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Chef Robert Clifton serves guests at Safari West.

Press Democrat

By MICHELE ANNA JORDAN

Published: Thursday, December 15, 2011 at 3:00 a.m.

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Pegasus Theater asks "Is there really a Santa Claus? ": This weekend only, Pegasus Theater Company transforms into a time machine, taking its audience back to 1948 and the glory days of radio theater with a performance of "Miracle on 34th Street, " a send-up of Lux Radio Hour's presentation.

There will be live sound effects, popular music from the 1930s and 1940s and many surprises, including an appearance by the real you-know-who.

The "live broadcast " takes place at Rio Nido Lodge, located on Canyon Two Road in Rio Nido.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday performances take place at 8 p.m. Sunday's performance is at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for the general public and \$5 for children 12 and under. Thursday is pay-what-you-can night.

For reservations, visit pegasus

theater.com or call 583-2343. You cannot pay by credit card; the theater accepts cash or check only.

Carriage Rides: **DeLoach Vineyards** (1791 Olivet Road, Santa Rosa) is offering horse-drawn carriage rides through the vineyards on Saturday, December 17, between 1 and 4 p.m.

Rides are complimentary with **wine**-tasting and free for children. If you'd like to enjoy the ride without tasting **wine**, the charge is \$2.

The **winery**, in association with Organic Gardening Magazine, is currently accepting applications for their community garden competition. In 2012, 15 gardens will be nominated and five winners will be announced in the fall of 2012.

The application deadline is December 31. To download the application, visit deloachcommunitygardens.com.

Champagne, Oysters & Caviar: On Saturday from 3 to 5 p.m., Vine and Barrel (113 Petaluma Blvd. N., Petaluma) teams up with Hog Island Oyster Company for a Champagne and oyster pairing. In addition to oysters, there will be caviar, cheeses, fondue and patA(c), accompanied by a selection of sparkling **wines** from France, Spain, Italy and California.

Cost is \$40 per person. For tickets, call 765-1112 or email jason@vineandbarrel.com.

Evelyn Cheatham's Holiday Meal: For the 22nd year, chef Evelyn Cheatham, executive director of Worth Our Weight Culinary Apprenticeship Program, and a group of friends are preparing a bountiful Christmas feast for anyone who needs it. In the past several years, they've fed more than 500 meals to people both in individual homes and in such locations as the Valley of the Moon Children's Center, Women's Recovery Center, Sam Jones Center and Children's Village.

Over the years, many people have wondered how they can help and now there's a direct way. Next Wednesday, December 21, between 8 a.m. and 5p.m., you can drop off donations of food at Worth Our Weight (1021 Hahman Drive, Santa Rosa). Items needed include 12- to 14-pound turkeys, whole hams, whole chickens, chicken link sausage, sliced almonds, whole milk, heavy cream and real maple syrup.

If you know someone who needs Christmas dinner for any reason, chef Cheatham and her assistants will be accepting names, addresses and contact numbers beginning next Wednesday. You can either call 545-1400 or email worthourweight@sonic.net. Please don't call or email before next Wednesday, as they will not be set up to take the information.

To make a holiday donation to Worth Our Weight, visit worthourweight.org.

Lighting of the Blue Spruce: On Sunday evening, Friends House (684 Benicia Drive, Santa Rosa), hosts a tree-lighting on the green. It has been several years since the beautiful Blue Spruce has been illuminated. The lighting takes place at 7 p.m., but you should be sure to arrive earlier so that you don't miss the moment.

Following the lighting, everyone is invited to join in caroling through the Friends House and into its skilled-nursing facility. Lyric sheets will be provided and there will be hot cider and cookies, too. Be sure to dress warmly.

There is no charge to join in, but organizers ask that you bring non-perishable canned or packaged foods for the Redwood Empire Food Bank.

For more information about Friends House, a nonprofit continuing care retirement community, visit friendshouse.org.

Charlie Brown's Christmas Tree Grove: The Windsor Town Green has dozens of decorated Christmas trees, each one individually conceived, decorated and sponsored. Themes range from classic and traditional to whimsical, silly and sweet. The trees will be on display through Jan. 6 and each night at 5:30 and again at 7:30 p.m., it snows in the grove. Honest.

Craft Fair Watch: This weekend, Nichibei Studios hosts its 26th Annual Holiday Open House at 1991 Burnside Road, Sebastopol. The sale takes place on both Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This pottery " which includes cups, teapots, vases, jars, bowls, animals and more " is elegant and beautiful. If you'd like to see it at your leisure before heading to the sale, visit nichibeipotters.com.

Also this weekend, Monte Rio hosts its Fourth Annual Holiday Wonderland Craft Faire. A highlight of this year's fair is John DeSalvio's book, "God Told Me To Draw These," a collection of his infamous cartoons and writings. DeSalvio lived in the Guerneville area for many years and worked at several community newspapers before finding true love and moving to Southern California. The former Benedictine monk is still a legendary presence in these parts and his book is a wonderful gift for any longtime resident.

There will be many local artists and artisans participating in the sale and there will be yummy things to eat, as well.

The sale takes place at the Monte Rio Community Center (20488 Highway 116) on Friday from 11 a.m. to 7p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4p.m.

Wine for Wild Life: The Safari West Wildlife Foundation is hosting a special dinner this Friday evening.

Things begin at 5 p.m. with a walking tour to see the primates, giraffes and several other animals. At 6 p.m. there's a *wine* reception, with music by Brandon Hassur of Healdsburg's Crazy Famous Band. An African-style barbecue prepared by chef Robert Clifton will be served at 7 p.m. Following dinner, Brandon will lead a holiday sing-a-long.

Nancy and Peter Lang, owners of Safari West, and members of the foundation board will be your hosts.

The evening is a benefit for the foundation and an opportunity for the community to learn more about it. If you might be interested in becoming a board member, this is a great chance to discuss it with board members.

Cost is \$50 and a bottle of *wine* (to share) per person.

For reservations, call Amber Barretto at 566-3604 or email abarretto@safariwest.com.

Safari West is located at 3115 Porter Creek Road, Santa Rosa.

Sunday Supper at K & L Bistro: The final Sunday Supper of December at Sebastopol's K & L Bistro (119 South Main St.) takes place this Sunday from 4 to 8:30 p.m. The menu includes a salad of celery, Nicoise olives, house-cured anchovies, Parmigiano-Reggiano and extra virgin olive oil and bouillabaisse with grilled bread and rouille. County Line Rose and Country Line Pinot Noir are the featured *wines*.

Dinner is \$27.50 per person. *Wine* is \$10 a glass and \$40 a bottle. For reservations, visit klbistro.com and click through to OpenTable or call 823-6614.

Michele Anna Jordan hosts "Mouthful " each Sunday at 7 p.m. on KRCB 90.9 & 91.1 FM. E-mail Jordan at michele@micheleannajordan.com. You'll find her blog, "Eat This Now, " at pantry.blogs.pressdemocrat.com/

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Highlights: DeLoach Vineyards, wine, winery, wines, Wine