

Guests, including vintner Marilisa Allegrini, center, toast as they begin a five-course wine dinner Friday in the home of Naples Winter Wine Festival trustees Valerie Boyd and Jeff Gargiulo.

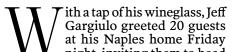
MEAL FIT FOR A QUEE

## ■ 'Alice in Wineland' one of 17 themed dinners kicking off fundraiser



Wine Festival showcases its real stars during "Meet the Kids Day." **3A** 

**By Jessica Lipscomb** jessica.lipscomb@naplesnews.com; 239-263-4829



testing plans **By Eric Staats** emstaats@naplesnews.com; 239-263-4780

of seismic

new review

In a move that could delay or even kill an oil company's plans for seismic testing in the

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night, inviting them to head outside for an al fresco dinner, although the weather dictated heat lamps.

"Welcome to Alice in Wineland," Gargiulo said. "Please find your way down the rabbit hole."

Gargiulo and his wife, Valerie Boyd, were the hosts of one of 17 themed vintner dinners Friday kicking off this year's Naples Winter Wine Festival. As guests entered the Aqualane Shores home on a candlelit walkway, they were greeted by two women holding oversized red roses and dressed as playing cards — the ace of spades and ace of

See FESTIVAL, 11A



Naples resident Betsy Markel mingles Friday with other guests at a Naples Winter Wine Festival vintner dinner in the Aqualane Shores home of Valerie Boyd and Jeff Gargiulo.

Big Cypress National Preserve, a skeptical U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson called Friday for the Interior Department to take a more indepth look at the idea.



Nelson, D-Flori- Nelson da, put the request

in a letter sent Friday to Interior Secretary Sally Jewell, whose agency already has determined the plans by Texas-based Burnett Oil Co. to look for oil across

#### See TESTING, 4A

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# Woman gets 9 years in neighbor's shooting

#### **By Kristine Gill**

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The wife of the triggerman in a deadly 2014 dispute between neighbors took a plea deal in a Collier County court Friday for her role in the crime.

Deborah Moulton, 61, pleaded no contest to a lesser charge of manslaughter with

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Read archive coverage of Deborah Moulton's case.

a firearm. She was adjudicated guilty and sentenced to nine years in prison followed by 15 years probation.

Moulton hugged her sister Darla Delsasso before bailiffs took her back to jail

Fridav afternoon.

"My sister didn't commit this crime, and she's mentally ill," Delsasso said, tearing up after the sentencing.

Moulton and her husband, Robert Moulton, were arrested in May 2014 after a 10-year feud with their neighbors ended in the shooting death

See MOULTON, 4A



Deborah Moulton is led into a plea hearing at the Collier County Courthouse on Friday. DOROTHY EDWARDS/STAFF



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# Naples Winter, Wine Festival

**6** I think it's when you get that moment with your fellow trustees, vintners and musicians when you realize why you're really here. ... From the beginning, the whole idea was to really make a profound difference in children's lives."

Jeff Gargiulo, Naples Winter Wine Festival trustee and vintner dinner co-host



Jeff Gargiulo, a Naples Winter Wine Festival trustee, welcomes his guests to a vintner dinner in his Aqualane Shores home on Friday.



Chef Nash Cognetti prepares a first course of snapper, fresh yuzu, quinoa, sesame seeds and smoked sea salt Friday at a Naples Winter Wine Festival vintner dinner.

### **FESTIVAL** from **1A**

hearts, one on each side of the doorway. 'We're really trying to get everyone into the theme and excited about tomorrow," explained Trent Ryan,

of Margaret Events. The vintner dinners are always held Friday night

Nuno made fresh mozzarella cheese, melting down the curds with a hot solution of water and salt.

"Nowhere else in the country, in the greater United States, can you eat mozzarella 20 seconds after it's made," Cognetti boasted. "It's made to order."

Cognetti's menu included a first course of fresh Florida snapper over quinoa, a second course of handmade ricotta and winter greens agnolotti, as well as a fresh tomato fonduta with pecorino and



ahead of Saturday's wine festival, which has raised more than \$135 million for children's charities in Collier County since it was started in 2001. The cost for one couple to attend the festival this year was \$10,000.

Ryan said the event planning company had spent several months making their vision come to life, from the whimsical black-and-white striped tent above the dinner tables to the Cheshire cat perched atop a tree overlooking the pool.

"It's more of a playful, relaxed environment that takes off what Jeff and Valerie's personalities are like," Ryan said.

In charge of the food at the Gargiulos' home was chef Nash Cognetti of Tra Vigne restaurant in St. Helena, California, who arrived with his two sous chefs Wednesday. The team did most of the prep work Thursday and arrived at the Gargiulos' home Friday about 2 p.m. to prepare for dinner.

Everything was sourced here, except the black truffle," Cognetti said. "It's important for California cuisine and Italian cuisine that you're using what grows here."

In the courtyard before dinner, sous chef Maria

garlic breadcrumbs, and a third course of grilled quail with white bean and black truffle puree and wild mushroom jus.

For the main course, he prepared a grilled Kobe beef filet mignon with baby vegetables and Gorgonzola butter, finishing with chocolate petit fours for dinner.

Over the years, Jeff Gargiulo said the couple has held 16 dinners as hosts, trustees and vintners. He and his wife are the founders of Gargiulo Vineyards, an immense wine estate in Oakville, in the Napa Valley region of California. Jean-Emmanuel Danjoy, of Château Clerc Milon in Bordeaux, France, also was a featured vintner at the home Friday.

Gargiulo said his favorite part of wine fest weekend comes when he finds himself reflecting on the event's larger purpose.

"I think it's when you get that moment with your fellow trustees, vintners and musicians when you realize why you're really here," he said. "It always comes, and it's almost tearful. ... From the beginning, the whole idea was to really make a profound difference in children's lives."



Guests are greeted by two women dressed as playing cards Friday at an "Alice in Wineland"themed Naples vintner dinner at the home of Valerie Boyd and Jeff Gargiulo.