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WEEK OF JANUARY 2-8, 2014

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64

Percentage that ticket sales were up in 2013

GET INTERNATIONAL P PALM BEA

5

The day in January 2014 polo season starts

30

Millions of dollars polo generates in annual revenue

>>inside:
Florida Weekly has a full schedule of polo play for 2014.
A9

Polo

Where sport and fashion collide

BY ATHENA PONUSHIS
aponushis@floridaweekly.com

MEAGAN KOLKMANN KNEW NOTHING ABOUT polo before moving to West Palm Beach. All she knew, she saw in "Pretty Woman." Strategizing her ensemble for her first polo match, she put a lot of thought into her look. Maybe too much thought. She toned down her Boho-glam style. Played it safe in a sundress (A-line, kempt sleeves). Did not dare wear a hat. Way too aggressive for her polo debut. She pictured polo as preppy. But when she arrived at the

SEE POLO, A8 ▶

Top left: Meagan Kolkman
Top right: Rodrigo Andrade, Gonzalo Pieres Jr., Nico Pieres, Marc Ganzi
Right: Facundo Pieres

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LILA PHOTO

INSIDE



Simply Stokes
Brian Stokes Mitchell will sing a concert at the Maltz. **B1** ▶



Networking
See who was out and about in Palm Beach. **A22-24** ▶



Travel
Drink a round to Ireland, with a trip to the Emerald Isle. **A12** ▶



Antiques
Collecting efforts will not be in vain with these folky weather vanes. **A10** ▶

Max Planck adds distinguished musicians to its public lecture series

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience launches a new season of its popular public lecture series in January and, in a joint effort with the American Friends of Kronberg Academy, will add performances by distinguished young American soloists.

In four lectures, top Max Planck researchers — two from the Max Planck Institute in Jupiter and two from Max

Planck institutes in Germany — will share their insights into the fascinating mysteries of the brain and the scientific advances that are laying the groundwork for better treatments and cures for neurological disorders.

Dr. David Fitzpatrick, CEO and scientific director of the Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience, is the first keynote speaker. With more than 20 billion neurons and 60 trillion synapses, the cerebral cortex is the largest and most

complex area of the brain, a communication network whose activity is the basis for much of our conscious experience — our sensations, our thoughts, our language, our decisions and our movements. Unraveling its mysteries is essential for understanding behavior, and for developing effective treatments for a host of neurological and psychiatric disorders,

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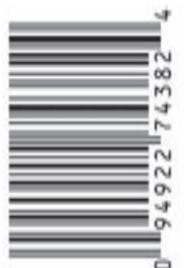
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COMMENTARY

The year of living dangerously



leslieLILLY

lilly15@gmail.com

A new year begins but not without opportunities to take a backward glance to memorialize the events and milestones of the past year as they recede from view. This exercise played out in popular media across multiple themes — business, technology, arts, culture, science, politics and more. The retrospectives include mentions of notable persons who passed away in 2013, among them: Margaret Thatcher, David Frost, Joyce Brothers and, more recently, Nelson Mandela.

The worldly journey ended for others, too, but they did not receive as much attention. Ranking those worthy of having lived an important life turns out to be a highly subjective exercise. Nevertheless, there are those whose passing struck a personal chord, a resonance called forth and created from their special talent, courage or enterprise, their gift having intersected with the chronology of our own lives, arriving to us through diverse conduits: film, music, art, literature, or perhaps, the power of ideas. Their stature ranges in significance from the nostalgic to the profound. Annette Funicello, Marian McPartland, the Reverend Will

D. Campbell, and John Egerton are an eclectic reprise of personal regard. Some names may be unknown to you as those on your list would be unknown to others. We suffer the loss even though the personalities themselves may have been remote. We are not immunized against the vacancy left by their departure, a valued presence no longer in the world that contributed to our self-discovery, politics, intellect, or aspirations to achieve a legacy of our own.

No look-back at the past year is complete without a domestic recounting inclusive of the tragic and profane. We remember the shooting death of Trayvon Martin; the Boston Marathon bombing; the Newtown massacre; the failure of Congress to do much of anything; the growth of poverty in America; and the morally bankrupt business practices of the nation's largest financial institutions. The recounting swells to inconsolable heights where other examples added to the sad litany of heartbreaks and injustices. It has been, by any measure, a year of living dangerously, awful consequences hardly constrained by acts of compassion or rationale thinking that might have otherwise avoided the worst. A new year and a theoretically clean slate are a relief even though it may be relief short-lived.

Philanthropy, by comparison, tends to generate good news because generosity inspires commonwealth, the notion we make things better by sharing, work-

ing and doing together. Stories that grabbed headlines in 2013 included Mark Zuckerberg's December gift of Facebook stock valued at about a billion dollars to the Silicon Valley Community Foundation. Bill and Melinda Gates and Warren Buffett, founders of the Giving Pledge, continue to exhort the country's top 50 billionaires to give half their fortunes to charitable causes. Fortune Magazine writes that the combined total of lifetime giving by Buffett and Gates stands at \$50 billion. Buffett's philanthropy shames the self-absorbed, superrich. He has offered to author a self-help book to explain how easy it is to live on \$500 million a year. His devotion to rattling the cages of his peers is a public service on behalf of correcting the failure of imagination characterizing those drowning in the excesses of their own wealth.

Other big stories on the 2013 watch list for the sector included the fate of the charitable tax deduction; the flood of "dark money" infusing electoral politics; and the decline in sources of nonprofit funding. Will the charitable tax deduction survive a rancorous budget negotiation or find use as a bone of appeasement? Can the "Trojan horse" in the charitable world—nonprofit "social welfare" organizations—be defrocked? Will they remain unfettered in their mission to gather huge sums of secret cash bent on re-engineering the democratic process? While they rake in the money,

will the funding gap affecting genuine charities only get worse? Nonprofits struggle with declines in funding even as the trajectory of community needs continue to rise. How will charities rethink the definition of sustainability given the now and future circumstance of prolonged austerity? Old assumptions wither away and now new ones are taking their place.

So, some predictions for 2014: In a time of challenge, expect the face and character of the charitable sector to continue to evolve and change. In a time of enforced austerity, anticipate philanthropy's ascendance as a more powerful tool of community and social investment. In a time of great social need, expect collaboration and advocacy to leverage opportunity and change; and, in the face of profound uncertainties, expect enlightened, visionary leadership to remain as the people's strongest and most reliable antidote to poverty and injustice. ■

— Leslie Lilly is a native Floridian and the past president and CEO of the Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties. Her professional career spans more than 25 years in the charitable sector, leading major philanthropic institutions in the South and rural Appalachia. She resides with her family and pugs in Jupiter. Email her at lilly15@gmail.com and follow Lilly on Twitter @lilly15.



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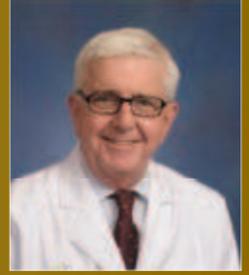
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OPINION**Pajama Boy: Peter Pan in Obamacare Land**

richLOWRY

Special to Florida Weekly

Pajama Boy's place in Internet infamy was secured as soon as the insufferable man-child was tweeted out by Organizing for America.

He is the face of a Web ad that is the latest effort by the Obama team to leverage the holidays for conversation about Obamacare. "Wear pajamas," the ad reads. "Drink hot chocolate. Talk about getting health insurance. #GetTalking."

And, sure enough, Pajama Boy is wearing pajamas — a zip-up onesie in classic Lamar Alexander plaid — and drinking hot chocolate. He is in his 20s, sporting hipster glasses he could have bought at Warby Parker and an expression of self-satisfied ironic amusement.

Pajama Boy is about as threatening as Michael Cera and so nerdy he could guest-host on an unwatched MSNBC show. He is probably reading "The Bell Jar" and looking forward to a hearty Christmas meal of stuffed tofurkey. If he has anything to say about it, Obamacare enrollments will spike in the next few weeks in Williamsburg and Ann Arbor.

Perhaps the goal of OFA was to create a readily mockable image to draw attention to its message, in which case Pajama Boy was a brilliantly successful troll. The right immediately Photoshopped him into the Mandela funeral selfie and emblazoned his photo with derisive lines such as "Hey girl, I live with my parents" and "How did you know I went to Oberlin?"

But it's hard not to see Pajama Boy as an expression of the Obama vision, just like his forbear Julia, the Internet

famous passage, "if, like that authority, its object was to prepare men for manhood; but it seeks, on the contrary, to keep them in perpetual childhood." If you wanted to illustrate what Mr. Tocqueville was getting at in one meme, Pajama Boy would be good way to do it.

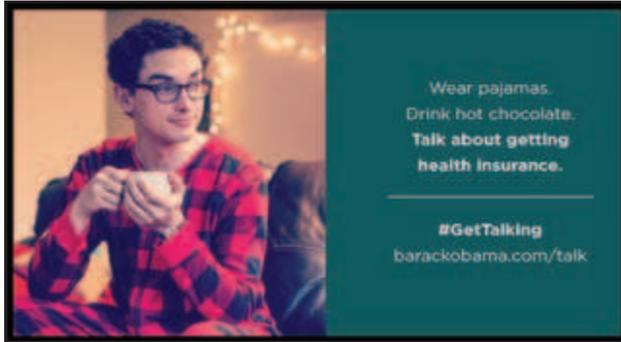
Pajama Boy's mom probably still tucks him in at night, and when she isn't there for him, Obamacare will be. A less nurturing reaction is, as New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie put it in a counter tweet, "Get out of your pajamas." There's a reason President Barack Obama is underwater by a 2-1 margin among men in the latest Quinnipiac poll.

For all the ridicule directed at Julia during last year's campaign, she got at something important: Single women do look to government as a cushion against their economic insecurities. Pajama Boy isn't so apt. He might be glad to pay more for his health insurance to include maternity

benefits he doesn't need as a blow against gender stereotyping, but most young people will presumably consider Obamacare more rationally and realize it's a scheme to get them to subsidize insurance costs for older people.

Good luck, Pajama Boy, if you hope to talk them out of that. ■

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



cartoon from the 2012 campaign. Pajama Boy is Julia's little brother. She progressed through life without any significant family or community connections. He is the picture of perpetual adolescence. Neither is a symbol of self-reliant, responsible adulthood.

Alexis de Tocqueville wrote long ago of the infantilizing tendency of all-encompassing government. "It would be like the authority of a parent," he wrote in a

Obama's new normal: The drone strikes continue

amyGOODMAN

Special to Florida Weekly

There has been yet another violent attack with mass casualties. This was not the act of a lone gunman, or of an armed student rampaging through a school. It was a group of families en route to a wedding that was killed. The town was called Radda — not in Colorado, not in Connecticut, but in Yemen. The weapon was not an easy-to-obtain semi-automatic weapon, but missiles fired from U.S. drones. On Thursday, Dec. 12, 17 people were killed, mostly civilians. The London-based Bureau of Investigative Journalism has consistently tracked U.S. drone attacks, recently releasing a report on the six months following President Barack Obama's major address on drone warfare before the National Defense University (NDU) last May. In that speech, President Obama promised that "before any strike is taken, there must be near-certainty that no civilians will be killed or injured -- the highest standard we can set." The BIJ summarized, "Six months after President Obama laid out U.S. rules for using armed drones, a Bureau analysis shows that covert drone strikes in Yemen and Pakistan have killed more people than in the six months before the speech." In a nation that abhors the all-too-routine mass killing in our communities, why does our government consistently kill so many innocents abroad?

One significant problem with assessing the U.S. drone-warfare program is its secrecy. U.S. officials rarely comment on the program, less so about any specific attack, especially where civilian deaths

occur. As President Obama admitted in the speech, "There's a wide gap between U.S. assessments of such casualties and nongovernmental reports. Nevertheless, it is a hard fact that U.S. strikes have resulted in civilian casualties." The BIJ's estimate of the death toll from U.S. drone strikes during the past 12 years in Pakistan, Yemen and Somalia is well over 4,000.

While the U.S. media shower attention on the hypothetical prospects that in the next few years Amazon.com will deploy clever little drones to deliver your holiday orders, it is important to take a hard look at what these airborne robots are actually doing now. "Democracy Now!" correspondent Jeremy Scallion has been exposing U.S. covert war-making for years, most recently in his book and film "Dirty Wars." The film was just shortlisted for an Oscar for best documentary. After the Academy Award nomination was made, he told us, "I hope that people pay attention to these stories, that Americans will know what happened to the Bedouin villagers in al-Majalah, Yemen, where three dozen women and children were killed in a U.S. cruise missile strike that the White House tried to cover up."

In his NDU address, President Obama said, "We act against terrorists who pose a continuing and imminent threat to the American people." Neither President Obama nor any of his aides have explained just what kind of threat the wedding convoy presented to the American people. The government of Yemen, following local custom, made reparations to the victimized families, reportedly delivering 101 Kalashnikov rifles and a little over \$100,000.

These rural villages in Yemen are caught in the middle of a violent conflict, as Human Rights Watch wrote in

an October report titled "Between a Drone and Al-Qaeda." Just one month to the day before Obama gave his address at the NDU, Farea al-Muslimi, an eloquent young Yemeni man who spent a year attending a U.S. high school, spoke before a congressional hearing. Six days before he testified, a drone strike hit his village of Wessab. Farea said: "What Wessab's villagers knew of the U.S. was based on my stories about my wonderful experiences here. ... Now, however, when they think of America, they think of the terror they feel from the drones that hover over their heads, ready to fire missiles at any time. What the violent militants had previously failed to achieve, one drone strike accomplished in an instant. There is now an intense anger against America in Wessab." He ended his testimony with the hope that "when Americans truly know about how much pain and suffering the U.S. air strikes have caused ... they will reject this devastating targeted killing program."

The scenes of senseless violence in the U.S. form a list of sorrow and loss: Columbine, Tucson, Aurora, Newtown, Littleton. With the ongoing work of committed activists, courageous journalists and responsible officials, perhaps Americans will recite as well the names Gardez, Radda, al-Majalah, Mogadishu and the many more sites of drone strikes still cloaked in secrecy. ■

— 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

Five ways to ring in a new year for your pet

BY KIM CAMPBELL THORTON AND DR. MARTY BECKER

Universal Uclick

Got your New Year's resolutions ready yet? Yeah, we don't either. A good place to start, though, is with your pet. Helping your cat or dog change his life for the better has benefits for both of you. A healthier, happier pet not only puts less pressure on your wallet, but also brings more smiles to your face multiple times a day. Here are some ideas to get you started.

■ **Brush those teeth.** Keeping your pet's pearly whites clean isn't just about improving his breath, although that is definitely a bonus. Brushing your pet's teeth several times a week (yes, cats, too) prevents the buildup of plaque and tartar, which trap bacteria and eventually cause periodontal disease. Brushing reduces the number of bacteria circulating through your pet's system and helps ensure that he keeps more of his teeth into old age. Dentures aren't an option for him, after all.

■ **Watch his weight.** Does your dog or cat look like a plump cocktail wiener on toothpicks? That's not normal or healthy. Use your eyes and hands to determine if Roxy or Snowball could stand to lose a few pounds.

Dr. Tony Buffington, a veterinarian, nutrition specialist and professor in the department of veterinary clinical sciences at Ohio State University's College of Veterinary Medicine in Columbus, says that when you look at a pet from the side,



COURTESY PHOTO

Resolve to spend more time playing with your dog or cat.

you should see an abdomen that's tucked up, not hanging low. As you look down at him, you should see an hourglass figure, with the waist curving inward just before the hind legs. When you pet your dog or cat on the side or back, you should be able to feel the ribs or spinal bumps, but not see them.

■ **Measure your pet's food.** This is one of the easiest ways to help a dog or cat slim down. Instead of leaving food out all the time, give a set amount once or twice a day. Use the recommendation on the bag or can as a starting point, but recognize that individual animals have different metabolisms and may need more or less than the suggested amount. Ask your

veterinarian's advice about how much your pet should be eating, and don't be afraid to experiment.

■ **Start an exercise plan.** Getting off the couch and on the move is good for both of you. Take a brisk walk or play a rousing game of fetch. For cats, dangle or pull a fishing-pole toy for them to chase. Wriggle the pole a little so the object on the end of the string resembles a bug or other critter scurrying along the ground. Your dog may enjoy this kind of play, too, as long as you don't let him know he's chasing a cat toy.

Better yet, have your dog or cat "work" for his meals by hiding small amounts of food around the house (this works only

Pets of the Week



>> **Frankie** is a neutered male with white fur and blue eyes, approximately 3 to 4 years old. He's deaf, but gets along fine. He's very friendly, and enjoys human contact.



>> **Susie** is a spayed brown and white female tabby, approximately 8 months old. She's affectionate, and enjoys "play time"

with people and with other cats.

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if you have a single pet), placing food up high — on a washer or dryer, for instance — so cats have to make an effort to get to it, or placing kibble in puzzle toys that pets must manipulate to make the food come out. These are all good ways to exercise your furry predator's body and brain and make his day more interesting, especially if you're off at work and he has nothing else to do.

■ **Make time for him.** When your pet nudges your hand or bumps you with his head, don't just automatically hand him a treat. Instead, reward him with a scratch between the ears or a few minutes of play. You'll both be better for it. ■



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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD
DISTRIBUTED BY UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Annals of science

America's foremost advocate for frontal lobotomies as "treatment" for mental disorder, the late Dr. Walter Freeman, performed an estimated 3,500 lobotomies during the 1940s and 1950s before opposition finally solidified against him, according to a December 2013 investigation by The Wall Street Journal. At the peak of his influence, he was so confident that he demonstrated the procedure to skeptics by hammering an icepick ("from his own kitchen," the Jour-

nal reported) into both eye sockets of an electrical-shocked patient and "toggling" the picks around the brain tissue, certain that he was severing "correctly." For years, Dr. Freeman (a neurologist untrained in surgery) marshaled positive feedback from enough patients and families for the procedure to survive criticism, and he spent his final years (until his death in 1972) securing patient testimonials to "prove" the validity of lobotomies.

Cultural diversity

■ Each Nov. 1 is a day (or two) of craziness in the isolated mountain village of Todos Santos Cuchumatanes, Guatemala, where Mayan tradition commands continuous horse races through town, jockeyed by increasingly drunk riders, until only a sober-enough winner remains. Collisions occur in the Race of the Souls, and occasionally someone dies, but the misfortune is met with a collective shrug and regarded as a spiritual offering for fertile crops during the coming year, according to an eyewitness this year reporting for Vice.com. Ironically, for the rest of the year, the village is largely alcohol-free except for that on hand to sell to tourists.

■ Since the 13th century, shepherders in Spain have had the right (still honored) to use 78,000 miles of paths in the country for seasonal flock migrations — even some streets of Madrid,

including a crossing of Puerta del Sol, described as Madrid's Times Square. The shepherds pay a customary, token duty, which, according to an October Associated Press dispatch, the government proudly accepts, given the prominence of Spain's native Merino sheep in the world's wool market.

■ Postal worker Umakant Mishra, of Kanpur city in Uttar Pradesh, India, was freed by a criminal court in December — 29 years after he was charged when a money-order account turned up 92 cents short. Mr. Mishra was called to judicial hearings 348 times over the years, but it was not until recently that the government admitted it had no witnesses for the court to hear against him. A December BBC News dispatch reported, citing "official" figures, that more than 30 million cases are pending in Indian courts.

Latest religious messages

The evangelical educational organization Answers in Genesis, which has established a series of children's books and a creationist museum, announced recently that it would enter the bond market to fund its most ambitious project — a creationist amusement park centered around a "life-size" reconstruction of Noah's Ark, for which it estimates it will need at least \$73 million from investors. Issuing bonds might be seen as des-

perate since AiG has raised only \$13.6 million privately since proposing the Ark-park, but a Georgetown University finance professor, contacted by Slate.com, suggested that the bonds' terms place them in the high-risk "junk bond" category (perhaps better described as "faith-based," having virtually no resale value and without an independent bond rating).

Questionable judgments

■ Coughlan elementary school in Langley, British Columbia, announced to parents in November that henceforth it would not just prohibit abusive or unwanted physical contact among its kindergarteners, but all contact. Officials said they were responding to parents who objected to "rough play," but, said another parent, incredulous, "No tag, no hugging, no touching at all. ... I am not going to tell my daughter she can't touch her friends at school. I am going to teach her boundaries."

■ In South Africa, with one of the high-

est incidences of rape in the world, one question on its recent nationwide high school standardized drama test asked students to direct (as if staging a play) the rape of a baby, given only certain props. South Africa's Education Department defended the question as assessing pupils' concept of "using metaphor" as a theatrical technique. The question was based on an award-winning play by anti-rape activist Lara Foot Newton (who, of course, wrote primarily for adults).

Cliches come to life

■ In criminal cases, DNA is usually a smoking gun for the prosecution — except, of course, if there is an "evil twin." In November a judge in Colorado Springs ruled that a suspect, Army Lt. Aaron Lucas, should have the opportunity to blame his brother Brian for a string of sexual assaults because the DNA might be Brian's. Brian has not been charged and denies any involvement, but Aaron said Brian was in two crime-scene states that Aaron was never in. Said a Denver defense lawyer, "The only time I have seen (the evil-twin

defense) was on 'Law and Order: SVU.'"

■ Four villagers in northeast Kenya, angry that cheetahs were killing their goats, lay in wait one night in November and then chased down and captured the cheetahs. Cheetahs are regarded as the fastest mammals on Earth, but they lack endurance; Kenyans are marathon prodigies. Indeed, the cheetahs were captured only when they ran out of gas after about four miles of pursuit by the Kenyans, and were handed over alive, and exhausted, to the Kenyan Wildlife Service. ■

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POLO

From page 1

International Polo Club Palm Beach for Sunday brunch, she was blown away.

Women in dresses looking conservative from the front 'til they turned around and revealed open backs — Badaboom! Men spicing it up with seersucker stripes, suspenders and bowties — Hello, swanky scenesters! Oh, the dapper and the chic were bringing their game to Wellington, sporting their threads. Styles Mrs. Kolkmann may have anticipated as stuffy proved to be risky, rousing, refreshing, yet still refined.

Mrs. Kolkmann was so worried about trying to fit in that when she relives the moment she stepped into the Pavilion and saw the fashion at play, she says, “I should have done what I really wanted to do. There were so many people taking risks. I just didn’t think it was going to be a trendy type of event. I’m definitely looking forward to this season, so I can bring it.”

She’s not alone. Last season ticket sales were up 64 percent. This year the club expects polo matches to be even more popular. IPC continues to make a valiant effort to reshape polo as an accessible scene, not an exclusive club but an everyman sport, leaving everyday women staring at their closets up until Jan. 5, when the new season kicks off.

From women who want to take fashion risks to men who want to dress with respect for the game, from barn guys to fashionista divas, deep down everyone asks the same question: “Polo’s here. What do I wear?”

John Wash, president of the prestigious polo club, remembers making a conscientious effort to put on a suit and tie for his first Sunday polo match. “That was my fashion statement,” he says. “I just felt like I needed to dress for the game.”

He enjoys his wife picking out his shirt and tie for Sunday polo. He describes her fashion sense by saying, “She dresses with a sophistication and an elegance.”

He does not know how to describe last season. “Oh, boy,” he says. “Best season we’ve had since the inception of the club.”

Mr. Wash accepted accolades from the Palm Beach County Sports Commission, Palm Beach County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Central Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce, among other awards. This past summer he sat wondering, “How’s it going to get any better?” But he believes the best is yet to come.

“We’re making the sport more accessible to people out there, that’s what we’re doing,” he says. So he expects to see more men in linen suits and more women in Lilly Pulitzer dresses, adding to the \$30 million that polo generates in annual revenue.

Thinking of polo fashion reminds Mr. Wash of old films, when gentlemen would wear ties to baseball games, way back when.

“You know what I think it is,” Mr. Wash says of polo fashion, “It’s respect. People dress with respect for themselves and respect for the sport. They’re sending two messages: ‘Polo is special and I want to be a part of it.’”

Contemplating if society has become too casual, he adds, “Honest to God, I really do believe more sports should be like (polo),” where spectators show a certain sophistication and reverence by the way they dress.

The Gardens Mall will cosponsor with Veuve Clicquot for Fashion on the Field this season, rolling the red carpet out on the Bermuda grass for the halftime divot



Polo-goers sport their bright colors, aviator shades and flutes of champagne, as they saunter across the field for the halftime divot stomp. Stylist Melanie Pace says, “Go bold or go home.”

stomp, where polo-goers drink champagne and kick over any upturned turf.

Michele Jacobs, corporate director of marketing and operations for The Forbes Company, sees The Gardens Mall as a fashion beacon for the community; thereby, she sees the partnership with the polo club as “a perfect fit.”

Ms. Jacobs tries to attend several matches a season. “The people watching is amazing,” she says. “Polo is where all the beautiful people are.”

To anyone who may be feeling a little intimidated by the polo fashion scene, Ms. Jacobs says, “Don’t be shy. Have fun. Make the most of it.”

Wardrobe stylist, personal shopper and fashion consultant Melanie Pace sees polo as the place where fashion and sport collide. Her biggest piece of advice: “Go bold or go home.”

For women, Ms. Pace says think shoes first. Forget heels. Find a sassy pair of wedges. You don’t want to be sinking while you’re drinking champagne on the field. “There’s nothing worse than trying to socialize when your feet hurt,” she says.

And no matter how bad you want to wear your little sundress, check the weather first. Have the perfect jeans, sweater, scarf and boots on standby to avoid any last-minute fashion anxiety. The weather can be fickle. Don’t go looking naïve when you should be dressed warm.

Play with bright colors, patterns and prints. Mix-and-match prints. Let your inner-fashionista out. Seize this opportunity to dress over-the-top. Go for the Kate Middleton trend, wear a headpiece rather than a traditional hat. Go for the peek-a-boo trend, wear a diaphanous cutout to show your



Valery Nikitina glams up a bowtie.



Julio Arellano, the top-ranked American polo player

waist. Go for the jumpsuit. Go pastel.

“Wear what you wouldn’t wear on a regular basis,” Ms. Pace says. “If you would usually wear it, wear something else.”

The stylist says a man cannot go wrong with a colored polo, white jeans and loafers. Feel daring? Wear brightly colored pants. Maybe find a fun blazer and make it a statement piece.

“It’s your moment,” Ms. Pace says. “You don’t get very many moments like a polo match.” Bring it. And don’t forget your sunglasses. Think aviator, not surfer. Polo’s not the beach. Everybody dresses up, has a drink, watches polo or watches people. It’s no longer just for the rich and famous. Dress like you’re famous. Get glammed up.

Jimmy Newman, director of polo operations at the illustrious club, says he understands why a gal would want to wear a nice dress on a nice day, why she would want to wear a hat to keep the sun off her face. “That’s great,” he says. “But I wear jeans almost everywhere I go.”

Mr. Newman keeps a couple of sports coats in his office. When the 3 o’clock match comes around, he grabs a coat and puts it on. “That’s about as fashion

conscious as I get,” he says. “That way if I meet somebody, at least I’m trying not to look like I work in a barn.”

Mr. Newman moved to Florida for college and got a job at the Royal Palm Polo Club in Boca Raton. He wanted to be a cowboy. He saw the English-style saddles and thought polo was going to be a sissy sport. “I found out pretty quick, there wasn’t anything sissy about the sport of polo,” says Mr. Newman, who still wants to be a cowboy and never used his marketing degree.

The first practice match he saw, he was in awe of the game. His first Sunday match, he renders this way: “It was like seeing the Kentucky Derby run 40 times in an hour and a half, to me.” He understands why newcomers to polo walk away shaking their heads in disbelief.

“Polo shouldn’t be a private club,” he says. “It’s a sport anybody can enjoy.” He gives an example: A hall-of-fame polo player moved to upstate New York and put a polo field on his property for his teenage boys to play. The little town of family farms fell in love with the sport. “A thousand farmers would go watch their polo matches,” Mr. Newman says. “We’re talking the beer-and-peanut crowd, everyday people,” enraptured with polo.

Julio Arellano, the top-ranked American polo player, says he got into the sport because his father used to play. He sees polo very much as a family game. His wife plays. Their three children play.

“All across the U.S. polo is a sport people play with their families. It’s not just the super wealthy. It’s a sport enjoyed by all,” he says. “Even here in Palm Beach, you see backyard guys playing with one horse.”

Mr. Arellano brought 39 horses to Wellington this season. Players switch out horses every few minutes, riding eight or nine horses a match. Similar to golf, polo players are rated by a handicap system. The best players in the world are rated 10 goals. Mr. Arellano has a 9-goal rank. He says he has never had a 10-goal rank, “No, not when I’m awake.” He knows other players want his top-ranked spot.

As far as the emphasis on fashion, Mr. Arellano does not think about it much. “Everybody dresses up for Sunday games. That’s great. Some people like that aspect of it. Other people don’t. They show up in blue jeans and barn clothes,” he says. “You get both ends with polo.”

If the social scene gives others the exhilaration he feels from his sport, so be it. The polo player sees nothing wrong with polo fashion. ■

10-goal polo players

BY ATHENA PONUSHIS

aponushis@floridaweekly.com

The measure of a polo player is his handicap. The best polo players are rated 10-goals. There are only six players rated 10-goals by the United States Polo Association (USPA). Five of these players will play at the International Polo Club Palm Beach in Wellington this season.

Here, Julio Arellano, the top-ranked American player, and Jimmy Newman, IPC director of polo operations, give their thoughts on each.



■ **Adolfo Cambiaso:** Arguably, the greatest polo player who has ever played. He epitomizes the sport. He has won the Queen's Cup, Argentine Open, U.S. Open Polo Championship, every major polo tournament around the world.

Arellano: "Adolfo Cambiaso is the best player. He's been ranked 10-goals for 20 years. He's like the Michael Jordan of the sport. He's been 10-goals since he was 17 years old. It's freaky. The guy is amazing. He's almost everybody's favorite player. Go watch him, it's like a highlight reel to see him play."

Newman: "Adolfo is the maestro."



■ **Facundo Pieres:** Some may say he's on the rise, some may say he's already risen. From a famed polo family, Facundo Pieres scored 12 goals in last year's U.S. Open, helping team Zacara win the championship two

years in a row. He was named MVP. His pony Corcha was named Horse of the Year.

Mr. Arellano: "Facundo's right on Adolfo's heels. He's a strong contender, on the verge of being best player. He's younger. He's a phenomenal player. His father was 10 goals. His brother's rated 10 goals. Facundo's another amazing player to watch."

Newman: "It's a toss-up for best player between Adolfo and Facundo. I wouldn't say Facundo's the second guy. I think he has outplayed Adolfo in the U.S. the last couple years. One day one's the best player, the next day the other's the best player."



■ **Gonzalo Pieres Jr.:** Facundo's older brother, "Gonzalito," was named after their 10-goal father. Playing alongside their other brother Nicolas (an 8-goal player), Gonzalito scored six goals in one game last season, including a memorable 100-yard shot under pressure.

Arellano: "Gonzalito is very smooth. He's a good horseman. A fantastic player to watch."

Newman: "Gonzalito is very smooth. Facundo plays a little more aggressive. Gonzalito's more conservative. He probably plays a little more defense than Facundo, he's more on the offensive end."



■ **Jaun Martin Nero:** Won the 2011 U.S. Open. Won multiple Argentine Opens. Jaun Martin Nero's reputation as a defensive player precedes him.

Arellano: "One of the strongest defensive players in the game. He's a physical guy. He always knows where to be on the field. He plays defense and still can do everything else. He's excellent."

Newman: "This guy is a fantastic defensive player. He comes out of nowhere. He makes it look like it's effortless play, just like he's out riding

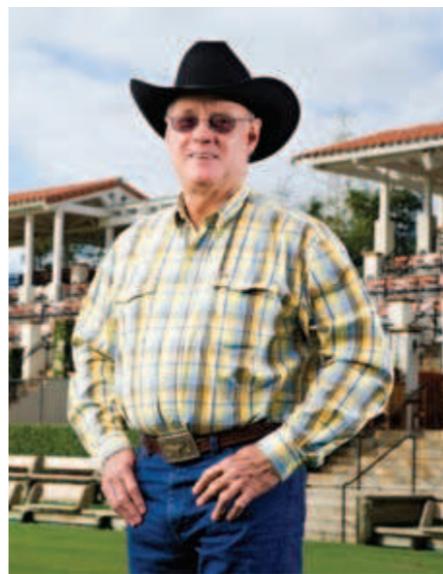
his horse on a park ride, then all of a sudden, he's right there, he gets the ball and goes the other way with it. His propensity to take the ball away from the other team and put his team on offense is amazing."



■ **Pablo MacDonough:** Yet to win the U.S. Open, he's hungry for it. His father was a polo player. He's second cousin to the Pieres brothers, he plays with them often in Argentina.

Arellano: "Great stick work. Very quick player."

Newman: "He's kind of like a quarterback. This guy is just everywhere. He sees everything. He's a leader. It's amazing what he can get done." ■



Jimmy Newman, above, director of polo operations at the illustrious club, moved to Florida for college and got a job at the Royal Palm Polo Club in Boca Raton. He wanted to be a cowboy. He saw the English-style saddles and thought polo was going to be a sissy sport. "I found out pretty quick, there wasn't anything sissy about the sport."

in the know

2014 Sunday Schedule

January

- 5 Herbie Pennell Cup (20 goal)
- 12 Joe Barry Memorial Cup (20 goal)
- 19 Joe Barry Memorial Cup (20 goal)
- 26 Joe Barry Memorial Cup (20 goal)

February

- 2 Ylvisaker Cup (20 goal)
- 9 Ylvisaker Cup (20 goal)
- 16 Ylvisaker Cup (20 goal)
- 23 Ylvisaker Cup (20 goal)

March

- 2 USPA C.V. Whitney Cup (26 goal)
- 9 Piaget USPA Gold Cup® (26 goal)
- 16 Piaget USPA Gold Cup (26 goal)
- 23 Piaget USPA Gold Cup Final (26 goal)
- 30 Maserati U.S. Open Polo Championship® (26 goal)

April

- 6 Maserati U.S. Open Polo Championship (26 goal)
- 13 Maserati U.S. Open Polo Championship (26 goal)
- 20 Maserati U.S. Open Polo Championship Final (26 goal)

Sunday Polo Lineup

- 2 p.m.-6 p.m.** The Pavilion Open – Ticketed Reception/Brunch Guests Only
The Wellington Zone Open – Casual Food and Cash Bar
General Admission Seating, Lawn Seating, Limited Box Seats, Tailgates Open
- 3 p.m.-5 p.m.** Polo Tournament
- 4 p.m.** Halftime Divot Stomp
- 5:15 p.m.** Trophy Presentation

Ticket Prices

January-April 2014

- \$10** – General Admission Bleacher Seating
- \$20** – North and South Stadium Lawn Seating
- \$30** – Center Stadium Lawn Seating
- \$120** – Box Seats (limited availability)

Brunch and Polo Match at The Pavilion

January-February

- \$100** – Veranda seating (includes two drink tokens)

March-April

- \$120** – Veranda seating (includes two drink tokens)

Veuve Clicquot Champagne Brunch Package at The Pavilion

January-February

- \$300** – Veranda seating for two and a complimentary bottle of Veuve Clicquot

March-April

- \$330** – Veranda seating for two and a complimentary bottle of Veuve Clicquot

Reception Pass at The Pavilion

January-February

- \$55** – Passed light hors d'oeuvres (includes two drink tokens)

March-April

- \$65** – Passed light hors d'oeuvres (includes two drink tokens)

*All prices are tax inclusive. Parking additional (no charge for Veuve Clicquot Champagne Brunch ticket holders).

For ticketing, reception, and brunch reservations, please visit InternationalPoloClub.com or call 561.204.5687.

For tables, groups, and corporate hospitality options, please visit PoloClubCatering.com or call 561.792.9292.

International Polo Club Palm Beach

3667 120th Ave. S., Wellington; 204-5687 or InternationalPoloClub.com

KOVEL: ANTIQUES

Search high and low for collectible weather vanes

BY TERRY KOVEL

If you can't afford a rooster or running deer weather vane, or any other 19th-century weather vane made by an important company, you might be able to find a homemade example. Most folk-art collectors consider all weather vanes, commercially made or homemade, to be folk art. Prices are highest for the most elaborate 3-D vanes by known makers. Homemade vanes often are cut from sheets of iron to look like silhouettes of deer, men, animals, birds, cars, trains, Indians, flags or occupational examples, such as a photographer with a camera or a sailor with a telescope. It is difficult to date a homemade weather vane. Collectors pay the highest auction prices for good design, unusual subjects, good paint and old patina. Bullet holes, missing paint and dents don't seem to lower the value if the cutout is unusual, perhaps a 1930s car or a large and artistic whale. Some homemade vanes sell for thousands of dollars, but others might turn up at your local yard sale or flea market. Whirling weather vanes, often of wood, also are going up in price. Horses, roosters and eagles are the most popular shapes today and, unfortunately, often are the most reproduced. Always look in the backyard, in the garage and up at the roof when going to an estate or house sale. Buyers often overlook outdoor folk art.

Q: Years ago, I was given a very heavy glass vase. It's 6 inches high by 4½ inch-

es wide and is made of black cased glass within clear glass. The etched mark on the bottom is "Kosta 1556/046." I'm wondering what the vase is worth.

A: The Kosta glassworks factory in Sweden dates back to 1742. Its name is a combination of the last names of the two founders, Koskull and Stael. Kosta manufactured only window glass, glass for light fixtures and drinking glasses until the late 1890s, when it hired its own designers and started making art glass. Glass artist Vicke Lindstrand (1904-1983), who had previously worked at Orrefors, was Kosta's artistic director from 1950 to 1973. During Lindstrand's tenure, model



A painted iron cutout of a sailor holding a telescope makes an unusual weather vane. It may have been meant to be Admiral David Glasgow Farragut. Blue, white, yellow and black paint remains on both sides. Photo courtesy of Cowan's Auctions Cincinnati)

numbers starting with a "1" were "production vases" made in large quantities. The number 1556 on your vase probably is the model number. Kosta merged with Boda and Afors in 1976 and became Kosta Boda, so it's likely your vase was made before 1976. In 1989, Kosta Boda merged with Orrefors and was renamed Orrefors Kosta Boda. Then, in 2005, the company was sold to the New Wave Group, which closed the Orrefors factory and today uses only the Kosta Boda label. While your vase may not be rare or extremely valuable, it still is a good piece of Swedish art glass.

Q: Could you tell me the value of a set of dining-room furniture made by American of Martinsville? The walnut set, which was purchased new in 1942, includes a table, six chairs, sideboard, china cabinet and hutch.

A: American of Martinsville was founded in 1906 in Martinsville, Va. It made only bedroom sets until the 1920s, when it introduced dining-room sets. The most valuable American of Martinsville vintage dining room sets today are in the Danish Modern style, which didn't become popular in the United States until the 1950s. Still, if your set is in good shape, you could sell it locally (so shipping costs aren't involved) for several hundred dollars.

Q: We are looking for information about an item that's hanging on a wall in a restaurant in Doon, Iowa. It's a semi-circular piece of wood about 48 inches long. The ends are 24 inches apart. It's

marked "Louden's Patent, Oct. 30, 1895." It looks old. What is it and what was it used for?

A: It's a singletree, which also is often called a "whiffletree" or "whipple-tree." It was used to hitch the traces of a horse's harness to a plow or other implement. William Louden (1841-1931) held several patents for improvements to farm equipment. He invented a hay carrier in 1867 and founded Louden Manufacturing Works in Fairfield, Iowa, a year later to manufacture hay carriers and other farm equipment. From 1906 to 1939, the company, by then named Louden Machinery Co., also designed barns. Louden Machinery Co. was sold in 1956 and its farm equipment was not made after 1965. Singletrees don't show up for sale very often. When they do, they usually sell for under \$50.

Tip: Look carefully at a piece of cut glass before you buy it. Edges should not be ground down into the pattern, and pieces should have no chips or other damage. ■

— Terry Kovel and Kim Kovel answer questions sent to 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 email addresses will not be published. We cannot guarantee the return of photographs, but if a stamped envelope is included, we will try. The amount of mail makes personal answers or appraisals impossible. Write to Kovels, (Florida Weekly), King Features Syndicate, 300 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019.

HAPPY NEW YEAR! You!

These Get In Shape For Women Members all have different reasons for getting healthy. One wanted to lose weight and tone up, another wanted to gain strength for a more powerful golf swing and the third wanted to get off of her blood pressure medication. All are meeting their goals with the help of professional, motivating personal trainers and nutrition coaching.

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COMMENTARY

Forced evacuation



rogerWILLIAMS

rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

Experience is like any other cuisine: whether hard-boiled, baked, fried or barbecued, each year it has to be ingested into the psyche of every living man and woman. Then it has to be digested. Then it has to be pumped back out as a New Year's resolution.

After which everybody feels better, at least theoretically.

Unfortunately, medical research shows that constipation is a very disturbing side effect of experience when it comes to pumping out resolutions, especially among politicians.

As a species, politicians are notoriously constipated at New Year's. Therefore, although it's dirty work, I have decided to help those beleaguered souls by relieving their constipation for them.

Think of it as a forced evacuation, the way a rancher sometimes has to force cows or horses to evacuate by standing near the animal's rear end and shoving a long... well, never mind that now.

Here, for the first time in print, I have handcrafted the 2014 resolutions of a number of our most prominent, and most constipated, politicians. (Note: I require no thanks and I can accept no remuneration. Charity is its own reward.)

Let's start with President Barack Obama. Tests have shown that Mr. Obama has been constipated since 2008.

Let me change that for you, Mr. President — and hold still, doggonit:

President Barack Obama:

"AHHHHH!... Um, I resolve in 2014 to hang Gen. Keith Alexander, director of the National Security Agency, by his thumbs from the flagpole in front of the White House for continuously violating the constitutional rights of Americans and lying about it. Gen. Alexander shall remain flopping on the pole from Jan. 1 of the New Year until I retire his rear end on April 1, 2014.

"He will retire on April 1, which IS April Fool's Day, or my name isn't John Doe!

"I resolve, furthermore, to fire Kathleen Sibelius as head of Health and Human Services for acting like a woman driver behind the wheel of the Affordable Care Act, along with every other Cabinet head in my gov'mint!

"In their stead, I resolve to hire Jon Stewart. Mr. Stewart, who is not now and has never been a member of the Constipation Party, will serve as Secretary of the Interior, Exterior, Inferior, Superior and Cheerier, as well as Secretary of Defense-ier and Secretary of State-ier and Secretary of, well, Everything Else-ier.

"And, of course, I resolve not to get in Michelle's way so much. She gets SO pissed-off-ier."

Gen. Keith Alexander, chief of the NSA:

"I am a general. I have four stars. And all 315 million of the rest of you are privates and piss-ants. So if I want to spy on you piss-ants, I will.

"Therefore, in 2014 — or at least for the first three months of it — I resolve to continue to spy on any wage-earning terrorist anti-American who works at Walmart or in a tomato field or at a McDonald's, and asks

for a higher wage.

"Anybody who wants more money is dangerous. Y'all are a threat to the American Way of Life, private. A threat to our forefathers and foremothers and foreskins..."

(SIR! *Florida Weekly* has decided to abridge the general's resolution, SIR!)

U.S. Rep. Trey Radel:

"Hail Mary, full of grace..."

"Hail Mary, full of grace..."

"Hail Mary, full of grace..."

"Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee:

Blessed art thou amongst women,
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
Pray for us sinners now
And at the hour of our death.

"Uhm, and could you also pray for us at the hour of our cocaine bust, our hypocrisy, our exodus from Club Rehab, and — thanks for doing this by the way, my wife will appreciate it — could you give me a little dog named Checkers? You know, as a New Year's present? 'Cause I resolve to serve America selflessly, and say all 50,000 Hail Marys that Father Furrowbrow ordered me to say, and be the finest husband, the finest father, the finest American, and the most trustworthy U.S. Representative and someday, yes, president, ever invented by God or man. O yes, Yes, yes! JUST SAY YES!"

Gov. Rick Scott:

"I resolve to declare 2014 the 'Rick Scott Year of Love.'" I resolve to grow my hair long. I resolve to lead with my heart, not with my checkbook or my chin. I resolve to embrace the little hippie that lives within us all, and to be — not a country club Christian, ladies

and gentlemen — but a Jesus H. Tap-Dancing Christ Christian, as Jake said to Elwood. A Christian who turns the other cheek. Who gives to the poor. And...anything else?

"Oh yes, and a Christian who kicks the behind of that little sissy cupcake named Charlie Crist. I'll show that piss-ant a Republican Man. I'll..."

Former Gov. Charlie Crist:

"2014: the year of Hands Off. I resolve never to hug anybody again — not in public life, not in private life, certainly not in political life...well, maybe I'll hug Ricky. He'd hate that so much."

Former U.S. Rep. Connie Mack:

"I have only one resolution in 2014: to explain — not to my wife, but to my voting public — why I have been so shallow, and so inconsequential, and so ineffective, in my historic role as a political leader — but only for three seconds, and never after I announce my candidacy for a return to office in the New Year.

"Oh, and one other thing: I resolve never to buy any cocaine, in any bar, on either the west or the east side of DuPont Circle, in Washington, D.C., from cops. Period. In 2014."

State Sen. Lizbeth Benacquisto:

"I resolve to continue never calling back the media (Roger Williams in particular) in 2014. I don't care how often he phones me and asks for my opinions, my records, my schedules, the restaurants I visit on DuPont Circle, the restaurants I visit in Wellington and Palm Beach Gardens, the restaurants I visit in Fort Myers and Punta Gorda, or what my thoughts for the day might be." ■

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TRAVEL

Irish spring: The perfect time to visit the Emerald Isle

BY JEFF CULL AND ELLA NAYOR

With easy air travel from the U.S., a common language and a hospitable people, Ireland has been a tourist destination for generations. But when's the best time to invade the Emerald Isle?

We suggest April, although you'll need a bit of luck for whatever month you choose — Irish weather is notoriously fickle. But in April, the weather is usually cool with temperatures ranging from the low 40s at night to mid-50s in the day, rainfall is about average for Ireland but hotels are cheaper, as is airfare and you'll be able to see whatever you want without hordes of people in your way.

If you're flying in to Dublin, we suggest that you spend the first few days of your trip exploring the old city, downing a few pints at the local pubs and eating at the fine restaurants. Don't miss Temple Bar, known for its cultural and nightlife spots, and, of course, the famous Guinness Storehouse, where Arthur Guinness, in 1759, signed a 9,000-year lease on the brewery's grounds for an annual rent of 45 pounds. Brilliant!

Then head out to see the Ireland of song. A rental car can make for an interesting adventure. Mind you, driving on the left side of the road can take some getting used to, but within a few days, you'll wonder what all the fuss was about. Keep to the motorways, similar to U.S. interstates, as much as you can; however, you'll likely spend most of your time on narrow local roads. Just remember: Ireland has one of the highest traffic-crash rates in Western Europe.

Here are some not-to-miss destinations:



Spend the night in a 13th-century castle. The medieval Ashford Castle is a five-star luxury hotel near Galway. Try your hand at the ancient sport of falconry, ride a horse on the magnificent grounds, golf or shoot clay pigeons. And, they pour the best pint of Guinness in all of Ireland.

County Cork

Nestled in the heart of southwestern Ireland, Cork is the home of Cobh, the last port of call for the doomed RMS Titanic; Blarney Castle, famous for its Blarney Stone, is just north of the city of Cork; and the lovely, quaint seaside town of Kinsale, just south of Cork city.

The city of Cork is known for its English Market, a sprawling food market in the center of the city.



Just outside of Cork City in the south, Blarney Castle dates back to the 15th century and is site of the Stone of Eloquence, commonly called the Blarney Stone. It's a challenging climb to the top to kiss the stone, and you have to hang nearly upside-down to kiss the stone. Legend has it that kissing the Blarney Stone gives one the gift of gab.

Killarney

West of Cork, Killarney boasts more hotel beds than any other town in Ireland with the exception of Dublin. And there are plenty of reasons for that. Aghadoe boasts unequalled panoramic views; the Lakes of Killarney are a renowned scenic attraction and Killarney is a party destination with nightspots busy seven days a week in the summer.

The Cliffs of Moher

On the west coast of Ireland, the Cliffs of Moher are one of the most scenic coastal features in the world. A visitor's center provides viewing platforms and a history of the region. It can be tough to find, so mind your GPS.

Galway

Just north of the port city of Galway is



A busy downtown street in Dublin in April. The spring is a great time to visit Ireland. Sure, you'll get some showers and a bit of chilly weather, but the crowds are small and airfare and hotels are less expensive.



A five-star hotel in Cork City, the Hayfield Manor is not to be missed. Originally, a family estate, the hotel features top-notch service, terrific restaurants, an elegant afternoon tea and is just a short taxi ride to downtown Cork City and its famous English Market.



South of Galway on Ireland's west coast are the Cliffs of Moher. Rising up to 700 feet above the Atlantic Ocean, the cliffs offer a breathtaking view of the rocky coast. Dress warm in the spring as the winds can whip the sea spray up and chill you to the bone.

Ashford Castle, a medieval castle that is now a five-star resort. It has been host to many notable guests, including President Ronald Reagan, King George V, Oscar Wilde, Brad Pitt and John Lennon. The movie "The Quiet Man," starring John Wayne and Maureen O'Hara, was filmed on the grounds. In 2012, Ashford Castle was voted best resort in Ireland and third best in Europe by Conde Nast Traveler. ■

— For information on Irish travel, accommodations, activities and events, visit Ireland.com.

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PLANCK

From page 1

including Alzheimer's disease, autism, schizophrenia and depression. How is this extraordinary biological structure organized, and how does its activity contribute to such a broad range of brain functions? Dr. Fitzpatrick will be your guide for a remarkable journey through the latest research advancing our knowledge of the amazing human brain.

Award-winning musicians, presented by the American Friends of Kronberg Academy, will perform at three of the four lectures. Itamar Zorman, winner of the 2011 International Tchaikovsky Competition in Russia, will play works for violin on Jan. 7 and Jan. 29. The Tel Aviv native is a scholar at The Kronberg Academy, recognized as the pre-eminent string academy for the world's best young soloists. Yoonjung Han, a South Korean musician who has won top prizes in international competitions, will accompany him at piano. She earned a master's degree from The Juilliard School and is studying for her doctorate at SUNY Stony Brook.

A pre-lecture reception begins at 5:30 p.m. with the lecture starting at 6:30.

Admission is free, but space is limited. Reserve a seat by calling 972-9027 or e-mailing rsvp@maxplanckflorida.org.

Lecture series schedule:

Tuesday, Jan. 7

Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience, One Max Planck Way, Jupiter
 Speaker: Dr. David Fitzpatrick, MPFI scientific director and CEO, "Fantastic Journey, A Guided Tour of the Cerebral Cortex"

Music: Itamar Zorman, violin, The Kronberg Academy; Yoonjung Han, piano, Steinway artist, SUNY Stony Brook.

Wednesday, Jan. 29

Royal Poinciana Chapel, 60 Cocoanut Row, Palm Beach

Speaker: Dr. Ryohei Yasuda, scientific director, Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience, "The Moment of Memory Formation, A Spotlight on the

Brain"

Music: Itamar Zorman, violin, The Kronberg Academy; Yoonjung Han, piano, Steinway artist, SUNY Stony Brook.

Tuesday, Feb. 18

Royal Poinciana Chapel, 60 Cocoanut Row, Palm Beach

Speaker: Dr. Bill Hansson, department of evolutionary neuroethology, Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology, "Smelling Your Way to the Good Stuff — Sex, Bugs and Push'n'Pull"

Thursday, March 6

Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience, One Max Planck Way, Jupiter

Speaker: Dr. Moritz Helmstaedter, research group leader and principal investigator, Max Planck Institute of Neurobiology, Munich, "Mapping the Brain's Networks"

Music: The American Friends of Kronberg Academy.

About the Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience

The Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience in Jupiter, Fla., is the first American institute established by Germany's prestigious Max Planck Society. It brings together top research neuroscientists from around the world to collaborate on unlocking the mysteries of the brain—the most important and least understood organ in the body—by providing new insight into the functional organization of the nervous system, and its capacity to produce perception, thought, language, memory, emotion, and action. The Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience meets this challenge by forging links between different levels of analysis—genetic, molecular, cellular, circuit, and behavioral—and developing new technologies that make cutting edge scientific discoveries possible. The results of the research will be shared publicly with scholars, universities and other institutions around the globe to advance life-saving and life-improving treatments and cures for brain disorders ranging from autism, to Parkinson's to Alzheimer's. For more information, visit <http://www.maxplanckflorida.org>. ■

Celebrate the New Year with 5 free crape myrtle trees

Palm Beach County residents can ring in the New Year with five free crape myrtle trees by joining the Arbor Day Foundation any time in January.

"These small flowering trees will provide any landscape in Florida with a splash of color for much of the year," said John Rosenow, founder and chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Members will experience pink and red flowers in the spring, green foliage in the summer and a mix of red, orange and yellow during autumn."

The free trees are part of the nonprofit foundation's Trees for America campaign. The trees will be shipped postpaid at

the right time for planting, between Feb. 1 and April 30, with enclosed planting instructions. The 6- to 12-inch tall trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

Members will also receive a subscription to the foundation's colorful bimonthly publication, Arbor Day, and The Tree Book, which includes information about tree planting and care.

To receive the free trees, send a \$10 membership contribution to 5 CRAPE-MYRTLES, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410, by Jan. 31. Florida residents can also join online at arborday.org/january. ■



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HEALTHY LIVING

NIH and NFL tackle concussion research

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The National Institutes of Health has selected eight projects to receive support to answer some of the most fundamental problems on traumatic brain injury, including understanding long-term effects of repeated head injuries and improving diagnosis of concussions.

Funding is provided by the Sports and Health Research Program, a partnership among the NIH, the National Football League, and the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health. In 2012, the NFL donated \$30 million to FNIH for research studies on injuries affecting athletes, with brain trauma being the primary area of focus.

Traumatic brain injury is a major public health problem that affects all age groups and is the leading cause of death in young adults.

Recently, concern has been raised about the potential long-term effects of repeated concussion, particularly in those most at risk: young athletes and those engaged in professions associated with frequent head injury, including men and women in the military. Current tests cannot reliably identify concussions, and there is no way to predict who will recover quickly, who will suffer long-term symptoms, and which few individuals will develop progressive brain degeneration, called chronic traumatic encephalopathy.

"We need to be able to predict which patterns of injury are rapidly reversible and which are not. This program will help researchers get closer to answering some of the important questions about concussion for our youth who play sports and their parents," said Story Landis, Ph.D., director of the National



Kutztown University defensive back Corey Harris (14) is checked out on the field by training staff after an injury in a game Nov. 6, 2010, in Bloomsburg, Pa.

ASPEN PHOTO

Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, part of NIH.

Two \$6 million projects are large, cooperative agreements focused on defining the scope of long-term changes that occur in the brain years after a head injury or after multiple concussions. The cooperative awards form a

partnership between NINDS, the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and multiple academic medical centers.

NIH also will fund six pilot projects totaling more than \$2 million that will last up to two years and are designed to provide support for the early stages of

sports-related concussion projects. If the early results are encouraging, they may become the basis of more comprehensive projects.

The eight projects were selected by the NIH following a rigorous scientific review process.

The cooperative awards bring together two teams of independent scientists to study and compare the brains of donors who were at high or low risk for developing long-term effects of TBI. Ten neuropathologists from eight universities will coordinate to describe the chronic effects of head injury in tissue from hundreds of individuals in order to develop standards for diagnosis.

The project includes four teams that will correlate brain scans with changes in brain tissue, using a variety of techniques. This may open the possibility of using these advanced brain imaging techniques to diagnose chronic effects of TBI in living individuals.

The investigators in the two projects also will help NIH develop a registry dedicated to enrolling individuals with a history of TBI who are interested in donating brain and spinal cord tissue for study after their death.

The new NIH Neurobiobank will coordinate the tissue collection, data gathering, and also distribute biospecimens, along with relevant information to enable other scientists to access this valuable tissue.

The NINDS is the nation's leading funder of research on the brain and nervous system. The NINDS mission is to reduce the burden of neurological disease — a burden borne by every age group.

For more information about NIH and its programs, visit www.nih.gov. ■

Giving thanks may inspire us to richness in our lives as we greet 2014



lindaLIPSHUTZ

llipshutz@floridaweekly.com

"The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart. Wishing you happiness."

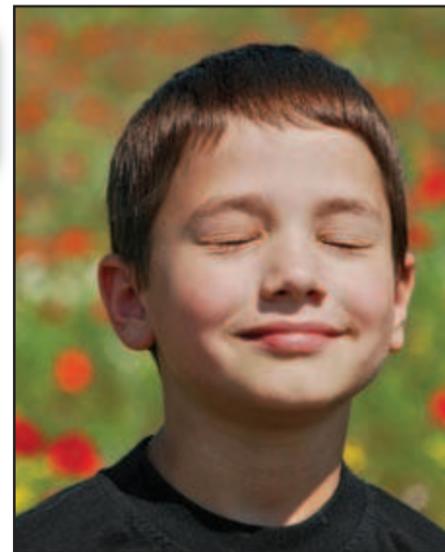
— Helen Keller

It's difficult to write a holiday message without sounding maudlin or trite. However, the holidays often inspire us to look within and to reconsider the important aspects of our lives we either overlook or deliberately neglect. There is so much to be gained when we slow down, taking care to consider all that we cherish.

For many of us, the past year has brought discouraging setbacks or worrisome anxieties or fears. We all know how hard it may be to face the day when things are bleak, and we don't believe there are many options.

Now is the time, more than ever to reach within for our inner resilience and spirit. Let's not beat ourselves up or obsessively dwell on what we cannot change. Rather, let's look back at our disappointments to gain insight and learn valuable lessons.

Sometimes, we spend too much time in relationships or situations that bring us down, or dampen our spirit. Letting



go of certain obligations that drain us may be an important step in promoting self-care.

Let's look for ways to add depth and new meaning in our everyday lives. For example, commit to activities that uplift us — a challenging course, an inspiring book, meaningful volunteer work or an energizing exercise routine.

It's important to clarify which of our relationships offers us feelings of comfort, camaraderie and trust. There's value in letting go of the belief that "our" way is the best way.

Reaching out differently to people may open up the possibility of expanding or renewing gratifying connections.

If we refuse to let go of our stubborn indignation, we may miss others' efforts to reach out or extend an olive branch. Sometimes, it requires a leap of faith to let another person in, or to let down the barriers to being close.

If we give the ones we care about the benefit of the doubt — assume the best of intentions, not the worst — we may discover that the other person will come through for us in a powerful way.

Can we find a way to lighten up? Can we let go of our harsh judgments — not only of other people, but as importantly, of ourselves?

We live in a competitive age where we all have a tendency to set impossibly high standards, comparing ourselves to the "Joneses," and then beat ourselves up when we fall short.

Oh, if only we were thin enough, rich enough, smart enough, cool enough. Fully accepting that we will never be perfect, nor should we aspire to, is the challenge. If only we could come to terms with that and truly accept ourselves as we are.

Lately, we hear a lot of talk about showing gratitude. Instead of feeling sorry for what isn't working in our lives, we've been asked to step back and to feel true appreciation for what is going well. Amazingly it does work! It just takes some practice. It involves taking a few moments every day to deliberately notice the things that truly matter.

If we are able to step out of our own shoes to look into the world of the other

person we may be able to feel true empathy, and reach out to them in a profound way.

It's a shame that it often takes a crisis, a health scare or the loss of a loved one to appreciate what we have.

Laughter is powerful medicine and it doesn't cost anything. Sometimes, when we force ourselves to laugh and socialize we have a great time despite ourselves, and shift to a more positive place.

As we all know, the richest pleasures in life don't have to cost a lot of money — laughing over a cup of coffee, taking a walk with a favorite friend.

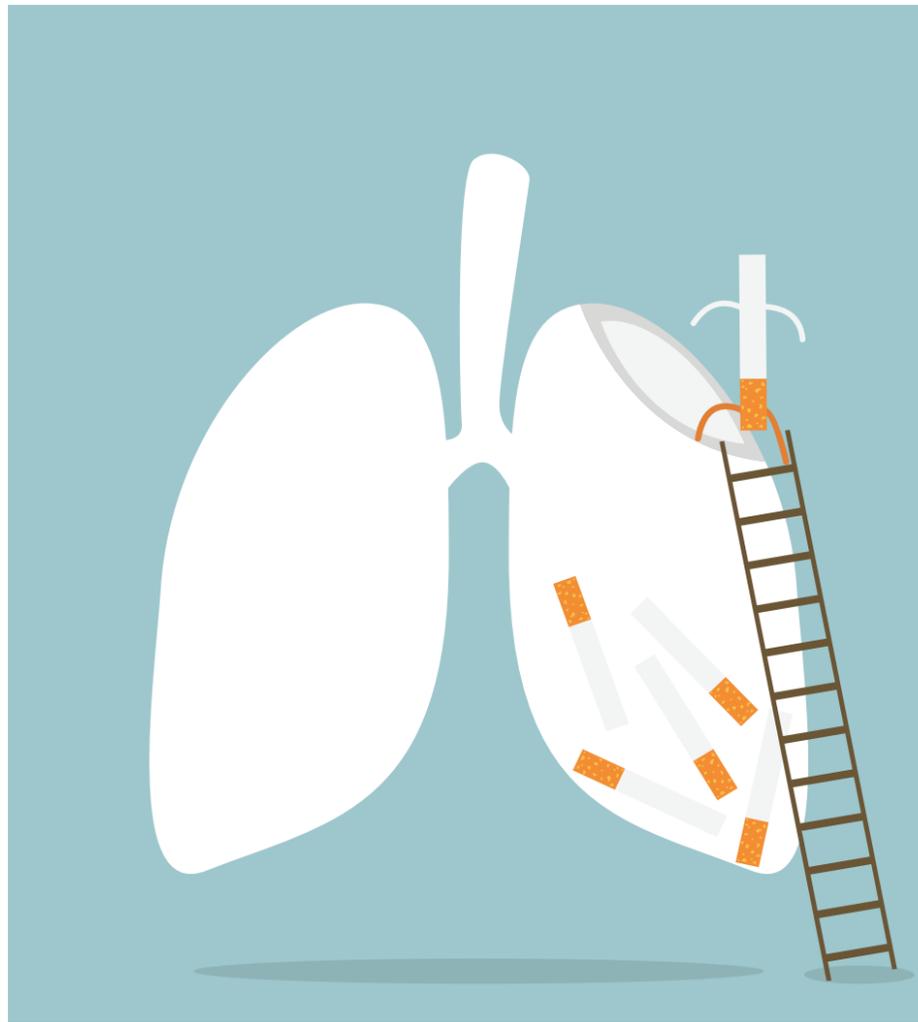
Let's find the time to take personal care and to immerse ourselves in pursuits we feel passionate about. Let's free up our energy to be really mindful of our most important relationships: to define a path of making a significant difference.

Dare we shut off all of our technology so we can truly focus on being present in our lives?

I am hoping this inspires us to richness and meaning in our lives. ■

— Linda Lipshutz, M.S., LCSW, is a psychotherapist. 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, or palm-beachfamilytherapy.com.

— Editor's note: This column was published previously.



10 things you need to know about lung cancer

BY MARK NOSACKA

Chief executive officer, Good Samaritan Medical Center

According to the American Cancer Society, lung cancer is by far the leading cause of cancer death among both men and women. Each year, more people die of lung cancer than of colon, breast and prostate cancers combined. Lung cancer mainly occurs in older people. About 2 out of 3 people diagnosed with lung cancer are 65 or older; fewer than 2 percent of all cases are found in people younger than 45. Overall, the chance that a man will develop lung cancer in his lifetime is about 1 in 13; for a woman, the risk is about 1 in 16. These numbers include both smokers and non-smokers. For smokers the risk is much higher, while for non-smokers the risk is lower.

Despite the very serious prognosis (outlook) of lung cancer, some people with earlier stage cancers are cured. More than 380,000 people alive today have been diagnosed with lung cancer at some point.

Now that you have read a few lung cancer facts, Good Samaritan Medical Center wants to offer you 10 important things you should know about the disease.

1. Smoking is the leading risk factor for lung cancer. This risk increases depending on length of time smoking, age started, how deeply smoke is inhaled and number of tobacco products smoked per day.

2. All forms of tobacco can cause lung cancer. Smoking cigars or pipes is nearly as likely to cause lung cancer as cigarette smoking. Low tar or "light" cigarettes are not safer than regular cigarettes, nor does smoking them reduce the risk of lung cancer.

3. Radon can cause lung cancer. Radon is a radioactive gas that cannot be seen, tasted or smelled. It is produced by the decay of naturally occurring uranium in soil and rocks. A kit from the hardware store can measure radon levels in the home, which should not exceed 4 pCi/L (pico curies per liter).

4. There are other risk factors for lung cancer. Secondhand smoke is the

third leading cause of lung cancer. Other risk factors include exposure to asbestos, arsenic, chromium, nickel, tar and soot.

5. There are two types of lung cancer. Between 80 and 90 percent of lung cancers are the non-small cell type. This cancer usually grows slowly and does not spread quickly to other organs. The other type, small cell carcinoma, tends to grow fast and spread to other organs.

6. Watch for the warning signs of lung cancer. Lung cancer typically does not cause problems until it has spread. Common indicators for the disease include a persistent cough, chest pain, shortness of breath, wheezing, fatigue, coughing up blood, hoarseness, recurrent respiratory infections, and appetite or weight loss.

7. Tests are available to detect lung cancer. Lung cancer can be detected through a bronchoscopy, computed tomography (CT) or positron emission tomography (PET) scans and thocentesis (lung fluid sample). Though exams of mucus or lung fluid may reveal fully developed cancer cells, diagnosis of lung cancer is usually confirmed through a lung biopsy.

8. Lung cancer can be treated. Treatment depends on cancer type, tumor location, stage and overall health. Options include surgery, chemotherapy, radiation therapy or a combination.

9. Know the profile of a lung cancer patient. More men than women will die of the disease this year. The average age of a lung cancer patient is 70. African American men have the highest occurrence and lowest survival rates for lung cancer.

10. You are not alone. As one of the leading cancer centers in the area, the Cancer Institute at Good Samaritan Medical Center offers a comprehensive approach to helping patients and families face the challenges of cancer. For more information about lung cancer, talk with your doctor or visit www.goodsamaritanmc.com/enUS/ourServices/medicalServices/CancerServices. Call 650-6023 for a free physician referral. ■

Ask The Health & Beauty Experts

ASK THE
COSMETIC SURGEON



Michael Lipan, M.D.,
Facial Plastic Surgeon
Gardens Cosmetic Center

What can be done to improve the appearance of my nose?

The nose is the central part of the face and often the first thing people see when they look at you. If you feel your nose is too large or not straight, you may consider a rhinoplasty, which is a surgical correction to reduce the size of the nose and make its appearance more in line with the rest of your facial features. Common features that are refined and corrected with a rhinoplasty include: a large bump on the bridge, a tip that is rounded and wide and a deviated nose.

During your consultation, we will discuss and prioritize the features which you are unhappy with. After examining your nose, I can better explain how those features can be corrected with surgery. The most common changes are to make the bridge of the nose flat, rotate and narrow the tip and straighten the nose.

Surgery takes 2-3 hours and afterwards, you will have a cast on your nose for a week. Expect to have swelling which will gradually reduce with time and a small incision between your nostrils which will heal to where it is barely noticeable.

As the swelling goes down, the end result will be a nose that better fits your other facial features. When these proportions are improved, overall facial attractiveness is enhanced. To see if a rhinoplasty is right for you, please call my office to schedule a free consultation

Dr. Michael Lipan's interests are focused on facial plastic surgery, having completed a fellowship at Stanford University, a position accredited by the American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery.

Originally from New York City, Dr. Lipan completed undergraduate work at Cornell University, went on to graduate in the top quartile of his class with a distinction in research at the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, and then trained with well-respected facial plastic and reconstructive surgeons at the University of Miami. Dr. Lipan resides in Palm Beach Gardens with his wife and their two daughters.

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ASK THE
DENTAL EXPERT



Jay L. Ajmo D.D.S., P.A.,
Board Certified Sedation Dentist
PGA Center for Advanced Dentistry

Techniques that reduce fear of the dentist

Question: I have a terrible fear of going to the dentist. What should I do?

Answer: If you fear going to the dentist, you are not alone. Dental phobia, or fear of the dentist, is one of the most common fears, second only to public speaking.

The key to coping with dental anxiety is to discuss your fears with your dentist. Once your dentist knows your fears, he will be better able to work with you to determine the best ways to make you less anxious and more comfortable.

The good news is that today there are a number of strategies that can be tailored to the individual to reduce fear, anxiety, and pain. You may have heard of Sedation Dentistry described in a variety of ways: "Anxiety Free Dentistry", "Mild Oral Sedation", or "Twilight State." Some dentists offer mild oral sedation which involves prescribing a sedative to relax & reduce stress. All of these procedures refer to you being given a sedative before treatment.

For patients who want to be totally unaware of the treatment or are in need of longer dental procedures, IV sedation is the preferred treatment.

IV Sedation is highly reliable, safe & effective for comfort & amnesia during all types of dental treatment. IV Sedation can only be administered by a Board Certified Sedation Dentist, and its onset is immediate & can be increased easily & rapidly to meet the individual's needs. This is a huge advantage compared to oral sedation.

Dr. Jay Ajmo earned his Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from Emory University School of Dentistry in 1986. He is an active member of The American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry and designated Master Cosmetic Dentist by the Rosenthal Institute for Aesthetic Dentistry.

He's been awarded Diplomate Certification from the International Congress of Oral Implantologists, Diplomate from the American Dental Implant Association and a Mastership from the Misch International Implant Institute. He's a member of The American Academy of Oral Implantologists. Dr. Ajmo is Board Certified in IV sedation and maintains an active membership with the American Society of Dental Anesthesiology.

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TRAVEL

Northern Italy boasts rustic flavors and beauty

BY ELLA NAYOR

enayor@floridaweekly.com

If the idea of strolling along cobblestone streets, sipping espresso after a long lunch, shopping at stylish boutiques and gazing at centuries-old architecture appeals, then a getaway to northern Italy this new year awaits.

And as far as planning goes, there is no time like the present. Although it is cooler this time of year in Northern Italy, the advantage of fewer tourists and virtually no waiting at museums, restaurants and cultural landmarks outweighs the need for a jacket and an extra cup of coffee.

Cities and regional areas in the north bustle with activity and life. The smaller cities and outlying regions are great places to enjoy the rich and expressive Italian culture. It is in these more intimate locales that a visitor can truly get a taste of Italian living.

Verona, Vicenza and Parma are a trilogy of quaint Northern Italian cities and locales that are a must for those on a quest for culinary delights and fine wine.

While heading to these destinations, don't forget to make stops along the way to take in the sights of sprawling vineyards cast against the snow-capped Dolomites mountain range.

Fair Verona

Yes, it's true: Verona is the mythical setting for Shakespeare's ill-fated love story "Romeo and Juliet." Visitors can see the balcony said to be Juliet's. The 14th-century house is located off Via Capello. At the popular site there is no fee to see a bronze statue of Juliet. Visitors are encouraged to rub Juliet's breast for good luck.

Verona is a great way to get a flavor of the Italian cities without the crowds and expense of larger ones such as Rome. Historical sites and architecture help define the beauty of this ancient city. While there, stroll along the winding streets to hip shops and boutiques. Enjoy a leisurely lunch at one of Verona's many fine restaurants and cafes. Linger over a local vineyard's red wine. Take time to pad through the Roman Arena built in the first century. It is considered one of the largest arenas after the Roman Colosseum. It is now used as a venue for operas and other theatrical performances. A great place to dine and enjoy — really enjoy a glass of good wine and indulge in the laid-back Italian culture — is Antica Bottega del Vino. The business is a combination of a wine bar and café. www.bottegapvini.it/.

Vicenza

Vicenza is located in the Veneto Province of northern Italy. The beautiful city nestled between medieval walls is often referred to as the "city of Palladio". Andrea Palladio's architecture can be seen in many of the buildings in Vicenza. The charming feel of the city and its people enchants visitors. Stroll through the large squares or piazzas and go to fine shops, restaurants and cafes. Discover grandiose cathedrals and architecture. Another plus: Vicenza is not a touristy spot, so visitors get a real taste of Northern Italian language and culture. Outdoor markets are a great way to find those special items as well as connect with the locals. To unwind and commune a bit with nature, check out Lake Fimon. A canopy of trees surrounds the lick of water and plants — perfect for sitting and reflecting or taking a bike ride or run.



ELLA NAYOR / FLORIDA WEEKLY

The Verona Arena (Arena di Verona), built in AD 30, is one of the best preserved ancient structures in the world. Today, it houses famous opera performances.

Parma

If fine cheese is calling your tongue, a side trip to Parma is a must-do while visiting Northern Italy. Parma is located in the Emilia-Romagna region, famous for its culinary art. Farms, rolling hills and serene countryside dot the landscape. Parma is known for its cheeses and pork products such as prosciutto or culatelli. It is in Parma where well-known Travel Channel personality Anthony Bourdain visited the sophisticated restaurant Antica Corte Pallavicina. The 2011 Michelin Guide Star restaurant is along the Po River and known for its refined and sublime dining. The food is sourced mostly from the restaurant's gardens. Aside from superb wines, cheeses and culatelli derived from white and black pigs, the menu offers an array of dishes and desserts to tantalize the most discriminating of palates. Tours of the restaurant are available. In the cellar, parmigiano reggiano cheeses are prepared and stored. Honeycomb-shaped culatelli tied in sheep's bladders hang from the ceiling. Walking beneath the rafters of hams, you can spot Mr. Bourdain's culatelli that he prepared during a TV episode at the restaurant. Take the tour and learn about the process of preparing the pork and cheese products. The fresh air skimming the Po River is said to enhance the flavors of the culatelli and cheese as they cure for months in the centuries-old cellar. Culatelli and parmigiano reggiano cheeses are available for sale. Sample the culatelli at the restaurant but don't buy any to bring back — pork is not allowed back in the U.S. The cheeses, however, and locally made balsamic vinegars, are permitted. To learn more about Antica Corte Pallavicina, go to www.anticacortepallavicinarelais.com. ■



Verona boasts wide streets dotted with restaurants and stylish boutiques, all with an old-world flair.



The open marketplace in downtown Vicenza inside the medieval walls that define the city center.



Rooms at the Antica Corte Pallavicina have been used to age culatelli for nearly 700 years. The soft breezes blowing over the Po river helps give the culatello, considered the king of cured pork, its distinctive flavor.

UF: Florida consumer confidence unchanged in December

THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Consumer sentiment among Floridians was unchanged in December at 77, the same as the revised November reading, according to a new University of Florida survey.

“Much as we expected, the consumer sentiment index remained flat in December,” says Chris McCarty, director of UF’s Survey Research Center in the Bureau of Economic and Business Research. “It is now apparent that the sharp drop in confidence in October was largely a response to the U.S. government shutdown, and perhaps more importantly, the threat of the U.S. defaulting on its debt.”

According to the December survey, respondents’ overall view that they are better off financially than a year ago fell two points to 67, but their expectations for their financial situations a year from now rose six points, to 80.

Confidence in the nation’s economy over the coming year dropped two points to 74, while trust in its performance over the next five years was unchanged, at 76.

Finally, respondents’ consensus over whether now is a good time to buy a big-ticket item such as a washing machine fell four points, to 88.

Improving economic conditions could be contributing to Florida’s sustained consumer confidence, Mr. McCarty says. For example, the Gross Domestic Product, the most basic measure of the U.S. economy, was revised up for the third quarter to 4.13 percent, although three quarters of the growth was due to increased inventories.

The economy is also adding jobs.

The Florida unemployment rate declined again in November, down .3 percent to 6.4 percent, which is lower than the U.S. rate of 7 percent. An estimated 2,000 people who left the labor force permanently or stopped looking for work, however, made the Florida unemployment figure look better than it is, Mr. McCarty explains.

“As the recovery takes hold, we expect the unemployment rate to increase somewhat as some of these discouraged workers start looking for jobs again,” he adds.

The housing market is also improving, with the median price of a single-



family home in Florida increasing \$900 from October to November to \$169,900 — the first monthly increase since July. Prices are up 13.3 percent from the previous year.

However, residential values might not rise as much in 2014, Mr. McCarty cautions. “For one thing, those in charge of federal programs that helped to sustain the recovery will use the good economic news as an opportunity to begin backing away from such support,” he says.

The Federal Reserve, for example, will reduce its purchase of treasuries and mortgage-backed securities, which will increase mortgage interest rates. In addition, the FHA plans to lower the cap it will cover for home loans from \$729,750 to \$625,500. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac will raise guarantee fees to lenders, which will be passed on to borrowers.

“All of this adds up to additional expenses for buyers,” Mr. McCarty says. “While housing price gains thus far are solid and not likely to decline, they will not be the same driver of the recovery as they have been.”

Holiday spending was weaker than last year.

“This is a combination of deep discounting by retailers and a very short holiday season compared to last year due to the lateness of Thanksgiving,” Mr. McCarty says. “Retailers’ attempts to capture an extra day by opening on Thanksgiving might have helped, but will not fully counteract the short season.”

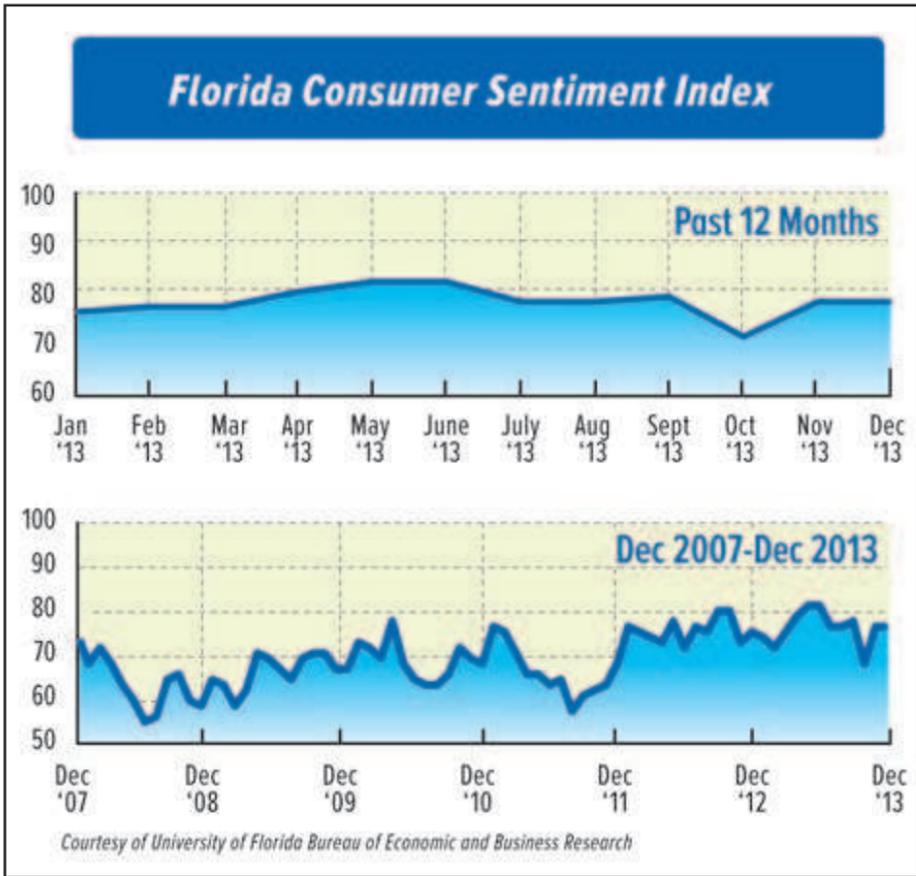
He expects consumers to be affected by the rhetoric from Washington surrounding the debt ceiling debate. While there is an agreement to fund the government through 2015, there is not a deal yet to extend the debt ceiling beyond Feb. 7.

About the survey

Conducted Dec. 1-19, the UF study reflects the responses of 420 individuals, representing a demographic cross-section of Florida.

The index used by UF researchers is benchmarked to 1966, which means a value of 100 represents the same level of confidence for that year. The lowest index possible is a 2; the highest is 150.

Details of the December survey can be found at www.bebr.ufl.edu/cci. ■



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MONEY & INVESTING

Plan ahead for a successful filing of last year's taxes



Many think that tax planning for 2013 is not a possibility since the new year has begun. But that is far from the truth. Much work needs to be done in 2014 for accurate filing for 2013. Also, there are several tax-saving strategies that can be implemented in 2014 that will apply to 2013.

Retirement accounts

If you haven't already funded your retirement account for 2013, do so by April 15. (A Keogh or a SEP or an individual 401(k) allow filing extensions to Oct. 15, 2014.) The deadline for contributions to a traditional IRA, deductible or not, and to a Roth IRA is April 15, 2014. (For purposes of getting investment dollars to work sooner than later, you should not wait until the last day to legally fund; rather consider making 2014's contribution as soon as possible in 2014.)

To qualify for the full annual IRA deduction in 2013, you must either: not be eligible to participate in a company retirement plan, or if you are eligible, you must have adjusted gross income of \$59,000 or less for singles, or \$95,000 or less for married couples filing jointly. If you are not eligible for a company plan but your spouse is, your traditional IRA contribution is fully deductible as long

as your combined gross income does not exceed \$178,000. For 2013, the maximum IRA contribution you can make is \$5,500 (\$6,500 if you are age 50 or older by the end of the year). For self-employed persons, the maximum annual addition to SEPs and Keoghs for 2013 is \$51,000.

Remember, Roth contributions are not deductible, but all withdrawals from a Roth can be tax-free in retirement while withdrawals from a traditional IRA are fully taxable in retirement. In order to contribute to a Roth, your income as a single or married must be under certain threshold levels. (The tax-free status for Roth withdrawals is under current tax law — as there have been rumblings that the tax-free aspect should be rescinded for the very wealthy — so be aware. Roths might not remain sacrosanct.)

For those newly self-employed who have not started a retirement plan, they can avail themselves of Keogh and SEP plans for which contributions made in 2014 could apply to 2013. But to get a real bang for the buck, the self-employed need to consider the individual 401(k), which allows a very large amount of money to be put into a retirement plan and offers even larger amounts to those who are older and are in a catch-up mode.

Estimated payments

Second, make sure to make your estimated payments. According to IRS rules, you must pay 100 percent of last year's tax liability or 90 percent of this year's tax or you will owe an underpayment

penalty. If your adjusted gross income for 2012 was more than \$150,000, you have to pay more than 110 percent of your 2012 tax liability to be protected from a 2013 underpayment penalty. If you make an estimated payment by Jan. 15, though, you can erase any penalty for the fourth quarter, but you still will owe a penalty for earlier quarters if you did not send in any estimated payments back then. (Check with an accountant about circumstances in which a windfall was received after Aug. 31, 2013.)

Gather your papers

Start to collect all the information that you will need to file your taxes. For some that means tabulating medical expenses, donations, sales tax paid on purchases throughout the year, etc.

Figure out the home office

Consider taking a home office deduction if it applies. It has merits, but the downside is that it is often an IRS review trigger. It is a decision that you should make with a tax accountant's counsel.

Account for the kids

Make sure you claim your child as a dependent and make sure that if you are divorced that only one parent is claiming the same child. There is a "personal exemption of \$3,900 for each dependent and the \$1,000 child tax credit for each child younger than 17. The \$1,000 child tax credit begins to phase out at \$110,000 for married couples filing jointly and at \$75,000 for heads of households. If there

is a newly born child, make sure you get him or her a Social Security number.

Consult with the pros

Consider getting professional help sooner rather than later. Also, if your tax liability is large and complex, consider consulting with several tax professionals. Personal experience is that tax professionals with exactly the same information will make differing recommendations as to how the tax is to be reported and during what period. This might suggest that some are wrong and others are right. However, it also suggests that the tax code is sufficiently complex, and within complexities there is sometimes room for differing interpretations or approaches. And for those still in the Christmas spirit of giving, consider making a gift of a tax professional's time to family members or others; it might set them on a better path for their financial security and retirement planning.

This is not meant to be an exhaustive list of tax planning tasks, but rather to put tax planning on your radar screen as early as possible in 2014 and offer suggestions for minimizing taxes for historical 2013 and prospective 2014.

You should consult with a tax expert as to specifics that apply to you and interpretations of an ever-changing and complex tax code. ■

— Jeannette Showalter, CFA, is a commodities broker with Worldwide Futures Systems. Find her on Facebook at Jeannette Showalter, CFA.

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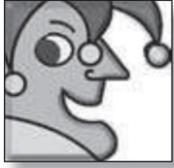
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Your Stock's True Value Matters

"Value investing" is one of the most respected strategies around, employed by Warren Buffett and others. It involves buying securities for less than they're really worth and holding them as they appreciate.

In other words, it's all about finding bargains. Value investors are on the hunt for a dollar selling for 50 cents. Stocks that have fallen significantly naturally attract their attention, but they also need to keep in mind the need for a margin of safety.

It's easy to think that when a stock price gets very low, it surely can't go any lower. That's wrong, though, and can lead to a lot of financial pain. After all, until a stock price has reached zero, it can always go lower.

Understand that a stock's current price in the market and its intrinsic value are two different numbers. You'll rarely buy a stock at its bottom, but as long as you build in a satisfactory margin of safety, by buying at a price considerably lower than the stock's intrinsic value, then you'll likely do well. Intelligently assessing a company's intrinsic value is difficult, though,

so it's smart to aim for greater margins of safety to compensate for the uncertainty.

How do you maximize your margin of safety? For starters, avoid messy balance sheets. Leave companies with lots of debt to more sophisticated investors.

Next, look at well-known, established companies selling cheaply because of temporary problems. For example, when the housing market slumps, so do stocks of home-improvement retailers. A fast-growing company might see its stock drop if quarterly earnings are lower than expected due to its investing heavily in its future.

Once you find a great business selling at a good price with a satisfactory margin of safety, don't panic if the stock price drops after you buy. Fluctuations are normal and don't change the company's intrinsic value. Have patience and conviction in your analysis.

Learn about valuing companies at fool.com/how-to-invest, and see which stocks our analysts think are undervalued by trying our "Motley Fool Inside Value" newsletter for free, at fool.com/shop/newsletters. ■

My Dumbest Investment

A Bad Play

One of my dumbest investments was buying a penny stock for fractions of a cent per share, investing \$600. It immediately plummeted to zero. It was a speculative play, and I ended up with a 100 percent loss.

— B.W., New Hope, Pa.

The Fool Responds: Lots of people lose lots of money on penny stocks. They get excited by the thought of owning thousands of shares for just hundreds of dollars. They don't realize, though, that while a stock that costs, say, 6 cents per share might seem insanely cheap, it can still fall to 3 cents per share or lower, and there's even a good chance that it will.

Penny stocks are often small, unproven companies with more promise than performance. They're sometimes touted by hypesters via "pump and dump" schemes, where the hypesters buy shares, talk the stock up, and then sell for a profit as the stock crashes. Stick with healthy, growing companies — ideally, profitable ones. Speculation is dangerous. Try not to think of investments as "plays," either, as it's your precious, hard-earned money you're trying to grow. ■



Do you have an embarrassing lesson learned the hard way? Boil it down to 100 words (or less) and send it to *The Motley Fool c/o My Dumbest Investment*. Got one that worked? Submit to *My Smartest Investment*. If we print yours, you'll win a Fool's cap!

Last week's trivia answer

I began in 1867 in Cincinnati, producing circus posters, placards and labels. I printed my first deck of playing cards in 1881. Today, based in Kentucky, I'm the leader in premier playing cards. (I've created some games, too, and also sell poker chips and gaming accessories.) My brands include Bee, KEM, Aviator and Hoyle. My Bicycle brand has been in continuous production since 1885. During World War II, working with the U.S. government, I made special card decks for U.S. prisoners of war that contained hidden escape routes. I became a subsidiary of Jarden in 2004. Who am I? (Answer: U.S. Playing Card Co.) ■



Write to Us! Send questions for *Ask the Fool*, *Dumbest (or Smartest) Investments* (up to 100 words), and your *Trivia* entries to Fool@fool.com or via regular mail c/o this newspaper, attn: *The Motley Fool*. Sorry, we can't provide individual financial advice.

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Ask the Fool

Women in Charge

Q I see that General Motors just appointed Mary Barra as its new CEO. What other big companies have women in charge?

— C.L., Baton Rouge, La.

A There are 21 women running Fortune 500 companies — but 96 percent of the companies are still run by men. At least the numbers have been rising in recent years, up from just six in 2002.

Here are some CEOs to know: Virginia Rometty, IBM; Ursula Burns, Xerox; Marillyn Hewson, Lockheed Martin; Ellen Kullman, DuPont; Indra Nooyi, PepsiCo; Marissa Mayer, Yahoo!; Meg Whitman, Hewlett-Packard; Denise Morrison, Campbell Soup; Irene Rosenfeld, Mondelez International; Gracia Martore, Gannett; Patricia Woertz, Archer Daniels Midland; Carol Meyrowitz, The TJX Companies; and Phebe Novakovic, General Dynamics.

Any list of financially powerful women in the world would also feature, among others, Janet Yellen, nominated to head the Federal Reserve.

Q How can I learn enough about an industry to become competent enough to invest in it?

— U.R., Davenport, Iowa

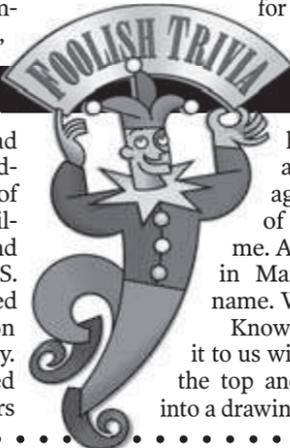
A First, understand that industries vary in their complexities, so some will be easier to understand (retailing, consumer products) than others (biotechnology, financial services). You'll learn the most by reading broadly. Read many full annual reports of companies in the industry, including the comprehensive 10-K reports that detail each company's successes, challenges and plans. Don't worry if you don't immediately understand it all — many concepts will sink in over time.

Your brokerage may have Wall Street analyst reports available for companies of interest, and you'll likely find articles at Fool.com and elsewhere on companies you're researching, too. If you're serious about maximizing your investing skill, consider learning more about accounting, as that will help you make sense of financial statements, which is critical. ■

Got a question for the Fool? Send it in — see *Write to Us*

Name That Company

I'm named after a Kansas railroad machinist who wanted to produce affordable luxury vehicles. Brands under my roof over the years have included DeSoto, Willys Hudson, Nash, Plymouth, Maxwell and Chalmers. I assembled tanks for the U.S. Army in World War II. In 1941 I introduced a wood-sided, steel-roofed station wagon with a name that's on minivans today. After being bailed out in 2009, I'm owned by Italy's Fiat and a United Auto Workers



health-care trust and am profitable again. There's talk of Fiat buying all of me. An art deco building in Manhattan bears my name. Who am I?

Know the answer? Send it to us with Foolish Trivia on the top and you'll be entered into a drawing for a nifty prize! ■

The Motley Fool Take

Black Gold for Your Portfolio

Does one of the largest companies in the world belong in your portfolio? Consider ExxonMobil (NYSE: XOM), with a recent market value topping \$400 billion.

ExxonMobil hasn't been happy to see oil prices stagnate and even head lower recently. And it has not been ideally positioned, either, getting most of its production internationally while U.S. oil and gas production has skyrocketed.

Still, don't count this longtime powerhouse out. ExxonMobil has remained an integrated oil company, so its refineries will be able to take advantage of growing spreads between domestic and foreign crude prices. It has also been investing large sums in big development projects

that are likely to be productive for many years. It has become a bigger player in natural gas, but hasn't invested heavily in renewable energies.

In its third quarter, ExxonMobil's revenue dipped 2.4 percent from year-ago levels and earnings dropped 18 percent. But gains in oil and natural-gas production reversed falling production levels from earlier in the year. It returned \$5.8 billion to shareholders through a combination of share buybacks and dividend payments.

ExxonMobil recently yielded 2.6 percent, and it has been hiking its dividend by an annual average of 10 percent over the past five years. It offers great global diversification, too, with refineries in 32 nations. ■

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Boca PR firm to help share secrets of women's sexual desires

What gets women in the mood for sex and could make them interested more often? Journalist Anne Rodgers and gynecologist Maureen Whelihan decided the elusive nature of women's sexual desire was worth researching, and the result — "Kiss and Tell" — is riveting and surprising as well as occasionally funny.

To help spread the word about their groundbreaking research, the authors of "Kiss and Tell" chose Insider Media

Management to execute their public relations campaign.

"We selected Insider Media Management because their staff had the right mix of contacts, expertise and professionalism to take "Kiss and Tell" to the next level," says Ms. Rodgers. "They took the time to understand our book, our message and our intent."

Based on surveys of 1,300 women ages 15 to 97 and 100 in-depth interviews, "Kiss and Tell" is broken into separate chapters dedicated to each decade of a woman's life. The authors analyze responses to questions such as "what are you thinking about during sex?" and "what is the one thing in regards to sex you wish your partner wouldn't do?"

"Kiss and Tell" provides a wealth

of information relevant to women in every stage of their lives," says Sharon Abramson, a media relations specialist at Insider Media Management.

Ms. Rodgers, a former writer and editor for The Palm Beach Post and Austin American-Statesman, spent a year conducting the interviews for "Kiss and Tell." Dr. Whelihan is a gynecologist in West Palm Beach and is a founding partner of the Center for Sexual Health in Charlotte, N.C.

Lacrosse camp starts Jan. 2

The new FCA South Florida Lacrosse chapter is holding a New Year's camp at

Cardinal Newman High School in West Palm Beach from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Jan. 2 - 4. The camp is open to all players from U-9 through U-17. Players of all denominations are welcomed.

"This is an exciting time for FCA South Florida Lacrosse and not only will we be impacting the local community in many positive ways, but also we will be touching forever the lives of athletes of all ages, all in the name of Jesus Christ," said Chris Southard, who serves as a pastor at First Presbyterian Church in North Palm Beach and is a South Florida Lacrosse board member and head lacrosse coach for Palm Beach Atlantic University in West Palm Beach.

For more information, visit www.fcalaxsoflo.com. ■

NETWORKING

Lumiere Detox Center opening, Jupiter



Betsy Heartfield, Frederick Spresciti and Dr. Joan Collins



Crystal Shlifer, Derek Gwattney, Laura Kunz and Michelle Jones



Chris Savery, Tim Reeve, Russ Morley, Sarah Sacks, Ilan Kaufer, Noel Martinez and John Rivers



Dr. Rohit Dandiya with Sarah Sacks



Sally Byrd, Noel Martinez, Meredith Petcoff



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NETWORKING

Nova Southeastern University Law School PBC alumni holiday party at Gunster Law, West Palm



Amy Snyder, Brian Balaguera, Pam Balaguera, Andrew Sando, Matt Shafran and Aaron Stadler



Donna McMillan and Jane Woodfield Morin



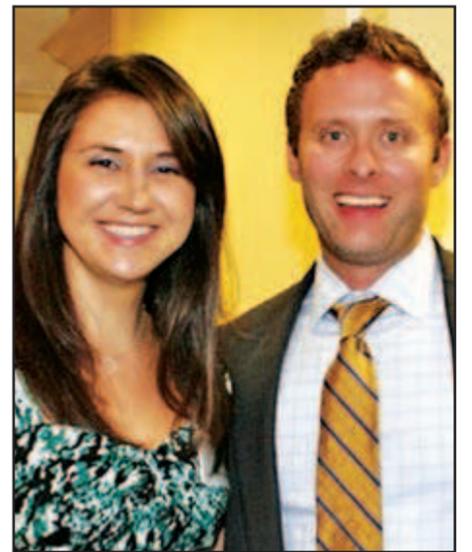
Eunice Baros



Carl Domino, Peter Grable and Matt Grable



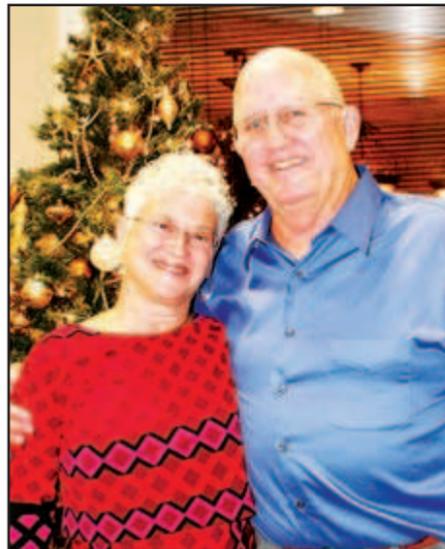
Jim Baros and Eunice Baros



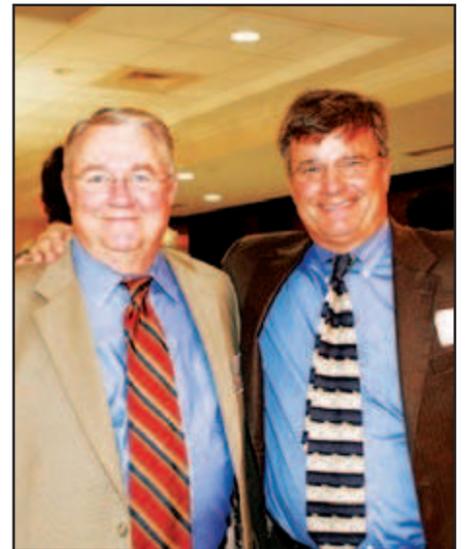
Liz Herman and Ron Herman



Elena Langan, Patricia Prophter and Elena Minicucci



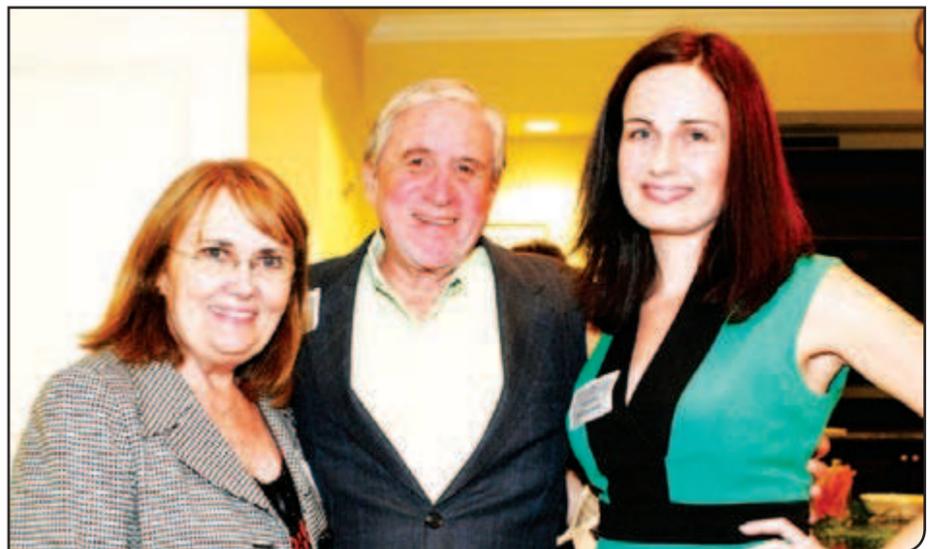
Palm Beach County Circuit Court Judge Lucy Brown and Terry Brown



Palm Beach County Circuit Court Judges Stephen Rapp and John Kastrenakes



Eunice Baros, Kathy Metzger, NSU Chapter President Donna Greenspan Solomon, Elena Langan and Elena Minicucci



Jane Sullivan, Jim Baros and Pam Balaguera

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COURTESY PHOTOS



Elegant living, with a view

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The Ritz Carlton Residences, Singer Island, is the essence of luxury and sophistication. The Ritz has unparalleled service and attention to detail with an amenity-rich lifestyle. Residence 1603A was designed for the sophisticated buyer who will accept nothing but the best.

The interior was created by Charles Allem, principal of Miami-based CAD International with avant-garde refinement and chic sophistication. For this former model, Mr. Allem chose colors of taupe and grays that reflect the hues of beach sand, while metallic accents add flair. Metallic wall coverings interact with natural light.

Architectural detailing adds to the contemporary look and increases the symmetrical feel. Custom furnishings blend top-quality materials to give the spaces a chic feel. Groupings maximize views and offer comfort as well as sophisticated beauty.

The unit offers more than 4,500 total square feet that include three ample bedrooms, separate ocean-front study/library, den, kitchen with a blend of harmonious surfaces and state-of-the-art appliances.

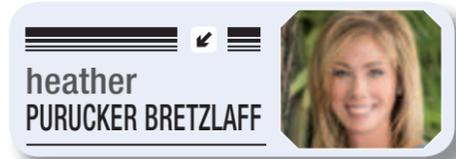
Situated on 8.8 acres along the Palm Beach coastline, The Ritz Carlton Residences are a private oasis in a building that rises 27 stories and offers panoramic ocean views.

The building offers five-star living, from housekeeping and valet services to

gourmet dining and dedicated concierge. The Ritz Carlton Residences are just minutes away from Palm Beach's finest dining, entertainment and shopping. The Walker Real Estate Group specializes in selling and leasing at The Ritz-Carlton Residences. Unit is offered at \$3,499,000. For information on this property and others at the Ritz Carlton Residences, Singer Island, Palm Beach, contact Jeannie Walker at 561-889-6734 or e-mail Info@WalkerRealEstateGroup.com. ■



A changing market makes broker collaboration a must



heather
PURUCKER BRETZLAFF

ily. The backyard boasts an outdoor pool that is at least 40 by 60 feet, two waterslides, several outdoor seating areas with two fire pits, a working fireplace, five televisions and an outdoor kitchen that is equipped like an indoor kitchen. The front of the home has basketball and tennis courts and another smaller pool area. There is a putting green next to the pool and the four-car garage holds three cars and additional space for all the other toys.

As much fun as this sounds (and it is!) the novelty has worn off as the children have become older and involved in their own activities outside the home. So instead of having all of this at her home, she has decided to move to a community that offers several amenities without the upkeep and maintenance of a large property.

Amy has now committed to sell her home as soon as we find a new one that fits her criteria. This seems very easy, right? We have focused on the community of Mirasol. It fits her lifestyle now as well as her family's. The country club community offers a fitness center, sports complex, spa, resort style community pool, tennis, multiple dining options, social activities and her family's new love, golf. Within the Mirasol Country Club, there are a variety of homes and beautiful properties to



select. The only missing piece in this picture is the home she is interested in. The design Amy and her family like and the features she likes in a property do not currently exist on the market. There are 53 homes currently for sale in Mirasol. That is approximately 5 percent of the community. In a normal market, there is typically 10 percent of the community for sale at any given time. Fifty-three homes may sound like there are many available. But based on Amy's criteria, only two of them fit her needs. Unfortunately, the proximity to the club is not what she is looking for, so I have to broaden my search for her.

Since the market has changed so quickly, the brokers are now relying on one another to help sell homes.

We are in constant communication regarding properties that are coming on the market or sellers that may be interested in selling to the right buyer. We are working more and more on properties that fit our buyer's needs but may

not necessarily be listed in the realtor database called the multiple listing service. If we have a buyer that has a particular need, we cannot wait until the home hits the MLS system and becomes public information. We start to rely on our connections.

The next morning, after Amy and I talked, I sent a text to about 15 other brokers whom I would consider in my "network." Brokers that I do business with on a regular basis and others that I know have connections in the area. I also contacted two owners who have told me they would consider selling their home in the past.

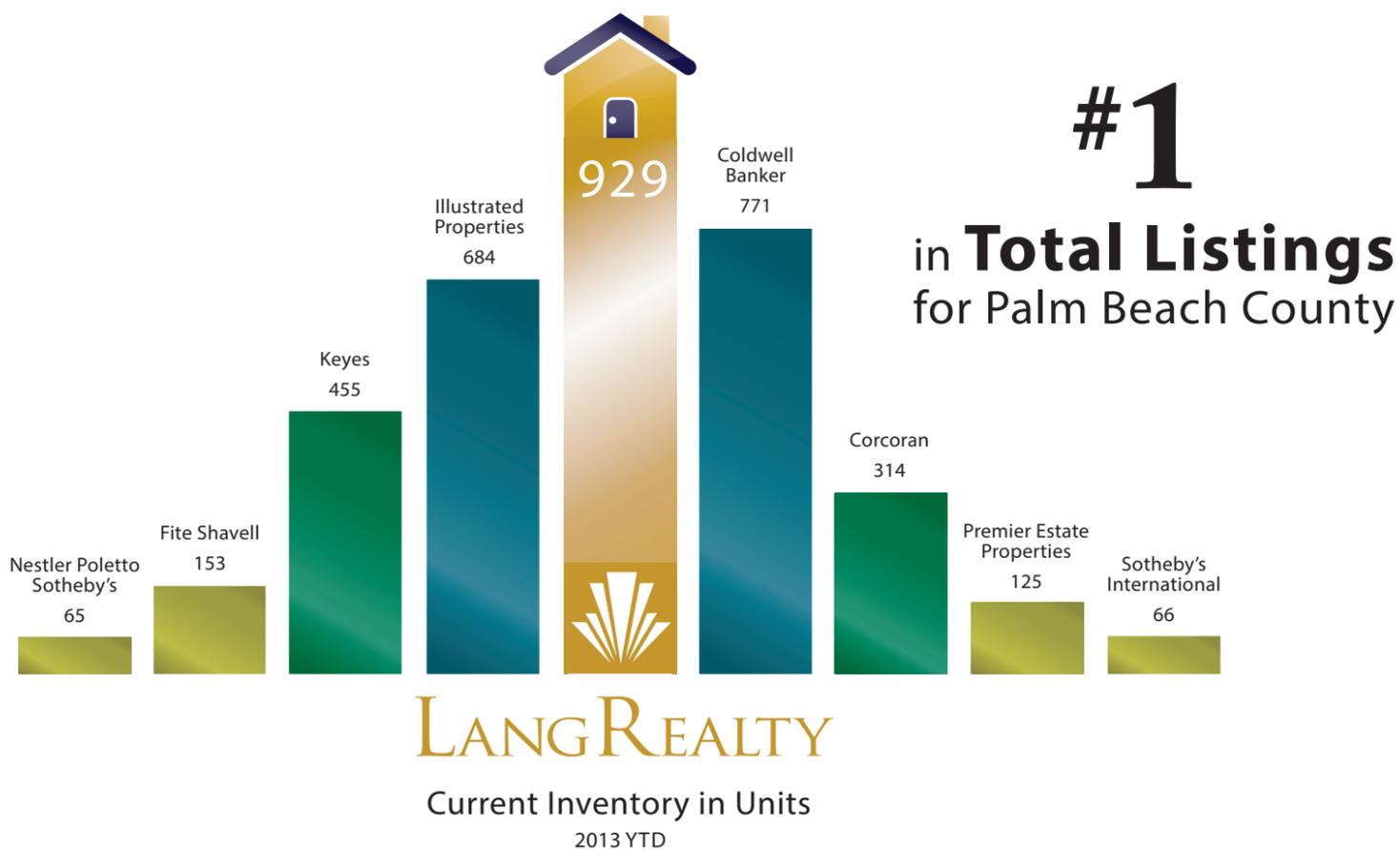
Another day went by and I had two calls from other brokers. One of the current homeowners called me as well. I was excited. We went from nothing available to three possibilities in two days. We viewed two of the three homes yesterday and are seeing the third this weekend. I am confident that one of these homes will work for Amy as long as the pricing is realistic and the owners are ready to sell.

I see this trend continuing, as inventory remains tight. There will most likely be many transactions completed without being in the multiple listing system.

If you are involved in this type of sale, make sure the details of the transaction are clear to all involved prior to viewing the property. This will help make the sale a smooth transition and successful for all involved. ■

— Heather Purucker Bretzlaff is a Realtor with the Corcoran Group in Palm Beach. She can be reached at 722-6136.

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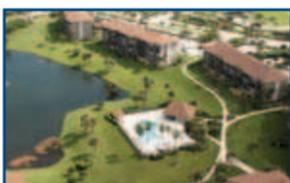
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\$330,000

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MLS# RX-9968583
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2BR / 2BA
MLS# RX-9966811
\$269,000

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4BR / 2BA
MLS# RX-9982117
\$335,000

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House of the Week

COURTESY PHOTOS

Waterfront luxury in Manalapan

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

This luxurious six-bedroom estate occupies a waterfront location on exclusive Point Manalapan's Manatee Cove. Beautiful architectural details include high ceilings and a dramatic two-story foyer entry, formal dining and living rooms, very large family/media room with sunken wet bar and wood burning marble fireplace with Travertine floors throughout living area. The home size and layout are perfect for entertaining.

The large gourmet kitchen has an island, extensive cabinetry and pantry. The luxurious oversized master bedroom suite has a wet bar and a large balcony overlooking Manatee Cove. A huge screened sunroom enclosure

with wide water view overlooks a large pool, spa and deck adjacent to new dock/boat lift with desirable eastern exposure. The large two-car garage has a generous storage area.

High-tech total security and air-conditioning systems. Automatically controlled Gardian QuietSource 45K standby generator with below-ground installation on a 1,000-gallon propane tank. The entire roof has been upgraded with the new Monier Lifetile.

Residents of Manalapan enjoy gratis beach club membership with resort amenities.

The estate is listed by Fite Shavell & Associates at \$2,295,000. The agents are Jack Elkins, 561-373-2198, jelkins@fiteshavell.com and Bunny Hiatt, 561.818.6044, bhiatt@fiteshavell.com. ■

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Asking \$325,000

For Sale



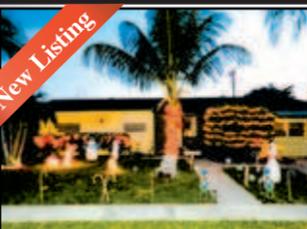
4180 Hyacinth Circle
Palm Beach Gardens

4 bedroom, 2 bath CBS single family home in a great non HOA location.

Asking \$325,000

Call Dawn at 561.876.8135 to schedule a private tour of this home

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One story, 3 bedroom, 2 bath CBS home. Great outdoor space inclusive of a screened in patio leading to the fenced backyard.

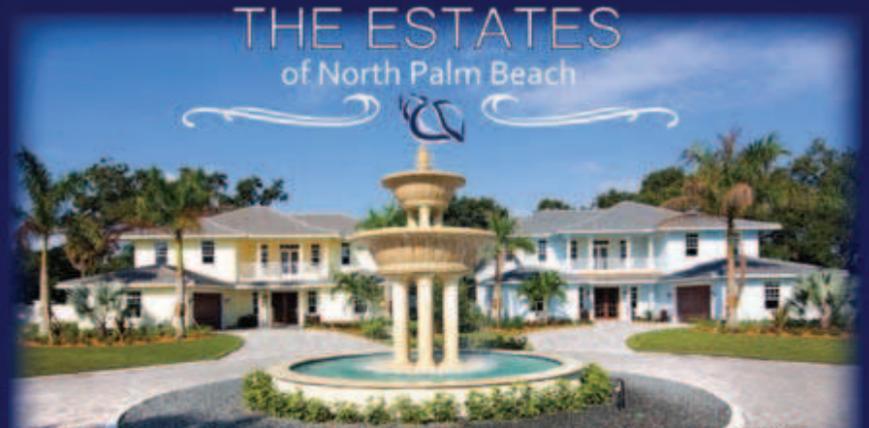
Asking \$167,000

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NEW OFFERING

OLD MARSH GOLF CLUB | \$1.995M



SOLD

OLD MARSH CLUB | \$1.895M*
*represented the buyer



NEW OFFERING

JUNO BEACH | \$1.75M



BREAKERS WEST | \$1.225M



UNDER CONTRACT

THE LOXAHATCHEE CLUB | \$1.19M*
*represented the buyer



THE LOXAHATCHEE CLUB | \$529K



BOTANICA | \$369K

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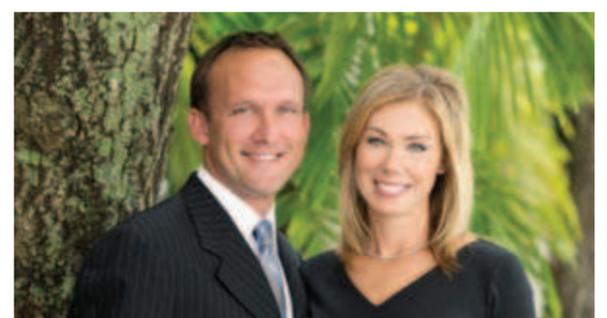
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live who you are

The benefits of making your house move-in ready

lindaBRIGHT



For many buyers, a home that is in move-in condition is attractive. The reasons can be different. Some buyers do not have the time, while others, who are moving in from another state, do not have the contacts with the trades and professionals they might need to accomplish repairs or improvements. If you make the repairs up-front, as opposed to waiting until they become an issue after the inspection, you will be ahead of the game in attracting the broadest array of buyers and, at the same time, forego some of the headache of negotiating the repairs in the price. If you do not make repairs, you will eliminate some buyers who exclude your house from their consideration because they do not want to deal with the undertaking of making the repairs. The move itself often is as much of an inconvenience as some buyers will accept.

Moreover, by making the improvements you can eliminate the gray area as to the cost and extent of the repairs needed, and control the cost. Most buyers will anticipate a worst-case scenario when estimating repair costs. Some buyers will also ask that the cost be deducted from the contract or agreed upon sales price for the house. Sophisticated buyers may even weigh the cost of proposed improvements against the home's market value after the repairs or

upgrades are completed, when deciding whether to make an offer. If the buyers' estimated cost for making a repair or upgrade will not result in a return on the investment in your house, the buyer will likely forego making any offer.

Similarly, you should consider making repairs to the house before you put it on the market. Tour other comparable homes when you see open houses. Note the condition and amenities in those houses. Compare those houses to yours — a potential buyer will. If most of the comparable houses on the market have a specific feature or upgrade that your home is lacking, you may want to weigh the cost of the change against the potential benefit of drawing more offers and a higher purchase price. Your real estate professional is a good source for input on the value of the upgrade you are considering and its potential effect on the ultimate price you receive and the length of time your house is on the market.

When buyers see items in disrepair this may prompt them to question whether the house has generally been kept in good repair or cause them to worry about what else in the house has been neglected. For example, I witnessed the effect of not making a relatively simple and cost-effective repair had on a couple of well qualified buyers in their assessment of an otherwise well maintained house. A storm damaged a gutter and it was left drooping. The seller did not bother to repair it thinking that there would mere-

ly be a slight adjustment reflected in the purchase price. The first couple, Bob and Sue, noticed the drooping gutter and assumed the house was damaged by the last hurricane, had never been repaired, and likely had water damage. The other couple, Charles and Harriet, noticed the same drooping gutter and were certain

the house was not properly constructed. Both couples excluded the house from any consideration because of the bad impression created by the drooping gutter. Later, when the seller received this feedback he chose a qualified inspector and gutter repairman. They determined that there was no water damage to the house. The inspection and repair cost the seller \$280. However, the seller lost not only the opportunity to sell to two qualified buyers, the seller also lost valuable time in terms of days the house was on the market before it sold. Once the repair of the droopy gutter was made, the

house quickly sold and commanded top dollar. When the ultimate buyer performed her own inspection, nothing was discovered to be in need of repair. The inspection contingency was immediately removed and the house closed promptly thereafter. Buyers usually do comparison shopping when looking to purchase a home. Making the repairs up front, before the house is put on the market, is usually the best strategy. Needed repairs will be recognized and will be reflected by lack of interest or a reduced sales price. Often simple inexpensive repairs, such as repairing holes and cracks in walls and ceilings, fixing broken appliances, cleaning HVAC systems, repairing leaky faucets, replacing worn carpet, repainting with neutral colors, changing a dated light fixture, or even repairing a damaged gutter, will streamline reaching your goal of selling your house for the best price with fewer distractions and issues with which to deal.

In my experience of selling homes in upscale developments and country club communities in Florida and New York for more than 20 years, I have found the merits of making certain repairs or improvements a worthwhile strategy. ■

— Linda Bright is a real estate professional with Mirasol Realty Operated by Fite Shavell & Associates, lbright@mirasolrealty.com. She can be reached at 629-4995.



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Existing-home sales decline but price gains continue

Existing-home sales fell in November, although median prices continue to show strong year-over-year growth, according to the National Association of Realtors.

Total existing-home sales, which are completed transactions that include single-family homes, townhomes, condominiums and co-ops, dropped 4.3 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.9 million in November from 5.12 million in October, and are 1.2 percent below the 4.96 million-unit pace in November 2012. This is the first time in 29 months that sales were below year-ago levels.

Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist, said the market is being squeezed. "Home sales are hurt by higher mortgage interest rates, constrained inventory and continu-

ing tight credit," he said. "There is a pent-up demand for both rental and owner-occupied housing as household formation will inevitably burst out, but the bottleneck is in limited housing supply, due to the slow recovery in new home construction. As such, rents are rising at the fastest pace in five years, while annual home prices are rising at the highest rate in eight years."

The national median existing-home price for all housing types was \$196,300 in November, up 9.4 percent from November 2012. Distressed homes — foreclosures and short sales — accounted for 14 percent of November sales, unchanged from October; they were 22 percent in November 2012. A smaller share of distressed sales is contributing to price growth.

In the South, existing-home sales declined 2.4 percent to an annual level of 2.01 million in November, but are 1.0 percent above November 2012. The median price in the South was \$168,700, up 7.7 percent from a year ago.

Nine percent of November sales were foreclosures, and 5 percent were short sales. Foreclosures sold for an average discount of 17 percent below market value in November, while short sales were discounted 13 percent.

Total housing inventory at the end of November declined 0.9 percent to 2.09 million existing homes available for sale, which represents a 5.1-month supply at the current sales pace, compared with 4.9 months in October. Unsold inventory is 5.0

percent above a year ago, when there was a 4.8-month supply.

The median time on market for all homes was 56 days in November, up from 54 days in October, but well below the 70 days on market in November 2012. Short sales were on the market for a median of 120 days, while foreclosures typically sold in 59 days, and non-distressed homes took 55 days. Thirty-five percent of homes sold in November were on the market for less than a month.

According to Freddie Mac, the national average commitment rate for a 30-year, conventional, fixed-rate mortgage rose to 4.26 percent in November from 4.19 percent in October; the rate was 3.35 percent in November 2012. ■

*Home and community information, including pricing, included features, terms, availability and amenities are subject to change or prior sale at any time without notice or obligation. Pictures, photographs, features, colors and sizes are approximate for illustration purposes only and will vary from the homes as built.

<p>10225 Sand Cay \$549,000 - 3BR/4.5BA/Pool Steven Chinskey 561-596-8089 Realty Associates Florida Properties</p>	<p>10601 Hawk's Terrace \$1,285,000 - 4BR/4BA/Pool Steven Chinskey 561-596-8089 Realty Associates Florida Properties</p>	<p>10251 Heronwood Lane \$849,000 - 4BR/4.5BA/Den/Pool/Spa Eric Telchin 561-301-0249 The Telchin Group LLC</p>	<p>10913 Egret Pointe Lane \$634,900 - 4BR/3.5/Pool/Spa Laura Balas 561-625-9004 REMAX Ocean Properties</p>
<p>7247 Horizon Drive \$1,649,000 - 3BR/Library/Theater Barbara Pond 561-385-1399 Bijoux Realty, Inc.</p>	<p>6085 Wildcat Run \$897,000 - 4BR/4.5BA/Pool/Spa Anita Cseffan 561-315-1381 Coldwell Banker/Jupiter</p>	<p>6520 Sparrow Hawk Dr. \$385,000 - 3BR/3.5BA Elaine Knapp 561-762-4788 Realty Associates Florida Properties</p>	<p>10962 Egret Pointe Lane \$1,349,000 - 5BR/5.5BA/Pool Jackie & Bert Klawonn 561-644-6378 BWG Realty</p>

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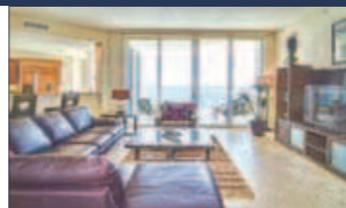
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Beach Front PH 2002
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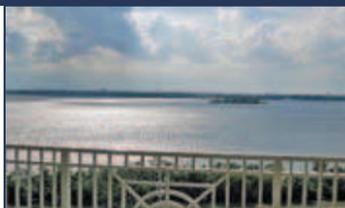
Beach Front PH 1903 3BR/3BA Spectacular views. This unit has 10FT Ceilings, marble floors and a private poolside cabana. **\$1,595,000**

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Martinique ET304 2BR/3.5BA Coveted SW corner unit. Ocean views, porcelain floors throughout. Light and bright with neutral tones. **\$499,000.**

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One Singer 601 3BR/3BA W Penthouse. Spectacular views of the Intracoastal & City. One of only 15 exquisite residences with gated entrance. Private elevator foyer. **\$1,600,000.**

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Ritz 1704A 3BR/3.5BA Beautiful ocean front fully furnished residence. Professionally decorated with private elevator access. **\$2,699,000**

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Martinique WT201 2BR/3.5BA Unique completely renovated unit with spectacular large private terrace. A must see! **\$399,000**

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Martinique WT2304 2BR/3.5BA Amazing Views of ocean & ICW. Coveted SE corner on 23rd floor. **\$585,000**

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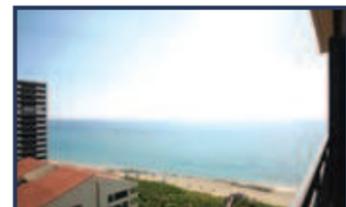
Ritz 2502A 3BR/3.5BA Designer ready unit with amazing ocean views and expansive glass balconies. Price includes a furnished pool side cabana. **\$3,945,000**

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Resort 1750 3BR/3.5BA Ocean views from this private residence at the Resort on Singer Island - beach front living at it's absolute finest. Outstanding amenities! **\$1,299,000**

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Martinique ET1103 2BR/3.5BA One of a kind 11th floor ocean front condo with beautiful ocean & intracoastal views. Designer built-in furnishings. A must see. **\$649,000**

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Martinique 1402 Rare 3BR/4BA on coveted SE corner. Breath taking views of ocean & intracoastal. Totally renovated with a contemporary flair. Water views from every room. **\$899,000**

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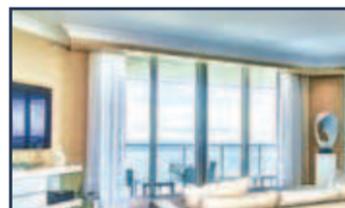
Beach Front 703 BEST BUY AT Beach Front 3BR/3BA with spectacular direct ocean and ICW views. Gourmet kitchen. **\$875,000**

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Ritz 2003A 3BR/3.5BA One of only a few highly sought after "03" on the market. Panoramic views of the ocean. Utmost attention to detail with numerous upgrades. **\$3,700,000**

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Ritz 1904B 2BR/2.5BA - One of a kind sophisticated luxury retreat. Stunning views and top of the line upgrades including Miele appliances. Contemporary design - sold fully furnished. **\$1,499,000.**

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Martinique ET702 2BR/3.5BA Breathtaking ocean and intracoastal views from this coveted SE corner unit. Marble floors, wet bar & two parking spaces. **\$695,000**

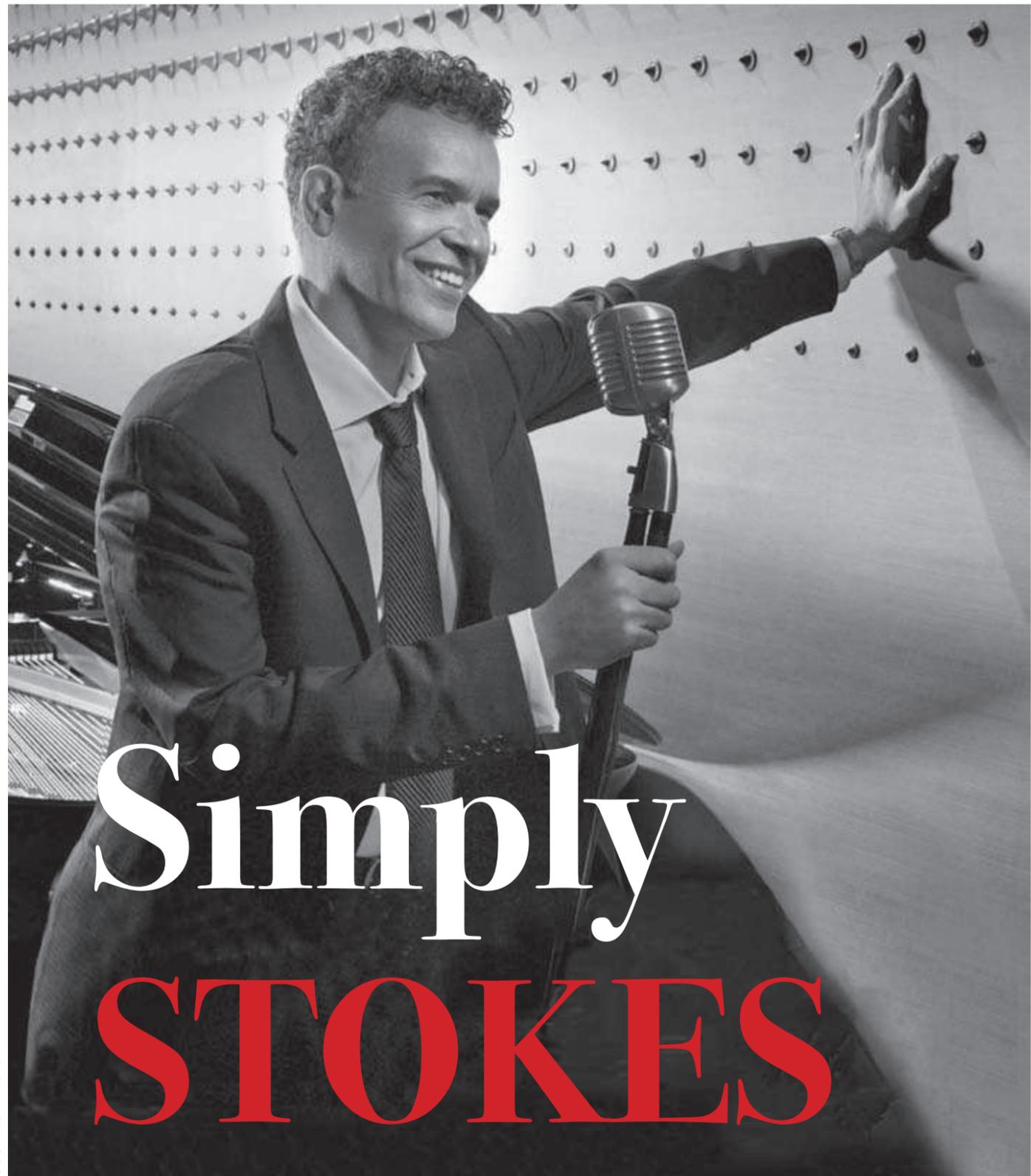
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WEEK OF JANUARY 2-8, 2014

A GUIDE TO THE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SCENE



Simply STOKES

COURTESY PHOTO

**Broadway star
Brian Stokes
Mitchell talks
about his latest
recording and a
benefit concert
he will perform at
the Maltz Jupiter
Theatre**

BY SCOTT SIMMONS
ssimmons@floridaweekly.com

Brian Stokes Mitchell's performances have been about big scale and big budgets.

Witness his Broadway triumphs in such shows as "Man of La Mancha," "Kiss Me Kate" and "Ragtime," and a television career that includes a seven-year run on "Trapper John M.D."

But for his latest recording, "Simply Broadway," also the title of a benefit show he will perform Jan. 5 at the Maltz Jupiter Theatre, the singer,

who goes by "Stokes," has scaled things back to just piano and voice.

"I love that. I love the purity of that," he said by phone. "It was inspired by an album by Tony Bennett and Bill Evans in 1975. What I love about it is that without the crash of the cymbals and the bang of the timpani, I got deeper into the song than I would have with an orchestra."

And what songs they are, too, representing nearly a century of

SEE MITCHELL, B4 ►

Allman learns to survive and thrive

BY ALAN SCULLEY
Special to Florida Weekly

Over the past year, Gregg Allman has been an active presence on the music scene. He took his solo band out for tours in the winter and fall of 2013 and is doing a few shows to start 2014.

With his long-time group, the Allman Brothers Band, meanwhile, he did the annual three-week run of shows at the Beacon Theatre in New York City in March 2013 and the group did a short tour late last summer.

He makes a stop Jan. 4 at the Kravis Center.

This sort of tour schedule wouldn't be that notable, except that it's a sign that Mr. Allman is back healthy after a long and at times difficult recovery from a liver transplant in June 2010.

"(They) called me and I was down there in two hours, bip-bop," Mr. Allman said of his surgery in a recent phone interview. "The damn thing (the liver) didn't have a chance to get cold. Anyway, and I had complications

SEE ALLMAN, B4 ►



COURTESY PHOTO

Gregg Allman plays the Kravis Center on Jan. 4.

INSIDE



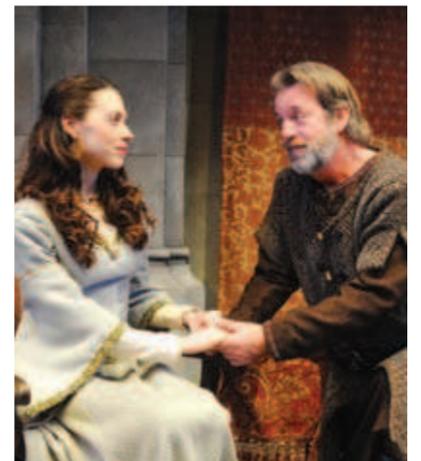
Society

See who was out and about in Palm Beach County. **B8-9, 13-14** ►



Sandy Days, Salty Nights

It's good to start the New Year off with a few love resolutions. **B2** ►



Things to Do

Palm Beach Dramawork extends its run of "The Lion in Winter." **B5-7** ►



Using our noodles

The Dish tries the noodle salad at the newly reopened Vietnamese Express. **B15** ►

SANDY DAYS, SALTY NIGHTS

Love resolutions for 2014



At last, 2014. It's finally time to put away the romantic missteps of the past 12 months and turn our eager faces to the bright prospects of the New Year.

What better way to start than with a list of love resolutions, and who better to provide them than international speaker and bestselling author Hellen Chen. Unlike many resolutions, Ms. Chen's romantic advice will still be relevant long after the champagne buzz wears off. Here they are, and may we all be blessed with much love in 2014.

■ **In my relationships, I will focus on giving** — Accounting has no place in love. Too often in our relationships, Ms. Chen says, we focus our energy on keeping a mental tally on who gave more (and how much), when we'd do better dedicating our efforts to our own generosity.

"The person who gives abundantly is always the one who is happier," she says.

And this doesn't mean gifts. A willingness to give might come in the form of affection, or listening, or simply being present during difficult times.

"If you think you have given enough,"

Ms. Chen says, "give more."

■ **I will express my appreciation to my partner daily** — Appreciation, says Ms. Chen, is the key to a successful relationship. She encourages us to compliment our partners often and to treat each day as if it were Valentine's Day. To this end, she suggests we think of our relationships as a beautiful garden.

"Would you like the plants to grow healthily?" she asks. "Or would you like the garden to be littered with trash?"

Harsh remarks are like rubbish. Kind words are like fertilizer, fresh air and water. Before we start a fight with our partners, we should consider how we want our garden to thrive.

■ **I will make a commitment to self-improvement** — Ms. Chen recommends taking classes, reading books, traveling — anything to expand our minds and better our characters. When we are more confident, more learned, more skilled, our part-

ners enjoy us more.

"Don't ask for your partner to change or improve," she says. "Do it yourself first. Set a good example, and your partner will follow."

■ **I will increase my energy level** — According to Ms. Chen, simple fatigue is a major reason couples quarrel. Flirting and being sweet take energy — as do other expres-

sions of passion. By committing to healthy efforts that increase our energy levels, we make a step in the direction of better relationships. This means taking time for naps and stress-relieving walks, eating good-for-us food and resting when we need it.

■ **I will remember that a happy relationship is a marathon** —

Lastly, Ms. Chen reminds us that loving another person is a skill. "You can learn this ability and practice until you get better and better," she says. "Treat this journey as a marathon."

As long as we are committed to learning from our mistakes and paying attention to the love lessons along the way, we can continue to improve our relationships. After all, love is best when we're in it for the long haul. ■





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CONTRACT BRIDGE

Where there's life, there's hope

BY STEVE BECKER

Assume you're in four spades and West leads a low heart. East collects two heart tricks and shifts to the jack of diamonds. How would you play the hand?

The outlook is not good. It seems certain that you'll lose a diamond and a club and go down one. Of course, you might get lucky and catch the doubleton Q-J of clubs, but the 7 percent chance of this occurring doesn't cheer you up much.

But when you consider the matter further, a brighter prospect emerges. You might be able to make the contract via an elimination play. So you win the diamond return with the king, draw three rounds of trumps and cash the A-K of clubs.

After the trumps and clubs both turn out to be divided 3-2, your chances of making four spades improve significantly. You next cash the ace of diamonds, and then, with fingers crossed, you exit from dummy with a club.

When East wins the trick with the queen, which is what you were hoping for, the contract becomes a virtual certainty. Assuming East started with five hearts for his overcall, he now has nothing but hearts left in his hand. When he returns one, you discard a diamond from one hand and ruff in the other to make four spades.

The hand illustrates how a declarer

North dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

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

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1♣	1♥	1♠	Pass
4♠			

Opening lead — three of hearts.

can sometimes salvage what appears to be a hopeless contract. The key to success in such situations is to try to picture an opposing distribution that would allow you to get home safely. More often than not, your hopes will go unrewarded, but occasionally the outcome will be a happy one. ■

Performing In  The Royal Room

Steve Tyrell

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MITCHELL

From page 1

Broadway, from “Porgy and Bess” to “Les Miserables.”

“The great thing about doing an album like this — and I produced it myself — the album is exactly what I wanted it to be. It’s very carefully thought out. I was like an artist with a canvas, only my canvas was sonic,” he said.

Mr. Mitchell, who worked with pianist Tedd Firth, recorded about 25 songs; he chose a dozen for the album.

“The album has a very purposeful beginning, middle and end,” he said.

He continued.

“The full gestalt of the album that I chose has a very definite feeling and vibe to it. Each song forms a different function and has something that I’m trying to say and communicate,” he said.

It’s simple, but says a lot with a little, he said, mentioning his love of haiku.

“In three lines, 17 words, you get a whole universe,” he said.

The same could be said for singing a concert versus performing a show.

In “Simply Broadway,” which Mr. Mitchell will perform at the Maltz with Mr. Firth, he gets to inhabit a variety of characters.

There’s Tevya, from “Fiddler on the Roof.”

“I love Tevya — that everyman quality. He is this everyman who is arguing with God and questioning God all the time,” he said.

He also sings “The Impossible Dream,” from “Man of La Mancha.”

“I get to do Don Quixote, too. He’s one of my favorite characters I’ve ever played because of his optimistic way of looking at the world. I really love all of the characters,” he said.

Rodgers & Hammerstein always tried to teach a lesson about hope and tolerance, too, especially in shows such as “South Pacific.”

“I do ‘Some Enchanted Evening’ because it connects with the audience,” he said.

Performing music from all those shows and inhabiting all those characters gives Mr. Mitchell an opportunity to perform an enchanted evening of his own.



Brian Stokes Mitchell says he enjoys the range of characters he gets to portray in such solo shows as his “Simply Broadway.”

COURTESY PHOTO

“Every concert is different, unlike a Broadway show,” he said. “I can say I don’t want to do that song. I can change the order or change my interpretation. It’s always very, very different.”

Of course, that places the burden of carrying the show on him.

“I say it’s like working without a net because if something goes horribly terribly wrong, it’s my fault,” he said. “I’m the one to blame and the one who gets

the credit. The focus is on me because I’m the one who designed the show and how it’s going to be.”

There’s a lot of pressure, he said, adding, “I’ve done the show enough times now to know it works like gangbusters. My job is easy and it’s fun to do the show.”

Another facet of the show that makes it easy for Mr. Mitchell to perform: it is a benefit for The Actors Fund, which has served as a lifeline for workers in

the performing arts and provides social services to about 13,500 theater professionals each year.

Mr. Mitchell signed on as chairman of the organization in 2004.

“They asked me to join the board about 16 years ago and I said yes. I’ve had a huge career that has been a huge blessing. I have made my living since I was 16 years old,” he said.

Mr. Mitchell, 56, considers himself fortunate on- and off-stage; he and his wife, Allyson Tucker, have a 10-year-old son, Ellington.

“When the universe has been that good to you and you’ve been asked to give back, you should say yes,” he said.

He initially was concerned that he might not have time to contribute much.

“Here I am 10 years later now. The way they help people is amazing. Joe Benincasa, who is the president, is an amazing human being. He’s thoughtful; you’d think he’s put here on the planet to help people.”

It’s not just for actors.

“It’s for anyone who’s made their living through show business, in times of need or crisis or transitions,” he said.

Casts of theaters on Broadway and across the country frequently give an extra performance in which they donate all proceeds to The Actors Fund.

“I almost always get thanked after a show,” he said, adding “Our home was just named as one of the top assisted living homes in the country.”

Eighty-seven cents of each dollar raised goes directly to services, he said.

That adds yet another facet to the show.

“The joy of it is I get to play Tevya, I get to play Billy Bigelow, Georges Seurat,” he said. “All put together as a whole, they form a bigger picture.”

And with this show, it’s a picture that helps others. ■

ALLMAN

From page 1

from it. That’s where the hell (happened). That’s why it took three years for me to feel good again. Man, that’s a long time to wait and have pain and no energy. You just can’t hardly get out of bed. They shoot so many damn drugs in you, they had me whacked out on narcotics.”

Mr. Allman, 65, needed the liver after being diagnosed in 2007 with Hepatitis C. Many years of drug and alcohol abuse had ravaged his liver to the point that a transplant was the only way to save his life.

“I was getting to be a real sick puppy, I really was, because I had cirrhosis. I had Hep C, and I had cancer,” Mr. Allman said.

“And that is the only way I got on the liver list. I mean, I’d be dying about right now. They told me I had about three and a half years left, and they would have been real sick and real painful.”

He’s also been clean and sober for 19 years and even quit smoking a few years ago. His improved health and stamina is showing up, not only in Mr. Allman’s busier tour schedule, but in a greater level of activity on the creative front.



COURTESY PHOTO

Greg Allman survived a liver transplant.

He’s been busy working with filmmakers Randall Miller and Jody Savin, who are turning Mr. Allman’s 2012 autobiography, “My Cross To Bear,” into a movie. “They’re still working on the screenplay. Casting will be the next thing,” Mr. Allman said.

The story of Mr. Allman’s life and the Allman Brothers Band is certainly one of rock’s all-time great sagas, filled with tremendous success, major tragedy, breakups and reunions and a catalog album that has had a profound influence on rock music.

Formed in 1969 in Jacksonville, the group’s first four albums — “The Allman Brothers Band” (1969), “Idlewild South” (1970), “At Fillmore East” (1971) and “Eat A Peach” (1972) — essentially invented the Southern rock form, mix-

ing together rock and blues with hints of country and jazz into a signature sound that survives to this day.

But the vibrant beginning for the original band was marred by tragedy, as Duane Allman and bassist Berry Oakley died in eerily similar motorcycle accidents about a year apart, in October 1971 and November 1972 respectively.

The group overcame those tragedies and stayed together until a split in 1982, but reformed in 1989. The Allman Brothers Band has been together ever since, albeit with a few changes — the most notable being a split with guitarist Dickey Betts in 2000.

Today’s lineup includes singer/key-boardist Mr. Allman, guitarist Derek Trucks, guitarist Warren Haynes, bassist Oteil Burbridge, drummers Butch Trucks and Jay Johanny “Jaimoe” Johanson and percussionist Marc Quinones.

In addition to the autobiography and movie, Mr. Allman has been picking up the pace with his music as well.

In 2011, he released his sixth solo studio album, “Low Country Blues.” A tribute to the blues artists who have influenced him throughout his career, it featured covers of 11 songs by artists such as Muddy Waters, B.B. King, “Sleepy” John Estes and Skip James, plus an original song, “Just Anonther Rider,” which was written by Allman and Haynes.

Mr. Allman also has his sights set on an album of all-original material that he promises will be worth waiting for.

“The title will be ‘All Compositions By...’ I’m working on it,” Mr. Allman said. “That’s going to be my crowning glory because that is at the top of my bucket list, ‘All Compositions By...,’ and then it will simply have my name.”

For now, Mr. Allman is excited to be out on tour with his solo band. Along with solo material, the show figures to include a few Allman Brothers Band songs and possibly covers.

“We do some of all of it, man,” Mr. Allman said. “The good thing you’ve got to remember when you’re making out a set list is certain songs bring people back. You heard a song and it takes you right back to a certain moment in your life. So you want the songs to be very recognizable, but also you want them to be different every night. Achieving that is not the simplest thing in the world, but it’s do-able.” ■

in the know

>>What: Brian Stokes Mitchell with Tedd Firth
>>When: 8 p.m. Jan. 5
>>Where: Maltz Jupiter Theatre, 1001 E. Indiantown Road, Jupiter
>>Cost: \$50 and up
>>Info: 575-2223 or jupitertheatre.org

in the know

>>What: Gregg Allman
>>When: 8 p.m. Jan. 4
>>Where: The Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach
>>Cost: \$25 and up
>>Info: 832-7469 or Kravis.org

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Thursday, Jan. 2

■ **Art After Dark** — 5 to 9 p.m. Jan. 2 at the Norton Museum of Art, 1451 S. Olive Ave., West Palm Beach. Features Jason Page, who “paints” with light, will create light-painting portraits for guests; Deborah Paiva performs jazz and swing and a Modern Masters tour will be held at 6:30 p.m. Half-price admission, free for age 12 and younger. Info: 832-5196; Norton.org.

■ **Clematis by Night** — 6-9 p.m. Thursdays in Centennial Square, West Palm Beach. Eclipse, a band from Jupiter, performs. Info: clematisbynight.net.

■ **Jay Z** — Jan. 2, BB&T Center (formerly BankAtlantic Center), 1 Panther Parkway, Sunrise. 800-745-3000; www.thebbtcenter.com

Friday, Jan. 3

■ **Food Truck Pow Wow** — 5-9 p.m. Jan. 3, Constitution Park, 399 Seabrook Road, Tequesta. Includes live music; admission is free. Info: tequesta.org

■ **West Palm Beach Antiques Festival** — Hundreds of dealers in antiques, collectibles and decorative items noon to 5 p.m. Jan. 3, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Jan. 4, and 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Jan. 5, at the South Florida Fairgrounds, West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$8 adults, \$7 seniors, free for younger than 16. Two-day admission: \$12. A \$25 early buyer ticket allows admission from 9 a.m. to noon Friday, before doors open to the public. Discount coupon online at wpbaf.com. Information: 941-697-7475.

■ **An Evening With Neil Sedaka** — 8 p.m. Jan. 3, Sunrise Theatre, 117 S. Second St., Fort Pierce. Tickets: \$59, \$69, 772-461-4775; www.sunrisetheatre.com

Saturday, Jan. 4

■ **The Audubon Society of the Everglades' annual Christmas Bird Count** — Jan. 4. Volunteer with coordinator Chuck Weber at 602-0326 or cweber4aves@comcast.net

■ **Ginger's Dance Party** — 8-10 p.m. Saturday, on the Palm Stage at Waterfront Commons, West Palm Beach. Free. Info: 822-1515; wpb.org/gingers.

Sunday, Jan. 5

■ **The Audubon Society of The Everglades birdwatching trip** — Storm Water Treatment Area managed by South Florida Water Management District, 7:45 a.m. Jan. 5. Car pools available but you must pre-register with Linda at 742-7791.

■ **The Audubon Society of the Everglades Bird Walk** — Wakodahatchee Wetlands, 13026 Jog Road, Delray Beach, at 4 p.m. Jan. 5. Meet at the top of boardwalk. Cliff Dean leads. Info: 742-7791.

■ **The Delray String Quartet** — Jan. 5 and Jan. 17 at the Colony Hotel, 525 E. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach. Program: From Rio to Vienna & St. Petersburg. Info: 213-4138; www.delraystringquartet.com

Tuesday, Jan. 7

■ **Audubon Society Of The Ever-**

glades — 7:30 p.m. Jan. 7, in rooms 101 and 102 at FAU Pine Jog Environmental Education Center, 6301 Summit Blvd, West Palm Beach. Refreshments at 7 p.m. Free and open to the public. Lecture: “Climate Change and Sea Level Rise: Potential Impacts on Water Resources Management” by Jayantha Obeysekera, chief modeler Hydrologic & Environmental Systems Modeling, South Florida Water Management District. Info: www.auduboneverglades.org

■ **The Shanghai Quartet performs** — Jan. 7, The Flagler Museum, 1 Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. \$60 per show, \$280 for the series. Info: 655-2833; www.flaglERMuseum.us

■ **John J. Lopinot: “What Makes a Great Photograph”** — 3 p.m. Jan. 7, at the Cultural Council of Palm Beach County, 601 Lake Ave., Lake Worth. Lopinot is the former deputy director of photography at The Palm Beach Post. Part of the Council's lecture series in connection with “The Deep and The Shallow,” which features the work of 12 artists. Info: 471-2901.

■ **Lecture: Fantastic Journey: A Guided Tour of the Cerebral Cortex** — 5:30 p.m. Jan. 7, Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience, 1 Max Planck Way, Jupiter. A new season of public lectures — with music. MPFI Scientific Director David Fitzpatrick lectures. Itamar Zorman, winner of the 2011 International Tchaikovsky Competition in Russia, will play violin. Yoonie Han, a South Korean musician who has won top prizes in international competitions, will play piano. Free, but RSVP required at 972-9027 or rsvp@maxplanckflorida.org

■ **Billy Joel** — Jan. 7, BB&T Center, Sunrise. Tickets: www.ticketmaster.com or 800-745-3000.

■ **The Shanghai Quartet** — 7:30 p.m. Jan. 7 at the Flagler Museum, 1 Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. Tickets: \$60, includes a champagne and dessert reception with the musicians. Part of the 15th annual Flagler Museum Music Series. Info: 655-2833 or visit www.FlaglerMuseum.us.

Wednesday, Jan. 8

■ **Art on the Road: Delray Beach** — 1-4 p.m. Jan. 8. A bus tour of galleries and studios usually not open to the public. Meet collectors, artists and owners. Admission: \$50 public, \$40 members. Info/reservations: 472-3342 or email ksmiley@palmbeachculture.com

At The Arts Garage

180 NE First St. in Delray Beach. Info: 450-6357; artsgarage.org.

■ **The Hummingbird Wars** — Jan. 10-Feb. 2.

■ **Calvin Newborn & the Al Waters Sextet** — Jan. 11. Jazz Project.

■ **Bob Margol** — Jan. 18. Garage Blues.

■ **Randy Brecker** — Jan. 25. Jazz Project.

At The Bamboo Room

The Bamboo Room, 15 S. J St., downtown Lake Worth. Info: 585-BLUE; bambooroomblues.com

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A French coming of age tale brimming with laughter, and 1970's nostalgia. Claude, an Algerian Jew, and his family take their summer vacation in his wife's hometown, where no one has ever met a Jew before. This charming film is based on the director's childhood. With subtitles.

January 19, 2:00 pm - Cobb Theaters, Palm Beach Gardens

January 26, 11:00 am - Frank Theaters, Delray Beach



OUT IN THE DARK

A story of love between barriers and life in the shadows. An aspiring Palestinian graduate student and a Jewish lawyer fall in love. This is a gripping drama pulsing with urgency and longing that morphs smoothly into a lean thriller. Winner of Best Feature Film, Haifa International Film Festival. With subtitles.

January 20, 7:30 pm - Cobb Theaters, Palm Beach Gardens

January 21, 7:00 pm - Frank Theaters, Delray Beach



SUKKAH CITY

Best-selling author Joshua Foer wondered what would happen if contemporary architects and designers were challenged to visualize and construct twelve radical sukkah. And so was born the 2010 design competition and exhibition known as Sukkah City. Follow the competition from submissions through to exhibition in NYC's Union Square. Special guest Director Jason Hutt

January 21, 4:45 pm - Cobb Theaters, Palm Beach Gardens

January 20, 3:30 pm - Frank Theaters, Delray Beach

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WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

■ **David Shelley & Bluestone** — 9 p.m. Jan. 3. \$8, \$10 Day of show

■ **The Merry Franksters Tribute To Frank Zappa** — 9 p.m. Jan. 4. Free.

■ **Bill The Sauce Boss Wharton** — 9 p.m. Jan. 10. \$12.

■ **One More Round A Tribute To Johnny Cash** — 9 p.m. Jan. 11. \$12.

■ **Tinsley Ellis** — 9 p.m. Jan. 16. \$20.

■ **Ana Popovic** — 9 p.m. Jan. 17. \$34, \$29.

At The Borland

The Borland Center, 4885 PGA Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens. Info: 904-3139; www.borlandtheater.com

■ **Disney's Beauty and the Beast, Jr.** — Friday through Sunday Jan. 3-5. A KWP production of the classic tale based on the book by Linda Woolverton. Lyrics by Howard Ashman and Tim Rice. Directed by Kimberly Rommel-Enright. Music direction by Helen Buttery. Showtimes: 2 and 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2 and 7 p.m. 4 p.m. Sunday Jan. 3-5. Ticket Price: Adult \$27, student \$21.60, group 10+ \$16.20.

At The Colony Hotel

The Colony Hotel, 155 Hammon Ave., Palm Beach. Info: 655-5430; www.thecolonypalmbeach.com.

■ **The Polo Lounge** — Tommy Mitchell, pianist, Thursday and Saturday evenings; Motown Friday Nights with Memory Lane.

In the Royal Room:

■ **Tommy Tune** — Friday and Saturday, Jan 3-4. Tickets: \$350 for New Year's Eve; \$130 for prix fixe dinner and show, \$65 show only in January

■ **Steve Tyrell** — Jan 7-11, 14-18 & 21-25. Tickets: Tues-Thurs \$135 for prix fixe dinner and show, \$70 show only; Fri-Sat \$150 for prix fixe dinner and show, \$85 for show only

■ **Marilyn Maye** — Jan 2-31 & Feb 1. Tickets: Tues-Sat \$120 for prix fixe dinner and show, \$55 show only.

At Old School Square

Delray Beach Center for the Arts, Old School Square at 51 N. Swinton Ave. in Delray Beach. Info: 243-7922; delraycenterforthearts.org.

■ **Free Friday Concerts** — 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3, at the Pavilion. Features Rum Crew. Free. Food trucks and a cash bar. Bring your own seating. Jay Blues Band, Jan. 10. Info: 243-7922, DelrayArts.org

■ **School of Creative Arts Showcase** — Through Feb. 2; Crest Galleries. A multimedia exhibit showcasing drawings, paintings, collage, mixed media and photographs by adult and youth students and instructors.

■ **Paula Poundstone** — Jan. 11 at the Crest Theatre.

■ **Happy Birthday, Elvis: A Tribute Show** — Jan. 12 at the Crest Theatre.

■ **Cornell Museum Exhibits** — Through Feb. 2. Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Thursday until 8 p.m.; Sunday, 1-4:30 p.m. Closed Mondays and major holidays. Admission: \$8 general; \$6 seniors and students with ID; free for ages 10 and under. Palm Beach County residents receive free admission every Thursday.

■ **"ELVIS: Grace & Grit Exhibition"** — This fine art photography exhibition is from the CBS photo archive. The collection of 35 large format, candid and on-air photographs, shot by various CBS Television photographers, documents Elvis before the Las Vegas years — during his meteoric rise to stardom. "Flashback: A Retro Look at the '60s & '70s": Reminisce and enjoy a fun display of music, movie and sports memorabilia on loan from the community.

At Dramaworks

Palm Beach Dramaworks at The Don & Ann Brown Theatre, 201 N. Clematis St., downtown West Palm Beach. Call 514-4042, Ext. 2, or visit www.palmbeachdramaworks.com.

■ **"The Lion in Winter"** — Through Jan. 12.

■ **"Mr. Broadway: George Abbott"** — A presentation by J. Barry Lewis, 2 and 7 p.m. Jan. 7. Tickets: \$20

At The Duncan

Duncan Theatre, Palm Beach State College, 4200 Congress Ave., Lake Worth. Info: 868-3309; www.palmbeachstate.edu/theatre/duncan-theatre.

■ **Amernet String Quartet** — Jan. 8

■ **Twist and Shout: The Beatles Experience** — Jan. 15.

At The Eissey

Eissey Campus Theatre, Palm Beach State College, 11051 Campus Drive off PGA Blvd, Palm Beach Gardens. Tickets at 207-5900, or eisseycampustheatre.org.

■ **Singin' & Dancing in the Rain** — Jan. 11-12.

■ **Peter Pan** — Jan. 22.

■ **An Exhibit of Acrylic Paintings by Pat Heydlauff** — Through Jan. 15 in the Lobby Gallery.

At The Flagler Museum

The Flagler Museum, One Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, noon-5 p.m. Sunday. The museum is housed in Henry Flagler's 1902 Beaux Arts mansion, Whitehall, which he built as a wedding present to his wife. Tickets: free for members; \$18 adults, \$10 youth (13-17) with adult; \$3 child (6-12) with adult; under 6 free. 655-2833; www.flaglermuseum.us.

■ **"Man of the Century: The Incomparable Legacy of Henry Morrison Flagler."** Through Jan. 5

■ **Lunch in Café Des Beaux-Arts**, 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays, noon-3 p.m. Sundays. Tickets: \$40 non-members; \$22 members.

At FAU

University Theatre, Florida Atlantic University's Boca Raton campus, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton. Info: fau.edu.

■ **Brahms Festival XXIII** — Jan. 12

At The Four Arts

The Society of the Four Arts, 2 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Gallery and box office: 655-7226; www.fourarts.org.

■ **"Illustrating Words: The Wondrous Fantasy World of Robert L. Forbes, poet and Ronald Searle, artist"** — Through summer 2015. On display in the Mary Alice Fortin Children's Art Gallery.

■ **"Deco Japan: Shaping Art and Culture, 1920-1945"** — Through Jan. 10. The exhibition is drawn from The Levenson Collection and is organized and circulated by Art Services International, Alexandria, Va.

■ **Opera from the Met: Tchaikovsky's "Eugene Onegin"** — Jan. 11

At The Kravis

The Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Info: 832-7469; www.kravis.org.

■ **Neil Sedaka** — Thursday, Jan. 2.

■ **Gregg Allman** — Saturday, Jan. 4

■ **Audra McDonald** — Sunday, Jan. 5.

■ **Duo Amal** — Sunday, Jan. 5. Part of the Regional Arts Concert Series.

■ **The Gershwins' "Porgy and Bess"** — Jan. 7-12.

■ **Men are From Mars; Women are From Venus** — Jan. 9-12

■ **In the Mood** — Jan. 13.

■ **Martha Graham Dance Company** — Jan. 14.

■ **Step Afrika** — Jan. 25.

At The Playhouse

The Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave., Lake Worth. Info: 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

■ **Ain't Misbehavin'** — Jan. 16-Feb. 2.

■ **The Stonzek Theatre** — 709 Lake Ave., Lake Worth. Call the theater for show times. Info: 296-9382; www.lakeworthplayhouse.org.

At The Lighthouse

Jupiter Lighthouse and Museum, Lighthouse Park, 500 Captain Armour's Way, Jupiter. Admission: \$9 adults, \$5 children ages 6-18; children under 6 and active U.S. military admitted free. Kids must be at least 4 feet tall to climb. Tours are weather permitting, call for times. RSVP required for tours, 747-8380, Ext. 101. www.jupiterlighthouse.org.

■ **Sunset Tours** — Friday, Jan. 3, and

Jan. 8, 17, and 22

■ **Lighthouse Moonrise Tour** — 5 p.m. Jan. 15.

At MacArthur Park

John D. MacArthur Beach State Park and Nature Center, 10900 Jack Nicklaus Drive, North Palm Beach. Info: 624-6952 or www.macarthurbeach.org.

■ **Learn to Kayak** — 10 a.m. Sunday, January 5. A land-based course of the basics, taught by reps from Adventure Times Kayaks. Free with park admission. Info: 624-6952.

At The Maltz

The Maltz Jupiter Theatre, 1001 E. Indiantown Road, Jupiter. Call 575-2223 or visit www.jupitertheatre.org.

■ **Cirque Zuma Zuma** — Jan. 2. African acrobatic troupe.

■ **"Let's Hang On"** — Tribute to Franki Valli and the Four Seasons — Jan. 3.

■ **"Simply Broadway"** — Jan. 5. A concert by Brian Stokes Mitchell.

■ **"A Chorus Line"** — Jan. 14-Feb. 2.

At JCC

The Mandel JCC, 5221 Hood Road, Palm Beach Gardens; 689-7700.

■ **Donald M. Ephraim Palm Beach Jewish Film Festival** — Jan. 16 to 26, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. An impressive selection of 54 film screenings produced by the Mandel JCC of the Palm Beaches. Ticket prices vary. Info: 736-7531; palmbeachjewishfilm.org.

■ **Current Events Discussion Group** — Join lively discussions covering the most up-to-date topics including national affairs and foreign relations as it relates to the United States from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Thursdays. Free for members; \$5 guests.

This week:

■ **Winter Camp** — 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 2

■ **Winter Sports Camp** — 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 2

■ **Pre-school Sports Camp** — 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 2

■ **Gymnastics Winter Camp** — 9 am-12:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 2

■ **In the Bente S. & Daniel M. Lyons Art Gallery:**

■ **From Tuesday Jan. 7 through Feb. 1: "The Art of Esther Nisenthal Krinitz."** Krinitz, a Holocaust survivor, used embroidery, fabric applique and stitched narrative captioning to capture her memories. An opening night reception will be held at 5 p.m. Jan. 7. A film about her, "Through the Eye of the Needle," will be shown at The Donald M. Ephraim Palm Beach Jewish Film Festival.

At The Mos'Art

700 Park Ave., Lake Park. Call 337-OPOD

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

(6763) or visit www.mosarttheatre.com.

■ **Films** — Jan. 2: “Wadjda” and “Is The Man Who Is Tall Happy?” Jan. 3-9: “The Selfish Giant” and “20 Feet from Stardom”

At Palm Beach Improv

Palm Beach Improv is at CityPlace, 550 S. Rosemary Ave., Suite 250, West Palm Beach; 833-1812 or palmbeachimprov.com.

■ **Jan. 3-5:** Gary Owen

■ **Jan. 10-12:** Rosie O'Donnell

At The Wick

The Wick Theatre and Costume Museum, 7901 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton. 995-2333; www.thewick.org.

■ **Jan. 9-Feb. 9:** “42nd Street.”

Fresh Markets

■ **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, Palm Beach Shores; 842-8449.

■ **Jupiter Green & Artisan Market** — 5-9 p.m. Fridays, Riverwalk Events Plaza, 150 S. U.S. 1, Jupiter. Free. Includes baked goods, fresh produce, arts and crafts, jewelry, pet products and more. Vendors welcome. Contact Harry Welsh at (203) 222-3574 or visit www.harrysmarkets.com.

■ **West Palm Beach GreenMarket** — 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays at Waterfront Commons, downtown West Palm Beach (through May 31). Includes vendors selling the freshest produce, baked goods, plants, home goods and more. Admission is free. Parking is free in the Banyan and Evernia garages during market hours. Info: wpb.org/greenmarket.

■ **Abacoa Green Market** — 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays at Abacoa Town Center, 1200 Town Center Drive, Jupiter. Info: reggie.chasethesun@gmail.com.

■ **West Palm Beach Antique & Flea Market** — 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturdays on Narcissus Avenue, north of Banyan Boulevard. For information, search Facebook or call 670-7473.

■ **Gardens GreenMarket** — 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Sundays, City Hall Municipal Complex, 10500 N. Military Trail, Palm Beach Gardens. Come shop at more than 120 vendors with an abundance of just-picked, orchard-grown goods, a wide selection of seasonal vegetables and fruits, fragrant herbs, honey, and homemade old-fashioned breads, doughnuts, pies, cheeses, sauces and handmade crafts. Leave your pets at home. Visit pbgfl.com/greenmarket or call 630-1100.

■ **Royal Palm Beach Green Market & Bazaar** — 9 a.m.-1 p.m. every Sunday. Commons Park, 11600 Poinciana Blvd. Royal Palm Beach, through April 27. Shop some of the area's finest vendors of fruits and vegetables, fresh flowers and plants. Enjoy artisan foods, baked goods and a unique selection of artists and crafters. www.rpbgreenmarket.com.

■ **Tequesta Green Market** — 9 a.m.-1 p.m., third Saturday of the month through April, 2014, at Constitution Park, 399 Seabrook Road, Tequesta. All items are fresh from the farm. Provides locally grown vegetables, fruits, meat, dairy and other farm products, as well as hand-made items to neighbors in the community. Admission is free. Call Wendy at 768-0476.

Ongoing Events

■ **American Needlepoint Guild** — 10 a.m. every second and fourth Monday (next meetings are Jan. 13 and 27), 110 Mangrove Bay Way, Jupiter. Call 747-7104 or email mbslser@comcast.net.

■ **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.

■ **Boca Raton Museum of Art** — Through Sunday Jan. 5: “Caught on Film”: Photography from the Collection. Hours: Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, noon-5 p.m.; Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; closed Mondays and holidays. Admission: Free for members and children 12 and younger; adults \$8; seniors (65+) \$6; students (with ID) \$5. Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real, Boca Raton (In Mizner Park). 392-2500; bocamuseum.org.

■ **Cultural Council of Palm Beach County** — Through Jan. 18, Cultural Council headquarters, 601 Lake Ave., downtown Lake Worth. “The Deep and the Shallow: Photographers Exploring a Watery World” features work by award-winning photographers. Free. Call 471-2901 or visit www.palmbeachculture.com.

■ **Downtown Live** — 7 p.m. Fridays, Downtown at the Gardens' Centre Court, 11701 Lake Victoria Gardens Drive, Palm Beach Gardens.

■ **The Lake Park Public Library** — 529 Park Ave., Lake Park. Super Hero Hour, 3:30 p.m. Thursdays for ages 12 and younger; Adult Writing Critique Group, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays for age 16 and older; Anime, 6-7 p.m. Tuesdays for age 12 and older. All events are free. 881-3330.

■ **Le Cercle Francais** — Francophiles and Francophones can join for a monthly gathering at 6:30 p.m. the second Thursday of the month (next session Jan. 9), in members' homes. Call 744-0016.

■ **Lighthouse Artcenter** — Gallery Square North, 373 Tequesta Drive, Tequesta. Through Feb. 15: “Chris Gustin” and “Spotlight on New Talent.” Admission: \$5 ages 12 and older. Free for younger than 12. Free admission on Saturday. The Third Thursday Art Group meets 5:30-7:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month. Info: 746-3101 or lighthousearts.org.

■ **Lighthouse Artcenter School Of Art** — Winter art class and workshop registration now open with classes beginning Monday, Jan. 6, at the School of Art, 395 Seabrook Road, Tequesta. Info/register at 748-8737; lighthouseartcenter.org

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

■ **Loxahatchee River Environmental Center** — Burt Reynolds Park, 805 N. U.S. 1, Jupiter. Story time session 9:30 a.m. Thursdays. 743-7123 or www.loxahatcheeriver.org/rivercenter.

■ **Korean War Veterans Association meets** — The Lt. Richard E. Cronan Chapter #17 meets at 9 a.m. the second Sunday (next meeting Jan. 12) of the month at the Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Station 42, 14276 Hagan Ranch Road, Delray Beach. Open to all veteran who served from June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1953 at any location, as well as any veterans who has served in Korea since July 27, 1953. The chapter volunteers at functions including parades, flag-raising and funerals. Info: Robert Green at 496-5533 or email bobwinwood@bellsouth.net.

■ **Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens** — 4000 Morikami Park Road in Delray Beach. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. Info: 495-0233; morikami.org, Through Feb. 23: “Contemporary Kogei Styles in Japan.” Through Feb. 23: “Breaking Boundaries: Contemporary Street Fashion in Japan.”

■ **The Norton Museum of Art** — 1451 S. Olive Ave., West Palm Beach. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. (Closed on Mondays and major holidays). Through Jan. 12: “New Work/New Directions: Recent Acquisitions of Photography” and “L.A. Stories: Videos from the West Coast.” Through Jan. 26: “The Four Princely Gentlemen: Plum Blossoms, Orchids, Bamboo, and Chrysanthemums.” Through Feb. 23: “Phyllida Barlow: HOARD.” Through March 23: “The Polaroid Years: Instant Photography and Experimentation.” Through Aug. 31: “Faux Real,” by Mickalene Thomas. Admission: \$12 adults, \$5 students with a valid ID, and free for members and children age 12 and younger. Half-price admission every Thursday. 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 norton.org.

■ **Palm Beach Gardens Historical Society Enrichment Programs** — 7 p.m. the second Wednesday of the month at Historical Society, 5312 Northlake Blvd. in the Kaleo building on the south campus of Christ Fellowship Church, Palm Beach Gardens. Refreshments are served. The next meeting is Wednesday, Jan. 8. Program: The State of the City by Palm Beach Gardens Mayor Bert Premuroso. Info: 622-6156; 626-0235; www.PBGHistoricalSociety.org.

■ **The Palm Beach Photographic Centre** — City Center, 415 Clematis St., West Palm Beach. Through Jan. 4: “Memories from Friends of Palm Beach Photographic Centre.” Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Thursday, and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Info: 253-2600 or visit www.workshop.org or www.fotofusion.org.

■ **The Palm Beach Zoo & Conservation Society** — 1301 Summit Blvd., West Palm Beach. “Wings Over Water” Bird Show: 11 a.m. weekdays; 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. weekends. “Wild Things Show”: 1 p.m. weekdays; noon weekends. Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily. Tickets: \$18.95 adults; \$16.95 seniors, \$12.95 age 3-12, free for younger than 3. Info: 533-0887; www.palmbeachzoo.org.

■ **The South Florida Science Center and Aquarium** — 4801 Dreher Trail N., West Palm Beach. 832-1988 or visit www.sfsm.org. “Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition”-- Through April 20. Tickets: \$13 adults, \$9.50 age 3 to 12; \$11.50 for seniors 62 and older. Members and children younger than 3 are free. Science Nights — 6-9 p.m. the last Friday of the month. Members: Adults \$5, Children: free; Non-Members: Adults \$12, Children \$8 (3 and under free). Planetarium shows and mini-golf are not included in event admission. ■

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Donna Long, Bruce Helander and Wendy Fritz



Camila Helander and Wyatt Koch



Robert Hamon and Bruce Helander



Allison and Todd Reckson



Carl Bartel and Ben Stein



Scott Moses and Pamela O'Connor



Susan Malloy and Tim Malloy



Cheryl Gowdy and Jim Pappas



Butch Trucks and Melinda Trucks



Bruce Helander, Wendy Fritz and Donna Long

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SOCIETY

“Three Ring Cocktails” kick-off for Center for Creative Education, Mark Borghi Fine Art, Palm Beach



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Cheryl Gowdy and Jim Pappas



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Bruce Helander, Wendy Fritz and Donna Long

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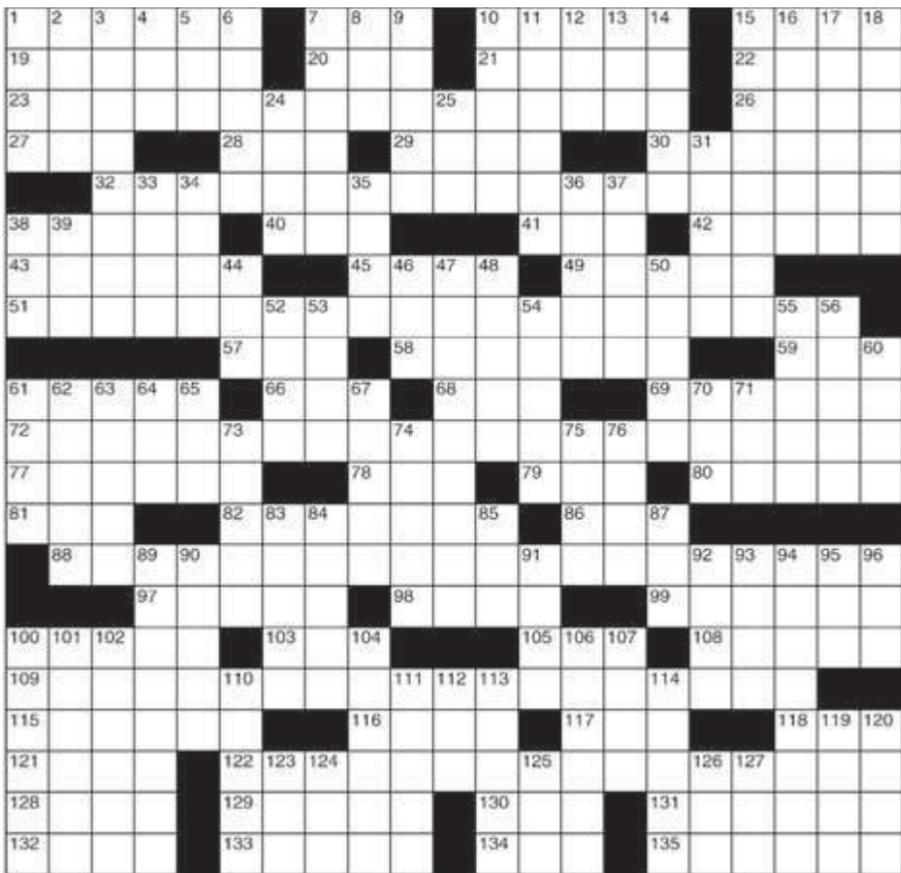
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PUZZLES

CANINE NOTABLES



- ACROSS**
- 1 Shackle
 - 7 Sweeper, for short
 - 10 Allegation
 - 15 Steep, rugged cliff
 - 19 Imprudent
 - 20 Anger
 - 21 Burly
 - 22 Mister, in Munster
 - 23 Canine "Midnight Rider" singer?
 - 26 Have — in one's bonnet
 - 27 Having the flu, e.g.
 - 28 Prefix with sex or cycle
 - 29 Opera feature
 - 30 Making a gondola go
 - 32 Canine "Highway to Heaven" co-star?
 - 38 Zoo heavyweight
 - 40 19th of 24 Greek letters
 - 41 Cager Ming
 - 42 Examines
 - 43 Sponge up
 - 45 See 44-Down
 - 49 Davenport and divan
 - 51 Canine 2004 presidential hopeful?
 - 57 Trio less one
 - 58 Supermarket scanner
 - 59 "Hulk" director
 - 61 Grainy, as beer or ale
 - 66 "Fear Factor" ailer
 - 68 By way of
 - 69 Hemingway or Tubb
 - 72 Canine "Memoirs of a Geisha" novelist?
 - 77 "American —" (Richard Gere film)
 - 78 Legendary coach
 - 79 Patriotic women's org.
 - 81 Same: Prefix
 - 82 Heartaches
 - 86 "Get him, Fido!"
 - 88 Canine "On the Waterfront" Oscar winner?
 - 97 "That's easy for you —!"
 - 98 Auld lang —
 - 99 Pope after Adrian I
 - 100 Weed killer brand
 - 103 Backwoods negative
 - 105 No longer active: Abbr.
 - 108 Averages
 - 109 Canine 1995-2009 Pennsylvania congressman?
 - 115 Port on Lake Erie
 - 116 Disaster relief org.
 - 117 Stew morsel
 - 118 Gobbled up
 - 121 The "T" of RPI: Abbr.
 - 122 Canine three-time Daytona 500 winner?
 - 128 "Garfield" canine
 - 129 Central Florida city
 - 130 Ethane, e.g.
 - 131 "No lie!"
 - 132 D.C. ball club
 - 133 Alpine warble
 - 134 Lyrical poem
 - 135 Twitches
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Japanese volcano
 - 2 Carbon compound
 - 3 Around 93-Down
 - 4 Twitch
 - 5 That, in Leon
 - 6 Snip anew
 - 7 Meredith, formerly of "Today"
 - 8 Abbr. at JFK
 - 9 Joker player
 - 10 Sequence
 - 11 Extreme folly
 - 12 "Near — can tell ..."
 - 13 DDE's nickname
 - 14 "Skip to —" (kids' tune)
 - 15 Ninth-century king called "the Bald"
 - 16 Makes a new proposal
 - 17 Response to "Am sol"
 - 18 Rocker Allman and pitcher Olson
 - 24 Muscle woe
 - 25 Paid intro?
 - 31 "I do" setting
 - 33 Hip to
 - 34 Popped top
 - 35 Great anger
 - 36 Simply must
 - 37 Greeted the villain
 - 38 Rule, in India
 - 39 "True Blood" ailer
 - 44 With 45-Across, recuperation aid
 - 46 Peter out
 - 47 Toil
 - 48 Shroud city
 - 50 Less limited
 - 52 Ladder part
 - 53 Film prefix with Cop
 - 54 Virtual greeting
 - 55 Mtn. statistics
 - 56 Zero out
 - 60 To be, to Fifi
 - 61 Biblical trio
 - 62 Crop up
 - 63 State's #2 exec.
 - 64 E'en if
 - 65 Brynner on Broadway
 - 67 Irish county
 - 70 BBQ meat bit
 - 71 Tch'r.'s union
 - 73 Parks and Ponselle
 - 74 Metal debris
 - 75 Part of NE
 - 76 Daily Chi-Town paper
 - 83 Chimp kin
 - 84 Qatari money
 - 85 Ungodliness
 - 87 Disney frame
 - 89 Jocks
 - 90 Copied cattle
 - 91 "I, Claudius" role
 - 92 Contact lens cleaner brand
 - 93 Middy
 - 94 Show times
 - 95 Hoop part
 - 96 Belittle, in rap
 - 100 Alternative
 - 101 The Beach Boys' "Help Me, —"
 - 102 Semihard, mild cheese
 - 104 — ball (game played with a plastic bat)
 - 106 Unveil
 - 107 After that
 - 110 "But there is — in Mudville ..."
 - 111 Actor George
 - 112 Med. group
 - 113 City in North Dakota
 - 114 Refuge
 - 119 Squad
 - 120 Has it wrong
 - 123 Prefix with tour or type
 - 124 In thing
 - 125 Family guy
 - 126 Sci-fi ability
 - 127 Old rival of United

HOROSCOPES

■ **CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)** Working with a trusted colleague could open your mind to exploring some considerations you previously dismissed out of hand. The weekend brings news from a loved one.

■ **AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)** Resolving a recent problem leaves you in a good position to strengthen your influence on how things get done. But continue to encourage ideas and suggestions from others.

■ **PISCES (February 19 to March 20)** A new friend suggests an interesting opportunity. But check it out before you snap at it. It might be a good deal for some people, but it might not work in helping you reach your goals.

■ **ARIES (March 21 to April 19)** Romantic aspects are high at this time for single Lambs looking for love. Warm and fuzzy feelings also are at enhanced levels for Rams and Ewes in paired relationships.

■ **TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** This week favors what Taureans dote on -- namely, love and money. Look for more meaningful relationships for both singles and pairs, as well as an improved financial outlook.

■ **GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)** All lingering shreds of that recent bout with boredom are dissipated as you eagerly accept a challenging offer. Your positive mood persuades others to join you in this venture.

■ **CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** You might need validation for a possible solu-

tion to a situation involving someone close to you. Consider asking a trusted friend or relative to help you with this problem.

■ **LEO (July 23 to August 22)** Investigate carefully before agreeing to assist a friend or colleague with a personal problem. There might be hidden factors that could emerge later that will create problems for you.

■ **VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)** Your decision to work with an associate rather than go it alone, as you first proposed, brings an unexpected bonus. Be careful not to be judgmental. Allow for free and open discussion.

■ **LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)** A loved one's health problem could, once again, make demands on your time and attention. But this time, make some demands of your own, and insist that others pitch in and help.

■ **SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)** This is a good time for the traditionally staid Scorpion to plan adjustments in your day-to-day schedules. Be more flexible and allow for more impromptu, off-the-cuff actions.

■ **SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)** Avoid creating unnecessary fuss over a situation you don't approve of. If it's going to work, it will do so despite your objections. If it fails, it will do so without a push from you.

■ **BORN THIS WEEK:** You have a way of helping people solve their problems, making you a most-respected counselor and trusted friend. ■

By Linda Thistle

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

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, B12

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LATEST FILMS

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★★★★

Is it worth \$10? Yes

"American Hustle" is a great time at the movies.

Everything about it is fun: The con artist story, the characters, the late '70s makeup, hair, costumes and production design, the soundtrack, the brisk editing, the wonderful script and, best of all, the great performances.

It's hilarious, dramatic, suspenseful and sexy — and perfectly so in each regard. This is the kind of deliciously cinematic experience true movie lovers crave.

Christian Bale stars as con man Irving Rosenfeld, a seasoned pro who keeps a low profile and never gets too greedy. He's fine working on his own, but after meeting and falling for the sultry Sydney Prosser (Amy Adams), he's happy to make it a two-person operation.

All is fine until FBI agent Richie DiMaso (Bradley Cooper) arrests Sydney, which forces Irving and Sydney to work with Richie in sting operations.

Richie, it should be known, is an overzealous fool who has no idea what he's doing as a fake con man. One would suppose he'd listen to Irving in these situations, but Richie refuses to empower Irving in any way. On a small scale this is not a problem, but when Richie attempts to go after a New Jersey mayor (Jeremy Renner) and other bigwigs, various complications ensue. Through it all the omnipresent wild card is Irving's wife Rosalyn (Jennifer Lawrence), whom he met long before Sydney and is now stuck with her whether he likes it or not.

Co-written by Eric Singer and David O. Russell ("Three Kings"), the frequent twists and turns of the plot are expected and logical, all building to a smart, plausible finale that is wonderfully satisfying.

And it's funny, delivering humor early, often and unexpectedly. Two small examples: The time period of the late '70s finds Rosalyn unsure how to work the new invention called a microwave, and Louis C.K., as Richie's encumbered boss, tells an ice fishing story with an ending you'll want to hear over and over.

The film will likely earn Oscar nods for best picture, screenplay, director, production design, costume design and makeup, as well as for at least two of its performances. Mr. Bale, who won an Oscar for Mr. Russell's "The Fighter"

(2010), gained more than 40 pounds for the role and shaved the top of his head while growing out the sides, thereby allowing the comb-over to feel authentic. It's a lived-in performance that hits every note. Seductive and beautiful, Ms. Adams is utterly convincing in every scene, while Ms. Lawrence, fresh off her Oscar for "Silver Linings Playbook," is in line for supporting actress for her loose-cannon turn as the crazy but beautiful estranged wife.

As for Mr. Cooper, who's the least talented of the four but certainly holds his own, he refused to get a perm but did come in two hours early every day to curl his hair. The Academy loves him, so don't be surprised if his name pops up in a relatively weak supporting actor category on nomination day.



Mr. Russell, who also directs, keeps the camera moving and vibrant, and he isn't afraid to inject a bit of symbolism wherever needed: Note the opening shot of Irving in a mirror, suggesting a duplicity to him regarding which side of the law he's truly on. It's always a treat to watch him toe the line on both sides, all the while knowing he's going to do whatever's best for him, morality be damned. Irving's journey — and all the wit, humor and suspense therein — is an absolute delight to watch, as is all of "American Hustle." This is one of the best — if not the best — films of the year. ■

in the know

>> "American Hustle" garnered seven Golden Globe nominations and two Screen Actors Guild nominations, including Best Ensemble, which is the guild's version of Best Picture (the other nom is for Jennifer Lawrence for supporting actress).

CAPSULES

'The Wolf of Wall Street'

★★★★½

Money, drugs and hookers are a dangerous combination for anyone. When put in the hands of a hotshot young stockbroker without a conscience, they can be deadly. In the case of Jordan Belfort (Leonardo DiCaprio), debauchery becomes a way of life. With morality nowhere to be found, he and his colleagues, especially his right-hand man Donnie (Jonah Hill), aren't easy people to like, but they are fun to watch. Rated R.

'Saving Mr. Banks'

★★★★

(Emma Thompson, Tom Hanks, Colin Farrell) Walt Disney (Mr. Hanks) and his creative team endure the difficulties of author P.L. Travers (Ms. Thompson) as they work to adapt her "Mary Poppins" into a movie. The "Poppins" pre-production scenes are a trip, especially for those who love that classic, but Ms. Travers' flashbacks to her childhood with her alcoholic father (Farrell) weigh the narrative down. Rated PG-13. ■

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Dance Party Begins
January 6th, 2014
Featuring Hal & Diane
6:30pm - 9:30pm



Advertorial

Not your typical car dealer

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Buying a car at the best of times is a stressful and often frustrating experience. Even with tools like CarFax and AutoCheck, the used car customer may not really have the information needed to make an informed decision.

One business is out to change that.

North Palm Beach resident Bill McLaughlin has come up with an alternative — one he hopes changes the way all of America shops for cars and trucks.

Mr. McLaughlin, the former president and CEO of Starwood Vacation Resorts, was looking for something post retirement to "get him out of the house" when he hit on a way to not only make money but help others.

"I've always been a car guy," he said.

Setting himself up as an auto manufacturer's representative, he began to attend closed auctions, buying as many as 15 off-lease vehicles at a time, mostly for Northeast dealerships looking for rust-free Florida cars. His client list grew to include new car dealers from New York to Georgia — dealers sold on Mr. McLaughlin's stringent testing and practice of charging the dealerships only \$500 over his cost.

He started AutoMax of America in 1992, scouring the country for luxury brands, transporting them to Florida then shipping them out as soon as possible.

"AutoMax doesn't look like your typical car lot," he said of the 5401 North Haverhill Rd #105 in West Palm Beach. "It looks more like a maintenance place with 30-50 cars set up to ship to different parts of the country. Through word of mouth and friends

of friends we started getting requests direct from the consumer and so we set up a website."

A car buyer can log on to automaxofamerica.com and enter in exactly the type of car he or she is looking for from color, make, options, model to mileage.

"I put in an order last Monday and we just picked up two trucks from Bill in less than a week," said Buddy Wittmann of Wittmann Building Corporation in Palm Beach. "There were only five of these trucks in the U.S. You couldn't ask for a more reliable and honest salesperson."

It takes about a week for Mr. McLaughlin to find the requested car. He charges consumers the same \$500 over wholesale fee he charges dealerships and if you are a veteran or in the military, the price is reduced to \$250.

"I have access to 100,000 to 150,000 cars every week," Mr. McLaughlin said. "I can find the exact car you are looking for. I charge less than what the dealerships charge in dealer's fees."

Mr. McLaughlin, who served four years in the military, was born in West Point. His father was an instructor there. He says he has been around the military his whole life and is committed to helping active service men and women, and veterans, find affordable cars.

"I don't make any money on those cars," he said. "It's hard to find a quality car for less than \$2,000. People don't realize how much work goes into what we do."

Mr. McLaughlin's cars come with the CarFax and AutoCheck reports in addition to his own condition report and post-sale inventory. He recommends all car buyers purchase extended service warranties because the cars he specializes in — BMW, Acura, Porsche, Mercedes-Benz, Lexus — can be expensive to service. If your warranty is about to expire or you don't have one - call and ask about our extended warranty service. For information, call 632-9093 ■

This article appeared in Florida Weekly on 10/11/2012.

ALEXIS BOSCH
Havana Vibes Featuring
E CUBAN JAZZ PROJECT

FRIDAY, JAN 10TH, 2014 | 8:00PM

Eissey Campus Theatre
PALM BEACH STATE COLLEGE

FOR TICKETS CALL 561-207-5900

11051 Campus Drive
Palm Beach Gardens, FL
(off PGA Blvd across from
The Gardens Mall)
C. 561-207-5900
Ticket Office open
Mon-Thurs 10-5



COURTESY PHOTO

Mochitsuki, or the pounding of the rice, is part of the festivities of Oshogatsu at the Morikami Museum in Delray Beach.

Morikami to mark New Year with 37th Oshogatsu Festival

It's the Year of the Horse.

Rest assured the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens in Delray Beach will trot out the appropriate festivities for the 37th annual Oshogatsu New Year's festival, set for 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Jan. 12.

The family festival offers activities for visitors of all ages.

This year, Oshogatsu will include:

- Mochitsuki, the pounding of the rice and making of mochi, large, round Japanese cakes.
- Shishimai, performances by the lion dancer; and taiko drumming by Fushu Daiko
- Musical performances by Friends of Koto;
- Omikuji, Japanese fortune telling (additional \$1 charge)
- Tea ceremony demonstrations, where participants observe the serenity of the Japanese Tea Ceremony

There also will be hands-on craft and kids' activities, a scavenger hunt, plus vendors selling crafts, plants and tea.

Visitors also can try their hand at a variety of games, including Go, Hanetsuki (similar to badminton), Daruma Otoshi (wood block game) and Fukuwarai (the Goddess of Happiness game).

In the museum's galleries, visitors can see the exhibitions, "Breaking Boundaries: Contemporary Street Fashion in

Japan" and "Contemporary K gei Styles in Japan."

Returning this year is the DIY Daruma Wall, in which visitors can write a wish and color in one eye of a daruma. If visitors participated at last year's celebration, they can find their wish and color in the other eye to show it came true.

Also returning: New Year's Story-Telling, with a colorful, kid-friendly rendition of the origin of the Japanese zodiac and its 12 different animals, told by the Japanese emperor himself; Exhibits @ Oshogatsu, with never before seen pieces from the museum's collection and a colorful chronology of Japan's most celebrated day of the year; exclusive Oshogatsu 2014 T-shirts courtesy of The Fine Print Shoppe. Visitors can bring their own T-shirt for a free screen print, or purchase a printed T-shirt for \$10; and a special presentation about the featured New Year's sake.

The Museum Store will raffle off a 12" Daruma doll and host a New Year's Shop in the lobby.

There will be a Kirin Beer Garden and Sake Station, and Cornell Café will be open. A variety of American and Japanese food will also be available from vendors throughout the festival grounds.

The Morikami is at 4000 Morikami Park Road, off Jog Road in Delray Beach. For information, call 495-0233 or visit www.morikami.org/newyear. ■

Seaview RADIO
95.9FM 106.9FM 960AM

Frank Sinatra Four Seasons Chicago The Beach Boys
Rod Stewart Michael Buble Boz Scaggs Bette Midler
The Beatles Billy Joel Bobby Darin Diana Ross
Neil Diamond Elton John The Eagles Dionne Warick

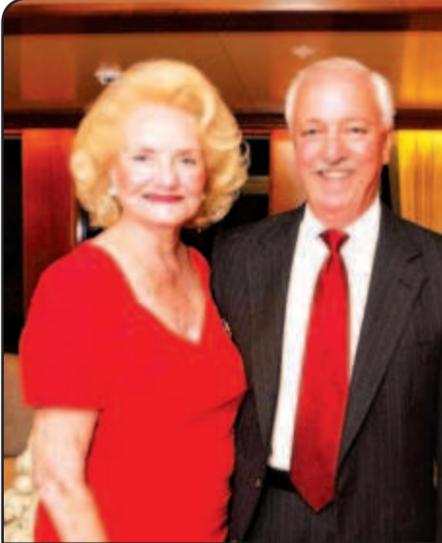
PUZZLE ANSWERS

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PALM BEACH SOCIETY

Red Cross Ball benefactor's reception, aboard Lady Kathryn V, Palm Beach



Beverly Yeager and Geoffrey Chappell



Jeff Greene, Mei Sze Greene, Mary Freitas and Mark Freitas



Charles Schumacher and Amanda Schumacher



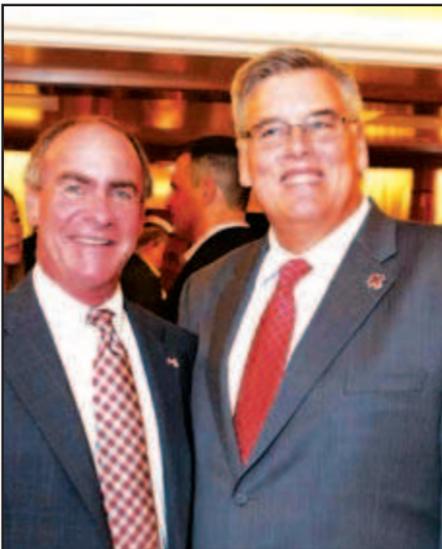
Gina Sabean and Jeff Sabean



Howard Kessler and Michele Kessler



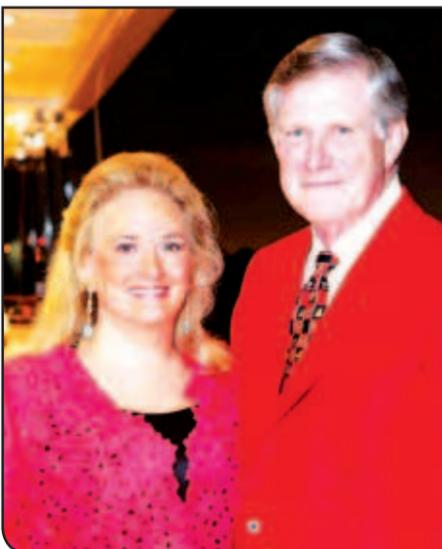
Herme de Wyman Miro and Mary Mochary



Jim Bronstien and Rob Levine



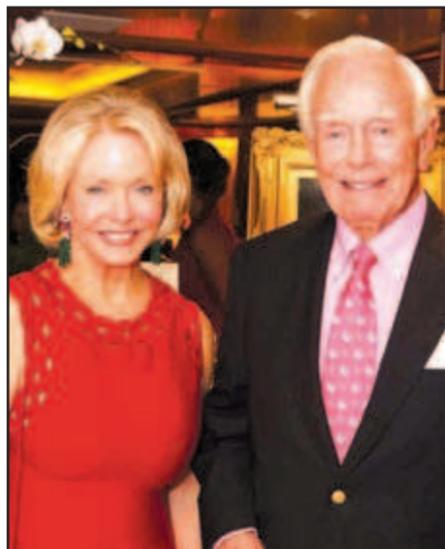
John Dominico and Susan Dominico



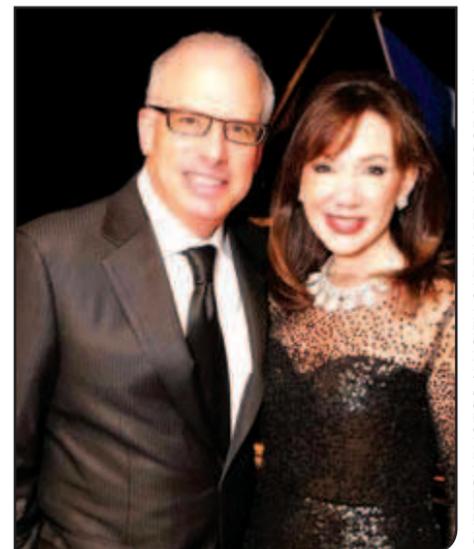
Kathryn Vecellio and Leo Vecellio



Mary Mahoney and Cesare Barro



Mary Ourisman and Mandy Ourisman



Mitchell Rubenstein and Laurie Silvers

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COURTESY PHOTOS / LUCIEN CAPEHART PHOTOGRAPHY

PALM BEACH SOCIETY

Dreyfoos School Prism Concert cocktail party, Kravis Center



Dr. Susan Atherley, Ian Lao, Sue and James Patterson, Maxwell Stein and Gabriella Mazzone



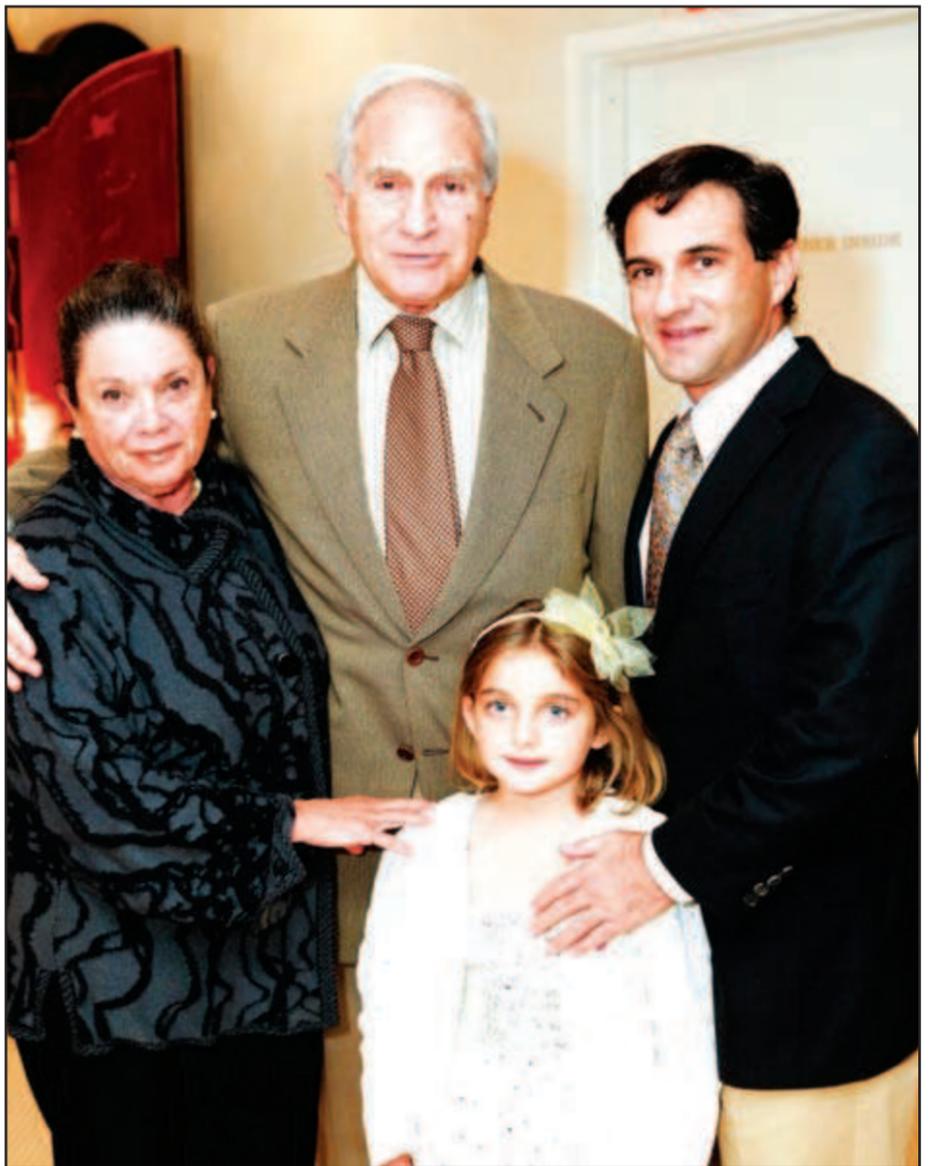
Joan Green, Howard Green and Ann Green



Christine Wang and Santo DiGangi



Dorothy Lappin and Merel Cayne



Linda Silpe and Don Silpe with Jay and Ava Silpe



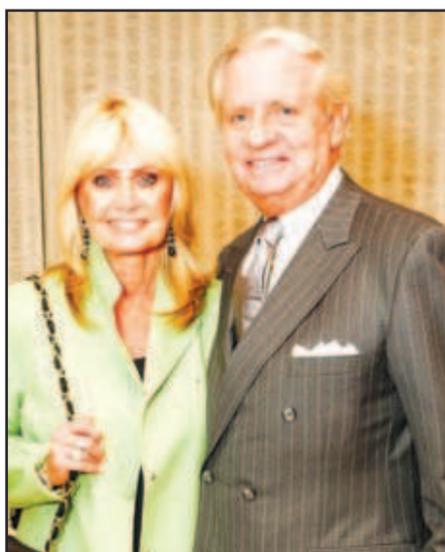
Jennifer Garrigues and Gil Cohen



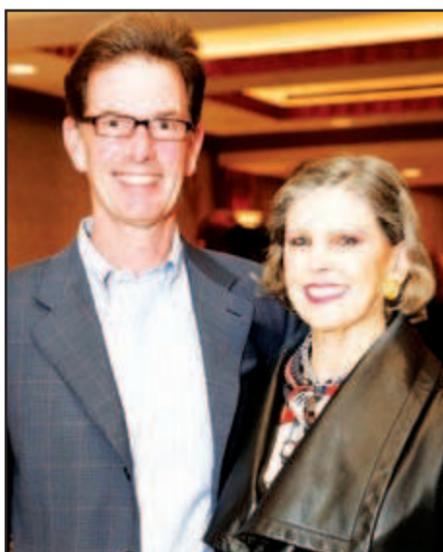
Judson Bennett and Josephine Bayard



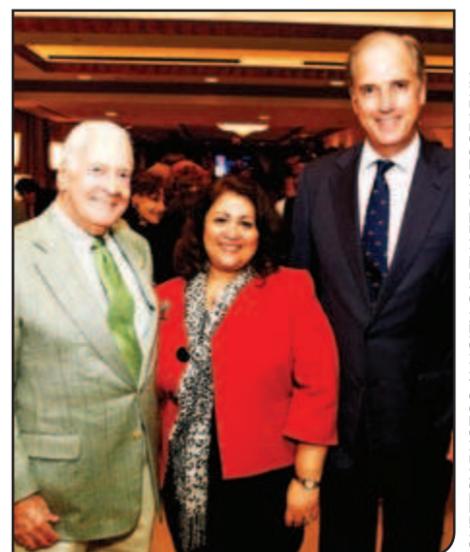
Lisa Marie Browne and Susan McGregor



Sonja Stevens and Mark Stevens



William Fritz and Donna Long



Simon Benson Offit, Lidya Mata and Peter Burrus

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COURTESY PHOTOS / LUCIEN CAPEHART PHOTOGRAPHY

VINO

Here's to drinking well, but frugally, in the New Year

jimmccracken

vino@floridaweekly.com



So you promised yourself you would not overspend this holiday season, but somehow things didn't work out quite as you planned.

As a result, perhaps one of your New Year's resolutions is to rein in your spending. I certainly hope you aren't considering cutting out wine in the process because you think you have to spend too much money to enjoy good wine. It simply isn't necessary to pay a lot to find highly drinkable wines.

So, in an effort to help you exercise fiscal responsibility without sacrificing gustatory pleasure, here are some value-priced wines that deliver on taste.

■ **Borsao Tres Picos Garnacha 2010 (\$18):** This full-bodied Spanish red starts off with aromas of ripe berry fruit and spice, and shows raspberry and blackberry flavors with good tannins and minerals on the longish finish.

■ **Bouchard Finlayson Crocodile's Lair Kaaimansgat Chardonnay 2012 (\$20):** Refreshingly crisp and medium bodied with peach and tropical aromas and flavors, joined on the palate with apple and ending with a balanced clean finish.

■ **Charles Smith Kung Fu Girl Evergreen Vineyard Washington 2012 (\$13):** Don't let the price, label or name put you off, as this riesling wine made the Wine Spectator Top 100 Wines (no. 51) in 2013.

Light and fruity with just a hint of sweetness, balanced by healthy acidity. Citrus and white peach flavors, clean minerality and a balanced acid finish.

■ **Chateau Ste. Michelle Horse Heaven Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc 2012 (\$16):** Crisp and clean with good body and balance, this single-vineyard release opens with floral and fresh pear notes that persist through to the spicy, long finish. Another great value from Washington.

■ **Cline Ancient Vines Zinfandel 2012 (\$15):** Rich aromas of strawberry with spice and chocolate flavors. Good fruit and spice flavors end with a long finish. Distinct complexity comes from the older vines used in this wine.

■ **D'Arenberg Stump Jump McLaren Vale 2011 (\$14):** Dark fruits and plums merge with blueberry and spice on the palate in this grenache-shiraz-mourvedre blend from Australia. It's well balanced with a mineral and tannin structure and a nice finish.

■ **Fontana Candida Frascati 2012 (\$12):** A blend of malvasia and trebbiano grapes, this light wine opens with apple and floral notes, with soft fruity flavors of pear and citrus and a clean finish.

■ **Hugel Gentil Alsace 2011 (\$14):** Pale lemon in color and with peach, apricot and rose aroma and a refreshing flavor of mixed stone fruit and citrus, this blend of six grapes gives a soft mouth feel and smooth finish with a touch of fruit and spice at the end.

■ **Kendall Jackson Vintners Reserve Chardonnay 2012 (\$15):** This ubiquitous chardonnay continues to bring value and



Left: Kung Fu Riesling; Above: Pine Ridge Chenin Blanc

quality after 20 years on the market. Tropical notes of papaya and mango mingle with aromas of honey and vanilla. A touch of toasted oak adds depth to the long finish.

■ **La Crema Chardonnay Sonoma Coast 2012 (\$17):** Bright gold color with orchard fruits and citrus on the nose, followed by lemon and spice in a buttery flavor. Rich tropical tones merge into a sustained fresh finish.

■ **Meiomi Pinot Noir 2011 (\$19):** Rich dark color with cherry and raspberry on the nose, merging with wild berry and spice on the palate and finishing with vanilla and spice on the long finish.

■ **Mulderbosch Cabernet Sauvignon Rose Coastal Region 2012 (\$13):** This value

wine from South Africa is a delicious rose made from cabernet sauvignon grapes aged in stainless steel. Fresh berry aromas and flavors mixed with floral notes with a bit of sweet fruit on the finish.

■ **Paul Blanck Riesling Classique Alsace 2012 (\$20):** This family-run winery has produced excellent wines ever since it was founded in 1610 and now uses screw caps exclusively in order to maintain freshness and fruit flavors. On the dry side, this light yellow wine has a floral and mineral aroma, followed in the mouth with pear, lemon and pineapple, and ending with a balanced mineral finish.

■ **Pine Ridge Chenin Blanc + Viognier California 2012 (\$12):** This interesting off-dry light white blend opens with floral and fruit notes of apple and honeydew that lead into crisp pear, pineapple and grapefruit flavors that continue onto the clean finish.

■ **Qupe Central Coast Syrah 2011 (\$20):** Dark red cherries and floral notes merge with plums in this medium-bodied red. Complex flavors from the multiple vineyards blend into a long smooth finish.

■ **Santa Rita Reserva Sauvignon Blanc 2011, Casablanca Valley, Chile (\$12):** This wine has a straw yellow color and distinct citrus and herbal aroma and flavors. Crisp acidity frames the clean finish.

■ **Seghesio Family Vineyards Zinfandel 2011 (\$20):** Black cherry and blackberry fruit aromas and flavors mix with wild berry and mineral on the palate, ending with a structured tannins on the finish. ■



SCOTT SIMMONS/FLORIDA WEEKLY

THE DISH

Highlights from local menus

The Dish: Vermicelli Noodle Salad

The Place: Vietnamese Express Café, 421 Northlake Blvd., North Palm Beach; 841-1313 or vietnameseexpresscafe.com

The Price: \$9.95

The Details: Vietnamese Express Café has reopened in a new location not far from its old one, and we are delighted for that.

Vietnamese food is among the most elegant fare from Asia.

Lighter than most Chinese, it is a bit more refined than Thai and has a few subtle French influences courtesy of its colonial legacy.

This vermicelli noodle salad is a classic.

The rice noodles sit atop fresh herbs, bean sprouts, shredded lettuce and cucumber. It's garnished with crushed toasted peanuts and scallions. It's served with sweet and sour house fish or scallion soy sauce.

We ordered ours topped with tender grilled chicken.

Also tasty: the black crushed pepper sauté served with chicken (\$10.95), a savory dish that set our palates on fire. Next time, we'll linger over a bowl of pho, the flavorful soup that seemingly is Vietnam's national dish. ■

— Scott Simmons

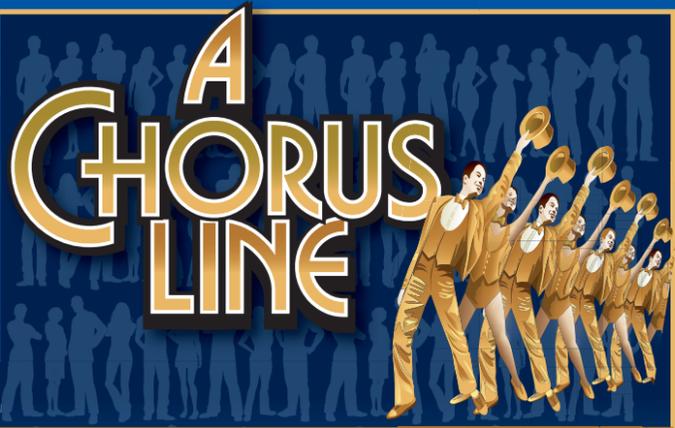
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GOT TALENT!

JANUARY 2 at 7:30PM

LET'S HANG ON

A TRIBUTE TO FRANKI VALLI
AND THE FOUR SEASONS



JANUARY 3 at 7:30PM

BENEFIT CONCERT

BRIAN STOKES MITCHELL
SIMPLY BROADWAY



THE MULTI-AWARD
WINNING BROADWAY,
TELEVISION AND FILM
ACTOR WITH A CAREER OF
MUSICAL VERSATILITY.

JANUARY 5 at 8:00PM

MASTERS OF MOTOWN



TAKE A TRIP
DOWN
MEMORY
LANE

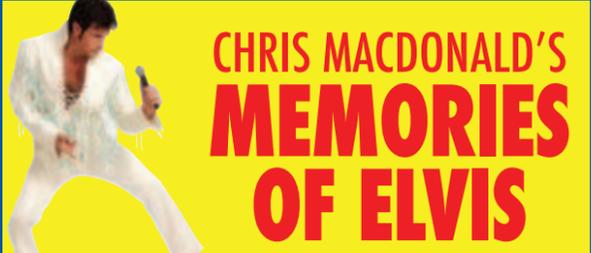
JANUARY 20 at 7:30PM

SWINGIN'



THE BEST
OF BIG BAND
SOUNDS
AND SWING

JANUARY 26 at 8:00PM



CHRIS MACDONALD'S
**MEMORIES
OF ELVIS**

JANUARY 27 at 7:30PM

SPENCERS



THEATRE OF
ILLUSION

FEBRUARY 4 at 7:30PM

CLYDE
MCPHATTER'S **THE DRIFTERS**



HEAR THE HITS:
"UNDER THE
BOARDWALK,"
"STAND BY ME,"
"THIS MAGIC MOMENT"

FEBRUARY 7 at 7:30PM

GLENN LEONARD'S
TEMPTATIONS *Revue*



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AND TIMELESS MUSIC

FEBRUARY 8 at 8:00PM

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SOMMERS**
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LIKE SHOW BUSINESS



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