickets \$35.

■ **Film** – Jan. 17: "Consuming Spirit" and "A Dark Truth." Jan. 18-24: "A Royal Affair" and "California Solo."

## At MacArthur Park

John D. MacArthur Beach State Park and Welcome and Nature Center is located at 10900 Jack Nicklaus Drive in North Palm Beach. Call 624-6952 or visit [www.macarthurbeach.org](http://www.macarthurbeach.org).

■ **Nature walk** – 10-11 a.m. daily.

■ **Animal feeding** – 11 a.m. weekends in the Nature Center

■ **Bluegrass music: Nathan Rich and the Untold Riches** – 1-4 p.m. Jan. 20

## At The Maltz

The Maltz Jupiter Theatre is at 1001 E. Indiantown Road, Jupiter. Call 575-2223 or visit [www.jupitertheatre.org](http://www.jupitertheatre.org).

■ **"Singin' in the Rain"** – Jan. 17-27. Tickets: \$46-\$63.

■ **"Singin' in the Rain" Talk Back (question-and-answer session moderated by Producing Artistic Director Andrew Kato)** – 4-4:30 p.m. Jan. 19 (follows the Jan. 19 performance).

■ **"Late Nite Catechism"** – 8-10:30 p.m. Jan. 20. Tickets: \$40.

■ **Chris MacDonald's "Memories of Elvis"** – 7:30-10:30 p.m. Jan. 21. Tickets: \$45.

## At The Mos'Art

The Mos'Art Theatre is at 700 Park Ave., Lake Park. Call 337-OPOD (6763) or visit [www.mosarttheatre.com](http://www.mosarttheatre.com).

■ **Film** – Jan. 17: "Struck by Lightning" and "Nicky's Family." Jan. 18, Jan. 20-24: "A Royal Affair," Jan. 18-19, Jan. 21-24: "How to Survive a Plague."

■ **Live** – 7 p.m. Jan. 18-19; and 3 p.m. Jan. 19-20: "Grease."

## At The Mounts

Mounts Botanical Garden is at 559 N. Military Trail in West Palm Beach. Call 233-1757 or visit [www.mounts.org](http://www.mounts.org).

■ **The Art of Close-Up Photography Workshop** – Join noted nature photographer John J. Lopinot for a three-day workshop about how to shoot close-up photos in the garden. Noon-2 p.m. Jan. 6, 13 and 20. Members: \$100. Non-members: \$125.

■ **Florida Arbor Day** – For The Love of Trees – 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Jan. 18. Throughout the garden. Free for members. Suggest donation of \$5 for non-members. Planting of a native mastic tree, guided tours and a Tree Trek for children.

■ **Urban Farming: Vegetables & Fruit Growing** – 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Jan. 19. Mounts Exhibit Hall A. \$30 for members; \$40 for non-members. Participants will gain knowledge to raise vegetables from seed to harvest, as well as the basics of backyard fruit growing.

## Fresh Markets

■ **Jupiter Green & Artisan Market** – 5-9 p.m. Fridays through April, Riverwalk Events Plaza, 150 S. U.S. 1, Jupiter. Admission is free. The event will include baked goods, fresh produce, arts and crafts, jewelry, pet products and more. Vendors are welcome. For information, contact Harry Welsh at (203) 222-3574 or visit [www.harrysmarkets.com](http://www.harrysmarkets.com).

■ **West Palm Beach Farmers Market** – 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays at 101 South Flagler Drive. Visit [wpb.org/greenmarket](http://wpb.org/greenmarket).

■ **The Abacoa Green Market** – 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays through April, Abacoa Town Center amphitheater, 1200 University Blvd., Jupiter. will open for the season Saturday at the Abacoa Town Center amphitheater, 1200 University Blvd. The market will feature fruits and vegetables, organic meats, sauces, jewelry, handbags, crafts and more. Info: 307-4944 or [reggie.chasethe-sun@gmail.com](mailto:reggie.chasethe-sun@gmail.com).

■ **The West Palm Beach Antique & Flea Market** – 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. the second, third and fourth Saturday of each month on Narcissus Avenue just north of Banyan Boulevard in downtown West Palm Beach. For information, search for West Palm Beach Antique & Flea Market on Facebook or call 670-7473.

■ **Palm Beach Gardens Green Market** – 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Sundays. 10500 N. Military Trail, Palm Beach Gardens; (561) 630-1100 or visit [www.pbgfl.com](http://www.pbgfl.com).

■ **Sunday Artisan Market at the Waterfront in West Palm Beach** – 11 a.m.-3 p.m. every Sunday through April 28. Featuring everything creative but food. Clematis Street at Flagler Drive. Call (203) 222-3574.

## Thursday, Jan. 17

■ **Safety Council of Palm Beach County Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic Course** – 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Safety Council, 4150 W. Blue Heron Blvd. Suite 110, Riviera Beach; 845-8233.

■ **Bingo** – Noon every Thursday at the Moose Lodge, 3600 RCA Blvd. Palm Beach Gardens. Lunch available at 11 a.m. Packs start at \$15. \$250 games. 626-4417.

■ **Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Lecture Series: "Sailing the Spanish Main" by Steve Kruspe, education specialist, Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse** – 4 p.m. Jan. 17.

■ **Benefit for the U.S. War Dogs Association** – Sponsored by Operation Care For Heroes, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Jan. 17, Village Art Studios and Original Elements, 377 Tequesta Drive, Tequesta. Free and open to the public. Contact Kit Stewart-Legato at 747-5204.

■ **Sailfish Marina Sunset Celebration** – 6 p.m. Thursdays. Shop for arts-and-crafts made by artists from around the country. Sailfish Marina, east of the Intracoastal, just south of Blue Heron Boulevard, Palm Beach Shores; 842-8449.

■ **Mainstreet at Midtown** – Live music 6-8 p.m. Thursdays. Mainstreet at Midtown, 4801 PGA Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens. Jan. 17: Juke. Call 630-6110.

# WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

■ **Clematis by Night** - Live music 6-9 p.m. Thursdays, Clematis Street at the Waterfront, downtown West Palm Beach. Jan. 17: Eclipse. Jan. 24: The Kinected. Jan. 31: Seefari. Free; 822-1515 or visit [www.clematisbynight.net](http://www.clematisbynight.net).

■ **Palm Beach Winter Antiques Show and Sale Preview Party (benefiting the Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens)** - 6-9 p.m. Jan. 17, Embassy Suites (formerly Crowne Plaza), 1601 Belvedere Road, West Palm Beach. Includes wine, champagne, hors d'oeuvres, complimentary valet parking and an opportunity for early-buying. Tickets: \$75 in advance; \$100 at the door.

## Friday, Jan. 18

■ **Safety Council of Palm Beach County Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic Refresher Course** - 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Safety Council, 4150 W. Blue Heron Blvd. Suite 110, Riviera Beach. For more information, call 845-8233.

■ **The Benjamin School's Fourth Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Breakfast** - 8:30-10 a.m. Jan. 18, Healey Athletic Center, The Benjamin School's Upper School Campus, 4875 Grandiflora Road, Palm Beach Gardens. Featuring Okémongo Dibinga, 21st-century educator, actor, poet, motivational speaker, publisher and author. RSVP to 472-3451.

■ **Palm Beach Winter Antiques Show and Sale** - 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Jan. 18-19 and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Jan. 20, Embassy Suites (formerly Crowne Plaza), 1601 Belvedere Road, West Palm Beach. Featuring 50 national and international exhibitors presenting antique furniture, decorative arts and fine arts from ancient to 20th century. Admission: \$15 (good for all three days).

■ **Roger Rossi and Class Action** - 7-9 p.m. Jan. 18, Palm Beach Gardens City Hall Bandstand, 10500 N. Military Trail, Palm Beach Gardens. Free. Call (772) 288-1879.

■ **Downtown Live** - 7-10 p.m. Fridays at Downtown at the Gardens' Downtown Park (next to The Cheesecake Factory), 11701 Lake Victoria Gardens Drive, Palm Beach Gardens. Jan. 18: The Groove Merchant Band. Call 340-1600.

## Saturday, Jan. 19

■ **STORE Self Storage Huge Covered Yard Sale** - 8 a.m.-noon, Jan. 19, STORE Self Storage & Wine Storage, 11010 N. Military Trail, Palm Beach Gardens. Shoppers: Free to come and shop. Sellers: Rent a 10' x 10' space in the breezeway to sell your items for \$35. A local charity will pick up items you don't wish to carry home. Call 627-8444.

■ **6th Annual 100 Years of Cars** - 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Jan. 19 at the Pine School's Upper School campus in Hobe Sound. Admission: \$10 for adults, free for active military personnel, veterans and children 12 and under. Info at [www.100yearsofcars.com](http://www.100yearsofcars.com).

■ **Safety Council of Palm Beach County Basic Driver Improvement Course** - 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Jan. 19. Safety Council, 4150 W. Blue Heron Blvd. Suite 110, Riviera Beach. For more information, call 845-8233.

■ **Lighthouse Kids Explorers**

**Club** - 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Jan. 19, Feb. 16, March 16, Apr. 20 and May 18 at the Seminole Chickee at the Jupiter Lighthouse and Museum, Lighthouse Park, 500 Captain Armour's Way, Jupiter. For kids 8-12. A club to explore history, nature, archeology, ancient tribal life, maritime and pirate life, and life-saving rescue. 747-8380, Ext. 101; [www.jupiterlighthouse.org](http://www.jupiterlighthouse.org).

■ **Downtown Delray Beach Festival of the Arts** - 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Jan. 19-20. 1111 E. Atlantic Ave. Largest art fair in South Florida, spanning one mile of Atlantic Ave., from US 1 to A1A. Call 746-6615 or visit [www.artfestival.com](http://www.artfestival.com).

■ **Boca Raton Fine Art Show** - 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Jan. 19-20 at Sanborn Park at Federal Highway, Northeast First Avenue and East Boca Raton Road. Juried fine art show with teen art competition. Call (914) 755-3088 or visit [www.hotworks.org](http://www.hotworks.org).

■ **The Sunshine Blues Festival** - Begins at 11 a.m. Jan. 19, Mizner Park Amphitheater, Boca Raton. With the Tedeschi Trucks Band, Dr. John, Walter Trout, Sonny Landreth, Joe Louis Walker, Jaimoe's Jasssz Band, Matt Schofield, The Wood Brothers, Big Sam's Funky Nation, Sean Chambers and Bobby Lee Rodgers. Tickets: \$49.50, general admission; \$149.50 VIP. Info at [www.sunshinebluesfestival.com](http://www.sunshinebluesfestival.com).

■ **Rooney's Golf Foundation Charity Poker Tournament** - 5:30 p.m. Jan. 19. Palm Beach Kennel Club, 1111 N. Congress Ave., West Palm Beach. Top 10 percent get paid cash and prizes. Win a World Series of Poker Circuit Seat (a \$1,600 value). \$50 buy-in; \$20 re-buys. Delicious buffet. Call 683-2222.

■ **Legacy Place "Cinema Under the Stars"** - 7 p.m. Jan. 19, Legacy Place Third Level Parking Garage, 11290 Legacy Ave., Palm Beach Gardens. Showing "ParaNorman," an animated family-friendly favorite on a 20-foot movie screen. Bring your own chairs and blankets for seating. Free. Call 285-2910.

■ **Downtown Live** - 7-10 p.m. Saturdays at Downtown at the Gardens' Downtown Park (next to The Cheesecake Factory), 11701 Lake Victoria Gardens Drive, Palm Beach Gardens; 340-1600. Jan. 19: Sound Proof.

## Sunday, Jan. 20

■ **Sunday Brunch and Polo** - 2 p.m. (brunch); 3 p.m. (polo), Sundays through Apr. 21, International Polo Club Palm Beach, 3667 120th Ave. South, Wellington. Tickets for Sunday brunch at The Pavilion and its reception start at \$55, upward to \$330 for the Veuve Clicquot brunch package for two. Ticket prices for Sunday polo range from \$10 general admission to \$120 box seating. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.InternationalPoloClub.com](http://www.InternationalPoloClub.com) or by calling 204-5687.

■ **"In Praise of Song" with soprano Valerie Saalbach** - 3 p.m. Jan. 20. St. Patrick Church, 13591 Prosperity Farms Road, Palm Beach Gardens. Free. Call 626-8626.

■ **"Tony n' Tina's Wedding"** - Off-Broadway production and dinner show, 5 p.m. Jan. 20, PGA National Resort & Spa's Lakeside Lawn, Palm Beach Gardens. Tickets: \$95 for the one-time-only engagement and may be purchased at [www.tonyntinapga.eventbrite.com/](http://www.tonyntinapga.eventbrite.com/) or

by calling 627-4852. A special room package including deluxe room and two tickets to the show is available for \$349 plus resort fee and tax. A reception will follow the performance in PGA National's British Ballroom.

## Monday, Jan. 21

■ **North Palm Beach Public Library - Knit & Crochet** - 1-4 p.m. each Monday. Library is at 303 Anchorage Drive, North Palm Beach. Free. 841-3383.

## Tuesday, Jan. 22

■ **Zumba Class** - 11 a.m. Tuesdays, Alexander's Ballroom, 651 W. Indian-town Road, Jupiter; 747-0030.

■ **Mah Jongg & Canasta Play Sessions** - 12:15-3:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays; JCC North, 4803 PGA Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens. Tables grouped by game preference (mah jongg or canasta) and level of skill. Coffee, cold beverages and a variety of goodies provided. Price: Free/Friends of the J; \$5/guests; 712-5233.

■ **Zumba class** - 7:15-8:15 p.m. Tuesdays and 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesdays at the Burns Road Recreation Center, 4404 Burns Road, Palm Beach Gardens. Drop-in fee, \$12; resident discount, \$10. Call 630-1100 or visit [www.pbgfl.com](http://www.pbgfl.com).

## Wednesday, Jan. 23

■ **Cultural Council of Palm Beach County's "Art on the Road" Bus Tour** - 9:15 a.m.-1:15 p.m. Jan. 23. Visit the Holden Luntz Gallery, the Gavlak Gallery and a private collection in Palm Beach. Admission: \$40 members; \$50 non-members. RSVP to 472-3342.

■ **Bridge Classes with Sam Brams - 10 a.m.-noon Wednesdays** - JCC North, 4803 PGA Blvd. Six-week session \$72 or \$15/class. Pre-registration appreciated. Call Rhonda Gordon, 712-5233.

■ **North Palm Beach Library Book Discussion** - 2:30 p.m. Jan. 23. "Back to Blood" by Tom Wolfe. North Palm Beach Library, 303 Anchorage Drive, North Palm Beach. Free. Call 841-3383.

## Ongoing

■ **Royal Room Cabaret** - Jan. 17-19: Clint Holmes; Jan 22.-Feb 2: Marilyn McCoo & Billy Davis, Jr. 155 Hammon Ave., Palm Beach. Each cabaret headliner will perform 8:30 p.m. shows with doors opening at 6:30 p.m. for dinner. Tickets: Tuesday-Thursday, \$60 show only, \$120 dinner and show; Friday and Saturday, \$70 show only, \$130 dinner and show. Call 655-5430 or visit [www.thecolonypalmbeach.com](http://www.thecolonypalmbeach.com).

■ **Flagler Museum - Music Series: Utrecht String Quartet: 7:30 p.m. Jan 22 (Tickets: \$60). Jan. 29-Apr. 21: "Impressions of Interiors: Gilded Age Paintings by Walter Gay." Museum is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, noon-5 p.m. Museum is housed in Henry Flagler's 1902 beaux-arts mansion, Whitehall; at 1 Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. Tickets: free for members; \$18 adults, \$10 youth (13-17) accompanied by adult; \$3 child (6-12) accompanied by adult; and free for children under 6. 655-2833. ■**

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## THEATER REVIEW

## "Singin' In the Rain" is entertaining, but lacks soul

BY BILL HIRSCHMAN  
bill@floridatheateronstage.com

One of the Maltz Jupiter Theatre's enviable problems being one of the finest producers of mainstream musicals in the southeastern United States is that it sets the bar of expectations almost unrealistically high.

Assuredly, the Maltz's "Singin' In the Rain" is a pleasant, skillfully executed, beautifully produced evening of cotton candy entertainment. No one for several hundred miles around mounts such gem-polished, well-heeled works of musical theater.

The asterisk is that this "Singin' In the Rain" has no soul. It's a funny, diverting, two-dimensional cartoon whereas the quintessential Hollywood musical stirred in emotions along with the yuks and terpsichorean feats. For all its artifice of people breaking into song and dance, the 1952 flick had that faux film reality that enabled you to root for the lovers. That's missing in this stage version that seems like a series of expertly staged Follies numbers.

If this sounds like the Grinch stayed an extra few weeks, recall the iconic film sequence in which Gene Kelly as the film actor Don Lockwood expresses his unalloyed joy at being in love by cavorting in a "real" downpour on a "real" residential street. We are eavesdropping on a human being whose emotions are so overwhelming that he must dance to convey them. The ecstasy that



ALICIA DONELAN / COURTESY PHOTO  
Curt Dale Clark, Lauren Blackman and Brian Shepard in "Singin' in the Rain" at the Maltz Jupiter Theatre.

he feels and engenders in the audience even on the umpteenth viewing is still pure hallelujah.

But in this edition, Don — bemused by amour rather than lovestruck — is on a Hollywood soundstage playfully toying with a new rainmaking machine. But more telling, the actor is playing directly to the Maltz audience as if he was performing a vaudeville number. He destroys the fourth wall by intentionally and impishly kicking water into the laps of the audience in the first row who have been equipped with Maid of the Mist ponchos. Now the number isn't rapture, it's a showstopper.

This stage version originated in

London in 1983, was heavily revamped for Broadway in 1985 and revived in England several times. The result is a faithful recreation of the film. Original screenwriters Betty Comden and Adolph Green rewrote their rib-poking script for the stage, and they kept the glorious score of Nacio Herb Brown and MGM musical guru Arthur Freed (almost all of it recycled from their earlier films).

The plot follows the seismic shift when silent flickers gave way to "talkies." The superstars of a series of romantic swashbucklers at Monumental Pictures, Don Lockwood (Curt Dale Clark) and Lina Lamont (Emily Stockdale), sud-

denly must try to adapt to the new technology of digital film and CGI, sorry, I mean talking pictures. Lockwood has little trouble, but the tyrannical Lamont has a voice that sounds like nails scraping a blackboard. Cosmo Brown, the studio piano player and Don's former vaudeville partner (Brian Shepard) suggests that Lina be dubbed by the lovely low-ingénue-on-the-studio-totem-pole Kathy Selden (Lauren Blackman), which is fine with Don since he has fallen in love with her, not so good since the self-deluded Lina sees Kathy as romantic competition.

The score gives the silver-throated Blackman the chance to send her voice soaring through numbers like "Would You" and "You Are My Lucky Star." It also gives Clark and Shepard a chance to hoof their way through some impressively athletic numbers like "Moses Supposes." All three shine as a unit in the glorious dance trio "Good Morning," perhaps the best number in the show.

Director Marc Robin moves the production briskly and everything runs as precise as the proverbial Swiss watch; it should, since this edition ran last month at the Fulton Theatre of Pennsylvania (a co-producer which jointly mounted The Sound of Music with the Maltz). But Robin also gets the blame for the slightly flat, unconvincing aura. Not a single character in the cast seems to have a genuine chemistry with anyone else.

On the other hand, his energetic cho-

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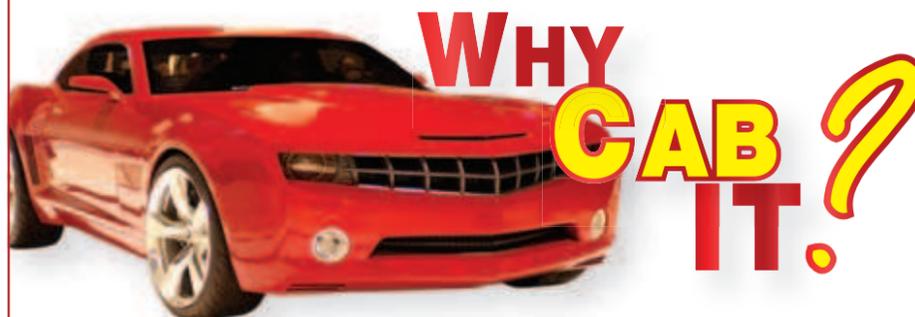


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reography is impressive, especially in the multi-part fantasy for "Broadway Melody" including Don's slinky pas de deux with Alison Manning standing in for Cyd Charisse. Robin slyly quotes classic movie musical moves such as the dancer lifting her leg high into the air while twirling, carrying a swath of skirt into the air. He even pays homage to the classic dance moves from the original film such as the finale of "Good Morning" in which the three amigos step onto the back of a sofa, upend it and then land on their bottoms in happy exhaustion.

One problem comparing this to the film is that the 1952 cast was the proverbial lightning in a bottle that would require a miracle to equal. Clark is a fine dancer, a serviceable singer, a charming personality and a barely passable actor. But he's a musical comedy performer with a ski nose and a slightly goofy demeanor. Gene Kelly looked like your plumber, but Clark's persona seems more like a top banana than a leading man. Audience members will give him a standing ovation for his skill, but none will want to take him home with them.

The lovely Blackman is far more affecting because she plays her part as if the stakes were real, plus she has the one pure voice in the company. Shepard makes a fine sidekick and dances with as much energy and verve as anyone can ask in his baggy pants solo "Make 'Em Laugh." But he doesn't have the charisma that elevated Donald O'Connor to star billing in the film.

Stockdale, bless her, is a stitch with those kewpie doll looks belying a coniving personality, although that glass-cutting voice gets a little old the fifth time she screeches, "What am I? Dumb?"

As always, the Maltz's taste and talent are evident. Particularly notable are the spangled gowns, pressed tuxes, plumed hats and other wardrobe from a Jazz Age closet. The costumes are mostly rentals,

but they were carefully chosen and coordinated by Anthony Lascoskie Jr. to evoke Gatsby-esque lushness and vivacity. Kudos are also due the multi-layer lighting design of Paul Black. Sound designer Marty Mets has created some nifty moments such as the sound of a fluttering movie projector emanating from the back of the Maltz auditorium whenever Don and Lina's movies are shown on the on-stage screen.

The titular rain effect is, indeed, a pretty impressive downpour to soak dancin' Don as he twirls his soggy open umbrella in the audience's faces. If you're sitting in the first three rows and the ushers offer you the poncho, take it. Don't worry whether it clashes with your Armani, just put it on in time for the end of the first act.

A nine-piece pit band led by Musical Director Aaron McAllister is note perfect and exudes that brassy sound essential to put across the score.

Bottom line: This "Singin' In The Rain" is entertaining, which is all most people are looking for, but you won't believe any of it for 10 seconds in a row like you did in the Maltz's captivating reboots of Hello, Dolly! and The Music Man. ■

— *Bill Hirschman is editor, chief critic and reporter for Florida Theater on Stage, a website devoted to news and reviews about South Florida theater. See more at southfloridatheateronstage, or call Mr. Hirschman at 954-478-1123.*

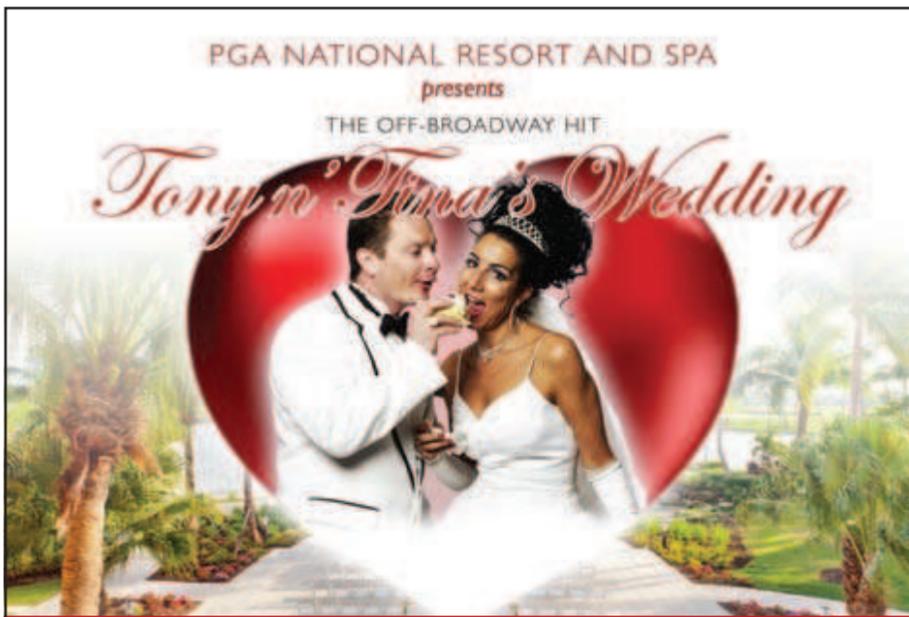
**If you go**

Singin' In The Rain plays through Jan. 27 at the Maltz Jupiter Theatre, 1001 E. Indiantown Road in Jupiter. 7:30 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, 8 p.m. Saturday, 2 p.m. Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are \$46-\$68, available by calling 575-2223 or visit [jupitertheatre.org](http://jupitertheatre.org).

## PUZZLE ANSWERS



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



## DINNER SHOW

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# FLORIDA WEEKLY

Bo Derek officiates coin toss as International Polo C



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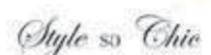
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# WEEKLY SOCIETY

Club Palm Beach kicks off 10th anniversary season



1. Laura Cozar and Anton Fajardo
2. IPC President John Wash and actress Bo Derek, who officiated the coin toss
3. Kate Bostic, Amanda Caulder, Leot Taylor, Jeremy Shockley, Chelsea Lacaster and Shannon Perez
4. Champagne brunch
5. Celine Loren, Troy Strother, Nicole McCarty and Kurt Smith
6. Peter Robbins, Emily Pantelides and Christine DiRoccol
7. Ruth Mans and Tom Mans
8. Kool 105.5 Mo Foster and Sally Sevaireid with Bo Derek
9. Lauren Duffy and Helga Piaget
10. Tommy Collingwood, Julio Arellano, Gillian Johnston and Sugar Erskine win Opening Day Herbie Pennell Cup



Polito Pieres, with the Villa Del Lago team

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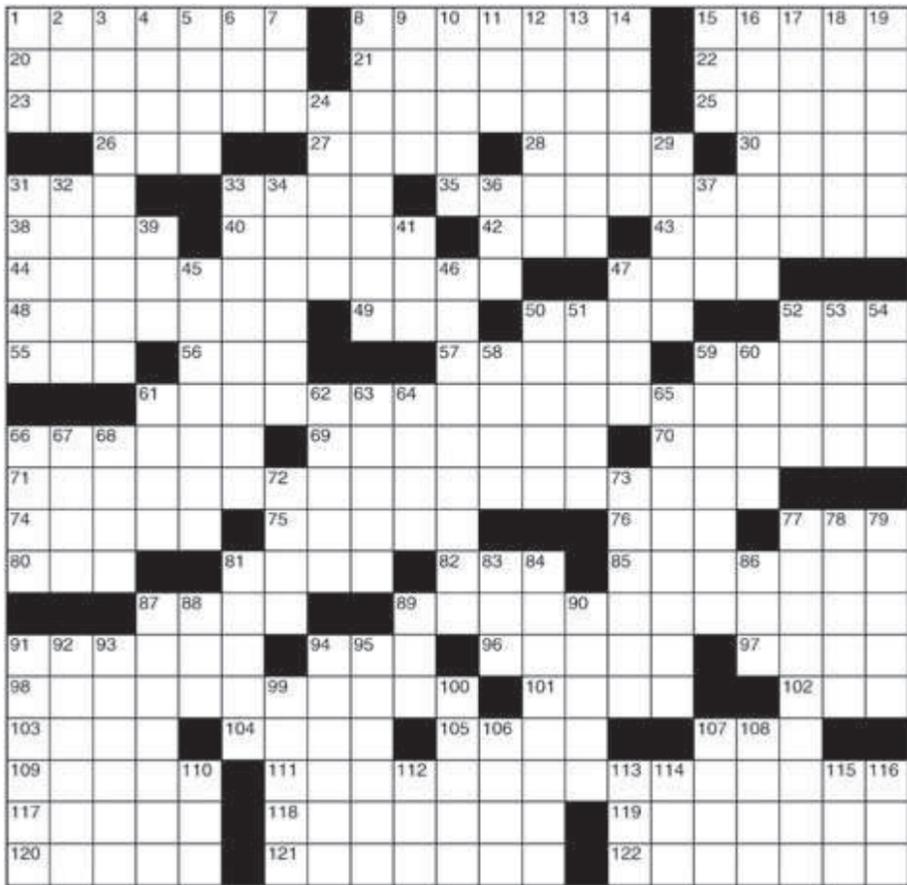
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- 1 Pizza-topping fish
  - 8 Troglodytes
  - 15 Drang's partner
  - 20 University of Wyoming city
  - 21 Smelter input
  - 22 Kayak's kin
  - 23 It includes a nucleus
  - 25 Run up, as debt
  - 26 Jet that last flew in 2003
  - 27 Penta- plus three
  - 28 X-ray dosage units
  - 30 Injure with a horn
  - 31 That fellow's
  - 33 "No — traffic"
  - 35 Publisher owned by Random House
  - 38 "ER" co-star La Salle
  - 40 "Start the tune!"
  - 42 "The Lady — Tramp"
  - 43 Shoelace-receiving hole
  - 44 What a very thorough description is given in
  - 47 Snow glider
  - 48 Fencer's cry
  - 49 Earth heater
  - 50 Stair support
  - 52 Left-winger, for short
  - 55 — in "November"
  - 56 Arctic diving bird
  - 57 Bit of magic
  - 59 — apso (terrier type)
  - 61 Terrier type
  - 66 Pilot a plane
  - 69 Sailor
  - 70 Toed the line
  - 71 Histology
  - 74 Stud's game
  - 75 "— Miller" (Verdi opera)
  - 76 7-Down, in France
  - 77 Very, very softly, in music
  - 80 — as a fox
  - 81 Kitten noise
  - 82 Young kid
  - 85 Michigan/Ontario border river
  - 87 Bit of cotton on a stick
  - 89 Sports group for tykes
  - 91 Like laced punch
  - 94 In times past
  - 96 Esther of "Maude"
  - 97 Pigsty
  - 98 Don Ho hit
  - 101 See 107-Across
  - 102 Neighbor of Mich. and Ill.
  - 103 Use a Kindle
  - 104 Very small battery
  - 105 Suffix with margin
  - 107 With 101-Across, way up a slope
  - 109 Extra Dry deodorant
  - 111 Waterspout climber of song
  - 117 Validate
  - 118 Settle, as an issue
  - 119 Slightly
  - 120 Waste line
  - 121 Pale lager
  - 122 12 times per year
  - 7 "That's right!"
  - 8 Motherboard components
  - 9 In — (going nowhere)
  - 10 Word stock, informally
  - 11 Suffix with differ
  - 12 Expresses grief
  - 13 List of typos
  - 14 "I — nap!"
  - 15 — -fi flick
  - 16 Did a certain ballroom dance
  - 17 Like nerds
  - 18 Mickey of movies
  - 19 Most minimal
  - 24 Rich dessert
  - 29 Scent
  - 31 Virile guys
  - 32 Ice skater Slutskaya
  - 33 Old Vegas casino
  - 34 Baseballer Irabu or Matsui
  - 36 Feel ill
  - 37 "Toodles!"
  - 39 Sine — non
  - 41 T, in Greece
  - 45 Betrayer
  - 46 Complicated
  - 47 Punjabi believer
  - 50 Resurrected
  - 51 Largest city in Ghana
  - 52 Like burns
  - 53 "Oh, so that's it!"
  - 54 Epic poet
  - 58 Actress Sofer
  - 59 Rodents in research
  - 60 — Lewis & the News
  - 61 Filly's mother
  - 62 Love, in Nice
  - 63 Swinelike animal
  - 64 "QB VII" author Leon
  - 65 Dead-end street sign
  - 66 Rock concert gear
  - 67 Early stringed instrument
  - 68 Nasty
  - 72 Golfing need
  - 73 "Note — ..."
  - 77 Web site designer's specification
  - 78 Early pope
  - 79 Push
  - 81 City in Italy
  - 83 "— the ramparts ..."
  - 84 Soda bottle size
  - 86 On the — (hiding out)
  - 87 Use a parachute
  - 88 Fly snarer
  - 89 "The Raven" writer
  - 90 "Fallen" actor Koteas
  - 91 Helmet parts
  - 92 Cardin of fashion
  - 93 Back to back
  - 94 Diminisher
  - 95 Vacant, as a stare
  - 99 1993 Nannygate figure Zoe
  - 100 Costly dark brown fur
  - 106 The "L" of "SNL"
  - 107 Go in circles
  - 108 Vocalist Eartha
  - 110 Article in Ulm
  - 112 1903, for Bob Hope: Abbr.
  - 113 Oft-candied tuber
  - 114 — -pitch softball
  - 115 Kay follower
  - 116 San Luis —, California

SEE ANSWERS, B9

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## HOROSCOPES

**CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)** While few can match the Goat's fiscal wizardry, you still need to be wary in your dealings. There might be a problem you should know about sooner rather than later.

**AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)** Easy does it when it comes to love and all the other good things in life. Don't try to force them to develop on your schedule. Best to let it happen naturally.

**PISCES (February 19 to March 20)** A surprise decision by someone you trust causes some stormy moments. But a frank discussion explains everything, and helps save a cherished relationship.

**ARIES (March 21 to April 19)** You're eager to take on that new opportunity opening up as January gives way to February. Now all you need to do is resist quitting too early. Do your best to stay with it.

**TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** Doff a bit of that careful, conservative outlook and let your brave Bovine self take a chance on meeting that new challenge. You could be surprised at how well you do.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)** You might not want to return to the more serious tasks facing you. But you know it's what you must do. Cheer up. Something more pleasant soon will occupy your time.

**CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** As you dutifully tidy up your end-of-the-month tasks, your fun self emerges to

urge you to do something special: A trip (or a cruise, maybe?) could be just what you need.

**LEO (July 23 to August 22)** Your achievements are admirable as you close out the month with a roar. Now you can treat yourself to some well-earned time off for fun with family or friends. (Or both!)

**VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)** Be sure you know the facts before you assume someone is holding back on your project. Try to open your mind before you give someone a piece of it.

**LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)** You might feel comfortable in your familiar surroundings, but it might be time to venture into something new. There's a challenge out there that's just right for you.

**SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)** Your love of things that are new gets a big boost as you encounter a situation that opens up new and exciting vistas. How far you go with it depends on you.

**SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)** That recent workplace shift might not seem to be paying off as you expected. But be patient. There are changes coming that could make a big difference.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** Sometimes you forget to take care of yourself, because you're so busy caring for others. But you wouldn't have it any other way. ■

By Linda Thistle

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

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

SEE ANSWERS, B9

## Deli Selections

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PITAS & WRAPS  
HOMEMADE SOUPS  
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**Owner:** BR Barbara  
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## CITY OF PALM BEACH GARDENS

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**FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 2013**

featuring *Roger Rossi & Class Action* | Concert begins at 7:00pm

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[www.pbgef.com](http://www.pbgef.com)  
561-630-1100

Raindate: February 1, 2013



OPENING ART RECEPTION FOR DEBBIE LEE MOSTEL

"TECHNOLOGY DECONSTRUCTED-NATURE RECONSTRUCTED"

Mixed Media

**City Hall Lobby 6:00pm**

Complimentary Event



## LATEST FILMS

### 'Gangster Squad'

danHUDAK

[www.hudakonhollywood.com](http://www.hudakonhollywood.com)



★<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

Is it worth \$10? No

The late film critic Gene Siskel once pondered if the movie he was reviewing was more interesting than a documentary of the same actors having lunch together. In the case of "Gangster Squad," the answer is a definitive, resounding no.

This is lazy, predictable, clichéd filmmaking, with nary a surprise or original idea to be had. And with this star-studded cast, the disappointment is especially shocking.

The setting is Los Angeles, 1949. Gangster Mickey Cohen (Sean Penn) has cops, judges and other powers-that-be in his back pocket. But Police Chief William Parker (Nick Nolte) has had enough, so he empowers a righteous detective named John O'Mara (Josh Brolin) to work outside the law and take Cohen down.

O'Mara's pregnant wife (Mirielle Enos) helps him assemble a team: Jerry Wooters (Ryan Gosling), who happens to be having an affair with Cohen's girlfriend, Grace Faraday (Emma Stone); street-smart Coleman Harris (Anthony Mackie); sharp-shooter Max Kennard (Robert Patrick) and his protégé, Navidad Ramirez (Michael Pena); and tech-savvy Conway Keeler (Giovanni Ribisi).

Do you think the team is going to be successful? Will a few members of the team go down in the process? Nothing is worse than a drama in which you see everything coming and want it to happen already so the movie can be over. The story, written by Will Beall and based on the book of the same name by Paul Lieberman, also relents to typical clichés and faux personal realizations. For example, Jerry's reason for joining the squad — the wrong-place-at-the-wrong-time death of a shoeshine boy (Austin Abrams) — feels half-hearted, like a forced and desperate attempt to imbue emotion when it's not needed.

Director Ruben Fleischer ("Zombieland") does not contribute any form of creativity, except perhaps his feedback on the strong production and costume designs. Worse, his background is entirely in comedies, which is a reason why the tone of "Gangster Squad" constantly feels off. There are moments

of poor, obviously fake visual effects in the beginning that suggest a campy feel, but far too much of the story is oh-so serious, leaving us caught between lighthearted and grim.

The cast is similarly confused, and thereby contributes to this problem.

Mr. Penn stops just short of completely over-the-top hamming it up, though he comes close a number of times. In contrast, Mr. Brolin looks



like a stoic sourpuss throughout, and Mr. Gosling, immensely talented as he is, gives Jerry a soft-spoken, almost effeminate voice that in no way befits the toughness of his character. And someone needs to remind Ms. Stone that she's a big-time movie star who shouldn't be relegated to such thankless supporting roles. Worse, she's entirely wrong for Grace, who's supposed to be sultry and seductive. Ms. Stone is not these things — she's cute and adorable, but sexiness does not come naturally to her.

"Gangster Squad" is allegedly based on true events, but a quick look at the facts shows a complete neglect of reality. No matter, though: A movie either works on its own or it doesn't. And this one absolutely, positively doesn't. ■

in the know

>>The film was originally scheduled for release Sept. 7, 2012, but following the Aurora, Colo., movie theater shootings in July, it was delayed in order to rewrite and reshoot a massacre scene that was set inside a movie theater.

## CAPSULES

### Rust and Bone ★★

(Marion Cotillard, Matthias Schoenaerts, Armand Verdure) A neglectful father and mixed martial arts fighter (Mr. Schoenaerts) befriends a whale trainer (Ms. Cotillard) who loses her legs in an accident. Ms. Cotillard is fabulous, but the story is too uneven. Rated R.

### Not Fade Away ★★

(James Gandolfini, John Magaro, Jack Houston) An aspiring rock band tries to make it big in 1960s New Jersey, but life keeps getting in the way. The band is comprised of the kinds of unlikeable,

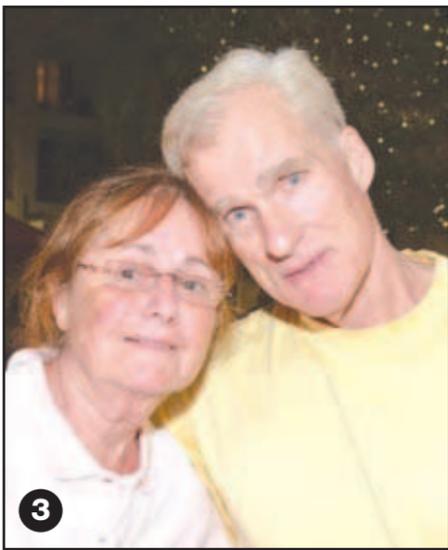
self-important jerks that aspiring artists have a tendency to be. Accordingly, we never care about them. Not even a peppy soundtrack can make this love letter to rock 'n' roll work. Written and directed by David Chase ("The Sopranos"). Rated R.

### Zero Dark Thirty ★★

(Jessica Chastain, Jason Clarke, Joel Edgerton) This film from director Kathryn Bigelow ("The Hurt Locker") chronicles the CIA's hunt for Osama bin Laden. While the search, obstacles and detours are interesting, at 157 minutes the story drags to its exciting final half hour. Rated R. ■

# SOCIETY

## Mainstreet at Midtown free concert with Amber Leigh, at Midtown



1. Bob Dee and Debbe Dee
2. Annie Ayres, Katie Ayres and Kim Ayres
3. Marcelle Schmikler, Frank Williams
4. Conner St. Amour, Jason St. Amour, Sarah St. Amour and Dawson St. Amour
5. Amber Leigh
6. Iris Jenkins, Bob Thurber, Diane Thurber and Alondria Kerekes
7. Debbie Telfrin and Galle Lamb
8. Andrea Fredericks and Jay Gaal
9. David R. Randell and Stacey Stolman
10. Sandra Schena and Gloria Bradley
11. Dave Ayres and Pam Ayres
12. Belly Cheary and Kelly Cheary
13. Ernie Inge and Terry Inge
14. Karen Stroly and Jim Mason

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# FLORIDA WRITERS

## A hauntingly beautiful, courageous yet painful composition



Having anticipated the need to prepare for Josh's future without her, Becky had documented her wish that Josh become part of her sister Jess's family in the case of her death or incapacity. Little did she know the twisted home life that Jess and her children led under Steve's reign of terror.

Pride and fear mixed to keep Jess chained to a life of virtual slavery, constant insults and harsh beatings. Although they had some understanding of what was happening, her children had no way to help her. Mother and children, in fact, had developed a conspiracy of silence. They lived a lie.

A flashback chapter summarizes the courtship and early years of marriage between Jess and Steve, revealing the step-by-step process by which the naïve and overwhelmed Jess became first an appendage to Steve's egocentric manipulations and eventually a victim, her individuality submerged under the weight of his sadistic expectations.

Josh walks into this domestic nightmare, unprepared and defenseless — but

not altogether so. The quality of love he had received from his mother, the spirit of freedom she had instilled in him and her therapeutic reverence for nature that he had internalized gave Josh resilience and fortitude. Still, he is only a boy.

As Steve becomes more and more erratic and cruel, Sam becomes more and more committed to rebuilding his relationship with Josh. However, Steve's overpowering jealousy cuts off communication between father and son.

Ultimately, Sam's questioning of Jess about "what's wrong" and Steve's creation of a police state within the home (he cancels Jess's credit cards and takes away her car keys) drive Jess closer and closer

to taking a stand and tearing down the web of lies she has spun to hide the truth about how she and her children live under Steve's tyranny.

Is she up to it? She fails time and time again to take action or even to admit the full truth to herself. Because she can't control the severity of Steve's reaction, she fears that she will only bring more trouble



LAUER

upon her children, Josh and herself.

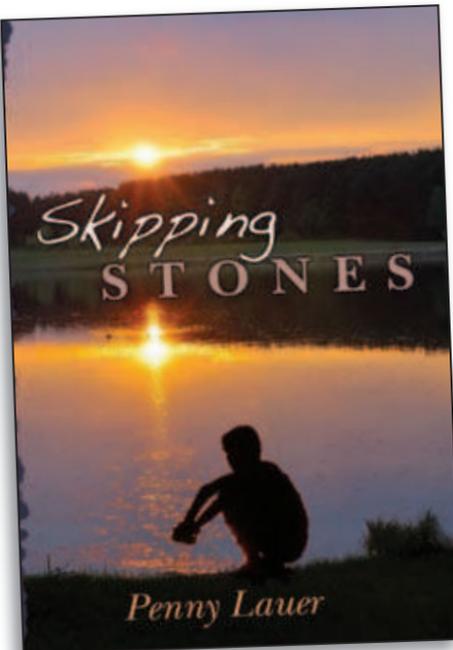
Is Sam suspicious enough about Josh's guarded behavior to act more aggressively? What will he do if he finds out what Josh's life is like in Steve's home? What will Josh do?

These questions keep readers on edge — horrified and yet glued to the author's narration as the fear and hope thermometers climb.

Ms. Lauer skillfully integrates a journal written by Becky as a depression-fighting tool. On his last visit home before joining his aunt's family, Josh discovers this journal and brings it with him. It helps him soften his own loss and his anguish over his aunt's and cousins' plight. Josh (along with the reader) learns about Becky's demons, the demands she made on herself, her openness, her fighting heart and her love for Josh. He learns, as well, the he bears no guilt for his parents' divorce, and that they continue to think well of one another.

"Skipping Stones" digs deep into its principle characters to provide compassionate insights into their potentially devastating disorders. ■

— Phil Jason, Ph.D., United States Naval Academy professor emeritus of English, is a poet, critic and freelance writer with 20 books to his credit, including several studies of war literature and a creative writing text.



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*Arts in the Gardens*

**Season Subscriptions:**  
Orchestra \$150 | Balcony \$120  
**Single Tickets:** \$30 & \$25

Fri   Jan 25	<b>Juan Siddi</b> Flamenco Dance Company
Thurs   Feb 14	<b>The Hit Men</b> Tribute to the music of Frankie Valli and more!
Wed   Feb 27	<b>m-pact</b> Motown, Doo-Wop, Disco and More! <i>Six-member contemporary pop jazz a capella vocal group</i>
Fri   Mar 8	<b>Tamburitans</b> Music, songs & dances of Eastern Europe
Thurs   Mar 21	<b>"Biloxi Blues"</b> comedy by Neil Simon <i>Presented by Montana Repertory Theatre</i>
Wed   Apr 3	<b>Jason Bishop</b> America's Hottest Illusionist <i>Sponsored by Charles &amp; Lynne Weiss</i>

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[www.EisseyCampusTheatre.org](http://www.EisseyCampusTheatre.org)  
Ticket Office: 561.207.5900 | Mon - Fri 10-5  
11051 Campus Drive, Palm Beach Gardens

# SOCIETY

## Young Singers Winter Tapestry at the Kravis Center



1. Dr. Robin Shecter, Dr. James Shecter and family
2. Adele Higgins, Shawn Berry and Mary Hammond
3. Shanon Materio and Phil Materio with Jody Young
4. Tom Johnston, Clare Johnston and Beth Johnston
5. Greg Stoda and Pat Morgan
6. Michele Kirschner and Rob Kirschner
7. Gary Lesser and Hank Gonzalez
8. Paul Velez and Lily Velez
9. Eddie Wilner and Diane Wilner with Mary Ann Hanley and Brian Hanley
10. Leann Stzuk and Donna Ross
11. Melanee Blankstein and Mary Swinford

COURTESY PHOTOS

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# SOCIETY

Opening reception for “Say it Loud: Art by African and African American Artists in the Collection” exhibition at the Norton Museum of Art



1. Seated are Kayla French, Constance Ward, Brenda Moss and Sharon Warren. Standing are Glenn Tomlinson and Sheree Cunningham
2. Opening celebration tour of the Say it Loud exhibition
3. Sheree Cunningham and Hope Alswang
4. Britton Daggs and Glenn Tomlinson
5. Erin Cunningham and Frank Cunningham
6. Guests observing art work by artist Faith Ringgold
7. The West Palm Beach Links Inc. chapter sponsored the reception
8. Patrick Cousins and Bruce Lewis
9. Ethel Isaacs Williams and Eileen Baccus



Guests observing art work by artist J.D. 'Okhai Ojeikere

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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](http://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](mailto:society@floridaweekly.com).

# FLORIDA WEEKLY CUISINE

In the kitchen with...

## RUSSELL BEVERSTEIN, Russell's Blue Water Grill

BY LOREN GUTENTAG  
lgutentag@floridaweekly.com

Who is Russell from Russell's Blue Water Grill in Palm Beach Gardens? Well, Russell is Russell Beverstein, owner and operator of Russell's Blue Water Grill located in Prosperity Center.

Mr. Beverstein, originally from Wisconsin, attended the University of Wisconsin, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in biology and chemistry. As a side job in college, Mr. Beverstein started waiting tables at a local restaurant in which he found his everlasting passion for the restaurant business.



BEVERSTEIN

For 20 years, Mr. Beverstein was an hourly employee and manager in many restaurants such as Carmine's, III Forks, Chuck and Harold's, Max's Grille and Capital Grill. He says he worked with and observed many talented chefs throughout the years as well as attended many restaurant-training programs at places such as the Magic Pan, Steak & Ale and Victoria Station.

Russell's Blue Water Grill is marking its second anniversary.

Mr. Beverstein says his primary concern is hospitality.

"Ultimately, this business is about hospitality," he says. "We take a personal interest and genuinely care about our customer's experience."

He says it is his mission to serve quality food at a lower price, and he is proud of his restaurant's individuality in presentation and recipes.

"One week you come in as a guest and the next week you come in with a guest," he says.

**Name:** Russell Beverstein

**Age:** 52

**Original hometown:** Green Bay, Wis.

**Restaurant:** Russell's Blue Water Grill, Prosperity Center at 2450 PGA Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens

**Mission:** "We buy great food, we prepare it innovatively, it is priced fairly and we serve it efficiently."

**Cuisine:** Seafood and New American cuisine

**Training:** Mr. Beverstein worked at many restaurants prior to opening the Blue Water Grill. He has gained his culinary experience from various restaurant-training programs at places such as the Magic Pan, Steak & Ale and Victoria Station.

**What's your footwear of choice while working?** "I wear Timberland, non-skid shoes that are made in Wisconsin. I buy one pair a year and I wear them every day."

**What advice would you give someone who wants to go into the restaurant business?** "Being in the restaurant business and working the front of the house is not a simple task. It takes organization, anticipation, and coordination to be a quality server. When you put down that food, you need to genuinely care about what you are serving to your customers." ■

## Abacoa faces Food Truck Invasion

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Abacoa hosts a Food Truck Invasion from 5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. the second Friday of each month. The next one is Jan. 18.

Look for trucks offering an array of food items to line up at Abacoa Town Center along Town Center and Crescent drives.

Bring folding chairs or blankets to picnic at the amphitheater grounds. A DJ will perform popular music. Info: [www.foodtruckinvasion.com/abacoa](http://www.foodtruckinvasion.com/abacoa).

**New markets:** Be sure to check out the new green markets at Jupiter's Riverwalk and at Abacoa.

The Jupiter Green & Artisan Market, set for 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Fridays through April, will offer an array of baked goods, fresh produce, arts and crafts, jewelry and pet products, among other things.

It's the brainchild of Harry Welsh, who also runs the Sunday Artisan Market held 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. each Sunday just east of E.R. Bradley's Saloon, at the corner of Clematis Street and Flagler Drive in downtown West Palm Beach.

The Abacoa Green Market will offer fruits and vegetables, organic meats, sauces, jewelry, handbags, and crafts from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays through April.

It is Abacoa Town Center amphitheater, 1200 University Blvd., Jupiter. Info: 307-4944 or [reggie.chasethesun@gmail.com](mailto:reggie.chasethesun@gmail.com).

**Chow down to benefit wildlife:**

A Jan. 31 fundraiser at DIG (Doing It Green) Restaurant in Delray Beach will highlight the work of The Humane Society of the United States' South Florida Wildlife Center. Fine vegan delicacies and drinks will be served.

The Delray Beach Friends of the South Florida Wildlife Center are hosting the event and warmly invite anyone who wishes to support our area's orphaned and injured wildlife to join the festivities, scheduled for 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. The group raises awareness about the services the center provides to wildlife in the tri-county area and helps raise money. The center protects wildlife through rescue, rehabilitation and education.

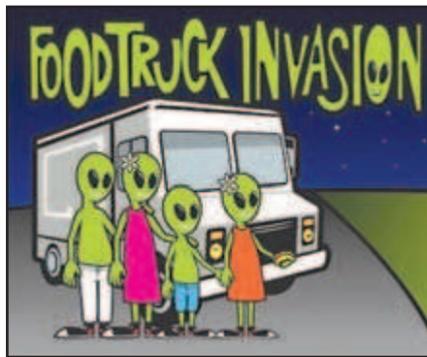
Jeffrey Arciniaco, Anne and Walker Henderson, Diane Colonna and Jeff Perlman, LuAnn Warner-Prokoks and John Prokoks, Lisa and Craig Romer, and Laurie and Glen Udine will chair the event. Robert Greenfield, owner of DIG, is co-sponsor of the event.

At the event, one of the center's emergency ambulances will be on display



COURTESY PHOTO

Laurie Udine, Glen Udine, LuAnn Warner-Prokoks, Jeff Perlman, Robert Greenfield, Lisa Romer, Craig Romer, Sherry Schlueter, Walker Henderson and Diane Shawcross.



so that guests can get a glimpse of the vehicles used to rescue animals in Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade counties.

According to Sherry Schlueter, executive director of the HSUS' South Florida Wildlife Center, the center can admit as many as 100 baby animals in need of emergency care and treatment in one day.

The center typically treats about 250 different species in the course of a year. It is open 365 days a year.

Tickets to the event in Delray Beach are \$35 per person in advance or \$40 at the door, and include two beverages and an array of vegan tapas.

DIG is at 777 E. Atlantic Ave., downtown Delray Beach. For more information or for tickets, call (954) 524-4302, Ext. 30 or 52, or contact [biddingforgood.com/sfwc](http://biddingforgood.com/sfwc).



**New at City-Place:** The Mellow Mushroom has opened at 700 S. Rosemary Ave., Suite 100, West Palm

Beach. Hours are 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Sunday-Thursday and 11 a.m.-1 a.m. Friday-Saturday. Call 653-1351....



Brio Tuscan Grille, which has a location at The Gardens Mall, expects

to open a new location in February. The restaurant, its 10th, will be downstairs from B.B. King's.



**Drive north for seafood:** The Port Salerno Seafood Festival claims to offer the best seafood in the area.

Does it? Well, organizers say more than 35,000 people come each year to dine on fish and other fare offered by local commercial fishermen and their families.

There will be more than 200 vendors, live music and activities for kids during the annual event, set for 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Jan. 26 in the hamlet that's just south of Stuart.

It's at the Port Salerno Waterfront, Southeast Park Drive, Port Salerno. Admission: Adults, \$5; children 12 and under, free. Free parking trolley and water taxi this year. Info: [www.port-salernoseafoodfestival.com](http://www.port-salernoseafoodfestival.com). ■

## THE DISH

### Highlights from local menus

**The Dish:** Dixie Highway Cobb Salad

**The Place:** City Diner, 3400 S. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach. Phone: 659-6776.

**The Price:** \$10.95

**The Details:** Richard Kline is known for his soups and sauces, and the lobster hash he serves on Sundays is one of the most decadent dishes you can order anywhere.

But Mr. Kline, who owns City Diner with his mother, Jo Larkie, also turns out a fine salad. Take the Cobb.

The classic salad has crisp bits of Romaine, diced tomato, plenty of crisp bacon and fresh avocado, a helping of hard-cooked egg and crumbled blue cheese. The Romaine is fresh, and the tomatoes are among the tastiest anywhere.



SCOTT SIMMONS/FLORIDA WEEKLY

You could order it with a grilled boneless chicken breast, but this salad is pretty filling on its own.

We always look forward to tying one on with this Cobb. ■

— Scott Simmons

# MIRASOL

**NEW PRICE REDUCTION**



**114 PLAYA RIENTA**  
Web ID 2618 \$2.15M

**SOLD**



**VIA CAPRI**  
Offered at \$2.375M

**SOLD**



**PLAYA RIENTA**  
Offered at \$2.195M

**SOLD**



**TALAVERA PLACE**  
Offered at \$1.875M

**SOLD**



**VIA QUANTERA**  
Offered at \$1.675M

**SOLD**



**VIA PALACIO**  
Offered at \$1.6M

**SOLD**



**VIA MARIPOSA**  
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**SOLD**



**TALAVERA PLACE**  
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**115 MONTE CARLO**  
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