

Serving with a Smile

Fall is in the air, and festive times are upon us. What better time than now to update your party presentation? These serving trays and platters are sure to complement any get-together—not to mention the extra sparkle they'll add to whatever is served upon them. —by Julie Clay

Island Style >

It could be the incredible, spicy fragrances emanating from the **Cheese Nook** that draw us in, or quite possibly it's their fine selection of accoutrements. An aisle full of stylish trays and platters offers a colorful assortment of t-shirt shaped trays in various designs. These small trays measure roughly 10 inches tall by eight inches wide and are decorated with underwater scenes of brightly colored fish, tribal motifs of totem poles, or a Hawaiian shirt design complete with collar and buttons. Sets of various-sized trays made in Italy and imported by Keller Charles of Philadelphia are durable and dishwasher-safe. The wide selection of designs features palm trees, lighthouses, and seashore scenes among others. A large wooden platter created by Crossroads of San Francisco—great for carrying snacks out to the lanai—features raised sides and handles wrapped in strips of wood tied together by rope. *The Cheese Nook, 2075 Periwinkle Way #20, Sanibel Island, FL 33957, 239-472-2666.*



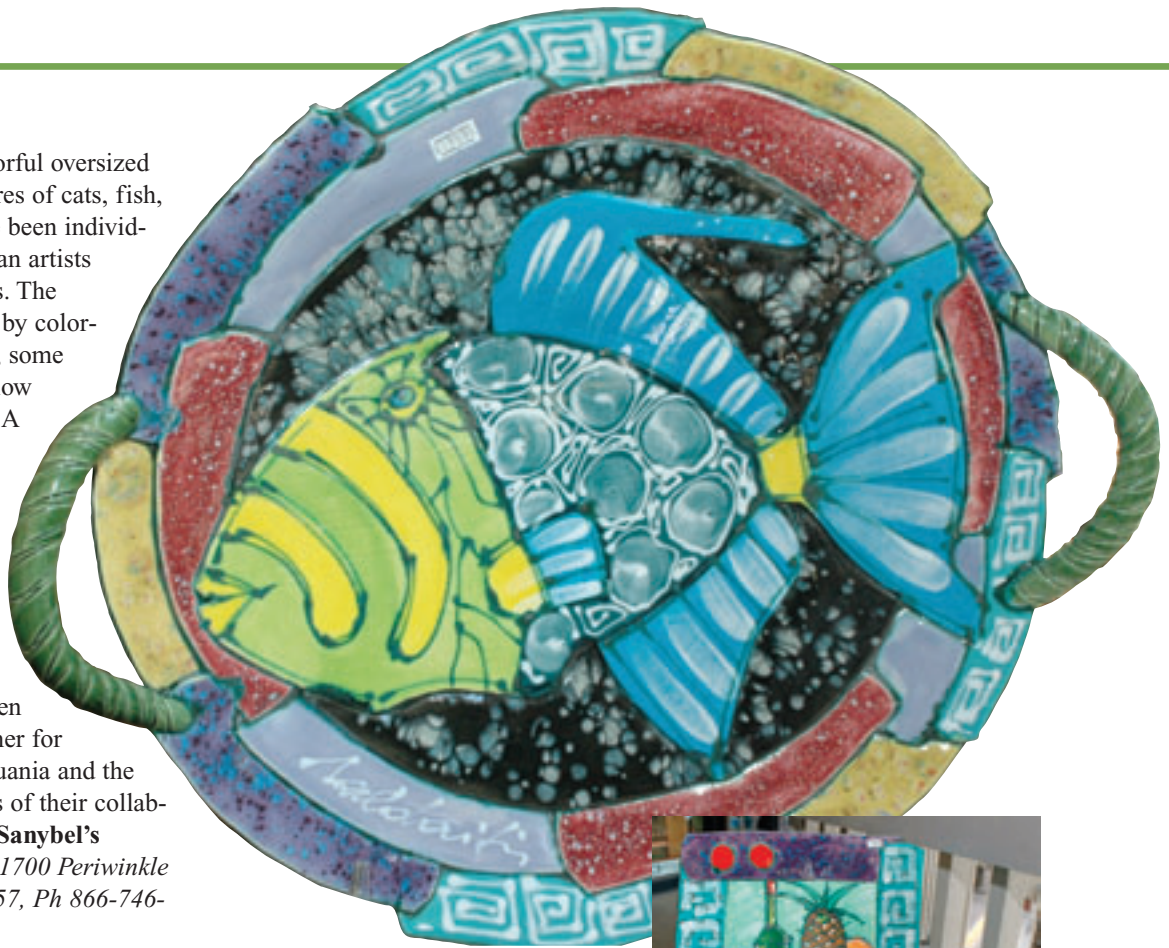
Drinks on Us >

Serving platters with raised sides and holes for carrying are among the offerings at **Welcome Home**. Featuring original art by Paul Brent, these 18-inch square platters are part of their signature Cape Craftsmen line. Choose from a picture of a sailboat on water, backed by bright horizontal lines of purple, green, red, yellow, and blue, or a depiction of a cup of latte. A similarly shaped platter features a martini and two orchids with a green border. This time Art by Ormsby is the creator. **Welcome Home** also offers a nice twist on the serving platter in a square black wooden tray. The bottom is lined in four ceramic tiles featuring a picture of grapes and wine. *Welcome Home, Tanger Factory Outlet, 20350 Summerlin Road, Suite 4110, Fort Myers, FL 33908, Phone and fax 239-454-3133.*



Colorful Couple ➤

At **Sanybel's Finest**, colorful oversized ceramic trays show pictures of cats, fish, fruits, and wine that have been individually created by Lithuanian artists Rasa and Juozas Saldaitis. The images within are ringed by colorful shades on the outside, some with brightly colored yellow or green handles as well. A small eight-inch tray and oversized rectangular tray are also among the offerings. Art fans will love the fact that this award-winning couple works together, but as separate artists, to create each piece. They have been living and working together for two decades both in Lithuania and the United States. The results of their collaboration are on display at **Sanybel's Finest**. *Sanybel's Finest, 1700 Periwinkle Way #8, Sanibel, FL 33957, Ph 866-746-6574, Fax 239-472-1658.*



Happy Hour ➤

Calling all martini fans! The inventive set of ceramic martini trays found at **End Result** might just be the talk of the party. Shades of red, green, white, and black are the basic theme for a variety of serving styles by Ganz, including an oval martini "boat" on wheels measuring roughly 18 inches long. A large tray shaped like a martini glass has a groove leading from the outside to center, with the words "one martini, two martini, three martini, floor!" inscribed upon it. Small martini glass-shaped bowls, a green olive-shaped toothpick holder and an oblong olive holder complete the set. Also in the martini theme, square ceramic trays with raised sides have a martini pictured on the bottom, with its name and recipe written beside it. The two featured at **End Result** were apple and chocolate flavored martinis.

End Result, 2075 Periwinkle Way, #18, Sanibel Island, FL 239-395-3333.

