“Polo is a very fast-paced, demanding game. When you’re out there, you don’t think about anything but hitting the ball and taking your man.”

—Jeff Hall, who plays on the Piaget team

“Pony Up”

Crowds can experience the thunder of the horses as they gallop past during polo matches.

Fashion reigns supreme but at International Polo Club it’s all about the game

BY SCOTT SIMMONS
ssimmons@floridaweekly.com

Polo is not about the Champagne.

And forget about the tailgating, though they’re both part of the scene.

No, it’s about a player, a horse, a mallet and a little ball.

“Polo is a very fast-paced, demanding game. When you’re out there, you don’t think about anything but hitting the ball and taking your man,” said Jeff Hall, who plays on the Piaget team.

And that’s exactly what Mr. Hall and other polo players

Milestone marks Bush foundation’s aim to expand literacy for all

BY STEPHANIE MURPHY-LUPO
Special to Florida Weekly

“If we don’t give everyone the ability to simply read and write, then we aren’t giving everyone an equal chance to succeed.”


Reading was and is the silk and straw of her inner fabric — literacy, the currency for riches of the mind.


A lifelong passion for reading led Mrs. Bush to worry about people who could not revel in such finds. One of her sons, Neil, struggled with reading as a child, and tests revealed he was dyslexic.

Thus, how not to lament that so many Americans were locked out of promise because they could not read books, newspapers or magazines? Parents who could not read a bedtime story to their children; or children raised by nonliterate parents, lagging behind classmates who could read.

For those children, the fallout is academic, psychological and social.

She took a special interest, delving into the technical nuances of “family literacy,”

INTERVIEW WITH BARBARA BUSH"}

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IN THE KNOW. IN THE NOW.
If your household is like mine, the holiday seasons begin with the chore to excavate multiple boxes from their place of exile in the attic or over the garage. Fortunately, I have managed to stay out of that part of the process, relying on my spouse and the unfortunate fellow he shanghaies into helping him, usually our son. However, the day labor got smarter as he got older about avoiding the task and most especially the tricky part, teetering on a high step ladder, while shutting a heavy container half his size to the floor. He developed an uncanny knack of disappearing when the time came to do the deed. That said, once the many plastic bales came safely to rest at my feet, it was my turn to take over.

The containers and their contents are a long stroll down memory lane celebrating our family’s Christmas traditions. I pop that first top off and let the years. There is a pair of beaten-up capsule, full of things accumulated over better days, and numerous angels looking for a journey. Some of the baubles have seen hours later, I am still at it, deep in the edition. I will be “home alone” for the holidays; but, unlike the movies of that name, it is we, the parents, who are left behind by the kid. Our son recently moved to the west coast and even we cannot justify his return after being gone just two weeks. Our family is most likely in distant places, too; and the logistics of travel complicated, the younger generation busily creating their own traditions. Nonetheless, I am satisfied my bird is out of the nest; and several hours of writing cards with personal notes to family and friends provide an inner glow. I imagine their surprise at receiving an actual holiday card, transported to them by old-fashioned snail mail, and enjoying a personal message written in long hand with a real ink pen by someone who holds their affection. Sending greeting cards is old school I know; but then so is receiving a letter from that certain someone in the North Pole and that never gets old.

This will also be the first year there is not a 25-pound pound country ham submerged in a tub of water as the first step of its ritual preparation. Country ham has long been the centerpiece of our holiday table. I am not talking about just any ole ham; I am talking about the quintessential, salt cured, two-year-old country ham that has gone through the summer sweets, nursed toward its prime by a sage farmer who knew his way around a smoke house and a prime hog from a porky pig. My tattered cookbook holds all the secrets about how one turns this mold-encrusted anatomy into a sublime, thinly sliced, melt-in-your-mouth, mahogany-red piece of hog heaven. I recorded the recipe for future generations much in the same way we preserve in our last will and testament our wishes with regard to our most precious possessions.

It took years to find the correct cooking apparatus with which to soak and then simmer a ham of this size. I found it in an antique store, a very large copper clad pot, over 30 inches deep, longer than it is wide, sufficient to stretch across two burners; and of course, big enough to handle a very large, whole ham. It came with a lid, too, which was pretty much of a miracle.

While I cannot reveal the secrets regarding the ham’s preparation, I can tell you the process requires four days from start to finish, a wire brush, many gallons of water, a stack of newspapers, a bottle of Ale-8, a heavy blanket, a box of Wheaties, brown sugar and a very sharp knife.

For those skeptical that anything good can come of this, be advised I have eaten enough bad ham to know the difference between the tough, salt-ridden version and the version that moves the culinary heavens. I knew as a young bride I had won my place in this higher plane of being when we received a Kentucky country ham as a gift from my husband’s family our second Christmas together. During our first Christmas together, I was put to the test and served up a perfect slice of a familiar ham lovingly prepared by his uncle. Easy to say, and all these years later, I remain a devoted convert.

— Leslie Lilly is a native Floridian. Her professional career spans more than 25 years leading major philanthropic institutions in the South and Appalachia. She writes frequently on issues of politics, public policy and philanthropy, earning national recognition for her leadership in the charitable sector. She resides with her family and pugs in Jupiter. Email her at lillyes@gmail.com and follow Lilly on Twitter @lillyES.

Home Alone

leslieLILLY
lillyes@gmail.com

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Surgeons at Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center now have an extra set of hands with the da Vinci® Surgical System. This four-armed robot, controlled by your surgeon, performs complex gynecologic, prostate and colorectal surgeries through just a few tiny incisions — only 8 to 12mm in size — or in some cases, like gall bladder removal, a single incision in the belly button. All of this is designed to result in less discomfort, shorter hospital stays and quicker recovery times.

To learn more or for a referral to one of our robotic surgeons, please call (561) 625-5070.
The Senate Intelligence Committee spent roughly $50 million on its investigation into the CIA and apparently couldn’t find Michael Hayden’s phone number.

The committee portrays Gen. Hayden, the former CIA director, as a liar who deceived Congress about the agency’s interrogation program, yet the committee couldn’t be bothered to interview him.

That’s because the committee, led by California Democrat Dianne Feinstein, didn’t bother to interview anyone. The committee didn’t want to include anything that might significantly complicate its cartoonish depiction of a CIA that misled everyone so that it could maintain a secret prison system for the hell of it.

The Feinstein report scores some points. It makes plain that the CIA program wasn’t adequately controlled, especially at the beginning, that it went too far, and that the agency became too invested in defending it.

But the thrust of the report is devoted to the proposition that torture, or harsh interrogation, never works. This is important to cast doubt on the CIA program because they are almost never willing to say that torture is wrong and that we should never do it — even if it sometimes works and potentially saves lives. They lack the moral conviction to make a case solely on results.

Even though its executive summary runs more than 500 pages, the report isn’t as coherent a context, specifically as an account of the post-Sept. 11 environment in which nearly everyone expected another attack and wanted to do everything possible to avoid it. This is why the likes of the impeccably liberal Jay Rockefeller, vice chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, could say after we captured Khalid Sheikh Mohammed in 2003 that we should be “very tough with him.”

The harsh methods that the CIA adopted didn’t, in isolation, shock the conscience. There’s no point, for instance, about throwing someone up against a flexible wall, grabbing and slamming him, keeping him in a tight space or slapping him that is clearly out of bounds.

It’s cumulative, over an extended period — as with Abu Zubaydah — that the methods take on a different complexion. Reasonable people can disagree about whether we went over the line of what we should do to anyone in any circumstance. The commitment of this report to cast doubt against the CIA program, the Feinstein report implausibly asserts that it had no benefits whatsoever.

It points out, as though it settles something, that terrorists lied when they talked about the CIA and coerced interrogations. Of course, terrorists also lied when they weren’t subjected to coercive interrogations. It is anybody’s guess whether the CIA program produced 100 percent truthfulness, but whether it produced intelligence that otherwise wouldn’t have been available as quickly or at all.

The overall contention of the report is that we would have achieved the same results in the war on terror with less information, rather than more. Not only does that defy common sense, it is a bet no one would have been willing to make in 2002.

No one has heeded 10 years ago that it would be considered more in keeping with American values to rely on drones rather than capture them and ask them questions under duress.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
THE TREE HAS BEEN TRIMMED.
THE PRESENTS ARE WRAPPED.
THE FEAST IS COOKING.
NOW’S THE TIME TO RELAX AND ENJOY MERRIMENT WITH LOVED ONES.
ON THIS SPECIAL DAY, THE MALL WILL REMAIN CLOSED.

THE GARDENS MALL WOULD LIKE TO WISH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON.

THE GARDENS MALL

PEACE.
PET TALES

Like cats and dogs

Use diplomacy and common sense to moderate pet disputes

The idea that pets fight like, well, cats and dogs, is a popular one, but it’s not always grounded in reality. We’ve known plenty of pets who had interspecies friendships, sharing a bed or sofa, grooming each other and playing together. Even when animals aren’t best buds, they often coexist comfortably, tolerating each other’s presence with little fuss.

But conflict can bubble up any time people live with more than one animal of any species. Maybe one is old and grouchy, while the other is a young whip-pensnapper. Or, one is bossy and the other is too mild-mannered to stand up for herself. Whatever the case, the secret to helping them get along is to understand their behavioral differences and work to meet the needs of each of them. Here we take a look at four situations that can cause problems, along with tips to help all of you live in harmony.

Conflict resolution call for good management. In most cases, the secrets to conflict resolution are the cornerstones of our concept.

The easiest solution is to purchase duplicates, so there’s one for everybody. You should also teach the “give it” or “drop it” command so you can remove the bone of contention and put it away when pets fight over it.

With resources such as your time and attention, try to do fun things together at the same time with each pet. Take dogs on walks together, pet animals at the same time and give treats at the same time.

Battle of the bed. Who gets to share your sleeping quarters when a new pet moves in? An animal who is used to sharing beds, toys or other high-value objects, one pet may lay claim to an item the other wants.

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PNC sponsors Honda Classic 5K at PGA National on Jan. 17

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

PNC Bank will be the presenting sponsor of the annual Honda Classic 5K, a recreational run around the back nine of The Champion course at PGA National Resort & Spa.

The 2015 edition of the race will be run Jan. 17 at 7:30 a.m. along the cart paths of the course, home to The Honda Classic, one of the premier events each year on the PGA TOUR, the organizers announced in a statement.

All net proceeds from the Honda Classic 5K will continue to benefit Seagull Services, which for 35 years has provided educational, residential and work programs for teens and adults with intellectual disabilities.

Seagull’s programs include a public charter high school, Seagull Academy for Independent Living; an adult vocational program, Seagull Achievement Center of the Palm Beaches; and two adult residential programs, Seagull Place and Seagull Ranch.

“We couldn’t be more excited than we are to be partnering with a prestigious organization such as PNC Bank to grow the impact of The Honda Classic 5K from both participatory and charitable standpoints,” Honda Classic Executive Director Kenneth R. Kennerly said in the statement. “Runners throughout the area look forward to the run around the beautiful back nine of our tournament course and the event has made an impactful contribution to the efforts at Seagull Services.”

The bank also believes in the power of fun and engaging programs like the Honda Classic 5K to cultivate a thriving community by emphasizing the importance of developing the next generation of healthy and fit young people.

“By supporting young men and women in their pursuit of physical endurance, we help to broaden their opportunities for social and athletic mobility, while supporting the cultural vibrancy of this region,” said PNC Bank Regional President Cressman Bronson, in the statement. “We consider the Honda Classic 5K and Seagull Services to be community assets well worth PNC’s commitment. The race not only reinforces the Honda Classic’s significant investment in young people, but teaches them about the importance of staying active, while having fun.”

The Honda Classic 5K was conceived by Gerard Conforti, Seagull Services board president, and Mr. Kennerly. The two met when their sons were playing junior golf together. Mr. Kennerly recruited Mr. Conforti to work with The Honda Classic and Mr. Conforti became impressed with how much the tournament was concerned about giving back to the community. When Mr. Conforti’s daughter began running 5Ks, he suggested to Seagull that a race might be a new way to raise funds. He then approached Kennerly about doing the event in conjunction with The Honda Classic.

For further details, sponsorship information and online registration, visit thehondaclassic.com.
certainly not for a good while). John can’t wish away the impact of the drunken one-night stand that occurred on last week’s business trip. It happened! Now he must figure out how he is going to deal with it. Was this a one-time only occurrence? If so, he is left with the dilemma of whether to tell his spouse or the burden of carrying such a secret. Or is this the beginning of a new pattern of behavior? Either way his marriage has been greatly challenged.

Steve refused to listen to his wife, Sarah, when she warned him against a shady business deal. She was very clear that she didn’t trust the other investors. He can’t bring himself to tell her that they took a huge hit and that the lost funds came from their children’s college fund. For most of us, carrying regrets can be a burden that undermines our ability to feel good about ourselves. We may torment ourselves mercilessly and stay stuck in a miserable place.

Our feelings of regret can often serve as a moral compass that can guide us in a direction we can feel proud of. If we are able to shift gears, we might be able to consider regret as an opportunity to learn more about ourselves and mobilize our inner resources to make important decisions about our personal life. Susan’s regret, for example, might be instructive in helping her to reach out to her mother in a different way. If she is self-reflective, she may acknowledge that she is often impatient and sarcastic. Knowing that she has hurt her mother deeply can be the catalyst to hold her tongue and to overlook some of her mother’s irritation, but harmless mannerisms.

If she really is willing to take on a self-improvement ‘holistic way of life, she may stop to consider that she speaks this way to other important people in her personal life, and it’s a good time to make changes across the board! If John elects to look his regret in the eye, it might prompt him to tackle a huge moral dilemma. Preserving one’s integrity while considering the self-respect and feelings of loved ones goes a long way. There are many ways to address hurt and dissatisfaction in a relationship. John’s complicated feelings might propel him to consider the direction he wants to take in his marriage, while simultaneously making important decisions about his personal sense of integrity.

Unfortunately, Steve learned a bit too late and cannot recoup the lost income. He may need some time to grieve the losses and to forgive himself for the mistake that will have serious repercussions for his family. Taking steps to rectify his financial irresponsibility may help him to get on the fast track to his goal. Telling his wife the full truth will probably take some courage, but will be better for them in the long run.

Fortunately, there are steps we can all take that can relieve the burden of regrets.

We might need some time to grieve the losses and the negative consequences of our actions. Reliving the guilt, sadness or anger will allow us to experience these feelings fully and will be an important step in moving forward. Asking ourselves if there are things we could have done differently and being accountable is critically important. And, of course, it would be helpful to reflect on the true motives for our behavior. If we remain stuck in our hearts and minds, and helps us avoid repeating foolish mistakes, then something positive has come from our hearts and minds.

Talking things through in a heartfelt way and sincerely apologizing may clear the air. It is unreasonable to expect another person to forgive us right away, so we must be patient and fair. We will need to give them the opportunity to process our apologies, at their own pace, and in their own way. We must remind ourselves that there are things that cannot be undone. Dwelling on things that are out of our control keeps us stuck in a self-defeated place. Coming up with a positive direction might offer some hope and encouragement. Focusing on things that make us feel good about ourselves might help rebuild self-confidence. Ultimately, we must find a way to let go of the anguish and to finally forgive ourselves.

As the New Year approaches, many of us review the events of the past year and are tormented by the “what ifs” and the “if onlys.” We size up our accomplishments, and spend far too much time beating ourselves up for the lost opportunities.

What if I had called him… Should I have passed over that job offer… If only I had treated her better… And on, and on, and on.

The dictionary describes regret as a sense of loss, disappointment, dissatisfaction, or a feeling of sorrow or remorse for a fault or act. Regrets come in all sizes. Some we can undo; Janice beat herself up for wolfdling down the leftover cheesecake after promising herself she would stick to her diet. The good news, in her case, is that tomorrow is another day and she is aware of how her weight has been negatively affected. We all carry regrets, and they can turn into the loss of a job, a bad relationship, a lost opportunity. The way his marriage has been greatly challenged.

A lot, unfortunately, we can’t undo, at least not immediately; Susan can’t take back the hurtful words she said to her mother in an angry outburst. Although she can try to undo the damage, if she chooses to, by apologizing and approaching the topic differently, she will not be able to take away the hurt seared in her mother’s memory.
Time is running out to experience this boutique development. Nestled on 4 beachfront acres with only 34 luxurious residences, Dolcevita offers Italian inspired architecture, exceptional floor plans, and resort-style amenities. Only 6 remain. Offered from $795,000 - $1,650,000.
PONY UP

From page 1

will be doing as season begins Jan. 4 at
the International Polo Club Palm Beach in
Wellington.

A tony crowd will
fill the stands and line
the fields as the play-
ers fight for control
of the ball.

“Everything zones out and you’re play-
ing a game. You’re
trying to focus,” said
Kris Kampsen, a six-
goal player who grew
up in Tampa and
turned pro at 15. “When you’re driving
into the fields, you see the crowds.”

The players are in the zone.

“There’s a lot going on. You’re on top
of the animal and you’re going at high
speeds. You don’t
have a chance to do
anything else,” Mr.
Hall said.

Not that he would
want to.

Neither Mr. Hall
nor Mr. Kampsen can
imagine himself doing
anything else.

Mr. Hall, 35, started
playing professionally
when he was 12.

“We love it here,” he said. “I’ve been
coming here for 22 years now, and basi-
cally it’s where the world wants to be at
this time of the year.”

Especially the players.

“From the time I could walk it’s all I
wanted to do,” Mr. Kampsen said.

John Wash, president of club opera-
tions, seconded that.

“It’s a very tough, demanding sport you
can learn at any age,” he said. “It’s one of
those games that once you play, you’re
hooked. I consider it an extreme sport.”

It’s not just guys on horses.

“You’re on this 1,200- to 1,400-pound
animal going 35 miles per hour. There’s
a lot of pushing and shoving trying to
hit this little ball. It’s probably one of
the most physically demanding sports to
play,” he said.

The fans feed off of that.

“We play a little over 200 games of polo
here in a season, which runs January to mid-
April,” Mr. Wash said. “People think of polo
as the pomp and circumstance that is a big
Sunday 3 p.m. game where you don’t know
who’s going to be here, whether it’s celebri-
ties or whatever, and it’s a Champagne-divot
stomp and large crowds.”

Perhaps that’s the most visible part of
the season.

“Any other day, you can just come out
here and call the polo hotline and we
could be playing two or three games on
the property and you can just pull your
car up, tailgate and enjoy the action. We’re
accessible all the time,” he said.

During a visit to polo grounds off-
season, the space was quiet. Empty, the
vast clubhouse seemed even larger than
it does on Sunday afternoon during high
season, when anywhere from 3,000 to
18,000 people fill the grounds to see their
favorite teams play.

“We take a Sunday crowd and I
look at it, there are those who are here
for the love of the sport. Then Sunday, to
me, is a social function,” Mr. Wash said.

“There’s a whole other group where polo
is in the background and the party is here.
There are those who are into the glam
and the fashion and the Champagne and
the extravagant brunch to be seen and see
who’s here.”

Judging from the photos, the fans’ fash-
ions can be pretty amazing.

Mr. Wash laughed as he recounted a
photo shoot he did in which he sported
yellow trousers and a plaid blazer.

“You’ll see everything from casual blue
jeans to the Sunday finest,” he said. “I can
describe what goes on on a Sunday but
until you’re here, you have no idea. Once
you’re here and once you leave, you’ll
never forget.”

It’s a gathering place for families, too.

“There are so many guests who are
looking to do something different other
than the beach or shopping. We’ll have
people drive over from Naples for a
Sunday polo match,” Mr. Wash said. “It’s
almost become like a tradition for those

GARDENS/JUPITER FLORIDA WEEKLY
Kelly Feldman and Lisa Edwards sport fancy chapeaux during a polo match.

who are looking for a festival. It’s not all about polo for those visitors, either.

“There’s a big family environment. For a lot of the tailgate people, the tailgate has been in the family 12 years now,” Mr. Wash said, painting a visual of families picnicking as kids fly kites and play bocci ball. “It’s got that family atmosphere. It’s just loaded for everybody.”

This year, “everybody” includes the Gay Polo League, which will hold its tournaments the first week of April.

“They’ve attracted large, large crowds. We’re glad to have them here. It’s going to be a good showing,” Mr. Wash said. “The polo players have gotten behind it. You don’t have to be gay to play on the polo team. It’s something that’s been supported by the whole team.”

So, polo has fashion, food, Champagne, and even a celebrity or two — Bo Derek was among the visitors last season.

But a Sunday afternoon at International Polo Club still is about that fabled sport of kings.

“Polo is a pretty small group of people. You’re always excited to play with a new team, but you’re always excited to play against your friends,” said Mr. Hall, the polo player.

Mr. Kampsen, who spoke by phone from Aspen, Colo., where he was participating in the 2014 USPA Flaget World Snow Polo Championship, said he considers it a privilege to play in Wellington.

“IT’S THE ONLY SPORT THAT YOU’RE SITTING FIELD-SIDE, OR TAILGATING FIELD-SIDE. YOU’RE RIGHT THERE, FEET FROM THE ACTION,” he said.

Mr. Wash puts it best: “You can feel the thunder of the hoofs as eight horses are running by you.”

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Open 24 hours, 7 days a week
Kinetic-Connections invites everyone to clear out their junk drawers, office and garage to make space for the New Year while becoming part of a county-wide art project.

The project is a chance for everyone to be part of an “art intervention” that will temporarily transform a historic kapok tree into a kinetic sculpture during the International Kinetic Art Exhibit & Symposium in February, the organizers said in a statement.

Through Dec. 31, anyone can bag up and bring miscellaneous small objects to one of the countywide Kinetic-Connections drop locations.

Each object should be no larger than your hand and have a hole so that artist Elayna Toby can string contributed items into twirling strands that will hang from the branches of the 65-foot kapok tree at Ocean Avenue and Seacrest Boulevard in Boynton Beach.

Sample items to contribute include keys, belts, curtain rings, bits of hardware, jewelry, belt buckles, small housewares, etc.

In addition to dropping off contributed objects, the community is invited to take a 30-second video selfie talking about the items, and send the video to Elayna Toby at tobyarts1@gmail.com. Elayna Toby Art will compile the community’s “stories of stuff” videos for display near the kapok tree during the International Kinetic Art Exhibition and Symposium, Feb. 6-8.

Drop Box Locations:
• Artisans on the Ave, 630 Lake Ave, Lake Worth.
• Boynton Beach City Hall — West Wing, 100 E. Boynton Beach Blvd., Boynton Beach.
• Resource Depot, 2510 Florida Ave., West Palm Beach.
• Go Van Gogh, 11701 Lake Victoria Gardens Ave., Downtown at the Gardens, Palm Beach Gardens.

To watch a quick video explaining the project, sample “stories of stuff” video selfies from past Kinetic-Connections community workshops, or for more information, visit elaynatobyart.com/kinetic-connections or facebook.com/elaynatobyart.
### Mirasol’s On-Site Sales Leader

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KOVEL: ANTIQUES

Grandfather clock’s chiming ring in the new year

BY TERRY KOVEL AND KIM KOVEL

The sound of chimes ringing 12 times at midnight blankets the with the “B9, 8, 7,...” chant that ushers in the new year on Jan. 1. Today we may watch the year change on TV or online, but the tradition of the celebration was timed by a chiming grandfather clock. Even earlier, new years were marked with a loud bell in steeples or the city hall tower. Before that, time was judged by daylight and darkness, and summer and winter climates.

Today the cell phone is always handy to let you know exactly what it is. The grandfather clock was originally known as a tall case, longcase or floor clock. The 6- to 8-foot-tall clock has a weight-driven pendulum. It was invented in 1670 or so. In the early 20th century, it was the most accurate timepiece available. There are two types: the expensive eight-day clock that has to be wound once a week, and the less-expensive 30-hour clock that has to be wound once a day. An unusually large 1880 carved mahogany clock, 107 inches high and made by J. Elliot of London, sold in September 2014 at Neal Auction Co. in New Orleans. The clock has elaborate carving, fretwork, rosewood panels with inlaid china, and a brass-and-onyx swan bookstand. To tell the accurate time for New Year Eve, it must be placed in a room with a high ceiling (over 9 feet) and leveled.

Q: My four-piece bedroom suite includes a headboard, dresser, chest of drawers and nightstand. Each piece is marked with a triangle, a large letter “K” and “Korn Industries, Incorporated, Sumter Cabinet Company.” It’s solid oak and in excellent condition. What price could I ask?

A: Sumter Cabinet Co. was a division of Korn Industries. Chester Korn started a lumber company and sawmill in Cincin- nati in 1889 to make buggy parts and other wood products. The company moved to Kentucky and South Carolina in 1921. Bedroom furniture was first made in the 1930s and dining room furniture in 1980. The company was sold in 2000 to Chromecraft Reving- ton, which continued to use the name until about 2006. The price of used bedroom furniture depends on style, quality, condition and age. It probably can only be sold locally, because shipping is expensive. It should be priced as a bargain, about half the cost of a new set.

Q: How much is a bottle of Dom Perignon vintage champagne worth? I bought a 1995 bottle, 750 ml in its original box.

A: An unopened bottle of Dom Perignon vintage 1995 in its box is worth about $275 to $280. Empty, the bottle could sell for about $12 and the box for less than $10. Remember that in some states, you need a special license to sell bottled alcohol.

Q: Every time I visit my aunt, she asked me to polish her fancy silver tea-and-coffee service. When she died, she left a trunk that includes a teapot, coffeepot, creamer, sugar bowl and waste bowl. Each piece is elaborately decorated, and each lid is topped by a pleats finial. My aunt said she bought the set, which she thought was sterling, from an antiquities dealer. The trunk has a large mirror over it. The bottom of the mirror is a circle surrounding the words “Meriden B Company.” Also inside the circle is an image of a balance scale between two stars. Who are the people, and what is the set worth?

A: Meriden Britannia Co. was organized in 1852 in Meriden, Conn., by broth- ers Horace (1824-1899) and Dennis (1828-1886) Wilcox and several other partners. Although its first products were made of Britannia metal ( pewter), the compa- ny was making silver-plated hollowware or silver 1885. Your silver-plated (not sterling) set probably dates from the 1880s or 70s. In excellent condition, it could sell for over $1,000.

This very elaborate mahogany tall case clock with nine tubes and two different chiming dates from around 1890. It auctioned recently for $13,743 at Neal Auction Co. in New Orleans.

Q: I have a plastic clown bank in its original box. It must be about 25 years old. The clown is 12 inches tall and is wearing a red nose and white polka-dot shirt, yellow pants and orange shoes and hat. When you put a coin in his right hand and lift his left arm, the coin falls into his mouth. The box reads, “The more coins he eats, the bigger his belly gets.” Its marked “J.S.N.Y.” How much is it worth?

A: The initials stand for “Jeffrey Snyder & New York,” a company that made and imported giftware, housewares and toys. It was founded in New York in 1975, but had operations in many countries. It was part of Ema Products Co., a New York firm founded in 1945. The clown bank shows up online for about $15 without the box and for $30 with the original box.

Tip: Clocks should be cleaned and lubricated every five years.

— Terry Kovel and Kim Kovel answer questions sent to the column. By send- ing 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 pho- tographs, 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.

Language of love

People advertising for love interests via online dating sites have apparently become picky about how they describe their sexuality. To the usuals (male, female, gay, heterosexual), “queer” (not quite “gay,” either), “asexual,” “androgynous,” “gender non-binary,” “transman,” “transsexual,” “heteroflexible” and “sapiensexual” (turned on by “intel- ligence”). Still, some users of the site found the choices inadequate. One young woman described her sexual orientation as “squiggly,” and the reporter cited others who thought highly of that term.

Bright ideas

Britain’s Home Office revealed in November (by releasing archived docu- ments from 1982) that among the contin- gency suggestions for worst-case nuclear attack on the country was commission- ing “psychopaths” to help keep order. They are “very good in crises,” an advo- cate wrote, because “they have no feel- ing for the consequences of their actions and do not live idyllic lives, according to do anything they want to do, whatever that might develop in the event parts of the kingdom became lawless. (After an apparently thoughtful debate, the sug- gestion was not agreed to.)

Great Art! At a recent art show at Paris’ Palais de Tokyo, Italian artist Sven Sachsalber, for his provocative piece, brought in a large haystack on Nov. 13.

Ironies

Three homes on the Pacific Ocean near Grayland, Wash., were washed away near Grayland, Wash., were washed away in violent rainstorms in early December, 2014. Those seem like the worst of it coming. The longtime local name for the area is “Washaway Beach.” Said one, “I knew it would happen.” Another said, “I had hoped it wasn’t this soon.”

In November, an airline’s advertis- ing staff created the catchy slogan to attract impulse travelers; “Want to go somewhere, but don’t know where?” and convinced management to send it, via Twitter, to the airline’s thousands of fol- lowers. (Spoiler: The airline was Malay- sia Airlines, whose Flight 370 still has not been found.)

A theatrical producer in Madrid found a way around Spain’s recent steep sales tax increase on certain entertain- ment venues (sports, movies, live thea- ter). It sold back issues of vintage por- nographic magazines for the equivalent of a 278th payment to actually “own” Tresor. Franco, the magazine he was after, is a threat, required “daily exercise,” “regular bathing and grooming” and “immediate” replacements of its publisher’s “waste.” A spokes- person for the store, Oceanside Puppy (which works with four finance compa- nies), the San Diego Union-Tribune noted that the arrangement is fairly standard now for expensive pets.

By Chuck Shepherd

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First-world problems

Nick Stoltz, who now reported in December the “heartbeat” parents are feeling when they learn that the supposedly unique name (“wonder- ful, distinctive, rarely heard”) they had given their infant in the last year or two (e.g., “Mason,” “Liam,” “Lily”) actually appeared on BabyCenter’s annual list of most popular names of 2014 (6th, 3rd and 8th, respectively).

After hearing tenants’ complaints, the New York City Council is now con- sidering a regulation requiring landlords to post notices if a common area or ame- nie is unusable for 24 hours or more — whether it be a room to store toys and laundry rooms, but would also extend to any air hockey or foosball facilities in the building.

Perspective

Although elephants, rhinos mon- keys, cows, and water buffalo are regarded as sacred by many of India’s Hindus, the animals most certainly do not live idyllic lives, according to a November BBC News dispatch. As “growing populations are swallowing up habitats,” the divine symbols are forced to the cities, where they must dodge traf- fic, forage for garbage, and endan- ger themselves encountering people less certain of their holiness (such as in the case of the former temple elephant living as a street pet and tourist attraction at an ATM in Delhi). As rep- resentatives of Lord Ganesh, elephants are revered. They cannot be hunted, but otherwise must navigate asphalt and potholes that tear up their hooves. In November (in India), because Ganesh was depicted riding a mouse,
Mandel JCC of the Palm Beaches adds staff, promotes employees

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The Mandel JCC of the Palm Beaches, with locations in Palm Beach Gardens and Boynton Beach, has announced the addition of four new employees, as well as six promotions.

The Mandel JCC hired Lori Geiger, Talya Lerman, Arielle Nakdimon and Danny Salmon. In addition, current employees Jaime Baum, Toby Feller, Meg Nagel, Stephanie Rubin, Emily Teck and Janna Zaidspiner were promoted to new positions.

Lerman oversees the JCC’s annual book festival, the 92nd Street Y live webcasts and other activities throughout the year. Baum’s passion for working with teens first started when she became involved in Young Judaea in sixth grade. She has participated in a year-long Young Judaea program in Israel and spent five summers working at Camp Young Judaea Midwest, where she realized her passion for working with teens.

Toby Feller was promoted to Chief Program Officer/Senior Vice President of the Mandel JCC of the Palm Beaches. In this role, Feller will strengthen and enhance programming at the Mandel JCC by building relationships and collaborating with other agencies in the community.

Lori Geiger was hired as the Cultural Arts Director. She has been heavily involved in the South Florida cultural arts scene for more than two decades, both as an independent curator and as an affiliate for local nonprofits.

Meg Nagel was promoted to the Boynton Beach Children’s Program Coordinator. In her new position, she coordinates the after-school program, early release days, Camp Shalom days, winter camp, spring camp and all other children's events in her department.

Arielle Nakdimon was hired as the Boynton Beach Community Outreach Manager. Nakdimon will be responsible for the development and growth of local awareness projects, as well as community engagement in activities at the Mandel JCC. Stephanie Rubin was promoted to the Program and Family Engagement Coordinator and Camp Shalom Jr. Director.

Danny Salamon was hired as the Palm Beach Gardens Children’s Coordinator. In his new role, Salamon will create and organize dynamic children’s programs to increase awareness and participation.

Emily Teck, who is widely recognized for her ability to educate through her music, was recently promoted to the Boynton Beach Jewish Education Director.

Janna Zaidspiner was promoted to Director of Membership & Community Outreach. In this new role, Zaidspiner represents the Mandel JCC in the community, as well as engaging potential members, sponsors, affiliates and donors. Zaidspiner previously served as a Senior Development Associate of the Mandel JCC of the Palm Beaches.

The Mandel JCC Palm Beach Gardens is at 5221 Hood Road. The Mandel JCC Boynton Beach is at 8500 Jog Road.

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To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report call toll-free 1-866-274-7449 and enter 2000. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

‘Women of Vision’ photo exhibit opens Jan. 21 at Photographic Centre

A new report has just been released which reveals 7 costly mistakes that most homeowners make when selling their home, and a 9 Step System that can help you sell your home fast and for the most amount of money.

This industry report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become increasingly less financially advantageous when they don’t get what they want for their homes, and become disillusioned and – worse – financially disadvantaged when they put their homes on the market.

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Lisa Turner, chief human resource officer for the Clerk & Comptroller, Palm Beach County, was named HR Professional of the Year at the Human Resource Association of Palm Beach County’s “Best in HR Awards.”

Ms. Turner joined the Clerk’s office in September 2012, after a 30-year career in human resources with City Utilities of Springfield, Mo.

Since coming to the Clerk’s office, she has led several important initiatives, including a new employee job classification system introduced earlier this year and created an innovative promote-from-within program.

The Human Resource Association of Palm Beach County is an affiliate of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM).

The Palm Beach County chapter is the largest SHRM-affiliated group in Florida.

The group’s annual “Best in HR Awards” recognizes outstanding achievements in the Human Resource profession.

In addition to Human Resource Professional of the Year, awards are also given for Human Resource Department of the Year and Human Resource Volunteer Leader of the Year.

For more information about the Clerk’s office, visit mypalmbeachclerk.com or call 355-2996.

**Studio E Gallery names director**

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Jason Fennell has been appointed to the position of gallery director at Studio E Gallery in PGA Commons, the gallery announced in a statement.

A resident of Palm Beach Gardens, Mr. Fennell’s eclectic career in art spans more than 10 years and has included posts at The Norton Museum of Art and Mirasol Art & Frame. He also has experience in freelance graphic design.

Previously the operations manager and digital assets manager at the gallery, Mr. Fennell is now responsible for overall sales and marketing, operations and logistics, as well as special events.

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**Ask The Real Estate Experts**

ASK THE SALES TRAINER

Dennis J. Giannetti
Chief Training Officer, Lang Realty
Ninja Selling Instructor
RMIC Strategic Intervention Coach
Certified Mediator
Realtor

Your Personal Real Estate Genie

Question:

If I had 3 Wishes, what must I wish for to be successful in the Real Estate business?

Answer:

The real estate agent has so many things that they presumably have to know in order to succeed. What makes it more complicated is that in addition to the many “musts” an agent needs to learn technical elements, market, laws, ethics etc., there are so many “shoulds” that are being thrown at them. Vendors and trainers for the industry are consistently offering the “next big thing” an agent needs to know when it comes to succeeding. For many, this overhaul of shoulds can become overwhelming fast.

So, if you had a magic real estate genie and could ask for 3 wishes (things you MUST) be, do, or have to succeed, what would those 3 be? Those 3 wishes would include:

1. Mindset
2. Skill Set
3. Action

Your mindset is your personal psychology. More than 80% of your ability to succeed is based on your psychology. How you choose to see things, yourself and others makes a huge difference whether or not you will be committed to being successful.

A smaller yet very important element is your skill set. Your knowledge of the market, the process of selling a home, communicating, and negotiating, all make a difference when you are in the midst of a possible deal.

Of course, even with a fantastic mindset and the skills that get the job done, one must take action to truly succeed. A great psychology and skill set is going to waste without action. Though, without the right mindset and skills, rarely is action taken.

Here’s the catch, you need all three. You have to feed your mind, master your skillset and take consistent action. Do this, and you won’t need a genie, but you may just feel like a genius!

— Dennis Giannetti is the Chief Training Officer for Lang Realty. He is a Licensed Ninja Selling Instructor, Certified Life Strategies Coach and Go-Giver International Speaker. He has served in the Real Estate Industry as an agent, manager and consultant since 1986.
and how to stop the multi-generational gap. Consulting experts, she started what became a nascent “movement” in public policy circles about early childhood education.

Convinced that reading is the codebreaker for a better life, she created the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy in 1989, early in her husband’s administration.

Until two years ago, the organization was private — making annual or special grants from a fund directed by donors. In 2012, it went national and earned its designation as a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit charity.

Its leaders set about expanding the reach of “Bb’s” goals: growing the gift of literacy for as many families as possible; and putting a big dent in a tragic statistic — 36 million Americans who cannot read.

“If until now, the foundation has been a well-kept secret in Palm Beach County,” said Kelly Layman, senior vice president of strategic alliances for the foundation. “Now that the organization is a public national charity, it affords the opportunity and responsibility to dramatically increase outreach, engagement, and assistance.” Ms. Layman, raised in Jupiter and a former resident of Palm Beach, also is coordinating some of the foundation’s 25th anniversary events. Barbara Bush hosted the first one, in March in Houston. Prior to its first foray into Palm Beach, more than two dozen area supporters made “lead gifts” to mark the milestone.

A series of “thank-you” events for their generosity included a complimentary luncheon and fashion show Nov. 20 at Neiman Marcus on Worth Avenue. Guest of honor was Dorothy “Doro” Bush Koch (pronounced “Cook”), named honorary co-chair of the foundation by her mother two years ago. The youngest child of Barbara and George H.W. Bush, she said it was a treat to be greeted by so many local donors and supporters: “(Mom) would very much love to be here ... I just cannot get over how warm and welcoming you have been. It’s exciting to be expanding in Palm Beach County; I am so grateful — it is a privilege to continue the work of my mother’s work.” Koch said, drawing giggles from guests when she set up an amusing game of “who’s very strong mothers ... where is my camera?”

“Barbara” asked me to take a picture, so what we are doing is a selfie,” Ms. Koch joked, snapping a photo of herself with guests in the room. “I’ve made a lot of new friends here, so thank you.” Enthusiasm for literacy is not new in the Palm Beaches, and numerous philanthropists were eager to show their support for the foundation’s growing footprint. Those honored at the luncheon included Julie Fisher Cummings, who accepted a special award for her mother, Marjorie S. Fisher — an original advocate for the foundation’s reading mentor program in Palm Beach County.

Lots of dignitaries stepped up to acknowledge local supporters at various events. At the luncheon was Ambassador Mary Oursler, former U.S. diplomat to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean.

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and his wife, Mila, part-time Palm Beachers.

Gail Coniglio, who lauded its work and added another program in western Palm Beach County. Two programs are operating in Treasure Coast schools this year, as well: Jensen Beach High School, partnered with Jensen Beach Elementary School (both in Stuart). For the past two years, Ms. Koch’s co-chair of the foundation has been her brother, former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, a perennial champion for education reform.

Before her current role, Ms. Koch, a resident of Maryland, co-founded the Maryland Family Literacy Initiative. She also is ship sponsor of the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77), a U.S. Navy aircraft carrier commissioned in 2009.

Celebrating “literacy at sea,” Ms. Koch oversaw provisioning the ship’s library — now stocked with hundreds of books donated by authors. The space also has technology and equipment for sailors to tape video messages to their children — the next best thing to a parent being at home to read to them. In 2010, the crew named their reading sanctuary The Dorothy Bush Koch Library. In March 2014, USA Today interviewed Barbara Bush, 80, about the foundation, “If everyone could read and write, all the problems I worried about could be solved,” she said then. “If you can’t read, you can’t do anything.”
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New Year’s Eve revelers hydrate and administer their personal hangovers on New Year’s Day, taxi cab drivers will lay their heads on their pillows smiling, having counted their money. The taxi business triples on the night of merrymaking and debauchery. Partypoppers may stumble into cabs, get sick or not remember their home addresses — but drivers swear it’s worth it. It’s madness, but it’s money, they say.

Here, transportation voices from around the state give a look into the world of taxis on this most gluttonous of holidays.

“Trying to put enough taxis on the road for New Year’s Eve is like trying to build a church big enough for Easter Sunday,” says Roger Chapin, vice president of Mears Transportation Group in Naples.

Sunday,” says Roger Chapin, vice president of Mears Transportation Group in Naples. “It’s the busiest day of the year,” Mr. Griffin says. “We do everything in our power to try and take care of the needs of the public that night, but it’s a tough one. If you were going to have enough cars on the road, you would probably need 200 to 300 cars on the road to take care of everybody in a three-hour span. New Year’s Eve is everything all at once. We put 100 cars out there, that’s all we can do, that’s all we have.”

His Charlotte County fleet of 15 cabs averages 200 rides per day. Again, he anticipates numbers will double for New Year’s Eve, giving out 350 to 400 rides.

Mr. Griffin says his next busiest days after the New Year’s holiday would be St. Patty’s Day and Fourth of July, but after the New Year’s holiday would be St. Patty’s Day and Fourth of July, but that’s unfortunate. But come morning, you’re very happy, ‘cause if you’re a good driver, you made good money.”

“Black Friday” for cabbies

Mr. Griffin offers advice to revelers, “Call us well ahead of time, not for a reservation, but to give us plenty of time to respond to your call.”

His driver chimes in again and says, “The way dispatch works, first come, first serve, every day of the year. New Year’s Eve, everybody’s calling in and getting in line.”

Kenny Mastrodomenico, owner of Taxi Time in Naples, says what tends to happen on New Year’s Eve, right around midnight, taxi drivers will turn their radios off and start picking up people who are flagging down taxis off the street.

Mr. Mastrodomenico says unmarked cars make up a third of his fleet, which helps keep up with all the phone calls. He says oftentimes drivers will respond to demand by asking partygoers if they’re going the same way. If so, drivers will cut them a deal, double up the load and get them home safe.

New Year’s Eve will fall on a Wednesday this year. Mr. Mastrodomenico says on a typical Wednesday night this time of year, he takes about 400 calls. On New Year’s Eve, he expects 1,000 calls or more, basically tripling business for his 75-car fleet.

“Your new customers tend to be a little more aggressive. Taxicab driver has to tell him, ‘Either I take you back to where I got you or I take you to the sheriff’s office. What’s it going to be?’” Mr. Mastrodomenico says mainly, it’s good times and good money, “Work is always better when you’re making money.”

He says when he was a driver, he used to love New Year’s Eve. Now that he’s an owner, he hates it. His profit is not proportionate to his drivers. He charges them a flat rate every week. Come New Year’s, they bank and he gets a headache.

Neal Direnzo, owner of A Better Taxi in Lee County, runs a commission-based business, so he does feel the harvest of New Year’s Eve. He says his system balances itself out: “When my drivers have a bad day, I have a bad day, but when they have a good day, I have a good day.”

New Year’s Eve would be the day his drivers wait for all year. “It’s a way to recover after spending all that money on Christmas,” he says.

Mr. Direnzo says his drivers make $500 to $600 on New Year’s Eve, not counting tips. Mr. Direnzo says his seven cabs will probably give 30 to 40 rides each that night. He says bigger companies may have a three to five-hour wait, but his drivers will be there to pick up the people who feel like they’ve been left behind.

Over in West Palm Beach, a Yellow Cab manager may be more humble with his estimates, not wanting to jinx his New Year’s Eve business. He says sometimes his fleet of 15 drivers makes 75 trips, sometimes 120 trips, sometimes more. He says his drivers are busy on St. Patty’s Day; they are busy on Halloween, but New Year’s Eve would be the Black Friday of the taxicab world. On that night, drivers may work from 6 p.m. to 4 a.m. and make $400 to $500.

Uber’s impact

Most taxicab companies see a wee bit wary of the emergence of Uber, an app-based transportation service started in San Francisco and spread to cities around the world. With Uber, freelancers not associated with cab companies are able to use the Uber app, which connects people to drivers via the app. Taxicab business owners in Florida see Uber as a transportation company trying to bill itself as a technology company, so it can walk into the transportation world without being subject to transportation regulations.

Most taxicab business owners interviewed for this article are hopeful that Uber will not affect their New Year’s Eve business, as the company has been publicly ridiculed for hiking prices when consumers need rides the most — during the holidays.

Chris Lustre, manager of A2B Taxi in West Palm Beach, doesn’t seem to be worried. He says 98 percent of his business comes from repeat customers or people who take the time to read up on the business online.

“Volume definitely triples on New Year’s Eve,” Mr. Lustre says. “You have a lot of people going out, a lot of people coming in from out of town and nobody wants to drive home.”

Most companies will be driving a cab this New Year’s Eve, probably working until 5 o’clock in the morning. Asked to give a glimpse into that world, he chuckles, “To really see it, you’d have to have a tour.”

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The desirable community of Frenchman’s Reserve is the coveted setting of this elegant golf course estate home.

Offering 7,730 square feet of living area, this original builder’s model at 681 Hermitage Circle, Frenchman’s Reserve, Palm Beach Gardens, is professionally furnished and decorated by Decorator’s Unlimited.

The luxurious home is filled with exquisite embellishments and fine appointments throughout. Features include an elegant formal living room with fireplace, formal dining room, dramatic library, media room, sumptuous master suite, large gourmet kitchen open to the family room and expansive outdoor living area complete with summer kitchen, beautiful heated pool, spa and lush landscaping for privacy. The home offers six bedrooms, six bathrooms, one half-bath and a 3 ½-car garage. A dramatic staircase winds to the second level where bedrooms and a sitting area open to below is complete with a wet bar and dramatic views across the golf course.

Marotta Realty lists the home at $3,500,000. The agent is Vince Marotta, 561-847-5700, VMarotta@MarottaRealty.com, MarottaRealty.com.

Elegant golf course estate in Frenchman’s Reserve
Elegance abounds in this Mediterranean style two-story estate that entails four spacious bedrooms with a loft and office, four full baths and a powder room. The home at 166 Remo Place in Mirasol Country Club, Palm Beach Gardens, is nestled on a cul de sac. The gorgeous wood and glass front entry doors open into a stunning living room that features vaulted ceilings, beautiful fireplace, and floor to ceiling windows with views to the pool. Saturnia marble and wood floors are throughout the first floor. The gourmet kitchen includes dark wood cabinetry with undermount lighting, stainless steel appliances, tumbled marble backsplash, wall oven, granite counter-tops, center island, counter seating, and breakfast nook. The master bedroom suite has trey ceilings, sitting area, his and her walk-in closets and a beautiful view of the pool with separate entrance as well as a master bathroom with dual sinks, make-up area, undermount cabinetry lighting, separate tub and columned entrance into a spectacular oversized European walk-in shower with six jets.

Outdoors opens to an enticing tropical retreat with a summer kitchen, bar seating, dining area, and free form pool and spa with wading area. It’s surrounded with tropical landscaping and lighting on one of the largest lots in Mirasol. This home is encased with lush landscaping, butterfly garden, custom lighting, and it’s perfect for entertaining family and friends. Lang Realty lists this home at $1,859,999. The agent is Betty Schneider, 561-307-6602, b.schneider@langrealty.com.
Seminole Ridge High School builds Habitat for Humanity home

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The Seminole Ridge High School Construction Academy has finished building its third modular house for Habitat for Humanity of Palm Beach County.

The new home was transported from the school in Loxahatchee to a holding area near the home site at 18066 Limestone Creek Rd. in Jupiter on Monday, Dec. 15, and installed on Tuesday the 16th, the academy said in a statement.

Academy students performed all the construction work, mentored by their instructor, Rick Terkovich, local subcontractors and Palm Beach County building inspectors.

Habitat for Humanity supplied all of the materials required to build the home, provided the home site and also selected the family to own the house.

The house sections rolled out of the Academy’s shop on the morning of Dec. 15 with the assistance of Weitz Construction Company to manage the project and Hunter Crane for the crane and rigging support. Throughout the day The Weitz Company oversaw transportation of home modules and roof sections to a holding station near the site on seven tractor trailers provided by Kauff’s Transportation.

On Tuesday morning, Dec. 16, the trucks left the holding station and paraded past the home site at 18066 Limestone Creek Road in Jupiter to have the modules and roof sections flown off the trucks by crane and set on the awaiting foundation. By 5 p.m. on that Tuesday, the 1,206 square-foot, 3-bedroom, 2-bath house was completely assembled, roof sections installed, and the home was completely dried in. Habitat for Humanity then took over completion of the roofing, siding and painting, and installation of cabinetry, finished flooring, and landscaping.

The Seminole Ridge-Habitat program anticipates building one house per year for Habitat for Humanity of Palm Beach County.

The school plans to start construction of home number four right after winter break in January. That home has been designated for a property in Lake Worth.

For more information, progress photos and to see the house plans, visit: seminoleridgehabitathouse.com.

To learn more about Habitat for Humanity of Palm Beach County please visit habitatpbc.org or call 253-2080.
For iconic singer/songwriter/author Jimmy Buffett, home is an oasis in which to find inspiration. At Corcoran, we use our expertise to be in tune with what inspires your muse. Because only by understanding who you are can we find you a place that hits the right note.

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Jimmy Buffett
Singer/Songwriter/Author
Palm Beach, Florida
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This beautiful open floor plan is light & bright. Great for entertaining w/sliders to screened in patio & large paved back yard w/beautiful landscaping. Immaculate Tile flooring throughout & freshly painted inside & out. The community offers 24 hour manned gate security & landscaping.

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Tybee Beachfront. Charming Mediterranean style villa, turnkey. 3 bedrooms or 2 bedrooms and a den, 2 full baths, family room, living room, dining area, open floor plan, private patio with Weber grill, off master bedroom & living room. Kitchen with stainless steel appliances, 2 Car garage. Fabulous vacation home.

$125,000
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Rarely Courtyard home in Mirabella is nothing short of Spectacular! Over $100,000 custom upgrades! 3 bedrooms with Master Bedroom downstairs, 3.5 bathrooms. Open loft space. Main living area offers open floor plan, Fireplace & interior courtyard views of Pool & Jacuzzi, with fantastic built-in Summer Kitchen. Expansive lake views from every room & courtyard patio! Home also features Guest House/Cabana Room with full bath, for 4th Bedroom or office/in-law space.

$850,000
CALL: VICKI COPANI 561-301-1463

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Ritz Carlton Residence 1704A
3BR/3.5BA - $2,699,000

Oasis Singer Island 12A
3BR/3.5BA - $2,395,000

Ritz Carlton Residence 2202B
3BR/3.5BA - $2,150,000

Ritz Carlton Residence 1502B
3BR/3.5BA - $1,899,000

Ritz Carlton Residences 1903B
2BR + DEN/3BA - $1,790,000

Ritz Carlton Residence 804B
2BR/2.5BA - $1,650,000

Ritz Carlton Residences 1605B
2BR + DEN/2.5BA - $1,595,000

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2BR + DEN/2.5BA - $1,450,000

One Singer 601
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The Resort 1651
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Beach Front 1603
3BR/3BA - $1,250,000

Beach Front 1503
3BR/3BA - $1,225,000

Martinique WT1403
2BR/3.5BA - $879,000

Martinique ET1203
2BR/3.5BA - $850,000

Martinique ET1201
2BR/3.5BA - $799,000

Martinique WT2201
2BR/3.5BA - $696,000

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NEW LISTING
No! No! No!

For some little girls and boys, Santa doesn’t always bring joy

BY NANCY STETSON
nstetson@floridaweekly.com

Visiting Santa.

Have two words ever created such joy; such unbridled anticipation in the hearts of both parents and children? Santa! That Jolly Old Soul whose very home contains a toy factory, who brings gifts to boys and girls around the world!

Parents envision adorable Disney-esque photographs they can use as Christmas cards to send and gifts to give the grandparents, milestone images to treasure year after year.

Like many things in life, though, the reality can be quite different from the fantasy.

Some children, upon seeing the roly-poly man in red suit and beard and being plopped in the lap of Santa, are filled with fear and tears.

No! No! No!

For some little girls and boys, Santa doesn’t always bring joy.

BY DAN HUDAK
Florida Weekly Correspondent

It was a year of gimmicks and grandeur, subtlety and the sublime, led at the box office by Guardians of the Galaxy and in our hearts by unthinkable illness and inspiring love.

Yes, the latest “Transformers” and “Hunger Games” movies felt endless, but their shortcomings were made up for by “The Lego Movie,” “Chef,” “Nightcrawler” and numerous other pleasant surprises this year.

Here are my picks for Top 10 films of 2014:

■ No. 10 (tie): “Guardians of the Galaxy,” “Captain America: The Winter Soldier” — I know it’s weak to include a tie on a Top 10 list, but these movies are connected and part of a greater power — that of the Marvel Cinematic Universe (“The Avengers”). They are also the two highest grossing films of the year (“Guardians” earned $332 million, “Winter Soldier” $259 million). “Guardians” was a romp through outer space that was the most fun I had all year at the movies, while “The Winter Soldier” was both an

Best Films of 2014

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‘The real me is not nearly as interesting and funny as the shtick’

Radio star Josh Cohen puts on his poker face for a selfie.

Josh Cohen is a popular radio personality. He hosts Josh Cohen and the Home Team weekdays from noon to 2 p.m. on ESPN 106.3 FM. We met at The Alchemist in West Palm Beach. Over a short rib sandwich and watermelon feta salad (he chose the sandwich) we chatted about Josh’s reputation, and got serious.

Emily Pantelides: So... as a radio DJ, what do you really do?

Josh Cohen: I am responsible for planning and hosting Josh Cohen and the Home Team. I also function as a brand/community ambassador.

EP: What does that mean?

JC: It means that because of my circle of charitable and social involvement and influence, I’m able to bring aspects of ESPN West Palm to help and assist those causes.

EP: Do you feel like being out there as much as you are helps ESPN?

JC: Absolutely! I think when you have members of your organization that are involved with charity and philanthropy and are attending social functions, of course it brings a level of visibility.

EP: You are the king of self-promotion!

JC: King of self-promotion has a negative connotation. To me, on the surface it sounds shameless and I know plenty of folks that try like hell to promote themselves for very self-serving goals. I have learned in the last few years the importance of brand alignment. Choosing which projects and organizations to involve myself with, and which not to.

EP: I didn’t mean king of self-promotion negatively, I guess I just meant people know who you are because you are going to a lot of things. Do you ever get tired?

JC: Tired? Let me think about that...

EP: I mean, people who read Florida Weekly might know you just from seeing your picture in this paper a lot.

JC: I’m a relatively young man, with no children and I’m on the air two hours a day. If I were to complain about attending great events with great people for even greater causes, then somebody should probably slap me!

EP: What’s your favorite event you’ve been to?

JC: I have personal favorites that I love to emcee and personal favorites that I love to attend. When the reason for the event is organic and is real... when people are involved for all the right reasons you can tell and you can feel that.

EP: You have a specific style of emceeing. You are different than other people in the sense that you will make fun of people. Have you ever been told you crossed the line?

JC: I have learned that if they are not aware of my brand and what I bring, that I might need to play it a little safe. With that said, you have to know what you are getting yourself into. It’s going to be a little more Don Rickles than Daniel Tosh. But you know what? Bottom line to all of this is, if you are good to people it will come back to you.

EP: Talking to you, you’re a lot deeper than I thought... introspective.

JC: Life is pretty good. Every day I open my show the same way, with the quote, “Every day above ground is a good day.” I try to remind folks there’s a tremendous difference between inconvenience and problems. You had a flat tire on your way to work, that’s inconvenience. But, tonight, there is a guy trying to get home from work because he had to take his 9-year-old to chemotherapy! I’m just enjoying today. I don’t miss too many things I want to do. I’m just living for today.

EP: You know, a lot of people don’t know you might have the perception that, ‘He’s always at events and has a smart mouth.’ But you don’t seem that way to me right now. Is that just an act?

JC: The on-air on-stage character of JC is a great exaggeration from the real me. The truth is, the real me is a lot more empathetic and compassionate and more than what that character is intentionally designed to be. It is diametrically opposed. There are two ends of the spectrum. It’s either out and about JC, or it is me at home watching television and eating a lot more brownie brittle than probably any human should consume! The number one thing that longtime listeners will say to me is you’re a much nicer and better guy than I expected.

EP: So why not drop the act?

JC: If the on-air and public persona of JC is a great exaggeration from the real me, that would make me vulnerable and who needs that? I don’t think I could have been successful in these areas had I strictly been myself. Because, the real me is not nearly as exciting, interesting or funny as the shtick and that’s the truth.

At the core, I am probably a sweet, lost boy with plenty of demons, that cares about people and causes much more than you would ever know and that wants you to think that you can’t touch him or hurt him.

EP: Is this something you tell a lot of people?

JC: Conversations happen on the air once in a while — some folks don’t believe it. You know I honestly believe the old wisdom that character is defined by how people treat those who can do nothing for them. I will attend events from the International Polo Club and Mar-a-Lago and the Breakers, to Cabo Flats, bars... and for me it’s not about who is going to be there, but more about why people want to be there.

EP: What made you this way?

JC: My childhood was disrupted by a surprise divorce and passing on his 46th birthday. So, I never lived in a house with adult supervision from 7th grade on. In high school I would come home from school. Do my homework, microwave a dinner and watch way more TV than I should.

EP: How much sports was on? Just the summer that my father was sick, sports was the ultimate distraction. It was Olympics time, and it allowed me to forget about what was really happening in my life. As a result, I love the Olympics. I actually had this conversation with Venus (Williams) — her favorite event was the Summer Olympics and she was mad competing in other counties because you don’t see the other events. Nobody covers it like we do. Anyway, I cried the night of the closing ceremonies because I knew it was a matter of time for my dad and I thought, what now was going to give me that escape?

EP: I’m sure all that molded who you are... that double persona thing?

JC: Well, I’ve never once had anybody make a call for me or hook me up with a job interview. Everything that I’ve been able to get done was because I went knocking on doors and said let’s make it happen.

EP: You’re a hustler.

JC: I didn’t come down here by chance in the summer of ’97. I didn’t know one soul. I didn’t come for a job. I didn’t have a girl here. I could walk through the Treasure Coast Mall anonymously. Then, fast forward 18 months later and suddenly all the cards are off the table, first, the Treasure Coast, and then the Palm Beaches of South Florida for giving me a job. And for the event is organic and is real... why people want to be there.

Emily Pantelides is a former TV news anchor who is now in public relations. Emily gets local celebrities and notables to spill the beans on what’s hot and what’s not in their lives.
SEE YOU IN 2015!

Discover a new side of Downtown West Palm Beach

Festive Flavorful Flourishing Fresh

When you think about memorable places, think Downtown West Palm Beach. Just take a walk and see for yourself!


Natural Balance: The Sculptures of Jerzy Kedziora
THROUGH MARCH 1
Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens
2051 S. Flagler Dr.

Coming into Fashion: A Century of Photography at Condé Nast
NOVEMBER 20 – FEBRUARY 15
Norton Museum of Art
1451 S. Olive Ave.

Nancy Low Exhibition
JANUARY 9
Paul Fisher
Downtown Gallery
218 Clematis St.

The Beach Boys Fifty Years Of “Fun, Fun, Fun”
JANUARY 8
Kravis Center
701 Okeechobee Blvd.

Distinguished Lecture Series: Dr. Thomas Graham – Mr. Flagler’s St. Augustine
JANUARY 14
1916 Historic Courthouse
300 N. Dixie Hwy.

La Bohème (Palm Beach Opera)
JANUARY 16 – 18
Kravis Center
701 Okeechobee Blvd.

FOTOfusion
JANUARY 20 – 24
Palm Beach Photographic Centre
415 Clematis St.

Continuum
JANUARY 21 – FEBRUARY 7
EatScene
501 Fern St.

Les Liaisons Dangereuses
JANUARY 30 – MARCH 1
Palm Beach Dramaworks
201 Clematis St.

Upcoming Events

Take the scenic route!
Hop aboard the free A&E District trolley and move from one cultural experience to the next. The Orange Line operates Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO**

Please send calendar listings to calendar@floridaweekly.com. Deadline for submissions is the 5th of the month for the following month. Call 561-752-1234 for details.

**JUST ANNOUNCED:**

The 37th Annual Oshogatsu Nisei Festival — Tickets are on sale now for this annual event that sells out every year. This year, they’re offering new VIP packages! Call the Oshogatsu tasting room at (561) 441-4010 or visit the website at oldnorthwood.com. The Festival is held at the Old Northwood Historic District, 5205 Northlake Boulevard, West Palm Beach. Details at 561-661-0624 or Visit PalmBeach.com.

**SATURDAY 12.27**

South Florida Fair’s annual 5K Run/Walk — 7:45 a.m. Dec. 27. Okeechobee Park, 7715 Forest Hill Blvd, West Palm Beach. Runners of all ages can choose from a 5K run or walk, 1-mile fun run for children 10 and under, or a 1-mile walk. Enjoy the skyline and nature of the South Florida Fair area. Cost: $35 or $40 in advance; $45 on race day. Register at SouthFloridaFair.com or call 800-335-7424. Visit PalmBeach.com.

The 27th Annual Candlelight Holiday Home Tour — 5 to 9 p.m. Dec. 27. In the Old Northwood historic neighborhood of West Palm Beach. Palm Beach County’s longest and oldest running home tour is on again. Homeowners will open their doors so visitors can appreciate the diverse architectural styles of all the homes, playgrounds and more for the holiday season. The Mediterranean Revival and Mission styles date back to the mid-1920s, made famous by Addison Mizner, John Volk, William King and Harvey Harvey. Local restaurants will serve food, and homeowners will provide wine. Champagne and beer. Tickets: $30. Call at 505 Spruce Ave, West Palm Beach. Tickets: $30. Info: oldnorthwood.com.

**AT THE ARTS GARAGE**

The Arts Garage, 180 NE First St. in Delray Beach. Info: 450-6857; artsgarage.org.

Federalco Britos — Dec. 26

Don Friedman Trio — Jan. 2

**AT THE COLONY**

The Colony Hotel, 155 Hampton Ave, Palm Beach. Info: 655-5430; thecolonyalmbeach.com.

**ALSO:**

**AT THE FLAGLER**

The Flagler Museum, One Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday. Admission: $12 adult; $10 senior; $8 child ages 3-12 and under; $16 family. Price does not include admission to Carriage House Museum. Children must be at least 4 feet tall to climb. Tickets are on sale now. For updates, call 561-332-2255 or Visit PalmBeach.com.

**AT MACARTHUR**


**AT THE MALTZ**

The Maltz Jupiter Theatre, 100 E. Indiantown Road. Jupiter. Info: 575-2223 or visit jupitertheatre.org. Ongoing: The theatre offers a variety of classes for adults, including tap, jazz, playwriting, acting, and musical theater. Volunteers are needed for a variety of roles at the theater. Info: 575-2223.

**Capitol Steps: New Year’s Eve Comedy Show — Dec. 31**

Atlantic City Boys: A Frankie Valli Tribute — Jan. 2

Steve Lipia’s Centennial Sinatra — Jan. 3

**AT THE JCC**

The Mandel JCC, 2522 Hood Road, Palm Beach Gardens. Info: 689-7700.

**Family Day**

— 10 a.m. to noon Dec. 25. features children’s arts and crafts, a bounce house, access to the indoor play ground, games and activities in the gymnasium, use of the aquatics center and splash playground, and an appearance from Elsa and Anna, the Frozen Princesses. Free for members, $25 guests. Bring canned goods and toiletries to donate to Alpert Jewish Family and Children’s Services.

Chopsticks — 4 p.m. Dec. 25. A dinner and presentation featuring award-winning journalist Laura Silver, author of “Kosher Search of the Jewish Soul Food.” $36. She also appears at Temple Shaarei Shalom in Boynton Beach, 9085 Hagen Ranch Road, Boynton Beach, at 6:30 p.m. Info: 776-4000.

**Motown Friday Nights with The Modist —** 6:30 p.m. Fridays in Polo. At the Stonzek Theatre — Jan. 15-Feb. 1

“South Pacific” — Dec. 23

**AT THE MEETING**

**AT THE LIGHTHOUSE**

Jupiter Lighthouse and Museum, Lighthouse Park, 500 Captain Armour’s Way, Jupiter. Admission: $9 adults; $5 children under 12; $8 (free for you and younger than 6); 6 and under free. Participates in the Blue Star Museum program that offers free admission for all active duty, National Guard and Reserve military personnel and their families from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Children must be at least 4 feet tall to climb. Tours are weather permitting, call for tour times. RSVP required for all events at 747-8880, Ext. 10; jupiterlighthouse.org.

Lighthouse Sunset Tour — Dates TBA. Spectacular sunset views and an inside look at the nuts and bolts of a working lighthouse watchroom. $15 members, $20 nonmembers.

**New Year Festival —** Tuesdays in Polo. Cabaret in the Royal Room:

**Ticket Package Pick-Up**

From 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. Jan. 11 at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Road, Delray Beach. Tours are underway at 8:45 p.m. Jan. 11 and 1.25 p.m. Jan. 12. Guided Kayak Tours — JAN. 3-4. Tickets: $75; members, $65. Call for updates. Donations accepted. Bring a yoga mat and flashlight. Class may be canceled due to weather. Check the website for updates.

**Twilight Yoga at the Light —** 9:30 a.m. Jan. 26. Free online. For updates, visit Jupiterlighthouse.org.

**AT MACARTHUR**


**Ongoing:**

**Drive-Thru**

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WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

AT PALM BEACH IMPROV

Palm Beach Improv, CityPlace, 550 S. Rosemary Ave., Suite 250, West Palm Beach. Info: 833-8812; palmbeachimprov.com.

Kier Spates — Dec. 26-28, $20

AT THE SCIENCE CENTER

The South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Trail N., West Palm Beach. New pricing is in effect: Science Center AND Afterlife pricing (guests get access to both) is: $905 seniors, $795 seniors age 3-12, free for younger than 3. Members $8. If guests want to just go to the museum, it is: $285 adults, $215 seniors, $9.50 for age 3-12, free for younger than 3. Members are free. Info: 832-1988; sfsciencecenter.org.

Afterlife: Tombs & Treasures of Ancient Egypt — Through April 18. Investigate how this ancient culture prepared for death and the afterlife. Visitors can dig into the burial chamber of the great Pharaoh Thutmose III, which is part of the largest current touring exhibition of authentic Egyptian material. Features 200 exquisite and original artifacts. Special pricing planned: Mummy Mondays — $5 members, $8 nonmember adult, $1 ages 3-12 and $3 for seniors 60 and older. Pharaoh Thursdays — $5 members, $8 nonmember adult, $3 ages 3-12 and $3 for seniors 60 and older from 4 to 8 p.m. Mummy and Me — The third Tuesday of the month is open to caregivers with children 18 months - 4 years old for story time, a special science-themed activity and socialization opportunities. $5 members, $8 adults, free for age 4 and younger.

Ongoing:

Girls Excelling in Math and Science Club — 5 to 7 p.m. the last Tuesday of the month. Girls in grades 3-8 explore science. Dinner and refreshments will be provided. Free. Register in advance.

Hack Shack Tech Club at the Science Center — 5 to 7 p.m. the first Thursday of each month. This new club is for kids who like to make, tinker, design, and engineer. Open to kids in grades 5 through 8. Registration: 85 members; $20 nonmembers. Info: 832-2062.

Silver Science — 2 to 5 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month. Guests 62 and older have guest presenters on various topics, view a planetarium show and interact with over 50 educational exhibits. Admission for seniors 60 and older is $10 and includes a free planetarium show at 3 or 4 p.m.

Science Nights — 6-9 p.m. the last Friday of the month. Members: Adults $5, free for children; Nonmembers: Adults $14.50 seniors, $13 children, $11 free for age 3 and younger. Member $6. Planetarium shows and mini-golf are not included in event admission.

AT FOUR ARTS

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

Met Opera broadcast in HD: Georges Bizet’s “Carmen” — Jan. 3

 Lecture Series: An Operetta Renaissance in Palm Beach, with Maestro Saul Lilienstein — Lectures at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Jan. 5, 7 and 8. Free for members; $185 for six-part series or $25 per lecture nonmembers.


The Audubon Society of the Everglades — Meets monthly and hosts bird walks. Info: 742-7797; Valleri at 582-5775; au.vera@vera.org.

Special Holiday Bird Walk — 8 a.m. Dec. 31, Wickabackahatchee Wetlands, 1830 Jog Road, Delray Beach. Meet at top of boardwalk. Leader: Paton White.

The Boca Raton Museum of Art — 501 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Free

The Browhous Gallery — 720 Park Ave., Lake Park. Exhibits work by local artists. Trivia Night from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday. Live music, local food trucks on site from Friday-Sunday. Friday and Sunday: Comedy from 8-10 p.m. Sunday. Hours: 9 a.m.-11 p.m. daily. Info: 469-4890.


Burns Road Recreation Center — 4404 Burns Road, Palm Beach Gardens. Info: pbpl.com; 630-4000.


The Lake Park Public Library — 529 Park Ave., Lake Park. Crafts Center meets 10:30 to 12:30 p.m. Saturdays. Info: 881-3330; lakepark-fl.gov.

Creative Writing For the Author In All of Us — 601 Lake Ave., Lake Worth. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Free. Info: 471-2901; palmbeachculture.com. Through Feb. 21: “Paws & Claws: Animals in Art.”

Fundamentals of Acting (FOA) with Sherman Roberts — 1 p.m. Sundays in the Mirror Ballroom at the Lake Park Town Hall, 535 Park Ave., Lake Park. Writers present their work, which is read and critiqued by the class. Taught by author/journalist Donna Carbone. $25/ quarter. Info: at 743-9955.

The Cultural Council of Palm Beach County — 601 Lake Ave., Lake Worth. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesdays through May. Adults $25, children age 12 and younger $12. Info: 881-3330; lakepark-fl.gov.


Ginger’s Dance Party — 8-10 p.m. the first Saturday of the month, Palm Stage, Waterfront Commons, downtown West Palm Beach. Free. 822-4515; wpb.org/ ginger’s.

The Historical Society of Palm Beach County — Johnson History Museum, 300 S. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach. Info: 822-4614; historicalsocietypb.org.

• Courage Under Fire: 120 Years of Fire Rescue — Through June 21.

The Lake Park Public Library — 529 Park Ave., Lake Park. Super Hero Hour meets at 3:30 p.m. Thursdays for ages 12 and younger; anime group meets from 6-7 p.m. Tuesdays for ages 12 and older. Free. Info: 881-3330.


The Mandel Public Library of West Palm Beach — 41 Clematis St., West Palm Beach. Info: 868-7701; mjlf.org.


The Palm Beach Gardens Historical Society — The last Wednesday of the month at the Society Home, 3512 Northlake Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens. Info: 622-6588.


The Schoolhouse Children’s Museum and Learning Center — 129 E. Ocean Avenue, Boynton Beach. Required tickets: $2 per person, $1 for children age 2 and younger. Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tickets: $4 for children age 2 and older; $2 for everyone under age 2. Info: 478-2300; ext. 2.

The Schoolhouse Children’s Museum and Learning Center — 129 E. Ocean Avenue, Boynton Beach. Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tickets: $4 for children age 2 and older; $2 for everyone under age 2. Info: 478-2300; ext. 2.

The Taste of Palm Beaches — Offers free events at several locations. Info: John Palozzi at 588-9829.

The Weekly Scene — 7000 S. Jog Road, Palm Beach Gardens. Info: 582-1045; webbergallery.com.

The West Palm Beach Arts & Entertainment Calendar — 328 Via Mizner Blvd., West Palm Beach. Info: 619-3330; news.com

What to Do, Where to Go

Carey Cooper, Twin Towers for Hope Foundation.
Exhibitions offer two good reasons to visit Norton Museum

**BY SCOTT SIMMONS**
simmons@floridaweekly.com

Visually stunning. Those two words seem to sum up two of the Norton Museum’s current exhibitions, “Coming into Fashion: A Century of Photography at Condé Nast” and “Master Prints: Dürer to Matisse,” both open through Feb. 15.

In many ways, the Condé Nast exhibition is the mack daddy show of the season, boasting 150 images that cover nearly a century of fashion photography from such publications as Vogue, Glamour, Vanity Fair and W. Many of these images had not been seen since they were put away in the teens and ’20s, and they include work by some of the 20th century’s greatest talents — Edward Steichen, Irving Penn, William Klein, Helmut Newton, Peter Lindbergh, Steven Meisel, Inez van Lamsweerde & Vinoodh Matadin and Miles Aldridge.

Steichen was chief photographer at Condé Nast from 1923-1937, and 175 of his images had been pulled for an exhibition, “Edward Steichen: In High Fashion, The Condé Nast Years 1923–1937.” Curator Nathalie Herschdorfer recognized something.

“Look at the detail in Dürer’s 1513 engraving, ‘Knight, Death and Devil.’ The self-portrait ‘Rembrandt Leaning on a Stone Sill’ shows a confident, prosperous Rembrandt boldly staring at his viewer in classic Renaissance style, elaborately dressed, the curl of each hair delicately captured. Contrast that with such Impressionists and early Modernists as Degas, Matisse and Cezanne, who stripped their compositions to the barest elements.”

Matisse’s aquatint “Nadia at Visage Rond” is a study in restraint, compared to the Old Masters, but no less compelling.

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**TOULOUSE-LAUTREC**

**AND LA VIE MODERNE: PARIS 1880-1910**


Immerse yourself in the vibrant world of 19th-century France, through this critically acclaimed exhibition at The Society of the Four Arts. Featuring more than 200 works from celebrated avant-garde artists at the heart of “La Belle Époque,” this exhibition showcases the colorful theatrics and nightlife that made Paris the iconic city that it is today.

**On display Dec. 6, 2014 through Jan. 11, 2015**

Generously sponsored by

Talisman

Admission is $5. Members and children under 15 admitted free. Call (561) 655-7226 for more information.

www.fourarts.org

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*CREDIT CANNOT BE USED TOWARDS ROOM RATE, RESORT CHARGE OR TAX AND IS NOT CUMULATIVE.

HOLIDAY CALENDAR

AT CITYPLACE
CityPlace, 700 S. Rosemary Ave., West Palm Beach. Info: 561-366-1000; cityplace.com/events
Ongoing:
Holiday Train Rides: 3-9 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday; 3-10 p.m. Friday; 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturday; and noon-8 p.m. Sunday.
Snowfall on the Plaza: 6 and 7 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and 6, 7 and 8 p.m. Thursday-Sunday.
Live Music on the Plaza: 7 to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

DOWNTOWN WEST PALM BEACH
Visit Sandi, The World’s Only 600-Ton Sand Tree — Through Dec. 31. Sandi comes alive each night with a musical light show, plus four other sculptures each with its own theme. Check out the holiday-themed photo boards. Beginning at 6 p.m., light shows take place every 15 minutes unless another event is scheduled. Info: wpb.org/events for details.
Snowieville — Though Dec. 30. Create your own tropical snowman using the wardrobe and accessories provided. Open daily from 10 a.m.-9 p.m.
Peppermint Putt-Putt — 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. through Dec. 30. Practice putting at this holiday themed nine-holed mini golf course. $2.50 plus a refundable deposit.
Kiddie Train Rides — Through Jan. 1. Kids will love the colorful new train. Times: 1-10 p.m. weekdays; 10 a.m.–10 p.m. Saturday; and 1-10 p.m. Sunday. $3.

MISCELLANEOUS EVENTS
Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Built To Amaze! Holiday Edition Circus — Through Dec. 28, Palm Beach County Convention Center, 650 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Find out what it takes to build The Greatest Show On Earth. Colorful circus machinery is unleashed from shipping crates right before their eyes, and assembled, with high-energy and hilarity. Tigers, elephants, acrobats, aerialists, clowns. Check out their webpage and take the aptitude test to see if you’re circus material. Tickets: $15 and up through ticketmaster.com or 800-745-3000. Info: ringling.com
The 24th annual Hoffman’s Chocolates Winter Wonderland — 6 to 10 p.m. daily through Dec. 30. At Hoffman’s Chocolate Factory, Shoppe, Ice Cream Parlor & Gardens, 5900 Lake Worth Road, Lake Worth. The extravagant display includes more than 75,000 new LED lights, a 14-foot Christmas tree and a 6-foot Menorah. There’s also a nativity, an art zone with penguins and polar bears, and live entertainment by local performers. Some nights Santa and the Mrs. will pose for photos with the kids. Info: 967-2213; Hoffman’s.com/wonderland.
AREA GREENMARKETS

SATURDAYS
Lake Worth High School Flea Market — 5 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, under the Interstate 95 overpass on Lake Worth Road. This market has been meeting in the same location for years. Info: 439-1539.

Boca Raton Green Market — 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays until May, Royal Palm Place, 400 S. Federal Highway at South Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. This is the 18th season for this popular market that features more than 40 vendors selling a variety of foods and produce. Info: 299-8684.

Delray Green Market — 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays through April 25 at the Delray Green Market, 95 NE First Ave, Delray Beach. Fresh produce, plants, baked goods, gourmet food products, pets, and other supplies from local vendors are set among the palms, with live entertainment and kids activities. Just half a block from Delray’s popular Atlantic Avenue. Info: fbs.com/delraygreennmarket; delraygreenmarket.wordpress.com/.

Lake Worth Farmers Market — 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays through April 25 at the Lake Worth Farmers Market, 1200 Forest Hill Blvd., Wellington, Seasonal, located, GridView, produce, plus prepared foods, baked goods, pet treats and other specialty products. Info: 283-8856; welingtongreenmarket.com or email welingtongreenmarket@gmail.com.

The West Palm Beach Greenmarket — 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays, Waterfront Commons, downtown West Palm Beach. A new shaded Waterfront Oasis space at North Clematis Street and Flagler Drive will feature a live island band, a bar serving unlimited mimosas for $15, a fruit and wine market, and misters to stay cool. More than 70 vendors selling fresh produce, baked goods, plants and home goods, plus free kids activities from Ultima Fitness. Admission is free. Parking is free in the Banyan and Evernia garages during market hours. Info wpb.org/greenmarket.

The Palm Beach Zoo’s Produce Stand — The first and third Saturdays of the month through April 18, adjacent to the zoo, 1300 Summit Blvd, West Palm Beach. Buy fresh produce and learn how buying local protects wildlife. Vendors wanted. Info: 547-8455, Ext. 216, or email Mscrima@palmbeachzoo.org.

Tequesta Green Market — 9 a.m.-2 p.m. the third Saturday of each month (Jan. 17, Feb. 21, March 21 and April 18), Constitution Park, 399 Seabrook Road, Tequesta. Longer hours, locally grown vegetables, fruit, meat, farm products, arts and crafts. Info: 768-0476.

SUNDAYS
Lake Worth High School Flea Market — 5 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, under the Interstate 95 overpass on Lake Worth Road. This market has been meeting in the same location for years. Info: 439-1539.

The Gardens GreenMarket — 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sundays through May 3, at the City Hall Municipal Complex, 10500 N. Military Trail, Palm Beach Gardens. More than 120 vendors of just-picked, orchard-grown goods, seasonal vegetables and fruits, herbs, honey, and homemade breads, pies, cheeses and sauces, plus live entertainment.

Acreage Green Market — 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sundays, Acreage Community Park, 6011 140th Ave N., Loxahatchee. Producers, vendors, live entertainment. 723-3898; acreagegreennmarket.com.

The North Boca Raton Green Market — 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sundays in The Wick Theatre parking lot, 7901 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton. More than 50 vendors. Info: 772-345-3797 or email communitygreennmarket@gmail.com.

The Village of Royal Palm Beach Green Market and Bazaar — 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Sundays through April 26, Royal Palm Beach Commons Park, 1600 Poinciana Blvd., Royal Palm Beach. Vendors selling fruits and vegetables, fresh flowers and plants. Enjoy artisan foods, baked goods and a unique selection of artists and crafters. Info: rbgreennmarket.com.

Jupiter Farmers Market — 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sundays through spring, Harbour Island Place, Jupiter. Locally grown fruits and vegetables, from kale to coconut, plus flowers and sunflowers, plus sustainably-raised chicken, turkey, and farm-fresh eggs, and artisan foods including handcrafted cheese, baked goods, jams, coffee and tea. Info: jupiterfarmersmarket@gmail.com.

Jupiter Green & Artisan Market at Riverwalk Event Plaza — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sundays, 150 S. U. S. 1, under Indiantown Bridge, Jupiter. This year-round market is set along the Intracoastal Waterway, where breezes rustle the palm fronds and vendors sell produce, specialty food products, apparel, accessories, jewelry, arts and crafts, plus entertainment and special activities. Pet friendly. Vendors welcome. Info: 203-222-3554; harriymarkets.com. jupitergreenmarket.com

The West Palm Beach Greenmarket brings together more than 70 vendors each Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Howie Mandel Friday, January 2 at 8 pm
Howie has encompassed almost every aspect of the entertainment spectrum, including stage, TV and film. His stand-up comedy – considered by many to be the perfect musical – soars with the spirit of Broadway as it introduces us to a cast of vivid characters who have become legends in the canon: Sarah Brown, Hildy Johnson and Jimmy D. He is a dependable and hilarious performer

Michael Feinstein Conducts The Kravis Center Pops Orchestra
Saturday, January 3 at 8 pm
The “Ambassador of the Great American Songbook” will conduct the first of these three concert series featuring the Kravis Center Pops Orchestra, with Larry Blanks as associate conductor. The program will include songs personally selected by Michael Feinstein with original orchestrations. He will conduct and host the concert and will be joined by singers Jessica Gordon and Lari White

For more information, visit Kravis.org/greennmarket

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NETWC

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We take more society and networking photos, so, if you think we missed you or one of your friends, go to www.floridaweekly.com

Arlotta Gordon, Carl Misaedo and Jennifer Bailey
Arlotta Gordon and Tom Byrd
Kathy Biacuito, Gary Barnes and Karen Lentini
Renee Pinsky, Bobbie Herbst, Rene Friedman and Roe Green
Arlotta Gordon and Tim Byrd
Arlette Gordon, Gary Burns and Karen Larkin
Arlette Gordon and Tim Byrd
Arlette Gordon and Tim Byrd

2015 NOON YEAR’S EVE

Kids countdown the “Noon Year” with carousel rides, games, face painting and other surprises. Enjoy a kid-friendly toast with 97.9 WRMF personalities, party hats, horns and more!

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Downtown Lights the Night is even more spectacular this year, with over 500,000 colored lights dancing in rhythm to music that celebrates the season, all surrounding our biggest tree yet at over 23 feet tall!
SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) You’ll have many fine opportunities in this New Year. But be warned: Reject offers of “help.” You work best when you’re free to be your own creative self.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) The New Year offers changes that you might feel you’re not quite ready for. Best advice: Deal with them one step at a time, until you’ve built up your self-confidence.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Travel is a dominant aspect of the New Year. This could mean relocating to another city (or even another country) in connection with your education or career.

PIECES (February 19 to March 20) This New Year brings news about a change you’ve been anticipating. You might have a problem persuading a loved one about your new plans, but he or she will soon go along with them.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You have what it takes to set your goals quite a bit higher this year. Learn what you need to know and put what you learn to work best when you’re free to be your own creative self.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You can try something new this New Year. This could mean relocating one step at a time, until you’ve built up your readiness for change. But you need to be ready to move from the comfortable status quo to the challenging unknown. It’s up to you.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your most important New Year’s resolution should be to work out problems with a family member in order to avoid continuing misunderstandings. Do it soon for both of your sakes.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) The New Year has much to offer the intensely determined Scorpio, who isn’t afraid to take on challenges and try to work out problems as they arise. But you need to be ready to make this New Year a roaring success.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) The New Year brings new opportunities for change. But you need to be ready to move from the comfortable status quo to the challenging unknown. It’s up to you.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your most important New Year’s resolution should be to work out problems with a family member in order to avoid continuing misunderstandings. Do it soon for both of your sakes.

BORED THIS WEEK: You have a gift for making people feel safe and protected. You would make an excellent youth counselor.

HOROSCOPES

By Linda Thistle

NEWS, PHOTOS TO SHARE?
IF YOU HAVE AN ITEM YOU’D LIKE TO SHARE WITH FLORIDA WEEKLY, HERE’S HOW TO DO IT:

For our “What to Do, Where to Go,” a calendar of cultural, entertainment and recreational activities, email your information to pnews@floridaweekly.com.

If you have a news item or an idea for a story, email Betty Wells at bwells@floridaweekly.com and Scott Simmons at ssimmons@floridaweekly.com.

If you have photos for a “Society” or “Networking” photo page from an event, contact Tara Hoo.

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Over 400 dealers!
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Know this going into “The Gambler”:
You will not feel sorry for Mark Wahlberg’s character, nor will you like him very much. He’s a suicidal gambling addict who does little to help himself as he willingly makes one bad decision after another. And yet we’re compelled by his tale of defiance and free will, and are eager to see how his story plays out even though we don’t much care if he lives or dies.

Mr. Wahlberg’s Jim Bennett is a literature professor, and a bad one at that. He’s a failed, bitter writer who eagerly tells his students they’re either a genius who will find success or they’re nothing — and if they’re nothing they should stop trying. The only person who holds promise in his eyes is his student Amy (Brie Larson), but that could also be because he’s attracted to her.

He’s also attracted to high-stakes blackjack and, on occasion, roulette. So much so that he’s $260,000 in debt to game runner Mr. Lee (Alvin Ing), loan shark Neville (Michael K. Williams) and the even more fearsome loan shark Frank (a great John Goodman, once again making everything he does better).

Jim has seven days to pay back the money, or else. He comes from a wealthy family, but even his distant mother (Jessica Lange) rebukes his initial request for help. He’s alone in this, which is fine with him. He figures if he dies no one will give much of a damn, including himself. And he might be right.

On one hand, Jim is the same defiant wiseass Mr. Wahlberg always seems to inhabit, less the abnormally buff physique (he shed 61 pounds for the role using a liquid-based diet and strictly cardio workouts). On the other hand, Jim is deeply complex and conflicted. As these layers subtly expose themselves, we come to appreciate Mr. Wahlberg’s performance that much more. Addiction to anything can be horrible, but when it’s the byproduct of professional failure and personal unhappiness, it’s that much worse.

Surprisingly, Jim is more interesting as a teacher than he is as a gambler. We’ve seen characters go the degenerate gambler route before, but it’s rare to see a professor discourage his students from pursuing their dreams. “Desiring a thing cannot make you have it,” Jim cynically tells them, reflecting his own failures. Most importantly, his jaded (but are his messages actually true?) approach to teaching accentuates his gambling predicament in microcosm — more teaching scenes could have brought the rest of the gambling narrative to life as well.

Director Rupert Wyatt (“Rise of the Planet of the Apes”) allows certain scenes to drag, but as a whole the film unfolds like the slow burn of a lit cigarette. Jim is his own worst enemy. As his situation goes from bad to worse, we start to disregard him as a person and become captivated by the recklessness of it all. The script by William Monahan (“The Departed”) immediately engrosses us into Jim’s psyche but never feels rushed to move plot points along. Although the ending is a bit of a stretch, it’s fitting for someone with Jim’s intelligence and “winner-take-all” mentality.

“The Gambler” is an effectively tense drama with solid performances and an appropriately grungy tone. If you feel dirty after seeing it, that’s because you’ve been immersed in sleaze for two hours. And you should take a chance on that sleaze. If nothing else, it’s worth it just to see Mr. Wahlberg discuss Shakespeare. ■

**The story in “The Gambler” is loosely taken from a 1974 James Caan film of the same name with — get this — the exact same running time of 111 minutes. Who would have bet on that?**

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The antiques business takes a breath­er for Christmas and New Year’s then will rev up come January.

Even so, you can drive to Fort Lau­derdale or over to Arcadia for antiques events this weekend:

■ West Palm Beach Antique & Flea Market — Visit the green­market, then shop for antiques and decorative items from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturdays along Narcissus Avenue just north of Banyan Boulevard in downtown West Palm Beach. Admission is free. Info: 561-670-7473 or wpbantiqueandfleamarket.com.

■ The South Florida Holiday Antiques Show & Sale — Fifty dealers from around the country come together for this show, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Dec. 27 and noon-5 p.m. Dec. 28 at War Memorial Auditorium, 800 N. Federal Highway, Fort Lauderdale. Tickets: $6 with free parking; 708-366-2710 or dolphinfairs.com.

■ Cresthaven Stamp & Postcard Show — This show is held monthly, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Dec. 27 at the Holiday Inn Express, 2485 Metrocentre Parkway, West Palm Beach; 561-472-7020 or 561-969-3432.

■ Arcadia Antique Fair — More than 100 dealers set up along Oak Street in Arcadia starting at 8 a.m. the fourth Saturday of each month. Next fair is Dec. 27. It’s an easy drive from just about anywhere, and Arcadia has plenty of antiques shops to visit while you’re vis­iting the vendors who line the streets. Shop outdoors in the morning, go to lunch, then return to shop the air-condi­tioned antiques stores and malls in the afternoon. Info: 863-993-5105 or arca­diaantiques.com.

■ West Palm Beach Antiques Fes­tival — The show is noon-5 p.m. Jan. 2, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Jan. 3 and 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Jan. 4 at the South Florida Fairgrounds, 9067 Southern Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: Early buyer admission (gets you in the door from 9 a.m. to noon Dec. 5) is $25 (good for all three days); $8 adults, $7 seniors, free for younger than 16. Two-day admission is $12 (not good during early buyer). Info at wpba.com or 941-697-7475.

■ The Lincoln Road Outdoor Antique & Collectible Market of Miami Beach — It’s fun to stroll this market, which has vendors up and down Lincoln Road, right in the heart of South Beach. It is 8 a.m.-6 p.m. every other Sunday. Next market is Jan. 4. Info: antiquecollectiblemarket.com.

— Send your event information to Scott Simmons at ssimmons@floridaweekly.com.

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Films

From page 1

exciting action pic and a sociopolitical commentary on the military industrial complex. Both are available on home video.

**No. 1:** "The Fault in Our Stars” – I was dreading this one before I went. My mother had recently died of cancer, and here was a best-selling adaptation of a teary-jerker about teenagers simultaneously finding love and dying of cancer. I don’t need this, I thought. But then Shailene Woodley’s Hazel Grace won my heart with her earnest sweetness, and Ansel Elgort as Hazel’s boyfriend, Gus, won her heart and ours with his humor and sensitivity. This movie wasn’t really a tearjerker about teenagers simultaneously dying of cancer; it was about living life to the fullest and not fearing what may come tomorrow. Hazel Grace and Gus had cancer, but it didn’t have them, and that made all the difference. Also available on home video.

**No. 8:** “Life Itself” – I know, I know. It’s a documentary about a film critic being championed by a film critic, and how boring is that? Trust me, it’s not. “Life Itself” tells the life-affirming story of the late Roger Ebert with grace and candor, and under the steady hand of director Steve James (whose film "Hoop Dreams" Ms. Ebert named Best Picture of 1994), it emerges as an unflinchingly honest and inspiring story as well. Now available On Demand.

**No. 7:** "The Theory of Everything” – Declaration: Eddie Redmayne gives the performance of the year as renowned astrophysicist Dr. Stephen Hawking. In theaters now.

**No. 6:** "Interstellar" – Sometimes you watch in awe and appreciate the sheer scope and ambition of a movie. “Interstellar” is one of those times. Director Christopher Nolan doesn’t just take us on an out-of-this-world adventure; he takes us to alternate galaxies, wormholes, distant planets and other dimensions. It’s an absolutely spectacular experience at the movies. It’s in theaters now (and should be seen on a big screen as possible).

**No. 5:** “Wild” – Welcome back to awards season, Reese Witherspoon. The Oscar winner for "Walk the Line" will likely receive another nomination for "Wild," in which she plays a former heroin addict with a troubled family life who decides to hike the 1,100-mile Pacific Crest Trail from Mexico to Canada. In theaters now.

**No. 4:** Edge of Tomorrow” – The best action movie of 2014 stars Tom Cruise as Cage, an unlikely soldier thrust into an unwinnable war with aliens. But there’s a “Groundhog Day” twist in that Cage begins the day anew every time he dies, leading to clever plot developments and exciting action sequences throughout. Available on home video.

**No. 3:** "Gone Girl” – This is silly, but it’s true: When my wife and I walked out of “Gone Girl” I was genuinely frightened. I know that’s irrational, but such was the impact of director David Fincher’s story of a missing wife and the hapless husband trying to track her down. Rosamund Pike’s performance is Oscar worthy, as is Gillian Flynn’s adaptation of her own novel. Available Jan. 13 on home video.

**No. 2:** "Unbroken” – A period piece with deep soul, “Unbroken” was directed by Angelina Jolie, co-written by the Coen Bros. and shot by the great cinematographer Roger Deakins. It’s about Olympian-turned-WWII-hero Louis Zamperini and his experiences before and during the war, which included surviving on a lifeboat in the Pacific for 47 days, only to be captured and tormented by the Japanese for two years. Jack O’Connell is superb as Zamperini, and the story is a testament to the power of perseverance and sheer will. In theaters Christmas Day.

**No. 1:** "Whiplash” – No movie this year caught fire with the same absolute force as "Whiplash." Led by Miles Teller as an aspiring drummer in a music conservatory jazz ensemble, and highlighted by a sure-to-be Oscar-winning performance from J.K. Simmons as a teacher who torments his students, this one knocks your socks off with its intensity, its story, its great performances and its wonderful finale. 2014 was a good year for movies, but for pure entertainment value, this was hands-down the best of them all. "Whiplash” is in limited theaters now and will be available on home video Feb. 3.

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**PUZZLE ANSWERS**

- I come to Lisa’s intermediate apparatus class not only for overall strength and toning, but also for the specific purpose of better being able to lift my teenage hand-capped son. Lisa gives individual attention to our needs in group class, while teaching us how to efficiently and safely engage our muscles. There is always variety and progression. This class has been extremely valuable to me.

— Ellis

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From page 1

beckoning stranger’s lap, burst into tears. They scream. They howl. They wail.

They wiggle and squirm in attempts to escape his clutches. They lose control of their bladders.

Some attach themselves to a parent’s leg, fear acting as an adhesive stronger than Krazy Glue.

Denise Joyce and Nancy Watkins know this scene well.


The pictures, which range from 1929 into the 21st century, demonstrate a universal paradox: Though kids love Santa, he can also strike fear in their little hearts at holiday time.

“Put yourself in the shoes of a little kid,” says Ms. Watkins. “You’re marching up to this great big throne, and a huge man’s on it, wearing a crazy outfit. He has a great big beard and you can’t see his face, and he’s wearing a crazy hat.

“He’s such an alien being! It’s a wonder more kids aren’t scared by Santa.”

“You go in there,” says Ms. Joyce, “and there’s a lot of activity — usually Santa’s helpers, the elves — and lots of lights, and lots of other little kids.”

It’s stimulation overload, and the experience simply overwhelms some children.

She recalls an October 2008 USA Today column by Craig Wilson, who wrote about their book. In it he mentions a Santa convention he’d once attended and his favorite remark, made by the president of Sepia Photo, which services shopping centers across the country: “We tell our kids to stay away from guys who look like you most of the year, then once a year we say, Hey, get up there on his lap and smile!”

“Santa is a stranger,” Ms. Joyce says. “For little kids, it’s scary.”

The fear does seem to go away by age 4 or 5, she adds.

When her own children were little, Ms. Joyce took them to see Santa. Her daughter wasn’t afraid at all, and snuggled right up to him, wearing a crazy outfit. He has a great big beard and you can’t see his face, and he’s still creeped out by clowns.”

Ms. Watkins describes her son, who’s now 17, as “one of those kids who would get in line, wait in line and wait in line until finally you get to Santa. He’d get to the top of the line, and then he’d freak out. It wasn’t until he was 6 or 7 that he finally sat on Santa’s lap. I didn’t force him.”

Ms. Joyce and Ms. Watkins are both former editors at the Chicago Tribune (Disclosure: I worked with both editors during my years as a regular freelance for the newspaper.)

It was at an annual meeting of the American Association of Sunday and Feature Editors (now the Society for Features Journalism) — during a “Show and Steal” presentation of conference attendees’ favorite works — that Ms. Joyce saw a series of photographs the Palm Beach Post had run of crying kids on Santa’s lap. She took the idea home, wrote a letter to the editor and eventually tried it in Q, one of the Tribune’s Sunday lifestyle sections.

“The section was very, very eclectic, very much reader-engaged,” says Ms. Joyce, who was the section editor (Ms. Watkins was the assistant editor). “We did a lot of stuff that was just fun.”

When they asked readers to send in photos of their scared kids on Santa’s lap, she says, “I was expecting maybe 15, 20 pictures. How many can there be out there? But every day, more pictures would arrive. They kept coming.

“Nancy (Watkins) and I were thinking: This is fabulous! We were laughing every day. They just kept coming in. It crashed the email system.”

The paper put a photo gallery online. “They kept putting it up, in 2004 and in 2005,” Ms. Joyce says. “The thing was a click magnet. We got over a million hits to the photo gallery.

Because the site was getting such heavy traffic, their editor asked them to do the feature in the paper again.

Once again, it was wildly successful. So successful that a literary agent called Ms. Joyce and said he thought it’d make a good book.

Ms. Joyce and Ms. Watkins sent photo release forms to those who’d sent in images, then set about organizing the pictures and writing clever captions.

“We started seeing themes,” Ms. Joyce says. “They’re not all kids crying on Santa’s lap. They might be bored, or in some, the Santa might be the funny thing. There were other photos where Santa had a firm grip on the kids, or the kids were trying to wiggle out of their clothes. And that’s how we came up with the chapters and categories.”

When “Scared of Santa: Scenes of Terror in Toyland” was published, the two editors appeared on “Fox and Friends” on New York City, on Chicago affiliates for ABC, CBS and Fox and on various radio stations. A French magazine wrote about the book, and British talk show host Graham Norton mentioned it on his show.

“It was a fun project,” says Ms. Joyce. “It took me out of my comfort zone and put me on the other side of publishing, which was interesting. I loved working with all those people, the readers who sent in their photos.”

Ms. Watkins and Ms. Joyce agree that the most remarkable thing about it was how willing people were to send in their pictures. “We were inundated. We had hundreds we couldn’t even use,” Ms. Watkins says.

“It’s this universal thing, something we can all agree on: Christmas means taking the kids to see Santa, whether they want to or not.”

1. Note how the closer the children are to Santa, the more scared they are. In descending order of fear, Olivia, Aric, Andrew and Amanda Arduini, 1979. Sent by mom Jan of Alsip, Ill.

2. Elizabeth Alice Fishman, 2004 photo sent by parents Laura and Ron Fishman of Algonquin, Ill.

3. Santa may have spent too much time on the tanning bed. Jennifer Grahn of Arlington Heights, Ill., sent this one of herself in 1967.

NETWORKING

Arthur R. Marshall Foundation’s River of Grass Gala Cruise

“Like” us on Facebook.com/FloridaWeeklyPalm Beach to see more photos. We take more society and networking photos at area events than we can fit in the newspaper. So, if you think we missed you or one of your friends, go to www.floridaweekly.com and view the photo albums from the many events we cover.
**NEW YEAR’S EVE CELEBRATIONS**

**West Palm Beach**
- **New Year’s Eve Celebration** — 6 p.m.-midnight Dec. 31, CityPlace, 700 S. Rosemary Ave, West Palm Beach. Live Entertainment and snowfalls every hour. Free. Info: 366-1000; CityPlace.com.

- **Forbidden Broadway “Comes Out Swinging!”** — This musical roast of Broadway productions will lampoon “Pippin,” “Rocky,” “Matilda” and “The Book Of Mormon,” among others. Performances begin Dec. 26 and continue through Dec. 31 at the Kravis Center, West Palm Beach. Tickets: $39 (except 10 p.m. Dec. 31), which includes New Year’s Eve Champagne toast. 832-7469 or Kravis.org.


**Palm Beach**
- **The Breakers** — Look for events at three Breakers venues this New Year’s Eve:
  - **New Year’s Eve Dinner** — Flager Steakhouse, 5:30 p.m.-10 p.m. Dec. 31. A special three-course New Year’s Eve menu priced at $195 per person. A children’s menu will be available until 7 p.m. for $50 per child 11 and under, and, after 7 p.m., children will be charged at the adult rate. Prices subject to service charge and tax. For reservations, call 659-8471.
  - **New Year’s Eve Fantasy Ball** — Ponce de Leon Ballroom, 7:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Dec. 31, $500 per person, $425 per club member and hotel guests, $325 per person ages 12 to 20, plus service charge and tax. (Children under 11 not allowed.) Click here to reserve online.
  - **Ultimate New Year’s Eve Cocktail Party** — HMF. Seatings at 9 p.m., 9:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. Dec. 31. Seating options range from $200 per person to $300 per couple. Reservations required. Call 659-8466, Ext. 7262.

**FRENCHMAN’S RESERVE, PBG**

Original Builder’s Model | On Golf Course | 6BR/6.1BA | $3,500,000

**BEAR’S CLUB, JUPITER**

Gated Community | 3 Contiguous 1 Acre Lots | From $2.9 Million

**FRENCHMAN’S CREEK, PBG**

Waterfront | 6BR/8.2BA | 7,003 SF | 60 Ft. Dock | $2,595,000

**FRENCHMAN’S CREEK, PGB**

Golf Views | 4BR/5.1BA | 5,300 SF | Pool, Spa | $1,950,000

**CLARIDGE, JUPITER ISL**

Ocean & ICW Views | 3BR/3.5BA | 3,500 SF | A/C Garage | $2,395,000

**JUPITER KEY**

Direct Ocean | 4BR, 3.2BA | 3,256 SF | Elevator | $1,374,000

**THE BLUFFS, JUPITER**

Direct Intracoastal | 3BR/2BA | 1,889 SF | No Fixed bridges | $975K

**DUNES TOWERS, SINGER ISL**

Lowest priced 3BR/3BA on Singer Isl | IW/Ocean | $485,000

Updated 2BR/2BA Units | Ocean/IW | 1,300 SF | $345K - $470K

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