

PALM BEACH GARDENS & JUPITER  
**FLORIDA WEEKLY**<sup>®</sup>  
 YOUR NEWS AND ENTERTAINMENT SOURCE

WEEK OF DECEMBER 9-15, 2010

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Harvey Scott and Glenn MacDougall clean graffiti from bridges, byways, canals, strip malls — all kinds of structures — each day.

**GRAFFITI CLEAN UP CREW**  
 IN THE HOUSE

BY TIM NORRIS  
 tnorris@floridaweekly.com

**T**HROUGH THE STREETS AND byways of Palm Beach Gardens, over the bridges, along expressways and canals, across the backs of strip malls and developments, on electrical boxes and commercial and street signs and on walls and fences in full public view, a phantom does his dirty-work. Several phantoms, maybe.

He, or they, is chased on this late-November morning, as on every workday, by an invisible man. Or men. Invisible to most, at least.

SEE GRAFFITI, A8 ▶

MAUREEN DZIKOWSKI/FLORIDA WEEKLY. GRAFFITI PHOTOS COURTESY OF CITY OF PALM BEACH GARDENS

## City staffers, others volunteer to help homeowners

### SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

A few years ago when the economy began to slide, employees in the city of Palm Beach Gardens code enforcement department noticed that more and more residents were having trouble making repairs to their homes.

"It's not that they didn't want to meet code, but people were losing their jobs, and in some cases high medical bills were hurting families," says David Reyes, operations director in code enforcement.

Thus, CAST was born. The Community Action Support Team is comprised of employees from various city departments. The team partners with local businesses, agencies and Palm Beach County to help residents maintain their properties.

"It's not our goal to have a resident appear before a judge on a code complaint," Mr. Reyes says. "We work and work until we have found a solution."

Sometimes that solution is a group of employees volunteering to fix a home. So far, eight residences have been improved.

On Dec. 4 city employees and students from the Benjamin School in Palm Beach Gardens, worked on a house on North Mary Drive.

"It's amazing to see the volunteers," said C.A.S.T. coordinator Michael Williams. "It becomes a labor of love very quickly."

Leanna Beck, whose Mary Circle home was painted, said: "It's the best Christmas. I just think it's so great that this program is there and available."

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# COMMENTARY

## Is WikiLeaks information helpful, hurtful or just voyeuristic?



**c. b. HANIF**  
cbhanif@floridaweekly.com

By now we've finished off the leftover turkey. And others of us have digested a portion of the latest WikiLeaks release.

For those who haven't, WikiLeaks is the award-winning, international not-for-profit whistle-blowing organization that, as its name implies, publishes leaked documents alleging high institutional misconduct.

Beyond the obvious national security implications, there's plenty for shock value, humor and serious contemplation in the recent massive release of confidential diplomatic cables.

Perusing the trove of sensitive documents is like viewing our world neighbors' — and our own — dirty linen. Foreign leaders are as embarrassed as our own. I was left wondering just who decided what got leaked.

Like most local folks with whom I talked, I confess to being of two minds on all this.

Most were your average Jane or John who have been numbed by, or simply have tuned out, the revelations of what our government and foreign governments have been up to. Other folks shared thoughts from pertinent professional backgrounds.

"I have mixed reactions to WikiLeaks," said Bob Jenks, member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church on Burns Road.

"I am absolutely of the viewpoint that our government should be open to full scrutiny and subject to the will of the people," said the former Naval aviator who has been a business planner throughout most of his career, including when he organized the first practical business plan for the Palm Beach County Health Department.

"I am not so naïve, however, to believe that we live in a world of full trust and mutual honor," said Mr. Jenks, who has degrees from Harvard, who continues as a professor in the School of Management at Walden University and now lives in North Palm Beach.

"So, especially when dealing with situations where we already know that there is rampant corruption, I reluctantly have to recognize we have to use the same weapons employed by the bullies, liars and cowards out there in order to protect our country, ourselves and our children."

It turns out our foreign policy is much more complex — and perplexing — than even those of us who have tried to pay attention have thought. Recognition of that is one good outcome of this peek.

For example, we're learning just how "disastrously" corrupt is the Afghanistan government we're trying to prop up. According to our embassy folks, their agriculture guy "appears to be the only minister that was confirmed about whom no allegations of bribery exist."

Unlike government corruption, one revelation that was surprising is Arab leaders' sentiment that the U.S. should invade Iran.

Regarding that, Ghassan Rubeiz of Palm Beach Gardens, prior to his Dec. 2 talk on "Sex, Religion and Politics in the Middle East," at the First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Palm Beaches, said: "Religious dynasties can be fratricidal: (Saudi Arabia) King Abdullah wants the 'head of the snake to be cut off in Iran.'

"But the Saudi people and the majority of Arab society disagree with the king and with other Gulf rulers," added Mr. Rubeiz. "Arab society may have mixed feelings about the Tehran regime. But they are against hosting a third war in the region, and they do not consider Iran a major threat."

Mr. Rubeiz is an Arab-American social scientist with a background in ecumenism; he was Middle East Secretary of the Geneva-based World Council of Churches between 1979 and 1993.

"My reaction: Media is making too big an issue of it," said Allen Maxwell, who's back for the season to lead the popular NewsTalk discussions at 9 a.m. Sunday mornings at First Unitarian Universalist on Prosperity Farms Road.

"This is the type of communication that takes place — and should take place — between our diplomats in the field and the Department of State in Washington," said Mr. Maxwell, emeritus professor of Political Science, Indiana University Kokomo, whose specialties include U.S. foreign policy and global politics.

"I am impressed with the candid nature of some of the cables," he said. "They provide insights into the attitudes

of foreign leaders and of the foreign publics. These are necessary for wise policy-making by our policy makers in Washington. These cables are the heart of diplomacy. The only difference with the WikiLeaks cables is that the public is getting a look at diplomatic communications."

That's the transparency I want: to know what my government is doing even when — especially when — government officials don't think we need to know, or don't want us to know.

But there's also the need to balance the jeopardy to our diplomatic and security service people.

That may or may not explain why WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange is being pursued by Interpol for alleged sex crimes, why Amazon Inc. has stopped hosting his site, or why WikiLeaks had to move its servers to Switzerland following "mass attacks" online.

But consider Bob Campbell's cautionary sentiment, as he recalled the leak during the Vietnam Era of the Pentagon Papers, by Daniel Ellsberg:

"Ellsberg was exposing lies perpetrated on the American public by two administrations. That was a major service to America," said the retired public school psychologist and Jupiter resident. "The WikiLeaks revelations serve no useful purpose and in fact are destructive to the U.S. and our relations with others."

Truth does have consequences. Given these latest leaks' potential for help and hurt, we need to be more than just voyeurs. ■



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## Seacoast National collects toys for Love Doctors toy drive



COURTESY PHOTO  
Seacoast Employees Blanca Cote, Linda Kleywegt, Bianca Silveira and Monika Krumbock display some of the toys collected for The Love Doctors Charity Toy Drive.

The Seacoast National Bank branches in Palm Beach County collected toys for The Love Doctors Charity Toy Drive, which will give the toys to local families.

Seacoast National Bank is the operating arm of Seacoast Banking Corporation of Florida, which has \$2.1 billion in assets and 39 branches from Orlando to Palm Beach Gardens. ■

## Jupiter Medical Center named "great place to work"

Jupiter Medical Center was one of four healthcare organizations surveyed nationally to receive the Laureate Award for Workplace Enhancement from The Jackson Group. This is the second year JMC received the award — the first was in 2007.

The award was based on the facility's work climate survey results that showed significant improvement over previous survey outcomes and is the result of efforts to strengthen JMC as a "great place to work," the company said in a prepared statement.

The Jackson Group, a survey services and consulting firm, along with the JMC leadership team and input from its team members, developed a plan to change the culture of the organization. Work climate surveys were conducted over several years to measure improvements in the work climate and plan for further action in areas in need of continued focus.

"The team members who comprise the

Medical Center are among our greatest assets. We make every effort to meet their needs to provide a safe and rewarding workplace," CEO John Couris said in the statement. "This award is a direct reflection of the hard work of our leadership team to instill a culture of shared governance and participatory leadership in our organization."

JMC is a not-for-profit 283-bed community hospital with 163 private acute care hospital beds and 120 long-term care beds.

The center will open a cardiac catheterization lab in the spring of 2011, and is preparing to undergo a major expansion project over the next few years.

Founded in 1979, it is affiliated with the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. It has about 1,400 employees, 525 physicians and 700 volunteers. For more information, call 747-2234 or see [www.jupitermed.com](http://www.jupitermed.com). ■

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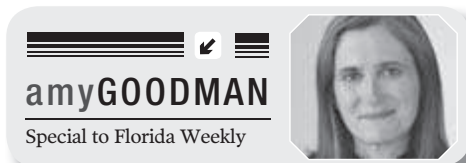
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# OPINION

## WikiLeaks and the end of U.S. 'diplomacy'



amyGOODMAN

Special to Florida Weekly

WikiLeaks is again publishing a trove of documents, in this case classified U.S. State Department diplomatic cables. The whistle-blower website will gradually be releasing more than 250,000 of these documents in the coming months so that they can be analyzed and gain the attention they deserve. The cables are internal, written communications between U.S. Embassies around the world to each other and to the U.S. State Department. WikiLeaks described the leak as "the largest set of confidential documents ever to be released into the public domain (giving) an unprecedented insight into U.S. Government foreign activities."

Critics argue, as they did with earlier leaks of secret documents regarding Iraq and Afghanistan, that lives will be lost as a result. Rather, lives might actually be saved, since the way that the U.S. conducts diplomacy is now getting more exposure than ever — as is the apparent ease with which the U.S. government lives up (or down) to the adage used by pioneering journalist I.F. Stone: "Governments lie."

Take the case of Khaled El-Masri. El-Masri was snatched in Macedonia as part of the CIA's secret extraordinary rendition program, in which people are taken by the U.S. government and sent to other countries, where they can be subjected to torture. He was held and tortured in a secret prison in Afghanistan for months before being dropped by the CIA on an isolated road in Albania, even though the CIA had long established that it had grabbed the wrong man. El-Masri, a German citizen, sought justice through

German courts, and it looked like 13 CIA agents might be charged. Then the U.S. Embassy in Berlin stepped in, threatening, according to one cable, that "issuance of international arrest warrants would have a negative impact on our bilateral relationship." No charges were ever filed in Germany, suggesting the diplomatic threat worked. The 13 agents are, however, still facing charges in Spain, where prosecutors enjoy some freedom from political pressures.

Or so we thought. In fact, Spain figures prominently in the leaked documents as well. Among the cables is one from May 14, 2007, authored by Eduardo Aguirre, a conservative Cuban-American banker appointed U.S. ambassador to Spain by George W. Bush. Aguirre wrote: "For our side, it will be important to continue to raise the Couso case, in which three U.S. servicemen face charges related to the 2003 death of Spanish cameraman Jose Couso during the battle for Baghdad."

Jose Couso was a young cameraman with the Spanish TV network Telecinco. He was filming from the balcony of the Palestine Hotel in Baghdad on April 8, 2003, when a U.S. Army tank fired on the hotel packed with journalists, killing Couso and a Reuters cameraman. Ambassador Aguirre was trying to quash the lawsuit brought by the Couso family in Spain.

The U.S. ambassador was also pressuring the Spanish government to drop a precedent-setting case against former Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and other Bush administration officials. In that same memo, Aguirre writes, "The Deputy Justice Minister also said the GOS (government of Spain) strongly opposes a case brought against former Secretary Rumsfeld and will work to get it dismissed. The judge involved in that case has told us he has already started the process of dismissing the case."

These revelations are rocking the Spanish government, as the cables clearly show U.S. attempts to disrupt the Spanish justice system.

Ambassador Aguirre told Spain's El Pais newspaper several years ago, "I am George Bush's plumber, I will solve all the problems George gives me."

In another series of cables, the U.S. State Department instructs its staff around the world and at the U.N. to spy on people, and, remarkably, to collect biometric information of diplomats. The cable reads, "Data should include email addresses, telephone and fax numbers, fingerprints, facial images, DNA, and iris scans."

WikiLeaks is continuing its partnership with a global group of media outlets: Britain's The Guardian, El Pais, The New York Times, German magazine Der Spiegel and France's Le Monde. David Leigh, investigations editor of The Guardian, told me, "We haven't seen anything yet," with literally almost a quarter-million cables still not publicly revealed.

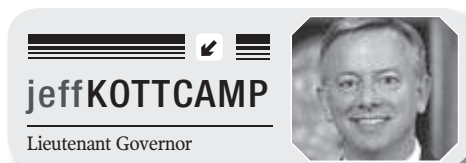
A renowned political analyst and linguist, MIT professor Noam Chomsky, helped Daniel Ellsberg, America's premier whistle-blower, release the Pentagon Papers 40 years ago. I asked Chomsky about the latest cables released by WikiLeaks. "What this reveals," he reflected, "is the profound hatred for democracy on the part of our political leadership."

Denis Moynihan contributed research to this column. ■

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

## GUEST OPINION

### Florida's economic future is bright



jeffKOTTCAMP

Lieutenant Governor

Over the last month, I have had the opportunity to meet with government and business leaders from Japan and Italy — including the Japanese ambassador to the United States, Ichiro Fujisaki, and the president of Umbria in Italy, Catuscia Marini. One thing is clear from these meetings — the world is eager to do business with, and in, the state of Florida.

In fact, over the last four years, I have met with leaders from more than 30 countries to discuss opportunities for increased trade and tourism for Florida. Our state is highly regarded around the world. Almost every leader I have met with has vacationed in Florida. After coming here for fun, government and business leaders from around the globe are now looking for opportunities to come here for business.

People around the world understand

that Florida offers an unmatched combination of "pro-business" policies as well as an incredible quality of life. But the international interest in Florida is not limited to doing business in the Sunshine State.

With the expansion of the Panama Canal — and the close proximity to the canal from a number of Florida ports, our state is seen as the gateway to emerging markets in Central and South America. Today one in six jobs in Florida is supported by international business — that number is expected to increase significantly.

The increased international interest in Florida coincides with the Economic Competitiveness Index recently released by the American Legislative Exchange Council and economist Arthur Laffer. According to the index, the five states in America with the brightest economic future are Utah, Colorado, Texas, South Dakota, and Florida — in that order. It is worth noting that Florida is the highest-ranked state in the Southeast.

The index is based on 15 indicators. Florida scores well in many areas. We

are 37th in property tax burden, 39th in the sales tax burden and 45th in the burden remaining taxes. Thanks to our Constitutional prohibition of a state income tax, we are, of course 50th in that category.

Our state is also trending in the right direction. In 2008, Florida was number 16 on the index, last year we were 11th, and now we are fifth. Based on the Economic Competitiveness Index, it appears Florida's economy is well positioned to turn around sooner than most states in the country.

Of course, Florida's economy does not operate in a vacuum. National and international economic conditions impact our state's bottom line. But as the economy rebounds it appears that the world is ready to do business in Florida and our state's economic future is bright. ■

— Lt. Gov. Jeff Kottkamp is Florida's 17th lieutenant governor. He serves as chairman of Space Florida, chairman of Florida's Children and Youth Cabinet and oversees the Office of Drug Control.

## NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD  
DISTRIBUTED BY UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

### Settling for less

Britain's National Health Service acknowledged in November that, because of a shortage of healthy lungs and other organs available for transplant, it was offering those on waiting lists the option of receiving them from

former smokers, drug addicts, cancer patients and the elderly. "You have to say," said an official with the NHS's Blood and Transplant unit, "do you get a lung with more risk, or do you get no lung (at all)?" ■

### Compelling explanations

► French farmer Michele Rouyer, who was discovered by police with about 11 pounds of packaged marijuana and a dozen plants, said the weed was not for himself but for the 150 ducks he raises — in that a specialist had suggested that marijuana is an effective dewormer and fever-preventer. (Mr. Rouyer did acknowledge that, well, yes, maybe he smoked a little of it himself.) In November, a court in Rochefort fined him the equivalent of about \$700 — even though he insisted, proudly, that his ducks are, indeed, worm-free.

► Former Groveland, Mass., police

officer Aaron Yeo, who was fired in 2009 for sleeping on the job and lying to dispatchers about his locations, challenged the termination in October 2010, claiming through his lawyer that he had declined to reveal his locations only because he was "watching for terrorists."

► Body armor company CEO David H. Brooks, charged with tax fraud and insider trading, argued at his trial in August in New York City that his company's hiring of prostitutes for staff and board members was a legitimate corporate expense because it could "make (employees) more productive." ■

### Human rights watch

► In recent years frisky Britons have popularized "dogging" — strangers meeting for outdoor sex in remote public parks — and U.K. government agencies appear to be of two minds about it. Local councils want to see it stopped, but the police chiefs' association in Scotland recognizes that doggers have rights. (The Surrey County Council, for example, recently considered bringing wild bulls into one park to discourage doggers, although one critic said romping bulls "will probably make (doggers) even more excited." The chiefs' association issued a 60-page "hate crimes" manual in October that urged officers to be sensitive to "outdoor sex" practitioners, in that they are vulnerable to hate crimes just as are other disadvantaged minorities.)

► In November, the California Supreme Court ruled unanimously that some illegal immigrants are entitled to enroll in the state's universities at the

in-state residents' rate (saving as much as \$23,000 a year) even though U.S. citizens at the same schools may have to pay higher fees as non-California residents. Though federal law prevents special benefits to illegal immigrants, California's law grants anyone who has attended the state's high schools for at least three years, and graduated, to pay resident rates — irrespective of their parents' legal residency.

► Chadwick St.-OHarra, 59, and Steve Righetti, 59, filed lawsuits in small claims court in San Rafael, Calif., in November against the Seafood Peddler restaurant for "injuries." Cutting into the escargot at dinner in June, both men were squirted in the face by streams of hot garlic butter. Still, the men finished the meal and admitted that only later did they grow to resent the restaurant staff's insufficient remorse. Said St.-OHarra, "It was the friggin' rudeness" that provoked them to sue. ■

### Redneck chronicles

► Joe Druce, serving life in prison in Massachusetts for one murder (and who subsequently murdered fellow inmate and former pedophile priest John Geoghan), popped the question recently to Christian minister Shirl Borden, who agreed to marry him in October after five years of being pen pals. Ms. Borden said the pair's relationship turned romantic over their

mutual love of NASCAR.

► Harvey Westmoreland of Lawrenceburg, Ky., maintains that the \$250 price he was asking for his tractor was reasonable, but the potential buyer felt cheated and, with a friend, attacked Mr. Westmoreland. Said Mr. Westmoreland, "(T)hey cut my beard and forced me to eat it." In November, the two men pleaded guilty to assault. ■

### Least-competent people

► Police in Gumperda, Germany, arrested a 64-year-old retired do-it-yourselfer in November after he drilled through a neighbor's wall in their duplex home. The man had spent two days trapped in his own basement, where he had laid bricks and mortar for a room but apparently forgot to leave himself an exit.

► Sheryl Urzedowski, 38, was cited

in September for DUI in Orland Park, Ill., after failing a field sobriety test to walk a straight line. According to the officer's report, Ms. Urzedowski put her hands on her hips and strutted to and fro "as if she were a (runway) model," after which, apprehensive about being arrested, she asked the officer to read her "the Amanda rights." ■

### Running oneself over

► A 20-year-old man trying to push his car up a steep hill on Levering Street in Philadelphia lost control and was crushed and hospitalized (September).

► Jackie Long, 52, crashed her car into

a tree in Chipping Campden, England. Her door burst open just as the car went airborne, and she fell to the ground and was run over by the rear driver's-side wheel, requiring hospital treatment. ■

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## 15 MINUTES

## Loudmouth diner cons a free meal, but owner is the winner

BY TIM NORRIS  
tnorris@floridaweekly.com

The social fabric is torn. The gossamer of good graces shreds in a hot wind.

Some infantile, self-absorbed, possibly inebriated boor enters the scene and goes off.

This could happen anywhere, especially in traffic or crowded shopping places this time of year.

When the scene is a restaurant, though, the intrusion seems especially coarse. And the flags of warning that unfurl in the heads of surrounding diners can signal a rip-current underneath a mostly placid social surface.

We live, after all, in angry, fearful, self-righteous times.

The trigger, in this case, is a 16-ounce Porterhouse steak. In a waterfront restaurant in Palm Beach Gardens not long after dark, on an outer patio, a gentle breeze flickers the candles, light jazz burbles from a bar inside, waiters and waitresses shift pleasantly and briskly among the tables. Even when they wouldn't in other settings, they smile and defer.

Most patrons, otherwise disguised as you and me, are here to relax, here to be cooked for and waited on, here to get away. Most of the ones who showed up earlier to conduct business have left by now or have put away laptops and attaché cases in favor of iced teas or gin-and-tonics.

One customer is here for another reason ... or is plainly beyond reason. He pulled up waterside in a large and glossy boat. He is wearing an unbuttoned white jacket over a tank top, a mahogany tan and a glittering

gold chain, and his voice is as loud as his look and getting louder.

"I'm paying forty dollars for this piece of crap!" he is saying, with acrobatic arm-waving. "They can't even cook it right. I oughta slap somebody in the face with it!" The two others at the table nod agreement and murmur "yeah" and "right."

Around him, nobody filling the other tables is raising up and craning for a look. There are glances and a little curiosity and some embarrassment. His waiter, a man appearing to be in his 30s, is trying, between quick-steps to other tables and customers inside, to calm and reassure him. We'll take this back, he says, and get another cut, cook it your way. The man, saying nothing, hands him the plate. A few minutes later, the waiter comes back, new meat steaming on the tray.

The man looks, cuts, bites, fumes, flares. His language takes on more vivid color and some paprika and jalapeno.

Nothing jerks beef or chicken or nearby ears harder than the F-bomb. It's a verbal detonation. In more proper days, it was confined to locker rooms and male-only business and what was called "the street," meaning anyone who wanted to act tough or be noticed. It discolors the air more often now and also intrudes here, where sex is supposed to shimmer in personal appearance rather than being evoked by an epithet with the sound of a toilet being plunged.

"I was a Marine," the man snarls. "I'm gonna kick his (F-bomb) ass!" F-bomb F-bomb. Semper Fi? Semper...why? Or maybe temper...why? We might be talking a lifetime of therapy, here.



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Then he summons the owner. He calls him several names, including the name of the James Bond heroine that ends in "Galore."

My Scottish grandfather would have had a simple answer for this guy. It starts with b and ends with t and rhymes with "welt." The staff here, though, has no simple answer. No one is ready to pull out the wet dish rag and give it a snap. Anyway, they're kind of BUSY.

The phrase "call the cops" comes to mind, but that's an invitation to the Deep Muddy. Facing someone drunk and angry is akin to one of the most volatile police calls, to a "domestic disturbance." It's the backside of Forrest Gump's box of chocolates: you never know what you're gonna get. Maybe the guy will melt into a puddle; maybe he's an escaped con who will pull an Uzi. And it would pull them into the legal system, which might be an even bigger muddly.

The owner, well, maybe he could listen more, but there isn't much worth hearing. Who wants to stand there listening to a diatribe on the quality of his Porterhouse, especially when everybody else seems happy? No fists are thrown, but the owner, after saying "If you don't like it, don't come back here," finally retreats, leaving the last words to the performer, who issues them to the heavens and anyone within earshot, including a dozen patrons.

The verdict is clear: loudmouth 1, establishment 0. He won't have to pay. He makes a show of protesting that he ALWAYS pays, g-d it, but, in the end, he doesn't. Then comes the clincher. To survivors left at nearby tables, a waiter and waitress reveal that the guy, this same guy, had pulled this protest THREE other times. "If he doesn't like the meat," a waitress says, "why does he come back here?" For a freebie? Sure. Maybe he also enjoys the melodrama.

As a race, confronted by confrontation, we show astounding grace. Maybe we're afraid of what would happen if we all just let loose. Maybe we're just not sure how to DO that.

Either way, the lessons of that night seem clear. First, the people who run and work in restaurants are grossly undervalued. They may curse in the kitchen, may step into the walk-in cooler to avoid a tantrum, but most of the time, over the grills and out among the tables, on their feet and under pressure, they take the heat and stay welcoming. The headline WAITER ASSAULTS PATRON would be a lot like MAN BITES DOG. We'd hear about it. We don't hear about the reverse, which happens more often than most of us know.

Rudeness, well, that's out there, but the greatest act of courage that night, I thought, was the owner's showing up to have it out. Maybe it was foolhardy, too, in the sense that he was hardy and the other guy was a fool, and possibly dangerous. I might have sent the bodyguard with the brass knuckles. He showed his wait staff, at least, that he has their backs, the thing that they show HIM every day and night, for low-base pay and prayed-for tips.

Second, in their actions, at least, people are overwhelmingly tolerant and hopeful. While most of us may not keep a smile on our face for the whole human race (my brother always says that anyone who smiles all the time is really showing the frozen rictus of perpetual denial), we can take comfort in knowing that nearly all of us are polite, or at least indifferent and non-threatening, nearly all of the time.

The waiter comes to our table, apologizes, asks if he can bring anything else. Coffee? Sure. Dessert? Why not? We're feeling almost as relieved as he does. We're going to leave one hell of a tip. ■

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# GRAFFITI

From page 1

Just now, Harvey Scott moves along the low wall of a bridge on Kyoto Gardens Drive, a street with very little lighting, where it meets Alternate A1A (Hwy. 811). The top of the wall and its metal railing are spackled with "GW 561" and "peuk," in crayon and black marker, here, there, over there, down the line. He takes out a digital camera and photographs each one. Then he pulls on plastic gloves.

Mr. Scott is a big man, in a bright green reflective vest, and his white city truck winks with flashers; still, some drivers barreling in off A1A come within inches. "Sometimes when we come out, on a busy street, we have cones set up, and some people get right where the cone is and then swing out," he says. "They're on the cell phone or whatever. A lot of times you need someone out here waving traffic around, watching your back."

The fight goes on. Their weapons are high-pressure paint and water and, even more, a targeted product called Graffiti Wipes, pink and smelling of citrus and intense enough that they need gloves to handle it.

Mr. Scott bends over a "GW 561" on the railing in black marker. He frames the area in blue masking tape, sprays over it with Rustoleum protective enamel, in shiny silver. "You can't always match the color perfect," he says, "but we want it to look neat." Gray. Pale yellow. Blue. Light or darker green. They do their best to match the various surfaces favored by the vandals, the concrete of walls, the steel or aluminum of electrical boxes and signs, the wood of telephone poles. They do their best to stay positive.

"He'll come back here tonight and do it again," Mr. Scott says. He wipes off or paints over each besmirching graffiti, then takes the "after" pictures. Then he looks across the street and says, "They graffiti-ed that wall from there all the way down. How nobody seen them do this, I don't understand. It took us 15 gallons of bridge paint. These kids are relentless, man."

So, in their way, are the graffiti-fighters, reporting at 7 a.m. and working into the heat of the day amid a regimen of other duties.

Judging from public awareness, the uniform of Public Works might seem a cloak of invisibility, its wearers carrying out essential services without fanfare or even notice.

Their arch-enemies, though, are far more skilled in the art of dodging.

The perpetrators of graffiti are known, in some quarters, as artists. Most of what Mr. Scott and partner Glenn MacDougall see every day is little more than scrawl, remarkably consistent but unskilled and ugly. Their job is to remove it, and that takes them into chemistry, physics, and the science of materials. It also takes them into social psychology, or psychosis.

What they see is a mystery, a whodunnit ... and HOW? And WHY? "How do they have the time to do so much of this? This is work. You'd think with that much energy they could get a regular job," Mr. MacDougall says, and Mr. Scott says, "On a main road like the PGA bridge, I wish they would put a camera up there. At least we could find out who. Then maybe we could figure out why."

A clue comes from the few graffiti-ists who have been caught. A graffiti vandal snagged in New Zealand told writer Kristin Edge of the *Northern Advocate* newspaper there, "It's a hobby. I do it whenever I can get cans (of spray paint). It's for fame and the



Harvey Scott and Glenn MacDougall clean graffiti from bridges, byways, canals, strip malls — all kinds of structures — each day. Often the graffiti reappears overnight. MAUREEN DZIKOWSKI/FLORIDA WEEKLY

adrenalin. I don't care whose place it is. You don't think about that."

A young middle school student caught in Palm Beach Gardens last year seemed to verify that motive. He was assigned to spend a day with Mr. Scott, cleaning up. Mr. Scott would like to have had him for a week.

"I took him to a fence on Military, and he had to, like, go down into the canal," Mr. Scott says. "He was saying, 'How'd they get that down THERE?' I said, 'You tell US.' It was hot, and by the end of the day he drained the water jug. He was all, like, drenched in sweat. He didn't like it too much."

Maybe the tagger who managed to spray-paint a local water tower wanted most for his peeps to praise his daring. None of the phantoms is stepping forward to say. They leave messages in paint, and some are threats, such as one Mr. Scott found on the flyover bridge: "Stop erasin' my s\*\*t, puss ass cops, 4 I put the heat on ya ass."

"The police want these guys, bad," Mr. Scott says.

The two city workers dream of the encounter, five minutes of face-to-face. They are both fathers, sympathetic to sons and daughters, aware of the challenges to teens, of hormones and self-hood, of finding a place in an often confusing and hypocritical and contradictory world.

They also know vandalism, destruction of public and personal property, when they see it. And they see it most working days. "We got certain spots that we have to check every day," Mr. Scott says. "That bridge on Kyoto, the flyover bridge, a couple parks, behind some strip malls. It's, like, we take it off, and they come and put it right back on."

Mostly, the men are the restorers of Clean, however temporary. They are also the inheritors of Sisyphus, the ancient of Greek legend condemned to push his rock uphill only to have it roll back down again and again and again.

The men have cleaned the Kyoto Gardens bridge a dozen times. Each time, the tagger returns to mark the same places. As Mr. Scott approaches it, yet again, pulling on two layers of clear plastic gloves, he confesses, "Yeah, it can get old. You go and clean up an area, and they come in right behind you, like a 'screw you' to us. What we say is, well, for Glenn and

me, it's job security."

Mr. Scott, a week from his 55th birthday, has been on the job more than five years, after retiring from 27 years with the city of Riviera Beach, ending with work as a mechanic in the water department. He signed on only weeks after the anti-graffiti program started. "Every day my wife (Kim) was giving me the 'honey-do' list," he says. "I thought, if I'm gonna work, I want to be paid for it!"

Mr. MacDougall, 57, joined him a year ago, moving over from the Palm Beach Gardens Purchasing Department amid personnel shifts following budget cuts. He had worked for public works in the city of Port St. Lucie and run his own daycare center, caught, as he says, in life's twists and turns.

"We like working together," Mr. MacDougall says. "I said, 'If you move me over, I want to work with HIM.'" Mr. Scott adds, "Everybody got problems. If you come to work and you're all mad, it makes the day go longer. You know what I'm sayin'? We just come in, crack some jokes, talk about football, see some pretty girl walking around, makes the day go faster. We know what to look for, and what to do on the jobs, too."

Just then, along PGA Boulevard, they are checking the backs of signs, public and private, frequent targets. "Lookin' good, today," Mr. Scott says. "I guess they must have gotten some sleep after watching football yesterday."

Pro football, in fact, is part of Mr. Scott's and Mr. MacDougall's own chemistry. Mr. Scott owes Mr. MacDougall a fish dinner, since Mr. MacDougall's New England Patriots beat Mr. Scott's Pittsburgh Steelers two weeks ago. "I haven't been able to live that down," Mr. Scott says. "We were talkin' trash all week."

They see trash all week, too, and the cleanup isn't cheap. Palm Beach Gardens, they say, is an exceptionally clean city, and living with graffiti isn't an option.

On this morning tour they focus on public property, since they're not allowed on private roads or in gated communities, though they have helped churches and property owners. The circuit takes them all over town, into some of the city's most obscure and some of its most visible places. They have the city's support and, they like to think, the public's, too.

"The police chief (Stephen J. Stepp), he's real hot on this graffiti thing," Mr. Scott says. "He always telling us, 'You're doing a good job out here.'"

The man they call "Smitty," Robin Smith, head of Graffiti Response and their boss at Public Works, and HIS boss, head of Public Works Mike Morrow, see new work orders nearly every day, many from sightings by police officers and other city employees that's part of an initiative called W.O.W. (Workers on Watch). They look for debris in the road, dead animals, potholes. More than anything, they find graffiti. Past orders are piling into a drift on the desk in their office. When they downloaded the camera recently, they found 703 images; most of them included "GW." Before long, Smith predicts, they'll see something else.

"Monday is the worst," Mr. Scott says, "and the day after Halloween, my goodness! It wasn't so bad this year. Most years, they go crazy."

Around the Financial Center at the Gardens a few minutes later, Mr. Scott sees "GWs" on garbage cans, on schedules at bus stops, on the instruction sign at a crosswalk. Some of them, he says, only the state can replace. "If I put the graffiti wipes on this crosswalk sign, it would take all the letters off there," he says.

Then.... "Right here, look, he hit that electrical box again. Oh, man! Two layers of GW, purple and blue. This is hard work. You get more mad than tired. It DOES frustrate you."

Officials in cities and towns across the country share that frustration. None has found a lasting solution. Programs in big cities such as New York, Miami and Los Angeles include monetary rewards for turning in vandals, graffiti-resistant paints and chemicals such as aliphatic acrylic urethane, educational sessions in schools, intelligence databases to identify known vandals and their tags, publicity and advertising.

There still seem to be too many rebels, Mr. Scott and Mr. MacDougall say, without a cause, beyond the sheer thrill of the public expression and the chase. Without more severe punishments and public humiliation, what's left to stop them?

Streetlight doesn't seem to. "They hit the flyover bridge three weeks ago in 31 places," Mr. Scott says, "inside the wall along the walkway, on light



poles, writing GW, Peuk, the challenge to police. This is lit. People drive by all night. Why didn't somebody see them?"

Pulling into Loehmann's Plaza, Mr. Scott meets Mr. MacDougall, who brings a fresh supply of Graffiti Wipes. Mr. MacDougall is still laughing about the day they were pressure-painting a support wall and the hose melted on an engine manifold and ruptured, spraying Scott pale light yellow from chin to knees. "The guys got a good laugh," Scott says.

They do not laugh at what the plaza shows them. This place, along the backside, they say, is among the worst. Vandals tagged doors, dumpster walls, drain pipes. "How many times have we painted this, 10?" Mr. Scott says, and Mr. MacDougall nods. Some stores are empty, overlooked, an open invitation. On one of these doors, someone painted "187," code for murder. "That really pissed off the police," Mr. Scott says. Later on the tour, the message will get even worse.

Some places seem out of view, but Mr. Scott points out that nearby on Military, somebody tagged the front door of a CVS pharmacy.

Their job may seem part of a struggle between good and evil, between the clean and the profane, but, as the eminent actor, social philosopher and easy rider Dennis Hopper once said and Mr. Scott knows, "I never met a villain yet who didn't think he was the hero."

The struggle, the city workers know, is ancient, dating back to Egyptian and then to Roman times, when chalk marks and scratches intruded on monuments. Some call it folk art, and it is celebrated at its most elaborate and creative on web sites and in museums. Harvey Scott is not among the celebrants. He admires elaborate and colorful graffiti he has seen on passing trains and appreciated the artistry of a face he found here, once, on a wall. "But the city don't want it on there, wants it off in, like 24 hours," he says, "and we've been pretty much keeping up with it." Nearly all of what he deals with day-to-day is, he says, stupid. He doesn't understand it. "When I grew up, guys were into sports and chasing girls, that was it," he says.

These guys take on bridges, in full public view. Approaching the flyover bridge, he says, "They hit this in 31 spots, about three weeks ago. We got this 'GW 561,' means Garden Woods (a local subdivision), I think. Some of the other stuff was just nasty."

Officers in the Palm Beach Gardens Police Department have heard the ballyhoo, the discussions of disenfranchised youth and rebellion and the struggle for personal expression in an impersonal world. They have seen the national displays, the celebrated gallery shows. They also understand that police officers defend and enforce the prevailing order, that no matter how many people they help and protect, they continue to be seen and portrayed among the young as the enemy. Some of the messages are directed at them. Flouting authority seems at the heart of tagging.

Consider, though, they say, the alternatives offered to young people, then and now. Most find ways to build a life, to find a passion and a career that build and improve their cities, not deface them.

Gang activity in Palm Beach Gardens? They're not sure. Some marks could be code, or they could be some wanna-be's imitation. The kids they HAVE caught weren't in gangs; they were just trying to make a name.

The men drive to another favorite vandal destination, a park on Lilac Street and playground on Plant Drive, near Palm Beach Gardens High



School. To scrub graffiti off plastic picnic tables, they pull on gloves with rubber palms. An age-group and neighborhood connection seems most obvious here, near the high school and its baseball diamond and football field. They don't want to be labelers, themselves. Most teenagers do the right thing.

Mr. Scott, who grew up in Riviera Beach, played on that diamond, as a shortstop, and on that field, as a wide receiver ("I was thin, then!" he says), class of 1974, and he seems especially bothered by the defacing of the basketball backboards, the court, the bathrooms, the children's areas.

"They was hitting those bathrooms every day, and the picnic tables and even the playground equipment," Mr. Scott says. "I painted this whole bathroom at least 15 times. Over in the park, a woman saw the graffiti, really nasty, and said, 'I'm just lucky my kids can't read right now.' They had put down what this girl can do and what this guy did to this girl, for the best sex call...with the names and phone numbers.

"I see NO excuse for this."

The men come, next, to a row of concrete power poles along Prosperity Farms Road, just over the line into North Palm Beach. Paint-on-paint is tricky, but concrete is their toughest surface, demanding paint or a power-wash.

"About six months ago, they tagged 14 of these," Mr. Scott says, "with 'Amen' and 'Peek' and a couple of 'GWs,' and me and Glenn painted over every one of them. There were some on electrical boxes, some of the wood poles. It took us all day."

The most sobering moment in Harvey Scott's morning comes in revisiting a line of wood telephone poles along Prosperity Farms, just south of

a canal. Mr. Scott and Mr. MacDougall cleaned these a few months ago, bending and reaching along the canal wall and stretching up along poles.

The swastikas have bled through. Mr. Scott winces when he sees them. He knows from bigotry. He's had to deal with racism his whole life, in ways that leave a lasting mark. Even here, in Palm Beach Gardens, where he came at age 3 from Georgia and has grown up, he has felt the sting of remarks or neglect because of his skin color. "It's a better situation now," he says. "But you don't forget."

Seeing signs like these is what really gets him going. It's the hate and also the disrespect. You get kids who want to play basketball, do something positive, and then you get kids who want to foul up the backboards and spray degrading stuff across the court. You get kids testing the edges.

Messing with bathrooms, with picnic tables and children's playgrounds with families around, putting down profanities and obscenities, that's worse. Cross the line into hate crime, and you invite prison terms, not just because it's illegal but because allowing it debases everyone.

Mr. Scott struggles to understand the taggers. He's worked hard his whole life, helped to raise five children, had his shortcomings, tried to treat everyone the way he'd like to be treated. How is it OK to deface or destroy property that someone else worked to build and maintain? How is it OK to cost the city and all its tax-paying residents money they could put into building something instead of erasing it?

Mr. Scott and Mr. MacDougall seem to have found a balance in their daily routine. This is just the morning; in the afternoon, as Smitty tells them on their mobile phone, they'll

GRAFFITI PHOTOS COURTESY OF CITY OF PALM BEACH GARDENS  
**A collage of the graffiti Harvey Scott and Glenn MacDougall have removed from various structures around Palm Beach Gardens.**

be high-pressure-cleaning Fire Station Number 4, with special attention to washing out the rain gutters. Among their duties on roadways, most days, are removing dead animals, including possums and raccoons and cats hit by passing vehicles. Nobody asks whether the traffic is moving too fast, or if the drivers care too little. Nobody asks who's removing the animals, either.

They DO get compliments, the men say, from residents and business owners and police. The Graffiti Removal Unit logo gives them more visibility. "A lot of the citizens have come up to us, saying they appreciate it," he says.

This Monday, at least, hasn't been bad.

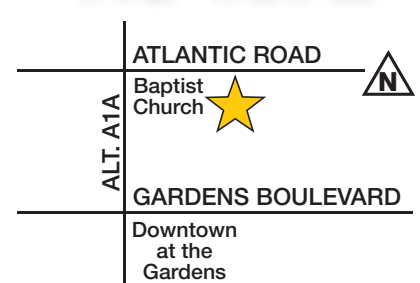
Mr. Scott says he understands not liking what you would call The System, questioning what you see as limited opportunity and smothering conformity. What courage does it take, though, he wonders, to attack the backsides of half-empty strip malls or the inside of the walls skirting highways or canals or bridges or mute and static signs in dead of night? Maybe this makes a statement to whatever gang you're part of. To most, the statement is that of a coward, a phantom of darkness, without the guts to step up into daylight and authority and state a case.

Mr. Scott and Mr. MacDougall step up, every day, and are glad for anyone who sees them. For now, they're focused on the graffiti at hand. Nobody, they say, wants live a marked life in a marked city. They are out there, every day, removing the marks. ■

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## Holiday show takes a look at the circus

December is a big time for the big top in downtown West Palm Beach as Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey brings a Magical Holiday Circus Exhibition to the Waterfront Pavilion.

The circus exhibition, open Dec. 9-Jan. 2, will display vintage circus wagons, colorful costumes worn by Ringling Bros. ringmasters, performers, dancers and clowns, as well as ornate blankets crafted for elephants, horses and camels. Learn about efforts

to preserve the endangered Asian elephant through photos and artifacts from the Ringling Bros. Center for Elephant Conservation. Artifacts will include an elephant headpiece, life-size castings of an elephant's foot and teeth and a "bull tub" (elephant footstool). Explore the artistic side of painting pachyderms in the gallery area with paintings by eight elephants.

There also will be a photographic sneak peek at many of the acts that will

be appearing in A Magical Holiday Circus Spectacular, playing Dec. 28- Jan. 2 at the Palm Beach County Convention Center. Tickets will be available at the Magical Holiday Circus Exhibition.

The Magical Holiday Circus Exhibition is open 6-10 p.m. Fridays-Sundays and 8 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturdays. Admission is free. The Waterfront Pavilion is on Flagler Drive at Clematis Street (the former library site) in downtown West Palm Beach. ■

## Holiday HorseFest gallops into downtown West Palm Beach

Saddle up and head to downtown West Palm Beach for Holiday HorseFest.

The focal point of the free Dec. 12 event, at the Meyer Amphitheatre, will be a dramatic equestrian competition featuring some of the nation's top Olympic riders and horses.

And kids can ride ponies costumed with reindeer antlers and other holiday décor.

Other highlights include free face-painting, dog-agility shows, street performers, food, music and Santa Claus. Kids can sit on Santa's knee — bring your camera for photos.

It's also a great opportunity for presents — more than \$10,000 in prizes will be raffled throughout the day, and the winner of the grand prize will receive a \$1,000 cash gift card. The second-place winner will receive a \$500 cash gift card, and other prizes include gift certificates to popular restaurants, box seats to grand prix competition at the FTI Winter Equestrian Festival, and gift

cards to the clothing boutique at the Winter Equestrian Festival. Visit [www.equestriansport.com](http://www.equestriansport.com) to enter the raffle.

Throughout the day, there will be a drawing for the charities that have applied to participate in the 2011 Great Charity Challenge at the FTI Winter Equestrian Festival. The 2011 Great Charity Challenge is a relay-style equestrian jumping competition in which 30 equestrian teams will be paired with 30 charities that serve Palm Beach County, to compete for a combined \$1 million. Celebrity guests will be on hand at Holiday HorseFest to do the random drawing of the charities, including West Palm Beach Mayor Lois Frankel.

Holiday HorseFest, presented by Fidelity Investments, will be 1-5 p.m. Dec. 12 at the Meyer Amphitheatre, Datura Street at Flagler Drive. Admission is free. For more information, visit [www.equestriansport.com](http://www.equestriansport.com) or call Equestrian Sport Productions at 793-5867. ■

## Toll Brothers holds holiday food drive

Toll Brothers, a luxury-home building company, held its third annual "Operation Turkey" Food Drive, collecting food donations to help make Thanksgiving more joyful for residents of Palm Beach County.

Toll Brothers' employees filled more than nine large boxes with non-perishable food items at its sales and division offices during the food drive. The food was donated to The Lord's Place, a non-sectarian, non-profit organization located in West Palm Beach dedicated to changing the lives of the homeless by providing innovative, compassionate and effective services to men, women and children at its four community campuses.

For more information, visit [TollBrothersFlorida.com](http://TollBrothersFlorida.com) or call 989-7799. ■



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# PET TALES

## Adopt a holiday pet

Seasonal warnings shouldn't stop a thoughtful addition

BY DR. MARTY BECKER

Universal Uclick

You know the usual warnings: "Don't give pets as gifts"; "The holidays are the worst time to get a new pet"; "Pets are for life, not just for Christmas"; "The only good pet to give as a gift is a stuffed animal."

Lately, though, I've found myself swimming against that tide — a little. When it comes to giving pets as gifts, it's not always a good idea, but it's also not always a bad idea. If you add just one word to the word "gift," it pretty much fixes the problem. That word is "thoughtful." And getting a pet should always be done thoughtfully, whether the pet is a gift or not.

First and foremost, being thoughtful means never buying a puppy or kitten from a pet store or Internet site that ships with no questions asked. You don't want to support puppy mills, after all.

With that out of the way, what about the other common cautions? Sure, the holidays can be a busy time, with lots of activities, travel and guests. But parents often have time off from work during the holidays, and the children aren't in school. The greater flexibility of a holiday schedule can make both pets' and people's adjustments easier, not harder.

Then there's the idea that other gifts will be so much more exciting to children that they'll be distracted from a new pet.



Shelter pets need homes year-round, so if everything else is planned for, don't let the holiday stop you from adopting.

I'm a parent and a grandparent, and I'll tell you one thing about children: They're expert multitaskers. And they don't suddenly become less so on Jan. 2.

Puppies and kittens are just like little kids, and they get into things. But that's not true just at the holidays. If they aren't getting into your Christmas decorations, they'll be getting into your laundry basket. Part of acquiring a new pet is making sure that the environment is safe for him, and that the treasured family heirloom you inherited from your great-grandmother is

locked away until the new furry family member learns the ropes. And that principle applies year-round, not just between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day.

If the family is prepared for the new addition, then all will be well. If not, it won't — but that's true whether you get the pet for yourself or for your spouse. And if the parents have unrealistic expectations about how much of the pet's care will be handled by the kids, does that change if the pet isn't given as a gift? Of course not.

It can be hard to adopt a shelter pet, since many shelters have traditionally discouraged holiday-season adoptions. That's a trend that's changing, in part thanks to pet food maker Iams' noteworthy "Home for the Holidays" pet adoption campaign. Shelter pets would love nothing more than to move from the cage or run at the shelter to the couch at your home. Why make them wait?

So while springing an unwanted and unexpected pet on someone as a gift is always a bad idea, and buying from a pet store or click-and-ship puppy website is never a good idea, the careful and well-planned gift of an appropriate pet can be just what this veterinarian ordered for making your family happier and healthier, now and at any time of the year.

It's a great thing to have strong ideas about how pets should be cared for — I know I do. But let's not let those ideas get so set in stone that we don't question and qualify them from time to time. The "Healing Power of Pets" is a prescription I'm comfortable giving 365 days a year, and what better gift could there be than the love and companionship of a pet?

If you're ready, don't wait until the New Year. Ready, set ... adopt! ■

### Pets of the Week



>>Bailey is a 7-year-old spayed female Labrador mix. She weighs 58 pounds, and is a great companion. Bailey loves people but needs an adoptive home where she is the only dog. She is available for the senior-to-senior adoption program; the adoption fee is waived for animals 5 years and older placed with someone 55 years and older. The adopter is responsible only for the cost of the county license/tag.



>>Selene is a 3-year-old spayed female short hair cat. She is petite and is a lap cat who purrs loudly and rolls her little head into your hand. Selene isn't fond of dogs.

### To adopt a pet

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

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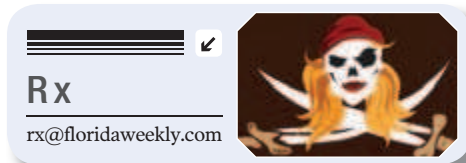
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# MUSINGS

## De rigueur



*“Let’s start at the very beginning  
A very good place to start  
When you read you begin with A-B-C  
When you sing you begin with do-re-mi...  
The first three notes just happen to be  
Do-re-mi...”*

*Let’s see if I can make it easy...”*  
— Rogers & Hammerstein,  
“Sound of Music,” *Maria and the  
Children: “Do, Re, Mi,” 1959*

*“Deeper and deeper and deeper and deep-  
er; sweeter and sweeter and sweeter and  
sweeter...”*

*When you know the notes to sing, you can  
sing most anything.”*

— Madonna, “Erotica,”  
“Deeper and Deeper,” 1992

Strictly speaking, the use of allusion is quite compelling. It takes us down customary, expectable paths of associations, culturally embedded. We begin in the world matrix of language and meaning, the ground onto which we are thrown at our very beginning. And then the proper and seemly paths prescribed by fashion and etiquette potentially burst into possibilities untoward. Opportunistic webs emerge. Vortex is created. Deeper and deeper; sweeter and sweeter: We move from wide-eyed child to

creator of wonderment.

In “Erotica,” her fifth studio album, created in 1992, Madonna’s song “Deeper and Deeper” uses words from The Sound of Music. Like the echoes of the Austrian mountains, Madonna echoes Maria’s words: “When you know the notes to sing, you can sing most anything.” But it seems that there the Madonna parts company with her virgin Maria foil. Madonna’s album is seen as no longer acceptable, as suggestive, crass, vulgar and raunchy. The album merited a parental advisory warning. Virgin words tumble out of the mouth of a traumatized whore. The 5-year-old child Madonna had seen the mouth of her own dead mother, peaceful and grotesque, sewn shut in her casket. Perhaps the unsilenced Madonna had been calling Maria forth to mother herself even as Maria mothered the Austrian orphans. After all, the father of these orphans had also banished frivolity after their mother’s death. Maria would cure all that in her teaching the building blocks of the major scale to the Von Trapp children:

“Now children, do-re-mi-fa-so and so on are only the tools we use to build a song.

“Once you have these notes in your heads, you can sing a million different tunes by mixing them up.”

Madonna’s favorite music was the Baroque. She loved Mozart. Mozart was born in Maria’s country, Austria. He came from Salzburg, the Salt Castle named for the barges that brought salt via water to this city. There, Mozart emerged into the 18th century CE. At the same young

age at which Madonna experienced her mother’s death, Mozart was already a musical prodigy.

In the last year of his life, 1791, Mozart wrote his last opera, “The Magic Flute.” Mozart’s friend and fellow Freemason, Emanuel Schikaneder, wrote the libretto, managed the stage and played the role of Papageno. Many critics see the libretto as disjointed. Goethe referred to it as inane, but wanted to continue writing the libretto.

The opera, which opens in the Egyptian temple of Isis, is an amazing blend of the sacred and the profane. In this opera Mozart presents a web of Freemason ritual, political commentary and absurd comedy in music of indescribable breadth and beauty.

The character of Papageno, a bird catcher dressed entirely in feathers, is comedic foil. His mouth is padlocked when he lies about being a hero, a snake monster killer. But later he is given bells to play, which bring people to laugh and dance. When he feels he will not be able to find his love, Papagena, he contemplates suicide. But she arrives, also feather-dressed. Seeing each other, they are so stunned that they stutter their song to each other: “Pa pa papa papa...”

In “The Magic Flute” there is victory of love’s union in both the realms of sacred and profane. There are sounds and grounds for every playful wonderment. We go deeper and sweeter with Madonna. We sing with Maria, beyond being orphaned or limited by legacy. Beyond illusion and delusion, we allude to that which is noted experienced through words beyond words.

“Doe, a deer, a female deer



Ray, a drop of golden sun  
Me, a name I call myself  
Far, a long, long way to run  
Sew, a needle pulling thread  
La, a note to follow Sew  
Tea, a drink with jam and bread:  
That will bring us back to Do (oh-oh-oh)...  
When you know the notes to sing,  
You can sing most anything.” ■

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

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# COMMUNITY ACTION SUPPORT TEAM

City staffers and students from the Benjamin School volunteered to help Leanna Beck with her home. It was part of the city of Palm Beach Gardens' Community Action Support Team program, designed to help residents keep their homes up to code.

1. Jane Schwed, Ali Bernstien, Anita Spasoff and Samatha Hagar
2. The home on North Mary Drive.
3. Jessica Reichard, Katie Schepps, Erica Schwed and Zach Krumholz
4. Alexis Coudert
5. CAST coordinator Michael Williams, homeowner Leanna Beck and city code operations director David Reyes
6. Ben Appleby
7. Samantha Hagar

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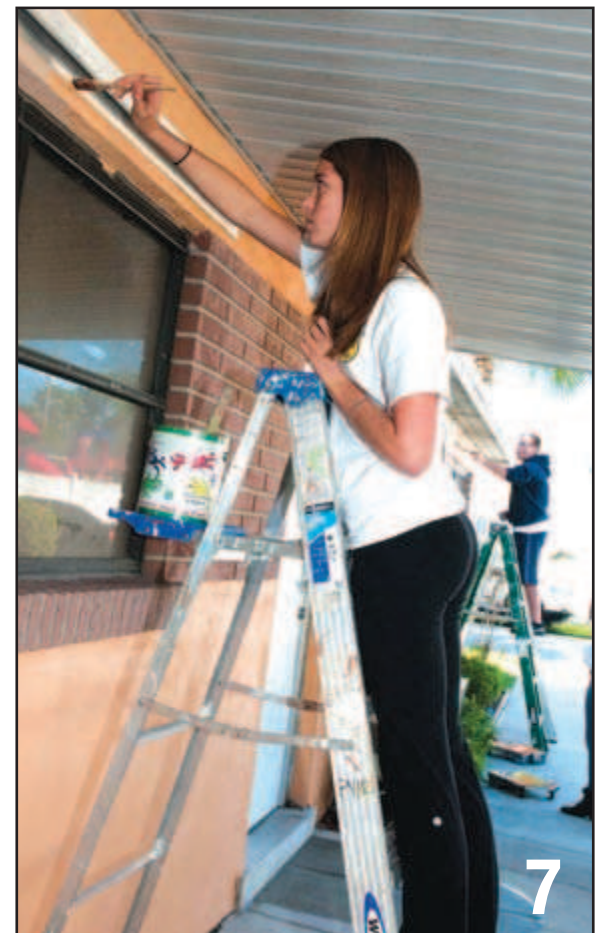
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5



6



7

## HEALTHY LIVING

## Jealous of your child's in-laws? Tread lightly or risk alienation

**lindaLIPSHUTZ**  
llipshutz@floridaweekly.com



Patti Stone is a reasonable and level-headed woman, so I was quite alarmed when she called me last week in hysterics. (I've changed all identifying information.) "This is the last straw! These people are calculated monsters! They are trying to ruin my life!"

When she calmed down, she was able to articulate how hurt and angry she's been.

It began four years ago when her son Scott called excitedly to tell her he had met Tara Burke at a party. Patti prided herself on the close relationship that she had always shared with Scott. At the time Scott was unaware that Tara came from such a prominent family, but over time, Patti would hear about the exciting events that Scott attended and how wonderful the Burkes were. Malcolm Burke had taken Scott under his wing and was introducing him to several of his business and country club friends.

Patti was impressed that Scott was dating this girl, envisioning a life of glamour and opportunity. It never occurred to her that there could be any negative repercussions.

The first glimpse of trouble emerged during the engagement. Sydelle Burke attempted to be gracious, including Patti in the wedding planning. Patti couldn't help but detect an attitude of superiority. This set the tone for the relationships going forward. The Burkes would take over and expect the others to follow suit.

The real upsets occurred after the wedding. Patti had to hold her tongue and act excited as Scott told her about the wonderful occasions shared with the Burkes. It was hard not to become resentful and to believe that the Burkes were buying their son with their overly generous gifts. It's not that Scott

was unappreciative of Patti and Mike's gestures; it's just that she began to feel defensive that whatever she did never measured up.

The breaking point came when Scott called his parents to ask if they would mind if he and Tara didn't come for Thanksgiving. The Burkes had invited them to their home in St. Bart's. Mike exploded, calling Scott disloyal and accusing him of being bought by the Burkes. Patti tried to keep her cool, but underneath she was shaking in pain.

As parents, most of us invest a tremendous amount of emotional energy into the bonds that we have with our children. From the time they are little, a huge part of our daily attention focuses on their wellbeing and whereabouts. When they mature, we pray that they will be happy and successful at work and fall head over heels with a fabulous, grounded person who is truly compatible. And of course, we pray that we like their life choice and that this person will comfortably join our family.

When our children marry, they are joining their life with another person who comes from a family with its own set of values, traditions and lifestyle. Mature, loving parents recognize that they must make a key adjustment to allow their child to comfortably integrate into their new extended family. Most families understand the importance of this and are able to make this transition over time. They reach out to the other family with warmth, even if they know they are very different and would never, on their own, have picked each other out as friends.

In some instances, the sense of family importance is so strong that people are unable or unwilling to compromise their unity to be receptive to a completely different set of values and opinions. They are extremely uncomfortable to be put in a position to have their own interests challenged or to be pushed to be hospitable to people they don't want to spend time with. They will resist accepting the extended

family system of their child's spouse.

On occasion, a person absolutely cannot stand the family their child marries into. As much as they try to get along with these people, their stomach churns and the effort to be pleasant is enormous. Sometimes, the other family is pleasant enough; it's just that it seems these people are insinuating themselves in the young couple's lives in a way that can seem overbearing and unfair.

To consider the possibility that your child could enjoy being with these people more than they like being with you can be way too much to bear. The feelings of hurt and betrayal can be raw. For some, it stirs up insecurities and jealous feelings they thought they had left behind in high school. They want to scream out: Hey! We're the ones who stayed up all night when you were sick, cheered for you on the ball fields, and didn't sleep until we heard the key turn in the lock when you were a new driver. How could you choose these people over us?

I do get it. But I must also make a blunt statement: Get a grip. These people are here to stay.

In this case, Patti and Mike should examine their own feelings to determine if they are projecting their own discomfort and insecurities onto Sydelle and Malcolm, possibly attributing negative attributes that are not accurate or fair. If after careful reflection they still believe that the Burkes are overbearing and difficult, they must proceed with caution.

The worst thing they can do is put Scott on the defensive so that he and Tara feel caught in the middle of an ugly triangle, believing that they are being asked to take sides.

They should be careful not to say anything negative about the Burkes (no matter how tempting.) They should assume that whatever they say negatively about the Burkes to Scott will be repeated at some point to Tara (It invariably works out that way.) I can assure you this will not endear them to their

daughter-in-law. It is likely she will remember their words, and possibly, hold it against the Stones for years to come.

Focusing on maintaining their unique bond with Scott can be the roadmap guiding them as they proceed. They have clearly had a good relationship with Scott thus far and do not want to risk alienating their son and daughter-in-law.

They should remember that most of us have room in our hearts to include new relationships, without compromising our existing ties. With this in mind, they should start with the confidence that they have raised Scott to do the right thing; and reiterate to Scott how important he is to them and how much they want to stay close to him and Tara. They can express sensitivity to the fact it must be difficult for Scott and Tara to integrate two sets of parents into their lives.

They should make it clear that they recognize the importance of Tara and Scott having a relationship with the Burkes and that Patti and Mike do not want to compete with the Burkes or compromise that relationship in any way. The goal is to create a climate where there can be an open discussion of important issues, without animosity.

Last, the Stones should take steps to remove themselves from a competitive stance with the Burkes. The reality is the two families are in very different financial circumstances. With creativity and non-defensiveness, the Stones can create opportunities and experiences to enjoy with their children that will be uniquely theirs. ■

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

## GIVING

## Like rich memories, the value of giving is priceless

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



The holiday season is a deep well of memories. They can be brought instantly into being by a sound, a simple aroma or even an object that mentally tugs up the bucket from our reservoir of recollections and brings them forth, spilling into the present. Raised as a Methodist, our family holiday rituals were protestant in theme and transformed by all manner of influences, gathering through the chronology of time — as if a snowball rolling down a hill — with new ingredients to add to the litany required each year to celebrate the season.

My mother brought out a plastic bust of Santa Claus from the attic that she hung over the front door of our modest house. She would climb up a teetering ladder and snake a necklace made of multiple extension cords, up and over the banana trees, through a broken jalousie on the front porch, and then plug it in with a reasonable fear she might be fried. Thankfully,

Santa lit up magnificently sans blue bolt, his red cheeks and nose glowing, his white beard a luminous cloud. Once the ritual was completed, I had no doubt that Santa Claus was coming to town.

For some reason, the Christmas tree always had to be two feet taller than the ceiling would accommodate. With no lumberjack in the house, it was unceremoniously lopped to stand precariously, the tree-stand inevitably designed for fatal accidents at least for the tree itself. Somehow it all came together. The coup de grace was the garland of glass ornaments, hand blown by some wily German in gingerbread land. The precious orbs were purchased annually, two or three at a time, from May-Cohens in downtown Jacksonville. Over the decades, the collection of glass balls had grown impressively to finally catch up to the proportions needed to cover the oversized trees. This equity achieved between form and function was a challenge since casualties occurred along the way.

The attic where the ornaments were stored was not insulated. During the summer, the heat must have reached an eye-popping temperature. A careless touch in the unwrapping process was all it took for a delicate glass ball to explode into a zillion, tiny chards. A tear or two generally followed. The unpacking would continue, one by one, until all had found their per-

fect spot on the needled bows.

Many years later and following my mother's death, all the detritus of living in one place for 50 years was sorted and disposed of, yet the memory of those ornaments continued to call out to me, having disappeared, leaving me to always wonder if any were ever to hang once again, in their proper place.

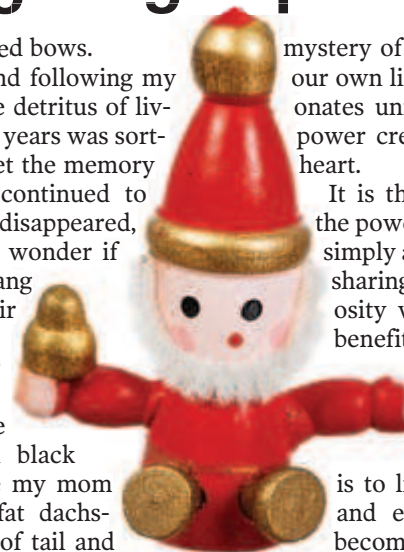
For memories long dormant, Kodak snapshots can incarnate Christmases past, in black and white. Still, I see my mom always in red. Our fat dachshund appears, a blur of tail and nose, excited by this burst of generosity, wishing to claim the tree as his own; and there's my dad, with a watchful eye, distracted from the camera lens, and clearly prepared to pounce and create mayhem, should old "Pokey" attempt to consummate his holiday wish.

What, may you ask, does any of this have to do with philanthropy? Just this: Our memories, intangible though they are, reside in a place of importance and priority, rarely, if ever treasured based on a hierarchy of worth calculated in grams of silver and gold. The essence of this truth was told better than I by the actor Orson Welles, in the movie, "Citizen Kane." The

mystery of "rosebud" or its parallel in our own life as an iconic memory resonates universally, the genesis of its power created in and by the human heart.

It is the same with philanthropy: the power that giving conveys is not simply a process of handing over or sharing the abundance that generosity would have us impart as a benefit to others. Leaving a legacy requires deep reflection on the essence we seek to sustain beyond our own lives if that essence is to live on and enrich the lives and experience of others. This becomes, in effect, the very core of our impulse to give. Philanthropy means "love of humankind" and calls forth the universality we share as human beings in our ability to dwell in the house of memories and know we are, in some measure, all the same. In this holiday season, that is truly a gift beyond measure. ■

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



# BUSINESS

WEEK OF DECEMBER 9-15, 2010

A GUIDE TO THE PALM BEACH COUNTY BUSINESS INDUSTRY



COURTESY PHOTOS

## Lush landscaping at PGA National wins city award

### SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

The PGA National Resort & Spa has been awarded the 2010 Beautification Award by the city of Palm Beach Gardens.

Each year the city, through its community aesthetics board, bestows one commercial, one residential and one institutional award. Selection is based on effort rather than cost; creativity and effort; tasteful landscaping, including but not limited to trees, shrubs and flowers; well-maintained property; and structural improvements. PGA National was given the award in the commercial category.

Throughout 2010, PGA National enhanced a number of areas in and around the resort grounds, adding landscaping that is native to Florida, the resort reports. The plants thrive and provide a habitat for a wide variety of wildlife, including endangered and protected bird species.

"We are continuously enhancing and improving the landscaping around the resort and our five golf courses," Joel Paige, vice president and managing

"Our staff works really hard to keep the resort looking its best at all times. We're proud to be recognized for this award, and look forward to continuing to enhance the overall experience for every visitor."

— Joel Paige, vice president and managing director

director, said in a prepared statement. "From our tree planting program to establishing seasonal vegetation, the variety of plant life around the property truly creates a unique experience for every guest."

The community aesthetics board presented PGA National with the award during a city council meeting; it will be displayed on the property throughout the year.

"Our staff works really hard to keep the resort

looking its best at all times," said Mr. Paige. "We're proud to be recognized for this award, and look forward to continuing to enhance the overall experience for every visitor."

PGA National was named as one of GOLF Magazine's 2010-2011 Premier Resorts. The 379-room resort recently completed a \$65 million revitalization. The resort offers 90 holes of golf on five courses, including the champion course, home to the PGA Tour's Honda Classic. Its 40,000 square-foot European spa has 32 treatment areas and outdoor mineral pools; a 33,000 square-foot health and racquet club has 19 tennis courts. There are nine restaurants and lounges and 39,000 square feet of conference space.

Angela Wong, the city's operations manager, said nominations are now being sought for the award in the residential category. The brochure for the program and a nomination form may be downloaded at [pbgfl.com](http://pbgfl.com). Call Ms. Wong at 804-7010, or email her at [awong@pbgfl.com](mailto:awong@pbgfl.com) for more information.

For more information on the PGA National Report & Spa, see [pgaresort.com](http://pgaresort.com) or call 800-533-9386. ■

## Secure in your job? You'll spend more on gifts, then

### SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

This year's holiday shoppers may not be your average consumers, according to a new index from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University.

According to the Kellogg Shopper Index, this year's biggest spenders include those who have had a significant increase in perceived security around their income and job. The survey also finds that the powerful and materialistic will also be at the cash registers, and even though it's the season for giving, many of their purchases will be for themselves.

The Kellogg Shopper Index is a new, ongoing study of consumers and their spending habits. The index explores how underlying consumer psychology and

changes in household finance affect consumer shopping behaviors and trends.

This first issue explores shopping and gift-giving trends for the 2010 holiday season.

Preliminary data were collected between Oct. 26 and Nov. 16, via an online survey of approximately 1,200 consumers.

Participants who had a significant increase in income, perhaps from getting a new job, indicated they would spend 16 percent more in holiday gifts versus last year.

Those who said they experienced a decrease in income, due to a job loss or pay cut, plan to spend 9 percent less compared to 2009.

People who feel more secure about their job plan to spend 10 percent more

on holiday gifts. Those with relatively stable job security said they will spend 2 percent more, and people whose job security has worsened noted they will spend 4 percent less this year.

Highly materialistic panelists said they would allocate 34 percent of their holiday gift budget on themselves and 66 percent spent on gifts for others. Less materialistic participants said they will spend only 17 percent on themselves and 83 percent on gifts for others. (For this survey, participants were defined as "materialistic" when they responded positively to questions about how possessions are signs of success, buying brand names and buying items to impress others.)

Two groups indicated they would spend more this year on gifts: People


who buy premium gifts for themselves or others, and "deal shoppers" looking for value.

"Essentially not everyone is coming back to shop," said Eric Anderson, faculty member and one of the designers of the survey. "While our panelists indicate they plan to spend slightly more than last year, we see two very different psychological mindsets at play. The first set represents those likely to have foregone nice rewards over the last two years, and who now want to treat themselves or others. The second set represents those who are still very cautious but are willing to spend for the right deal."

Future surveys will research shopping trends among women, ethnic minorities and generations. For more information, see [kellogg.northwestern.edu](http://kellogg.northwestern.edu). ■

# MONEY & INVESTING

## While Europe struggles, U.S. banks face their own problems



**jeannetteSHOWALTER, CFA**  
jshowaltercfa@yahoo.com

The world has been paying a lot of attention to problems with the banks in the EU, with emphasis most recently on Ireland's banks.

While the U.S. banks are not in the limelight, they absolutely face a number of challenges, many of which have received news coverage. But, as Ireland loomed so large, the news on U.S. banks was seemingly in the shadows. The topic of this column is two bank issues. In truth, they are worthy of much more reading, understanding and monitoring.

The first issue focuses on new capital requirements as set forth by the Bank for International Settlements and the second issue is the potentially very large (as in many billions of dollars) liabilities against the U.S. banks for their, as claimed, shoddy mortgage underwriting practices.

Let's look at the first issue. Most know that U.S. banks do not regulate themselves in a vacuum from international banks. A long time ago, dating back to 1930, the BIS was formed. The international central bankers got together to create international standards and cooperation for banking. Over time, there was an attempt to create assurances that, in doing business with each other, there were somewhat equal and known credit risks.

In September 2010, the Bank for International Settlements announced "Basel III," a new, yet third, accord on capital and liquid-

ity ratios for banks. (Basel is not an acronym or a code word; it simply refers to Basel, Switzerland, where the BIS is located.)

Representatives of the top 27 central banks formulated new requirements, many of which start to go into effect by 2013. (Yes, these are the same bankers who caused the world's credit problems and who are now figuring out how to solve the very problems they caused.)

The bottom line is that U.S. banks have to start working toward significantly higher capital or equity levels and significantly higher liquidity standards.

Per the *Financial Times*, Nov. 21, "The top 35 U.S. banks will be short of between \$100bn and \$150bn in equity capital after the new Basel III global bank regulations are imposed, with 90 percent of the shortfall concentrated in the biggest six banks, according to Barclays Capital."

How will they get this new capital? "Banks can respond by increasing their capital through retained earnings or equity issuance or they can cut their risk-weighted assets through sell-offs and by cutting back on risky business lines."

The U.S. banks have to raise capital or sell assets or do some combination of both. In the long run, a better-capitalized banking system is good news. The bad news is that, in the short term, these banks will now have to be focused on issuing equity or selling assets instead of getting on with the business of making loans.

The second issue facing U.S. banks is the litigation that is proceeding by major institutional holders and buyers of assorted sub prime, Alt-A, option-adjustable rate mort-

gages issued by the big banks. The claim of the buyers is that the banks failed in their legal responsibilities and they want the issuers to take this debt back.

The unhappy holders of this mortgage debt include the biggest of the biggies: Freddie Mac, Fannie Mae, Black Rock, and PIMCO. Fannie and Freddie have already "put back" \$13 billion in mortgages to Bank of America. Wowza! But the total amount of mortgages that might be put back is sized at, "...over \$700 billion on these and other so-called nonagency mortgage securities, according to New York mortgage-research specialist and broker Amherst Securities Group." Choke.

If the "put backs" succeed, the largest losers could be: Bank of America, JP Morgan, Deutsche Bank and Goldman Sachs. Bank of America is thought to lead the pack because it bought the notorious mortgage lender Countrywide.

Some of the winners in this litigation could include bond insurers MBIA and Assured Guaranty. (AMBAC already went bankrupt under the weight of its bond insurance losses.)

It all poses curious questions: How easy will it be for the U.S. banks to: raise and



sell equity, sell assets, disclose contingent liabilities from "put backs" and, most likely, ultimately book significant losses from these mortgages?

The bank indices have been telling a desultory story for some time. The story has not been told with words, but with prices and volume.

Talk to your advisers, review your portfolio, and discuss the impact of these issues and the suitability of your holdings. ■

— Jeannette Rohn Showalter is a Southwest Florida-based chartered financial analyst, considered to be the highest designation for investment professionals. She can be reached at 239-444-5633, ext. 1092, or jshowaltercfa@yahoo.com.

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# NETWORKING

## Realtor open house at Frenchman's Creek new fitness center and spa



1



2



3



4



5



6

RACHEL HICKEY/FLORIDA WEEKLY

- 1. James Anchin, Johathan Nelson, Lois Kleinberg, Abby Butler and Larry Kleinberg
- 2. Mary Saxton and Allan Meyerson
- 3. Richard Sites, Claire Sites and Dave Putnam
- 4. Rich Luchini, Robert Bruno, Lisa Moore, Rocco Panzitta and Ashish Sethi
- 5. Michael Leibowitz, Peter Leibowitz and Andrew Leibowitz
- 6. Carol Zazik, Joe DePaulis and Lee Fink

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# NETWORKING

## Palm Beach County Dental Hygiene Association Head and Neck Cancer Seminar at The Doubletree Hotel



RACHEL HICKEY/FLORIDA WEEKLY

1. Christina Tufford and Drewell Deralta
2. Tracy Butler, Laura DiGeorge, Cyndi Roussert and Tina Cox
3. Dr. Daniel Petrisor and Therese Stewart
4. Lonette Pitter and Cindy Clements
5. Brenda Whitaker-Nagel and Sandra Deschene
6. Rhoda Kublickis, Debra Sabatini, Karina Martinez and Colleen Burns

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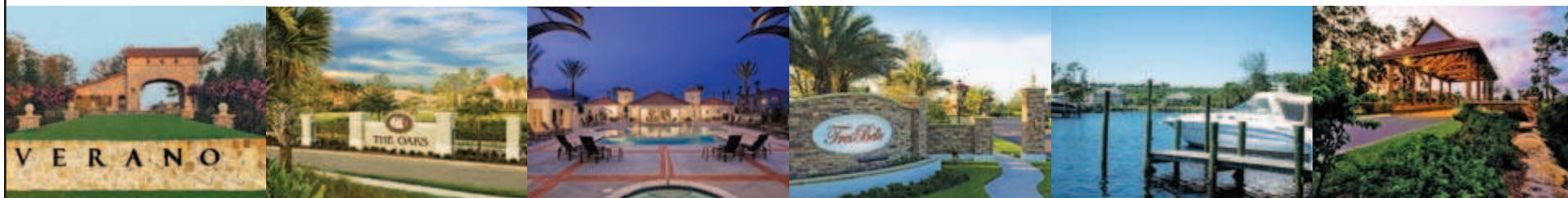
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2403B	2,335 SF	3BR/3.0BA	Finished	\$1,299,000
1502B	2,660 SF	3BR/3.5BA	PENDING	\$1,350,000
1003B	2,335 SF	3BR/3.0BA	Finished	\$1,498,000
1102B	2,660 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	\$1,595,000
1904A	3,605 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	SOLD
1001A	3,605 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Dec Rdy	\$2,199,000
1903A	3,950 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	SOLD
801A	3,605 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	\$2,995,000
303A	3,950 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	\$2,998,000
1603A	3,950 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	\$2,998,000
302A	3,950 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	\$3,198,000
1206B	1,725 SF	2BR/2.5BA	Furnished	SOLD
1704A	3,605 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	SOLD
1603A	3,950 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	SOLD

### The Resort (Marriott) - 3800 N. Ocean Drive

450	2,773 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Finished	\$1,295,000
1251	2,773 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Finished	SOLD
1451	2,773 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Finished	\$1,089,000
1004	777 SF	1BR/1.5BA	PENDING	\$149,000
608	1,462 SF	2BR/2.0BA	PENDING	\$250,000
1909	1,310 SF	2BR/2.0BA	Furnished	\$250,000
2009	1,310 SF	2BR/2.0BA	PENDING	\$250,000
1702	1,289 SF	2BR/2.0BA	Furnished	\$270,000
1801	1,046 SF	2BR/2.0BA	PENDING	\$300,000

### Tiara - 3000 N. Ocean Drive

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

### Oasis Singer Island - 3920 N. Ocean Drive

2A	4,069 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	\$1,290,000
11B	4,069 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Finished	\$1,900,000
12B	4,069 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Finished	\$1,995,000
15B	4,069 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Finished	\$2,299,000
8B	4,069 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	\$2,425,000
14A	4,069 SF	3BR/3.5BA	Furnished	\$2,249,000

### Martinique II - 4000/4100 N. Ocean Drive

ET201	2,011 SF	2BR/3.5BA	NEW	\$525,000
ET1102	2,011 SF	2BR/3.5BA	PENDING	\$650,000
ET504	2,011 SF	2BR/3.5BA	Furnished	SOLD
ET2201	2,011 SF	2BR/3.5BA	Finished	\$785,000
OV-1	2,615 SF	3BR/4.5BA	Finished	\$550,000
WT1404	2,011 SF	2BR/3.5BA	Finished	\$650,000
WT2601	2,011 SF	2BR/3.5BA	Finished	\$675,000
WT901	2,011 SF	2BR/3.5BA	Furnished	SOLD

### Beach Front Singer Island - 3920 N. Ocean Drive

1503	2,710 SF	3BR/3.0BA	Finished	\$1,225,000
1903	2,710 SF	3BR/3.0BA	Furnished	\$1,498,000
1103	2,710 SF	3BR/3.0BA	Finished	\$1,189,000
903	2,710 SF	3BR/3.0BA	Finished	\$1,299,000
1202	2,440 SF	2BR/3.0BA	Finished	SOLD
1702	2,440 SF	2BR/3.0BA	Finished	SOLD

### Via Delfino - 5150 N. Ocean Drive

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

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

502	2,629 SF	3BR/3.0BA	Finished	\$719,000
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COURTESY PHOTO

The screened patio area of this Tequesta home also includes an outdoor kitchen complete with gas grill. It's in a gated community that has a clubhouse and tennis courts.

## Solar pool, amenities top draws for River Ridge home



CONTRIBUTED BY KELLER WILLIAMS

A four-bedroom custom-built pool home features hardwood floors, a stone, wood-burning fireplace and a gourmet kitchen. The screened patio area includes an outdoor kitchen with year-round gas grill. The pool is heated with solar power.

Beyond the pool enclosure, the one-half acre property offers a grassy backyard, mature fruit trees, and an additional raised side yard that is also fenced and could be used as a dog run or special flower/vegetable gar-

den. This home, located at 18158 S.E. Ridgeview Drive in Tequesta, is listed at \$425,000.

It's in River Ridge, a waterfront gated community of 173 homes bordered on the north by the Loxahatchee River. The community is two miles north of the Jupiter Inlet and public boat ramps. River Ridge is pet-friendly. Other amenities include 24-hour gated security, a clubhouse, lighted tennis courts, a playground and tot lot and two lakes. The home is listed with Keller Williams Realty. Call Ron Jangaard or Lynne Rifkin at 906-7500.



COURTESY PHOTOS

TOP: The solar-heated pool provides year-round swimming.

ABOVE: The gourmet kitchen has stone countertops and space for eating.



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# REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

## Realtors association to install officers

Marian Grigsby, of Illustrated Properties, will be installed as president of the Jupiter-Tequesta-Hobe Sound Association of Realtors on Dec. 11.

She succeeds Phyllis Choy.

Also installed will be Chris Cox, of Coldwell Banker, as president-elect, Jason Flannery as secretary and Kim Price as treasurer.

The installation will be at 11:30 a.m. on Dec. 15 at Admirals Cove. For more information, email Jill at [jvanhooose@jupiterarea.com](mailto:jvanhooose@jupiterarea.com) ■

## Toll Brothers buys golf community in Broward

Toll Brothers has purchased Parkland Golf and Country Club, a community in northwest Broward County with a Greg Norman championship golf course. Toll acquired 350 of the community's 820 home sites and will begin selling homes in late January at the community previously owned by WCI Communities.

Toll Brothers will offer single-family homes and villa-style homes in four styles, ranging in size from about 1,800 square feet to 5,400 square feet. Prices will range from the upper \$400,000s to more than \$1.5 million, the company reported in a prepared statement.

Parkland is a private, gated golf and country club community on 790 acres; the centerpiece is a Greg Norman 18-hole championship golf course with bonus practice hole. The course is reminiscent of Australia's Sandbelt links such as Royal Melbourne and Kingston Health. The course design is focused on preserving a natural vegetative setting featuring three distinct zones of planting that reflect the area's natural habitats — the cypress heads, the low hammock and the pine flatland.

The community is between Fort Lauderdale and Boca Raton near Interstate 95 and Florida's Turnpike.

This is Toll Brothers' third new luxury community purchased in Southeast Florida this year. In June, Toll Brothers purchased Frenchman's Harbor, a 77-acre community situated along the Intracoastal Waterway in Juno Beach, and in April the company acquired the unfinished luxury community of Azura in Boca Raton. ■

## Pending home sales jump in October

Pending home sales jumped in October, showing a positive uptrend since bottoming in June, according to the National Association of Realtors.

The Pending Home Sale Index, a forward-looking indicator, rose 10.4 percent to 89.3 based on contracts signed in October from 80.9 in September. The index remains 20.5 percent below a surge to a cyclical peak of 112.4 in October 2009, which was the highest level since May 2006 when it hit 112.6.

Last October, first-time buyers were motivated to make offers before the initial contract deadline for the tax credit last November. The data reflects contracts and not closings, which normally occur with a lag time of one or two months.

Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist, said excellent housing affordability conditions are drawing home buyers. "It is welcoming to see a solid double-digit percentage gain, but activity needs to improve further to reach healthy, sustainable levels. The housing market clearly is in a recovery phase and will be uneven at times, but the improving job market and consequential boost to household formation will help the recovery process going into 2011," he said in a prepared statement.

"More importantly, a return to more normal loan underwriting standards and removal of unnecessary underwriting fees for very low risk borrowers is needed and could quickly help in the housing and economic recovery," Mr. Yun said. Recent loan performance data from Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac clearly demonstrates very low default

rates on recently originated mortgages, much lower than the vintages of 2002 and 2003 before the housing boom. ■

## Florida home sales up 7 percent in October

Statewide year-to-date existing home sales in Florida showed positive momentum in October: 143,398 single-family existing homes sold for a 7 percent increase over the same period a year ago, though uncertainty over job growth, restrictive credit and foreclosure issues had a dampening effect on housing activity last month, according to industry analysts.

The latest housing data released by Florida Realtors also reported a 33 percent rise in statewide year-to-date condominium sales compared to a year ago, with a total of 59,966 units sold.

In the latest industry outlook from the National Association of Realtors® (NAR), Chief Economist Lawrence Yun said several factors are slowing the housing market's recovery, including the recent foreclosure moratorium.

"Nonetheless, there appears to be a pent-up demand that eventually will be unleashed as banks resolve their issues with foreclosures and the labor market improves," he said. "However, tight credit and appraisals coming in below a negotiated price continue to constrain the market."

Mr. Yun called for a gradual rise in home sales as buyers respond to historically low mortgage interest rates and favorable affordability conditions.

A total of 5,147 existing condos sold statewide in October compared to 5,398 units sold during the same month a year earlier for a decrease of 5 percent. Nine of Florida's metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) reported higher existing condo sales last month, according to Florida Realtors.

The statewide existing condo median sales price last month was \$82,400; in October 2009 it was \$105,200 for a 22 percent decrease. The national median existing condo price was \$165,400 in September, according to NAR.

Meanwhile, in the year-to-year comparison for existing home sales, a total of 11,888 single-family existing homes sold statewide last month compared to 14,980 homes sold in October 2009 for a decrease of 21 percent.

Florida's median existing-home sales price in October was \$136,600; a year earlier, it was \$140,900 for a 3 percent decrease. The median is the midpoint; half the homes sold for more, half for less.

The national median sales price for existing single-family homes in September was \$172,600, down 1.9 percent from a year earlier, NAR reported. In California, the statewide median resale price was \$309,900 in September; in Massachusetts, it was \$295,000; in Maryland, it was \$243,134; and in New York, it was \$229,102.

In October, the interest rate for a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 4.23 percent, significantly lower than the 4.95 percent average during the same month a year earlier, according to Freddie Mac. Florida Realtors' sales figures reflect closings, which typically occur 30 to 90 days after sales contracts are written. ■

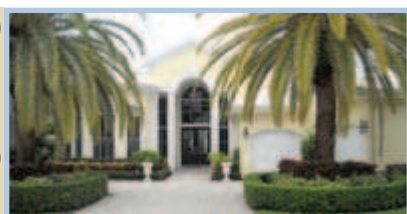
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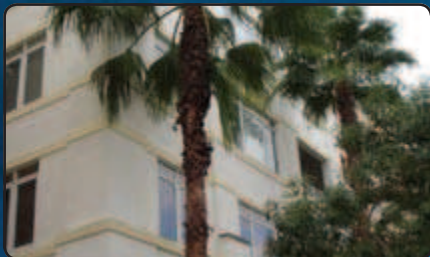
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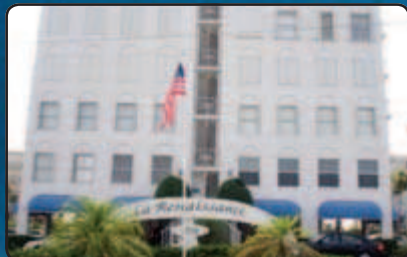
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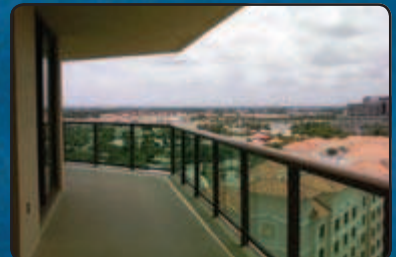
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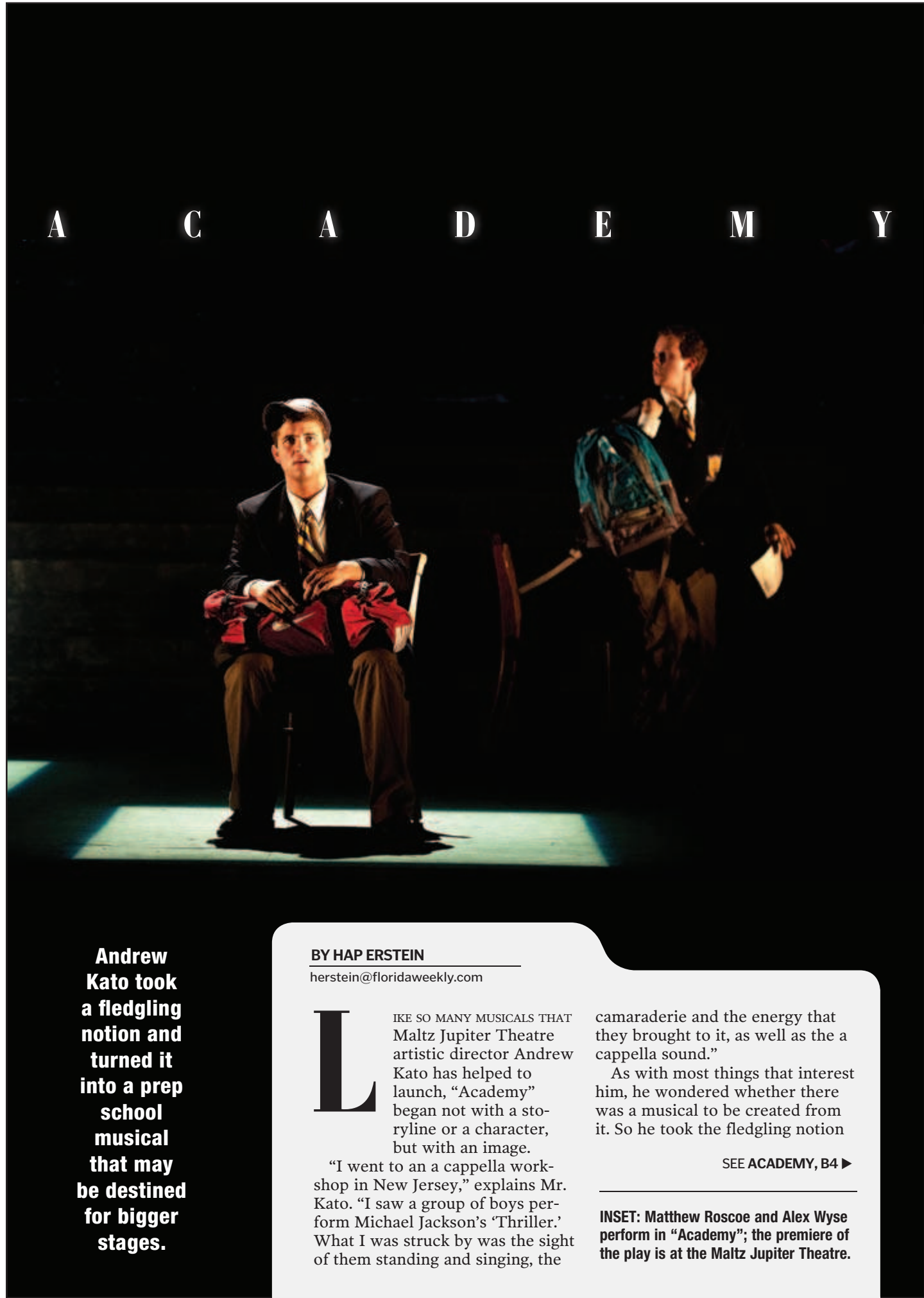




# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

WEEK OF DECEMBER 9-15, 2010 A GUIDE TO THE PALM BEACH COUNTY ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SCENE

PHOTOS COURTESY OF JEFF LARKIN



**Andrew Kato took a fledgling notion and turned it into a prep school musical that may be destined for bigger stages.**

BY HAP ERSTEIN

herstein@floridaweekly.com

**L**IKE SO MANY MUSICALS THAT Maltz Jupiter Theatre artistic director Andrew Kato has helped to launch, “Academy” began not with a storyline or a character, but with an image.

“I went to an a cappella workshop in New Jersey,” explains Mr. Kato. “I saw a group of boys perform Michael Jackson’s ‘Thriller.’ What I was struck by was the sight of them standing and singing, the

camaraderie and the energy that they brought to it, as well as the a cappella sound.”

As with most things that interest him, he wondered whether there was a musical to be created from it. So he took the fledgling notion

SEE ACADEMY, B4 ►

**INSET: Matthew Roscoe and Alex Wyse perform in “Academy”; the premiere of the play is at the Maltz Jupiter Theatre.**

## WEEK at-a-glance



### Art Basel impresses

Ninth Annual Miami show continues to draw the world’s best artists. **B14 ►**

### Sandy days, salty nights

Yes, some men decide they want it both — smarts and sex. **B2 ►**



### Cuisine news

Capt. Charles Reef Grill is a place for good seafood and casual fun. **B19 ►**

## Winter, spring art classes might make a good gift

### SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

A gift that will last a lifetime is available for purchase at the Lighthouse ArtCenter School of Art, where the organization’s faculty provides a wide range of fine art classes from beginning to advanced skill levels, including children’s classes, in the areas of drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpting, photography and digital media studies.

Winter art classes run from Jan. 3 through Feb. 26. The spring session is March 7 through April 30.

“Art transforms lives,” said Light-

house ArtCenter Executive Director Katie Deits. “It enables people to channel their emotions into creative energy, and a lot of times people are just amazed by what they can do at the end of a session.”

Gifts are also available at the newly expanded art supply store at the School of Art. Gift certificates to



the school can be used for supplies. An art camp during holiday break is offered for children ages 4-12. The camp is Dec. 27 through Dec. 31 from 9 a.m.-noon for children ages 4-5 and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. for children ages 6-12.

For more information see LighthouseArts.org or call 746-3101. The center is in Gallery Square North, 373 Tequesta Drive, Tequesta. ■



### Film review

“Welcome to the Rileys” honest to the end.” **B9 ►**

# SANDY DAYS, SALTY NIGHTS

## Faced with impossible choices



I would have understood if he preferred the naughty nurses. There were three of them, all dressed in white polyester, wearing plastic stethoscopes. Their skirts were short, their décolletage revealing, and they hailed from overseas.

"Who brought the Swedish porn stars?" a man asked at the Halloween party we all attended.

I did. But I missed the naughty nurse memo, and I rolled in as a sexy squaw instead. I mean, a classy Indian. I mean, a weak approximation of a Native American, with a homemade fringed skirt and two feathers stuck in my hair.

I had roped my friends into going to a house party where we didn't know anyone, promising them cute guys, the chance to meet new people and, most importantly, a shot at a date for the upcoming Marine Ball. Every year, at the birthday of the Marine Corps, Marines all over the world host a bash in their own honor. It's a grand fete where women wear ball gowns and the men actually take a shower and shave. The Marines are achingly young, and you can't help but want to celebrate their fresh-faced courage.

At the Halloween party the week before the ball, the Marines were in full form. A

wolf prowled among the guests, and Obi Wan Kenobi served drinks from the bar. They were muscled and clean-cut, young and brash in a way that could break your heart if you let it. Arrogant, even, with their American good looks and new-to-the-world bravery.

And they loved the naughty nurses. They gathered around the women in white, making small talk, asking about their hometowns. They exchanged numbers and invited them back for future parties. I chatted with the Marines in passing — when I bought a drink at the bar, when I moved from the bar to the dance floor. One of them stopped me by the pool table. We talked about his family in Kansas, and I laughed to hear what he thought about living overseas. They were innocuous topics, not sexy in the least, so when he took me aside at the end of the night, I couldn't imagine what he wanted.

"I was wondering," he said. "Would you go to the Marine Ball with me?"

I stood there for a second, my face shocked, disbelieving. How could this handsome young man, given the choice between three bombshells in nurse uniforms, have chosen me?

Later, blissed-out on having won the grand prize, I imagined there was some lesson in it, a statement on the nature of dating, of the choices men make. I thought this confirmed everything I had ever hoped — that smarts and class beat out vulgar sexuality in the end.

A week or so later, I had dinner with a group of friends that included the naughty nurses. I mentioned the young Marine who had invited me to the ball.

One of the nurses laughed dismissively. "Him?" she



"...The Marine did not make the impossible choice between sexy and smart after all. He decided he wanted them both."

said. "He's already called me twice this week."

He had not called me. It turned out all of my highbrow theories were wrong. The Marine did not make the impossible choice between sexy and smart after all. He decided he wanted them both. ■

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## Tony Sandler, Four Freshman sing cabaret at the Colony

The Colony Hotel continues its 10th annual cabaret season in its Royal Room Supper Club with continental singer Tony Sandler on Dec. 8-11 and The Four Freshmen on Dec. 15-18.



The Four Freshmen



Tony Sandler

Cabaret headliners perform at 8 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays, with doors opening at 6:45 p.m. for dinner.

The cost for dinner and show is \$110 per person and \$65 for show only. To make reservations, call the hotel box office at 659.8100. The Colony is at 155 Hammon Ave. in Palm Beach.

The Belgian-born Tony Sandler made his Royal Room debut in December 2006 and is returning to The Colony for his

third engagement. The popular singer has enjoyed a 50-year career with performances on four continents, before millions of fans, and has appeared on hundreds of TV variety shows alongside Ed Sullivan, Merv Griffin, Milton Berle, Dean Martin, Andy Williams, Johnny Carson and Mike Douglas. He was half of the long-running singing duo Sandler & Young, and has frequently performed a musical tribute to Maurice Chevalier.

Celebrating more than a half-century of crowd-pleasing performances, The Four Freshmen is the nation's longest lasting vocal harmony group. From their first hit song, "It's a Blue World," to being voted *Down Beat Magazine's* Vocal Group of the Year in both 2000 and 2001, the group presents classic jazz-pop songs with cutting-edge vitality. The Four Freshmen have released more than 40 albums and 70 singles and been nominated six times for a Grammy. This will be The Four Freshmen's seventh series of performances in The Colony's Royal Room since making their debut in April 2003. ■

## Dates set for 2011 Kravis Center's Writers' Academy

It all starts with an empty page. Whether it's a comedy or drama, every theatrical production relies on one thing to bring it to life: the printed word. That's why the Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts established The Writers' Academy.

Last spring, after four years of working with writers through a series of instructional workshops conducted by novelist, biographer, playwright and teacher Julie Gilbert, the Kravis Center established The Writers' Academy. This popular program returns in 2011 with one primary purpose: to encourage, develop and showcase talented writers of all ages.

A core group of prolific writers have remained with the program since it started, developing the Writers' Circle program as a haven for serious writers of all ages. In fact, Nancy S. Sims of Palm Beach Gardens, one of the original Writers' Circle members, is now the published author of "Verbal Snacks," a collection of short stories that is being published by the Kravis Center.

"Variety is not the only key to the success of these stories, although the swath is wide. Verbal Snacks takes us from an ex-hippie politico, to an aging Oscar winner, to a star surgeon's last performance, to a child's wish being granted, to a woman facing a hurricane alone, and much more. However, it is Nancy's characters who shine. They are so exactly drawn that they elicit immediate recognition and compassion," said Ms. Gilbert.

Ms. Sims, a native of Pittsburgh, has been engaged as part of the Kravis Center's Writers' Circle for six years. She has been actively involved in the field of art therapy, real estate and medical practice management and as a volunteer in her community.

Instructor Julie Gilbert has been teaching writing workshops nationally and internationally for over two decades. She was a nominee for the National Book Critic's

Circle Award and the Pulitzer Prize for her biographies on Edna Ferber and "Opposite Attraction: The Lives of Erich Maria Remarque and Paulette Goddard." Her first novel, "Umbrella Steps," was published when she was 24, and her plays have been seen in America and in London.

All of the Writers' Academy classes and events will take place in the Picower Foundation Arts Education Center in the Kravis Center's Cohen Pavilion.

**Writers' Launch** is just that — a pad from which to raise written expression. Within every human being there are unspoken thoughts and memories; there is buried treasure. This course is designed to alchemize the unexpressed bounty into disciplines that all writers require: Form, Content, Technique and Style. Weekly written assignments are requested, as is weekly attendance. A full eight-week commitment will render results. Sessions are Tuesdays from 1:30-3 p.m. on the dates: Jan. 4, 11, 18 and 25 and Feb. 1, 8, 15 and 22, March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 and April 5, 12 and 19.

**Writers' Circle** is for serious writers of all ages, a safe environment in which to explore expression, expand and hone craft; share results with oral readings; and respectfully critique fellow-writers. Once a piece of work has been sufficiently developed, it will receive a public reading by professional actors at the Kravis Center and on "South Florida Artsview," which airs Fridays from 12:30-1 p.m. on WXEL FM (90.7). Sessions are Monday from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Dates are Jan. 3, 17 and 31, Feb. 14 and 28 and March 14 and 28. And two Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., on March 5 and April 9.

Two events will introduce talented new writers to the public. All genres of work will be presented by professional actors who create the form of "story-theater."

**Showcase the Writing** is Fridays on Jan. 14 and March 11 starting at 7 p.m.

**Playwriting's the Thing** is Saturdays on March 12 and 19 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

The Kravis Center is at 701 Okeechobee Blvd. in West Palm Beach. For more information, call 832-7469 or visit [www.kravis.org](http://www.kravis.org). ■

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## THEATER REVIEW

## “Hate Mail” is too long, too cute for Boca theater



“Hate,” like “love,” is a four-letter word and so is “cute.” And cute is about as much as one can say for the epistolary comedy “Hate Mail,” the tale of an unlikely relationship told entirely in correspondence.

Yes, the device has been used before, most notably in A.R. Gurney’s “Love Letters,” the script that inspired comic writers Bill Corbett and Kira Obolensky to attempt a similar promising, but ultimately limiting, format. There are amusing moments in the production by the Boca Raton Theatre Guild — a community theater company making its first steps toward going professional — but not enough to sustain our interest over the play’s 90-minute running time.

“Hate Mail” begins well enough as

Preston Dennis Jr. and Dahlia Markle meet cute, in the parlance of romantic comedy. Minnesotan Preston mails Dahlia, a would-be art photographer working a subsistence job at a Manhattan tourist trap gift shop, the shards of a snow globe that did not survive his return flight from New York back to Minneapolis. She rebuffs his curt demand of a refund, replying that the store has a strict policy against such compensation.

As a man of considerable means, Preston is not used to taking “no” for an answer, and his letters escalate to a lawsuit that gets Dahlia fired from her job. About this time, Preston takes pity on Dahlia, sending her money for rent and groceries, and much of “Hate Mail” charts the frequent reversals of these two easily excitable souls.

If he begins as a button-down prig, he will soon loosen up and join a commune. If she is an anti-capitalist artist, expect her to switch to traveling sales of suspicious health supplements. If he

starts out affluent from a family trust fund, it is just a matter of time before he is disinherited and penniless. If she just scrapes by at the beginning, you can bet she will eventually strike it rich with her photography. And so it goes.

From their initial animosity, Preston and Dahlia soon warm to each other and even move in together. Despite that fact, they continue to communicate through notes left for each other, posted on the refrigerator or tacked to the door. Yes, it is awfully contrived, but that would be forgivable if the exchanges were funnier than they are.

As Preston, Lynn University drama chairman Adam Simpson displays physical agility and verbal variety that help the production a lot. He can be amusingly rigid, yet he loosens up nicely when his character resorts to getting high on Zoloft and, later, marijuana. Carrie Santanna, an assistant drama professor at Lynn, seems to fit the role of Dahlia comfortably, but has to avoid swallowing her words or speed-

ing through them and rendering them incomprehensible.

Director Paula Sackett opts to keep the production simple, placing her performers on opposite sides of the Willow Theatre stage, isolated in separate pools of light. There is essentially no set, but what visual variety there is comes from the many props used to convey the multiple forms of correspondence.

Frankly, the production is better than the script, which cries out to be edited down by a good 15 minutes. Even then, it hardly seems substantial enough for a professional theater to tackle, let alone a company that wants to emphasize that it is moving up from the world of community theater. ■

## in the know

>> HATE MAIL, Boca Raton Theatre Guild, Willow Theatre, Sugar Sand Park, 301 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Through Dec. 12. Tickets, \$10. Call 948-2601.

## ACADEMY

From page 1

to his childhood friend, composer-lyricist John Mercurio.

“I remember telling John about it, saying, ‘I think there’s a prep school musical here somewhere.’ And this was way before ‘Spring Awakening.’ And I said, ‘I think we should find a story for them that would be great to tell.’ There is such great material in a coming of age story of boys of privilege, and even just all those universal things that go along with the high school years.”

The show that they came up with, “Academy,” receiving its world premiere at the Maltz. It marks a bold step forward for the company, with a completely new work in its main-stage subscription season. In addition, the production is the directing debut for Mr. Kato at his theater. But even though “Academy” is being fully staged for the first time, it has already collected awards in New York and South Korea.

\*\*\*

Musicals rarely reach audiences quickly these days, and the a cappella concert that led to “Academy” was performed more than a decade ago. After a false start with an attempt at musicalizing the 1992 Brendan Fraser film “School Ties,” which ended when Kato and Mercurio were denied the performance rights, they struck upon an original story about a bet that two prep school boys make about whether they can influence an incoming freshman, named Benji, to cheat.

Mr. Mercurio, who attended the Benjamin School, used his experiences there in writing the show’s high-pressure locale. “There were 40 people in my graduating class. You knew everybody and what grades they got. Everyone knew your business. You constantly felt this competition.” But, he adds, “I feel like everyone identifies, regardless of where you went, with those years and the pressure of trying to accomplish and to move on



PHOTO COURTESY OF JEFF LARKIN

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

to higher education.”

At the core of the musical is a question about the nature of people, whether we are inherently honest or have an innate impulse to be corrupt. “I think the larger question, which goes beyond prep school, day-to-day, is what are you willing to do to get what you want, to succeed?” notes Mr. Mercurio. “That’s often not about good or evil, but it’s murky.”

Understandably, then, the show has a murky conclusion, which is not what audiences are accustomed to. “Yeah, it’s not a pat ending,” concedes Mr. Kato. “Typically in musical theater, people want happy endings and I don’t know that this is necessarily a happy ending for all. I think you could go to dinner and argue whether they made the right decisions or not.”

Just as the audience has to decide how they feel about the show’s conclusion, Benji has to deal with the significance of his actions. “That ultimately becomes his journey,” says Mr. Mercurio. “In the beginning, he’s incredibly dependent on his elders, like any kid is. As the story progresses, he learns he has to stand on his own and take whatever consequences come his way.”

“Academy” first met an audience at the Maltz in a 2008 staged reading as

things that an Asian culture could relate to,” says Mr. Mercurio. “The idea of competition and needing to be the best at something is fairly universal.”

No matter what happens to “Academy” from here, the Maltz feels like it is already a winner. “What it has done for the Maltz Jupiter Theatre, getting the name out not only nationally, but internationally, is a sense of tremendous pride, not only for the board, but even more so for the staff,” beams Mr. Kato. “Everyone’s excited.”

Another feather in “Academy’s” cap is gaining a \$34,000 grant — roughly one-tenth of the production’s budget — from the National Endowment for the Arts for the development of new work, the first such recognition the Maltz has received.

Asked about the future of “Academy,” Mr. Kato responded as if the show were his offspring.

“It’s like a baby. You never want to see it stop growing,” he says. “Like any parent with a child, you want your child to get healthy and strong and go out into the world and go as far as he can.”

Although they have invited New York producers to Jupiter to take a look at “Academy,” Mr. Mercurio is trying not to have unreasonable expectations.

“Having a Broadway hit is just not a realistic thing anymore, just because of the economics involved,” he says. “To me, success means having the opportunity to continue doing my work. In the last two years, that’s beginning to happen and it feels pretty great.”

For Mr. Kato the reward would be the chance to do more new work. “I hope that the response to “Academy” is strong enough that it makes this easier to do in the future, because that’s what I love. We are on a good trajectory right now and I’d like to see that continue.” ■

## in the know

>> ACADEMY, Maltz Jupiter Theatre, 1001 E. Indiantown Rd., Jupiter. Dec. 7-19. Tickets: \$43-\$60. Call 575-2223.

# Lighthouse ArtCenter offers visions for peace

Artists' visions of peace deck the walls in paintings, photographs and sculptures throughout the Lighthouse ArtCenter, which currently is showing its "Peace on Earth" exhibition.

The show's opening Nov. 18 attracted nearly 300 people, including its 103-year-old underwriter, peace activist Kathryn Davis of Jupiter Island. Heavy Head, a member of the Lakota-Sioux Native American tribe, read a statement by Chief Seattle of the Suquamish Tribe. "Humanity did not weave the web of life, it is merely a strand in it," he said. "Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves."

Some of the artists in this juried exhibition received special recognition for their artwork. The exhibition was judged by Glenn Tomlinson, William Randolph Hearst Curator of Education at the Norton Museum of Art. Five artists were awarded cash prizes for their outstanding pieces:

Best of Show was awarded to Karen Lewis for her oil on canvas, "Peaceful Dream";

First Place was awarded to Ahni Salaway for her installation panel series, "I Am You";

Second Place was awarded to David Wilison for his intaglio, "The Recipe for War";

Third Place was awarded to Norm Gitzen for his sculpture, "Higher Love";

Fourth Place was awarded to Linda McVay for her oil on canvas, "Easter Lily."

Honorable Mentions were awarded to Nanette Carton for "The Gathering," an acrylic on canvas; Mark W. Forman for "Contemplative Union," an acrylic on canvas; Wheaton Mahoney for "I'm Always with You," a photograph on canvas; and Dennis Usdan for "Peace Drops," a photography piece.

The Lighthouse ArtCenter also is featuring its School of Art Faculty exhibition, with paintings, sculptures, drawings, jewelry and other media created by the instructors at the Lighthouse ArtCenter School of Art.

Both "Peace on Earth" and the faculty exhibition will be on display through Dec. 30.

The museum is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday with admission free for members and \$5 for non-members ages 12 and up. The museum is open 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays, with free admission.

The Lighthouse ArtCenter is in Gallery Square North, 373 Tequesta Drive, Tequesta. Phone: 746-3101. On the Web: [www.lighthousearts.org](http://www.lighthousearts.org). ■



COURTESY PHOTO

## Santa and holiday fun set for Christmas in Abacoa

Ho! Ho! Ho!

Make your way to Jupiter on Dec. 18 for Christmas in Abacoa.

Hear caroling by the Jupiter High School Choir, see the Christmas tree in Town Center and shop specialty vendors for one-of-a-kind gifts.

There also will be hot chocolate and a holiday performance by ArtStage.

For the kids, there will be face painting, puppet shows, and a bounce house sponsored by My Gym.

And that jolly, old elf, Santa, arrives at 6 p.m.

The event is 4:30-8:30 p.m. Dec. 18 at Abacoa Amphitheater and Village Green, at Main Street and University Boulevard, in Jupiter. For information, call 624-7788. ■

## PUZZLE ANSWERS

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

L	A	R	A	E	D	I	T	M	E	A	L	B	E	T	O	N
E	R	U	P	T	D	O	D	O	O	D	I	E	A	R	O	M
N	A	H	S	H	V	I	L	L	E	L	I	D	O	H	I	K
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A	D	D	E	A	S	T	E	R	C	P	O					
G	R	O	W	U	P	R	A	H	L	E	I	G	H	N	A	B
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A	W	S	T	I	N	A	I	L	A	Y	N	A	N	T	O	N
C	P	R	A	L	L	S	C	R	O	O	G	E				
G	A	B	P	H	O	O	E	Y	D	E	L	P	H	I	A	D
A	C	R	O	B	A	T	L	E	A	L	E	T				
S	H	A	M	A	N	B	A	M	B	A	U	G	H	D	E	N
P	E	S	O	T	A	C	O	B	A	R	I	R	E	S	I	D
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C	L	A	M	O	R	L	E	G	S	N	A	R	R	O	W	E
R	A	S	P	Y	S	I	A	M	O	O	P	S	I	L	A	N
E	S	T	E	S	A	N	T	A	A	L	E	E	N	D	E	D
S	T	A	L	E	D	E	A	N	F	O	X	Y	G	E	N	E

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## WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

## Thursday, Dec. 9

■ **Art After Dark** – Join the Norton Museum's chief curator and curator of European art, Roger Ward, as he discusses Vincent van Gogh's "Self-Portrait, 1889," on loan from the National Gallery of Art. Learn about tsutsumu, the art of gift presentation, and the cultural significance of gift-giving in Japan presented by Reiko Nishioka, director of education, at the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens. The Florida Dance Conservatory Youth Ensemble will perform scenes from *The Nutcracker* and carolers from the Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts will sing seasonal songs from 5-9 p.m. Dec. 9 at the Norton Museum of Art, 1451 S. Olive Ave., West Palm Beach a cash bar, menu options from Café 1451. General admission rates apply; free to members and children 12 and under. Phone: 832-5196.

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

■ **Mos'Art Theatre** – Screenings of "You Will Meet a Tall Dark Stranger," 4:30 p.m., and "Waste Land," 6:30 p.m. Dec. 9. Tickets: \$8. 700 Park Ave., Lake Park; 337-6763.

## Friday, Dec. 10

■ **Annual Armory Holiday Sale** – One-of-a-kind handmade gifts made by Armory Art Center students and instructors in pottery, glass, jewelry and printmaking. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Dec. 10-11, Armory Art Center, 1700 Parker Ave., West Palm Beach; 832-1776; [www.armoryart.org](http://www.armoryart.org).

■ **"Imagine"** – Holiday charity event featuring a fashion show, silent auction and appetizers. 6-9 p.m. Dec. 9. Tickets: \$30; benefits Hospice of Palm Beach County; 622-0491.

■ **Mos'Art Theatre** – Screenings of "Howl" and "Client 9." Various times, Dec. 9-15. Opening night tickets: \$6. General admission: \$8; 337-6763.

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

■ **Parents Night Out** – For ages 6-11; West Jupiter Recreation Center, 6401 W. Indiantown Road, Jupiter; 5:30-9 p.m., Dec. 10; \$5. Call 694-5430.

■ **Women of Note Chorus** – The group will perform holiday melodies and more 7 p.m. Dec. 10 at the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 400 Seabrook Road, Tequesta. Tickets: \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. 746-4674; [goodsheponline.org](http://goodsheponline.org).

■ **Eddie Gregg Trio** – Doors open at 9 p.m. Dec. 10, The Orange Door, 798 10th St., Lake Park. Tickets: \$5; 842-7949.

■ **"A Christmas Carol"** – The Charles Dickens tale, 7 p.m. Dec. 10-11, 2 p.m. Dec. 12, The Atlantic Theater, 6743 W. Indiantown Road, Suite 34, Jupiter. \$11-\$16; 575-4942; [theatlantictheater.com](http://theatlantictheater.com).

## Saturday, Dec. 11

■ **The West Palm Beach**

■ **Antiques, Flea and Craft Market** – The 50 or so dealers at the bi-weekly event offer a variety of collectibles, mid-century furniture, crafts and art. It's at Datura Street and Quadrille Boulevard from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, and a special presentation 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Dec. 18. Admission is free, and free parking is available in the city parking lot on Datura Street across from the market; 833-4440.

■ **Palm Beach Gardens Chess Club** – 9 a.m.-4 p.m., North Palm Beach Parks and Recreation Center, 603 Anchorage Drive, art building. \$2 per player per Saturday. USCF membership required. Call John Dockery, president/tournament director, at 762-3377.

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

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

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

■ **Kids Story Time** – Loggerhead Marineline Center of Juno Beach, Loggerhead Park, 14200 S. U.S. 1, Juno Beach, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Saturdays; free. [marineline.org](http://marineline.org).

■ **Holiday Entertainment** – Holiday choirs and dance groups, 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. Dec. 11-12 in Downtown at the Gardens, Centre Court, Palm Beach Gardens. Also Dec. 18-19. Free. 340-1600.

■ **Celebrate Saturdays at Downtown** – Free live entertainment 6-10 p.m. Saturdays at Downtown at the Gardens, Centre Court, Palm Beach Gardens. Dec. 11: Billy Bones. Dec. 18: Raquel Williams. 340-1600.

■ **Sea Turtle Winter Holiday Celebration** – 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Dec. 11, Loggerhead Marineline Center, 14200 U.S. 1, Juno Beach. Celebrate the tropical winter season, marinelife style. Presentations on cold-stun, penguins, sno-cones and more. Free; 627-8280, ext. 107.

■ **New Apostolic Church Youth and Orchestra** – "The Greatest Gift," a musical adventure expressing the true meaning and purpose of Christmas. 3 p.m. Dec. 11, Eissey Campus Theatre, Palm Beach State College, Palm Beach Gardens. Free, no ticket required.

■ **Movie by Moonlight/ "Elf"** – The popular holiday film, with Will Ferrell, James Caan, Mary Steenburgen, Edward Asner and Bob Newhart, gets a screening 7 p.m. Dec. 11, the Kravis Center's Gosman Amphitheatre, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Rated PG. Tickets: \$5; includes free popcorn; 832-7469.

■ **Mike Super Magic and Illusion** – The winner of NBC's hit show "Phenomenon" was voted "America's Favorite Mystifier!" 6 and 9 p.m. Dec. 11, 7 p.m. Dec. 12, at the Kravis Center Cohen Pavilion's Helen K. Persson Hall, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$32; 832-7469.

## Sunday, Dec. 12

■ **Sims Creek Antique Mall** – The mall will host a 30-dealer outdoor sale from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12. It's at Sims Creek Plaza (behind Nick's Tomato Pie), 1695 Indiantown Road Jupiter. Phone: (561) 747-6785.

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

■ **Dave & Aaron's Workout on Stand Up Paddleboarding** – 9:30 a.m. weekly, Jupiter Outdoor Center. For reservations, call 747-0063; visit [www.jupiteroutdoorcenter.com](http://www.jupiteroutdoorcenter.com).

■ **Christmas concert** – presented by the Chancel Choir of the First Presbyterian Church of Tequesta. No tickets required; a free-will offering will be received. After the concert, visit a display of the congregation's Nativity scenes.

■ **Stevie Ray Vaughn Experience** – Doors open at 8 p.m. Dec. 12, The Orange Door, 798 10th St., Lake Park. Tickets: \$10; 842-7949.

## Monday, Dec. 13

■ **Behind the Mask** – The Music of Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber and his Friends – An evening of Broadway singing by the Florida Sunshine Pops, 8 p.m. Dec. 13 and 15, Eissey Campus Theatre, Palm Beach State College, Palm Beach Gardens. Tickets: 561-278-7677. They also appear 8 p.m. Dec. 12, Carole & Barry Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton. Tickets: 800-564-9539.

## Tuesday, Dec. 14

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

■ **Hubbard Street Dance Chicago** – The modern dance company is known for its innovative choreography and exuberance, 8 p.m. Dec. 14, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$20 and up. A free pre-performance discussion by former New York City Ballet star Steven Caras is at 6:45 p.m.; 832-7469.

## Wednesday, Dec. 15

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

■ **Hatchling Tales** – 10:30-11:30 a.m. Wednesdays, Loggerhead Marineline Center, 14200 U.S. 1, Juno Beach. Free; [marineline.org](http://marineline.org).

■ **Palm Beach Gardens Concert Band Holiday Concert** – 7:30 p.m. Dec. 15, William T. Dwyer High School, 13601 N. Military Trail, Palm Beach Gardens; 746-6613.

■ **"Goldie, Max & Milk"** – A world premiere by Karen Hartman, Dec.15-Jan. 16, Florida Stage, the Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$40 and up. 585-3433; [www.floridastage.org](http://www.floridastage.org).

## Ongoing events

■ **Holiday Light Show** – See more than a quarter-million lights dance to choreography throughout December, 6, 7, 8 and 9 p.m. daily, Downtown at the Gardens Centre Court, Palm Beach Gardens. 340-1600.

■ **"Land-Escape" Art Exhibition** – Features work by Jupiter artists Bruce Bain and Sonya Gaskell and Palm Beach Gardens artists Esther Gordon, Melinda Moore, and Ok-Hee Kay Nam; Palm Beach International Airport, Concession Level 2, West Palm Beach; on display through Dec. 15. [www.pbcgov.com/fdo/art/registry.htm](http://www.pbcgov.com/fdo/art/registry.htm).

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

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

■ **"Five Thousand Years on the Loxahatchee"** – Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse & Museum, 500 Captain Armour's Way, Jupiter, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Tuesday-Sunday. 747-8380, ext. 101; [jupiterlighthouse.org](http://jupiterlighthouse.org).

## December events

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

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

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

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

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

■ **Christmas in Abacoa** – Hear caroling by the Jupiter High School Choir, see the Christmas tree in Town Center and shop specialty vendors for one-of-a-kind gifts. There also will be hot chocolate and a holiday performance by ArtStage. For the kids, there will be face

# WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

painting, puppet shows, and a bounce house sponsored by My Gym. Santa, arrives at 6 p.m. It's 4:30-8:30 p.m. Dec. 18 at Abacoa Amphitheater and Village Green, at Main Street and University Boulevard, in Jupiter; 624-7788.

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

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

■ **"The Mixed Nut Cracker"** – An updating of the Christmas classic by Atlantic Theater, at 7 p.m. Dec. 18 and 2 p.m. Dec. 19, Eissey Campus Theatre, Palm Beach State College, 11051 Campus Drive (off PGA Boulevard), Palm Beach Gardens. Tickets: \$21. 575-4942; theatlan-tictheater.com.

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

■ **Carter Brey and Christopher**

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

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

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

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

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

■ **NBC's Last Comic Stand-**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

■ **River Totters Arts n' Crafts** – 9 a.m. second Wednesday of each month (next session is Jan. 12), Loxahatchee River Center, 805 N. U.S. 1, Jupiter. Arts and crafts for kids. Cost: \$3; 743-7123. ■

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Capitol Steps

Friday,  
December 31  
New Year's Eve  
5:00 & 8:00pm

Saturday,  
January 1  
New Year's Day  
5:00pm

Kretzer Piano

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For group sales: **(561) 972-6117**

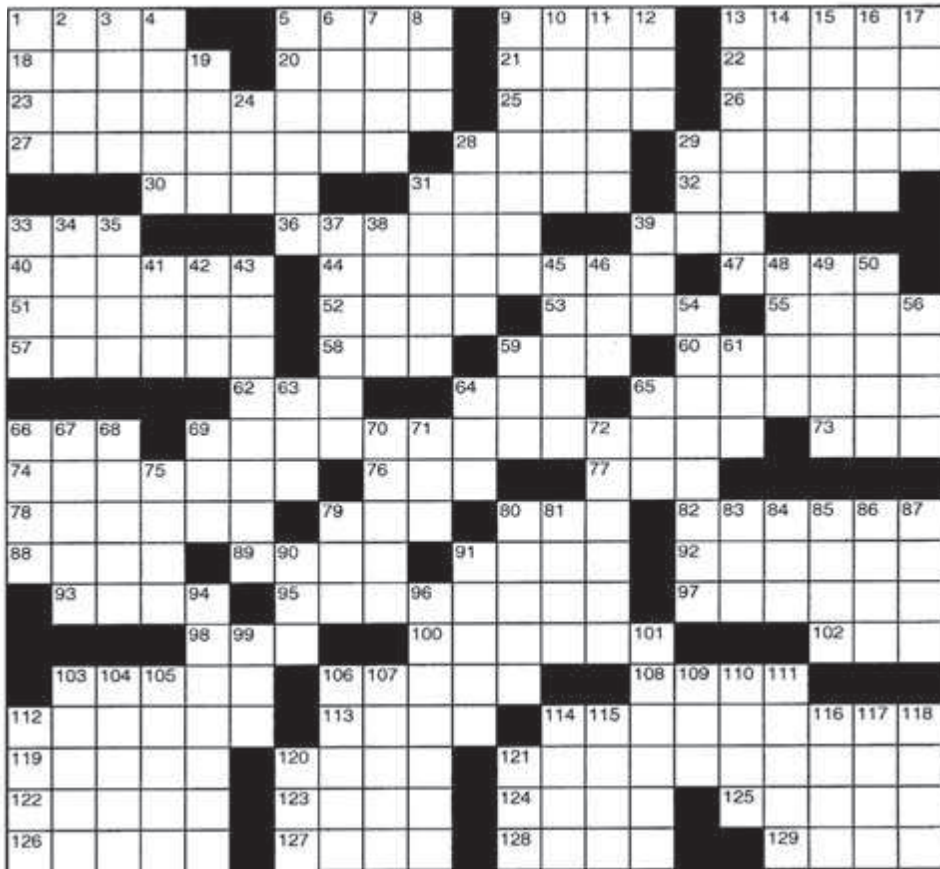
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# FLORIDA WEEKLY PUZZLES

## EMOTIONAL STATES



- ACROSS**
- 1 Zhivago's love
  - 5 Touch up the text
  - 9 It should be square
  - 13 "Don't — it!"
  - 18 Act like Etna
  - 20 Birdbrain
  - 21 Garfield's pal
  - 22 Fragrance
  - 23 Tennessee cry of denial?
  - 25 "— Shuffle" ('77 song)
  - 26 Long walks
  - 27 Pleasant
  - 28 Jeroboam contents
  - 29 Way up
  - 30 Vend
  - 31 Get — (be successful)
  - 32 Mikita and Musial
  - 33 Find the sum
  - 36 Spring holiday
  - 39 TV's "— Sharky"
  - 40 Mature
  - 44 North Carolina cry of encouragement?
  - 47 Seizes suddenly
  - 51 Join the leisure class?
  - 52 Item for 37 Down
  - 53 Live on lettuce
  - 55 Coasted
  - 57 Texas cry of sympathy?
  - 58 Feel wretched
  - 59 Writer Rand
  - 60 Second
  - 62 EMT's skill
  - 64 Everything
  - 65 Dickens character
  - 66 Yak
  - 69 Pennsylvania cry of disgust?
  - 73 — Moines, IA
  - 74 He'll bend over backward for you
  - 76 Grazing ground
  - 77 Permit
  - 78 Witch doctor
  - 79 Hoopsters' org.
  - 80 Exec's deg.
  - 82 Utah cry of revulsion?
  - 88 Chihuahua dough
  - 89 Chihuahua snack
  - 91 Italian port
  - 92 Dwell
  - 93 "Scat!"
  - 95 Illinois cry of surprise?
  - 97 Sampras
  - 98 Weeding tool
  - 100 Duration
  - 102 Chemical suffix
  - 103 Buy off
  - 106 See
  - 129 Across
  - 108 Orient
  - 112 Uproar
  - 113 Mr. Diamond
  - 114 Least liberal
  - 119 Gravel-voiced
  - 120 Thailand, formerly
  - 121 Michigan cry of chagrin?
  - 122 Senator
  - 123 Cultural grp.
  - 124 Nautical adverb
  - 125 Concluded
  - 126 Hackneyed
  - 127 Big man on campus
  - 128 Cunning
  - 129 With 106 Across, legendary drummer
  - DOWN**
  - 1 Home or Olin
  - 2 "He's — Picker" ('14 song)
  - 3 German valley
  - 4 Church areas
  - 5 Fit to least
  - 6 Barbie or Ken
  - 7 Unemployed
  - 8 Sock part
  - 9 "Le Misanthrope"
  - 10 Minneapolis suburb
  - 11 Helped
  - 12 Composer
  - 13 Massachusetts cry of contempt?
  - 14 Author Jong
  - 15 Symbol
  - 16 Forebodings
  - 17 "Boss" Tweed's nemesis
  - 19 What you used to be
  - 24 Actor Kilmer
  - 28 Baby basset
  - 29 Egyptian viper
  - 31 Playwright
  - 33 Taj town
  - 34 Sleuth
  - 35 Kids connect them
  - 37 Jockey giant
  - 38 Darjeeling dress
  - 39 Revolutionary valley
  - 41 Drollery
  - 42 Psychic
  - 43 Inclination
  - 45 Tennyson tale
  - 46 — rummy
  - 48 About
  - 49 Bank deposit?
  - 50 Burn a bit
  - 54 Quiet
  - 56 Colors
  - 59 Maugham's "Cakes and —"
  - 61 Pro-gun grp.
  - 63 Saucepan
  - 64 Drillers' org.
  - 65 TV's "Murder, — Wrote"
  - 66 Huff and puff
  - 67 Feels sore
  - 68 Impertinent
  - 69 Cops' org.
  - 70 — grease
  - 71 Indeed
  - 72 Grievance
  - 75 "Typee" sequel
  - 79 Sgt. or cpl.
  - 80 — Carta
  - 81 Improve oneself, in a way
  - 83 Turn right
  - 84 DDE's predecessor
  - 85 Tiny coin
  - 86 Genesis setting
  - 87 Hawaii's state bird
  - 90 Veneration
  - 91 Freeway
  - 94 Idaho cry of excitement?
  - 96 Jack of "The Odd Couple"
  - 99 Poetic preposition
  - 101 "Hiroshima" author
  - 103 Good time
  - 104 Dread-locked one
  - 105 Set in motion
  - 106 Kevin of "In & Out"
  - 107 Range rope
  - 109 Actress
  - 110 Seafood selection
  - 111 Accent feature
  - 112 Mus. directive
  - 114 — condendere
  - 115 Summit
  - 116 "The Never-Ending Story" author
  - 117 WWII gun
  - 118 "The — Is High" ('80 hit)
  - 120 Crestfallen
  - 121 LummoX

## HOROSCOPES



■ **SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)** A vexing relationship seems destined to deteriorate no matter what each side tries to do. A third party's advice just might prove helpful.

■ **CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)** Reach out to ease any tensions caused by home or workplace pressures before they threaten the relationship-building progress you've made.

■ **AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)** You often go out of your way to show kindness to others. So, don't be surprised if other people want to do something nice for you this week.

■ **PISCES (February 19 to March 20)** People in your life respect your Pisceian wisdom, so don't hesitate to speak up about a matter that you feel isn't being handled quite the way it should be.

■ **ARIES (March 21 to April 19)** Although taking advice isn't always easy for the headstrong Sheep, you might want to consider what someone you respect says about an upcoming decision.

■ **TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** A new offer is tempting, but don't be bullied into a quick decision. Rely on your keen Bovine business sense to alert you to anything that might be questionable.

■ **GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)** Your Gemini Twin nature rallies to help you

deal with this week's hectic schedules, both in your personal and professional lives. One caution: Watch your diet.

■ **CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** Avoid rushing to make up for time lost on a stalled workplace operation. Best to set up a schedule and pace yourself. Welcome the help of

colleagues.

■ **LEO (July 23 to August 22)** Despite those glittering holiday distractions you love so well, be sure to keep your feline senses set on high to alert you to anything that might require fast action.

■ **VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)** Making an effort to restore fraying relationships proves to be more successful than you dared hope. The holidays also bring new friends into your life.

■ **LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)** Private and professional matters compete for your attention. Be honest in your assessment of which should get more of it, and for how long.

■ **SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)** A seemingly endless list of must-do tasks is best handled by tackling them one by one, and taking energy-restoring timeouts between each job.

■ **BORN THIS WEEK:** Your personal warmth helps you make friendships, and your sense of fair play helps you keep them.

By Linda Thistle

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

Puzzle Difficulty this week:



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

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging ★★★ Expert

◀ SEE ANSWERS, B5

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# LATEST FILMS

## 'Welcome To The Rileys'

**danHUDAK**  
www.hudakonhollywood.com



★★★  
Is it worth \$10? Yes

"Welcome To The Rileys" tells an interesting story of three people in need of what each of the others eagerly wants to give. Receiving, however, isn't so easy, but thanks to strong performances from Kristen Stewart and James Gandolfini, director Jake Scott's film is fascinating to watch as the relationships evolve.

Mr. Gandolfini is equal parts soft and gruff as Doug, a small business owner in Indianapolis who's unhappily married to Lois (Melissa Leo). Things have been tough for them since their 15-year-old daughter Emily died in a car accident. Lois has such a heavy case of survivor's guilt that she cannot leave the house.

On a business trip to New Orleans, Doug meets Mallory (Ms. Stewart), an underage stripper/prostitute who ostensibly reminds him of his daughter. With Doug longing to be paternal and Mallory in need of a father figure, he offers her \$100 a day if he can move into her place. She of course accepts, and he proceeds to look out for her, teach her how to properly make a bed, etc. Lois eventually enters into the mix as well, and a surrogate family is formed.

You might think things get cozy and head toward a happy ending, but writer Ken Hixon's script is too smart for that. These are complex people living in the real world — a world that has not been kind to any of them. Watching them navigate their problems is a trying experience — because they deserve to be happy, even if they don't know how to be.

Ms. Stewart has made a career out of playing teen angst roles ("Twilight," "Adventureland"), and yes, this is another teen angst role. But Mallory is very different from Bella Swan, Ms. Stewart's "Twilight" alter ego who might be the most annoying character ever created. While Bella is whiney and needy, Mallory has accepted her miserable life for what it is, and only calls Doug in extreme circumstances. What's more, Mallory is constantly brash (her favorite adjective is the "F" word) and bruised, and at no



point does she expect Doug to remove her from the hell that is her life, even if that's what she needs.

Mr. Gandolfini is very good as well, largely because we never get the sense that he is creepy or even thinking about doing something inappropriate with Mallory. Even the mere suggestion of this would undermine the entire story, and screenwriter Mr. Hixon goes to great pains to establish the symbiotic relationship amongst the three characters in ways that aren't charitable or easy. In fact, the film's greatest strength is its honesty, right down to the very end, which suffice to say is the proper way to end the film.

Movies about love, loss and redemption come and go with reasonable frequency, and most of them are forgettable. "Welcome To The Rileys" is a bit slow and illogical at times, but it's also rewarding and worth talking about on the ride home. Most movies would be lucky to inspire such discussion. ■

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

**in the know**

>> Director **Jake Scott** is the son of Ridley Scott ("Gladiator") and the nephew of Tony Scott ("Unstoppable").

## CAPSULES

**REVIEWED BY DAN HUDAK**  
www.hudakonhollywood.com

### Burlesque ★★★

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

### Faster ★★

(Dwayne Johnson, Billy Bob Thornton, Maggie Grace) An ex-con named

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

### Tangled ★★★★★

(Voices of Mandy Moore, Zachary Levi, Donna Murphy) Trapped in a tower her entire life by her evil mother (Ms. Murphy), longhaired Rapunzel (Ms. Moore) escapes after a thief (Mr. Levi) promises to take her to see a special starry night. Great visuals, imagination, songs and humor make this an instant classic that's very deserving to be the 50th animated film released by Disney. Rated PG. ■

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## THE MASHUP

## Don't get "Wiki"-ed: Just follow these 3 steps



bradfordSCHMIDT  
bschmidt@floridaweekly.com

Your computer probably isn't secure. Don't believe me? Consider this: Just last month, more than 250,000 U.S. embassy cables ended up in the hands of the people that run the website Wikileaks. More than 100,000 are marked confidential, more than 15,000 are marked secret and more than 9,000 are marked "noform," meaning they were not to be shared with representatives of foreign countries. Nor, I'd expect, the entire population of the world.

Wikileaks is publishing the lot of them on its web site, unedited, bit-by-bit on a daily basis, causing world leaders and diplomats to begin popping Zantac like Tic Tacs. So if the U.S. government can't keep it quiet that a member of the diplomatic corps described Russian President Medvedev as Robin to Prime Minister Putin's Batman, you should probably accept that your computer just isn't that secure.

Some time ago, my son decided he wanted an Xbox 360 available to him at his grandmother's house. You know, in case he got bored. So he turned on her computer, hit Amazon.com, and bought one. With no password protection on her account, he simply woke up her laptop. Her Amazon ID filled in automatically, she used the same easy-to-guess pass-

word for everything and her credit card information was conveniently on file. Well played, son, well played. I suppose my mother-in-law's aversion to saying no to my kids may have convinced my son this wouldn't have been a problem, but that's a whole other issue (she did, however, cancel this order — thankfully).

The point is, once someone is sitting at your computer and they're logged into your account, they likely have access to everything: reading email from your mom is just the beginning. Because once the ne'er-do-well has access to your email they can reset the passwords on almost every site you visit. But you can fix this.

Step one is to secure your account locally by making sure your computer requires a password when you start it up, as well as when you wake it up from sleep or screensaver mode: it's quick and easy, and decreases vulnerability considerably. If you run Windows, go to Control Panel, User Accounts. Click on your account and add a password, then go to Power Options and make sure that Password Protection on Wakeup is set to "Require a Password." For Macs, go to System Preferences, Accounts, and click Login Options to make sure that Automatic Login is set to "disabled." Then go to System Preferences, Security and check the "Require password to wake this computer from sleep or screensaver" box. If you, like Granny, have kids or friends who come over and occasionally use your computer, set up a guest account for them, which will give them access to everything they

need, but keeps all your documents and logins private.

If you have particularly sensitive content on your drives, or tend to travel with your laptop, there's a second layer of protection you might want to consider: file or directory encryption. Even though your account may be secure, your entire drive can be removed and accessed elsewhere, and the data on it are usually in plain text. To get full protection in case the Hamburglar and French Fry Goblins grab your drive or laptop, consider using encryption for your most sensitive files. TrueCrypt, an OpenSource cross-platform encryption tool, allows you to build containers for sensitive documents that can be protected with the sort of security that the NSA would have trouble crack-

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SEE MASHUP, B11 ►

## MASHUP

From page B10

we're at it, stop using your children's birthdays or middle names, your wife's maiden name, a pet's name, or your favorite car as a password. Not only are those sorts of passwords susceptible to a 7-year-old's detective work, they're easily uncovered in a brute-force attack in which common words and dates are tested in succession. Make your passwords combinations of letters and numbers. The combination of your initials followed by your birthday doesn't count.

Also key: Make important passwords different for each site you log in to. Aside from the fact that if someone compromises your password they only need to do it once to get the whole kit and caboodle to open up, some sites actually store passwords in plain text on their servers. That means that any shady system administrator at a site you forgot you even signed up for may have the password for your bank account. So unless you want to see cases of Mountain Dew and the limited edition boxed set of the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy charged to your credit card (and that's your best-case scenario), keep critical passwords for banking and credit card sites different and more complex than the one you use for your knitting forum site.

Good password habits are particularly critical for users of online email services like Gmail, Yahoo, Live or Hotmail. As convenient as it is for you to be able to check your mail from anywhere, it's also that convenient for a hacker to do the same thing if they get your password. And remember what I said about resetting all your other online account passwords? Imagine someone in the Balkans

sitting at home and doing shots of cheap vodka while they drain your 401K and change your Facebook photo to one of Mr. Potato Head (which would, at that point, be fitting). Not pretty. Change your password from "mypassword" to something tougher and do it now.

If you, like I, have usernames and passwords to dozens of sites and don't know how to remember them all, take a look at a password manager. These handy fellows will keep your data securely wrapped up in an encrypted file that you unlock with a single (hopefully un-guessable) password. Most also have a way to keep additional information, like a profile with your name and address, and credit card numbers, secure as well. Combined with the fact that most integrate directly with browsers, password managers make it easy to log into your various online destinations, make secure purchases and keep all your personal information close at hand but safe from prying eyes. For Mac users, take a look at the excellent iPassword program, while Windows users may like Roboform. There are also great free options, like LastPass for PCs, and KeePass, an OpenSource program that has versions for all platforms. Whichever you choose, it will provide an excellent way to tighten security and remember everything without having to be Rain Man.

Finally, the obvious: Be careful when you're online. Particularly this time of year, there are a ton of scams going on, from phishing to malware attacks. So, especially if you use a Windows computer, get a good anti-virus program to help block spyware and nasty things like key loggers. Microsoft's Security Essentials is free, works great, and has a negligible performance hit. More full-featured programs are available for a reasonable annual license fee. Although there are

fewer viruses out there that attack Macs (a function of the considerably smaller market share that Apple has when compared to Windows-based computers), they do exist, so you may want to consider one as well.

And then, think before you click. Phishing scams are fake sites disguised to look legit, so don't click on links in an email claiming your account has been compromised, then attempt to log in. Instead, if you're concerned about your account, type the address directly into your browser to ensure you actually get to the site you intend before entering your username and password. Also, beware of pop ups that look like virus alerts — they're a common scam to forward you to a site that actually infects you with spyware or a virus. And of course, many sites claiming free downloads of music, software, and especially (ahem) adult entertainment may give you a nasty infection, so exercise caution. For extra protection, look for an anti-virus suite that contains filters that check web sites and search results to warn you about dangerous pages before you ever reach them. These are particularly useful for computer neophytes and children.

In the end, it's about using some common sense, staying away from installing anything that isn't from a trusted source, and protecting your accounts with solid, different passwords. Of course you could always just be the average user and hope for the best, but don't come crying to me if *The New York Times* publishes the email you sent your friend describing your peanut butter fetish. ■

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

## Tickets go on sale for three Kravis Center shows

Tickets go on sale to the public for three shows at the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts in West Palm Beach:

■ Tickets for the new Mel Brooks musical, "**Young Frankenstein**," are on sale now.

■ Tickets for **Kathy Griffin** go on sale at 10 a.m. Dec. 10, and tickets for "**West Side Story**" go on sale at 10 a.m. Dec. 11.

"Young Frankenstein," based on the 1974 movie, runs Feb. 1-6. The show opened on Broadway in November 2007, and features a book by Mel Brooks and Thomas Meehan, with music and lyrics by Mr. Brooks. It was named Best Broadway Musical 2008 by the Outer Critics Circle Award. Tickets start at \$25. There will be a "Beyond the Stage" free pre-performance discussion led by Julie Gilbert at 6:45 p.m. Feb. 1.

"West Side Story," by Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim, runs March 8-13.

There will be a "Beyond the Stage" free pre-performance discussion led by Julie Gilbert at 6:45 p.m. March 8. Tickets start at \$25.

March 29 — 8 p.m. Celebrity dirt-dishing comedian Kathy Griffin, of "My Life On The D-List" fame, performs live March 29. Tickets start at \$25.

Tickets will be available at the Kravis Center box office, at 701 Okeechobee Blvd., in West Palm Beach. Call 832-7469 or log on to [www.kravis.org](http://www.kravis.org). ■

## Fantastical new journeys!

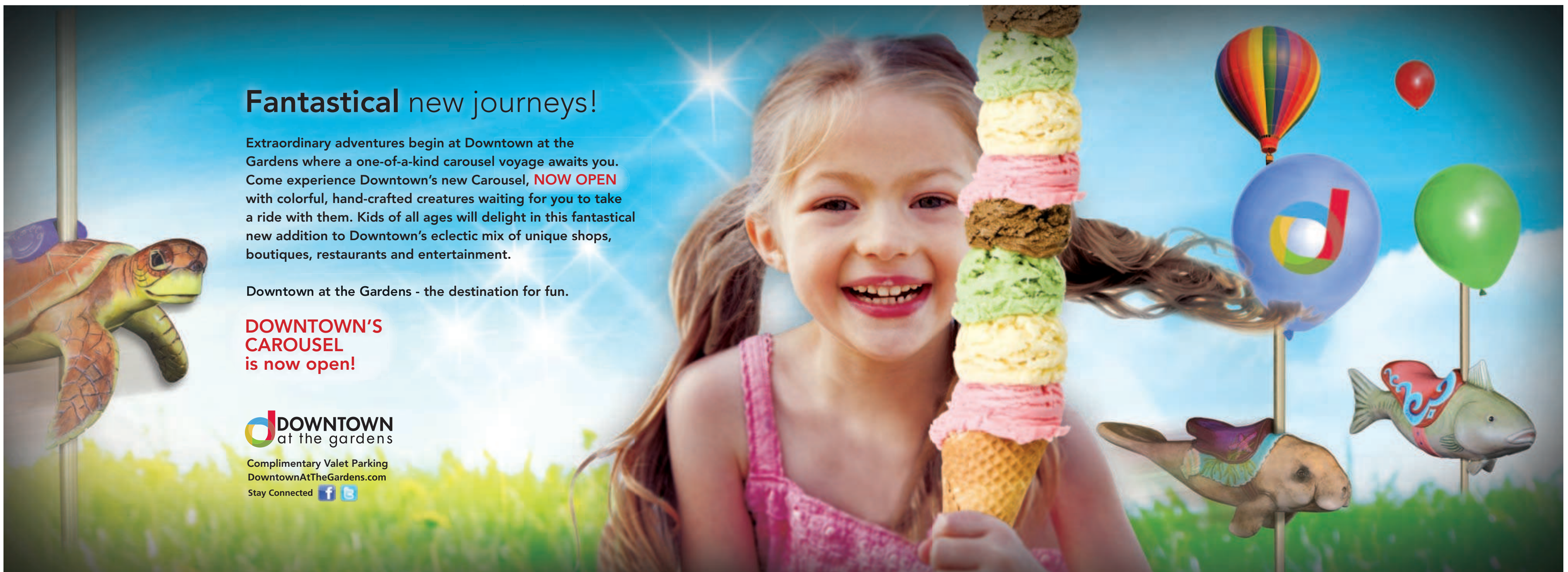
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## TRAVEL

## Magical Marquesas

*Polynesia's  
lost paradise*

BY HARVEY HAGMAN

Special to Florida Weekly

ABOARD THE ARANUI 3 — Stand on the deck after midnight, and his ghost is there. Under a star-strewn sky in the middle of an eternity called the South Pacific, the bow wave cuts the black sea and the wild spirit of the artist Paul Gauguin rages.

The copra freighter — Aranui means “The Great Highway” in Maori — follows the artist’s final voyage 108 years ago. We sail from Papeete, Tahiti’s major port, as white clouds cover the violet peaks and rippling green valleys of Moorea, Tahiti’s sister island across the Sea of the Moon.

Dolphins leap off the bow, lost in the wonder of sky and sea. The HMS Bounty once rode these waves before its famed mutiny recalled in “The Mutiny on the Bounty.” Our destinations are the six inhabited islands of the 11 Marquesas, a wild, rugged archipelago featuring stunning bays, spiny volcanic crags, precipitous gorges and valleys full of palm, mango and papaya. These volcanic islands, without circling reefs, lie 750 miles and a world away from Tahiti.

When Eugene-Henri-Paul Gauguin sailed for the Marquesas in 1901, his turbulent life and work were dominated by an attempt to recapture his youthful vision of paradise. He found it here amid tumbling waterfalls, overgrown archaeological ruins and exotic, welcoming Marquesans.

Vessels named Aranui have served the Marquesas since the end of World War II. The first was an old PT boat purchased by the Wong family of Hong Kong and used in the copra (dried coconut) trade.

As operations expanded new vessels were added. Ours is a 386-foot ship that carries up to 198 passengers and 2,500 tons of cargo. The Aranui is by far the best buy in expensive French Polynesia ([www.aranui.com](http://www.aranui.com)).

Today, our 14-day voyage carries 62 crew members and 153 passengers, mainly French, with a smattering of other Europeans in spacious, air-conditioned cabins on its trip to the remote Marquesas, whose dark peaks rise from the ocean floor farther from continents than any of the world’s islands.

Travelers rank these islands, which early Marquesans called “the Land of Man” thinking they were the only ones on earth, among the world’s most beautiful islands.

We eat French food — brioches and croissants for breakfast, fresh fish and meats, tangy salads and tasty soup and cheeses in a comfortable dining room and relax in a lively, top-deck bar, deck-side plunge pool or an indoor lounge, where we are briefed on the following day’s tropical merriment. I reread “Mutiny on the Bounty.”

After dinner one night, a cake is delivered, the lights go out and the Aranui band surprises my wife singing “Happy



A Marquesan bird dancer

Birthday” as her candles blaze. Thereafter, smiling bartender Yo-Yo (Liai-Fon Yoel) holds court as passengers gather. The ever-changing Aranui band — stevedores, crane operators, mechanics, laundry workers — plays wild Tahitian songs on drums, guitars, ukuleles and spoons.

In harbors, the crew labors, manning Aranui’s cranes and lowering its tons of cargo into 25-foot whale boats or barges. The barges, big enough to squeeze in 75 passengers, ride the waves toward shore. Muscular stevedores often lift passengers onto piers, timing their hoists as the waves crest.

Our hearts are light, the sun bakes

and the air is clean as we follow in the wakes of Captain Cook, Herman Melville, Robert Louis Stevenson, Jack London, Thor Heyerdahl and Gauguin to the Marquesas.

Our first day at sea we engage in lifeboat drills, visit the bridge, swim and listen to Dr. Robert Suggs lecture on the Marquesas. In 1595, Spaniards Alvaro de Mendana and Pedro Quiros commanding fast, small caravels, discovered the Marquesas, the first islands in Polynesia touched by Europeans. Strangely, the Incas of Peru gave the Spaniards precise navigational instructions: Sail 4,000 miles due west.

Early explorers brought the islanders disease, alcoholism and slavery. Missionaries stamped out many traditions, but today the 6,500 Marquesans retain their language, a dialect of Polynesian, while their ancient traditions return.

The young are tattooing their bodies with ancient geometric designs, tapa cloth is again pounded from the inner bark of mulberry trees and wood and bone carving flourishes. Yet the islands, far from shipping lanes and unprotected by barrier reefs, have not been tainted by tourism. There are no major hotels.

Our first Marquesan stop is Oa Pou, which means “pillars,” and offers one of the earth’s most dramatic skylines. Its 4,000-foot peaks shoot from the sea like warm, green icicles, their summits often wrapped in wreath-like clouds. Some of us ride or hike over a ridge to a secluded, unspoiled beach for a welcome dip. Others purchase carvings and handicrafts.

Later, lunch is celebrated at Rosalie Tata’s, featuring lobster, curried goat,

COURTESY PHOTOS  
Copra freighter off Marquesas

breadfruit, bananas, papaya, fish marinated in lime juice and coconut and numerous specialties. The memorable meal is enhanced by Marquesan music.

Jeeps take us through the lush, green mountains and above Anaho Bay, where in 1888 Scottish novelist Robert Louis Stevenson wrote at anchor, “I have watched the morning break in many quarters of the world ... and the dawn I saw with most emotion shown upon the Bay of Anaho.”

Aboard ship, evening Tahitian classes begin, followed by a savory dinner and music and dancing in the bar.

Dawn finds us tied up at Atuona’s pier. Scattered sailboats bob in the harbor; white surf laps the black sand beach. We hike the 1.5 miles up to Atuona, the Marquesas’ second largest town with 1,500 people. Jagged peaks rise above us as we pass flowering trees, blossoming flowers and tethered black horses.

Drenched in sweat, we climb to Calvary Cemetery. On Gauguin’s grave sits a replica of his ceramic statue, Ovri, which means “the savage” and symbolizes the goddess of death and destruction.

When in this remote village, he set about building himself the finest home in the Marquesas. He dubbed it the House of Pleasure and lived there with a 14-year-old vahine. His wild parties quickly enraged the island’s clergy and police.

But his drug- and syphilis-induced pain intensified, forcing him to use morphine. One morning a Marquesan neighbor found him dead at age 51.

Nearby rests Belgian cabaret singer Jacques Brel (1929-1978), who spent his last years on Hiva Oa and was beloved by the islanders. We hike to the renovated Gauguin museum, with vivid copies of his works, a film on his life and a

SEE TRAVEL, B13 ►

# KOVELS: ANTIQUES & COLLECTING

## Tin toys date back to European Industrial Age

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Because the 19th-century Industrial Revolution resulted in new technology and the creation of a middle class, the invention of tin toys was possible and profitable. Earlier toys had been made of wood, fabric or ceramics. Tin toys were made in the early years of the 19th century in Germany, England and France. The J. Hess Co. was founded in Germany in 1826. Other German toy companies, including Marklin, Bing and Lehmann, soon started up, too. Tin toys were first made in the United States in the early 1830s. By the 1860s, many U.S. companies were producing the toys. In fact, the years from 1865 to 1895 are called the "Golden Age of American Tin Toys." By the 1890s, German and French toymakers were realizing that tin toys were popular in the United States. They made large numbers of toys and pictured them in sales catalogs that now help collectors identify the makers. American toys were less complicated and more amusing than European examples.

Toys then, as now, chronicled the everyday life of children. One popular Hess toy was a windup toy shaped like a boy on a sled. Turn the key and the sled scoots across the floor. It was made in several different color combinations. The boy might have a red, green or yellow jacket. Other companies made a very similar boy-on-

sled toy. All date from about 1915.

**Q:** I have a dessert serving set that was given to me by a great-aunt in the 1950s. There is a circular mark on the bottom of the dishes enclosing the word "Shofu" in large capital letters surrounded by the words "Made in Japan." Can you tell me who made this set and how old it is?

**A:** The history of Shofu is confusing. Shofu Kajo or Shofu Katei (1870 to 1928) made porcelain in Kyoto, Japan, beginning in 1890. He founded the Shofu Ceramics Co. in 1908 and began importing ceramics. There still is a company called Shofu in Kyoto. It was incorporated in 1922 by Kajo Shofu III and is still in business making porcelain dentures. The words "Made in Japan" are a clue to the years when the mark on your dessert set was used. On its ceramics exports, Japan used the word "Nippon" (a transliteration of "Japan") as its country name until 1921. After 1921 the U.S. government forced Japanese exporters to use the word "Japan" in their marks. Pieces made in Japan from 1947 to 1952 are marked "Made in Occupied Japan." Your dessert set was made between 1921 and 1941 or in the early 1950s.

**Q:** Are armadillo baskets really made out of armadillo "skin" or are they just made to look like an armadillo? When were they made?

**A:** Armadillo baskets are made from the hard "shell" of the nine-banded armadillo, one of the many varieties of armadillos. Usually the finished baskets are varnished; some have cloth linings. Charles



COURTESY PHOTO

This lithographed tin boy-on-sled toy is 7 inches long. It sold at RSL Auction Co. for \$334.

Apelt (1862-1944), a German immigrant basket-maker who lived on a farm in Texas, noticed that the shell of an armadillo he had killed and skinned curled up into a basket shape as it dried. He started the Apelt Armadillo Co. in Comfort, Texas, in 1898 and began to make baskets from the shells. Handles were formed by looping the long tail over and wiring it to the basket. Armadillo baskets became popular after they were shown at the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904. The company made baskets, purses, lamps and other items from armadillo shells until it closed in 1971. Armadillos have been used to conduct research on leprosy. For a while, some people thought owning an armadillo basket was dangerous because armadillos carried leprosy, but it has been proven that very few of the animals carry the disease and it can't be transferred unless a person eats the undercooked meat. A basket in good shape sells for about \$50 to

\$100, depending on its size and lining.

**Q:** I have a 7-foot-diameter dining table with beautiful inlay. I would love to use it without pads and tablecloth, but am petrified to do so. Design magazines often show wood tables set for a meal directly on the wood surface. I know from experience that setting anything remotely warm on a bare table leaves white marks. Are placemats or chargers sufficient for plates? What about salt cellars, other condiment dishes, crystal wine glasses or bowls of flowers?

**A:** The pictures in the magazine may look attractive, but you should protect your table with placemats or a tablecloth if you are serving anything hot, cold or wet. Be sure to use a pad under the tablecloth or placemats, unless they are already padded. Trivets should be used under serving dishes to make sure heat doesn't penetrate the pad.

**Tip:** You can clean oil, fingerprints and dust from a photograph with a wad of white bread. ■

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

## Women's clothing exchange, wine-tasting event set

An upscale clothing exchange event where ladies can refresh themselves and their wardrobes, save money and help the environment is described by organizers as healthy for budgets and the environment.

It's 6-9 p.m. Dec 16 at Hawthorn Suites, 301 Lambert Drive, West Palm Beach.

Exchange items will be accepted the night of the event up to 7:45 p.m. Women will come to this evening to swap for items of choice. Whether they give five or 10 items, they will have the opportunity to swap for the same number of items given. Bring two pairs of shoes, a dress, and a hat, leave with three dresses, a belt and a purse.

There also will be wine tasting, food

and beverage, complimentary massages and mini-makeovers, giveaways and prizes.

There is a 10-item limit. Finer clothes and normal items will be accepted. All items will be closely inspected for cleanliness and impeccable condition.

Advance tickets are available for this event at local participating beauty salons and at: [tceplitterandsparkle.eventbrite.com/](http://tceplitterandsparkle.eventbrite.com/).

Individual tickets: \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Sponsorships are available for \$250. Limited vendor space is available for \$75.

Contact Cecily Mathis at 317-7000 or Tricia Waldron at 254-4330. All remaining clothing will be donated to Dress for Success, Palm Beaches. ■

## TRAVEL

From page B12

reconstruction of his house; "Love and you will be happy" is carved on its side.

Farther on is a re-creation of an ancient me'ae, rock platforms that acted as temples and sites where all important decisions were made. Here the Polynesians communicated with their gods before the arrival of the Europeans in the 18th century.

Two days later, on the other side of Hiva Oa, we visit the ruins of Puamau, in cliff-rimmed Puamau Valley. Dr. Robert Suggs, who has worked and studied on the islands since 1956, describes its mysterious "Te me'ae Ilipona," stone terraces surrounded by rain forests with 10-foot, saucer-eyed stone tikis.

In 1939 Thor Heyerdahl and his bride Liv began their marriage on Fatu Hiva. Their adventures are detailed in his book "Fatu Hiva." It's a traditional island of 600 people, green with rivers and highlands, gulleys and craters.

The quiet, unspoiled Marquesas are a paradise for hikers. Soon we're climbing through tropical greenery, traversing narrow ravines, deep gorges and luxurious valleys as clouds slip in and out over Fatu Hiva. After the arduous 10-mile hike we reach the Bay of Virgins, where rock curtains, appearing as veiled virgins, plunge mightily into the sea.

On remote, dramatic Tahuata pristine sandy beaches are nestled in small bays. This magnificent island boasts 168 inhabitants. We take barges into the island's capital, Vaitahu, and hike to Catholic mass in the morning sun. The music goes straight to the heart. At a barbecue with villagers, children

dance, an island band plays and we feast on the food and music as the sea laps.

On Oa Huka, the smallest and driest of the Marquesas, wild horses outnumber its 570 residents. Our jeep ride reveals the black horses roaming green mountain flanks. Later, we enjoy native dancing and spend an hour at a botanical garden and then in a fine archaeological museum.

Free wine heralds Polynesian night as passengers dress in Polynesian garb and the kitchen outdoes itself. A light mist fails but does not dampen the joy of participating in the Tahitian dances that passengers have practiced for days. Then the crew, in brightly colored pareaus and iridescent shell jewelry, entertains and the party goes on.

Our last stop is Rangiroa, the world's second largest atoll. Tahiti would fit inside its vast lagoon. We snorkel, dive and enjoy glass-bottom boat trips over its magnificent reefs, then picnic. On the last night at sea the moon hangs like a bronzed ladle spilling its molten gold on the black water. ■

## Tweeting for Toys for Tots on tap

The second annual "Toys for Tweets" fundraiser is Dec. 9. The event to raise money for Toys for Tots is sponsored by the Association for Women in Communications South Florida Chapter, the Social Media Club of Palm Beach County, Clematis Tweetup West Palm Beach, @GuyonClematis, Social Media Roundup, New Tech Community, TilsonPR Tweetup, Kiwanis Young Professional of the Palm Beaches and Off the Hookah West Palm Beach.

The groups use social media to raise funds. Last year the event raised more than \$2,500 for Palm Beach County's children.

The "Toys for Tweets" event will be held at Off the Hookah West Palm at 314

Clematis St. in West Palm. Off The Hookah is donating one free drink and free appetizers to each guest.

Children and teens will be allowed when accompanied by parents. Toys for Tots will be represented by two U.S. Marine Corps officials, who will be collecting the toys and all cash donations. For more information about the event, contact Dana M. Lawrence at [communications@awcsouthflorida](mailto:communications@awcsouthflorida) or call 301-2420.

The U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program has the mission to collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community in which the campaign is conducted. ■

in the know

>> Once considered luminous dewdrops from the night sky, black pearls are among the South Seas' treasures, found only in the Tuamotus and Gambier Islands.

Only about seven of 100 oysters will yield commercial pearls, which contribute to their great value. Their price is judged according to roundness, brilliance, texture, size and opalescence. Tints of green, blue, violet, pink and yellow that play across the metallic gray surface indicate a pearl of great price.



# Art Basel impresses, overwhelms

REVIEWED BY ERIC RADDATZ

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ERDGESCHOSSSNUFFBOX. The word stands plastered in a simple, bold black sans serif font in all capital letters on one large white wall at Art Basel, the art exhibit where gallery owners spend tens of thousands of dollars to represent their finest art at arguably one of the most exciting and largest American art fairs held annually in the always live, always pulsing Miami Beach.

The 19-letter word stands as a testimony to the power of the word, and of the artistic respect given the spoken — and painted — word. “The first part of the word’s meaning is ground floor, and snuffbox, mentioned at the end, is like a snuff box, but also refers to snuff films,” commented Kristina Marberger, representing Galerie Mezzanin and artist Bernhard Fruhwirth, doing a solid job of convincing me of the importance of the display while confusing me as to the actual reason why. She took more than a few more minutes to explain how that word, when read in German, is interpreted and why it is significant at an international showing of this magnitude.

She wasn’t the only one impassioned to discuss with me how a favorite piece had made the cut to be seen this week among thousands of others spewn through dozens of satellite fairs that have attached themselves to the larger show Art Basel. At a proportionately smaller Red Dot, just over the bridge and through several winding streets of imaginatively painted buildings, Jay from the Art District/Lurid Gallery in California, lit up to discuss a brilliantly brightly painted piece by Michael Gorman, an artist he “owns.”

“He is our finest and number one selling artist, incapable of living a normal life. He’s a complicated drug-addicted genius who lives in a bubble and paints for money. He is from Texas but lives in a car in Riverside County, currently,” he continued.

The piece that joltingly screamed to me as one of the highlights on my second day was gone and sold by day four, the day I brought my children to see my favorites. The piece was listed at \$9,500.

But Ethan and Naomi took delight in many pieces I had not noticed on my

first tour through. That’s understandable because there are simply so many delightfully impressive works created in so many unbelievable mediums from so many artists speaking with so many wonderfully creative voices, that it all becomes a bit overkill after a while when you try to take it all in.

This was the ninth year for Art Basel Miami Beach, which exhibited works by more than 2,000 artists from some 250 galleries from all over the world. North America, Europe,



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The businessman series by Francis Acea

Latin America, Asia and Africa were well represented. The number would be less startling if you didn’t find each gallery displaying some pretty amazing, high quality, highly sought after and internationally recognized works. It’d be different if you didn’t find Rauschenberg next to Botero next to Picasso next to Lichtenstein next to Matisse next to Dali. But it was plentifully rich in the finest any gallery around the world has to offer.

The show, anchored at the Miami Beach Convention Center, reports to have attracted 46,000 visitors, a record number, also from around the world. I spoke to and overheard art lovers speaking in more languages than I have ever experienced in one location.

One of my favorite pieces, dressed up sharply, was by Cuban artist Francis Acea, part of a series of businessman silhouettes adorned with pieces of gold at the PanAmerican



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Artists work on a wall painting in the Wynwood District during Art Basel.



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“Eye Candy” by Michael Gorman

Art Projects booth. The silhouette looked so much like a portrait of me that I quickly snapped it and used it as my Facebook profile picture. It too was gone by day four and I told the gallery owners it became popular thanks to my tagging it so quickly in the event’s beginning. They smiled appreciatively.

Outside of one of my favorite exhibits of the year, “SCOPE Miami,” where local artist Marcus Jansen had a painting represented by 101/exhibit, was a public “penetrable” piece by Jesus Soto. Hundreds of blue strings hung

from white rails beckoning, young and old alike to walk through and get immersed and play in the fun strings.

Through the Wynwood District passersby could observe, without any entry fee, some of the most vibrant and edgy pieces to be found in all of Miami — painted directly on buildings. After Art Miami, we wandered up and down the streets as the sun set on the masterpieces in the streets. The smell of barbecue was in the air and the sidewalks surged with passersby at the indie-operated, lower profile warehouses near the Wynwood Walls and Graffiti Gone Global exhibit.

Artists spray painting walls left and right were celebrating a once-rebellious movement now turned respectable artistic genre. Tightly spun hip hop and electronica accompanied generous offerings of spirits and raw, unproven pieces that were no less interesting. Artists Tatiana Suarez, Gottfried Helnwein, Tomoko Nagai and Gustavo Maestre were some of my more favorites of the year. ■

— For a complete photo gallery from Art Basel and surrounding fairs, go to [www.floridaweekly.com](http://www.floridaweekly.com).

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# FLORIDA WEEKLY SOCIETY

“Live, Laugh, Learn, Love Yourself” an evening of shopping & cocktails in support of WXEL Garnet Society at Tory Burch



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1. Janet Robbins, Victor Jimenez and Lauren Shea
2. Debra Tornaben, Ellen Huxley-Laffer and Kathy Marks
3. Tracy Howse, Desiree Mufson and Maryellen Pate
4. Michael Corey, Loretta Corey, Melissa Stypul and Matthew Corey
5. Chitra Shah and Amol Shah
6. Maxine Woods and Roosellen Klopfer
7. Judie Gibson and Marcia Wolf



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# FLORIDA WEEKLY SOCIETY

## Hospice of Palm Beach County Foundation's "Swing with the Stars" Gala at The Breakers



JOSE CASADO/FLORIDA WEEKLY

1. Anne Geddes
2. Kelly Downey, Shamin Abas, Matt Lauer and Shannon Felder
3. Denis and Luz Martinez
4. Sonja Dean and Alex Giguere
5. Lauryn Bronstin and Evan Cohen
6. Luis Escobar, Dr. Susan Lee and Brandon Phillips
7. Karen Smith, Doug Smith and Janet Lano
8. Michael Monsour and Cathy Olsen
9. Cana Pelew and Marc Haisfield

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# FLORIDA WEEKLY SOCIETY

## Palm Beach Holiday Boat Parade



BARBARA SHAFER / FLORIDA WEEKLY

1. Ashley Bennett and Mark Bennett
2. Alyssa and Jeff Freeman, Tessie and David Kerslake
3. One of the boats on parade
4. Judges Bill Manuel, Dawn Pardo, Karen Marcus, Ed Eissey, Shelby Lowe and John Workman
5. Brenda Gruber, Rena Williams, Chuck Watkins, Carrie Watkins and Criste Carter
6. Frank and Brittany Gruber, Sean Coleman and Janelle Von
7. Mauricio Diaz, Mike Ascani, Mitton Demaria, Trevor Smiçelski and Ian Shaw



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# FLORIDA WEEKLY SOCIETY

## City of Palm Beach Gardens Holiday Tree Lighting



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1. The lighted Christmas tree
2. Joe Russo, Marcie Tinsley, David Levy, Eric Jablin and Bert Premurso
3. Dyllan Tomasik and Nina Tomasik
4. Carol Davis, Dorita Edelmann, Carol Teichman and Janice Webber
5. Holly Beer and Brittany Hynes

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## The Salvation Army's 39th Annual Christmas Ball at The Club at Admiral's Cove



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1. John Johnston, Ashley Copeland, Pete Sesso, Tara Bennett-Holcomb and Bud Broda
2. Charles and Mary Rice, Caroline McCaughey, Bill Butler and Mary Blasi
3. Denise McCann, Michael Danis and Bridget Healey
4. Bjaye and Frank Pilotte, Cheryl and Ron Warner

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# FLORIDA WEEKLY CUISINE

## Capt. Charlie's Reef Grill serves up great fish, fun

**janNORRIS**  
jnorris@floridaweekly.com



Eating freshly caught pompano in an Old Florida spot with friends who provide witty conversation — does it get any better? Barely.

Capt. Charlie's Reef Grill in Juno Beach provided the backdrop for a solid seafood dinner in a style that's faded from South Florida — actually, much of Florida — with the advent of precious food and star chefs.

This is how we natives used to eat fish: Come as you are, off the boat or beach, "wear-your-shorts" casual.

A hearty greeting thrown out by the owner, Ross Matheson, behind the bar that separates the dining room, all hand-built by Matheson and crew, tells you it's friendly, too. It's bustling busy any night you go, but particularly weekends (read that: go late, or plan on a wait).

You'll get a handwritten menu, run off on a copier. And a dish of coleslaw to eat while you wait — it's the old-fashioned kind, slightly creamy with a tang, that goes smartly with fish.

Seafood is it. If you didn't get that from the "Reef Grill" in the name, we can't help you. There are a very few choices for landlubbers — a sirloin steak, a quail, pork and lamb kebobs and a chicken breast. Otherwise, plan on seafood.

But start with wine. Matheson has a funny thing about wine — he feels everyone should be able to enjoy it with a meal without it breaking a bank. His markups are, on average, lower than anyone around and he gets some interesting bottles to boot — then serves some by the glass as specials.

Don't like his? Bring your own — there's a \$14 corkage fee.

We started with tastes of the Dutton Goldfield Chardonnay, but wound up with a L'Aristocratico Pinot Grigio. (\$33.95), figuring its crispness worked best.

From an extensive list of appetizers and entrees that had some wondering how on earth they do anything fresh, we picked fried green tomatoes with goat cheese and a shrimp and beet salad; the T-WA shrimp; with a sweet and spicy sauce in a "wonton" bowl; and the blackened dolphin fajitas with guacamole and sour cream — all were \$10.95. We also indulged and ordered a half-pound of stone crabs, \$14.95. Four medium claws appeared; leaving us wanting for more.

Only the sauce changes for claws anywhere you go — the coveted claws are cooked immediately after harvesting, then chilled. Nothing to do but dip them in something, usually, the tried and true creamy mustard sauce made famous by Joe's in Miami; that's what was here.

Even our Yankee buddy, trying fried green tomatoes for the first time, proclaimed the crispy, slightly herb-coated tomatoes "tasty" and the vinaigrette on the shrimp and beets just right. I wanted a bit more goat cheese (it was smeared between the stacks of tomatoes), but they were a great starter.

The dolphin (they don't call it mahi here — they're old-timers) was cooked to its silky perfection, with the bite of blackening crust giving it a punch. Usually it arrives in a sizzling skillet, so it wound up being like a build-it-yourself soft taco — still as good with the peppers and onions, a dip of guacamole and sour cream to fill the wraps. There was enough to make two generous fajitas.

We were divided on the T-WA (Thai-Wa) shrimp. One of us felt the sauce, heavy on the sesame oil, tasted soapy. There was definitely chile in the sauce that ran all over the plate once we pulled off the wrong piece of the crispy bowl to eat with it. Less sauce, maybe? The shrimp were, however, plump and perfectly cooked and the sauce complemented them.

This was already a lot of food — and we easily could have stopped there. On previous visits, we did just that — made a meal of the many appetizers.

But to serve the readers, we wanted a few entrees.

The pompano (\$24.95) off the fresh fish selection won raves from a friend who was there a few nights earlier. ("If it's still on the menu, you just have to get it!") She knows fresh fish, so I bit.

It was as promised: Fresh, silky and perfectly cooked — all except one thick part of a fillet that was slightly underdone. Had I sent it back, it would have cheerfully been re-cooked (yes, I should have done so, but we could barely finish it as it was). I prefer fish on the rare side anyway — wonderful silky fillets that are ruined by overcooking



COURTESY PHOTO

Owner Ross Matheson built the bar at Capt. Charlie's Reef Grill.

are the worst of food preparation in my book. Black beans and rice with it were average — we might have liked them better with chopped onions, which go great with fish of any kind. Diners also have a choice with the fish of fries, sautéed vegetables, pasta or yellow rice.

We had to get the sesame-crusting tuna, over angel hair pasta with an "Asian alfredo" (\$24.95). That sauce description was the kicker. It was vaguely like the sauce on the T-WA shrimp bowl, with sesame oil, a touch of soy, a mere hint of garlic and ginger, but my dining companions liked this one, with a slight thickness, better. The tuna was thickly crusted with black and white sesame seeds, prepared medium-rare as requested, and meaty; the pasta, al dente.

Portions here are very generous, especially with the appetizer plates. As stated: You can make a meal of a few.

My only complaint is the heavy-handedness with the sauces — I'll request a "lightly sauced" plate next time. Or, none at all — that pompano, a fish you don't see everyday on menus as you once did, was a treat simply grilled.

We were offered a taste of desserts — a Key lime pie and peanut butter pie (\$4.25 each) and a coconut crème brûlée. (\$5.95). Great tart, traditional Key lime pie — you can't quibble with that — and it's so very Florida. The peanut butter pie was denser than I was expecting; I am used to the chifon kind, though our server did say real whipped cream is incorporated into the peanut butter. The coconut crème brûlée lacked that crackly crust that we so anticipated; it was covered in toasted coconut and only a tiny corner of the burnt sugar

was crisp. Put the coconut inside, and the dessert will sing. All the desserts are made in-house — another plus here.

We talked so long, we shut the place down — therein, the fun. Matheson himself is chatty — and admitted as we left he thought it was me, though we had never formally met. His wife was our server — the restaurant's a family affair. She did mention she knew me but we have met outside the restaurant. However, I made note of all the plates and service in the room, and everyone got the same friendly treatment and spot-on service, as well as a cheery chat as they left.

Stop in and you might rub elbows with baseball, tennis or golf stars, or the gardener who manicures their yards. Or me — if you come late. Since I'm only sometimes in the mood for waiting — and nobody gets star treatment. You're all on "the list," but can drink as you wait, and chat with Matheson. He's the guy in white hair and mustache, behind the bar.

(Note: Lunch, a great value, is served from the same kitchen at Three Doors Up, three storefronts to the west of the Reef Grill.) ■

### in the know

#### Captain Charlie's Reef Grill

12846 U.S. 1, Juno Beach  
561-624-9924

**Ratings:**  
**Food:** ★★★★★  
**Service:** ★★★★★  
**Atmosphere:** ★★★★★

>> **Hours:** Sunday-Thursday, 5:30-9:30 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, till 10 p.m.

>> **Reservations:** No

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

>> **Price range:** Appetizers, \$6.95-\$11.95 (lobster or stone crab higher); entrees, \$14.95-\$24.95

>> **Beverages:** Full bar

>> **Seating:** Tables and booths in dining room; bar seating

>> **Specialties of the house:** Numerous fresh fish prepared to order, Caribbean and Asian-inspired appetizers such as coconut tempura yellowtail, sesame-crusting snapper cake; paella Rossco with turkey sausage

>> **Volume:** Moderate

>> **Parking:** Free lot

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

### dining NOTES

#### First Gardens Chipotle opening at Midtown

The first Chipotle Mexican Grill in Palm Beach County north of West Palm is opening in Midtown in Palm Beach Gardens.

The 2,400-square-foot restaurant is set for a grand opening on Dec. 14. It has patio dining and is at the Midtown main entrance along PGA Boulevard.

Known for serving Food With Integrity, the new Chipotle will feature the restaurant's focused menu of burritos, tacos, burrito bowls (a burrito without the tortilla) and salads made from fresh, high-quality raw ingredients, prepared using classic cooking methods. Other notable Midtown dining establishments include III Forks Steakhouse, J Alexander's, Cantina Laredo. Saito's Japanese Steakhouse and Marble Slab Creamery.

Midtown is located on PGA Boulevard, between I-95 and Florida's Turnpike. For information, visit [www.midtownpga.com](http://www.midtownpga.com).

#### Prosecco, a bistro, now open at PGA Commons

Prosecco Café is now open in PGA Commons East at 4580 PGA Blvd. Suite 105.

Prosecco is a relaxed European bistro serving breakfast, lunch and dinner featuring freshly made foods (no-processed food) from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Gelato-ria, tapas bar, presecco bar, assorted sandwiches, wines, savory desserts and cappuccino are on the menu. Owner Avi Sekerel has served Boca Raton diners at Saquella Café and now will serve diners in Palm Beach Gardens.

Sekerel was educated at the HotelConsult César Ritz in Switzerland, went on to open numerous restaurants, wrote a guiltless gourmet cook book and hosted his

own cooking show in Israel from 2003-2005. His restaurants are a no-fry zone offering fresh meals at an approachable price point. A favorite is "afugatto" the one-calorie Italian favorite of espresso whipped with fresh-made fat free gelato.

#### Food for the Poor gala at Breakers is Jan. 30

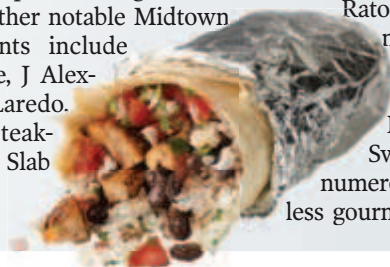
Food For The Poor's eighth annual Palm Beach gala, Fine Wines & Hidden Treasures, will be Jan. 30 at The Breakers in Palm Beach. The annual event is chaired by Palm Beach philanthropists Robert G. and Arlette Gordon (Grand Honorary Chairpersons), and Elizabeth Bowden (Gala Chairwoman).

Food For The Poor's gala will begin with a wine tasting reception with selected wines compliments of Dreyfus, Ashby & Co., and Republic National Distributing Company. Throughout the reception, unique wine selections, jewelry and exotic escapes are among the varied silent and live auction

prizes. Specially selected fine wines will be chosen to highlight each course prepared by the executive chefs of The Breakers. Additionally, there will be Broadway-inspired performances by La Mystique.

Food For The Poor, the third-largest international relief and development organization in the nation, does much more than feed millions of hungry poor in 17 countries of the Caribbean and Latin America. This interdenominational Christian agency provides emergency relief assistance, clean water, medicines, educational materials, homes, support for orphans and the aged, skills training and micro-enterprise development assistance, with more than 96 percent of all donations going directly to programs that help the poor.

For additional information regarding the Fine Wines & Hidden Treasures event, benefactor levels, and tickets, available at \$450 per person, call 888-404-4248 or see [www.foodforthe poor.org/palmbeach](http://www.foodforthe poor.org/palmbeach). ■



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