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Working to Leave a Legacy

Written by Elizabeth TenHouten



As spring approaches, I am reminded that the wheels of time are turning fast, and of how important it is to look beyond the day to day and reflect on the purpose of life and how it can be meaningful.

In general, most people aim to be happy in life, but is there not a purpose beyond that? I think that Leo Rosten, the 20th-century writer, put it well when he said, "The purpose of life is not to be happy—but to matter, to be productive, to be useful, to have it make some difference that you have lived at all."

I believe that this is the same statement Bill Gates and Warren Buffett have intended with their Giving Pledge initiative. The initiative demonstrates the magnitude of what can be accomplished by a collective of individuals who have stepped up to publicly lead the way in creating a legacy not just for themselves, but for all Americans and global citizens. Read more about the men and women who are changing the face of American philanthropy.

Today, people like E! Style's Jeannie Mai are creating legacies of their own, by empowering others with education and resources. Read about Mai's dedication to helping women in America and abroad, and how she is making her mark through her work with a number of organizations. Another strong woman in the spotlight is Marlee Matlin. Matlin's success and enthusiasm trumpet a resounding message to the deaf children she comes to mentor: that anything is possible, in spite of individual challenges.

Our cover girl, Melania Trump—the epitome of elegance and the jet-set life—considers helping others to be an integral part of her life. Her greatest reward comes from working to improve the lives of children from impoverished backgrounds so that they can grow to realize their full potential.

Speaking of the jet-set life, if you happen to travel anywhere in the vicinity of Norway this winter, a stopover at the Siluetti Spa in the heart of Helsinki is a must. One of its specialties—Lymphatic Massage Therapy—not only helps the body rid itself of toxins, but also is beneficial in alleviating migraines, stress and skin issues. We all need that!

And when it comes to adventure, liven things up this season and give heli-skiing a shot instead of traditional skiing. This risky sport may not be for everyone, but for those who dare, nothing compares to the stunning views from mountaintops, the untracked powdered snow and the exhilaration of the whole experience.

We have packed this issue with tons of things that we know you love—great fashion, jewelry and accessories; a feature on getting intimate apparel that actually fits ; expanded coverage of the bustling Las Vegas strip; and much more. I hope that you enjoy every page of this issue!

—Elizabeth TenHouten

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