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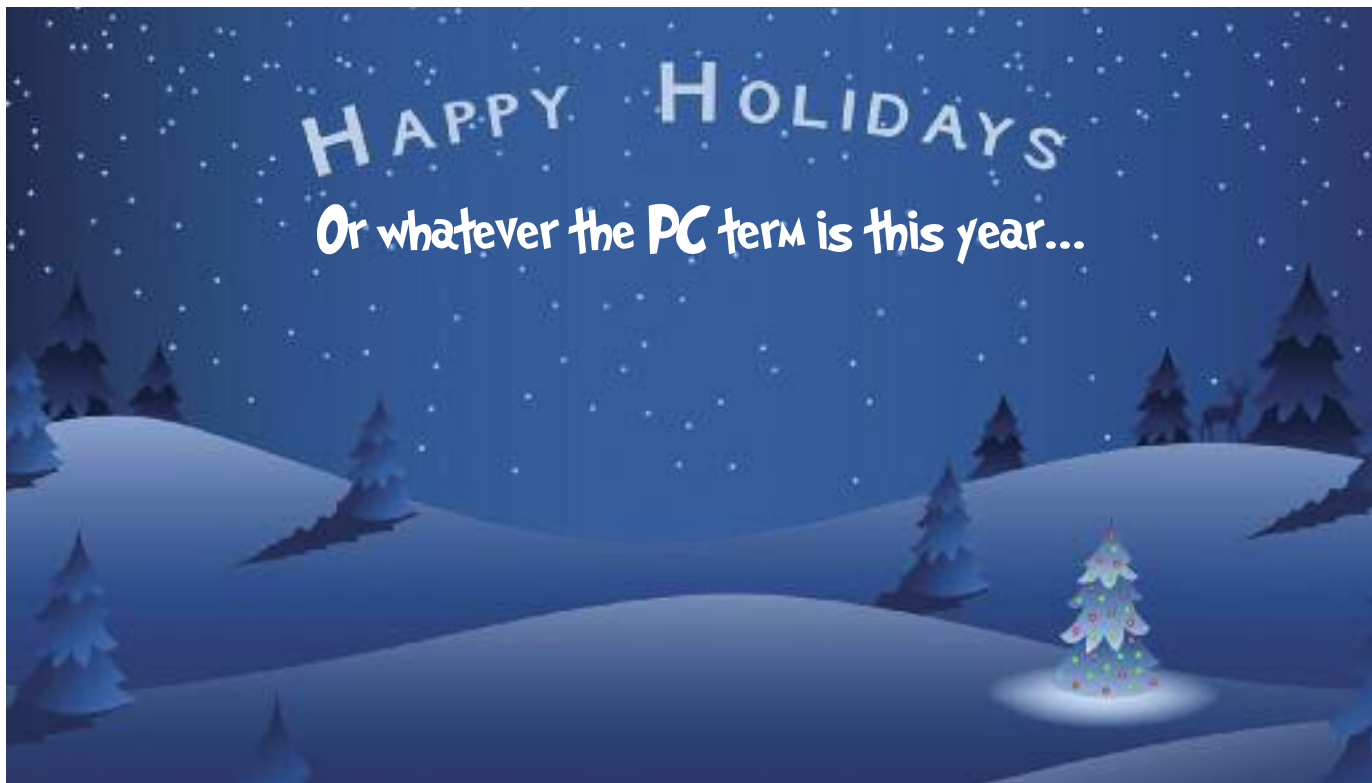
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# Monte Cello's Wexford



**M**onte Cello's has been part of the Wexford community for over 25 years. Owners, Wayne Mateer, Joe Wadlow and Dominic Ricci have truly mastered the art of making fresh pizza dough and sauces from scratch to create the best pizza around. Their calzones, salads, gourmet burgers, and huge pasta selections truly set this place apart from other restaurants. Monte Cello's offers so much more than just pizza, their entrees are all made fresh daily and include fantastic seafood selections as well as steak, veal, chicken and pot roast to all you can eat crab legs on Tuesdays. Definitely delicious and something for everyone at extremely affordable pricing. Here you will find casual dining where the owners have worked very hard to keep the family budget in mind. Plus, their staff is great, very attentive, and accommodating.

Monday through Fridays 11am-2pm they offer an "all you can eat" lunch buffet (\$7.50) offering a large selection of their famous pizzas, pastas, salads and soup. A dinner buffet is also offered on Monday nights from 4pm-8pm (\$7.50) selections vary weekly, but you will always be sure to find pizzas, pasta and heartier entrees, something to tempt

and please your palate.

At the bar, you will find the best happy hour from 6p-8p Monday through Thursdays and 7p-9p on Fridays and Saturdays, its half off appetizers and all drafts beers are \$1.00. They have 8 beers on tap, Yuengling, Blue Moon, Coors Light, Miller Light, Great Lakes, Sam Adams Seasonal, Labatt and Stella Artois. Plus, Mondays are 75 cent pizza slices, 4p-8p, Wednesdays, Yuengs and Wings- 35 cent wings & \$6.00 pitchers. Fridays - \$1.00 off ALL vodka drinks and Sundays - FREE Pizza during Pittsburgh NFL Football.



## Where is it?

Monte Cellos's Italian Restaurant is located at 10441 Perry Highway, Wexford, PA 15090 - Phone: 724-935-4151 for dine in, take out or delivery! Open 7 days a week Visit them on the web: [www.montecellos.com](http://www.montecellos.com)



Joe Wadlow, Owner and Dominic Ricci, Owner

# Last Minute

## Holiday Gift Guide

### LUSH

LUSH - believes in making effective products from fresh, organic\* fruit and vegetables, using the finest essential oils and safe synthetics. They invent their own products and fragrances. LUSH is made fresh by hand using little or no preservative or packaging, using only vegetarian ingredients, and tell you when they were made. LUSH believes in buying ingredients only from companies that do not commission tests on animals and in testing our products on humans. They believe in happy people making happy soap, putting our faces on our products and making their moms proud. They believe in long candlelit baths, sharing showers, massage, filling the world with perfume and in the right to make mistakes, lose everything and start again. LUSH products are a good value, and that the customer is always right. LUSH products are available at Macy's downtown and online at [www.lushusa.com](http://www.lushusa.com)

### WINTER WARMER



It may look beautiful when fluffy snowflakes cover everything in a white blanket, but it's still too cold for comfort! Warm the cockles of their hearts and the rest of their bodies with the gift of spicy mulled wine showers. The spicy, warming lather of Glogg shower gel will

keep them toasty all season long. Of course, if you really wanted to heat things up you could offer to share it with them... \$14.95

### TUCA TUCA



FOR THE GIRL WHO HAS EVERYTHING: Sure, she probably has lots of perfumes, but none as unique as the NEW! Tuca Tuca fragrance. The sleek black bottle contains a vibrant fragrance of violet leaf, cassie and vanilla. The first release in an entirely new perfumes from LUSH, Tuca Tuca is also available in massage bar and candle form also!

### JOY TO THE WORLD

Put this number under the tree and they'll be singing "Joy to the world, the Lush has come!". Absolutely perfect for those carol singing, egg-nog sloshing, ugly Christmas sweater wearing party animals, we've filled Joy to the World with four spicy and citrusy shower treats to help make holiday mornings a bit more forgiving after holiday nights... \$26.95



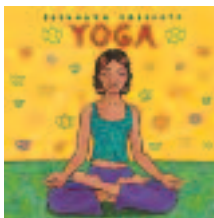
### JILL-E CAMERA BAG

Stylish jill-e designs' Camera/ carry-all bags compartmentalize and protect. This holiday's must-have technology devices while on-the-go! / Carry-All Bags Compartmentalize and Protect. This holiday's must-have technology devices while on-the-go! Functionality on the Go....Fashionably on the Mark!

.. A perfect gift for the holiday shoppers who want to give their recipients a gift that's both functional and fashionable this Christmas. A absolutely stunning and functional bag. Price: \$239.99 – To order or see more designs online visit <http://www.jill-e.com>.



### YOGA CD



A soothing collection of songs for yoga, meditation and relaxation. This CD features renowned musicians Krishna Das, Wah!, Gaura Vani and more. Liner notes written by yoga instructor and musician Sean Johnson. Cost: \$14.95 available at [www.putumayo.com](http://www.putumayo.com) or at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)



## PET-ZZZ PAD



New Pet-zzz-pad starts heating up your pet's bed to a vet-recommended 102 degrees as soon as their paw hits the pad. This pet bed warmer molds to your pet's body and cuddles them in warmth. When they get off, the pad turns off too. Pets need and crave warmth, especially when the weather

turns chilly. Everyone wishes they had the time to cradle their pets, but Pet-zzz-pad radiates heat whenever they need a warm place to curl up. With the Pet-zzz-pad you don't need to keep the heat turned up all day so it helps keep heating costs low. It also helps keep your pets off your furniture and out of your bed for a more restful night's sleep. According to Christopher Hallihan, DVM, Managing Partner at Animal Care Center in New Jersey, "You'll often notice dogs with muscle or joint pain seeking out sun spots. The Pet-zzz-pad moldable mat helps keep them comfortable. You may also want to use it for dogs that shiver, as well as puppies and kittens that need extra warmth." Pet-zzz-pad is an American Kennel Club and Cat Fancier Association branded heating mat that activates with your pet's weight. It fits any size pet bed with a regular 12-inch pad for small to medium pets and a large 16-inch for medium to large pets. Fits any size pet bed – available in 12" for small to medium pets and 16" for medium to large pets. The Pet-zzz-pad retails for \$19.99 - \$39.99 available at [www.PetZZZPad.com](http://www.PetZZZPad.com) and all PETCO locations.

## BOCCIERI GOLF -HEAVY WEDGE



Incorporating the counterweight technology that made the Heavy Putter a household name, the Heavy Wedge is a traditionally designed blade with a satin non-glare finish and CNC milled grooves for maximum spin. With a head mass only slightly heavier than a conventional wedge, the added weight (65 grams) is

positioned in the butt of the shaft, raising the club's balance point and promoting distance control, tighter shot dispersion, acceleration through impact, smoother tempo and incredible feel on both full swing and greenside shots. (MSRP: \$109.05) [www.boccierigolf.com](http://www.boccierigolf.com)

## SCHEYDEN PRECISION EYEWEAR



Handcrafted from the world's finest materials to offer superior quality, Scheyden offers both functional and comfortable sunglasses. Ideal for precision activities, the company's eyewear offers superb sun protections for all outdoor activities

along with the ability to adapt effortlessly in changing light conditions. Designed and manufactured to exacting standards, the frames feature superior strength and heat resistant properties, helping them retain their shape far more than competitors' models. Scheyden's distortion-free lenses also include a scratch resistant finish and optional polarization. For those looking for a classic style, The Fixed Gear (\$259-309) is precisely handcrafted from durable and lightweight titanium forming a long-lasting, timeless pair of sunglasses. Combining a Cedar Rolled Composite frame with hypoallergenic NiHg temples and Cloissone tips, the Composite Fixed Hybrids (\$259-309) are the only full-coverage wrap to offer a unique custom fit. Available in four distinct styles – Revelstoke, Revelry, Jet-A and Panorama – and eight types of lenses. The brand's Classic Flip Ups (\$395-415) allow users to effortlessly adapt to changing light conditions. Spring-loaded hinges along with temple tips and nose pads made from the highest quality silicon ensure maximum comfort, while the flip-up function included patented magnetic locks for unparalleled ease of use. [www.scheyden.com](http://www.scheyden.com)

## AB GOLF DESIGNS - THROWBACK COLLECTION



AB Golf Designs Throwback Collection [www.abgolfdesigns.com](http://www.abgolfdesigns.com)  
AB Golf Designs new eco-friendly Throwback collection is a classic striped knit stocking with pom-pom tops available in a variety of color combinations and sizes for woods, hybrids and putters. Although the fabric looks and feels like wool, the Throwback collection is made from polyester fibers crafted from recycled plastic bottles. Prices range from \$22 to \$28 for a single head cover and \$90 for a package of four.

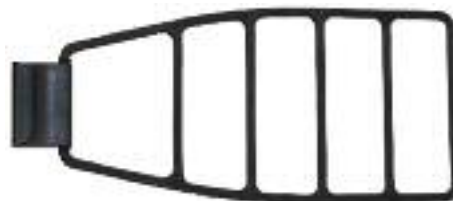
## BOOK SWIM

Christmas presents just end up being tossed aside and forgotten about! For 2010, give a gift that combines saving money and space—it's a gift we want you to return! A BookSwimGift Membership (<http://www.bookswim.com>)



combines saving space for them and saving money for you. There are a so many genres and authors to choose from, including all those hardcover bestsellers that are hot off the press! Receive more value out of your money; give \$150 or more worth of books for less than \$50. Books are delivered straight to your door -- no due dates or late fees, keep the books as long as they'd like. A must give gift for anyone that loves books!

## TRAIN REACTION DEVICE



The Train Reaction Device is a universal luggage stabilizer, allowing globetrotters to connect and roll two pieces of wheeled luggage in virtually any size and

combination with half the effort.

Linking bags in seconds, this patent-pending invention creates a stable and balanced four-wheel unit that is incredibly easy to move. The Train Reaction Device is ideal for maneuvering anywhere luggage goes. By using the smaller bag to leverage the larger, or connecting two of the same size, the device produces a "weightless" effect allowing users to transport their gear with a single hand -- leaving the other free for coffee, a cell phone or child. Incredibly easy to use, and at only \$19.95 for two, it's a must-have. [www.trainreaction.com](http://www.trainreaction.com)





**Milano & Venice, Italy**  
Our travels took us to Milan and Venice, Italy...  
Hope you enjoy the amazing photos as much as  
we enjoyed our trip!





TOURIST C  
ROOM BAGGA  
NAME  
CABIN  
DATE





# Wine and Spirits

## SNAP OLD FASHIONED BY NINE ON NINE

Knob Creek Bourbon & SNAP liqueur muddled with orange, cherry, clove and brown sugar

## FALL HARVEST BY NINE ON NINE

Couvossier, SNAP liqueur fresh OJ, confectioners sugar and spices.

## THE FARMERS DAUGHTER

Recipe created by Thomas Brodesser of Silk City  
[www.silkcityphilly.com](http://www.silkcityphilly.com)

### Ingredients:

2 parts SNAP

3/4 parts fresh lemon juice

Fresh apple cider to taste

### Directions:

Combine all ingredients into high ball glass, garnish with fresh apple slices and a cinnamon stick.

This recipe can also be used to create a punch!



### SNAP cocktails from Nine on Nine:

#### Located at:

900 Penn Ave

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### SCHNWENKFELDER GINGER SNAPS

¾ cup shortening	¼ teaspoon salt
1 cup sugar	1 teaspoon cinnamon
¼ cup light molasses	1 teaspoon cloves
1 beaten egg	1 teaspoon ginger
2 cups sifted flour	granulated sugar
2 teaspoon baking soda	

Cream shortening and sugar; add molasses and egg. Beat well. Sift dry ingredients; add to creamed mixture; mix well. Roll into small balls; dip into granulated sugar. Bake 375 degrees for 15 minutes. Yields 4 dozen.

### THE GOOD REVEREND'S GINGER SNAPS

Recipe reinvented by Reverend Michael Alan

4 cups flour, sifted  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
1 teaspoon ginger  
1 teaspoon cinnamon  
1/2 teaspoon cloves  
1/2 cup butter  
1/2 cup lard  
1 cup sugar  
1 cup molasses  
1/4 cup sour milk\*

granulated sugar (yields about 4 dozen cookies)

Heat an oven to 375°F. In a large bowl, sift flour, baking soda and spices. By hand or stand mixer, cream the sugar, butter and lard until light and fluffy- then gently add the molasses and sour milk. Once the wet ingredients are combined, slowly add the dry ingredients until incorporated. Mix until a dough forms and not a second longer. By hand, portion walnut sized pieces of dough, then roll in granulated sugar. Place the sugar coated dough balls evenly on parchment lined baking sheets and bake for 10-12 minutes or until done. Transfer cookies onto a rack to cool. Enjoy immediately with a glass of cold milk, or store in an airtight container for up to a week.

#### To sour milk

Add 1/4 teaspoon of lemon juice or white vinegar to 1/4 cup whole milk. Let stand at room temperature until the milk is slightly curdled, about 15 minutes.

For more info on Root and SNAP and some great videos and recipes please check out their website:

<http://www.artintheage.com/spirits-snap/>



Art In The Age of Mechanical Reproduction firmly believes in empowering artists producing high quality work marked by fine craft and intellectual rigor. We do so by applying the fruits of such labors to the cultural forms of everyday life, granting those who wish to engage the opportunity to do so in his/her own environment. Rather than exist at a distance in the white cube of the gallery space, we weave our offerings into the collective surface of myriad personal contexts. In this troubling epoch of industrial commodification, standardization of reproduction, and fomentation of a society of shallow spectacle, Art In The Age issues a challenge and rally cry. We fight fire with fire, subsuming the onslaught of watered down facsimiles and inaccessible displays with thought-provoking products of real cultural capital.

# Draft House

1811 E. Carson Street • South Side



# Ask The Attorney

Ask The Lawyer: "Legal Briefs" Courtesy Of Local Attorney / Mediator / Collaborative Settlement Advocate Jeff Pollock

## Q: Should a divorcing couple consider a more enlightened process than litigation?

A: In short: Collaborative Law is the best of both worlds, i.e., avoiding courtrooms and judges while still having a trusted attorney on whom to rely for counsel and support.

Collaborative Divorce has been called "A New Approach to a Challenging Process." Anyone who has been divorced will tell you it can be a tension-filled experience that harms you, any children involved, and the post-divorce relationship of their entire family. Even with the best of intentions, communication is a challenge, and Conflict will arise over even minor issues – especially when addressing financial and custody matters. Any dialogue can break down such that all contact must be handled through adversarial attorneys whose fees would be better off avoided.

If you desire to lessen the trauma to yourself and your children, be treated respectfully by your spouse, and have your needs/goals be heard and valued, collaborative divorce is worth considering.

The collaborative divorce process requires both parties to be open, honest, and realistic while each retain their own collaboratively-trained lawyer. You with your attorney and your spouse with his/her attorney will meet together in what are called "four ways". You will all sign a contract, agree to openly share all financial documents, children's ongoing needs, etc., and be totally honest about everything. Additionally, you will agree not to use the traditional court system but to work together to resolve issues in a respectful manner.

When a couple works in a collaborative environment it often becomes apparent they have many shared goals. These may include maintaining the children in the same school district or a private school, planning for college, ensuring each party has an adequate standard of living post-divorce, and guaranteeing appropriate living space for each party within proximity to the children so they have comfortable access to both parents. Since it is your divorce, together you come up with solutions that are not court-mandated but work for your circumstances.

As appropriate, you may seek the services of other experts acting as neutral parties: business valuers, appraisers, mental health professionals, and Certified Divorce Financial Analysts (financial advisors professionally trained in divorce issues). As a neutral party in a collaborative divorce, the CDFA's role is to partner with the collaborative divorce attorneys and the divorcing couple to provide expertise on the financial side of things. CDFAs examine financial proposals; prepare financial projections that show how each party will fare under various scenarios; provide education regarding finances, tax returns, financial statements, cost basis, COBRA/health insurance and debt prioritizing; and make sure each party understands these financial topics to realistically assess the costs and benefits to each party over time.

Since two households cost more than one, parties may cooperate to develop workable and acceptable budgets. The collaborative process allows couples to negotiate to find the financial solutions that work best for their unique situation, be it for strategizing for one parent to stay in the marital home until the children have graduated or how best to fund college,

or most safely care for a child with special needs.

Collaborative divorce helps people feel assured that their needs are heard and addressed. Difficult but realistic decisions are made in a respectful, civilized environment. Typically, interactions between the couple during and after the divorce are less stressful. If you have children, a real benefit is being able to watch your children at sporting events without jealousy, attend graduations without competing, go to the same wedding, etc. without your children worrying about having to take sides or fearing a disaster will spoil the event.

Last month, I wrote about Mediation. Like Mediation, a Collaborative Law divorce occurs in a cooperative, private setting in which the spouses craft the terms of their agreement. Unlike Mediation however, attorneys are present and the clients do not use a mediator. The attorneys and clients work together to craft an acceptable agreement through the aforementioned "four way meetings." The attorneys draft the settlement documents and conclude the divorce in a simple, abbreviated court process. The few required court papers are often but not always filed until the settlement is concluded.

Collaborative law is a more formalized process than mediation. The couple and their lawyers commit in writing to follow specific rules or suffer consequences. The spouses pledge that they will work together without court intervention to resolve their issues. The parties' attorneys also pledge to work cooperatively, listening to concerns of both sides. The attorneys advocate for their clients in a more civil and respectful manner. Everyone agrees to share information and documents. If necessary, other members can be added to the collaborative team to assist the spouses either jointly or individually. These may include financial advisors (like the CDFA mentioned above), parenting coaches, and child specialists. All of the team members are trained in the collaborative method. Most importantly, all settlement communications, verbal and written, made during the collaborative process are kept private and are not admissible in a courtroom (should such a rare consequence be necessitated).

If either spouse initiates a court action before resolution, the collaborative process must terminate. By the terms of the special written agreement, the Collaborative attorneys are disqualified from representing their client-spouses in any litigation. If either spouse refuses to voluntarily produce information, a lawyer or party may terminate the process. The spouses must then obtain new counsel and begin again. Any jointly retained experts and consultants are also disqualified from participating in the litigation, unless both parties agree otherwise. Thus, there are many features/incentives -- privacy, time, money, control, etc. -- to help/make the collaborative process succeed.

Best wishes to all Nightwire readers for a happy and healthy holiday season with your family and friends.

*If Nightwire Magazine readers have questions or suggestions for topics, please call Joyce at (412) 855-5536 or Atty. Pollock at (412) 421-2232.*

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# Footcare Tips for Women

by Sue Ryder

"Let's face it, when our feet hurt, we hurt all over," said Sue Ryder, Women's Product Director at Aetrex and 20-year veteran as a footwear designer. Sue challenges herself to blend a fresh design sense with the ultimate in footwear comfort, fit and function. She admits that her princess and the pea feet feel everything, so she takes extra care to keep them in good shape year round. Below are some of her favorite footcare tips for women.

**Socks are Important Winter Accessories** – Socks are just as important as winter hats and gloves. Wet conditions soften the tissue on feet and make them more susceptible to skin trauma - cuts, abrasions and blisters. If feet get too cold and wet, you could be at risk for frostbite. To protect your feet, look for socks with a Moisture-Guard™ wicking system, and socks made with materials such as smartwool, polyester and nylon.

**Buy Shoes that Fit Your Needs** - Many stores such as the Walking Company, Foot Solutions and independent retailers have sales people that are certified pedorthists, who have received specific training in foot and ankles injuries and pain prevention. They can help you select the right type of shoe for your specific needs and offer suggestions for how to customize them, for the ultimate in fit and comfort.

**Give Your Feet a Break** – While we love our heels, women have four times as many foot problems as men and high heels are partly to blame. I recently designed a casual line of clogs called Berries by Aetrex that are so soft and light, when you slip them on you'll immediately go ahhhh. They are made with stretchable fabrics and memory foam that conform to feet while the customizable footbed relieves pressure point. They come in 3 styles, in nine fantastic jewel tone colors, so they'll look great too. (\$99)

**Nighttime Care** – After being on your feet all day, give your feet a little TLC. Knead your feet gently with your thumbs to increase blood circulation. Then cover them with a good quality foot cream or nourishing gel to help keep the skin from cracking and drying.

**Foot Pain is Not Normal** – Your feet mirror your general health. For the most part, both of your feet should look alike. So if you

have ongoing pain and swelling or an arch that flattens in one foot, it is a sign of a more serious problem and time to go to see a podiatrist.

**Educate Yourself** – Sites such as [www.foot.com](http://www.foot.com) offer comprehensive information about foot conditions, comfort and performance footwear, sports injuries and foot health for diabetes and an online shop with products that help treat or prevent foot pain.



## From the Editor: Berries – Simply the Most Comfortable Shoe in the Whole World!

by: Joyce Campisi

It is not often that I will personally endorse a product, but, dear readers, I must tell you and every woman out there, Berries are the bomb! They are definitely the ultimate "must have shoe" for travelling, walking, shopping or just for everyday wear. Seriously, I have never had a shoe as comfortable as the Berries! I recently had foot surgery and no matter what shoe I tried, my poor foot still hurt. Then, I discovered the Berries and they really made my feet smile! They are a shoe you will never want to take off your feet! Treat yourself or someone you love to a pair this Christmas. Besides the Berries, which are available in numerous fun berry colors Aetrex also makes a Mary Jane and a Slip On plus more styles coming soon, I'll keep you posted! You absolutely must try a pair....your feet will thank you!!

Available locally at: The Walking Company – Ross Park Mall (412) 635-9255 or – South Hills Village (412) 833-2330

Wagner Quality Shoes - 4313 Butler St - Pittsburgh, PA. 15201 (412) 682-2759

Check them out on the web at [www.aetrex.com](http://www.aetrex.com)

# Music

## Velveeta

### Penn State's #1 Party Band

By Trish Imbrogno



Velveeta is a band that has been performing for over fifteen years and 2700 shows. Featuring strong musicianship and vocal ability, the band focuses on pop/rock of the 80's, 90's and music of today. Velveeta's energetic stage show, coupled with a large selection of songs, allows them to entertain a wide variety of audiences. Velveeta formed in State College, Pa. during the summer of 1995. After a few months they grew to be one of Penn State's favorite bands. They continue to play for current Penn State students as well as alumni and local followings in many venues across the mid-Atlantic region.

The members of Velveeta include:

Brian Kriley: vocals, lead guitar

John Matthews: vocals, bass guitar

John "Bones" Harper: vocals, drums

Brent Martin: vocals, keyboards, rhythm guitar

Visit their website at [www.80scheese.com](http://www.80scheese.com). For additional information, contact Brent Martin at 814-883-1783 or via email at [martinbrent@hotmail.com](mailto:martinbrent@hotmail.com).





**VELVEETA**  
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WITH SPECIAL GUESTS:  
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& THE BLOODSUCKERS**

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& THE BLOODSUCKERS**

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**THE SLEEPING  
TIGER**

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have been seen on the television programming "So You Think You Can Dance," in the US (Ashleigh & Ryan Di Lello, Karen Hauer and Janette Manrara) and Australia (Robbie Kmetoni).

Robbie Kmetoni, an 18-year-old dancer from Sydney, Australia, wowed judges and audiences alike on the third season of SYTYCD (Australia), taking top honors as the overall winner. As his prize, he elected to join the tour of BURN THE FLOOR. Kmetoni made his professional theatrical debut in the summer of 2010 when the tour performed at Shaftesbury Theatre, London.

Ashleigh Di Lello has performed and taught in 19 different countries. She and her husband, Ryan, were 2009 finalists on the television program "So You Think You Can Dance." Ashleigh was a DanceSport Junior Latin Champion and a United States Junior American Latin Finalist by the age of 12. A year later she became sick with a life-threatening illness that she would battle for many years. When Di Lello returned to ballroom dancing, she became a three-time DanceSport Amateur Latin Champion and a United States Amateur Latin Finalist.

Ryan Di Lello has enjoyed teaching and dancing in professional shows throughout the world with his wife and dance partner, Ashleigh. They auditioned together for the 2009 season of "SYTYCD," where they were not only the first married couple to be selected for the show, but went all the way to the finale. He began dancing at age four and began ballroom at age nine. Di Lello was a two-time amateur Latin runner-up and the Youth American Champion.

Karen Hauer was a top finalist in the 2009 season of "SYTYCD," and was named the 2008 World Mambo Champion. Born in Venezuela, she moved to New York City and began to dance when she was eight. She attended LaGuardia HS of the Performing Arts.

Janette Manrara is a Cuban salsa dancer from Miami, Florida. She was one of four finalists on season five of SYTYCD (USA) and was Nigel Lythgoe's "favorite" to win. Manrara and Kmetoni were dance partners in the London engagement of BURN THE FLOOR, summer 2010.

BURN THE FLOOR is produced by Harley Medcalf, Joe Watson, Richard Levi, Richard Frankel, Tom Viertel, Steven Baruch, Marc Routh, Raise the Roof One, Toppall/Stevens/Mills, Benigno/Klein, Caldwell/Allen, Carrpaillet/Danzansky, Bud Martin, The Production Studio, Schaffert/Schnuck, by special arrangement with Dance Partner Inc.

## Where is it?

Tickets (\$21-\$57) are available by calling (412) 392-4900, visiting the Box Office at Theater Square (655 Penn Avenue) or online at [www.pgharts.org](http://www.pgharts.org). For more information about the PNC Broadway Across America-Pittsburgh 2010-2011 subscription series, please call (412) 456-1390. Groups of 10 or more may call (412) 392-4819. This tour is part of the PNC Broadway Across America-Pittsburgh series, presented by The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, Pittsburgh Symphony and Broadway Across America.

**Y**ears before *Dancing with the Stars* and *So You Think You Can Dance* turned ballroom dancing into must-see TV, one sizzling show was setting stages ablaze around the globe. Broadway production, BURN THE FLOOR, the electrifying Latin and Ballroom dance spectacular that has thrilled audiences in more than 30 countries, brings the fire and passion of their live performance to Heinz Hall, Pittsburgh, PA from December 28, 2010 to January 2, 2011.

BURN THE FLOOR is directed and choreographed by Jason Gilkison, former World Champion Latin and Ballroom dancer, and guest choreographer on the fourth season of *So You Think You Can Dance*.

BURN THE FLOOR is a breathtaking blend of Latin and Ballroom dance first conceived as a special performance at Sir Elton John's 50th birthday celebration in 1997. Two years later, the show made its world premiere in the U.K. and quickly took the globe by storm. BURN THE FLOOR is produced by Harley Medcalf, former World Champion dancers Peta Roby and Jason Gilkison.

From Harlem's hot nights at The Savoy, where dances such as the Lindy, Foxtrot and Charleston were born, to the Latin Quarter where the Cha-Cha, Rumba and Salsa steamed up the stage, BURN THE FLOOR takes audiences on a journey through the passionate drama of dance. The elegance of the Viennese Waltz, the exuberance of the Jive, the intensity of the Paso Doble - audiences will experience them all, as well as the Tango, Samba, Mambo, Quickstep, and Swing.

### About the Cast

BURN THE FLOOR brings the talents of 20 award-winning international dancers from around the globe—Great Britain, Germany, Italy, Russia, Australia, Sweden, The Philippines and the U.S.—and includes Australian Ballroom and World Latin American champions. The dancers, who collectively hold more than 100 dance titles, move to the vision of artistic director and choreographer Jason Gilkison.

The 2010-11 Broadway touring cast of BURN THE FLOOR will feature dancers Robbie Kmetoni, Ashleigh Di Lello & Ryan Di Lello, Karen Hauer, and Janette Manrara. All five dancers

# Theater

## Cirque Dreams



From the creators of the groundbreaking Broadway hit, CIRQUE DREAMS Jungle Fantasy, comes a new holiday musical of season's dreamings hailed by the New York Daily News as... "charm, sparkle and talent by the sleighload" and "a jaw dropping winter wonderland" by the Atlantic City Press. Created and directed by Neil Goldberg, CIRQUE DREAMS HOLIDAZE is an original new musical extravaganza filled with spectacle, imagination and whimsical dreams. Ornaments come to life as costumed characters who perform astonishing feats that celebrate the holiday season and showcase pageantry, ingenuity and breathtaking artistry. An international cast of acrobats, aerialists, singers, dancers and musicians fill this Cirque Dream on stage, in the air and while dangling from a 24 foot tall magical tree. Add to that the pomp, circumstance and amazement of gingerbread men flipping through the air, toy soldiers skillfully marching on thin wires, snowmen daringly balancing, icemen sculpting powerfully, penguins spinning, puppets caroling and reindeer soaring high above a

landscape of holiday wonderment and you will see why CIRQUE DREAMS HOLIDAZE makes the perfect gift of entertainment. With over 100 dazzling costumes, an original musical score and some holiday favorites, CIRQUE DREAMS HOLIDAZE will have audiences of all ages mesmerized with its memorable tribute to the holiday season.

Cirque Dreams Holidaze is the latest brainchild of Goldberg's theatrical imagination and the Cirque Dreams brand of entertainment, creators of international performance, touring and Broadway sensations Cirque Dreams Jungle Fantasy, Cirque Dreams Illumination, Cirque Dreams Pandemonia, Cirque Dreams Coobri and Cirque Ingenieux. Millions of fans yearly are now attending Cirque Dreams shows throughout the U.S. and abroad. "Cirque Dreams Holidaze follows in the spirit of the Cirque Dreams brand vision which first premiered in 1993. Our dramatic and elaborate style of presenting Broadway theatrics with influences of European, American and inventive circus

artistry continues to transcend imagination, appeal to everyone and offer high quality, affordable entertainment" says Goldberg. Critics and audiences alike have praised Cirque Dreams shows as "The grandest circus spectacle east of Vegas" (New York Magazine) "A whiz-bang family friendly spectacle" (LA Times), and "Executed to perfection." (Chicago Sun Times).

## Where is it?

**CIRQUE DREAMS HOLIDAZE will light up the season when it performs at Heinz Hall, December 21-26, 2010.**

**Tickets (\$22-\$64) are available by calling (412)392-4900, visiting the Box Office at Theater Square (655 Penn Avenue) or online at [www.pgharts.org](http://www.pgharts.org). For more information about the PNC Broadway Across America-Pittsburgh 2010-2011 subscription series, please call (412) 456-1390. Groups of 10 or more may call (412) 392-4819. This tour is part of the PNC Broadway Across America-Pittsburgh series, presented by The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, Pittsburgh Symphony and Broadway Across America.**



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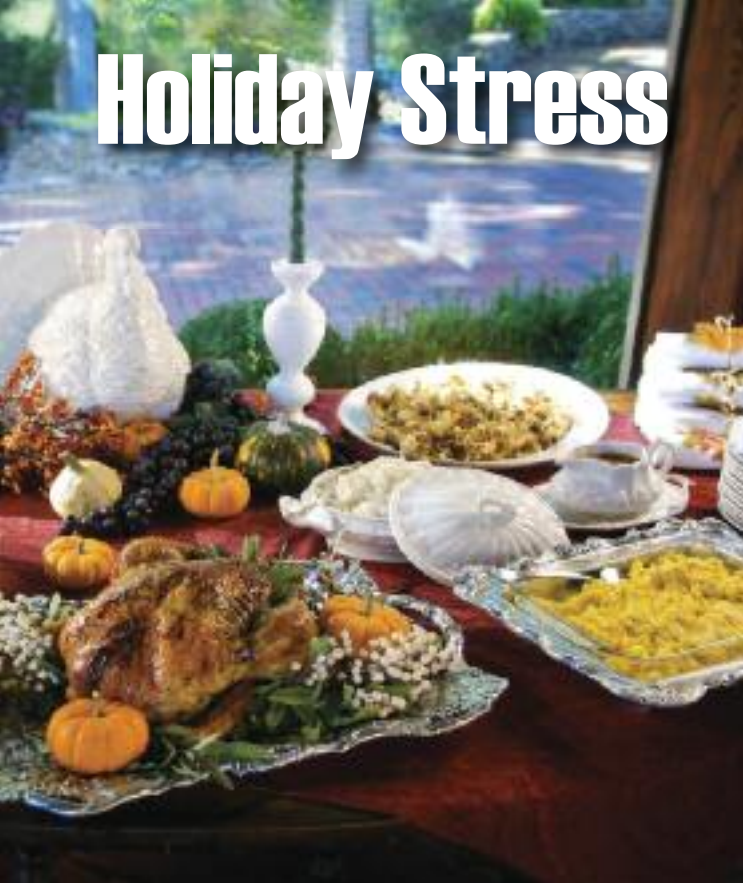
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# Holiday Stress



## **Tips for Managing "In-Law Stress" During the Holidays By Terri Orbuch PhD Adapted from her book, "5 Simple Steps to Take Your Marriage from Good to Great"**

Your mother-in-law takes over the kitchen at holiday time. So what? Your father-in-law drinks too much and sulks in the corner. Big deal! Don't let in-laws ruin your family holiday, multiply your stress, and leave you feeling defeated or angry. There are some simple strategies you can use to get along with difficult in-laws this holiday season.

Doing so will make your holiday get-together more pleasant. But there's an even better reason to make peace with in-laws. In my long-term study of married couples, when a husband or wife fails to get along with the in-laws, it's predictive of marital unhappiness down the road. On the flip side, in the happiest marriages from my study, both spouses reported that they felt close to, or at least got along with, their in-laws.

Here are some ways to avoid adding in-law stress to your holiday season -- and potentially harming your marriage.

Expect the minimum. Don't expect praise, warmth, and approval from your partner's family. Transform into a gracious host and treat them as honored guests. They will either respond or not -- but you won't care.!

Let them help. Ask your father-in-law to build a fire. Ask your mother-in-law to make or bring her favorite dish. People like to be needed, and it gives them a way to contribute.

Be a reporter. One of the best ways to keep conversations light is to ask questions and get your in-laws talking -- about their work, childhood, hobbies, etc. People love talking about themselves.

Blend traditions. Ahead of time, ask your partner to describe family rituals -- such as special prayers, toasts, foods, or after-dinner games or activities -- and surprise your in-laws with one of their favorite holiday rituals.

Deflect negativity. If your in-law criticizes you, your partner, or a member of your family, simply smile and reply with a neutral comment, such as, "Think so?" Later, after the holidays are over and you have more control over the setting, you can share that it hurt your feelings.

Set a time limit. Set limits on the time you spend cooped up with your in-laws by announcing at the outset that you will have to leave later to take the kids skating, to visit a food pantry, or to deliver cookies to an elderly neighbor.

Take a walk. Everyone understands the need for a walk after a big meal. Get out of the house and take some deep breaths to recover.

\*\*\*\*\*

Psychologist Terri Orbuch PhD, known as The Love Doctor, is project director of the landmark Early Years of Marriage Project, funded by the NIH and ongoing since 1986. She has been a practicing marriage and relationship therapist for more than 20 years, and is a popular love advisor on radio, TV, and peoplemedia.com, most recently seen on NBC's Today. A popular blogger for Huffington Post and Psychology Today, she is a research professor at the Institute for Social Research at University of Michigan, and a professor at Oakland University. Dr. Orbuch is author of 5 Simple Steps to Take Your Marriage from Good to Great (Random House). You can find out more about her at [www.drterrihelovedoctor.com](http://www.drterrihelovedoctor.com).



# Comedy

Comedians Davon Magwood, Susie Meister, and Howard Lester have been doing stand up comedy for years now. The trio believe that Pittsburgh there are people in the city of Pittsburgh that would love to come out and see some home grown stand up comedy, it's just a matter of getting the word out to them. Dec.14th at Club Cafe will be the start of many locally produced stand up comedy shows from this trio. The host for the night is special guest John Evans from Last Comic standing and Live at Gotham.

## Davon Magwood

Davon Magwood is an alternative comedian. In September 2009, Magwood invited all his fans to the Pittsburgh Improv to watch as he performed in his first headlined show. He was also a finalist in the "Best of the Burgh" comedy competition at the Pittsburgh Improv Two Years in a row.

While making Pittsburgh audiences laugh, Magwood also gained new audiences in other parts of the country. He won the "Open Mic Showdown" at Stanford and Sons in Kansas City and opened for Comedian Craig Gass(The Howard Stern Show). He was also featured in the "\$500 Comedy Showdown" at Ochi's Comedy Lounge in New York City and recently performed at Comix for "What Happened? comedy showcase". He has hosted shows for comedians Dan Boulger(Live at Gotham) Na'im Lynn(Live at Gotham) Gary Owen(Comic Veiw,Daddy Day Care) Jim Florentine(Crank Yankers,Meet The Creeps),

Davon Magwood also performed guest with spots for comedians, Brad Williams(Mind of Mencia),Bryan Callen (The Hangover,Mad Tv) and T.J. Miller(She's Outta My League,Cloverfield,Live at Gotham). Davon hosts the open mic night at The Shadow lounge, and has hosted at The Funnybone(Pittsburgh) and hosted a talk show "Waffle Time with Davon Magwood" and can also be seen a series of web shorts shot by his comedy group "Shoot First"

## Howard aka "Stoopid" Lester



Born in Cleveland, Ohio (by a different name), Stoopid. started out as your average church boy (one way in church, a totally different way outside of church). a life of empty promises and idle words \*cue violin\* combined with the genetics that shoulda been victim to genocide, he formed a large chip on his shoulder. desperately needing to talk to someone, he bypassed a licensed professional and he spends

most of his time on stage treating it like a therapy session. Stoopid. first stepped on the stage in Las Vegas; performing at

Boomer's, Freakin Frog, the beach and other dives. After a performance in front of the gays ("his people", by default) an unenthusiastic and unreceptive crowd left him to question the impact he would have as a gay comedian, so he took a break from comedy. Since then, he's realized that he just really doesn't like people at all. The crowd doesn't matter anymore. Either you love him or you hate him, just make sure you give him a beer or a shot or both (he kinda has a problem). Stoopid returned to the stage as a resident in Las Vegas, Myrtle Beach, now Pittsburgh and has since been taking his tirade across the country. He's been embraced by the alternative and underground comedy scene who usually relate more to his comedy. He's not bitter, i swear...he was just born that way.

## Susie Meister



As the youngest of five children growing up in Pittsburgh, she learned a thing or two about fighting for attention, but nothing had prepared her for the ride of her life in 1998. That was the year she joined the cast of "Road Rules Australia." Her life did not begin or end with MTV, but it is how people know her best. Susie came from a blue-collar family with a strong Christian background. After 18 years of waiting for the

spotlight, she sent a tape into MTV and thus her journey began. After she finished the show, she returned to a normal life at the University of Pittsburgh and immersed herself into her studies. She graduated with degrees in Political Science and Religious Studies. In the summer of 2002 she earned a fellowship and worked on Capital Hill. In 2005 she returned to television where she appeared on the Gantlet 2. She began producing, writing and hosting segments for "OnQ Magazine" on WQED. She keep busy with local freelance and on-air work and hopes to continue to be a part of the television community for years to come. When she is not working, she is just a "normal girl." She likes a good book, movies, crossword puzzles, and a glass of wine. She is currently in graduate school working towards her doctorate in Religious Studies.

## Where Is It?

**LAST LAUGH COMEDY SHOW**  
**Club Café on December 14 – 7PM**  
**\$6 in Advance / \$10 at the Door**  
**56 South 12 th Street**  
**Pittsburgh, PA 15203**  
**South Side**



# BLUE DINING

by: Steve Montellese

How often have you eaten at a restaurant with a name that's an adjective, much less a name that could also be an adverb? Blue is just that place and is one of the few really wonderful restaurants in Pittsburgh's North Hills owned and managed by Jason Eisenreich. The menu is simple and elegant spanning a wide range of tastes.

## "One of the few really wonderful restaurants in Pittsburgh's North Hills"

Blue has a beautiful bar area where you'll find the excellent and friendly bartender Kim Hammill. The drink menu is spectacular and I managed to sample the special holiday drink, the Candy Cane Martini made with Godiva white chocolate liquor, vodka and Peppermint Schnapps. Served for a limited time only, so don't miss it. The wine selection by the glass was unusually extensive giving everyone something to suit their palate.

We sampled four appetizers, two salads, four of the entrees and a dessert all prepared by Chef Jay Whittenberger who also paired each course with

an appropriate wine. Wine pairings are ultimately an individual choice, but these went well with the courses and are a good place to start. First was the Lobster Risotto (\$9), which was paired with a light and refreshing Vino Verde wine (\$8.75) from Portugal. The risotto was prepared with huge chunks of succulent lobster and was outstanding.

Then came what Blue calls the Mediterranean Tasting (\$7), which contained Tabouleh Salad, Mixed Olives and Sesame Hummus. This appetizer was nicely paired with a Fuchs, Gruner Veltliner wine (\$8.75) from Austria.

The Cheese Course (\$10) consisted of three excellent cheeses; Morbeir, Cambozola and Tartufo paired with a French Chardonnay (\$10.50) by Talmard. Typically French

Chardonnay doesn't have the oakiness of the American variety which worked well with these cheeses.

Next came the Bacon Tasting (\$9) a really fun appetizer consisting of three types of bacon – Wild Boar, Pancetta and Neuske which Chef Jay paired with a great Beaujolais wine.

The two salads were next. First the delicious Caprese salad (\$7) containing tomatoes, mozzarella and red onion topped with a balsamic and fig reduction sauce. Prosecco (which is a dry Italian sparkling wine was an excellent choice to compliment this course).



# Shenanigan's

**2310 BABCOCK BOULEVARD  
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If you like Brussels sprouts you have got to try the Brussels Sprout Salad (\$7) with Blue Cheese and Bacon Vinaigrette Dressing. It was one of the most interesting and delicious salads that I've ever had. To make it even better, it was paired with a Spanish Tempranillo wine (\$10.75) which was silky and smooth.

Then came the entrees...

The first was the Ahi Tuna (\$28) perfectly prepared with apple and fennel slaw, seared just right on the edges.

Hanger Steak (\$26) also known as the butcher's steak has become more popular as of late. There is only one per cow and it was the piece of meat that the butcher often took home for himself. It hangs near the liver and is said to possess just a hint of liver flavor. It is a wonderfully flavorful cut of meat and was marinated and prepared with Chinese beans and rice. The wine served with the steak was an Italian Negroamaro, by Salice Salentino (\$9.00) which stood up well to the hanger steak.

The Cavatelli Pasta (\$24) with duck confit, grilled scallions, wild mushrooms, ricotta salata with smoked pepper cream was surprisingly different and superb. The Montepulciano (\$7.75) served with the course was a really nice compliment working well with the duck and sauce.

And finally, always the crowd pleaser, the Grilled Rack of Lamb (\$29) served with wild mushroom risotto was simply delicious. Cooked just right it was flavorful and tender and was wonderful with the El Portillo Malbec wine (\$8.50) that it was served with.

To finish off this wonderful tasting was the chocolate mousse dessert served with Cockburn's Fine Ruby, port wine. Together they went down soft and delicious. There is nothing like good chocolate with a nice glass of port!

Besides fine dining and an amazing wine & martini bar, Blue has several other attractions. On the last Wednesday of each month, Blue hosts, what they call, a Strolling Wine Tasting at 6:00pm, which sounds like a fun evening to try. Tuesdays are Diva Tuesdays featuring the best female vocalists in the area, from 8-10pm. Another reason to check out Blue is their Friday happy hour. Complimentary sushi is served and we hear its amazing, so get there early.

Also, Blue is expanding the dining and bar areas, taking over the adjacent store's space. The plan is to have this open by the end of December. Blue should definitely be on your list of places to dine.... located in the North Hills at 1701 Duncan Avenue Allison Park, PA 15101 - phone: 412-369-9050 - Reservations Recommended.

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

#### **Hours:**

**Tuesday-Thursday** 4:00pm-10:00pm  
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Bar open until 2am

# **BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY PARTY NOW!**

## **NORTH HILLS #1 SPORTS BAR**

# Christmas Humor

BY NIGHTWIRE

What do elves learn in school? The Elf-abet!

How many reindeer does Santa Have??? 11 (named below):  
Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner, Blitzen,  
Rudolph (the one with the red nose),  
Olive (Olive the other reindeer {all of}),  
and Al (Then Al the reindeer loved him {all}).

What kind of bird can write? A PENguin.

Why does Santa's sled get such good mileage? Because it has long-distance runners on each side.

Why does Scrooge love Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer?  
Because every buck is dear to him.

What do you get if you deep fry Santa Claus? Crisp Cringle.

ELF NO. 1: What did Santa shout to his toys on Christmas Eve?

ELF NO. 2: Okay everyone, sack time!!

If athletes get athletes foot, what do astronauts get?  
Missletoe!

My friend, Rick, is a paramedic here in Miami. A few years ago he answered a call about a man who had a head injury he sustained when some teenagers were throwing eggs at cars. It seems that the egg had come through the open window of the man's car as he was driving at about 45 mph. He had a large swelling on his forehead. In the official report, Rick described the incident as an "egg-noggin".

Just before Christmas, there was an honest politician, a kind lawyer and Santa Claus travelling in a car of a very posh hotel. Just before the doors opened they all noticed a five dollar bill lying on the floor. Which one picked it up?? Santa of course, the other two don't exist!

Santa Claus, like all pilots, gets regular visits from the Federal Aviation Administration, and it was shortly before Christmas when the FAA examiner arrived. In preparation, Santa had the elves wash the sled and bathe all the reindeer. Santa got his logbook out and made sure all his paperwork was in order. The examiner walked slowly around the sled. He checked the reindeer harnesses, the landing gear, and Rudolf's nose. He painstakingly reviewed Santa's weight and balance calculations for the sled's enormous payload. Finally, they were ready for the check ride. Santa got in, fastened his

Continued Next page

**Last Laugh Comedy Show**  
Featuring:

		
<b>Davon Magwood</b>	<b>Susie Meister</b>	<b>Howard Lester</b>

Hosted By:



<b>John Evans</b>

**Dec 14th 7:00pm**  
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**Club Cafe**  
56 South 12th Street Pittsburgh, PA 15203

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seatbelt and shoulder harness, and checked the compass. Then the examiner hopped in carrying, to Santa's surprise, a shotgun. "What's that for?" asked Santa incredulously. The examiner winked and said, "I'm not supposed to tell you this, but you're gonna lose an engine on takeoff."

What do you call a bunch of grandmasters of chess bragging about their games in a hotel lobby? Chess nuts boasting in an open foyer!

What do you call a cat on the beach at Christmastime? Sandy Claus!

How do sheep in Mexico say Merry Christmas? Fleece Navidad!

If Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus had a child, what would he be called? A subordinate claus.

There once was a czar in Russia whose name was Rudolph the Great. He was standing in his house one day with his wife. He looked out the window and saw something happening. He says to his wife, "Look honey. Its raining." She, being the obstinate type, responded, "I don't think so, dear. I think its snowing." But Rudolph knew better. So he says to his wife, "Let's step outside and we'll find out." Lo and behold, they step outside and discover it was in fact rain. And Rudolph turns to his wife and replies, "I knew it was raining. Rudolph the Red knows rain, dear!"

Did you hear that one of Santa's reindeer now works for Proctor and Gambel? Its true....Comet cleans sinks!

## Politically Correct Santa

'Twas the night before Christmas and Santa's a wreck...  
How to live in a world that's politically correct?  
His workers no longer would answer to "Elves,"  
"Vertically Challenged" they were calling themselves.  
And labor conditions at the north pole  
Were alleged by the union to stifle the soul.  
Four reindeer had vanished, without much propriety,  
Released to the wilds by the Humane Society.  
And equal employment had made it quite clear  
That Santa had better not use just reindeer.  
So Dancer and Donner, Comet and Cupid,  
Were replaced with 4 pigs, and you know that looked stupid!  
The runners had been removed from his sleigh;  
The ruts were termed dangerous by the E.P.A.  
And people had started to call for the cops  
When they heard sled noises on their roof-tops.  
Second-hand smoke from his pipe had his workers quite  
frightened.  
His fur-trimmed red suit was called "Unenlightened."  
And to show you the strangeness of life's ebbs and flows,

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# Christmas Humor

BY NIGHTWIRE

Rudolf was suing over unauthorized use of his nose  
And had gone on Geraldo, in front of the nation,  
Demanding millions in over-due compensation.  
So, half of the reindeer were gone; and his wife,  
Who suddenly said she'd enough of this life,  
Joined a self-help group, packed, and left in a whiz,  
Demanding from now on her title was Ms.  
And as for the gifts, why, he'd ne'er had a notion  
That making a choice could cause so much commotion.  
Nothing of leather, nothing of fur,  
Which meant nothing for him. And nothing for her.  
Nothing that might be construed to pollute.  
Nothing to aim. Nothing to shoot.  
Nothing that clamored or made lots of noise.  
Nothing for just girls. Or just for the boys.  
Nothing that claimed to be gender specific.  
Nothing that's war-like or non-pacific.  
No candy or sweets...they were bad for the tooth.  
Nothing that seemed to embellish a truth.  
And fairy tales, while not yet forbidden,  
Were like Ken and Barbie, better off hidden.  
For they raised the hackles of those psychological  
Who claimed the only good gift was one ecological.  
No baseball, no football...someone could get hurt;

Besides, playing sports exposed kids to dirt.  
Dolls were said to be sexist, and should be passé;  
And X-Box would rot your entire brain away.  
So Santa just stood there, disheveled, perplexed;  
He just could not figure out what to do next.  
He tried to be merry, tried to be gay,  
But you've got to be careful with that word today.  
His sack was quite empty, limp to the ground;  
Nothing fully acceptable was to be found.  
Something special was needed, a gift that he might  
Give to all without angering the left or the right.  
A gift that would satisfy, with no indecision,  
Each group of people, every religion;  
Every ethnicity, every hue,  
Everyone, everywhere...even you.  
So here is that gift, its price beyond worth...  
"May you and your loved ones enjoy peace on earth."

---

What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus?  
Claustrophobic.

---

What do you do if Santa gets stuck in your chimney? Pour  
Santa flush on him.

---

Continued Next page

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What do snowmen eat for breakfast? Snowflakes.

## The Week Before Christmas

'Twas the week before Christmas and all through the school  
Not a pupil was silent, no matter what rule.  
The children were busy with paper and paste;  
The mess that they made with it couldn't be faced.  
The teacher half frantic and almost in tears,  
Had just settled down to work with her dears,  
When out in the hall there arose such a clatter  
up sprang the kids to see what was the matter!  
Away to the door they all flew like a flash;  
The one who was leading went down with a crash.  
Then what to their wondering eyes did appear  
But a green Christmas tree! (To decorate I fear!)  
When the teacher saw this, she almost grew sick.  
She knew in a moment it must be Old Nick!  
She ran to the door (all her efforts were vain)  
But she shouted, and stamped, and she called them by name;  
"Now Tommy! Now Sandy, Now Judy and Harry!  
Stop Billy! Stop Robert! Stop Donny and Sherry!  
Now get to your places get away from the hall  
Now get away! Get away! Get away all!  
As leaves that before the wild hurricane fly  
The pupils, pell mell, started scurrying by.

They ran to the blackboard and skipped down the aisle;  
Their faces were shining and each had a smile.  
First came a basket of popcorn to string  
-Then came the Christmas tree (menacing thing).  
As the tree was brought in there arose a great shout;  
The pupils were merrily romping about.  
The state they were in could lead to a riot;  
The teacher was sure, if allowed, they would try it.  
Her nerves how they jangled! Her temples were throbbing!  
The rush of her breath sounded almost like sobbing!  
The lines of her face were as fixed as a mask;  
It was plain that she didn't feel up to her task.  
The look in her eye would have tamed a wild steer,  
But the children ignored it; they did every year.  
A tear from her eye and a shake of her head  
Soon led me to think that she wished she were dead.  
She spoke not a word but went straight to her work,  
Strung all the popcorn which broke with a jerk.  
But at last it was finished and placed on the tree;  
Then came the bell and the children were free.  
Their shrill little voices soon faded away  
And peace was restored at the end of the day.  
As she looked at the Christmas tree glistening and tall,  
She smiled as she whispered, Merry Christmas to all!

Continued Next page



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Why does Santa have 3 gardens? So he can ho-ho-ho.

Why was Santa's little helper depressed? Because he had low elf esteem.

What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire? Frostbite.

What do you get when you cross an archer with a gift-wrapper? Ribbon hood.

The 3 stages of man: He believes in Santa Claus. He doesn't believe in Santa Claus. He is Santa Claus.

When you stop believing in Santa Claus is when you start getting clothes for Christmas.

It was Christmas and the judge was in a merry mood as he asked the prisoner, "What are you charged with?" "Doing my Christmas shopping early," replied the defendant. "That's no offense," said the judge. "How early were you doing this shopping?" "Before the store opened," countered the prisoner.

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T'was the night before Christmas and all through the house,  
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.

The stockings were hung by the chimney with care.

They'd been worn all week and needed the air.

## New Policy

Effective immediately, the following economizing measures are being implemented in the "Twelve Days of Christmas" subsidiary:

- 1) The partridge will be retained, but the pear tree, which never produced the cash crop forecasted, will be replaced by a plastic hanging plant, providing considerable savings in maintenance;
- 2) Two turtle doves represent a redundancy that is simply not cost effective. In addition, their romance during working hours could not be condoned. The positions are, therefore, eliminated;
- 3) The three French hens will remain intact. After all, everyone loves the French;
- 4) The four calling birds will be replaced by an automated voice mail system, with a call waiting option. An analysis is underway to determine who the birds have been calling, how often and how long they talked;
- 5) The five golden rings have been put on hold by the Board of Directors. Maintaining a portfolio based on one commodity could have negative implications for institutional investors. Diversification into other precious metals, as well as a mix of T-Bills and high technology stocks, appear to be in order;
- 6) The six geese-a-laying constitutes a luxury which can no longer be afforded. It has long been felt that the production rate of one egg per goose per day was an example of the general decline in productivity. Three geese will be let go, and an upgrading in the selection procedure by personnel will assure management that, from now on, every goose it gets will be a good one;
- 7) The seven swans-a-swimming is obviously a number chosen in better times. The function is primarily decorative. Mechanical swans are on order. The current swans will be retrained to learn some new strokes, thereby enhancing their outplacement;
- 8) As you know, the eight maids-a-milking concept has been under heavy scrutiny by the EEOC. A male/female balance in the workforce is being sought. The more militant maids consider this a dead-end job with no upward mobility. Automation of the process may permit the maids to try a-mending, a-mentoring or a-mulching;
- 9) Nine ladies dancing has always been an odd number. This function will be phased out as these individuals grow older and can no longer do the steps;
- 10) Ten Lords-a-leaping is overkill. The high cost of Lords, plus the expense of international air travel, prompted the Compensation Committee to suggest replacing this group with ten out-of-work congressmen. While leaping ability may be somewhat sacrificed, the savings are significant as we expect an oversupply of unemployed congressmen this year;

Continued Next page



11) Eleven pipers piping and twelve drummers drumming is a simple case of the band getting too big. A substitution with a string quartet, a cutback on new music, and no uniforms, will produce savings which will drop right to the bottom line; Overall we can expect a substantial reduction in assorted people, fowl, animals and related expenses. Though incomplete, studies indicate that stretching deliveries over twelve days is inefficient. If we can drop ship in one day, service levels will be improved. Regarding the lawsuit filed by the attorney's association seeking expansion to include the legal profession ("thirteen lawyers-a-suing"), a decision is pending. Deeper cuts may be necessary in the future to remain competitive. Should that happen, the Board will request management to scrutinize the Snow White Division to see if seven dwarfs is the right number.

This guy goes into his dentist's office, because something is wrong with his mouth. After a brief examination, the dentist exclaims, "Holy Smoke! That plate I installed in your mouth about six months ago has nearly completely corroded! What on earth have you been eating?" "Well... the only thing I can think of is this... my wife made me some asparagus about four months ago with this stuff on it... Hollandaise sauce she called it... and doctor, I'm talkin' DELICIOUS! I've never tasted anything like it, and ever since then I've been putting it on everything... meat, fish, toast, vegetables... you name it!" "That's probably it," replied the dentist "Hollandaise sauce is made with lemon juice, which is acidic and highly corrosive. It seems as though I'll have to install a new plate, but made out of chrome this time." "Why chrome?" the man asked. "Well, everyone knows that there's no plate like chrome for the Hollandaise!"

## Top 12 List Of Funny Christmas Quotes

- #1 I once bought my kids a set of batteries for Christmas with a note on it saying, toys not included.
- #2 Christmas is a time when you get homesick - even when you're home.
- #3 Oh, for the good old days when people would stop Christmas shopping when they ran out of money.
- #4 Anyone who believes that men are the equal of women has never seen a man trying to wrap a Christmas present.
- #5 There is a remarkable breakdown of taste and intelligence at Christmastime. Mature, responsible grown men wear neckties made of holly leaves and drink alcoholic beverages with raw egg yolks and cottage cheese in them.
- #6 Christmas is a race to see which gives out first - your money or your feet.
- #7 There's nothing sadder in this world than to awake Christmas morning and not be a child.
- #8 The Supreme Court has ruled that they cannot have a nativity scene in Washington, D.C. This wasn't for any religious reasons. They couldn't find three wise men and a virgin. – Jay Leno

Continued Next page



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# Christmas Humor

BY NIGHTWIRE

- #9 Christmas is the season when you buy this year's gifts with next year's money.
- #10 Did you ever notice that life seems to follow certain patterns? Like I noticed that every year around this time, I hear Christmas music.
- #11 Christmas begins about the first of December with an office party and ends when you finally realize what you spent, around April fifteenth of the next year.
- #12 Next to a circus there ain't nothing that packs up and tears out faster than the Christmas spirit.

## A Christmas Gift

A guy's wife was nagging him hard for a four-wheeler but still he bought her a beautiful extravagant diamond ring for Christmas. The husband's friend was amazed at his decision and asked him in secret, "Why couldn't you buy a car instead of the diamond ring?" The husband smiled and answered, "Fake cars are not easy to find."

## Hilarious Christmas Signs

- Toy Store: "Ho, ho, ho spoken here."
- Bridal boutique: "Marry Christmas."
- Outside a church: "The original Christmas Club."
- At a department store: "Big pre-Christmas sale. Come in and

mangle with the crowd."

- A Texas jewelry store: "Diamond tiaras -- \$70,000. Three for \$200,000."
- A reducing salon: "24 Shaping Days until Christmas." In a stationery store: "For the man who has everything... A calendar to remind him when payments are due."

## Santa Stats

- U.S. has 78 people registered under S. Claus and one under Kriss Kringle
- December is the most popular month for nose jobs.
- Number of reindeers required to pull a 333,333-ton sleigh: 214,206 plus Rudolph.
- Average wage of a mall Santa: \$11 an hour. With real beard: \$20.
- To deliver all his gifts in one night, Santa would have to make 822.6 visits per second (at 3,000 times the speed of sound). At that speed, Santa and his reindeers would instantaneously burst into flames in Earth's atmosphere just like meteors.

## At Grandma's

Two little boys went to their grandparents' place for Christmas. At bedtime, the youngest one began to pray at the top of his

Continued Next page



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lungs. "I PRAY FOR A NEW BICYCLE... I PRAY FOR A NEW BICYCLE... I PRAY FOR A NEW BICYCLE..." The older brother exclaimed, "Why are you shouting? Do you think God is deaf." The little one promptly replied, "Nope! But Grandma certainly is!"

## An Axe to Grind

A boy was constantly nagging his father to get him a Christmas tree. Each year, the father told him, "I don't want to pay for it." At last, son finally managed to exasperate his father and he went out with his axe. Thirty minutes later, he returned with a great big Christmas tree. The son was amazed that his father returned so soon and asked, "How did you cut it down so fast?" The father replied, "Oh! It's from the tree lot." "So why did you took the axe with you?", the son asked. "Because I didn't want to pay for it.", the father replied.

## Santa Claus is a woman!

Santa Claus is a woman because:

- The vast majorities of men don't even think about selecting gifts until Christmas Eve and only go for a last-minute shopping spree.
- For a he-Santa, there would be no reindeer because they would all be dead, gutted and strapped on to the rear bumper of the sleigh.
- Even if the male Santa did have reindeer, he would inevitably get lost up there in the snow and clouds and then refuse to stop and ask for directions.
- For a Santa man, there would be unavoidable delays in the chimney, where the Bob Vila-like Santa would stop to inspect and repaint bricks in the flue.
- He would also need to check for carbon monoxide fumes in every gas fireplace, and get under every Christmas tree that is crooked to straighten it to a perfectly upright 90-degree angle.
- Men can't pack a bag.
- Men would rather be dead than caught wearing red velvet.
- Men would feel their masculinity is threatened...having to be seen with all those elves.
- Men don't answer their mail.
- Men would refuse to allow their physique to be described even in jest as anything remotely resembling a "bowlful of jelly."
- Men aren't interested in stockings unless somebody's wearing them.
- Having to do the 'Ho Ho Ho' thing would seriously inhibit their ability to pick up women.
- Finally, being responsible for Christmas would require a commitment.

## Santa is certainly a Man!

Santa Claus is undoubtedly a man because:

- Santa doesn't deliver his presents on The Friday after

Thanksgiving when the malls are open for 20 hours.

- Christmas Eve deliveries prove Mr. Claus to be a man.
- Santa's reindeer is so drunk that his nose glows as his navigator.
- A woman would never let out those cute deer to work on Christmas Eve that too in cold and perhaps would dress them in sweaters and booties.
- Only a male Santa can ignore 'fashion' and wear the same suit for 500 years.
- Santa has never been known to answer a letter.
- Women aren't interested in stockings unless someone better looking than them is wearing them.
- As many presents as Santa delivers he has no trouble with babes.
- Only men have the ability to stay up for 24 hours straight in the cold with a bunch of mangy deer and going up and down soot-infested chimneys.
- A woman would never even think of going down a chimney and risk staining that red velvet.
- Commitment requires that Christmas be on the same day each year. A female Santa would delay Christmas until she can touch-up her makeup and do her hair after leaving each house.

Continued Next page



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## Top Ten Things To Say About A Christmas Gift

### You Don't Like

10. Hey! There's a gift!
9. Well, well, well...
8. Boy, if I had not recently shot up 4 sizes that would've fit.
7. This is perfect for wearing around the basement.
6. Gosh. I hope this never catches fire! It is fire season though.  
There are lots of unexplained fires.
5. If the dog buries it, I'll be furious!
4. I love it--but I fear the jealousy it will inspire.
3. Sadly, tomorrow I enter the Federal Witness Protection Program.
2. To think--I got this the year I vowed to give all my gifts to charity.
1. I really don't deserve this.

### Christmas Songs For Shrinks

Schizophrenia: Do You Hear What I Hear

Multiple Personality: We Three Queens Disoriented Are!

Narcissism: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing About Me!

Dementia: I Think I'll Be Home For Christmas

Paranoia: Santa Claus Is Coming To Town To Get Me

Mania: Deck The Halls and Walls and House and Lawn and Streets and Stores and Office and Town

Personality Disorder: You Better Watch Out, I'm Going to Cry, I'm Going to Pout, then maybe I'll tell you why!

Obsessive Compulsive: Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bell Swing, Jingle Bell Swing, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bell Swing, Jingle Bell Swing, Jingle Bell Swing Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bell Rock

Suicidal: Thoughts of Roasting On an Open Fire

Passive Aggressive: On the First Day of Christmas My True Love Gave to Me (then took away)

### Christmas Trivia Quiz

Answers on page 38

1. What American state was the first to make Christmas an official holiday?
  - a. Connecticut
  - b. Alabama
  - c. Alaska
  - d. North Carolina
2. What is the shape of the candy cane modeled after?
  - a. A fish hook
  - b. A constellation of stars
  - c. The cane St. Nicholas used

Continued Next page

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d. A Sheppard's crook

3. What was the name of the dog that belonged to the Grinch in Dr. Seuss' book "How the Grinch Stole Christmas"?

- a. Rudolph
- b. Toto
- c. Max
- d. Cerberus

4. Which star led the Three Kings to Jesus?

- a. Star of David
- b. North Star
- c. Star of Bethlehem
- d. Angel Star

5. What was the name of Scrooges' dead business partner in "A Christmas Carol"?

- a. Jacob Marley
- b. Bob Cratchit
- c. Tiny Tim
- d. Bill Sykes

6. Where did the real St. Nicholas live?

- a. In Holland
- b. At the North Pole
- c. In Turkey
- d. In Germany

7. What brought Frosty the Snowman to life?

- a. Pixie Dust
- b. An old silk hat
- c. A kiss
- d. A fresh snowfall

8. When you go Wassailing, what is it that you are doing?

- a. Giving out gifts to your friends & neighbors
- b. Going out in the woods to cut down your Christmas tree
- c. Challenging as many of your neighbors as you can to a snowball fight
- d. Going to visit neighbors and receiving goodies!

9. In the movie "It's A Wonderful Life" how do you know that an angel has received his wings?

- a. A light flashes
- b. It starts raining
- c. A trumpet sounds
- d. A bell rings

10. Who was the author of "A Christmas Carol"?

- a. Hans Christian Anderson
- b. Charles Dickens
- c. Thomas M. Sawyer
- d. Mark Twain

11. What was pictured on the first stamp printed for the

Christmas season?

- a. Santa Claus
- b. An Angel
- c. A Star
- d. A Rose

12. The poem commonly known as "The Night Before Christmas" was originally titled:

- a. The Night Before Christmas
- b. Santa Claus is Coming to Town
- c. A Visit From Saint Nicholas
- d. The Night Visitor

13. Electric Christmas tree lights were first used in what year?

- a. 1925
- b. 1700
- c. 1895
- d. 1750

14. At Christmas, it is customary to exchange kisses beneath a sprig of which plant?

- a. Holly
- b. Mistletoe
- c. Ivy
- d. Pine

15. Which of these events did NOT occur on Christmas Day?  
Continued Next page

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Continued Next page

- a. Hong Kong fell to the Japanese in WWII.
- b. Ebenezer Scrooge was visited by four ghosts.
- c. King Arthur pulled Excalibur from the stone.
- d. Charlemagne was crowned Holy Roman Emperor.

16. In Tchaikovsky's ballet The Nutcracker, the nutcracker's main enemy is:

- a. A girl named Clara.
- b. The King of Mice.
- c. Drosselmeyer the Magician.
- d. Dr. Almond

17. Good King Wenceslas was king of which country?

- a. Hungary
- b. Bohemia
- c. Poland
- d. Czechoslovakia

18. When was Christmas first celebrated?

- a. The year after Jesus was crucified
- b. Around 100 AD
- c. In the 4th Century
- d. 1935

19. Why was December 25th chosen as Christmas Day?

- a. That's when Jesus was born
- b. To compete with a pagan celebration
- c. That's when Christmas trees are in season
- d. That's when the Bible says to celebrate it

20. What country did poinsettias originally come from?

- a. The U.S.
- b. Cuba
- c. Mexico
- d. Brazil

21. How did Xmas originate as an abbreviation for Christmas?

- a. Atheists refused to accept "Christ" as part of the word
- b. The early popes were lazy so they tended to shorten everything
- c. The Greek word for Christ is Xristos
- d. From Latin terminology for any holy day

22. How many reindeer does Santa Claus have?

- a. Santa has eight reindeer.
- b. Santa has nine reindeer.
- c. Santa does not have reindeer. They are really caribou.
- d. Santa has a whole herd of reindeer-- we only know about his favorite ones.

23. What comes after '8 maids a-milking' in the song 'The 12 Days of Christmas'?

- a. 9 pipers piping
- b. 9 lords a-leaping
- c. 9 drummers drumming
- d. 9 ladies dancing

24. When are the '12 Days of Christmas'?

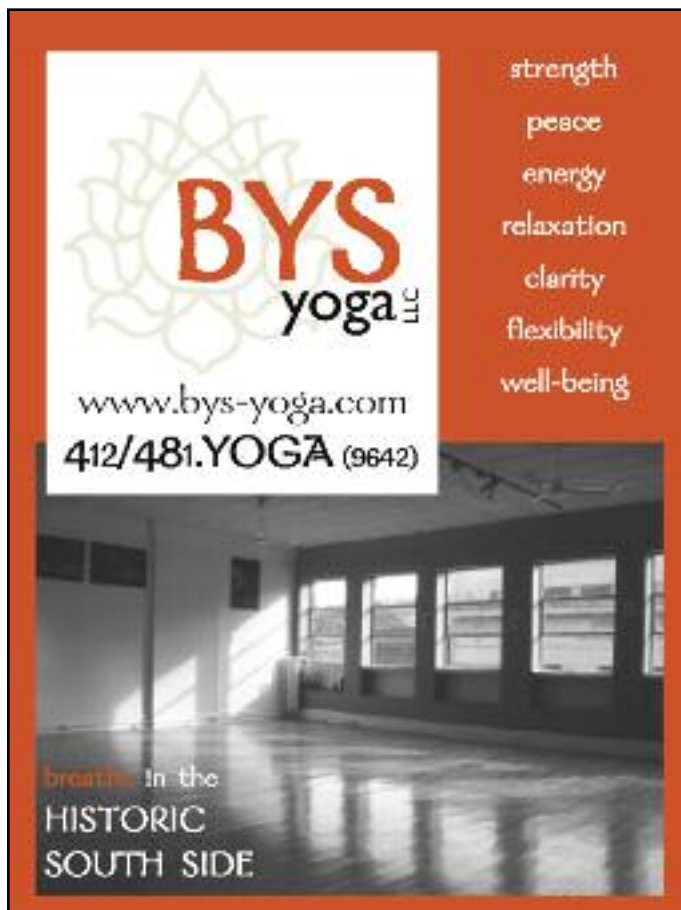
- a. The 12 days before Christmas: December 14 to December 25
- b. The 12 days after Christmas: December 26 to January 6
- c. The 12 days around Christmas: Christmas Eve to January 4
- d. The 12 days beginning with the winter solstice: December 21 to January 1

25. Which of the following holidays DOES NOT occur in December?

- a. Candlemas
- b. Kwanzaa
- c. Feast of St. Nicholas
- d. Boxing Day

26. Santa's only female sleigh-pulling reindeer, Vixen, has antlers. True or false?

- a. False. Only the male reindeer have antlers.
- b. True. Both male and female reindeer have antlers.
- c. True. But they are really no bigger than slight bumps on their heads.





d. False. Some females have been known to have antlers, but that is extremely rare.

27. How many sides does a snowflake have?

- a. 6
- b. 8
- c. 10
- d. 12

28. What is the most popular holiday plant decoration in the United States?

- a. Pine branches or evergreen boughs
- b. Mistletoe
- c. Holly
- d. Poinsettia

29. In the movie 'Miracle on 34th Street', Kris Kringle is hired to play Santa Claus in what large department store?

- a. Marshall Field's
- b. FAO Schwarz
- c. Macy's
- d. Gimble's

30. Speaking of 'Good King Wenceslas'... he looked out 'on the Feast of Stephen'. When is the 'Feast of Stephen'?

- a. December 6
- b. December 12
- c. December 26
- d. January 6

## Christmas Trivia Challenge

1. What relation was the Christ Child to John the Baptist?  
-- No closer than second cousin. Luke tells us John's mother Elizabeth was Mary's cousin.
2. Who was the Roman emperor when Christ was born?  
-- Caesar Augustus.
3. Which emperor is credited with standardizing Dec. 25 as Christmas Day? -- Constantine in 325 A.D.
4. Mary and Joseph journeyed from Nazareth to Bethlehem to be enrolled in the imperial census. How many miles is that?  
-- They journeyed 92.5 miles.
5. Where did the Grinch steal Christmas?  
-- In Whoville.
6. What family tradition did President Franklin Roosevelt insist on performing every Christmas Eve?  
-- Sitting beside the fire, he read aloud the Dickens classic "A Christmas Carol," exuberantly acting out all the parts.
7. In Truman Capote's "A Christmas Memory" what identical gift was bestowed on the bootlegger, the bus driver, the knife grinder, two Baptist missionaries in Borneo and the president of the United States? -- A Christmas fruit cake.
8. What was True Love's gift on the second day of Christmas?  
-- "Two turtle doves and a partridge in a pear tree."
9. What did Harry Potter get for Christmas in his first semester

Continued Next page



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# Christmas Humor

BY NIGHTWIRE

- at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry?  
-- An "invisibility cloak."
10. Did Norman Rockwell ever paint Grandma Moses?  
-- Yes. He depicted Grandma Moses among the friends and family greeting a boy returning from college in "Christmas Homecoming," a 1948 Saturday Evening Post cover.
  11. What historic event heightened holiday spirits in Berlin a decade ago? -- The fall of the Berlin wall.
  12. Which newspaper assured a reader: "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus?" -- The New York Sun. A famous editorial on Sept. 21, 1897, by Francis P. Church answered a letter by 8-year-old Virginia O'Hanlon. The paper ceased publication in 1950.
  13. Why do we kiss under the mistletoe?  
-- The ancient Norse associated mistletoe with their goddess of love.
  14. What is holly's symbolic meaning to Christians?  
-- To Christians, the berries are symbolic of Christ's blood, and the thorny leaves suggest the thorns in His crown.
  15. Who started the American tradition of poinsettia at Christmas? -- Dr Joel Poinsett, the first US ambassador to Mexico, brought the plant back in 1828. Mexicans had long revered poinsettia because it resembled the Star of Bethlehem.
  16. True or false: The New England Puritans forbade Christmas celebrations. -- True. The Puritans considered Christmas trees and decorations to be pagan, and outlawed them in Massachusetts until 1859.
  17. Thanksgiving has traditionally been the start of the Christmas season in the U.S. Which U.S. President moved Thanksgiving back a week to extend the holiday shopping season? -- Franklin Delano Roosevelt, in a move to help out Depression-strained retailers. Since 1859 Thanksgiving had been celebrated on Nov. 30, but in 1939 FDR declared the holiday to be the fourth Thursday in November (Nov. 23 of that year). Two years later, FDR signed a bill making the move permanent and official.
  18. True or false: The date of Christ's birth is noted in the Book of Matthew in the New Testament. -- False. The Bible never mentions a specific date for the Nativity.
  19. What contribution to the Santa legend did New York ad writer Robert May make in 1939?-- Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. May wrote the lyrics as copy for a Montgomery Ward department store giveaway. In 1947 it was set to music, and recorded by Gene Autrey.
  20. In what Broadway musical was the song "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" introduced?-- "Meet Me in St. Louis". Judy Garland sang the song in the film version.
  21. What auspicious television event occurred in December

Continued Next page



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- 1965?-- "Charlie Brown Christmas" debuted on CBS. One of the very first animated Christmas TV specials, the show has aired every Christmas since.
22. What auspicious television event occurred on December 24, 1968? -- After achieving the first manned lunar orbit, the crew of Apollo 8 celebrated Christmas Eve by reading from the first chapter of the Book of Genesis. The event was broadcast around the world.
23. What legendary actor narrated the TV special "How the Grinch Stole Christmas?-- Boris Karloff, star of "Frankenstein" and other horror classics.
24. What do the songs "Jingle Bells", "Winter Wonderland", and "Sleigh ride" have in common?-- None of these songs mentions Christmas.
25. Why is "O, Come All Ye Faithful" a Christmas carol but "Deck the Halls" not-- A true Christmas carol has to have a religious theme.
25. The state songs of Maryland and Michigan use the melody of what popular Christmas song?-- "O Tannenbaum"
26. What Christmas song was introduced in the 1942 movie "Holiday Inn" ... and was almost cut out of the final version? -- Bing Crosby's "White Christmas" -- one of the most popular songs of all time. The movie "White Christmas", starring Crosby and Danny Kaye, didn't debut until 1954. It was the first movie to be made in Vista Vision, a deep-focus process.
27. Who sang "I saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus?" -- Child singer Jimmy Boyd was 12 years and 11 months old when he sang the Christmas favorite, "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus." The song hit the top of the pop charts.
28. In which year was Queen Elizabeth's Christmas message to the nation first televised?-- Queen Elizabeth's Christmas message to the nation was televised for the first time on December 25, 1957.
29. Where is Christmas Island?-- Formally called Kiritimati, Christmas Island is in the Indian Ocean.
30. True or false: America has an "official" Christmas tree. -- True. America's official national Christmas tree is located in King's Canyon National Park in California. The tree, a giant sequoia called the "General Grant Tree," is over 300 feet high. It was made the official Christmas tree in 1925.
33. True or false: More diamonds are sold at Christmas time than at Valentine's Day. -- True. More diamonds are purchased at Christmas -time (31 percent) than during any other holiday or occasion during the year.
34. What was so unusual about the Christmas season of 1989 in Eastern Europe?-- On Christmas Day, 1989, Eastern Europe was permitted to celebrate Christmas freely and openly for the first time in decades. Church masses were broadcast live for the first time in history.
35. In what year did Toys for Tots start making the holidays a little happier for children?-- In 1947, Toys for Tots started making the holidays a little happier for children by organizing its first Christmas toy drive for needy
- youngsters.
36. When and where did the Salvation Army Christmas collection kettle originate?-- In an effort to solicit cash to pay for a charity Christmas dinner in 1891, a large crab pot was set down on a San Francisco street, becoming the first Salvation Army collection kettle.

## Wrapping Presents with Dogs

1. Gather presents, boxes, paper, etc. in middle of living room floor.
2. Get tape back from puppy.
3. Remove scissors from older dog's mouth.
4. Open box.
5. Take puppy out of box.
6. Remove tape from older dog's mouth.
7. Take scissors away from puppy.
8. Put present in box.
9. Remove present from puppy's mouth.
10. Put back in box after removing puppy from box.
11. Take scissors from older dog and sit on them.
12. Remove puppy from box and put on lid.
13. Take tape away from older dog.
14. Unroll paper.
15. Take puppy OFF box.
16. Cut paper being careful not to cut puppy's foot or nose that is getting in the way as he "helps."
17. Let puppy tear remaining paper.
18. Take puppy off box.

Continued Next page



19. Wrap paper around box.
20. Remove puppy from box & take wrapping paper from its mouth.
21. Tell older dog to fetch the tape so he will stop stealing it.
22. Take scissors away from puppy.
23. Take tape older dog is holding.
24. Quickly tape one spot before taking scissors from older dog & sitting on them again.
25. Fend off puppy trying to steal tape & tape another spot.
26. Take bow from older dog.
27. Go get roll of wrapping paper puppy ran off with.
28. Take scissors from older dog who took them when you got up.
29. Give pen to older dog to hold so he stops licking your face.
30. Remove puppy from present & hurriedly slap tape on to hold the paper on.
31. Take now soggy bow from puppy & tape on since the sticky stuff no longer sticks.
32. Take pen from older dog, address tag & affix while puppy tries to eat pen.
33. Grab present before puppy opens it & put it away.
34. Clean up mess puppy & older dog made playing tug-of-war with remnants of wrapping paper.
35. Put away rest of wrapping supplies & tell dogs what good helpers they are.

## Wrapping Presents with a Cat

1. Clear large space on table for wrapping present.
2. Go to closet and collect bag in which present is contained, and shut door.
3. Open door and remove cat from closet.
4. Go to cupboard and retrieve rolls of wrapping paper.
5. Go back and remove cat from cupboard.
6. Go to drawer, and collect transparent sticky tape, ribbons, scissors, labels, etc. . .
7. Lay out presents and wrapping materials on table, to enable wrapping strategy to be formed.
8. Go back to drawer to get string, remove cat that has been in the drawer since last visit and collect string.
9. Remove present from bag.
10. Remove cat from bag.
11. Open box to check present, remove cat from box, replace present.
12. Lay out paper to enable cutting to size.
13. Try and smooth out paper, realize cat is underneath and remove cat.
13. Cut the paper to size, keeping the cutting line straight.
14. Throw away first sheet as cat chased the scissors, and tore the paper.
15. Cut second sheet of paper to size - by putting cat in the bag the present came in.
16. Place present on paper.
17. Lift up edges of paper to seal in present. Wonder why edges don't reach. Realize cat is between present and paper. Remove cat.
18. Place object on paper, to hold in place while tearing transparent sticky tape.
19. Spend 20 minutes carefully trying to remove transparent sticky tape from cat with pair of nail scissors.
20. Seal paper with sticky tape, making corners as neat as possible.
21. Look for roll of ribbon. Chase cat down hall in order to retrieve ribbon.
22. Try to wrap present with ribbon in a two-directional turn.
23. Re-roll ribbon and remove paper, which is now torn due to cat's enthusiastic ribbon chase.
24. Repeat steps 13-20 until you reach last sheet of paper.
25. Decide to skip steps 13-17 in order to save time and reduce risk of losing last sheet of paper. Retrieve old cardboard box that is the right size for sheet of paper.
26. Put present in box, and tie down with string.
27. Remove string, open box and remove cat.
28. Put all packing materials in bag with present and head for locked room.
29. Once inside lockable room, lock door and start to relay out paper and materials.
30. Remove cat from box, unlock door, put cat outside door, close and relock.
31. Repeat previous step as often as is necessary (until you can hear cat from outside door)
32. Lay out last sheet of paper. (This will be difficult in the small area of the toilet, but do your best)
33. Discover cat has already torn paper. Unlock door go out

Continued Next page

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# Christmas Humor

BY NIGHTWIRE

- and hunt through various cupboards, looking for sheet of last year's paper. Remember that you haven't got any left because cat helped with this last year as well.
34. Return to lockable room, lock door, and sit on toilet and try to make torn sheet of paper look presentable.
  35. Seal box, wrap with paper and repair by very carefully sealing with sticky tape. Tie up with ribbon and decorate with bows to hide worst areas.
  36. Label. Sit back and admire your handiwork, congratulate yourself on completing a difficult job.
  37. Unlock door, and go to kitchen to make drink and feed cat.
  38. Spend 15 minutes looking for cat until coming to obvious conclusion.
  39. Unwrap present, untie box and remove cat.
  40. Go to store and buy a gift bag.

## Perks of being over 50

Perks of reaching 50 or being over 60 and heading towards 70!

1. Kidnappers are not very interested in you.
2. In a hostage situation you are likely to be released first.
3. No one expects you to run--anywhere.
4. People call at 9 PM and ask, "did I wake you?"
5. People no longer view you as a hypochondriac.
6. There is nothing left to learn the hard way.

7. Things you buy now won't wear out.
8. You can eat supper at 4 PM.
9. You can live without sex but not your glasses.
10. You get into heated arguments about pension plans.
11. You no longer think of speed limits as a challenge.
12. You quit trying to hold your stomach in no matter who walks into the room.
13. You sing along with elevator music.
14. Your eyes won't get much worse.
15. Your investment in health insurance is finally beginning to pay off.
16. Your joints are more accurate meteorologists than the national weather service.
17. Your secrets are safe with your friends because they can't remember them either.
18. Your supply of brain cells is finally down to manageable size.
19. You can't remember where you read this list.
20. And you notice these are all in Big Print for your convenience.

## Life is tough

Recently, when I went to McDonald's I saw on the menu that you could have an order of 6, 9 or 12 Chicken McNuggets. I asked for a half dozen nuggets. 'We don't have half dozen



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# Humor

BY NIGHTWIRE

nuggets,' said the teenager at the counter. 'You don't?' I replied. 'We only have six, nine, or twelve,' was the reply. 'So I can't order a half dozen nuggets, but I can order six?' 'That's right.' So I shook my head and ordered six McNuggets. (Unbelievable but sadly true...)

TWO- I was checking out at the local Wal-Mart with just a few items and the lady behind me put her things on the belt close to mine. I picked up one of those 'dividers' that they keep by the cash register and placed it between our things so they wouldn't get mixed. After the girl had scanned all of my items, she picked up the 'divider', looking it all over for the bar code so she could scan it. Not finding the bar code, she said to me, 'Do you know how much this is?' I said to her 'I've changed my mind; I don't think I'll buy that today.' She said 'OK,' and I paid her for the things and left. She had no clue to what had just happened.

THREE- A woman at work was seen putting a credit card into her floppy drive and pulling it out very quickly. When I inquired as to what she was doing, she said she was shopping on the Internet and they kept asking for a credit card number, so she was using the ATM 'thingy.'

FOUR- I recently saw a distraught young lady weeping beside her car. 'Do you need some help?' I asked. She replied, 'I knew I should have replaced the battery to this remote door unlock. Now I can't get into my car. Do you think they (pointing to a distant convenience store) would have a battery to fit this?' 'Hmmm, I don't know. Do you have an alarm, too?' I asked. 'No, just this remote thingy,' she answered, handing it and the car keys to me. As I took the key and manually unlocked the door, I replied, 'Why don't you drive over there and check about the batteries. It's a long walk....' PLEASE just lay down before you hurt yourself !!!

FIVE- Several years ago, we had an Intern who was none too swift. One day she was typing and turned to a secretary and said, 'I'm almost out of typing paper. What do I do?' 'Just use paper from the photocopier', the secretary told her. With that, the intern took her last remaining blank piece of paper, put it on the photocopier and proceeded to make five 'blank' copies. Brunette, by the way!!

SIX- A mother calls 911 very worried asking the dispatcher if she needs to take her kid to the emergency room, the kid had eaten ants. The dispatcher tells her to give the kid some Benadryl and he should be fine, the mother says, 'I just gave him some ant killer.....' Dispatcher: 'Rush him in to emergency!' Life is tough. It's even tougher if you're stupid!!!!

## Difference Between Grandpa & Grandma

This is funny even if you are not a grandparent. Have you ever wondered what the difference is between grandmothers and grandfathers? Well here is one way. Every Sunday morning my friend would take his 7-year old granddaughter out for a drive for some bonding time. One particular Sunday however, he had a bad cold and really didn't feel like being up at all.

Luckily, his wife came to the rescue and said that she would take their granddaughter out. When they returned, the little girl anxiously ran to see her grandfather. 'Well, did you enjoy your ride with grandma?' "Oh Yes, grandpa", the girl replied 'and do you know what? We didn't see a single idiot, dumb bunny, dip stick, stupid moron or horse's behind anywhere we went today!" Almost brings a tear to your eye, doesn't it?

## World's Shortest Book:

THINGS I CANNOT AFFORD

by Bill Gates

## ANSWERS To Christmas Trivia

### Quiz from page 30.

1 - b	11 - d	21 - c
2 - d	12 - c	22 - d
3 - c	13 - c	23 - d
4 - c	14 - b	24 - b
5 - a	15 - b	25 - a
6 - c	16 - b	26 - b
7 - b	17 - b	27 - a
8 - d	18 - c	28 - d
9 - d	19 - b	29 - c
10 - b	20 - c	30 - c

## From The Secret Daily Teachings

Every day, or at the very least once or twice a week, take a few minutes and focus on seeing yourself in joy. Feel yourself in joy. Imagine only joy ahead in your life and see yourself basking in it. As you do this the Universe will move all people, circumstances, and events to bring you that joy. You can't be in joy if you have money worries, or health worries, or relationship problems with friends or family. So deposit some joy in the bank of the Universe as often as you can. There isn't an investment that is more worthwhile. May the joy be with you, Rhonda Byrne The Secret and The Power... bringing joy to billions

## Pink Clouds

Mary, Anna, and Tess died and went to heaven. God said, "Do whatever you want, but don't step on the pink clouds." One day, Mary decided to go for a walk. When she came back, there was an ugly boy next to her. Anna and Tess asked, "Where'd you get that ugly boy?" "I stepped on a pink cloud." The next day, Anna decided to go for a walk. When she came back, there was an ugly boy next to her. Mary and Tess asked, "Where'd you get that ugly boy?" "I stepped on a pink cloud." The next day Tess decided to go for a walk. When she came back, there was a cute boy standing next to her. Mary and Anna asked, "Where'd you get that cute boy?" The boy said, "I stepped on a pink cloud."



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Includes Four Hours of Unlimited Play for All Guests

**\$19.99**

Chicken, Stuffed Shells, Tossed Salad and Fruit Salad or Rigatoni and Meatballs, Tossed Salad and Fruit Salad or Roast Beef or Ham, Scalloped Potatoes, Tossed Salad and Fruit Salad  
Snacks & Cookies, Soft Drinks, Coffee & Tea, BYOB

Includes Four Hours of Unlimited Play for All Guests

**\$19.99**

Mini Sandwiches, ham roast beef or turkey with American or Swiss cheese  
Choice of Meatball Medley or Chicken Tenders  
Nachos & Cheese or Vegetable or Fruit Tray  
Soft Drink, Coffee & Tea, BYOB

Three Hours of Unlimited Play for All Guests

**\$16.99**

Choice of Meatball or Sausage Sandwiches  
Choice of Two: Pizza, Nachos & Cheese, Pasta Salad or Fruit Salad  
Soft Drink, Coffee & Tea, BYOB

Three Hours of Unlimited Play for All Guests

**\$16.99**

- A \$100.00 non-refundable deposit is required to hold your date & time
- Final count and full payment is required one week prior to party
- All food and beverages are subject to sales tax and 18% gratuity

**We Offer Military Discounts! Show Us Your ID!!!!**



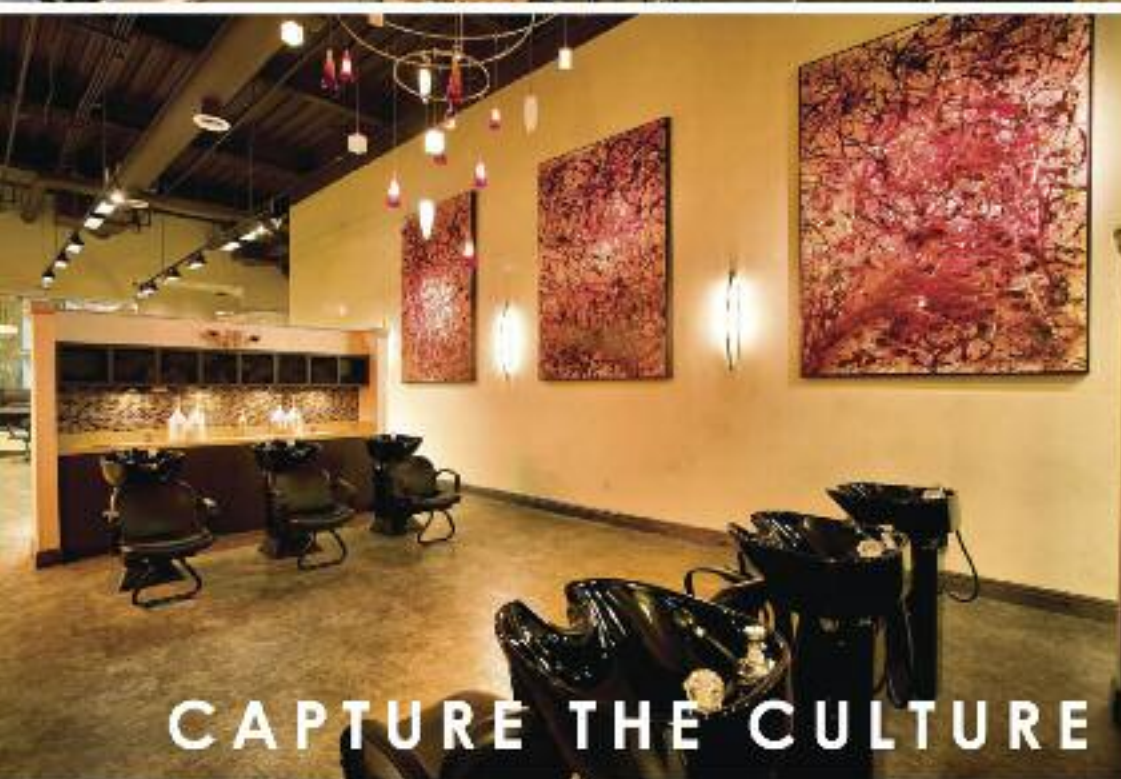


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-PITTSBURGH TRIBUNE REVIEW

"...A GORGEOUS STYLING AND RELAXATION PLACE..."

-PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE



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-NANCY BRAUN, NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED BALAYAGE EXPERT

"...IT IS SEXY AND CHIC, AND I HAVE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT..."

-MICHAELA MURRAY, NEW YORK COLORIST

"OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE IS INSPIRED BY THE TALENT OF OUR PEOPLE. THEIR QUEST TO HEIGHTEN THE EXPERIENCE OF EACH AND EVERY GUEST IS OUR FOCUS."

-JOHN VELLA, IZZAZU ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



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