

# In the City

## Leisure

Lauren Failla set out to promote women playing poker, and the idea took off. "It exploded in my face...in a good way," says the founder of the fledgling High Heels Poker Tour. "Women poker players started coming out of the woodwork." For the past several months the Hollywood resident has been organizing tournaments, garnering sponsors, designing a logo and website and recruiting players, all while keeping up with her day job and a 7-year-old son. Luckily her poker-loving husband, Joey, is in on the action. Since first play-



ing the game in college, she has been struck by the dearth of

female faces at final tables, especially on the East Coast. She hopes to encourage women to play by offering clinics and more tournaments with bigger cash prizes. Her ultimate goal is to have the High Heels Poker Tour televised weekly. And we don't think she's bluffing.

**High Heels Poker Tour**, 954-989-0474, 866-58-HEELS, highheelspokertour.com.

— Elizabeth Rahe



## Profile

It was a light-bulb moment, former CBS-4 personality Danielle Knox says, when she and her sister decided to found a skin-care line. "We both have dry, easily irritated skin, and we would be in our kitchens, whipping up stuff for each other." Inspired by an *Oprah* show on entrepreneurs, the sisters set out to market their natural-ingredient creations under the moniker Play Pretty Beauty. The name honors their grandmother, who would tell the young girls to "play pretty" when they were getting too dirty or rambunctious outside. They have marketed their body butters, cleansers and candles via the web, in area spas, and recently in several GBS stores. "It's more work than I have ever done," says Knox, on maternity leave with her third son, "but it gives me the same kind of excitement I get on a big news story."

**Play Pretty Beauty**, 305-527-6004, playprettybeauty.com.

— Elizabeth Rahe

## Shopping

Thanksgiving is near, and the prime shopping season has officially arrived. Ease into the madness with holiday events throughout the city:

Sleigh bells have been ringing at **Boca's Town Center Mall** (towncenterbocaraton.com) since Santa's arrival with a holiday parade and tree lighting ceremony on Nov. 16. Ongoing visits, photo opportunities, a breakfast and story time continue throughout the season. ... **The Galleria** in Fort Lauderdale kicks off the holiday season with a nine-day Festival of Trees featuring trees, wreaths and gingerbread houses designed and donated by local businesses. Santa will stick around for photos through Dec. 24...**The Reserve Shopping Center** (reserveshopping.com) celebrates the season with Santa's arrival on Dec. 1 and daily menorah lightings from Dec. 4-11. ... **Aventura Mall** (aventuramall.com) and Santa continue the fun throughout December with photo opps, a charity Angel Tree, a kid-friendly holiday train and more. ... **Weston Town Center** (WestonTownCenter.net) kicks off the season with a Nov. 28th Christmas tree lighting, Santa arrival and holiday celebration. Film, wine, food and music festivities continue throughout the season.

— Valerie Nahmad



Festival of Trees at The Galleria.