

ENTERTAINMENT

Park West Gallery founder's lifelong mission takes him on 42-year journey

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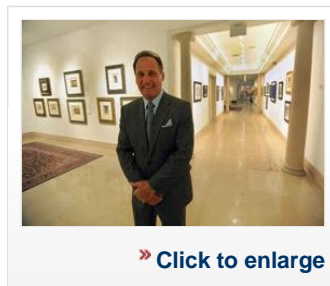
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By **MALISSA MARTIN**
Special to Journal Register Newspapers

Art is inspired by everyday experiences and returns to the people through words painted with a brush.

Park West Gallery in Southfield is celebrating its 42nd anniversary and has been named "The Official Best Art Gallery in Michigan 2011" by the "Official Best Of" travel TV program.

Park West is a family-operated business. Founder and CEO Albert Scaglione is very hands-on and manages the gallery with his wife, Mitsie, and four children, Nicky, Marc, John and Lisa. He attributes the longevity and success of the gallery to hard work and dedication.



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Park West Gallery has 23 exhibition galleries and houses art from distinguished artists such as Rembrandt van Rijn, Pablo Picasso, Marc Chagall and Anatole Krasnyansky, who designed the outside of Park West Gallery. It also houses art from Michigan artists Dominic Pangborn, Tim Yanke and Marcus Glenn.

Park West Gallery's Greco-Roman architectural design gracefully leads visitors through its hallways, revealing breathtaking art, including jewelry at every turn. The open exhibit space allows visitors to become lost in another world, intensifying the pleasures of art with simplicity of setting.

The 63,000-square-foot building has more than 500 pieces of art with values ranging from \$100 to more than \$500,000. The art at Park West Gallery is playful, electric, colorful, bold and powerful.

Scaglione developed his love for art when he was 16 and spent the summer working at his cousin's art gallery as an assistant. Although it was a life-changing experience, Scaglione pursued a different career. Upon graduating with his Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Michigan State University, Scaglione worked for NASA on the Mars space program. When the project was canceled, Scaglione decided to embrace his first love and opened a small art gallery in the Detroit area in 1969. Through hard work, planning and help from friends, Scaglione later opened Park West Gallery's doors in 1980.

Park West has two locations — one in Southfield that serves as headquarters, and another in Miami. Park West employs almost 200 people, has served 1.3 million customers in 70 countries and sold more than 5 million pieces of art to cruise ships, luxury hotels and resorts around the world.

"To have the opportunity to serve and work is something I look forward to," Scaglione said.

The Southfield gallery has just mounted a new exhibit of work by Israeli artist Itzchak Tarkay. He is a painter, watercolorist and master graphic artist, inspired by French impressionism and post-impressionism, particularly the color sophistication of Matisse and the drawing style of Toulouse-

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Cindy Haskin-Popp will help you make physical activity a part of everyday life. The health benefits of regular exercise and overall daily physical activity will be discussed.



The Dog Blog

Karen will share a variety of information, including training tips, behavior, breed and health information, as well as heart-warming and comedic stories about her own dog and others.



Cat Chat

Caren Gittleman likes talking cats. She'll discuss everything about them, from acquiring a cat, differences in breeds, behaviors, health concerns, inside versus outside lifestyles, toys, food, accessories, and sharing cat stories. Share your stories and ask her questions about your favorite feline.



Outdoor Notes

Roger Beukema shares news from Lansing that impacts sportsmen (this means ladies as well) and talks about things he finds when he goes overseas to visit my children, and adding your comments into the mix.



Earth's Almanac



Lautrec. He has done art exhibits in Israeli and abroad for more than 20 years.

FYI

Park West Gallery, at 29469 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield, is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday. Call 248-354-2343 or visit www.parkwestgallery.com. For information on artist Itzchak Tarkay, visit www.parkwest-tarkay.com/bio.asp.

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