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12
13

The Best Care Possible

Annual Dinner – Center for Practical Bioethics

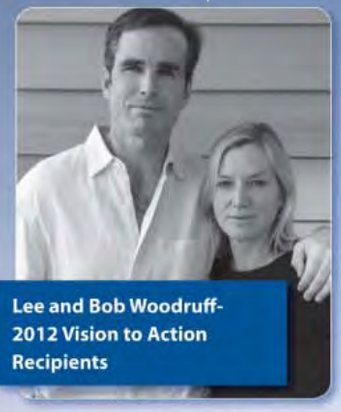
Thursday,
April 19, 2012
Marriott Muehlebach Hotel
12th and Wyandotte
Downtown Kansas City, Missouri
Reception: 5:30 pm
Dinner: 6:45 pm

Guest Speaker:
Ira Byock, MD

Dr. Byock is Director of Palliative Medicine at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, New Hampshire and a Professor at Dartmouth Medical School, Departments of Anesthesiology and Community and Family Medicine.

Dr. Byock has authored numerous articles on the ethics and practice of hospice, palliative and end-of-life care. His first book, *Dying Well*, (1997) has become a standard in the field. *The Four Things That Matter Most*, (2004) is used as a counseling tool by palliative care and hospice programs, as well as within pastoral care.

Dr. Byock's latest book, *The Best Care Possible*, will be available at the dinner.



Lee and Bob Woodruff-
2012 Vision to Action Recipients

Co-authors of *In An Instant: A Family's Journey of Love and Healing*. Lee is an Author and Contributing Editor on Good Morning America. Bob may be seen on ABC News.

Honorary Co-Chairs

John W. Bluford, III, president and chief executive officer, Truman Medical Centers, Kansas City, MO

Rand O'Donnell, PhD, president and chief executive officer, Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics, Kansas City, MO

Bob Page, president and chief executive officer, University of Kansas Hospital, Kansas City, KS

Julie Quirin, chief executive officer, Saint Luke's Hospital, Kansas City, MO

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Sponsorships and tickets available. Please contact Cindy Leyland at (816) 979-1357 or cleyland@practicalbioethics.org.

Friday,
April 20, 2012
7:30 am – 2 pm
Marriott Muehlebach Hotel
12th and Wyandotte
Downtown Kansas City, Missouri

Ethics of Transitions of Care

Joan Berkley Bioethics Symposium

A number of recent health research studies clearly demonstrate that poorly managed transitions of care for patients – from hospital to nursing home to place of residence – impede good outcomes. Such transitions have emerged as the major challenge for providers to reduce preventable readmissions and improve quality of care.

National and local experts in the field of palliative care, hospital and home care will employ in-depth analysis, an environmental scan and narrative ethics to tease out the vexing issues while offering innovative models.

Board Liaison
Mary Beth Blake

President/CEO
Center for Practical Bioethics
John Carney

Presenters

David Schulke
American Hospital Association

Penny Feldman, PhD
Visiting Nurse Service of New York

Richard Payne, MD,
Duke University

Ira Byock, MD,
Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center

Registration

- $95, Continuing Education Units provided
- For more information visit practicalbioethics.org or email Cindy Leyland at cleyland@practicalbioethics.org

Women Who've Changed the Heart of the City

Please Join Us

5th Annual Luncheon

Women Who've Changed the Heart of the City

April 17, 2012

Sheraton Crown Center

Sponsorship opportunities and tables are now available. Call 816.329.1459 or visit

WWW.WOMENWHOCHANGE.ORG

This year, we are all too aware that the work of the Mission has never been so important to the children, youth and families that it serves. City Union Mission's **FAMILY SHELTER** is but one crucial support program that provides overnight rescue for 100 individuals and nearly 300 meals each day. The critical work of City Union Mission requires the financial support of corporations, foundations and individuals like you to come alongside our community and provide life-saving programs to those in need. The need is great, but the heart of the Kansas City community is big. Proceeds from this year's luncheon will remain right here in our community to service children and families – offering hope and a hand up in tough times.

Help us continue to provide much-needed assistance to the families of Kansas City by attending the 5th annual **Women Who've Changed the Heart of the City Luncheon**. This special event honors the philanthropic, entrepreneurial women of the Kansas City area. These women have made a significant positive impact on our community. We honor and celebrate them at this luncheon with all proceeds benefiting the City Union Mission's **FAMILY SHELTER**.

Please join us for this special event recognizing these incredible women, while making a difference in the lives of those in need. Remember, it's not just Our City and Our Mission, it's Your City and Your Mission.

By joining us for lunch, you can make a difference.

Call 816.329.1459 for more information.

YOUR CITY. YOUR MISSION. CITY UNION MISSION.

2012 Women Who've Changed the Heart of the City Honorees

Jane Chu

Ms. Chu played a crucial role in the creation of the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts and currently serves as president and CEO. She believes in the institution's vision of enriching the lives of communities throughout the region, country and world by offering extraordinary and diverse performing arts experiences and making those experiences accessible to all.

Laura R. Hockaday

In her 38-year tenure at the Kansas City Star, Ms. Hockaday used her pen as an essential tool to bring diversity and culture to its pages. It was her mission to expand the scope of the "society page" to the "people's page,"celebrating the good work being done by African-Americans and Hispanics in all communities, regardless of economic class.

Dr. Sharon Lee

As founder and executive director of Southwest Boulevard Family Health Care Services, Dr. Lee is living out her passion of providing health care and other supportive services for the poor and vulnerable. She and her staff welcome patients regardless of their ability to pay, providing services including obstetrics, pediatrics, adult medicine, dental, mental health and minor emergency care.

2012 Co-Chairs

Binny Pearce

Dayton & Marianne Moore

Paul McMillian of VanDeusenPhotography.com

The INDEPENDENT

ESTABLISHED 1899 | Kansas City's Journal of Society

Stacey Schmitz

Mr. and Mrs. David William Preston of Our Town are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Sarah-Allen Preston, to Marc Harding Radasky, the son of Mr. and Mrs. David Jacob Radasky.

The bride-to-be is the granddaughter of Cleona Curle Robnett Allen and Mr. Glenn T. Allen, Jr. of Lakeland, Florida, and Mr. Thomas Bates Preston of Bartlesville, Oklahoma, and the late Mrs. Preston. Sarah-Allen is a graduate of The Pembroke Hill School. She was a Jewel Ball debutante in 2005 and earned a bachelor of arts degree in art history from Southern Methodist University. Sarah-Allen is careering at Preston Paper.

Her groom-elect is the grandson of Mrs. Harry Harding of Our Town and the late Mr. Harding and the late Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Radasky. Marc is a graduate of The Pembroke Hill School. He was a Jewel Ball escort in 1999. Marc earned a bachelor of arts degree in history from Hamilton College, a master's degree in statecraft and national security from The Institute of World Politics and a *juris doctorate* degree from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law. Marc is careering at Columbia Burlap & Bag Company. Theirs will be a May 12th wedding at Watch Hill Chapel in Watch Hill, Rhode Island.

THE INDEPENDENT (USPS 366-700) is a magazine of distinguished society, chronicling clubs, sports, and the cultural events scene with complete coverage in Kansas City's preferred buyer's market. Published bi-weekly except for December when we publish the first and third weeks. Published by The Independent L.L.C., Kansas City, Missouri, and Periodicals Postage Paid at Kansas City, Missouri. The Publisher reserves the right to accept or reject any editorial or advertising material submitted for publication, including photographs. The publisher expressly prohibits the mutilation of this publication and the sale of individual clippings, articles or photographs therefrom whether or not item is sold in its original form or in combination with any other product, process or article. Unsolicited manuscripts will not be returned. Copyright by Creel Publishing Co. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form without written permission of the publisher. The Independent. POSTMASTER: please send address changes to The Independent, 4255 Roanoke Road, Suite 100, Kansas City, Mo. 64111.

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Night with the Stars

Phoenix Family Housing's ninth annual event, *Night with the Stars*, will be held on May 10th at the Sheraton Kansas City Hotel at Crown Center. Ralph Reid will receive the 2012 Clifton R. Cohn Distinguished Community Leader Award. Guests will enjoy a reception and silent auction followed by dinner and an awards program. Sue McCord-Belzer and Irv Belzer are the chairmen. Funds raised will help Phoenix Family Housing residents become self-sufficient and make lasting changes in their lives.

Ralph Reid, honoree

Phoenix Family Housing

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Nuptials

Marco Simonelli

(Front row) James Radovich, Ezra Houle, Luke Miller, the groom and bride, Katherine Witcher, Cassandra Kacvinsky, and JoAnna Van Draska (back row) Jeff Anderson, Mark Blanck, Mitchell Paone, best man; Lindsay Thum, maid of honor; Lauren Thum and Catherine Boineau

Mary Megan Thum and Christopher Ross Paone were married on July 23rd at Visitation Church. Parents of the bride are Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Joseph Thum of Our Town. Megan is the granddaughter of Mr. Walter Thum and the late Mrs. Thum and the late Mr. and Mrs. Isser Massad. The groom's parents are Dr. and Mrs. Douglas Bailey Paone of Naples, Florida. Chris is the grandson of the late Dr. and Mrs. Francis Paone and the late Mr. and Mrs. David McLaughlin.

The evening prior, Dr. and Mrs. Douglas Paone hosted a rehearsal dinner at The American Restaurant. Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Thum hosted a reception at Studio Dan Meiners following the ceremony. Members of the wedding party included Lindsay Thum, maid of honor and sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Lauren Thum, cousin of the bride; Catherine Boineau, JoAnna Van Draska, Cassandra Kacvinsky, and Katherine Witcher. Mitchell Paone, brother of the groom; served as the best man. Groomsmen were James Radovich, Jeff Anderson, Ezra Houle, Mark Blanck, and Luke Miller.

Following their honeymoon in Turks and Caicos, the happy couple are at home in Our Town, where she careers at Overland Park Regional Medical Center, and he is employed with Kelly's Westport Inn.

Stephanie Fay

Mr. and Mrs. Austin Thomas Tolson

Elizabeth Erin Tiesing and Austin Thomas Tolson were married on October 8th at The Country Club of DC Ranch, overlooking the mountains of Scottsdale, Arizona. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Steven Tiesing of Our Town. Her groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wooten, Sr. of Prairie Village and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Tolson of Overland Park. Lisa Tiesing, the bride's sister; served as maid of honor, and Carrie Moore, Shera Brandvold and Mary Olhava were bridesmaids. Charles Wooten, Jr., stepbrother of the groom; was the best man, and Marcus Baker, Matthew VanAuken and Christopher Jennings were the groomsmen. Harper Tiesing, the bride's niece; was the flower girl and Carter Wooten, the groom's nephew; was the ring bearer. The bride's parents *fêted* the couple with a lovely reception under the stars at The Country Club of DC Ranch. After honeymooning in Jamaica, the newlyweds are at home in Phoenix. Beth is careering at Scottsdale Healthcare, and Austin is employed by Carefusion.

The lovely home of **Ann** and **Tom Isenberg** was packed on February 2nd for a reception hosted by Nonprofit Connect and *The Independent*. Guests arrived *sans* coats (enjoying the February heat wave) and feasted on delicious *hors d'oeuvres* and tempting martinis from Brancato's Catering. We saw **Elizabeth Alex, Stephanie** and **Bruce Gershon, Lauren McCarthy, Mark Moberly, Ariana** and **Dan Weindling, Rachael Sabates, Jennifer Furla, Trudy** and **Jack Gabriel, Jennifer Kraenzle, Mary Lynne Dolembo, Mike Enos, Jackie Middelkamp, Suzanne Shank, Katie Dunn Fitzgerald, George Guastello, Jan Marcason, Steve Metzler** and **Brian Williams, Shirley Pryor, Ursula Terrasi, Ann Dickinson** and **Kirk Carpenter, Colby Jones, Barbara** and **Mark Litzler, Mary Kay McPhee** and **Bill Pfeiffer, Casey Simmons, S. Sloane Simmons, Dan Walsh, Teal Williams, Maurice Watson, Kerry Stein, Brad Leech, Amy Stoll, Carli Howard Good, Lori Maris, Rachel Hodgson, Mallory Montgomery, Heather Paxton, Mary Needham, Penny Sharp, Tim Ward, Julie Koppen, Deanna** and **Greg Graves, Leslie High, Marlo Holt-Ellis, Sandy** and **Dr. Roger Jackson, Kirk Isenhour, Cindy Jeffries, Mary** and **Mark Jorgenson, Erin Kiekbusch, Jennifer Laubinger, Liz Anne McIlhaney, Palle Rilinger, David Nigro, Toby Tyler, George Nigro, Ron Stricker, Patrick Sallee, Patty** and **Michael Morrisey, Sean Staggs, Mary Wetzel, Heather** and **Jean-Paul Wong, Randy Wisthoff, Angie Galindo, Michelle Davis, Patty Garney, Jennifer Short, June Anne Chalfant, Kate Kershaw, George Czaplinski, Dr. Mark Reintjes, Trudi Galblum, Kara McBurney, Gail Weinberg, Dr. Ken Sonnenschein,** and **Cathy Boyer-Shesol.**

Kansas City Ballet announces its 2012-2013 season at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts. A world premiere from **Karole Armitage** and four Kansas City premieres highlight the Ballet's 55th season, including **Toni Pimble's** *Carmina Burana* and **Margo Sappington's** *Common People* with the music of **Ben Folds** and the voice of **William Shatner.** For more information, go to www.kcballet.org or www.kauffmancenter.org.

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25th heart & stroke BALL

In 2010, more than $4.8 million in local research projects were funded through American Heart Association events such as the *Heart & Stroke Ball.*

Approximately 1,000 Kansas City community leaders attend the American Heart Association *Heart & Stroke Ball* annually.

BOTAR Winter Meeting

The BOTAR *Winter Meeting* was held on January 11th at Mission Hills Country Club. Carol Fryer, outgoing president; passed the gavel to Stephanie Kissick, incoming president. Rachel Keefe, a senior at Kearney Missouri Senior High School, received the President's Scholarship. The BOTAR organization presented a check to the American Royal.

Bob Petersen, American Royal; Cindy Stanley, honorary BOTAR and American Royal; Lisa Keefe, Rachel Keefe, honoree; Nancy Wilkerson, outgoing BOTAR vice president American Royal Activities; Carol Fryer, outgoing BOTAR president; and David Fowler, American Royal board chairman

Anthony Mandolfo

Addie Perry, outgoing BOTAR treasurer; Carol Fryer, outgoing BOTAR president; David Fowler, American Royal board chairman; and Bob Petersen, American Royal

Variety Children's Charity is kicking off *Variety Show 2012* with its *Patrons' Party* on February 22nd at the home of **Patty** and **Charles Garney.** Guests will enjoy food from Grand Street Café and a featured performance by Drew Six. *Variety Show 2012* is scheduled for February 25th at The Midland Theatre. Proceeds will benefit special needs children in Our Town. For more information, go to www.varietykc.org.

Altar Bridal is jumping into 2012 with many fabulous trunk shows. If you are a fall bride, it's time to start shopping for the perfect dress and shoes. Altar Bridal hosts many designer gown trunk shows and events throughout the year, including its *Hey Lady Shoes Trunk Show*, which will be held from Feb 24th through March 3rd. For more information, visit www.altarbridal.com.

Lee Ann Britain Infant Development Center

In 1972, the Infant Development Center, now the Lee Ann Britain Infant Development Center at Shawnee Mission Medical Center, opened its doors to ten families with children that had special needs who were under the age of three years.

Kansas City Actors Theatre has returned to the National WWI Museum at Liberty Memorial for the final production of its 2011-2012 season with *Billy Bishop Goes to War.* It runs through February 26th and features **Grant Fletcher Prewitt** as Billy Bishop and **Cary Mock** on the piano as narrator. For more info, go to www.kcactors.org.

A Grand Luncheon

David Ramley

(Seated) Jonathan and Nancy Lee Kemper, honorary co-chairmen (standing) Dave and Demi Kiersznowski, honorary co-chairmen

The Metropolitan Organization to Counter Sexual Assault (MOCSA) will celebrate 37 years of service in Our Town with the *2012 Community Luncheon* to be held on May 4th at the Muehlebach Tower of the Kansas City Marriott Downtown. The Luncheon will feature Roger Canaff, keynote speaker; who has devoted his legal career to the eradication of violence against women and children. Nancy Lee and Jonathan Kemper and Demi and Dave Kiersznowski will serve as the honorary co-chairmen. Kelly Lockton and Kate Mitchell are the co-chairmen, and Ann Abercrombie and David Hunt are the community support committee co-chairmen.

MOCSA
Metropolitan Organization to Counter Sexual Assault

On the Cover

HARRIMAN JEWELL SERIES 2012–13 GRAND NEW SEASON

Itzhak Perlman

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GREAT MASTERS: THE INGRAM EVENTS PACKAGE

Prices to attend ALL SEVEN EVENTS: $30, $80, $135, $175, $265, or $350

Emanuel Ax, pianist in recital 8 p.m. Sat Sep 22 12 Folly Theater
Joyce DiDonato, mezzo-soprano, and Il Complesso Barocco, chamber orch. 8 p.m. Fri Nov 16 12 Folly Theater
Michael Fabiano, tenor in recital 8 p.m. Sat Jan 19 13 Folly Theater
Danielle de Niese, soprano in recital 8 p.m. Sat Feb 2 13 Folly Theater
Cantus, vocal ensemble 7:30 p.m. Thu Feb 21 13 Folly Theater
Tara Erraught, mezzo-soprano in American recital debut 8 p.m. Fri Apr 12 13 Folly Theater
Itzhak Perlman, violinist in recital 8 p.m. Sat Apr 20 13 Helzberg Hall

GREAT MUSIC AND DANCE PACKAGE

Prices to attend ALL SEVEN EVENTS: $30, $80, $135, $175, $265, or $350

Mark Morris Dance Group 7:30 p.m. Fri Sep 28 12 Muriel Kauffman Theatre
Ballet Folklórico de México 8 p.m. Fri Oct 12 12 Helzberg Hall
National Symphony Orchestra of Cuba 7 p.m. Tue Oct 16 12 Helzberg Hall
Swan Lake performed by Russian National Ballet Theatre 7:30 p.m. Fri Jan 25 13 Muriel Kauffman Theatre
The Black Watch and the Band of the Scots Guards 7:30 p.m. Sat Feb 16 13 Muriel Kauffman Theatre
China National Symphony Orchestra 8 p.m. Fri Mar 1 13 Helzberg Hall
Bobby McFerrin, vocalist in concert 8 p.m. Fri Apr 26 13 Helzberg Hall

FREE DISCOVERY CONCERTS

ALL THREE EVENTS are free to the public.

Christina and Michelle Naughton, duo pianists in recital 7 p.m. Sat Oct 27 12 Folly Theater
Conrad Tao, pianist in recital 3 p.m. Sun Nov 4 12 Folly Theater
Jan Lisiecki, pianist in recital 7 p.m. Fri May 10 13 Folly Theater

SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT

Holiday Pops: Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra 7 p.m. Tue Nov 27 12 Helzberg Hall

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Red Ball Recognition

Scott Ralston

Dan Hesse and Diane Canaday Hesse, honorary chairmen

American Red Cross Greater Kansas City Chapter is busy planning for its fifth annual *Red Ball* on April 20th at The Midland by AMC. Diane Canaday Hesse and Dan Hesse will serve as the honorary chairmen. Caroline and John McCallister and Missy and Tim Schaffer will serve as the co-chairmen.

Cheers to Volunteers!

Variety Club

Tim McCoy is one of the original advisory board members to start Young Variety of Greater Kansas City. He volunteers endless hours to help change the lives of children with special needs in Our Town. Tim not only shares his talent creating logos, newsletters and developing a new website, but he also gives his time to the children at Variety Kids. You can see him running alongside a child riding a bike for the first time and helping encourage the kids toward a positive future. Tim is a valued volunteer and a wonderful role model to the families at Young Variety.

APRIL 14, 2012

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New Beginnings

Kansas City Ballet Guild members met on January 17th at the lovely home of Lauren LaPointe. Everyone had a wonderful time preparing invitations for the *Ballet Ball* to be held on March 3rd at the InterContinental Kansas City at the Plaza.

Kansas City Ballet Guild

Executive Board: (Seated) Kimberlee Ried and Lauri McNey (standing) Melinda Petet, Lauren LaPointe, host; Jane Webster, Susan Sands and Monique Block

(Seated) Missy Zuk, Felicia Bondi, Amy Embry, and Pauline Henne (standing) Pam Jordan, Monique Block and Wendy Melland

Sarah Knight and Sharon Whalen

Barbara Spilker, Melinda Petet, Lauren LaPointe, and Peggy Dunn, Ball advisors

Francie Mayer and Craig Sole

Fran Gerritz, Gail Van Way, Jane Webster, and Lauri McNey

Barbara Storm, Sharon Whalen and Heather Ryan

The beautiful invitation

Susan Meehan-Mizer, Susan Sands, Melanie Fenske, and Anna Allen

BRAVO

By Paul Horsley

WHEREFORE ART THOU: KC Ballet's version of Shakespeare classic conveys drama through pure dance

You might think of Shakespeare as being all about *language*, but several of his works have been made into ballets in which the entire dramatic arc is expressed without a single word being uttered. Perhaps the most powerful of these is *Romeo and Juliet*, which owes much of his cache to a brilliant score by Prokofiev. It has been choreographed numerous times since the original 1940 Kirov Ballet version by Vania Psota. This month at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, the Kansas City Ballet reprises its 2008 performances of the version by Danish-born choreographer **Ib Andersen,** and Shakespearean purists can rest assured that the essential spirit of the play is retained in this telling – from the youthful freshness of the star-crossed lovers in Act 1 to the passion of forbidden love that has found echoes in drama and literature for centuries. "It's about teenagers who can't see the consequences of their actions," says artistic director **William Whitener,** who is now in his 16th season with the Ballet. "They're foolhardy because of their youth. They're going against the tide ... because they are insisting on changing society. They die for a cause, which is that love is meant to be stronger than class division or family rivalry."

Ib Andersen

First created for Ballet Arizona, where Ib is artistic director, this three-act *Romeo and Juliet* is packed with equal parts dancing and drama, and it is one of the most demanding works the Ballet has performed in recent years. "My choreography is difficult," Ib told me in 2008. "Technically it's very demanding. But it would be for any company." A former principal dancer of the Royal Danish Ballet and a star of Balanchine's New York City Ballet, Ib had just the sensibility that William was looking for. "I liked the choreography, and it was the right scale because Ballet Arizona is about the same size as our company. And I appreciate that Ib came from the Royal Ballet and School, and then New York City Ballet – a very interesting mix of training and experience."

The end result is choreography with enormous impact, says dancer **Kimberly Cowen**, who alternates with **Angelina Sansone** in the role of Juliet. "Ib's approach just in general, the way he wants people to dance is *bigger than life*: take bigger steps, more, more, more, more." Ib has also encouraged the dancers to make the roles their own, through dramatic action that helps sketch the narrative: This *Romeo and Juliet* is the sort of work that shows just how important acting abilities are for a dancer. "I am really trying to do it as naturally as possible," Angelina says. "I try to remember what I felt like when I was first in love. So I would say that I'm drawing off of my own experiences as much as possible."

Ib's *Romeo and Juliet* tries hard to embrace as much of Shakespeare's tale as possible – there are 13 named characters, which is quite a lot for a ballet – but there are points of departure. Romeo, for example, is cheerful rather than mopey when he first enters, says **Luke Luzicka,** who shares the title role with **Anthony Krutzkamp**. "I come rushing out, and I'm still happy," he says, "because Rosaline hasn't told me yet that we're breaking up." Nevertheless, this *Romeo and Juliet* is fundamentally a ballet, and its primary dramatic arc is told through dance, in particular through three very different *pas de deux* – the first playful and innocent, the second the passionate balcony scene and the last tragic and dark. Unlike many full-length ballets, *Romeo and Juliet* doesn't trade on princely balletic poise, Anthony says. "How I stand is very different as Romeo than if I were Siegfried (*Swan Lake*) or Albrecht (*Giselle*). There's a different way of movement. You're not a prince. I think more of a human side comes out in this."

All agree that one of the most striking aspects of this *Romeo and Juliet* is Prokofiev's music, portions of which are often performed on orchestral programs. Rarely since Tchaikovsky has anyone composed a ballet score so powerful, and its energy helps inspire the dancers through its three-hour length. "The score is the third character," Luke says. "It's a ballet that dancers love to perform because of the music," William adds, noting however that the piece was a failure initially partly because Prokofiev's music was considered too modern. "It joined *Nutcracker* and *Swan Lake* and *Sleeping Beauty* as 'failures' when they were first put on," he says with a laugh. "Certain ballets seem to do poorly at first."

The Kansas City Ballet's production of Ib Andersen's Romeo and Juliet plays at the Kauffman Center's Muriel Kauffman Theatre from February 17th through the 26th. For tickets, call 816-931-2232 or go to kcballet.org, or call the Kauffman Center box office at 816-994-7222.

Romeo and Juliet

IN BRIEF

* The Harriman-Jewell Series presents star *bel canto* tenor **Juan Diego Flórez** in recital with pianist **Vincenzo Scalera,** at 2 p.m. on February 19th at the Kauffman Center's Helzberg Hall. The Peruvian singer, who made his recital debut on the Series and was a favorite of the late Richard Harriman, has become a beloved guest on the Series that Richard cofounded; this is his fourth appearance on the Series. He will sing works by Rossini, Meyerbeer, Gounod, Donizetti, Offenbach, and others. For tickets, go to hjseries.org or call 816-415-5025. Keep abreast of the singer's goings-on at juandiegoflorez.com.

* The Kansas City Repertory Theatre presents *The Great Immensity* from February 17th through March 18th at the Copaken Stage. This provocative musical about climate change, presented by the artistic team The Civilians, is part play, part morality tale, part documentary-style exposition. The book is by **Steven Cosson,** the music and lyrics are by **Michael Friedman.** It received an Edgerton Foundation New American Plays award. Endangered ecosystems will never be the same! Recommended for ages 13 and up (strong language is included). For tickets, go to kcrep.org or call 816-235-2700.

ONLINE

To reach Paul Horsley, performing arts editor, send an email to phorsley@sbcglobal.net. You can read more of Paul's coverage by visiting kcindependent.com and clicking on Arts Corner.

25TH heart & stroke BALL

A Heartfelt Thanks

The *25th Anniversary Heart & Stroke Ball* takes place tonight at the Kansas City Convention Center. The event benefits the lifesaving research, education and community-based initiatives of the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association. Leigh and Tyler Nottberg, Tina and Paul Neidlein and Linda and David Gentile are serving as the co-chairmen. The event will highlight courageous survivors, including these five incredible stories.

Jack Mitchell

Jack was born with a complex congenital heart defect. At just 11 days old and barely seven pounds, he underwent his first heart surgery. The procedure was completed perfectly, but Jack's tiny heart struggled to beat properly. At six months of age, he survived his second operation. Jack is a very happy, easy going little boy. He is currently waiting for another procedure, which is the third and most complex part of the series.

Amanda Horne

Amanda was 18 years old when she suffered a massive stroke alone in her parents' home. She never knew she had an undetected birth defect, a hole in her heart, until she was in the emergency room fighting for her life. She spent the next month and a half relearning how to walk, talk and dress herself. She still continues to improve and understands more than ever the importance of listening to her body.

Liz Tatham

Liz was in the best shape of her life, so when she started having trouble breathing, climbing stairs and even while sleeping, she was determined to fix it. Tests showed that she was born with a faulty heart valve, and she needed to have open heart surgery. Liz's surgery did fix her heart, at least for now. Her doctors believe she will be healthy for 10 years, and then will most likely need to have another procedure. Liz concentrates on keeping herself strong and healthy, and she remains hopeful that scientific advances will offer new options to repair her heart.

John Nobles

John was in Texas on business when he started having difficulty breathing. Thinking he had pneumonia, he headed to the airport and flew back to Kansas City to see his doctor. Within a few hours, he was hospitalized with acute heart failure from the rupture of his posterior cords in his mitral valve. Five days later, his mitral valve was successfully repaired. John and his wife, Linda, are very grateful to his doctors and to cardiac rehabilitation for giving him a second chance.

Amanda Pouch

As a young girl, Amanda would get light headed, weak and have to sit down frequently. After multiple tests and a month long heart monitor, she was diagnosed with supraventricular tachycardia. The week before Christmas, Amanda had a cardiac ablation, just a few weeks after her diagnosis. She is recovering without signs or symptoms of any tachycardia.

THANK YOU FOR 25 YEARS OF SAVING LIVES IN BLACK TIES!

25TH heart & stroke BALL

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FEBRUARY 18, 2012

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Connecting The Top Ten

The Independent and Nonprofit Connect hosted a *Private Reception* on February 2nd at the gorgeous home of Ann and Tom Isenberg to introduce The 2012 Honorees and Rising Stars of Philanthropy and to announce The Top Ten Events of 2011. Guests enjoyed the delicious fare from Brancato's Catering and celebrated the great commitment to philanthropy in Our Town. {INSIDER}

Tom and Ann Isenberg, hosts

Jack and Trudy Gabriel and Mary and Mark Jorgenson

Daniel Billy

Patricia Kern and Elizabeth Alex

Heather Anderson Feagans, Casey Simmons and S. Sloane Simmons and Harl Van Deursen

Mike Enos and Jan Marcason

Colby Jones, Jack Gabriel and Jean-Paul Wong

David Nigro, George Nigro, Toby Tyler, and Ron Stricker

Micheal Lawrence, Steve Metzler and Brian Williams and Ursula Terrasi

Subscriber Spotlight

Isaac Aboyi

Catherine Dudenhoeffer is passionate about non-profit work and helping others. Her interest began in high school when she volunteered for the Special Olympics and continued through college where she was involved in her sorority's literacy philanthropy. She graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in communication from the University of Missouri and was a member of Pi Beta Phi.

Catherine's first job after college was at Turning Point: The Center for Hope and Healing. Under the guidance of Dr. Moira Mulhern and Tracey DeMarea, she learned all about non-profit work and fundraising events. She is currently working towards a master of arts degree in management with an emphasis on fundraising from Avila University and Hartsook Institute for Fundraising. Recently, she began working as development and events coordinator for the Red Cross of Greater Kansas City, where she is busy preparing for their big gala, *Red Ball*. She still gives of her time reading to children at University Academy through the Pi Phi alumni club. Thank you, Catherine, for all you do for Our Town!

A Fashionable Cause

The seventh annual Truman Medical Center Charitable Foundation's *Fashion For A Cause* will be held on April 27th at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts. Entertainment journalist, fashion and beauty expert and *E! News* personality Giuliana Rancic will host, with fans, fashionistas and philanthropists uniting on the runway for the high-energy fashion show. Michelle Twibell, Leslie Brett and Chuck Matney will be the honorary co-chairmen. The TMC Charitable Foundation raises vital funds for women's health services.

Michelle Twibell, Chuck Matney and Leslie Brett, honorary co-chairmen

Daniel Billy

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Children's Mercy HOSPITALS & CLINICS Kansas City

THE 38TH ANNUAL *Snow Ball*

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Straub III with Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann

Mr. and Mrs. Lamar Hunt, Jr.

Catholic Charities Foundation of Northeast Kansas' *38th Annual Snow Ball* was held on January 14th at the Sheraton Kansas City Hotel at Crown Center. The event featured a cocktail reception and a formal dinner followed by a Parisi coffee bar. Guests enjoyed dancing to the Karen Davis Project and relaxed in a jazz lounge with music by Billy Meynier. Mel and Pat McAnany were the *Snow Ball* presidents. Proceeds will help provide the most basic needs such as food and utilities to children and families in Our Town.

Mr. and Mrs. Pat McAnany, Snow Ball presidents

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Haake, incoming Snow Ball presidents

Mr. and Mrs. Lorie Nigro, Suzie Whitmer and Mr. Chris Nigro

Mr. and Mrs. Pat McAnany, Snow Ball presidents; flank Anne Knopke and Mr. Pat Wilkerson.

Mr. and Mrs. Lamar Hunt, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Michael Caffrey and Pat Mykins

(Clockwise from front center) Mr. and Mrs. Michael Haverty, Mr. and Mrs. Ramon Murguia, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Hesse, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hoenig, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reintjes, Sr.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Haverty with Mr. and Mrs. Dave Knopke

(Seated) Evelyn Foley (standing) Christine Foley, Mr. David Cimpl, Mr. Don Foley, and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Crawford

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Hesse, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reintjes, Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. Kent Crippin

Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Kramer, parish initiative chairmen; Mr. and Mrs. Chris Dierks and Mr. and Mrs. Ken Mellard

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Newman

Brian Turner Photography and CCNEKS

Fashion Fun

Jeff Francoeur and Peter Schuellein, Challenger athlete

Mark Teahen and
Luke Hochevar, co-hosts

The YMCA of Greater Kansas City's Challenger Program's fifth annual *Mark Teahen and Luke Hochevar Challenge Your Fashion* event was held on January 14th at The Midland by AMC. Ashley and Luke Hochevar and Lauren and Mark Teahen were the co-hosts, and Lisa and Scott Hallier served as the chairmen. Guests enjoyed a delicious dinner, music by DJ Kirby, silent and live auctions, and a fabulous fashion show featuring current and former Royals players. Proceeds will help complete the second phase of the Pryor YMCA Challenger Sports Complex.

Brian and Melea McRae with their daughter Addison

Scott and Lisa Hallier, chairmen; with Mark and Lauren Teahen
and Ashley and Luke Hochevar, co-hosts

Nancy and John Wathan

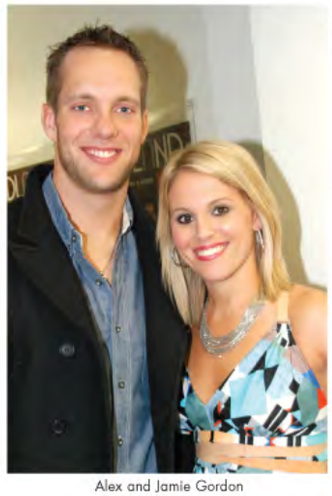
Eric Hosmer, Scott Hallier, Mike Moustakas, and Alex Gordon

Jeff Francoeur and Michelle Ford

Brian McRae, Luke Hallier, Challenger athlete; Frank White,
John Wathan and Jeff Montgomery

Mitch Maier, David Byrd and Danny Duffy

Ashley and Luke Hochevar, co-hosts;
with Marc and Laura Warrington



Alex and Jamie Gordon

Myla Tsiatis

Jeremy Gaskill, Mark and Lauren Teahen, co-hosts;
and Bree Gaskill

Scott and Lisa Hallier, chairmen;
with Greg and Amy Gurley

David and Linda Gentile with their daughter Blair Gentile,
James Gaulke and Ashley Hochevar

Chandler Hedrick, Challenger buddy;
with Eric Hosmer

Girls' Night In - A Change of Heart

By Laurie Ingram

What an honor to serve as the chairman of this year's *Girls' Night In!* For the past several years, I've written about the event by interviewing the featured guest speaker. That list has included the articulate (and attractive!) trainer-to-the-stars **Bob Green** or **Lisa Lillian,** the popular author of the *Hungry Girls* books. In each case, the guest speakers have inspired all of us to think of our hearts and our health.

This year, the *Girls' Night In – A Change of Heart* has taken a more local approach to our mission. For the first time, the event is being held inside the Portfolio Flagship store in the historic Crossroads neighborhood. And instead of importing a famous speaker, we're celebrating a quartet of Kansas City's most talented chefs: Julian's **Celina Tio,** bluestem's **Megan Garrelts,** The American Restaurant's **Debbie Gold,** and **Jennifer Maloney** of Café Sebastienne. They are also four of the best-known female chefs in the country and will be creating unique, heart-healthy tidbits for us to taste.

To make the culinary creativity even more interesting, we've added a special *sous* chef competition featuring noted – but non-cooking — gentlemen from our community competing to see who can raise the most money for their kitchen. Each vote costs $10, and the competitors are **Mark Faber, Bob Page, Frank Ross,** and **Bob Regnier.**

Note: You can vote online at www.achangeofheart.com or join us Tuesday night and vote in person

---

Last year, I was looking for a way to share one story for the *2012 Girls' Night In*. I met a lovely person, **Largo Leslie Callenbach,** who agreed to complete an assessment at the hospital in return for allowing me to document her for the rest of the year. That way we could see her progress every Thursday at The University of Kansas Hospital.

Largo was an easy choice: she was interested and excited. But she certainly didn't look unhealthy. On the contrary, she's a cute, petite gal, the very picture of health! After the event last year, Largo and I met at the Hospital to get her started. She was so tiny and vibrant, I couldn't help asking, "Who would ever think *you* needed this assessment?"

"To paraphrase from the Heart Association's famous line, 'Heart Disease Doesn't Care What You Wear! – It's the Number One Killer of Women!' my answer would be 'Heart Disease Doesn't Care What Size You Wear! It's a Number One Killer in My Family!'"

I asked Largo to explain.

"You know when you're filling out the forms at a physician's office, and you get to the boxes that require making a check by each disease that apply specifically to your mother and your father? I dutifully make those checks and literally feel short of breath by the time I've made checks in the boxes for high blood pressure, stroke, diabetes, kidney disease, and heart disease for both of my parents.

Since my parents and grandparents all had heart disease and died at relatively early ages, I have always been one to truly embrace the gift of my birthday. I celebrate joyously for the entire month of April! What I had realized in the weeks preceding my heart health appointment was an increasing anxiety level related to 'being in my 60's.' I was approaching the age that my mother was when all the checked disease boxes proved fatal. What if the appointment proved that I couldn't change family history."

When you first went for the assessment, what were you worried about the most? How did the assessment go?

"Arriving for the appointment, the fasting was not a problem. I really wasn't hungry. Stressed, yes, hungry no. From the moment I arrived, I was greeted with a warmth and friendliness that put soft edges around all the initial clinical testing." (Height, weight, waist circumference, blood pressure, cholesterol, and blood sugar testing done by **Sarah McGinty Sanders, RN** and **Lisa Watkins,** medical assistant).

Then, I had the opportunity to meet with **Kathleen Dalton,** *nurse practitioner, for a private review of results and specific suggestions for my personal action plan. In a thorough, concise and very genuine manner, she gave me information about diet and exercise and recommended monitoring my blood pressure and lipids.*

The last part of my appointment included a lovely heart-healthy breakfast. ***Karin Morgan, RN*** *joined me at this time and gave me a gift bag that included a pedometer, a heart health journal and heart health pamphlets. In this cozy, comfortable setting, Karin spent time reviewing important heart health information in a way that was specific to me. She was particularly (and wonderfully) affirming about how many factors I do have control over, such as exercise, not smoking, weight, a healthy diet, and medication for my high blood pressure. She literally helped me look at my family history factor from a healthier perspective."*

How has the follow up been? What changes have you made and how have they affected your life?

"I now do regular workouts with a personal trainer, ***Phyllis Peterson,*** *at Sylvester Powell Community Center in Mission. I take classes in Zumba, Turbo Kick... It's great for your heart! The Sylvester Powell Community Center in Mission has a tremendous variety of classes and great equipment! Kick Boxing is a little bit more limited due to past back and knee surgery but great to get out of my comfort zone.*

As for my diet, I'm increasing fruits, veggies and grains and definitely decreasing salt, sugar and red meat. And I'm experimenting with juicing and protein shakes. The Sylvester Powell Community Center in Mission has an ongoing contest, Biggest Weight Loss Challenge. It's a great motivator!"

You've found that counseling is also important.

"After over two decades as a social worker, I realized how important it might be to take the advice I gave: Find a wise and trusted professional counselor and touch base as needed.

Travel is also important and last year was THE year! We did two trips with Sharon and George Harter for Musical Theater Heritage, one to New York and one to London! Fabulous folks, food, drink, and plays. My family also enjoyed the Callenbach Family Keepsake Christmas in Puerta Vallarta; both sons, daughters-in-laws, and four grandchildren! It was non-stop memory making and non-stop fabulous food. I decided this new travel thing is simply grand! I do have a confession. The travel played havoc with the healthy diet part. So I'm now going to try Boot Camp classes and a new, very small portion diet plan. Seriously!"

You have other dreams and goals for pushing your boundaries too?

"I plan on taking classes at the Actors Training Studio. I would love to get work doing voice overs, audio tapes, commercials, and bit parts. I want to take classes and see how much I have to learn! I'm definitely doing something good for my stress level and my heart health. Plus, now that I know just how wonderful grandchildren are, I do want to see myself as being around to be the coolest Great Yia Yia ever!"

a change of heart

Red Hot Kick Off

Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics recently held its *Patrons' Party* at the Truman Presidential Library and Museum to kick off *Red Hot Night*. The event benefits the new Children's Mercy East Hospital which will open next year. Heather Wong was the *Patrons' Party* chairman. Cindy and Ken McClain are the *Red Hot Night* honorary chairmen.

Bruce Mathews

John and Melissa Novak, Heather Wong, Patrons' Party chairman; Jean-Paul Wong, Felisha Mason McDougald and Mark McDougald

Cindy and Ken McClain, Red Hot Night honorary chairmen

Jill and Larry Ralph

Planning a wedding? Kansas City's premier wedding source, Preferred Wedding Professionals, is busy gearing up for the wedding season. Selecting your vendors just became easier - simply go to www.pwpthelist.com and scroll through some of Our Town's most experienced wedding professionals.

Ballantine Books just published a new novel by Our Town's **Molly Shapiro** called *Point, Click, Love.* It grapples with love and relationships in the digital age, focusing on texting, Twitter, Facebook, and celebrity websites. The characters cover the gamut – from happily divorced to miserably married to achingly single, all trying to find meaning and men on the Internet.

HEART OF AMERICA SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

Heart of America Shakespeare Festival employees have been supported by more than 6,900 volunteers providing nearly 42,000 hours of time and effort.

RPS Financial Group of Northwestern Mutual congratulates Scott T. Penning, as the 2011 Premium Leading Financial Representative in the Southern Region.

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SHAKE IT UP

2011 KVC ANNUAL TREE GALA

TREES Galore

The ninth *Annual KVC Tree Gala* was held recently at Studio Dan Meiners. Bonnie Kelly and Jan Howard were the co-chairmen. Guests enjoyed creative cocktails, delicious dining and dancing to the sounds of The KC All Stars. The event featured beautiful wreaths, trees and centerpieces from local designers for the auction. Proceeds benefited Our Town's children and families by providing them with medical and behavioral health care, social services and education.

Jerry and Bonnie Kelly, co-chairman; with Jan Howard, co-chairman; and Steve Howard

Diane Wilkerson and B. Wayne Sims, KVC Health Systems

Megan Rupp, Lina Dickinson, Tess Hawes, and Jill Tupper

Daniel Ethel

Rick and Kama Moseley with Cathy and Mark Dunwoody

Peter and Lynne Brown

Blair Lawrence, Libby Baughman, Kadie Coffelt, and Brynn Andrews

Richard and Cynthia Hudson with DyAnn and Chuck Stilley

Craig Sole with his wreath

Brian Williams and Steve Metzler

Marie and Larry Craig, Genet Daniels and John Ritter, board member

The dance floor was jumping with tunes from The KC All Stars.

Nalini Bhayekhi, Ellen McCarthy and Pat Zeller

Daryn Henry, Ryan Hogue and Ryan Vaughan, board members

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GETTING CONNECTED WORKS!
Nonprofit Connect Helps JDRF Find a Cure

Nativity Knights Walk Team, Sugartarians, enjoy the annual Walk to Cure Diabetes.

About JDRF JDRF is the leading global organization focused on type 1 diabetes (T1D) research. Driven by passionate, grassroots volunteers connected to children, adolescents and adults with this disease, JDRF is the largest charitable supporter of T1D research. The Kansas City Chapter of JDRF was established in 1994 and serves the Western half of Missouri and all of Kansas.

JDRF's Challenge JDRF is striving to raise funds from more diverse sources.

Nonprofit Connect's Role JDRF staff and volunteers develop their skills in grantwriting and major gifts fundraising at Nonprofit Connect training programs, and they use tools like Nonprofit Connect's Greater Kansas City Foundation Directory to identify potential new funding sources. As a Nonprofit Connect member organization, JDRF can provide these and other resources for free or deeply discounted fees to all of its employees, board members and volunteers.

Gala General Chairs Marty and Cherona Bicknell celebrate on stage with JDRF Board Members Dan and Jo Anne Gabbert and Reed and Kendra Garrett after raising a record breaking $1.5 million at the Kansas City Gala on May 7, 2011.

J.W. and Charley Jobson, JDRF Youth Ambassadors, show off their insulin pumps to demonstrate new technology at the annual Dream Gala.

Outcome Training and tools to more effectively fund raise, as well as opportunities to network and connect with the larger nonprofit community, helps JDRF fund more research.

What it Means to People Living with Type 1 Diabetes Research funded by JDRF has led to many landmark advances in T1D science. JDRF aggressively translates discoveries into treatments, drugs and therapies that help people with T1D live healthier lives now, while JDRF works toward a cure. Advocacy and leadership initiatives have secured important government funding, as well as the release of critical FDA guidelines for outpatient testing on the artificial pancreas.

Kansas City riders prepare for the practice ride before riding a combined 412 miles at the La Crosse, Wisconsin Ride to Cure Diabetes.

JDRF IMPROVING LIVES. CURING TYPE 1 DIABETES.
920 Main Street, Suite 280 • Kansas City, MO 64105
816-472-7997 • www.jdrf.org/kansascity
Executive Director: Leslie K. High, CFRE
Board of Directors Chair: Michele Kilo, M.D.

A Worthy Memorial

On December 1st, the Hyatt Regency Crown Center Hotel officially became the Sheraton Kansas City Hotel at Crown Center. As a way to honor the survivors, victims and family members of the 1981 skywalk tragedy, Starwood Hotels and Resorts made a contribution to the Skywalk Memorial Foundation.

Don Valadez

Steve Shalit, Sheraton Kansas City Hotel at Crown Center; announced the contribution to the Skywalk Memorial Foundation.

Don Hall, Sr., Bill Lucas, Adele Hall, Mayor Sly James, Steve Shalit, Denise Coll, and Hoyt Harper

Becky Rhoades, Susan Tally, Adele Hall, Tom Brand, and Don Hall, Sr.

Performers from Quixotic Fusion introduced the event.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY
Celebrating 100 Years of Building Great Futures

In 2012, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City is celebrating 100 years of Building Great Futures for Kansas City's youth.

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Special Occasions

"When figuring out your photography coverage needs, remember that most events don't require more than three hours of reception coverage - tops. It may sound cool to have two photographers documenting your wedding day each for 10 hours straight. Truth is, it's expensive and quite often unnecessary. Keep your schedule as simple and relaxed as possible, and you'll have a happier wedding day."

Rachel Meiring / Partner / Kdog

"Pick a venue that reflects your style, has adequate spacing and preferred location, but most importantly, has an experienced professional team on hand to ensure a successful event."

Dennis Cross / Senior Event Planner / Kansas City Convention Center

"When you shop for the perfect gown, try to keep the amount of people you bring with you to a minimum. It makes the decision making process much easier."

Ida Moore / Owner / Ida's Bridal and Tuxedos

"Coco Chanel always said that if you notice the dress and not the woman, that is a fashion mistake. You must notice the woman first; it is the same with jewelry. I think that pearls are understated and slightly reticent, and for that reason they really are very effective."

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"Keep in mind the importance of photography as part of the wedding and it would be better to have too much time than not enough. For a special event like a wedding, plan plenty of time for everything."

Paul McMillian / CEO / VanDeusen Photography

"Ask about uniquely-created menus just for your event. To lower costs, think about serving plated meals versus buffets."

Tim Gorad / Director of Catering / Kansas City Marriott Downtown

"Pearls have long been the staple of costume designers and actors for some of the silver screen's most memorable moments. For moviegoers, pearls have been synonymous with the elegance, and basic femininity of some of our favorite heroines. Sometimes our pearls identify us. They are a part of one's persona."

Wanda Allen / Private Jewelers

"To ensure you can book your first choice venue, select the place and then the date! It is less expensive and easier to plan a unique, elegant event in a unique and elegant setting!"

Barbara Saathoff / Owner / Loose Mansion

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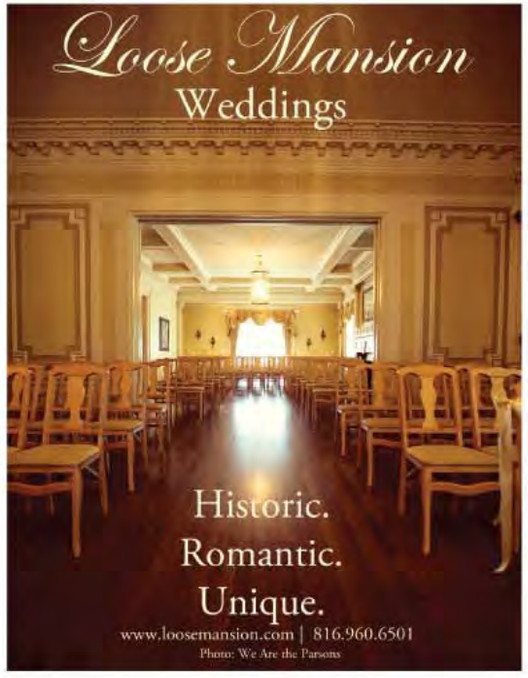

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Photo: We Are the Parsons

Gingerbread Fun

The Prairie Village Municipal Foundation's *Third Annual Gingerbread House Decorating Party* was held on December 11th at Brighton Gardens. Mely Ballard of Mely's Yogurt & Ice Cream; created all of the delicious gingerbread houses. Guests decorated the houses, while trying not to eat them before they were complete! Proceeds benefited the Prairie Village Youth Scholarship Activity Fund.

Caroline Koehler and Emerson Maher put the finishing touches onto their house.

Parker Maher added gumdrops to his rooftop.

The Truman Library's on-going second Saturday series *Talkin' Truman* will go behind the scenes of the making of an exhibit on March 10th. *Tracing the Trumans - The Making of an Exhibit*, will explore the world of exhibit design and development. The presentation is one in the series of *Talkin' Truman* programs offered each second Saturday at the Truman Library.

Free People, a women's fashion boutique, is set to open in spring near the Burberry store on the Country Club Plaza. Free People began in the 1970s, changed into Urban Outfitters and later started featuring youthful, stylish and creative clothing and accessories. The Plaza store will be its 70th boutique worldwide and its first in either Kansas or Missouri.

Thoughtful Care recently moved to its new location in Corinth. As the first and only home care company specializing exclusively in caring for seniors with Alzheimer's and dementia living at home, Thoughtful Care is leading the way in home care in Kansas City. Co-owners **Tim Tholen** and **Dylan Wetherill** are both natives of Our Town.

Vacation Vignette

Suitcases - check! Camera - check! Tickets - check! Photo for *The Independent*... of course! Send us your favorite vacation photographs for publication in our Vacation Vignette series. Please include the names of all of the people in the photo, information about your trip and your name and phone number. Send to: *The Independent*, 4233 Roanoke Road, Suite 100, Kansas City, MO 64111.

Congratulations to the RPS Financial Group 2011 Recognition Dinner Qualifiers.

Front Row: **Joe B. Jones, Micah Charyn, Tony Hines, Kayla Vice, Katie D. Messer, CLU, ChFc, Brett Rogers, Ty Hysten, Chris Hutchens, Jeff Imlay, Scott T. Penning**
Second Row: **Jake Stoetzner, J.D., Paul Montello, Ed Gipson, Andrew Watters, Jeb Beckley, CLU, ChFC, Jonathan Hart, Mark Holder, R. Philip Sarnecki, CLU, Managing Partner**
Third Row: **Aaron Tanner, Managing Director, Justin Fuehrmeyer**
Back Row: **Ryan Kramer, CLU, Managing Director, John Distefano, Ryan George, CLU, CFP, Bryan Buckley, CFP, Matt Melton, CPA, Clint Stull, Kyle Haeussler**

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Presidents' Dinner

The Kansas City Club held its annual *Presidents' Dinner* on January 13th for club members and their guests. Incoming President Terry J. Brady hosted the enjoyable dinner, which honored Lee M. Vogel, outgoing president.

{INSIDER}

Charles Watson

Richardson K. Powell, Gerald W. Gorman, Lee M. Vogel, Terry J. Brady, Robert A. Babcock, Spencer J. Brown, Francis D. Uryasz, Stephen B. Sutton, and W. Terrence Kilroy

Safari Sensation

KidsTLC recently held its *15th Annual United for Kids Gala*. Guests enjoyed the "Out of Africa" safari-themed evening at the Overland Park Convention Center. Tracy Mattis, Michelle Gressell, Shelley Hill, Tina Fisher, and Sue Polistina served as the co-chairmen, and Christia and Dustin Colquitt and Jeanne and Larry Gates were the honorary co-chairmen.

Dave Adams

Gala Committee: (First row) LeChelle Williams and Beth Cole (second row) Emily Baker, Donna Mertz, Vickie Parker, Leslie McKee, Peg Nickloy, and Ellen White (third row) Tammy Creten, Tina Fisher, co-chairman; Christia Colquitt, honorary co-chairman; Michelle McAfoos, Revelyn Alpaugh, Linda Rumsey, Lucy Dewitt, Kelly Lynch, Jan Fischer, Lisa Bunce, Tracy Mattis, co-chairman; Shelley Hill, co-chairman; and Sue Polistina, co-chairman (out of camera range) Phyllis Alber, Shivani Bhandari, Karen Blaich, Ashley Camber, Kim Clancy, Vi Dugan, Patty Gay, Melissa Gorman, Lou Hartwig, Laura Hennessey, Lori Krause, Ellie Maddox, Charee McWilliams, Cathy Misemer, Janie Reintjes, Dee Thomason, and Danielle Tyler.

JVS Jewish Vocational Service

Jewish Vocational Service resettles nearly 500 refugees each year from all over the world. Having volunteers is critical to the success of new refugees in Kansas City. Volunteers help in many ways from ensuring that refugees gain self-sufficiency quickly and easily to offering assistance in areas that many Americans take for granted but can be very difficult for someone new to the country. To volunteer, contact **Martin Okpareke** at 816-471-2808 or mokpareke@jvskc.org.

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I Wonder *– which enterprising KU fraternity men declined the over night hotel vouchers when their Denver to KC flight was cancelled, requesting instead they simply be given round trip tickets to Las Vegas, leaving Denver that night and returning in the morning?*

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Tails of Our Town

Rob Sight, owner of Rob Sight Ford; recently announced a special partnership with Wayside Waifs. His mixed breed hound dog, Harley Sight, who was adopted from Wayside, is heading a campaign to help his furry friends find loving homes. With every sale of a new or pre-owned car or truck, Rob Sight Ford will donate $100 to Wayside Waifs through the end of March. You can see Harley by searching Harley Sight - The Wayside Waif on Facebook. And, yes, he has his own page.

CALENDAR *Of* EVENTS

February

18 **American Heart Association; *Heart & Stroke Ball;*** Celebrating 25 years of saving lives in black ties! Guests will enjoy dinner, auctions, music by Lynne Jordan and The Shivers, and the after bash - *Pulse Party*. The Honorary Chairmen are Carla and Don Duryee; Kansas City Convention Center Grand Ballroom; 6:30 p.m.; $350, $50/ Pulse Party. Contact Angie Galindo: 6800 West 95rd Street, Overland Park, KS 66212 or 913-652-1905 or angie.galindo@heart.org or www.kcheartandstrokeball.org.

18 **Avila University; *Avila University Steer Dinner;*** The 35th annual *Steer Dinner* auction raises scholarship funds for Avila's students, including the S.O.L.D. scholarship fund named for Sr. Olive Louise Dallavis, president *emerita* of the University. The evening includes a social hour, dinner and a silent and live auction; Overland Park Sheraton; 6:30 p.m.; $200. Contact Susan Randolph: 11901 Wornall Road, Kansas City, MO 64145 or 816-501-3780 or susan.randolph@avila.edu or www.avila.edu.

18 **Love Fund for Children; *Firehouse Texas Hold 'em Poker Tournament;*** It's a rousing day of Texas Hold 'em poker. Hunker down and match wits against some of the best poker faces in Kansas City! Bid on some of the fab one-of-a-kind silent auction offerings, or win the grand prize big screen TV!; Shark's in Shawnee Mission, Kansas; 11 a.m.; $75/must be 18 to play. Contact Lisa Herron: 3030 Summit, Kansas City, MO 64108 or 816-932-9170 or lisa.herron@lovefundforchildren.org or www.lovefundforchildren.org.

18 **St. Agnes Catholic Grade School; *Laissez les Bon Temps Rouler!;*** Don your Mardi Gras beads, boas and masks for the 16th annual auction; single tickets and tables of 10 are available; bid on an array of donations in our silent and live auctions while enjoying great food and drinks; St. Agnes School; 6 p.m.; $50. Contact Mo Gaughan Orpin: 5130 Mission Road, Roeland Park, KS 66205 or 913-262-1686 or orpinmau@stagneskc.org or www.stagneskc.org.

21 **The University of Kansas Hospital; *Girls' Night In;*** A fun evening with friends to create awareness for good heart health. This year's event will feature a wine tasting and heart healthy food prepared by some of Kansas City's finest chefs; Portfolio; 6 p.m.; ticket price to be determined. Contact Jennifer Laubinger: 2330 Shawnee Mission Parkway, Suite 302, Westwood, KS 66205 or 913-945-5717 or jlaubinger@kumc.edu or www.achangeofheartkc.org.

22 **Harvesters - The Community Food Network; *Canstruction;*** Teams of Kansas City architects, engineers and contractors show off their can-do spirit and creativity by building amazing structures using cans of food. Best of all, when the exhibit closes, the cans are donated to Harvesters, and the food helps feed those in need. The structures are displayed for a month; Ward Parkway Shopping Center; 6 p.m.; free admission. Contact Megan Hunter: 3801 Topping Avenue, Kansas City, MO 64129 or 816-929-3016 or mhunter@harvesters.org or www.harvesters.org.

24 **Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City; *Kids Night Out 2012;*** In 2012, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City is celebrating 100 years of service in Kansas City! This special anniversary will be celebrated at *Kids Night Out*. Guests enjoy dinner, silent and live auctions and a program featuring a special celebrity guest star; Crown Center Exhibit Hall; 5 p.m.; $300. Contact Julie O'Rourke: 6301 Rockhill Road, Suite 303, Kansas City, MO 64131 or 816-361-3600 or giving@helpkckids.org or www.helpkckids.org.

25 **American Diabetes Association; *Hoops & Sneakers Gala;*** Co-chairmen Patricia Speier and Elena Wahbeh are planning an elegant and fun evening to celebrate the sixth annual gala. The event features live and silent auctions, cocktails, *hors d'oeuvres*, program, dinner, and dancing. Ladies, get your fanciest hoop earrings ready, and men, put on your lucky sneakers!; Sheraton Kansas City Hotel at Crown Center; 6 p.m.; $150. Contact Linda Crider: 10580 Barkley, Suite 400, Overland Park, KS 66212 or 913-383-8210 or lcrider@diabetes.org or www.diabetes.org/hoopsandsneakers.

25 **Benedictine College; *41st Annual Scholarship Ball;*** The *Scholarship Ball* has become known for its outstanding production, moving presentations and variety show entertainment. Mass begins at 4:30 p.m.; The Westin Crown Center Hotel; $175. Contact Sue Durkin: 1020 North Second Street, Atchison, KS 66002 or 913-360-7401 or sdurkin@benedictine.edu or www.benedictine.edu/scholarshipball.

25 **Greater Kansas City Alumnae Chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta; *Flights and Kites;*** A spectacular food and wine event benefiting CASA of Jackson and Johnson/Wyandotte counties and the Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation. Delicious food from local restaurants will be paired with a variety of wine at this annual event; Charles B. Wheeler Downtown Airport; 5:30 p.m.; $50. Contact Kristin McCauley: 21220 West 51st Terrace, Shawnee, KS 66218 or 785-741-1701 or flightsandkites@gmail.com or www.flightsandkites.blogspot.com.

25 **UMKC School of Law; *The Big Event;*** Co-hosted by the Law Foundation and the Law Alumni Association; attended by alumni and friends, this fun evening of music, dinner and cocktails celebrates our achievements during the past year and the school's bright future; Hilton President Kansas City; 6 p.m.; $75. Contact Cary Powers: 5100 Rockhill Road, Kansas City, MO 64110 or 816-235-5361 or powerscl@umkc.edu or www.law.umkc.edu.

25 **Variety Children's Charity of Greater Kansas City; *Variety Show 2012;*** The event will showcase some of Our Town's most recognizable philanthropists and celebrities as they share the stage with local professional entertainers; The Midland by AMC; 6 p.m.; $50. Contact Deborah Wiebrecht: P.O. Box 3446, Shawnee, KS 66203 or 913-558-2309 or varietykc@gmail.com or www.varietykc.org.

26 **The Children's SPOT at Saint Luke's Hospital; *Once Upon a Time;*** This family-friendly, child-inspired event for children and their grown ups celebrates the magical outcomes of speech, physical and occupational therapy for children with disabilities and developmental delays; Honorary Chairmen are Connie and Anthony Mendolia; Muehlebach Tower of the Kansas City Marriott Downtown; 3 p.m.; $100. Contact Sara Toppen: 4333 Pennsylvania Avenue, Kansas City, MO 64111 or 816-932-7489 or stoppen@saint-lukes.org or www.saintlukesgiving.org/spot.

26 **Rose Brooks Center; *Cabaret;*** Guests at the 25th anniversary celebration will enjoy a glamorous evening of dining and entertainment from stage and screen's favorite leading lady, Kristin Chenoweth; Sheraton Kansas City Hotel at Crown Center; 6 p.m.; $500. Contact Sarah North: P.O. Box 320599, Kansas City, MO 64132 or 816-523-5550 or sarahn@rosebrooks.org or www.rosebrooks.org.

March

1 **Kansas City's Medicine Cabinet; *Kansas City Tip-Off;*** The fourth annual event will "tip-off" college basketball tournament month with a concert performance by a leading country artist; VIP tickets include a pre-concert cocktail reception and artist meet and greet opportunities; Uptown Theater; 7 p.m.; $25/concert, $125/concert and reception. Contact Karen Murphy: 6601 Rockhill Road, Kansas City, MO 64131 or 816-276-7516 or kmurphy@btllf.org or www.kcmedicinecabinet.org.

2 **The ALS Association; *Night of Hoops: Full Court Press to Defeat ALS;*** Enjoy a night featuring fabulous food and entertainment, games, an exciting live auction, and an awards presentation to celebrate another year of progress. Join us to honor the individuals and organizations leading the fight against Lou Gehrig's Disease; The College Basketball Experience at Sprint Center; 7 p.m.; $150, $75/under 35. Contact Amy Richards: 6950 Squibb Road, Suite 210, Mission, KS 66202 or 913-648-2062 or arichards@alsa-midwest.org or www.alsa-midwest.org.

2 **Reach Out and Read Kansas City; *Green Eggs and Ham Benefit Breakfast;*** This popular event highlights children's literacy and includes a special reading of a Dr. Seuss classic by Bryan Busby and a surprise guest reader; Kansas City Marriott Downtown; 7:30 a.m.; $60. Contact Pam Madaus: 3901 Rainbow Boulevard, MS 4004, Kansas City, KS 66160 or 913-588-3073 or pmadaus@kumc.edu or www.reachoutandreadkc.org.

3 **Friendship Inn KC; *9th Annual Taste of Hospitality Wine Dinner and Fundraiser;*** An evening of wine tasting with Mary and Marshall Rimann, dinner, and silent and live auctions; Indian Hills Country Club; 6 p.m.; $100. Contact Lindsay McPhail: P.O. Box 3423, Kansas City, KS 66103 or 913-488-7757 or lmcphail@kumc.edu or www.friendshipinnkc.edu.

3 **Kansas City Ballet Guild; *45th Annual Ballet Ball;*** This year's *Ballet Ball* will celebrate Kansas City Ballet's new era with an evening dinner and dancing; InterContinental Kansas City at the Plaza; 6:30 p.m.; $250. Contact Kimberlee Ried: 500 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO 64108 or 816-665-7707 or balletball@kcballet.org or www.kcbguild.org.

3 **Kansas City Chiefs Children's Fund for Truman Medical Centers Charitable Foundation; *101 Awards;*** The committee of the 101 and the Kansas City Chiefs present the 42nd annual *101 Awards*. Since 1969, the event has honored the NFL's most outstanding players and coaches of the year; The Westin Crown Center Hotel; 6:30 p.m.; $5,000/table. Contact Jeff Hiller: 913-563-5411 or jhiller@premiersportsonline.com or www.101awards.com.

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ONLINE

The "Event Extras" section on *The Independent's* website is becoming more popular than ever! You don't want to miss on the latest photos from KayCee events, including The Kansas City Club's *Presidents' Dinner* and *The Independent* and Nonprofit Connect's *Private Reception*. Visit www.kcindependent.com and click on "Event Extras" to view the fabulous photos!

IN THE NEXT ISSUE...

I SNEAK PEEK

We Heart the 80s, too! Fans of Heartland SPCA gathered at Overland Park Convention Center for *Martinis Gala 2012* on February 4th!

3 **Notre Dame de Sion School;** ***Notre Dame de Sion 2012 Gala Auction;*** This year's event will feature a gourmet dinner, unique and exciting live auction items, a silent auction, and a raffle for a new car; Notre Dame de Sion High School; 5 p.m.; $145. Contact Thea Gude: 10631 Wornall Road, Kansas City, MO 64114 or 816-942-3282 or tgude@ndsion.edu or www.ndsion.edu.

3 **St. Mary's Medical Center Foundation;** ***Butterfly Ball;*** The 26th annual event features dinner, music and dancing; Adams Pointe Conference Center; 6 p.m.; $125. Contact Suzanne Dell-St. Clair: 201 Northwest R.D. Mize Road, Blue Springs, MO 64014 or 816-655-5366 or sdellstclair@carondelet.com or www.stmaryskc.com.

3-4 **The Whole Person;** ***KC CakeFest;*** Mike Elder and Black Sheep Custom Cakes will present a cake and sugar art show and exposition with live TV-style cake challenges featuring the nation's biggest cake stars. Join us for family activities, celebrities, cake decorating classes, contests, and more; noon to 6 p.m.; free admission. ***Celebrity Cake Battles;*** March 3rd: 6 to 9:30 p.m.; March 4th: 3 to 6:30 p.m.; $40, under seven/free admission; Kansas City Convention Center. Contact Christi Campos: 3420 Broadway, Suite 105, Kansas City, MO 64111 or 816-561-0304 or ccampos@thewholeperson.org or www.thewholeperson.org.

11 **Kansas City Symphony Guild;** ***Guild Presents a Cabaret Concert;*** Enjoy an evening of circus-themed delight. Beginning with a silent auction, followed by a delicious dinner then topped off with a spectacular Kansas City Symphony production featuring Steven Jarvi; Embassy Suites KCI; 4 p.m.; $70. Contact Karen Hardcastle: 5100 Northwest 58th Street, Kansas City, MO 64151 or 816-589-4177 or karen.hardcastle@gmail.com or www.kcsymphonyguild.org.

13 **UMKC Women's Council;** ***2012 Graduate Assistance Fund Luncheon;*** A Luncheon celebrating the 2012 Graduate Assistance Fund award recipients and donors; UMKC Student Union; 11:30 a.m.; $40. Contact Amy Loughman: 5100 Rockhill Road, AC 300B, Kansas City, MO 64110 or 816-235-1105 or wcouncil@umkc.edu or www.umkcwc.org.

24 **Cristo Rey Kansas City;** ***Dancing with the Kansas City Stars 2012;*** This special night is modeled after the hit television show with local celebrity judges and stars. The gala features a cocktail reception, gourmet dinner, star and student dancing, fund-a-scholar auction, awards, and dancing for all; Sheraton Kansas City Hotel at Crown Center; 6 p.m.; $200. Contact Melanie Valenzuela: 211 West Linwood Boulevard, Kansas City, MO 64111 or 816-595-2808 or mvalenzuela@cristoreykc.org or www.cristoreykc.org.

24 **Girl Scouts of Northeast Kansas and Northwest Missouri;** ***100th Anniversary Gala;*** The evening will begin with cocktails and a silent auction, followed by a luxurious dinner and program in the beautiful Cottonwood Ballroom. To honor outstanding women who are exemplary role models for today's girls, we will present the inaugural Pearl Award to five dynamic women in our community; Overland Park Sheraton; 6 p.m.; $125. Contact Meredith Suarez: 8383 Blue Parkway, Kansas City, MO 64133 or 816-759-3038 or meredithsuarez@girlscoutsksmo.org or www.girlscoutsksmo.org.

25 **Jewish Vocational Service;** ***JVS Evening at the Theater;*** Guests will enjoy cocktails, appetizers and a silent auction featuring a variety of items from area businesses, followed by a film on the Union Station Extreme Screen; Union Station Kansas City; 6 p.m.; $100. Contact Jennifer Conoley: 1608 Baltimore, Kansas City, MO 64108 or 816-471-2808 or jconoley@jvskc.org or www.jvskc.org.

28 **Higher M-Pact;** ***2012 Inspired M-Pact Community Luncheon;*** Held each spring, the Luncheon features a nationally-known speaker and is attended by approximately 600 business leaders and community supporters. Previous speakers include Anthony Munoz, Tony Dorsett, Congressman J. C. Watts, Jr., Wayman Tisdale, Chris Gardner, and Coach Ken Carter; location and time to be determined; $125. Contact Renee Flowers: P.O. Box 11718, Kansas City, MO 64138 or 816-353-8103 or rflowers@highermpact.org or www.highermpact.org.

29 **Metropolitan Community College Foundation;** ***Metropolitan Community College Foundation Five Star Gala;*** Guests will enjoy an engaging evening of festivities with an exquisite gourmet dinner. A special presentation will honor the Dunn Family; Sheraton Kansas City Hotel at Crown Center; 5:30 p.m.; $150. Contact Vincent Anch: 3200 Broadway, Kansas City, MO 64111 or 816-604-1195 or mcc.foundation@mcckc.edu or www.mcckc.edu/donate.

29 **NorthCare Hospice & Palliative Care;** ***A Magical Evening with NorthCare Hospice;*** Join us for a night of comedy and magic. The evening includes buffet dinner, silent auction, photos at A Good Time Photo Booth, and special guest magician Devin Henderson; The Improv at Zona Rosa; 5:30 p.m.; $80. Contact Kim Logan: 2900 Clay Edwards Drive, North Kansas City, MO 64116 or 816-691-5119 or klogan@northcarehospice.org or www.northcarehospice.org.

The Independent regrets that in the February 4th issue the photographer for MOCSA's *Community Luncheon* photo was incorrectly identified. **David Remley** was the photographer of the Luncheon photo that appeared in The Top Five Luncheons of 2011 feature.

The I on Society

Musical Match

Harmonious, globe-trotting couple Joyce DiDonato and Leonardo Vordoni sang the praises of love in Kansas City for a recent visit. Our Town's very own world-renowned opera singer's voice and smile would light up any room and her husband's heart.

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