

Chef PROFILE

Chef to celebrities will treat shelter residents on Christmas Day

By D. K. Christi
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Personal chef David Hill is teaming up with Mr. and Mrs. Claus on Christmas Day.

Hill's plans are not typical for him at this, his busiest time of year, when he usually provides fine dining experiences for his A-list clientele. This year's A-list includes a new entry: the Naples Shelter for Abused Women and Children.

"When David approached me with the offer to provide an elegant Christmas Day lunch for our residents, I was surprised," said Lise Descoteaux, residential manager. "We have many supporters this time of year but it's highly unusual on the actual day. Christmas Day is

a very emotional time for our residents, for whom holidays often have many traumatic memories." The buffet lunch will be personally prepared and served by Hill for approximately 75 guests with Mr. and Mrs. Claus in attendance.

Hill prepares meals in private homes and for private functions where his attention to every last detail is well known. He takes ownership of

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Contributed

every step in the preparation of his cuisine from planning to serving so every guest feels special.

Residents at the Naples Shelter for Abused Women and Children will enjoy the gift of Christmas lunch served with his trademark elegance. Most holidays he is booked well in advance and he's scurrying to meet the demand. "This Christmas will be a different tempo, a time for sharing," he said.

Hill's clients say they often prefer to entertain in the comfort and privacy of their own homes, he explained. "I have

been collecting diverse recipes and ideas all my life for just such occasions." His culinary education in Michigan has been enhanced by his experiences as an executive chef and with the cuisine of many cultures. He consults with his clients to plan themed weeks or offers the variety that comes with a different country each evening. He says choices are infinite.

"Dining with me is a fully integrated experience," said Hill. "I tell the guests all the secrets from procuring the fresh and local ingredients to cooking and finishing with a special dessert."

Private chef services are not inexpensive. His client list includes sports celebrities, movie directors, the super wealthy and locals who bid on his services at charity auctions, his usual venue for giving back to the community.

Hill services most of Southwest Florida, as well as Miami and Tampa.

"I want this Christmas Day luncheon to provide the shelter residents with a gourmet experience similar to private events," said Hill. One of the residents said of the upcoming dinner, "It makes me feel worthy." For more information visit chefdavidhill.com.



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